(a) (1) A political subdivision may appoint auxiliary law enforcement officers equal to the larger number of:

(A) Two (2) auxiliary law enforcement officers for each full-time certified law enforcement officer employed by the appointing law enforcement agency; or

(B) One (1) auxiliary law enforcement officer for each one thousand (1,000) persons in the political subdivision as determined by the latest official census.

(2) (A) However, if due to special or unusual problems or circumstances, any political subdivision has a need for a greater number of auxiliary law enforcement officers than is authorized in subdivision (a)(1)(A) or subdivision (a)(1)(B) of this section, the political subdivision may make a request to the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training for the additional auxiliary law enforcement officers.

(B) Each request under subdivision (a)(2)(A) of this section shall state the special or unusual problems involved which justify the request, the number of additional auxiliary law enforcement officers requested, and such other information as the commission may require.

(C) If the commission finds that the public interest will best be served by allowing the political subdivision to appoint the additional auxiliary law enforcement officers requested, the commission may grant the request under subdivision (a)(2)(A) of this section.

(b) Honorary police officers without law enforcement authority are not restricted in number by this section.

(c) The limitation concerning the number of auxiliary law enforcement officers allowed to be appointed by a law enforcement agency under this section does not apply to additional auxiliary law enforcement officers appointed by political subdivisions to serve as school resource officers or search and rescue officers.