



2024 WHITESIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE *ANNUAL REPORT*



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A NOTE FROM THE SHERIFF...

It is my honor to present the 2024–2025 Annual Report of the Whiteside County Sheriff’s Office. This report reflects not only our mission to provide professional and accountable law enforcement services, but also the substantial progress we have made in building a more capable, efficient, and responsive agency for the people of Whiteside County.

Over the past year, we have made great strides in modernizing our operations, strengthening community partnerships, and positioning our Office to meet future demands. Among our most impactful accomplishments has been the consolidation of two dispatch centers into a fully unified 9-1-1 communications center. This long-planned project was a major undertaking, requiring close coordination with multiple partners and agencies. It will dramatically improve our ability to deliver timely, coordinated public safety services across the entire county. We now operate from a centralized, modern dispatch facility designed to serve the needs of all first responders in Whiteside County.

Other major achievements include the implementation of a new, integrated CAD/RMS/JMS system, a complete overhaul of our Field Training Program, and the launch of a new K9 team, along with increased access to modern law enforcement tools through updated less-lethal equipment and defensive tactics training. Additionally, the demolition of the former Health Department building has positioned us to pursue a shared vision of a regional Training/EOC facility that can serve all of Whiteside County for decades to come.

Looking ahead to 2025, we will continue to invest in people, equipment, and partnerships. Planned projects include the acquisition of a Mobile Command Post and a Lenco BearCat armored vehicle, both of which will enhance our regional response capabilities and improve safety in high-risk situations. We will also lead a countywide initiative to implement a shared e-citation platform, and introduce a new lateral movement program within the Sheriff’s Office to allow our deputies to explore varied roles within the agency.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of the men and women of the Sheriff’s Office, who serve with pride and professionalism every day. Together, we are building a safer and stronger future for our communities.



John F. Booker
Sheriff John F. Booker

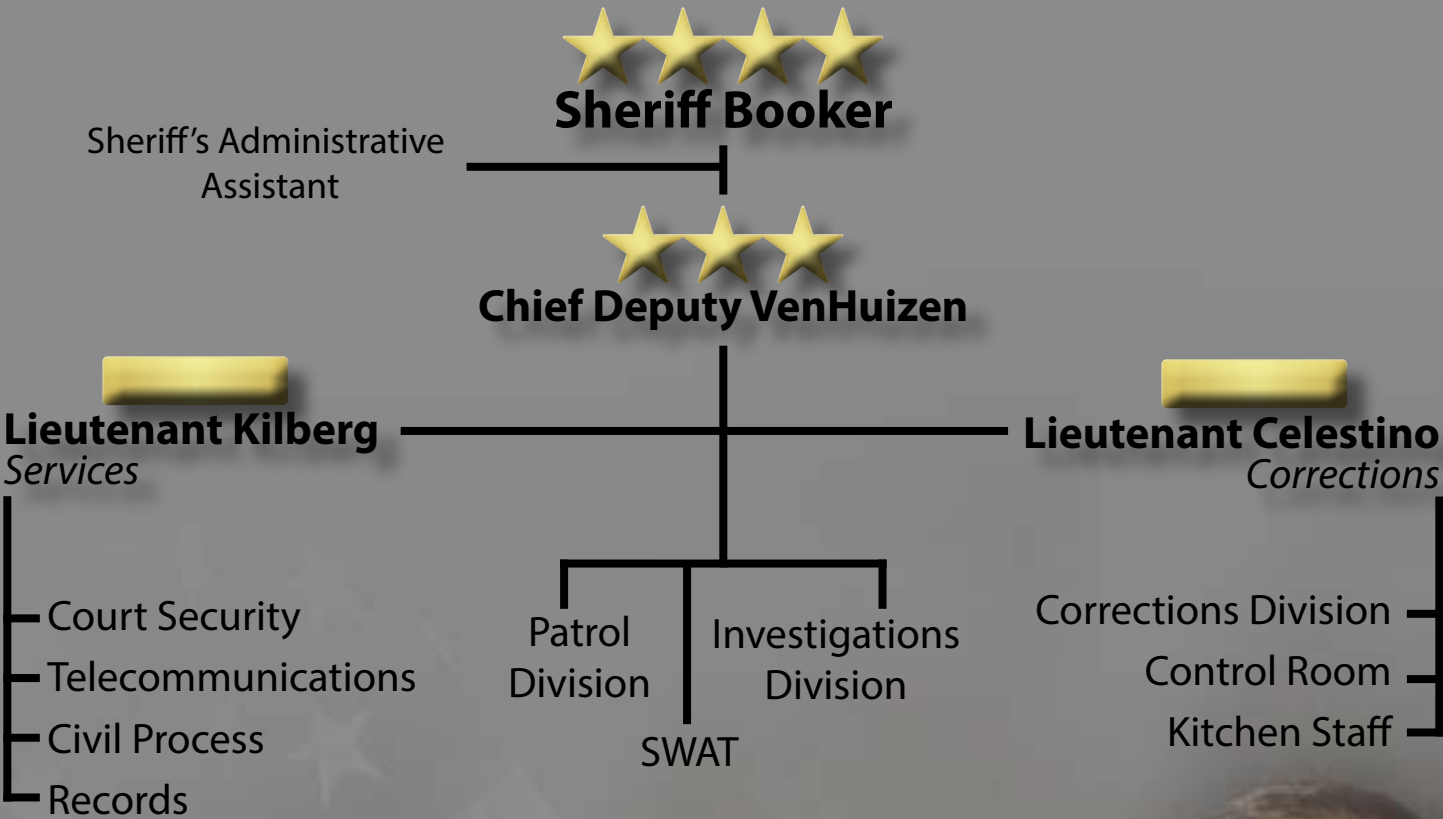
MISSION STATEMENT

It is the Mission of the Whiteside County Sheriff's Office to provide quality law enforcement, detention, court security and civil service to the citizens and visitors of Whiteside County. We are dedicated to conducting ourselves in a manner respectful of the trust that has been placed upon us. We are dedicated to this mission and to the people we serve, ensuring Whiteside County is a safe place to live, work, and visit.

Our Vision is to work for excellence through education, training and empowering our employees to provide the highest professional services to the citizens of Whiteside County.



WHITESIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





SHERIFF'S OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

The Sheriff's Office Administration is responsible for planning, assigning and coordinating the daily activities of the Sheriff's Office, as well as establishing long term goals and objectives.



SHERIFF
John F. Booker



CHIEF DEPUTY
Jeffrey R. VenHuizen



LIEUTENANT, Services
Jake A. Kilberg



LIEUTENANT, Corrections
Kimberly R. Celestino



SHERIFF'S ADMIN ASSISTANT
Jennifer Seal



The Criminal Investigations Division is responsible for the investigation of criminal cases that typically go above and beyond the scope and resources of the Patrol Division. This may include both misdemeanor and felony crimes, such as: Homicide, Robbery, Burglary, Auto Theft, Identity Theft, Missing Persons, Narcotics Investigations, Domestic Violence, Juvenile Crime, Fraud, Sexual Assault, and other various crimes.

Each Detective is assigned a number of cases requiring follow up investigation. While carrying their caseload, Detectives must also appear in court to testify on investigations that have been submitted to the State's Attorney's Office and filed in court.



The Detective Division is currently comprised of four Detectives. Two detectives investigate general crimes, and two Detectives primarily investigate crimes related to sexual assault, child abuse / sexual assault, child pornography, and elder abuse. The Detective Division provides investigative assistance to other jurisdictions within Whiteside County.



INVESTIGATIONS PERSONNEL



DETECTIVE SERGEANT
General Investigations
Jed Renkes



DETECTIVE SERGEANT
Special Investigations
Michael Leighton



DETECTIVE/EVIDENCE TECH
General Investigations
Alexandria Deyo



DETECTIVE
Special Investigations
Jacob Jordan



PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Division is the uniformed division of the Sheriff's Office. The Patrol Division is under the command of the Chief Deputy.

The Patrol Division consists of four patrol shifts, each commanded by a Sergeant. Deputies patrol in twelve hour shifts, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Patrol Deputies are responsible for patrolling approximately 684 square miles and responding to calls for service from the over 55,000 residents of the County. For reporting purposes, the county is broken into four zones with Deputies being assigned to east & west coverage.

In 2024, the Sheriff's Office entered a contractual agreement to provide law enforcement services to the village of Lyndon subsequent to the dissolution of Lyndon Police Department. In addition to responding to calls for service 24/7, the Sheriff's Office provides the citizens of Lyndon approximately 20 hours a week of additional patrol.

PATROL BY THE NUMBERS

Authorized Strength:	4 Sergeants, 16 Deputies
Whiteside County Population:	55,691*
Population Served:	19,407†
Patrol Area:	684 sq mi

* Source: 2020 U.S. Census

† Number represents population not within jurisdictions with municipal/village police departments, however, WCSO is responsible for emergent calls-for-service when non 24-hour-coverage agencies do not have police on-duty.



13,246
Call Logs

A call log is generated by a Telecommunicator or Sworn Personnel. Call logs include 911 calls, calls for service, traffic stops, crashes, among many other things. Call logs were down from 13,322 in 2023.



277
Traffic Crashes

Deputies handled 2 more crashes in 2024 versus 2023. This number includes any reportable crash per Illinois law including: car vs. deer, certain private property crashes, property damage crashes, personal injury crashes, or fatal crashes.



710
Written Warnings

Due to expected growing pains with a new CAD system, the Patrol Division issued fewer written warnings in 2024 than 2023. This is expected to return to previous years numbers with the completion of the in-progress implementation of an electronic citation system.



1162
Citations

Patrol Deputies/Sergeants issued fewer citations in 2024 than in 2023. Again, this number is expected to return to previous numbers with electronic citations.



PATROL PERSONNEL



PATROL SERGEANT
Sean Coutts



PATROL SERGEANT
Nathan Petersen



PATROL SERGEANT
Derek Hamstra



PATROL SERGEANT
Jake Noble



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Nick Woodhurst



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Dave Gottemoller



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Tim Fisher



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Ryan VanZuiden



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Larry Cook



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Jake Willging



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Nicholas Neblung



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Zachary Lyerla



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Mark Mendoza



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Chris Benson



K9 UNIT

In 2024, the Whiteside County Sheriff's Office had two teams assigned to the K9 Unit; Sergeant Petersen & K9 Chico, and Deputy Willging & K9 Kane. K9 teams receive initial training certifications from the FM K9 Academy in southwest Michigan and are re-certified on an annual basis in compliance with the International Police Work Dog Association. The Whiteside County Sheriff's Office K9s are dual purpose patrol dogs trained and certified in narcotics detection, building searches, article searches, tracking, area searches, and suspect apprehension. The Sheriff's Office K9 Unit rotates on-call status, making a K9 available 24/7. The Whiteside County Sheriff's K9 Units are a force multiplier and an invaluable tool to the Sheriff's Office.





CRASH RECONSTRUCTION UNIT

In 2024, the Whiteside County Sheriff's Office continued outfitting the Traffic Crash Reconstruction Unit with modern equipment, and training. WCSO TCRU now utilizes GPS/GNSS receivers to take measurements on crash scenes. The data gathered is then imported into the latest software allowing more accurate and precise diagramming in conjunction with drone photography. These devices further allow Crash Reconstructionists to clear scenes quicker, reduce human error, and allows for roads to be opened back up for travel in a more timely manner. The Crash Reconstruction Unit uses results from measurements and diagrams to then prepare a detailed, in-depth report of their crash analysis to be used in criminal and/or civil court proceedings. Members of the Crash Reconstruction Unit attend specialized training from either Institute of Police Technology & Management, or Northwestern University Center for Public Safety. Afterwards, Crash Reconstruction Unit Deputies travel to Springfield where Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board proctors a two-day exam certifying Deputies as Crash Reconstruction Specialists. The Crash Reconstruction Unit works alongside assisting agencies including Illinois State Police in order to utilize specialized equipment needed to read on-board vehicle data collectors. The Crash Reconstruction Unit is available 24/7 to the Sheriff's Office, and any agencies within Whiteside County requiring their services.



+ 100%

Traffic crash fatalities in 2024 from 2023
(actual change +3 fatalities)



- 26%

Traffic crashes involving injuries in 2024 from 2023



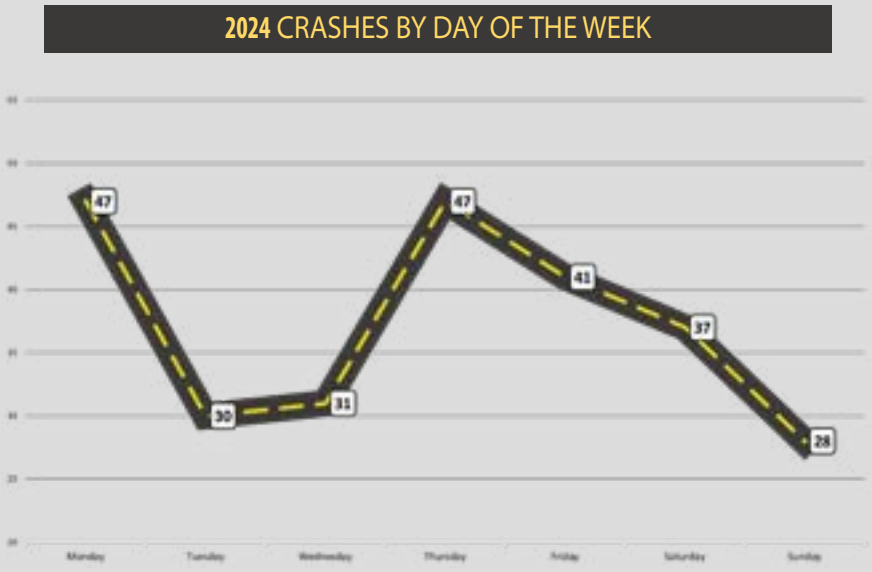
+ 1%

Total traffic crashes in 2024 from 2023



18.4%

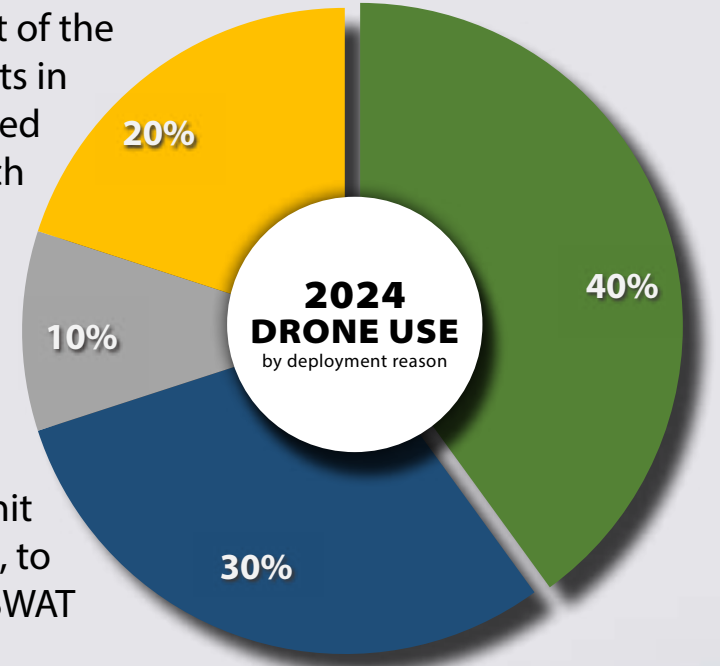
of crashes occurred on U.S. Route 30, making it the most common road for crashes in 2024.



sUAS UNIT



The sUAS Unit has become an integral part of the Sheriff's Office, with numerous deployments in 2024. The Drone Unit continues to be utilized for crime & crash scene photography, search & rescue, and monitoring large gatherings or events as allowed per Illinois law. Drone capabilities include video streaming/capture, still image capture, thermal imaging, and features a search light and megaphone. The Drone Unit is available 24/7 to assist operations as necessary. The sUAS Unit expanded its equipment inventory in 2024, to include a smaller drone used to assist the SWAT Team during operations.



■ Crash Reconstruction ■ Monitor Large Gathering
■ Attempt to Locate Fleeing Subject ■ Check Area





MOUNTED PATROL UNIT

The Mounted Patrol was first established in 1971 with members utilizing their personally owned horses during training or assignments. While the utilization of horseback has diminished over the years, the Mounted Patrol continues to support the Sheriff's Office for special initiatives like the Whiteside County Fair, festivals, or search and rescue operations. Additionally, each year the Mounted Patrol Unit hosts a Youth Fishing Derby where attendees can win prizes.



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Dave Justice



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Tom Lee



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Jim Lamb



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Randy Deboer



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Jim Miller



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Codaniel Ahlstrand



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Tim Warkins



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Thomas Patten



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Ray Darsidan



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Dalton Nuttall

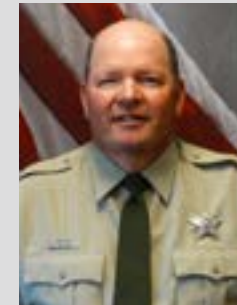


DEPUTY SHERIFF
Nicholas O'Rourke



COURT SECURITY DIVISION

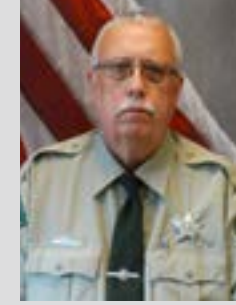
The Sheriff's Office is responsible for the safety and security of the courts in Whiteside County. Whiteside County has two courthouses, one in Morrison, and one in Sterling. Court Security Deputies screen individuals entering our Courts, ensuring the safety of court employees, citizens, attorneys, and Judges. Deputies also are assigned to court-rooms while they are in session to aid in preserving the peace. An estimated 66,000 security checks of individuals entering courthouses was conducted in 2024. 39,000 of which at the Morrison Courthouse, 27,761 at the Sterling Courthouse.



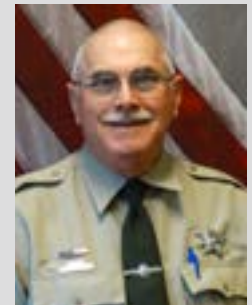
DEPUTY SHERIFF
John Willhite



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Timothy Erickson



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Mike Pearson



DEPUTY SHERIFF
James Melton



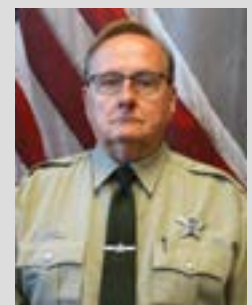
DEPUTY SHERIFF
Alvin Russell



DEPUTY SHERIFF
John Trancoso



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Kent Humphrey



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Ron Potthoff



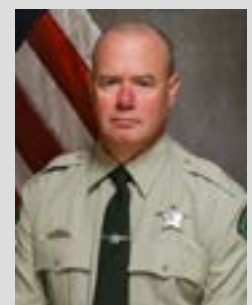
DEPUTY SHERIFF
Audrey Humphrey



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Michael Kuelper



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Troy Osborne



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Franklin Hopes

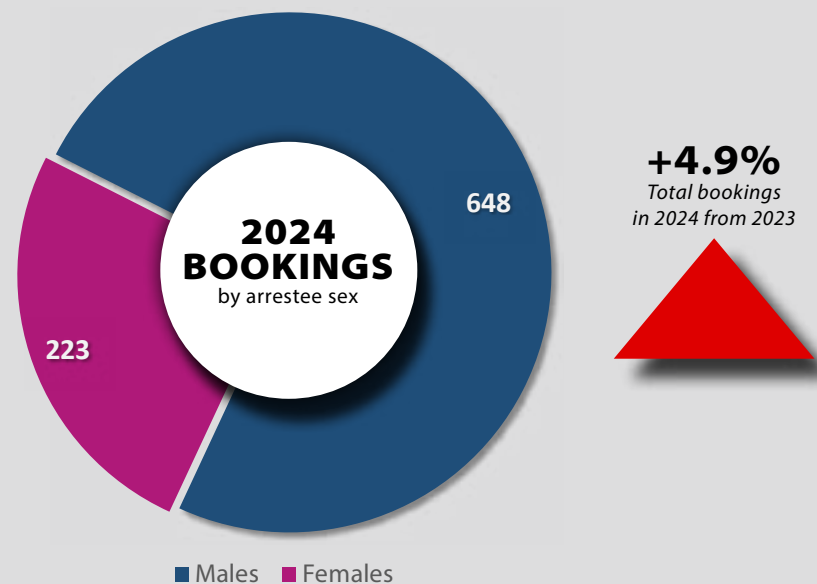


CORRECTIONS DIVISION

The Corrections Division is tasked with jail operations. The Whiteside County Sheriff's Office Jail is responsible for the intake and housing of arrestees from all law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction in Whiteside County. This includes 3 state agencies, the Sheriff's Office, and 8 municipal agencies. The Corrections Division is under the command of the Corrections Lieutenant.

The Corrections Division consists of 4 shifts, each commanded by a Corporal. Corrections Deputies work on 12 hour shifts, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Corrections Deputies are responsible for the safety, security, supervision, rule enforcement, and daily activities of inmates. Corrections Deputies conduct routine patrols inside the jail to facilitate an orderly environment and maintain the level of safety required.

In addition to housing inmates, the Corrections Division & Court Security Deputies share the responsibility for the movement of inmates to an from court each day, as well as transferring those in custody to the Department of Corrections upon sentencing.



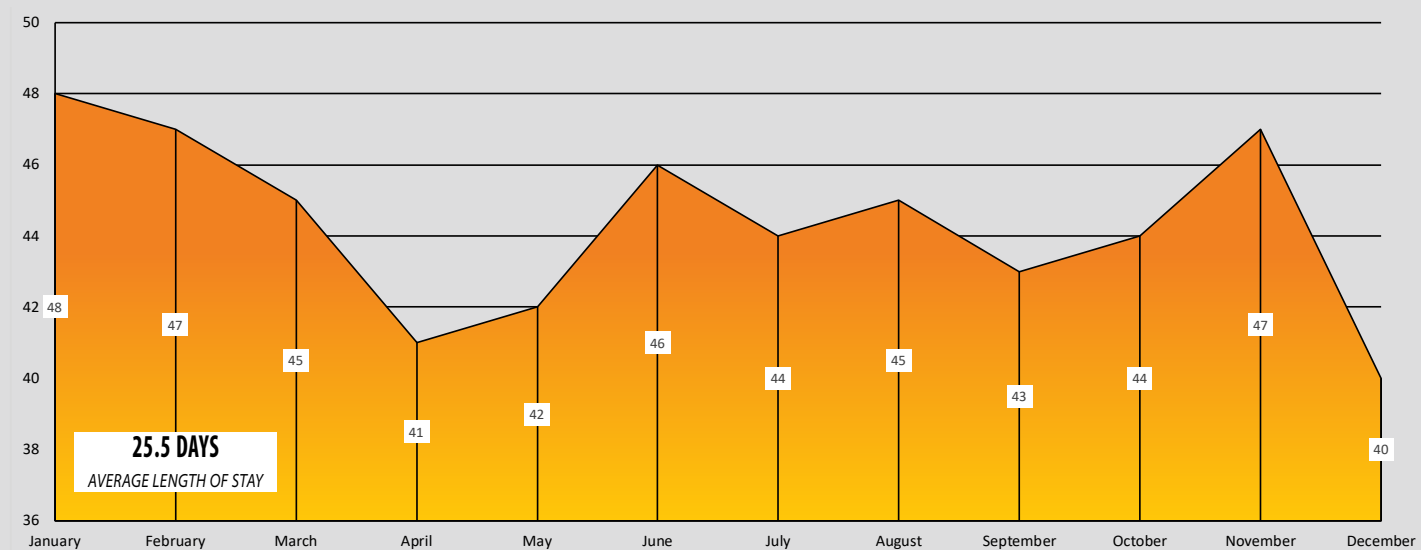
+4.9%
Total bookings
in 2024 from 2023

■ Males ■ Females

0%
Male bookings
in 2024 from 2023

22.5%
Female bookings
in 2024 from 2023

2024 AVERAGE MONTHLY INMATE POPULATION



CORRECTIONS PERSONNEL



CORRECTIONS CORPORAL
Amber Erickson



CORRECTIONS CORPORAL
Jill Grunder



CORRECTIONS CORPORAL
Danielle Millerschone



CORRECTIONS CORPORAL
Austin Ingram



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Dustin Ketelsen



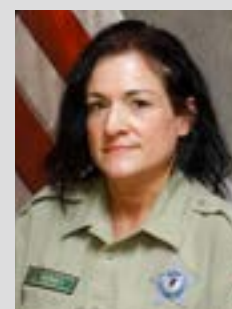
DEPUTY SHERIFF
Stephen York



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Eduardo Reyes



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Peyton Arthurs



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Mellissa Perry



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Korbin Geerts



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Connor Love



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Michele Baze



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Joshua Penaflor

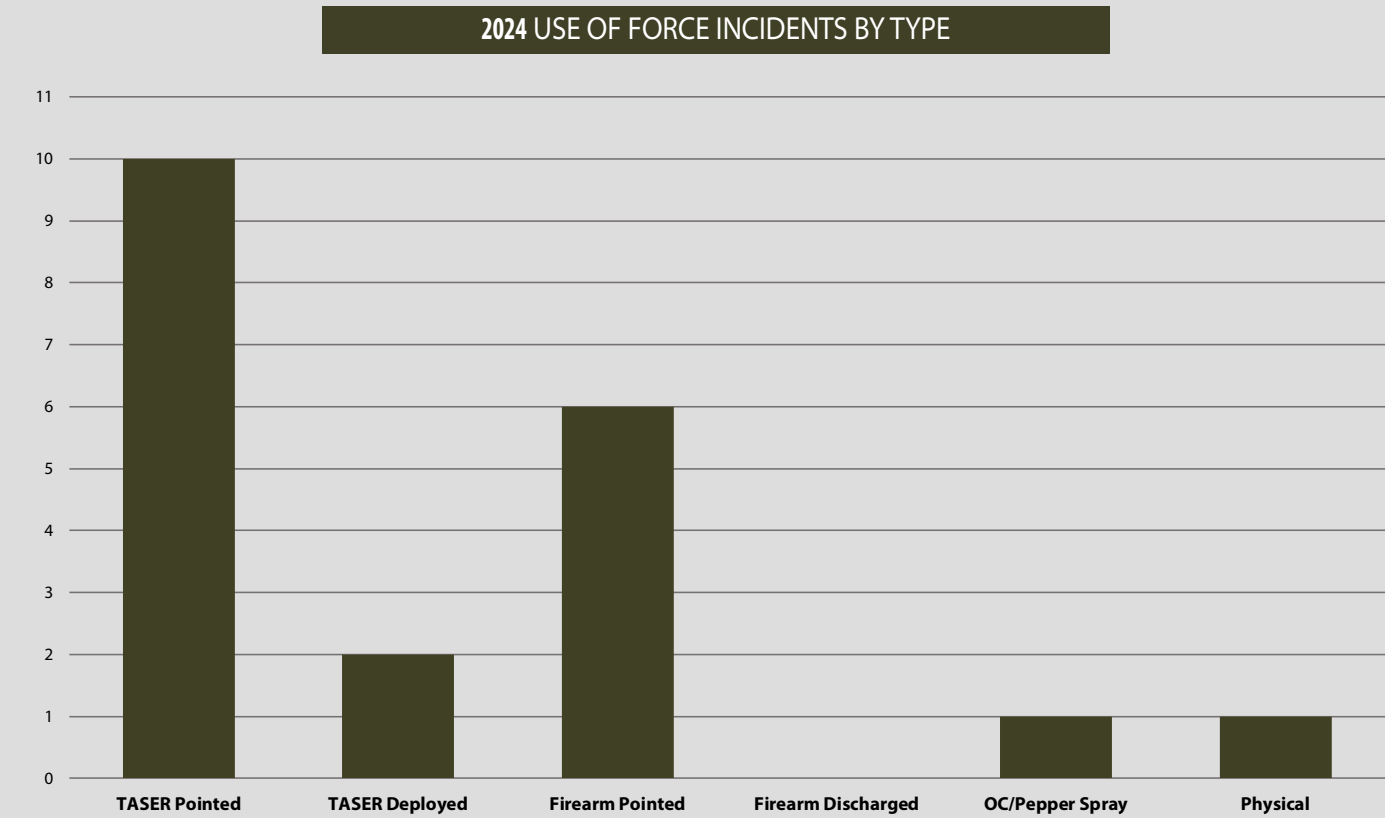


DEPUTY SHERIFF
Marissa Hughlett

USE OF FORCE


The Whiteside County Sheriff’s Office recognizes and respects the value and integrity of each human life. As Sheriff’s Deputies are vested with the lawful authority to use force in order to protect the public welfare, a careful balancing of all interests is required. It is the policy of the Whiteside County Sheriff’s Office that Deputies shall use only that force which is reasonably necessary to defend themselves or others from bodily harm and in conformity with the Constitution and Statutes of the State of Illinois.

In 2022, the Whiteside County Sheriff’s Office began utilizing a documentation and review process for all reportable force used by employees. Reportable force is defined within policy. Agency policy requires supervisor notification by an employee when reportable force is used. Upon notification, an employee’s supervisor is responsible for completing an administrative review and use of force report documenting the incident. The report will include a summary of the events and whether or not the use of force was proper and in compliance with agency policy. The Chief Deputy reviews the report as the second layer in the review process before forwarding the report to the Sheriff. A total of 20 incidents were documented in 2024.



UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING (UCR)

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program compiles official data on crime in the United States, published by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Crime statistics are compiled from local UCR data and published annually by the FBI. Part I offenses are broken into two categories: violent and property crimes. Aggravated assault, forcible rape, murder, and robbery are classified as violent while arson, burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft are classified as property crimes.

UCR CRIME 

UCR Crime	CY 2023	CY 2024	Actual Change	% Change
Violent Crime				
Murder	0	0	0	0.0%
Criminal Sexual Assault	6	5	-1	-16.7%
Robbery	0	0	0	0.0%
Agravated Assault	4	2	-2	-50.0%
Total Violent	10	7	-3	-30.0%
Property Crime				
Burglary	38	40	2	5.3%
Theft	39	31	-8	-20.5%
Motor Vehicle Theft	15	21	6	40.0%
Arson	1	0	-1	-100.0%
Total Property	93	92	-1	-1.1%
Total	103	99	-4	-3.9%
UCR Crime Rate est. per 1000 population	1.89	1.81	-0.08	-4.2%

CIVIL PROCESS DIVISION

The Whiteside County Sheriff's Office Civil Division is responsible for the processing, service, and enforcement of circuit court orders. The Whiteside County Sheriff's Office serves over 2,000 items of process annually. These items include subpoenas from the Whiteside County State's Attorney, summons, take notices, evictions, protective orders, and other legal documents filed with the Sheriff's Office throughout Whiteside County. In 2024, the Sheriff's Office served a total of 2075 civil papers, down from 2222 in 2023.

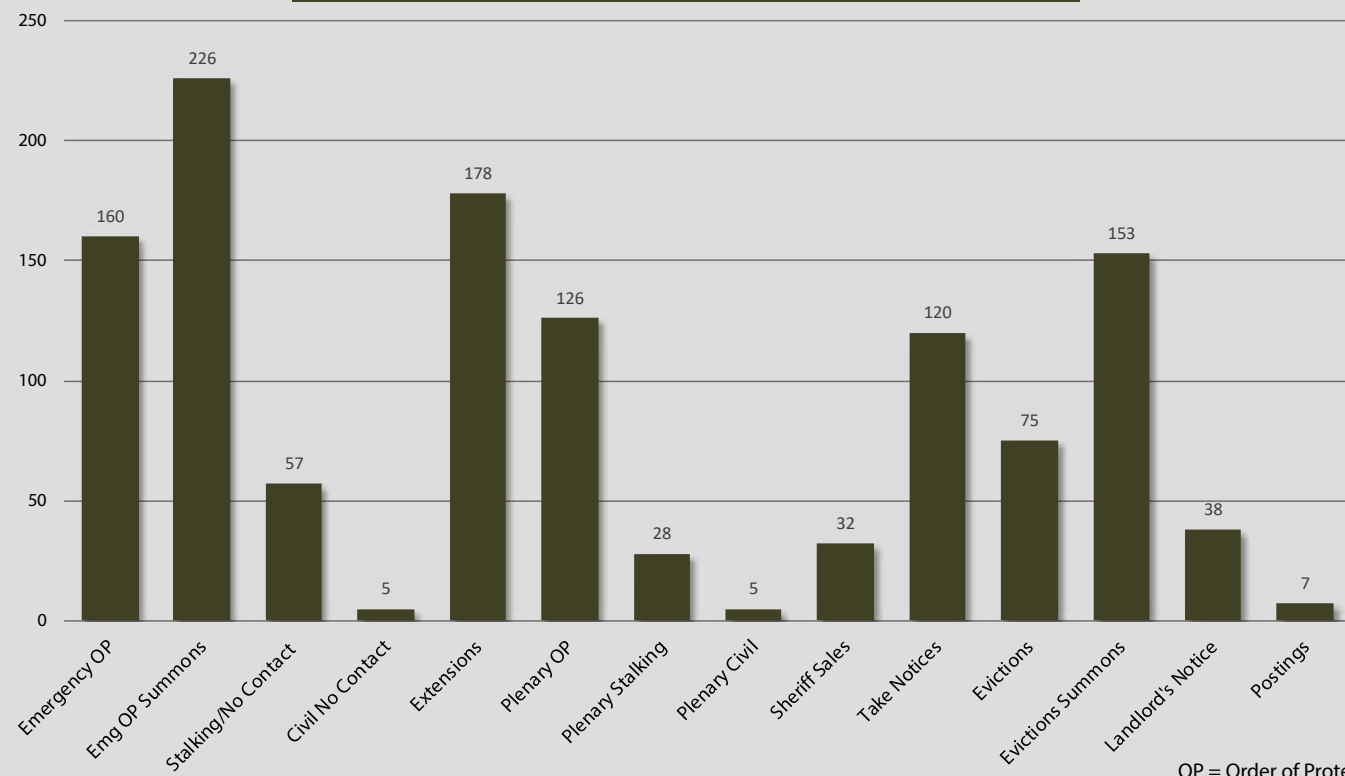


DEPUTY SHERIFF
Brad Barron



SECRETARY
Jenny Anderson

2024 CIVIL PROCESS SERVICES BY ORDER TYPE

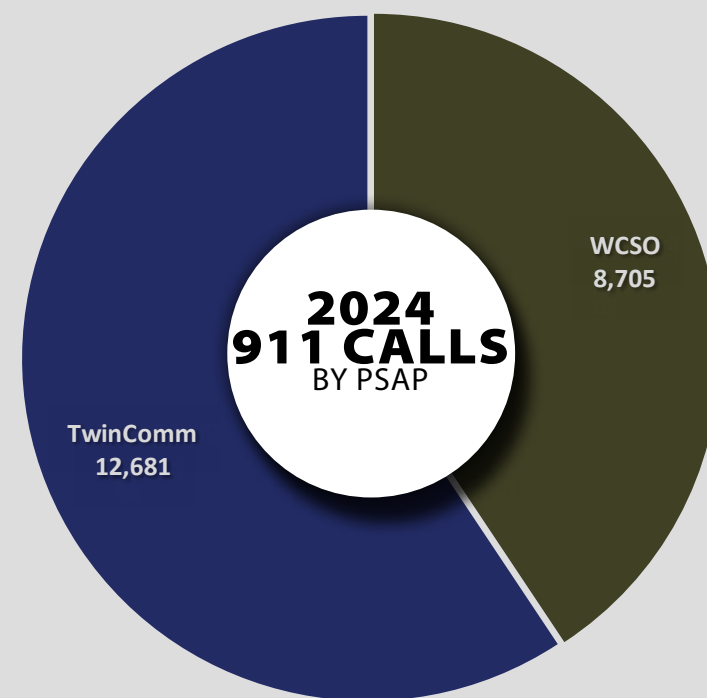


TELECOMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

The Sheriff's Office Communication Centers are divided into two separate Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs). The Morrison PSAP, located in the Whiteside County Law Enforcement Center, is the primary dispatch center for the Sheriff's Office and 6 additional law enforcement agencies / fire departments including Albany, Erie, Fulton, Morrison, Prophetstown, and Tampico. The TwinComm PSAP is located in the Sterling Police Department and is the primary dispatch center for Sterling and Rock Falls Police & Fire Departments, as well as CGH EMS.



In 2024, the Sheriff's Office Telecommunications Division answered 21,386 911 calls, down from 23,331 in 2023.



- 8.3%
Total 911 calls in
2024 from 2023



NEW COMMUNICATIONS CENTER AND CAD

In 2024, Sheriff's Office Telecommunications Division marked a significant milestone in public safety infrastructure with the completion of a new state-of-the-art Dispatch Center, and with the implementation of a new county-wide computer-aided-dispatch (CAD) system. The new dispatch center allowed for consolidation of the former Morrison PSAP, and the former TwinComm PSAP. Consolidation of the two PSAPs increased efficiency, uniformity, and allowed for better oversight by Administration. The new dispatch center boasts six dispatch consoles, and is equipped with the latest equipment, drastically improving aging technology, and enhancing communication capabilities between Telecommunicators and First Responders across the county.



Photo by: Alexa Zoellner/Shaw Media
Director Mckinzie & Asst. Dir. Liston discuss equipment in the new Telecommunications center.



Sergeant Coutts utilizes the new Mobile CAD system in car.

The new CAD replaced an over 20-year-old, antiquated system with minimal features, and increasing unreliability. The current system took approximately a year for full implementation, and now allows greater information sharing across agencies, improves response times, and allows law enforcement to complete reports in a more timely and efficient manner, allowing them to get back on the street quicker.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL



E911 COORDINATOR
Katie Pilgrim



DISPATCH DIRECTOR
Stacie McKinzie



ASST. DISPATCH DIRECTOR
Jessica Liston



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Stacia Massey



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Brandi Steinberg



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Tara Baumgartner



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Jennifer Hendricks



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Alexandria Lindskog



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Audra Skaper



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Toshia Paarmann



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Lisa Schaver



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Nina Cater



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Monique Mccaulley



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Mary Lagunas



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Kristine Garza



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Sydney Williams



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Deleah Utz



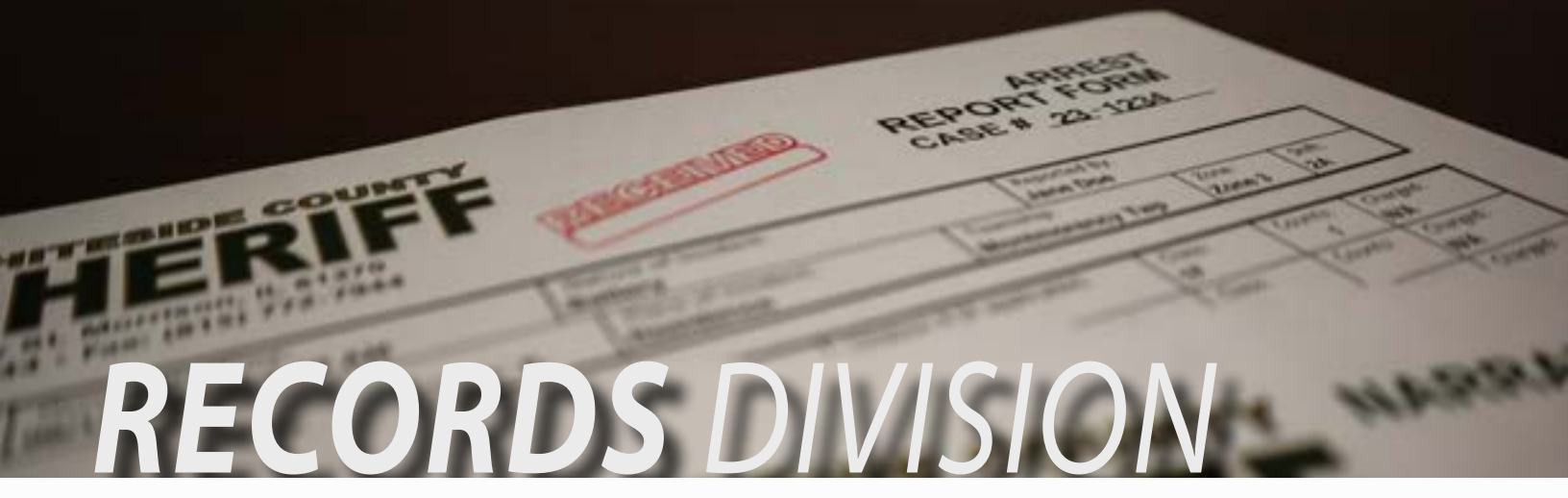
TELECOMMUNICATOR
Alexis Echebarria



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Alexys Estrada



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Daniella Chino



The Records Division is the repository and the Custodian of records for all Whiteside County Sheriff's Office records which includes criminal arrests, traffic crashes, citations, and all other miscellaneous reports. The Records Division also maintains the booking records for all inmates brought to the Whiteside County Jail.

Further, the Records Division is responsible for handling all FOIA requests responsive to the Sheriff's Office. Clerks in the Records Division process all reports daily. All reports are organized according to crime and compiled into statistical information, which is reported to state and federal agencies as required by law. Our records are stored in a combination of physical and electronic versions.



SECRETARY
Kim Cady



SECRETARY
Stephanie Houzenga



+ 31.3%
FOIA Requests
in 2024 from 2023



MAINTENANCE

The Sheriff is responsible for upkeep of 6 county-owned buildings and their grounds, and as such, maintains a staff of 6 individuals who work tirelessly to clean, maintain, and care for the facilities.



SUPERVISOR
Brian Tichler



MAINT. TECHNICIAN
Bob Kozovic



MAINT. TECHNICIAN
Kollin Burns



CUSTODIAN
Deb Maxson



CUSTODIAN
Julie Craigmiles



CUSTODIAN
Patricia Ohlsen

KITCHEN

Working behind the scenes to ensure inmates housed in our facility are fed, these employees provide daily breakfast, lunch, and dinner to individuals incarcerated in the Whiteside County Jail.



COOK
Kathy Zickert

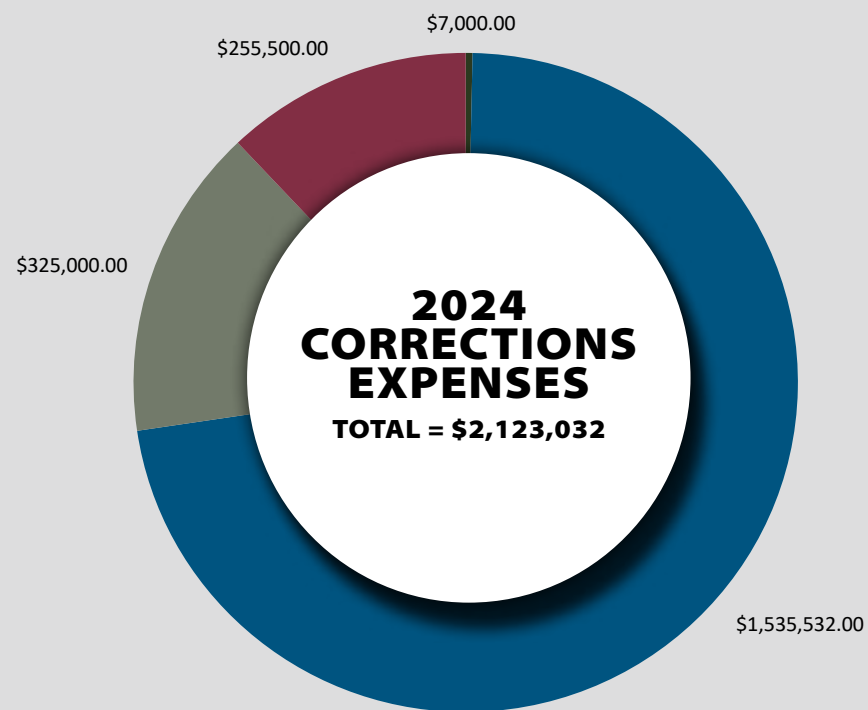
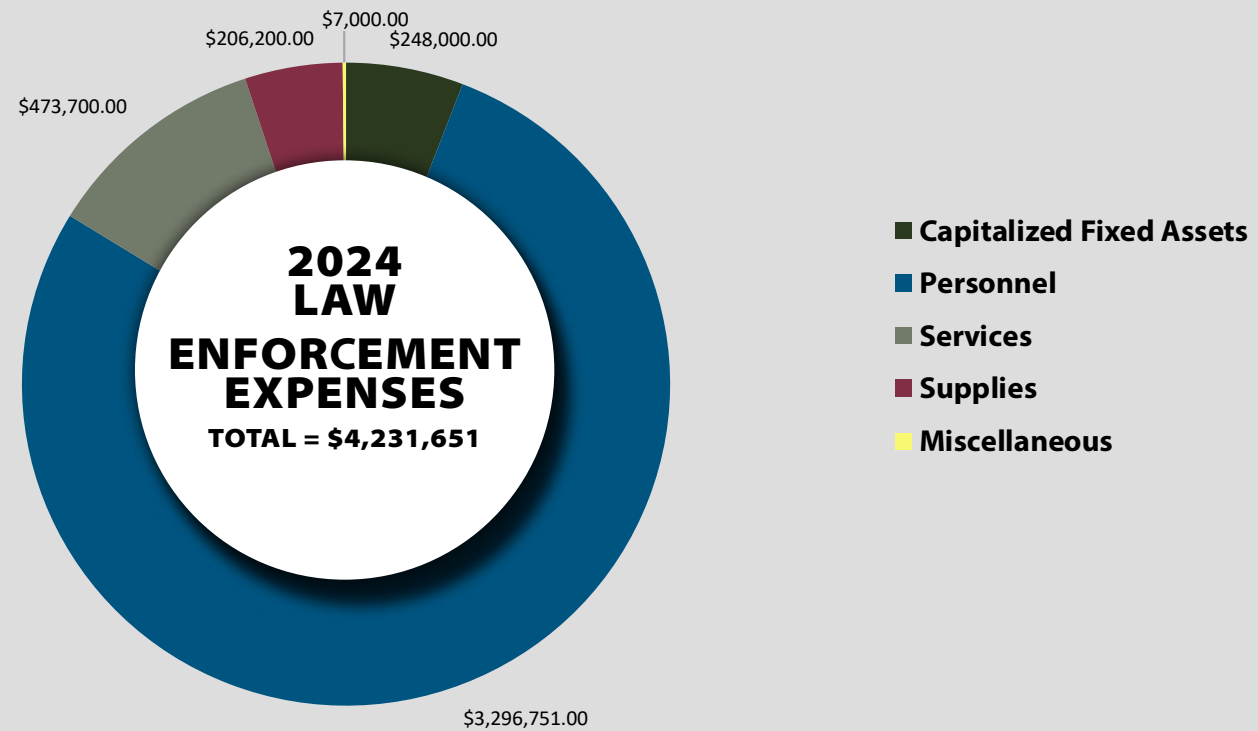


COOK
Sherry Hicks



COOK
Tara Lamons-Holley

BUDGET



The Whiteside County Sheriff's Office holds in high regard its relationship with the community we serve. As such, members of the Sheriff's Office are encouraged to participate in community events.



PROMOTIONS & RETIREMENTS



Deputy Jacob Jordan was reassigned from his position of Patrol Deputy to CID - Special Investigations Unit. Detective Jordan brings along 11 years of law enforcement experience to the SIU.



Corrections Deputy Austin Ingram was promoted to Corrections Corporal. Austin brings corrections experience from another Illinois Sheriff's Office.

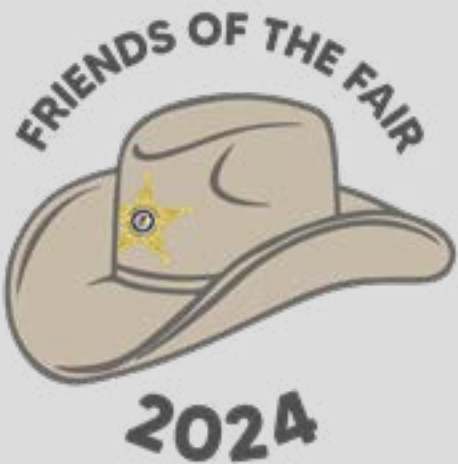


Deputy Tyler Sweeney was reassigned from the Corrections Division to Patrol Division. Sweeney began attending Sauk Valley Community College Basic Law Enforcement Academy in early 2025.



FRIENDS OF THE FAIR

Since 1989, the Whiteside County Fair Board has chosen to honor an individual or group for their outstanding support or commitment to the fair. The Sheriff's Office was honored to have been chosen in 2024. Every year members of the Sheriff's Office look forward to interacting with the community, enjoying carnival food, and watching grandstand events while working the fair detail. Due to incessant pleading from one Patrol Sergeant in particular, Sheriff Booker has (much to his dismay) allowed Deputies to join the festivities and sport cowboy hats during the week of the fair.



Deputy Gordy Millerschone retired from the position of Court Security Deputy.



Court Security Deputy Jim Melton retired after 16 years of service.



Pam Grismore retired after years of dedication to Building & Grounds.

"During Fair week, the Whiteside County Sheriff's Office provides reliable crowd control, premises security and locator services for lost parents when the need arises. The Whiteside County Sheriff's Office also mans a tent each year that hands out deputy sheriff badges for aspiring law enforcement youth. In addition the Whiteside County Sheriff's Office has hosted educational displays including the seat belt demonstrator, wrecked vehicles that protected occupants who walked away and the Mobile Operation Command Center Vehicle. This relationship between the Whiteside County Sheriff's Office and Whiteside County Fair dates back to former Sheriffs Butch Kimmel, Roger Schipper, Kelly Wilhelmi, and continues with current Sheriff John Booker and his staff."
(excerpt from Whiteside County Fair Board website)



2024 PROJECTS/ GOALS UPDATES

Project: FTD Program Re-Vamp

The Sheriff’s Office implemented a new field training software through Lexipol in 2024. The software allows for better tracking of Probationary Deputies progress, streamlines the FTD program, and allows FTDs to focus on specific areas that require improvement when a Probationary Deputy is assigned a new FTD. During the on-boarding process, the entire Field Training Unit was able to provide input in ensuring the FTD program was up-to date with current policies, procedues, and statutes.

Project: Training Center/EOC

The Sheriff facilitated the tear-down of the former Health Department Building, leaving a potential location for a Training Center/EOC.

Project: New K9 Handler

Deputy Willging was chosen to be a K9 Handler for the Sheriff’s Office. Deputy Willging & K9 Kane have completed training, and have been doing well together.

2025 GOALS

Project 1: Launch Countywide E-Citation Platform

In 2025, the Sheriff’s Office will seek to implement a fully integrated e-citation system to improve field efficiency, reduce paperwork, and ensure real-time data sharing with courts and Records Management Systems. As part of this initiative, the Sheriff’s Office will once again seek to lead a countywide effort to bring all local law enforcement agencies onto a unified platform with the continued goal to promote inter-agency collaboration, reduce technological fragmentation, and deliver a more consistent public safety service across all jurisdictions.

Project 2: Planning for Combined Training & Emergency Operations Center

In 2025, the Sheriff’s Office will initiate a comprehensive feasibility study for the development of a combined Law Enforcement Training Center and Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This facility would serve as a centralized hub for professional development, inter-agency coordination, and crisis response, supporting both routine operations and countywide emergency preparedness. The goal is to evaluate location options, funding mechanisms, and long-term operational needs in collaboration with other stakeholders.

Project 3: Acquisition of a BearCat Armored Rescue Vehicle

In 2025, the Sheriff’s Office will pursue acquisition of a Lenco BearCat to enhance the safety and capability of our Special Operations and Patrol units during high-risk incidents. The BearCat will provide critical ballistic protection for deputies, hostages, and civilians in active threat environments, barricaded subject incidents, and natural disaster responses. This vehicle could also serve as a shared regional asset, available to municipal law enforcement partners through mutual aid agreements, further strengthening public safety across jurisdictional lines

Project 4 - Staffing Goals:

Increase Sworn Staffing to Meet Service Demands. This includes new Deputy positions in Patrol and Corrections.

2025 GOALS (continued)

Project 5: Acquisition of a Mobile Command Post for Incident Command and Regional Response

In 2025, the Sheriff's Office will pursue potential acquisition of a Mobile Command Post (MCP) to enhance our ability to manage large-scale incidents, coordinate multi-agency operations, and maintain operational continuity during emergencies. The MCP will serve as a centralized command and control hub for major events, including natural disasters, tactical operations, missing person searches, public gatherings, and critical incidents. It will be equipped with advanced communications, mapping, surveillance, and interoperability tools to support real-time decision-making and inter-agency coordination.

Project 6: Expand Use of Less-Lethal Tools and Defensive Tactics Training

Increase access to updated less-lethal tools and provide quarterly defensive tactics refreshers to ensure Deputies are equipped and confident in de-escalation and use-of-force options.

Project 7: Establish Lateral Movement Opportunities Across Divisions

In 2025, the Sheriff's Office will seek to implement a lateral movement program to enhance workforce flexibility, broaden skill-sets, and improve job satisfaction by providing personnel with opportunities to explore different roles within the agency. The goal of this program is to facilitate the movement of sworn staff between different divisions, specialized units, and operational areas to promote professional growth and better align personnel with evolving agency needs.

