

2023 WHITESIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ***ANNUAL REPORT***



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A NOTE FROM THE SHERIFF...

I am pleased to present to you the Whiteside County Sheriff's Office Annual Report for 2022/2023. This report reflects our commitment to excellence as a professional law enforcement agency. It is both a pleasure and privilege to serve as the Sheriff of Whiteside County.

I am extremely proud of the daily efforts of all our men and women in building partnerships between the Sheriff's Office and the communities we serve. It is through these partnerships, along with a highly pro-active Sheriff's Office that we can reduce crime and enhance the quality of life within our Community.

We hold in high regard the trust our communities bestow upon us and each one of us takes personal responsibility for nurturing and promoting that trust. The Whiteside County Sheriff's Office will remain steadfast in our commitment to providing the best possible law enforcement services for our citizens.



John F. Booker
Sheriff John F. Booker

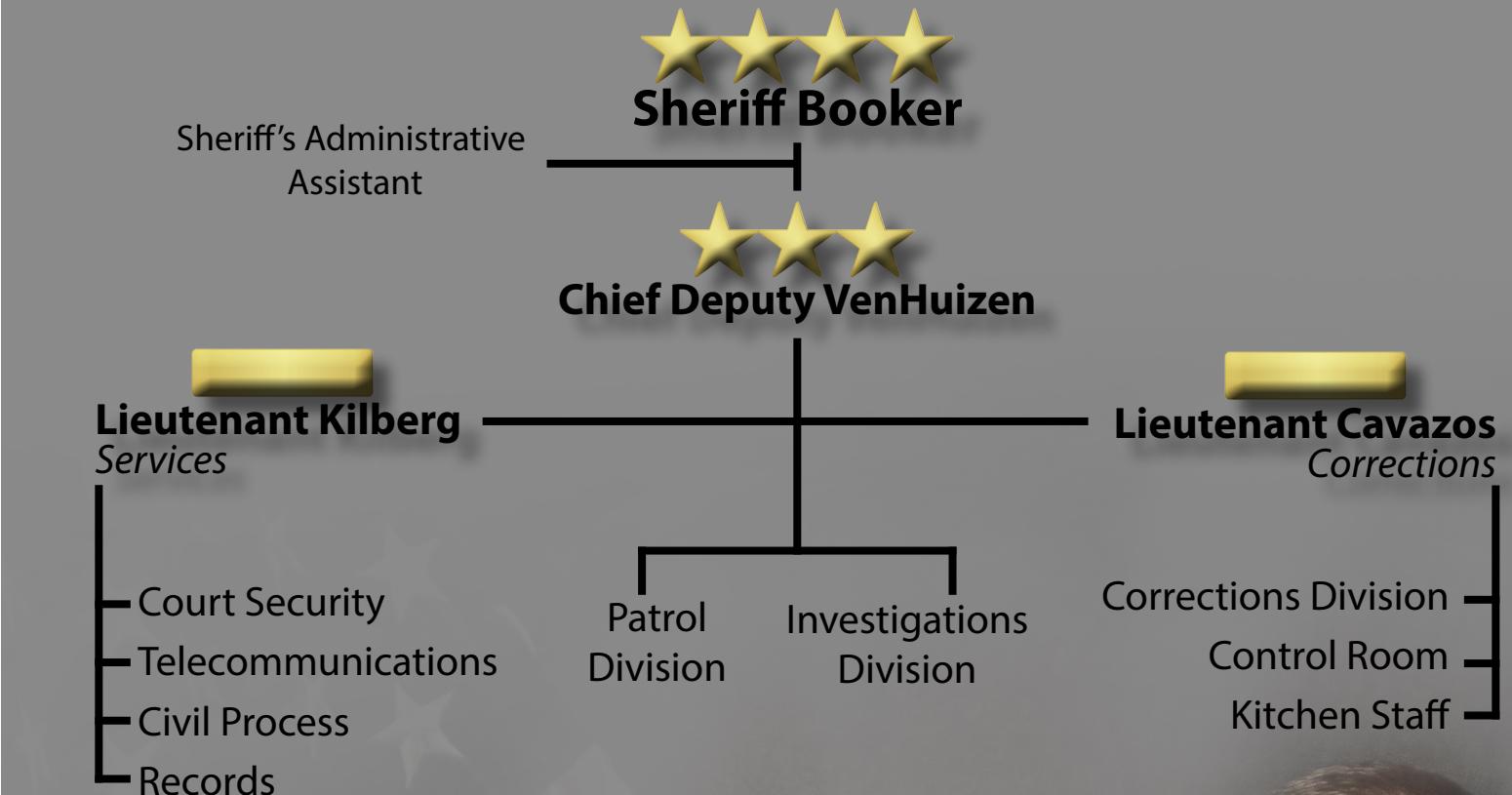
MISSION STATEMENT

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

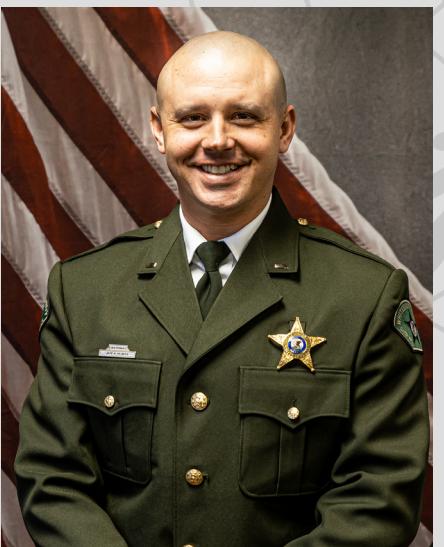
The Sheriff's Office Administration is responsible for planning, assigning and co-ordinating the daily activities of the Sheriff's Office, as well as establishing long term goals and objectives.



SHERIFF
John F. Booker



CHIEF DEPUTY
Jeffrey R. VenHuizen



LIEUTENANT, Services
Jake A. Kilberg



LIEUTENANT, Corrections
Kimberly R. Cavazos



SHERIFF'S ADMIN ASSISTANT
Jennifer Seal

INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION



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 three detectives. Two detectives investigate general crimes, while one detective primarily investigates 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



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 697 square miles and responding to calls for service from the over 58,000 residents of the County. For reporting purposes, the county is broken into four zones with Deputies being assigned to east & west coverage.

13,322

Call Logs

A call log is generated either by a Dispatcher, or self-initiated by sworn personnel. Call logs include 911 calls, calls for service, traffic stops, motor vehicle crashes, motorist assists, and K9 duties, among many others. Call logs in 2023 were down from 14,242 in 2022.

275

Motor Vehicle Crashes

Deputies handled 275 crashes in 2023, up from 230 in 2022. This statistic includes any reportable crashes including vehicle vs animal, vehicle vs vehicle, vehicle vs pedestrian, or vehicle vs property.

1561

Written Warnings

The Patrol Division issued Whiteside County Motorists 1561 written warnings in 2023. In 2022, Patrol Deputies/Sergeants issued 1930.

1560

Citations

The Patrol Division issued more citations in 2023 than in 2022. 1554 citations were written in 2022.

PATROL BY THE NUMBERS

Authorized Strength:	4 Sergeants, 16 Deputies
Whiteside County Population:	55,691*
Population Served:	18,870†
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.



PATROL SERGEANT
Sean Coutts



PATROL SERGEANT
Nathan Petersen



PATROL SERGEANT
Derek Hamstra



PATROL SERGEANT
Jake Noble



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Nick Woodhurst



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Jacob Jordan



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Dave Gottemoller



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Tim Fisher



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Ryan VanZuiden



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Larry Cook



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Emmit Shepard



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Jake Willging



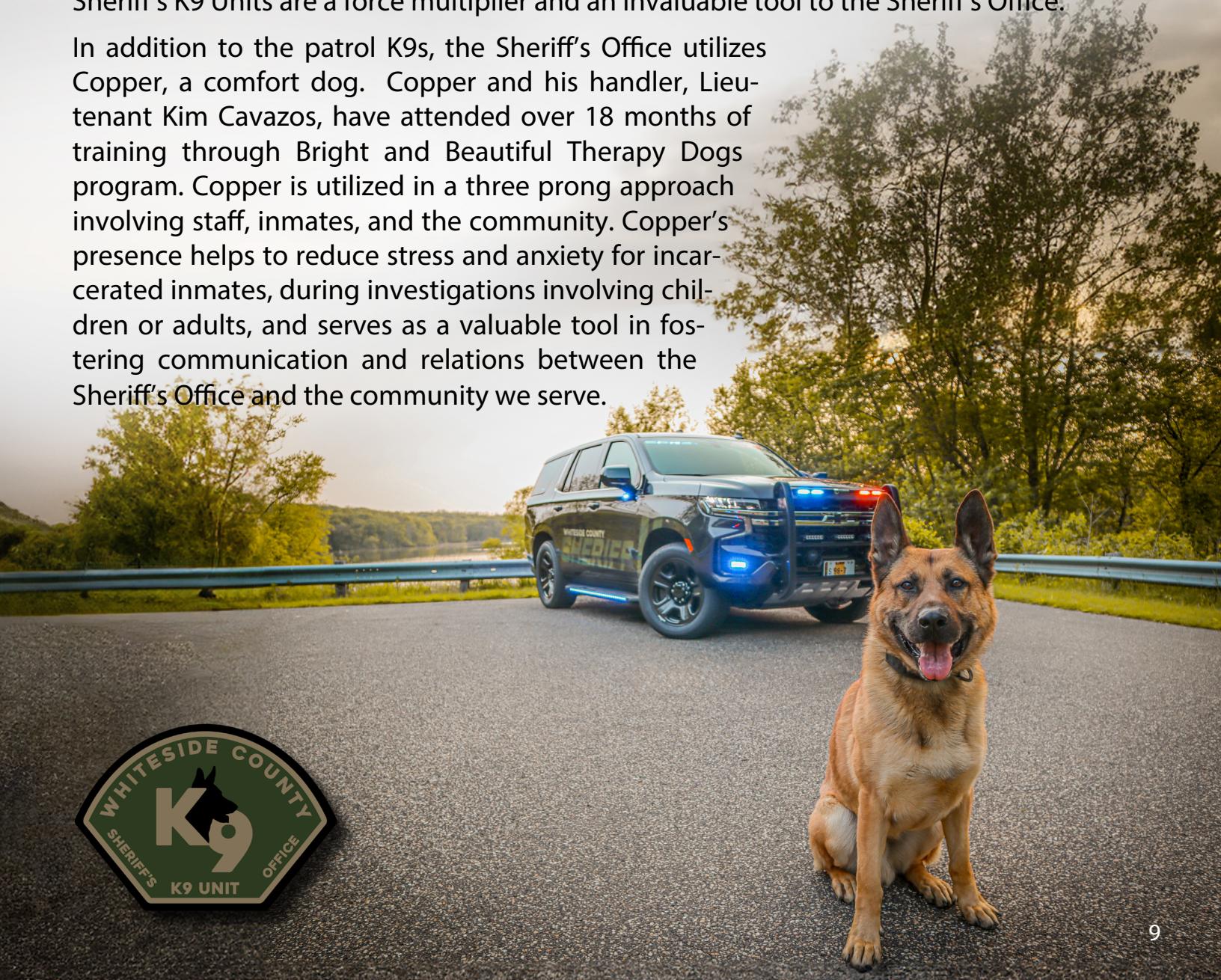
DEPUTY SHERIFF
Frank Hopes

K9 UNIT



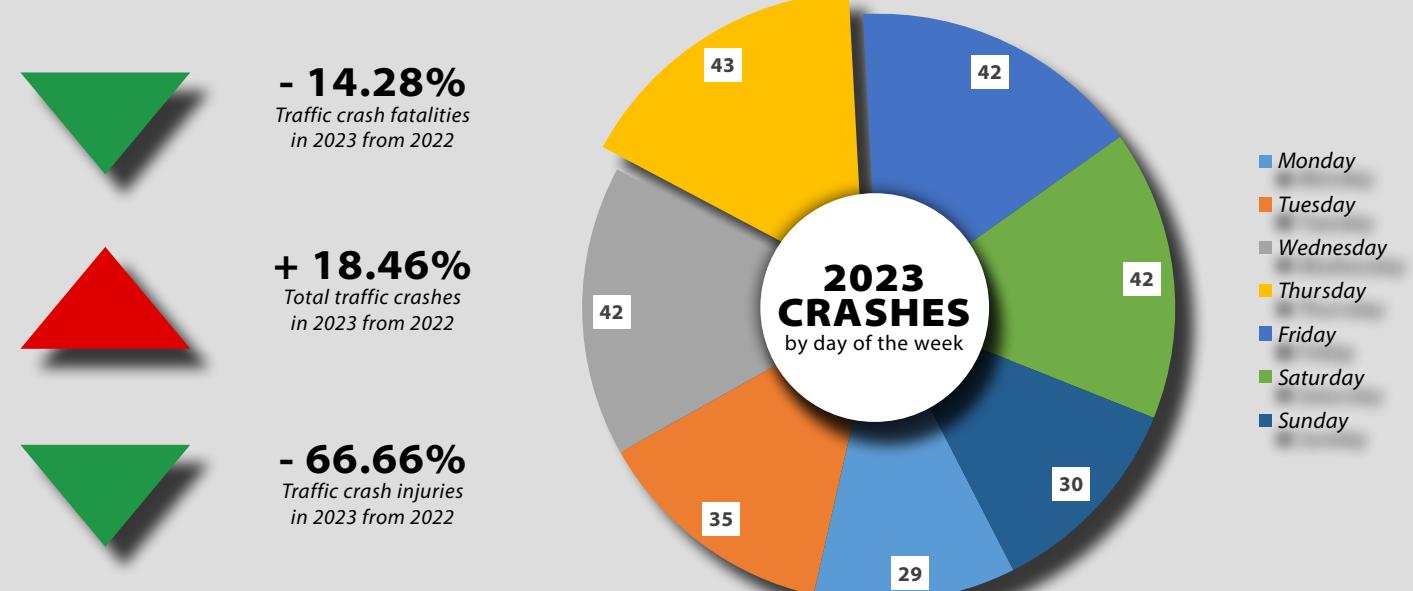
In 2023, the Whiteside County Sheriff's Office had two teams assigned to the K9 Unit. The teams include Sergeant Petersen and K9 Chico, and Sergeant Hamstra and K9 Amor. The K9 teams receive initial training certifications from the FM K9 Academy in southwest Michigan and are re-certified on an annual basis in compliance with the National 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.

In addition to the patrol K9s, the Sheriff's Office utilizes Copper, a comfort dog. Copper and his handler, Lieutenant Kim Cavazos, have attended over 18 months of training through Bright and Beautiful Therapy Dogs program. Copper is utilized in a three prong approach involving staff, inmates, and the community. Copper's presence helps to reduce stress and anxiety for incarcerated inmates, during investigations involving children or adults, and serves as a valuable tool in fostering communication and relations between the Sheriff's Office and the community we serve.





In 2023, the Whiteside County Sheriff's Office began re-implementing a Traffic Crash Reconstruction Unit. Crash Reconstruction Specialists investigate crashes resulting in serious personal injury or death to determine the specific sequence of events and causes for such crashes. After an initial responding Deputy determines further investigation into a crash is warranted, the Crash Reconstruction Unit is notified and summoned to respond. Crash Reconstructionists then collect data from the scene including measurements of skid marks, and other pieces of information with evidentiary value. The Crash Reconstruction Unit further utilizes the Drone Unit to assist with crash scene photography, and afterwards prepares 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.



sUAS UNIT



Keeping up with changing times and advancing technology, the Sheriff's Office obtained a small unmanned aerial surveillance (sUAS) device, or drone, in late 2023. The drone was issued to a Patrol Deputy after trainings and certifications required by FCC were obtained. The Drone Unit will 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 im-

age capture, thermal imaging, and features a search light and megaphone. The Drone Unit is available 24/7 to assist operations as necessary.





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



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 60,000 security checks of individuals entering courthouses was conducted in 2023. 35,000 of which at the Morrison Courthouse, 28,000 at the Sterling Courthouse.



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Mike Pearson



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Jim Melton



DEPUTY SHERIFF
John Clark



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Alvin Russell



DEPUTY SHERIFF
John Trancoso



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Kent Humphrey



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Ron Potthoff



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Steve Lopez



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Timothy Erickson



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Audrey Humphrey



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Michael Kuelper



DEPUTY SHERIFF
John Willhite



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Dave Bartles



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Troy Osborne

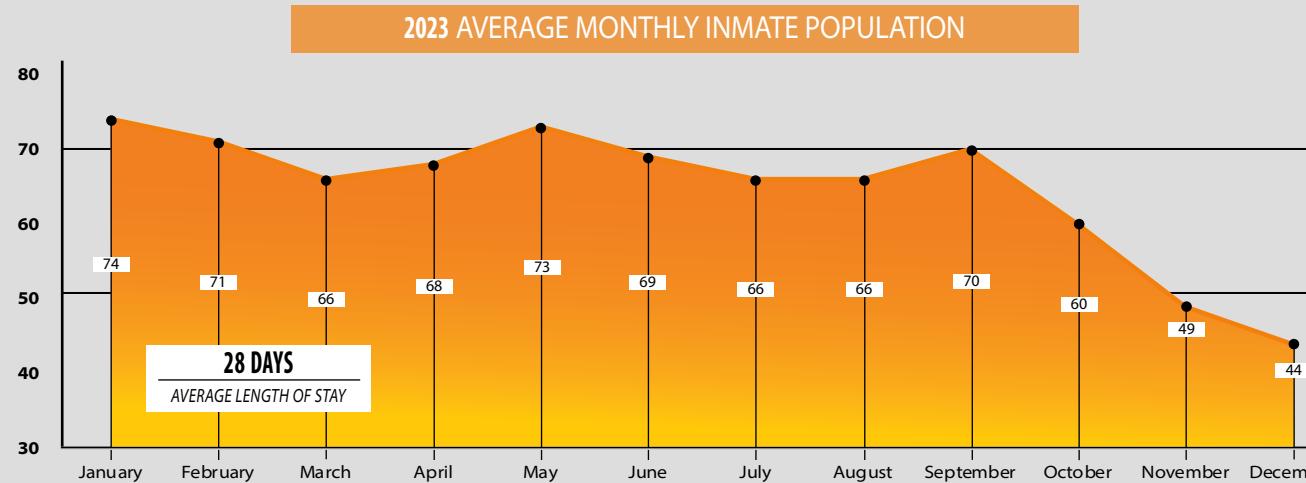
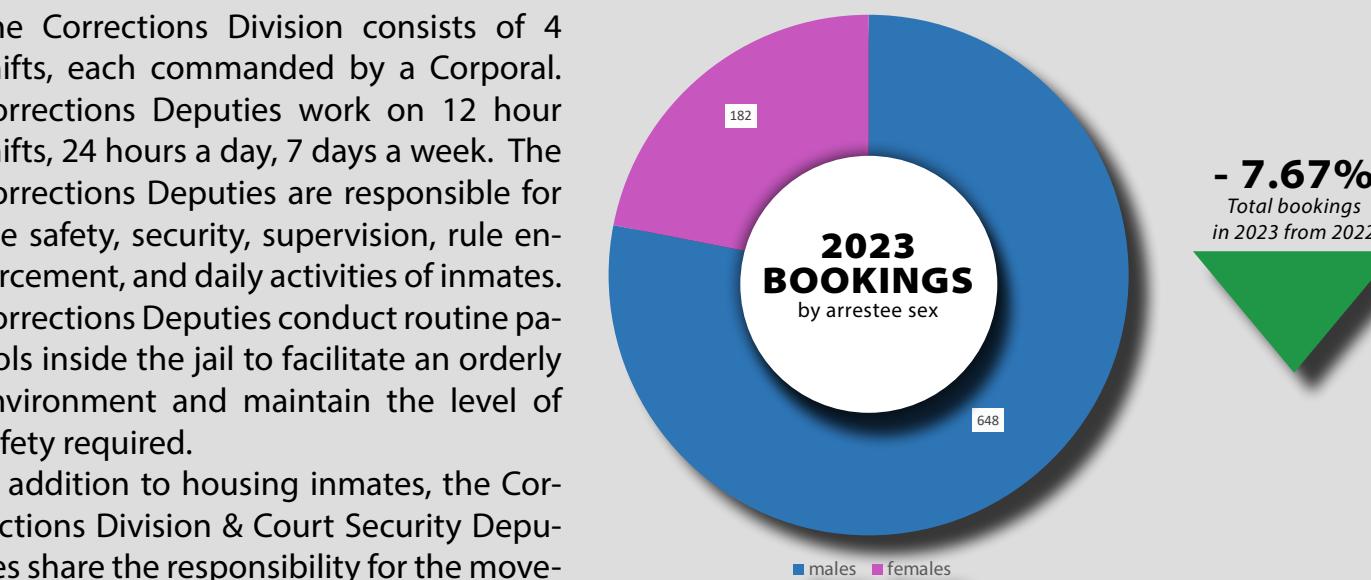
CORRECTIONS DIVISION

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 and from court each day, as well as transferring those in custody to the Department of Corrections upon sentencing.



CORRECTIONS PERSONNEL



CORRECTIONS CORPORAL
Amber Erickson



CORRECTIONS CORPORAL
Jill Grunder



CORRECTIONS CORPORAL
Danielle Millerschone



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Michelle Vinson



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Dustin Ketelsen



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Marissa Hughlett



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Armando Garnica



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Stephen York



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Eduardo Reyes



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Tyler Sweenie



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Peyton Arthurs



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Melissa Perry



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Austin Ingram



DEPUTY SHERIFF
Korbin Geerts

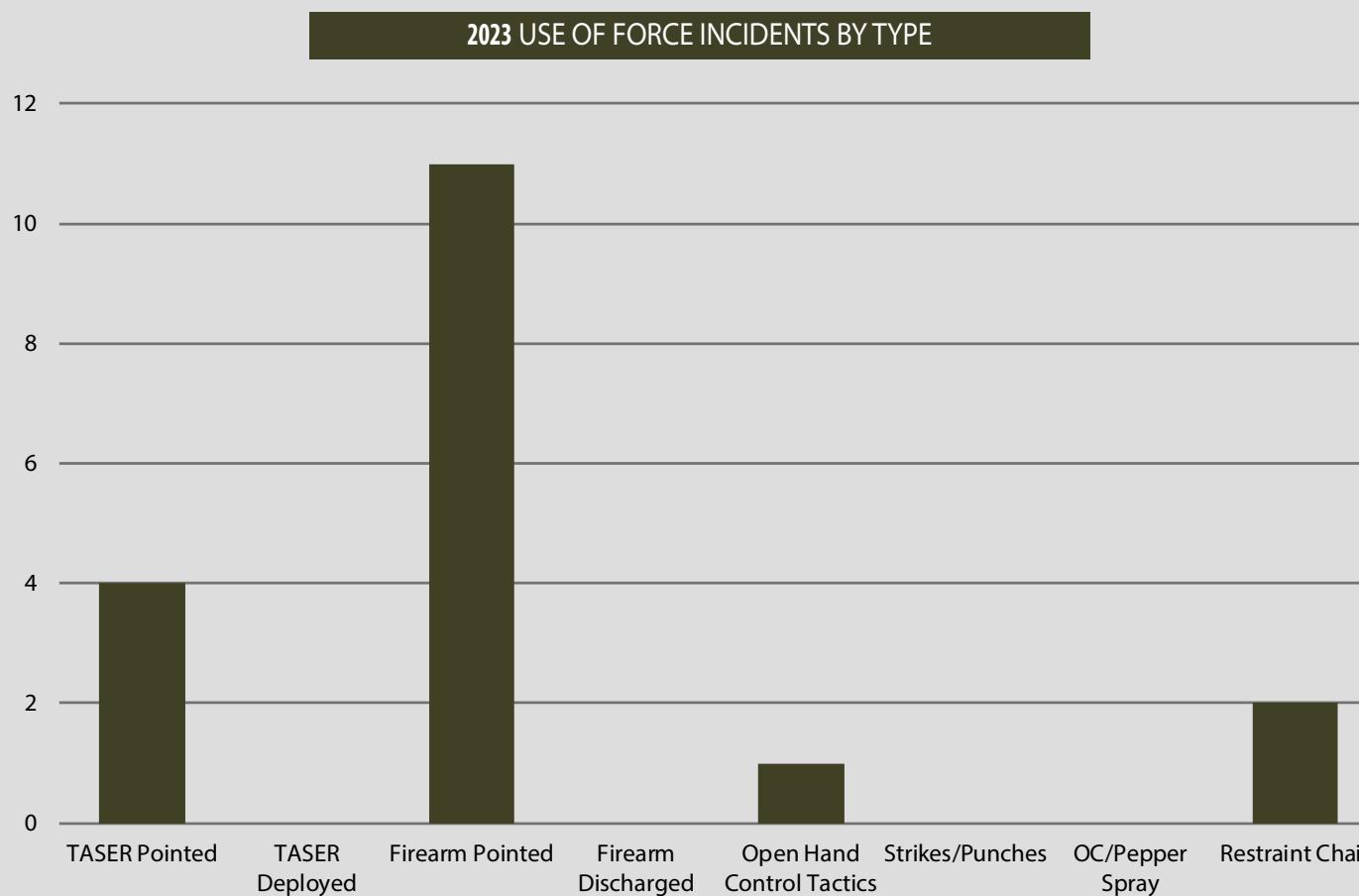


DEPUTY SHERIFF
Connor Love

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 18 incidents were documented in 2023.



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 PART 1 CRIME



UCR Crime	CY YTD 2022	CY YTD 2023	Actual Change	% Change
Violent Crime				
Murder	1	0	-1	-100%
Criminal Sexual Assault	13	6	-7	-53.8%
Robbery	0	0	0	0%
Aggravated Assault	12	4	-8	-66.6%
Total Violent	26	10	-16	-220.4%
Property Crime				
Burglary	36	38	2	5.5%
Theft	43	39	-4	-9.3%
Motor Vehicle Theft	11	15	4	36.3%
Arson	0	1	1	100%
Total Property	90	93	3	132.5%
Total	116	103	-13	-87.9%
Crime Rate est. per 1000 population	6.14	5.45	-0.69	-11.2%

WHITESIDE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Morrison, IL 61270

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 2023, the Sheriff's Office served a total of 2222 civil papers, down from 2670 in 2022.

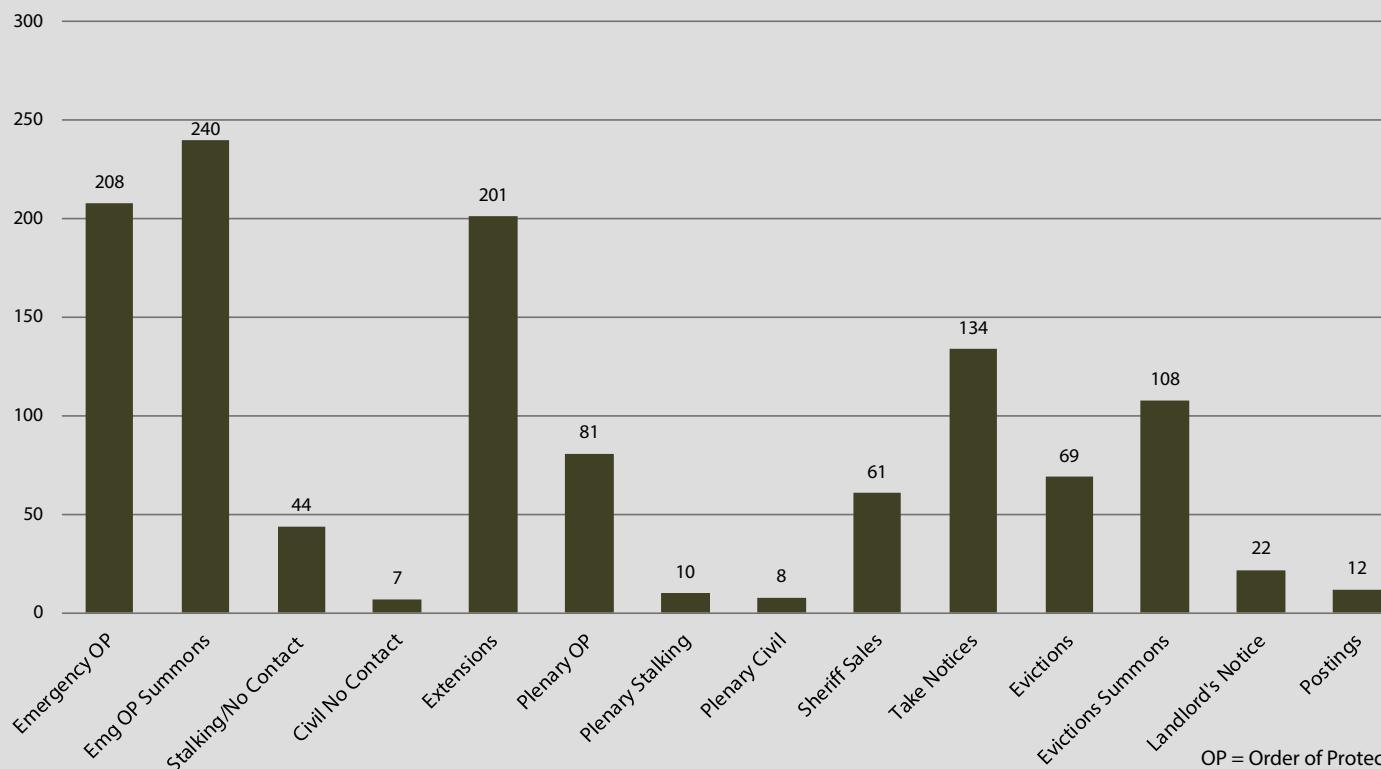


DEPUTY SHERIFF
Brad Barron



SECRETARY
Jenny Anderson

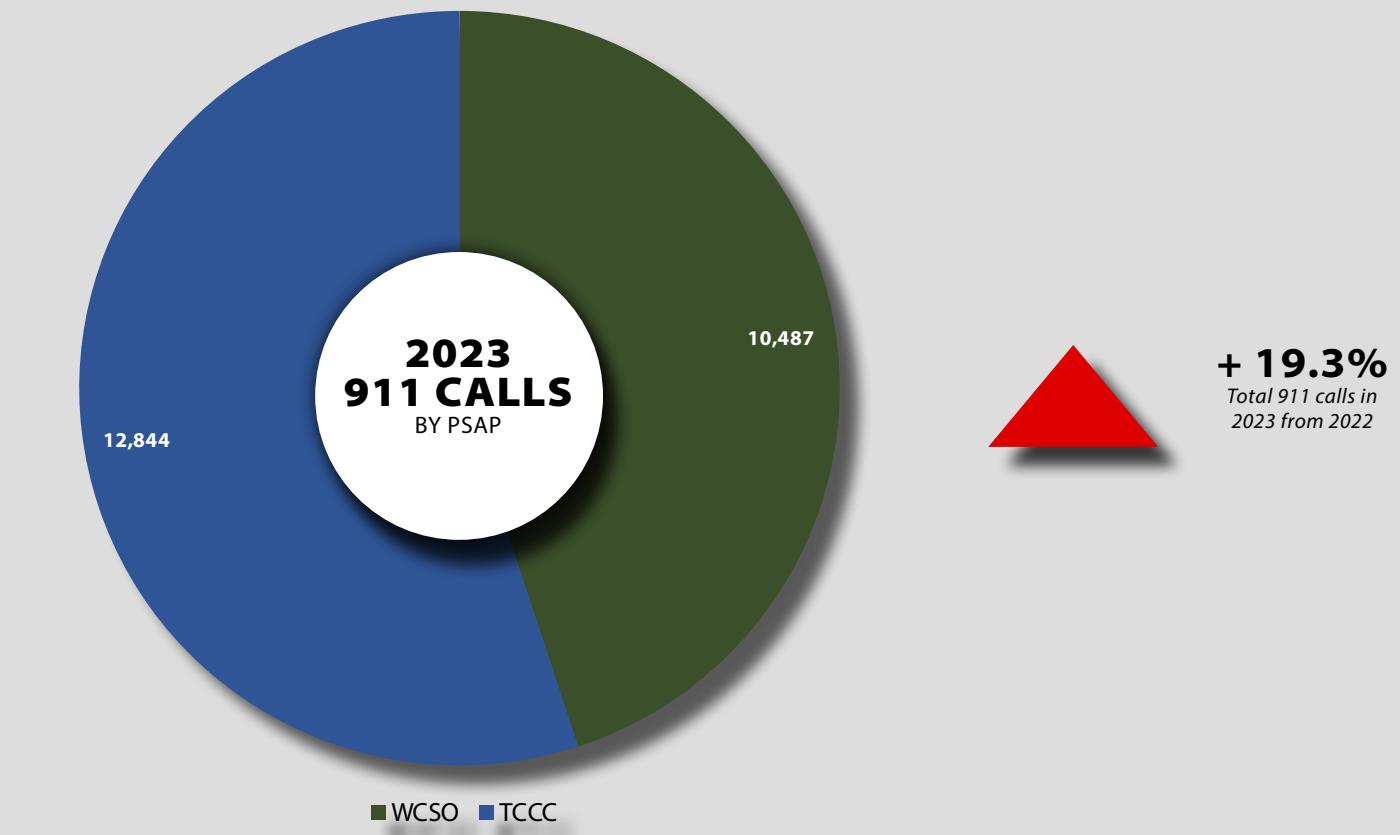
2023 CIVIL PROCESS SERVICES BY ORDER TYPE



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, Lyndon, 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.



In 2023, the Sheriff's Office Telecommunications Division answered 23,331 911 calls, up from 19,559 in 2022.



TELECOMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL

MORRISON PSAP



TELECOMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL

TWINCOMM PSAP



E911 COORDINATOR
Katie Pilgrim



DISPATCH DIRECTOR
Stacie McKinzie



ASST. DISPATCH DIRECTOR
Jessica Liston



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Tara Baumgartner



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Jennifer Hendricks



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Audra Davidson



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Toshia Paarmann



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Stacia Massey



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Brandi Steinberg



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Alexandrea Lindskog



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Lisa Schaver



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Nina Cater



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Mary Lagunas



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Sydney Williams



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Deleah Utz



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Monique McCaulley



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Austin Burger



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Danielle Robbins



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Kristine Dauen



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Alexis Echebarria



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Alexys Estrada



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Keaton Borman



TELECOMMUNICATOR
Kelly Harris

RECORDS DIVISION

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



+ 12.5%
FOIA Requests
in 2023 from 2022



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
Pam Grismore



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.

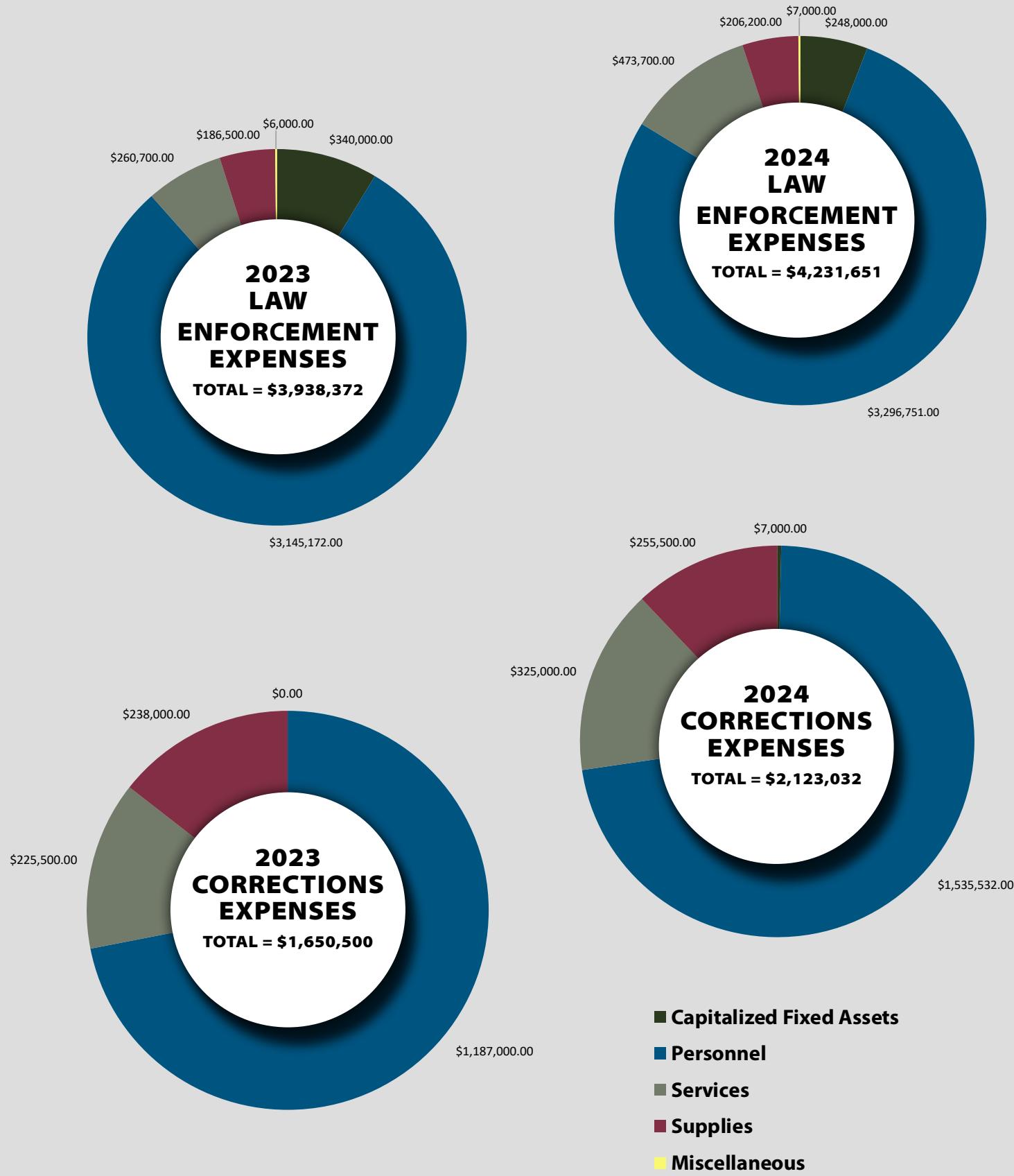


COOK
Kathy Zickert



COOK
Brandon Conrad

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



Jacob Noble was promoted from his position as Patrol Deputy to Patrol Sergeant. Sergeant Noble has been with the Sheriff's Office Patrol Division since 2020.



Stacie McKinzie was promoted from her position of Telecommunicator to Dispatch Director. Stacie has been a member of the Telecommunications Division since 2017.



Jessica Liston was promoted from her position of Telecommunicator to Assistant Dispatch Director. Jessica has been a member of the Telecommunications Division since 2018.



Dispatch Director Claudia Garcia retired after 6 years of service to the Telecommunications Division.



Correctional Deputy Michelle Vinson retired after 20 years of dedication to the Corrections Division.



Court Security Deputy John Clark retired after 15 years of service to the Court Security Division, and 44 years of law enforcement service to our community.



K9 AMOR RETIREMENT

In early 2024, K9 Amor retired after 5 years of diligent partnership with handler Sergeant Hamstra. During his career with the Sheriff's Office, Amor assisted in drug detection, property & persons tracking, subject apprehension, and greatly contributed to the dog hair collection inside Sergeant Hamstra's patrol squad. Upon retirement, K9 Amor was promoted to full-time pet to live with Sergeant Hamstra and his family.



2022/2023 PROJECTS UPDATES

Project 1: Patrol Fleet Replacement

The Sheriff's Office Patrol Fleet went fully into service in 2023.

Project 2: Prisoner Transport Van Replacement

The Sheriff's Office transport vans were replaced with 2021 & 2022 Chrysler Pacificas.

Project 3: In Car / Body-Worn Cameras

Body worn cameras and new squad car cameras were fully implemented in 2023.

Project 4: Live Scan Update

A new Live Scan machine was purchased and is in operation.

Project 5: Security Camera Upgrades

Interior & exterior cameras were upgraded in the jail and both court houses.

Project 6: Policy & Procedure Development

The policies were fully implemented in July of 2022 and continue to be updated as new best practices are identified.



2022/2023 GOALS UPDATES

Goals 1 & 2: CAD/RMS/JMS Consolidation Study & Implementation

COMPLETED

A CAD/RMS/JMS vendor was selected and estimated to go live on August 20th, 2024. The new system upgrades the 25 year old CAD system and for the first time in the history of the County, all police agencies will operate under the same shared records management system.

Goals 3 & 4: PSAP Consolidation Study & PSAP Consolidation

COMPLETED

The two existing PSAP's will be consolidated in a new center within the Sheriff's Office. Construction on the new center is expected to be completed by May / June of 2024

Goal 5: Recruitment & Retention

IN PROGRESS

The Sheriff's Office has been able to fill a number of vacancies in all areas of operations: Patrol, Corrections, & Dispatch. This effort has stabilized operations significantly from 2022 / 2023.

Goal 6: SWAT Team

IN PROGRESS

The Sheriff's Office has made significant progress in the area of training. As of April of 2024, 11 Deputies have fully completed the 40 hour Basic Swat Certification. Two more Deputies remain to be scheduled to complete Basic Swat Certification after April. Team training will be scheduled to begin in late 2024, after which the Sheriff's Office will intend to be operational.

Goal 7: Employee Development

IN PROGRESS

Employee Development continues to be a focus within the Sheriff's Office. Several hundred hours of advanced training were completed within the last year including certifying two Deputies as Traffic Crash Reconstructionist and building upon our abilities to provide in-house instructors and training.

2024 GOALS

Project 1: FTD Program

Field Training Deputy (FTD) programs are a key piece of the Deputy development and retention. Reinvigorating and refining the current FTD program will help to equip Deputies with the right combination of knowledge, skills, and mentorship to succeed.

Project 2: Co-Respondent Model for Mental Health Calls

The Sheriff's Office will study the feasibility of implementing a police - mental health collaboration programs, also known as co-responder models. Co-responder models to provide an enhanced response to victims of crime or people in an emotional or behavioral health crisis. Utilizing this model, law enforcement and mental health clinicians respond to these calls for service together, providing an improved and immediate response to crisis situations by conducting a more accurate needs assessment on scene for the person in distress, and connecting them and connecting them and their families to community-based resources.

Project 3: Training Center/EOC

The Sheriffs Office is responsible for emergency management and preparedness throughout Whiteside County. The Sheriff's Office will study the feasibility of equipping, upgrading, or constructing an Emergency Operations Center.

Project 4: New K9 Handler

K9 Amor retired in April of 2024. The Sheriff's Office will seek to designate a new handler and replacement K9.

Project 5: Boat/Water Rescue

The Sheriffs Office will study the feasibility of implementing a future Boat / Water Rescue Unit.

