

# LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE







PEYTON C. GRINNELL, SHERIFF



Dear Citizens:

It is my pleasure to share with you the Lake County Sheriff's Office Annual Report for the Year 2022.

I hope you will take a moment to browse our Annual Report, and the data we have provided. We hope it will give you a better understanding of our duties and responsibilities, and our continued efforts to provide effective, efficient law enforcement to the citizens of Lake County.

As your elected Sheriff, I am grateful for your trust and confidence. It is my honor and privilege to serve you. On behalf of all the employees at your Sheriff's Office, I would like to thank you for working in partnership with us to make our communities a safer place to live.

Sincerely,

PEYTON C. GRINNELL SHERIFF OF LAKE COUNTY

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# INTEGRITY · COMMITMENT · ACCOUNTABILITY · PEOPLE

# BIASED BASED PROFILING POLICY

The policy of the Lake County Sheriff's Office is to treat every citizen with courtesy and respect. The purpose of this position is to reaffirm our commitment to unbiased policing in all its encounters between deputy sheriffs and citizens.

A fundamental right guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States is equal protection under the law. Along with this right to equal protection is the fundamental right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures by government agents as guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment. Citizens are free to walk and drive our streets, highways, and other public places without law enforcement interference so long as they obey the law. They also are entitled to be free from the acts of criminals, and to drive and walk our public ways safe from the actions of reckless and careless drivers.

The Lake County Sheriff's Office is charged with protecting these rights, for all, regardless of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender, or economic status. Law enforcement action which is biased is illegal and violates the equal protection clause and the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution. It also alienates citizens, fosters distrust of the Sheriff's Office, and undermines legitimate law enforcement efforts.

The nature of our business requires deputy sheriffs to be observant, to identify unusual occurrences and law violations, and to act upon them. Proactive law enforcement keeps our citizens safe to live and work in a crime free environment. Criminal profiling is a legitimate tool in the fight against crime. Criminal profiling is an investigative method in which a deputy, through observation of activities and environment, identifies suspicious behavior by individuals and develops a legal basis, consistent with the Fourth Amendment, to stop them for questioning.

Criminal profiling is one of many accepted and necessary law enforcement investigative practices. However, it differs from and should not be confused with bias-based profiling. One is an investigative tool; the other, a discriminatory practice. Illegal profiling refers to a decision by a deputy to stop, detain, interdict, or search an individual based on their race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender, or economic status. The Lake County Sheriff's Office prohibits illegal profiling as a law enforcement tactic and will not tolerate or condone its use by any of our deputies.

It is the Sheriff's Office philosophy to accomplish our mission in a way that respects the dignity of all persons and yet sends a strong message of zero tolerance to actual and potential lawbreakers.









LEADERSHIP · COMMUNITY · LOYALTY · PROFESSIONALISM



Criminal Investigations the victim's identity had been Bureau had another busy and used to open credit card accounts productive year. The Major Crimes Unit investigated 14 homicides and several overdose deaths. Detectives were successful at investigating these overdoses resulting in four indictments for death by distribution of narcotics. Detectives were also successful in making arrests on several robberies to convenience stores and internet cafés. Special Victims Unit detectives successfully investigated and arrested a suspect for a series of sexual assaults in South Lake County. New techniques were also implemented in 2022 that has greatly increased our detective's ability to locate missing endangered persons.

In March 2022, the General Crimes Unit detectives worked a significant case. The investigation theft from a victim in South

tied to addresses in Groveland and Mascotte. The investigation revealed the suspect had stolen the identities of at least five known victims to open various credit cards and other accounts. A search warrant was executed at the suspect's home in Mascotte, and detectives located equipment used to make counterfeit identification cards and stacks of blank credit cards that could have victims' data written onto them. The suspect was arrested on multiple counts of felony fraud related crimes.

During the past year, several detectives became members of the United States Secret Service (USSS) Central Florida Financial/ Electronic Crimes Task Force (CFFECTF). This partnership will allow our detectives to collaborate involved a complaint of identity and coordinate with the USSS as well as other state, county, and Florida. The allegations were that local law enforcement agencies to

combat rapidly evolving financial and electronic crimes.

The Criminal Investigations Bureau created an additional full-time chaplain position in 2022. The chaplains provide an integral role in victim advocate services for the citizens of Lake County. They are essential at providing counseling for our employees and act as a lead in our agency's Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team. In addition to these responsibilities, they regularly interact with community members at various events.





## **CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATIONS**

Crime Scene Investigations is the most frequently utilized unit within the agency. CSI Specialist were called out 250 times after regular business hours in 2022. This does not include the scenes and evidence processed during their normal scheduled hours. Twenty-seven of the call outs were requested by municipalities within our county. These callouts resulted in 370 overtime hours.

Currently, the Evidence Section secures and manages approximately 70,000 pieces of evidence. Due to annual destructs, several hundred pounds of both legal and illegal narcotics and property are disposed of each year.

The Fingerprints Section evaluated 2,954 prints and completed 4,750 print comparisons. This does not include the residents who are printed daily by our employees for a variety of reasons.











# SPECIAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU

The Special Investigations Bureau is made up of the Narcotics Unit, the Intelligence Unit, and the Street Crimes Unit. Investigations completed by Special Investigations Bureau detectives resulted in approximately 135 arrests in 2022, which consisted primarily of sex offender violations, weapons offenses, and drug-related offenses. The Lake County Sheriff's Office facilitates important partnerships with various federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to improve information sharing and to maximize available investigative resources. The Special Investigations Bureau maintains active partnerships with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the U.S. Marshals Service, and the Department of Homeland Security. The Lake County Sheriff's Office also maintains partnerships to conduct joint investigations with local law enforcement agencies, which include the Leesburg, Eustis, Clermont, and Mount Dora Police Departments.

# **NARCOTICS UNIT**

The Lake County Sheriff's Office placed a high priority on investigating high-level drug traffickers involved in trafficking fentanyl and other dangerous drugs in Lake County in 2022. Detectives assigned to the Narcotics Unit seized approximately six and a half pounds of heroin and fentanyl this year. Detectives also seized 22 pounds of cocaine, 61 pounds of methamphetamine, and 32 pounds of MDMA. The Lake County Sheriff's Office continues to incorporate the newest technology available to maximize investigative capabilities throughout the agency. The Narcotics Unit employs two Electronic Investigative Specialists to manage new investigative equipment and to support agency investigators with computer forensic examinations. The Electronic Investigative Specialists completed more than 130 forensic examinations on phones and computer devices to support criminal investigations completed by Lake County Sheriff's Office and local police department investigators in 2022.



Operation "Sneak-a-peak" was one of the more substantial investigations completed by the Sheriff's Office Narcotics Unit in 2022. The four-month investigation targeted high-level drug traffickers and resulted in three residential search warrants and drug-related charges for 27 people. Detectives seized four vehicles, 13 firearms (three of which were stolen), three pounds of fentanyl, 22 pounds of methamphetamine, 15 pounds of marijuana, two pounds of cocaine, and over five ounces of heroin. The combined street value of these dangerous drugs was almost \$300,000. Detectives also confiscated three presses used to process and package large quantities of drugs more efficiently.

## **INTELLIGENCE UNIT**

The Intelligence Unit monitors all registered sex offenders in Lake County for potential law violations and investigates incidents involving child pornography. The Intelligence Unit is also responsible for a wide range of other essential investigative functions. Detectives and civilian personnel assigned to the Intelligence Unit play an essential role in identifying, investigating, and disseminating potential threats or safety concerns to Lake County citizens and law enforcement personnel.

The Intelligence Unit conducted several complex investigations during 2022. Operation "Tsunami" was a three-month operation that was focused on making contact with registered sex offenders and predators actively under the supervision of the Florida Department of Corrections or United States Federal Probation. This operation was a combined effort between the Lake County Sheriff's Office and the United States Marshals Service. Operation "Tsunami" resulted in nine felony arrests of persons found to be non-compliant with mandatory requirements. An additional 295 compliance checks were completed on offenders and predators not actively on community supervision.

Operation "Welcome to Detention", was an investigation into adults attempting to use the internet to meet and engage in sexual activity with children. During the operation, undercover detectives posed as children agreeing to meet with

potential offenders in our community to engage in sexual conduct. This combined effort between the Lake County Sheriff's Office and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) resulted in six arrests. In addition to this operation, detectives participating in the FDLE Cyber Crimes Task Force executed 17 residential search warrants, 109 forensic warrants for electronic devices, and made 7 arrests for perpetrators engaged in child pornography.

Operation "Halloween" was conducted on Halloween night and was a joint effort between the Lake County Sheriff's Office and the Florida Department of Corrections. During this operation, 107 residence verifications were conducted. Of the 107 verifications, 70 home walk throughs and 3 home searches were conducted to ensure sex offenders were following the conditions of supervision. These conditions include no Halloween decorations, no costumes, no contact with minors, and curfew compliance. No arrestable offenses were identified during the operation.

The Intelligence Unit contributed to the safety and security of several large-scale events during 2022. For example, the Intelligence Unit participated in the Leesburg Bikefest by identifying and monitoring potential threats to the community. The Intelligence Unit also monitored other local events such as the and protests to ensure demonstrations were conducted peacefully and all participants and bystanders remained safe.

# **CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM**

The Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) is a specialized team of law enforcement and corrections deputies who are trained to assist in crisis situations. The CNT was organized to assist the LCSO to defuse volatile situations involving barricaded subjects (with or without hostages) or any situation in which SWAT is required. In 2022, the CNT had three callouts, all ending with a successful outcome. Additionally, 13 other calls that were handled by a Negotiator on duty and the team was canceled. Assistant Team Leader Ryan Castillo was involved in 12 successful negotiations in 2022, for this he was awarded the Medal of Valor at the 2022 Hometown Hero Gala.

Nine members of the CNT attended the 2022 Florida Association of Hostage Negotiators (FAHN) Conference which was in Orlando. These negotiators received training and were certified as peer counselors in the therapy techniques Tactical Resiliency Process (TRP) and Emotions Management Process (EMP), giving our negotiators new methods to help resolve crisis situations. Three team members attended advanced negotiations trainings at the Institute of Police Training Management. We are continuing to move forward and improving our training and abilities to assist citizens in crisis.

# **STREET CRIMES UNIT**

The Street Crimes Unit conducts proactive patrols to deter crime with increased law enforcement visibility and interdiction efforts. Unit members focus on street-level crimes, such as drug trafficking and weapons violations. In 2022, the Street Crimes Unit made numerous drug-related arrests and recovered many stolen vehicles and firearms. The unit was responsible for working with investigators to track down the suspects responsible for shooting a security guard during an armed robbery at a local business. The Street Crimes Unit also assisted the United States Marshals Service with surveillance and the arrest of a fugitive responsible for the death of a person by distribution of fentanyl. During another notable investigation, the Street Crimes Unit conducted surveillance on a residence known for housing drug dealers and thieves in the Sorrento area. During that time, deputies recovered a stolen motorcycle and a stolen trailer. Deputies seized methamphetamine, a stolen handgun, and license plates belonging to other stolen vehicles during the investigation. The suspect was arrested safely.

Two Street Crimes members were recognized for their outstanding performance during 2022. While responding to a neighborhood shooting, a member of the Street Crimes Unit responded and took immediate lifesaving action by placing torniquets on the victim who was suffering from gunshot wounds and significant blood loss. The deputy received a life-saving award. The Street Crimes Unit has a full service K9 handler assigned to assist with detecting the presence of illegal narcotics on traffic stops and the apprehension of fleeing felons. The Street Crimes Unit K9 handler was recognized as "K9 of the Year" for the 5th Annual Hometown Heroes Awards because of his hard work and professionalism throughout 2022.

# **SUPPORT BUREAU I**

# RADIO/ ELECTRONICS

The year 2022 welcomed a new full-time communications specialist to our team. Duties include supporting our agency communications platforms and emergency management resources such as mobile command and operations center assets. In addition, the countywide radio program support includes approximately 30 municipal and county public safety agencies.

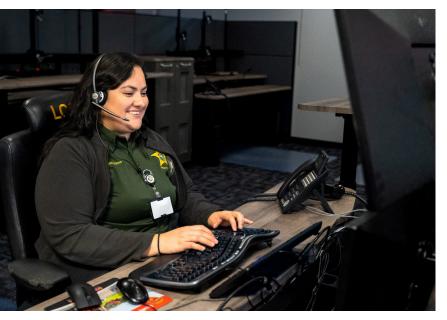
The Radio/Electronics team worked on a new airborne imaging and communications platform retrofit on two of the Sheriff's Office Aircraft. Replacement of a 30-year-old infrared radar system with a state of the art Trakka Systems™ imaging platform, airborne computer/mapping platform, upgraded interoperable radio system, and digital air to ground video links were completed. Additional portions of this project will continue into 2023 completing the project enabling enhanced search and rescue, disaster recovery, and law enforcement aircraft missions.

Our unit deployed five communications personnel during this year's hurricane season. Three personnel deployed to Lee and Collier County, under Florida State Mutual Aid missions from the Florida Division of Emergency Management. The mission deployed for 14 days, supporting Hurricane lan response and recovery operations. Our mission supported Florida's ESF2 Communications Unit task force to repair public safety radio systems, 911 centers, and establishing interoperability for many personnel who were mobilized from all across Florida to help our neighbors in this time of need. Two additional personnel supported local emergency management operations in the Astor community, which received record flood conditions for several weeks. Our team managed communications and our mobile command post that was deployed for several weeks as part of our CIRT team.





# SUPPORT BUREAU



# **COMMUNICATIONS CENTER**

The LCSO Communications Center is a Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) answering a majority of wireless 911 calls, all landline 911 calls from unincorporated Lake County and landline 911 calls from the municipalities for whom we dispatch. Some of these calls are related to medical or fire emergencies and are transferred to a secondary PSAP, Lake County Emergency Dispatch/911.

The dispatchers utilize specialized software to enter and track calls for service in our computer aided dispatch (CAD) system. The deputies in the field can see the real-time information being

entered into CAD as well as previous calls at a particular address. The dispatchers also utilize teletype, a nationwide secure database, to communicate with other law enforcement agencies, query and/or enter stolen vehicles, missing/wanted persons, stolen guns, or other information related to people or property. The LCSO Communications Center is staffed 24 hours a day with dispatchers working 12-hour shifts.

Additional 911 PSAP's within Lake County include: Eustis PD, Leesburg PD, Mount Dora PD and Groveland PD. LCSO Communications Center provides dispatch and 911 services to the following municipalities:

- Astatula Police Department
- Clermont Police Department
- Fruitland Park Police Department
- Howey in the Hills Police Department
- Lady Lake Police Department
- Mascotte Police Department
- Minneola (LCSO provides contracted law enforcement services)
- Montverde (LCSO provides law enforcement services)
- Tavares Police Department
- Umatilla Police Department

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	911 CALLS	ABANDONED 911 CALLS	INCOMING ADMIN CALLS	OUTCOMING ADMIN CALLS	TOTAL CALLS
<i>'15</i>	154,977	9,431	259,149	132,839	556,396
<b>'16</b>	155,425	7,834	266,996	118,979	549,234
<i>'17</i>	155,427	5,313	229,799	107,457	497,996
<b>'18</b>	155,497	2,053	208,133	116,744	482,427
<b>'19</b>	144,537	800	206,070	97,612	449,019
<b>'20</b>	122,102	590	190,668	76,623	389,983
<b>'21</b>	130,134	767	185,411	78,426	394,738
<b>'22</b>	115,871	10,973	187,862	72,261	386,967
911 ANSWER TIME5  '15  '16  83.78%  '17  82.01%  '18					
'19					98.74%
<b>'20</b>		98.94%			
		98.42%			
<b>'21</b>				<i>'</i>	

# **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

The IT department had a busy and productive 2022 with the implementation of several new projects. We were able to complete the build out of our new Real Time Crime Center to better serve the citizens of Lake County by providing a specialized team of individuals with the technological resources needed to prevent and solve crimes. IT was also responsible for several internal improvements building custom applications to meet state and federal reporting requirements. IT has also begun the very comprehensive process of updating camera and access control systems across all our locations spread throughout Lake County to better improve the physical security of visitors and staff of the Sheriff's Office.

Our largest and most anticipated project began with the official kick-off of our new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), Records, and Jail Management combining dispatch capabilities by having a unified system that is scheduled to go-live sometime in 2023. This was made possible by utilizing a combination of grants from FDLE and ARPA funding. This will replace existing software in place greatly improve the ability to work collaboratively and provide a disaster recovery site in the event we with all of Lake County's Public Safety personnel. have a catastrophic event. The project was formally started on November 28, 2022. The planned implementation process will take approximately 12-18 months from the kick-off until "go-live". Not only does this mean the Sheriff's Office will have the participating agencies and improve public a new Jail, CAD, and Records software, we will be safety county-wide.



system for all dispatch to take place from every participating law enforcement agency in Lake County, as well as all Fire/EMS agencies; this will This also includes a single, county-wide law records platform that every participating law enforcement agency in Lake County will have access to, which will provide seamless information sharing across

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

When a hurricane hits, "it's all hands on deck" and that is when the Emergency Management unit really springs into action. Hurricane lan brought a lot of responsibility to the unit prior to it hitting landfall and in the days following. The Emergency Management unit coordinated all agency planning for recovery and operations relating to Hurricane's Ian and Nicole; this also included one ten-day mission to Collier County.

Additionally, throughout the year, unit personnel attended Incident Command (IC) Instructor meetings and conducted an internal command school in February 2022. Members acted as the agency planning coordinator and Deputy Operations Section

Chief for Leesburg Bike Fest Phantom Brigade Parachute Jump and oversaw a Live Fire Range Safety Officer course for NASA and Seminole County Sheriff's Office.

The unit continues to coordinate all things medical for the Lake County Sheriff's Office's to include the automated external defibrillator (AED) program, COVID-19 antibody screening, the mobilize rescue program, and Naloxone Program. Continued Education training is a must and unit personnel are tasked with the management of all personnel and certifications with regards to medical training.

# **AGRICULTURE & MARINE UNIT**

For the 2022 year the AG/Marine Unit responded to over 19 missing person calls for service, six drownings, and numerous calls for boating accidents, drift-away boats, navigational hazards, sick person(s) on boats, disabled boats, and overdue boater calls for service. The AG/Marine unit investigated approximately 24 stolen boat and equipment cases and numerous dumping cases throughout the county.

The AG/Marine Unit played a crucial role during the arrival and aftermath of Hurricane Ian. AG/Marine Unit Members staged throughout the county as Disaster Relief Teams prepared for the arrival of Hurricane Ian. As Hurricane Ian made its arrival AG/Marine units (DRT) teams responded with chainsaws and tow straps to remove trees and tree debris from the roadways. After Hurricane Ian made its push through Lake County, the St John's River began to rise causing great concern for flooding in the Astor area. AG/Marine Units then transitioned into the "Astor Watch" operation. Throughout the Astor Watch Operation, AG/Marine units patrolled the Astor area in patrol boats and high-water vehicles rendering aide to citizens and enforcing "no wake zones" to protect property. This Astor Watch Operation continued for a couple of months due to the high-water levels and extra contributions from Tropical Strom Nichole.

On 9/30/22, five AG/Marine Units, along with other Lake County Sheriff's Office members, deployed for nine days to Collier County, FL to assist the Collier County Sheriff's Office with Hurricane Ian relief efforts. AG/Marine Units along with other Lake County Sheriff's Office personnel worked diligently in the Naples Garden, Gulf Shore, and Barefoot Beach area which was ground zero for Collier County's Hurricane Ian devastation.

Also in the 2022 year, the AG/Marine Unit purchased a new 14' aluminum Jon Boat powered by a 15 horsepower Mercury outboard. This boat was purchased for use in areas that we may not be able to get a full-size patrol boat in and may need to carry the boat by hand to get to the uneasy to access area. This boat will also serve as a valuable shallow water asset for flooded areas and retention ponds.





## **AVIATION**

In 2022 the Aviation Unit received 222 calls for service which assisted the LCSO Patrol Division in addition to local municipalities. Aviation Unit flight crews aided ground personnel in the arrests of 12 suspects as well as locating three missing persons. During the first quarter of the year, the Unit was able to purchase two Trakka Systems Thermal Cameras. These systems are some of the most advanced thermal imaging sensors available. This will now allow aircrews to fly at higher attitudes, which is safer and have better image quality to assist deputies on the ground.

Along with the thermal sensors, the aircraft were also equipped with Trakka Systems searchlights. The searchlight is integrated into the camera and mapping system to allow the Tactical Flight Officer to control the entire system with a touch screen monitor mounted in the aircraft. By the end of 2022, the Aviation Unit was able to upgrade two of the helicopter's instrument panels/cockpits to a more modern layout. This was a necessary process to install the newest camera/ mapping technology. The third and final helicopter is scheduled to be upgraded in April of 2023.















AIRCRAFT INSTRUMENT/ COCKPIT UPGRADE



UPGRADED THERMAL IMAGING/ MAPPING SYSTEMS

# **ANIMAL ENFORCEMENT AND BLOODHOUND UNIT**

The Animal Enforcement Unit responded to approximately 13,200 calls for service during 2022. These calls ranged from picking up stray dogs to felony charges for animal cruelty. This past year, we have responded to multiple animal hoarding cases resulting in rescuing over 100 animals from dire living conditions. At the beginning of the year, we assisted the State Attorney's Office with creating an animal cruelty task force. This has proven to be a success by allowing agencies throughout the Fifth Judicial Circuit to share cases and ideas on how to approach various cruelty cases. We had two hurricanes hit our area in 2022. Before both, we were utilized to help the Lake County Animal Shelter set up pet friendly shelters for the residents of Lake County. In October, the City of Mount Dora adopted the Lake County Animal ordinances, thus expanding our jurisdiction to include every part of Lake County with the only exception being within the city limits of Lady Lake.

The Bloodhound Unit was utilized to run approximately 80 tracks throughout the year. These include looking for lost/missing children, Dementia and Alzheimer's patients, and fleeing suspects. One such call was a suspect driving a stolen vehicle attempting to evade Leesburg Police Department when the suspect lost control and ended up disabling the vehicle in a patch of woods. The suspect fled from the scene on foot into a swampy area. Once on scene, the bloodhound was able to track from the vehicle and located the suspect hiding in the water just below an embankment. Another track was a joint effort between the bloodhound team and the Marine Unit. The bloodhound tracked into a swamp until it became too dangerous for the bloodhound to traverse. Luckily, it was able to be determined by the indications of the bloodhound that the suspect was most likely in the area where the track was terminated. The Marine Unit utilized the airboat and was able to apprehend the suspect quickly by having the knowledge of a possible area given by the bloodhound.







## **FLEET MANAGEMENT**

Lake County Sheriff's Office Fleet Management is responsible for purchasing, outfitting and maintaining over 550 vehicles and trailers. The north fleet facility is in Eustis, and the south fleet facility is in Clermont. Over the past year, Fleet Management has replaced 50 worn out/highmileage vehicles and 9 trailers. This continues to be challenging due to extremely low production of new vehicles and equipment.

· We continue to introduce new technology lightbars into the fleet that dim the lightbar and changes the pattern to a slow flash passing.





- We have implemented a dual external siren to patrol vehicles to increase volume which alerts traffic ahead.
- Using auction funds, Fleet Management has purchased a Ford F-450 to pull a refurbished command unit, now located at the South District Office.
- We refurbished the 2007 mobile command post to add upgraded technology and maintain external appearance. Refurbishment saves tax dollars instead of purchasing brand new equipment.
- A new addition to our Emergency Management fleet late this year was a mobile kitchen (donated from Mt. Dora PD). It will get a refurbishment over the course of 2023.

On September 29th, Hurricane Ian hit South Florida. As a result, we deployed two fleet personnel to Collier County to assist with equipment, vehicles and base camp functions. All fleet equipment was ready for duty, which made quick deployment possible to assist Collier County Sheriff's Office in a time of need.



# SUPPORT BUREAU I

## PROPERTY DEPARTMENT

Long-time Property Supervisor Charlene Lacey retired and Nick Palmer was promoted to fill her shoes. Throughout the year, the Property Unit focused on cutting purchasing costs for the agency mostly by modifying/eliminating our printed forms, cutting down the number of copies a form has, or moving them to our intranet page. While this cost saving measure has yet to be calculated in dollar terms, the ease of use to our employees is worth a fortune.



# **RECORDS UNIT**

Records Unit Yearly Activity	2021	2022
Reports	10,998	12,810
Citations	1,898	1,349
Items Processed / Copied	22,712	21,825

# **REPORT WRITERS**

Report Writers take phone-in reports from personnel in every area of the Sheriff's Office. A Report Writer is responsible for editing and proofreading every report for accuracy. In 2022, Report Writers took over 17,000 phone-in reports from all areas of the agency.

# **WARRANTS AND CIVIL UNIT** -

The Warrants Unit was assigned a full-service K-9. The full-service K-9 was added in 2021, however this is the first full year of operation, and the stats for 2022 resulted in 110 deployments with received by the unit, of which 2,904 were served/ executed and 2,605 individuals were arrested.

We added a new civil clerk position in 2022, that works 1130 hours to 2000 hours. This position picks up the overflow from the Clerk's Office late in the day, with the goal of also doing verifications as training progresses. This clerk also has normal civil duties; however, this position handles any injunctions received 1700-2000. The Communications Center takes care of anything later than 2000 hours. The Communications Center now has access to the civil software; this allows them to be able to process the injunction and create a worksheet for the deputy.

Thanks to our IT department, we had some great changes to the civil process system rendering the unit to go mostly paperless and all areas have adapted well. Civil now receives documents 37 apprehensions. There were 3,597 warrants electronically through a system called Barracuda. By receiving documents electronically, this allows us to receive them anytime throughout the day instead of only during the two daily runs that we get from their mail carrier. We no longer send back returns of service through inter-office mail for these documents because we can now send them electronically through the clerks e-Portal.

CIVIL CLERICAL STATS	2021	2022
Enforceable Papers Processed	2,589	3,124
Non-Enforceable Papers Processed	11,343	16,839
Purge Money Revenue(for Child Support)	\$9,415.40	\$17, 412
Other Revenue	\$167,783	\$203, 013





The LCSO Drone Unit was established in July 2020, and has conducted 1100 flights including training and operational missions. LCSO Drones are deployed an average of 10 times every week. To date, Drone pilots have located 40 lost/missing persons, 27 suicidal subjects and 23 fleeing suspects. Drone pilots have been activated multiple times for SWAT callouts (search warrants, barricaded subjects, etc.)

UNIT

The Drone Unit is a support element that serves as a real time observation and tracking element within the Lake County Sheriff's Office. The Unit supports front line, tactical and investigative

> elements of the Sheriff's Office to include Road Patrol, Hazardous Devices Team, SWAT, Criminal and Special Investigations Bureaus as well as any other element or agency requesting assistance or support.

> The Drone Unit consists of 15 pilots, 8 Patrol drones, three Special Unit drones (SWAT, HDT) and one industrial grade drone. They have the capability of seeing real-time in color and in thermal imaging. All have recording and streaming capabilities, and most have mapping capabilities for immediate documentation of a scene for tactical planning or situational awareness purposes.

> All Drone Pilots have been tested and are licensed through the FAA (part 107) and train in the areas of searching, overwatch and building/ vehicle clearing.

> The Drone Unit has begun training with the Aviation Unit to create a more thorough service to the front line and investigative elements we serve. The Unit has acquired three handheld Aircraft band radios for direct communication with nearby aircraft and area Air Traffic Control towers.

# SCHOOL RESOURCE BUREAU

# **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Our mission at Community Engagement is crime prevention and safety education as well as volunteer service.

In 2022 one of our flagship programs, the Sheriff's Citizen Academy held three classes throughout the county graduating 87 participants. Since 1997 over 1,400 Lake County residents have attended the Citizens Academy and gotten a "behind the scenes" view of how our agency operates.

Our Citizens on Patrol program of volunteers patrolled over 109,000 miles of Lake County roadways keeping an eye on homes and businesses as well as assisting our deputy sheriffs with traffic accidents, well-being checks and many other duties. In total our C.O.P. volunteers gave over 8,000 hours of their time along with our Sheriff's Volunteer Corps volunteers who gave almost

twenty thousand hours of their time. Our Sheriff's Corps of Volunteers served in areas throughout the agency including the Lake County Courthouse and Senior Watch program. Our volunteers in every area give selflessly of their time and talents to serve their community and support the mission of the Lake County Sheriff's Office saving taxpayers over 800,000 dollars. Sheriff Grinnell recognized several of our volunteers with the Sheriff's Volunteer Service medal for their service at vaccine sites during the Covid 19 pandemic.

Our Crimewatch coordinator continued to help implement new Crimewatch organizations throughout the county and attended over 300 crime watch meetings throughout the year. Crimewatch is simply neighborhoods organized to keep an eye out for each other and communicate with LCSO when something doesn't look right.





day. This ended up raising \$5,200 for the Lake County Sheriff's Charities, Inc.

other videos Some featured this past year included the video of our School Resource Unit (which won 3rd place for the Florida Association of School Resource Officers Unit of the Year) and videos of the Deputy involved shootings, which allowed the residents to see the actual Deputy's body cam footage.

Another big goal for the Digital Media Department was to grow the Lake County Sheriff's Office

social media platforms. Over this past year they have grown 8,449 followers throughout Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. The strategy behind that growth was creating various types of content to keep the viewers engaged; that included not only serious time-sensitive alerts, but also videos on our specialty units, pictures from over 100 events that we hosted/attended, and highlights of our agency and the good deeds performed throughout the year.

A fun project that was produced from Digital Media this year was the branding of our Therapy Dog Team with a special logo and brochure highlighting the dogs on the team and their job as a therapy dog. The branding also included creating products to hand out to kids at schools and events. Those products include fun bookmarks for each dog and a hand-drawn coloring book that includes pareddown scenarios of when the therapy dogs get called to teach the kids about the therapy dogs' job.







# **DIGITAL MEDIA**

The Digital Media Department has done a lot of behind-the-scenes things in 2022 to help promote the Lake County Sheriff's Office. A big project that started this past year was a rebranding of the agency. The goal behind it is to bring a cohesive look to the Lake County Sheriff's Office and create a recognizable image. This included making a handful of logos to be used in specific situations, a precise handpicked green & gold color, and certain fonts. This rebranding has been spread throughout the agency including road signs, patrol cars, flyers, etc.

One of the main focuses of Digital Media is creating eye-catching designs to help promote the agency events to Lake County residents, including flyers, t-shirts, social media posts, and banners. A big event that was promoted this year was the Lake County Sheriff's Charities Gala. For the gala, they created a SWAT Challenge video that not only highlighted our SWAT team, but also gave the highest bidders a chance to be a "SWAT" team member for the



# **SCHOOL RESOURCE UNIT**

In the summer of 2022, we saw a complete change in first line supervisors as we added Sqt. Mike Miranda and Sqt. Devin Godwin to the Unit. We also added two additional Corporals to the Unit, bringing the number to four. Deputy Huff gained a new partner, K9 Dash who was added to the Therapy dogs.

The SRD unit participated in multiple trainings over the summer months, continuing their specialty training in Tactical Emergency Casualty Care, Defensive Tactics and Firearms, Active Killer Training with over 40 hours on the range. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) returned and taught another two-day class of single officer response to an active shooter and an 8-hour class for Officer Ambush. This training also included familiarizing deputies with new equipment that was obtained for the School Resource Deputies to carry on campus.

During the Summer, the unit again participated in the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches Youth Camp Sorenson in Hilliard, FL, as well as hosting two local summer camps sponsored by Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches at Windy Hill Middle and Eustis Middle Schools. Our unit has been able to host and participate in these camps for many years and we hope to continue.

SRD Supervisors, in conjunction with Lake Technical College held an SRO Basic class for new SRDs and SROs from the city agencies. We had five SRD's go through the DARE course this past summer bringing the total number of DARE instructors to the Unit to 10. The SRDs also took a special four-hour class on Autism that was taught by a UCF Professor to help them while dealing with the children in our schools who are autistic. The majority of the Unit attended FASRO (Florida Association of School Resource Officers) in Orlando as well.

The SRDs also took advantage of the new simulator that was purchased through a grant, spending time in de-escalation and response to situations that may occur on school campuses. The SRD supervisors hosted a two-day Active Killer training

for the Guardians. The majority of the SRD Unit works with the Guardians during the school year providing an opportunity for the supervisors to pass along their FDLE training to them.

The new law regarding active assailant drills in the schools require each Deputy assigned to a campus to participate in ten drills during the school year. In addition, supervisors must go to every drill and to each school assigned a guardian within the county jurisdiction in order that the schools to meet the law's requirement.

The SRD Unit partnered with a business in Minneola for the third



# 2022 SCHOOL RESOURCE **UNIT STATISTICS**

13 LEO BAKER ACTS 33 MH CLINICIAN BAKER ACTS **BAKER ACTS** 

589 TOTAL # OF REPORTS REPORTS

102 K-9 SNIFFS K-9 FINDS K-9 ARRESTS 100 K-9 USAGE REPORTS

K-9 AOA- JAIL 2 K-9 AOA- NON LCSO

SCHOOL **15** K-9 AOA- NON SCHOOL RELATED

K-9 USAGE

- 8 WEAPON POSSESSION 33 DRUGS
- **62** 41S
- 207 MISC. MISDEMEANORS **54** MISC. FELONIES

# DISPOSITIONS

# **OTHER**

- **274** TOBACCO CITATIONS **3** SEXTING CITATIONS

annual "Elf Mission" where they coordinated the purchasing of gifts for children in need. The children that received gifts were identified by the SRDs and staff at the schools, to include any siblings they may have. The SRD Unit worked together with this business to provide ages, interests, and clothing sizes to the local business, as well as assisting with gift wrapping and coordinating the delivery of the gifts to the schools before the Christmas break.



SWAT performed twelve total operational missions in 2022

- Ten high risk warrant services
- Two barricaded person activations
  - Three large special event tactical QRF missions
    - Daytona 500
    - Back the Blue
    - Flag retirement

Performed thirty-two special event functions

- Eight parades participated
- Seven community services requested events
- Worked with raffle winners from:
- Dining in the Dark Event
- St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital **Fundraiser**
- March of Dimes Fundraiser
- Lake County Sheriff's Charities events

Participated in and or hosted the following training and continuing education events

- Conducted active killer/ rescue task force training for all Sworn in the agency thru the summer of 2022. This training was an eight hour training that was facilitated at Tavares Middle School.
- Conducted our annual 100 hour basic SWAT seminar for Region 5 Tactical law enforcement
- Sent two new snipers to FSA basic sniper.
- Sent one sniper to the advanced Hathcock sniper school.
- Participated in SWAT Round Up 2022 training seminar and competition.
- **Delivered two TACMED** sessions at SWAT Round-Up
- **Executed 20 training** evolutions that included

team-based, support-based, sniper and less-lethal trainings including a 40 hour annual training at Camp Blanding.

- Represented the agency at the National Tactical Officers Association conference in course delivery
- Represented the agency working with National **Tactical Officers Association** as a member of the National Standard 2023 Tactical Response and Operational Standard rewrite work group.

# Capability improvements

- Acquired two new Icor pole camera systems
- Acquired four new telescopic ladders











Staff members became FTO'S

Staff members attended & completed the LEO Crossover Course







688 Males
128 Females
Total inmates for the year

Officer Vermillion along with Corporal Wade were selected as the American Legion First Responders of the Year Officer Todaro was chosen by Sheriff Grinnell as the Florida Sheriff Association nominee for Correction Officer of the Year for our agency

## **CORRECTIONS OPERATIONS DIVISION**

In December 2022, the Lake County Detention Center installed a state-of-the-art surveillance system. This system gives a broader visual dynamic throughout the Detention Center that enables the Detention staff to control and safely move inmates around the jail facility. In addition, this surveillance system increases the detention staff's visual ability for the exterior portion of the Lake County Detention Center, thus improving its safety and security.

In 2022, the Lake County Detention Center's computer system underwent a management software enhancement that focused on cutting edge technology. For instance, electronic administrative confinement reports, as well as electronic daily segregation reports are now less time consuming and the information is stored on a computer. This simple adjustment is saving paper, which constitutes less cost and researching said information has become much simpler and quicker. Furthermore, front line detention staff and supervisors are now able to effectively complete their specific daily job tasks in an expeditious fashion.



The LCSO Dive Team/Underwater Search & Recovery Unit currently consists of fourteen full-time LCSO sworn employees and one volunteer member who is an active Lake County Fire Rescue Lieutenant. The team participates in monthly trainings to maintain proficiency in their perishable skills.

Throughout the 2022 year, members have continued to enhance their levels of specialized training. To my knowledge, our dive team members are the highest rated certified dive team in the State of Florida. With the promotion of two members to the professional level of Dive Master and one to Open Water instructor, we now have four members rated as Open Water Instructors, one Assistant Open Water Instructor, five Dive Masters, two Master Divers, one Rescue Diver and two Open Water Divers. Members holding the certification rating of Dive Master and above are considered by dive industry standards as professional SCUBA divers. That's ten of our fifteen team members.

During June of 2022, LCSO again hosted the eightyhour FDLE/CJSTC approved advanced course of Underwater Police Science and Technology in partnership with Lake Technical College. This course is only held by one other host law enforcement agency statewide (Miami-Dade PD). The LCSO dive team instructor cadre with our Dive Masters assisting, qualified seven law enforcement divers under the State of Florida curriculum to provide these vital search and recovery missions. Agencies represented in the class were from Lake, Leon, Marion, Orange, and Sumter County Sheriff's Offices. Another diver had to drop out of the class midway through due to illness. Police diving is a strenuous and often dangerous environment. Low and zero visibility, dangerous wildlife, entanglement factors, environmental and biological concerns are with

them at every turn in our waters. The course builds confidence, enhances capabilities, and skills in these areas. Additionally, divers were also certified under Divers Alert Network (DAN) worldwide standards.

The dive team responded to only three dive callouts throughout the year. This number is drastically low compared to the 2021 year where there were nine. The three call outs were to assist the Tavares Police Department with a suicide/body recovery, drowning in the unincorporated portion of Groveland, and a three -day search and recovery on Lake Yale, in Eustis for a missing boater.

Dive team members also assisted the City of Tavares on five different special event/details. Two of the events were for city sponsored airshow events and festivals. Three events were to assist the Phantom Brigade Paratroopers organization with skydivers landing in Lake Dora, in Tavares. During one of these events, a medical emergency was declared for a skydiver and LCSO Dive Team members were able to quickly rush to the scene, recover the unresponsive skydiver from the water, perform lifesaving measures (CPR) and rush the patient to shore where they were turned over to awaiting emergency medical personnel. The skydiver was transported to the hospital and survived the incident.

Throughout the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the dive team purchased much needed equipment that included two buoyancy control devices (BCD), four underwater flashlights, two sets of scuba fins, two full face scuba masks, several cutting tools, several packs of silicone dry suit seals, one 2000lb lift bag for recovering vehicles and aircraft, and a new body recovery system. This new necessary equipment cost the agency \$5,505.00. The team also spent approximately \$2,237.00 on equipment maintenance, inspections, and certifications.

# COURT SERVICES BUREAU



Our goal is to ensure the safety of everyone working or visiting the courthouse throughout the day. We provide security for 13 elected officials, which includes 8 Circuit judges, 4 County judges and the Clerk of Court. Security is also provided for two Magistrates and two Hearing Officers.

#### **Court Services Staff**

Deputies assigned to the courthouse have multiple duties and assignments which may include: providing security at the public entrance, overseeing private security staff, and security for trials and judicial staff. Deputies are also responsible for responding to calls for service within the courthouse.

Every deputy assigned to a judge is required to provide security for that judge whenever they have court hearings or trials. Some of their duties include, courtroom and chambers security, protection and management of juries, preparation of court dockets, scheduling inmate transportation, and other miscellaneous duties. Special

coordination and planning are required for high profile trials or capital cases that have a great public interest. Coordination with the judge, prosecutor, public defender, and the media is essential to ensure all security concerns have been addressed and that the trial can be conducted in a safe and efficient manner. Court Services deputies are called upon during emergency events such as hurricanes to assist at the ECOC, Detention Center or wherever needed; they were activated and worked at the ECOC during Hurricane lan.

Court Services has six Sheriff's Office volunteers assigned to the bureau. Sheriff's volunteers assist with Jury Management, which

includes checking jurors in and assisting deputies escort jurors to courtrooms. Volunteers assist deputies in Criminal and Civil courtrooms. In criminal court, volunteers assist deputies with fingerprinting, DNA collection, docket management and paperwork distribution. They provide an invaluable service to our bureau and allow the deputies to focus more on security.

## **Contract Security Officer Duties**

The Security Officers are tasked with various duties including conducting security screenings of all public entering the courthouse. In 2022, they screened approximately 157,000 people at the public entrance. The number of visitors

to the courthouse is still below pre-covid numbers but is steadily increasing with most all courts resuming in person. Security officers transport all inmates to and from the courthouse for court hearings and trials. In 2022, they transported 4,457 inmates to the courthouse. They also operate control rooms in our inmate holding area and manage inmate movement. Security officers are supervised directly by the Sheriff's Office to make sure they maintain compliance with LCSO policy as well as accreditation standards.

# **Accomplishments in 2022**

We are continually evaluating and improving our security procedures and systems at the courthouse. We work closely with Court Administration, the Administrative Judge, and Lake County to acquire security improvements. In 2022, we upgraded our electronic key access systems hardware and software making access throughout the courthouse more secure. Our inmate corridor intercom system was upgraded and integrated with our CCTV system. This upgrade provides our control room operators the ability to better observe and

communicate with inmates while in our custody. We, along with Court Administration, have submitted plans and are awaiting bids to start replacing all the cameras in the courthouse complex.

## **Active Shooter Training**

In 2022, we participated in very specialized active shooter training in the courthouse, organized by the Sheriff's Office SWAT team. This training involved multiple scenarios based on active shooter threats that could occur at the courthouse. Training was enhanced by using Simmunitions, which simulate real gunfire and explosions.









# LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S CHARITIES, INC. EVENTS

Our 3rd Annual Boots, Buckles, and Badges Gala was even more successful than the first two. Attendees showed up in their finest western duds and supported The Lake County Sheriff's Charites, Inc. The funds raised support Lake County children, foster engagement between Lake County citizens and the Lake County Sheriff's Office, and support Lake County Sheriff's employees and their families in times of need. The 2022 Gala raised over \$143,000.

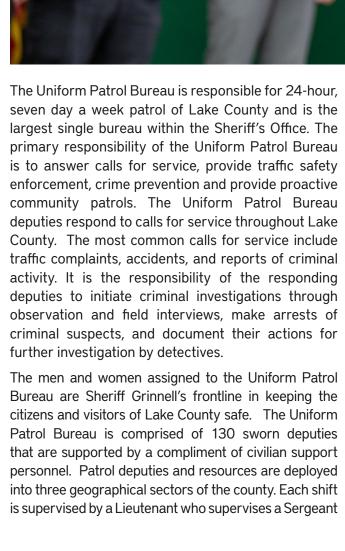




On a frigid and windy day in January, fishermen turned out for our 9th Annual Bass Tournament. Dustin Smith & Rick Miller took home the top prize with their catch weighing in at 20.74 lbs. The Big Bass award went to Ron Feltner & Matt Wooldridge for their 7.03 lbs bass. The Lake County Sheriff's Charities, Inc. presented a check to the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches for \$16,000 that included proceeds from the event.







The men and women assigned to the Uniform Patrol Bureau are Sheriff Grinnell's frontline in keeping the citizens and visitors of Lake County safe. The Uniform Patrol Bureau is comprised of 130 sworn deputies that are supported by a compliment of civilian support personnel. Patrol deputies and resources are deployed into three geographical sectors of the county. Each shift

and Corporal that are assigned to each of the three sectors. There are seventeen patrol zones in Lake County with a Deputy Sheriff assigned to each zone. Each area is generally patrolled by the same deputy on a continuous basis, allowing the deputy to become more familiar with the areas of concern within his/her respective area. Deputies who serve the community are trained in the most current tactics and techniques within the field and are equipped with the most current technology and tools to better serve the citizens and visitors of Lake County.

#### **Newly Hired Deputies**

For calendar year 2022 the Lake County Sheriff's Office hired 20 new deputy sheriffs. They were assigned to our 14 Field Training Officers (FTO). These new deputies have gone through extensive training in our 12-week field training program. They have received training in firearms, vehicle operations, building searches, map reading, report writing, traffic crash investigation and utilization of our CAD system. When these deputies completed training, they were assigned to our Patrol Bureau and were assigned to a variety of shifts.





# **Technologies**

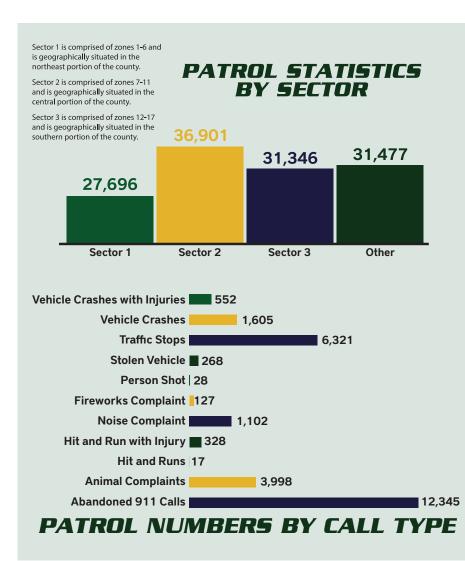
The Uniform Patrol Bureau incorporates several cutting-edge technologies to enhance performance. Each patrol vehicle is equipped with a laptop computer, allowing deputies to receive calls for service, create reports, locate addresses, and check the status of vehicles and persons. Currently every Deputy Sheriff in the Uniform Patrol is issued a body worn camera. These cameras not only assist the deputies in gathering evidence and statements, but also help support the deputies in recalling events after highstress encounters. The body worn cameras are part of a cutting-edge communications beacon front-andcenter on every call. The cameras improve the civility of deputy-citizen encounters and enhances citizen trust in our transparency and legitimacy.

High-risk vehicle events such as pursuits are a constant public safety concern for law enforcement. In 2022, the Lake County Sheriff's Office began implementing and installing a new technology on patrol cars called StarChase. StarChase's GPS technology addresses safety challenges with a proven device that reduces risk to life and property. The deployment of StarChase

gives the deputies valuable time to assess, organize, and effect a safe arrest while avoiding the need for a deadly vehicle pursuit. The technology offers the deputies the ability to tag, track, and conduct surveillance of high-risk events in real time situational awareness, at a safe distance.

#### **Continual Training**

Across the United States, there has been a false narrative written that has caused the targeting of law enforcement by individuals and extremist ideology. Locally, the men and women of the Lake County Sheriff's Office receive Racial Intelligence Training (RITE) as well as de-escalation training. This training helps deputies when addressing high stress and tense situations. Based on the county's increasing population and forecasted population growth data, we have continued to evaluate the geographical areas of the county to ensure that there are adequate patrol deputies in our communities. In the future, we will need to hire additional deputies to keep up with the growth and to maintain an exceptional level of quality service to our citizens, communities, and visitors.



#### THE MOTOR UNIT

In 2022, the Motor Unit consisted of four full-time motorcycles and three reserve motors. The full time motors typically work Monday through Friday, but have been known to work some weekends if needed. The reserve motors assist the full time motors on their days off. Both have made themselves available to complete any tasks asked of them. The motor units handle speeding complaints, disabled vehicle calls, crashes, traffic obstructions, community service events, parades, back up Patrol deputies and lead escorts of all types. They do approximately 12 motorcycleescorts for charitable organizations throughout the year supporting everything from Toys-for-Tots to Veteran events of all types. Several of these escorts have 250-500 motorcycles in them and most of them either start or end at Gator Harley-Davidson in Leesburg.











## K-9 UNIT

Becoming a K-9 handler is a desirable career opportunity among law enforcement professionals. These K-9 deputies work closely with their canine partners to enforce the law and apprehend criminals. Not only are they trained to catch felony offenders, but they also conduct area and building searches as well as the detection of illegal narcotics. Their goal is to respond to situations that necessitate those specialized skills of



the K-9 unit. In addition to their usual duties, each K-9 deputy is also a dog handler, meaning that they must train and care 24 hours a day for their canine partner. The responsibilities of a K-9 deputy do not end with his shift. The dog is the deputy's partner not only at work but also at home. Our canines and their handlers go through a minimum of 480 hours for certification and conducts continuing training every week on a variety of different topics.

## **PUBLIC SERVICE OFFICERS**

The Lake County Sheriff's Office established a unit called Public Service Officers (PSO) in 2020. The PSO is a civilian employee who can work a variety of different calls to assist patrol. They are part-time employees and are dispatched to calls for service all over the county. They have been an asset for the entire Sheriff's Office. They can handle the following types of calls: Burglary, Theft, Criminal Mischief, Fraud, Found Property, Lost Property, DAVs, Crashes, Stolen Vehicles, Recovered Stolen Vehicles, Well-Being, and Property Checks.



As a result of their work in 2022 Public Service Officers handled the following number of incidents:

BURGLARY: BUSINESS 2

RECOVERED AUTO 4

CITATIONS 4

FOUND/LOST PROPERTY 6

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF 9

THEFT: AUTO 11

BURGLARY: RESIDENTIAL 13

THEFT: PETIT 20

BURGLARY: CONVEYANCE 22

THEFT: GRAND 31

DAV 40

VIN VERIFICATION 68

TRAFFIC RELATED 83

FRAUD 153

WELL-BEING/PROPERTY CHECKS 465

MORE THAN 465 OTHER CALLS FOR SERVICE WHICH ARE NOT CLASSIFIED AS CRIMES BUT WOULD HAVE BEEN HANDLED BY A DEPUTY.

ensure our Deputies received the most current, upto-date training. We continued to utilize our online program has been streamlined and now has a Training system (Target Solutions) for all sworn staff and civilians. The training database provides over 300 classes, enabling more specialized training. The training classes are updated each year, providing the most current training materials available.

Each year, agency members are required to attend several months to allow all the opportunity to attend various types of training to maintain proficiency and further develop their skills and abilities. It is mandatory by the State of Florida to keep Deputy certifications current. Training courses are attended exercises to help better prepare our Deputies in the to improve effectiveness and efficiency, as well as event of an active killer in Lake County. stay current with changes in laws and current trends in the profession.

system for all sworn deputies. We have begun taking all the old training records and scanning them into an online system, creating a digital archive enabling online access should the need arise. We hope to have all our records digital by the end of 2023.

To complement our vision of using state-of-the-art training tools, we continue to use our high-tech firearms training simulator. Using video projected 270 degrees, the training provided deputies with In partnership with Lake Technical College, the quick judgment and decision-making skills and realworld scenarios that test the Officer's de-escalation Law Enforcement, Corrections, Crossover, and 911 skills with many different outcomes depending on the Deputy's responses. This tool will complement the available tools to keep our deputies at the forefront of training.

The Training Bureau completed an agency-wide transition of all issued handguns from the Glock .40cal to a Glock 9mm MOS. The new 9mm MOS allows us to transition to red dot optics in 2023. The optics will enable our deputies to have quicker target acquisition and more accuracy in the event of a deadly force encounter. The new handguns are more compact and less bulky than the previous model and, in some eyes, much more user-friendly.

The transition consisted of trading in more than 650 handguns of several different models and calibers that have been in use for the past 18 years The process allowed us to go from multiple calibers to one caliber agency-wide, making inventory and accountability much easier to manage going forward.

The Training Bureau was very active this year to In 2022, the Field Training Program was incorporated into the Training Bureau. The FTO dedicated full-time Supervisor overseeing the program under the Training Bureau.

> With the assistance of members of the SWAT team, the Training Bureau facilitated Active Killer Training for all Sworn personnel. This 8-hour training was held over this mandatory training. The training was held at both Tavares Middle School and Lake Technical College. The training consisted of classroom and scenario

Training staff is also responsible for the training and certification for the Safe School Officer program, In late 2021, we started implementing a new filing commonly referred to as the Guardian program. In conjunction with The Lake County School Board and Florida State Statutes, Training personnel facilitates the training and certification of nearly 50 Safe School Officers, including the initial 132 hours of certification training and ongoing quarterly training. This year we completed eight new guardian certifications and performed two quarterly activities for 48 existing Safe School Officers.

> Lake County Training Bureau oversees the Basic recruit training program, as well as FDLE approved Advanced/Specialized training classes for local agencies at the Institute of Public Safety. Last year, 101 students completed our programs with a 100% licensure rate and an average placement rate of over 88%. Included with the partnership is our Equivalency of Training program, which involves out-of-state certified Law Enforcement and Corrections Officers that want to gain Florida Certifications in their respective fields. This year we had over 75 attendees complete and passed the course.

Another function at the Training Bureau is completing background investigations for all new hires and volunteers at the Sheriff's Office. Last year we processed and completed 233 applications for new hires and volunteers and 52 Equivalency of Training applications and assisted several local agencies with their background investigations.

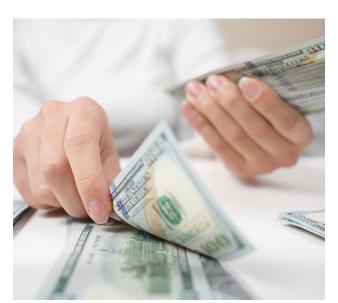
## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

Our Human Resources Department received 487 applications for both sworn and civilian employment during the 2022 calendar year. A total of 95 individuals were hired, and 23 retired agency-wide. There is an increase in Deputy Sheriffs applying from out of state to come to Florida.

This past year, Premise Health opened a second location for our employees to better serve them in the southern part of the county. Employees continued to use the Premise Health facility, which saw a total of 5,503 appointments scheduled.



Premise Health continues to be a cost savings measure for the Sheriff's Office. Premise Health performs labs, x-rays, flu vaccines, occupational and provider visits, along with offering personal wellness coaching. Our agency partnered with UCF Restores and Lexipol as an additional EAP Employee Assistance Program.



## **FINANCE**

Our Grant Writer was instrumental in securing a \$ 4,785,032 grant to replace our current computer aided dispatch system with the Premier One Computer Aided Dispatch System. The money came from two grants - \$1,940,000.00 was from FDLE as part of a Criminal Justice Data Transparency grant - the new system will ensure the county and all city crime data is reported to the Florida Incident Based Reporting System and \$2.845.032 was from the American Rescue Plan Act funding (COVID Relief funds).

Another \$420,920 in grants was received for replacement computers and monitors for the Jail and IT server equipment and \$ 201,296 was awarded through a School Safety Guardian Grant.

# 2022-2023 LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE BUDGET

	GENERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT	CORRECTIONS & DETENTION ALTERNATIVE FACILITIES	COURT SERVICES EXCLUDING SERVICE OF PROCESS	SHERIFF'S OFFICE SUB-TOTAL	TOTALS- ALL BUDGETS
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$42,825,309	\$24,285,980	\$70,099,896	\$6,824,666	\$76,924,561
OPERATING EXPENSES	8,588,806	6,676,214	16,211,551	490,107	16,701,658
CAPITAL OUTLAY	1,460,377	100,000	1,560,377	-	1,560,377
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$52,874,492	\$31,062,195	\$87,871,823	\$87,871,823	\$95,186,596



Emma and her family stopped by our office to hand out handmade wooden thin blue line flags to Sheriff Grinnell and a lot of others! Sheriff Grinnell presented her with the Gold Star Award and had her meet some of our K-9s. She heard on the news about the defunding of the police and was upset at how people were treating law enforcement. She desired to do something special and had a family who loves creating things out of wood, so she asked them to help. After handing out multiple flags in 5 counties, her goal was to visit all 67 counties in FL. Since then, she has been invited to speak at the Sheriff's Association, handed out 933+ flags, and has gone to 55 of the 67 counties. She also gives a smaller version of the flags to the K-9s.



Sheriff Grinnell was invited to Montverde Academy to receive 25 bicycles assembled by the senior class. These will be used as giveaways for our annual Shop with a Cop program. Thanks to all of the students, Head of School Jon Hopman, and all the faculty/staff members for supporting our community!



Sheriff Grinnell and LCSO Charities presented Principal Dawn Cerney of Altoona School with a check for \$2,500 that will go towards new computers and iPads for students!

Our SRD Unit stopped by the Chick-fil-A in Clermont to present Justin Nichols with the Sheriff's Gold Star Award plaque in honor of his



years of support in providing lunches for the LCSO Teen Driver Challenge. Justin is the Marketing Director for that store and has been one of our largest sponsors.



Staff attended the South Lake Chamber of Commerce (FL) First Responder Appreciation Breakfast in August where SRD Tabbitha Huff was awarded with the South Lake

Chamber of Commerce Public Service Award.



The LCSO Therapy K-9 Team and Dean F. Moreno were asked to swing by the Amazon Fulfillment Center/ TPA2 in Lakeland, FL to bring awareness to mental health and law enforcement

partnership. We'd like to thank Brittany Basler, LPC, for showing us around and all Amazon employees for letting our pups brighten their day.



LCSO personnel were the celebrity waiters at Texas Roadhouse to raise money for Special Olympics Florida with our Tip-a-Cop event. We raised over a

thousand dollars! Thank you to everyone who was kind enough to donate and thank you Texas Roadhouse staff for letting us hang out with you all!



The LCSO Sporting Clays Shoot Team shot fantastic at the Bradford County Sheriff's Office "Shoot With the Sheriff" event, placing in the top three of both flights.



Sheriff Grinnell presented April Jedziniak with a donation from Lake County Sheriff's Charities! Camp Corral's mission is to help transform the lives of children of wounded, ill, and fallen military heroes. They provide camps, advocacy, and enrichment programs.



LCSO employees participated in the April 2022 Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics at the Special Olympics Florida Headquarters.



Mr. Jayce DeSantis, son of LCSO Sgt. Jeff DeSantis and his wife Christine, was selected as a recipient of the 2022 FSA STEM Scholarship awarded by the Florida Sheriffs Association. Jayce is currently attending Lake-Sumter State College and plans to transfer to the University of Central Florida to pursue a future in Mechanical Engineering.



LCSO Charities partnered with Cassia Baptist Church and gave out 130 backpacks with the help from Lake County Property Appraiser Carey Baker. Thank you to everyone who came out and made things possible!! We had a blast hanging out, serving lunch, and making sure kids were ready to start school.

In May, we honored the Lake County law enforcement officers who paid the ultimate sacrifice at the 2022 Lake County Law Enforcement Officer Memorial Service in downtown Tavares.







Sergeant Weston Paul and Civilian Supervisor Linda Thompson graduated from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Criminal Justice Executive Institute Leadership Academy. The FLA, as it is known, held its' 51st class at the Cape Coral Police Department and had 41 leaders successfully complete the four month course.

























# TO SERVE PEOPLE, SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES, SAFEGUARD OUR QUALITY OF LIFE

