



# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



# WINNEBAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## *Mission Statement*



*The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office is committed to providing comprehensive public safety services in partnership with its citizens to promote a safe and secure community.*

*In order to achieve the Sheriff's Office mission, emphasis is placed on professionalism, teamwork, and individual growth. The Office strives to be a leader within the public safety community and values integrity, fairness, and compassion.*



# SHERIFF'S MESSAGE

Featured on the cover of the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office 2022 Annual Report are the distinguished service members of our K9 Unit. You may recognize K9 Tim (top left) and K9 Athos (top right) from previous reports as they are both veterans with the agency. Both K9 Haimo (bottom left) and K9 Skylar (bottom right) were new to the Sheriff's Office this year.

K9 Skylar is unique to our K9 program in several ways. Unlike her counterparts who are male German shepherds trained in tracking, drug detection, and handler protection, K9 Skylar is a female Labrador retriever trained in tracking and explosives detection. With an array of special events and large gatherings occurring in Winnebago County, her role in helping to ensure a safe and secure venue is critically important.

As you look through the 2022 Annual Report, I hope that you learn more about our K9 Unit. Should you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact the program coordinator Lieutenant Christopher Braman.

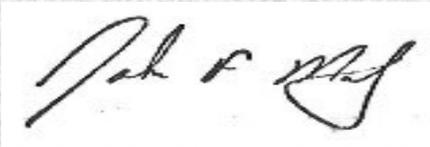


**Sheriff  
John F. Matz**

As your Sheriff, I am both humbled and proud to lead this amazing agency. Like any service organization, the success of the Sheriff's Office depends directly on its members who work hard every day to deliver great customer service. Collectively, their dedication and commitment help to make Winnebago County a great place to live, work, and play.

While some of our staff work directly in the community, the vast majority work behind the scenes. To help spotlight these unsung public safety professionals, this year's report includes a profile picture of all Sheriff's Office members. If you happen to interact with any of these individuals in the community, I encourage you to personally thank them for their service and sacrifice.

Sincerely,



**Join our amazing team!**



**Chief Deputy  
Todd Christopherson**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gfUUFHpUy5s>

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# COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION



The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office operates a county-wide Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) or Communications Center, which is overseen by Communications Captain Lara Vendola-Messer and Communications Lieutenant Jesse Jensen.

Within the PSAP, all public safety incidents and related radio traffic and phone calls are coordinated by an allotted 31 extensively trained dispatchers, with five dispatchers working at a time. Professional public safety dispatchers are responsible for continuously monitoring six primary radio talk groups assigned to law enforcement and fire departments within Winnebago County 24/7/365. The Winnebago

County PSAP handles emergency (911) and non-emergency calls, radio communications, and dispatches resources and services for all law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical service providers within Winnebago County to include 8 law enforcement agencies, 15 fire departments, 13 first responder groups, and 4 ambulance services.

In order to maintain professional public safety dispatchers, each new dispatcher receives a minimum of 1,072 hours of on the job training to include:

- ◆ 4 hours of CPR
- ◆ 32 hours of TIME system certification
- ◆ 24 hours of Emergency Medical Dispatch
- ◆ 24 hours of continuing education every two years



## Annual Statistics

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
<b>911 Landline</b>	3,494	7,917	7,536	7,646	8,161	8,618
<b>911 Wireless</b>	42,668	42,757	35,741	37,535	32,897	32,070
<b>VOIP</b>	4,915	X	X	X	X	X
<b>911 Text</b>	82	35	X	X	X	X
<b>Total Incoming 911</b>	<b>51,077</b>	<b>50,709</b>	<b>43,277</b>	<b>45,181</b>	<b>41,058</b>	<b>40,688</b>
<b>Non-emergency calls</b>	82,285	85,065	85,967	89,663	88,643	91,666
<b>Outbound calls</b>	35,117	40,111	36,060	39,482	37,752	40,255
<b>Total phone calls handled</b>	<b>169,218</b>	<b>175,885</b>	<b>165,304</b>	<b>174,326</b>	<b>167,453</b>	<b>172,609</b>
<b>CAD Calls for Service</b>	179,013	180,327	164,877	174,768	170,685	171,631

The 911-call handling software can quickly capture the time it takes for a dispatcher to answer a 911 call from the time it rings in the PSAP. The generally accepted industry best practice standard for 911 call-answering times is that 90% of all 911 calls should be answered within 15 seconds and 95% should be answered within 20 seconds. We are proud to report that with the 51,077 911 calls in 2022, the PSAP answered 98.44% within 10 seconds, 99.68% within 15 seconds, 99.86% within 20 seconds, and 99.97% in under 40 seconds.



### **What Dispatchers Really Do?**

Public safety dispatchers, also known as 911 operators, play a crucial role in the emergency response system. As the "first" first responders, they are responsible for answering calls for assistance, determining the nature of the emergency, and dispatching appropriate resources to the scene. This can be a highly stressful job, as dispatchers must remain calm and focused under pressure, often while dealing with life-threatening situations and distressed or upset callers.

One of the main sources of stress for dispatchers is the high volume of calls they handle on a daily basis. Dispatchers may receive a large number of calls in a short period of time, and must quickly assess each situation and determine the appropriate response. This requires a high level of concentration and the ability to make decisions quickly and accurately, while working within a wide array of computer systems.

Dispatchers also face the stress of dealing with emotionally charged and potentially dangerous situations. They receive calls from people who are panicked, frightened, injured, or angry, and must remain calm and professional in order to effectively communicate and provide assistance. In addition, dispatchers are exposed to disturbing or traumatic information such as descriptions of accidents or crimes, or frantic persons attempting to perform CPR on a loved one, which can take an emotional toll on the dispatchers. Finally, dispatchers often work long shifts, to include overnights, weekends, holidays, with both planned and unplanned overtime, all which disrupt normal daily routines and lead to fatigue and stress.

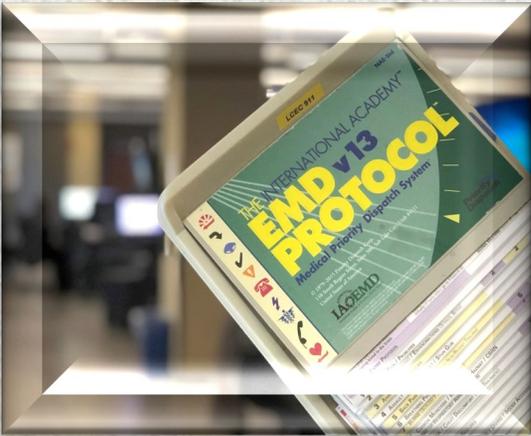
Overall, public safety dispatching is a challenging and demanding job that requires a high level of professionalism, skill, and resilience. It is not a job – it is a calling – and it is not for everyone.

Our team of highly skilled professionals are amazing people, and we place great value on their judgment and experience.



## **Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD)**

The Winnebago County PSAP has been equipped with Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) software for many years. In 2022, the PSAP assessed 13,283 medical cases within the program. This represents roughly 26% of the 911 calls into the Comm Center. The electronic software integrates concepts of medical emergency dispatching protocols with today's critical computer technologies. The software is designed in such a way that it assists dispatchers in quickly identifying a determinate code to send an appropriate and pre-determined level of medical response.



The Winnebago County PSAP also uses a quality improvement feature for its EMD related services, which automates many tasks within a rigorous and strict case review process. This ensures that consistent and regular self-assessment of medical dispatch calls occurs. In 2022, our specially trained quality assurance evaluators reviewed 1,133 cases (8%) of all medical calls. When delving deeper, in 2022 dispatchers addressed 252 calls where CPR was necessary. To comply with state statutes, 182 of the 252 dispatcher-assisted CPR calls (72%) were critically evaluated to ensure the best level of service was provided.

## **911 Information**

In 2022, Winnebago County PSAP handled 51,077 total 911 calls. While the majority of the calls were legitimate calls for help, 11,147 of those calls were deemed to be accidental or hang up calls. All 911 calls take time and resources. The resource used begins at the PSAP, and often extends to requiring additional field resources, such as deputies, EMS, first responders, and/or fire departments to vet the validity of the call. In 2022, your professional public safety dispatchers were able to resolve 8,021 of the 911 misdials without the need to dispatch additional public safety resources. For each 911 call that comes to the PSAP, if it cannot be determined that 911 was dialed in error, appropriate public safety personnel will be dispatched to investigate. In 2022, this occurred 3,126 times. This results in public safety personnel and resources being diverted for unnecessary 911 calls from true emergencies, traditional law enforcement services, or other community engagement efforts.

Common accidental 911 calls occur because of pocket dialing, misdialing, inadvertent activation of certain phone or watch features, or children playing with a phone. Although the PSAP receives accidental 911 calls from both cellular and landline phones, the vast majority of them come from cellular phones. In 2022, 83% of 911 calls into the Winnebago County PSAP came from a cellular telephone, 9% came from a Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) device, and only 7% were from a landline phone. The most important issue for misdialing 911 is for the caller to *remain on the line*. This is particularly crucial when calling from a cellular phone, which is not tied to a physical address point like a landline is, or a VoIP device which frequently have an incorrect address point.



## Text-to-911

The Winnebago County PSAP has a full year of data regarding the ability to accept Text-to-911 communications. This service is much more user friendly to the deaf and hearing impaired community than the traditional TDD devices of the past. Although dialing 911 and speaking to a dispatcher is always preferred, texting is available when dire situations prevent voice communication. The mantra has become, "Call 911 if you can; text if you can't."

In 2022, the PSAP handled 82 Text-to-911 messages which included a total of 570 incoming and outgoing text communications.



## The Future of NG-911

The Winnebago County PSAP has been working diligently to move towards connecting to the Wisconsin Emergency Services IP Network (ESInet), which will become available in the near future. In furtherance of this goal for Winnebago County, the PSAP staff have been working closely with the Winnebago County GIS Department to ensure data standards within the Winnebago County CAD system will be ready for Next Generation 911 (NG911). Globally, this will require some address changes across the municipality level in the near future.

# COMMUNICATIONS STAFF



**Captain  
Lara Vendola-Messer**



**Lieutenant  
Jesse Jensen**



**Lieutenant  
Timothy Eichman**



**David Schmitz**



**Michelle Peters**



**Brian Smith**



**Sherry Hopfensperger**



**Nicole Binder**



**Karla Lee**



**Heidi Houk**



**Alan Berg**



**Camera Wright**



**Patty Williams-Bunnell**



**Kyle Nachman**



**Jennifer Davis**



**Julie Rhodes**



**Ashley Spratt**



**Angela Viergutz**



**Allison Brown**



**Michelle TeStroete**



**Chandra Rhyner**



**Sydney Hooker**



**Corey Hintz**



**Alexander Servais**



**Luke Baehman**



**Adam Ott**



**Isabella Tremonti-Scopp**



**Grace Phillip**



**Kylie Kingery**



**Amy Dalberg**



**Dakota Ebert**

# PATROL DIVISION

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division is the most visible, readily recognizable, and observable aspect of the Sheriff's Office. Patrol deputies provide law enforcement services to the entire County, while having primary jurisdiction for unincorporated areas within Winnebago County. Deputies patrol US, State, and County highways, as well as township roads. They investigate accidents and criminal activity, while enforcing state laws and county ordinances. Patrol Deputies are the agency's frontline who are responsible for routine incidents, critical incidents, and special events.



Proactive policing and community interaction are the focus of the division in support of the high standard of living residents enjoy throughout the community. Sheriff Matz encourages and supports proactive traffic enforcement, community policing initiatives, collaborative problem solving, and he empowers deputies to seek alternate responses to emerging or persistent issues.



- The Patrol Division consists of the following personnel:
- 1- Captain
  - 1- Professional Standards Lieutenant
  - 1- Courthouse Security Lieutenant
  - 8 - Shift Lieutenants
  - 36 - Patrol Deputies
  - 3 - Courthouse Security Deputies



**2022 Calls For Service**

MONTH	OFFICER INITIATED	REPORTED	TOTAL
JAN	2,467	1,125	3,592
FEB	1,899	1,175	3,074
MAR	2,353	1,183	3,536
APR	2,286	1,226	3,512
MAY	2,363	1,445	3,808
JUN	2,387	1,483	3,870
JUL	2,255	1,941	4,196
AUG	2,407	1,509	3,916
SEP	2,361	1,300	3,661
OCT	2,388	1,375	3,763
NOV	2,555	1,389	3,944
DEC	2,348	1,416	3,764
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28,069</b>	<b>16,567</b>	<b>44,636</b>

**5 Year Calls For Service History**

YEAR	OFFICER INITIATED	REPORTED	YEARLY TOTAL
2018	30,147	16,060	46,207
2019	33,202	17,617	50,819
2020	31,528	15,309	46,837
2021	29,266	17,599	46,865
2022	28,069	16,567	44,636



**2022 Total Enforcement Efforts**

MONTH	TRAFFIC CITATIONS	OWI ARRESTS	ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS	GRANT ENFORCEMENT CITATIONS	MONTHLY TOTAL
JAN	279	17	10	79	385
FEB	222	16	14	37	289
MAR	382	17	23	60	482
APR	352	22	15	42	431
MAY	342	18	26	79	465
JUN	306	15	17	117	455
JUL	304	21	28	79	432
AUG	293	14	24	82	413
SEP	264	18	14	17	313
OCT	209	14	12	0	235
NOV	223	18	18	35	294
DEC	198	26	14	13	251
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,374</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>4,445</b>

YEAR	CITATIONS	OWI
2018	4,651	194
2019	5,093	216
2020	3,459	215
2021	3,633	177
2022	3,374	216

**5 Year Enforcement History**



## 2022 Reported Traffic Crashes

MONTH	PROPERTY DAMAGE	INJURIES	FATALITIES	MONTHLY TOTAL
JAN	120	16	0	136
FEB	148	24	0	172
MAR	88	16	0	104
APR	81	10	1	92
MAY	98	14	0	112
JUN	97	18	2	117
JUL	88	26	0	114
AUG	94	15	1	110
SEP	79	11	1	91
OCT	122	18	0	140
NOV	157	16	1	174
DEC	185	28	0	213
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,357</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1,575</b>

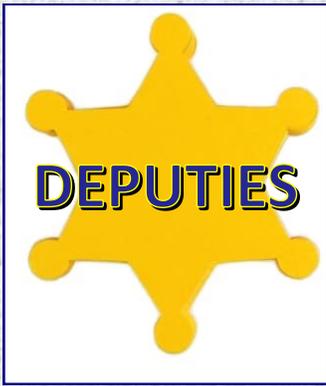
## 5 Year Traffic Crash History

YEAR	TOTAL CRASHES (INCLUDES INJURY)	FATAL CRASHES	YEARLY TOTAL
2018	1,791	10	1,801
2019	1,991	7	1,998
2020	1,390	8	1,398
2021	1,569	6	1,575
2022	1,702	6	1,708



# PATROL STAFF





**Thomas Makurat**



**Brian Kaye**



**Thomas Burns**



**Jason Rippl**



**Mitchell Grube**



**Matthew Weisse**



**Teri Petri**



**Bradley Vinje**



**Kyle Schoonover**



**Codey Graham**



**James Megna**



**Robert Zill**



**Nicholas Beaman**



**John Gende**



**Jonathan Kressin**



**Ryan Miller**



**Eric Houle**



**Kyle Beck**



**Marcus Schuh**



**Kyle Belonger**



**Andrew Bauer**



**Chue Vue**



**Charlie Hebert**



**Tyler Wuest**



**Brent Exner**



**Jesse Simmons**



**Chase Willis**



**Wesley Kubiak**



**Jacob Noffke**



**Alec Fenrich**



**Gabriel Wildeman**



**Tyler Lovato**



**Devin Wilson**



**Braden Christie**



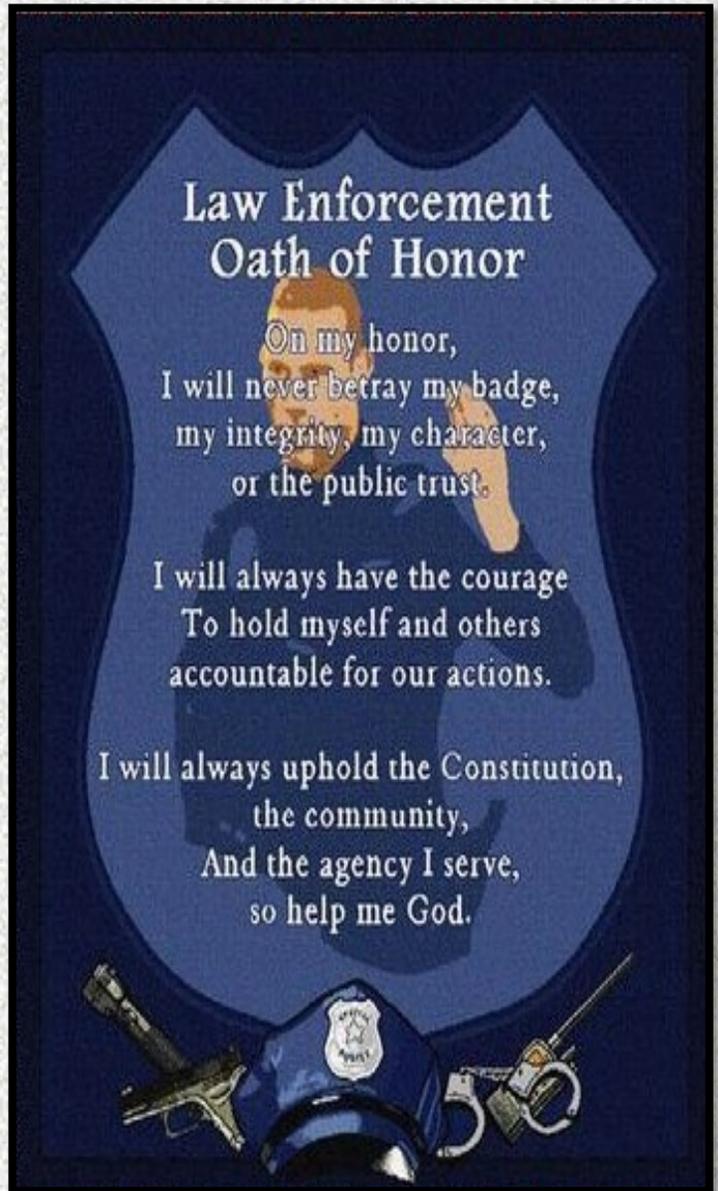
**Nicholas Erickson**



**Sawyer Stehli**



**Nolan Sell**



# CORRECTIONS DIVISION

The Corrections Division comprises the Jail, Work Release Unit, and Court Services Unit. The Jail is a 355-bed direct supervision facility that provides a safe and secure environment for incarcerated persons. The operational capacity of the facility is 320 inmates.

The Work Release Unit oversees both work release and electronic monitoring programs. The Court Services Unit is responsible for prisoner transportation, interstate extraditions, and video court appearances.



The Corrections Division is comprised of the following staff:

- 1 – Captain
- 3 – Lieutenants
- 12 – Sergeants
- 3 – Officers in Charge
- 5 – Court Services Deputies
- 2 – GPS Deputies
- 46 – Deputies
- 11 – Booking Security Associates
- 1 – Work Release and Records Unit Supervisor
- 1 – GPS Coordinator
- 1 – Classification Coordinator
- 2 – Account Clerks
- 1 – Warrant and Electronic Monitoring Associate
- 1 – Traffic and Warrant Associate
- 1 – Civil Process Associate



In 2022, the Jail collaborated with Winnebago County Human Services, the Department of Corrections Probation and Parole, Winnebago Mental Health Institute, the Wisconsin Resource Center, the Winnebago County District Attorney's Office, the Winnebago County Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) Board, Solutions Recovery, and Winnebago Corporation Counsel to address both opiate addiction and mental health challenges within the Jail population. All entities are working together to develop programs or individualized plans that begin in the Jail and follow through with services post-release.



The Mental Health Team has created a better understanding of the different functions of each entity and how to work together best to achieve suitable placement and treatment for individuals in the care of the Jail. The group meets quarterly to discuss specific cases and ways to develop better care.

### **Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)**

In May of 2022, the Jail began to discuss implementing a Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) program to address the opiate substance use disorder in our area. After consultation with our contracted medical provider, Advanced Correctional Healthcare, and the Winnebago County OFR Board, the use of the injectable drug Vivitrol® was approved.

Vivitrol® (naltrexone for extended-release injectable suspension) blocks the effects of opioids, such as heroin or opioid medicines. Vivitrol® is also used to treat alcohol substance use disorder.

In June of 2022, the Jail applied for the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) Grant to fund a MAT program within the Jail. The Jail was awarded a \$150,000 grant through the Department of Justice. These grant funds have been used to purchase the medication and fund coaching services in the facility.



**Mental Health Training**



Implementation of the MAT program began with training for our contracted medical staff. Our on-site Human Services Substance Use Disorder Counselor began screening interested individuals to start the program in July of 2022.

In September of 2022, the Jail partnered with Solutions Recovery to have Recovery Coaches come to the facility to meet with the program participants. The Recovery Coaches have real-life experience with substance abuse and recovery. They help the participants begin their recovery journey with face-to-

face meetings to support their decision to seek help and prepare them for release into the community.

We have had great success with the Recovery Coaches. From September through December, 111 inmates were provided services. The Recovery Coaches made 610 in-person visits to the Jail, took 115 phone calls from the Jail, and had a total of 725 contacts.

There were 17 releases from the Jail for which Recovery Coaches provided transport. They made 23 direct support connections upon release. Eleven went to Sober Living, seven to residential treatment, and five to an emergency shelter.

Through December of 2022, there were 12 Vivitrol® injections given before release from Jail. All individuals that received an injection have been provided post-release services through Winnebago County Human Services in partnership with Recovery Solutions. The Sheriff's Office intends to continue with the MAT Program and work with our county and community partners to expand the services provided, assist addicts in recovery, and reduce the number of overdose fatalities.



# CORRECTIONS STAFF



**Captain  
David Mack**



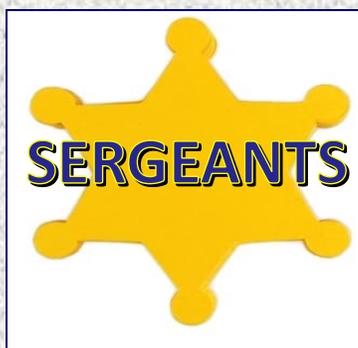
**Lieutenant  
Amber Rozek**



**Lieutenant  
Tyler Sleeter**



**Lieutenant  
Ross Johnson**



**Kristen Lemke**



**Melissa Rasmussen**



**April Emmrich**



**Robert Nienhaus**



**James Nozar**



**Jason Durrant**



**Travis Viergutz**



**John Penza**



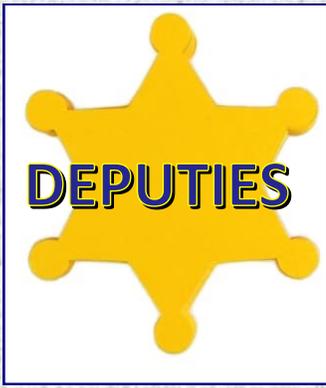
**Megan Kamien**



**Mario Escudero**



**Samantha Hendrickson**



**Kevin Farr**



**Patti DeDecker**



**Jason Freeman**



**Patrick Arent**



**Ryan Verwiel**



**Rebekah Rockteschel**



**Chris Timm**



**Nicholas Manthey**



**Tracy Hensen**



**Stanley Blesch**



**Melissa Krokstrom**



**Holly Tuttle**



**Justin Treder**



**Bryan Nagorny**



**Nathan Mathwig**



**Brandon Williams**



**Hunter Veness**



**Heather Shanks**



**Brian Kastelic**



**Timothy Hayes**



**Adrian Salek**



**Jamie Braasch**



**Adam Earle**



**Tyler Patten**



**Kyle Peotter**



**Anthony Wong**



**Alexander McIntosh**



**Jimmy Chen**



**Dyllon Vetsch**



**Phillip Sobiek**



**Zack Radde**



**Kyle Norton**



**Jacob Weber**



**Ryan Kaul**



**Jason Steward**



**Tracy Swanson**



**Taylor Ling**



**Alyssa Keller**



**Emma Lohry**



**Taylor Rasmussen**



**Charles Immel**



**Jacob Waite**



**Dalia Estrada-Raygoza**



**Ryan Ebert**



**Jacob Mohnen**



**Edward Camis III**



**Dana Berkold**



**Austin Erickson**



**Sarah Zblewski**



**Doug Hornburg**



**David Kasper**



**Stephanie Stegner**



**Megan Gray**



**Nicole Nishida**



**Ashley Tench**



**Sarah Lamers**



**Kristine Mendoza**



Booking Security Associates frequently have direct inmate contact so a calm and personable demeanor is a must for this position. They perform many critical job duties which are essential to Sheriff's Office operations. Associates control access to the secure area of the building and monitor all security devices for both the Jail and the Courthouse. Additionally, they provide clerical and recordkeeping services related to all prisoner activities and assist with security screening at the Courthouse. Lastly, but not least, they are often the face of the Corrections Division as they are the first point of contact when distraught or emotional people come to visit their loved ones in Jail.

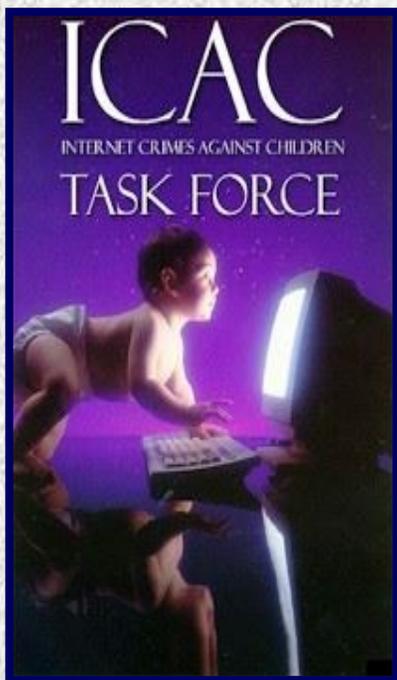


# DETECTIVE DIVISION

The Detective Division is focused on advocating for crime victims utilizing both traditional and modern investigative techniques. Members conduct complex investigations that require specialized training and experience to apprehend individuals that have violated local, state, and federal laws. The Detective Division continues to be a regional and state leader in various multi-agency task forces and collaborative law enforcement efforts. Throughout 2022, the division continued as the local affiliate for the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, led the Winnebago County Unified CART (Child Abduction Response Team), was an active participant in the Winnebago County Overdose Fatality Review Team, and partnered with the Lake Winnebago Area Metropolitan Enforcement Group (LWAM). Additionally, the division oversees all major investigations for the Sheriff's Office as well as the processing, retention, and storage of all evidence.

The Detective Division consists of the following personnel:

- 1- Captain
- 2- Lieutenants
- 7- Detectives
- 1- Drug Investigator
- 1- ICAC Investigator
- 1- Evidence & Records Administrator



Recognizing that children are our most vulnerable population, Sheriff Matz continues to prioritize combatting child predation as one of the top priorities for the agency. The Division continues to work in conjunction with the FBI on *Operation Kick Boxer*. The primary ICAC Unit Lieutenant is an FBI Task Force Officer, affording Winnebago County access to federal funding, expanded jurisdiction, and greater opportunity to pursue criminal prosecution via the US Department of Justice (DOJ) Attorney General's Office. Based on this relationship, the Sheriff's Office dedicates additional resources to combatting these most heinous crimes.

## **Significant ICAC Investigations**

January 2022- Investigators sent a case to law enforcement in El Paso, Texas after leads were developed involving the live sexual assault of a child. Subsequently, a warrant was conducted at the home and multiple videos of child exploitation material were located and three minor children were rescued.

March 2022- Based upon an undercover interaction with a suspect in the United Kingdom's jurisdiction, investigators forwarded a case to National Crime Agency in the UK. Initially, one suspect was thought to be sexually abusing four children between the ages of two and eight. Upon further inspection by investigators in the UK, the mother was abusing the children while the father filmed the acts. Both were taken into custody and all four children are now safe in foster care.

September 2022- Investigators conducted a proactive investigation into the distribution of child exploitation material and developed a target in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. A search warrant was executed and child exploitation material was located. The subject was charged by the United States Attorney's Office in the Eastern District of Wisconsin and was subsequently sentenced to 120 months in federal prison.

October 2022- A Florida man was formally sentenced by the United States Attorney's Office Southern District of Florida for production and distribution of child exploitation material. Investigators were able to locate the suspect and rescue the suspect's four year old daughter from further victimization. The suspect received a 35 year prison sentence.

## **Creation of the Special Victims Unit**

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office ICAC unit continues to expand upon its investigative efforts and is increasingly called upon to address other criminal activity stemming from the internet. The proliferation of financial and sextortion schemes culminated in 2022 when both the FBI and Department of Homeland Security issued National Public Safety Alerts spotlighting these crimes. In response, the Sheriff's Office is developing a Special Victims Unit (SVU) comprised of specially trained investigators with both the knowledge and skillset to address these cyber crimes. To counter this growing crisis, the SVU will also focus on crimes that specifically target our elderly and other vulnerable populations.

A key piece to the SVU will be an educational component that will be delivered to our community stakeholders in a classroom setting. The best defense to thwart internet-based crimes is knowledge and understanding of the current trends and tactics used by criminals. The SVU will also serve as a conduit to coordinate victim services from both the Winnebago County Department of Human Services and Winnebago County District Attorney's Office Victim Witness Assistance Program.

## **Significant Criminal Investigations**

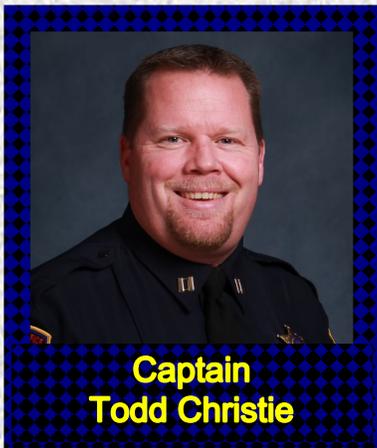
May 2022 – Deputies and detectives were dispatched to a weapons call in the Town of Poygan where an individual had been shot while leaving a disturbance. The scene required evidence processing of two separate residences and a roadway. Given the nature and vastness of the crime scene, advanced technology was utilized to map the entire scene including the interior of a detached garage. A newly acquired device, Trimble Geospatial, uses data points and GPS to scan a crime scene into a digital format for a more efficient and accurate depiction of the scene. This allows detectives to have a permanent digital record of what a scene looked like in great detail. The investigation resulted in one male being convicted of one felony and two misdemeanors, and the other male party being convicted for two misdemeanors.

July 2022 - Deputies and detectives were dispatched to a fatal traffic accident that involved a semi driving off of the highway into a residence in the Town of Vinland. The Accident Reconstruction Team utilized the Trimble Geospatial technology and drone footage to do a full scan of the scene. Detectives conducted multiple interviews of witnesses, processed biological evidence, and analyzed digital evidence related to the incident. The semi was equipped with technology that assisted detectives in this investigation. Furthermore, they worked with the semi manufacturer to do a complete download of the semi tractor's on-board computer which provided important pieces of data such as dash camera video, engine rpm, speed, braking, and steering input prior to the crash. The findings were sent to the District Attorney's Office for review, but resulted in no criminal charges.

July 2022 - Deputies and detectives responded to a major boat crash which took place on the Fox River in the City of Oshkosh. The striking boat fled the scene of the crime and could not be located. The paddle boat that was struck was occupied by dozens of individuals which added to the complexity and scale of the incident. Detectives conducted multiple interviews of witnesses and victims, scoured the area for video evidence, and conducted follow up investigations on both vessels. In collaboration with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, engine data and crash reconstruction was conducted on the incident. Partnering with experts in GPS technology, detectives were able to map the incident utilizing data seized from the striking boat. The Trimble Geospatial device was also utilized in this incident to evaluate the damage sustained from both vessels to assist in reconstructing the incident. The findings from this investigation have been turned over to the Wisconsin Attorney General's Office for review and numerous criminal charges have been filed.

November 2022 – Detectives were involved in a lengthy jury trial stemming from a 2020 double homicide in the Town of Omro. After countless hours of investigation which included interviews, digital forensics, and various search warrants, detectives put together a robust case against the suspect. After two years, the case finally went to trial. Detectives worked with the Winnebago County District Attorney's Office and diligently prepared for trial. Their efforts were rewarded when the defendant was found guilty of First Degree Intentional Homicide and Mutilating a Corpse.

# DETECTIVE STAFF



**Captain  
Todd Christie**



**Lieutenant  
Christopher Braman**



**Lieutenant  
Michael Sewall**



**Randy Woldt**



**Ronald Timm**



**Brian Hammen**



**Jack Theyerl**



**Craig Bohn**



**Kyle Schroeder**



**Ryan Hathaway**

# SUPPORT STAFF

We have a myriad of support positions that are the backbone of the agency. These are crucial employees that work in an environment of controlled chaos while perpetually multitasking. Their tasks include troubleshooting technical issues, maintaining computer networks, performing financial transactions, organizing paperwork, classifying inmates, verifying warrants, typing and reviewing deputy reports, handling cash, filling open records requests, overseeing and setting up civil process, verifying traffic citations, coordinating the agency's budget, onboarding and offboarding new employees, managing evidence and the property room, among many, many other tasks. They all possess strong communication skills in order to assist and communicate with customers, inmates, various departments, and other staff members. We could not do it without this group of dedicated professionals!



**Sandy Schmidt**  
**Corrections**  
**Financial Associate**



**Diane Groff**  
**Traffic & Warrant**  
**Associate**



**Becky Borowitz**  
**Warrant & Electronic**  
**Monitoring**  
**Associate**



**Jodi Noffke**  
**Work Release**  
**Associate**



**Lynn Coe**  
**Records &**  
**Transcription**  
**Associate**



**Jennifer Weber**  
**Inmate**  
**Classification**  
**Associate**



**Alicia Meyer**  
**Work Release &**  
**Records Unit**  
**Supervisor**



**Cheryl Ryf**  
**Financial**  
**Associate I**  
**(HSU)**



**Kimberly Delcore**  
**Records  
Administrative  
Supervisor**



**Dustin Heideman**  
**Public Safety  
Application  
Administrator**



**Heather Verwiel**  
**Civil Process  
Associate**



**Qiauna Ross**  
**Accountant**



**Nathan Struensee**  
**Public Safety  
Application  
Administrator**



**Renee Zemlock**  
**Evidence &  
Records  
Administrator**



# TRAINING DIVISION

Training of Sheriff's Office personnel falls under the responsibility of the Training and Operations Lieutenant. To ensure staff receive pertinent, timely, and consistent training, the Sheriff's Office has a number of Wisconsin Department of Justice Training and Standards Certified instructors spread throughout the agency's multiple divisions. Each year all deputies undergo mandatory in-service training, which includes Defense and Arrest Tactics (DAAT), Principles of Subject Control (POSC), firearms, and Tactical Response.

In 2022, all law enforcement certified deputies also completed eight hours of Emergency Vehicle Operations and Vehicle Contact training. The State of Wisconsin mandates all law enforcement certified officers complete biennial Emergency Vehicle Operations training to maintain certification. Furthermore, all deputies assigned to the Corrections Division attend twelve additional hours of in-service training to ensure they are following current State of Wisconsin Department of Corrections rules, regulations, and best practices.



During the 2021-2022 State fiscal year, 136 deputies averaged 110.1 hours of training, exceeding the State of Wisconsin's recertification minimum of 24 hours. In 2022, the Sheriff's Office was able to send deputies to several notable trainings which included:

- \* Northwestern University's Center for Public Safety  
Traffic Crash Reconstruction 1 & 2
- \* Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Instructor
- \* Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate (ALICE) Instructor
- \* Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Certification
- \* Wisconsin Department of Justice's First Level Leadership for Law Enforcement
- \* Explosive Detection K-9 Certification



## Use of Force

In 2022 the Sheriff's Office continued to submit monthly use of force data to the State of Wisconsin. This data is collected via the State's Use of Force and Arrest Related Death Reporting system. This program is the State's conduit to the FBI's National Use of Force Data Collection program. Law enforcement agencies submit monthly use of force data by the Traffic and Criminal Software (TraCS) program. The Sheriff's Office has been in compliance with this reporting system since its inception in 2020.

Annual Use of Force Reports can be found on the Sheriff's Office webpage.

<https://www.co.winnebago.wi.us/sheriff>

# K9 UNIT

In 2022, the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office K9 Unit reached new heights. As mentioned in the *Sheriff's Message*, the unit added two new dogs this year to the K9 program. The first team added in spring was K9 Haimo and his partner Deputy Jesse Simmons. Together they attended training in New Mexico to receive their initial certification. Upon their return, they hit the ground running and K9 Haimo was incorporated into the Winnebago County SWAT team.



During the summer, the agency was afforded the unique opportunity to acquire K9 Skylar, an explosive detection canine, from the UW-Oshkosh Police Department. Our seasoned K9 handler Deputy Robert Zill was selected to partner with K9 Skylar and they were off to New Mexico for updated training and certification in explosive detection and subject tracking. The team has been very active conducting protective sweeps at the Oshkosh Arena and University of Wisconsin Oshkosh venues.

Deputy Charles Hebert and his K9 partner Athos recently joined the unit in 2021. This duo has quickly transitioned from the new guys on the block to experienced professionals in short order. As a result, the team was utilized several times for community demonstrations in 2022.



Deputy Kyle Schoonover and K9 Tim are the distinguished senior members of the K9 Unit, working closely together for nearly 8 years. Despite his age, K9 Tim remains in excellent health and is a true asset to the Sheriff's Office. At nearly 11 years old, this is an amazing accomplishment for a law enforcement canine.

The K9 Unit thrived in 2022 with over 150 deployments.

This is the most in the K9 Unit's history.



The Sheriff's Office K9 Unit would like to say a special thank you and goodbye to our long-time friend and supporter, Glenn Steinbrecher. Glenn was very active in the program, including creating a display for current and former K9 teams at the James P. Coughlin Center. He cared deeply about the dogs and their handlers. Glenn was presented a plaque of our appreciation in 2021. Glenn passed away on May 17, 2022. Thank you, Glenn, you will be missed.



# SPECIAL TEAMS

## SWAT

### 18 Members

- 13- Winnebago County Sheriff's Deputies
- 2- Village of Fox Crossing Police Officers
- 2- City of Menasha Police Officers
- 1- UW Oshkosh Police Officer



Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team members are on call 24 hours a day and are required to respond to a critical incident at a moment's notice. Their SWAT responsibilities and training are in addition to their regular job duties. SWAT Team members train a minimum of 16 hours per month to maintain a high level of proficiency in the skills needed to resolve high risk incidents to include participating in full scale trainings with the Crisis Negotiators multiple times per year.

Winnebago County is designated by the State of Wisconsin as a Type 2 SWAT Team and serves as one of nine regional teams for the state under the Aligned Law Enforcement Response Team (ALERT) system. This designation places specific requirements on team members for training, fitness, and operational abilities.

As a regional team, Winnebago County receives funding for equipment and training through the Department of Homeland Security. Team members have received Master Instructor certifications for various tactical disciplines and are required to provide regional training to other SWAT Teams.

SWAT Team assistance was requested seven times in 2022. Mutual aid requests from other agencies were the most prevalent reason for team activation. Requests included delivery and deployment of specialty equipment and team assistance for other agencies during tactical incidents in their jurisdictions.

# Crisis Negotiators



The Crisis Negotiations Team for Winnebago County is a Multi-Jurisdictional unit comprised of deputies and officers from partner agencies. The unit consists of 12 team members who are on call 24 hours a day and are required to respond to critical incidents at a moment's notice. Crisis Negotiations Team members train more than 40 hours each year. Eight hour blocks of training are conducted multiple times each year and focus on equipment use, negotiation fundamentals, and scenario-based role playing. Members of the Crisis Negotiations Team train with the SWAT team at least three times each year. These joint trainings are crucial in testing the overall capacity of both entities.

Members of the Crisis Negotiations Team attend a 40 hour Basic Crisis Negotiation Course taught by the FBI or the National Tactical Officers Association (NTOA). All members complete the highly sought after Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training and also attend various interview and interrogation courses. The Crisis Negotiations Team is also responsible for transport and setup of the Winnebago County Command Post during high-risk incidents.

# Dive Team



The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office Dive Rescue/Recovery Team responds to incidents within Winnebago County as well as other jurisdictions when mutual aid requests are made. The Dive Team is tasked with underwater evidence collection as well as victim rescue/recovery incidents. Members complete a minimum of 96 hours of training per year to maintain dive proficiencies. Members of the Dive Team are drawn from all sworn personnel of the Sheriff's Office and the team is overseen by a Lieutenant.

The Dive Team responded to four callouts in 2022. These incidents included responding to the report of a vehicle through the ice on Lake Poygan during a snow squall event, assisting the Waupaca County Sheriff's Office in searching the Little Wolf River for a missing person, assisting the Menasha Police Department in attempting to locate a safe taken during a burglary, and assisting Winnebago County Sheriff's Office detectives search waters in Menasha regarding a cold case investigation.

# Mobile Field Force

The Sheriff's Office Mobile Field Force is comprised of deputies who are trained to respond to large civil disturbances and protests for the purposes of law enforcement through crowd control. The team focuses on utilizing group tactics, special

protective equipment, and formations to control large gatherings of people with the goal of protecting lives and property during an unlawful assembly.

The Mobile Field Force adheres to standards created by FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness. Team members receive annual training focused on legal considerations for responding to civil unrest, current protester tactics, and mass arrest procedures. Team members must also pass a yearly fitness test to maintain their operational readiness.

The Mobile Field Force is on call 24 hours a day and responds to large-scale disturbances whenever requested to assist. Membership includes 28 deputies that span the ranks of the entire Sheriff's Office. In 2022, the Tactical Response Unit did not respond to any civil unrest incidents.



# Snow Patrol



The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office patrols approximately 213 miles of groomed trails, which consist of 133 miles of state funded trails and 80 miles of privately maintained club trails, along with frozen bodies of water throughout the county. In 2022, the Sheriff's Office snow patrol issued 33 citations ranging from non-registration to no trail permits. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources continues to reimburse the Sheriff's Office for time spent on enforcement and accident investigation.



# Boat Patrol



The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office operates three boats that are tasked with covering 140 square miles of navigable waterways in Winnebago County. These waterways consist of Lake Winnebago, Lake Butte des Morts, Lake Poygan, Lake Winneconne, Little Lake Butte des Morts, the Fox River, and the Wolf River. Each marine unit is staffed with two deputies who patrol during the navigational season, generally on weekends and holidays from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

For the fastest response, the Sheriff's Office continues to share access to its boats with both the Oshkosh Fire Department and Neenah Menasha Fire Rescue. These partnerships result in the quickest emergency response. For dive and recovery operations, the Winnebago County Dive Rescue/Recovery Team also utilizes the marine units. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources continues to reimburse the Sheriff's Office for time spent on enforcement and accident investigation.

## 2022 Boat Patrol Numbers:

110- Citations	7- Vessels Assisted
95- Warnings	1- Rescue Operation
277- Safety Inspections	1,173- Boat Hours Worked

# Accident Reconstruction



The Accident Reconstruction Team responds to serious injuries and fatal crashes to gather empirical evidence to aid in determining whether criminal charges are warranted. The team works closely with the Winnebago County District Attorney's Office and the Sheriff's Office Detective Division to fully investigate each crash. The team not only responds to incidents where we have primary jurisdiction, but also assists local police agencies within the county when requested.

Team members have extensive training to assist them in determining the proper sequence of events associated with the crash, which assists the District Attorney's Office in development of criminal cases.

In 2022 the Accident Reconstruction Team responded to four accident scenes, as well as assisted with various investigations requiring vehicle downloads.

## Accident Reconstruction Team Personnel:

1- Team Leader	4- Patrol Deputies
1- Assistant Team Leader	1- Assistant District Attorney
1- Reconstructionist	

# Honor Guard



The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard is comprised of 11 deputies who are dedicated to representing the agency at police memorial services, funeral services, annual parades and processions, and posting colors. In 2022 the Honor Guard participated in 10 details. Each May, the Honor Guard attends the Law Enforcement Memorial service in Madison, which honors all fallen officers during National Police Week.

# Chaplains



The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office recognizes its citizens may face personal situations that are not easily resolved. The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office Chaplain Program is comprised of 16 clergy members. Members of the program are assigned to at least one on-call day per month. Their service is voluntary, and when their service is requested, the Chaplain program uses members of the clergy to provide spiritual guidance, pastoral counseling, ministry, and comfort to those experiencing crisis or loss.

The Chaplains responded to four incidents during the course of 2022. These activations included responding to the scene of a fatal vehicle accident as well as providing follow up care to family members, speaking to an inmate of the Winnebago County Jail regarding a family member who sustained life-threatening injuries, providing comfort to family members during a suicide investigation, and providing comfort during a death notification.



**David Eisley**  
**Head Chaplain**



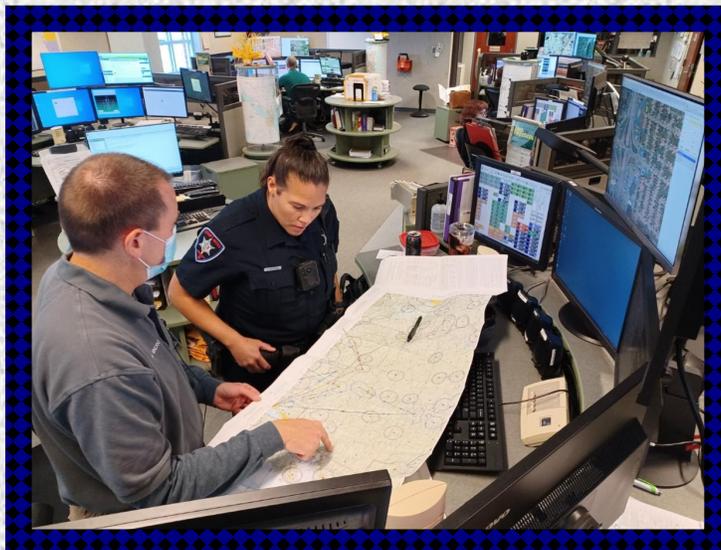
**Jodi Porter**  
**Assistant Head Chaplain**

# Drone Team

The Sheriff's Office Drone Team is comprised of deputies and civilian staff members who are FAA certified remote pilots for small unmanned aircraft systems. The Drone Team was newly established in late 2022 and currently has 10 members. Team members are expected to work in tandem to safely deploy the unmanned aircraft systems in accordance with FAA regulations.



Drone Team members are on call 24 hours a day and can respond to assist in a variety of incidents including search and rescue, accident reconstruction, tactical surveillance, and crime scene analysis. In 2022 Drone Team members assisted in the aerial documentation of two major incidents.



# SPECIAL EVENTS

EAA



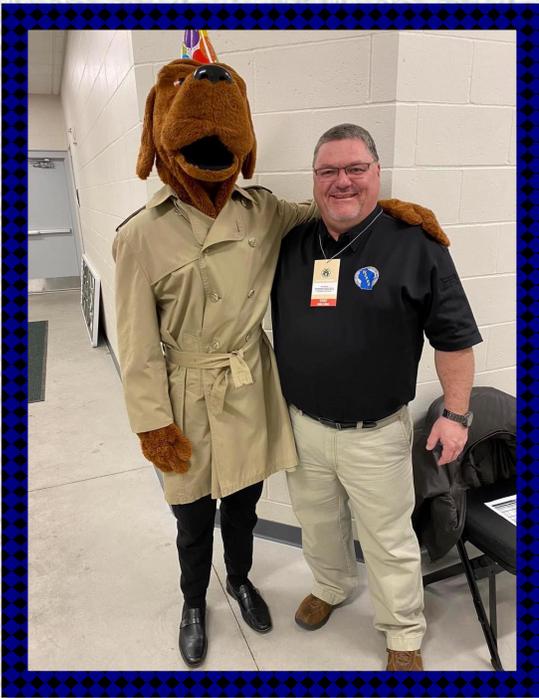
As in years past, the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office provided law enforcement services within the grounds of the 2022 EAA AirVenture event held July 25-July 31. An average of 16 deputies provided 24-hour coverage during the course of AirVenture 2022. While the majority of deputies were assigned to the main EAA event grounds, the Sheriff's Office Dive Rescue/Recovery Team also staffed a marine unit at the EAA Sea Plane base located in the Town of Black Wolf. Dive Team members were present to provide an emergent response in the event of an incident on Lake Winnebago. In addition, two dispatchers were also assigned each day to handle the increased radio traffic volume associated with such a large event.

AirVenture 2022 set a new attendance record with an estimated 650,000 people attending the weeklong event. EAA management estimated a total of 12,000 airplane and drive-in campsites were utilized, accounting for an estimated 40,000 attendees. These camping numbers do not, however, account for the private campgrounds surrounding the EAA grounds.

Deputies working AirVenture 2022 responded to 318 calls for service. This was a 18% decrease from the 387 calls for service deputies responded to in 2021. Deputies spent a significant amount of time handling normal law enforcement calls for service at AirVenture, which included three aircraft-related crashes. All of these crashes were the result of issues while aircraft were landing or taxiing. There were no injuries requiring medical attention as a result of any of these crashes.



# COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) has been a steadfast component of the Sheriff's Office outreach efforts since 1989. The specially trained deputy assigned to DARE teaches in 10 Winnebago County schools to over 750 students each year, presenting two distinct programs based upon age levels. The commonly known 5th grade curriculum is an 11-week program, and the more specialized middle school program is seven weeks. Each program focuses on healthy decision-making skills, social and emotional learning, and overall coping and resistance strategies.

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office participated in several community events to include:

- ◆ Leadership Oshkosh Law Enforcement Day
- ◆ Boots vs. Badges Basketball Game
- ◆ Several Special Olympics Events
- ◆ Police Lights of Christmas
- ◆ Winnebago County Fair 4-H
- ◆ OPD Mental Health 5K
- ◆ Boy Scout Troop Tours
- ◆ ThedaCare FOCUS



# Citizens' Academy

The Sheriff's Office conducted its 7th annual Law Enforcement Citizens' Academy in 2022. Nine citizens were provided the opportunity to interact with members of the Sheriff's Office and learn how and why the Sheriff's Office operates. Students also sampled the culture of law enforcement and examined the organization as a whole.

The 13-week academy provided access to the five areas of the agency to include Administration, Communications, Corrections, Detectives, and Patrol. The academy consists of both classroom and interactive hands-on instruction.



Past participants in the Citizens' Academy have formed an alumni association and meet semiannually to provide additional training for members as well as to assist the Sheriff's Office during events as needed.

The Sheriff's Office is scheduling another academy to begin in August 2023. Applications will be available on our website as well as via a link on our social media pages.



# SOCIAL MEDIA

The Sheriff's Office remains active with our social media presence. The platforms have provided a cost-effective mechanism to be proactive with community education, outreach, and public relations. Social media has also proven effective in delivering valuable real-time information to followers during emergency situations and routinely is the first source that community members look to for reliable information.

We welcome interaction with the community and invite citizens to message our pages with questions or content suggestions.

			
<a href="#">WCSOWisconsin</a>	<a href="#">@WCSO_Wisconsin</a>	<a href="#">@wco_wisconsin</a>	<a href="#">TheWISOchannel</a>

