

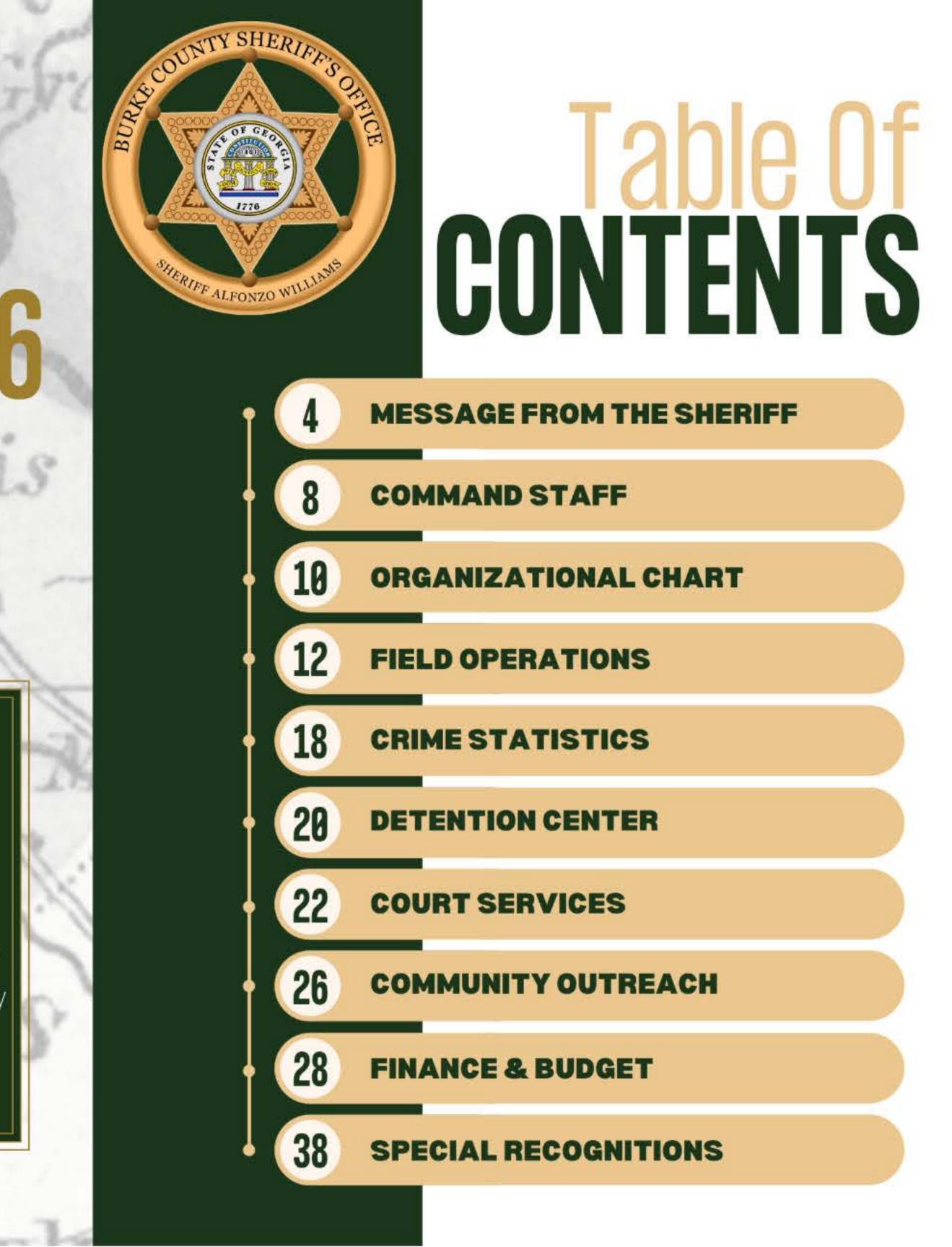
"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

MARK 10:45

Established in 1777 Square Miles 836 Population 24,388

BURKE COUNTY AT A GLANCE

Burke County dates back to one of the first counties in Georgia. It now has five cities, including Girard, Keysville, Midville, Sardis, and the county seat, Waynesboro. It is the second largest county in Georgia based on square miles.



A Message from: SHERIFF ALFONZO WILLIAMS

As the year-end approaches, it is important to reflect on the challenges and successes we faced in 2023. In terms of successes, we had many notable achievements. Namely, the strengthening of police-community relationships and partnerships. Building trust and fostering positive interactions between law enforcement and the community is crucial for effective crime prevention and public safety. This year alone, we held over **100** community events.

Another success was our efforts to address local budget issues by seeking state and federal funding. Local taxpayers shoulder a significant burden in funding law enforcement initiatives, and securing additional financial support from higher levels of government helped alleviate this strain. By advocating for funding opportunities and demonstrating the importance of public safety, we were able to continue our mission effectively. We secured a **\$1.3 million** dollar grant to reduce violent crime among our youth due to COVID, a **\$150,000** grant for a Crime Analyst and associated technology, and a **\$700,000+** grant from the US Attorney General COPS Office to hire six deputies.

We renegotiated our inmate medical contract, saving over \$100,000, used SPLOST funding to purchase and outfit 16 new patrol vehicles, and received a **\$53,000** grant from GEMA and Homeland Security to increase the successful prosecution of gang crimes. Furthermore, we submitted an application to the Governor's Office of Highway Safety sharing our enforcement data and community education strategies to reduce crashes, injuries and fatalities, which made us eligible to enter a drawing for a brand new 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe, fully equipped with all the bells and whistles for a traffic enforcement enthusiast, **AND WE WON THE TAHOE!**

Our office continues to train, coach, and mentor, inspire, grow, expose, nurture, and cultivate the professional development of our team members. We are growing our influence and showing our employees we care about them. We are also proud of our college graduates and those who have increased their knowledge through advanced training. With several announced retirements in June, we celebrated their years of service and dedication and we restructured the sheriff's office, offering promotional opportunities and professional growth and development to our personnel. This was a huge boost in morale to our committed and deserving team members and it gave hope to those aspiring to achieve growth within the sheriff's office.

However, there were challenges as well. One ongoing challenge is reducing the fear of crime within our community. We strive to create safe environments where residents feel secure and confident in their daily lives. By implementing proactive community policing strategies and engaging in open dialogue with community members, we continuously work toward alleviating these fears. Addressing gang activity and violent crime is an ongoing challenge as these issues can have a significant impact on the overall quality of life for residents. By implementing targeted enforcement strategies, collaborating with community organizations, and providing support services to at-risk individuals, we are reducing these issues and creating safer communities.

The contentious relationship with the county manager's office and certain commissioners was another challenge we faced. We want to get back to good and responsible governance and we will continue to find ways to work for the betterment of the people of Burke County.

Looking ahead to 2024, we will continue to invest in the professional development and well-being of our officers to ensure a highly skilled and motivated workforce. Improving the overall quality of life for those served by law enforcement will remain a priority. This includes addressing social issues, collaborating with community partners, and implementing innovative approaches to crime prevention and public safety.

In summary, we have faced both challenges and successes in 2023. As the New Year approaches, the focus should be on strengthening the relationship between police and the community, addressing cyber security challenges, reducing the fear of crime, seeking funding support, combating gang activity and violent crime, and investing in employee development. By working collectively towards these goals, law enforcement can continue to serve and protect their communities effectively.

Sincerely, Sheriff Alfonzo Williams



RETIREMENT 2023



Patrick Finney 2019-2023



Benjamin "BJ" Jones 1983-2023



Larry Boyd 2017-2023



Janice Jones 2011-2023



Larry Lewis 1981-2023

Isaac Beard 2009-2023

LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS' CODE OF ETHICS

As a Law Enforcement Officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all men to liberty, equality, and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice, or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held as long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession.



COMMAND STAFF



Colonel Jimmy Wylds Court & Detention Services



Colonel Lee Webster Auxiliary Services



Colonel Chad Plueger Field Operations



Major Jason Vinson Criminal Investigations & Narcotics



Major Dedric Smith **Detention Services**



Captain James Kelly Criminal Investigations



The mission of the Burke County Sheriff's Office is to create and maintain a partnership with its employees, residents, businesses and community leaders, as well as others who choose to live, work, visit, hunt, play and learn in our communities. Additionally, our mission is to protect life and property, solve societal problems, and enhance social, environmental, economic, and educational opportunities for everyone in Burke County.

The Burke County Sheriff's Office will be on the forefront of its profession by employing the latest and most cost-effective methods in delivering quality service to the residents of Burke County while maintaining positive relationships with those we serve.



Captain Ben Harman Vice & Narcotics



Captain Sharlette Wright Detention Services



Sergeant Austin Miettunen Budget Analyst



Captain Mike Swint Road Patrol



Captain Frank Tiller Court Services



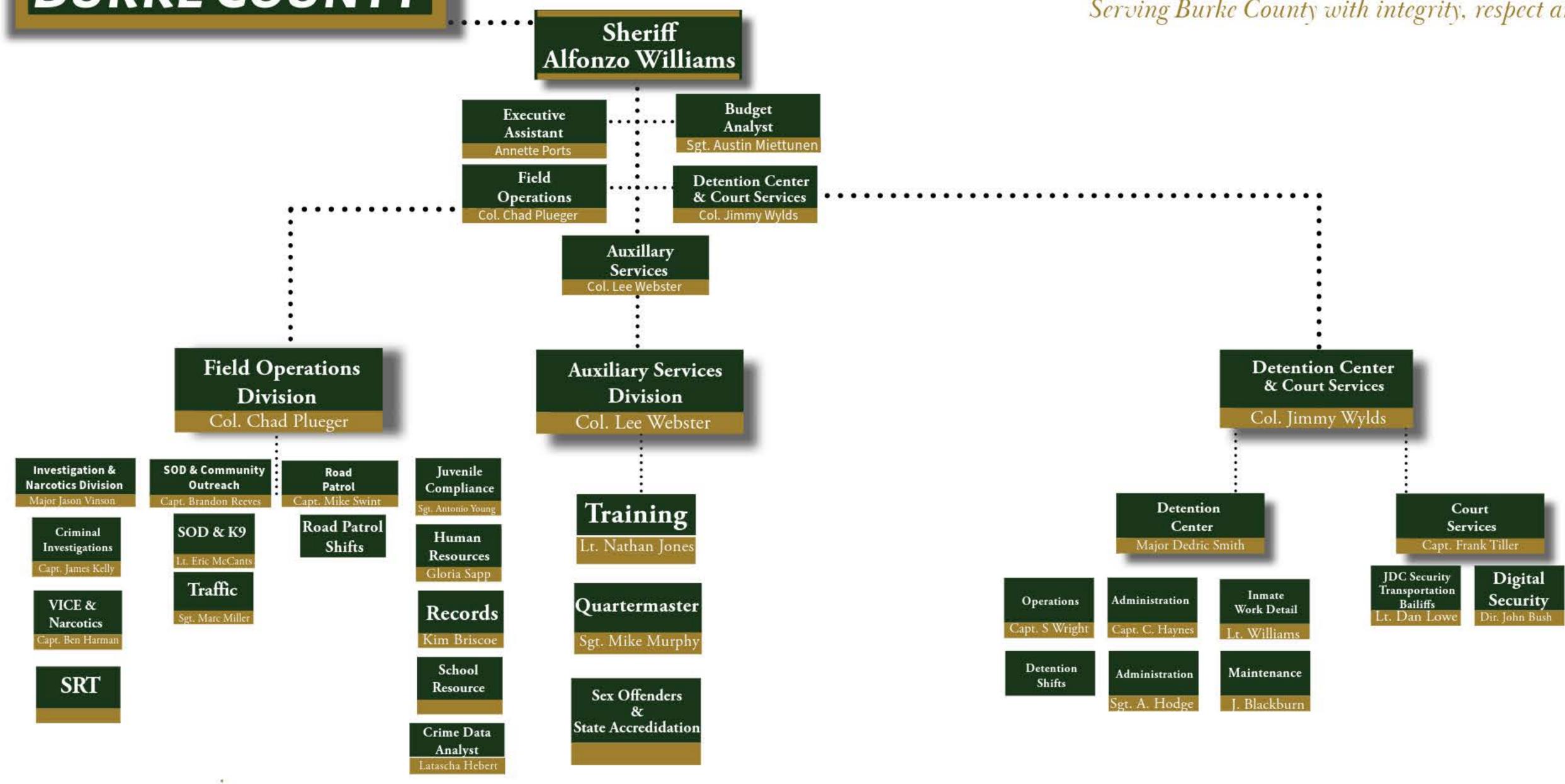
Special Operations







CITIZENS OF **BURKE COUNTY**





FIELD OPERATIONS

Field Operations is comprised of road patrol, traffic, school resource officers, community outreach, records and sex offender registry. Field Operations deputies provide emergency response in life-threatening situations and non-emergency assistance. The road patrol, also known as uniformed patrol, operates on two, 12-hour shifts that are commanded by a lieutenant, sergeant, and corporal, and patrol a specific zone of Burke County. Field Operations deputies provide a wide range of law enforcement services to the residents of Burke County. The division is commanded by Colonel Chad Plueger.



Colonel Chad Plueger

FIELD OPS STATS

Computer Aided Dispatch Events	85,599
Incident Reports	1,176
Felonies	542
Misdemeanors	563
Family Violence	76
Miscellaneous Reports	1,887





	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Crashes	849	1,009	859	570	585
Crashes w/ Injuries	65	69	72	70	70
Total Injured	109	108	104	98	98
Fatal Crashes	9	6	9	4	7
Total Fatalities	9	7	10	5	8
Commercial Vehicle Crashes	28	34	25	19	35
Property Damage Crashes	775	934	778	412	447
Private Property Crashes	87	116	122	83	6
Hit and Run	43	60	73	16	48



3,526 TOTAL CITATIONS





157 DISTRACTED DRIVING

Statistics based on Jan. 1, 2023-Dec. 15, 2023



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS



The Criminal Investigations Division includes investigations of all crimes, both felony and misdemeanor, in unincorporated Burke County. Specialized divisions within Criminal Investigations include Narcotics and Gangs. From Jan. 1 to Oct. 2023, Criminal Investigations was assigned 231 cases. Of those, 106 were cleared by arrest. Our Criminal Investigations division is led by Major Jason Vinson.

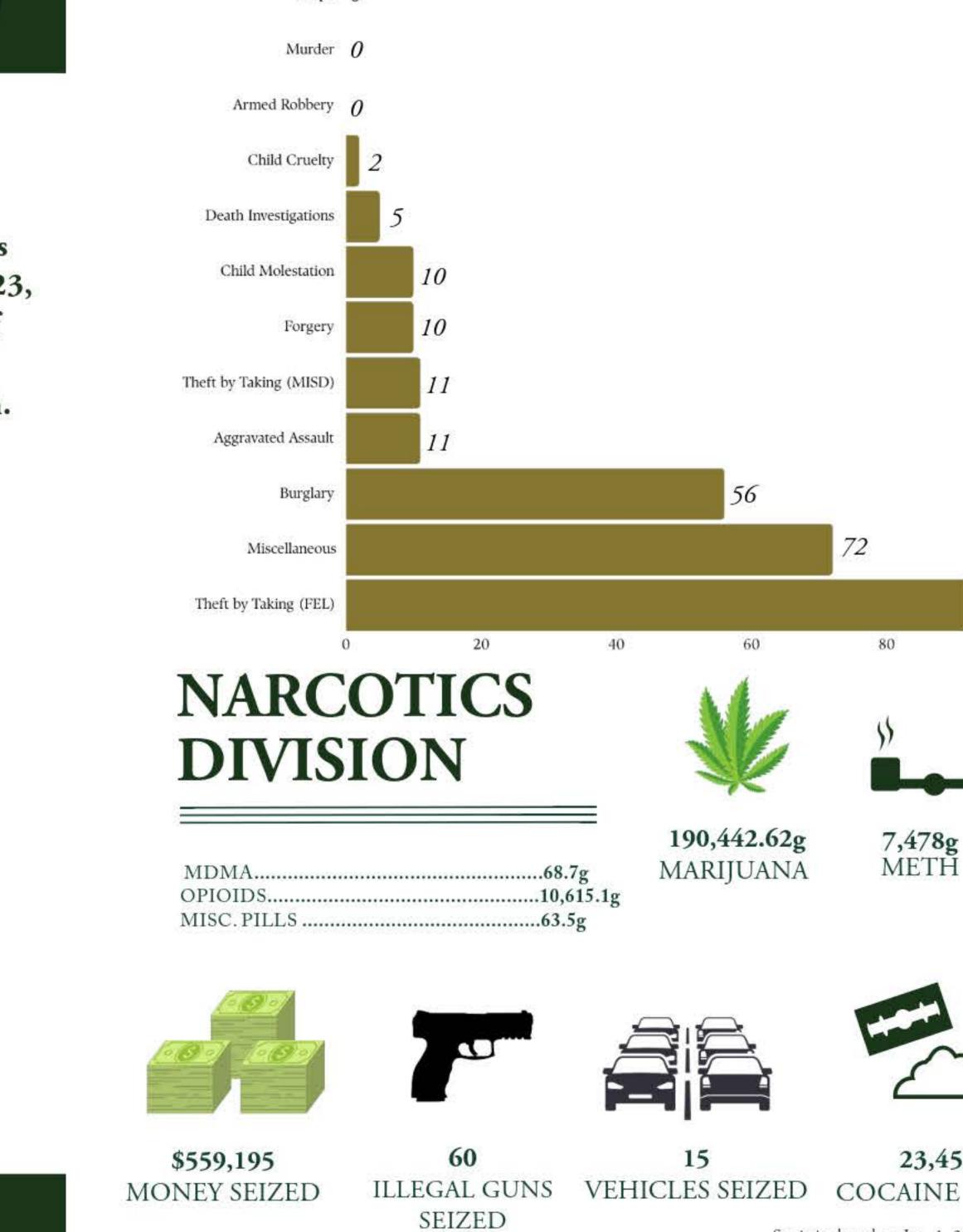
Major Jason Vinson

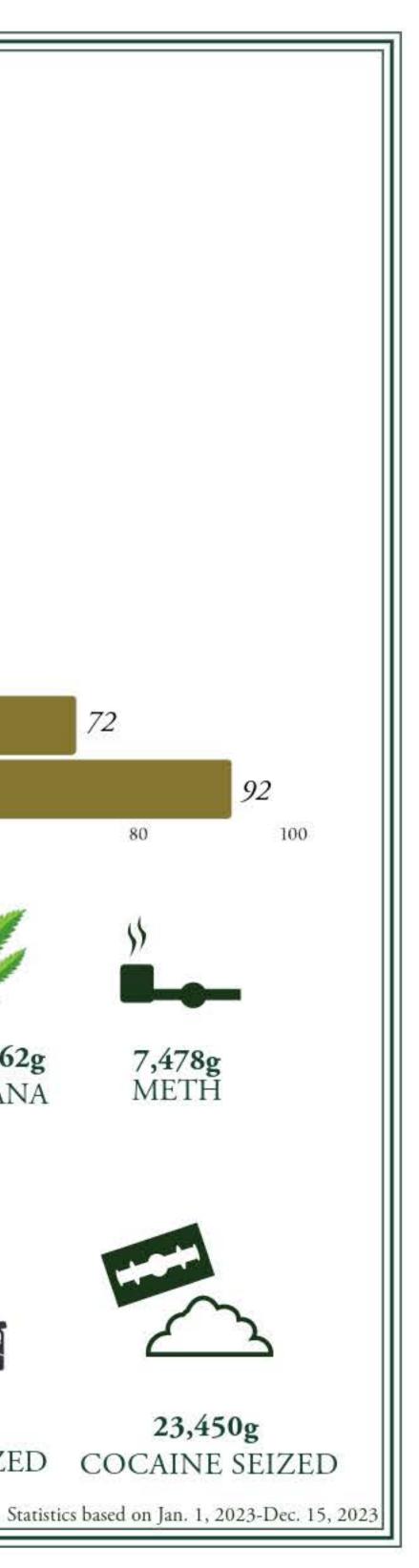
CID STATS

Cleared by Arrest	59
Unfounded	0
Cleared Other	49
Pending	162
Statistics based on Jan. 1, 2023-Dec. 15, 2023	



Rape 0





SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISON

The Special Operations Division is a proactive team that provides operational support to the Sheriff's Office as well as local, state, and federal law enforcement partners. SOD's primary focus is to lower crime in high crime areas through DDACTS (Data Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety) based on statistics.

Special Operations utilizes techniques such as selective patrol and saturation patrol to assure compliance with Federal, State, and local laws. They are deployed based on crime problems and statistics in a specific give area as well as requests from citizens.

Special Operations Division Team Members handle high-risk warrant service, barricaded dangerous subjects, hostage rescue and search and rescue and canine services.



Captain Brandon Reeves





936.53g MARIJUANA





6.8g COCAINE GUNS SEIZED





SOD STATS

Total Contacts	2,711
Trafic Stops	1,909
Vehicle Searches	457
Citations	581
Warnings	1,640
Arrest	136
Drug Cases	86
Suspicious Person	190
Area Checks	285

Statistics based on Jan. 1, 2023-Dec. 15, 2023

SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM (SRT)

98.34g

METH

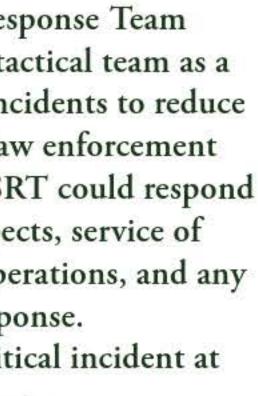
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Captain James Kelly

The Burke County Sheriff's Office Special Response Team (SRT) provides a highly trained and skilled tactical team as a resource for the county in handling critical incidents to reduce the risk of injury or loss of life to residents, law enforcement officers, and suspects. Examples of calls the SRT could respond to include hostage incidents, barricaded suspects, service of high-risk arrest/search warrants, manhunt operations, and any other critical incident requiring a tactical response. Additionally, the SRT will respond to any critical incident at Plant Vogtle. In 2023, the SRT had 29 call outs.







PART 1 CRIMES

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Homicide	0	4	1	1	2	0
Rape	3	2	1	0	1	0
Robbery	6	3	8	1	2	1
Aggravated Assault	14	19	20	11	8	6
Burglary	66	56	62	33	22	22
Larceny Auto	36	25	59	18	10	4
Larceny Other	167	130	129	84	58	61
Vehicle Theft	22	26	24	21	16	21
Arson	2	1	6	1	0	3
Total	316	266	310	170	117	118

Statistics based on Jan. 1, 2023-Dec. 15, 2023 . All others are full years.

PART 2 CRIMES

		1		1	1
	2018	2019	2020	2021	20
Other Assaults	118	99	147	129	1
Forgery/Counterfeiting	13	7	9	4	
Fraud	43	35	28	20	1
Embezzlement	0	0	0	1	
Stolen Property	0	2	4	2	
Vandalism	5	6	18	24	2
Weapons	36	24	33	30	1
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	
Other Sex Offenses	2	2	4	3	
Narcotics	12	15	8	5	
Gambling	0	0	0	0	
Family/Children	10	5	6	25	1
DUI	39	52	56	65	2
Liquor Laws	1	1	0	0	
Disorderly Conduct	14	19	25	6	



Statistics based on Jan. 1, 2023-Dec. 15, 2023



DETENTION CENTER

Detention Services includes the Burke County Detention Center, inmate transportation and supervision of inmate work crews. The Detention Center detains all arrested offenders. It is commanded by Major Dedric Smith. The Detention Center operates with 36 personnel. The jail, which was renamed the Burke County Detention Center in January 2017, houses those who have been arrested for misdemeanor and/or felony offenses.

780

MALE



Major Dedric Smith

Average 2 bookings per day

TOTAL INMATES

BOOKED IN

	A	rrest by	v Age	Statistics based	I on Jan. 1, 2023-Dec. 15, 20
20 & under	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61 and over
150	269	259	167	101	44

UNSPECIFIED

206

FEMALE



AUXILIARY SERVICES

Dec. 15, 2023



Colonel Lee Webster The Auxiliary Services Division encompasses Training, Procurement, Fleet and IT. The majority of the division serves those within the Sheriff's Office as a whole. Training is a key focus of the Burke County Sheriff's Office, ensuring deputies are well-equipped as they serve the community. The BCSO Training Staff serves as adjunct instructors for the Georgia Public Safety Training Center's Local Basic Law Enforcement Academy. During the year, the Sheriff's Office had six personnel attend BLETC and four personnel attended BJOC. Fleet maintains the vehicles of the agency, and Procurement ensures the agency is getting the best cost possible on the items the Sheriff's Office purchases. The Auxiliary Services Division is led by Colonel Lee Webster.

IN-SERVICE TRAINING CLASSES HELD

Ethics Sexual Harassment Professionalism in LE Internal Affairs Taser - Recertification, Transition and Certification classes Judgmental Use of Force (JPS) Policy and Procedure Gang Awareness Search and Seizure Use of Force - Classroom and Scenarios **De-escalation Community Oriented Policing Report Writing** CPR and First Aid **Defensive Tactics** Less Lethal Shotgun Handgun Skills Weapons Re-qualification, Handgun, Rifle and Shotgun Precision Rifle Certification and Qualification Leadership Special Response Team Force Options

10,814 TRAINING HOURS

AVG. 92 HOURS PER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER





COURT SERVICES

Court Services handles all security for the Burke County Judicial Center, transports to and from the Judicial Center, and inmate transport from other counties and states.

Since November of 2017, Court Services transport division traveled to nine counties in South Carolina, nine counties in Florida, seven in North Carolina and 110 of Georgia's 159 counties. Court Services is led by Captain Frank Tiller.



Captain Frank Tiller

	IOTAI	LSCR	EEN	ING	S
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Population Screened	21,741	31,897	34,552	34,073	39,270

PROHIBITED **ITEMS LOCATED**

Knives: 396 OC (pepper spray): 98 Other (tasers/stun guns): 71 Guns: 1

TRANSPORTS

Total Inmate Transports: 396

Prison related	52
Mental Health	8
Medical	38
Regular	298



Walk-Through Detectors	39,27
Baggage Scans	10,99
Fingerprints by Bailiffs	154

Statistics based on Jan. 1, 2023-Dec. 15, 2023

SUPERIOR COURT

DELIVERED: 528 DUE SEARCH: 32 RETURNED: 15

Summons: 132 Subpoenas: 111 Grand Jury: 262 Garnishments: 2 FiFa: 19 Writ: 2 Foreclosure: n/a

Summons: 17 Subpoenas: 14 Grand Jury: 1 Garnishments: n/a FiFa: n/a Writ: n/a Foreclosure: n/a

Summons: 9 Subpoenas: 2 Grand Jury: 4 Garnishments: n/a FiFa: n/a Writ: n/a Foreclosure: n/a

STATE COURT

DELIVERED: 562

Summons:85

DUE SEARCH: 56 Summons: 17 Subpoenas: 39

Subpoenas:443 Garnishments: 4 FiFa: 16 Dispossessory: 13 Writ: n/a Foreclosure: 1

Garnishments: n/a FiFa: n/a Dispossessory: n/a Writ: n/a Foreclosure: 1a

RETURNED: 29

Summons:4 Subpoenas: 25 Garnishments: n/a FiFa: n/a Dispossessory: n/a Writ: n/a Foreclosure: n/a

MAGISTRATE COURT

DELIVERED: 1,579

Summons:600 Subpoenas:534 Garnishments: 58 FiFa: 49 Dispossessory: 254 Writ: 82 Foreclosure: 2

DUE SEARCH: 126 Summons: 66 Subpoenas: 55 Garnishments: n/a FiFa: n/a Dispossessory: 1 Writ: 4 Foreclosure: n/a

RETURNED:29

Summons:18 Subpoenas: 7 Garnishments: 1 FiFa: n/a Dispossessory:1 Writ: 2 Foreclosure: n/a

CIVIL UNIT TOTAL DELIVERED: 3,135 DUE SEARCH: 243 **RETURNED: 91**

JUVENILE COURT

DELIVERED: 466 Subpoenas: 332 Court Orders: 10 **TPO: 29** Domestic: 2 Divorce: 11 Child Support: 78 Probate: 4 **DUE SEARCH: 29** Subpoenas: 10 Court Orders: 2 TPO: n/a Domestic : n/a Divorce: n/a Child Support: 16 Probate: 1 **RETURNED: 18** Subpoenas: 5 Court Orders: n/a TPO: 1 Domestic :: n/a Divorce: 1 Child Support: 11

COURT SESSIONS

TOTAL SESSIONS: 569

DUI/Drug Court: 24 State Court: 45 Superior Court: 144 Juvenile Court:38 Magistrate Court: 273 Probate: 22 Grand Jury: 17 Commission Meetings: 14 Citizens Review Panel: 14



Statistics based on Jan. 1, 2023-Dec. 15, 2023



Probate: n/a

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS



School Resource Officers (SRO) deputies are assigned to schools within the Burke County Public Schools System. An SRO role incorporates a variation of functions focused on prevention. However, each role played by the SRO is dependent upon the circumstances of the situation. In addition to being highly active and visible throughout the schools, each SRO is a valuable and accessible resource for students, parents, teachers, and administration regarding law issues. Having SROs assigned to the public schools within the county ensures a reduced response time for any calls for service and increases the deterrence of any criminal activity. Additionally, the SRO serves as the front line of defense when ensuring the safety and security of our schools. SROs serve a population of more than 4,500 students in Burke County's six public schools.





RECORDS

Statistics based on Jan 1, 2023-Dec. 15, 2023



599 WARRANTS ENTERED 306 CLEARED | 159 CANCELED



241 DRIVER HISTORIES COMPLETED





3,635 CRIMINAL HISTORIES

OTHER ITEMS

Open Records Requests: 368 Received (365 Completed)

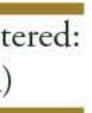
> Guns Entered: 58 (24 Cleared)

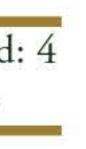
Missing Persons Entered: 38 (32 Cleared)

Articles Entered: 4 (2 Cleared)

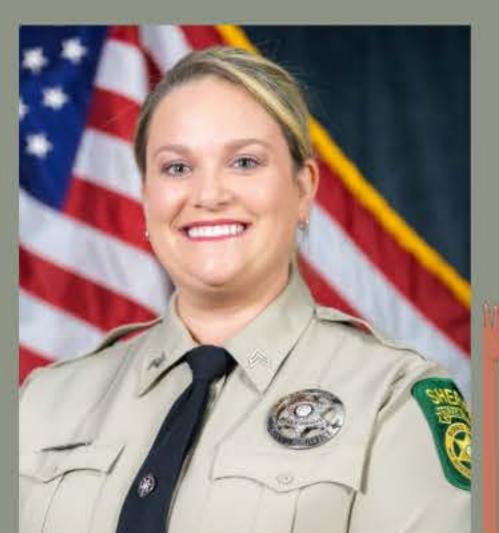








COMMUNITY OUTREACH



SGT. LEXIE JOHNSON

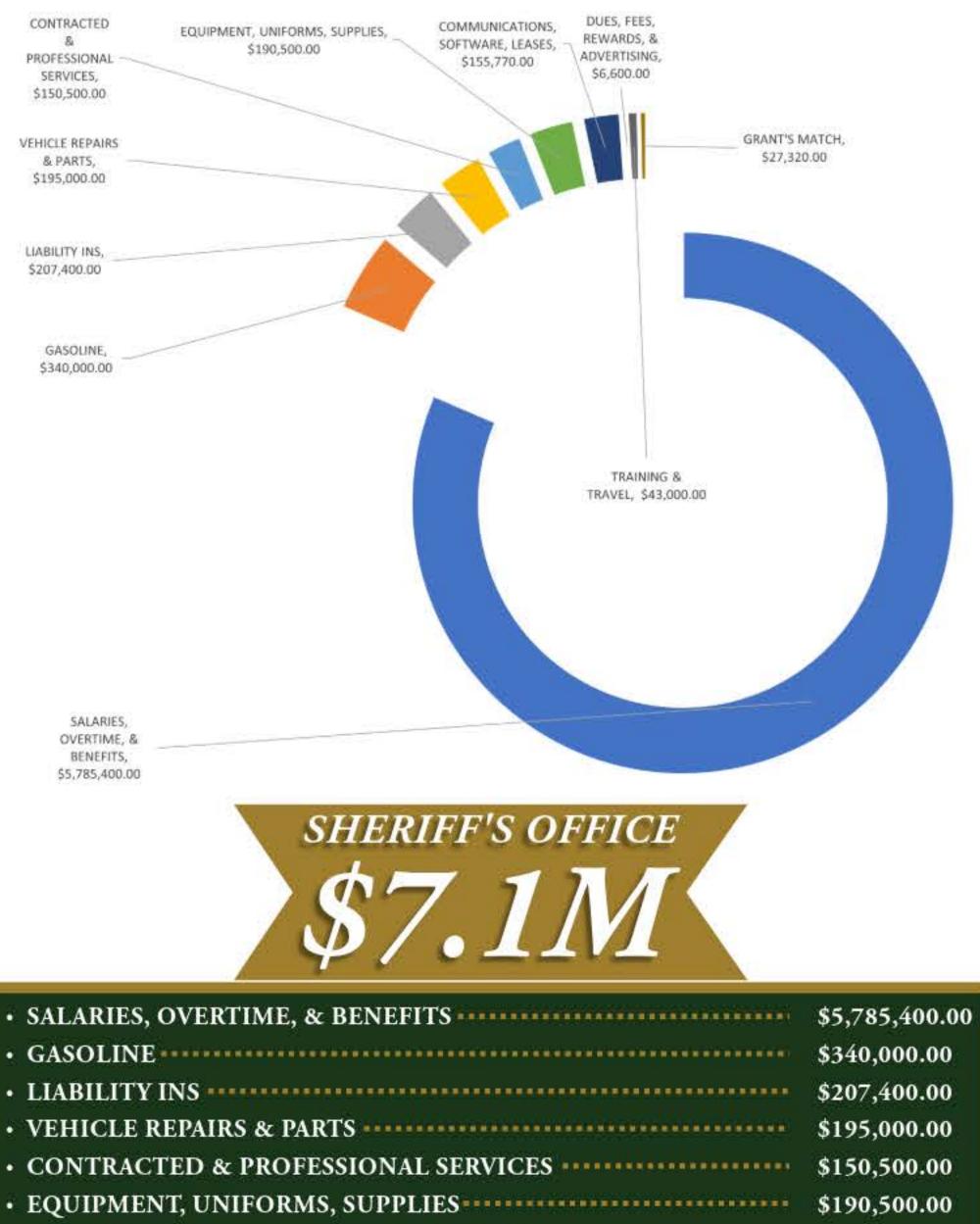
Community Outreach plays a major role at the Burke County Sheriff's Office. Throughout this year, the Community Outreach Team and other members of BCSO made it their mission to engage with our local school system, collecting and distributing food and toys during the holidays, forming community relations with Coffee with a Cop and more. In 2023, Community Outreach participated in 108 community service events. The objectives, through the Community Oriented Policing model, are to foster relationships with the citizens, educate the citizens on different subjects, provide safety-related programs based on community needs, and be active in our schools by teaching drug resistance programs and mentoring programs. The Community Outreach Team accomplishes its mission through the development and presentation of various programs in response to the changing needs of the county, as well as maintaining established prevention, safety, and educational programs. The duties of the members of this team include speaking to various groups on crime prevention methods, distributing crime prevention literature, and maintaining liaisons with neighborhoods.



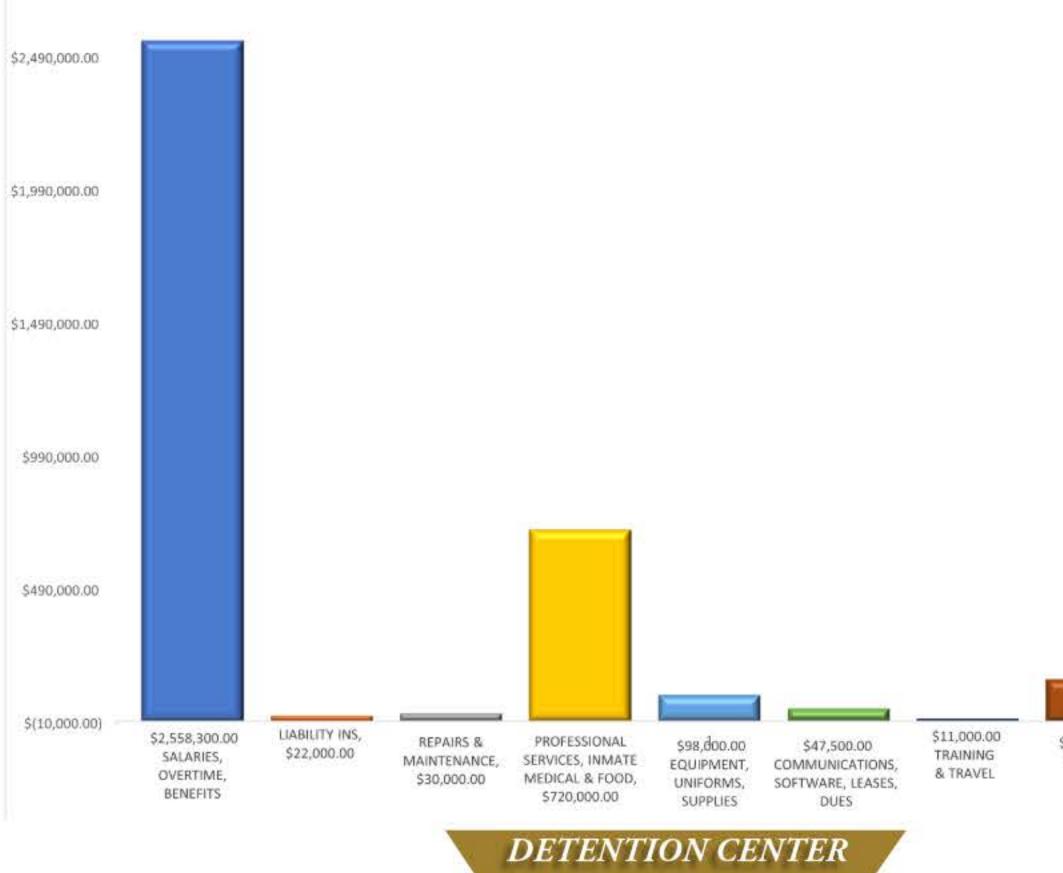




FINANCE

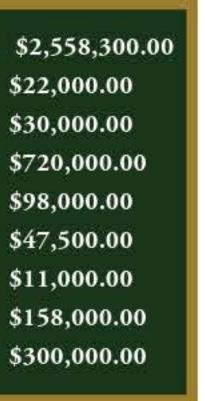


- COMMUNICATIONS, SOFTWARE, LEASES
 \$155,770.00
 DUES, FEES, REWARDS, & ADVERTISING
 \$6,600.00
- TRAINING & TRAVEL
 \$43,000.00
 \$27,320.00





TRAINING & TRAVEL \$11,
 UTILITIES \$153
 SITE IMPROVEMENTS \$300



\$300,000.00 SITE IMPROVEMENTS

\$158,000.00 UTILITIES



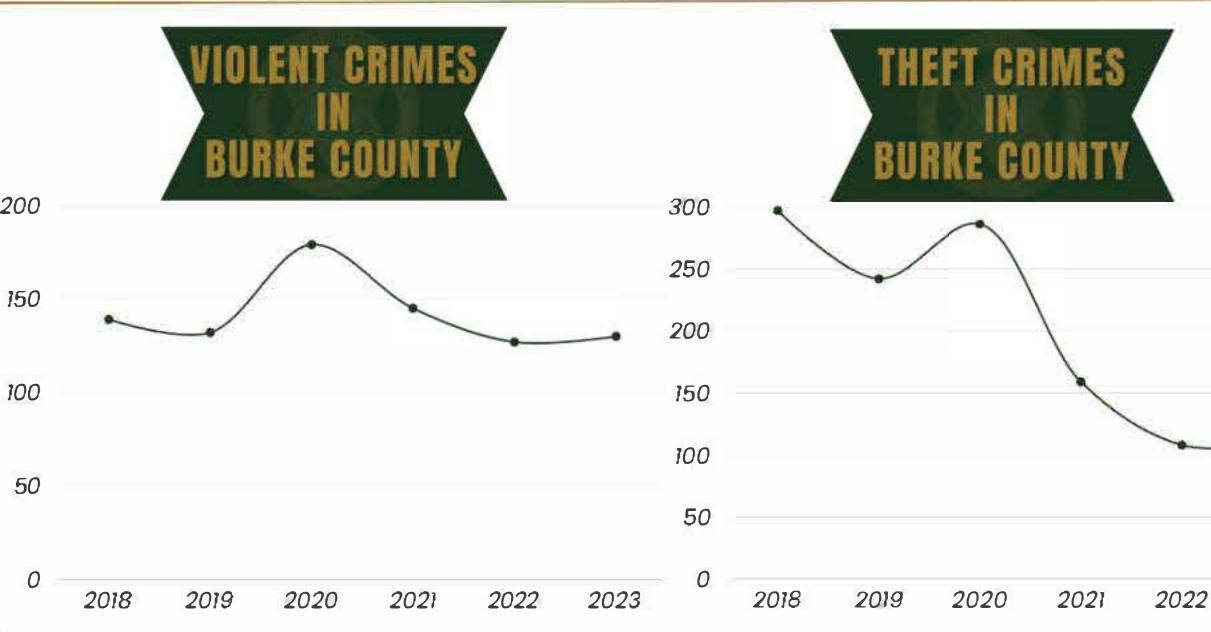
CRIME DATA ANALYTICS

The position of Crime Data Analyst was created when a grant was awarded to the Burke County Sheriff's Office on March 1st, 2023. That role was promptly taken over by Tascha Herbert on April 10th, 2023.

The Crime Data Analyst role is to gather, compile and interpret data from crime reports to study and research that data to identify and possibly predict patterns of crime. The analyst helps law enforcement focus on areas of concern or potential problem areas while providing strategic, statistical and investigative support to law enforcement. The Analyst is to assist with administering and maintaining crime analysis databases and tracking systems (Saferwatch), also helping to allocate and deploy police resources effectively.



Tascha Herbert



SOCIAL MEDIA & WEBSITE STAY UP TO DATE ON NEWS, ALERTS, AND EVENTS







ROAD PATROL & TRAFFIC BCSO THROUGH THE YEAR























2023 PROMOTIONS



Sgt. Steven Kophazy

2023 College Graduates



Vonshay Felton- Faulkner University **B.S Criminal Justice.**

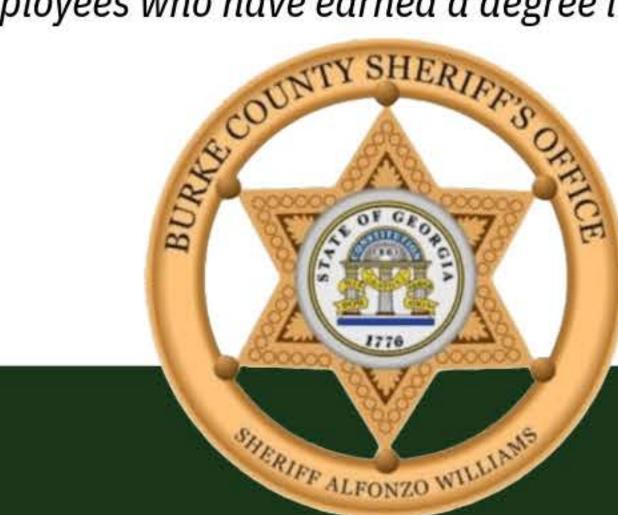


Gloria Sapp- Faulkner University **B.S Human Resources Management**



Terrance Jackson- Faulkner University B.S Criminal Justice.

The impact of education has long been one of the topics in Sheriff Williams' leadership classes and agency wide. Education shows us the importance of hard work and helps us grow and develop. Our agency has 27 employees who have earned a degree in higher education.







Recruitment











JOIN BCSO

You could be next to join the BCSO. Applicants must be able to complete a background check, including drug test and voice stress analysis. Scan the QR code to learn more!









RANDALL NORMAN



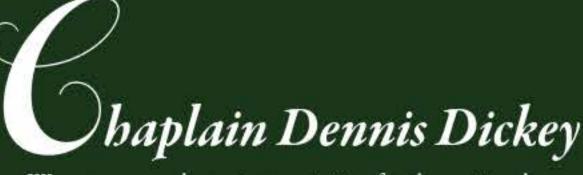
<u>Acknowledgement of Service</u>

It is with great appreciation that we acknowledge the exemplary service of Captain Randall Norman during his tenure with the Burke County Sheriff's Office. From July 9, 2018, to October 20, 2023, Captain Norman served as a leader, earning the respect of his colleagues. Captain Norman's leadership style was commendable, and he set a high standard for professionalism and dedication.

His positive impact on the team and in the community is immeasurable. Although we miss Captain Norman, we extend our heartfelt congratulations on his new role as Assistant Chief at Morehouse College. We are confident that he will continue to excel in his career and make significant contributions to his new organization. Thank you, Captain Norman, for your service, leadership, and the positive influence you brought to the Burke County Sheriff's Office.

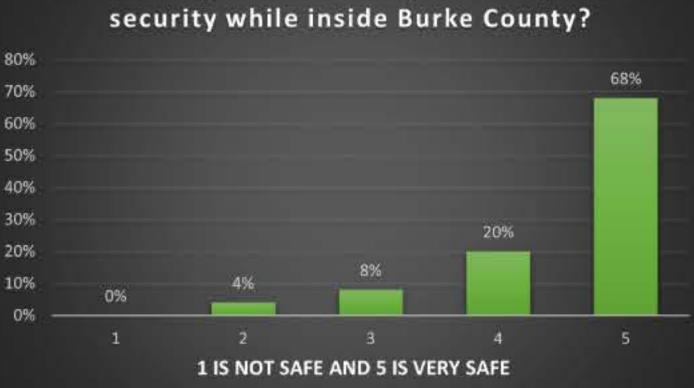
In Memoriam





We express our deepest appreciation for the outstanding contributions of Chaplain Dennis Dickey to the Burke County Sheriff's Office. Since volunteering for the agency in 2011, Chaplain Dickey has left a mark on our community and the lives of those he touched. Chaplain Dickey's unwavering commitment to serving and compassion for our community, deputies, and everyone he encountered is truly commendable. His dual role as both Chaplain and a certified deputy showcased his versatility and dedication to ensuring the well-being of all. Throughout his years of service, Chaplain Dickey's impact extended far beyond his official roles. He touched countless lives with his kindness, empathy, and genuine concern for others. He brought comfort to those facing difficult times and his guidance provided strength to others. His influence has left an enduring mark on the Burke County Sheriff's Office. As we reflect on Chaplain Dickey's remarkable contributions, let us celebrate the life of an exceptional individual who dedicated himself to the service of others. Chaplain Dickey's impact will be felt for generations, and his memory will continue to inspire us.

COFFEE WITH A CSP



Which of the following crimes is the

largest concern in Burke County?

How do you feel about your safety and



Traffic Violations Vandalism **Unsupervised Juveniles** Shoplifting Robber **Hate Crimes** Gangs **Drunk Drivers Drug Activity Domestic Violence** Burglary

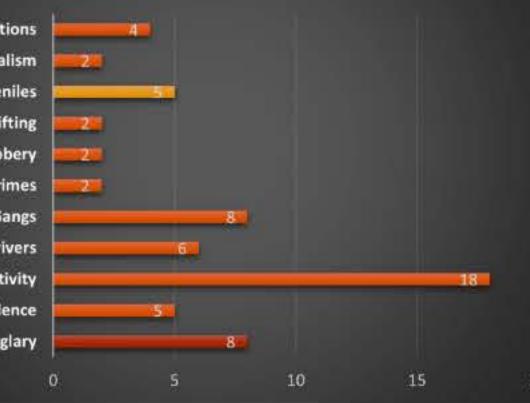
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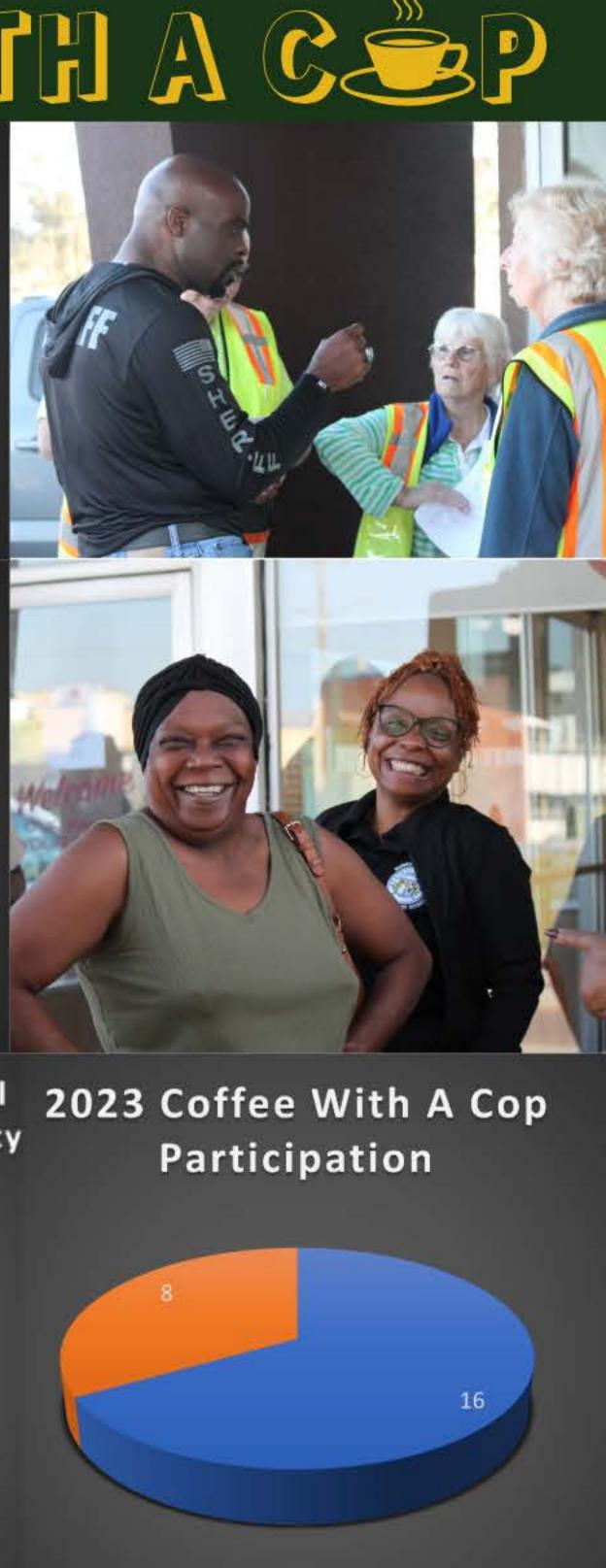
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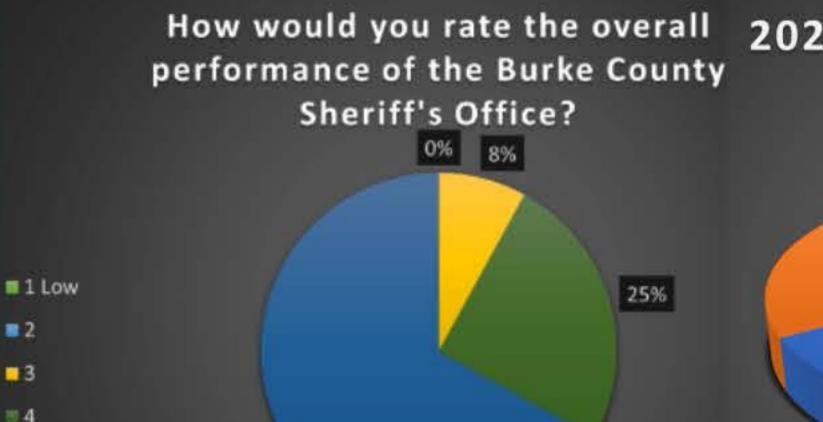
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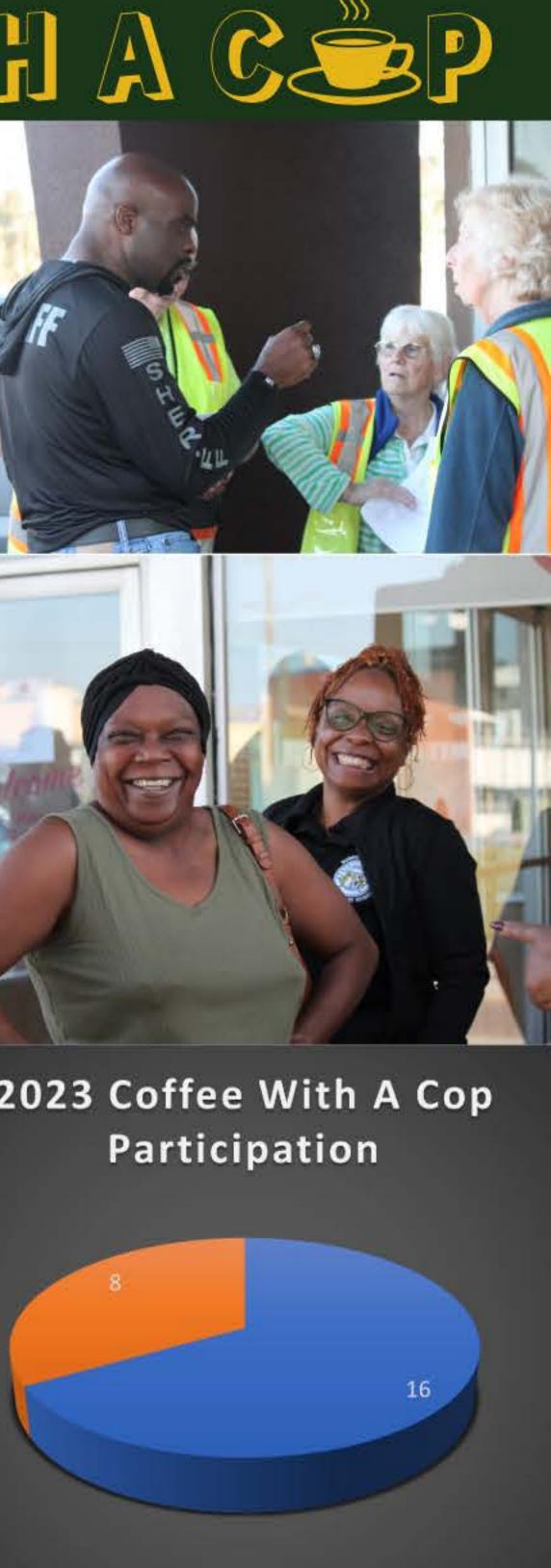
5 High

67%











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