



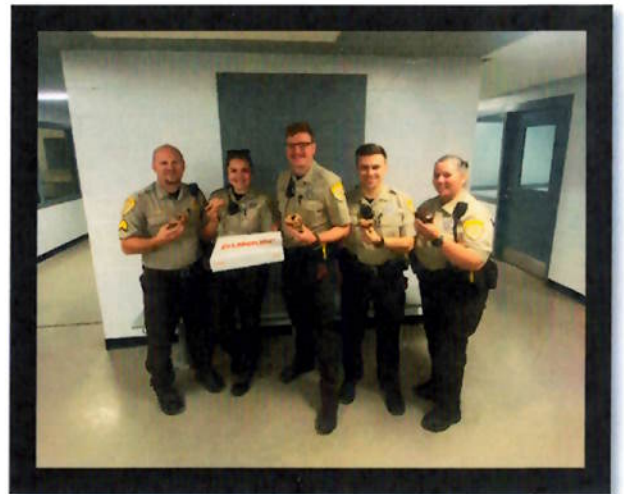
Jefferson County Sheriff's Office



Annual Report 2023



Paul S. Milbrath, Sheriff



Office of the Sheriff - Jefferson County



411 S. Center Avenue
Jefferson, Wisconsin 53549-1703

Paul S. Milbrath, Sheriff

Donald C. Hunter, Chief Deputy

Brian Olson
Administrative Captain



Travis Maze
Patrol Captain



Margareta Gray
Jail Captain

June 5, 2024

The Honorable Jefferson County Board Chair, Steve Naas

Members of the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors

Citizens of Jefferson County

I present to you the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office 2023 Annual report. As always should you have any question while you review this report do not hesitate to contact me, Chief Deputy Hunter, or any of the divisional Captains.

As I prepared this report, knowing it will be my last annual report, I paused to reflect on how much has changed, not only in my 22 years as Sheriff but my 44 plus in Law Enforcement. Since it is the entire staff that makes the Sheriff's Office operate I dedicate this report to the men and women of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office. It is their efforts that make us exceptional. The dispatcher that takes the initial call for service, the patrol deputy who responded to the call, or the detective who may conduct further follow up. The deputies assigned to the jail dealing with inmates coming down from drugs, the nursing staff who cares for the inmate's medical needs, or the cooks who prepare their meals. To the maintenance staff who keep the building operational and clean as well as the support staff who will pay the bills, transcribe reports, and the mechanic who keeps our fleet running. To them I say thank you! I thank you for the many hours of overtime due to staff shortages that you all put in. Thank you for your dedication and it is because of you that we continued to get positive feedback from the community. Your servant's heart continues to shine.

This past year saw 10 retirements representing 249 years of experience. The national trend continues as law enforcement agencies continue to struggle to fill open slots. We continue to seek new and creative ways to attract and retain staff. As senior staff leave it definitely creates a void to fill.

The kitchen continues to be the epitome of cleanliness and in my opinion one of the best run jail kitchens in the state. The current economic conditions have seen the cost of food rise by just over 17% and the cost of food per meal is now at \$1.09. Although we had over-run for food, these costs were easily covered by the income of housing federal inmates.

The Drone Team purchased a new drone with a forward-facing infrared camera with zoom capabilities which is being used more and more at crash scenes, search and rescue, and in occasions where we can minimize the risk to officers in searches.

Jefferson County continues to oversee the Huber program versus putting everyone out on electronic monitoring. Huber officers were able to fill 33 job vacancies for Jefferson County businesses

Business (920)674-7310 ★ Patrol (920)674-7344 ★ Detectives (920)674-7360 ★ Civil Process (920)674-7339 ★ Jail (920)674-7336
Fax (920)674-7126 ★ Toll Free (800)675-7310

and the Huber release program generated \$178,900. The Jail has really struggled and worked diligently during construction with the number of inmates holding approximately the same numbers as 2022.

Our Patrol division has again worked short staffed, the implementation of the take home squad program has cut down on response times by our squads being located countywide; the deputy can leave from home and be at the scene much quicker. The K-9 program was called out 173 times in 2023; the best seizure netted a small amount of marijuana, 393 grams of cocaine, and \$25,000 in cash. The K-9 program continues to be one of the highly sought groups for speaking engagements and demonstrations.

The Detective division has also seen a shortage of staff, operating with 4 of their 6 assigned detectives due to Sheriff's Office staffing shortage. Internet crimes against children were investigated on 14 separate occasions. Of the 42 death investigations the Sheriff's Office received, 16 also required response by the detectives because of unusual or suspicious circumstances. The detective division is tasked with employment backgrounds for new staff and as you are all well aware of we are constantly in the process of hiring. So, this makes the division very busy.

As you will note on the back page there is a ride along form feel free to use this form to ride along with either jail, patrol, or dispatch. This gives you a true opportunity to see how your Sheriff's Office works. I want to thank the men and women of this agency, county board, county administrator, and corporation counsel for the many years that we have had working together. Without working together, we would not function as smoothly as we do and would not serve the citizens of this county in the best way possible. I respectfully present this report, with a budget surplus of \$461,149.12.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paul Milbrath". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul Milbrath
Jefferson County Sheriff

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ACCOUNTING OF TRANSPORTATION COSTS ANNUAL REPORT 2023

MONTH	NUMBER OF JUVENILES	COST OF JUVENILE TRANSPORTS	NUMBER OF ALL TRANSPORTS	COST OF ALL TRANSPORTS
January	3	\$908.21	7	\$1,648.21
February	2	\$1,765.37	3	\$2,233.88
March	1	\$633.98	5	\$1,367.10
April	3	\$1,335.99	4	\$1,524.64
May	1	\$373.21	1	\$373.21
June	1	\$372.10	2	\$791.81
July	0	\$0.00	2	\$363.69
August	0	\$0.00	4	\$660.72
September	2	\$393.95	3	\$590.02
October	0	\$0.00	1	\$498.48
November	1	\$70.50	2	\$349.39
December	<u>0</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>\$109.18</u>
TOTAL =	14	\$5,853.31	35	\$10,510.33

Report to the Sheriff

By: Karen Schmidt, Accounting Specialist II

In addition to the extradition of individuals from outside the State of Wisconsin, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office also transports adults and juveniles throughout the state. The transports within the State of Wisconsin are at the request of the courts and Human Services. The adults are transported to and from other institutions for the purpose of appearing in court, mental commitments, and alcohol detoxification, among others.

Juveniles are transported by the Sheriff's Office primarily for the same reasons adults are transported, in addition to juvenile detention. Juveniles constitute 40 percent of all transports. The above chart indicates the cost of transporting juveniles to be \$5,853.31, or 56 percent of the total spent on transportation.

Those costs are based upon the 2023 mileage rate at \$0.655 plus the deputy's hourly wage. The costs are monitored and show the efforts made to minimize the fiscal impact upon the county. The lower cost is accomplished by utilizing on-duty and part-time deputies.

Respectfully submitted

Paul S. Milbrath, Sheriff



EXTRADITIONS OUT-OF-STATE TRANSPORTS



The Sheriff's Office is responsible for delivering fugitives of justice, who have an extraditable warrant issued through the Jefferson County Circuit Court, back to Jefferson County from any other state. This occurs when a person is charged with a felony, through Jefferson County Circuit Court and they flee the state. A Jefferson County Circuit Court then orders the person to be held accountable for their offense.

That person's name and description is entered into a nation-wide computer system, accessible only to law enforcement. If, for any reason, police have contact with the fugitive and run their information through the system, they will get a "hit". This notifies Jefferson County that our fugitive has been stopped by an out-of-state agency.

It is then our responsibility to confirm to that agency that we want the fugitive and will extradite him/her back here. The Jefferson County District Attorney then confirms the process to bring the subject back.

The fugitive appears in front of a judge in the state in which he/she is detained. If the subject agrees to come back to Wisconsin or "waives extradition", the fugitive is brought back. If the subject disputes the charge, the District Attorney petitions the Governor of Wisconsin to request the return of the fugitive. This request goes to the Governor of the state that is holding the inmate. Upon review of the facts, if the other Governor agrees to the request, he/she issues a Governor's warrant. The fugitive is then arrested on this warrant and Jefferson County is notified to pick up the individual.

Statistics for 2023 extraditions:

When we have a fugitive, who needs to be returned to Jefferson County, we determine the most cost-effective means of completing the transport, which is done on a case by case basis. Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Deputies handle transports from adjacent states and within a specific mileage range. Because of the location of many of the fugitives, we utilize a Prisoner Transportation Service, to return many of our fugitives back to Wisconsin. This service charges by the mile and is by far less expensive than sending our own personnel. Our Communications Operators continue to use a web search program to locate fugitives that have fled out of state. Communications Operators then contact law enforcement agencies in that jurisdiction; they have been very proactive in trying to locate fugitives that have fled our state. The cost to the county was approximately \$58,832 for all of these transports. The costs to return these fugitives are the responsibility of the fugitive and we continue to work with the District Attorney to request court-ordered restitution for these expenses.

A total of 28 individuals held in other states on felony warrants issued in Jefferson County were brought back to Jefferson County by the Sheriff's Office or their agents. Charges ranged from failure to support, sexual assault, drug charges, possession of firearm by felon, aggravated battery, Felony-ID Theft, bail jumping, and many other felony offenses.

Respectfully submitted

Donald C. Hunter

Chief Deputy

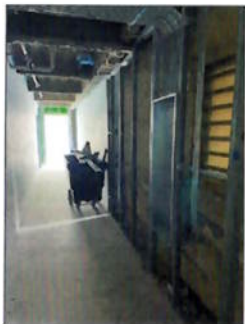
2023 ANNUAL REPORT

JAIL DIVISION

The deputies assigned to the Jefferson County Jail continue to provide as safe and secure of an environment as possible for the inmates housed within our facility. This has proven to be quite the challenge throughout 2023 with all of the construction occurring within the facility.

With the Jefferson County Jail remaining a fully functioning facility during the construction project, we have encountered numerous challenges to maintain the safety and security of the facility. Some of these issues revolved around inmate movement through active construction areas. In these areas staff has had to escort inmates individually due to the various amounts of tools being utilized by construction workers and the type of debris scattered throughout those areas. Any of these items getting into the hands of the inmate population could become weapons that could be used against staff, visitors and/or other inmates. In addition, utilizing deputies to escort inmates through these construction areas caused staffing shortages for other normal jail operations. Other problems encountered during construction involved closing down one and sometimes more than one housing units for days at a time; limiting the areas to house inmates. These closures were caused due to various work on electrical, plumbing, upgrades to cell door and utility operating systems or even openings in the perimeter walls of the jail.

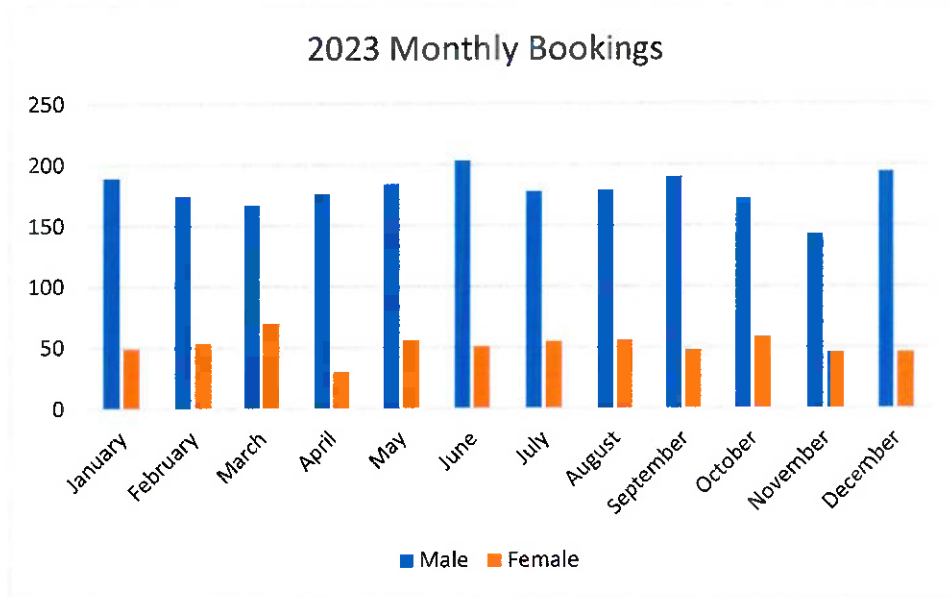
Jail supervisors and deputies had to not only become flexible with their day to day activities of the jail, but they also had to endure working in challenging environments with the excessive amounts of construction noise and dust from the demolition of jail walls, ceilings and floors. The walls and ceilings of a correctional institution are not typical due to the reinforced structure required to prevent escape. Add on top of all this the staffing shortage and we have deputies that are regularly working 12 hour shifts in this environment for months on end. Needless to say, this construction project has been extremely stressful for the jail supervisors, jail deputies and inmates; we are all counting the days until the construction is over and the jail can get back to normal routines.



As the retirements continue, we now have even more youth in the jail, with only one deputy assigned to the jail having more than 4-1/2 years of experience; this does not include the supervisors. In 2023, we hired 6 new deputies to fill vacancies throughout the entire agency, vacancies once again created mostly by retirements. All 6 of these new deputies were assigned to the jail where they will be able to fine tune their communication skills and develop additional skills that will be essential for their success as some will eventually transition out to patrol positions.

Even though our inmate population still remains below the pre-COVID average daily

population, we once again noticed an increase in the need for mental health services. Coupled with the healthcare services provided by Southern Health Partners, our mental health and medical units provided services to 54 individuals who had been placed on suicide watch and 149 individuals who were put on Detoxification/Withdrawal Watch Protocols. In addition, our mental health counselor saw 642 individuals for mental health sessions and our nursing staff saw 5,197 inmates for sick call. In addition, the nursing staff saw 589 inmates for MAT (Medication Assisted Treatment) Protocols.



On December 10, 2023 we once again began contracting with the US Marshal Service to house Federal Inmates. Previously we had contracted with the State of Wisconsin, however, we have not housed any inmates for the State of Wisconsin since the early stages of COVID. Bringing in US Marshal inmates under contract will help generate some additional revenue for Jefferson County. Due to the construction we initially only accepted 10 Federal Inmates but intend to slightly increase this number over the next year once construction is complete.

There are a great deal of changes coming in the future within the Jefferson County Jail, this includes both with the facility, operations and staff. I am confident that these changes will continue to improve the day to day operations and provide a better environment for not only staff, but also the inmate population.

Respectfully submitted
 Captain Margo Gray
 Jail Administrator

AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION

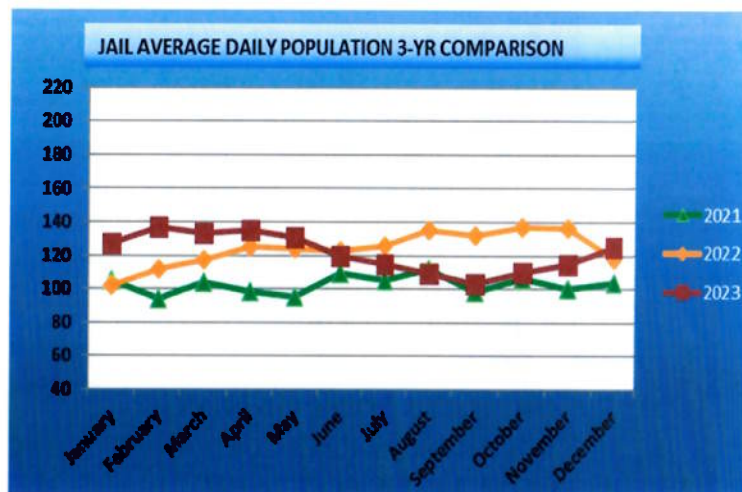
10-Year Average

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AVERAGE INMATES</u>
2014	146
2015	140
2016	155
2017	168
2018	176
2019	168
2020	114
2021	103
2022	124
2023	122

AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION

2023 By Month / 3-Year Comparison

JANUARY	127	JULY	115
FEBRUARY	137	AUGUST	109
MARCH	133	SEPTEMBER	103
APRIL	135	OCTOBER	110
MAY	131	NOVEMBER	115
JUNE	120	DECEMBER	125



Respectfully submitted
Chad Roberts, Sergeant

2023 OFFENSES OF INMATES HELD IN JAIL

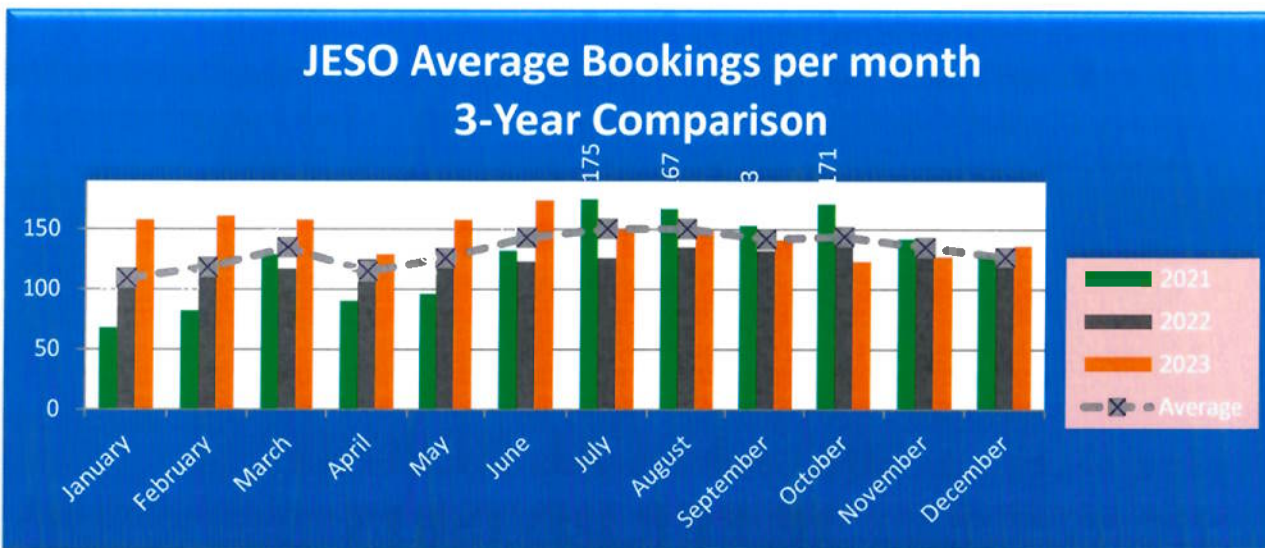
	<i>TOTAL</i>
ARSON	0
BATTERY	23
BAIL JUMPING	54
BURGLARY	2
CHILD ABUSE	3
CONTRIB TO DEL OF MINOR	0
CRIM DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	6
CRIM TRES-DWELLING/LAND	0
DEFRAUD INKEEPER	0
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	41
SAFEKEEPING	0
DNR VIOLATONS	0
END SAFETY CON REG LIFE	3
ESCAPE	0
FORGERY	0
HOLDS-OTHER DEPT-WARRANTS	512
HOM INT USE VEH/WEAPON	0
HOM BY NEG USE VEH/WEAPON	0
INJ BY INT USE VEH WEAPON	0
INJ BY NEG USE VEH WEAPON	0
ISSUE OF WORTHLESS CHECKS	0
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	0
MURDER	0
OAR/OAS	194
OWI	130
OTHER TRAF/NVDL/SPEED/ETC	211
PAT-NONSUPPORT/FAMILY OFF	0
PROB-PAROLE VIOLATIONS	396
STOLEN PROP-REC/POSS/CONC	0
RESIST/OBST-OFFICER	14
ROBBERY	0
SEX ASSAULT	8
SEX ASSAULT-CHILD	7
THEFT (INCLUDES RETAIL)	24
KEEPING A HOUSE	7
OTHER	557
OPERATE W/O CONSENT	0
WARRANTS-PREVIOUS CHGS (JESO SENTENCE)	256
DOM ABUSE-BATTERY	5
DOM ABUSE-DC	27
DOM ABUSE-CDTP	1
DOM ABUSE-VIOL REST ORDER	0
DOM ABUSE-OTHER	0

UCSA-POSS CONT SUBSTANCE		66
UCSA-W/INT TO DELIVER		0
UCSA-DEL CONT SUBSTANCE		4
WEAPONS-CARRY CONCEAL WEAPONS		10
WEAPONS-FELONY POSS		2
WEAPONS-RECKLESS USE		0
WELFARE FRAUD		0
TOTAL	(2022)	2,663
TOTAL	(2023)	2,563

Many inmates are booked into the jail for multiple charges. For the purpose of this report, only the most serious charge is counted for each inmate.

Respectfully submitted
Chad Roberts, Sergeant
Jail Division

BOOKINGS PER MONTH 3-YEAR COMPARISON



2023 ANNUAL REPORT JAIL MINISTRY

The Jefferson County Jail Ministry provides spiritual services to those incarcerated at the Jefferson County Jail. Clergy and lay persons from churches throughout Jefferson County provide these voluntary services. Due to the continuing construction within the jail, we have had to put the in-house services on hold.

As we all know, the Jefferson County Courthouse, Sheriff's Office and Jail continue to undergo major renovations. With these renovations come the struggles of keeping inmate programming up and running. This has been virtually impossible with the majority of the common areas of the jail being renovated. Once this renovation project is over, which will be coming to an end in August of 2024, there should be plenty of space for the jail ministry to spread out to start up their programming again. In fact, it may be easier since there will be more areas for them to utilize.

Throughout the construction project, we have tried to accommodate our inmates with one on one visits with religious members. This is only able to occur if there is space available in one of the two newly renovated visitation booths. These booths are generally not available until the late evening hours or on weekends due to the booths being need for other professional visits that can only be accommodated during normal business hours. We are waiting for the completion of the final three additional visitation booths; however, this will most likely not occur until the end of August 2024.

With having fewer opportunities for religious services during these renovations, staff received numerous requests for various different types of religious books. Staff took the time to meet with inmates to understand their religion and to search for the requested books. Any books that were ordered, were added to the religious library and made available for inmates to sign out until they were either released or decided to return it for another inmate to use.

We are anxiously awaiting the end of the renovation project so that we can get back to normal and so that we can bring the Jail Ministry back to the inmates of the Jefferson County Jail.

The Jail Ministry Board is responsible for the oversight of jail ministry functions. Currently the board consists of Captain Margo Gray and one Jail Sergeant. Additional feedback is consistently requested, received, and welcomed from all current Jefferson County Jail Ministry members.

Respectfully submitted

Captain Margo Gray

Jail Division

2023 ANNUAL REPORT HUBER DIVISION

The Huber Division consists of one deputy that serves as the main Huber Officer and one sergeant who oversees the program.

Inmates entering the jail facility with Huber privileges and having qualifying employment are charged \$19.00 daily. The jail averages about 30 full-time Huber inmates per day. Huber employment generated \$177,027 for the Sheriff's Office. Some inmates come into the jail working part-time, doing child care or attending post high school education. These inmates are charged \$19.00 per day for the days they leave the jail. In 2023, part time Huber inmates generated \$1,881 for the Sheriff's Office.

The Huber officer assisted multiple non-working inmates obtaining gainful employment and filling 33 local positions within Jefferson County. These inmates requested the help of gaining employment after coming to the jail without steady Full-time employment. Temporary agencies such as Opportunities (DPS), QPS, and Terra Staffing and Seek were the primary agencies utilized for employment services for inmates. Inmates seeking employment were encouraged to work with the GED program at the Jefferson County Jail. The GED coordinator assisted inmates with resumes, and basic educational/job related skills.

The Huber Division has placed 34 inmates on Electronic Monitoring during 2023, which brought in \$47,422.57

Throughout 2023, jail deputies conducted limited on-site Huber checks. These are completed when the Jail has extra personnel to go physically check on Huber inmates while at work. Huber officers also conducted daily job site checks via telephone calls to inmate employers.

Respectfully submitted

Chad Roberts, Sergeant

Huber Division

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

JAIL FOODSERVICE

Meals Served

Approximately 144,215 meals were served to the jail population in 2023. This number includes Huber bag lunches. And it is 7,350 less than 2022.

Food/Operating Cost

The approximate total dollar amount spent on food for the Jefferson County Jail in 2022 was \$193,963. This was over the amount of \$175,000 budgeted. About \$35,450 of food and disposable product was carried over into 2024 extra food purchases were not made at the end. With the inventory carry over this comes out to about \$1.09 per meal without labor/utilities.

The higher food cost was caused by the food budget being cut by \$10,000 purchased food cost increasing by a staggering 17% for 2023 and high number cold supper meals served, again. Being 1FT positions short on cooks and no CSW. In 2023 the Foodservice was only able to serve 0 (ZERO) HOT meals for supper the entire year. We had to feed hot Breakfast, hot lunches and bag suppers using disposable 3 compartment trays and disposable spoons to serve the inmates due to the lack of personal which caused an increase in food cost by over \$23,000.

USDA Commodities have not been available for over 26 years. As in past years, we continue to search for the best food purchase opportunities, taking advantage of quantity buys and donations whenever possible.

The jail kitchen did receive an estimated \$7,549 in donations from various donors in Jefferson County. We want to thank our donors very much for their generosity.

Labor Hours

The inmate CSW (Community Service Worker) program contributed 0.00 labor hours in 2023 this due to Covid and stricter requirements to work in the Kitchen. These were hours the Cooks had to fill in for. This also contributes to the higher end cost to operate the Foodservice. It costs less to wash dishes than to serve on disposable trays.

Honors

Jail Foodservice would have earned its 15th straight sanitation award since we registered for a restaurant license. As of 2014 this award has been discontinued by the Health Department for reasons unknown. We will still continue to maintain our high standards in the Foodservice. We have recorded NO Violations the past 5 years. We were told by the Inspector that the Jefferson County Jail Foodservice is the cleanest Kitchen she inspects and uses us as an example.

The Foodservice is subject to monthly health inspections, a yearly state health inspection, a yearly state DOC inspection and an inspection by a licensed dietitian. We also had US Marshal Service and NIS inspect our Foodservice as one of their requirements for housing their inmates.

The Cooks

Our Foodservice Crew consists one FT Cook Lisa Schlesner hired in 2016, 3 Pt cooks-, Pt Cook Amanda Bowers hired in 2017, Pt Cook Bonnie Wetzel hired in 2019 and PT Cook Courtney Ulrich hired in 2020.

Improvements

No improvements or changes were made to the Foodservice in 2023. The Kitchen area was not included in the 2022-2024 County Building renovation even though it is the same age as the rest of the Sheriff's Office. I did budget for a paint job for 2024. ☹️

We are still short a FT Cook that retired in 2010. This position was unfunded in 2015 because the counts were low and have not rebounded enough to refund the position.

Our kitchen is licensed as a restaurant. For catering selected events if we have the employees to handle it.



Respectfully submitted

Brian R. Nesthus, Foodservice Director since 1995

U.S. Navy Veteran, Culinary Specialist

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

SUPPORT SERVICES

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Support Services Division continues to be responsible for Civil Process, Courthouse Security, and Transports.

The staff for the Support Services Division consists of one sergeant, four full time deputies and eight part time deputies. This amount of staff has allowed for the security station to be staffed 100% of the time during business hours.

The front security station is staffed on a regular basis, therefore the number of weapons confiscated has declined. Citizens within Jefferson County, as well as outside the county, have become accustomed to the security station being staffed on a full-time basis which, in turn, has caused people to think twice before coming to the courthouse with weapons or other types of contraband. The deputies, as well as the front security station equipment, have proven successful in an overall proactive approach to stop or resolve a situation before it becomes a major security issue.

The deputies assigned to the Support Services Division have also continued to meet the challenges that have been faced in regards to the Courthouse construction and renovation project, that began in the courthouse in the fall of 2022. Deputies have worked very closely with the other county employees as well as the general public to provide courthouse security, as well as provide a safe environment for all when they visit the courthouse.

In 2023, the Support Services Division continued to deal with many calls for service within the Courthouse. Listed below are the statistics we posted in the courthouse during 2023:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
➤ Arrests:	71	246	229
➤ Jurics:	22	41	34
➤ Pages/Requests for Deputy:	249	451	432

The number of transports completed in 2023 have risen with the start of in person court hearings, as well as the housing of Federal Inmates in the county jail. Although there are still many court hearings and mental health hearings being held by video. The implementation of video conferencing in the courthouse and jail in 2011 has saved the Sheriff's Office from having to do several transports and allowed many hearings to still be conducted. Some situations and circumstances still required persons to be transported to other law enforcement and mental health facilities. Support Services completed 366 transports in 2023.

We continue to look forward to providing a high level of security and assistance to the staff and visitors of the Jefferson County Courthouse in 2024.

Respectfully submitted
Matt Kanters, Sergeant
Support Services Division

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

CIVIL PROCESS

The Civil Process Division received 1268 documents during 2023, served 1238 documents, executed 61 Writs, scheduled 28 Foreclosure Sales and returned 19 documents at the Plaintiff's request, prior to making service.

Of the 61 Writs executed; 6 were Writs of Replevin, 50 were Writs of Restitution, 1 was a Writ of Execution Against Property, and 4 were Writs of Assistance. In 41 of the Writs of Restitution & Assistance cases the defendant(s) complied with the Sheriff's Order to Vacate, and in the other 13 cases the Civil Process Division had to physically remove the defendant/property. In the cases of the Writ of Execution Against Property it was returned unsatisfied.

The 28 Foreclosure Sales required the Civil Process Division to post 56 sale notices.

Invoices generated by the Civil Process Division totaled \$59,318.00. Ledger entry payments totaled \$16,136.00 and other monies received for service fees totaled \$33,248.91.

Respectfully submitted

Matt Kanters, Sergeant

Support Services Division

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION



The Criminal Investigation Division is authorized one Administrative Captain, one Detective Sergeant, six Detectives, and one Administrative Assistant. Two detective positions remain unfilled due to retirements and staffing shortages.

Notable events for 2023 include:

- ★ Fourteen (14) Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) cases were investigated. Jefferson County Sheriff is an affiliate of the task force run by the Wisconsin Division of Criminal Investigation. Most of these cases start with state investigators locating possible violations and forwarding them to our ICAC detectives for follow-up.
- ★ Of 42 death investigations received, 16 investigations involved a response by a detective due to unusual or suspicious circumstances.

- ★ Detectives are tasked with pre-employment background investigations covering deputy sheriffs, medical, and civilian employee staff. In 2023, Detectives conducted 21 background investigations consisting of 18 for deputy sheriff, 2 for jail nurse, and 1 for jail accounting assistant.
- ★ In 2023, two detectives retired, one resigned, and one transferred to the multi-agency Drug Task Force. One new detective started in January and one in July. In addition, a new Administrative Captain began duties in January.
- ★ 60 total cases were assigned to a detective in 2023, normally starting with a citizen complaint or victim disclosure. Due to staffing shortages, CID was operating with four detectives as opposed to the authorized six.
- ★ One detective is also assigned to liaison with Jefferson County Public Health and Human Services personnel as part of a Multi-discipline Team within Jefferson County. These duties are in addition to a regular caseload.

Property thefts, burglaries, identity thefts, online frauds, and sexual assault incidents continue to comprise most investigations handled by the Criminal Investigation Division. Opiate and other drug addictions continue to cause an increase in property crimes. Criminals typically target money, prescription medications, jewelry, and firearms, which are items that can usually be quickly converted into cash to purchase more drugs.

The Jefferson County Criminal Investigation Division continues to maintain a high degree of standards and proficiency by having detectives attend several investigative schools regarding identity theft, fraud, arson, white collar crimes, thefts by contractor, child abuse, evidence collection and processing, death investigation, identifying deceptive behavior, interview and interrogation, and forensic analysis of cell phones and computers.

In addition to investigating crimes, Detectives belong to many special teams such as SWAT, Dive team, Boat Patrol, Snowmobile patrol, Motorcycle patrol, Honor Guard, Crash investigations, and Crisis Negotiations. There are also multiple detectives instructing others in Defense & Arrest Tactics, Firearms, Vehicle contacts, Dive, Emergency Vehicle Operations, and the Citizen Police Academy.

Respectfully submitted
 Vaughn L. Johnson, Detective Sergeant
 Criminal Investigation Division

DETECTIVE DIVISION 2023 ACTIVITY REPORT

	2022	2023
Juveniles Referred	9	17
Adults Referred	260	284

Citations Issued by Detective Division	County Ordinance	2	1
	Traffic	0	1
Detective Initiated Incidents	ICAC	8	14
	JESO	54	27
Assigned Investigations		66	60
Items Entered in Evidence System		1967	1137
Incidents of:	Domestic Abuse w/Arrest	42	51
	Sexual Assault	39	35
	Battery	42	36
	Burglary	27	10
	Theft	124	99
	Fraud:	108	90
	Fraud	33	28
	ID Theft	29	17
	Scam	46	45
	Worthless Checks	0	2
	Arson	0	0
	Robbery	1	1
	Missing Persons (Adults)	7	0
	Missing Persons (Juveniles)	11	19
	Death Investigations (non- traffic)	DET DIV 16 TOTAL 58	DET DIV 16 TOTAL 42
	Homicide (non-traffic) - including attempted	1	0
	Assist Other Police Agency	87	105
Criminal Damage to Property/Vandalism	73	65	



ANNUAL REPORT 2023 EVIDENCE OFFICER



In 2023, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office deputies submitted 1,128 items of property from 326 cases for entry into the evidence system. Items placed into evidence range in size from hairs and fibers to motor vehicles.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office currently has six (6) detectives who fill the role of evidence officers. Evidence officers maintain a casework load in addition to their evidence duties; therefore, the evidence room is only able to be maintained on a part-time basis. Four (4) evidence officers are assigned to maintain the evidence facilities at the Sheriff's Office and two (2) evidence officers are assigned to the Jefferson County Drug Task Force, maintaining the drug evidence. The Drug Task Force is involved in executing numerous search warrants, which typically involve the collection of large amounts of evidence that need to be catalogued and processed.

Evidence officers are responsible for maintaining the evidence rooms, transporting evidence to and from the State Crime Laboratory in Madison, and facilitating the chain of custody of evidence for court proceedings. The State Crime Lab in Madison is the primary laboratory used by the Sheriff's Office when evidence needs to be analyzed. Evidence officers also handle the disposition of items which no longer have any evidentiary value, including returning items to the owner, preparing items for auction, and destruction of items.

We currently have six (6) detectives trained as Evidence Technicians who can process items collected from crime scenes. On major scenes, Evidence Technicians will use their additional training to look for latent fingerprints, collect blood or other biological evidence, cast tool marks or footwear impressions, and document the evidence through photography and sketches.

Respectfully submitted

Vaughn L. Johnson, Detective Sergeant

Criminal Investigation Division

ANNUAL REPORT 2023 JEFFERSON COUNTY DRUG TASK FORCE

The Jefferson County Drug Task Force (JCDF) is a multi-jurisdictional agency comprised of local police departments including Fort Atkinson PD, Jefferson PD, Johnson Creek PD, Lake Mills PD, Palmyra PD, Town of Lake Mills PD, Town of Oakland PD, Waterloo PD, Watertown PD, the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office acts as the lead agency for the JCDF, providing two full time Detectives, a full time Administrative Assistant, and a Detective Sergeant, who acts

as the Project Director and oversees the day to day operations of the unit. Watertown PD and Fort Atkinson PD provide a full time Detective, and Jefferson PD provides an Officer for approximately a third of the year. The remaining agencies provide reimbursement wages for a part-time Jefferson County Sheriff's Deputies assigned to the unit.

The Task Force affiliates with Dodge County, Kenosha County, Racine County and Walworth County to form the South East Area Drug Operations Group, (S.E.A.D.O.G.). This merger came about at the request of the Office of Justice Assistance which monitors and distributes the Byrne Grant funds for the State of Wisconsin. The merger continues to enhance our operations by networking with these jurisdictions and sharing of information and resources.

The JCDTF continues to receive reimbursement for overtime hours accrued for investigations from the COPS Grants for the Anti-Heroin Task Force and for the Anti-Methamphetamine Task Force.

The JCDTF initiated and/or assisted with investigations of 451 controlled substance cases during 2023; search warrants were conducted in 15 of these investigations, including 2 GPS Warrants. The JCDTF were involved in the investigation of 6 overdose death investigations, assisted other agencies in 23 drug investigations and 3 search warrants. There were 114 investigations which resulted in 88 felony charges being filed and 158 misdemeanor charges being filed. During the course of these drug investigations, 7 firearms were seized. In addition, there were 89 county ordinance citations issued to individuals.

Throughout 2023 the following controlled substances were seized (measurements in gram quantities):

Crack Cocaine	107.38	Cocaine	9266.38
Heroin	--	Fentanyl	169.707
MDMA	19.6	Psilocybin	48.29
Morphine	--	Synthetic Marijuana	--
Methamphetamine	377.21	Marijuana	11802.22
LSD	--	Pills & Suboxone Strips	715.04 dosage units

In 2023, the JCDTF continued to investigate controlled substance dealing of controlled substance with dealers originating both from within and from outside Jefferson County. The JCDTF had an investigation in 2023 that led to the seizure on 8.5 kilos of cocaine and another joint investigation with two other agencies that led to the seizure of 141 kilos of cocaine.

The JCDTF has also continued its cooperation with Jefferson County Human Services to investigate cases of child neglect for children determined to be drug endangered, through the Child In Crisis program.

The Task Force continues to be proactive working with our communities to foster education, treatment and enforcement as it relates to controlled substance distribution and abuse. Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted

Daniel A. Horvatin, Detective Sergeant

Project Director, Jefferson County Drug Task Force



ANNUAL REPORT 2023 CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM

The Jefferson County Crisis Negotiator Team consists of one supervising officer, which typically is a sergeant, and nine (9) trained deputies. Due to multiple retirements during 2023, the Crisis Negotiator Team is still short a sergeant and five (5) deputies. The Crisis Negotiator Team will be looking to fill these vacancies throughout 2024 by individuals who have the ability to effectively communicate with individuals in crisis.

This unit has been in existence for over twenty (20) years and has assisted in numerous situations involving barricaded subjects, suicidal subjects and hostage situations. The Crisis Negotiator Team responds to call outs in conjunction with the Jefferson County SWAT team, upon request by local municipalities and other related situations.

New unit members attend a basic training program provided by the FBI or Wisconsin Department of Justice. The seasoned negotiators attend either the one-day spring or the three day fall Wisconsin Crisis Negotiators Association Conference. At times training is also held in conjunction with local and area SWAT teams.

The Crisis Negotiator Team averages about two or three call outs a year. In 2023, the Crisis Negotiation Team was placed on stand-by or activated on several occasions with most calls ending prior to a full team call-out.

Respectfully submitted

Captain Margo Gray

Jefferson County Crisis Negotiation Team

2023 ANNUAL REPORT JEFFERSON COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC.

The JCEC organization experienced an increase in our activity this year during our 58th year of service to Jefferson County, mainly due to planned events returning. We were requested at 23 emergencies and/or unscheduled events up from 16 emergencies in 2022. The Sheriff's Office pages JCEC for traffic control and detour assistance at vehicle crashes, structure fires and crime scenes. Traffic incidents are often times investigated by the Major Crash Team. Our volunteers keep the area safe for emergency responders during the initial stages of rendering

aid and deputies working at the scene well after the injured have been cared for. There have been several fire incidents requiring traffic management this year. We have been requested by various cities and municipalities of Jefferson County for events that are not normally on their schedule.

JCECs activity at planned events, such as traffic control at City Celebrations, Parades, Bicycle events, Marathons, Carnivals, Walks and Runs. This year, many events returned as Covid had eased restrictions

In an average year we provide 300-400 hours of volunteer service to the Jefferson County Fair in the form of fair goer assistance, security and traffic control. The Fair this year was back and JCEC was ready for the challenge.

Our Command post usually provides computer and communications equipment and a warm/cool environment to all of our law enforcement. We did upgrade our dispatch computer. Our Command post is available to be paged out for any emergencies 24/7/365

It is my honor to represent the dedicated volunteers of JCEC. I am grateful for the recognition and support that JCEC receives from the Sheriff and the members of the Law Enforcement community. We look forward to continuing our work with the deputies, officers, fire and medical responders who protect the citizens of Jefferson County.

Respectfully submitted

Michael Spangler, President

Jefferson County Emergency Communications, Inc.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

9-1-1 COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

The Jefferson County 9-1-1 Communications Center is part of the Patrol Division within the Sheriff's Office. The Communications Center is comprised of ten full-time, two part-time dispatchers and one IT/911 Technology Specialist. The center is staffed 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, with two or three dispatchers on duty with the ability to have up to six dispatchers working simultaneously during storms, special events and other peak periods when needed.



In our 9-1-1 Center all the dispatchers perform as the call-taker and dispatcher for all calls. The dispatchers are responsible for answering over 20 different phones lines, monitoring over 25 different radio channels including WISCOM (Wisconsin Interoperability System for Communications) which is Wisconsin's statewide radio system along with handling any walk-in people after hours. The 9-1-1 Center is responsible for answering all non-emergency (administrative calls), emergency (ex. calls from alarm companies), landline 9-1-1, and the Jefferson County 9-1-1 Center is the only 9-1-1 communications center in the county that answers all wireless (cell phone) 9-1-1 phone calls. All non-emergency and landline 9-1-1 calls from within the city limits of Watertown, Whitewater, and Fort Atkinson are answered by their respective 9-1-1 centers and any wireless 9-1-1 calls that are received at Sheriff's Office 9-1-1 Center and determined to be within the city limits are transferred to the respective 9-1-1 centers. Jefferson County is one of several answering points located throughout the state and nation for the National Warning System (NAWAS). This system is used to decimate notifications of natural and technology disasters/emergencies and gives our 9-1-1 Center a direct line of communications to the National Weather Service during severe weather and Wisconsin's State Warning Center. The 9-1-1 Center is responsible for dispatching 12 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) including 8 paramedic units, 15 Fire Departments that make up Division 118 of Wisconsin MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System), the County EMS MCI (Mass Casualty) Trailer, and over 20 different Law Enforcement Agencies. The dispatchers are also responsible for dispatching specialized teams within the Sheriff's Office such as the Major Accident Investigation Team (MAIT), SWAT Team, Dive Team, Jefferson County Emergency Communications Group and the Jefferson County Medical Examiner's Office.

In 2023, the 9-1-1 Center processed 70,404 calls for service. These calls for service are broken down as follows: 6,139 for Emergency Medical Services (EMS); 5,856 for fire (which includes controlled burns reported to the Sheriff's Office); 19,309 for local police departments and other law enforcement agencies, and 39,100 for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office alone.



In 2023, Jefferson County's 9-1-1 Center installed a new NextGen 9-1-1 phone system as part of their new dispatch center. The system was installed and went live around the beginning of October and because of when the cut-over took place historic numbers were not able to be retrieved from the old and new systems as various components were being installed.

The dispatchers have numerous other responsibilities during their shifts. Some of the other duties include entering and updating all warrants, restraining orders, and injunctions issued by the Jefferson County Circuit Courts and some municipal courts. The dispatchers enter these documents electronically into the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) Crime Information Bureau (CIB), the National Crime Information Center (NCIC/FBI), our Records Management System (in-house computer system referred to as CIS) databases and then file them within the 9-1-1 Center. Several dispatchers are trained by the Department of Justice and serve as validation officers who spend much of their shift double-checking the entries after they are entered for quality assurance along with performing monthly CIB and FBI validation checks on all the records to keep the information entered current and accurate. Several dispatchers are responsible for training new hires throughout our 15-week long process while others work with our Land Information Office to maintain accurate geographic files in our computer system and maintain the 9-1-1 database. Other dispatchers are responsible for maintaining our computerized 9-1-1 phone system, assisting with open records requests, insure the numerous open shifts in the schedule are covered, staff the Fair Command Post, participate in public

relations events in the community and take part in communications/emergency management exercises. The IT/911 Technology Specialist serves as the Sheriff's Office Information and 911 Technology Specialist, System Administrator for our in-house computer system and radio technician/administrator for the countywide radio system.

In December of 2022, Jefferson County was awarded a \$500,000 PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point) Grant from the State of Wisconsin, Department of Military Affairs to upgrade its 9-1-1 system and dispatch to a new NextGen 9-1-1 system. Along with the new 9-1-1 phone system the grant also helped fund much of our new dispatch center technology.

The dispatchers from the 9-1-1 Center are very fortunate to have the continued support of the Law Enforcement Committee, other county committees and especially the County Board. This ongoing support allows the 9-1-1 Center staff to provide the enhancements necessary to provide the highest level of service that your constituents in Jefferson County expect and deserve.



*Between the thin Red line and the thin Blue line lies a thin Gold line. This narrowest of lines represents those who are rarely seen but always heard. The calm voice in the dark; heroes behind the scenes; the golden glue that holds it all together:
9-1-1 Dispatchers*



Respectfully submitted

Todd Lindert, IT/911 Technology Specialist

2023 ANNUAL REPORT PATROL DIVISION

The Jefferson County Patrol Division is comprised of 41 members: One captain, six sergeants, 32 deputies, one mechanic, and one secretary. In addition to patrol, this division has several specialized units. These specialized units include Special Weapons and Tactics (S.W.A.T.) Team, Dive Recovery Team, Boat Patrol, Snowmobile Patrol, Motorcycle Patrol, K-9-unit, Crash Investigation Team (C.I.T.), Truck Enforcement, Traffic Safety, Drone Team and Animal Control Officers.

In 2023, the Sheriff's office partnered with the Jefferson and Watertown Police Departments on a Speed Enforcement Grant that was awarded by Wisconsin Bureau of Transportation Safety (BOTS). This year the grant was expanded to include all roads in Jefferson County, not just the STH 26 corridor.

The grant focuses on traffic safety. A total of 597 hours was dedicated to patrolling our roadways in an effort to keep the public safe. The speed task force conducted 818 traffic stops. A total of 331 warnings were issued for traffic/equipment violations. 558 citations were issued with 411 of those for speed. We feel that because we have a strong partnership with local municipalities and BOTS, our efforts have led to more compliance of traffic laws and in turn safer roadways. The agencies met their goal of conducting a traffic stop every 45 minutes while working the grant.

The Patrol Division continued to work at less than full staff for the year. We were able to assist the jail with some open shifts and participated in a variety of specialty events and assignments

for the public. Transfers from the patrol division, promotions, and retirements within the patrol division resulted in several deputies transferring to patrol from the jail division. As with other years, we continue to see our more senior deputies retiring, causing the patrol division to see a new generation of patrol officers. This is expected to occur for the next few years.

This past year we were able to fully implement our take home squad program for our Patrol Deputies. These Deputies are assigned the same squad every day and we anticipate them keeping the squads for 6-7 years. This has proven to save the agency money in a variety of ways. We have seen vehicle manufactures change the style of their vehicles every year over the past 5 years. These changes cause us to only be able to use the added equipment for that squad car for that year. We can't take equipment out of a high mileage squad car and put it into another model year because it won't fit properly. By not having Deputies share a squad we are able to keep the miles lower per year and in turn we keep the cars for 6-7 years instead of only 2 years.

We also have seen that we are able to help the public faster due to our Deputies starting and ending their shifts from different parts of the county. Before, every squad would start and end their shift in Jefferson. Now they are starting and ending their shifts in Ixonia, Watertown, Rome, Fort Atkinson, Lake Mills and other municipalities. Our response times are faster and overtime has been cut down because calls are being handled by these Deputies in the areas that they are starting or ending from. We have gotten many compliments on our response times to incidents based on the fact our squads are spread out within the county.

We remind drivers to move over and slow down when they see an emergency vehicle on the side of the roadway.

Respectfully submitted
Travis Maze, Captain
Patrol Division

TRAFFIC ARRESTS 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

ALCOHOL VIOLATIONS.....	19
ANIMAL VIOLATIONS.....	4
DNR VIOLATIONS.....	4
REGISTRATION VIOLATIONS.....	197
OPERATOR'S LICENSE VIOLATIONS.....	1456
INSURANCE VIOLATIONS.....	722
FAILURE TO OBEY OFFICER-SIGN/SIGNAL	37
OPERATING LEFT OF CENTER LINE.....	21
ILLEGAL PASSING/UNSAFE LANE DEVIATION	68
FOLLOW TOO CLOSE.....	9

FAILURE TO YIELD RIGHT OF WAY.....	35
UNSAFE TURN.....	6
VIOLATION OF TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL	5
FAILURE TO STOP/IMPROPER STOP AT STOP SIGN.....	71
SCHOOL BUS VIOLATIONS.....	8
PARKING VIOLATIONS.....	17
FAILURE TO KEEP VEHICLE UNDER CONTROL/TOO FAST FOR CONDITIONS/RECKLESS DRIVING	116
SPEED LIMIT VIOLATIONS	1227
OPERATING UNDER INFLUENCE OF INTOXICANTS	108
OPERATING WITH A PROHIBITED ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION.....	82
HIT & RUN/FAILURE TO NOTIFY POLICE OF ACCIDENT	41
INATTENTIVE DRIVING.....	27
INTOXICANTS IN VEHICLE VIOLATIONS	32
EQUIPMENT VIOLATIONS.....	77
SEATBELT VIOLATIONS.....	157
TRUCK ENFORCEMENT.....	15
COUNTY ORDINANCES.....	168
EXCESSIVE WINDOW TINT/ILLEGAL MATERIALS ON WINDSHIELD.....	47

Respectfully submitted

Brenda Nitardy, Patrol Secretary

PATROL DIVISION STATISTICS 2023 ACTIVITY REPORT

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION/REPORT MADE.....	911
WARRANT ATTEMPTS	563
FAMILY DISTURBANCES	286
TRANSPORTS/PERSONS.....	769
MOTORIST ASSISTS	1394
CRIMINAL TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS REQUESTED	301
TRAFFIC CITATIONS.....	4561
COUNTY ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS/DNR CITATIONS.....	226

REPAIR NOTICES/TRAFFIC WARNINGS	8927
COMPLAINT OF AUTO THEFT	27
MISSING PERSONS REPORTED/REPORTS MADE	35
PARK CHECKS	2182
RESIDENCE CHECKS REQUESTED.....	15

Respectfully submitted
Brenda Nitardy, Patrol Secretary

PATROL DIVISION REVENUES FOR 2023

JANUARY	\$26,084.90
FEBRUARY	\$29,494.92
MARCH	\$25,199.90
APRIL	\$28,344.15
MAY	\$28,609.72
JUNE	\$24,749.49
JULY	\$26,620.41
AUGUST	\$26,925.90
SEPTEMBER	\$24,629.59
OCTOBER	\$25,101.00
NOVEMBER	\$21,599.22
DECEMBER	\$18,832.30
GRAND TOTALS	\$306,191.50

2023 ANNUAL REPORT FLEET

In 2023, the Sheriff’s Office implemented a take home squad car program which gives all of our Patrol Deputies the option of maintaining a take home squad car. This was the culmination of several years of research, planning, and budgeting.

One of the benefits of a take home squad car is reduced response times to calls for service. Deputies are now able to respond directly to calls at the beginning of their shift. Prior to the take home squad program, Deputies would start their shift by coming to the Sheriff’s Office, check out all of their equipment, and then check out a squad car. This was a process that would take roughly 30 minutes. Similarly, at the end of their shift, Deputies would spend

another 20 or so minutes returning all of their equipment and preparing the squad car for the next shift. Deputies are now able to spend that time patrolling their areas and responding to calls for service.

Another benefit of take-home squad car is significantly reduced maintenance costs. Multiple Deputies used to share squad cars. This meant that some of our squad cars were running for 24 hours a day, multiple times per week. Having one Deputy assigned to each squad cars means fewer miles, fewer engine hours, and an extended squad car life. We are now able to get a squad car to last six years, as opposed to the two years were getting out of squad cars that were shared by multiple deputies.

In addition to reduced maintenance costs, we will also see reduced costs related to the technology in the squad cars. Just how we can now get a squad car to last six years, we can also get all of the technology equipment in the squad cars to last six years. This includes but is not limited to the computer, dashboard camera, internet modem and router, printer, and ID card scanner.

The Sheriff's Office logged approximately 1,000,000 miles between the Patrol, Transport, and Administrative Divisions. The average price per gallon of unleaded fuel was \$2.83.

Respectfully submitted
Jared Brandenburg, Sergeant
Fleet Supervisor

2023 ANNUAL REPORT TRAFFIC SAFETY STATISTICS

A total of 909 traffic crashes were handled by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office in 2023, an increase of 32 crashes from 2022. Of those, there were 127 injury crashes which is an increase of 5 crashes from 2022. There were 57 Hit and Run crashes, an increase of 3 total Hit and Run crashes from 2022. Of the 909 crashes, 370 were from striking deer, this is an increase of 37 crashes from 2022 with 6 resulting in injury an increase of 3 from 2022. A total of 166 persons were injured, which is 11 less injured persons than in 2022. Out of all of the crash's alcohol was a factor in 29 of them.

In 2023 there were 6 traffic crashes which resulted in 7 fatalities in Jefferson County. This is the same number of crashes with the 1 more fatality than in 2022:

Respectfully submitted
Robert Scheinkoenig, Sergeant
Patrol Division

2023 ANNUAL REPORT OPERATING WHILE INTOXICATED STATISTICS

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office has worked diligently in traffic enforcement and especially Operating While Intoxicated Arrests. All Patrol Deputies are certified in Standardized Field Sobriety Testing and 11 of 20 current Patrol Deputies have received Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) which is an additional training to detect those operating under the influence of something other than alcohol.

This enforcement has led to the arrest of 109 individuals; 100 males and 24 females with an average age of 38 years old. Friday nights into Sunday morning were again the peak time of those arrests. The average Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) was 0.166 milligrams per 100 milliliters of blood. The presumptive intoxication level is 0.08 in the State of Wisconsin. 33 of the arrests were the result of crashes and 29 individuals refused to submit to the testing. A person's refusal, dependent on how many prior offenses, may still end with a submission of their blood with a search warrant.

Illicit drug use and driving continue to be a problem in Jefferson County. Arrests for drugged driving have shown driver's using Fentanyl, Marijuana, Cocaine, Benzodiazepine, Subutex, Methamphetamine, and Phenobarbital. We are currently awaiting the results of 7 drugged driving arrests for a total of 12 arrests for Operating with a Restricted Controlled Substance. It does take a while for the State Labs to complete the testing for drugs.

Many Operating While Intoxicated arrests also show that there are also drugs involved. The State Labs test for drugs on subjects arrested for OWI that were involved in a crash even if alcohol is only suspected.

Respectfully submitted
Sgt Robert Scheinkoenig, Sergeant
Patrol Division

2023 ANNUAL REPORT CROWD CONTROL



The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office continues to participate in a multijurisdictional effort of maintaining a group of Officers trained in crowd control and disbursement. This team has members from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Watertown Police Department, Waterloo Police Department, Lake Mills Police Department, Jefferson Police Department, and Fort Atkinson Police Department.

The Sheriff's Office portion of the team consists of 10 members, outfitted with riot gear as well as a variety of other tools utilized to control or disburse unruly groups of people that are intending upon causing injury or property damage. The Sheriff's Office did help support the City of Whitewater for the 2023 Spring Splash event that occurred in their city.

Thankfully, there were no callouts to incidents of civil unrest in 2023.

Respectfully submitted

Travis Maze, Captain

Patrol Division

2023 ANNUAL REPORT CRASH INVESTIGATION TEAM

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Crash Investigation Team is comprised of a sergeant, four deputies, and two detectives. The team members receive extensive training in vehicle dynamics, crash investigation, crash reconstruction, photogrammetry, and computer aided drawing. When a crash with fatalities, serious injury, or major criminal charges occurs, members of the team respond to assist with the investigation, preservation, and documentation of the scene. The Crash Investigation Team will also assist other jurisdictions within Jefferson County with major crashes. In 2023, the team was called to investigate 7 crashes within Jefferson County. The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office continues to upgrade its equipment



and technology to maintain industry standards in the crash investigation field. In addition, the Crash Investigation Team trains on a regular basis to ensure the members remain proficient with their specialized skills. The team regularly sets up mock crash scenes to train new team members and improve our practices. In 2023, we obtained a GNSS system, which uses satellite positioning to quickly and accurately map scenes. Our goal is to conduct thorough and timely investigations, with respect to victims, families, and the public that we serve.

Respectfully submitted

Ryan Viney, Detective

Crash Investigation Team Leader

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

FIREARMS TRAINING

In 2023, the Sheriff's Office was able to conduct in-service training to maintain proficiency in the weapon systems that our staff uses.

We continue to have our Firearms Program focus on decision making. We train our Deputies to use less lethal options to resolve a situation with the use of their firearms as a last resort. We teach them to escalate their level of force only to the level that gains compliance and then de-escalate as soon as possible. It has always been the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office philosophy to use the least amount of force necessary to control a situation. We were able to equip all of our squads with less lethal shotguns to give our Deputies another less lethal option at all times.

Deputies received training in all aspects of the use of their handguns, less lethal shotguns, and rifle; including close combat training, barricade shooting, seeking cover, shooting while moving, prone shooting, one handed shooting, night and dim light shooting, and practice in drawing their weapons and shooting accurately at moving targets.

We were able to train more with live ammunition than in years past. We also continue to utilize live scenario training using inert training weapons. We were able to build an inert training structure to help train specific techniques like room clearing and barricaded suspects. This real-life training using the inert training weapons and structure is extremely beneficial to our Deputies. Based on the results we saw, we plan on moving forward with more of this type of training instead of just static line live fire shooting.

As we are doing our training with firearms, we also train our Deputies to go through follow-up and first aid care. We view the use of a firearm as a last resort, but also feel it very necessary to train our Deputies on what is expected of them after the use of their firearm.

Respectfully submitted
Travis Maze, Captain
Firearms Instructor

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

UAS- DRONE TEAM

The Drone program began back in 2018. The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office was able to purchase (3) Drones to start the program. The Sheriff's Office currently has 10 Part 107 certified Pilots. The program is operating (2)- DJI Mavic Enterprise Duals. Both these Drones are equipped with FLIR. FLIR is a Thermal vision camera that is able to detect heat signatures in objects on the ground, whether it's a person or animal. (1) DJI Mavic Pro 2, (1) DJI Mini-Mavic, and a (1) DJI Tello. The program received a donation from the Schopen Foundation to help fund a Drone and equipment.

In 2023 we were able to purchase a DJI M30T with Flir. This new drone has a 41-minute battery life, which allows us significant more time in the air. It also has an enhanced camera with zoom that will help us determine what an object is on the ground from the sky that includes a distance measuring device.

The Drone was deployed numerous times in 2023. Several missions were to locate possible suicidal subjects out in a wooded area or large fields.

Drones are being used more and more in Public Safety. We are able to deploy these UAS without putting Officers in harm's way. Here are some of the other uses the Drone Team provides.

USE OF UAS: The UAS will be operated within the guidelines provided by the FAA. Only authorized operators who have completed the required office or FAA training shall be permitted to operate the UAS.

A UAS may generally be used in the following circumstances (Wis. Stat. 175.55):

- In a public place or on private property with consent or search warrant.
- To assist in an active search and rescue operation.
- To located an escaped prisoner.
- To surveil a place or location for the purpose of executing an arrest warrant.
- When there is reasonable suspicion to believe that the use of the UAS is necessary to prevent imminent danger to an individual or to prevent the imminent destruction of evidence.

Other acceptable uses of the drone shall include but are not limited to:

- Mutual aid requests- Mutual aid requests will be evaluated and approved by Sheriff or designee on a case by case basis so long as the requests are within the guidelines set forth in this policy and applicable Wisconsin state laws.
- Natural disaster assessment
- Response to hazardous material spills (e.g. train derailment, tanker truck accident, chemical plant)
- Crowd monitoring operations
- Special response team operations (e.g. SWAT, Civil Unrest Team)
- Criminal Investigations – Caution should be used when using drone's for criminal investigations. Search warrants must be obtained under certain circumstances as required by Wisconsin state law.

- Collection of photographic and video evidence of public spaces for significant crimes (e.g. homicides, robberies, etc.)
- Search for evidence or contraband in public areas that may have been discarded by a fleeing fugitive after significant crime
- Training exercises
- Significant vehicle crash investigations on public highways
- Barricaded persons
- In tactical operations under exigent circumstance

Respectfully submitted
 Michael Cherti, Sergeant
 Patrol Division

2023 ANNUAL REPORT K-9 UNIT

**K9 Balko – Deputy Scott Gukich
 K9 Gader -- Deputy Greg Jansen
 K9 Ruben – Sergeant Kyle VandeZande
 K9 Butch – Sergeant Dylan Agnew**

The K-9 unit continues to be a highly utilized and important specialty unit within the Sheriff's Office. The teams are specially trained to perform drug searches, person tracking, building searches, and area searches, but are also used in other areas, such as to prevent the escape of suspects. The teams maintain their proficiency in these areas through monthly training, working conferences, and the annual certification process through NAPWDA (North American Police Work Dog Association)

The K-9 unit was used 173 times in 2023. Our K9's were instrumental in locating suspects fleeing from vehicles, locating burglary suspects hiding inside buildings, and of course numerous incidents of locating illegal controlled substances on traffic stops and search warrants. The best drug seizure was by Deputy Gukich and K9 Balko which yielded 2.5g of marijuana, 393g of cocaine, and over \$25,000 in cash.

Our K-9 Unit continues to be a top hit when it comes to public engagement, and much of the funding required to maintain this unit comes from generous donations from the public.

Respectfully submitted
 Kyle VandeZande, Sergeant
 Patrol Division, K-9 Unit

Ruben



Balko

Gader



Butch



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

JEFFERSON COUNTY FAIR

The 2023 Jefferson County Fair was held on July 12th through July 16th. The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office works with Jefferson EMS and volunteers from the Jefferson County Emergency Communications organization to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone at the fair.

Sheriff's Office personnel worked a total of 556 hours during this year's fair to handle incidents, offer assistance, provide security and perform demonstrations. Deputies working the fair provide many types of services and aid, as well as handle a variety of complaints, most of which are lost or missing children/adults, parking violations, disorderly conduct and alcohol related incidents.

The Sheriff's Office was once again invited to share space in the centrally located tent sponsored by Fort HealthCare. Deputies were able to interact with the community, answer questions, promote positive experiences with law enforcement and actively recruit for our agency. Specialty unit equipment from the Motorcycle Unit, Recreational Safety Patrol, SWAT Team and Dive Team was also on display and daily K-9 Unit demonstrations drew in many interested fairgoers. The dunk tank was back as well and our volunteers willing to get dunked raised money and accepted donations for the Fort Atkinson Food Pantry.

Respectfully submitted
Tim Steinbach, Sergeant
Patrol Division



WATER SAFETY PATROL ANNUAL REPORT 2023

2023 was a difficult year for the Jefferson County Water Safety Patrol. Unfortunately, several critical members of the Water Safety Patrol retired prior to the season beginning. There was also many regular over-time shifts for the Departments primary duties that made it difficult to staff and operate the Water Safety Patrol. 2024 looks to be a much more promising season as new Deputies are being added to the team thus making it possible to have more of a presence on the Jefferson County Waterways. The Jefferson County Water Safety Patrol looks forward to working with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources enforcing Boating laws and regulations. In the past the Water Safety Patrol has been very visible enforcing Boating Laws as well as being a positive presence keeping people safe on Jefferson County waterways. We look forward into continuing this into the next Boating Season.

Respectfully submitted
Matthew Kanters, Sergeant
Water Safety Patrol Supervisor

2023 ANNUAL REPORT COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES Deputy Brian Severson

In 2023, The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspector team consisted of one federally certified Inspector.

Inspectors are required to conduct a minimum of 32 "level 1" inspections, which is an in-depth look into the compliance of a CMV driver's licensing and hours of service, as well as compliance of the CMV equipment itself. Throughout the course of those inspections, CMV Inspectors keep a watchful eye out for specific safety violations that place a CMV out of service until the violation can be corrected. Due to the inherent danger of such large and powerful vehicles operating in and around traffic, their efforts take the safety of the general motoring public in the highest regard.



The final duty of the CMV Inspector is to conduct post-crash investigations, in order to determine whether or not the CMV operator or condition of the CMV itself played any role in the occurrence of the crash, as well as to prevent help frivolous lawsuits against CMV operators or owners. This investigative tool is dual purpose for the Sheriff's Office, as the remaining Inspector has previous experience on the major crash investigation team.

Respectfully submitted
Jason Behm, Sergeant
Patrol Division



2023 ANNUAL REPORT UNDERWATER INVESTIGATION AND RECOVERY TEAM

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Underwater Investigation and Recovery (Dive) Team is comprised of 10 members of varying certifications, from basic open water diver up to instructor. Public safety diving is a low frequency, high risk endeavor which is both physically and mentally demanding. Dive Team members are expected to conduct operations in a variety of environments, situations and weather conditions to recover bodies, evidence and vehicles from various bodies of water.

This year saw several long tenured and highly experienced members retire from the team and the addition of new members to fill those vacancies. Team members train monthly to maintain their skills and efficiency utilizing area lakes and rivers. This year, a large portion of training time was devoted to bringing the newest members up to speed on dive team operations and beginning the training for their diving certifications.

It takes a lot of time, dedication and training to become a public safety diver and having team members willing and available to accomplish our goals is of great benefit to the Sheriff's Office and the community.

Respectfully submitted
Tim Steinbach, Sergeant
Patrol Division

2023 ANNUAL REPORT MOTORCYCLE UNIT

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Motorcycle Unit currently staffs three members operating two 2014 Harley-Davidson Police Motorcycles. The number of members in the unit significantly declined in the past several years due to retirements but the Sheriff's Office was able to select and train one new member in 2023 and we anticipate selecting another in 2024. Police motorcycle unit operators are required to attend an intensive two-week training course which focuses on precision motorcycle control, slow and high-speed maneuvering, high speed braking, formation riding, escort duties and traffic enforcement. After operators are certified, they attend a three-day in-service training each spring to restore and strengthen motorcycle training and riding skills that may have diminished from not riding over the winter season.



Staffing constraints hindered the amount of time spent utilizing the Motorcycle Unit but it was used during traffic safety grants and members also participated in several escorts and public relations events throughout the year. The Motorcycle Unit was utilized for 77 hours and logged 989.5 miles. 56 traffic stops were conducted resulting in 42 citations and 37 warnings.

The Motorcycle Unit provides a distinctive supplement to traffic enforcement and also affords a unique opportunity for positive interaction with the citizens of Jefferson County.

Respectfully submitted
Tim Steinbach, Sergeant
Patrol Division

2023 ANNUAL REPORT SNOWMOBILE PATROL

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Snowmobile Patrol is supported by the Jefferson County Snowmobile Alliance and the Department of Natural Resources. Equipment is depreciated through the DNR to recoup the costs. A year-end report is submitted to the Department of Natural Resources after each snowmobile season. We then receive reimbursement for a portion of the cost to operate the snowmobile patrol.

There were very few days that the weather cooperated this year. Due to the lack of snow, the trails were closed most of the season. As always, we urge operators to stay on trails and observe all other rules and regulations in order to make snowmobiling safe and fun for all.

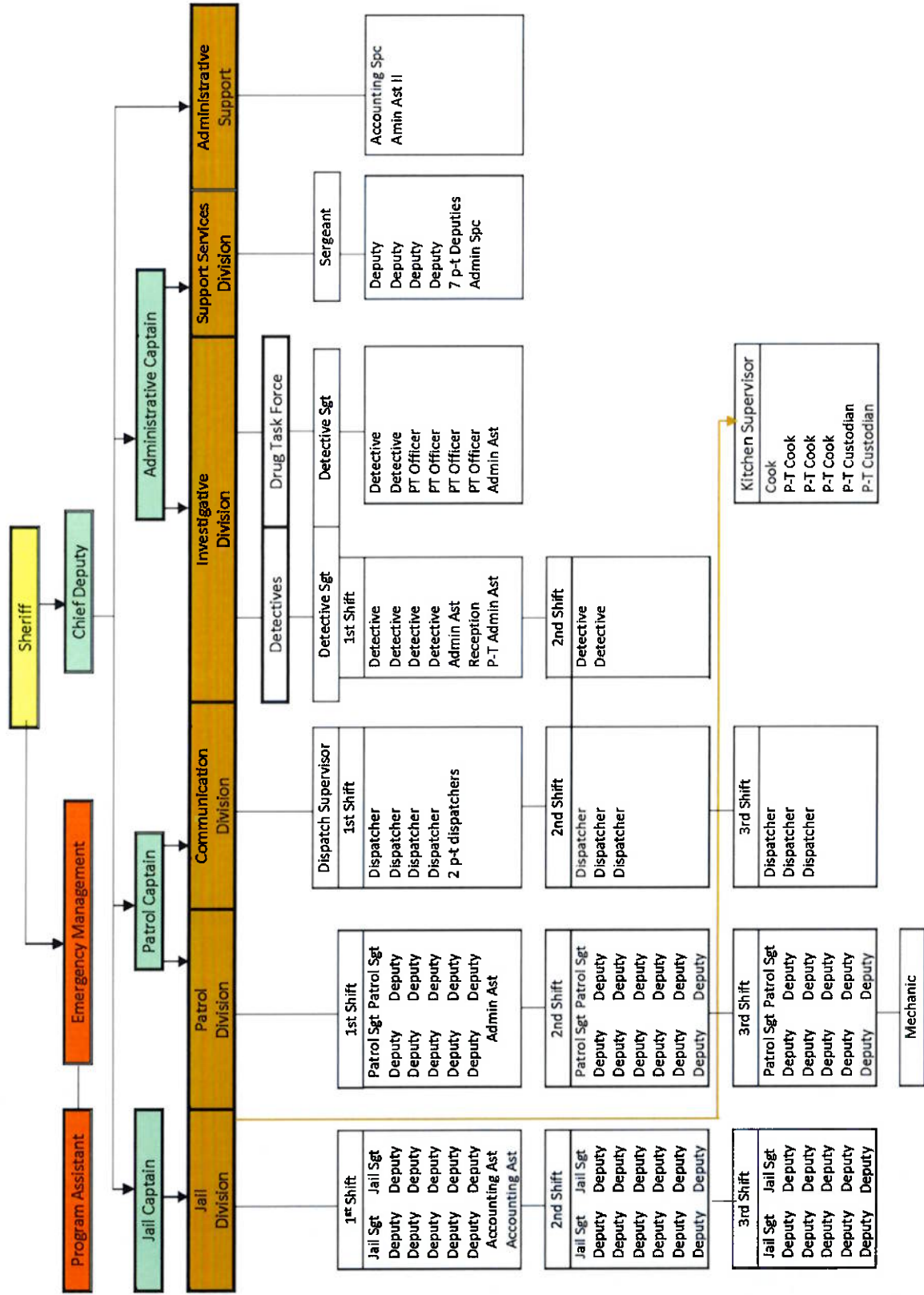
Respectfully submitted
Matthew Kanters, Sergeant
Jefferson County Snowmobile Patrol

2023 ANNUAL REPORT SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS TEAM

In 2023, the Jefferson County Special Weapons and Tactics Team was not utilized to respond to any immediate emergencies that required their assistance. The team did participate in planned search warrants in an effort to assist other agencies within the county. The team continues to add new members due to retirements occurring. In 2024, the unit anticipates send 3-4 new operators to basic squad trainings to enhance their skills.

Trainings are planned monthly to include live ranges, scenario-based trainings, work with robots, and specialty cameras. Off-site training is planned in 2024 in an attempt to experience different training environments.

Respectfully submitted
Travis Maze, Captain
SWAT Commander



2023 FULL-TIME SWORN OFFICERS

Sheriff Paul S. Milbrath

Chief Deputy Donald C. Hunter – Undersheriff Kevin F. Stapleton
Captain Brian Olson, Captain Margareta Gray, Captain Travis Maze

(Patrol) Jason Behm, Rob Scheinkoenig, Ole Olson, Chad Handrow, Michael Cherti, Timothy Steinbach, Cory Crose, Jared Brandenburg; (Detective) Dan Horvatin, Vaughn Johnson; (Jail) Kevin Brost, Eli Wiedenfeld, Chad Roberts, Amy Heggie, Heather Novotny, Jonathan Olszewski Adam Altreuter; (Support Services) Matthew Kanters

Sheriff Department Deputies as follows:

Scott Gukich	Jared Brandenburg	Tanner Schroeder
Teri Wegner	Samuel Pennington	Jared Mejia
Kevin Kellogg	Ryan Viney	Parker Gilson
Leah Meyer	Dylan Agnew	Tristan Taft
Gregory Jansen	Daniel Heinrich	Dale Broughton
William Dandoy	Katie Ritzman	Abraham Schlueter
Gary Curtis	Cory Crose	Samantha Felde
Duane Amacher	Ryan Stapleton	Saul Estrada
Paul Schultz	Nicholas Olszewski	Dominic Cavadias
Scott Yambor	Thianna Bergholz	Jeremiah Pleester
Scott Bondurant	Logan Dahnert	Trent Davis
Heather Larson	Jarred Gonzalez	Nicklaus Nandory
Dale Punzel	Ehrin Eisenberg	Hunter Laufenberg
Kevin Doebereiner	Brian Severson	Hailey Brodhagen
Peter Betanski	Adam Altreuter	Trent Davis
Thomas Klemke	Jonathan Olszewski	Christopher Rueth
Bradley Riesen	Jennifer Dutcher	Dyllon Palmer
Donald Petig, Jr.	Michael Priebusch	Coleman Moore
Heather Novotny	Nicholas Brietenfeldt	Sean Brazgel
Ryan McIntyre	Dylan Strese	Joseph Miller
Adam Kleist	Zachary Koch	Kevin Hernandez
Eric Heine	Jacob Danner	Alan Myelle
William Johnson	Michael Zuehlke	Craig Corder
Kyle VandeZande	Ashley Nedanovski	Nicholas Borchardt
Patrick Farley		

2023 PART-TIME SWORN OFFICERS

Deputy Robert Meyer
Deputy Gary Steinhorst
Deputy Brandon Streng
Deputy Rahn Smith

Deputy Lori Hogan
Deputy Eric Grady
Deputy Jason Hacht

Deputy Jerry Haferman
Deputy Michael Williams
Deputy Amber Horstmeyer

NON-SWORN FULL-TIME SUPPORT STAFF

Megan Wegner – Confidential Secretary
Karen Schmidt – Account Clerk
Megan Wegner – Records Clerk
Mindi Rue – Task Force Secretary
Brenda Nitardy – Patrol Secretary
Julie Noll – Detective Secretary
Lynn Enke – Process Clerk
Crystal Griffin – Clerk Typist / Jail
Rebecca Miller – Clerk Typist / Jail
Rebecca Powell – Receptionist / Secretary

NON-SWORN DISPATCHERS FULL-TIME

PART-TIME

TODD LINDERT – COMMUNICATIONS SUPERVISOR

Carol Verhalen
Denise Nyberg
Rachel Schloesser
Gary Schuett
Megan Gile
Natalie Veale
Sarah Baker
Tiffany Cole
Kourtney Huppert
Breanna Pape
Robert Krueger

Brenda Nitardy (when needed)

NON-SWORN KITCHEN FULL-TIME

PART-TIME

BRIAN NESTHUS - KITCHEN SUPERVISOR

Lisa Schlesner

Courtney Ulrich
Amanda Bowers
Bonnie Wetzel

CUSTODIANS:

Cheryl Drays
Yadira Cruz Reverol

FULL-TIME MECHANIC

Steven Schoenherr

SHERIFF'S COMMITTEES 2023

LAW ENFORCEMENT/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Dwayne Morris, Chairman

David Drayna, Vice Chair

Mary Roberts

Brandon White

Karl Zarling

SHERIFF'S CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONERS

Christine Spangler, Chairman

William Gaugert, Vice Chair

Kevin Purcell

Carl Jaeger

Lyle Wuestenberg

JEFFERSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Office of the Sheriff of Jefferson County is to promote a criminal justice system that balances the protection of life, liberty and property of the community with the rights and privileges of the individual; to protect and perform our sworn duty to uphold the Constitution of the United States of America, the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin, Ordinances of Jefferson County and the Law Enforcement Officers' Code of Ethics; to insure the Constitutional and statutory duties of the Sheriff are properly administered; and to make choices that are consistent with our pursuit to fashion a credible, professional law enforcement agency, engraving the mark of excellence upon all acts and decisions.

Office of the Sheriff - Jefferson County



411 S. Center Avenue Jefferson,
Wisconsin 53549-1703

Paul S. Milbrath, Sheriff

Donald C. Hunter, Chief Deputy

Brian Olson
Administrative Captain

* Travis Maze
Patrol Captain

* Margareta Gray
Jail Captain

WAIVER OF LIABILITY

In consideration for being permitted to accompany officers and employees of the Jefferson County, Wisconsin, Sheriff's Office in pursuit of their duties, to include: Patrol, Jail, Civil Process, Detective, Communications and the Jefferson County Metro Drug Enforcement Unit, I hereby **WAIVE** claims against and **RELEASE** the County of Jefferson, Wisconsin, and its agents or employees, for any injuries incurred by me as a consequence of being transported, or being in Sheriff's Office vehicles, or in the company of Sheriff's Office deputies and/or employees in the different divisions. I do further covenant and agree to indemnify the County of Jefferson, its agents, employees, personal representatives and assigns, and to consider each of them harmless against any and all loss from all claims that may be brought against them as a consequence of the said activity.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Witness: _____ Place: _____

Requested Date and Time: _____

PRINT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: *

Name: _____
 first name middle initial last name

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Phone: _____

Date of birth: _____

APPROVAL:

PAUL S. MILBRATH, SHERIFF

** Please briefly explain the reason for the ride along on the back of this form.*

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

_____	Date	&	_____	Time of ride along
_____	Date	&	_____	Time of ride along
_____	Date	&	_____	Time of ride along
_____	Date	&	_____	Time of ride along
_____	Date	&	_____	Time of ride along

Date: _____

Reason: _____

Date: _____

Reason: _____

Date: _____

Reason: _____

Date: _____

Reason: _____

Date: _____

Reason: _____

“There are five important things for living a successful and fulfilling life: never stop dreaming, never stop believing, never give up, never stop trying, and never stop learning.”



Roy T. Bennett

Office of the Sheriff

411 S. Center Ave.

Jefferson, WI 53549-1703