



# **Jefferson County Sheriff's Office**



## **Annual Report 2024**

**Travis W. Maze, Sheriff**



# Office of the Sheriff - Jefferson County

411 S. Center Avenue, Jefferson, WI 53549

Travis W. Maze, Sheriff



Jerry A. Haferman  
Undersheriff

CHAD ROBERTS ★  
JAIL CAPTAIN

MATTHEW KANTERS ★  
PATROL CAPTAIN

Donald C. Hunter  
Chief Deputy

MARGARETA GRAY  
ADMINISTRATIVE CAPTAIN



May 21, 2025

The Honorable Jefferson County Board Chair, Steve Nass  
Members of the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors  
Citizens of Jefferson County

Enclosed, you will find the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office annual report for 2024. As you read through the report, please do not hesitate to reach out to our Administration if you have any questions regarding the information you are reading.

I feel the most appropriate way to start off my first annual report is to acknowledge retired Sheriff Paul Milbrath for his dedication to the citizens of Jefferson County for nearly 44 years. For 22 of those years, he held the position of your Sheriff. He has been a mentor of mine for the past 26 years at the agency and continues to provide me with guidance as I closeout my first year of being your Sheriff. Having his support moving forward is something that I value very highly and a relationship I will continue in the future.

In August of 2024 I became your Sheriff, and I wanted to address the staffing shortage that we had found ourselves in for many years. In cooperation with Corporation Counsel, the County Administrator, and several county committees, we were able to evaluate our hiring process and make some changes. I'm proud to tell you that those changes resulted in us hiring 22 Deputies as of May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Currently we are only 6 Deputies short, which is the lowest that we have been in nearly 5 years. This is directly correlated to our partnership with other county departments, the tremendous dedication of our staff, and the Supervisors of Jefferson County supporting our vision.

In 2024 the Sheriff's Office and Jail completed the renovation project that started back in 2022. Through it all, our staff showed professionalism, patience, and a strong desire to serve the citizens of Jefferson County. The tremendous gratitude that I have for our staff cannot be put into words. They were all amazing during the project. The environment was especially tough for our Jail staff, who still operated a Jail during the construction project.

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: Jefferson County (800) 675-7310 ★ [www.jeffersoncountywisc.gov/departments/sheriff/index.php](http://www.jeffersoncountywisc.gov/departments/sheriff/index.php)

*To serve the citizens of Jefferson County with Respect, Integrity, Teamwork, and Accountability*



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As you read through the annual report you will see a lot of new names of supervisors attached to those reports. In 2024 we promoted 2 Detectives, 5 Sergeants, and a new Jail Administrator/Captain in early 2025. We continued to see several retirements in our supervisory ranks, as we did in years past, and held numerous promotional processes. It was nice to see several of our staff participating in these processes.

We continue to partner with local municipalities in traffic grants to make our roadways as safe as possible. The funds allocated to us are used to deploy several Deputies and Officers at one time. This is done to gain compliance from the public regarding traffic violations and in turn provide a safer environment for all motorists that use our roadways.

As always, there is a ride along form attached to the back of our annual report. If you would like to ride with a Patrol Deputy, watch a Jail Deputy book in someone, or see the Dispatch area and the types of calls they handle, please fill out the form and schedule a time to see your Sheriff's Office.

In 2024 the Sheriff's Office was under budget roughly \$1.9 million. This was due to all the openings that our Office had from a personnel standpoint. Our staff was required to work mandatory overtime to cover the open shifts. In 2025 my goal is to not have our staff work as much overtime due to an increase in our staffing levels.

Sincerely,

Travis Maze  
Sheriff

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

## **2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

### **SHERIFF'S REPORT**

Extraditions and Transport Reports .....	1-2
--	-----

### **COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION**

Jefferson County Emergency Communications Report .....	3-4
Communications Center Report .....	5-6

### **DETECTIVE DIVISION**

Detective Division Report .....	7-8
Detective Division Activity Report .....	9
Evidence Officers Report .....	10
Jefferson County Drug Task Force Report .....	11-12
Crisis Negotiation Teams .....	13

### **PATROL DIVISION**

Patrol Division Report .....	14
Traffic Arrests/ Patrol Division Statistics/ Patrol Division Revenues .....	15-16
Traffic Safety Statistics/ Operating While Intoxicated Statistics Report .....	17
County Fair Report .....	18
Squad Report/ Crowd Control Report .....	19
K-9 Unit Report .....	20-24
Underwater Investigation and Recovery Report .....	25
Crash Team Report .....	26
CMV Enforcement Report/ Special Weapons and Tactics Team Report .....	27
Water Safety Patrol .....	28
Drone Team Report .....	29-30
Snowmobile Patrol Report .....	31
Firearms Training Report .....	32
Motorcycle Patrol Report .....	33

### **SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION**

Civil Process Report .....	34
Support Services Report .....	35

### **JAIL DIVISION**

Jail Division Report .....	36-37
Population/ Statistics-Inmate Bookings/ Jail Offenses .....	38-40
Jail Foodservice Report .....	41-42
Jail Huber .....	43
Jail Ministry Report .....	44

### **SHERIFF'S OFFICE STAFF / COMMITTEES**

Sheriff's Office Organizational Chart .....	45
Sheriff's Office Employee lists .....	46-47
Sheriff's Committees .....	48

# ACCOUNTING OF TRANSPORTATION COSTS

## ANNUAL REPORT 2024

MONTH	NUMBER OF JUVENILES	COST OF JUVENILE TRANSPORTS	NUMBER OF ALL TRANSPORTS	COST OF ALL TRANSPORTS
January	0	\$0.00	2	\$545.73
February	0	\$0.00	3	\$639.12
March	0	\$0.00	2	\$517.38
April	1	\$552.79	2	\$1,051.35
May	0	\$0.00	2	\$413.97
June	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
July	0	\$0.00	2	\$356.56
August	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
September	0	\$0.00	3	\$587.35
October	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
November	0	\$0.00	1	\$213.53
December	<u>0</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
TOTAL =	1	\$552.79	17	\$4,324.99

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. 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 6 percent of all transports. The above chart indicates the cost of transporting juveniles to be \$552.79, or 13 percent of the total spent on transportation.

Those costs are based upon the 2024 mileage rate at \$0.67 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.

Report to the Sheriff  
Karen Schmidt, Accounting Specialist II

# **EXTRADITIONS OUT-OF-STATE TRANSPORTS**

I am pleased to present a report on the extradition activities carried out by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office in 2024. Our primary focus throughout the year has been ensuring that fugitives wanted on felony charges are returned to Jefferson County efficiently and cost-effectively.

When determining the method of extradition, we evaluate each case individually to identify the most economical transport option. For fugitives located in neighboring states and within a defined mileage range, our sheriff's deputies handle the transport directly. This approach allows us to maintain oversight while managing costs effectively.

However, many fugitives are apprehended in locations beyond our immediate reach. In such cases, we rely on professional prisoner transport services. These services charge based on mileage and have proven to be significantly more cost-effective than dispatching our own personnel over long distances. This strategic use of external services has been instrumental in controlling our extradition expenses.

Our communications operators have played a vital role in these efforts. Utilizing specialized web search programs, they actively locate fugitives, monitor their court cases, and track their status in other jurisdictions. Their proactive approach has resulted in the successful identification and retrieval of numerous individuals who had fled our state.

In 2024, the total cost incurred by the county for all extraditable transports amounted to approximately \$46,597. Importantly, these costs are the legal responsibility of the fugitives. We continue to collaborate closely with the District Attorney's Office to seek court-ordered restitution, ensuring that the county is reimbursed for these expenditures whenever possible.

Over the course of the year, we successfully extradited 21 individuals—5 females and 16 males—who were held in other states on felony warrants issued by the Jefferson County Circuit Court. The charges against these individuals varied widely, including failure to support, child pornography, identity theft, false imprisonment, drug offenses, threats to a judge, and other serious felonies. Of these 21 transports, our deputies personally conducted six, with the remaining handled by contracted transport services or their agents.

Our commitment to fiscal responsibility and the effective administration of justice remains steadfast. We appreciate the County Board's continued support in these critical operations and look forward to our ongoing collaboration.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margo Gray, Administrative Captain



# 9-1-1 COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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, six 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 the 9-1-1 Center all the dispatchers perform the functions of the call-taker and the 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 the 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 (JCEC) and the Jefferson County Medical Examiner's Office.



In 2024, the 9-1-1 Center processed 66,803 calls for service. These calls for service are broken down as follows: 5,615 for Emergency Medical Services (EMS); 5,517 for fire (which includes controlled burns reported to the Sheriff's Office); 17,303 for local police departments and other law

enforcement agencies, and 38,368 for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office alone.



In October of 2023 and continuing into 2024, Jefferson County's 9-1-1 Center installed a new NextGen 9-1-1 (NG911) 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 new system as various components were still being installed in 2024.

The dispatchers have numerous other responsibilities during their shifts. Some of those 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, ensuring 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 October of 2024, Jefferson County was again awarded a PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point) Grant in the amount of \$141,374.42 from the State of Wisconsin, Department of Military Affairs to continue to upgrade various equipment and services related to 9-1-1.

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.

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***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





# **Jefferson County Emergency Communications Inc. 2024 Annual Report**

The JCEC organization experienced an active year during our 60th year of service to Jefferson County. We were requested at 22 emergencies and/or unscheduled events down from 23 emergencies in 2023. The Sheriff's Office pages JCEC for traffic control and detour assistance at vehicle crashes, structure fires and crime scenes. Traffic incidents are often 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 activities at planned events, such as traffic control at City Celebrations, Parades, Bicycle events, Marathons, Carnivals, Walks and Runs. This year, we had 37 planned events

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. JCEC were ready for the challenge.

This year we have four new members join JCEC, and we also have two new recruit/probationary members. With these new members we have as strong or stronger of a line-up as any time in our 60-year history.

Our Command post provides computer and communications equipment and a warm/cool environment to all our law enforcement. This year we have purchased a different Command Post Vehicle. It is a Winnebago RV, previously converted and used by American Family Insurance as their Mobile Disaster Unit. A Thank you goes to Merle and Sherry Lange for arranging for us to be able to acquire this vehicle. Thanks to our membership for helping to update and customize this vehicle to fit our needs. Our members have spent numerous hours planning and working on the Dispatch Center in the vehicle and adding emergency lighting. Other members also volunteered much time and effort. It still has a way to go on with its outfitting, still needs work but our volunteers are up to the task. It has increased useable space. It has much better air conditioning and heating systems. The IT Dept. at the Sheriff's Office is writing to us with a new dispatch program for the new Command Post Computer. And one of the new Command Post's best features is that it has an on-board generator, so there is no need to pull a trailer full of generators. Our Command post is available to be paged out for any emergencies 24/7/365

This year J.C.E.C. has made some changes. We have become an 501C3 Corporation, meaning we are a legal Non-Profit that can accept donations that are Tax-Deductible for those donating. Our new Corporate Name for the 501C3 is J.C. Emergency Communications, Inc. So far, we have received Grants from; The Batterman Foundation, The Randy Schopen Foundation, The Jordan Vogel Memorial Foundation, and Jefferson Utilities. We have a

donation Bucket at the Helenville BP/Rons Market. Some members have so far had birthday Fundraisers on Facebook to contribute to our cause. Most of the funds raised so far will be going to Wrapping, with name and logos of both JCEC and The Sheriff's Office, and the prep work for the wrap.

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.



# CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION



## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

The Criminal Investigation Division is authorized one Administrative Captain, one Detective Sergeant, six Detectives, and one Administrative Assistant. Two detective positions remained unfilled for most of 2024 due to retirements and staffing shortages. These positions were filled in December 2024.

Notable events for 2024 include:

- Thirteen (13) 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 40 non-traffic death investigations received, 10 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 2024, Detectives conducted 47 background investigations consisting of 33 for deputy sheriff, 4 for jail nurse, and 2 for IT, and 8 for communications.
- In 2024, two new detectives started in December.
- 46 total cases were assigned to a detective in 2024, 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 assigned to liaison with Jefferson County Public Health and Human Services personnel as part of a Multi-discipline Team within Jefferson County. This duty is in addition to their normal caseload.
- Three detectives are assigned to the Major Accident Investigation Team. This duty is in addition to their normal 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. Additionally, internet and

computer crimes are becoming more in-depth and difficult to track due to anonymity involved.

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, Honor Guard, 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 Johnson, Detective Sergeant  
Criminal Investigation Division

# DETECTIVE DIVISION 2024 ACTIVITY REPORT

		2023	2024
Juveniles Referred		17	8
Adults Referred		284	299
Citations Issued by Detective Division	County Ordinance	1	0
	Traffic	1	4
	ICAC	14	13
Detective Initiated Incidents	JESO	27	33
Assigned Investigations		60	46
Items Entered in Evidence System		1137	1243
Incidents of:	Domestic Abuse w/Arrest	51	48
	Sexual Assault	35	30
	Battery	36	44
	Burglary	10	14
	Theft	99	131
	Fraud:	90	94
	Fraud	28	37
	ID Theft	17	19
	Scam	45	35
	Worthless Checks	2	3
	Arson	0	0
	Robbery	1	0
	Missing Persons (Adults)	0	3
	Missing Persons (Juveniles)	19	10
		DET DIV 16	DET DIV 10
	Death Investigations (non-traffic)	TOTAL 42	TOTAL 40
	Homicide (non-traffic) - including attempted	0	0
	Assisting Other Police Agencies	105	129
	Criminal Damage to Property/Vandalism	65	56





# EVIDENCE OFFICER ANNUAL REPORT 2024



In 2024, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office deputies submitted 1,243 items of property 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 a large amount of evidence that needs to be catalogued and processed.

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.

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.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vaughn Johnson, Detective Sergeant  
Criminal Investigation Division

# JEFFERSON COUNTY DRUG TASK FORCE

## ANNUAL REPORT 2024

The Jefferson County Drug Task Force (JCDTF) is a multi-jurisdictional agency comprised of local police departments including Fort Atkinson PD, Jefferson PD, Johnson Creek PD, Lake Mills 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 JCDTF, 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, when staffing permits. 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 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 384 controlled substance cases during 2024; search warrants were conducted in 12 of these investigations, including 1 GPS Warrant. The JCDTF were involved / assisted in the investigation of 4 overdose death investigations, assisted other agencies in 14 drug investigations and 3 search warrants. There were 71 investigations which resulted in 73 felony charges being filed and 152 misdemeanor charges being filed. During these drug investigations, 16 firearms were seized. In addition, there were 140 county ordinance citations issued to individuals.

Throughout 2024 the following controlled substances were seized (measurements in gram quantities / dosage units):

Crack Cocaine	106.83	Cocaine	878.75
Heroin	--	Fentanyl	63.20
MDMA		Psilocybin	48.29
Morphine	18 mL	Ketamine	0.63
Methamphetamine	187.66	Marijuana	2009.67
LSD	12 dosage units	Pills & Suboxone Strips	624.5 dosage units

In 2024, 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 a joint investigation with Milwaukee HIDTA in 2024 that led to the seizure of 11 firearms and the arrest of several dangerous offenders. The JCDTF also conducted several operations which resulted in the arrest in individuals with ties to Mexican drug cartels.

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. The Jefferson County Drug Task Force provided multiple educational seminars to our community partners providing information on the work of the Task Force. They also provided presentations to high school students on the dangers of controlled substance use.

Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daniel A. Horvatin, Detective Sergeant  
Project Director, Jefferson County Drug Task Force

# **2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

## **CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM**

The Jefferson County crisis negotiation team, currently comprised of a supervisor and eight deputies, has faced a few challenges in 2024. Four of the negotiators are new to the team and have yet to attend the 40-hour basic negotiator course. These courses are scarce and tend to fill up quickly. To bridge this gap, our newest team members have been called out to observe the veteran team members and have begun to attend various single-day training sessions to gain a basic understanding of the negotiation process.

In October 2024 there was one full activation, the responding Crisis Negotiators successfully negotiated the surrender of an armed barricaded subject to SWAT officers. This occurred after the subject had been involved in a reckless endangering safety incident, using a vehicle and a firearm against citizens during the initial incident. As a result of the joint efforts of the Crisis Negotiation Team and the SWAT Officers, the subject and all law enforcement and citizens were unharmed.

Throughout the year, the negotiators were placed on standby a couple other times, but the incidents ended without full activation.

In 2025, the negotiation team will continue to seek out training opportunities to allow the newer negotiators to become more involved in any future activations. The Crisis Negotiation Team has already planned to hold joint training with one surrounding county negotiation team to help the Jefferson County Crisis Negotiators maintain their skills and to build additional resources in case they are needed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margo Gray, Administrative Captain  
Crisis Negotiation Team

# **PATROL DIVISION 2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division is comprised of 41 members: (1) captain, (6) sergeants, (32) deputies, (1) mechanic, and (1) secretary. In addition to patrol, this division has several specialized units as well. These specialized units include the Special Weapons and Tactics Team (S.W.A.T.), Dive Recovery Team, Boat Patrol, Snowmobile Patrol, Motorcycle Patrol, K-9 units, Major Accident Investigation Team (M.A.I.T.) Truck Enforcement, Traffic Safety Team, Drone Team as well as Animal Control Officers.

The Patrol Division continues to work at less than full staff again for the year 2024. For the first time ever, the Sheriff's Office was approved to hire Lateral Transfer's directly to Patrol to help fill the void in the Patrol Division. The Sheriff's Office hired three lateral transfers which has helped with staffing. The Office continues to have several retirements as well as promotions which in turn has allowed for several Deputies to move to the Patrol Division from our Jail and Support Services Divisions.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office continued to maintain a strong presence on the roads conducting traffic enforcement in 2024. The Patrol Division conducted a total of 12,211 traffic stops with 5,564 resulting in citations. A total of 759 written warnings and 7,240 verbal warnings were issued during the year. The Deputies also made a total of 142 Operating while Intoxicated arrests for the year as well. The Sheriff's Office partnered with the Watertown and Jefferson Police Departments to participate in a 2024 Speed Enforcement Grant. The goal of all the agencies is to ensure compliance of traffic laws, as well as keep the roadways safer for all to travel on.

In the year 2024 the Sheriff's Office was able to outfit four brand new squads which will be a big help in continuing our take home squad program. Several of our squads have been used for six to seven years and have high mileage and need repairs so it is imperative to continue to have new squads to help continue this program. By not having Deputies share a squad we are able to keep our vehicles maintenance and mileage lower, which in turn helps upkeep our cars in service for longer periods of time. Another big advantage to our take-home squad program that we have seen is the ability to respond to calls faster and improve our response times to help the public. This is due to the fact the Deputies are starting and ending their shifts in different parts of the county. Many time's calls are being handled by Deputies who are close to calls in areas where they are beginning or ending their shifts. This in turn has improved our response times to incidents since our squads are more spread out within the county.

The Sheriff's Office would also like to remind drivers to slow down and move over when they see an emergency vehicle on the side of the road. The staff assigned to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division remain committed to serving the citizens of Jefferson County with Respect, Integrity, Teamwork and Accountability.

Respectfully submitted,  
Matthew Kanters, Captain  
Patrol Division



# TRAFFIC ARRESTS

## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

ALCOHOL VIOLATIONS .....	5
ANIMAL VIOLATIONS .....	21
DNR VIOLATIONS.....	7
REGISTRATION VIOLATIONS.....	340
OPERATOR'S LICENSE VIOLATIONS .....	1718
INSURANCE VIOLATIONS .....	1231
FAILURE TO OBEY OFFICER-SIGN/SIGNAL .....	18
OPERATING LEFT OF CENTER LINE .....	18
ILLEGAL PASSING/UNSAFE LANE DEVIATION.....	64
FOLLOW TOO CLOSE.....	9
FAILURE TO YIELD RIGHT OF WAY .....	35
UNSAFE TURN .....	5
VIOLATION OF TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL.....	5
FAILURE TO STOP/IMPROPER STOP AT STOP SIGN .....	58
SCHOOL BUS VIOLATIONS .....	5
PARKING VIOLATIONS .....	12
FAILURE TO KEEP VEHICLE UNDER CONTROL/TOO FAST FOR CONDITIONS/RECKLESS DRIVING .....	133
SPEED LIMIT VIOLATIONS.....	1012
OPERATING UNDER INFLUENCE OF INTOXICANTS.....	142
OPERATING WITH A PROHIBITED ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION .....	95
HIT & RUN/FAILURE TO NOTIFY POLICE OF ACCIDENT .....	38
INATTENTIVE DRIVING .....	35
INTOXICANTS IN VEHICLE VIOLATIONS .....	46
EQUIPMENT VIOLATIONS.....	130
SEATBELT VIOLATIONS .....	96
TRUCK ENFORCEMENT .....	12
COUNTY ORDINANCES.....	154
EXCESSIVE WINDOW TINT/ILLEGAL MATERIALS ON WINDSHIELD .....	79

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Nitardy, Patrol Secretary  
Patrol Division

# PATROL DIVISION STATISTICS

## 2024 ACTIVITY REPORT

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION/REPORT MADE .....	1049
WARRANT ATTEMPTS .....	494
FAMILY DISTURBANCES.....	281
TRANSPORTS/PERSONS.....	760
MOTORIST ASSISTS .....	1394
CRIMINAL TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS REQUESTED.....	421
TRAFFIC CITATIONS.....	5346
COUNTY ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS/DNR CITATIONS .....	201
REPAIR NOTICES/TRAFFIC WARNINGS.....	7999
COMPLAINT OF AUTO THEFT .....	17
MISSING PERSONS REPORTED/REPORTS MADE.....	36
PARK CHECKS .....	2972
RESIDENCE CHECKS REQUESTED.....	35

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Nitardy, Patrol Secretary

## PATROL DIVISION REVENUES FOR 2024

<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>\$22,967.32</b>
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>\$21,603.80</b>
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>\$34,468.87</b>
<b>APRIL</b>	<b>\$30,035.30</b>
<b>MAY</b>	<b>\$31,655.65</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>\$27,499.25</b>
<b>JULY</b>	<b>\$27,532.02</b>
<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>\$32,579.23</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>\$27,331.75</b>
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>\$30,429.20</b>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>\$29,743.35</b>
<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>\$25,203.06</b>
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	<b>\$341,048.80</b>

# **TRAFFIC SAFETY STATISTICS 2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

A total of 1048 traffic crashes were handled by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office in 2024, an increase of 139 crashes from 2023. Of those, there were 120 injury crashes which is a decrease of 7 crashes from 2023. There were 58 Hit and Run crashes, with 1 that caused injury which is an increase of 1 total Hit and Run crashes from 2023. Of the 1048 crashes, 365 were from striking deer, this is a decrease of 5 crashes from 2023 with 1 resulting in injury a decrease of 5 from 2023. A total of 160 people were injured, which is 6 less people injured than in 2023. Out of all the crash's alcohol was a factor in 57 of them which is an increase of 28 from 2023.

In 2024 there were 9 traffic crashes which resulted in 9 fatalities in Jefferson County. This is an increase of 3 crashes with 2 more fatalities than in 2023.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert Scheinkoenig, Sergeant  
Patrol Division

## **OPERATING WHILE INTOXICATED STATISTICS 2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Sheriff's Office works diligently in traffic enforcement, especially Operating While Intoxicated enforcement. All Deputies are certified in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Standardized Field Sobriety Tests. In addition, all Deputies attend Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement, which focuses on detecting impairment from substances other than alcohol.

OWI enforcement is a top priority because in 2023, there were 6,136 alcohol related crashes in the State of Wisconsin, resulting in 3,067 injuries and 157 deaths. During the same time, there were 1,725 drug related crashes, resulting in 1,159 injuries and 70 deaths.

Driving after consuming, and sometimes while consuming, illegal drugs continue to be a problem in Jefferson County. The blood results for arrests for drugged driving have shown drivers using Fentanyl, Marijuana, Cocaine, Benzodiazepine, Subutex, Methamphetamine, and Phenobarbital, among others.

In 2024, Deputies made 142 arrests for Operating While Intoxicated. We encourage Deputies to attend various trainings to grow and develop their skills, to promote safety on Jefferson County roads.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jared Brandenburg, Sergeant  
Patrol Division

# JEFFERSON COUNTY FAIR

## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2024 Jefferson County Fair was held on July 10<sup>th</sup> through July 14<sup>th</sup>. The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office works with Jefferson EMS and members of 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 441 hours during this year's fair to handle incidents, offer assistance, provide security, and perform demonstrations. Deputies working at 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 occupied 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 were also on display. Daily K-9 Unit demonstrations drew in many interested fairgoers. The dunk tank was back as well. Our volunteers were willing to get dunked to raise money for the Humane Society of Jefferson County.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim Steinbach, Sergeant  
Patrol Division



# 2024 Fleet Report

The take home squad car program continues to be a success. We can extend the life of the squad cars, reduce maintenance costs, and greatly reduce response times to calls for service during times of shift change.

The Sheriff's Office employs one full-time mechanic, who is responsible for approximately 85 pieces of equipment including squad cars, trailers, ATVs, snowmobiles, motorcycles, boats, and heavy diesel equipment. Thanks to the many talents of our mechanic, most of the maintenance is done in house. Most of the work that dealerships complete is warranty related. The Sheriff's Office saves a lot of money every year by not having to outsource parts and labor for larger projects, such as engine and transmission replacements.

We are good stewards of taxpayer dollars, frequently using equipment well beyond its intended life. We have also established frequent customer relationships with our vendors, which result in huge savings.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jared Brandenburg, Sergeant  
Fleet Supervisor



# 2024 Annual Report

## Mobile Field Force

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office maintains active participation in a multijurisdictional team which consists of Law Enforcement personnel who are specialty trained in techniques for civil unrest and crowd disbursement. This team consists of different members from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Waterloo Police Department, Watertown Police Department, Lake Mills Police Department, Jefferson Police Department, and Fort Atkinson Police Department. These members all have a variety of specialties to assist with the general purpose of the team.



The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office currently has 12 active members. These members are equipped with protective riot gear which includes gas masks, helmets, batons and shields. Many of them are trained and certified in different less lethal weaponry, which would include the safe use of C.S. gas, Pepperball weapon systems, as well as other less lethal means. These are all tools that are utilized with the sole purpose of restoring peace and control to situations that involve unrest and unlawful assemblies.

In 2024, our team was part of a mass training event with Rock County Sheriff's Office, Sauk County Sheriff's Office, and Walworth County Sheriff's Office. We also spent time training with the Dane County Sheriff's Office. This is important to our team to make sure we are up to date with the tactics of the teams around us to be able to assist in the best possible way when the need presents itself.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ryan Stapleton, Sergeant  
Patrol Division

# **K9 UNIT ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024**

**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).

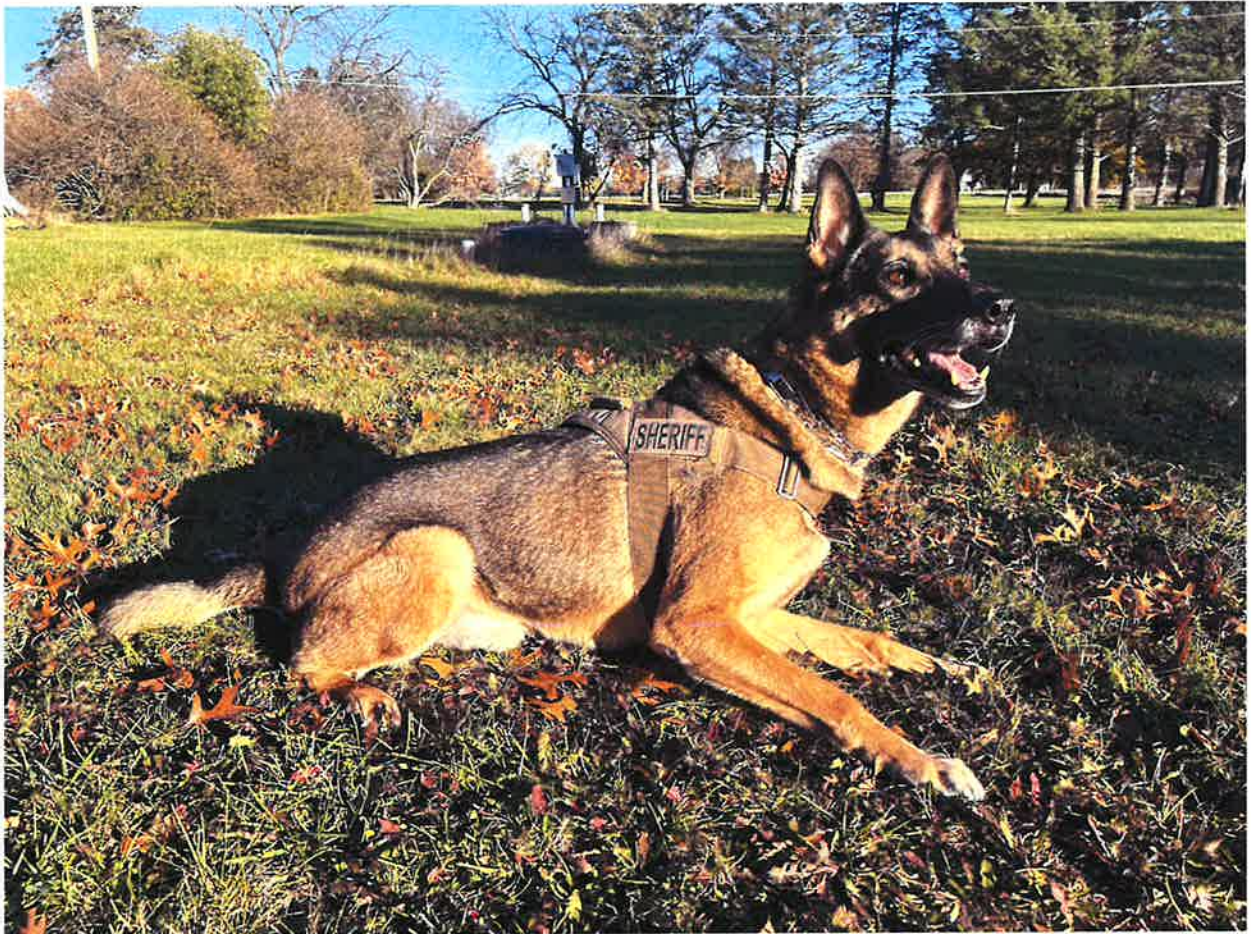
The K-9 unit was used 139 times in 2024. Our K9's were instrumental in locating suspects fleeing from vehicles, locating burglary suspects hiding inside buildings, and of course numerous incidents of locating illegal controlled substances on traffic stops and search warrants.

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  
Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, K9 Unit

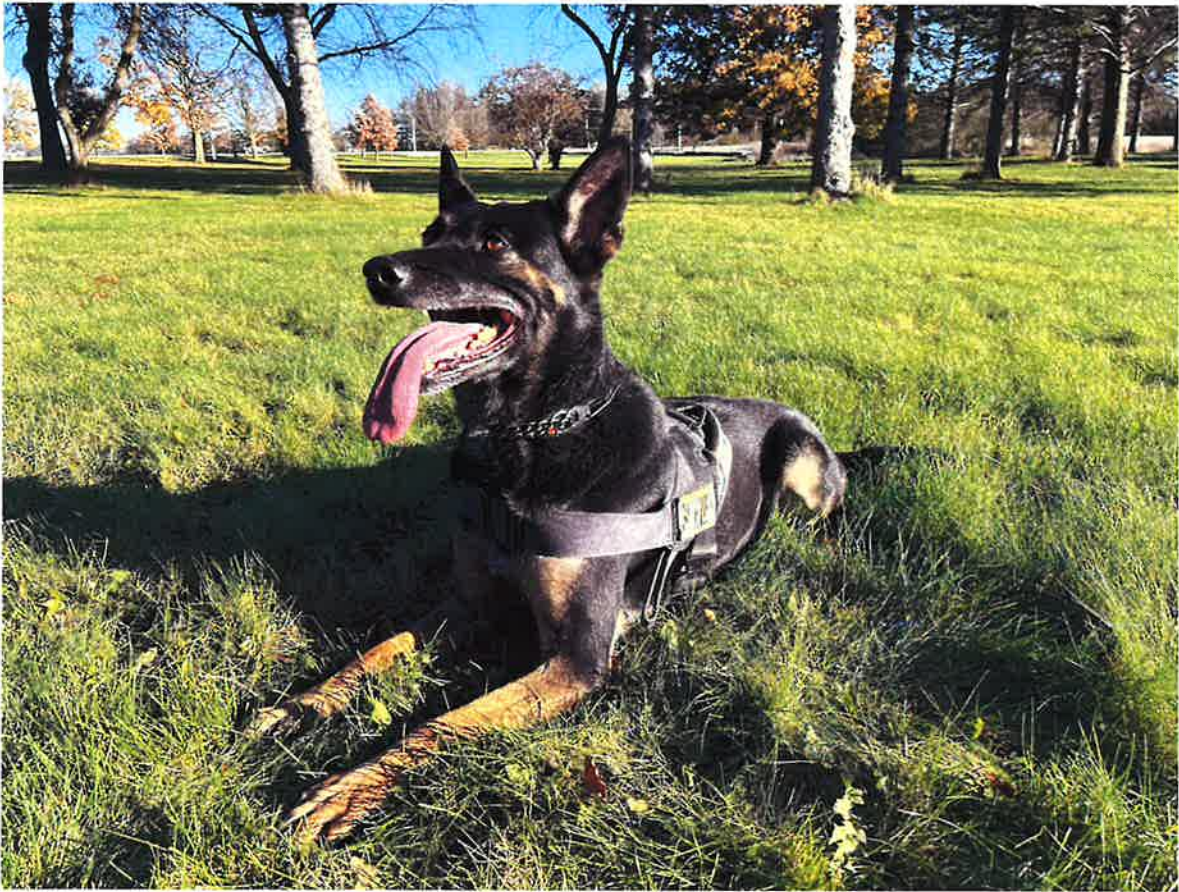


***Ruben***



***Balko***





*Gader*





***Butch***

# **UNDERWATER INVESTIGATION AND RECOVERY TEAM 2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Underwater Investigation and Recovery (Dive) Team is currently comprised of 11 members of varying diver certifications, from basic open water diver 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.

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 continuing the diver certification training for the newer members. The Dive Team was also deployed in November to investigate and recover a sunken automobile in the Rock River that had been located by some local fishermen. Fortunately, no one was found in the vehicle.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim Steinbach, Sergeant  
Patrol Division





# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

## CRASH INVESTIGATION TEAM

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Crash Investigation Team is comprised of a sergeant, five deputies, and three 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. In 2024, 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. In 2024 we were able to send two deputies through Crash investigation school. As well as sending a detective through Crash Data Retrieval (CDR) analyst course. Our goal is conducting thorough and timely investigations, with respect to victims, families, and the public that we serve.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dylan Agnew, Sergeant  
Patrol Division



# **2024 Annual Report**

## **Commercial Motor Vehicles**

### **Deputy Brian Severson**

The Sheriff's Office Commercial Motor Vehicle Enforcement team consists of one federally certified Inspector. The Sheriff's Office looks forward to the eventual addition of Inspectors in 2026. We have historically maintained three to five Inspectors on our team, but that number has fallen due to retirements and movement within the Office.

Inspectors are required to annually complete a minimum of 32 detailed and comprehensive inspections to maintain their certification. In addition, there are mandatory trainings each year that Inspectors attend to stay proficient with current laws and regulations.

The purpose of an inspection is to ensure the safe operation of commercial motor vehicles on Jefferson County roadways. Inspectors have the responsibility of violation enforcement, as well as placing vehicles with serious violation out of service until repairs are made.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jared Brandenburg, Sergeant  
Patrol Division

## **SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS TEAM**

### **2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

In 2024, the Jefferson County Special Weapons and Tactics Team was utilized on two occasions for tactical situations. One was to assist an adjacent county regarding a stabbing incident and the second involved an attempted homicide involving a firearm in Jefferson County. Both situations were resolved without further injury to citizens or officers.

The team participated in planned search warrants to assist other agencies within the county. The team continues to add new members due to retirements occurring. In 2025, the unit anticipates sending 3-4 new operators to basic training to enhance their skills.

Training is planned monthly to include live ranges, scenario-based training, work with robots, drones, K9s, and specialty cameras. Off-site training is planned in 2025 to experience different training environments and build on skillsets.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vaughn Johnson, Sergeant  
Team Leader

# **WATER SAFETY PATROL UNIT**

## **2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Water Safety Patrol Unit operates a 2013 Princecraft boat and is supported by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The unit patrols bodies of water throughout the county to enforce laws, participates in search/rescue/recovery missions and provides support to fire departments and other agencies as needed.

Equipment is depreciated through the DNR to recoup costs. A year-end report is submitted to the DNR after each boating season and then the Sheriff's Office receives reimbursement for a portion of the cost to operate the Water Safety Patrol Unit.

Several deputies were added to the Water Safety Patrol Unit this fall to replace several retirements. As these new members are trained and gain experience we anticipate an increased presence on Jefferson County waterways.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim Steinbach, Sergeant  
Patrol Division



# 2024 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 8 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 can 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 2024 we were able to purchase a DJI M30T with Flir. This new drone has a 41-minute battery life, which allows us significantly 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 2024. Several missions were for mapping purposes with the Jefferson County Crash team.

Drones are being used more and more in Public Safety. We can 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 locate 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 drones 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 circumstances

Respectfully submitted,  
Dylan Agnew, Sergeant  
Patrol Division



# SNOWMOBILE PATROL UNIT

## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Snowmobile Patrol Unit operates two 2013 Ski-Doo Snowmobiles and is supported by the Jefferson County Snowmobile Alliance and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The unit patrols trails throughout the county to enforce laws, assists the Alliance and its clubs with safety concerns, participates in search/rescue/recovery missions and provides support to fire departments and other agencies as needed.

Equipment is depreciated through the DNR to recoup costs. A year-end report is submitted to the DNR after each snowmobile season and then the Sheriff's Office receives reimbursement for a portion of the cost to operate the Snowmobile Patrol Unit.

Always remember to stay on marked trails and adhere to all signage and DNR laws to preserve our trail system and make snowmobiling safe and fun for all.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim Steinbach, Sergeant  
Patrol Division



# **FIREARMS TRAINING 2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

In 2024, the Sheriff's Office was able to conduct in-service training to maintain proficiency in the weapon systems used by our personnel.

We continue to have our firearms program focused on decision making. We train our Deputies to use less lethal options to resolve a situation with the use of 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.

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 and role players. We have utilized our 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 continue to see, we plan on moving forward with more of this type of training instead of just static 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 feel it necessary to train our Deputies on what is expected of them after the use of their firearm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vaughn Johnson, Sergeant  
Firearms Instructor

# MOTORCYCLE UNIT

## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Motorcycle Unit currently staffs three members operating two 2014 Harley-Davidson Police Motorcycles. Another member retired in 2024, but the Sheriff's Office was able to select and train one new member and we anticipate selecting another in 2025. 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 91 hours and logged 1,320 miles. 106 traffic stops were conducted resulting in 77 citations and 43 warnings.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim Steinbach, Sergeant  
Patrol Division



# **CIVIL PROCESS 2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Civil Process Division received 1095 documents during 2024, served 1055 documents, executed 49 Writs, scheduled 36 Foreclosure Sales and returned 45 documents at the Plaintiff's request, prior to making service.

Of the 49 Writs executed; 10 were Writs of Replevin, 33 were Writs of Restitution, 0 were Writ of Execution Against Property, and 6 were Writs of Assistance. In 32 of the Writs of Restitution & Assistance cases the defendant(s) complied with the Sheriff's Order to Vacate, and in the other 9 cases the Civil Process Division had to physically remove the defendant/property.

The 36 Foreclosure Sales required the Civil Process Division to post 72 sale notices.

Invoices generated by the Civil Process Division totaled \$51,823.50. Ledger entry payments totaled \$12,774.00 and other monies received for service fees totaled \$38,709.50.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric Heine, Sergeant  
Support Services Division

# **SUPPORT SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT 2024**

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, nine part-time deputies and 1 Process clerk. This number of staff has allowed the security station to be staffed 100% of the time during business hours.

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 be prepared 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 regarding the Courthouse construction and renovation project, that began in the fall of 2022 and will conclude in early 2025. Deputies continue to work closely with the other county employees, as well as the public, to provide a safe environment for everyone entering the courthouse.

In 2024, 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>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
➤ Arrests:	246	229	188
➤ Juries:	41	34	35
➤ Pages/Requests for Deputy:	451	432	427

The number of transports completed in 2024 was consistent with 2023 with 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 people to be transported to other law enforcement and mental health facilities. Support Services completed 326 transports in 2024.

We continue to look forward to the conclusion of the construction project and will continue to provide a high level of security and assistance to the staff and visitors of the Jefferson County Courthouse in 2025.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric Heine, Sergeant  
Support Services Division



# JAIL DIVISION

## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

The deputies assigned to the Jefferson County Jail continue to provide as safe and secure an environment as possible for the inmates housed within our facility. This has proven to be quite a challenge throughout 2024 with the continued construction project 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 have 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 one and sometimes more than one housing unit for days at a time. This limited the areas to house inmates. These closures were caused due to various work on electrical, plumbing, upgrades to cell doors, 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 at 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

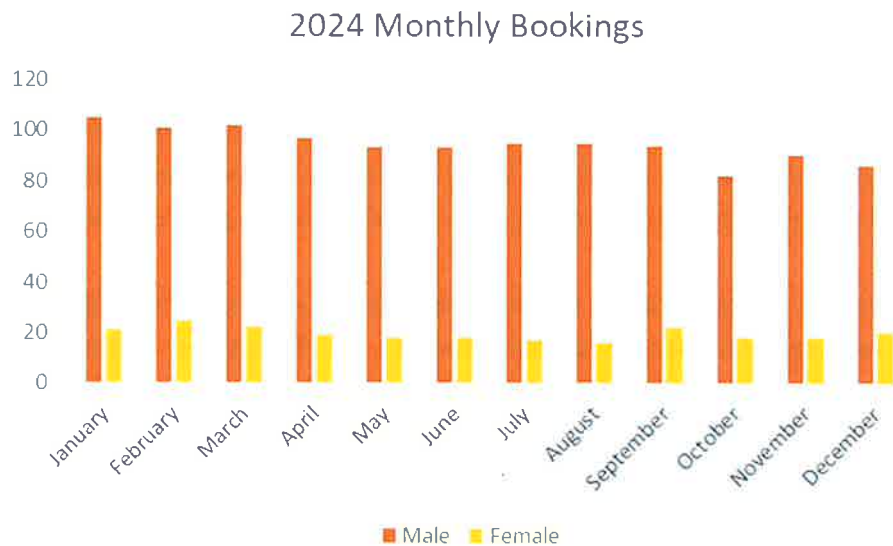


over and the jail can get back to normal routines.

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 2024, we hired 19 new deputies to fill vacancies throughout the entire agency. 17 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 may eventually transition out to patrol positions.

Even though our inmate population 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 67 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 conducted 1089 mental health sessions, and our nursing staff saw 5,197 inmates for sick calls. 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.

Avg 21 in 2024



There are a great deal of changes coming within the Jefferson County Jail, this includes both 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,  
Margo Gray, Captain  
Jail Administrator

## 2024 OFFENSES OF INMATES HELD IN JAIL

	<i><b>TOTAL</b></i>
<b>ARSON</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>BATTERY</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>BAIL JUMPING</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>BURGLARY</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>CHILD ABUSE</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>CONTRIB TO DEL OF MINOR</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>CRIM DAMAGE TO PROPERTY</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>CRIM TRES-DWELLING/LAND</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>DEFRAUD INKEEPER</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>DISORDERLY CONDUCT</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>SAFEKEEPING</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>DNR VIOLATONS</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>END SAFETY CON REG LIFE</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>ESCAPE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>FORGERY</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>HOLDS-OTHER DEPT-WARRANTS</b>	<b>669</b>
<b>HOM INT USE VEH/WEAPON</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>HOM BY NEG USE VEH/WEAPON</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>INJ BY INT USE VEH WEAPON</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>INJ BY NEG USE VEH WEAPON</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ISSUE OF WORTHLESS CHECKS</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>MURDER</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>OAR/OAS</b>	<b>188</b>
<b>OWI</b>	<b>158</b>
<b>OTHER TRAF/NVDL/SPEED/ETC</b>	<b>277</b>
<b>PAT-NONSUPPORT/FAMILY OFF</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>PROB-PAROLE VIOLATIONS</b>	<b>415</b>
<b>STOLEN PROP-REC/POSS/CONC</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>RESIST/OBST-OFFICER</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>ROBBERY</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>SEX ASSAULT</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>SEX ASSAULT-CHILD</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>THEFT (INCLUDES RETAIL)</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>KEEPING A HOUSE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>OTHER</b>	<b>551</b>
<b>OPERATE W/O CONSENT</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>WARRANTS-PREVIOUS CHGS (JESO SENTENCE)</b>	<b>206</b>
<b>DOM ABUSE-BATTERY</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>DOM ABUSE-DC</b>	<b>23</b>

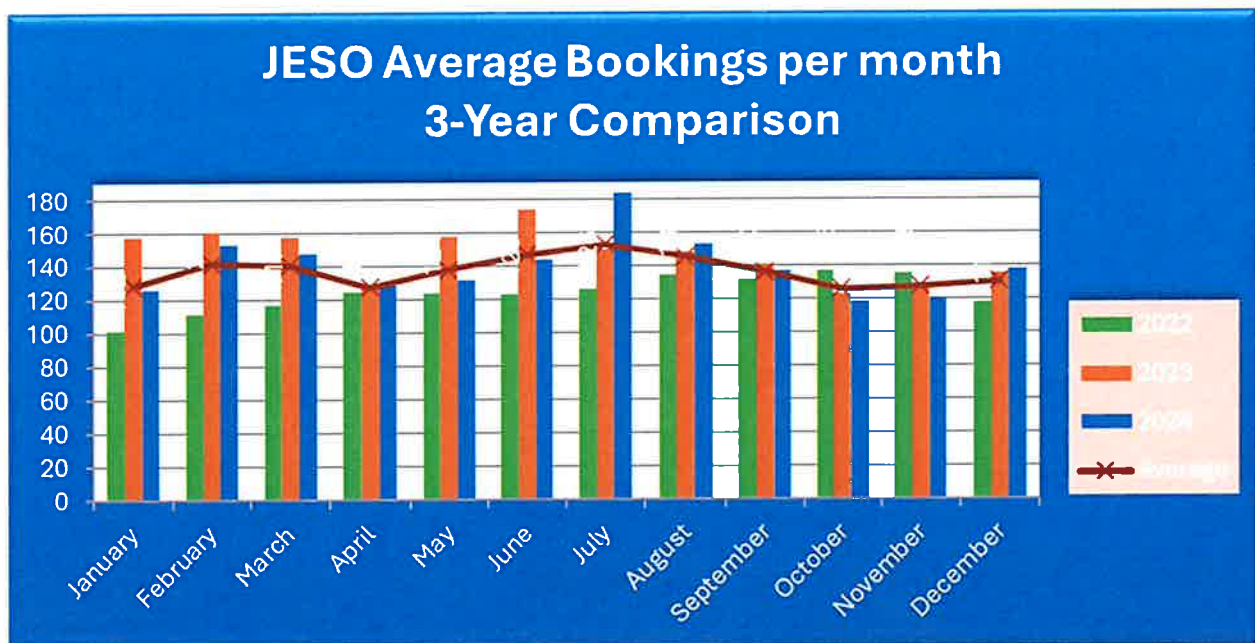
<b>DOM ABUSE-CDTP</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>DOM ABUSE-VIOL REST ORDER</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>DOM ABUSE-OTHER</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>UCSA-POSS CONT SUBSTANCE</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>UCSA-W/INT TO DELIVER</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>UCSA-DEL CONT SUBSTANCE</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>WEAPONS-CARRY CONCEAL WEAPONS</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>WEAPONS-FELONY POSS</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>WEAPONS-RECKLESS USE</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>WELFARE FRAUD</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(2023)</b>	<b>2,563</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(2024)</b>	<b>2,767</b>

Many inmates are booked into jail for multiple charges. For 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

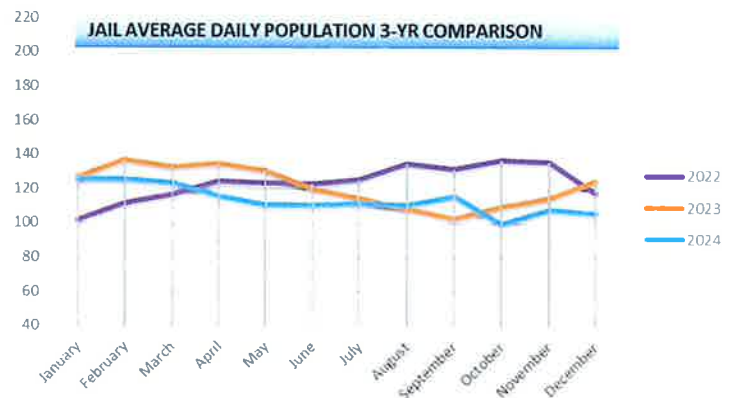


# AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION 10-YEAR AVERAGE

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AVERAGE INMATES</u>
2015	140
2016	155
2017	168
2018	176
2019	168
2020	114
2021	103
2022	124
2023	122
2024	114

# AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION 2024 BY MONTH / 3-YEAR COMPARISON

JANUARY	126	JULY	112
FEBRUARY	126	AUGUST	111
MARCH	124	SEPTEMBER	116
APRIL	116	OCTOBER	100
MAY	111	NOVEMBER	108
JUNE	111	DECEMBER	106



Respectfully submitted,  
Chad Roberts, Sergeant  
Jail Division

# **JAIL FOODSERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2024**

## **Meals Served**

Approximately 136,473 meals were served to the jail population in 2024. This number includes Huber bag lunches. And it is 7,742 less than 2023. The lower population was due to the construction being done.

## **Food/Operating Cost**

The approximate total amount spent on food for the Jefferson County Jail in 2024 was \$193,865. This was over the amount of \$175,000 budgeted. About \$25,500 in food products were carried over into 2025. With the inventory carry over this comes to about \$1.23 per meal without labor/utilities.

The higher food cost was caused by overall food cost increasing 8% for 2024 and the high number of cold supper meals served. 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 personnel, which caused an increase in food cost by over \$22,000.

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 \$7,251 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 8.00 labor hours in 2024. Stricter requirements to work in the Kitchen have made it difficult to have CSW workers. These were the hours the Cooks had to fill in for. This also contributes to the higher operating cost for the Foodservice. It costs less to wash dishes than to serve on disposable trays.

## **Honors**

Jail Foodservice would have earned its 16<sup>th</sup> straight sanitation award since we registered for a restaurant license. As of 2014 this award has been discontinued by the Health Department. We continue to maintain our high standards in the Foodservice. We have recorded no violations in the past 6 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 kitchen is a licensed restaurant. Several times throughout the year they are asked to cater for special events. The community has never been disappointed with a meal that the kitchen has prepared.

**The Cooks**

Our Foodservice staff consists of 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.



Respectfully submitted,  
Brian R. Nesthus, Foodservice Director since 1995  
U.S. Navy Veteran, Culinary Specialist

# **HUBER DIVISION 2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Huber Division consists of one deputy that serves as the main Huber Deputy 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 19 full-time Huber inmates per day. Huber employment generated \$129,423 for the Sheriff's Office.

The Huber Deputy assisted multiple non-working inmates obtain gainful employment and filled 37 local positions within Jefferson County. These inmates requested the help of gaining employment after coming to jail without steady full-time employment. Temporary agencies such as Opportunities (DPS), QPS, and Terra Staffing, Remedy, Adecco, and Seek were the primary agencies utilized for employment services for inmates. Inmates seeking employment were encouraged to work with the GED program at Jefferson County Jail. The GED coordinator assisted inmates with resumes, and basic educational/job related skills.

The Huber Division placed 19 inmates on Electronic Monitoring during 2024, which brought in \$30,402.57.

Throughout 2024, jail deputies conducted limited on-site Huber checks. These are completed when the Jail has extra personnel to physically check on Huber inmates while at work. The Huber Deputy also conducted daily job site checks via telephone calls to inmate employers.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chad Roberts, Sergeant  
Huber Division



# **JAIL MINISTRY 2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

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. As construction in the jail comes to conclusion, we have begun to restart the in-house services.

Many of the common areas of the jail have been renovated. There is plenty of space for the jail ministry to spread out to start up their programming again. The challenge now is to get the volunteers trained and the process back up and run smoothly again.

Staff still received requests for various types of religious books. Requested books were ordered at regular intervals. 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. Some of the texts were placed in the housing units for inmates to use without needing to request them.

The Jail Ministry Board is responsible for the oversight of jail ministry functions. Currently the board consists of Captain Chad Roberts and Sergeant Heather Novotny. Additional feedback is consistently requested, received, and welcomed by all current Jefferson County Jail Ministry members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chad Roberts, Sergeant  
Jail Division

# 2024 FULL-TIME SWORN DEPUTIES

Sheriff Paul S. Milbrath, Travis W. Maze

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

(Patrol) Rob Scheinkoenig, Timothy Steinbach, Jared Brandenburg, Kyle VandeZande, Dylan Agnew, Ryan Stapleton (Detective) Dan Horvatin, Vaughn Johnson; (Jail) Eli Wiedenfeld, Chad Roberts, Heather Novotny, Jonathan Olszewski, Adam Altreuter, Zachary Koch; (Support Services) Matthew Kanters, Eric Heine

## Sheriff's Office Deputies as follows:

Scott Gukich	Jacob Danner	Matthew Lucht
Gregory Jansen	Michael Zuehlke	Skyler Kurt
William Dandoy	Ashley Nedanovski	Brandon Ringenberg
Paul Schultz	Tanner Schroeder	Tara Montoya
Kevin Doebereiner	Jared Mejia	Benjamin Posanski
Peter Betanski	Parker Gilson	Ryan Madden
Donald Petig, Jr.	Tristan Taft	Michael Roehl
Ryan McIntyre	Abraham Schlueter	Carl Gloede
Adam Kleist	Samantha Felde	Dorian Burhans
William Johnson	Saul Estrada	Chelsea Melvin
Patrick Farley	Dominic Cavadias	
Samuel Pennington	Jeremiah Pleester	
Ryan Viney	Nicklaus Nandory	
Daniel Heinrich	Hunter Laufenberg	
Katie Ritzman	Christopher Rueth	
Nicholas Olszewski	Dyllon Palmer	
Thianna Bergholz	Coleman Moore	
Logan Dahnert	Sean Brazgel	
Jarred Gonzalez	Joseph Miller	
Ehrin Eisenberg	Alan Myelle	
Brian Severson	Cayle Rueth	
Jennifer Dutcher	Jackson Stearns	
Michael Priebusch	Adam Larson	
Nicholas Brietenfeldt	Tanya Perez-Johnson	
Dylan Strese	Shannon Koscinski	

### **2024 PART-TIME SWORN DEPUTIES**

Deputy Robert Meyer	Deputy Brandon Streng	Deputy Scott Yambor
Deputy Lori Hogan	Deputy Michael Williams	Deputy Thomas Klemke
Deputy Gary Steinhorst	Deputy Jason Hacht	Deputy Michael Cherti
Deputy Eric Grady	Deputy Rahn Smith	

### **SUPPORT STAFF**

<u>Accounting Specialist II</u>	Karen Schmidt
<u>Administrative Specialist I</u>	Lynn Enke, Megan Wegner, Mindi Rue
<u>Administrative Assistant II</u>	Brenda Nitardy, Julie Noll, Rebecca Powell
<u>Accounting Assistant II</u>	Crystal Griffin
<u>Accounting Assistant I</u>	Brittnie Kucken

### **COMMUNICATION OPERATORS - DISPATCHERS**

Denise Nyberg	Rachel Schloesser	Gary Schuett
Megan Gile	Natalie Veale	Sarah Baker
Tiffany Cole	Kourtney Huppert	Breanna Pape
Robert Krueger	Hailey Christian	Mindy Busshardt
Brenda Nitardy	Brenda Noll	Kimberly Peterson

### **KITCHEN STAFF**

<u>Kitchen Supervisor</u>	Brian Nesthus
<u>Cook</u>	Lisa Schlesner, Courtney Ulrich, Amanda Bowers, Bonnie Wetzel
<u>Custodian</u>	Yadira Cruz Reverol

### **MECHANIC**

Steven Schoenherr

### **IT SPECIALIST**

Todd Lindert

## **SHERIFF'S COMMITTEES 2024**

### **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

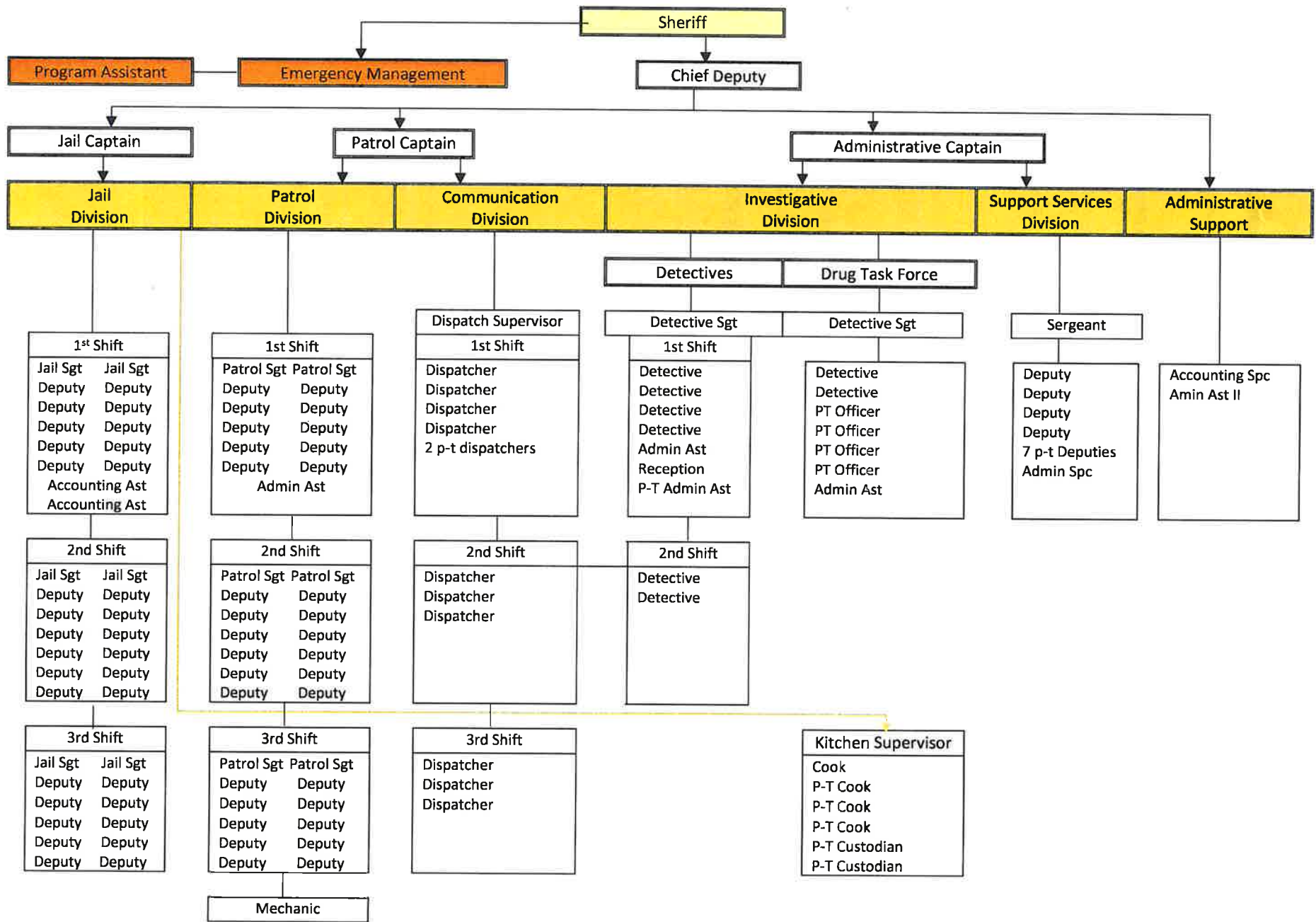
Kevin Purcell

Carl Jaeger

Lyle Wuestenberg

### ***JEFFERSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MISSION STATEMENT***

To serve the citizens of Jefferson County with Respect, Integrity, Teamwork, and Accountability



# Office of the Sheriff - Jefferson County

411 S. Center Avenue, Jefferson, WI 53549



Travis W. Maze, Sheriff

Jerry A. Haferman

Undersheriff

CHAD ROBERTS

JAIL CAPTAIN



MATTHEW KANTERS

PATROL CAPTAIN

Donald C. Hunter

Chief Deputy



MARGARETA GRAY

ADMINISTRATIVE 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:

\_\_\_\_\_  
TRAVIS W. MAZE, 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



# Office of the Sheriff - Jefferson County

411 S. Center Avenue, Jefferson, WI 53549



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Undersheriff

Chief Deputy

CHAD ROBERTS  
JAIL CAPTAIN



MATTHEW KANTERS  
PATROL CAPTAIN



MARGARETA GRAY  
ADMINISTRATIVE CAPTAIN



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

**"I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear."**

**Nelson Mandela**



**Office of the Sheriff**

411 S. Center Ave.

Jefferson, WI 53549-1703