

# OCSO



## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



*“Ensuring fair and equal administration of the law,  
safeguarding civil liberties and preserving public safety;  
Doing so with professionalism and unity of purpose,  
while being good stewards of the public’s trust.”*

**[www.sheriff-okaloosa.org](http://www.sheriff-okaloosa.org)**

# A MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF LARRY ASHLEY

As we begin a new year, it is always important to take measure of our accomplishments and where we want to go from here. Looking back at 2018, I am extremely proud of the organizational accomplishments of your Sheriff's Office, as well as the personal achievements of our deputies and staff. I find it increasingly difficult to summarize a year's worth of the outstanding things they do on behalf of our community. My message only has room to highlight a few achievements and challenges. I encourage you to read our Annual Report and discover just how much our people are doing to ensure your safety.

In 2018 your Sheriff's Office faced numerous challenges, including the continuing opioid crisis. Early in the year our Investigations Division was able to infiltrate a large drug trafficking organization operating within our county and throughout the southeastern United States. As a result of that months long effort, they seized a street value of nearly \$7 million worth of heroin and fentanyl, and effected the arrest of seventeen co-conspirators at the mid-year point. After taking these dangerous drugs and dealers off our streets, the number of heroin and fentanyl overdoses declined for a period, however it has since re-emerged with devastating effects on families and loved ones.

As usual, for the second most visited county in our state by car, we had a large influx of Spring Breakers who came to enjoy the world's most beautiful beaches during March and April. We were adequately manned and prepared for this annual event and though we had an overall safe period with no deaths or sexual batteries, we did effect over 400 arrests for underage possession of alcohol, illegal drug possession, and driving under the influence.

Our continued population growth required that our county construct and expand the County Courthouse located in Crestview. Its stately appearance is a testament to our citizens' sense of pride in our community and the people's business conducted there. The transition back to two courthouse facilities, rather than the three we were temporarily operating, will help alleviate duplicate manning issues caused by the need to secure an additional facility. Our Court Security personnel were an invaluable resource during the building and transition phases and we all commend their continued commitment to safety during this time.

Even though Hurricane Michael spared our county a direct hit, the devastation it caused to our neighbors to the East





created many challenges for us. With the damage and evacuation of medical facilities, jails, and schools, many of those needs were provided and/or augmented by our county personnel and facilities. Your Sheriff's Office sent teams to assist in restoring order and manning the damaged Bay County Jail as well as teams to Washington and Gulf Counties to help maintain order in the areas hardest hit and without electricity or communications.

Your Sheriff's Office represented you well with displays of commitment, compassion, and professionalism.

With our continued population growth of both residents and visitors, we experienced a record number of calls for service in 2018 and were challenged by a troubling trend of increased violent crime, even while our overall crime went down. There are many variables involved in this trend, however the opioid crisis and our transient population certainly contributed.

As your Sheriff, I am honored to serve alongside the men and women who combat crime in our community each day and I feel privileged we have such a beautiful place to call home. I hope you enjoy reading this year's Annual Report outlining our many achievements. As an agency that has earned both state and national accreditation for its effectiveness and efficiency, we stand prepared to address and overcome future challenges as we move forward.

I am convinced that no other law enforcement agency, or its people, are more committed to their community's safety and well-being than your Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office.

Please take time to visit our website at [www.sheriff-okaloosa.org](http://www.sheriff-okaloosa.org) and friend us on Facebook for ongoing detailed information about the OCSO and items of public safety interest.



*Larry Ashley*

**Larry R. Ashley, Sheriff**

**Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office, HQ**

**E-mail: [sheriff@sheriff-okaloosa.org](mailto:sheriff@sheriff-okaloosa.org)**







# 2018 ACTIVITY RUNDOWN

# EST. 236,639 CALLS

### **SAMPLE OF TYPES OF CALLS**

<b>FRAUD</b>	<b>978</b>
<b>TRAFFIC STOPS</b>	<b>19,946</b>
<b>CITIZEN CONTACTS</b>	<b>14,050</b>
<b>TRAFFIC CRASHES</b>	<b>6,624</b>
<b>SECURITY CHECKS</b>	<b>44,834</b>
<b>INTOXICATED DRIVERS</b>	<b>790</b>
<b>K-9 ASSISTS</b>	<b>3,182</b>
<b>WELFARE CHECKS</b>	<b>3,684</b>
<b>DISTURBANCES</b>	<b>5,267</b>
<b>ROAD RAGE</b>	<b>202</b>
<b>SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE</b>	<b>2,099</b>
<b>SUSPICIOUS PERSON</b>	<b>1,289</b>
<b>TRESPASSING</b>	<b>2,268</b>
<b>SHOTS FIRED</b>	<b>483</b>



# North District



The North District encompasses nearly 450 square miles in the northern part of Okaloosa County. The District boundaries extent east to west from Santa Rosa to Walton County. The north and south boundaries extend from Eglin Air Force Base to Covington and Escambia Counties, Alabama.

We have a mixture of unique communities located in the North District. They range from densely populated urban areas in and around Crestview, the largest city in Okaloosa County, to the many acres of farm land, horse ranches and urban residential homes in the Baker, Holt and Laurel Hill Communities. Many of the citizens of Okaloosa County have found comfort and peace in moving to the beautiful unincorporated areas in our North District.

**The Okaloosa County School System is home to many of our deputies' children, spouses and friends.** The security and welfare of these current and future leaders is a part of our daily patrol duties.

The deputies assigned to the North District are always seeking better ways to serve these adults and children.

For example:

- Deputies work traffic in the school zones in the morning and evening as calls allow.
- Deputies utilize school parking lots and open areas to park while completing reports, using in car computers and making follow up calls to citizens in marked patrol units to increase law enforcement officer presence on campuses.
- Deputies often take meal breaks with their kids in the lunchrooms of several of local schools.
- Shift Supervisors partner with the School Resource Officers at each school to familiarize patrol with the layout of each school, so they are more prepared in the event of an active threat or any emergency that might arise during a school day. This is done before school starts in order to not disrupt normal school activities.
- Patrol units transport kids off campus in order for the SRO to remain on school grounds during the entire school day.



## North District

The North District Office continues to see a marked increase in daily activity as north Okaloosa County grows and more people move into this part of our beautiful county.



Robin Griffith is our North District Office Clerk. She provided assistance or services to over 2,100 persons in 2018, an average of 180 persons a month. Robin is a great asset and team member of the North District which resulted in her receiving the Operations Bureau Outstanding Performer for 2017.



## North District Individual Accomplishments for 2018

### **Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office** - Hurricane Michael Detail

Deputy Jody Howard

Deputy Richard Drane

Deputy Cameron Kaltz

Sergeant Dennis Fields

### **Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office** - Certificate of Commendation

Deputy Richard Drane

## North District Personnel Promotions for 2018

Deputy Britt Corbin to Patrol Corporal

Deputy Justin Boggs to Patrol Corporal

Deputy Brandon Walters to Patrol Corporal

Corporal Martin Jennings to Investigator/Criminal Investigations

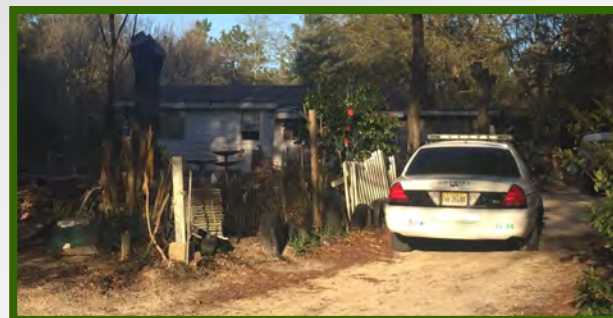
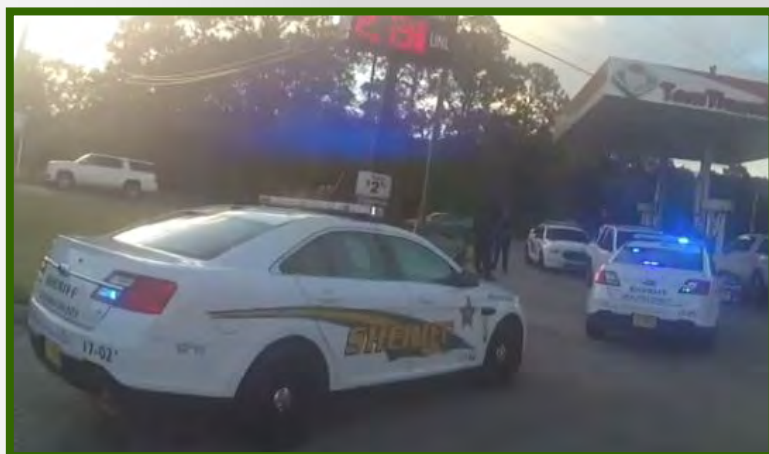
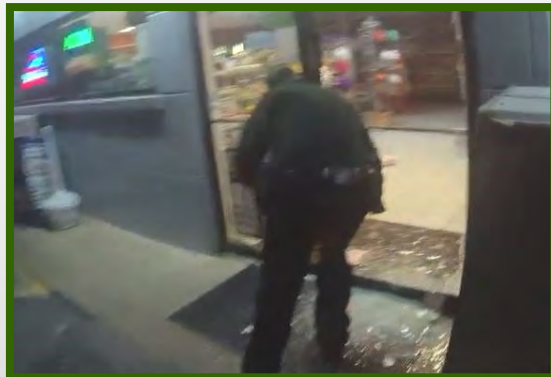




## North District Community Service Activity for 2018

- Attended Crestview Chamber of Commerce breakfasts
  - Membership in Crestview Rotary Club
  - Membership in Crestview Kiwanis Club
- Attended City of Crestview City Council Meetings
  - Attended City of Laurel Hill Council Meetings
- Attended Okaloosa County Board of County Commission Meetings
  - Provided Instruction at OCSO Citizens Academy
  - Provided Firing Range Instruction & Support For Community
  - Liaison to Multiple Chamber Committees and Civic Groups
  - Supported Local Faith Ministries and Charitable Organizations
    - Book Reading and Mentoring to Local School Students
    - Supported 7<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Training Group ( Airborne)
- Held Anderson Columbia Dove Shoot in support of OCSO Star Charities
  - Supported Annual Special Olympics Torch Run- Okaloosa County
    - Attended Annual United Way - Fishing with a Kid Day
- Community Education for Church Security and Stand your Ground Laws
  - Attended/ Supported County wide LEO Memorial Ceremonies







## North District Community Commitment

The deputies working in the North District do an amazing job supporting the area where we live and serve. In 2018 OCSO personnel gave back over 650 hours of volunteer time to the local community.

- Teaching classes in their local church or worship center
  - Coaching organized sports teams
    - Mentoring kids
  - Participating in several civic organizations
- Donating their time to the OCSO Star Charity Committee events



## North District Statistics of Interest for 2018

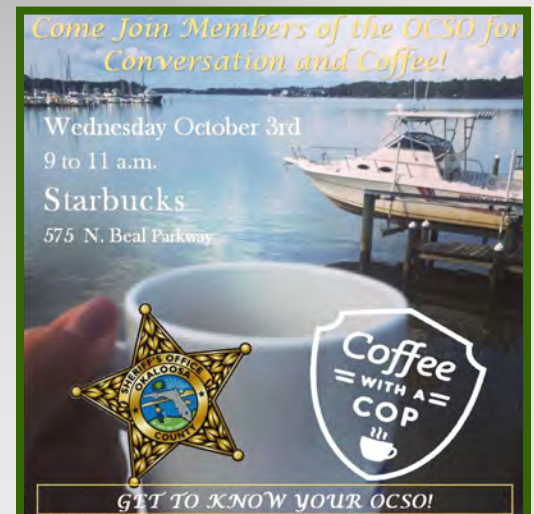
• Calls for Service	52,847
• Traffic Stops	4,481
• Warrant Services	2,738
• DOMV Arrests	250
• DUI Arrests	38
• Probable Cause Arrests	1,112
• Narcotics Arrests	968
• Citizen Contacts	3,952

# Central District

Encompassing the southwest corner of Okaloosa County, the Central District is the most densely populated district in the county. Nearly half of the fulltime population resides within its boundaries. Thousands of additional people commute into Central District to work at military bases, manufacturing centers, and other businesses daily. The 42 men and women assigned to Central District are committed to providing these residents and guests excellent service and protection. They strive to resolve problems safely and in a timely manner. As an example of that level of dedication, the top two awards our agency has for members of our Operations Bureau were awarded to Central District deputies. Deputy Matthew Langer earned the coveted Deputy Sheriff of the Year award and Deputy Jeff Butler earned the Outstanding Sworn Performer of the Year award.



During 2018, Central District deputies worked hard to engage with our community in meaningful ways. They held three Coffee with a Cop events at Starbucks shops within the community. These were advertised in advance and allowed members of the agency to meet with the public in an informal setting to answer questions and help resolve problems. They also hosted an Ice Cream Social event at Opportunity Place, a local non-profit outreach to the homeless. Many of the attendees were homeless children who found shelter at Opportunity Place. They were served ice cream during the heat of the summer and given coloring books and other crime prevention items to help them make good decisions. Deputies partnered with the local Baskin Robbins management and staff who graciously provided the ice cream to support the event. They also participated in the Homelessness and Housing Alliance and its efforts to reduce and eliminate homelessness in our community.





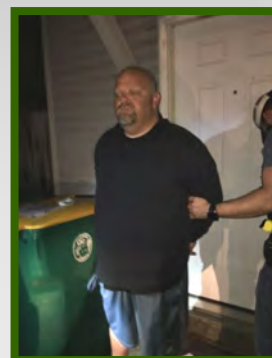
## Central District

The outreach efforts were not confined to our community alone. Several deputies were part of response teams to Bay County and the surrounding area after Hurricane Michael devastated communities and the abilities of its first responders. They assisted with patrol operations as well as a collaborative effort with members of the Okaloosa County Department of Corrections staff to provide security at the Bay County Jail, which had suffered significant damage.



In 2018, Central District deputies worked hard to fight crime. Deputy Ethan Elsasser identified and located foreign nationals operating a credit card skimmer operation. The suspects were wanted locally and federally for related crimes. Their apprehension during a traffic stop led to the closure of many cases throughout our region. He also identified the location of a Fugitive from Justice wanted for crimes against children in Ohio. The subject had been on the run for three months until he was apprehended here. In another incident, Deputies Pierre Batiste, Joshua Kimbril, and Brannon Small worked together to investigate an employee related grand theft ring responsible for ten separate theft cases. All were closed by arrest.

Our deputies continued to combat the scourge of narcotics in our community. They generated arrests for 1,305 narcotics offenses. Many sought out specialized training in the investigation of narcotics offenses and put it to work in response to citizen narcotics complaints and proactive patrols of known narcotics areas. That dedication weighed heavily in their success locating and arresting narcotics offenders. Central District deputies are also equipped with referral information for those in need of addiction counselling and intervention. In addition, a member of the Central District Team has been a long-time addictions counselor through a local program.



## Central District Statistics of Interest for 2018

The unique combination of the population and civil infrastructure of Central District make it **the busiest district in Okaloosa County. In 2018, the Sheriff's Office handled 221,660 calls for service.** The Central District accounted for nearly half of those calls — 103,446.

- Total Offense Reports 8,061

- Total Arrests 4,012

*(47% Probable Cause, 47% Warrant, 6% Notice to Appear)*

- Traffic Stops 9,035

*(85% warnings, 10% Cited, 5% Criminal charges)*

- 911 Verifications 3,268

- Disturbances and Fights 3,006

- Alarms 2,448

- Citizen Service Assists 6,430

- Felony Narcotics w/Arrests 429

- DUI Arrests 111





## Central District



Central District's leadership team remained intensely focused on developing professional law enforcement officers and future leaders within our organization. Members of the leadership team attended training seminars and programs including the FBI Executive Development Seminar, The Florida State University's Certified Public Manager Program, FBI Supervisor Leadership Institute, Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute Florida Leadership Academy, the Drug Enforcement Administration's Drug Unit Commander's Academy, the Leadership Okaloosa Program, and many more. Deputies took part in specialized training to become Field Training Officers and to lead other new recruits through the training process. Several members were promoted to positions of greater responsibility and others were certified as instructors in various disciplines.

The demands of being a deputy sheriff are significant, yet many of our deputies chose to serve in other specialized positions within the agency in addition to their normal duties. We had members serving on the Special Response Team, Crisis Negotiations Unit, Recruitment Team, CrossFit Coaching Team, and the Clandestine Laboratory Response Team. Each of these teams **meet the critical needs of the agency, and the deputies' willingness to step up and assist with the** added responsibilities made the missions possible. Others assisted while off-duty in their places of worship by providing armed security to make sure congregations remained safe. Deputies also provided security for high profile dignitary visitors in response to threats they had received.

## Central District Noteworthy Accomplishments and Events

- Attendance and participation in community events, city council meetings, and various fraternal organizations.
- Provided two dignified escorts for the family of USAF MSgt. John Chapman as he was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously for heroism in combat in Afghanistan.
- **Provided support for several community events such as "Toys for Tots," the Fallen Special Operations Airmen Ceremonial Escort, American Cancer Society Cancer Walk, Mary Esther Veterans Day Parade and a host of functions with the two military bases.**



### **Always Serving...Above and Beyond!**

Agency Liaison to FDOT Provided dignified and respectful escorts for 136 local funerals to support friends and families of the deceased during their time of mourning.

- Member of the Technical Coordinating Committee for Okaloosa Walton Traffic Planning Organization
- **Member Crestview Youth Academy Citizen's Advisory Panel**
- Member of the Hurlburt Field Transitional Panel
- Board Member Jobs4U
- Vice-President, North Okaloosa FOP Lodge #146
- Board Member, Emerald Coast Crime Stoppers
- Board Member, Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute Associates
- Board Member, Star Charity
- Board Member, Opportunity Place Shelter
- Counselor, Reformers Unanimous Addictions Program
- Volunteer Speaker, MADD Victim Impact Panels
- Volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sisters of America
- Speakers on DUI prevention & traffic safety to various military units in support of their missions



# Central District Individual Accomplishments

## PROMOTIONS

District Sergeant Jeremy Miller was promoted to Lieutenant and assigned to the Judicial Services Section.

Corporals Megan Hankins, Raphael Brown, and Brandon Jennings, along with Deputy Robbie Naylor were promoted to the rank of Investigator and assigned to the Criminal Investigations Bureau.



## AWARDS

### Medals of Merit

During the end of 2017, Sgt. Heath Hehl and Deputies Raymond Miller, Paul Mobley, and Cutler Petersen demonstrated heroism in response to a suicidal subject who had doused himself with gasoline and was trying to light himself on fire. They were awarded the Medal of Merit for their bravery in 2018.



### Lifesaving Awards

Sgt. Rodney Owens

Corporal Megan Hankins

Deputy Todd Padilla

### Certificates of Commendation

Deputies Adam Fitchett, Landon Walker, Eric Swain, Sgt. Kyle Lowrey and Sgt. Donald Folley were awarded Certificates of Commendation for outstanding performance.

## Central District Individual Accomplishments

Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition, United States Senator Matt Gaetz  
Sgt. Kyle Lowrey  
Deputy Todd Padilla

### SPECIAL UNIT ASSIGNMENTS

#### Street Crimes Unit

Deputies Daniel Echols, Taylor Woodard, and Aaron Pitman were selected for the Street Crimes Unit  
Sgt. Rodney Owens was assigned as the Street Crimes Sergeant.

#### Special Response Team

Deputies Pierre Batiste, Todd Padilla, Jeff Butler and Aaron Pitman were selected for the  
Special Response Team.

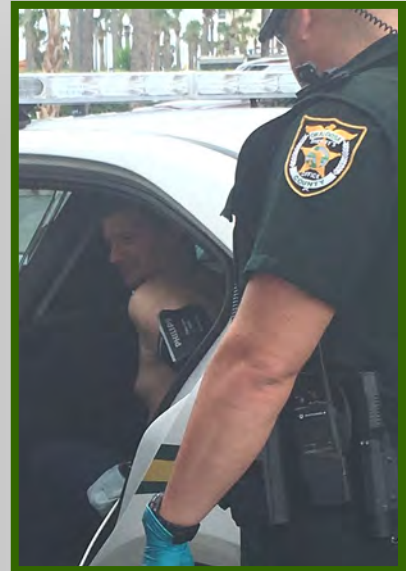




# East District

The East District makes up the Southeast portion covering east of the Brooks Bridge on Okaloosa Island to the Walton County line, north to Duke Field, south to Destin-Fort Walton Beach Airport, and all southern waterways surrounding this breath-taking paradise.

Once again, in 2018 the East District proved to be one of the top tourist destinations in the state of Florida with millions of visitors vacationing during the year. This portion of Okaloosa County offers a variety of adventures for vacationers. The beaches, emerald green waters, award winning golf courses, and restaurants are just a few examples of what the area has to offer to make exciting and memorable stays for our tourists. During the summer, the population can grow as much as 60,000 plus on any major holiday, creating great economic stimulation and growth for our area.



In 2018, the deputies assigned to East District Patrol Services responded to 65,339 calls for service, completed 5,508 offense reports, and effected 2,122 arrests. Included in those totals were 129 DUI arrests, 533 felony and misdemeanor narcotic cases, 157 battery arrests, 22 burglary arrests, and 12 grand theft auto arrests. In addition, deputies responded to 2,775 traffic crashes on the roadways.

## East District Statistics of Interest 2018



• Calls for Service	65,339
• Offense Reports	5,508
• Traffic Stops	6,426
• Traffic Crash Responses	2,775
• Arrest/NTA Reports	2,122
• Warrant Attempts	748
• Watch Orders	2,368
• 911 Verifications	3,912





## East District

Patrol units continued in their efforts to address aggressive driving behaviors by saturating problem areas. 989 citations were issued in 2018, while 5,036 warnings were issued to the motoring public.



Our goal is to continue to emphasize the need for proactive enforcement practices and encourage citizens and visitors to report crimes or suspicious activities. We want our visitors to feel comfortable and safe as we continue maintaining an atmosphere of hometown policing. Assigning each deputy to his or her particular areas on a consistent basis helps to provide stability and create partnerships as they get to know their shop owners, neighbors, and business leaders. Our continued commitment to build community relationships only strengthens our abilities to communicate and provide the best law enforcement services to the citizens we serve.



Photo from Walmart



Alvin's Island Burglary



Stolen Car & Alvin's Island Burglary



Truck Found at 2<sup>nd</sup> Alvin's Island Full of Merchandise

In 2018, the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office implemented the White Point Road detail at the request of the Okaloosa Board of County Commissioners to assist with major traffic related issues from tourists arriving on Saturdays during the height of the season. Residents from White Point Road expressed concerns with heavy congested traffic that strongly impacted their community. The detail, funded by the Tourist Development Council (TDC), was planned in coordination with Okaloosa County Staff, the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority, and the OCSO. The detail solved



**Traffic Advisory White Point Road Area:** Starting Saturday, May 19th motorists will not be able to exit off State Road 293 onto Lakeshore Drive or get onto the on-ramp from Lakeshore Drive. This action is in response to the traffic concerns and congestion in that area. The OCSO will be on hand to monitor and deter reckless driving or behavior. Please be courteous and patient. This traffic advisory is in effect through the summer.



## East District

Marine, Beach Patrol, and Dive Team assets were busy in 2018 with record breaking crowds on the beaches and waterways. These assets, assisted by Posse volunteers and a "Zero Tolerance Initiative," responded to over 4,050 calls for service during Spring Break and 100 days of summer, effected 468 arrests, issued 298 Notices to Appear, and issued 176 boating citations. These assets were also responsible for assisting numerous distressed swimmers throughout the Spring Break and summer period.





## East District



Crab Island, a shallow area of water located north of Destin East Pass, became a growing concern as local business owners continued to moor floating businesses in and around the popular island. The waterborne recreational activities provided by these businesses draw large crowds, making it difficult for emergency responders to adequately respond to situations that require their assistance. These businesses were not well regulated because of their geographical location and, without regulation or enforcement, potential damage, injury, or death could occur. In 2017, the OCSO responded to 760 calls for service in and around Crab Island. In 2018, the number of calls for service increased 17 % to 891.

In 2018, Sheriff Larry Ashley voiced his concerns about the public safety issues to the Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners. Unregulated alcohol activity from businesses, as well as large floating structures left overnight and through the season, were among the concerns. The County Commissioners agreed and passed County Ordinance 18-19, which provided regulations to allow enforcement in and around Crab Island to help protect the health and welfare of the public.



## East District

The East District contains the major artery for visitors traveling Northwest Florida and remains one of the most popular areas in the state throughout Spring Break and summer months. It is our goal to continue to provide the highest level of law enforcement services to our visitors, whether they are raveling through or vacationing in Okaloosa County.





## East District Community Service and Activity

- \*Attended of Chambers of Commerce meetings, Destin and Niceville City Council meetings, and other civic functions
- \*Over 150 volunteer hours in multiple charitable and civic endeavors
- \*Sponsored multiple “Operation Angel Tree” families
- \*Participated in judging the Hospice Tree decorating contest
- \*Participated in the Destin Christmas Parade
- \*Provided instruction for OCSO Citizens Academy
- \*Provided volunteer coaches for all sports



## East District Individual Accomplishments

- \*Sgt. Jason Fulghum selected as Supervisor of the Year for 2018
- \*A-Shift - Deputy Wes Haggan promoted to Investigator
- \*D-Shift - Deputy Casey Duh joined the Street Crimes Unit

## Five Deputies Earned Lifesaving Awards

- \*A-Shift Deputy Wes Haggan
- \*A- Shift Deputy Don Martin
- \*D-Shift Corporal Dave Finke
- \*D-Shift Deputy Matthew Lecocq
- \*D-Shift Deputy Tavish Frederick



# Marine, Beach & Dive Unit

The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office Marine Unit once again completed a record breaking year. In 2018, the Marine Unit delivered aggressive patrols coupled with education and boating safety. During this time, the Tourist Development Council (TDC) funded an additional marine position and purchased a jet-drive 21' Yamaha FSH. The addition of this position and vessel will help address the growing calls for service encompassing the waters surrounding Crab Island. Additionally, the Marine Unit participated in several national events and partnered with federal and state marine law enforcement entities to ensure waterway safety within Okaloosa County.



Throughout 2018, the Marine Unit concentrated its efforts towards boating safety and education while delivering the following numbers:

• Calls for Service	2,707
• Vessel Stops	974
• Boating Citations	212
• Arrests	76
• Distressed Swimmers	83
• Waterway Security Checks	510
• Certificates of Commendation	1





## Marine/Beach/Dive Unit

The Marine Unit continued to promote boating safety, participating in several national boating safety campaigns which endorse education and outreach. Members participated in "Designated Skipper" which is a national program through the Sea Tow Foundation. This program promotes safe boating practices nationwide. Additionally, the Marine Unit participated in the "Wear It" campaign. The initiative is a worldwide effort focused on responsible boating, and encourages boaters to always wear a life jacket while on the water.

Boating Under the Influence (BUI) enforcement in Okaloosa County remained a top priority in 2018. Members of the Marine Unit participated in training for enhanced BUI detection with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and National Association of State Boating Law Administrators. This specific training and diligence by the members of the Marine Unit resulted in a 900% increase in BUI arrests in Okaloosa County during 2018. In 2017, Okaloosa County ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the State of Florida for BUI arrests.



During the summertime, county waterways swell with both local boaters and rental vessels. Over the years, Crab Island has evolved to become a local party spot that swells with tourists, locals, and businesses. From 2016-2017, nine spinal cord injuries occurred from diving into the shallow waters encompassing Crab Island. Alcohol during these injuries was a contributing factor. For 2018, the Marine Unit partnered with the Fort Walton Beach Medical Center and began an initiative to reduce both Boating Under the Influence and Spinal Injuries in Okaloosa County. This initiative was called **"Recognize The Signs/Think Before You Dive."** Throughout the summer, educational material and signage was provided to both the boating public and floating businesses around Crab Island. This partnership resulted in a major decrease in spinal injuries, with none being reported in 2018.

## Marine/Beach/Dive Unit

The members of the Marine Unit were essential in helping ensure waterway safety throughout the Emerald Coast Poker Run, Emerald Coast Powerboat Poker Run, and the annual Billy Bowlegs Pirate Festival. All of these events draw vessels to Okaloosa County from across the nation. The Billy Bowlegs Pirate Festival is one of the nation's longest-running and most popular pirate festivals. The Marine Unit again was tasked during this event to address the unsanctioned events occurring in the shallow waters between the Fort Walton Beach Landing and Intracoastal Waterway. These unsanctioned activities attract approximately 1,000 vessels and upwards of 10,000 people.

The Marine Unit participated in the 2018 Operation Dry Water which consisted of 22 participating law enforcement agencies within the State of Florida. Operation Dry Water is a national event hosted by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators targeting Boating Under the Influence.



In July of 2018, the Marine Unit assisted the Escambia County Sheriff's Office with the Blue Angels Air Show in Pensacola Beach. This air show is another event that draws a large number of vessels from across the Florida Panhandle stretching to Orange Beach, Alabama. The Marine Unit was pivotal in assuring boating safety and addressing boating law violations occurring within Little Sabine Bay and Quietwater Beach.

A large number of summertime marine violations occurring within Okaloosa County are committed by rental vessels. In an effort to help reduce these violations and increase boating safety, Marine Unit members continue to meet with local personal watercraft liveries to ensure compliance.



## Marine/Beach/Dive Unit

of boating state statutes. These continued efforts will ultimately help reduce marine violations and increase safety for their customers and other boaters. During 2017, Okaloosa County ranked #4 in Personal Watercraft crashes statewide.

The City of Destin funded marine position continues to enforce the city marine ordinances and regulate the Destin Harbor. Deputy Robert Wagner fosters relationships with local businesses and is the intermediary for local marine activities. Deputy Wagner targets areas specific to boating complaints and can be seen throughout the many bayous and waterways of Destin. In this capacity, Deputy Wagner handled over 822 calls for service and generated 195 waterway security checks.



The Tourist Development Council (TDC) funded marine position remains multifaceted, directing **efforts towards the congested boating "hot spots."** Deputy Kyle Corbitt continues to be a consistent presence around Crab Island, overseeing the large crowds and numerous anchored vessels. Deputy Corbitt answered 1,074 calls for service and generated 216 security checks. He is persistent in his efforts towards Boating Under the Influence and county wake zone enforcement. Deputy Corbitt **attends the area "Snowbird" meetings and addresses concerns within this community.** Deputy Corbitt educates the visitors on topics such as trending crimes, crime prevention, and personal safety. On July 8, 2018, he was instrumental in helping rescue two boaters as their vessel began to flounder in the Gulf of Mexico. Deputy Corbitt overheard their distress call over the VHF radio and responded just in **time to witness their 22' vessel overturn in the distance.** Deputy Corbitt was able to arrive moments later and pull both men from the water providing calm and reassurance to them both. His actions on this date successfully prevented a tragedy from occurring on the waters of Okaloosa County. For these efforts, Deputy Corbitt was awarded a Certificate of Commendation.

## Marine/Beach/Dive Unit



The Marine Unit continues to build upon our working relationships with the United States Coast Guard, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the United States Customs Marine Interdiction Unit. Specifically in 2018, the Marine Unit joined forces with the United States Coast Guard (USCG) Mobile Sector. During the busy weekends of the summer, the USCG deployed additional boarding officers to Okaloosa County to assist as a marine force multiplier. This provided additional law enforcement resources to assist with BUI investigations, arrests, and disturbances.





## Marine/Beach/Dive Unit



The Beach Unit encountered another challenging year with crowded summer beaches and one of the busiest Spring Breaks on record. The 2018 Spring Break encompassed 49 days beginning in early February. During this period, the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office again pressed a **"Zero Tolerance Initiative"** for law violations. Beach Unit members logged 444 arrests ranging from open house parties to narcotics violations. Members were busy patrolling area beaches, neighborhoods, and condominiums.

Throughout the 100 days of summer, the Beach Unit traversed the beaches of Destin and Okaloosa Island. These members maintained high community relations and worked closely with Destin and Okaloosa Island Beach Safety. During 2018, Deputy Dustan Rice and Deputy David Bazylak acquired Lifeguard Certifications through the United States Lifesaving Association. These certifications will help them appropriately respond if needed to critical incidents on the beach.





## Marine/Beach/Dive Unit

During 2018, the Dive Unit began extensive training to become Divemasters through Dive-Sar, located in Destin. The Divemaster rating is a professional level certification that increases a diver's knowledge of leading dive operations, physics, and physiology, as well as increases a diver's proficiency with scuba diving skills. The Dive Team plans to have all members certified as Divemasters by the end of this year. Additionally, all divers are now certified to administer pure oxygen to injured victims/patients, two unit members became certified Rescue Divers through the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI), and one member became a PADI open water scuba instructor.

Utilizing these skills, coupled with other public safety diving capabilities, Dive Unit members are regularly called upon to assist patrol and other law enforcement agencies. In 2018, Dive Team members were essential in recovering eight drowning victims from within Okaloosa County waters. Members were also utilized to recover firearms, additional evidence for criminal investigations, and submerged items for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.





# Criminal Investigations

The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) is comprised of four sections: Criminal Investigations Section (Major Crimes, Property Crimes, Crimes against Children, Financial Crimes and Polygraph), **Special Investigations Section (Sheriff's Narcotics Unit, Fugitive Warrants, Street Crimes Unit and Internet Crimes against Children/Cyber Unit)**, Intelligence/Homeland Security Unit (Intel Investigations and Crime Analyst Unit) and the Evidence/Crime Scene Section.



## Criminal Investigation Section (CIS)

- **On New Year's Day, 2018, a murder-suicide** was discovered in Baker. The investigation revealed William Rust shot his wife Gretchen, then took his own life in their home.
- In February 2018, Judson Wood bludgeoned his wife and son with a hammer in Niceville. His wife died approximately two months later, but his son recovered. Wood has been deemed incompetent to stand trial at this time.
- In February 2018, two Crestview parents were arrested after an investigation revealed they were telling their 13-year old son that he was dying of cancer and scamming people out of money using the same fictitious story.
- In March 2018 and after a yearlong investigation with crimes occurring in Santa Rosa, Okaloosa and Walton Counties, David Michael Williams was arrested on four counts of contracting without a permit in Okaloosa County. Thousands of dollars in money and property were stolen.
- In April 2018 an 8-month old child died while in the custody of her father. Spencer Hause was subsequently charged with child neglect resulting in death.
- In May 2018 69-year old Nancy Williams was shot to death by 17-year old Jeremiah Murphy. Murphy was arrested.

- In May 2018 two Romanian Nationals were arrested for installing a skimmer into an Eglin Federal Credit Union ATM machine in Mary Esther. Both were arrested and federally indicted.
- In May 2018 a Family First Network (FFN) employee 25– year old Lauren Myres was arrested for sexual battery by custodian.
- In June 2018 Uber Driver Filip Kirilov was shot to death on Okaloosa Island. Timothy Anderson was arrested a few days later. In October, Anderson was deemed incompetent to stand trial and sent to the Florida State Hospital for evaluation.



- A first of its kind conviction in Okaloosa County: a former Ft. Walton Beach resident pled guilty in June 2018 to manslaughter for her role in a 2015 overdose death of a Shalimar military veteran. 25-year old Darian Caldwell was sentenced to three years in prison.

Inmate Details		Booking Detail		Inmate Mugshot		
Caldwell, Darian Kathleen		Booking # :	201700218			
Inmate No : 0004668		Convicted By :	OKALOOSA CO SHERIFFS DEPT			
Gender : FEMALE		Booking Date-Time :	04/18/2017 19:20			
Age : 24		Release Date-Time :				
Address : 6 chotawatchee RD SE FORT WALTON BEACH, FL 32548						
Race : WHITE						
Charge Detail :						
Statute Code	Description	Charge Status	Offense Date/Time	Bond Type	Bond Amount	Expected Release Date
943.15-1b	FTA KNOWINGLY DRIVE WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED/ REVOKED	AWAITING HEARING	04/18/2017 20:15	SENTENCED	No Bond	
943.15-1b	FTA KNOWINGLY DRIVE WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED/ REVOKED	AWAITING TRIAL	04/18/2017 20:15	SENTENCED	No Bond	
943.15-1b	FTA KNOWINGLY DRIVE WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED/ REVOKED	SERVING ODDOC SENTENCE	04/18/2017 20:15	SENTENCED	No Bond	
943.15-1b	FTA KNOWINGLY DRIVE WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED/ REVOKED	TIME SERVED	04/18/2017 20:15	SENTENCED	No Bond	
943.15-1a	DOC 36M FTA VOP POSS CONTROLLED SUBS W/O PRESCRIPTION AND POSS / USE NARCOTIC EQUIP	AWAITING HEARING	04/18/2017 20:20	SENTENCED	No Bond	
943.15-1a	DOC 36M FTA VOP POSS CONTROLLED SUBS W/O PRESCRIPTION AND POSS / USE NARCOTIC EQUIP	STATE DOC SENTENCE	04/18/2017 20:20	SENTENCED	No Bond	
948.06	DOC 36M PROB VIOLATION: POSS CONT SUBSTANCE, POSS OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA	AWAITING HEARING	04/18/2017 20:27	SENTENCED	No Bond	
948.06	DOC 36M PROB VIOLATION: POSS CONT SUBSTANCE, POSS OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA	STATE DOC SENTENCE	04/18/2017 20:27	SENTENCED	No Bond	
943.15-1b	FAILURE TO APPEAR: POSS OF NARC EQUIP	AWAITING HEARING	04/18/2017 20:30	SENTENCED	No Bond	
943.15-1b	FAILURE TO APPEAR: POSS OF NARC EQUIP	AWAITING TRIAL	04/18/2017 20:30	SENTENCED	No Bond	
943.15-1b	FAILURE TO APPEAR: POSS OF NARC EQUIP	SERVING ODDOC SENTENCE	04/18/2017 20:30	SENTENCED	No Bond	
943.15-1b	FAILURE TO APPEAR: POSS OF NARC EQUIP	TIME SERVED	04/18/2017 20:30	SENTENCED	No Bond	
943.15-1b	DOC 36M FTA LARCENY, RESIST OFFICER X2 AND POSS OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	AWAITING HEARING	04/18/2017 20:30	SENTENCED	No Bond	
943.15-1b	DOC 36M FTA LARCENY, RESIST OFFICER X2 AND POSS OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	STATE DOC SENTENCE	04/18/2017 20:30	SENTENCED	No Bond	
782.04-1a1	DOC 36M 1ST MANSLAUGHTER	AWAITING HEARING	04/18/2017 20:30	SENTENCED	No Bond	





- A former Crestview Chamber of Commerce President was charged in August 2018 with stealing more than \$77,000 in Chamber funds while serving as both Chamber President and Office Manager.
- Two homicides occurred within hours of each other on November 18, 2018. 47-year old Michele Lemmo was beaten to death in her home. Jarod Skiles was indicted for the murder in early 2019.



- Approximately four hours later, 17-year old Ana Espinal Lainez was stabbed to death by her 22-year old boyfriend in Destin. Kevin Ordonez-Garcia has been charged with homicide in that case.



## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

### Criminal Investigation Section (CIS)

In 2018, our certified Examiner/Investigator conducted over 130 polygraph examinations for both criminal cases and pre-employment purposes.



**Larry Ashley**  
Sheriff

## Intelligence Bulletin

**OKALOOSA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Law Enforcement Sensitive—Do Not Release to the Public**

Crime Analysis Unit  
50 2nd Street  
Shalimar, FL 32579  
(850) 609-2000  
mjones@sheriff-okaloosa.org



### Intelligence Unit/Homeland Security

In April 2018, and in response to the February 2018 Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Parkland Florida, Sheriff Larry Ashley formulated a new Intelligence Unit. The Intelligence Unit is presently made up of an Inspector, two Investigators and three Crime Analysts.

In 2018 the Crime Analyst Unit put together 224 bulletins for distribution, conducted 89 employee background checks, and compiled 180 photo lineups. In addition, the analysts reviewed 490 Baker Act reports and created 89 intelligence reports for threat assessment.

In addition, The Intelligence Unit completed 13 Risk Protection Orders (RPOs), made 2 arrests for violations of a RPO, and conducted 45 threat assessments/Investigations.





## Special Investigations Section (SIS)

The following are 2018 statistical highlights by members of the Special Investigations Section:

Over 416 cases assigned to Investigators regarding narcotics, violent crime/fugitive apprehensions, covert operations, cybercrimes, as well as targeting criminals engaged in distributing and/or possessing child pornography and exploitation of minors. 269 cases were closed resulting in a 63% closure rate with 268 arrests in the cases assigned.

2,284 additional service incidents were handled by the Street Crimes Unit (SCU), generating an additional 315 cases and 302 arrests, 40 NTAs and 183 warrant services. 289 of these cases were closed by SCU resulting in a 95% closure rate. SCU seized a grand total of approximately \$102,720 in illegal drugs (estimated street values) during the year, including marijuana = \$35,200, cocaine = \$5,520, Heroin = \$2,800, Fentanyl = \$42,000, Methamphetamine = \$16,200, other illegal and/or controlled substances = \$1,000.

SIS received over 370 Emerald Coast Crime Stoppers intelligence tips from citizens regarding suspected criminal activity; 131 were closed, resolved or led to arrests.

SIS personnel executed more than 131 search warrants over the year.

\$243,468.92 in combined asset forfeitures were made in criminal cases and/or court orders.

SIS recovered 41 handguns in Okaloosa County, either stolen and/or used by drug suspects in furtherance of drug trafficking offenses.



## Special Investigations Section (SIS)

GRAND TOTAL OF DRUGS SEIZED BY INVESTIGATORS IN OKALOOSA COUNTY = \$7,640,647

This number is based on total estimated drug street values as follows:

Marijuana = \$175,631

Methamphetamine = \$301,185

Heroin = \$946,785

Fentanyl = \$6,000,000

Cocaine = \$119,086

MDMA = \$3,375 and other illegal and/or controlled substances = \$94,585;

\* These figures are separate and in-addition to SCU.

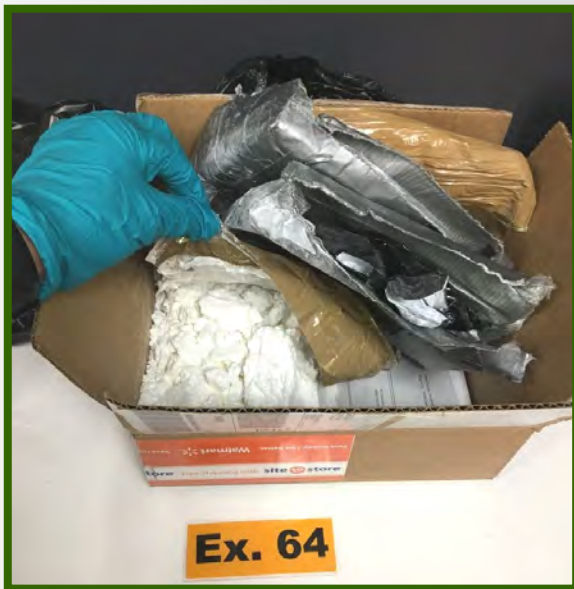
SIS Investigators and the Street Crimes Unit worked jointly in special operations with Fort Walton Beach, Crestview and Niceville Police Departments to target and suppress suspected gang and/or organized criminal activity in 2018. SIS Investigators presented training material to federal probation officers and other personnel in efforts to educate and share gang intelligence information about trending crimes.

The unit as a group received special group commendations for their casework in 2018. Investigator Mitch Landis was selected by the agency as the 2018 Investigator of the Year.





Operation Paydirt; Operation Crazy8s; Operation Gap Boyz; and Operation Block Party, intended to disrupt and dismantle multiple drug trafficking networks and related criminals in Okaloosa County. These cases were joint operations with the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), U.S. Alcohol Tobacco & Firearms (ATF), Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Fort Walton Beach Police Department, Niceville Police Department and Crestview Police Department.



**OPERATION BLOCK-PARTY:** Targeted a series of residences used by drug suspects in southern Okaloosa County. Investigators and SRT members executed multiple search warrants resulting in seizures of trafficking amounts of heroin, fentanyl, methamphetamine, and cocaine, along with five firearms. Thirteen people were arrested and charged in conjunction with this investigation.



**OPERATION PAYDIRT:** Operation "Pay Dirt" targeted a large-scale drug trafficking organization involved in Heroin, Methamphetamine, Fentanyl and MDMA distribution in Okaloosa County. Investigators infiltrated the illicit drug organization responsible for and/or benefiting from the sale, manufacturing and distribution of above-mentioned dangerous drugs in the County. The operation culminated with multiple arrests and the prosecution of over fourteen drug traffickers and/or co-conspirators involved in the organizational network, as well as recovery of stolen firearms and heavy construction equipment. Further, the case resulted in the largest seizure of multiple kilograms of Heroin, Fentanyl, Methamphetamine, Cocaine (and other drugs) by Investigators in Okaloosa County history.

# Operation PayDirt



SOS  
(Cocaine)



Kevin Powell Jr.



SOS  
(Heroin/Fentanyl)



Keithen Brown



Gill McGee



Aaron Johnson



Anthony Porter



Jamaal Shaheed



Benjamin Bonds



Patrick  
Dougherty



Jacqueline  
Ennis



Charles  
Freeman



Crystal Haire



Donald Phelps



William Pike



Phillip Pulley



Tara Pulley



OPERATION GAPBOYZ: Operation “Gap Boyz” targeted a large scale drug trafficking organization operating throughout Okaloosa County. Covert operations were conducted on multiple drug traffickers and suspected gang members involved in and/or benefiting from illegal drug distribution of Heroin, Methamphetamine, Cocaine, Marijuana and firearms. Investigators worked together in joint operations with local and federal authorities to effectively infiltrate these criminal networks, leading to solid federal indictments and arrests of key leaders. Multiple search warrants were simultaneously executed at various properties used by the network in northern Okaloosa County. These warrants resulted in the seizure of approximately three kilograms of Methamphetamine along with combined kilograms of cocaine and heroin, and multiple pounds of illegal marijuana and other contraband, including stolen firearms.

SIS Investigators also worked jointly in regional federal operations with members of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Internal Revenue Service, and U.S. Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and others, resulting in multiple drug trafficking investigations, indictments and arrests and leading to drug seizures of multiple kilograms of methamphetamine with an estimated street value over \$700,000.



OPERATION CRAZY8s: Operation “Crazy8s” focused on identifying, arresting, and prosecuting statewide drug trafficking offenders and networks responsible for illegally distributing Oxycodone and Hydromorphone in Okaloosa County. The case began when SIS Investigators infiltrated local criminal networks in northern Okaloosa County. The case later spanned across the State of Florida, leading to indictments and arrests of over eighteen individuals in Crestview, Pensacola, Ocala and Miami, as well as seizures of large quantities of illegally obtained Oxycodone and Hydromorphone pills destined for the local area. Investigators also located stolen property at a residence in north Okaloosa County.

**“This successful operation was a result of the hard work of men and women from multiple local, state and federal agencies whose late nights and relentless efforts helped take down a significant drug ring operating across the state.”**

***Okaloosa County Sheriff Larry R. Ashley***

**CYBER-CRIMES SPECIAL OPERATIONS:** In September 2018 Ronald Roscoe of Michigan was arrested at Destin-Fort Walton Beach Airport. Investigation revealed Roscoe traveled to Okaloosa County intending to engage in illegal sexual activity with what he believed was a twelve year old child. Investigators determined that Roscoe previously reserved a local hotel room for himself and what he believed to be the child/victim in Okaloosa County. Investigators handled the operation which led to ongoing federal prosecution efforts. In a separate investigation, Glenn Varrin of New York was sentenced to 10 years in federal prison in the Northern District of Florida after his arrest and plea to enticement of a minor (child) in August 2018.

**STREET CRIMES UNIT:** Officers assigned to the Street Crimes Unit were invaluable in 2018 in **suppressing crimes and proactive drug enforcement in furtherance of the agency's anti-crime** missions. SCU officers bolstered patrol efforts and also assisted other agencies, including Fort Walton Beach Police with locating and apprehending a homicide suspect.

**FUGITIVE WARRANTS UNIT:** Investigators apprehended Justin Smith (a school soccer coach) wanted out of Montgomery County, Ohio for the offenses of Unlawful Sexual Conduct with a Minor (3 counts), Sexual Battery (3 counts), and Sexual Imposition. Investigation revealed that Smith had attended the first half of his criminal trial in Ohio, and he actually testified before a Judge on October 31, 2018. After a court lunch break, Smith did not return to court and he became a fugitive. Smith fled Ohio and he was suspected of taking over \$95,000 in retirement money to live on.





## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

### Evidence/Crime Scene Unit

Between the months of March to September 2018, the Evidence/Crime Scene Unit went through a major overhaul to include upgrading the Evidence Tracking Program as well as conducting a full inventory where each and every piece of evidence had to be touched on two separate occasions. The results found a less than .37% error rate in the accountability of the evidence. This is well below the National Accreditation (CALEA) standards of an accepted level of 4% error.



- Total pieces stored within Evidence Unit 102,892
- Total requests via Help Desk tickets 2,672

(This includes requests to check out and review evidence, analyze/process evidence, evidence/supply requests, records expungements orders, releasing evidence to owners, entry into impound lot, etc.)

- ATF gun traces conducted 452
- FDLE Firearm Eligibility System Checks 133
- Court Orders Executed 12

# CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

## Individual Accomplishments

Major Arnold Brown promoted to Chief Deputy

Lieutenant David Allen promoted to Captain, Special Operations

**Investigator Marcus O'Sullivan promoted to Sergeant**

Investigator Elizabeth Roberts promoted to Sergeant

Investigator Joseph Milonas promoted to Sergeant

Investigator Branden Findley promoted to Sergeant

Investigator Travis Topolski promoted to Sergeant

Elisa Jerard promoted to Investigator

Martin Jennings promoted to Investigator

Robert Naylor promoted to Investigator

Wesley Haggan promoted to Investigator

Megan Hankins promoted to Investigator

Steve Richards promoted to Investigator

Raphael Brown promoted to Investigator

Branden Jennings promoted to Investigator

Crime Analyst Katie Parker graduated from the FDLE Analyst Academy





# PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DIVISION

## Professional Compliance and Accreditation Section

### Chaplaincy

In 2018 OCSO Chaplains played an integral role in the success of our Angel Tree and Coats for Kids programs, which were on par with last year's successes. However, because of Hurricane Michael, we expanded our Angel Tree program to assist three Law Enforcement Agencies in devastated counties. The funds raised exceeded \$5100.00.

Chaplains answered more than 100 requests for support from all over the agency with ministering duties for situations including medical emergencies and the passing of loved ones in our community. The Chaplains also counseled, supported, and encouraged agency members in both group and individual settings. Their investment in agency members and the community is a daily endeavor for which we are grateful.

The Sheriff's Office Chaplain Corps continues to serve an ever more complex organization and community. The Sheriff's Office has grown in size and the needs for services are also on the rise. As a direct reflection of the growth and request for services, the Chaplain Corp is engaged in recruiting additional volunteers to meet the demand.



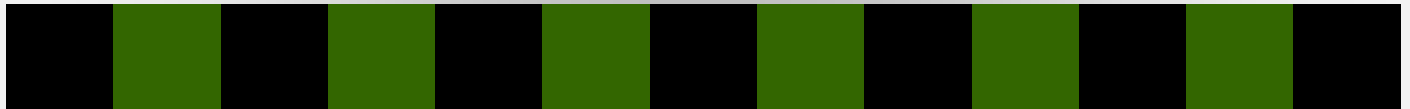
# Crime Prevention Unit

In 2018 the OCSO Crime Prevention Unit worked to keep the citizens, businesses, and visitors **safe in Okaloosa County by providing various safety presentations, free kid's and women's self-defense** classes, Neighborhood Watch meetings, safety tip alerts, and numerous community events where safety information was distributed. The Crime Prevention Unit attended the 2018 Southern States Crime Prevention Conference, attained crime prevention certification through the Florida Attorney General's Office, and attended specialized trainings on topics including: Virtual Currencies, Church Building and Safety Teams, National and State Gangs, Pharmaceutical Diversion, and Child Abuse Prevention. These events help the Crime Prevention Unit provide the most up to date safety information to its customers.


One of the programs the Crime Prevention Unit is most proud of is the Church Safety program, which works with local churches on their church safety and security plans. These plans include all forms of safety and prevention including medical emergencies, burglaries, domestic violence, and active shooter. The OCSO Crime Prevention Unit also held four church safety meetings and trainings for church safety team members and Pastors in 2018. The meetings and trainings help churches better protect their staff, members, and visitors.

## 2018 Accomplishments

- Gave 49 various safety presentations.
- Reached approximately 2,260 citizens in Okaloosa County.
- Gave 22 presentations educating senior citizens on how to avoid becoming a victim of ID theft, fraud, and scams throughout the county.




### Personal Security at ATMs Series 1



- Go to an ATM in daylight hours. If you need to go at night, take someone with you.
- Be aware of people loitering in your area.
- Use your body as a shield when entering in your pin or access code.

- Choose ATMs in well lit-areas over desolate and poorly lit areas.
- If you feel threatened or notice something suspicious, cancel your transaction and leave.
- Make sure you are not leaving your car unlocked when walking up to an ATM.







# Crime Prevention Unit

- Gave six newcomers briefings for new military members and families.
- Attended 46 community events throughout the county, distributing safety information to citizens and visitors.
- Organized and conducted six Neighborhood Watch meetings, educating residents on how to report suspicious activity and ways to deter crime.
- Poquito Bayou Community- Shalimar joint Neighborhood Watch meeting with FL. Fish and Wildlife Commission. More than 100 residents attended to learn how to deter crime and deal with bear encounters.
  - Held a 13 week long Citizens Academy with 48 graduates.
- Attended 58 community networking events, Chamber of Commerce breakfasts, luncheons, and Businesses Empowered Meetings.
- Worked with 37 local Churches on developing church safety and security plans. The Crime Prevention Unit also conducted security assessments of the church properties.
- Church Active Shooter Mock Training attended by church safety team members.
  - OCSO provided Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate (ALICE) active shooter training for church pastors and safety team members.
- Held two Church Safety Team training meetings with 52 church safety team members attending.
  - Pastor Range Day for 12 pastors and organization staff.



# Crime Prevention Unit

- Provided Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) security surveys.
  - City of Destin
  - City Hall
  - Shalimar Annex
  - Community Center
  - Library
  - Public Works
  - Okaloosa Island Convention Center & Visitor Center
  - Rocky Bayou Christian School
  - Love Joy Cypress Apartments
  - Henderson Beach Resort
  - Wyndham Vacation Rentals
  - L3
  - Rocky Bayou Christian School
  - Coastal Skin Surgery and Dermatology- all locations
  - Legal Services of FWB
- Conducted a residential security survey for a resident in the Love Joy neighborhood.
- Partnered with Nextdoor.com to improve communication about crimes occurring in neighborhoods. Nextdoor.com is a private social network for individuals to communicate about issues happening in their neighborhood. Using Nextdoor.com, over 16,000 residents were reached throughout Okaloosa County in 2018.
- Advertised, scheduled, and organized ten Teen Driver Challenge classes teaching 115 students defensive driving skills in Okaloosa County.





## Crime Prevention Member Highlights

Ashley Bailey is the Crime Prevention Manager with the OCSO. She has worked in the Crime Prevention Unit for fourteen years and has started numerous programs and services throughout her career such as the Take Me Home Program, Fraud and Scams for Seniors, ID theft education program, and CODY where volunteers check on delinquent youth. Ashley has a passion for church safety and security. She wants all citizens, staff, and visitors to be safe while attending church in Okaloosa County. Her goal for 2019 is to have over 100 churches with church safety teams networking to ensure a safe environment for all attendees. Ashley loves to serve the community of Okaloosa County. She is hardworking, dedicated, and diligent, providing the community with exceptional service in hopes of preventing crime in Okaloosa County.



Ashley Bailey



**Carla Von Kaenel started with the Sheriff's Office in September 2018** after graduating from the University of West Florida with a degree in Criminal Justice. Carla merges the duties of managing Secondary Employment (off duty details) and Crime Prevention in order to offer a full range of resources to our customers. She brings great organizational and people skills and a heart to serve the community to her new position. She has already contributed great ideas for new crime prevention initiatives to help protect the citizens and visitors in Okaloosa County.



Carla Von Kaenel



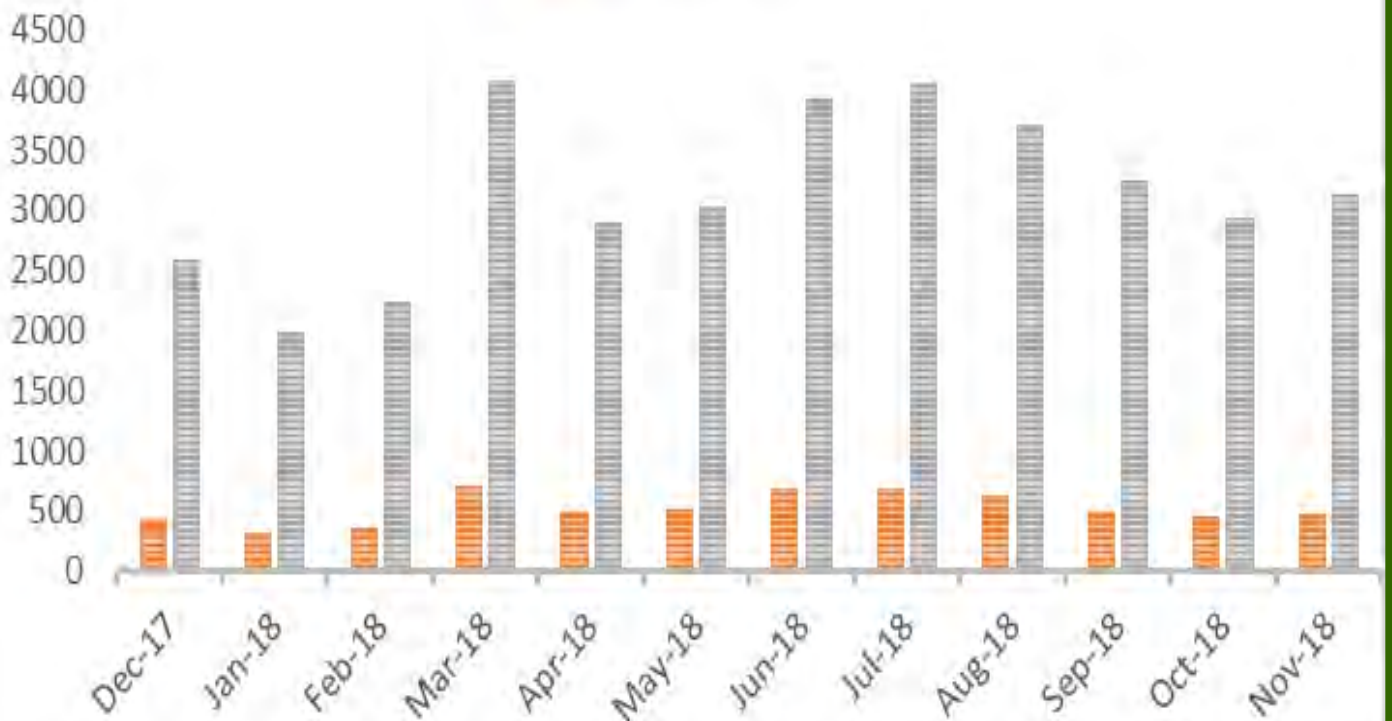
Natasha Hall worked in the Crime Prevention Unit from January to August 2018. Natasha completed her training to become a certified Crime Prevention Practitioner through the Florida **Attorney General's Office in June 2018. Natasha scheduled and organized all the Teen Driver Challenge classes for the Sheriff's Office from January to September 2018.** She also aided with scheduling the volunteers for various tasks and many community events.

## Secondary Employment

In 2018, 212 OCSO deputies covered 6,266 secondary employment jobs totaling over 38,767 hours. These jobs represent requests from the community for law enforcement services in neighborhoods, condominiums, local businesses, highways, churches, entertainment venues and schools by off-duty deputies. March proved to be the busiest month for requests with over 700 jobs scheduled for the month. The secondary employment coordinator does a great job arranging coverage with a mere 5% of these assignments going unfilled.

2018

Jobs Hours





## Accreditation

Agency-wide, the OCSO prepared for and completed its 3<sup>rd</sup> year remote assessment by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), a national accrediting body. No issues were noted during this assessment by a CALEA compliance service member as the OCSO continued its commitment to best practices and the accreditation process. The agency continued to maintain full compliance in all areas required by CALEA, the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, as well as the Florida Telecommunications Accreditation Commission.



## Recruiting

All members of the OCSO, knowingly or not, participate in recruiting as they perform their responsibilities with a level of professionalism and esprit de corps coveted by career seekers in the field of public safety. However, 74 have completed specialized training preparing them to represent the agency at various events and venues across the southeast. In 2018, recruitment teams attended job fairs, law enforcement academies, equivalency of training classes, along with several venues with an emphasis on diversity in the workforce throughout the year in order to meet our **recruitment goals**. **The OCSO continues to seek qualified candidates to "Be the Difference" in our community through service in sworn or civilian roles within the agency.** Are you up for the challenge?

# *Be The Difference!*

## Professional Development and Training Section

Office of Professional Standards Professional Development Section and the Career Development Program provides career guidance, recognition of accomplishments, and financial incentives for non-supervisory deputies and communications officers within the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office. It sets out a distinct career track for those who want to go beyond the minimum requirements of their jobs and to be recognized and rewarded for their extra efforts to excel. The program is based upon a system which awards credits in such areas as training, higher education, professional achievement, and community involvement.

Currently, there are three levels of advancement in the Career Development Program career track for those who want to go beyond the minimum requirements of their jobs and to be recognized and rewarded for their extra efforts to excel. The program is based upon a system which awards credits in such areas as training, higher education, professional achievement, and community involvement.

In 2018 the following deputies achieved Career Deputy 1 status:

Deputy Michael Nichols

Deputy Curtis Daniel

In 2018 the following achieved Advanced Communication Officer status:

Communications Officer Lindsay Collum

The following attended Advanced Leadership Training in 2018:

Captain Charlie Nix – FCJEI Executive Leadership Seminar

Captain Shannon Tait – FCJEI Executive Leadership Seminar

Captain Jay Jones – FCJEI Executive Leadership Seminar

Captain Mark Raiche – Certified Public Manager

Lieutenant Matt Harrison – Certified Public Manager

Communication Supervisor Shannon King – Certified Public Manager

Sergeant Grady Carpenter – FCJEI Florida Leadership Academy

Sergeant Samantha Schill – FCJEI Florida Leadership Academy

Sergeant Michael Smith – FCJEI Florida Leadership Academy

Sergeant Mark Bollinger – FCJEI Florida Leadership Academy

Sergeant Jason Folley – FCJEI Florida Leadership Academy

Communications Supervisor Dale Blackwood – FCJEI Florida Leadership Academy

Sergeant John Merchant – NWFSC Leadership Okaloosa

Lieutenant William Griffith – NWFSC Leadership Okaloosa

Lieutenant Kevin Kirkpatrick - **Florida Sheriff's Association Commander's Academy**





## Intra-Agency Training

In 2014, the agency obtained permanent access to a firearms training facility on the outskirts of Crestview and continued to make needed improvements. The agency's Physical Abilities Course was relocated to the facility to improve efficiency and consolidate training functions.

As with prior years, the section continued to provide Citizen Firearms training to the citizens of Okaloosa County which facilitates the training necessary to obtain a Concealed Weapons Permit. The unit conducted four two-day Citizens Firearms Safety Courses, training 68 citizens.



In 2018, OCSO employees attended 15,674 training hours outside of our agency and 11,810 hours within the agency. This training included a variety of topics such as firearms, defensive tactics, crowd control, vehicle operations, less lethal weapons, Physical Abilities Testing, leadership courses, CrossFit, Crime Scene training, major crimes, interviewing, and other specialty instruction.

5,375 hours of web-based training programs were completed through various sources outside of the agency. Internally, our own "PowerDMS" virtual training system provided over 3000 hours of online training, saving the agency literally thousands of dollars in tuition, travel, and instructor costs, while also reducing manpower shortages and/or overtime costs.



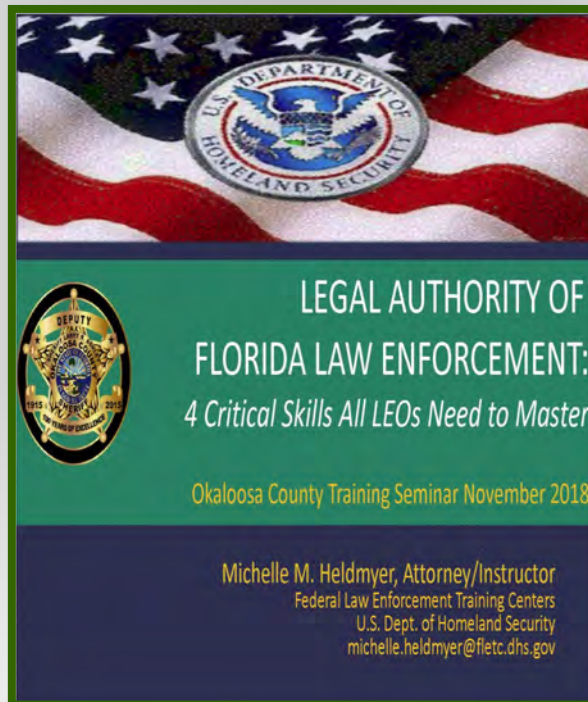
## Other Professional Development Accomplishments in 2018

\*Partnered with Fort Walton Beach Medical Center (FWBMC) to become an American Heart Association Training Site, developed in-house instructors, and began offering classes to all employees on Basic Life Support to include CPR and the use of AEDs. Partnered with FWBMC to teach Stop the Bleed to all agency employees. Stop the Bleed is a nationally taught course endorsed by the White House to help educate the public on the dangers of bleeding. FWBMC provided the materials and supplies for this project.

\*Partnered with the Northwest Florida State College Public Safety Department, The Federal Bureau of Investigations LOEKA section, and Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, to host several training courses specific to the area of law enforcement education. Instituted an annual Active Shooter/Active Threats training program for all sworn members.

\*Collaborated with the OCSO Homeland Security Unit to update the Active Threat Policy, updated current tactics being taught to law enforcement, and coordinated with local fire departments and Emergency Medical Services to develop Tactical Rescue Team Training. Funding was also allocated to provide all sworn Deputy Sheriffs with ballistics rifle plates, helmets, and trauma kits to deal with active threat incidents.

\*Managed the Field Training and Evaluation Program (FTEP), which is the initial on the job training program for newly hired deputies. The FTEP is a court tested and E.E.O.C. consistent program because it is part of the selection process. It reduces civil litigation alleging negligent hiring and retention of trainees and is a cost-effective way of eliminating non-effective, non-productive personnel. 51 sworn members entered the program in 2018. Recruited and helped develop successful Field Training Officers as part of OCSO FTEP.



\*To assist the increased training needs of a growing agency, a Sergeant was assigned to the **Training and Professional Development Section as the agency's first full-time** trainer. This need was precipitated in part by the growth of the community and the expectations placed upon law enforcement agencies.

\*Facilitated the promotional process for Corporals, Investigators, and Sergeants, as well as the selection and recruitment of Field Training Officers.



## Human Resources Unit

The OCSO Human Resources Unit (HR) is committed to the effective design of regulated systems that ensure a pool of talented employees is available to provide the law enforcement needs of Okaloosa County. The OCSO HR Unit provides advice and service in Strategic Management, Employee Benefits and Reward Systems, Policy, Classification and Compensation, Employee Relations, Workforce Planning and Employment as well as a portion of Risk Management to over 300 sworn members and about 100 non-sworn civilian employees.

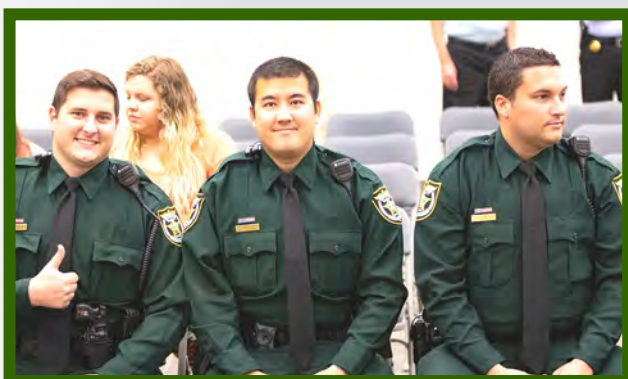


During 2018 the OCSO HR unit was responsible for filling 51 sworn deputy vacancies. The unit culled through approximately 166 applications to ensure only the most qualified person was hired. It also sorted through about 283 applications in order to fill 26 non-sworn civilian member vacancies. On average, it took about 30 days to fill a vacant position. The unit also partnered with the Professional Development Section to facilitate the promotional processes for Corporal, Investigator, and Sergeant.

Due to the growing needs of the agency, HR was able to add an additional employee to their unit. The new HR Clerk provides assistance to the unit by aiding in electronic retention of personnel records, public record requests, recruiting, and background investigation process.



# New Faces



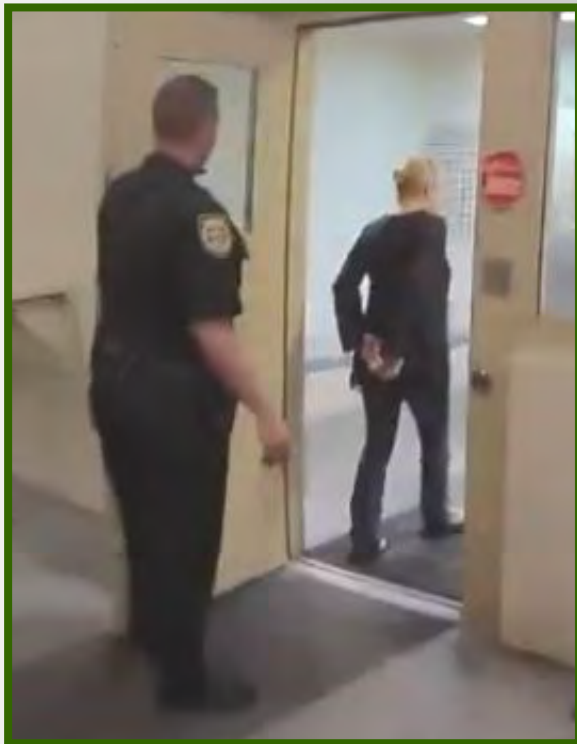


# Judicial Services

## Court Security/Detention

2018 was another busy year. Both North and South Court Security personnel continued working from the FWB Courthouse, the Okaloosa County Water and Sewer Building and the Brackin Building in Crestview due to the April 2016 Crestview Courthouse closure. This sometimes logistical nightmare has come to an end as the Crestview Courthouse opened for service in December. The section also lost three of its favorite members to retirement; Judge Patt Maney, his assistant Cheryl Stafford and Sergeant Laurie Keller-Lithgow.

An idea initiated by Deputy Stephen Baldwin to name the courthouse perimeter road after Judge Maney came to fruition after it gained traction with both the City of Fort Walton Beach and Okaloosa County. The joint proclamation passed unanimously by both government entities. Many thanks to Commissioner Graham Fountain who steered the ship to make this idea become a reality.



In 2018, the Detention Section processed 21,703 subjects into the OCCAE Booking Facility, an increase of 568 from 2017. The section also transported 12,780 inmates including those scheduled for court which is an increase of 767 from 2017. It also registered 1,401 felony/sexual offenders in 2018.

The Water and Sewer building handled 758 cases or hearings in 2018 and screened 1,272 individuals through the Single Point of Entry. No items of contraband were seized.

The Brackin Building handled 156 cases or hearings in 2018 and screened 416 individuals. No items of contraband were seized.

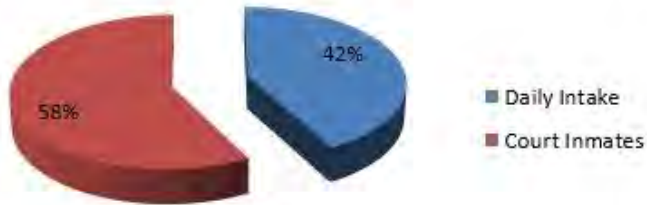
Court Security South handled 95,468 cases or hearings; this is 7,377 more than in 2017. They screened 167,039 citizens through the Single Point of Entry. This number equates to 639 people per day, or 71 per hour. They also seized 273 items of contraband or weapons.

The section also processed 627 state mandated DNAs from the courts and detention which were submitted to FDLE. OCSO is currently at a 100% collection rate.

## Judicial Services

**2018 Booking and Transportation Totals**

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Daily Intake	560	482	512	539	570	555	597	628	572	516	450	463	6444
Bonded Out	93	79	112	89	80	69	71	52	59	41	50	47	842
Felony Registrations	69	53	50	61	56	54	47	39	44	78	38	44	633
Jail Transports	312	249	261	328	359	367	387	446	372	312	281	276	3950
Court Inmates	716	791	642	629	724	732	721	829	790	860	720	676	8830
Juvenile	17	9	33	18	15	29	23	16	16	23	15	22	236
Sexual Registrations	57	51	65	65	64	64	75	75	81	61	49	61	768
<b>Total Per Month</b>	<b>1824</b>	<b>1714</b>	<b>1675</b>	<b>1729</b>	<b>1868</b>	<b>1870</b>	<b>1921</b>	<b>2085</b>	<b>1934</b>	<b>1891</b>	<b>1603</b>	<b>1589</b>	<b>21703</b>



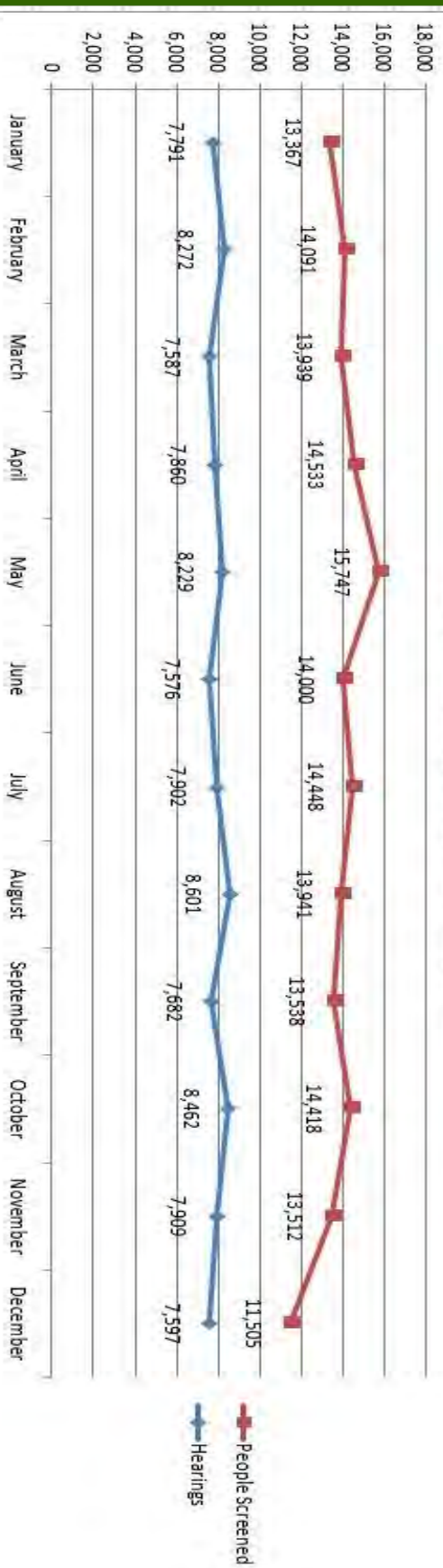


# Judicial Services South Court Security Totals

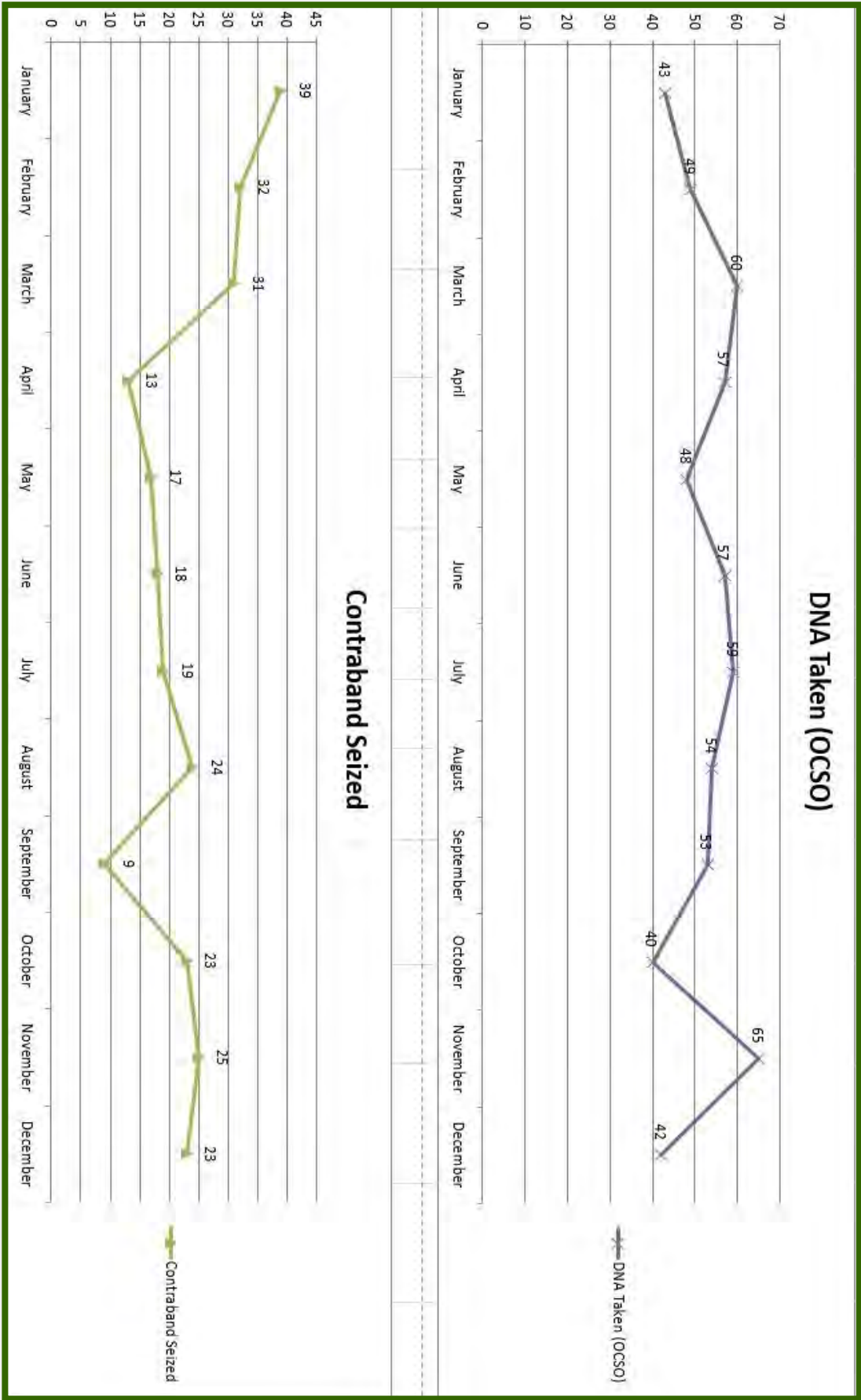
## 2018 South Court Security Totals

Topic	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Hearings	7,791	8,272	7,587	7,860	8,229	7,576	7,902	8,601	7,682	8,462	7,909	7,597	95,468
People Screened	13,367	14,091	13,939	14,533	15,747	14,000	14,448	13,941	13,538	14,418	13,512	11,505	167,039
Contraband Seized	39	32	31	13	17	18	19	24	9	23	25	23	273
DNA Taken (OCSO)	43	49	60	57	48	57	59	54	53	40	65	42	627
DNA Taken by OCJ	41	52	43	69	38	55	48	48	42	47	53	40	576

### People Screened /Hearings Held



Judicial Services  
South Court/DNA Taken/Contraband Seized





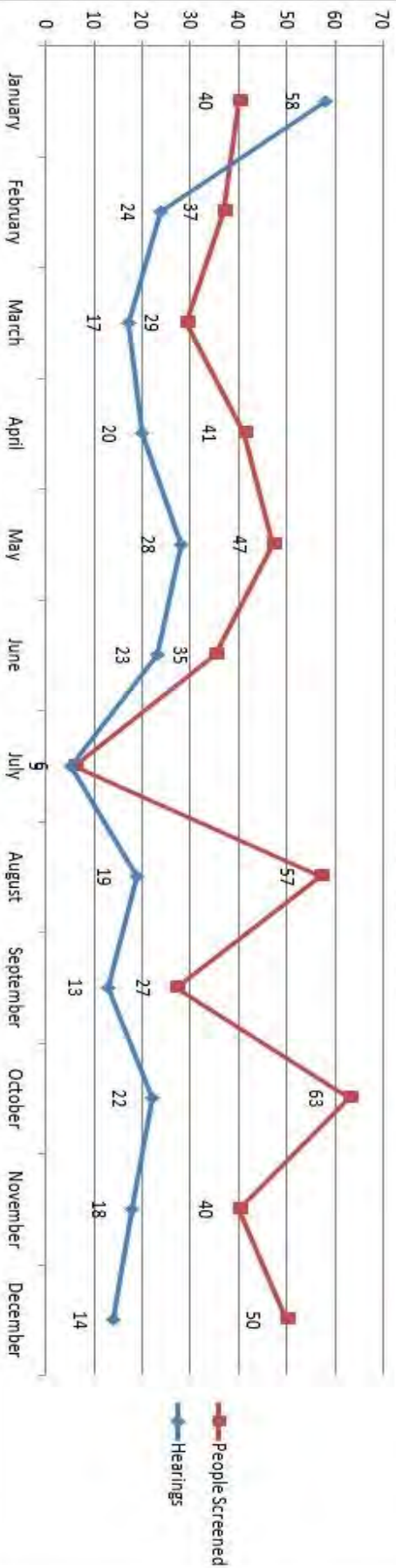


# Judicial Services Crestview Security Totals

## 2017 Brackin Building (Crestview) Security Totals

Topics	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Hearings	58	24	17	20	28	23	5	19	13	22	18	14	261
People Screened	40	37	29	41	47	35	6	57	27	63	40	50	472
Contraband Seized/Found	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### People Screened /Hearings Held

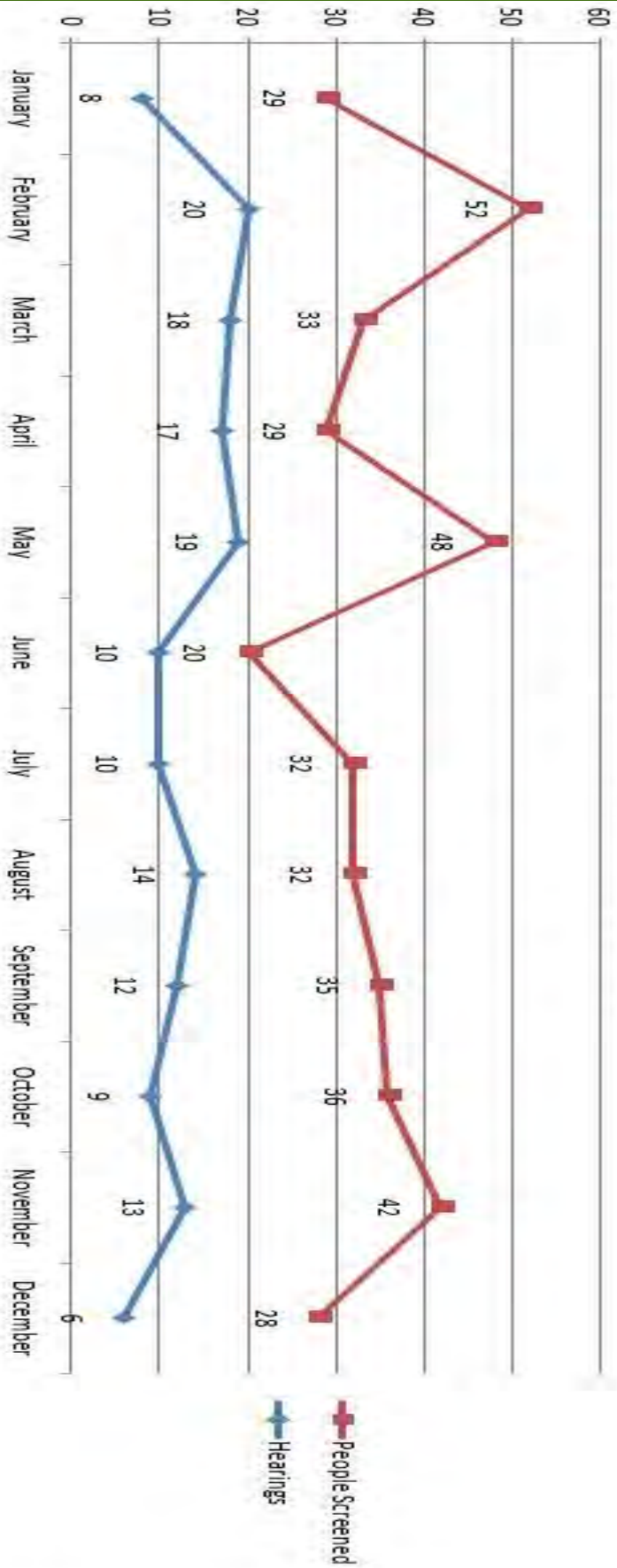




# Judicial Services

## Crestview People Screened/Hearings Held

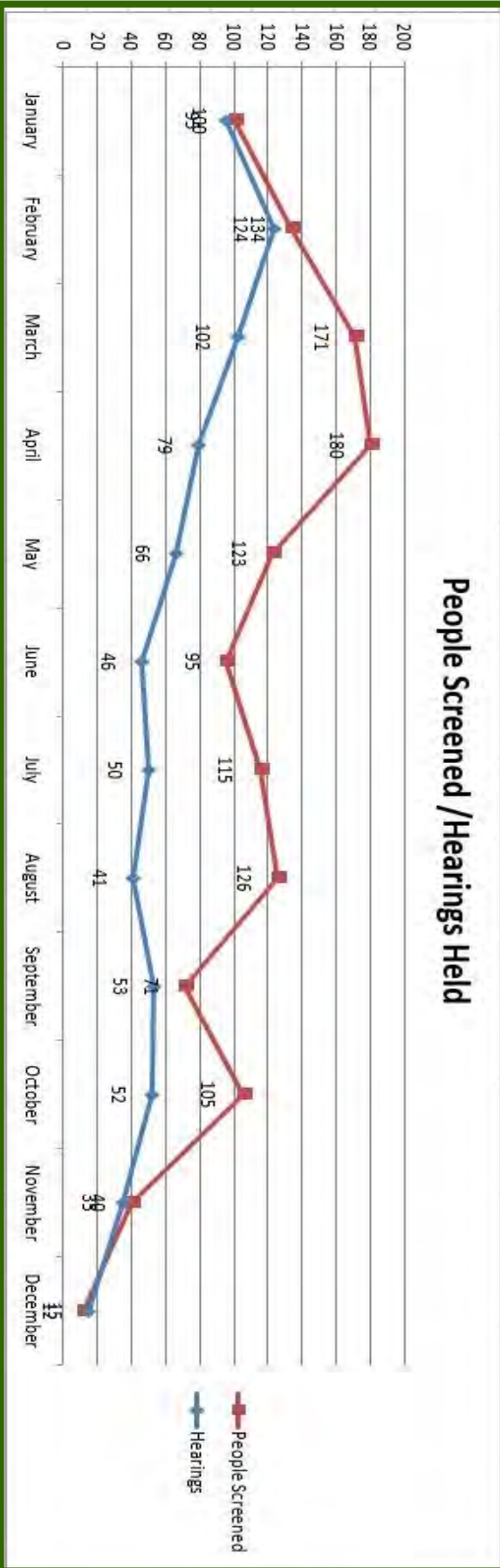
People Screened /Hearings Held



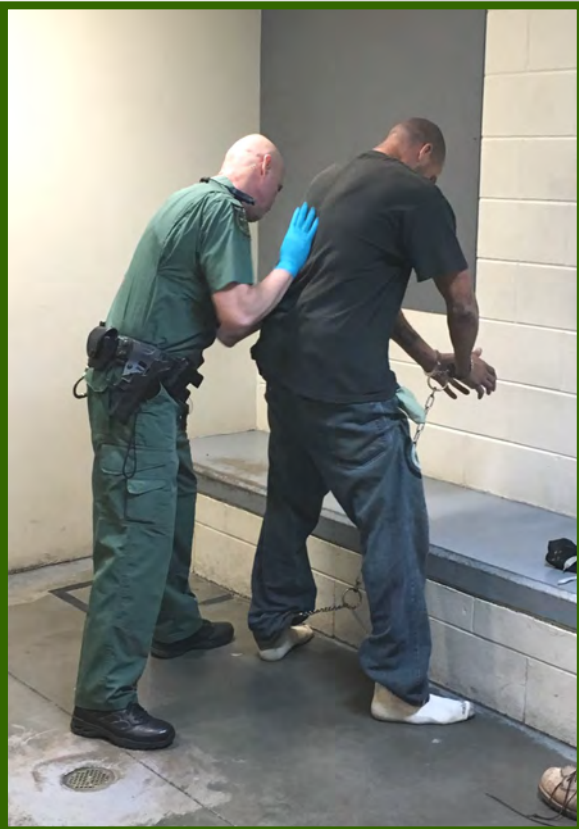
# Judicial Services

## Water and Sewer Building Security Totals

2018 Water and Sewer Building Security Totals													
Topics	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Hearings	95	124	102	79	66	46	50	41	53	52	35	15	758
People Screened	100	134	171	180	123	95	115	126	71	105	40	12	1,272
Contraband Seized/Found	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0







## Judicial Services Warrants

The Warrants Unit processes all agency arrest warrants and civil commit orders issued by the courts in Okaloosa County. They also intake warrants and civil commits issued by other jurisdictions, where the defendant may be in Okaloosa County. The Warrants Unit coordinates with other agencies for the execution of warrants outside of Okaloosa County and arranges transport of prisoners from other jurisdictions. They also transport or coordinate transportation of prisoners housed in confinement institutions outside of Okaloosa County for judicial hearings. The Warrants Unit is currently managing more than 3552 outstanding warrants and orders to take into custody for the arrest of fugitives. During 2018 the Warrants Unit processed more than 7195 warrants, 4,380 warrants were executed and 638 prisoners were transported at a cost of \$129,013.17

### Okaloosa's Wanted Persons

#### Search **WANT/WARRANT**

Last Name:

First Name:

Middle Name:



There are no records matching the specified criteria.





## Judicial Services Records

The Records Unit processes all reports, videos, traffic citations, DUIs, and crash reports for the OCSO. This unit is the custodian and point of contact for all records related information for internal, public records requests, agency produced videos, and judicial processes such as court and DUI administrative hearings. It also conducts quality assurance on offense reports and compiles the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) statistics.

• Public records request emails	11,926
• Scanned Entries	26,332
• Notice To Appear (NTA—589 for underage drinking)	814
• Master Name Index Records Merged	3,397
• Mug shots uploaded by Records	3,179
• Videos Compiled SA, DUI Review Board, or Public Records Request	6,083
• Offense Reports	17,475
• <b>Arrests only (Does not include NTA's, Warrants, or Summons)</b>	<b>4,371</b>
• DUI Citations	267
• Traffic Crash Reports	1,143
• Traffic Warnings	16,069
• Traffic Citations	4,153



In 2018 Records worked to electronically transmit more of its records to the Clerk of Courts, saving man hours and of course paper. The section, with the help of Court Security and light duty personnel, finished converting needed older records to digital format and purged non-essential records. Records personnel also conducted 1,446 pre-employment/background fingerprint scans at no cost to the citizens.

## Judicial Services Civil Process

The Sheriff or his deputies are required by Florida Constitution and state statutes to serve orders from the court delivered to them. Civil Process receipts in and processes all enforceable and non-enforceable orders from the court. This includes but is not limited to Domestic Violence and other protective orders, summons and complaints, criminal and civil subpoenas, as well as Writs of Possession, Replevin, Garnishment and Attachment. Civil Process collects the applicable service fees **required by statute. Civil Process deputies execute evictions, child custody orders, and Levy's and Replevins.** In addition the Unit seizes property and holds sales of property seized in Levy's.

During 2018 the Civil Process Unit:

- Managed more than 2,026 Domestic Injunctions and protection orders
- Processed and served more than 14,901 pieces of civil process
- Processed and served 1,503 domestic violence and other protective orders
- Processed and served 8,534 criminal subpoenas
- **Collected more than \$152,900 in Sheriff's Fees**



Civil Process also lost two valued members as Lt. Fred Lithgow and Deputy Tim Harbarger retired after many years of service.



## Judicial Services Community Service/Activity/Achievements

In 2018 the Okaloosa County Courthouse Annex Extension (OCCAE) hosted four Building Partnership Aviation Capacity Seminars (BPAC). This military relations project was spearheaded by Judge Maney (now retired) and will be continued by Judge Mason. The initiative has the goal of enhancing the knowledge of foreign military members to the laws and processes of the United States of America. Sheriff Ashley or his designee speaks at these seminars and our K-9 Unit provides a demonstration. Various static equipment displays are presented throughout the year to highlight our agencies capabilities.



In November Court Security for the fourth year sponsored a blood drive with "One Blood" through the efforts of Deputy Steve Baldwin.

The men and women of the Judicial Services Division had a total of 423.5 volunteer hours for 2018. Judicial Services employees are members of or volunteer for the following organizations/activities: Public Safety Coordinating Council, Court Emergency Management Team, First Judicial Circuit Law-**Enforcement Association**, **OCSO Teen Driver Challenge**, **OCSO Sheriff's Star Charities**, **Guardian ad Li-**tem, Safe Connections, Elder Services/Alternative Living, Mental Health Association of Okaloosa/Walton Counties, Crime Stoppers, Fraternal Order of Police, Shoal River Middle School Football, PATHS (Liza Jackson), Crestview High School Baseball, Baker Area Youth Association, City of Crestview Softball, USSSA Travel Softball; Okaloosa USO and Crossfit Okaloosa.

Congratulations to Deputy Stephen Baldwin for being selected as Administration Bureau, Sworn Outstanding Performer of the Year!

# Youth Services

The unit is responsible for 39 public and private schools and serves a student population of 33,000 students, along with 2,500 faculty and staff. Sheriff Larry Ashley has ensured that all public schools will maintain an SRO on their campuses.

2018 turned out to be a unit changing year. The tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on February 14, 2018 changed the way every SRO unit in the nation would operate. Although it has always been our primary focus, school safety became a statewide focal point. The unit added a second SRO in five of our high schools and added four SRO rover positions. These positions are used to backfill or provide additional security at our schools. One of our SROs recently stated, **"When I watch parents pull up to the school and drop their kids off I know they entrust me to protect them and that means a lot to me."**

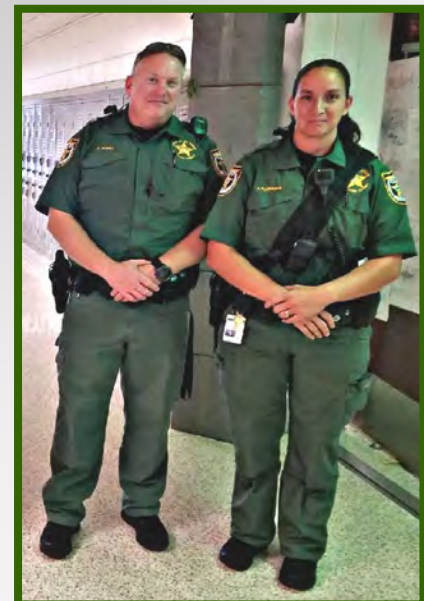


The Marjory Stoneman Douglas Act ( HB7026) required additional training for students and staff on active assailants. The Unit did not wait for these deadlines to begin to train faculty and staff. Since the beginning of school all students have received training. A safety assessment was conducted on every campus. A written report was presented to the school district and plans for upgrading safety was set in motion.

The SRO program operates on multiple levels. The first priority will always remain to be the front line **protection of students, staff and school property.** Additionally the SRO's remain involved in the following areas as they partner with students, parents, and staff to establish youth relations and **mentoring programs through positive law enforcement interactions:** Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office Explorer Program, Okaloosa Youth Week, Florida Sheriff's Association Caruth Camp, Teen Driver Challenge, School Safety Patrol, Character Counts and Books to Badges. The unit also participated in the departments **"Angel Tree"** program raising over \$15,000 in gifts at Christmas time. Hurricane Michael devastated our adjacent counties and SRO's stepped up to help. One team went to the devastated areas just days after the storm with chain saws in hand and helped dig out residents. **Two more trips were made with much needed supplies. A coat drive" Hoodies for Hope" was started** as the cold months approached. A fourth trip was made to deliver the hoodies. They did not forget our **own citizens and helped United Way with "Coats for Kids".** The Youth Services Division is also responsible for Okaloosa County Emergency shelters.



## Youth Services





# Youth Services

## Sexual Offender/Predator Unit

The Sexual Offender/Predator Unit (SOPU) is comprised of members of the Youth Services Division and is tasked with the monitoring, tracking, and verifying of all sexual offenders/predators within Okaloosa County, Florida. Accordingly, those non-compliant offenders/predators are also investigated by members of the Youth Services Division. In 2013, the SOPU was realigned into the Youth Services Division based on the philosophy and best practice that the school resource officer (SRO) is the most effective and efficient resource to monitor offenders/predators residing and/ or located within Okaloosa County. More than fifty SROs spread across three districts diligently work to verify approximately 360 offenders/predators within Okaloosa County. From January 2018 to December 1060 verifications were attempted or verified, 24 reports generated with potential violations with more than 8 arrests falling under the category of FSS 943.0435 (failure to register) and four more currently under investigation. Partnerships have been fostered with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and U.S. Marshals Service in this significant task. These relationships have assisted with maintaining statutory requirements, offender compliance, and continuing training. These men and women excel at what they do, while maintaining a standard unsurpassed in their primary function—school based policing.

### Florida Department of Law Enforcement - Sexual Offender / Predator



**Scott L Erickson**  
Date of Image : 06/11/2009

Primary Information	
Designation :	Sexual Predator
Name :	Scott L Erickson
Status :	Released - Subject to Registration
Dept of Correction# :	205430
Date Of Birth :	07/24/1974
Race :	White
Sex :	Male
Hair :	Brown
Eyes :	Hazel
Height :	5'09"
Weight :	174 lbs

Scott L Erickson is registered as a Sexual Predator pursuant to Section 775.21 F.S. Positive identification cannot be established unless a fingerprint comparison is made.

Aliases				
Scott Lee Erickson, Scottie Erickson, Scotty Erickson, Scott Erickson				
Scars, Marks & Tattoos				
Type	Body Location	Count		
Not Available				
Address Information				
Address	Address Source information	Map Link		
1103 Cedar Ave S Apt B Niceville, FL 32578-3156 Okaloosa County	Source: FDLE Received Date: 12/13/2018 Address Type: Permanent	N/A		
Crime Information - Qualifying Offenses				
Adjudication Date	Crime Description	Court Case Number	Jurisdiction & State	Adjudication
10/09/2007	Sex Offnder Fail Comply Registration; F.S. 943.0435(9)	0701917	Okaloosa, FL	Guilty/convict
03/04/1997	Lewd, Lascivious batt cause sex act victim <16 years old; F.S. 800.04(4)(b) (PRINCIPAL)	9603758	Escambia, FL	Guilty/convict
03/04/1997	Lewd, Lascivious batt cause sex act victim <16 years old; F.S. 800.04(4)(b) (PRINCIPAL )	9603759	Escambia, FL	Guilty/convict



## Youth Services

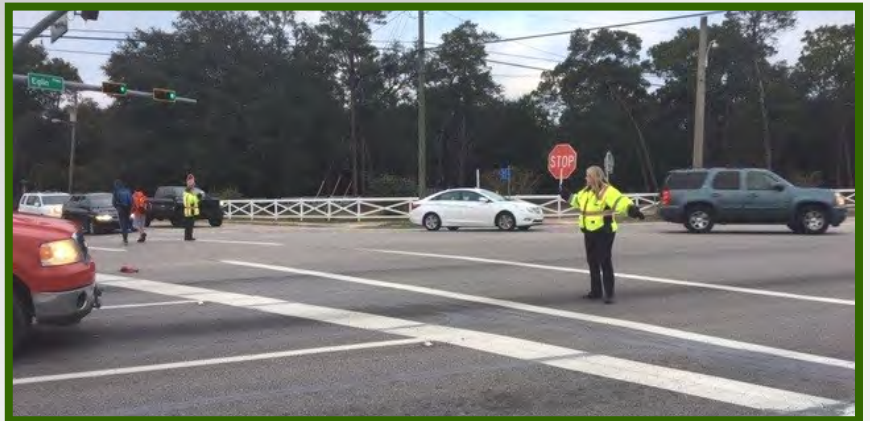
### Teen Driver Challenge

The Florida Sheriff's Association's Teen Drivers Challenge (TDC) was created in 2007 to address the primary factors affecting teen drivers. In 2018 over 120 students ages 15 to 18 attended the two day course.



## School Crossing Guards

As a result of a steadily growing county population combined with a related increase in traffic flow, large numbers of children are put at risk attempting to cross intersections in order to attend school. School Crossing Guards will assist students to safely and expeditiously cross busy streets at designated school crossing guard sites. School Crossing Guards are part-time civilian employees assigned **to Youth Services Division of the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office. These dedicated employees** are a vital part of the Youth Services Division.



The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office Youth Services Division will continue its high standards. The unit will continue to reach out to our youth and serve as role models, creating an atmosphere to cultivate good citizenship and respect for people, property, and the community we serve.

## Youth Services

OCSO SRO Offense Reports  
*North District* 2015-2018



OCSO SRO Offense Reports  
*Central District* 2015-2018



OCSO SRO Offense Reports  
*East District* 2015-2018





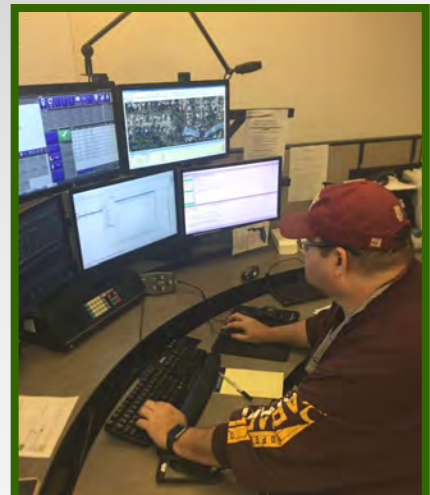
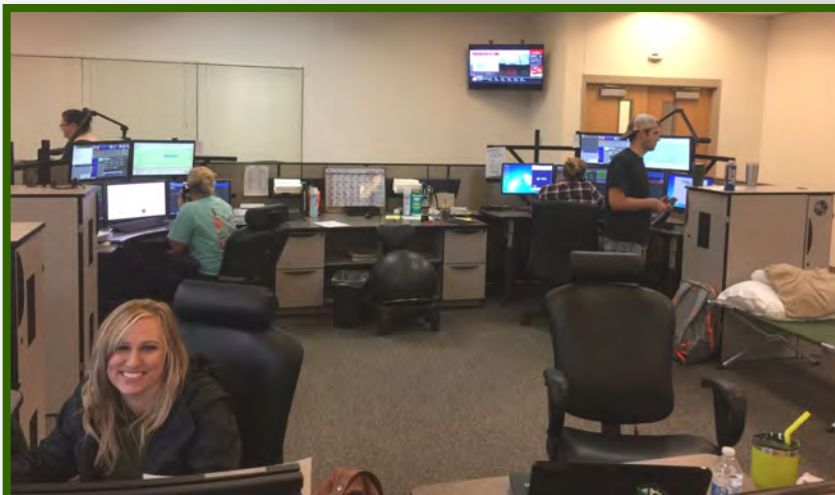
# Communications

2018 has been a very busy year for the Communications Section. The year started off with two continuing education graduates. Mr. Shannon King graduated from Florida State University as a Certified Public Manager. Mr. Dale Blackwood graduated from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Florida Leadership Academy. Both of these gentlemen bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Communications division and embody the definition of servant leadership.



During the last few months of the year, the Communications Section was re-structured. Communications Officers transitioned to working twelve hour shifts on the same rotation as patrol. This tandem shift schedule has increased interoperability with each platoon and allotted built-**in overtime hours, improving the unit's effectiveness.**

The Communications Section answered the call when Hurricane Michael was bearing down on our community. Additional personnel worked long hours during stressful times and were there to help the citizens and Deputies by getting them the information they needed. In a three day period, OCSO Telecommunicators answered 2,639 non-emergency calls and 416 emergency 911 calls for an approximate 83.5% increase in comparison to average.



## COMMUNICATIONS

On October 16th 2018, the Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners voted to consolidate Okaloosa County Public Safety Communications with Okaloosa County **Sheriff's Office Communications**. This consolidation effort will save both money and lives through gained efficiencies. During the last couple months of 2018, stakeholders and employees from both agencies have worked together to plan a professional and seamless transition. Phase One of the consolidation will take place in January 2019.



### Overall Stats:

- Calls for service generated: 236,639
- 911 Calls Answered: 45,022
- Non-Emergency Calls Answered: 366,902
- New Employees Trained: 11

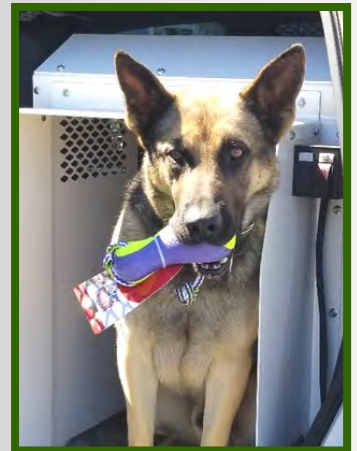




# K-9

The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office K9 Unit currently consists of eight certified teams. Seven of the teams are dual purpose canines certified in patrol work (Search and Apprehension) as well as narcotics detection. The eighth team is a single purpose canine certified in narcotic detection and is attached to the Youth Service Division.

- **8371** **Calls for Service**
- **1608** **Traffic Stops**
- **1963** **K-9 assists**
- **1524** **Security Checks**
- **500** **Citizen Contacts**
- **557** **Narcotic Checks**
- **159** **Suspect Searches**
- **118** **Suspects located**
- **103** **Warrant Services**
- **488** **Arrests**
- **31** **K-9 Demonstrations**



As noted above the K9 Unit had another busy and productive year. In addition to protecting the streets of the county, the K9 Unit received numerous accolades and support from various community partners.



## United States Police Canine Association Field Trials

During the first week of March, the OCSO K9 Unit competed in the 2018 USPCA Region 1 Field Trials hosted by the Escambia County Sheriff's Office. The unit turned many heads during the week long competition and ended the week long competition with several handlers being recognized for their excellence. Deputy Johnathon Duenas (K9 Axel), Deputy Derek York (K9 Nico), Deputy Zachary Putnam (K9 Titan) and Deputy Joseph Trimboli (K9 Esuda) all brought home awards.



Deputy Duenas (K9 Axel) placed 14<sup>th</sup>  
Overall out of over 75 teams

He also placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Criminal Apprehension



Deputy York (K9 Nico) placed 10<sup>th</sup>  
Overall



Deputy Joseph Trimboli (K9 Esuda)  
and Deputy Zachary Putnam (K9 Titan)  
placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 2-Man Departmental  
Team Category

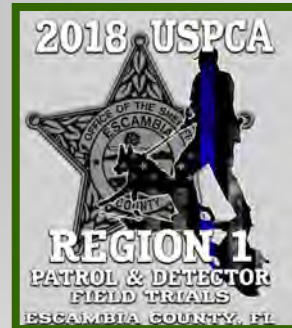




## K-9 Honoring a True Legend



In a very special moment during the awards banquet at the 2018 USPCA Regional Field Trials, the "Founding Father" of the OCSO K9 Unit, Roy Parker, was inducted into the USPCA Hall of Fame. Roy worked tirelessly to start the K9 Unit back in 1982. During his tenure as a handler, trainer, supervisor and command level supervisor he never stopped pushing himself and those around him to achieve the goals he set forth. He won countless awards for his K9 teams and led the Unit to numerous top place finishes in competitions. Roy has never lost the passion for K9 and continued his work with the USPCA even after retiring from Law Enforcement many years ago. He travels across the country judging and mentoring today's K9 teams. Roy continues to be an invaluable part of the success of the K9 world and especially the OCSO Unit.



## K-9

### United States Police Canine National Field Trials

Because of their achievements at the Regional Field Trials, Deputy Duenas (K9 Axel) and Deputy York (K9 Nico) were selected to be a part of the 4-Man Team, representing Region 1, to compete at the National Field Trial Event held in October in Huntsville, Alabama. This is a great honor and accomplishment to not only be selected by the Region, but to be able to compete alongside the best K9 teams in the country. Deputies Duenas and York made us proud at the competition and brought home even more awards. The two were a huge part of the **4-Man Team's success, earning a second place finish**. Deputy Duenas placed 18<sup>th</sup> overall out of the 90 team field.



2<sup>nd</sup> Place 4-Man Team (Deputy Duenas 2<sup>nd</sup> from left, Deputy York, 2<sup>nd</sup> from right)



Deputy Duenas 18<sup>th</sup> Place Overall





## K-9 Protecting and Serving

In addition to winning awards at completions this year, several members of the Unit have received accolades for their work in our community.



Deputy Duenas was named the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office Sworn Outstanding Performer of the Year, during the agency's annual awards ceremony.

## K-9

### Medal of Merit Recipient Cutler Petersen (K9 Miro)

Deputy Cutler Petersen was awarded the prestigious Medal of Merit for his bravery displayed during a situation involving a suicidal suspect who was threatening to set himself on fire. Deputy Petersen and several other members of the OCSO thwarted the man's attempts and ultimately saved his life. Deputy Petersen joins a small select group of individuals who have received this award.



### Awards and Accolades:

Deputy Elliott Howard (K9 Bady) was the recipient of the OCSO Certificate of Commendation for a successful K9 track that led to the arrest of a burglary suspect.





## K-9

### Awards and Accolades



Sergeant Tony Kelly (K9 Rico) was the recipient of the OCSO Outstanding Performance Award for his initiative taken in a multi-month narcotics investigation which led to the arrest of a prominent narcotics supplier and the seizure of over 7lbs of high grade Marijuana, over 200 grams of Methamphetamine, and 25 grams of Heroin.

Deputy Johnathon Duenas (K9 Axel) was the recipient of the OCSO Certificate of Commendation for his involvement with a vehicle sniff which led to the seizure of over 4lbs of Marijuana, 100 grams of Methamphetamine and 5 grams of Heroin. These dangerous drugs were being housed less than 1000 feet from a daycare and less than 1000 feet from a place of worship.

Sergeant Tony Kelly (K9 Rico), Deputy Johnathon Duenas (K9 Axel) and Deputy Derek York (K9 Nico) were all members of teams that were deployed to Bay County for relief efforts after Hurricane Michael devastated the area. Each were recognized for their efforts with a letter of appreciation from the Office of the Governor.

Deputy Joseph Trimboli (K9 Esuda) was the recipient of the OCSO Lifesaving Award for his actions which prevented a suicidal subject from ending his life by jumping from a local bridge.

Deputy Cutler Petersen was the recipient of the OCSO Life Saving Award for his actions which **prevented a single suicidal subject from ending his life. This was Deputy Petersen's fourth Lifesaving Award.**





K-9

## Above and Beyond

The OCSO K9 Unit hosted a very successful Professional K9 Decoy class in May. The class was led by world renowned instructor Franco Angelini, owner/operator of K9 Bite Dr. LLC. Agencies from all across the state of Florida were in attendance. The grueling four day course left everyone bruised and exhausted, but all in attendance agreed it was one of the best training classes they had ever attended.





K-9  
K9 Leads the Way!





# Airports Security Unit



The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office, Airport Security Unit is dedicated law enforcement service for Okaloosa County's Airport System. Okaloosa County's Airport System is comprised of three public use airports, Destin-Fort Walton Beach Airport (VPS), Bob Sikes Airport (CEW), and Destin Executive Airport (DTS). The three airports operate as independent proprietary enterprises to accommodate a wide range of aeronautical, aviation related, and non-aviation business activities including scheduled commercial air carrier service, industrial, corporate, military, and private aircraft operations without any revenue from ad valorem or general sales taxes.

Management within Okaloosa Sheriff's Office and Okaloosa County Airports has recognized the need for increased security measures at airports like perimeter protection, access control, and suspicious behavior detection among other methods and strategies. Developing and implementing proactive and comprehensive methods and strategies for use in our airport security system is a continuous challenge.



## Destin-Fort Walton Beach Airport (VPS)

Destin-Fort Walton Beach Airport (VPS) has experienced tremendous growth and is now ranked as the fastest growing airport in America. VPS CY19 forecast activity is predicted at 70 operations (flights) per day during the peak season, with 4,310 departing seats and a total of 1.4M passengers. The Airport Security Unit is focused on tempo and service being provided, with the understanding that no one day is the same, and members could go from assisting a passenger into a national security crisis in seconds.

In 2018, deputies assigned to the Airport Security Unit responded to 14,738 calls for service, ranging from aircraft crashes to in-flight emergencies, inebriated passengers, theft, passenger/airline security assistance, traffic crashes, domestic violence, and medical emergencies around the clock.



# Airports Security Unit

Activity	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Calls for Service (VPS)	1089	1021	1071	1143	1317	1312	1317	1115	1057	1209	1116	1126	13893
Calls for service (CEW)	40	37	47	54	33	11	30	18	49	43	39	43	444
Calls for service (DTS)	39	30	27	23	13	30	31	20	56	46	51	35	401
Secure Area Patrol (90)	185	169	179	169	251	146	199	143	145	152	142	137	1977
Non-Secure Area Patrol (91)	199	165	181	189	199	164	176	157	167	182	161	188	2128
Sterile Area Sweep (92)	31	28	31	30	31	30	31	31	31	31	30	31	366
Random Access Point (93A)	231	196	205	193	190	113	117	92	111	101	112	106	1767
Random Access Point (93B)	0	0	0	0	0	76	82	66	69	70	69	78	510
Gate Access Point (94)	231	197	206	201	193	117	135	120	124	120	115	106	1865
Sterile Area Patrol (95)	0	0	0	0	0	172	86	50	32	150	113	68	671
SIDA Violations (96)	1	0	1	1	5	8	3	4	5	4	1	2	35
TSA Assist (97FFDO)	51	50	49	38	89	55	72	70	70	63	69	58	734
TSA Assist (97LEO)	3	11	7	16	18	36	57	48	28	26	27	23	300
Airline Assist (98)	3	8	5	7	7	12	9	12	5	5	2	4	79
Vehicle/Vendor Inspection (99R)	0	0	0	0	0	21	10	9	13	11	14	12	90
Vehicle/Vendor Inspection (99)	91	80	111	137	189	141	240	173	208	156	142	157	1825
Traffic Crash	0	0	1	4	6	6	3	5	5	5	6	5	46
Medical Emergency	5	2	3	2	6	6	3	3	2	3	4	6	45
Ordinance Violation	2	6	7	3	12	14	21	15	18	18	13	18	147
Arrest	3	2	0	6	0	2	0	2	0	2	2	2	21
Passengers (VPS)	65,772	76,783	100,635	101,399	133,217	168,778	177,588	155,895	119,664	116,618	108,153		1,324,102

## Airports Security Unit

1,419,502 passengers traveled securely through Destin Fort Walton Beach Airport in 2018.

- A record setting 11, firearms were discovered in carry-on bags at checkpoints.
- Ten (90%) of the total firearms discovered were loaded.
- Five 5 (45%) of the total firearms discovered were possessed by licensed individuals holding valid concealed carry permits by local or recognized jurisdictions.
- Six (54%) of the total firearms discovered were possessed by individuals NOT licensed to carry a concealed weapon.



**Airport Security Unit Members Recognized for "Outstanding Performance."**

VPS historical growth continues and all indications are more of the same.

- 2015 Passengers 776,767
- 2016 Passengers 915,650 (increase of 17.88%)
- 2017 Passengers 1,175,894 (increase of 28.42%)





# Airports Security Unit

## Destin Executive Airport (DTS)

Destin Executive Airport (DTS) is located in the City of Destin, Florida along Highway 98 and is primarily a General Aviation Airport. Destin Executive footprint covers 395 acers and is owned and operated by the Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners.

- DTS is open for operational activity 24 hours daily
- Flight training activities, Civilian and Military
- Annual Operations: Approximately 103,459
- Number of Based Aircraft: Approximately 65
- **The FBO's. Lynx South and Lynx North, jointly operate a FAR Part 141 Flight School in accordance with required county standards**



## Bob Sikes Airport (CEW)

Bob Sikes Airport (CEW) serves as the region's industrial base providing a home to several aerospace manufacturing and modification companies. L-3 Communications / Crestview Aerospace is one of the region's largest non-government employers with nearly 600 employees working at the airport complex daily. Aerospace giant Lockheed Martin, Segers Aerospace Corporation, Gulf Air Group, Qwest Air Parts, and Sunshine Aero Industries are also located at CEW and prosper from being surrounded by land uses conducive for industrial functions. Activities such as aircraft engine remanufacturing and testing require land buffers to residential areas that could be potentially disturbed by noise.



## Airports Security Unit

With over 1,080 acres and an ILS equipped 8,000 foot runway, CEW accommodates over 67,000 **aircraft operations annually ranging from small general aviation aircraft to the world's largest transports** such as the An-124 pictured above. Nearly twice the size of a C-5 aircraft or the length of a football field, large cargo aircraft such as the Antonov require specific infrastructure. CEW provides the most suitable operating environment that other airports in the region cannot provide. Qwest Air Parts has been on-airport since 2009, specializes in the disassembly of large commercial aircraft, and provides recovered aircraft components to clients throughout the world.





# Fleet Maintenance

The Fleet Division maintains agency vehicles in the highest standard to ensure officer safety and performance.

- 59 new vehicles purchased and put into service
- 37 surplus vehicles sent to auction
- 7 surplus vehicles donated to non-profits or other agencies



## Mechanical Repairs

1,001 completed work orders for mechanical repairs and preventive maintenance

(Not included are computer scans, tire monitor system relearns, speedometer calibration tests, installation and swaps of other equipment—

(electronic gun racks, flashlight chargers, DC to AC

inverters, light bars, and sirens, two way mobile radios, MCT mounts and

many other no other parts or costs involved repairs.)



# FINANCE

The Finance Department had a good year. The Finance Department is small but filled with many years of experience and talent. The department managed TEN grants and helped negotiate seven new contracts for FY 2018. There were 334 purchase orders processed and a total of 186 check batches processed. There was a total of 30 payroll processes completed as well.

In addition to the steady workload the department worked through being displaced for a month due to flooding and never missed a deadline. Hurricane Micheal put additional demands on the department, specifically payroll, but again teamwork got us through.

Tiffany Carpenter joined our department as the new Supply Specialist in February. She has done an outstanding job from day one and has not stopped. We are happy to have her.

Members of our team attended continuing education training during the year, which kept us at the top of our field.

The finance team continues to serve our agency and community through volunteering with multiple organizations.

Through adversity, changes and constant workload we have maintained outstanding service and professionalism. We look forward to another successful audit at the end of 2018.

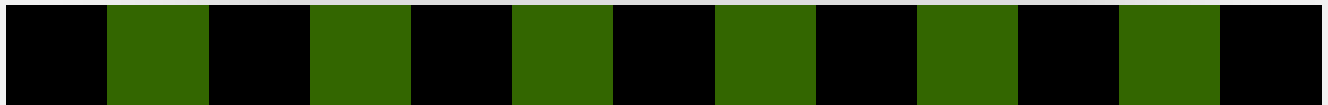




# Information Technology

## Help Desk Tickets

2,958 IT Tickets were entered for 2018 with 95% having been resolved. The number of helpdesk tickets is down 12% from last year.



## Projects

- New Server Backup System deployed. Dell EMC Avamar backup solution has been configured and deployed to ensure recoverability from server failure or natural disaster.
- Body Worn Camera System Update. 5-year contract provides a technology and hardware replacement program at the middle term of the contract. 378 cameras and associated cabling and attachments plus 85 stationary docks were replaced. As of this writing Evidence.com is storing 298,400 audio and video files.
- Annual Inventory. An OCSO employee software written program for inventory control was updated from past experience to enhance the features and make input easier to update. Overall inventory was completed before the end of 2018.
- Continued standardization of file storage and processes. Utilizing servers installed last year, file services have been relocated to a central repository allowing the removal of multiple servers for the same purpose and allowing redundancy of the data housed.
- Relocated the Records, Civil Process, Warrants and Finance sections to a temporary office space during an unexpected water leak. This allowed for continuation of normal business within the sections without loss of service to the public.
- Windows 10 deployment. IT has been updating the core Windows operating systems on all machines with a goal of standardizing all systems available to end users. At this time 243 systems are Windows 10 with a roughly 286 remaining systems.
- Outfitted new Crestview Courthouse with network and user systems for our law enforcement presence and security responsibilities there. Switches and Desktop systems installed connecting deputies to the Sheriff network for communications.

# Information Technology

## Hardware Deployments

- 36 New desktop computers were deployed.



- 103 Dell Rugged mobile computers deployed
- 110 Thermal mobile printers for new vehicles and retirement of ink jet type printers.
- Deployed scanners for use with the agency imaging system. Additional staff have been given scanners for document entry into the imaging system.

## Radar Certifications

- 219 OCSO Radars certified and another 75 certified for nine other agencies.



## 2018 Employee Hires Moves and Terminations

- 107 New Hires. New users require the creation of user accounts in Windows, SmartCOP, Home Drives, Evidence.com, phones and so on. MCT's for Deputies are prepared and simple training provided to accompany the new equipment.
- 153 employee moves (Include FTO to Assignments/Promotions/Transfers). Requires account changes, permissions set, and peripheral equipment assigned or collected to support the new position.
- In April 2018 a new IT Manager was hired. He is retired Air Force and comes to us with over 20 years of IT experience including but not limited to software development, network and system administration.



# Public Information



The Public Information Office produced and distributed approximately 230 news releases in 2018, as well as nearly 60 videos for the OCSO YouTube channel, a 100 page Annual Report, and numerous flyers.

Staying in touch with our community through social media remained a top priority and the OCSO Twitter page alone achieved nearly five-million impressions. Facebook followers surpassed the 75,000 mark.

The Public Information Office handled hundreds of media and citizen inquiries throughout the year, coordinating with multiple local, state, national, and international media ranging from Dateline and ABC to Japanese television productions and the Washington Post.



# Emerald Coast Crime Stoppers

Emerald Coast Crime Stoppers is a nonprofit organization operated on a local level. It is built on a solid partnership between law enforcement, the media, and a team of volunteers working together to solve crime. The organization encourages citizens to become involved in solving crimes. It offers cash rewards and anonymity to those who furnish valuable information leading to the arrest and/or indictment of criminals.

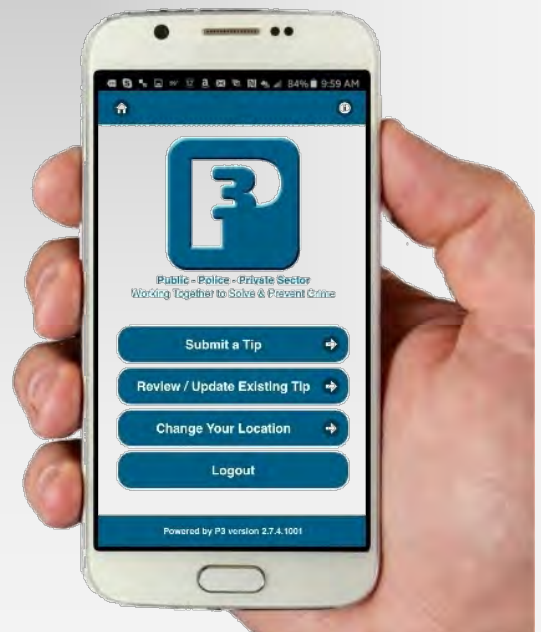


**Number of tips received: 1,216**

**Cases Cleared: 105**

**Arrests: 87**

**Rewards Approved: \$18,8025**





# OCSO FALLEN DEPUTIES BRIDGE/ROADWAY DEDICATION

## September 2018/Deputies Forgione, Myers, York, & Lopez



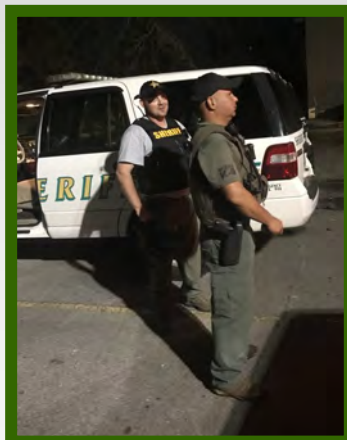


# Hurricane Michael Help





# Hurricane Michael Help



# Okaloosa Reserve Deputies

**The Sheriff's Office also has a Reserve Deputy Unit. It is comprised of various certified law enforcement officers.** Commonly referred to as Part Timer or Auxillary Deputies, these deputies perform a wide variety of services for the Sheriff and to the communities we serve. There are currently ten Reserve deputies in the unit. They are required to work 24 hours per quarter to maintain their certifications and state standards. Their responsibilities include but are not limited to: Patrol augmentation, Civil Process, Front desk, Traffic, Booking, Prisoner Transport and Security, and Training. They were instrumental in helping staff parade routes for the Veterans Day Parade and the Toys for Tots Parades this year among other events. These events likely would not have happened without them.

Several Reserve deputies are previously retired from the OCSO and found this unit and its flexible hours to be a good way from them to stay active and continue give back to the agency and county they served. Many have a wealth of training and knowledge and use those skills to support the training of new deputies who join the agency. Others work in a variety of capacities for the governmental entities or private business sector in the local area.

**The Reserve Deputy Unit serves a unique role and gives the Sheriff's Office added resources** in the event of a storm, natural disaster, or just to cover shortages with agency manpower.





# Okaloosa Posse

**The Okaloosa Sheriff's Posse is a group of civic-minded citizens** who donate their time to assist the OCSO with a multitude of functions. Members wear uniforms similar to those of a deputy and are authorized to wear badges and carry firearms.

In 2018, the Posse averaged twenty members. The number varies during the year due to members moving for employment, being hired by law enforcement agencies, and retirements.

The Posse covered a total of 104 details last year, a slight increase over previous years. Those details included festivals, runs, special events at the Emerald Coast Convention Center, holiday patrols, guarding crime scenes and/or prisoners at the hospitals, beach patrol, parades, back-up patrols and more.

The Posse volunteered 7,630 hours of service in 2018. The organization continues to support the many different entities within the agency by augmenting personnel within the School Resource Officer Program, Civil Process Division, and Booking.

**The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Posse maintains its tradition of being an excellent training ground** for law enforcement officers and several have been hired by either the OCSO or other law enforcement agencies during 2018.



BREAKDOWN OF POSSE TIME:

MEETINGS: Monthly Posse meetings, Detail and Administrative meetings.

SPECIAL DETAILS: Events, festivals, runs, traffic control.

TRAINING: All training, classroom, DMS, seminars etc.

PATROL: Posse backup patrol. Halloween and Christmas Neighborhood Patrols.

ADMIN: Vehicle repair, uniform exchange paperwork of all kinds.

OTHER: Not covered above include: civil paper server, booking, SRO etc.

TOTAL SPECIAL DETAILS ONLY

January ----- 2 details

February ----- 12 details

March ----- 15 details

April ----- 11 details

May ----- 11 details

June ----- 8 details

July ----- 3 details

August ----- 6 details

September ----- 10 details

October ----- 12 details

November ----- 10 details

December ----- 5 details

Total details — 104

Total detail hours — 3,680

Total POSSE Hours—7,630



# Mounted Posse

Our 28 Mounted Posse members donated 891 volunteer hours in 2018, taking part in seven events, holding five practices, and attending two meetings.

These volunteers say one of the best parts of their involvement is seeing smiles on the faces of children. They enjoy sharing the horses they love with others, representing the OCSO in a positive and crowd-pleasing way!

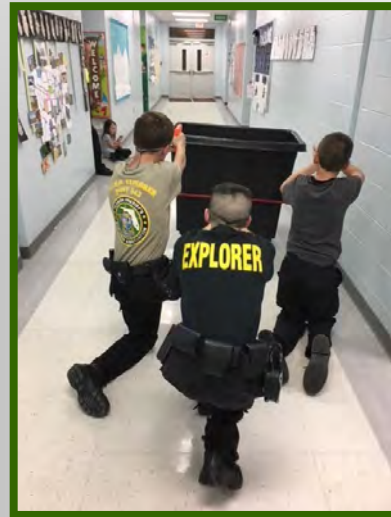




# OCSO Explorer Post 543

The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Explorer Post 543 stayed busy with community service projects.

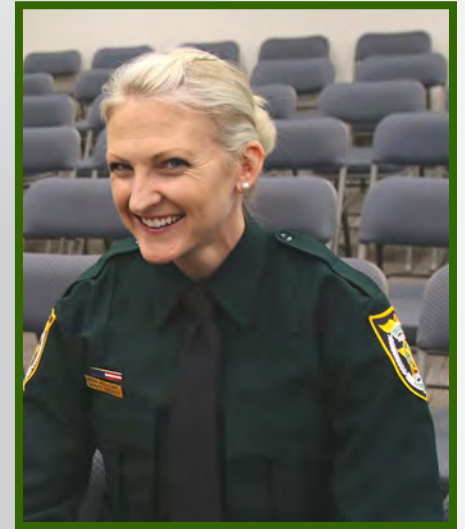
The Explorers have and continue to travel to devastated areas that were affected by Hurricane Michael to bring much needed supplies. The Explorers have also given monetary donations to those affected. The Explorers have worked at several local events held within the community and raised over \$10,000 on their annual 5k Mudbug Run. If this was not enough, Post 543 hosted the State Explorer Conference on Okaloosa Island bringing in over 300 Explorers from around the state for some friendly competition and training. Post 543 also expanded this year adding a third post in the East District. This addition will be much more accommodating to the youth living within the East District.













# *Employee Recognitions*

## *DEPUTY OF THE YEAR*

### **DEPUTY MATTHEW LANGER**

Deputy Sheriff Langer began his law enforcement career with the OCSO in 2017 and upon completion of his Field Training was assigned to the Central Patrol District, Delta Shift. Deputy Langer immediately began to demonstrate his willingness to learn by studying agency policy and Florida Statutes, as well as completing in excess of 220 hours of advanced training classes. To date, Deputy Langer



has continued his self-education and is one of the most experienced and well-versed deputies assigned to Central Patrol and shift-mates often seek him out for guidance or assistance on a daily basis.

During 2018, members of Delta Shift Central generated over 1,670 offense reports and made over 810 arrests. **Deputy Langer, while working the 3 busiest zones, initiated more than 330 investigations, made 309 arrest and had a case closure rate of 89 percent.**

In December, Deputy Langer had the opportunity to become a Field Training Officer and completed the training and is awaiting to apply for the position. Deputy Langer will be an outstanding example for newly hired deputies.

During his off duty time, Deputy Langer volunteered to assist with agency training events and was nominated to join the Board of Directors for Jobs4U, a local non-profit organization which aids people with special needs for entry into today's workforce. Deputy Langer also sponsored numerous children from the OCSO Angel Tree to buy Christmas gifts for children who otherwise would have gone without.

Deputy Langer truly demonstrates the essence of what a Deputy Sheriff should be. He displays strong ethics, values, common sense, respect for others and possesses an appreciation for the criminal justice system which cannot be taught. **We are proud to present Deputy Matthew Langer as our Deputy of the Year.**

# *INVESTIGATOR OF THE YEAR*

## INVESTIGATOR MITCH LANDIS

Investigator Landis is assigned to the Special Investigation Section, Drug Task Force and during 2018 distinguished himself as a peer leader during multiple complex investigations.

Over the past year, Investigator Landis has been a major contributor as both a case agent and team member in the unit.

**Investigator Landis has exceptional initiative, tenacity, dedication and commitment and was responsible for unprecedented results and performance in 2018. We are proud to present Investigator Mitch Landis as the Investigator of the Year.**





## *SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR*

### **SERGEANT JASON FULGHUM**



Sergeant Fulghum is assigned as the East District Sergeant as is responsible for the operations of our beach units and the City of Destin. During 2018, the beach units and deputies assigned to the City of Destin generated 4,253 calls for service, 842 Offense reports and 664 arrests and/or NTA. Sgt. Fulghum was responsible for handling 339 calls for service himself, while generating 24 offense reports and making 21 arrest.

In 2018, Sgt. Fulghum was once again tasked with planning, organizing and implementing the Sheriff's Office "Zero Tolerance Spring Break Initiative." The operation resulted in 444 arrests, which included underage possession of alcohol, narcotics and driving under the influence. The operation was a huge success, which resulted in no major crimes or injuries being reported throughout the spring break period.

During the "100 days of Summer", Sgt. Fulghum organized and scheduled the White Point Road Traffic detail after residents complained to the BOCC about the

amount of traffic detouring through their neighborhood. The purpose of the detail was to safely control the amount of traffic coming south on SR293 and ensure those travelers remain of SR293 leaving the White Point roads clear of traffic related issues. **Sgt. Fulghum volunteered to change his work schedule during this operation and supervise the detail through its entirety with no major traffic issues being reported.**

Sgt. Fulghum was also tasked with taking over the Project Lifesaver Program. Project Lifesaver provides radio transmitter bracelets and tracking units and trains local public safety professionals how to utilize the equipment to locate special needs wanderers, such as persons with Alzheimer's and Autism. This year two Okaloosa county residents were found using this technology.

Sgt. Fulghum was also selected as a United Way Ambassador and was recognized for the 30 hours he volunteered providing presentations to businesses and local community leaders.

**Sgt. Fulghum is a true leader and motivator. He represents the highest standard of professionalism and dedication and we are proud to present him as the OCSO Supervisor of the Year.**

## *SRO OF THE YEAR*

### **DEPUTY CULLEN CORAINE**

Deputy Coraine started in law enforcement in 2003 at the Walton County Sheriff's Office and rose to the rank of Sergeant in 2007. He came to our agency in 2013 and quickly became a part of the Special Response Team, becoming an instructor in Shoot House Techniques, completing the Basic SWAT course along with Hostage Rescue and SWAT Shield Training. He was selected as an SRO in 2015 and quickly became the SRO unit's training instructor. In his 3 years as an SRO, Deputy Cullen, as he is known at his school, has become a valued member of the Liza Jackson Preparatory staff as well as the community. According to his Principal, Kay McKinley, staff, students and parents, Deputy Coraine has developed many programs that promote good character, community involvement, responsibility and citizenship.

Deputy Coraine has implemented new security protocols for his school which include single entry points, better locks on fences, ALICE training for all students and personnel, peep-hole implementation in doors, bus driver safety and reactive measures which included restructuring drop off and pick up areas to add additional safety measures. He worked diligently with the Principal and PTO to be the first school in the county to have bullet proof doors installed at the single point school entry area, additional security measures are forth coming. These critical safety measures are utilizing PTO funds from his leadership. **When Deputy Coraine arrived, there was a one page evacuation plan, which now is a detailed 27 page crisis plan detailing everything from weather issues, evacuation plans and active shooter situations.**



Some of the other programs Deputy Cullen has implemented are:

- \***Junior Deputy Program** which teaches and encourages positive character traits and integrity.
- \***Character Coins** which is awarded any student who displays effort, integrity, cooperation and caring
- \***Deputy Cullen's K-9s aka "The Dog Pound"** where students or families donate blankets, food, or toys to a local shelter. They also donate their time to walking and bathing dogs at PAWS.
- \***Proper social media time (4<sup>th</sup> grade and up)** students are taught proper use and influence and also how it can be used to raise money, find forums for hobbies, etc.
- \***Out-run Deputy Cullen** – Any student who has perfect behavior during PE for a month may foot race Deputy Cullen for a chance to win candy or a Chick-Fil-A sandwich. This happens during their PE class.

**Deputy Coraine exemplifies the epitome of what a SRO should be – Law Enforcement Officer, Mentor, Teacher and Counselor. He lives and breathes dedication and exemplary service to his school and community and we are proud to present him as the SRO of the Year.**



# *ADMINISTRATIVE SWORN OUTSTANDING PERFORMER*

## **DEPUTY STEPHEN BALDWIN**

Deputy Baldwin is the Lead Bailiff for Judge Polson and sets the example by maintaining a safe courtroom on a daily basis. He completes this critical task by checking all individuals on every docket to ensure they don't have active warrants and identifies those with a violent past. In 2018, he alerted supervision approximately 15 times of volatile individuals who were having

their children removed and requested extra deputies to ensure a safe outcome.

**His attention to detail and attentiveness has quelled numerous dangerous situations and also prevented someone from being wrongly arrested after he discovered the individual's twin sister actually committed the crime.**

Deputy Baldwin is a motivated leader who's always willing to ensure the unit's mission is complete. He is also a team player who takes action to boost morale and camaraderie in the Court Security Unit. He maintains a "Wall of Photos" depicting unit members doing positive things and does so in his free time and using personal funds.

Deputy Baldwin also volunteers on the Sheriff's Office Recruitment Committee, is a founding board member for the Sheriff's Star Charity, and a back-up member for the Sheriff's Employee Council. This year he volunteered his time providing notary services to participants in the Emerald Coast Motorcycle Challenge charity event, and also spearheaded the

agency Blood Drive which contributed 27 units of lifesaving blood being donated to One Blood. He also assisted the Mental Health Association Board in a fund raising event in which he helped sell an extensive \$9,000 Star Wars collection to fund the Student Brain Health Initiative.

In 2018, Deputy Baldwin came up with the idea and did all of the "legwork" to name the road which goes around the Okaloosa Courthouse Extension "Judge Maney Way" in honor of Judge T. Patterson Maney's many years of service. **He is a very motivated, caring and involved leader with this agency and in the local community and we are proud to present him as the Administration Bureau, Sworn Outstanding Performer of the Year.**



## *OPERATIONS SWORN OUTSTANDING PERFORMER*

### DEPUTY JEFF BUTLER

Deputy Butler has shown himself to be an extremely talented law enforcement officer and an asset to this agency. He is highly motivated, has keen observational skills, and a talent for proactive work. During 2018, he made five DUI arrests, located three stolen vehicles in operation, located multiple stolen firearms and had numerous felony narcotics cases. The most notable was while patrolling Racetrack Road during the early morning hours, he observed an impaired driver and conducted an investigative stop. As he questioned the occupants, he noticed several discrepancies in their stories. He continued with the questioning until the passenger admitted there was methamphetamine in the vehicle. A probable cause search resulted in the seizure of 15 grams of meth and both occupants were charged with trafficking.

Deputy Butler also has proven to be a very talented investigator. He eagerly accepts every investigation assigned and works them tenaciously until all active leads are closed. **Throughout the year, his efforts have led to the arrest of multiple burglars and criminals that target children.** He helped extensively in an agency-wide investigation that led to the arrest of an addicted mother who was neglecting her child. The best example of his investigative talent would be during a sexual battery where he had little information to go on. The victim was incoherent, possibly drugged. Despite this, he was able to reconstruct the location and time frame of the incident. He identified the suspect and got the suspect to confess. Without his efforts, this case possibly would have been closed without a resolution.

Deputy Butler's dedication continues well beyond his normal duties. He also works to build his skills by regularly attending advanced training classes. During 2018 he completed 128.5 hours of training and also has taken advantage of the internship programs within the Criminal Investigation Division. Deputy Butler was also selected to the Special Response Team. During the SRT Training Week, he was praised for his marksmanship and tactical abilities by his trainers. He is also working to become a field training officer and volunteers extensively within the community. He currently serves on both the welcome team and security team of the Destiny Worship Center.

**Deputy Jeff Butler is effective on patrol, has excellent investigative skills and consistently shows that he is a well-round law enforcement officer. We are pleased to present him as the Sworn Outstanding Performer of the Year.**



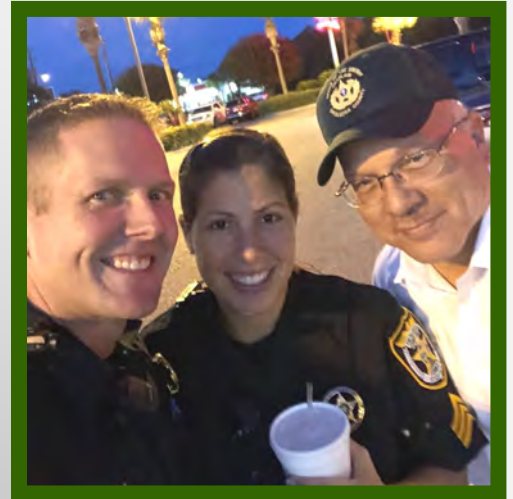


# *ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR*

## **CHAPLAIN LARRY CARTER**

Compassionate, patient, selfless, approachable, humble, thoughtful, versatile and prepared are a few characteristics that describe Chaplain Larry Carter. These words only begin to describe the attentive shepherd we have in Chaplain Carter for he is continuously seeking methods and opportunities to serve his fellow man as he ministers in prayer, counsel, fellowship and encouragement.

**Chaplain Carter takes a leading role in many programs throughout the agency, such as planning the annual Law Enforcement Memorial Luncheon, working with the SRO's for**



**our Angel Tree program and Coats for Kids and this year facilitated a pastors and church leaders range day aimed at building relationships and weapon handling skills.** He is also involved with STAR Charities and recruitment.

In addition to his dedication to our agency, Chaplain Carter served as the 2018 Region 8 Secretary, Lead Chaplain for Division A, Credentialing Committee member and Finance Committee member for the International Conference of Police Chaplains (ICPC) as well as a distinguished trainer. Chaplain Carter was also called upon to provide LE Chaplain training to the Pasco and Brevard County Sheriff's Offices.

From performing weddings to sending out birthday and anniversary cards, to using his own equipment and expertise to photograph families, Chaplain Carter makes bringing joy a daily goal. He personifies the statement written by the apostle Paul, "And I will gladly spend and be spent for you."

**Chaplain Larry Carter has demonstrated his true character by devoting himself to the members of the Sheriff's Office and we are proud to present him as the Administrative Employee of the Year.**



# COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER OF THE YEAR

## LINDSAY COLLUM

Lindsay is a certified Communications Training Officer and has logged approximately 1200 hours this year training new employees. She is also designated as a shift OIC and can fulfill

supervisor responsibilities in the absence of the shift supervisor. These designations are only held by those communications officers who possess advanced knowledge and training in their profession.

Lindsay is constantly seeking to further her education and training. She currently holds a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice with an emphasis in Forensic Science. This year she certified as a Florida General Instructor and was the only civilian enrolled in the class, and recently joined NWF State College as an adjunct instructor. **Most notably, she attained the level of Advanced Communications Officer in the career development program, which requires a number of credits gained through training, community service, projects and skill building.** Lindsay logged approximately 100 hours of volunteer service during 2018.

Each day, Lindsay brings a positive attitude and a professional level of service to the organization and we are proud to present her as the OCSO Communications Officer of the Year.





# *OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR*

## **CHAPLAIN GEOFFREY PROWS**

Chaplain Prows began the application process for chaplain in early 2018; however, he did not delay serving the agency. Chaplain Prows made it a point to have meals with deputies and routinely visit the North District Office to build rapport and relationships with agency members. In May, he was appointed as a Volunteer Chaplain. Since that time he has responded to numerous after hours call outs where the services of a chaplain were requested. In each circumstance, he demonstrated

his aptitude for ministry and service to members of the agency and public alike.

During one such response, Chaplain Prows assisted with an unattended death. **Using his calming demeanor, compassionate communication and command knowledge of**

**the process, he was able to comfort a grieving spouse thus facilitating the timely completion of investigative tasks by the deputies on scene.** Not only did he meet the needs of the grieving citizen, he ensured the deputies on scene were supported on all fronts.

Chaplain Prows takes initiative to learn and take on additional responsibilities of the chaplaincy. He has aided with new hire orientation, participated in regular ride-a-longs with deputies, visited agency members in need and been available to counsel whenever called upon.

Chaplain Prows also brings a wealth of education and experience to the chaplaincy. In addition to holding a doctorate degree and working on a second, he also has over seven years' experience as a police chaplain in Knoxville, TN.

**The OCSO is blessed to have Geoffrey Prows as a Chaplain, willing to give of his time and talents for the benefit of others and we are proud to present him as the Outstanding Volunteer of the Year.**



# *POSSE MEMBER OF THE YEAR*

## **BARRY BRADSHAW**

Barry Bradshaw has been an active member of the Posse since 1997. He has volunteered for a wide variety of details, including traffic control at parades, high school football games, early morning charity runs, crowd control at festivals and concerts, and security for special events at the Emerald Coast Convention Center. He is also available for short notice hard-to-fill details, such as guarding crime scenes, downed aircraft, and prisoners. His service in 2018 consisted of 222 volunteer hours.

**Barry has made these contributions despite the extensive travel required in his position as a United States Air Force employee.** He recently retired with over 44 years of total service with the Air Force; an active duty time of over 25 years as an F4 weapons systems officer and the remainder as a government civilian employee as a Project Manager in electronic warfare.

Barry Bradshaw performs all his Posse duties in a professional and courteous manner. **For his tireless efforts in support of the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Posse we are proud to recognize him as the 2018 Posse Member of the Year.**





# RETIREMENTS





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