

# ANNUAL REPORT 2014



GREENE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Gregory R. Seeley  
Sheriff

Steven W. Worth  
Undersheriff

# Office of the Sheriff.

## *A Message from Sheriff, Gregory R. Seeley*

As I end my second term in office, representing the people of Greene County as **YOUR** Sheriff, I am proud of my accomplishments in my first two terms in office.

In my first two terms, I was able to provide (24) hour patrol coverage to the county without an increased burden to the taxpayers with the implementation of (12) hour shifts by our road patrol.

I modernized the pistol permit division with the transition from hand written paperwork and paper permits to a computerized database that issues a more durable, plastic pistol permit card.

I pursued a countless number of grants which allowed our agency to replace outdated safety and communication equipment without any cost to taxpayers. Grant funding also allowed our agency to fully outfit and train a Special Response Team (SRT) which can be utilized in the event of a serious emergency in our county. Our agency also obtained a Port Security Grant which allowed us to form a SCUBA (Dive) Team. Although the team is in its early stages, our dive team trains with the Ulster and Columbia County Sheriff's Office Dive Teams and are available as a first responder to assist in water search and rescue.

In view of the rapidly changing public safety and law enforcement environment in the Hudson Valley/Catskills region, as well as current practical limitations on the size and scope of individual agency resources and with the assistance of the New York State Sheriff's Association, a Regional Mutual Assistance Agreement was proposed. Greene County, who initiated this mutual agreement, enlisted the following counties to participate: Albany County, Columbia County, Delaware County, Ulster County and the Schoharie County Sheriff's Offices. I am proud to say that I have been working on this for some time and have now seen this come to fruition.

During my first two terms, as you are aware, we also were able to develop a K-9 Unit. We have (2) K-9's trained in drug detection and search and rescue. The K-9's are basically sustained by community donations and funding from drug seizures.

As I finish up my second four year term, I will continue to work for the citizens of Greene County. I plan on placing continued pressure on those who choose to sell illegal drugs in our county. I will continue to seek grant funding to make the Greene County Sheriff's Office a more professional, full service, law enforcement agency and I will continue to put forth the continued effort to make Greene County a safe place to live, work and attend school.

The Sheriff's Office will continue to work well with other departments and agencies within the county, including the District Attorney, Greene County 911 Center, State and Local Police.

It is with great pride that I lead the Greene County Sheriff's Office. I am proud of my staff and the service we provide for the people living in, or visiting, Greene County. In closing I would like to thank the Greene County Legislature and the people of Greene County for their help and continued support.

Sincerely,

*Gregory R. Seeley*



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# CIVIL DIVISION 2014

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Civil Enforcement Division is responsible for the enforcement of all civil processes in Greene County which includes Summonses, Property Executions, Evictions, Income Executions and Subpoenas just to name a few.

The Civil Office also undertakes a large majority of our business functions including financial functions such as cash receipts, cash disbursements and accounts payable. The accounts involved are Bail & Fine funds, Records funds, and all Civil Account funds.

Your Civil Division consists of one Civil Administrator, assisted administratively by the Secretary to the Sheriff, and the Civil Papers are served by the deputies on patrol.

The Courts in Greene County and the surrounding counties depend on our Deputies to handle matters received from various Towns, Villages, Supreme, Surrogates and Family Courts. Your division often receives Orders of Protection, Summons, Petitions and other orders from all counties in New York as well as other states requesting us to affect service for them within our county.

In the year 2014, the Civil Division brought in **(1314)** cases resulting in the service of **(1314)** Civil Papers. The Civil Division processed **(104)** Summonses, **(161)** Family Court Papers, **(62)** orders of protection, **(302)** Landlord/Tenant Papers and **(272)** other Civil Processes. A more detailed breakdown of these services is included in this report

The Civil Division is also responsible for the service and enforcement of several different types of Property executions. During 2014, the Civil Division served at total of **(467)** Property and/or Income executions. Through the service of the aforementioned executions, the Civil Division was able to collect **\$958,410** in revenue for Creditors and Attorneys.

The Civil Enforcement Division handled **(155)** Warrants of Eviction in Greene County in 2014. The process for enforcing an eviction would include the Deputy overseeing the **actual** removal of a tenant's personal property. The Deputy would then ensure that the rights of both landlord and tenant are being observed and seeing that proper procedures and law are being followed. A Deputy could spend several hours on each eviction depending on the amount of personal property to be removed in each eviction.

Revenue for the county brought in for services in 2014 was **\$107,930**. The Civil Division collected **\$68,655** for Fees, **\$49,280** for Poundage collected on management of Executions. This money is all turned over to the Greene County Treasurer.

## CIVIL DIVISION – ANNUAL FIGURES CIVIL PAPERS SERVED

2012: 1,374  
2013: 1,396  
2014: 1,314

# CIVIL DIVISION YEARLY SERVICES REPORT 2014

	2014	2013
Summons:	104	103
Property/Income Executions	386	467
Family Court Papers	161	173
Notice of Petition & Petition	174	184
Notice to Tenant	147	166
Eviction Warrant	155	113
Family Court Order of Protection	62	50
Subpoena	25	20
Order to Show Cause	25	24
Action for Divorce	22	26
Criminal Court Order of Protection	10	14
Citation	3	9
Information Subpoena	3	1
Warrant of Arrest/Civil Warrant	0	0
Other Papers	37	46
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1314</b>	<b>1396</b>





# ROAD PATROL 2014

The Road Patrol Division serves the residents of Greene County. Your Deputies serve the county's residents within the local municipalities as they attend school, work and shop in the county. In an effort to further serve the residents of Greene County, your Deputies supplement police service to the Villages and Towns that provide a local police force and answer calls for service in those jurisdictions whenever a need arises. The Division is responsible for enforcing the laws of the State of New York while patrolling 192 miles of state highways, 262 miles of county highways and 719 of local municipality roads on a twenty four hour, seven days a week basis. They are also responsible for patrolling the Hudson River and other waterways throughout the county.



The Road patrol consists of the following staff and works out of five different locations.

- 2** Lieutenants
- 6** Sergeants
- 3** Investigators
- 13** Full time Deputy Sheriffs
- 8** Part-Time Deputy Sheriffs

**The Catskill Main Office** houses our Administration along with the Pistol Permit and Civil divisions. As in the previous year, there are four deputies assigned to the Town of Catskill Post. The deputies of the road patrol answer the complaints of our Greene county citizens by working rotating shifts, twenty four hours a day, and seven days a week.

**The Ashland Satellite** was opened in 2012. As you are aware, the Prattsville Satellite was in the direct path of the flood waters of Hurricane Irene and was flooded with several feet of water and mud. Through the support of the residence in Ashland, we opened a new satellite located at the new Ashland town building to continue our service to the mountain top residents. It remains staffed by four deputies working a rotating shift, twenty four hours a day, seven days a week.

**The New Baltimore Satellite** was opened in early 2009 and has made an immediate impact on the communities it provides service for. This Satellite is located in the New Baltimore Town Hall on C/R 51 in Hannacroix. We currently staff the Satellite in the same manner as our other Stations on a twenty four hour basis.

The members assigned to this Satellite have earned the respect and trust of the citizens of New Baltimore and continue to be a valuable asset to the county providing law enforcement to the communities on the northern end of the county.

This Satellite is also manned by a Deputy who is certified in the proper installation of child safety seats and is available to install and check child safety seats, on an appointment basis, right at the New Baltimore Satellite.

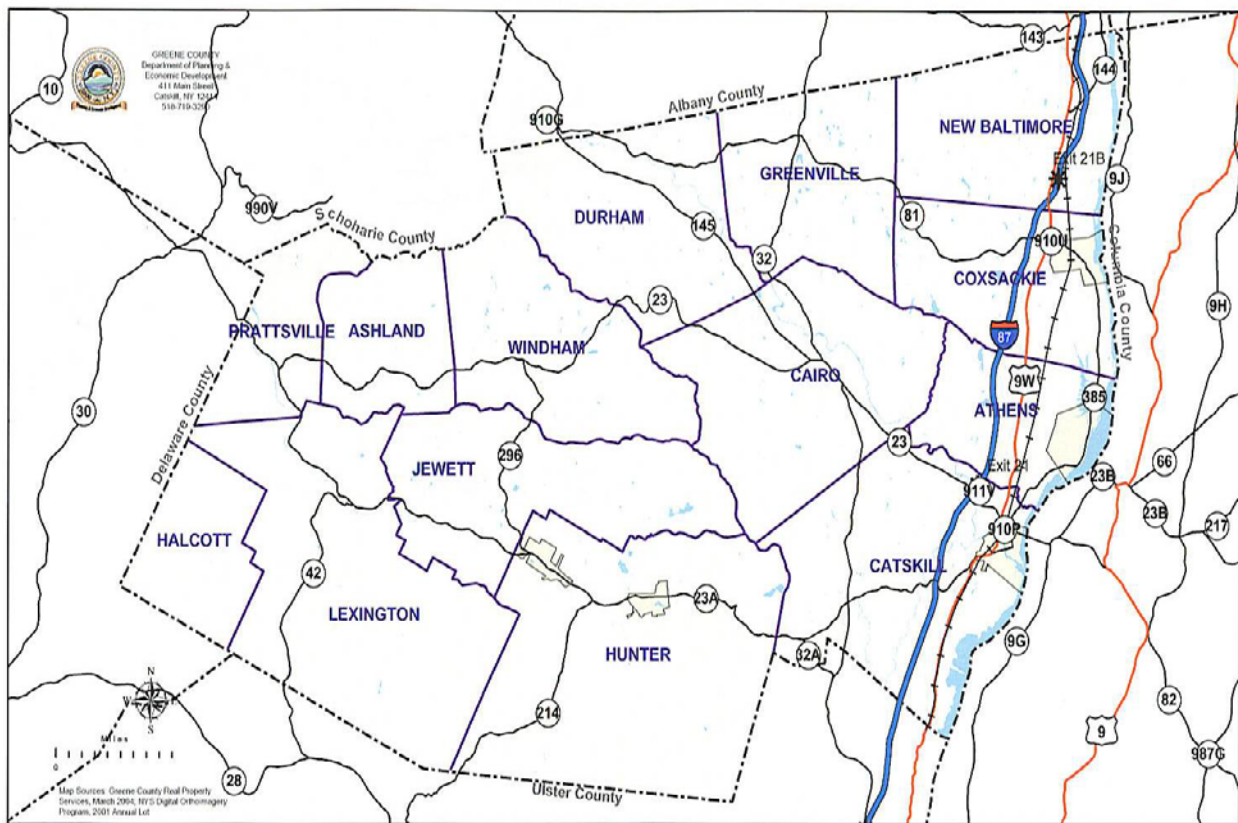
**The Greenville Satellite** has two deputies assigned to it who continue to primarily service the Towns of Greenville and Durham. They also continue to supplement the Town of Cairo Police Department, as needed.

The patrol division handled **8,340** calls for service in 2014. The Sheriff's Office responded to approximately **42%** of the **19961** calls received in the county through Greene County Emergency Operations Center. The remaining **58%** were answered by Local Police Agencies, EnCon Police the State Police and a small percentage were cellular 911 calls received for incidents occurring in adjoining counties. A call for service includes any activity a deputy does while on patrol, including assists to other agencies.

**The following is a breakdown of the calls:**

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Assault/Assault in Progress</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Dead Body</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Drowning</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Harassment</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>112</b>
<b>Domestic Disputes</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>297</b>
<b>Disorderly Conduct/General Disturbance/Fight</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Rape</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Sex Abuse/Assault</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Burglary</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>Robbery (including home invasions)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Criminal Mischief</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Kidnap/Abduction complaint</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Larceny (including vehicle)</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Trespass</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Alcohol Related/Drug Related</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Lost/Missing Person</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Suicide/Suicide Attempt/threat</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>Menacing</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Shooting Complaint</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Mental Health Call</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>Noise Complaint</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>General Complaint</b>	<b>1269</b>	<b>942</b>
<b>Vehicle Traffic Stops</b>	<b>2219</b>	<b>2612</b>
<b>Assist to Motorist (including lockouts)</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>463</b>
<b>Parking Complaint</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Erratic Driver Complaint</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>154</b>
<b>Hit and Run Accident</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Motor Vehicle Accidents (no injuries)</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>516</b>
<b>Motor Vehicle Accidents (with injuries)</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>129</b>
<b>ATV Accident</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Boat Accident/Fire/Sunk/Water Rescue</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Road/Traffic Hazard</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>143</b>
<b>Suspicious Person, vehicle and/or object</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>206</b>
<b>Vehicle Pursuit</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>EID (alarm activations)</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>615</b>
<b>Civil Matter</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>146</b>
<b>Criminal Warrants</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>119</b>
<b>Check the Welfare/Attempt to Locate</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>159</b>
<b>Animal complaints</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>255</b>
<b>Misc. non-emergency calls (including 911 Hang up/Abandoned)</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>799</b>
<b>EMS &amp; Fire Dept Assists</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>242</b>
<b>Child Abuse</b>	<b><u>1</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>8,340</b>	<b>8,787</b>





## PENAL LAW ARRESTS 2014

The patrol division made a total of **581** arrests in 2014 resulting in **54** Felony counts, **295** Misdemeanor counts and **232** Violation counts. This number is a slight decrease from 2012.

## ARRESTS BY MUNICIPALITY

	2014	2013
Town of Ashland	23	8
Town of Athens	14	23
Town of Cairo	89	61
Town of Catskill	205	256
Town of Coxsackie	30	18
Town of Durham	14	19
Town of Greenville	17	27
Town of Hunter	30	30
Town of Jewett	7	15
Town of Lexington	6	4
Town of New Baltimore	113	14
Town of Prattsville	7	16
Town of Windham	<u>26</u>	<u>15</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>506</b>

# DRUG & MARIJUANA ARRESTS 2014

Your Sheriff's Office is actively investigating and pursuing drug offenses in Greene County. In 2014 we made a total of 54 Drug and Unlawful Possession of Marijuana arrests. We again conducted outdoor marijuana eradication operations with the New York State Police utilizing and the NYS Army National Guard Counter Drug Unit helicopters. We continue to work well with other law enforcement agencies within and outside of Greene County and also pursue "anonymous tips" from Greene County Citizens to establish leads assisting us with eradicating this increasing problem in our county. Heroin use has also increased throughout New York State. Heroin is no longer concentrated in urban areas. It has spread to our rural communities. The Greene County Sheriff's Office is actively working cases through our Criminal Investigations Unit as well as partnering with the District Attorney's Office, NYSP Criminal Narcotics Enforcement Team, and the Drug Enforcement Administration Albany Field Office. We at the Sheriff's Office continue to encourage citizens to come forward with information to help us with this issue.



# VEHICLE & TRAFFIC OFFENSES 2014

The road division, patrolled **440,607** miles in 2014. In September of 2014, we ordered (1) Ford Police Interceptor SUV's along with (2) Ford Police Interceptor Sedan to replace aging road patrol vehicles, surrendering (3) older vehicles from our fleet, keeping our fleet numbers the same. It continues to be the goal of the Sheriff's Office to work with the County Legislature in utilizing a County Wide Fleet Maintenance Program where as our higher mileage vehicles, that are otherwise mechanically sound, are transferred to other needs in the County for them to utilize. We continue to have our vehicles serviced and repaired at the County Highway Garage in Athens as a cost savings to the taxpayer. This program has been successful and our agency has developed a great relationship with the employees at that garage.

In 2014 our road patrol conducted **2,219** traffic stops resulting in the issuance of **1,435** traffic summonses.

In addition, these traffic stops resulted in **29** DWI/DWAI Drug arrests. This statistic is lower than last year which will hopefully continue to be the trend.

## FLEET MANAGEMENT

A breakdown of our Vehicles and their mileage as of December 31, 2014 is as follows:

### CAR NUMBER

### MILEAGE

1	2009 Dodge Durango	162,305
2	2012 Ford Explorer	88,580
3	2012 Ford Expedition	35,350
4	2008 Chevy Impala	185,623
5	2007 Ford Crown Vic	108,533
6	Investigator	64,900
7	Investigator	84,143
9	Investigator	113,752
25	2010 Chevy Impala	96,464

### DAILY PATROL VEHICLES

10	2010 Chevy Impala	485
11	2013 Ford Taurus	43,314
12	2013 Ford Taurus	50,407
13	2011 Ford crown Vic	101,538(K-9)
14	2014 Ford Explorer	1,272
15	2012 Ford Taurus	77,074
16	2013 Ford Taurus	82,155
17	2011 Ford Crown Vic	104,686
18	2011 Chevy Impala	121,877
21	2011 Ford Crown Vic	88,301
23	2012 Ford Expedition	56,734 (K-9)
24	2012 Ford Explorer	65,988
25	2010 Chevy Impala	96,464



## SPECIAL DETAIL FOUR WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLES

8	2008 Ford F250 P/U	25,414
20	2008 Dodge Durango	143,200

## CORRECTIONS VAN

CV-1	2008 Chevy Van	110,544
CV-2	2007 Chevy Van	62,050

# Color Guard

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Color Guard continues to participate and support various civic functions throughout the area. This past year, we continued along that same path. The Greene County Sheriff's Office Color Guard participated in the following events in 2014:

- St. Patrick's Day parade – Greenville
- Civil War Reenactment - Greenville
- Memorial Day Parade in Cairo
- Memorial Day Parade - Villages of Tannersville
- Fourth of July Parade – East Durham
- Greene County Volunteer Fireman's Dress Parade in the Village of Catskill
- Dedication for those who died in the line of duty Greene County Memorial Wall - Cairo



# **Criminal Investigations Unit**

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Unit (CIU) currently has (3) Full-time Investigators, (1) Part-time Investigator and (1) Deputy assigned to Investigations. The Criminal Investigations Unit is responsible for a variety of Felony and Misdemeanor investigations including Robberies, Burglaries, Larcenies, Sex Crimes and Drug Investigations. The Criminal Investigations Unit is also responsible for the tracking of Sex Offenders in Greene County ensuring that they are properly registered with New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services and are up to date with the mandatory annual verification process which gives Law Enforcement the most up to date information on each Sex Offenders whereabouts and activities within Greene County. The Criminal Investigations Unit is tasked with conducting background investigations on all potential county employees before they are hired.

## **Notable Cases from 2014**

### **February, 2014**

The Greene County Sheriff's Office was called to investigate a reported animal abuse on Morrison Road in the Town of Durham. Upon arrival, Deputies were met by the property owner and together they discovered 34 German Sheppard's being kept in unsanitary conditions without food and water. The owner of the German Sheppard's was located by the responding Deputies, but refused to respond and assist with taking care of the dogs. The Columbia-Greene Humane Society was contacted along with the SPCA. A search warrant was obtained for the Morrison Road property as well as a property on Sunside Road. Upon execution of the warrant all of the German Sheppard's and one cat were removed from both properties and brought to the Columbia-Greene Humane Society. Two suspects were arrested as a result of this investigation and charged with one count of Failure to Provide Proper Sustenance, a class A-Misdemeanor and one count for Failure to Provide Proper Shelter for each German Sheppard and cat recovered at the two properties.

### **April, 2014**

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Unit along with members of the New York State Police and the Greene County District Attorney's Office conducted an undercover operation in which a handgun was sold to a convicted felon. As a result of this investigation a joint operation two suspects were arrested for Criminal Possession of a weapon 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, a class D-Felony, Criminal Sale of a Firearm in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, a class D-Felony, Criminal Sale of a Firearm in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree to and Unauthorized Person, a class D-Felony and Conspiracy in the 5<sup>th</sup>, a class A-Misdemeanor. Both suspects were successfully prosecuted and are currently doing time with the New York State Department of Corrections.

### **June, 2014**

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Unit received a phone call from the road patrol requesting assistance with a forcible touching investigation in the Town of Jewett. Once on scene Investigators began to interview other persons staying at the residence. A suspect was identified and a lengthy four hour interview was conducted in which the suspect gave a full confession. The suspect was arrested for Forcible Touching of Another's Sexual/Intimate Parts, a class A-Misdemeanor. The suspect was then arraigned in the Town of Hunter Court and remanded to the Greene County Jail.



**September, 2014**

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Unit received information from a citizen advising that they were aware of a Sex Offender living where he was not reported to be living. Investigators began to do surveillance on the offender and interview persons associated with him. After a brief investigation, the suspect was arrested for Sex Offender - Failure to Register – Prior Offense, a class D-Felony. The offender was arraigned in the Town of Athens Court and remanded to the Greene County Jail in lieu of no bail. He is currently serving a sentence of 1.5 years to 3 years with the New York State Department of Corrections. The Greene County Sheriff's Office remains committed to monitoring sex offenders in Greene County.

**December, 2014**

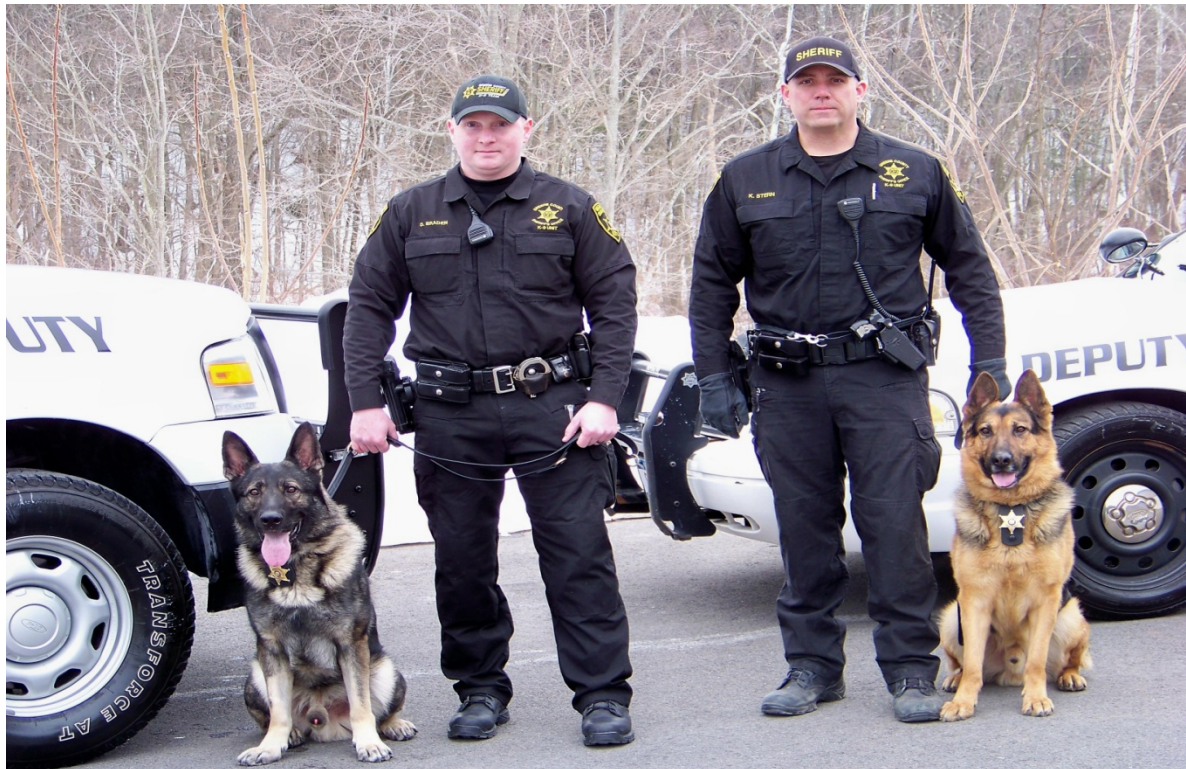
The Greene County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of an active shooter on Paradise Hill Road in the Town of Coxsackie. Upon arrival members from the Greene County Sheriff's Office and the New York State Police detained several persons in the area and set up a perimeter on the residence. Through an investigation at the scene it was learned that there were several shots fired and that there was a burglary suspect still inside of the residence. The suspect was located within the kitchen area of the residence and taken into custody. The scene was processed by Greene County Sheriff's Office evidence technicians and released back to the home owner. The Greene County Sheriff's Office, City of Kingston Police Department, ATF and the Greene County District Attorney's Office are still continuing their investigation into this case and there are several arrests pending.

**December, 2014**

Through-out the year the Criminal Investigations Unit continued its fight on illegal drugs in Greene County. After numerous undercover operations and the cooperative effort of several agencies, the Criminal Investigations Unit assisted in arresting 17 persons on drug related charges in December of 2014. A similar round-up was conducted in June of 2014 where 9 people were arrested on drug related charges. The Criminal Investigations Unit is determined to continue this fight on illegal drugs and will continue to work with other agencies in a cooperative effort to eliminate this problem within Greene County.

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Unit also handled 27 Death Investigations, 2 Fatal Accident Investigations, 7 sex-offense cases, 1 rape and over 60 Drug Investigations during 2014.

## Sheriff's K-9 Unit



2014 has been a great year for the K9 Unit. Our calls for service have increased and our interaction with the public through demonstrations have more than doubled. Deputy Braden and Deputy Stern, and their partners Blaze and Chase attended the Eastern Police Canine Association seminar last spring and certified Police narcotics dog 1. This is a national title and puts the teams a step higher than the normal State certification. The national organization will testify to the level of training that these K9 teams received. Both K9 teams certified as Patrol and Narcotics dogs with the North American Police Working Dog Association, which is another national organization again they will testify to the level of training of these dog teams. Deputy Braden and Blaze competed in a narcotics competition in Poughkeepsie NY, last fall and now have the highest narcotics title in the nation, very few dogs ever accomplish this. K9 Chase and Deputy Stern competed in the United States Police Canine competition in region 7, which is located in New York City. Chase took second place overall and first in criminal apprehension. Our K9 unit hosted a police K9 tracking seminar at Sunny Hill Resort with teams from all over the country. The national organization was so impressed they asked the Greene County Sheriff Office to host it again in 2015. The Greene County Sheriff Office K9 unit is becoming a well known and respected unit in the Police K9 circles. We are committed to serving the community by maintaining the highest level of training.

## 2014 K-9 Activity Statistics

Vehicle Narcotics search	46
Building Narcotics search	17
Building Clearing	12
Tracks	13
Apprehension	4
Officer Safety	20
Crowd Control	6
Perimeter Control	9
Mandatory Training hours	192 hrs

### **The following are narcotics located by K9 teams (various quantities)**

Marihuana	28
Heroin	12
Cocaine	1
Prescription Pills	5
LSD	1

# GREENE COUNTY DEPT. OF MENTAL HEALTH

For over the past eight years the Sheriff's Office has been providing a Deputy to the County Office of Mental Health to provide security for their workers at the Cairo Office Building Annex. In 2013, the Sheriff's Office assigned (1) full-time deputy to the Office of Mental Health and (1) part-time deputy to ensure that (2) deputies were in the building during normal business hours. Also, a magnetometer was installed to provide additional safety to the Office of Mental Health. The deputies primary duties are to ensure the safety of the mental health employees and patients. They also assist the road patrol with the detention of patients who are being ordered to be transported to mental health treatment facilities. They work varying daytime hours Monday thru Friday.

## Mental Health Office 2014 Report

<u>CLINICIAN ASSISTS:</u>	22
<u>E.M.S. ASSISTS:</u>	8
<u>FIRE DRILLS:</u>	3
<u>LOCKDOWN DRILLS:</u>	1
<u>MENTAL HEALTH PICKUP ORDERS:</u>	70
<u>CIVIL PAPERS SERVED:</u>	5
<u>WELFARE CHECK:</u>	1
<u>DISORDERLY CONDUCT:</u>	1

## MAGNETOMETER STATISTICS:

*\*\*Placed into service on January 16, 2014.*

<b>TRAFFIC COUNTER:</b>	<b>28, 895</b>
<b>ALARMS:</b>	<b>12,453</b>
<b>WEAPONS:</b>	<b>385</b>

# PISTOL PERMIT DIVISION

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Pistol Permit Office is responsible for issuing pistol permits and related documents to the residents of Greene County. The Pistol Permit division is also responsible for the issuance of I.D. cards for county employees and also issues identification cards for local police agencies.

**The following is an account of the Pistol Permit Division activity for 2014:**

## Pistol Permit Related Requests Processed:

	2014	2013
Amendments to pistol permits:	690	928
Purchase Coupons:	606	760
Pistol Permit applications:	503	630
Pistol Permit transfers:	23	37
Original Pistol Permits:	183	337
Duplicate Pistol Permits:	118	252
Conversions from paper style permit:	62	685
Received and processed:	\$10,041.00	\$16,341.00

## GRANTS

We continue to actively pursue all grants that would increase the productivity of our Office without the added burden to our county taxpayers.

We also continued applying for Department of Homeland Security Funding. Our agency was advised in early August that we were awarded **\$25,000** in funding for FY 2014. We intend continue to use this funding to purchase equipment and to reimburse for training to continue to enhance our Special Response Team and our Dive Team.

We also received a federal grant for the Bullet Proof Vest Replacement Program. We were awarded **\$6614.49** towards new bullet proof vests. All new deputy hires are covered **100%** through the federal grant and a state grant at no direct cost to Greene County tax payers.

We received approximately **\$3300.00** from the Department of Homeland Security towards our Marine Patrol operations.



# MARINE PATROL

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol is comprised of one Patrol Sergeant, five full - time and four part-time deputies who are responsible for the enforcement of boating safety regulations, as well as conducting search, rescue and recovery operations. Their primary patrol zone is the Hudson River and the Catskill Creek, but they are available to respond to the lakes and reservoirs throughout our county, if needed.

The Marine Patrol Unit primarily patrolled the Hudson River with a 28ft McKee Craft patrol boat which this agency received from the New York State office of Parks and Recreation. The Unit is also equipped with a smaller aluminum patrol boat, for shallow water operations, and two jet skis which again were obtained, free of charge, from the NYS Office of Parks and Recreation.

During the 2014 boating season the Greene County Sheriff's Marine Patrol worked a total of **(582.5)** hours. During this time period, **(100)** boats were stopped and **(81)** warnings were issued. While on patrol, they handled **(22)** assists to boaters, investigated **(3)** boat accident, inspected **(19)** and also covered numerous events. They also conducted and assisted various law enforcement agencies with **(6)** search and rescues.

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol also has become involved with many civic organizations in Greene and Columbia Counties. The Greene County Sheriff's Office conducts a boater's safety course at least once a year.



# DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING SECURITY DETAIL

Since its opening, the Sheriff's Office has been providing security and services to the employees and customers of the County Office Building and the Department of Social Services. We currently have (2) deputies assigned to DSS and the County Office Building (COB) and continue the successful use of Special Patrol Officers.

The Special Patrol Officers' primary duty is to oversee entry into the building and passage through the Magnetometers. In order to be considered for this position the applicant must be either a retired Police or Peace officer. This requirement ensured our agency that the SPO's were knowledgeable with NYS laws and had experience dealing with the public. We currently utilize (5) SPO's who work on a part – time basis. In **2014** approximately **10** items were held on a daily basis by SPO's manning the magnetometers. These items included such things as knives, scissors, pepper spray, box cutters, etc. and were returned to the client upon the conclusion of their business in the County Office Building.

The magnetometer has also been helpful in producing various arrests throughout the year. These include several for drugs, and a few for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Some clients were also found to be in possession of firearms, although the clients were licensed to carry the weapons, they were immediately advised that firearms were not allowed in the County Office Building and the clients left the premises without incident.

Between the Department of Social Services and the County office building, there were a total of **(102)** calls for service. Among these calls for service were lost license plate reports for DMV, employee business related injuries, training, meetings, etc. These calls also include but are not limited to:

- (13) Arrests
- (26) Assists to other agencies (which include assisting other Police, as well as Fire/EMS)
- (2) Fire alarm activations
- (47) Lost license plate entries
- (10) Child safety seat inspections
- (4) Lockdown drills

## SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM



The Special Response Team (S.R.T.) is trained in various tactical operations to include: building entry and clearing, vehicle assaults, narcotics raids, high-risk warrants, crisis negotiations, active shooter incidents and jail assaults. The Special Response Team is becoming steadily more active in the apprehension of suspects relating to high-risk arrest/search warrants and narcotics raids. As the "War on Drugs" continues to become more demanding the need for specialized teams to conduct high-risk search warrants increases.

Continuing education is a pertinent part of law enforcement and is crucial in the specialized team community. During 2014, the 10 members of the Special Response Team attended a combined total of over 1300 hours of training. With the continuance of funds issued by the Department of Homeland Security the Special Response Team was able to purchase more special equipment to assist the team complete numerous complex tasks.

In 2014, the Special Response Team conducted several successful operations including two incidents involving the use and/or the threatened use of a firearm. Listed below are a few of the notable cases in which the Special Response Team was deployed:

**-July:** GCSO Deputies were dispatched to an incident which was reported as a verbal domestic. Upon arrival Deputies discovered a male subject hiding in a barn adjacent to the house. The male subject stated that his girlfriend threatened to shoot him and was currently in the house armed with a shotgun. Deputies immediately surrounded the house to contain the female suspect within the residence. The Special Response Team was dispatched to the scene and remained on scene for 13 hours and the incident resulted in the peaceful arrest of the female suspect.

**-October:** GCSO Criminal Investigation Unit in conjunction with other Law Enforcement Agencies in Greene County completed a successful illegal narcotic sales investigation. Due to the circumstances of the incident as well as the criminal history of the suspect, the operation was deemed as being a high risk search and arrest warrant. The Special Response Team was deployed to execute the warrants. The operation was successful resulting in the arrest of the suspect and the recovery of illegal drugs.

**-December:** During a large scale illegal drug operation the GCSO Criminal Investigation Unit, in conjunction with several Law Enforcement Agencies in Greene County, were able to secure criminal drug indictments for 17 people suspected of narcotics sales. Several of the arrests were considered to be high risk warrants due to the criminal history of the suspects. The Special Response Team was deployed to assist with the arrest of those suspects. All suspects were taken into custody without incident.

**-December:** GCSO Deputies were dispatched to a 911 call of a reported victim with a gunshot wound lying in the roadway. While en route an additional 911 call was received from a witness who stated that a male suspect discharged a firearm striking the victim who was wounded.



# Training

The Sheriff and the administration continue to feel strongly regarding the need to stay current with training. We had members participate in over **2000+** hours of training. We sponsored **(1)** Greene County residents to attend the Zone 14 Law Enforcement Academy at Columbia Greene Community College. This is a part time academy that the recruits pay all tuitions out of their own pocket but gives them the valuable training and certification they need in order to pursue a career in law enforcement in NYS.

In addition to the mandated training which includes, firearms, workplace violence and harassment along with OSHA mandated training we sent several members to specialized and advance training courses sponsored by various agencies throughout the state. Some of that training includes:

- (1) SRT members attended the NYTOA training conference
- Monthly in-service training for our Special Response Team and Dive Team
- Bi-weekly training for our K-9 Division
- Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement Course (ARIDE)
- Basic Crime Scene Photography
- Drug Recognition Expert
- Course in Police Supervision for our new Sergeants and Investigators
- Law Enforcement continuing education courses for supervisors
- New York State Sheriff's Association Supervisor Conference
- Law and Legal Updates
- Forensic Evidence Technician School
- Tactical Team Leadership Course
- Field Intelligence School



Above: Deputies train in defensive tactics



## Dive Team



The Greene County Sheriff's Dive Team is made up of (3) divers and (3) diver tenders. The Dive Team trains once a month. On occasion, our dive team partners up with the Ulster County Dive Team and Columbia County Dive Team, to conduct joint training operations. Our dive team's equipment and upgrades are purchased through a Homeland Security Grant thus adding no direct cost to the Greene County tax payers.

In 2014, the Dive Team did not have any actual Dive Emergency Calls which was a good thing. The Dive Team scheduled their training days to assist other organizations and provide services that will build solid relationships for our team in the future.

In January the Dive Team joined up with Ulster County Dive Team for monthly training. The Dive Teams spent the day at Camp Tri-Mount on Boy Scout Rd in Jewett educating the Boy Scouts on the dangers of unstable ice and the methods deployed to affect ice surface rescues as well as recoveries of victims who have fallen through the ice. Although Ulster Co. has been providing this service for several years past, it was an opportunity for the leaders at the camp to familiarize themselves with our team and our capabilities should the need arise to assist them in an emergency.

During April's training in the Hudson River near Coxsackie, the Dive Team asked to assist the United States Coast Guard (USCG) with locating and assessing damage done to Channel marker #161 that was knocked off its rock base by last year's heavy river ice. Our divers, assisted by our marine patrol, and Columbia County's Marine and Dive units, found the 30' high structure still attached to its 6,000lb base approximately 50yds south of its original location, in about 50' of water. Again we took our training opportunity to assist another agency while showcasing our abilities and forming a working relationship with the Coast Guard for future needs.

Over the summer months the Dive Team continued to train amongst themselves as well as with other agencies. The Team trained in Ulster County at the U.S. Coast Guard Property where Deputy Steyer instructed us on how to properly conduct hull inspections for damage and incendiary devices on large ships. The Team also had the opportunity to dive on the Hydro-Electric Plant located in Leeds. Once again the Team utilized its training day to assist an outside company, Gravity Renewables Inc. by inspecting their Intake Grates. This not only benefited GRI, but it gave our divers the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the hazards we would encounter in an actual emergency at this location, as it is a popular swimming hole throughout the Summer.

During the fall, and into the winter, the Dive Team continued to train. Utilizing some recently purchased equipment, Dep. Steyer started some overview training for swift water rescue. Given the recent past floods that this county has experienced, having a team of trained professionals would only prove to benefit the department and save lives.

In December during training, the dive team sank a car in the Catskill Creek. Our divers practiced and trained on victim recovery from within a vehicle, as well as rigging and securing of vehicles to be towed out of the water after submergence.

# Sex Offender Registry

In September of 2011 the Greene County Sheriff's Office appointed Investigator Robert LaBuff to monitor sex offenders who reside in Greene County. Investigator LaBuff monitor's, tracks and manages sex offenders, assists outside agencies and the general public with questions or concerns regarding sex offenders. Investigator LaBuff has reported, in 2014 members of the Sheriff's Office CIU, contacted 264 Offenders, 79 residency checks were performed, 25 complaints or calls were received from the public, 21 assists with probation/parole, 96 address updates were completed, 100 electronic photo updates, 250 Sex Offender Registry updates, and 39 Outside Agency Assist's.

Notable cases for 2014 include the arrest and conviction of a level 2 sex offender who illegally possessed and illegally sold a revolver in the Town of Cairo. The several month long investigation lead to a felony conviction of criminal sale of a firearm in the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree, a Class D Felony and received a 4 year NYS prison sentence. This was a multi- agency investigation that included the Greene County District Attorney's Office Investigator, members of the New York State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigations and New York State Police CNET.

A level 2 sex offender was also arrested for failure to register a change of address subsequent to an investigation into their last reported address. The subject was located at an address they failed to report and was taken into custody without incident. The subject was then interviewed which lead to a confession that the subject knowingly failed to report the new address. Subject was convicted of failure to register, a Class E Felony and received a 1 to 3 year NYS prison sentence.

As of February 1st 2015, the Greene County Sheriff's Office is currently monitoring 84 registered sex offenders which reside within the 22 Towns, Villages and Hamlets outside of the Village of Catskill and Village of Coxsackie. This is a decrease of 7 registered sex offenders from 2014. There are no cases currently pending for level designation. Investigator LaBuff is the main contact for the agency and can be easily reached via cell phone or email.

The following charts below reflect the Greene County Sex Offender Registries 84 registered sex offenders, registered as of February 1st 2015, categorized by the Town or Village in which they reside and their respective "risk level":

TOWN/VILLAGE	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
ACRA	1	3	
ASHLAND	1		
ATHENS	1	1	
CAIRO	2	10	2
CATSKILL	7	5	2
CORNWALLVILLE	3	1	
COXSACKIE	1	2	

TOWN/VILLAGE	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
DURHAM	2	1	
EARLTON	2	1	1
FLEISCHMANN'S		1	
FREEHOLD	2	1	1
GREENVILLE	1	1	
HAINES FALLS		1	
JEWETT	1	1	1
LANESVILLE		1	
LEEDS	5	2	
NEW BALTIMORE	2	2	1
PALENVILLE		1	1
ROUNDTOP	1		1
SHANDAKEN	1		
TANNERSVILLE	3	1	1
WINDHAM	1		1

## Summer Camp 2014

The Sheriff Summer Camp, which is located near Penn Yan in Yates County, is supported by the NYS Sheriff's Association Honorary Members through their contributions and annual dues. In 2014, the camp accommodated over 900 boys and girls from across New York State including **14** children from Greene County.

Throughout the week-long stay, the children observe special exhibits and demonstrations presented by deputies from Sheriff's Departments from across the state. Included in these presentations are D.A.R.E. presentations, boat and bike safety programs, law enforcement equipment and technical demonstrations, pistol and archery competitions and even a talent show just for fun.

Upon completion of their stay, all the children were awarded a diploma for their participation in a program of "Good Citizenship and Law Enforcement Studies."

# **GREENE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CORRECTION'S DIVISION**

Greene County continues to operate the oldest Jail in the State of New York. The 107-year-old facility houses 56 inmates in four (4) housing units. The original facility consisted of three (3) housing units, which housed 40 inmates. In 1978 the county started construction on D-block which was completed in 1981. This increased the facility's capacity to 56 inmates. However, due to structural issues at the facility, and several inspections by the Commission of Corrections, the state has enforced the 80% capacity limit for the old style linear jails, which is what this facility is classified as. This affected the number of inmates we are allowed to keep in-house before boarding out to other counties. The maximum allowed was dropped to 45 inmates to be housed at the Greene County Jail.

## ***STAFFING LEVELS***

The County Jail is currently staffed with 1 Superintendent, 1 Lieutenant, 5 Sergeants, 34 Correction Officers, (2 of which are part time), 1 Registered Nurse, 1 part time Physician, and 5 Correction Cooks (4 of these are part time). We also have, in cooperation with Greene County Mental Health, a social worker that is at the facility 5 days a week and a mental health psychiatrist that reports to the facility 1 day a week. Questar provides us with a teacher for the inmate's G.E.D. program during the normal school calendar.

## ***GOV. PAY NET.***

2014 was the sixth full year of providing a pay bail by credit card service and it has continued to prove to be a cost savings, successful program. In 2014 this service was used a total of 69 times, paying \$164,761 in bails. Since midway through 2008, this service has been utilized 538 times yielding \$991,456 in bail payments. Although the county does not receive any revenue from this program, the taxpayers do realize a tremendous savings in reducing the number of inmates that we would have been required to board out to other counties.



## INMATE WORK CREWS

In 2012 the State of New York changed its stance on allowing county inmates to participate in work crews. Since then inmates confined to the jail worked on several community projects. They have done work in New Baltimore Town Hall converting a basement into a Sheriff's Office Satellite; they have cleaned and stained the pavilion in Haines Falls, and scraped and repainted the fence along the cemetery in New Baltimore. The municipality is responsible for the costs of materials and the Jail provides the labor. Management staff has advised the local municipalities of the availability of these crews and hopes that these types of projects continue.



*Photos of the pavilion in Haines Falls*



*Photos of the cemetery fence in New Baltimore*

## ***BOARDING OF INMATES***

In 2014 the Greene County Jail averaged 28 inmates a day boarded out to other jails. This number is down compared to 2013. In 2013 it was 38.75 and 18.99 in 2012. In 2014 the boarding of inmates cost the taxpayers \$788,670, (\$569,550 to Columbia County and \$219,120 to Albany County), down from \$1,096,170 in 2013 and \$549,855 in 2012. This number is strictly the amount of money paid to other counties and does not include the cost of staff and travel expenses.

### **2012/2013/2014 INMATE POPULATION COMPARISON:**

Below is a 2012, 2013, and 2014 inmate population comparison:

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Total # Inmates Received:	769	729	680
Adults:	733	695	661
Minors:	36	34	19
 Total # of Males			
Adults:	591	539	536
Minors	32	30	16
 Total # of Females			
Adults:	142	156	125
Minors:	4	4	3
 Avg. Daily Population:	71	85	72
 Highest Daily Count:	87	102	92
 Lowest Daily Count:	51	69	55
 Sentenced to State Prison	83	66	72

**2012/2013/2014 INMATES ADMITTED BY ETHNIC ORIGIN:**

	<u>Hispanic (M)</u>	<u>Hispanic (F)</u>	<u>Non-Hispanic (M)</u>	<u>Non-Hispanic (F)</u>	<u>Total</u>
2012	59	16	560	133	768
2013	60	11	511	147	729
2014	66	10	488	116	680

**2012/2013/2014 MALE INMATES ADMITTED BY RACE:**

	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Am. Indian</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Total</u>
2012	2	121	1	42	453	619
2013	3	111	0	42	413	569
2014	2	113	1	49	387	552

**2012/2013/2014 FEMALE INMATES ADMITTED BY RACE:**

	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Am. Indian</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Total</u>
2012	2	20	0	6	121	149
2013	0	10	0	1	145	156
2014	0	14	0	8	106	128

**2012/2013/2014 TRANSPORT COMPARISONS:**

	<u>Prisons</u>	<u>County Jails</u>	<u>Medical</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total#</u>
2012	24	297	154	270	745
2013	33	472	230	284	1019
2014	31	328	180	321	860

# SHERIFF'S OFFICE CHAIN OF COMMAND



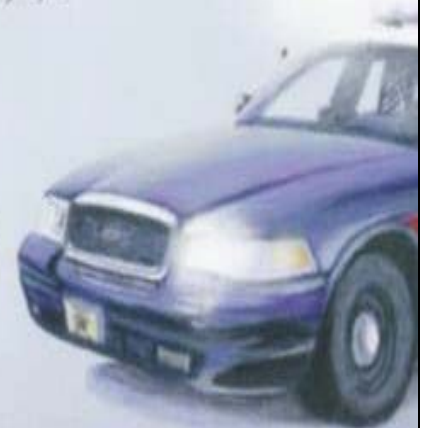
## *Deputy Sheriff's Prayer*

*When I start my tour of duty God,  
wherever crime may be,  
As I walk the darkened streets alone,  
let me be close to thee.*

*Please give me understanding  
with both the young and old.  
Let me listen with attention  
until their story's told.*

*Let me never make a judgment  
in a rash or callous way.  
But let me hold my patience,  
let each man have his say.*

*Lord if some dark and dreary night,  
I must give my life,  
Lord with your everlasting love  
protect those special in my life.*



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