

FRANKLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

20



24

ANNUAL REPORT





Table of Contents

Letter from the Sheriff	4
Wall of Honor	7
Administration	11
Corrections.....	15
Employment & Management Services	23
Investigations	29
Patrol.....	39
Public Affairs & Media Relations	49
Research and Development.....	53
Recruitment, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion	57
Security Operations	63
Support Services	69





A Message from the Sheriff:

As we reflect on the past year, I am proud to present our 2024 Annual Report, which showcases the dedication, resilience, and exceptional work of our team. Your commitment to serving and protecting our community is truly commendable, and I encourage each of you to take a moment to review our collective achievements.

Looking ahead to 2025, we have much to celebrate. We continue to reach key milestones in hiring and training new cadets, further strengthening our ranks. Another phase of the James A. Karnes Correctional Center is set to open, enhancing our ability to provide secure and effective corrections services. Additionally, with the launch of our new sheriff's app, vital information and resources are now more accessible than ever, putting critical tools at your fingertips.

I want you to know, I am honored to serve as your Sheriff and deeply inspired by your dedication, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to our mission. Together, we will build on our successes and continue making Franklin County a great place to live .

Stay safe, stay strong, and thank you for all that you do.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dallas L. Babb".

Sincerely,

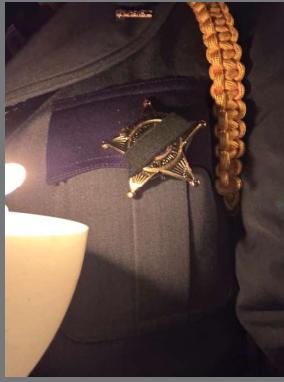


The Franklin County Sheriff's Office, Columbus, Ohio, is a full service law enforcement agency, an arm of the courts, and the custodial keeper of those who break the law. It is the mission of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office to protect the lives and property of the citizens of Franklin County, to preserve the peace, and to prevent crime and disorder while constantly guarding personal liberties as prescribed by law. This must be done with honor and integrity, conducting ourselves with the highest ethical standards to maintain public confidence.





The Franklin County Sheriff's Office, along with several other agencies in Ohio, participated in the 36th Ohio Peace Officer Memorial Ceremony that took place in London, Ohio. The ceremony was held to pay tribute to nine fallen officers from different law enforcement agencies in Ohio. Additionally, the event historically recognized and inducted fallen officers from the past into the memorial.



We continue to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

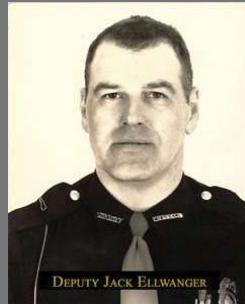
Each year, hundreds of names of Officers killed in the line of duty are engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC. These names are then read aloud during the annual Candlelight Vigil to memorialize those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Four of our Honor Guard Deputies made the trip to pay their respects and to honor those killed in the line of duty. Two Franklin County Sheriff's Deputies were added to the wall; Deputy Terrance Bateman and Deputy Billy Ihrig.



Wall of Honor

This page is dedicated to the memory of all fellow Law Enforcement Officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.



Samuel J Mautz
Special Deputy
July 11, 1921

Jack Ellwanger
Deputy
June 15, 1960

Joseph Moore
Deputy
April 11, 1983

Sharon Moore
Lieutenant
April 11, 1983

Ronald Coen
Deputy
January 27, 1994



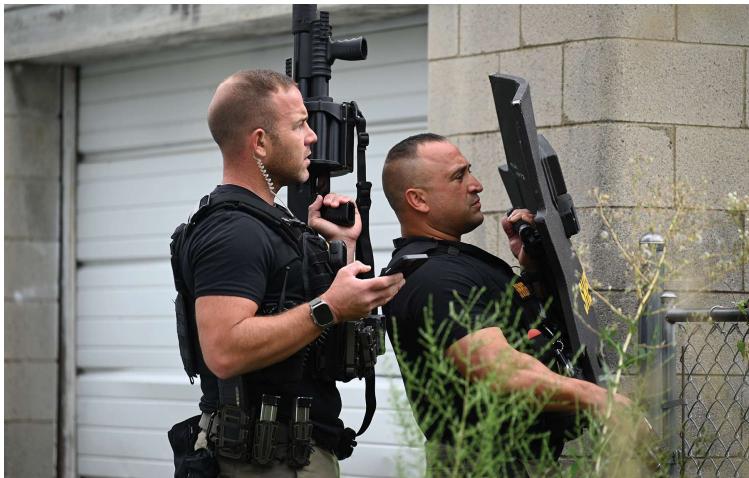
Steve Bollenger
Special Deputy
August 5, 2007

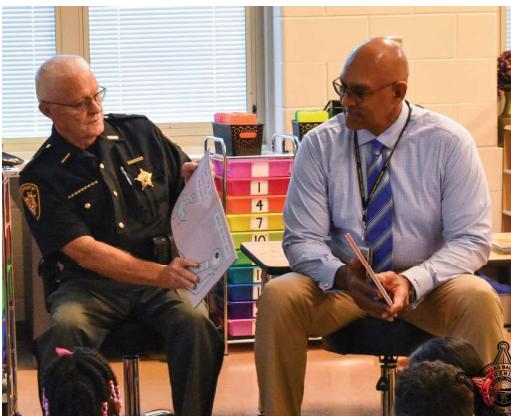
Marty Martin
Deputy
September 6, 2008

Billy Ihrig
Deputy
October 28, 2021

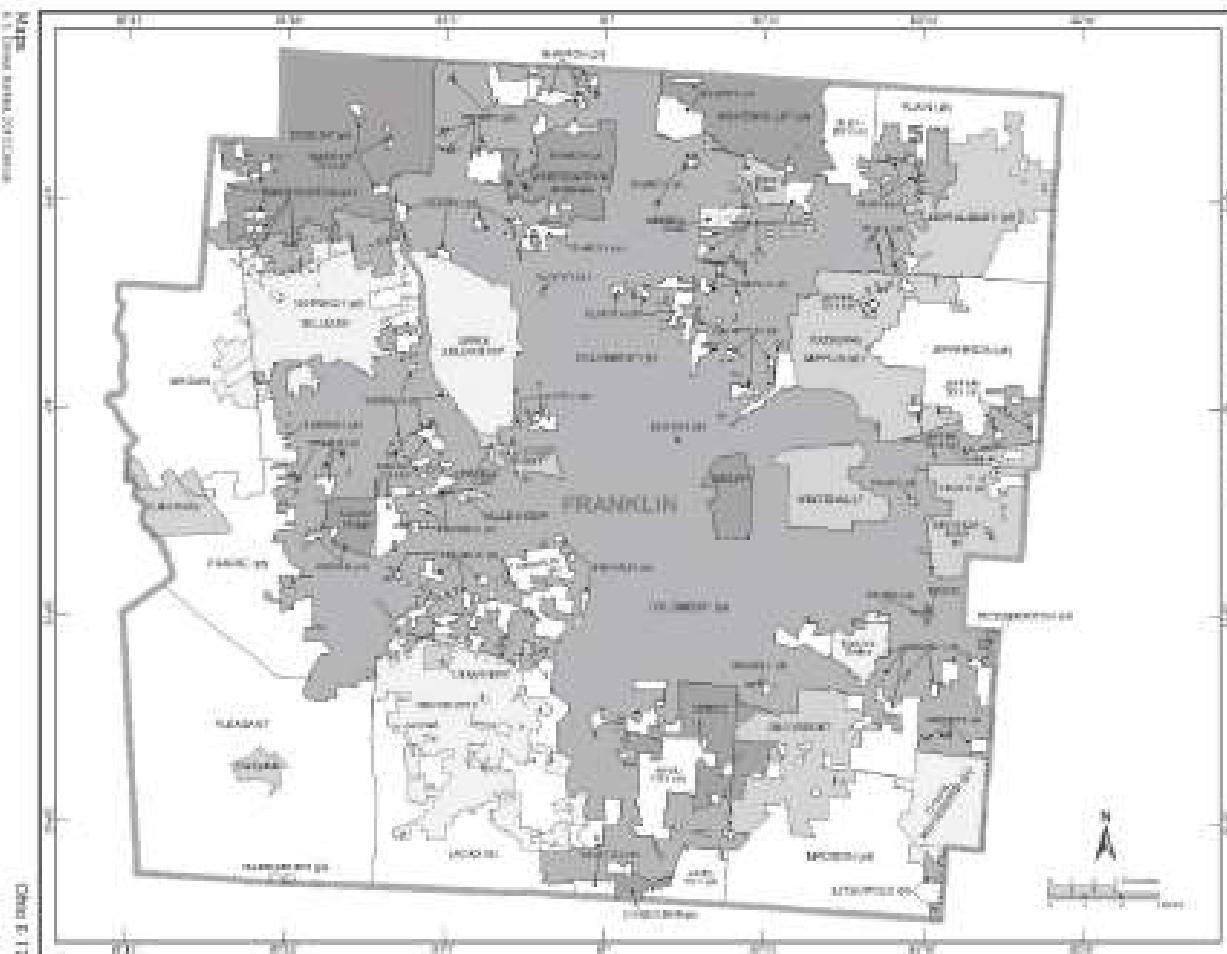
Terrance Bateman
Deputy
January 15, 2022







Counties, County Subdivisions, and Places - Insert B



On March 30, 1803, the Ohio government authorized the creation of Franklin County. The county originally was part of Ross County. Residents named the county in honor of Benjamin Franklin. In 1816, Franklin County's Columbus became Ohio's state capital.

With an estimated 1.326 million people, Franklin County is the most populated county in the state of Ohio out of 88 counties



The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Administrative Division consists of the Civil and Real Estate Divisions, and the Internal Affairs Bureau.



Civil and Real Estate Division

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Civil Division serves legal documents received from Franklin County Courts. Those documents include subpoenas, writs, executions, protection orders, and evictions from Franklin County and foreign jurisdictions. The Civil Division also accounts for fees collected for the various legal services of civil process.

The Civil Division consists of 6 Civil Clerks, 8 Civil Process Deputies, 5 Civil Protection Order Deputies, 2 Executions Deputies, and 2 Sergeants.



	2024	2023
Civil Subpoenas	4,672	4,185
Criminal Subpoenas	10,011	13,537
Stalking Orders	1,194	1,520
Final Stalking Orders	270	333
Civil Protection Orders	5,663	6,213
Final Civil Protection Orders	569	636
Domestic/Juvenile Paper Totals	29,232	28,221
Outside Ohio / Outside Franklin County Paper Totals	11,254	11,411

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Real Estate Division staff set and process sales of foreclosed properties in Franklin County. The staff works closely with the court system, law firms, buyers, the Clerk's office, and the Auditor's office to process and complete the sales.

Order of Sales- 800
Properties Sold- 239
Sheriff's Fees to General Fund- \$315,842.83

FRANKLIN COUNTY OHIO
OFFICIAL FORECLOSURE AUCTION SITE
Sheriff Dallas Baldwin



<https://franklin.sheriffsaleauction.ohio.gov/>



Internal Affairs

The Internal Affairs Bureau is responsible for investigations into the alleged misconduct by employees of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. These complaints include those filed by the public or other employees of the Sheriff's Office. Investigations may also result from the routine review of reports submitted, primarily consisting of response to aggression incidents. Internal Affairs conducts administrative investigations into all uses of deadly force by deputies.



	2024	2023	% Change
Total Reports	788	908	-13.2%
Use of Force Reviews	697	845	-17.5%
Justified Reports	684	827	-17.3%
EEO	7	2	250.0%
Use of Firearms	0	2	-100.0%
Drug Tests	103	104	-1.0%
CVSA Exams	20	150	-86.7%
Rude /Discourteous Behavior	22	20	10.0%

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office recognizes that it cannot fulfill its mission without community support. It is, therefore, imperative that a dialog characterized by mutual trust and open communication is maintained between the Sheriff's Office and the community. This communication must include a willingness to continually examine and modify policies and procedures to assure that the mission of the Sheriff's Office is accomplished in a manner compatible with the best interests of the community.



Operating Philosophy

The Franklin County Sheriff and Corrections Division Staff are committed to providing a safe and secure place of detention in the least restrictive environment possible to ensure the safety of the public. The Corrections Division strives to operate in accordance set forth by the United States Constitution, Ohio Revised Code, Bureau of Adult Detention Standards, and applicable court decisions. In addition, the Division seeks to maintain the standards for inmate health care established by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care.

The Sheriff and Corrections Division Staff are governed by responsibilities to the judicial system, Franklin County communities, and the inmates remanded to the Sheriff's custody. The Division aspires to operate as a nationally recognized facility.

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office, Division of Corrections, is devoted to reducing recidivism and increasing public safety through effective reentry programs.

The main operational philosophy practiced within the Division of Corrections is Strategic Inmate Management, which promotes the principles of direct deputy-to-inmate interaction. This philosophy has been proven to be an effective approach to inmate supervision; with results being a safer, more humane environment for both inmates and staff. Strategic Inmate Management principles include:

- Assessing the risk and need each inmate presents to develop strategies to more effectively manage their behavior.
- Using the risk and need assessments to make informed housing decisions and classify inmates to facilitate behavior management.
- Provides services to avoid behavior problems that can result from a perceived deficiency of basic human needs.
- Defining and conveying expectations for inmate behavior.
- Supervising inmates to ensure inmate behavior meets Division expectations.
- Keeping inmates occupied with productive activities.

Programming and security procedures must co-exist to ensure effective and efficient operations. Since most inmates will be returning to the community, opportunities for developing the skills necessary for self-sufficiency and addressing criminogenic needs are provided through social, psychological, educational, vocational, and spiritual programs. Health care, housing and social supports are key components for effective reentry.

Staff assigned to the Division of Corrections receive specialized training in Crisis Intervention, Strategic Inmate Management, Interpersonal Communications, Motivational Interviewing, Mental Health First Aid, and Cultural Diversity which supports the Division's operating philosophy. Staff are also afforded equitable career opportunities which foster professional development, job satisfaction, and a quality work environment.

The vision of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, Division of Corrections, focuses on actively managing inmate behavior to produce a jail operation that is safe and secure for the inmates, staff and visitors.



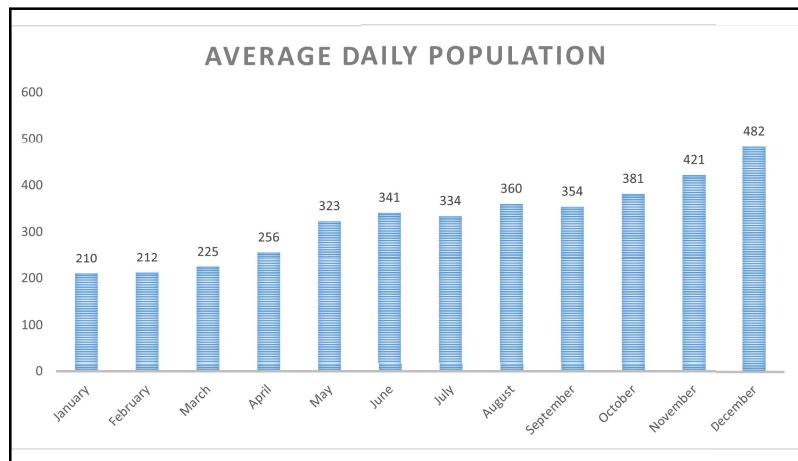
The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Corrections Division consist of The James A. Karnes Corrections Center, Franklin County Corrections Center II, Corrections Canine Unit, Corrections Intelligence Unit (CIU), Professional Services Bureau, Identification Bureau, Social Services and Medical.



James A. Karnes Corrections Center (J.A.K)



The James A. Karnes Corrections Center (JAK), located at 2551 Fisher rd. Phase 1 is a eight hundred sixty thee (863) bed minimum/maximum security facility . When phase 2 opens that will add four hundred eighteen more beds.



The new Rapid Resource Center opened at the James A. Karnes Corrections Center with support from the Franklin County Board of Commissioners.

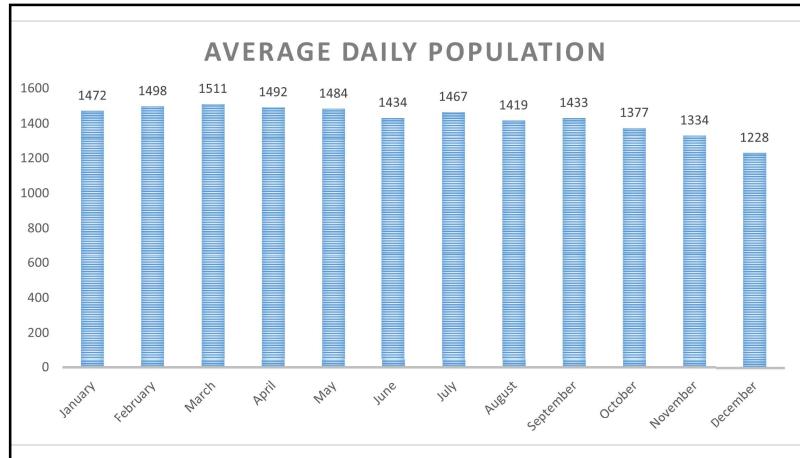
The idea is to help reduce the recidivism rate by helping provide support & resources for individuals transitioning back to the community



Franklin County Corrections Center II (Jackson Pike)



The Franklin County Corrections Center II, located at 2460 Jackson Pike, is one thousand six hundred eighty-eight (1,604) bed minimum/maximum security facility. Approximately 90% of this population are facing felony charges.



Over the past year, the Sheriff's Office, in collaboration with PFM, has implemented several key improvements at the Franklin County Correction Center II to enhance the safety and security of staff, inmates, and visitors. Numerous cameras were added throughout the hallways, now covering the night-side doorways of the dorms. Additionally, a new two-way communication device was installed, providing better equipment for inmates and deputies to communicate more effectively. Furthermore, a new "man down" system has replaced the outdated one, which had been in place for over 20 years. The new system operates similarly to the old one, allowing staff to transition smoothly.

These improvements at the Franklin County Correction Center II reflect the commitment of the Sheriff and Commissioners to maintain a safe and secure facility, even as preparations are made for the upcoming transition to the new James A. Karnes facility.

Franklin County Corrections Center II & JAK

Total Bookings
20,976

Bookings Homeless
2,293

Bookings Juveniles
7

Statistical Booking Dates

01/01/2024 to 12/31/2024



Correction Intelligence Unit (CIU)

The Corrections Intelligence Unit (CIU) is a “new” Unit within the Division of Corrections, designed to share data, identify trends, best practices, and potential threats within its facilities. Within the last year, CIU has gathered intelligence related to the introduction of narcotics into the facilities, mitigate violence and self-harm, and assisted several outside agencies with cases outside their facilities.

Within the last year, CIU has monitored approximately 23,000 inmate phone calls and requested approximately 90 targeted searches resulting in the recovery of narcotics, to include Suboxone, K2, Methamphetamines, and multiple “shanks”.

CIU is also a member of the National Corrections & Custodial Intelligence Sharing Group (NCCISG) and works closely with Ohio Department of Rehabilitation, sharing various intelligence to keep all staff, visitors, and inmates safe.

Correction Canine Unit

In 2024, the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Correctional Canine Unit underwent significant transitions and achieved notable milestones in enhancing institutional security and operational efficiency.

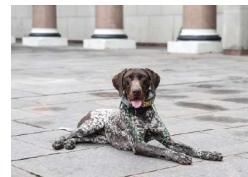
In mid-July 2024, the Correctional Canine Unit was reassigned to the Correctional Intelligence Unit. This period was marked by a comprehensive transition in recording methodologies for deployments and training sessions. On September 22, 2024, the unit adopted a new recording system, Dogteam Pro, to streamline documentation and enhance data accuracy.

From late September onward, the Correctional Canine Unit engaged in 54 training sessions encompassing 103 distinct exercises. These exercises included narcotics building searches, obedience drills, cell searches, and environmental acclimation, all tailored to fortify the canines' operational readiness.

During the same period, the unit conducted 269 deployments, involving 488 activities focused on narcotics detection across both correctional facilities. Collaborative efforts were evident as the canine teams worked alongside the Jackson Pike search team, floor-assigned deputies, and engaged in proactive search initiatives. There were nine instances where the canines exhibited behavioral changes indicative of detecting potential narcotics odors, leading to the verification of contraband, including marijuana, suboxone, and K2 paper.

Anticipating further advancements, the Correctional Canine Unit plans to quadruple training and deployment activities in 2025. The integration of advanced training aids and methodologies is expected to enhance the team's capabilities, aiming to surpass the achievements of the previous year.

The year 2024 was pivotal for the Correctional Canine Unit, marked by strategic leadership transitions, the implementation of improved operational systems, and a commitment to rigorous training and deployment schedules. These efforts collectively contribute to the overarching goal of maintaining a secure and efficient correctional environment.



Identification Bureau (ID)

The Identification Bureau is primarily responsible for the accurate identification of inmates processed through the Sheriff's two jails. The Bureau also provides identification related services to the courts, the State of Ohio, and law enforcement agencies. Units within the bureau are located at both jail facilities.

In each unit, identification technicians are responsible for the electronic capture, searching and storage of biometric data (fingerprints, palm prints, photographs), DNA collection and recording arrest and/or processing data to updated local files. Technicians review and forward the information to the courts and the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and Identification (BCI&I). The staff offers additional support to the courts, law enforcement, and the Sheriff's Investigations Division.

The Identification Bureau additionally is responsible for a multitude of tasks dealing with the conversion of paper files to electronic storage, sealings/expungements, and responding to questions presented by the public and government agencies.

Month	Juveniles	Non Inmates	Females	Males	Total		DNA Collected
2024							
January	3	66	429	1279	1777		158
February	3	66	410	1354	1833		121
March	6	88	476	1508	2078		138
April	6	91	451	1417	1965		128
May	17	92	434	1504	2047		166
June	5	79	455	1398	1937		150
July	7	96	419	1387	1909		155
August	7	121	429	1380	1937		167
September	5	87	425	1333	1850		147
October	7	100	424	1380	1911		177
November	4	88	356	1283	1731		157
December	5	86	377	1237	1705		137
TOTALS	75	1060	5085	16460	22680		1801
2023 Totals	133	920	4941	16544	22538		1689
Difference from 23-24	-43.61%	+15.22%	+2.37%	-0.51%	+0.63%		+6.63%



2024 Highlights

January 15, 2024 – Began processing all juvenile arrests at the JAK facility.

July 19, 2024 – Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) was shut down due to a ransomware attack on Columbus Police Department, severing the connection. All fingerprint collections were hand-delivered to BCI twice weekly for manual entry into the Criminal History Check (CCH) system.

October 2024 – Conducted a re-bid for all ID staff positions to prepare for the opening of JAK and reallocate staff for intake operations.

November 18, 2024 – Intake operations officially opened at JAK, and the intake process at CCII was closed.

November 19, 2024 – AFIS system reconnected, enabling electronic fingerprint submissions to BCI. Addressed a backlog of approximately 9,000 records due to the system downtime.



Professional Services Bureau

The Professional Services Bureau (PSB) of the Corrections Division is responsible for the day-to-day operations of both Franklin County Corrections Centers including corrections staff, kitchen services, commissary, social services, medical/mental health, and the chapel.

Corrections Records Officer

The Corrections Records Officer (CRO) establishes and reviews files for persons entering or being released from the Correctional facility for proper documentation. The Corrections Records Officer also monitors the movements of inmates within the facility and is responsible for maintaining records for inmates related to slating, custody, and releasing.

Corrections Service Coordinator

The Correction Service Coordinator (CSC) are responsible for signing up professional visitors. The Correction Records Coordinators monitor and answer the control center phones and oversee laundry services for both inmates and staff at both facilities.

Corrections Classification Specialist

The Corrections Classification Specialist (CCS) identifies and recommends appropriate risk and security levels by examining and reviewing inmate files, criminal history, outlines or arrests and convictions, court completed pre-sentence investigations, offender background investigations, FBI and BCI investigative reports and completes pre-designated classification forms to determine numerical rating reflecting security level, matches security level with related correctional facility. CCS interview inmates to complete intake questionnaire and inmate orientation check list.

Disciplinary Hearings Held

(JAK)- 396

(Franklin County Correction Center II)- 1,474

Kitchen

The Kitchen staff consists of 17 cooks and 2 supervisors and is responsible for preparing approximately 2.1 million meals in a year at an average cost of about \$1.10 per meal.

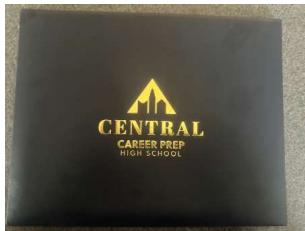
Commissary

6 store keepers and 2 supervisors are responsible for filling the orders and delivering commissary items to the approximately 1,200 inmates housed at Franklin County Correction Center II, and the approximately 425 inmates housed at the JAK.



Social Services

The vision of the Social Services Unit is to develop a comprehensive program that connects offenders in our custody to community resources in an effort to ensure the continuity of care and the opportunity for the offenders to become law-abiding, self-sufficient members of our community after their period of incarceration.



Calls Requesting Social Services- 17,134

Total Enrolled Class Participants - 20,334

The Social Services Department has partnered with Central High School to establish a high school diploma program allowing incarcerated individuals to complete their coursework and standardized testing while in custody. In 2024, 11 participants successfully earned their high school diplomas.

Medical

Armor Health provides evidence-based medical and behavioral health services utilizing proprietary insights analytics, experienced clinicians, and professionals who are laser focused on best-in-class interventions to delivering the right care, at the right time, in the right place to every patient they serve for both correctional facilities at the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. Services are provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and are the same as health services found in the community.

Inmate visits with a provider in the jails - 5,308

Inmate visits with a nurse in the jails - 5,402

Physicals completed by a nurse in the jails - 7,161

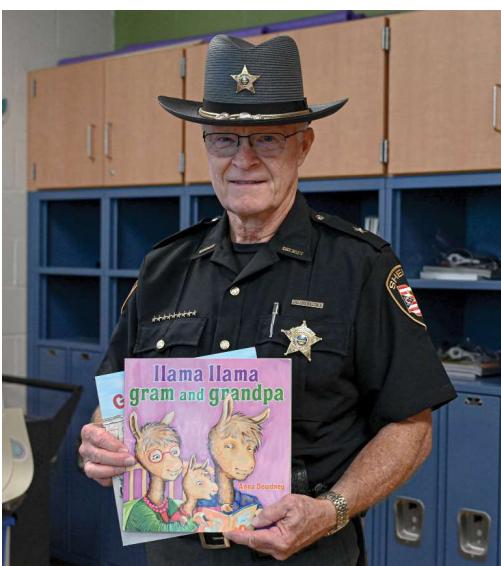
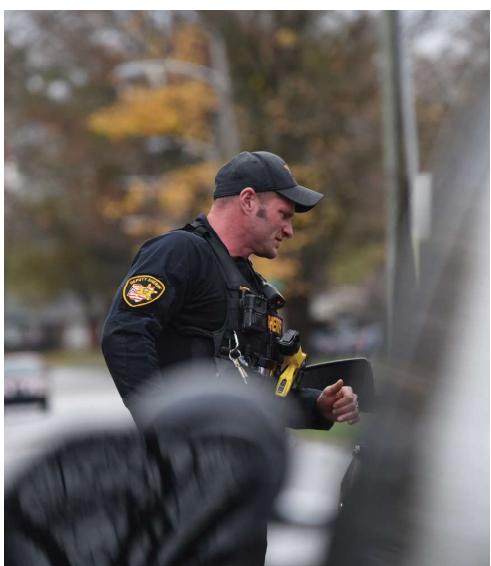
Inmates seen in a specialty clinic by a provider in the jails - 2,817

Dental exams completed by a dentist in the jails - 873

Inmates seen by a licensed Mental Health Professional in the jails - 11,755

Inmates seen by a Mental Health provider in the jails - 8,597





The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Employment and Management Services consist of Finance, Human Resources, Information Technology, Payroll, and Records



Finance

The Franklin County Sheriff's Finance Department oversees all financial and purchasing matters of the Sheriff's Office. It directs the annual performance-based program budgets for the office, which includes monitoring expenditures and performance measures, producing financial reports and projections, conducting financial analysis, and implementing fiscal control policies and procedures. This department represents the Sheriff by presenting the budget, fiscal, and contract requests before the Board of County Commissioners for approval.

The Finance Department also develops and administers contracts for police and dispatching services. The finance staff is responsible for managing all grants received by the Sheriff's Office including submitting applications and financial reports. Other duties of the department include writing competitive bid documents for products and services utilized by the office. The finance staff is also responsible for ordering, receiving, storing, and distributing office supplies for the Sheriff's Office, as well as food, housekeeping, and laundry supplies for the correctional facilities.

Each year, the Finance Department participates in the preparation of two budget documents. The first is a tax budget required under ORC 5705.28 and is used as the basis for the annual operating budget for the following year. The second document is the annual operating budget which outlines how the Sheriff's Office expects to expend its appropriated funds, and what revenues are anticipated to be collected in the coming year. This budget includes requests for additional personnel as well as new and replacement capital equipment (i.e. vehicles, computers, etc.) which are justified through performance measures. A baseline budget is also developed for personal services and benefits, as well as materials and services. Following the approval of the budget by the Board of County Commissioners, the Sheriff's Finance Department begins the process of securing purchase orders, developing competitive bid documents, and voucherizing invoices for payment of supplies and services.

Program	2023 Actuals	2024 Actuals	2023 vs 2024	% Difference
Administrative Support	\$ 13,960,352.94	\$ 17,065,569.32	\$ 3,105,216.38	18.20%
Training Academy	\$ 4,089,096.18	\$ 4,642,631.90	\$ 553,535.72	11.92%
Investigation	\$ 15,666,618.71	\$ 16,406,922.75	\$ 740,304.04	4.51%
Custody/Jail Operations	\$ 82,825,582.19	\$ 90,935,229.36	\$ 8,109,647.17	8.92%
Community Response and Safety Education	\$ 12,054,011.49	\$ 12,770,277.41	\$ 716,265.92	5.61%
Call For Service	\$ 4,608,173.30	\$ 4,544,418.91	\$ (63,754.39)	-1.40%
Patrol	\$ 22,823,089.56	\$ 23,388,689.88	\$ 565,600.32	2.42%
Information Technology	\$ 3,659,311.31	\$ 3,909,705.52	\$ 250,394.21	6.40%
Jail Medical Care	\$ 21,185,944.24	\$ 24,882,496.73	\$ 3,696,552.49	14.86%
Court Security	\$ 28,452,478.87	\$ 30,102,853.64	\$ 1,650,374.77	5.48%
	\$ 209,324,658.79	\$ 228,648,795.42	\$ 19,324,136.63	



Human Resources

Human Resources conducts a wide range of employment functions within the Sheriff's Office. The staff handles administrative needs which include maintaining employee personnel files, performance management, position descriptions, classification specifications, and disciplinary records. They also handle operational needs which include filling internal positions, recruiting, interviewing, testing, background investigations, selection/hiring of applicants, and benefits management. Finally, staff is responsible for the development of office policies addressing such areas as affirmative action, labor relations, the American with Disabilities Act, and the Family and Medical Leave Act.

Human Resources Mission Statement: S.H.E.R.I.F.F.

The mission of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Human Resource Department is to Serve our employees and Hire a qualified and diverse workforce through an Efficient hiring process and Recruit in a way to make an Impact on the community and Focus on the Future.

Human Resource CORE Values: FCSOHR

F - Focus: Motivated to make a difference for the future.

C - Commitment: Dedicated to the success of our employees.

S - Support: Committed to continuously improving the success of our employees.

O - Open-Minded: Develop better ways to hire and the innovation to help the office grow and lead by example.

H - Honor: Maintain integrity in our hiring practices.

R - Responsibility: To get it done the right way.

	2024	2023
New Hires	179	135
Resignations	49	46
Retirements	16	23
Disability Retirements	1	3
Involuntary Disability Retirement	1	0
Removals	24	14
Deaths	1	0
Promotions, Demotions, Changes	108	100



Applications Processed 2024
Civilian- 2,929
Deputy- 1,517

Applications Processed 2023
Civilian- 2,334
Deputy- 1,284



Information Technology Department

The Information Technology (IT) Department provides extensive project management services, technology leadership, and consulting to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office as well as many other law enforcement agencies in the Central Ohio region.

The primary activities of the IT Department include the research, procurement, installation, and maintenance of all computer workstations, servers, physical and virtual technological infrastructures including network-based database designs, and specialized vendor systems within the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. This includes more than 800 computers, 100 printers, 80 Mobile Data Terminals (MDT), and various forms of mobile communication equipment. The IT Department provides emergency support for Sheriff's Office applications year-round, 24 hours a day.

The IT Department collaborates with law enforcement and criminal justice partners throughout the county to develop technology solutions that will assist them in investigating and solving cases, while preventing crime. The IT Department advances public safety communications by providing support for the Sheriff's Office E911/Communications center.



During 2024, the IT Department moved a 4 physical servers to a virtual server environment which further reduced overhead cost of ownership, reduced maintenance, and provided enhanced data recovery and data availability to critical systems. In addition, over 100 desktop computers and laptops were either replaced or upgraded in order to meet the required specifications for upgrading them to Windows 11 in 2025.

Also during 2024 the IT Department continued to roll out additional Body Worn Cameras to which now include all Sheriff's Office Divisions. For all of 2023 over 109,000 BWC videos totaling over 79 Terabytes of storage were captured and uploaded.

Lastly the Sheriff's IT Department configured and installed about 30 computers and 15 printers within the second phase area, which recently was completed and opened, in the James A Karnes Correctional Facility.



Payroll

Payroll is responsible for processing bi-weekly compensation for all Sheriff's Office employees which includes ensuring payroll is processed in compliance with office regulations and labor contracts. Payroll provides advice on payroll and employee benefit matters, answers questions and resolves problems regarding labor contract provisions, employment laws and administrative regulation procedures. They also update the MUNIS system (county financial system) with current pay rates, employee data and account information; calculate adjustments based upon promotion, demotion, re-classification and step increases. Finally, payroll tracks and updates leave balances, prepares correspondence pertaining to personnel issues, prepares reports, compiles records, and maintains payroll files.

Records

The Records Department is responsible for maintaining warrants, missing person reports, offense reports, and accidents reported. Records Department staff enter stolen property, stolen vehicles, and warrants into the National Crime Information Computer (NCIC) and the Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS). They also perform computer and file searches for wanted suspects when requested by deputies and other law enforcement agencies.

2024 Activity
Warrants entered in LEADS/NCIC - 4,797
Missing Person entered in LEADS/NCIC - 181
Vehicles entered in LEADS/NCIC - 486
Hit Transaction for LEADS/NCIC - 6,472
Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles Inquiries - 30,449
Criminal History Inquiries- 10,476
Warrants queried into LEADS/NCIC - 134,352
Protection Orders Entered into LEADS/NCIC - 3,297





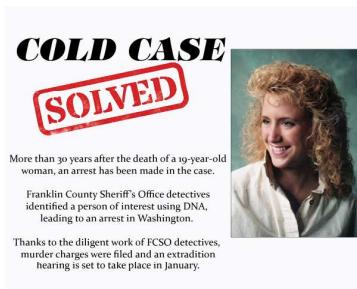
The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Investigations Division consists of the Detective Bureau, SORN, Central Ohio Violence Eradication Response Team (COVERT), Special Investigations Unit (SIU), Internet Crimes Against Children Unit (ICAC), H.O.P.E Task Force, Concealed Carry Office, Photo Lab, and the Property Room.



Detective Bureau

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Detective Bureau is responsible for investigations of criminal activity throughout Franklin County. This is accomplished by detectives interviewing victims, witnesses, and suspects, collecting and analyzing physical evidence, and reviewing previous crime reports. The detectives document their efforts in a case file which is presented to the Prosecutor's Office for the prosecution of the defendant.

Reports Investigated- 3,422
Reports Closed- 3,241
Homicides - 5
Assaults- 503
Robberies- 36
Burglaries/ Breaking and Entering- 103
Thefts- 791
Rapes- 44



Over three decades after 19-year-old Amy Hooper was found beaten and stabbed to death in her Franklin County apartment, an arrest has been made in her case.

In 2024, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office identified a person of interest in the case, according to a probable cause affidavit. Law enforcement officials in Washington obtained an "item discarded" by the suspect. DNA on the object was compared with DNA recovered from Hooper's body, and it was a match, the affidavit states.

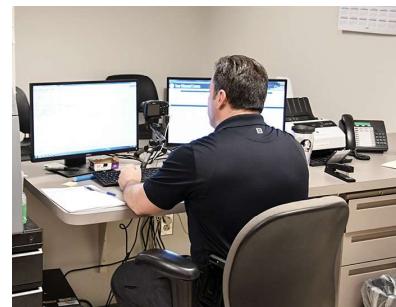
The person of interest was indicted on charges of murder and rape in connection to the cold case, according to Franklin County court records. A murder warrant was issued, and the suspect was arrested the following day.



SORN (Sex Offender Registration Notification)

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office SORN unit will register all sex offenders, arson offenders, and violent offenders pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code. The registration process is completed by detectives. Detectives then attempt to physically confirm the offender is living at the registered address.

Registrations	
Sex Offenders	1,852
Arson Offenders	119
Violent Offenders	279
Out of County Offenders	190
Offenders reported to the Office	7,173



The Tier classification system requirements are as follows:

- Tier 1 - are subject to the registration/verification requirements annually for a period of 15 years following their initial registration. These offenders are not subject to neighborhood / community notification.
- Tier 2 - are subject to registration/verification requirements every 180 days (six months) for a period of 25 years following their initial registration. These offenders are not subject to neighborhood / community notification.
- Tier 3 - are subject to registration/verification requirements every 90 days for life. TIER III offenders are subject to the neighbor / community notification provision, which includes all residents within a 1,000 feet radius of where the offender is residing.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You can read about sexual offenses

<http://codes.ohio.gov>

To monitor an offender's status while he/she is incarcerated

<https://appgateway.drc.ohio.gov/OffenderSearch>

Ohio's Attorney General's e-SORN, page

<http://www.icrimewatch.net/index.php?AgencyID=55149>

National Sex Offender Web Site

<http://www.nsopw.gov>



Special Investigations Unit (SIU)

The Special Investigations Unit (SIU) is responsible for the covert investigation of narcotics, Internet Crimes against Children, vice offenses, and the collection, analysis, and dissemination of criminal intelligence. It is also used in any investigation which require the use of an undercover officer.

Description	Amounts	Type	Street Values
Cocaine	28,302.01	Grams	\$3,537,751
Crack Cocaine	464.73	Grams	\$18,589
Heroin	3,475.05	Grams	\$611,609
Marijuana	19,915.50	Grams	\$796,620.00
Prescription Medications	2,548	Unit Dose	\$13,095
Methamphetamine	53,748.73	Grams	\$5,374,873
Fentanyl	10,281.55	Grams	\$1,542,233
Fentanyl Pills	1,024	Unit Dose	\$102,400
THC (Edibles, Vape Pens & Cartridges)	7,870	Unit Dose	\$236,100
THC Oil	20	Grams	\$500
Psilocybin Mushrooms	4,481.01	Grams	\$67,215.15
Ectasy	135	Unit Dose	\$2,430
Total Street Value			\$12,303,414.90



Narcotics Arrests- 212

Narcotics Search Warrants Executed - 327

Narcotics Complaints Received - 364

Detectives with the Specialized Tactics & Investigative Narcotics Group (STING) executed a narcotics search warrant in the 300 block of South Eureka Avenue. The operation took place on Monday, December 9th. During the operation, detectives seized felony amounts of methamphetamine and approximately \$400,000 in suspected drug proceeds.

This investigation was led by one of STING's dedicated Task Force Officers, employed by the Upper Arlington Police Department and assigned full-time to the collaborative drug task force.

STING works hand-in-hand with multiple local agencies, each contributing a full-time detective focused on keeping dangerous drugs off the streets of Franklin County. This operation highlights the power of collaboration between law enforcement agencies united by a shared mission: making our communities safer.



Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC)

The Franklin County ICAC Task Force is comprised of 25 total task force officers (twelve full-time, eleven part-time, and two supervisors). Full-time task force partnering agencies include seven Franklin County Sheriff's Office deputies (five detectives and two supervisors), one Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office investigator, one Columbus Police Department detective, three Homeland Security Investigations special agents. Part-time task force partnering agencies include Three Columbus Police detectives, one Westerville Police detective, one Grove City Police detective, one Grandview Heights Police detective, one Gahanna Police detective, one Pickaway County Sheriff's Office detective, one Ohio State University Police detective, one New Albany Police detective, and one Upper Arlington detective. Also on the task force, two civilian Homeland Security Investigations computer forensics analysts and one civilian Franklin County Sheriff's Office secretary.

Total Arrests- 46
Total Search Warrants Executed- 350
Total Complaints Received - 385
Total Electronic Devices Examined - 969
Total Safety Presentations - 37



On April 30th, 2024, the Franklin County Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force executed a residential search warrant in reference to an ongoing peer to peer investigation involving bit Torrent file sharing. Torrent file sharing is a way in which files can be shared directly between two or more computers on a constant daily basis. Through investigative methods, investigators can monitor and search for Torrent files containing Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM).

During this investigation, one specific Internet Protocol (IP) address was identified as sharing a massive amount of suspected CSAM content. ICAC investigators were able to identify a residential address and potential suspect associated to the target IP address as 49-year-old Andrew Brown. Mr. Brown was discovered to be a Jamaican citizen, living in Columbus on a religious Visa where he was volunteering as an art teacher and Sunday school teacher at Worthington Adventist Academy and Seventh Day Adventist Church.

The ICAC Task Force executed the residential search warrant and as entry was made into the residence, Mr. Brown was immediately found seated at his computer, actively trading and sharing CSAM files. Multiple devices were seized, and investigators located an enormous amount of evidence, over 15 Terra Bytes. To put into perspective, the last year the Encyclopedia Britannica was printed was in 2010. That final edition consisted of 32 volumes, weighed nearly 130 pounds, and contained approximately 50 million words and 300 million characters. It would require roughly one gigabyte of disc space to store the entire text of that final volume. The amount of evidence seized in this case was 15,000 times that amount. This also puts into perspective the amount of time it can take for these cases to be investigated. After forensic analysis it was discovered Mr. Brown was also file sharing from the grounds of the church and school. Due to Mr. Brown being in a position of public trust, he was arrested and ultimately indicted by a federal Grand Jury on multiple counts related to the possession, receipt and distribution of CSAM as well as transportation of obscene matter where he is currently awaiting a plea hearing in federal court where he faces a sentencing range of up to 40 years in prison.



Heroin Overdose Prevention & Education (HOPE) Task Force

The HOPE Task Force combats the heroin epidemic with a multi-pronged approach: enforcement, education, and prevention. We know that fighting addiction and death from drug overdose is a community problem and requires a community solution.

Established in 2016, the Heroin Overdose Prevention & Education Task Force was created as a restructuring of the Franklin County Drug Task Force. Experienced narcotics and homicide detectives working on the HOPE Task Force are treating opiate overdose scenes as crime scenes; investigating the source of the supply that caused the overdose.

In addition, HOPE Task Force collaborates with treatment providers to refer those with substance use disorders to long term treatment. Detectives are armed with the knowledge and partnership of treatment providers in the Franklin County community to help individuals with addiction instead of locking them up.

Prevention and education is key to our long term plan and HOPE works closely with the already established and nationally recognized Operation Street Smart to provide awareness of the growing problem.



Total Non-Fatal Overdoses Investigated - 86
Total Fatal Overdoses Investigated - 11



In 2024, the HOPE Task Force investigated 86 non-fatal overdoses and 11 fatal overdoses. As a result of these investigations, several search warrants were executed, leading to the arrest of 4 individuals connected to narcotics trafficking that resulted in fatalities.

The HOPE Task Force organized 12 proactive community outreach events, connecting with thousands of residents in areas heavily impacted by drug overdoses. At these events, Southeast Healthcare, in collaboration with HOPE Task Force Officers, provided food, hygiene products, Narcan, and shared information on addiction treatment options.

Additionally, the HOPE Task Force attempted to make face to face contact with 190 individuals who had survived overdoses, successfully engaging with 110 of them. During these interactions, treatment options were discussed, and Narcan was distributed.



COVERT (Central Ohio Violence Eradication Response Team)



COVERT (Central Ohio Violence Eradication Response Team) is dedicated to reducing firearm and violent crime in Franklin County, Ohio. Through a collaborative and multifaceted approach, we strive to safeguard the community by implementing evidence-based strategies that combine law enforcement efforts, community engagement, prevention, education, and access to vital resources for at-risk youth and young adults. Our mission is to create a safer and more secure environment for all residents, fostering a sense of trust, unity, and empowerment within the community. COVERT is committed to effectively addressing violent crime, disrupting criminal networks, and promoting a holistic approach to violence reduction.

In 2024, the Central Ohio Violence Eradication Response Team (COVERT) continued processing spent casings from firearms seized by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. These casings were collected and entered into the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN) to establish links between violent crime incidents and firearm evidence.

As a result, COVERT processed 255 casings and entered 153 firearms into NIBIN in 2024. This work generated 60 investigative leads, including critical evidence leading to charges in a homicide case in Prairie Township.

Felony Drug Arrests- 42

Violent Crime Arrests - 28

Other Felony Arrests - 60

COVERT utilizes Place Network Investigations (PNIs) to analyze crime trends and dismantle organized crime structures. This method allows investigators to focus on high-crime locations and take a systematic approach to reducing violence.

In 2024, COVERT investigated 8 Crime Networks and conducted strategic operations to reduce firearm-related crime throughout Franklin County. These investigations directly supported law enforcement efforts in multiple jurisdictions, leading to significant arrests and seizures.



COVERT's investigative efforts in 2024 directly supported charges in a homicide case in Prairie Township, firearm investigations, and violent crime cases throughout Franklin County, Ohio. These initiatives led to the successful dismantling of crime networks, seizure of firearms and drugs, and a notable reduction in violent crimes. The program will continue refining its methods and strategies to further improve its crime prevention and law enforcement efforts in 2025.



Operation Street Smart

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office created Operation Street Smart in July 2002 as a way to take community oriented policing to a new level. Street Smart is a collaborative effort between D.A.R.E. and the Special Investigations Unit (SIU), which is the Sheriff's Office undercover narcotics branch. The goal of Street Smart is to provide current and up-to-date narcotics information on trends, terminology, paraphernalia, and physiological effects to those individuals who deal with today's youth on a daily basis.



Presentations - 17
Attendees - 786



Sheriff Dallas Baldwin invites you to take advantage of this program, which is provided FREE OF CHARGE in Franklin County. To find out more information, email streetsmart@franklincountyohio.gov.

Concealed Carry Permits (CCW)

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Concealed Carry Office processed 5,056 Concealed Carry Permits (including 790 current or former military personnel). The Concealed Carry Office denied 39 applicants due to background checks, and revoked or suspended 198 permits due to arrests or Protection Orders.

In 2022 Ohio became the 23rd state to pass a Continual Carry Bill (SB215). This bill became effective that June. We have had a decrease of new CCW applications and renewals of 11% from last year.

Web Checks

The Concealed Carry Office processed 9,626 WebChecks and fingerprint card requests. This is a 6% increase over last year. Our office is the only agency in the area that still offers the service of Ink Fingerprint Cards.



Photo Lab



The Photo Lab develops and prints all film generated by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office including all mugshots, crime scene photographs, evidence photographs, accident photographs and special events. Upon request from any department or agency, the Photo Lab will provide technical assistance.

In 2024, the Photo Lab processed a total of 1,520,775 digital images. These images were used to create training videos for staff and instructional posters that were displayed at the JAK. Additionally, the lab created print materials for the Franklin County Fair, two memorial walls, and a news media event named Operation Holiday Remembrance.

The Photo Lab staff also supported several programs including Operation Bridge and the Therapy K-9 training program. The lab created videos and programs for various FCSO events such as retirements, longevity celebrations, and graduations.

Property Room

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Property room is responsible for the documentation, storage, chain of evidence, disposition and release of all property impounded by Deputies.

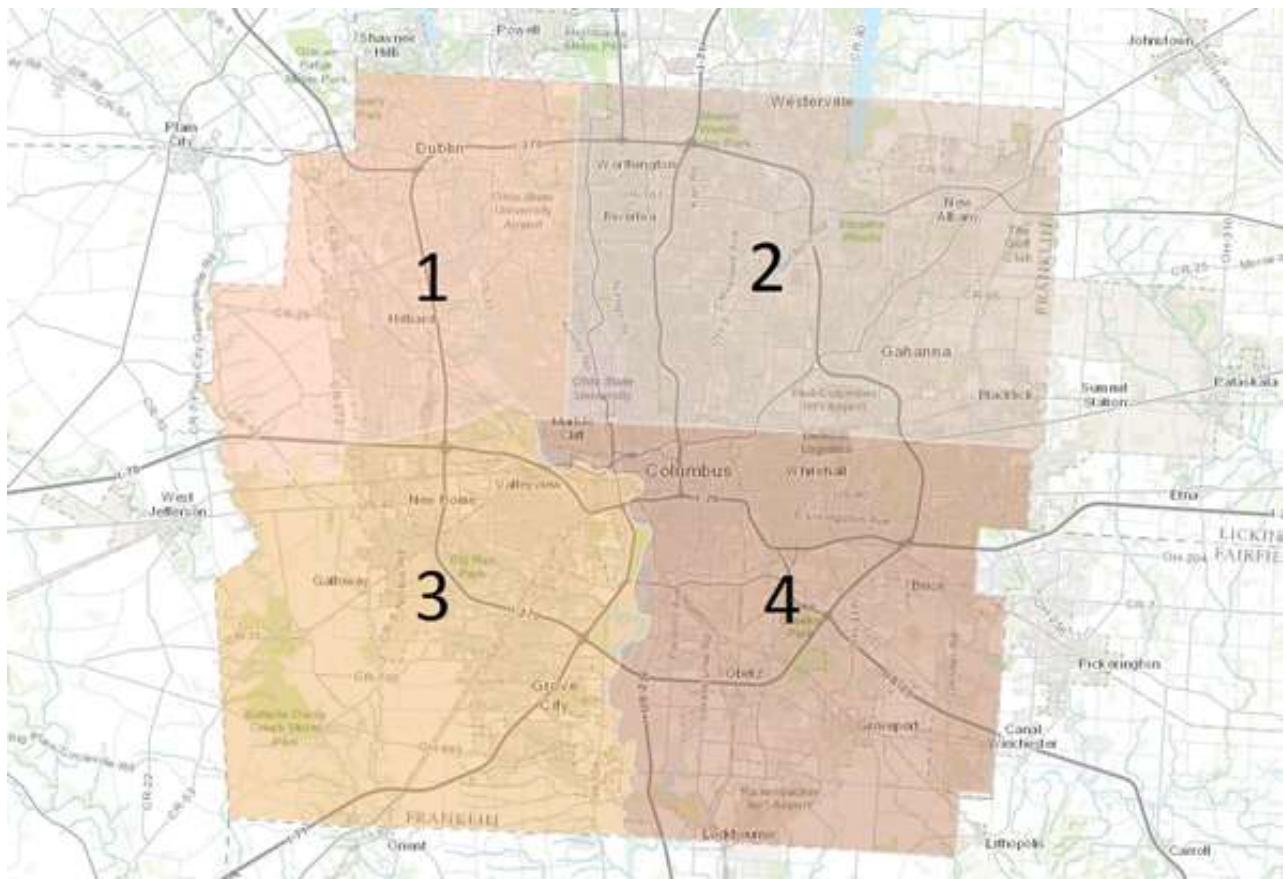
Impounds	
Guns	462
Other	14,992

Releases	
Guns	83
Other	272

Lab Runs	
Sent	1,332
Returned	1,241

Shell Casings - 336





For purposes of law enforcement, the county is divided into four geographical areas referred to as Zones. Patrol personnel primarily service the unincorporated areas of Franklin County as well as contracted services in two townships, Prairie and Hamilton Townships.



The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division consist of the Patrol Bureau, Field Training Officer Program, Body Worn Camera Unit, Canine Unit, Traffic Unit, Weight Enforcement Unit, Special Deputies, Honor Guard with Pipes and Drums, Bike Unit and the Deputy Support Team.



Patrol



The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division is responsible for patrolling Franklin County and enforcing the criminal and traffic laws of the State of Ohio. Patrol deputies answer calls for service and complete written reports on crimes. In many cases, they conduct the preliminary investigation on criminal activity. Patrol deputies respond to traffic accidents, rendering aid to the injured when necessary, as well as investigating the causative factors and conditions surrounding the accident. Patrol deputies also perform many support services to the other bureaus of the Sheriff's Office.

	2024	2023
Reports Taken	4,457	3,948
Domestic Runs	756	618
Non- Crash Citations	3,744	3,131
OMVI Arrests	295	175
Felony Arrests	483	465
Misdemeanor Arrests	1,702	1,495
Warrant Arrest – Felony	550	369
Warrant Arrest – Misdemeanor	768	712
Township / Village Meetings	94	20
Crash Citations	1,467	1,118
Total Pursuits	48	54
Total Terminated Pursuits	78	59



In December the Patrol Division Deputies brought holiday smiles to kids and families in Hamilton Township. Thanks to the generous toy drive by the amazing team at Manheim Auto Auction, deputies distributed toys just in time for Christmas. Patrol Deputies personally wrapped every single toy before partnering with Leave a Mark Church Food Bank to set up in their parking lot. There, kids not only received their beautifully wrapped gifts but also got FCSO sticker badges and had the chance to check out police cruisers.



Patrol

Patrol Deputies joined Starfish Assignment and Columbus Division of Police for their 7th annual coat drive. The goal is to hand out nearly 700 brand-new coats to children across Central Ohio so they can stay warm this winter. Patrol Deputies picked out dozens of coats and took them out into the community to surprise families.



Patrol completed several enforcement operations in 2024 that focused on high crime areas, drug rehabilitation outreach, shoplifting and speeding. These operations including working with other divisions within the Sheriff's Office such as SIU and the Detective Bureau along with several outside agencies including, Pickaway County Sheriff's Office, Clinton Township Police Department, Mifflin Township Police Department, Franklin Township Police Department, Columbus Police Department, Hilliard Police Department, Dublin Police Department, Perry Township Police, Minerva Park Police, Blendon Township Police, Shaker Township Police and the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Although they had various names; Operation Unity, Operation Bridge, Operation Belrunner and Operation Hot Hands, they all focused on improving the quality of life for the residents of Franklin County.

2024 Operation Totals

Traffic Stops- 498
Traffic Citations- 247
Felony Arrests - 57
Misdemeanor Arrests - 75
No Ops- 61
Impounded Vehicles - 56
Illegal Guns Seized- 25



Field Training Officer Program (FTO)

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office FTO Program is part of the Patrol Bureau. Its responsibilities include developing, preparing, and presenting coursework to new Patrol Deputies. Scheduling and coordinating newly assigned Patrol Deputy in-car training. Reviewing training packets and maintaining Patrol training files. Conducting annual Less Lethal Qualification for all Patrol Deputies and Supervisors. PepperBall instructions and Qualifications / annual qualifications. StarChase accountability and report. Reporting Narcan training and issuance. Monthly Roll Call training for Patrol Deputies.

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office FTO Program is part of the Patrol Bureau and entails training Deputies who receive a bid to Patrol, Community Relations, and CID. Its responsibilities include developing, preparing, and presenting coursework to new Patrol Deputies. Scheduling and coordinating newly assigned Patrol Deputy in-car training. This program currently consists of a four (4) week Orientation program and a one-week ESMD and Standard Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) refresher training program for a total of five (5) week in-class training program. During this time, Deputies are instructed on over 25 different topics and patrol SOP's. Deputies are also instructed on current relevant case laws and ORC statutes.

The FTO program manages / has completed the following functions:

- Developing, preparing, and presenting coursework to new Patrol Deputies
- Scheduling and coordinating newly assigned Patrol Deputy in-car training.
- Reviewing training packets and maintaining Patrol training files.
- Conducting annual Less Lethal Qualifications for all Patrol Deputies and Supervisors.
- Conducting PepperBall instructions and Qualifications / Annual qualifications.
- StarChase accountability and reporting.
- Narcan training and issuance.
- Monthly Roll Call Training for Patrol Deputies.
- Review / re-training for current Patrol Deputies.
- Research and implementation of new Patrol technologies.
- Full implementation of two new training software programs to include FTO Tracker and Training Tracker.
- Coordinating specialized "Standard Field Sobriety Testing" (SFST) training for current Patrol Deputy staff and outside agencies.

The FTO Office released the following Roll Call Trainings for 2024

- QTIM Quick Clear
- New "LifeVac" system
- Domestic Violence and Reporting
- Hobble Strap / Spit Hood refresher
- Current Pursuit Policy
- New Case Law "State Vs. Willoughby
- Use of Force and reporting
- Domestic Dispute Reporting.

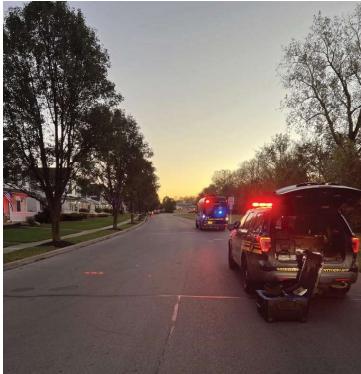
Total Deputies for Patrol Orientation - 27

Total number of training hours-14,360



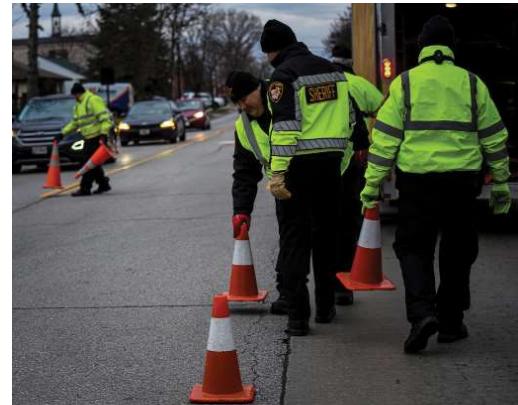
Traffic Unit

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Traffic Unit is responsible for the investigation of fatal, serious injury, hit skip, and department vehicle crashes. The bureau also investigates and, if necessary, removes abandoned and junk vehicles. The officers assigned to the bureau are responsible for the disposition of vehicles impounded by members of the office.



Sobriety Checkpoints- 13
Vehicles in Zone - 5,891
Vehicles Checked- 2,274
No Operators License Arrests- 119
DUI Arrests- 8
Felony Arrests- 9

Fatal Traffic Crashes Investigated- 15
Hit Skips Investigated - 102
Motorcycle Drivers Fatalities- 2
Pedestrian Fatalities - 2



Weight Enforcement

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Weight Enforcement Unit's primary function is to enforce the state laws regarding overloaded, oversized vehicles in order to preserve the roadways and bridges in Franklin County. The Weight Enforcement Unit is a self-supporting unit and is funded through the Franklin County Engineer's Road and Bridge Fund. The Weight Enforcement Unit Personnel is 2 Deputies.

Overload Cites- 254
Overload Warnings- 21
Other Truck Warnings- 222
Fines Issued- \$251,633



Canine Unit

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Canine Unit is part of the Patrol Division. Its responsibilities include tracking of criminal suspects and lost persons, evidence recovery, bomb detection, drug detection, and general patrol duties. The canine unit is one of the few available in central Ohio and its assistance is often requested by other agencies.

	2024	2023
Canine Related Runs	788	930
Request for Canine Assistance	307	360
Building Searches	39	58
Explosive Searches	842	1,284
Narcotics Searches	127	152
Area Searches	17	36
Track Runs	24	42
Canine Assisted Arrests	31	49



The longest serving canine handler retired after 51 years of service. Deputy Michael Severance started the Franklin County Sheriff's Office in 1973 and retired in 2024.

Special Deputies

The Franklin County Sheriff's Special Deputies are citizens who volunteer their time and equipment to assist the Sheriff's Office. The Special Deputies are certified peace officers through the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy.

2024 Personnel: 67

2024 Total Hours Donated: 7,133.10

2024 Activities

Assistance to the personnel in all areas of the Sheriff's Office
DUI Check Points
Franklin County Fair
Franklin County Board of Elections Details
St. Stephens Community Center Christmas Care Program
SWAT Team Details
Honor Guard Details
Bike Unit Details



Body Worn Camera Unit (BWC)

The Patrol Body Worn Camera Unit of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office is a part of the Patrol Bureau. The unit is responsible for reviewing the Body-Worn Camera and In-Car Video footage for public records requests, both internal and external. They also collect BWC and in-car video for administrative packets, and perform the necessary redaction of video content related to public records law, working jointly with Risk Management. Additionally, the unit is responsible for maintaining BWC and In-car camera equipment, and coordinates the issuance and repair of such equipment.



Number of videos (BWC/Cruiser dash) reviewed- 3,797

Cases Created By Patrol BWC Unit- 850

Number of records after the fact requests- 12

Number of videos resulted in office policy violations- 41

Number of incidents for a spare BWC to be issued- 15

Honor Guard

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard renders honors at various Sheriff's Office and community events throughout the year. Honor Guard activities include the presentation, posting and retiring of colors, parades, special ceremonies, and most importantly, attending sheriff funeral ceremonies. The Honor Guard has regularly scheduled meetings in which members practice marching and preparing for upcoming events.

During 2024, The Honor Guard participated in 5 funerals, 8 Franklin County Sheriff's Office events, and 30 community events.



Bike Unit

The Bike Unit just recently purchased two new state of the art electric bikes for deployment. Bike deputies can go where most cruisers cannot, and can arrive much faster than deputies on foot. The largest events that our Bike unit looks forward to each and every year is the Franklin County Fair and Red, White, and Boom. The engagement and positive impact of interacting with the citizens and youth at the fair is a perfect example of community policing.



Deputy Support Team



The mission of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Deputy Support Team is to provide support to deputies who have been involved in a duty-related critical incident. The Deputy Support Team's members are trained to help navigate deputies through the administrative process while providing understanding and empathy through a common experience. The Deputy Support Team is made up of over 25 deputies who work in various assignments within the office. In 2024 they responded to 9 critical incidents.



Traffic Collection Data

The Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board has mandated all its member law enforcement agencies to collect information on all self-initiated traffic stops. This information includes, at the very least, the race and gender of the driver of the stopped vehicle. This is a commendable step towards building trust between police and the community, and promoting transparency in law enforcement agencies.

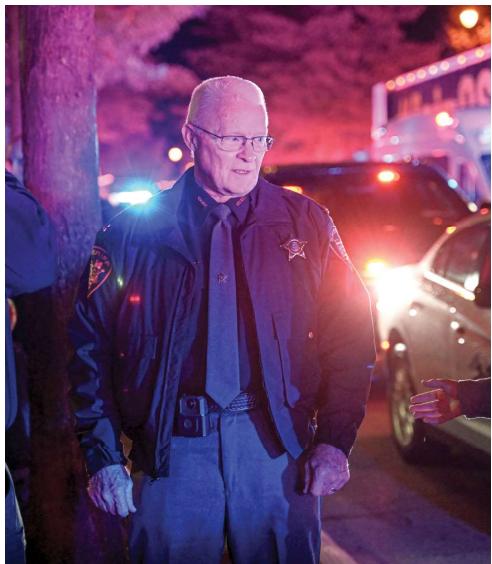
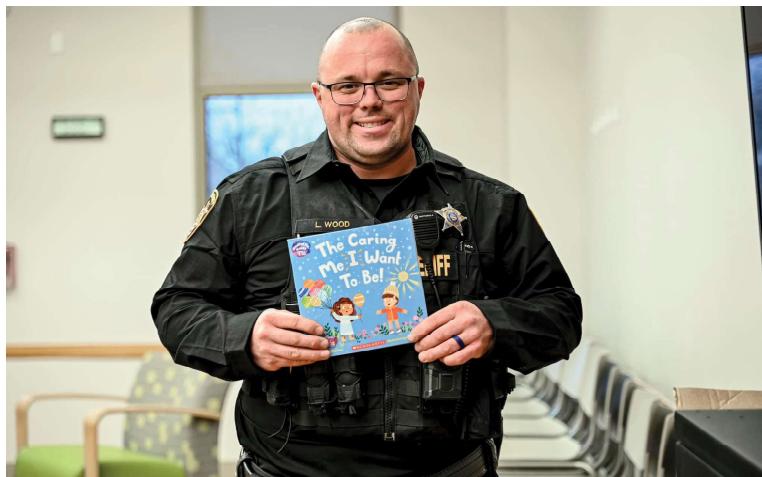
Total Stops: 4,083
Total Citations: 1,924
Total Warnings: 2,159

	% of Total Stops	% of Total Citations	% of Total Warnings
Asian	1.5%	1.8%	<1%
African American	39%	38%	41%
Hispanic	8%	10%	6%
Native American	<1%	<1%	<1%
White	47%	47%	48%
Other	3%	3%	4%
Male	68%	71%	66%
Female	31%	29%	33%

Of the 1,317 white males stopped for traffic violations, 48% received citations while 52% received warnings.

Of the 1071 African American males stopped for traffic violations, 46% received citations while 54% received warnings.





The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Public Affairs & Media Relations consists of Creative Outreach and Media Specialists.



Public Affairs & Media Relations

The Public Affairs/Media Relations Division at the Franklin County Sheriff's Office plays a critical role in maintaining a positive public image and reinforcing the agency's mission through strategic communication and proactive community engagement. This year, the division successfully organized multiple high-profile press conferences and media briefings, coordinated interviews with various media outlets, and produced engaging, informative content for our social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), and YouTube. These efforts ensure transparency, foster community trust, and highlight the impactful work of the Sheriff's Office.



Throughout the year, we facilitated numerous media interviews to amplify key initiatives, including the DUI Task Force's Thanksgiving saturation patrols, safety protocols for Red, White & Boom!, and major operations like Operation Unity and Operation BRIDGE. As part of these efforts, we coordinated ride-alongs with three major television news stations—NBC 4, 10TV, and ABC 6—providing firsthand insight into our enforcement strategies and public safety measures.



In 2024, we organized several high-profile media events to reinforce our commitment to public safety and strengthen community engagement. Notably, we collaborated with Good Day Columbus, where Sheriff Baldwin and Chief Marvin Hill spent the morning with Cameron Fontana, providing an in-depth look at the rigorous training our cadets undergo to become sheriff's deputies.



Public Affairs & Media Relations

Managing the Sheriff's office social media accounts is also a vital responsibility of the Media Relations/Public Affairs team, ensuring effective communication and engagement with the community.

In 2024, the Franklin County Sheriff's Office reached over 3 million people through social media, resulting in thousands of new followers. The agency's Facebook page started the year with 80,000 followers and has grown nearly 6%, surpassing 87,000. This growth reflects our team's dedication to fostering public engagement by covering more than 200 events and sharing critical safety information, community programs, and behind-the-scenes insights into the daily work of our deputies.

On Instagram, the Media Relations team created more than 400 posts and 210 stories, showcasing FCSO events, recognizing outstanding personnel, and offering an inside look at our operations. Through these efforts, we continue to strengthen connections with the community while enhancing transparency and public trust.



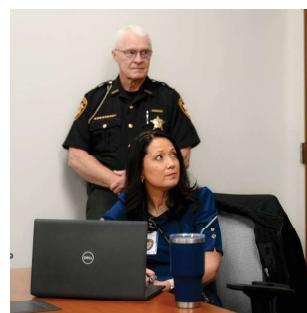
@OHFCSO
<http://sheriff.franklincountyohio.gov>

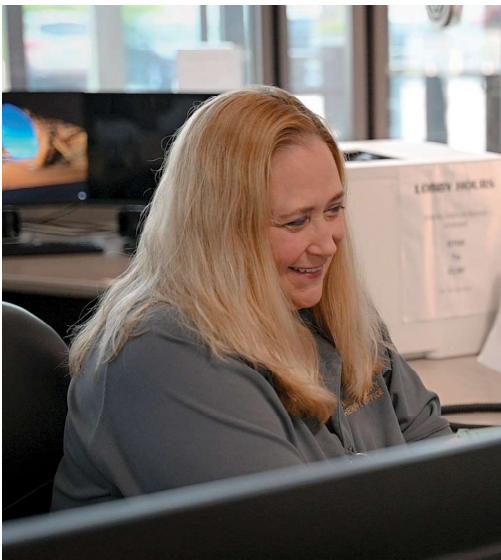


Another major component of the Public Affairs/Media Relations division is video production, which plays a crucial role in informing and engaging both the public and our internal audiences. Many of our videos have garnered thousands of views on YouTube, underscoring their impact.

In 2024, our team conducted over 50 interviews and produced 90 videos, capturing the stories and initiatives that define our agency. Some of our most significant projects included the Buckle Up PSA campaign, the Law Enforcement Recognition Dinner video, the Citizen Star Awards, and the powerful story of Deputy Stimpfle's life-saving kidney donation to Deputy Hall.

Our team also expanded this year, to add a full-time communications specialist, as well as two part-time interns. And we are excited about adding a videographer to the team in 2025 to keep building on our success and reach.





*The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Research and Development consists of
The Correctional Operations Reorganizing for Excellence (C.O.R.E) Team*



Correctional Operations Reorganizing for Excellence (CORE) Team

In 2009, the Franklin County Criminal Justice Planning Board, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office all took a holistic look at the criminal justice system in Franklin County. Their review of the criminal justice system led to a Detention Operations Master Plan being commissioned and completed. As part of the recommendations that emerged from this plan, the need for more modern facilities and operational policies were highlighted and discussions began.

In 2011 a staffing study was jointly commissioned by Board of Commissioners and Sheriff's Office. The study, which came out in 2012, again identified the need for new facilities and philosophies, as it reported on the staffing inefficiencies created by the Corrections Bureau's physical buildings which, in turn, were driving the overall operational philosophy.

The Correctional Operations Reorganizing for Excellence (C.O.R.E.) team came together in July of 2014, with a mission to build a constitutionally based, environmentally responsible, modern facility serving the citizens of Franklin County, and be recognized as a model in construction, policy & operations, leading our profession into the future. In seeking out the best practices for designing, programming and operating a modern correctional facility, the C.O.R.E. team consulted with more than 25 Sheriff's Offices and law enforcement agencies from around the state and country.



In 2024 the C.O.R.E. Team members, (10) ten in all, were reassigned to general assignments throughout the Corrections division in March. Before returning to their general assignments, a debt of gratitude is owed to them for their incredible vision and hard work over the years to make the James A Karnes Corrections ("JAK") Center a national model whereas other have visited and others now strive to emulate as they begin the design process for their new county jails. It is through the design and construction process of both the first and second phases, the C.O.R.E. Team's efforts have brought national attention to Sheriff Baldwin, the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, as well as the Franklin County Board of Commissioners.



Correctional Operations Reorganizing for Excellence (CORE) Team

The Bureau of Adult Detention issued an Approval Letter for Occupancy on November 1, 2024, for phase 2A following the final inspection. JAK then opened its doors to begin Reception on November 18, 2024. Reaching these two milestones in the James A. Karnes Corrections Center design and construction timeline, all female incarcerated persons will begin transferring from the Franklin County Corrections Center II (“Jackson Pike”) to James A Karnes Corrections Center in the spring of 2025.



Given that Franklin County Corrections Center II remains open, Franklin County understands the need to reopen the phase 2A project, complete the phase 2B bed count needs assessment, continue further discussions, and complete the design work necessary to begin the 3rd phase (2B) of the build project. Once complete the 3rd phase would allow for the closure of Franklin County Corrections Center II and place all Corrections Division staff members and incarcerated inmates under one roof at James A. Karnes Corrections Center. Therefore, the goal in 2025 is gain funding from Franklin County Board of Commissioners.





The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Recruitment Diversity, Equity and Inclusion consists of Recruitment, Background Investigations, and Community Liaisons.



Recruitment, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Division (RDEI)

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office is dedicated to creating a work environment that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive. Our aim is to ensure that all our employees feel appreciated and respected. We are committed to providing equal opportunities for all people in Franklin County, regardless of their background. We believe that every positive interaction we have is a chance to make a difference in the lives of others.



RDEI launched a new updated marketing campaign in 2024. With our robust marketing campaign, we saw great success with recording breaking traffic to our website with a total of 3,249,441 clicks to our social media pages, and 119,345 to the RDEI website. Streamed TV ads had almost 1 million viewers with a 99% completion rate – meaning the audience watched the ad all the way through.

Total Completed CVSA- 301

Total Completed Background - Over 500

Total Chief Panel Applicant Interviews - 155



The RDEI Division has continued to train our supervisors and deputies in computer voice stress analysis (CVSA) training from NITV Federal Services. Having additional certified CVSA examiners and trained background investigators has allowed the RDEI Staff to speed up the hiring process. We continue to streamline the hiring standards and processes to increase the number of Correction deputy and civilian applicants.

Recruitment, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Events

The following are some of the community events attended in 2024.

Arnold Classic
HBCU Classic
The Ohio State Fair
Skills USA
Franklin County Fair
Columbus Air Show
Suits for Heroes
Regular "Conversations" events with Franklin County Commissioners
NBC4 Turkey Giveaway
Light Ohio Blue-FCCSO "Signing Day" events
Law Enforcement Dinner



Lincoln Live Interview

Recruitment Events 2024

Career Fairs, Schools Visited & Other Events - 156
Civil Service and Physical Abilities Test - 24



<u>Applications - 2024</u>	<u>Hits/Views for the Job Posting</u>	<u>Completed Applications</u>
Deputy	21,657	1338
Communications Technician (911-Dispatcher)	6,924	430
Communications Technician Supervisor	798	16
Control Room Technician	2,425	121
Cook 1	7,497	192
Correctional Program Specialist	1,501	36
Corrections Classification Specialist	1,940	85
Corrections Records Officer	5,051	287
Corrections Services Coordinator	6,561	297
Criminal Intelligence Analyst 2	1,335	51
Director of Reentry and Rehabilitation	192	1
Facility Security Officer	6,407	459
Human Resources Intern	1,348	11
ID Technician	1,802	96
Information Technology Intern	4,066	105
Personnel Officer 1 / Payroll	1,949	52
Property Room Clerk	1,569	91
Public Information Specialist	3,475	51
Records Communication Technician	3,876	227
Social Services Manager	14	1
Social Services Supervisor	1,734	12
SORN Intern	1,063	21
Storekeeper 1 / Commissary	1,041	38
Typist 2 - Special Investigations Unit	1,106	49
Videographer	1,294	36



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Unit (DEI)



The Franklin County Sheriff's Office strives to achieve a diverse, equitable and inclusive workplace where all employees and volunteers feel valued and respected. We are committed to a nondiscriminatory approach and to provide equal opportunity for employment and advancement in all our divisions. We respect and value diverse life experiences and heritages and ensure that all voices are valued and heard. We will model Diversity, Equity

In 2024, the Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Unit made significant strides in fostering inclusivity, strengthening community relationships, and enhancing workforce development. The team attended 203 community events and meetings, engaging with 165 community leaders to build trust and collaboration.

To promote literacy and educational equity, the DEI Unit facilitated the distribution of

over 10,000 books to schools and community organizations. Professional development remained a priority, with staff completing 176 hours of training and attending key conferences such as the WELD Conference, Community Intercultural Relations Conference at OSU, and the Franklin County DEI Conference. Additionally, the Director of DEI obtained NDC Certification, reinforcing FCSO's commitment to innovative DEI strategies and professional excellence. Through these initiatives, the FCSO DEI Unit continues to drive meaningful change, enhancing community engagement, workforce inclusion, and organizational accountability.

Key Achievements in 2024

Community Engagement & Outreach

- 203 community events and meetings attended.
- 165 meetings with community leaders to strengthen relationships.
- 10,000+ books provided to schools and community organizations to promote literacy and education equity.
- Identification of 115 businesses and organizations as potential DEI partners.

Internal Workforce Development & Training

- 153 hours spent meeting with FCSO colleagues.
- 16 FCSO training sessions participated in or conducted.
- 32 hours spent riding with patrol officers for firsthand engagement and relationship building.
- 176 total training hours completed by DEI staff in professional development.
- 13 professional development events attended, including leadership and cultural competency workshops.

Strategic Initiatives & Solutions

- Centered wellness, workforce development, and community connections as a core approach to fostering inclusivity.
- Developed a 2025 DEI Plan to address the evolving social and political climate and support both FCSO employees and Franklin County residents.

Professional Development & Partnerships

DEI staff attended key conferences, including:
WELD Conference

Community Intercultural Relations Conference at OSU

EmpowerHer Leadership Training

HACR Conference

Thermostat Cultures LiveFranklin
County DEI Conference





SIGNING DAY

FRANKLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CBT 24-005



Recruitment Event

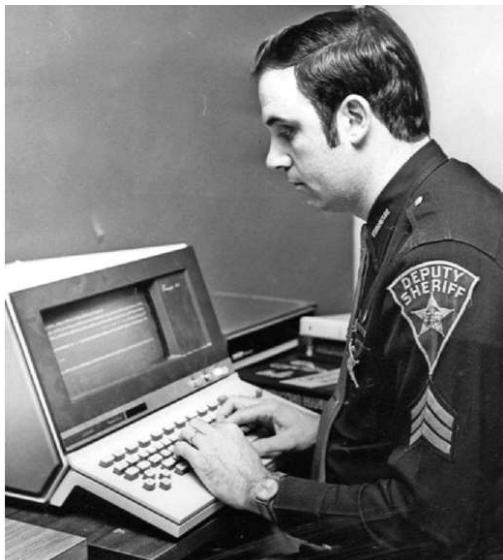


Columbus Airshow



Suits for Heros





The Security Operations Division is made up of two units: The Court Services Unit and the Facility Security Unit. Consisting of 247 personnel, this division performs all law enforcement/ security duties at the Franklin County Government Center, Memorial Hall, and Job & Family Services locations.



Court Services Unit

The Court Services Unit performs the functions of prisoner transport and courtroom security. Comprised of deputies and supervisors, the Court Services Unit serves the Court of Common Pleas, Municipal Court, and the Domestic Relations/Juvenile Court. This unit utilizes four prisoner transport buses and six prisoner transport vans. A wheelchair van has been scheduled to come into service in 2025.

Following the closure of the Main Jail downtown, fresh arrests from various agencies are now being taken to the Municipal Court holding area and subsequently transported to the jail by the transport unit. Approximately 37 transports per month have been conducted for these other agencies

Common Pleas Court

The Common Pleas Section of Court Services provides deputies to maintain custody of prisoners appearing in courtrooms. Providing security in the courtrooms of 17 Franklin County Common Pleas judges and 9 magistrates. They also provide deputies for the Civil Stalking Protection Order (CSPO) Court with one magistrate, as well as Domestic Relations/ Juvenile Court for the 7 judges and 30 magistrates in both the Franklin County Courthouse and the Juvenile Intervention Center. Additionally, these deputies perform law enforcement duties by serving Civil Protection Orders and making warrant arrests for violations.

Common Pleas
Criminal Cases- 65,019
In Jail Cases- 21,028
James Karnes (JAK) Inmates - 3,836
Jackson Pike Inmates- 17,197
Murder Trials- 169
Miscellaneous Trials- 221
Common Pleas Video Arraignment – 5,261

Domestic Court
New Slates- 75
JAK Trials/ Hearings- 42
Jackson Pike Trials/ Hearings- 360
CPOs Served- 53



<https://www.fccourts.org/>



Municipal Court

The Municipal Section of Court Services is tasked with providing deputies to maintain custody of prisoners appearing before 18 Municipal judges, and ensuring paperwork generated during the court proceedings is appropriately processed. There is a Sergeant and 27 Deputies assigned to Municipal Court. Since the onset of COVID-19, Municipal Court Deputies have conducted Video Arraignment within the two jail facilities in addition to their duties at the Courthouse.



With the closing of the Main Jail downtown, other agencies have been bringing fresh arrests to the Municipal Court holding cell area, where the municipal court deputies check the property and paperwork and arrange for our transport unit to take them to jail.



<https://municipalcourt.franklincountyohio.gov/>



Transport Unit

The Transport unit of Court Services was created in 2023. It is comprised of two sergeants and thirteen deputies. There are two sections of this unit. One section is tasked with transporting prisoners from the jails to both the Common Pleas and Municipal Courthouses for appearance before a judge and returning them to the jails once the court proceedings are completed (in past years this was done by the Municipal Court unit). They also transport fresh arrests by other agencies from the courthouse complex to the jail. The other section is the Convey unit (which has existed for many years but is now part of the Transport Unit instead of being part of Common Pleas).

Total Municipal Court Transports- 6,715
Total Common Pleas Transports- 18,255
Total Domestic/ Juvenile Transports- 399
Total Bus Transports- 20,930
Total Court Transports- 25,369



Convey Unit

Deputies assigned to Convey are responsible for the transporting of newly sentenced prisoners to State Institutions to begin their sentences. They also transport prisoners from state institutions, other county jails, state psychiatric hospitals, and youth camps to the Franklin County Corrections Center for Court appearances under subpoena. This detail is equipped with two 10-passenger vans. The Convey unit is comprised of four deputies. For the year 2024, both vehicles were driven over 65,000 miles, safely transporting prisoners to and from facilities throughout the state.



Takeouts- 1,244
Returns- 538
Over 65,000 Miles Driven



Facility Security Unit

The Facility Security Unit is responsible for the safety and security of the visitors and employees in the Franklin County government complex, in addition to the vast court complex. The Government complex consists of 8 buildings in downtown Columbus, Ohio. The Facility Security Unit has also taken on the security aspects for the 10th District Court of Appeals, Memorial Hall, and 3 Job and Family services buildings. The unit is responsible for staffing the entry points of the various buildings, with Lieutenant, 3 Sergeants, 42 Deputies, 11 Civilian Supervisors, 94 Facility Security Officers, and 17 Control Room Technicians.

Persons scanned through checkpoints (Pavilion, Common Pleas, Juvenile Catwalk, 80 E. Fulton, Memorial Hall) - 1,283,366

Number of Contraband Confiscated (Weapons or Drugs that are impounded and Potential Charges) - 42

Items that were held and returned to owner when they left (Mace or pocketknife) - 7,835



Municipal Court Liaison

A Sergeant is also assigned as a Liaison Officer and works in conjunction with Columbus City Prosecutor and Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk's Office personnel covering an array of functions necessary for effective prosecution of matters with which the Municipal court has authority. This Sergeant handled nearly 7,000 subpoenas from the court system to the sheriff's office. The Sheriff's Liaison Office is the channel where communications between the various divisions of the Sheriff's Office and the Municipal Courts travel.



Established in 2017, The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Support Service Division stands today as a division of integrity and professionalism. The Division is committed to excellence in its efforts to support all the Divisions of the Sheriff's Office. The 14 specialty units within the Support Services Division continually strives to serve the public and the Sheriff's Office in the most effective, efficient, and professional manner possible. Known as a Division of "Pride and Progress," Support Services will make forward thinking achievements.



The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Support Service Division consist of the Communications Center, the Community Intervention and Diversion Unit, the Community Liaison Unit, Community Relations, SWAT, Warrants and Extraditions, Training Academy, Bomb Squad, Drive Team, Unmanned Aircraft Systems, Chaplains, Mounted Unit, Hostage Negotiators Team, and the Peer Assistance Team.



Communications / Dispatch

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Communications Center, also known as "Franklin County 911", operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and is responsible for answering emergency and non-emergency calls from the citizens of Franklin County, Ohio. The Communications Center dispatches Deputy Sheriffs for the unincorporated areas of Franklin County as well as dispatching Police for the municipalities of Obetz, Groveport, Minerva Park, Harrisburg and the following township Police Departments: Franklin, Madison, Blendon, Clinton, Sharon, Perry, Valleyview and Mifflin.



	2024	2023
Emergency(911) Calls	114,456	127,791
Non Emergency Calls	185,099	195,081
Total Calls	299,555	322,872
Dispatched Runs for Service	231,443	241,449

The past twelve months have been significant for the operations of the Communications Center. We began implementing several key changes that will shape our operations for years to come. One of the most important steps was the addition of two new positions to support CAD operations. This was crucial as we worked through the development and deployment of our first new CAD system in 22 years. With advancements in technology, GIS data, Next-Gen 9-1-1, and numerous other enhancements, we are set to transition our operations out of 1998 and into 2025 with a single system update. The success of this effort would not have been possible without the addition of these roles and filling them with the right individuals.

The move of the Communications Center has been a central goal for some time. In 2024, we finalized the new design of the center to facilitate the move in 2025. By the end of the year, we had completed the design work with our partners, as well as the infrastructure for the radio and phone systems. New operational strategies were also developed, which will be implemented in the new space. These enhancements will allow us to support not only patrol but also various specialty teams, with a particular focus on advancing our drone operations.

In response to changes in state radio communications requirements, the team worked diligently to ensure compliance by the July 1, 2025 deadline. By the end of the year, the office had achieved 98% compliance well ahead of the state, which ended 2024 with less than 50% compliance to its own rules.

Throughout the year, the Communications Center faced several staffing challenges, but by year's end, many of these concerns were resolved or on track for resolution. This progress was made possible through strong collaboration with our HR and RDEI partners. As we move into 2025, the team is enthusiastic about the progress made and the opportunity to implement many of the initiatives we have worked on for years.



Community Intervention and Diversion Unit (CID)

In support of the Stepping Up Initiative, a national initiative to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jail, the Franklin County Sheriff's Office created the Community Intervention and Diversion (CID) unit. The mission of CID is to coordinate the response of law enforcement and the behavioral health system, as well as to assist individuals experiencing crises resulting from known or suspected mental illness and/or drug and alcohol addiction. The goal is to divert persons from the criminal justice system whenever possible and connect them with appropriate mental health/substance abuse services.



If you or someone you know is having a mental health crisis and is contemplating suicide please dial 911 or the National Suicide Hotline at 988. You aren't alone, there is help.

	2024	2023
Calls for Service	1495	1486
Request for Assistance (FCSO Dispatched)	741	803
Request for Assistance (Outside Agencies)	754	683
Mental Health Follow-ups	16	12
Emergency Application for Admission	174	196
Voluntary Admissions/Diversions	27	61



The CID unit continues to successfully operate without mental health clinicians by implementing alternative strategies that focus on officer training, community partnerships, and resource coordination. Deputies within the unit are increasing their individual training to handle mental health crises, using de-escalation techniques, and building rapport with individuals in distress. The unit collaborates closely with local mental health agencies, emergency medical services, and community organizations, ensuring individuals receive the proper care and support after initial contact with law enforcement. By relying on these partnerships and training, the unit can effectively manage situations involving mental health, ensuring public safety while connecting individuals to appropriate services even without having mental health clinicians directly present within the unit.



Community Liaisons



The Community Liaison Unit's goal is to act as a partner with the community to help solve quality of life issues. Liaison deputies attend township and block watch meetings to listen to and address community members' concerns. Liaison deputies work traffic in school zones, address drug complaints, work warrants, and address neighborhood crimes as well as assist other divisions within the Sheriff's Office. The unit is comprised of 4 Deputies, 1 Sergeant and 1 Crime Analyst. Each liaison deputy has over 15 years of experience and is assigned to a specific quadrant within Franklin County. The crime analyst supports the liaison deputies by analyzing and tracking crime trends.

	2024	2023
Township Meetings	165	154
Web Tips Checked	134	65
Traffic Citations/ Warning Issued	394	373
Citizen Contact	2,335	2,006
Business Contact	1,042	938
Miscellaneous Complaints	227	169
School Traffic Complaints	296	181



Traffic and Parking: We are working closely with townships and villages to address traffic and parking concerns. Acting as a liaison between community members and local authorities, we focus on resolving issues like speeding and parking challenges, while leveraging available resources and tools to implement effective solutions.

Homelessness: Our Unit has partnered with community leaders, Township Administrators, Village Officials, and residents to address homelessness in our area. By building strong collaborations with non-governmental organizations and other law enforcement agencies, we remain committed to finding sustainable solutions to this ongoing issue.

Enforcement: We continue to actively address various community concerns, including commercial motor vehicle traffic and illegal dumping. Through partnerships with both government and non-government agencies, we contribute valuable input and ideas to effectively tackle these issues.

Initiatives: We are planning innovative ways to engage with the community during the summer months. New projects and initiatives are being explored to interact, educate, and support the residents of Franklin County.



Community Relation

Strong relationships of mutual trust between the Franklin County Sheriff's Office and the communities we serve are critical to maintaining public safety and effective policing. The Franklin County Sheriff's Office relies on the cooperation of community members to provide information about crime in their neighborhoods and to work with us to devise solutions to address crime and quality of life issues.



In order to achieve this goal we have a dedicated Community Relations Unit comprised of eleven deputies and two supervisors who interact with the community daily creating and maintaining relationships to aid in making Franklin County a great place to live, work and raise a family. This is accomplished by offering the following programs:

- Project Lifesaver
- CRASE- Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events
- RAD- Rape Aggression Defense System
- D.A.R.E
- Community Events
- Child ID's
- School Resource Officers
- Therapy dog Program

	2024
Schools Visited	813
D.A.R.E 5th grade Graduates	1,408
Events	269
Event (Hours)	1,084
Meetings	224
Other Unit Assist Hours	216



Community Relations teaches the 5th-grade D.A.R.E. curriculum throughout Franklin County in six public school districts as well as the Catholic schools within the Diocese of Columbus. There were 1,408 5th grade graduates in 2024!

D.A.R.E. envisions a world in which students everywhere are empowered to respect others and choose to lead lives free from violence, substance abuse, and other dangerous behaviors.



Community Relations Events

Community Relations participated in several DEA National Rx Drug Take Back events at Kroger locations throughout Franklin County in 2024.



The Franklin County Sheriff's Office is proud to support Rock City Church's Shoe Giveaway this holiday season! Their church donated more than 3,000 pairs of new shoes and teamed up with law enforcement agencies to hand them out to elementary students at 10 different schools in Columbus and Whitehall. Students also received new hats and socks as well.



Community safety was the focus when our Community Relations Deputies visited My Project USA. They emphasized the importance of being aware of your surroundings, staying vigilant, and making safe choices. Our deputies covered all these essential topics with the children.



Shop with the Sheriff

Our annual "Shop with the Sheriff" event started in December with many happy faces and shopping. This heartwarming event brings holiday cheer to children in our community.

Sheriff Dallas Baldwin led the Sheriff's office, along with US Marshal Michael Black to help 26 children shop for Christmas at a local Target store.



Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE)



Law enforcement officers and agencies are frequently requested by schools, businesses, and communities for direction and presentations on what they should do if confronted with an active shooter event. The Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) course, designed and built on the Avoid, Deny, Defend strategy developed by ALERT in 2004, provides strategies, guidance and a proven plan for surviving an active shooter event.

Topics include the history and prevalence of active shooter events, the role of professional guardians, civilian response options, medical issues, and drills. This four-hour training is offered to schools, colleges, businesses, hospitals and places of worship.



CRASE I Presentations - 93

CRASE II Presentations - 34



Therapy Dog Program



The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Therapy Dog program features select canines and law enforcement personnel that are trained to provide victims with an outlet from the mental, physical, or psychological effects of experienced trauma.

This program was established in 2017 with Mattis, who became the first law enforcement therapy dog in the State of Ohio and the sixth in the nation. Due to the program's overwhelming popularity and success, it has since expanded.

Since its inception, the Therapy Dog program has received requests to join victim's assistance efforts from various victims advocacy groups and local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies from across Central Ohio and the country. The program continues to expand, improve, and ultimately allows the Franklin County Sheriff's Office to offer yet another innovative tool for assistance and community engagement to Franklin County's communities.

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Therapy Dog program is solely funded by donations from community partners. This includes the training, veterinary care, grooming, boarding, food, and other supplies. Franklin County Sheriff's Office is very appreciative of this and the other various forms of support provided to the program.



In 2024, our team underwent a ton of change. Woody and Bindi retired, Mattis passed away and Sunny was sworn in. In September of 2024, TK9 Mando joined the team. In October, TK9s Titus and Scooby joined the team. TK9 Luna joined a short time later bringing our total number of dogs to five.

The TK9 Unit is utilized for victim advocacy, mental health, and trauma. We have assisted in peer support for officer wellness as well as court proceedings. The past year was our most successful year since the program's inception in 2017. The team had 602 deployments. Of those deployments, our dogs worked over 25 court proceedings resulting in 9 convictions. Eight of those convictions resulted in prison time of 10 years or more. We responded to dozens of critical incidents, aided in officer wellness initiatives, and supported other law enforcement agencies as well.

With the expansion of TK9, our hope is to continue to support our community, our officers, and our state by providing unwavering support in times of need.

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Therapy K9 Unit is now the largest in the country.



Project Lifesaver

The primary mission of Project Lifesaver is to provide timely response to save lives and reduce potential injury for adults and children who wander due to Alzheimer's, Autism, and other related conditions or disorders.

The task of searching for wandering or lost individuals with Alzheimer's, Autism, Down Syndrome, dementia or other cognitive conditions is a growing and serious responsibility. Without effective procedures and equipment, searches can involve multiple agencies, hundreds of officers, countless man hours and thousands of dollars. More importantly, because time is of the essence, every minute lost increases the risk of a tragic outcome.

Citizens enrolled in Project Lifesaver wear a small personal transmitter around the wrist or ankle that emits an individualized tracking signal. If an enrolled client goes missing, the caregiver notifies their local Project Lifesaver agency, and a trained emergency team responds to the wanderer's area. Most who wander are found within a few miles from home, and search times have been reduced from hours and days to minutes. Recovery times for PLI clients average 30 minutes - 95% less time than standard operations.

Battery Changes - 295

Callouts - 12



Rape Aggression Defense System (RAD)

The Rape Aggression Defense System (RAD) is a 12-hour comprehensive female-only course with a focus on awareness prevention, risk reduction, and risk avoidance. The RAD program will meet the needs of women to acquire self-defense education in a relatively short period of time. All RAD instructors are nationally certified. The R.A.D. system is the only self-defense program ever endorsed by The International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA).



RAD Classes Completed - 19



Franklin County Fair



Located in the heart of Hilliard, Ohio, the Franklin County Fairgrounds has been home to the Franklin County Fair for more than 100 years and also hosts a wide variety of events throughout the year, including car shows, craft shows, 5k races, and harness racing.



Franklin County Sheriff's Office Cops and Kids Day

Children can meet our Mounted Unit, Therapy K9 dogs, and check out some of the cool crime-fighting tools used by our Bomb, Dive, and SWAT teams.

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office tent is open every day at the fair and you're invited to stop by and learn more about the services the Sheriff's Office provides to the community.



Citizens Academy

The Sheriff's Office Citizens Academy is an opportunity for citizens to gain insight into daily functions and responsibilities of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. The goal is to provide familiarization of procedures, guidelines, responsibilities, demands, policies and laws that guide the decisions and behavior of our deputies.

In December 2024 the Community Relations graduated 16 participants in the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Academy. All participants learned a lot about how the Franklin County Sheriff's Office works. They have also been afforded the opportunity to join the Citizen's Academy Alumni Association and volunteer with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office as opportunities arise to do so.



Awards Banquet

In 2024, the Sheriff's Office acknowledged the exceptional achievements of this year's award winners. These individuals embody the core values and mission of the Sheriff's Office, which is founded on principles of strong leadership, integrity, and forward-thinking. This year's award recipients exemplify these qualities and have made significant contributions to the success of the Sheriff's Office.

Deputy of the Year

Deputy Joshua Walters

Supervisor of the Year

Sergeant Joe Satterfield

Civilian of the Year

Donnie Lanier

Life Saving Award

Deputy William Ball
Deputy Ryley Mullins
Deputy Collin Cruikshank
Deputy Kevin Phillips
Deputy Samuel Kennedy
Deputy Robert Tischler
Deputy Heather Riley
Deputy Tayler Vice
Deputy Kent Romine
Deputy Michael Zerrien
Deputy Scott Sorrell
Deputy Jake Siford
Deputy Nathan Chalfant
Deputy Vincent DeRose
Deputy Damon Viers
Deputy Alan McMannis
Deputy Corbin Wood
Deputy Donald Snell
Deputy Thomas Williams
Deputy Ricardo Mejia
Deputy Zach Gutshall
Deputy Jeremy Copas
Sergeant Charles Hamilton
Officer Matt Kidwell (Franklin Township Police Department)



Civilian Life Saving Award

Cassidy Smith
Jennifer Haines

Medal of Merit

Deputy Cameron Trott
Deputy Michael Arrieta
FSU Latisha Figg

Medal of Valor

Deputy Jon Dillon

Purple Heart:

Deputy Terry Brown

Leadership

Captain Tony Kolesar
Deputy Stephen Withrow
Trevor Ferrell



S.W.A.T



The Franklin County Sheriff's SWAT Unit operates under the authority of the Franklin County Sheriff and is under the direction of the Chief Deputy of the Support Services Division. The Sheriff has made this unit available to all jurisdictions within Franklin County and the State of Ohio under Homeland Security, in times of need. The SWAT unit is comprised of the following members: 1 lieutenant, 4 sergeants, 16 deputies, 1 medical team member, and a secretary. The Sheriff's Emergency Response Team (SERT) is attached to SWAT and consists of 8 deputies whose responsibilities include driving and maintaining all vehicles.

In 2024, our unit strengthened its partnership with the U.S. Marshals Service by granting all SWAT team members limited U.S. Marshal deputization. This collaboration continues to be advantageous for both the U.S. Marshals Office and the Sheriff's Office.

	2024	2023
Missions	217	160
Call Outs/ Barricades	7	11
Surveillance Hours	697	608
Dignitary Operations (POTUS Visit)	3	1
Probates Worked	201	424
Warrants Worked	572	516
Warrant Arrests	279	131
Training Hours	535	784
Training Outside Agencies Hours	80	40
Out of County Mutual Aid	9	13
K9 Training Hours	157	155



SWAT partnered with the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office on two occasions to apprehend wanted felons hiding in Franklin County. Additionally, the team assisted the Columbus Police on multiple occasions while they were recovering from an incident in which several officers were injured. The SWAT Mobile Command Center was deployed to Put-In-Bay for their annual Bash on the Bay concert at the request of the Ottawa County Sheriff's Office. Furthermore, the SWAT team hosted both Basic SWAT and Advanced SWAT training, providing valuable instruction to 30 deputies and officers from Franklin County and neighboring agencies.



Warrants and Extradition

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Warrants and Extraditions Unit is responsible for arresting suspects wanted on outstanding felony and misdemeanor warrants. The warrants are issued through the Franklin County Common Pleas Court, the Municipal Clerk of Courts, and the Victim Witness Assistance Unit. Additionally, the Warrants and Extraditions Unit handles warrant requests from law enforcement agencies nationwide.

The deputies assigned to this unit extradite prisoners from all over the United States and safely return them to Franklin County to ensure justice is served to those who commit crimes in Franklin County. The deputies are also responsible for assisting in extradition court hearings for those who have been arrested locally and have outstanding fugitive warrants.



	2024	2023
Total Arrests	381	298
In-State Pick ups	117	193
Probate Hearings	145	140
Probate Orders Served	86	61
Extraditions Hearings	130	93
Out of State Extraditions	144	127



Training Academy

The Training Academy is responsible for the training of all Franklin County Deputies and the Basic Training for newly recruited Cadets. The current rank structure of the Training Academy consists of (1) Captain (1) Lieutenant, (3) Sergeants, (8) full-time Instructors, and (2) Administrative Assistants. All full-time Instructors are certified through the Ohio Peace Officer Training Council. In addition to this, the Training Academy utilizes deputies in other divisions to be guest instructors for various topics. The Training Academy is located at 6347 Young Rd. Grove City, Ohio. The Academy grounds consist of a shooting range, main building, and search house.



	2024	2023
Classroom Instruction Hours	5,652	4,091
Skills Development Hours	1,216	788
Range Instruction Hours	2,473	1,857
Weapon Maintenance Hours	113	80
Lesson Planning Hours	1,492	1,555

- Corrections Basic Training Academy Class CBT 24-005 begin training January 30th and 38 cadets graduated April 4th.
- Corrections Basic Training Academy Class CBT 24-024 begin training April 23rd and 39 cadets graduated June 28th.
- Corrections Basic Training Academy Class CBT 24-044 begin training September 17th and 38 cadets graduated November 21st.
- Ohio Peace Officer Basic Training Academy Class began training July 1st and 16 deputies graduated December 6th and received their basic police certification.

Law enforcement is constantly evolving due to new techniques, new training methods, and new threats and challenges that we face daily. The training academy staff are committed to ensuring that we provide the most relevant, current training possible. We have sent several instructors to S.O.R.A.T. (Single Officer Response to Active Threat), Virtual Reality Training, and Red Dot instructor training to name a few. We are excited to be offering these trainings to staff in the future.

Several Instructors have served as judges for SkillsUSA. SkillsUSA is an organization that represents 413,000 career and technical education students and teachers throughout the US. Academy instructors serve as judges in the Law Enforcement skills competition rating the best high school students in Law Enforcement from career centers throughout the state. This is a great opportunity for the instructors to give back to the next generation of future law enforcement officers.

The Franklin County S.T.A.R. team members participated in numerous trainings throughout the year. Members participated in Joint Training with several partner agencies and continue to attend specialized training. Upon completion of the required OPOTA training, new basic police classes receive 80 hours of STAR team training. This hands-on training focuses on formations, movements, and various tactics providing a foundation that allows any deputy to assist the STAR team if needed.



The Bomb Squad's mission is to respond to all explosive or incendiary incidents including exploded bombs, unexploded bombs, suspicious packages, or recovered explosives found within the jurisdiction of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. The squad also provides bomb squad support to a variety of State and Federal agencies, including Dignitary Protection details. In addition to their operational activities, the squad provides training to various law enforcement agencies within the Central Ohio area on the topics of bomb scene safety and bomb searching, and explosive identification. The bomb squad also conducts public talks to civic groups and private industry on the same topics. The bomb squad is a fully equipped and Nationally Certified bomb squad. Equipment includes protective suits, X-ray equipment, package disrupters, and a remote control robot.



- 63 SWAT Assists
- 27 Bomb Runs
- 25 Public Relations Events
- 192 Activities (Protective Sweeps, Details)

Search Warrant Operation: The squad provided critical support during the execution of a search warrant involving suspected explosives. Leveraging our training and specialized knowledge, we safely managed the discovery of several suspicious items, ensuring a secure outcome.

Arnold Classic Collaboration: For another year, the FCSO Bomb Squad played an integral role in the success of the Arnold Classic, an internationally recognized event. Collaborating with various law enforcement agencies, the team worked tirelessly to provide a safe environment for athletes, attendees, and visitors.

Dayton Search Warrant: The squad assisted multiple federal, state, and local agencies during the execution of a high-risk search warrant in the Dayton area. Our seamless collaboration ensured a safe and secure resolution.

Ross County Emergency Response: When an improvised piece of old military ordnance was discovered, the squad responded swiftly, neutralizing the device and eliminating the risk to the community.

Marion County Dynamite Incident: The team addressed a critical situation at an agricultural facility involving a significant quantity of dynamite. Using specialized tools and expertise, the squad successfully mitigated a potentially dangerous scenario.

VIP and Election Support: In collaboration with federal and local partners, the squad provided essential manpower, equipment, and expertise during multiple high-profile VIP visits. Additionally, we played a pivotal role in ensuring a safe and productive election season.

Throughout 2024, the FCSO Bomb Squad upheld its mission to protect the community, safeguard critical events, and support partner agencies. Our accomplishments reflect the dedication, training, and professionalism of our team, who remain ready to respond whenever and wherever needed.



Dive Team

The Dive Team's mission is to respond with trained personnel and specialized equipment to the scene of a water-related incident for the purpose of saving human life, provide underwater recovery of drowning victims or vehicle accident victims in the water, and to provide assistance to the Detective Bureau in the recovery of property to be processed as evidence in a criminal investigation. In addition, the team is available to assist outside agencies upon request.

All members are Deputy Sheriffs who are certified scuba divers and have received additional hours of underwater search and recovery training and other specialized training. Members train twice a month in various bodies of water in and out of Franklin County. Divers become accustomed to diving in "minimal to zero visibility" water with underwater hazards and unusual bottom terrain. Safety is constantly stressed and practiced.

- 12 Missions
- 3 Vehicle Recoveries
- 1 Body Recovery
- 7 Other Agency Requests
- 24 Public Relation Events

The Dive Team was requested to assist in creating a perimeter to prevent members of the general public from crossing into the fall out zone during and after the firework presentation. Dive Team members were asked to patrol the Scioto River and respond to calls for service when requested. Deputies did locate a subject that was unresponsive near the shore and requested medics to the scene.



The team participated in our annual Watermanship Test which consists of five different events including: a 500 yard swim, an 800 yard swim where the team member can only use their legs for propulsion, treading water for 15 minutes, retrieving a weight from the bottom of the pool and dragging an "unconscious" diver 100 yards.

The Dive Team conducted a series of training exercises throughout the year, including entangled diver procedures, downed diver rescues, and sonar searches. Divers practiced operating boats and identifying targets through underwater scenarios. The team also conducted a search for a missing weapon in Big Darby Creek after a hunter's kayak capsized, resulting in a shotgun being swept away by strong currents from recent heavy rains.



Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office UAS (Unmanned Aircraft Systems) Unit supports the Franklin County Sheriff's Office and other public safety partners by providing a safe and efficient aerial observation perspective. Each member of our team holds 'Remote Pilot' certification through the Federal Aviation Administration and participates in ongoing training each month. Flying safely while respecting the law and privacy of the citizens we serve is a top priority for the UAS Unit during each mission.



- The UAS Team was requested by CPD to provide a livestream of protests occurring downtown at the Ohio Statehouse and assist with overwatch.
- Overwatch was provided to FCSO Patrol in an operation to clear out the Galloway Village Apartments.
- A livestream and overwatch were provided to the EOC to assist with a high-profile trial at the Franklin County Common Pleas Courthouse.
- The team assisted with multiple barricades and high-risk search warrants where multiple suspects were found hiding in buildings. One of these high-risk warrants ended with the recovery of explosive material found in the home while assisting Reynoldsburg PD.
- The UAS team continued participating in a UAS workgroup hosted by Homeland Security where multiple agencies meet to stay updated on UAS legislation, current events, and technology advancements.
- The UAS instructed two 8-hour courses on Tactical Applications of UAS in Law Enforcement at the Ohio Tactical Officers Association Annual Conference in Sandusky, Ohio.
- The team assisted CPD with Operation Burnout throughout the summer providing livestreaming, photos, and videos for evidence. The drone was vital in the assistance of apprehending one suspect out of a pursuit during the operation.
- The UAS team was requested 72 times to assist the Columbus Division of Police. Most of these missions were for CPD SWAT and the CPD Detective Bureau to assist with barricades and investigations.
- The UAS team was requested once again this year to assist Obetz PD with the Zucchini Fest and Bash on the Bay for Ottawa County Sheriff's Office. Livestreams and overwatch were provided for both events and the team was able to assist with multiple incidents throughout the events.

	2024	2023
Other Division Assists	147	96
Suspect Searches	109	42
Apprehensions Made	14	14
Crime Scene Mapping	5	5
Barricades	18	7
Other LE Agency Assists	110	73
Missions	343	222
Overwatch/ Intelligence	34	21



Chaplain Unit



The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Chaplain Unit serves as a pastoral and spiritual resource to the Sheriff and to the various divisions and units within the Office. The unit is non-denominational in nature and is not meant to proselytize for a particular religious tradition, denomination, or congregation. The unit is available upon request to assist members of the office in the performance of their duties and any other needs. The unit's assistance is also available to families of those associated with the office.

Chaplain's practice what is called a "ministry of presence." This type of ministry is dependent on trust that is built over time by being present and available and building relationships. Our chaplains have been working hard behind the scenes, building relationships, and reaching out to Franklin County Sheriff's Office employees in need or distress. Franklin County Sheriff's Office chaplains desire to be there when our people are in need. We want our staff and deputies to think of us when there is a need as we consider it a great honor to serve alongside them.

Tuscarawas Valley School representatives stopped by to give the sheriff and our dedicated chaplains an appreciation plaque for their unwavering support and compassion during and after a deadly bus accident in Licking County. While the gesture is kind, our law enforcement officers are always there to support the community regardless of recognition



Training

- Internal - 174 hours
- External - 355 hours

Contacts Made (Calls, Texts, Emails, Cards)

- 795 separate contacts
- 483.5 hours making them

Divisional Rounds

- 203 separate visits
- 519 hours spent

Call Outs

- 33 total call out responses
- 86.5 hours spent

Death Notifications

- 14

In 2024, the Unit expanded training to include fire chaplains, recognizing the important role they play alongside fire and law enforcement during incidents. The training focused on networking, resource sharing, and best practices to support first responders and their families. Topics covered included resources like books, websites, retreats, and items like stuffed animals for children, addressing issues such as PTSD, trauma, suicide, grief, marital strain, and hypervigilance, as well as support for civilians impacted by traumatic events.

These initiatives provided valuable insights into the diverse challenges chaplains face, from solo practitioners in small towns to those serving in large cities. While standards for chaplain roles vary statewide and nationally, these gatherings have helped elevate our collective standards, strengthen relationships, and enhance the care we provide to those we serve.



Mounted Unit

Sheriff's Deputies involved with the Mounted Unit are responsible for the boarding, feeding, and overall care of the Mounted Horses. They can be seen working crowd control during special events or leading the way for a big parade.



The Mounted Unit worked a total of 47 events in 2024



OPOTA Memorial
Eastland career day
Asian Fest
Prairie Township Touch a Truck
New recruit training with CPD
Pride Fest
Comfest
Red White and Boom
Worthington Hills 4th Parade
Franklin County Fair
Ohio State Fair
All Horse Parade
Minerva Park Police National Night Out
Hamilton Twp Fire Department Touch a Truck
Italian Fest Parade
Mater Academy Preparatory Touch a Truck
Hilliard Vets Day Parade
OSU Games
Lockbourne Christmas Hop
Pictures With Santa
Winter Extravaganza



Peer Assistance Team (PAT)

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Peer Assistance Team is trained in critical incident stress management techniques. This is a systematic way of dealing with acute stress of traumatic events or cumulative stress from many traumatic exposures. They talk with deputies and hold critical incident debriefs. Each division within the Sheriff's Office has its own PAT team.



Peer to Peer- 1,252
Small Briefing- 28
Large Briefings- 3
Critical Incidents - 3
Liaison Functions- 12
Other Division Assists- 6
Special Events - 3



This year, the Peer Support Team kicked off the season with a successful annual egg hunt at the academy, attracting over 2,300 participants. The event featured fun prizes, family photos with the Easter Bunny, and treats from the Hogs N Hunnies food truck.

The team also played an active role in the second annual Phoenix Project, a local initiative aimed at raising mental health awareness in the first responder community, drawing over 800 participants. Their involvement reinforced their commitment to mental health advocacy.

The Peer Support Team strengthened partnerships with the EAP and benefits office, launched a new collaboration with the Metro Park Adventure Division, and deepened ties with Ohio State University's Human Performance program. This partnership recently aided a deputy's quick recovery after a concussion.

Additionally, the team supported the inaugural First Responders Ball organized by the Forester Foundation and continued their work with the First Responders' Bridge, offering a free seminar focused on personal growth and healthy relationships.

The annual Trunk or Treat event saw over 300 employees and their families enjoy new activities, including a haunted house and unique photo backdrops. The event featured candy, a costume contest, a pumpkin patch, and a food truck, creating lasting memories. Following that, the Winter Extravaganza welcomed over 400 guests who enjoyed visits from Santa and the Grinch, craft-making, zoo animals, and the popular Patty Wagon food truck.

Reflecting on the year, the Peer Support Team celebrated their successes and identified areas for growth. They welcomed new Peers to the team and committed to supporting them through mentorship. While facing challenges, including health struggles and losses within the department, the team honored those sacrifices. Peer Support continued to grow, gaining wider acceptance and enabling the team to provide increased support for individuals in maintaining healthy, balanced careers.



Hostage Negotiators Team (HNT)

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Hostage Negotiation Team operates under the authority of the Franklin County Sheriff and is under the direction of the Chief Deputy of Support Services. The Hostage Negotiation Team is available to all law enforcement agencies within Franklin County and has also responded to the adjacent counties as well. The Hostage Negotiation Team responds to various crisis and critical situations and works together with SWAT. The Hostage Negotiation Team is actually comprised of two separate teams with each team consisting of 6 negotiators and a team leader.

Hostage Negotiation has been described as being one of law enforcement's most effective tools. Each team member has a specific role and each role is interdependent upon another. Each negotiator must be compassionate, maintain superb interpersonal skills, be able to function in a cohesive group, and deal well with stressful situations.



In 2024, the FCSO HNT held a multi-agency training involving the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Ohio State University Police Department (OSU PD), Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO), and civilian role players. During the training, each team participated in 3 different scenarios that tested their active listening and negotiation skills. A large group debrief was conducted following the training to discuss the positives and what could be done in the future to make the training better.



IN MEM



Corporal Joseph Clark
Deputy Sheriff (Retired)
March 4, 2024



Joseph VanSkoy
Facility Security Officer
June 9, 2024



Chief Robert Taylor
Deputy Sheriff (Retired)
June 14, 2024

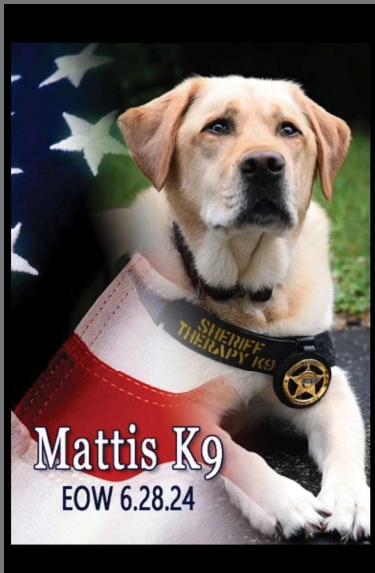


Corporal Jerry Jodrey
Deputy Sheriff (Retired)
September 8, 2024

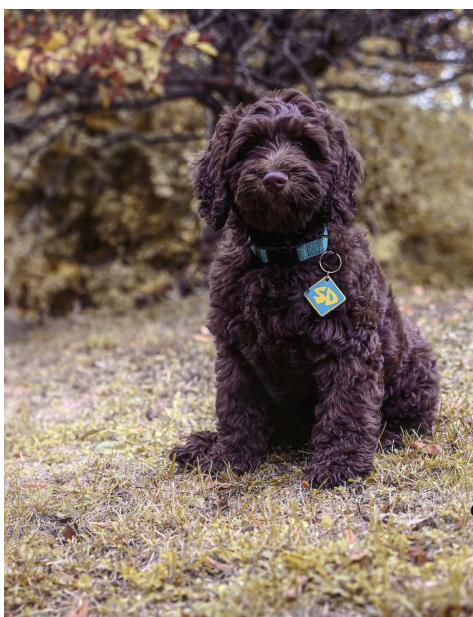


ORY OF...

TK9 Mattis was the first law enforcement Therapy K9 in the State of Ohio. Mattis provided unwavering support and comfort to countless individuals within our community. His gentle demeanor and steadfast dedication made a significant impact on the lives of those he served and changed the face of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. Mattis also served as an inspiration to other law enforcement agencies across the United States and Canada. Mattis worked tirelessly to bring comfort to victims of crime, first responders and members of the community. TK9 Mattis worked over 3700 hours, had over 1200 deployments, trained over 700 hours, worked over 400 events, and assisted in court cases resulting in over 50 convictions. TK9 Mattis leaves a lasting legacy and will be deeply missed and never forgotten.







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Investigations
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