

Tioga County Sheriff's Office



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Sheriff's Office 2024 Annual Legislative Summary Report

Accomplishments:

- The Dispatch Division had 3 E-911 workstations replaced, including the addition of a fourth workstation, new computers, monitors and furniture. These new setups allow the dispatchers to efficiently and effectively distribute the enormous amount of data and calls that are received daily.
- The Sheriff's Office fully enacted its new drone program. The drone is able work in concert with our Trimble 3D mapping system and has been used at the scenes of serious motor vehicle crashes as well as on crime scenes.
- Both the Corrections and Road Patrol Divisions participated in training at 4 separate academies. Our certified Deputies and Corrections Officers helped to train more than 100 new police and peace officers as they enter the field of law enforcement.

- E-911 Communications Center:
 - Two Dispatchers received training and were certified as Tactical Dispatchers. These dispatchers are specially trained to dispatch during high priority, high stress, and large-scale incidents.
 - Dispatch received 2,500 more non-emergency calls as well as 1,200 more 911 calls over last year.

- Records Division:
 - The Pistol Permit Section of the Records Division completed over 1,193 pistol permit related transactions.
 - The Records Division completed 1,538 Freedom of Information Requests.

- Grants
 - Applied for the 2023-2024 PSAP grant that provided \$109,805.00 used to offset a portion of the E-911 dispatcher salaries.
 - The Governors Traffic Safety Committee awarded a Patrol Traffic Services grant of \$12,540 for traffic enforcement details.

- Road Patrol:
 - The Road Patrol Division had Deputies obtain certifications in Defensive Tactics, Reality Based Training, and Taser. Additionally, one Deputy was certified in the updated Firearms instructor curriculum.
 - In two separate drug take back events the Sheriff's Office took possession of 376lbs of unwanted prescription and non-prescription drugs for destruction.
 - Two Deputies completed the basic police academy, which was held in Corning NY.
 - Members completed annual in-service training to include department policy and procedure, Taser, firearms, and stop sticks.

- Corrections Division:
 - 14 applicants were hired and enrolled in the Corrections field training program with eleven successful completions.
 - Members completed annual in-service training to maintain compliance with DCJS mandated requirements and compliance with the division's accreditation standards. Emphasis was placed on Officer Safety to promote a healthy environment for staff. Additional training included Basic Corrections Academy, Suicide Prevention Instructor certification and First-Aid/CPR Instructor certification.
 - The Jail Division has obtained re-accreditation through the NYSSA. The Jail has maintained its accreditation since 1998.
 - NYS Commission of Corrections MAT/MOUD and Medical Services evaluations have been completed to ensure the facility meets required state laws and Minimum Standards.
 - 330 Centralized Arraignment Part court (CAP) arraignments were completed.
 - 487 Inmates were processed through intake, with a daily average Jail population of 46.

- Criminal Investigation Division:
 - In compliance with New York State's recent discovery compliance laws, the Sheriff's Office provided all required material to the District Attorney's Office for 319 Sheriff's Office cases. Discovery material was also provided to other local police agencies and New York State Police for their compliance in 118 cases.
 - In 2024, CID investigated five separate arson fires where residences in Tioga County were either burned completely or attempts were made by someone to burn them. Two of the cases have been solved with arson 3rd degree arrests made on three total defendants. Three of the cases are still actively being investigated.
 - In September, CID led a major motor vehicle crash investigation in the Town of Nichols involving a passenger car and a motorcycle, which resulted in the death of the motorcycle's operator and severe injuries to the motorcycle's passenger. The investigation resulted in the arrest of a person for aggravated vehicular homicide, aggravated vehicular assault, felony driving while intoxicated and numerous traffic misdemeanors and violations.
 - In October, CID partnered with Pennsylvania State Police in Towanda regarding numerous burglaries which had recently occurred in both Tioga County, NY and Bradford County, PA. The joint investigation resulted in the execution of a search warrant on a property in the Town of Nichols where numerous items of stolen property from multiple jurisdictions were located, as well as the recovery of approximately one pound of crystal methamphetamine. Four defendants were charged with felonies for possession of a controlled substance and possession of stolen property in New York, and they also were charged by Pennsylvania State Police for burglary.

- Civil Division:
 - Processed \$530,669 in Civil monies and \$117,801 in Bail monies/fines.
 - The number of evictions processed in 2024 was 96; 44 of which were enforced.
 - The Civil Division took in 882 processes with revenue from them totaling \$64,562
 - Civil Manager Kimberly Lombardoni conducted accreditation audits and assessments in the Civil Divisions of Broome, Chenango, Genesee, Jefferson, Livingston and Onondaga Counties and was an instructor for the following New York State Sheriff's Association Civil schools: Basic I, Basic II, Annual Refresher and Civil School for new Sheriffs.

Challenges

- Because of the lack of participation in the work force, all divisions were affected by the lower number of qualified candidates applying for or testing for positions at the Sheriff's Office.
- New York State's Bail reform laws continue to challenge law enforcement. Specifically, the Sheriff's Office is affected as offenders are released on most cases with bail being an infrequent option. We are seeing an uptick in repeat burglary, petit larceny, and property crime offenses.

Goals for 2024

- Continue recruitment processes to obtain more applicants department-wide.
- Reduce overtime by achieving appropriate staffing levels.
- Complete construction on garage for patrol cars.
- Increase opportunities to fund projects through grant writing process.