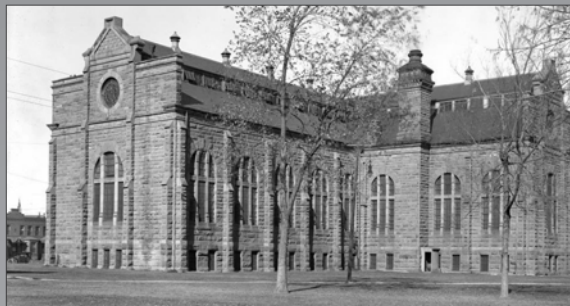


SERVING WITH INTEGRITY

ARAPAHOE SHERIFF

SINCE 1858



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Celebrating 165 Years

1858 – 2023



IN MEMORIAM



Deputy
Kraig
Conger

End of Watch:
Dec. 28, 2022

On December 28, 2022, we lost one of our own. Deputy Kraig Conger died after suffering a fatal heart attack while on duty. He was 51 years old.

Deputy Conger worked at the Sheriff's Office for 22 years. He began his career at the Arapahoe County Detention Facility in 2000. In 2003, he was awarded the Life Saving Medal. In 2008, he was assigned to the Detention Services Bureau's newly created ADMIT program where he worked until his death. In 2017, he was awarded the Russ Oberlin Respect for Law Award by the Littleton Optimist Club for his commitment to his community and his service with ACSO. While Conger worked a variety of positions, the one he truly made a difference in is the Arapahoe Diverts Mentally Ill to Treatment (ADMIT) program. He helped make the program a success for those who were part of it. He also devoted his time to mentoring the youth in his community and coaching them in football, basketball, and baseball.

Deputy Conger was passionate about his job. His continued service, both as a professional law enforcement officer and as a community volunteer, highlights the value he brought to our area. There is no doubt he had a significant impact in this community and in his profession.

Deputy Conger will be memorialized on the ACSO Fallen Deputy Memorial and Garden on June 2, 2023.



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Jail sign, circa 1934

Exterior sign at the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office at 5686 South Court Place, directly adjacent to the historic County Courthouse (Littleton Municipal Courthouse today).

More artifacts from the history of the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office are found throughout this report.

On the Cover

Top row: Sheriff Charles Foster and deputies in 1954. These were the first uniforms and marked cars for patrol; 1976 Pontiac LeMans Patrol Car; Dispatchers in the early 1980s

Middle Row: Mounted Horse Posse in 1961. Standing in the center is Undersheriff Lee Elling

Bottom Row: Arapahoe County Sheriff David J. Cook (front row, sitting on floor) poses with deputies in 1870; Arapahoe County Jail, Denver 1891. Known as The Gibraltar and Brownstone Hotel it was located on W. Colfax Ave. and Santa Fe Dr. At that time it was thought to be the finest and best equipped correctional facility in the U.S.; First recorded Arapahoe County Sheriff E. W. Wynkoop

TYLER S. BROWN

ARAPAHOE COUNTY SHERIFF



This year, the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office is celebrating 165 years. Established in September of 1858 with the appointment of the first Sheriff, E. W. Wynkoop, it is the oldest law enforcement agency in the State of Colorado. I'm proud to serve as the 42nd Sheriff of this great agency.

Two thousand twenty-two was a very successful year for the Sheriff's Office and our community. Our accomplishments included the launch of the ACSO Training Academy, our first, modern in-house police academy. We also added two new school therapy dogs: K-9 Riley, who is working in the Cherry Creek School District as its first ever SRO therapy dog and K-9 Zeke, who is working in the Littleton School District as its second therapy dog, along with K-9 Rex.

We held our first RexRun event, named for K-9 Rex, which raised \$33,000 for Back the Blue K-9 Force and will be an annual event going forward. The agency received four new K-9s which are apprehension and narcotics detection dogs. Our Chaplain Unit expanded to nine chaplains which include both deputies and civilians. "Talk with Tyler" launched on Facebook Live, which succeeded in answering questions from the community. In November, our Sniper Unit became nationally certified by the American Sniper Association.

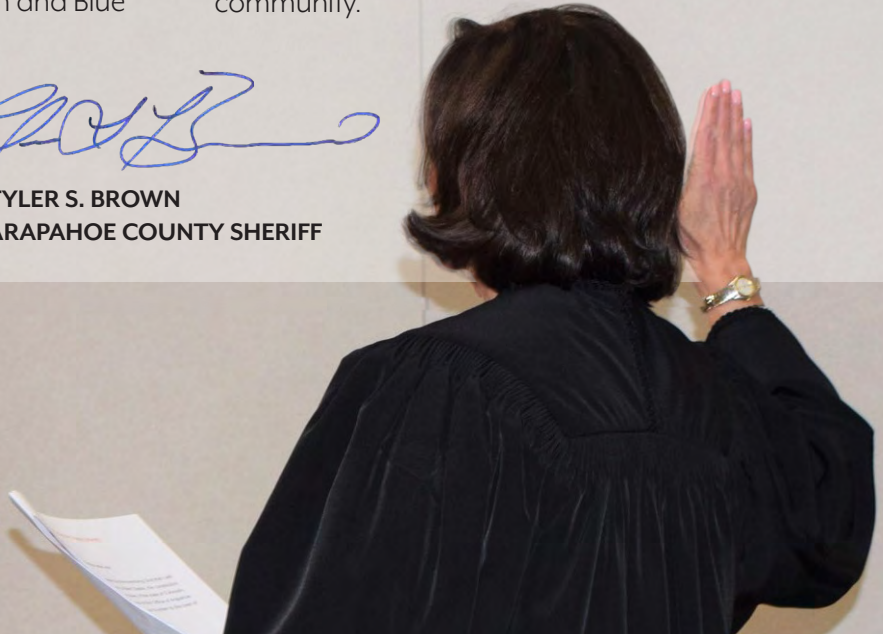
The ASCO also focused on expanding our community events. We held our first Faith and Blue



community forum, "Stronger Together," during National Faith and Blue Weekend. The Sheriff's Office also partnered with the Coroner's Office for our annual Open House and Free Pancake Breakfast, which drew the largest number of attendees to date – more than 2,000 people.

We look forward to even more community partnerships in the coming year and the ability to provide professional law enforcement services to our growing community.

TYLER S. BROWN
ARAPAHOE COUNTY SHERIFF





The Undersheriff is an executive management position and is second in command. He reports directly to the Sheriff and is responsible for the administration of the three bureaus within the Sheriff's Office.

Undersheriff Mark Nicastle



MISSION

We are committed to quality service with an emphasis on integrity, professionalism, and community spirit.

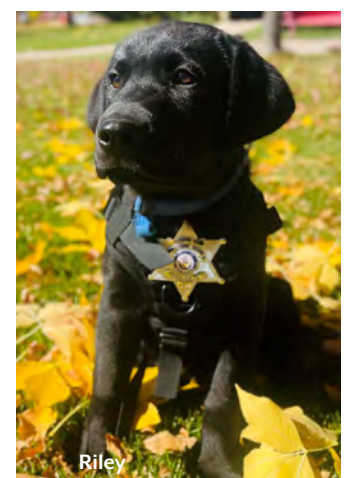
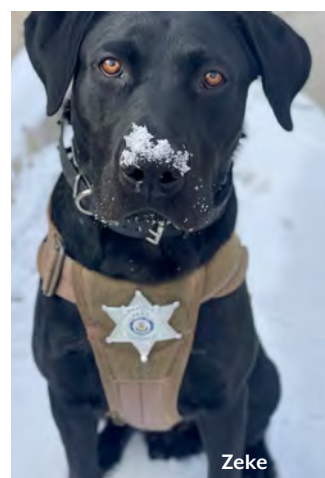
VISION

We respect the rights and individuality of all people. We are committed to personal and organizational integrity. We are committed to providing quality service in partnership with our community.



2022 HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ A new police academy was launched called the ACSO Training Academy
- ▶ We provided the Cherry Creek School District with its first school therapy dog, Riley
- ▶ We provided the Littleton School District with its second therapy dog, Zeke
- ▶ We held our inaugural Faith & Blue event for National Faith & Blue Weekend
- ▶ We held our inaugural RexRun and raised \$33,000 for Back the Blue K9 Force
- ▶ We received four, new apprehension and narcotics detection K-9s.
- ▶ The Chaplain Unit expanded to nine people, both deputies and civilians
- ▶ The Sniper Unit became nationally certified by the American Sniper Association





Sniper Unit



RexRun

Calls for Service in 2022

Centennial

46,940

Unincorporated Arapahoe County

47,790

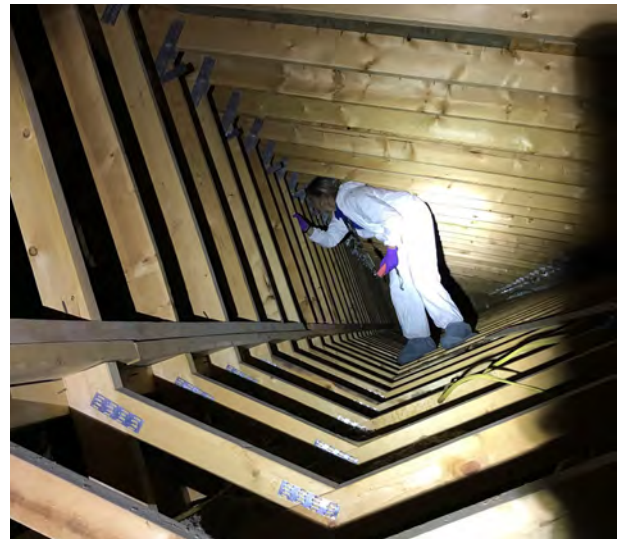
Average emergency
response time for
Centennial



Sheriff Brown, far left, and new members of the Chaplain Unit

PUBLIC SAFETY BUREAU

In 2022, the Public Safety Bureau was commanded by **Chief Glenn Thompson**. This bureau includes Investigations, Patrol Operations, Patrol Special Operations, and the Office of Emergency Management.



Evidence

The Evidence Unit stores approximately 60,000 items of evidence in a secure warehouse located at the Sheriff's Office headquarters. Items stored include money, firearms, jewelry and drugs. To maintain a successful evidence room, we conduct regular reviews and audits. The collection, storage and chain of custody of evidence is extremely important in the prosecution or dismissal of a criminal case.

Crime Scene Investigation

The Crime Scene Investigation Unit (CSI) is responsible for responding to crime scenes to document, identify, collect and preserve evidence. The staff is trained in crime scene photography, latent fingerprint processing, footwear documentation, trace evidence identification, alternative light sources, death investigation, bloodstain pattern analysis, shooting and crime scene reconstruction.



Sketch artist tools
Circa 1970s

INVESTIGATIONS

Investigation Services is managed by **Captain Travis Stewart**. The goal of Investigation Services is to identify suspects, apprehend criminals, collect, process and store evidence, and provide comprehensive victim services. Investigators are also assigned to regional, state and federal task forces that combat terrorism, illegal use of drugs, auto theft and fugitives.



2022 CRIME STATS

**Centennial / Unincorporated
Arapahoe County**

Homicide

1 / 2

Kidnapping/Abduction

19 / 46

Robbery

31 / 36

Sexual Assault

22 / 29

Aggravated Assault

133 / 264

Motor Vehicle Theft

566 / 847

Digital Evidence

Digital Evidence Technicians are responsible for reviewing digital requests from the news media, District Attorney's Office or public records requests. This includes body worn camera footage, crime scene photos and 911 calls. In 2022, we had 600 body worn cameras in use.

Crime Lab

In 2022, the Unified Forensic Lab released 3,667 cases to their home agencies, 718 of those for the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office.

Victim Assistance

The Victim Assistance Program works with victims, witnesses, or other citizens who have experienced a traumatic event. In 2022, Victim Assistance worked with 2,448 victims of crime and served 1,879 citizens in criminal and non-criminal incidents. Victim Advocates are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

Cold Cases

The Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office Cold Case Unit works on unsolved homicides, suspicious deaths and unexplained missing persons cases, many of which are decades old.

Special Investigation Unit

This unit is responsible for investigating pattern crimes, high-profile crimes and narcotics.

18th Judicial District Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT)

The CIRT Team is a multi-agency team which investigates officer-involved shootings. The team provides an independent, transparent, and unbiased investigation into the use of fatal or near-fatal incidents.



Shoulder patch

*Used with
maroon-trimmed
uniform, 1975-1979*

PATROL OPERATIONS

In 2022, Patrol Operations was led by **Captain Laurie Halaba**. Patrol deputies provide law enforcement to residents in Arapahoe County's eight precincts or police districts. Patrol lieutenants or area commanders are responsible for each precinct.



Behavioral Health

In 2022, the Behavioral Health Response Team responded to 2,400 mental health calls. Also known as co-responders, these licensed mental health clinicians assist deputies on calls where individuals are emotionally overwhelmed with daily activities or unexpected events. Deputies can decide, along with co-responders, whether to divert an individual directly to a mental health treatment facility.

Field Training Officers

A Field Training Officer is a senior deputy responsible for training newly hired deputies.



Community Service Specialists

The ACSO has three civilian employees who respond to routine calls for service where a deputy is not required, such as abandoned vehicles, recovered auto thefts or graffiti. They do not carry weapons and do not respond to in-progress crimes.

PATROL SPECIAL OPERATIONS

Patrol Special Operations is led by **Captain Ken McKlem**. His unit includes the SWAT Team, Special Response Team, Sniper Unit, Bomb Squad, K-9 Unit, Mounted Unit, Negotiations Team, Unmanned Aerial Systems Team (Drone Unit), Traffic Unit, School Resource Officers, Bike Unit, Community Resource Unit, Explorer Program and the Office of Emergency Management.



Bomb Squad

In 2022, the Bomb Squad was utilized for **54 incidents**



SWAT

In 2022, the SWAT Team was utilized for **72 incidents**

Special Response Team

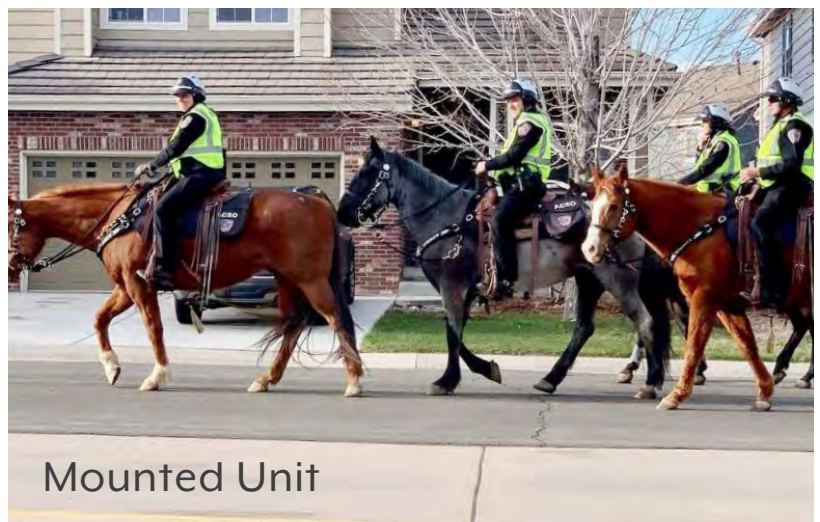
The Special Response Team is a full-time unit comprised of SWAT and Bomb Squad members who deploy to high-risk situations.



K-9 Unit



Traffic Unit



Mounted Unit



School Resource Officers



Community Resource Unit



Unmanned Aerial Systems Team (Drone Unit)

In 2022 the Drone Team was utilized for **64 incidents**



Explorer Program

The Explorer program is an educational, volunteer program for high school and young adults, ages 14-21, with an interest in law enforcement.



Negotiations Team



Citizen & Youth Academies

The Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office Citizens Academy and Youth Academy provide a behind-the-scenes look at the Sheriff's Office. There is no cost to attend.



Bike Unit



OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Arapahoe County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is overseen by **Sheriff Tyler Brown**, who serves as the county's emergency management director and fire warden. OEM is a central command facility for emergency preparedness and management for natural or man-made disasters, disease outbreaks and other public health emergencies. The OEM manages and directs four special teams: Wildland Fire, Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Response, Winter Operations and Search and Rescue.

Wildland Fire Team

The Wildland Fire Team is responsible for controlling and extinguishing fires on private and state land in Arapahoe County, as well as unincorporated areas not covered by other firefighting agencies. The team also fights larger, complex fires throughout the state. In 2022, the Wildland Fire Team responded to 6 fires, both local and statewide.



Hazardous Materials Response Team

The HazMat Team is called upon to assist local fire departments on large incidents where there is a criminal element suspected.

Winter Operations Team

This team is activated during severe weather events to rescue stranded motorists from rural roadways in the eastern portion of Arapahoe County. It also responds to 9-1-1 calls for service where deputies in their patrol cars are unable to access.

Arapahoe Rescue Patrol

The Sheriff's Office in partnership with the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol, performs searches for lost individuals participating in the Colorado Life Trak program.



Celebrating 165 Years

The story of how the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office was formed began on August 25, 1855, when Kansas Territorial Governor, Dan Woodson, created Arapahoe County. The Governor was directed to appoint a sheriff, treasurer, and surveyor. It is unknown if the Governor ever filled those positions at the time or if they were just lost to history, but in 1858, the first recorded sheriff was **E. W. Wynkoop** (Arapahoe County, Kansas Territory), whom Governor Woodson appointed. Wynkoop held the title of sheriff in the fall of 1858 through the spring of 1859 and then in 1860 and 1861. Wynkoop had a reputation as a "badman from Kansas who wore buckskin breeches and carried a bowie knife and revolver in his belt." Wynkoop allegedly would "never start a fight – but never walk away from one either."

First recorded
Arapahoe County
Sheriff E. W. Wynkoop



Arapahoe County Sheriff David J. Cook and Deputy Frank Smith pursue John W. Johnson and Ike Clodfelter, suspects in the shooting of Deputy Charley Wilcox, 1874.



Former Arapahoe County Sheriff David J. Cook

Another notable sheriff of Arapahoe County was Sheriff **David J. Cook**, who originally moved to Colorado with his brother at the age of 19 to search for gold. Following a three-year stint as the City Marshall of Denver,

he served two terms as sheriff for Arapahoe County: the first from 1869-1873, and the second from 1875-1880. The Rocky Mountain News summed up the results of his second term as follows: "Money and property worth \$80,000 was recovered and transferred to the lawful owners. Four gangs of railroad thieves were effectively broken up in different parts of the state, and riots were prevented on several occasions. Three apprehended criminals were hanged after transfer to the local authorities: Robert Shamle in Georgetown, and Woodruff and Seminole in Golden."

The first African American Deputy Sheriff in the State of Colorado was **Henry Oscar Wagoner**. Born on February 27, 1816, in Maryland, he had been involved in the anti-slavery movement and the Underground Railroad. He had worked as a teacher, mill operator, barber, and restaurant cook before working for Frederick Douglass' New York-based abolitionist newspaper as a correspondent.

Continued on next page



Arapahoe County Sheriff Burchinell and deputies, 1893



New Arapahoe County Jail and Sheriff's headquarters, 1934



1910



1890-1902

1954-2016



Keys and cell lock
Circa 1800s



Sheriff Charles Foster and his deputies

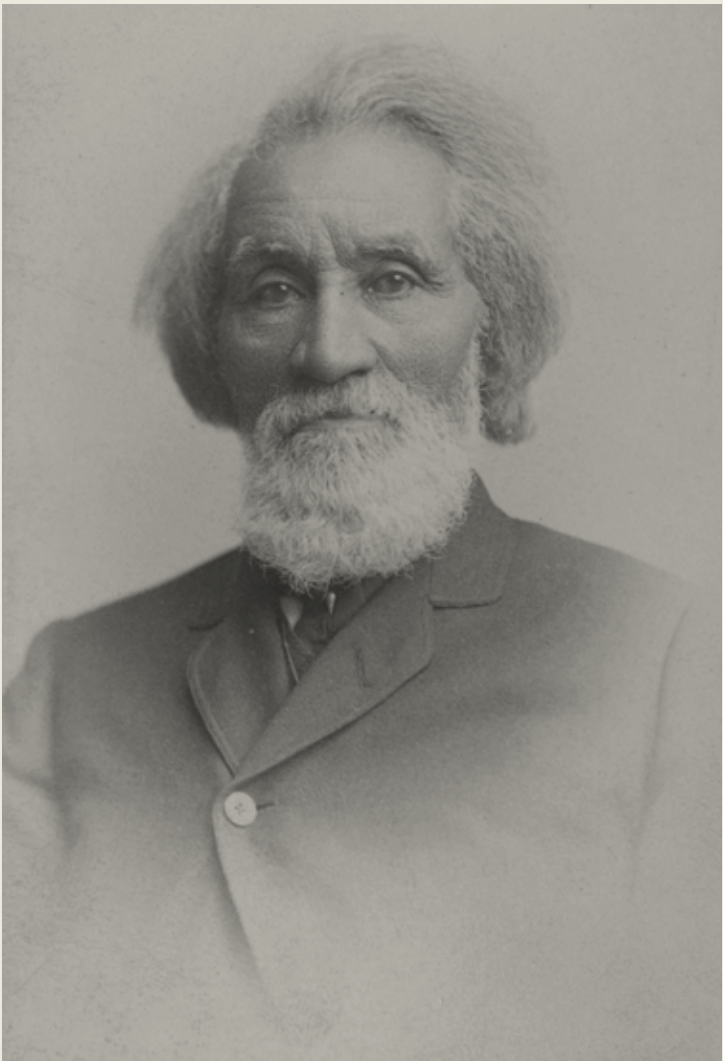
Following the Civil War Henry came to Colorado, where he owned and operated various restaurants and barbershops, when, in 1880, Henry was sworn in as an Arapahoe County Deputy by Sheriff Michael Spangler. Henry was the first African American law enforcement officer in ACSO history and the first reported in the State of Colorado.

In 1902 the City of Denver voted to become the City and County of Denver. This caused the split into the City and County of Denver, Adams County, and the new “south Arapahoe County.” The Sheriff’s Office was on the move to find a new home. The state decided on the town of Littleton to be the

new county seat. In 1908, the State Legislature dropped the “South” from the name due to lack of use.

From 1943 to 1963, **Charles “Chick” Foster** was the sheriff. Sheriff Foster grew the sheriff’s office from a staff of three to 41, and created a 30-man posse. He was the first to put police decals on the cars and uniforms of the deputies.

You can find more information about the history of the Sheriff’s Office on our website www.arapahoesherriff.org.



Arapahoe County Sheriff Deputy Henry Oscar Wagoner, 1897



Arapahoe County Courthouse, Sheriff's Office, and jail, built in 1907



Computer records, circa 1980s



Arapahoe County Sheriff Office cadets, 1974

DETENTION BUREAU

The Detention Bureau is commanded by **Chief Jared Rowlison**. The detention facility is staffed around the clock by deputies, civilians, and medical personnel. The bureau is responsible for housing inmates, transporting inmates to court and other facilities, and ensuring the security of county courthouses.



2022 HIGHLIGHTS:

- ▶ Body worn cameras were deployed to all detention deputies
- ▶ Narcan was provided to all detention deputies
- ▶ The medical and behavioral health unit of the jail received approval to expand
- ▶ New domestic violence classes were added for female inmates
- ▶ Trained and deployed 25 new volunteers for a total of 61 volunteers

Jail Numbers



Total Bookings:

11,768 (up 46% from 2021)



Average Daily Population:

819 (up 17%)



Average Length of Stay:

26 days (down 22%)



Releases:

11,654 (up 43%)



Vehicle Transports:

1,698 (up 35%)

Average Daily Population

2020 **730**

2021 **701**

2022 **819**
(up 15.5% from 2021)



Assaults

Inmate to Inmate:

75 (up 97% from 2021)

Inmate to Staff:

19 (up 27% from 2021)



Handcuffs
Circa 1800s

DETENTION ADMINISTRATION

Detention Administration is headed by **Captain Scott Luedtke**. He oversees the alternative sentencing program, court services, extraditions, inmate services, the chaplain, commissary, food services, maintenance, jail programs and medical services.



Court Services

Court deputies are responsible for providing security to the courthouse. They arrest individuals remanded by the court, enforce judicial orders, protect court staff, the public and jurors. They escort inmates to court appearances and transport them to other facilities throughout the state. The extradition team travels around the country to pick up Arapahoe County inmates with outstanding warrants.

RISE Program

The RISE Program (Restoring Individuals Safely and Effectively) is a jail-based competency restoration program for patients who are waiting for their initial competency evaluation or have been declared incompetent to proceed (ITP) by the State Courts.

Alternative Sentencing Program

Arapahoe Diverts the Mentally Ill to Treatment (ADMIT): 18 (up 38%)

Work Release: 251 (up 59%)

Home Detention: 224 (down 16%)

Judicial House Arrest: 162 (down 36%)



Special Operations Response (SORT)

SORT is a specialized group of deputies who handle high-risk situations that go beyond the scope of regular jail staff. They are a tactical rapid-response unit who handles high-risk emergency situations within the jail. Additionally, the SORT team has a Cut Team, which deploys during crowd control to clear obstacles created by protesters that inhibit their ability to operate. The Team is trained and equipped with tools and machinery to accomplish this task. In 2022, the SORT Team conducted nearly 160 operations including:

- Cell extractions
- High-risk inmate movement
- High-risk transports
- High-risk court appearances
- Dayroom & cell searches
- Riot and crowd control

DETENTION OPERATIONS

Detention Operations is headed by **Captain Daniel Joyce**. It focuses on the safety and security of the staff and inmates. Operations includes housing of inmates, booking and release of pre-trial and convicted inmates and the RISE program.



SUPPORT SERVICES BUREAU

The Support Services Bureau is commanded by **Chief Robert Stef.** It provides support functions for all areas of the Sheriff's Office including human resources, finance, public affairs, internal affairs unit, concealed handgun permits, honor guard and the support services bureau administrative section.



Concealed Handgun Permits:

New permits issued

2,723

Permits renewed

1,860

Denials

39

Revocations

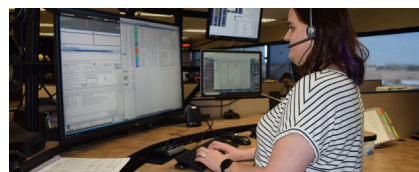
54

Total Active Permits

22,466

Communications Center

The communications center provides 24-hour dispatch services for Unincorporated Arapahoe County, Centennial, Foxfield, Sheridan, Columbine Valley, Cherry Hills Village, Cherry Creek State Park Rangers, South Suburban State Park Rangers and Arapahoe Community College.



In 2022, dispatch handed

87,092 911 Calls

170,659 Non-emergency calls

298 Text to 911

Accreditation

In 2022, the medical section of the Detention Facility underwent a voluntary, on-site audit by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC). Facilities that achieve NCCHC accreditation comply with national standards that show their commitment to high-quality health care. The Sheriff's Office also holds other accreditations in which it continues to demonstrate professional excellence, such as the Triple Crown Award.



SUPPORT SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

The Support Services Administrative Section is headed by **Captain Kevin Heaton.** He oversees the records unit, civil & warrants unit, training unit and POST academy, emergency communications center, accreditation, data base systems analyst and telecom.



Finance

With a financial management philosophy that emphasizes ownership and accountability, the Finance Section provides budget guidance and assistance to each bureau and monitors expenditures throughout the year. The 2022 budget for the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office was \$110 million. Of this, \$88 million, or 80% went to personnel costs for the 828 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions.



911 Public Education Team

The 911 Public Education Team focuses on bringing 9-1-1 information to citizens and school children in kindergarten to 3rd grade. In 2022, the team educated more than 14,000 citizens at 25 different schools and various other public events in Arapahoe County.

Records

The Records Unit serves as the official central repository for sheriff's office records. It stores, preserves and ensures the integrity of these records and serves the general public as a source of information with established guidelines such as privacy and security. All reports released to the public are screened for confidential information prior to release.

Human Resources

Human Resources provides guidance to supervisors and employees on all human resources issues from coaching and counseling to recruiting. The recruitment process for all employees involves interviews, testing, suitability screenings, polygraphs, background checks, psychological and medical exams.

Civil & Warrants

The Civil Unit serves criminal and civil warrants, writs, summons, mandates and other legal documents as provided by the criminal and civil courts.

Civil Documents: **8,121**

Evictions: **3,146**

Warrants: **6,481**

Internal Affairs

The mission of the Internal Affairs Unit is to help the Sheriff's Office provide quality law enforcement services to the community we serve. A large part of this effort comes from citizen feedback. The Internal Affairs Unit investigates all complaints, including those submitted anonymously. Complaints which are sustained may result in a range of consequences from additional training to disciplinary actions. In 2022, the Sheriff's Office purchased new management software which will allow the Internal Affairs Unit to more accurately track complaints, use of force reviews and use of force statistics.

Complaints Investigated: **104**

Allegations Sustained: **16**

Use-of-Force Investigated: **4**

Use-of-Force Sustained: **0**





Honor Guard

The Sheriff's Office Honor Guard participated in a total of 37 different events in 2022 including officer funerals, memorials, law enforcement events, graduations, parades and more. The Honor Guard Team are the only members in the agency authorized to wear a special uniform, which is similar to the dress blue uniforms worn by members of the Armed Services.



Public Affairs

The Public Affairs office staffs two Public Information Officers (PIOs), one sworn deputy and one civilian, who serve as spokespeople for the Sheriff and liaisons to the community and media. The PIOs handle media requests, social media, the monthly newsletter, website, annual report and video production.



Training Unit

The Training Unit is comprised of lead instructors who provide annual training to deputies as required by Colorado P.O.S.T. to remain certified as peace officers. Our instructors also work tirelessly to develop and train new recruits to fill the many positions and opportunities within our agency.

Sheriff's Office Newsletter – The Detail

The Detail is a community newsletter produced by the Sheriff's Office public affairs team. It's emailed monthly to thousands of subscribers including residents, businesses, news media, public officials and more. The newsletter details positive stories about our agency, spreads awareness of important issues and builds a sense of community with our citizens.





SCENES FROM 2022









COMMENDATIONS

8 Medals of Valor

7 Medals of Distinction

13 Meritorious Service Medals

27 Life Saving Medals

8 Letters of Commendation

5 Team Citations



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arapahoesherriff.org

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