

Brunswick County Sheriff's Office



2022 Annual Report

Sheriff B.K. Roberts

120 E. Hicks Street | Post Office Box 705
Lawrenceville, Virginia 23868

(434) 848-3133 Non-Emergency



Brunswick County
Sheriff's Office—
Virginia

www.brunswickso.org



@BrunswickVaSO

***A Virginia Accredited Law Enforcement Agency
Since 2007***

Contents

Contents	2
Message from the Sheriff	3
Organizational Chart	4
Introduction	5
Administrative Division	5
Communications Division	7
Court Security Division	9
Investigations Division	10
Patrol Division	12
Special Operations	13
Community Involvement	17
2022 Initiatives and Outcomes	18
Crime Prevention Activities	22

MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF

I am pleased to present the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) 2022 Annual Report. I continue to strive to provide an open and informative link of communication between law enforcement and the citizens. While carrying out our daily duties we endeavor to be



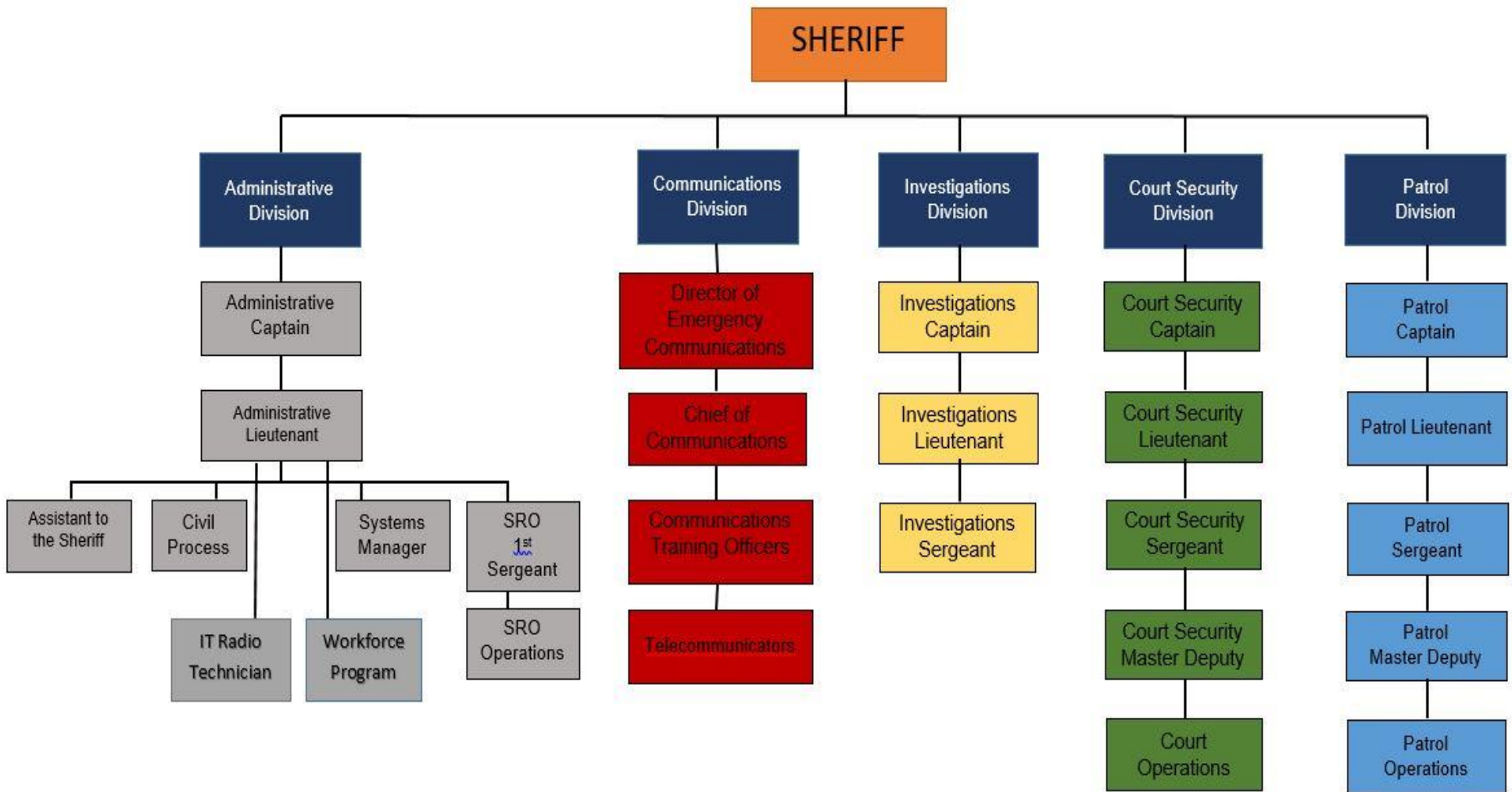
accessible, approachable and highly visible throughout the county. The primary goal of the sheriff's office is to protect and serve the citizens of our county using a modern approach to law enforcement with an emphasis on community oriented policing. While 2022 continued to have its pandemic related challenges, I am proud of our efforts to maintain successful partnerships with businesses, churches and citizens in the county. The men and women of the BCSO have worked diligently to effectively carry on through these ever-changing times. I truly appreciate your continued support as we work together to ensure that Brunswick County remains a safe and engaging community where we can all live, work and raise our families.

Respectfully,

Sheriff B.K. Roberts

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Brunswick County Sheriff's Department Organizational Chart



INTRODUCTION

The Brunswick County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) serves the County of Brunswick as the chief law enforcement agency. The county is 569 square miles and has 15,940 full time residents and an increased population during summer months as vacationers visit Lake Gaston. The BCSO employs forty-eight employees and ten part time employees across five operational divisions including Administration, Communications, Court Security, Investigations, and Patrol. The Patrol and Communications Divisions are staffed 24/7/365 and all other divisions are available on an as needed basis.

The Brunswick County Sheriff's Office has mutual aid agreements with the Virginia State Police, Lawrenceville Police Department, Alberta Police Department, Brodnax Police Department, Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office, Dinwiddie County Sheriff's Office, Greensville County Sheriff's Office, Lunenburg County Sheriff's Office and Nottoway County Sheriff's Office.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION



The Administrative Division worked with the Court Security and Patrol divisions to complete eight out of state extraditions in 2022. Inmates were transported back to Virginia from North Carolina, Connecticut, Florida and Alabama due to charges from Brunswick County.

In order to obtain a Concealed Weapon Permit in the Commonwealth of Virginia, firearms competency training is required. Citizens can achieve competency in a

number of ways to include attending the free firearms safety course offered by the BCSO. In 2022, ten firearms safety courses were offered to county residents free of charge. Through the efforts, 36 people received firearms safety training that totaled approximately 15 hours of instruction.

The Inmate Workforce Program remained active in 2022, completing 14 main workforce projects and 10 minor projects at churches, county buildings and non profit civic organizations throughout the county. The inmate workforce contributed approximately 1800 hours of labor to these projects. In addition to projects, the inmate workforce also provided lawn care and grounds maintenance for county property throughout the county.

The Administrative Division coordinates and monitors agency personnel training across all divisions. Agency personnel completed a total of 3,963 hours in training that included: Basic Dispatch School, Basic Law Enforcement School, Emergency Medical

Dispatch School, law enforcement recertification, Emergency Medical Dispatch and Quality recertification, Crisis Intervention Training, and specialty dispatch courses.

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION



The Communications Division is responsible for answering, processing, and documenting non-emergency telephone calls to include: business, criminal advice, civil advice, emergent mental health, after hours county business, after hours mental health, power outages, water outages, weather information, roadway conditions, and school closure information calls. The Communications Division is also responsible for answering, processing, documenting, dispatching, and

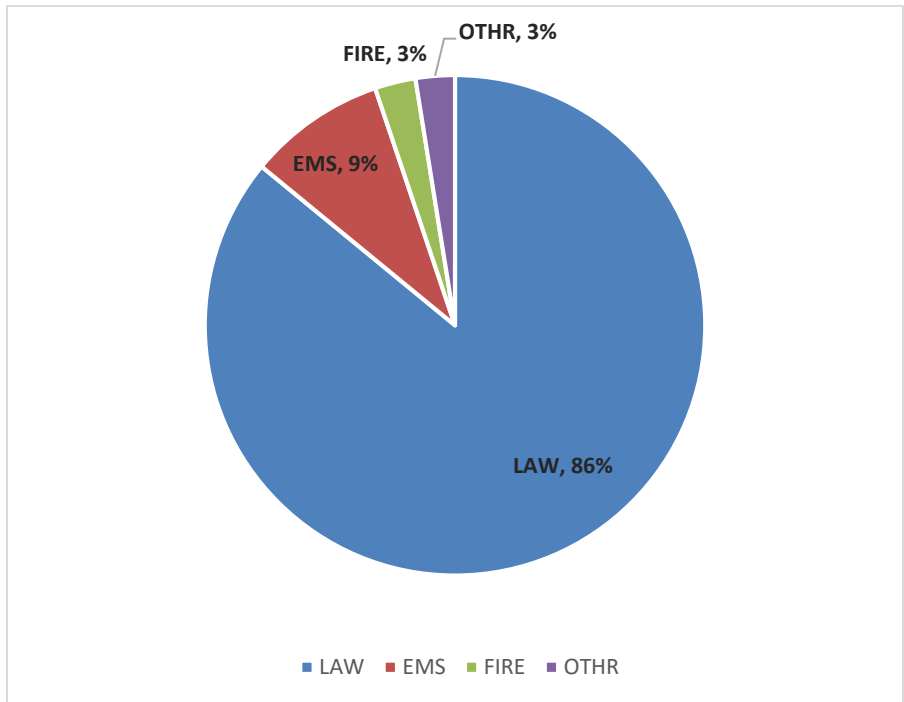
coordinating necessary resources requested from wireline and wireless 911 calls.

The Division dispatches and ensures unit accountability for Brunswick County Sheriff's Office, Alberta Police Department, Brodnax Police Department, Lawrenceville Police Department, Brunswick County Animal Control, seven fire companies, three rescue squads, one first response agency, and mutual aid agency requests. The Division manages calls for service for Brunswick County Emergency Management, Virginia Department of Emergency Management, Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia State Police, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, and technical, dive, and hazardous materials teams.

The Division oversees the records function for the BCSO. Records functions include: National Criminal Information Center (NCIC) and Virginia Crime Information Network (VCIN) queries and entries, Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) queries, Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) entries, updates, and queries, Records Management System entries, updates, and queries, warrant file management, vehicle storage, vacation property check entry, dispatch, and documentation, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, concealed handgun applications, Amber Alert entries and correspondence, Project Lifesaver program participant entries, equipment check documentation, updates, and file access.

All Telecommunicators are Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) certified and the division utilizes protocols from the International Academies of Emergency Medical Dispatch (IAED), with local medical direction oversight, for call intake and triage.

In 2022, the Communications Division processed 57,900 inbound and outbound phone calls associated with calls for service of which 8,581 were 911 calls and were mental health calls for service to the after hours line. The breakdown of these call types by category is found in the chart below.



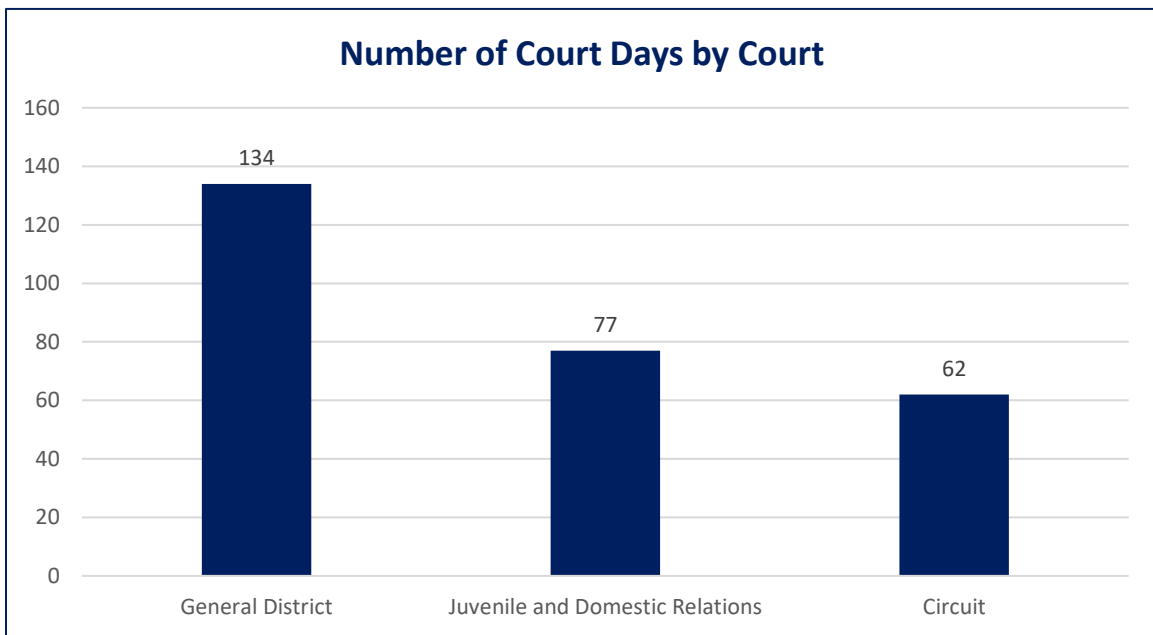
Ninety-seven (97.43%) percent of 911 calls were answered within 15 seconds and ninety-eight percent (98.98%) were answered within 20 seconds. The data meets and exceeds the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) standards stating ninety percent (90%) of all 911 calls arriving at the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) SHALL be answered within (\leq) fifteen (15) seconds and ninety-five (95%) of all 911 calls SHOULD be answered within (\leq) twenty (20) seconds, respectively.

The Communications Division processed 249 Concealed Weapon Permits for county residents in 2022 which was a 27% increase from 2021.

Grant funding received in the amount of \$14,000 to enhance training for telecommunicators. Telecommunicators collectively participated in 1,332 hours of initial or continuing dispatch education leading to National Emergency Number Association (NENA) Excellence in Dispatch, Emergency Medical Dispatch, Basic Dispatch, Dispatch Field Training Officer, Crisis Intervention Train the Trainer, and ICISF CISM Basic Certifications.

COURT SECURITY DIVISION

The Court Security Division oversees all security for the Brunswick County Courts. Those courts include Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court, General District Court, and the Circuit Court. Each court level has designated jail cells for inmates who have pending court cases. Court Security Division is responsible for security for all occupants in and around the courthouse building. The courthouse is monitored with multiple electronic security cameras as well as a multitude of panic alarms positioned strategically throughout the courthouse.



INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION



The Investigations Division is responsible for investigating and handling all major crimes in Brunswick County including homicide, rape, robbery, major disasters, arson, serious wounding cases, sexual assaults, large scale fraud, commercial B&Es, multiple/serial B&Es, internet based crime, suicide, hostage situations, bomb threats, kidnapping and any other high profile or complex case where investigative expertise is needed.

The division handles both General Investigations as well as complex Narcotic Investigations. This division consists of four General Investigators and one Narcotic Investigator. In 2022, the General Investigators handled approximately 100 new general investigative cases while simultaneously continuing to work on multiple cases from previous years.

In 2022, the Investigative Division was extremely busy as it was tasked with handling and investigating three new homicide cases, which is the most homicides our county has experienced in one year in the last two decades. Two of the three cases have been solved and arrests have been made while the third is still actively under investigation. All personnel and investigative tactics and strategies are being utilized to bring this case to a close and provide justice to the victim and his family.

Investigators are also responsible for handling several old “cold cases” and are motivated to use new technology as it becomes available to assist with solving these crimes.

Further, in 2022, the Narcotic Investigator with the help of the investigative team, successfully completed 14 felony undercover drug buy operations on specific targets and 13 indictments were served on 6 drug dealers and traffickers. Additionally, two other subjects are still actively wanted on multiple felony drug distribution indictments. Two drug related search warrants were also executed during 2022 where narcotics and guns were recovered and criminal arrests were made.

The Investigative Division also manages all specialized crime scene processing and evidence recovery situations, polygraph examinations and missing persons and/or search and rescue operations. The BCSO polygraph examiner conducted 15 polygraphs in 2022.

The Investigative Division along with the School Resource Officers are responsible for providing schools with training and practical demonstrations as needed throughout the school year. In 2021, many of these presentations were re-implemented after a year

hiatus due to COVID restrictions and the response from the faculty, staff and students were very positive. In 2022, we have seen a significant decrease in cases within the school relating to technology and other cell phone related crimes. We feel strongly that as these trainings and presentations continue, the positive results will become even more noticeable and meaningful.

The Investigations Division conducts regularly scheduled reviews of activities, programs and procedures to promote economy, efficiency and professionalism within the division.

PATROL DIVISION

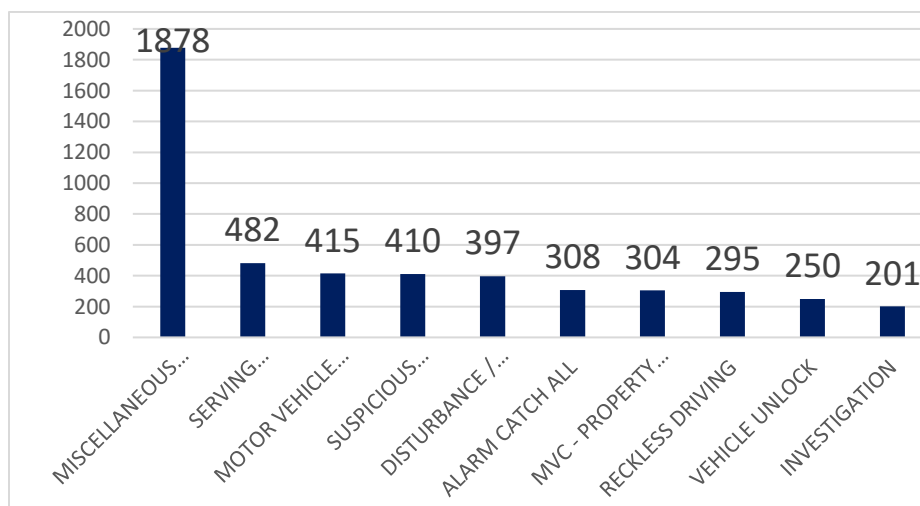


The Patrol Division is responsible for managing citizen complaints, responding to emergency situations, conducting basic criminal investigations, providing advice on civil issues, serving criminal warrants, protective orders, emergency custody orders and temporary custody orders, conducting traffic enforcement, performing accident investigations as needed, performing vacation checks, performing business checks and location checks, logging field

contacts, assisting with medical calls for service as needed, and performing other duties as assigned to further the safety of the community while enforcing the Code of Virginia.

The Patrol Division received 32,140 calls for service and identified 639 reportable incidents.

Top Ten Patrol Calls for Service



There were 645 arrests in 2022.

Members of the Patrol division served 751 criminal warrants and traffic enforcement led to 16,469 traffic stops and the issuance of 20,107 traffic citations as some stops led to the issuance of more than one citation in an effort to keep our roadways safe. Patrol division members also served a total of 213 emergency protective orders, preliminary protective orders, orders of protection and child protective orders. The office processed 9 protective order dissolutions.

The Patrol Division performed 8,409 business security checks and 28 residential property checks in 2021. There were 3,122 documented field contacts for non-criminal violations.

The civil process officer is responsible for serving subpoenas, summons, garnishments, jury notices, eviction notices, juvenile petitions, and all other civil process papers. In 2022, 5,340 civil papers were received by the BCSO and 4,940 were served.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

Canine



In 2022, Deputy Green experienced an injury early in the year which impacted the ability of he and K9 Woody to respond to calls for service. After returning to work, K9 Woody and Deputy Green responded to 5 incidents and attended approximately 240 total hours of training that includes monthly in service and individual training across the county. In addition to routine training and callouts, Deputy Green and K9 Woody participated in three school demonstrations and attended one Boy Scout Meeting.

Deputy Green and K9 Woody also attended 24 hours of monthly in-service training with Virginia State Police bloodhound K9 teams. This year's training consisted of going to numerous locations across the state working with multiple local and state agencies to train and become familiar with each other and the available resources that each agency has to offer. Training scenarios varied from lost or missing persons, runaways, verifying a subject's odor is present in a location, and tandem tracks with a patrol dog. Locations used in training consisted of urban and rural areas, with a variety of surfaces that tracks were laid and ran on.

Quarterly certifications verify that K9 Woody and Deputy Green are able to perform at the level required by Virginia State Police's K9 program.

Project Lifesaver



Since 2007, the BCSO has offered the Project Lifesaver program. The program “is the premier search and rescue program operated internationally by public safety agencies and is strategically designed for ‘at risk’ individuals who are prone to the life threatening behavior of wandering. The primary mission of Project Lifesaver is to provide timely response to save lives and reduce potential injury for adults and children with the propensity to wander due to a cognitive condition.”

In 2022, the BCSO supported an average of six individuals and their families by providing the Project Lifesaver service. Clients range in age from 11-82 and have diagnoses such as autism, dementia, down syndrome, and Alzheimer’s. As a part of the service, the office maintains regular contact with the individual and their families and keeps pertinent personal information on file at the office readily accessible 24/7/365 to assist in quickly finding the individual if they wander away from their families. The office performed 53 equipment checks for participants and responded to six calls for service from Project Lifesaver clients who wandered from their residence or caregivers needed assistance with the participants. All were located quickly due to the efficiency of the program.

School Resource Officers (SROs)



School Resource Officers participating in the Lawrenceville community Trunk or Treat.

School Resource Officers participating in Career Day at Totaro Elementary School.



Special Response Team



The goal of the Special Response Team (SRT) is to resolve dangerous situations safely while enforcing the Code of Virginia. The team responds to high-risk situations that are outside the normal resources and capabilities of the Patrol Division. Their duties and responsibilities include serving high-risk arrest warrants, performing hostage negotiation intervention, and engaging armed criminals. Our SRT team is equipped with specialized firearms, equipment and less-lethal impact weapons.

The Medical Division responds with the SRT when activated and renders medical care to persons who may be injured during an activation. Our Medical Division is licensed through the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) as an ALS First Response Agency. Members of the team are Advanced Life Support (ALS) certified and have attended training for combat situations.

The SRT added two new members and the team responded to three missions and trained over 600 hours in 2022.

Search and Rescue Team

All lost, missing, and/or endangered person searches in Brunswick County fall under the legal authority of Brunswick County Sheriff's Office and the Search and Rescue Team. All participants in such searches must obey all legal orders of this Office. The Brunswick County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Team participate in skill training through the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and also serve as a resource for surrounding counties as well.

The Search and Rescue Team is equipped with a fully outfitted 4X4 vehicle and mobile trailer that can serve as the incident command base or supplemental command location to aid in the operational tactics of any large-scale search incident. The Search and Rescue Trailer is equipped with fully operational police radios both UHF and VHF, computers with CAD functionality and GPS tracking capability for officers and search teams in the field. The Search and Rescue Unit also has a full size multi person UTV equipped for medical transport when a subject needing medical care is found in an area that is inaccessible for normal medical ambulatory vehicles.

In 2022, BCSO responded to 17 reports of missing persons which included adults and juveniles, some of which were Project Lifesaver clients. All were located.

The Search and Rescue team continues to research search tactics and train to ensure we are providing the best services possible to the citizens of Brunswick County.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Brunswick Sheriff's Office is involved in a number of professional associations and programs. Members of this office belong to the following professional groups on a national, state, and local level:

- ◆ Association of Public Safety Communication Officials (APCO)
- ◆ Brunswick Chamber of Commerce
- ◆ Central Brunswick Ruritan's Club
- ◆ Central Virginia Criminal Justice Academy
- ◆ Department of Forensic Science Academy Alumni Association
- ◆ Greenville Memorial Foundation
- ◆ Lawrenceville Lions Club
- ◆ Lawrenceville Rotary Club
- ◆ National Emergency Number Association
- ◆ National Sheriff's Association
- ◆ Piedmont Crime Prevention
- ◆ The National Child Safety Council
- ◆ The Virginia Gang Investigators Association
- ◆ The Virginia Polygraph Institute
- ◆ Virginia Homicide Investigators Association
- ◆ Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police
- ◆ Virginia Law Enforcement Accreditation Coalition
- ◆ Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission
- ◆ Virginia Law Enforcement Sheriffs, Inc.
- ◆ Southside Virginia Community College Administration of Justice Advisory Board
- ◆ Southside Virginia Community College EMS Program Advisory Board
- ◆ Lake Gaston 911 Community Task Force
- ◆ 911 Rural Community Task Force
- ◆ 911 Rural Community Task Force Executive Board
- ◆ Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Joint Emergency Services Committee
- ◆ Brunswick County Emergency Services Advisory Board
- ◆ National Night Out
- ◆ Jazz Festival
- ◆ Taste of Brunswick
- ◆ Attend PTO School Meetings
- ◆ Attend Senior Citizens Programs

2022 INITIATIVES AND OUTCOMES

A. School Safety



School violence continues to be a national concern. The Brunswick County Board of Supervisors and the Brunswick County School Board remain committed to the School Resource Program, which includes having a deputy in each of the five public schools in Brunswick County.

In addition, the BCSO continues to collaborate with Brunswick County Public Schools, Southside Virginia Community College and Brunswick Academy to review policy, address school safety concerns and provide education to foster a safe learning environment for students at all levels in Brunswick County.

In 2022, BCSO received grant funding to place Public Access Bleeding Control Stations (PABCs) in schools, day cares and county and town government buildings. After PABCs are received, training for staff at partner agencies will begin in early 2023. In addition, BCSO supported two deputies in attending the train the trainer course for Citizen Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) training. BCSO will offer CRASE training along with Stop the Bleed training for schools, day cares, and county and town employees.

B. Drug Enforcement and Prevention

Fatal drug overdose continues to be a problem in rural and urban communities throughout America. Brunswick County is also affected and proactively initiated a program for deputies that includes education on the administration of Narcan, an antidote for narcotic overdose, in cases where drug overdose is suspected.

Since program inception in 2017, deputies are dispatched simultaneously with local rescue squads to suspected narcotic overdose calls for service. In 2022, deputies responded to 44 potential overdose cases and administered Narcan to seven victims prior to EMS arrival.

C. Officer Safety

Officer safety is paramount within our agency and is at the forefront of every action taken by our team. Seatbelt use is required during vehicle operation and deputies utilize hands free devices when using cell phones on patrol. Deputies also wear bulletproof vests during all patrol and enforcement operations. Vehicles and issued equipment are inspected biannually for readiness and if maintenance is required, it is performed based on recommendations from the manufacturer.

All patrol vehicles are equipped with in car cameras and all deputies wear body cameras. Videos are stored internally and in a cloud based environment. The footage from the cameras are stored internally for a minimum of six months after the incident for the protection of our deputies, citizens, and visitors.

In addition, all patrol vehicles are equipped with Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) technology that allows telecommunicators to know the location of deputies in the event that they become unable to communicate their location during an altercation or safety incident on scene. The AVL technology is also used to identify the closest available resource to law enforcement calls for service but also to life threatening medical events such as overdose and cardiac arrest.

Training regarding officer safety is ongoing internally and through the Central Virginia Criminal Justice Academy as deputies attend mandatory in service training.

D. Next Generation 911

Next Generation 911 (NG911) is a national and statewide initiative to transition the 911 system from an analog base to a digital or IP base. The success and reliability of 911 will be greatly improved with the implementation of NG911, as it will enhance emergency number services to create a faster, more resilient system that allows voice, photos, videos and text messages to flow seamlessly from the public to the 911 network.

NG911 will also improve Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) ability to help manage call overload, natural disasters, and transferring of 911 calls and proper jurisdictional responses based on location tracking.

While the technology to implement these new IP-based 911 systems is available now, the transition to NG911 will involve much more than just new computer hardware and software. Implementing NG911 in states and counties nationwide will require the coordination of a variety of emergency communication, public safety, legislative and governing entities.

BCSO received \$813,000 in funding from the Virginia Wireless Services Board to implement NG911 in Brunswick County. The project began in 2019, continued with delay during 2021 and 2022 and will be completed in 2023.

E. COMMUNITY POLICING DATA COLLECTION AND SHARING

Effective July 1, 2020, the Virginia Department of State Police, Uniform Crime Reporting Unit began the collection of investigatory stop data based on the creation of the Community Policing Act. Updates to the original legislation were made per Chapter 37 of the 2020 Special Session I. The following code section includes all data collected and additions to the Community Policing Act effective July 1, 2021.

Data from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 include only those persons stopped while driving. Data from July 1, 2021 and on will contain all persons subject to an investigatory (nonconsensual) stop.

§ 52-30.2. Prohibited Practices; Collection of Data

Each time a law-enforcement officer or State Police officer stops a driver of a motor vehicle, stops and frisks a person based on reasonable suspicion, or temporarily detains a person during any other investigatory stop, such officer shall collect the following data based on the officer's observation or information provided to the officer by the driver:

- the race, ethnicity, age, gender of the person stopped, and whether the person stopped spoke English;
- the reason for the stop;
- the location of the stop;
- whether a warning, written citation, or summons was issued or whether any person was arrested;
- if a warning, written citation, or summons was issued or an arrest was made, the warning provided, violation charged, or crime charged;
- whether the vehicle or any person was searched; and
- whether the law-enforcement officer or State Police officer used physical force against any person and whether any person used physical force against any officers.

The bill also requires each state and local law-enforcement agency to collect and report to the State Police the number of complaints the agency receives alleging the use of excessive force.

BCSO community policing data is available by visiting the following link which is also posted on our website.

<https://data.virginia.gov/stories/s/Virginia-Community-Policing-Act-Data-Collection/rden-cz3h/>

REACCREDITATION



The Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC), established in 1993, was tasked with creating an accreditation program for Virginia law enforcement. VLEPSC includes representatives from the Virginia Sheriff's Association, Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police and the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. The Commission developed a comprehensive, efficient and practical process that can assist Virginia's law

enforcement agencies in the creation and certification of policies and procedures.

There are over 200 professional standards to be measured by. In developing these standards, the goals of the Commission are:

- To increase the effectiveness and efficiency of services provided by law enforcement agencies
- To promote cooperation and coordination among agencies
- To ensure the appropriate level of training for personnel
- To promote public confidence in law enforcement
- To promote professionalism of law enforcement

The Brunswick County Sheriff's Office became an accredited agency in 2007 and has maintained this elite designation ever since. Agencies are required to withstand on-going reviews with re-accreditation occurring every four years. Most recently, the Sheriff's Office received its 5th Certificate of Accreditation in December 2022.

There are 340 law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth of Virginia with 102 agencies being accredited.

CRIME PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

The Brunswick County Sheriff's Office continues to provide a large number of crime prevention resources to the citizens and businesses of the county. To enhance the service, two command team members, one from the administrative division and one from the investigative division, received certification in Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED). This is a proactive approach to policing that strives to stop crime even before its committed and we are looking forward to implementing this strategy in the near future.



A. Community

This office continues to offer the citizens of Brunswick County a variety of crime prevention services. A partial list of these services includes;

- ◆ Residential property checks
- ◆ Business checks and emergency contact list
- ◆ Neighborhood watch
- ◆ Directed patrols
- ◆ Personal safety tips
- ◆ Church safety program
- ◆ Scam and elder adult awareness