



SHERIFF JEFFREY R. GAHLER

ANNUAL REPORT 2023





Jeffrey R. Gahler
Sheriff



Colonel William Davis
Chief Deputy

A MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF GAHLER

Dear Community Members,

As we look back on 2023, it is with a sense of pride and gratitude that we reflect on the journey we have shared together. Despite facing new challenges related to public safety in our County, the past year has been highlighted by remarkable dedication and service from each member of the Harford County Sheriff's Office.

Our County remains a safe place to work, live and visit because of the unwavering commitment of the exceptional men and women of the Sheriff's Office and our partnership with our community members and organizations. This partnership, coupled with the hard work and dedication of our employees, has not only ensured the safety of our residents, but has also upheld our Agency's reputation as a premier policing and correctional agency in the State.

As your Sheriff, I am also very pleased to be able to report that the Sheriff's Office continues to attract outstanding individuals to join our ranks. The support from the public and our elected representatives, along with competitive salaries and benefits, remains crucial in maintaining the high standards of our Agency and meeting the evolving needs of our community.

While we have encountered setbacks, such as the defunding initiative that eliminated the much-needed Central Precinct and Training Academy, the Sheriff's Office remains resolute in our mission and in the services we provide. Professionalism and dedication amidst challenges exemplify why the Harford County Sheriff's Office continues to be held in such high esteem amongst our citizens.

In closing, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each member of our community for your steadfast support. As we look to the new year, let us continue to prioritize safety, and care for one another as we navigate the challenges ahead.


Sheriff Jeffrey R. Gahler



MISSION

With courage, honor, and integrity we protect the rights and dignity of all citizens.

In partnership with our communities, we strive to preserve the peace and provide for a safe environment for all.

COURAGE

With steadfastness and purpose of mind, we accept the responsibility of overcoming adversity to remain effective, efficient, and responsive to the needs of our communities.

HONOR

With distinction and pride, we protect the rights of all citizens equally.

INTEGRITY

We are responsible for our conduct, both professionally and personally.

We are honest, fair, and strong of character.

We hold ourselves accountable to the highest standards of ethical conduct and endeavor to be role models for others.

OUR DEDICATED COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP



AGENCY WIDE STATS

AGENCY AWARD WINNERS

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF 2023

ANNUAL BUDGET:
FY24 ADJUSTED

\$119,004,708



684

Authorized Employees

AUTHORIZED LE

331 Permanent

24 Temporary

AUTHORIZED CO

157 Permanent

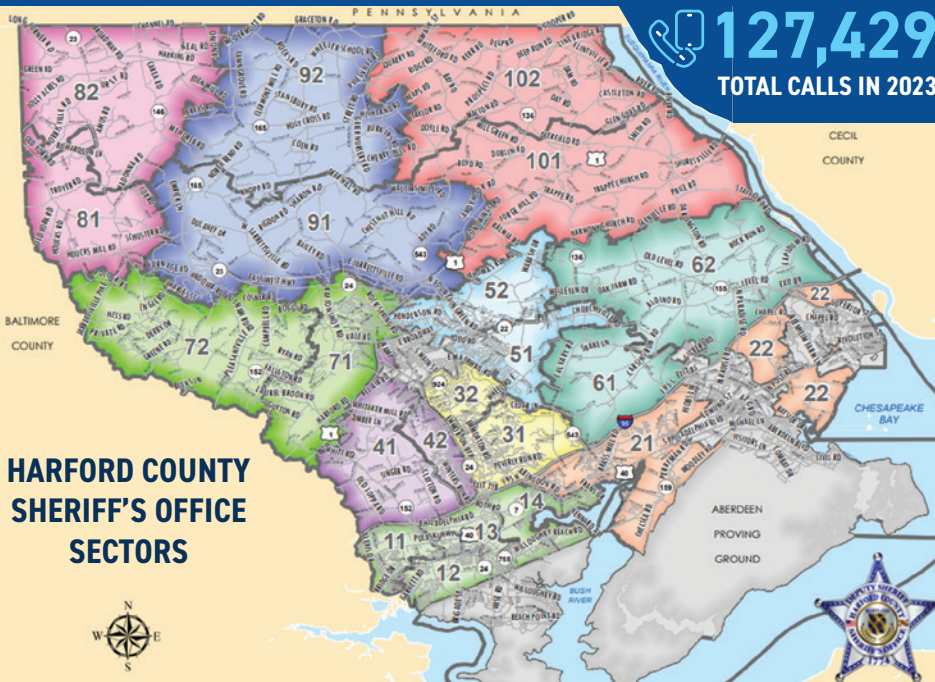
3 Temporary



Deputy of the Year Award

Deputy First Class Tyler Dailey

CALLS FOR SERVICE



HARFORD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SECTORS

BY MONTH		BY SECTOR	
JAN	11,218		<p>12,075 CALLS</p> <p>11,930 CALLS</p> <p>18,670 CALLS</p> <p>8,717 CALLS</p> <p>32,772 CALLS</p> <p>13,074 CALLS</p> <p>10,414 CALLS</p> <p>8,876 CALLS</p> <p>2,332 CALLS</p> <p>1,998 CALLS</p>
FEB	9,657		
MAR	10,689		
APR	9,425		
MAY	11,293		
JUN	10,556		
JUL	11,565		
AUG	11,567		
SEP	9,840		
OCT	10,723		
NOV	10,588		
DEC	10,308		
		BY PRECINCT	
		CENTRAL	SOUTHERN
		29%	38.5%
		NORTHERN	
		32.5%	



Correctional Deputy of the Year Award

Senior Deputy Nikeya Brown



Law Enforcement Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year Award

Sergeant Kevin Phillips



Correctional Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year Award

Sergeant Stephen Lynch

POLICE OPERATIONS BUREAU



For the Community Policing Unit (CPU) these are some of the high points for 2023:

- ★ Over 350+ events, presentations, and details that CPU hosted and was a part of. Typically these events rely on a heavy manpower presence and are booked outside normal working hours.
- ★ Over 1,000 people viewed the CORE videos.
- ★ HOPE House presented over 30 times and our volunteers from CPAA gave a total of 640 tours.
- ★ 2023 National Night Out doubled in size and is believed to have been the largest in the State of Maryland.
- ★ Our 2023 Faith in Blue Trunk-N-Treat event was attended by over 600 people. This attendance growth was so significant the event had to be moved to a larger venue.
- ★ In 2023 the Community Policing Unit hosted their first ever "Family Movie Night". The events were completely free to the public, with dinner, drinks, games, and entertainment provided to all who attended.
 - ★ The first movie night was held on June 2nd and was attended by 450-plus people.
 - ★ The second movie night was held on Oct. 27th and was attended by 300-plus people.
- ★ Our 41st Annual Christmas Drive helped 137 families.
- ★ Our 2nd Annual Shop with the Cop, 42 kids had the experience of a lifetime shopping and bonding with our local law enforcement.
- ★ In 2023, CPU hosted a Pledge Program at Youth's Benefit Elementary School, where 45 students attended and graduated.
- ★ 22 Businesses and entities received our full Active Shooter Presentation.

NORTHERN PRECINCT UPDATE

During the spring of 2023 the Northern Precinct underwent a long overdue update to its nearly thirty year old infrastructure. These updates included technology to facilitate an improved meeting space for both Sheriff's Office personnel as well our citizens, the exterior of the building was updated via replacement of aged infrastructure, updated flag poles, and a new integrated lobby space for better community interaction.

This project approved in FY23 has allowed the Northern Precinct to continue to serve the citizens of Harford County at the level they deserve.

2023 DRONE TOTALS

408.5 Hours of flight time

Deployments for missing subjects at risk or suicidal **30**

47 Operations for SRT | **19** Operations for CID

TOTAL = 96

2023 K9 UNIT TOTALS

Calls for Service: **1,766**

Assisted on and of those

317 Dogs deployed

22 Demos

27 Warrant Assists

Animal Control

Total Calls for Service **3,056**

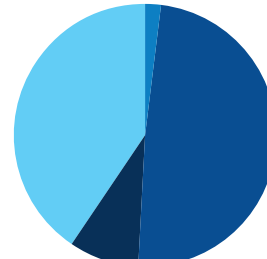
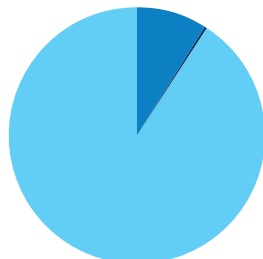
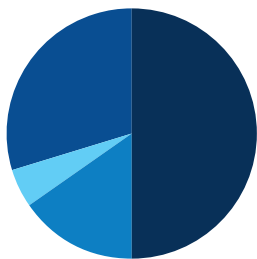
Top 3 Calls

Loose/Stray Animals = **970**

Humane Investigations = **451**

Owner Surrender Animals = **360**

2023 AGENCY TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT TOTALS



2023 TRAFFIC UNIT TOTALS

2,812 Total Traffic Stops

4,506 Total Violations

5 DUI Arrests

4 Drug Recognition Experts

97 Distracted Warnings

120 Distracted Citations

1 School Bus Violations

4,814 School Bus Camera Violations



2023 Crisis Negotiation Team Totals

Barricades **15**

High Risk Search and Arrest Warrants **70**

Other **4**



2023 Special Response Team Totals

Barricades **20**

Security Details **0**

High Risk Search and Arrest Warrants **79**

Other **4**





OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

63 TOTAL CASES INVESTIGATED



TYPES OF CASES
35 External Cases
28 Internal Cases

INVESTIGATIONS

47
SWORN LAW ENFORCEMENT

15
SWORN CORRECTIONS

1
CIVILIAN

21 Administrative Charging Committee (ACC) Eligible Cases

18 Cases received thru Public Portal established in April 2023

Public Portal is a cloud-based website associated with the Harford County Sheriff's Office, Office of Professional Standards database IAPro® where the public may make a complaint or compliment against a deputy, and it is immediately forwarded and uploaded into the IAPro® database and memorialized for an internal investigation.

2023 HEROIN / FENTANYL OVERDOSE STATS

320 TOTAL OVERDOSES IN HARFORD COUNTY



12% decrease from 2022

54

Confirmed Fatal

10% decrease from 2022

40

Narcans by LE

35% decrease from 2022

63

Fatal Including Unconfirmed

1% decrease from 2022

60

Repeat ODs

24% decrease from 2022

266

Non-Fatal

11% decrease from 2022

14

Fatal Victims w/Prior ODs

39% decrease from 2022

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

\$1,559,100

Total street value of drug seizures

\$585,868.54

Total value of all asset seizures

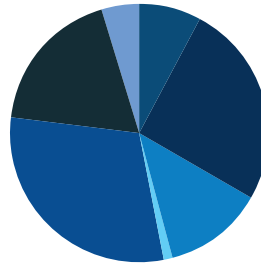


CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

371 Total Cases Assigned

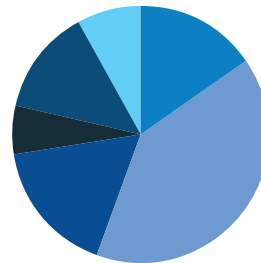


MAJOR CASES



- 7** Shootings
- 22** Armed Robberies
- 11** Strong Arm Robberies
- 1** Carjacking
- 26** Rapes
- 16** Sexual assault
- 4** Homicide Incidents (7 total victims)

PROPERTY CRIMES



- 51** Burglaries
- 132** Auto Thefts
- 55** White Collar Crimes (Fraud / Elder Fraud / ID Theft / Embezzlement)
- 20** Thefts
- 44** APS referrals (Screened Out)
- 26** Other (Missing Persons / Rogue / Vagabond / Theft from Auto / Assault)

DIGITAL FORENSICS UNITS

165 Total Case Requests

Video Analysis Requests 208
 Most of these requests were retrieval, upload, and analysis

SID or Unattended Requests 39

412 Digital Forensic Exams



215 Cell Phones



53 Computers



15 Vehicles



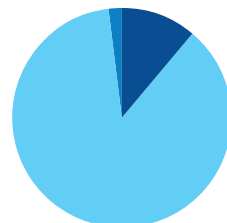
129 Other Devices

SD cards, USB, skimmers, cameras, etc

2.5 devices examined per case on average



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT 2,227 Total Reports Reviewed



- 84** Total Gun Releases Completed
- 653** Total Assaults (384 Assigned)
- 13** Search warrants



The Harford County Detention Center is a full-service detention facility housing up to 820 maximum, medium and minimum-security inmates. These three levels of security include housing units for classification intake, medical holding and restrictive housing cells based on the needs of the inmate. The Harford County Detention Center prides itself on the implementation of a quality incarceration for each inmate by offering the following services to its population:

Programs

The Harford County Detention Center provides all inmates, to include administrative segregation and protective custody, access to programs and services which include, but are not limited to education, social services, counseling, religious guidance, library, and recreation. Programs provide meaningful activities that keep inmates constructively occupied and help contribute to the safe and secure operation of the Detention Center. In addition, programs provide skills that help to increase the inmate's probability of successfully reentering the community and reduce the likelihood that they will return to jail. Effective programming equals fewer victims and safer communities.

Interagency Processing Center/Booking

The Harford County Detention Center operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The Interagency Processing Center (IPC) is the location all individuals arrested in Harford County are brought to for their initial appearance before a District Court Commissioner. Once at the IPC, the arrestee is fingerprinted and photographed. Warrant checks are conducted on all subjects brought into the IPC, through local, state, and national databases. All inmates are then subject to a search on the body scanner for the detection of contraband and weapons. The body scanner is thorough and less intrusive when searching inmates whilst still providing an added safeguard for deputies and staff. During the 2023 Calendar year, the IPC Processed 2,948 new intakes from 7 different local and state agencies.

Chaplain

The focus of the Chaplain's Office is to provide resources and spiritual support for inmates during their time at the Harford County Detention Center. They help inmates make a spiritual connection in the faith of their choice and help them with resources to develop a structured plan for re-entry into the community. Currently, there are 7 volunteer Chaplains that are also available to the inmates. Bibles, spiritual meetings, counseling, religious special diets, and worship services are all afforded to interested inmates.

Transport Unit

The Transport Unit provides for a safe and secured transport of inmates to and from the Courts, Harford County Detention Center, and other correctional and medical facilities throughout the state. The Transport Unit is also utilizing the CCTV (Closed Circuit Television) for court appearances and medical interviews. In 2023 the Transport Unit conducted 4,524 inmate transports and conducted 2,070 bail reviews.

Community Services

The Community Services Coordinator acts as the re-entry specialist for the Harford County Detention Center's inmate population. Working with numerous outside community agencies, the Community Services Coordinator aids in the re-integration of inmates back into the community they will reside upon their release.



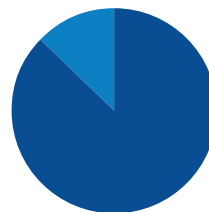
Daniel Galbraith
Warden

In our commitment to delivering exceptional care to inmates in our custody, we collaborate with contractors to ensure that their nutritional and medical requirements are fully met throughout their period of incarceration.

In 2023, in conjunction with outside contracted service providers, we provided:

- + 328,500 Meals For inmates
- + Major kitchen renovation to replace aging equipment and improve food quality and operational efficiency
- + 11,089 Nurse Treatments were provided to include Sick Calls, Detox Checks, Wound Care, and Emergency Response
- + 3,339 Behavioral Health Sick Calls or Visits
- + 659 Dental Sick Calls or Visits
- + Ongoing services for medical, mental health, dental, substance abuse, and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)

AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION



■ 266.4 Males
■ 38.7 Females

TOTAL: 305.1



Building & Technology Services Unit (BATS) Unit

BATS consists of a Coordinator and four Law Enforcement Support Specialists. Their primary duty is to oversee nearly all AXON products, including BWCs (Body Worn Cameras), TASERS, and FLEET In-Car Cameras. There are more than 600 BWCs, 300 TASERS, and 200 ICVs currently in use at the Agency. BATS maintains a close relationship with Prosecutors, Paralegals, and Legal Assistants, in the Harford County State's Attorney's Office, as well as partnered and other outside Agencies, assisting in the preparation of video and photo evidence for trials. BATS processes Public Information Act requests for Attorneys, Insurance Companies, as well as private citizens. This is a time-consuming process that normally takes a team approach. The Unit also has the responsibility of facilitating building maintenance requests between the Precincts, Headquarters, and County Facilities.

4,026
ARRESTS

483
ETIX MUST APPEARS

1,796
STATE'S ATTORNEY'S
OFFICE REQUESTS

>100
BUILDING
MAINTENANCE
REQUESTS



For calendar year 2023, the Child Support Administration Unit served 462 of the 554 summons we received from the Courts for a service rate of 83.3%. We received a total of 91 contempt and paternity warrants and served or recalled 90 of them for a service rate of 98.9%.

WARRANT STATISTICS

Jan 1, 2023- Dec 31, 2023

2,936

TOTAL WARRANTS RECEIVED

2,156

TOTAL WARRANTS SERVED

HCSO CRIMINAL WARRANTS		OUT OF COUNTY WARRANTS	
2,400	1,840	536	316
RECEIVED	SERVED	RECEIVED	SERVED

PERCENTAGE OF WARRANTS SERVED 73%

CIVIL UNIT STATISTICS

Jan 1, 2023- Dec 31, 2023

31,882
PAPERS RECEIVED

- **29,038** Papers Served
- **2,426** NON-EST
- **418** Active

TRAINING ACADEMY

160

Law Enforcement Inservice
law enforcement classes held

91

Corrections Inservice
classes held

- 47** LE Entrance Level Recruits graduated between **two Academy classes**
- 18** Corrections Recruits and 4 Institutional Support Staff graduated between **two Academy classes**
- 82** days of training hosted for outside jurisdictions at Broadcreek Range

MEGAN'S LAW

■	290 Average number of registered sex offenders in the county
■	1,100 Average number of compliance verifications conducted
■	675 Average number of registrants verified as compliant



FALLEN HEROES TRIBUTE IN REMEMBRANCE

The Harford County Sheriff's Office, established in 1774, has lost seven deputies in the Line of Duty. While the month of May is set aside to honor their memory, not a day goes by that they are not part of our thoughts. We must keep the light of those who have given the ultimate sacrifice, burning brightly.



Dep. Frank Bateman

DFC William Beebe, Jr.

DFC Teresa Testerman

Cpl. Charles Licato

Sgt. Ian Loughran

Sr. Dep. Patrick Dailey

DFC Mark Logsdon



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45 South Main Street | Bel Air, MD 21014 | Phone: 410-838-6600 | Fax: 410-879-2782