

2017 ANNUAL REPORT SLO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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SHERIFF



I AM EXCITED TO MOVE FORWARD INTO THE NEW YEAR.

As each year goes by, we are faced with new challenges and 2017 was no exception — not for our county, state or nation.

Leadership is tested at all levels when faced with adversity. 2017 has certainly been a year of testing our resolve. I am proud to say our staff has done everything possible to meet those challenges and still remain professional and progressive. That includes doing our best to predict and adapt to new laws and community health care demands in the jail and on the street. We know we are not alone, as the other 57 counties in California are experiencing many of the same demands that we are.

As predicted, many dedicated employees retired from the Sheriff's Office in 2017. Even though change can be good, it is difficult to lose the quality of work that each of these individuals brought to our team. We have been very fortunate,

however, to have quality applicants come in to fill our needs. The number of employees that have retired has required the Sheriff's Office to hire and send employees to the academy for patrol and host our own custody academy. We have remained committed to finding the best candidates and have not wavered on that commitment.

IN THE COMING YEAR, WE WILL HAVE ALL NEW CHALLENGES. I FEEL WE ARE UP TO THE TASK, AND I KNOW WE WILL REMAIN COMMITTED TO OUR COMMUNITY.

Thank you to all the employees and volunteers of the Sheriff's Office for your dedication and ownership of providing the best service possible to our citizens.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Parkinson'.

IAN PARKINSON

San Luis Obispo County
Sheriff-Coroner

UNDERSHERIFF

IT HAS BEEN A PRIVILEGE FOR ME OVER THE PAST SIX YEARS

to serve the members of our communities with the many great men and women of the Sheriff's Office.

I wish there was a way for everyone in our county to see the day-to-day interactions of our employees and volunteers with the members of the communities we serve. I know they would see acts of compassion, courage, tolerance, bravery, patience, commitment and love. I know this because I see it every day.

To provide the best possible service to our communities, the Sheriff's Office recognizes the importance of keeping up with technology, and we have made some tremendous advancements since

Sheriff Parkinson was elected into Office. We replaced an outdated and obsolete radio system with a state of the art Radio Over Internet Protocol (ROIP) system. We built and opened a new female jail that included an updated security system for our entire jail complex, adding 150 cameras and a personal duress system that improves the safety of the inmates and jail personnel. We led a project to produce standardized digital response maps for all law enforcement agencies for the majority of the schools throughout the County. We procured an amazing five-screen, surround sound "VirTra 300" use of force simulator and a realistic "iCOMBAT" laser weaponry system that enhances our ability to provide reality based training at a reduced cost. Sheriff Parkinson has made both of these state of the art training aids available to all City, State, County and Federal law enforcement agencies within the County.



We look forward to the many opportunities that 2018 will bring. We enter the new year unwavering in our commitment to serve San Luis Obispo County with compassion and courage.

Respectfully,

TIM OLIVAS

San Luis Obispo County
Undersheriff



PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT

THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND TRAINING UNIT

was created in 2011 by Sheriff Parkinson, who saw a need for accountability of all Sheriff's Office employees and continuity of all internal investigations.

In 2013, the Professional Standards Unit combined with the Training Office to create the Professional Standards and Training Unit. Each section of the unit plays an important part in filling the many different requirements, evaluating the ever-changing needs of the department, and monitoring the various incident categories we track to ensure we are achieving our goals.

TRAINING

The Training Unit is divided into two sections: Patrol and Custody. Each section is headed by a full-time training coordinator who ensures that Sheriff's Office personnel achieve and maintain compliance with California's

Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) requirements, and with Standards and Training for Corrections (STC) requirements. In 2017, our compliance with POST and STC requirements was near perfect except for a small number of personnel who were unable to attend training due to extended absence from work. The high compliance rate is a direct reflection of the outstanding and dedicated work of our two training coordinators.

In addition, there are many assignments that require a level of training above the minimum. These include classification deputies, court transportation deputies, detectives, rural crime investigators, narcotics and gang detectives. There are other teams that also require specialized training, including the Custody Emergency Response Team (CERT), Marine Enforcement Unit (MEU), Special Enforcement Detail (SED), Dive Team and the Bicycle Patrol Team.

The Sheriff's Office hosts many classes and trainings in-house, including arrest and control, mobile field force, firearms, Emotional Intelligence, first aid and CPR, pepper spray and Taser. In 2017, our

STC training coordinator brought the Adult Corrections Officer Core Course to the Sheriff's Office and successfully graduated 15 correctional deputies. This was a huge step forward as we have typically sent personnel to an outside agency academy. Our POST training coordinator also had a major milestone with the return of the past practice of hiring and sending cadets to a Basic Law Enforcement academy.

RANGE

In 2017, the Sheriff's Office hired a full-time Range Master to staff the Sheriff's Office range. Over the years, range training has dramatically changed to meet the demands of modern law enforcement and the range has seen a significant increase in the number of days it is in use. Current range training incorporates dynamic movement, obstacles, tactics, cover and concealment, compound force options and critical decision making where shoot/don't shoot decisions are made in seconds. Deputies qualify on the range with their handgun, long gun, shotgun, beanbag gun and Taser. Our range is also used by many different allied agencies from local, state and federal entities.



Live fire range training is time consuming, costly, requires a high ratio of instructors to student, and has its limitations, because there is no room for error. The Sheriff's Office is using technology and innovation to overcome the limitations of live fire training with our VirTra use-of-force firearms training simulator and iCombat simulator. The VirTra simulator is a 300-degree projector which immerses deputies in visual and audio real life scenarios where they use command presence combined with the application of, less lethal or lethal force to respond to a variety of threats.

Our latest investment in the future of range training is our new iCombat system. This complex equipment can be compared to an advanced laser tag system. Participants wear special vest with sensors and deploy realistic handguns and long guns that shoot lasers. A computer with specialized software keeps records of each participant and scenario. Since the system does not use any type of projectile, it can be taken into the field for geographically based training at schools, large

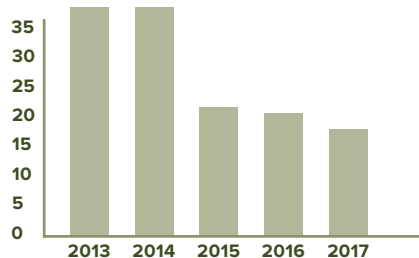
event venues, critical infrastructure locations, or any other location where preplanned response training is required.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT

The Professional Standards Unit is the investigative unit for all non-criminal personnel complaints and maintains and monitors reportable incident categories. The reportable categories include citizen complaints, use of force, vehicle accidents and vehicle pursuits.

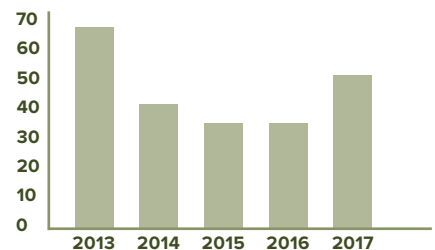
CITIZEN COMPLAINTS

Citizen complaints are formal complaints filed by the public with the Sheriff's Office regarding personnel, policy or procedures. Citizen complaints have dropped annually for the past four years.



USE OF FORCE

Use of force investigations cover force used by department personnel above and beyond control holds, handcuffing and take downs. Even use of force which may normally not be reportable may be investigated if there is a complaint of injury or pain. This is to ensure that all use of force is critically reviewed, reasonable and within policy.





BACKGROUNDS

THE BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION UNIT CONSISTS

of three investigators who are responsible for the investigation of all sworn and civilian applicants within the Sheriff's Office. The background investigator compiles a report that includes the applicant's personal history, driver's license record, warrant checks, credit history, Computer Voice Stress Analyzer Examination or Polygraph results, medical examination and psychological examination. The Background Investigation Unit ensures background checks are in compliance with the California Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training and departmental statutes, regulations and procedures associated with the investigation process.

With roughly 126 backgrounds completed in 2017, the following positions have been filled:

Correctional Deputy	18
Correctional Technician	15
Deputy	11
Reserve Deputy	1
Dispatcher	2
Cook	1
Senior Account Clerk	1
Legal Clerk	5
Property Manager	2
Storekeeper	1
Software Engineer	1
Forensic Specialist	1
Posse Volunteer	2
Sheriff's Auxiliary Volunteer Patrol	10
Dive Team Volunteer	4



RECORDS & WARRANTS

THE RECORDS AND WARRANTS UNIT CONSISTS OF TEN FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES.

This unit is responsible for:

- Entering criminal warrants into state and national databases
- Registration of sex/arson/gang/drug offenders
- Processing extraditions for all county agencies
- Intake and processing of concealed weapons permits, explosives permits, and business licenses
- Processing fingerprint applicants via Live Scan
- Processing a multitude of legal documents, including multiple requests for documents through the California Public Records Act

IN 2017, WE SAW A 98% COMPLIANCE RATE OF REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS AND 100% COMPLIANCE RATE OF REGISTERED ARSON OFFENDERS.

Our unit implemented a new automated system to process concealed weapons permit applications. The new system is called Permittium and has improved the process, especially considering the increased number of applications received. Records and Warrants continues to work closely with Information Technology to continually improve our Local Warrant System, which went live in April 2016. The office continues to work on completing a new Training Manual, which will be used to cross-train the clerks within the office, and sustain great service to the public. The “Most Wanted Wednesday” social media posts have seen ongoing success.

Our goals for 2018 include cross-training Legal Clerks with the office and sustaining great service to the public.



IT AND HIGH TECH CRIMES

OVER THE YEARS THE FACE OF TECHNOLOGY HAS CHANGED.

It is no longer “just a tool” that is used every now and then; it has become a central focus in our everyday lives and is relied upon at all times. This is true within the Sheriff’s Office as well.

WHETHER DISPATCHING 911 CALLS, ACCESSING A MOBILE COMPUTER IN A DEPUTY’S CAR OR JAIL STAFF MANAGING AN INMATE, TECHNOLOGY IS CENTER STAGE WITH EVERY ASPECT OF OUR JOBS.

The Sheriff’s Information Technology Unit, along with ancillary assistance from the County IT Department, must be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to ensure all these systems are operating at their peak performance and be ready to assist if problems occur.



To accommodate the growing needs of law enforcement, the Sheriff’s Office employs a Technology Supervisor with three highly qualified frontline technicians to quickly assess and support the various employee needs ranging from workstations to mobile patrol units and inmate security cameras and everything in-between. Two innovative and skilled Software Engineers provide customized programming, a versatile System Administrator keeps the various servers and systems operational, and the addition of a dynamic Business Analyst to the Sheriff’s Office staff completes the line-up of employees dedicated to technology.

HIGH TECH CRIMES

Over the past few years, the Sheriff’s Office has taken notice of the increased involvement of electronic devices used in crimes. Today, electronic devices are involved in nearly every crime investigated by the Sheriff’s Office. Cell phones, personal computers and tablets are more accessible today than ever before. The Sheriff’s Office has a computer forensics lab dedicated to investigating online crime and any crime involving electronic devices. In order to stay committed to the fight against cyber-crimes, in 2017, the Sheriff’s Office hired its first full-time Digital Forensics Examiner. The Digital Forensic Examiner assists detectives in solving crimes when an electronic device is used.



FISCAL SERVICES

THE FISCAL DIVISION SUPPORTS

the Sheriff's Office in areas of accounting — including budgeting, monthly and quarterly financial reporting, grant reporting, payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable and purchasing. The division is comprised of an Administrative Services Manager, an Accountant, an Administrative Services Officer, an Accounting Technician and two Senior Account Clerks.

**THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE
BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2016-17 WAS
\$72 MILLION, WHICH
INCLUDED REVENUE FROM
VARIOUS SOURCES OF
\$31 MILLION AND
\$41 MILLION OF GENERAL
FUND SUPPORT.**

During the 2016-17 year, the Fiscal Division achieved the following notable accomplishments:

- Implemented a new County budgeting system (BFM — Budget Formulation and Management)
- Streamlined the Graphics Art Program accounting policies
- Streamlined the budget process that includes upper management

The Fiscal Division 2017-2018 year objectives are to:

- Restructure Fiscal Services to include one accountant who will handle all programs in Patrol and Custody including CAL-ID, Asset Forfeiture and the Alternative Sentencing Unit
- Provide Management Staff reports to include all program managers



CORONER'S OFFICE

IAN PARKINSON IS THE ELECTED CORONER OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY.

Deputy Sheriffs also function as Deputy Coroners and perform the role of Coroner in all jurisdictions within San Luis Obispo County. The California Government Code mandates that the Coroner investigate the cause and manner of death in most cases where the death occurred outside of a hospital or presence of a physician, and in all cases involving homicide, suicide, accidental deaths, and deaths due to suspicious circumstances. In most cases, a patrol deputy will respond to the scene of an unexpected death and conduct the investigation.

IN CASES THAT REQUIRE AN IN-DEPTH INVESTIGATION, THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE CALLS UPON THE CORONER INVESTIGATION UNIT WITHIN THE DETECTIVE DIVISION.

The Coroner Unit is comprised of a Sergeant, three Detectives, a Legal Clerk, and a Forensic Pathologist. The three detectives are highly trained and specialize in determining the manner of death. Our Forensic Pathologist, Dr. Joye Carter, is triple board certified in Forensic, Anatomic, and Clinical Pathology, and uses her more than thirty years of experience to determine the cause of death.

Dr. Carter is the first ever full-time Forensic Pathologist employed by the Sheriff's Office and has led a very distinguished career as Chief Medical Examiner in Washington D.C.; Indianapolis, IN; and Harris County, TX. Dr. Carter is a Veteran of the United States Air Force and served as the Chief Deputy Medical Examiner at the Armed Forces Medical Examiner Department.

In 2017, The Coroner Unit reviewed more than 1,600 reportable deaths that occurred in San Luis Obispo County. Patrol Deputies responded to more than 650 unexpected deaths and conducted preliminary investigations. The Coroner Unit Detectives reviewed those cases to determine if further investigation was needed. Ultimately, the Coroner Unit conducted 257 investigations that led to autopsy, review of medical records, or partial autopsy to determine the cause and manner of death.

Of the 257 cases that the Coroner Unit investigated, 169 autopsies were performed, 71 partial autopsies were performed, and 17 medical records reviews were conducted.

Of the deaths investigated in 2017, 95 were natural causes, 49 were suicides, 6 were homicides, 101 were accidental, and the remainder are still under investigation.

The Sheriff-Coroner Investigation Unit is honored to serve the citizens of San Luis Obispo County during the difficult times associated with unexpected death.



CIVIL DIVISION

THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE CIVIL DIVISION

is staffed with one commander, one sergeant, five deputy sheriffs assigned to civil process duties, three legal clerks assigned to civil process preparation, and 16 deputy sheriffs assigned to courthouse security. The Civil Division serves civil process in the manner prescribed by law, adhering to the procedures and laws set forth in the California Code of Civil Procedure. The Civil Division works in conjunction with the Civil Courts in San Luis Obispo County and Civil Courts throughout the State of California in the execution and service of process. The goal of the Civil Division is to serve all processes in a timely manner while maintaining an impartial position between all parties involved.

CIVIL PROCESS INCLUDES THE SERVICE OF SUMMONS AND COMPLAINTS, SMALL CLAIMS DOCUMENTS, RESTRAINING ORDERS, SUBPOENAS AND EVICTIONS.

Other services include levies on wages, bank accounts, personal property, real property, or any other asset of the judgment debtor.

The Civil Division provides security services to the San Luis Obispo County Superior Court and its staff at the courthouse in downtown San Luis Obispo, the courtroom located at the San Luis Obispo Veteran's Hall, the juvenile court located at the Juvenile Services Center on Highway 1 and the courthouse located in downtown Paso Robles. Security services include entrance screening to courthouse buildings, physical security of the courthouses and protection of the Superior Court judges, court staff, attorneys and the public.

From January 1, 2017 to December 1, 2017, the following civil processes were handled by the five civil deputies and three legal clerks assigned to the Civil Division:

600
Eviictions

645
Levies

3,067
Services of
Civil Processes



CUSTODY

CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY CORE ACADEMY

This year, 15 correctional deputies attended and completed the six-week on-site CORE Academy. The academy consists of 220 hours of instruction which is certified by the Standards and Training in Corrections, as required by the Board of State Community Corrections. The CORE Academy includes a rigorous physical fitness regime and covers topics such as: Professionalism and Ethics, Mentally Ill inmates, Suicide Prevention, Report Writing, Gangs and Subcultures in Institutions, Identifying Contraband, Constitutional Rights and Civil Rights.

CLASSIFICATION / JAIL MOVE

The Classification Unit consists of one sergeant and five correctional deputies, all of whom play a vital role in streamlining operations at the jail. Each inmate housed at the jail is interviewed by a classification correctional deputy. In addition to their regular duties, these correctional deputies completed the

largest scale housing move in our jail's history. The move was necessary to alleviate floor sleepers throughout the jail, improve jail operations and streamline inmate classification. A total of 117 inmates were re-housed, their cells were cleaned and searched and an emergency count was conducted. The teamwork and dedication by everyone involved in the move was impressive.

KITCHEN

The kitchen supplies three meals a day to the San Luis Obispo County Jail and Honor Farm, as well as Juvenile Services. The kitchen staff work with 15 inmate workers who help produce the breakfast and evening meals. Additionally, there are designated jobs for inmates such as two kitchen engineers, two bakers and one staff cook. Generally, these specialized positions are given to inmates who have an interest in a career in the food service industry and have a longer sentence, giving us more time to work with them.

Inmates who work in the kitchen can sign up to take food safety classes,

such as, the California Safe Food Handlers Card, valid for three years, and a Food Safety Management Certification, valid for five years. Upon completion of these courses, inmates receive a certificate that assists them with full-time employment after release. There were two inmate interns last year who successfully established themselves into the community. One has recently been promoted to Production Manager of a local bakery. The kitchen also provides food service for numerous events which gives the opportunity to train the inmates on Special Event Catering.

Fiscal Year January 2017 – October 2017

Inmate Meals:	557,804
Employee Meals:	42,958
Total Inmate and Employee Meals:	600,762
JSC Meals:	29,330
JSC Employee Meals:	8,225
Total JSC and Employee Meals:	37,555
Total Jail JSC and Employee Meals:	638,317



COURT SERVICES

Court services consists of eight correctional deputies, one senior correctional deputy and one correctional sergeant. They are responsible for transporting all inmates from the jail to the courthouse. This year alone, they transported close to 12,000 jail inmates to court. In addition, they are each assigned a court room and escort inmates to their designated court room and maintain watch over the inmates throughout the proceedings.

In 2017, our Court Services team also took inmates to 117 scheduled doctor appointments, and 202 inmates to Wasco State Prison. This year an additional correctional deputy position was approved to help with the high volume of transports the unit completes.

CORRECTIONAL TECHNICIANS

Correctional technicians play a key role in the smooth operations of the Jail. They work in various locations throughout the jail, including booking, a reception area, and control rooms. They record and confirm personal and criminal history information on detainees, complete booking reports, keep detainee population statistics and maintain records of release dates. Correctional technicians also receive, secure and store personal belongings from detainees, coordinate appropriate paperwork associated with court appearances, and respond to inquiries from staff, courts, and the public regarding the status of detainees. They also observe inmate visits to ensure the safety and security of the jail. This last year, we were pleased that the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the request to restructure the correctional technician series. The correctional technician position will now have a series of three levels: Correctional Technician I, II and III.

In one year, our correctional technicians processed through the jail:

Bookings	11,743
Releases	11,701
Inmates admitted to Psychiatric Health Facility	58
Inmates admitted to State Hospital	52
Inmates sentenced to State Prison	223

SHERIFF'S MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE

The Sheriff recognized the need for improved criminal justice coordination with other county departments and organizations within our community to address the needs of mentally ill persons who come in contact with the criminal justice system. In 2017, the Community Action Team (CAT) was approved and initiated to work directly with some of these individuals in the community. They also play a significant role in the release of individuals from the jail. Reducing the number of people with mental illness in jail and providing increased treatment related to mental

illness is at the forefront of the issue. The Sheriff's Mental Health Task Force was developed with this in mind. Under the framework of the Stepping Up Initiative, the creation of this team is another layer of dedication to addressing mental health needs in our community.

The Sheriff's Mental Health Task Force is a representative planning team comprised of key leaders from the justice system, such as jail manager, prosecutors, defense counsel, law enforcement personnel, community members, leaders from the behavioral health system (such as the director of mental health services), other community based behavioral health care providers (such as substance use treatment providers), and representatives from the community, including organizations representing people with mental illnesses and their families.

A Board Resolution was presented on October 10, 2017 supporting the Stepping Up Initiative. The initiative addresses four key areas: reducing the number of people with mental illnesses booked into jail, reducing the length of time people with mental illnesses remain in jail, increasing connections to treatment, and reducing recidivism. The goal of the Sheriff's Mental Health Task Force is to be a planning team, identifying issues and best practices and proposing solutions to the executive team for implementation. The Stepping Up Initiative is a national initiative and San Luis Obispo is at the forefront, being one of approximately half of Californian counties to make the dedication.

**THE FIRST STEP TO
MAKING GROUND
BREAKING CHANGE IS
RECOGNITION.**

Sheriff's Office leadership is committed to identifying issues and making improvements related to mentally ill persons in custody and in the community with support from the Board of Supervisors.

**CAT — COMMUNITY
ACTION TEAM**

The Community Action Team's largest role is to reach out to the homeless, the mentally ill, and those with substance abuse issues, and connect these people with the resources they need. They work with the Patrol Stations, the Jail, and non-law enforcement agencies in an effort to reduce recidivism and address community challenges. The CAT spends a good amount of time in homeless encampments throughout the county.

Their office is located within the jail, enabling them to also reach out to those in custody. They have helped transport people to mental health from the jail and have even delivered mental health medication. When inmates with whom the CAT works are released, the CAT helps coordinate their re-entry into society and works with them to get the services they need. This team works with entities like Social Services, Mental Health, Transitions Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Services, Probation, NAMI SLO, the 5 Cities Homeless Coalition, Veteran's Services, CAPSLO, and the Courts, to name a few.



CUSTODY CANINE

Handler Kelsey Williams and Canine Dutch are assigned to the Custody Division.

Over a year's time, they have accomplished the following:

Deployments	50
Searches	281
Arrests	2
Agency Assists	2
Drugs found	marijuana, heroin and methamphetamine.



DETECTIVES

THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE DETECTIVE DIVISION

is responsible for the investigation of criminal cases that go above and beyond the scope and resources of the Patrol Division. This includes all misdemeanor and felony crimes for both local and state laws in which other agencies do not have the primary investigative responsibility. These cases may require a large amount of resources for an extended period of time. They may need investigators with specialized training, knowledge and equipment. The investigation may extend beyond a patrol deputy's area of responsibility or expertise. Lastly, Detectives are able to focus on their investigation without the interruptions of handling calls for service as a patrol deputy.

Detectives in the Detective Division are assigned to a specific area of investigations. General Crime Detectives are responsible for investigating crimes against persons and property. The Sexual Assault Detectives are responsible for crimes that are sexual in nature, child molestations, child pornography, non-financial elder abuse, and sexual registrants.

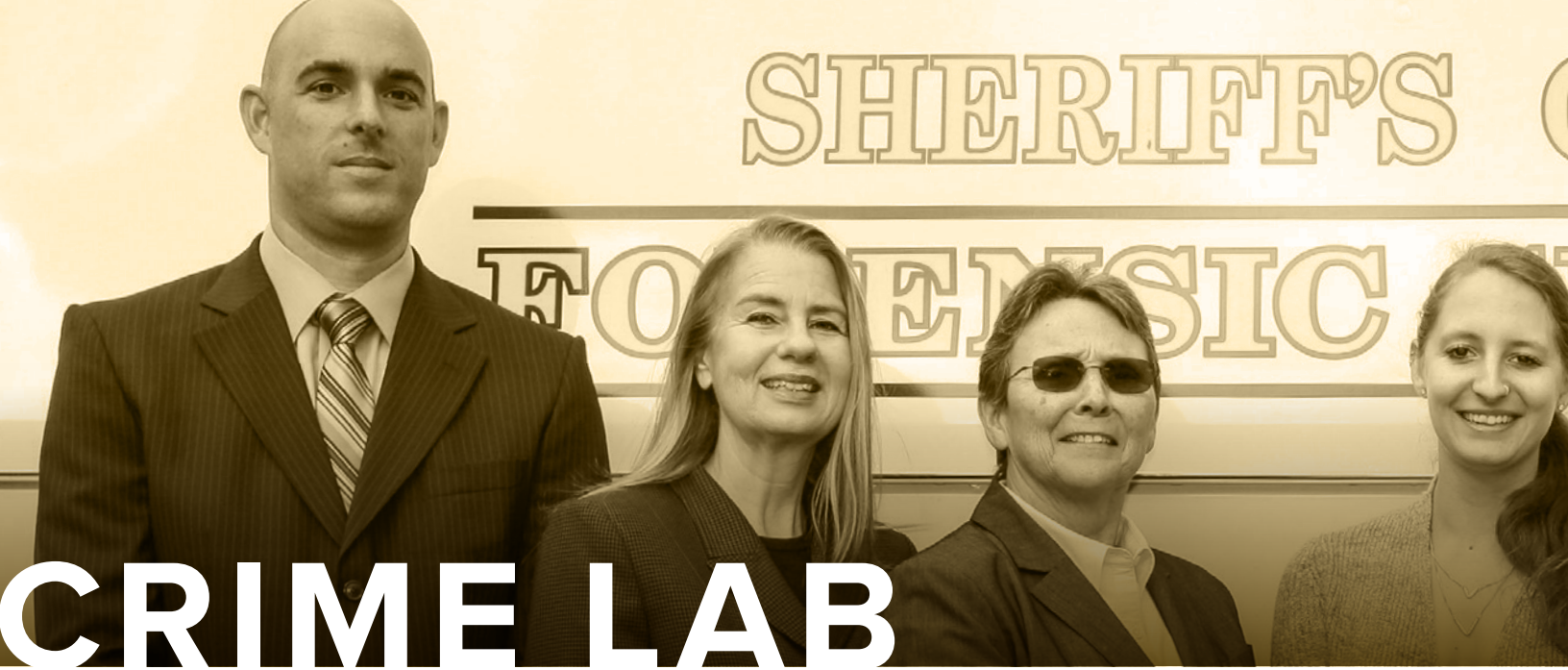
IN ADDITION TO CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS, THE DETECTIVE DIVISION ALSO CONDUCTS FOLLOW-UP INVESTIGATIONS FOR ALL MISSING PERSONS, RUNAWAY JUVENILES, AND OTHER CASES AS REQUIRED BY LAW OR AS ASSIGNED.

Detectives also assisted the Coroner's Office with in-custody death investigations and several suspicious deaths during 2017. Other major investigations include child molestations, rape, child

pornography cases and burglaries. There are other cases that are not "major investigations" but still require detective resources such as critical or at-risk missing persons, runaway juveniles, and suspicious death investigations. New cases requiring detective follow up are constantly coming into the division on a daily basis.

While carrying their case load, Detectives must also appear in court to testify on investigations which have been submitted to the District Attorney's Office and filed in court. Some cases make it through the court process in a relatively short amount of time, while others may take years.

The cases handled during 2017 could not have been compiled in the fashion they were without the assistance of the Crime Lab, Coroner's Office, and the hard work and effort of all the men and women who comprise the Detective Bureau.



THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME LABORATORY

and Forensic Services Unit is responsible for processing a broad range of evidence types in support of the investigative efforts of law enforcement agencies throughout the county. The unit also responds to crime scenes, processes and collects evidence in criminal cases, and analyzes controlled substances and biological samples for driving under the influence (DUI) cases. The CAL-ID program for the County is housed within the Forensic Services Unit and is responsible for the identification of individuals and biometric programs, and operates the County's Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS).

IN 2017, THE FORENSIC ALCOHOL LABORATORY PROVIDED SERVICES FOR 11 DIFFERENT LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES THROUGHOUT SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY.

The Laboratory was responsible for maintaining the department's 40 Draeger Alcotest 7510 breath alcohol instruments, which are in use at 16 different locations in the county. During 2017, nearly 1000 evidential breath alcohol tests were conducted using the department's breath instruments. The Forensic Alcohol Laboratory also analyzed approximately 750 blood samples for alcohol content. Nearly 24% of those blood samples were sent on to Central Valley Toxicology for other toxicological analyses. Additionally, through the funding of a grant, the Laboratory purchased a new

Dual-Column Headspace Gas Chromatography instrument for the analysis of blood. The instrument underwent a vigorous validation process to verify the functionality, accuracy, and reliability of the testing method. The new instrument will go into use in early 2018. The implementation of the new instrument will strengthen the accuracy and reliability of the blood alcohol testing conducted in San Luis Obispo County.

The Chemistry/Toxicology Lab continued to provide services for the police departments in Paso Robles, Atascadero, Morro Bay, Pismo Beach, Grover Beach, Arroyo Grande, Cal Poly State University, Cuesta Community College and the California State Parks stations. In addition, this section of the Crime Laboratory provides services to the California Men's Colony, San Luis Obispo County Probation, San Luis Obispo County Suspected Abuse Response Team and all of the Sheriff's Office patrol stations.



DURING 2017, THE CHEMISTRY/TOXICOLOGY LAB ANALYZED MORE THAN 4,000 SUSPECTED CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE SAMPLES AND THE TOXICOLOGY SECTION ANALYZED MORE THAN 900 URINE SAMPLES, ALL OF WHICH WERE SUBMITTED FROM THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES PREVIOUSLY LISTED.

The Crime Laboratory received hundreds of cases for evidence analysis including testing of biological fluids and biological collection, electrostatic detection of indented writing, hair and fiber collection, tool mark comparisons, ballistic analysis, serial number restoration, tire and footwear impression comparisons and trace evidence analysis. More than half of these cases were received from outside agencies and most contained multiple items that

required more than one type of analysis. Hundreds of individual items were forensically processed. Thousands of fingerprints were analyzed, resulting in the identification of many persons of interest.

In addition, Forensic Specialists responded to crime scenes for the Sheriff's Office, as well as outside agencies. The scenes ranged from property crimes to violent crimes, including homicides. Evidence was photographed, collected, and often analyzed in the Sheriff's Crime Laboratory.

The Cal-ID Program completed the deployment and agency training for SLO County's photo and mugshot repository which is utilized by all law enforcement agencies in the county for investigative purposes. It hosted a Pilot Project deploying mobile fingerprint identification devices in field applications such as Patrol and the Coroner's Office. In the latter application, this resulted in the accurate fingerprint identification of several deceased persons, which

allowed for more timely notification of the next of kin. A full deployment of Mobile ID for all law enforcement agencies in the county has been initiated and will continue into 2018.

The Cal-ID Program partnered with the California Department of Justice and the FBI in implementing the FBI's Next Generation Identification (NGI) system within the Sheriff's Office. This technology allows for fingerprints collected at crime scenes to be compared against a database of more than 120 million records, comprised of booking fingerprints from all 50 states and U.S. Territories. This technology has proven its value in a relatively short period of time, resulting in the identification of fingerprints in cases including homicide investigations in which there was no identifiable record found in the local SLOAFIS or California Department of Justice databases.



SEXUAL ASSAULT UNIT

THE SEXUAL ASSAULT UNIT

consists of three investigators and is responsible for investigating cases of sexual assault involving children and/or adults, extreme cases of domestic violence, extreme cases of child abuse and non-fiduciary elder abuse within the unincorporated area of San Luis Obispo County. The Unit also assists outside agencies in their investigations.

The investigation of physical and sexual abuse cases are highly specialized and require expert training as mandated by the California Penal Code. Investigators also provide training to mandated reporters of child abuse, community groups and military.

Sexual assault investigators handle an average of more than 200 cases per year as they relate to child and adult sexual abuse and assault, elder abuse, and child pornography. Individual cases can take several months to fully investigate and can last up to a year or more in

the court process. In 2017, investigators received additional training in human trafficking investigations and will continue to work with several local agencies as part of the Human Trafficking Task Force.

In 2017, these investigators:

- Assisted in child forensic interviews, homicides and other investigations outside of sexual assault
- Assisted in search warrant preparation and service
- Conducted CVSA examinations in criminal and background investigations
- Worked with crime lab forensic technicians in analyzing electronic/computer based evidence as it related to child pornography cases
- Worked with Crime Lab technicians to analyze physical evidence
- Welcomed a new investigator to the Sexual Assault Unit

In addition to their caseload, community training and educational outreach are necessary priorities of our Sexual Assault Unit. These specialized trainings have assisted RISE (Respect, Inspire, Support, Empower) advocates who provide support for victims of sexual abuse and domestic violence, SART (Sexual Assault Response Team) Nurses and other non-profit organizations.

THIS UNIT PLANS TO CONTINUE PROVIDING COMPLETE AND THOROUGH INVESTIGATIONS AND ADVOCATING FOR VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THE COMING YEAR.



SAFE TEAM

SAFE (SEXUAL ASSAULT FELONY ENFORCEMENT)

Team members are responsible for monitoring registered sex offenders throughout San Luis Obispo County. This is done by verifying the residency of all registered sex offenders within the Sheriff's jurisdiction and enforcing the appropriate codes when registration laws have been violated. The mission of the SAFE Team is to identify, monitor, arrest, and assist in the prosecution of habitual sexual offenders, who violate the terms and conditions of their probation or parole, or who fail to comply with the registration requirements of California Penal Code 290, or who commit new sexual assault offenses through proactive investigations and surveillances, which leads to the arrest of these habitual sexual offenders. The SAFE team also investigates internet crime against children cases.

The SAFE Team receives information regarding violations of sex offender registration laws from several sources, including:

- Tips received directly from the public or through the California Megan's Law website, www.meganslaw.ca.gov
- The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Crime Stoppers tip line
- Electronic comparisons of every registered sex offender booked into the San Luis Obispo County Jail to make sure that those registrants are current and in compliance with their registration requirements
- Periodic and unannounced compliance visits with all registrants
- Cyber tips are also received from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children regarding online predators

269

Registered Sex Offenders

488

Compliance Checks

8

Internet Crime Investigations

45

Possible Sex Offender Registration Violations

In 2017, the SAFE Team:

- Conducted 488 compliance checks
- Uncovered 45 possible sex offender registration violations
- Filed 15 of these investigations with the District Attorney's Office for failing to register properly
- Assisted in and conducted 10 search warrants
- Completed eight investigations of Internet crimes against children; six of these suspects were arrested, and one case still open with an unidentified suspect
- Provided Sex Offender Registration training to department trainees
- Appeared on KSBY regarding legislation related to the new California SB 421: Tiered Sex Offender Registry Bill
- Provided Stranger Danger training to preschool classes
- Presented Sex Offender Registration information to the Sheriff's Citizen's Academy
- Attended training at the California Sex Offender Registry Conference and for Sex Offender Supervision Officers
- Attended training for internet crime investigations
- Participated in Operation Trick or Treat with San Luis Obispo County Probation/FBI

In 2017, the Sheriff's Office registered approximately 269 sex offenders. This is more than half of the approximately 500 registered sex offenders that live throughout San Luis Obispo County.

All new registrants that come to our agency are interviewed. During this interview, we discuss our expectations, the registrant's requirements and answer any questions they may have.

SAFE Team members provide an immediate response to complaints, inquiries and information regarding registered sex offenders in the community. We provide community notifications of sexually violent predators (SVPs) and high-risk sex offenders when warranted. This is accomplished through media releases or by going door-to-door and passing out informational flyers.

SAFE Team members also work closely with Victim/Witness Advocates through the District Attorney's Office, prioritizing the needs of the victim through coordination and teamwork. The Team is on call to do in-service training for our rape prevention centers and local school districts and community service organizations when requested.

The following is one example of the many cases investigated by the SAFE Team:

Detectives received a tip that a 27-year-old Los Osos resident was exchanging graphic images through social media with two 9–10 year old girls who lived in Minnesota. The investigation found that the suspect possessed and sent child

pornography, as well as sexually assaulted a 16-year-old San Luis Obispo girl. In January 2017, the SAFE team and other San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Detectives executed a search warrant at the suspect's resident. He was arrested and charged with multiple counts of:

- Using an Underage Person to Manufacture Obscene Material
- Possessing Material Depicting a Minor Under 14 Engaged in Sex
- Sending Harmful Matter with the Intent to Seduce a Minor

The suspect later pled guilty and is currently serving his prison sentence with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.



NORTH STATION

IN 2017, THE SHERIFF'S NORTH STATION

handled a total of 18,112 calls for service (CFS) and self-initiated activity (SIA) as of October 25, 2017. As predicted, the level of activity has increased with the changes and additions of various laws effecting the enforcement and penalties of many laws. The station deputies have seen an increase in calls for service in California Valley with the explosive growth of marijuana grows. Deputies have responded to a variety of calls for service in this area including thefts, assaults, trespassing and shots being fired.

For two years, the North Station benefited from having a resident deputy living in the Heritage Ranch community who was able to respond to calls for service in a short period of time. However, that deputy no longer lives at Heritage Ranch so the position was dissolved, resulting in longer response times to that area. This position will be staffed when the opportunity presents itself. The resident deputy for Creston

and California Valley is still in place and continues to play a major role in crime suppression and the lowering of response times to those far-flung areas.

THE GANG TASK FORCE DEPUTIES ASSIGNED TO NORTH STATION LAST YEAR HAVE BEEN A TREMENDOUS ASSET IN SUPPRESSING GANG ACTIVITY IN THE NORTH COUNTY.

The freedom of their assignment allows them to directly address gang problems that normal patrol deputies do not have the time to investigate. They have been very helpful in the resolution of several crimes that occurred in San Miguel and Shandon this past year.

In 2017, a new rural crimes deputy was assigned following the retirement of the previous deputy in this position. Much of this deputy's time was spent investigating burglaries at wineries this past summer and fall. With the assistance of the other two rural crimes deputies from the other patrol stations, they continue to actively investigate these

burglaries and have developed several suspect leads.

The three School Resource Officers (SROs) assigned to our station had another busy year. In addition to teaching classes at the local grade schools and high schools, they continue to host the summer G.R.E.A.T. camps for students, which have been tremendously successful. They also conduct alcohol enforcement at the California Mid State Fair along with staffing a booth to conduct community outreach for the G.R.E.A.T. program. In summer of 2017, the SROs hosted their first statewide Explorer Competition which was very successful and will become an annual event hosted by our Sheriff's Office.

North Station deputies have a variety of duties in addition to working patrol. They participate in special assignments, including Special Enforcement Detail and Honor Guard, and work contract overtime at the California Mid-State Fair and Stone Garden patrols. North Station Deputies continue to be committed to their community and to the Sheriff's Office.



FOR 2018, OUR COMMITMENT TO PREVENTION OF CRIME WILL BE STRENGTHENED

by effective partnerships built within our community. Engagement of community service groups, business groups and homeowners' associations in Neighborhood Watch programs, campus crime prevention programs, and rural crime prevention programs will enhance communication of safety and security concerns directly from the community. Addressing these concerns, and developing strategies to mitigate them, will continue to be our highest priority.

In 2017, the Sheriff's South Station proudly served the residents and visitors of southern San Luis Obispo County. South Patrol Division covers

850 square miles with a population of approximately 40,000 people living in the communities of Oceano, Nipomo, unincorporated Arroyo Grande, Los Berros, New Cuyama, Huasna Valley, Blacklake-Callender and the Woodlands.

The South Station is staffed with a commander, two sergeants, four senior deputies, 19 Sheriff's deputies, one reserve Sheriff's deputy and two legal clerks. South Station members of the Sheriff's Auxiliary Volunteer Patrol (SAVP) provide additional preventative patrol resources within our area of responsibility.

In 2017, South Station patrol staff responded to reported criminal activity ranging from homicide to theft of property from unlocked vehicles. While crimes of violence remain a small percentage of the calls for service received by the deputies of the South Station, they have significant impact on our community and are always handled as a top priority and investigated

thoroughly and professionally. More frequently, South Station deputies are called upon to investigate crimes involving the theft of property, public disturbances, drug abuse and other circumstances that erode the peace in our neighborhoods

For 2018, our commitment to prevention of crime will be strengthened by effective partnerships built within our community. Engagement of community service groups, business groups and homeowners' associations in Neighborhood Watch programs, campus crime prevention programs, and rural crime prevention programs will enhance communication of safety and security concerns directly from the community. Addressing these concerns, and developing strategies to mitigate them, will continue to be our highest priority.



COAST STATION

THE COAST PATROL DIVISION

provides law enforcement service for all unincorporated areas on the coast, from Avila Beach to the Monterey County line. This area encompasses the communities of San Simeon, Cambria, Cayucos, Los Osos, Baywood Park, Avila Beach, and the unincorporated area of San Luis Obispo. The San Luis Obispo County Airport and the Diablo Nuclear Power Plant are also contained in the confines of Coast Patrol Division.

The patrol station is currently staffed by one commander, two sergeants, six senior deputies, 16 deputy sheriffs assigned to patrol and two legal clerks. While most of the deputies are tasked with providing patrol-based service to the community, there are also deputies assigned as school resource deputies, rural crime deputies, canine handlers, airport security and a station

investigator who focuses on comprehensive follow-up investigations.

In 2016, Coast Patrol Division experienced a significant reduction in property crimes. Comparing 2017 to 2016 from January through November, we saw an 18% reduction in burglaries and a 39% reduction in thefts. Many of these thefts occurred at trail head parking lots. Successful strategies to reduce car burglaries at these locations included video surveillance, signs to advise the public that the lot is under surveillance and increased patrol.

Problems associated with transient camps have also plagued the Coast area. Forested areas were dumping grounds for trash, streams were dammed and fire hazards were common due to open camp fires and cigarette smoking. Illegal camping and wanton littering damaged the environment. Renewed and sustained efforts have addressed these problematic locations particularly in Los Osos and Cambria. Strict enforcement of

recurring violators coupled with the assistance provided by the Community Action Team has resulted in positive results and a reduction of illegal transient camps and activities. In addition, working alongside of community services districts and concerned citizen groups has provided true community policing to address transient associated problems.

During 2017, Coast Patrol Division deputies responded to major events, including the Cambria Bridge Street fire, the rescue of a 12-year-old girl at Ragged Point, and numerous instances where suicidal subjects were successfully saved due to the skill and abilities from responding deputies. Deputies also engaged in successful follow-up investigations, particularly burglaries of storage locations, where property worth thousands of dollars was recovered due to the tenacity of our deputies. Coast Patrol Division deputies will continue to be proactive to protect and to serve our community.



WATCH COMMANDER

THE WATCH COMMANDER'S OFFICE

is located in the Emergency Operations Center directly adjacent to the Sheriff's Dispatch Center. Sheriff's sergeants staff the office 24 hours per day, and Sheriff's commanders staff the office during the evening hours to increase the field supervision of patrol deputies. The Watch Commander's Office is the single point of contact for all county departments and services after business hours, on weekends and on holidays.

THE WATCH COMMANDER'S OFFICE HAS THE PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITY OF OVERSEEING DISPATCH SERVICES AND PATROL OPERATIONS ON A DAILY BASIS.

The Office also serves as the point of contact for the entire county with the Federal National Warning System (NAWAS) and the California State Warning Center, which provide communications to our county in the event of a natural disaster or terrorist attack. The watch commander also handles all local notifications during critical incidents and natural disasters, including but not limited to the county's

Bomb Task Force, Sheriff's Special Enforcement Detail, Search and Rescue, Dive Team, Aero Squadron and the Sheriff's Detective Division.

The Watch Commander's Office is the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant's primary law enforcement point of contact during any unusual events or critical incidents occurring at the plant. During an emergency, the watch commander is authorized to activate the County Emergency Alert System (EAS) including Reverse 9-1-1, area sirens, and EAS messages on commercial radio and television.



THE SHERIFF'S DISPATCH CENTER

is a Primary Public Safety Answering Point responsible for all 9-1-1 calls in San Luis Obispo County, the City of Arroyo Grande and the City of Morro Bay, as well as communication and dispersal of information among the public, law enforcement, paramedics and numerous county/state departments. The Dispatch Center is also responsible for receiving calls for service from the public and dispatching law enforcement, probation, ambulances, EMS Helicopters and other agency personnel to the respective calls, which contributes to the several thousand incoming and outgoing calls handled by the Sheriff's Dispatch Center each year. The Sheriff's Dispatch Center is staffed with EMD (Emergency Medical Dispatch) certified dispatchers 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Beyond their daily duties, dispatchers are involved in community outreach.

The dispatchers attend special events and the county fair, handing out information about the importance of 9-1-1 and when this number should be used. The children get to meet Red E. Fox, the "9-1-1 for Kids" mascot.

In 2017, the Sheriff's Dispatch Center answered 46,436 9-1-1 phone calls. The calls were answered in ten seconds or less more than 99.5% of the time. The California State standard is 90%. The Dispatch Center handled more than 253,911 phone calls and created 130,180 incidents for service, and created and dispatched approximately 28,715 medical calls for service.

In 2017, the Sheriff's Dispatch Center implemented texting to 9-1-1; this is the first step towards Next Gen 9-1-1. The Sheriff's Office was the first in the Tri Counties to offer this feature to the residents of San Luis Obispo County. Texting to 9-1-1 will be helpful for the hearing impaired or situations in which a victim cannot talk due to safety concerns.

Technologically, the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) mobile and mapping

program is a Trittech system. The Trittech software gives dispatchers the ability to create incidents and direct the closest, most appropriate emergency personnel to calls for service. The 9-1-1 system is an AIRBUS Vesta VoIP 9-1-1 phone system. This system was installed to be ready to handle the next generation of 9-1-1.

46,436
Calls answered

130,180
Incidents for service

99.5%
Calls answered in less than 10 seconds

CANINE UNIT



260
Deployments

38
Assisted Other Agencies

724
Searches

18
Apprehensions

85
Arrests

3
Apprehension Bite



8,982.8
Grams of Marijuana

2,753.2
Grams of Methamphetamine

231.2
Grams of Heroin



CANINE UNIT

THE MISSION

of the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office Canine Unit is to support department operations by providing the expertise necessary to effectively search for outstanding suspects, missing persons, narcotics and evidence, while enhancing officer safety and providing outstanding service to the community.

The Canine Unit consists of Handler Deputy Mark Souza and Canine Gonzo assigned to South Station; Handler Deputy Bryan Love and Canine Hondo assigned to North Station's interior valley covering Shandon, Creston and California Valley areas; Handler Deputy John Franklin and Canine Jacco assigned to North Station; and Handler Deputy Josh Peet and Canine DJ

assigned to Coast Station. Handler Kelsey Williams and Canine Dutch assigned to the Custody Division while also providing assistance to the Special Operations Unit.

Canines Gonzo, Jacco, Hondo, DJ, Dutch and Jack continually enhance their narcotics detection training and are all certified by the California Narcotics Canine Association as 100% proficient in their detection of cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin, opium and marijuana odors.

Canines Gonzo, Jacco, Hondo and DJ are also certified by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) and the California Narcotics Canine Association (CNCA) in the skillsets of obedience, apprehension, and handler protection.

ALL CANINES WITHIN THE UNIT HAVE BEEN DEPLOYED FOR TWO TO SIX YEARS, EXEMPLIFYING SUPERIOR LAW ENFORCEMENT PERFORMANCE AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.



GANG TASK FORCE

THE SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

established the Gang Task Force (GTF) in 1989 as an effort to curb the violence and destruction that criminal street gangs have on communities. The focus of the Gang Task Force is to make a positive difference through outreach and education, identifying criminal street gang members and their activities, and appropriately applying law enforcement efforts to stop the criminal activity.

Currently, there are 772 documented gang members in San Luis Obispo County and 55 documented criminal street gangs. These include White Supremacist Gangs, Hispanic Gangs, Black Gangs, Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs, International Gangs, and others.

In 2017, four "Street Team" members were added to the Gang Task Force, increasing field contact with gang

members. The Street Team members are Sheriff's Deputies, Probation Officers, and a Pismo Beach Police Officer who patrol communities in San Luis Obispo County, focusing their enforcement and education efforts on criminal street gang members. These Sheriff's Deputies and Probation Officers are working hard to reduce and eliminate the effects criminal street gangs have on the communities in San Luis Obispo County.

GTF has also been assigned a Vertical Prosecutor by the San Luis Obispo County District Attorney's Office. This means that GTF investigators can work with the District Attorney's Office to ensure gang cases are prosecuted appropriately.

2017 brought the return of Fentanyl; a highly potent opiate that has caused numerous overdoses in drug users and law enforcement due to accidental exposure. Depending on its potency, .01 of a gram of Fentanyl could be a fatal dose. In 2017, GTF seized approximately 24 grams of Fentanyl that was surely slated for distribution on the streets, potentially saving numerous lives.

In 2017, as part of the Gang Task Force's effort to control the effects of criminal street gangs, GTF conducted investigations that led to the seizure of:

- 2.87 pounds of methamphetamine
- 1.47 pounds of heroin
- 207.94 grams of cocaine
- 13 Firearms

Those investigations led to the arrest of 76 suspects.

Additionally in 2017, members of GTF have been working with California Assemblyman Jordan Cunningham's Office to pursue legislation that would protect victims and witnesses in gang-related crimes by keeping their name and contact information confidential, hoping that if this law is passed, witnesses and victims in gang related crimes will be safer and more likely to cooperate with law enforcement.



SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT DETAIL

THE SHERIFF'S SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT DETAIL (SED)

is a highly trained and specially equipped tactical team. The team is designed to resolve critical incidents that include hostage situations, barricaded suspects, armed suicidal subjects, crowd control and high-risk warrant service.

The team was formed in the 1970s in response to the civil unrest occurring at that time. In 2003, the partnership with the Atascadero Police Department expanded the size of the team to deal with the increasing threat of terrorism. SED has trained extensively at the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant and has become an integral part of emergency response in San Luis Obispo County.

Assignment to SED is a collateral duty for all personnel, in addition to that

member's primary assignment with the department. SED members attend at least 20 hours of monthly training, as well as specialized tactical schools throughout the state.

The specialized equipment supplied to SED includes highly accurate weapons, less-lethal munitions, and armored rescue vehicles. Whenever SED is activated, the Sheriff's Tactical Negotiations Team (TNT) also responds. Most critical incidents are resolved through negotiations carried out by TNT rather than with force.

THE SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT DETAIL CONTINUES TO GROW AND ADAPT WITH A FOCUS ON PROVIDING THE CITIZENS OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY ONE OF THE BEST TACTICAL TEAMS IN THE STATE.

This year, SED took delivery of new rifles for the entry team. These new weapons replaced those that were more than 30 years old. The team also continued to integrate the Sheriff's canines and now uses them regularly during call outs. This year's SED Team deployments included high-risk arrest and search warrants, and barricaded subjects. In addition, SED members maintained a secure perimeter for four straight days during an extensive Detective operation. All SED operations were completed with the team having met their objectives successfully.



A FUNCTION OF THE OPERATIONS DIVISION

at the Sheriff's Office is the Crime Prevention and Public Information Unit. This office is staffed by two crime prevention specialists and a public information officer. The crime prevention specialists are each assigned to a specific area and cross-trained to support the entire organization.

The rural crime specialist coordinates with the three rural crime deputies assigned to North, Coast and South Patrol Stations. The specialist presents crime prevention information and follow-up support to the ranching and agricultural communities — Farm and Ranch Watch programs, the Owner Applied Number Program, local Cattlemen & Women groups, the Mid-State Fair and the Farm Bureau. This specialist also assists in maintaining the department's Facebook page and Twitter account, and provides support to the public information officer.

In dealing with traditional programs, the crime prevention specialists maintains all the Neighborhood Watch programs in the unincorporated areas of the county, supporting and maintaining more than 30 established groups and training others. In addition, they are responsible for the annual Citizens Academy and Sheriff's Auxiliary Volunteer Patrol Academy, children's programs, internet safety programs for youth, security surveys for home and business, and public displays at community events. They also handle the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design review of new developments and construction.

The role of the Public Information Officer has changed dramatically over the past few years with added responsibilities and functions and it continues to evolve. The PIO still serves as the primary liaison with local, national and international media for any news items that directly relate to the Sheriff's Office. Those responsibilities include writing and distributing press releases, generating story ideas and acting as the primary spokesperson for the Sheriff's Office.

The PIO is also responsible for the design and content of the Sheriff's Office official website, slosheriff.org. In addition, the PIO coordinates social media efforts on behalf of the Sheriff's Office including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram. Our social media outreach continues to provide transparency and communication with the community we proudly serve.

Social media is especially helpful with events like the at-risk missing person case in Los Osos in June. We were able to supply timely information to the public to be on the lookout for the missing person. The search ultimately came to a successful conclusion when members of the Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team located the missing man alive.

Other PIO responsibilities include developing public service announcements (PSAs), developing support services for the media, and assisting in scheduling speakers from the Sheriff's executive staff for service clubs and special event presentations.



NARCOTICS UNIT

THE SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

maintains the Narcotics Unit that consists of seven investigators supervised by a sergeant.

The Sheriff's Narcotics Unit investigates a wide variety of narcotic-related crimes. The most prevalent illegal narcotics available in the county are methamphetamine, cocaine and heroin. The unit employs a wide range of investigative techniques to combat this problem. Some common techniques are surveillance, use of informants, controlled purchases and wiretaps. In cases involving large-scale illegal drug sales where the proceeds can be located, asset forfeiture may be utilized.

In 2016, California voters passed an initiative to legalize recreational marijuana. The County of San Luis Obispo also passed an emergency ordinance to deal with the large volume

of medicinal marijuana cultivations that were springing up throughout the county.

The expansion of the medicinal marijuana cultivation has led to an increased need to spend man hours to ensure compliance. There continues to be a black market for illegally grown marijuana on federal, state and private property. Some of the most serious problems with those cultivations are the use of illegal pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and the diversion of water.

In 2017, the following seizure totals were made as the result of approximately 80 investigations by Sheriff's narcotics investigators. Some seizures were the result of multi-agency investigations and occurred throughout California.

Heroin	1.7 lbs
Cocaine	12.75 lbs
Methamphetamine	31.8 lbs
Processed marijuana	42.6 lbs
Marijuana plants	6,435 plants

The Sheriff's Narcotics Unit maintains a Clandestine Laboratory Team trained and certified by the state of California. Federal and state law require investigators who work with hazardous materials (HAZMAT), such as those found in clandestine drug laboratories, to complete a total of 80 hours of instruction. They learn how to safely process a clandestine laboratory site for evidence as part of their investigation and to ensure their compliance with the various environmental and safety regulations that apply to clan lab seizure and dismantling. These investigators must then receive ongoing training in this field to maintain their certification. Clandestine labs are most often associated with methamphetamine manufacturing, but can include the manufacture of other drugs such as honey oil extraction, steroids and organic hallucinogenic compounds (Dimethyltryptamine).

In the interest of protecting children who are exposed to drugs, drug manufacturing and the dangers that exist with this activity, the Sheriff's Office participates in the California



The Sheriff's Narcotics Unit also responds to ongoing maritime smuggling operations involving Panga boats. Drug trafficking organizations are utilizing the boats for drugs and human trafficking in coastal counties in California. In 2014 and 2015, San Luis Obispo County consistently had one of the highest numbers of confirmed Panga boat landings in the state of California. Due to aggressive detection and prosecution, no known boats landed nor were interdicted in 2017.

Multi-Jurisdictional Methamphetamine Enforcement Team (Cal-MMET) Program. The Cal-MMET grant funds two Sheriff's narcotics investigators who receive specialized training in the field of Drug Endangered Children (DEC) investigations. Many DEC investigations involve a multi-agency approach to developing strategies to protect children. Sheriff's investigators work closely with the District Attorney's Office and the Department of Social Services to keep children safe and prosecute those who would expose them to the dangers of illicit drugs.

The unit recently completed a 16-month investigation that included three wire taps, controlled buys, undercover buys and hundreds of hours of surveillance. That case resulted in the seizure of approximately 75 pounds of methamphetamine, heroin and cocaine combined, and led to the indictments of roughly 20 people for a variety of drug charges.

1.7
Pounds of Heroin

12.75
Pounds of Cocaine

31.8
Pounds of Methamphetamine

42.6
Pounds of Processed Marijuana



THE BOMB TASK FORCE, FORMED IN 1981,

is currently comprised of four members, three of whom are Sheriff's Office Deputies and one of whom is a San Luis Obispo Police Officer. The Bomb Task Force assignment is a collateral duty, with each team member working various full time positions with his or her respective agency.

The Task Force is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of members of the Criminal Justice Administrators Association of San Luis Obispo County:

- The County Sheriff
- The Chiefs of Police of each municipal police agency within this County
- The Chief of Police, California State Polytechnic University

Each team member is required to be a certified Hazardous Devices (Bomb) Technician, having gone through a thorough background check conducted by the FBI and training at the Federal Bureau of Investigation Hazardous Devices School, located at Redstone Arsenal Army Base in Huntsville, Alabama.

CAPABILITIES & PROCEDURES

The San Luis Obispo County Bomb Task Force is accredited by the FBI and is certified as a fully operational bomb squad, capable of rendering safe and disposing of improvised explosive devices, military ordnance, and commercially manufactured explosives able to respond to all bomb or explosive related incidents within San Luis Obispo County and upon a mutual aid request, to areas outside the County of San Luis Obispo. This Task Force works in conjunction with various State and Federal law enforcement agencies including the California Highway Patrol, State Parks and Recreation Department,

Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, United States Postal Inspectors, and Department of Homeland Security.

A team member is continuously on call and the Task Force is available 24/7 by calling the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Dispatch non-emergency number at (805) 781-4550, opt. 3. Emergency situations may dictate a 911 call through the local law enforcement agency of jurisdiction.

2017 CALLS FOR SERVICE

IN 2017, THE TASK FORCE RESPONDED TO 36 EXPLOSIVE DEVICES, OR BOMB-RELATED CALLS, THROUGHOUT SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY.

The explosive related calls consisted of hoax devices, IED's, military ordnance, illegal fireworks, and suspicious chemical devices.



HONOR GUARD

PROPERTY ROOM

THIS IS THE FOURTH FULL YEAR

that the Sheriff's Honor Guard has served the Sheriff's Office and San Luis Obispo County community. The team is made up of 16 volunteer members of the Sheriff's Office, who regularly to maintain their skills.

IN 2017, THE SHERIFF'S HONOR GUARD ATTENDED NUMEROUS FUNCTIONS FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE, SUCH AS AWARD CEREMONIES, BADGE PINNING AND PROMOTIONAL CEREMONIES.

The team also attended several funerals for peace officers killed in the line of duty, the State of California's Peace Officer's Memorial in Sacramento, the San Luis Obispo County Peace Officer's Memorial, Honor Flight and Operation Surf for veterans, September 11 memorial functions, police academy graduation and correctional academy graduation.

WE ARE CURRENTLY STAFFED WITH THREE PROPERTY OFFICERS,

two full-time and one part-time. Our Property Officers are responsible for safe and secure storage, record keeping and disposition of property and evidence submitted to them by the Sheriff's Office. Property is stored for a variety of reasons, including items that are found or recovered, evidence, and for safekeeping.

Our Property Officers are also responsible for picking up property at the Sheriff's three patrol stations throughout the county and destroying property that is no longer needed to be held as evidence.

WE CONTINUE TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT NEW WAYS OF IMPROVING OUR ORGANIZATION.

This will be a continued effort in years to come but we have shown great progress throughout 2017.



RURAL CRIMES UNIT

THE MISSION OF THE SHERIFF'S RURAL CRIMES UNIT (RCU)

is to enforce laws and investigate crimes impacting agriculture and rural industries. The RCU also provides crime prevention techniques and strategies to the farmers and ranchers of San Luis Obispo County.

RCU deputies receive specific training in agricultural crime investigation. One RCU deputy is assigned to each patrol station within the Sheriff's Office jurisdiction. In addition to specific training, deputies are members of the California Rural Crime Prevention Task Force and the Central Coast Rural Crime Task Force. Deputies attend meetings and training on a regular basis and host the quarterly California Rural Crime Prevention Task Force (CRCPTF) meeting once per year in San Luis Obispo County. Members of the RCU have served as instructors during the CRCPTF Rural Crime School.

Frequent meetings are held with agricultural community groups in San Luis Obispo County. These groups include the SLO County Farm Bureau, Cattlewomen and Cattlemen's Associations, and the Farm Bureau Women's Groups. During these meetings, the RCU shares information regarding crime trends affecting the agricultural community. These meetings also provides the opportunity for the RCU to make crime prevention recommendations such as the formation of a "ranch watch" group or completing a ranch/farm security survey conducted by our rural crime prevention specialist.

Another valuable tool in crime prevention is the Owner Applied Number Program (OAN), which can be customized to each individual, farmer or rancher. OANs are applied to machinery and heavy equipment, then placed in a nationwide law enforcement database at no cost. Providing OANs to machinery and equipment provides the RCU with a valuable tool to identify and recover stolen equipment.

**IN 2017, THE RCU
INVESTIGATED
MORE THAN 200
AGRICULTURAL CASES.**

These cases included burglary, vandalism of property and equipment, theft of equipment, seeds, and commodities, animal neglect, and killing of livestock. The RCU executed multiple search warrants related to rural crime and collaborated with law enforcement agencies throughout the state to further local investigations and assist with outside agency investigations.

One of the many commodity thefts investigated this past year involved stolen broccoli seeds from a local seed growing company. \$22,000 of stolen broccoli seeds was recovered in Nipomo after Deputies were alerted of their attempted sale on Facebook. After a thorough investigation, the RCU Deputies located the suspects attempting to sell the stolen goods, and returned the seeds to the original selling company.



Deputies also investigated a case of animal neglect that involved the seizure of 11 horses from the California Valley area. RCU Deputies determined through investigation that these horses were not receiving adequate food, water or medical treatment, and charges have since been filed against the owner of these animals.

In addition to the horse neglect case, the Rural Crime Unit investigated a possible residence in which roosters were being trained as fighting birds. Deputies discovered an enclosed area containing several roosters on a property located in rural Los Osos. The roosters located inside all had their combs clipped and spurs cut, marks of roosters who have been prepared to fight. Given the evidence found at the residence and the prior history of the owner of the birds, the case was forwarded to the District Attorney's Office for filing of charges against the owner of the birds for cruelty to animals.

**IN THE COMING YEAR, THE
SHERIFF'S RCU IS LOOKING
FORWARD TO UTILIZING
NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND
STRENGTHENING
PARTNERSHIPS TO DELIVER
EFFECTIVE AND
PROFESSIONAL LAW
ENFORCEMENT SERVICES
TO THE GREATER
AGRICULTURAL
COMMUNITY OF SAN LUIS
OBISPO COUNTY.**



MARINE ENFORCEMENT UNIT

THE MARINE ENFORCEMENT UNIT (MEU)

consists of six deputies, one sergeant and one commander. The MEU provides enforcement at Lake Nacimiento and Lake Lopez, working closely with rangers from both San Luis Obispo and Monterey counties. With an eye toward education and boating safety, deputies contact dozens of boaters each day they patrol the county lakes.

WITH AN EYE TOWARD EDUCATION AND BOATING SAFETY, DEPUTIES CONTACT DOZENS OF BOATERS EACH DAY THEY PATROL THE COUNTY LAKES.

In addition to local lakes, the coastline of San Luis Obispo County extends south from Big Sur to the Santa Maria River, just north of Point Sal. Along these 90 miles of coastline is the Diablo Canyon Power Plant, just north of Avila Beach.

The MEU is equipped to provide consistent enforcement patrols in the waters off of San Luis Obispo utilizing the newest vessel in the fleet, a 27' Defender Class patrol boat built by SAFE Boats international of Bremerton, Washington.

Purchased to help combat the threat of smuggling facing coastal communities, federal grant money was obtained to purchase this fully equipped patrol boat to conduct inshore and offshore patrols. First placed into service in January 2015, this vessel has conducted more than 250 hours of patrol operations. Panga boat smuggling along the San Luis Obispo County coastline continues to present a challenge to law enforcement. The MEU is now better equipped to work with the Sheriff's Office Dive Team, the narcotics detectives and our state and federal partners with the interdiction and safe removal of Panga boats from our county beaches. Timely removal of a Panga boat minimizes the adverse environmental impact upon the shoreline and significantly reduces man-hours and costs associated with other forms of removal.

The Defender Class boat is complimented by a Rogue Jet Boatworks 25' patrol boat and a 22' Zodiac Hurricane rigid-hulled inflatable boat.

The MEU continues to provide training support, in the form of vessels and operators, to the Sheriff's Office Dive Team and the Special Enforcement Detail. Separate training for both units was conducted in and around Port San Luis and Morro Bay during the year, and the MEU provides a stable platform for the Dive Team's side-scan sonar unit used for subsurface searches. Additional support was provided to the Sheriff's Office Dive Team in June for the search of a fisherman presumed drowned about one mile outside of the entrance to Port San Luis. Members of the MEU participated at community outreach events like Sheriff's Day at the Ranch, Cayucos' Lost at Sea Memorial, Cops 'n Kids Day, State Division of Boating and Waterways' Life Jacket Trade-In and the Sheriff's Office G.R.E.A.T. camps at local schools. Additionally, the MEU provided support to the United States Coast Guard with vessel safety inspections in the waters off Morro Bay and Avila Beach.



DURING THE 2016/2017 SCHOOL YEAR,

School Resource Deputies taught the Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) program in elementary schools throughout the unincorporated areas of the county.

The San Luis Obispo County Juvenile Probation Department also partnered with the Sheriff's Office and San Luis Obispo County Drug and Alcohol Services "Friday Night Live" Team to plan and run three San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office Youth Summer Camps. The three camps were held at Dana Elementary School, Cayucos Elementary School and Lillian Larsen Elementary School.

During these week-long camps, students participated in fun events like Tie-Dye Team T-shirts, Tug-a-War and the Carpet Square Game, and

experienced assemblies including a magician, a dance group from Los Angeles and a motivational movie.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT DAY
WAS A DAY AT CAMP IN
WHICH THE SHERIFF'S
OFFICE AND OTHER LAW
ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES
DISPLAYED THEIR
SPECIALTY UNITS FOR
STUDENTS TO LEARN
ABOUT AND EXPERIENCE
FIRSTHAND.**

The last day of camp was Graduation Day. The kids enjoyed Santa Maria BBQ and participated in a graduation ceremony.

All three camps were a huge success. Funded by the Sheriff's Office, these camps were free for all 307 students who attended. The Sheriff's Office is already in the planning stages for the camps that will be held in the summer of 2018.

In 2017, the Sheriff's Office took over sponsorship of the Central Coast Law Enforcement Explorer Competition. This year, the competition was held at Lillian Larsen Elementary School. Over a three-day period, the Explorers participated in 22 separate events on which they were graded on law enforcement scenarios, Tug of War, relay races and an obstacle course. There were 12 agencies from around the state of California consisting of 120 Explorers and 44 advisors who attended the competition. Because of the overwhelming success of the competition, the Sheriff's Office will also be hosting the Explorer competition in 2018.



BICYCLE PATROL

THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE BICYCLE PATROL TEAM

is a specialty team comprised of deputies within the Sheriff's Office who are available to augment patrol and fill a niche between foot and vehicle patrol. The Bicycle Patrol Team is well suited to handle and deal with large events and large crowds spread out over a vast area. These types of events occur regularly throughout San Luis Obispo County and include parades, holiday events, festivals, races and other special events.

DEPUTIES ON BICYCLES CAN COVER A LARGER AREA THAN A DEPUTY ON FOOT AND CAN NAVIGATE CROWDED AREAS WHERE A PATROL CAR'S MOBILITY WOULD BE SEVERELY RESTRICTED, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE.

Frequently, in this type of environment, the bicycle patrol deputy can respond to a call for service faster than a foot patrol or patrol car deputy. Additionally, by using bicycle patrol deputies, it is easier for the public to approach and speak with a deputy, which enhances positive community relationships.

The Bicycle Patrol Team deputies train together as a team twice a year. Trainings build on basic bicycle riding skills and develops patrol-specific riding skills. The team's instructor and supervisor work together to develop training that will successfully prepare the team for any bicycle patrol assignments. For example, one of our training exercises requires riders to navigate a cone obstacle course set up to represent a crowded area with tight turns.

In 2017, the Sheriff's Bicycle Patrol Team had an opportunity to assist the Morro Bay Police Department and their bicycle patrol team. Morro Bay hosted the Amgen Tour of California bike race Stage 3 finish. This is an annual race drawing professional riders and teams

from all over the world, as well as very large crowds and heavy media coverage. The team helped control vehicle and pedestrian traffic and closed roads and intersections for the safety of the public and race participants. In the end, Morro Bay had a very successful event that highlighted the beauty of their town and wonderful community.

The Bicycle Patrol Team deployed for several other events over the past year. These include: the spontaneous peaceful protest marches involving thousands of people converging on downtown San Luis Obispo in January, assisting Cal Poly Police Department with a large-scale event, and the Sheriff's Office CAMP summer program for youths at schools throughout the county. We also participated in Los Osos' Bike-to-School day; the students learned about bike safety and bike team deputies also rode to school with them. Our largest event, the Independence Day celebration in Cayucos, requires the full team to cover events from the morning parade to the evening firework show and late into the



night as the crowd slowly disperses. This 4th of July in Cayucos, two team members even took the time to help reunite a lost dog with its owners.

This year, the Bicycle Patrol Team lost several long-time bicycle patrol team deputies as they moved into new assignments in the Sheriff's Office. They will be missed. Several new bicycle patrol deputies have been added to the team to fill the vacancies left by the departing deputies, and we were able to fill their positions and other vacancies. This is the first time in several years that we have had the team completely staffed with twelve bicycle patrol deputies.

The Bicycle Patrol Team received a Thule bicycle rack donation from Art and Joyce Duarte. The Sheriff's Advisory Foundation (SAF) helped facilitate this donation and played an important role in the transfer of the private donation to the Sheriff's Office. The Thule hitch mount bike rack is an important step forward as the Sheriff's Office

transitions from trunk mounted racks on our Chevy Caprice to hitch mounted racks on our new Chevy Tahoe patrol vehicles. The Sheriff's Office greatly appreciates the Duarte's donation and support of the SAF.

**THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE IS
GRATEFUL TO THOSE WHO
DEDICATED THEIR SERVICE
TO THE TEAM AND
EXTENDS A WARM
WELCOME TO THOSE WHO
HAVE JOINED THE TEAM TO
TAKE ON THEIR
RESPONSIBILITIES.**

SEARCH AND RESCUE

THE SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Search and Rescue (SLOSAR) Team is made up of volunteer members from our community who are trained and certified in Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) and Health Care Provider CPR, the Incident Command System (ICS), communications, extensive search techniques and procedures, rope rescue skills, the map, compass and Global Positioning System (GPS) and wilderness tracking and survival. All Members are certified by National Association of Search and Rescue (NASAR) in SAR Technician II.

SLOSAR IS ONE OF ONLY A FEW CALIFORNIA COUNTIES THAT DEVELOPED AND MAINTAINS THEIR OWN CALIFORNIA EMS CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDER PROGRAM.

This license allows SLOSAR trained EMS Staff to re-certify EMT's through the State and evaluate skills at the State and National level. The SLOSAR Medical Team also instructs CPR trainings for our volunteer members and several other departments within the Sheriff's Office.

SLOSAR now has a strong Type 1 search team. The Type 1 team can be deployed throughout California in extreme and/or snow search conditions for mutual aid purposes. This team will be an asset to California and further our important relationships with other Counties.

In 2018, SLOSAR will have a Type 3 Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team and an "Operational Disaster Response Guide" that will make SLOSAR an important resource in the event of a Disaster in our county or elsewhere in the state.

New members are probationary for a period of 12-18 months. Experienced SLOSAR team members train probationary members. Before completing the probationary period, a

new member must gain proficiency in all of the skills described.

Many members have acquired advanced skills in search theory, management, operations, logistics management, advanced GPS computer mapping and advanced technical rescue. Some members have created trainings that have been recognized nationwide and others are developing trainings that will enhance and increase the skill levels of their teammates.

SLOSAR HAS AN OUT OF COUNTY INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM THAT COULD DEPLOY TO ANOTHER COUNTY AND PROVIDE ASSISTANCE OR GUIDANCE ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THEIR SEARCH.



SLOSAR's currently has 59 members. While all members of SLOSAR are proficient in ground searching, most have chosen to be part of a specialty team within the SLOSAR team.

The specialty teams within SLOSAR include:

- Ground Search Teams
- 4X4 and ATV Teams
- Communications/Dispatching
- Mountain Bike Team
- Technical Rope Rescue Team
- K9 Team (area searching, trailing, and cadaver)
- Medical Team (20+ members rated at EMT or higher)
- Tracking Team
- USAR Disaster Team
- "Project Lifesaver" Team

SLOSAR also supports the Sheriff's Office by participating in crime scene searches and equipment support.

Some of the specialty equipment and vehicles available and supported by SLOSAR are:

- 26' communication-command vehicle
- Detailed (topo) county maps and computer mapping (Terrain Navigator Pro)
- 4X4 tow vehicle
- Generators and light towers
- 40' medical trailer
- Command trailers
- Crew/rehab Trailer
- ATV/Quads
- Cal OES Communications MIGU
- Mountain bikes
- Metal detector equipment
- Humvee

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

SLOSAR members are very involved with our community. Throughout the year, they serve as medical stand-by and

first aid stations for adventure races, assist with community events such as Sheriff's Day at the Ranch or Cops 'n' Kids Day, and participate in the San Luis Obispo Christmas Parade. SLOSAR participates in approximately 14 public events each year.

SEARCH MISSIONS

In 2017, SLOSAR received 26 search callouts: 10 missing persons, three mutual aid requests (one from Santa Barbara County, one from Amador County, one from Ventura County), one evidence search, two TRT requests, four calls to assist other agencies within our County, and seven additional missing person requests which were cancelled prior to the team's arrival.

The cost saved by San Luis Obispo County for enjoying a professional search and rescue volunteer team is approximately \$2,000 per hour. The cost saved by San Luis Obispo County for all volunteer time, which includes missions, training, meetings, and special events, is estimated at \$4.2 million per year.



SAVP

THE SHERIFF'S AUXILIARY VOLUNTEER PATROL (SAVP)

was established to assist the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office in meeting its law enforcement mission.

**SAVP MEMBERS SPENT
MORE THAN 7,000 HOURS IN
VARIOUS TYPES OF PUBLIC
SERVICE AND PREVENTION
ACTIVITIES OVER THE
COURSE OF 2017.**

The SAVP is trained in a variety of law enforcement topics, including observation skills, radio procedures, CPR and first-aid. They provide supplemental patrol in our neighborhoods and business districts, including removing graffiti throughout San Luis Obispo

County. SAVP's also act as additional "eyes and ears" in an effort to identify and report potential crime problems, resulting in an increase in public safety.

Aside from graffiti abatement and patrolling the streets, auxiliary patrol members perform more than 200 residential vacation checks annually, and regularly assist the Crime Prevention Unit at public displays and events in order to enhance crime prevention education.

SAVP's are also utilized to assist with emergency situations that occur, such as a search for a missing person or other types of unforeseen circumstances. SAVP's play an important role in assisting with the "Operation Lifesaver" program by regularly changing the batteries for these devices used by program participants, increasing their safety and providing time to visit with them.

The SAVP's are a partnership between law enforcement and the public, and they increase the impact that the Sheriff's Office has in preserving our high quality of life in San Luis Obispo County.



SHERIFF'S POSSE

IT WAS AN ACTIVE YEAR FOR THE SHERIFF'S POSSE.

**11 REGULAR MEMBERS
AND FOUR ACTIVE
HONORARY MEMBERS
VOLUNTEERED A TOTAL OF
723 HOURS IN 2017.**

The Sheriff's Posse participated in six parades (San Miguel's Sagebrush Days, Templeton's Independence Day, Cambria's Pinedorado, Arroyo Grande Harvest Festival, Paso Robles Pioneer Days, Atascadero's Colony Days), Jr. Ranger and G.R.E.A.T. camps, Sheriff's Family Day at the Ranch and Cops N' Kids Field Day.

The Unit patrolled the Cal Poly Rodeo, the Templeton 4th of July concert in the park, the Mid State Fair, the Creston Rodeo and the Beer Fest in San Luis Obispo.

The Unit also participated at the Operation Readiness Drill, the department's assessment day for coordinated efforts by all volunteer units, and provided co-unit training to Search and Rescue probationary members as part of their required training so both units can safely work together when the Posse unit is called to assist with a search.



AERO SQUADRON

THE SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SHERIFF'S AERO SQUADRON

is an all-volunteer organization composed of licensed pilots and non-pilot trained observers attached to the County Sheriff's Office to support its airborne search, rescue, surveillance and specialized transportation functions.

THE AERO SQUADRON IS CALLED UPON TO ASSIST GROUND SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAMS SEARCHING FOR MISSING PERSONS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY.

Missing persons have typically included inexperienced hikers, hunters, off-road mountain bicyclers, motorcyclists, ATV enthusiasts, lost children and elderly people, especially including those with mental, emotional or age-induced challenges. The Squadron has also been involved in the location and recovery of personal remains of those who have taken their own lives.

The Aero Squadron also provides an important airborne communication relay platform for ground search and law enforcement teams operating within the county's mountainous terrain and steep valleys. These areas normally block line-of-sight VHF radio transmission and reception between ground personnel.

ORBITING AERO SQUADRON AIRCRAFT CAN COMMUNICATE WITH SEARCH BASE AND REMOTE TEAMS, RELAYING CRITICAL INFORMATION ON A REAL-TIME BASIS.

Since its founding, Aero Squadron member-pilots have utilized their privately-owned aircrafts for mission support operations. Aircraft owners are reimbursed only for the aviation fuel and oil used in conjunction with assigned missions. Squadron aircraft-owners fly their own aircraft as Pilot-in-Command. Other pilots may fly as a Flight Officer or Observer-only.

The Sheriff's Office and County completed the approval of Aero Squadron-nominated pilots who possess the requisite certifications and experience to fly as Pilot-in-Command. Aero Squadron-nominated Flight Officer candidates are currently being evaluated and approved.

In 2016, the Sheriff's Office acquired a 1982 Cessna 182 Skylane from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's intent is to place this aircraft into Search and Rescue service to minimize the use of privately owned aircraft.

The aircraft was in relatively good condition, but its engine and propeller were approaching operational life-limits and has since been replaced with a factory-remanufactured engine, a new propeller hub and overhauled blades. This work was entirely funded by Sheriff's Advisory Foundation donations.

The aircraft also had an aged avionics suite, which was functional but in need of upgrade to contemporary standards for the aircraft's intended missions. County funding for this work became



available in 2017 and the aircraft was delivered to Helicomm, an aircraft avionics installer at the Paso Robles airport in early August. Completion and delivery is expected in early January 2018.

Another key feature of this aircraft is its exterior, gimbal-mounted high resolution, high altitude camera system which will allow imaging of ground targets for better detection than the human eye which should significantly aid our search and rescue operations.

TRAINING

The Aero Squadron trains approximately two to three times each year with realistic mission scenarios typically involving up to six aircraft at one time. These involve personnel and vehicle location in remote parts of the county, typically in a missing person or vehicle surveillance scenario. The Squadron also takes part in the annual Operational Readiness Drill which involves all of the Sheriff's search and rescue assets including the ground search and rescue team and mounted posse.

AERO SQUADRON PUBLIC RELATIONS OPERATIONS

The Aero Squadron regularly attends community events such as the Farmer's Market Law Enforcement Appreciation Night, Sheriff's Family Day at the Ranch and the Citizen's Academy. One event in particular that was memorable for the unit was for a memorial operation. In March of 2017, five Aero Squadron aircraft involving twelve members and a Sheriff's Deputy conducted a memorial flyby over Mountain Brook Community Church in San Luis Obispo in honor of Matthew Frank, aka SLOSTRINGER, the son of one of our members. An ardent and extremely popular online reporter and photographer, Matthew tragically lost his life on Highway 101 while responding to a residential fire in Atascadero. Because of his avid interest in the Aero Squadron, Sheriff Parkinson was in the process of approving his application for membership as our first UAV (drone) pilot. At the conclusion of the memorial service with attendees outside the church, a flight of five Aero Squadron aircraft passed overhead at 1000 feet, continued over San Luis Obispo, turned around and returned,

performing the "Missing Man Formation" maneuver in which one of the aircraft abruptly pulled up and departed the formation to the right symbolizing the departure of the pilot from our lives. Following the service, a memorial luncheon was held at the Madonna Inn Convention Center attended by hundreds of people who were touched and affected by Matthew's life.

2017 TOTALS:

42
Flight Hours

1,147
Man Hours



DIVE TEAM

THE SHERIFF'S UNDERWATER SEARCH AND RECOVERY TEAM,

also known as the "Sheriff's Dive Team," is made up of 25 members, one Commander, one Sergeant, five Deputy Sheriffs, two Correctional Deputies, one Reserve Deputy and fifteen Civilian Volunteers. In January 2017, Dr. Kristopher Lyon MD, EMT, FACEP joined the team as the official medic.

The Search and Recovery Dive Team was called out six times in 2017:

JANUARY: Responded to a scene at Ragged Point to search for a man, a woman, and their two dogs that went over a 300-foot cliff in their vehicle.

APRIL: Located a 30-year-old drowning victim in the Channel Islands who had been paddle boarding and did not inflate his flotation device.

JUNE: Located a 47-year-old man who drowned after a Hobie Cat capsized 50 yards offshore in Lopez Lake.

JUNE: Called out to Port San Luis where there was a report of a "man overboard" approximately 1.5 miles off shore. By the time divers got on board and on scene the weather had worsened. Due to the depth, the weather, and the vastness of the area, the search was called off. The 29-year-old male from Arroyo Grande, has yet to be located.

SEPTEMBER: Searched under Highway 101 in Pismo Beach for a firearm that was allegedly thrown there by a fleeing suspect. It was determined that the investigating agency had been given false information.

NOVEMBER: Searched for an alleged missing woman that was thought to have fallen off a cliff near the Shell Beach area. After a lengthy search of the shore line, the search was called off when the woman was located safely on shore.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Dive team members frequently participated in community outreach programs throughout the county. School Resource Deputies hosted "Shandon Public Safety Day" at Shandon Junior High School. The Dive Team along with other county agencies presented their equipment and answered questions posed by students. Sheriff's Dive Team members also displayed their equipment at Farmer's Market Law Enforcement Appreciation Night, answered questions, and explained the role the team plays in the community. The G.R.E.A.T. Program (Gang Resistance Education and Training) runs every summer in the county at three elementary schools. In June and July of 2017, Dive Team members loaded up the Dive Team Truck and participated at all three of the graduations, allowing students the opportunity to get a first-hand glance at the equipment and specialty vehicle used for rescue missions.



Sheriff's Day at the Ranch at the Madonna Inn, and Cops 'n' Kids Day in Arroyo Grande are two events where several local law enforcement agencies throughout the county come together for family-friendly engagement. Hundreds of kids from across the county showed up and Dive Team members once again displayed their equipment, educated the public on the tasks and responsibilities of the team, and the role the unit plays in helping the community.

TRAINING

There were ten training sessions, an administrative meeting, and an all-day speaker's conference in 2017. Many of the active trainings involved scenarios of entering and exiting rocky surf zones, buoyancy control, swift water rescue skills, search patterns, black water diving, and dive safety. One particular



training, which is always a favorite of Dive Team members, is jumping out of CHP's H70 helicopter into the open water. Unocal, in Avila Beach, allowed their property to be used as the landing zone for this training. Divers were picked up, dropped in the ocean,

hoisted back into the helicopter, then flown back to shore. These severe trainings prepare the divers for the roughest conditions in the event an emergency situation like this occurs in our county.



THE SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE EXPLORER POST 781

is comprised of young men and women between the ages of 14 and 21 who are interested in discovering more about law enforcement and a possible career in the profession. The Explorer Post currently maintains a roster of 10 members and is officially chartered through the Boy Scouts of America.

Four advisors lend their expertise in training post members under the supervision of a deputy sergeant.

Responsibilities of the Explorer Post include:

- Assisting our country's veterans with parking and escorting at the Veteran's Day and Memorial Day services at the Los Osos Valley Memorial Cemetery

- Participating in the Cops 'n' Kids Day activities in Arroyo Grande
- Teaming up with deputies at the California Mid State Fair to assist with their assignments throughout the venue, and assisting at the fair's Sheriff's Booth
- Assisting with the Sheriff's Family Day at the Ranch activities
- Providing traffic and crowd control services to the annual Paso Robles Christmas Parade
- Providing youth leadership and small group training sessions at the Gang Resistance Education and Training Program (G.R.E.A.T.)
- Volunteering to assist with compliance operations with the Alcoholic Beverage Control Agency and the County of San Luis Obispo Tobacco Program
- Partnering with deputy teams for foot patrol at the 4th of July Fireworks Show in Cayucos
- Participating in several patrol unit ride-a-longs throughout the year
- Provide the Sheriff's Office with interpreting services

Weekly meetings provide scenario-based training and discussions on law enforcement duties, such as handling domestic violence calls, suspicious subject contact, vehicle traffic stops, felony car stops, report taking, and firearms handling and training. Members of Post 781 conduct building searches; apply fingerprinting techniques, handcuffing techniques and suspect pat-downs; engage in active shooter scenarios, hostage negotiations, and DUI sobriety examinations; and receive an introduction to canine handling techniques.

The Explorers are expected to maintain high levels of moral standards, discipline and understanding of the day-to-day functions of a Sheriff's Deputy, characteristics that will carry on throughout their career in law enforcement.

In 2017, the Explorer Post participated in the Central Coast Law Enforcement Competition in San Miguel. Competing against other explorers, they won several awards through their professionalism and determination. In 2018, the Explorer Post looks forward to competing in similar competitions throughout the state.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Watch Commander's Desk:
(805) 781-4553

General Business Line (Dispatch):
(805) 781-4550

Main Jail Information:
(805) 781-4600

North Patrol Station:
(805) 434-4290

Coast Patrol Station:
(805) 528-6083

South Patrol Station:
(805) 473-7100

FOR ALL EMERGENCIES
PLEASE DIAL 911

SLO SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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