

2018

ANNUAL REPORT

SLO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

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SHERIFF



I BELIEVE 2018 WAS A YEAR OF CHANGE HERE AT THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

While sometimes challenging, it is my firm belief that we have risen to the challenges and implemented innovative, positive changes this year.

One of the biggest changes is in the area of health services in our County Jail. In 2018 we hired a chief medical officer, and we began the process of outsourcing all medical, mental health, and dental services to a private in-custody health care company.

In 2018 we introduced an app to help in active shooter situations in schools. The Rave Panic Button app provides every school employee the ability to immediately connect to the 911 Dispatch Center for their school, and at the same time

communicate with the other employees on campus to alert them to the incident. Another technological change was the debut of our Sheriff's Office mobile phone app. It contains many of the same features available on our website and also features push notifications and alerts directly to your phone.

2018 saw major changes in personnel. Chief Deputy Ron Hastie retired after a 31-year career at the Sheriff's Office, and Undersheriff Tim Olivas retired after a long, distinguished career in law enforcement. We will miss them both and wish them well in their retirements. I was pleased to select Commander Jim Taylor for the Chief Deputy position, and Commander Jim Voge as Undersheriff.

One thing that didn't change? The dedication and commitment to providing safety and security to the citizens of San Luis Obispo County by the people who work and volunteer at the Sheriff's Office. We are truly leading the way!

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

IAN PARKINSON

San Luis Obispo County
Sheriff-Coroner

UNDERSHERIFF

LONGTIME UNDERSHERIFF TIM OLIVAS BIDS FAREWELL.

As I embark on a new chapter in life, I reflect on how I have been blessed in my law enforcement career. I have had the privilege of serving our communities with three different law enforcement agencies. I started my career at Allan Hancock Police Academy. Before graduation, I was hired by Morro Bay Police Department, a wonderful memory I will always carry with me. My dream job was to be a Game Warden with California Department of Fish & Game which I got the opportunity to pursue a couple of years later. I then had the opportunity to return to San Luis Obispo County as the Commander and then the Chief in Morro Bay. That is when Sheriff Parkinson asked me to coffee and asked about me possibly becoming his Undersheriff. I have only great memories of my time with each of these agencies and the people with whom I have worked and who proudly serve the profession of law enforcement.

As with most successful careers, no one gets to the top without support and mentoring. I have learned from those individuals that if you focus on the job, doors of opportunity will always open for you. I never focused my energy on seeking promotion. As promotional opportunities arose and I was awarded those opportunities, I always tried to focus on growing that agency and providing better services and interactions with the public. My career has not been perfect, but we learn by trying new things and when we fail, we learn from those experiences too and continue to move forward.

Thank you to the many people in my life who have been beside me. I have worked with so many incredible people both inside the law enforcement profession and within the communities we serve that it is both humbling and inspiring. My parting advice for others in this profession is to maintain balance in your life. When your time comes to retire, you want to be sure you have a life outside of work waiting for you. This job is difficult but you need to work hard to maintain that balance and remember what is most important: your family, your friends, your health, and your faith.



I will be forever grateful to Sheriff Parkinson for this incredible opportunity. In my 31-year career, I have worked for, with, and beside many great leaders and he stands tall at the top of that list. It has been an incredible journey.

Respectfully,

TIM OLIVAS

San Luis Obispo County
Undersheriff

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT

THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND TRAINING UNIT'S

functions are to assure the timely resolution of internal investigations, evaluate training needs in response to changes in legislation, and to seek out the best quality training for our personnel.

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS

The number of complaints received has steadily declined over the past few years, with 39 complaints filed in 2017 and 36 filed in 2018. All complaints are investigated and, in some cases, employees receive additional or remedial training.

USE OF FORCE

Investigations are completed by supervisors when department members use force in the performance of their duties that is beyond accepted control holds, take-downs, and

handcuffing; or when pain or injury occur as the result of a use of force. The investigation assures that all use of force is reviewed, reasonable, and within policy. In 2018, there were 53 reported uses of force, compared to 54 in 2017.

VEHICLE PURSUITS

In some circumstances, Sheriff's deputies must engage in pursuit of a vehicle to prevent the escape of a dangerous person, or to protect the general public. All vehicle pursuits are monitored by supervisors and scrutinized to ensure that the need to pursue is in balance with the risk to deputies and the public, as well as to verify compliance with policy and procedure. In 2018, Sheriff's deputies engaged in 13 vehicle pursuits. That is a decrease from 2017 when there were 20 vehicle pursuits. All pursuits are reported to the California Highway Patrol for data collection and review of tactics.

PATROL AND CIVILIAN TRAINING

The Training Unit is divided into two sections: The Patrol and Civilian Training Section and the Custody Section.

The Patrol and Civilian Training Section provides training courses developed and instructed by the Sheriff's Office and certified through the California Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST). Patrol deputies and dispatchers are mandated to receive 24 hours of POST-certified training within a two-year period. During the 2016–18 training period, the Sheriff's Office was once again in 100% POST compliance with all applicable employees, a rarity in the State of California.

During 2018, the Training Unit achieved the following notable accomplishments:

- The Sheriff's Office sponsored a total of 18 cadets between the Allan Hancock College Basic Law Enforcement Academy, and the Ventura County Sheriff's Law Enforcement Training Academy.
- The Sheriff's Office, along with allied San Luis Obispo County law enforcement agencies, provided Mobile Field Force update training for 91 deputies. Legal considerations,



responsibilities of mobile field force teams, and crowd control methods are also reviewed.

- In 2018, the Sheriff committed to training all sworn and correctional personnel in its 40-hour Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) course. So far, 185 law enforcement employees in the county, including over 100 deputies and correctional deputies, have received this training. The 40-hour CIT program is an innovative, community-based approach to improve the outcomes of these encounters by creating connections between law enforcement, mental health providers, hospital emergency services and families when addressing individuals with mental illness.
- In response to the growing opioid crisis, the Sheriff's Office trained 165 peace officers and correctional staff in the use of naloxone (Narcan) nasal spray. Narcan nasal spray is used for the treatment of an opioid emergency or a possible opioid overdose.

- The Sheriff's Office hosted a multi-agency instructed Active Shooter Training. Over 150 peace officers from local law enforcement agencies attended training sessions.
- The Training Unit coordinated EVOC (Emergency Vehicle Operators Course) training with the Allan Hancock Academy, provided Firearm and Arrest & Control update training, and coordinated training for 121 senior deputies and deputies on the POST Learning Portal for Domestic Violence update training.

RANGE

In 2018, we improved our training programs to include more dynamic shooting scenarios which include moving as well as turning targets giving the deputies more realistic decision making, force options and dynamic shooting practice and skill building with the use of obstacles and barriers.

We incorporated an element of tactical medicine training and practice into the

live fire training that included the proper use of tourniquets, pressure bandages, chest seals and decision-making skills regarding patient transport.

Our Active Shooter Training program, utilizing state-of-the-art iCombat mobile laser force-on-force training equipment acquired in 2017, was revised, re-introduced and presented in various locations throughout the county.

Our Virtra 300-degree immersion force options simulator continues to be used by our agency as well as other law enforcement agencies with great success. The system received an upgrade in 2018, adding additional simulations, greater reliability and ease of operation.

The range began constructing an area to be used for less lethal option munitions including Taser, Bean Bag, PepperBall and OC Spray training. This area will allow the range to conduct live fire exercises as well as less lethal training simultaneously and in a safe manner. In 2018, the Sheriff's Office Patrol and Civilian Training Section provided deputies with 20,343 hours of training.



BACKGROUND

BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION UNIT HELPS EXPAND SHERIFF'S OFFICE PERSONNEL.

The Background Investigation Unit consists of three investigators who are responsible for the investigation of all sworn and civilian applicants with the Sheriff's Office. In 2018, a Background Investigations Manager position was added to the unit to help oversee and coordinate the background unit. The designated 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 (POST) and departmental statutes, regulations and procedures associated with the investigation process.

With roughly 125 backgrounds completed in 2018, the following positions have been filled:

Administrative Service Manager	1
Cadet	15
Chief Medical Officer	1
Coroner Unit Lab Assistant	1
Correctional Deputy	11
Correctional Technician	2
Crime Prevention Specialist	1
Department Administrator	1
Department Personnel Technician	1
Deputy	7
Dispatcher	4
Forensic Specialist	1
Lab Assistant	1
Legal Clerk	3
Senior Account Clerk	1
Program Manager	2
Records Manager	1
Reserve Deputy	1
Senior Account Clerk	1
Storekeeper	1
Chaplin Volunteer	1
Dive Team Volunteer	2
Posse Volunteer	1



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
- Cannabis business licensing

IN 2018, WE SAW A 99% COMPLIANCE RATE OF REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS AND 100% COMPLIANCE RATE OF REGISTERED ARSON OFFENDERS.

Our new automated concealed weapons permit processing program, Permittum, has been successful in improving the application process. 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 campaign continues to be a success as well.

Our goals for 2019 include cross-training legal clerks within the office and maintaining our reputation for excellent customer service to the public.





INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

OVER THE YEARS THE FACE OF TECHNOLOGY HAS CHANGED.

The Sheriff's Office Information Technology Unit (IT) consists of three technology specialists who quickly assess and support the various employee needs throughout all areas of the Sheriff's Office. The IT Unit also includes two software engineers who provide customized programming for software enhancement and a system administrator who keeps the various servers and systems operational and up to date. Finally, a technology supervisor oversees the entire IT Unit.

The unit must also be available to assist all employees and problem-shoot any IT malfunctions 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

2018 was a very busy year for the IT Unit at the Sheriff's Office. There are several large projects in the pipeline such as a new Jail management system, a records management system, an inmate technology services system and a mobile ID system that allows a patrol deputy to identify any contact via a mobile biometric unit, while out in the field. Implemented projects include a countywide Rave Panic Button system that delivers critical data to a 911 call taker such as detailed caller location, floor plans, emergency exit locations and emergency contacts. This application is installed at all 911 centers and is available to all schools in the county. Lastly, portable "Smartboards" have been installed in the mobile command centers so that briefing notes and notated maps can be more easily shared with all involved individuals.

THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UNIT, ALONG WITH ANCILLARY ASSISTANCE FROM THE COUNTY IT DEPARTMENT, MUST ENSURE THAT ALL IT SYSTEMS ARE OPERATING AT PEAK PERFORMANCE.



HIGH TECH CRIMES

THIS YEAR, THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE CONTINUED

its increased involvement with digital forensics and the role electronic devices play in criminal investigations. 2018 was the first full year for the newly established position of a full-time Digital Forensics Examiner, dedicated solely to the extraction and analysis of digital devices. The unit's duties include examining, disassembling, reassembling, evaluating, extracting data, and interpreting data from computer hardware, smart phones, data storage devices, media storage devices, compact discs, DVDs, and detached or attached hard drives. This evidence is then collected and analyzed for the assigned Sheriff's Office personnel responsible for the specific investigation so that it can be presented in a court of law.

The Computer Forensics Unit has also worked in conjunction with the San Luis Obispo (SLO) County Central Coast



Cyber Forensic Laboratory (CCCFL), under the management of the SLO County District Attorney's Office. The Sheriff's Office has a computer forensics lab dedicated to investigating online crime and any crime involving electronic devices. The Sheriff's Office works closely with allied agencies within the County to make these specialized capabilities available to their respective investigative units.

In addition, advanced training and equipment was received for both computer and mobile device evidence recovery through the National Computer Forensics Institute (NCFI) through the United States Secret Service.

**THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE
WORKS CLOSELY WITH
ALLIED AGENCIES WITHIN
THE COUNTY TO MAKE
THESE SPECIALIZED
CAPABILITIES AVAILABLE
TO THEIR RESPECTIVE
INVESTIGATIVE UNITS.**



FISCAL SERVICES

THE FISCAL DIVISION SUPPORTS

all areas of accounting for the Sheriff's Office, including budgeting, monthly and quarterly financial reporting, grant reporting, payroll, accounts payable/receivable and purchasing. The Division consists of two accountants, an administrative services officer, an accounting technician and one senior account clerk.

THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-18 WAS \$77 MILLION, WITH \$32 MILLION OF THE BUDGET BEING OBTAINED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES AND \$45 MILLION RECEIVED FROM GENERAL FUND SUPPORT.

During Fiscal Year 2017-18, Fiscal Services added one additional accountant to assist in managing budgets for both the Patrol and Information Technology Divisions. In addition, an accounting supervisor was added to oversee the operations of the entire Fiscal Services Division.



Finally, in February 2018, the Sheriff's Office reorganized the command structure of both the Fiscal Services Unit and the Information Technology Unit so that both fall under the purview of the Sheriff's Office Department Administrator.



CORONER'S OFFICE

IAN PARKINSON IS THE ELECTED CORONER OF 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 or where greater expertise is needed, the Sheriff's Office has the Coroner Unit within the Investigative Services Bureau. The Coroner Unit is comprised of a sergeant, three detectives, a legal

clerk, a forensic pathologist, and a part-time lab assistant. The three detectives are trained and specialize in determining the manner of death. The 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 had a 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 Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner. Dr. Carter's knowledge and experience is a great asset to our county. She is able to evaluate potential evidence that even trained detectives may not understand. She is then able to utilize her first-person observations at the scene while conducting an autopsy examination.

In 2018, The Coroner Unit reviewed over 1645 reportable deaths that occurred in San Luis Obispo County. Patrol Deputies responded to over 597 unexpected deaths and conducted preliminary investigations. Ultimately, the Coroner Unit conducted 243 investigations that led to autopsy, review of medical records, or partial autopsy to determine the cause and manner of death.

Of the 243 cases in 2018 investigated by the Coroner Unit, 181 autopsies were performed, 56 partial autopsies were performed, and 6 medical records reviews were completed.

Of the deaths investigated in 2018; 91 were natural causes, 58 were suicides, 5 were homicides, 74 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, 2018 to December 1, 2018, the following civil processes were handled by the five civil deputies and three legal clerks assigned to the Civil Division:

670
Eviictions

594
Levies

2,963
Services of Civil Processes



CUSTODY

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UNIT

Until recently, the needs of the mentally ill were not being adequately met in our County Jail due to lack of facilities, staff and funding. Sheriff Parkinson had the vision to create the Behavioral Health Unit, (BHU). To accomplish this, a remodel of “Stahl Hall” began on October 18, 2018, soon after the new Medical/ Programs Unit, (MPU), opened on September 11, 2018. Stahl Hall was previously used as the area where Behavioral and Medical Health staff worked and tended to inmates. The remodel is 100% funded by the Sheriff’s Advisory Foundation, a 501© (3) nonprofit organization through donations from the community. The funding is being used to retrofit approximately 8,500 square feet of existing space into a dedicated Behavioral Health Unit. This will consist of 7 remodeled offices and interview rooms, a secure holding cell with a toilet and locking door, large programming space, proximity to the MPU, new access to modular units and yard, separate and remodeled staff and inmate bathrooms,

a new break room, and a reconfigured layout for better supervision of inmates. Most of the plumbing and electrical retrofit is complete in the offices and interview rooms. The next step will be to paint and install new flooring in all areas. A section of the exterior wall will be cut out and a new security door will be installed connecting the Behavior Health Unit to the Modular Dormitory.

MEDICAL PROGRAMS UNIT

The Jail opened a new Medical Programs Unit (MPU) this September, in a continuing effort to provide inmates with comprehensive medical care that includes medical, mental health, and dental services. The clinic possesses two new medical exam rooms, a long-term observation room, a case manager’s office, two mental health offices and a state-of-the-art dental suite. Medical staff also see inmates at four satellite exam rooms in addition to the MPU’s main location, to aid in minimizing inmate transportation. The Kansas female jail possesses two of these clinics to allow for the accommodation of the female inmates’ privacy

and security. The availability of satellite exam rooms aids in the facilitation of rapid response for medical staff in the event of man-down scenarios. A professional staff of approximately 50 County and contract employees facilitated over 22,000 inmate medical contacts in the 2017–2018 fiscal year. Furthermore, the medical staff at the MPU worked closely with correctional deputies to facilitate the transportation of 286 emergency room visits and an additional 257 off-site medical appointments.

CLASSIFICATION

The Classification Unit consists of 1 sergeant and 6 correctional deputies. Each inmate housed in the county jail is thoroughly interviewed by a classification correctional deputy. The classification correctional deputy works with Jail Medical and Mental Health staff regarding issues of ADA compliance for certain inmates, making sure all necessary accommodations are met. Additionally, the jail is constantly evaluated by the classification sergeant and the deputies of the Classification



Unit, to ensure we are making the best use of space, while keeping safety and security of staff and inmates in mind. Several moves have been made over the past 12 months to ensure functionality and safety for deputies and inmates alike.

The Classification Unit is also responsible for conducting interviews of inmates who have been written up by Custody staff members for violating jail rules. If the inmate facing discipline for his/her write-up desires a hearing, one is held with the classification correctional deputy. Upon hearing the inmate's case, the classification correctional deputy will make the final determination on the outcome.

KITCHEN

The kitchen supplies two hot meals and one sack lunch a day to the San Luis Obispo County Jail and Honor Farm, as well as Juvenile Services, complying with Title 15 standards. The kitchen staff consists of six cooks and one food service supervisor. They work with and supervise 20 inmate workers that help produce the breakfast, lunch, and

evening meals. Additionally, there are designated spots for inmates such as two kitchen engineers, two bakers and one staff cook. Generally, the specialized positions are inmates who have an interest in a career in the food service industry, and have a longer sentence, so kitchen staff have more time to work with them. Inmates who work in the kitchen can sign up to take food safety classes. The first class is the California Safe Food Handlers' Card, valid for three years, and a Food Safety Management Certification, valid for 5 years. Upon completion of these courses, they receive a certificate that assists them with full-time employment after release. The kitchen also provides food service for numerous events which gives the opportunity to train the inmates on Special Event Catering.

Fiscal Year January 2018– November 2018

Inmate Meals:	578,497
Employee Meals:	49,058
Total Inmate and Employee Meals:	627,537
JSC Meals:	25,135
JSC Employee Meals:	10,857

Total JSC and Employee Meals:	35,992
Total Jail JSC and Employee Meals:	663,529

CORRECTIONAL TECHNICIANS

There are 26 full-time correctional technician positions. They are civilian staff within the Custody Division working in the jail. Correctional technicians are responsible for the safekeeping of inmates' money and property, maintaining accurate and up-to-date records for all inmates from the beginning of incarceration to their release, facilitating visitation for inmates, professionals and law enforcement agencies, providing observation security for correctional deputies, documenting inmate housing movement within the jail, and verifying and documenting all admittance to the jail facility.

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

Bookings	11,040
Releases	11,011

Inmates Visits with Public 8,000
The technician position will now have a series of three levels: Correctional Technician I, II and III.

MEN'S HONOR FARM

The Men's Honor Farm has the capacity to house 80 inmates. There are ten correctional deputies assigned to the Honor Farm in addition to a "projects deputy." A commissary is operated out of the Honor Farm with one full-time storekeeper and one part-time storekeeper, who is in the background phase of the hiring process. There is a program manager who works out of the Honor Farm teaching inmates job skills in the construction field. The Graphic Arts Program (GAP) on the Honor Farm teaches inmates skills needed to work in the field upon their release. The GAP utilizes sublimation, laser engraving, rotary engraving, embroidery, and lamination machines. The Honor Farm has a Wood Shop, Metal Shop, and Paint Shop to teach inmates skills in these trades and to facilitate projects completed by the Honor Farm. The Sheriff's Christmas Bike Giveaway Program, an Honor Farm annual event, is in its 29th year and provides bicycles to underprivileged children in San Luis Obispo County. The Honor Farm also supplies labor to the Kitchen as well as runs the inmate laundry, which supplies clothing exchanges for approximately 150 inmates a day, 6 days a week. Inmate Programs are held in the evenings after inmates return from their daily work assignments. The Alternative Sentencing Unit (ASU) is also located on the Honor Farm grounds. The unit consists of three correctional deputies who oversee the Alternative Work Program (AWP) and the Home

Detention Program (HDP). They also oversee inmates released on Sheriff's Parole.

FEMALE HONOR FARM

The Female Honor Farm (FHF) is in the new Kansas Jail and can house 24 inmates. Inmates housed on the FHF perform janitorial services for the Jail, Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and Sheriff's Administration. Female inmates also work at County Animal Services daily to assist staff and volunteers in various job functions. The Sewing Program on the FHF makes various items such as blankets, teddy bears, and crocheted items to donate to many charitable organizations in San Luis Obispo County. Various other Inmate Programs are available to the FHF inmates.

The Women's Honor Farm Sewing Program participated in multiple donation and presentation events this year:

1. In May 2018, we made 35 handcrafted teddy bears for the "Get on the Bus Program" which assists children with visiting their incarcerated parents in local prisons.
2. In August 2018, we made over 40 handcrafted pillowcases with pillows, as well as child and baby clothing for the clients at ECHO-Atascadero Homeless Shelter.
3. In May 2018, we made over 40 western vests individually for children on the Central Coast fighting cancer who participate in Jack's Helping Hand's summer camp event.



4. In December 2018, we made over 150 lap quilts and afghans for the victims of domestic violence in our county who seek assistance through Stand Strong.

Donations by the Sewing Program this year also include:

1. 15 scarves and beanies for El Camino Homeless Shelter (ECHO)
2. 50 Christmas stockings for ECHO
3. 50 stuffed Christmas decorations for ECHO
4. 50 Christmas stockings for Transitions Mental Health

TRAINING UNIT

This year, 16 correctional deputies successfully completed a 210-hour CORE Academy. The CORE curriculum is certified through the Standards and Training in Corrections, as required by the Board of State and Community Corrections. This academy class was instructed onsite in the newly renovated Custody Training Classroom previously referred to as Annex A. In addition, 27 correctional deputies attended 40 hours of Crisis Intervention training. All sworn custody staff participated and completed 4-hour update classes on the proper and safe handling and deployment of the PepperBall system, as well as PREA updates, including proper techniques for cross-gender pat-down searches.



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 2018. 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 2018 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.



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 to:
 - Verify that the registered address is valid and that the registrant actually resides at that address
 - Determine if the registrant has since moved without giving requisite notice to the Sheriff's Office
 - Advise the registrant of any new changes in the law
 - Ascertain if the registrant or his or her property has been the subject of a crime due to him or her being a registrant
 - Enforce the appropriate probation and parole conditions
- Cyber tips are also received from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children regarding online predators

In 2018, the SAFE Team:

- Conducted 505 compliance checks
- Uncovered 40 possible sex offender registration violations
- Filed 13 of these investigations with the District Attorney's Office for failing to register properly

- Assisted in and conducted 10 search warrants
- Completed 14 investigations of internet crimes against children, four of these suspects were arrested
- Provided Sex Offender Registration training to department trainees
- Provided Stranger Danger training to preschool classes
- Presented Sex Offender Registration information to the Sheriff's Citizen's Academy
- Attended trainings at the Central Coast Cyber Forensic Lab
- Attended training for internet crime investigations
- Conducted random home visits of sex offenders on Halloween

This year we have again noticed a slight decrease in registered sex offenders that register with the San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Office. As of November 2018, the Sheriff's Office has 261 registered sex offenders, with 23 of those registered as transient. This is more than half of the approximately 464 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 36-year-old registered sex offender living in San Luis Obispo as a transient was in possession of hundreds of images on an internet account he had created. This sex offender had prior convictions for child molestation, and possession of child pornography. In May 2018, the SAFE team and other San Luis Obispo Sheriff's detectives executed search warrants at multiple locations. Detectives seized numerous devices

that were then analyzed at the Central Coast Cyber Forensics Lab. The investigation found that the suspect possessed thousands of images of child pornography on his cell phone and laptop computer. He was arrested and charged with multiple counts of possession of child pornography.

The suspect is currently in custody awaiting trial for the charges. He also faces the possibility of being labeled as a Sexually Violent Predator due to his repeated pursuit of crimes endangering children.



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 areas of San Luis Obispo County. The Unit also assists outside agencies in their investigations. The investigation of physical and sexual abuse cases is highly specialized and requires expert training as mandated by the California Penal Code. Investigators also provide training to mandated reporters of child abuse, community groups and the military.

The Sexual Assault Investigators handle an average of over 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 2018, 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.



CRIME LAB

THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME LABORATORY

and Forensic Services Unit is responsible for the processing of 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 and processes and collects evidence in criminal cases occurring within the County. In addition to processing crime scene evidence, the Lab also analyzes controlled substances and biological samples for driving under the influence (DUI) cases. The Cal-ID program for the County is also 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 2018, 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 2018, 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 19% of those blood samples were sent on to Central Valley Toxicology for other toxicological analyses.

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 2018, the Chemistry/Toxicology Lab analyzed over 4000 suspected controlled substance samples and the Toxicology section analyzed over 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 OTHER THAN THOSE DESCRIBED IN THE PREVIOUS PARAGRAPHS.

These processes included 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 numerous identifications to persons of interest.

In addition, Forensic Specialists responded to crime scenes for the Sheriff's Office, as well as outside agencies. Scenes ranged from property crimes to violent crimes, including

homicides. The scenes required expertise in photography, process for and collection of latent prints, as well as tire and shoe print impression casting, blood spatter analysis, and trajectory determination. Following examination and process of the scene, evidence was collected for additional analysis in the Sheriff's Crime Laboratory and Laboratory Annex. In 2018, several cases included cursory and in-depth excavation of possible gravesites.

The Cal-ID Program began the deployment of Mobile ID fingerprint devices in the field. These devices were used to assist in identifying numerous deceased individuals, and in identifying individuals involved in illegal activity who did not have valid identification. Using the Mobile ID devices in the field, a number of these individuals were found to have provided false identification to conceal the fact that they had warrants for their arrest or were on probation or parole.

The Cal-ID Program continued to work with the California Department of Justice (DOJ) to facilitate the addition of additional capabilities for Mobile ID use.

The system currently queries the approximately 80,000 records of individuals arrested and booked in San Luis Obispo County. Connection to the CA DOJ system would allow for a query of the 24 million-plus records in the DOJ system. It would also allow for a cascaded search of the FBI's RISC (Repository of Individuals of Special Concern) database, which maintains searchable fingerprint records for known and suspected terrorists, registered sex offenders (nationally) and individuals with extraditable felony warrants registered in the National Crime Information Center indices.

The Cal-ID program researched several options for maintaining and replacing key technological infrastructure components in the coming years, and has worked closely with the County-wide Cal-ID Board in this process.



NORTH STATION

THE SHERIFF'S NORTH STATION

is staffed by thirty personnel comprising of a commander, two sergeants, two legal clerks, three school resource deputies, a rural crime deputy, two canines, four senior deputies, and fifteen deputies. Along with staff, the North Station also has an active group of Sheriff's Auxiliary Volunteer Patrol members who were a valuable asset in this year's operations. We service over 1,900 square miles, and provide assistance to neighboring cities when requested.

LIFE SAVING

This year, deputies at the Sheriff's North Station responded to thousands of calls for service.

**OUR GOAL IS TO ALWAYS
PROVIDE THE BEST
SERVICE POSSIBLE TO THE
COMMUNITY WE SERVE.**

This year, we encountered five acts of life-saving by our deputies at the North Station.

A deputy responded to a call for service for a vehicle that had been involved in an accident. The vehicle was located, but the driver had not been found. The weather on that day was cold and rainy. Despite the poor weather conditions, the deputy continued to search for the driver in an attempt to locate her. He traversed the open area in the vicinity of the vehicle crash and, after a long period of searching, found the victim of the crash lying unresponsive in the cold and wet grass. The deputy checked the victim for vital signs and determined he needed to perform life-saving measures. He initiated CPR, the victim was revived, and ultimately taken to the hospital by ambulance where she made a full recovery.

During a transport, a deputy sensed there might be a problem with the person being transported in the rear of his patrol unit. He immediately pulled over, exited his vehicle, opened the rear passenger door for the patrol unit, and discovered that the person had

purposely utilized the seatbelt to attempt suicide. The deputy quickly and safely unraveled the seatbelt, and saved the individual from the suicide attempt. The individual was treated and evaluated by mental health clinicians for the suicide attempt.

Deputies responded to call for service on a suspected suicidal subject. When deputies entered the residence, they discovered the subject had just attempted suicide, and was very near death. In a quick move, one of the deputies climbed on a table and was able to cut the subject down and save him. After receiving proper medical attention, the individual was able to breathe, and recovered from the attempt. Mental health services were contacted, and the subject was evaluated and given appropriate care.

Two deputies responded to a call for an overdose where, at the scene, paramedics were attempting to revive the subject. Deputies with the Sheriff's Office are trained in the administering of Narcan, and each deputy has access to a Narcan kit in their patrol unit. One of the deputies on scene retrieved his

Narcan kit and administered two doses. After the second dose, the subject revived and survived the incident.

Several of the North Station deputies responded to assist with the Woolsey Fire in Ventura County during the evacuation procedures. They came upon a residence where flames were roaring in the backyard area and about to engulf the home. They made contact with the residents inside and discovered that one of the residents was a quadriplegic. With very little time to act, they decided to carry the individual out and place her in the rear of their patrol unit. They drove the subject to safety, where she could receive proper care.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

This year at the Sheriff's North Station, there were two calls where deputies responded in ways that can be deemed distinguished service.

During a call, a veteran was reported to be on his balcony, pointing a .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun in a threatening manner. Deputies responded in an attempt to safely resolve the incident. Upon arrival, they saw that the subject was in fact pointing the handgun in a reckless and potentially threatening manner. Deputies safely made their

way toward the individual's residence in a way to avoid provoking him, and in an attempt to secure the area. At one point, it appeared that the subject may have been aiming his weapon towards one of the deputies. All deputies on scene saw this, but refrained from any immediate use of force. They were ultimately able to speak with the subject. The incident was resolved with no persons being injured.

Deputies responded to a subject that was reported to have a twelve-inch knife to his own neck. When they arrived, they in fact saw the subject in the roadway with a knife to his neck. Deputies set up a perimeter, and began speaking to the subject in an attempt to get him to surrender the knife. The deputies' calm tactics succeeded in keeping the subject in a confined area where he could not harm others, and ultimately convinced the subject to put the knife down. They were then able to detain him. During this incident no one was injured and the subject was evaluated by mental health professionals and given proper care.

The two acts of distinguished service both involved persons with mental illness. The Sheriff's Office instructs its deputies in Critical Incident Training (CIT), which is specific to addressing individuals that are contacted, and suffer from mental illness. This training undoubtedly resulted in successful outcomes in both of these instances.

The Sheriff's North Station would like express its appreciation for the public we serve and the support and trust we receive from community stakeholders, partners and friends.



IN 2018, 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. This area extends from Pismo Beach to the Santa Barbara County line, and from the Pacific Ocean to the Kern County line.

The South Station is staffed with a commander, two sergeants, four senior deputies, 18 Sheriff's deputies 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 2018, South Station patrol staff responded to over 23,000 calls for service and generated about 3,200 written reports. Reported criminal activity ranged from armed robbery to theft of property from unlocked vehicles. While crimes of violence remain a small percentage of the calls for service received by deputies of the South Station, they have a 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.

The South Station's commitment to schools within the Lucia Mar Unified School District was served in 2018 by two full-time school resource deputies and one part-time school resource reserve deputy. Programs to educate students and school staff, including G.R.E.A.T. (Gang Resistance Education and Training) and an enhanced emergency incident notification system,

have continued to afford opportunities to prevent issues from distracting from the learning environment. The 2018 G.R.E.A.T. summer camp presented at the Mesa Middle School provided more than 100 students with a weeklong experience to learn a variety of life skills in making positive choices and improving self-esteem.

For 2019, our commitment to crime prevention 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



THE COAST STATION PROVIDES

law enforcement services for all unincorporated coastal areas from Avila Beach to the Monterey County line. This area encompasses the communities of San Simeon, Cambria, Harmony, Cayucos, Los Osos, Baywood Park, Avila Beach, Edna Valley, and the unincorporated areas of San Luis Obispo. The San Luis Obispo County Airport and the Diablo Nuclear Power Plant are also contained in the jurisdiction of Coast Station. The patrol station is staffed by one commander, two sergeants, four senior deputies, 19 deputy sheriffs assigned to patrol, and two legal clerks.

During 2018, Coast Station saw a nine percent drop in the overall number of reports taken by patrol deputies compared to 2017. Burglaries, identity theft and narcotic-related offenses decreased, however there was an increase in the number of thefts by six percent.

Problems associated with illegal transient camps have encumbered law enforcement in the Coast area. Renewed and sustained efforts have addressed these problematic locations. Strict enforcement, coupled with the assistance provided by the Community Action Team, has resulted in positive results and a reduction of illegal transient camps and activities. This year the Sheriff's Office initiated Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for all sworn personnel. CIT provides patrol deputies with 40 hours of training, information on resources and skills to better work with and assist individuals with mental health problems, drug and alcohol addiction, PTSD, traumatic brain injuries and other conditions they might encounter.

During 2018, Coast Station deputies assisted in planned events and responded to many unplanned calls for service. The largest planned event occurs every Independence Day in Cayucos. To meet the demand for increased presence needed for the day, the Sheriff's Office staffs a command post in Cayucos with patrol units,

bicycle patrol teams, foot patrol teams, canine team, Posse, correctional deputies and transportation vans. Except for some minor incidents and arrests, the event was a huge success for the community.

In October, deputies located a subject in a stolen vehicle and, based on information they had and evidence in the vehicle, determined he was the suspect in five burglaries, an attempted burglary and vehicle tampering. In a different case, deputies made three arrests and have identified a fourth suspect in an armed robbery. In a separate call for service, deputies received a report of a subject brandishing a firearm in Cambria. The suspect was gone when they arrived on scene, however, through their investigation, they were able to locate the suspect's vehicle and arrest the suspect. Coast Station deputies will continue to be proactive to protect and to serve the 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 man the office 24 hours per day. 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 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 both provide communications to our county in the event of a natural disaster or terrorist attack. The watch commander also

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

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 911, area sirens, and EAS messages on commercial radio and television.

This year, the Watch Commander's Office has been exceptionally busy. They have been working to train the newly promoted sergeants, coordinate and participate in the FEMA drills and assist with coordinating mutual aid efforts for the fires and mudslides in Santa Barbara, and the recent fires in Ventura and Butte Counties.



DISPATCH

THE SHERIFF'S DISPATCH CENTER

is a Primary Public Safety Answering Point responsible for all 911 calls in San Luis Obispo County, the cities of Arroyo Grande and 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 thousands of 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 911 and when this number should be used. The children get to meet Red E. Fox, the "911 for Kids" mascot.

In 2018, the Sheriff's Dispatch Center's 911 line answered 46,215 phone calls. The calls were answered in fifteen seconds or less 100% of the time. The California State standard is 95%. The Dispatch Center handled more than 248,928 phone calls and created 129,551 incidents for service, and created and dispatched approximately 28,500 medical calls for service.

A few years ago the Sheriff's Dispatch Center installed a new reverse 911 system. Vesta Alert can notify hundreds of residences within minutes by telephone with a voice recording stating the emergency and what action (if any) should be taken. The system's database is updated monthly using current records from the 911 database. Vesta Alert has been activated 12 times this past year for emergency notifications in many areas of the county, relating to numerous fires as well as for critical missing individuals and safety issues.

Technologically, the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) mobile and mapping program is a Tritech system. The Tritech software gives dispatchers the ability to create incidents and direct the closest, most appropriate emergency personnel to calls for service. The 911 system is a Motorola Vesta VoIP 911 phone system and has the capabilities of handling texting to 911. The Sheriff's Dispatch Center has implemented the Rave Smart 911 software which includes the Panic Button application to be used by schools in case of an active shooter situation.

46,215
Calls answered

129,551
Incidents for service

100%
Calls answered in less than 15 seconds



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 Senior Deputy Allen Barger and Canine Jack assigned to the Sheriff's Narcotic Unit, Deputy Bryan Love and Canine Hondo assigned to North Station, Deputy Josh Peet and Canine DJ assigned to Coast Station, and Correctional Deputy Kelsey

Williams and Canine Dutch assigned to the Custody Division.

Canines 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 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, area/building searches and handler protection.

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



165
Deployments

26
Assisted Other Agencies

343
Searches

22
Apprehensions

71
Arrests

2
Apprehension Bite

9,387.1
Grams of Marijuana

184.6
Grams of Methamphetamine

78.1
Grams of Heroin



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 775 documented gang members in San Luis Obispo County and 67 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, a Pismo Beach Police Officer, and Probation officers 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 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.

In 2018, 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:

- 71.16 grams of methamphetamine
- 67.22 grams of heroin
- 4.7 grams of cocaine
- 11 firearms

Those investigations led to the arrest of 102 suspects. Those arrests consisted of possession of controlled substances, possession of a controlled substance for sale, felons in possession of firearms, robbery, both misdemeanor and felony warrant arrests, assault with deadly weapons, gang member contacts that led to probation and or parole violations, burglary, and felony evasion. Out of the 102 arrests, 48 arrests were gang related.

In January of 2018, the Sheriff's Gang Task Force assisted the Special Operations Unit with apprehending a wanted felon in our county that was listed as "Texas's Top 10 Most Wanted." This operation was conducted in conjunction with The Texas Department of Criminal Justice, The U.S. Marshalls, and a constable from Wood County Sheriff's Department in Texas.

In the summer of 2018, the Sheriff's Gang Task Force also assisted the San Luis Obispo County Probation Department in two county-wide probation sweeps. This resulted in 16 arrests from probationers/parolees who were out of compliance.



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.

This year, SED has updated the armored vehicle, also known as the BearCat, for the introduction of CS gas into buildings and vehicles. This new gas system allows deputies to introduce CS gas without leaving the safety of the armored vehicle. This provides for a safer environment for SED personnel and any potential suspects. In addition, SED members have participated in numerous call-outs throughout the year that included search warrant service, barricaded suspects, and hostage rescue situations.

All of these call-outs were resolved with the successful apprehension of the

suspects, with no injuries to members of the public, and minimal injuries to deputies and suspects.

THE SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT DETAIL CONTINUES TO ENHANCE ITS CAPABILITIES THROUGH TRAINING AND SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT.

The primary focus of the Sheriff's Special Enforcement Detail has been, and will continue to be, to provide San Luis Obispo County with the finest tactical law enforcement team possible.



A FUNCTION OF THE OPERATIONS DIVISION

at the Sheriff's Office is the Crime Prevention and Public Information Unit. This unit consists of both crime prevention specialists and public information officers. The crime prevention specialists each specialize in specific areas, however cross-train to provide consistent and quality services.

The crime prevention specialists are available to support all Neighborhood Watch programs in the unincorporated areas of the county, and provide crime prevention training and assistance to the ranching and agricultural communities. In addition, they are responsible for the annual Citizens Academy and Sheriff's Auxiliary Volunteer Patrol Academy, children's safety programs, internet safety programs for youth, security surveys for homes and businesses, and public displays at community events.

In 2018 the Crime Prevention Unit made over 80 presentations to schools and community groups throughout the county, held displays for Sheriff's Family Day at the Ranch, Cops 'N Kids Day, the Preparedness Expo, and Law Enforcement Night at Farmers' Market, just to name a few. They also hosted an intern from the Grizzly Youth Academy, where they provided mentoring and opportunities to learn about a career in law enforcement.

The role of the public information officer (PIO) is to serve 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. 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.

The PIO is also responsible for the design and content of the Sheriff's Office official website, slosheriff.org. This year the Sheriff's Office released a mobile app compatible with iOS and Android, which gives community members an additional way to stay informed of events occurring within the Sheriff's Office and the county. In addition, the PIO coordinate all social media efforts on behalf of the Sheriff's Office, including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram. Through the Most Wanted Wednesday campaign on social media, 39 wanted individuals were captured in 2018. This year the Sheriff's Office has seen the way social media can be used to build bridges with the community we proudly serve.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNIT

THE SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

maintains the Special Operations Unit (SOU), which consists of two Sheriff's Office investigators, one intelligence officer, one canine deputy, one probation officer/investigator, and two Homeland Security investigators, supervised by a sergeant.

The Sheriff's SOU investigates a wide variety of narcotics-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 the 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 cultivation sites that were springing up throughout the county. The recent drought curtailed much of the large outdoor illegal cultivation sites.

The expansion of medicinal marijuana cultivation and its licensing, which began in January 2018, has led to an increased demand for man-hours to ensure compliance. Although much of the compliance work is done by Code Enforcement officers, should abatement be needed of an illegal cannabis operation, SOU detectives are there to assist. Additionally, black markets for illegally grown marijuana continue to operate on federal, state and private property. With these illegal grow operations, some of the most serious problems occur with the use of illegal pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and the diversion of water.

In 2018, the following seizure totals were made as a result of numerous investigations by Sheriff's SOU investigators. Some seizures were the result of multi-agency investigations and occurred throughout California.

Heroin	6.5 grams
Cocaine	3.8 lbs
Methamphetamine	.66 lbs
Processed marijuana	8.41 lbs
Marijuana plants	6,319 plants
Currency Seized	\$17,469.00
Firearms Seized	2

The SOU 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 clandestine 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



butane 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 Multi-Jurisdictional Methamphetamine Enforcement Team (Cal-MMET) Program. The Cal-MMET grant funds two Sheriff's SOU investigators, (one of these positions is currently vacant due to low staffing levels within the department), 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.

Some of the current trends in narcotics are heroin use and sales and butane honey oil extraction labs. Additionally, the unit has also responded to ongoing maritime smuggling operations involving Panga boats. Drug trafficking organizations are utilizing the boats for drug and human trafficking in coastal counties in California. In 2014 and 2015, San Luis Obispo County had 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 2018.

Lastly, in addition to the above duties, the Sheriff's SOU also assists other units within the Detective Division in surveillance an intelligence gathering of

various persons of interest, search warrant service and wiretap investigations.

6.5
Grams of Heroin

3.8
Pounds of Cocaine

.66
Pounds of Methamphetamine

8.41
Pounds of Processed Marijuana



BOMB TASK FORCE

THE BOMB TASK FORCE, FORMED IN 1981, AT A TIME WHEN EXPLOSIVE AND BOMB-RELATED INCIDENTS WERE INCREASING WITHIN THE COUNTY.

Local law enforcement agencies came to the consensus that each agency did not have the individual resources to support its own respective bomb squads and therefore, the San Luis Obispo County Bomb Task Force was formed and the need for a specialized team with unique equipment and 24-hour response capabilities was realized.

The Task Force began responding to calls for service in 1982 and was a coordinated team approach with a thorough commitment from all law enforcement agencies within San Luis Obispo County. Funding resources for equipment and training currently come from the Sheriff's Office, city police agencies in San Luis Obispo County, and Cal Poly University Police. The Task Force is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of members of the Criminal Justice Administrators Association of San Luis Obispo County:

STRUCTURE OF THE TASK FORCE

The Task Force is currently made up of four members, three of which are Sheriff's Office deputies and one San Luis Obispo police officer. The Bomb Task Force assignment is a collateral duty, with each team member working various full-time positions with their 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 Board of Directors are:

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

Each team member is required to be a certified Hazardous Devices (Bomb) Technician, having undergone a thorough background check conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The basic training for a bomb technician is a six-week course at the Federal Bureau of Investigation Hazardous Devices School, located at Redstone Arsenal Army Base, in Huntsville, Alabama. Training is ongoing and the bomb technicians are required by the FBI to train a minimum of 16 hours per month.



TASK FORCE CAPABILITIES

The San Luis Obispo County Bomb Task Force is accredited by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and is certified as a fully operational bomb squad, capable of safe rendering 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 to include 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.

SUPPORT TEAM CONCEPT

Although the Bomb Task Force is a self-sufficient unit, the Task Force has an excellent working relationship with the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department Bomb Squad. A verbal agreement has been established between the two counties to assist each other in their respective counties in times of need. In addition, the Task Force maintains a close relationship with the 30th Civil Engineer Squadron, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team at Vandenberg Air Force Base, whose military jurisdiction includes this County. The SLO County Bomb Task Force will also assist Sheriff's SED and Regional SWAT if requested.

2018 CALLS FOR SERVICE

The explosive-related calls consisted of hoax devices, IEDs, military ordnance, illegal fireworks, and suspicious chemical devices.



HONOR GUARD



PROPERTY ROOM

THIS IS THE FIFTH YEAR

that the Sheriff's Honor Guard has served the Sheriff's Office and our community. The team is made up of 16 volunteer members of the Sheriff's Office who train regularly to maintain their skills. Commander Nate Paul, who is one of the original Honor Guard members, will be taking over command of the unit in 2019.

IN 2018, 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 and correctional academy graduations.

THE PROPERTY ROOM IS CURRENTLY STAFFED

with three property officers, two full-time and one part-time. Our property officers are responsible for the 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, such as 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.



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 Prevention School.

Frequent meetings are held with agricultural community groups in San Luis Obispo County.

These groups include:

- The SLO County Farm Bureau
- Cattlemen and Cattlemen's Associations
- The Farm Bureau Women's Group

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.

IN 2018, THE RCU SAW A STEEP DECLINE IN AGRICULTURAL CASES.

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.

Some of the few notable reports taken involved a stolen Kubota tractor that was later recovered in a riverbed, a subject found in possession of over \$600 worth of stolen artichokes who was cited, and a subject who was arrested for being in possession of stolen farm equipment.



COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM

THE COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM (CAT)

serves several roles within the Sheriff's Office. One is to reach out to the homeless, the mentally ill, and those with substance use disorders and connect them with resources in an effort to reduce recidivism and impact to the criminal justice system. The CAT team works with the Patrol Stations, the Jail, and many County partners to complete its goals. Our tasks have ranged from delivering mental health medication to transportation to a residential program.

ADDITIONALLY, THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE COMMITTED TO SENDING 100% OF ITS PERSONNEL FROM THE RANK OF SERGEANT AND BELOW (CUSTODY AND PATROL) TO THIS 40-HOUR COURSE.

In 2018, the CAT team was tasked to create a 40-hour Crisis Intervention Training (which exceeds CA requirements). The Sheriff's Office chose to adhere to the international CIT standard (Memphis Model). Additionally, the Sheriff's Office committed to sending 100% of its personnel from the rank of Sergeant and below (custody and patrol) to this 40-hour course. As every call for service begins with a phone call, all SLOSO dispatchers attend this course as well. After creating the course, the CAT Team trained approximately 145 members over 5 sessions. Nearly every student stated they would recommend the week-long class to a peer, are more knowledgeable about mental health issues, and that they would use what they learned from the class in their job. Reports are coming back detailing the influence CIT has had to help resolve difficult calls. CIT is truly a collaborative effort. Over 60 individuals and 20 agencies assist CAT in teaching one 40-hour CIT course. The class was attended not only by our department but SLOPD (officers and dispatchers), Probation, Pismo Beach

Police, MBPD, Victim Witness, and Restorative Partners. The CAT team will continue training those agencies next year and add the Atascadero and Paso Robles Police Departments. In order to prepare for these classes, the CAT team attended a CIT International training in Kansas City and became certified coordinators. The SLO Sheriff's Office is also a member of a Regional CIT collaboration involving the counties of Ventura, Santa Barbara, Kern, and Monterey.

In August, with the assistance of the Crime Prevention Unit, the Jail, and SAF, the CAT team organized the Sheriff's Office effort to contribute to the United Way's Stuff the Bus Campaign. We raised a total of \$2,000 this year in school supplies and donations.

The CAT Team has outreached to various organizations including the local chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, NAMI, the SLO Autism Spectrum Center, and County Veteran's Office. We have trained Behavioral Health Staff and have plans to train other County Workers.



**WE RAISED A TOTAL OF
\$2,000 THIS YEAR IN SCHOOL
SUPPLIES AND DONATIONS.**

The CAT Team participated in a County-wide Sequential Intercept Mapping. In short, this process was created to identify gaps in our system in regard to people with mental illness and substance use disorders and develop priorities to improve our system and service. The #1 priority was to expand housing options in our county. The #2 priority was to expand the Community Action Team across agencies and establish a Countywide CIT Program.

Perhaps what makes the CAT Team most proud was the opportunity to work on an Officer Wellness Program for the department through the CIT class.

What is in store for the CAT Team for 2019? The Sheriff's Office, Behavioral Health, and several County Agencies

have collaborated and successfully applied for a federal 5 Year Early Diversion Grant. The Sheriff's Community Action Team will be joined by a Behavioral Health Clinician to assist in diversion efforts throughout the community. The target population will be the severely mentally ill and those suffering from substance use disorders. The CAT Team is very excited for the new opportunities and challenges that await.



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 A FOCUS ON EDUCATION AND BOATING SAFETY, DEPUTIES CONTACT DOZENS OF BOATERS EACH DAY THEY PATROL THE COUNTY LAKES.

The coastline of San Luis Obispo County is another area of focus that extends 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 patrol boat to conduct inshore and offshore patrols. First placed into service in January 2015, this vessel has conducted more than 300 hours of patrol operations. The MEU is now better equipped to work with the Sheriff's Office Dive Team, the Narcotics Unit 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 complemented by a Rogue Jet Boatworks 25' patrol boat which, is primarily assigned to Lake Nacimiento and provides patrol, enforcement and education on the water. While on the lake, this vessel can also operate in support of other

emergency service agencies for rapid transport of emergency personnel or injured parties. It is also used to assist the Sheriff's Dive Team with its mission on all the county's lakes and near-shore waters. The MEU's third vessel, used for utility missions, or to complement the other vessels, is 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, as well as the San Luis Obispo Regional SWAT Team, was conducted in and around Port San Luis and Morro Bay during the year. Members of the MEU participated in community outreach events like Sheriff's Day at the Ranch, Cayucos's Lost at Sea Memorial, Cops 'n' Kids Day, State Division of Boating and Waterways' Life Jacket Trade-In, the Morro Bay Lighted Boat Parade 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 2017/2018 SCHOOL YEAR,

school resource deputies taught the Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) program curriculum at Shandon Elementary School, Creston Elementary School and Santa Margarita Elementary School, with 90 students graduating.

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 Mesa Middle School, Cayucos Elementary School, and Lillian Larsen Elementary School.

During these weeklong camps, students participated in fun events like Tie-Dye Team T-shirts, tug-of-war, and the Carpet Square Game. They also attended assemblies including

Revolution Speak (Motivational Speaker), Retro Bill (Motivational Speaker), a Service Dog assembly, and Three Screens (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-style barbecue, 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 297 students who attended. The Sheriff’s Office is already in the planning stages for the camps that will be held in the summer of 2019.

2018, was the second year of the Sheriff’s Office sponsoring the Central Coast Law Enforcement Explorer Competition, organized and led by school resource deputies. This year, the competition was held at Lillian Larsen Elementary School. Over a two-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 nine agencies from around the state of California consisting of 83 explorers and 38 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 2019.



BICYCLE PATROL

THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE BICYCLE PATROL TEAM

is a specialty unit comprising Deputies and Senior Deputies, who are specially trained to perform public safety patrol functions on a bicycle. Members of the Bike Patrol Team are trained to deploy and provide public safety services during large events with larger crowds. These types of events occur regularly throughout San Luis Obispo County and include parades, holiday events, concerts, community events, races, and various other special events.

DEPUTIES WHO PATROL ON BICYCLES CAN COVER LARGER AREAS THAN FOOT PATROL DEPUTIES, AS THEY CAN NAVIGATE CROWDED AREAS WHICH MIGHT LIMIT BOTH A PATROL CAR'S MOBILITY, AS WELL AS DEPUTIES WHO MIGHT DEPLOY ON FOOT.



One of the biggest advantages to bicycle patrol is the ability for deputies to navigate swiftly in various environments, avoiding obstacles and hazards that would otherwise stop a patrol vehicle in its tracks. Another big advantage for deputies deployed on bicycles is that there are more opportunities to engage with the public, as it is easier for the public to approach and speak with a deputy on a bicycle, and equally easier for deputies to approach, contact, and interact with those in the public. As members of the Sheriff's Office Bike Team, we enjoy these opportunities to positively interact with our community.

BIKE PATROL TEAM DEPUTIES TRAIN TOGETHER AS A TEAM OVER THE COURSE OF THE YEAR. BIKE TEAM TRAININGS BUILD ON BASIC BICYCLE RIDING SKILLS AS WELL AS DEVELOPING PATROL-SPECIFIC RIDING SKILLS.

The team's instructor and supervisor work together to develop training modules that prepare members for various bicycle patrol deployments. For example, since balance and control at low speeds are essential skills needed in confined and crowded areas, one of our training exercises typically requires riders to navigate a cone obstacle course, at slow speeds.



One of the challenges in maintaining a public safety bike team, or any specialty unit or assignment, is keeping up with the modernization of equipment, technology, and uniforms, all of which are important in keeping deputies and the public safe, as well as projecting a professional image while serving. We are proud to report that we have added a pair of Trek 29-inch patrol bicycles to the fleet in 2018, and intend to add another two in 2019. We are also very happy to report that during 2018, the Bike Team was able to upgrade its uniforms to a solid tan shirt, forest green pants, and solid forest green patrol jackets, all of which are consistent with our standard Sheriff's Office patrol uniforms.

During 2018, the Bike Patrol Team deployed for several events. These included assisting the San Luis Obispo Police Department with its St. Patrick's Day celebration, followed by the SLO Women's March in March, and the Templeton Wine Festival in May. Each of these events involved large crowds of people converging downtown, which would present logistical challenges for a

patrol vehicle. The Bike Team's presence at these events enabled law enforcement to ensure that proceedings were safe and successful.

The Sheriff's Office Bike Team also deployed on what is typically our biggest bike detail event of the year, the Annual Cayucos Fourth of July Celebration. This is a great community event on the Central Coast, which draws several thousand people to the town of Cayucos. The Sheriff's Office Bike Team takes great pride in participating and serving at this annual event.





SEARCH AND RESCUE

THE SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Search and Rescue (SLOSAR) Team consists of volunteer members of 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, map, compass and Global Positioning System (GPS) and wilderness tracking and survival. All members are certified by the National Association of Search and Rescue (NASAR) in SAR Technician II.

SLOSAR IS ONE OF VERY FEW COUNTY SAR UNITS THAT HAVE THEIR OWN CALIFORNIA EMS CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDER PROGRAM.

This license allows SLOSAR-trained EMS Staff to re-certify EMTs through the State and also evaluate skills at the state and national level. We also teach all of our CPR training in house and teach CPR to several other departments within the Sheriff's Office.

SLOSAR now has a strong Type 1 search team, which can be deployed anywhere in the state for extreme and snow search conditions. This team will be an asset to the state and further our important relationships with other counties.

In 2019 SLOSAR will have a Type 3 USAR team and an Operational Disaster Response Guide, which will allow SLOSAR to be an important resource in the event of a disaster in our county or within the state.

New members begin on probation and, over the course of 12–18 months, a probationary member is trained by experienced SLOSAR team members and expected to gain proficiency in all of the skills described above and many other areas on their way to becoming full members.

Many members strive for perfection and 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 current membership is 61 members strong. The specialty teams within SLOSAR include:

1. 4X4 team
2. ATV (quad) team
3. Communications/Dispatching
4. Mountain Bike Team (urban and rural)
5. Technical Rope Rescue Team (high and low angle)



- 6. K-9 Team (area searching, trailing, and cadaver)
- 7. Medical Team (20+ members rated at EMT or higher)
- 8. Tracking Team
- 9. USAR Disaster Team (2019)
- 10. Project Lifesaver Team
- 6. Command trailers
- 7. Crew/rehab trailer
- 8. ATV/Quads
- 9. Cal OES Communications MIGU
- 10. Mountain bikes
- 11. Metal detector equipment
- 12. Humvee

Because of SLOSAR's training and expertise, they also support 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:

- 1. 26' communication-command vehicle
- 2. Detailed topographical county maps & computer mapping (Terrain Navigator Pro)
- 3. 4X4 tow vehicle
- 4. Generators and light towers
- 5. 40' medical trailer

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

SLOSAR IS ONE OF VERY FEW COUNTY SAR UNITS THAT HAVE THEIR OWN CALIFORNIA EMS CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDER PROGRAM.

Throughout the year they participate in community events, such as medical stand-by and first aid stations for special events such as adventure races, community events such as Sheriff's Day at the Ranch or Cops 'n' Kids Day, and the San Luis Obispo Christmas Parade.



The cost saved by San Luis Obispo County for employing a professional search & rescue volunteer team in the field is approximately \$500 per hour. With a total of approximately 3,600 volunteer hours spent on missions, the cost saved by San Luis Obispo County for all volunteer time is estimated at \$1.8 million per year.



SAVP

THE SHERIFF'S AUXILIARY VOLUNTEER PATROL (SAVP)

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

This year, SAVPs have spent approximately 3,000 hours in various types of volunteering public service and prevention activities. SAVPs out of our South Station provided 249 business checks, and 134 vacation checks for homes.

Coast Station SAVPs drove over 20,000 miles patrolling the streets, and SAVPs volunteering out of North Station spent 144 hours removing graffiti throughout the county. We are honored to have members of our community within our ranks volunteering their time to better our neighborhoods.

These dedicated men and women are 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, and volunteer to remove graffiti throughout San Luis Obispo County, utilizing the Sheriff's Office Graffiti Abatement Vehicle. SAVPs also act as additional "eyes and ears" to identify and report potential crime problems, resulting in improved public safety. Aside from graffiti abatement and patrolling the streets, this year auxiliary patrol members performed 180 residential vacation checks. Additionally, they regularly assisted the Crime Prevention Unit at public displays and events in order to enhance crime prevention education. SAVPs are also utilized to assist with emergency situations that occur, including searching for missing people, and other types of unforeseen circumstances. SAVPs play an important role in assisting with the "Operation Lifesaver" program, by regularly changing the batteries for these devices used by those that utilize this important program. These devices are extremely important for individuals and families of those who wander from their home, and it provides an opportunity for volunteers to check in on those in the program and be a friendly face.

In August while out patrolling, one of our SAVPs came across a vehicle with the door wide open and no one around, at the Bob Jones Trail parking lot. After waiting to see if someone would return, he looked inside the car and found there was a purse, a wallet, and phone lying on the floor. He contacted the Sheriff's Office watch commander and let him know what he had found. Steps were taken to attempt to contact the owner of the vehicle by using the license plate number and driver's license information, and a voicemail was left for the owner. The SAVP locked up the car and left a note on the windshield. Later that day, the Sheriff's Office received a call back from the owner of the vehicle, who was so thankful someone trustworthy had acted to secure her car. This is one of many examples of the commendable work being done by the Sheriff's Office SAVP volunteers.

This program is a partnership between law enforcement and the public, which serves to increase the impact that the Sheriff's Office has in preserving safety and security in San Luis Obispo County.



SHERIFF'S POSSE

2018 WAS AN ACTIVE YEAR FOR THE SHERIFF'S POSSE.

10 REGULAR MEMBERS
AND FOUR ACTIVE
HONORARY MEMBERS
VOLUNTEERED A TOTAL OF
661 HOURS IN 2018.

The Unit participated in 6 parades

1. San Miguel's Sagebrush Days
2. Templeton's Independence Day
3. Cambria's Pinedorado
4. Paso Robles's Pioneer Days
5. Atascadero's Colony Days
6. Pismo Beach's Clam Festival

The Posse also participated in the

- Sheriff's Office G.R.E.A.T. camps
- Sheriff's Family Day at the Ranch
- All Sheriff's Town Hall Meetings
- Operation Readiness Drill which is the department's assessment day for coordinated efforts by all volunteer units.

The Unit patrolled the Cal Poly Rodeo, the Templeton Fourth of July Concert in the Park, the California Mid-State Fair, the Creston Rodeo, and for the first time this year assisted in patrolling the Cayucos Beach on the Fourth of July.



The Sheriff's Posse 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

AERO SQUADRON SOARS TO NEW HEIGHTS.

The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Aero Squadron is an all-volunteer organization composed of licensed pilots and non-pilot trained observers. This unit is associated with the Sheriff's Office, and is designed to support law enforcement and public safety through airborne search, rescue, surveillance and specialized transportation functions.

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 Pilots-in-Command. Other pilots may fly under the designation of Flight Officer or Observer-only.

In 2016, the Sheriff acquired a 1982 Cessna 182 Skylane from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Office that year at essentially no initial cost to the

County. The Sheriff's intent is to place this aircraft into Search, Rescue, and Surveillance service to minimize the use of privately owned aircrafts, and thus the County's risk exposure.

The aircraft 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 the third quarter of 2017 and the aircraft was delivered to Helicomm, an aircraft avionics installer at Paso Robles Municipal Airport in early August 2017. Completion and delivery is expected in early January 2019 due to the extent of modifications involved. With the generous support of Helicomm, we acquired a superior avionics instrumentation panel, including a Garmin G500 dual screen electronic flight display and a JPI electronic engine monitor. A public address system similar to that used by CHP has also been installed. A specialized law enforcement transceiver with multiple law enforcement frequencies was acquired and installed with funding provided by a federal grant.

As mentioned in last year's report, a 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, and which will significantly aid search and rescue operations.

The Sheriff's Office and County completed the approval process for Aero Squadron-nominated pilots with the qualifications and experience required to fly as Pilots-in-Command. Aero Squadron-nominated Flight Officer candidates have also been evaluated and approved.

BACKGROUND

The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Aero Squadron was originally formed during World War II to provide coastal anti-submarine patrol functions and operated out of the original Hearst Ranch airstrip north of Cambria. Undoubtedly, this was a result of enemy submarines firing upon the oil storage facilities near Cayucos and the torpedoed sinking of the Union Oil tanker Montebello just offshore Cambria on December 23, 1941. The



pilots and observers providing these airborne patrols supplemented the hundreds of “Special Deputies” appointed by Sheriff Murray Hathaway to assist his relatively small number of sworn deputies. Our earliest written records show the official founding and recognition of the Aero Squadron as part of the county’s Sheriff’s Office in 1948. The Squadron was reorganized in the late 1960s and then again in the mid-1970s in its present form. It has operated continuously since then and is today comprises members from various professional and business backgrounds with aviation-related skills and interests.

MISSION

One of the Aero Squadron’s vital original missions was to provide airborne search, location and rescue-support for survivors of overdue and missing aircraft along the coastal range and remote inland areas. Numerous aircraft and crash scenes have been located over the years with varying degrees of support provided, including the Pacific Southwest Airlines crash west of Templeton in the 1980s.

More commonly, 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.

Fortunately for many, the introduction and wide availability of GPS technology in hand-held devices and mobile telephones over the past ten years has led to a significant reduction in the number of “lost” persons who, with a little guidance from these devices, are now better able to navigate back to safety. Prevalence of this technology has resulted in decreased demand for assistance from our county’s search and rescue organizations.

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.

Other Aero Squadron missions also include personnel, vehicle and vessel tracking as part of narcotics and contraband surveillance and intervention operations.

Currently, higher performance Aero Squadron aircraft provide the Sheriff, his staff and other county personnel with a transportation asset throughout the state of California for business meeting attendance.

The Aero Squadron also exhibits its aircraft and ground support vehicle at various local airshows, the annual Law Enforcement Night at the San Luis Obispo Farmers’ Market in May and the Sheriff’s Family Day at the Ranch event in September.



DIVE TEAM

THE SHERIFF'S UNDERWATER SEARCH AND RECOVERY TEAM

had another busy year. The team was called out to assist another agency in a murder victim recovery. There were eleven training sessions, an administrative meeting, and an all-day speaker's conference. Dive team members also participated in seven community outreach programs. The team is made up of 25 members, one commander, one sergeant, eight deputy sheriffs, one reserve deputy and fifteen civilian volunteers.

CALL-OUTS

The Search and Recovery Dive Team was called out to assist San Luis Obispo Police Department detectives to recover a murder victim that was found half buried underwater in a streambed. Divers in hazmat diving suits supervised by forensic investigators unburied the female victim after a winter storm

covered her with sand and rocks. Thanks to the efforts of the Dive Team, a suspect is in custody and the case is currently being adjudicated.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In May of this year, school resource deputies put on "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.

Farmers' Market during the month of May drew a huge crowd this year and the Sheriff's Dive Team was there to display their equipment, answer questions, and explain the roll the Team plays in the community.

The G.R.E.A.T. Program (Gang Resistance Education and Training) runs summer camps every year at three local schools in the county. When the students graduate from this program, many of the local agencies' specialty units are invited to showcase their equipment, answer questions, and let the kids get a look at how exciting a career as a first responder can be. In June and July, Dive Team members

brought the Dive Team Truck loaded up with all of its equipment to the graduation ceremonies for Mesa Middle School in Nipomo, Cayucos Middle School and Lillian Larsen elementary in San Miguel.

Madonna Ranch was the place to be in September for Cops and Kids. Hundreds of families from around the county showed up for the fun. Dive Team members displayed their diving gear and educated the public on the tasks and responsibilities of the Team.

Each year the Sheriff's Office puts on "The Sheriff's Citizens Academy". This course is an educational outreach program for adults. The curriculum lasts for eleven weeks and includes instructors from the different divisions of the Sheriff's Office who educate the participants about the many different aspects of the Agency. Highlights of the course content included a presentation by the Dive Team and an equipment display at the graduation.

TRAINING

In January of this year Dive Team members brushed up on basic but

life-saving skills, including buoyancy control and donning and doffing of equipment while underwater. This took place at Hardie Pool in Cayucos. Veterans as well as new members participated in the training.

February's location for the much-dreaded SLAM training was at Spooner's Cove in Montano de Oro. Divers spent the day getting thrashed around by the surf. The training helps team members prepare themselves for rescuing or recovering victims from surf-covered rocks and rough ocean conditions. Also included in the training was an open ocean swim in the waves and surge.

This year's annual Diver Education was in March at the PG&E Conference Center, which hosts both statewide and local participating agencies. Speakers presented subjects that included dive-medicine, diving safety, and marine biology. A secondary training took place in March. Divers spent the day in the rain and the mud in Morro Bay Harbor. The training includes divers traversing the muddy bottom of the harbor in low tide as well as extracting themselves—and each other—from it. These skills are used to rescue stranded kayakers or paddleboarders who attempt to cross the muddy bottom at super low tides.

In April of this year the Dive Team practiced swift water rescue techniques at the base of the Nacimiento Lake Dam. The outflow from the lake is a great place for the team to set up and perform realistic mock rescue scenarios.

Dive Team training in May was at the bottom of Lopez Lake, where Team members did a deep dive to 97 feet. At the same time new Dive Team members donned the Team's full-face masks, dry suits, and got acclimated to their use in the shallows.

A secondary training took place at Bass Lake in Madera County in May. Three sworn members and two volunteers were sent to a specialized Side-Scan Sonar training where a dozen other agencies from around the state partook in the four day event. The Sheriff's pontoon boat was towed to Bass Lake for the practical portion of the training.

Team members spent June's training repairing, and renovating equipment. In addition, dry diving and salvage techniques were practiced at the Sheriff's equipment barn.

July and August's training sessions were spent at Lake Nacimiento. Divers practiced hazmat protocol, black water diving, boat operations and search patterns. Newer team members were partnered with Veteran divers to practice skills that are required to become a "Public Safety Diver". Every member of the Team must be proficient enough to operate one of the Sheriff's vessels used by the Dive Team in case of an emergency.

Helocasting out of CHP's H70 helicopter into the water is one of the team's all-time favorite training sessions. This year the location was in Avila Beach, the month was September, and Unocal was kind enough to allow their property to be used as the landing zone. Divers

were picked up, dropped in the ocean, and then hoisted back into the chopper and flown back to shore.

In addition, the Dive Team assisted the SED team in their water training both in a pool and on the ocean during the month of September.

In October the Sheriff's vessel "Christopher Meadows" was launched at the public launch in Avila Beach. Team members practiced locating objects underwater using Side-Scan sonar. Team members who attended the Bass Lake Training were able to teach the rest of the team the skills they learned. Once the items are located divers are then sent in the water to retrieve them.

Morro Bay harbor was the scene for November's training. Pier orientation and search patterns were on the schedule. The turnout for training was light as the majority of the sworn members were sent to Ventura County to aid in the fire evacuations.

Each December, team members spend the training day doing administrative details that include position elections and the following year's training schedule. Emergency situation like this occurs in our county.



EXPLORERS

EXPLORER PROGRAM HELPS YOUTH DISCOVER THE WORLD OF LAW ENFORCEMENT.

The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post 781 consists of a group 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 7 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. Various other deputies are called upon to assist with specialty trainings.

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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

General Business Line (Dispatch):
(805) 781-4550x3

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

1585 Kansas Avenue
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

www.slosheriff.org

