

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



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A close-up photograph of a silver, five-pointed star badge. The badge is embossed with the words "DEPUTY SHERIFF" in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Below this, the number "125" is embossed in a large, bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the star, the words "SAN LUIS OBISPO CO." are embossed in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font. The badge is set against a dark, textured background. Other parts of similar badges are visible in the background, including one with the word "COUNT" and another with "DEPUTY SHERIFF".

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office is to protect all life and property and to provide service, security, and safety to the community. Our vision is to be the most progressive and creative leaders within the law enforcement community, and ensure our County remains one of the safest places to live and visit.





2023 At a Glance



129,305

LAW ENFORCEMENT &
MEDICAL SERVICE CALLS

SERVING:



3,300 SQ. MILES &
121,133 RESIDENTS

134

PROFESSIONAL
STAFF



170

SHERIFF'S
DEPUTIES



156

CORRECTIONAL
DEPUTIES

3,062

ILLEGAL DRUG ITEMS
PROCESSED



1,777

ARRESTS
MADE



9,472

REPORTS
WRITTEN

8,108

INMATES
BOOKED

2,657

LATENT PRINT
EXAMINATIONS



337

CORONER DEATH
INVESTIGATIONS



\$104 M
OPERATING
BUDGET



A MESSAGE FROM

SHERIFF IAN PARKINSON

San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office



A lot can happen in a year. It seems the only constant this past year was change. It has been a very eventful 2023 to say the least. And while people often fear change, I embrace it. It causes us to think differently and act accordingly.

The headline story of the year occurred on March 10, 2023, a judge in Monterey County sentenced Paul Flores to 25 years to life in prison for the murder of Kristin Smart. During the sentencing, the judge called Flores "a cancer to society." Thus, ending a 27-year long saga of finding justice for Kristin. Of great concern not only last year but the past few years is the rise in Fentanyl deaths. The Sheriff's Narcotics Unit has seen a dramatic rise in the number of cases involving this drug. Sadly, so too has our Coroner's Unit. We are working

with our law enforcement partners locally and around the state to combat this growing and deadly trend.

This year, we also had our fair share of stories that didn't necessarily make it on the evening news. We held a memorial for two of our retired K9's Jacco and Gonzo who were cherished members of the Sheriff's Office family. We said goodbye to one of our longtime detectives Clint Cole who retired from the Sheriff's Office after 32 years in law enforcement and was instrumental in getting the Smart case to the finish line. We also redesigned our website slosheriff.org with you in mind to include new features and make navigating easier to do. Many more stories can be found in the following pages of our Annual Report.

My thanks go out to the dedicated employees of the Sheriff's Office who make sure our county is safe and secure. And my gratitude to the community for helping us keep it that way.

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

IAN PARKINSON

San Luis Obispo County
Sheriff-Coroner

UNDERSHERIFF JIM VOGUE

San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office

As I embark on my 48th and final year in law enforcement, I could not be prouder of the outstanding men and women who work for the Sheriff's Office. During Sheriff's Parkinson's tenure, there has been an unwavering objective to fill our vacancies with the highest qualified candidates and to continue to build our organization on the foundation of integrity and service to the public.

Our sworn and civilian personnel are the finest representation of professional law enforcement staff anywhere. As a community member, I am often thanked for the professional demeanor and competency of our employees. Our reverence for life can be measured in the numerous lifesaving medals that we issue during every awards ceremony.



The high profile and everyday cases solved by our detectives are truly remarkable and our patrol deputies continually provide quality service. Our civilian staff are truly talented covering many areas such as Records and Warrants, Property, Dispatch, Human Relations, Information Technology, Cannabis Licensing, Correctional Technicians, and Crime Prevention. In addition, our Custody Bureau is a model for all jails.

The great, late soccer player Pele once said, "Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and, most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do." This statement truly characterizes the employees of the Sheriff's Office. The teamwork, common goals, attitude, ability, and vision are genuinely inspiring. This is the reason why the Sheriff's Office is destined to succeed. Our people are and will continue to be the reason for our continued success for years to come.

A handwritten signature of Jim Voge in black ink.

JIM VOGUE

San Luis Obispo County
UnderSheriff

2023 Detectives at a Glance

1

DETECTIVE COMMANDER

4

DETECTIVE SERGEANTS

28

DETECTIVES

400+

FORENSIC DATA EXTRACTIONS

12+ POUNDS

FENTANYL SEIZED

113

SEIZED FIREARMS

337

CORONER DEATH INVESTIGATIONS

SHERIFF



SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNIT

The Special Operations Unit comprises the Sheriff’s Narcotics Unit and the Sheriff’s Gang Task Force (GTF). Due to the nature of drug crimes transcending state or county boundaries, narcotics detectives often handle cases originating in San Luis Obispo County that extend into other jurisdictions. Consequently, they collaborate closely with local, state, and federal drug enforcement agencies, engaging in coordinated multi-jurisdictional efforts to combat the proliferation of methamphetamine and other illicit substances across California. These collaborative efforts involve a variety of tactics, including surveillance of suspects, management of confidential informants, analysis of financial records, monitoring of wiretaps on suspect phones, undercover operations, execution of search warrants, and interrogation of suspects regarding their criminal activities. The Gang Task Force focuses on making a positive impact through community outreach and education, identifying criminal street gang members and their activities, and employing law enforcement strategies to disrupt their operations. By addressing gang-related issues through proactive measures and targeted enforcement, the GTF aims to enhance public safety and mitigate the impact of gang activity on communities within San Luis Obispo County.

9287.93
GRAMS OF
METHAMPHETAMINE

5613.4
GRAMS OF
FENTANYL

199.36
GRAMS OF
HEROIN

978
GRAMS OF PSILOCYBIN
MUSHROOMS

1873.34
GRAMS OF
COCAINE

113
SEIZED FIREARMS

113
ARRESTS/CITES/FILINGS
WITH THE DA’S OFFICE

\$92,853
U.S. CURRENCY SEIZED

CANNABIS COMPLIANCE TEAM

The Sheriff’s Office Cannabis Compliance Team is a growing unit within the Sheriff’s Office. This team handles the compliance of legal cannabis operations, the background and application of prospective operators, and the enforcement of any criminal cannabis operations.

2023 CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT

CRIMINAL CANNABIS INVESTIGATIONS	ILLEGAL PLANTS ERADICATED	ILLEGAL PROCESSED CANNABIS SEIZED	FIREARMS SEIZED
12	2,650	2,830 LBS.	3

2023 LEGAL COMPLIANCE

OPERATIONAL CANNABIS SITES	CANNABIS COMPLAINTS	CANNABIS CODE VIOLATION CASES	QUARTERLY MONITORING INSPECTIONS
25	27	20	100



MAJOR CRIMES UNIT

**10 STAFF MEMBERS
SUPERVISORS,
DETECTIVES & CLERKS**

**250 +
FORENSIC DATA
EXTRACTIONS PERFORMED**

**50 +
CALL-OUTS**

**350 +
SEARCH WARRANTS
SERVED**

**450
CLEARED CASES**

**150 +
MISSING PERSON
REPORTS TAKEN**



The Major Crimes Unit is responsible for investigating criminal cases that go above and beyond the scope and resources of the Patrol Division. This includes misdemeanor and felony crimes for both local and state laws. In the past year, the Major Crimes Unit has been involved in the successful prosecutions of several homicides, assaults, financial crimes, and property crimes. The Major Crimes Unit is also responsible for investigating missing persons reports.

COLD CASE UNIT

The Cold Case Unit is tasked with investigating unsolved homicides in San Luis Obispo County. The Detective within this unit conducts thorough reviews of cold cases, focusing on identifying new leads and utilizing advanced technologies and investigative techniques that may not have been available previously.

Presently, the unit is actively investigating 8-10 cold cases at any given time, tirelessly working to seek justice for victims and their families.



SPECIAL VICTIM'S UNIT

The Special Victim's Unit (SVU) is responsible for investigating crimes involving all forms of sexual assault against minors and adults within the unincorporated parts of the County. The Unit also investigates child abuse, child pornography, and child exploitation. Additionally, SVU detectives assist with extreme cases of domestic violence, non-fiduciary elder abuse investigations, and drug endangered children. **The Special Victims Unit handles an average of over 300 cases per year.**



In 2023, SVU investigated numerous major cases, including, child abuse, child exploitation, and adult abuse cases.

SEXUAL ASSAULT FELONY ENFORCEMENT TEAM

The Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (SAFE) Team is responsible for identifying, monitoring, and prosecution of habitual sexual offenders who violate the terms of their probation or parole, or who fail to comply with registration requirements under Penal Code 290. The SAFE Team also investigates Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) cases. ICAC is a nation-wide task force which helps law enforcement agencies develop an effective response to technology-facilitated child sexual exploitation and internet crimes against children.

SPECIAL VICTIM'S UNIT/SAFE TEAM STATISTICS

75 + CALLOUTS

**300 + SEARCH
WARRANTS SERVED**

7 STAFF MEMBERS

**150 + FORENSIC DATA
EXTRACTIONS**

250+ NEW CASES

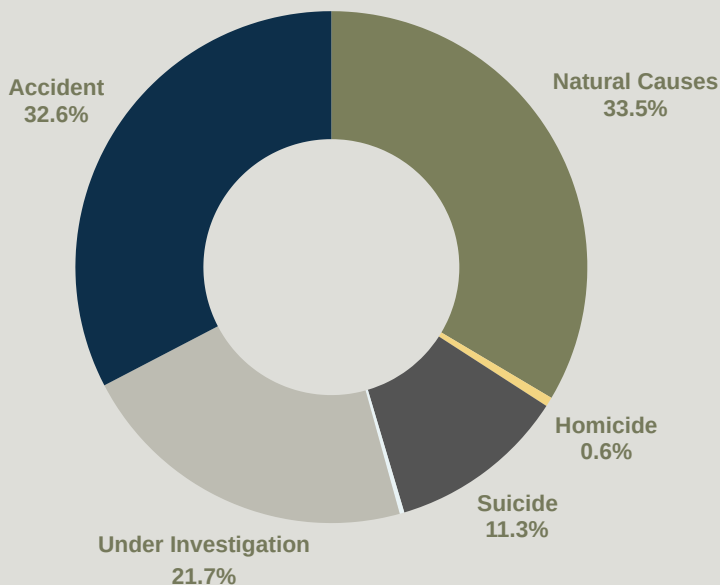
CORONER DIVISION



In cases that require an in-depth death investigation or where greater expertise is needed, the Sheriff's Office has the Coroner Unit within the Detective's Bureau. The Coroner Unit is comprised of a sergeant, four detectives, and a part-time legal clerk. The four detectives are highly trained and specialize in determining the manner and cause of death. The unit currently contracts with NAAG Forensic for autopsy and pathology services.

San Luis Obispo County has experienced a significant increase in drug related deaths over the past several years. In 2023 there were 84 confirmed drug related deaths, with 57 of those cases testing positive for Fentanyl. 73 death investigations are pending final causes and reports.

Coroner Death Investigations statistics



337
DEATH
INVESTIGATIONS

108
EXTERNAL
EXAMINATIONS

129
AUTOPSIES
PERFORMED

39
MEDICAL RECORD
REVIEWS

2023 Patrol at a Glance

67

SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES

14

SHERIFF'S SENIOR DEPUTIES

6

SHERIFF'S SERGEANTS

63,770

DEPUTY INITIATED ACTIONS

1,777

ARRESTS MADE

9,472

REPORTS WRITTEN

66,653

TOTAL INCIDENTS





PATROL STATIONS AT A GLANCE

SERVICE AREA	TOTAL INCIDENTS	DEPUTY INITIATED ACTIONS	FELONY & MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS	TOTAL REPORTS
North Station	19,533	6,209	328	2,032
South Station	22,717	8,133	845	2,710
Coast Station	21,520	8,089	558	2,203
TOTAL	63,770	22,431	1,731	6,945

*Statistics reflect numbers from Patrol Deputies only



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 manage the office 24 hours a 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 is also **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.

BOMB TASK FORCE

The San Luis Obispo County Bomb Task Force (BTF) is accredited by the FBI and is certified as a fully operational bomb squad. The Bomb Task Force is capable of safe rendering and disposing of improvised explosive devices, military ordnance, and commercially manufactured explosives. They can respond to all bomb- or explosive-related incidents within San Luis Obispo County and, upon a mutual aid request, to areas outside of San Luis Obispo County.



BTF responded to 27 explosive devices / bomb-related calls in 2023, consisting of hoax devices, IEDs, military ordnance, illegal fireworks, and suspicious chemical devices.



SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT DETAIL

The Sheriff’s Special Enforcement Detail (SED) is a highly trained and specially equipped tactical team tasked with resolving critical incidents such as hostage situations, barricaded suspects, armed suicidal subjects, crowd control, and high-risk warrant service. Throughout 2023, SED responded to numerous critical incidents in the unincorporated areas of the county, including both pre-planned operations and spontaneous callouts. In each of these incidents, SED successfully apprehended suspects and/or rendered the scene safe for investigative personnel. Their swift and effective response ensured the safety of civilians and law enforcement alike, showcasing their professionalism and dedication to preserving public safety in challenging situations.

MEMBERS	OPERATIONS	TRAINING HOURS
33	7	240



MARINE ENFORCEMENT UNIT

The Marine Enforcement Unit 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.



CANINE UNIT

The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office K9 Unit comprises six Sheriff's Office Canines. There are five Sheriff Canines assigned to the Patrol Division and one Single-Purpose Narcotics Detection Canine assigned to the Special Operations Unit (SOU).

Our highly trained Patrol Canines consist of both Patrol and Narcotics Detection dogs and Patrol and Explosive Ordnance Detection (EOD) dogs, and are known as Cross-Trained Canines.

The Patrol & Narcotics Detection Canines include K9 Rocky (Handled by Dep. Roberto Moita – North Station), K9 Ripley (Handled by Dep. Bogdan Gushchin – South Station), and K9 Blesk (Handled by Dep. Katie Leon – North Station). These canines play a crucial role in locating suspects attempting to evade law enforcement and detecting narcotics.

The Sheriff's Office also has two Patrol Canines trained specifically for explosive ordnance detection, often referred to as "Bomb Dogs." Currently, the Patrol & EOD Detection Canines are K9 Corvin (Handled by Dep. Cedric Adams – South Station) and K9 Mando (Handled by Dep. Andrew Mora – Coast Station). These specialized canines are trained to detect odors associated with explosive materials, enhancing safety and security measures.

Additionally, within the Sheriff's Office Special Operations Unit (SOU), there is K9 Rooster, a single-purpose narcotics detection canine handled by Dep. Tyler Brixey. K9 Rooster's primary function is to search for and locate hidden contraband, particularly narcotics. In response to the increased presence of Fentanyl in San Luis Obispo County in 2023, K9 Rooster and Dep. Brixey have been instrumental in preventing and responding to the introduction of Fentanyl into custody facilities, providing essential support to Sheriff's Office Custody staff.

CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM

The Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) is a specialized group of trained law enforcement personnel who responds to barricade incidents, hostage situations, or threats of self harm, with the goal of providing a peaceful resolution.

All negotiators must complete a rigorous FBI Negotiator course prior to working on the team. In addition, they **received roughly 40 hours of training in 2023** for strategic communication, and specialized trainings focused on: veterans, troubled youth, suicide prevention and mental illness.



OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLE TEAM

The Sheriff's Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Team was founded to address needs in patrolling areas impassable by traditional law enforcement vehicles. The OHV Team also trains in rescue operations where citizens may be stranded or in need of help and cannot be accessed by traditional means. The OHV Team cross-trains with different units in the Sheriff's Office, such as the Special Enforcement Detail, the Canine Unit, and the Community Action Team. The unique vehicle configurations we operate allow us to also shuttle personnel into treacherous terrain.

12 MEMBERS

2 POLARIS RZR's

3 POLARIS RANGERS



CIVIL DIVISION

The Civil Division is responsible for the service of civil process including evictions, summons and complaints, small claims documents, subpoenas, and restraining orders. The Civil division also provides for the security of Superior court locations in San Luis Obispo, Paso Robles, Grover Beach, and the Juvenile Services Center on Hwy 1. Deputies assigned to this division oversee the security screening at court buildings, serve as Bailiffs in the courtrooms, and provide security for court staff, Judges, and Court Commissioners.

In 2023, the division completed 135 evictions, 454 levies, and served a total of 1,712 civil process service documents.

UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS

The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Team maintains a fleet of small unmanned aerial devices (drones) that are utilized for operational overwatch, disaster management, fugitive apprehension, missing persons, documentation, and other situations that may be supplemented by the services this team can provide.

17 MISSING PERSONS DEPLOYMENTS

8 SEARCH WARRANT DEPLOYMENTS

35+ TRAINING RELATED DEPLOYMENTS

10 IN-PROGRESS EMERGENCIES

In 2023, department drones were deployed over 70 times.





RURAL CRIME UNIT

The mission of the San Luis Obispo County Rural Crime Unit (RCU) is to enforce laws and provide investigative services focused primarily on theft and property damage in the agricultural communities and rural industries.

RURAL CRIME INVESTIGATIONS

243

**SUSPECTS REFERRED
FOR PROSECUTION**

15

**RECOVERED STOLEN
EQUIPMENT VALUE**

\$299,000



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SHERIFF'S
OFFICE

HONOR GUARD

The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office established the Honor Guard to honor fallen officers and to represent the Sheriff's Office at ceremonies throughout the County and State. **In 2023, the Sheriff's Honor Guard took part in over 20 events** including General Assemblies, Award Ceremonies, Academy Graduations, Funerals, the Peace Officer's Memorial in Sacramento, the Local Peace Officer's Memorial in Paso Robles, and K9 memorials. We are honored to continue to serve the Sheriff's Office and the community in this capacity.



BIKE PATROL TEAM

The Sheriff's Office Bicycle Patrol Team is a specialty unit 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 events with large crowds such as parades, holiday events, concerts, community events, races, and various other special events.

9 MEMBERS

50 TRAINING HOURS

14 EVENTS PATROLLED



MUTUAL AID & PUBLIC SAFETY TEAM

2023 SPECIALIZED TRAININGS

Wild Fire Response
 Medical Aid
 Gas Exposure
 Less-Lethal Weapon Systems
 Arrest & Control
 Firearms
 Mobile Field Force Operations

The purpose of the Mutual Aid and Public Safety (MAPS) team is to provide a team of deputies with specialized training to respond to mutual aid requests, civil unrest, natural disasters, and unusual or critical incidents that by their nature and scope exceed the capabilities of other units within the Sheriff's Office. Fire incident response may include evacuating areas, security patrol of evacuated areas, and road closures to protect people in the affected area. Members of MAPS also respond with the Special Enforcement Detail (SED) during certain emergencies.

2023 Custody at a Glance

27

CORRECTIONAL TECHNICIANS

125

CORRECTIONAL DEPUTIES

16

SENIOR CORRECTIONAL DEPUTIES

15

CORRECTIONAL SERGEANTS

429

AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION

8,108

INCARCERATED PERSONS BOOKED

1,095

PEOPLE BOOKED THROUGH ALTERNATIVE
SENTENCING

8

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS AWARDED

OVER 500

VOCATIONAL CLASSES & PROGRAMS
COORDINATED



CUSTODY DIVISION

EARLY ACCESS TO STABILIZATION SERVICES (EASS)

In August of 2023, the Sheriff's Office in coordination with the Department of State Hospitals and Wellpath created Early Access to Stabilization Services (EASS) within the county jail. The mission of the EASS program is to efficiently and effectively begin restoration services including and not limited to the psychiatric stabilization, mental health treatment, and competency training for incarcerated persons to regain competency to stand trial. Within days of being declared incompetent to stand trial in court, incarcerated persons are now enrolled into EASS and begin the process of being restored.

On many occasions staff can get an incarcerated person restored within the program which results in fewer incarcerated persons being transferred to a Department of State Hospital bed. Since the launch date, 27 incarcerated persons have been enrolled into EASS with 9 incarcerated persons being restored within the program and never needing a Department of State Hospital bed.





CUSTODY DIVISION

CORE ACADEMY

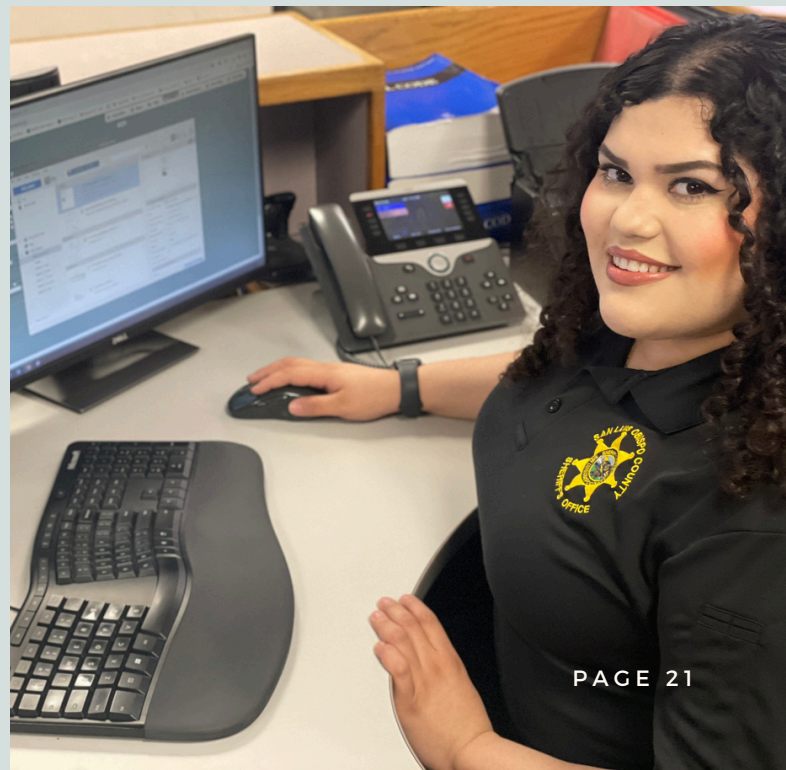
In 2023 the Custody Division conducted two CORE academies on campus. All new Correctional Deputies must attend this academy within their first year of hire. The CORE Academy is five weeks long and in 2023 the Sheriff's Office trained 29 new Correctional Deputies.

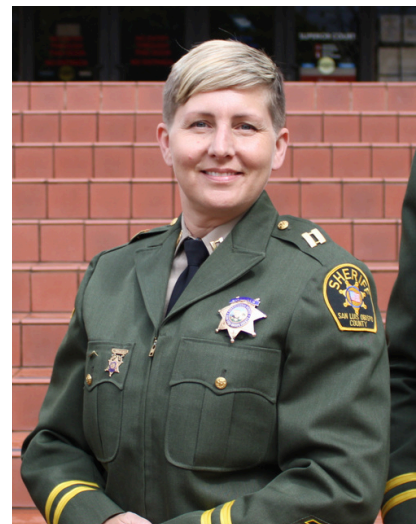
CERT

The Custody Division held a recruitment for new members of our Custody Emergency Response Team in 2023. In November, 5 new members completed the rigorous 40-hour training course which includes topics such as riot response, cell extraction and high-risk transports. CERT members are willing and able to respond to the jail when emergent situations arise and utilize their specialized training to bring peaceful resolutions within the County Jail.

CORRECTIONAL TECHNICIANS

The Sheriff's Office has 27 positions for Correctional Technicians. In 2023 we hired 8 new Correctional Technicians as part of our team. Correctional Technicians are responsible for performing a variety of clerical and technical duties in the booking, processing, and monitoring of incarcerated persons at the County jail. They communicate with the public and other law enforcement agencies to disseminate necessary information. Their job is vital to the success of the Sheriff's Office, and it would be impossible to function without all their amazing work and effort.



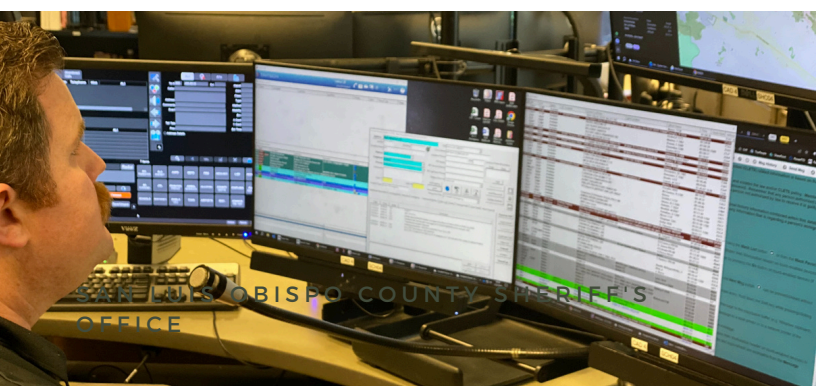




DISPATCH CENTER

The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center is a primary public safety answering point responsible for all 911 calls in the county of San Luis Obispo, as well as the cities of Arroyo Grande and Morro Bay. The Sheriff's Office also maintains communication and dispersal of resources to the citizens of these areas, including law enforcement, paramedics, and numerous county and state departments. The Sheriff's Office is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year with Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) certified dispatchers. The center is responsible for receiving calls for service from the citizens of the community, and sending appropriate resources including law enforcement, probation, ambulances, EMS, and rescue helicopters and other personnel as needed.

In 2023 the Sheriff's Dispatch Center answered more than 266,000 phone calls, averaging over 22,000 calls per month. The 911 calls were answered in 15 seconds or less, 99% of the time, surpassing the California State standard of 95%





RECORDS & WARRANTS

The Records and Warrants Unit is the County's warrant repository. This unit is also responsible for entering restraining orders, processing extraditions, records for criminal discovery, subpoenas, records requests, business permits, and conceal carry permits, along with providing fingerprinting services to the public. The Records and Warrants Unit is also responsible for registering gang, arson, and sex offenders.

In 2023 the unit successfully transitioned to paperless warrants, which significantly minimized the time it takes to get a warrant into the national, state, and local database systems once it has been issued by the judge.

Items Processed

- Records and Requests: **4,392**
- Warrants Entered: **12,552**
- Ink and Livescan Fingerprinting: 895

Sex Offender Registrations Processed

- Total: **220**
- Classified as Transient: 19
- Live within the Sheriff's Jurisdiction: **201**

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT

The Professional Standards and Training Unit is responsible for the timely resolution of internal investigations, evaluation of training needs in response to changes in legislation, and providing the highest-quality training to our sworn and civilian personnel.

In 2021, the Sheriff's Office was selected on a national level to receive grant funding to outfit patrol deputies with body worn cameras. This audio/video footage has been extremely helpful in the areas of criminal investigations, administrative investigations, training, professionalism and transparency.

BODY WORN CAMERAS

Videos: 182,375 Photos: 4,704



INVESTIGATIONS

Complaint Investigations: 40
Use of Force Investigations: 101
Vehicle Pursuit Investigations: 18

AGENCY TRAININGS

Patrol Deputy training hours: 24,548
Custody Unit training hours: 15,909

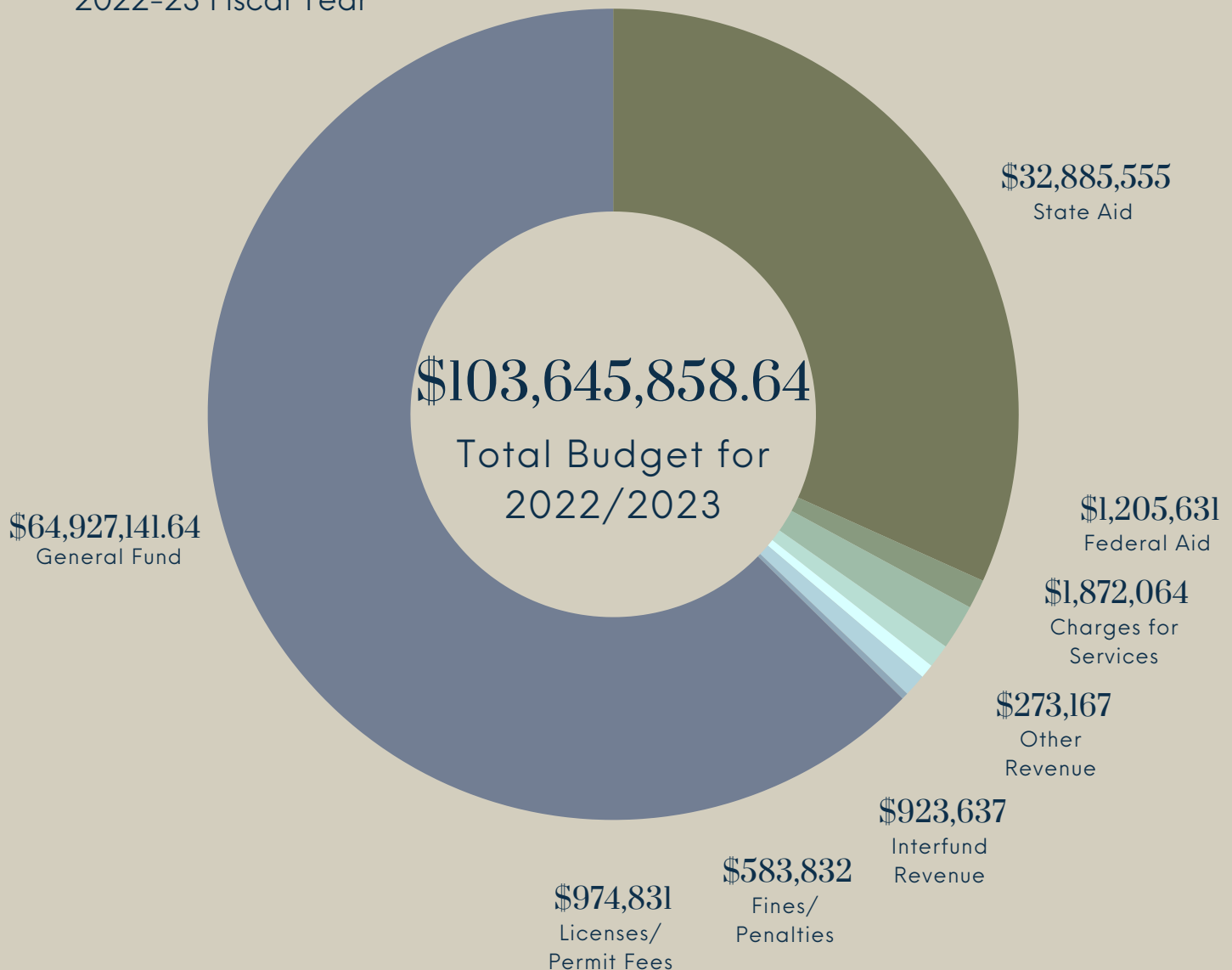


FISCAL SERVICES

The Fiscal Services 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 Sheriff's Office budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23 was \$104 million, with \$65 million received from the General Fund.

OFFICE BUDGET

2022-23 Fiscal Year



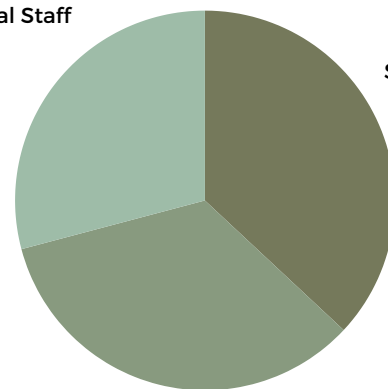
HUMAN RESOURCES

The Sheriff's Office Human Resources (HR) is responsible for finding, screening, and recruiting qualified job applicants to fill a variety of positions in patrol, custody, dispatch, and professional support services. In addition, they administer employee-benefit programs, coordinate department events, and onboard new employees. In 2023, the HR team managed 69 recruitments which resulted in 82 new hires. Sheriff's Office HR proudly serves over 460 employees department-wide.

Connect with us on Instagram
to find out more about
recruitment opportunities,
specialty teams and more!



Professional Staff
134



Sworn Deputies
170

Custody Sworn
156

BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION UNIT

Sheriff's Background Investigation Unit manages investigations of all department employees during the hiring process. In addition, they conduct all investigations for any person interested in volunteering within the department. They ensure an in-depth investigation is conducted to determine suitability and establish the honesty and integrity of each applicant.

In 2023, there were over 210 background packets returned for processing.



Correctional Deputy: 59
Correctional Technician: 36
Sheriff's Cadet: 26
Lateral Deputy: 11
Lateral Correctional Deputy: 12
Reserve Deputy: 5
Dispatcher: 19
Forensic Autopsy Technician: 4
Cook: 5
Business System Analyst: 5
Senior Account Clerk: 4
Employee Services Manager: 5
Digital Forensic Examiner: 1
Accountant: 3
Administrative Service Manager: 4

CRIME LABORATORY

The Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory is responsible for processing evidence to support Sheriff's Office investigations, as well as law enforcement agencies throughout the county.

LEGAL CLERK:

3,638 REPORTS PROCESSED

DUI Reports: 718
Drug Reports: 2,647
Forensic Reports: 276



FORENSIC ALCOHOL LAB:

695 BLOOD ALCOHOL CASES TESTED

Highest Blood Test: 0.428% BAC, SLOPD
Average Blood Alcohol Result for 2023 = 0.175% BAC

Agency with the most DUI Blood Samples=
CHP San Luis Obispo (165; 23.74%)

1,023 BREATH ALCOHOL CASES TESTED

Highest Breath Test: 0.472% BAC, GBPD
Average Breath Alcohol Result for 2023 = 0.168% BAC

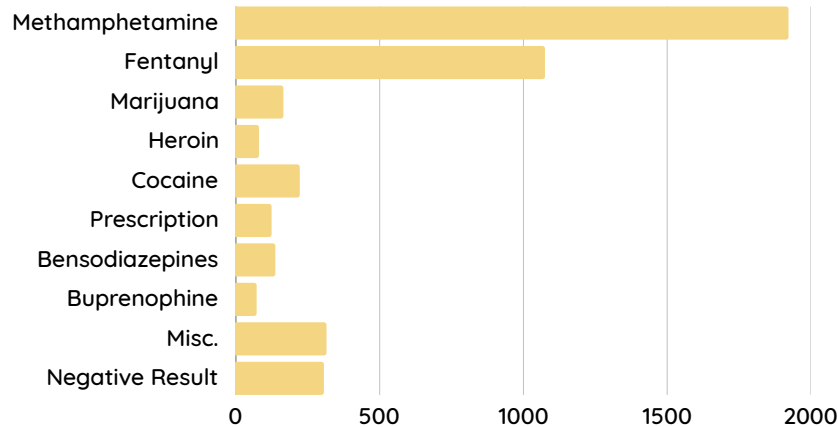
Agency with the most DUI Breath Samples=
CHP Templeton (250; 24.44%)

FORENSIC CRIME LAB:

The ANDE Rapid DNA Machine continues to be of great value to the Forensic Services Unit. Acquired in June of 2021, the ANDE machine has already successfully been used to identify a suspect in a sexual assault case, identify suspects in homicide cases, and identify the remains in Coroner's cases, bringing timely closures for the families. The ANDE Rapid DNA machine has the capability of creating a full DNA profile in under 2 hours. In addition to processing evidence, Forensic Specialists respond to multiple crime scenes, including homicides, assaults with firearms, stabbings, and suspicious deaths.

FORENSIC NARCOTIC LAB:

● 2023 Narcotic Sample Tests - 4,700 Cases Tot...



**23 FORENSIC IDENTIFICATIONS
MADE ON JOHN/JANE DOE'S**

**ASSISTED WITH 28 DEATH
INVESTIGATIONS**

**ASSISTED WITH 5 HOMICIDE
INVESTIGATIONS**

EXAMINED 2,657 LATENT PRINTS

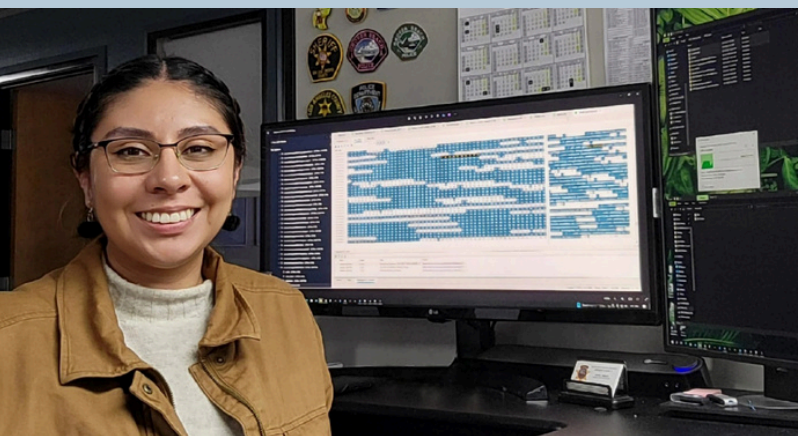
IDENTIFIED 124 LATENT PRINTS

**1,017 ITEMS PROCESSED IN LAB FOR
LATENT PRINTS, DNA, BODILY
FLUIDS, & SERIAL NUMBER
RESTORATIONS**

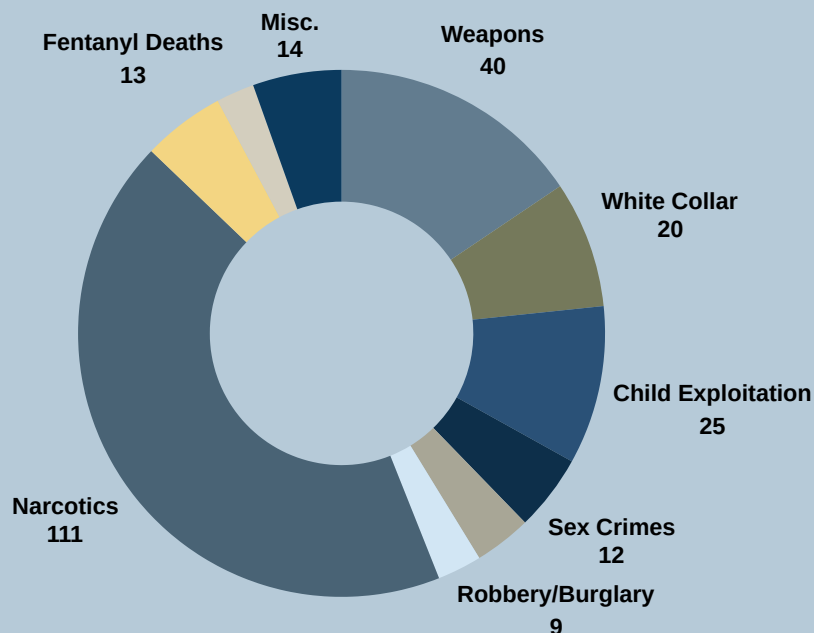
DIGITAL FORENSICS

The Digital Forensics Unit is exclusively committed to the extraction and analysis of digital devices to address the continually evolving electronic crime cases affecting the San Luis Obispo County community. The unit works closely with allied agencies within the county, ensuring the availability of these specialized capabilities to their respective investigative units

257 digital evidence items were collected and analyzed for investigations to be presented in a court of law as evidence.



Crime Related Examinations



216 PHONES AND TABLETS

21 COMPUTERS

10 EXTERNAL MEMORY

7 TABLETS

3 MISCELLANEOUS

257 total Devices Examined

COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM

The Behavioral Health Community Action Team (B.H.C.A.T) is a combined partnership between a Deputy Sheriff, Deputy Probation Officer and a licensed SLO County Mental Health Professional from Behavioral Health. The team assists individuals in crisis and collaborates with community-based services to provide assistance to unhoused individuals with severe mental illness who have come to the attention of law enforcement. Their goals are to prevent emergency hospitalizations and reduce recidivism rates of mentally ill offenders.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



In 2023, Sheriff IT embarked on a series of pivotal projects that underscored the organization's commitment to technological advancement. The team collaborated on the construction of a state-of-the-art co-located dispatch center, signaling the beginning of a transformative phase in operations. Simultaneously, efforts were launched to implement a cutting-edge dispatch radio system and consoles, amplifying communication capabilities and responsiveness. Embracing the CAL-AIM initiative showcased the department's dedication to aligning technology with organizational goals. Additionally, a strategic initiative was undertaken to **enhance security by replacing jail security network switches and workstations, fortifying our system's resilience**. These projects collectively reflect the IT department's proactive approach to innovation, seamless communication, and the continual improvement of operational safety and security. The addition of new personnel, including an IT Manager, IT Supervisor, Business Systems Analyst, Software Engineer and Project Manager, infused the department with fresh expertise, enhancing its capacity for innovation and efficiency.

PROPERTY UNIT

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 including items that are found or recovered, evidence, and for safekeeping.

RECEIVED 12,364 ITEMS

RETURNED 449 ITEMS TO OWNERS

PROCESSED & DESTROYED
3,062 DRUG ITEMS

RECOVERED 103 STOLEN ITEMS

PROCESSED 370 GUNS

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SHERIFF'S
OFFICE



SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTIES



The School Resource program creates a law enforcement presence to ensure safety and promote positive relationships on school campuses and at community events. In 2023, our School Resource Deputies hosted 3 week-long Sheriff's Youth Summer Camps throughout the county teaching gang resistance, positive peer pressure, and communication skills, while also participating in fun activities and events.



COAST CAMP
CAYUCOS ELEMENTARY

NORTH CAMP
LILLIAN LARSEN ELEMENTARY

SOUTH CAMP
MESA MIDDLE SCHOOL

90 Students

48 Students

100 Students



The 2023 Central Coast Law Enforcement Explorer Competition, hosted at Cuesta College in October, was a resounding success. Over the course of one day, 12 Explorer Posts from across California participated in seven challenging scenarios, rotating through each with enthusiasm and dedication. A total of 82 explorers and 37 advisers engaged in the competition, showcasing their skills and commitment to law enforcement excellence. Plaques were awarded to the top five teams in each scenario, as well as to the top five teams with the best overall score across all scenarios. The event not only provided a platform for healthy competition but also fostered camaraderie and professional development among participants. We are immensely proud of the collaborative spirit demonstrated by all involved.



CRIME PREVENTION UNIT

The Crime Prevention Unit supports the Sheriff's Office's mission to increase public safety through education and community engagement. Programs include Neighborhood Watch, the Sheriff's Citizen Academy, the Sheriff's Auxiliary Volunteer Patrol program, certifying department members in CPR and First Aid, children's safety programs, internet safety presentations, planning and executing the Sheriff's Youth Summer Camps, security/CPTED surveys for homes and businesses, and outreach booths at community events throughout the year.

The Crime Prevention and Public Information Units manage the department's social media platforms. The mission of the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office Social Media Team is to share accurate and relevant information, positively promote the Sheriff's Office and public safety, and to create opportunities for community engagement.

SOCIAL MEDIA REACH IN 2023



30% MALE
 66% FEMALE

48,089

**FACEBOOK
FOLLOWERS**

9,904,396

IMPRESSIONS



26% MALE
 58% FEMALE

17,768

**INSTAGRAM
FOLLOWERS**

3,320,219

IMPRESSIONS



10,423

**TWITTER
FOLLOWERS**

415,727

IMPRESSIONS

follow us: @SLOSHERIFF



PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

The mission of the Public Information Officer (PIO) is to inform the community about the Sheriff's Office. Quite simply, the PIO explains what we do as an agency and why we do it. The PIO serves as the primary contact for local, state, national, and international media for any news items that directly relate to the Sheriff's Office.

67

PRESS RELEASES

7

MEDIA ADVISORIES

62

**NATIONAL MEDIA
CONTACTS**

3

**INTERNATIONAL MEDIA
CONTACTS**

19

**LOCAL MEDIA
CONTACTS**

VOLUNTEERS AT A GLANCE

POSSE

1,641 Volunteer Hours
139 Meeting Hours
2 Search Events
5 Patrol Events
13 Ceremonial Events
17 Members



SAVP'S

2,681 Volunteer Hours
43 Members
35,343 Miles Patrolled
10 Events Attended



DIVE TEAM

3,660 Volunteer Hours
12 Trainings
18 Call Outs
25 Members
8 Special Events Attended



SEARCH & RESCUE

2,975 Volunteer Hours
2,534 Trainings Hours
22 Searches
9 Special Events



AERO SQUADRON

22 Active Members
19 Licensed Pilots
89 Flight Hours



EXPLORERS

10 Members
12 Trainings
20 Meetings
10 Special Events Attended





For Further Details
Contact:
Human Resources
sloso_hr@co.slo.ca.us

San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office Career Opportunities

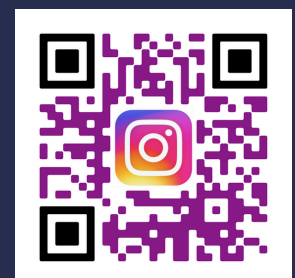
Want an exciting career in
law enforcement?

Join the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office. Through service, courage, and dedication, become a guardian of justice, fostering positive change in both your life and the lives of those we serve. Together, let's build a safer, stronger, and more vibrant future. Join us in making a difference—today and for generations to come.

For more information, visit:
WWW.SLOSHERIFF.ORG

Follow us!

@SLOSHERIFFSRECRUITMENT





THE 2023 ANNUAL REPORT IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
CRIME PREVENTION UNIT



CONTACT INFORMATION

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

General Business Line (Dispatch):
(805) 781-4550 x 3

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