

2020



HUMBOLDT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
ANNUAL REPORT

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Humboldt County Sheriff's Office 2020 Annual Report

Mailing Address: 826 4th St. Eureka, CA 95501 | Phone: 707-445-7251 | Email: hso@co.humboldt.ca.us

Web: humboldtsheriff.org | Facebook/Instagram: @HumboldtSheriff | Twitter: @HumCoSO

A MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF HONSAL

It is an honor to be the elected Sheriff and public servant to a county that has so much to offer our citizens. As we look back on the year 2020, I can't help but reflect on how our 300 employees have assisted this county in navigating a pandemic, civil unrest, Public Safety Power Shutoffs, and devastating wildfires, all while making it their priority to carry out the values of the Sheriff's Office. Our mission is to protect and serve our community and to earn the public's trust through compassion and accountability. The men and women of the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) carry out this mission daily, sacrificing much to protect our community.

Despite the pandemic and lockdowns, the dedicated employees of the Sheriff's Office have maintained 24-hour communications, patrol coverage, jail services, animal control services, search and rescue, drug enforcement, and records services. Though this year brought extra safety precautions and new ways of doing things, our employees stepped up to the challenge, continuing to exemplify excellence in the face of adversity. We value all lives above our own, and we are prepared to always go above and beyond to ensure our community and citizens are protected.

Our five principles speak to the priorities of the Sheriff's Office:

1. We are **Prepared** to do what is necessary every day.
2. We are trusted with the **Protection** of our community and hold this above all else.
3. We are dedicated to **Prevention** of crime and abuse of all types.
4. We put an emphasis on **Problem Solving**, always being innovative and solution driven.
5. We seek trust and engagement through **Partnership** with our employees and everyone in our community.

Many of our employees meet our Humboldt citizens during the worst days of their lives and we recognize the impact that we can make in a person's life. Our goal is to ensure that people receive nothing but dignity and respect in every

contact. Our ethics and training continuously reinforce this goal.

The men and women of the Sheriff's Office demonstrate the professionalism and compassion to humbly serve this fine community and I thank them for their daily sacrifice to serve.



In this 2020 Annual Report you will find information about every division of the HCSO. We pride ourselves on making the Sheriff's Office an innovative and professional law enforcement agency that is approachable to our community. This publication is only a snapshot of what the Sheriff's Office accomplishes daily throughout the county. There are things that deputies do every day to make a difference that go unnoticed, and we pride ourselves on that. The Sheriff's Office is blessed to have the community's trust and support. We recognize there is always room for improvement, and we continue to identify areas of growth.

In 2021 we will continue our pursuit to partner with the community to solve problems and make Humboldt County a safe place to live, work, and recreate. If you are interested in learning more about the Sheriff's Office or volunteering to help with our mission, vision, and values, please visit our website, like us on Facebook, or follow us on Instagram or Twitter. Thank you again for allowing the Sheriff's Office to serve as your county law enforcement agency.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W.F. Honsal".

CONNECT WITH US

Scan this QR code to visit our website and connect with us.



OUR LEADERSHIP



WILLIAM F. HONSAL
SHERIFF



JUSTIN BRAUD
UNDERSHERIFF



REGINA FULLER
FINANCIAL DIRECTOR



DUANE CHRISTIAN
CORRECTIONS CAPTAIN



BRYAN QUENELL
OPERATIONS CAPTAIN



OUR MISSION

To protect and serve our community and to earn the public's trust through compassion and accountability.

To be the safest rural community in California where peace, justice, and freedom thrive.

OUR VISION

OUR PRINCIPLES



PREPARED

We are prepared to do what is necessary every day.



PROTECTION

We are trusted with the protection of our community and hold this above all else.



PREVENTION

We are dedicated to prevention of crime and abuse of all types.



PROBLEM SOLVING

We put an emphasis on problem solving, always being innovative and solution driven.



PARTNERSHIP

We seek trust and engagement through partnership with our employees and everyone in our community.

UNITY

TRUST

PROFESSIONALISM

INTEGRITY

EXCELLENCE

ENGAGEMENT

DEDICATION

SERVICE

CORE VALUES

2020
AT A GLANCE



323
EMPLOYEES

SERVING

134,623



RESIDENTS



6,021
INMATES BOOKED



RESPONDED TO

60,755

CALLS FOR SERVICE

127

SHERIFF'S
DEPUTIES

109

CORRECTIONAL
DEPUTIES



85%
MALE



15%
FEMALE



\$44.2 M
OPERATING BUDGET



SCREENED

165,433

PEOPLE ENTERING THE
COURTHOUSE

PROCESSED

1,041

ANIMALS INTO
THE ANIMAL SHELTER



1,017

ARRESTS



1,204

CITATIONS



SERVED

269

TEMPORARY
RESTRAINING
ORDERS



LOCATED AND SEIZED OVER

49,432 LBS

OF ILLEGAL DRUGS

6,020 LBS

OF PRODUCE GROWN
AT THE SWAP FARM

6,293

REPORTS WRITTEN



SHERIFF SPOTLIGHT

HCSO receives state award for Criminal Multi-Casualty Incident (CMCI) Protocol

Each year the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) honors best practices of county governments in California. In 2020, CSAC received a record 363 entries with 49 programs from 25 counties being honored throughout California. The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office was one of the top three in the state to receive the CSAC Innovation Award for our CMCI Protocol. The CSAC Innovation Award is presented to programs that are deemed most innovative and effective. The CMCI Protocol also earned a CSAC Challenge Award in the Administration of Justice and Public Safety category.

The CMCI Protocol is a standardized local reference manual and foundation for both response to and training for a Criminal Multi-Casualty Incident, like an active shooter or an active assailant. The protocol unites 69 law,



fire, and EMS agencies throughout the county with common training and standards, allowing them to work collaboratively when a CMCI occurs.

"I am proud of the work that was accomplished by creating the Criminal Multi-Casualty Incident Response Protocol," Humboldt County Sheriff William Honsal said. "This is a huge achievement and an honor for our community to receive the highest innovation award from CSAC. The CMCI can be modeled throughout the state and country, and demonstrates the success of planning, training, and teamwork to make a community safe."

Employee of the Month Program

In an effort to recognize the great work our employees do daily, Undersheriff Justin Braud instituted an Employee of the Month Program in August 2020. All month long, HCSO employees are given the opportunity to nominate a co-worker for the title. On the first week of each month, one

employee is selected and given the Employee of the Month honor. Employee of the Month winners are selected for their positive embodiment of the HCSO's Mission, Vision and Values (*see page 3*).

AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
				
CORPORAL ANDREA SHERROD	JAIL PROGRAMS COORD. SARA FLORES	DEPUTY JORDAN WALSTROM	EVIDENCE TECHNICIAN ANDREW CAMPBELL	CORPORAL PETER LEIPZIG



Public Safety in a Pandemic

Though 2020 began like any other year, it will be recorded in history as one to never forget. For many, ordinary life came to an abrupt halt in late February/early March, as state-by-state the nation began implementing Stay-at-Home Orders, ceasing non-essential activities in an attempt to buy time and save lives from a new, deadly virus.

The first case of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Humboldt County was detected in February 2020, with the Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services beginning work nearly two months prior monitoring the spread of the virus across the globe. Following the county's first case, the Sheriff's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated and a Joint Information Center (JIC) was established in partnership with Humboldt County Public Health to assist residents in navigating the unknowns of the new virus.

As operations in the EOC got underway, staffing quickly exceeded the designated county EOC facility, requiring staff to enact emergency plans to utilize a local conference center large enough to accommodate the over 100 disaster service workers assigned to the response. Staff from across county departments and partner agencies throughout Humboldt County were deployed to serve in the EOC to assist with public information, build an Alternate Care Site (ACS) for potential hospital overflow due to an increase of COVID

patients, implement countywide COVID-19 testing, provide housing and food services for vulnerable populations, and distribute personal protective equipment (PPE) to medical facilities and first responder agencies.

During the early months of the pandemic, the JIC quickly became the community's trusted source of information regarding COVID-19. The JIC established a call center, taking thousands of calls from community members, addressing questions and concerns. The JIC also established a robust online information portal, allowing concerned residents to stay up-to-date on local COVID-19 cases, health orders and requirements, in addition to resources for those impacted by business closures.

Like other local agencies, Sheriff's Office operations saw significant changes due to the pandemic. Deputy briefings transitioned to an online format, non-essential staff began working from home, facial coverings became mandatory for all staff, and community members were encouraged to make phone or online reports for non-emergency calls for service.

Additionally, in an effort to prevent the introduction of COVID-19 within the Correctional Facility, dozens of inmates were approved for early-release and the booking of non-violent

offenders into the facility was suspended. By doing this, the facility was able to dramatically decrease the inmate population, allowing for more space to accommodate social distancing and mandatory quarantines for newly-booked inmates. Inmate visitation and volunteer programming were also temporarily suspended. Court proceedings also came to a halt as the state worked to determine how to hold proceedings safely and the state temporarily ceased acceptance of inmates sentenced to state prison due to surging COVID-19 cases.

As Stay-at-Home Orders began to relax and businesses began to re-open, the EOC and JIC also played a large role in ensuring businesses re-opened safely and continued implementing COVID-19 safety precautions during operations. Over the past year, the availability of affordable, accessible, and reliable COVID-19 testing has become increasingly important. The EOC, partnering with the State of California and other local jurisdictions, worked to expand testing availability to all community members. As a result of this tireless work, the county has been able to offer freetesting at six locations throughout the county.

In the fall, inmate visitation and limited, digital programming returned to the Correctional Facility. Additionally, court proceedings resumed with a new virtual format. State prisons began accepting a limited number of inmates, freeing up more space in the Correctional Facility. As space became available, the facility began accepting more non-violent offender bookings.

As the pandemic entered the winter months and early vaccines became available, the EOC began shifting its response to coordinating vaccine distribution and continues to work to establish mass-vaccination clinics for the public.

Throughout the pandemic, the county has seen countless acts of great kindness and generosity. Local distilleries donated hundreds of bottles of locally manufactured hand sanitizer for community distribution. Other local businesses donated PPE and resources to assist first responders and health care workers on the front lines of the response. Humboldt County has united to support our community during this unprecedentedly challenging time. As the COVID-19 response continues into 2021, precautions remain in place for all Sheriff's Office divisions.



New Jail-Based Competency Treatment Program helps restore inmates to competency while incarcerated

Dressed in all brown, three men fill their coffee cups, take a seat on the couch and talk about life. It's more relaxed here than in other places at the facility, with flowers and inspirational quotes spread across the walls. And if it weren't for the jumpsuits and cell doors, one might forget that this is actually a county jail.

On Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020, the Humboldt County Correctional Facility (HCCF) and Wellpath held a ribbon cutting for the county's newest initiative to address mental illness within the justice system, a Jail-Based Competency Treatment (JBCT) Program for offenders deemed incompetent to stand trial.

"A couple of years ago, the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office and the Correctional Facility had 20 people who were deemed incompetent to stand trial and were waiting for a place in the state hospital system to go and restore competency," Humboldt County Sheriff William Honsal said. "We had these people languishing in our county jail for up to six months before they could get a space in the state hospital."

Seeing the overwhelming need for change, Sheriff Honsal brought together representatives from the County's Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) and the Correctional Facility to brainstorm solutions. The result, a petition to the California Department of State Hospitals for a Jail-Based Competency Treatment Program in Humboldt County.

The HCCF Jail-Based Competency Treatment Program is a satellite state hospital, paid for by the State of California, within the Correctional Facility. The program currently facilitates six patients, who live within the JBCT unit of the facility (*pictured above right*) and spend their days working with counselors and psychologists in order to restore competency.

Donna Bullard, the program director and clinician for the HCCF JBCT Program, says the treatment is intensive and tailored to the individual.



"I spend a lot of time with them each day. We do group therapy twice a day, they see a psychiatrist once a week, and they meet with me one-on-one every week. So, we really get to know them."

A Different Setting

While the unit is housed within the Correctional Facility, it is in stark contrast of what you may see in any other dorm.

"A typical dorm, the inmates are in quads where they sleep in bunks very close to each other. Our [JBCT] inmates have their own cells that were completely remodeled," said Lauren Elkin, the Correctional Deputy overseeing the JBCT unit. "We remodeled the unit to paint it more calming colors. Instead of your typical plastic chairs, they have couches with pillows. We have music, flowers on the wall and just try to make it seem like a therapeutic environment versus a traditional custodial environment."

Facility staff have worked hard to make the unit feel more comfortable, with hopes of alleviating some of the mental stress of living in a jail environment, creating a space that is conducive to effective therapy. Deputy Elkin, who has a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, has played a significant role in helping to create the space and carrying out its mission. Elkin works with the patients daily, assisting clinicians with their work and helping patients work toward wellness.

“It’s just really inspiring that we are able to work with our Sheriff partners and really transform the jails into a treatment environment for people who need us,” said Emily Mann, JBCT Regional Specialist for Wellpath. “This program does the right thing for all of the people involved and it works. The outcomes are there, we have the data. The program is successful in every county that we have.”

And the patients agree. During the program's ribbon cutting, one patient, whose name is being kept confidential for privacy purposes, said, “without JBCT I would be completely lost in the justice system, and I have no idea where I’d be at this moment.”



Hope and Healing

While restoring competency may sound clinical, it’s about a lot more than that.

“At Wellpath, our call to action is to hope and healing,” Justin Searle, Executive Vice President of Wellpath said. “I can’t think of a better embodiment of hope and healing than these programs.”

Clinician Bullard says that within just two months of the program's launch, almost six patients had been restored to competency.

“Generally, it takes two months or longer just for them to get on a waiting list for a state hospital,” Bullard said. “So being able to treat them in house and have them restored is really rewarding. This represents hope that things can get better. You can

treat people who are mentally ill and incarcerated, effectively.”

"This represents hope that things can get better. You can treat people who are mentally ill and incarcerated, effectively."

Not only is this a win for the patients to be able to get treatment fast, it’s a win for the North Coast as the JBCT unit has the ability to accept patients from neighboring Del Norte County should space become available. The unit also has the ability to expand if needed and approved by the state.

For now, Sheriff Honsal says it’s a “start” and stressed the importance of more mental health resources needed for Humboldt County.

“We struggle to find resources to steer people to and our whole social services system is overwhelmed. They need more help. They need more support,” Sheriff Honsal said. “So, this is just one way we can help out with the issue of mental illness in our community.”

In addition to the JBCT Program, the facility will continue working with Wellpath and DHHS Behavioral Health to address mental illness and provide more mental health services for all inmates.

WATCH

Scan this QR code for a closer look at the JBCT program in the Correctional Facility.



SAFER COMMUNITIES

2020 at a Glance

1,017

Total Arrests

1,204

Total Citations Issued

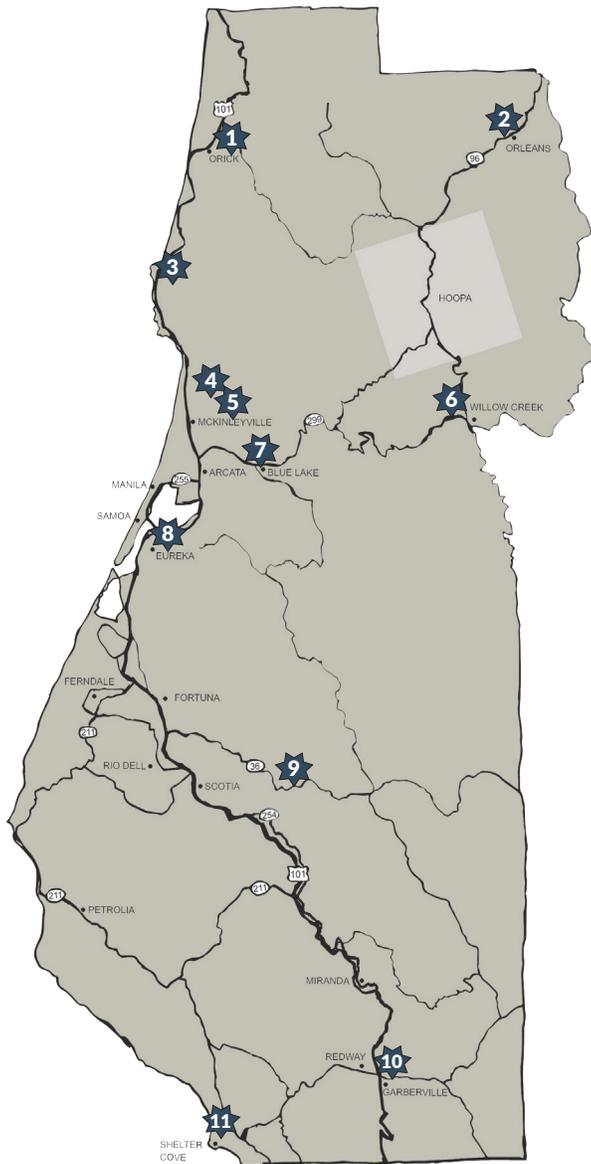
60,755

Total Calls for Service

6,293

Total Reports Taken





Where We're Located

1. Orick Resident Deputy
2. Orleans Resident Deputy
3. Trinidad Contract City
4. Humboldt County Animal Shelter
5. McKinleyville Substation
6. Trinity River Substation
7. Blue Lake Contract City
8. Eureka Main Station
9. Bridgeville Resident Deputy
10. Garberville Substation
11. Lost Coast Resident Deputy

MAIN STATION

Serving Greater Eureka and south to Redcrest, east to Dinsmore.

Calls for Service	27,655
Arrests	207
Felony Reports	534
Misdemeanor Reports	769

GARBERVILLE SUBSTATION

Serving Southern Humboldt, from Weott south to county line.

Calls for Service	6,013
Arrests	73
Felony Reports	170
Misdemeanor Reports	186

MCKINLEYVILLE SUBSTATION

Serving McKinleyville and north to county line.

Calls for Service	13,037
Arrests	217
Felony Reports	295
Misdemeanor Reports	572

TRINITY RIVER SUBSTATION

Serving Northeast Humboldt, from Willow Creek north to county line.

Calls for Service	2,952
Arrests	33
Felony Reports	70
Misdemeanor Reports	95

BLUE LAKE - CONTRACT CITY

Serving the City of Blue Lake.

Calls for Service	1,893
Arrests	28
Felony Reports	49
Misdemeanor Reports	89

TRINIDAD - CONTRACT CITY

Serving the City of Trinidad.

Calls for Service	2,125
Arrests	33
Felony Reports	88
Misdemeanor Reports	98

Above statistics do not include arrests or reports made by correctional staff, Drug Task Force, Special Services or other specialty divisions.



SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS (SWAT)

Crisis Negotiation and De-Escalation in High Risk Situations

During critical incidents, time is crucial. Our number one goal in any critical incident is to stabilize the situation. We do this through de-escalation.

De-escalation refers to the strategic slowing down of an incident in a manner that allows officers more time, distance, space, and tactical flexibility during dynamic situations on the street. Applying these specific skills increases the potential for resolving the situation with minimized force or no force at all, which reduces the likelihood of injury to the public, increases officer safety and mitigates the immediacy of potential or ongoing threats.

The Sheriff's Office responded to several critical incidents in 2020, requiring the use of our SWAT Team, Crisis Negotiations Team and the HCSO Bearcat armored vehicle. Two notable incidents this year showcased our teams' ability to successfully facilitate a peaceful surrender.

One of these incidents occurred in August, when a male suspect began firing shots from his residence towards a neighbor's home on Thiel Avenue in McKinleyville. Humboldt County SWAT deputies conducted a tactical operation utilizing the Bearcat to negotiate with the suspect for a peaceful surrender (*his arrest pictured above*).

"The Bearcat has made it possible for our team to deploy operators into areas without exposing them to undue harm," SWAT Team Leader Sgt. Jim Mowery said. "We have used it to place crisis

negotiators close to a residence to allow for direct contact through the PA to the suspect inside. This also allows for constant communication between the Crisis Negotiations Team and SWAT."

In another incident in 2020, also in McKinleyville, HCSO SWAT and the Crisis Negotiations Team were requested to assist with an armed, barricaded suspect holding a female against her will. After approximately two hours of negotiations with the suspect, the female was able to escape to safety through a window. Deputies continued negotiations for almost four more hours before making entry into the residence and taking the suspect into custody.

In both incidents, the use of the Bearcat made it possible for negotiators and SWAT to move in close to the residence, using the vehicle as a moving cover and reducing the risk of injury should the suspects begin to shoot at the team. The Bearcat allowed safety and time to attempt de-escalation tactics, prior to utilizing force.

SWAT by the Numbers

SWAT is made up of law enforcement officers from the Sheriff's Office, Eureka Police, Arcata Police, and Fortuna Police.

15	6	4	192
Operators	Operations	Arrests	Training Hours

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION (CID)

The Criminal Investigations Division works to piece together crime scenes and find justice for victims of major crimes.

499 New Cases	451 Cleared Cases
6 Critical Incident Response Team Activations	101 Search Warrants Authored/Served
94 Evidence Technician Investigations	
9 Staff Members (including detectives/investigators, evidence technicians and supervisors)	



New CID Cases in 2020

- 31** Homicide/Attempted Murder/
Suspicious Death
- 183** Sex Crimes/CANRA/Abuse
- 185** Missing Persons/Runaway Juveniles
- 66** General Investigations
- 34** Other Felony Investigations

In 2020, two promotions occurred in CID with Detective Chanler Bronson and Investigator Destry Henderson joining the team.

CID received a new recording system for our interview room which allows other detectives to view an interview live from a screen in another room. The division also continued its efforts to digitize all past homicide files and to oversee the Missing Persons investigations for the agency.



PROPERTY DIVISION

The Property/Evidence Division accepts, catalogs, processes, and stores all evidence collected from crime scenes, found or abandoned property, and items taken for safekeeping.

The Property Division has continued progress in its space enhancement project as most of the Main Station areas have been cleaned and organized with new shelving and storage equipment. This effort has been made evident in the outstanding results of the monthly audits conducted throughout 2020.

6,353 Items Processed	227 Reported Stolen Items Recovered	501 Item's Returned to Owner	482+ Guns Processed	1,235+ Drug/Narcotics Items Processed
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OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

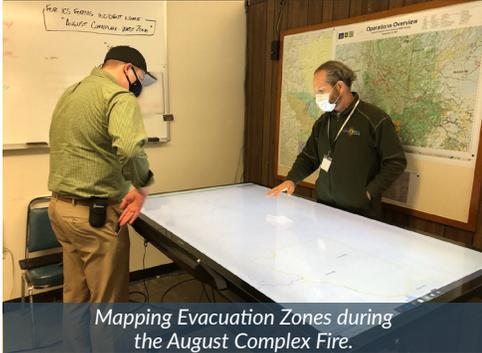
The Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services (OES) is the primary local coordination agency for emergencies and disasters affecting residents, public infrastructure, and government operations in the county. OES staff coordinate and participate in emergency planning, response, and recovery under the direction of Sheriff Honsal and in collaboration with local, state, and federal partners.



COVID-19 Mask Donation to OES



COVID-19 Joint Information Center



Mapping Evacuation Zones during the August Complex Fire.



August Complex Fire Temporary Evacuation Point at the Humboldt County Fairgrounds.

2020 was a unique year in that it took OES staff away from many of the normal, day-to-day functions and redirected focus onto multiple, sometimes simultaneous, incidents. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated five times in 2020 in response to COVID-19, the August Complex Fire, Public Safety Power Shutoffs, and the 2020 Election. Due to incidents occurring simultaneously, we have had the opportunity to establish an EOC in multiple locations for multiple responses, allowing our office to test new layouts and processes, in addition to training new EOC staff.

Also in 2020, our OES Team and Sheriff's Office staff made significant progress towards achieving Incident Management Team (IMT) III state credentialing, with several staff expected to achieve their credential by the end of 2021.

Additional successes in 2020 included increased volunteer engagement by activating Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) to assist with both the COVID-19 and the August Complex Fire responses. As a result of our wildfire response, OES was also able to partner with the County's GIS Specialist to create evacuation zones for the entire county, based on population size, ingress/egress routes and potential risk. In 2021, these evacuation zones will be refined and modified, with the goal of making the zones public and training both response staff and the community on their respective zones.

HUMBOLDT ALERT

Humboldt Alert is a countywide Emergency Notification System utilized to notify local residents of severe weather, wildfires, flooding, evacuations, and other incidents. Residents must sign up to receive these notifications.

Scan the QR Code with your phone to sign up for Humboldt Alert.



EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Emergency help is now just a "text" away with Text to 9-1-1



In 2020, the HCSO's Emergency Communications Center implemented the Text to 9-1-1 system.

While calling 9-1-1 during an emergency is still the preferred way to ask for help, Text to 9-1-1 is a new option for contacting law enforcement and is intended to assist those who are deaf, hard of hearing, speech impaired, or anyone who cannot safely call 9-1-1 in a dangerous situation.

"When it comes to getting emergency assistance, every second counts," Humboldt County Sheriff William Honsal said. "Text to 9-1-1 is helping eliminate communication barriers and allowing all residents, regardless of disability, to get the services they need quickly."

Text to 9-1-1 is intended primarily for use in three emergency scenarios:

- When an individual is deaf, hard-of-hearing, or has a speech impairment.
- When someone is in a situation where it is not safe to place a voice call to 9-1-1.
- When a medical emergency arises that renders the person incapable of speaking.

"Text to 9-1-1 ensures that those who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech impairment have equal access to immediate emergency services, and it also benefits the entire community," Sheriff's Office Emergency Communications Center Supervisor Morgan Schlesiger said. "This new technology has already proven critical and reliable in emergency situations where an individual is unable to safely make a phone call."

This new capability was provided to the Sheriff's Office Emergency Communications Center at no cost from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services. Dialing 9-1-1 in an emergency is still the preferred way to request help, and the public is reminded to "Call if you can. Text if you can't."

Major Updates for the Emergency Communications Center

2020 brought a much needed furniture remodel to our Emergency Communications Center. The update allowed for an additional dispatch station to be added in the center and creates a more comfortable working environment for dispatchers.

Also in 2020, a Feasibility Study for consolidating county emergency communications dispatch centers was completed and presented to the County Board of Supervisors. In December, the Supervisors voted to create an ad hoc committee to explore next steps for the consolidation project.



7 Dispatchers	2 Senior Dispatchers	1 Supervisor	≈ 24,543 9-1-1 Calls Received	≈ 124,767 Total Calls Received
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SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION

The Sheriff's Special Services Division serves the residents of Humboldt County through several specialty positions and units. Special Services deputies support patrol staff day-to-day and during special operations.

The Special Services Division includes Boating and Livestock deputies, the Marijuana Enforcement Team (MET), Search and Rescue, Swift Water Rescue, the Off Highway Vehicle Unit and Public Demonstration Peace Keepers.



10
Search and
Rescues

99
MET
Operations

Marijuana Enforcement Team (MET)

407,025 Cannabis plants eradicated

49,351.19 lb Processed cannabis destroyed

\$469,334 U.S. Currency seized

47 Arrests

35 Firearms seized

207 Environmental Violations

In 2020, the Sheriff's Office Special Services Division responded to approximately 30 boating related incidents, including regular boat patrols. Deputies participated in the Basic Maritime Officer's Course to expand their knowledge and abilities when it comes to boating-related enforcement.

Also in 2020, the Special Services Division was able to purchase a new, tracked Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) for use on snow and sand. The new vehicle will greatly assist the division in Search and Rescues, as well as general OHV enforcement.

The Sheriff's Volunteer Search and Rescue Posse (*pictured below*) received a generous donation to purchase six new GPS devices that will allow for real time tracking. These devices will assist in future search and rescues by helping monitor search team efforts and locations covered. In 2021, the Posse will be using additional donations to upgrade equipment and gear. Learn more about how you can join the Posse at humboldtsar.org.





DRUG TASK FORCE

The Humboldt County Drug Task Force (HCDF) is a multi-agency narcotics task force whose mission is to disrupt or dismantle mid-to-upper-level drug trafficking organizations. The HCDF is operationally run under the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office. Each participating law enforcement agency is responsible for supplying a task force agent to HCDF.

53
Arrests

\$1.5 M
U.S. Currency Seized

108
Firearms Seized

103
Search Warrants Served

Illegal Drugs Seized in 2020

32.27 lb Methamphetamine

48.55 lb Heroin

16,329 Prescription
Narcotic Pills

116 g MDMA

39 g Cocaine

3 g Fentanyl

25 LSD Dosage Units

6.8 g Psilocybin
Mushrooms

11.3 g DMT



EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL (EOD) TEAM

The Sheriff's EOD Team, commonly referred to as "Bomb Squad", responds to all calls involving potential explosives, including bomb threats suspicious packages, and explosions.

One of the biggest goals achieved in 2020 for the EOD Team was the purchase of two new bomb protection suits.

3
Certified Bomb
Technicians

2
Apprentice Bomb
Technicians

16
Call-Outs

750
Training Hours

4
IED/Pipe Bombs
Rendered Safe

4
Counter-Charge
Explosives
Rendered Safe





CORONER - PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR

306
Death
Investigations

199
Autopsies &
External
Exams

2,585
Volunteer
Hours

2020 Death Investigations

178	Natural Causes
14	Homicide
30	Suicide
70	Accidental
14	Under Investigation

The Humboldt County Coroner's Office provides decedent collection and death investigation services to the entire county. The office consists of two deputy coroners, one deputy sheriff, one coroner sergeant, and one legal office assistant. The office is also assisted by over two dozen volunteers. Volunteers help schedule autopsies and assist with the entire autopsy process.

In 2020, the Coroner's Office was joined by an additional pathologist, Dr. James Olson. The office received a new cooler system to replace the aging

one and two refrigerated semi-trailers for mass casualty events.

Providing comfort and support to our employees and our community



In times of stress or grief, having someone to talk to can make all of the difference. The HCSO's **Chaplain Program** serves our employees and our community by providing counseling, grief support, encouragement, and spiritual support. Five chaplains volunteer their time in this program, with one chaplain dedicated to serving at the Coroner's Office full time.

Chaplains assist in agency debriefings after critical incidents, respond to death investigation calls and death notifications providing comfort and support to grieving community members, and also support inmates in the Correctional Facility seeking spiritual counsel or support.

ANIMAL CONTROL DIVISION

Animal Control officers respond to all animal-related calls for service and oversees the Humboldt County Animal Shelter, which houses and provides medical care for stray and abandoned animals.

While the nation experienced a surge of pet adoptions from local shelters in 2020, no such surge occurred in Humboldt County. However, positively, the intake of stray dogs was much lower than in years past, nearly a 33% decrease from the five-year average, and the lowest amount in over 10 years.

Due to the virus, our shelter was temporarily closed to volunteers and to the general public while we worked to develop new procedures so those interested in adopting a pet would be able to do so as safely as possible.

New in 2020, the shelter launched its online licensing program and replaced the phone system. The shelter's truck was also replaced with a large utility van, and a new Animal Control vehicle was purchased. Additionally in 2020, Animal Control Officers established a temporary evacuation shelter for small and large animals at the Humboldt County Fairgrounds for the pets of regional wildfire evacuees.



\$37,235.88 Spent Out of the Emergency Medical Fund	3,462 Volunteer Hours Served at the Animal Shelter
407 Pets Returned to Owner	1,041 Animals Processed into the Animal Shelter
406 Pet Adoptions	2,176 Animal-Related

RECORDS DIVISION

The Records Division is the county repository for criminal records, including criminal offender registrations. Records personnel process deputy reports, maintain the automated want/warrant system, and interface with the State Department of Justice to provide the public with Live Scan fingerprinting services. The Records Division also processes business licenses and Concealed Carry Weapons Permits.

In late 2020, the Main Station lobby was remodeled to meet ADA requirements and better serve our community.

FINANCIAL SERVICES DIVISION

The Sheriff's Office Financial Services Division provides budget and payroll, accounts payable and receivable, central purchasing and supply, data services, and inventory control. The division also oversees the administration and coordination of multiple grants awarded to the department.

In 2020, the division implemented a new electronic time card for employees, eliminating the amount of waste generated using paper time cards. The new system also streamlines the payroll process and minimized the amount of face-to-face contact necessary as a COVID-19 precaution.

Additionally, in 2020, the Sheriff's Office hired a new Financial Services Manager, Monika Fridley, and promoted previous manager Katie Collender to a position specializing in grants.

COURT PROTECTION / CIVIL DIVISION



Court Protection deputies provide courthouse security, courtroom order and security, protection of the judges, court staff, public and prisoner handling, and movement between the Correctional Facility and nine operating courts. Meanwhile, civil deputies and staff process and serve all civil process paperwork.

Committed to Service: Annuitants and the HCSO

For nearly half a century, Backgrounds Investigator Pete Ciarabellini has been a staple of the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office. Ciarabellini retired from the department in 2001 after serving as a deputy sheriff and patrol sergeant for 28 years. But even retirement couldn't stop him from serving the community he loved and just a few short months later, Ciarabellini returned to the Sheriff's Office, this time as an extra-help annuitant. Twenty years later, Ciarabellini is still going strong, helping investigate potential employees for the office.

"I continue to work as an annuitant because I enjoy the job and the camaraderie among my co-workers, plus it makes me feel useful while allowing time to spend with my wife, kids and grandchildren," Ciarabellini said.

Retired Deputy Sheriffs, known as annuitants, are critical to the functioning of the Sheriff's Office. Annuitants are hired on an extra-help basis to fill specialty roles in our department, such as airport

The COVID-19 pandemic had a great impact on our Court Protection and Civil Division as the Superior Court suspended operations during the early pandemic response and evictions were halted by the state. As restrictions began to relax and courts began to re-open, deputies and staff had to adapt to new court locations, Zoom court proceedings, and new safety protocols.

165,433 People screened entering the Courthouse	7 Criminal Subpoenas Served
3,313 Prohibited / illegal items detected and seized during Courthouse screening	269 Temporary Restraining Orders Served
	112 Eviction Orders Enforced



security, Concealed Carry Weapons permitting, bailiffs and more. Annuitants are able to keep their retired status through CalPers, yet still work on a part-time basis giving back to their community.

For Annuitant Deputy Sheriff Leslie Borges (*pictured above*), who retired in 2019, the HCSO is more than just a workplace. "I chose to return as an annuitant because I have worked here most of my adult life. The department has been in my family since I was a small child and my father worked here," Borges said. "I think the annuitant program is a great program and an invaluable asset to the Sheriff's Office. It allows retired officers and deputies with multitudes of experience to continue to work part-time in areas of great need."



CUSTODY SERVICES

2020 at a Glance

123

Correctional Deputies and Support Staff

273

Average Daily Population

6,021

Inmate Bookings

74

Inmates Sent to State Prison

55

Average Number of Days Spent In Custody

A Message from Captain Duane Christian

While this has been a trying year for not only the Sheriff's Office but also the nation, I am proud of the work our correctional staff has done to overcome the many obstacles we have faced in 2020.

We have continued aggressively recruiting and hiring personnel in our Correctional Facility this past year, achieving almost full staffing. By increasing our staffing, our facility has been able to discontinue Mandatory Overtime requirements that have been in effect for more than five years due to lack of staffing.

Also in 2020, our correctional deputies have continued to provide programs to the inmate population to prepare them for re-entry into society. Corrections continues to evolve over time with new laws and regulations, and I am proud of the staff I lead for always being flexible to change and carrying out the Mission, Vision, and Values of the Sheriff's Office.



Corrections During a Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on correctional facilities across California. When the virus first began to spread, the Humboldt County Correctional Facility was very proactive, immediately putting precautions in place to protect our inmates and staff. We used state statutes to reduce our population and restricted bookings into our facility to only individuals with serious or violent offenses. This allowed us to reduce our inmate population by almost half, facilitating better social distancing within our inmate housing units.

We also began limiting entry into the facility, including restricting all volunteers from entering.

While this dramatically impacted the services we could provide, we felt it a necessary precaution to prevent the introduction of COVID-19 into the facility. We began quarantining all inmates entering the facility for their first 14 days of incarceration and tested those who were willing to be tested. Additionally, we required all staff to wear masks around the inmate population.

Over the course of the year, we successfully prevented all inmates housed within the facility from contracting COVID-19, despite having multiple staff members test positive. This shows the incredible efforts that have been made by our administrators and staff to take this virus seriously.

A Year of Improvement

The year 2020 brought about many changes in the Correctional Facility, and not just in response to the pandemic. Over the course of the year, the facility was able to complete several long-awaited projects.

Medicated Assisted Treatment Program

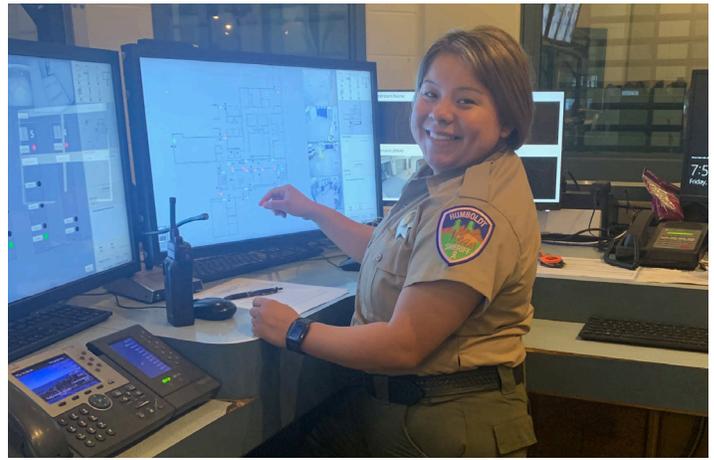
In 2020, the Correctional Facility launched the Medicated Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program. MAT is the use of medications in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, which is effective in the treatment of opioid use disorders and can help some individuals to sustain recovery. The County's Department of Health & Human Services received a grant to bring MAT into the Correctional Facility, and worked with our staff to implement the program. Our provider of medical services, Wellpath, has taken over the daily operation of this program, including increasing nursing hours to aid in medication distribution. We have created a new position for a Substance Abuse Counselor who will be specifically tasked with the MAT program in the facility. This counselor will be able to provide the counseling and training necessary for this program to reach its full potential.

Jail Management System Update

The Correctional Facility also completed a major upgrade of our Jail Management System, which allows for staff to maintain all records on inmates in one place.

Answering the Call

In addition to the projects completed and ongoing excellence displayed among staff in our Correctional Facility, staff went above and beyond, answering the call to assist other divisions of the Sheriff's Office. Several staff members were assigned to assist in the Emergency Operations Center for the COVID-19 response, as well as the August Complex Fire response. Additionally, Correctional Staff joined the Sheriff's Office's newly formed Mobile Field Force Team, which was created to assist in incidents of civil unrest.



Inmate Telephone System Update

The Correctional Facility switched providers for our inmate telephone system. The new provider, ICSolutions allowed the facility to lower costs for families and friends of inmates to communicate with their loved ones incarcerated in our facility.

Security System Upgrade

The facility was also able to complete a security system upgrade in 2020, which added cameras in and outside the facility. The new system ensures that our facility remains secure from all threats and maintains accountability for all persons.

Jail-Based Competency Program

In 2020, the Correctional Facility opened its Jail-Based Competency Program, a program that houses and treats offenders who are deemed incompetent to stand trial. *Read more about the program on Page 8 of this report.*





SHERIFF'S WORK ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM

The Sheriff's Work Alternative Program (SWAP) is an alternative to incarceration for low-risk offenders. Offenders are able to work off their time at the Sheriff's Wood Lot, Farm, Animal Shelter, the County Garage, the McKinleyville Community Services District, or the Hoopa Food Distribution Center. Our SWAP program also partners with local cities, agencies, and airports to provide work crews to attend to those organizations' maintenance needs. This reduces overcrowding inside the jail and allows individuals to remain productive members of society.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SWAP was forced to close from March 18 through July 5, 2020, then again from Dec. 5 through Jan. 31, 2021. Despite the closures, SWAP has been able to contribute greatly to our community with an average of 178 active participants.

SWAP Location	Hours Served
Animal Shelter	992
Sheriff's Farm	9,288
Hoopa Foods	608
MCSO	960
Motorpool	2,208
Wood Lot	12,568
Airports (all local)	1,886
County (other)	968
Cities	1,664
Botanical Gardens	808
Schools	328
All Others	784
TOTAL HOURS:	33,062

Sheriff's Senior Wood Project

After almost 30 years of operation, 2020 marked the last year of the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Senior Wood Project. Between the months of August through November, the SWAP Senior Wood Program was able to distribute 194 cords of wood purchased by low income seniors through the Humboldt Senior Resource Center. The

discontinuation of the project comes for a variety of reasons, including decreased availability of resources, costs procuring those resources, and overall sustainability of the program. Despite the discontinuation of the project, the Sheriff's Office will continue its partnership with the Humboldt Senior Resource Center and is exploring new programs benefiting local seniors through our

SWAP Farm, including providing fresh produce cultivated at the farm to senior community members.

Sheriff's SWAP Farm

6,020 lbs Produce Harvested	123 Pigs Born on Farm	2,059 Eggs Collected
400+ Pumpkins Donated to the Community	6 Cattle Born on Farm	3 Pigs Donated to Local Non-Profits

The SWAP Farm grows produce, harvests eggs, and raises livestock to supply food to our Correctional Facility. The farm has a thriving pig project which not only supplies pork to our Correctional Facility, but provides low-cost meat to local citizens. The farm also supports our local 4-H/FFA by providing show pigs at a reduced cost to students.

The farm strives to be sustainable and grow all organic produce. In 2020, the farm received many of its produce starts as a donation from a local nursery, further cutting the cost of the program and ultimately reducing the cost to feed our incarcerated population.

In 2020, the farm also entered into a partnership with Alchemy Distillery, receiving weekly deliveries of the distillery's grain mash to feed the pigs raised on our farm. Not only is the mash nutritious for the pigs, the donation greatly cuts down the costs of purchasing grain.

With many pumpkin patches closed and fall activities canceled due to COVID-19, the farm held its first ever fall harvest event to support families of local law enforcement. Families of local first responders were invited to tour the farm and pick out a pumpkin from the farm's pumpkin patch. The farm also donated more than 200 pumpkins to local schools for their fall activities.



PROGRAMS-BASED CORRECTIONS

We believe that in order for inmates to be successful after release, they must be given the opportunity to better themselves while in custody. We provide inmates with a variety of opportunities, from college courses and literacy classes to wellness counseling and AA/NA groups, in order to equip inmates with the tools they need to stay out of jail for good.

2020 was a challenging year for the Programs Division. Prior to March, we were moving forward rapidly with new classes and fresh ideas. Along with our normal array of classes we had scheduled a theatre class with the help of Dell'Arte and an art class. We were also planning a book club with inmates and our library volunteers. In March, all incoming volunteers were restricted from entering the facility to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Because of this, all classes were postponed, as well as two of our Re-Entry Fairs.

Upon the beginning of the Stay-At-Home Order, staff worked with College of the Redwoods (CR) to finish out the school semester with correspondence classes. We then worked with CR to create full correspondence classes that could be continued in lockdown. Despite these challenges, one inmate tested for and achieve their high school equivalency. Additionally, we were able to add items of interest to the educational tablets

such as guest speakers and local poetry videos.

During the holiday season, the Programs Office conducted the Third Annual Inmate Holiday Art Contest. Five dorms participated and created artwork that was displayed in the Courthouse and online through the North Coast Journal. More than 600 community members voted for their favorite entry online and the winning dorm received a popcorn and movie night.

Throughout the year, the Program's Office provided officers and dorms with supplies to help with fun engagement programs. Some of these programs included a Halloween Dorm Decorating Contest, Christmas Dorm Decorating Contest, and various contests such as card games, trivia games, art contests, and poetry contests.

In 2020, we were also able to increase our Programs Office by three, hiring a Client Services Worker, a Phone/Commissary Technician, and a Programs Coordinator.

We continue to look for opportunities to expand our Programs Office to better serve the inmate population and help build positive community interactions. It is one of our priorities to strengthen the bond between the county's incarcerated population and the general public.

230 Inmates Enrolled in College Courses	17,336 Total Class Hours Completed	14 Non-Credit Certificates Awarded	1 HiSet High School Equivalency Received
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Exemplifying Excellence

Program Coordinator Sara Flores received the 2020 Civilian Staff Member of the Year Award and was recognized as the HCSO Employee of the Month in September. According to Sgt. Delia Garcia, who oversees the division, Flores "jumped into her new position with enthusiasm and even during our limitations, has been consistently working with inmates to improve their chances at stability upon release."



IN THE COMMUNITY

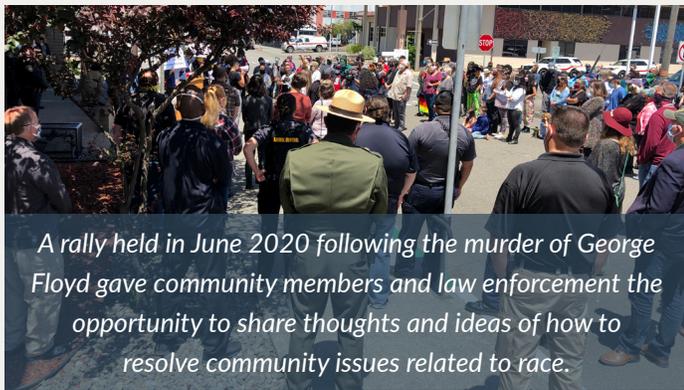
With COVID-19 limiting in-person gatherings, community outreach looked a little different in 2020. But the pandemic did not stop our deputies from donating their time, money, and energy to make our community a better place to live.

Pink Patch Project

In honor of those diagnosed with and fighting Breast Cancer, in October we participated in the Pink Patch Project to raise funds for our local Breast and GYN Health Project in Humboldt County.

For the month of October, Sheriff's personnel were authorized to wear special HCSO pink patches to help spread awareness about this important cause. Staff purchased the patches with proceeds going to the Breast and GYN Health Project. While our patches were not sold to the public, we teamed up with Starbucks in McKinleyville and Eureka to sell HCSO Pink Patch stickers. Stickers were sold for a \$1 donation.

In total, we raised \$1,250 to go toward supporting our local breast cancer fighters.



A rally held in June 2020 following the murder of George Floyd gave community members and law enforcement the opportunity to share thoughts and ideas of how to resolve community issues related to race.

A Call to Action: Responding to Racial Inequality in our Community

Following the murder of George Floyd in Minnesota, community members took to the street, protesting for racial equality, police reform, and justice for Mr. Floyd. The Sheriff's

Office joined protesters, sharing the sentiment that racism will not be tolerated in Humboldt County. The movement sparked an internal review of our own policies and procedures. Following the protests, the Sheriff's Office conducted an Employee Equity and Inclusion survey, an anonymous survey to assess feelings of inclusion in the workplace and identify areas of improvement so that all employees can feel safe and included.

Additionally, the HCSO banned the use of the carotid restraint by our deputies. In 2020, Humboldt County Sheriff's deputies responded to more than 60,000 calls for service, of which, only 0.08% required a use of force. Each reportable use of force is tracked, reviewed, and evaluated by a supervisor to ensure the use of force is in legal compliance and within policy.

No Shave November

Throughout the month of November, deputies and staff were given the opportunity to opt out of dress code, growing out their facial hair and/or coloring their hair and nails blue, for a donation of \$30 to Humboldt CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) or Wild Souls Ranch as part of "No Shave November."

In total, we raised \$2,910, which was split between the two organizations. Both programs selected for donations provide support and programming for local youth. Wild Souls Ranch takes an alternative approach to supporting at-risk youth by providing equine-assisted growth and learning for children in foster care or who have been adopted and children



who have experienced trauma or neglect. CASA trains community volunteers to serve children in the foster system.

Battle of the Badges Blood Drive

In July, Sheriff's Office staff participated in Eureka Police Department's annual Battle of the Badges Blood Drive, a competition between local public safety agencies to donate the most blood. HCSO won second place, with EPD capturing first for the second year in a row.



Feed the E.R.

In April, the Sheriff's Office teamed up with the non-profit Feed the E.R. to provide free meals to medical staff working in the Emergency Rooms at St. Joseph, Redwood Memorial, Mad River and Jerold Phelps hospitals.

Operation Santa Paws

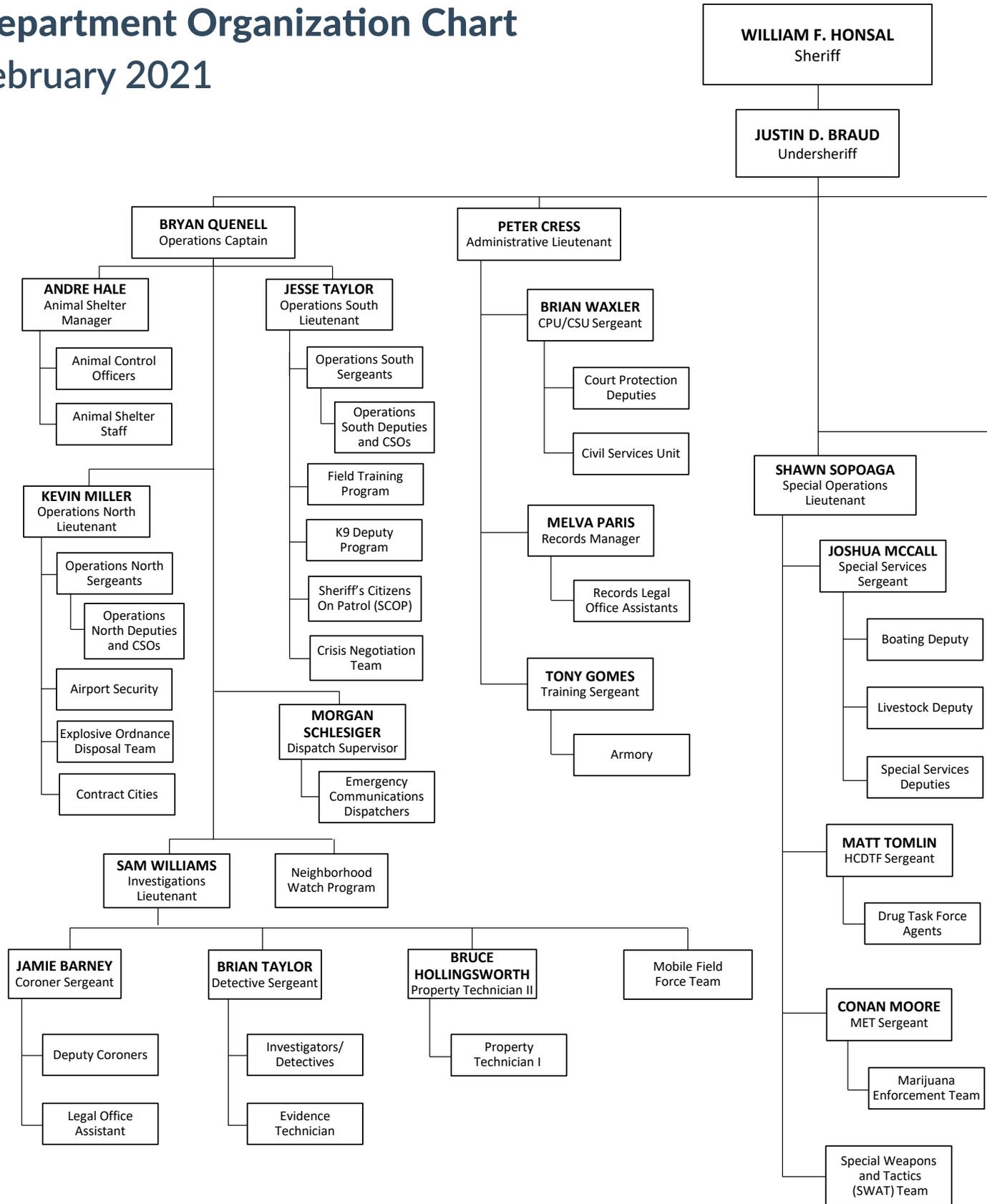
In December, the Sheriff's Office teamed up with Safeway, Redway Feed and Garden Supply and Nor Cal Pet Supply for Operation Santa Paws, a holiday collection drive bringing toys, treats, and supplies to local animal shelters and rescues. Community members and HCSO staff were encouraged to drop off donations in the collection bin at the above stores. The operation was a success with dozens of toys and treats donated.

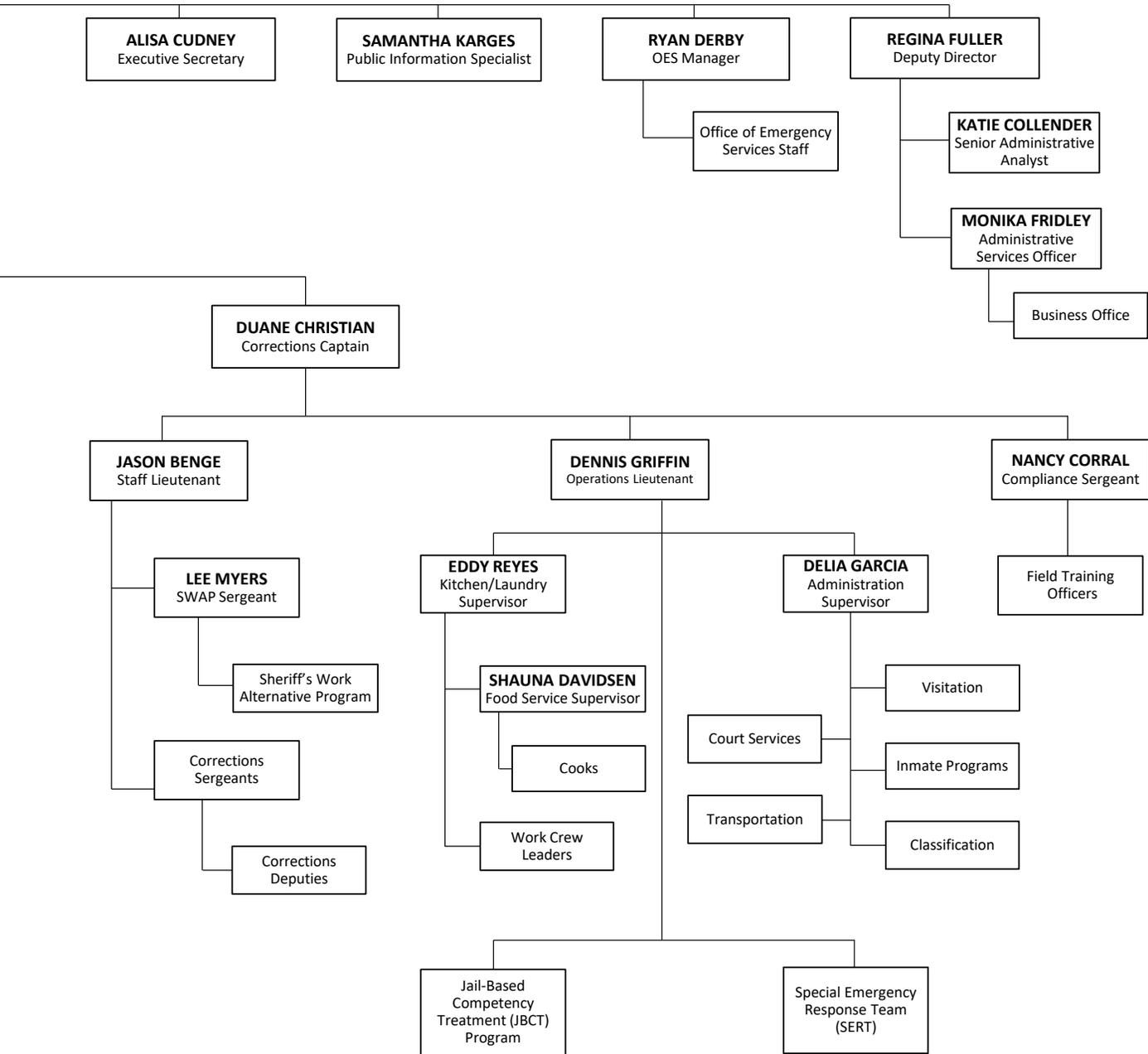


APPENDIX

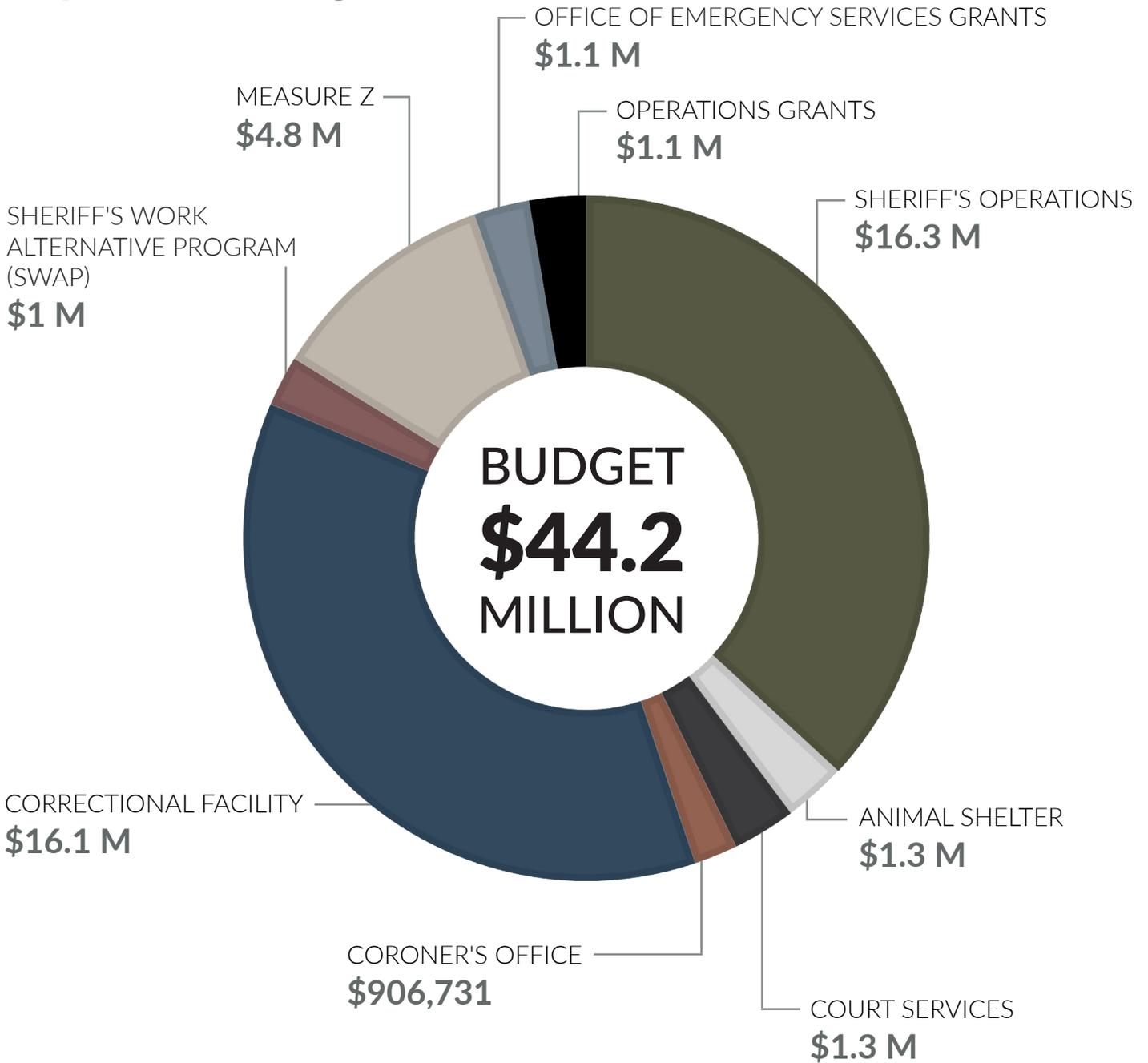
Department Organization Chart

February 2021





Department Budget

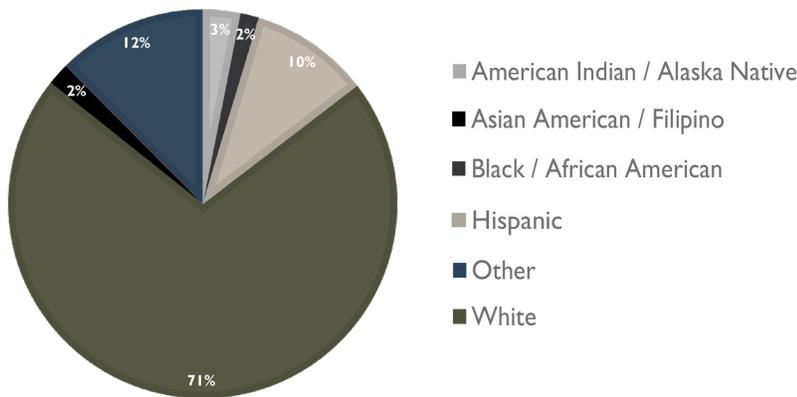


Scan this QR code to view current and past County budget information.

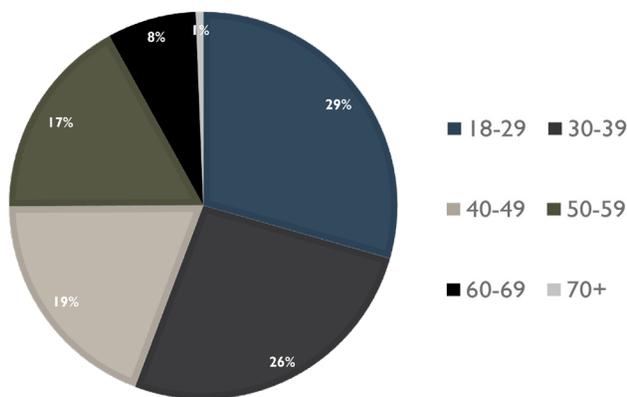
GRANTS
Homeland Security Grant #1 & #2
Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement Grant
USDA Forest Services Exhibit A Campground Grant
Boating Safety Grant
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG)
Byrne JAG Mental Health Grant
Hazard Mitigation Grant
Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program (DCESP) Grant
USDA Forest Services Exhibit B Controlled Substances Grant

Department Demographics

All Full-Time Staff



RACE	COUNT	PERCENTAGE
American Indian / Alaska Native	10	3%
Asian American / Filipino	6	2%
Black / African American	5	2%
Hispanic	32	10%
Pacific Islander	1	>1%
Other	40	12%
White	229	71%



AGE	COUNT	PERCENTAGE
18-29	95	29.41%
30-39	85	26.32%
40-49	62	19.20%
50-59	55	17.03%
60-69	24	7.43%
70+	2	0.62%



Male Employees

214

66.25%



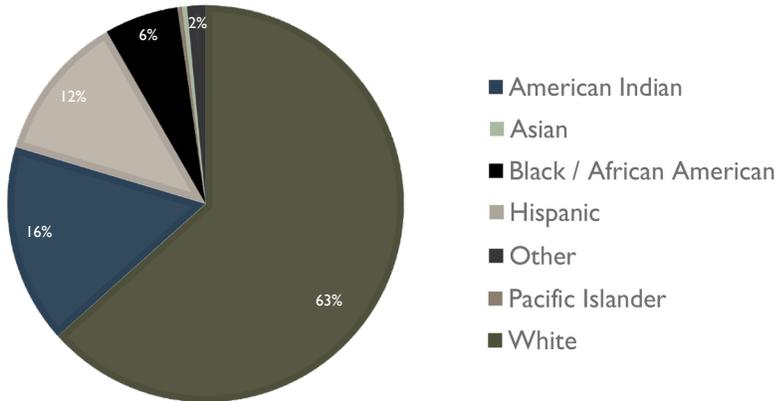
Female Employees

109

33.75%

Correctional Facility Snapshot

Inmate Demographics



Male Inmates
85% Facility Population



Female Inmates
15% Facility Population

RACE	PERCENTAGE
American Indian	16%
Asian	>1%
Black / African American	6%
Hispanic	12%
Other	2%
Pacific Islander	>1%
White	63%

Facility Statistics

Average Daily Population	-31%	2019 396 2020 273
Inmate Bookings	-36.1%	2019 9,416 2020 6,021
Inmate Releases	-34.2%	2019 9,355 2020 6,153
Average Number of Inmates on the Sheriff's Work Alternative Program		175
Average Length of Stay		55 Days
Number of Inmates Released Early		333

UCR Part I Crime

Violent Crime

Homicide	600%	2019 1 2020 7
Rape	4.3%	2019 23 2020 24
Robbery	-44%	2019 59 2020 33
Assault	-11.8%	2019 786 2020 693

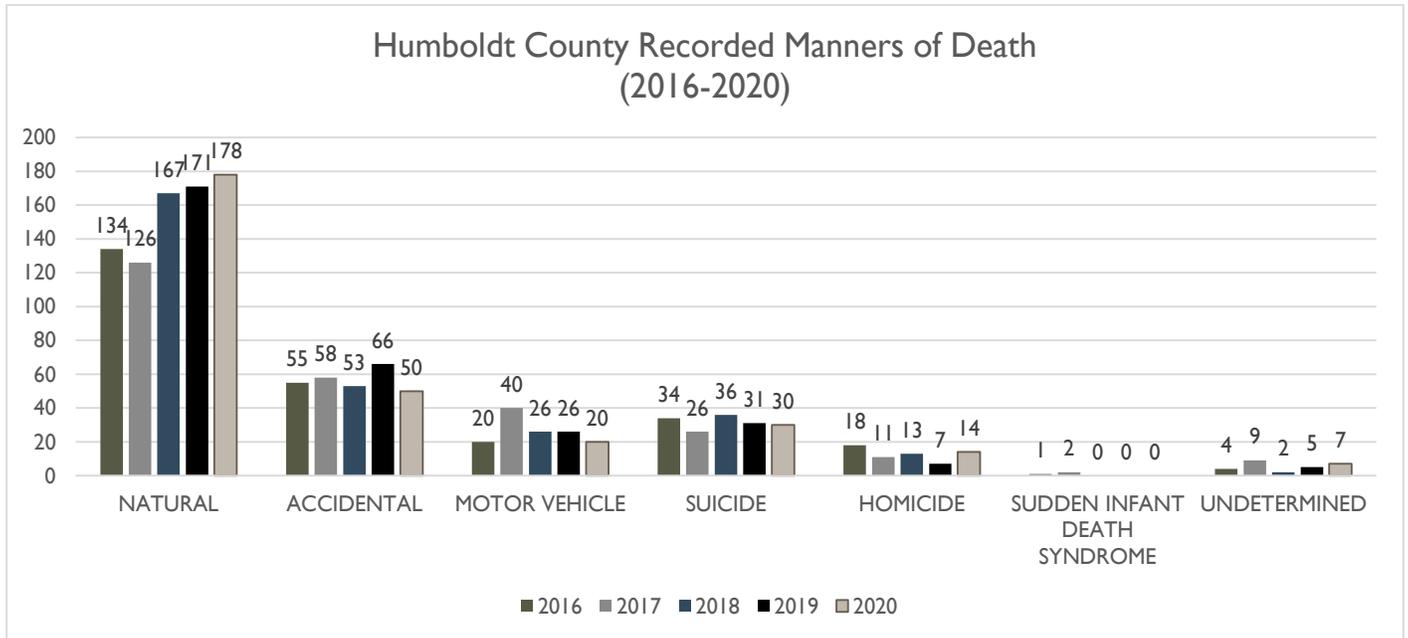
Property Crime

Burglary	-4.8%	2019 393 2020 374
Larceny	-10.6%	2019 666 2020 595
Vehicle Theft	-18.7%	2019 32 2020 26

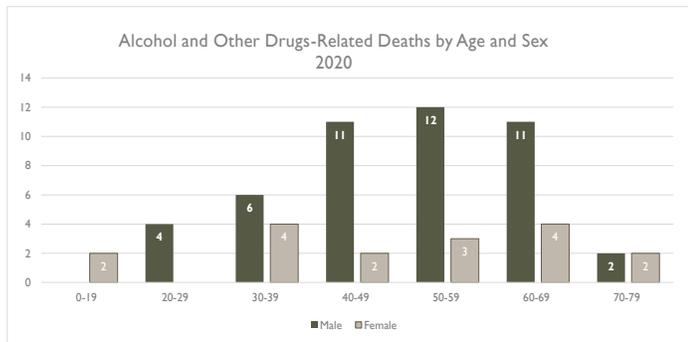
Other Crime Types

Domestic Violence	-3.9%	2019 307 2020 295
Arson	0%	2019 19 2020 19
Assaults on Deputies	66%	2019 3 2020 5

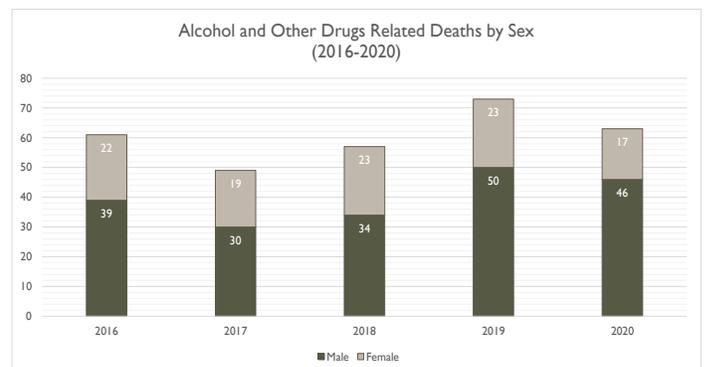
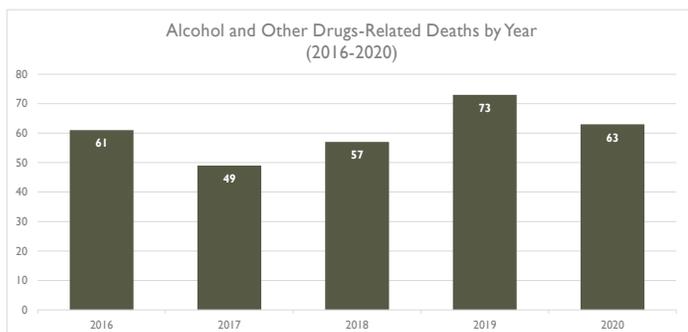
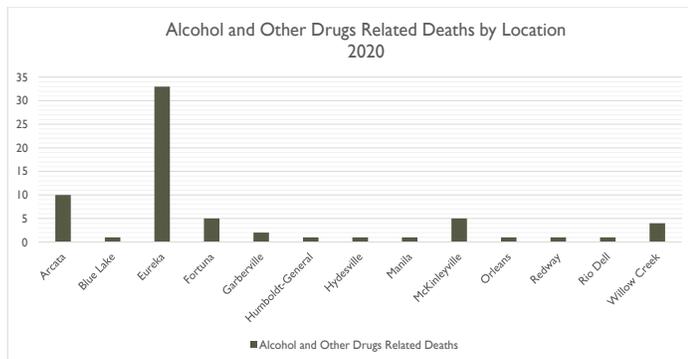
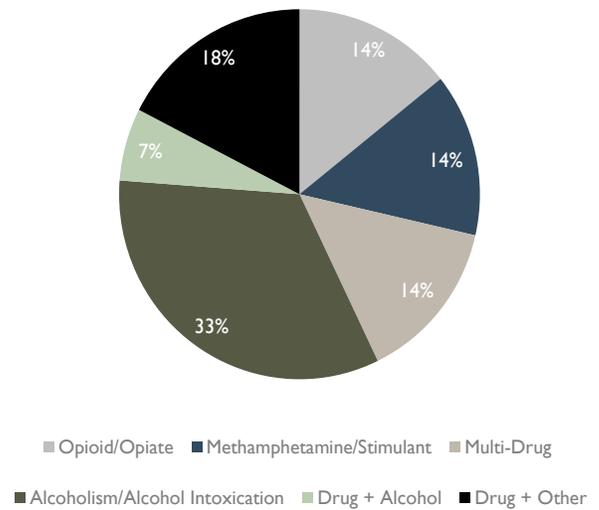
Coroner's Office Statistics



Alcohol and Other Drugs-Related Deaths



Alcohol and Other Drugs Related Deaths by Substance 2020





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HUMBOLDT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



MAILING ADDRESS

826 4th Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Ph: 707-445-7251

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