

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



SHERIFF CLOVIS WATSON, JR.



OUR MISSION

*Service to the community first,
commitment to the employees
always.*

OUR VALUE STATEMENT

*Protect, serve and support our
community with integrity.*

AGENCY OBJECTIVES

- * Provide the highest level of protection to our citizens and community.*
- * Provide the highest level of professional service to our citizens and community.*
- * Provide our employees with support, development and resources that promote excellence in protection and service.*

Through our partnerships, we are the Alachua County Sheriff's Office.

ALMWAYS COMMITTED TO SERVING OTHERS

MEET YOUR NEW SHERIFF



Former City Manager of the city of Alachua, Florida, Clovis Watson, Jr., is proud to have dedicated 30 years in public service to the city of Alachua; a career that spanned from working as a law enforcement officer to his retirement from the position of City Manager in 2010. Watson was, and continues to be, a visionary for Alachua County and has been a longtime community contributor through his volunteerism with several local organizations.

He assumed the top administrative position with the city of Alachua in 2002. He was instrumental and tireless in the transformation of Alachua from a community splintered by discord and partisan bickering to a model city that runs with the efficiency and economy of a well-run business. His constant refrain was that he did not make easy choices, but always did what he thought was right for the community - words he continues to stand by, even today.

Watson's tireless efforts to make Alachua a self-sustainable and self-sufficient entity attracted large corporate partners with many jobs, a college campus, and many small businesses, both new and relocated from other area communities. He also created policies

for the existing small and medium businesses to thrive, which he believes are the cornerstone of our respective communities. He made his goal of being able to live, learn, work, and thrive without leaving Alachua a reality. This was accomplished with much deliberation and foresight - the end result being a community with abundant employment opportunities and better prospects for all; a community that attracts businesses and homeowners for the quaint beauty of the city and the chance to prosper in a welcoming environment.

Watson attended school locally and is a graduate of Mebane Middle School and Santa Fe High School. He has championed higher education with several degrees to his name. Watson has earned an Associate of Science degree, a Bachelor of Science and a Bachelor of Arts degree, and two Master's degrees; one in Interdisciplinary Studies with a concentration in Public Administration and the second in Business Administration (M.B.A.). He is a Ph.D. doctoral candidate in Business Administration, and is also a graduate of Harvard University John F. Kennedy Graduate School of Government Executive Leadership for the 21st Century program. Perhaps more impressive is the fact that he pursued and achieved his continuing education goals, with honors, while continuing to work full-time and support his family. He also served as an adjunct professor and is a member of the Alpha Delta Lambda Honorary Society, the Pinnacle Honor Society, and Delta Mu Delta International Honor Society, which he was invited to become a member for his outstanding academic achievements. Watson was also inducted into the most prestigious leadership honor society, the Florida Blue Key.

Growing up in the projects of Alachua, Watson is not a stranger to hard work. He spent many days in the fields harvesting cucumber, tobacco, watermelon, squash, etc., to earn money. His school clothes, supplies and extra-curricular money were earned by working after school at the packing shed. Upon graduating high school, he was employed with Copeland Sausage Company.

Watson began working for the city of Alachua over 30 years ago in the Police Department. He moved up the ranks from Police Officer, to Sergeant, and finally Deputy Chief of Police prior to taking over the reins as City Manager for the city of Alachua in 2002. During his tenure as City Manager, he guided Alachua to

unprecedented fiscal stability with recognition in city budgets and high bond ratings. Watson exercised great environmental stewardship and as a result, Alachua received numerous environmental awards for water conservation, policies protecting the aquifer, best drinking water contest in the region, etc. He was also instrumental in attracting major companies to Alachua, as well as a Santa Fe College satellite campus that opened in 2009. Under his administration, the Alachua Police Department opened a Police Substation in Merrillwood and created numerous citizen advisory boards and committees to ensure that all citizens had a voice in the city of Alachua.

He was a pioneer for many "firsts" in the Good Life Community: the first African American Sergeant and Deputy Chief for the Alachua Police Department, and later the first African American City Manager for the city of Alachua. He also championed many other "firsts": he hired the first African American Chief of Police for the Alachua Police Department, and was the first to hire two women Assistant City Managers, both of whom are now respected City Managers themselves. Watson played a vital role in the community not only through his professional endeavors but also through his activism with area organizations. He is former a member of the Board of Directors for the American Red Cross North Central Florida Chapter. He sat on the Board of Directors for the Alachua County United Way, Juvenile Justice Council, and Police Executive Council, as well as the Alachua County Task Force of Administrators and the Police Executive Training Committee. Mr. Watson served on the steering committee for the Alachua County Child Advocacy Center at its infancy, and is a former member of the Florida City and County Managers' Association and the International City Managers' Association. He is a longtime volunteer and supporter of the Special Olympics, Alachua County Victim Advocate Program, as well as an unwavering supporter of Santa Fe College.

While Watson remains proud of all of his accomplishments and accolades, he maintains that giving back to the community has always been the best reward. He spearheaded several holiday programs that are committed to giving to those who are less fortunate and the senior citizens of his community, and also initiated the first ever community policing project for the Alachua Police Department, by putting

officers on bicycle patrol. The Alachua Police Explorer program was also started by Watson, which provides teens training and exposure to a future career in law enforcement.

Over the years, Watson has received special recognition from various organizations. He was awarded the Governor's Peace at Home Award by the late Governor Lawton Chiles for his efforts to curb and educate others about domestic violence. In 2006, he received the Public Servant of the Year award by the Florida Democratic Black Caucus. The Gainesville Lodge of Fraternal Order of Police presented him with the Administrator of the Year award in 2008, and in 2009, the Alachua Chamber of Commerce presented him with the Lifetime Achievement Award. He was recognized with awards by Kappa Alpha Psi on several occasions for Community Service, Achievement and Outstanding Leadership & Service. The Department of Veteran Affairs of North Florida/Southern Georgia presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation for volunteerism for our veterans and was awarded the Rev. Dr. T. A. Wright Award from the NAACP.

A Leadership Scholarship Fund was established in his honor by the A.L. Mebane Alumni Association, Inc. This organization also recognized him with a Dedication Award for Commitment to the Citizens of the City of Alachua and Alachua County, a Lifetime Membership Award and Community Service Award. Watson was presented an Outstanding Leadership Award by the Gainesville African American & Cultural Society. The University of Alabama recognized him with the Alice Parker Award for Outstanding Work in the Humanities. In 2012, he received the Democrat of the Year award from the Alachua County Democratic Black Caucus, and also the Courage award from Greater New Hope Missionary Baptist Church. The City of Alachua recognized Watson by naming the street in front of the housing projects where he grew up in his honor – NW 132nd Place is now "Clovis Watson, Jr., Way". Watson served as a guiding light for Alachua and continues to be a true champion for his community.

In 2012, Clovis decided to continue his service to the community by seeking to run for public office. His strong believe in advocating for improved education coupled with his desire to bring and create clean jobs to Florida for the unemployed and under-employed

fueled his decision. After a successful campaign, he was elected in November 2012 to the office of State Representative for District 20. Representative Watson's vast experiences in local government, environment, and law enforcement along with his passion for improved education and access to healthcare for all is reflected in the committees he selected and was chosen to serve on. During his tenure in the Legislature, Clovis served on various committees including State Affairs, Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations, Agriculture & Natural Resources, Economic Development & Tourism, Criminal Justice and Health Quality subcommittees.

From the beginning, Representative Watson endeavored to make a difference for the constituents of District 20. He worked hard on legislative environmental and water issues to prevent some of the more egregious actions proposed to become law. He stood proud with his Democratic colleagues in their fight to take federal dollars to expand Medicaid to cover over one million Floridians, stop the attack on the Florida Retirement System and provide raises for state employees and first responders. For his efforts in preserving the middle class and protecting the working poor, Representative Watson was honored by Florida Watch Action, Progress

Florida and America Votes as a "2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 Middle Class Champion". He was also named a "Champion for Agriculture" by Florida Farm Bureau for his role in working to protect Florida's Agriculture and a 2017 Florida Association of Counties Champion. In addition, he received the Alachua County Harry S. Truman 'The Buck Stops Here' Award at their 2013 annual Outstanding Democrats Award Luncheon. In 2020, Clovis was named a Legislative Champion by the Big Brother Big Sisters Association of Florida. Representative Watson has served as the Chair of the Alachua County Delegation, the Democratic Whip for the 2015-2016 Legislative term and Democratic ranking member for the State Affairs committee for the 2015-2016 Legislative term.

After serving the citizens of the state of Florida for eight years in the Florida Legislature, Clovis realized that there was still more service to do. He launched his campaign for Sheriff of Alachua County in August of 2019. Clovis ran a very successful campaign and was elected Sheriff in Alachua County on August 18, 2020. He was officially sworn in on January 5, 2021 and currently serves in that capacity.



A brief note on organizational changes...

As you thumb through this annual report, please note that the organizational structure and information are from the calendar year 2020, which was under the previous administration of Sheriff Sadie Darnell.

The 2021 Command Staff under Sheriff Watson's new administration is listed on pages 6-7 to provide reference for the new agency organizational structure going forward. Many of the bureaus and units you are familiar with may be in a different location or under a different commander now. A new organizational chart is also provided on our website. You can view it on our ACSO website at <https://acso.us/organization/>.

We look forward to showcasing the achievements of the new administration in the 2021 Annual Report. Look for it in Spring 2022.

2021 COMMAND STAFF



**Sheriff
Clovis Watson, Jr.**



**Undersheriff
Joel DeCoursey, Jr.**



Major George Corwine

Department of Operations



Danielle Judd

Department of
Administrative Services



Vacant

Department of
Support Services



Director Robert Woody

Department of the Jail



Laura Compton

Executive Assistant to
the Undersheriff



Tara Malone

Executive Assistant to
the Sheriff



Jacob Rush

General Counsel



Director Michelle Sherfield

Government and Community
Relations Unit

2021 COMMAND STAFF



**PIO Lieutenant
Kaley Behl**

Policy and Accreditation
Public Information Office



**Captain
Darrell Bessinger**

Patrol Operations Division



Captain Bella Blizzard

Patrol Support Division



Captain David Clark

Patrol Operations Division



PIO Art Forgey

Public Information Office



Captain Todd Kelly

Criminal Investigations
Division



**Division Manager
Michelle Klement**

Technical Services Division



Captain Steve Maynard

Judicial Services & Training
Division



**Chief Inspector
Captain John Richman**

Office of Professional
Standards



Captain Ray Swallows

DOJ/Security Operations
Division



Captain Lori Stophel

DOJ/Contract Monitor



Captain Corey Warren

DOJ/Support Services
Division

COVID-19 IN 2020



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Non-Emergency Dispatch	(352) 955-1818	Human Resources Bureau	(352) 367-4040
Accounting & Budget	(352) 367-4198	Juvenile Relations Bureau	(352) 367-4099
Civil Bureau	(352) 384-3051	Main Number	(352) 367-4000
Court Security Bureau	(352) 264-7072	Office of Professional Standards	(352) 384-3050
Crime Prevention Unit	(352) 374-1800	Patrol Operations Division & Patrol Support Division	(352) 367-4101
Criminal Investigations Division	(352) 367-4170	Property Unit	(352) 367-4078
Department of the Jail	(352) 491-4444	Public Information Office	(352) 367-4050
Evidence Section	(352) 367-4076	Records Bureau	(352) 367-4006
False Alarm Reduction Unit	(352) 264-6650	Sheriff Clovis Watson, Jr.	(352) 367-4021
Fleet Unit	(352) 367-4079	Technical Services Division	(352) 367-4080
Forensics Unit	(352) 367-4090	Trauma Intervention & Special Services Bureau (Victim Advocates)	(352) 367-4199
General Counsel	(352) 367-4024		
Grant Administrator	(352) 367-4180		



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

Office of Professional Standards



Captain Todd Kelly
Chief Inspector & Human Resources Director

Office of Professional Standards | Policy and Accreditation Unit |
Human Resources Bureau

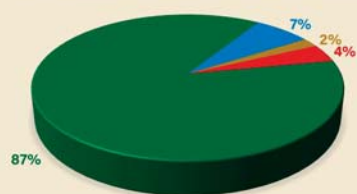
The **Office of Professional Standards (OPS)** investigates all Formal Complaints, Internal Affairs Investigations, Fire Team Investigations, Administrative Inquiries and Vehicle Crash Reviews, as well as Inspections and Audits.

Statistical analysis gathered during 2020 includes 97 Formal Complaints/Internal Affairs/Administrative Investigations agencywide and three In-Custody Death Investigations. This includes one open Formal Complaint and one In-Custody Death Investigation still pending as of January 31, 2021. There were no Fire Team Investigations for 2020.

There were 26 Administrative Inquiries in 2020. (*Administrative Inquiries are not calculated into the statistics because they are not issued a finding). Out of the 84 closed Administrative Investigations, a total of 112 allegations were generated. Of that amount:

- 12 Internal Affairs Investigations generated 18 allegations: 14 of the 18 allegations (78%) were sustained.
- 85 Formal Complaints generated 94 allegations: 78 of the 94 allegations (83%) were sustained.
- Two In-Custody Death Investigations revealed two allegations. Neither of them were sustained.
- 80 agency employees were involved in 84 closed Administrative Investigations, which represents 9% of our 879 employees.

TOTAL ALLEGATION INVESTIGATION RESULTS



■ Sustained ■ Not sustained ■ Unfounded ■ Exonerated

ACSO Vehicle Crash Committee

The ACSO Vehicle Crash Review Committee reviewed 71 crashes involving ACSO leased or owned vehicles during the 2020 calendar year. This represented a four percent decrease from the 74 crashes reviewed in 2019. Of the 71 crashes in 2020, 35 were preventable, 32 were non-preventable and four were preventable with extenuating circumstances.

The Office of Professional Standards continues to monitor trends that may reduce the number of traffic crashes. Of the 35 preventable crashes in 2020, 10 involved the driver backing into another vehicle or object.

ACSO Audits

During 2020, an Annual Evidence Inspection, Unannounced Evidence Inspection, and Evidence Function Audit were completed by OPS Inspectors. Quarterly, an OPS Inspector conducted Investigative and Evidence Fund Audits, totaling sixteen audits a year. Additionally, OPS conducted an unannounced inventory of narcotics and explosives used for canine training. All of these required audits conducted by the Office of Professional standards were within agency guidelines and no errors or discrepancies were discovered as a result.

Office of Professional Standards Inspectors also conducted a full inventory of all high liability items in ACSO custody at the end of 2020, totaling over 32,000 items, and successfully accounted for 99.8 percent of them. Inspectors additionally assisted the Gainesville Police Department with a full inventory of more than 8,000 items of evidence held at the Gainesville-Alachua County Drug Task Force.

Policy and Accreditation Unit

The **Policy and Accreditation Unit** researches, writes, edits, and promulgates the policies and procedures of the Alachua County Sheriff's Office into the Directive Management System. Accreditation aids a law enforcement agency's pursuit of professional excellence by strengthening agency accountability, both internally and within the community. Accreditation builds community and governmental support, as well as employee confidence in the direction and future of the agency.

ACSO received the **National Sheriffs Association's Triple Crown Award** in 2000 by simultaneously achieving CALEA, ACA, and NCCHC Accreditation. Acquiring all three at the same time is an extraordinary feat. In fact, the Triple Crown distinction is so rare, that since the establishment of the award in 1993, fewer than 100 sheriffs' offices nationwide have qualified. This is a one-time award that is maintained by the agency forever.

ACSO is currently accredited through the following agencies:



Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA)

ACSO received its initial CFA accreditation in 1997, and was reaccredited for the fifth consecutive time in 2012, achieving "Excelsior Agency" status. The last reaccreditation was held in November 2020, with the fourth Excelsior award received in February 2021.



Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission (FCAC)

All aspects of correctional operations are addressed through FCAC standards, including: Admission, Classification, Housing, Sanitation, Food Services, Personnel Issues, Fiscal Activities, Security, Training, and Medical Services. The ACSO Department of the Jail received its initial FCAC Accreditation in 1999, and was reaccredited for the fifth consecutive time in October 2014, achieving "Excelsior Agency" status. The last reaccreditation was held in August 2020, with the third Excelsior award received in October 2020.



Public Safety Communications Accreditation Program (PSCAP) through Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA)

CALEA accreditation provides a communications center with a process to systematically review and assess its operations and procedures. The ACSO Combined Communications Center (CCC) received its initial CALEA PSCAP Accreditation in 2002 and was reaccredited for the third consecutive time in March 2011. In 1998 and 2011, the CCC received the distinguished "**Flagship Award**" from CALEA, awarded only to the most successful CALEA-accredited agencies in recognition of their achievements and expertise. In March 2014, the CCC received its first **GOLD STANDARD AWARD**, further elevating the CCC to elite status among accredited centers. The Gold Standard Assessment focuses on processes and outcomes through interviews and observations, as opposed to traditional intensive and comprehensive file review. The last reaccreditation assessment was held in November 2020, with the agency's third Gold Standard Award to be awarded in 2021.

2020 Accomplishments

- Completed revisions to the operational manuals for Accounting and Budget, Criminal Investigations, Forensics, Warrants, Patrol Field Training, Aviation, and the Drug Task Force, as well as a Forensics Training Manual.
- Created a pandemic policy to address COVID-19 and made more than 30 agency forms PDF fillable for ease of use for those working from remote locations.
- Completed 984 non-substantive policy changes, 62 substantive policy revisions to agencywide directives, 29 jail procedures, and 32 procedures from various areas.
- Assisted in the reaccreditation of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office.
- Lt. Kaley Behl and Accreditation Specialist Dawn Godsmark were selected as employees of the month for November 2020 for their dedication to the accreditation process. They overcame multiple challenges in order to hold a required onsite assessment during a pandemic.

Human Resources Bureau

The **Human Resources Bureau's** primary goal is to enhance ACSO's pursuit of professional standards by providing the expertise and best practices in the management of Human Resources.

Recruitment, Hiring, and Development

We are dedicated to attracting and supporting a qualified diverse workforce in order to meet the public safety needs of the citizens of Alachua County, as well as retaining the agency's most valuable resource—our employees.

With 1,624 internal and external applications submitted and seven recruitment events attended, ACSO hired 83 individuals and provided extensive new hire training and education for 27 of those through agency-sponsored academies or agency training programs. In addition, ACSO promoted 44 high performing employees.

Hiring qualified personnel that reflects the diversity of the Alachua County community takes frequent and targeted recruiting efforts. To the right is a summary of our employees and diversity.

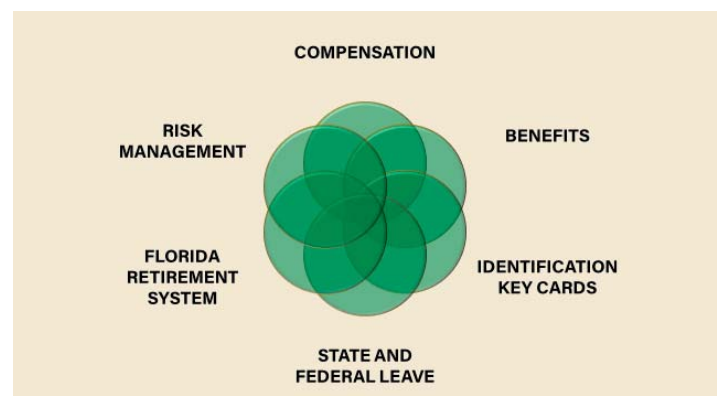
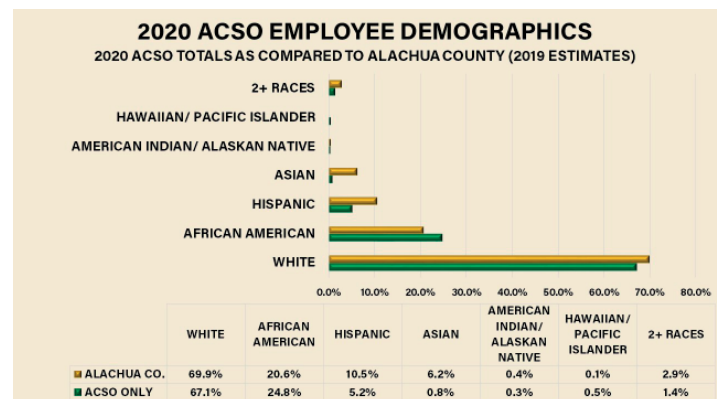
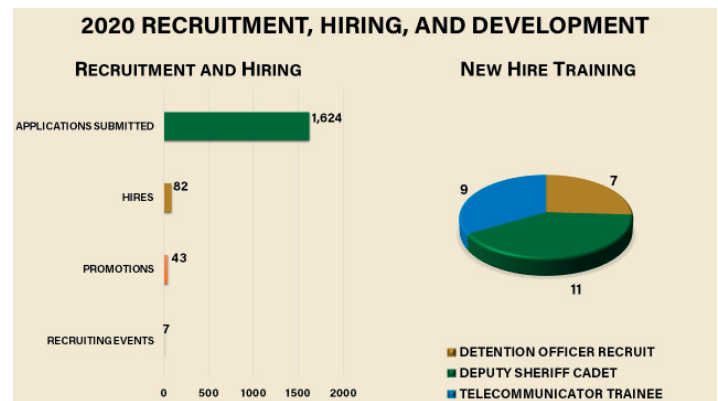
Administration

In addition to recruitment, hiring, and development, we handle many other administrative functions including, but not limited to, issuing bond cards, risk management, management of state and federal leave, benefits and compensation, and the Florida Retirement System (FRS). Some of our 2020 accomplishments were:

- Processed 14 retirements and administered a combined total of 333 worker's compensation and FMLA events.
- Organized and coordinated Live Scan Evaluations for 87 Sworn and Certified employees.
- Monitored over 336 employees that were affected by COVID19 and organized the safe return of employee reporting back to work after COVID19 restrictions were lifted. In addition, we ensured the safe return to work of 117 employees that tested positive for COVID19.
- Coordinated hotel accommodations, food and sanitation of the room for an employee that was

affected by COVID19, but unable to return to his family.

- Lastly, the HR Bureau co-plans with the Public Information Office to manage our Swearing In and Awards ceremonies, recognizing 44 individuals in 2020.



Accounting and Budget Bureau

GENERAL FUND	BUDGET FY 2019/2020
Law Enforcement	\$38,605,122
Jail	\$35,542,120
CCC	\$9,575,865
Court Security/ Bailiffs	\$3,638,497
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$87,361,604

Patty Justice
Chief Financial Officer



The **Accounting and Budget Bureau** is responsible for the sound and timely accounting of all fiscal matters in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and governmental accounting standards. The bureau prepares the annual certified budget for presentation to the Board of County Commissioners and monitors the budget throughout the year.

The bureau also hosts the annual independent audit of the financial statements and prepares the financial statements for presentation to the Auditor General. Other responsibilities of the bureau include accounts payable, bi-weekly payroll processing and payroll quality control, purchasing, trust funds, and grant financial reporting.

The main sources of funding for the Sheriff's Office budget are transfers from the Board of County Commissioners, consisting mainly of ad valorem revenues in the form of property taxes. The budget funds salaries and benefits, operating expenses, and capital-related items. The budget is divided into four main functions, consisting of: Law Enforcement, Department of the Jail, Combined Communications Center, and Court Security/Bailiffs. The table and chart at the top of this page depict the distribution of ACSO's budget.

Salaries and benefits make up over 81 percent of the total General Fund budget. Operating costs consist mainly of technology-related expenses, liability and auto insurance, and mandated contracts such as the Inmate Medical Contract, which alone represents 58 percent of the operating costs for the Department of the Jail. Vehicles and replacement equipment represent 100 percent of the capital-related budget.

The Sheriff's Office has various special revenue funds, linked to specific sources and legally restricted to expenditures for defined purposes. Those special revenue funds consist mainly of state and federal grants awarded to the agency throughout the year. Approximately \$1,179,651 in grant monies were awarded to ACSO during FY 2019/2020, funding many important aspects of the Sheriff's Office by providing equipment, overtime, and salary payments.



Public Information Office



Sergeant Frank Kinsey
Public Information Officer

The **Public Information Office (PIO)** includes two public information officers, a public information specialist, a media production specialist, a crime prevention deputy, and an administrative specialist. The office is the conduit for the most up-to-date information for the community for all matters relating to the Alachua County Sheriff's Office, providing timely and relevant information directly to the public and our media partners.

In response to media inquiries, information is researched and shared through print, television, and radio interviews; social media posts, and news releases. Proactive coverage of major events impacting the community, arrests, and unusual situations occurring within the scope of the ACSO are provided as events unfold.

The office also coordinates media coverage to assist other Sheriff's Office functions, such as locating fugitives, developing information to aid in criminal investigations and operations at the Department of the Jail, and joining with the public to help find missing persons.

The PIO maintains sections of the agency's website, produces educational literature, infographics, and the agency's annual report. The office also maintains the agency's four social media accounts.



Art Forgey
Public Information Officer



Crime Prevention Unit

The **Crime Prevention Unit** offers **FREE** programs to empower our community with ways to protect themselves, family, and friends.

- Neighborhood and Business Crime Watch.
- Security surveys for homes and businesses.
- Community presentations including: Internet Safety, Crimes Against the Elderly, Frauds and Scams, Burglary and Robbery Prevention, Active Shooter, and many more.
- Locator services for Project Lifesaver to help find seniors and other vulnerable individuals that become lost and require care. Individuals must enroll and pay any associated fees through Project Lifesaver International. Visit ProjectLifesaver.org for more information.

The unit also offers several personal safety classes. These classes are held at locations throughout the county and are taught by certified instructors.

- R.A.D. for Women is a 12-hour self-defense course for women only, ages 13 and up. R.A.D. stands for Rape Aggression Defense. We will enroll girls 11 or 12 if an adult female family member attends as well.
- S.A.F.E. (Self-defense Awareness & Familiarization Exchange) is a two-hour introduction to R.A.D. and is for women only, ages 13 and up. Classes are held with a minimum class-size of 12 and are held at your location upon request.
- radKIDS® (resisting aggression defensively) is a 10-hour children's empowerment program for boys and girls ages 5-12. radKIDS® is now offered in many Alachua County schools as part of the P.E. curriculum or as an afterschool activity.
- R.A.D. for Seniors (Resisting Aggression Defensively) is a 15-hour personal safety class offered at the Senior Recreation Center.

For more information on any of the programs, call (352) 374-1800. You can also inquire via our website at <https://acso.us/rad-and-safe/>.

All of our personal safety classes are currently suspended due to COVID-19, but we anticipate resuming them once the pandemic is over.



Trauma Intervention & Special Services Bureau



Laura Knudson
Bureau Chief

Trauma Intervention and Special Services Bureau's (TISSB) goal is to ensure victims of crime are treated with fairness, dignity, and respect as they deal with victimization. Services are victim-centered and trauma informed to help lessen the impact of crime, especially for vulnerable populations.

The bureau consists of a civilian bureau chief, an administrative specialist, four victim advocates, a paid victim advocate intern, and volunteer interns.



Trauma Intervention and Special Services Bureau personnel. Clockwise from bottom right: Volunteer Intern Priscilla Perales, Bureau Chief Laura Knudson, Victim Advocate Nichole Parks, Victim Advocate Valeria Bonilla, Administrative Specialist Kathryn Odom, Victim Advocate Deanna Uhl, Paid Intern Kaitlyn Palm, and Victim Advocate Aileen Solero.

VOCA Grant

The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) fund is administered by Florida's Attorney General. ACSO has received VOCA funding for the Victim Advocate Unit for 24 years, since 1997. The VOCA grant is intended for direct services to crime victims and used to fund a majority percentage of ACSO's four victim advocate positions and a paid internship.

The VOCA grant award for FY 2019/2020 was \$238,861. In addition to staff funding, the grant provides funding for interpreter services, training, and operational costs for the Victim Advocate Unit. The VOCA grant award for FY 2020/2021 is \$202,956. The Office of the Attorney General was restricted in their spending authority for VOCA funds, resulting in significant cuts across the state of Florida.

As a result of the VOCA grant, ACSO is able to provide services for victims of child physical abuse, child sexual abuse, domestic violence, adult sexual assault, elder abuse, robbery, assault, property crimes, harassment, stalking, and surviving family of homicide victims. Services include first response and crisis counseling; follow-up contact, information, and referral; criminal justice support, assistance with crime victim compensation, personal advocacy, injunction assistance, case management, and telephone and letter contacts.

Community Partnerships

During 2020, the TISSB bureau chief continued partnering with Elder Options, Peaceful Paths, the 8th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office, and other local partners on an Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) grant project: **Enhanced Training and Services to End Abuse in Later Life**. Elder Options is the fiduciary agent for the grant. Grant partners work with the Project Coordinator on related goals: multidisciplinary training, coordinated community response to abuse in later life, and enhanced direct service for elder victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, stalking, dating violence, elder abuse/neglect, and financial exploitation.

TISSB staff members participate in several partnerships across Alachua County with the intent of maintaining and enhancing service to victims of crime and serving as the Sheriff's representative on local community initiatives. This includes the Intimate Violence Enhanced Services Team (InVEST), Child Abuse Prevention Task Force, Alachua County High Risk Response Team, Alachua County Coalition Against Sexual Violence, Community Coalition for Aging Adults, Abuse in Later Life MOU partner meetings, Abuse in Later Life Coordinated Community Response, Alachua County Domestic Violence Task Force, North Central Florida Senior Advocacy Network, Drug Endangered Children Task Force, 8th Judicial Circuit Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team, Mental Health Coalition of North Central Florida, and Child Death Review.

In 2020, TISSB hosted two trainings by the Office of the Attorney General's Florida Crime Prevention Training Institute (FCPTI) for victim service professionals across

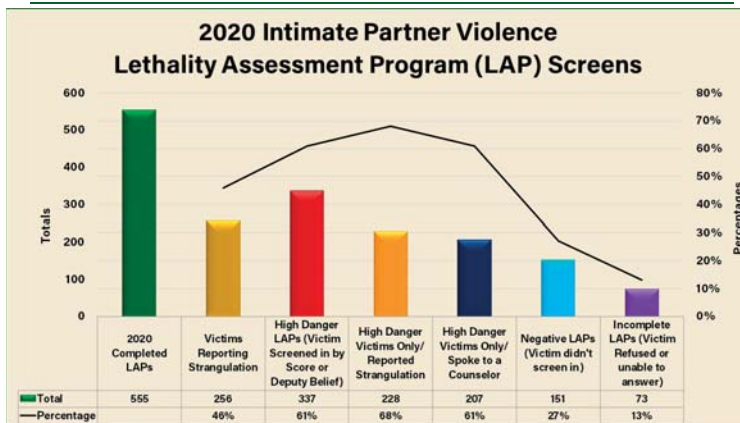
the state: *Preparing for Mass Violence and Terrorism* (46 registrants) and *Media and Advocacy* (37 registrants).

Lethality Assessment Program (LAP)

ACSO launched the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) screen in 2009, in concert with Peaceful Paths. The LAP helps deputies identify victims/survivors of Intimate Partner Violence who are at high risk for harm. During 2020, deputies completed 555 LAP screens and, through their phone calls to the Peaceful Paths hotline, linked victims in high danger to critical services.

The Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention has identified that victims of prior attempted strangulation are 750% more likely to be eventually killed. Victims indicated strangulation in 46% of all LAP screens performed in 2020, with 68% of victims screening as "High Danger" also indicating strangulation.

Intimate Violence Enhanced Services Team



The Intimate Violence Enhanced Services Team (InVEST) meets weekly to review cases of intimate partner violence. InVEST launched in 2007 and is comprised of representatives from ACSO's Special Victims Unit, Alachua County Court Services, Department of Children and Families, and victim advocates from ACSO and Peaceful Paths. The advocates work to enhance victim safety, the detective and Court Services to increase offender accountability, and DCF to ensure the safety of children exposed to intimate partner violence.

During 2020, the InVEST Team reviewed 555 LAP screens. Each case is assigned to an ACSO Victim Advocate for review and follow-up. Sixty-one percent (61%) of the LAPs indicated the victim was in high danger. As such, Peaceful Paths Victim Advocates worked in collaboration with ACSO to link victims

to critical services like shelter, injunction attorneys, support groups, relocation, financial literacy, and case management.

High Risk Response Team

InVEST referred five cases to Alachua County's High Risk Response Team. The purpose of the team is to prevent intimate partner homicide through intensive case management. The team includes local victim services, certified domestic violence service, local and state probation, law enforcement, prosecutors, batterer's intervention, jail, and legal services. The comprehensive oversight is designed to enhance victim safety.

Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team

TISSB is a member of the 8th Circuit Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team, which examines gaps and identifies best practices for local partners as part of a state and national initiative to reduce domestic violence-related homicides. The purpose of these reviews is not to lay blame on the system or the victim for actions or inactions, but to better understand the events leading up to the homicide. Typically, the team identifies gaps in service or systemic improvements and publishes those findings for consideration by community partners. Their report is then forwarded to the Florida Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team for inclusion in their annual report.

Seniors vs Crime

Seniors vs Crime is a program of the Florida Attorney General's Office that is housed at ACSO so local seniors can benefit from the service. Founded in 1989 by the Attorney General and the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), the program uses retired volunteers to educate Floridians on consumer fraud and also to help in some consumer investigations.

Seniors vs Crime had 46 new cases, of which they cleared 91.67% percent. The total recovered during 2020 was \$98,038.71. Volunteer "Senior Sleuths" provided 729 hours of dedicated service to Alachua County's senior population.

DEPARTMENT OF SUPPORT SERVICES



Major David Clark
Department Manager

Administrative Services Division | Criminal Investigations Division
Technical Services Division

Administrative Services Division

Captain Vacant

Division Commander

Records Bureau
Support Bureau



Records Bureau

The **Records Bureau** is responsible for customer service to the public and support to agency personnel. The services provided include emergency injunction preparation, electronic fingerprint services, public records requests in accordance with Public Record Law F.S.S. 119, maintenance of ACSO's law enforcement report files, and data entry into various records management systems.

The Records Bureau manages the entry and maintenance of all countywide wanted persons, agency-reported missing persons, and agency-reported stolen property items into the Florida and National Criminal Information Center (FCIC/NCIC) systems within guidelines set by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

The bureau also provides centralized storage and retrieval for all incident and traffic crash reports generated by the Alachua County Sheriff's Office.

Additionally, Records Bureau personnel direct all incoming switchboard calls to the proper location and maintain the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) information for inclusion into state and national crime statistics.

The Records Bureau customer service window is open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for holidays. Services provided to the public, and their associated fees, are listed at the top of the next page.





RECORDS BUREAU PUBLIC SERVICES	FEE
Local Arrest History Checks	\$6
Concealed Weapon Permit Package	No Fee
Concealed Weapon Permit Fingerprinting	\$5
Other Fingerprinting Services	\$5
Public Records Requests	Cost to Produce

- A Local Arrest History Check (also called a background check) provides a listing of Alachua County arrests. Case disposition information is available through the Alachua County Clerk of Court.
- **Photo ID is required for all services** as some information may be restricted to certain persons.
- Only cash, money orders, or business checks are accepted; no personal checks, or credit/debit cards.
- Public Records requests greater than 20 pages in length or requiring more than 15 minutes to produce have fees based on the cost to produce the record(s). Fees are calculated as employee compensation rates for time, in addition to \$0.15 per single-sided page/\$0.20 per double-sided page. No fees are assessed for requests less than 20 pages or requiring less than 15 minutes.

Support Bureau

The Support Services Bureau is comprised of the Evidence Section, Fleet Maintenance Unit, and the Property/Facilities Unit.

Evidence Section

A successful criminal prosecution depends on how evidence is handled and preserved. Evidence must be packaged properly, documented accurately, and stored correctly. If errors occur, or the “chain of custody” is compromised, criminals can go free, putting the community and its citizens at risk.

When a case is over and the evidence is no longer needed, every attempt is made to return items to the rightful owner. There are over 75,000 individual pieces of evidence and lost or abandoned property currently held in the Evidence Section. Approximately 1,000 new items are received and processed each month.

All Evidence Section personnel have received training in the handling of potentially lethal Fentanyl and have Active Shooter training to safeguard themselves and evidence during the receipt or release of property.

Unclaimed evidentiary items and lost or abandoned property are available for sale at www.propertyroom.com.





Fleet Maintenance Unit

The **Fleet Maintenance Unit** is responsible for acquiring, maintaining, and disposing of all agency vehicles. Their duties include the aftermarket installation of all necessary emergency equipment and coordinating vehicle crash damage repairs with the agency's insurance company and outside body shop vendors. The Fleet Maintenance Unit processed 122 crash damage repairs in 2020.

The Fleet Unit also ensures vehicle warranty repairs and safety recalls are completed, processes vehicle repair work based on work orders, and maintains a vehicle repair/maintenance history on every fleet vehicle. They assign fuel cards to vehicles and issue fuel purchase PIN numbers to every driver. The fuel cost for calendar year 2020 was \$661,965.

The unit also registers and purchases vehicle license plates for new vehicles and maintains vehicle repair parts inventory for in-house repairs and maintenance. The unit is responsible for processing all vehicle-related

expense payments and disposing of surplus vehicles by advertising to other local agencies and through the use of an auction company. They received \$123,472 in revenue from the sale of surplus vehicles in 2020. The Fleet Unit prepares an annual budget for replacement vehicles, fuel cost, and vehicle maintenance and repair needs.

The unit is staffed by seven employees, including: a Fleet Manager, Fleet Specialist, an Emergency Vehicle Electronics Technician, and four Automotive Technicians. All of the Automotive Technicians assigned to the Fleet Maintenance Unit are certified Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Master Technicians.

The Fleet Maintenance Unit maintains over 530 cars, trucks, motorcycles, and specialized vehicles. During 2020, these vehicles were driven a combined total of 5,220,641 miles. The bulk of the Fleet Maintenance Unit's budget of \$3,821,961 is devoted to the purchasing and outfitting of vehicles, fuel costs, and the repair of agency vehicles.





Property Custodian Mith Brown was named Employee of the Month for May 2020 for his exemplary performance keeping the ACSO well-stocked and running smoothly during the pandemic.

Property /Facilities Unit

The **Property/Facilities Unit** is the central receiving and distribution point for all supplies, deliveries, and package pickups for ACSO. The unit serves the agency with two stores for distribution of supplies: one at the Main Administration building and one at the Department of the Jail. The unit's primary responsibilities are:

- Outfitting all newly-hired deputies with uniforms, weapons, building keys, and first responder's equipment items such as trauma kits and automated defibrillators (AEDs). The unit also issues replacement items for current employees, both sworn and civilian, and keeps track of all specialized equipment that is issued to ACSO's Special Teams (SWAT, Bomb, MO/URT, etc.).
- The unit is also responsible for outfitting all newly-hired detention officers with uniforms and first responder's equipment items such as CPR masks and trauma kits. The unit also issues replacement items for current employees, both sworn and civilian, and keeps track of all specialized equipment that is issued to DOJ Special Teams (CERT & Hospital Duties).
- The unit creates and maintains ACSO inventories according to statute. When an item (fixed asset) is received, it is assigned a property number and entered into the agency's financial management program. The item is then delivered to the receiving unit and inventoried on an annual basis.
- The unit inspects weapons housed in the armory for operational readiness on a bi-annual basis. A full inventory on all weapons is conducted annually. The unit also rotates weapons to ensure the agency always has the most capable weapons available on hand.
- The unit controls all building keys for the buildings located on the administrative campus. This includes keeping track of employees leaving the agency to have keys returned, or cutting new keys as required. The unit maintains a record of all lost or damaged keys, as well as any newly made keys. Keys are inventoried annually to ensure building security. The unit also handles the exchange of door handles or re-coring of door locks as needed.
- The unit acquires, maintains, and distributes office supplies and general stock items for all of the agency's buildings.
- The Facilities portion of the Property Unit oversees the general maintenance and upkeep of the Administration Complex, to include the Fleet building, the Combined Communications Center, and administrative buildings. The unit handles tasks that can be completed in-house, such as painting/patching walls, moving furniture, hanging frames or plaques, and other small repairs. The unit also acts as a liaison with County Facilities to coordinate larger projects, such as plumbing or electrical issues, capital building projects, repair vendors, and janitorial services. They also coordinate with the Department of the Jail to provide in-house maintenance using trustees for general grounds upkeep, cleaning of buildings, and parking lots.

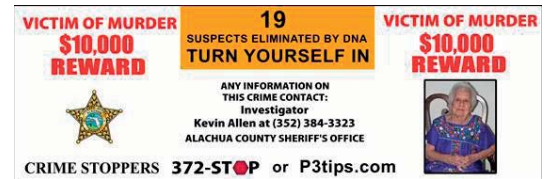
Criminal Investigations Division



Captain Darrell Bessinger
Division Commander

Data Administrator | False Alarm Reduction Unit (FARU)
Major Crimes Bureau | Forensics Unit | Property Investigations Bureau
Gainesville/Alachua County Drug Task Force (GADTF)

The **Criminal Investigations Division (CID)** consists of several bureaus and functions within the Alachua County Sheriff's Office. The Major Crimes Bureau and the Property Investigations Bureau are the investigative components of the Sheriff's Office, where detectives specializing in investigating various crimes identify and apprehend the criminals responsible. These bureaus also include personnel that specialize in evidence collection to aid in prosecution of cases.



The third bureau is the Gainesville-Alachua County Drug Task Force (GACDTF), which oversees narcotics-related crimes and investigations. The Criminal Investigations Division also houses a Data Support Administrator and the False Alarm Reduction Unit.



Data Support Administrator

The **Data Support Administrator** conducts advanced data analysis and evaluation for ACSO and other agencies supported through the Combined Communications Center by identifying trends and developing strategies for increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the agencies' operational units. In addition, this position is responsible for the data analysis that forms the basis of the Intelligence-Led Policing program.

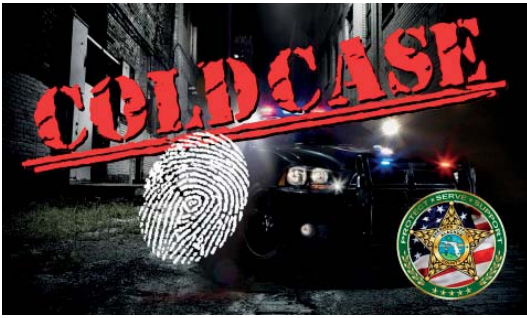


False Alarm Reduction Unit

The **False Alarm Reduction Unit (FARU)** was established to regulate and reduce the number of false alarms within the city of Gainesville and unincorporated areas of Alachua County. FARU administers all Alachua County and city of Gainesville alarm ordinances from one central office within the Combined Communications Center.

FARU's main function is to reduce the number of false alarms that law enforcement and firefighters respond to each year. During 2018, FARU, along with Alachua County Fire Rescue and the county attorney's office partners, saw their revised false alarm ordinance recommendations for Alachua County successfully passed by the Board of County Commission. This ordinance was the culmination of a five-year project and established parity with the city of Gainesville's fee structure.





If you have information on any cold case in Alachua County, please contact Cold Case Investigator Kevin Allen at (352) 384-3323.



Major Crimes Bureau

Major Crimes Bureau personnel were assigned to follow-up on 525 new cases, of which criminal charges were filed in 102 cases. The Major Crimes Bureau consists of the Persons Crime Unit, Special Victims Unit, and the Forensics Unit.

Persons Crimes Unit

The **Persons Crimes Unit** consists of seven detectives who investigate felony crimes such as murder, robbery, and other violent crimes against individuals. The unit contains two detectives assigned to digital forensics and a civilian cold case investigator.

During 2020, the unit was assigned 159 new cases, an increase of 8.16 percent in caseload from 2019. The Persons Crime Unit cleared 87 cases by arrest or through the warrant process in 2020.

Special Victims Unit

The **Special Victims Unit** consists of eight detectives. These detectives investigate crimes involving victims of sexual battery, child abuse, human trafficking, domestic violence, missing persons, and certain crimes against the elderly. This unit works in collaboration with the University of Florida Child Protection Team, the Department of Children and Families, and victim advocates from ACSO's Trauma Intervention & Special Services Bureau. The unit includes a detective assigned specifically to investigate Trauma Informed Sexual Assault cases. The Special Victims Unit also includes a detective dedicated to investigating Intimate Partner Violence cases. This detective works closely with the InVEST Team, the ACSO's victim advocates, as well as other community partners to combat Intimate Partner Violence.

During 2020, the Special Victims Unit was assigned 352 new cases. The unit cleared 252 cases by arrest or through the warrant process in 2020.

Forensics Unit

The Forensics Unit conducts crime scene investigations, and provides photographic services, fingerprint identification, evidence collection, and digital forensics examination. The unit typically processes major crime scenes such as homicides, sexual batteries, and other violent crimes. They also provide forensics support to the High Springs and Alachua Police Departments. The unit consists of six full-time crime scene investigators and two latent print examiners.

During 2020, the Forensics Unit maintained 4,596* fingerprint files, processed 465 crime scenes and vehicles (to include eight homicides and 46 shootings) and handled 245 in-house processing requests where 1,111 items were processed. Additionally, latent print examiners compared 476 subjects, resulting in 508 identifications.

*The number of fingerprint files maintained in 2020 was lower than previous years and will eventually become very minimal going forward due to limited server space in the local AFIS system.

The Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) is a biometric identification (ID) methodology that uses digital imaging technology to obtain, store, and analyze fingerprint data. AFIS maintains files in state and federal databases for comparison purposes.



Property Investigations Bureau

During 2020, **Property Investigations Bureau** personnel were assigned 653 new cases, of which 240 resulted in suspects being criminally charged. Detectives investigated these cases while continuing investigations on cases from 2019. In 2020, more than 725 cases were cleared, resulting in approximately \$773,358 worth of property recovered and returned to victims.

The bureau consists of the Property Crimes Unit, Financial Crimes Unit, and the Intelligence Led Policing Unit. The bureau also includes an ACSO detective who is assigned to the FBI's Safe Streets Task Force and conducts major investigations involving criminal gangs.



Property Crimes Unit

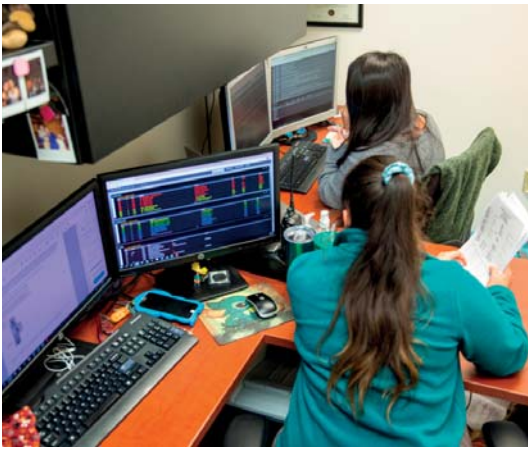
The **Property Crimes Unit** includes eight detectives who investigate cases involving burglary, theft, and felony criminal mischief.



Financial Crimes Unit

The **Financial Crimes Unit** consists of two detectives who investigate cases involving credit card fraud, identity theft, schemes to defraud, and other white collar crimes. They work closely with the United States Secret Service, financial institutions, and local businesses to identify and charge suspects in these crimes.





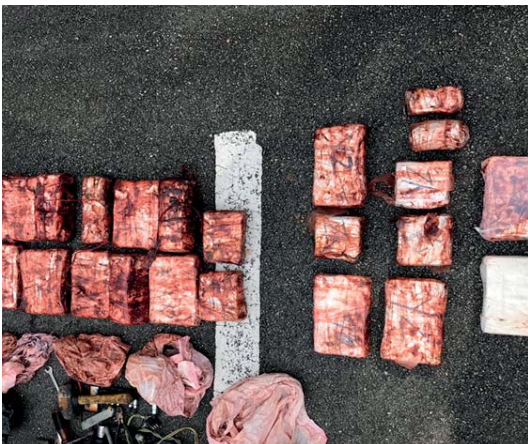
Intelligence Led Policing Unit

The **Intelligence Led Policing Unit** consists of six detectives with two primary missions. First, they serve as the operational or enforcement component of the Criminal Investigations Division. At any given time, they may be called upon to conduct surveillance, make a physical arrest, or establish a pattern of life for a search warrant. Second, they focus their efforts on Known Offenders based on active intelligence. These offenders include gang members, sex offenders, and prolific offenders (adult and juvenile).

One detective is specifically assigned to cases involving illegal firearms and works closely with the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF). This detective also monitors all pawn shops, secondhand dealers, and scrap yards that operate in Alachua County.

Also within the ILP Unit, there is a **Jail Intelligence Detective** who is stationed at the Alachua County Jail. He monitors inmate communications and provides valuable intelligence to other detectives as well as several other agencies.

One detective is also assigned as a **Task Force Officer** to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). His primary responsibility is monitoring organized criminal activity within Alachua County.



Illegal narcotics seized from criminals in Alachua County by the Gainesville - Alachua County Drug Task Force.

Crime Analysis

Crime Analysis consists of two data-driven employees who provide investigative and analytical support to all areas of ACSO. They compile and disseminate crime and intelligence data to identify crime trends and enable the agency to focus resources effectively. They also share information with other law enforcement agencies and the Florida Fusion Center.

GAC/DTF



The **Gainesville-Alachua County/Drug Task Force** investigates street-level, mid-level, and upper-level narcotics trafficking organizations that operate throughout Alachua County. The task force is comprised of law enforcement officers from the Gainesville Police Department, Alachua County Sheriff's Office, and the University of Florida Police Department. As a combined task force, the GACDTF initiated 369 cases and seized \$2,101,851 in illegal narcotics during 2020. Total value of assets seized during 2020, including 29 firearms, was \$1,372,361.

The **Clandestine Lab Response Team (CLRT)** and the **Domestic Highway Enforcement Task Force (DHETF)** are specialty units operating within GACDTF.

Technical Services Division



Jim Lanier
Division Manager

Communications Operations Bureau
Information Technology Bureau



Communications Operations Bureau

The **Combined Communications Center (CCC)** is a consolidated 9-1-1 communications center that provides public safety communications services for the Alachua County Sheriff's Office (ACSO), Alachua County Fire Rescue (ACFR), Gainesville Police Department (GPD), Gainesville Fire Rescue (GFR), and the High Springs Police Department (HSPD). The CCC also provides police or fire communications services to other municipalities within the county, including LaCrosse, Archer, Waldo, Micanopy, Newberry, and Hawthorne.

The center is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year with highly-trained, professional 9-1-1 telecommunicators. They are the "first of the first responders" to field hundreds of incoming calls each day, prioritize situations, determine the best course of action, and quickly forward that information to the appropriate public safety first responders. They monitor multiple radio frequencies, dispatch calls to police, fire, and medical units; access a variety of local, state, and federal databases; and track activities in the field. The split-second decisions they make can literally mean the difference between life and death.

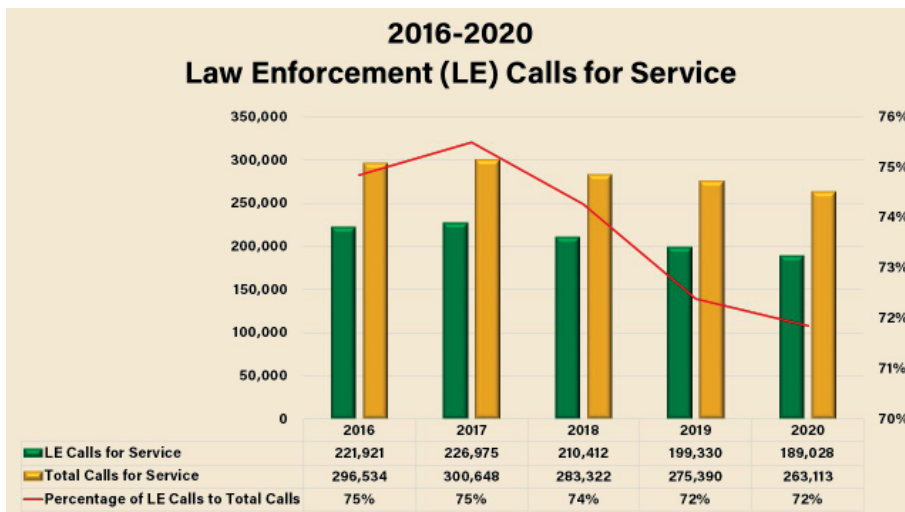
CCC 9-1-1 telecommunicators receive extensive training and meet stringent standards. They are certified by the state of Florida as telecommunicators and have additional certifications in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD), and Emergency Fire Dispatch (EFD). The EMD and EFD systems gather critical information and provide life-sustaining instructions in an emergency until the arrival of first responders. CCC 9-1-1 telecommunicators are also trained in Emergency Mental Health Dispatch (EMHD) and receive Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) to more effectively process requests for service that

involve persons in mental health crisis.

CCC is equipped with modern and technologically advanced equipment systems and features a fully redundant and enhanced 9-1-1 system (E9-1-1) that automatically displays the telephone number and location of 9-1-1 calls made from landline or wireless phones. A computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system tracks all calls for service whether they are for law enforcement, fire-rescue, or emergency medical services (EMS). The center also uses an 800 MHz trunked radio system that allows for local and statewide interoperable radio communications. In conjunction with the Alachua County E9-1-1 Office, CCC maintains the "**Smart911**" system, which allows citizens who complete a confidential online safety and medical profile to have their information available at the CCC for first responders. CCC also has text to 9-1-1 capability and is preparing for other advances in 9-1-1 technology.

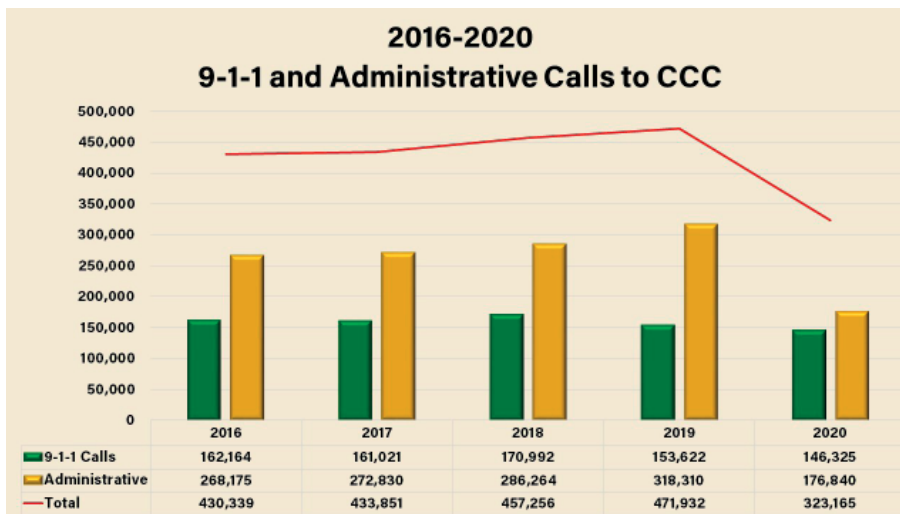
CCC is an accredited "Center of Excellence" by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch (IAED). To achieve and maintain IAED accreditation, an agency must have effective quality improvement and quality assurance programs in place to measure compliance with call processing protocols. In addition, the Center of Excellence designation validates that the agency is inclusive of its public safety partners and citizens, and provides a high level of customer service.

CCC is also accredited through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) at the highest level (Gold Standard). The Gold Standard Assessment measures the impact of accreditation through review of the center's key issues and identifies strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities based



specifically on the center's needs. The prestigious Gold Standard accreditation signifies that the CCC and the Alachua County Sheriff's Office as a whole set itself apart from other communications centers and law enforcement agencies nationwide, maintaining the highest standards of excellence, quality of work, and professional delivery of public safety services.

Additionally, the CCC continues its partnership with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). This partnership is a commitment by the Alachua County Sheriff's Office and partner agencies to utilize established best practices to assist these children and their families in some of the worst situations imaginable.



In 2020, the CCC processed 323,165 emergency and non-emergency calls from citizens in Alachua County. Of these calls, 263,113 resulted in a request for service and 189,028 or 72 percent were specifically for law enforcement. Five year statistics are illustrated in the charts on the left.

Information Technology Bureau (ITB)

The **Information Technology Bureau (ITB)** is responsible for planning, acquiring, implementing and developing information technology solutions to facilitate the agency's mission. In addition, the ITB evaluates and acquires emerging technologies, information systems and networks that have law enforcement applications. ITB analyzes the needs of different departments and determines ways to meet business objectives by modifying existing or developing new information processing systems.

ITB is also responsible for implementation and maintenance of all computers, servers, wireless infrastructure, network infrastructure, and all critical systems for the agency. ITB develops and supports all workflow and administrative computer applications within the agency and provides support for all agency

websites and other specialized applications. This includes web hosting, design, development, implementation and management of application development services for systems pertaining to investigations and general information for all staff. This also includes supporting law enforcement and CCC databases.



DEPARTMENT OF OPERATIONS



Major Latrell Simmons
Department Manager

Judicial Services & Training Division | Patrol Operations Division
Patrol Support Division | Reserve Unit

Judicial Services and Training Division



Captain Steve Maynard
Division Commander

Court Security Bureau
Civil Bureau
Training Bureau
Warrants Bureau



shelter hearings, and lawsuits. The Criminal Justice Center handles criminal cases, as well as drug, mental health, and veteran's court programs.

Court Security Bureau

The **Court Security Bureau** is dedicated to providing security and safety for judges, officers of the court, participants in court proceedings, citizens, and employees within the Alachua County Family and Civil Justice Center and the Alachua County Criminal Justice Center.

The mission of the Court Security Bureau is to serve the citizens of Alachua County in a lawful, fair, impartial, and non-discriminatory manner. Our mission is to provide a high level of court security and professional support and to ensure that court mandates are carried out in a manner that respects individual rights and freedoms. To succeed, we work cooperatively with all other law enforcement and criminal justice agencies to ensure that the citizens of Alachua County are receiving the full range of law enforcement services required for a safe and orderly society.

There are two courthouses in Alachua County. The Family and Civil Justice Center handles family and civil matters such as domestic violence, juvenile cases,

Each visitor is screened through a comprehensive security station, using state-of-the-art X-ray machines and magnetometers. With the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, 2020 was an unusual year as it pertains to the citizens granted entry into the Criminal and Family/Civil Courthouses. Usually, the Court Security Bureau screens approximately 325,000 citizens on an annual basis. With health guidelines enacted due to Covid-19, citizens were only allowed access to either courthouse via appointments, with a vast majority of court hearings being held virtually.

The Court Security Bureau provided a safe and secure environment for the 31 trials that took place in Alachua County in 2020.



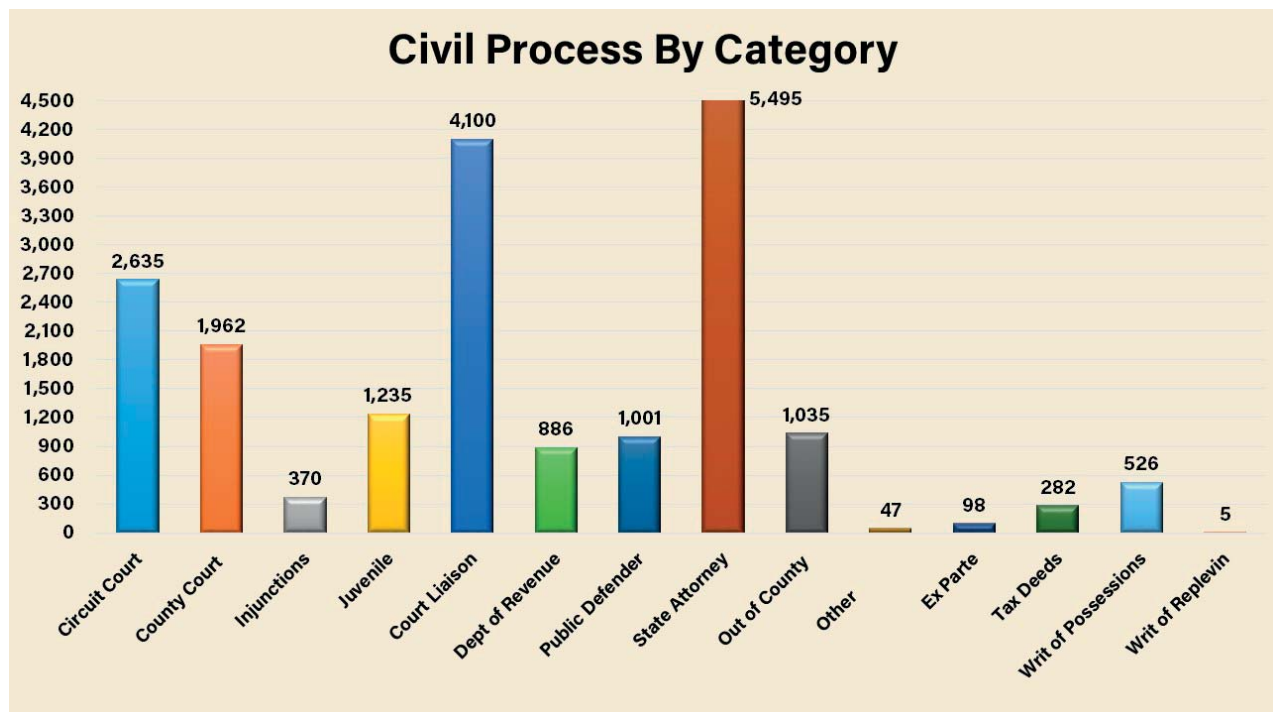
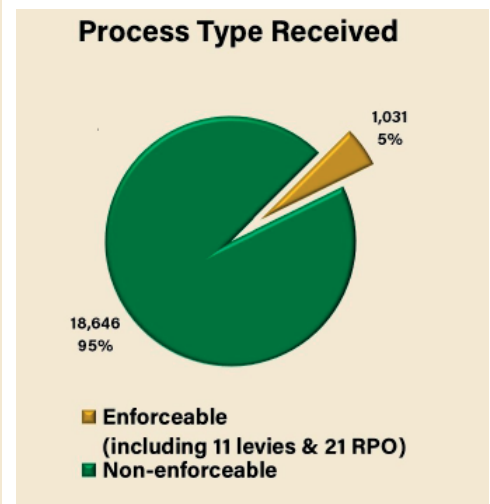
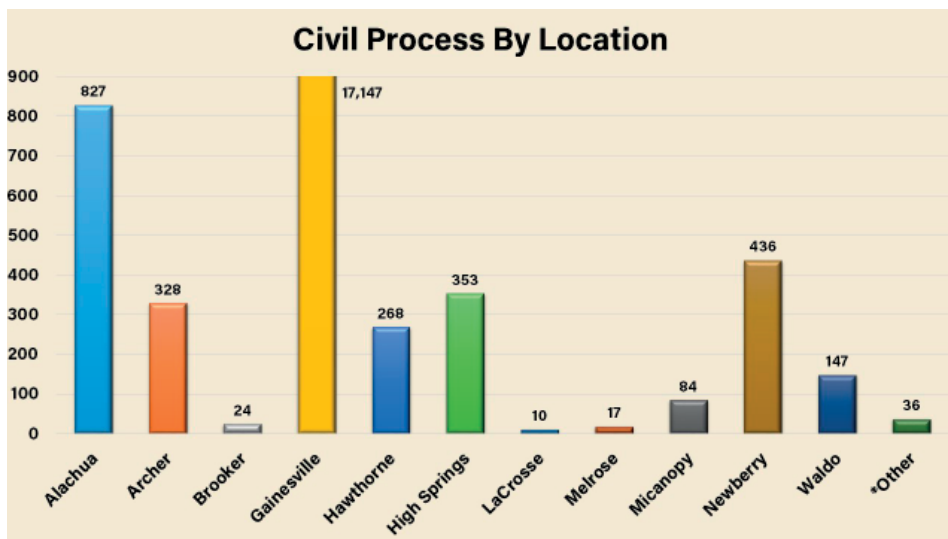
Civil Bureau

The **Civil Bureau** is located in the County Administration Building and is responsible for the service and enforcement of all types of judicial processes within Alachua County. Additionally, the Civil Bureau deputies occasionally assist the Court Security Bureau with special events, exceptionally large trials, and personnel shortages.

In 2020, the bureau received a total of 19,677 civil papers for service and 1,031 Enforceable Writs, which includes 21 Risk Protection Orders and 11 Writs of Execution. During 2020, 17,147 civil papers were served in the city of Gainesville. The remaining papers were served among the other county municipalities.

The papers are rarely served on the first attempt, due to not being able to make contact with the subject at that time. Of the 19,677 papers served in 2020, it took approximately 28,991 attempts to accomplish the service of those papers.

**The data compiled is based on the best estimated values.



Training Bureau



The **Training Bureau** is responsible for over 40 in-house training programs, which include pre-service, in-service, remedial and supplemental training; all designed to enable employees to perform their varied job tasks safely and effectively. Training programs are planned and managed in such a manner as to ensure compliance with the needs of each employee's job classification/description and the requirements of the position. The State of Florida Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC) directives and applicable accreditation standards are used as guidelines for employee training opportunities provided by the ACSO.

2020 was a difficult year to complete all the training requirements, but all law enforcement and detention personnel participated in annual firearms qualifications. Personnel were able to complete online training concerning Autism, Bloodborne Pathogens, Use of Force Guidelines, Human Diversity, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, OC and TASER.

This year the agency switched to 9mm handguns, the Glock 17 or Glock 19. Personnel were required to re-qualify with their new handgun and all law enforcement personnel are now qualified to carry either the Glock 17 or Glock 19.

In addition, law enforcement personnel participated in a close quarter active shooter scenario and a "Duty to Intervene" scenario where a deputy responded to a use of force call in progress and had to decide if the type of force being used on the suspect was appropriate. The

deputy was then required to stop any inappropriate use of force.

Below are the Training Bureau Highlights for 2020

- The Training Bureau organized and managed one, 23-week full-time Law Enforcement Basic Recruit Class and one Corrections Basic Recruit Class.
- The Mini-Academy Coordinators organized and managed eight Mini-Academies for 12 law enforcement new hires and 19 corrections new-hires.
- The Training Bureau qualified 73 law enforcement retirees for their permit to carry a concealed firearm nationwide.
- 45 civilians, including Field Service Technicians were able to participate in driver training in the second half of the year.
- An additional six Alachua County School Board personnel graduated the Guardian Program in 2020. Alachua County now has 19 active Guardians in our charter schools.



Warrants Bureau

The **Warrants Bureau** is responsible for receiving, processing, and maintaining active files, and executing all criminal arrest processes, civil arrest processes, and criminal summons. Warrants are generated by the Gainesville Police Department, University of Florida Police Department, State Attorney's Office, Alachua Police Department, High Springs Police Department, Alachua County Sheriff's Office, and Probation and Parole; as well as out-of-state and out-of-county sources. The Warrants Bureau is also responsible for receiving and serving Baker Act and Marchman Act orders generated during normal work hours. During 2020, the bureau served a total of 2,381 warrants, 98 civil commitments, responded to Probation and Parole 86 times, and served 518 criminal adult summons.

Transport Investigator

The Warrants Bureau coordinates the transportation of persons arrested on local arrest orders throughout the nation and conducts investigations for extradition hearings. The Warrants Bureau transport investigator works with private transport companies to coordinate nationwide prisoner pick-ups. During 2020, the transport investigator arranged for 303 inmates to be transported to Alachua County.

Inmate transports drastically decreased in 2020 due to the COVID19 pandemic. In comparison, in 2019, 971 inmate transports were arranged and completed by the Warrants Bureau. During 2020, the county jails and the Department of Corrections halted all inmate transportation from facility to facility. Creative thinking amongst the Warrants Bureau staff, in conjunction with the State Attorney's Office and the Department of the Jail, resulted in inmates having their cases heard while incarcerated in neighboring counties, which facilitated bond reductions to ensure inmates were released in a timely manner.

Fugitive Investigator

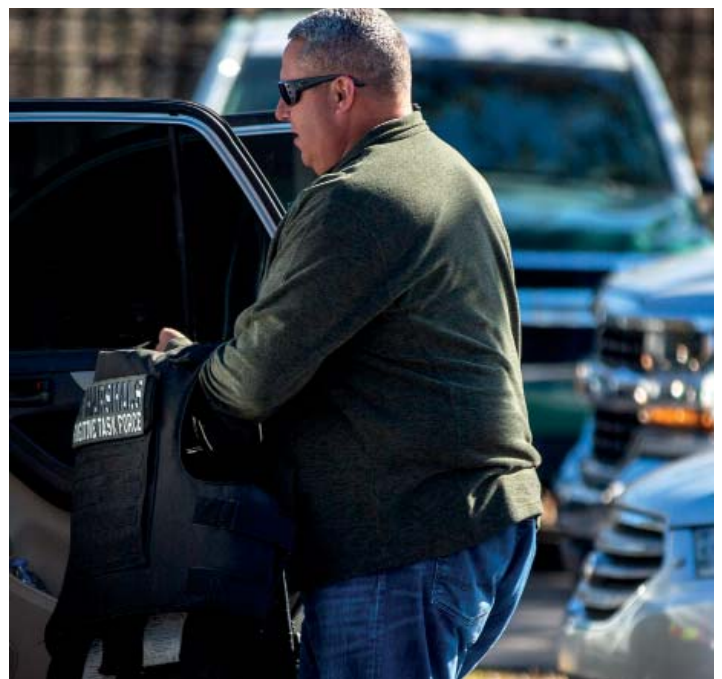
Fugitive cases are generated when an individual is arrested in another state on an Alachua County warrant, or when the individual is arrested in Alachua County for a warrant generated by an agency located outside of the state of Florida. The fugitive process begins and is

continued until the defendant is brought back to the jurisdiction of the court. In 2020, there were 90 new fugitive cases, 37 from Florida and 53 from other states. The fugitive investigator successfully closed 94 fugitive cases in 2020.

U.S. Marshal's Regional Fugitive Task Force

ACSO warrants investigators submitted 145 warrant cases to be adopted by the Florida Regional Fugitive Task Force (USMS) during 2020. Of those cases, six warrant cases were recalled by the courts and 122 were closed by arrest. Many of those arrestees are currently in our jail awaiting trial. Warrants investigators worked 3,010 hours participating in joint law enforcement investigations and operations with the Florida Regional Fugitive Task Force. These hours were in addition to regular duty hours and involved investigating, locating and apprehending fugitives who have active local, state and federal warrants.

Collateral Lead Arrests are apprehensions that typically come from requests by other U.S. Marshal's Task Force officers to investigate, locate, and apprehend violent fugitives from other jurisdictions that are currently in our region. Warrants Bureau investigators made eight collateral lead apprehensions from the nine requests for collateral assistance received throughout 2020.



Patrol Operations Division



Captain John Richman Division Commander

Patrol | Quality Control Program | Field Training Deputy Program
Field Service Technician Program | School Crossing Guards
Patrol Criminal Interdiction Unit | Rural Services Unit

Patrol

The Patrol Operations Division provides the core responsibilities entrusted to law enforcement by the citizens of Alachua County. **Patrol** units are the front-line response to a variety of dangerous calls, representing the only available lifeline for many citizens.

Patrol deputies are responsible for the primary response to calls for service, traffic enforcement, street-level vice and narcotics enforcement, preliminary and follow-up investigations, and preventative patrol. The men and women of the Patrol Division are assigned to one of two teams that are each divided into two separate shifts. Patrol deputies work 12-hours shifts to provide services 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

In 2020, the Patrol Operations Division wrote 10,907 reports, issued over 1,590 Traffic Citations, and wrote 1,621 Traffic Warnings. Members of the Patrol Operations Division respond in marked patrol vehicles and can be seen in all areas of the county. Some of the other visible areas that the Patrol Operations Division can be seen in are at community meetings and events.



The men and women of the Patrol Operations Division are on the job 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days of the year - working tirelessly to keep Alachua County safe. For you.



Quality Control Program:

Sergeant James Coonce is responsible for the **Quality Control** assignment of the Patrol Operations Division. This position ensures all case reports that have criminal charges are reviewed and prepared for distribution to the court system. In 2020, the Quality Control Program reviewed 1,590 reports with charging documents prior to them going into the court system. Additionally the Quality Control Program handles requests from property/evidence for review of reports for disposal of property, assists the Trauma Intervention and Special Services Bureau in dealing with domestic violence and Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) reports, and assists with requests from within the agency for additional needs that come up for clarification and court-related needs to make sure all items are presented in a proper and professional manner.



Field Training Deputy Program

During the calendar year of 2020, the **Field Deputy Training Program** had 12 deputies enter the program. The training program a deputy completes before they can be in a "solo" capacity takes approximately 22 weeks from the date of hire. Our deputies are highly-trained and professionally-equipped to handle the many types of calls and incidents we respond to.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a reduction in the onboarding of certified law enforcement officers. To help alleviate this, we began sponsoring "Cadets" in area police academies. This year, nine cadets were hired to become future deputy sheriffs.

*Field Training Deputy Barlow
with his new "Trainee"*

Field Service Technicians

Field Service Technicians (FSTs) have been in place since 1996. The program was created to help assist patrol with non-emergency and not-in-progress calls. The type of calls Patrol FSTs handle include identity theft, credit card fraud, burglaries to homes, cars, some businesses, thefts, and traffic problems to include traffic crashes. In 2020, FSTs responded to 4,097 calls for service. This included over 500 crashes where 159 crashes reports were completed. FSTs completed approximately 926 original case reports, more than 870 report supplements, and 124 video requests. Handling these types of calls helps to keep sworn deputies available for in-progress and emergency calls. While they are not always the first on scene, FSTs also assisted deputies with emergency calls, big events, and major disasters such as hurricanes and traffic scenes. They assist by helping with traffic, bringing supplies (water and/or food) to major scenes, and providing transportation.



School Crossing Guards

School crossing guards serve a vital public safety role at ACSO. There are 20 locations throughout the county where school crossing guards assist children that bike or walk safely across busy streets to and from school. Many of the school crossing guards are retired and want to give back to the community. They take time to get to know the children and are positive role models. The school crossing guards share in the children's accomplishments and help in their times of struggle. They are out in all kinds of weather and all kinds of traffic for the safety of the children. During 2020, while schools were closed because of COVID-19, our crossing guards assisted in the making and distribution of school lunches with school board personnel.



Patrol Criminal Interdiction Unit

The Patrol Criminal Interdiction Unit (PCIU), was modified from the unit previously known as the CHIP Unit. The unit is currently comprised of two supervisors and five deputies. PCIU's primary mission is that of partnering with the community and other investigative units to reduce violent crime and that of supplementing Patrol Operations when dealing with high priority in-progress calls for service.



PCIU is primarily a patrol uniform position but has access to other resources given the mission at hand. Unit members commonly take the primary role in responding to high-level violent crime calls for service, freeing patrol deputies from being tied down to a call that traditionally takes longer to investigate. In addition, PCIU is called upon to backfill patrol shifts that have suffered from shortages created by COVID-19 and other staffing issues. PCIU has supplemented patrol shifts at every level on a monthly basis, all year long.



Even through COVID-19, the unit has stayed busy making a difference within the community. Through valued partnerships developed with the Intelligence Led Policing Unit (ILP), the Gainesville Alachua County Drug Task Force (GACDTF), and the Gun Violence Initiative Task Force (GVI). The PCIU has been involved in hundreds of high-level investigations this year. Through these partnerships and proactive investigations, PCIU has taken 29 guns off the streets and seized thousands of dollars in illegal narcotics.





Rural Services Unit

In April 2020, the Rural Services Unit began construction on a much needed utility building to house equipment vital to the Rural Services Unit's role. Utilizing a John Deere tractor purchased in 2019, RSU members built the structure, saving the taxpayers thousands of dollars in labor costs. The building has added storage space and security for the Rural Services' equipment.



In 2020, the Rural Services Unit received funding from the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners to purchase an airboat. We took delivery of it in September 2020 and it has since been outfitted with law enforcement equipment. This craft was purchased for law enforcement use on our county waterways, and as a way to provide county environmental workers access to otherwise inaccessible areas of environmental concern.

The Rural Services Unit deputies are well-versed in piloting the airboat, having attended several training sessions totaling over 40 combined hours.



Southwest Advocacy Group (SWAG)

The Alachua County Sheriff's Office participates in many programs to assist those in need as we can. The SWAG Center helps individuals and families get basic services that are not readily available. We assist as needed with events during the year to assist the community. One of the larger events we assist with is the annual SWAG Thanksgiving food drive.



In 2020, due to COVID-19, Sheriff's Office members donated money instead of food. These donations went toward the purchase of over 200 turkeys which we delivered to the SWAG center. Deputies also helped distribute food bags and turkeys to area families and veterans in need.

Rotary Club -Deputy of the Month 2020

Since 1996, the Rotary Club of Downtown Gainesville has recognized an ACSO deputy sheriff as "Deputy of the Month." This award is given to a deputy in the Patrol Operations Division that goes beyond the call of duty, exemplifying the Rotary Club's motto of "Service Above Self." This year, the COVID-19 pandemic interrupted the nomination process and the award luncheons that Rotary Club hosted for the recipients. This program should resume sometime in 2021.



Patrol Support Division



Captain Bella Blizzard Division Commander

Extra Duty Program | Special Teams | Joint Aviation Unit (JAU) | K-9 Unit
Juvenile Relations Bureau | Youth and Community Resource Unit (YCRU)
Mental Health Co-Responder Team

The **Patrol Support Division** is committed to providing school resource deputies to the citizens of Alachua County, as well as special teams support to the Patrol Operations Division and our community. The Patrol Support Division is comprised of the Juvenile Relations Bureau, the Youth and Community Resource Unit that also includes the Mental Health Co-Responder Program, the Extra Duty program, the Aviation Unit, the K-9 Unit, and nine additional special teams. These special teams include: Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT), Honor Guard, Motor Unit, Crowd Management Team, Negotiations Response Team, Bomb Team, Marine Operations/Underwater Recovery Team (MOURT), Bike Team and Traffic Unit.

Extra-Duty Coordinator

The **Extra-Duty Coordinator** is responsible for the hiring of and recordkeeping for deputies and field service technicians working extra-duty tasks under contract upon request. During 2020, lieutenants, sergeants, and deputies worked 8,073.50 hours beyond their regular duties in the community.



Special Teams

Bike Team

The **Bike Team** deputies conduct proactive bike patrol on fully-equipped, specialized 29-inch *Rockhopper* bikes. During 2020, team members participated in Alachua County events including the first half of all UF Gator football home games and Gatornationals. Involvement in other local events was severely impacted due to COVID-19 restrictions.



Bomb Team



The **Bomb Team** provides regional response for a variety of calls, ranging from suspicious devices to unexploded military ordnance. During 2020, the Bomb Team responded to 19 calls, preserving life and/or property in each instance. The team also provides routine hazardous device detection and mitigation for large community events, including UF athletic events.

Critical Incident Stress Management Team



The photo above is from the 2012 crashes on I-75/Payne's Prairie and represents an example of the type of incident that CISM assists in the aftermath of.

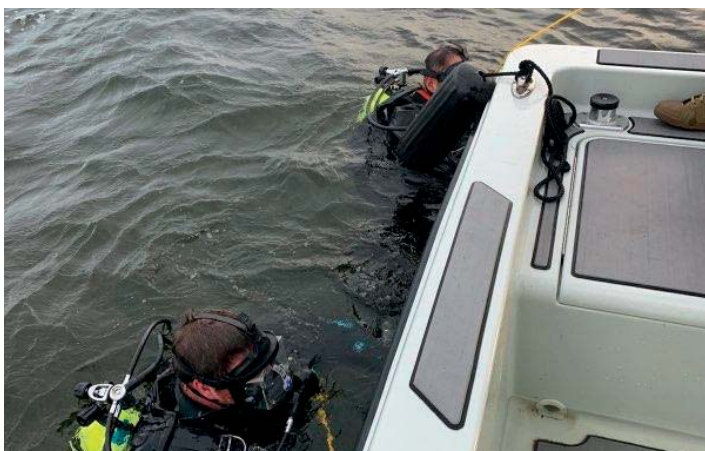
The **Critical Incident Stress Management Team (CISM)** is an 18-member unit comprised of personnel from law enforcement, telecommunications, and detention officers. The team receives ongoing training in the field of trauma-related stress. The CISM team provides services for not only ACSO employees, but numerous public safety agencies throughout the region, assisting with the effects of dealing with traumatic incidents and the impact those events have on the lives of those who have dealt with such tragedies.

Honor Guard



The **Honor Guard** represents ACSO at a variety of functions, including the posting of the colors at community events, awards ceremonies, and parades. The unit is also frequently called upon to participate in funerals, rendering honors to family and friends of fellow law enforcement officers, both active and retired. The Honor Guard participated in a total of 15 events during 2020.

MO/URT



The **Marine Operations/Underwater Recovery Team (MO/URT)** responds to a variety of emergency calls for service on and under Alachua County waterways. Examples include waterborne search and rescue operations for missing swimmers and boaters, search and recovery of drowning victims, and the recovery of submerged evidence.

The MO/URT also patrols the county's lakes, rivers, and other waterways, conducts boating and water safety education and awareness campaigns, and conducts patrol operations during all major holidays on Alachua County waterways to promote safe boating and provide enforcement as needed.

During 2020, the MO/URT Unit was called out for 21 team activations for incident and case support. Additionally the team worked five holiday details, attended 10 days of training during 2020, over 200 hours of COVID-19 patrols for social distancing, trained with Melrose Fire Department and the Florida Army National Guard, and assisted Taylor County with a plane crash in the Gulf of Mexico.

Motor Unit

The **Motor Unit** includes deputies who are trained and certified in the operation of motorcycles for law enforcement applications. Each deputy is assigned a Harley Davidson motorcycle, used for a variety of specialized missions not suitable for larger vehicles, such as escorting football teams during all UF home football games, providing funeral escorts, dignitaries, and fallen military service members. The Motor Unit participated in 33 events in 2020.

Negotiations Response Team

The **Negotiations Response Team (NRT)** responds to incidents involving hostage situations, barricaded subjects, individuals threatening suicide, and other situations where lives are endangered and negotiations may resolve the incident without injury. NRT members perform the unique function of attempting to negotiate the surrender of barricaded persons/hostage-takers while ensuring the safety of hostages. In 2020, the NRT responded to six emergency calls involving armed suicidal subjects, barricaded criminals, or assistance to other agencies.

Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team

The **SWAT Team** is a well-trained group of professional men and women who serve our community and the region by responding to incidents requiring specialized training and equipment to include, but not limited to, serving high-risk arrest and search warrants, conducting dangerous felony man-hunts, responding to hostage rescues, and armed barricaded subjects. The SWAT Team participated in 32 tactical operations and community events during 2020.

In addition to tactical operations, the SWAT Team assists the Training Bureau in providing active shooter and other tactical training agencywide. The SWAT Team





also provides training statewide through the Florida SWAT Association (FSA). This year, the SWAT Team conducted a Ballistic Shield School through FSA, where operators from all over the state were in attendance.

In 2020, in spite of the pandemic, the SWAT Team increased its abilities to serve the community through continued advanced training and appropriations of newer specialized life-saving equipment.

Traffic Unit



The **Traffic Unit** returned full-time to ACSO in October 2019, and is staffed with a sergeant and five deputies. The unit responds to traffic concerns and complaints, as well as conducting enforcement of all traffic laws. The unit works variable hours to monitor the safe travels of motorists. During 2020, the unit conducted over 11,259 traffic stops and issued 10,519 citations and 3,479 warnings all for various traffic related offenses.

Aviation Unit



The Joint **Aviation Unit (JAU)** was established in 1996 as a cooperative effort between the Alachua County Sheriff's Office and the Gainesville Police Department. On August 23rd, The city of Gainesville opted to terminate the agreement, thus changing the name to the Aviation Unit. The Sheriff's Office has continued to operate this unit solely. The Aviation Unit operates two Vietnam War-era Bell OH-58 helicopters, both acquired from a U.S. military surplus program and maintained with forfeiture funds seized from criminals.



The Aviation Unit supports the regular patrol operations of ACSO, as well as various law enforcement special teams operations. They also provide fire-mapping, aerial topography, and other assistance to Alachua County and Gainesville Fire Rescue, the Florida Division of Forestry, Alachua County Codes Enforcement, and various other municipal, county, state, and federal law enforcement entities under mutual aid agreements. The Aviation Unit is the primary response team for all aircraft incidents within Alachua County and assists both the FAA and the NTSB in aircraft investigations. In 2020, the Unit flew 359 hours, handled 410 calls, assisted in 57 arrests, and assisted in locating 21 other subjects (i.e. missing persons, suicidal subjects, etc.).

K-9 Unit

The **K-9 Unit's** primary responsibility is assisting patrol deputies in locating and apprehending wanted suspects. The unit also assists with building, narcotics, and bomb searches. The K-9 Unit responded to 4,548 calls for service during 2020, and consists of 10 FLECA-certified K-9s trained for patrol work.



Juvenile Relations Bureau



School Resource Deputies

The **School Resource Deputy (SRD) Program** is the first line of defense in ensuring school safety and is a crime and delinquency prevention program focused on educating and mentoring students. The program is a joint venture between the Alachua County Sheriff's Office and the School Board of Alachua County.

As outlined in our contract with the School Board of Alachua County to serve on campuses, the school board pays approximately \$895,000 towards the staffing costs of 18 school resource deputy positions, the dedicated school K-9 units, and JRB supervisors for the 2020/2021 school year.





The objective of this program is to educate students in the areas of crime prevention, personal safety, substance abuse, and the law; while simultaneously providing counseling to students and enforcing local and state laws. Additionally, deputies routinely gather information about criminal activity and potential problems within the school or community, and provide law enforcement services to school personnel, students, and parents.

During the 2020 calendar year, Juvenile Relations Bureau deputies completed 507 separate case reports, resulting in 30 arrests, 42 sworn complaints, and 33 juvenile civil citations; similar levels of activity as the year before.

JRB Gun Detection K-9s

JRB K-9s Gauge and Ruger are on a mission to reduce the presence of weapons on school campuses across Alachua County. Along with their human partners, these highly-trained K-9s are assigned to the Juvenile Resource Bureau for one purpose: to detect and remove firearms from our schools.



The specially-equipped K-9 teams provide a valuable resource when investigating tips regarding weapons on a school campus; they can cover more areas, objects, and items in less time than traditional search methods. Besides searching faster and more efficiently, the K-9 teams conduct their searches in a much less invasive manner.

During 2020, the JRB K-9 teams conducted more than 24 firearms searches in area schools. Several of these searches were related to tips or information received regarding weapons on campus. The K-9 teams assisted JRB deputies by focusing their investigative efforts in lieu of exhaustive searching. Gauge and Ruger also provide a visible and psychological deterrent to offenders who might consider bringing a firearm on campus.

ALICE

Alert Lockdown Inform Counter Evacuate (ALICE) is a security model for businesses, institutions, facilities, and schools that provides different options than traditional "lockdowns." The model includes a variety of options to enhance the chances for survival during a



critical incident. ALICE training consists of lecture, including case studies, practical applications of the strategies and techniques learned, and scenarios to better prepare the participants if they are ever involved in an actual event.

The School Board of Alachua County (SBAC) adopted the ALICE model as a practice for all schools and school board employees. JRB staff assisted in a variety of training events at schools with a school resource deputy, and held several classes for school bus drivers.

JRB personnel also assisted in the production of videos for students, faculty, and staff that were aired in schools district-wide, to help fulfill a training requirement of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act. After the Parkland shooting, Florida law requires that school staff and students receive training on how to respond to an active shooter on campus. JRB and SBAC were already conducting this type of training and several JRB deputies are certified ALICE instructors.



Sheriff's Explorers

Explorer Post 983 is chartered as a member of the Boy Scouts of America and allows young girls and boys, aged 14 to 21, to become acquainted with the field of law enforcement as a possible career choice. Explorers attend training conducted by JRB deputies, participate in "ride-alongs" with patrol deputies, and become familiar with other divisions within the Alachua County Sheriff's Office. Explorers also attend delegate meetings that are held throughout Florida. Nearly all Explorer activity was cancelled due to COVID 19.



Teen Driver Challenge (TDC)

Traffic crashes occur every 12 seconds in the United States and are the number one cause of death among young adults. The Teen Driver Challenge provides drivers with the knowledge and hands-on experience to reduce their chances of becoming involved in a crash.

The Alachua County Sheriff's Office Teen Driver Challenge Program is a unique "behind-the-wheel" training program for teen drivers aged 15-19. The program was designed around the specific needs of teen drivers and based on proven exercises and safe driving techniques used by sheriff's deputies. The program includes eight hours of classroom activities and "hands-on" instruction. During 2020, due to COVID 19 restrictions only one class was conducted. For more information or to register your child for the Challenge, e-mail your contact information to teendriver@acso.us.



Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch



The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch offers a camping session at Caruth Camp in Inglis, Florida, each summer for juveniles from across the state. The six-day summer camp program is designed for children referred by social workers, law enforcement, school personnel, and other juvenile-related agencies.

For the past several years, the ACSO Juvenile Relations Bureau has taken an active role in the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch program by sending numerous deputies to assist with the summer camp.

JRB members also assist the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches year-round to help staff at a variety of events and activities, such as the annual Fall Open House and the Spring Horse Show.

Due to the national pandemic in 2020, the Florida Sheriff's Youth Camp programs were cancelled. The photo on the left is from a previous year.



2020 Washington, D.C., Safety Patrol Trip

ACSO, in conjunction with Educational Tours, Inc., hosts the annual Washington, D.C., Safety Patrol Trip for local fourth and fifth grade students who served in their school's safety patrol. This annual excursion to our nation's capitol includes students from public, private, and parochial schools across Alachua County. The students participate in fundraising events in order to pay for their attendance.

ACSO school resource deputies act as chaperones on each bus. Along with parent and teacher chaperones and paramedics from Alachua County Fire Rescue, they ensure the safety of the children for the duration of the three day trip. Two groups take the trip every year, each consisting of approximately 400 students, 150 adult chaperones, 18-20 deputy sheriffs, and three ACFR paramedics.

Participating students bring back lifelong memories with a better understanding of our national treasures in Washington D.C. Unfortunately, 2020's trip was cancelled due to the national pandemic. The photo on the left is from a previous year's trip.



Youth and Community Resource Unit

The mission of the Racial and Ethnic Disparity/ Disproportionate Minority Contacts Initiative (RED/ DMC) is to ensure that all children are treated in a fair and equitable manner. Current statistics show a mathematical overrepresentation of African-American children in the juvenile justice system. They are also receiving longer sentences, longer detention periods, and more frequent probation checks and ensuing violations. In addition, African-American children are physically arrested or charged rather than diverted more than any other race or ethnic group. Implementation of RED-DMC practices across the country are reducing not only disparate treatment for African-American youth, but generating positive alternatives for all of our children as well.

ACSO revised our youth arrest practices in 2012, and since then we have seen a 60 percent reduction in arrests. The Juvenile Relations Bureau responded with additional intervention strategies for the students and staff via restorative justice practices, trauma-informed response training, and pre and post intervention planning.

The ACSO **Youth and Community Resource Unit** was created to build on the successes of the reduction of youth arrests. The unit includes a Sergeant / Racial and Ethnic Disparities Coordinator, Civilian Community Liaison, and two Deputy Sheriff -Youth Intervention Specialists aimed at outreach and intervention. YCRU also houses the Teen Court Program.

YCRU staff attend many monthly and specialty meetings throughout the county, including Black on Black Crime Task Force, Juvenile Justice Council, Children's Alliance, HPW, System of Care, Gainesville for All, Racial Justice Task Force, United Church Of Gainesville Racial Task Force, JJC Re-entry Team, Mental Health Co-Responder Team, Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Team, and the Continuum of Care Homeless Coalition. In 2020, over 100 of these meetings were attended via Zoom and in person before COVID-19.

In 2020, the YCRU and our community partners served approximately 10,000 meals, 2,000 doughnuts, 1,000 units of ice cream, 60 turkeys, 300 pounds of Halloween candy, and just over \$15,000 worth of Christmas toys to our under-served communities.





Deputy/Youth Dialogues

Deputy/Youth Dialogues offer Alachua County kids an opportunity each month to spend an evening with ACSO deputies, having an open and honest conversation about law enforcement. As an added bonus, the children get the opportunity to educate deputies on how to better communicate with them on the street and earn community service hours towards graduation. These programs are held at the county-served high schools, and for any community group that signs up. Since beginning the program, 115 sessions have been held in Alachua County.

All Youth and Community Resource Unit programs are supported by community partnerships with local businesses and citizens.

Books and Burgers

The **Books and Burgers Literacy Initiative** was launched by ACSO in late 2015, and was designed to promote reading and community fellowship with our deputies. The kids and community members enjoy a hamburger/hotdog dinner, play various sports, and most importantly, get to read with a deputy of their choice. At the end of the event, the kids get to take a few books home to keep and share with their families.

These events are held monthly around the county and are made possible by community and business partnerships and book donations. Since 2015, the YCRU and our community partners have served approximately 30,000 meals to the children and families in our communities through this program.

Doughnuts with a Deputy

Doughnuts with a Deputy is designed to create and foster as many positive interactions/relationships as possible between deputies and local school children. ACSO deputies visit local after-school programs and bus stops to spend time interacting with the children playing sports games, helping with homework, reading together, and of course . . . eating Krispy Kreme™ doughnuts.

Operation C.O.N.E.

Operation Community Outreach Neighborhood Engagement (C.O.N.E.) The C.O.N.E. van was purchased and donated by Sun State Credit Union with the vision of providing law enforcement a means of positive community interaction on an ongoing basis. The YCRU deploys the van in random neighborhoods and provides free ice cream and a chance for as many positive law enforcement interactions as possible. All ice-cream is donated by SunState and free for the community.



Coffee with a Cop

Coffee with a Cop is a national program that partners with local restaurants to provide impromptu conversations between deputies and citizens in a non-confrontational setting while enjoying a cup of coffee.



Excellence Award

YCRU Excellence Award is a monthly award given to Alachua County students who are nominated by their school resource deputies for exemplary citizenship and leadership behaviors. This award is made possible by community donations for prizes and recognitions



YCRU Seasonal Programs

Cops vs Kids Water Day hosted by the Sheriff's office. Water balloon fights, water based team games and a firetruck are present to cool everyone off during the event.



First Responders Trunk or Treat. This event is held annually at the Sheriff's Office. First responders from all over the county decorate their cars and provide candy to community members. Approximately 2,000 participants come through during the events.

Shop with a Cop. The YCRU partners with the school resource deputies to identify kids in need and take them shopping for gifts and then have dinner together.



Kickball with a Cop got started when Archer's Director of Recreation, Mr. Scott White, reached out to ACSO regarding his community's youth having nothing to do with schools closed and summer camps limited or cancelled due to COVID. A kickball game between youth and law enforcement was scheduled and was a huge



hit. The program quickly moved to other communities as well

ACSO Movie night. The YRCU hosts movie nights throughout the county showing movies based on votes on our social media. We provide popcorn, hotdogs, cotton candy, and drinks at most events.

Mental Health Co-Responder Team

The Mental Health Co-Responder Team falls under the Youth and Community Resource Unit (YCRU) that developed this program in partnership with Meridian Behavioral Health Care. The team consists of a Mental Health Specialist Deputy Sheriff and a Masters Level Clinician employed by Meridian. They are supervised by the YCRU Sergeant.

The team works Monday through Thursday from 0800-1800. Ten years of historical research was completed and these were determined to be the peak time for related calls for service.

They patrol in a fully-marked patrol car and the deputy is in the uniform of the day. The clinician's position is funded by Lutheran Services of Florida. The Mental Health Co-Responder team is designed to provide immediate on-scene support, counseling, early trauma intervention, and make service referrals that will best suit the needs of our citizens in crisis. The team deflects citizens with chronic mental health and substance abuse related issues from becoming system involved. The team helps high service utilizers become self-sustainable with the overall goal of systemic solutions to the current mental health crisis.

The Mental Health Co-Responder Program is based on successful law enforcement models from around the country. The Gainesville Police Department's team is set up the same way and the teams work together often as our citizens' crises do not stop at jurisdictional boundaries.

The team was established in the fall of 2019 and launched in June of 2020. The team has had a great impact on the call load for patrol and it has become a valuable resource for the agency.



Teen Court

Teen Court is a juvenile diversion and alternative sentencing program that offers non-violent first-time offenders ages seven to 17 an important second chance, while still teaching them the value of personal integrity, accountability, and responsibility to their community. The program is one of the primary tools used in addressing juvenile delinquency and recidivism in Alachua County.

Teen Court has been serving the youth and citizens of Alachua County for 25 years, helping facilitate the needs of local school administrators, faculty, and students, as well as ASO school resource deputies, patrol deputies, and detectives. Furthermore, the Teen Court program enhances the Juvenile Relations Bureau's ability to align their efforts with the State Attorney's Office, Department of Juvenile Justice, and Court Administration; as well as other prevention/diversion programs, community agencies, and educational institutions. Peer case reviews are held throughout the year at the Alachua County Criminal Courthouse and at Newberry High School's Criminal Justice Magnet Program.

In 2020, a total of 154 juvenile offenders had their cases resolved through Teen Court instead of traditional criminal justice programs.



Teen Court is always looking for great volunteers! We need middle school and high school volunteers every Tuesday evening to serve as jurors, attorneys, or clerks during Teen Court. If you are interested in finding out more about the Teen Court Program or about volunteer opportunities with Teen Court, please call Teen Court Coordinator Olivia Hollier at (352) 367-4125.

Sentinel Program

The **Sentinel Program** was developed to bring juvenile diversion and pre-diversion tools to schools (elementary through high school) in the outer lying areas of Alachua County. The purpose of this program is to provide consistent mentorship to students that are at high risk of entering the juvenile justice system. Youth are identified for enrollment by school staff and SRO/SRDs.

Sentinel Program staff provide weekly groups that focus on conflict resolution, leadership, social and life skills. The students develop goals for themselves to achieve while enrolled in the Sentinel Program with help of their group leader. Most will attend the program for 9-12 weeks, but are not limited if more time is appropriate.

Sentinel Program staff also work closely with the Teen Court program, providing tools for successful completion and wrap around care for youth who need more support. This is essential to keeping the recidivism rate low and for continued positive growth of youth after having interaction with law enforcement.

Presently, the Sentinel Program is in Shell Elementary, Mebane Middle, High Springs Community School, and soon to be implemented in Newberry High School. There are also groups going weekly in Ignite Church's Teen Residential Program and with juveniles that are on probation to help them achieve success by completing their requirements given to them by DJJ.

The Sentinel Program is currently grant funded by the Children's Trust of Alachua County. The direct supervisor of the program is the Youth Services Manager.



Patrol Reserves



Captain Stephen Miller
Reserve Commander

The Patrol Reserve Unit reports directly to the Department of Operations Major and consists of CJSTC-certified law enforcement officers that volunteer their time and talents to the agency and community. Members of the Reserve Unit provide additional personnel in situations such as natural disasters, emergencies, special events, or in supplementing regular law enforcement operations.

The Alachua County Sheriff's Office encourages and welcomes citizens' interest in the Reserve Unit. Service as a reserve deputy offers training, challenge, excitement, teamwork, and opportunities for special assignments and promotions.

If you are ready to make a difference in our community, visit our website for additional information on the Reserve Unit.

Reserve Unit deputies took some time to serve as escorts for Night to Shine. This annual event, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation, is held on the Friday before Valentine's Day and offers a prom for thousands of young people around the world with special needs.



DEPARTMENT OF THE JAIL



Major Jeff Cloutier
Director of the Jail

Security Operations Division | Support Services Division
Contract Monitor



The Alachua County Sheriff's Office Department of the Jail has approximately 270 sworn/certified detention officers and detention deputies, as well as approximately 90 civilian support staff. The DOJ is a mid-sized detention facility with a design capacity of 970 inmates and a maximum operating capacity of 1,140 inmates. During 2020, the average daily inmate count was 680.

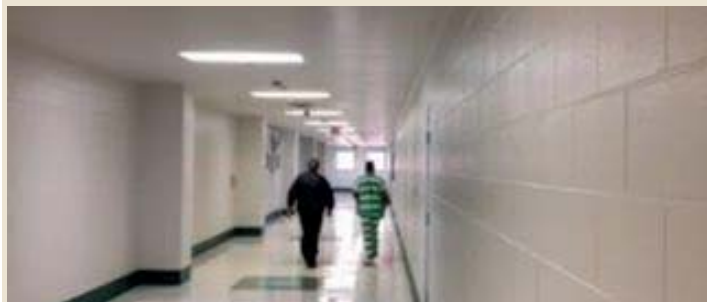
The DOJ oversees an annual budget that covers an array of jail operations, including personnel and inmate operating expenses and services.

The DOJ is accredited by the Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission (FCAC) with an Excelsior status. The Excelsior recognition is only awarded to Florida criminal justice agencies which have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to the Florida accreditation process. The DOJ is also accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC).

Some of the other highlights for the DOJ facility are:

- Meets or exceeds the Florida Model Jail Standards (FMJS) and medical standards.
- Meets or exceeds annual fire inspections held by Alachua County Fire Rescue.
- Conducts routine operational readiness and line inspections.
- Compliant with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) zero tolerance policy.
- Participant in the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, & Substance Abuse Grant Planning Committee (CJMHSAG).
- Participant in the Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC).

Security Operations Division



Captain Corey Warren
Division Commander

Teams I & II



The Security Operations Division is responsible for the overall security of the Department of the Jail. It oversees the safety of all visitors, personnel, and inmates. Detention deputies and detention officers are responsible for the management, accountability, and supervision of each inmate detained in the Department of the Jail. Their duties involve supervising and coordinating daily activities within the facility. Some of these duties are service of meals, recreation, visitation, inspection of housing areas for sanitation and security breaches, inmate counts, internal movement to educational and religious programs, medical clinic visits, distribution of linen and hygiene items, inmate commissary, reporting inmate violations of facility rules, resolving disputes between inmates, and response to any type of emergency within the jail.

Detention deputies and detention officers have performed additional duties during the COVID-19 State of Emergency including issuance of masks, supervising and enforcing enhanced sanitation requirements, and the education of inmates on best practices to prevent the spread of illnesses.

Detention deputies and detention officers assigned to this division also perform the security-related tasks required for the admission and release of inmates incarcerated in the facility. The admission process involves searching arrestees for weapons and contraband, fingerprinting arrestees with the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS), and taking digital photographs for identity and for identifying markings, scars, and/or tattoos. During the booking/admission process, the inmate is observed for signs of medical and/or mental distress for referral to the appropriate support staff person or unit within the facility.

Cell Extraction Response Team (CERT)

Within the Security Operations Division, there is one assigned special team. The **Cell Extraction Response Team (CERT)** is comprised of detention deputies and detention officers from areas throughout the Department of the Jail. The CERT team responds to facility incidents requiring specialized training and equipment to safely resolve high risk inmate situations, such as a barricaded inmate. The CERT team is also deployed to provide security for the facility during protests, demonstrations, and critical weather events - such as hurricanes.



Security Support Division



Captain Ray Swallows
Division Commander

Booking Support Bureau | Transportation & Facilities Support Bureau
Inmate Support Bureau

Booking Support Bureau

The Booking Support Bureau is a 24-hour operation currently staffed by 54 civilian employees. This bureau supports the admission and release duties of the Security Operations Division and the classification and follow-up functions of the Classification Unit. Staff assigned to this area input booking and release-related data based on a set criteria to facilitate the accuracy of criminal history information maintained by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE). In addition, the Booking Support Bureau is responsible for a myriad of administrative processes, to include:

- DNA collection/fingerprint submission.
- Warrant execution/clearance.
- Inmate property receipt, storage, and release.
- Bond Processing.
- Coordination with other jurisdictions.
- Release verification and victim notification.
- Records archival.
- Public and media records requests.

2020 STATISTICS	
INMATES BOOKED	5,273
INMATES RELEASED	5,138
AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION	680
# OF CASH BONDS PROCESSED	358
\$ OF CASH BONDS PROCESSED	\$289,757.00
# OF CASH PURGES PROCESSED	130
\$ OF CASH PURGES PROCESSED	\$51,558.00
FACILITY VISITORS	32, 452
COMPLETED REGISTRATIONS	3,020
# OF OUT OF COUNTY CASH BOND/PURGES PROCESSED	92
\$ OF OUT OF COUNT CASH BOND/PURGES PROCESSED	\$46,859.37

Civilian Lobby Team

The **Civilian Lobby Team** completes lobby-related administrative tasks with a strong customer service philosophy. The team's responsibilities include coordinating daily visitations, processing all incoming and outgoing mail for the facility and handling telephone calls.

Registration Office

The **Registration Office** is located in the Department of Jail Lobby; operating hours are 11:00 a.m. to 07:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Registration Office is closed on weekends and holidays. Registrations and re-registrations are completed for felony offenders, career offenders, sexual offenders, and sexual predators following state and judicial mandates coordinated through the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE).



Transportation and Facilities Support Bureau



Transportation Unit

The Transportation Unit provides safe and secure transport of defendants to numerous court proceedings. This unit protects the general public and defendants, arranges video court appearances at the Department of the Jail, and properly documents the judge's sentences/ results from first appearance, bond hearings, civil child support hearings, video arraignment and change of pleas.



The unit transports important paperwork/documents from the courts to the Department of the Jail and from the DOJ to court personnel. The Transportation Unit transported a total of 1,641 inmates to court, however, due to the COVID-10 pandemic, an additional 4,451 attended Video Court. There were 15 inmates transported to Out of County Rehabilitation Facilities and 301 inmates transported to the Department of Corrections in 2020.

Additionally, the unit transports inmates to local drug treatment facilities, Drug Court, Metamorphosis, Bridge House and The Crisis Stabilization Unit. A total of 254 inmates were transported to medical appointments and/or hospital visits in 2020.



The Transport Unit also provides staff in each courtroom that has a hearing involving an inmate in our custody. The Transport Team has an ADA-compliant transport vehicle.

Facility Services Unit

Facilities Services Unit is responsible for accepting deliveries as well as key issuance and control duties, and is in charge of the warehouse inventory, supplies, and accountability. Items such as extra bunks, toiletry and hygiene items are inventoried and supplied. The unit also approves applicants for the inmate work force that keeps the facility clean, cooks inmate meals, and performs various minor maintenance and upkeep functions. An estimated 312,487 pounds of laundry and 1,274 trusty applications were processed during 2020.



The unit is responsible for the screening and selection of inmate workers, commonly referred to as trusties. Through this process, inmates are selected for the Sheriff's Inmate Work Crew, which provides free labor to governmental agencies when available. Assignments for the Work Crew include moving furniture/equipment, pressure-washing, minor landscaping and general clean-up. The Work Crew donated 5,278 'in-house' labor hours and 325 'donated' labor hours for a grand total of 5,603 hours.



Paws on Parole Unleashed

Paws on Parole Unleashed Program graduated eight dogs in 2020. Since the inception of the program on February 4, 2013, it has nearly a 100% adoption success rate. Several trusties have been able to secure jobs in the animal care field after release due to knowledge gained from their participation in the program.

The following are the four themed graduations that were held in 2020:

- Academy 40 - The Fast and The Furriest (Diesel and Walker)
- Academy 41 - Paw Wars –The rise of the Dog Walker (Kylo and Wexley)
- Academy 42 – The Rolling-Bone (Lynyrd and Ringo)
- Academy 43 – CARS (Cooper and Tundra)



Kitchen Security Unit

The **Kitchen Security Unit** provides security/supervision of the inmate workers who assist our food service provider in preparing the inmate meals, and ensure that a high level of kitchen cleanliness is maintained.

During 2020, the Kitchen Security Unit oversaw food preparation and served 777,749 regular meals and diets. Work release was served 3,863 meals. Also, there 16,685 snack bags distributed .



Inmate Support Bureau

Jail Diversion Specialist



The **Jail Diversion Specialist** is responsible for screening and referring eligible inmates to various diversion programs, tracking referrals and participating in the forensic community's diversion efforts. The Forensic Diversion Team is funded by the Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant, which was awarded in 2008. In 2020, 404 referrals were completed and 318 inmates were screened by Meridian for the program .

Jail Release Coordinator



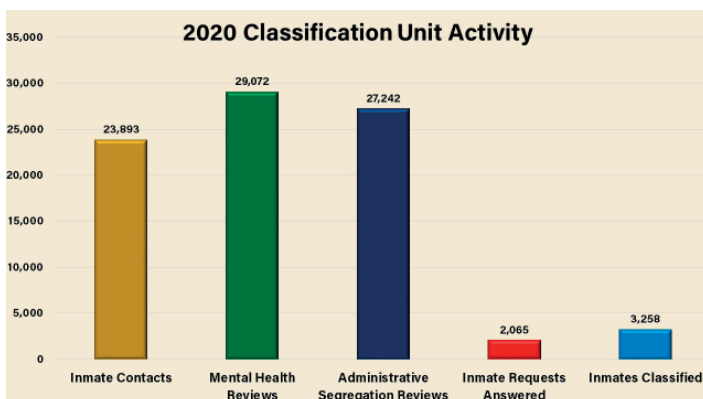
The **Jail Release Coordinator** is responsible for identifying inmates with critical medical needs or who are in mental health crisis. Once identified, the Release Coordinator is responsible for referring them to the appropriate community programs or forensic court and facilitating their release. Early in 2012, the county received funds from the Bureau of Justice, Justice Reinvestment at the Local Level grant to fund the Release Coordinator's position. In 2020, 167 referrals were made and 90 inmates were released .

Classification Unit



The **Classification Unit** is responsible for appropriate classification and housing of inmates and observation instructions for inmates in crisis. Additional unit responsibilities include casework, management of the in-house population, monitoring county-sentenced inmates gain time releases, transfer documentation for DOC inmates, tracking inmate conflicts, monitoring inmates in disciplinary or administrative confinement, special needs inmates, juvenile and infirmed inmates. Classification also monitors inmate grievances and requests.

In 2020, Classification personnel completed the classification process for 3,258 inmates, processed and answered 2,065 written inmate requests, conducted 27,242 administrative segregation reviews, 29,072 mental health reviews and logged 23,893 face-to-face inmate contacts related to casework.

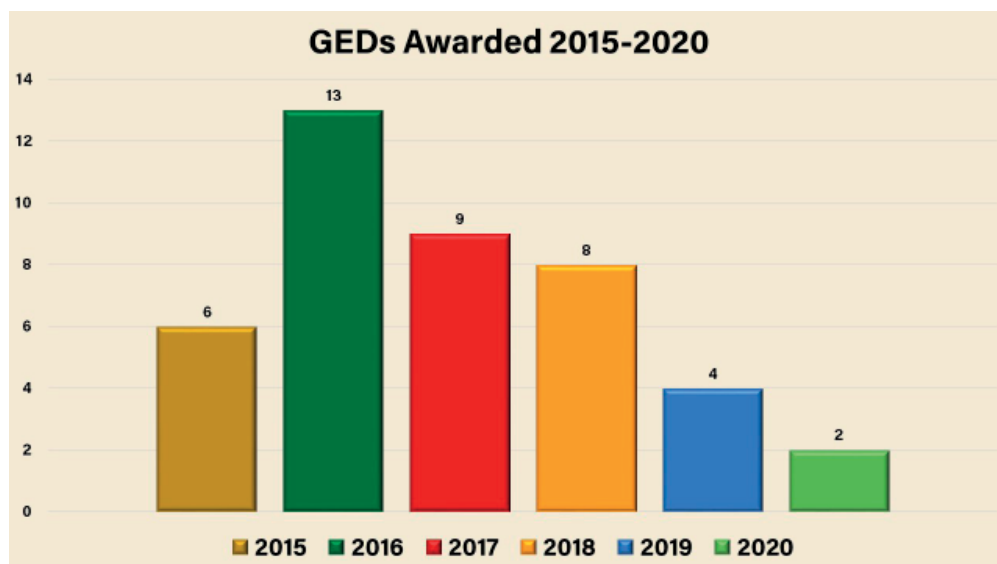


Programs Unit

The **Programs Unit** organizes, facilitates and manages in house programs and volunteer services. They also provide game supplies for the housing units. In addition, unit staff network and develop community relationships to be able to solicit volunteers, teachers and other various opportunities.

The unit is also responsible for religious-based programs and functions to offer spiritual guidance and encouragement to the inmate population. Services provided daily include Alcoholic Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous classes. All denominations are eligible to provide services at the jail. Some of the programs offered include:

- Classes for anger management, life skills, domestic violence, and substance abuse.
- Jail tours for Teen Court, the Alachua County Citizen's Academy, and other groups .
- GED tutoring and testing.
- Inmate Transition Program.
- Inmate Veteran Program.
- 469 Homeless.
- 156 Veterans.
- 37 Homeless Veterans.



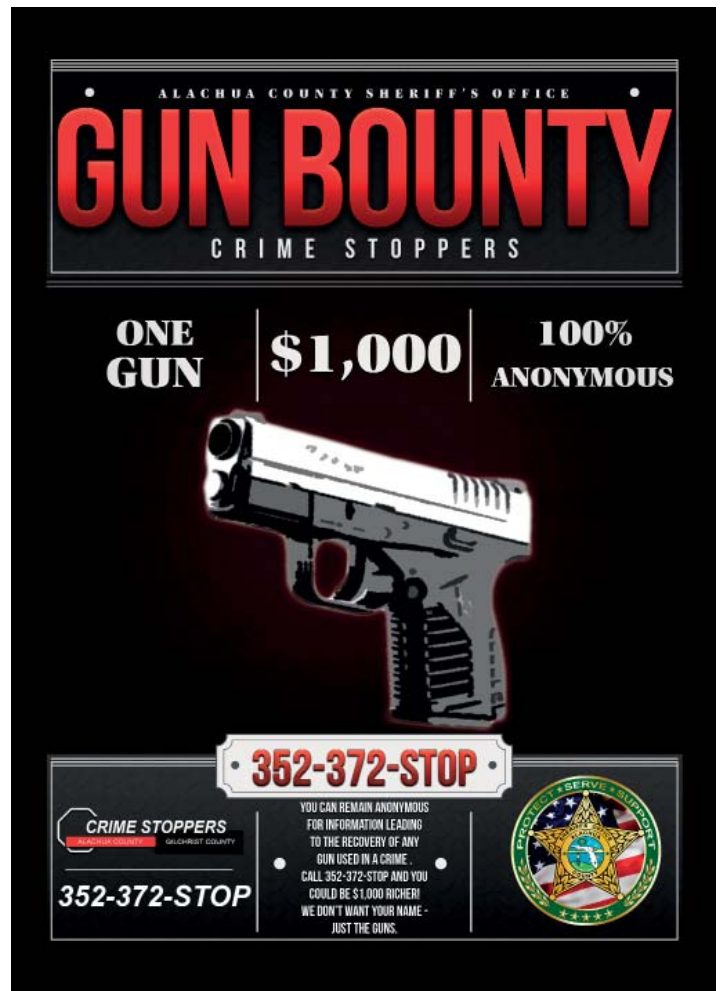
Jail Contract Monitor

Captain Lori Stophel

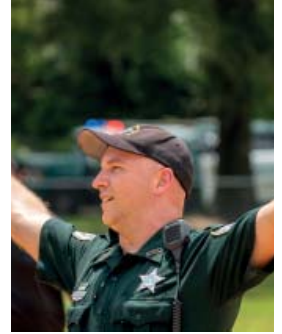


The **Contract Monitor** is responsible for assisting the Jail Director by overseeing administrative and supervisory operations, to include:

- Monitoring federal, state, and local laws; rules, and regulations regarding Florida Model Jail Accreditation Standards governing the operation of a detention facility.
- Conducting inspections of all areas of the facility to ensure the maintenance, sanitation, security equipment, and staff are all properly functioning and/or equipped.
- Acting as a liaison with outside agencies, including County Maintenance, Court Services, Court Administration, Library District, School Board, State Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, Probation Officers, and other law enforcement agencies.
- Coordinating budget preparations, overseeing and managing vendor or other service provider contracts as appropriate, to include the coordination of the larger contracts held with food service, transportation, and medical services for the Department of the Jail. Overall, approximately 40 contracts are overseen with outside vendors providing a variety of services to assist with the Jail's daily operations.
- Monitors the medical services that are provided to the inmates. *Corizon Health, Inc.*, is our current agency provider. They screen and examine inmates for necessary medical and/or mental health care. If an inmate is determined to need medical provisions, such as medication management, crisis intervention, or treatment planning, the inmate is directed for appropriate treatment.
- Responsible for the oversight of the process of the Jail's medical accreditation by the National Commission for Correctional Healthcare. These audits are performed every three years. The Department of the Jail's first accreditation was in May 1996, with accreditation maintained ever since.



2020 IN PICTURES



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Alachua County Sheriff's Office

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