



Essex County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Henry H Hommes Undersheriff Richard Cutting



2009 Annual Report

http://www.co.essex.ny.us/Sheriffs/index.htm

Correctional Facility

2009 brought many changes to the Essex County Sheriff's Office. This was the first full year of boarding inmates from other jurisdictions. The Essex County Correctional Facility housed 295 inmates for a total of 13,921 days from:

Department of Homeland Security/Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Franklin County Sheriff's Office
North Atlantic Prisoner Transport Service
NYS Parole
St. Lawrence County Sheriff's Office
US Marshalls Service, NY
US Marshalls Service, VT
US Prisoner Transports

Housing for these other jurisdictions generated \$1,390, 293.15 in revenue.

665 inmates were booked into the Jail, which included 605 males and 60 females. The Essex County Correctional Facility had a daily average inmate county of 66 inmates, with a total of 24,090 inmate days. The New York State Minimum Standards for Local County Correctional Facilities require that inmates in our custody be served three meals daily. Thus, 71,737 meals were served at the Correctional Facility.

Not all inmates in the Essex County Correctional Facility are sentenced; therefore, some are held on bail. Bail is a way the courts can ensure the re-appearance of the person in court. If the person is unable to pay the court the bail money, they are placed in the custody of the Sheriff. If the inmate is unable to post bail at the jail, the Sheriff's Office is responsible for bringing the inmate to court for his/her court appearance. The Correctional Facility is also responsible to transport the inmate for medical/dental services that cannot be provided by the medical staff at the facility. The Essex County Sheriff's Office transported 486 inmates and traveled a total of 36,312 miles.

The Essex County Correctional Facility has a set of rules and regulations inmates must follow. If these rules and regulations are not followed, the inmate can face in-house or additional criminal charges. If found guilty by a panel of correction officers and a shift supervisor during a hearing, punishment can be include being locked in their assigned cell for a period of time, moved to a segregated housing unit, and/or loss of good time. If the inmate is found guilty, a \$25.00 surcharge is also charged to the inmate. The Essex County Correctional Facility filed 68 in-house charges during 2009.

Not included in the 68 in-house charges was an incident involving both federal and local inmates. On February 5, 2009, a fight erupted in one of the two male housing units. Five officers were treated at Elizabethtown Community Hospital and released. No

major injuries occurred. Criminal charges against the inmates are still pending with the County District Attorney's Office.

The Correctional Facility is staffed with Department of Criminal Justice Services certified Correction Officers. The security staff for the facility is 56 line officers and 6 shift supervisors. These people staff the facility 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Civilian Staff and volunteers provide other services for inmates, to include, but not limited to: medical services, GED, substance abuse counseling, anger management, Literacy Volunteers, etc.

Inmates housed in the Essex County Correctional Facility are allowed to have two one-hour visits per week. In 2009, 2,652 visitors came to visit inmates.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the Essex County Correctional Facility needs to house inmates at other locations for medical or mental health reasons. These are the extreme cases that require specialized care that cannot be provided at the facility. In 2009, two inmates were housed at the Central New York Psych Center in Marcy, New York, for a total of seventy-one days. The Correctional Facility also had six inmates housed at CVPH in Plattsburgh, New York and Elizabethtown Community Hospital for a total of seventeen days.

The Essex County Sheriff's Office participates in a program sponsored by the New York State Sheriff's Association called VINE, which stands for Victim Information and Notification Everyday. Victims of crime can call a toll-free number or visit the website for information on the incarceration status of their perpetrator. Here, the victim can register to be notified once an inmate is released or their custody status changes. The victim will be notified by telephone or email. In 2009, eighty-six victims registered to be notified when an inmate has been released. Six of these were by telephone, fourteen were by operator, and sixty-six were by internet.

Technology

The Essex County Sheriff's Office was able to purchase, through a grant, an electronic fingerprint scanner (LiveScan). This was done with the expectation that DCJS would eventually no longer accept inked fingerprint cards. This machine takes electronic fingerprints and transmits the prints, along with a photograph, to DCJS. This is a beneficial tool for the Sheriff's Office because we are now able to get a positive identification of the individual and an associated criminal history. With this information, we can now properly classify inmates to appropriate housing locations or charge individuals with the appropriate crimes. 419 individuals had been processed by the LiveScan system. As of January 2010, DCJS no longer accepts inked fingerprint cards.

A new website was designed and published by Sgt Thomas Murphy, and is accessible through the Essex County Government Website. This website is designed to inform the citizens of Essex County what the Sheriff's Office has been doing. Press releases are placed on the site, as are all the active warrants of the Sheriff's Office. Links to the NYS Sexual Offender registry and the National Amber Alert are also available on this website. Included in the history page is a detailed history of the Sheriff's Office. Also included in this site is also an In Memoriam page in memory of two fallen officers, Deputy Earl Torrance and Sgt. Eric Loiselle. This website is updated as needed in an effort to help keep the public informed.

DNA Databank

New York State has created a DNA Databank. All persons convicted of any NYS Penal Law felony and certain misdemeanors are required to submit a DNA sample to this databank. The Sheriff's Office serves as one of the collection agencies in the county. In 2009, the Sheriff Office collected 22 DNA samples and sent them to the Division of Criminal Justice Services in Albany to be processed and placed on file.

Patrol

The Essex County Sheriff's Office has sworn police officers who serve Civil Processes and enforce the laws of New York State, including Vehicle and Traffic Laws and Penal Laws. The Essex County Sheriff Office made 85 penal law arrests, issued 411 Vehicle and Traffic Tickets, and made 8 Driving while Intoxicated Arrests. Deputies also investigated 12 motor vehicle accidents.

The Sheriff's Patrol fleet is compromised of mostly cars; however, we do have 2 SUVs and 1 pickup for special details and extreme weather conditions. Also available is a patrol boat that can be used on the waterways of Essex County. This past summer, while assigned to the boat on Lake Champlain, Deputies Albert Leon and Shawn Lapier assisted in a search for two kayakers on Lake Champlain. The search for the kayakers had started because family members had not heard from the two, the arrangement was for them to make contact with family every night. Because of their efforts, Sheriff Deputies located the two kayakers, both of whom were unharmed. The kayakers were not able to make contact with family due to the lack of cell phone service. However, the kayakers used the Deputy's cell phone to make contact with family members and then continued on their trip.

The Sheriff's Office also has a John Deere Gator, light towers, and solar powered electric sign boards for traffic notification. These sign boards can also be used to monitor speed on county roadways.

In cooperation with the Governors Traffic Safety Committee, the Essex County Sheriff's Office has two child safety seat technicians who inspect and properly install safety seats in cars. The technicians also teach the parents how to properly install the seats. In 2009, the Sheriff's Office held and sponsored eight child safety seat events. The technicians inspected sixty-eight seats and found thirty-four of these seats unsatisfactory. The unsatisfactory seats were destroyed. Of the sixty-eight seats inspected, only four had been installed correctly. Deputies gave away fifty-two new seats.

The Essex County Sheriff's Office, in cooperation with the Division of Criminal Justice Services, issues child identification cards. This service is called Operation Safe Child. The service provides two cards, one for the child to carry and one for the parents to carry. DCJS also maintains a database, which can be used to help locate missing children.

The Essex County Sheriff's Office also has one D.A.R.E Officer who visits the schools within the county and teaches classes to the fifth grade students. At the end of the course, students have a graduation ceremony.

The Essex County Sheriff's Office, in connection with a grant sponsored by the Essex County BEST Partnership, conducted an underage drinking initiative. This detail was a success in regard to identifying establishments that sold alcoholic beverages to an underage subject. Fifteen of the twenty establishments that sell alcoholic beverages did not sell to the underage agent. However, five retailers did sell to the underage buyer. The employees who sold the alcohol were charged with Unlawfully Dealing with a Child 1st and an ABC violation.

The Essex County Sheriff's Office is responsible for monitoring all Sex Offenders that live in Essex County, but not those who live in the jurisdictions of Ticonderoga, Lake Placid, Moriah and Saranac Lake Police Departments. Offenders are required to come to the Sheriff's Office periodically, depending on their level, to verify addresses and to update photographs. Offenders who fail to do this, or move without notifying the Sheriff's Office, are in violation of the law. If this happened, the offenders are arrested for a felony offense.

Essex County Drug Task Force

The Essex County Sheriff's Office is a member of the Essex County Drug Task Force, along with the Lake Placid, Ticonderoga and Saranac Lake Police Departments, New York State Police, Vermont National Guard, DEA, and the US Border Patrol. The Essex County Drug Task Force works in conjunction with the Franklin, Clinton, Warren and Washington County Drug Task Forces, in addition to the Albany Police Department, NYS Bureau of Controlled Substances, and Cnet Albany. In 2009, the Essex County

Drug Task Force opened eighty-three new cases. Twenty-four cases were closed by arrest in 2009, and five cases were closed with no defendant. A significant part of the drug task force is the eradication of marijuana. In Essex County, in 2009, 1,351 plants were harvested and 352.5 pounds processed and seized of marijuana. This accounted for only eighteen cases of the 2009 caseload. The other cases involved prescription and illegal drugs.

Training

In order to maintain a professional, safe place to work, the employees of the Sheriff's Office, sworn and non-sworn, go through training. This training consists of, but is not limited to, updates in policy and procedures, NYS Penal Law Article 35 training, defensive tactics, and PESH/OSHA requirements to list a few. In 2009, Essex County Sheriff Office Employees received a total of 3,236 hours of training. The Essex County Sheriff's Office currently has seven instructors that have been certified by DCJS. Having these instructors enables us to conduct our own Basic Corrections Courses, saving travel costs to other jurisdictions to the training. In May 2009, the Sheriff's Office completed its fifth session.

Civil

By state laws, the Essex County Sheriff's Office is required to have a Civil Office. Its purpose and function is to serve and execute the various legal processes issued not only by and for the several non-criminal courts of the state and its subdivisions, but also for the legal community and the general public. Departmental and divisional policies and procedures are consistent with New York State and court case law.

Deputy Sheriffs are public officers entrusted to perform specific duties that contribute to the administration of justice. The purpose of service of civil process is to give notice to a defendant of the commencement of a legal action or a proceeding. Although any private citizen over 18 years of age can serve process if they are not party to the action, Sheriff's Offices are asked to serve process because of their traditionally good record keeping practices and professional service.

In 2009, the Civil Office handled \$588,426.82. This money includes bail fees processed, wage garnishments, and fees for civil of processes.

Conclusion

This year provided the Essex County Sheriff's Office with many opportunities. In addition to successfully housing inmates from other jurisdictions, the Essex County Sheriff's Office generated substantial income. Although some difficulties were experienced, we learned from each situation and made the adjustments necessary to be successful. The Essex County Sheriff's Office assisted the community through the removal illegal drugs, arrest of multiple criminals, and service of civil papers. The Essex County Sheriff's Office will continue to put forth such diligent efforts and anticipates 2010 will also be a success.

New York State Commission of Correction DAILY POPULATION COUNT REPORTING SYSTEM AVERAGE DAILY COUNTS / HIGHS / LOWS

Facility: Essex County Jail

DATE RANGE: 1/1/09 thru 12/31/09

	Unsentenced	Sentenced	Unarraigned	Civil	Federal	Totals
Adult Male	AVG: 18.43	AVG: 11.49	AVG: 0.08	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 29.97	AVG: 59.96
	HI: 37.00 02/01/09	HI: 22.00 04/04/09	HI: 30.00 06/12/09	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 43.00 11/22/09	HI: 82.00 01/31/09
	LOW: 8.00 00/00/00	LOW: 4.00 00/00/00	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00	LOW: 0.00 06/12/09	LOW: 39.00 00/00/00
Adult Female	AVG: 1.24	AVG: 1.46	AVG: 0.01	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.95	AVG: 3.65
	HI: 4.00 01/13/09	HI: 6.00 03/26/09	HI: 4.00 02/17/09	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 6.00 01/01/09	HI: 11.00 03/17/09
	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00					
Minor Male	AVG: 1.40	AVG: 0.52	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 1.92
	HI: 5.00 06/24/09	HI: 3.00 04/11/09	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 6.00 06/24/09
	LOW: 0.00 11/16/09	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00	LOW: 0.00 11/16/09
<i>f</i> linor Female	AVG: 0.04	AVG: 0.05	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.09
	HI: 1.00 11/08/09	HI: 1.00 05/21/09	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 1.00 11/08/09
	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00					
Fotal	AVG: 21.11	AVG: 13.52	AVG: 0.09	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 30.91	AVG: 65.63
	HI: 40.00 02/01/09	HI: 28.00 04/04/09	HI: 30.00 06/12/09	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 43.00 11/22/09	HI: 93.00 02/07/09
	LOW: 9.00 00/00/00	LOW: 4.00 00/00/00	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00	LOW: 0.00 06/12/09	LOW: 40.00 00/00/00

New York State Commission of Correction DAILY POPULATION COUNT REPORTING SYSTEM AVERAGE DAILY COUNTS / HIGHS / LOWS

Facility: Essex County Jail

DATE RANGE: 1/1/09 thru 12/31/09

	Coram Nobis	D and E Felons	State Readies	Convicted Felons	Parole Violators	New Arrests w/Parole Warrant
Adult Male	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.27	AVG: 0.30	AVG: 0.08	AVG: 0.36	AVG: 1.09
	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 2.00 01/15/09	HI: 3.00 04/22/09	HI: 1.00 03/05/09	HI: 2.00 01/14/09	HI: 3.00 05/27/09
	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00					
Adult Female	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.15	AVG: 0.04	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00
	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 1.00 03/30/09	HI: 1.00 10/18/09	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 1.00 04/02/09
	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00					
Minor Male	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.02	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.30	AVG: 0.02
	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 1.00 10/22/09	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 1.00 12/30/09	HI: 1.00 11/13/09
	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00					
Minor Female	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.01	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00
	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 2.00 03/11/09	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00
	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00					
Total	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.43	AVG: 0.36	AVG: 0.08	AVG: 0.66	AVG: 1.10
	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 4.00 03/11/09	HI: 3.00 04/22/09	HI: 1.00 03/05/09	HI: 2.00 12/30/09	HI: 4.00 04/02/09
	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00					

New York State Commission of Correction DAILY POPULATION COUNT REPORTING SYSTEM AVERAGE DAILY COUNTS / HIGHS / LOWS

Facility: Essex County Jail

DATE RANGE: 1/1/09 thru 12/31/09

	Intermittents	Boarded In	Boardrd Out	Out To Hospital	Out To Mental Hygiene	Out To Other
Adult Male	AVG: 0.73	AVG: 4.50	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.01	AVG: 0.19	AVG: 0.03
	HI: 5.00 12/05/09	HI: 20.00 05/09/09	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 2.00 11/30/09	HI: 1.00 08/26/09	HI: 1.00 05/18/09
	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00				
Adult Female	AVG: 0.04	AVG: 0.58	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.02	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00
	HI: 1.00 07/11/09	HI: 5.00 03/17/09	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 1.00 01/20/09	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00
	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00				
Minor Male	AVG: 0.06	AVG: 0.51	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00
	HI: 1.00 08/12/09	HI: 3.00 07/21/09	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00
	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00				
Minor Female	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.01	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.00
	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 1.00 06/23/09	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 0.00 00/00/00
	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00				
Total	AVG: 0.83	AVG: 5.59	AVG: 0.00	AVG: 0.03	AVG: 0.19	AVG: 0.03
	HI: 5.00 12/05/09	HI: 22.00 05/09/09	HI: 0.00 00/00/00	HI: 2.00 11/30/09	HI: 1.00 08/26/09	HI: 1.00 05/18/09
	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00	LOW: 0.00 00/00/00				

Essex County Sheriff's Office Lewis, New York

Sheriff's Annual Report for the Calendar Year 2009

i. I	nmates in Custody End of Last Year Midnight 01/01/2009	MAI	-E	FEMA	ALE		TOTAL
	1. County Census>>		27		4		31
	2. Housed In>>		31		6		37
	3. Total Census>>		58		10		68
	4. Housed Out>>	1		0		1	
	5. Out Count>>	1		0		1	
	6. Total Count>>	2	2	0	0	2	2
	7. Count>>		56		10		66
11.	nmates Received from Courts of <u>this</u> County this Year(Co. Ac	im)					
Α.	Sentenced to this facility (intial entry)			MALE	FEMA	LE	TOTAL
Α.	1. Convicted of Felony		>>	9	1		10
	2. Convicted of a Misdemeanor		>>	40	4		44
	3. Convicted of Other Offenses		>>	12	1		13
	4. Subtotal		>> [61	6		67
В.	Sentenced to this facility (Status Changed - unsentenced	- sentence	4) -	MALE	FEMA	LE	TOTAL
υ.	1. Convicted of Felony		' [1	0		1
	2. Convicted of a Misdemeanor		>>	8	1		9
	3. Convicted of Other Offenses		>>	4	0		4
	4. Subtotal		>>	13	1		14
C.	Total Sentenced to this Facility		_	MALE	FEMA	LE	TOTAL
	1. Add A(4) + B(4) from above		>>	74	7		81
D.	Remanded to this Facility (by securing order)			MALE	FEMA	LE	TOTAL
	1. Held for Felony		>>	125	19		144
	2. Held for Misdemeanor		>>	134	18		152
	3. Held for Other Offenses		>>	36	8		44
	4. Total Remanded to this Facility		>>	295	45		340
E.	Total County Inmate Admissions this		_	MALE	FEMA	LE	TOTAL
	1. Add A(4) + D(4) from above		>>	356	51		407
111. 1	nmates Admitted <u>and Housed for Other</u> Jurisdictions This Yea	r (Housed	ln)	MALE	FEMA	LE	TOTAL
	1. Other County's Inmated (SJO)		>>	73	6		79
	2. State Inmates		>>	8	1		9
	3. Federal Inmates		>>	158	2		160
	4. Other		>>	10	0		10
	5. Total - Housed for Other Jurisdictions		>>	249	9		258
IV. Total Inmates Recieved in this Facility from all Sources MALE FEN					FEMA	LE	TOTAL
	1. Add Item II (E) and Item III (5)		>>	605	60		665

V. Ir	nmates <u>Discharged</u> from this Facility this Year							
A.	County Inmates			r	MALE	FEMALE	тот	AL
	1. Expiration of Sentence	>	·>		74	11	85	5
	2. Released/Transferred by order of Court	>	>		274	42	316	6
	3. Transferred to DOCS (States Readies)		>>		17	2	19	
	4. Other (Death/Escape)		>>		1	0	1	
	5. Total - County Inmates Discharged		>>		366	55	42	1
В.	Other than County Inmates			ľ	ALE	FEMALE	тот	AL
	1. Boaders Discharged (SJO)				74	4	78	
	2. Parole Violators (Returned to DOCS)	>	·>		7	0	7	
	3. Parole Violators (Releases from detainer)	>	·>		0	0	0	
	4. Federal	>>	>		128	6	134	4
	5. Other (Death/Escape/Transits/etc)	>	·>		44	5	49)
	6. Total - Other than County Inmates Discharged		>>		253	15	268	8
C.	Total Inmates Discharged from This Facility		,	1	//ALE	FEMALE	тот	AL
	1. Add Item A(5) and Item B(6)	>	>		619	70	689	9
VI. In	mates <u>Temporarily</u> Housed <u>Out To</u> other Jurisdictions this Y	ear	'					
A.	Housed Out to:			n	MALE	FEMALE	тот	AL
	1. Other Counties (SJO)		>>		1	0	1	
	2. Mental Health Facility				1	0	1	
	3. Admitted to Medical Hospital	>>	>		3	3	6	
	4. Other	>	>>		2	0	2	
	5. Total Housed Out		>>		7	3	10	
В.	Returned From:			٨	MALE	FEMALE	тот	AL
	1. Other Counties (SJO)		>>		4	1	5	
	2. Mental Health Facility				0	0	0	
	3. Admitted to Medical Hospital	>	·>		2	2	4	
	4. Other	>	>>		2	0	2	
	5. Total Returned		·>>		8	3	11	
VII. In	mates in Custody End of This <u>Year</u> Midnight 12/31/2009	MA	ı F		FEM	ALE	тот	AL
	1. County Census>>			7		0		17
	2. Housed In>			27		0		27
	3. Total Census>>			14		0		44
		0			0		0	
	4. Housed Out>>						-	

4

40

4

40

0

0

0

4

4

5. Out Count

6. Total Count

7. Count

Length of Sentence To This Facility County Inmates

			(county inmate
Days	MALE	FEMALE	TOTALS	
1-3	4	0	4	
4-6	3	1	4	
7-9	5	1	6	
10-12	2	0	2	
13-15	6	0	6	
16-18	1	0	1	
19-21	3	0	3]
22-24	0	0	0	
25-27	0	0	0	
28-30	5	2	7	-
31-33	0	0	0	
34-36	0	0	0	-
37-39	1	0	1	-
40-42	1	0	1	-
43-45	0	0	0	-
46-48	0	0	0	1 -
49-51	0	0	0	1 1
52-54	0	0	0	
55-57	0	0	Ö	
58-60	10	1	11	-
61-63	10	0	1	 -
64-66	1	0	1	 -
67-69	1	0	1	-
70-72	0	0	0	·
	0	0	0	-
73-75		0	0	-
76-78	0	0	0	-
79-81	0	0	0	-
82-84	0	0	0	-
85-87		1	9	-
88-90	8		0	-
91-93	0	0	1	-
94-96	1	0		-
97-99	0	0	0	-
100-102	0		0	-
103-105	0	0	0	\ -
106-108	0	0	0	·
109-111	0	0	0	· -
112-114	0	0	1	· -
115-117	1	0	1	·
118-120	1	0		· -
121-123	0	0	0	· -
124-126	0	0		· -
127-129	0	0	0	·
130-132	0	0	0	-
133-135	0	0	0	- I-
136-138	0	0	0	- I-
139-141	0	0	0	- - -
142-144	0	0	0	(l
145-147	0	0	1	-
148-150	1	0		-
151-153	0	0	0	- -
154-156	0	0	0	- -
157-159	0	0	0	- I
160-162	0	0	0	- -
163-165	1	0	1	- -
166-168	0	0	0	·
169-171	0	0	0	- -
172-174	0	0	0	· -
175-177	0	0	0	. .
178-180	5	0	5	. .
181-183	3	0	3	, l
Sub. Tot	65	6	71]
# of Inte	rmittent Sentences		Column	1 Sub. Tot.
MALE			TOTAL	

tes Days	MALE	FEMALE	TOTALS
184-186	1	I 0 I	1
187-189	0	0	0
190-192	0	0	0
193-195	0	0	0
196-198	0	0	0
199-201	0	0	0
202-204	0	0	0
205-207	0	0	0
208-210	0	0	0
211-213	0	0	0
214-216	0	0	0
217-219	0	0	0
220-222	0	0	0
223-225	0	0	0
226-228	0	0	0
229-231	0	0	0
232-234	0	0	0
235-237	0	0	0
238-240	1	0	1
241-243	0	0	0
244-246	0	0	0
247-249	0	0	0
250-252	0	0	0
253-255	0	0	0
256-258 259-261	0	0	0
262-264	0	0	0
265-267	0	0	0
268-270	0	0	0
271-273	0	0	0
274-276	1	0	1
277-279	0	0	0
280-282	0	0	0
283-285	0	0	0
286-288	0	0	0
289-291	0	0	0
292-294	0	0	0
295-297	0	0	0
298-300	0	0	0
301-303	0	0	0
304-306	0	0	0
307-309	0	0	0
310-312	0	0	0
313-315	0	0	0
316-318	0	0	0
319-321	0	0	0
322-324	0	0	0
325-327 328-330	0	0	0
331-333	0	0	0
334-336	0	0	0
337-339	0	0	0
340-342	1	0	1
343-345	0	0	0
346-348	0	0	0
349-351	0	0	0
352-354	0	0	0
355-357	0 -	0	0
358-360	0	0	0
361-363	0	0	0
364-366	5	1	6
Sub. Tot	9	1	10
	65	6	71
	74	7	81

of Intermittent Sentences

MALE FEMALE

19

Run Date:

TOTALS MUST BE EQUAL TO ITEM II - C, ON PAGE 1

TOTAL

Length of Stay To This Facility
TALS County Inmates Days

Days	MALE	FEMALE	TOTALS Col
1-3	154	31	185
4-6	47	9	56
7-9	30	1	31
10-12	16	0	16
13-15	8	2	10
16-18	9	1	10
19-21	6	1	7
22-24	8	2	10
25-27	2	1	3
28-30	6	0	6
31-33	2	0	2
34-36	1	0	1
37-39	8	1	9
40-42	1	0	1
43-45	2	0	2
46-48	2	00	2
49-51	1	0	1
52-54	3	0	3
55-57	1	1	2
58-60	4	0	4
61-63	1	0	1
64-66	1	0	1
67-69	0	0	0
70-72	1	0	1
73-75	2	1	3
76-78	1	0	1
79-81	1	0	1
82-84	0	0	0
85-87	1	0	1
88-90	1 1	0	1
91-93 94-96	0	0	0
97-99	1	0	1
100-102	0	0	0
103-102	1	0	1
106-108	1	0	
109-111	1	0	1
112-114	3	0	3
115-117	2	0	2
118-120	5	0	5
121-123	2	0	2
124-126	0	0	0
127-129	1	0	1
130-132	0	0	0
133-135	0	1	1
136-138	2	0	2
139-141	0	0	0
142-144	0	0	0
145-147	1	0	1
148-150	1	0	1
151-153	0	0	0
154-156	0	0	0
157-159	3	1	4
160-162	0	1	1
163-165	0	0	0
166-168	0	0	0
169-171	0	0	0
172-174	1	0	1
175-177	1	0	1
178-180	2	0	2
181-183	0	0	0
Sub. Tot	349	54	403
			Column

Days	MALE	FEMALE	TOTALS
184-186	0	0	0
187-189	0	0	0
190-192	0	0	0
193-195	0	0	0
196-198	0	0	0
199-201	2	0	2
202-204	1	1	2
205-207	0	0	0
208-210	0	0	0
211-213	0	0	0
214-216	0	0	0
217-219	2	0	2
220-222	0	0	0
223-225	2	0	2
226-228	0	0	0
232-234	0	0	0
235-237	0	0	0
238-240	2	0	2
241-243	3	0	3
244-246	0	0	0
247-249	0	0	0
250-252	0	0	0
253-255	0	0	0
256-258	1	0	1
259-261	0	0	0
262-264	0	0	0
265-267	0	0	0
268-270	0	0	0
271-273	0	0	0
274-276	0	0	0
277-279	1	0	1
280-282 283-285	0 0	0	0
286-288	0	0	0
289-291	0	0	0
292-294	0	0	0
295-297	0	0	0
298-300	0	0	0
301-303	1	0	1
304-306	0	0	0
307-309	0	0	0
310-312	0	0	0
313-315	0	0	0
316-318	0	0	0
319-321	0	0	0
322-324 325-327	0	0	0
328-330	0	0	0
331-333	0	0	0
334-336	0	0	0
337-339	0	0	0
340-342	0	0	0
343-345	0	0	0
346-348	0	0	0
349-351	0	0	0
352-354	0	0	0
355-357	1	0	1
358-360	0	0	0
361-363	0	0	0
364-366 367+	1	0	1
Sub. Tot	17	1	18
,	349	54	403
	349	J 4	403
	366	55	421

TOTALS MUST BE EQUAL TO ITEM V-A, ON PAGE 2

_		Sub. Fot	17	1	18
	Column 1 Sub. Tot.		349	54	403
	TOTAL		366	55	421

Table 3

AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTALS		AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTALS
< 16	0	0	0	1	37	13	T 0	13
16	15	0	15	1	38	9	2	11
17	6	1	7		39	4	1	5
18	14	4	18	1	40	6	0	6
19	21	0	21	1	41	5	0	5
20	15	1	16		42	3	2	5
21	15	4	19	1	43	6	1	7
22	10	1	11		44	5	0	5
23	10	2	12	1	45	4	0	4
24	27	2	29	1	46	2	2	4
25	17	2	19		47	5	3	8
26	11	1	12		48	5	0	5
27	8	2	10		49	4	1 1	5
28	14	2	16		50	6	0	6
29	12	2	14		51	9	0	9
30	10	4	14		52	1	0	1
31	7	6	13		53	2	1	3
32	4	1	5		54	5	0	5
33	5	0	5		55	2	2	4
34	10	0	10		56	1	0	1
35	7	0	7		57	1	0	1
36	13	0	13		58>	7	1 1	8
Sub. Tot	251	35	286		Sub. Tot	105	16	121
				Column 1 Sub. T	ot.	251	35	286
				TOTAL		356	51	407

Table 4 RACE

RACE	WALE	FEMALE	TOTALS
White	317	46	363
Black	23	5	28
Am. Ind.	2	0	2
Asian	0	0	0
Other	14	0	14
Totals	356	51	407

	Table	e 5				
ETHNIC ORIGIN						
ETHNIC ORIGIN	MALE	FEMALE	TOTALS			

ETHNIC ORIGIN	MALE	FEMALE	TOTALS	
Hispanic	12	0	12	
Non-Hispanic	344	51	395	
Totals	356	51	407	

AGE, LITERACY, RACE, & ETHNIC ORIGIN TOTALS MUST EQUAL ITEM II - E, ON PAGE 1.

OF TIMES COMMITTED TO THIS FACILITY

Table 6

	MALE		FEMALE		TOTALS	
	Sen.	Unsen.	Sen.	Unsen.	Sen.	Unsen.
1st	72	257	7	42	79	299
2nd	2	33	0	3	2	36
3rd	0	4	0	0	0	4
4th	0	1	0	0	0	1
5th	0	0	0	0	0	0
6th	0	0	0	0	0	0
7th	0	0	0	0	0	0
8th	0	0	0	0	0	0
9th	0	0	0	0	0	0
10+	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	74	295	7	45	81	340



Willsboro sex offenders in custody

By ANDREA VanVALKENBURG Staff Writer

January 18, 2009 03:28 am

— WILLSBORO — Two convicted sex offenders were jailed Friday after they allegedly violated the terms of their state registry requirements.

Essex County Sheriff's deputies arrested Willsboro residents Scott Britton and Andrew Rolston on felony counts of failure to register or verify as a sex offender.

After their convictions, both men were required to annually update their Sex Offender Registry and notify officials about any changes in their registered information.

Recently, authorities began investigating the pair after they allegedly moved from their last known addresses.

Britton, 37, told authorities he was living at a Route 22 residence, but deputies say he allegedly moved from there without notifying anyone.

He is considered a Level 2 offender based on his 2006 sex-abuse conviction in Maine, where he allegedly abused and attempted to rape a 9-year-old girl.

Rolston has been deemed a Level 1 offender. Because of his low-risk status, information about his conviction was not available Saturday.

Both men were arraigned in Willsboro Town Court and were later sent to Essex County Jail on \$500 cash bail.

They will reappear in court at a later date to face the charges.

E-mail Andrea VanValkenburg at: avanvalkenburg@pressrepublican.com



Illegal aliens mean cash for Essex County

By LOHR McKINSTRY

Staff Writer

January 27, 2009 07:40 am

— ELIZABETHTOWN — Essex County plans to start collecting federal funds for housing illegal aliens in the County Jail.

The State Criminal Alien Assistance Program will provide reimbursements for incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens for four or more days.

The aliens must be convicted of at least one felony or two misdemeanors for the county to qualify for the payments.

Sheriff Henry Hommes said the county will contract with a private firm, Justice Benefits Inc. of Dallas, which specializes in getting federal reimbursements for municipalities.

"It's for sentenced inmates housed in our jail. It's not for the federal inmates we have in there now. This company does it for a percentage of the fee."

He said the company will gather the needed information and apply for the reimbursements. The county will provide Justice Benefits with a CD-ROM containing inmate data file information.

"It's a great savings in time" to have Justice Benefits do the paperwork, Hommes said.

The program was requested by Jail Administrator Richard Cutting and is recommended by County Manager Daniel Palmer.

"They collect benefits for illegal aliens housed in our jail." Palmer said.

The State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, known as SCAAP, operates in conjunction with the federal Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Citizenship and Immigration Services and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

The program provides federal payments to states and localities that have correctional-officer salary costs for incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens with at least one felony or two misdemeanor convictions under state or local laws and who have been incarcerated for at least four consecutive days during the reporting period.

The county has about 80 federal inmates in its new jail, under an agreement with the U.S. Marshals Service.

Once those prisoners are sentenced, they are usually transported to federal prisons to serve their time. The Marshals Service pays the county for their boarding.

The State Criminal Alien Assistance Program would not cover those inmates, only people serving sentences in the County Jail, Hommes said.

http://www.pressrepublican.com/archivesearch/local story 026220620.html/resources prin... 1/6/2010

The county has 35 to 45 local prisoners in the 120-bed jail on a daily basis, and some of those have been illegal aliens, the sheriff said.

E-mail Lohr McKinstry at: lmckinstry@pressrepublican.com

Denton Publications: System Print Window Page 1 of 1

Source: Denton Publications

Jail fight injures five guards

by Matt Bosley

February 20, 2009

LEWIS – A fight started by inmates at the new Essex County Jail left five guards injured and prompted a lockdown at part of the facility Feb. 6.

Essex County Sheriff's office spokesman Major David Reynolds, said the injuries to the guards were minor.

"Due to the incident, five officers were sent to the emergency room for precautionary measures and released," said Reynolds. "The investigation is ongoing and arrests will be made in the near future."

The lockdown was lifted the day after the incident, but the Sherriff's office is reviewing video footage as part of their investigation to determine how many inmates were involved in the fight.

"We're working with the District Attorney's office to decide what charges to file," Reynolds added.



Essex County hiring eight new jail guards

By LOHR McKINSTRY

Staff Writer

February 24, 2009 06:05 am

— ELIZABETHTOWN — Increased numbers of prisoners and a fist fight that injured five guards have convinced Essex County to hire eight more correction officers for the County Jail.

Sheriff Henry Hommes told the County Board of Supervisors Monday that he's now understaffed at the 120-bed jail, which opened in October 2007.

He was given tentative permission to hire eight more correction officers — two for each shift plus two to fill in when needed — at an annual cost of \$238,000 in wages and benefits.

A final vote on the hiring is at 10 a.m. Monday in the Old County Courthouse at Elizabethtown.

Hommes said he'll hire the new correction officers from the current Civil Service list. A new test will be held in April that will generate more candidates.

Undersheriff Richard Cuttings said the Sheriff's Department has 48 correction officers and deputies, with 11 on each shift. With the new officers, 13 could be assigned to a shift.

A fight at the jail on Feb. 5 left five guards with minor injuries and a lockdown that lasted several days. Charges are expected to be filed against the four or five inmates who started the brawl.

The Sheriff's Department recently contracted with the U.S. Marshals Service for housing federal prisoners awaiting trial or sentencing, and some of the federal prisoners may have been involved in the fight.

The Essex County Jail has about 75 inmates at present. Of those, 34 are federal prisoners, 35 are local, and the rest are from St. Lawrence and Franklin counties.

Hommes said the jail made \$132,000 in January from boarding outside prisoners. If that continues, the jail would generate about \$1.5 million a year in inmate boarding revenue.

He said the staffing analysis for the jail was done three years ago and is outdated. It included three part-time guards.

"Now that we're boarding inmates, those part-time positions are turning into full-time positions. It's all running into overtime."

He said they have no one to cover for days off, sick days or vacations.

"The stress is tremendous. It has really taken a toll on people," Hommes said. "We really need two additional positions on each squad (shift) to be able to allow people to have time off without incurring overtime."

County Manager Daniel Palmer said Hommes had originally requested the extra staffing when the current

http://www.pressrepublican.com/archivesearch/local story 054232730.html/resources prin... 1/6/2010

budget was prepared.

"At the time we put the budget together, there was no federal contract. I was not willing to put in for something that potentially would not be there."

Palmer said he'd recommend the extra officers be hired now.

"I think you are OK to do this. He (Hommes) is a earning that revenue, and he is earning it at a good rate."

The jail paid \$34,000 in overtime for pay periods covering January.

"If those additional (officers) relieve some of that overtime cost, you'd recoup that," Palmer said.

Supervisor Daniel Connell (D-Westport) was one of several supervisors to stress they will reduce the jail's staff if the federal contract ends.

"Once that contract is no longer available, we have to look at layoffs," Supervisor Robert C. Dedrick (R-Ticonderoga) said.

Hommes said they told the Marshals Service that prisoners from St. Lawrence County will be leaving when the new jail there opens in mid-March.

"They said, 'We'll take their beds.' It doesn't sound like they're (marshals) moving out."

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Sheriff adding more jail personnel

By LOHR McKINSTRY

Staff Writer

April 09, 2009 03:28 am

— ELIZABETHTOWN — Many Essex County lawmakers praised Sheriff Henry Hommes for making money at the new County Jail, even as the workload there increases.

The sheriff was given permission this week to apply for a federal Office of Community Oriented Policing Services grant to hire two new transport officers for the jail and replace one deputy who left.

Hommes already has approval to hire eight new correction officers to handle increased workload at the 120-bed jail.

The daily inmate count at the new jail in Lewis has gone from as low as 30 to as high as 80 since the sheriff started boarding federal inmates brought in by the U.S. Marshals Service.

Hommes said that of the 71 prisoners now at the jail, 41 are boarded from the Marshals Service or other counties.

"We're bringing in inmates into our jail. We're receiving revenue. I know for many, many years we've been in a black hole. All (the county) did was throw money into the Sheriff's Department."

He said that by the end of March, the jail had brought in \$376,200 in boarding revenue for the year. At that rate, they'll be able to pay the jail construction bonds off with the revenue, he said.

Hommes also received permission to increase hours for three employees — the jail nurse, clerk-typist and confidential secretary —from 35 to 40 hours a week.

"My nurse cannot handle 70 to 90 inmates by herself," he said. "It's an impossibility. All of these things point to them needing increased hours."

He said the State Commission of Correction sent representatives to inspect the jail recently, and they may want a second nurse added.

Hommes said that if the present nurse is out, "we've been winging it, but that is coming to an end."

The commission is against having a licensed practical nurse for a second nurse, Hommes said, but to cover the second shift they'd probably hire an LPN.

"Somehow I get a feeling some people don't think I'm trying to do the best I can for the county, but I am. We're doing something we've never done before and at a pretty substantial clip."

Supervisor Thomas Scozzafava (R-Moriah) said the switch to a 40-hour work week may result in other departments asking for the same consideration.

http://www.pressrepublican.com/archivesearch/local story 098225001.html/resources prin... 1/6/2010

Hommes said the extra work requires extra hours.

Scozzafava said the COPS grant pays for three years of wages, then they're obligated to keep the employees for a fourth year.

"Keep in mind at the end of the program our obligation is to pick them up for one (more) year."

He felt not many people will apply for what they know is only a four-year job.

But Supervisor Gerald Morrow (D-Chesterfield) said that with current high unemployment levels, they might get additional applications.

"The sheriff is finally bringing in money. That helps."

Supervisor Randy Preston (I-Wilmington) praised Hommes for making money by boarding inmates at the jail.

"We don't have 30 inmates anymore. We have 75. What he's done with that jail — he has totally turned that place around."

E-mail Lohr McKinstry at: lmckinstry@pressrepublican.com

Source: Denton Publications

Ti challenges sheriff

by Fred Herbst

May 02, 2009

TICONDEROGA — The Ticonderoga Police Department will no longer do the Essex County Sheriff's job — unless it's paid for it.

The county board has sided with Ti Supervisor Bob Dedrick in a dispute with the county sheriff over transportation of prisoners.

As soon as a court reprimands a prisoner to county jail, Dedrick explained at the April 9 Ti town board meeting, that prisoner becomes the responsibility of the county sheriff.

If no county deputies are available to transport that prisoner to the county jail in Lewis, communities with a town police department, like Ticonderoga and Moriah, are forced to do the transport themselves.

Those two hour round-trips leave the town without full police protection, Dedrick said, and cost money for fuel and officers' pay.

After researching the law, Dedrick contacted Essex County Sheriff Henry Hommes asking the town either be reimbursed the cost of transporting prisoners to Lewis or that sheriff's deputies pick up the prisoners.

In a letter to Dedrick, Hommes refused.

Dedrick then made his case to the Essex County Board of Supervisors, pointing out the sheriff's legal responsibility and asked that the town be reimbursed \$237.23 for transporting inmates to the county jail on two occasions.

Supervisors agreed with Dedrick during their April 6 regular board meeting with 16 of the 18 voting for Ti's position.

Some supervisors, however, Like Westport Supervisor Dan Connell, said the practice of reimbursing towns with police forces for prisoner transport would set a precedent.

Wilmington Supervisor Randy Preston agreed. Both voted against the reimbursement.

"I am not in favor of it," Preston said. "I think it would open a can of worms with shared services."

But Dedrick said he hoped it does set a precedent.

"The situation was not fair to the town police or the taxpayers of Ticonderoga," Dedrick said. "Ti will be reimbursed now and in the future."

Denton Publications: System Print Window Page 1 of 1

Source: Denton Publications

Police complete sex offender compliance

May 16, 2009

TICONDEROGA — The Essex County Sheriff's Office, in conjunction with the Ticonderoga Police Department, Saranac Lake Police Department, Lake Placid Police Department, Essex County Probation and the Essex County District Attorney's Office performed a county wide check of all registered sex offenders April 8. The check consisted of verifying addresses of all offenders registered in Essex County.

In all, 91 offenders were checked and all were in compliance of the sex offender laws.

Two arrests were made in connection with the check in the town of Ticonderoga.

Dustin M. Sousis of Ticonderoga was arrested on one count of unlawful growing cannabis, a class A misdemeanor; criminal possession of marijuana fifth, a class B misdemeanor; and unlawful possession of marijuana, a violation.

Michael Putnam, also of Ticonderoga, was also arrested for the same charges along with an additional charge of criminal possession of a controlled substance seventh, a class A misdemeanor.

Both men were issued appearance tickets.

People can check to see if there are level 2 or 3 sex offenders in their area by going to: http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us/nsor/index.htm for New York State inquiries or http://www.nsopr.gov/ for a federal search.



Five cited in alcohol sting

By LOHR McKINSTRY

Staff Writer

June 02, 2009 03:28 am

— MORIAH — Five people were cited for selling alcoholic beverages to minors during a sting operation Saturday night in eastern Essex County.

The Essex County Sheriff's Department sent a 19-year-old female into 20 stores to try to buy alcoholic beverages.

The clerks who sold her alcohol were charged with misdemeanor first-degree unlawfully dealing with a child and the violation of delivery of an alcoholic beverage to an underage person.

The names of those arrested were not released, pending youthful-offender status, Chief Deputy David Reynolds said Monday.

He said each person was issued an appearance ticket, returnable in local justice courts.

The stores where alcohol was sold to an underage person were: Crown Point Convenience Store; Boyea's in Moriah; Village Meat Market and Byrd's Country Store, both in Willsboro; and Keeseville IGA Market.

Stores were checked in Keeseville, Willsboro, Westport, Moriah and Crown Point, Reynolds said.

"This detail was a success, in regards to identifying establishments that sold alcoholic beverages to an underage subject. In total, there were 20 establishments checked, resulting in five establishments that sold alcoholic beverages to an underage person and 15 that did not."

He said the Sheriff's Department used a grant obtained by the Essex County BEST Partnership and the Essex County District Attorney's Office.

The alcohol initiative was conducted in a straightforward manner, he said, with the teenager simply going into each store and taking an alcoholic beverage to the counter for purchase.

E-mail Lohr McKinstry at: lmckinstry@pressrepublican.com



Sheriff wants two more deputies

By LOHR McKINSTRY

Staff Writer

August 17, 2009 03:28 am

DID YOU KNOW?



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ELIZABETHTOWN — Despite being turned down for a federal grant to pay the salaries, Essex County Sheriff Henry Hommes said he still needs two transport officers for the new County Jail.

Hommes had hoped hiring two transport officers could be covered by a federal Community-Oriented Policing Services grant the county applied for.

"The (State) Commission of Correction said we need two transport officers to take people back and forth to court, etc. We had applied for a COPS grant to cover those two positions. I'm certain I have enough money in my budget to cover these positions for the remainder of the year."

Hommes said the new officers would work weekdays. The county doesn't have an estimate yet on how much the positions would pay.

Some members of the County Board of Supervisors say they're opposed to hiring any new officers for the jail.

"It seems like every time we go down, we hire more officers, and that's supposed to stop the overtime," Supervisor Thomas Scozzafava (R-Moriah) said. "Then we have more overtime."

Supervisor Roby Politi (R-North Elba) said it might be cheaper to pay overtime when needed because no new benefit package is required.

But by March the Sheriff's Department had logged 2,400 hours of overtime for transports, County Manager Daniel Palmer said.

And Hommes said prisoner transports are increasing.

"Just about daily we are running back and forth to courts."

http://www.pressrepublican.com/archivesearch/local story 228213646.html/resources prin... 1/6/2010

The 120-bed jail is averaging about 75 inmates, with about 25 of those from Essex County and the rest from other jurisdictions.

The Sheriff's Department has contracted with the U.S. Marshals Service for housing federal prisoners awaiting trial or sentencing.

By boarding outside inmates, the jail made \$823,000 in the first seven months of the year, Hommes said.

Supervisor Robert C. Dedrick (R-Ticonderoga) said the transport officers should be scheduled with some flexibility, since town court is held at night.

"Otherwise, those two officers are going to be useless, because if they are only 8 to 5, I don't see the value. But if you follow the court sessions, then I can see the value."

Hommes said the schedules would be set up to follow court times.

"If we have court running until 6 at night, they will probably be working 11 to 7. If the courts are 3 in the afternoon, they may be working 8 to 4."

Supervisor Daniel Connell (D-Westport) said pay for the two transport deputies would also go into the 2010 budget.

"I don't see how we're going to put a budget together for 2010 that the taxpayers are going to be able to live with. Every time someone comes to us we're granting that request."

Hommes, who hired eight new correction officers for the jail in March at the state's request, said that with the two transport officers he would be fully staffed.

"It's not like I'm coming in asking for the last dollar from the pot. When the Commission of Correction came up with their final analysis for the jail, they put in there they wanted two transport officers to transport inmates back and forth to courts."

The County Public Safety Committee OK'd the new positions, which require a final vote in September.

But Connell said he's concerned the state constantly wants to increase the size of the jail staff.

"It doesn't seem to end."

E-mail Lohr McKinstry at: lmckinstry@pressrepublican.com

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Photos



Essex County to postpone hiring deputies

By LOHR McKINSTRY

Staff Writer

August 18, 2009 03:28 am

ELIZABETHTOWN — Essex County lawmakers now say they plan to table the hiring of two new deputy sheriffs to act as transport officers for the County Jail.

The hirings had received tentative approval from the County Public Safety Committee, but on Monday County Manager Daniel Palmer said he was advising the County Board of Supervisors to wait awhile instead.

When Sheriff Henry Hommes asked for the new officers last week, some supervisors balked at adding more employees to the county payroll.

But Palmer said the State Commission of Correction, not the sheriff, is behind the request.

"What the sheriff is requesting is the minimum staffing level (for the jail)."

The commission is telling the sheriff to have 67 deputies and correction officers, Palmer said, and he now has 65.

Hommes got permission in March to hire eight more correction officers for the jail, but only two were hired right away, Palmer said.

He said that's all they could get from the Civil Service list at the time, then another test had to be held to get more candidates.

"We didn't get those last six correction officers hired until last month," Palmer said.

With so many extra officers coming on board at once, they might be able to temporarily handle the transfers with overtime.

"I recommend we table those two transfer officers now, wait a couple months, and see what that effect that will have on overtime," Palmer said.

He said waiting won't change the commission's requirement, but it would change the budget amount for the new officers, allowing the county to save some money. Essex County starts new deputy sheriffs at \$13.90 an hour plus benefits.

Supervisor Daniel Connell (D-Westport) said the county may be in dire straits at budget time, so they need to save anywhere they can

"We know what is going on with the economy. We see how counties' sales tax is way down, how counties are cutting staff. Henry needs more people. Everybody that comes to us has a good case; they need more people,

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they need more money. We are in these economic times, but we are increasing (spending)."

Supervisor Thomas Scozzafava (R-Moriah), who chairs the County Finance Committee, said they can table the hiring of the transport officers at the County Ways and Means meeting Aug. 31.

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Jay marijuana field sparks arrests

By LOHR McKINSTRY

Staff Writer

September 15, 2009 03:28 am

JAY — Two men who were allegedly growing dozen of marijuana plants were arrested Monday by the Essex County Sheriff's Department.

John C. Corrow, 54, of 34 Spoon Circle Way, AuSable Forks and Randy E. Spoon, 56, of 10 Spoon Circle Way, AuSable Forks were both charged with misdemeanor unlawfully growing cannabis and fourth-degree criminal possession of marijuana.

They were issued appearance tickets for Jay Town Court.

Sheriff Henry Hommes said Corrow was allegedly growing 134 of the plants, while Spoon was taking care of 158 plants.

The plants were found Saturday morning by a State Police helicopter flying over the AuSable Forks area of Jay.

A total of 822 marijuana plants were found growing in fields in Jay, with a processed value of \$1 million.

A Sheriff's Department car was in the area at the time of the spotting and deputies, State Police and State Forest Rangers harvested the plants for evidence.

Hommes said more arrests are possible.

"Once the case is disposed of, the plants will be destroyed," Hommes said.

Investigation by the Essex County Drug Task Force is continuing.

Essex County Jail is money-making venture

By LOHR McKINSTRY

Staff Writer

October 15, 2009 03:28 am

ELIZABETHTOWN — By the end of last month, the new Essex County Jail had generated \$1.1 million from boarding outside prisoners.

Sheriff Henry Hommes said that by the end of the year, the jail may be able to cover its \$1.5 million annual bond payment out of boarding revenue.

But one county lawmaker pointed out that the jail still has a \$3.7 million annual operating cost on top of the bond payment.

"There are still a lot of costs associated with operating the jail," Supervisor Thomas Scozzafava (R-Moriah) said.

The \$35 million jail and Public Safety Building in Lewis opened in October 2007 with about 35 local inmates.

This week, 66 inmates are housed in the jail, Hommes said, 31 local and 35 boarded from other jurisdictions.

He said that as of Sept. 30 the jail had generated \$1.1 million in boarding revenue for the year, with three months to go.

"I think that's a pretty good figure."

The county was forced by the State Commission of Correction to build a new, 120-bed jail after the 150-year-old jail in Elizabethtown failed inspections.

Because of the closure, the county was spending \$700,000 a year to board out its own inmates before the new jail opened.

Scozzafava has asked for a feasibility report detailing operating costs at the jail versus the cost and income from boarding outside prisoners.

Hommes said the operating costs would be about the same since the staffing levels are imposed by the State Commission of Correction.

"The commission has set up the number of people we need to operate the jail. The only way I see those numbers dropping is if we went below 30 inmates and could house everybody in one pod."

The jail is divided into four inmate pods of 30 cells each.

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Source: Denton Publications

Sheriff's department getting state, federal boost

by Matt Bosley

October 16, 2009

ELIZABETHTOWN — The Essex County Sheriff's department is getting some significant assistance from the state and federal government.

At the Essex County Public Safety committee meeting Oct. 13, Sheriff Henry Hommes asked for the approval of several grants recently awarded to his department.

The first grant would provide the department with \$24,000 over the next two years toward the purchase of new bulletproof vests.

"This is a state grant, and it pays half of the purchase price of the vests," said Hommes, noting Essex County gets one of the highest allotments in the state for the grant.

Further state funding has also been awarded, he said, through the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program. Essex County received \$1,703 for housing in its jail foreign nationals who were awaiting sentencing this year.

\$188,080 in federal stimulus money has been awarded to the Sheriff's department through a Rural Drug Enforcement Assistance grant. Hommes said the money will fund an additional deputy for the department, along with a new vehicle and equipment.

The RDEA grant stipulates that the money be used primarily for drug enforcement, but Hommes said the additional deputy would perform other duties as well.

Hommes also gave an update on revenue the county has gained from its contract with the U.S. Marshall service to house federal inmates awaiting trial or sentencing.

"As of Sept. 30, we have received \$1,017,070 for boarding [federal] inmates in our jail for the year," stated Hommes. "I think that's a pretty good figure."

Chesterfield Supervisor Gerald Morrow agreed, saying the money should offset the \$1.5 million bond the county was issued to help fund construction of the new jail.

Moriah Supervisor Tom Scozzafava argued that it costs the county \$3.7 million a year in operating costs for the jail because all of the extra inmates. Essex Supervisor Ron Jackson said those costs are fixed because of state mandates.

"The only way I could see that number dropping is if we went below 30 inmates," said Hommes, noting the county has also saved money with the new jail by no longer boarding its own inmates in other jails.

According to Hommes, the county receives \$98 for each federal inmate per day and spends about \$8 per day to provide food and linens for each one. Of the 66 inmates currently in the jail, 35 are federal boarders.

Essex County Sheriff launches new Web Site

ELIZABETHTOWN -Essex County Sheriff Henry Hommes is pleased to announce the new and improved Web site for the Sheriff's Office.

The site includes contact information, including a toll-free, confidential crime/drug tip line number, wanted persons, monthly statistics, and civil process fees. There are also links to the DCJS Sex Offender Registry and other links involving public safety issues and concerns. The site will feature a calendar that details events in which the Sheriffs Office is involved or hosting.

This site is designed to keep the public informed of the Sherrifs Office actions and the services we can provide to the public. You can acces this site by going to the Essex County home-page at www.co.essex.ny.us or directly by entering www.co.essex.ny.us/Sheriffs/index.htm