

EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



Joseph J. Roybal, 29th Sheriff of El Paso County, Colorado

EPSO Family-

2023 was a year of growth, success, and opportunity for our Office. I am extremely proud of the commitment every member of our Office has held to consistently doing things a little better for our community.

After taking office in January, we wasted no time rolling out our strategic plan and concentrating on realistic goals for our agency. We are focused on building community trust, reducing victims, delivering quality service, and working to support legislation focused on public safety and opposing anti-constitutional legislation. On day one, we reinstated the POST certification requirement for recruits, and thanks to our Backgrounds, Human Resources, and Recruiting team, we have made incredible strides with staffing. Additionally, through intentional budget savings achieved through eliminating unnecessary positions and efficiency through organizational realignments, we were able to add six deputy sheriff positions to the Patrol Division, and four deputy sheriff positions to the Security Division. In 2023, 43 POST-certified recruits graduated from our Regional Training Academy, three of which were guests from our surrounding partner agencies. We are grateful for the collaborative effort our neighboring agencies have adopted, entrusting the training and development of their new peace officers in the Pikes Peak region. From detentions, we saw a landmark criminal case when 27-year-old female was found guilty of two charges, stemming from her introduction of drugs in the jail. Our investigations team was successful in securing the necessary evidence, and ultimately, the defendant was sentenced to 28 years behind bars. Additionally, in 2023 we reopened and upgraded the Veteran's Ward, adding several new community partners, and went through the process of securing a new medical provider beginning January of 2024.

Internally, we focused on improving communication, developing leadership, increasing training, updating equipment, and overall wellness for our staff, professional and sworn. We also embraced a regional training

mindset, hosting regional schools for the Mounted Unit, K9 Unit, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), Special Response Team (SRT), and Teen

Academy. Additionally, we hosted a nationally attended FBI LEEDA (Law Enforcement Development Association) Supervisory Institute course. Outward focusing, we have made great progress when it comes to telling our story and developing strong, collaborative partnerships with the community we serve.

Throughout 2023, members of our Office participated in over 200 community events. These events included town halls, touch-a-trucks, non-profit luncheons, presentations to various chambers of commerce and industry groups, Badges and Books, Shop with a Cop, and more. More than ever, we showed up for families, businesses, and those most vulnerable in the Pikes Peak region. We also expanded the El Paso County Sheriff's Office Mounted Unit, committing our services to various events such as the Western Street Breakfast, Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo, El Paso County Fair, Homeless camp clean ups, article and missing person searches, and several local celebratory parades.

As your Sheriff, I remain committed to our strategic plan and developing the future leadership and overall wellness of our Office. It is the honor of my life to lead this amazing agency and to witness the achievements and development we have had in one year.

2023 puts us on an upward trajectory, **our future is bright**, and I look forward to continuing our mission to be the best law enforcement agency in Colorado.

Thank you for all your hard work; I am grateful to work together for our community and our EPSO family!



Joseph J. Roybal
29th Sheriff of El Paso County, Colorado





STRATEGIC PILLARS

We are thrilled to share with you our four simple, yet powerful, strategic pillars which drive our agency's strategic plan. These pillars are the guiding principles which shape our vision, strategy, and daily operations. We believe it is important to communicate these pillars to you, as they demonstrate our commitment to providing exceptional services and creating a positive impact. These four strategic pillars serve as the compass that guides our actions and decisions. We believe by aligning ourselves with these principles, we can better serve you and achieve shared success. Our commitment to these pillars is unwavering, and we are dedicated to continuously improving and adapting to meet evolving needs of the community.



COMMUNITY TRUST

Increase community trust through improved communications and transparency

- 1.1 Foster community partnerships and outreach
- 1.2 Proactive internal and external communication and highlights of the positive results of community coalitions
- 1.3 Build and strengthen community coalitions across government, academia, business and non-profits to develop strategies to lessen the occurrence and impact of community degrading social issues to include behavioral health, fentanyl abuse, traffic fatalities, violent crime, suicide, and homelessness



REDUCE VICTIMS

Reduce the number of crime victims in the community

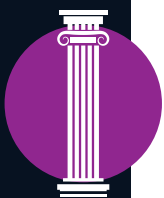
- 2.1 Make data driven decisions
- 2.2 Work collaboratively towards the model of Community Mental Health
- 2.3 Maximize the use of Jail Based Behavioral Health Services (JBBS)



QUALITY SERVICE

Improve the quality of service provided to the citizens with a qualified and engaged workforce dedicated to continuous improvement

- 3.1 Recruit and retain high quality employees
- 3.2 Actively seek feedback and apply it toward continual improvements
- 3.3 Coordinate with partner agencies to provide efficient and effective services to the community



LEGISLATION

Proactively support responsible legislation and work to combat legislation which is bad for public safety and contrary to a healthy and safe community

- 4.1 Actively monitor proposed legislation and analyze for potential impacts
- 4.2 Take a proactive role in speaking out for responsible legislation that enhances safety and against legislation that is contrary to a safe community
- 4.3 Take a proactive role in the introduction and authoring of responsible community safety focused legislation
- 4.4 Gather and provide data regarding the impacts of public safety related legislation and proposed legislation

COMMAND STAFF

EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Joseph J. Roybal
SHERIFF



Jeff Kramer
UNDERSHERIFF



Scott Deno
BUREAU CHIEF



Andy James
BUREAU CHIEF



Andrew Prehm
BUREAU CHIEF



Raymond Bernier
COMMANDER



Eric Carnell
COMMANDER



Cy Gillespie
COMMANDER



Chris Gonzalez
COMMANDER



Lari Hanenberg
COMMANDER



David Manzanilla
COMMANDER

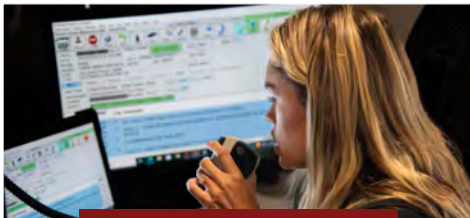


Mitch Mihalko
COMMANDER



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Dear EPSO Family,

The team at Code-4 Counseling is proud of its ongoing partnership with the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. In 2023, we introduced our dedicated team of counselors to support the mental well-being of our community's public safety professionals and their families.

At Code-4, our mission is clear: deliver specialized and empathetic mental health care to emergency responders, healthcare workers, and their families. We understand the unique challenges our public safety professionals face each day and how these demands impact personal, family, and professional growth. That is why we strive to bridge the gap between the profession's demands and how it affects our mental and personal well-being.

Our comprehensive services include individual, couples, and family counseling and critical incident response tailored specifically to EPSO personnel. We provide a confidential, safe, and supportive environment where our counselors can help you navigate life and professional challenges through facilitated strategic discussions. Several of our counselors are active or former public safety professionals with first-hand knowledge and experience regarding the challenges this work can create. In other words, one can say they've been there and done that.

Moreover, we recognize the importance of wellness training for first responders and their families. Proactive personal and professional development are essential components to empower and help manage stress, as well as cultivate personal and professional resilience.

In high-stress professions like emergency services, military service, and healthcare, prioritizing mental wellness is an absolute must. Which is why our team at Code-4 leverages decades of experience in mental health care to develop effective and customizable mental wellness programs tailored to the needs of EPSO employees and their families. Proactive attention to mental wellness plays an important role in helping to increase job satisfaction, reduce turnover, and enhance retention rates. Even more important, it can help to bring greater understanding and satisfaction to family health.

The unique partnership between Code-4 and EPSO is an unprecedented approach in Colorado law enforcement. EPSO's quest to build a solid foundation of resilience which fosters a healthier and more supportive work environment benefits all.

To the EPSO employees, thank you for what you do every day to help make our community safer and more livable. Know that we are here for you and look forward to the opportunity to support you however we can. All you need to do is ask.



Sincerely,

Nick Metz
COO & LPCC
Code-4 Counseling
www.code4counseling.com





ADMINISTRATIVE

ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT BUREAU

SERVICES

DIVISION

SUPPORT

DIVISION



EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ADMIN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

TRAINING SECTION

For the El Paso County Sheriff's Office (EPSO) Training Section, the year 2023 reintroduced Colorado Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) requirements for all sworn personnel. At Sheriff Roybal's direction, three POST academies were completed, in addition to the continuation of one non-certified academy which began in 2022, for a total of 103 recruits trained in accordance with state standards. In addition to the reimplementation of POST certification of all recruits, Sheriff Roybal adopted a Regional Training Academy model, with EPSO training six Teller County deputies, one Monument police officer, one Fountain Police officer, and two Fremont County deputies spread across the three POST Academies.

In addition to POST Basic Academies, the EPSO Training Section is tasked with ensuring all sworn and professional staff employees are trained annually. POST mandates at least 24 hours of training every year for our sworn, 12 hours of which must be Firearms, Driving, and Arrest Control related. The EPSO Training Section also trains County Security personnel and others from the 4th Judicial District Attorney's Office. The Training Section hosts the annual Supervisory In-service and Initial Leadership Training for newly promoted and prospective leaders within the Office, both sworn and professional staff. While the primary mission is to train EPSO employees above established standards, the Training Section also hosts outside entities to train personnel from other agencies. EPSO hosted an FBI-LEEDA Supervisory Institute course, along with Glock Armorer, Rifle Armorer, and Firearms Instructor courses.

The Training Section is responsible for ensuring state mandates are met via online training which we disseminate through our training portal. This year, five certifications were published through the portal for line-level and seven for supervisors.



TRAINING SECTION STATISTICS

TOTAL TRAINING HOURS	4,416
Academy	2,232
Detention Specific	264
Sworn	240
Professional Staff	24
In-Service	1,904
Sworn	1,740
Professional Staff	104
Supervisory	60
Initial Leadership Training	80
Hosted Training	168



BACKGROUND UNIT

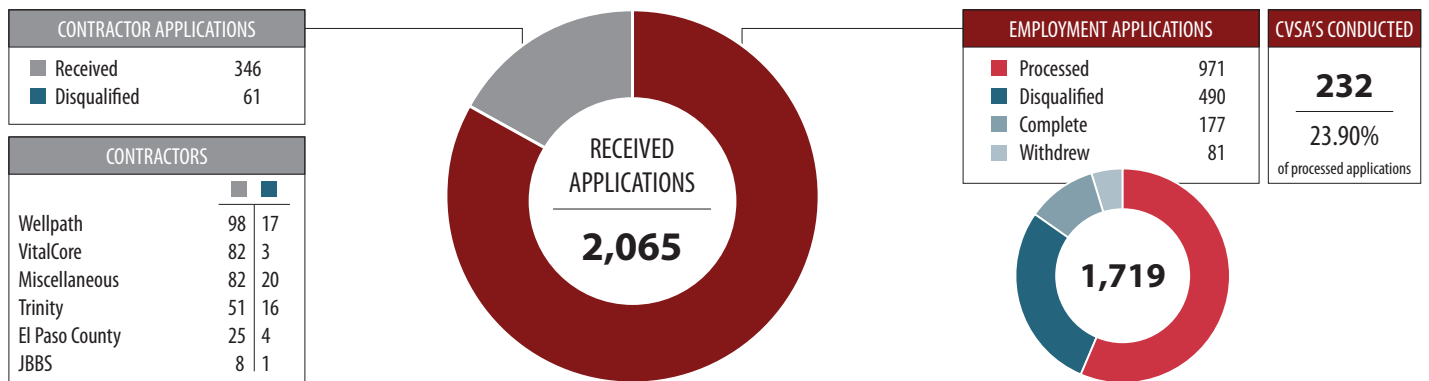
The Administrative Services Division comprises several units, including the Background/Recruiting Unit, Volunteer Coordinator, Accreditation Unit, and Human Resources Liaison. Additionally, under Sheriff Roybal's leadership and vision to enhance staffing, a Recruiting Sergeant has been reintroduced to attract high-quality candidates for various positions within the Office. The Background/Recruiting Unit consists of a manager, a sergeant, and six full-time investigators. The number of investigators increased from 2022's four full-time and one part-time investigator. During his first term in Office, Sheriff Roybal transitioned several background investigator positions from sworn to professional staff through attrition. With this transition, the unit currently has three sworn investigators, with one core position, and three professional staff investigators. The unit is responsible for processing all sworn applications, ensuring each application undergoes a thorough review to confirm candidates meet the minimum qualifications for advancement to the written testing phase, which is coordinated and carried out by the entire team.

In addition to application reviews and testing for sworn applicants, the Background/Recruiting Unit conducts background checks and truth

verification examinations for all sworn personnel, professional staff, volunteer, and contractor candidates as well as outside agencies, when requested.

All members of the unit are involved with the Ancillary Recruiting Team. The Ancillary Recruiting Team's efforts, combined with the return of the POST academies, will continue to increase and improve our applicant pool in numbers and quality. Our Recruiting team attends job fairs, career days, and participates in seminars and discussions, giving the community insight into the El Paso County Sheriff's Office and the rewarding careers it offers.

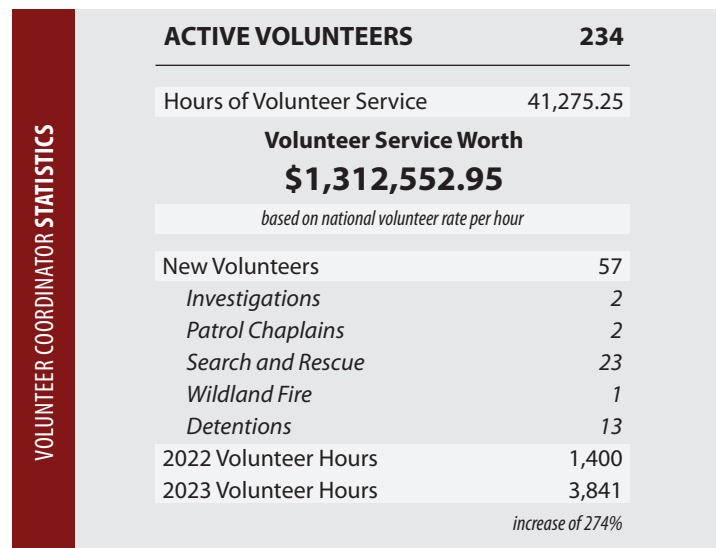
In 2023, the Background Unit received and processed a total of 1719 applications, consisting of sworn staff, professional staff, volunteers, and interns. In addition to those applications, the Unit processed 346 contractor backgrounds for various sections of the Office, conducted 232 truth verification examinations, conducted three, in-person testing cycles, two online testing cycles, and several in-house testing cycles for the position of Deputy Recruit, Certified.



VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office volunteer program consists of members from the community who have not only demonstrated a willingness to maintain a high quality of life in the region but work side by side with deputies and professional staff to provide public safety and build community trust.

The Law Enforcement Bureau received two investigations volunteers and two patrol chaplains. The Law Enforcement Operations Division received 23 search & rescue members, and one wild land fire member. The Administrative Management Bureau received two range volunteers. The Detention Bureau received 13 volunteers including five inmate programs volunteers and nine detention chaplains. These new additions provided an increase in new volunteer hours by 274% from 1,400 hours in 2022 to 3,841 hours in 2023, demonstrating a strong focus on quality of service by amplifying qualified and engaged support through the volunteer force.





ADMIN SUPPORT

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT DIVISION

EVIDENCE UNIT

The Evidence Unit maintains the integrity, storage, preservation, and release or disposal of evidence and property taken into the custody of the Office. This unit provides a service to the members of the community and plays an important role in the successful prosecution of criminal cases. This unit is integral in our commitment to hold offenders accountable and help reduce crime.

In 2023, the Evidence Unit received 10,941 items, including 320 impounded vehicles. Due to a change in the Evidence Custodian, an audit of nearly 900 items was completed and resulted in a 100% compliance rate. The long-awaited incinerator project was completed, which resulted in 1,603 drug items being destroyed. In total, 7,584 items were destroyed in 2023.

EVIDENCE UNIT STATISTICS	EVIDENCE RECEIVED		10,941			
	Assist Outside Agency	572	Financial Crimes	429	Safekeeping	384
	Assault / Menacing	713	Homicide	1,080	Sex Offenses	1,075
	Attempted Murder	341	Introduction of Contraband (Jail)	70	Suicide / Attempted Suicide	204
	Burglary / Attempted Burglary	911	Items for Destruction	465	Theft / Attempted Theft	454
	Death	213	Motor Vehicle Theft	497	Warrant Service	140
	Domestic Violence	251	OIS / DFIT / LDFIT	503	Weapons Offenses	98
	Drug Offense	532	Other - Criminal	1,121	EVIDENCE DESTROYED	7,584
	DUI/DUID	243	Other - Non-Criminal	250	Drugs	1,603
	Found Property	291	Robbery	104		

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

The Communications Center answers emergent (911) and non-emergent telephone calls for unincorporated El Paso County, the United States Air Force Academy, and several municipalities within the County. The Communications Center is the primary dispatch center for eight law enforcement agencies and 20 fire departments. This section is the heart of emergency services and provides an invaluable asset as the “first” of the first responders to an emergency.

In 2023, the Communications Center processed over 87,200 emergency 911 calls, answered over 121,500 administrative calls and placed over 72,100 outbound telephone calls to assist citizens in El Paso County. In addition, text-to-911 services allowed 468 people to access 911. In line with the National Emergency Number Association’s published standards, the average 911 call answer time was 7.12 seconds resulting in 91.53% of 911 calls being answered in under 15 seconds. In May, the Communications Center added technology to automatically receive alarm notifications from 13+ alarm monitoring companies. This technology was used to process over 2500 alarm notifications, freeing personnel to handle

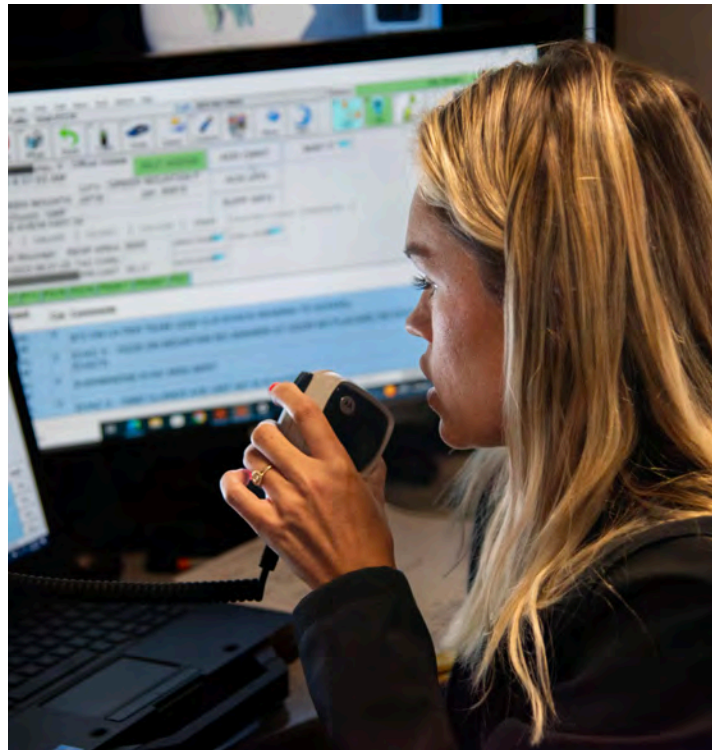
additional duties. In addition, the Communications Center processed nearly 270,000 calls for service (law, fire, and medical combined). The Tactical Dispatch Unit (TDU) is available to all dispatched agencies. In 2023, TDU was deployed on fifty-four operations for a total of 198 hours.

Through continued partnerships with area public safety agencies, the Communications Center has been able to provide a high quality of service. Intergovernmental agreements allow the dispatching of law enforcement, fire service, co-responder teams, and medical providers across jurisdictional boundaries, thus reducing response times and allowing for resource sharing. These same partnerships have allowed for Communications Center personnel to attend Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) throughout the year, improving the pre-arrival care of citizens in crisis.

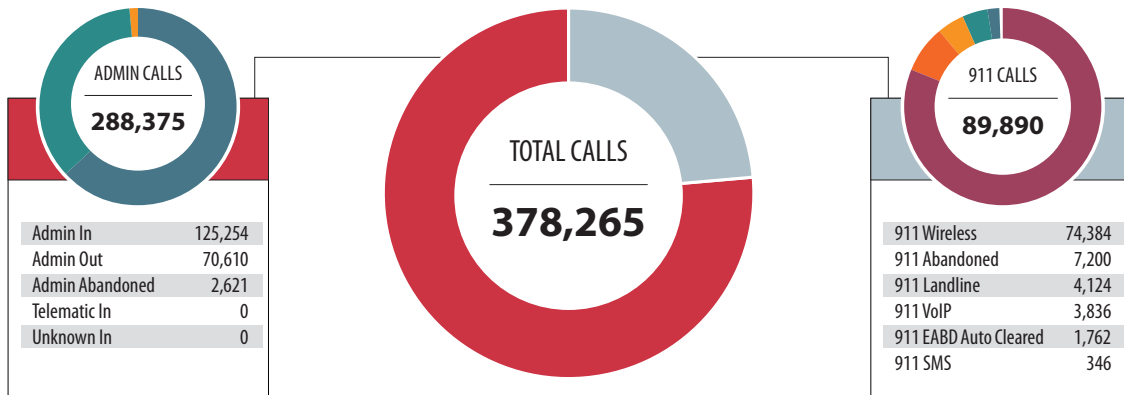
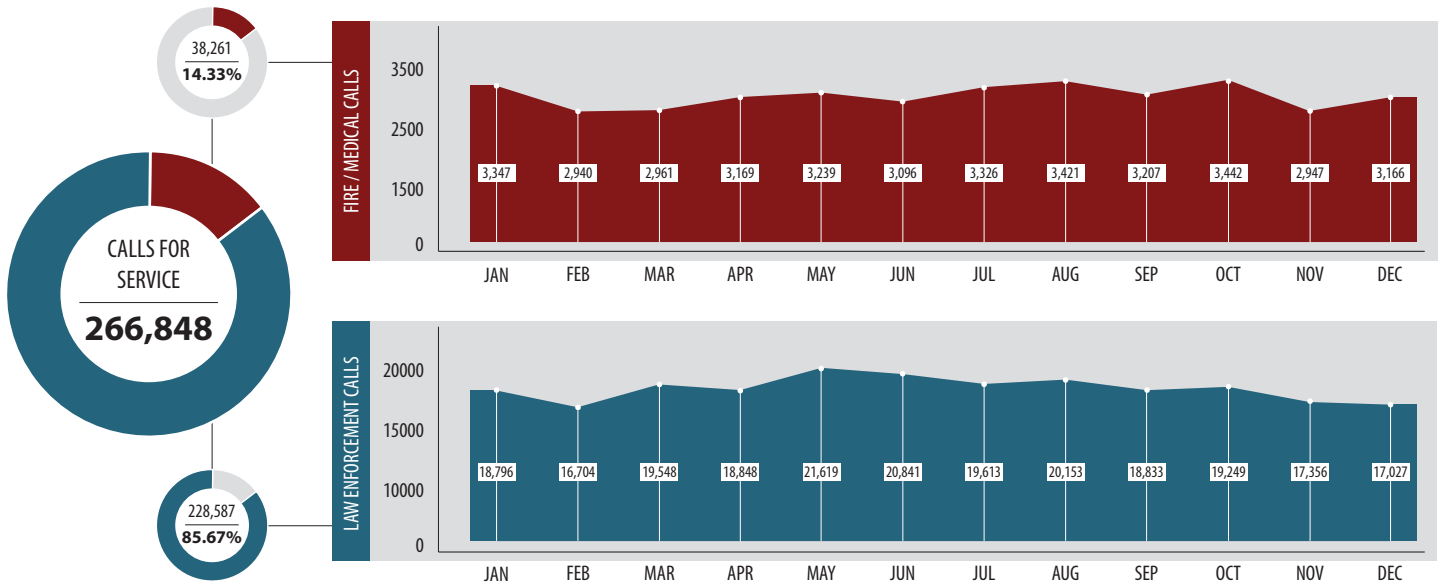
In our continued effort to foster community partnerships and outreach, the 911 Education Team provided 911 education and support through participation in Public Safety Field Days, completed visits to local



elementary schools to discuss the proper use of 911, and recognized and celebrated eight young 911 Heroes who contributed to the safety and well-being of others by appropriately calling 911. Members of the Communications Center provided dispatch tours and presentations to high school students interested in public safety careers and community groups. As a strategic partner with a local education cooperative, the Communications Center advised on programs focused on providing job training in preparation for employment in government and law enforcement. Additionally, the Communications Center and other members of the Sheriff's Office were fortunate enough to be able to volunteer at Boo at the Zoo again this year, providing a fun and safe environment for almost 18,000 members of our community.



Throughout the year, 11 Communications Center employees guided callers through childbirth; these employees were celebrated with a stork pin. Additionally, seven Communications Center employees were granted "911 Life Save" pins when medical pre-arrival instructions resulted in a confirmed life save. Dispatcher Alivia Gilman was recognized as the Telecommunicator of the 4th Quarter by the El Paso-Teller 911 Authority Board for her expert handling of a vehicle, occupied by multiple teenagers, stuck in flood waters. Throughout all of 2023, EMD-certified Communications Center employees met the rigorous requirements to maintain the International Academy of Emergency Dispatch Accredited Center of Excellence Accreditation.



TECHNOLOGY SERVICES SECTION

The Technology Services Section provides expert support in law enforcement business practices, critical infrastructure, and protection of sensitive information. This work group services every facet of the organization with technology and project support. Technology plays a pivotal role in fostering community trust and delivering high-quality service to all members of the community.

Throughout 2023, the group managed major infrastructure projects, minor technology projects, and vendor changes optimizing jail operations, increasing the security of infrastructure, and further securing sensitive information for the benefit of the agency and the citizens of El Paso County.

- **Medical Vendor Rollout:** *Technology Services provided hardware and 24x7 technical support for the new medical vendor to the jail. This is a significant investment necessary for the care of incarcerated citizens in our county.*
- **Telecom Vendor Move:** *The new Telecom vendor was chosen to provide inmate phones, tablets and support for the Video Visitation Center for the El Paso County Jail.*
- **Body Worn Camera Vendor Change:** *A new body worn camera vendor was chosen in the third quarter of 2023. Body worn cameras are an essential part of our commitment to transparency in government operations.*

- **Multifactor Authentication:** *In 2023, the Technology Services, in partnership with County IT, rolled out multifactor authentication for use with all Office products. The move would see 400 phone users brought into the system, along with 800 individual token users.*

Technology Services closed 15,612 total work orders. Standard Help Desk tickets covered the majority of the workload for the year, with 6,182 items worked. The Help Desk covers desktop imaging, keyboard, and mouse replacement, as well as general employee data requests. Access control, password resets, account logins, and software access would make the next largest work order number with 5,583 tickets. The Body Worn Camera program would additionally see an uptick in work for 2023, with 1,099 tickets being completed.

TECHNOLOGY SERVICES STATISTICS	TOTAL WORK ORDERS	15,612
	SOS Help Desk	
Access Control		5,583
Sheriff's Office Personnel		2,119
Body Worn Cameras		1,099
Radio		419
GTL Support		210

RECORDS & DOCUMENTS SECTION

CONCEALED HANDGUN PROGRAM

El Paso County has a proud history of protecting the Constitutional rights of every citizen. As one of the statutory mandates of the Sheriff, the Concealed Handgun Permit (CHP) program achieves a high level of quality service through a dedicated workforce committed to timely and effective management of over 53,000 concealed weapon permits in the county. The demand for new permits within El Paso County remained steady in 2023 with the receipt of over 4,500 new permit applications. CHP saw a 35% increase in renewals from last year, as the Office continues to manage the busiest CHP program within the state.

CHP STATISTICS		
	New Applications	
Renewal Applications		7,169
Suspension / Revocations / Denials		145
Appeals Approved		26
Appeals Denied		11



EXTRA DUTY PROGRAM

As part of our ongoing work in the community to provide dedicated and focused law enforcement and security functions, the Extra Duty program provides the community with the opportunity to contract law enforcement professionals for specific event and location duties. The program is managed by EPSO personnel and executed through a third-party vendor. During 2023, the Extra Duty program saw an evolution in the program, clearly defining the assignments and qualifications of the employees working in each position based on the requirements of the job.

Additionally, the Office started offering overtime-rate job postings at the request of the customer. To round out the year, an updated new and annual training program is being developed for launch in January of 2024.

STATISTICS

Extra Duty Jobs	434
Extra Duty Customers	25

RECORDS UNIT

Members of the Records Unit are responsible for maintaining the vital documentation of law enforcement actions. The service provided to the community reaches far beyond the daily tasks of maintaining these records. Specialized training and experience are necessary to appropriately address open records and criminal justice records requests, fulfill court-ordered case sealings and expungements, process citations, and ensure complete and accurate cases are submitted to the District Attorney’s Office for filing of criminal charges. The Records Unit provides exemplary service to the community and is an important part of our commitment to increasing community trust and transparent government.

Registration program, directing the public to our Civil Office, or providing information for records requests or citation payments, our CSRs always provide phenomenal customer service.

RECORDS UNIT STATISTICS

Filings	3,306
Completed Records Requests	7,147
Sealings & Expungements	7,466
Cases Merged	16,731
<i>includes all case reports and arrest reports</i>	
Supplements Merged	11,305
Backgrounds Checks	2,452
CBI Stat Entry Hours	503
Sealings & Expungements Hours	1,492
<i>more than twice as many hours than 2022</i>	
Body Worn Camera Redaction Hours	254
Front Desk Phone Calls	12,768
Front Desk Visitors	16,911

Includes all front desk interactions (Concealed Handgun Permits, Sex Offender Registration, Volunteers, records release requests, Investigations, walk-ins, impounds, subpoenas, report filing, and Civil).

This year saw the transition of Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) duties to the Records Unit, as well as responses to an extraordinary number of requests following the convictions in the Gannon Stauch homicide, the Kara Nichols homicide, and other high-profile cases. The release technicians work diligently to ensure the agency provides the public with the records requested while ensuring the privacy of victims. With the help of several modified duty deputies and temporarily assigned dispatch employees, the unit completed the sealing and expungement of over 7,000 orders. Our Customer Service Representatives (CSR) at the front desk of the Office of the Sheriff engaged with almost 17,000 visitors. Whether checking the visitor in for an appointment with our Concealed Handgun Permit program, addressing questions about our Sex Offender





LAW ENFORCEMENT

LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

PATROL

DIVISION

INVESTIGATIONS

DIVISION

OPERATIONS

DIVISION



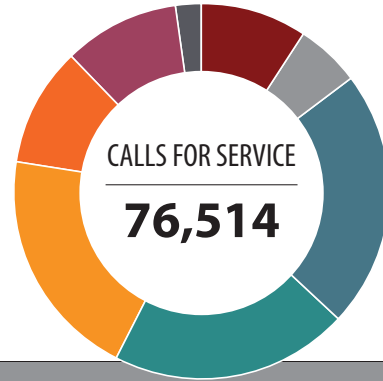
EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



PATROL SECTION

The area covered by the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Patrol Division is larger than the state of Rhode Island and the population in unincorporated areas of the county has exploded to over 280,000 citizens. Over 2,100 square miles of geography, a rapidly growing population, and increased call volume make the patrol function in El Paso County challenging. Patrol deputies logged over 76,000 calls for service and completed over 7,400 case reports. One of Sheriff Roybal’s priorities has been the recruiting and retention of a qualified and engaged workforce. Patrol welcomed and trained seven new members in 2023 and will bring on additional team members throughout 2024. Our focus will always be on continuous improvement, in both technical proficiency and community engagement. The Patrol Division will continue this focus in 2024, improving the quality of service we provide on every shift 24/7/365.

As just one example of building trust and quality service, Deputy A. Aguayo was recognized in 2023 for his interactions with youth at a high-risk treatment home in the county. Many of the young men at the facility experienced tremendous hardships in childhood and negative experiences involving law enforcement. Deputy Aguayo worked particularly hard to build bridges and maintain relationships. He allowed them to feel heard and safe around law enforcement which helped the treatment make drastic, positive changes in behaviors. Deputy Aguayo was honored with the Brad Barton Award for Service. This is just one example of the effort made by the Patrol Division to serve the community in which we live.



DISTRICT	2022	2023	DIFFERENCE
District 1	6,988	7,116	128 ▲ 1.83%
District 2	3,671	4,271	600 ▲ 16.34%
District 3	15,654	17,025	1,371 ▲ 8.76%
District 4	14,252	15,723	1,471 ▲ 10.32%
District 5	13,531	15,215	1,684 ▲ 12.45%
District 6	7,546	7,902	356 ▲ 4.72%
District 7	7,115	7,604	489 ▲ 6.87%
District 8	1,557	1,658	101 ▲ 6.49%
TOTAL	70,414	76,514	6,200 ▲ 8.82%



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER UNIT

The School Resource Officer Unit of the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office works in schools throughout unincorporated areas of El Paso County, with a combined student population of around 35,000 across various schools. The unit is comprised of ten SROs, assigned to 16 high schools and middle schools.

Recognizing the vital role of SROs in educational institutions, EPSO is dedicated to creating a secure learning environment and providing the highest quality of service in county schools. The aim is to offer valuable resources to school staff, foster positive relationships with youth, develop strategies to address youth-related issues and ensure the protection of all students, enabling them to achieve their full potential. The primary roles of the school resource officers encompass law enforcement, informal counseling/mentoring, mental health evaluation, and education. The dedication to quality of service demonstrated by the SROs extends beyond the classroom. SROs actively participate in additional initiatives like the Teen Academy, Books and Badges, and Student 2 Student. Additionally, they conduct classes related to their responsibilities, such as Civics and Constitutional Rights, building trust and relationships with students.

SROs also play a crucial role in addressing illicit activities like drugs, sexting, assaults, or bullying within schools. Instead of resorting to immediate arrest, they employ alternative measures such as restorative justice using Forge Evolution, diversion, or even having the troubled students perform community service within the school itself. These practices have helped with reducing victims and eliminating students reoffending. The SRO, identified as the most trusted adult at school, becomes an asset not only to the Sheriff’s Office but also to the broader school community.

SRO STATISTICS	Calls for Service	4,095
	Cases	517
	Felony Arrests	24
	Misdemeanor Arrests	197
	Drug / Alcohol Cases	115
	Weapons Cases	11
	Threat / Risk Assessments	134
	Mediations / Counselings	1,130
	SAFE2TELL	856



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONNECT UNIT - BHCON

The El Paso County co-responder program is a collaborative approach bringing together mental health clinicians and law enforcement professionals to respond to crises involving mental health challenges. The initiative aims to enhance the overall safety and well-being of communities by providing a more compassionate response to mental health situations. In such programs, mental health experts accompany law enforcement officers to crisis scenes, offering their specialized skills to de-escalate, assess individual mental health needs, and connect citizens with appropriate resources. Co-responder programs also reduce the reliance on incarceration for individuals with mental health issues. Instead, the focus shifts towards a more holistic and therapeutic approach, ensuring individuals receive the care they need.

Most notably this year, this collaboration has extended its reach by partnering with Pikes Peak Suicide Prevention to educate the community about lethal means restriction strategies, further enhancing its impact and effectiveness. This collaborative model ultimately promotes community

well-being and breaks the cycle of repeated encounters with the criminal justice system for individuals with mental health issues.

BHCON UNIT STATISTICS	Mental Health Related 911 Calls	4,178
	BHCON Responses	813
	<i>Suicide / Check the Welfare Related</i>	71%
	Individuals Served by BHCON	836
	<i>Patients Treated in Place</i>	56%
	<i>Patients Placed on Involuntary Holds</i>	6%
	<i>Patients Diverted from the ER</i>	91%
	<i>Patients Diverted from the Jail</i>	99%
	Referrals	346
	Client Follow-up Attempts	934
	Law Enforcement Units Released	627



COMMUNITY SERVICE SPECIALIST UNIT - CSS

Members of the CSS Unit augment patrol deputies for calls designated as “cold” rather than in-progress calls. Through their investigative efforts, the CSS team can develop suspect information which is later transferred to a deputy for additional follow-up as needed. This program allows the Sheriff’s Office to provide an in-person interaction for calls which in other jurisdictions would have to be reported online.

In 2023, the Community Service Specialist Unit welcomed two new members to continue the tradition of quality service to the citizens of El Paso County. The unit experienced a very busy year responding to 1381 calls for service and taking 556 cases.



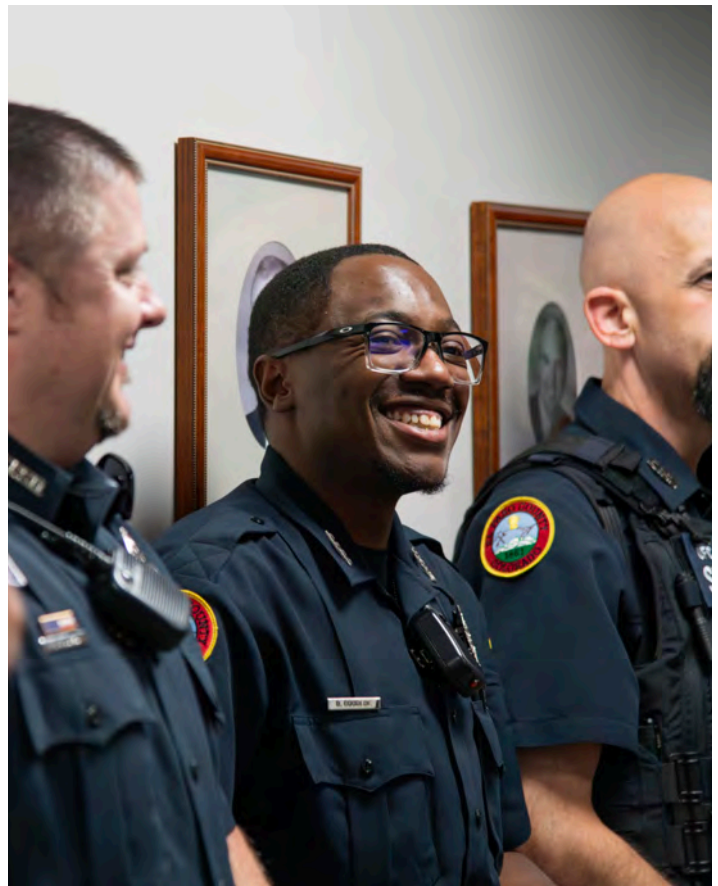
COUNTY SECURITY SECTION

The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office County Security Section is responsible for the physical security of 15 county buildings and 30 county parks encompassing 8,000 acres and over 154 miles of trails. The section is comprised of a lieutenant, three sergeants, 41 armed security officers, four access control officers, and four parks officers.

Throughout 2023, County Security has continued to add training opportunities. Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) was identified as a priority due to the huge increase in the number of citizens passing through county buildings, and the increasing number of homeless persons in and around the county facilities. In 2023, there were over 640,000 visitors to the El Paso County Courthouse alone. Forty-four percent of the armed security officers are now currently CIT certified. Parks officer’s hours were extended by creating a swing shift which now provides coverage to the county parks 15 hours a day. This change has led to a significant decline in vandalism and other illegal activities occurring within county parks.

At the El Paso County Courthouse, X-ray scanners and metal detectors began to break down regularly due to the age of the equipment. A critical need for new equipment was identified and three new Smiths X-ray scanners and new metal detectors were purchased in 2023. The new machines allowed a quicker processing time into the courthouse and accuracy in weapon identification increased tremendously.

Working with the County Facilities Department and other stakeholders, County Security was a major participant in the development and design of the new panic alarm system linking all county buildings together under





SPECIALIZED ENFORCEMENT SECTION

TACTICAL SUPPORT GROUP - TSG

The Tactical Support Group (TSG) is comprised of multiple units including Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), Crisis Negotiators (CNU), Tactical Emergency Medics (TEMS), Tactical Dispatchers (TDU), Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), Tactical Vehicle Operators (TVO), K9, and Designated Marksmen. The TSG works together to safely resolve high-risk critical incidents in the community. In 2023, the group deployed on 65 missions including high-risk search warrant service, barricaded suspects, barricaded suspects with hostages, dignitary protection missions, high-risk suspect apprehensions, manhunts, and both covert and high-visibility event security.

SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS - SWAT

The SWAT Team is an ancillary duty team comprised of 21 deputies from throughout the Law Enforcement Bureau. The mission of the team is to provide specialized support in handling critical field operations where special tactical deployment methods are required to resolve incidents beyond the capacity of standard patrol operations. The team works closely with other specialized units including K9, TDU, CNU, and EOD. The team also supports multiple other regional law enforcement agencies lacking this response capability.

In 2023, the team established an energetic breaching program, which allows further capability in hostage rescue situations and similar critical operations. The team of three trained breachers can utilize explosives to breach doors and gain entry into a structure quickly while also reducing the exposure to threats by team members.



CANINE UNIT - K9

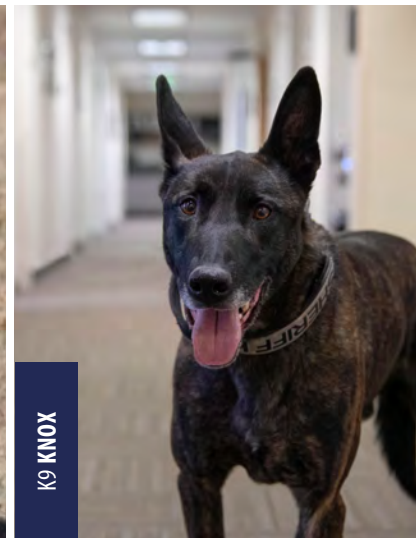
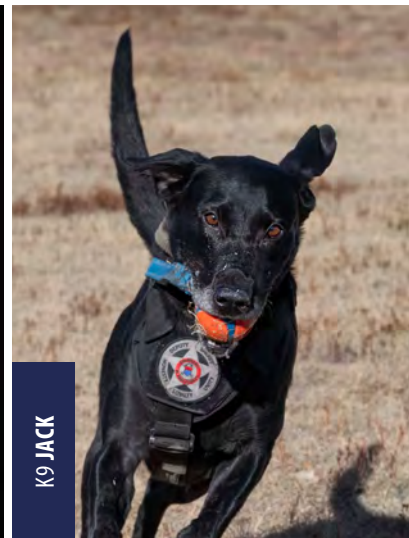
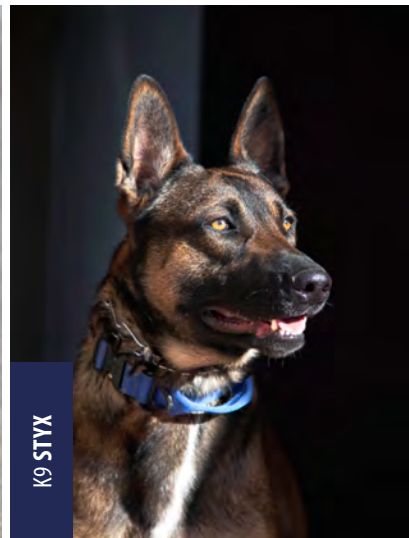
The K9 Unit is comprised of three full-time deputies, one ancillary duty deputy, and their canine partners. The unit has two dual-purpose dogs who are trained in criminal apprehension and odor searches and two single-purpose dogs who specialize in odor-based searches. The unit supports patrol operations, jail operations, investigations, and school resource officer operations. In 2023, the team had 37 patrol deployments, 165 detentions deployments, 75 school deployments, and 12 tactical deployments.

The unit celebrated the addition of two new dogs in 2023, including Dex and Styx. In addition, Taz, a long-standing member of the unit retired this year. The unit increased its presence in the community by assisting regional school districts with drug searches and working hand in hand with detentions staff to eliminate drugs being brought into the jail. The unit began the process of improving its training center to include one of

the most advanced K9 agility training fields in the State of Colorado. This facility will allow the Office to host advanced training for its partners throughout the region.

In 2023, with the endorsement of Sheriff Roybal, the Colorado State Legislature approved Jinx’s Law, which increases penalties for the injury or killing of police animals working in their law enforcement capacity. This law was written in response to the line-of-duty death of EPSO K9 Jinx, in April 2022.

K9 STATISTICS	Patrol Deployments	37
	Detention Deployments	165
	School Deployments	75
	Tactical Deployments	12



REGIONAL FUGITIVE UNIT - RFU

EPSO participates in the Regional Fugitive Unit which specializes in the location and apprehension of high-risk fugitives from both regional and nationwide criminal investigations. The unit modified its working group in 2023 from being attached to the US Marshal’s Office into a Metro unit specifically tasked with the apprehension of regional fugitives. This change allows the unit to focus on the removal of dangerous criminals from the community. In 2023, the unit apprehended 319 dangerous fugitives wanted on violent felony charges, 23 of whom were wanted in connection to criminal investigations in unincorporated El Paso County.

EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE & DISPOSAL UNIT - EOD

The Explosive Ordnance and Disposal Unit, more commonly referred to as the Bomb Squad, is a team of two highly trained deputies working with regional partners and are dedicated to assisting agencies throughout the area in dealing with problems including unexploded ordnance, illegal explosive devices, suspicious packages, arson investigations, and significant critical incidents. In 2023, the unit became fully staffed with two full-time certified bomb technicians. The unit responded to numerous regional calls for service including 22 in support of Tactical Support Group operations, 13 calls requiring a bomb dog, and four explosive devices.

CRISIS NEGOTIATIONS UNIT - CNU

The Crisis Negotiations Unit (CNU), commonly known as Hostage Negotiators, is an ancillary team of 17 deputies and three sergeants specializing in communications, negotiations, and intelligence gathering. The primary responsibility of CNU is the safe resolution of critical incidents through communications and negotiations with suspects. The unit only deploys with the SWAT Team to provide negotiations with suspects. The team also specializes in intelligence gathering and will often assume this role when negotiations are not necessary.

In 2023, the unit added a new communications system specifically designed to safely enhance negotiations with barricaded suspects. The new system streamlines communication and allows tactical commanders to observe the communications in real time. This addition allows for expedited information delivery and a better decision-making platform for the tactical commander.

MOUNTED UNIT

The Mounted Unit is a team of thirteen deputies and one sergeant who are assigned as an ancillary duty to their regular posting. The unit also has a professional staff barn manager who maintains the facilities, horses, and equipment. The unit has four horses assigned with many team members providing their own horses. The unit's responsibilities include Mounted Honor Guard, community outreach, law enforcement patrols of county parks and open spaces, area searches, manhunts, and civil disturbance/riot control operations. The unit hosted the inaugural Regional Mounted Unit Academy, graduating 11 new certified mounted officers and deputies, as

well as two newly certified horses. EPSO plans on hosting this training bi-annually for agencies across the region. In honor of El Paso County's western heritage, the unit received significant support from Sheriff Roybal in 2023 and has been able to increase the number of team members as well as its presence in the community. The unit can be seen at significant community events such as the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo or the El Paso County Fair and can be found patrolling El Paso County parks such as the Pinery and Section 16.



SPECIALIZED PATROL UNIT - SPU

In 2023, Sheriff Roybal reorganized the Specialized Patrol Unit (SPU) from the former Rural Enforcement and Outreach Unit to better serve the community as a team dedicated to resolving unique problems throughout the region. SPU is a team of four deputies and one sergeant who specializes in significant domestic animal investigations, illegal marijuana cultivation investigations, homeless outreach and enforcement, pattern crimes, and the dismantling of criminal organizations. The team spent the majority of 2023 supporting operations in the Patrol Division and investigating illegal marijuana cultivation. In 2023, the team located and dismantled the largest illegal marijuana grow encountered by the Office including the seizure of over 1700 plants, 400 pounds of refined Marijuana, five pounds of marijuana concentrate, and a handgun.

BEAR VEHICLE DRIVERS

Drivers of the Ballistically Engineered Armored Response (BEAR) vehicle are ancillary assigned deputies and a sergeant coordinator who drive the vehicle on missions to provide the SWAT Team a safe platform from which to deploy. The 30,000-pound vehicle is rifle-rated and equipped to respond in all weather conditions. The vehicle was purchased through a federal grant and will occasionally respond to assist other agencies in the region.

The vehicle deploys to most tactical missions and is often seen in the community at parades or similar community events so the citizens can better understand the benefit this vehicle brings to El Paso County.



TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT UNIT - TEU

TEU is comprised of five deputies and one sergeant dedicated to improving traffic safety in El Paso County. This mission is accomplished through targeted enforcement, response to citizen concerns, DUI enforcement, and community outreach and education programs. In 2023, the unit remained with limited staffing due to the need to support patrol operations. Even with a team of one deputy and one sergeant, the unit issued 3892 citations and made 102 DUI arrests through regular and grant-funded enforcement efforts. The unit participated in several SURGE enforcement programs

with other regional agencies to provide intense, high-visibility enforcement in areas prone to significant traffic violations, crashes, and fatalities.

The unit added a new “The Heat is On” DUI car outfitted with the newest technology from Motorola including advanced camera systems, radar, and E-ticketing. These improvements will help the unit better serve the community through advanced evidence-gathering and expedited service.



CIVIL UNIT

The Civil Unit, a statutorily required service of the Sheriff's Office, is dedicated to serving orders from the 4th Judicial District Courts as well as orders from other jurisdictions. These orders include but are not limited to Writs of Restitution (also known as an eviction), Protection Orders, Writs of Assistance, Court Summons, Orders of Possession, and Sheriff's Sales. The team is comprised of seven deputies, one sergeant, three professional staff, and a paralegal. In 2023, the Civil Unit received 9594 court orders including 2,692 evictions, a 14% increase from 2022 and a 50% increase over 2021. After a lengthy COVID moratorium, the courts returned to normal operations in late 2022, and continued through 2023, especially in the service of Writs of Restitution. The number of these court orders is steadily increasing to well above pre-COVID levels.

LANGUAGE SERVICES VOLUNTEER UNIT - LSVU

The Language Services Volunteer Unit (LSVU) is a combination of professional staff and volunteers who provide translation and interpreting services for the Sheriff's Office as its members engage with the citizens and visitors of El Paso County. LSVU provides onsite and phone interpretation, translation of documents, and video or audio recordings. The unit works with the Jail, Patrol, Investigations, Victims' Advocates, the Tactical Support Group, and any area needing these services.

The unit includes nine civilian members who provide translation and interpretation services in Spanish, French, Kriol, Korean, and Arabic/Farsi. Other languages (Cantonese, Polish, German, Thai) are available in limited situations. This service allows the Office to better serve the community by eliminating the language barriers which typically reduce an agency's effectiveness in serving the community.

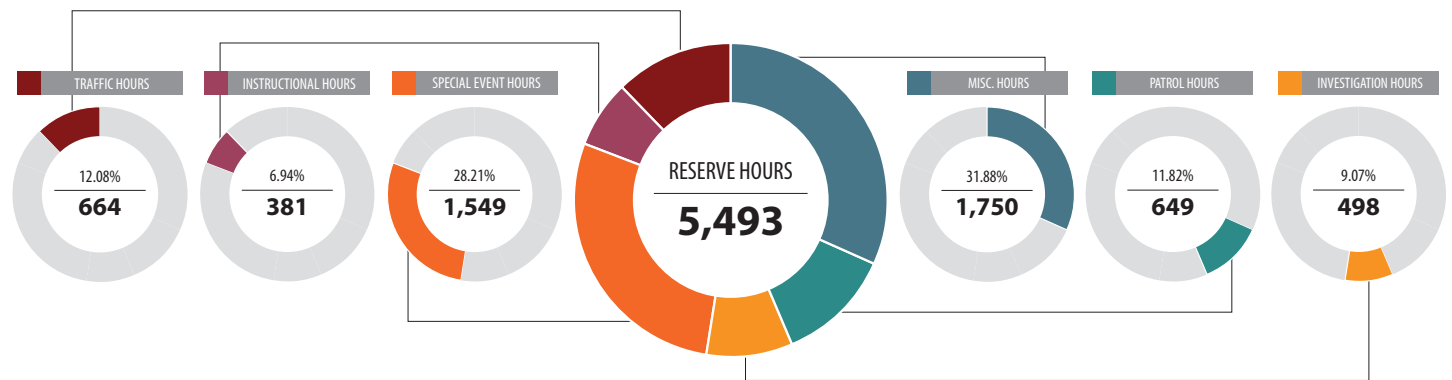
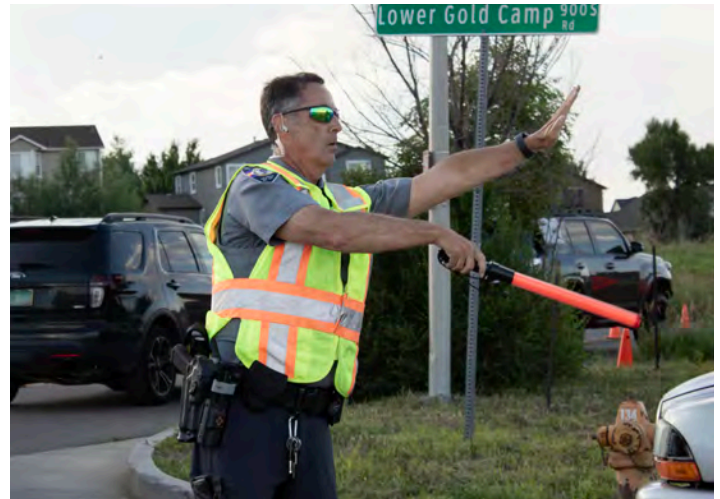
CHAPLAIN UNIT

The Chaplain Services Unit, which has been serving the Office since 1995, is comprised of eight volunteer chaplains of varying religious denominations. The unit's mission is to provide support to the community during significant events and all personnel with the Office. The unit provides an on-call chaplain, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, who will respond to requests for assistance by staff or the community in times of need. In 2023, team members provided 9715 hours of support to the Office including services such as death notifications, family support after traumatic incidents, prayer services, and presence at community events. In 2023, the unit lost Chaplain Ed Hoepner, who passed away on December 1st after a lengthy illness. Chaplain Hoepner served the Office as a volunteer for over 24 years, starting in 1999, as a radio specialist with the Special Communications Unit. Chaplain Hoepner also volunteered with the Citizens Emergency Response Team. Chaplain Hoepner was dedicated to serving the community with his talents and skills. He will be missed.

RESERVE UNIT

The Reserve Unit is a group of volunteer POST-certified deputies who support functions throughout the community for Sheriff Roybal. These events include law enforcement services at Air Force Academy football games, the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo, the El Paso County Fair, the Black Forest Festival, and similar events. The unit also supports jail functions, patrol functions, and civil functions. All deputies and volunteers must maintain the same level of training as every other deputy in the Office. The unit also has several certified instructors who help with skills training for the Office.

In 2023, the unit provided 649 hours of patrol services, 498 hours of investigations, 1549 hours of special event details, 381 hours of instruction, and 664 hours of traffic enforcement. Other tasks such as administrative work, in-service training requirements, and supporting detentions operations, resulted in the unit providing 5493 hours of volunteer time to the Office, a benefit to the community of \$300,000.00.



SHERIFF'S CITIZEN PATROL UNIT - SCP

The Sheriff's Citizen Patrol Unit is an eight person, all-volunteer unit dedicated to providing support to the Law Enforcement Bureau and the community by assisting with non-emergent calls for service and safety issues throughout the county. Some of these issues include abandoned vehicles, property crime reports from the public, residential vacation checks, public awareness campaigns, and community outreach.

SCP STATISTICS

SCP Volunteers	8
Calls for Service	1,100
Hours of Service	2,400
Personnel Cost Savings	130,000

EMERGENCY SERVICES SECTION

MOBILE COMMAND POST - MOCOM

The Mobile Command Post (MoCom) is a mobile communications and command platform maintained by the Office. It contains advanced equipment including radios, internet access, camera systems, and a weather station to provide the Office with an incident command post designed to support the Office, as well as its regional partners, during critical incidents, complex investigations, or major events.

In 2023, the MoCom deployed to numerous incidents throughout the region. It supported the Office at major events, such as the El Paso County Fair, and the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo, as well as wildfires, Tactical calls, and officer-involved shootings. The technology in MoCom was completely refitted and upgraded by Technology Services to provide the most up-to-date communications systems available including a Starlink satellite communications system.



WILDLAND FIRE GROUP

The Wildland Fire Group (WFG) is a unit comprised of both professional staff and volunteer firefighters dedicated to supporting Sheriff Roybal's statutory requirement as Fire Warden. The unit utilizes one Type-3 fire engine and two Type-6 brush trucks. The team responds to wildland fires, public education, and community events throughout the region. In addition, the teams may deploy to assist other agencies across the United States as they battle large wildfires.

Thankfully, 2023 was a mild fire year due to consistently rainy weather patterns. During the year, the WFG responded to nine local wildfires and four outside agency deployments. The unit took advantage of the rainy summer and conducted numerous mitigation projects in El Paso County parks eliminating wildfire fuels with over 140 burn piles. The unit also assisted the US Forest Service with the prescribed burning of over 3000 acres in the Pike National Forest.



SEARCH AND RESCUE - EPCSAR

El Paso County Search and Rescue (EPCSAR) is a volunteer team extensively trained in mountaineering and search and rescue techniques. The team has more than 50 members and dedicates itself to fulfilling Sheriff Roybal's duty to support search and rescue missions within El Paso County. The team provides the following services at no cost to the community:

- Rescue or medical assistance
- Search for missing, lost, or overdue persons/people
- Missing aircraft, balloon, or glider
- Activated Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELT)
- Activated Personal Locator Beacons (PLB)
- Disaster operations (flood, blizzard/snowstorm, major fire, earthquake, tornado, etc.)
- Technical rescue/recovery, such as high angle, ice rescue, confined space, avalanche

In 2023, the team deployed on 126 missions totaling over 5,500 mission hours and 18,000 volunteer hours. The team continues to lead the State of Colorado in both expertise and capability and is often requested by other agencies to perform their duties. EPCSAR was requested several times by neighboring counties to assist in complex missing persons cases and a homicide investigation.





INVESTIGATIONS

INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office Investigations Division consists of seven teams of dedicated detectives with a passion to serve the community. The seven teams include the Major Crimes Unit (MCU), Cold Case Unit, Special Victims Unit (SVU), Sex Offender Registration Unit (SOR), Financial Crimes Unit (FCU), Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU), and Digital Forensics Unit (DFU). The Investigations Division also supports regional task forces including the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), International Crimes against Children (ICAC), Vice Narcotics and Intelligence Unit (VNI), and the Regional Explosives Unit. Investigations also employs four part-time Civilian Criminal Investigators who assist the teams with investigations. In addition to the investigation teams, the Victims Advocate Unit is assigned under the Investigations Division Commander.

In December 2023, the Investigations Division adopted a single father and his 10-year-old son for Christmas. The division bought several Christmas presents and also coordinated with the Colorado Springs Switchbacks who provided them with ticket vouchers and a large basket of Switchback gear for them to enjoy this upcoming season. The division delivered the gifts to their home the week before Christmas. The appreciation from the father and the excitement displayed on the child's face will last in the memories of the division for a long time.

Despite an increasing workload on our detectives, Investigations Division leadership took an active approach to limiting overtime for the division in 2023. This was not only for the purpose of limiting a financial burden on the Office but also ensuring the detectives were able to enjoy their time off, which is challenging with an on-call rotation. Through those efforts, the Investigations Division saved over \$25,000 in overtime expenses as compared to 2022. This effort showcased our dedication to fiscal responsibility for the Office and the citizens of El Paso County.

MAJOR CRIMES UNIT - MCU

The Major Crimes Unit (MCU), which is comprised of four detectives, took the lead on 45 complex investigations in 2023. The unit investigated six homicides in El Paso County involving ten victims and eight suspects. In those cases, two suspects were charged with 1st Degree Murder, two suspects were charged with 2nd Degree Murder, two were ruled self-defense, and two investigations remain undetermined/pending.

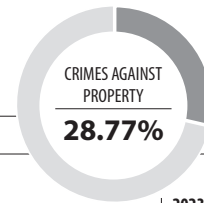
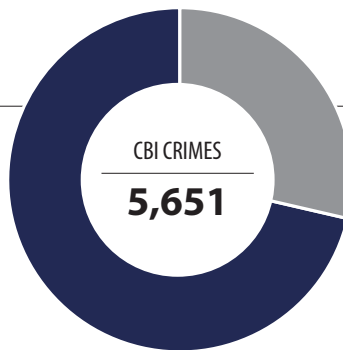
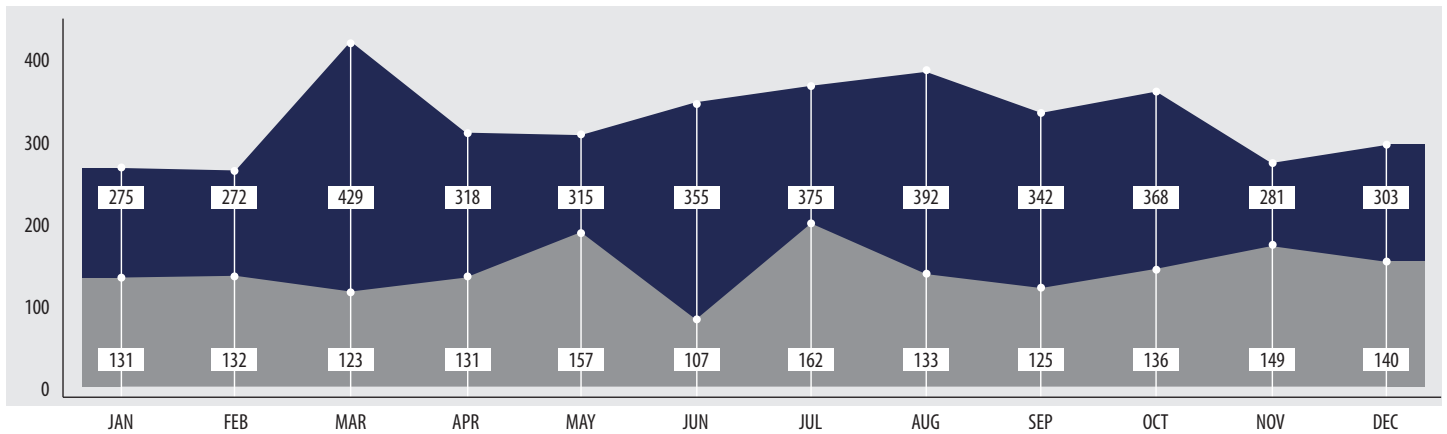
In addition to homicides, the MCU is responsible for attempted homicide investigations, suspicious death investigations, child death investigations, felony child abuse, felony assault, and shooting investigations. The MCU also investigates officer-involved shootings involving other agencies in conjunction with the Colorado Springs Police Department as part of the 4th Judicial District Deadly Force Investigations Team (DFIT).

The MCU completed eight DFIT investigations in 2023, and was the lead investigations team in the tragic death of Fountain Police Officer Julian Becerra. To date, two of the involved suspects in the case have been sentenced to the Department of Corrections and the primary suspect is still pending trial. In February 2023, the MCU investigated a double homicide which occurred in Falcon resulting in the death of two juvenile males. Detective Jon Price was assigned as the lead detective. Detective Price only had Ring doorbell footage from area homes to start his investigation, with difficult-to-identify and less-than-cooperative witnesses, and approximately 100 spent shell casings collected from the scene. Over the course of several weeks, he was able to identify the primary suspect in the murders and identify several other juvenile suspects who were in possession of dangerous firearms and other charges related to the incident.

We determined the group responsible was from Pueblo. In collaboration with Pueblo Police Department detectives, it was learned the same group was suspected of committing several drive-by shootings and a recent homicide in their jurisdiction. A large-scale, multi-agency operation was developed to be run in Pueblo to charge those responsible and follow up with search warrants to collect evidence and guns. The investigation determined the primary suspect in the homicides in Falcon was currently living in Kansas. Detective Price coordinated with the United States Marshals Service to assist in apprehending him out of state. Ultimately, six arrests were made related to the investigation. Under the direction of Detective Price, the Investigations Division solved the case and arrested those responsible, not only making our community safer but also the City and County of Pueblo. This type of work is an example of the effectiveness of collaboration and cooperation with other agencies to help make our community safer.



CRIME ANALYST



CBI CRIME	2023	2022	CHANGE
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	10	16	-38% ▼
Kidnapping/Abduction	68	75	-9% ▼
Rape	88	99	-11% ▼
Sodomy	19	19	0% ▬
Sex Assault w/Object	11	8	+38% ▲
Fondling	59	71	-17% ▼
Incest	1	4	-75% ▼
Statutory Rape	2	4	-50% ▼
Aggravated Assault	415	408	+2% ▲
Simple Assault	884	998	-11% ▼
Intimidation	69	83	-17% ▼

CBI CRIME	2023	2022	CHANGE
Arson	30	36	-17% ▼
Robbery	27	30	-10% ▼
Larceny	2,024	1,724	+17% ▲
Theft from Vehicle	531	399	+33% ▲
Burglary	443	420	+5% ▲
Fraud	497	538	-8% ▼
Motor Vehicle Theft	473	435	+9% ▲

Disclaimer: The data source utilized was CBI's Crime Insight data <https://coloradocrimestats.state.co.us/> and is current as of 02/29/2024. The numbers in the data do not reflect the number of cases taken, rather they represent the number of crimes by offense type as reported to CBI. The term "Number of Crimes" is a measure calculated using the FBI Unit of Count. It is set to the number of records in the Offense Segment (Level 2) records except in the following cases: (1) if Offense Type is Crimes Against Person, then the count is set to number of victims from the Victim Segment (Level 4); (2) if Offense Type is Motor Vehicle Theft, then the count is set to Attempted Motor Vehicle Thefts from Offense Segment (Level 2) plus the Number of Stolen Motor Vehicle from the Property Segment (Level 3); (3) if the Offense Type is set to Justifiable Homicide, then the count is set to Null. The data from CBI will differ from data in h due to the different methods of counting outlined in this disclaimer. All aggregations are subject to corrections and are updated daily and are therefore subject to change

SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT - SVU

The Special Victims Unit (SVU) conducts follow-up investigations of cases involving crimes against at-risk adults, felony sexual assault, incest, and various crimes against children. Detectives work closely with community partners such as the El Paso County Department of Human Services, forensic nurses, Safe Passage, the 4th Judicial District Attorney's Office, Army's Criminal Investigations Division (CID), the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (OSI), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to utilize all possible resources to get the best possible outcome for victims. This year, the unit was tasked with the investigation of approximately 260 cases, down slightly from 2022 which had 270 cases. Out of the 260 cases, approximately 89.61% were crimes against children, which includes both sexual offenses and child abuse cases. The SVU detectives also executed 115 search warrants and completed 304 interviews. The Civilian Criminal Investigator assigned to SVU has collected and processed 39 sexual assault nurse examination (SANE) kits, submitting 28 to the Colorado Bureau of Investigations (CBI) for processing and assisting in the investigation of 85 cases.

On April 10, 2023, detectives with the SVU received a report regarding a sex assault on a child. The parents of the child, a 14-year-old male, found inappropriate text messages between their child and the suspect. The suspect in this case, Robert Henry Gordon was arrested by SVU detectives on April 13, 2023; Mr. Gordon was 58 years old at the time of his arrest,

served as a music teacher at First United Pentecostal Church in Security, Colorado, and as a school bus driver for a couple of different school districts in El Paso County in the past. On December 8, 2023, Robert Henry Gordon pleaded guilty to Sexual Assault on a Child by One in a Position of Trust, Unlawful Sexual Contact, and Enticement of a Child. As a result, he was sentenced to two terms of six years confinement to run consecutively for a total of 12 years, as well as 20 years to life in the Sex Offender Intensive Supervision Program.

The SVU continues to play a lead role in the 4th Judicial District Adult Sex Assault Response Team (ASART), by reevaluating written directives and reviewing past sexual assault cases monthly to implement best investigation practices with the goal being successful prosecution and to provide some semblance of closure for victims.

SVU STATISTICS	Count
SVU Cases	260
Crimes Against Children	89.61%
Search Warrants Executed	115
Interviews Completed	304
Sex Assault Nurse Examinations	39
Kits Submitted to CBI	28
CBI Cases Assisted	85

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION - SOR

The Sex Offender Registration (SOR) falls under the Special Victims Unit and is staffed by one full-time Registration Coordinator who is supported by a part-time Assistant Coordinator.

They work closely with detectives and patrol personnel to provide accurate and timely tracking of registered sex offenders within unincorporated El Paso County. Maintaining contact with those registered in the program ensures they are meeting their responsibilities and helps keep our community safe from sexual predators.

SOR STATISTICS

New Registrations	107
Annual Re-Registrations	504
Quarterly Registrations	750
Jurisdictional Re-Entries	116
Sexually Violent Predators	6
De-Registrations	214
Non-Compliant Offenders	36

VICTIMS ADVOCATE PROGRAM - VAP

Our Victims Advocate Unit is comprised of four full-time employees and a team of volunteers. Victim Advocates serve a vital role in the healing process for victims and their families by providing information and support for victims of violent crimes, providing referrals to trauma counseling, and assisting victims in receiving victim compensation. The program is funded through grants from the Victim Assistance and Law Enforcement (VALE) division of the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice and the Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance (COVA).

VAP STATISTICS

Victims of Crime Served	3,198
<i>Victims of Domestic Violence</i>	1,168
<i>Victims of Sex Assault</i>	113
<i>Victims of Attempted Murder</i>	39
<i>Victims of Robbery</i>	77
On Scene Crisis Response	115

DIGITAL FORENSICS UNIT - DFU

The Digital Forensics Unit (DFU) is currently staffed with one Detective, Michael Bauman. In 2023, Detective Bauman created, implemented, and improved a process for submitting devices to the digital forensics lab which helps with tracking, accountability, and the processing of priority devices.

In October 2023, Detective Michael Bauman was recognized by the United States Secret Service (USSS) for his forensic efforts with the Mountain West Cyber Fraud Task Force (MWCFTF) in Denver, Colorado. The MWCFTF consists of 200+ members of federal, state, and local law enforcement, network security, private business, and academia partners. Out of 87 examiners in five states who reported as field partners in the fiscal year October 2022 to October 2023, Detective Bauman was ranked third overall for examinations. Detective Bauman recorded 423 examinations as the sole EPSO DFU Detective for the task force.



INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE - ICAC

This task force is comprised of a sworn Colorado Springs Police Department (CSPD) Detective, a sworn EPSO detective, and personnel associated with multiple federal agencies. During 2023, the local ICAC Task Force processed and reviewed over 10,700 cybertips from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) as the lead agency for the State of Colorado. Cybertips have an exceptionally high probability of an arrest and prosecution because a large amount of data is provided about the offender and, in some cases, which device they were utilizing. Multiple cybertips can be associated with a single offender. All 10,726 cybertips were viewed and researched by a member of the local task force before being passed on to the appropriate jurisdictions. The ICAC Task Force made 49 Felony arrests on local cases in 2023, which is the highest ever for the Colorado ICAC (COICAC) Task Force despite staffing shortages during the year. Of those arrests, 21 were EPSO-related arrests; five subjects who were previously arrested by the COICAC reoffended and were apprehended in 2023, including two from EPSO

cases. Additionally, one subject from an EPSO investigation was federally indicted in 2023 for wire fraud and other charges not related to the sexual exploitation of a child.

In September 2023, a juvenile suspect was contacted and ultimately confessed to being responsible for the upload of suspected child sexual abuse material. In total, 144 cybertips related to the juvenile were resolved. During an operation conducted from September 26 to September 30, 2023, members of the ICAC Task Force and Army CID participated in an undercover online operation targeting individuals who attempt to procure children for sex on the internet. Three individuals were arrested, and probable cause was established on an additional three males who are currently under investigation. This is another example of building collaboration with outside agencies to better serve actual and potential victims of these heinous crimes.

FINANCIAL CRIMES UNIT - FCU

Detectives assigned to the Financial Crimes Unit (FCU) doubled in the spring of 2023 with the welcome addition of Detective Tamara Tadlock. The FCU also welcomed Sgt. Vincent Sapp as the new supervisor. Under his leadership, the FCU influenced changing legislation for the seizure of cryptocurrency. In addition to its cases, the FCU also assisted with 40 cases for other units/agencies. In 2023, the FCU obtained 35 arrest warrants and served 173 search warrants, clearing 22 cases. One highlight involved the arrest of Sara Butler for embezzlement of church funds, which resulted in the DAO filing 208 charges against the defendant. Butler took a plea and returned \$225k to the victim. Civilian Criminal Investigator Jennifer Bucholtz played a significant role in this investigation by organizing and analyzing 1000s of pages of records. The FCU saw a significant increase in the complexity of fraud cases referred to the unit, particularly those cases involving cryptocurrency and mail theft.

Detective Tadlock joined the team in May. In October, Detective Tadlock applied for a fellowship with the Cryptocurrency Coalition and TRM Labs. The coalition is comprised of thousands of investigators worldwide and TRM Labs is responsible for the training of the United Secret Service's cryptocurrency courses. This fellowship was competitive with 33 countries being offered the training and only 15 spots for the United States. Detective Tadlock was chosen for one of those 15 spots. With this, she will have access to over \$4,000 worth of certificate programs and be given a year's access to several thousand dollars' worth of investigative software. The goals of the fellowship are to use the diversity of backgrounds to build relationships in the law enforcement community and disrupt the illicit activity of bad actors in the crypto realm. This fellowship will greatly enhance service to our community and victims of financial crimes.

COLD CASE UNIT

The Investigations Division has a Cold Case Unit comprised of one Major Crimes Detective and one Civilian Criminal Investigator. This unit currently has 36 cold cases under review. The unit conducts in-depth reviews of these cases to determine if advances in technology can develop new leads, conducts interviews to attempt to uncover new information, and investigates all new leads provided by the public and other law enforcement agencies.

A cold case closed by the Cold Case Unit in 2023, was the double homicide of 72-year-old Larry Nelson and 70-year-old Pamela Nelson at their home on Hobby Horse Lane in April 2018. In July of 2018, deputies were called to a homicide which occurred in the 12300 block of Highway 94, east of Colorado Springs. The victim was 46-year-old Gustavo Del Sol Sanchez. Later in the day, the suspect in this case, identified as 18-year-old William Bacorn, was found in the 19200 block of Loop Road by the EPSO SWAT Team where he engaged in a gunfight with the SWAT Team and ultimately died from injuries sustained in the confrontation.

While investigating the Del Sol Sanchez homicide, detectives received information confirming Bacorn was also responsible for the Nelson homicides. Multiple labs conducted forensic testing on evidence collected

at both crime scenes to determine if Bacorn and any other persons were involved. The final round of testing was completed in December 2022, which confirmed Bacorn's involvement. No evidence was found linking any other individuals to the crimes. Due to William Bacorn's death in 2018, the case was closed in 2023.



CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT - CIU

In 2023, the Criminal Intelligence Unit investigated a party who was identified as a prolific offender. He committed numerous burglaries in the City of Colorado Springs, and EPSO jurisdiction and was eventually charged with over 100 counts related to his crime spree. The CIU worked on this case in close conjunction with the Colorado Springs Police Department and the Organized Crime Unit at the 4th Judicial District Attorney's Office. This case is pending a plea agreement, but the suspect is expected to get a lengthy sentence to the Department of Corrections. This collaborative effort is a direct result of the relationships our Office has developed with the 4th Judicial District Attorney's Office and the Colorado Springs Police Department.

The CIU identified a pattern of car break-ins at area trailheads, and they were able to establish the suspects in those incidents were involved in the same types of crimes across the nation. The suspects were flying to Colorado from Florida and breaking into numerous vehicles up and down the front range. CIU detectives worked closely with CSPD on this investigation. The case was eventually presented to the 4th Judicial District Attorney's Office, and after presenting the case to a grand jury the

case was filed as a violation of the Colorado Organized Crime Control Act. This case included all local cases identified as well as cases from several other jurisdictions in the State of Colorado outside El Paso County.

In early 2023, the CIU absorbed the former Detentions Investigations Team in the jail. This process has been successful and has raised the bar for quality jail-related investigations. In 2023, an in-custody death at the jail was investigated and eventually led to the successful prosecution of a party for distributing fentanyl while in a custody setting resulting in someone's death. This was the first successful prosecution of a case of this type in Colorado. Partnered with Detective Mariah Urbina, Detective Jessica Brooke Hess from VNI was instrumental in the successful prosecution of this case.

Along with these high-profile investigations in 2023, CIU also recovered more than twenty stolen firearms and recovered numerous stolen vehicles valued at approximately \$371, 200 as participants in the Beating Auto Theft Through Law Enforcement (BATTLE) program.

METRO VICE, NARCOTICS, & INTELLIGENCE - MVNI

The Metro Vice, Narcotics, & Intelligence Unit is comprised of detectives and civilian investigators from the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, Colorado Springs Police Department, Fountain Police Department, and Monument Police Department. The focus of the Narcotics Unit this year has been a proactive response to the rise in fentanyl and overdose deaths, and the focus on the Vice Unit has been recovering high-risk missing juveniles and illegal gambling which affect our community.

In May of 2022, Governor Polis signed House Bill 22-1326. Part of this legislation made the distribution of fentanyl, which results in the death of another person, a class one drug felony. Since then, MNU and the 4th Judicial District Attorney's Office have collaborated to prosecute this crime. In 2023, the first two jury trials in Colorado under this new law were conducted here in El Paso County. Both offenders were found guilty. The first was sentenced in December to 15 years in prison, and the second awaits sentencing following a guilty verdict in November.

MNU detectives spend a great deal of time working with the families of overdose victims to work through the investigative and prosecutorial processes with them. While it will never bring their loved ones back, these cases help bring some justice for these families and help increase trust between law enforcement and the communities we serve. It can be hoped the stern sentencing offenders receive for this crime will be effective in reducing the number of fentanyl dealers and therefore, the number of overdose victims in El Paso County.





DETENTION

DETENTION BUREAU

OPERATIONS
DIVISION

SECURITY
DIVISION



EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



SECURITY

DETENTION SECURITY DIVISION

FLOOR SECURITY SECTION

FLOOR SECURITY

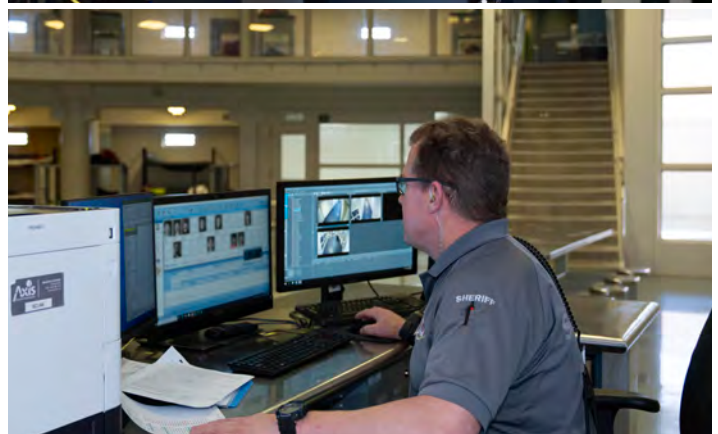
The Security Division is responsible for housing and supervision of over 1100 incarcerated citizens housed in the El Paso County Jail. The jail houses individuals arrested on misdemeanor and felony charges by all law enforcement agencies in El Paso County. These individuals are classified as pre-trial, sentenced to the El Paso County Jail, or the Department of Corrections. The jail is also a contract holding facility for several state and federal agencies, including Colorado State Parole, U.S. Marshals Office, and military installations. Over 300 staff members and volunteers ensure the safety, security, and development of our incarcerated citizens.

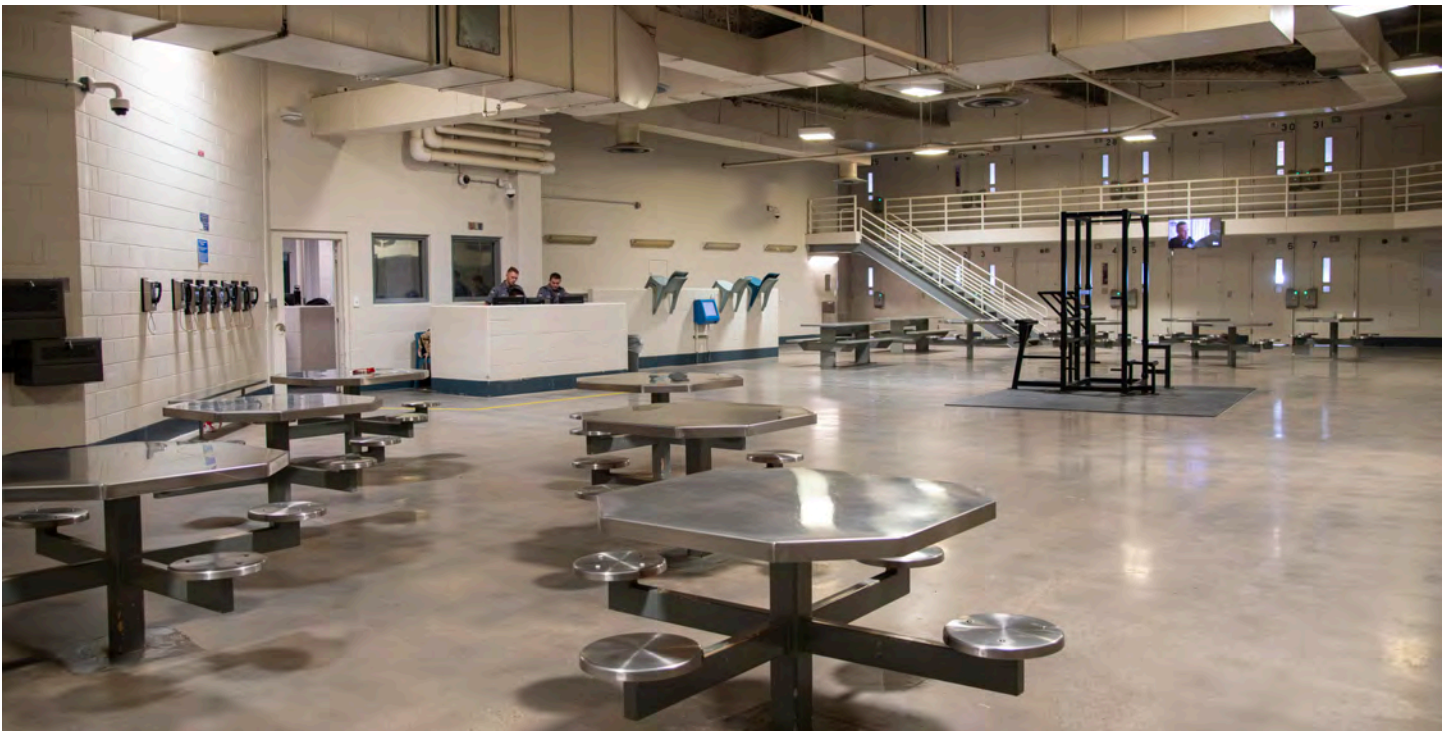
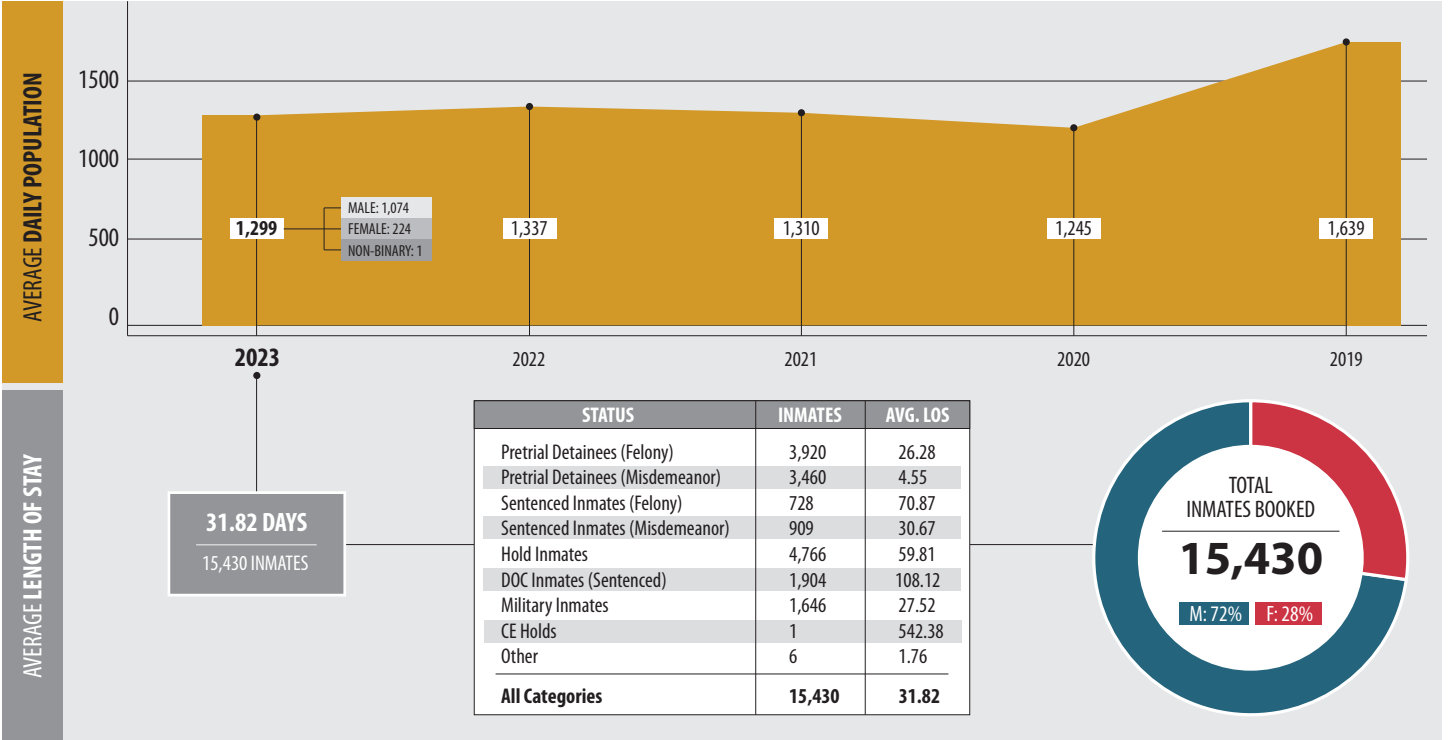
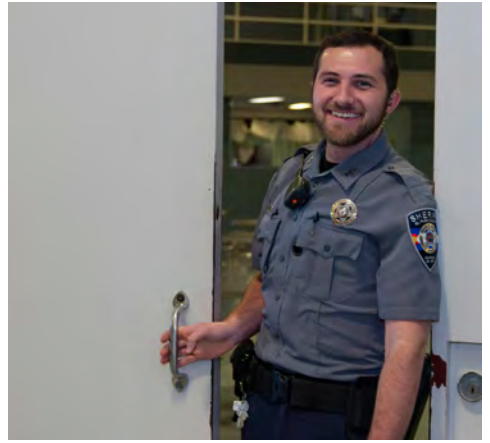
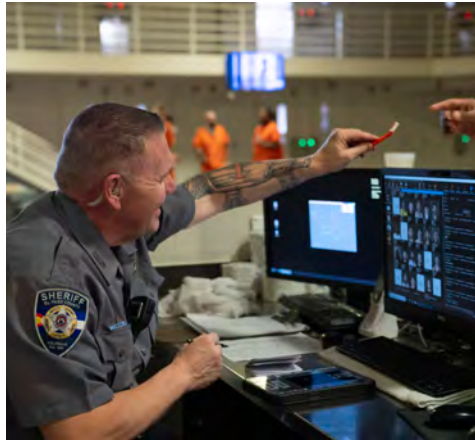
Members of the Security Division not only fulfill their primary duties and responsibilities in the jail but also strive to enhance the culture and relationship between the citizens of El Paso County. Members of the Security Division participated in Tip A Cop, Shop with a Cop, Dream Night at the Zoo, and a fall community carnival at Wildflower Elementary School. Leaders within the Security Division continue to be active members of the Problem-Solving Courts Committee and remain diligent in finding ways to utilize our available resources to support the different agendas of the special courts while balancing them with our essential duties.

Members of the Security Division donated food, clothing, toys, services, and other resources to Care and Share, Springs Rescue Mission, Toys for Tots, Special Olympics, and Vitalant.

Members of the Security Division participated in the Leadership Pikes Peak Program and the EPSO Citizens' Academy. These programs, along with providing over 30 tours of the El Paso County Jail, expose the community to the normal operations of the jail.

The following entities had instant access to different sections within the jail, introducing them to various parts of the criminal justice system: EPSO Board of County Commissioners, City Attorney's Office, District Attorney's Office, EPC Public Health, EPC Human Resources, EPSO Victim's Assistance, EPSO Programs, EPSO Recruiting, EPC Pretrial Services, EPC Justice Services, Probation, The Independence Center, UCCS Journalism Students, Pikes Peak State College, Criminal Justice Students, Pikes Peak Leadership, Pine Creek HS Street (criminal) Law Class, Cheyenne Mountain HS Advanced Health Class, Lewis Palmer HS Social Studies, Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind both HS and transitional classes.



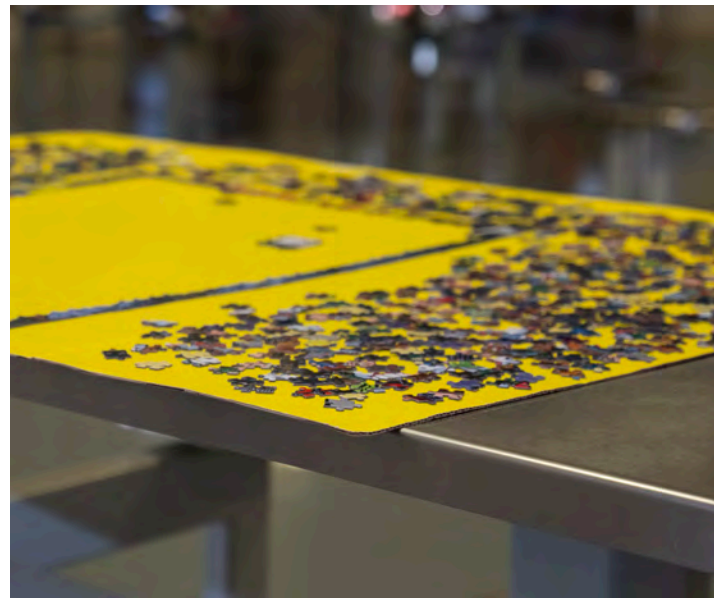


INMATE PROGRAMS SECTION

The Inmate Programs team works tirelessly to find effective ways to keep our incarcerated citizens active and engaged. The following programs started in 2023 to assist with this effort:

INMATE PROGRAMS

- Male/Female Alcoholics Anonymous
- Protestant Female Bible Study
- Simple Scripture
- Muslim Peace Program
- Puzzle Program
- Ward Mural Competitions
- Incentive Cart



Ward Mural Competitions - This program offers wards with positive behavior, the opportunity to compete with other wards (chalk drawings) for the chance to win prizes (pizza party/soda).

Incentive Cart - This program offers certain wards (G1, E2, G3, and G4) with positive behavior, the opportunity to access the incentive cart and possible movie nights and soda. The incentive cart has a variety of board games, puzzles, and similar activities.

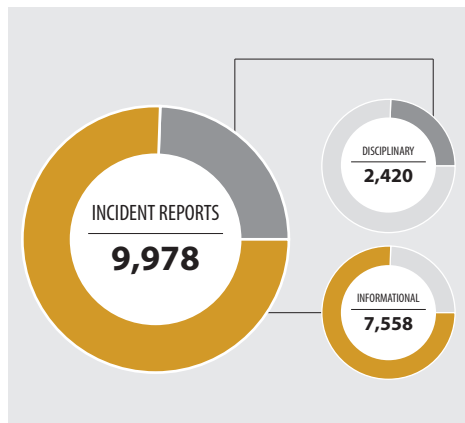
HEARING BOARD OFFICER

The Hearing Board Officer is responsible for processing and documenting all administrative disciplinary hearings occurring within the Detention Bureau. Incarcerated citizens are expected and encouraged to be on their best behavior during their incarceration and assist staff members with maintaining a clean, quiet, and safe environment. This includes following the rules established in the Inmate Handbook. When rules are violated and expectations are not met, a formal disciplinary process begins, and the Hearing Board Officer ensures the integrity of the overall process. In 2023, the Hearing Board Officer processed 2,420 incidents where incarcerated citizens violated rules outlined in the Inmate Handbook. This formal process yielded 1,534 guilty findings which resulted in 13,054 days of sanctions. Due to administrative challenges, consideration for first-time offenders, and other mitigating factors, 2,134 days or 16% of the sanction times were suspended. Our Hearing Board Officer processed nearly 200 incidents per month or 10 incidents per day.

INMATE CLASSIFICATION

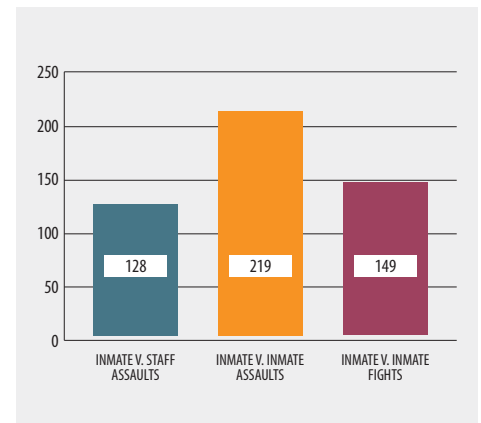
Throughout 2023, the Inmate Classification Unit reviewed and processed 9,978 incident reports (7,558 informational reports and 2,420 disciplinary reports). The team, comprised of nine inmate classification specialists and one supervisor, processed 1,092 trusty contracts and 2,033 volunteer contracts. The team members also completed 707 ADA interviews and reviews, tracked 1,925 inmate grievances, addressed 6,528 kites, and were responsible for billing outside agencies for housing their inmates. The Inmate Classification Unit continued to fine-tune the new housing requirements to accommodate the new restrictions implemented by House Bill 21-1211. Working with Jail Based Behavioral Services (JBBS) and

outside entities, Inmate Classification assisted with the reopening of the Veteran's Ward. A Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) program was introduced to combat opiate addiction and in tandem, processes and procedures were developed by Inmate Class, JBBS, Medical and Mental Health. The transition to the new medical provider started in December and Inmate Classification worked closely with the new contractor to ensure the process was as seamless as possible. Inmate Classification also conducted numerous new sergeant and deputy recruit training sessions to ensure they had a better understanding of the unit's role in daily operations of the jail.



BILLING SUMMARY	
AGENCY	AMOUNT
Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)	\$0.00
Colorado Department of Corrections	\$1,688,967.19
Military Confinement	\$44,537.44
U.S. Marshal	\$4,769.84
Other	\$209,246.12
Total Billable Inmates	2,578
Total Billed for all Agencies	\$1,946,920.59

CLASSIFICATION INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED
12,767



OPERATIONS

DETENTION OPERATIONS DIVISION

SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM - SRT

The 2023, El Paso County Sheriff's Office Special Response Team (SRT) experienced significant growth, expanding from 14 to 22 members. There was a change in the chain of command, bringing in new leadership and a new strategic vision for the team's operations.

The team engaged in over 150 hours of intensive training sessions covering various skills including restraint techniques, marksmanship, use of force, leadership development, and riot control. The SRT participated in 11 different notable operations, including providing support during presidential security at the Air Force Academy graduation, executing successful high-risk transports, high-profile courtroom security operations, and high-risk extraditions. The team also played a crucial

role in facilitating over 160 extradition trips during the year while teaching two different extradition training courses for the Office. They actively contributed to seven different community events through various initiatives such as the Special Olympics Tip-a-Cop event, the Torch Run, DHS' Adopt-a-Family, and one member volunteering as the Sheriff's Office Special Olympics main representative.

In conclusion, SRT demonstrated outstanding performance, characterized by growth, excellence in training, notable operations, and contributions to the community. Their commitment to professionalism, continuous learning, and upholding the highest standards reflects positively on the Office.



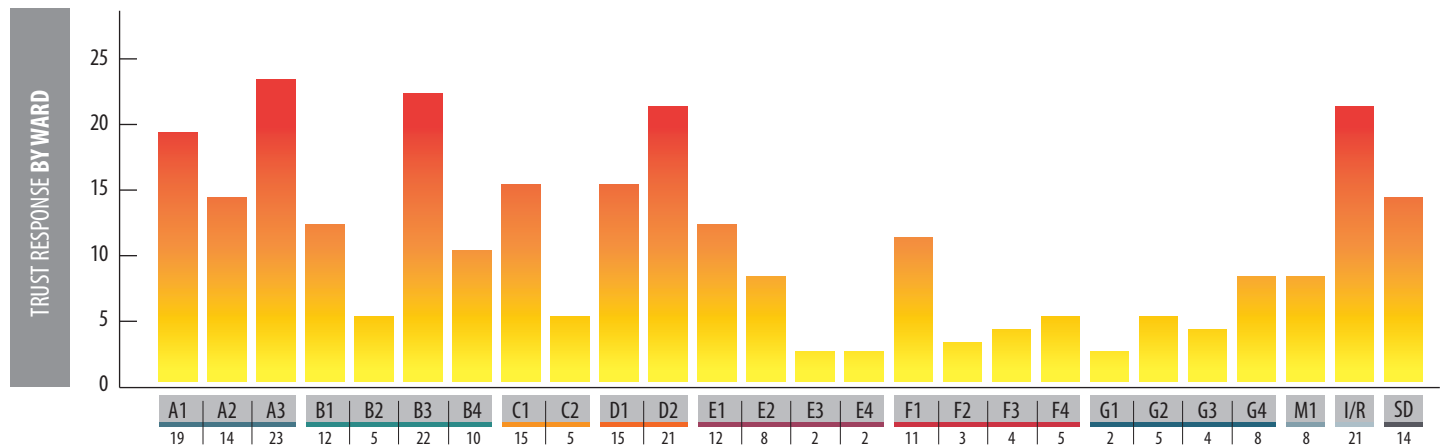
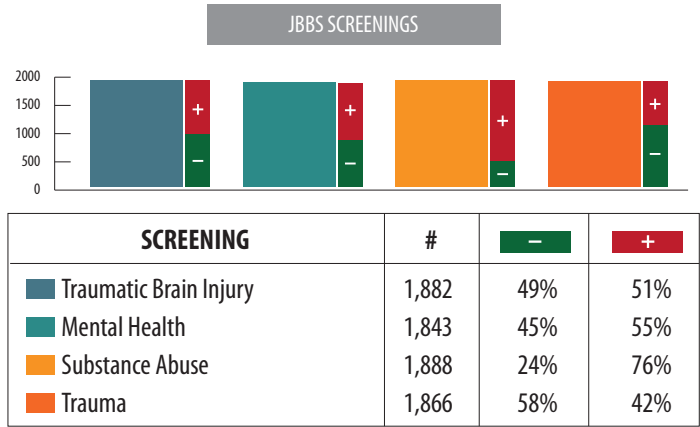
JAIL BASED BEHAVIORAL SERVICES - JBBS

Staff members assigned to the jail remain professional while also being empathetic to the mental health make-up and challenges our incarcerated citizens face each day. Therapeutic Response Unit Stabilization Team (TRUST) members assigned to the jail are instrumental in offering proven de-escalation techniques from a clinical perspective. During 2023, the Security Division requested the services of TRUST 270 times, and 197 of these calls resulted in successful de-escalation.

Members of the Security Division collaborated with JBBS staff to decrease the number of suicide attempts in the jail initiated from the upper tier of the ward. As a result, several Lexan barriers were installed in various

wards throughout the jail. Our partnership with JBBS also assisted with the purchase of a new body scanner and drug detection devices. This led to a decrease in the amount of contraband entering the jail through the intake process. JBBS also coordinated with the Security Division to replace cell vents and cell windows to further enhance the safety of the cells.

JBBS STATISTICS	New JBBS Participants	
	Groups Provided	488
	Participants	3,435
	Release Planning	4,402
	Housing Applications Submitted	2,680
	Peer Support Referrals Submitted	983
	Competency Counseling Sessions	3,859
TRUST Crisis Responses	270	



GATEWAYS THROUGH THE ROCKIES - GTR

In 2023, the EPSO Gateways Through the Rockies (GTR) Program offered job skills and training for 159 of the El Paso County sentenced incarcerated citizens, bringing the Gateways participant total to 3,720 since its inception. The incarcerated citizens contribution to the Gateways Program for 2023 is 33,410 compensated participant labor hours, 4,319 community service hours, and \$16,456.81 in victim compensation payment paid by the participants from their wages earned through Gateways Program.

The EPSO Gateways Program has maintained long-term collaborations in the community with three distinctive business partnerships by providing approved county-sentenced incarcerated citizens the opportunity to work in the community. The approved county sentenced incarcerated citizens earn a wage, complete court-ordered useful public service hours, and apply 20% of their wages earned towards their court-ordered fees, fines, and restitution.

Business Partnerships:

- Evergreen & Fairview Cemeteries** have been partnering with EPSO Gateways Program for general laborers since 1998.
- El Paso County Facilities** have been partnering with EPSO Gateways Program for janitorial services since 2004.
- Republic Recycling Services** (formerly Bestway Recycling), have been partnering with the EPSO Gateways Program for general laborers since 2012.

GTR STATISTICS	Job Skills & Training	
	Compensated Labor Hours	33,410
	Community Service Hours	4,319
	Victim Compensation Payment	\$16,456.18
	<i>paid by wages earned through GTR Program</i>	

COURT SERVICES SECTION

The Court Services Section made a significant impact in the past year, exemplifying dedication, and efficiency in their roles. There was an increase in security needs from the 46 different courtrooms and the courthouse saw many high-profile cases during the year. Court deputies, whose tasks include maintaining order and security within courtrooms, executed their duties with professionalism and vigilance, ensuring a safe and orderly environment for the administration of justice.

Simultaneously, the Transport deputies demonstrated unwavering commitment and reliability when conducting trips throughout the state to prisons, county jails, the Colorado Mental Health Institute, and outside medical appointments, seamlessly facilitating crucial transport operations.

Their collective efforts as a team significantly contributed to the smooth functioning of the justice system, reflecting the section's exceptional service and unwavering commitment to public safety.

COURT STATISTICS

Inmates Transported to Court	24,387
Juvenile Inmates Transported to Court	289
Remands Taken into Custody	885

TRANSPORT STATISTICS

Inmates Transported	2,655
Out-of-County Warrants	229
Writ from DOC & Counties	557
Outside Medical Appointments	103
Inmates to State Hospital	93
Total Trips	652
Miles Driven	197,857



INTAKE & RELEASE SECTION



I/R STATISTICS

Bookings	15,677
Releases	15,055
In-Custody Bookings	2,040
Lobby Arrests	1,954
PR Bonds	583

ANCIALLARY DUTY HOURS

Honor Guard	192
Mounted Unit	74.5
Crisis Negotiations	120
SRT	880
Training	832
BEAR Call-Outs	9



STAFF SUPPORT

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS & RESEARCH

SECTION

FISCAL & COMPLIANCE SERVICES

SECTION



EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

In 2023, under the vision and guidance of Sheriff Joseph Roybal, the Community Affairs and Research (CAR) Section was formed. The CAR section is composed of a manager, supervisor, senior multimedia specialist, multimedia specialist, research analyst, and a sergeant who is the Public Information Officer (PIO). In his vision, Sheriff Roybal identified a need to increase both communication within the Office and communication with the community we serve.

Part of this increased communication has been to proactively contact the different media outlets and provide them with information about upcoming events we would like to highlight or when an incident happens which could impact our relationship with the community. To facilitate this, a professional staff supervisor was added not only to assist with PIO duties but also to provide an additional perspective other than sworn. This approach has allowed for a more robust interaction with the media and our community.

Through the increased use of social media applications such as Facebook, we have increased our digital presence and are reaching a larger audience. In turn, this increased presence, coupled with transparency has fostered a new level of trust from the public.

In 2023, CAR completed a Fall Citizens' Academy and revised and updated the process to include providing guidance for curriculum updates to match the evolving needs of those attending.

Additionally, Sheriff Roybal, in line with his strategic pillars, assigned legislative liaison responsibilities to the CAR section. Under this new direction, CAR has taken a proactive approach to addressing legislation and educating the public on legislation impacting the community. Sheriff Roybal recognized a large portion of our community was unaware of the many legislative bills being proposed or passed, nor their true impact.

Since its creation, CAR has organized and/or participated in over 200 community events. A few of these events included proactively addressing legislative bills, town hall meetings, National Night Out, multiple speaking events, and several Office-wide events.

The feedback, both internally and from the community has been resoundingly positive, with many applauding the intentional approach to communication, the increased presence on social media highlighting the good work being done by members of the Office, and the noticeable increase in the EPSO participation at community events.



HONOR GUARD

In 2023, our Honor Guard Unit continued to uphold the highest standards of professionalism and reverence in our service to the community. With a deep commitment to excellence, the Honor Guard has participated in 66 missions, including EPSO Academy Graduations, the State of the Region Address, EPSO Awards Banquet, Colorado Law Enforcement Memorial, Pikes Peak Peace Officer Memorial, Police Week in Washington DC, Colorado Rockies games, EPSO Volunteer Celebration, parades, and the tragic line-of-duty death funerals for the Department of Corrections and Cortez Police Department.

Throughout 2023, their actions exemplified the strategic pillars of Community Trust and Quality Service. Every event they participated

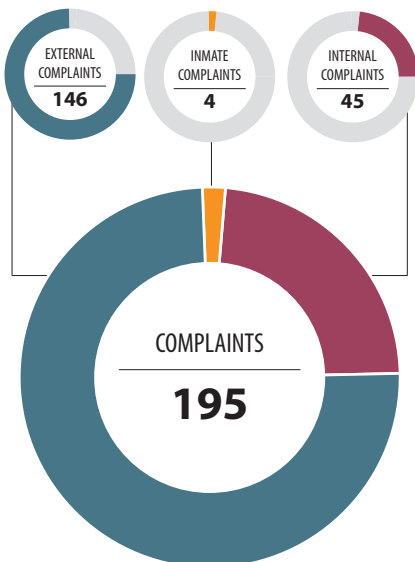
in touched the community in some way, whether it was a lighthearted occasion like a hockey game or a more somber event such as a funeral. This, in turn, built trust through solidarity and professionalism.

As we reflect on the past year, our Honor Guard Unit not only elevated the honor and dignity of law enforcement events but also fostered a sense of pride and unity within our agency and the broader community.

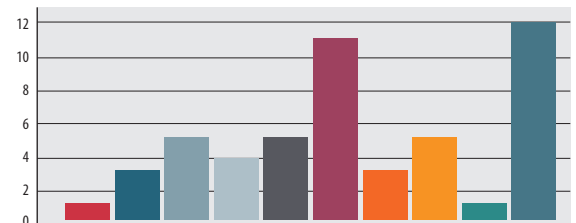
HG STATS		
Missions		66
Hours		2,636
Training Hours		1,480



INTERNAL AFFAIRS UNIT



DISPOSITION	
DISPOSITION	#
Document Only	9
Exonerated	50
Not Sustained	17
Pending	16
Sustained	22
Sustained No Penalty	9
Unfounded	72
Total	195

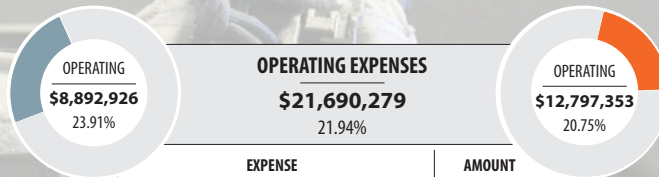
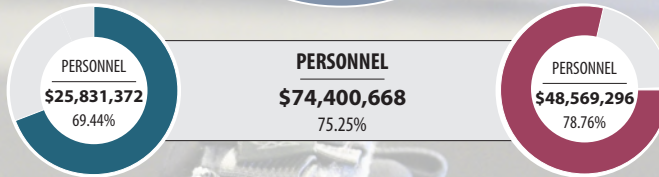
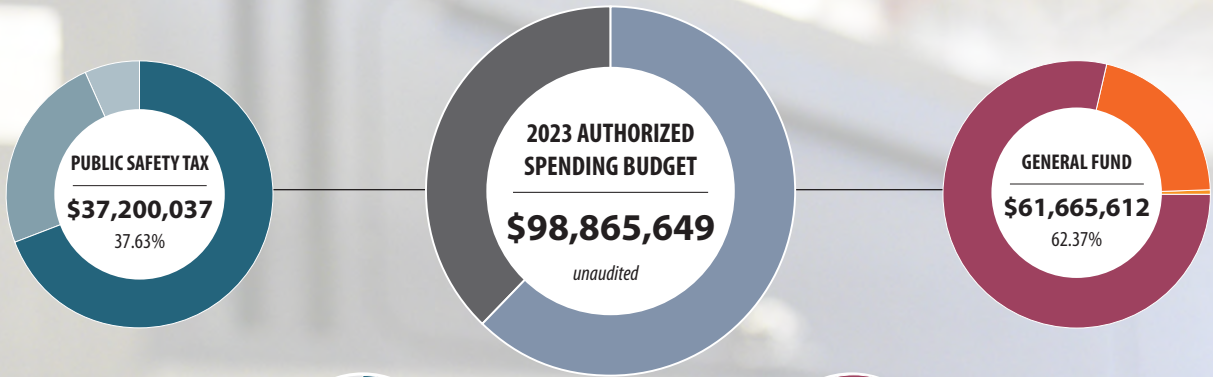


ACTION TAKEN	
ACTION TAKEN	AMOUNT
Last Chance Agreement	1
Performance Improvement Plan	3
Remedial Training	5
Resigned in Lieu of Termination	4
Resigned / Retired Prior to Completion of Investigation	5
Supervisory Discussion	11
Suspension	3
Termination	5
Transfer	1
Written Reprimand	12

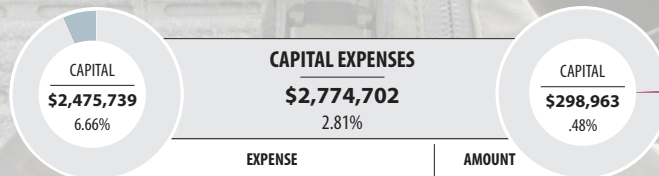


BUDGET AND FINANCE UNIT / CONTRACTS & COMPLIANCE

The Budget and Finance Unit manages the EPSO budget and performs all bookkeeping functions for the Office to include procurement, accounts payable, accounts receivable and prepares financial reports. Budget and Finance is comprised of four members: one supervisor, two financial services specialists, and one grant coordinator. Currently there are 26 active grants. Grant funding is in addition to our Annual EPSO Budget. These grants help the Office provide public safety services to our community. Additionally, these grants support such functions as victim assistance, drug enforcement, traffic safety, behavioral health services, reintegration and recovery, and training and retention to name a few. Many of these grants are multi-year grants and affect not only the 2023, EPSO budget but also help with future years. Total awards for 2023 equaled \$5,854,282. The contracts and compliance analyst has oversight of the EPSO contacts and capital assets. The position monitors contractual obligations, complines statistical reports to ensure compliance and collaborates with personnel regarding awarded contacts, MOUs an IGAs. As of 2023, this position oversees 221 active contacts, MOUs and IGAs and 591 capital assets.



EXPENSE	AMOUNT
Inmate Medical	\$9,462,938
Capital Assets / Improvements	\$197,189
Inmate Food Services	\$2,768,387
Tech Ops., Services, & Radios	\$2,534,939
Fleet Operating	\$1,585,331
Training, Weapons, Uniforms, & Ammo	\$1,690,682
Other Detention Operation	\$1,130,671
Law Enforcement Operation	\$252,571
County Security	\$847,793
Admin. Services, Backgrounds, & Accreditation	\$111,065
Community Affairs & Media Services	\$34,161
Office Wide Supplies, Equipment, & Parking	\$1,074,552



EXPENSE	AMOUNT
New Vehicles	\$1,781,185
Falcon Substation Design	\$121,364
Incinerator	\$191,123
Scanners	\$271,673
Front Lobby Refresh	\$39,756
4th Floor & Interview Rooms	\$78,748
CJC HVAC Unit	\$13,671
CJC Video Visitation	\$199,312
ODR Upgrade	\$22,634
Key Tracer System	\$21,785
K9	\$9,500
Misc. Capital Equipment	\$23,952

FLEET SERVICES

Fleet Services provides overall maintenance and management of the Sheriff's Office fleet and service operations. This unit is comprised of five members: one fleet supervisor and four mechanics.

EPSO has a fleet of 417 vehicles. This includes patrol vehicles, vehicles used for inmate transports and extraditions, and specialty vehicles such as the Mobile Command unit and tactical vehicles for SWAT, MVNI and Investigations.

In 2023, our Fleet completed 4,319 work orders. As part of the Fleet replacement process, 29 new vehicles were received and are being upfitted for service in 2024.

STATS	EPSO Vehicles	417
	Work Orders Completed	4,319
	New Vehicles	29



EMPLOYEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Members of the Employee Advisory Committee (EAC) work diligently to promote a family environment within the Office, organizing team-building events and activities. The EAC also assists with highlighting the tremendous work performance of EPSO personnel throughout the year. The EAC reviews and makes a recommendation to command staff on Employee of the Month and Employee of the Year nominations.

During 2023, members of the EAC coordinated numerous activities, strengthening the bond between employees, their families, and the community. Memories were created destined to last a lifetime. An Easter egg hunt was conducted at the OTS. This event captured the exuberance of our kids and young adults, which energized even our most tenured personnel within the law enforcement community. Our annual picnic was a huge success. Office personnel and their families contributed to record-breaking attendance. Food, fun, laughter, and fellowship were embraced and enjoyed by all.

In October, a Halloween costume party was the perfect event to challenge and discover the creativity and brilliant minds of EPSO personnel and their families. Workspaces throughout the entire Office were decorated, with talent and innovation on full display. During the holiday season, the EAC was instrumental in assisting those whose spirits may not have been so high. Additionally, the EAC was able to encourage and support 13 families by providing food, clothing, gift cards, toys, handshakes, hugs, and smiles.

2023 culminated with the EAC sponsoring a movie night. This event fostered the combination of joy and laughter of the holiday season with another opportunity to bring family and friends together one more time. Every kernel of popcorn tantalizing a taste bud, every ounce of chocolate dripping from a smore, and every tall tale that was shared by the fire pit, not only warmed our hearts but also reminded us of how fortunate we are to have a loving and supportive family at EPSO.



PROMOTIONS

EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Jeff Kramer
Undersheriff



Scott Deno
Bureau Chief



Andrew Prehm
Bureau Chief



Christopher Gonzalez
Commander



Aaron Palm
Lieutenant



Michael Brisson
Sergeant



James Coffey
Sergeant



Patrick Gallagher
Sergeant



Ricardo Garcia
Sergeant



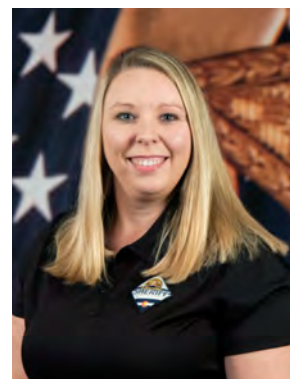
Gina Goodloe
Sergeant



Scott Neilson
Sergeant



Alexander Yakovlev
Sergeant



Kimberlee Niemczyk
Evidence Supervisor

RETIREMENTS

EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Jennie Abegglen
Admin Technician



Kurt Arn
Deputy



Cynthia Ayyad
Sergeant



Vita Barnes
I/R Specialist



Raymond Bernier
Commander



Grace Eastham
Admin Technician



Algje Felder, Jr.
Fleet Supervisor



Brian Forcinito
Security Technician



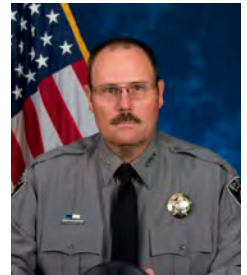
Teresa Frank
Judicial Liaison



Cesar Galvez, Jr.
I/R Specialist



Emory Gerhart
Sergeant



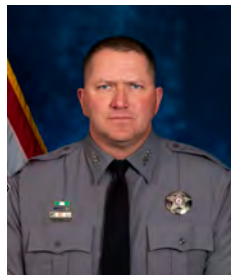
Timothy Hightshoe
Deputy



Janet King
Evidence Supervisor



Michelle Lundstedt
Telecom. Support Tech.



Isaac Petterson
Deputy



Jack Rauer
Supply Specialist



Joan Silverstein
County Security



Mark Stevens
Deputy



Laurie Thomas
Volunteer Coordinator



Sharon Trivette
Staff Counselor



Shannon Wilcox
IA Technician



AWARDS BANQUET

EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

VALOR

THE MEDAL OF VALOR

Deputy Bethany Gibson
Deputy Cody Krzywonski
Deputy Dakota Richardson

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

Sergeant Ricardo Garcia
Detective Chad Martinez
Deputy Johnathan Aggen
Deputy Matthew Gaw
Deputy Sarah Long
Deputy Evelyn Peak
Deputy Kyle Shelhamer (2)

LIFE SAVING MEDAL

Sergeant Mary Bryant
Sergeant Brian Erhardt
Deputy Eric Bottorff
Deputy Kimberly Byrd
Deputy Robert Damuth
Deputy Ian Devlin
Deputy Brett Falgoust
Deputy David Fisher
Deputy Travis Mundt
Deputy Julian Sample
Deputy Mikayla Vollender

SHERIFF'S ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Detective Jess Brooke-Hess
Detective Tim Ferrell
Detective Marissa Williams
Deputy Megan Burns
Deputy Evelyn Peak
SA Jonathan Berryhill
Invest. Shannon Daly

MICAH FLICK NARCOTIC ENFORCEMENT AWARD

Deputy Mariah Urbina

TANYA M BELL AWARD

Jennifer Harris

CIVILIAN ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

John Amin
Jennifer Bucholtz
Kelly Dickson
Angelica Lopez
Taryn McPherson
Angelica Pedro-Ramirez
Amy White
Josephine White

25 YEARS OF SERVICE

Sergeant Jennifer Vanderpool
Deputy Kimble Gingrich
James Mack
Liz O'Neal

20 YEARS OF SERVICE

Chief Scott Deno
Commander Chris Gonzalez
Commander Mitch Mihalko
Sergeant Willie Bond
Sergeant Jason Garrett

Sergeant Phillip Goodloe
Deputy Eric Miller
Deputy Christopher Mott
Deputy Derek Rowland
Deputy Mark Stevens

Loralee Salazar
Heather Stamper
Lisa Towe

SWORN EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Deputy Zachary Lacey



PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Linda Sheesley





HONESTY

LOYALTY

UNITY

