

STAFFORD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ANNUAL REPORT

2022



Dedicated, innovative people, working with the community, to serve and protect Stafford County while using the best tools and technology available.



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Sheriff Decatur, Major C. S. Kimmitz, and Major R. J. Dembowski receiving a generous donation to the Stafford County Sheriff's Office from Mission BBQ. These donations are used to for our community outreach programs.



In Memoriam

The deaths of Deputy Toby Humphrey and Deputy Jason Mooney are reminders of the inherent dangers of police work, and that any given shift may end abruptly in serious injury or death. In honor of Deputy Humphrey, the Public Safety Center in Stafford County, which houses the Sheriff's Office and the Fire and Rescue Department, was named after him. In memory of Deputy Mooney, a sign was erected on I-95 southbound at the scene of his accident, the road for Fire and Rescue Station 2 where he volunteered, was named after him, and Lake Mooney Reservoir opened in 2016.

In memory of our fallen brother, Deputy Sheriff Ford Tyson "Toby" Humphrey, who lost his life in the pursuit of serving and protecting the citizens of Stafford County. On October 9, 1980, 26-year-old Ford Tyson "Toby" Humphrey was killed in the line of duty by a gunman while attempting to quell a domestic disturbance. Deputy Humphrey served his community as a Deputy Sheriff as well as a volunteer member of the Fredericksburg Rescue Squad. In Deputy Humphrey's honor, the Public Safety Building which serves as the headquarters for both the Stafford County Sheriff's Office and the Stafford Department of Fire and Rescue, was named after him.



In memory of our fallen brother, Deputy Sheriff Jason Edward Mooney, who lost his life on October 19, 2007, in service to the citizens of Stafford County. Jason Edward Mooney, age 24, was killed in the line of duty



Grey Ghost Chapter dropped off a donation to the technology to assist victims of Alzheimer's and other the right, representatives from Atlantic Builders b families and children in need during the holiday



Sheriff's Message

Annual Reports are a great way to reflect and highlight the great work done by the dedicated professionals of our agency.

A great example is the attempted abduction case that took place in Embrey Mill in January 2022. A young female was forced into a vehicle by a male subject, but was able to escape and report the incident. The quick response by our deputies and the great investigative work by our personnel ensured that the suspect was identified and taken into custody swiftly. While we never want an incident like this to occur, I know that the men and women of the Stafford Sheriff's Office are completely invested in ensuring a safe community.

Our agency is extremely proud of our community engagement efforts throughout the year. Events such as National Night Out, DARE Day, Coffee with a Cop, Citizen's Police Academy, and the Junior Deputy Academy are great ways for us to meet, talk, listen and engage with our community. We also have the Worship Watch, Business Watch, and Neighborhood Watch programs that allow us to work with places of worship, businesses, and neighborhoods to assist with safety concerns. We also work very closely with our school division to maintain safe and secure learning environments for our children. These partnerships are so vital because it takes all of us working together to make Stafford County as safe as possible.

To help keep our agency moving forward we started a Strategic Planning process in 2017. Please take a look at our Strategic Planning efforts that start on page 23. The work that our staff has done in these Focus Areas embodies our vision that we highlight on the cover of this report: "*Dedicated,*



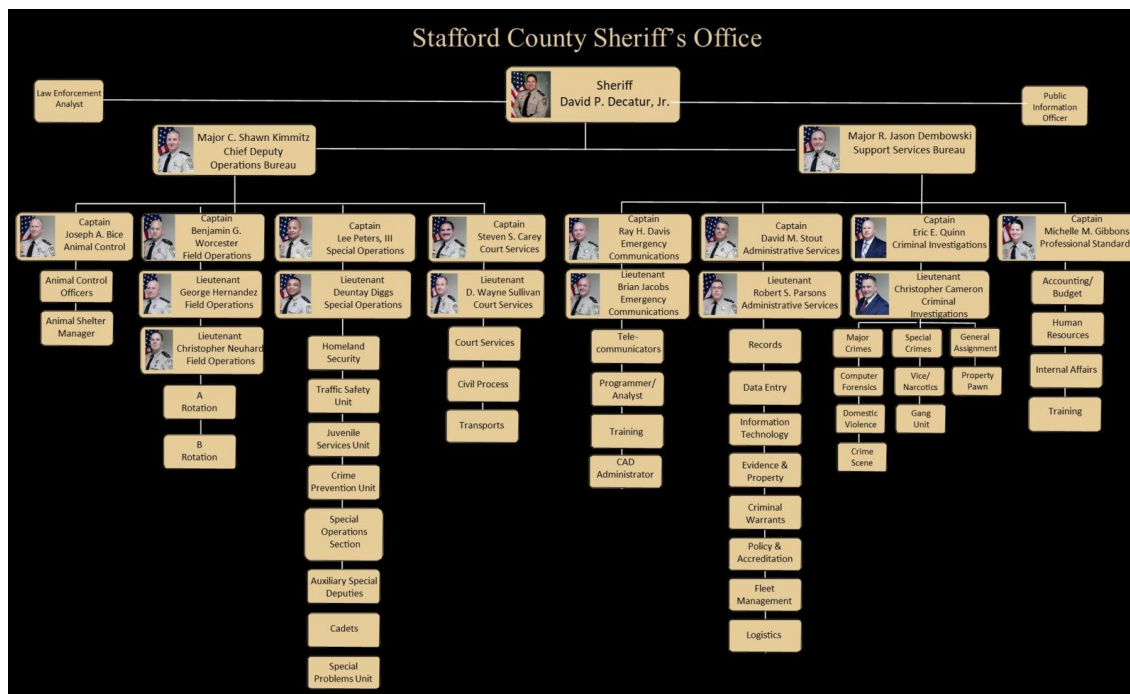
innovative people, working with the community, to serve and protect Stafford County while using the best tools and technology available." The work done through our Strategic Planning process provides on-going evaluations of our agency to confirm that we are employing contemporary law enforcement practices.

I count myself truly blessed to live and serve in Stafford County. Thank you for your never ending support that allows me and my Sheriff's Office colleagues to do that.

Sheriff David P. Decatur



Organizational Chart



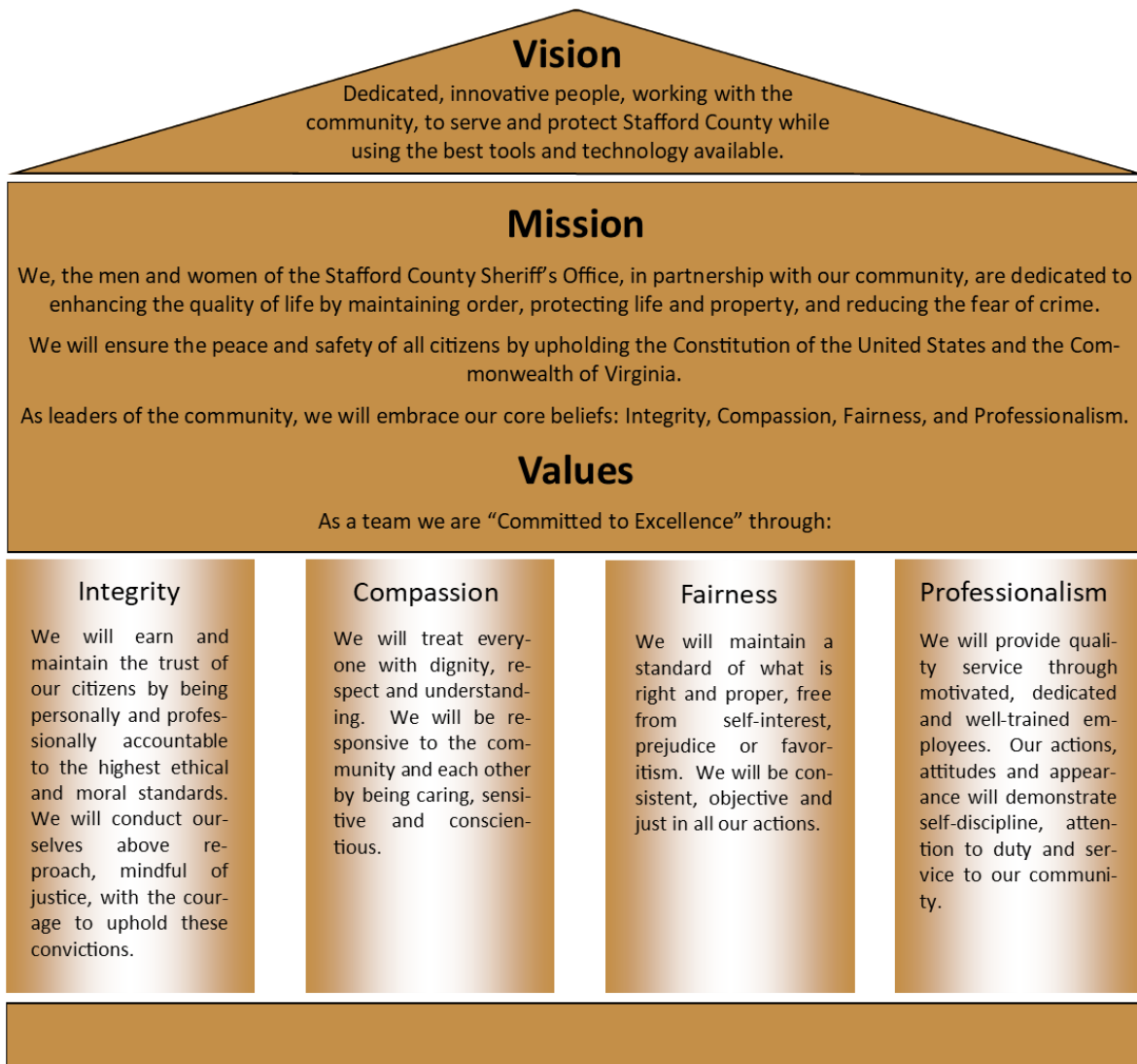
Congratulations to Law Enforcement Basic Class 161 who graduated in December. From left to right, Deputy N.J. Amato III, Deputy C.D. Sullivan, Deputy D.M. Bertrand, Deputy E.E. Donkor, Deputy N.D. Fonseca II, and Deputy R.J. Kemp.

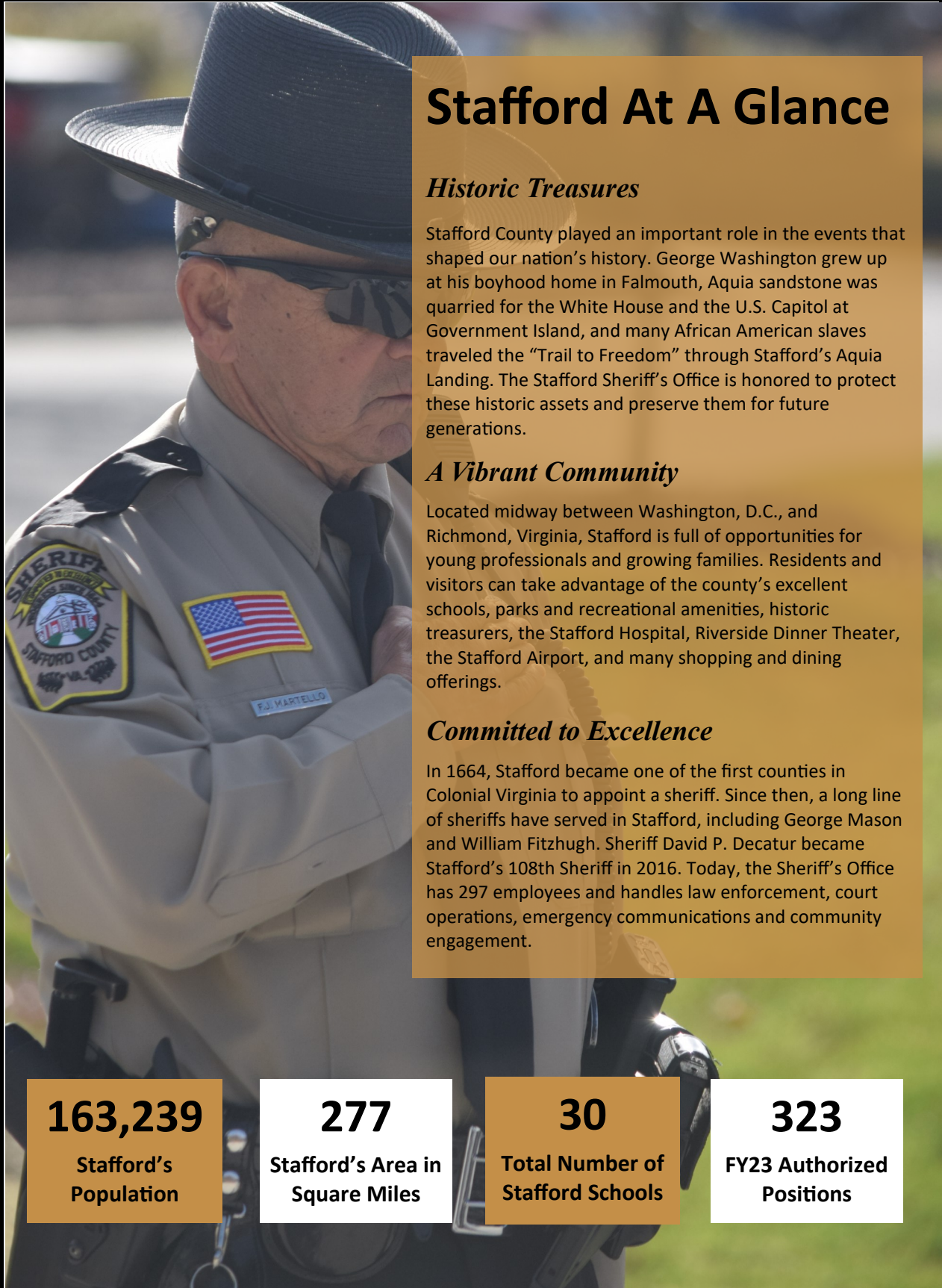


Vision, Mission and Values

Our vision, mission and values provide a roadmap for our organization for the future. Our vision is an aspiration that describes what we would like to achieve for its future. Our mission describes how we can fulfill our vision. Values provides guidance for how we should behave in carrying out our mission and fulfilling our vision.

Sharing a vision, mission and values helps to inspire us to coordinate our actions toward common future. During our Strategic Planning Process, members of the Sheriff's Office Strategic Planning Team reaffirmed our Mission and organizational values. They were also asked to envision their desired future state as a department. Common elements of these statements were culled to develop the Vision and Vision Principles.



Stafford At A Glance

Historic Treasures

Stafford County played an important role in the events that shaped our nation's history. George Washington grew up at his boyhood home in Falmouth, Aquia sandstone was quarried for the White House and the U.S. Capitol at Government Island, and many African American slaves traveled the "Trail to Freedom" through Stafford's Aquia Landing. The Stafford Sheriff's Office is honored to protect these historic assets and preserve them for future generations.

A Vibrant Community

Located midway between Washington, D.C., and Richmond, Virginia, Stafford is full of opportunities for young professionals and growing families. Residents and visitors can take advantage of the county's excellent schools, parks and recreational amenities, historic treasures, the Stafford Hospital, Riverside Dinner Theater, the Stafford Airport, and many shopping and dining offerings.

Committed to Excellence

In 1664, Stafford became one of the first counties in Colonial Virginia to appoint a sheriff. Since then, a long line of sheriffs have served in Stafford, including George Mason and William Fitzhugh. Sheriff David P. Decatur became Stafford's 108th Sheriff in 2016. Today, the Sheriff's Office has 297 employees and handles law enforcement, court operations, emergency communications and community engagement.

163,239 Stafford's Population	277 Stafford's Area in Square Miles	30 Total Number of Stafford Schools	323 FY23 Authorized Positions
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2022 Highlights



January

The Sheriff's Office responded to an abduction in the Embrey Mill subdivision. A female juvenile was forced into a vehicle by a male stranger as she walked home from the bus stop. The female was able to escape and report the incident. The Sheriff's Office worked tirelessly to identify the suspect. The suspect barricaded himself inside of a home and was taken into custody without incident.

February

Deputies stopped a driver on Warrenton Road for disregarding a stop light. The driver fled the traffic stop at a high rate of speed and continued driving recklessly onto I-95. The suspect hit a marked cruiser during the pursuit and went into the oncoming lanes several times. Deputies attempted to stop the suspect utilizing intentional vehicle contact but were unsuccessful. The suspect eventually crashed at the Fredericksburg Nationals Stadium and was captured by K-9 Titan.

March

Members of the Sheriff's Office were present for the torch lighting ceremony for the Special Olympics basketball tournament. Throughout the year the Stafford County Sheriff's Office is active with numerous events for Special Olympics such as the Polar Plunge and Torch Run.



April

Communications Officers in the Stafford County Emergency Communications Center were recognized for their hard work and dedication during National Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week (April 10-16). Stafford's communication officers process calls for law enforcement and fire and rescue.

May

The documentary film "Service and Sacrifice" debuted at the Law Enforcement Museum. This film featured several members of the Stafford County Sheriff's Office.

June

Deputies responded to a motel on Warrenton Road for a shooting. An adult male victim was found shot and would later succumb to his wounds at the hospital. Deputies were able to contact the suspect by phone and negotiated a safe surrender of the suspect. The suspect was arrested for numerous charges including murder.

July

The Junior Deputy Academy welcomed elementary school students and middle schoolers from Stafford County during two different sessions. Deputies and members of the SCSO Cadet program taught kids about law enforcement through interactive and fun activities.





2022 Highlights

August

Sheriff David Decatur and deputies attended a back-to-school gala at Strong Tower Church. This gala allowed for over 200 students to receive school supplies.



September

Deputies responded to Conway Elementary School after the Spotsylvania Emergency Communications Center received threatening calls referencing an attack at the school. Deputies ensured that the school grounds and facility were safe. Detectives worked around the clock to identify the suspect, ultimately leading to the suspect's capture.

October

Deputies responded to an automobile accident on I-95. One of the drivers involved had a knife plunged into his neck and continued to push it further into his neck as deputies approached. I-95 was closed for nearly forty minutes as deputies attempted to deescalate the situation. Deputies were able to take the suspect into custody while ensuring appropriate medical care was provided.

November

A deputy on a marked Sheriff's Office motorcycle attempted to stop a reckless driver on Garrisonville Road. The driver briefly stopped, then struck the deputy with their car. The suspect proceeded to hit the deputy's motorcycle and another vehicle stopped in traffic before accelerating over the median into the oncoming traffic lanes. The suspect fled and abandoned their vehicle with their juvenile passenger. The passenger of the suspect vehicle was located and detained but the driver was able to escape. The suspect was located the next day in Baltimore and arrested for numerous offenses including attempted capital murder.

December

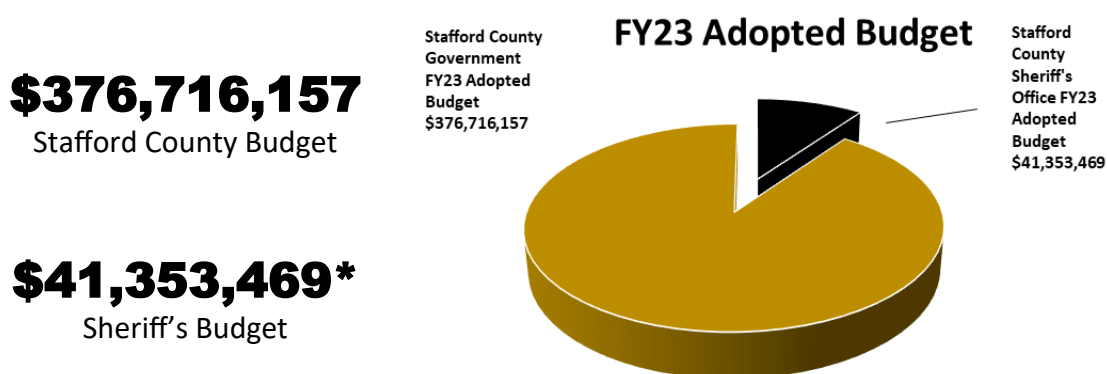
The Sheriff's Office held its annual Holiday Toy Drive with donations coming in from several organizations in Stafford. The Sheriff's Office turned its training room into Santa's headquarters. Children were able to meet and take pictures with Santa while receiving presents and treats. The Sheriff's Office also went into the community to deliver toys and candy canes.





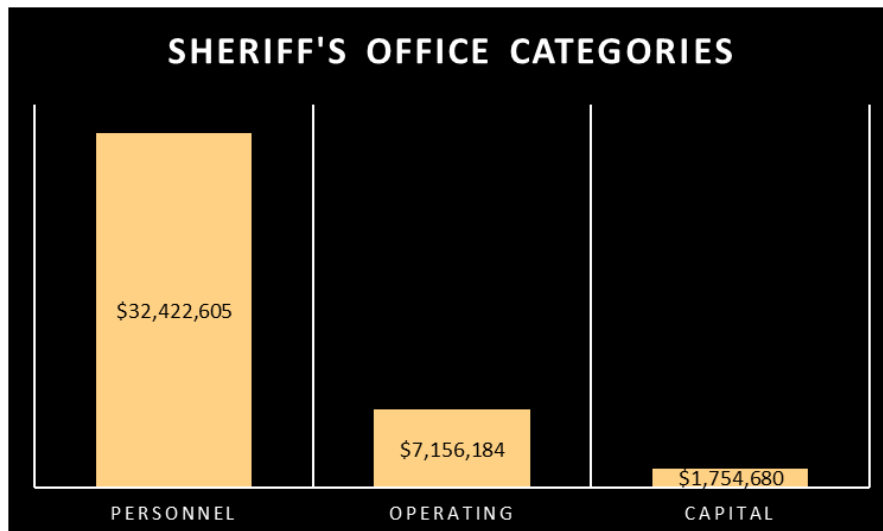
Financial Statistics

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office budget is but one piece of the overall Stafford County budget (see chart below). For the FY 2023 (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023) the total County budget was \$376,716,157. The Sheriff's Office budget was \$41,353,469 (including the Court Deputies) or 11% of the overall County Budget.



*Includes Court Deputies

The 11% slice of the County Government's budget pie is divided into three major categories totaling \$41,353,469 (see chart below). The three categories are Personnel, Operating and Capital. Personnel costs include the salaries and benefits of the 323 Sheriff's Office employees. Operating costs deal with the day-to-day operations of the Sheriff's Office to include training, technology and fuel. Capital costs include vehicles and associated equipment for the Sheriff's Office.

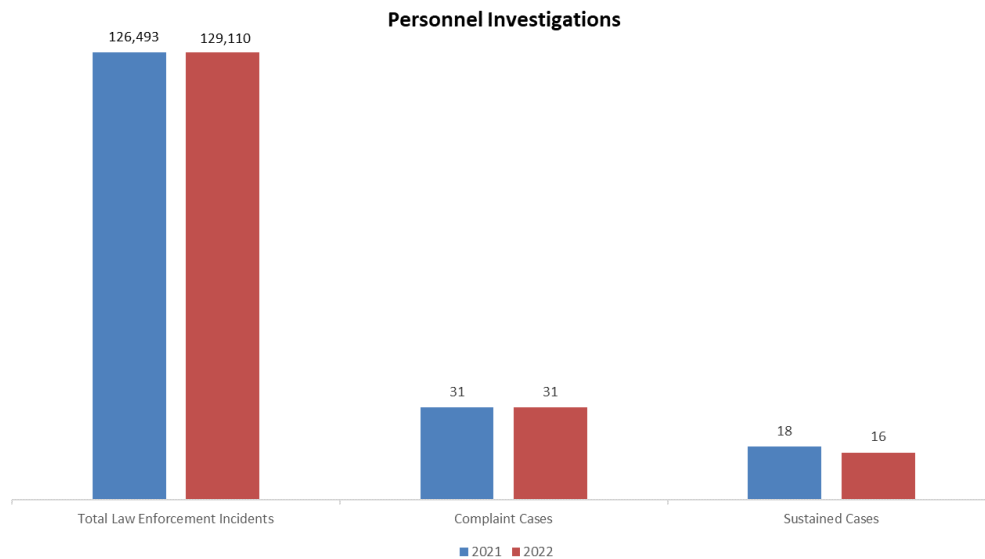


*Includes Court Deputies



Personnel Statistics

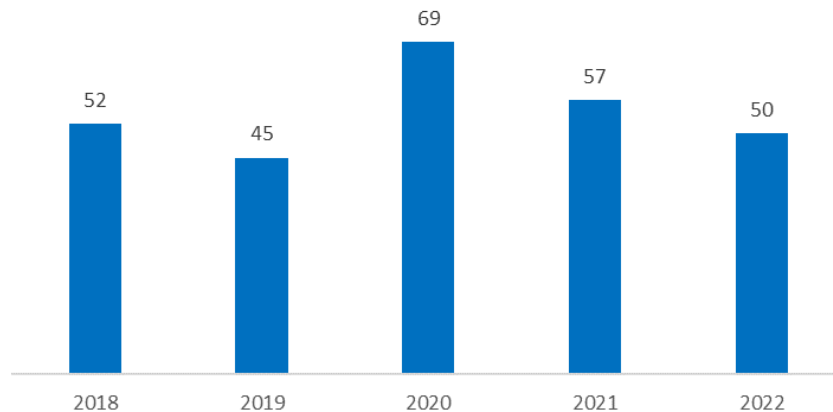
The image of the Stafford County Sheriff's Office depends on the personal integrity and discipline of every one of its employees. The Sheriff's Office encourages citizens to bring forward grievances regarding misconduct by personnel. The Sheriff's Office investigates all complaints made by citizens. In addition, many of the complaints investigated are internally initiated by the Sheriff's Office. Proactive internal investigations ensure the public that our personnel adhere to the highest standards in performance.



In 2022, the Sheriff's Office responded to 129,110 law enforcement incidents. The 31 personnel investigations in 2022 accounted for less than .02% of all the calls responded to by Sheriff's Office Personnel.

Deputies Assaulted

The graph on the right shows the number of assaults on deputies over the past five years. Assaults decreased by about 12% from 2021 to 2022.

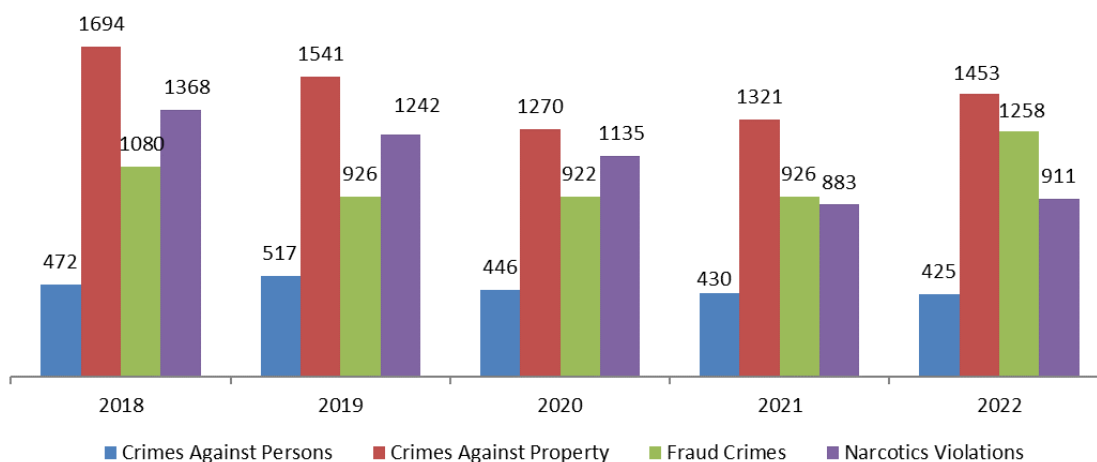




Crime Statistics

The following pages provide statistics that reflect different activities handled by the Sheriff's Office in Calendar Year 2021. It is important to note that 2021 statistics were captured while the Covid-19 pandemic continued and its impact was felt throughout every facet of operations in the Sheriff's Office. Careful consideration should be given to drawing any conclusions about the year's trends based on these statistics.

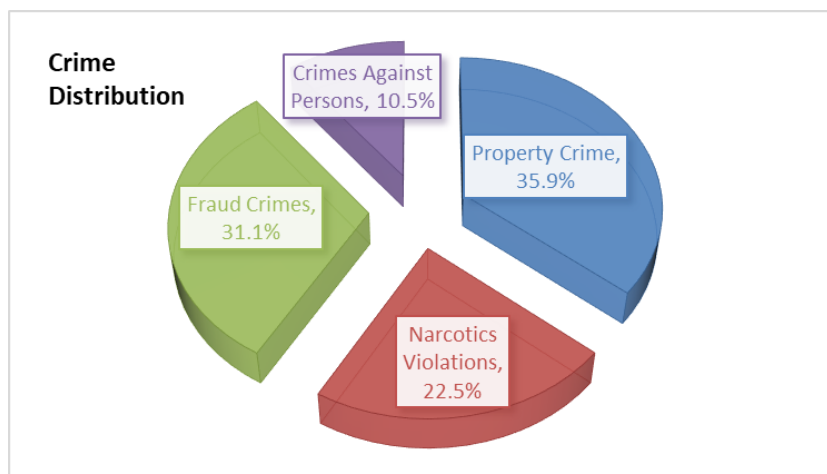
All Crimes Reported



In the chart above, Narcotics Violations saw the biggest change from 2020 to 2021 with a decrease of approximately 21%. Crimes Against Persons dropped 1%. The two areas that saw increases were Crimes Against Property, which rose 6%, and Fraud Crimes, which increased almost 3%.

The chart on the right summarizes the major crimes reported in Calendar Year 2022.

Property Crimes made up the largest percentage of all major crimes in 2022 at 35.9% but only increased in the number of crimes by 10%. The Fraud Crimes category made up the second largest group of crimes but it saw the largest growth at 36% in 2022. Narcotics Violations also increased in the number of crimes from 2021 to 2022, increasing 3% in 2022.

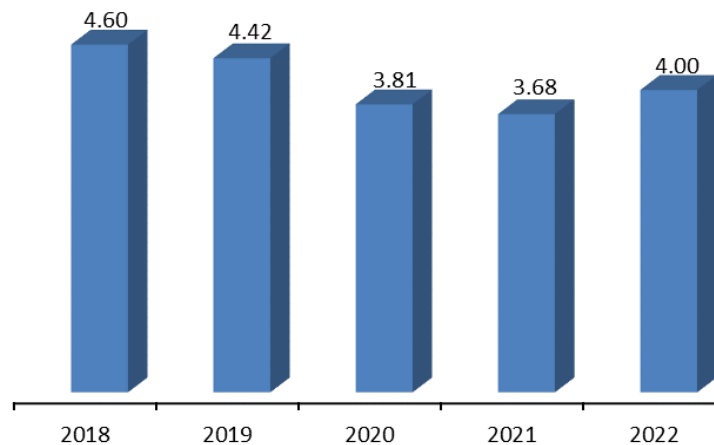




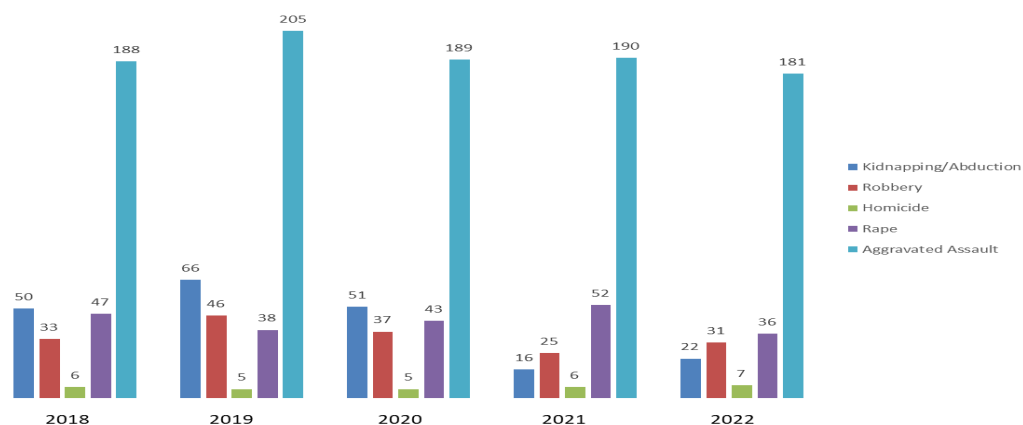
Crime Statistics

Stafford's crime rate showed a slight increase in 2022 in comparison to 2021. Overall, Stafford's crime rate remains low when considering the growth rate for the county. Contributing factors to maintaining a low crime rate include the Sheriff's Office's community engagement initiatives and strong partnerships with businesses, citizens and elected officials.

Crime Rate per 100 Residents



Crimes Against Persons



Of all the Crimes Against Persons, two categories decreased from 2021 to 2022: Aggravated Assaults decreased 5% in 2022 and Rapes decreased about 31%. Homicides rose by just one, increasing from 6 in 2021 to 7 in 2022; Kidnapping/Abductions increased by six, growing from 16 in 2021 to 22 in 2022. Robberies also increased from 25 in 2021 to 31 in 2022, a 24% increase.



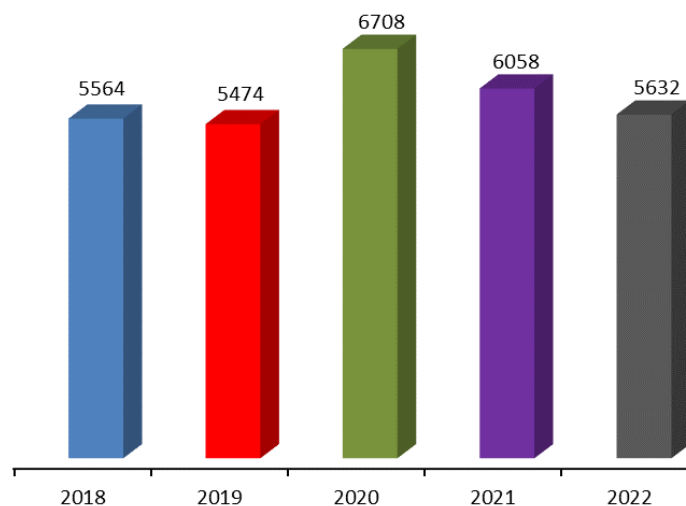
Crime Statistics

All categories in Crimes Against Property showed increases from 2021 to 2022 with the biggest increase in the Fraud/Financial Category at approximately 36%. Motor Vehicle Theft followed with an almost 32% increase and Larceny increased 9%. The Burglary category showed the smallest increase at 2%.

Crimes Against Property



Criminal Arrests



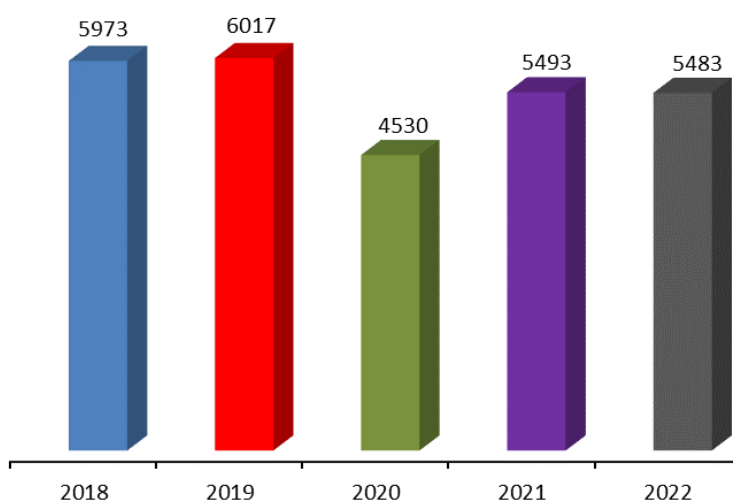
After an almost 10% decrease from 2020 to 2021, Criminal Arrests decreased by approximately 7% from 2021 to 2022.



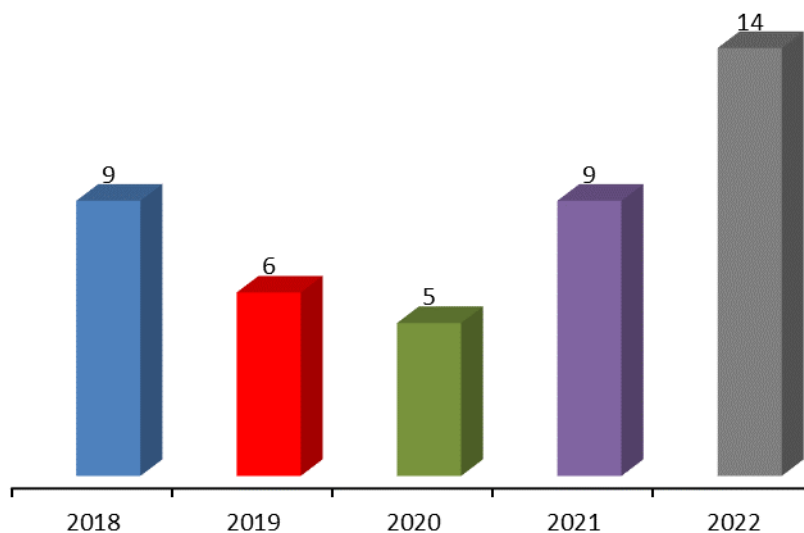
Traffic Safety Statistics

The Special Operations Division is responsible for the Traffic Safety Unit, which manages the control of traffic movement, enforcement of traffic laws and the reduction of traffic collisions through directed and proactive enforcement. Traffic accidents decreased slightly in 2022, but Fatal Auto Accidents increased 56% from 2021 to 2022 (rose in number by 5).

Traffic Accidents



Fatal Traffic Accidents

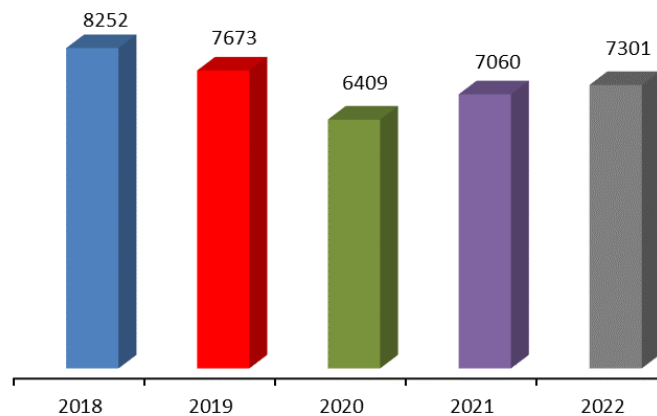




Traffic Safety Statistics

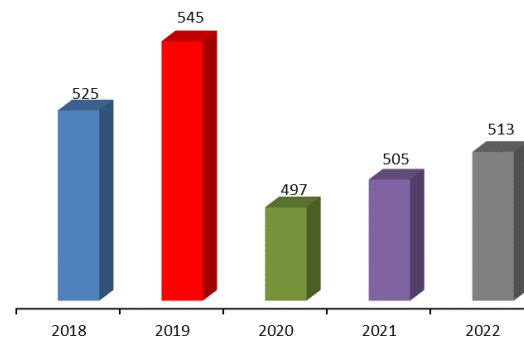
After years of steady declines, the number of citations issued has risen over the past two years. Citations issued from 2021 to 2022 rose approximately 3%.

Citations

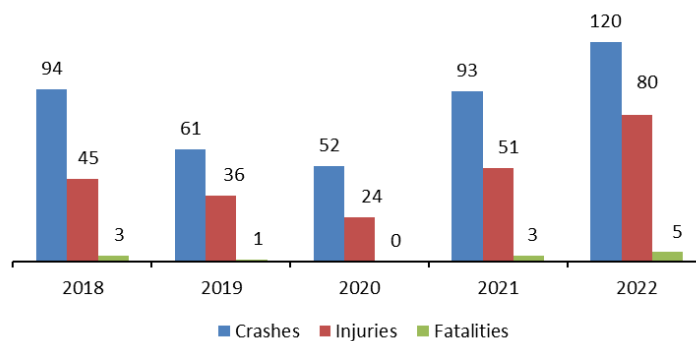


DUI

DUIs increased slightly from 2021 to 2022 at approximately 2%.



Alcohol Related Incidents



Each category of Alcohol Related Incidents reflected increases from 2021 to 2022. Crashes increased almost 29%; Injuries increased about 57%; and the number of Fatalities rose by a total of 2.



Court Services Statistics

The Operations Bureau oversees the Court Services Division. The Court Services/Civil Process Division provides a variety of services such as security at the Stafford Courthouse, prisoner transportation and the processing of all legal civil documents. They also provide regular security checks around the Stafford Government campus. The workload of the Court Services Division continues to grow as reflected by the chart below.

Court Service	2021	2022	% Change
Courthouse Visitors Screened	101,209	104,901	4%
Jurors Screened	1,631	1,200	-7%
Civil Process	28,727	30,728	7%
Civil Process at Rappahannock Regional Jail	832	1,019	22%
Evictions	83	392	372%
Transports	438	457	4%
Extraditions	49	70	43%
Mental Transports	127	221	74%
Warrants Served	269	298	11%
Prisoners Transported	3,793	4,570	20%
Circuit Court Days	628	632	1%
General District Court Days	332	361	9%
Juvenile/Domestic Relations Court Days	420	421	.2%

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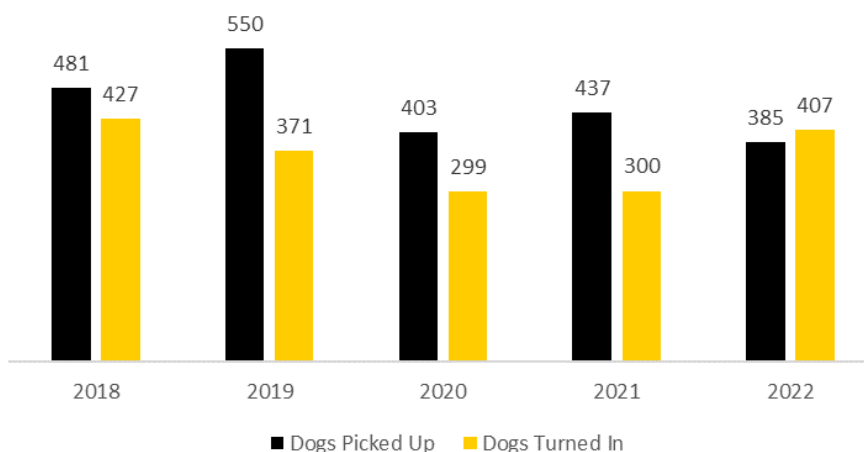


Animal Control Statistics — Dogs

Animal Control is composed of two entities: sworn officers and the Animal Shelter staff. Each group falls under the command of the Stafford County Sheriff, but they have different regulating authorities under the Commonwealth of Virginia. The officers are regulated by the Sheriff and the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services with specific training requirements set by the Virginia Department of Agriculture (VDAC). The Animal Shelter and staff are regulated and inspected by VDAC, the Virginia Board of Pharmacy and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

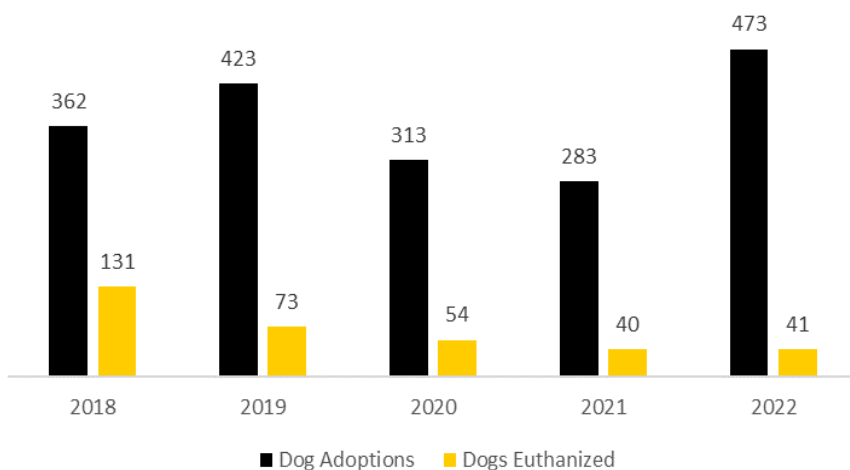
Dogs Coming to the Shelter

The number of dogs picked up decreased by about 12% from 2021 to 2022. Dogs turned into the shelter increased 36% from 2021 to 2022.



Dogs Leaving the Shelter

Dog Adoptions increased by approximately 67%. Dogs euthanized increased in number by one (3% increase).

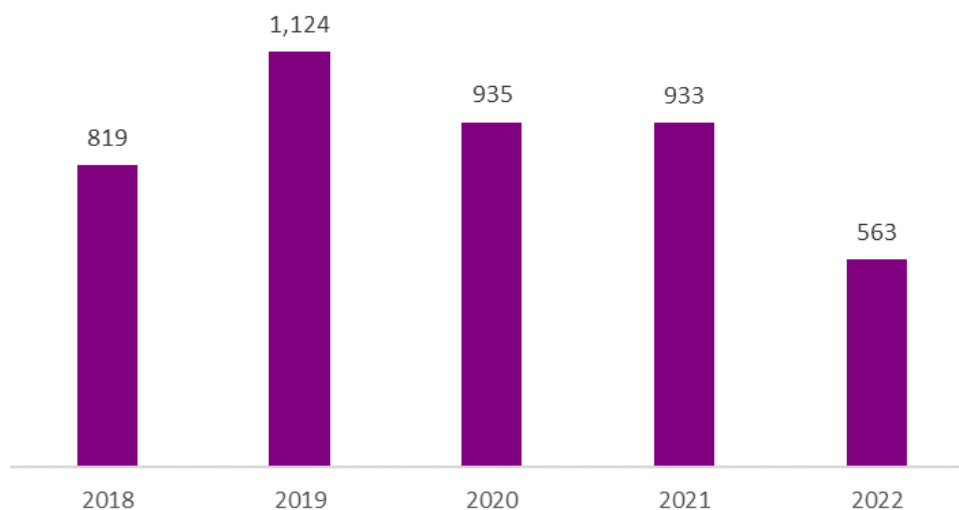




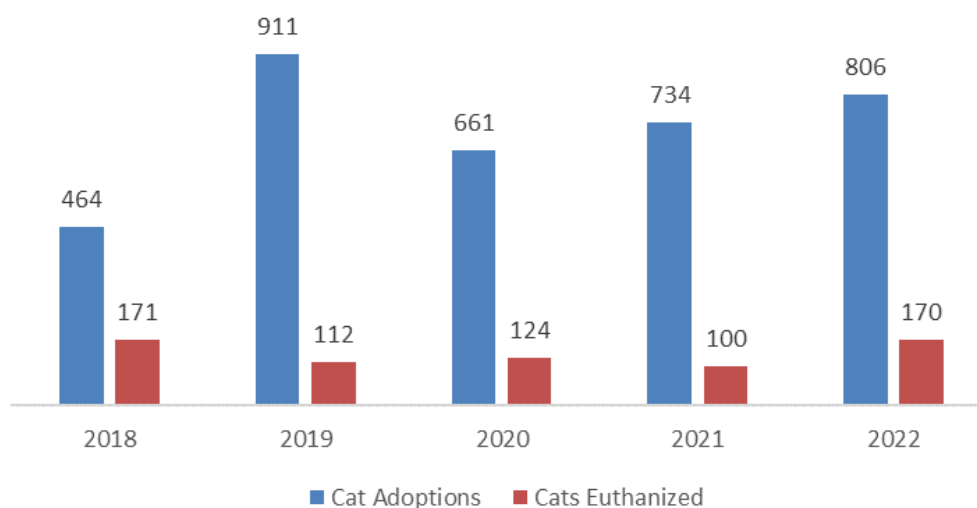
Animal Control Statistics — Cats

The number of cats turned in decreased by approximately 40% from 2021 to 2022.

Cats Turned In



Cats Leaving the Shelter



Cat adoptions increased 10% from 2021 to 2022. The number of cats euthanized increased by 70%.



Law Enforcement Operations

The Support Services Bureau consists of the Criminal Investigations Division, the Administrative Services Division, the Professional Standards Division and the Emergency Communications Division. Staff monitors and coordinates technology initiatives, service delivery programs, crime patterns and data shifts, budget efficiencies, community expectations and the impact of new laws and regulations.

Criminal Investigations Division

The Criminal Investigations Division oversees the assignment, coordination and investigation of cases. The Major Crimes Unit handles the assignment and investigation of all major crimes. The General Assignment Unit handles runaways, missing persons and property crimes. The Special Investigations Unit manages drug-related crimes and investigations. The chart to the right reflects statistics involving the division's cases in 2022.

Administrative Services Division

The Administrative Services Division supports Sheriff's Office operations including Records, Data Entry, Information Technology, Evidence and Property, Criminal Warrants, Policy and Accreditation, Fleet Management and Logistics.

Professional Standards Division

Professional Standards oversees Accounting/Budget, Human Resources, Internal Affairs and Training. Human Resources recruits and hires personnel, administers employee benefits and maintains personnel records. Internal Affairs provides oversight for the Sheriff's Office and investigates complaints of Sheriff's Office personnel. Training staff documents, certifies and implements training requirements.

Linda M. Cunningham retired from the Sheriff's Office in 2022 after 27 years of service. She is shown in the photo receiving her plaque from Sheriff Decatur.



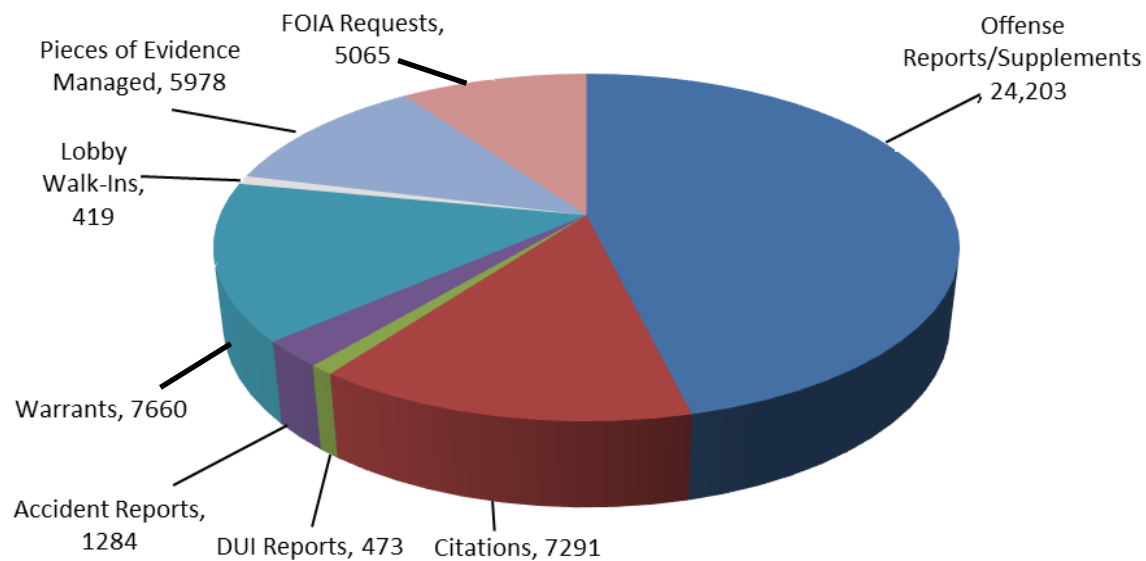
Major Crimes Unit	
Search Warrants Issued	181
Court Orders Issued	47
Direct Indictments	94
Felony Warrants	245
Misdemeanor Warrants	45
Child Forensic Interviews	111
General Assignment Unit	
Search Warrants Issued	202
Court Orders Issued	301
Direct Indictments	111
Felony Warrants	159
MISD Warrants	69
Value of Prop. Recovered	1,095,397.91
Special Investigations Unit	
Search Warrants	96
Court Orders	395
Direct Indictments	46
Felony Warrants	242
MISD Warrants	59
Surveillance Events	569
Surveillance Hours	1661
Control Buys	53
Money Spent	\$22,143.00
Est. Value of Prop. Seized	\$111,268.00
Est. Value of Drugs Seized	\$679,086.00



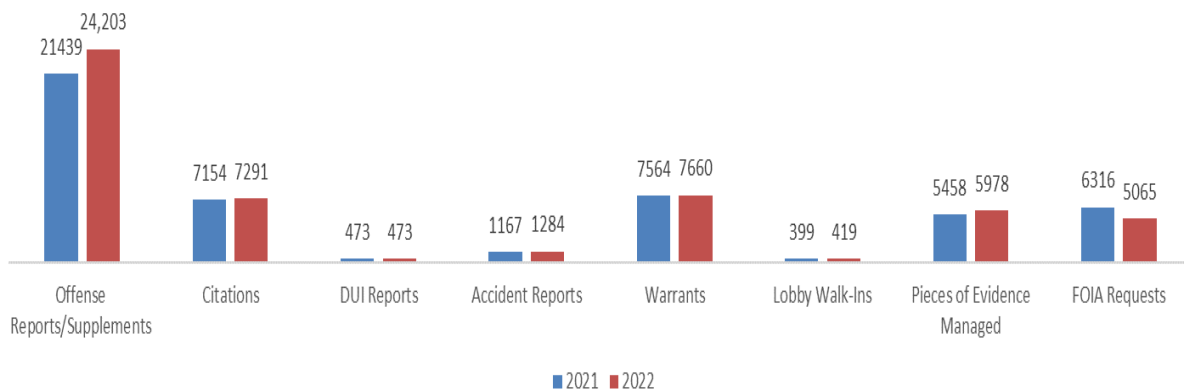
Law Enforcement Operations

The chart below reflects the number of major activities handled by the Support Services Bureau in 2022. The second chart below compares the number of activities in each category in 2021 and 2022. All activities showed increases in 2022 except for FOIA requests and DUI Reports. Offense Reports/Supplements increased 13%; Citations increased 2%; Pieces of Evidence Managed increased 10%; Accident Reports increased 10%; Lobby Walk-Ins increased 5%; and Warrants increased 1%. FOIA requests decreased 20% and DUI Reports stayed the same.

Activity Summary 2022



Activity Summary 2021 vs. 2022

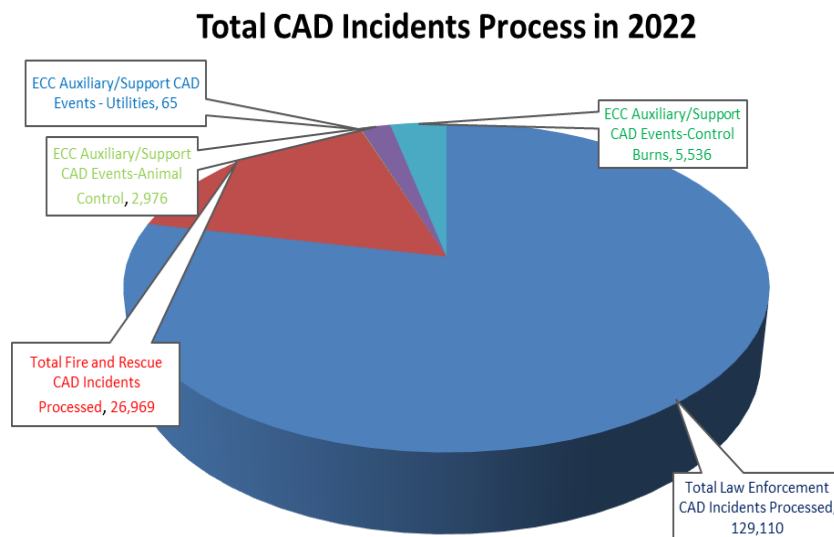




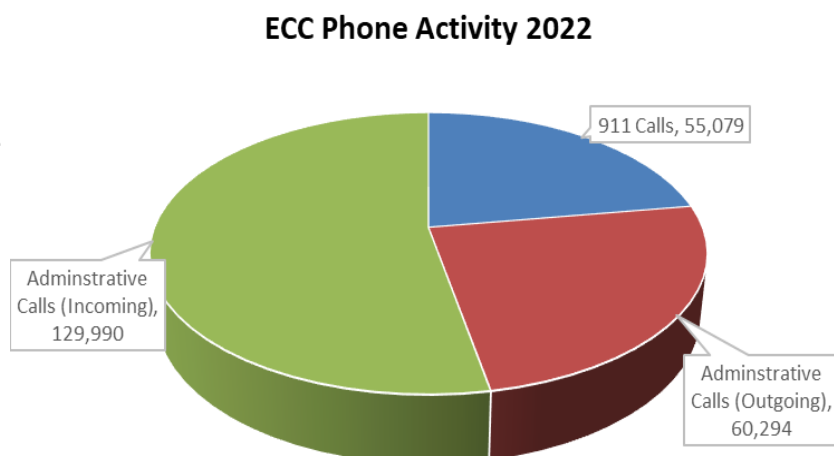
Emergency Communications Center

The Emergency Communications Center (ECC) is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year supporting operations through an ever-changing comprehensive communications infrastructure. In 2021, the ECC added the Fredericksburg Regional Transit to its Emergency Radio System, which allows direct communications with them in emergencies for evacuations and emergency transportation.

The Emergency Communications Center processed a total of 164,656 incidents in 2022. The chart to the right shows the type and number of incidents that dispatchers received as well as the number of ECC phone calls. The majority of incidents are Law Enforcement-related, but Animal Control issues, Fire and Rescue, and Utility calls after hours are also part of the division's daily workload.















The total volume of phone calls that the Emergency Communications Center processed in 2022 is 245,363. The chart to the right indicates the types and number of calls handled by the division. Of the 911 calls from the public, 9,963, or 18%, were made from landline phones and 45,029, or 82%, were made from cell phones. Also, 87 calls of the total 911 calls were 911 to Text calls.





Strategic Plan Overview

After a joint effort by the Strategic Planning Leadership Team and the Strategic Planning Team, Focus Areas and corresponding Strategic Goals and Objectives were developed. Focus Groups were first set in place in 2018 when the Strategic Planning Leadership Team appointed members of the Sheriff's Office to participate in the groups to work on selected goals and objectives from our Strategic Plan. To date, there are a total of 12 Focus Areas (see below). Details on all of the Focus Areas and Objectives can be found in the Strategic Plan document on the Sheriff's Office website at www.staffordsheriff.com. Click on the "About Us" link. The following pages reflect the Strategic Plan's impact on our community.

1	2	3	4	5
Effective and Comprehensive Community Engagement	Recruiting and Retention of Personnel	Effective Contemporary Policies	Effective Career Training and Development	Effective and Comprehensive Employee Communications
				
6	7	8	9	10
Effective Use of Current and Emerging Technologies	Filling Funding Gaps	Homeland Security and Crime Prevention	Traffic Safety	Taking Care of Our People
				
11		12		
Infrastructure		Legislative and Regulatory Influences		
				



Impact on Our Community

The following reflects concrete examples of how the Sheriff's Office's strategic planning efforts impacted Stafford County in 2022.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Engagement has long been a priority of the Stafford County Sheriff's Office. Strategic Planning efforts enhanced the office's legacy programs while also implementing new programs—such as the Community Engagement Team—which was established in 2020.

Ongoing Community Engagement Programs

"In the Know with the Stafford S.O." Podcast

The podcast, which is staffed and produced in-house by Sheriff's Office employees, was used to communicate Covid-19 information to the public in 2020 as well as to highlight different programs, issues, events and other important information. The podcast can be found on the Sheriff's Office website at www.staffordsheriff.com.



SPO R.L. Richmond taking a group picture with some of his favorite students.

Continued "Happening Now" Videos

Happening Now" videos were used on social media to inform the community of incidents currently underway such as crimes or traffic incidents. The videos allow SCSO staff to quickly inform citizens about emergency events in real time and provide updates until the incident has

ended.

Stafford County Public Schools

After many years of working together on various issues and projects including participating on a Joint Safe School Task Force examining current safety practices and procedures, the Sheriff's Office and Stafford County Schools entered into an official Schools Law Enforcement Partnership in January 2021. The goal of the partnership is to foster relations, mutual respect and understanding to build a positive and safe school environment.

The Sheriff's Office has designated a point of contact between the agency and the schools to address operational and administrative issues and to serve as a consultant on safety and security.

School Resource Officers work in middle and high schools. Two D.A.R.E. Officers who work with elementary schools. Six School Protection Officers are assigned to six elementary schools to protect the schools, school staff and students.

Cameras installed in the Emergency Communications Center at the Ford T. Humphrey Public Safety Center have software which is able to monitor schools. In addition, radios on all school buses helped to improve the safety of kids riding the buses.

High schools also offer the Youth of Virginia Speak Out (YOVASO) leadership program that focuses on saving the lives of teenage drivers. Deputies assigned to the Traffic Safety Unit work with the school YOVASO Sponsor.

Badges for Baseball

During this annual summer program, Stafford deputies serve as mentors and coaches to youth from community-based organizations. The goal of the five-day camp is to teach kids the fundamentals of baseball, foster a relationship with coaches and mentors and expand participants' life skills. A



Impact on Our Community

character education curriculum is also included.

Business Watch

This partnership among businesses, law enforcement, and other organizations that represent business interests seeks to reduce and prevent crime through cooperation and education. The program was rebooted in late 2019. Monthly meetings are held with businesses at which the Sheriff's Office exchanges trend information and provides training.



Cadet First Sergeant Schneider received the 2022 Cadet Leadership Award. He is shown in the photo receiving the award from First Sergeant H.R. Torrance.

Cadet Program

Since 1973, the Sheriff's Office has offered young men and women between the ages of 14 and 20 an opportunity to experience law enforcement first hand through its Cadet Program. Lead by Sheriff's Deputies, the program allows youth to train and work in

a wide range of law enforcement procedures. The goal is to help interested individuals cultivate a better understanding of the profession and enable them to make an informed decision about pursuing a law enforcement career.

Citizens Police Academy

This 11-week program was designed to enhance citizens' understanding of the functions and services of the Sheriff's Office. Participants get an inside look at the daily operations and the "Hows and Whys" of police work. Graduates of

the academy act as advocates to promote community policing.

Coffee With a Cop

These informal gatherings with the Sheriff and other members of the Sheriff's

Office allow citizens and business representatives to connect on a one-on-one basis with law enforcement. Events are held at different businesses throughout Stafford.

Crime Solvers

Crime Solvers is a non-profit community-based organization that works with the Sheriff's Office and the community to combat crime. The group pays individuals for tips that lead to the arrest and conviction of suspects involved in crimes. Crime Solvers holds several fundraising events, such as the Stafford Shredding event and the Community Yard Sale, throughout the year.

D.A.R.E.

The Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program seeks to provide kids with the skills they need to avoid drugs, gangs and violence. Each year, fifth grade students from Stafford County Public

Schools commemorate the completion of their DARE program with a huge celebration hosted by the Stafford Sheriff's Office.

Halloween Safety

The Sheriff's Office goes above and beyond to ensure trick-or-treaters enjoy a safe and fun-filled Halloween. Deputies increase their presence in neighborhoods throughout



Sergeant J.T. Harrod pinning a Sheriff's badge on one of the office's younger fans during Coffee with a Cop.



Citizens Police Academy Class of 2022.



Impact on Our Community

the community on Halloween night to ensure trick-or-treaters have a safe night. Traffic tips are also sent out to remind motorists to watch for pedestrians, especially when driving through residential areas where children may be going door to door trick-or-treating. In addition, the Sheriff's Office x-rays candy at the Stafford Courthouse on Halloween night to detect metallic objects.

Junior Deputy Academy

This one-week summer program is geared toward upper elementary and middle school students. Participants attend a camp-style educational program during which they participate in daily activities that focus on building character as well as basic instruction in law enforcement duties and responsibilities.

LEU Ride

The Law Enforcement United Ride honors officers who have died in the line of duty and works to ensure their family members are supported and not forgotten. Members of the Stafford Sheriff's Office participate in the ride each year, which starts in Chesapeake, Virginia and ends in Washington, D.C.

National Night Out



Deputy S.C. Davis presenting a child with a D.A.R.E. badge during National Night Out.

Stafford's National Night Out has been recognized by the National Association of Town Watch. Participation and attendance in this celebration grow every year.

National Night Out is an annual event held at Stafford Marketplace and in Stafford neighborhoods that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer and more caring places to live.



Deputy R.B. Brooks helping one of our Junior Deputies learn about fingerprinting.

Neighborhood Watch

The Neighborhood Watch program allows communities throughout Stafford County to work together and in partnership with the Sheriff's Office to reduce crime and improve their quality of life. The Sheriff's Office provides a starter kit, information guide, and meets regularly with Neighborhood Watch groups.

Operation Medicine Cabinet

The Sheriff's Office is a regular participant in Operation Medicine Cabinet and the annual Fall Drug Take Back program at Stafford Hospital. In addition, there is a drug disposal unit in the lobby of the Ford T. Humphrey Public Safety Building, which provides a safe and easy way to dispose of expired or unwanted prescription drugs.

Ring Neighbors App

The Sheriff's Office joined the Neighbors app by Ring to provide the community with real-time, local crime and safety information. Citizens can text "staffordco" to 555888 from their smartphone to download the Neighbors app for free and share crime and safety related videos, photos and text-based posts. They can also receive real-time safety alerts from their neighbors, law enforcement and the Ring team.

Special Olympics

The Sheriff's Office supports Special Olympics each year and participates in the program's events such as the Torch Run and the Polar Plunge.

Special Star Force Cadets

The Special Star Force Cadets is a program for



Impact on Our Community

young people with intellectual challenges, ages 13-22. Cadets experience various duties of a law enforcement officer in a safe and hazard free environment.

Worship Watch

This partnership with Stafford's places of worship aims to fight crime and keep members safe. The program includes training, information exchanges, and security assessments.

RETENTION & RECRUITING

Public Safety Pay Scale

The Public Safety Pay Scale was created and implemented in 2020. The scale enhanced the full compensation package for employees and is more competitive with neighboring jurisdictions. For Fiscal Year 2023, the Board of Supervisors approved a 2.25% salary scale adjustment and a salary increase for public safety following the pay scale step plan (2.85% average increase). Analysis of the pay scale is ongoing to ensure it remains accurate and competitive.

EFFECTIVE POLICIES

Standard Operating Procedures and General Orders Redefined

Standard Operating Procedures and General Orders are continually reviewed to ensure that the Sheriff's Office is using best practices for law enforcement agencies.

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

Training Provided for Supervisory Development

Additional training programs covering various topics such as employment law were facilitated to continue developing supervisors' managerial and leadership skills.

New Training Offered

To help enhance the quality of training provided to our sworn staff, several new classes were hosted by the SCSO. Those classes included the National Tactical Officer's Association class on Supervising Patrol Critical Incidents.

FILLING FUNDING GAPS

Additional Positions Approved

Seventeen new positions were added in Fiscal Year 2023 including eight Deputies and four Emergency Communications Officers in mid year. An Evidence Technician and Animal Caretaker II were approved in the FY23 Budget. In regards to the Body-Worn Camera Program, a Records Specialist, an Administrative Specialist II, and a Sergeant position were authorized in the FY23 Budget. Lastly, a conversion of a part-time Sergeant to full-time in the Court Services Division. Authorized full-time positions have continually increased over the past five years.



Sheriff Decatur fist bumping a child at Stafford Junction after she scored an amazing goal.



Impact on Our Community

EMPLOYEE COMMUNICATIONS

Continued Focus on Employee Communications

The SCSO continued to focus on improving communications with our employees. A monthly newsletter was created by our Public Information Officer. This newsletter and other important news are distributed to employees via email.

TECHNOLOGY

Purchase of New Body-Worn Cameras and In-Car Cameras

The SCSO signed a contract with Axon for the purchase of body-worn cameras and new in-car cameras. All of the new in-car cameras have been installed and the body-worn cameras are being systematically implemented.

HOMELAND SECURITY/CRIME PREVENTION

FBI Partnership Leads to Safer Schools

The Homeland Security Unit partnered with the FBI's Behavioral Analysis Unit to begin a new training program that includes a partnership with the Behavioral Analysis Unit and utilizing their assets when dealing with threats from schools.

TAKING CARE OF OUR PEOPLE

Wellness Program To Be Revitalized

The agency's existing Wellness Program will be enhanced with nutrition classes and other wellness classes such as heart health, sleep management, financial wellness and stress management. Also, a new wellness app is scheduled to be launched in the near future.



Fan favorite's Gracie and Dean showing off their Halloween costumes during an Animal Control Event.



Impact on Our Community

INFRASTRUCTURE

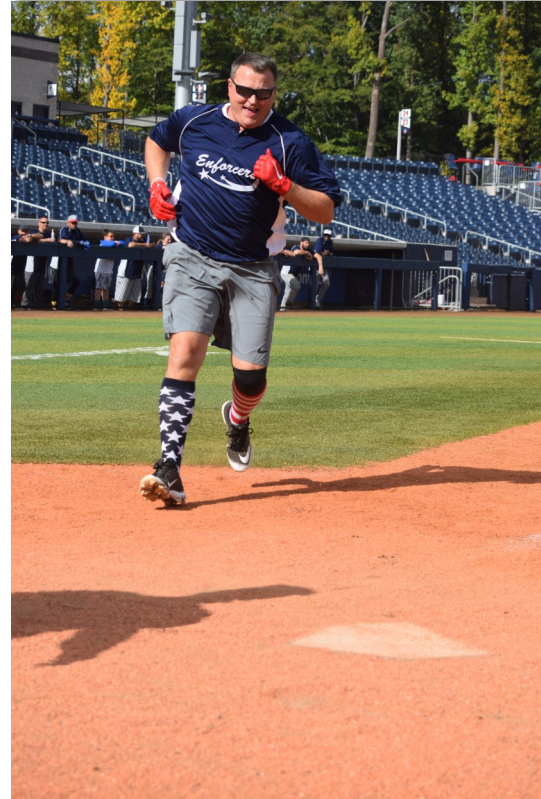
Addressing Future Infrastructure Needs

A focus group was developed to look at both the physical and cyber infrastructure needs of our agency. This will be beneficial in guiding our agency as we continue to grow.

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY INFLUENCES

Being Proactive With Legislative Changes

A focus group was developed to form an internal system to monitor bills and motions for legislative items that could directly impact public safety and the services that we deliver.



First Lieutenant C.P. Cameron scoring a run for the Enforcers during the Guns & Hoses Charity Softball Game.



Ruby on the job attempting to track down a recent bank robber.



Impact on Our Community



Social Media Connections

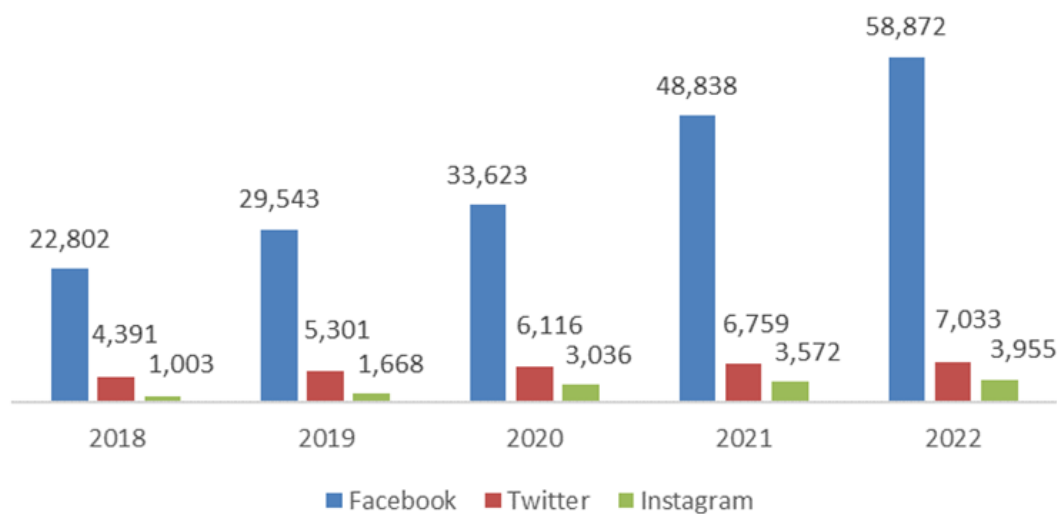


The Stafford County Sheriff's Office is committed to being transparent and accountable to Stafford citizens. A key tool to fulfill that goal is communication. The Sheriff's Public Information Officer (PIO) serves as the spokesperson for the Sheriff's Office and is on call 24 hours a day/365 days a year. The PIO is responsible for contact with all media outlets, disseminates information and responds to information requests from the public on a daily basis. In addition, the Public Information Officer acts as the Sheriff's Office photographer and social media coordinator.

The Sheriff's Office has Facebook (Office of Stafford County Sheriff), Twitter (@StaffcoSheriff) and Instagram (staffordsheriff), which was launched in 2018. All platforms have been instrumental in helping to spread the word on events and issues. The Sheriff's website at www.staffordsheriff.com offers a multitude of resources for citizens including information about community events, media releases, crime statistics as well as requests for child car seat inspections.



Social Media Statistics





Impact on Our Community

Fighting Drug Addiction

Mitigating the use of illegal drugs is a goal of the Homeland Security and Crime Prevention Unit. The unit engages in several activities each year such as DARE Day and National Drug Take Back Day to help rid the community of illegal drugs. On National Drug Take Back Day in 2021, the Sheriff's Office collected 364lbs of drugs and 120lbs of sharps.

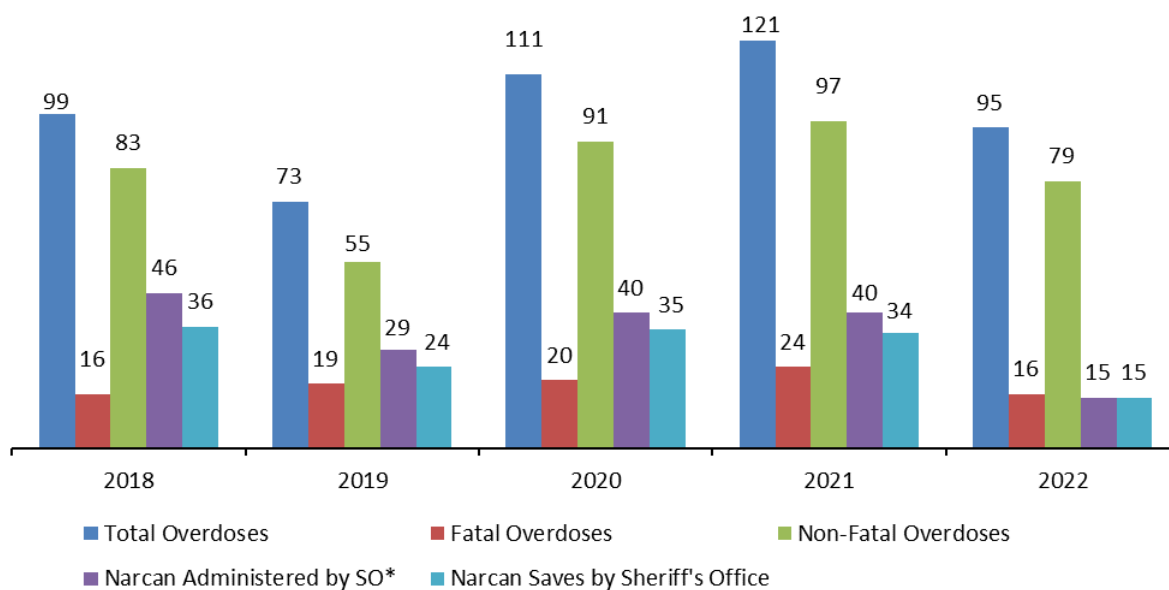
In addition, a drug collection unit is installed in the lobby of the Public Safety Building located at 1225 Courthouse Road. Drug drop-off is available Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. in the lobby. The unit allows citizens to dispose of prescription medication properly and safely.

The battle against opioids continues to be a growing challenge in Stafford County. The graph at the bottom shows the drug activity for the last five

calendar years. All categories showed decreases from 2021 to 2022: Total overdoses decreased 21%; Non-Fatal Overdoses decreased about 19%; and Fatal Overdoses decreased 33%. The number of Narcan administrations by Sheriff's Office personnel decreased by 63% and the number of Narcan saves by Sheriff's Office personnel decreased by 57%.

To help combat this crisis, the Sheriff's Office has implemented many programs. All deputies began carrying Narcan in their vehicles in August 2016. Narcan is a lifesaving nasal spray that neutralizes heroin/opiate overdoses. The graph at the bottom shows the impact of Narcan. In addition, the Sheriff's Office has teamed up with officials from the Knockout Addiction program to raise awareness of the drug addiction problem in the Stafford, Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania region.

Overdose and Narcan Use





Law Enforcement Awards

The Sheriff's Office held its annual awards ceremony in May 2022 to honor law enforcement personnel who provided exemplary service to the community in 2021. The Medal of Valor is the highest award presented for Bravery and Heroism. It is awarded in situations in which a Sheriff's Office member knowingly places their his or her life in peril of death or extreme bodily injury while saving or attempting to save the lives of others. Meritorious Awards recognized a Sheriff's Office member for demonstrating judgment, ingenuity or performance that clearly exceeds what is required and expected during an emergency situation. Commendation Awards were given in instances during which a Sheriff's Office member demonstrates exemplary service. Traffic Safety Awards were given to deputies for traffic safety prevention, education and enforcement. Individuals for all awards are nominated by other deputies or personnel of the Sheriff's Office. Candidates are selected by an Awards Committee consisting of personnel from the Operations Division, Professional Standards Division, and Criminal Investigations Division. The committee evaluates the nominations and forwards them to the Sheriff for his review and action.

Medal of Valor

1st Sergeant Joseph Floirendo, Sergeant James Mangan III, Deputy Brian Gildea, Deputy Christopher Lee, Deputy Dominic Ferrell and Deputy Joshua Truslow

On January 17, 2021, 1st Sergeant Joseph Floirendo, Sergeant James Mangan III, Deputy Brian Gildea, Deputy Christopher Lee, Deputy Dominic Ferrell and Deputy Joshua Truslow responded to a shots fired call that rapidly evolved into a shooting of a person. Deputies arrived to find the victim in the parking lot suffering from gunshot wounds. The suspect was walking around the scene still armed with a handgun. Despite repeated orders to drop the handgun, the suspect raised the weapon toward deputies. Deputies shot the suspect and he fell to the ground, dropping the gun. Sgt. Mangan immediately began first aid to the victim while the other deputies provided cover and continued to give commands to the suspect. Instead of giving up, the suspect reached for the weapon, causing the deputies to have to shoot again. The suspect was incapacitated and able to be taken into custody and first aid treatment started. The shooting victim passed away at the hospital a short time later. As a result of the efforts of these deputies, the suspect survived his wounds and pled guilty to murder. The Medal of Valor was awarded to these deputies for advancing on this violent chaotic scene and taking the necessary actions to take the suspect into custody.

From left to right: Sheriff David Decatur, Deputy Brian Gildea, Deputy Christopher Lee, Deputy Joshua Truslow, First Sergeant James Mangan III, and 1st Sergeant Joseph Floirendo received the Medal of Valor award at the Sheriff's Office awards ceremony on May 19, 2022.





Law Enforcement Awards

Meritorious Awards

Sergeants Justin Forman and Gregory Haney and Deputies Franco Martinez and Jonathon Thomas

On March 11, 2021 Deputies Thomas and Martinez encountered a suspect suffering from a mental health episode brandishing a butcher's knife in Spring Lakes Farm subdivision. The deputies tried to establish a rapport with the man, but he would not calm down. He continued to approach the deputies while brandishing the knife. Deputies showed great restraint as they continued to give command and deescalate the situation. Sergeant's Haney and Forman arrived to help contain the distraught man as he attempted to run through the subdivision.

Sgt. Forman deployed rounds from his less lethal shotgun and the suspect was taken into custody without any injury to the public, deputies or the suspect. The man was subsequently taken for a mental health evaluation. Sergeants Forman, Haney and Deputies Martinez and Thomas were awarded the Meritorious Awards to successfully protect the residents of Stafford County and get the distraught man the help he needed.



From left to right: Sheriff David Decatur, Deputy First Class Jonathon Thomas, Deputy Franco Martinez, Deputy Jeremy Hurt, Sergeant Randall Pinkard, Sergeant Gregory Haney, and Sergeant Justin Forman received a Meritorious Award at the SCSO Awards Ceremony on May 19, 2022.

Sergeant Justin Forman

On December 19, 2021, Sergeant Forman responded to a shooting in Lakewood Apartments. The initial information provided to dispatch was a male had accidentally fired a gun and shot himself in the head. The caller believed the man was beyond help. Sergeant Forman was just across the street from the apartment complex and arrived in seconds. He entered the home with the limited information to attempt first aid. He located the victim with a gunshot wound to the head and positioned himself to provide immediate first aid, while watching for any threats from the uncleared apartment.

Sgt. Forman used an improvised dressing to mitigate the loss of blood from the wound and rolled the victim on his side to maintain an airway. Sgt. Forman is a member of the Tactical Medical Program and has some of the most advanced medical training in the agency. He received the Meritorious Award for his professionalism and dedication in providing first aid in a chaotic scene.



Law Enforcement Awards

Meritorious Award

Deputy Brian Gildea

On July 27, 2021, Deputy Brian Gildea responded to an address in South Stafford for a man suffering from depression, who had cut himself with a knife. The man had multiple deep lacerations to both arms and legs and his clothing was soaked in blood. He appeared to be in grave condition and had dropped the knife at his feet. Suddenly, the man reached down and grabbed the knife and began stabbing himself. Deputy Gildea quickly deployed the taser, causing the man to drop the knife and deputies could move in with medics to provide life-saving first aid. Deputy Gildea received the Meritorious Award for his quick actions, which helped the man survive his wounds.

First Sergeant Joseph Floirendo, Deputy First Class Deandre Taylor, Deputy First Class Shawn Eastman and Deputy Tanner Givler

On December 18, 2021, deputies were dispatched to a suicidal subject who had texted his family good bye and driven to Widewater State Park. The subject's car was found at the park entrance and Deputy Taylor kept the subject's family there to get more information as First Sgt. Floirendo and Deputies Eastman and Givler began searching the path near the water. The deputies located the man at the water's edge, holding the firearm to his head and chest. Deputies maintained a position of cover and began building a rapport with the distraught man and emphasized the need to put down the firearm.

Deputies thought that they had him convinced, when a squirrel ran through the nearby woods and he thought a deputy was approaching him. Deputies continued to use dialogue to deescalate the situation, but the man put the gun to his chest and fired a round. Deputy Taylor rushed down the path with a medical kit and was instrumental in administering first aid by applying chest seals to the wound. A helicopter flew the man to the hospital. These deputies received the Meritorious Award for their actions in administering to the wounds of this man and saving his life.

From left to right: Sheriff David Decatur, Deputy Tanner Givler, Deputy First Class Shawn Eastman, Deputy First Class Deandre Taylor, and First Sergeant Joseph Floirendo receive a Meritorious Award at the SCSO Awards Ceremony on May 19, 2022.





Law Enforcement Awards

Meritorious Awards

Deputy Steven Jett

On August 4, 2021 Deputy Steven Jett responded to an assist rescue call in Argyle Heights. A 68-year-old victim choked on food and the item had completely obstructed her breathing. Deputy Jett arrived in four minutes, two minutes ahead of the first rescue unit and his first aid training was put to use. The woman was completely unresponsive and Deputy Jett used his training to dislodge the blockage and remove it from her mouth. Rescue units advised Deputy Jett had saved his woman's life.

Deputy Jett received a Meritorious Award for his swift response to this medical call, providing life saving treatment for a resident. He is shown in the photo at right, standing to the right of Sheriff David Decatur.



From left to right: Sheriff David Decatur, Detective Cassandra Lawrence, Detective William McWaters, Detective Hunter Young, Detective Nicholas Ridings, and Detective Brandon Boyle receive a Letter of Commendation at the SCSO Awards Ceremony on May 19, 2022.



Law Enforcement Awards

Other Award Recipients

Letter of Commendation

Detective Brandon Boyle
 Sergeant Lucas Burgess (2 Awards)
 1st Sergeant Burton Collins
 Sergeant Baris Demirci
 Deputy First Class Dominic Ferrell
 Deputy David Flues
 Sergeant Justin Forman
 Senior Deputy Scott Fulford
 ACO Olivia Hepperle
 Detective Cassandra Lawrence
 Detective William McWaters
 Lieutenant Christopher Neuhard
 Deputy First Class Michael Pearce (2 Awards)

Sergeant Brandon Reed
 Detective Nicholas Ridings (2 Awards)
 Master Deputy Frank Shannon
 First Sergeant Christopher Smith
 Deputy Zachary Smith
 Deputy First Class Charles Szentkuti
 Deputy First Class Travis Vasquez (2 Awards)
 Sergeant Benjamin Woodson
 Detective James Wright
 Detective Hunter Young

Traffic Safety Award

Deputy John Alford
 Deputy First Class Erin West



Deputy First Class Erin West received a Traffic Safety Award from Sheriff David Decatur at the SCSO Awards Ceremony on May 19, 2022.

Civilian Awards

Each year, the Sheriff's Office recognizes its civilian employees who have provided exemplary service to the community and the organization. A ceremony is held to honor the efforts of civilian personnel and to highlight four individuals who personify the core values of the Sheriff's Office: Integrity, Compassion, Fairness and Professionalism. The 2022 award winners follow:

Integrity

Heather Wilson

Compassion

Ana Cancel-Vargas

Fairness

Denise Hamlett

Professionalism

Asta Ryyannen



Volunteers

Volunteers play an integral role in helping the Stafford County Sheriff's Office keep citizens safe. Their duties range from performing data entry, to assisting with special events, or participating in the Sheriff's Office counterterrorism efforts. Stafford's citizen assistance volunteers annually give thousands of hours in service to assist throughout Stafford County Government. The volunteers who were able to come in served more than 6,600 hours. Volunteers are recognized each year by the Stafford Board of Supervisors for their contribution and dedication to Stafford County.

SCSO's Citizen Volunteers

Vladimir Bauer	Valerie Hart	Jose Orellano
Samantha Boney	Jessica Helm	Katherine Orellano
Edmund Bowen	Justin Hendrickson	Camryn Patterson
Kimberly Brooks	Paul Henry	Brina Post
Erin Brown	Richard Herdt	Frank Pote
Mark Cartledge	Ralph Hitt	James Proctor
Ki Chang	Megan Hubbard	Jennifer Purcell
Joseph Clark	Lisa Hudson	Katja Randolph
Kimberly Colwell	Ayleen Keeton	Frank Ringquist
Denise Cooper-Water	Julie Lampkins	Chantal Roy
Amanda Cowart	Tyler Latvala	Dorothy Russell
Coleman Cowell	Anthony Lee	Kenna Sander
Jonathan Cowell	Stephen Littlewood	Aiden Schultz
Amanda Cabbage	Jeremy Mallary	Tom Seal
Dymond Dempster	Raymond Manfredi Jr.	Mark Seymour
Toni Doyle	Leife Martin	William Smith
Janice Edenfield	Donna Martinelli	Chloe Somohano
Ann Estrada	Katherine Masterson	Rayne Turner
Nicole Faye	Tiffani Mastyk	Ainsley Vickers
Lisa Ference	Nancy May	Laurie Vorrath
Lindsay Foster	Ashley Medlock	Jayda Wade
Rebecca Gelston	Brianna Mitchell	Brian Whited
Timothy Gayson	Stacy Mitchell	Brian Willey
Roxanne Grieggs	Bart Mix	Jeannine Willingham
Sydney Griffith	Janet Nemerow	Bryan Woolner



Elected Officials

Constitutional Officers

Stafford County has five Constitutional Officers elected by citizens every four years with one exception. The Clerk of the Circuit Court, who serves for an eight-year term. Below are the Constitutional Officers:

Sheriff

David P. Decatur
(540) 658-4450
ddecatur@staffordcountyva.gov

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Kathy Sterne
(540) 658-8752
ksterne@staffordcountyva.gov

Commissioner of the Revenue

Scott Mayausky
(540) 658-4132
commrev@staffordcountyva.gov

Commonwealth's Attorney

Eric Olsen
(540) 658-8780
eolsen@staffordcountyva.gov

Treasurer

Laura Rudy
(540) 658-8700
Treasurer@staffordcountyva.gov

Board of Supervisors

Stafford County is governed by a seven-member Board of Supervisors. Board members are elected for four-year terms. Elections are held as part of the Virginia general election in November of odd-numbered years. Below are the current members of the Board:

Chairman

Crystal Vanuch

Rock Hill District
(540) 361-0905
cvanuch@staffordcountyva.gov

Vice-Chairman

Pamela Yeung

Garrisonville District
(540) 273-2506
pyeung@staffordcountyva.gov

Tom Coen

George Washington District
(540) 368-4924
tcoen@staffordcountyva.gov

Meg Bohmke

Falmouth District
(540) 809-2857
mbohmke@staffordcountyva.gov

Tinesha Allen

Griffis-Widewater District
(540) 940-5099
tallen@staffordcountyva.gov

Darrell English

Hartwood District
(540) 295-5974
denglish@staffordcountyva.gov

Monica Gary

Aquia District
(540) 220-2315
mgary@staffordcountyva.gov

The County Administrator is appointed by the Board of Supervisors and serves at the will of the Board. Randal E. Vosburg currently serves as the County Administrator.

Mr. Vosburg's phone number is (540) 658-4541. His email is rvosburg@staffordcountyva.gov.



Stafford County Sheriff's Office
Ford T. Humphrey Public Safety Building
1225 Courthouse Rd.
Stafford, VA 22554
www.staffordsheriff.com

E-mail: info@staffordsheriff.com
Facebook: Office of Stafford County Sheriff
Twitter: StaffcoSheriff
Instagram: staffordsheriff

Emergency: 911
Non-Emergency: (540) 658-4400
Information: (540) 658-4450