

2023 Annual Report



Clay County, Missouri, Sheriff's Office



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From the Sheriff

For the Clay County Sheriff's Office, the year 2023 could best be characterized by projects. While they may have been a little painful at the time, all had the same goal: to improve our service to the people of Clay County.

The Detention Center underwent a major renovation of its electronic control systems, causing substantial change to the way we normally operate and forcing us to reduce the inmate population for many months (p. 17). Our staff showed amazing adaptability and perseverance during this time.

The implementation of a new records management system (p. 30) modernized many aspects of our operations, from report writing to inmate tracking. It also allows us interoperability with many of our neighboring agencies. It does categorize many things differently, however, so you will see some statistics in this report that do not have year-over-year comparisons due to items not being categorized the same as in prior years.

Our Drug Task Force partnered with a new Patrol squad to tackle quality-of-life issues like drug houses (p. 25). Many residents have reached out about how much they appreciated these efforts to improve safety in their neighborhoods.

I'm pleased to share this snapshot of what the men and women of the Clay County Sheriff's Office accomplished in 2023.

Sheriff Will Akin



MISSION

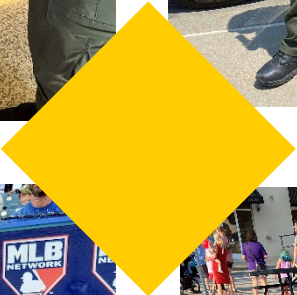
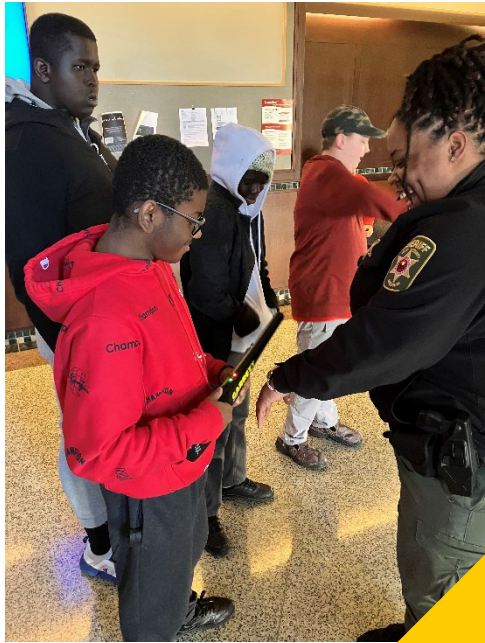
Embrace change...Create value...Inspire Others...

VISION

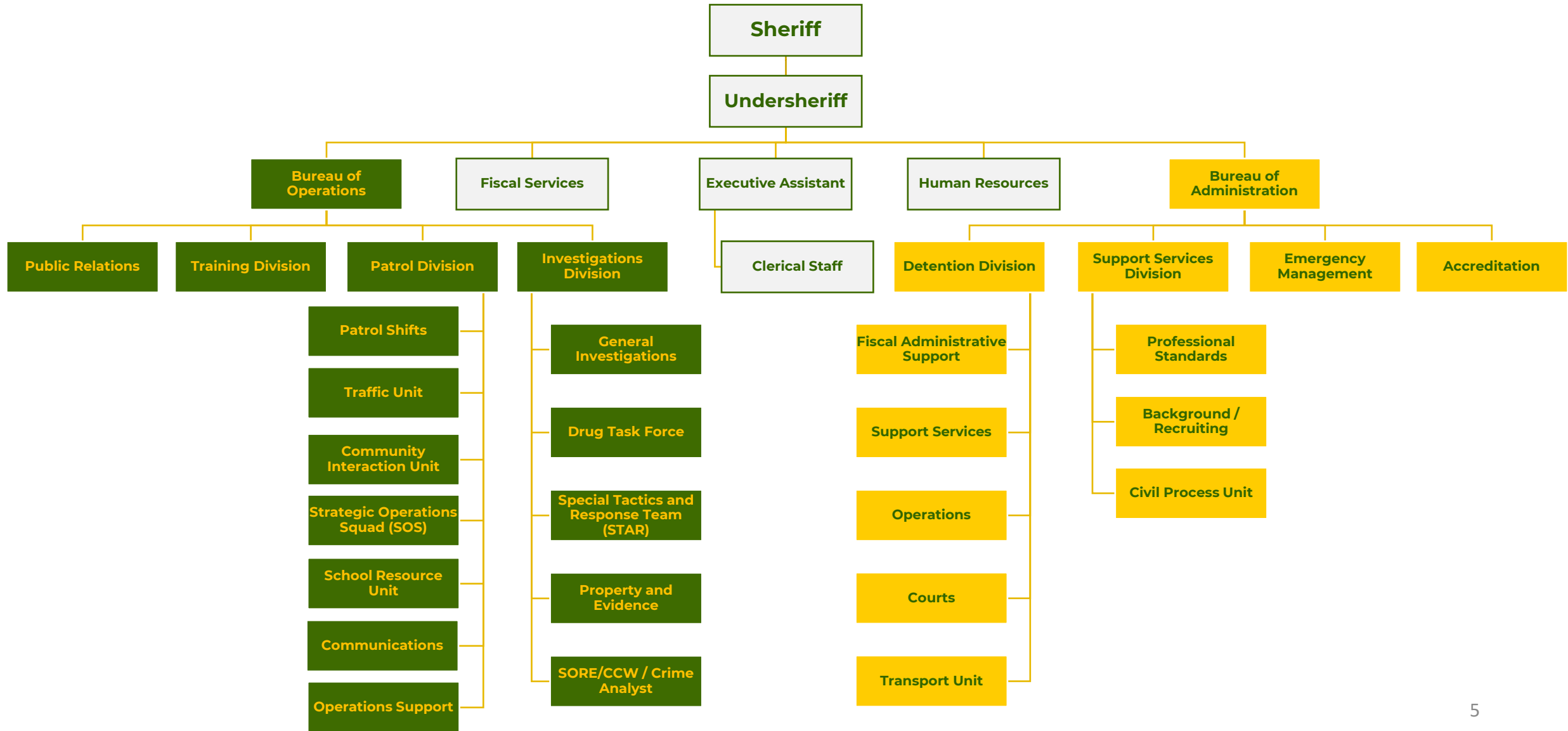
Bring Sheriff's Office and community together while serving with integrity and transparency.

VALUES

Respect, Accountability, Courage, Honesty, Integrity and Service



Sheriff's Office Organization



Senior Command Staff



Lieutenant Colonel Jeff Self

Undersheriff



Major Phil Coffey

Administration Bureau
Commander



Major Rob Hays

Operations Bureau
Commander

Senior Command Staff



Captain Aimee Agderian

Fiscal Services Commander



Captain Jon Bazzano

Patrol Division Commander



Captain Paul Norris

Detention Division
Commander



Director Anne Poelzl

Emergency Management
Division Director

Senior Command Staff



Captain Bryan Sapp

Training Division
Commander



Captain John Teale

Support Services Division
Commander

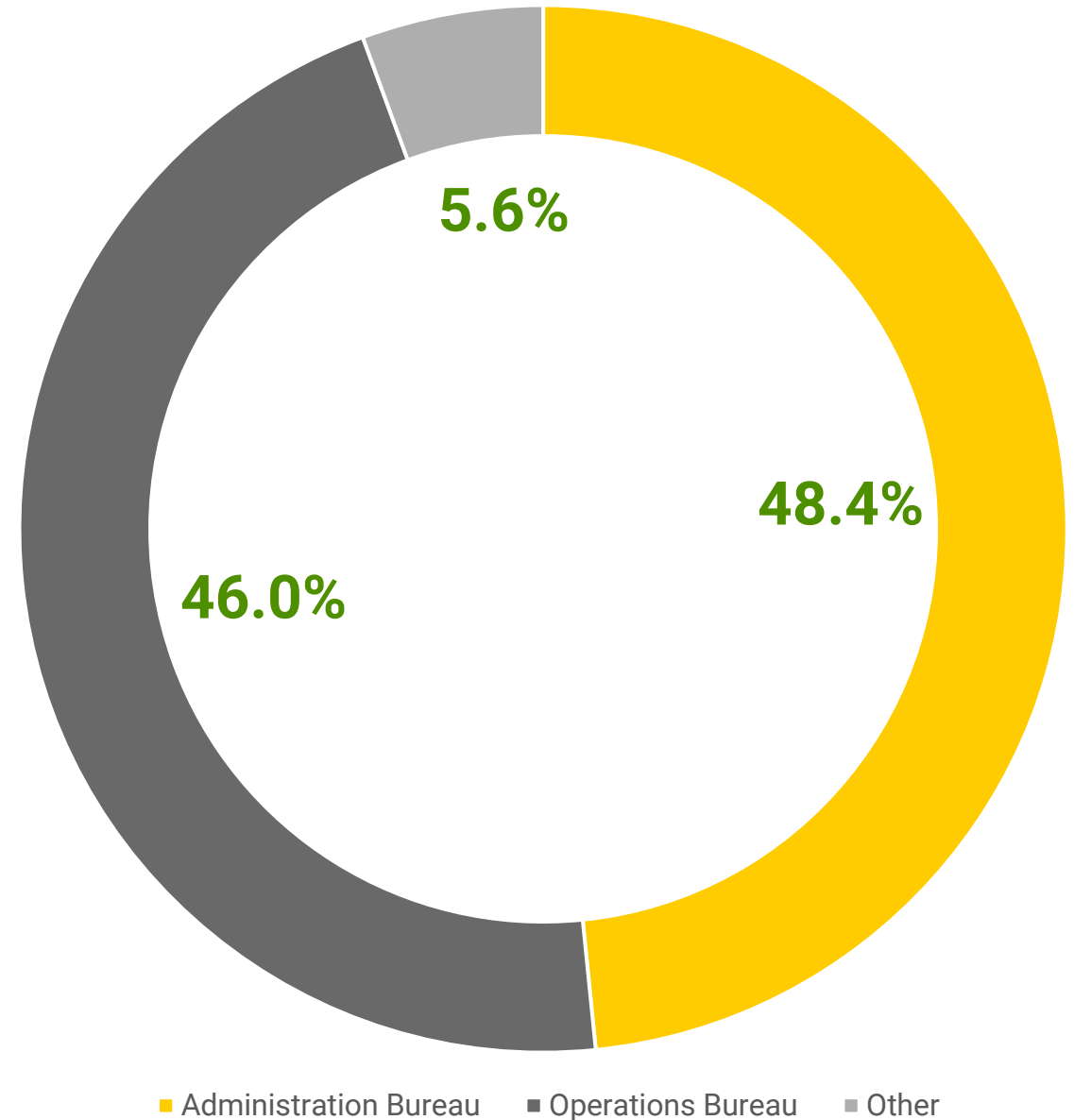


Captain Steve Wilhelm

Investigations Division
Commander

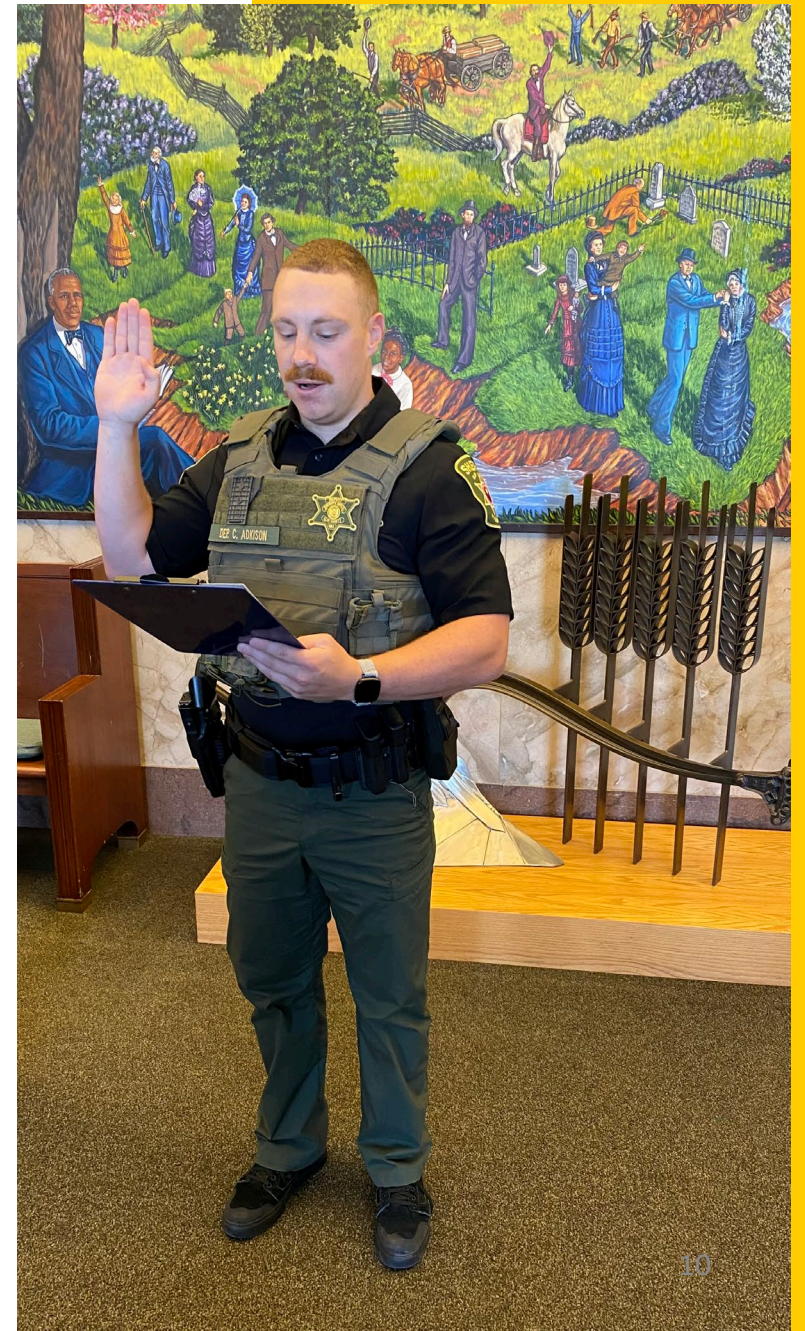
Staffing Breakdown by Bureau

At the end of 2023, the Sheriff's Office had 215 full-time employees split into two bureaus. Their assignments are shown on this chart.



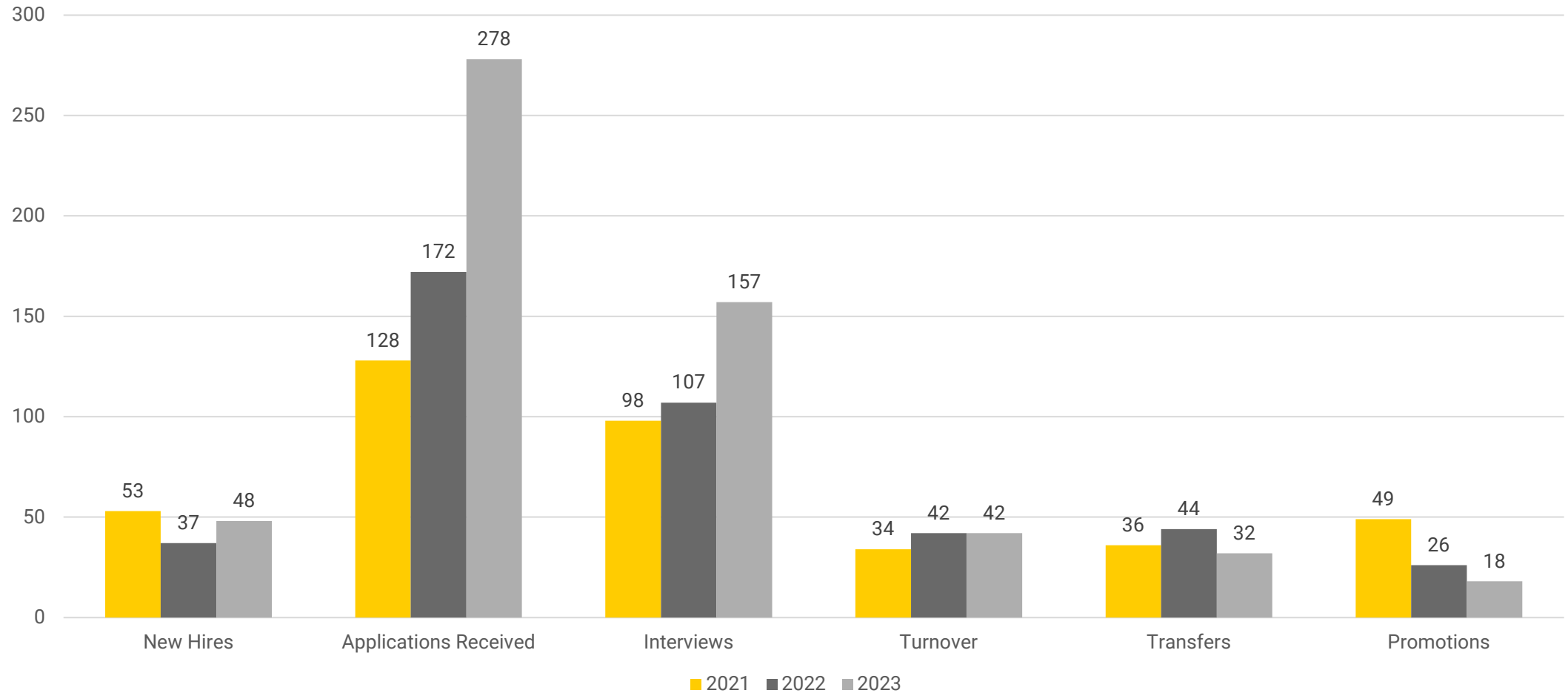
Provisional Hiring Process Implemented

To help with recruitment efforts, the Sheriff's Office implemented a provisional hiring process in February 2023. This dramatically sped up the hiring process and led to sought-after candidates choosing Clay County because it was the first to extend a job offer. In this process, the background investigator conducted a preliminary background investigation before other things like interviews could proceed, but the full investigation was not complete at the time a job offer was made. Candidates were notified their employment could be terminated if the full investigation revealed they were disqualified. This streamlined process led to some qualified candidates being hired in as short as a week's time, compared to the months-long process previously in place.





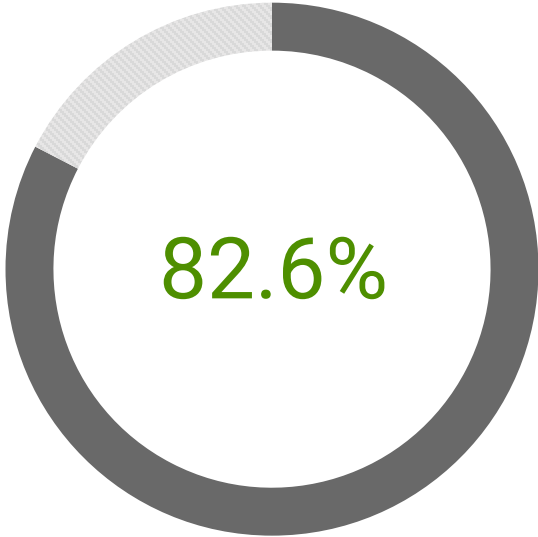
Staffing Stats





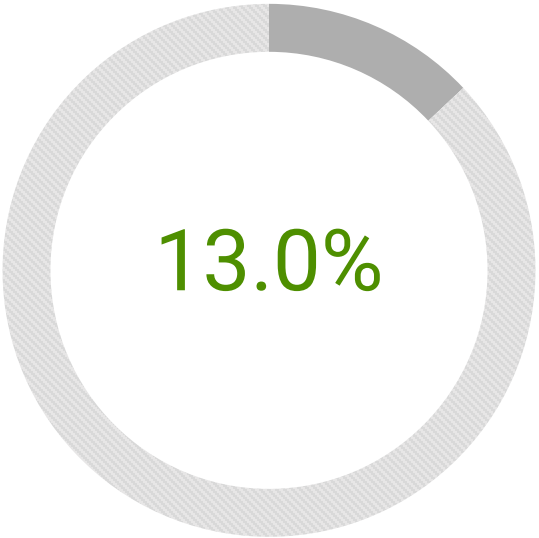
2023 Budget Allocation

The Sheriff's Office's total budget in 2023 was \$26,461,522. Below is where that money was spent.



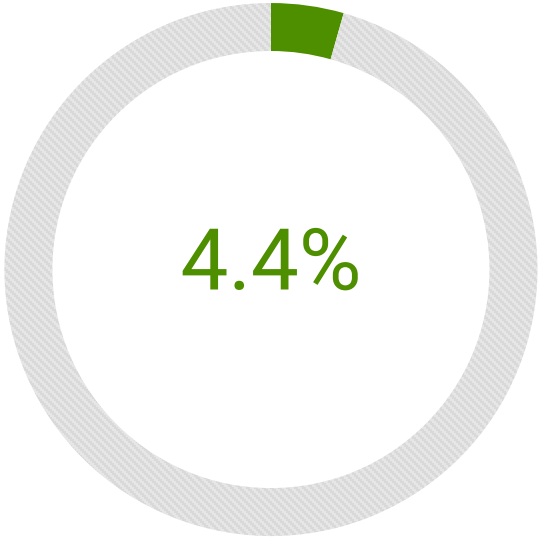
Personnel

Includes salary and benefits



Contractual

Includes medical and mental health services for the Detention Center, food service for the Detention Center, vehicle maintenance and repair, etc.

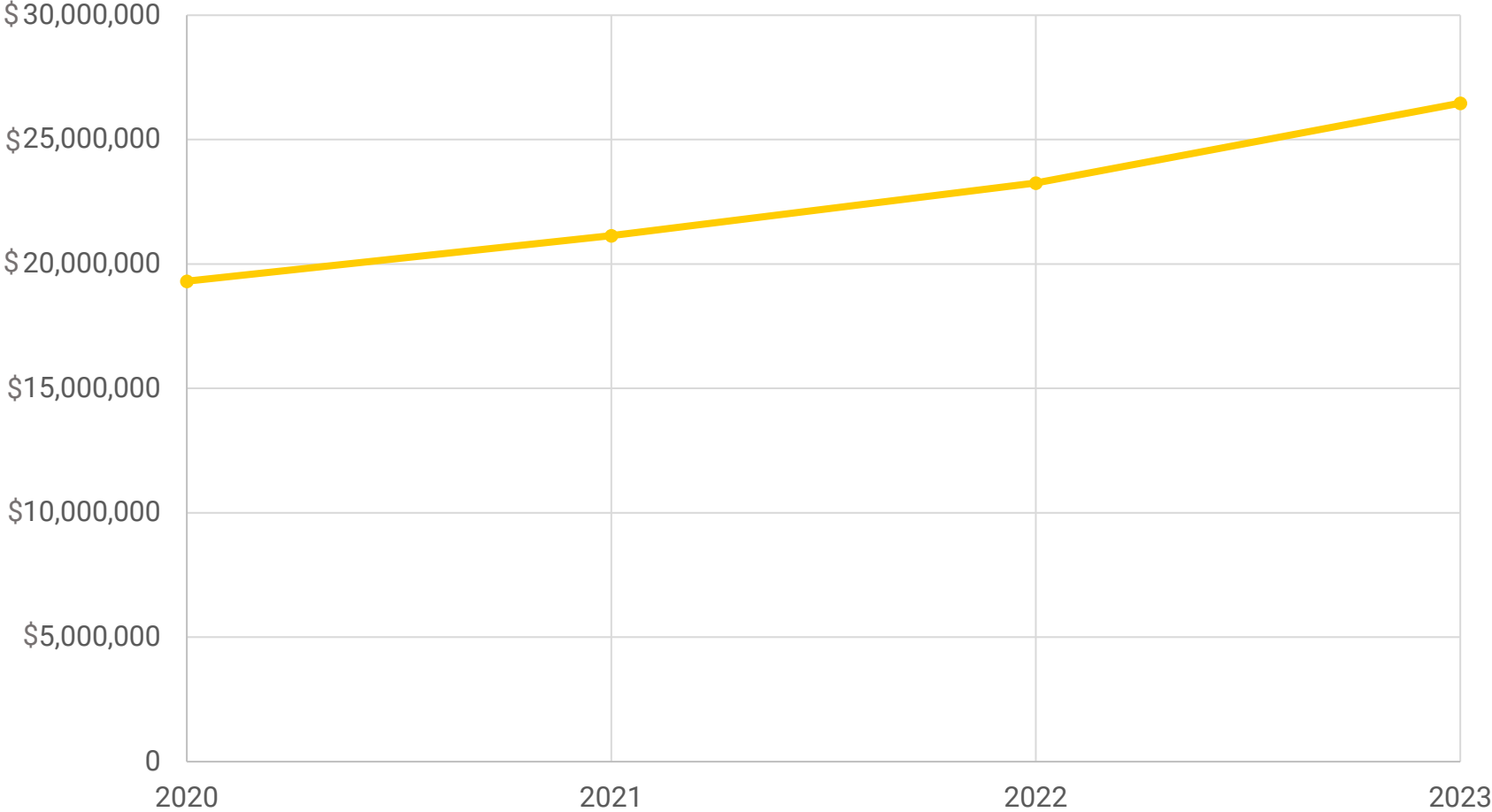


Commodities

Includes fuel, office supplies, ammunition, bedding and linen for the Detention Center



Annual Budget by Year



Divisions

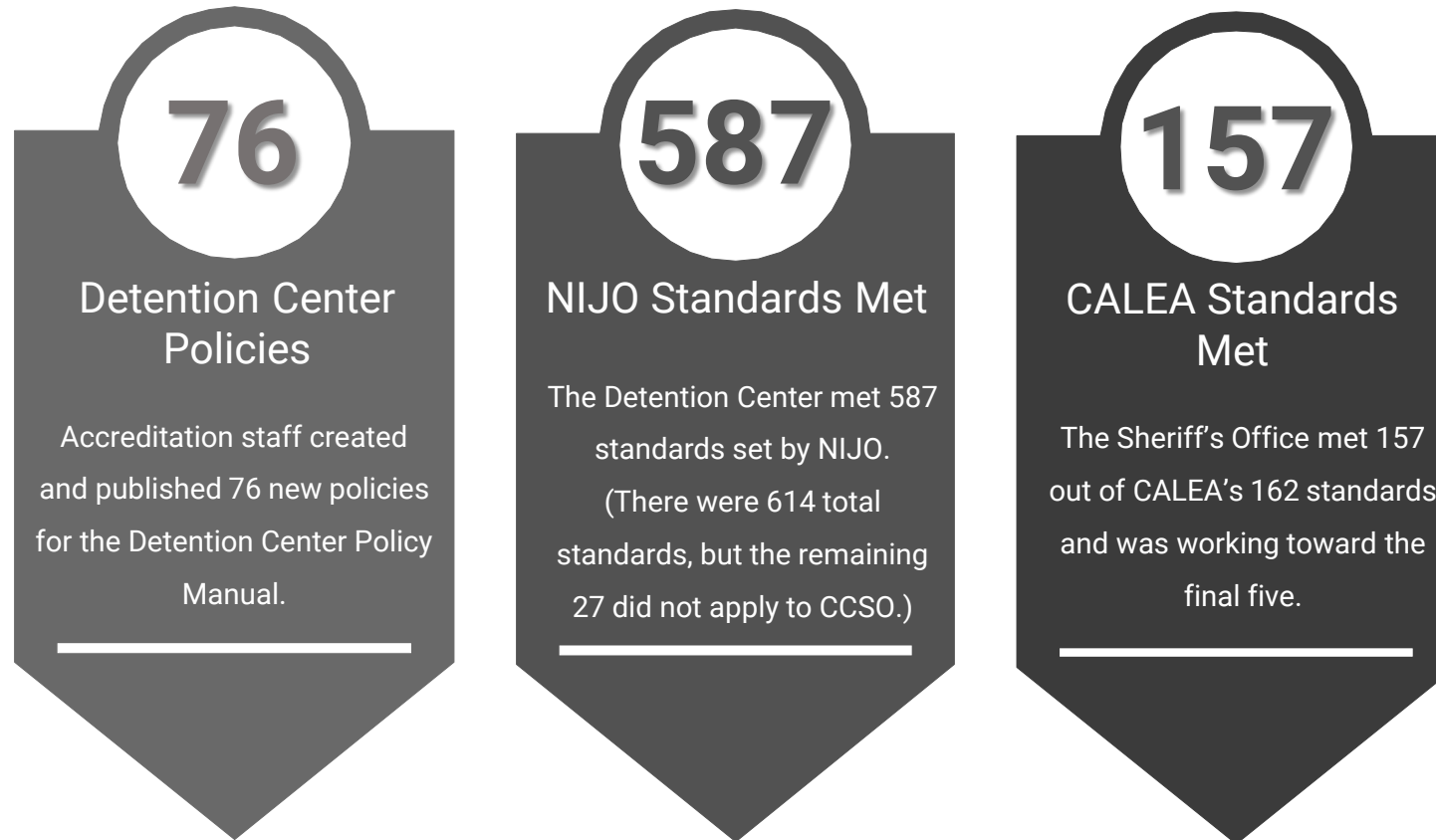
Accreditation





Accreditation Progress

In 2023, the Sheriff's Office was pursuing accreditation from both the National Institute of Jail Operations (NIJO) and the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). Accreditation by both organizations is an intensive, multi-year process that began in 2021.



CLAY COUNTY DETENTION CENTER

Divisions

Detention

Fiscal and Administrative Support

Support Services

Operations

Court Security

Transportation



Construction Forced Changes

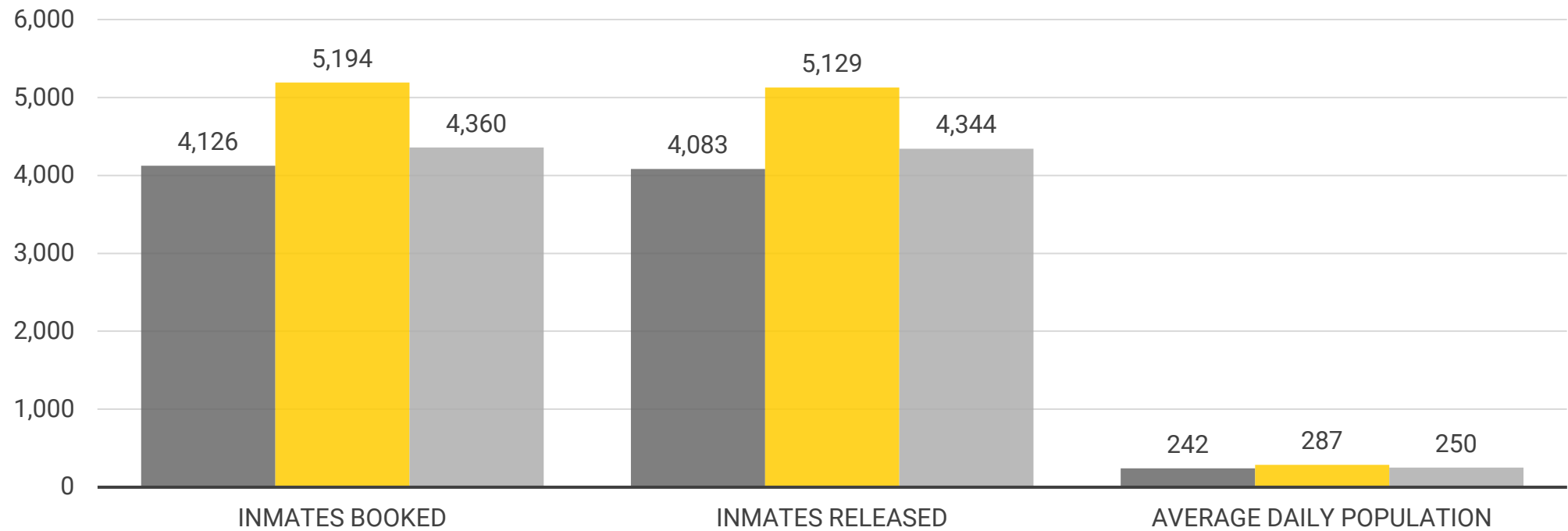
The Clay County Detention Center underwent significant renovations in 2023. The greatest was the complete replacement of the electronic control systems. This caused considerable temporary changes. Beginning the first week of April, all doors had to be manually locked and unlocked with keys. This staff-intensive process meant inmate population had to be reduced. Detention staff accomplished this by not accepting municipal inmates and by housing out as many as 60 to 70 inmates daily to other county jails. This led to a great increase in trips for the Transportation Unit.

The \$2 million project, funded by federal pandemic relief dollars, was supposed to be completed by August. Contractor issues, however, led to the jail not being fully operational again until Dec. 20.





Inmate Totals





Daily Activities



2,497

Personal inmate visitors



1,366

Professional inmate visitors



6,990

Pieces of incoming and outgoing mail scanned for contraband

Inmate Healthcare



375 / 1,925

On-site doctor visits / On-site nurse visits



187

Inmates undergoing detox/drug withdrawal treatment



37

Percentage of inmates on medication



Court Security Unit

The Court Security Unit provides security at Clay County Circuit Court, and deputies serve as courtroom bailiffs.

5,912

Inmates transported to court. This is a 6% decrease from 2022.

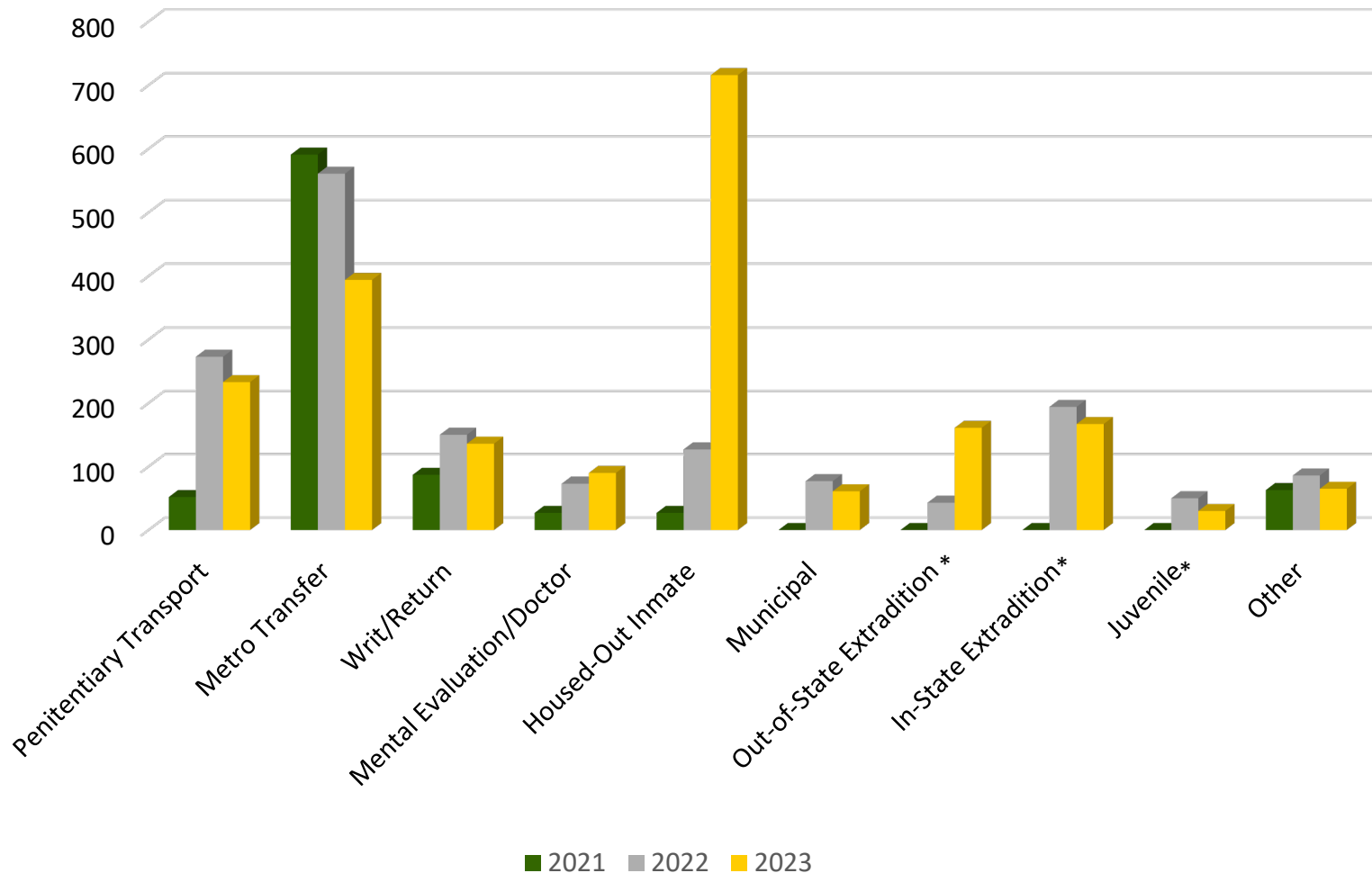
66,468

Total cases heard in court. This is a 1% decrease from 2022.



Transportation Unit

The Transportation Unit is responsible for all inmate movement outside of the Detention Center. They ensure inmates are where they need to be, when they need to be. They also perform extraditions.



* New duty in 2022

Penitentiary Transport – Transportation to and from state prisons

Metro Transfers - Local transfers, including adjoining counties

Writ/Return – State Department of Correction inmates picked up and returned on a court-ordered writ to appear in person in Clay County Court.

Mental Evaluation – Generally transported to St. Joseph or Kansas City per court order for an evaluation.

Doctor Appointment – Scheduled by jail medical staff to an outside area medical facility

Housed-Out Inmate – Transporting inmates that are housed out at local facilities per the Detention Center’s request. The Transportation Unit provided for initial housing plus court returns.

Municipal – Transport of inmates from area municipalities

Out-of-State Extradition – Returning inmates outside of Missouri to stand trial in Clay County.

In-State-Extradition – Returning inmates inside Missouri to stand trial in Clay County

Juvenile – Transport of juvenile defendants

Divisions

Emergency Management



Accomplishments

Mobile Command

Custom-designed and obtained a new, grant-funded mobile command unit.

Exercise

Conducted a full-scale mass casualty incident exercise at North Kansas City Hospital.

NFL Plans

Assisted in planning for the Kansas City Chiefs Super Bowl victory parade and the NFL Draft.

Tornado Siren

Installed a new tornado siren in rural Liberty, Mo.

Storm Ready

Earned the National Weather Service's StormReady community designation by demonstrating a high level of severe weather preparedness.



The mission of Clay County Emergency Management is to protect lives, property and environment from natural and man-made disasters through prevention, preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery.

Divisions

Investigations

General Investigations

Drug Task Force

Property and Evidence

Sex Offender Registration and Enforcement

Special Tactics and Response (STAR) Team

Concealed Carry Weapons

WHAT IS FENTANYL?

SYNTHETIC OPIOID **50-100X** STRONGER THAN MORPHINE.
ORIGINALLY DEVELOPED FOR PAIN MANAGEMENT.
BECAUSE OF ITS POWERFUL AND ADDICTIVE PROPERTIES, IT IS
CREATED IN CRUDE LABS AS A POWDER OR IN COUNTERFEIT
TABLET FORMS. ALSO SOLD ALONE OR COMBINATION WITH
DRUGS SUCH AS HEROIN OR COCAINE.
MANY USERS ARE COMPLETELY UNAWARE THEY ARE INGESTING
FENTANYL, RESULTING IN A HIGH RATE OF OVERDOSE DEATHS

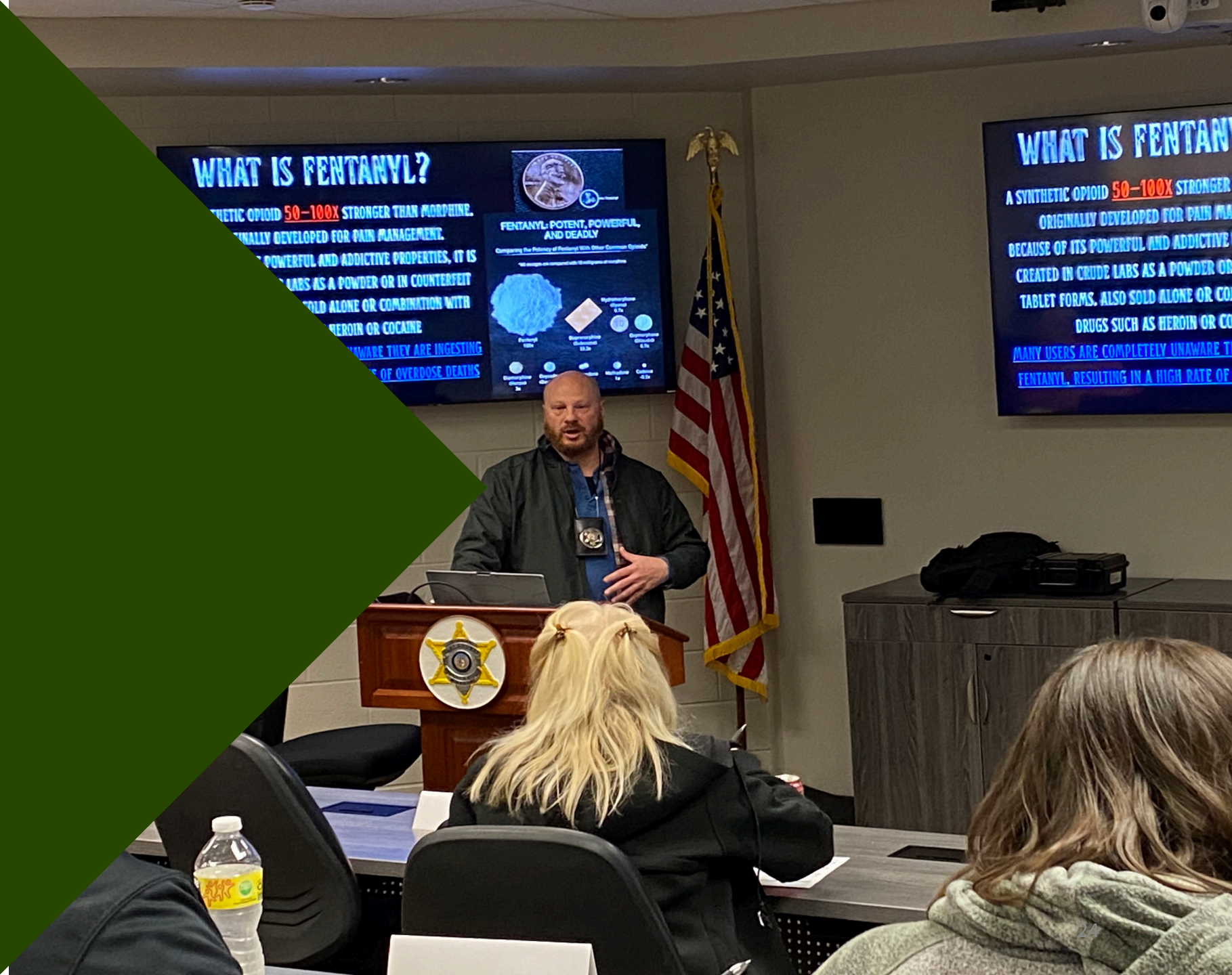
FENTANYL: POTENT, POWERFUL, AND DEADLY
Comparing the Potency of Fentanyl With Other Common Opioids*

Opioid	Relative Potency
Fentanyl	50-100x
Hydrocodone	8x
Codeine	1x
Morphine	1x
Heroin	2-3x
Valium	1x
Alcohol	1x

*All weights are compared with 10 milligrams of morphine.

WHAT IS FENTANYL?

A SYNTHETIC OPIOID **50-100X** STRONGER
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FENTANYL, RESULTING IN A HIGH RATE OF





Drug houses shut down

In cooperation with the Patrol Division's Strategic Operations Squad, the Drug Task Force shut down five houses known for narcotics activity, to the great relief of neighbors. Six different dealers were arrested and charged. Many of them sold the deadly opioid fentanyl. One of the drug houses was located within 1,000 feet of an elementary school, leading to additional penalties for the suspect.

Operation nets child predators

The Clay County Sheriff's Office and Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Kansas City worked together to arrest four men seeking to engage in sexual activity with children during the time period of the NFL Draft in Kansas City.

From April 26 to 30, four men traveled to Clay County to meet with whom they believed to be children ranging in ages from 10 to 14. They had chatted online previously with the "children," (really Clay County Sheriff's Office and HSI-KC investigators) or with adults who were purportedly offering the children for sex (also under-cover Sheriff's Office and HSI-KC investigators). Deputies arrested the men shortly after their arrival at either the designated apartment or hotel room.

The suspects hailed from Oregon to New Jersey.



Investigative Case Status

Status	2023
Cleared by Arrest	1346
Under Prosecutor Review	99
Closed/Resolved	552
Exceptional Clearance	12
Inactive	137
No Crime Committed	98
Prosecutor Declined	40
Victim Declined Prosecution	99
Open	308
Referred to Juvenile Court	103
Referred to Other Agency	208

Evidence Management



1,724

Items of evidence recovered and stored

635

Cases with evidence recovered

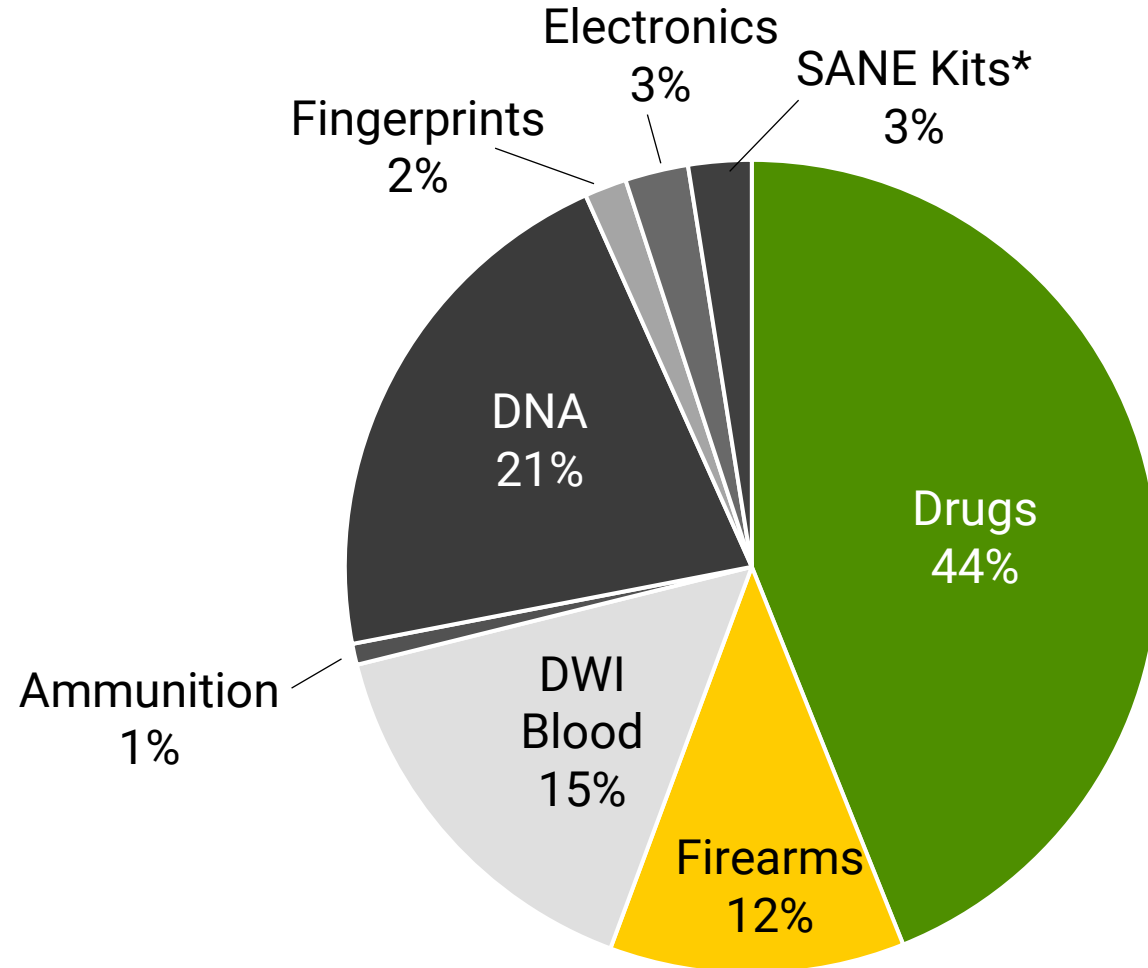
1,625

Items of evidence disposed in accordance with court orders

5,794

Total items of evidence in custody

The Sheriff's Office sent 293 items of evidence to crime labs for analysis in 2023:



* Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner kits collected following a sexual assault.



Sex Offender Registration and Enforcement

460

Registered sex offenders
monitored

48

Criminal cases of offenders
failing to register

350

Address verification checks
completed

Concealed Carry Weapons Office

391

New CCW permits issued

358

CCW permits renewed

336

Individuals fingerprinted for their
employment, professional
licensing, background checks, etc.

Divisions

Patrol

Road Patrol

Traffic Safety Unit

School Resource Deputies

Communications

Community Interaction Unit

Operations Support





Community Interaction Deputy increases outreach

Sheriff Will Akin created a full-time Community Interaction Deputy position in June 2023, assigning Corporal Megan Blackburn to the role. He said he wanted to be more deliberate about the Sheriff's Office's community engagement. Cpl. Blackburn organized community outreach events, helped find resources for homeless individuals, targeted nuisance properties with multiple code violations and instructed crime prevention through environmental design training.



Records management system updated

For the first time in 20 years, the Sheriff's Office upgraded its electronic records management system. The software change impacted nearly every operation of the Sheriff's Office. Led by Captain Jon Bazzano and Lieutenant Larry Tarrant, 14 Sheriff's Office members built the program to meet the agency's specific needs. The new software, Central Square, was the same used as numerous other law enforcement agencies in Kansas City, North. With its implementation, intelligence and information-sharing increased dramatically.



Strategic Operations Squad targets issues

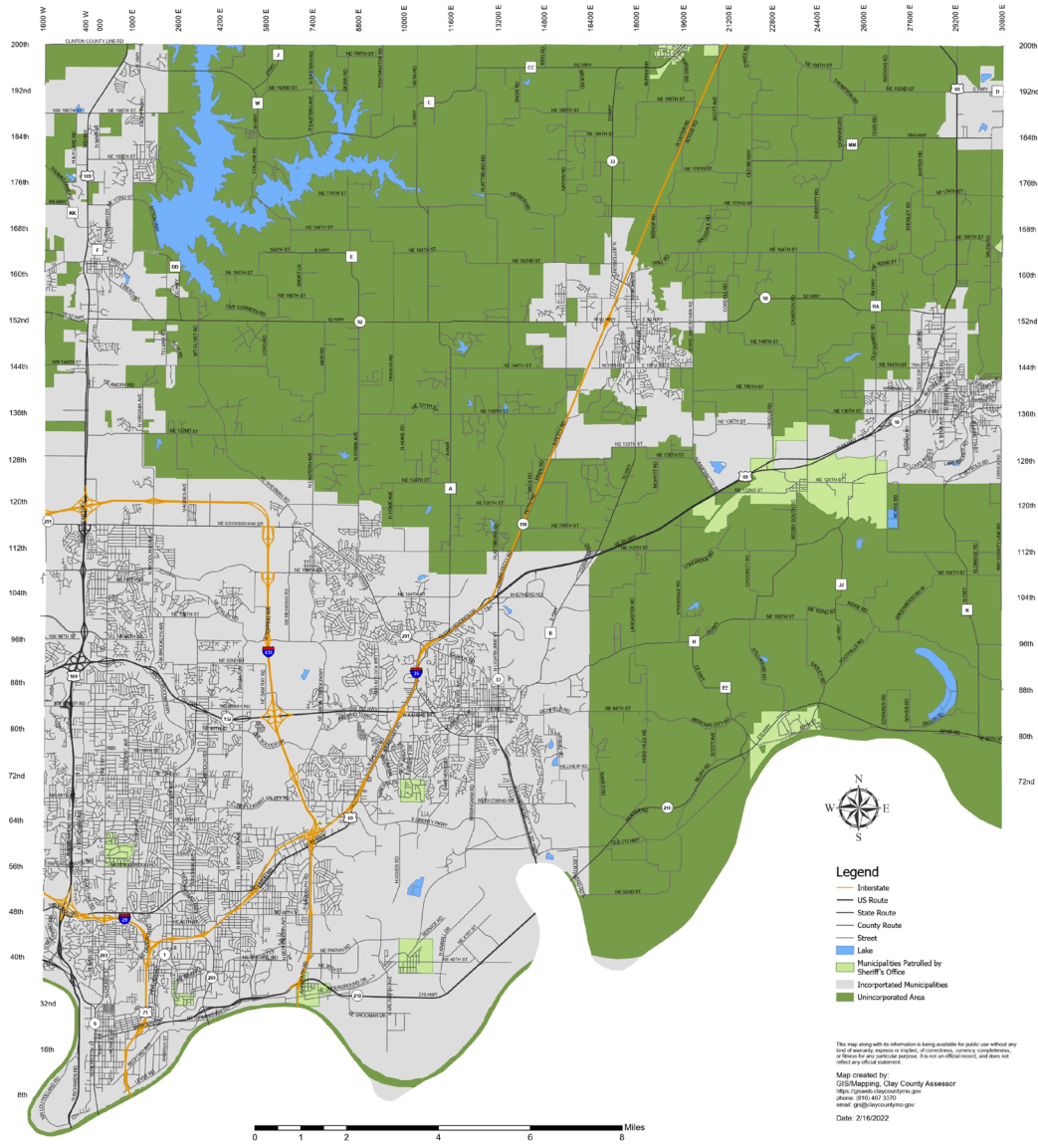
The Strategic Operations Squad launched on June 24, 2023, to proactively target crime issues that negatively affect residents' quality of life. They operated as another shift of Road Patrol. SOS worked with the Drug Task Force to shut down five drug houses and arrest the dealers. They also located and arrested three homicide suspects, stopped teen "fight clubs" meeting in parks, and assisted Liberty Police in operations to deter retail theft.

Patrol Area

Clay County Sheriff's Office patrol deputies police unincorporated areas of the County (in dark green). They also patrol several small municipalities (in light green), including:

- Avondale
- Birmingham
- Excelsior Estates
- Glenaire
- Holt
- Missouri City
- Mosby

- Oakwood
- Oakwood Park
- Prathersville
- Randolph
- Village of Oaks





Road Patrol



3,799

Criminal/incident reports

11,453

Traffic stops

2,930

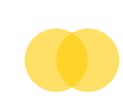
Traffic Citations

340

Non-traffic Citations

118

Crisis Intervention Team reports
for individuals in mental health
crisis



Reported Incidents

Report Type	Reported Incidents 2023
Abandoned Vehicle	5
Animal Bite/Neglect/Complaint	12
Armed Person	1
Assault	149
Assist Other Department	176
Bomb Threat	1
Burglary	26
Check Welfare	5
Child Abuse	2
CIT/Mental Health Crisis	41
Crash with Injuries	229
Crash without Injuries	35
Crash - Injuries Unknown	4
Deceased Person	32
Disturbance	23
Domestic Disturbance/Assault	13
Elder Abuse	1
Escape from Custody	3
Ex Parte (Protection Order) Violation	14
Extradition	7

Report Type	Reported Incidents 2023
Failure to Register as a Sex Offender	33
Failure to Yield	2
Felony Warrant Arrest	744
Fraud	34
Fugitive - in State	3
Fugitive - out of State	10
Harassment/Threats	23
Hit and Run	20
Identity Theft	8
Illegal Dumping	2
Impaired Driving	125
Indecent Exposure	2
Intoxicated Person	7
Lost/Stolen Property	18
Medical Emergency	4
Metro Transport	23
Misc All Other	200
Missing Person	2
Missing/Runaway Juvenile	4
Municipal Transport	5
Narcotic Investigation	72

Reported Incidents

Report Type	Reported Incidents 2023
Narcotic Violation	250
Other	19
Prisoner Transfer	27
Probate Order	19
Property Damage	44
Property Dispute	22
Pursuit	142
Recovered Property	42
Resist Arrest	26
Robbery	2
Search Warrant	3
Sex Offense	19
Shots Fired	1
Stolen Vehicle	25
Stranded Motorist	2
Structure Fire	2
Suicidal Person	9
Suspicious Activity	10
Theft-Stealing	56
Tow-In	30
Traffic Complaint	1

Report Type	Reported Incidents 2023
Traffic Stop	89
Trespassing	13
Vandalism	9
Vehicle Check	9
Warrant Arrest	52
Warrant Arrest Attempt	7
Weapons Offense	8
Uncategorized	19

Total Reported Incidents:

3,077

School Resource Unit

17

School Resource Deputies

36

Schools served in North Kansas City School District

107

Criminal reports taken

763

School incident reports taken

29

Elementary school students mentored

3rd

Class of middle schoolers participated in the Junior Police Academy



Canine Activity

The Sheriff's Office had four canine-deputy teams in 2023:

- Sergeant Edwards and K9 Kratos
- Deputy Doss and K9 Duke
- Deputy Petty and K9 Argos
- Deputy Sands and K9 Freyja (began in April)

These teams located the following in 279 deployments:

- Methamphetamine – 805 grams
- Heroin – 52 grams
- Cocaine – 4.5 grams
- Fentanyl – 85 grams
- Other narcotics/pills – 146 grams
- Drug paraphernalia – 301 items

There are approximately 454 grams in a pound.

388

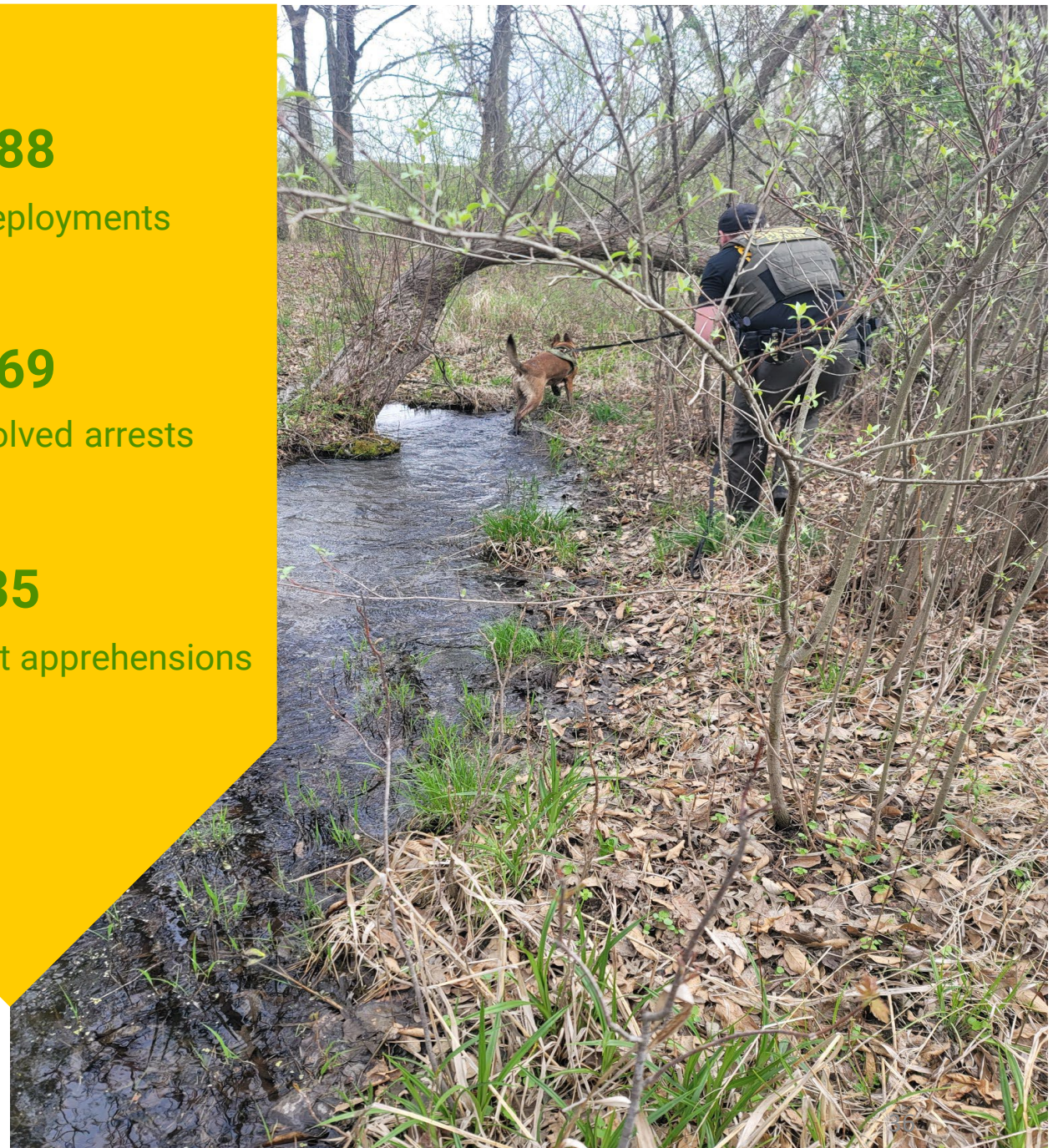
Canine deployments

169

Canine-involved arrests

35

Canine suspect apprehensions





129

Driving While Intoxicated (DWI)
arrests

276

Crashes investigated, a 4.5%
increase from 2022

2

Fatality crashes investigated, same
as 2022.

13

DWI-involved crashes, a 44%
decrease from 2022



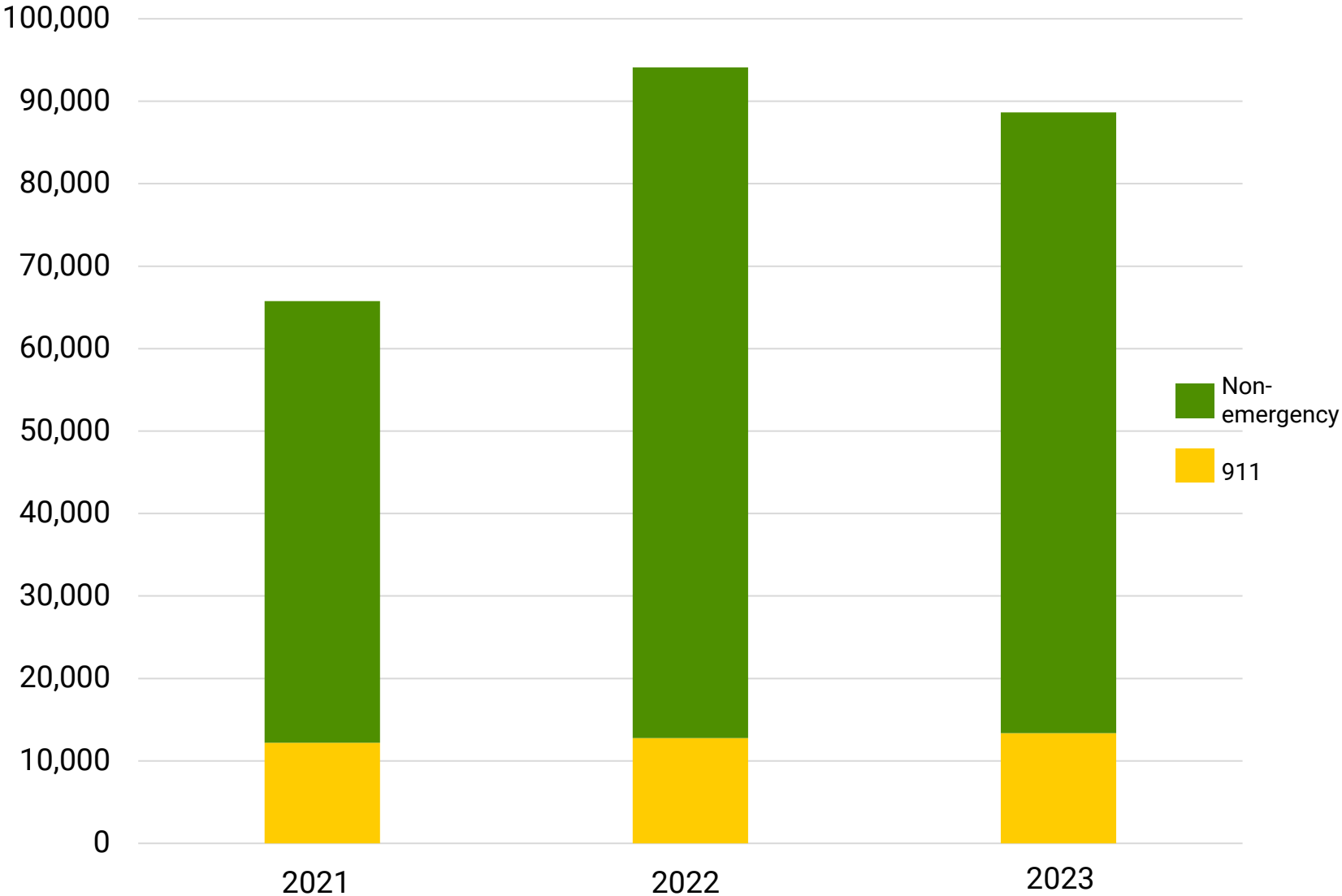
**Traffic
Safety
Unit**



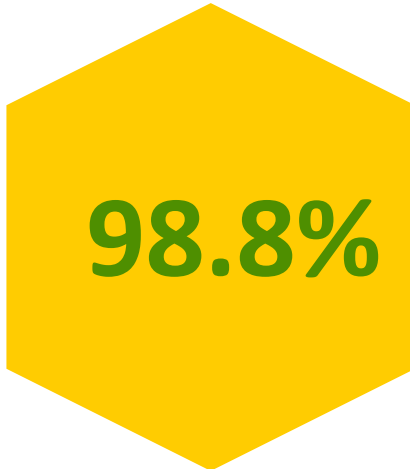


Communications Unit

Calls Received in Communications Center



911 Calls Answered within 15 Seconds



911 Calls Answered within 60 Seconds



Divisions

Support Services

Civil Process Unit

Background Investigation/Recruiting

Professional Standards



Civil Unit Orders Served

Status	2022	2023	2022 to 2023 change
Affidavit	51	47	-8%
Citation	7	5	-29%
Child Protection Order	200	275	38%
Ex-Parte Full Order	401	412	3%
Standard Ex-Parte	540	524	-3%
Execution	0	0	0
Ex-Parte Local	992	1049	6%
Ex-Parte Notice	518	675	30%
Ex-Parte Summons	91	115	26%
Garnishment	2,077	2213	7%
Levy	28	18	-36%
Motion to Modify Court Order	7	3	-57%
Notice of Court Hearing	52	65	25%

Civil Service Definitions

Affidavit –

A written statement of facts voluntarily made. Usually to modify child support when a child comes of age

Ex-Parte –

Orders that can be granted without waiting for a response from the other side. Usually no-contact orders

Execution –

The execution of a legal order not otherwise categorized herein

Garnishment –

Served to employers to garnish the wages of an employee who has been court-ordered to pay a debt

Levy –

The court-ordered seizure and sale of property to collect money for a debt

Civil Unit Orders Served

Civil Service Definitions

Status	2022	2023	2022 to 2023 change
Nulla Bona	3	1	-67%
Order, Misc.	21	5	-76%
Order to Show Cause	133	96	-28%
Petition for Child Support	1	0	-100%
Probate	56	104	86%
Post Serve Mail	50	76	52%
Replevin	10	5	-50%
Restitution	460	815	77%
Subpoena	157	111	-29%
Summons	2,478	2485	0%
Warrant	0	0	0
Writ, Misc.	6	3	-50%
TOTAL	8,279	9,102	10%

Nulla Bona –

A writ returned to indicate that no goods were obtained that can be used to satisfy a legal action for debt or damages

Probate –

Orders from Probate Division, usually for guardianship or mental health treatment

Post Serve Mail –

A type of notice deputies can post at an address without making personal contact. A copy of the notice also is mailed to the address

Replevin –

An action to recover personal property that was unlawfully taken. Usually property purchased on a payment plan for which payments were not made

Restitution –

Eviction

Subpoena –

An order to appear in court at a specified time and date after a court case has begun

Summons –

Similar to a subpoena – an order to appear in court – but at the beginning of a court case

Writ –

A court order commanding the recipient to perform or cease a specified act



Clerical Staff

Civil Court Orders Entered



Warrants Entered



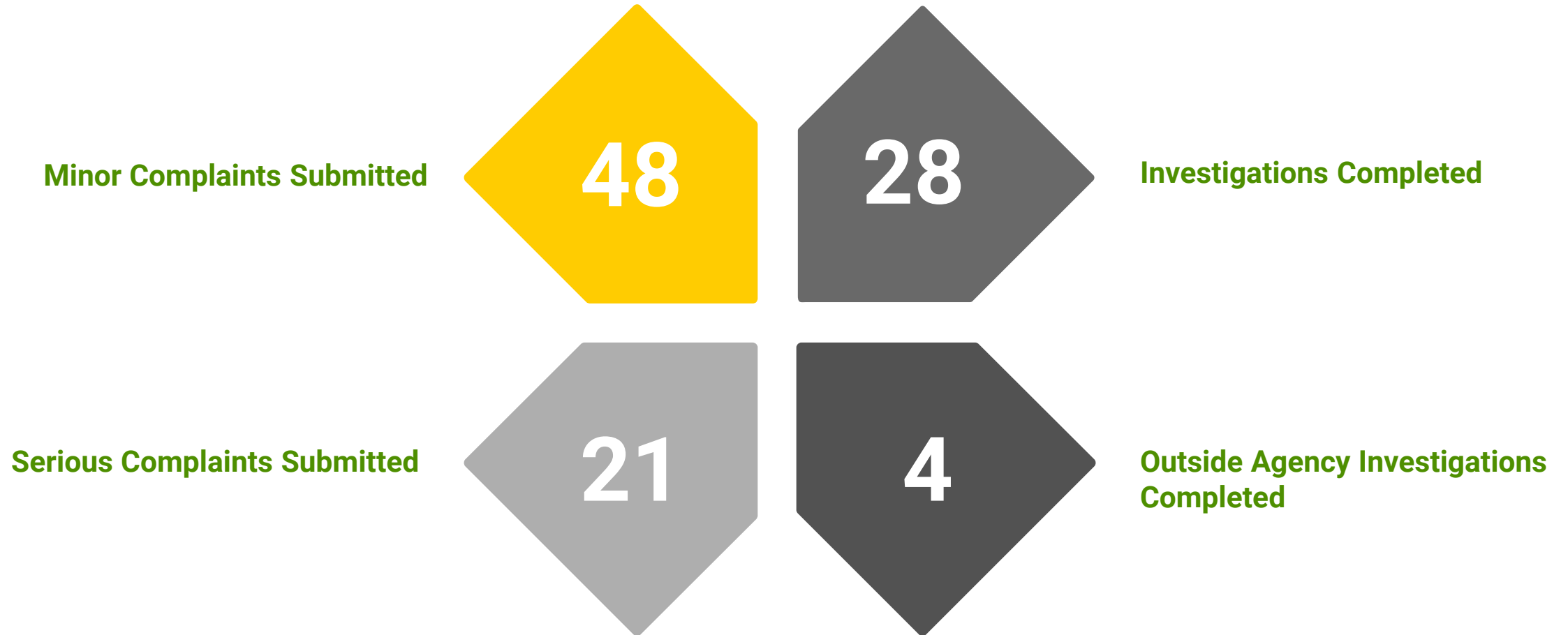
Warrants Validated





Professional Standards Unit

The Professional Standards Unit is tasked with the objective and impartial fact-finding of complaints against employees.



Divisions

Training Division





Handgun Qualifications

12 days with up to four classes per day, qualifying 157 people

Handgun Training

20 days with up to three classes per day, training 157 people

Shotgun/Rifle Training

20 days with up to two classes per day, training 98 people

Firearms Training

8 trained

Armed Detention Officer Course

One day in the classroom with four full days on the firing range.

13 Trained

3-Day Basic Rifle Course

Two classes with six total range days.

Team

STAR Team Training

Eight total range days for Special Tactics And Response Team. Eleven sniper training days.



Classroom/Online Training



Training coordinated by the Clay County Sheriff's Office Training Unit

Eleven courses totaling 180 hours of training.



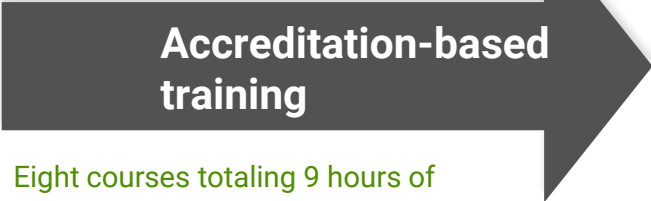
In-house classroom and hands-on training

Five courses totaling 140.5 hours of training.



Online training developed by Training Unit

Eleven courses totaling 14.25 hours of training.



Accreditation-based training

Eight courses totaling 9 hours of training.

Outreach

Community Engagement

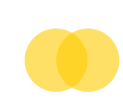


Community Engagement

With the addition of a Community Engagement Corporal in June, the Sheriff's Office greatly increased its outreach. The Office conducted the following community events in 2023:

- Citizens Academy – Fall and Spring Classes
- Women's Self Defense Class
- Missouri City Parade
- National Sunglasses Day at the Park
- Coffee with Kittens and Deputies
- Summer Food Box Delivery to North Kansas City School District families
- Junior Police Academy
- National Chocolate Chip Cookie Day Grocery Store Outreach
- National Night Out
- Car Seat Training and Installation Event
- Community Shredding Event
- Jesse James Festival Parade
- Liberty Fall Festival Parade
- Fill a Cup with a Deputy
- Town Hall Meeting (two)
- Trunk or Treat
- Drive-Through Food Distribution Truck
- Dine with a Deputy
- Build with a Deputy
- Shop with a Sheriff
- Winter Food Box Delivery to North Kansas City School District families





Community Engagement



Clay County Sheriff's Office
12 S. Water St.
Liberty, MO 64068
www.sheriffclayco.org

