

2010

ANNUAL REPORT

EL PASO COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE



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Honor Guard Rifle Team: *A Successful Addition*

Community Meetings
Keeping the county
informed

Patrol Section
Serving and
Volunteering
throughout your
Community

Intake and Release
Unit of the Year

FBI National Academy
"Yellow **BRICK** Road"

Confined Spaces
Emergency Response Exercise

shr.elpasoco.com

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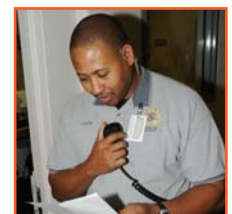
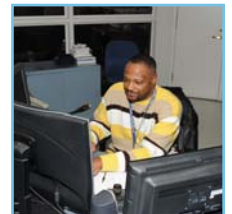
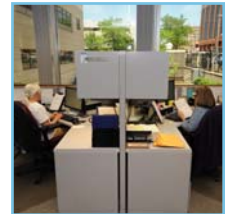
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LETTER FROM THE SHERIFF

It is with great pride I share with you the El Paso County Sheriff's Office 2010 Annual Report. As I reflect on this past year, there are so many accomplishments that stand out, but more than that is the representation of the unified effort, commitment and hard work that takes place behind the scenes each and every day that makes this Office the outstanding organization it is and makes these accomplishments possible.

It is my hope as you read this report you will see we are taking many steps towards improving not only our efficiency and effectiveness, but also strengthening our valuable partnerships within the community.

Our Patrol Division has seen great success this year. With the introduction of the Sheriff's Citizen Patrol to handle many of the functions that do not require a sworn law enforcement officer, our Patrol Deputies have been able to spend their time keeping this community safe. We are averaging a 62% clearance rate on the 8,691 cases taken. We continue to strive to reduce response times despite the continued growth in the County.

Our partnership with the Immigrations and Customs Enforcement with our ICE contract and our Intergovernmental Service's Agreement (IGSA) for long term housing of

detainees continues to be significant source of revenue for the Sheriff's Office. The El Paso County Sheriff's Office still remains the only local law enforcement agency in the State of Colorado to have deputies who are commissioned at the federal level as 287(g) officers.

The Detoxification Facility and the Reintegration and Recovery Program continue to contribute to the safety of this community by saving lives, reducing crime and cutting recidivism. This year the Reintegration and Recovery Program was recognized nationally and we are proud recipient of the National Association of County Organizations (NACo) 2010 Achievement Award. We were selected among hundreds of county applicants nationwide.

The Sheriff's Office Honor Guard has become a Unit I am extremely proud of. They have participated in 27 missions this year equating to 750 service hours. Their training has been very intense with members participating over 600 hours of training to include weapons drill training. The Honor Guard has grown in numbers and reputation across the state. They are scheduled to perform at several high visibility and nationally televised sporting events in Colorado during 2010 and 2011.



I would like to thank each member of this office for the dedication and commitment demonstrated each day. Great organizations are made up of great people, and as you will see the El Paso County Sheriff's Office represents a true collection of great people. I would also like to express to the citizens of El Paso County how much of an honor it is to serve as your Sheriff.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Terry Maketa".

Terry Maketa
Sheriff

Mission, Vision, & Values

The mission of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office is to provide public safety services to our community by fulfilling the duties and responsibilities as defined by Colorado law with a determination to meet the growing expectations of our citizens.

Our vision is to ensure the future quality of life for our citizens as our community grows. We will set the standard in public safety through innovation, flexibility, and commitment while recruiting and retaining a dynamic work force. Through community support and fiscal responsibility we will strategically plan and prepare for the necessary resources to meet future needs in Law Enforcement, Detentions, Wildland Fire, Search and Rescue, and Civil Process.

We believe...

- In protecting the Constitutional rights of all individuals.
 - Our Civilian and Sworn employees are our greatest asset and the key to our collective success.
 - We work for and with the citizens of our community in a partnership based on mutual trust.
 - In identifying, prioritizing, preventing, and solving community problems.
 - In supporting on-going organizational change that strengthens our ability and capacity to serve our community.
 - All our actions and decisions are driven by a commitment to Honesty, Loyalty, and Unity.
-

COMMAND STAFF



Patrol Division
Commander Ken Moore



Metro Vice Narcotics Intelligences
Commander Sam Washburn



Emergency Services Division
Commander Jim Reid



Detention Operations Division
Commander Rob King



Support Operations Division
Commander Brad Shannon



Investigations Division
Commander Mitch Lincoln



Detention Security Division
Commander Bill Mistretta



Administrative Services Division
Commander Al Harmon



Law Enforcement Bureau
Chief Joe Breister



Detention Bureau
Chief Paula Presley



Legal Advisor
Mr. Charles Greenlee



El Paso County
Undersheriff Larry Kastner



El Paso County
Sheriff Terry Maketa

The Patrol Section is composed of 3 shifts. The Day shift hours are from 6:30 A.M. until 4:30 P.M., Swings shift hours are from 3:00 P.M. until 1:00 A.M., and Mid shift hours are from 9:00 P.M. until 7:30 A.M. Staffing these three shifts currently equates to 59 deputies, 12 sergeants and three lieutenants. Together, these professionals provide the primary law enforcement response to the roughly 170,000 citizens living in the unincorporated area of El Paso County. The unincorporated area encompasses approximately 1,932 square miles, which is approximately 90% of El Paso County's total square mileage of 2,165. The Patrol Section provides these services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. They are not deterred by distance or weather. The county is divided into 14 Patrol Districts, which are patrolled with an average of 7 to 10 deputies assigned to each shift. Despite the vast area of responsibility, the Patrol section continually strives to reduce response times to high priority calls, emergency calls, and urgent calls. In 2010, the overall average response time was almost identical to that in 2009 despite the continued growth in the county.

During 2010, patrol deputies responded to roughly 43,855 calls for service and took 8,691 cases. Deputies cleared approximately 62% of the cases taken and made 3,500 criminal arrests. There were 9,682 traffic

tickets issued and 10,739 traffic warnings given to the motoring public. They also arrested 486 motorists for DUI.

There are numerous examples of the outstanding work being accomplished by the deputies assigned to the Patrol Section. One such example occurred in October when deputies responded to an address on Hunters Run in regards to two juveniles breaking into cars.

Several members of our community observed a pair of juveniles breaking into cars. When these concerned citizens came out of their homes to stop the juveniles, the juveniles fled on foot.

Deputies

responded quickly, set up containment, determined what had occurred, and began a systematic search of the area. During the search, both juveniles were located and arrested. The subsequent investigation resulted in the clearance of 12 Sheriff's Office cases and 20 Colorado Springs Police Department cases. In many of the cases, the victims were able to recover their stolen property.

In addition to their duties on Patrol, many of the deputies assigned to the Patrol Section have secondary assignments which augment the Sheriff's Office efforts to complete the mission. Some of the secondary assignments and collateral duties include SWAT, Honor Guard, Field Training Program, Cadet Advisor Program, Mounted Unit, and the

Explosive Ordinance Disposal Unit. All of these assignments are in addition to each deputy's primary assignment to the Patrol Section.

Many of the deputies assigned to the Patrol Section also volunteer within the community. Some of the community partnerships include Candle Lighters, Shop-with-a-Cop, Refuse to be a Victim, Special Olympics Tip-a-Cop, Neighborhood Watch Groups and National Night Out gatherings. Members of our Cadet Program can often be found assisting at these events or riding along with the deputies on patrol. Our Cadet Program allows interested youth the opportunity to learn more about the Sheriff's Office role in providing public service and enables them to make an informed decision regarding whether or not they would like to pursue a career in law enforcement. The Cadet Program currently has 62 members ranging in age from 14 to 20 years old.

The Patrol Division is made up of many Specialized Units, but the Patrol Section continues to be the backbone of the law enforcement delivery system. Patrol deputies are our most visible asset and are the "eyes and ears" to what is going on in the community. Patrol deputies are often the first Sheriff's Office representatives to meet the community and these interactions almost always form the community member's opinion of the Office. The Patrol Section accepts this challenge and presses forward with efforts to foster a positive relationship with the community it serves, while setting the standard for delivery of the law enforcement function.

Contributed by:
**Commander
Rob King**



YEARS OF SERVICE



Paula Presley



Sam Washburn



Jim Hernandez



Karl Herndon



Kenneth Pitman



Gaylen Heinle



William Burns



James Choate



Brian Livingstone



Leslie Milligan



Max Strasner



Carla Flutcher

Not Pictured: Dalene Atwell with 20 Years of Service.

EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



While many view the law enforcement function as patrol and investigations, the Sheriff is empowered by Colorado Revised Statutes to perform civil functions. According to statute:

➔ The Sheriff, in person or by his undersheriff or deputy, shall serve and execute, according to law, all processes, writs, precepts, and orders issued or made by lawful authority and to him directed, and shall serve the several courts of record held in his county.

➔ No sheriff shall refuse to serve any writ, summons, or notice requested by any person entitled to such service, when offered or tendered the fees allowed by law for such service; nor shall he or she charge, demand, or receive any greater sum or compensation or allowance.

The Patrol Division's Civil Unit is responsible for managing the execution of these requirements and the management of the funds

collected. The unit consists of two full-time and one part-time office staff, six deputies, and a sergeant.

The office staff is responsible for processing, routing, disposition of all the documents received and the collection of funds, while the deputies are responsible for serving processes and executing writs and orders. In 2010, the unit routed 11,101 processes, a 2% increase from 2009.

Also in 2010, the Colorado legislature passed HB-1057. This bill changed the way sheriffs calculate mileage fees for services. The bill allows a sheriff to establish a zone or zip code based mileage fee structure, effectively removing outdated language that prohibited "Constructive Mileage" and capped the mileage reimbursement rate at .36 cents per mile. In July, the Board of County Commissioners passed County Resolution 10-286, which established a zip code-based mileage structure.

CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office (EPSO) Crime Analysis Unit consists of one civilian crime analyst who monitors criminal activity in El Paso County and identifies emerging patterns or trends. The analyst also provides crime-related data or maps as requested by staff or other customers. This year, the crime analyst spent a great deal of time compiling statistical and analytical information, mostly for dissemination to the public in various formats. The crime analyst also provides case support and research to Investigations, Patrol, the Crime Reduction Unit and outside agencies.

During 2010, EPSO hosted community meetings in patrol districts across the county. Sheriff Maketa and staff members from various divisions attended these meetings to discuss crime rates and trends occurring in each specific area as well as information pertaining to the entire county. Residents appreciated the opportunity to learn about what was happening and to have direct access to the staff in order to

ask questions, express concerns, or just to learn more about services EPSO provides. At one meeting, a citizen explained that her home had just been burglarized; and while discussing her experience, she and some neighbors were able to provide suspect information that assisted with the investigation and ultimately led to the arrests of two local teens who had burglarized multiple homes in the area.

In 2010, EPSO continued to use technology to provide citizens with access to as much information as possible about crime in our community. This year, a crime mapping system (Crime Reports) was introduced on our website which allows citizens to view locations and general descriptions of recent cases as well as the dates and times they were reported. Users can customize the types of cases they wish to see and can view incidents for up to the previous

six month time frame. This application, like the "online blotter" introduced in 2009, has been helpful in allowing citizens to become more aware of incidents that have occurred near their homes or workplaces and to learn about the types of crimes that frequently occur in specific areas.



Commander Moore speaking to the residents who attended the District 2 Community Meeting.

The total number of case reports taken during 2010 increased only slightly, less than 1%, from 2009. Criminal mischief (including tampering) was the mostly widely-reported crime in El Paso County during 2010; however, these cases decreased 13% from the number reported in 2009. Theft was the next-highest crime reported, and these cases also decreased this year, by 7%. Forgery and fraud cases increased by approximately 16% this year compared with the number of those cases reported last year. Robbery and criminal trespass also increased this year, by approximately 25% and 37%, respectively.



Deputy David at a District 3 Community Meeting taking notes speaking with a community member.



> Why we participate in the United States Police Canine Association

The United States Police Canine Association (USPCA) was originally formed in Florida in 1964. Today it is the oldest organization of its kind in the United States.

The goal of the USPCA is to establish and maintain training and certification standards for police service dogs. The USPCA also provides members with the information necessary to network with other agencies, officers and trainers in the police working dog field. The network created by the USPCA gives its members access to information about starting a canine unit, selecting working dogs and guidance on training police service dogs from subject matter experts in the field.

The certification process offered by the USPCA is perhaps its most important role. By undergoing the rigorous certification process offered by the USPCA, members know they have met the highest standards in the police service dog field. As a result of achieving certification through the USPCA, members have access to a legal defense fund and experts in the field in the event of a lawsuit relating to the use of a trained and certified police working dog.

On January 16, 2011, the USPCA held a Police Dog I certification in Ft. Collins, Colorado. This certification requires that K-9 teams demonstrate proficiency in obedience,



obstacles, suspect search and criminal apprehension. All exercises are completed off leash, using only verbal commands. In the obedience and criminal apprehension phase of the certification, teams must obtain seventy percent of the total points possible to receive their certification.

Deputy Dave Yarbrough and K-9 "Cheko", and Deputy Mark Miller and K-9 "Axel" both received their first certification at the Ft. Collins trial. Officer Dan Anthony and K-9 "Scribbles" from the Fountain Police Department also earned their first Police Dog I certification during the same trial. Officer Anthony and Scribbles have been training with the Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit for the last six months.

In May, 2011, the Fountain Police Department will be hosting the USPCA drug detection and tracking trials. All three canine teams from the El Paso County Sheriff's Office will be participating in the trials.

Certification through the USPCA is difficult. Many law enforcement agencies elect to seek certifications from other organizations with lower standards and requirements. The El Paso County Sheriff's Office is proud to be an active member of the United States Police Canine Association and to know we have met the highest standards in the profession.

MOUNTED UNIT

Assigned Details, Training, and New Additions

The Mounted Unit was very busy and saw many changes in 2010. Throughout the year, the Unit participated in 59 details requiring mounted officers, 42 of which were law enforcement specific. Some of the details included the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo, El Paso County Fair, Rocky Mountain State Games, Air Force Academy Graduation, Fallen Officer Memorial and Air Force Academy home football games.

During the month of June, the unit held a 40-hour Basic Mounted Officer Course. Attending this course were officers from Pueblo Police Department, Pueblo County Sheriff's Office, Douglas County Sheriff's Office and the New Mexico State Police. In October, the unit participated in a joint civil disturbance training exercise with the Douglas County Sheriff's Office.

Contributed by:
Sergeant Bill Haragan
K9 & Mounted Unit



The unit was fortunate enough to welcome its newest member, Max, an eight-year-old Quarter horse from New Mexico. On a sadder note, after 11 years of dedicated service, Gunsmoke was retired from the unit and Bravo passed away after nine years of service.



> METRO VICE, NARCOTICS AND INTELLIGENCE

In February, Commander Rick Millwright from the Colorado Springs Police Department (CSPD) retired and Commander Sam Washburn, from the Sheriff's Office, assumed command. This action was taken when two command staff positions within the police department were left vacant due to budgetary reductions. Sheriff Maketa offered his assistance in providing a commander to oversee Metro Vice, Narcotics and Intelligence until such time as a CSPD replacement would be fiscally possible. This is the first time a Sheriff's Office staff member has held the position.

> UNDERCOVER NARCOTICS OPERATIONS

A large case investigation involving the possession of precursor chemicals was conducted that resulted in the seizure of over 12,000 pills connected to a number of burglaries. The pills, along with ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, as well as, other precursors were recovered from a storage locker.

A multi-agency investigation led to the arrest of eight individuals and the execution of five search warrants in the Colorado Springs metropolitan area. This combined effort resulted in the seizure of \$145,000 in drug proceeds and 5.2 pounds of cocaine.

Another multi-agency and multi-state investigation concluded with purchases of several ounces of methamphetamine, and a one pound purchase was negotiated. With efforts from various Federal and State agencies, two search warrants were executed; and several vehicles, one pound of methamphetamine and approximately \$8000 in cash were seized.

The Southern Colorado Drug Task Force has worked vigorously to pursue investigations in cooperation with law enforcement outside the Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (R M H I D T A). During Project Deliverance, these investigative efforts resulted in over 2,200 arrests and

seizures of approximately 154 million dollars, 1,262 pounds of methamphetamine, 2.5 tons of cocaine, 1,410 pounds of heroin, 59 tons of marijuana, 501 weapons and 527 vehicles. Local seizures included 30 pounds of methamphetamine, 3.75 pounds of heroin, 13.77 pounds of cocaine and 416,319 dollars in US currency.

> PUBLIC SAFETY EVENT

Working in coordination with representatives from the Colorado Drug Endangered Children and Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the unit joined in the National Take Back Initiative. This was the first ever nationwide prescription drug take-back; and it operated

collection sites around the nation where Americans turned in their unused, unneeded and expired prescription medications. The event was held September 25th from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. Two collection sites were set up, one at Stetson Hills Substation and one at the Police Operations Center (POC). The results were astounding; 26 boxes of pills weighing 635 pounds were collected at the POC and 21 boxes weighing 443 pounds were collected at Stetson Hills.

> SEIZURE / FORFEITURE

Seizures for 2010 included \$47,905.00 and 7 vehicles, while the value of forfeited currency and vehicles totaled \$56,443.96.

> LIQUOR ENFORCEMENT UNIT

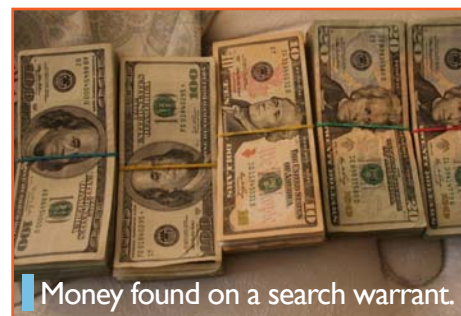
This unit is composed of a detective from the El Paso County Sheriff's Office and a detective from the Colorado Springs Police Department. The primary goal of the unit is to monitor and enforce the possession, sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages within El Paso County.



Illegal Marijuana Grow

In 2010, the unit focused its efforts in support of the patrol divisions within identified problem areas, with less emphasis on general compliance audits. Based upon complaints, the

unit did participate in several investigations at various licensed establishments which were reportedly defying Colorado gambling laws. Joint operations were conducted with assistance from the Colorado State Liquor Enforcement Division. Detectives were instrumental in facilitating license revocations at 2 different problem locations. In addition, concentrated enforcement efforts had a significant impact



Money found on a search warrant.

on the kind of disruptive and criminal behavior usually experienced in downtown Colorado Springs during the summer months, as multiple licensed establishments in the downtown corridor were cited for violations. This effort, in conjunction with efforts being made by the Gold Hill Division, were instrumental in reducing calls for service as well as, criminal activity in the downtown area. Liquor detectives also supported the Woodland Park Police Department by conducting several liquor compliance audits on identified problem bars.

In late 2010, the division was notified it would be receiving an Enforcing the Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Block Grant. This grant will help to facilitate enforcement of underage drinking efforts in 2011 and 2012.

> SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT UNIT

The Special Enforcement Unit consists of personnel from various teams, to include narcotics, intelligence, liquor and special enforcement. Detectives provide support to medical marijuana and liquor investigations.

Narcotics detectives' primary focus was to establish and provide a minimal level of enforcement and compliance (based upon complaint), that centered around the medical marijuana industry as El Paso County, the City of Colorado Springs, and the State of Colorado continued to research and develop rules and regulations to govern the industry.

Crime Reduction Unit

The Crime Reduction Unit (CRU) is a fast-paced unit primarily responsible for fugitive location and apprehension, response to crime related tips, investigative follow-up and self-initiated investigation. The CRU is relentless in its pursuit of criminal activity and was involved in several significant cases throughout 2010.

CRU deputies conducted follow up on a suspect who had fled in a vehicle from a patrol deputy a few days prior. During surveillance, the suspect was observed entering a vehicle and an arrest was made. The suspect was in possession of 83.9 grams of methamphetamine and provided narcotics detectives with information concerning a drug distribution ring. Information obtained led to the execution of several search warrants where additional narcotics and tens of thousands of dollars were seized.

In another case, CRU deputies interviewed a suspect who was in custody. He provided information about an unreported homicide which occurred within the city limits of Colorado Springs. The information was relayed to the Major Crimes Unit of the Colorado Springs Police Department, and it was determined the information was associated to a missing persons case. CRU partnered with the Major Crimes Unit and identified several addresses and vehicles of interest. During the cooperative effort, the scene of the crime was discovered, as was the victim's body, which had been dumped in a wooded area off Old Stage Road. The perpetrators of the crime were identified and arrested.

In February, the widow of a deceased U.S. serviceman who died while serving in Iraq was the victim of a vehicle break-in. She was in town for her husband's funeral and many of the items stolen were her husband's last remaining effects. A few days later, CRU received

a call from CSPD officers who had arrested a person on an unrelated warrant who had knowledge of the case. Interviews conducted determined the person arrested was involved in the vehicle break-in. The investigation developed over the next few days, and several search warrants were executed and arrests made.

Contributed by:
Sergeant Jeff Kramer



During the summer, CRU received a request to assist with a motor vehicle theft investigation. CRU was able to identify the suspects and located the stolen vehicle. During the course of the follow-up, CRU developed information about several other stolen vehicles and recovered three additional stolen vehicles.

A request was received from the Front Range Task Force, Fugitive Location and Apprehension Group (FLAG), to assist in the arrest of Miguel Fuentes. Fuentes was believed to be armed and dangerous and was being sought for an armed robbery in Castle Rock, CO. CRU set up surveillance with other participating agencies at an apartment complex. After several hours, a person who matched the description of Fuentes was seen walking through the parking lot. CRU attempted to contact the person but he threw an air

conditioner, which he was carrying, at deputies and fled on foot. After a lengthy foot chase and two physical struggles, Fuentes was taken into custody. During the booking process, it was learned Immigrations Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents had put a hold on Fuentes because he was wanted in Mexico for murder.

Throughout the year, CRU initiated over 420 case reports, made over 335 arrests, cleared more than 410 arrest warrants, recovered 24 firearms, more than 50 stolen vehicles and seized over \$46K worth of methamphetamine.



RETIREMENTS



Deputy
**James
Spoerl**



Lieutenant
**Marjorie
Zani**



Sergeant
**Catherine
LaBrecque**



Deputy
**Donald
Richer**



Deputy
**James
Littau**



Deputy
**James
Lyons**



Lieutenant
**Stan
Presley**



Deputy
**Karl
Herndon**

Not Pictured: Program Manager **Fran LePage**, and Records Technician **Cathy Rosenberg**.

INVESTIGATIONS

> General Crimes Unit

The General Crimes unit consists of three detectives who conduct initial and follow-up investigations into property crimes, such as burglary, motor vehicle theft and are responsible for the investigation into reports of animal abuse. They have the additional responsibility of processing all recovered stolen vehicles.

In 2010, the unit developed and presented a basic patrol response to equine abuse cases. The class gave an overview of the Hennecke System of Body Condition Scoring (used to gauge the amount of body fat on a horse), and offered safety tips on how to approach a horse and how to explain what needs to be documented during an investigation. The classes were presented in cooperation with the Lasting Partnership Training Center, an equine rescue facility. The facility provided horses in various states of health, allowing deputies an opportunity to apply the training received. As a result, the quality of deputy investigations was improved dramatically.

In addition to assisting on a number of homicides and other major crimes, General Crimes' detectives worked closely with the Colorado Springs Police Department in capturing a habitual car thief. The suspect arrested had been previously identified as a habitual car thief and lead deputies on a pursuit in March while driving a stolen car. As a result of our collaboration, the suspect accepted a plea bargain for an 8 year sentence to the Department of Corrections.

> Major Crimes Unit

During 2010, the 4 detectives and the sergeant assigned to the Major Crimes Unit investigated 3 homicides, 1 child abuse resulting in death,

10 attempted murders, three kidnappings, 23 robberies, 54 other death investigations and several other high profile crimes. The most intense death investigation was the death of Genesis Sims.

On May 14, the Monument Police Department contacted the Sheriff's Office for assistance with the discovery of a body buried in a crawlspace at 764 Century Place, in the town of Monument. Maintenance workers at the address had discovered a body while installing a new sump pump. The workers told detectives they had dug a hole to install the sump pump and located a plastic bag. After removing the bag from the hole, they discovered a



body inside. An autopsy determined the body as that of a female, 7 to 10 years of age. The investigation revealed Hanif Sims and Monique Lynch had lived in the residence from November 2008 through February 2009. Neighbors told detectives Sims and Lynch had a 7-year-old daughter named Genesis, who had not been seen since shortly after moving into the residence. Neighbors related Sims and Lynch had told them Genesis moved back to New Jersey to live with her mother. Several neighbors reported witnessing abuse of Genesis.

During the investigation, it was learned Sims and Lynch had moved to Los Angeles. Detectives traveled to Los Angeles in an attempt to locate the couple but discovered they had moved, abandoning 2 other children. Subsequent leads took detectives to Newark, New Jersey, and back to Los Angeles in an attempt to locate the couple.

During this time, Monique Lynch contacted a

local reporter via Facebook. A search warrant was obtained for the Facebook account and revealed the communication originated from a hotel in Henderson, Nevada. The information was relayed to a Fugitive Apprehension Unit in Henderson. On July 7, both suspects were taken into custody.

Detectives traveled to Henderson, where interviews were conducted with Sims and Lynch. Hanif Sims was charged with child abuse resulting in death, and Monique Lynch was charged with first degree murder. Both suspects were extradited to El Paso County to await trial.

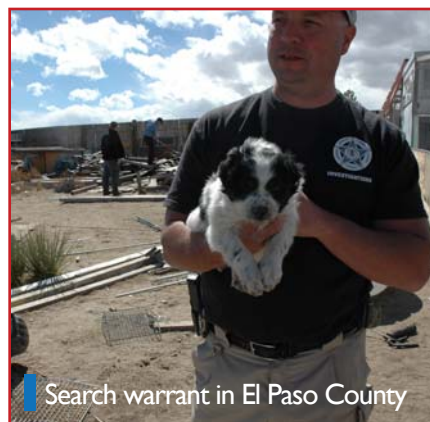
Due to their tenacity and commitment to the victims and citizens, the unit brought closure and justice to these families and individuals.

> Sex Crimes Unit

The Sex Crimes Unit, composed of 4 detectives, 1 civilian and 1 sergeant, is responsible for investigation of all felony sex offenses such as sexual assault, incest, sexual assault on a child and failure to register as a sex offender. During the year, 207 sex crimes were investigated and 353 sex offenders registered as residing in the unincorporated area of El Paso County.

The civilian assigned to the unit is responsible for registering and managing the registered sex offenders in unincorporated El Paso County. In addition to registrations, the civilian performs quarterly and annual re-registrations, maintenance of registration files in compliance with the Adam Walsh Act and Colorado Bureau of Investigations rules, updates the Offender Watch database and coordinates with other

agencies charged with tracking sex offenders. In July, the unit participated in a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional collaboration dubbed



“Operation Shepherd.” This annual event, sponsored by the United States Marshal’s Service Adam Walsh Task Force, is a 10-day operation involving agencies from Colorado and Wyoming. The objectives of the operation are the apprehension of wanted sex offenders and compliance checks. Media outlets are notified and a “100 Most Wanted Sex Offender” list is distributed. All tips are sent to the Marshal’s Service Command Center where the information is directed to the appropriate agency for follow-up. During the operation, detectives attempted to contact 156 registered sex offenders and successfully contacted 62.

The year also saw the clearance of a particularly violent and brutal sexual assault that occurred in 2007. In June of 2007, a female was brutally attacked, sexually assaulted and robbed while on the trail along Fountain Creek. An investigation at the time exhausted all leads except for a DNA profile developed from evidence collected. Nearly 3 years later, detectives were notified by the Colorado Bureau of Investigations the DNA sample submitted matched the DNA profile of Robert Greenwood, who was in custody at the Department of Corrections for a robbery conviction. In addition to our case, Greenwood’s profile matched a DNA sample collected from another unsolved sexual assault investigated by the Colorado Springs Police Department. During the time of the sexual assaults, Greenwood was a resident of Community Alternatives. The information enabled detectives to obtain an arrest warrant for Robert Greenwood, charging him with Attempted First Degree Murder, Attempted Sexual Assault, Second Degree Kidnapping and Robbery.

range of complex cases related to organized crime, counterfeiting, forgery, embezzlement, identity theft, fraud and computer and Internet crimes. Although the unit was busy with the investigation of a myriad of crimes, pattern crimes were of particular focus this year.



A bullet hole in the front windshield of a vehicle.

One such pattern crime investigation began in January, when detectives began examining a series of motor vehicle break-ins at recreational centers, parks and trailheads, all of which had a similar modus operandi (MO). The suspects were stealing credit cards which were used to purchase gift cards at large chain retail stores. During the case investigation, detectives identified a suspect who subsequently confessed to identity theft and was arrested on 33 felony counts. The suspect identified a husband and wife who had provided the stolen credit cards from the vehicle break-ins. A separate case investigation

culminated in the arrest of the wife for identity theft, but no evidence was obtained to prove who was breaking into the cars.

In May, detectives began another investigation of a motor vehicle break-in which had a similar MO of the primary suspects. They identified the same husband and wife previously investigated. Based upon information gathered, detectives obtained a search warrant allowing for the placement of an Electronic Tracking Device (ETD) on the vehicle of the suspects.

Over the next 90 days, detectives used the ETD to plot the location of the vehicle throughout the state. The ETD assisted detectives in surveillance and linked nearly 30 cases from multiple jurisdictions to the suspects’ criminal activity.

> Financial Crimes Unit

The Financial Crimes Unit is a component of the Investigations Division and is composed of 4 detectives, one of whom is a forensic computer analyst. The detectives work closely with federal and state law enforcement, local businesses, consumer protection groups, and financial institutions to reduce the scope of economic crimes. The unit is responsible for the investigation of a wide

In July, the investigation culminated when a “bait vehicle” was deployed at a local golf course where the suspect’s vehicle was observed. The bait vehicle contained a woman’s purse, which held traceable gift cards. One of the suspects, the husband, broke into the vehicle and stole the contents of the purse. The break-in was recorded on a video camera which had been placed inside the vehicle. Detectives were later able to recover video of the suspects using the stolen gift cards. As a result, 5 individuals were arrested and charged with theft, identity theft, criminal trespass, conspiracy, and prohibited activities under the Colorado Organized Crime Control Act.

Articles Contributed by:



**General
& Sex
Crimes**

Sergeant Bill Burns



**Major
Crimes**

Sergeant Robert Jaworski



**Financial
Crimes**

Inspector John San Agustin

SWAT

> Special Weapons And Tactics

The mission of the SWAT Team is to provide specialized law enforcement support to the Sheriff's Office and area agencies involving the resolution of complex and hazardous tactical situations. The team has 18 members consisting of 1 lieutenant, 2 sergeants and 15 deputies. The assignment is an additional duty, with all members serving elsewhere in the Office for their primary duty. The team welcomed the addition of 2 new deputies and 1 lieutenant.

The SWAT Team's operational tempo was down this year from years past, deploying 32 times for a variety of calls which included high-risk warrant execution, barricaded persons, buy/bust operations and dignitary protection. This compares with 43 and 54 deployments in 2009 and 2008, respectively. Eight of the operations in 2010 were done within



the city limits of Colorado Springs as the team was asked to assist at various locations while the Colorado Springs Police Department's Tactical Enforcement Unit was tasked with different

operations. In order to maintain operational readiness for such demanding tasks, the team trained for 280 hours.

In June, the team welcomed Commissioner Sallie Clark, Commissioner Dennis Hisey and Commissioner Amy Lathen to the Firearms Training Facility where a tactical demonstration was conducted. Following the demonstration, the commissioners had the opportunity to shoot a variety of weapons from the team's arsenal. All 3 commissioners were great shots and enjoyed their time with the team.

The team hosted and instructed its annual 50-hour Basic SWAT School in July. Twenty law enforcement officers attended and successfully completed the course. Attendees included EPSO Patrol and Detentions personnel, personnel from the Teller County Sheriff's Office and Pueblo County Sheriff's Office, military members from Cheyenne Mountain

Air Force Station, Fort Carson Special Response Team and The United States Air Force Academy.

Contributed by:
Sergeant Jeff Kramer



TRAFFIC UNIT

The Traffic Unit comprises 6 full-time deputies and 1 sergeant. Deputies in the unit are assigned to specific areas to address traffic concerns, with safety in school zones once again being the top priority for 2010.

These traffic safety concerns are identified by citizen complaints and deputy identified problem areas. Most traffic complaints are received through the traffic complaint line. If a citizen has a traffic safety concern, he or she can call the complaint line to identify the concern and leave contact information. A deputy then takes the complaint, and working with the citizen, identifies the best way to resolve the issue. Working directly with citizens to solve traffic safety issues builds strong and productive relations with the community.

In 2010, the unit made over 7,000 traffic contacts, completed 110 VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) verifications, and responded to over 1,000 calls for service. The unit also participated in 3 national enforcement campaigns to include Click It or Ticket, National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) High Visibility DUI Enforcement, and Checkpoint Colorado. All nationwide programs received local funding provided by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT).



> CLICK IT OR TICKET

Every May, CDOT has the Click It or Ticket Mobilization Period, which ran from May 24 to June 6, 2010. It also included a nighttime enforcement pilot program that occurred the first week of April. Deputies worked a total of 99 hours and issued 40 seatbelt citations.

> HIGH VISIBILITY DUI ENFORCEMENT PERIODS

The NHTSA established 11 DUI enforcement periods throughout the year, which were determined based upon national DUI arrest data. The unit participated in every period and made 71 DUI arrests.

> CHECKPOINT COLORADO

Checkpoint Colorado occurred from May 22 through September 21, 2010. The unit conducted 5 DUI checkpoints at 5 different locations in unincorporated El Paso County. A total of 11 DUI arrests were made.



Contributed by: **Sergeant Michael Schaller**

The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program is now in its 19th year of educating students on the dangers of substance abuse and on personal safety. The new DARE curriculum, "Keeping It Real," is a life skills program addressing drug use, bullying, and technology concerns such as sexting, and social website use. The curriculum has been taught to a total of 756 sixth-grade students.

The DARE deputy also spends countless hours at Bear Trap Ranch as part of the Widefield School District #3 outdoor education program. In addition to working with students in the classroom, the deputy teaches students at Bear Trap Ranch. DARE officers are invaluable instructors for the team building/survival skills classes, rappelling and substance abuse classes for sixth-grade students attending camp. The DARE program is also taught in the evenings. In addition to the DARE curriculum, other deputies have interaction time with students outside the

traditional classroom. This unique opportunity allows the DARE deputy to interact with



students who may be considered at risk for inappropriate or criminal activity.

The Red Ribbon Helicopter Fly-ins is an ongoing partnership with the Colorado National Guard and DARE. Military helicopters fly to each DARE participating school and bring

red ribbons and a special guest to promote a "No to Drugs" message for the National Red Ribbon Week campaign.

The El Paso County Health Department works closely with the DARE deputies in tobacco education. Mrs. Joy Clark of the health department's Tobacco Education Prevention Partnership joins the DARE officer in the classroom and brings in real lungs to show students the consequences of smoking. In addition to classroom instruction, students and their families are invited to participate in free ice skating events and other activities. These special events occur several times during the year as a way to promote a healthy lifestyle.

The DARE program continues to be a great success and we look for this program to continue well into the future.

Contributed by:
Deputy Don Roycraft



LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

During the 2010 General Assembly's 120 day session, Colorado Legislators introduced 649 bills for consideration to become new laws. The number of proposed bills affecting the law enforcement community was 124. Of the bills introduced, 448 survived to be enacted into law, 87 of which impacted the law enforcement community.

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office is active in tracking proposed legislation and testifying before House and Senate committees when legislation is either supported or opposed.



The El Paso County Sheriff's Office actively supported a number of bills which were enacted:

> **HB 10-1284 & SB 109** established rules and regulations for the medical marijuana industry, (patients, caregivers, and dispensaries), which are governed by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

> **HB 10-1275** requires the location of a burial on private land to be recorded with the County Clerk and Recorder. This bill was important because we have hundreds of miles of ranch land in our jurisdiction. If in the future remains are located, thousands of dollars in investigative efforts are saved if the remains are that of a private burial.

> **HB 10-1018** increased authority to regulate waste tires. El Paso County has been a dumping ground for waste tires for

years. This new law established rules for the tracking, transport and disposal of waste tires. It also created a plan for recycling waste tires abandoned in monofills (tire dumps).

The Legislative Liaison has a vital role in keeping the Sheriff and Command Staff updated on proposed legislation which could either positively or negatively (creating unfunded mandates) impact the Office. This is done by preparing a synopsis of each bill and completing a weekly report of the status of each bill. The liaison attends all committee hearings, as well as, House and Senate hearings on all legislation with law enforcement impact. The liaison coordinates with the Sheriff to be present at hearings for him to testify, and at times testifies either in support or opposition of legislation.



Contributed by:
Deputy Teresa Murphy

VICTIM ASSISTANCE UNIT

In 2010, the Victim Assistance Unit and our Volunteer Victim Advocates provided over 25,208 on-call service hours, direct service hours, training hours and clerical hours to our community. The commitment of these volunteer victim advocates saved taxpayers \$500,716.00 as opposed to having to use paid staff.

During the year, the victim assistance program was recognized by Walmart Stores, Inc., with a \$4,000 donation. This generous gift will be used to provide emergency assistance to victims when no other means of funding is available. The funds will be used for emergency transportation (such as bus tickets), lodging, food, basic hygiene and infant and child care supplies. When victim advocates respond to situations not necessarily criminal in nature but involving death or other hardships, there is now a small fund available to help ease victims' burdens when no other resources exist.

The idea for the award started in April, when Walmart Human Resource Managers requested training from the unit regarding services provided to victims. The request originated because an associate at

Walmart had a friend who received domestic violence advocacy from the unit. The associate was deeply moved by the services provided to the friend. The Victim Advocate program was selected for the award by the nine Walmart stores in El Paso and Teller counties at their annual community celebration banquet. A big thank you goes out to Walmart for giving back to our community in such a resourceful way.



Victim Assistance Program Coordinator Sam McAfee-Acre receives the donation from a Walmart representative.

Victim Advocates don't always have it so easy and the economy has caused our advocates to become more and more creative in ways they serve victims, their families and even their pets. Three paid staff and 23 volunteer advocates provided services to over 3,844 victims and witnesses. The advocates also responded to 208 crime scenes for the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, Fountain Police

Department and Manitou Springs Police Department. Grant funding allows their unit to partner with the Fountain Police Department and Manitou Springs Police Department, where victim advocacy services were not previously available.

Contributed by: **Sam McAfee-Acre**
Victim Assistance Program Manager



CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

The integrity and significance of a team are most noticeable when performance demands are great and the team members lock arms, unite their strengths and abilities and commit to accomplishing their common goals as a team."

With eight chaplains on the on-call roster and three of our members limited by family health concerns, the other five members locked arms, demonstrated flexibility and accomplished the goals set before us.

Chaplains respond at the deputies' request to serve families who experience the worst day of their lives. These tragedies include husbands/wives who lose the companionship of their best friend and lover to a premature death, parents who have to face the nightmare of losing a child and families who must endure the tragedy of a suicide. The Chaplains are honored to come alongside these grieving families, bringing spiritual encouragement, emotional support and a shoulder to cry on. The

chaplains do not take the place of deputies on scene, but enhance the Sheriff's Office in serving families in crisis. At the request of grieving families who have no church affiliation, chaplains have officiated at funerals, assisted families as they endeavor to celebrate the life of those they have lost and provided comfort.



The Chaplains have also participated in events such as Sheriff's Office Academy Graduations, Annual Award Banquet, Annual Police Memorial Service, Citizens Academies and Teen Academies by bringing the invocation or benediction inviting God to be our Honored Guest and to bring His blessing. This year the team participated in a first-ever special service that took place at the America the Beautiful

Park, where families who had become victims of homicide could meet together, share their stories and bring comfort to one another.

Contributed by: **Chaplain Robert Swales**



RESERVE SECTION

In 2010, the Reserve Section continued to provide critical support to all 3 bureaus of the Office and the community. A successful recruiting effort resulted in a reserve academy's being started with 16 recruits scheduled to graduate in February 2011. This academy marked the first lateral appointments to reserve deputy for the office, which will double the size of the section.

The over-all strength of the Reserve Section has averaged 22 deputies for the past 5 years. Reserve Deputies come

from all walks of life and careers. These Office Members form an excellent cross section of the community. The Reserve Section receives its funding from donations, grants and the United States Air Force Academy Athletic contract. It receives no direct funding from taxpayers.

The demands on the Reserve Section continued to increase in 2010, supporting high-profile community events that often overlapped, causing the Reserve Section to perform concurrent operations. Starting in 2011, the Reserve Section will have a presence at community and neighborhood watch meetings.

their normally assigned duties. Often this occurs over the weekend, helping to increase efficiency and officer safety, and meeting the demand of the community. The section provides deputies for events such as warrant sweeps, DUI check points, and SWAT missions. This year, reserve deputies responded to 5 patrol call-outs and 3 hospital security requests.

Additionally, the Reserve Section worked a total of 43 special events to include US Air Force Academy Graduation, Air Force football games, Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo, El Paso County Fair, July



The section maintains an on-call status to provide support to deputies, such as filling staffing shortages and manning crime scene security or hospital details, thus freeing full-time deputies to perform

4th activities and a number of other community events.

Contributed by: **Sergeant Mike Waters**



CITIZEN PATROL

The mission of the Sheriff's Citizen Patrol (SCP) is to respond to minor criminal and non-criminal incidents with the intent of freeing up deputies assigned to Patrol to focus their attention on major criminal events and case follow-up. In 2010, a third Sheriff's Citizen Patrol Academy was held, adding 11 more members to our ranks. Today, the all-volunteer SCP boasts 30 members who serve our community with pride and integrity.

The Sheriff's Citizen Patrol responds to misdemeanor crimes that have no suspect information or evidence. They also respond to animal complaints, residential and business alarms, conduct speed monitoring, business and vacation checks, provide traffic control at the scene of a crash or fire, and tag and impound abandoned vehicles. Sheriff's Citizen Patrol members also assist with events such as Community Meetings, Neighborhood Watch, National Night Out, the County Fairs, Safety Fairs and DUI Check Points. The SCP volunteers are an integral part

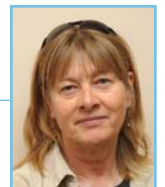
of the Sheriff's Office who are able to personally contact victims of crime and provide the personalized, professional service the members of our community have come to expect from their public servants.

In 2010, the Sheriff's Citizen Patrol patrolled 63,850 miles responding to the following: 36 alarm responses, 110 animal complaints, 48 assist on calls, 101 calls for service, 74 case reports, 460 citizen contacts, 527 crime prevention activities, 21 impounds, 358 motorist assists, 440 Automatic License Plate Recognition System (ALPRS) patrols, 186 parking complaints, 196 green tags, 781 green tag removals, 266 speeding letters and 193 traffic control.

The SCP's responding to these calls has resulted in saving patrol deputies 1570 hours of valuable time, for a direct salary savings of \$45,340.34. The SCP spent an additional 4407 hours doing Citizen Contacts, Crime Prevention activities, and

patrolling neighborhoods.

Contributed by: **Liz Dreher**
Sheriff's Citizen Patrol Coordinator
& Crime Prevention Coordinator



FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

The Fire Investigations Unit is part of the Emergency Services Division of the Law Enforcement Bureau. The unit is composed of 1 deputy and 1 volunteer investigator.

The number of fire investigations has remained consistent from 2009 to 2010, but the total number of fires is representative of only those fires investigated by the unit. In addition, the number of structure fires occurring in unincorporated El Paso County has remained fairly constant as well. The unseasonably dry summer and low fuel moistures prompted the Sheriff to impose Stage I fire restrictions in September to reduce the likelihood of an outdoor fire or trash fires causing a large wildland fires. The fire restrictions remained in effect for the remainder of the year.

While other parts of the country saw a rise in the number of structure and arson fires, largely attributed to the economy and rise in foreclosures, El Paso County did not experience a similar trend. The number of vehicle arsons declined slightly and can be partially attributed to automotive industry improvements made to factory installed

anti-theft devices. The trend to use computer-controlled ignition, electronic throttle controls and improved encryption for vehicle remotes has combined to hamper efforts to steal newer vehicles.

A member of the Fire Investigations Unit is on call 24 hours a day to support all rural fire districts within El Paso County and requests for assistance from municipalities or surrounding counties. Investigators are trained and equipped to conduct fire scene examinations to determine the origin and cause of a fire. Many times they work in adverse weather and poor lighting conditions to locate, inspect, preserve and collect evidence. They interview witnesses and suspects, complete all scene documentation and write case reports. If the cause of the fire is determined to be arson, investigators conduct all aspects of the investigation.

Contributed by:

Assistant Deputy Fire Marshall
Scott Campbell



HAZMAT

The Hazardous Material Response Team (HAZMAT) responded to, provided backup and mitigated over 207 calls for service in 2010. These included chemical stockpiles, gas releases, chemical spills, fuel spills, illegal dumping of chemicals, a chemical suicide and aircraft crashes. The team worked over 2,738 hours on responses and training, some of which included a large gasoline spill on I-25 and a helicopter crash near the top of Pikes Peak.

Team members also provided instruction for



hazardous material certification training to several regional responders and conducted joint training with numerous fire departments and emergency response agencies. These responders and agencies came from within El Paso County and the South Central Region.

A hazmat operations class was also held, given in a new format and method, and all members passed the state examination.

The Hazardous Material Team devotes numerous hours to training on all aspects of a hazardous material response or terrorist incident. Specialist training includes specific training for evidence collection, the National Incident Management System, basic and advanced chemistry, highway emergency response, technical emergency response, driver's training and weapons of mass destruction response.

Contributed by:
Deputy
Richard Heaverlo



SEARCH AND RESCUE

Search and Rescue has been part of El Paso County since 1976, and is supported strictly by donations. They work under the umbrella of the Sheriff's Office, fulfilling one of the statutory requirements for the Sheriff. The team is composed of roughly 60 volunteers, each of whom must attend a grueling training session prior to being able to deploy. Search and Rescue places a lot of emphasis on training, as members must be able to survive themselves in the event they are trapped during a rescue attempt.

The team provides services to citizens such as mountain rescue, searching for lost persons, medical response to citizens injured participating in outdoor activities and life saving efforts during blizzards and floods. Search and Rescue also assists law enforcement by providing cadaver dogs that team members own and have personally trained.

The number of missions in 2010 surpassed those from previous years. The most common incidents involved hikers requiring assistance, followed by stranded 4-wheelers, injured runners, people who wandered away and law enforcement assists. The team was involved in incidents involving stranded climbers, downed aircraft, injured mountain bikers, suicide body recoveries, equestrian incidents, lost or stranded hunters and fishermen and Personal Location Beacon (PLB)

activations. There was a total of 167 missions, lasting anywhere from 2 hours to 3 days.

Search and Rescue was honored to be one of 5 teams to receive the 2010 National Association Search and Rescue Valor Award for its involvement in a 2009 rescue of an injured climber on Crestone Needle. Member Brian Kinsey traveled to Tunica, Mississippi to receive this award.



In 2010, the Sheriff's Office was instrumental in the team's receiving a SUSV SnoCat and 4 snowmobiles. These additions significantly enhance the winter response and allow Search and Rescue to maintain a simultaneous mission response capability.

Search and Rescue is instrumental in providing an umbrella of safety for our citizens and visitors, while providing for one of the

statutory requirements of the Sheriff; and what does Search and Rescue charge for this service? How about nothing!

Contributed by: **Patty Baxter**
Emergency Program Manager



2010 TEEN ACADEMY



Pictured above are the graduates of the 2010 El Paso County Sheriff's Office Teen Academy. The teen academy is held each summer at the Sheriff's Office Training Academy.

HONOR GUARD

The El Paso County Sheriff's Honor Guard is functionally assigned to the Community Support/Special Operations Section of the Law Enforcement Bureau. This section oversees the Honor Guard and is the source for funding of equipment and uniforms, as well as mission approval.

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard has been in existence for over 20 years. The Honor Guard was formed to present the American Flag at ceremonies requiring such dignity. In 1996, the Honor Guard was a group of 12 deputies. Entering into 2010, the Honor Guard consisted of 22 members and now the ranks have grown to 26 members with new members waiting in the wings for a selection process. The goal of the Honor Guard is to have a 30-person contingent at all times. This is because the nature and number of missions they participate in each year grows. All members of the Honor Guard are volunteers who come from each of the bureaus. Additionally, the Honor Guard has 1 lieutenant and 1 sergeant on the team. These 2 personnel participate in functions, as



do the others, but also represent the Sheriff's Office where staff presence is needed or required.

Training completed prior to 2007 consisted of practicing approximately 1 hour before the event. In 2007, the Honor Guard began formalized training, but because of staffing needs it only received approximately 50 service-hours of training. In 2008, the Honor Guard began meeting monthly and received approximately 350 service-hours of training. In 2010, the unit received approximately 600 service-hours of training.

Training has been essential to allow the Honor Guard to augment its mission. In 2009, the unit purchased 10 M-1 Garand Replica Rifles. With these training weapons, they were able to expand their abilities. Trainers from the High Frontier Honor Guard at Peterson Air Force Base, The United States Air Force Honor Guard Cadet Drill Team from the United States Air Force Academy and the Colorado Springs Police Department Honor Guard have provided numerous hours of training for our Honor Guard members. In addition to this, the unit has conducted Honor Guard training at a multitude of locations. The Honor Guard routinely trains at local churches, funeral homes, cemeteries, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office Range, El Paso County Sheriff's Office and Colorado Springs Police Department Training Academies and hotels in the local area where banquets are often held.

Training has expanded from marching, facing

movements and posting colors to more advanced maneuvers. The unit routinely trains with weapons drill procedures while marching and doing facing movements. Weapons drill routines have been developed and practiced by the team as a whole. The goal is that each team member will ultimately and flawlessly perform these drill routines at upcoming events. These drill routines were developed by the team members from training they have received. Further, the unit practiced firing



details both at the range and at Memorial Gardens. While at Memorial Gardens the unit trained in a complete funeral detail. This included using caskets, casket trucks, hearse, casket lowering devices, chapel procedures, and firing detail.

Because the skills and abilities of the Honor Guard have grown so much, the missions annually have doubled from 2005 to 2010. In 2010, the Honor Guard participated in 27 missions, which is the most the El Paso County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard has ever accomplished in a year. The year 2011 looks as if it will be an even more intense year for the Honor Guard. At publishing of this article, the Honor Guard has completed 9 missions, and has 22 more missions scheduled this year.

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard presented colors at a Colorado Avalanche Hockey game, which was nationally televised. In the previous year the Honor Guard was also nationally televised presenting colors for an ION Television Network show called Speedway Drivers Search. The Honor Guard

posted colors and performed drill routines at the Sheriff's Office Annual Awards Banquet, the Lincoln Day Dinner and the graduation of our El Paso County Sheriff's Office Recruit Academy 10-1. Throughout the year the Honor Guard served at funerals of Lieutenant (Retired) Dale Goodell, Lieutenant (Retired) Stan Presley and Detective (Retired) Lou Smit. It posted colors for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Freedom Fund Community Awards Banquet, annual Colorado Treasurers' Conference, annual Colorado Association of Conservation Districts Conference, El Paso County Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony and 17th Annual Law Enforcement Memorial of the Pikes Peak Region.

Additionally, the Honor Guard has posted colors at 2 Colorado College Hockey games, 4 Colorado Springs Sky Sox games, both of which were televised, 1 El Paso County Sheriff's Office Cadet Promotion Ceremony, 2 El Paso County Sheriff's Office Citizen Academies and the El Paso County Fair. Further, the Honor Guard has lead the Colorado Springs Festival of Lights Parade, the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Parade, the Veterans Day Parade and the Manitou Springs Christmas Holiday Parade.

Because of the Honor Guards exemplary performances, there have been a number of awards and numerous Letters of Appreciation. One member received Employee of the Month Recognition, and 3 members Deputy (Retired) Richard Bankey, Deputy David Bogan, and Deputy Heath Chaney, were awarded the Sheriff's Achievement

Medal for exemplary performance and innovative training of the Honor Guard. Additionally, the Honor Guard was nominated for the Sheriff's Outstanding Unit Award for 2010.

With all this said, what does the Honor Guard do next? We have been working at bringing a nationally recognized Honor Guard Training

camp to Colorado Springs and sponsoring the event. However, through hours of research we feel the training this camp would offer is very good, but not up to the level of expertise our Honor Guard has achieved. With this in mind, we are diligently working with Colorado Springs Police Department Honor Guard in an effort that our 2 Honor Guards host a week-long training camp for Front Range

Honor Guards. We feel with the expertise of the 2 Honor Guards that we can put on a top-notch week of training together in late 2011 or early 2012.

Currently the El Paso County Sheriff's Honor Guard is made up of the following personnel:

Lieutenant Marco Vazzano
Sergeant Michael St. Charles
Training Coordinator:
Deputy Scott Mackey
Deputy David Bogan
Deputy Heath Chaney
Deputy Darrin Day
Deputy Christopher Donatell
Deputy Michelle Haag
Deputy Karla Heckaman
Deputy John Holloway
Deputy Darrell Johnson
Deputy David Manzanilla
Deputy Severt Mogensen
Deputy Justin Montes
Deputy Thomas Montelongo
Deputy Adela Mott
Deputy Lori Oreskovich
Deputy Tonia Robinson
Deputy James Rodriguez
Deputy Jeri Scott
Deputy Jason Simpson
Deputy Tyrren Smith
Deputy Amy Ward
Deputy Amanda Washburn
Deputy William Webster
Deputy Bradley Whitehead
Honor Guard Coordinator:
Deputy (Retired) Richard Bankey



Contributed by:
Retired Deputy Richard Bankey

FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY

> Journey to the FBI National Academy by way of the Yellow Brick Road

In April of 2010, I was nominated by Sheriff Terry Maketa to attend the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) National Academy. I was both nervous and eager to be the first Lieutenant from the El Paso County Sheriff's Office to attend the National Academy.

The FBI National Academy brings Law Enforcement Professionals from around the world together 4 times each year to conduct their 11-week Academy. Each class ranges in size from 250 to 275 attendees. Our class, Class 243, was no different: 270 law enforcement professionals were in attendance. The curriculum taught by the FBI National Academy Staff focuses on leadership ability and critical thinking. The average age of a National Academy participant is 41. The participants had an average of 16 years of law enforcement experience. The FBI estimates that 1 out of every 7 National Academy graduates is the head of his or her department or office. Approximately 10% of National Academy Students come from outside the United States. Class 243 was pleased to welcome law enforcement professionals from Denmark, England, Sierra Leone, Hong Kong, Malta, and China, just to name a few of the nations represented.

The National Academy places a high priority on physical fitness. The physical fitness class is mandatory for every National Academy Student. Each applicant must meet strict weight requirements prior to his or her acceptance into the Academy. Therefore, I was required to participate in a weight loss program to shed some unwanted pounds and improve my cardiovascular conditioning prior to the beginning of the Academy. I was fortunate to have a friend and colleague, Deputy Isaac Petterson, who provided me with an exercise and nutritional plan that he tailored to the amount of weight I needed to lose. Isaac's diet included a heavy dose of chicken and fish accompanied by assorted vegetables and brown rice. Isaac's plan was reinforced by the nutritional information I was provided during my nutritional class at the National Academy. (As I learned, the fewer legs on an animal the better the nutritional benefit. Fish, having no legs, are your best bet for protein and good fat). After losing 30 pounds, I was physically and mentally ready

to embark on my journey to the National Academy and eager to continue the healthy eating and exercise habits I had developed in preparation for this opportunity.

The physical fitness course was the most rewarding class for me, as it allowed me to train during the week while establishing my wellness program that I hope to continue for the rest of my career. As "tactical athletes" in our profession, we need to be able to respond to any threat and be fit enough to properly address threats encountered. Along with the physical fitness class each Wednesday, we participated in a total of 9 challenge runs as a group.

The first challenge run was 1.5 miles long, and each subsequent challenge run was longer than the previous run. The most noteworthy challenge run is known affectionately as "The Yellow Brick Road" and consists of a 6.1 mile run which includes the successful completion of the US Marine Corps Obstacle Course. Following the Yellow Brick Road, we completed our physical testing process with another 1.5 mile run, sit-ups and planks, as well as, a body-fat analysis to determine how much we had improved our overall level of physical fitness during the 11-Week Program. Having the opportunity to train in an environment such as this alongside my law enforcement classmates made this one of the most rewarding physical achievements that I have had the opportunity to experience.

The National Academy Course Curriculum gives each student opportunities to select and attend courses that are beneficial to the individual student's background and future law enforcement goals. Our Leadership Class discussed many critical incidents and often had the benefit of having someone in the class who was familiar with and/or involved in the cases we were studying. As such, we often heard stories and first-hand accounts of the law enforcement action taken and the lessons learned rather than the media's version of these

events. We were fortunate to be able to participate as a class in the National Fallen Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., where we honored the 19,000 Law Enforcement Professionals who have made the ultimate sacrifice to our profession. The ceremony was especially difficult when it involved honoring individuals whom we knew personally. Following this Memorial, Class 243 rededicated ourselves to our chosen profession. Class 243 was lucky

to have among our ranks active duty members of the military. One of those military members was Brian Janysek, an active duty officer in the army, who after completing the National Academy would be leaving his family to complete

a 12-month tour of duty in Afghanistan. It is commitment like this which reinforces how important our active and reserve military members are as they sacrifice their lives and their time to safeguard our freedoms and way of life.

The 11 weeks I spent in the National Academy were the most productive weeks of my life. I feel that I have become a better person and law enforcement professional for having completed the process. I have met professionals from around the globe who share a common goal of making the world a safer place for families. I have developed friendships with other law enforcement professionals both nationally and internationally and forged life-long friendships with many of my classmates. I am humbled and honored to have been given the opportunity to represent the El Paso County Sheriff's Office in this capacity. I am very proud to report that on December 10, 2010, I successfully completed the National Academy and am a proud graduate of Class 243.



Contributed by:
Lieutenant
Tom DeLuca



DETENTION INVESTIGATIONS TEAM

> Continues to Expand Responsibilities

During 2010, the Detention Bureau Investigations Team was composed of 2 full-time investigators, Deputies Ralph Gomez and Gary Epperson and 6 on-call members had another challenging year as responsibilities continued to increase. This team performs a number of duties, to include investigating a variety of criminal cases and providing an invaluable service to floor security deputies by providing guidance on criminal filings and immediate on-site investigative expertise. This team's mission is to investigate all major incidents occurring at the Criminal Justice Center. Incidents vary from in-custody deaths, assaults on staff, check fraud, introduction of drugs and witness tampering.

This team provides valuable assistance to neighboring local and federal law enforcement agencies by providing them intelligence information, as well as, historical information on criminal defendants to assist them with their own criminal investigations. On many occasions these agencies have expressed their gratitude for the team's flexibility in accommodating their requests as well as providing critical information that has assisted them in solving major crimes, including homicides. The team also addresses potential criminal activity in the detention facility by monitoring inmate phone calls. This is an extremely valuable resource to identify those offenders who are attempting to commit crimes while incarcerated and also provides leads for on-going criminal investigations outside the facility.



Due to a change in the Colorado Revised Statutes, effective September 30, 2010, the Detention Investigations Team took on the added responsibility of coordinating the logistics and training of the new state requirement of collecting DNA samples of all arrestees. The team ensured the correct amount of kits and supplies were on hand prior to the implementation date and trained all the civilian personnel assigned to the City ID section, including their supervisors, on the proper collection of the DNA samples.

The team is also assigned to re-register all sexual offenders held in CJC, thereby relieving the Investigations Division from assigning their detectives to this task.

The team tracks the approximately 148 criminal case numbers drawn from within the facility. They monitor the cases throughout the judicial process and ensure the filing packets are properly distributed to the appropriate agencies. They have established themselves as an effective conduit and liaison among the District Attorney's Office, Victim's Advocate Office, Colorado Springs Police Department and Metro Vice, Narcotics and Intelligence Unit, ensuring the flow of communication is uninterrupted and correcting problems as they arise.

Contributed by:
Deputy Rafael Gomez



PROMOTIONS



Larry Kastner
Promoted to Undersheriff



Al Harmon
Promoted to Commander



Dean Kelsey
Promoted to Lieutenant



Robert McDonald
Promoted to Lieutenant



Cy Gillespie
Promoted to Sergeant



James Mahan
Promoted to Sergeant



Joe Roybal
Promoted to Sergeant

CONFINED SPACE

> The Criminal Justice Emergency Response Exercise

On November 10, 2010, the Criminal Justice Center (CJC) tested several elements of its emergency response plans during an exercise aptly named "Confined Space."

The exercise was a culmination of individual and group training and fire drills that took place throughout the year. Following a close review of emergency plans, it was determined that a large-scale training exercise was needed to pull together both external and internal response elements with an eye towards evaluating how well they worked together under simulated emergency conditions.

Planning for any large-scale exercise cannot be done in a vacuum. We at the Sheriff's Office are fortunate to have an entire division dedicated to emergency services. Commander Jim Reid and Emergency Manager Patricia Baxter are experts in planning and managing large-scale exercises and were instrumental in coordinating key exercise participants, which included controllers and evaluators. All members of the Emergency Services Division took part in the exercise, with Assistant Deputy Fire Marshall Scott Campbell taking the lead in controlling and evaluating the Incident Command System (ICS).

Prior to the exercise, several coordination meetings were necessary. Taking part in these meetings were representatives from the El Paso County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services Division, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), Special Response Team (SRT), Public Information Officer (PIO), Medical, Maintenance, Research and Planning and Criminal Justice Center staff. Outside agency attendance included Colorado Springs Utilities, Colorado Springs Police Department Emergency Services and the Colorado Springs Fire Department.

Several weeks before the exercise, supervisors and deputies closely reviewed Post Orders and Standard Operating Procedures. Additional training was conducted on fire drill procedures along with training on the Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). A week prior to the exercise, Commander Reid and Scott Campbell trained all the Floor Security sergeants and lieutenants on the ICS which culminated with a Table Top Exercise (TTX).

Additional preparation unique to this event was the facility tour provided to the Colorado Springs Fire Department, Station 11. Battalion Chief R.C. Smith along with several of his crew spent over three hours looking at facility access points, stand pipe locations, evacuation routes and the layout of the new tower facility. Chief Smith and his

crew remarked that it was good to get reacquainted with the facility, especially since they had not been in the new towers. Future tours were discussed as needed on a semiannual basis.



Because of the unique environment within the jail and strict adherence to facility security, large scale emergency response exercises carry unique challenges. To insure security, the exercise was separated into two phases. Phase one encompassed fire response, medical triage, treatment and medical evacuation. Phase two entailed the physical transfer of four wards of inmates from the

new tower to the old tower. The Incident Command System was initiated and an Incident Command Post was used for both phases of the exercise.

The exercise began with the Central Control Room (CCR) announcing that a gas explosion and fire took place in the laundry and kitchen area. Casualties were strategically placed throughout these areas so that both the first responding staff and the Colorado Springs Fire



Department would have to evacuate them to safety. Each casualty was moulaged to replicate a myriad of injuries which included burns, broken bones, cuts, lacerations, unconsciousness and heart attack. All the casualties were volunteers who graciously gave their time at a very late hour to help train our deputies and nursing staff. Adding to the realism of the event was the use of foggers, which produced a white haze that greatly reduced the responder's visibility. Lights were shut off and obstacles were emplaced to further create a realistic and challenging environment.

Unique to this event was the requirement for the Colorado Springs Fire Department to bypass the facility sprinkler system and to run fire hose directly into the facility. This required armed security at the point of ingress and the facility to be locked down during the entire first



phase of the exercise. Throughout the event, controller/evaluators were assigned to specific areas, ensuring that all response efforts were accurately documented and evaluated. Each phase ended with a 30-minute after-action review with all responding units providing input on what went well and any challenges they experienced.

Phase two of the exercise focused on the partial evacuation of a large number of inmates from one part of the facility to another. The purpose behind this was to incorporate key security units such as SWAT, SRT and K9 to facilitate rapid movement and security and to get an approximate evacuation time to assist in future planning. Inmates were evacuated rapidly and were quickly returned to their wards without incident.

The following objectives were achieved:

- ➡ Implemented the Incident Command System (ICS) and the expansion of various ICS functions required by the emergency.
- ➡ Challenged the CJC medical staff by

conducting a mass casualty component that integrated Emergency Medical Technicians from the American Medical Response (AMR) ambulance service and the Colorado Springs Fire Department.

- ➡ Initiated the Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) system in real time while adhering to the security requirements necessary when transporting inmates to local hospitals for medical treatment.
- ➡ Tested the CJC staff's fire response and evaluated their casualty evacuation and first aid techniques.
- ➡ Reacquainted the Colorado Springs Fire Department with CJC by requiring them to physically run a line into the facility to fight the fire and evacuate casualties.
- ➡ Integrated the Special Response Team (SRT) and Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) to provide additional security for the evacuation of inmates from one tower to another.

Other elements of the ICS that were established were a vehicle staging area and a personnel staging area. Much was learned about managing these areas while directing needed assets to the right place at the right time to mitigate the emergency. Ultimately, the goal of any emergency plan for the CJC is to minimize casualties, maintain security, protect property and normalize operations as quickly as possible. As with any exercise, many lessons were learned before, during and following the event. Many things went extremely well with any areas of concern addressed immediately. Special thanks go out to all of the men and women who participated in the exercise, especially our volunteers. It is their dedication and sincere commitment for the safety and security of those housed within the CJC that is the true measure of success.

Contributed by:
Lieutenant Ray Bernier



INTAKE AND RELEASE

> Recognized as the 2010 Unit of the Year!

The 80 sworn and civilian members of Intake and Release committed themselves to a model of excellence in their collective duty requirements and work ethic. The year 2010 was a challenging year for Intake and Release personnel. In 2010, there were 25,063 detainees admitted with 20,701 released from the Criminal Justice Center (CJC). New operating systems were introduced requiring a change to the way Intake and Release performed its primary missions. The new programs and ongoing additional mission requirements required of Intake and Release employees were professionally and competently managed without the provision of additional resources. All Intake and Release personnel enhanced their duty performance and assisted each other on and across shifts to ensure the successful completion of all missions required.

One system was CORE, an ARAMARK financial management program. This program required a change in the booking and release functions. Inmates now are booked and released through the jail management system and separately through CORE. All Intake and Release personnel responded enthusiastically to the challenge ensuring a successful CORE program implementation. The CORE program serves as the key component of a kiosk system that will be installed in all CJC wards. The kiosk system will allow inmates the ability to access their own jail information and serve as a system to generate inmate-to-staff communications. Intake and Release personnel incurred an additional workload through CORE implementation but the final result will be to free Security deputies from having to address routine inmate questions concerning the inmates' own information.



Contributed by: **Lieutenant Jeff Canitz**

A second new system introduced to Intake and Release was Colorado Criminal Information Center (CCIC) OpenFox Messenger System. This system replaced the way warrants are retrieved from CCIC. All warrant technicians and Intake specialists were required to be trained in how to use the new system to retrieve warrants. Warrant technicians retrieve approximately 80 warrants per day. Warrant technicians are responsible for coordinating extraditions. Two hundred twenty-one inmates were extradited to the Fourth Judicial District. El Paso County Sheriff's Office deputies conducted 31 of those extraditions

extensive interview process and through using biometric searches in several Department of Human Services (DHS) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) databases. As of 2010, the highly successful 287(g) program has resulted in the identification and processing for removal from the United States over 900 criminal illegal aliens arrested in El Paso County. As an adjunct to the 287(g) program, the Sheriff's Office entered into an Intergovernmental Services Agreement (IGSA) with ICE for the housing of ICE inmates. The IGSA program provides ICE with 150 CJC beds for housing ICE inmates. ICE pays the Sheriff's Office for housing their inmates.

From program initiation in March 2008 through December 2010, over 8900 IGSA inmates have been processed into and out of CJC. The IGSA has generated millions of dollars that the Sheriff has used to benefit all county employees. Sheriff Maketa allocated one million dollars of



Representatives from Intake and Release with Sheriff Terry Maketa at the 2010 Annual Awards Ceremony.

the remainder were transported by various contracted agencies.

Two additional missions were added to the duties of the Intake and Release section. In 2008, Sheriff Maketa directed Intake and Release to support the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in identifying and processing criminal illegal aliens for removal from the United States. Under the auspices of the 287(g) program, selected Intake and Release sergeants, deputies, and 1 lieutenant were sent to 4 weeks of training by ICE. After successful completion of the training, deputies were sworn and credentialed as immigration agents charged with the responsibility of enforcing immigration law on those criminal illegal aliens identified during the booking process. Currently there are 16 deputies, 2 sergeants and 1 lieutenant who are trained and certified to carry out 287(g) authority. This is accomplished through an

IGSA money for the county health plan. This allocation helped to mitigate employee medical program costs and cost share. Additional money was used for the construction of the DETOX facility. This provided El Paso County Law Enforcement and the community at large with a vitally needed alternative to incarceration for some intoxicated persons at no cost to county citizens.

Another vital component of Intake is Inmate Services. Inmate Services include Inmate Classification, Trusty Coordination, Special Population Management and Billing. During 2010, Inmate Classification technicians classified 18,990 inmates and reclassified 1,125 inmates.

For responding competently and professionally to the additional duty requirements and for successfully implementing and integrating new systems without additional resources, the Intake and Release team was selected as the 2010 Unit of the Year.

PARTNERSHIP WITH ICE

> Partnership with Immigration and Custom Enforcement: A Two-Way Success

When the El Paso County Sheriff's Office entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for the 287(g) Program in March of 2008, it was unknown how beneficial the operation would be for the Sheriff's Office or ICE. This program, authorized under federal immigration law, authorizes local law enforcement to be trained and sworn-in under federal authority to perform immigration functions as they relate to investigation and deportation of criminal illegal aliens. With this specific agreement, 16 Intake and Release deputies, 2 sergeants, and 1 lieutenant have completed the required training and are charged with identifying and processing criminal illegal aliens for removal

from the United States. These aliens are individuals arrested for criminal offenses and booked into the El Paso County jail. It is only then that the investigation into their legal status begins. Currently the El Paso County Sheriff's Office is the only agency in Colorado that partners with ICE under the Jail Enforcement Model, and therefore is the only detention facility in the state that has the authority to carry out these functions. Since the inception of 287(g) in 2008, deputies have contacted and investigated 3,298 foreign-born individuals and

Sheriff's Office received \$1,707,713.20 from this housing agreement. During such budget restrictive times, it is beneficial to receive this type of revenue to support a variety of operations throughout the Office.

As a result of these partnerships with ICE and the need to speak Spanish became more evident, deputies throughout the Office became interested in learning a second language. The Sheriff's Office purchased the Rosetta Stone language licenses and several deputies and civilian personnel completed the full course of instruction on a voluntary

basis and are now able to converse with Spanish-speaking inmates and detainees. This is beneficial as it permits

In 2010, the Sheriff's Office received \$1,707,713.20 from this housing agreement. During such budget restrictive times, it is beneficial to receive this type of revenue to support a variety of operations throughout the Office.

them to interview, make arrests, complete the booking process and communicate in the wards without the use of a translator. The Language Services Volunteer Unit still provides many hours of service to ensure detainees are provided with all the information they need to appropriately acclimate to the CJC environment by conducting post-intake follow-up in the wards. This unit has been invaluable in providing countless hours of service for translation as needed and saving numerous hours of staff time.

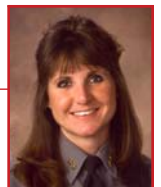


have identified and processed over 935 criminal illegal aliens for removal from the United States, consuming 8,419 staff hours. This has saved countless hours for federal agents who otherwise would have to assume this burden.

In August of 2008, the Sheriff's Office entered into a second partnership with ICE through an Intergovernmental Service's Agreement (IGSA) for long-term housing of detainees who are processed for deportation. This IGSA compensates the Sheriff's Office for the housing of the detainees as long as bed space permits but also provides additional revenue to be used for Sheriff's Office operations. In 2010, the

In 2011, the role of the 287(g) deputies will expand their responsibilities as we anticipate Secure Communities will be activated, and all offenders booked into CJC will be checked through the ICE and Border Patrol databases to begin the process of verifying citizenship. These partnerships have been beneficial for both the El Paso County Sheriff's Office and ICE to enhance the efforts of ensuring the safety of our citizens.

Contributed by: **Bureau Chief Paula Presley**



EPC Community Detox Facility

> El Paso County Community Detox Facility Celebrates One Year in Operation

On December 5, 2009, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office expanded operations when the El Paso County Community Detox Facility opened its doors with a 40-bed facility situated just to the north of the El Paso County Criminal Justice Center. This facility is the first Detox facility in the State of Colorado that is operated by a law enforcement agency and as such, there was a great deal of skepticism and apprehension from the regulatory agencies, as well as the public as to the success of the operation. The mission of the Detox Facility is to provide a safe and effective continuum of care for citizens in need of substance abuse and addiction treatment services in El Paso County. Through a collaborative approach and assessment, safe detoxification and encouragement for treatment are emphasized.

This operation is licensed through the Colorado Division of Behavioral Health as a Social Model Detox Facility; however, it is structured as a Social/Medical Model, as it is staffed full-time with Detox Specialists certified in Addiction Counseling and Licensed Practical Nurses. The goals are to provide a safe and effective means for detoxification; reduce the nature of chronic substance abuse through effective care, treatment and aftercare; and reduce the impact on emergency services providers by providing an appropriate alternative for care and treatment while maintaining a fiscally responsible collaborative partnership for on-going treatment services. The Detox operation is currently under the supervision of the Detention Bureau but is licensed through El Paso County. It is a separate entity with multiple partners of interest, to include the Division of Behavioral Health, Aspen Pointe, Memorial Health System, Penrose St-Francis Health Services, Pikes Peak United Way, Correctional Healthcare Management and several non-profit treatment and housing providers.

After one year in operation, Detox continues to experience increased admissions (4,511 for 2010), 1,497 emergency commitments, and an average of 2 involuntary commitments on a weekly basis. These statistics serve as indicators that the acuity level of those with substance abuse issues is significant and there is a definitive need for detoxification and treatment services in El Paso County. Based on

previous statistics obtained from the former detoxification facility, the Lighthouse, the Division of Behavioral Health projected approximately 275 monthly admissions to El Paso County Detoxification Facility. The average monthly admission for 2010, however, was 376. The admission rate continues to increase significantly on a monthly basis and in most months admissions exceed 400. These admissions come from a variety of sources with 43.2% from the hospitals, 23.5% from law enforcement agencies, 20.6% self or family referrals, and 11.6% from emergency services (American Medical Response).



As the need for services expands the El Paso County Community Detox Facility is structured to meet the demands, providing that all the collaborating partners are able to support the expansion. Both Sheriff's Office and Correctional Healthcare Management (CHM) personnel that work in Detox are extremely committed to the

mission and goals of the facility and take a great deal of pride in the work that they do, which most often is far from glamorous or appealing to most people. In the next year, special focus will be placed on expanded treatment alternatives to include the potential of providing transitional residential treatment beds and proactive initiatives, such as educational programs on the effects and consequences of alcohol and substance abuse, directed toward high school students. Continued collaboration and strong partnerships with state regulatory agencies, emergency services agencies, treatment providers, and educational institutions will be imperative to provide comprehensive care and expand existing services to those

in need of substance abuse treatment. Special thanks to the Colorado Division of Behavioral Health, Aspen Pointe, Correctional Healthcare Management, Pikes Peak United Way, Memorial Health Systems, Penrose- St. Francis Health Services and American Medical Response for their support and cooperation in making the first year a success.

Contributed by: **Theresa Lawrence**
BS, CAC III, Detox Supervisor



Volunteers

> Action from **Behind the Scenes**

The 521 men and women who volunteer for the El Paso County Sheriff's Office encompass a wide spectrum of citizens, varied in age, skill-sets, and abilities. They serve this Office with integrity and commitment unsurpassed in previous years. Providing in excess of **94,000 service hours in 2010**, they continue to excel in their support and dedication to the betterment of our Office and the community they serve. These 94,000 hours represent a dollar value of over **\$2.1 million dollars**, but more importantly, they provided key services which would not be accomplished but for the unselfish donation of the volunteers' time and energy.

Below is just a sample of what accomplishments were met in 2010 from a few of our teams.

Dressed as Smurfs, 10 members of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office Wildland Crew raced to victory, passing the former winners of the Fire Trophy at the 2010 Manitou Springs Coffin Races. Working together, they also came in second place overall as they pushed to the finish line against 56 other teams. The trophy is proudly displayed at the Wildland Firebase as a great reminder of what individuals can accomplish when they pull together as a team with a common goal in mind.

The Wildland Crew also managed to make a few milestones in 2010. They successfully deployed a county-owned Type 6 engine to the Four-Mile fire in Boulder, Colorado, the first such deployment of this vehicle to a national fire in crew's history. Additionally, they deployed to another national fire with a state-owned Type 6 engine to the Parkdale Canyon fire in Canon City, Colorado.

Hosting the First Annual El Paso County Firefighters Ball was a venture away from the flame and smoke that most firefighters revel in. The Ball was a phenomenal success, with plans already being formulated for the 2nd Annual event in 2011.

As one of five teams to be honored, the El Paso County Search & Rescue team received the 2010 National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR) Valor Award for its part in a 2009 rescue of an injured climber on Crestone Needle. Team member Brian Kinsey traveled to Tunica, Mississippi, to accept the award during the annual NASAR conference in May 2010. Responding to over 167 incidents in 2010, the Search & Rescue team continued in its dedication to saving lives through search, rescue and mountain education. Providing in excess of 8,500 hours on missions, 5,800 hours in training, and

2,500 hours in administrative tasks, this 60-member team continues to excel in their service to this office and community.

Facing numerous challenges and family pressures in 2010, the 8 members of the Patrol Chaplain unit pulled together, demonstrating flexibility while accomplishing the goals set before them. They again validated that the "integrity and significance of a team is most noticeable when performance demands are great." These individuals made a unified effort to accomplish their goals and were successful in the task. This team enhanced the efforts of the Sheriff's Office by serving families who experienced tragic loss, bringing spiritual encouragement, emotional support and strong shoulders on which to cry. At the request of grieving families, the Chaplain Team officiated at numerous funerals, assisting families as they endeavored to celebrate the life of those they had lost. In addition, our Patrol Chaplains participated at various Academy Graduations, the Annual Awards Banquet, the Police Memorial Service, Citizen and Teen Academies and the National Day of Remembrance at Acacia Park that honored families of the victims of murder or homicide. These men and

women provide an incredible service to our community, and we are privileged to have them as members of this office.

In conclusion, we remain ever mindful of the many volunteers not mentioned in this article who quietly and without notice contribute significantly to the mission of this Office. The volunteers that serve the El Paso County Sheriff's Office are diligent, passionate about their work, and a true asset to the Sheriff's Office. In their own special way, they make a positive impact on their community and enhance the overall public safety for the citizens of El Paso County. Thanks to all who served in 2010. We couldn't have done it without you.



El Paso County Sheriff's Office Wildland Fire Volunteers participated in the 2010 Manitou Springs Emma Crawford Coffin Races disguised as Smurfs.

Contributed by: **Cathryn Richards**
Volunteer Program Coordinator



> Pikes Peak Community College Partnership Developed

A summary of Information Technologies' accomplishments follows, but foremost among the year's achievements was the establishment of a partnership with Pikes Peak Community College (PPCC) to bring students nearing completion of their studies into El Paso Sheriff's Office (EPSO) as interns. Discussions between the EPSO Information Technologies (IT) Manager and Computer Information Systems Faculty/Department Chair began in the late Spring of 2010. Together they set a goal of initially bringing 2 students into EPSO during the Fall semester for 120 hours of hands-on IT work. Selection

At the end of the semester, both interns expressed a desire to continue working with IT as volunteers. IT believes we benefitted from our participation in the program, and we are planning on increasing the number of interns "hired" for the next semester. Additionally, we are working with PPCC to increase the preparation students receive for job interviews prior to beginning the selection process.

During the calendar year of 2010, IT closed 3955 work orders. This amounts to about 17 work orders every day! And we still had to provide other non-work order support, like



Pictured from left to right; Front row: IT Manager Tom Thieme, Administrative Assistance Hazel Kunjeer, Application Support Specialist Calvin Hedgeman. Back row: IT Support Specialist Sam Mercer, IT Support Specialist David Kalber, IT Support Specialist Gabe Davis, IT Support Specialist Kelly Reckel. Not pictured: IT Support Specialist Anthony Villamor.

of the interns was treated as a job hiring process to enable the students to become experienced with interviewing for an IT job. Following successful completion of interviews and background checks, 2 PPCC students were "hired" as the semester's interns. The 2 students divided their semester among all three EPSO facilities and were exposed to all the technologies used by the Office, including personal computer maintenance and new system rollout, mobile data computer (MDC) support, our video visitation and surveillance systems and support for our cellular telephones. Both also participated in weekly IT staff meetings and aided us immeasurably in brain-storming effective strategies for the future rollout of Windows 7 and Microsoft Office upgrades.

product research. Work orders are generated every time a user requests assistance from IT or when a project task is completed. Of the total number, 48% were generated in our Applications Support area, which covers all major software systems in use (not programs like Microsoft Word or Outlook), database support and report requests. The Criminal Justice Center (CJC) campus accounted for 23% of all work orders. The remainder were split between Metro, Law Enforcement Bureau (LEB) and other requests such as new and terminated users.

Below is a summary of Information Technologies' major activities during 2010, beginning with an update on systems that were under development at the end of 2009.

> COP LOGIC <

This application provides a portal for citizens to file online reports. Case reports may be filed regarding incidents where no suspect information or evidence is available. The citizens' portal went online in mid-January; a separate portal for use by deputies went online in February 2010. For the year, 488 reports were submitted through the system, for a savings of 732 man-hours or nearly \$20,000.

> EVIDENCE ON Q <

This system went online at the beginning of February. It is now used to track and manage all evidence collected by the Office. The District Attorney now has the ability to review information about the evidence for a particular case without the Sheriff's Office having to manually compile this information.

> CRIME REPORTS <

This system went online in mid-May. Citizens are able to view crime maps of the unincorporated areas of the County as well as within several of the area's municipalities.

> PC/MDC/CELL PHONE UPGRADES <

The Office received 104 new PCs from El Paso County IT in 2010. The PCs were deployed throughout the Office. With the assistance of grant funding, IT was able to upgrade 44 MDC systems and 89 wireless Internet modems in our Patrol cars. Finally, 137 cell phones were replaced and an additional 46 phones were upgraded.

> ALPRS <

EPSO IT teamed with Colorado Springs Police Department to install an automated license plate reader unit on a patrol car driven by the Sheriff's Citizen Patrol. Plans are to expand use of the system with additional units in 2011.

> ARAMARK <

In partnership with ARAMARK (the Office's food services vendor) and the Detentions Bureau, IT partnered to replace the existing transaction-based inmate trust fund system with an authentic accounting system, CORE. The system was brought online in August, 2010, and uses an interface custom-designed

FLEET SERVICES

by IT to update inmate status in the new system. Besides rolling out CORE, IT is continuing to work with ARAMARK to implement several other time and cost-cutting programs at CJC.

> INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES <

IT made several back end infrastructure upgrades during the year. Chief among them was the installation of a dedicated report and transaction server for the Sheriff's Office. This allowed us to implement the following new features:

- ➡ We developed a technique to include inmate photos in our External Reports. The technique can be applied to any report that uses SQL Server-based images.
- ➡ We developed a set of reports that use automatic vehicle location (AVL) data from E911's CAD database to track vehicle location and average response time to calls.
- ➡ Working with the El Paso County IT Database Team, we integrated data from our new inmate accounting system, CORE, into our Jail Management System (JMS) reports.
- ➡ We created a new series of reports using our appraisal system database to help managers track the status of performance evaluations.

> SUPPORT TO OTHER AGENCIES <

The IT staff also worked with several outside agencies to implement processes that benefit the Office. Among them are the following:

- ➡ We helped with deployment of the Homeland Security South Central Colorado Region Credentialing Program Card System (affected 22 fire agencies and 5 police departments).
- ➡ We developed a support agreement with Correctional Healthcare Management (CHM) (the Office's inmate medical services vendor) to provide joint support for CHM employees working at CJC and the county courthouse.
- ➡ We assisted the Colorado Springs Municipal Court System in upgrading the video conference system used to conduct inmate first appearances and advisements.
- ➡ We completed the renewal of a security agreement with Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE), allowing continued use of a direct network connection to the 287(g) computer system hosted by ICE. We also implemented several email distribution processes between the Office and ICE.



Contributed by: **Tom Thieme**
Information Technology Manager

As we begin to prepare for the challenges of 2011, it's hard not to look back and see how much has changed over the past 20 years in the Fleet Services world. It used to be that we would put a radio and siren in the vehicle and a light on top and send it out to the streets. Today, the equipment that goes in and on the patrol vehicles costs almost as much as the vehicle itself. With the advent of mobile data terminals, mobile/stationary radar units and automated license plate readers, the work of Fleet Services has in many ways gone hi-tech.



The year 2010 was another very busy year for Fleet Services with just over 275 vehicles in the fleet to service and maintain. It is no surprise there was very little down time at the garage. The Sheriff's Office fleet is incredibly diverse and includes anything from small flatbed trailers all the way up to our Mobile Command Post and the Lenco Bear.

During 2010 the Fleet team completed work orders on more than 1732 vehicles, averaging just over 6 visits a year for each vehicle in the fleet. Fleet vehicles this year accumulated over 3.13 million miles and consumed in excess of \$370,000.00 in fuel and the Fleet team replaced 420 tires. Additionally, this year we added 18 new vehicles to the fleet while decommissioning and sending off to auction 19 vehicles.

Beginning in 2009, Fleet Services implemented a vehicle refurbishment program, and over the last 2 years the office has sent 16 vehicles to be refurbished at Al Serra Chevrolet. On average the refurbishment costs the office approximately \$9000.00 per vehicle and extends the life of the vehicle an extra 3 years. Fleet currently has an additional 8 vehicles slated for refurbishment in 2011. This program has created a huge savings for the Office and the citizens of El Paso County.

It is with great anticipation that we look forward to 2011 and the many challenges we will face in the coming year. If we use the past as our guide, the future will be very exciting as technology continues to change the Fleet Services profession.



Contributed by:
Commander Brad Shannon

The members of the Internal Affairs unit are committed to enhancing our skills and knowledge. Through research and training we are kept informed regarding new employment laws, trends in policy violations, emerging philosophies and trends regarding discipline and corrective action, early warning signs of problematic employee conduct and other creative interventions which promote successful outcomes for the Office and the employee.

From 2004 to 2010 the number of complaints received has averaged approximately 92 per year. There was a significant decrease in complaints for 2010. We believe this is a direct result of training provided by the IA unit's staff to the various sections within the office. The dialogue and the critiques generated during these training sessions indicate that first-line supervisors and employees have a better understanding of policy and procedure, what constitutes a violation and what their perspective roles may be involving violations.

> STAFF INSPECTIONS AND AUDITS

In addition to conducting personnel investigations, investigators from the Internal Affairs Unit are required to conduct staff inspections and audits.

Staff Inspections are conducted once every 3 years in accordance with Policy 211. Investigators from the Internal Affairs Unit review procedures, facilities, training, and conduct line inspections of personnel who are assigned to a specific section or unit. The inspection establishes whether the required service to employees and citizens is being provided. The staff inspection gives the employees the opportunity to provide feedback about the overall efficiency of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for their respective section or unit. The employees help to identify any inconsistencies or suggest changes to procedures to ensure the SOPs are in compliance with agency practices. When necessary, recommendations are given by the Internal Affairs investigator to the chain of command on changes which will enhance the overall efficiency of the section or unit. The recommendations are re-evaluated during a follow-up inspection. During 2010 staff inspections were conducted in the following

sections: Floor Security, Court Services, the Investigations Division and the Personnel Unit.

Specialized Audits are conducted yearly in accordance with Policy 211 and IA SOP 927. During 2010, an audit was conducted in the Evidence Facility. The purpose of the Evidence Facility audit is to determine that proper accountability procedures are being complied with and that property having no further evidentiary value is being disposed of properly. During the audit, the Internal Affairs investigator randomly selects cases involving money, drugs and weapons. The property invoices for the selected cases are reviewed carefully with respect to proper documentation and accountability. The 2010 Evidence Audit did not find any discrepancies. The Evidence Custodian and Evidence Technician were in compliance with the SOPs for the Evidence Section.

In addition to the Specialized Audit cited above, the Internal Affairs Unit is responsible for conducting quarterly audits of Petty Cash and the Early Warning System (EWS). There have been no discrepancies noted during the Petty Cash audits and finance personnel were in compliance with the SOP for the section.

> TRAINING CONDUCTED

During 2010, the Internal Affairs Unit conducted training for Sworn In-Service, the Sheriff's Citizen Patrol, the Reserves Academy, promotional candidates and Extra Duty.

In December of 2010, the EPSO Internal Affairs Unit was observed for a period of 3 days by Lieutenant Patricia Helliger of the City of New Haven, Connecticut, Police Department. The purpose of Lieutenant Helliger's visit was to gain insight and information on our processes for investigating complaints, conducting audits and developing policy and procedure.

Contributed by:
Lieutenant Caron Allen



2010-01 CITIZENS' ACADEMY



Pictured above are the graduates of the 2010-01 El Paso County Sheriff's Office Citizens' Academy. Graduation was held on 04/27/10.



In April 2010 of this year, the Communications Center became the 24th center in the United States to certify its Dispatcher training program with the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO). Our 25-week program was thoroughly reviewed in over 90 standards. Our certification meets the requirements as set by APCO and the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

In August, the Communications Section received re-accreditation of its Emergency Medical Dispatch Protocol. In order to attain re-accreditation for a center of excellence, all certified dispatchers must maintain a 90 to 95 percent average in 6 categories: Case Entry, Chief Complaint, Key Questions, Post Dispatch Instructions, Pre-Arrival Instructions and Determinant. Random quality assurance reviews are conducted for each employee, and an overall average of 90 percent must be maintained for certification. The protocol is specific in strict adherence to obtaining and relaying information based on the caller's response to "Tell Me Exactly What Happened." Deviation from protocol can be costly in each category. It is an emotional rollercoaster for many of our callers. Breathing irregularities, the pending birth of a baby and an unconscious person often require extensive pre-arrival instructions. These instructions are critical to patient care and outcome.

In November, the final step to becoming a member of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's Center (NCMEC) was

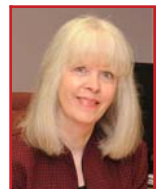
accomplished as a 911 call center was completed. NCMEC requires that all personnel become certified in taking calls pertaining to missing persons, attendance at the Chief Executive Officer Workshop and maintenance of SOPs on missing persons.

In reviewing the statistical data collected for 2010, the Communications Section received 215,685 telephone calls. Of those, 22,006 were 911 calls, 153,473 created law enforcement responses and 22,422 required fire and medical calls responses. While there was a 4% reduction in calls for service from 2009, the time spent on handling 911 calls increased. Overall response time from dispatch to arrival decreased by 27 seconds.

The 911 education program provided educational and community awareness opportunities at 25 events. Community events such as Shop with a Cop, Dream Night at the Zoo and Beary Merry Christmas provide direct interaction with the community to instruct citizens on how to respond during a crisis.

It has been an exceptional year for our personnel in the quest to attain and maintain accreditation and certification, and to attend community events. Thanks to the effort of the personnel within the section, our goals were met and exceeded.

Contributed by: **Liz Brown**
Communications Manager



2010-02 CITIZENS' ACADEMY



Pictured above are the graduates of the 2010-02 El Paso County Sheriff's Office Citizens' Academy. Graduation was held on 07/13/10.

During a very busy 2010, the Training Section produced impressive overall statistics, including increased training hours and record academy scores. While still working within very tight budgetary limitations, the team facilitated nearly 62,000 man-hours of training, a 70% increase over 2009. We instructed or provided for 85 separate courses held within the Academy building. For the first time in 2 years, the Sheriff's Office was able to train new recruits. The basic and reserve academies in 2010 were needed and welcomed events for the Office.

With the academies as our priority, we were forced to reduce the number of hosted classes over the previous year. In 2010, we limited these types of courses to those aimed at developing weapons skills, reality based training, tactical warrior mindset, protecting the emotional well being of our employees and advancing mass-event planning responses.

Besides providing basic, advanced, and in-service training for our sworn personnel, the team provided a 65% increase in the number of hours dedicated to advanced training for our civilian staff. In 2010, the Training Staff conducted 26 sworn and civilian in-service sessions, which included more than 12,700 hours of training. Additionally, we documented 834 individual courses attended by Sheriff's Office personnel.

> COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Recognizing the constant changes in the world's perception of law enforcement due to better technology, the Sheriff's Office continues to open its doors to the public in an effort to enhance an atmosphere of transparency and education. An informed public is a supportive public, and in 2010 we hosted a Teen Academy and 2 Citizens' Academies. These are designed to give interested community members and youths the opportunity for an up-close and hands-on experience to have a better understanding of the inner workings of a professional law enforcement agency. Eleven more volunteers completed an additional 40 hours of Sheriff's

Citizen Patrol training prior to reporting for their field assignments as volunteer civilian patrol members.

> RANGE

The range training programs stayed busy in 2010, showing a 25% increase in HR218 retired law enforcement officer qualifications, providing nearly 50 classes to sworn and civilian employees. We also offered the first "civilian range day," which allowed civilian employees the opportunity to spend a day at the range under the tutelage of instructors, becoming familiar with and firing their own weapons.

"Recycling" and "reconditioning" were buzz words for 2010 at the firing range facility. Continuing with momentum from 2009, we recycled more than \$3300.00 worth of brass and aluminum, and we started a program to identify steel targets and equipment no longer viable to the program. These items will be recycled in 2011. Also, for the first time in 10 years, we arranged for more than 80 tons of crushed concrete and nearly 990 tons of recycled asphalt to be spread over the tarmac and dirt areas of the range.

Through the inspiration and drive of Sgt. O'Driscoll, the Public Safety Training Facility expanded its recycling program in 2010 to include paper and plastic. Special recycling barrels were purchased and placed in strategic locations throughout the facility. While we don't see a monetary return from this, we take great pride in the knowledge that as an Office, we are taking ownership and responsibility for protecting our planet. Just since October, we have already recycled more than 2000 pounds of materials. These come mostly from shell boxes and targets that in the past would have been thrown away.

Our staff also managed the purchasing and

distribution for 120 EOTech holographic patrol rifle sights and forends, 48 new soft-body armor vests, and conducted extensive testing to identify and replace problem duty handguns at no cost to the Office.

> OTHER ACTIVITIES

Among our most significant accomplishments of 2010, we received a perfect inspection review of our Basic

Academy by members of Colorado POST. We also submitted the highest overall average passing scores on a POST exam in recent history, according to the moderators. Our accomplishments in 2010 will leave footprints that are hard to fill.

Training Staff members continued to stay involved in 2010 with Colorado Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Subject Matter Expert (SME) committees and the Central Mountain Training Foundation (CMTF). Commander Shannon secured a board position with CMTF, ensuring our input into the direction of law enforcement training in our region.

Training Staff members associated with the POST SME committees also conducted 22 POST firearms qualification test-outs, and two POST basic academy Firearm Program inspections, and offered more than 1400 hours of individual instruction to law enforcement students from 6 locations around the State of Colorado in 2010.

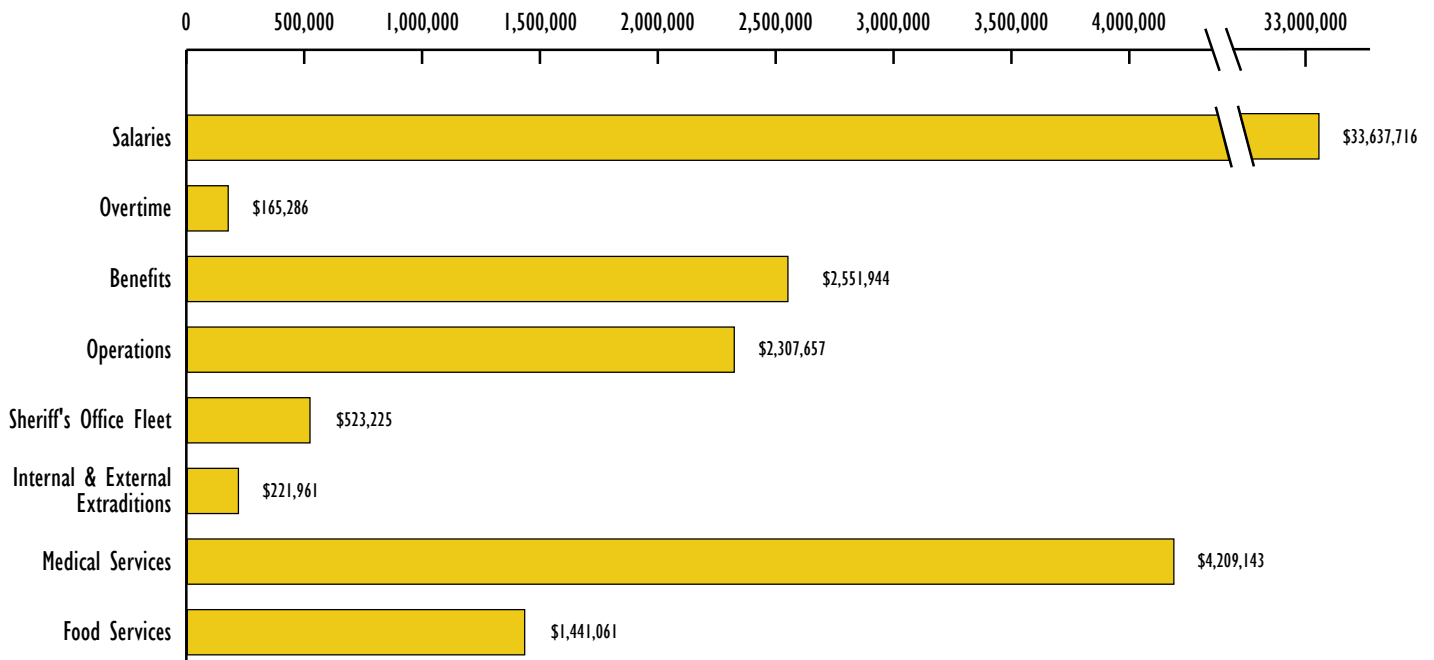
Sgt. O'Driscoll and Deputy Kafel played significant roles in developing and implementing POST mandated recruit academy curriculum changes, effective in 2011. Included are changes to the Firearms program and classroom training mandates. We also updated and improved our Use of Force and TASER policies, and developed an Instructor Handbook, which is designed to ensure consistency and accuracy in all future training presented by the El Paso County Sheriff's Office instructor core.



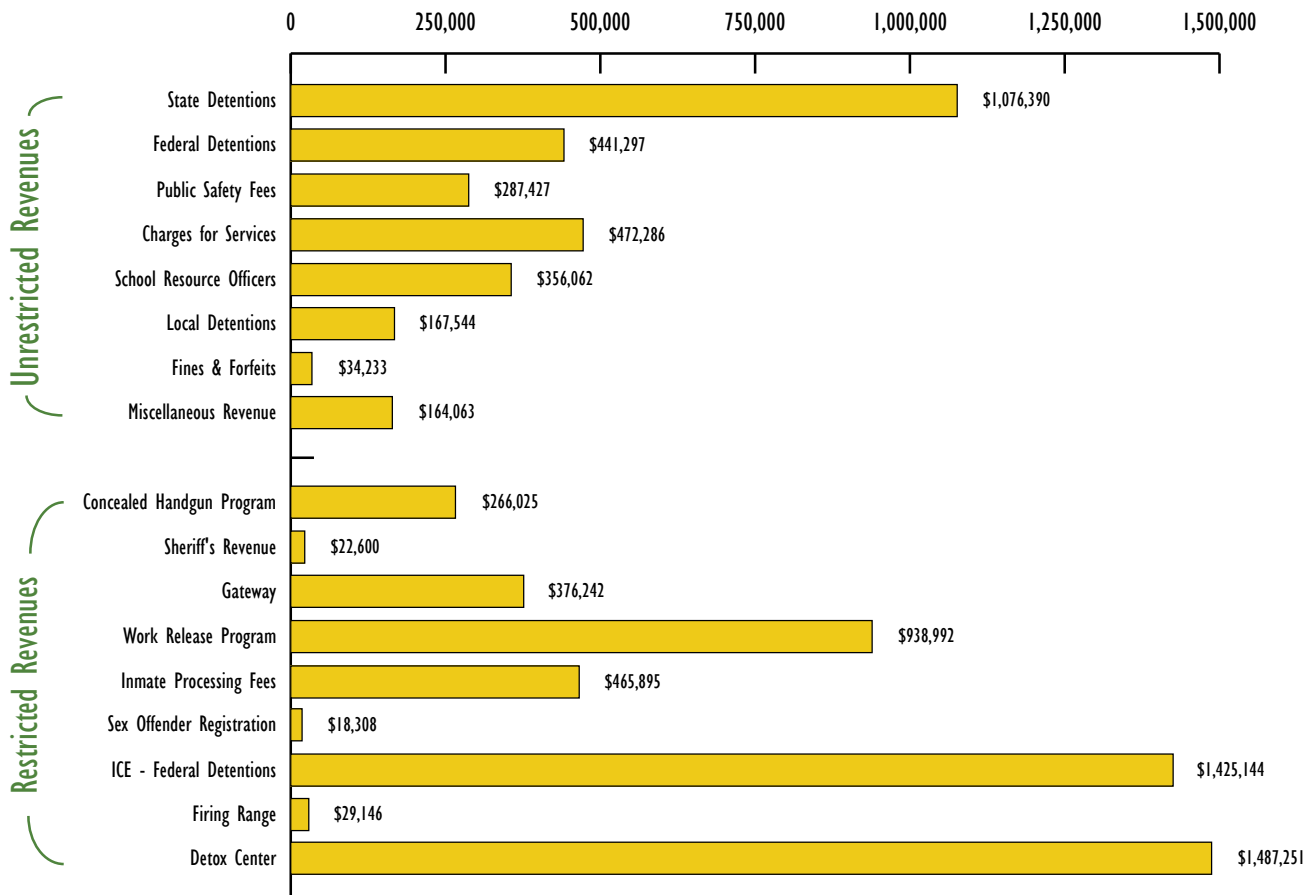
Contributed by: **Lieutenant J.D. Ross**

BUDGET AND FINANCE

El Paso County Sheriff's Office - General Fund Expenses



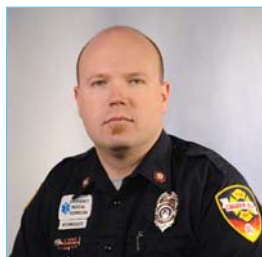
El Paso County Sheriff's Office - Revenues



ANNUAL AWARDS



James Dodge
Sheriff's Civilian
Achievement Award



David Geiger
Sheriff's Civilian
Achievement Award



Leah Grisson
Sheriff's Civilian
Achievement Award



Rachelle Jones
Sheriff's Civilian
Achievement Award



Bill Mayfield
Sheriff's Civilian
Achievement Award



Sharon Smith
Sheriff's Civilian
Achievement Award



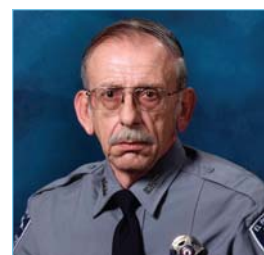
Leah Stevens
Sheriff's Civilian
Achievement Award



Paul Wheeler
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



Michael Baier
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



Richard Bankey
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



David Bogan
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



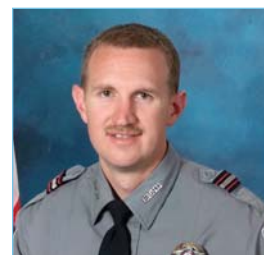
John Cole
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



Heath Chaney
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



Micah Flick
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



Jason Hess
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



Eugene Krull
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



James Lowe
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



Mark Meyer
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



Mitchell Mihalko
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



Ron Nethken
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



Michelle Nuncio
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



David Roycraft
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



Michael St. Charles
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



James Troublefield
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



Christopher Ward
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



Amanda Washburn
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



Michael Wilmott
Sheriff's
Achievement Award



Darla Miller
Sheriff's Meritorious
Service Award



Dave Yarbrough
Sheriff's Star



Cynthia Ayyad
Life Saving
Medal



Richard Heaverlo
Life Saving
Medal



Paul Smith
Life Saving
Medal



Arthur Steward
Life Saving
Medal



Charles Kull
Sheriff's Distinguished
Service Award



Donnie Richer
Sheriff's Distinguished
Service Award



Employee of the Year: Emergency Service Program Manager Patricia Baxter

Ms. Baxter has proven to be the most active emergency manager this county has ever known. Over the past year, Patty obtained homeland security funding and planned and organized one of the county's largest full scale exercises at the Hanover High School. Her efforts involved over 150 volunteers and 250 participants. She dedicated several hundred hours to include weekends and nights putting this full scale exercise together. The exercise was preceded by table-top exercises and several instructional courses for responding firefighters.

Ms. Baxter also worked additional projects:

She garnered grant funding and worked closely with a contractor to establish a Special Needs Population evacuation plan which encompassed both physically and mentally challenged persons, to include the elderly. This was a daunting task that required coordination with special interest groups. Patty's work was recognized within the region; so much so, the City of Colorado Springs Office of Emergency Management joined the effort. There is no doubt this model will be used across the state due to Patty's leadership. Patty did not stop there.

She was the sole person responsible for putting the County Animal Rescue Team together. This team provides for animal care during major catastrophes, which is a Federal Government mandate. Patty sacrificed more of her free time to meet with multiple experts in the field and to gather volunteers for this requirement. Animals were not her only concern; seeing the need for the ability to evacuate the special needs population in the event of a major catastrophe drove her into further action.

She wrote and received a grant worth almost \$200,000; with this funding, Patty was able to provide the Teller County Sheriff's Office with the proper equipment needed to repair their communication system. Also, our office received communication upgrades for SWAT, Dispatch, Hazmat, Wildland Fire, Mobile Command Post, and Patrol.

In addition, Patty worked diligently to upgrade the Mobile Command Post. She not only upgraded the Mobile Command Post, she also updated the amateur radio room, which is now the best in the state. Her efforts in upgrading the county communications system have increased the county's First Responders capability to communicate 10 fold. For her outstanding performance, dedication, and her "Get Things Done Attitude," Emergency Services Programs Manager Patty Baxter has been named Employee of the Year!



Celebrating 150 Years in 2011

The Sheriff's Office evolved with the creation of El Paso County, which was one of the original 17 counties created in 1861, with the birth of the Colorado Territory. The original boundaries of El Paso County were vast. They included land that later became Teller County and the crucial Ute Pass Trail. Now the ribbon of highway known as U.S. 24, the trail was named "El Paso" by Spanish Conquistadors. Early territorial officials kept the name when carving out the county.