

2022 EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

# ANNUAL REPORT





To the Citizens of El Paso County,

As my second term as your Sheriff comes to an end, I am excited to present our Annual Report for 2022. I became the 28th Sheriff of El Paso County in January of 2015. Over the past eight years I have been incredibly proud of the hard work and determination of each and every member of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. This agency has accomplished so much positive change in just eight short years. The return on our investment into enhanced community programs is evident throughout the region by increased public safety, well-trained first responders, and a high level of emergency preparedness.

This report details the many outstanding accomplishments of each bureau and division of the Office throughout 2022, including achieving our triple crown of accreditation. Your Sheriff's Office is now accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), by the American Correctional Association (ACA) and by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC). EPSO is also accredited and recognized by a number of other national and international associations, all of which ensure that the services being provided meet exacting industry standards.

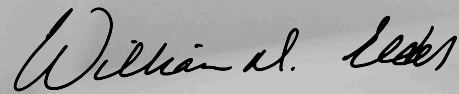
I also want to take the time to share what has resonated the most with me over the last eight years. First, the sheer amount of volunteerism, donations, and humble acts of the employees of this Office. Whether it was continuing to participate in annual Shop-With-A-Cop events, Special Olympics of Colorado and dozens of other fundraisers and special events over the years, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office members showed up in force.

Second, I found that we live in one of the most philanthropic regions in the country. The sheer amount of support, donations, and generous acts of the citizens of this community towards the employees of this Office are second to none and are seen day in and day out. Despite working under unprecedented conditions, the commitment and engagement by the nearly 900 employees and nearly 400 volunteers of this Office is humbling. Despite daily risks and pressures, the physical and mental challenges of the job, the 2020 pandemic, the negativity projected on law enforcement across the nation, these men and women show the utmost professionalism and their investment into the safety of this community. They show up and do a job that few want to do and do it exceptionally well.

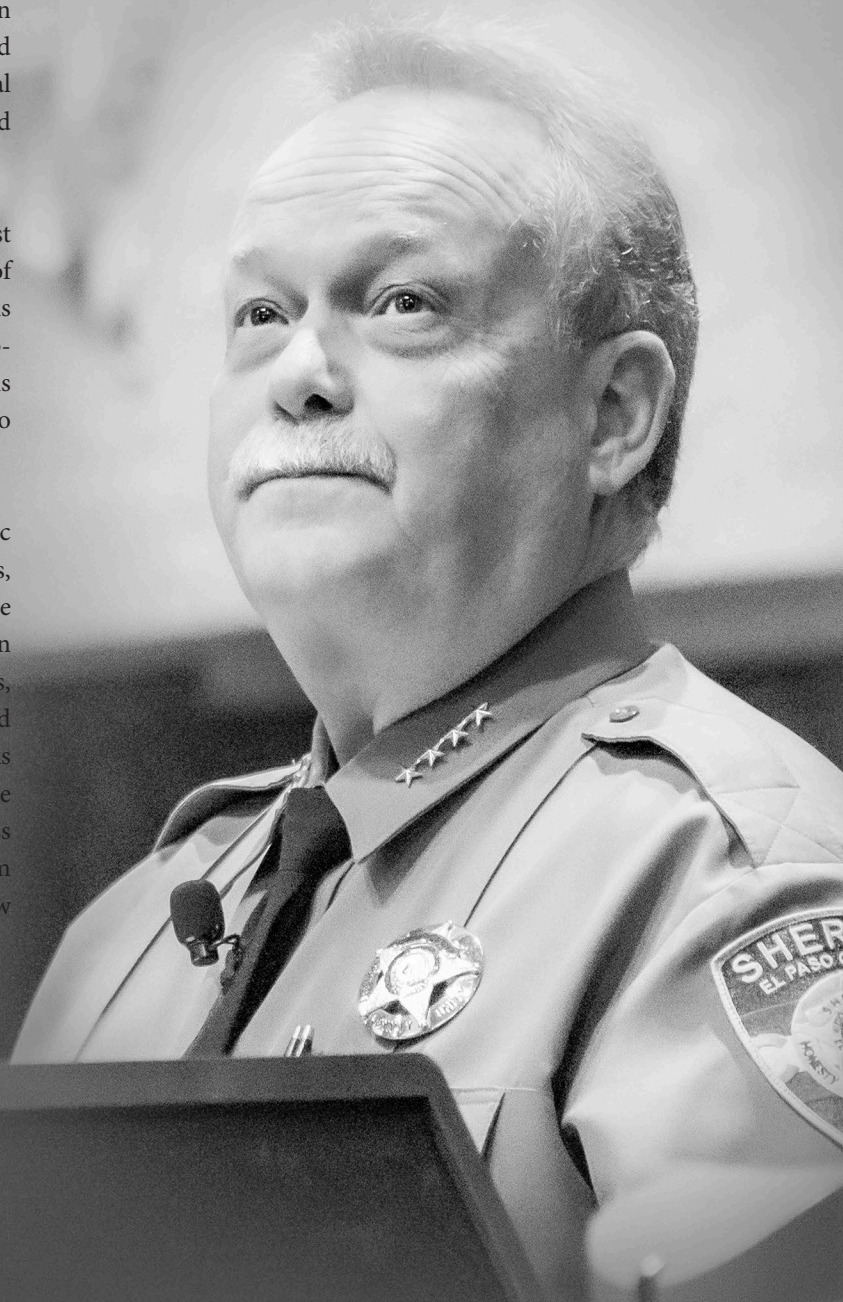
I am sincerely grateful for each and every member of the Sheriff's Office, both current and retired. I cannot thank the community enough for the support shown to this Office and its employees through the trying times we have all endured.

Again, I could not be more proud or more humbled to have served as the Sheriff of the agency that has been my home since 1979, in my hometown and what is now the largest Sheriff's Office in Colorado. It is undoubtedly one of the finest law enforcement agencies in the country.

May God bless you and yours,



Sheriff Bill Elder, 28th Sheriff of El Paso County







**SHERIFF**  
Bill Elder



**UNDERSHERIFF**  
Joe Roybal



**CHIEF OF STAFF**  
Janet Huffer



**EXEC. ASSISTANT**  
Andrea Sloniker



**STAFF PSYCHOLOGIST**  
Sharon Trivette



**BUREAU CHIEF**  
Andy James  
*Law Enforcement Bureau*



**BUREAU CHIEF**  
Clif Northam  
*Admin. Management Bureau*



**BUREAU CHIEF**  
Jeff Kramer  
*Detention Bureau*



**COMMANDER**  
Mitch Mihalko  
*Patrol Division*



**COMMANDER**  
David Manzanilla  
*Investigations Division*



**COMMANDER**  
Ray Bernier  
*Support Division*



**COMMANDER**  
Cy Gillespie  
*Support Division*



**COMMANDER**  
Andy Prehm  
*Operations Division*



**COMMANDER**  
Eric Carnell  
*Security Division*



**COMMANDER**  
Lari Hanenberg  
*Professional Standards Div.*



**COMMANDER**  
Scott Deno  
*Services Division*



**DIRECTOR**  
Garth Littrell  
*Support Division*





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2022 EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

# LAW ENFORCEMENT

BUREAU







# PATROL DIVISION

PATROL SECTION

PATROL

The Patrol Division is the primary law enforcement arm of the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office (EPSO). The Patrol Division is comprised of sworn and professional staff who are at the forefront, interacting daily with the citizens of El Paso County. In 2022 the Office received nearly 105,000 calls for service resulting in over 68,700 responses within El Paso County law enforcement districts and numerous requests for assistance outside of exclusive EPSO jurisdiction. In 2022, law enforcement across the state adapted operations and training to comply with increasing legislative mandates and industry-wide staffing shortages. In response, EPSO used creative programs to hire and retain high-caliber personnel while focusing on preparing them for an increasingly complex law enforcement profession. New initiatives such as the Community Service Specialist Unit outlined in this report are just some of the steps taken to provide the best quality service to the community while maximizing patrol assets for priority calls.

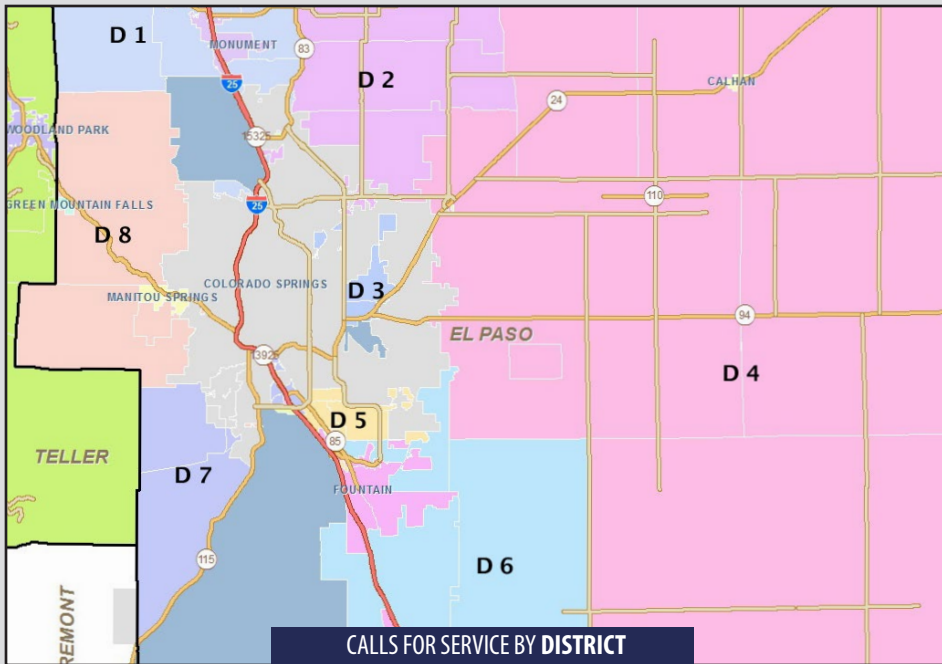
Training continues to be an important factor in all aspects of law enforcement. Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) conducted throughout the year helped prepare our first responders to better understand and communicate with citizens in crisis. The Behavioral Connect Unit (BHCON) is another Sheriff’s Office initiative which partners deputies with mental health clinicians. This partnership assists law enforcement to better negotiate the challenges of communicating with citizens suffering psychological maladies. We are proud of the men and women of the Patrol Division as they answer the call of duty and provide high levels of service our community has come to expect, regardless of the challenge.



PATROL BY THE NUMBERS

Authorized Personnel:	101
El Paso County Population:	737,867
County Population Served:	*253,881
<i>*excluding City of Colorado Springs population</i>	
Patrol Area (square miles):	2,130





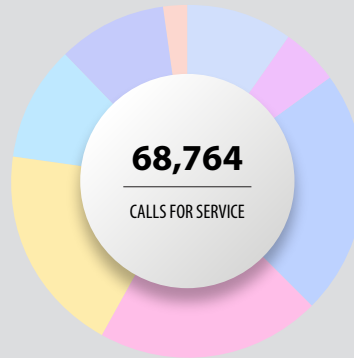
## PATROL CALLS FOR SERVICE

911 Hang-up	1,438
Abandoned Vehicle	1,185
Active Shooter	1
Aircraft Emergency	7
Alarm, Business/Residential	2,434
Animal CTW/Injury/Abuse	1,093
Assault	548
Assist Outside Agency	1,737
Barricaded Subject	0
Bomb Threat	2
Burglary, Business/Residential	845
Check the Welfare	4,138
Child Abuse/Neglect	235
Citizen Contact	5,288
Citizen Traffic Complaint	516
Criminal Mischief/Tampering	468
Criminal Trespass-Auto	462
Criminal Trespass	1,149
Disturbance	2,476
Domestic Violence	2,413
Drug Activity	237
Drunk Person	80
Fight	61
Found Child /Person	91
Found Property	185
Fraud	827
Harassment	1,640
Hazard	922
Hazmat	0
Illegal Shooter	80
Juvenile Complaint	61
Kidnapping	28
Menacing	257
Missing/Return Person	459
Motorist Assist	694
Motor Vehicle Theft/Recovery	871
Noise Complaint	583
Public Indecency/Indecent Exposure	54
Reckless Endangerment	248
Restraining Order Violation	263
Robbery	41
Runaway/Return	519
SAFE2TELL/SRO	2,607
Sexual Assault	103
Sexual Assault on a Child	307
Shooting	38
Shots Fired	376
Stabbing	10
Suicidal Check the Welfare	1,417
Suicide/Suicide Attempt	189
Suspicious Incident	3,772
Theft	1,362
Traffic Stop	8,389
Unattended Death	100
Other Calls	51,496

**Total 104,802**

*\*not all calls required a deputy response*

DISTRICT	2022	2021	DIFFERENCE
DISTRICT 1	6,824	7,664	▼ -10.96%
DISTRICT 2	3,642	4,489	▼ -18.86%
DISTRICT 3	15,385	18,563	▼ -17.12%
DISTRICT 4	14,136	16,764	▼ -15.67%
DISTRICT 5	13,187	14,437	▼ -8.6%
DISTRICT 6	7,257	7,864	▼ -7.71%
DISTRICT 7	6,848	9,113	▼ -24.85%
DISTRICT 8	1,485	2,278	▼ -34.81%





## COMMUNITY SERVICE SPECIALIST UNIT

In 2022, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division launched the Community Service Specialist (CSS) Unit designed to enhance its level of service to the community. The CSS Unit was created to augment our patrol deputies for "cold" or non-in-progress calls for service, that do not have viable suspect information or victims with injuries.

The program is unique in that these full-time professional staff have been trained to investigate crimes side-by-side with their sworn deputy partners. During the last quarter of 2022, the unit responded to 379 calls for service, taking 171 case reports. These professionals provided relief to their sworn counterparts which allowed them to respond to higher priority calls and allowed more time for deputies to engage in proactive policing activities.



## RESERVE UNIT

The Reserve Unit is a volunteer unit of sworn deputies made up of members from diverse professional backgrounds which provides a complementary skill set to their law enforcement training. Reserve deputies are required to complete the same annual training requirements and maintain the same standards as full-time deputies. These members provided the community with volunteer services in 2022 that totaled 7,037 hours in a myriad of patrol, investigations, detentions, community support and training functions. The following represents a culmination of the Reserve Unit's hourly contributions in 2022.

### RESERVE UNIT STATISTICS

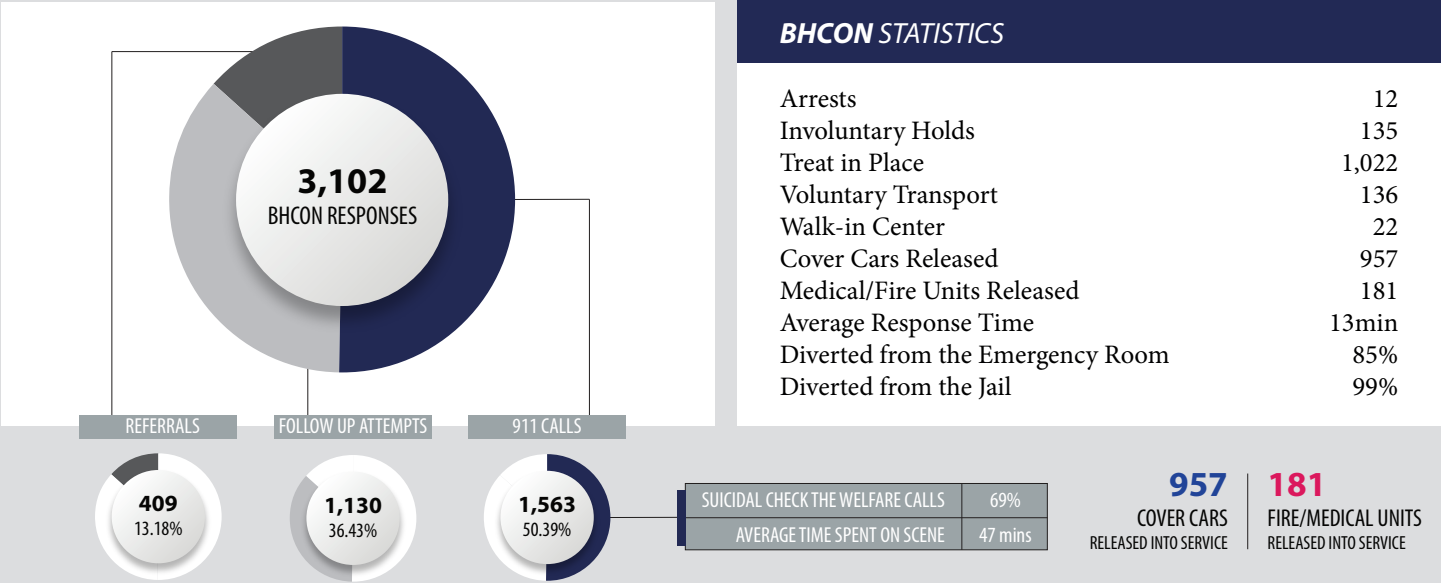
Call-out Hours	70
Detention Hours	9
Patrol Hours	1,174
Skills Instructor Hours	400
POST Classroom Training Hours	221
POST Hands-On Training Hours	443
Other Training Hours	570
Traffic Hours	675
USAFE Event Hours	866
Civil Hours	58
Investigations Hours	610
Administrative Hours	558
Required Training Hours	546
Other Detail Support Hours	837





BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONNECT (BHCON) UNIT

The BHCON Unit has been in operation since 2018. During the 2022 year, the BHCON team expanded into a regional team with the inclusion of the Fountain Police Department’s BHCON 3 and BHCON 4 units. This partnership has provided a significant resource for El Paso County and the City of Fountain.



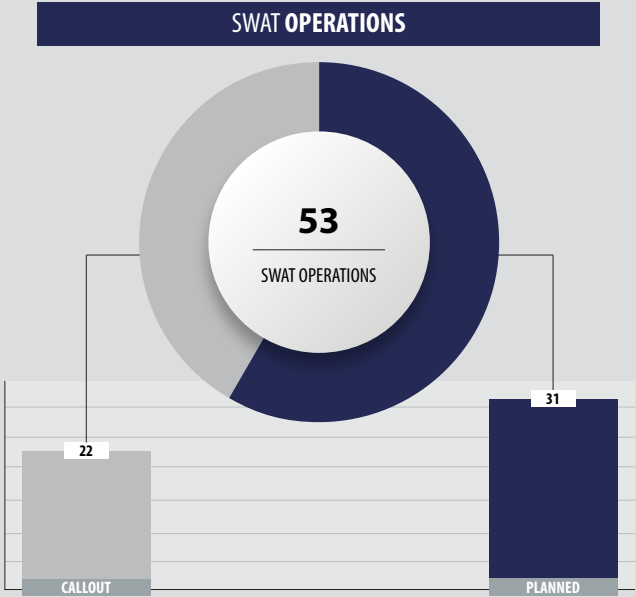


# SUPPORT DIVISION

## SPECIALIZED ENFORCEMENT SECTION

### SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS (SWAT)

The El Paso County Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) is an element of the Tactical Support Group which is comprised of the Tactical Dispatch Unit, Regional Explosives Unit, Tactical Support Unit, K-9 Unit, Crisis Negotiations Unit, the Ballistic Engineered Armored Response vehicle drivers, and Tactical Emergency Medical Services from the Colorado Springs Fire Department. The SWAT team is a highly trained, highly equipped, and extremely motivated group of individuals that respond to the most volatile and dangerous situations that face contemporary law enforcement today. In 2022, SWAT responded to and resolved 53 operations. These calls for service ranged from search and arrest warrant executions to violent offender manhunts, shots fired at police, barricaded suspects, and apprehensions of extremely violent and prolific fugitives. The SWAT Team is comprised of auxiliary members that are primarily assigned to the Patrol Division.





## ***TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT UNIT (TEU)***

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office Traffic Enforcement Unit (TEU) is a community-oriented, problem-solving unit, which provides public safety service and traffic enforcement to the citizens of El Paso County. The TEU is comprised of one sergeant and five deputies. The TEU focused on providing traffic-specific enforcement throughout the county, responding to citizen complaints, as well as working those areas known to have high occurrences of traffic accidents and/or speeding. The unit also provided training both to deputies in our Office, as well as other law enforcement officers throughout the region, and managed two federal grants that have traffic safety involvement.

During 2022, the unit supported general patrol operations due to staffing and operated with a team of one sergeant. TEU managed two federal grants, the 2022 High Visibility Impaired Driving Enforcement (HVE) grant and the 2022 Traffic Safety Enforcement (TSE) grant.

Between the two grants, the TEU spent \$380,000 in specialized traffic enforcement including equipment and overtime. The unit's specialized enforcement efforts resulted in the arrest of 196 impaired drivers and the issuance of 2,064 citations.



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## ***CRISIS NEGOTIATIONS UNIT (CNU)***

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office Crisis Negotiations Unit (CNU) operates as a five-deputy team with the goal of resolving high risk situations as peacefully as possible. CNU deploys on every high-risk search warrant, high-risk arrest warrant, barricaded suspect, high-risk manhunt, or hostage situation. To be assigned to CNU, each deputy must be Crisis Intervention Trained (CIT). This specialized team is comprised of extremely skilled communicators who participate in ongoing and scenario-based training once every other month. In 2022, the CNU deployed on over 40 operations as an element of the EPSO Tactical Support Group. Per EPSO policy, CNU cannot deploy without the EPSO SWAT Team; subsequently, CNU deployed on over 90% of SWAT's missions. CNU accounted for the peaceful surrender of numerous extremely volatile suspects in 2022. The CNU is a life-saving and invaluable resource to the community.





## SUPPORT SERVICES SECTION

### RURAL ENFORCEMENT & OUTREACH UNIT (REO)

The Rural Enforcement and Outreach Unit (REO) is a highly trained unit of six deputies and one sergeant dealing with problems common to Eastern El Paso County. These issues include illegal marijuana cultivation, animal cruelty investigations, homeless outreach, and the investigation of property crimes. During 2022, REO supported general patrol operations due to staffing and operated with a team of one sergeant and a dedicated illegal marijuana investigator. In addition to ongoing marijuana and homeless enforcement, REO cleared a theft by deception case with over \$63,000 in losses. Over 30 animals were seized as a result of cruelty investigations. In July 2022, REO recovered over \$60,000 worth of stolen vehicles.

#### REO STATISTICS

Calls for Service	355
<i>Marijuana Related</i>	164
<i>Animal / Livestock Related</i>	65
Cases Initiated	59
<i>Cases Cleared</i>	46
Felony Arrests	5
Misdemeanor Arrests	10



### SHERIFF'S CITIZENS PATROL (SCP)

The Sheriff's Citizens Patrol Unit is a volunteer seven-person team that provides non-emergent law enforcement assistance throughout El Paso County. The unit deals with parking complaints, low-priority police reports, vacation checks, and traffic control at accidents or critical incidents. The unit works hand in hand with the Patrol Division to reduce the load on non-emergent calls the patrol deputies deal with. In 2022, the unit responded to over 1200 dispatched calls for service and self-initiated calls. These responses included more than 1500 hours of volunteer time provided to the Office. The unit specifically focused on areas with heightened parking issues to include abandoned vehicles, homeless camps, and neighborhood blight.



CIVIL UNIT

In 2022, the Civil Unit was responsible for 8,419 court orders. Out of those orders there were 1,296 temporary protection orders, 2,336 Writ of Restitutions (evictions/Removal of Unauthorized Person Orders), and 4,787 miscellaneous papers. During this time frame the Civil Unit added two part-time deputies. These deputies have been a huge addition with the increase to evictions since the Emergency Relief Aid Program (E.R.A.P.) funding ended. Due to recent local legislation, the unit has also seen an increase in evictions at marijuana grow facilities.

Members of the unit continue to support the Sheriff’s Office and its mission with ancillary responsibilities. These include academy instructing, range instructing, BEAR driver responsibilities, HAZMAT and SWAT. The unit continues to look for improved ways of conducting orders safely and efficiently, which led to new techniques that other Sheriff’s Offices across the state have adopted as well. A partnership with the County Attorney’s Office for a paralegal assigned to the unit continues to be a positive impact. The assigned paralegal continues to become a statewide subject matter expert in Sheriff’s Sales, which totaled approximately 35 throughout 2022.

CIVIL STATISTICS	
Court Orders	8,419
<i>Temporary Protection Orders</i>	1,296
<i>Writ of Restitutions</i>	2,336
<i>Miscellaneous Papers</i>	4,787
Sheriff’s Sales	35



CHAPLAIN VOLUNTEERS

The Chaplains Unit is a six-person team that provides services throughout El Paso County. The unit maintains an on-call team that responds to requests from the Patrol Division to include, death notifications, unattended deaths, victim support in critical incidents, and hospital visits. The unit also assists with ceremonial invocations including academy graduations, promotions, retirements, and award banquets.

In 2022, the unit responded to 54 incidents including a double homicide/suicide as well as the Line of Duty Death of Deputy Andrew Peery. These responses included more than 30 unattended deaths, several death notifications, 20 patrol assists, and one major traffic accident. This totaled more than 5000 volunteer hours for the year.

LANGUAGE SERVICES VOLUNTEER UNIT (LSVU)

The Language Service Volunteer Unit (LSVU) is an nine-person unit supporting translation and interpreting service for the Sheriff’s Office since 2006. The unit provides these services to any section of the Office including but not limited to Patrol, Investigations, Court and Transport, the Office of the Sheriff lobby, and Detentions.

The unit is fluent in Spanish, French, Creole, Arabic and Farsi, and Mandarin. In 2022, the unit provided over 660 hours of volunteer time to the Office.



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (SRO)

The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office School Resource Officer Unit provides service to schools within unincorporated El Paso County; the combined student population of those schools is approximately 30,000. EPSO has 10 SROs primarily assigned to 16 high schools and middle schools respectively.

EPSO understands the need for SROs and the important roles they play in the area schools. Our goal is to provide a safe learning environment in our county schools, providing valuable resources to school staff members, fostering positive relationships with youth, developing strategies to resolve problems affecting youth and protecting all students, so they can reach their fullest potentials. The four main roles of our school resource officers: law enforcement officer, informal counselor/mentor, mental health evaluator, and educator. The SROs are also involved in activities outside the scopes of their normal duties such as the Teen Academy, Books and Badges, Student 2 Student, and dancing with their school’s dance squad for Tik Tok notoriety.

The SROs job is much more complex than what most people perceive it to be. They teach classes in their schools which have

connection to their job in Civics and Constitutional Rights, which leads to building trust with the students. SROs also help assist and deal with illegal activities, such as drugs, sexting, assaults or bullying at the schools. They use other options other than an arrest to deal with a juvenile’s mistake, such as restorative justice using Forge Evolution or diversion. The SRO at school is identified as the most “trusted adult” that students feel they can turn to at their schools; which makes the SRO an important asset not only to the Sheriff’s Office, but to our community and youth.

SRO STATISTICS

Calls for Service	3,936
Cases Taken	610
Felony Arrests	42
Misdemeanor Arrests	222
Drug / Alcohol Cases	122
Weapons Cases	12
SAFE2TELL Received	548
Threat / Risk Assessments	143
Mediations / Counselings	1,156





COUNTY SECURITY SECTION

COUNTY SECURITY

The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office County Security Section is responsible for the physical security of thirteen county buildings and thirty County parks encompassing 8,000 acres and over 154 miles of trails. The section is comprised of a lieutenant, three sergeants, 35 armed security officers, four access control officers, four parks officers and 13 unarmed contract security officers. During 2022, the County Security Section has increased its personnel strength and authorization expanding coverage for County Parks and El Paso County Public Health.

Many new training opportunities were introduced such as advanced tactical medical training, patrol rifle and shotgun training, Officer Survival and Use of Force training, tailored to the needs of the section. By moving to Mobile Field Reporting (MFR), issuing county summonses and introducing Mobile Data Computers (MDCs) to the parks officers, report tracking and

sharing has become more in line with adjacent law enforcement agencies. County Security continues to provide and improve on, critical incident training and emergency actions plans for all county buildings.

COUNTY SECURITY BY THE NUMBERS

Authorized Personnel	47
<i>Lieutenants</i>	1
<i>Sergeants</i>	3
<i>Armed Security Officers</i>	35
<i>Access Control Officers</i>	4
<i>Parks Officers</i>	4
Contracted Security Officers	13
County Buildings	13
County Parks	*30

*\*includes over 8,000 acres and over 154 miles of trails*





EMERGENCY SERVICES SECTION

WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT UNIT

Significant changes have occurred within the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Wildland Fire Management Unit (EPSO WLFMU) in 2022. Several new career staff and volunteers joined the team. Throughout 2022, the unit maintained focus on supporting its public safety mission. A notable accomplishment last year was the building and training of the Pikes Peak Regional Incident Management Team. This team will provide incident management in a variety of crises including criminal, weather, and planned events. Significant progress was made with training, equipping, and team building. The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Wildland Fire Management Unit received 188 calls for service in 2022. The unit assisted interagency partners and provide service to the community.

The EPSO WLFMU continues to support the hazardous fuels mitigation effort in the county, participate in multiple community events, provide subject matter expertise to help with public education, and assist agencies across the nation in the ever-growing wildland fire suppression effort. In 2022, the unit had two out-of-state deployments; one to California and one to Wyoming.

WLFMU STATISTICS	
Total Incidents	188
Mitigation	
Acres	110
Man Hours	700
Training Hours	220.5
Community Events	6
Ft. Carson Broadcast Burning Acres	200





## EL PASO COUNTY SEARCH AND RESCUE (EPC SAR)

Throughout the year, Search and Rescue (SAR) received 212 calls for rescue or search. Of those calls, the team responded to 104 incidents, with its volunteer team members donating nearly 17,000 hours of their time to incident response, training, and other duties throughout 2022. In one such event, the team rescued a lost hiker in harsh winter conditions near the summit of Pikes Peak. Spanning two days and involving nearly every member of the team, it was a successful mission with the hiker rescued and rehabilitated to walk down to Barr Camp. Although not all rescues have an equally positive outcome, achieving the mission of saving lives, as it did with this incident, is especially rewarding.

### SAR STATISTICS

Calls Received	212
Missions	104
Mission Hours	4,906
Volunteer Hours	16,590



# El Paso County Search and Rescue

## MOBILE COMMAND UNIT

The Mobile Command Unit assists in all incident types for the Sheriff's Office and El Paso County. Its primary function is to deploy the Mobile Command Post (MoCom) to events throughout the region including critical incidents, significant investigations, or large-scale planned events. The unit is implemented primarily through a volunteer corps and provides a vital command and control presence to any incident. In June of 2022, the MoCom team supported the Saguache County Sheriff's Office Incident Command by providing numerous resources, including MoCom, at the multi-day music festival. The Mobile Command Unit responded to nine law enforcement and fire events.



# INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

## INVESTIGATIONS

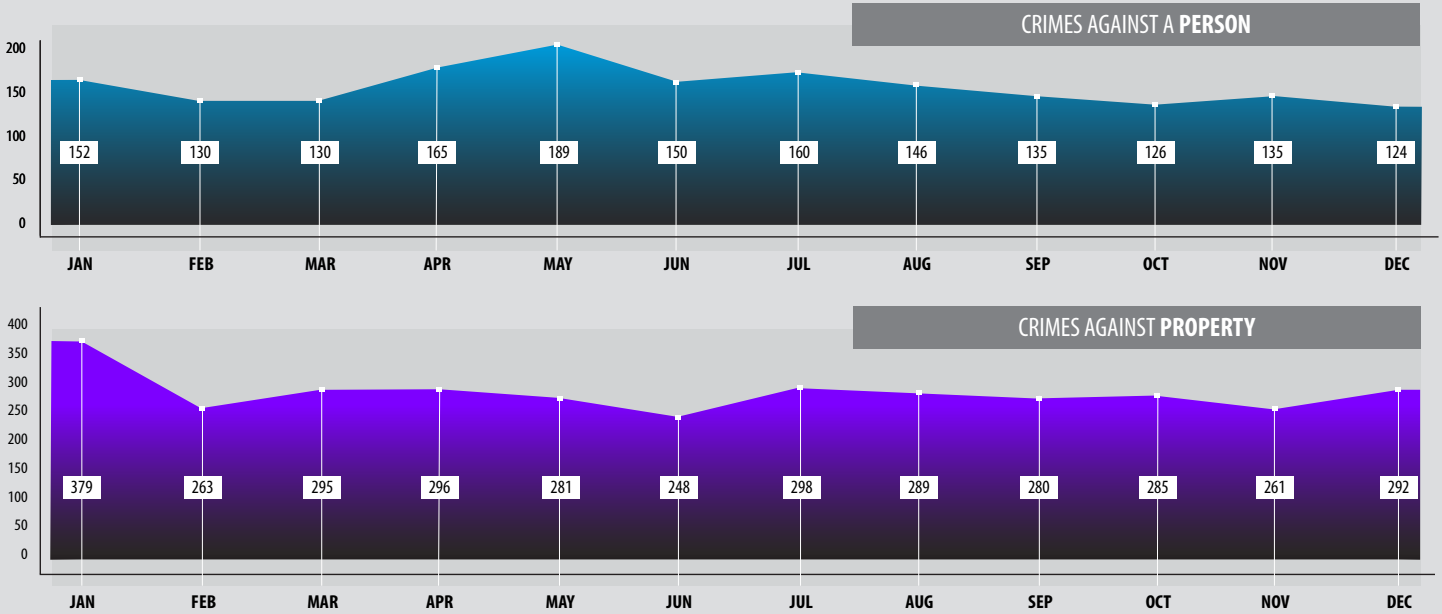
The Investigations Division is responsible for investigating felony crimes against persons and property occurring in the unincorporated areas of El Paso County. The division is comprised of three sections: Violent Crimes, Technical Investigations, and the Metro Vice, Narcotics, and Intelligence sections. We are extremely appreciative of not only our sworn members, but especially proud of the work being done by our professional staff members, who support the mission through administrative functions, support of victims, analysis of crime patterns, investigation of crime scenes, and tracking of registered sex offenders within the county. Without the dedicated support of each member in our team, the mission of the Investigations Division could not be accomplished.

INVESTIGATIONS STATISTICS	
Cases	392
Recorded Interviews	730
Supplemental Reports	4,271
Search Warrants	423
Probable Cause Affidavits and Arrest Warrants	181
Tracked Sex Offenders	538
Violent Sex Offenders	7

## CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT (CAU)

The Crime Analysis Unit (CAU) continues to enhance the capabilities of the first responders and investigators in all corners of the Sheriff’s Office and outside agencies. Over the last year, The CAU assisted in all major cases to include, but not limited to, homicides, officer involved shootings, sexual assaults, property crimes, pattern crimes, and more. Furthermore, with the continued challenges presented in 2022, the CAU continues to monitor and report social media events that impact our community. With this information, the CAU better prepares our staff to make operational and logistical decisions. Finally, the CAU has been instrumental in numerous statistical requests from internal and external individuals and entities.

Please see attached for the CBI data reports, both comparing 2021 vs 2022. This data is for public release, as it adheres to NIBRS standards and is available on a public-facing website as well, current as of today February 22, 2023. Below are the main overall counts of crimes for both 2021 and 2022, then a side by side comparison with the percent change from 2021 to 2022.





## VIOLENT CRIMES SECTION

### MAJOR CRIMES UNIT

The Major Crimes Unit (MCU) took lead on 60 complex case investigations for 2022. The unit investigated nine homicides. Attempted homicide, other death investigations, felony child abuse, felony assault, and shooting investigations rounded out the remaining case categories. The unit also investigates officer involved shootings and in-custody deaths as part of the 4th Judicial District Deadly Force Investigations Team. The unit completed nine such investigations in 2022. Attached to the unit is one ATF Task Force Officer, who provides investigative support and federal resources to local investigations. Of the 10 homicides, several involved murder-suicide circumstances. These cases have an emotional burden for investigators and require exceptional communication with victim families.

The Major Crimes Unit investigated runaways/missing people within unincorporated El Paso County. A sworn reserve deputy assisted in returning dozens of runaway juveniles to their parents. These efforts reduce the risk of the juveniles becoming involved in human trafficking and prostitution.

The unit investigates difficult cases every day. 2022 saw a complex investigation into a murder-for-hire resulting in 10 search warrants and an arrest. 2022 included recovering the body of Kara Nichols and closing a near decade old cold homicide by arrest; this operation included multiple agencies and dozens of personnel working in concert to get justice for the victim and her family.

### COLD CASE UNIT

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office Cold Case Unit is comprised of one Major Crimes Detective and one Civilian Criminal Investigator. This unit currently has 34 cases under their review. The unit conducts in-depth reviews of cases to determine if advances in technology can develop new leads, conducts interviews to attempt to uncover new information and investigates all new leads provided by the public and other law enforcement agencies. In 2022, the Cold Case Unit was involved in solving three cold cases, to include the high-profile Kara Nichols case and a sexual assault case from 2004.





SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT (SVU)

The Special Victims Unit (SVU) conducts follow-up investigations of cases involving crimes against at-risk adults, felony sexual assault, incest, and various crimes against children. The unit partners with the Department of Human Services, forensic nurses, Safe Passage, and other law enforcement personnel on child abuse and child sex assault referrals. This year, the unit was tasked with the investigation of approximately 270 cases, up from 261 cases in 2021. Out of the 270 cases, approximately 65% were crimes against children, which includes both sexual offenses and child abuse cases. The clearance rate of the cases investigated by SVU averaged approximately 75%. SVU detectives also executed 121 search warrants and completed 338 interviews. These cases are worked in a joint effort with El Paso County Department of Human Services and Safe Passage. SVU is trained in trauma informed investigative techniques. Victim Advocates also play a bigger role in supporting the victims and the victim's families affected by such heinous crimes.

SVU made several arrests on cases involving sexual predators utilizing social media platforms to target and lure young victims (children). SVU detectives have also made arrests on several perpetrators who were in a position of trust. SVU made multiple arrests and or assisted in the arrest of perpetrators, which have crossed state lines, while working jointly with our surrounding federal law enforcement partners such as the Army's Criminal Investigations Division (CID), the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (OIS), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The Civilian Criminal Investigator (CCI) assigned to SVU has collected and processed 43 sexual assault nurse examination (SANE) kits, submitting 39 to the Colorado Bureau of Investigations (CBI) for processing. Starting in 2022, the CCI has implemented the collection and attachment of approximately 120 Forensic Nurse Examination (FNE) reports as well as medical records pertaining to felony domestic violence investigations. All SANE kits have been tracked and submitted in accordance with Colorado House Bill 13-1020. This includes an in-depth audit of all SANE kits stemming back to 2018. The CCI worked 89 criminal investigations, 24 of which were run under the Adult Sex Assault Response Team (ASART).

The SVU continues to play a lead role in the Adult Sex Assault Response Team (ASART), through re-evaluating written directives, to include recent training in trauma informed strategies, establishing a reliable Forensic Nurse Examiner (FNE) program, reviewing past sexual assault cases monthly to implement best investigation practices with the goal being successful prosecution. In 2020, the ASART awarded SVU with a \$51,000 grant to help assist with the cost of investigating adult sex assault and domestic

violence cases. The grant funds have spanned over the past two and a half years ending September of 2023. To date, SVU has investigated 16 significant cases with arrests and 11 of those cases, utilizing approximately \$27,500 of the grant to help offset the divisions overtime. The criminal charges in those cases range from homicide, assaults, kidnapping, and sexual assault.

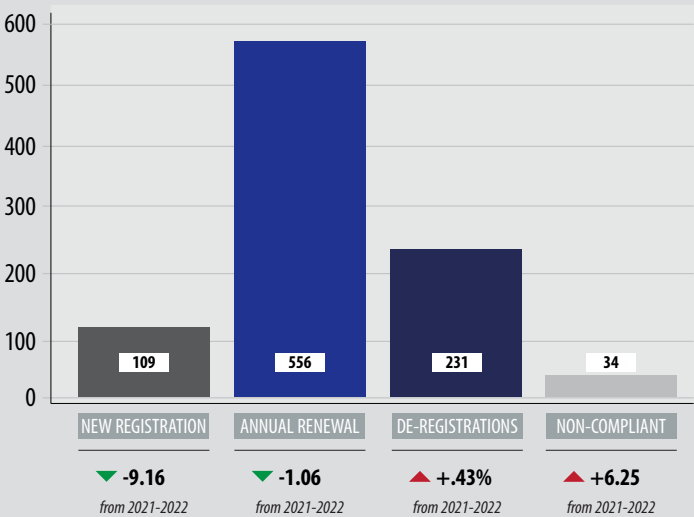
SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION UNIT (SOR)

The Sex Offender Registration (SOR) Unit is composed of one Registration Coordinator and supported by a part-time Assistant Coordinator, as well as detectives and patrol personnel. They all work in conjunction to effectively provide accurate and timely tracking of registered sex offenders within unincorporated El Paso County. During 2022, the SOR Unit administered and tracked 109 new registrations, 556 annual re-registrations, 98 jurisdictional re-entries, 231 sex offender de-reregistration, nine Sexually Violent Predators (SVP) registrations and completed 238 home visits. Although the number of offenders being tracked varies from month to month, the average number of offenders tracked throughout the year is greater than 500. Through concerted efforts tracking registered offenders, 34 offenders were identified to be non-compliant regarding failing to register as a sex offender, which resulted in the issuance of an arrest warrant for their arrest.

SOR STATISTICS

New Registrations	109
Annual Re-Registrations	556
Jurisdictional Re-Entries	98
Sexually Violent Predators	9
De-Registrations	231
Home Visits	238
Non-Compliant Offenders	34

TRACKED REGISTRATIONS





## ***VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (VAP)***

During the second quarter of 2022, the Victim Assistance Program had significant personnel changes. The program resumed full staffing in November 2022. The Victim Assistance Program (VAP) consists of three Staff Advocates, two volunteers, and a program supervisor. The VAP staff provides victim assistance to any person who is the victim of any crime in accordance with Colorado Revised Statutes 24-4.1-302. The VAP staff provides services seven days a week, 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. Services are provided to victims in the jurisdictions of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, the Fountain Police Department, the Manitou Springs Police Department, and the Calhan Police Department.

In 2022, program advocate staff and dedicated volunteers provided services to 2900 victims of crime within the jurisdictions we serve. The advocates provided in person crisis intervention to 81 victims, responded to 34 crime scenes, and followed up with 1200 victims within 72 hours of the crime being reported. The VAP staff attended over 100 hours of training and provided over 50 hours of instruction to patrol deputies regarding updates of the Victim Rights Act. The Victim Assistance Program continues to provide quality and efficient advocacy services to the victims of crime within our jurisdictions.



## ***TECHNICAL INVESTIGATIONS SECTION***

### ***FINANCIAL CRIMES UNIT***

The Financial Crimes Unit (FCU) has seen a significant increase in the complexity of fraud cases which have been referred to the unit. This has been exacerbated by COVID related fraud cases centered on cryptocurrency, PPP Loan frauds, and benefits frauds on a national scale. Detective Williams was principally responsible for the investigation and ultimate arrest of Brendan Jackson, for an extensive string of thefts, armed robbery, frauds, credit card thefts, and ID theft throughout the county. The case has been referred to the newly formed Organized Crime Unit at the 4th Judicial District Attorney's Office and carries the highest number of counts and cases for a non-violent offender for the 2022 calendar year with more than 80 total felony counts filed. Singularly, Detective Williams investigated a total of 31 cases, and issued 122 warrants.

### ***DIGITAL FORENSICS UNIT***

The Digital Forensics Unit (DFU), Detective Bauman, has been hard at work supporting each investigatory team in the division, resulting in approximately 75 terabytes of data being processed and over 300 devices being searched. Detective Bauman also assisted multiple outside agencies with digital forensic investigations. The DFU continues to partner with United States Secret Service to supplement training, digital resources, and unit capability. The resources and training have been instrumental in resolving multiple cases since the prevalence of digital media impacts many criminal investigations. The DFU continues to use software to isolate video footage and a Gray Key system that provides a technological advantage when downloading cellular telephones.



CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT (CIU)

The Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU) works closely with other units within the Sheriff’s Office, to include Patrol, Detentions and Special Operations. The unit also works closely with multiple outside agencies, to include state and federal agencies and parole. Working with these internal and external partners, the CIU has arrested numerous prolific offenders and has closed a multitude of cases associated with these prolific offenders. The CIU also works closely with the District Attorney’s Office and participates in their Suspected Top Offender Program (STOP), and the newly formed Organized Crime Unit, to ensure these prolific offenders receive maximum sentences for their crimes. Additionally, the CIU continues to participate in the Colorado State Patrol Beat Auto Theft Through Law Enforcement (BATTLE) South Taskforce.

The CIU detectives aided in surveillance and searches on multiple Major Case Investigations to include the Kara Nichols case. CIU detectives were frequently called upon for pre-raid surveillance for critical cases throughout the year and were responsible for conducting reconnaissance to determine the whereabouts of

suspects in homicides, search for associated vehicles and conduct operations in support of missions beyond the scope of CIU’s specific mission.

The CIU conducted several large-scale investigations into prolific offenders in 2022. These individuals were responsible for numerous crimes within El Paso County and surrounding jurisdictions. A large-scale investigation involving CSPD and CIU was initiated by CIU detectives investigating a prolific offender suspected of many equipment, storage unit, identity theft, and frauds conducted throughout El Paso County, the City of Fountain, and City of Colorado Springs. This case involves nearly 100 victims and \$100,000’s in thefts, frauds, in many cases items have been recovered and returned to victims. This case has become the principal case in the OCU at the 4th Judicial District Attorney’s Office and is expected to result in a 40+ year sentence if convicted. This case continues to develop into 2023 and continues to yield leads on more victims.

INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN (ICAC)

This Task Force is composed of several CSPD Detectives, an EPSO Detective, and personnel associated with multiple federal agencies. During 2022, the local ICAC Task Force processed and reviewed over 8,300 cyber tips from NCMEC as the lead agency for the State of Colorado. The ICAC Task Force also made 38 felony arrests on local cases in 2022, nearly one third of those arrests 15, were directly related to EPSO cases. The team successfully completed Homeland Security Task Force Officer School, participated in Dark Web training and Basic Undercover School hosted by VNI, and successfully completed training to utilize “Eye Detect,” a truth verification system deployable in the field. Members of the Task Force conducted multiple presentations to schools, dispatch

centers, and SROs in the region. In September 2022, ICAC and SVU detectives conducted a sting operation targeting child sex predators through a variety of websites. Detectives from SVU and the ICAC Task Force conducted a three day operation resulting in the arrest of seven persons attempting to engage in child sex trafficking.

ICAC STATISTICS

Reviewed Cyber Tips	8,300
Felony Arrests	38

PROPERTY CRIMES UNIT

The Property Crimes Unit is assigned to the Criminal Intelligence Unit. A part time civilian investigator was hired as a new member of that team in 2022. She assisted in the continuation of new protocols for automatic case referrals. As a result of these protocols, she reviews all motor vehicle theft and criminal trespass auto cases. The review of those cases by the Property Crimes Unit has led to several cases being cleared by arrest.



## CRIME PREVENTION

The Sheriff's Office and the City of Colorado Springs experienced a sizable increase in residential home build thefts predominately at the end of 2020, which continued into early 2022. OSB plywood and other home build supplies such as copper, wood framing, and electrical breaker boxes and breakers were being stolen daily due to the huge increase in home builds. Based on these vast number of reports, the Crime Prevention Coordinator contacted the Colorado Home Builders Association (HBA) to coordinate a meeting with as many of the local homebuilders we could reach. The most impactful results were the agreement of placing cameras on their job sites to possibly establish suspects and vehicles and furthermore the importance of reporting each incident so the Sheriff's Office could establish dates and timelines of when these thefts were occurring. In partnership with Crime Stoppers, the HBA, and law enforcement, the unit participated in a city and county local television press release from the HBA, which challenged homebuilder employees to contact Crime Stoppers with suspect

tips, who in turn contacted law enforcement with anonymous tips they received. The Crime Prevention Coordinator conducted a multitude of site visits to aid in the best geographical areas of where they should place their security and surveillance cameras based on my experience with Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). Throughout 2022, there have been numerous arrests through this partnership.

In August, the unit coordinated and attended numerous National Night Out events across El Paso County. To date, the August 2022 Annual National Night Out was one of the largest hosted by the Sheriff's Office. 13 neighborhood and community events were attended by staff members, deputies, and various professional staff employees. National Night Out will once again be supported and attended by the Sheriff's Office in 2023. This year's event will be hosted in August 2023, and we are striving to exceed last year's numbers.



## METRO VNI SECTION

### METRO VICE, NARCOTICS, & INTELLIGENCE (MVNI)

The Metropolitan Vice, Narcotics and Intelligence Division (Metro VNI) is a multi-mission component of the Colorado Springs Police Department. Metro VNI consists of the Strategic Information Center (StIC), Intelligence Unit, Metro Vice (Human Trafficking) Unit, Strategic Investigations Unit (SIU), Narcotic Street Team, and the Marijuana Related Organized Crime Unit. In addition, the Metro VNI Division has task force officers (TFOs) assigned to the FBI Safe Streets Task Force (SSTF) and the DEA Colorado Springs Resident Office which are part of a multi-jurisdictional task force comprised of sworn and civilian personnel from the Colorado Springs Police Department, El Paso County Sheriff's Office, Fountain Police Department, and the Monument Police Department. Metro VNI collaborates with local federal agencies to address regional criminal activity and potential acts of terrorism. Metro VNI has personnel assigned to the local Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) task force, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Safe Streets Task Force.



## 50's NARCOTIC STREET TEAM

- Investigates the manufacturing, distribution, possession, and use of illegal narcotics.
- Conducts in depth investigations into major drug trafficking organizations and money laundering operations.

## MARIJUANA RELATED ORGANIZED CRIME (M-ROC)

- Investigates the illegal cultivation, manufacturing and distribution of Marijuana and Marijuana products.
- Investigates the illegal distribution, possession, and use of prescription drugs.
- Conducts underage audits of tobacco and liquor establishments.



286

TOTAL CASES OPENED

## NARCOTICS STREET TEAM & MARIJUANA RELATED ORGANIZED CRIME UNIT STATISTICS

Prescription Medication Cases	27
Arrest Warrants Authored	81
Search Warrants Authored	225
Operations Executed	252
Felony Arrests	101
Firearm Seizures	76
K9 Deployments	62
After Hours Call-Outs	58
Outside Agency Assists	110
Overdose Death Call-Outs	68

DRUG SEIZURES	AMOUNT
Cocaine	16 pounds
Psilocybin Mushrooms	5 pounds
Methamphetamine	35 pounds
Heroin	4 pounds
Fentanyl (dosage units)	18,219 units
Fentanyl (powder)	4 pounds
Cash Seizures	\$ 150,000
Property Seizures	\$ 148,000



2022 EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

# DETENTION

BUREAU





# SECURITY DIVISION

## DETENTION SECURITY

In 2022 the Security Division focused on monitoring processes to improve the safety of inmates and deputies assigned to the jail. With assistance from the Crime Analyst and Human Resources Team, trends were identified associated with deputy injuries. This research revealed deputies were sustaining injuries predominately during their tour of duty in our Special Management and D Mod Wards. As a result of this information, additional deputies were assigned to the D Mod and Special Management Wards as staffing allowed.

Supervisors in the Security Division held briefings after use of force incidents and used this as an opportunity to improve arrest control techniques, overall work performance, and decrease work related injuries. Deputies have been reminded to use PPE and tools to alert others of potential work hazards.

As the largest division in the Sheriff's Office, and the starting point in the organization for sworn personnel, the Detention Security Division had many ongoing opportunities to impact personnel. The Detention Training Officer program was inspected and areas to expand and better the program were identified. Although the implementation of the changes will take several months, the impact on quality of training and operational efficiencies will be beneficial to the program, the staff, and the organization for years to come.

### BRIEFING ROOM UPGRADES

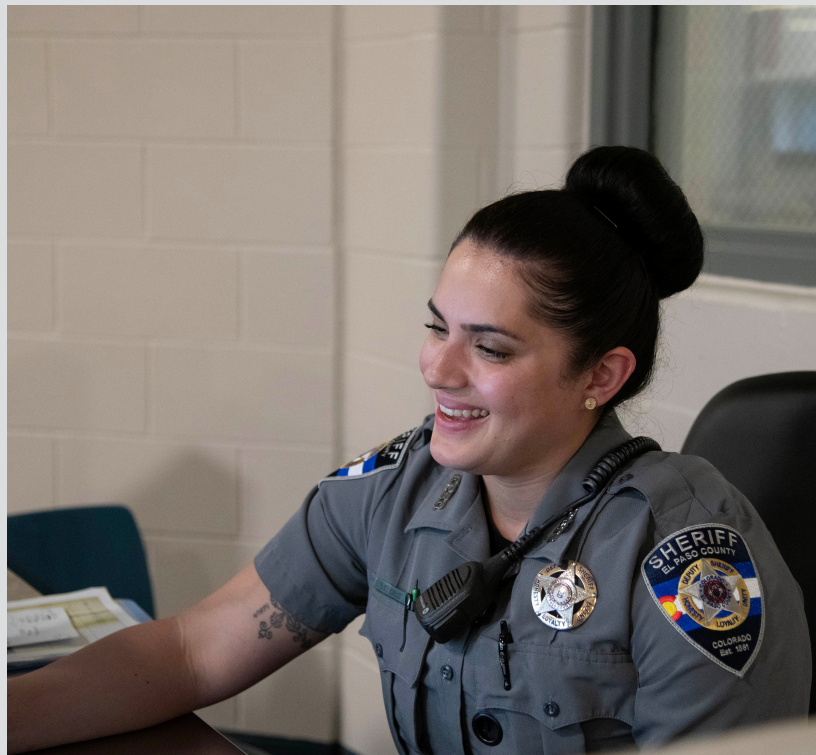
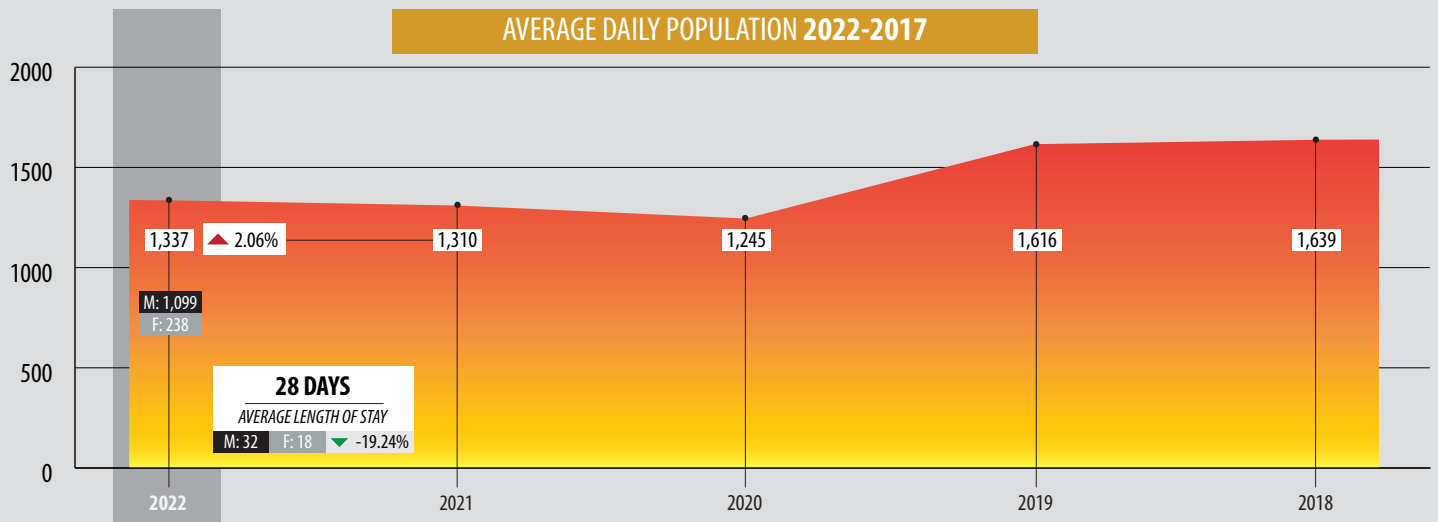
- New desks, chairs, coffee bar, and decor
- New flat screen TV's
- New floor covering
- Card reader limiting access

### SECURITY DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

- Front Desk / Lobby area was equipped with blinds to protect CJIS sensitive operating systems of the jail.
- Key Card readers were installed at all access points from the main hallway of the jail to ensure CJIS compliance.
- The Trust Team was created and implemented to help reduce the number of Use of Force incidents for the safety and well-being of both the deputies and inmates.
- Lexan was installed on the top tiers of wards to prevent inmates from harming themselves.
- Padded cell walls were installed to assist with the safe de-escalation of inmates experiencing mental health crisis.









# SUPPORT DIVISION

The Detention Support Division was established in October of 2021 to consolidate support functions in the bureau under one flag. Those functions include the Inmate Programs Section, the Industry Management Section, Gateways Through the Rockies and Jail Based Behavioral Services. Subgroups include the medical, telephone, visitation, and kitchen contracts, mail room, inmate classification, maintenance, detention investigations/analyst/K-9 operations, and jail projects.

## DETENTIONS PROGRAMS SECTION

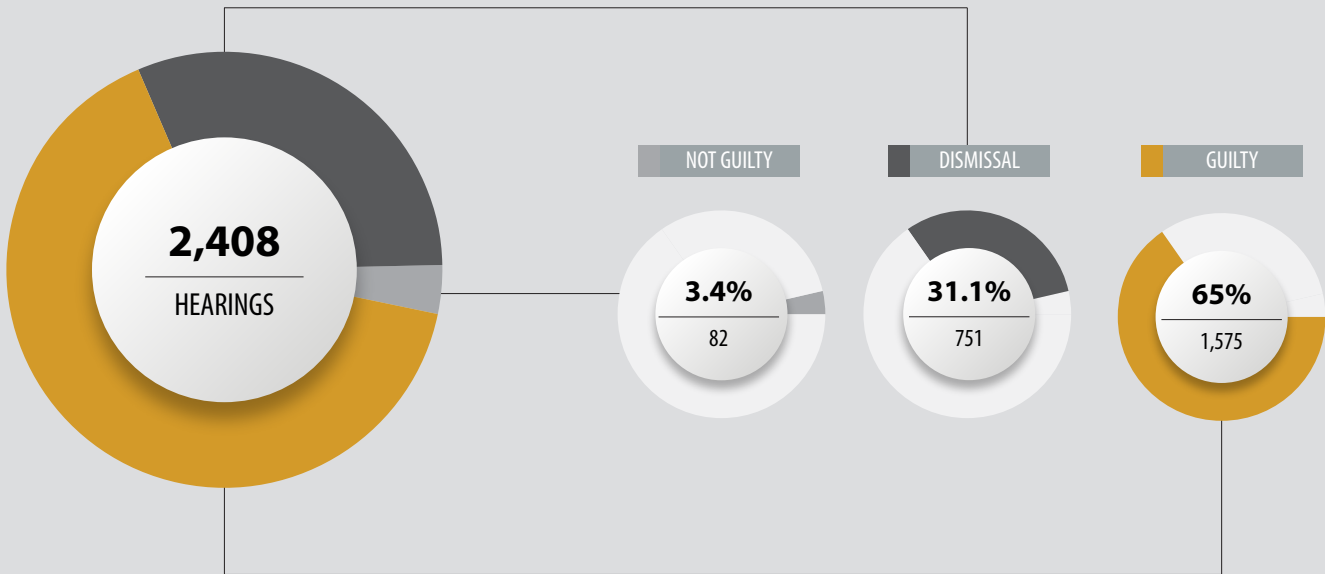
### INMATE PROGRAMS

In 2022 the Inmate Programs Section completed 1,371 outside agency assists, 142 sex offender registrations, answered nearly 400 crime tips and initiated 72 separate investigations ranging from Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) cases to death investigations. They also reviewed and processed 11,579 incident reports. The Inmate Classification Unit also developed a new housing plan to accommodate the requirements of House Bill 1211. Billing to outside agencies to hold their inmates was well over 1.6 million dollars.

#### PROGRAMS STATISTICS

Outside Agency Assists	1,371
Sex Offender Registrations	142
Crime Tips	400
<i>Reports Initiated from Tips</i>	72
Incident Reports	11,579

### HEARING BOARD OFFICER





## JAIL BASED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SECTION

In 2022, JBBS provided discharge planning for 3,771 clients, connecting with, or referring to community agencies prior to release. JBBS also admitted 4,023 clients into the program, all of whom received counseling and/or release planning assistance. The newly implemented Therapeutic Response Unit and Stabilization Team (TRUST) responded to 88 crisis calls and made 311 contacts for rapport building and proactive de-escalation for high risk/high needs clients.

### JBBS STATISTICS

Clients Provided Discharge Planning	3,771
TRUST Responses	88
Client Contacts for De-Escalation	311
Services Provided	12,136
Clients Admitted to Program	4,023
Inmates Counseled	266

## INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT SECTION

The Industry Management Section attended to 2,349 work orders, 76.59 tons of inmate laundry, and prepared and served over one million meals, including over 36,000 meals to staff members and guests. The Projects Unit conducted nearly 450 separate inspections (fire, health, safety, sanitation, etc.) and spent nearly \$750,000 dollars in nondurable and durable supplies.

### INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT STATISTICS

Work Orders	2,349
Tons of Laundry	76.59
Meals Served	>36,000
Inspections Conducted	450

## GATEWAYS THROUGH THE ROCKIES SECTION

In 2022, the EPSO Gateways Through the Rockies (GTR) Program offered job skills and training for 174 of the El Paso County sentenced inmates, bringing the Gateways participant total to 3,561 since its inception. The inmate contribution to the EPCJ Gateways Program for 2022 is 27,809 compensated participant labor hours, 5,427 community service hours, and \$13,972.79 in victim compensation payment paid by the participants from their wages earned through Gateways Program. For the Year of 2022, the EPSO Gateways Through the Rockies (GTR) Program offered job skills and training for 170 of the El Paso County sentenced inmates, bringing the Gateways participant total to 3,412 since its inception.

### GATEWAYS / R&R PARTNERSHIPS

Bestway (GFL) Recycling  
D&J Pallets  
Evergreen Cemetery  
Fairview Cemetery  
El Paso County Facilities (EPSO Janitorial Contract)







# OPERATIONS DIVISION

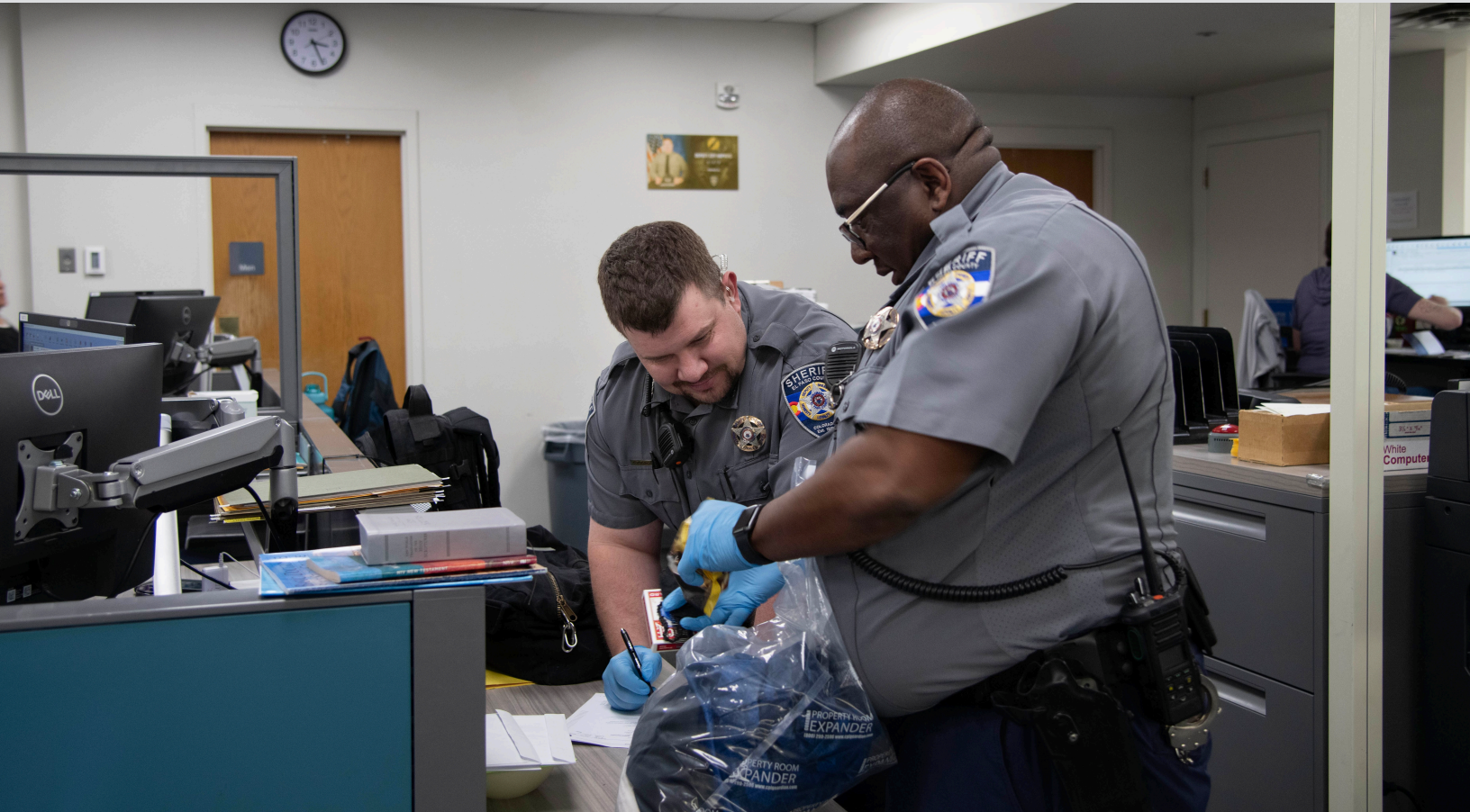
## INTAKE & RELEASE SECTION

### INTAKE & RELEASE

The Intake and Release section of the jail had a very busy and productive year. 16,139 people were booked into the El Paso County Jail and 16,264 were released. The jail staff showed their never-ending commitment to providing the community with efficient and proactive efforts with the new laws giving us six hours to get a person released once a bond is received.

### INTAKE & RELEASE STATISTICS

Inmates Booked	16,139
<i>In-Custody Bookings</i>	1,224
<i>Lobby Arrests</i>	2,130
Inmates Released	16,264
PR Bonds Issued	1,205



### TRANSPORT STATISTICS

Transports	168
<i>Payout</i>	\$451,293.82
<i>Probation Reimbursements (28)</i>	\$105,356.85

### EXTRADITION STATISTICS

Out-of-State Arrests	453
<i>Approved by DA's Office</i>	165
Declined for Extradition	251
Pending by DA's Office	1



COURT SERVICES SECTION

COURT AND TRANSPORT UNIT

2022 saw several expansions for the Court Services section. To implement new state statutes which require adult arrestees to be seen by a judge within 48 hours, the Court Services section began holding Video Advisement court on weekends and holidays.

A new courtroom division was introduced to streamline the initial court proceedings for felony cases from all divisions. This DST courtroom holds court each day of the week to handle all cases on their docket which ultimately is a secondary advisement as well as appointing attorneys to each case.

In 2022, due to immense case growth, more courts than physical courtrooms began, which requires several judges to hold court virtually or travel between courtrooms.

The biggest change in 2022 came in the form of extraditions. The Transport Unit handles all in-state extraditions, but out-of-state extraditions were handled by a third-party contractor. Switching from the third-party contractor to handling it in-house has saved the Office a significant amount of money.

C&T STATISTICS	
Inmates Transported to Court	24,009
Remands Taken Into Custody	1,643
Writ from DOC or other Counties	619
Out-of-County Warrants to El Paso County	913
DOC Inmates	1,035





SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM (SRT)

The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Special Response Team (SRT) had another busy year in 2022. SOPs were reviewed and modified to increase the effectiveness of the team for the Office. Out-of-state fugitive extraditions transitioned in April from a contracted transport company to an internal function of the Detention Bureau. The SRT restructured the flying armed and extradition training program and were able to onboard more members from the bureau to meet the need, conducting 94 extraditions in 2022 with an estimated cost savings to the DET OPS budget of \$180,000. In addition to the uptick in work product for these extraditions, the SRT conducted the first funeral furlough approved by the 4th Judicial District since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Maintaining safety and security in the Jail has increased by the flexibility of the SRT to utilize the PepperBall System to safely

address violent and combative inmates, resulting in less injuries to the inmate and staff members.

SRT STATISTICS

Cell extractions	2
Pepperball requests/use	15
High-risk court appearances	6
Fugitive extraditions	94
Tactical shakedowns	2
Cross-bureau assistance	4
Funeral furlough	1
Riots/protest response	1
Community events	4





2022 EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

# ADMINISTRATIVE

BUREAU







# PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DIVISION

## MEDIA RELATIONS SECTION

### PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

During 2022, the Public Information Office combined with the Community Relations Unit. With only two personnel assigned with many goals ahead, this was quite a feat.

The lieutenant and sergeant assigned worked hard to strengthen public information and community engagement effectiveness for the EPSO. This helped to increase transparency to the community we serve. We continue to work hard to develop community trust through forging positive and professional relationships with our EPSO staff and the local media, who serve such a crucial, fundamental public safety and information role alongside local law enforcement.

In 2022 the team added the Internal Affairs lieutenant to assist with on-scene after-hours responsibilities. The team members have each taken the FBI-LEEDA Public Information Officer and Media Relations course. The course focused on internal communication, preparing statements and media releases. A public information officer for any law enforcement agency is involved in policy changes, line of duty death planning, open records requests, and strategic planning which would always put an agency in the best light possible regardless of the topic.

The PIO office planned and presented two separate Citizens' Academies. Many of the students are now employed by or serve as volunteers of the EPSO.

As we come to the end of 2022 and look ahead to 2023, the Public Information Office will become a component of the newly formed Community Affairs and Research Section. As much as social media has changed the landscape of mainstream media, it also changes the traditional role of the law enforcement public information officer. PIOs are now the forefront of social media strategy, content creation, and community engagement efforts. Many agencies, to include our own, further the path of information sharing through social media and realize it is much more than just a communication tool.

It is important we as an agency continue to improve how we communicate what we do as an agency to the public. Part of that improvement includes building even stronger relationships with our media partners and providing our community with big picture and contextual information that we believe will help for a better understanding of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office.

### PIO STATISTICS

Media releases	112
Colorado Open Records Act requests	229
Website e-mails	1,966
Media inquiries	8,609
Interviews	350
PIO on-scene responses	44





## COMMUNITY RELATIONS & OUTREACH UNIT (CRO)

The mission of this unit is to form partnerships in the community that facilitate on-going and proactive communication and relationship with our neighbors in the Pikes Peak region. Strong relationships with business and community-based organizations also help strengthen our agency's mission of effective and efficient public safety services delivered consistently with character, competence, and transparency.

As has been the case for the past couple of years, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office continued to experience staffing shortages brought on by a variety of factors in 2022. Despite these staffing challenges, the Community Relations and Outreach Unit and agency as a whole did not shy away from continuing to engage with our neighbors and law enforcement partners in cementing new and old partnerships with the community. All told, 85 office personnel, from both the sworn and professional staff ranks, donated 649 hours to 47 community-centered outreach events throughout the year.





## HONOR GUARD

In 2022, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard performed at 40 missions which included the Line of Duty Death Funeral for Deputy Peery, the Line of Duty Death Memorial for K9 Jinx, EPSO Academy Graduations, State of the Region Address, EPSO Awards Banquet, one EPSO Professional Staff Funeral, three EPSO Retiree Funerals, Colorado Law Enforcement Memorial, Pikes Peak Officer Memorial, Police Week in Washington DC, Colorado Rockies Games, EPSO Volunteer Celebration, Parades and Line of Duty Death Funeral for Arvada PD.

Each Honor Guard member understands each ceremony is a sacred and heavy burden to bear, they continue to perform with the utmost precision, reverence, and respect. No matter how violent society may become or how difficult the job may get, law enforcement officers throughout our nation know they can count on each other in their time of need. 2022 was a difficult year for the EPSO; this unit will continue to deliver the utmost respect by honoring the fallen and paying respects to these heroes, their family and friends.

## HONOR GUARD STATISTICS

Missions	40
Hours	2,027
Training Hours	983



## ACCREDITATION

### ACCREDITATION UNIT

In 2022, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office completed and obtained our Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). This was done in conjunction with maintaining our American Correctional Association (ACA), National Commission on Correctional Healthcare (NCCHC) accreditations which was no small task. Achieving and maintaining these three accreditations awards an agency the Triple Crown Award. The Triple Crown Award was established by National Sheriff's Association to recognize those sheriff's offices that achieve simultaneous accreditation from the Commission on the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies, the American Correctional Association's Commission on Accreditation for Corrections and the National Commission on Correctional Healthcare. Since the establishment of the award in 1993, fewer than 100 sheriffs' offices have qualified. None of this would have been possible without a partnership between the Accreditation Unit and all members of our Office. At the end of 2022, we began the process of transitioning all Sheriff's Office Standard Operating Procedures to PowerDMS and are on target to finish this process in 2023. In addition to all of duties already mentioned, the Accreditation Unit coordinates the annual review and publication of Standard Operating Procedures, Post Orders, compiles statistical data, conducts internal audits, assists with policies and the maintenance of the Inmate Handbook.

## ACCREDITATION STATISTICS

Law Enforcement Bureau SOP's Updated	209
Admin. Bureau SOP's Updated	110
Detention SOP's Updated	152
Post Orders Updated	54
ACA Standards in Compliance	356
CALEA Standards in Compliance	166
NCCHC Standards in Compliance	56

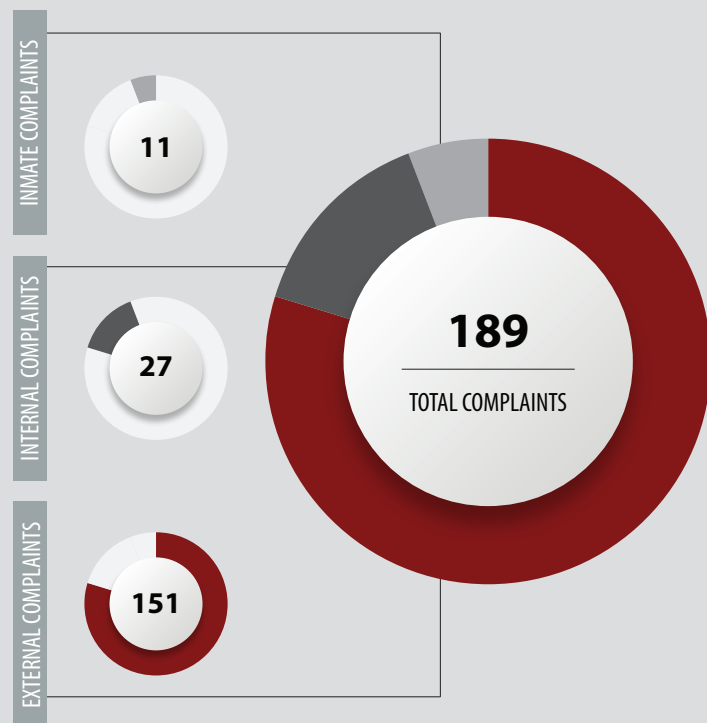




## INTERNAL AFFAIRS SECTION

### INTERNAL AFFAIRS UNIT

#### COMPLAINT SOURCES



*Action Taken: Please note that one employee could have received more than one action taken for a specific case, therefore, this number will not necessarily match the sustained/sustained no penalty numbers in the complaint disposition statistics above.*

#### COMPLAINT DISPOSITION

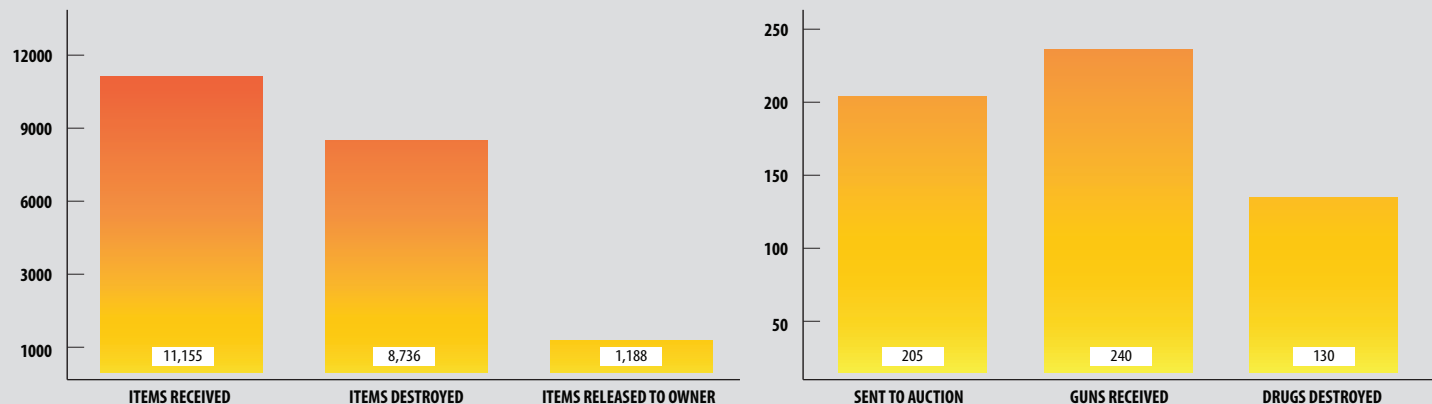
Document Only	1
Exonerated	40
Not-Sustained	10
Pending	2
Sustained	28
Sustained, no penalty	19
Unfounded	89

#### ACTION TAKEN

Apology	1
Demotion	2
Disciplinary Probation	1
Final Written Warning	1
Last Chance Agreement	1
Loss of Privileges	2
No Action Taken	2
Performance Improvement Plan	3
Remedial Training	5
Resigned/Retired Prior to Completion of Invest.	6
Supervisory Discussion	18
Suspension	5
Termination	2
Unknown Action Taken	1
Written Reprimand	16

### EVIDENCE UNIT

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office Evidence Unit preserves and stores evidence taken into custody by the agency. The unit also handles found property and property held for safekeeping. This highly effective unit is made up of three technicians and a unit supervisor.





# SERVICES DIVISION

## TRAINING SECTION

### TRAINING UNIT

During the 2022 calendar year, 109 sworn members of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office sat for a recruit academy class. 97 of those graduated, nearly one of every five current sworn employees. Additionally, the Training Section conducted 109 in-service training sessions. In-service covered sworn and professional staff, supervisors and skills touching every team member working for this Office.

The Training Section had many additional irons in the fire over the course of the year. In addition to the regular academy and in-service training, we hosted seven courses at the Training Facility, conducted two reality-based-training sessions for the District Attorney's Office, conducted 17 rifle transition courses to familiarize 135 deputies with a new FN-15 long gun system implemented during the year and finally completed the transition to Glock 45 handguns. Training assumed many of the duties of the quartermaster program, including coordinating the roll out of new load bearing vest body armor for the Office.

The 2022 demands on the Training Section stretched resources and taxed spirit. Accomplishing all of this would not have been possible without the support of scores of instructors throughout the Office and volunteers from the community.





## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES SECTION

### BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Administrative Services Division consists of the Background/Recruiting Unit and Volunteer Coordinator. The Unit manages, performs, and coordinates all testing phases, background checks and Truth Verification Examinations for sworn, professional staff, volunteer and contractor candidates. The Background/Recruiting Unit consists of a manager, sergeant (vacant), four full-time and one part-time investigator. All sworn applications are processed solely through the unit, which means each application is reviewed by the Administrative Services Manager or an investigator to verify the candidate meets the qualifications to continue to the on-line testing phase.

#### BACKGROUNDS STATISTICS

Sworn/Professional Staff Applications	1,940
<i>Applicants Passed</i>	216
<i>Applicants Dismissed</i>	1,724
Contractor Applications	220
<i>Applicants Passed</i>	170
<i>Applicants Dismissed</i>	50
Truth Verification Examinations Conducted	237

### VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office Volunteer Program is comprised of a diverse group of citizens with specialized skills who are 100% committed to the mission of the Sheriff's Office. In 2022, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office gained 27 new volunteers. The Law Enforcement Bureau received one reserve deputy, two investigations volunteers, one patrol chaplain, one victim advocate, four language services volunteers, one Sheriff's Citizen Patrol volunteer, one Search & Rescue volunteer and six Wildland Fire volunteers. The Detention Bureau received five detention chaplains, and two Intake & Release volunteers, and the Administrative Management Bureau received two new range assistants and one IT volunteer. In 2022, four volunteers became full time employees with the El Paso County Sheriff's Office.

In addition, there were 10 students from UCCS who successfully completed the Sheriff's Office 160-hour internship program. One UCCS intern was hired as a dispatcher before he completed his internship.

#### VOLUNTEER STATISTICS

Active Volunteers	222
Volunteer Hours	43,993.5
Volunteer Service Worth	\$1,317,604.30
New Volunteers in 2022	27
Interns	10





# SUPPORT DIVISION

## COMMUNICATIONS / DISPATCH

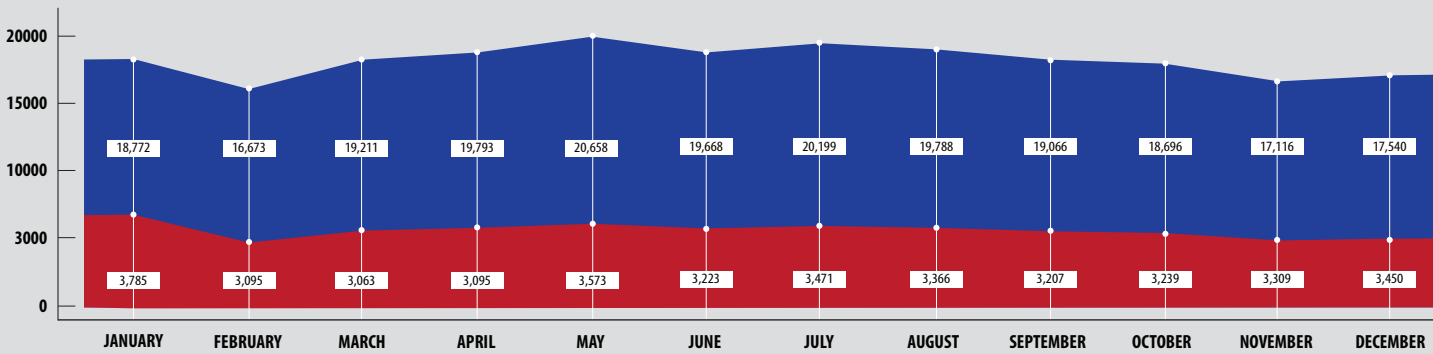
The Sheriff’s Office Communications Center answers emergent and non-emergent telephone calls for unincorporated El Paso County, the United States Air Force Academy, and several municipalities within the County. The Communications Center is the primary dispatch center for eight law enforcement agencies and 20 fire departments.

In 2022, the Communications Center processed just under 280,000 total telephone calls (over 74,000 911 calls, over 126,000 inbound administrative calls, and over 75,000 outbound administrative calls). Text to 911 services allowed 263 people access 911. In August, the Communications Center added technology to automatically text or call back abandoned 911 calls. This technology cleared 569 abandoned 911 calls, freeing up personnel to handle additional duties.

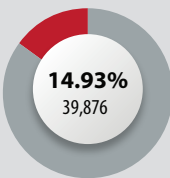
In addition, the Communications Center processed nearly 270,000 calls for service (law, fire, and medical combined). The Tactical Dispatch Unit (TDU) is available to all dispatched agencies. In 2022, TDU was deployed on 40 operations for a total of 120.75 hours.

The Communications Center and other members of the Sheriff’s Office were fortunate enough to be able to volunteer at Boo at the Zoo again this year, providing a fun and safe environment for almost 20,000 members of the community. The 911 Education Team also provided 911 education and support at the County Fair, El Paso County Foster, Kin and Adoptive Families Picnic, and a Public Safety Field Day. In addition, the 911 Education Team recognized and celebrated eight young 911 Heroes who contributed to the safety and well-being of others by appropriately calling 911.

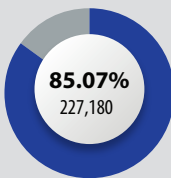
### CALLS FOR SERVICE



#### FIRE



#### LAW ENFORCEMENT



#### TOTAL CALLS IN / OUT

	2022	2021	2021 - 2022 DIFFERENCE
TOTAL ADMIN IN CALLS	126,358	133,361	-5.25%
TOTAL 911 CALLS	74,249	75,754	-1.99%
TOTAL ADMIN OUT CALLS	75,817	92,852	-18.35%
TOTAL INCOMING PHONE CALLS	276,424	301,967	-8.46%



## RECORDS AND DOCUMENTS SECTION

### RECORDS UNIT

The Records Unit serves as the official central repository for Sheriff's Office records. The unit stores, preserves, and is responsible for the integrity of these records. This unit serves the community by providing exemplary customer service as a source of information within established policies and guidelines. All members of the Records Unit have their daily workload full with merging cases and supplements in records management, but when the merge queues are handled for the day the Records Techs stay busy with extra duties to include sealings/expungements, records releases, processing citations and submitting cases to the DA's Office for filings. Additionally, the members of Records provide training to new recruits and refresher training to deputies throughout the Office.

#### RECORDS STATISTICS

Filings	3,354
Completed Records Requests	5,393
Sealings & Expungements	2,673
hours	616.25
Merged Cases	16,210
includes all case reports and arrest reports	
Merged Supplements	12,010
Express Consent Form to DOR	138
Background Checks	1,023
CBI Stat Entry (hours)	356.75
Ticket Processing (hours)	432.5
Body Worn Camera Redactions (hours)	373.5
E-filings	741

#### FRONT DESK STATISTICS

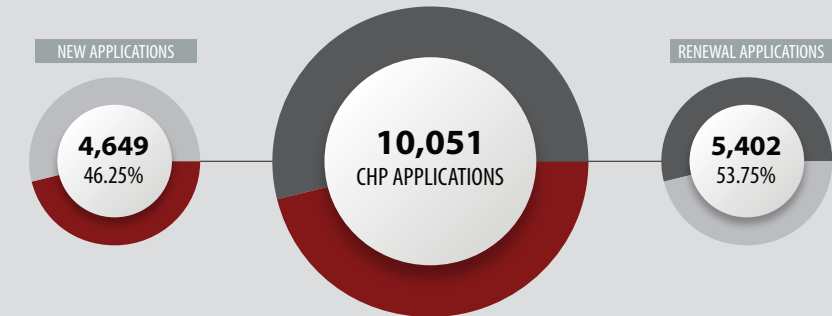
Phone Calls	12,466
Visitors	12,950
includes all front desk interactions	
Front Desk Visitor Breakdown	
Concealed Handgun Permits	5,244
Sex Offender Registrations	1,345
Records Release	797
Backgrounds	572
Miscellaneous Walk-ins	4,848





CONCEALED HANDGUN PERMITS UNIT (CHP)

The State of Colorado authorizes legal residents of the state who demonstrate competence with a handgun to carry concealed handguns in authorized areas of the state and in accordance with state law. The Concealed Handgun Permit Unit oversees the issuance and administration of the county permit program. El Paso County continues to be the largest CHP program in the state. As of December 31, 2022, the program was tracking 52,999 active permits issued by the Sheriff. In 2022, the CHP Team welcomed three new techs and had the help of 17 modified or temporarily assigned employees, keeping our senior members of the team busy balancing the requirements of training new people as well as maintaining the high standards expected from our program.



EXTRA DUTY PROGRAM

The Extra Duty program is administered by a third-party administrator, Extra Duty Solutions, and provides an avenue for off-duty uniformed personnel to provide additional law enforcement on the premises of a requester. In October, six new deputies within the Office attended training for the Extra Duty Program and can now start supporting the open jobs.

EXTRA DUTY STATISTICS

Extra Duty Hours	1,159
Extra Duty Customers	30

SUSPENSION/REVOCATION/DENIALS	129
APPEALS APPROVED	35
APPEALS DENIED	3





2022 EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

# STAFF SUPPORT

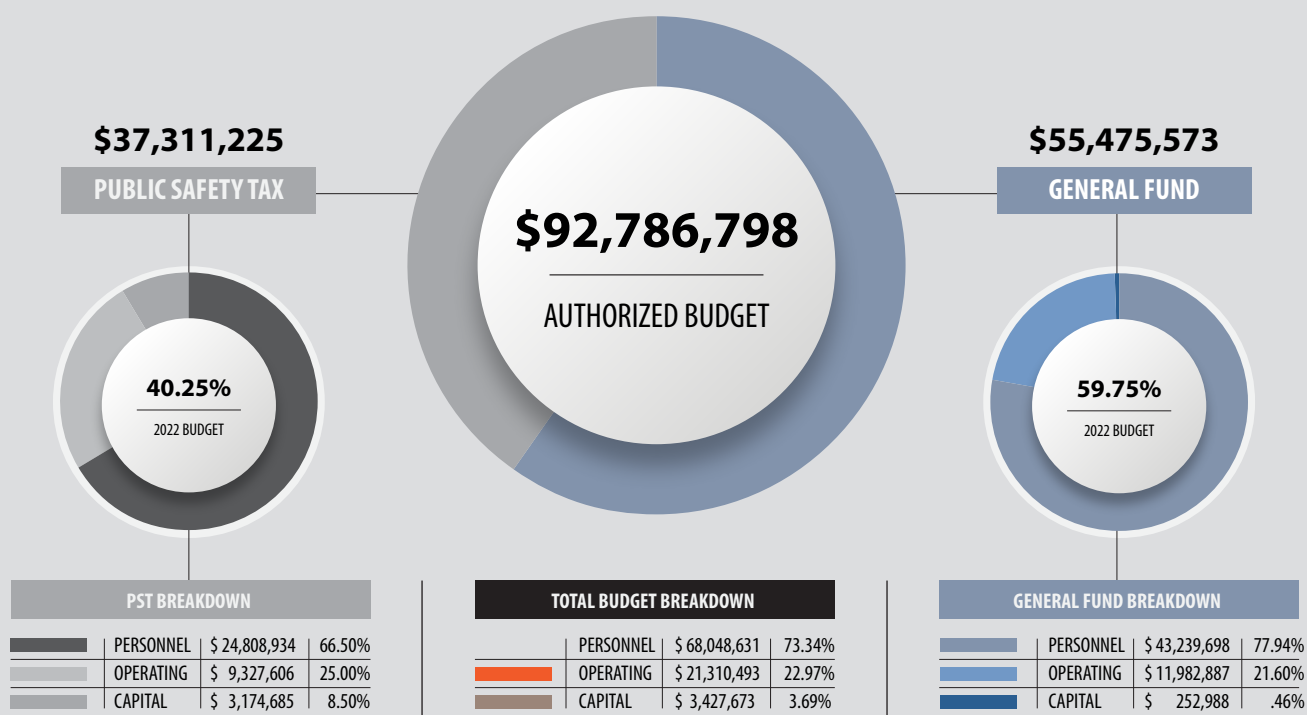




## FISCAL & COMPLIANCE SERVICES SECTION

### BUDGET & FINANCE UNIT

This unit manages the EPSO budget and performs all bookkeeping functions for the Office to include procurement, accounts payable, accounts receivable and prepares financial reports. Budget & Finance is comprised of four members; one supervisor, two Financial Services Specialists, and one Grant Coordinator. In addition to the annual EPSO budget, there are 26 active grants totaling \$11,542,441.00. These grants help the Office provide public safety services to our community. These grants support such functions as Victim Assistance, Drug Enforcement, Traffic Safety, Behavioral Health Services, Reintegration & Recovery and Training & Retention to name a few.



#### TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Inmate Medical	\$ 9,050,035	42.47 %
Inmate Food Services	\$ 2,443,351	11.46 %
IT Operating & Equipment	\$ 2,179,421	10.23 %
BWC & Radio Upgrades	\$ 1,711,700	8.03 %
Quartermaster Program	\$ 1,273,371	5.98 %
Other Detention Operation	\$ 1,266,495	5.94 %
Gun Replacement & Ammo	\$ 971,320	4.56 %
Administrative Operation	\$ 804,137	3.77 %
County Security	\$ 781,880	3.67 %
Fleet Operation	\$ 328,822	1.54 %
Law Enforcement Bureau	\$ 270,645	1.27 %
Training Operation	\$ 166,325	.78 %
Wildland Fire	\$ 62,990	.30 %

#### TOTAL CAPITAL ASSET BUDGET EXPENDITURES

New Vehicles & Upgrades	\$ 1,883,346	54.95 %
Range II	\$ 378,772	11.05 %
CJC Campus Upgrades	\$ 368,613	10.75 %
Evidence Facility & Parking Lot	\$ 322,272	9.40 %
Training Facility Upgrades	\$ 172,047	5.02 %
Falcon Substation	\$ 158,384	4.62 %
Security System Upgrades	\$ 82,662	2.41 %
Misc. Capital Equipment	\$ 61,577	1.80 %

### CONTRACTS

This unit has oversight of the 189 active EPSO contracts and 533 capital assets. This unit monitors contractual obligations, compiles statistical reports to ensure compliance and collaborates with personnel regarding awarded contracts, MOUs and IGAs.



## FLEET SERVICES UNIT

This unit provides overall maintenance and management of the Sheriff's Office fleet and Fleet Service operations. EPSO has a fleet of 398 vehicles. This includes patrol vehicles, vehicles used for inmate transports and extraditions, and specialty vehicles such as Mobile Command unit and tactical vehicles for SWAT, MVNI, and Investigations. In 2022, our Fleet performed 5,267 maintenance transactions. As part of the fleet replacement process, 36 new vehicles were received and readied for service in 2022.

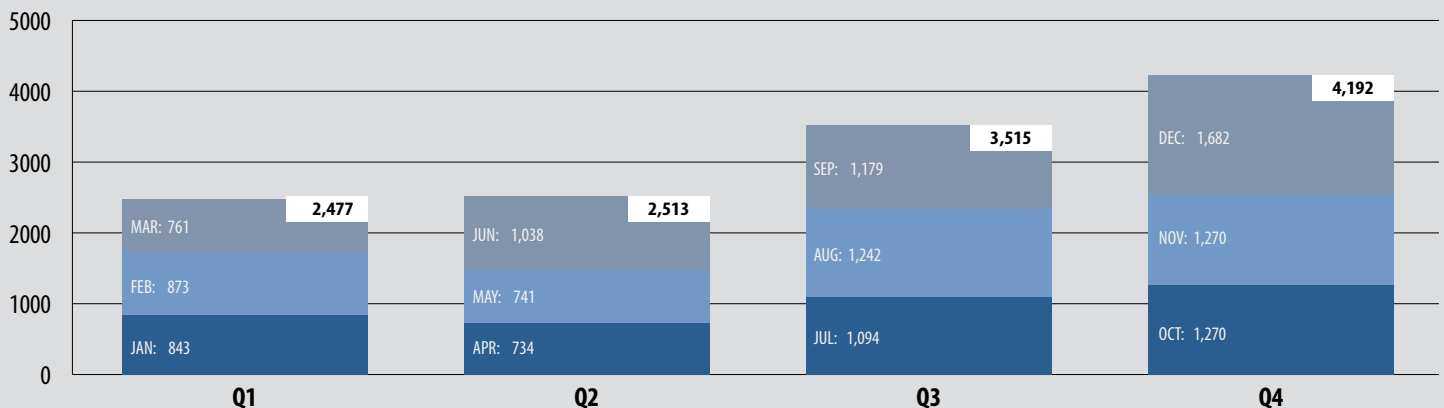


## TECHNOLOGY SERVICES SECTION

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Technology Services Section applies technical expertise to optimize technology for law enforcement business processes, support critical infrastructure, and protect sensitive information. During 2022, Technology Services closed 12,727 work orders and completed 49 projects. In June, the Section took on the extra duties of building badge access and the Personnel Mailbox. Communication is extremely important in public safety, which is why the monumental task of implementing 315 Motorola radios to the jail, 25 county security radios and 30 radios for the Investigations Division was a priority. Other important projects included hardware upgrades of the Mobile Command Center and refreshing Mobile Data Computers (MDCs) which are essential for effective law enforcement operations. In the jail, new computers and monitors were installed to continue safe and efficient jail operations. The team also rolled out 400 new cell phones for the office, and launched the state-required citizen contact application for all law enforcement contacts.

#### WORK ORDERS BY QUARTER







On August 7, 2022, Deputy Andrew Peery was ambushed and killed while responding to a shots-fired call in the 500 block of Ponderosa Drive. When responding units arrived on scene, they were immediately met with gunfire. Members of EPSO and the Fountain Police Department risked their lives to complete an officer rescue. Though their efforts were valiant, Deputy Peery succumbed to his wounds. Deputy Peery was a United States Army veteran, law enforcement officer, and EPSO SWAT team member. Deputy Peery was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. He is survived by his wife and two children.



On April 11, 2022, Deputy Ronnie Hancock and his EPSO K9 Jinx were involved in a standoff with a suspect in Manitou Springs where K9 Jinx was killed in the line of duty by gunfire. K9 Jinx was posthumously awarded the Medal of Valor from Manitou Springs Police Department, the National Police Canine Association, and The Police Animal Medal of Valor from the El Paso County Sheriff's Office.







# RETIREMENTS



**BUREAU CHIEF**  
Bradley Shannon



**DEPUTY**  
Clifford Burns



**PROPERTY CUSTODIAN**  
Brian Deneen



**SERGEANT**  
Rafael Gomez



**LIEUTENANT**  
Chuck Kull



**SERGEANT**  
Steven Brown



**SECURITY OFFICER**  
Robert Phillips



**SPECIALIST**  
Bonnie Epperson



**SERGEANT**  
Cliff Porter



**SPECIALIST**  
Susan Armstrong



**COORDINATOR**  
Elizabeth Moe



**LIEUTENANT**  
Cheryl Peck



**TECHNICIAN**  
Eric Salter



**MANAGER**  
Jacqueline Reed



**DIRECTOR**  
Garth Littrell



**ADVOCATE**  
Louise Becker



**ADVOCATE**  
David Rodriguez



**TECHNICIAN**  
Katherine LeMonte



**DEPUTY**  
Jeffrey Schulz



**SERGEANT**  
Emil Lucero



**BUREAU CHIEF**  
Clifton Northam





# PROMOTIONS



**LIEUTENANT**  
Derek Mower



**SERGEANT**  
Josie Haag



**SERGEANT**  
Christopher Donatell



**SERGEANT**  
Chad Dickson



**SERGEANT**  
Jason Simpson



**SERGEANT**  
Ryan Brooks



**SUPERVISOR**  
Andrew Medina



**SUPERVISOR**  
Bobbi Vigil





# AWARDS CEREMONY



## MEDAL OF VALOR

Sergeant Christopher Donatell  
Deputy Daniel Carey  
Deputy Henry Crist  
Deputy David Fisher  
Deputy Seth Fritsche  
Deputy Matthew Gaw  
Deputy Kyle Gibson  
Deputy Ryan Gonzales (2)  
Deputy Brandon Hall  
Deputy Ronnie Hancock  
Deputy Daniel LeBaron  
Deputy Travis Mundt  
Deputy Andrew Peery (2)  
Deputy Kyle Shelhamer  
Deputy Nick Witherite



## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

Sergeant Marcus Miller (2)  
Deputy Mark Carle  
Deputy Davis Fisher  
Deputy Seth Fritsche  
Deputy Matthew Gaw (2)  
Deputy Brandon Hall  
Deputy Ronnie Hancock  
Deputy Jim Meyer  
Deputy Travis Mundt  
Deputy Jonathan Pennington  
Deputy Carl Poindexter  
Deputy Kyle Shelhamer (2)  
Deputy Spencer Stringham



## LIFE SAVING MEDAL

Sergeant Mary Bryant  
Deputy Daniel Carey  
Deputy Ricardo Garcia (2)  
Deputy Bethany Gibson  
Deputy Cody Jaworski  
Deputy Russell Johnson  
Deputy Christopher Merwald  
Deputy Kayla Rodriguez  
Deputy Julian Schosser-Sample  
Deputy Conner Stachecki  
Deputy Gregory Stoneham  
Deputy Austin Wedemeyer  
Deputy Justin Yersak



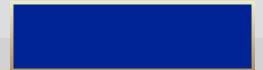
## ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Sergeant Owen McCormack  
Deputy Charles Border  
Deputy MacKenzie Boyne  
Deputy Daniel Carey  
Deputy Eduardo Dahlen  
Deputy Sean Donahoue  
Deputy Seth Fritsche  
Deputy Ryan Gonzales  
Deputy Brandon Hall  
Deputy Daniel Holder  
Deputy Billy Horn  
Deputy Michael King  
Deputy Brian Nulk  
Deputy Jonathan Pennington  
Deputy Adam Przymus  
Deputy Amanda Torres



## SHERIFF'S STAR

Deputy Joshua Ronk



## MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Lieutenant Paul Mynatt  
Sergeant Jeremy Juhl  
Deputy Matthew Klinedinst  
Deputy Scott Neilson

## CIVILIAN DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Andrew Anderson (FPD)  
Destin Alvarez (FPD)  
John Haley (FPD)  
Joseph Kersey (CSFD)  
Andrew Vrooman (CSFD)

## CIVILIAN MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Tammy Gugliotta

## CIVILIAN ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Katie Gassett  
Erin Kelleher

## TANYA M BELL AWARD

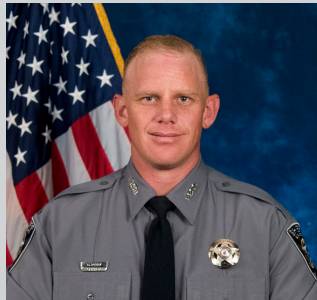
Kimber Mallett

## PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Kimberlee Niemczyk

## MEDAL OF HONOR

Deputy Andrew Peery



## POLICE ANIMAL MEDAL OF VALOR

K-9 Jinx



## 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

Jane Fromme  
Commander Andrew Prehm  
Detective Joey Harris  
Sergeant Greg White  
Lieutenant Jake Abendschan  
Detective Wesley Yowell  
Sergeant Jason Simpson  
Detective Jon Price  
Jennifer Harris  
Deputy Bryan Lipe  
Deputy Karen Lowther

## 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

Chief Jeff Kramer  
Commander Eric Carnell  
Amber Mai

## SWORN EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Deputy Bryan Lipe





# FROM THE SHERIFF

EPSO Family-

As we reflect on 2022, it is no secret our EPSO family has experienced great losses, hardships, and sadness. The pain and grief from the loss of Deputy Peery and K9 Jinx left a void in our hearts which will be felt forever. 2022 tested our resolve, a year which broke our hearts but, in the end, it made us stronger than ever.

Let us not forget 2022 was also a year filled with some beautiful moments we shared as a family: births, weddings, promotions, retirements, professional achievements, and so much more.

As we move into 2023, we must remain focused on our mission: keeping our community safe.

We have all been called to this profession, whether sworn or professional, because of a heartfelt, innate need to serve our community. I hear it from each of you, you care. You want our community to be a safe and positive place for our families and friends to live and work.

The Pikes Peak region is our home, and we want to protect and care for it.

As the newly elected Sheriff, I am committed to showing up, especially on the hard days, and working side by side, with each of you, to fulfill that mission.

EPSO family, thank you ALL for your dedication and for giving your best in 2022. For working incredibly hard on cases, community events, and everything in between. YOU are the reason for our successes.

It is my hope, as your Sheriff, for everyone in our agency, whether sworn, professional, or volunteer, we continue an upward trajectory throughout 2023 and beyond.

Undersheriff Kramer and I, along with the staff, are working diligently to address your concerns and create a professional yet fun environment for everyone.

I take the responsibility of being your Sheriff seriously, and I will continue to listen, act, and provide our office with results.

Thank you for all your hard work; I look forward to working TOGETHER for our community and our EPSO family!



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





