

#### To the Citizens of El Paso County,

I am excited to have completed my 6th year as your Sheriff. Once again it is my honor and privilege to present to you our Annual Report for 2020. It has, yet again, been an exciting year for the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, despite the devastating loss of Deputy Jeff Hopkins and the illness of many others in our agency from the effects of COVID-19. We live in one of the most philanthropic regions in the country, but 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.

We continue to grow and adapt as an organization. The main focus in 2020 was meeting the challenges of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact it had on staff and inmates at our jail, now the largest single detention facility in the State of Colorado with an inmate population that now averages just over 1,250 per day. We focused on critical projects that will keep staff and inmates safe, improve the safety and security of the jail facility, and improve the working environment of most of the agency.

We continued to operate safely and effectively throughout the year, even while we conducted one of the most complex and widely watched homicide investigations in the history of El Paso County, the murder of Gannon Stauch.

While this Report details much of the outstanding accomplishments of each Bureau and Division of the Office, I want to share what resonated the most with me from this last year, the sheer amount of volunteerism, donations, and humble acts of the employees of this Office. Whether it was continuing to participate in the annual Shop-With-A-Cop event, Special Olympics of Colorado and dozens of other fundraisers and special events throughout the year, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office members showed up in force. Despite working under unprecedented conditions, the commitment and engagement of so many is humbling.

The nearly 900 employees of this Office, despite the pandemic, despite the pressures of the job, despite the negativity projected on law enforcement across the nation, despite the challenges presented daily, show the utmost professionalism and investment into the safety of this community. They show up and do a job that few want to do and do it very 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 this past year.

Again, I could not be more proud or more humbled to serve as the Sheriff of what is now the largest Sheriff's Office in Colorado. It is undoubtedly one of the finest law enforcement agencies in the country.

Bill Elder

William N. less







SHERIFF Bill Elder



UNDERSHERIFF
Pete Carey



CHIEF OF STAFF
Janet Huffor



EXEC. ASSISTANT
Andrea Sloniker



STAFF PSYCHOLOGIST
Sharon Trivette



BUREAU CHIEF

Andy James

Law Enforcement Bureau



Joe Roybal

Administrative Bureau



BUREAU CHIEF
Clif Northam
Bureau of Professional
Responsibility



BUREAU CHIEF
Brad Shannon
Detention Bureau



COMMANDER

Mitch Mihalko
Investigations Division



John David
Patrol Division



Jeff Kramer
Professional Standards
Division



Cy Gillespie
Security Division



Andy Prehm
Operations Division



Garth Littrell
Support Division



## **EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE** ANNUAL REPORT

EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO



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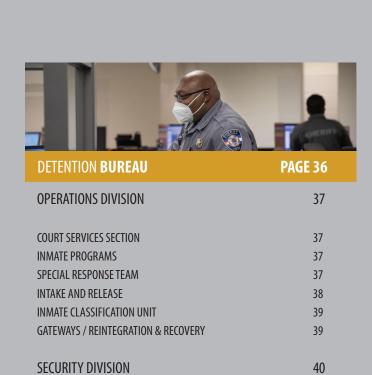
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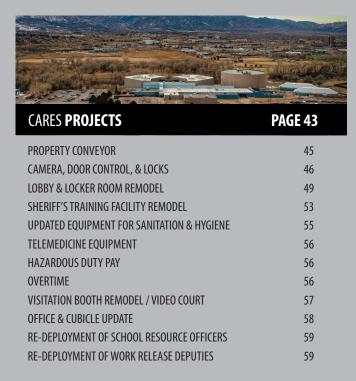
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FLOOR SECURITY









## **ADMINISTRATIVE**BUREAU

#### **Administrative Services Division**

Fiscal and Compliance Services Contract Compliance Fleet Services Budget and Finance Quartermaster

#### **County Security**

IT Services IT Support Radio Systems

Wildland Fire Emergency Services Search and Rescue

Training Section Volunteer Coordinator Training Background Investigations

#### **Support Operations Division**

Communications / 911

Records and Documents Section Records Unit Concealed Handgun Permits Unit



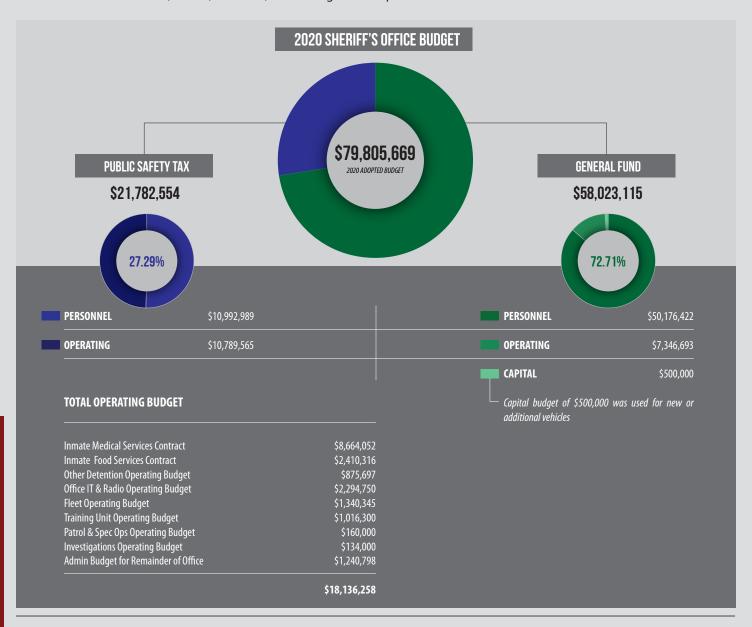
<sup>\*</sup>not all units have an Annual Report write-up





#### BUDGET & FINANCE UNIT

The Budget and Finance Unit manages the budget and performs all bookkeeping functions for the Office, to include procurement, accounts payable, accounts receivable and preparation of Financial Reports. Budget and Finance is comprised of six members; one supervisor, two Financial Services Specialists, one Grant Coordinator, and one Quartermaster. The Grant Coordinator handles 20 active grants and is responsible for \$3,438,275.00 in award money. The Quartermaster provides and issues uniforms and equipment for 539 sworn members and 55 professional staff members. The Contracts Unit has oversight of contracts and Capital Assets. This Unit monitors contractual obligations, compiles statistical reports to ensure compliance and collaborates with personnel regarding awarded contracts, Memorandums Of Understanding (MOU's) and Inter-Governmental Agreements (IGA's). Currently the Contracts Unit has 77 active contracts, MOU's, and IGA's, and manages 507 Capital Assets.



#### FLEET SERVICES UNIT

The Fleet Services Unit provides overall maintenance and management of the Sheriff's Office Fleet and Fleet Service operations. Fleet Service is comprised of five members, one Fleet Supervisor, and four Mechanics.

The Sheriff's Office has a fleet of 385 vehicles. This includes patrol vehicles, vehicles used for inmate transports and extraditions, and specialty vehicles such as Mobile Command Unit and tactical vehicles for Special Operations and Investigations.





#### COUNTY SECURITY

As with all sections of the Sheriff's Office, the County Security Section faced new challenges during 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. County Security is responsible for the safety and security of employees and citizens within and around all County buildings. Though many private and public employees were mandated to work from home, County Security staff maintained their normal operational schedule though building traffic volume decreased dramatically with partial or complete mandated shutdowns. Major buildings including the Judicial Complex, Citizen Service Center, and Centennial Hall maintained partial operations throughout the year. The COVID pandemic required security personnel to conduct normal security screening, as well as COVID health screenings. This caused a great deal of public frustration, as it further slowed County building access. Despite these challenges, security officers displayed a high level of professionalism during many difficult situations, handling each without incident.

During the summer months, national events sparked protests and demonstrations primarily directed against Law Enforcement. The Judicial Complex was one of the main targets of these protests resulting in approximately \$53,000.00 worth of damage to

the glass front of the facility in a single night of protesting. Additionally, the Judicial Complex, the District Attorney's Office, Centennial Hall, and the Sheriff's Office sustained graffiti and vandalism from protesters throughout the summer months. These same facilities were also used as the stage for many nonviolent protests against COVID shutdowns and restrictions by business owners, teachers, and the public. Increased security was required at the Board of County Commissioners building during Public Health meetings due to the large number of people in attendance. Again, the professionalism of the County Security team maintained peace and order throughout the hearings.

Despite COVID restrictions, supervisors of the County Security Section maintained their vigilance in conducting Emergency Critical Incident Response Training for County employees. Courses were conducted via WEBex resulting in 631 employees being trained in critical incident protocols. Since September of 2019, nearly two thousand county employees have received this training. This program has codified employee responses to critical incidents throughout the County resulting in a safer working environment for all County buildings.

#### **■ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)**

In 2020, the Information Technology (IT) Section was responsible for 47 Office projects, supporting daily operations, and providing support and solutions for the Sheriff's Office during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Notable items from the year include issuing an additional 150 laptop devices, managing 395 netmotion licenses for off-site work functionality, providing IT/hardware/software support for 10 of the 13 El Paso County Jail CARES Act projects and closing 7,467 work orders for the year.

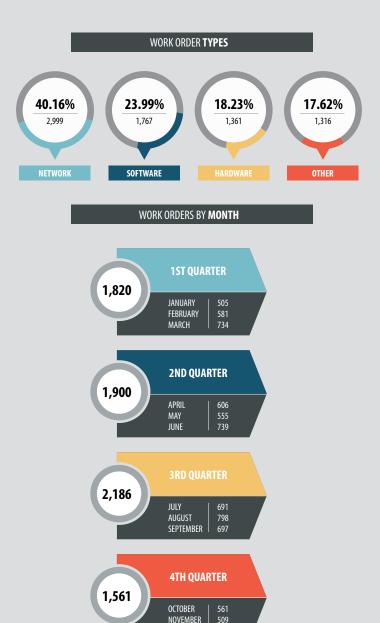
From the E-Citations mobile ticketing pilot, to the ACADIS Training, Weapons Inventory and Human Resources (HR) module, 2020 saw the largest number of projects ever completed by IT. The E-Citations pilot would allow for the EI Paso County Office's Traffic Unit to issue more tickets during the month of December than any other agency in Colorado. The ACADIS training software allowed the Office to continue training throughout 2020, even with the ongoing pandemic. Other projects in 2020 included rolling out mobile huddle units for the Gateways/ Reintegration & Recovery (R&R) Unit, replacing 56 inmate television devices at the jail and completing the 967 device Windows 10 Office rollout.

2020 would be the busiest year for IT work orders that the Office had ever experienced. Prior to the year of COVID-19, the largest number of work orders seen by the IT Section came in at 5,135. With an additional 150 devices added to the Network in order to maintain functionality, the Office would require 145 more VPN Netmotion licenses to ensure that every employee sent home from the Office was able to provide full support for the citizens and employees of El Paso County. As well, IT was responsible for providing and maintaining over 43 daily digital communication bridges and meeting invites to keep the Offices' Units, Departments and Bureau's in sync with day to day operations. In addition, with a three day turn around, IT was able to image, secure and roll-out enough devices to send over 50% of the Office's employees' home for work for the remainder of the year.

In a year that had already proven to be difficult, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office took on an additional 13 CARES projects at the Jail that were centered around social distancing and the reduction of the spread of the COVID-19 virus. From the new Inmate Visitation system, Door Lock Control/Camera system, to a new training facility, the Jail left the year 2020 completely prepared for a virus conscious, socially distant future. With the custom designed and in house installed Video Visitation system, El Paso County was able to aid in the continued court reviews with the Colorado Judicial court system across the state. Facilitating over 1,500 inmates with the WebEx application in 2020, the Office was able to maintain the daily process of court reviews and attorney visits, while facilitating social distancing responsibility. The Door Control project would allow the Jail facility to safely maintain distance between the inmates and the Jail staff. The new Sheriff's Training Facility, with digital camera availability and new phone bridge technology, would allow for a digital haven for the current and up and coming recruits going through law enforcement training. With a 99.23% work order close percentage, the IT Section not only pushed forward with Office project support, but also displayed a focus

on customer service and resolution. Because the world of technology is a constantly moving target, our eyes are on 2021. Building on the E-Citations project and looking for better ways of supporting the Jail, 2021 will promote expansion on the 2020 projects that will see growth for multiple programs. E-citations will be propagated to the entirety of the Patrol Division, while the seeds from the Beacon JMS software will see brand new apps that will allow for a bridge between the Office's RMS and JMS platforms.

While 2020 was a tremendously trying year, the El Paso County's IT Section used technology and communication to bridge the gaps between multiple Colorado agencies, while propelling the Office into a more efficient and socially responsible era.



DECEMBER

#### **WILDLAND FIRE (WLF)**

In 2020, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office Wildland Fire (WLF) Crew responded to 371 alarms which resulted in 41 wildland fire responses. The Crew responded to and was involved in Colorado's high-profile fires in 2020, including the Incline Fire, Wild Horse Fire, Bear Creek Fire, Fawn Creek Fire, East Canyon Fire, Sand Creek Fire, Picture Canyon Fire, Pine Gulch Fire, Cameron Peak Fire, East Troublesome Fire, and Mullen Fire. WLF also had single resource volunteer staff members respond out of state to support the August Complex and the North Complex Fires in California, as well as the Sawtooth Fire and the Big Horn Fire in Arizona.

Even with the COVID-19 challenges, the Crew expended over 3,000 hours training and 2,000 volunteer hours on fires. Training was mainly held virtually with just a limited number of "in person" trainings. The Crew found a way to continue trainings when most agencies had halted trainings due to pandemic concerns. All field training conducted adhered to strict Center for Disease Control and Public Health guidelines. Crews also logged over 2,000 hours in wildland mitigation within county and city parks, as well as fire breaks around Donner Pass.

In 2020 the Wildland Fire Crew promoted nine firefighters to the next higher certification level through quality training and deployments which provided the on-the-job experience to obtain the next level. All personell are trained to National Wildfire Coordination Group (NWCG) standards. This expertise is critical when responding and assisting our partnering agencies within El Paso County. The Crew members also provided support to the 2020 Colorado Wildfire and Incident Management Academy resulting in six new volunteer firefighters bringing the aggregate volunteer staffing level to just over 30 personnel.

Additional support provided by the Unit in 2020 was the formation of the Pikes Peak Regional Fire Investigations Group, Pikes Peak Marathon, and the continuation of the Incident Management Team (IMT3). The WLF Crew also assisted Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) in an emergency stand-by capacity as well as assisting where needed during the civil unrest that occurred in Colorado Springs.

Finally, the WLF Crew continued to build relationships within the County, working with Fire Districts and City Departments in all areas of fire and fire mitigation. Now in its 27th year, Wildland Fire has proven to be successful and an emergency asset to anyone needing fire assistance within the South-Central region and beyond.



#### **SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR)**

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue (SAR) conducted over 1,655 search and rescue missions last year in Colorado - an increase of over 400 incidents from 2019. This Unit consists of approximately 60 volunteer members, and though COVID-19 delayed training, the Unit completed a Search and Rescue Training Academy in December 2020, adding more highly trained volunteers to its ranks.

All SAR members train and work towards a single goal, "Saving Lives." Through mutual aid, SAR provided needed support to surrounding counties. SAR also provided hundreds of hours supporting the Gannon Stauch search in El Paso County and Suzanne Morphew search in Chaffee County.



#### **■** MOBILE COMMAND UNIT (MOCOM)

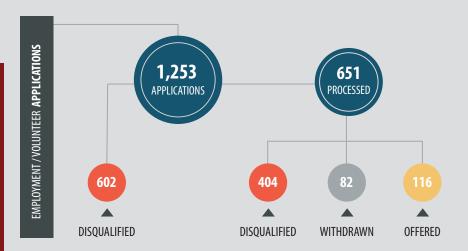
In 2020, the MOCOM Unit responded to 17 alarms. Due to COVID-19, sporting events and many South-Central functions were canceled resulting in MOCOM use far below the usual service numbers. The MOCOM Unit responded to high profile calls such as the Gannon Stauch and the Incline Fire as well as Tactical Unit needs as requested.

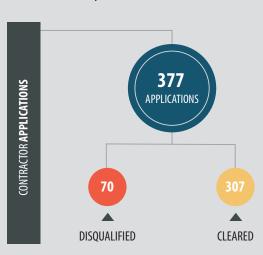
In 2020, 24 new personnel were added to the MOCOM volunteer team, with 12 team members trained and qualified to operate the MOCOM. Currently, 12 operators are on a rotating on-call roster ready to respond whenever the Unit is called out for service. As of April of 2020, three drivers are qualified to drive the MOCOM with additional licensing planned for 2021.



#### **BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS UNIT**

In 2020, the Background Investigation Unit received 1,253 applicant packets (Sworn, Professional Staff, Volunteers, and Interns) for review. Of the 1,253 applicant packets, 602 were disqualified during the initial review. 651 packets were processed by the Background Investigation Unit resulting in an additional 404 applicants being disqualified and 82 withdrawing from the process. 116 applicants were offered positions within the Office in 2020 and another 49 packets were started and will be completed during the 1st Quarter of 2021. In additional to the above backgrounds, the Background Unit received and processed backgrounds for contractor positions, which included Trinity, Wellpath and the Jail project upgrades. In total, 377 backgrounds were received and processed and 70 were disqualified. This resulted in 307 being cleared for access to the El Paso County Jail.



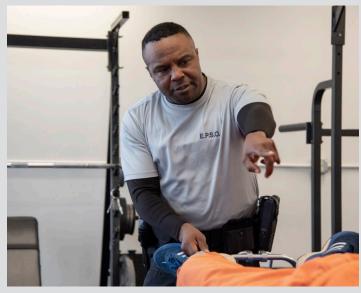


#### TRAINING SECTION

2020 brought many changes and challenges for the Training Section. In March of this year, Academy Class 2020-2 was ordered to stay at home until further noticedue to the COVID-19 pandemic. Within one week of them being sent home, the Training Section developed and implemented an on-line curriculum so Recruits could continue their training in a virtual setting and graduate in a timely manner. As weeks turned to months, it became clear the state mandated safety protocols would not ease, however Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) requirements for annual in-service remained. To accomplish this task, Training Staff developed an on-line curriculum providing over 15,000 hours of training. Most impressive was all sworn members completed the necessary training by October instead of December which set a new standard for completion of these requirements.

Firearms used in a law enforcement capacity have an expected usable "lifespan" of 8 years. The Glock 22 reached the end of its "life" in 2020. Rangemasters Mark Stevens and Tim Hightshoe researched and recognized the .40 caliber round was antiquated and recommended moving towards the use of 9mm ammunition. Additionally, our Office transitioned to the Glock 45 MOS with a Trijicon Ruggedized Miniature Reflective (RMR) sighting system. This new weapon system provides deputies with a tool which

can be effectively used under stress through positive target identification and increased accuracy. Approximately 250 sworn members attended the training necessary to carry this new weapon and the remaining members of our Office will do so in the first half of 2021.







#### **COMMUNICATIONS / 911 DISPATCH**

The Sheriff's Office Communications Center answers emergent and non-emergent telephone calls for all of 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 8 law enforcement agencies and 21 fire departments. In 2020, the Communications Center processed over 301,000 telephone calls. Of that number, over 75,000 were 911 calls with an average answer time of 6.08 seconds. In addition, the Communications Center processed over 271,000 calls for service (law, fire and medical). When compared to previous years, there is a slight decrease in numbers which is attributed to the COVID-19 lock down early in the year.

The Tactical Dispatch Unit (TDU) continues to support all dispatched agencies. Many of the annual, prescheduled deployments were cancelled this year, but TDU stayed busy supporting operations conducted by local agencies. In 2020, TDU was deployed on 29 operations for a total of 199.5 hours.

The 911 Education Team and other members of the Sheriff's Office were fortunate enough to be able to volunteer at Boo at the Zoo again this year. Maintaining safe physical distancing and COVID-19 protocols, over 13,000 individuals were able to experience this successful event.

In January, the Communications Center successfully deployed an updated version of CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch). The new CAD system allows for the ability to electronically send calls for service to other Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) in El Paso and Teller Counties, alleviating the need for additional phone calls to be made. While working from home, the Communications Center Training Coordinators were able to design and launch a new training

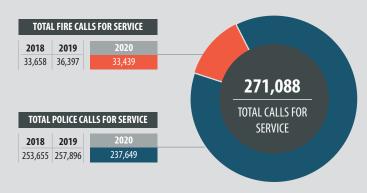
DISPATCH <b>STATISTICS</b>	
Tactical Dispatch Hours	199.5
911 Education Hours	226
Law Enforcement Agencies	8
Fire Departments	21



software for training evaluations and reports. The software has since been expanded to house continuing education modules for all members of the Communications Center. In addition, a new telephone answering software was deployed and a minor remodel of the supervisor's office was completed early in the year. What amazing accomplishments!

During the trying times of 2020, several Communications Center employees quietly celebrated anniversaries and milestones throughout the year. The presentations were smaller with no guests invited, but the great work and dedication of our employees is truly appreciated. Throughout the uncertainty surrounding the lock down and COVID-19, all Communications Center employees continued to be selfless and steadfast, diligently serving the first responders and citizens of El Paso County.





#### CONCEALED HANDGUN PERMITS (CHP)

The Concealed Handgun Permits Unit had a record year with permit application numbers not seen since 2015. The CHP office processed 5,824 new permits in 2020 and 4,525 Renewal applications, all while being closed to the public for 2 months. During the initial shutdown in spring 2020, the CHP members stayed busy completing backgrounds for new applicants that had applied prior to the shut down, and processing and completing applications and backgrounds for incoming Renewal permits. The Office was closed to the public, but the team was plenty In August, CHP upgraded their fingerprint machines replacing the machines that have been in place for over 8 years. In November, CHP was notified they would be moving offices by the end of year. Through all the ups and downs, the CHP office pushed through and maintained an amazing attitude. Since reopening in May of 2020, and scheduling over 200 appointments per week, the CHP Unit met all the expectations put before them, met all statutory expectations and only had a single positive COVID case come from all their interactions.

Extra Duty started the year off strong as the Office transitioned to the 3rd party administrator, Xtra Duty Solutions, to manage the day to day activities and scheduling for the Extra Duty program. On March 1, 2020 the Office went live, with Xtra Duty Solutions allowing deputies to view and sign-up for jobs via the app and the website. This allowed deputies who were on days off or working in a ward to have more timely access to newly posted jobs. Additionally, Xtra Duty Solutions provides the customer invoicing and the hours worked for deputy payroll, freeing up a significant amount of time for the CHP Supervisor, who doubled as the Extra Duty Coordinator. Since the County has slowly reopened and churches and schools have started hosting activities, the Extra Duty Program has started to regain momentum within the office.

The CHP Unit faced enormous challenges throughout the year, as did most sections of the Office. But the members of the unit kept their focus forward and never stopped completing the tasks before them with a positive attitude. The ability to think outside the normal activities and meet the expectations of the Office, whether at their desk or at home, have been paramount for the entire Unit.

CHP <b>STATISTICS</b>	
New Permits Processed	5,824
Renewal Applications Processed	4,525
Months Closed	2
Annointments Per Week (after shutdown)	200



#### RECORDS UNIT

2020 was a year of challenges for all areas of the Office; and the Records Unit was not spared. Despite the front lobby of the Office of the Sheriff (OTS) being closed to the public from March 17 until May 11, 2020 the Customer Service Representatives still answered 11,800 phone calls, assisted 7,087 Concealed Handgun Permits (CHP) applicants, 1,268 Sex Offender Registration (SOR) registrants and 5,591 walk-in customers. The Records Unit also stayed busy during the COVID shutdown and ongoing staffing changes that they encountered. Along with the statistics provided, Records was involved with the ongoing E-Citations project, supporting multiple high-profile investigations, and a significant system outage for statistical reporting that lasted 8 weeks. However, Records did not miss a single filing deadline for any case. Unfortunately, because of the restrictions put in place due to COVID-19, Records did not have the opportunity to provide their Office-wide morale boosters but did step up and sponsor a family at Christmas, donating gifts to help bring joy to their holiday.

Filings	5,190
Case Report Requests	4,304
Body Worn Camera Requests	1,460
Sealings & Expungements	1,926
Cases Merged	16,644
Supplements Merged	14,562
Express Consent Forms to Dept. of Revenue	378
Criminal Citations Received	1,457
Traffic Citations Received - County	4,643
Traffic Citations Received - State	4,577
Background Checks	2,117

RECORDS **STATISTICS** 

### LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

#### **Patrol Division**

Patrol Section Patrol BHCON Unit K9 Unit Reserve Deputies

Special Operations Section Tactical Support Unit Explosive Ordnance Disposal Crisis Negotiations Unit Special Weapons and Tactics Traffic Enforcement Unit

Support Services Section Citizens' Patrol Chaplain Corps School Resource Officers Rural Enforcement & Outreach Unit Civil Unit

#### **Investigations Division**

Technical Investigations
Financial Crimes
Digital Forensics Unit
Criminal Intelligence Unit
Crime Analyst Unit
Crime Prevention Coordinator

Violent Crimes Major Crimes Metro Crime Lab Cold Case Unit Special Victims Unit Sex Offender Office Victims Assistance

Metro Vice, Narcotics, & Intelligence



<sup>\*</sup>not all units have an Annual Report write-up





#### **PATROL**

Like most, the law enforcement industry experienced an unprecedented year in 2020 due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Beginning in March, a delicate balance began and continued throughout the year in an effort to protect the workforce from potential, unnecessary internal and external exposure to the virus, while simultaneously striving to deliver exceptional public safety services to the members of our community. Although many of the efforts were simple to implement and could be viewed as "low hanging fruit", anytime long-standing processes are changed, many of which have been in place for decades, it takes some getting used to. In some ways, the Patrol Division uncovered new ways of doing business which perhaps are better or more efficient than "the rut" which had been dug in over periods of years. All three shifts which comprise the 24-hour coverage of the patrol function, moved away from in-person briefings. This reduced the footprint of personnel in the Office of the Sheriff campus and reduced exposure between employees. Most shifts experimented with forms of virtual briefings to share information, and equally important, as a way for supervisors to visually check on their personnel at the beginning of shift. The virtual format demonstrated efficiency in patrol coverage as deputies were already in their assigned Patrol District at the time briefing began, thus eliminating the normal drive time after a traditional briefing from the downtown area to the assigned area; for some patrol areas this represents a time savings of close to 30 minutes.

The Patrol Division took tangible steps in operational changes which reduced exposure between deputies and citizens to help combat the COVID-19. First, the Division increased the number of call types which were handled by phone. Calls which were not in progress and would not yield any evidence on scene were handled over the phone much of the time. Next, when a response was required, many calls were screened ahead of time either by the Communications Center or the responding deputy to gauge the level of potential risk of COVID; this helped with on scene preparations with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) or additional resources. Finally, procedures were adopted to reduce the number of hand-to-hand exchanges of documents between deputies and citizens. Although traffic contacts were reduced for a period, there were certainly many instances when deputies were expected to take enforcement action. If a ticket was issued, the deputy would mark the ticket as not signed due to COVID and provide the motorist their copy, thus reducing the passing of a clipboard, pen, and ticket back and forth through the window.

Collaboration with many criminal justice partners was widespread during the pandemic as everyone sought to offer ways to limit exposure in their respective areas of operation without adversely affecting others. With growing concerns about jail environments, coupled with closed courtrooms, a remedy was needed concerning the traditionally high volume of warrant arrests for Failure to Appear (FTA) or Failure to



Comply (FTC). A viable solution was found, and patrol deputies and police officers alike were issuing Personal Recognizance (PR) bonds to defendants who had warrants of those types "on the street" during their contacts and giving them a new court date. This prevented a custodial arrest which greatly reduced the exposure between the deputy and the defendant while also preventing a booking into the Jail and in return not increasing the Average Daily Population. As the second wave of the virus hit the community aggressively in the latter part of the year, the same impact was true into the workforce. The Patrol Division, like all areas of the Office, showed great flexibility and resiliency

as supervisors found creative ways to manage scheduling shortages so service delivery to the community could be maintained. Of great importance during that time as well, was the health and welfare of affected employees and remaining hopeful the personal impact they were feeling would be minimal and the road to recovery short. Despite the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic imposed in 2020, the Patrol Division remained steadfast in its mission. Deputies, their supervisors, staff officers, and professional staff have much to be proud of as the mission was not only carried out, but was done so with distinction and professionalism.

PATROL <b>STATISTICS</b> call priority 1-4 only, some calls re-classified after resp		calls re-classified after response	
911 Hangups	4,504	Menacing	195
Abandoned Vehicles	1,543	Message Delivery	61
Accidental Injury	6	Missing Child	83
Aircraft Emergency	8	Missing Child Return	26
Alarms (business, hold up, panic, residential)	3,266	Missing Person	125
Animal Complaint	1,109	Missing Person Return	57
Animal Check the Welfare	424	Motorist Assist	1,255
Animal Injury / Abuse	111	Motor Vehicle Theft	560
Agency Assist	1,801	Motor Vehicle Theft Recovery	268
Attempt to Locate	714	Noise Complaint	745
Barricaded Subject	4	Officer Needs Immediate Assist	1
Bomb Threat	1	Open Door / Window	210
Burglary - Business	130	Parking Complaint	513
Burglary - Residential	556	Parks Violation	13
Check the Welfare	3,999	Patrol Check	3,420
Child Abuse / Neglect	272	Property for Destruction	32
Citizen Complaint	6,533	Property for Safe Keeping	5
Citizen Traffic Complaint	2,716	Prowler	45
Civil	1,226	Public Indecency	11
Criminal Mischief	478	Pursuit	1
Criminal Tampering	31	Reckless Endangerment	268
Criminal Trespass - Auto	590	Recovered Stolen Property	94
Criminal Trespass	990	Restraining Order Violation	331
Disturbance	2,641	Robbery	23
Domestic Violence	2,208	Runaway	266
Drug Activity	212	Runaway Return	197
Drunk Person	107	SAFE2TELL	163
Eviction	45	Search & Rescue Operation	21
Explosion	23	Sexual Assault	320
Explosive Ordnance Disposal	3	Shooter - Active	1
Fight	47	Shooting	39
Fire Ban	62	Shots Fired	452
Fireworks	272	Stabbing	8
Forgery	2	Stuck Accelerator	7
Found Child / Person	93	Suicidal Check the Welfare	1,389
Found Property	211	Suicide	10
Fraud	1,094	Suicide Attempt	190
Harassment	1,518	Suspicious Incident	4,499
Hazard / Rock Slide	1,434	Theft	1,277
Hazmat	6	Tornado	2
Health Order Violation	38	TPO	272
Illegal Shooter	161	Traffic Accident	2,894
Indecent Exposure	20	Traffic Control	149
Juvenile Complaint	106	Traffic Stop	16,549
Keep the Peace	197	Train / Rail Incident	2
Kidnapping	197	Unattended Death	44
Litter Complaint	136	Utility Issue	37
Loitering	80	VIN Verification	79
		Warrant Service	50
Lost Property	111	vvairatit Service	50

#### ■ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONNECT UNIT (BHCON)

The BHCON Unit started with one partnered Critical Incident Training (CIT) trained deputy with a UCHealth Licensed Clinician and a Program Manager in July 2018. In the first quarter of 2020, the BHCON team doubled in size by adding a second BHCON Unit on the road, a case manager, and a dedicated sergeant.

With the addition of the second unit, the team responded to 986 mental health related 911 calls for service, a 57% increase from the previous year. BHCON response accounts for 33% of the total mental health related calls for service EPSO receives. BHCON's arrest rate remained consistent at 1% of individuals being contacted being taken into custody. 12% of the calls BHCON responded to ended in a mental health hold. When individuals require a mental health hold, BHCON may take some individuals directly to a psychiatric hospital, bypassing the emergency department. Only 15% of calls ended with an admission to an emergency department as BHCON uses the least restrictive intervention appropriate for the level of risk posed. 55% of the time individuals were treated in-place, or taken to the Walk in Center for voluntary crisis intervention.

Units being on scene and taking primary on mental health related calls have resulted in 577 cover cars being released back into service to respond to other in progress calls or calls from citizens needing assistance. The addition of the case manager supporting the units has increased follow up to 1,178 attempts and allowed for the team to respond to 206 referrals made from patrol deputies. The need for more BHCON Units is unquestionable given the benefits seen and the increasing mental health related calls for service.







#### SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (SRO)

The School Resource Officer (SRO) Unit is a specialized Community Outreach Unit who provide numerous services to 60 schools within unincorporated El Paso County. The combined student population of those schools is approximately 30,000. The SRO Unit is assigned 11 deputies and one sergeant. Schools have contracted with the Sheriff's Office for ten SRO deputies for law enforcement coverage at 16 high schools and middle schools, including two Monument Academy charter schools. One deputy is not assigned to a specific school and assists schools where needed within the County.

The SRO Unit serves many important roles. First and foremost, the Unit provides a safe school environment and acts as a valuable resource to school staff members, parents, and students. The Unit fosters positive relationships with youth, and helps to develop and implement strategies to resolve problems affecting youth. SRO's also act as informal counselors/mentors/mental health evaluators, and educators. Most SRO's are also involved in activities outside the scope of their normal duties such as assisting with the annual Teen Academy, reading to students as part of the Books and Badges program, and as facilitators for the Youth Advisory Council.

The Columbine Active Shooter tragedy was the basis for the establishment of SRO programs in Colorado but since that time, the job of SRO's has become more complex. SRO's now play a big

role in educating students in a variety of topics which helps build trust and rapport with students. SRO's also assist in combating illegal activities both on and off campus, such as student drug use, sexting, and bullying. SRO's often choose alternatives other than arrest, such as Restorative Justice or diversion programs to correct versus punish first offenders. As a testament to the SRO program's success, a recent teen think tank was conducted by the Pikes Peak Suicide Prevention Partnership where the teens surveyed identified SRO's as the "Most Trusted Adults" they felt they could turn to at their schools.

SRO <b>STATISTICS</b>	
Calls for Service	2,594
Cases Taken	406
Cases Cleared	334
Felony / Misdemeanor Arrests	146
Mediations	278
Traffic Citations	167
Traffic Warnings	277
School Zone Traffic Stops	231
Threat & Risk Assessments	58

#### RESERVE UNIT

In 2020, the Reserve Unit contributed over \$140,000 dollars of volunteer deputy man hours to the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. Due to COVID-19, details the Unit normally supports such as the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo, El Paso County Fair, United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) Football and the USAFA Graduation were cancelled. However, the Unit was able to provide manning for the National Hockey League (NHL) Stadium Series hockey game. The Unit also provided 1,037 hours to callouts and miscellaneous details, two of which were the search for a missing child and the civil unrest that occurred in downtown Colorado Springs. The Reserve Unit ended the year with 34 deputies and are steadily achieving their long-term goal of 50 deputies as additional academies are planned.

To maintain reserve deputy status, a significant annual commitment to training and a contribution of a minimum of 192 working hours is required. In 2020, deputies far exceeded those minimums with each deputy averaging 69 annual training hours and 235 annual contribution hours. Those hours are a testament to the Unit's dedication to bringing full time quality service to a part-time, volunteer position. Further emphasizing a commitment to their training; 1 out of every 5 deputies is a certified skills instructor in arrest control, driving, or firearms and collectively contributed over 90 hours to teaching those skills prior to class cancellations due to the COVID pandemic.

Additionally, the diverse professional backgrounds of the reserve deputies include accounting, information technology, military, business owners, medical and a whole range of other occupations. Their individual occupations serve to complement their law enforcement service which includes over 3,000 volunteer hours in the Investigations, Civil, Mounted Unit, Detentions, Special Operations, and Patrol Sections.

RESERVE UNIT <b>STATISTICS</b>	
Call-Outs	1,037 hours
Detentions	102 hours
District Patrol	1,265 hours
Skills Instruction	90 hours
Traffic	55 hours
Training	3,140 hours
USAFA	192 hours
Civil	19 hours
Investigations	421 hours
Total Reserve Unit Hours	6,321 hours

#### **TURAL ENFORCEMENT AND OUTREACH UNIT (REO)**

The Rural Enforcement and Outreach Unit is assigned five deputies and one sergeant. The responsibilities of the Unit include law enforcement services and community outreach in Eastern El Paso County. As the primary responders for rural El Paso County, the REO Unit manages a variety of problems including routine investigations of criminal activity, high profile criminal cases, and the investigation of cases unique to a rural community. These investigations include animal cruelty cases typically involving undernourished horses. Additionally, the Unit is the lead investigation authority for illegal marijuana cultivation and distribution grows. Another important function this Unit performs is providing homeless outreach and enforcement.

With their unique experience and training, REO is often requested to assist other Units and outside agencies with complex investigations or events. One significant investigation in 2020 was the search for Gannon Stauch. The REO Unit is trained in the use of horses, as well as off-road vehicles to search areas difficult or impossible to navigate by standard patrol vehicles. During the Gannon investigation, the REO was able to cover large tracts of rural land.

During another investigation in 2020, Deputy Brettell, a longtime member of REO used his assigned drone to successfully locate a child who had been missing for over 24 hours in a field near Hanover in the South Eastern portion of the County. Since the Unit's conception, REO has been a hard-working Unit that clearly has made an impact in the lives of the citizens living in Eastern El Paso County Colorado.



REO <b>STATISTICS</b>	
Calls for Service	3,285
Community Outreach Hours	254
Direct Calls from Citizens	625
Animal Related Calls	355
Marijuana Related Calls	511
Case Reports	289
Cases Cleared	221



#### **CIVIL UNIT**

The Civil Unit is a statutorily required service unit specific to Sheriff's Offices throughout Colorado. The Unit is assigned six deputies, three Civil technicians, and one sergeant. The primary mission of the Unit is executing all valid orders of the Courts within El Paso County. This includes orders issued for service within other jurisdictions and the cities of Colorado Springs, Fountain, Monument, Palmer Lake, and Calhan. The El Paso County Civil Unit is the only law enforcement entity within El Paso County that performs civil services ordered by the Courts. Their duties include the service of restraining orders, protection orders, serves and executes eviction orders, child custody orders, possession orders that need lawful assistance, and court ordered liquidation of assets (Sheriff's sales). Like many other businesses, the pandemic had a significant impact on the Civil Unit's ability to conduct many of its assigned missions. The primary restrictions were mandated through Judicial, State and Federal moratoriums and time extensions to the Eviction Process. Reduced Court availability, restricted personal service of court orders, as well as providing Return of Service to Plaintiffs, proved challenging with COVID precautions in place.

The Civil Unit routinely receives extraordinary orders of service such as the Removal of Unauthorized Person Orders, where several people are squatting at the same address, commonly referred to as a "squatter eviction". In 2020, the Civil

Unit executed more Removal of Unauthorized Person Orders than any other county in the state. The Unit also deals with evictions that have unusual or unexpected property left by the previous occupants. For example, during two separate evictions, 22 cats and 34 dogs were abandoned and ultimately turned over to the Humane Society. Another unusual service order that occurred in 2020 involved a child custody order that had dangerous implications. A father had been searching for his two children that had been taken by his ex-wife in violation of the standing custody order. He had been searching for the children for over five years. A Child Custody Order was received by the Unit for the latest address for the mother and children. Deputies made entry into the residence where the mother and children were found hiding. The children were returned to the rightful custody of their father. Cases such as these truly matter in the life of the custodial parent, the children, and the Civil deputies who help reunite them.

CIVIL UNIT <b>STATISTICS</b>	
Protection Orders	1,229
Writs of Restitution	1,042
Miscellaneous Papers	3,119

#### TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT UNIT (TEU)

In 2020, the Traffic Enforcement Unit (TEU) consisted of one supervisor and three deputies. Due to increased mission requirements and additional funding, the Unit added two full time deputies and one reserve deputy to its ranks bringing the end of year total to one supervisor, five full-time deputies and a reserve deputy. With increased staffing, the Unit achieved results far greater than traffic units in other jurisdictions, that have twice the number of officers. To help support the additional hours worked by the Unit, more than a quarter million dollars in grants was applied for and awarded to remediate impaired driving and increase traffic safety. A big part of the Traffic Unit's responsibility is providing training to Sheriff's Office and outside agency personnel. The TEU provided traffic and DUI specific "in car" field training for both deputies and members of the District Attorney's Office.

Other training conducted by the TEU consisted of two full 3-day Standardized Field Sobriety Test certifications, 18 2-hour continuing certification classes, 10 Tactical Vehicle Intervention and Pursuit Policy classes, 3 Radar / Lidar certification classes, and 80 man-hours towards Firearms and Arrest Control. The TEU provided support for operations involving missions conducted by Metro Vice, Narcotics, and Intelligence (MVNI), the Rural Enforcement Unit, Community Relations Unit, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), Colorado Springs Police Department, Fountain Police

Department, and the Colorado State Patrol. The TEU was also used to provide support where needed during protests in downtown Colorado Springs. Equally important was the Unit's personnel replacing entire patrol shifts to allow patrol deputies relief during the initial days of the COVID-19 pandemic. TEU regional involvement included participation in the Pikes Peak Regional DUI Task Force, Drive Smart Colorado, and several joint operations committees with law enforcement from across the region and state. At the closing of 2020, the TEU completed 180 man-hours piloting the new E-Citation system. The goal is full Office-wide implementation of the system by the end of first quarter of 2021.

TRAFFIC UNIT <b>STATISTICS</b>	
Traffic Stops	5,281
Citations Issued	2,220
Calls For Service	2,388
Case Reports	479
Arrests	382
Impaired Driver Citations	259
Community Events	17
Escorts	9

#### K9 UNIT

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office has four teams assigned to the K9 Unit. The teams include Deputy Witherite and K9 Taz, Deputy Hancock and K9 Jinx, Deputy Casner and K9 Jack, and Deputy Stoneham and K9 Knox. The four teams maintain a 24/7 on call schedule to maintain coverage for both the Detention Bureau and Law Enforcement Bureau, as well as assisting other agencies in the Pikes Peak region. The four teams assigned to the K9 Unit receive certifications from the National Police Canine Association (NPCA) on an annual basis in Narcotics Detection and Police Patrol Dog and each performed well during certifications in 2020. The El Paso County Sheriff's Office K9 Unit

make the canines a force multiplier and an invaluable tool to the Sheriff's Office.

Throughout the year, the K9 Unit retrained K9 Knox to locate currency and marijuana and purchased K9 Jinx as a dual-purpose canine. K9 Knox has been assigned to Deputy Stoneham and the two work their day to day operations with the Rural Enforcement and Outreach Unit. K9 Jinx is assigned to Deputy Hancock and work their primary duty on midnight shift with the Patrol Division. Deputy Casner and K9 Jack have settled into their position in the El Paso County Jail. The two average 50











is tasked with training and deploying canines for several law enforcement applications. These applications include but are not limited to tracking, narcotics detection, evidence location, building searches, and criminal apprehension. The K9 Unit also deploys with members of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office Tactical Support Unit and Special Response Team during tactical operations. Members of the K9 Unit are primarily assigned to the El Paso County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division but are often utilized in the Special Operations and Detention settings as well. Canines have the ability to locate narcotics, evidence and suspects that may not be within a human counterpart's field of view. The canines also assist with criminal apprehension situations due to their superior athletic ability. These abilities

drug sniffs in the jail every month. Deputy Witherite and K9 Taz cover calls for service, call outs and maintained the training of the four K9 teams while Deputy Hancock and K9 Jinx completed a K9 Academy. Even though the K9 Unit participated in two canine academies, they were able to continue to support all requests for K9 support. The Unit averaged 80 canine deployments every month, continued to cover patrol shifts 7 days a week, and support the Tactical Support Unit with 68 operations for the year. The El Paso County Sheriff's Office K9 Unit will continue to perform at a high level, whether on patrol or in the detention facility, to provide safety and security expected by the citizens of El Paso County.

#### **TACTICAL SUPPORT UNIT (TSU)**

Canine

K9:

In 2020, the Tactical Support Unit (TSU) was formed. The concept behind the Tactical Support Unit was developed and modeled from many other tactical units across the country. Each specific team or unit within the umbrella of the Tactical Support Unit has a specific function or task during a tactical operation. The TSU concept resulted in the success of all Sheriff's Office tactical responses conducted in 2020. The primary mission of the TSU is to support critical incidents using the training, tools, and tactics organic to each TSU element, with the goal of resolving critical incidents in the safest most expeditious manner possible. The Tactical Support Unit consists of the following teams or units:

**SWAT:** Special Weapons and Tactics Tactical Operators from the Law Enforcement and Detentions Bureaus

**CNU:** Crisis Negotiations Unit Deputies from across the Office

**TDU:** Tactical Dispatch Unit Specific dispatchers trained in tactical situations

**TEM:** Tactical Emergency Medics Colorado Springs Fire Fighters

**EOD:** Regional Explosives Unit *EPSO Joint membership with the Colorado Springs Police Department* 

Teams assigned to the Patrol Division

**ARMOR:** Deputies from across the Office designated to drive the Armored vehicle

**MOCOM:** Mobile Command Unit Deputies from across the Office

In 2020, the Tactical Support Unit participated in 68 tactical operations. The 68 missions conducted in 2020 involved high risk warrant service, barricaded subjects, illegal marijuana cultivation investigations, civil unrest, and fugitive apprehension missions. Of significance in 2020 was the civil unrest which occurred in the downtown area of Colorado Springs in late May, early June. Due to the dynamic nature of these protests, the Tactical Support Unit was requested by the Colorado Springs Police Department to assist in protecting citizens and property. Tactical Support Unit members played a pivotal role in the overall law enforcement resolution to these situations.



#### SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS (SWAT)

In August of 2020, a determination was made to establish the El Paso County Sheriff's Office first ever, full-time tactical team. The primary mission of the full-time team members is to support the El Paso County Sheriff's Office operations requiring a specialized tactical response. The Team is available to anyone within the Sheriff's Office as well as local, state, and federal partners. The team is a regional asset that upon the Sheriff's authority, will assist other agencies requiring additional personnel, specialized equipment, or specialized tactics.

During the Team's first four months in existence, team members collectively responded to 396 Priority 1 & 2 calls for Service and 292 Non-Priority calls for service resulting in 55 case reports taken, 60 warrants cleared, 35 felony arrests, 24 misdemeanor arrests, 61 traffic summonses issued, 128 traffic warnings issued, 524 total grams of various illegal narcotics seized, and 5 stolen guns recovered. The Team provided both planned and immediate small team tactical support to the El Paso County Sheriff's Office and regional partners, to include Metro Vice, Narcotics, and Intelligence (MVNI), the 4th Judicial District Attorney's Office, the Colorado Department of Corrections (Parole), Fountain Police, Palmer Lake Police, Summit County Sheriff's Office, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF). Members spent, on average, 140 on-duty hours each during this time frame devoted to supporting agency and regional partners, thus greatly diminishing the overtime liabilities to the Office for overall tactical requests. Important to note is the SWAT Team maintains an additional twelve

ancillary SWAT members assigned to both the Law Enforcement Bureau and Detention Bureau. These members are trained and equipped to the same level as the full time team members and must pass the same stringent selection process as full time members. They are absolutely critical to any mission requiring a full SWAT Team deployment.

The El Paso County's inaugural full-time tactical team continues to increase its operational footprint and establish itself as a reliable, competent, and effective support element to the Sheriff's Office and partners.

SWAT <b>STATISTICS</b>	
Priority 1 & 2 Calls for Service	396
Non-Priority Calls for Service	292
Case Reports	55
Warrants Cleared	60
Felony Arrests	35
Misdemeanor Arrests	24
Traffic Summons	61
Traffic Warnings	128
Grams of Various Narcotics Seized	524
Guns Recovered	5



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

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office Crisis Negotiations Unit (CNU) consists of 10 sworn El Paso County Sheriff's Office deputies, two sergeants, a lieutenant and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office Staff Psychologist, as well as one City of Fountain Police Officer. This Unit is an ancillary unit and as such, each member has a full-time position within the Office outside of the CNU. Despite COVID-19 restrictions, the CNU attended various training opportunities throughout the year. Some of the training included joint training with the El Paso County Jail's Special Response Team and the Special Weapons and Tactics Team. The Unit also conducted its own bi-monthly trainings. In 2020, the CNU worked closely with SWAT to involve team members in each facet of mission planning. This broadened each team member's operational awareness prior to each mission allowing them to better negotiate with suspects when called upon. This approach made it safer for all involved by facilitating immediate negotiations without excessive deliberation required to orient CNU members to the plan. The CNU participated in 90 percent of all tactical operations that took place in 2020.



#### **REGIONAL EXPLOSIVES UNIT (REU)**

The Regional Explosive Unit (REU) is a joint endeavor with members from the Sheriff's Office and the Colorado Springs Police Department. The Unit consists of 8 full time members, 5 certified Public Safety Bomb Technicians and 3 members pending certification. The 5 certified Public Safety Technicians have completed a six-week Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) Hazardous Devices School in Huntsville, Alabama. They are required to complete a minimum of 24 hours of training per month and at least one 40-hour training class per year to maintain certification. The Unit transitioned this year from a blended full /part time unit to a full-time unit.

Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the REU had a busy year. There were 157 operational deployments, which included responses to suspicious packages, improvised explosives devices, TSU callouts, dignitary, and event sweeps, found military ordnance, and other similar calls. The Unit is responsible for five counties within the South-Central Region which includes El Paso, Teller, Park, Lake, and Chaffee Counties. Additionally, the Unit travels to Pueblo County to assist the Pueblo Bomb Squad as needed. With the establishment of a full time unit in 2020, the REU began arson investigations in the

unincorporated portions of El Paso County. On October 8, 2020, members of the Regional Explosives Unit , Manitou Springs Police Department and Colorado Springs Fire Department investigated a wildland fire on Barr Trail near the Manitou Incline. Countless hours were used in extinguishing the fire and investigating the cause. The efforts of all members led to the discovery of a homeless camp off the trail where the fire initiated. Interviews and witnesses led to a suspect who was later identified, interviewed, and charged with the fire.

EXPLOSIVES UNIT <b>STATISTICS</b>	
Tactical Support Unit Support Missions	81
Traditional Explosive Ordnance Disposal Missions	51
Event Sweeps / Security Details	18
Mass Fireworks Disposals	4
Major Arson Investigations	3
Total Calls for Service	157



#### **■** INVESTIGATIONS

The Criminal 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. The Division relies on not only sworn members but the dedicated professional staff 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 Criminal Investigations Division could not be accomplished.

INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION <b>STATISTICS</b>	
Cases Investigated	600
Recorded Interviews	611
Supplemental Investigations	4,385
Search Warrants	539
Probable Cause Affidavits	169
Registered Sex Offenders Tracked	559
Sexually Violent Predators Tracked	5

#### CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT (CIU)

The Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU) is a newly created Unit of the Sheriff's Office. The CIU deploys using the concepts and philosophies of Intelligence Led-Policing. The Unit's main task is investigating violent prolific offenders, but is also tasked with investigating pattern crimes, property crimes, robberies, motor vehicle thefts and deploys detectives with the Beat Auto Theft Through Law Enforcement (BATTLE) South Task Force. The CIU works closely with other Divisions within the Sheriff's Office, to include Patrol, Detentions, and Special Operations. The Unit also works closely with multiple outside agencies, to include surrounding law enforcement agencies, state and federal agencies and parole. Working with these internal and external partners, the CIU has arrested numerous prolific offenders and has closed numerous cases associated with these prolific offenders. The CIU also works closely with the District Attorney's Office and participates in the STOP program, to ensure these prolific offenders receive maximum sentences for their crimes.

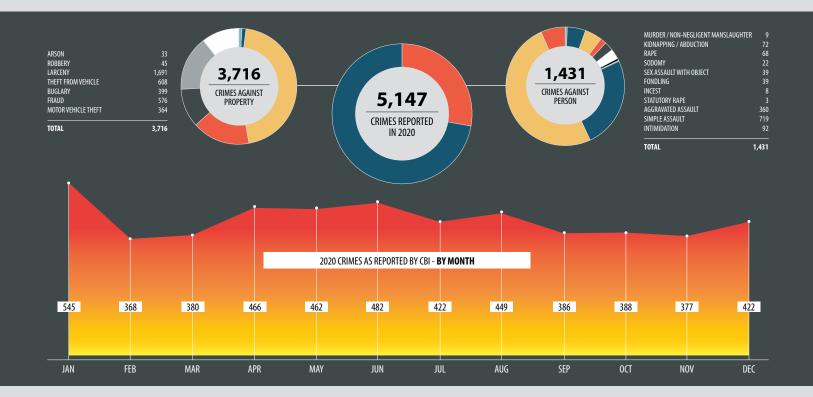
During 2020, the CIU identified a group of prolific offenders that were responsible for numerous crime sprees within the Sheriff's Office jurisdiction and surrounding jurisdictions. This group's crime sprees included breaking into cars, burglaries, drugs, aggravated robberies, assaults, and attempted homicides. One of the biggest challenges with this group of prolific offenders is that most of the group were juveniles. During the beginning of the investigation, the juveniles arrested were not held in custody because they were juveniles. These juveniles continued

to commit crimes while they were awaiting adjudication on their current cases. The CIU worked closely with surrounding jurisdictions, who were also investigating this group of prolific offenders, to assist in quickly resolving all cases associated with this group. Law enforcement then worked closely with the District Attorney's Office to ensure these juveniles were held in custody and received higher sentences for their crimes.



#### **CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT (CAU)**

The Crime Analysis Unit (CAU) added a Detentions Crime Analyst, who has been able to complement the Division's crime fighting efforts by developing internal processes that aid internal and external investigations. Since the inception of this position, the Unit has been able to implement Detention Bureau Intelligence Reports, which offer a variety of rich and comprehensive information that increase deputy awareness and internal safety concerns. Additionally, the Detentions Analyst has been instrumental to the establishment of 28 CFR Part 23 gang tracking and gang confirmation processes. The Crime Analysis Unit continues to enhance the capabilities of the first responders and investigators in all corners of the Sheriff's Office. Over the last year, The CAU was able to successfully assist in one of the highest profile investigations in the history of the Sheriff's Office, the Gannon Stauch homicide. Furthermore, with the continued challenges presented in 2020, the CAU was able to establish processes to monitor and report social media events that impacted our community. With this information, the CAU better prepared our staff to make operational and logistical decisions. The CAU has also been able to evolve forensically regarding call detail record analysis, by the acquisition of key software that aided our efforts.



#### Crime Reporting Under the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

- NIBRS was established to answer the need for more specificity in crime reporting and is based on incidents.
- NIBRS expands the offense reporting from 8 to 22.
- NIBRS includes revised and new offense definitions
- NIBRS enables the tracking of explicit and implicit correlations between offenses, property, victims, offenders and arrestees.
- NIBRS places an increased emphasis on drug offenses and accounts for computer crime.
- NIBRS reporting allows for counting up to ten offenses per incident for certain crime types.

#### Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR)

• UCR is a term used to describe the standard established in 1929 for reporting crime nationwide. There are two main types of UCR reporting: Summary (hierarchical) and NIBRS (incident-based).

#### UCR under the Hierarchy Rule:

Number of Offenses:

- The traditional method of crime reporting, called Summary Reporting, is based on a hierarchy rule.
- 7 offenses including Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter, Forcible Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny-Theft and Motor Vehicle Theft. (Arson was added later as an 8th offense)
- Under the hierarchy rule, if more than one crime is committed by the same person, the crime highest in the hierarchy is the only one reported.
- Victims are counted for persons crimes such as Homicide, Rape and Aggravated Assault.
- Cases are counted for property and other crime types.
- The Hierarchy rule does not apply to Arson or Human Trafficking

**INFORMATION:** How data is considered by the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) (this data is pulled by "Number of Crimes by Offense Type"):

Number of Crimes: The Number of Crimes measure is calculated using the FBI Unit of Count. It is set to the number of records in the Offense Segment (Level 2) records except in the following cases:

- If Offense Type is Crimes against Person, then the count is set to Number of Victims from the Victim Segment (Level 4)
   If Offense Type is Motor Vehicle Theft, then the count is set to Attempted Motor Vehicle Thefts from Offense Segment (Level 2) plus the Number of Stolen Motor Vehicles from the Property Segment (Level 3)
- If the Offense Type is Justifiable Homicide, then the count is set to Attempte

This Measure counts the Number of records in the Offense segment (Level 2) that match the selections along other dimensions. In the case of violent crime, it counts 1 regardless of multiple victims and should not be used for disseminating NIBRS reportable crimes using the FBI rules of counting. For that, refer to the Number of Crimes Measure.

Number of Incidents: This measure counts the number of incidents with a specific offense type submitted to the system that match the selections in other dimensions. This value is typically lower than the number of offenses, as multiple offenses may be committed within a single incident.

#### DIGITAL FORENSICS UNIT (DFU)

The Digital Forensics Unit has been recognized with a Top Forensic Examiner award by our partners with the US Secret Service. Detectives assigned to the DFU have been consistently ranked in the top 50 for several years running. Detective Mike Bauman finished 21st in 2020 from a field of several hundred nationwide examiners. The competence and expertise of the DFU makes their assistance highly sought after throughout the region. Those skills are in high demand as the prevalence of digital media impacts nearly every criminal activity.

#### VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (VAP)

The Victim Assistance Program (VAP) provides victim assistance to any person who is a victim of any crime outlined in Colorado Revised Statutes 24-4.1-302. The VAP staff provides services 7 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. VAP services were all provided the first quarter of 2020. Due to COVID -19, the program has not been able to utilize the services of these dedicated community members. The staff is looking forward to when the volunteers return.

VAU <b>STATISTICS</b>	
Volunteer On-Call Hours	7,933.5
Direct Services Hours	42
In-Office Hours	16.5
Training Hours	76.5
Victims Served	2,724
Referrals Made	6,069

#### MAJOR CRIMES UNIT

The Major Crimes Unit took lead on 61 complex violent crime case investigations for 2020. The Unit investigated nine (9) homicides; double the number from 2019. 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. The Unit completed ten (10) such investigations in 2020. During seven (7) of those incident types, we took the lead role in the investigation. Attached to the Unit is one Alcohol, Tabacco, and Firearms (ATF) Task Force Officer who provides investigative support and federal resources to local investigations.

One of the most notable cases of 2020 was the worldwide headline grabbing case of Gannon Stauch. The Major Crime Unit worked with the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), El Paso County Search and Rescue (SAR), ATF and many neighboring law enforcement agencies, as well as Florida's law enforcement and Medical Examiner's Office. The original report was a runaway but was rapidly changed to a homicide investigation. This case started the year and set the pace for the Major Crimes Unit.

While the Stauch case consumed much of the team's time, they were able to bring to a close a total of nine homicide investigations. Many of these other homicides made headlines of their own. One case involved "water intoxication", leading to a charge of Child Abuse Resulting in Death. Due to the persistent investigative efforts and assistance from the entire Investigations Division, these cases were solved during an unprecedented year with a pandemic that shut the nation down.



GANNON STAUCH CASE <b>STATISTICS</b>		
Digital Evidence Reviewed	412	
phone calls, photos, social media, cell phones		
Surveillance Video Reviewed	54	
all videos of various lengths of time		
Interviews Conducted	49	
more than 49 in-depth interviews		
Items of Evidence Collected	897	
Pages of Lab Requests	148	
Agencies Involved	12	
Pages of Tips Received	126	
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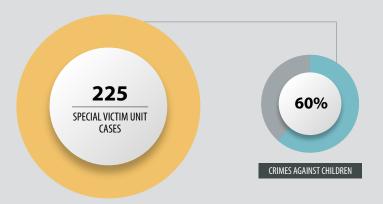
#### FINANCIAL CRIMES UNIT

The Financial Crimes Unit has seen a dramatic increase in the complexity of fraud cases referred to the Unit. This has been exacerbated by the increased prevalence of crypto currencies such as Bitcoin. The increase in fraud committed by criminal organizations has been remarkable. One case particularly demonstrates the difficulty associated with investigating fraud. An initial case of a vehicle sale fraud on Craigslist has expanded to include 25 suspects, over 150 victims nationwide, and identified losses exceeding \$2.5 million. The work continues through our partnerships with the US Secret Service, US Department of Homeland Security and the Internal Revenue Service. In early 2021, the case will be presented to the US Attorney General in Denver to be worked federally.

#### **SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT (SVU)**

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office Special Victims Unit 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, hospital staff, Safe Passage and other law enforcement personnel on child abuse referrals. This year, the Unit was tasked with the investigation of 225 cases, of which, just over 60% were crimes against children, which includes both sexual offenses and child abuse cases. These cases are worked in a joint effort with El Paso County Department of Human Services and Safe Passage. The SVU is trained in trauma informed investigative techniques. They are utilizing Victims' Advocates through more of the process to give victims more support during these difficult investigations. SVU made arrests on cases involving social influencers, horse racing jockeys, and many foster families. Child Abuse cases were on the rise this year including the severity of cases. SVU arrested and obtained a plea on a mother who willfully starved her terminally ill daughter. Two daycare providers were investigated for abuse, one was cleared and the other resulted in child abuse charges against employees. Attached to the SVU, one detective has been assigned to work with the Internet Crimes

Against Children (ICAC) Unit working to hold those who prey upon children in cyberspace accountable. The impact of COVID on the Special Victims Unit was very large. The direct effect was seen in interviews as increased safety measures were used. Scheduling interviews was difficult due to quarantines, people having COVID symptoms, and exposures to COVID. Indirectly the reporting by victims was down during times of increased COVID restrictions. It is unknown how this will play out in the future.



#### **SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION (SOR)**

The Sex Offender Registration Unit is composed of one registration coordinator and supported by a part- time assistant coordinator, as well as detectives and patrol personnel. They work in conjunction to effectively provide accurate and timely tracking of registered sex offenders within Unincorporated El Paso County. During 2020, the number of offenders being tracked varied from month to month, the average number of offenders tracked throughout the year is greater than 500. Through concerted efforts tracking registered offenders, 28 offenders were identified to be non-compliant in regard to failing to register as a sex offender, which resulted in the issuance of arrest warrants for those offenders. A number of offenders were subsequently brought back into compliance.

SOR <b>STATISTICS</b>	
New Registrations	12
Annual Re-Registrations	547
Jurisdictional Re-Entries	31
De-Registrations	12
Sexually Violent Predator Registrations	5
Home Visits	91
Non-Compliant Offenders	28

#### **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 which houses members from the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. The Division collaborates with local federal agencies to address regional criminal activity and potential acts of terrorism. Metro VNI consists of the Strategic Information Center (StIC), Intelligence Unit, Metro Vice (Human Trafficking) Unit, Strategic Investigations Unit (SIU), two Narcotic Street Teams, and one Marijuana Regulatory Team. In addition, the Metro VNI Division has Task Force Officers (TFO's) assigned to the FBI Safe Streets Task Force (SSTF) and the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Colorado Springs Resident Office which are part of a multi-jurisdictional task force. In 2019, the MVNI Division received the prestigious honor of being voted the Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (RMHIDTA)," Outstanding Task Force of the Year". In 2020, the MVNI Divisions stats surpassed those of 2019. Quite a feat, given the many challenges faced.

The Narcotics Street Teams opened 308 new narcotics related cases which resulted in 253 felony arrests, seized 222 firearms, and seized over \$800,000 in cash and property. One example of investigative work conducted by the Narcotic Street Teams involved a Colorado parolee who was a resident of Fountain. At the conclusion of the investigation, multiple search warrants were authored









NAKCOTICS STREET TEAMS			
DRUG SEIZURES	AMOUNT	STREET VALUE	
COCAINE	2 LBS.	\$81,360	
PSILOCYBIN MUSHROOMS	.75 LBS.	\$3,405	
LSD	3,095 DOSAGE UNITS	\$15,525	
METHAMPHETAMINE	111 LBS.	\$1,498,112	
HEROIN	18 LBS.	\$481,524	
MDMA	31 DOSAGE UNITS	\$310	
MDMA (POWDER)	.65 LBS.	\$28,816	
FENTANYL	211 DOSAGE UNITS	\$8,480	
FENTANYL (POWDER)	1.9 LBS.	\$60,000	





NAKCOTICS STREET	TEAMS <b>ST</b>
CASES OPENED	308
PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION CASES	27
ARREST WARRANTS AUTHORED	158
SEARCH WARRANTS AUTHORED	209
OPERATIONS EXECUTED	569
FELONY ARRESTS	253
OVERDOSE DEATH CALL-OUTS	49
FIREARM SEIZURES	222
CASH SEIZURES	\$465,769
PROPERTY SEIZURES	\$358,504









and executed resulting in an arrest and the seizure of 34.87 lbs. of methamphetamine, 9.66 lbs. of heroin, 0.53 lbs. of cocaine, 1.50 lbs. of pressed pills of suspected fentanyl, four firearms, \$36,992 in U.S. currency, and two vehicles valued at over \$80,000, The total DEA street value of the seizure was \$762,130 (this does not include the pills since the lab identification is pending). The successful conclusion of this investigation was the result of cooperation between Metro VNI and the Colorado Department of Corrections – Parole.

In 2020, the Marijuana Regulatory Team investigated 145 tips related to illegal marijuana, 103 marijuana grows, and 3 Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTO). The Team seized 8,244 plants, 1,421 lbs of refined marijuana, and made 18 felony arrests related to illegal cultivation / distribution. One such DTO investigation uncovered information linking two suspects to cultivation across multiple counties and distribution across multiple states. Seven of the primary targets of the investigation have been arrested and are facing numerous felony charges. The team continues to collaborate with the DEA to further out of state investigations into this group. Partnerships with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Safe Streets Task Force (SSTF) and the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) have led task force officers to significant indictments and arrests, taking dangerous criminals off the street. One notable case involved members of the Rollin' 60's Crips. A lengthy investigation netted the arrests of seven members of the gang. Top ranking members were found to have been recruiting and organizing young members to commit violent armed robberies of banks and businesses in Colorado Springs. The members of this gang are now spread across the U.S. prison system.









# DRUG SEIZURESAMOUNTSTREET VALUEMARIJUANA PLANTS8,244 PLANTS\$8,244,000REFINED MARIJUANA1,421 LBS.\$6,911,575

MARIJUANA REGULATORY TEAM

#### **MARIJUANA** REGULATORY TEAM **STATS**

CRIME STOPPERS TIPS RECEIVED	308
MARIJUANA GROWS INVESTIGATED	103
SEARCH WARRANTS EXECUTED	67
DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS TARGETED	3
FELONY ARRESTS - CULTIVATION / DISTRIBUTION	18







# **BUREAU** OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

#### **Professional Standards Division**

Internal Affairs Unit Evidence Unit Public Information Office Accreditation Unit Judicial Liaison



<sup>\*</sup>not all units have an Annual Report write-up



#### ■ BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY (BPR)

The Bureau of Professional Responsibility (BPR) was established in August of 2020 under the leadership of Bureau Chief Clif Northam. The Units within the Professional Standards Division are Internal Affairs, Accreditation, Evidence, the Judicial Liaison, and the Public Information Office. The concept of the Bureau is to utilize the various Units to establish a framework to increase public trust through increased accountability and transparency. With the creation of this Bureau, Sheriff Elder is pledging that the Sheriff's Office is serious about building a partnership between the Office and the community. With this commitment, the Office hopes to make the community safer by encouraging voluntary compliance with state and local laws rather than compliance through fear of punishment. Building positive relationships with all members of the community is a key component of creating a trusting atmosphere and every element of this Bureau will be involved with this effort. The Office seeks to create ongoing community involvement in the operations of the Sheriff's Office through the creation of a Multicultural Community Advisory Board tasked with providing diverse perspectives and advice on subjects as wide ranging as our disciplinary process, jail operations and programs, training, policy development and implementation, recruiting, and diversity and inclusion issues within the Sheriff's Office, to name a few. Additionally, it is a goal of the Bureau to enhance communication within the organization by facilitating open and honest discussion among employees about issues affecting working conditions, employee-employer relations, and job satisfaction. We will listen with respect and expectation to the great ideas and concerns of our employees with the goal of making their work experience with this Office as satisfying as possible within the limits of the Mission, Vision and Values of the organization.

One of the first new projects of the BPR was the planning for the Sheriff's Office Community Conversations Project. In September of 2020, the Sheriff's Office entered into a contract with Cipoletti Consulting to assist in efforts to begin the Community Conversations Project in January of 2021. The Office intends to continue the Community Conversations by holding a session each month of 2021. Mr. Christopher Cipoletti has been an excellent partner in this project. With his guidance and enthusiasm, a diverse group of community members were brought together along with several Sheriff's Office employee volunteers to have weekly Web-Ex meetings, putting everything in place needed to achieve this goal.

Another important initiative which began in 2020 was the initiation of the Women's Liaison Program (WLP). The main role of the Sheriff's Office Women's Liaison Program is to provide mentorship, leadership, and training on topics that involve women working in male dominated fields. This will include sexual harassment training, classes on cultivating and embracing self-confidence as well as team building opportunities. Monthly training provides opportunities to not only develop women professionally but also help women to understand that they have what it takes to succeed in an organization's most prestigious roles. Most importantly, this Program will allow the Liaison to be an advocate and a sounding board for other women in the work environment. The WLP will help the women of this Office when presented with challenges, to successfully overcome them by sharing their stories, building each other up, celebrating their wins, and empowering one another.





The Professional Standards Division accomplished several key activities during 2020. Most notably were the Division's lead role in an internal Incident Command Center in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the completion of a Policy Manual Transition Project.

In mid-March 2020, and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Sheriff Elder ordered an internal Incident Command (IC) be established. The primary purpose of the IC was to track and report, in close to real time, any impact COVID was having on EPSO staffing or operations. The method for data collection, and the exact data points were left up to the IC to determine. A team of personnel were assembled to staff the IC and work began to build the system that would be used for reporting, while nearly simultaneously beginning to generate reports. The team was made up of personnel from across most areas of the Office, including Accreditation, Internal Affairs, Public Information, Communications Center, Detention Operations, Patrol, and Finance.

The enthusiasm, resourcefulness and creativity of the team never wavered. Over the course of the approximate six-week effort in the Spring, they consistently looked for ways to refine processes and turn around requests for new data points or changes in report formatting in short order. The volume of work generated by the team was staggering and was instrumental for use by the Command Staff providing a snapshot of various impacts the pandemic was having on the organization.

A small element of the team was reestablished in the 4th quarter as the community, and the Sheriff's Office workforce alike, experienced a spike in COVID-19 negatively affecting all areas of the Office. Different than in the Spring, the team completed all efforts remotely and generated reports necessary to track the impacts of the virus on the workforce and inmate population at the Jail.

## **ACCREDITATION UNIT**

In 2020, the decision was made to cease use of the Lexipol policy platform and transition to an in-house policy manual. The Accreditation Unit was tasked to assist with the multiple phases of this project. Many efficiencies were gained in the new manual by blending like content or archiving policies which were well covered in divisional Standard Operating Procedures or not needed.

In addition to these projects, the Accreditation Unit continued to collect proofs needed for the National Commission for Correctional Healthcare (NCCHC) audit, which establishes standards for health services in correctional facilities. This was scheduled for 2020 but was postponed due to COVID. This audit was moved to early 2021. Proofs for the American Correctional Association (ACA) were also collected in preparation for the third quarter of 2021 audit. ACA represents fundamental correctional practices that ensure staff and inmate safety and security; improve record maintenance and data management capabilities; and improve the function of the facility or agency at all levels. Lastly, the Sheriff's Office has renewed it commitment to become accredited through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement (CALEA). This is meant to provide public

safety agencies with an opportunity to voluntarily meet an established set of professional standards based on best practices nationwide in the law enforcement arena. The Accreditation Unit is gearing up for this audit which is anticipated to occur in the first quarter of 2022.



# **MEDIA RELATIONS / PIO**

# **III** INTERNAL AFFAIRS UNIT

PIO <b>STATISTICS</b>	
Media Releases	201
Colorado Open Records Act Requests	151
Website E-Mails	1,257
Media Inquiries	7,369
Interviews	472
PIO On-Scene Responses	32

IA STATISTICS	
Total Complaints	176
Documented Only	17
Exonerated	32
Cancelled	4
Not Sustained	9
Sustained	51
Unfounded	63

# **EVIDENCE UNIT**



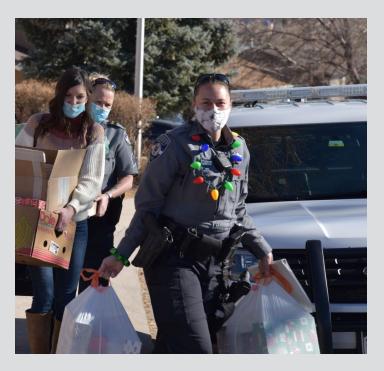




#### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS & OUTREACH (CRO)**

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Community Relations and Outreach Unit had to be creative to maintain the same mission. This Unit accomplished just that, just in an alternative fashion. With the inability of face-to-face contact, the Unit utilized virtual platforms to reach out to our community. Although the Unit missed having the normal face-to-face meetings or the ability to share candid conversations over a cup of coffee, their creativity allowed them to meet all targeted goals. They were able to create personal, long-lasting relationships in our community, even amid a pandemic.

CRO <b>STATISTICS</b>	
Events	163
Meetings	75
Project Hours	604
Engagement Hours	389



#### HONOR GUARD

Our Honor Guard has been a part of services to honor brave law enforcement members who died in the line of duty since 1979. One of our own, Deputy Jeff Hopkins was honored in 2020. This surely struck the emotions of our employees and our Honor Guard by the magnitude of the symbolism and ceremony of the event. Being a part of any of these events is a sacred and heavy burden to bear for those who wear the Honor Guard uniform and to those who must perform with the utmost precision, reverence, and respect. We will forever remember and honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice to safeguard our community.

HONOR GUARD STATISTICS	
Outreach Hours	635.5
Training Hours	874
Missions	26
Active Members	17





#### **COURT SERVICES SECTION**

# Transport Trips 592 Number of Inmates Transported 12,136 Miles Driven 1,238,228 District Court Dockets 2,001 County Court Dockets 1,662

# INMATE PROGRAMS

PROGRAMS	STATISTICS

Responses to Inmate Kites 15,300
Inmates Placed on Religious Diets 188
Program Attendance 5,933

Despite limitations placed due to the pandemic, inmate programs still had almost 6,000 instances of attendance. Programs ranged from law library to religious services and life skills.

# **■ SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM (SRT)**

Juveniles Transported

In 2020 the Special Response Team (SRT) conducted seven high risk extraditions. Six trips were bringing defendants back to Colorado Springs and one was returning a defendant to North Dakota. SRT was also activated to support the Colorado Springs Police Department (CSPD) for the presidential visit at the World Arena where eight arrests were made. In addition SRT was activated from May 30 - June 6 for riots and protests in the Downtown Area of Colorado Springs. In September, SRT conducted it's annual academy and added five new team members.

540

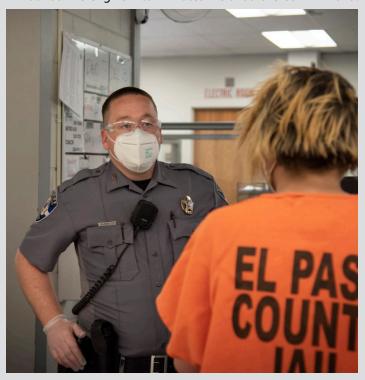


#### **INTAKE AND RELEASE**

In 2020, Intake and Release booked 14,945 inmates and released 15,302. They conducted 1,535 lobby arrests, had 2,090 in-custody bookings, and picked up 92 inmates from Falcon-Stetson runs. The statistics compared to the past few years were decreased drastically because of COVID-19. A plethora of new requirements were put into practice to limit the number of inmates housed at the Jail. Command staff, in coordination with the Chief Judge, were able to set parameters that established what level of warrant or charges would be booked into the Jail. Many citizens who would have been incarcerated before COVID-19 were given a Personal Recognizance (PR) bond and a new court date. The Work Release program ended in March 2020. At the time of its closing, 56 inmates were in the program. Those inmates were released from the system and provided a letter to contact the courts.

A lot of new challenges were faced by Intake and Release with the new restrictions. Arresting officers and inmates were held in the sally port for COVID-19 testing. Each rapid test takes about 15 minutes to complete. Once a negative result was received the arresting officer was notified and the intake process could begin. The officers were asked to ensure they maintained social distancing in the Pre-Admit area which caused many to wait in the sally port even longer.

The number of PR bonds being issued increased dramatically with the new restrictions on the level of warrants and new charges that would be processed into the Jail. PR Bonds have 5-7 documents that need to be signed and explained to each person bonding. A window of four hours was given to get the inmates released from the time the courthouse sends the docket to Intake and Release to be processed. There were days when 30 PR Bonds would be issued, and everyone pitched in to help get the tasks completed on time. A total of 13,726 PR bonds were given to Inmates held at the Jail in 2020.



The Pre-Admit staff fielded a high volume of calls from arresting officers trying to determine if they needed to PR bond the person they were dealing with, or bring them to the Jail to be booked in. The Chief Judge made several updates to what was expected, and the Intake staff remained flexible with how they conducted business. The logistics of holding and transporting Fugitive from Justice (FFJ) inmates had to be changed and updated to fit the requirements of COVID-19. Other agencies wanted El Paso County inmates removed as soon as possible from their facilities. Our contracted transport vendor, Security Transport Services (STS), also experienced challenges due to COVID. It wasn't until late in the year that the DA's office made the decision to release some of the holds and modify the warrants to change the extradition limits, which provided some relief. Intake and Release, both sworn and professional staff, stepped up to the challenges that COVID-19 brought. They maintained a positive attitude, adjusted procedures, and had a successful year

#### INTAKE & RELEASE **STATISTICS**

Inmates Booked Into the El Paso County Jail	14,954
Inmates Released from the El Paso County Jail	15,302
In-Custody Bookings	2,090
Lobby Arrests	1,535
Falcon / Stetson Substation Pickups	80/92
PR Bonds Issued for Inmates	13,726

This does not account for all the ones issues on the street and never bought into the Jail.

#### **EXTRADITIONS**

Approved for extradition by the DA's Office	349
Out of State arrests declined for extradition	133
Out of State arrests pending extradition	0

#### SECURITY TRANSPORT SERVICES (STS) TRANSPORTS

Transports scheduled in 2020	288
Total Cost	\$467,344.354

#### **NORTH WEST SHUTTLE TRANSPORTS**

ts scheduled in 2020	3
Total Savings	\$1,210.00
this would have been billed to Probati	on as an Interstate Compact

\$520.00 of this would have been billed to Probation as an Interstate Compac Case

#### **IN-HOUSE EXTRADITIONS**

In-House Extraditions	6
Total Cost	\$16,553.60
DA Writ Transports	12
Total Cost	\$21,051.19
Interstate Compact	23
Total Cost	\$40,592.91

billed to probation

#### **INMATE CLASSIFICATION UNIT**

The Inmate Classification Unit reported a predictably busy statistical year in 2020. Throughout the year, Inmate Classification reviewed and processed 10,362 incident reports (7,334 informational and 3,028 disciplinary). The Unit processed 1,473 Trusty contracts and processed 2,094 Volunteer contracts. The Unit also completed 547 Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) interviews and reviews, tracked 2,148 inmate grievances, addressed 6,150 kites and are responsible for billing outside agencies for housing their inmates.

For 2021, the Inmate Classification Unit members want to continue to be a support system for the Detention Bureau. Additionally, they hope to help plan strategies to lower the overall Average Daily Population in the Jail, and to continue to make decisions to help ensure the overall safety and security of the facility.

	IMMIGRATION & CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT (ICE) \$0.00
	COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS \$1,953,837.20
2,680 BILLABLE	MILITARY CONFINEMENT \$111,875.92
INMATES	OTHER \$66,185.12
	U.S. MARSHALL \$3,193.92

#### **INMATE CLASSIFICATION STATISTICS Incident Reports** 10,362 Informational 7,334 Disciplinary 3,028 **Trusty Contracts Processed** 1,473 Volunteer Contracts Processed 2,094 **ADA Interviews** 547 Tracked Grievances 2,148 Kites Addressed 6,150 Classification Interviews Conducted 12.523 Special Management (suicide precautions) 5,419



# GATEWAYS / REINTEGRATION & RECOVERY (R&R)

For the Year of 2020, the Gateways Through the Rockies (GTR) Program offered job skills and training for 220 of the El Paso County sentenced inmates, bringing the Gateways participant total to 3,242 since its inception. Due to the COVID outbreak status in the Jail, on October 30, 2020, business partnerships with GFL Recycling, D&J Pallet, Inc., and Evergreen Cemetery were notified the Gateways Program would not be providing laborers until further notice. Due to the ongoing issues with COVID, workers have still not returned to these worksites.

Jail Based Behavioral Health Services (JBBS) has provided discharge planning assistance for over 1,000 people from April-December 2020, connecting or referring to community agencies prior to release. The Sheriff's Office hired additional staff to expand behavioral health services from R&R to the entire inmate population to include a mental health counselor, substance abuse classes and discharge planning services. In addition, mobile conferencing systems, or "huddles" were purchased to provide educational based classes throughout the facility.

During the Jail facility remodel project, Gateways supervisor Denise Holloway, and a small Gateways participant crew provided demolition services of the jail staff locker rooms and construction cleanup for the entire jail complex to include the administration area, all housing units, and modular areas. Gateways staff and workers moved the office, equipment, and supplies into the newly designed administrative area of Tensile East and transitioned the Gateways participant processing area to the top floor of Tensile West or "Hotel". The Hotel mezzanine area converted to the processing area for Gateways workers to include construction of a non-permanent enclosure in Hotel for securing participant clothing, shoes, under garments, etc., Gateways dress-out area equipped with lockers and privacy screens for the processing area of workers, and creation of a brick walking path between Hotel and Tensile East for laundry distribution. In Tensile East, laundry services for Gateways participant clothing were transferred and a large capacity washer and dryer were purchased, also several furnishings were re-appropriated for areas of the staff.

GATEWAYS / R&R <b>STATISTICS</b>	
Inmates Offered Job Skills & Training	220
Compensated Labor Hours	\$31,452
Community Service Hours	\$5,811
Victim's Compensation Payment	\$15,521

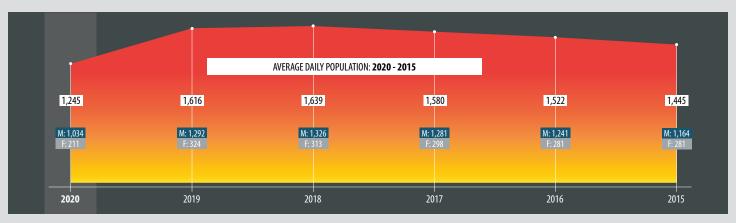


## FLOOR SECURITY

The Security Division of the Detention Bureau is the largest Division of the Sheriff's Office. As with any new year, 2020 started off with the usual transitions, with employees transferring to new assignments and schedules being built with vacations and training opportunities. A new academy class was preparing to graduate and start their careers inside the Jail. Nothing indicated the Security Division was about to embark on the most challenging year in the history of the Sheriff's Office. Throughout January, news reports documented a strange new illness beginning to spread. COVID-19 emerges as a global pandemic and in mid-March, the impact of COVID-19 was no longer limited to the nightly news. Inside the Jail, COVID-19 had

major renovations were made to improve the safety and security of the Jail. These projects would require extensive planning as every ward in the facility would be required to shut down at various times to facilitate construction.

In late May, the death of George Floyd in Minnesota caused outrage across the country and as protesters started taking to the streets. On May 31, for approximately two weeks, staff at the Jail transitioned to 12-hour shifts to augment Patrol and Special Operations with providing security to the Office of the Sheriff (OTS) and Courthouse by sending 10 deputies per shift for crowd control missions.



a dramatic impact on our day-to-day operations. To reduce the spread of COVID-19, our inmate population was reduced from a January average of 1,238 to an average of 955 in July. Employees were required to wear face masks and complete a daily health screening prior to entering the facility. Shift briefings were eliminated to minimize employee exposure to one another within the confines of the briefing room.

To minimize inmate contact with outside visitors, all programs were cancelled except Law Library. Our in-person visitation center shut down, increasing the workload on our professional staff as all visits went online.

Tragedy struck the Detention Bureau when Deputy Jeff Hopkins died from COVID-19 on April 1, 2020 and when Lieutenant Doug Lundstedt died from an off-duty accident on May 5, 2020. The strength and professionalism of the Detention Bureau was demonstrated as both Divisions continued the mission despite the inability to properly mourn their passing as an Office. On May 29, the announcement of

In mid-September, the fruits of the construction labor began to pay off as newly renovated wards were returned to the deputies and inmates were placed behind secure doors and monitored with enhanced video cameras. Deputies were now confident that when they secured an inmate behind a door, the inmate would stay secured behind that door.

In October, a serious COVID-19 outbreak struck the jail, with more than 850 inmates and 70 staff members testing positive for the virus. To prevent spread among employees, all training was cancelled. To combat staffing shortages 12-hour shifts were reimplemented, lasting for the next three months. With so many inmates positive, Trinity, our food and commissary provider, could no longer rely on inmates to prepare or serve food. For the first two weeks of November, professional staff, deputies, sergeants and lieutenants stepped up and assisted Trinity with the preparation and delivery of meals for the inmates. Working in close collaboration with the courts, District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, and the Department of Health, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office worked hard to reduce the

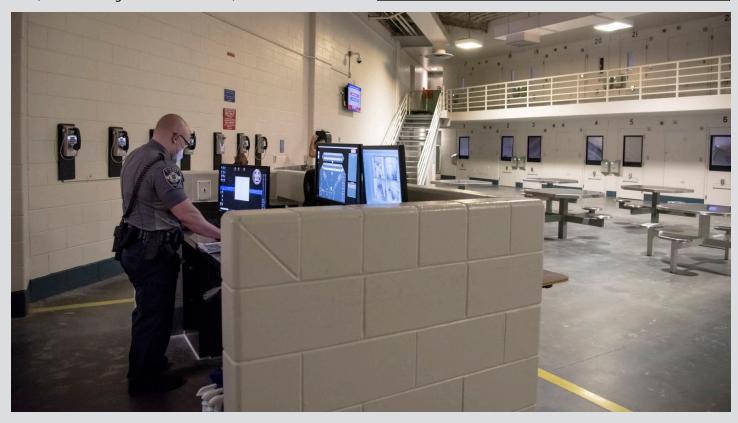
Average Daily Population inside the jail to prevent the spread of COVID-19. This cooperation, focused on inmate safety, reduced our Average Daily Population (ADP) by over 400 inmates and allowed increased distancing between inmates.

After careful consideration of inmate safety concerns related to COVID-19 at the Metro Work Release Facility (MWRF), the decision to suspend the Work Release Program was approved by the courts and inmates assigned to the Work Release Program were granted other provisions in lieu of their work release sentences; the final inmate was released from the MWRF on March 22, 2020. Re-instatement of the Work Release Program will be evaluated when COVID-19 restriction recommendations are lifted. As 2020 ended, the dedicated employees of the Jail demonstrated they could handle any challenge thrown at them. The construction projects concluded, leaving the Jail a safer place for staff and inmates alike.

The jail requires constant maintenance and there is a dedicated team of professionals to combat the normal wear and tear as well as the intentional destruction inflicted by the inmates. During 2020, while working with a reduced staff, the maintenance team

MENTAL HEALTH <b>STATISTICS</b>	
Mental Health Screenings	16,276
Mental Health Follow-Ups	28,534
Inmate Suicidal Statements/Gestures	1,645
Rounds to Segregated Inmates	1,456
Rounds to Suicidal Inmates	7,072
Suicide Attempts by Inmates	7

SIGNIFICANT <b>EVENTS</b>	
Inmates Requiring Transport for Treatment	204
Instances Drugs Were Confiscated from Wards	19
Power Outages	2
Kitchen Fires	1



was called out 88 times for after-hour emergencies, completed 2,170 work orders submitted by staff members and 2,009 preventative maintenance work orders.

Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, inmates had a variety of programs available to them designed to reduce recidivism as well as religious classes and services. These include but are not limited to Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Narcotics Anonymous (NA), Bible Study, Catholic Inquiry and Mass, Current Events, Family Values, Jehovah's Witness, Jail Reintegration & Duration (JRAD), Law Library, Latter Day Saints (LDS), Meditation, Yoga, Victory Walk and Time For Change (T4C). To reduce

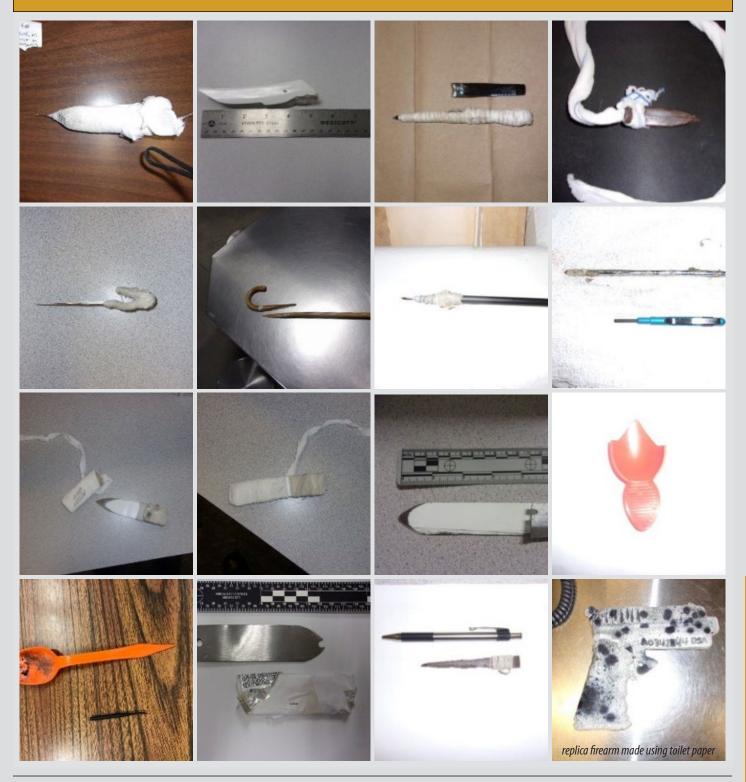
inmate contact with outside volunteers and staff, all of these programs were suspended with the exception of Law Library. Understanding the importance of these classes, our Programs staff has been working on ways to continue teaching by utilizing remote teaching in one ward and broadcasting to other wards. Through the hardships resulting from suspending programs, the Jail is better prepared to offer additional classes to a broader population of inmates without needing to increase employee or volunteer time.

During a normal year, the Jail conducts 25 to 30 tours of our facility for community groups, schools, and other agencies.

These tours are an important tool for informing the citizens of this essential but often under appreciated and unseen function of the Sheriff's Office. Due to COVID-19 restrictions on group gatherings and limiting access to the facility, only two tours were completed in 2020.

Members of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office are proud to donate time and resources to a variety of community events, activities and causes each year. One of the greatest disappointments of 2020 was the cancellation of most events and activities. Luckily, some activities were continued in modified forms or with smaller numbers of participants. Badges & Books found a way to keep deputies reading to elementary school students by using Zoom instead of meeting in person and the Special Olympics Torch Run continued with deputies tracking their mileage and money individually. Deputies dressed up in costume and handed out candy at the Boo at the Zoo while families in need were assisted with food and gift drives for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

## WEAPONS FOUND IN THE FACILITY



# **CARES FUNDING**SUMMARY

Project Director: Chief Joe Roybal

Property Conveyor Replacement \$600,000

Cameras, Door Control, & Locks \$6,536,440.00

Lobby & Locker Room Renovation \$2,200,000.00

Sheriff's Training Facility Remodel \$950,000

Update to Sanitation & Hygiene Equipment \$300,000

Telemedicine Equipment \$250,000

Hazardous Duty Pay \$1,161,000

Overtime \$200,000

Visitation Booth Remodel / Video Court \$276,000

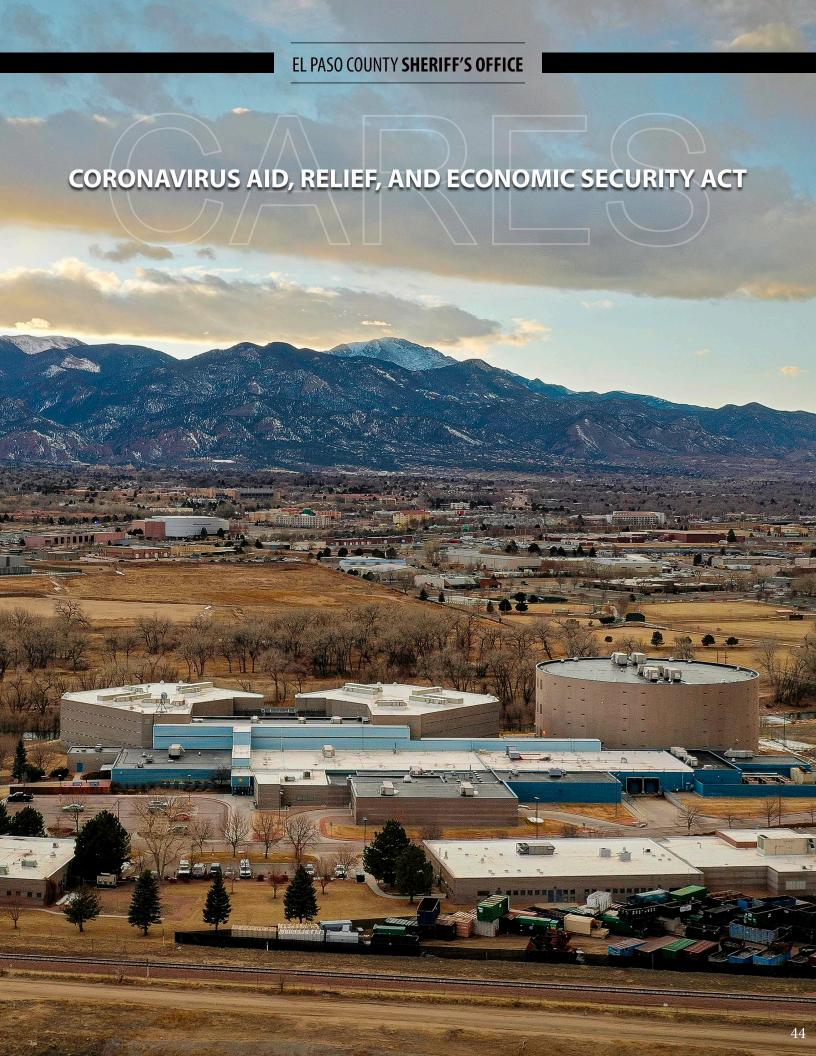
Office & Cubicle Safety Improvements \$500,000

Re-Deployment of School Resource Officers \$125,000

Re-Deployment of Work Release Deputies \$487,500

**ORIGINAL ESTIMATED COST:** \$ 13,585,940





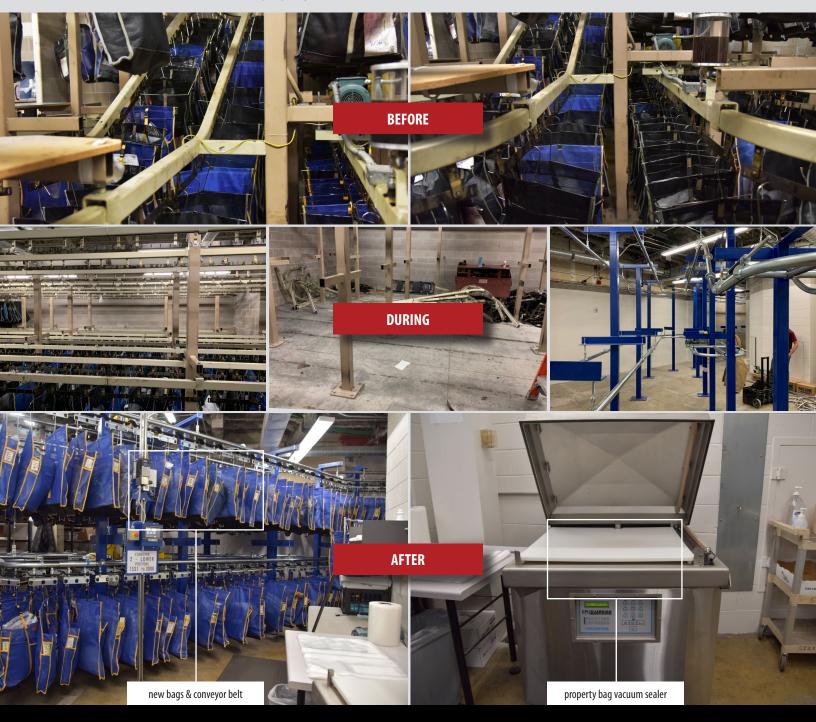
# **PRIORITY 1: Replace Property Conveyor**

**Estimated Cost** : \$600,000.00

**Coordinator:** Lieutenant Mike Pitt

The property conveyor is the storage system for the personal property of inmates at the Jail. This is original equipment in the Jail (built in 1988) and is well beyond its useful life. It does not allow for the safe storage of personal property (sealed bags) to prevent virus cross contamination. A system was identified through the request for proposal process which seals property in airtight bags, thus allowing a safer environment for staff handling the property and the incarcerated population.

The Property Rack Project consisted of upgrading the outdated property rack that only held about 2,000 inmate property bags. The older property rack was over 20 years old and lacked the capability of properly sealing inmate's personal property. The new Pacline Conveyor System can hold 3,000 property bags. Each property bag has a maximum weight limit of 25-pounds. The Pacline Conveyor allows for Sheriff's Office staff to seal and store inmate property in airtight bags. Sealing inmate's clothing and other property items in an airtight bags decreases the risk of the spread of COVID-19 and other possible viruses. New easy to clean workstations were also installed in the property room.



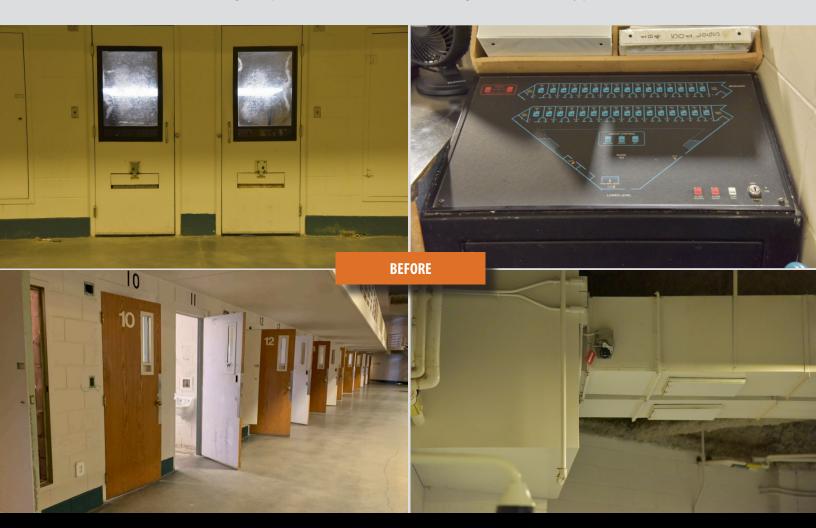
# PRIORITY 2: Camera, Door Control & Lock Replacement

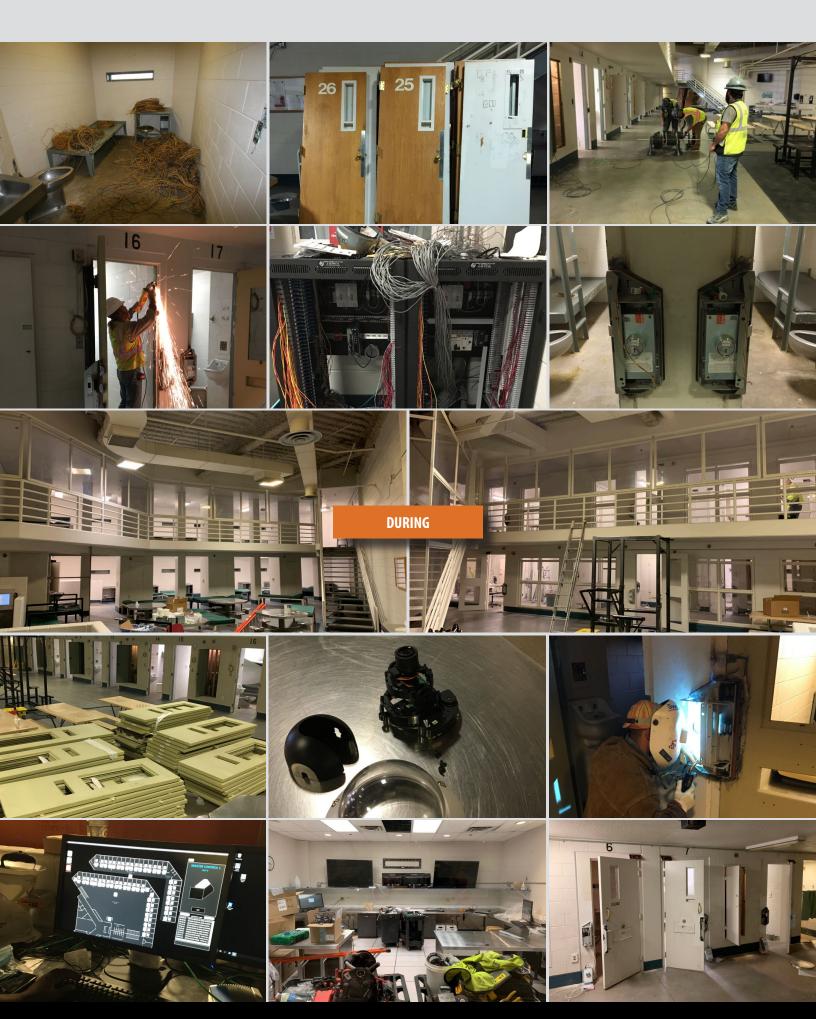
**Estimated Cost**: \$6,536,440.00

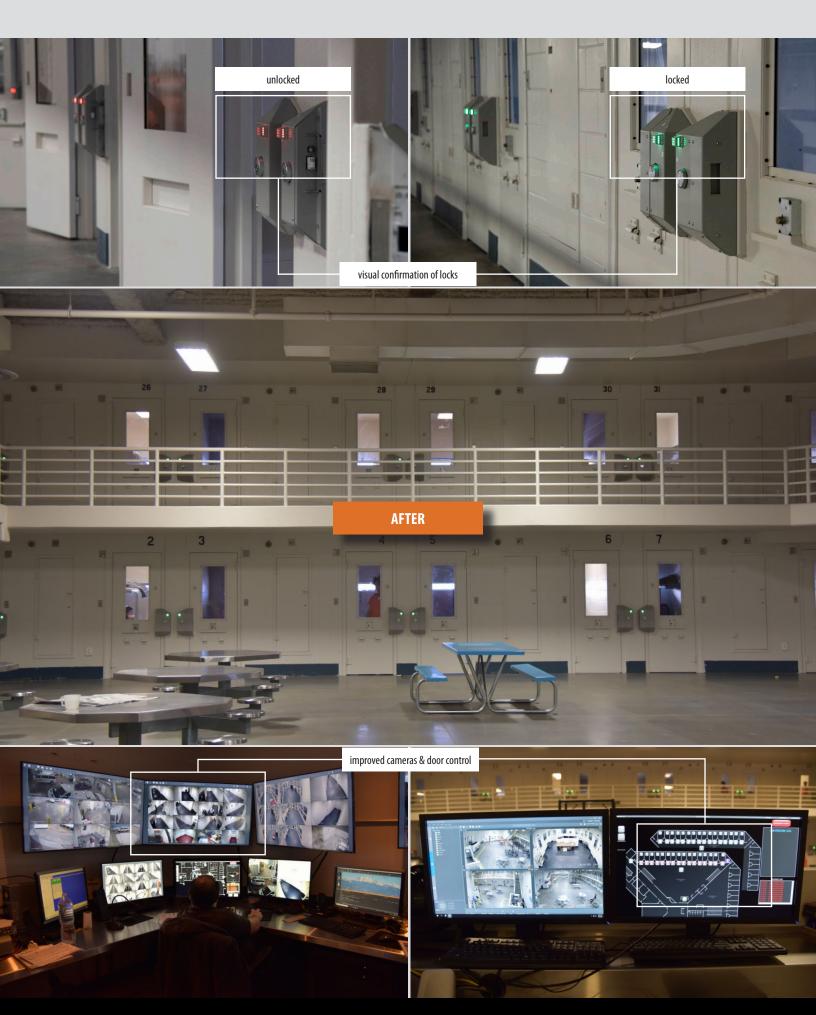
**Coordinator:** Lieutenant Ray Bernier

These systems were installed between 15 and 30 years ago and are well past their end of life. The implementation of the jail wide lock down due to the COVID-19 Pandemic has made the use of cameras and the ability to provide security more critical. The use of cameras to identify people and observe activity near specific areas and cells is vital to the overall safety of the facility. The current system does not have the capability to provide the level of oversight required to safely manage the Jail while under lock down. The doors of jail cells are failing. Inmates routinely "pop" the locks of these doors, and often assault or attempt to assault deputies and other inmates. The ability to prevent unauthorized exits from cells is critical for the safety of both deputies and inmates. These locks must be replaced without delay. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the incarcerated population have been locked down beyond the normal schedule in order to practice social distancing and reduce the risk of spreading the virus. The failing locks have been defeated and people have exited the cells with the purpose of harming others.

Built in 1988, the El Paso County Jail has served the citizens of El Paso County Colorado well. Like all long-standing custodial structures, constant maintenance is required to ensure the safety, health, and welfare of the citizens housed within its walls. A significant, ongoing concern was inmates bypassing cell door locks due to lock failure. For years, Jail maintenance staff replaced cell door parts, yet inmates continued to bypass locks due to worn lock mechanisms. It became clear new locks were needed to address security concerns. The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the need to address the lock problem. In custodial environments, an important protocol in limiting the spread of infection is isolating sick inmates from the greater population. The Jail's existing door locks did not ascertain afflicted inmates would remain isolated within their cells. The advent of CARES grant funding allowed the installation of essential cell security upgrades. In evaluating lock solutions, the Willo Wedge locking system was selected. The Willo system is used in both correctional and detention settings nationwide and to date, have yet to be defeated. The Willo system required existing analog door controls to be replaced with digital door controls. Cameras were upgraded to digital technology as well since both door and camera use an integrated digital Human Machine Interface (HMI) software and are integrated into Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) panels located in the Jail's Central Control Room. To date, the new doors locks have allowed Jail staff to isolate inmates within their cells, reducing the spread of COVID-19, while enhancing the overall security posture within the Jail.







# PRIORITY 3: Lobby / Locker Room Remodel

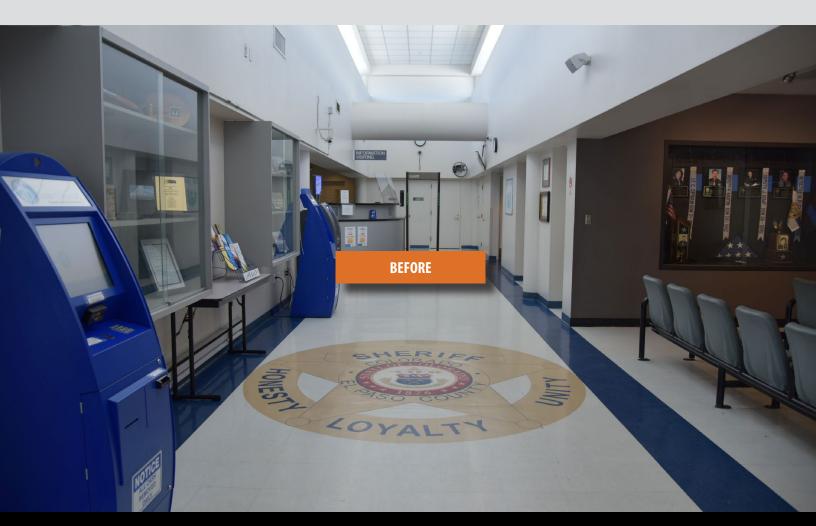
**Estimated Cost**: \$2,200,000.00

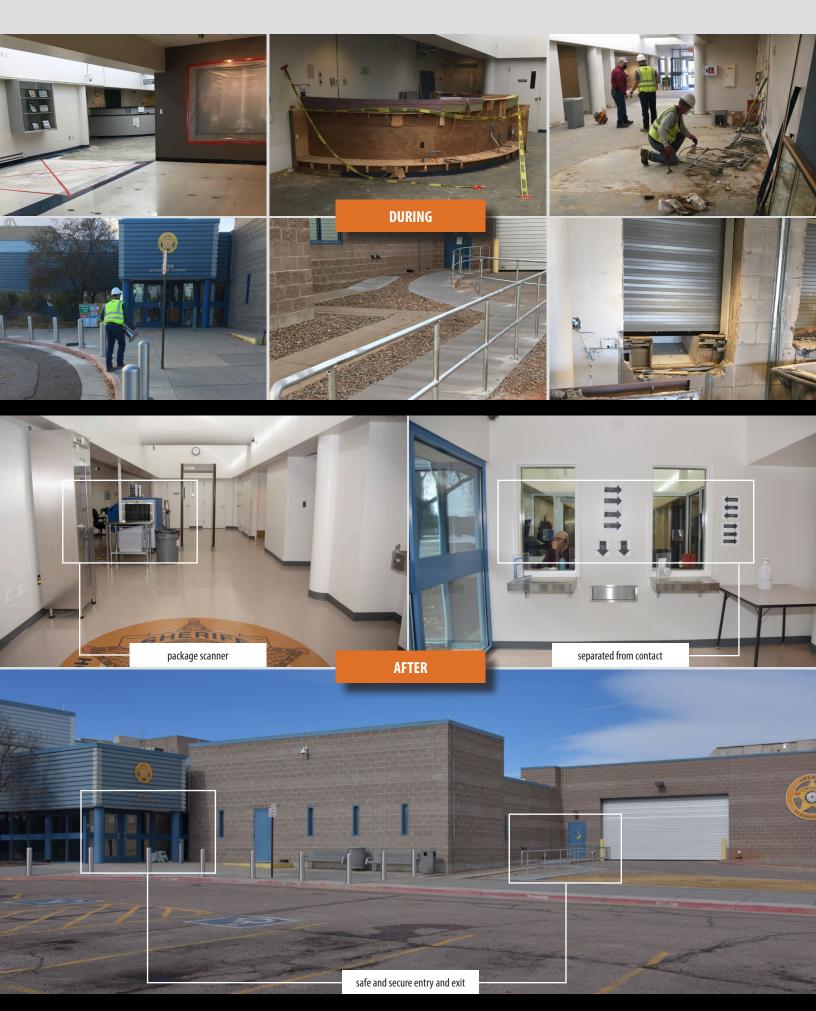
**Coordinator:** Lieutenant Ray Bernier

Due to overcrowded locker rooms, the Jail resorted to utilizing a co-ed locker room which has no locker space and does not allow for physical distancing. Additionally, the Security Technicians in the lobby are vulnerable to attack and must be provided with a more secure front lobby. The front desk is open to the public with no barrier to protect staff from assault or personal contact.

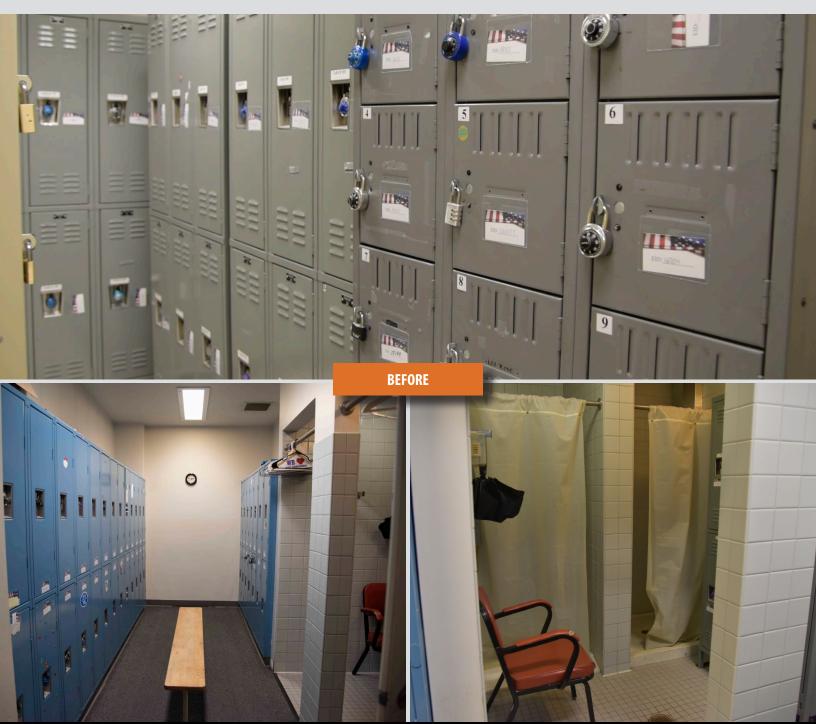
**LOBBY:** Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the El Paso County Jail customer service lobby was open to the public. Citizens admitting themselves to the custody of the Jail as well as citizens completing their sentences were admitted or released through the front lobby. Professional services provided by bondsmen, attorneys, probation personnel, programs volunteers, dignitaries, and other law enforcement agencies were also admitted through the lobby. The lobby was equipped with seating which citizens used as a waiting area for the release of friends and family members. With the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was clear that an open lobby concept would not be viable in preventing the introduction of the virus into the facility nor the spread of the virus between patrons within the lobby. Two restrooms within the lobby opened to the public allowed an additional avenue for the spread of the virus. To mitigate the introduction and spread of the COVID virus, the following measures were taken:

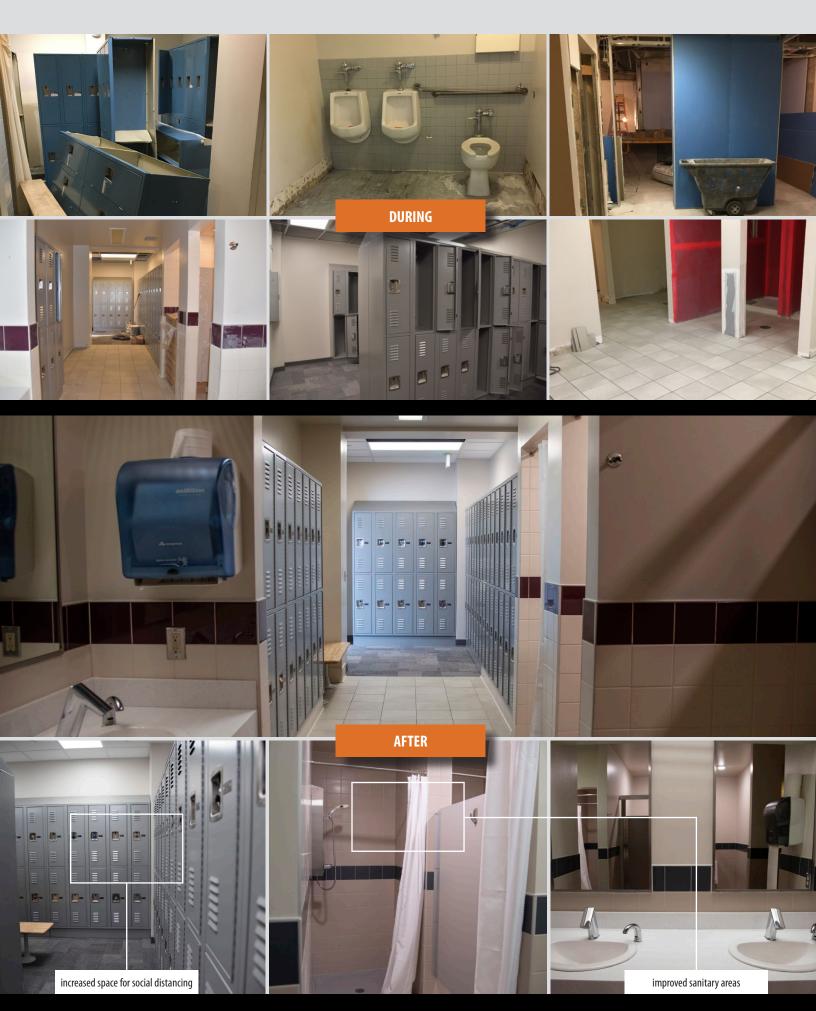
- To maintain CDC social distancing guidelines, electronically controlled lobby doors were installed to limit the number of citizens conducting business within the lobby at the same time.
- 2. A wall was constructed within the lobby to help minimize the introduction of COVID within the Jail. Customer service windows were installed to eliminate airborne pathogens from passing between customers and customer service representatives.
- 3. Lobby restrooms received a 'refresh' allowing installation of "touch free" toilet and hand washing fixtures to reduce cross contamination and the spread of disease.
- 4. Prior to admission into the secure area of the Jail, all visitors will undergo COVID screening and hand disinfecting protocols.





**LOCKER ROOMS**: In its original design, the El Paso County Jail did not provide an adequate number of lockers or locker room space for the number of deputies assigned to the Jail. Deputies are required to secure their duty weapons in assigned lockers prior to entering the secure areas of the facility. The locker shortage was an on-going problem resulting in deputies sharing lockers to secure their gear. In 2004, a new addition to the Jail was added requiring additional staff further exacerbating the locker shortage. As a temporary solution, a small fourteen by twenty-foot room within the Administration area of the Jail was converted into a temporary coed locker room. This space added a few more lockers but remained woefully inadequate for the numbers of deputies needing them. In addition, the small space was cramped requiring deputies to walk sideways when passing each other to access their lockers. The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic made it clear that the current locker room did not meet Centers for Disease Control (CDC) social distancing guidelines and were no longer safe for use. With the advent of CARES grant funding, DLR Architectural Group was contracted to evaluate a series of offices that previously housed the Sheriff's Dispatch Center for conversion into separate male and female locker rooms. This was accomplished by removing walls that separated the existing restrooms from the former Dispatch offices. This project resulted in the creation of separate male and female locker rooms that allows for enough lockers to accommodate the entire Jail staff. The design also created the space needed between lockers that met CDC social distancing guidelines. The restrooms received a 'refresh' incorporating touch free toilet and hand washing fixtures to reduce cross contamination and the spread of disease. Tile surfaces were added throughout the rest rooms to facilitate frequent disinfecting.





# PRIORITY 4: Sheriff's Training Facility/Remodel

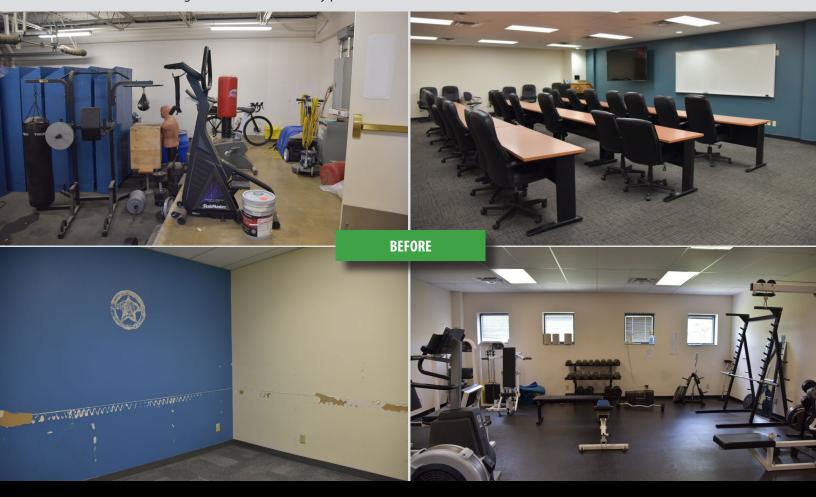
**Estimated Cost**: \$950,000.00

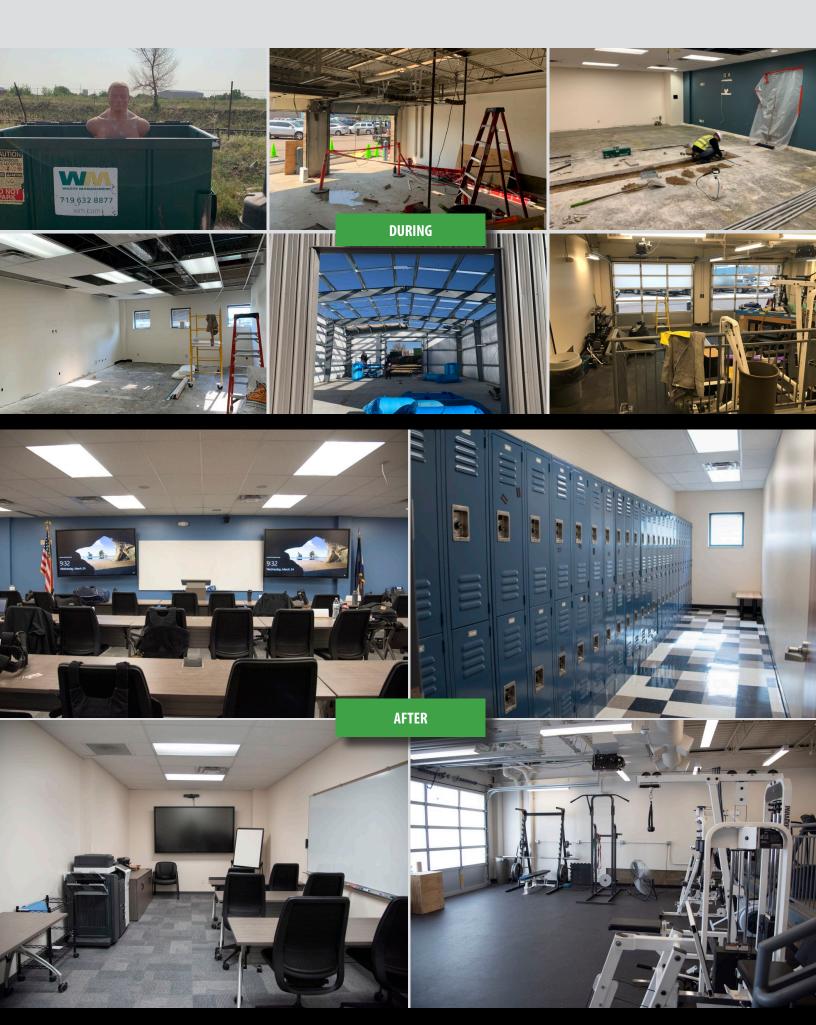
Coordinator: Lieutenant Scott Deno

The Sheriff's Training Facility is woefully underutilized. By doing this remodel, safe distances are able to be provided to staff during Academy and annual In-Service training consistent with the COVID-19 recommended social distancing. The remodel will allow the Office to relocate the Civil Unit from the old Metro Jail, also providing additional opportunities for social distancing. This remodel will also require an upgrade to the emergency generator and independent storage facility.

In April 2020 due to COVID-19 safety protocols, the Office could no longer conduct in-person training for our newest recruits (hired in mid-March). As such, recruits were sent home pending further direction. Over the next two months, it became clear the current training facilities and technology were incompatible with requirements for social distancing and virtual learning. To address these concerns, existing facilities were evaluated to determine if any areas were underutilized resulting in the decision to remodel the Sheriff's Training Facility (STF). This building was dilapidated, run down, and was only used for Arrest Control Instruction in a small mat room. Prior to remodel, the STF had six unoccupied offices (used to store Arrest Control Equipment), a large classroom in disrepair, a small gym, a garage area used to store additional training and fitness equipment, and as previously mentioned, a mat room. The remodel of this facility consisted of converting the existing gym into a locker room and smaller classroom (capable of holding 16 students) with a second Ti Simulator. This simulator is identical to the existing one in the large classroom but will allow smaller groups to train simultaneously while remaining distanced. The garage was renovated, and gym equipment moved to this area allowing for members to exercise in a much larger space. One of the offices in the STF was extremely large and was converted into a small class/conference room capable of holding eight students and all three classrooms were integrated using smart monitors allowing for virtual instruction. Should the need for in-person instruction be unavoidable, an academy class can now be broken down into three groups while ensuring social distancing and maintaining a continuity of training. All Training Staff were provided with laptops capable of virtual instruction if the instructor cannot be physically present.

As offices were converted from storage into functioning workspaces, a need to store Arrest Control Equipment became critical. To remedy this, a 40 x 60 metal storage building was constructed. This building will serve multiple purposes to include the storage of equipment, as well as allowing sworn members to participate in arrest control training in an enclosed structure large enough to allow for social distancing and adherence to safety protocols.





# PRIORITY 5: Update Equipment for Sanitation/Hygiene

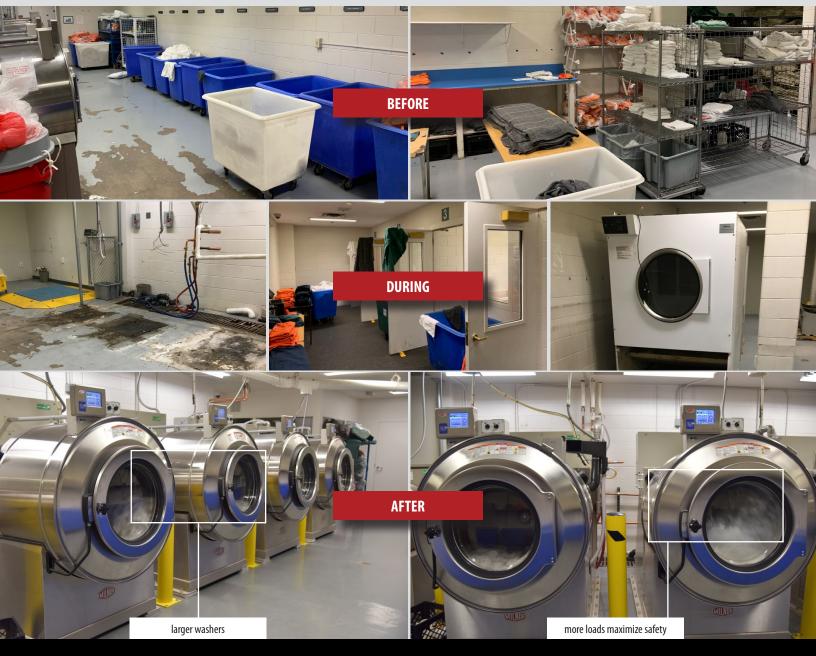
**Estimated Cost** : \$300,000.00

Coordinator: Lieutenant Mike Pitt

Purchase four industrial washer/dryer combinations to ensure proper washing of jail laundry as recommended by Public Health.

The Sanitation and Hygiene Project consisted of replacing the four commercial washers and four commercial dryers. Instead of using multiple sizes of washers, the Sheriff's Office decided to use four large capacity washers with the addition of a small capacity washer. The small capacity washer will be used for small bio-hazard loads of laundry. The washing machines and dryers are more efficient and easier to program to the specific needs of health standards. By installing four larger capacity washing machines, the El Paso County Jail will be able to do more loads of laundry, maximizing the use of our Tide chemicals, and be able to distribute clean jumpsuits to the inmate population. The new washers and dryers meet the heat requirements to effectively kill COVID-19 and other viruses and bacteria. New workstations and storage racks were installed for easy cleaning.

Wasp Barcode Technology was purchased for the Jail supply room. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the necessity of an inventory system for the Jail was apparent. Wasp Barcode Technology allows for complete inventory reports to be generated that encompasses not only inmate jumpsuits and toothbrushes, but also current Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at the Jail. Wasp Barcode Technology will give future Incident Commanders of pandemics accurate information for PPE and cleaning chemical distribution.



# **PRIORITY 6: Telemedicine Equipment**

**Estimated Cost**: \$250,000.00

**Coordinator:** Chief of Staff Janet Huffor

Telemedicine will allow virtual examinations by emergency room physicians while the inmate remains in the Medical Unit of the Jail. This allows for triage of an inmate prior to transporting them to the emergency room. This will save significant time and expense for both the hospitals and the Sheriff's Office as well as reduce the risk of unnecessary exposure to medical facilities and contaminants which may be introduced back into the Jail.

COVID-19 presented challenges for anyone needing to receive medical care throughout the community. The general public was given the opportunity to utilize telemedicine options for visits to the doctor, and the Sheriff's Office wanted to have this availability for those who are incarcerated in the Jail. Telemedicine allows for virtual examinations by emergency room physicians (or specialists) while the inmate remains in the Medical Unit of the Jail. The triage of an inmate can be completed prior to transporting them to the Emergency Room or another medical facility. Not only does this save significant time and expense for hospitals and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, it reduces the risk of unnecessary exposure to medical facilities and contaminants which can be introduced back into the Jail. The budget for the implementation of the Telemedicine project was \$250,000. To date, \$151,447.14 has been spent on the project. This project was successfully completed with strong partnerships between the UC Health leadership, UC Health Telemedicine Team, the Wellpath leadership and nursing team, and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. All the necessary telemedicine equipment needed for proper assessment of an inmate was purchased and training of staff was completed for a smooth transition and implementation.

# **PRIORITY 7: Hazardous Duty Pay**

**Estimated Cost**: \$1,161,000.00

**Coordinator:** Manager Jane Fromme

In order to become consistent with agencies across the Country, the Office will provide hazardous duty pay to members of the Office who provide essential services to the public despite the risks posed by COVID-19

## March 15 - July 1: Initial Amount \$1,161,000.00

Due to higher priorities and no current COVID-19 outbreak at the Jail this summer, this initial award was rescinded and re-awarded later in the year and at a lower amount.

#### November 1- December 26: Additional Amount \$450,000.00

A COVID-19 Outbreak had occurred and continues to be present at the Jail. As essential workers, Detention personnel continue to provide public services despite the risk of exposure. They are required to have direct contact with COVID-19 positive or presumed positive individuals. Due to the Public Health Emergency, all Detention personnel are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency while having direct contact with members of the public to enforce public health and public safety orders. To acknowledge this risk, Detention staff were awarded Hazard Pay from November 1st - December 26th. Time cards and payroll documentation was provided to CARES for reimbursement. CARES covered the Hazard Pay in the amount of \$391,242.00

**PRIORITY 8: Overtime** 

**Estimated Cost**: \$200,000.00

**Coordinator:** Manager Jane Fromme

Additional shifts and extended duty hours will be required to establish Office services to those pre-COVID-19.

During the Pandemic, many units had to reduce hours or scale back services. This was most apparent in the Concealed Handgun Permit Unit and Sex Offender Registration Office. The Detention Bureau also was heavily impacted by staff shortages associated to COVID-19. To re-establish services back to expected levels and/or to keep them at expected levels, overtime was approved.

Personnel tracking sheets, time cards and payroll documentation was provided to CARES for reimbursement. CARES covered the overtime costs in the amount of \$195,440.

#### PRIORITY 9: Visitation Booth Remodel / Video Court

**Estimated Cost**: \$276,000.00

**Coordinator:** Manager Guy Funkhouser

The current layout does not provide a closed environment to reduce the spreading of contaminants to others in the vicinity. The remodeled booths will provide the recommended social distancing. With the risk of COVID-19 entering the Jail and the Governor's recent recommendation regarding the movement of prisoners between facilities, we will seek to work with other facilities within Colorado to participate in a shared video court program. Currently Broomfield, Boulder, Larimer, Weld, Adams, Jefferson, Denver, and Arapahoe Counties are participating in a shared video program. By moving to the Webex platform, we will be able to reduce the amount of inmate movement from different facilities and reduce the risk of exposing inmates, staff and judicial staff to COVID-19.

The Visitation Booth remodel was originally proposed to Command Staff in April 2020. The idea was to create four visitation booths that would allow for the Judges from multiple Judicial Districts, as well as Attorneys, to remotely meet and visit with inmates from the El Paso County Jail. The original proposal would include four cameras, four viewing screens, and four computers. With the understanding that COVID-19 was not going away, a different plan was necessary. As the spread of the COVID-19 virus increased, the scope of the Visitation Booth remodel increased. Moving from the original four booths, the project would increase to 25 total booths; 21 Visitation areas in the old portion of the Jail, and four booths located in the tower. With the increased scale of the project, the need for a more robust protection system for the cameras became apparent. With the intent of extending the longevity of the expensive Web Cams, the Information Technology (IT) Section designed custom made powder coated iron brackets that would be surrounded by a plexiglass shell. As the end of July approached, a decision was made to add doors to the Visitation booths that were currently without privacy. The project went to bid for the doors and GE Johnson was awarded the contract and guaranteed a completion date of November 15. With all of the Visitation hardware on order, a vendor selected for the door install and the custom plexiglass shells and iron brackets in development, the project was looking to have no issues in achieving the December 12 completion date. During the month of September, with the virus in full spread, the courts and the attorney's offices started to request that the project be escalated from the original December 12 date. With a shortened time line now implemented, the push to begin the installation was started. With concern for the inmate's privacy, the booths that were already outfitted with doors were utilized which provided the opportunity for 12 booths to used. By September 18, the Jail was utilizing 12 booths that were booked from open to close of the court. In working with GE Johnson, the agreement was made to start installing the doors as they came in. By October 26, the Jail was able to utilize a total of 21 booths. During the first week of November, the remainder of the doors had been installed, and the Visitation Booths had officially become the only way that the courts were now processing dockets. The IT Section, the Jail front desk personnel and the courts A/V specialists started a regiment to test the accuracy and audible clarity of the booths to make sure that the cameras and hardware were providing the courts with the necessary quality.

With a week before the December 12 deadline, the Video Visitation Booths and Video Courts projects were completed. With the COVID-19 shutdown still in effect, the Video Visitation system has been relied on for both the courts and the Attorney's at the County Jail. With a total of 1,785 Court visits, and a total of 580 professional visits, the new Visitation Booths have become the go to resource for not only El Paso County, but also outside districts and counties. What started as a small, niche project, escalated into a full court and transport alternative during the Pandemic.







# **PRIORITY 10: Office & Cubicle Safety Updates**

**Estimated Cost**: \$500,000.00

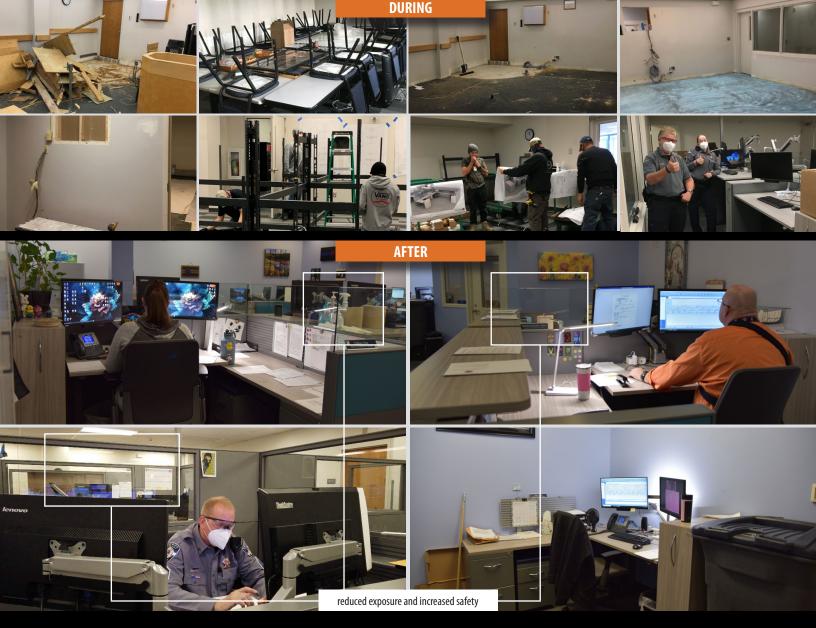
Coordinator: Lieutenant Ray Bernier

Update Office equipment and work areas to allow for social distancing to increase staff protection and reduce exposure.

Through the CARES grant funding, workstations within the Jail have been replaced with hard surface furniture conducive to frequent cleaning to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The furniture selected has surfaces that are easily disinfected, are not constructed of cloth type material, and provide physical barriers between employees that meet Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines. Additionally, commercial grade carpeting and paint has been applied to high traffic areas. Close attention was placed in selecting materials that will withstand frequent cleanings while providing a long service life.

#### In Summary:

- 1. All furniture purchased incorporated dividers, desk, and seating surfaces that are conducive to frequent disinfecting protocols. Old furniture had cloth dividers and seating that could not be readily cleaned by spraying and wiping with disinfectant.
- 2. Clear dividers were integrated into workspace/cubicle design to reduce the spread of viruses through coughing, sneezing etc.
- 3. Office carpeting was upgraded as needed to allow for disinfecting/cleaning. Only high traffic areas with worn carpeting that could no longer be cleaned due to fabric breakdown were replaced.
- 4. Painting was required in high traffic areas where walls were damaged or discolored. The paint applied was commercial grade which may be disinfected frequently without damage to the paint finish.



# **PRIORITY 11: Re-Deployment of School Resource Officers**

**Estimated Cost**: \$125,000.00

**Coordinator:** Manager Jane Fromme

Due to local school districts closing because of COVID-19, they have asked for a refund of their portion of the deputy positions assigned to their respective school districts. The deputies have been re-deployed in the Patrol Division to assist with responding to the needs of the community.

Local school districts closed during the Spring of 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. These schools had contracted with the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$307,595.25 a semester for the services of 10 School Resources Officers (SRO's). Due to the early closures, the schools requested partial refunds in the amount of \$59,870.57.

The SRO deputies had to re-deploy to the Patrol Division to assist with responding to the needs of the community. School contracts and payroll documentation were provided to CARES. CARES funding in the amount of \$125,000.00 covered the cost of these redeployments.

# **PRIORITY 12: Re-Deployment of Work Release Deputies**

**Estimated Cost**: \$487,500.00

Coordinator: Manager Jane Fromme

Due to COVID-19, the Office was forced to close the Work Release program to minimize the participant's risk of exposure. As a result, the Office re-deployed deputies in the Jail to assist with the facility wide lock down and enable social distancing.

Due to COVID-19, the Sheriff's Office was forced to close the Work Release Program to minimize the participants' risk of exposure. As a result, these employees were re-deployed to the Detention Bureau to assist with jail operations. CARES funding covered the three-month salary cost for 10 deputies and the Work Release Coordinator. Work Release Contracts and Payroll documentation were provided to CARES. CARES funding in the amount of \$448,915.60 covered the cost of these re-deployments.







# **DEPUTY JEFF HOPKINS**

Deputy Jeff Hopkins passed away on April 1, 2020, from the COVID-19 virus.

Deputy Hopkins was 41 years old and leaves behind his wife, Wendy and daughter, Madeline.

Deputy Hopkins had been employed with the Sheriff's Office since 2001 and had held various assignments in the Detention and Law Enforcement Bureaus.



## LIEUTENANT **DOUG LUNDSTEDT**

Lieutenant Doug Lundstedt unexpectedly passed away on May 5, 2020, after being involved in an offduty traffic crash.

Lieutenant Lundstedt was 58 years old and leaves behind his wife, Michelle and daughter, Jordan.

Lieutenant Lundstedt had been employed with the Sheriff's Office since 2003 and had held various assignments in the Detention Bureau.



## **DETECTIVE GREG YOUNG**

Detective Greg Young unexpectedly passed away on August 19, 2020, while at home.

Detective Young was 49 years old and leaves behind his wife Vickie, and daughters Kennedi and Ryleigh.

Detective Young had been employed with the Sheriff's Office since 2002 and had held various assignments in the Detention and Law Enforcement Bureaus











MARY BRYANT



JENNIFER VANCENA







SERGEANT ROBERT MIHILL



ACCREDITATION ANNIE PETREE



GATEWAYS / R&R LAURA RIDENOUR



Sergeant Troy Fritsche Sergeant James Mahan Sergeant Kimberly Miller Deputy Kecia Cole Deputy Russell Hovanec Deputy Jason Luce Deputy Billie Mahan Deputy Jane Pludowski Deputy Gary Kording, Jr. Deputy Steven Deno

Detective Mark Riley Troy Allen Albert Eichen Linda Bradford Carolin Vanbarneveld Edward Kafel Victoria Zertuche Tonia Paguyo Ward Wallis Paula Casias





## **MEDAL OF HONOR**

**DEPUTY JEFF HOPKINS** 



# **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL**

SERGEANT MARCUS MILLER
DEPUTY JAMES COFFEY
DEPUTY DAVID FISHER
DEPUTY MATTHEW GAW
DEPUTY RYAN GONZALES
DEPUTY NICHOLAS WITHERITE



#### **LIFE SAVING MEDAL**

SERGEANT JARED HARMON
DEPUTY RYAN GONZALES
\*DEPUTY CAMERON KOMROFSKE
DEPUTY ROBERT DAMUTH
DEPUTY TIFFANY LEE
DEPUTY MICHAEL CALLIS
DEPUTY DANIEL CAREY
DEPUTY CURTIS LENZ
DEPUTY MICHAEL PARKER
DEPUTY BRENTON ADORADOR
DEPUTY ZACHARY LACEY

\*RECEIVED 2 LIFE SAVING AWARDS IN 2020



**ALGIE FELDER** 



#### MEDAL OF VALOR

SERGEANT JAMES MAHAN



# **MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD**

DEPUTY MARK STEVENS LAURA RIDENOUR



## **ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

CHIEF ANDY JAMES
COMMANDER MITCH MIHALKO
LIEUTENANT DAVID MANZANILLA
LIEUTENANT JOHN SARKISIAN
SERGEANT JAKE ABENDSCHAN
SERGEANT DEB MYNATT
SERGEANT ROSARIO HUBBELL
SERGEANT KURT SMITH
SERGEANT CLIFF PORTER
DETECTIVE JENNIFER ARNDT

DETECTIVE MICHAEL BAUMANN
DETECTIVE JESSICA BETHEL
DETECTIVE MICHAEL BOGGS
DETECTIVE NICHOLAS BRKLICH
DETECTIVE TIMOTHY FERRELL
DETECTIVE PATRICK GALLAGHER
DETECTIVE DAVID GLENN
DETECTIVE KAT HUSTON
DETECTIVE KARL MAI
DETECTIVE COURTNEY MCCORMACK

DETECTIVE LISA MONTVILLE
DETECTIVE CHRISTINA PERRY
DETECTIVE JON PRICE
DETECTIVE MARK RILEY
DETECTIVE ROBERT SIROIS
DETECTIVE PETER VIGIL
DETECTIVE BRADLEY WHITEHEAD
DETECTIVE MARISSA WILLIAMS
DETECTIVE GLEN BOARMAN
DETECTIVE VINCE SAPP

DETECTIVE GREG YOUNG
DETECTIVE WES YOWELL
DEPUTY JOHN ZACHMAN
ANGELA GILLISPIE
BAILEY GEARHART
LEANNE MITCHELL
STEPHANIE HAPP
CHRISTIAN LIEWER
AUSTIN HARTMAN
JIM SCHANEL

MICHELLE MOELLER
KYM VIETCH
PATTY BAXTER
JAY CHRISTIANSON
JEFF FLAUNG
JANELLE ROAKES
ANG MAJOR JASON REED
JENNIFER HARRIS
JACQUELINE REED



# OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide the citizens of El Paso County effective and efficient public safety services. We deliver them consistently with character, competence, and transparency.

# OUR **VISION**

Our vision is to ensure El Paso County remains the safest and most enjoyable place to live and visit in the State of Colorado. We are committed to holding the highest standard for public safety to achieve a county free of crime and public disorder

# **OUR VALUES**

**HONESTY:** Our personal and professional behavior will be a model for all to follow. Our actions will match our words. We will have the courage to stand up for our beliefs and do what is right.

**LOYALTY:** We are loyal to our oath to protect the constitutional rights of those we serve by empowering our employees to make decisions that support the letter and spirit of the law.

**UNITY:** We have a united commitment to serve our diverse community with fairness, dignity, and equality. We commit to excellence in all we do.

