

# Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



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# The Mission, Vision, and Core Values of The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

## ***MISSION STATEMENT***

"Commitment to Excellence for All Citizens with Fair and Equitable Performance"

## ***VISION***

To become "THE PREMIER LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY IN TENNESSEE" through the pursuit of professional excellence and partnerships with our community maintaining a high quality of life through collaborative problem solving.

## ***INTEGRITY***

We pledge to maintain a strong sense of honesty, morality, and ethical character.

## ***HONESTY***

We pledge to always be truthful, sincere, upright, and decent.

## ***CHARACTER***

We pledge to maintain the highest ethical standards and honorable personal qualities, serving as role models for our youth, our community, and our profession.

## 2018 MESSAGE FROM HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF JIM HAMMOND

2018 was an election year in Hamilton County, Tennessee and as sheriff, a great deal of my time was split between duties as a sitting sheriff and as a candidate for re-election to the office of sheriff. I deeply appreciated the continued smooth and efficient day-to-day operation of the HCSO by my command staff during the months I participated in the electoral process. In August 2018, I was re-elected to another four-year term as the sheriff of Hamilton County, a great honor for me personally.

2018 was also a challenging year in another respect as we saw the fruits of the Bridge Plan began to take hold as some seasoned employees of HCSO reached mandatory retirement age and began to process out to well-deserved retirements. We anticipated that the first two years after the Bridge Plan adoption by local government would create somewhat of a strain on our staff in terms of experience and manpower shortages. With the departure of some employees, others were rewarded with advancement in their career bringing to their job assignments new knowledge and experiences for our agency.

Among those who retired during 2018 was my chief deputy, Allen Branum, who served Hamilton County in law enforcement for many years including a short time as Interim Sheriff. While the process was underway to vet a new chief deputy, Chief Bill Johnson was named as Interim Chief Deputy to keep the office moving efficiently. Finally, in early December, Chattanooga Police Department Lieutenant Austin Garrett was selected as the new chief deputy beginning his service in February 2019.

Perhaps one of the most difficult challenges for the year came with regards to being able to recruit and train in the Corrections Division. With the U.S. economy showing significant improvement during the past year, many potential Corrections candidates opt for better-paying positions. We also have difficulty in securing enough road officers, and for that reason, we are requesting that the county approve a new pay plan that would improve not only morale but also recruitment to the career of law enforcement.

The expanding demographics of the unincorporated areas of Hamilton County continue to impact the need for additional personnel and specialized training. I applaud our command staff, supervisors and finance personnel who work tirelessly to “make things work” for our agency and our citizens.

In November 2017, the sheriff’s office began oversight of the Silverdale Detention Center. This requires the sheriff’s office to provide oversight of a private vendor running the operation.

Eight employees from HCSO work on-site at the facility and assist the private vendor with operations.

In addition to taking over the workhouse, the HCSO has put together a team to design and develop plans for the construction of a new county jail. This will be a five-year-plus operation with twenty million dollars appropriated for phase one in the program. A team has been established to proceed with the project and meets regularly with hopes of turning the first shovel of soil toward the end of 2019.

We are also very proud of our accreditations from the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) and our American Correctional Accreditation (ACA) for the Jail. And, we are closing in on achieving the NSA's famed Triple Crown Accreditation as we are currently pursuing the National Commission on Correctional Healthcare Accreditation (NCCHC). This Triple Crown distinction is so rare that since the establishment of the award in 1933 fewer than 100 sheriff's offices across the country and only five in Tennessee have qualified.

Today, there is no doubt whatsoever that we are a better educated, disciplined, more conscientious, and more transparent sheriff's office due to our adherence to the standards required by CALEA and ACA.

As the senior law enforcement officer in the county, I am constitutionally mandated to be the keeper of the jail, the server of process, the provider of security for our courts, and the protector of the people. Let me assure you, these directives will always be approached by me and my staff of almost 450 men and women as "Job One" for our citizens and with a "Can Do" attitude.

Finally, I want our Annual Report this year to serve to inform and encourage our mayor, the members of our county commission, Hamilton County's elected officials and the citizens of this county. (Our Annual Report is also available on our website, [hcsheriff.gov](http://hcsheriff.gov).)

Sheriff Jim Hammond

## MESSAGE FROM CHIEF BRANUM

This past year has been challenging for many of us within the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. We were able to accomplish many goals and objectives due to the fact that we are fortunate to have employees that are not only committed to this agency, but know how to get things done! We have taken on numerous projects and responsibilities over the past couple of years and I remain proud of the people who tackle the needs, often under less than desirable circumstances.

The Sheriff's Office remains understaffed and under paid. The mayor and commissioners have a tough task determining how the funds get distributed and every agency in the county has more needs than resources. All elected officials and their staff have done a good job of prioritizing the needs versus the funds available to address those priorities. The issue is easy to identify, there is inadequate funding to enable the agencies to pay their employees what they deserve. The salary surveys that are conducted yearly have confirmed that salaries are well below the rate of pay that the job calls for, however the employees continue to do their best to provide the services that the citizens of Hamilton County expect and deserve. Despite these circumstances, the boards of commissioners continue to do their best to designate and distribute the funding that is available to them.

On July 1, 2018, due to adoption of the much needed "Bridge Plan," some positions were vacated with the retirement of several long-time employees which included some upper command level employees. I am one of those and I entered my first day of retirement after almost 42 years in law enforcement. I have been truly blessed to have had a successful career. The main reason for any success that I have experienced is due to the people who I have been fortunate enough to work with throughout my tenure. For the last 20 years of my career, I have served either as a police chief, a Chief Deputy and (for a brief period of time) was appointed as Sheriff of Hamilton County. God has truly blessed me and kept me safe and surrounded by people that supported me and provided good advice when I would listen.

As I look back on my experience, one thing stands out. It takes good people to do a good job. Public service is not like working on an assembly line. To work like a machine doesn't necessarily take integrity, character and ethics to get the job done. To successfully carry out the duties of a public servant requires people who are held to a higher standard than most professions and to continually do the right thing both on and off duty.

To assure that this profession has the right people, it requires the leadership to be the right people as well. Leaders are not just the boss. Leaders must not only tell others how to do the right thing, they must demonstrate it, not just in their professional lives, but every day of their life. Leadership requires trust and communication between all levels of the agency and a person cannot lead without those (and many other) qualifications. If a leader has no one following, he/she is just out for a walk! Leaders must constantly exhibit the traits needed to gain trust and confidence in those who work under them as well as the community they serve. We have been fortunate for the past ten (10) years to have had that leadership in my friend, leader, and mentor, Sheriff Jim Hammond.

We have witnessed a lot of changes during our individual careers and will see many more to come. Change within the agency is inevitable and it has been demonstrated since 1819. I feel good about the future of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office and look forward to the future because of the dedication I witness and have witnessed from every level. I am confident in the direction I see the administration going with the recent appointment of Chief Deputy Austin Garrett. He is a strong leader with the experience and ethics needed to lead by example. I am honored to be replaced by that caliber of an individual and I hope he is fortunate enough to have the support and trust that was extended to me during my tenure as Chief Deputy as well as Sheriff. May God continue to bless all the employees and their families as we transition into 2019.

Respectfully,  
Chief Deputy Allen Branum, Retired

# Uniform Patrol Services



**Captain Doug Wilson**



## UNIFORM PATROL

The Patrol Division is consists of four teams: Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Delta. These teams work 365 days a year, 24 hours a day to provide law enforcement services to citizens and visitors of Hamilton County.

Uniform Patrol is the most visible division, to the public, as patrolmen are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. HCSO Uniform Patrol Deputies respond to both emergency and non-emergency situations ranging from traffic crashes to domestic situations and are responsible for over 500 square mile area of Hamilton County.

The Uniform Patrol Division is led by Captain Douglas Wilson with over 30 years of service at the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. He has direct supervision over +90 Uniform Patrol deputies.

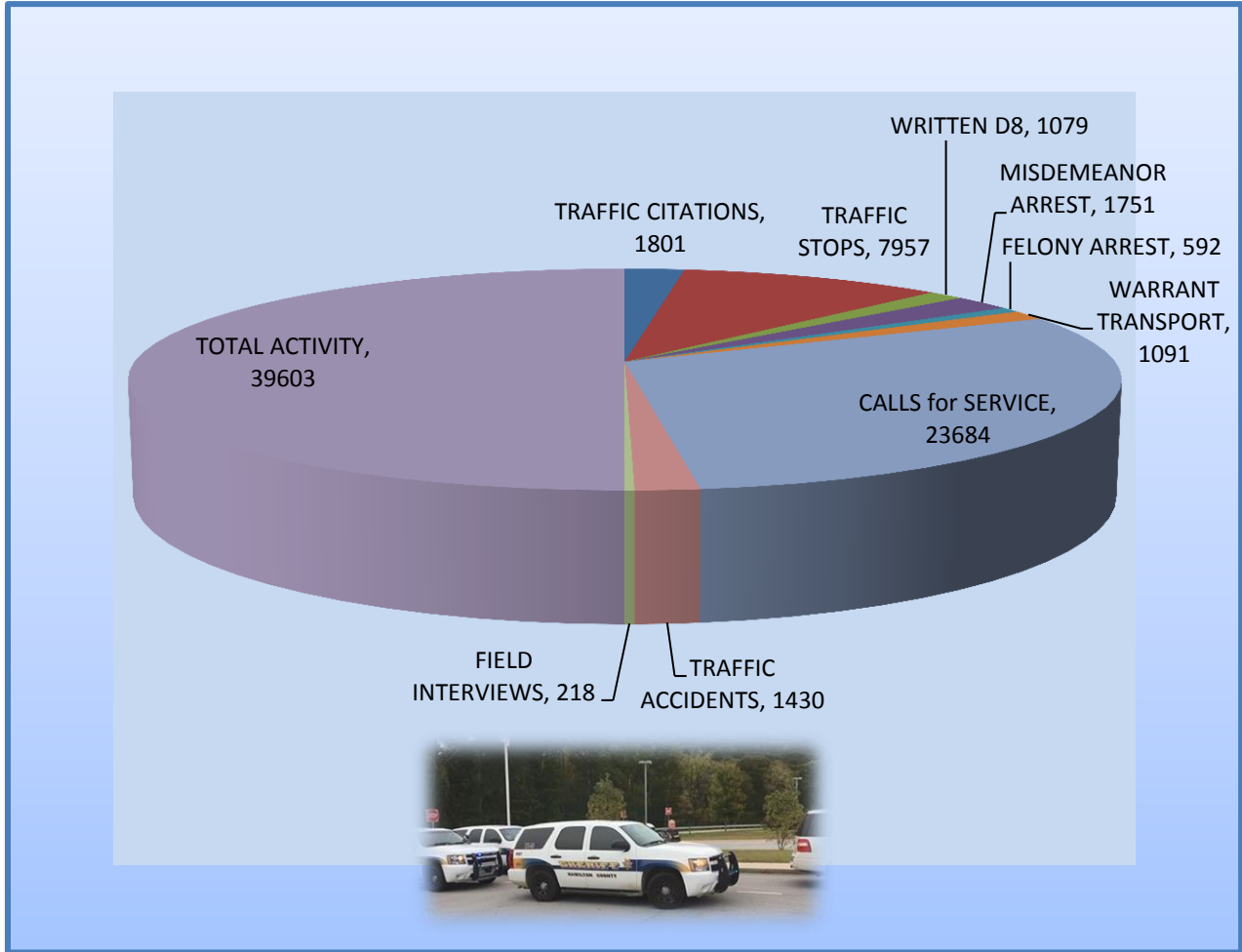
Captain Wilson is over:

- Patrol
- Traffic
- K9 Unit
- Homeland Security
- Special Teams
  - Field Training Officer Program
  - Special Weapons & Tactics (S.W.A.T.)
  - Civil Unrest
  - Marine Patrol
  - Explorers
  - Honor Guard

**Patrol** consists of over 80 deputies, 8 Sergeants and 4 Lieutenants. Patrol works in teams, primarily divided by East and West (side of the river). Patrolmen are generally considered the first responders on calls to the Sheriff's Office. At any given time, there are 18-20+ patrolman on duty. Some of the more significant improvements are:

- Employing SUVs as patrol cars
- Patrolmen have been outfitted with M4 223 caliber rifles
- AVLs allow other deputies and dispatchers to pinpoint each other's location on a map

# Uniform Patrol Yearly Stats Summary



<b>NEIGHBORHOOD CHECKS 20,605</b>	<b>NEIGHBORHOOD CHECKS 23,471</b>
<b>MENTAL HEALTH TRANSPORTS 103</b>	<b>RECOVERED PROPERTY \$701,523</b>

## PATROL COMMENDATIONS 2018

### Commendations:

Deputy J. Marler

Deputy J. Smith

Deputy J. Richmond

Deputy J. Terry

Deputy A. Standifer

Deputy J. Bryson

Deputy Aaron Yeargan



*"The professionalism shown by these deputies' exemplify the role of a dedicated public servant and are in keeping with the highest standards and traditions of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office," noted Sheriff Jim Hammond. "Accordingly, for their heroism, each of these deputies has been awarded a Certificate of Commendation and Sheriff's Challenge Coin."*



## HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE TRAFFIC DIVISION



The mission of the Traffic Division is to provide the citizens of Hamilton County, Tennessee and Municipalities in Hamilton County, Tennessee with a well-trained and equipped team of reconstruct motor vehicles crashes to provide the following: the causes(s) of the crash, the investigation and prosecution of any violations of the law, which contributed to the crash, design and implementation of programs to lower the number of fatal/serious injury crashes, to collect evidence for subsequent criminal and civil action, and to train other members of the Department in crash reconstruction techniques.

Reconstructions often involve estimates of speed from mathematical formulas, technical examination of vehicle parts, scale diagrams, electronic crash data recorders, scientific experiments, and other accepted methods of crash reconstruction. Crash reconstruction will only be conducted on crashes involving a fatality, serious injury that may result in a fatality, or crashes of a very complicated nature. The traffic division will also follow up on hit and run crashes that are not solved immediately.

The Traffic Division also conducts traffic enforcement and responds to citizen complaints about traffic concerns. The Traffic Division also works closely with Hamilton County Traffic Engineering

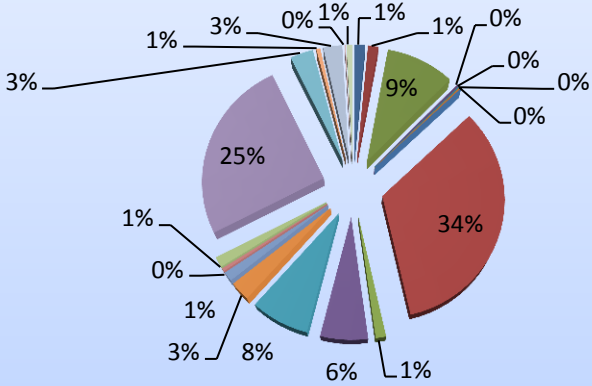
and the Highway Department to determine improvements and solutions to traffic flow situations.

The Traffic Division is also responsible for escorting funerals, dignitaries and special events.

## Yearly Activity Report 2018 Traffic Division

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Funeral / Special Escorts	72
In- House Investigations	69
Traffic Crashes Investigations	459
Traffic Fatalities Investigated	13
Crash Reconstructions	7
Inner Agency Traffic Consultations	10
Scale Diagrams	1
Crash Reports Reviewed	1636
Hit and Run Investigations	66
Calls for Service	299
Calls for Support	371
Training (Inter Departmental)	129
Speed Trailers/ Speed Spy	64
Special Assignments	21
Assist Other Agencies	70
Traffic Stops	1237
Case Follow Ups	155
Call Outs	27
Arrest	127
Reconstruction Assist	6
Traffic Supports	76

# 2018 Traffic Yearly Activity Percentages



- Funeral / Special Escort
- Traffic Facilities Investigated
- Scale Diagrams
- Calls for Service
- Speed Trailers / Speed Spy
- Traffic Stops
- Arrest
- In-House Investigations
- Crash Reconstructions
- Crash Reports Reviewed
- Calls for Support
- Special Assignments
- Case Follow Ups
- Reconstruction Assist
- Traffic Crashes Investigated
- Inner Agency Traffic Consultations
- Hit and Run Investigations
- Training ( Inner Departmental)
- Assist Other Agencies
- Call Outs
- Traffic Supports



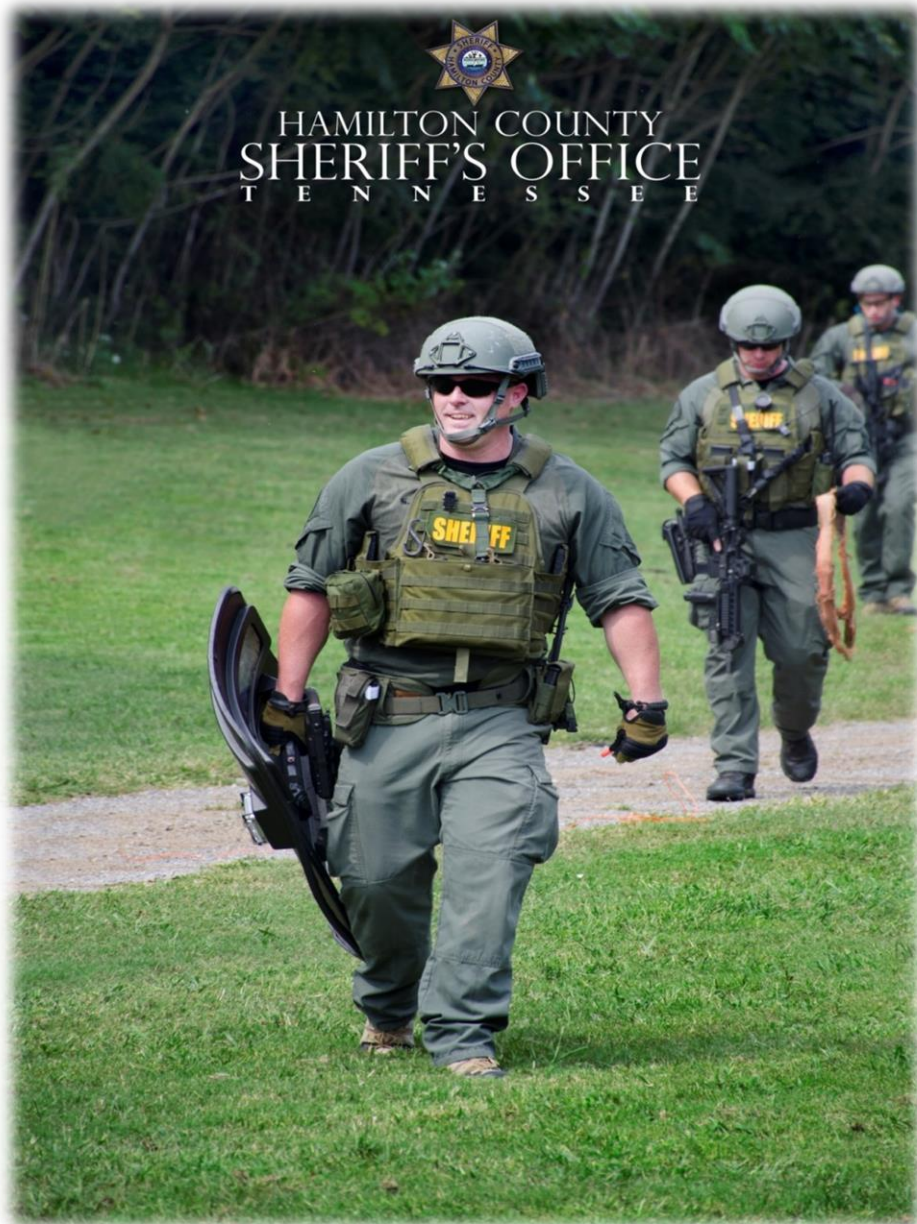
## K-9 UNIT

The K-9 Unit consists of 2-4 specially trained K9 Deputies, 1 Sergeant and 1 Lieutenant. The K9 Unit currently serves, primarily in drug interdiction. The K9 Unit has several multi-purpose canines: from drug dogs who sniff out drugs, to apprehension, tracking and search. The K9 Deputy trains constantly with their canine partner. The K9 Unit is also available to assist other jurisdictions with their K9 needs.





HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS





- April 4-09-2018, HCSO SWAT was requested by Narcotics and Special Operations to execute a high risk search warrant at 1669 Hamlet Road in the East Brainerd area. The suspect at the residence was suspected of distributing heroin and marijuana, as well as being known to always go armed and making YouTube videos showing him with handguns. The suspect was also a validated member of a local street gang.
- May 5-30-2018, HCSO SWAT requested for mutual aid assistance in Marion County at 595 Lee Morrison Road in Whitwell. Marion Co. Patrol units responded to an initial call a subject at this location was armed and threatening suicide. When they arrived, the suspect, Douglas Floyd Sr., was in the front yard fighting with members of his family. He then ran inside of a large metal fabricated building with garage bays and barricaded.
- Marion Co. requested HCSO for primarily explosive entry ability. A small team of operators responded to the location, formed a tactical plan with Marion County's commander, and initiated an explosive entry into the structure. Had this type of entry been a typical entry and not with explosives, there most certainly would have been a fire fight between law enforcement and the suspect.
- 5-22-2019, HCSO SWAT was requested by the TBI and DEA to serve a high risk warrant at 2210 Bennett Avenue in Chattanooga. The target location was part of a large scale, multi-jurisdictional investigation involving many violent gang members. There were to be multiple target houses served simultaneously between Hamilton County and another location in Kentucky. Explosive entry was successfully used to defeat many layers of security on the front door of the residence and the house was secured immediately.
- 5-23-2019, HCSO SWAT was requested by Narcotics and Special Operations to serve a high risk warrant at 10406 Birchwood Pike in Harrison. The location was believed to be moving a high level of narcotics and there was a fear there may be weapons in the residence based off intelligence gathered from an informant.
- July 7-18-2018, HCSO SWAT was requested by Narcotics and Special Investigations to execute a search warrant at 715 Retro Hughes Road in the Bakewell area. The location was known to law enforcement for criminal activity and the intelligence gathered on the suspect was he was potentially armed. The main suspect at the location has a long, extensive criminal history and has been incarcerated multiple times.
- August 8-16-2018. HCSO SWAT was requested by Narcotics and Special Operations to execute a search warrant at 8506 West Parkway in Soddy Daisy. The target location was deemed to possibly have a high amount of Fentanyl laced heroin at the location, as well as often times having multiple persons at the location. The location was also located on a shared driveway with other structures.
- October 10-17-2018 HCSO SWAT executed a high risk search warrant for the Narcotics and Special Operations Division at 7618 Clearwater Road in Hixson. NSO received credible information from an informant the suspect residing at this residence was selling narcotics and

potentially had weapons. NSO was also suffering a manpower shortage and a partial SWAT element was utilized to augment their personnel.

- 10-31-2018, HCSO SWAT was requested to execute a high risk search warrant at 3338 A Gundy Drive in Chattanooga. The 'Black' team element of SWAT executed the warrant for Narcotics and Special Operations based on intelligence gathered from an informant of a large amount of narcotics sold at the address and the persons of interest possessing firearms.
- December 12-04-2018, HCSO SWAT was requested by Narcotics and Special Operations to serve a search warrant at 6938 Fairview Road in Hixson. NSO gathered intelligence of large amounts of narcotics being distributed at this location. SWAT was needed primarily due to the structure being in excess of 2500 square feet and posed many dangers to NSO executing the warrant alone. There was also intelligence multiple subjects could potentially be inside the residence.

12-17-2018. HCSO SWAT was activated to respond to the Hamilton County Jail due to a weapons threat. Intelligence gathered by the Corrections Security Section that there was a small caliber handgun in one of the bunk areas of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Jail. The 2<sup>nd</sup> floor was secured by SWAT and Corrections personnel were able to conduct a slow a methodical sweep of the inmates and their quarters. No firearm was located however, several homemade weapons and other contraband was seized.



The team conducted its regular scheduled training each month, for a total of 12 training dates lasting 10-12 hours each. The "Sierra Section" (Snipers) also conducted 8 additional training days consisting of 4 hours each. 9 members of SWAT attended specialized training in 2018 regarding tactics, sniper operations and combat medicine. The training of skills and capabilities for the SWAT team was structured to produce a higher degree of competency while under stressful and adverse

conditions. The Team also posted for open positions in the fall of 2018 and two candidates are in the final phase of the selection process.

- The Hamilton County SWAT team was placed on standby a total of eleven (11) times throughout the year by our own supervisors and other local agencies for potential assistance. The team may be notified of the standby or handled within the command structure; each situation is a case by case base depending on the information that is being received. The team is always in a ready response mode and can deploy upon notification.
- HCSO SWAT entered into a MOU with the City of East Ridge Police Department to cover all tactical operations within their city and was called upon twice to respond. Both situations ended prior to HCSO arriving on scene.

## MARINE PATROL



The Marine Patrol Division consists of two patrol boats that were acquired through grants from the Department of Homeland Security. The Division is staffed full time and all personnel assigned to this division must receive a yearly recertification by the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency to make sure they are knowledgeable on all applicable laws, updates, and procedures. All specialized training is handled in-house by the HCSO.

The Marine Patrol Division is ready to respond to any of the ten (10) Homeland Security Counties when requested. The division also works hand in hand with the TWRA by patrolling the water ways during holiday weekends and also responds to emergency calls for assistance from surrounding counties. You will also see the members of the Marine Patrol Division assisting with boat traffic at the yearly River Bend Festival as well as many other events held on the Tennessee River such as the Head of the Hooch rowing regatta. The Marine Patrol Division also actively supports the HCSO Dive Team and their functions as needed.

## 2018 Marine Patrol Team Summary

The marine patrol team operates and maintains two patrol boats with a 24/7, 365 days a year response window. The team is led by Sergeant Mark Williams with nine full time sworn members on the team as well as three reserve deputies. Of those nine, four are considered to be boat operators, the remaining are still training to become operators. Most of the year the team is not staffed full time and only responds on an as needed basis. However, during the summer months the team does patrol the river at random as often as manpower allows. The team is involved in support operations as well as daily river patrol. They assist the following agencies/divisions: Criminal Investigative Division, S.U.R.T, S.W.A.T, Patrol, TWRA, Dallas Bay Fire, Salecreek Fire, Chattanooga Fire and Chattanooga S.W.A.T. The Marine Patrol Team is an integral part of enforcing safe operations during numerous events in the Chattanooga area, including but not limited to: River Bend Festival, Multiple IronMan Events, row boat races, swim events, 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivals, and kayak/paddle board races.

### Future Goals:

We would like to see more participation by all members of the team. Of the nine members on the team, five of them carry the majority of the work load including one reserve deputy. Due to manpower issues there have been no scheduled training days in 2018 and this has to change in the future.

2018 Marine Patrol Statistics	
Call for Service	10
Assist other Division	12
Assist other Agency	4
Boat Safety Check	85
Business Check	16
Call Out	6
Citations	12
Verbal Warnings	68
Felony Arrest	1
Misdemeanor Arrest	2
Special Events	22
<b>Total Activities</b>	<b>238</b>



Marine Patrol works in conjunction with the Dive Team in evidence recovery and maritime investigations. The boats have been used for Safety patrol duties at river front festivals and during summer holidays where boat traffic and water safety is a concern.

## HONOR GUARD

The Hamilton County's Sheriff's Office Honor Guard Unit consists of eight (8) deputies. The Honor Guard Unit is a secondary duty assignment and members are selected from varying units within the agency. Candidates are thoroughly screened and must pass an oral interview to be selected to join this elite unit within the Sheriff's Office. Members are required to maintain impeccable appearance, high moral standards, and strict order and discipline.

The Honor Guard performs funeral honors for Sheriff's Office members killed in the line of duty, as well as for members of other law enforcement agencies when requested. The unit proudly represents the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office at a variety of ceremonial functions and community events requiring the Presentation of Colors.



## EXPLORERS



The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post 2070 is a youth oriented community policing program which is dedicated to providing our community's youth with an opportunity to explore future career opportunities in the Law Enforcement profession.

The Explorer Post provides youth with an opportunity to experience what it is like to be a Sheriff's Deputy by providing training on Law Enforcement related topics, providing education in leadership and team-building skills, conducting marksmanship training, and giving youth the opportunity to ride along with Patrol Deputies during an actual Patrol Shift. We also offer high adventure activities, such as camping, rappelling, shooting, and hiking. Explorers also assist the Sheriff's Office at community service events, such as Riverbend, the Airshow, and the County Fair.

# Operational Support

**SAFE JOURNEY PROGRAM**

**CHILD SAFETY SEAT CHECK**

**FREE CAR SEAT CHECK TOMORROW**

Captain Mark Hooper

## TRAINING DIVISION

### **LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING DIVISION**

The Law Enforcement (LE) Training Division Staff consists of the Law Enforcement Training Coordinator/General Department Instructor (Lieutenant), Law Enforcement Training Sergeant (newly created), Law Enforcement Tactical Trainer, and Training Administrative Assistant/Records Clerk. This staff is augmented by 60+ specialized instructors who are assigned full-time responsibilities in other divisions throughout the agency. **Special Note: Since Nov.1, 2014, the Corrections Facility Training Officer has been moved back under Corrections Division oversight. Additionally, a POST Rule and corresponding TCA statute was brought to the attention of Training Officers across the state that governs training oversight of all employees that have weapons authority. Despite the separation of the Training Divisions, the LE Training Staff is still responsible for training oversight and POST compliance of all weapons authorized Corrections Personnel (approximately 143 officers). This involves providing instruction in the Corrections In-Service Training, and the Corrections Basic Class. The training conducted for Corrections employees consists of emergency vehicle operations, child sexual abuse, mental health training and all firearms related training (basic pistol, shotgun, and off-duty encounters).**

The LE Training Division is responsible for planning and executing all training required for Sheriff's Office employees and the Hamilton County Park Rangers. The training curriculum includes subjects mandated by the Peace Officers Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) Commission, the Tennessee Corrections Institute (T.C.I.), the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), the American Correctional Association (ACA) and the Office of Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Additionally, it conducts specialized training for individual officers, all civilian employees, and various divisions within the agency as well as outside law enforcement agencies.

The Training Division also conducts basic training courses for initial entry employees and volunteers such as: Basic Corrections Class (240 hours/129 POST approved hours), and Basic Reserve Class (142 hours). During 2018, the Training Division was involved in three Basic Corrections Classes.

During 2018, the Training Division successfully implemented series ten of 40 hour in-service training seminars for all sworn weapons authorized personnel (Law Enforcement, Court Officers, Civil Process, Administration, Property & Evidence, Corrections, and Hamilton County Park Rangers) and two special 40 hour sessions for law enforcement supervisors. Training conducted focused upon the performance level of proficiency, with the majority of training time spent conducting hands-on training and scenario based exercises, augmented with classroom based instruction. In-Service training for civilian personnel was provided via on-line training.

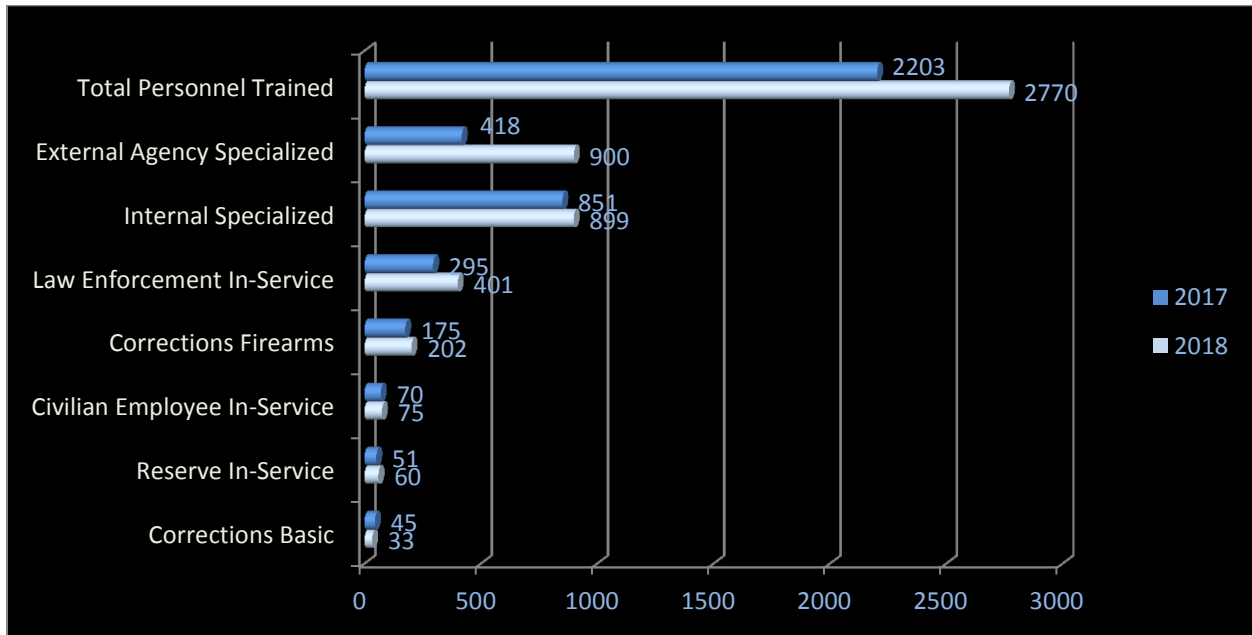


The HCSO Training Division continues to seek out and provide training that is of the highest caliber in terms of relevance, practicality, and cost effectiveness that not only meets the standards set forth by the institutions that govern our commission and accreditation, but exceed it.

**2018 TRAINING SUMMARY**

During the calendar year of 2018, the HCSO Training Division conducted a total of 87 training courses for over 2,770 employees and personnel from outside agencies. A total of 1,321 officers and employees requested and were awarded specialized training opportunities which included dozens of diverse subjects such as the five month Southeastern Leadership Academy (S.E.L.A.), Crisis Intervention Team Training, Leadership and Team Building Supervisor Training, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault Investigations, Child Abuse Investigations, Narcotics Training, Domestic Terrorism, Basic and Advanced SRO, Basic and Specialized Court Security Training, Values Driven Leadership, Incident Command Training, Interview and Interrogation, Instructor Development, Internet Crime Investigation, Tactical and Explosive Operations, etc.

**2017 & 2018 TRAINING STATISTICS**



**Goals & Objectives for 2018 were as follows:**

- Maintain and improve upon the annual In-service training regimen which maintains the certification of each certified law enforcement officer, reserve officer and other sworn

personnel as specified and required by the Tennessee P.O.S.T. Commission and C.A.L.E.A. standards. **Accomplished**

- Attain P.O.S.T compliance with all non-certified weapons authorized personnel achieving at least minimum required training standards (80 hours). **Accomplished. During the training year, 191 of 193 personnel met or exceeded the minimum standards. NOTE: the two personnel were not scheduled for In Service by their supervision due to a misunderstanding of their academy graduation date.**
- Fully implement this agency's law enforcement training records submission via the ACADIS Training Records Portal with TN P.O.S.T. Commission. **Accomplished. All In-Service and Specialized training completed by HCSO personnel is now being reported through the ACADIS portal.**
- Maintain training records for all employees with zero defects and ensure compliance with timely submission of training documentation to P.O.S.T. Commission. **Accomplished.**
- Continue development of annual In-service training for all non-sworn personnel and civilian staff in accordance with P.O.S.T. and C.A.L.E.A. requirements. **Accomplished.**
- Sustain the level of training and fielding of Individual Patrol Officer Kits for traumatic casualty care for critically injured citizens and/or officers. **Accomplished. All personnel attending LE In-Service training were trained and kits fielded. Additionally, new lateral officers were trained as part of field training.**
- Continue to seek input from various divisions and develop or schedule various specialized schools to address the needs of Hamilton County Sheriff's Office employees and specialized units. **Accomplished & On-going through Annual Training Surveys.**
- Remain current regarding new laws, training techniques, tactics, equipment, and other professional developments in law enforcement for the benefit of this agency and it's personnel. **Accomplished & On-going.**
- Seek feedback from agency personnel regarding their individual and specialized training needs with respect to relevance and effectiveness in order to maximize resources while simultaneously providing training of the highest caliber possible. **Accomplished & On-going.**
- Continue our efforts in fostering strong bonds with outside agencies by hosting and conducting joint training opportunities for the associated mutual benefits and cost effectiveness. **Accomplished & On-going. During 2018, HCSO Training Staff conducted joint training (Taser User Classes, Active Shooter Training, In-Service training, etc.) with officers attending from numerous external agencies. HCSO trainers instructed a STOPS course for the Chattanooga Police Department, for the first time in history. GHSO and U.T.'s LEIC conducted multiple courses at the HCSO facility.**
- Continue efforts to increase the size of HCSO Training Division to a minimum of three full time **budgeted POST Certified** employees (GDI and two LE Training Officers). **Not Achieved – The Law Enforcement Tactical Trainer remains non-budgeted and on**

***special assignment. A Sheriff's Sergeant's position was added in October and the unit had 3 sworn personnel. However, the LE deputy was promoted to detective and the LE trainer has not been filled.***

- Continue in efforts to develop and implement a leadership training program for all supervisory personnel. ***Accomplished & On-going. Basic and/or Advanced Leadership and Supervision training has been accomplished for all supervisors (sworn and civilian) during 2018. This effort will continue until every supervisor has received training in team building, basic and advanced leadership. POST requires all newly promoted supervisors complete 24 hour minimum training.***
- Continue to evaluate and refine training regimen to increase the scenario based/hands-on portion of training and decrease the amount of training conducted in the traditional classroom setting. ***Accomplished & On-going.***

**Goals & Objectives for 2019 are as follows:**

- Maintain and improve upon the annual In-service training regimen which maintains the certification of each certified law enforcement officer, reserve officer and other sworn personnel (to include Parks & Rec. Rangers) as specified and required by the Tennessee P.O.S.T. Commission and CALEA standards. Seek to insure that in-service training is at least 50% hands-on performance based or scenario training.
- Have the T.I. Lab Simulator updated and run mandatory scenario and decision making training in the December time frame.
- Sustain this agency's law enforcement training records submission via the rapidly evolving ACADIS Training Records Portal with TN P.O.S.T. Commission.
- Ensure that all newly hired agency weapons authorized personnel meet or exceed the minimum POST and TCA training requirements (120+ hours initial training and 40 hours thereafter) to ensure POST compliance.
- Maintain training records for all employees with zero defects and ensure compliance with timely submission of training documentation to P.O.S.T. Commission.
- Continue development of annual In-service training for all non-sworn personnel and certain civilian staff in accordance with C.A.L.E.A. requirements.
- Integrate Basic Patrol Rifle and Tactical Shotgun Training as part of field training program to ensure all newly hired officers have the equipment they need for duty; or within 120 days of initial Patrol/SRO assignment.
- Continue Fall Qualifications to allow weapons authorized personnel to qualify at least twice annually.
- Re-Certify current defensive tactics instructors in all disciplines.
- Open training opportunities for Reserve Officers to participate in Basic Patrol Rifle Training and Tactical Shotgun Training.

- Continue to seek input from various divisions and develop or schedule various specialized schools to address the needs of Hamilton County Sheriff's Office employees and specialized units.
- Remain current regarding new laws, training techniques, tactics, equipment, and other professional developments in law enforcement for the benefit of this agency and its personnel.
- Seek feedback from agency personnel regarding their individual and specialized training needs with respect to relevance and effectiveness in order to maximize resources while simultaneously providing training of the highest caliber possible.
- Continue our efforts in fostering strong bonds with outside agencies by hosting and conducting joint training opportunities for the associated mutual benefits and cost effectiveness.
- Create and implement Foot Pursuit Training to all law enforcement personnel.
- Implement P.I.T. training for all POST certified personnel operating agency vehicles.
- Continue efforts to increase the size of HCSO Training Division to a minimum of four full time **budgeted POST Certified** employees (GDI/Lieutenant, LE Training Sergeant and two LE Training Deputies).
- Continue in efforts to complete and sustain a leadership training program for all agency supervisory personnel (sworn and civilian).
- Seek innovative ways to augment the existing training staff to meet agency needs.
- Fill the calendar year with a minimum of 80% training activities.

## Property and Evidence 2018 Year End Summary

Property and Evidence saw many changes and advancements for the 2018 year which allowed them to be more productive and efficient in their tasks and accomplishments.

Due to the restructuring and classification implementations from the previous year, the property personnel were able to better utilize their time, prioritize and accomplish some large tasks without falling behind in regular responsibilities. Some of which consisted of the following:

- Due to the reclassification allowing for a Supervisor in Property and Evidence, the Sheriff's Office was able to obtain their first Internationally Associated Property and Evidence (IAPE) Certified Supervisor.
- Performed weapons exchange of outdated duty weapons in two phases providing officers with new models and helping to alleviate tax dollars in the purchase. We were able to exchange 320 outdated firearms and receive a total of 181 new weapons consisting of 30 rifles, 30 SWAT pistols and 121 duty pistols.
- Compiled multiple court orders to dispose of back log of property and evidence being held of a total of 6,617 items. Consisting of 2,317 general items, 1,946 audio/visual items, and 2,354 drug/narcotic items. Items were destroyed or auctioned if determined abandoned or illegal and returned any items to owners that could be determined.
- Transitioned to entering property and evidence online through TriTech Web allowing deputies to enter their evidence straight from their report to the property database, thus eliminating double entry by property personnel allowing more time to focus on the dispositions and disposal of items in possession.
- Upgraded the method in which photos and videos are submitted to the District Attorney's office by uploading them to a secure online folder entitled BOX. Thus reducing the need to purchase an excessive amount of CD's and DVD's. Requests from Defense Attorneys are also uploaded to BOX and then released from the District Attorney's Office which ensures the chain of custody and that the photo/video evidence is not obtained before discovery or before the District Attorney's Office has had a chance to review.
- Collaborated with County Purchasing for a transition of asset tracking and assignments using the county's program database OneSolution. This allows property to input, track and assign all assets in the county database reducing errors and miscommunications. This will be a direct link for better audits and illuminate double entry thus reducing time spent comparing records.
  - First large project with the new access to OneSolution was installing RFID knobs on all hand held radios for the Sheriff's Office and assigning RFID tags on all in-car radios. Consisting of 621 total radios.
  - Additionally integrating records from old FileMaker system into OneSolution.

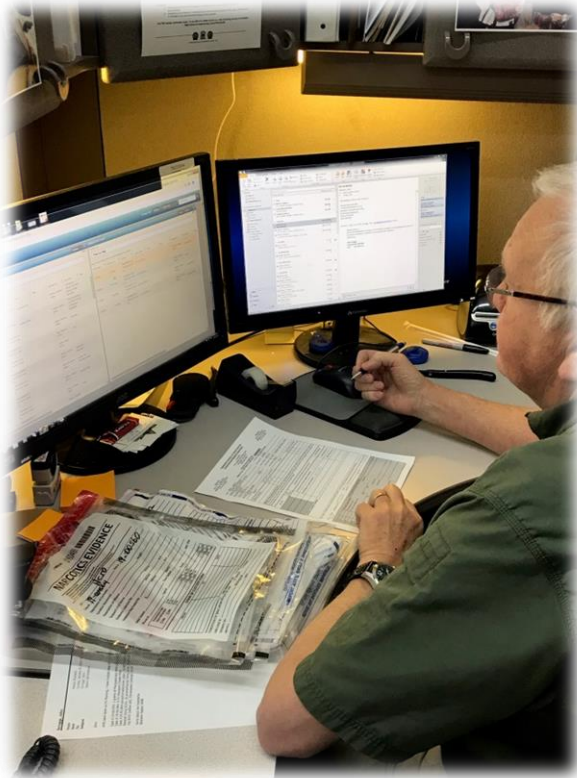
The Property and Evidence Division exceptionally passed all of their annual audits and inspections. All personnel completed their required annual training and kept their certifications current. Each one has

maintained their high integrity and ethics, resulting in a high quality of work and accountability; safeguarding the evidence and personal property of our citizens. Each member of Property and Evidence strives daily to uphold and honor the Sheriff's mission statement for The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.



Incinerator used to destroy illegal drugs/narcotics, maintained and operated by TBI personnel.

Year to Date 2018					
	General	Audio/Visual	Drugs	Totals	
In-Take	774	109	339	<b>1222</b>	
Files Closed				<b>8572</b>	
Court Orders Received	6	2	5	<b>13</b>	
# Items on Court Orders	2317	1946	2354	<b>6617</b>	
TN Pharmaceutical Take Back Program, partnered with DEA			<b>2,264.93</b>	Weight in Pounds	
	Made		In Take	Sent to Lab for testing	
Video/ Photo Requests	<b>385</b>	Sexual Assault Kits	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	
	BAC	All Other	Drugs	Total	# Trips
TBI Knoxville Crime Lab	119	4	435	<b>558</b>	<b>12</b>
Returned		25	476	<b>501</b>	
TBI Nashville Crime Lab	0	131	1	<b>132</b>	<b>14</b>
Returned		36	1	<b>37</b>	
Outsource Lab	0		0	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Returned		43	0	<b>43</b>	



Mike Fulmer installing RFID knobs on Radios. John Scruggs examining evidence and database entry.



Left to Right: John Scruggs, Rebecca Sommer, Heather Winters, Mike Fulmer, Kaitlyn Shepherd



HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
T E N N E S S E E  
CITY OF CHATTANOOGA  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
T E N N E S S E E  
**CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM**

8395 HICKORY VALLEY ROAD - CHATTANOOGA, TN 37416 - PHONE: (423) 893-3503



The Hamilton County/Chattanooga Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program is an innovative, pro-active law enforcement based approach to addressing issues surrounding the treatment of persons with mental health issues.

It is an effective partnership between law enforcement, the mental health community, consumers, and consumer advocates that trains and equips officers to respond effectively to individuals experiencing mental health crisis (consumers). CIT often provides an avenue for treatment instead of incarceration for consumers. This is done at little risk to public safety, and it improves outcomes for both consumers and for the law enforcement officers who interact with them during crises.

The Memphis Police Department is known for setting a standard of excellence with respect to the treatment of individuals with mental illness. They established the first Crisis Intervention Team in 1988. The Hamilton County/Chattanooga Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program was established in 2009 with direct assistance from Memphis Police Department and The University of Memphis. CIT Training is designed to educate and prepare officers who come into contact with people who may be experiencing a mental health crisis. CIT Officers are trained to de-escalate a crisis on the scene or to make the decision to transport for an evaluation. Because of the 40-hour CIT training, the specialized group of CIT officers has the ability to understand and relate to what the person in crisis is going through. They have established working relationships with mental health agencies and hospitals, and they are able to get people the help they need.

Mental Health Resources in Hamilton County have been growing and improving in recent years but are still far from meeting the growing needs within the community. There have been far too many tragic incidents where speculation of mental illness has been at the forefront of media attention and in conversations around the world. The CIT program prepares, educates, and trains officers to recognize signs and symptoms of mental illnesses. Law enforcement officers are increasingly coming into contact with those who may be experiencing a mental health crisis. The CIT Training program provides information to assist officers in knowing what to do and which agencies to contact.

For the year 2018, there were two (2) 40-hour CIT School. The first was hosted by Hamilton County Sheriff's Office and the second by Chattanooga Police Department. These schools graduated an additional 42 fully trained Crisis Intervention Team Officers.

The 2018 Annual Report will review the statistics submitted by CIT Trained Officers from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. This report offers information about the CIT program.

### **CIT Curriculum**

The CIT curriculum is a 40-hour week of intense training provided by volunteer mental health professionals, advocates, and seasoned CIT Officers. The training consists of classroom lectures, visits to various mental health facilities and group homes where consumers lead discussions, scenario based de-escalation skills, and training using role play exercises. The training is to ensure law enforcement



awareness of mental health resources and to address attitudes and stigma regarding mental illness. The CIT training includes the following blocks of instruction:

- Introduction of Clinical Issues
- Psychotropic Medication and Side Effects
- Hearing Distressing Voices Simulation
- Substance Abuse and Co-occurring Disorders
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorders
- Alzheimer's and Dementia
- Legal Issues and Mental Health Law
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Borderline and Other Personality Disorders
- Community Resources, including training on assessing and requesting crisis services
- Family and Consumer Perspectives
- Verbal Techniques and Intervention Strategies

The 40-hour training is submitted and approved by the Tennessee Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission.

This training would not be possible without the strong support from all stakeholders. Instructors used during training in 2018 included subject matter experts from Parkridge Valley Hospital, Moccasin Bend Mental Health Institute, CADAS, Orange Grove Center, Chattanooga Community Kitchen, AIM Center, Walden Group Home, Volunteer Behavioral Health, Department of Veterans Affairs, Pine Ridge Treatment Center, Alzheimer's Association, NAMI, Chattanooga Autism Center, Youth Villages, Siskin Rehabilitation Hospital, and many others.

#### **40-Hour CIT Class**

The CIT classes were conducted at the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office West Annex in July and Chattanooga Police Department Community Room in October. These schools graduated 42 new CIT officers. The schools included officers from the following agencies: Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, Hamilton County Park Rangers, Chattanooga Police Department, East Ridge Police Department, Collegedale Police Department, Signal Mountain Police Department, Lookout Mountain Police Department, Chattanooga Housing Authority, Hamilton County 911 District, Grundy County Sheriff's Office, Tennessee Department of Corrections, and Volunteer Behavioral Health.

#### **CIT Officers Trained to Date**

The Hamilton County/City of Chattanooga Crisis Intervention Team Program has certified over **420 CIT Officers** since its inception in 2009. They represent 27 law enforcement agencies from 8 counties in 4 states. We expect this number to grow as outreach efforts continue.

#### **CIT Reporting**

All agencies are encouraged to document their CIT incidents. A CIT form is only used by CIT Officers for reporting on CIT-related calls. Forms are not to be used by non-CIT Officers or for non-CIT related calls. Standardized CIT forms are completed and are turned in for review. A change in reporting software resulted in a large reduction in CIT report submissions and some historically-captured data has been lost as a result.

## **Outcomes**

Jail diversion is one objective of CIT; however, there are cases where officers are required by statute or departmental policy to make arrests. These would include cases where violent felonies were committed, cases of domestic abuse, and cases of impaired driving. In most instances, officers have the flexibility to use their professional judgment to decide the best course of action based on the totality of the circumstances. Of the reports submitted in 2018, no encounters resulted consumers being arrested on criminal charges. 66% of interactions resulted in consumers transported to treatment resources for mental health evaluations and 25% of consumers stabilized by CIT Officers with no further action taken. Other dispositions include inmates placed on suicide precautions.

## **Injuries**

Injuries to Officers and Consumers are tracked through CIT Officer Reporting. No officer injuries were reported during CIT Calls in 2018. There were two (2) consumers injured prior to police arriving (one from intentional overdose and one from self-inflicted laceration) and no injuries reported while police were on scene.

## **Additional Training**

Two hours of mental health training was provided by CIT partners to all law enforcement personnel and civilians of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office during annual in-service training. All cadets in each of the Hamilton County Corrections Academy received four hours of mental health training.

CIT participates in community meetings with stakeholders to address concerns and issues as they arise. These meeting also provide feedback from the area which is compiled and shared with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. CIT is working with National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) to make CIT more accessible to every community in Tennessee.

## **Summary**

CIT expanded tremendously in the last 5 years under the care and leadership of Mrs. Wanda Mays, MS. Mrs. Mays and her husband moved from Hamilton County during the year to pursue other opportunities. The vacancy was filled by Lt. Elliott Mahaffey who is working to ensure the CIT program continues to accomplish the goals of decreasing the incarceration of non-violent individuals with mental illness; decreasing officer, consumer and civilian injuries; and decreasing the use of force and SWAT callouts. The focus will remain on increasing the number of specialized CIT Officers, increasing the number of transports for psychiatric evaluations when necessary, increasing the amount of crises that are stabilized by the techniques and practices of CIT Officers, and providing ongoing training for all CIT Officers. The techniques CIT Officers learn are proven to work and have saved lives.

The Hamilton County/Chattanooga CIT program is making a difference in the lives of those we serve. Several mass casualty tragedies across the country in recent years have brought the subject of mental illness back into the minds of the public. Family members are more frequently calling for help for their loved ones. The CIT program has brought together a powerful partnership between law enforcement and the mental health community that works diligently to get consumers the help they need and deserve. The mindset of incarcerating individuals because of the uncertainty of what to do with them has diminished. Consumers are no longer afraid to call the police. They are now calling for CIT Officers by name when they are experiencing a crisis and need help.

The Hamilton County/Chattanooga CIT project may have never gotten off the ground had it not been for funding from an Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant. This grant expired on December 31, 2013. The CIT program is now being funded by Hamilton County government.

Many have recognized the benefit of our CIT program and donated generously to not only keep it sustained, but also to help it grow. We thank each of our partners for the generosity that has been shown through funding, volunteered time, expert advice, and guidance. We look forward to continuing these essential partnerships for years to come.

## FLEET MANAGEMENT

The Fleet Management Division is responsible for managing fleet resources effectively and efficiently. This section must monitor, review and evaluate all vehicles, radios, and other fleet resources while performing as a liaison between General Services, Motor Pool, and the Radio Shop.

In addition to keeping accurate records of vehicle and radio assignments, Fleet Management must also maintain records of estimates, emissions, repairs and accident reports. They also distribute new tags for vehicles and apply approved striping and decals to new and repaired vehicles.

The division consists of 2 full-time certified mechanics and one part-time person who oversee and perform services for over 300 of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office assets.

In 2018, they handled over 3000 work orders ranging from vehicle service, minor body damage, to the equipping of new vehicles.



# Safe Journey Program Grant Period Annual Report

## October 2017 - September 2018

Safe Journey is a child passenger safety project funded by the Tennessee Highway Safety Office and administered through the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

The program addresses occupant protection and the correct use of car seats and booster seats through public and professional education and awareness. As a mobile project, the Safe Journey team travels to numerous rural, under-served counties in Tennessee, offering car seat checkpoints and education. Safe Journey also includes a car seat and booster seat distribution program for families who meet the qualifications for assistance.

The Safe Journey team consists of three Child Passenger Safety Technician-Instructors who have many years of experience in the field of child passenger safety.





## Car Seat Check Up Event Evaluation Annual Report October 2017 – September 2018

### I. Event Information

There were a total of One Hundred and One (101) different locations October 2017 - September 2018 where car seats were checked, installed and provided.

### II. Checklist Information

Number of CSS checked: \_\_\_\_\_ **878**

Number of CSS found incorrectly installed or misused: \_\_\_\_\_ **688**

Number of CSS recalled or unsafe: \_\_\_\_\_ **207**

Number of children that arrived without CSS: 115

Number of CSS arrived uninstalled: 59

Number of CSS with no misuse: 134

**III. Child Safety Seat Distribution**

Number of Infant seats: 4

Number of Convertible seats: 140

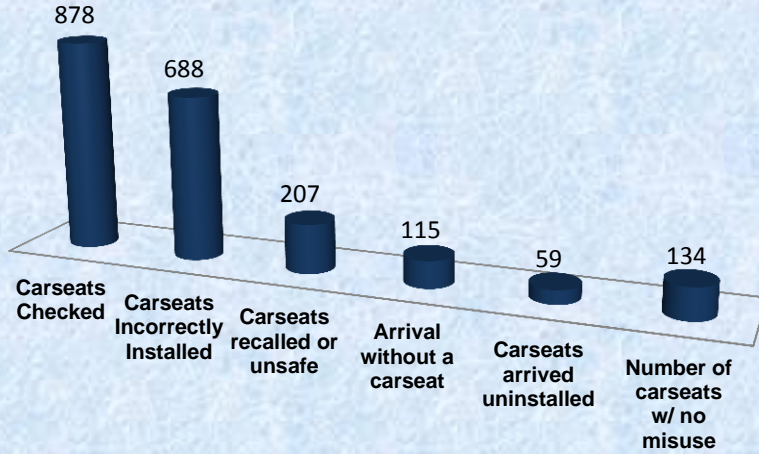
Number of Harness boosters: 131

Number of Boosters: 93

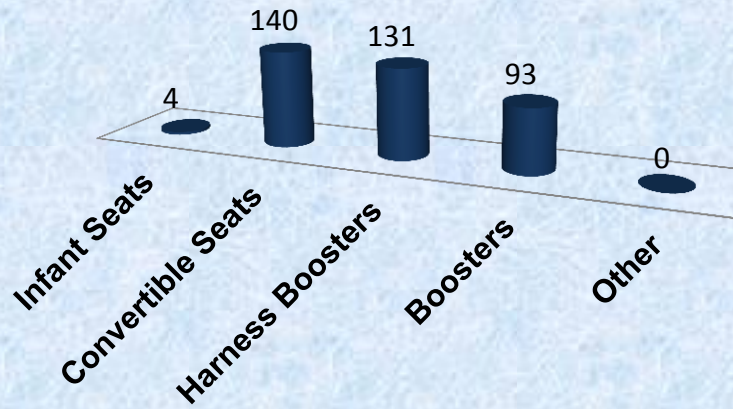
Number of other seats: 0

***Without a Safe Journey there is no Destination***

**Safe Journey Checklist Information  
Annual Report  
October 2017 - September 2018**



**Child Safety Seat Distribution  
Annual Report  
October 2017 - September 2018**





## RESERVES

During 2018, the Reserve Program contributed 6,099.5 man-hours while working various assignments for HCSO in the following work categories:

RESERVE DEPUTY ACTIVITIES 2018
Patrol 3,037
Special Event 746.5
Special Assignment 613.5
Marine Patrol 181.5
CID 530.5
Training 941.5
Callout/Visit 9.5
Other 39.5

By contributing 6,099.5 hours, the Reserve Program helped HCSO avoid possible overtime costs, and eliminated the potential need to pull deputies out of patrol districts to work special events and special assignments.

Hours contributed by Reserve Officers amount to a savings of \$111,986.82. These savings allows the agency to provide additional services to the community served.

Reserve Officer Provide an invaluable service to the Sheriff's Office and the citizens served in the Hamilton County Community



## COURT SECURITY

Pursuant to Tennessee State Law the Office of the Sheriff is empowered to maintain security for the courts and serve and enforce all civil orders issued by the courts of Hamilton County.

Courthouses must be accessible and in centralized locations, this makes them vulnerable to acts of random violence. Courts must have proper court security procedures, technology, personnel, and architectural features, to not only protect the safety of the people and property within and around the courts, but also the integrity of the judicial process.



### Functions of Court Security

The Court Security Division is comprised of twenty-seven officers under the command of Captain Mark Hooper and Lt. Billy McGowan. This division is responsible for the City-County courts building, the Hamilton County Courthouse, the Tag and Title Office located on Bonny Oaks Drive as well as the security at Juvenile and Child Support Court.

Officers assigned to judicial functions perform these services while maintaining a secure and professional profile. In addition to security functions, these officers ensure that parties to actions, stenographers, lawyers and witnesses are present when the court is in session.

There are two officers assigned to each courtroom both in Criminal and Sessions Court. In the City-County Courthouse, Walden Security provides entrance security for both public entrances. Court Security is also responsible for all courtroom judges, Grand Jury and all other juries. It is the responsibility of court officers to accommodate jurors during the course of jury trials.

Statistics			
<b>Criminal Court Subpoenas Served:</b>	200	<b>Trials:</b>	14
<b>General Session Court Subpoenas Served:</b>	17157	<b>Sequestered Jury's:</b>	2
<b>Show Causes Served:</b>	2102	<b>High Profile Cases:</b>	3
		<b>Threats on Judges:</b>	1
<b>Evacuation (Fire) :</b>	0	<b>Assaults:</b>	0
<b>Lock Down :</b>	0	<b>Chemical Incidents:</b>	0
<b>Ambulance Calls:</b>	2	<b>Use of Force Incidents:</b>	1



## PROFFESIONAL STANDARDS AND ACCREDITATION

On October 18, 2018, the second year Remote Web-based Assessment of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office was conducted. The review was conducted remotely and included 81 standards from the CALEA® Standards for Law Enforcement Manual.

This Compliance Service Member (CSM) review was successful, and resulted in full compliance with no compliance issues or concerns. While this is undoubtedly an agency-wide accomplishment, it is also without doubt that it would likely not have been as successful without the efforts and preparedness of our Accreditation Staff. As is typical with these annual reviews, there are questions that arise as the CSM reviews files remotely without the advantage of being on-site to witness or observe operations first hand.

The staff was very responsive to the very few questions, and as evidenced by the findings of no compliance issues, they demonstrated excellent understanding of the process, and an impressive willingness to listen to and give consideration to external observations.

Hamilton County Sheriff's Office has been successful in obtaining and maintaining compliance of all CALEA standards since obtaining CALEA Accreditation in the year 2013. Accreditation is an ongoing endeavor for excellence and professionalism for the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. Reaccreditation is much more than an honor. It is a testament to the rigorous standards HCSO expects its law enforcement and civilian force to meet.

CALEA Accreditation has become the primary method for a law enforcement agency to voluntarily demonstrate its commitment to excellence in law enforcement. The 484 standards upon which the Law Enforcement Accreditation Program is based reflect the current thinking and experience of law enforcement practitioners and researchers.

Today, out of approximately 17,000 law enforcement agencies nationwide, only a small percentage have attained the prestigious CALEA accreditation award, among them, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. Accreditation provides recognition for sheriff's offices willingness to better itself to become the most productive and most effective law enforcement agency it can be.



## UAS (Unmanned Aerial Support Unit)

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office in 2016 established a UAS unit, which was one of the first programs in the State of Tennessee. The mission of the UAS Program is to provide airborne support to Law Enforcement operations in a safe, responsible, and transparent manner to preserve the peace, reduce response times and increase the quality of life in Hamilton County.

Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), also commonly referred to as drones, are an efficient and effective way of providing law enforcement critical information to respond to calls for service, emergency situations or to conduct criminal investigations. Some examples include; providing an overhead view of an area or incident for ground personnel, safely clearing the interior of buildings, providing detailed documentation of crime and accident scenes, provide tactical support for special operations and searching for lost or missing persons.

In 2018 the HCSO Unit flew 111 missions that spanned from tactical support, search and rescue, crime scene documentation, and hazard material spills. The unit has assisted both local and federal law enforcement partners, as well as fire and rescue around the metro area.



# Investigative Services



Captain Chuck Gaston

## INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES

The Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office, Investigative Services, is comprised of four divisions. These divisions are Criminal Investigations (CID), Civil Process, Fugitive and Narcotics/Special Operations. Investigative Services operates throughout Hamilton County, which includes all municipalities, conducting investigations, serving process and affecting arrests.

During 2018 Hamilton County District Attorney’s Office has called upon HCSO Investigative Services to investigate several in custody deaths and officer involved shootings. These types of investigations require detectives with specialized training and experience in order to properly investigate major crimes cases.

2018 OVERVIEW	Total
Total Funds Generated	\$153,590
Sex Offender Registry (Funds)	\$30,250
Total Amount of Money Seizures	\$81,093
Total Value of Drugs Seized	\$749,589
Recovered Stolen Property Value	\$277,540
Total Number of Investigations	2,000
Total Number of Arrests	4,183
Total Served Civil Warrants	14,294

The overview chart to the left represents combined totals from major tracking categories for all Investigative Services Divisions. Separate Division reports will provide specific details related to operational activity.

Each Division has primary duties; however, throughout 2018 departments work together by sharing resources in order to accomplish operational requirements. For example, CID was supported on numerous occasions by Fugitive and Narcotics during homicide investigations. This support included suspect apprehension and witness location. Additionally, detectives with specialized skills were drawn upon for their expertise.

## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, Criminal Investigations Division (CID), received 1,569 complaints effecting 132 arrests and recovering \$277,540.00 in stolen property. CID investigated 118 deaths. There were 274 juvenile-related investigations conducted which includes 212 referrals from CPS (Child Protective Services). CID investigated 171 APS (Adult Protective Services) referrals and 47 ICAC (Internet Crimes Against Children) cases were assigned and investigated. The division conducted 66 fire investigations, received 202 burglary reports, 132 auto thefts and 216 reports of thefts from vehicles.



CID worked 5 homicides where multiple individuals were arrested. All cases were cleared by arrest. Also, CID investigated 2 Officer Involved Shootings and assisted with 3 others. CID is partnered with the Hamilton County District Attorney's Office Cold Case Unit. Currently there is a full-time detective assigned to the unit.

The Criminal Investigations Division works closely with local, state and federal law enforcement jurisdictions within Hamilton County to enhance the safety and security of the citizens, in a constant effort to reduce and eliminate crime. CID collaborates with the Family Justice Center (FJC), Children's Advocacy Center and Partnership for Families to enhance the services for victims of crimes.

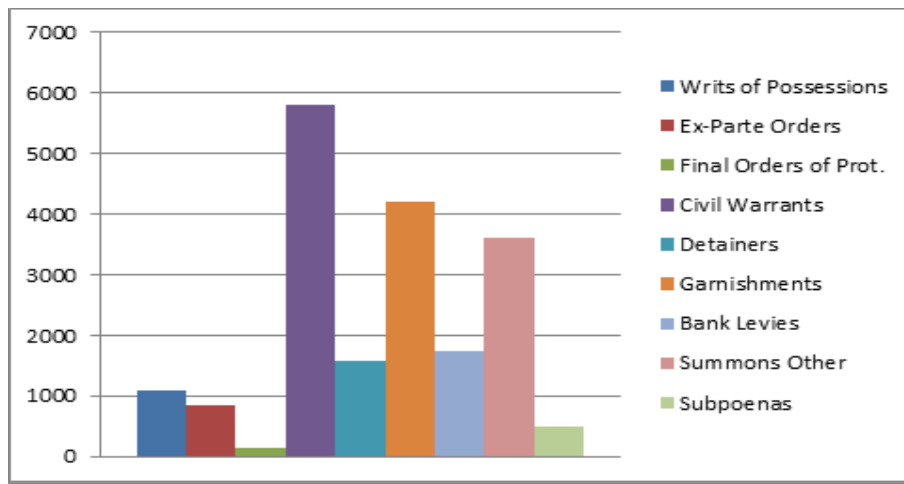


The HCSO SURT (Sheriff's Underwater Recovery Team) conducted 6 dive operations over the year.



## CIVIL PROCESS

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, Civil Process Division, is responsible for serving all Writs that come into their possession. This includes orders of protection, subpoenas, summons, levies, Writ of Attachments, Writ of Possessions and Writ of Restitutions.



During 2018, the Civil Process Division served a total of 15,953 civil warrants. Of those warrants 845 were Ex-Parte Orders. These orders are placed on high priority and require maximum effort to ensure service.



Civil Process also oversees the execution of all Temporary Injunction/Restraining Orders. For example, Civil Process oversaw the service of the Injunction/Restraining Order at the Economy Inn on Brainerd Road. This order required substantial coordination with other government agencies as well as non-profit

organizations. The non-profit organizations served a critical role in providing temporary housing for those displaced by the order.

## FUGITIVE DIVISION

The Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office, Fugitive Division, oversees all related aspects of the apprehension and transportation of persons having warrants issued through the Hamilton County Courts. Additionally, the Fugitive Division coordinates extradition with out of state law enforcement concerning fugitives who are taken into custody in Hamilton County. Throughout 2018, the Fugitive Division worked closely with the U.S. Marshall Service, Chattanooga Police and numerous other law enforcement agencies providing intelligence.

The Fugitive Division oversees the sex offender registry for Hamilton County. This division monitored on average four hundred fifty-one persons who were placed on the registry. Through monitoring, seventy-four persons were found to be in violation of the registry and were arrested.

The Fugitive Division participates with the Department of Human Services in the apprehension and/or service of writs to persons alleged to be delinquent with their payments of child support. The chart below reflects the statistical data associated with this effort.

DHS GRANT	Total
Received	593
Served	806
Attempts	1684
Recalls	43
Arrest	476

Detectives assigned to fugitive apprehension are part of the Fugitive Apprehension Strike Team (FAST). This team was formed in order to enhance officer safety and provide a team approach in the apprehension of those individuals wanted for violent felonies. During 2018, members of this team

OPERATION TRIPLE BEAM	
Arrests	126
Gang Member Arrests	39
Guns Seized	7

participated in the Triple Beam Operation which was led by the U.S. Marshall Service.

## NARCOTICS DIVISION

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, Narcotics/Special Operations Division, investigates narcotics activity throughout Hamilton County. Narcotics related crimes will never be totally eradicated; however, our narcotics division works tirelessly to lessen the effects of illegal drug activity on our community. Additionally, Narcotics has partnered with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and provide assistance with Federal investigations.

During 2018, HCSO Narcotics affected 100 felony arrest and 43 misdemeanor arrests. The monetary value of drug seized was \$749,589. HCSO Narcotics investigated 24 opioid related deaths with one resulting in a defendant being charged with 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Murder.

In addition to conducting investigations, members of the HCSO Narcotics Division provide numerous public service presentations helping to educate the community concerning the Hamilton County's drug problem.

### **Examples of Drug investigations:**

In a June 2018 search warrant in the Hixson area, detectives seized 3.3 pounds of Marijuana, 28 ounces of Edibles (THC infused candy), 25 ounces of DAB (concentrated THC resin), 5.3 ounces of Moon Rocks (Marijuana buds dipped in hash oil and keif) and \$2,900 cash.



In an October 2018 search warrant in the Lookout Valley area, detectives seized 4.5 pounds of Methamphetamine, 2 ounces of Marijuana and \$6,750 cash.



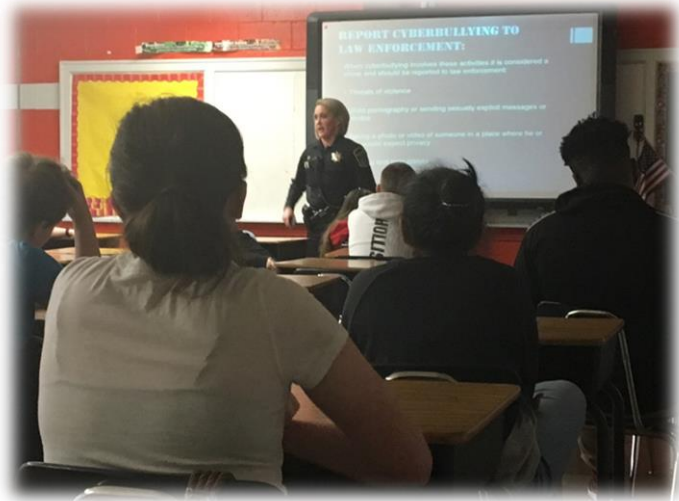
# Youth and Community Services



Captain Shawn Shepherd

## SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

SRO - PATROL	Total
Assist School Staff	7600
Call For Service	941
Citation In lieu of Arrest	239
Felony Arrest	25
Juvenile Arrest – No Custody	65
Misdemeanor Arrest	101
Warrant Transport	46
Assaults	92
Fights	127
Drug Offense	93
Weapon Offenses	13
Gang Activity	7
Conflict Resolution	492
Faculty Advisory	5141
Parent Advisory	2405
Student Advisory	7693
Class Presentation	2154
Club/Organization Activity	342
Special Event Attended	606
Thefts	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>28206</b>



### Commendations:

The SROs this year have had similar events on campuses involving the threat of violence and the presence of loaded handguns in the possession of students. This has impacted the safety of schools across the district. In a time where law enforcement officers are getting a negative slant from the public and media, our SROs were successful in improving the image of law enforcement in our community.

### Shift Operational Impact:

The SRO Unit received funding for seven (7) new SROs from the HCDE School District, that increased the numbers of SROs on campuses. The program has seen a large advancement in ability and coverage across Hamilton County.

**Significant Events:**

We added a small community partner grant and are working with On Point as an at-risk student identifier program at Brown Middle, Central High, and Tyner Middle and High Schools. This grant is in the second year, and there has been positive response from student participants.

**Goals & Ideas:**

There are needs for the SRO Unit that still remain to be met. This year an elementary program has been fielded with limited assignment in order to have impact with younger students, faculty, and parents in a more positive way. The agency is still under a federal COPS grant to assist in replacing previous SROs missing due to manpower shortages. It has been proposed to introduce three corporals into the SRO program in the future.

Following the tragedy in Parkland, Florida, several elementary school administrators have requested the placement of an SRO on their campuses. This would require a large number of additional deputies plus supervisors. This upcoming budget request has included an additional nine (9) SROs plus additional supervision in order to continue our investment goal of every campus having an SRO.

**Summary of Year:**

This year brought the creation of a new division for the agency, the Youth & Community Division. This new division has a captain as the lead administrator. The division's main body of assignment is the

School Resource Officer unit. The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office currently has deputies assigned to 32 campuses within the Hamilton County School District. There are some additional campuses without an assigned SRO due to manpower shortages preventing their transition to the division as well as needing one additional SRO. These deputies were all trained as an School Resource Officer, hereinafter referred as an SRO, and each possesses the knowledge necessary to implement the School Resource Officer Program within the schools. The deputies are instructed to



incorporate the SRO Triad plus 1 approach into their daily activities on campus. The Triad plus 1 concept involves the deputy performing functions in law enforcement, life advisory sessions, being guest educators within the classroom, and serving as a role model for the students. This year we

continued to have additional personnel with the two Chattanooga Police Department officers assigned to the unit on special assignment. One officer was assigned as a partner to an HCSO deputy at Brainerd High School and the officer at Howard High School. The officers typically work alongside their partners, each trained to incorporate the SRO concept in the same manner.

Although the majority of time most school campuses function primarily as the learning environment intended, criminal activity does occur. The deputies assigned to these campuses have been tasked with not only filing a report on these activities, but they also have investigated them to an end of either suspending the investigation due to no available evidence, clearing the cases exceptionally due to victims deciding not to prosecute, or by making an arrest or the filing of criminal charges with the courts.

The deputies have cleared a number of cases by the filing of criminal charges as Citations in Lieu of Arrest, as well as Misdemeanor and Felony Arrests where subjects were actually transported to the Juvenile Detention Unit. Additionally, the deputies also made several contacts with students involved in criminal activity that were cleared by their being handled within the department as a Juvenile Arrest with No Custody. This method gave the students an opportunity to serve an alternative punishment in an attempt to avoid criminal charges and gain a better understanding of their expected behavior.



The activity level of the deputies on the school campuses is at the level that was expected when considering the populations of the various student bodies. Some deputies have shown more law enforcement actions, and others have participated more in the classroom and advisory roles. This is a normal example of activity by an SRO under these circumstances, and as the SRO Unit grows there will continue to be a wide range of varied activities and actions submitted by the deputies.

The deputies from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office assigned to the area schools have risen to the challenge of rebuilding the necessary relationships with our students, parents, faculty members, and the community. These relationships through the SRO Triad plus 1 concept have already made a valuable impact on the lives the deputies have encountered. It is the intention of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office's SRO Unit to expand on the work already conducted, and to continue these efforts towards building a SRO Program that all members of the Sheriff's Office and the Community of Hamilton County can be proud of.

## SCHOOL PATROL



There are currently nine part-time deputies assigned to different school zones throughout Hamilton County. These Officers provide morning and afternoon traffic control for elementary, middle and high schools in the unincorporated areas and Lakesite. These officers provide a great service, working in concert with the principals and staff at the assigned schools, delivering our children to and from school daily.

HCSO School Patrol for 2018 had a total number of three vacancies that went unfilled. There were three employees that left the assignment, one by being hired within the agency as a full time clerk, one dismissed by not passing the probationary period and the other as a retirement from service. The open positions were covered by Patrol and SRO Divisions. Two accidents occurred in the same school zone, Sale Creek Middle/High, with one near miss of hitting a School Patrol during one of these incidents. We began advertising open positions on the agency Facebook page for the first time, with some interest generated.





# NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

## SUMMARY OF INFORMATION ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES IN 2018

1. **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM:** Conducted fifteen (15) Neighborhood Watch meetings throughout the County. Nine (9) new programs and six (6) programs that were revisited. From the original meetings that were held in 2018, there were other neighborhood watch groups that branched out from the meeting and scheduled meetings with other communities within their areas. Currently there are over 200 Neighborhood Watch groups.
  - a. Representatives of Hamilton County Sheriff's Office have met with over 500 county residents through the Neighborhood Watch Program meetings in 2018.
  - b. Addressed over 100 concerns from residents through the Neighborhood Watch Program.
  - c. Provided access to county officials and agencies by inviting the County Mayor, District Commissioners and volunteer fire department and to address non-law enforcement issues at the watch meetings.



### SPECIAL PROJECTS:

- a. Fallen Officer Tribute Program
- b. HCSO yearly Retirement luncheon
- c. Drug Take Back Boxes for the HCSO, East and west sectors
- d. Charlie Garfield Memorial/replacement of grave marker
- e. Hamilton County Fair

## **NARRATIVE SUMMARY:**

The year 2018 brought about several other opportunities to work with the community:

**Fallen Officer Memorial:** Information was gathered for the Chattanooga Police Department and other local law enforcement agencies in surrounding counties. By providing contact with the family members, there have been approximately 100 family members attending the memorial service each year. The number of fallen officer family members has increased in the past five years due to this office maintaining contact with families. This office receives requests from other agencies outside of Hamilton County to be included in our Fallen Officer Memorial since there may not be one held in their community. The agencies that are participating in the Fallen Officer memorial are very appreciative of HCSO to include their fallen officer in our local program.

**Charlie Garfield Memorial:** Charlie Garfield is one of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office fallen officers that was killed in the line of duty in 1961. Charlie is buried in the Hamilton Memorial Park and it was brought to this office's attention that his sheriff's badge had been removed from the grave marker. In working with the Chattanooga Funeral Home and staff, they graciously agreed to have a new marker made with his sheriff's badge. The officer's family lives in New Mexico and was not aware that the badge was missing and was very grateful to everyone involved in replacing the grave marker. The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office conducted a small memorial service at the cemetery unveiling the new marker. It was a true honor for everyone involved and present at this memorial.

**An annual retiree's luncheon** has been established to recognize deputies and civilian employees, who served the HCSO and have since retired. A data base is maintained with all retiree's pertinent information as well as new retirees each year. This is always a special time for the retirees and staff who attend this function.

**Tennessee Department of Consumer Affairs:** This department provides valuable information regarding the latest scams and fraud schemes that affect citizens in the state of Tennessee. Through this partnership with the Tennessee Department of Consumer Affairs, printed information is provided at no charge and given to our attendees at the Neighborhood Watch meetings. The information is printed in English, but there was a strong need to have information printed in Spanish to be used at upcoming events for the Hispanic communities in Chattanooga. Information was obtained regarding personal and home safety printed in Spanish to be used at Neighborhood Watch meetings if needed.

**Drug Take Back boxes** for citizens are provided by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, and the program continues to grow with residents calling and asking for information regarding the use of the boxes and the locations. HCSO has participated in several community events in 2018 where the portable take back boxes have been taken to the locations of the events. The two boxes that are provided at the East and West sector buildings continue to gather over fifty pounds of medications each month. The drug take back boxes for the calendar year 2018 have **collected 2,264.93 pounds** of unwanted/unused narcotics. This number reflects a **220.31 pound increase** over the calendar year 2017. The Neighborhood Watch Coordinator receives phone calls daily in regards with questions from citizens wanting information on the drug take back boxes.

Law enforcement agencies, pharmacies as well as local water companies and health departments that do not participate in the take back program are sending residents to HCSO to drop off their medications. Information regarding the drug take back boxes is promoted at every neighborhood watch meeting and printed information with locations is provided to citizens.

**Gun Safety Locks** are provided for the citizens of Hamilton County by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office upon request through this office. The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office is the sole provider for **free** gun locks to residents who purchase guns and are seeking locks for their weapons. HCSO is also the provider for gunlocks to various shops that sell weapons in the Hamilton County area.

**Church Safety Training** -Due to the increase of recent church shootings, HCSO makes available patrol staff members to present information to the churches and leadership members that inquire about how to keep their church members safe. Captain Shawn Shepherd is in charge of the presentations.

**Fair** - The annual Hamilton County Fair was cancelled in 2018 due to weather.



2018 Fallen Officer Memorial

# Corrections



**Chief of Corrections Joe  
Fowler**

## CORRECTIONS

### JAIL OPERATIONS:

The Hamilton County Jail is an adult maximum security facility housing an average of over 519 inmates per day, with a maximum capacity of 505 inmates per day.

Regardless of the reason for someone's incarceration and in custody by the Sheriff's Office, certain services must be provided. The services include:

- Food Services
- Healthcare Services
- Transportation Services
- Laundry Services
- Mail Services
- Commissary Services
- Educational Services
- Religious Services
- Visitation Services



**Visitation**



**Inmate Programs**



**Jail Intake**

In addition, the facility includes offices for magistrates, fugitive warrants, Inmate intake and inmate processing. All steps necessary to complete subject incarceration are available in this facility. These include alcohol breath and blood testing, arrest warrant issuance, medical assessments and classification.

The Hamilton County Corrections Division consists of five (5) Sub-divisions; Jail Operations, Security Operations, Sentence Management, ACA Accreditation and Support Services.

The Corrections Division is comprised of 164 officer and civilian employees.

**CORRECTIONS CERTIFIED PERSONNEL**

**ACA CERTIFICATIONS**

CCE (Certified Corrections Executive) – 1  
CCM (Certified Corrections Manger) – 2  
CCS (Certified Corrections Supervisors) – 8  
CCS/STG (Cert Corrections Super/STG) - 1  
CCN (Certified Corrections Nurse) – 4  
CCO (Certified Corrections Officer) – 23

**AJA CERTIFICATIONS**

CJM (Certified Jail Mangers) – 3  
CCHP (Certified Correctional Health Professional) – 1



**INMATE TRANSPORTS**

TOTAL NUMBER OF TRANSPORTS – 1,920  
TOTAL MILEAGE FOR TRANSPORTS – 37,375  
TOTAL OFFICERS USED FOR TRANSPORTS – 3,209  
TOTAL HOURS FOR TRANSPORTS – 7,381

**MENTAL HEALTH TRANSPORTS**

TOTAL NUMBER OF TRANSPORTS – 633  
TOTAL MILEAGE FOR TRANSPORTS – 28,866  
TOTAL OFFICERS USED FOR TRANSPORTS – 1,225  
TOTAL HOURS FOR TRANSPORTS – 2,353

**INMATES ESCORTED TO COURTS**

CRIMINAL, SESSIONS, ETC – 9,592  
CHILD SUPPORT, CHANCERY, CIRCUIT, ETC – 135  
JUVENILE VIDEO – 121  
VIDEO ARRAIGNMENTS – 644

**INMATES SENTENCED TO THE PENITENTIARY**

INMATES SENT – 163  
OFFICERS USED IN TRANSPORT – 80

**AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION**

JAIL CAPACITY IS 505 – AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION – 519

INMATES BOOKED – 19,908  
INMATES RELEASED – 17,237

**TOTAL TRANSFERS**

CORE-CIVIC – 7,208  
TDOC – 275  
CADAS – 27  
FEDERAL – 109  
COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – 250  
OTHERS – 966

**BILLING**

FEDERAL INMATE HOUSING - \$690,292  
STATE INMATE HOUSING - \$870,505  
SOCIAL SECURITY - \$45,500

# 2018 CORRECTIONS ACTIVITIES



# Human Resources



Director Carole Miller



## Human Resources (HR)

The Human Resources Division is responsible for activities vital to the overall effectiveness of the departmental operations to include personnel management and payroll services. The goals of the division continue to be to recruit, hire and retain the best qualified individuals for positions and to promote the best qualified individuals to continue the mission of the department.

With the retirement in 2018 of Director Don Gorman, his assigned areas were separated into two divisions with the creation of the Human Resources Division and Technology/Finance. The position of Director of Human Resources was created and Carole Miller was promoted to the position. In 2018 the division went from three person offices to four to include the Director of Human Resources, Finance Assistant, Records Specialist and Records Clerk.

The year 2018 was a busy year for Human Resources with a 30% increase in employment registers from last year. With the bridge plan coming into effect on 7/1/2018, there were several mandatory retirements of law enforcement personnel to include the Chief Deputy, Captains, Lieutenants and Sergeants. This resulted in an increase in promotions and advancements, this continued throughout the year and into 2019 with the recruitment pushes to backfill these positions and to hire the best qualified individuals for the positions.

This year, with the assistance of the County Attorney, the wording for the special deputy commissions was finalized and we were able to process applications for area law enforcement agencies. This resulted in a substantial increase of approximately 86% from last year's commissions.



As an accredited agency, it is Human Resources' responsibility to investigate grievances from employees. It is our goal to treat every employee fairly and with respect. If an employee feels that he/she has been treated unfairly, they can file a grievance with the Human Resources Division. It is quite evident that the employees felt that they were treated fairly as we received one grievance at the end of 2018 and the matter was resolved between the employee and his supervisors.

Payroll services continue to handle an abundant amount of paperwork verifying employees' regular work and overtime hours. With the timesheet management system, employees submit their weekly/biweekly hours through their supervisors and the finance assistant verifies the hours with shift reports and overtime sheets. In 2018 payroll services reported approximately 874,000 regular work hours and 96,000 overtime hours for department employees.

<b>HUMAN RESOURCES 2018 STATISTICS</b>					
<b>New Registers</b>	73	Suspensions w/o pay	19	Polygraphs	75
<b>Separations</b>	29	Suspensions w/pay	5	Psychological	38
<b>Retirements</b>	16	Military Activation	8	Physicals	58
<b>Retired/Terminal</b>	5	Return from Military	1	TB Test Administered	395
<b>Terminations</b>	5	Loudermill Hearings	6	Flu Shots	208
<b>Hires</b>	61	Job Fairs	4	Special Deputy ID	193
<b>Special Assignments</b>	24	OJI(s)	79	Retirement ID	32
<b>Promotions</b>	35	Basic Police Academy	3	Fingerprinting	100
<b>Advancement/Transfers</b>	41	Background Checks	826	Grievances	1
<b>Records Requests</b>	<b>339</b>				

# Administrative Division



Director Ron Bernard

# Administrative Division



Director Ron Bernard

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

### Criminal Records, Finance and Information Systems

**Command:** Ron Bernard (2007) assumed the position of Director of Technology and Finance in September of 2018. Ron provides command level leadership for the Criminal Records, Information Technology and Finance Divisions. Records Clerk Melissa Battles (2016) assists. Melissa works to oversee tracking of contracts, MOUs, and yearly inventory of physical inventory assets. Part-time Clerical Aide Bailey Biddle processes Open Records Video Requests.

### Criminal Records Division



**Personnel:** The division is led by Information Systems Manager, Jimi Hammond (2012) and supervised by Ginger Merritt (2000). Jimi assumed the lead of IT Support and Records in September 2018.

Records Clerks Fulltime (8): Rhonda Smith (1995), Frances Owen (1997), Danielle Tucker (2001), Susan Dreaden (2001), Shonda Garrett (2002), Barbara Tilley (2007), Jessica Hoskins (2017), and Mickie Johnson (2017). Records Clerks Part-time (2): David Aitken (2016) and David Mattheiss (2018). Part-Time Records Clerk Alicia McDowell accepted a full-time position as Law Enforcement Clerk for the Corrections Division in early 2019.

**Function:** The Records Division processes thousands of items per year including the following: Open records requests, background checks, tow sheet processing, handgun permit checks, arrest report entry, citation entry, expungement processing, NCIC warrant entry, NCIC Orders of protection entry, NCIC Bond Conditions entry, NCIC article/vehicle entry and verification of TIBRs reportable Offenses for TN state reporting. The Records Supervisor also participates in the training of agency personnel for proper operations of our Records Management Software. The Records Division contains our Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC-Ginger Merritt) and the Alternate TAC (Jessica Hoskins); the duties for the TACS include maintaining compliance with state and federal reporting regulations.

### Information Systems – Support



**Personnel:** The Division is led by Jimi Hammond. The division consists of the following personnel: Senior Programmer/ Software Specialist Keith Smith (2015), Information Systems Specialist Caitlin Maddux (2013), Helpdesk Technicians Charles Bowman (2008) and Dell Sartin (2019). Helpdesk Technician Christie Vanderwaal accepted a new position in Finance in December 2018 and Helpdesk Technician Carlos Arce accepted a position with another organization in early 2019. HR is actively recruiting to fill two vacancies as of this writing.

**Function:** The division supports over 500 computer and door lock accounts and interfaces with other agencies concerning technology and systems in operation. Tickets and projects completed in 2018 totaled over 5,000. The IT Division supports approximately 2,000 items/assets that are located throughout the county for use. The upkeep of items includes

refreshing with new as the useful age expires. The IT Division also assists HCSO purchasing with cellphone and telecommunication issues.

### **Information Systems – Networking**

**Personnel:** The Division is led by Ron Bernard. The division consists of the following personnel: Network Specialists Jeff Owens (2001) and Shawn Adams (2002). Jeff and Shawn were promoted to their current positions in September 2018.

**Function:** The Division supports servers, other networking electronics and special projects for the HCSO. Multiple local area networks (LANs) and Wide Area Network (WAN) are maintained. Locations include Downtown (Market Street), Jail (Walnut), MLK, Silverdale, West (Dayton Blvd), East (Hickory Valley Road) and over 150 remote computers via secure remote VPN connection.

### **Purchasing/Accounts Management**



**Personnel:** The Division is led by Carolyn Catchings (2000). Christie Vanderwaal (2015) assumed the role of Finance Assistant replacing retiring long-term employee Kathy Ashmead (2007).

**Function:** The division processes all purchases for the HCSO by overseeing quotes, bids and advertisements for an approximately \$23 million operations budget. The billing of all grants for reimbursement federal and state related are processed. Travel/Meetings funds and reports along with P-Card purchases for the entire Sheriff's Office, fuel and the monthly fuel reports are monitored and tracked. The division also maintains billing and oversight of cell-phones, wireless mi-fis and the internal phone system throughout the HCSO. The division ensures that we stay within costs forecasted and maintained budget for fiscal year 2018.

### **Finance Manager**



**Personnel :** Finance Manager Jack Ellis (2008).

**Function:** Jack inputs the yearly budget, provides statistical reports throughout the year and provides grants fiscal management. The past two years Jack has been the liaison to Hamilton County General for United Way for the HCSO. The Sheriff's Office budget was over \$55 mil for fiscal year 2018. The HCSO maintained budget for the year.

# ADDEMDUMS



- Addendum I.                    IA Year-End Report**
- Addendum II.                PIO Year-End Report**
- Addendum III.              2018 Grand Jury Reports**





# SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

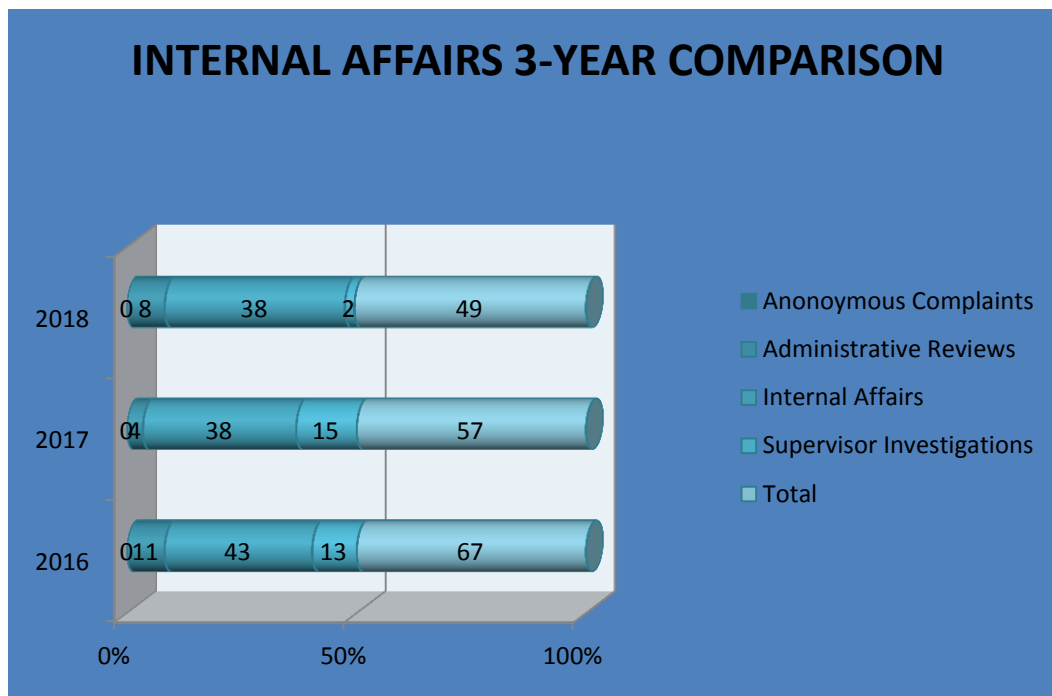
600 Market Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402  
(423) 209-7000 • Fax (423) 209-7001  
[www.hcsheriff.gov](http://www.hcsheriff.gov)

### INTERNAL AFFAIRS STATISTICAL SUMMARY 2018

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office is required to file a statistical summary of Internal Affairs complaints and Administrative Investigations conducted annually.

### TYPES OF INVESTIGATIONS

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office conducted a total of 49 Administrative Investigations concerning employee conduct during the year of 2018. Thirty eight (38) of those investigations were formal Internal Affairs investigation with 2 being identified as Supervisor Investigations. Eight (8) Administrative Reviews were also conducted concerning conduct. There were no anonymous complaints filed during this reporting period.





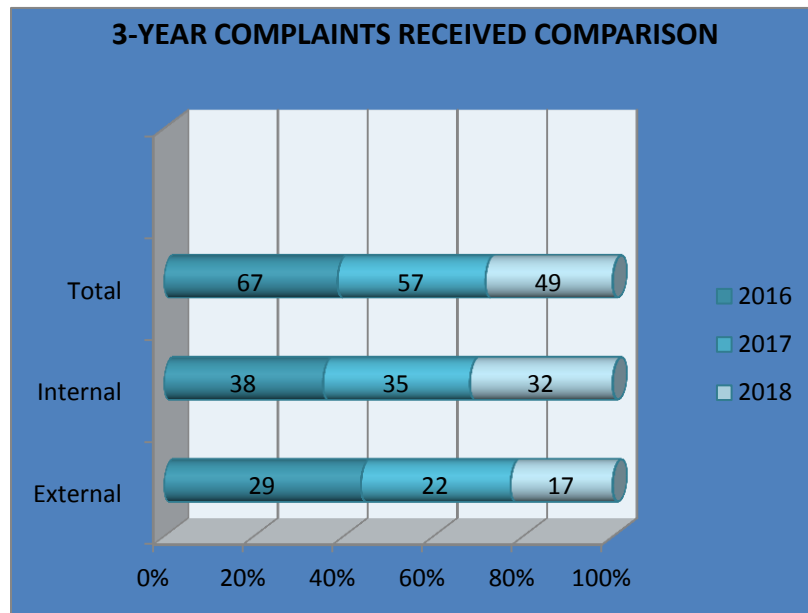
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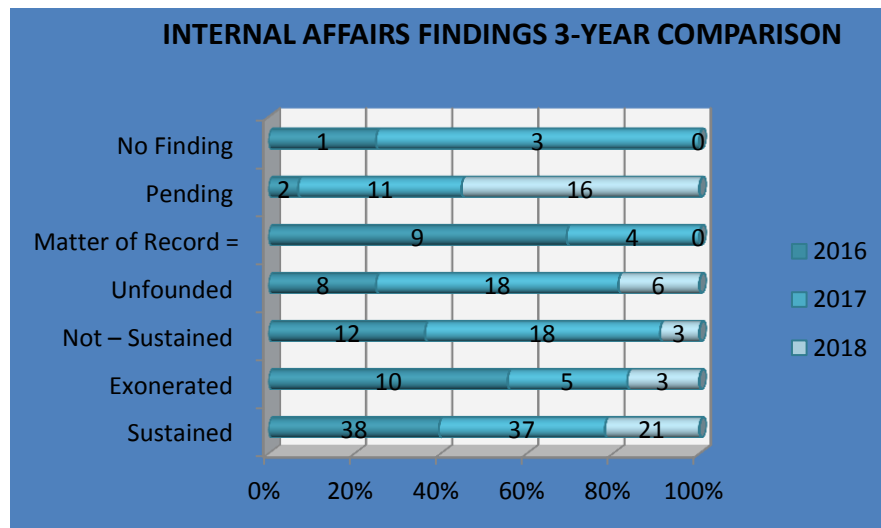
### COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office received seventeen (17) complaints from outside the department, thirty-two (32) complaints within the department with a total of 49 complaints for the reporting period of 2018.



### FINDINGS

Of the forty-nine (49) investigations conducted during this reporting period, three of the complaints were exonerated, six(6) not-sustained, one (1) matter of record, sixteen (16) unfounded, twelve (12) with no finding and twenty-one (21) complaints were sustained. Six (6) employees resigned while under investigation.





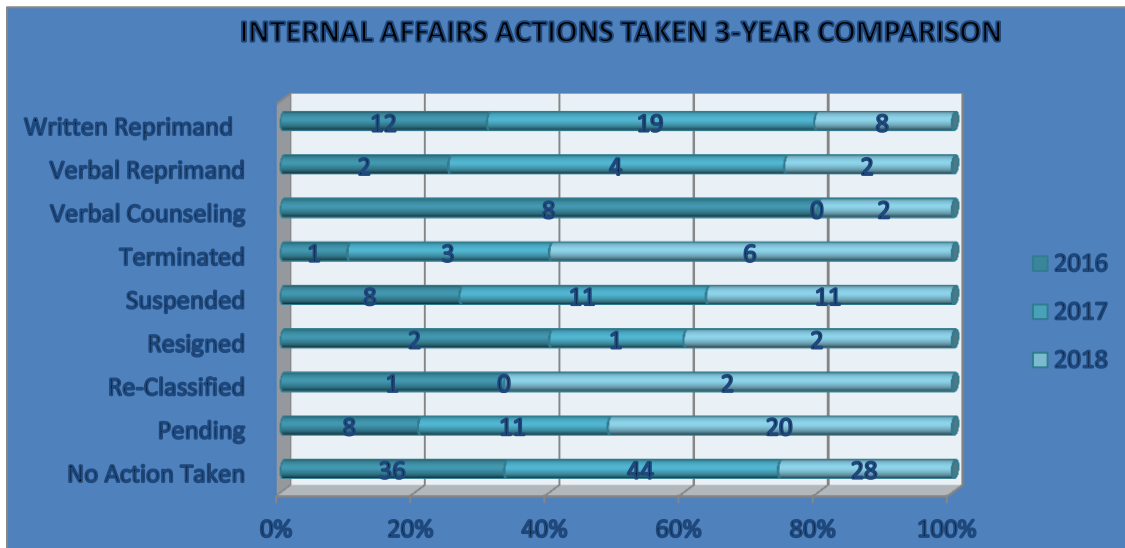
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### ACTION TAKEN

The Sheriff's Office took the following action concerning the forty-nine (49) complaints reviewed. Twenty-seven (27) of the complaints required no action, while six (6) employees resigned, Eleven (11) were suspended, six (6) terminated, two (2) verbal counseling, two (2) verbal reprimand, and eight (8) written reprimand issued.



### RANK OF EMPLOYEES INVOLVED

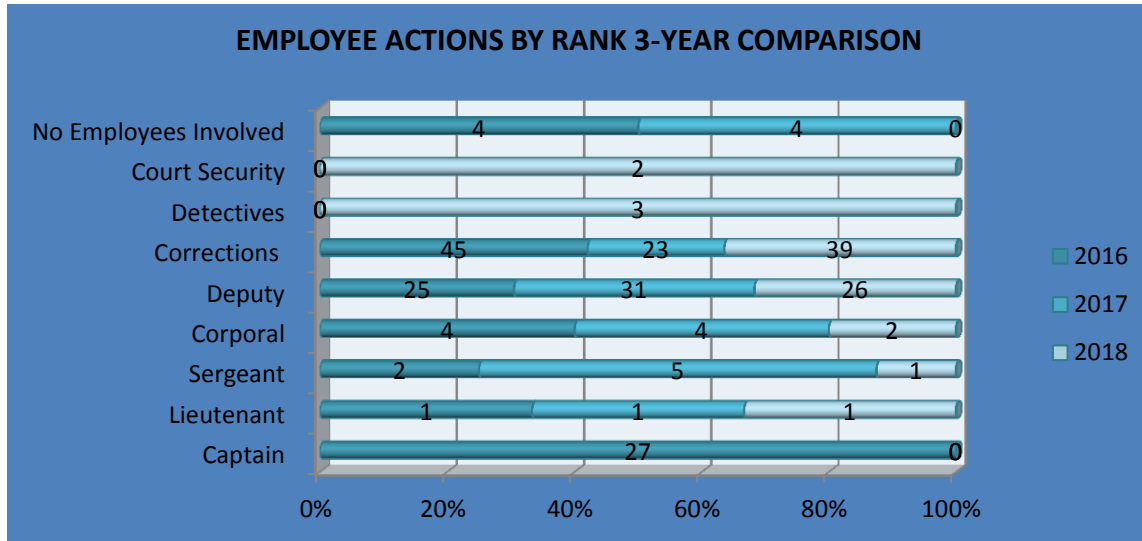
Of the investigations conducted twenty-six (26) involved employees at the rank of deputy sheriff, two (2) at the rank of law enforcement corporal, three (3) at the rank of detective, one (1) at the rank of law enforcement sergeant, one (1) law enforcement lieutenant and two (2) court security officers. There were 39 in in the ranks of the Correction Division.



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The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Internal Affairs have identified **NO** trends or patterns over the past three years involving Internal and External Complaints. The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office recognizes the importance of building complete trust with the citizens of Hamilton County. In doing so, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Internal Affairs have purchased IAPro Software and as of January 1 2019, the agency's law enforcement and corrections will be utilizing the new BlueTeam software.

The Sheriff's Office has in place an early warning procedure to recognize possible patterns and trends in the areas of Use of Force and Vehicle Pursuits. The new software upgrade will assist the supervisors and command staff to better identify any issues and correct a possible issue before it becomes a problem.

# Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

Jim Hammond, Sheriff



## 2018 Annual Statistical Report

**Public Relations Division**

J. Matt Lea  
Public Relations Manager

# Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

## Public Relations Division

### Public Relations Division Mission Statement

*"To promote the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office with integrity, consistency, accuracy, and respect"*

## 2018 Annual Review

### Daily Public & Media Interaction

Each day, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Public Relations Division utilizes numerous communication methods to connect with the citizens of Hamilton County including local print and broadcast media, personal interaction, and social media. These interactions are essential in communicating the daily operations and mission of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

### Increased Presence of Social Media

Across the nation, social media is changing the way law enforcement agencies communicate with the public they serve. It is allowing for real-time communication and notification as well as a tool to gain the public's trust and assistance. Several robbery and assault suspects have been identified in 2018 utilizing the public's help using social media as a way to provide surveillance video and still-captured images.

Throughout 2018, Hamilton County experienced several weather related events including torrential rains, flash flooding, and numerous, prolonged road closures. Public Relations Division personnel utilized social media as a way to convey several important messages regarding these incidents including up-to-date weather alerts, road closures, and photography to document the flooding issues for the community.

### Using Humor to Communicate to the Public

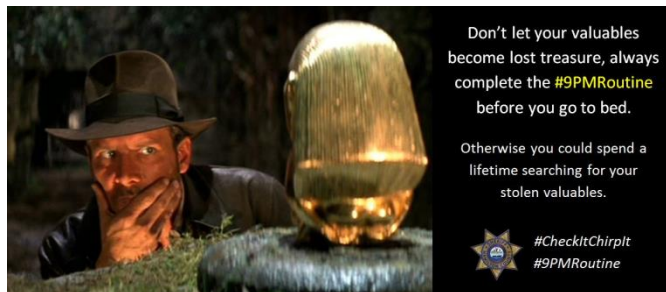
Interestingly enough, social media also allows law enforcement agencies the option to use humor to convey a message of normalcy and community.

For example, numerous calls concerning coyote sightings were occurring during the summer months of 2018. As a way to offer information to the public, a post utilizing the historic cartoon character, Wile E. Coyote, was used to convey the message but with humor. The post was very well received and reached over 930,000 people. Due to the seriousness that accompanies the traditional law enforcement profession, it is most helpful when agencies can use humor to communicate information to the public in a reasonable and respectful manner.

## 2018 Daily Public & Media Interaction

(Includes daily activities and interactions as defined by the primary directive of the Public Relations Division)

Daily Communication & Outreach		
Type of Activity	Total	Monthly Average
Press Releases Issued	178	15
Internal Communications Issued	105	9
Media Inquiries Fielded	837	70
Public Relations Events	78	7
Facebook Engagement (Stories & Posts)	605	50
Total Press Stories	1093	91
Media Interviews Conducted	94	8



## Social Media - Facebook

January 1st – December 31st, 2018

2018 Social Media Participation (Facebook)	
2018 Annual Analytics	
Total Annual FB Posts	605
Monthly Post Average	49
Current Participation (Followers)	19,601
Participation January 1, 2018	13,244
Participation December 31, 2018	19,185
Participation Increase	5,941
2018 Post Activity	Total People Reached
Top Post Reach (Important Public Notice - Coyotes)	931,579
2nd Top Post Reach (Ryan Christopher Edwards Arrested)	263,059
3rd Top Post Reach (Can You Help Identify this Subject)	167,621

Another positive use of humor on social media was the creation of our Lock-It & Chirp-It Campaign which utilizes funny pictures and

imagery to convey safety messages to encourage the public to lock their homes and vehicles. This program was created after several areas of Hamilton County were inundated with vehicle thefts during the summer and holiday period. Many of these thefts could have easily been prevented by people locking their vehicles. Social media is also used to notify the public of important safety information regarding scams, neighborhood specific crime issues, and HCSO Top 12 Most Wanted captures.

### Formation of a Public Relations Division

In November of 2018, under the direction of Sheriff Jim Hammond, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office transitioned from a Public Information Office staffed by a Public Information Officer to a new Public Relations Division to address the growing public relations, communications, and marketing needs of the HCSO. Working on a five year plan, this newly created division, under the leadership of a Public Relations Manager, will expand to include additional personnel such as a Public Information Officer and/or a Public Relations Specialist. Currently, a part-time clerk has been assigned to the Division to assist with the planning and execution of a new HCSO almanac in honor of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office's 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in October of 2019.

The newly formed Public Relations Division will focus its efforts on marketing and promoting the HCSO to the citizens of Hamilton County and serving the needs of our local media and community partners. The Public Relations Division will also continue to seek new avenues and build internal partnerships with both our civilian and sworn divisions within the HCSO. This will include continuing to assist the Training Division with state mandated In-Service media training, developing meaningful partnerships with local businesses and community stakeholders, and teaching additional community courses on improving personal and home safety.

### Daily Operations – Making a Difference

During 2018, HCSO Public Relations Staff participated in over 70 public relations events including a partnership celebrating



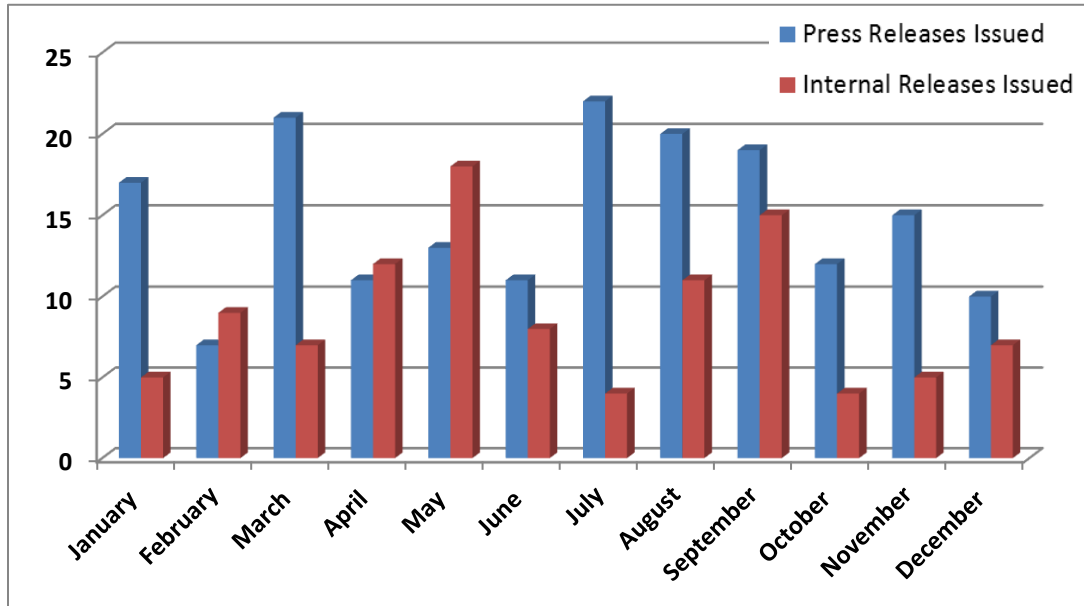
Motorcycle Safety, school visits, safety events with local private organizations like AARP, Erlanger Hospital, AAA Motor Club, HCDE, and many other public and private entities.

During 2018, over (830) news articles were produced by local, state, and national media outlets focusing on a variety of events or issues in which the HCSO was either directly or indirectly involved. Public Relations staff either conducted or organized over (90) media interviews to discuss ongoing issues and programs within the HCSO.

Overall, the HCSO enjoys a meaningful and positive working relationship with all local broadcast media and print agencies working to inform the citizens of Hamilton County. The Public Relations Division averaged (15) press releases a month during 2018 and fielded over (830) media related inquiries.

## 2018 Statistical Review

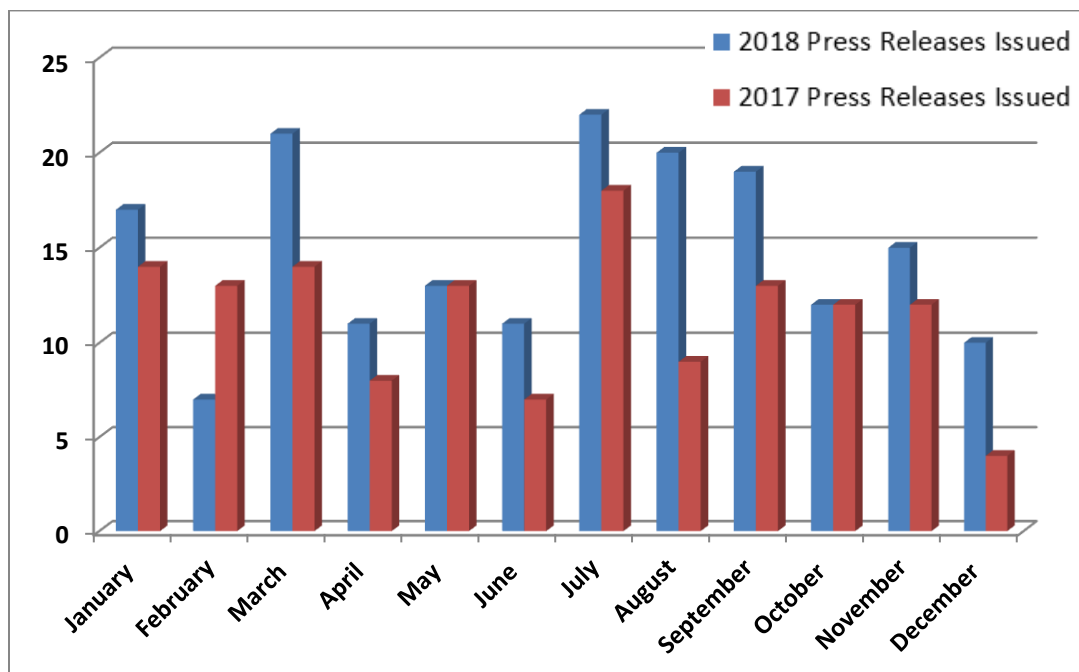
### Press Releases & Internal Communications



Total Press Releases Issued: 178 (Monthly Average – 15)

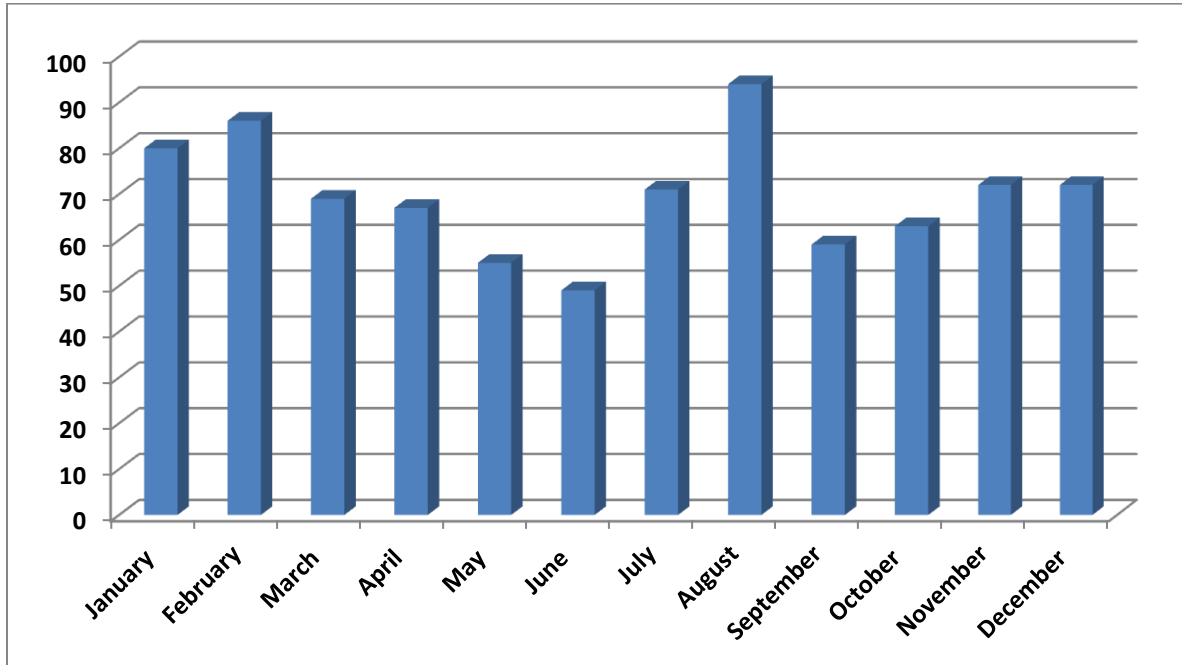
Total Internal Communications Issued: 105 (Monthly Average – 9)

### 2017 & 2018 Press Release Comparison



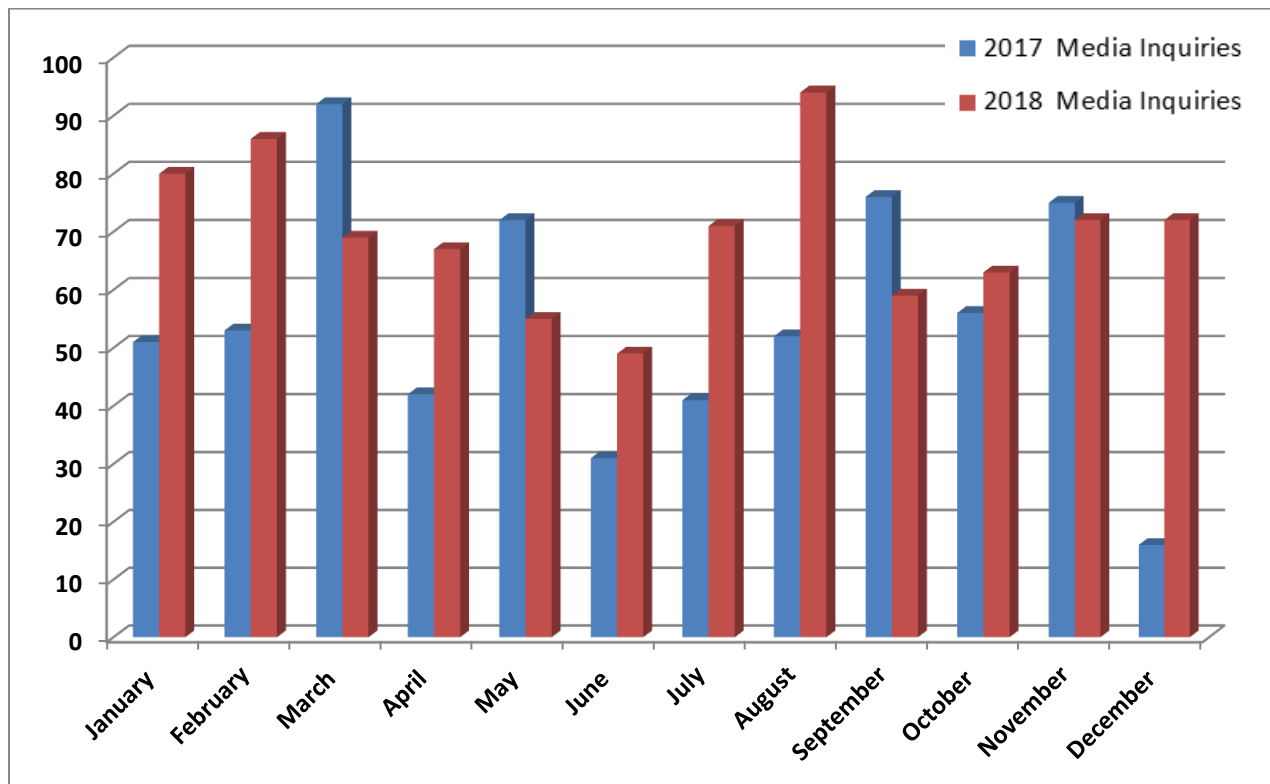


## 2018 Media Inquiries by Month



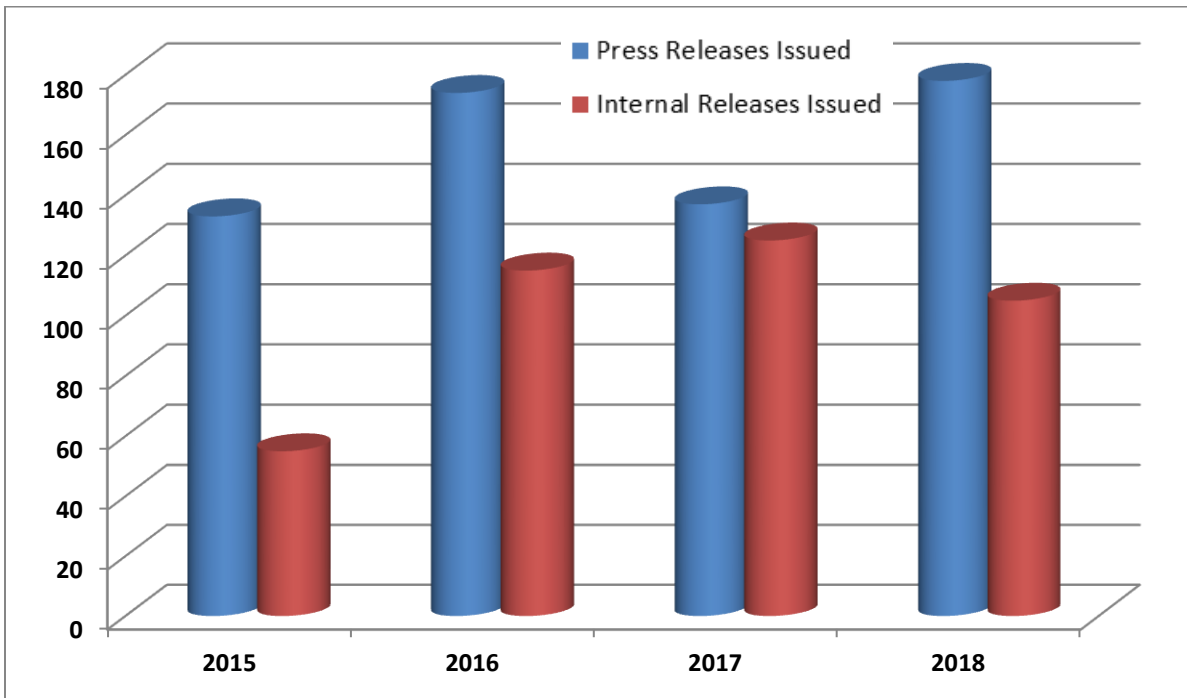
Total Media Inquiries Responded To: 837 (Monthly Average – 70)

## 2017 & 2018 Media Inquiries Monthly Comparison

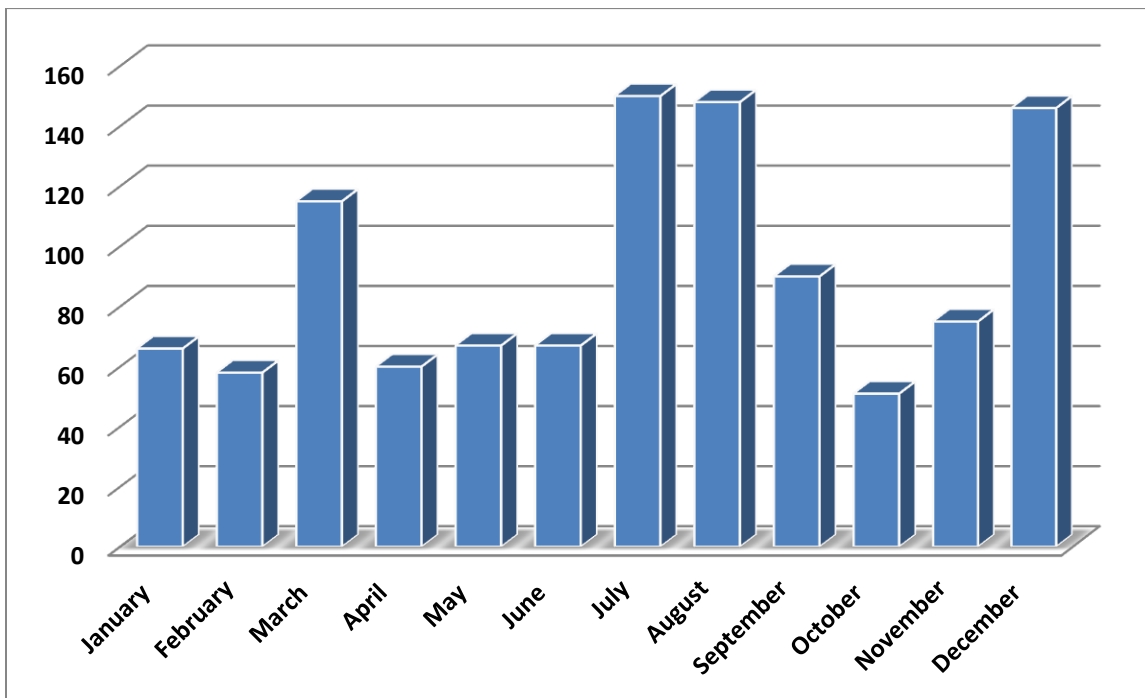


## 2015-2017 Annual Comparison

Press Releases & Internal Communications

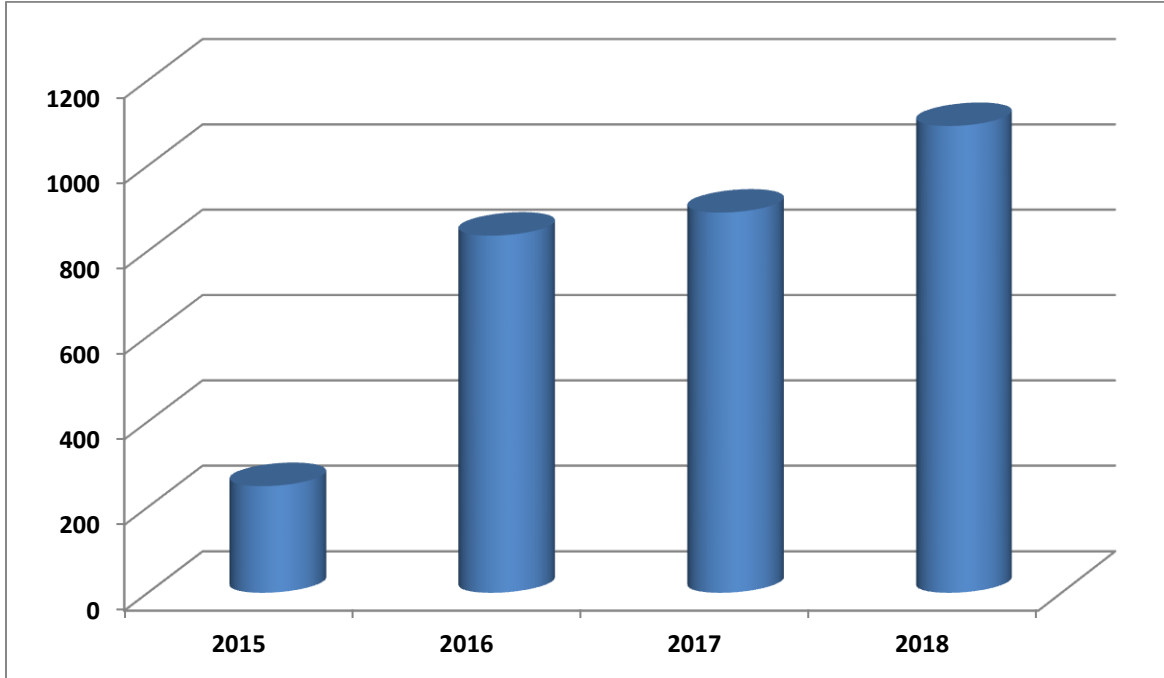


## 2018 Total Media Links by Month



Total Media Links & Press Coverage: 91 (Monthly Average – 13)

## 2015 – 2018 Total Media Links Comparison

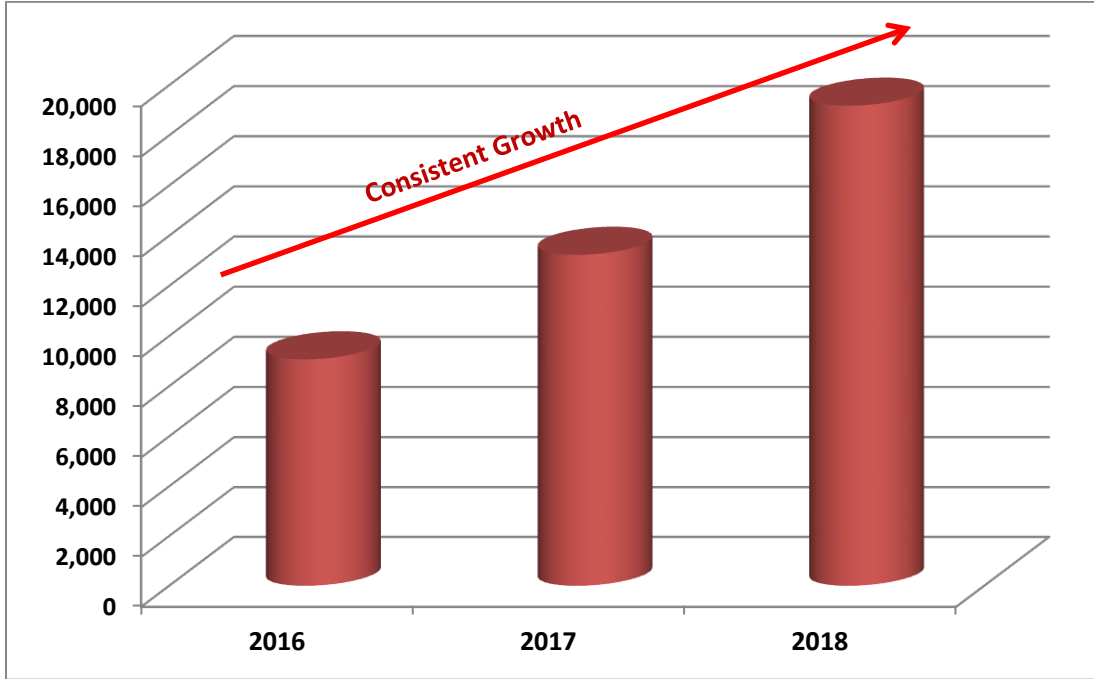


## Social Media Interaction (Facebook)

### 2018 HCSO Facebook Viewer Participation (Likes) – (12) Month Snapshot



## Consistent Facebook Growth & Engagement Since 2016

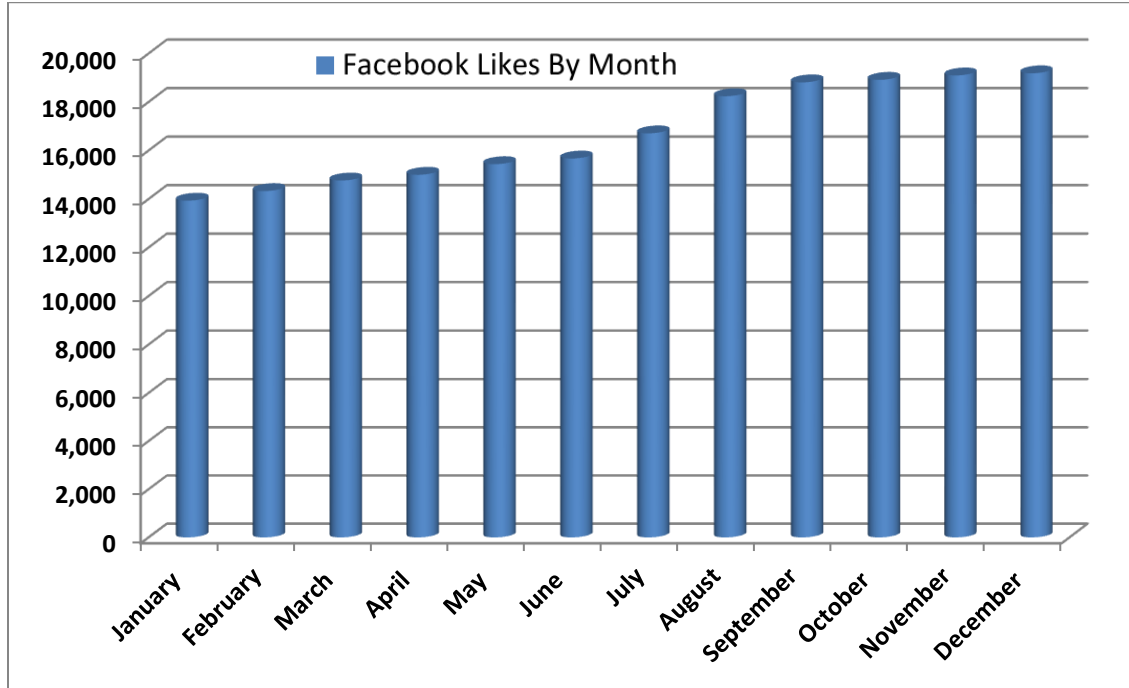


## HCSO Facebook Viewer Participation (Times of Readership)



\*The HCSO Facebook page receives the most readership between 7:00 pm and 9:00 pm.

## 2018 Facebook Likes by Month




## Top 3 Social Media Posts of 2018

**Hamilton County Sheriff's Office - TN**  
Published by Matt Lea [?] · August 17, 2018 · 🌐

### Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

#### Important Public Notice – Coyotes



The HCSCO has been made aware that several coyotes have been sighted throughout Hamilton County. Coyotes are typically nocturnal, but it is not unusual to see them during the day. If you see a coyote, please do not call 911 unless you witness the coyote engaging in the following behavior:

- Coyotes carrying any product marked "ACME"
- Coyotes dropping anvils from a hot air balloons
- Coyote posting signs such as "Detour" or "Bird Seed"
- Coyote in possession of a giant magnet
- Coyotes on roller skates with rockets attached
- Coyote in possession of TNT or a catapult

Please call 911 immediately if you witness any of the above behavior.

**Performance for Your Post**

**931,579** People Reached #1

**62,568** Reactions, Comments & Shares

16,672 Like	767 On Post	15,905 On Shares
1,012 Love	98 On Post	914 On Shares
28,320 Haha	1,285 On Post	27,035 On Shares
402 Wow	7 On Post	395 On Shares
30 Sad	4 On Post	26 On Shares
17 Angry	7 On Post	10 On Shares
5,689 Comments	311 On Post	5,378 On Shares
10,677 Shares	10,677 On Post	0 On Shares

**70,908** Post Clicks


36,004 Photo Views	40 Link Clicks	34,864 Other Clicks
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**Hamilton County Sheriff's Office - TN**  
Published by Matt Lea [?] · July 24, 2018 · 🌐

**Ryan Christopher Edwards Arrested – Held in Hamilton County Jail**

Hamilton County, TN – In response to requests for information regarding the arrest of Ryan Edwards from numerous national news outlets, for clarification purposes, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office is releasing the following information:

Ryan Christopher Edwards was arrested yesterday, Monday, July 23, 2018, by the Red Bank Police Department in Red Bank, Tennessee.... [See More](#)



**Performance for Your Post** #2

**263,059** People Reached

**11,412** Reactions, Comments & Shares 📊

971 Like	168 On Post	803 On Shares
35 Love	6 On Post	29 On Shares
456 Haha	85 On Post	371 On Shares
1,001 Wow	150 On Post	851 On Shares
231 Sad	64 On Post	167 On Shares
22 Angry	6 On Post	16 On Shares
7,008 Comments	2,078 On Post	4,930 On Shares
1,708 Shares	1,629 On Post	79 On Shares

**146,468** Post Clicks

7,206 Photo Views	188 Link Clicks 📊	139,074 Other Clicks 📊
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**NEGATIVE FEEDBACK**


21 Hide Post	9 Hide All Posts
0 Report as Spam	0 Unlike Page

Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts

**Hamilton County Sheriff's Office - TN**  
Published by Matt Lea [?] · August 1, 2018 · 🌐

**Can you help us identify any of these people?**

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office is seeking the community's assistance in identifying a suspect involved in an assault that took place on July 15th at the Island Oasis located at 5518 Highway 60. The incident involves several parties and an assault on an employee of the business.



**HCISO Seeks Assistance in Identifying Assault Suspect**  
01:09

🟢 **Get More Likes, Comments and Shares**  
Boost this post for \$30 to reach up to 25,000 people.

<b>167,621</b> People Reached	<b>100,430</b> Engagements	<a href="#">Boost Post</a>
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👍❤️😂 242      224 Comments 1,996 Shares

👍 Like    💬 Comment    ➦ Share    ⚙️

**Performance for Your Post** #3

**167,621** People Reached

**111,519** Video Views

**5,859** Reactions, Comments & Shares 📊

577 Like	91 On Post	486 On Shares
17 Love	2 On Post	15 On Shares
184 Haha	18 On Post	166 On Shares
250 Wow	45 On Post	205 On Shares
64 Sad	9 On Post	55 On Shares
422 Angry	100 On Post	322 On Shares
2,251 Comments	486 On Post	1,765 On Shares
2,100 Shares	1,996 On Post	104 On Shares

**94,571** Post Clicks

23,312 Clicks to Play 📊	22 Link Clicks 📊	71,237 Other Clicks 📊
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**REPORTS OF THE  
REGULAR AND CONCURRENT GRAND JURY  
HAMILTON COUNTY  
APRIL 25, 2018**

**THE HONORABLE TOM GREENHOLTZ  
JUDGE, CRIMINAL COURT, DIVISION II  
11<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**REPORT OF THE REGULAR GRAND JURY**

**April 25, 2018**

The Honorable Tom Greenholtz

Judge, Criminal Court

Division II



The Honorable Tom Greenholtz  
Judge, Criminal Court, Division II  
Hamilton County, Tennessee

Judge Greenholtz:

The members of this Grand Jury say they have found this opportunity to serve their community and the Criminal Court Judges very rewarding. Many of them have expressed to me what an honor it has been.

As part of their service, they visited the facilities of Silverdale CCA, Hamilton County Jail, Juvenile Detention and Courts.

This jury was charged with reporting on the Hamilton County Jail and Juvenile Detention and Courts.

### **JUVENILE DETENTION**

This Grand Jury was impressed with the officer who conducted the tour. They felt he was knowledgeable and professional. The teacher, Mr. Weaver had an apparent care for the education of the children. As stated before in prior reports, he is in need of updated GED software. This Grand Jury sees that as money well spent as it will give those juveniles a greater chance for success. They felt the kitchen facility and staff had a strong desire to make sure that the children received nutritious food while in their care.

They also noted that having Judge Philiyaw take the time to educate them on the courts, and his mission, was impressive. They felt he showed a real passion for the juveniles that come through there while realizing that there is a problem of some that continue to stay in the criminal justice system.

### **HAMILTON COUNTY JAIL**

As with all facilities this Grand Jury found it to be reasonably clean. They found Court Holding to be the most unpleasant in many ways. The tour was guided with professionalism and they felt the staff was very forth-coming in their knowledge of day to day operations.

They found the way the kitchen was run with such economic efficiency to be impressive. The use of inmate workers in the making of some foods from scratch was a plus in many ways.

The contraband class was both educational and interesting. In this class they were shown the many dangers that both inmates and staff encounter.

During their term they heard 423 cases. They came together and took serious the charge, as well as the education they were given, and made the decisions they felt necessary in these cases.

**REPORT OF THE CONCURRENT GRAND JURY**

**APRIL 24, 2018**

**PRESENTED TO**

**THE HONORABLE TOM GREENHOLTZ**

**JUDGE, CRIMINAL COURT**

**DIVISION III**

**HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE**

We, this concurrent grand jury count it an honor and a privilege to serve our community. We have gained a new outlook on the judicial process which includes those who serve in law enforcement and the entire court system.

This report will describe and give detail on the opinions, concerns, and thoughts of the members of this jury. We were able to see "We the People" in play. We are a diverse group, from different backgrounds with different beliefs. However, we all had one common goal, and that was to work together as one to make the best and most fair conclusions. Through this process, we have united as one body being made of many members to uphold the charge given to us. Although a little disheartening, it was quite an eye-opening experience in regards to the crimes being committed in Hamilton County. The responsibilities of the officers working to protect and serve our community go far beyond issuing a ticket or making an arrest. While the situations are not the best, the care and concern that the officers have for the general public was very refreshing. To hear the words of the Judges Greenholtz, Poole, and Steelman, about their struggles to be fair, to attempt to rehabilitate rather than detain, to make the best decisions based on law but most beneficial for each individual shows the sincerity of their hearts.

We had the opportunity to tour Silverdale, the Juvenile Detention Center, and the Hamilton County Jail which was indeed an unforgettable experience. Although necessary, to see those behind bars, to walk behind the gates, to hear both inmate, officer, and civilian live and work in the same place yet have different outlooks.

### **Grand Jury Recommendations**

- ❖ Schedule a time for officers to present their cases to the Grand Jury, which will minimize the slack time for the jury.
- ❖ The use of alias' when signing presentments
- ❖ Make it mandatory for the grand jury to listen to court cases, especially drug court.
- ❖ Allow the judges to speak to the jury and at the beginning of the term instead of the later portion, which would give a better understanding and explanation of how the process works.
- ❖ Wheels on the chairs in the jury room are needed because the chairs are heavy.

### **Hamilton County Jail**

We were quite impressed with our visit to the Hamilton County Jail. Although it is outdated and could use improvements, it was found to be structured and ran proficiently. The day to day operations seemed to be consistent. Although each facility will inadvertently have their own issues, there appeared to be a mutual respect between the officers and inmates.

The cafeteria was quite an impressive stop on the tour. The knowledge and creativity of the kitchen staff was great, and the menu included items that are both healthy and tasteful. There were options available for those who required a special diet as well which was nice to see (diabetics, religious practice, etc.)

There was a cute, painted Chapel where inmates can go to worship and/or seek guidance. The chaplain seemed knowledgeable regarding different religious practices and explained different things that are done to accommodate each. It was very enlightening.

Another thing we were impressed with was the medical office within the jail. It was fully staffed with medical care available to inmates anytime for almost any medical need. The fact there is a mental health professional on site was nice to see. With the number of inmates with mental health needs, this is a great addition to the medical department.

On April 3, 2018 the Hamilton County Jail received National Accreditation from the American Correctional Association. They scored 100% compliance on all 153 standards. We have the following suggestions for the jail:

- More correction officers are needed
- Install frosted windows for the bathrooms
- Create a work release program
- Correct the dangers of the intake process, such as the broken gate at the jail
- More resources needed regarding education and mental health issues

## **Silverdale**

When we arrived at Silverdale, it was somewhat discouraging that the warden/assistant warden weren't on site. Instead the visit was conducted by the head of security and captain of the units.

We were informed on our visit to Silverdale there were 150 or so cameras on the premises monitoring all activities of the inmates. However, when we saw the control room where these cameras are viewed there were only 2-3 people monitoring them at any given time. This leaves a large gap and increases the probability something could go wrong and the situation be out of control fairly quickly.

In regards to the same issue above, officers watching over a cell block are unable to see the activities going on inside the cell without physically being inside. This is mainly due to the fact there aren't bars or any type of transparency other than windows. Instead there are walls and opaque partitions. If an officer was sitting, there wouldn't be a chance to see any activities.

We were impressed to learn they have a dentist office on site, with dental care available specific times during the month. We were less impressed to find out their medication is given out through a closet, and that they have a small medical office on site where inmates might be seen, only after submitting a request and it deemed medically necessary. Since Silverdale houses such a large number of both male and female inmates, we recommend they have more extensive medical resources.

## **Juvenile Detention Center**

When we arrived at the Juvenile facility, there was no administration on staff. Instead we were met by an officer within the jail.

We were shown the classroom inside the facility and met the teacher who works on site. We were happy to see that educational resources were available considering the circumstances the child was in. We were also informed that volunteers come in and talk about the different "extra" subjects such as art, music, and photography. Fun exhibits such as those can open doors!

We were also happy to see that a full medical staff is now on site that can medically treat these children and detect signs of abuse. With this being done on site, it will be easier to diagnose and treat them, as well as give the judge a broader picture into the child's situation so that punishment is appropriate.



## **Community Corrections**

Community Corrections has four pretty impressive programs to offer non-violent offenders in place of incarceration. These not only provide alternative sentencing, but at a lower cost.

Community Corrections is for both felony and misdemeanor offenders. Felony CC is funded by the State of TN, while misdemeanor CC is funded by Hamilton County. They have high tech devices to enforce their rules/guidelines, including GPS monitoring devices, ignition interlock devices, remote breathalyzer tests with facial recognition, and transdermal bracelets.

They also offer the Litter Grant Program, which is trash collection along the highways. The statistics for this program are phenomenal, between June 2017 and March 31, 2018, the participants in this program have cleaned 4,392 miles of highway and collected 114.81 tons of trash.

Another great benefit is the taxpayer savings. The cost for community corrections is significantly lower than that of either jail. The cost of living per inmate in either the Hamilton County Jail or Silverdale is on average \$76-77 per day. That means for one inmate for one year is roughly \$27,922.00. Community Corrections averages around \$1.11- \$2.21 per day, or around \$600 a year!

## **General**

- Add another criminal court judge so that Judge Greenholtz can serve Drug Court full time.
- Case management needed for prevention of repeat offenders with resources for employment and education.
- It is recommended that the court work with Erlanger Behavioral on a solution to assist with patients after being released or discharged from the hospital.
- The mentally ill population needs more help and resources which will help with the overcrowding of the jails.
- Add a domestic violence rehabilitation court to help stop abuse

## **Accolades**

Judge Greenholtz's Drug Court is a very impressive program that many in our community are not aware of. The stat given that over the past 13 years only 9% of those that graduated from drug court have returned to jail shows that the return made on this investment is solid.

Judge Poole's Hamilton County Mental Health Court was recently added to the system in 2015. With over 50% of inmates having a mental illness and/or on psychiatric medication, it was a much needed addition.

We conclude this report, with our heartfelt, warmest thank you to Mr. Jerry Sloan. He explained each case, each charge, and gave needed insight regarding the law. We thank him for his expertise as well as making each of us feel comfortable with his smile and jokes. We would also like to thank Judge Don Poole, Judge Barry Steelman, and Judge Tom Greenholtz for their service to the community and for taking the time out of their busy schedules to come and address the jury. Lastly, but certainly not least we have a huge thank you to our foreman, Mr. Jimmy Anderson. Without his guidance, this jury would have been lost.

Lastly, 13 strangers have completed their civic duty to serve on this jury; however through this process those strangers have bonded. Strong bonds are needed to stand against the wiles of this day. Serving on the jury made that bond much stronger.

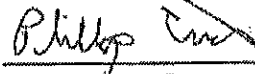
### **CASES HEARD THIS TERM**

**The Concurrent Grand Jury, serving during January 2018 – April 2018 term heard witnesses testify on 424 cases.**

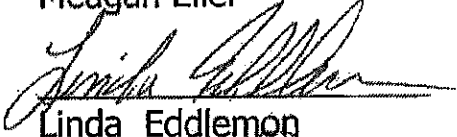
Humbly Submitted, Concurrent Grand Jury



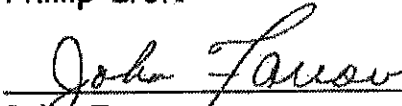
Meagan Eller



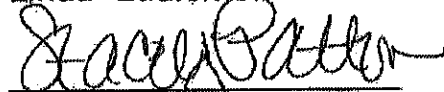
Phillip Croft



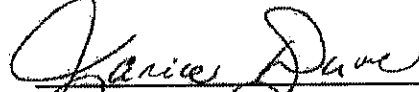
Linda Eddlemon



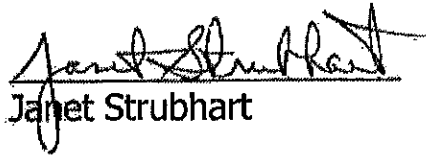
John Farrow



Stacey Patton



Janice Dave



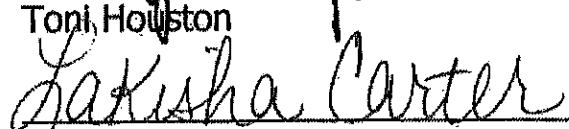
Janet Strubhart



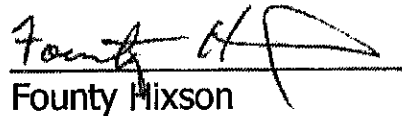
Toni Houston



Mary Ritch



LaKisha Carter



Fouty Mixson



Jean Botto



Laura Forkum

  
Jimmy Anderson, Grand Jury Foreperson

**REPORTS OF THE  
REGULAR AND CONCURRENT GRAND JURY  
HAMILTON COUNTY  
AUGUST 29, 2018**

**THE HONORABLE BARRY STEELMAN  
JUDGE, CRIMINAL COURT, DIVISION I  
11<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**REPORT OF THE REGULAR GRAND JURY**

**August 29, 2018**

\

The Honorable Barry Steelman

Judge, Criminal Court

Division I

The Honorable Barry Steelman  
Judge, Criminal Court, Division I  
Hamilton County, Tennessee

Judge Steelman:

“Definitely not what I expected, highly recommend this experience, great experience and educational, eye opening to the amount of crime in our community.” Those are some of the comments I was given by jurors when asked to describe their experience while serving on the Grand Jury for the May – August, 2018 term.

I will say that after serving with them in this term, I know that they are all surprised and a bit saddened by the high number of cases that come through the Grand Jury and most disturbing of all, the number of repeat offenders.

I know that most of them have expressed a renewed appreciation for Law Enforcement. They have been given an education into the daily operations of Law Enforcement and all the hazards and hardships they endure. They now have a better understanding of how a criminal indictment starts with an arrest and goes through the system. Most would say at times our criminal justice system seems in need of some work, but is better than other nations have.

As part of their service, they toured the facilities of Silverdale, the Hamilton County Jail and Juvenile Detention Center. They were charged with reporting on the Hamilton County Jail and Juvenile Detention.

### **HAMILTON COUNTY JAIL**

The staff at the jail seemed to really know what they were doing. You could tell they are well trained and stay on top of things. It did seem as though they are short staffed and could use more officers. It would seem like a good idea to have more inmates involved in the cleaning and maintaining of the facility. Overall it was impressive how well everything ran in an unconventional space.

Ty Baker -Technical Service Specialist for Coast 2 Coast Survey Co.

Running a jail takes more people than I thought. Processing people in and out takes a lot of time. Knowing what gangs they are affiliated with and placing them in the right cell to cut down on problems in the jail has to be hard work. I am amazed at the job these people do. I have the utmost respect for the men and women that work around the inmates. Mentally this must be a trying job. I did notice that the cells are very crowded but realize this will take a lot of funds to fix.

Mike Givens - Real Estate Agent, Keller Williams Realty

There were multiple comments from jurors stating the professionalism of the staff. Many of them expressed their appreciation for the chaplain and kitchen director. There were several comments on the crowded conditions of the holding cell and its cleanliness, but we realize in these circumstances conditions will not always be what we feel they should be.

### **JUVENILE DETENTION**

I was very impressed with the way the employees and supervisors were so caring and respectful of the children's lives. The facility was clean and well maintained. The classroom teacher was amazing. They do need to update his GED software.

Carolyn Levi - Retired, Public School Transportation Department

I had several jurors comment on the cleanliness of the facility and especially its kitchen but as usual, overwhelmingly they were impressed with Mr. Weaver, the classroom teacher. He does need and deserves an updated GED software program.

### **LAW ENFORCEMENT**

My respect and admiration for Law Enforcement has increased tenfold. I've been telling my family, "be sure to respect our police officers and thank them" I think everyone should have to do Grand Jury because it is such an eye opener. I think it would help the current negativity towards our Law Enforcement if everyone got to see what they have to deal with day to day.

Ty Baker -Technical Service Specialist for Coast 2 Coast Survey Co.



During their term they heard 313 cases. They came together and took serious the charge and the education they were given and made the decisions they felt necessary in these cases.

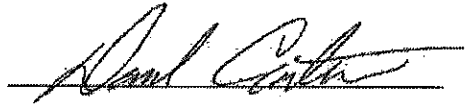
### **A FINAL THOUGHT**

When I started this job eight years ago, I had no idea what it takes to be in Law Enforcement, no idea what it takes to run a correctional facility much less that they housed the number of inmates they do. I had no idea how much "paperwork" goes into the arrest through to the prosecution of an offender. I had no idea that Judges have to consider the rights of a defendant and that they often struggle with the outcome of a trial. To all of these people within the criminal justice system that I have had the honor to work with, I say thank you for what you do.

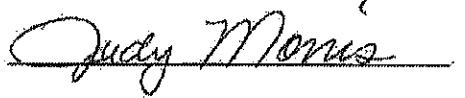
DeAnna Anderson - Retired, Grand Jury Foreperson

Respectfully submitted,

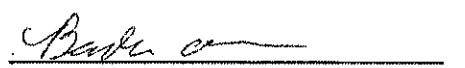
Regular Grand Jury



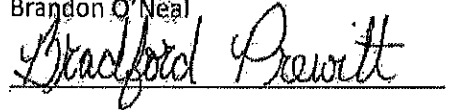
David Carter



Judy Morris



Brandon O'Neal




Bradford Prewitt

\_\_\_\_\_

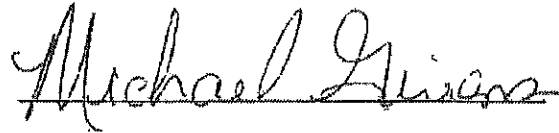
Jeffrey Baker



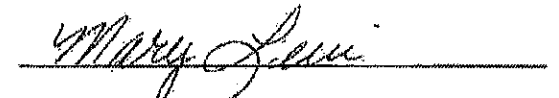
Niki Fairbanks



Rebecca Craig



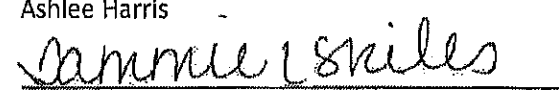
Michael Givens



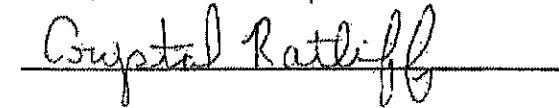
Mary Levi



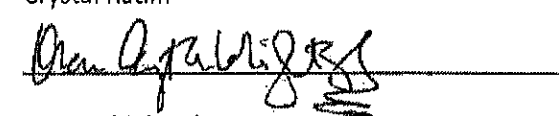
Ashlee Harris



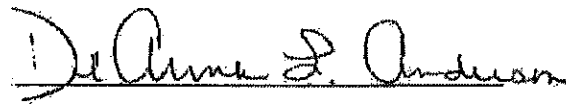
Tammie Skiles



Crystal Ratliff



Oren Whightsel



DeAnna L. Anderson, Grand Jury Foreperson

**REPORT OF THE CONCURRENT GRAND JURY**

**AUGUST 22, 2018**

**PRESENTED TO**

**THE HONORABLE BARRY STEELMAN**

**JUDGE, CRIMINAL COURT**

**DIVISION I**

## **Concurrent Grand Jury Report: May 2018 – August 2018**

Our jury was sworn in and served under the guidance of Criminal Court Judge Barry Steelman. The individuals in this Concurrent Grand Jury came from a variety of backgrounds and we each brought a different perspective to the role that we have been required to fulfill during our time of service. Service on the Grand Jury has been an informative and enlightening experience for us and we believe our service to the community to be an honor.

We feel that everyone should serve on a Grand Jury at least once in his or her life. Too many of us are blissfully ignorant of our justice system, how it works, and all of its components.

The following is a list of general recommendations we think would help to increase efficiency in the Grand Jury system:

- We would like to request that wheels be added to the chairs in the grand jury room. This would improve/provide more efficiency for each juror being able to move around in a more quiet and professional manner.
- We would also like to believe that implementing a scheduling system for the law enforcement officers to come in and present their cases would make the Grand Jury operate more efficiently. It's very frustrating for jurors to appear, wait around only to hear a few cases on the docket, while the stack of cases to be presented continues to grow. It would allow officers to preselect a time that was convenient with their schedule to come in and present their cases. We understand and appreciate the number of hours our law enforcement officers spend working to make our county a safer environment and we feel that this would benefit both the efficiency of the system as well as make it easier on the individual law enforcement officers.
- The noise outside of the Grand Jury room would sometimes get too loud and we as jurors would have a difficult time in hearing what the officers were saying while presenting their cases. This is due to the ante-room being

a gathering place for officers waiting to testify in other areas of the courthouse.

- Judge and jury foreman should stress to impended jurors the importance of being present and on time. Occasional emergencies are understood, but jurors should not volunteer for the four months if they suspect there may be work conflict issues, child care issues, etc. Set up in advance via phone call, a list of three to four prospective jurors who can plan to appear on scheduled days. If they are not needed they can be called by 8:30 or 9am, otherwise have them scheduled to show up to make a complete panel by 10am or so (times flexible).
- The positive outcome of drug court and mental health court are excellent, and we hope to see the programs expanded and increased to serve more individuals battling drug addiction and mental health issues.
- We would also like to recommend that the state constitution's regulations regarding misdemeanors be revisited; we observed that far too many misdemeanors are bound over the Grand Jury which could much more easily be handled in Sessions Court. These misdemeanors waste the state's time and money.
- We also feel that everyone including employees of the court, media, and lawyers should have their items that they bring with them scanned and walk through the metal detectors

### **Silverdale Tour Recommendations:**

- Opportunities for education, library resources, job skills should continue to be worked on and expanded, particularly the reading/phonics program for the inmates. We learned most inmates have a 5<sup>th</sup> grade reading level.
- More funding should be provided for an improved and larger kitchen facility. The existing facility which services all inmates from the upper

campus seems over tasked for the job and for the number of meals service. The building or expansion of a more central, modernized facility should be considered.

- We feel that having an older female guard in charge of men's unit doesn't seem safe and she could be easily overpowered.

In our overall opinion appears this to be a very well ran facility.

### **Tour of Juvenile Detention Center Observations**

We had the pleasure of talking to Judge Philyaw while we were there and he seemed to really care about helping the youth of Hamilton County who come before him. He realized that the youth who come before him are at a critical stage in their life and he has the opportunity to help guide these individuals towards completing their education and becoming valuable and productive members of our society.

- We would like to see heating/AC unit be added to the gym as we were advised that it could not be used 10 months out of the year

### **Hamilton County Jail Observations**

The tour of this facility was eye opening for each of us. There are things that we saw on the tour that will stay with us as we leave the service of the Grand Jury. What immediately became apparent to us was the overcrowding of the jail. The inmates need to be kept occupied – it seems they have way too much time on their hands which leads to trouble within the jail.

We would like to see a heat and air unit added to the gym. We were advised that it was also only used 2 months out of the year.

Even though the jail is understaffed, they appear to be competent, dedicated and humane. They seemed to balance the need for discipline with human dignity.

We would like to thank each criminal court Judge, Judge Steelman, Judge Poole, and Judge Greenholtz for taking the time to come talk to us about their individual duties and respective programs that they operate as part of their overall duties.

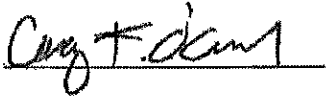
We would also like to thank our Assistant District Attorney, Jerry Sloan for his guidance and any explanations of the law in different situations. Also, we are very appreciative of our Foreperson Jimmy Anderson for his guidance, keeping the Grand Jury process running smoothly and for maintaining a pleasant atmosphere in the Grand Jury room. Last but certainly not least, we would like to thank our note taker Kathryn. She was very attentive and thorough while assisting our Assistant DA.

In conclusion, we felt honored to serve our community by sitting on the Concurrent Grand Jury. The interaction with all law enforcement officers and learning details about the dangerous situations they face everyday gave us a greater respect for what they do. We have also seen/witnessed several areas, outlined above, where there is room for improvement. Overall, we each enjoyed our experience and will take what we have learned with us as our time serving on the Concurrent Grand Jury come to an end.

The Concurrent Grand Jury, serving during the May- august 2018 term, heard witness testify on 315 cases.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

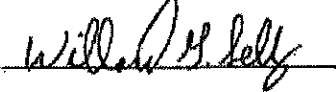
CONCURRENT GRAND JURY



Casey T. Oconnor



Derek B. Messer




Willard G. Selby

Sarah J. Goldsmith

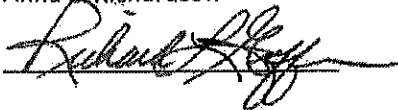
Jesse E. Lowman



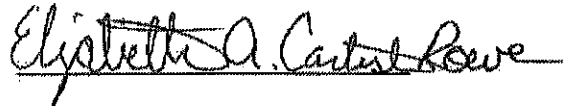
David R. Carlisle



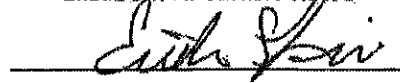
Anna L. Richardson



Richard Griffin



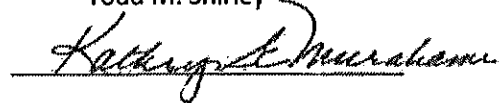
Elizabeth A. Carlisle Rowe



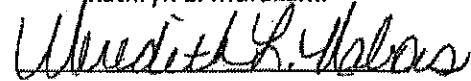
Erika S. Lewis



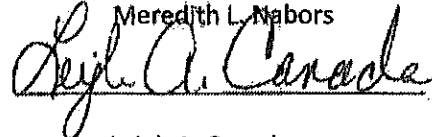
Todd M. Shirley



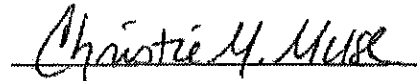
Kathryn E. Murakami



Meredith L. Nabors



Leigh A. Canada



Christie M. Muse



Jimmy Anderson, Grand Jury Foreman



**REPORT OF THE REGULAR GRAND JURY**

**SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER 2018**

**PRESENTED TO**

**THE HONORABLE  
DON POOLE  
JUDGE, CRIMINAL COURT  
DIVISION III  
HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE**

## Introduction

Serving on the Grand Jury provides an exceptional opportunity to gain insight into the judicial system. Our Grand Jury was made up of a diverse group of individuals who represented a broad cross section of the Hamilton County community. The Grand Jury included a mix of the sexes, races, ages, economic strata, and backgrounds. Such a mix helped in providing a fair evaluation/assessment of the cases presented to us. The arresting officer submits the presentations of facts in front of the grand jury. In sum, a decision to follow is to be decided by a "true bill" or "no bill" for ensuring action declared. The officers presenting personally were exceptional and of stellar quality. It was very impressive that their detailed reports were easily understood. We greatly appreciated the officers that took time out of their busy schedules to meet with us.

Guidance from Jerry Sloan, Assistant District Attorney, and Jimmy Anderson, Grand Jury Foreman, was key to educating the Grand Jury on the task which we signed up for and in the performance of our duty. Better understating of the judicial system was also provided by the judges, which appeared before us and shared their judicial experience and approach.

## General Recommendations

We want to thank each Judge that came in to discuss their insight and knowledge of the judicial system. Not all of the officers are present to give their reports. We recommend a better organizational system be established to correct this problem. We believe it is important to hear from the arresting officer to get a fuller understanding of the case and a firsthand account. It is very frustrating for the grand jury to come in and wait for officers to appear while the caseloads start to pile up. Many days are spent waiting on cases and/or dismissing early. It would be more beneficial to have a set schedule for the officers to come in and read their cases.

More efficient usage of juror's time needs to be addressed. Eliminate cost burden of writing checks and paying jurors. Amount paid is not worth the trouble or the effort, especially if the employer pays a juror during their service. A better, less costly means of compensation would be to provide some method to pay for lunch, similar to the method used to pay for parking, Or reduce the number of checks written from weekly to monthly, or per period served.

The Grand Jury room needs some serious improvements. For instance, chairs need to have rollers to allow jurors to move easier while hearing and discussing cases. The room temperate was extremely cold and there was no way to control the temperature in Grand Jury room. There needs to be fewer intrusions into the room while officers are trying to speak. We would like to suggest labeling the restrooms

unisex instead of gender specific to minimize wait time, especially helpful when the Grand Jury consists of more of one gender than the other.

One of the main purposes of serving on the grand jury is to learn about and evaluate our current justice system. We noticed that high profile cases such as homicides, aggravated rapes and assaults with overwhelming evidence are awarded bail. We often questioned what data justifies the procedure to set lower bails for serious and violent crimes. The current system in place for reviewing bail needs more attention from our state's lawmakers. We also noticed that there were many cases involving repeat offenders that are released from jail time after time.

We would like to recommend that internship programs with local colleges could assist in lightening the load of current overworked criminal system employees. It would provide insight and useful training for the students. Those in criminal justice, mental and physical health, and psychological education programs could provide meaningful supplement to the current staff.

During our time on the Grand Jury, we toured our county's jail, juvenile detention center and Silverdale. We believe that local schools should have the opportunity to visit these facilities. It could offer a unique educational experience on results of a life of crime.

### **Tours and Observations**

#### **L. Silverdale**

During our tour at Silverdale, we saw a great need for a separate arrival and departure rooms/locations for the transfer of inmates. We saw potential for great risk with only one area for intake and transfer for a large facility. Controlling contraband methods should be researched in order to halt the flow presently into the institution. We could smell cigarette smoke throughout the hallways. The facility was clean overall however; there was an overcrowding issue that needs to be addressed. Future expansion and planning is needed for the overpopulation problem. In the women's division, there were 65 incarcerated individuals in one room. Temporary 'boats' were used for beds on the floor. It was obvious that this facility is understaffed. With incidents of crime rampant, it presented a danger to both management and inmates. It was notable to see the staff of Silverdale incorporate a curriculum in life skills. However, there needs to be more educational and job training programs implemented. The program in place must be expanded to teach finances, healthy lifestyles, and job-related education. The majority of the inmates at Silverdale will eventually be released back into society and desperately need support and tools to be well assimilated.

## II. Hamilton County Jail

Touring the Hamilton County Jail was an interesting and eye opening experience. As we walked throughout the facilities, we noticed an urgent need for a new, well-planned facility to meet the current needs as well as for future needs. The numbers for the present facility for the incarcerated is overflowing, creating a dangerous situation for the inmates, staff, and public. The sanitation of the jail is poor as well as the personal hygiene of the inmates. There is a need for a bigger facility to handle inmates who are mentally ill. There are only a few staff members to help these patients while they are in jail. When an inmate is released, it is alarming that there is no outreach for follow-up treatments and medications. We would like to point out the dedication and professionalism of the officers and jail staff. The present circumstances, however, make the job dangerous for all involved. 'Burn out' occurs for many of the staff members due to the high stress level of their jobs. Pay raises and incentives are needed. Equipment for each officer is vital.

## III. Juvenile Division

During our visit at the Juvenile Detention center, we spoke to Judge Philyaw and many other staff members who are passionate about the work they do. Kitchen staff demonstrated that healthy diets and snacks are planned with care and concern. Educational needs are continued with structure and the curriculum guidelines of each grade. Safety procedures were excellent in meeting the child's needs that were housed. The judges keep the well being for the child and process each individual case fairly. There is a need for outreach and follow-up plans to meet the needs of the juveniles once they leave.

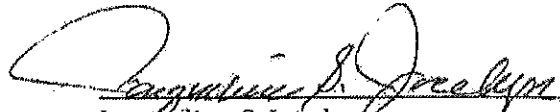
## Closing remarks


We strongly believe that everyone should serve on a Grand Jury once in his or her life. Often, we don't realize how important it is to see our justice system this way. It offered a unique look into the way our system operates and was truly an eye opening experience. We believe that Drug Court and Mental Health court is a top priority for this county. We heard numerous cases involving drugs and DUIs. Although there is an established Drug Court, we believe that it needs more funding to have a great influence to the community.

During the September-December,2018,term the Hamilton County Regular Grand Jury heard witnesses testify on 331 cases.

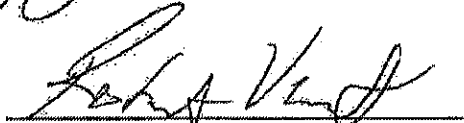
Regular Grand Jury


  
Yulanda R. Brasher

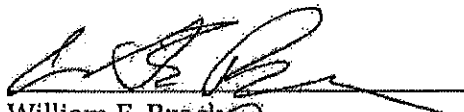
  
Jacqueline S. Jocelyn

  
Jerry C. Skinner

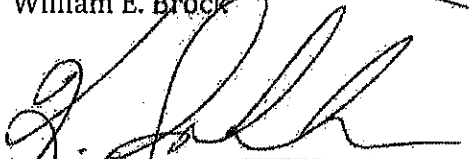
  
Sherman M. Holdorff


  
Robert Q. Vincent

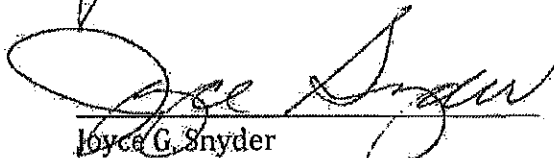
  
Kelli A. Bell

  
William E. Brock

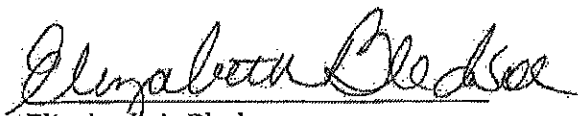
  
Patricia O. Williams

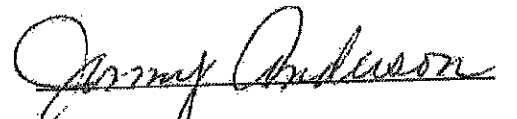
  
Kimberly M. Saldana

  
Lindsey M. Garland

  
Joyce G. Snyder

  
Kelli R. Holliday

  
Elizabeth A. Bledsoe

  
Jimmy L. Anderson, Permanent Foreman