



ONONDAGA COUNTY

# OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

SHERIFF EUGENE J. CONWAY

ANNUAL REPORT

2020

# Guiding Principles

## Integrity:

We are committed to uphold our position of public trust by living up to our Sworn Oath and by maintaining the highest ethical standards as set forth in our Code of Ethics.

## Accountability:

We hold ourselves accountable for our actions; freely admit our mistakes and we welcome the conversation and oversight that comes from this responsibility. We value our members and have confidence in their individual initiative and ability to solve problems. We believe that open, honest and sincere communication is critical to a healthy work environment. We value transparency as a vehicle to ensure the public trust, even in times of challenge.

## Community Safety:

We are committed to public safety through community partnerships, preparedness, crime prevention strategies and steadfast enforcement of violations of the law.

## Customer Service:

We are committed to professional and courteous service, with empathy and compassion infused into our unbiased actions.

## Excellence:

We commit to EXCELLENCE, in all we do, with every contact, with every action; We work as ONE TEAM to attain the highest of standards. We take pride and receive satisfaction from giving our very best, every time.





## Vision

**Through a culture of excellence, professional commitment to our mission and adherence to our value system, we will demonstrate in every decision, with every contact, that the members of the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office are among the finest public servants in the Nation. We will strive to provide our residents a safe environment in which to live, through effective Civil, Correction, Custody, and Police Operations, all while efficiently utilizing public funds. We commit to honor the public trust by employing transparency, collaboration, valuing partnerships and providing dignity to all to ensure operations consistent with the values of a free society.**





# LETTER FROM THE SHERIFF



Needless to say, most of 2020 was unprecedented in the lives of everyone as Covid-19 raged through our communities. With virtually everything coming to a halt, public safety and this Office continued to serve without skipping a beat.

The men and women in all four departments of the Sheriff's Office continued to answer calls, continued to maintain security in our jails and continued to respond to any and all requests that were asked of us.

I have never been as proud of the members of the Sheriff's Office than in 2020 as we faced this pandemic. It is a testament to their oath of office in which they swear to perform their duties "to the best of their abilities".

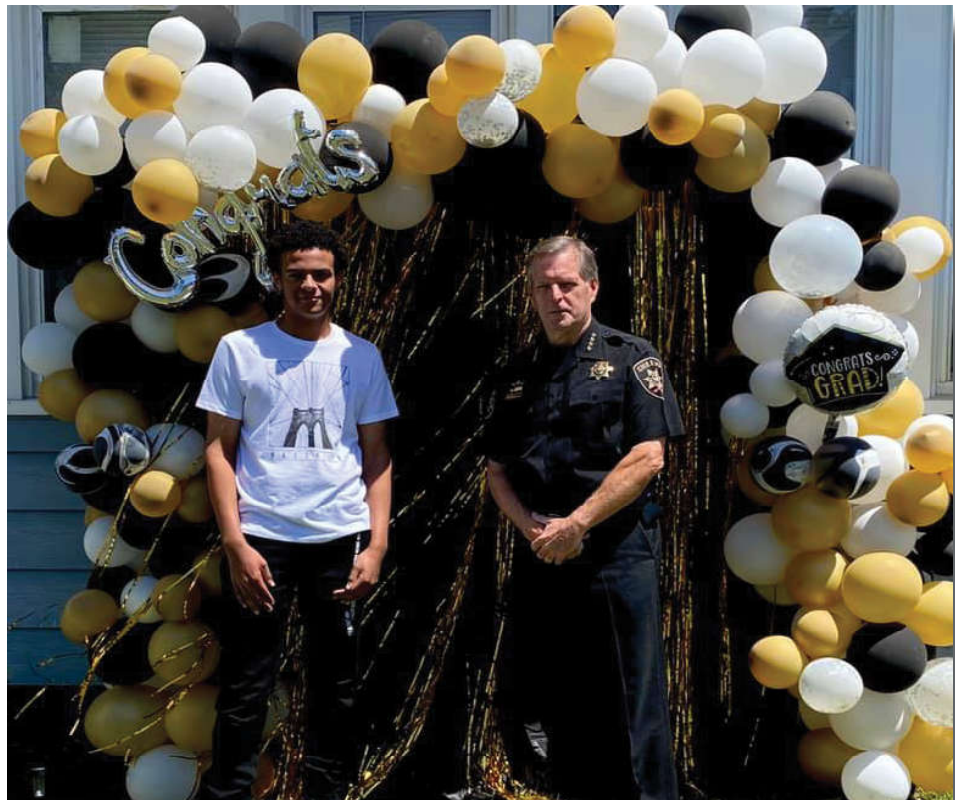
While many of our annual statistics are skewed as our operations were altered, changed or disrupted I can assure you that the Sheriff's Office remains fully committed to performing each and every function in the most professional manner possible.

As always it remains a privilege to serve as your Sheriff.

Stay Safe!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Conway".

Eugene J. Conway  
Sheriff



# ADMINISTRATION



Undersheriff Jason Cassalia



Chief of Police  
Joseph Ciciarelli



Chief of Custody  
Esteban Gonzalez



Chief of Correction  
William Bleyle



Chief of Civil  
Susan C. DeMari



Chief of Staff Services  
Katherine Trask



## COVID-19 Pandemic Response

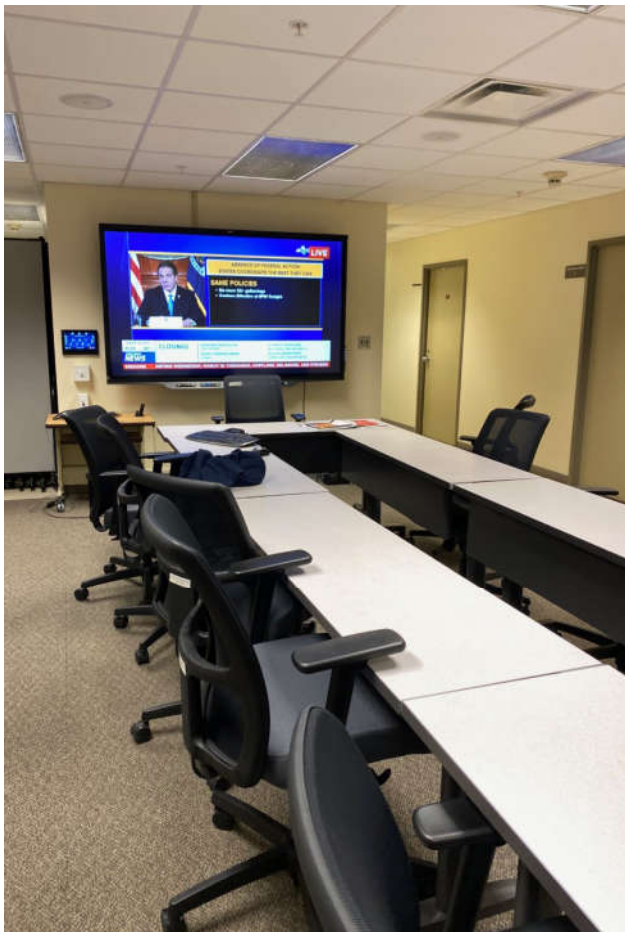
2020 was the most significant activation ever of the Onondaga County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as the COVID-19 Pandemic arrived in the US. In late December 2019 a novel, emergent disease was discovered in China and by January the disease was showing up in the U.S. By early March a pandemic was declared and on March 16, the first case showed up in Onondaga County.

The Sheriff's Office, as the law enforcement representative for the county, played a significant role in helping to control the pandemic, locally. The primary obligations for the Sheriff's Office were logistics and planning. Obtaining Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), securing a depot with several million dollars of supplies, transportation of testing supplies from Albany, and dissemination of critical information to local law enforcement agencies were just some of the tasks completed.

A Sheriff's Operation Center (SOC) was also established to support the Sheriff's Office and act as a conduit between the EOC and the Sheriff's Office. The SOC acted as an information clearing house for the agency and distribution point for critical supplies. The work in the EOC and the SOC was carried out by what would later become known as the Sheriff's Office Emergency Management Unit (EMU).

By late December a real time Point of Distribution (POD) for a COVID-19 vaccine was established at the Onondaga County War Memorial and the Sheriff's Office assisted.

The most significant project for 2020 was the completion of an All Hazard Plan. This written directive was developed to guide the Sheriff's Office in its response to all incidents.



# Community Support



As challenging as the 2020 year was for everyone, we are so thankful for the outstanding support received from the community. The mass amount of donations, food, statements and cards of gratitude, along with overall encouragement that our Office obtained was humbling. We are entirely grateful for every effort made to aid us in navigating this unique year.



Some examples of our unending support include donations from; Dunkin Donuts, Beak N Skiff, Lewis Uniform, Spy Baby, Pies Guys Pizza, Ring, Joey's Catering, Axon, Southern Glazier's, Madison County Distillery, DiBella's Subs, Wegmans and Glazed and Confused.





# Civil Department

## Mission

To exercise its responsibilities to professionally receive, serve and execute all civil process and orders that have been issued by a legal authority in a reasonable and timely manner while maintaining an impartial stance between all parties having an interest in a case.



## Fiscal Management Section

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in all training sessions being postponed and many equipment manufacturers closed, this made spending training funds and equipment funds in current grant programs almost impossible. Overtime increased due to the increase of precautions we had to take in order to carry out our basic functions. In addition, we had to purchase equipment to keep deputies safe while providing services to the citizens of Onondaga County.

We creatively modified several current grant budgets to help cover the cost of some of the COVID-19 supplies as well as secured funding from the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program to help offset these costs.

The Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) Program provided funding to assist eligible states, local units of government, and tribes in preventing, preparing for, and responding to the Coronavirus.

Grants Received Total: **\$922,546**



# Correction Department

## Mission

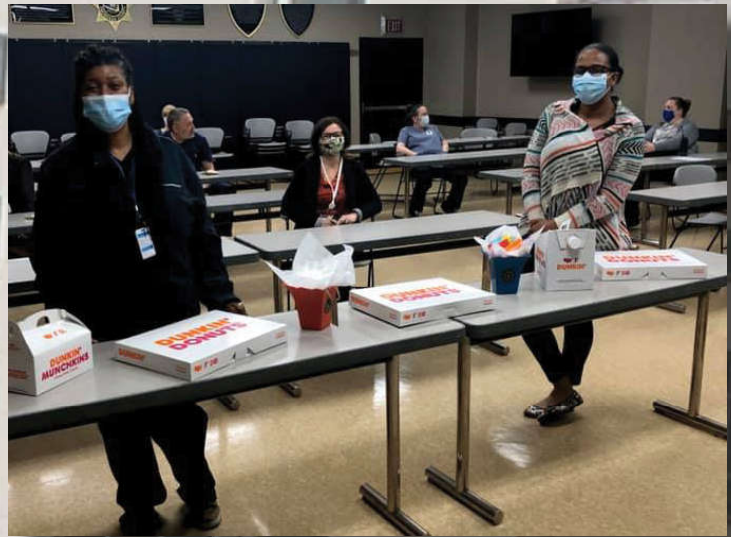
The mission of the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office Correction Department is to protect the public from criminal offenders, advance offender growth and development through education, training and programming, and to reduce recidivism as we assist offenders to re-enter society as productive citizens. Through our dedicated and professional staff members, we will ensure a safe and secure environment for all those in our care while following all legal and constitutional requirements.



# Custody Department

## Mission

To ensure public safety for the citizens of Onondaga County by providing premier and cost-effective prisoner custody, security and transportation services. We will maintain the confidence that the public has placed upon us by developing a safe and secure community, through having a positive impact on the persons we detain while maintaining a humane environment at the Patrick J. Corbett Justice Center.





# Police Department

## Mission

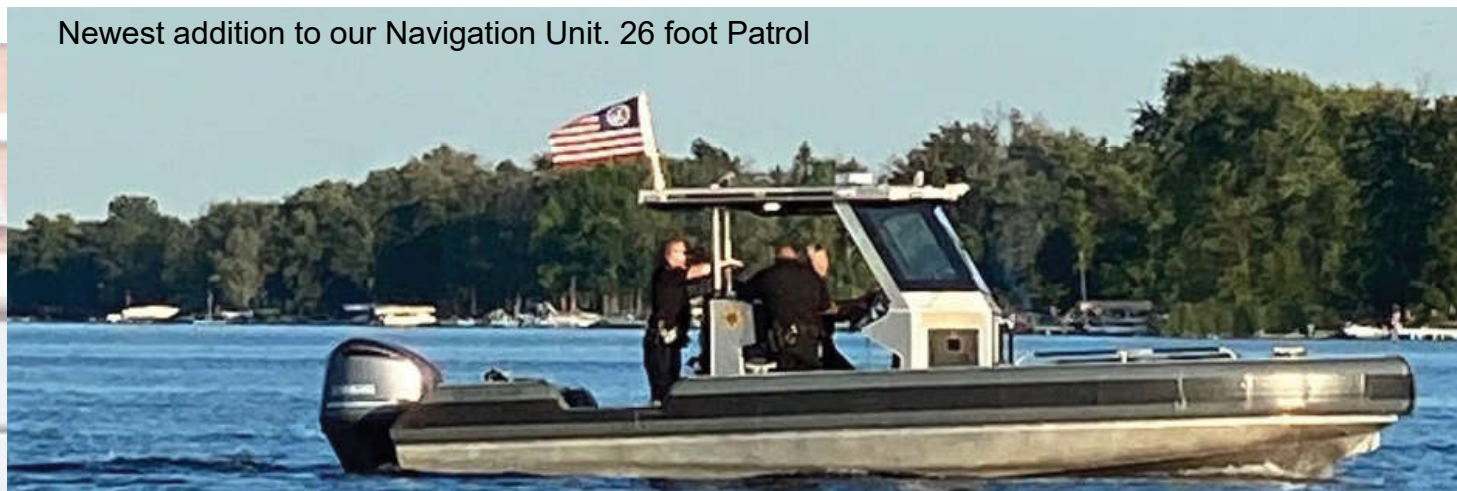
The Mission of the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office Police Department is to provide the citizens of Onondaga County a full service professional law enforcement agency to protect life and property, reduce the opportunity for crime and disorder, enforce all laws, assist victims and provide other police-related services as required by the community. The daily focus of the Police Department is to successfully execute our law enforcement operations with compassion and courage, holding ourselves and each other accountable for our actions at all times, with the goal to provide the highest level of Police service to safeguard the community.





# Police Support

Newest addition to our Navigation Unit. 26 foot Patrol



ONDAGA CO  
SHERIFF

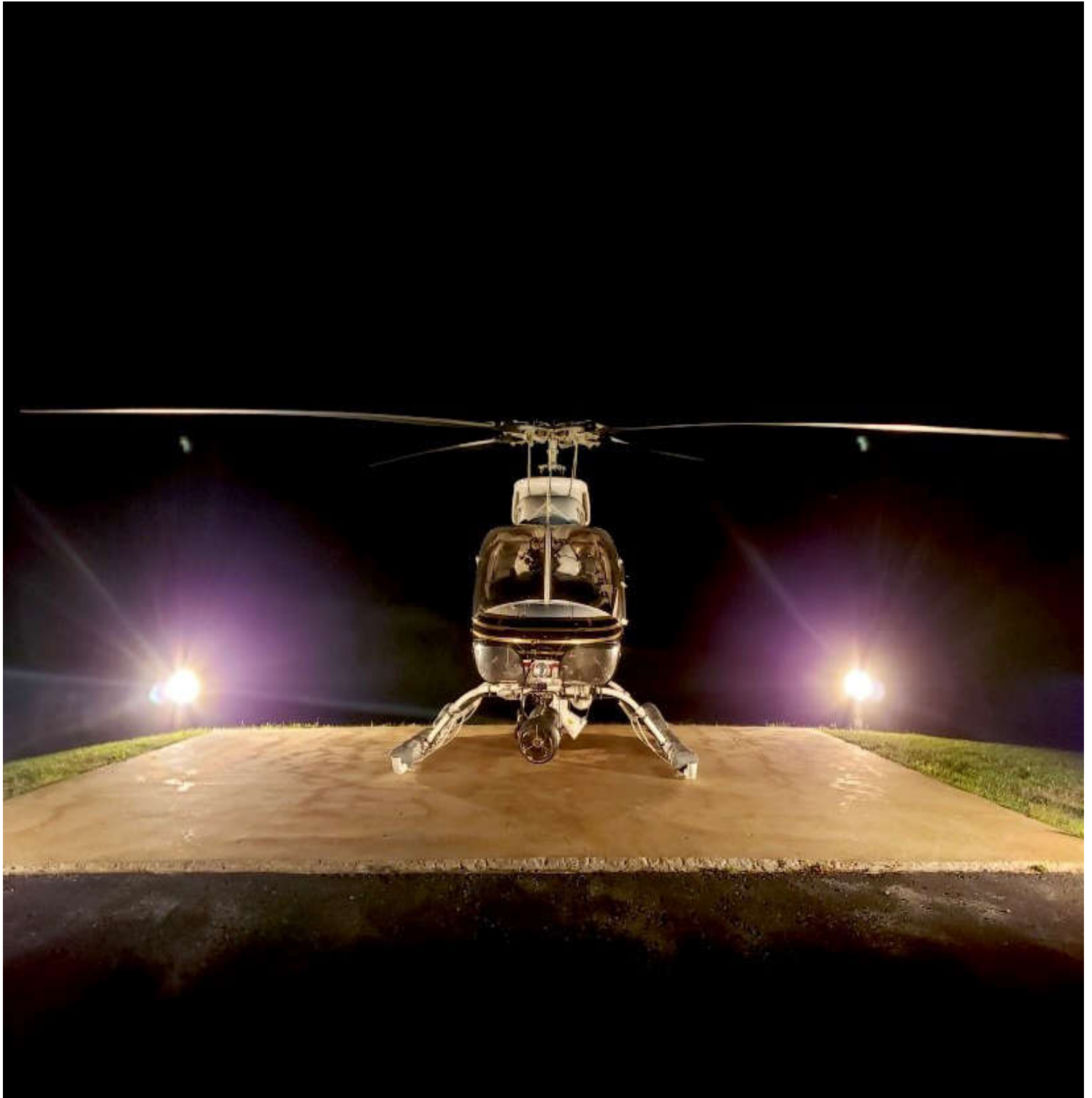




# Aviation Unit

The Aviation Unit has one chief pilot, two pilot/deputies and two flight observer/deputies. The helicopter used is a single-engine Bell 407, also known as “Air 1”. It is equipped with Night Sun (a light source capable of delivering 30 million candlepower), a Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) device, and video downlink/videotaping capabilities.

Air-1 is a multi-mission helicopter capable of performing numerous functions including Patrol, Search and Rescue, and Fire Assistance.



## K-9 Unit



Sergeant Craig Belcher  
K-9 Alex



Correction Officer Matt DeBottis  
K-9 Blumer



Deputy Joshua Hill  
K-9 Blysk



Senior Officer Jennifer Norris  
K-9 Brisa



Deputy Amy Murphy  
K-9 Savro



Deputy Jeff Neal  
K-9 Drago



Deputy William June  
K-9 Yello



Senior Officer James McCloskey  
K-9 Silas



# Community Relations Unit



St. Joseph's Nurses



Upstate Nurses

In an effort to show our support to the medical staff/front-line workers at area hospitals, the unit put together care packages and had members sign two patrols cars with words of encouragement.



Crouse Nurses

The vehicles were on display at area hospitals for a week.





## Showing support for our high school seniors during COVID-19



# Class of 2020





# Employee of the Month

**March**

**January**

Correction Officer  
Cody Staple



Deputy David Martin

**April**

Deputy Todd Griffin  
Deputy Patrick Miles

**June**



Deputy Kristen Mullen

**May**

Deputy Daniel Podejko



**July**



Deputy Jamie Olden  
Deputy Kaley Arsenault  
Deputy Corey Daughton



Human Resources Supervisor  
Michelle Williams

# Employee of the Month

## September



Correction Officer Michael Martinez  
Correction Officer Joseph Romano  
Senior Correction Officer Christopher Mohamed

## November



Deputy Alexa Pedersen  
Deputy Dane Spicer

## December



Deputy Kristen Mullen  
Deputy Thomas Brennan

## October



Deputy Charles Atieh



Deputy Kaielgh Churchill



### **Certificate of Merit**

Deputy Jeffrey Neal  
Deputy Joseph Strom  
Deputy Michael Doupe  
Officer James Jones  
Officer Shawn Fountain  
Sergeant Michael Hoosock



### **Medal of Valor**

Deputy John Hinton  
Deputy David Martin  
Sergeant Thomas McDowell

### **Community Service Award**

Deputy Nicole Gill  
Deputy Jayuan Willis



### **Medal of Distinction**

Deputy Elizabeth Lehmann  
Sergeant William Marcely  
Sergeant Rosalva Spaulding  
Special Assistant George Manolis

### **Charles A. Florczyk Sr. Award for Excellence in Investigations**

Detective William Root

**Office Awards**

# Sheriff's Office Lifesaving Award

Deputy William Pufky  
Deputy Jeremy Corsaro  
Deputy Jonathan Hagenmayer



Deputy Patrick Miles  
Deputy Todd Griffin

Deputy Todd Griffin  
Deputy Patrick Miles  
Deputy Justin Hickok  
Detective Stephen Saunders

Sergeant Jason Eibert  
Deputy Christopher VanDusen

Officer Cody Staple  
Officer Bertalan Lakatos



Deputy David Martin



**Custody Department**  
Sergeant Jon Allen  
Sergeant Justin Lubner



**Civilian**  
Chief Katherine Trask



**Correction Department**  
Assistant Chief Matthew Kearney  
Captain Nathan Hawker  
Lieutenant John-Paul Moltz  
Lieutenant Joshua Stewart  
Sergeant Tracy Ladd  
Sergeant Christopher Muolo  
Sergeant Timon Woods



**Police Department**  
Captain Vincent Ferrara  
Lieutenant Jeremy Young  
Sergeant Sean Andrews  
Sergeant Jeremy Young  
Sergeant Michael Walton



**Civil Department**  
Sergeant Joseph Kelly



# Promotions

## Civil Department

Chief Kenneth Andrews

Deputy Kristine Kirton

## Correction Department

Sergeant Michael Ferguson

Correction Officer John Masello

Senior Correction Officer Gerald Riposa

## Court Attendants

Deputy Madeline Squires

Deputy Joan Murphy

## Custody Department

Lieutenant Edward Salvagni

Deputy Odell Willis

Sergeant Pamela Witek

Deputy Timothy White

Sergeant William Marcely

Deputy Douglas Paninski

Deputy Kenneth Adams

Deputy Edward Kalin

Deputy Steve Cox

Deputy Louis Trapasso

Deputy Thomas Carver

Deputy David Doyle

Deputy Elaine Egan

Community Service Officer Peter Swanson

## Police Department

Lieutenant Jon Anderson

Deputy Dwayne Wisbey

Sergeant David Mason

Deputy Carlos Hall Jr.

Sergeant Bernard Podsiedlik

Deputy Kelly Seeber

Sergeant Melissa Berlinski

Deputy Michael Nord

Sergeant Scott Clisson

Deputy Eric DeCook

Sergeant Kevin Murphy

Deputy Michael LeFebvre

Sergeant Nicholas Nami

Detective Daniel Myers

Detective Fred Mosher





Discover more at  
[sheriff.ongov.net](http://sheriff.ongov.net)