

# 2020

# ANNUAL REPORT



## MASON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The background of the page is a large, light-colored watermark of the Mason County Sheriff's Office seal. The seal is a five-pointed star with a central circular emblem. The emblem features a figure holding a scale and a sword, surrounded by the text "THE SEAL OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON" and "1889". The star is set within a circular border containing the words "INTEGRITY", "ACCOUNTABILITY", "PROFESSIONALISM", "PARTNERSHIP", "RESPECT", and "1854".

**MISSION STATEMENT**

"The Mason County Sheriff's Office will be leaders in our community by providing the best law enforcement services possible"

**MOTTO**

"Leading in Excellence, Service and Safety"

**CORE VALUES**

"Professionalism, Integrity, Accountability, Respect and Partnership"



# MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF CASEY SALISBURY



As an example, the majority of our K9 program has been funded by private donations since 2008. The donations have been so generous as to allow us to obtain, train, and maintain four K9 units.

Additionally, we have made it a priority to reach out to neighboring agencies to enhance cooperation and communication. We routinely provide and receive assistance from our neighboring agencies ranging from administrative assistance to investigative assistance and providing personnel for situations involving civil unrest.

As we look to the future I intend to maintain and expand our community partnerships. We continue to search for more and better ways to improve our efficiency to provide the citizens of Mason County with the most cost-efficient and best service possible. Finally, I would like to express my pride in and gratitude for the staff of the Mason County Sheriff's Office who are on the front lines every day working selflessly to protect our citizens.

## ***"Building Partnerships with Integrity"***

Welcome to the Mason County Sheriff's Office. Thank you for taking the time to review the Sheriff's Report. I would like to convey my gratitude to the citizens of Mason County for trusting me and putting your faith in me to lead some of the finest men and women in law enforcement. I have served as your Sheriff since 2007. During that time, our men and women have faced many challenges. Each time we have met the challenges head-on with a goal to provide the best law enforcement services possible with the resources available to us.

Many of the goals and objectives that we had initially set for ourselves could not be funded by the county government because of austere budgets. Throughout the years our office entered several public-private partnerships to meet the needs of our citizens.

Respectfully,

*Casey Salisbury*

Sheriff Casey Salisbury

Sheriff Salisbury is a 1981 graduate of Shelton High School. He has a master's degree in Education. He is a graduate of the Washington State Law Enforcement Academy and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy.



# MESSAGE FROM UNDERSHERIFF TRAVIS ADAMS



Mason County is fortunate to have one of the best policing agencies in the state. Perhaps after working for this office for 25 years, I am a little biased, but I have some perspective. I have worked with leadership personnel from local, state, and national police agencies as well as from police agencies abroad; I've seen the best, the worst, and everything in between when it comes to law enforcement organizations. The people who work for the Mason County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) are exceptional, dedicated individuals who care deeply about providing unparalleled service to the citizens of Mason County. In a way, no one should be surprised that the MCSO has great people, because our employees are a direct reflection of the incomparable people and communities of Mason County.

Since we last provided a comprehensive report to the community, the MCSO has been in a constant state of process improvement. In 2015 we received accreditation from the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC). Achieving agency accreditation certifies that we meet an objective set of standards which prove that we

operate under industry best practices and standards. Every four years the MCSO must go through the accreditation process to verify continued compliance with the standards, and in 2019 we again demonstrated perfect compliance with the standards on our first review. Fairly recently WASPC developed a set of accreditation standards for jails; consequently, we are embracing the opportunity to attain accreditation for our Mason County Jail by compiling the required documents and "proofs" needed to complete the process. When our correction's staff complete accreditation we will have one of the first county jails in Washington State to achieve the distinction.

The MCSO has worked to improve processes and services even above those required by accreditation standards. Our staff in the jail have implemented many new initiatives which provide better services to inmates, reduce costs via alternative sentencing options, and serve the community through programs such as running a litter crew. Great strides have been taken by our office staff to leverage technology to offset increased demand for services: a program called Permittium to process Concealed Pistol Licenses online, e-Subpoenas to eliminate paper and processing time, a digital fingerprint system at the front counter, and soon will install customer kiosks in both the Shelton and Belfair offices. Finally, with the support and foresight of the Board of County Commissioners, we are in the process of facility improvements, have begun replacement of an aging fleet of vehicles through the county Motor Pool Program, and upgraded the Taser Program for both patrol and corrections.

Unfortunately, Mason County has a crisis in the Criminal Justice System that must be addressed in coming years. The Mason

County Jail, built in 1985, is too small and was not built to meet the needs of a modern correctional facility. Although Chief Deputy Kevin Hanson and his staff have made remarkable strides putting in place effective alternatives to sentencing options which decreases the jail population, the jail was not designed with the space to maximize those services. As the county grows, the unfortunate reality is that the need for a more modern facility grows as well. The MCSO is committed to partnering with county leadership and the public to research and put forward viable options for our county's criminal justice needs.

We look forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead. Each year our calls-for-service in patrol increases, the work in our correction's division becomes more complex, and our civilian staff workload expands. However, I believe our relationship with the community becomes stronger year-over-year, and the rapport with our criminal justice partners has never been higher. Regardless of circumstance, the MCSO will continue to serve our community, upholding our core values of Integrity, Respect, Accountability, Professionalism, and Partnership.

*Travis Adams*

Undersheriff Travis Adams



# STAFF CHART

**Sheriff**  
**Undersheriff**

**Chief of Civil Division**  
**Support Staff**

**Records Management**  
Public Records Requests  
Records Filing & Retention  
Compile Statistical Data

**Civil**  
Process Civil Documents  
Sheriff's Sales

**Front Office**  
Phone Calls/ Walk-ins  
Licenses  
Permits  
Fingerprinting

**Volunteer Program**

**Chief of Patrol Division**  
**Sergeants**  
**Corporals**

**Patrol Division**  
Traffic  
K-9 Unit  
Marine  
SORT  
SWAT  
School Resource Officer  
Media Relations / PIO  
Chaplain Program  
Field Training Officers  
Deputy Reserves  
Civil Process Deputy  
Explorer Cadet Program  
Block Watch

**Chief Of Administrative Division**  
**Sergeants**  
**Corporals**

**Detective Division**  
Major Crime Investigations  
Sex Offender Registration  
Evidence Handling  
Polygraph Unit  
Crisis Negotiations  
Pro-Act  
Background Investigations  
Internal Affairs

**Information Technology**  
System Networking  
Software Support  
Mobile Data Computers  
Website Management

**Financial Management**  
Budget / Payroll  
Accounts Payable/Receivable  
Contracts/Grants Mgmt  
Financial Reporting  
Contract Negotiations

**Chief of Corrections**  
**Sergeants**  
**Corrections Officers**

Medical & Dental Support  
Food Service  
Transport  
Litter Crew  
GED Program  
Drug & Alcohol Counseling  
Alternative Incarceration  
Programs  
DUI Classes  
Community Service  
Drug Court Representation  
Warrants





# PATROL OPERATIONS

## CHIEFS



Patrol Division Chief Spurling

approximately 1000 square miles, all divided by major waterways (Puget Sound, Hood Canal and over 200 lakes). The Olympic National Forest and National Park also fall into their area of responsibility. Deputies cover everything from traffic complaints to major crimes. In addition, the Patrol Division is responsible for Civil Service Processing throughout the County with one full-time Deputy dedicated to serving papers.

Becoming a Deputy is a long and arduous process. The requirements can take up to 1 ½ years to fulfill and start with an application with Public Safety Testing (PST). A list of the top scores is then compiled and sent to the Mason County Civil Service office to certify. Once Civil Service certifies a list, they send it to the Sheriff's Office (SO). Only the top applicants will be interviewed by the SO. Next is a multi-week background investigation with interviews. If the applicant passes these initial stages, they will be given a Psychological evaluation, a Polygraph test, and will be screened by a medical Doctor. Once hired with the Sheriff's Office they will apply to the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) for a seat in a Basic Academy class. It can take months to get a seat and once in the class, the recruits train for approximately five months learning the basics of being a Deputy. Upon graduation, they are assigned a Field Training Officer (FTO) for three months of training on the

streets. If the new Deputy can demonstrate the ability to perform the required duties of a Deputy, they will finally join a working team.

The job requirements of a Deputy Sheriff are diverse and complex. They serve citizens and visitors in Mason County, and their focus is to protect life and property and to preserve the peace in Mason County. Once a Deputy has successfully navigated their probationary year working patrol, they become eligible to apply for several specialty positions in addition to patrol duties. These positions include: SWAT, Negotiator Team, Special Operation Rescue Team, Marine Patrol, K-9, Search and Rescue Coordinator, Driving instructor, Firearms Instructor, Defensive Tactics Instructor, Taser Instructor, Traffic, Explorer Advisor, Peer Support, School Resource Officer, Public Information Officer, UAV Pilot, Field Training Officer, Collision Investigator, Radar/Lidar Instructor, Detective, and others. Deputies are required by law to attend numerous hours of training every year. Additional training is also required to maintain our Accreditation with the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs.

The Patrol/Operations and Administrative/Detectives Divisions of the Sheriff's Office work closely together to ensure unity and continuity in their purpose. Patrol/Operations is led by Chief Ryan Spurling and Administrative/Detectives by Chief Jason Dracobly.

Patrol/Operations is the largest Division in the Sheriff's Office. The Division includes four Team Sergeants, four Team Corporals and twenty-four Deputies split into four teams. Each Team has a K-9 and two Traffic Deputies. Patrol Deputies are the first responders of the agency. The Deputies and Supervisors are assigned either North, out of Belfair or South, out of Shelton and they are responsible to answer our approximately 24,000 annual calls for service (an average of over 65 Calls for Service each day). Deputies cover all of Mason County's





# PATROL OPERATIONS

## CHIEFS



**Administrative/Detective Division Chief Dracobly**

cotics, Officer Involved Critical Incidents, and Cellular Technology.

The Division is currently comprised of eight Detectives, including a Sergeant and Corporal, that are assigned to General Detectives. They are responsible for investigations of all major felonies and/or complex cases within Mason County that require time and resources not available at the Patrol level. These investigations include homicides, suspicious deaths, robberies, sexual offenses, cybercrimes, arson, large scale financial fraud, narcotics, serious collisions, and serious assaults. Detectives also handle all employment background investigations and internal investigations for MCSO as well as assisting other agencies upon their request. Each Detective carries their own case load of as many as 30 cases, but the unit routinely works closely as a team to assist one another. Detectives often assist the Prosecutor's Office with case preparation and presentation at trial for the cases they investigate.

MCSO Detectives are assigned to the Region 3 Critical Incident Investigative Team (CIIT) that is responsible for handling investigations of police use of deadly force, in-custody deaths, and other officer involved critical incidents within the confines of Mason, Thurston, Grays Harbor, Lewis, and Pacific counties. MCSO is currently tasked with the responsibil-

ity of being the lead investigative unit for the team. In addition, MCSO currently has one Detective assigned to Sex Offender Registration and two others assigned as polygraph examiners.

Ultimately, the Sheriff's Office cannot do its job successfully without securing the trust and cooperation of our citizens, therefore our guiding Mission and Core Values are always critical to our Deputies and Detectives while interacting with the Public. We would like to recognize and thank all our dedicated partners and citizens who are committed to keeping Mason County a great place to live, play and recreate!

The Administrative/Detectives Division includes programs and assignments associated with Detectives, Property and Evidence Control, Internal Affairs, Information Technology, and Financial Division oversight.

All Detectives in the Mason County Sheriff's Office must first be successful Patrol Deputies before applying for an open Detective position. They must demonstrate superior investigative skills and pass an involved application process before being accepted and trained as a full-time Detective. Detectives receive advanced training in the areas of Interviewing/ Interrogation, Crime Scene Processing, Crime Scene Mapping, Evidence Collection, and Surveillance, as well as specialized training for unique investigations such as Homicides, Child Sex Offenses, Cybercrimes, Nar-





# TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT



The Traffic Unit was established in 2008 in response to the Washington State Patrol's consolidation and withdrawal from investigating traffic collisions on county roadways. The traffic unit has morphed over the years from a stand-alone unit consisting of five (5) deputies and a sergeant to currently seven (7) patrol deputies who are assigned additional traffic duties and responsibilities.

Traffic enforcement duties include traffic law enforcement and education, DUI enforcement, reporting and investigating collisions and addressing neighborhood traffic complaints.

There are two (2) deputies and two (2) detectives who have specialized collision investigation training for felony and fatal collisions. Three are technical investigators and one is a reconstruction-level investigator.

Specialized survey-style equipment, a FARO 3D Laser Scanner, is used to collect digital data to map and diagram collision scenes. The use of this technology allows for additional evidence to be collected in a faster manner than before. The use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV's/ drones) is in the infancy stage for use in collecting additional data at crash and crime scenes. The use of FARO 3D Laser Scanners and UAV's aid in keeping roadways open and allowing the motoring public to move about the roadways,



while deputies can collect needed evidence for their investigations.

The Sheriff's Office maintains multiple traffic speed trailers that are deployed at community and deputy requests to various neighborhoods throughout the county. These trailers are radar equipped and have digital display that shows the motoring public their speed and alerts them to excessive speeds. Some trailers are equipped and able to collect traffic data in relation to speeds, traffic counts, and traffic flow. No trailer is equipped with photo enforcement and no direct enforcement can be made from the data collected by these trailers. Data is only used for education and planning.

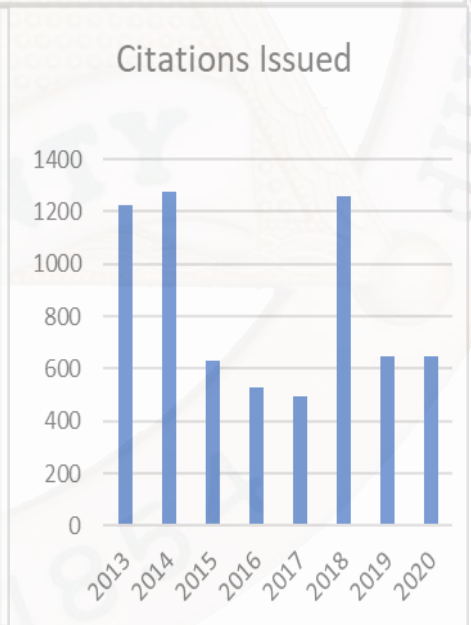
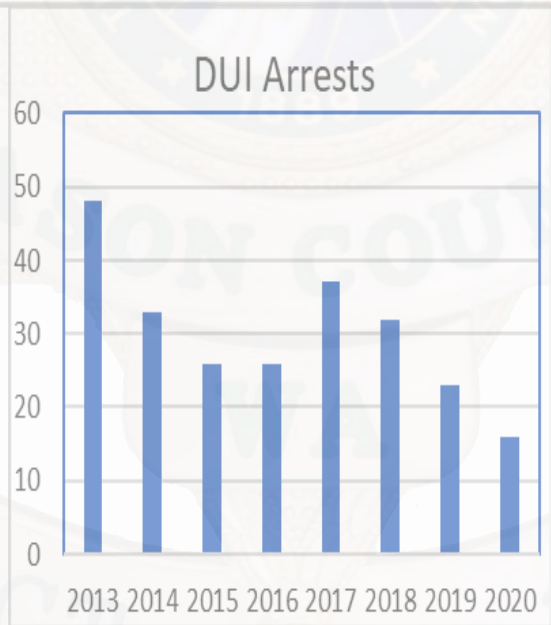
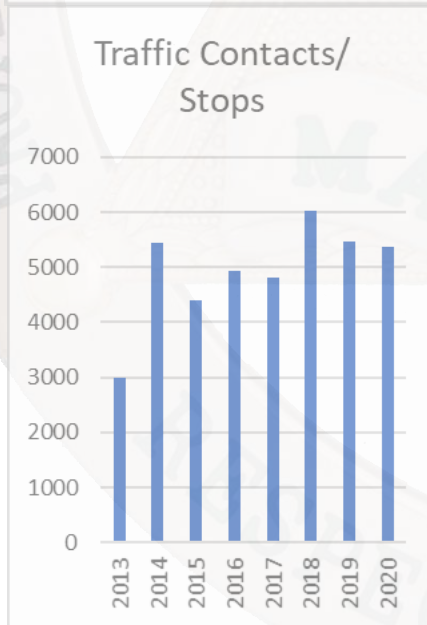
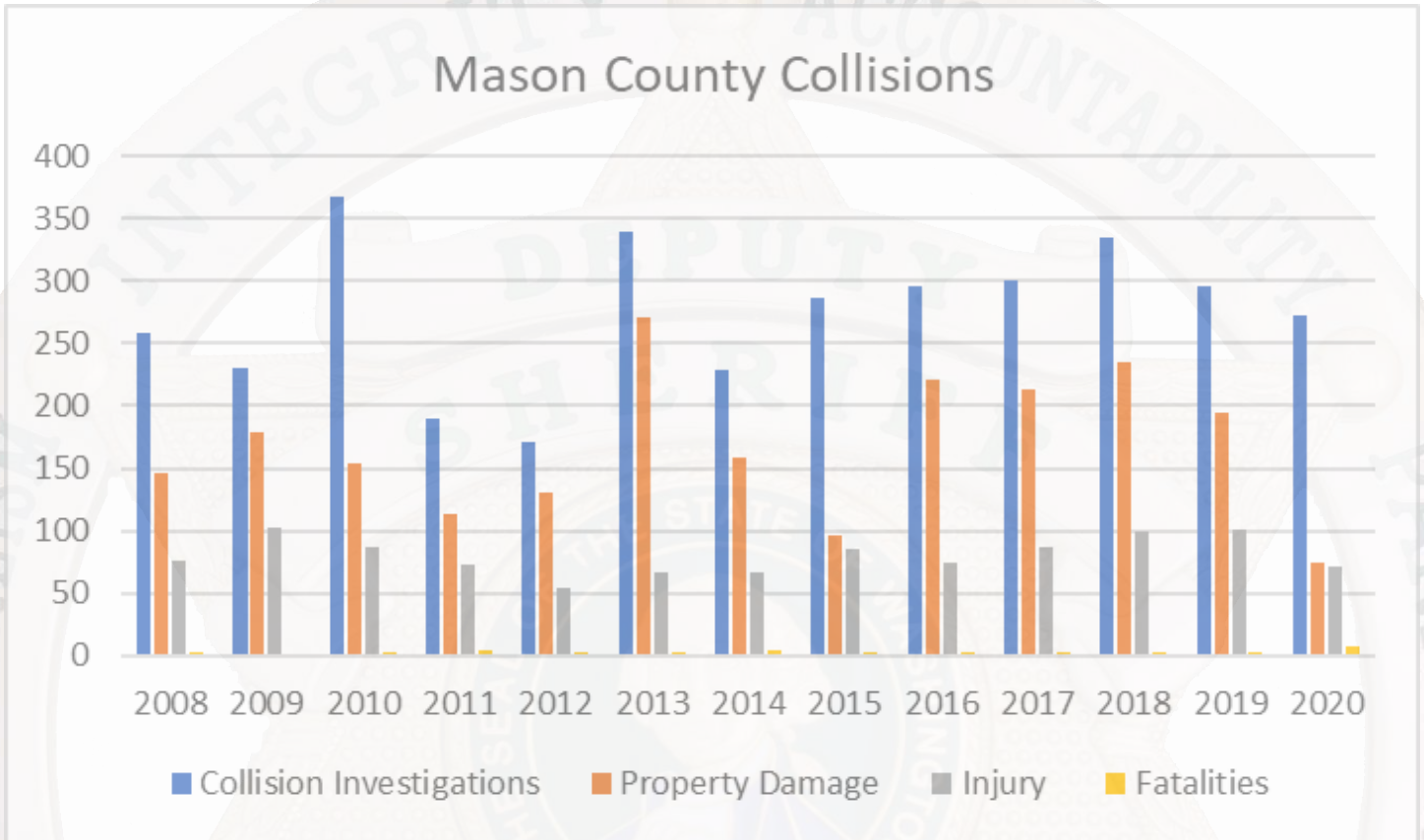


| Traffic          | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Contacts/Stops   | 2983 | 5435 | 4392 | 4936 | 4823 | 6018 | 5458 | 5370 |
| Citations Issued | 1227 | 1275 | 628  | 529  | 497  | 1259 | 646  | 649  |
| DUI Arrests      | 48   | 33   | 26   | 26   | 37   | 32   | 23   | 16   |



# TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

## STATS



# S.W.A.T.

The Mason County Sheriff's Office Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team is a group of specially trained Deputies and Officers tasked with resolving critical incidents.



SWAT gets activated to assist with apprehending violent and dangerous felons in the safest way possible by using less than lethal munitions, specialized equipment, and highly trained personnel. Additionally, SWAT provides support upon request to agencies in need of tactical expertise. For example, SWAT has been called upon to assist surrounding jurisdictions with critical incidents that are either prolonged in time or large in size.

SWAT is a regional team which means it is made up of sworn Law Enforcement Officers from agencies within Mason County. The Mason County Sheriff's Office heads the team and partners with Shelton Police, Washington State Fish and Wildlife, and Squaxin Island Tribal Police Officers. Each member of the team has a robust knowledge of tactics, specialty weapons and equipment that is available to us to tactically deescalate a critical incident. This is accomplished through monthly training that adds up to a minimum of 120 hours per year.

SWAT also has Tactical Emergency Medical Support (TEMS) as an integral part of the team which is made up of specially trained paramedics that respond to the scene to provide immediate medical care for anyone in need of during a SWAT mission. The TEMS unit trains with the team and is part of the entry and perimeter elements on missions.

SWAT has an armored vehicle operator team that is assigned to operate, maintain, and train on our armored vehicles. This group is currently made up of Mason County Sheriff's Office Deputies. The operators drive the armor to the scene and are the first line of defense for SWAT.

SWAT is an additional duty for every member on the team. All members have a primary duty of Patrol, Patrol supervision, or is a paramedic. Each member on SWAT is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Each member of SWAT has a high level of dedication and commitment to protecting citizens, the responding units, and anyone else that is involved with a dangerous incident.





# S.O.R.T.



SORT has been operational for over a decade, starting with only three deputies and a sergeant and has since expanded to working with our local law enforcement partners.

A high volume of SORT calls and/or missions are in the Olympic National Forest area up to and including the High Steel Bridge and Skokomish River. Financial support for SORT comes from federal reimbursement. One mission can take days if not months to complete. Search and Rescue, on average for Mason County, responds to 12 calls for service a year.

SORT works as a hasty team that can respond quickly when needed. Team members are expected to complete and maintain a high degree of complex training. This training is conducted monthly at various locations.



The Mason County Sheriff's Office Multi-Jurisdictional Special Operations Rescue Team (SORT) is a unit which utilizes special equipment and tactics to respond to and resolve various high-risk search and rescue operations as assigned by the Sheriff or designated Commander.

SORT is a designated unit of law enforcement officers and fire personnel that are specifically trained and equipped to work as a coordinated team to resolve critical search and rescue incidents that are so hazardous, complex, or unusual that they may exceed the capabilities of first responders or volunteer units including, but not limited to, technical rope (high angle) rescue, swift water rescue, backcountry rescue, and other high-risk search incidents.



The initial basic training is broken into four categories:

## **Law Enforcement Mountain Operations School.**

(LEMOS). This course covers the basics of travel, survival, wilderness first aid and rescue, wilderness ethics, and navigation, as well as tactics. A 60+ hour course taught in an outdoor setting, LEMOS provides classroom instruction combined with extended outdoor practice. To pass the course, students are expected to come prepared, complete all exercises, and pass a written test.

## **Rope Rescue Technician Course.**

This course covers the following skills: Equipment selection, inspection and maintenance; knots; anchors; patient packaging; mechanical advantage systems; belay techniques (including traditional or “slack” belays, tensioned belays, and the use of Twin Tensioned Rope Systems); lowering systems; rappelling; knot passing through rapfels, raising and lowering systems; system safety factors; litter rigging and tending; and pick-offs. Practical application is taught through scenarios drawn from actual rescue experience.

## **Swift Water Rescue Technician Course.**

This course provides rescuers with the fundamentals of survival in moving water and is recommended for anyone who may be called upon to effect in-water rescues. Students gain knowledge in hydrology and river classifications, size-up, site control and scene management. Practical skills include self-rescue, Swiftwater swimming and the fundamentals of shore, boat, and in-water rescues.

## **ATV training course.**

This course provides instruction and develops safety knowledge and awareness. Students will practice riding skills and patient care along with using an attached ATV rescue litter trailer.





# MARINE ENFORCEMENT

Mason County is a haven for a variety of outdoor recreational opportunities. With over 700 total miles of freshwater and saltwater shoreline, this area is a prime venue for watersports recreation. The Marine Enforcement Unit



(MEU) is tasked with the safety and security of our various waterways.

From the inlets of South Puget Sound, the vast fjord of the

Lower Hood Canal and a multitude of navigable lakes, our deputies provide recreational boater safety emphasis patrols, rescue operations, and safety inspections on our waterways. As a participant in the National Operation Dry Water Campaign, our deputies conduct boating under the influence patrols during the height of the recreational boating season.

In addition to enforcement, we also provide educational outreach programs for a variety of ages. From safety presentations at local elementary schools, mandatory Boater's Education classes, participation in paddle sports events and targeted education through use of social media, the Mason County Sheriff's Office Marine Enforcement Unit uses preventative education efforts to make our waterways safer.



The Marine Enforcement Unit consists of 1 Sergeant and 6 Deputies on a part-time basis. This duty is an ancillary as-

signment to regular patrol duties, mostly conducted on an overtime basis. We operate 3 vessels to cover the various

waterways of Mason County.

The MCSV Petraitis is the cornerstone of our fleet. Moored year round on Hood Canal, this vessel is a 25-foot Defender Class RBS, obtained as surplus from the US Coast Guard.

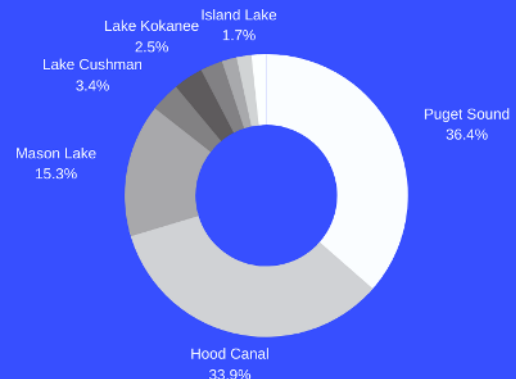


The MCSV Perseverance stands ready to respond to calls for service on the Puget Sound. The Perseverance is a 19-foot center console Almar patrol boat. The sister vessel, the MCSV

Sawamish, is our ready boat capable of responding to any of our navigable lakes.

The MEU relies on an allotment from state Vessel Registration Fees and Federal Recreational Boater Safety Grants to fund the operational and administrative costs associated with this program, to include subsidizing salaries and benefits for Marine Enforcement efforts.

## WATER RELATED INCIDENTS JAN-DEC 2020



Lost Lake, Spencer Lake, Robbins Lake, Lake Devereaux, Lake Wooten, Haven Lake, Larson Lake all had 1 call for service

# K9 UNIT



The Mason County Sheriff's Office K9 Unit is a part of the Patrol Division. The K9 Unit supports the patrol deputies, other staff, and neighboring agencies by employing the unique talents and capabilities of certified dogs. The unit is currently comprised of four patrol K9 teams. K9 Fray, K9 Caliber, K9 Deimos, and K9 Ryder who is also crossed trained in narcotics detection.

## Patrol K9 Teams:

The Mason County Sheriff's Office Patrol K9 teams play a vital part in the efforts to protect the members of our community and its visitors. These K9 teams work in conjunction with Patrol and the Mason County Regional SWAT team, to assist in locating and apprehending individuals who are suspected of committing crimes of violence. Patrol K9 are also trained in locating evidence, aiding in criminal investigations.



**K9 Caliber is a German shepherd partnered with Cpl Anderson. K9 Caliber was also sired by K9 Jano and is one of two Patrol K9 teams assigned to the regional SWAT team.**



**K9 Ryder is a German shepherd partnered with Deputy Prigger. K9 Ryder was purchased from a local vendor within Mason County and is cross-trained in patrol and narcotics detection.**



**K9 Deimos is a German shepherd partnered with Deputy Taylor. K9 Deimos was also sired by K9 Jano. Deimos and Deputy Taylor are also assigned to the Mason County regional SWAT team.**



**K9 Fray is a German shepherd partnered with Sgt Birkliid. K9 Fray was sired by Sgt Birkliid's previous K9 partner Jano who served Mason County Sheriff's Office for 9 years, retiring in March of 2021.**

**Sgt Birkliid serves as the K9 Unit trainer and supervisor.**

The existence of the K9 Unit is only made possible by community partnerships established between the Sheriff's Office and commercial businesses, private individuals, and non-profit organizations. If you would like to donate to the K9 teams, please go to our website at

<https://so.co.mason.wa.us>, click on the Online Payments tab and make your selection under Payment Type.



# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

The Mason County Sheriff's Office has sworn Deputies assigned to various Mason County Schools. The School Resource Officers (SROs) are specially trained deputies focused on serving the community at the heart of the communities' resources, its children. The three major roles of our SRO include: law enforcement officer, law-related counselor, and law-related educator.

A School Resource Officer fills many different roles within the school system.

- The SRO is a vital member of the school's administrative team, helping solve problems within the school community.
- The SRO is an educational resource for the students, teachers, administrators, and parents.
- The SRO provides students with a positive role model, and a balanced view of law enforcement.
- The SRO handles law related issues on campus.
- The SRO is a counselor of students, teachers, and parents.

Mentoring is the central focus of the program. SROs have the opportunity to form lasting impressions on young people. To help students succeed, the SRO provides guidance, tutoring, and coaching.



# BLOCK WATCH



Block Watch Mission: “To increase the effectiveness of the Mason County Sheriff’s Office by working in partnership with the community to safeguard life and property and to enhance the quality of life in our neighborhoods.”

The Mason County Sheriff’s Office has two Deputies that, in addition to their normal duties, meet with various community members throughout the county to address community Block Watch groups. The Deputies help establish and organize new Block Watch groups as well as maintain contact with current groups.

The Sheriff’s Office Block Watch Deputies not only facilitate crime prevention training but also coordinate other community safety training through their partners in Fire/EMS, Mason General, the PUD, and the Department of Emergency Management. Included in the training is First Aid/CPR, Disaster Preparedness, and other community safety training awareness.

The success of the program has been shown in various communities throughout Mason County with successful identification and apprehension of suspects, return of stolen property, and reduction of criminal activity due to the increase in community awareness.

Please contact the Mason County Sheriff’s Office to learn more about setting up a Block Watch Program in your community.





# FIELD TRAINING OFFICER PROGRAM

The MCSO Field Training Officer Program begins for new deputy recruits after they complete the 720-hour Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) at the Criminal Justice Training Center in Burien, Washington. Upon successful completion of BLEA new recruits return to their agency for additional on-the-job training from CJTC Certified Field Training Officers (FTOs).

The FTO Program is intended to provide a standardized program to facilitate a deputy's transition from the academic setting to the actual performance of general law enforcement duties. The FTO Program is designed to prepare the new deputy to perform in a patrol assignment, possessing all skills needed to operate in a safe, productive, and professional manner.



The FTOs provide instruction to the trainees on all aspects of law enforcement operations including jail, civil, dispatch, evidence, detectives, special operations, and patrol.

Once the deputy trainee successfully completes field training, approximately 12 weeks, their performance is evaluated in its entirety. If the new deputy's performance is deemed acceptable by the FTOs and command personnel, the new deputy begins working in their own assignment as a Patrol Deputy.

The FTO Program includes training lateral deputies. A lateral deputy is someone who transfers from another agency who has already completed BLEA or equivalency. The training period for a lateral deputy may be modified depending on the trainee's demonstrated performance and level of experience, but no less than six weeks in length.



# MEDIA RELATIONS

To function in the most desirable and successful fashion, it is of extreme importance that the Sheriff's Office have the support of our community. Establishing and maintaining an effective relationship with the media is crucial to accomplishing this objective.



[Facebook.com/MasonCoSheriff](https://www.facebook.com/MasonCoSheriff)



[Twitter.com/MasonCoSheriff](https://twitter.com/MasonCoSheriff)



[Instagram.com/MasonCoSheriff](https://www.instagram.com/MasonCoSheriff)



[MasonCountySheriff.us](https://www.MasonCountySheriff.us)



[YouTube.com](https://www.YouTube.com)



It is the policy of the Mason County Sheriff's Office to cooperate with the media and to maintain an atmosphere of open and honest communication. To properly satisfy the need for the release of necessary information to the public, designees within the Sheriff's Office are authorized to release information to the media, however, the Sheriff has the ultimate responsibility for responses and positions, both oral and written, concerning this Office. A positive working relationship with the community and the media is mutually beneficial.





# ANIMAL CONTROL

Since 2018, due to staffing budget changes, all animal control calls for service are handled by patrol deputies as the Sheriff's Office no longer has an Animal Control Officer. This has added 2171 patrol deputy calls in the past three years.



During his career, K9 Jack made over 2,000 contacts with the public per year. He was one of the most recognized employees of the Mason County Sheriff's Office. K9 Jack retired from the Office in 2020 after serving for 8 years.

Previously, all animal control calls for service were handled by one Animal Control Officer (ACO) which included patrolling over 964 square miles. The calls ranged from ordinance enforcement to rescue and first aid. The availability of a familiar, dedicated Animal Control Officer helps quell the public's concern with these issues. The ACO also provided public education with K9 Jack teaching the public about proper animal care, dog bite education and anti-bullying.





# PUBLIC SAFETY EXPLORERS

The MCSO Explorer Advisors are Detective Danielle Drogmund and Deputy Matt Colbenson.

The Mason County Public Safety Explorer Program was created in 2013 in partnership with other Mason County public safety agencies. The purpose is to provide youths ages 15 to 20 the opportunity to experience a range of public safety careers such as law enforcement, firefighting, emergency medical service, corrections, dispatch, and others. Our program has five areas of emphasis: broadening career opportunities, providing leadership skills, developing character



education, encouraging citizenship, and expanding life skills. Meetings are held twice a month, usually at the MCSO Shelton office. The number of Explorers fluctuates between three and fourteen participants.

Our Explorer program is associated with the Washington Law Enforcement Exploring Advisors (WLEEA). Through WLEEA, all Washington Explorers have the opportunity to meet and compete together at two six-day academies and other competitions each year. The academies are held at the Yakima Training Center and are a scaled-down version of the Washington Basic

Law Enforcement Academy. WLEEA also sponsors scholarships for Explorers. Our Explorers and Advisors attend at least one academy a year.



Explorers volunteer their time at community events to provide services such as parking control, traffic control, and logistics information. They have participated in the Mason County Historical Society Annual Car Show, Tahuya Day, Allyn Days, the Belfair Parade, Mason County Forest Festival Parade, Taste of Hood Canal, Theler Egg Drop, and more.

In 2020 Our Community Credit Union pledged to fund the Explorer program, which will pay for Explorers' uniforms and academy tuitions. The MCSO thanks our past and present donors for allowing us to provide this program at no cost to the Explorers.





# CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

Sheriff Salisbury established the Volunteer Chaplain Program for the Mason County Sheriff's Office in 2007. The program currently consists of two volunteer chaplains,



Chaplain Joel Harris

Chaplain Gary Shirbish

While chaplains are a diverse group, all chaplains are available to respond to the needs of public safety personnel and their families, as well as the general public twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, caring for the people of the community regardless of their faith. In general, chaplains provide the following to the community:

- On-Scene Support: emergency assistance for first responders & members of the community.
- Crisis Intervention: suicide prevention, mental health, first aid and other crisis mediation services.
- Death Notifications: assist to contact, notify, and support next of kin after the loss of a loved one.
- Community Outreach: participate in events that strengthen relationships with the community.

Additionally, our volunteer chaplains provide counseling, crisis intervention training, family support and support in the event of line-of-duty death to our personnel, their families and other public safety staff.

Chaplains are non-denominational, do not advocate for their own personal beliefs, work with all faith groups, and provide needed assistance in times of crisis regardless of a person's religious beliefs. The Mason County Sheriff's Office Chaplain Corps stands ready to assist the needs of the Sheriff's Office as well as serve other police, fire, corrections, and public safety agencies. Our chaplains are both veterans as well as college graduates and have successfully completed a Washington State Criminal Justice Training Chaplains Academy. Since 2007, the chaplains have responded to over 1,000 calls for service. In addition, the chaplains conduct weddings, memorial services and other rites as their denomination allows for officers, deputies, employees, and other public safety staff and any other such tasks requested by law enforcement.

The Volunteer Chaplain Program for the Mason County Sheriff's Office is not budgeted but receives all needed funding through public donations. If you would like to donate to the Chaplain Program, please go to our website at <https://so.co.mason.wa.us>, click on the Online Payments tab and make your selection under Payment Type.

# POLYGRAPH UNIT

The Sheriff's Office began a Polygraph Unit in 2009 and currently employs two Detectives who are nationally certified polygraph examiners. Both examiners attended the Northeast Counterdrug Training Center Polygraph School where they received over 480 hours of instruction. In addition, to remain certified, the examiners are required to attend at least 40 additional hours of training every two years.

The examiners work in concert with one another providing quality control reviews of each examination. Since its inception, the Polygraph Unit has administered over 500 criminal and pre-employment exams for MCSO and numerous other local and federal law enforcement agencies. This partnership with the supporting agencies has saved them thousands of dollars



that would have been paid out to private examiners to perform the same work. The criminal examinations performed have resulted in clearing innocent persons of accusations against them, as well as securing confessions to criminal charges on guilty persons for numerous charges to include sexual assaults, robbery, arson, child assaults, thefts, and murder

## BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS

Detectives conduct background investigations on all prospective employees, reserve deputies, and volunteers who apply for positions with the Sheriff's Office.



Background investigations are extensive and thorough as they delve into the prospective candidate's criminal history, driving history, financial history, work history, and references to ensure that the candidate is worthy of the public trust given to law enforcement.

Applicants for Sheriff Deputy must pass a written examination, physical agility assessment, medical examination, oral board interview, psychological examination, polygraph examination and background investigation prior to being hired. A background investigation can take many weeks to complete. A large portion of the candidates who apply do not pass the background process due to indiscretions discovered during the background process.





# SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION

The Sheriff's Office registers and monitors all sex and/or kidnaping offenders residing in Mason County. When an offender moves into the community they are assessed and classified into one of three groups: Level 1 (low risk to re-offend); Level 2 (moderate risk to re-offend); and Level 3 (high risk to re-offend).

In 2020, Mason County had a total of 287 registered sex offenders divided into the three risk level assessment groups as follows: Level 1 (216); Level 2 (46); Level 3 (25).

One Detective is assigned full time as the sex offender registration coordinator, patrol deputies assist with address verifications, and one support specialist is assigned part-time to assist with filing and the administration of the program.

The Detective completes registration paperwork on offenders required to register, conducts risk-level assessments, completes investigations and arrests those who fail to comply with their requirements, and updates all of the offender information into Offender Watch.

The Sex Offender Registration Program, as well as information about all Level 2 and Level 3 registered offenders residing in Mason County can be found on the Mason County Sheriff's Office website: <http://so.co.mason.wa.us/>.

Sex Offender Registration Statistics

## 2020: 288 Offenders

209 Level I + 7 Transient Level I  
43 Level II + 3 Transient Level II  
20 Level III + 5 Transient Level III  
1 Unknown

## 2019: 272 Offenders

198 Level I + 6 Transient Level I  
38 Level II + 4 Transient Level II  
22 Level III + 3 Transient Level III  
1 Kidnapping

## 2018: 241 Offenders

180 Level I + 5 Transient Level I  
34 Level II + 6 Transient Level II  
13 Level III + 3 Transient Level III

## 2017: 247 Offenders

177 Level I + 7 Transient Level I  
43 Level II + 2 Transient Level II  
17 Level III + 1 Transient Level III

## 2016: 262 Offenders:

195 Level I + 7 Transient Level I  
41 Level II + 2 Transient Level II  
11 Level III + 5 Transient Level III  
1 Kidnapping

## 2015: 259 Offenders

(197 Level I)  
(47 Level II)  
(15 Level III)  
2015: Transients not counted separately.

## 2014: 298 Offenders

(208 Level I)  
(60 Level II)  
(30 Level III)  
2014: Transients not counted separately.



# EVIDENCE SYSTEM

Designing, operating, and maintaining the evidence and property control function in the criminal justice system is more critical than ever for professional law enforcement agencies.



The MCSO has been recognized as meeting the most stringent and best practices in the ever-evolving area of evidence maintenance by receiving and maintaining accreditation with the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC). We proactively address the challenges of evidence and property management in criminal prosecution, evidence preservation and disposition, and general property handling. Accreditation provides assurance that we meet recognized standards in the field as well as a formal on-going process for evaluation and improvement. Accreditation strengthens collaboration and accountability between public safety, the court systems, and our communities.

Currently the property and evidence room is operated by one Evidence Technician who is responsible for receiving, recording, storing, retrieving, and disposing of every item according to departmental policy, accreditation standards, and Washington State Law. The Evidence Technician also responds to criminal scenes to

collect and process evidence.

The Sheriff's Office evidence property system currently holds over 16,000 items, stored at the main property room at the Sheriff's Office and an offsite facility. We take in between 2,000 and 3,000 items per year and dispose of over 2,000 items a year per departmental policy, accreditation standards, and Washington State Law. Disposal can include returning the item to its owner or next of kin, incineration, auctioning, and tossing it in the trash.





# L.E.A.D. PROGRAM



The overarching goal of the Mason County LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion) program is to improve community health and safety by reducing criminal justice system involvement for individuals with substance use, mental health concerns or extreme poverty; instead, connecting them with behavioral health and social services.

In response to the increasing need both nationally and locally to balance accountability and public safety with rehabilitation and individual health and wellness, leadership and other representatives from Mason County including: The City of Shelton, The Mason County Sheriff's office, The Shelton Police Department, The Mason County Prosecutors office, and Mason County's Public Health Department, have partnered with Olympic Health and Recovery Services, Northwest Justice Project to implement a local LEAD Program. This is achieved by using specific human resource tools that are coordinated effectively with law enforcement, while also prioritizing community input and safety.

LEAD is an arrest diversion program that provides law enforcement officers another option aside from arrest to offer a possible "second chance" to individuals committing law violations that are the result of a substance use disorder, mental health issue, or extreme poverty. Individuals who encounter law enforcement within Mason County that have met the eligibility criteria of the

LEAD program, will, at the officer's discretion, be provided an opportunity to opt into the program. Individuals then work closely with a peer case manager to develop a recovery plan that best meets their needs and that will provide them the confidence to make different choices that subsequently can divert them from the criminal justice system. If individuals are unable to adhere to the program criteria, the local prosecutor's office will make the appropriate decision on whether to charge that individual with the original law violation.

LEAD is an evidenced-based model that has proven to be effective in other parts of Washington State, throughout the United States, and is beginning to be implemented globally. The need to address core issues, when individuals are faced with behavioral health concerns and poverty, is paramount to long term recovery and ultimately healthier communities. Mason County's LEAD program is setup to do just that and will undoubtedly provide hope and opportunity to many Mason County community members and their families.

Individuals may also be referred through a "Social Contact Referral". This means that officers or community members realize that someone commits law violations because of poverty, substance abuse or mental health issues and wants to immediately support that person. The Social Contact Referral form is available on-line. <https://www.co.mason.wa.us/forms/Health/LEAD-referral-form.pdf>

- Program referrals from Sept. 1, 2020 to March 15, 2021
- 45 total referrals (first year goal is 50)
- 15 arrest diversion
- 27 social contact
- 3 community referrals (started in February 2021)



# NAVIGATOR PROGRAM

On February 1st of 2021, Mason County Public Health and the Mason County Sheriff's office started the Behavioral Health Navigator Program. The goals of the program are to connect individuals experiencing behavioral health (substance use and mental health) issues to resources, provide real-time support to deputies, stay connected to the ever-changing behavioral health system, attend and participate in community behavioral health meetings/coalitions/stakeholder groups on behalf of the Sheriff's Office and ultimately reduce calls and deputy interactions with individuals experiencing behavioral health issues.

Examples of resources to which the Navigator is able to connect individuals: housing, clothing, food, long-term support, assessments, detox, treatment, peer-support, legal support, support groups, primary care, dental care, transportation, employment, Narcan, syringe exchange services.

Referrals from deputies can also be post arrest as the navigator is able to coordinate with jail support services. Jail services such as the Medication Assisted Treatment program, mental health program, re-entry program, substance use disorders and mental health assessments among others are available.



Questions or referrals can be directed to:

D. Abraham Gardner BA, CPC  
Program Coordinator

Mason County Community Services-Public Health  
360-427-9670 ext. 219  
[agardner@co.mason.wa.us](mailto:agardner@co.mason.wa.us)

- Program referrals from February 1, 2021 to March 15, 2021
- 26 referrals
- 17 contacted and connected to appropriate services
- 5 were subsequent LEAD referrals





# FINANCE

It takes determination to not only survive but thrive in challenging times and I believe that is the story of the Mason County Sheriff's Office, Financial Division. I have only been in this position for two years, but I've seen some amazing resilience and resolve in the men and women who try to make certain that resources are available to ensure the health and vitality of this office.

|      | Population | Calls for Service | Sheriff Budget |
|------|------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 2020 | 65,650     | 25,357            | \$13,373,363   |
| 2019 | 64,980     | 24,093            | \$12,863,715   |
| 2018 | 64,020     | 24,472            | \$12,396,381   |
| 2017 | 63,190     | 20,169            | \$13,886,655   |
| 2016 | 62,320     | 19,775            | \$13,566,825   |
| 2015 | 62,200     | 19,294            | \$12,849,357   |

There have certainly been some challenges, economic downturns resulting in budget cuts and staff layoffs as well as a pandemic but each of these challenges was met with creative ideas to keep programs running.

Some wonderful people and organizations have shown up to help too. Over the last six years this community has donated more than \$34,942 to the K9 program and \$16,648 to other non-budgeted programs in the Sheriff's Office. We would not have had these programs were it not for the public's generosity. The continuation of Public/Private Partnerships for special patrols resulted in revenue of \$1,171,290. Volunteer hours valued at \$148,000 per year, ensures there are services in the north end of the county and vital work is completed like Hulk and Boat Safety inspections; relieving deputies to answer some of the more than 24,000 calls in an average year.

The people here have been hard at work. The Finance Office along with other staff contributed by applying for and receiving nearly \$950,000 in grants and reimbursements since 2013. One of the grant programs pays the salary of a Community Services Officer who takes jail inmates out to pick up litter along major county roads and to as many reported dump sites as possible. In 2020 alone, there were 1351 miles of roads, 250 illegal dump sites, and 52 acres of public land cleaned. This resulted 60,330 pounds of litter and 136,100 pounds of illegally dumped materials being picked up and appropriately disposed.

The Sheriff's Office, in concert with other county agencies, improved the safety of officers and citizens by using innovative programs such as leasing tasers and vehicles, and purchasing a body scanner to reduce or eliminate introduction of contraband into the jail. The institution of an Electronic Home Monitoring System by jail staff in 2018 resulted in greatly needed reduction of overcrowding and revenues of \$292,194.

We are honored to be part of this office, participating in keeping the citizens of Mason County safe by doing our part. I hope you are proud of the efforts of our staff and the contributions we make to the Mason County Sheriff's Office.



# CIVIL DIVISION



Civil Division Chief Beyer

The Sheriff's Office Civil Division is the backbone of the Sheriff's Office and consists of a dedicated group of specially trained people to assist the Sheriff's Office and citizens of Mason County. The greatest achievements in the past five years are the implementation of paperless processes in addition to the robust number of electronic services now available to the public, allowing them to conveniently conduct their business with our offices remotely online through the Sheriff's Office website. This division currently has a total of seven support specialist positions and is under the direct supervision of the Chief Civil Deputy. Specialties within the Civil Division are as follows

**Mission:** The Civil Division will provide the highest level of customer service and lawfully and timely execute civil process and public disclosure.





# RECORDS



This team consists of three specialists who process all investigative reports and other documents generated by the deputies, detectives, and jail staff. This includes dissemination, retention and purging of those records in addition the entire Sheriff's Office as a whole. One aspect of their job which holds the most liability is public disclosure. This task includes researching, redaction and disseminating requests for documents to the public pursuant to the Public Records Act (PRA). In recent years, the complexity of the requests has added time and resources requirements necessary to

complete each process. This area holds a great liability due to the strict guidelines involved in responding to and fulfilling the requests. The agency may be subject to severe penalties and assessments if a mistake is made, or a document is missed. In looking at the numbers, 2013 had 1478 requests whereas 2020 had 1826 however, in 2019 you will see a spike of 2138 requests. To give an idea of the time spent in processing those requests, the analysis shows a steady increase of approximately 12% per year. In the 2020 budget season the Sheriff's Office began negotiating for an additional two specialist positions to accommodate the increasing demand.



# CIVIL PROCESS

The Civil Process section consists of one specialist who processes domestic violence orders, small claim motions, child custody, summons, and subpoenas for service throughout the county. In addition, this position enforces orders of the court such as evictions, attachments, and executions of real and personal property. Currently, there is one commissioned deputy assigned to assist in the service of the majority of the civil papers and standbys on court orders and evictions. While the number of processes received has decreased steadily since 2017, there is no doubt that this specialized position holds the most liability within the Civil Division and also demands a clear understanding of the civil Revised Code of Washington (RCWs) and Washington Administrative Code (WACs) to perform these duties. You will notice that the number for 2020 is quite low at 51% less than 2019. This is attributed to the pandemic court closures and inception of E-Serve in the prosecutor's office.

|                    | Sheriff's Sale | Service | Standby | Eviction w/Dep Asst | Eviction | Total |
|--------------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------------------|----------|-------|
| *2020              | 15             | 3272    | 31      | 18                  | 10       | 3346  |
| 2019               | 34             | 6853    | 31      | 44                  | 10       | 6972  |
| 2018               | 46             | 6773    | 31      | 51                  | 24       | 6925  |
| 2017               | 38             | 5125    | 29      | 43                  | 14       | 5249  |
| 2016               | 27             | 5317    | 30      | 44                  | 18       | 5436  |
| 2015               | 44             | 4525    | 27      | 36                  | 26       | 4658  |
| 2014               | 17             | 6936    | 21      | 34                  | 28       | 7036  |
| 2013               | 17             | 5209    | 18      | 39                  | 30       | 5313  |
| * Pandemic Closure |                |         |         |                     |          |       |



# VOLUNTEERS

The Mason County Sheriff's Office Volunteer Program was established in 1998 to promote effective use of the many citizens of Mason County who wish to donate their time and talents to further the goals of the Mason County Sheriff's Office. The Chief Civil Deputy oversees the Volunteer Program which utilizes an average of 20 volunteers. In 2019, the volunteers donated 3765 hours of service which is the equivalent of nearly two full time employees. In 2020, total hours of service were a record low of 1733 due to mandatory closures and extra safety measures.

Goals of the Volunteer Program:

1. Bring specialized skills, experience, and abilities that would otherwise not be available in the Sheriff's Office budget
2. Grow in partnership with law enforcement and increase assistance to the Sheriff and his staff. This allows deputies to focus resources on more urgent law enforcement and community needs.
3. Look for opportunities to interact with the community to educate and increase understanding and good will between law enforcement and the citizens of Mason County.

The Volunteers keep open the business office at the North Precinct in Belfair five days a week doing a variety of administrative functions for the deputies and the citizens of North Mason County while those in the Shelton Office assist in a variety of supportive tasks. Volunteers who demonstrate competencies and complete required trainings may also have an opportunity to work outside the office handling hulk inspections, disabled parking permits, seat belt surveys and boat inspections.

We are currently looking to expand our Volunteer Pro-

gram in the next couple of years to include several other community-oriented volunteer opportunities. To obtain a volunteer application go to the Mason County Sheriff's website at <https://so.co.mason.wa.us> and click on the Support tab.

The Volunteer Program is funded solely through your generosity. If you would like to donate to the Volunteer Program, please go to our website at <https://so.co.mason.wa.us> and click on the Online Payments tab.

**Mission:** To devote our time in a respectful manner providing the highest quality support to the Sheriff's Office mission of safety and security through community partnership.

## Did You Know?

*The Mason County Sheriff's Office's first official Volunteer was Jim Peters. Jim signed up with the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) in 1987 and began volunteering in the front office working 16 hours a week doing clerical work, mainly in the Records Division. In 1997, Sheriff Whybark honored Jim for his 10 years of service. Jim continued to volunteer until his death in 2001.*

*In August of 2018, the MCSO commemorated the 20-year anniversary of the Volunteer Program by having a party. It was especially remarkable as tribute was given to two active volunteers that were with the program for the entire 20 years. These special people are John Wiechert and Rick Lawrence. It was a packed house including attendees such as former Sheriffs Steve Whybark and Bob Shepherd, current Sheriff Casey Salisbury, past coordinators, employees, and volunteers.*

# CORRECTIONS



Corrections Division Chief Hanson

## Mission:

**Together: maintain custody, security, and control in a safe, efficient and constitutional manner.**

## Jail History

The Mason County Jail provides incarceration services for Mason County law enforcement agencies. Washington State Law establishes that the Board of County Commissioners is responsible for the physical facility and that the chief law enforcement officer (Sheriff) is responsible for facility operations. The facility is located adjacent to the County courthouse in the incorporated area of Shelton, Washington. The most recent facility was constructed with 45 inmate beds in 1985. In 1986 the facility opened and was subsequently operating at maximum inmate capacity.

Throughout the years, there have been three independent outside

jail operational studies. Those studies found the jail to be understaffed and overpopulated. To obtain more inmate beds, the County added double bunks in rooms designed as single occupancy. An existing inmate recreation area was turned into inmate housing, adding more bunks. Today there are 93 general population male and female beds in the Mason County jail and 18 additional beds utilized for low-risk inmates assigned to inmate labor programs.

Within the 93 general population beds, we have separate housing areas; male inmates must be kept separate from female inmates, and within those populations, maximum security inmates must be kept separate from minimum security inmates. In addition, we must individually house inmates who feel their safety is at risk and inmates who we think may be at risk as victims, and inmate workers must be housed separately from all other inmates. The likelihood of having the perfect number of inmates to fit into each identified area is zero. To safely run a facility, the average daily population must be around 10-20% less than the number of actual beds, meaning a population cap of 80 allows us to safely house inmates in the proper areas. In 1993 there were 58 beds in the jail. The average daily inmate population was 62. In 2004 the average daily inmate population grew to 95! That is 146% over capacity! Today, the daily jail population hovers around 110. As recently as 2015, the jail housed up to 150 inmates at one time. This severely jeopardized our ability to efficiently run a safe, orderly, and constitutionally sound facility. Sheriff Salisbury petitioned the Board of County Commissioners to start outsourcing inmates to other counties to mitigate the safety concerns within the facility. Mason County started sending the excess prisoners to Lewis, Nisqually, and Forks jails. To keep the inmate population at manageable levels, Mason County outsourced an average of 30 prisoners daily, which cost about \$90,000 monthly. This continued until March 2017, when a 3-year jail internal renovation project was complete. The renovation allowed us to bring back the outsourced inmates and stop the significant outsourcing expenses. With the outsourced inmates back in Mason County, the inmate population was still significantly above jail capacity. Recognizing significant safety concerns to staff and inmates, the likelihood of prisoner civil rights violations, and due to lack of staff and facility space, in July 2017 Sheriff Salisbury was forced to implement jail booking restrictions. Those restrictions prohibit the incarceration of individuals committing minor crimes. The jail is the hub of the Criminal Justice System. Without an adequate amount of inmate housing and Corrections staffing, the inability to incarcerate those who victimize members of our community results in compromising public safety.



# ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING

In 2018, in an effort to mitigate part of the overcrowding problems at the jail we initiated an Alternative Sentencing Program. This program uses Electronic Home Monitoring, Work Release, Remote Alcohol Monitoring, and Litter Crew participation. These programs allow us to incarcerate low risk inmates without them taking a valuable bed within the facility. In 2020 the program averaged over 20 inmates per day. The inmates pay to be on the program and the program has saved the taxpayers of Mason County approximately \$1.6 million in incarceration expenses.



## Litter Crew

The Litter Crew is mostly funded by Washington State Department of Ecology grants. The Litter Crew consists of one Community Service Officer who supervises 2-3 minimum security inmates. This crew performs litter pickup on the public roadways and lands in Mason County. The crew picks up an average of 186,000 pounds per year.

|                     | Q1    | Q2    | Q3    | Q4    | 2020 Total |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|
| Inmate Hours Worked | 847   | 1057  | 1305  | 602   | 3811 Hours |
| Road Miles Cleaned  | 363   | 272   | 406   | 310   | 1351 Miles |
| Acres Cleaned       | 15.8  | 12.5  | 12.5  | 11.7  | 53 Acers   |
| # Dump Sites        | 89    | 54    | 54    | 53    | 250 Sites  |
| Pounds Litter       | 20605 | 13285 | 1305  | 602   | 60330 lbs  |
| Dump Site lbs       | 40915 | 33365 | 15460 | 10980 | 136100 lbs |

# CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

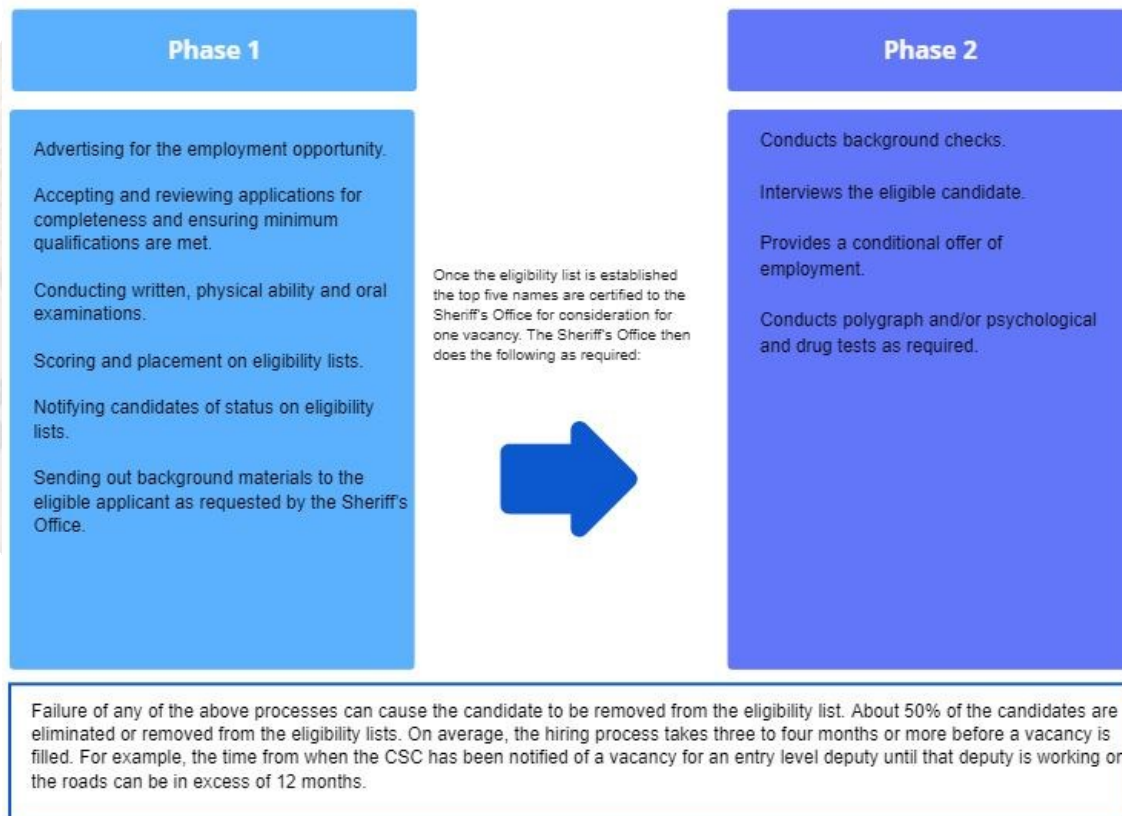
How are employees hired by the Sheriff's Office?

The State of Washington, in 1958, created Chapter 41.14 in the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) for the general purpose of establishing a merit system of employment for employees of the Office of County Sheriff, thereby raising the standards and efficiency of law enforcement. In addition, the RCW created a three-member Civil Service Commission (CSC) to carry out the provisions of the chapter and allowed for an examiner/secretary to serve the CSC.

The mission of the Civil Service Commission is to establish a system of employment for the Mason County Sheriff's Office to provide the public, the Sheriff, and its employees with reasonable assurance that personnel actions will be carried out uniformly, equitably, and upon the basis of merit principles.

The CSC system oversees the employment of all active positions. Currently, those positions are Deputy Sheriff, Corrections Deputy, Community Service Officer, Evidence Technician, Finance Manager, and all clerical and financial positions. The examiner/secretary is not only charged with taking minutes at the monthly meetings of the CSC but also with carrying out the personnel actions of establishing eligibility lists of qualified individuals for potential employment or promotion by the Sheriff's Office.

The process for establishing eligibility lists takes the following actions:





# COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

## Events and Activities

Mason County Sheriff's Office personnel feel strongly about the importance of creating ever-lasting community ties. This includes participation in community events as well as providing honest up-front information.

The following is a list of community events and activities in which Sheriff's Office personnel joyfully participate:

- Alderbrook Resort Annual St Paddles Day
- Allyn Days
- Boaters Safety Education Training
- Forest Festival Parade
- Grapeview Festival
- Historical Society Annual Car Show
- Hood Canal Lions Club Polar Plunge
- Jail & Bail (North Mason Cancer Crusaders fundraiser for Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center)
- Kiwanis Cadet Academy at WSP
- Kiwanis Events
- Kristmastown Kiwanis Christmas Parade
- Matlock Oldtimers Fair
- North Mason Chamber Events
- North Mason Christmas Parade (Sponsored by the North Mason Chamber)
- Oysterfest
- Shelton Chamber Events
- Sheriff Advisory Meeting (Sponsored by Spencer Lake Restaurant)
- Sheriff Sit-Down on I-Fiber One Daybreak with Jeff Slakey (Sponsored by Our Community Credit Union)

- Sheriff's Breakfasts (Sponsored by Little Creek Casino/ Squaxin Island Tribe)
- Special Olympics, Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR)
- Tahuya Day Parade
- The Taste of Hood Canal
- Turning Pointe



During 2020, when most if not all these events were canceled, Sheriff's Office personnel took time to visit local businesses to show support and reach out to our citizens.