



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

LEXINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
LEXINGTONSHERIFF.COM  
JOINLCS.D.COM

MAKING LEXINGTON COUNTY A SAFER PLACE

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Throughout these pages, please find data and stats collected during 2021. It is our hope that these summaries showcase the value Lexington County Sheriff's Department (et al.) brings to our community.



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# MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF

SHERIFF JAY KOON  
2015 - PRESENT

As I look back on the past two years, and ahead to what comes next, I see the Sheriff's Department in the midst of an exciting season as we serve a thriving and growing county.

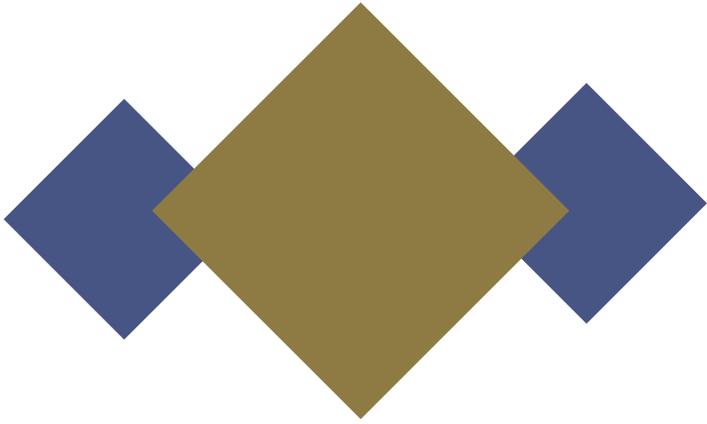
There is no denying the challenges we have faced over the past two years — as individuals, as an agency and as a county. We have all proven ourselves to be resilient. We have continued to serve our citizens with excellence; we remained focused on professionalism; and we continued to do whatever it takes to ensure Lexington County continues to be the safe place we have grown to love.

This report illustrates the challenges we have faced, the opportunities we have seized and the innovation we have achieved during a time in which the law enforcement profession has faced great pressure and even opposition. While some of our brothers and sisters in blue continue to feel that pressure and opposition in other parts of the country, I cannot help but marvel at the unwavering support we continue to receive from you, our fellow community members.

Our annual report is an opportunity for us to formally share what we are called to do each and every day — serve and protect you. It is such an honor for me to lead and serve alongside a group of talented professionals who never stop answering that call.

- Sheriff Jay Koon





# ABOUT US

## EXPERIENCING GROWTH WITH LEXINGTON COUNTY

The first recorded sheriff of Lexington County was Thomas Herbert who was appointed to the office in 1806. The first courthouse and jail for the area was located in the town of Granby (located in present day Cayce). Back then, the Sheriff's Department was a one-man operation with the sheriff living and working in the jail and courthouse. Until the 1970s, most investigative activities focused on illegal whiskey brewers and a few major crimes such as homicide and rape. In the late 1960s and early 70's, drug use and distribution became a significant problem.

Along with drugs, other crimes grew in frequency including business robberies, computer crimes, domestic violence and fraud. Today, increased calls-for-service and population in Lexington County have further stretched law enforcement resources and challenged the Lexington County Sheriff's

Department to keep pace with changing law enforcement needs. Most jails and courthouses were constructed and located on Main Street in Lexington including the old courthouse and jail located at 139 East Main Street, which was built in 1940. This facility, part of which still stands today, housed a maximum of 42 inmates. By the 1960s, the facility was too small to accommodate the Sheriff's Department's needs. A new law enforcement facility was constructed in the late 1970s. This law enforcement facility, located at 521 Gibson Road, still serves as the headquarters facility for the Sheriff's Department. A new jail was built in 1999, and the Sheriff's Department complex has undergone many renovations since 1972.

We serve citizens primarily in the unincorporated areas of the county with assistance to other local agencies.

### MISSION

To work as a professional law enforcement team to build relationships with those we are sworn to serve.

### VISION

Making Lexington County a safer place.

# ORGANIZATION CHART



ABOVE: 350+ certified personnel were sworn in for Sheriff Koon's new term as Lexington County sheriff, January 2021.

# RETIREES & PROMOTIONS

## WE'RE GRATEFUL FOR THE DEDICATION AND SERVICE OF THOSE WHO RETIRED IN 2021:

Sergeant K. Travis Bass *retired 1/04/2021*

Lieutenant Edward Prestigiaco *retired 1/22/2021*

Master Deputy J. Wade Newberry *retired 2/16/2021*

LE Victim Advocate Timothy Parcheta *retired 4/16/2021*

Field Training Officer Tammy Lofton *retired 4/17/2021*

Sergeant Barry Sowards *retired 5/09/2021*

Lieutenant Olyn Sexton *retired 6/30/2021*

School Resource Officer Robert Oswalt *retired 7/31/2021*

Deputy R. Corey Farr *retired 9/17/2021*

Crime Analyst Beverly Smith *retired 10/1/2021*

LE Victim Advocate Michelle Singleton *retired 10/15/2021*

Lieutenant Scott McDermott *retired 10/17/2021*

Sergeant Bobby York *retired 11/21/2021*

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THOSE WHO WERE PROMOTED IN 2021:

Kevin Blackmon *to Captain (Detention)*

Keith Browning *to Crime Scene Investigator*

Arcadeus Dubard *to Sergeant (Patrol)*

Carleisha Gilliam *to Investigator (MCU)*

Willie Harris *to Master Deputy (Patrol)*

Cheryl Iliff *to FTO (Detention)*

Brandon Kinder *to Master Deputy (Patrol)*

Matt Kyzer *to Investigator (MCU)*

Taylor McChesney *to FTO (Patrol)*

Wendy Merritt *to Master Deputy (Detention)*

Art Seboe *to Sergeant (Patrol)*

Robert Singleston *to Major (Detention)*

Howard Smith *to Investigator (Narcotics)*

Jacob Smith *to Master Deputy (Patrol)*

Brenda Snelgrove *to Sergeant (Forensic Services)*

Alania Spohn *to Master Deputy (Patrol)*

Christopher Threatt *to Investigator (Narcotics)*

Teddy Xanthakis *to Lieutenant (Judicial Services)*

Traci Barr *to Investigator (Property Crimes)*

Christina West *to Information and Records System Administrator*

Emily Scott *to Front Desk Assistant Manager (Detention)*

Raymond Barrett *to Sergeant (Patrol)*

Tony Biviano *to Information Services Manager*

Samuel Brazell *to Senior Deputy (Traffic)*

Jonathan Brock *to Lieutenant (West Region)*

Shelly Collins *to Crime Scene Investigator*

Katrina Faulkner *to Master Deputy (Detention)*

James Forgione *to Victim Advocate Officer (MCU)*

Philip Goeckel *to Senior Deputy - K-9 Handler*

Terry Hall *to LE Victim Advocate (MCU)*

Paula Hare *to Lieutenant (Detention)*

Joe Hart *to Senior Investigator (MCU)*

Rebecca Hilton *to Administrative Manager*

Russell Jackson *to Master Deputy (Detention)*

Jason Jones *to Senior Investigator (Property Crimes)*

Tanya Kinsland *to Records Technician*

Monsurat Lawal-Agoro *to Lieutenant (Detention)*

Scott McDermott *to Lieutenant (Detention)*

Jeffrey Miller *to Sergeant (Property Crimes)*

Brandon Mills *to Master Deputy (Patrol)*

John Mobley *to Sergeant (Warrants)*

Gabriel Mulkey *to Resident Deputy - Dixiana*

James Murphy *to Master Deputy (Detention)*

Robert Rosensteel *to Sergeant (Patrol)*

Cameron Sherban *to Senior Investigator (MCU)*

Gaven Small *to Master Deputy (Patrol)*

Frederick Smith *to Master Deputy (Detention)*

Aiken Still *to Sergeant (Patrol)*

Jeffrey Stutts *to Master Deputy (Warrants)*

Ormica Thomas *to Sergeant (Patrol)*

Jeffrey Thrun *to Master Deputy (Patrol)*

Benjamin Treaster *to Lieutenant (Detention)*

James Westbury *to Senior Investigator (MCU)*

Mike Wilfong *to Senior Investigator (Property Crimes)*

Tim Wilke *to Master Deputy (Warrants)*

Robert Wood *to Master Deputy (Patrol)*

Steven Yancey *to Senior Investigator (Property Crimes)*

Scott Zylstra *to Senior Investigator (MCU)*

13.6%

13.6% of employees received a promotion or transfer in 2021.

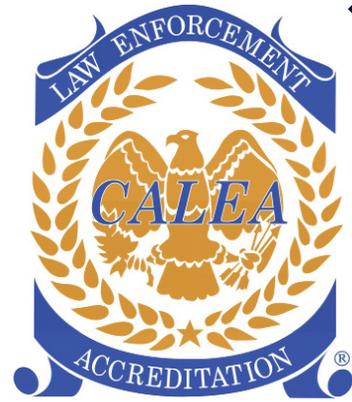
# ACCREDITATION

The department has received its eighth Law Enforcement Accreditation Award from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Inc., commonly known as CALEA.

A team of specially trained CALEA assessors reviewed our policies and interviewed deputies, staff, community leaders and citizens to determine we continue to maintain high professional standards

in providing professional law enforcement services.

CALEA reviews more than 480 rigorous accreditation standards in the areas of policies and procedures, administration, operations and support services. The Lexington County Sheriff's Department has maintained its accreditation since 1999, earning CALEA's Meritorious Award in 2017 and 2021.



**SOUTH CAROLINA  
LAW ENFORCEMENT  
ACCREDITATION, INC.**

# PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS



All citizen complaints and allegations, to include anonymous complaints against the agency or its employees, are investigated.

**76**  
INVESTIGATIONS

This division, often referred to as Internal Affairs, is responsible for preserving the integrity of the agency, and its employees, through a comprehensive and objective process of investigating allegations of employee misconduct.



Team of three personnel; two sergeants and one inspector.

- ◆ 56 Internal affairs Investigations
- ◆ 10 Supervisory investigations
- ◆ 10 Miscellaneous investigations
- ◆ 12 Sustained cases

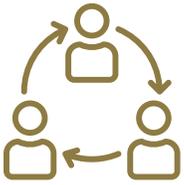
**36.6%**

down from  
120 in 2020

# HUMAN RESOURCES & RECRUITING

◆ COVID-19 IMPACTED OUR GROWTH NUMBERS ◆

## APPLICATIONS RECEIVED & EMPLOYEES HIRED



**28 LAW ENFORCEMENT DEPUTIES, 12 CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND 14 CIVILIANS HIRED IN 2021.**

*Applications for employment were down again in 2021, compared to 2020 (about 30%). Less than 8% of applications received resulted in hire. Following similar difficulties in 2020, more employees separated in 2021 (101) from the department than we were able to hire (54).\**



In addition to managing the agency’s pre-employment screening process, among other things, the LCSD HR team is also responsible for coordinating internal promotional testing, overseeing the timesheet submission process, managing off-duty employment of deputies, coordinating the department’s awards program, managing Family Medical Leave Act and Workers’ Compensation compliance, coordinating light duty assignments, managing employee assistance program referrals and fitness-for-duty evaluations, facilitating the employee performance evaluation process and scheduling random drug testing.



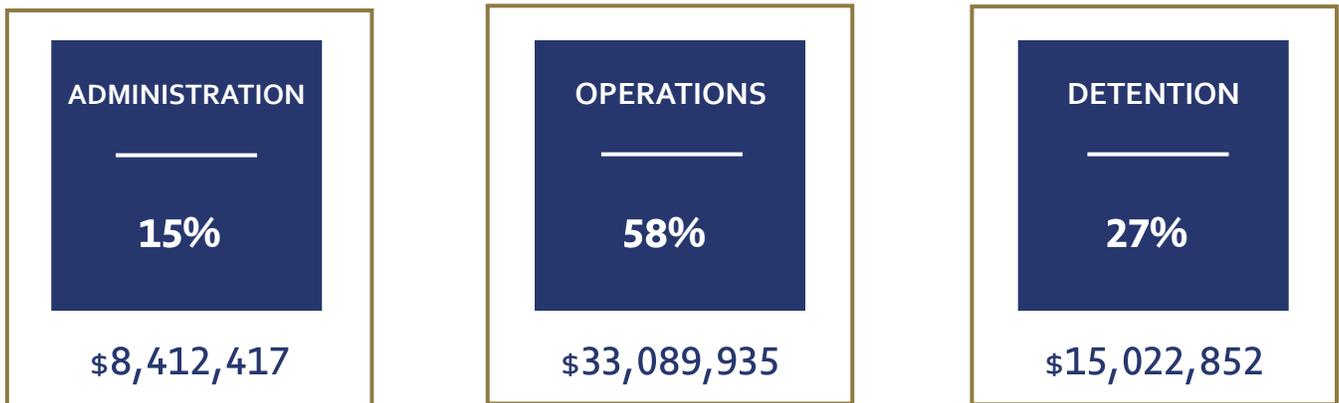
In 2018, LCSD implemented **sign-on, retention and recruiting incentives**. All those continued in 2021. The Sheriff’s Department also began the process of creating a new joinLCSD.com website, which launched in 2022, as an effort to improve the recruiting effort of the department.

\*Potential factors are the complexity and thoroughness of background investigations, increasing competition from surrounding agencies within a shrinking pool of qualified local/regional candidates and employees leaving the profession for other interests.



# BUDGET, FINANCE & GRANTS

**BUDGET = \$56,525,204**



On the back of the county tax bill, the Sheriff's Department's portion of money received is labeled "law enforcement," constituting approximately **35 percent** of the total funds received for county operations.

The budget is funded primarily by property taxes.

The funds appropriated to the department are used to pay personnel, operating and capital costs necessary to provide all services for which Sheriff Koon is responsible.

## FY 20/21 GRANTS

- School Resource Officer | \$80,811
- Victims of Crime Act | \$248,848
- Violence Against Women Act | \$133,063
- Law Enforcement Network | \$10,000
- Justice Assistance | \$36,805
- State Body Worn Camera (BWC) Program | \$60,189.64
- Crime Scene Enhancement Grant | \$86,975
- Crime Reduction | \$140,817

Grants are an integral component in our ability to develop programs to address specific areas of crime that statistics indicate a need for law enforcement services. These allocated funds enable us to reduce the burden on taxpayers to cover 100% of program and equipment fees. Many programs could not be operated without these grants.

# TRAINING DIVISION

Aims to ensure every member of the department is highly qualified to best serve our citizens. State law mandates **40 hours per year** of training for all sworn corrections personnel and **40 hours every three years** for all sworn law enforcement personnel. Additionally, reserve deputies require monthly training equivalent to that which full-time officers undergo. The majority of this mandated training cannot be outsourced, and is delivered by a full-time staff, augmented by subject matter experts from across the department. Employees received more than **21,500 hours** of training in 2021.

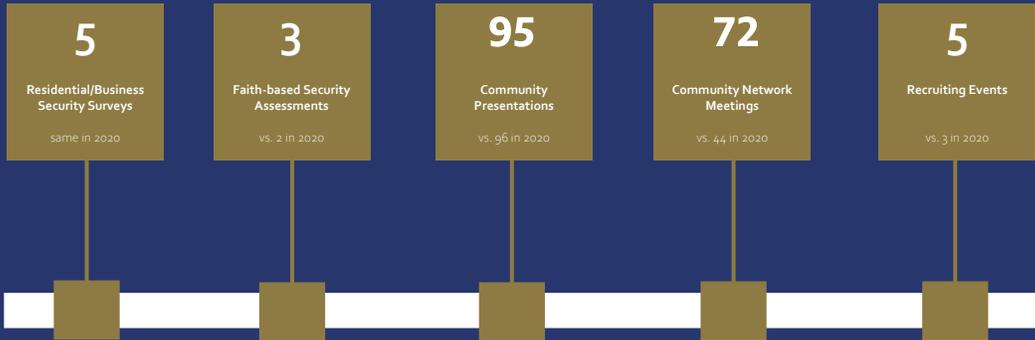
- ◆ 4,200 hours of law enforcement block training
- ◆ 480 hours of detention block training
- ◆ 130 hours of reserve deputy block training
- ◆ 1,200 hours of pre-service training



v. 5,216 hours in 2020

# COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM | CAT

Seeks to form partnerships with various business, church, charity and civic groups throughout Lexington County. The focus of CAT is to leverage strong relationships with these various groups to focus on crime prevention, citizen education, community involvement and meeting the needs of citizens in distress.



- A.L.I.C.E. Training Program (Active Shooter)
- Shop with a COP
- A/C & Fan Drive & Distribution
- Citizens Academy
- Operation Deputy Claus

(Limited events due to COVID-19)

# PUBLIC INFORMATION | PIO

Responsible for getting the right information to the right people at the right time.

Duties include: social media, media liason, news releases and briefings, digital content and photography/videography storytelling. The goal of the PIO is to educate and inform the public and agency stakeholders to improve the community's safety or response to a given risk or emergency.



# FRONT DESK

Operating on a **24-hour basis**, the front desk of our law enforcement complex is responsible for:

Connecting citizens with appropriate LCSD personnel and services, issuing non-ferrous metal permits, accepting expired or discarded prescription medications for destruction, verifying ownership and releasing towed vehicles, performing record checks on sex offender registrants, scheduling and disseminating information concerning funeral escorts, performing telephonic welfare checks on elderly citizens and providing support to the Records and Warrant divisions after hours.

- ◆ Handled more than **84,470** phone calls in 2021
- ◆ Telephone Reporting Unit took **1,149** incident reports (down **46%** from 2020)
- ◆ Issued more than **2,325** metal permits
- ◆ Helped in processing more than **1,400** registered sex offenders
- ◆ Assisted in more than **1,800** NCIC entries

# RECORDS

The primary responsibility of this unit is to maintain accurate archives of department records, while ensuring the timeliness and accuracy of data shared with state and federal partners. In 2021, this unit did the following:

- ◆ Responded to more than **23,000** requests for records
- ◆ Expunged more than **2,500** criminal records
- ◆ Conducted more than **23,000** records validations
- ◆ **2** SLED audits in 2021

**+15%**  
INCREASE

In 2021, there was a **15%** increase in the amount of records requests compared to 2020.

# INFORMATION TECH

This team manages a full range of technology systems and is responsible for 24/7 user support for nearly 500 employees, including 225 mobile law enforcement units.

**+27%**  
INCREASE  
WORK TICKETS  
CLOSED OVER 3 YEARS

In 2021, there were **3,315** work tickets closed, compared to **3,243** in 2020 and **2,839** in 2019.

There has been a **27%** increase over the last 3 years.

During the year, the IT team worked on several initiatives. Part of its efforts included: setting up 154 computers and three new servers. The team completed five major projects, serviced more than 700 users and provided approximately 400 hours of training and instruction (compared to more than 600 hours in 2020).

The IT department now manages more than 225 BWCs or in-car camera systems, more than 300 mobile phones and 200 perimeter cameras.

# INTEL

The Criminal Intelligence Unit is staffed with one sworn officer and two civilian analysts. It is responsible for providing support to the operational and administrative functions of the department through various statistical analysis and investigative support efforts.

## ◆ INDEX CRIMES

These are reportable to SLED and the FBI as part of the Uniform Crime Reporting Act; and one of the statistics the Intel Unit is responsible for maintaining and reporting.

|                     | 2020 | 2021 |
|---------------------|------|------|
| AGGRAVATED ASSAULT  | 472  | 500  |
| ARSON               | 24   | 21   |
| BURGLARY            | 1026 | 819  |
| LARCENY             | 3857 | 3549 |
| MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT | 863  | 667  |
| MURDER              | 10   | 12   |
| RAPE                | 58   | 57   |
| ROBBERY             | 85   | 64   |

# LEXINGTON COUNTY DETENTION CENTER

## ABOUT DETENTION

Led by a major, captain and five lieutenants, the detention center serves the entire county's correctional needs.

There are three major structures. The "old jail," built in 1975, with a rated capacity of 102, stands as a three-story hardened structure attached to the main Sheriff's Department building. In 1991, the annex complex opened with a rated capacity of 176. It is designed to house inmates with minor charges or a lower risk of escape. Finally, in 1998, a third structure comprising multiple housing pods opened with a capacity of 321.

**Today, the collection of detention structures has an official rated capacity of 599, according to the S.C. Department of Corrections.**

Optimal maximum occupancy is 420 (allows for inmate movement and behavior management programs).

The average daily population (ADP) was 523 in 2021. There has been a 11.9% increase from 2020 to 2021 in the amount of inmates we house on a daily basis.



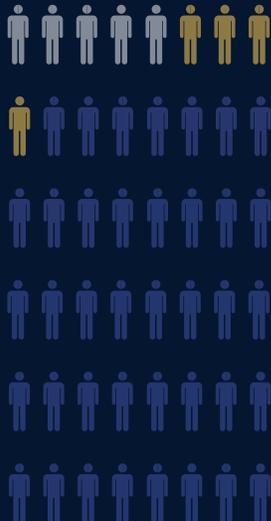
The housing of federal inmates is not a mandatory program, but revenue generated from providing temporary housing for pre-trial federal inmates subsidizes operational costs of the Lexington County Detention Center.



**11.9%**  
ADP  
in 2021

**523**

AVERAGE DAILY JAIL  
POPULATION IN 2021



Despite an increase in ADP numbers, 2021 saw a drop in inmate-on-officer assaults to 13. There were 21 in 2020.

DAILY  
POPULATION

The mission of the Lexington County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (LCCJCC) is to provide a fair, effective and efficient judicial system in Lexington County; with the vision that the Lexington County judicial process is a comprehensive, coordinated and interconnected system of justice that efficiently utilizes all resources to serve and protect its citizens.

The council has met twice during the coronavirus pandemic, once in 2020 and once in 2021. Both years have seen LCDC's average daily population reach its lowest level in more than a decade.

While infection control protocols enacted during the pandemic affected detention population levels, the work of the council had prompted a downward trend in average daily population. Since the formation of the council, the data shows a consistent downward trend.

As the third year of the pandemic continues, the council will continue its work to safely reduce the average daily jail population, and effectively manage the growth on Lexington County's justice system.



= 10.9 INMATES

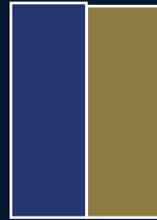
□ = FEDERAL

■ = OTHER

■ = GENERAL SESSIONS

# ◆ BOOKING

The Booking Unit is where all the "ins" and "outs" take place. In 2021, the Booking Unit received an average of **22 inmates** per day and managed about the same amount of releases.



- ◆ 71% of inmates booked in 2021 were **residents** of Lexington or Richland County
- ◆ 29% of inmates booked were residents of a **county outside the Midlands**

Civilian personnel focus on the administrative tasks in booking, leaving the available certified detention deputies to focus on managing the inmates.

# ◆ HOUSING

- ◆ **One** detention deputy per 70-100 inmates
- ◆ Mental health watch requires **two** detention deputies
- ◆ Maximum security inmates require **two** detention deputies

Research has shown providing inmates with activities that keep them busy, as well as rewarding positive behavior, results in favorable reductions in inmate behavior problems.

**Inmate Behavior Management:** six key elements that, in combination, help jails reduce a wide array of negative, destructive and dangerous inmate behavior.

We began our implementation of IBM in August 2017.

The Housing Unit handles **14 housing units** including proper separation of males and female inmates, as well as ensuring proper classification levels, supervision needs & more.

A detention deputy assigned to a housing unit is responsible for the **safety and security** of the unit and the overall well-being of the inmates. They are trained to recognize and diffuse disputes before they turn violent, recognize and address medical emergencies, ensure inmates take required medication, enforce hygiene standards and oversee canteen distribution.

# JAIL PROGRAMS

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

MIDLANDS FATHERHOOD COALITION

VA OUTREACH PROGRAM

LRADAC\*

LRADAC-EMPOWERMENT CENTRAL PROGRAM

U-TURN FOR CHRIST

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

PROVIDENCE HOME

JUVENILE ARBITRATION TOUR

LCDC BOOKS ON WHEELS

PRE RELEASE AND REENTRY PROGRAM

MENS FRATERNITY

DELANCEY STREET

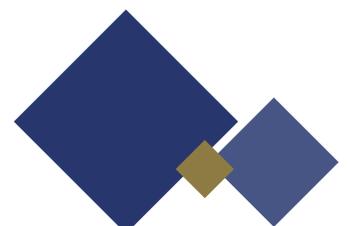
LIFE SKILLS

UNDERSTANDING TRAUMA

ANGER MANAGEMENT

ROCK OF AGES MINISTRIES

(\*MOST PARTICIPATION)



## VISITATION

Detention deputies assigned to visitation oversee inmate visitation matters. Since 2014, the percentage of video visitation has increased, which allowed a reduction in staffing demands to one or two deputies. Certain professional visitations are still held in person, and are supervised by the visitation detention deputies.

In 2021, **475 on-site visits** were managed by the unit. **22,475 visits** were conducted by remote video visitation. This is a **total of 22,950** visits handled by the unit last year.

## TRANSPORTATION

Detention deputies assigned to the **Transportation Unit** are responsible for **transporting inmates** who are sentenced to SCDC, non-emergency hospital transports or inmate doctor appointments and federal inmates when requested by the U.S. Marshals Service.

The unit completed **91** general medical transports and **91** E.R. transports in 2021.

The unit completed **150** transports to SCDC or other detention facilities.

## NCCHC ACCREDITATION

The **National Commission on Correctional Health Care** is an organization dedicated to improving the quality of correctional health services and helping jails provide effective and efficient care. The Lexington County Detention Center has maintained **NCCHC accreditation since 2008**. The audit is conducted every three years by licensed/certified doctors affiliated with the commission, to ensure the site is compliant with the 67 standards. The last audit in January 2021 found compliance with 100 percent of essential standards and 96 percent of important standards.

The commission granted accreditation to the detention center which will carry until the next facility audit, to be conducted in 2024.

**RIGHT:** The Lexington County Detention Center, July 2021.



# COURTS

## ◆ SECURITY

The Court Security team is part of Judicial Services. It comprises 19 deputies and 10 part-time civilian bailiffs. The main focus of the team is to ensure a safe, secure and orderly environment at the **Marc Westbrook Judicial Center**. All persons entering the courthouse are **screened for weapons**. Members of the Court Security team also assist in providing screening and security for events at the Lexington County administrative building and County Council meetings.

- ◆ Provided security to 1,017 courts in Session
- ◆ Conducted nearly 900 prisoner transports
- ◆ Scanned more than 73,200 packages
- ◆ Provided more than 1,800 hours of magistrate security hours
- ◆ Prohibited entry of more than 1,389 dangerous items from the courthouse



Knives are the most brought-in prohibited item. In 2021, there were **812 knives** detected by court security.

## ◆ SERVICES

Judicial Services comprises several different teams that work together to support safe and efficient judicial operations. This division is operated by a captain.

The majority of the duties are specifically dictated by **state law**. The judicial system handles matters both **criminal** and **civil** in nature .

A significant amount of time is spent dealing with **civil process**. In 2021, we served more than 89% of the civil process demands received.



- ◆ Resolved more than **4,500** arrest warrants
- ◆ Handled **360** court-ordered evictions (down 50% in 2020 due to COVID-related court restrictions)
- ◆ Received **13,129** civil process orders and served **11,813**
- ◆ Provided more than **400** hours of County Council security (increase of 15% compared to 2019)

# FUGITIVE TASK FORCE

This group of deputies specializes in **fugitive investigations** and **warrant service** in which the suspect has serious outstanding charges or is actively evading apprehension. Since many of the suspects avoiding apprehension are ultimately located outside of Lexington County, the task force also completes necessary **extradition transports**.

ARREST WARRANT ATTEMPTS: 2,140

TRANSPORTS: 252

TRANSPORT HOURS: 703.5

WARRANTS SERVED: 1,322

ADOPTED CASES: 409



675  ARRESTS

WARRANTS ATTEMPTS IN  
2021 DECREASED BY

30%

3,093 in 2020 v. 2,104 in 2021



As members of the **U.S. Marshal's Fugitive Task Force** program, team members regularly work with other local state and federal agencies to aid in the apprehension of many dangerous fugitives.

# TICKETS & WARNINGS

Deputies issued approximately **11,500 tickets or warnings in 2021**, compared to 12,003 in 2020. This is a **4% decrease** from 2020. Demographic analysis of these citizen contacts is conducted to ensure such contacts are representative of our service population. It should be noted that given the presence of three major interstates and the amount of non-resident traffic present in our county, demographic comparisons are not necessarily representative of our county demographics. Service population breakdown is based on data collected by the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles related to collisions.

| 2021 TICKETS    | F     | M     | 2020 TICKETS    | F     | M     |
|-----------------|-------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------|
| ASIAN           | 14    | 40    | ASIAN           | 30    | 34    |
| BLACK           | 549   | 1,000 | BLACK           | 692   | 1,151 |
| NATIVE AMERICAN | 1     | 9     | NATIVE AMERICAN | 8     | 11    |
| OTHER           | 4     | 2     | OTHER           | 3     | 9     |
| WHITE           | 1,074 | 2,087 | WHITE           | 1,835 | 2,947 |

Out of more than 322,000 contacts with citizens in 2021, only 3.5% resulted in a ticket or warning. Less than 1% resulted in an arrest.

# ARRESTS

| ARRESTS BY RACE | 2020  | 2021  |
|-----------------|-------|-------|
| ASIAN           | 2     | 8     |
| BLACK           | 745   | 1,605 |
| NATIVE AMERICAN | 2     | 3     |
| OTHER           | 4     | 11    |
| WHITE           | 1,878 | 3,732 |

Out of more than **322,000 contacts** with citizens in 2020, only 3.5% resulted in a ticket or warning. Less than 1% resulted in an arrest.

TOTAL CUSTODIAL ARRESTS **5,359**

The law permits some discretion in an officer's decision to arrest someone for **minor offenses** rather than simply issue a courtesy summons. Concerns about jail crowding have contributed to decisions to issue a **courtesy summons** more often than in years past for most minor misdemeanor violations.

# CASE ASSIGNMENT & CLEARANCE

Tracking case status is an important measurement related to follow-up investigations. Once an incident report is assigned for follow-up, the status of the case is marked as "active." Upon conclusion of the investigation, the status is updated according to the outcome. If investigative efforts are exhausted or insufficient evidence is found to continue an investigation, the case might be "closed administratively."

Cases are given a status of "cleared by arrest" when one or more suspects are identified and arrested. When a suspect is identified and sufficient evidence exists to make an arrest, but circumstances outside the control of the investigator prevent an arrest, a case will be assigned a status of "exceptionally cleared."



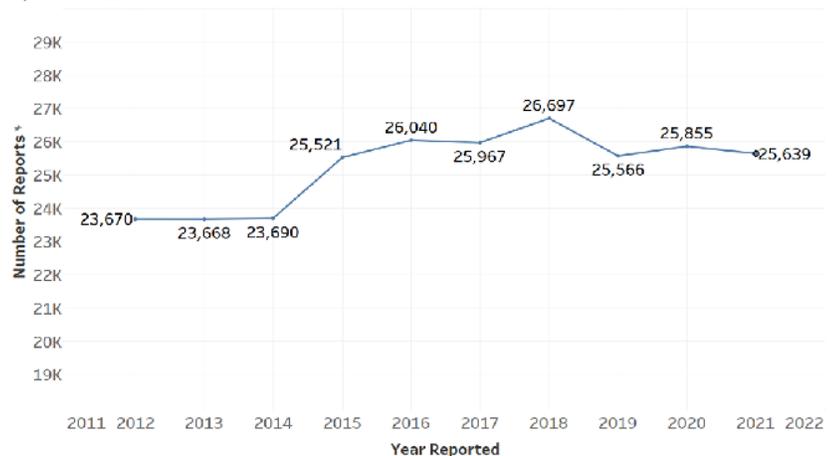
Cases are assigned a status of "unfounded" when the investigation determines a crime or the events originally alleged to have happened did not occur.

Overall, case clearance for index crimes in 2021 remains high at **36%**.

## INCIDENT REPORTS

While every call for service does not generate an incident report, one is always written when an arrest is made, when we determined a crime has occurred or someone requests written documentation.

Reports Written



This chart shows the number of incident reports written each year. While calls for service have decreased, the reports written have similarly decreased.

LESS THAN  
**-1%**  
DECREASE IN REPORTS WRITTEN IN  
ONE-YEAR PERIOD

25,853 in 2020 v.  
25,639 in 2021

**-2%**  
DECREASE IN FOLLOW-UP  
INVESTIGATIONS TO REPORTS  
WRITTEN DURING ONE-YEAR  
PERIOD

13,720 in 2020 v.  
13,442 in 2021



# CALLS FOR SERVICE

Calls received at the **Lexington County Communications Center** are categorized by a general nature type at the time of dispatch, based on the primary concerns relayed by the caller.

**-2%**  
DECREASE IN CALLS FOR SERVICE IN ONE-YEAR PERIOD  
79,835 CALLS FOR SERVICE IN 2021

- ◆ Burglar alarms, civil disputes, 911 hang-ups and larceny are all top call types year-after-year
- ◆ 911 hang-ups have more than doubled in the last five years, due in large part to the use of mobile phones.
- ◆ Shooting incidents/subject with gun calls have more than doubled over the previous five years (135 in 2017 to 451 in 2021)

**Calls for service** include any call or activity recorded that originate from a citizen or person other than an LCSD employee. **Administrative demands** (34,502 in 2021) are activity that does not otherwise fit neatly into a specific call type but is the result of citizen demand for service. This includes requests for phone calls to answer questions, follow up investigation activity and going to court.

\*Data throughout the years, going back to 2012, shows that a 2-5% increase per year is typical and closely follows population growth.

LARCENY CALLS WERE DOWN IN 2021 COMPARED TO 2020 BY

**16%**

5,749 in 2020 v. 4,854 in 2021



Civil Disputes

**5,822**

911 Hang-ups

**10,352**

Burglar Alarms

**6,310**

Welfare Checks

**3,793**



# MAJOR CRIMES

This unit comprises of **49 sworn and civilian employees**, both working full- and part-time positions, and is divided into **seven teams**.



- ◆ One detective team
- ◆ One domestic violence team
- ◆ One special victims team
- ◆ One victim services team; 9452 victims assisted
- ◆ One crime scene investigations team
- ◆ One evidence management team
- ◆ One sex offender registry team

In 2021, Major Crimes Detectives investigated **2,268** cases and obtained **1,056 warrants** with **763 being felony warrants**. In 2021, the Major Crimes Unit investigated 12 homicides, nine of which were ruled as murders, with three self-defense shootings, and two double murders.

The Major Crimes Unit investigated and reviewed an array of different criminal offenses in 2021 to include **9 murders, 75 deaths under investigation, 53 robberies, 166 aggravated assaults, 249 criminal sexual conducts, 65 criminal domestic violence assaults** in a high and aggravated nature and **427 domestic assaults**.

In August 2021, a joint operation was conducted with LCSD, Lexington PD, S.C. Attorney General’s Office, FBI, DHS, NCIS, and several other agencies across the state for the purpose of an ICAC Chat Operation. As a result, **25 arrests were made**. Seven offenders traveled to a location within the county where they believed they would be meeting an underage individual for sexual activity. Five offenders were arrested in other states including Georgia, North Carolina and Illinois.



**1.17** DOMESTIC ASSAULTS EVERY DAY

**9,452** VICTIMS ASSISTED BY VICTIM SERVICES

**867** LABS COMPLETED BY CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATORS

As of January 27, 2021, all cold case homicides have been entered into ViCAP. These 24 cases range in date from 1970 to 2017. An evidence audit was also done on all cold case homicides to determine if new technology could be used to assist in the investigations.



# NARCOTICS

The **Lexington County Multi-Agency Narcotics Enforcement Team** comprises 27 employees with a mixture of sworn county deputies, sworn municipal police officers and civilians. Multiple officers work in TFO (task force officer) status for federal agencies including the ATF, DEA, FBI and U.S. Marshals Service.

In 2021, the team investigated **867 cases** and obtained **641 warrants**. This is a significant change from 2020. The change is likely due to the increase in state and federal indictments stemming from the strong relationships with our federal agencies and our TFOs assigned to these teams.

The team seized **\$151,612.00**, **two vehicles** and seized/purchased **138 firearms**. Along with this the unit also seized **864lbs of marijuana**, **5.8lb of edible marijuana**, **19.8lbs of meth**, **9.11lbs of cocaine**, **1.6 ounces of crack cocaine** and **16.09lbs of heroin/fentanyl**.

There was a substantial increase in narcotic overdoses in 2021. In 2021 there were **508 reported overdoses** resulting in **46 deaths** and **347 doses of Narcan** administered by law enforcement and EMS. The increase in reported overdoses in 2021 (122%) might be a result of more accurate reporting conducted by EMS and the Coroner's Office

|                       | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| ASSIGNED CASES        | 705  | 699  | 631  | 631  | 867  |
| TOTAL WARRANTS SERVED | 407  | 482  | 313  | 507  | 641  |
| FELONY WARRANTS       | 347  | 353  | 271  | 443  | 563  |
| MISDEMEANOR WARRANTS  | 60   | 129  | 42   | 64   | 78   |

**+122%**

INCREASE IN  
NARCOTIC OVERDOSES IN  
ONE-YEAR PERIOD

METH MADE UP

**43%**

OF DRUGS SEIZED IN 2021

**3,404**

PILLS WERE SEIZED IN 2021



### Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP)

This program is responsible for the assignment of personnel to traffic enforcement activities at times and locations where hazardous or congested conditions exist. Such assignments are usually based on factors such as traffic volume, collision experiences, frequency of traffic violations and emergency service needs.

# DRONE UNIT

The unit is made up of seven FAA Part 107 licensed pilots and four observers. The team trains twice a month for four hours.

More than 50 missions were flown in 2021, primarily in support of finding missing persons and fugitive apprehension.



ABOVE: The Sheriff's Department activated new drone in December 2021.

# TRAFFIC DIVISION

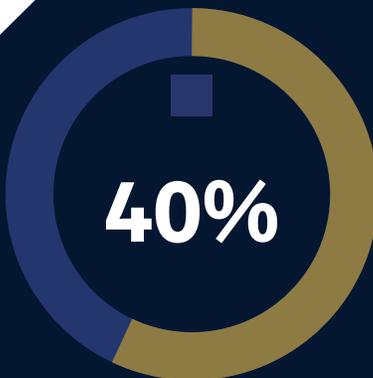
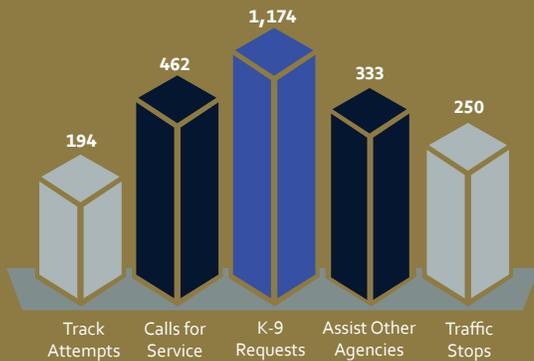
The Traffic Division is aligned in two teams that cover all aspects of traffic to include accident reconstruction, public safety checkpoints, ancillary traffic services, traffic control, traffic enforcement and funeral escorts. The unit has 11 deputies with one sergeant who oversees the unit and two master deputies who manage each of the teams. There is a traffic deputy on call for any needs the department might require, and the teams work a rotating shift of day, nights, and weekends.



# K-9 UNIT

Comprised of eight K-9 handlers and nine K-9s. This unit assists with all K-9 needs that the department has including: drug sniffs, explosive sweeps, violent criminal tracks/apprehension, and missing and endangered person tracks.

- ◆ Seven K-9s are for track/apprehension and narcotic sniff-trained
- ◆ One K-9 is used to track/apprehend and explosive sniff-trained
- ◆ One K-9 is a bloodhound that is used to track for missing and endangered persons
- ◆ One sergeant and two master deputies manage the five remaining handlers



40% of SWAT operations were wanted barricades in 2021.

# SWAT

The Special Weapons and Tactics unit is a single agency team that is mission-capable in all areas required by the National Tactical Officer Association's to be a Tier 2 team, including emergency hostage rescue operations.

The team comprises a team commander, assistant team commander, two team leaders, two assistant team leaders, a sniper team leader, an assistant sniper team leader and 12 operators.

This unit responds to escalated calls that might need additional assistance and tools, such as barricaded individuals. It is a collateral duty position which requires 24/7 on-call availability.

Training is a major component of being on the SWAT team. In 2021, the team completed 265 hours of training, which includes 16 hours of routine training a month.

- ◆ Completed 96 hours of operation
- ◆ Served in 15 operations
- ◆ Forced entry four times
- ◆ Enacted use of force three times

# RESERVE DEPUTY PROGRAM

On a volunteer basis, reserve deputies work to assist our full-time, sworn personnel by riding with them and helping respond to calls. When he or she accrues enough hours, a reserve deputy can begin to patrol on his or her own.

The program was made up of one major, one captain, one lieutenant, one sergeant and eight other members.



# PRESCRIPTION DRUG

This program allows people to dispose of old or unwanted medications. With drop boxes at 521 Gibson Road and each of the three patrol region service buildings around the county, Lexington County residents have multiple, convenient options to get rid of medicine they don't need.

- ◆ North Region drop-box: 111 Lincreek Drive (business hours)
- ◆ South Region drop-box: 102 Airport Road (business hours)
- ◆ West Region drop-box: 4079-D Augusta Highway (business hours)



# PHOTOS



ABOVE: Marine Patrol participated in training on Lake Murray, July 2021.



ABOVE: LCSD employees participated in a community event at Fern Hall Apartments, June 2021.



LEXINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

[LEXINGTONSHERIFF.COM](http://LEXINGTONSHERIFF.COM)

[JOINLCSD.COM](http://JOINLCSD.COM)

ANNUAL REPORT 2021