



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

LEXINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

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MAKING LEXINGTON COUNTY A SAFER PLACE



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Throughout these pages, please find data and statistics collected during 2022. It is our hope 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

"Thankful" is the word that comes to mind when I think back on 2022.

It's with a grateful heart I say thank you to our employees who continue to serve tirelessly to make Lexington County a safer place.

I'm thankful County Council and the administration of our county worked together to increase pay and provide retention payments to those employees for their dedication to our county.

I'm thankful community events returned and we were able to get out and enjoy time with members of our community. That's something we missed for a couple of years as COVID-19 interrupted our county's full slate of festivals and gatherings.

I'm also thankful for another year as your sheriff. You have placed your trust in me to lead the men and women who keep our community safe. I strive every day to maintain that trust and do right by you and this wonderful place I've called home my whole life.

As part of that trust, I share this annual report from the Sheriff's Department to you...our citizens. I invite you to review the information, learn more about our activities across the county and get a feel for our programs that are making a difference in the lives of so many.

So, I will close in the same way I started...by saying another thank you. This one is for you, for all the support and encouragement we receive on a daily basis. That's what fueled us in 2022 and why we see such a bright future for the rest of 2023 and beyond.

— *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 1970s, illegal drug use and distribution became a significant problem.

Along with drug-related offenses, 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.

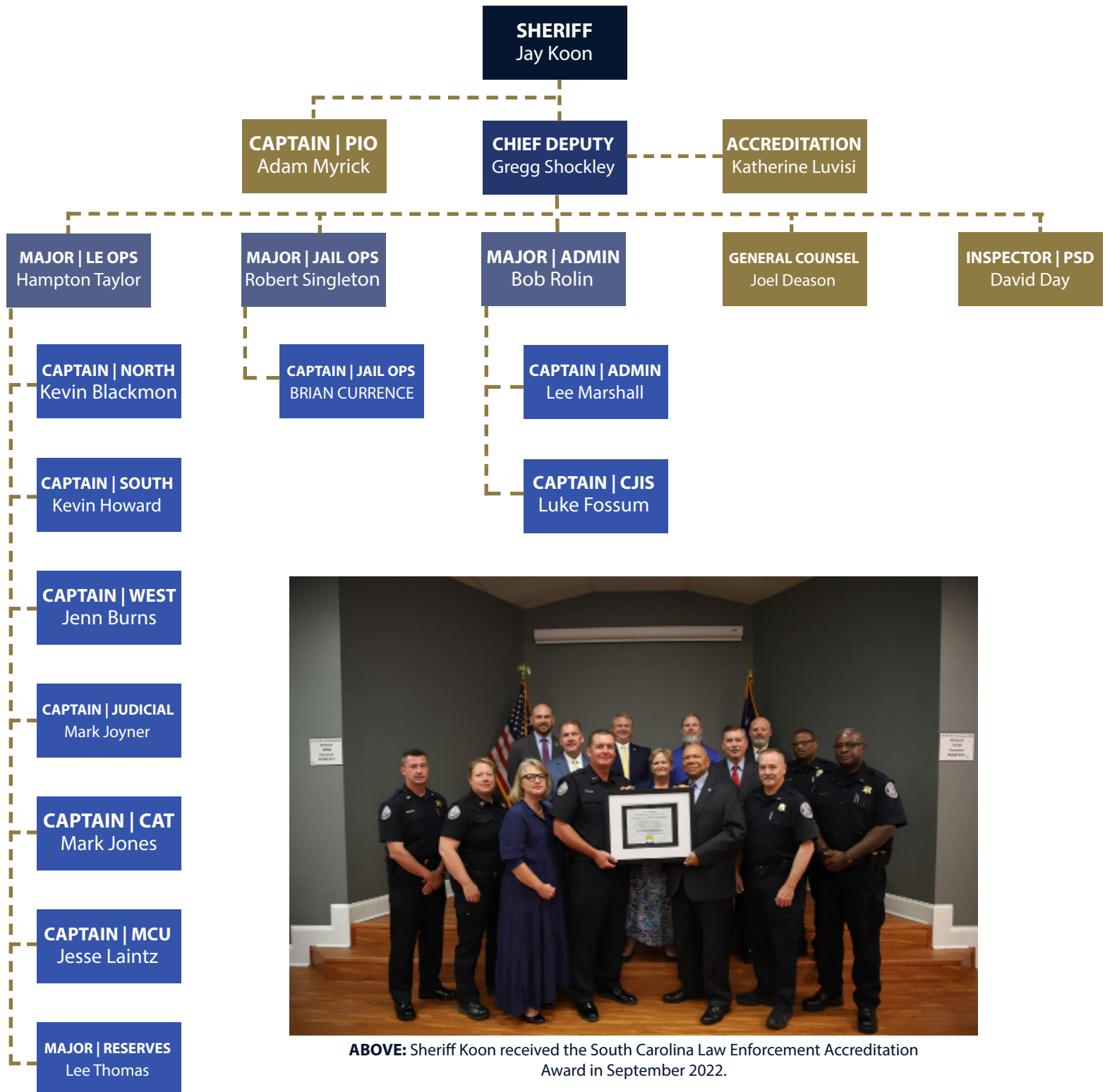
MISSION

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: Sheriff Koon received the South Carolina Law Enforcement Accreditation Award in September 2022.

MAJOR EVENTS

A LANDMARK ARREST

2022 started with a major development in Lexington County's most noteworthy child abduction case.

Thomas Eric McDowell was charged in January with murder, kidnapping and first-degree burglary in connection to the disappearance and death of 4-year-old Jessica Gutierrez in June 1986.

Sheriff Koon said a fresh look at the case in September 2021 jumpstarted the investigation. FBI and SLED agents, and prosecutors with the South Carolina Attorney General's Office joined the Sheriff's Department in reviewing initial reports and interviewing more than 125 people.



COUNTY EMPLOYEES RECEIVE 'PREMIUM PAY'

Lexington County employees who worked through the COVID-19 pandemic received a second round of "premium pay" in April.

The amount of the April 2022 round of premium pay ranged from approximately \$2,015 to \$4,900, based on a combination of an employee's direct risk of exposure to COVID-19 and their duties.

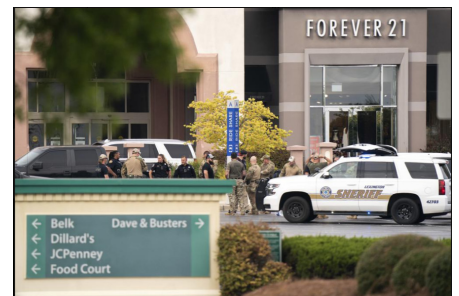
Sheriff Koon thanked County Council and County Administration for continuing to support employees who stood strong during the pandemic, adding the payment would go a long way to show employees how much they are appreciated.

LEXINGTON COUNTY INTEGRAL TO SHOOTING RESPONSE

A wide array of Lexington County personnel joined other Midlands law enforcement agencies immediately after a shooting at Columbiana Centre in April.

Nine people were shot and another five injured in the shooting. Lexington County deputies secured the mall's perimeter and cleared stores and public spaces inside.

Three suspects were eventually arrested and charged in connection with the shooting.



NEW LAW OPENS CAREER OPPORTUNITIES TO TEENS

A new era for a new generation of law enforcement professionals started in 2022. South Carolina lawmakers and Gov. Henry McMaster worked together to pass a new bill to lower the minimum age for detention deputies from 21 to 18.

Sheriff Koon hired the first teen detention deputy shortly after Gov. McMaster signed the bill into law. Landon Brown said when a friend told him about the new law he knew he'd be perfect for the job.

After multiple business interviews right out of high school, Brown said he felt talked down to and as though the fit wasn't quite right. At the Sheriff's Department, Brown said he immediately felt at home.

RETIREES & PROMOTIONS

WE'RE GRATEFUL FOR THE DEDICATION AND SERVICE OF THOSE WHO RETIRED IN 2022:

Senior Deputy Jeff Flanders *retired 4/01/2022*

Project Coordinator Ronnie Youmans *retired 9/30/2022*

Deputy Shawn Dunkley *retired 4/15/2022*

Sergeant Brian Anderson *retired 10/07/2022*

School Resource Officer Matt Rogers *retired 6/3/2022*

Investigator William Patterson *retired 11/27/2022*

School Resource Officer Dale Owen *retired 7/08/2022*

School Crossing Guard James Gerstle *retired 12/29/2022*

CONGRATULATIONS TO THOSE WHO WERE PROMOTED IN 2022:

Willie Harris to Sergeant (Patrol)

Mitchell Labesky to Master Deputy (Patrol)

Greg Love to Senior Deputy (K-9)

Dennis Bertwell to Resident Deputy - West Columbia

Reinaldo Chacon to School Resource Officer

Josh Boozer to Resident Deputy - Gilbert

Crystal Jenkins-Merritt to Sergeant (Detention)

Martin Kaminski to Senior Deputy (Traffic)

Hannah Joslin to Investigator (CSI)

Shannon Lovell to Sergeant (Community Services)

Josh Bice to Senior Investigator (Narcotics)

Adam Holt to Senior Investigator (CRU)

Kaaren Miller to Sergeant (Training)

Nick McMillan to Senior Investigator (Narcotics)

Lori Hayes to Project Coordinator (HR)

Bryan Sharpe to Sergeant (Patrol)

Austin Sanner to Senior Investigator (Narcotics)

Stephanie Cobb to Senior Investigator (MCU)

Casey Betts to Master Deputy (Patrol)

Everette Smith to Senior Investigator (FTF)

James Westbury to Sergeant (MCU)

Alexander Rosado to Master Deputy (Patrol)

Brannon Marthers to Sergeant (Intel)

David Hellman to Master Deputy (Civil Process)

Christopher Threatt to Master Deputy (Patrol)

Vickie Bookman to Senior Detention Deputy

Nic Ferrara to Accounting Clerk (Finance)

Jason Burbage to Investigator (Property Crimes)

Troy Hall to Senior Detention Deputy

Austin Sanders to Resident Deputy - Three Fountains

Jonathan Jeffcoat to Investigator (Property Crimes)

Nick Huffstetler to Sergeant (Patrol)

Taylor Sebben to Resident Deputy - Dixianna

Dane Walker to Sergeant (Patrol)

Mark Moore to Investigator (Property Crimes)

Andrew Harmon to Resident Deputy - Boiling Springs

Adrian Zona to Master Deputy (Patrol)

Kalie Natale to Master Deputy (Patrol)

Terrell Huffaker to Investigator (CSI)

Daniel Brown to Resident Deputy - Boiling Springs

Jeterika Porter to Master Deputy (Patrol)

Kalie Natale to Resident Deputy - Dixiana

Stefan Sharpe to Sergeant (Patrol)

Josh Vicari to Resident Deputy - Red Bank

Tom Smith to Senior Investigator (CSI)

Joe Hart to Sergeant (MCU)

Walker Spires to Assistant Manager (Front Desk)

Bryan Senn to Investigator (MCU)

Jacob Caraway to Senior Deputy (K-9)

10.8%

10.8% of employees received a promotion in 2022.

ACCREDITATION

The Lexington County Sheriff's Department is an internationally accredited agency. The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies awarded accreditation to our department for the first time in 1999 and most recently awarded the department its eighth accreditation in 2021. CALEA has established standards designed to prevent and control crime; increase agency effectiveness and efficiency; increase cooperation and coordination with other agencies; and increase citizen and employee confidence in the goals, objectives, policies and practices of the agency.

In September 2022, the department received its eight Law Enforcement Accreditation Award from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Accreditation. To achieve dual accreditation status in law enforcement, the department has to be in compliance with all CALEA standards and an additional 12 SCLEA standards.

In October 2022, the department successfully completed its first year of the four-year cycle for CALEA accreditation. A specially trained assessor conducted a review of 117 standards to verify compliance.



**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.

6.6%

increase in total investigations
(v. 76 in 2021)

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.

81

INVESTIGATIONS

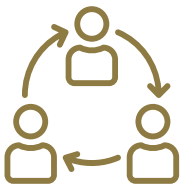
23%

increase in internal affairs investigations
(v. 56 in 2021)

- ◆ **69** Internal affairs investigations
- ◆ **7** Supervisory investigations
- ◆ **5** Miscellaneous investigations
- ◆ **27** Sustained cases

HUMAN RESOURCES & RECRUITING

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED & EMPLOYEES HIRED



59 LAW ENFORCEMENT DEPUTIES, 10 DETENTION DEPUTIES AND 14 ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS HIRED IN 2022.

Applications for employment were up in 2022, compared to 2021 (about 21%). 10 percent of applications received resulted in hire.* Following difficulties in 2020 and 2021, fewer employees separated in 2022 (69) from the department than in 2021 (101).**



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 extra-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.



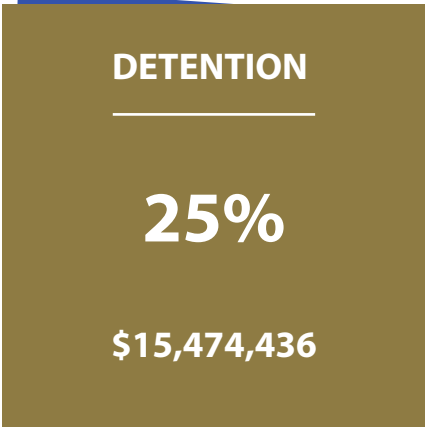
In 2018, LCSD implemented **sign-on, retention and recruiting** incentives. All those continued in 2022. The Sheriff's Department also launched a new [joinLCSd.com](https://www.lcsd.com) website as an effort to improve the recruiting effort of the department.

*Factors that may be contributing to this are the complexity and thoroughness of background investigations, increasing competition by surrounding agencies for a shrinking pool of qualified candidates and employees leaving the profession for other interests.

**Recruiting and retention incentives may have contributed to this.

BUDGET, FINANCE & GRANTS

BUDGET = \$61,409,157



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 21/22 GRANTS

School Resource Officer | \$127,091
Victims of Crime Act | \$196,963
Violence Against Women Act | \$133,063
Law Enforcement Network | \$10,000
Justice Assistance | \$34,055

State Body Worn Camera Program | \$85,146.50
Coronavirus Prevention Grant | \$167,200
Crime Reduction | \$87,582
Impaired Driving Countermeasures Project | \$81,910

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 22,000 hours of training** in 2022.

- ◆ 2,016 hours of law enforcement block training
- ◆ 200 hours of detention block training
- ◆ 108 hours of reserve deputy block training
- ◆ 1,440 hours of pre-service training

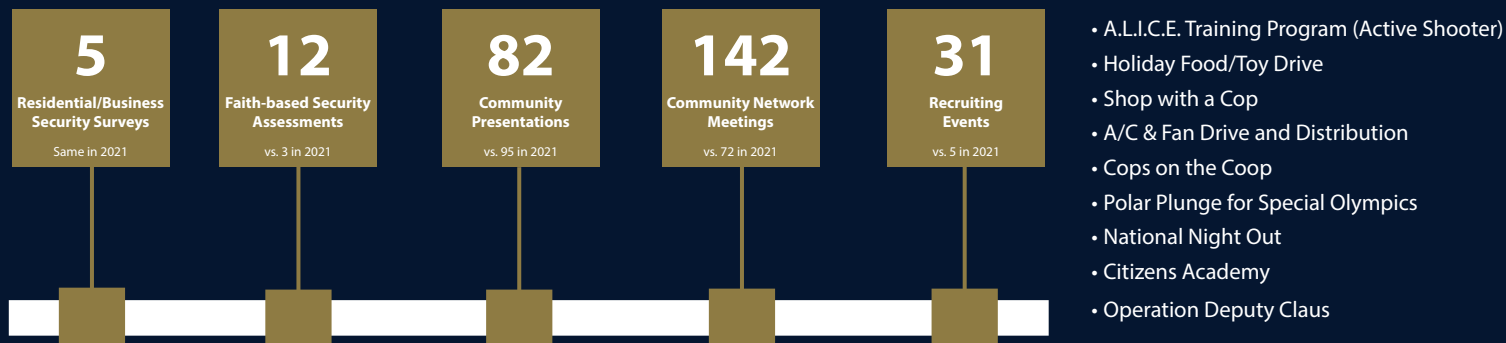
7,040

HOURS OF INSTRUCTION IN 2022

VS. 5,394 HOURS IN 2021

COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM | CAT

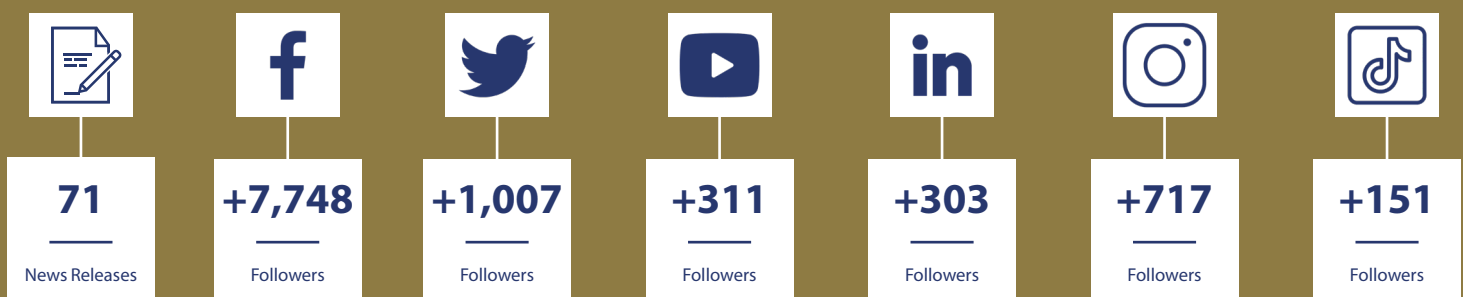
Seeks to **form partnerships with various businesses, churches, charity and civic groups** throughout Lexington County. The focus of CAT is to leverage strong relationships with these various groups to focus on crime prevention, citizen education, community involvement and meeting the needs of citizens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



PUBLIC INFORMATION | PIO

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

Duties include: social media, media liaison, 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.



Across all platforms in 2022, there were over **20.5 million impressions**, nearly **3 million engagements** and a total of **10,237 new followers**.

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 82,507 phone calls in 2022
- ◆ Telephone Reporting Unit took 1,027 incident reports (down 10% from 2021)
- ◆ Issued more than 1,826 metal permits
- ◆ Helped in processing more than 1,400 registered sex offenders
- ◆ Assisted in more than 2,200 NCIC entries
- ◆ Coordinated 897 property checks

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 2022, this unit did the following:

- ◆ Responded to more than 22,400 requests for records
- ◆ Expunged more than 3,400 criminal records
- ◆ Conducted more than 28,000 records validations
- ◆ 1 SLED audit in 2022

-5%

In 2022, there was a 5% decrease in the amount of records requests compared to 2021.

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.

+16%
INCREASE

WORK TICKETS
CLOSED SINCE 2021

In 2022, there were **4,086 work tickets closed**, compared to 3,315 tickets in 2021.

There was a **16% increase** in tickets from 2021.

During the year, the IT team worked on several initiatives. Part of its efforts included: a **complete replacement and upgrade to the Detention Center security cameras**, deployed 78 computer systems and five servers and provided approximately 340 hours of training and instruction (compared to 400 hours in 2021).

The IT department now manages more than 225 body worn cameras 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 one staff analyst. 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.

INDEX CRIME CATEGORY	2020	2021	2022
Aggravated Assault	472	500	596
Arson	24	21	18
Burglary	1,026	819	793
Larceny	3,857	3,549	3,543
Motor Vehicle Theft	863	667	696
Murder	10	12	6
Rape	58	57	53
Robbery	85	64	66

Index crime totals increased by 1.4% from 2021 to 2022 but are still down by nearly 10% from 2020. Aggravated assaults and motor vehicle thefts drove this increase. Arson, burglary, murder and rape were down in 2022.

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 was 540 in 2022. There has been a 3% increase from 2021 to 2022 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.



3%
ADP
in 2022

540

AVERAGE DAILY JAIL
POPULATION IN 2022



With the increase in ADP numbers, 2022 saw an increase in **inmate-on-officer assaults** to 19. There were 13 in 2021.

DAILY
POPULATION



The mission of the Lexington County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council 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 since 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.

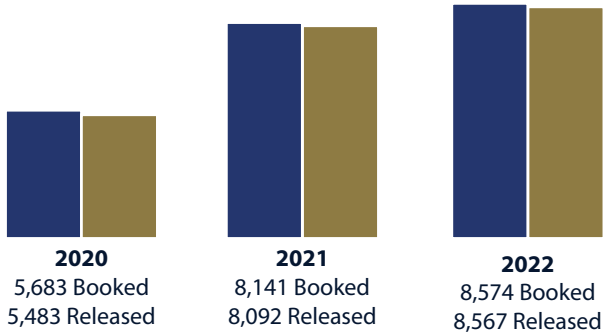
While infection control protocols enacted during the pandemic affected detention population levels, the work of the council had prompted a downward trend in average daily population. Since the formation of the council, the data shows a consistent downward trend.

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.

= 11.25 INMATES = FEDERAL = OTHER = GENERAL SESSIONS

BOOKING

The Booking Unit is where all the “ins” and “outs” take place. In 2022, the Booking Unit received an average of 25 inmates per day and managed about the same amount of releases.



- ◆ 72% of inmates booked in 2022 were **residents** of Lexington or Richland counties
- ◆ 28% of inmates booked were **residents** of a county outside the Midlands

Professional staff members focus on the administrative tasks in booking, leaving the available certified detention deputies to focus on managing the inmates.

HOUSING

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.

- ◆ **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.

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 and administrative staff 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 2022, **1,581 on-site visits** were managed by the unit. 13,428 visits were conducted by **remote video visitation**. This is a total of 15,009 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.

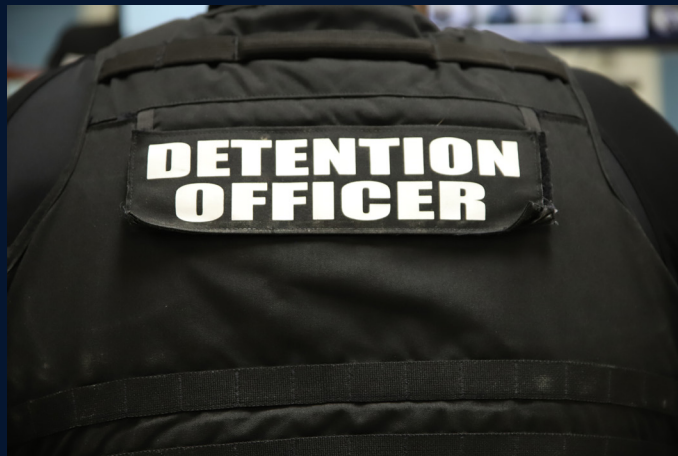
The unit completed **100 general medical transports** and **38 E.R. transports** in 2022.

The unit completed **83 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.



ABOVE: Lexington County Detention Center Sergeant James Davenport working in booking, May 2022.

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 1,107 courts in session
- ◆ Conducted nearly 2,500 prisoner transports
- ◆ Scanned more than 119,700 packages
- ◆ Provided 2,136 hours of magistrate security hours
- ◆ Prohibited entry of more than 1,800 dangerous items from the courthouse



Knives are the most brought-in prohibited item. In 2022, there were **1,035 knives** detected by court security.

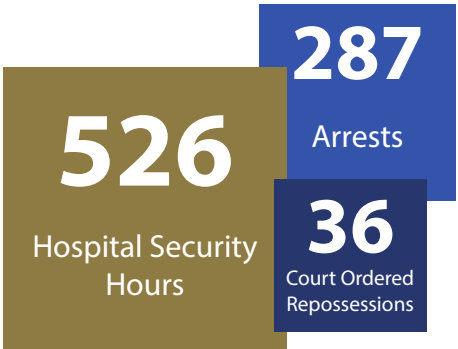
SERVICES

Judicial Services comprises several different teams, both sworn and administrative, that work together to support safe and efficient judicial operations. This division is overseen 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 2022, we served more than **97% of the civil process** demands received.

- ◆ Resolved nearly **4,200** arrest warrants
- ◆ Handled **444** court-ordered evictions (up 23% from 2021)
- ◆ Received **15,142** civil process orders and served **14,691**
- ◆ Provided more than **200** hours of County Council security (decreased 50% from 2021)



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**.



614 
ARRESTS

9%
DECREASE IN ARRESTS
vs. 675 in 2021

ARREST WARRANT ATTEMPTS: **2,031**

ARREST WARRANTS SERVED: **1,151**

TRANSPORTS: **101**

TRANSPORT HOURS: **795**

ADOPTED CASES: **314**



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 **13,190 tickets or warnings** in 2022, compared to 11,500 in 2021. This is a **nearly 15% increase from 2021**. 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.

2022 TICKETS	F	M
ASIAN	18	31
BLACK	695	1,064
NATIVE AMERICAN	4	12
OTHER	4	17
WHITE	1,438	2,342

2021 TICKETS	F	M
ASIAN	14	40
BLACK	549	1,000
NATIVE AMERICAN	1	9
OTHER	4	2
WHITE	1,074	2,087

Out of more than 332,800 contacts with citizens in 2022, less than 4% resulted in a ticket or warning. Less than 1.5% resulted in an arrest. Less than 1% resulted in a need to use force.

ARRESTS

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.

2022 ARRESTS	2022	2021
ASIAN	12	8
BLACK	1,460	1,605
NATIVE AMERICAN	2	3
OTHER	5	11
WHITE	3,395	3,732

4,874

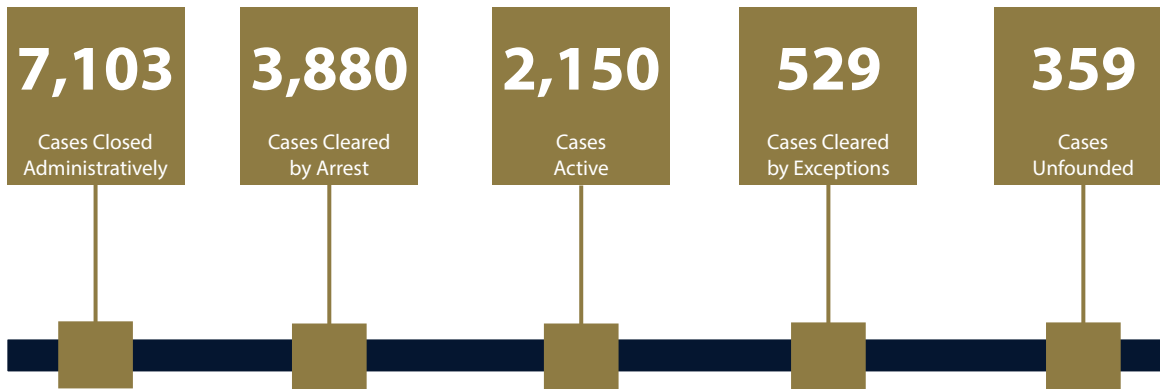
TOTAL
CUSTODIAL
ARRESTS

Out of more than **332,8000 contacts** with citizens in 2022, less than **4% resulted in a ticket** or warning. Less than 1.5% resulted in an arrest. Less than 1% resulted in a need to use force.

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."

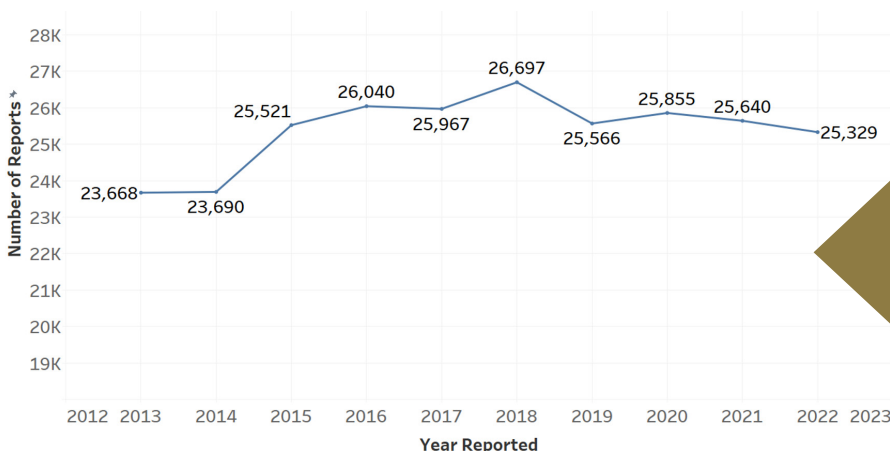


Cases are assigned a status of "unfounded" when the investigation determines a crime or the events originally alleged to have happened did not occur.

Overall, case clearance for index crimes in 2022 remains high at 32%.

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.



-1.2%

DECREASE IN REPORTS
WRITTEN IN ONE-YEAR
PERIOD

25,640 in 2021 vs.
25,329 in 2022

+2%

INCREASE IN REPORTS
ASSIGNED FOR
FOLLOW-UP

13,442 in 2021 vs.
14,021 in 2022

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

CALLS FOR SERVICE

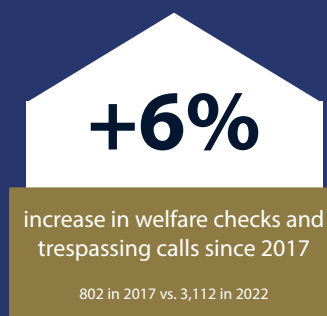
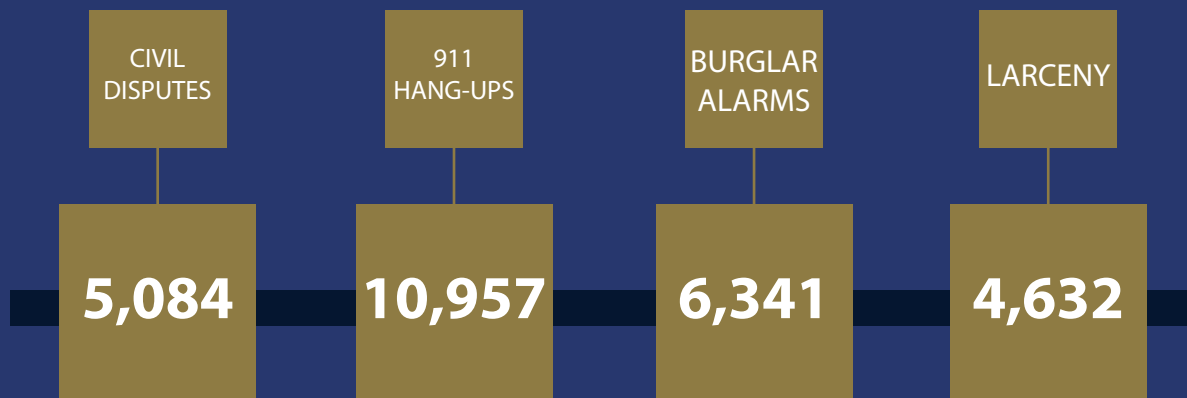
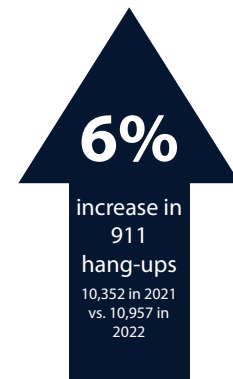
Calls received at the **Lexington County Communications Center** are categorized by a general nature type at the time of dispatch, based on the primary concerns relayed by the caller.

- ◆ Burglar alarms, civil disputes, 911 hang-ups and larceny are all top call types year-after-year.
- ◆ 911 hang-ups have nearly doubled since 2017 and increased nearly 6% between 2021 and 2022.
- ◆ Welfare checks and trespassing complaints have also increased since 2017 nearly triple at 3112 in 2022. (vs 802 in 2017)



Calls for service include any call or activity recorded that originate from a citizen or person other than an LCSD employee. **Administrative demands** (35,537 in 2022) that do not otherwise fit neatly into a specific call type but are the result of citizen demands for service include requests for phone calls to inquire about an investigation or ask questions about the court process.

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



MAJOR CRIMES

This unit comprises **49 sworn and administrative 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
- ◆ One crime scene investigations team
- ◆ One evidence management team
- ◆ One sex offender registry team

In 2022, Major Crimes Detectives investigated **2,360 cases** and obtained **1,002 warrants with 733 being felony warrants**. In 2022, the Major Crimes Unit investigated six homicides, all of which were ruled as murders, with one murder/suicide.

The Major Crimes Unit investigated and reviewed an array of different criminal offenses in 2022 to include **six murders, 111 deaths under investigation, 52 robberies, 273 aggravated assaults, 245 criminal sexual conducts, 65 criminal domestic violence assaults** of a high and aggravated nature and **485 domestic assaults**.

In 2022, the Lexington County Sheriff's Department's Victim Services continues to expand their services beyond general victim services. They have continued specialized services for the elderly and domestic violence victims as well as juvenile victims. Victim Services assisted **9,452 victims of 8,898 crimes** were reviewed by the unit.

1.32

DOMESTIC ASSAULTS
EVERY DAY

12,445

ITEMS OF EVIDENCE
COLLECTED IN 2022

801

LABS COMPLETED BY
CRIME SCENE
INVESTIGATORS

+4%

INCREASE IN CASES IN ONE-YEAR PERIOD

2,032 in 2020 v. 2,268 in 2021

-3%

DECREASE IN FELONY WARRANTS
IN ONE-YEAR PERIOD

763 in 2021 vs. 733 in 2022

-7%

DECREASE IN EVIDENCE
RECEIVED IN ONE-YEAR PERIOD

13,377 in 2021 vs. 12,445 in 2022

NARCOTICS

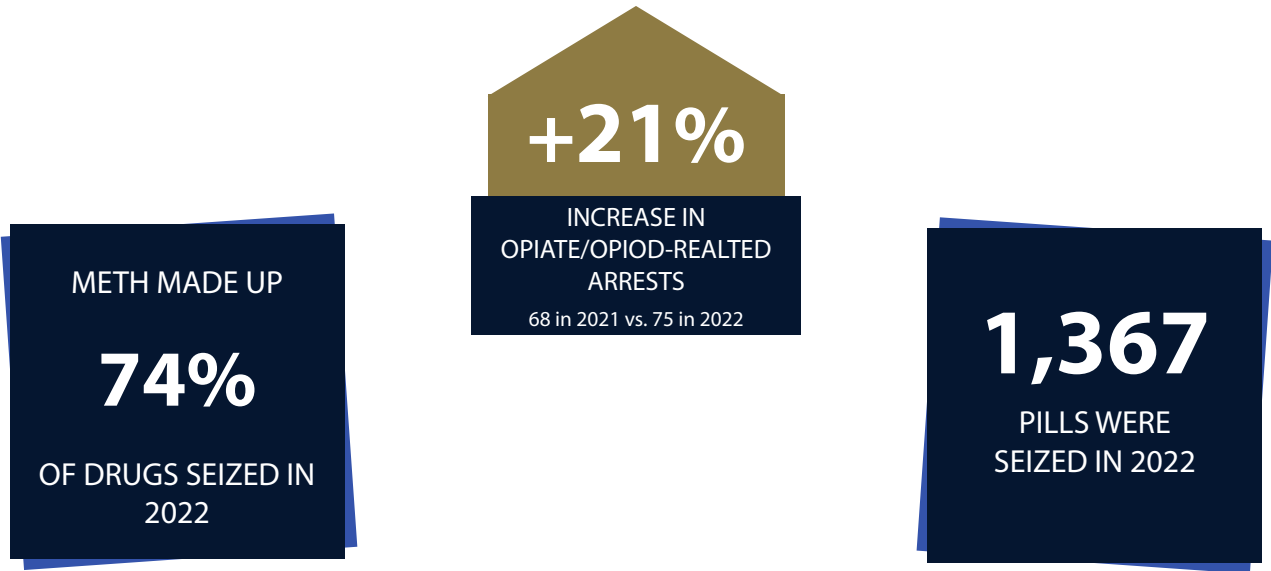
The **Lexington County Multi-Agency Narcotics Enforcement Team** comprises 27 employees with a mixture of sworn county deputies, sworn municipal police officers and administrative staff. Multiple officers work in Task Force Officer status for federal agencies including the ATF, DEA, FBI and U.S. Marshals Service.

In 2022, the team investigated **659 cases** and obtained **532 warrants** with **482 being felony warrants**. That is an **18% decrease** from 2021.

The team seized **\$132,575.00, \$34,000 in prepaid visa cards, two vehicles, 167 firearms and 161 controlled buys**. Along with this the unit also seized **887 pounds of marijuana, 93.2 pounds of methamphetamine, 7.54 kilograms of cocaine, 4.8 ounces of crack cocaine, 18.2 ounces of heroin and 13.43 pounds of fentanyl**.

There was a substantial increase in narcotic overdoses in 2022. There were **720 reported overdoses** resulting in **57 deaths and 397 doses of Narcan** administered by law enforcement and EMS. The increase in reported overdoses in 2022 (41.7%) might be a result of more accurate reporting conducted by EMS and the Coroner’s Office.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
ASSIGNED CASES	699	631	793	954	659
TOTAL WARRANTS OBTAINED	482	313	507	637	532
FELONY WARRANTS	353	271	443	559	482
MISDEMEANOR WARRANTS	129	42	64	78	50



DRONE UNIT

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

More than **640 flights for about 197 missions** were flown in 2022, primarily in support of finding missing persons and fugitive apprehension.



ABOVE: Cayce Police Department requested the drone unit to assist in finding a wanted suspect.



Selective Traffic Enforcement Program

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.

TRAFFIC UNIT

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 eight 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 days, nights and weekends.

79

hours worked for
the Selective
Traffic
Enforcement
Program

596

hours worked for
radar saturation
to address
resident
complaints

3,062

TOTAL
TRAFFIC
VIOLATIONS

1,779

SPEEDING
TICKETS

1,443

TOTAL
TRAFFIC
WARNINGS

2,124

CALLS
FOR
SERVICE

104

DUI*
ARRESTS

103

DUS**
ARRESTS

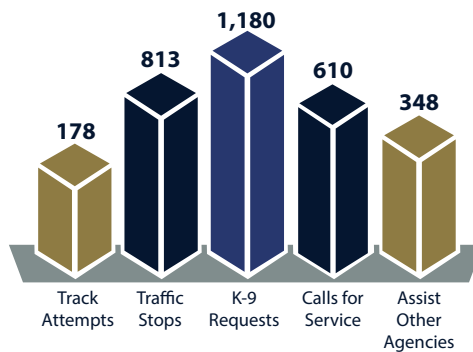
*DUI = Driving Under the Influence **DUS = Driving Under Suspension

K-9 UNIT

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

- ◆ **Four K-9s** are German shepherds, Belgian malinois, and shepherd-malinois mixes used for tracking/apprehension and narcotics detection
- ◆ **One K-9** is a Belgian malinois used to track/apprehend and is explosive sniff-trained
- ◆ **One K-9** is a bloodhound used to track missing and endangered persons
- ◆ **One K-9** is a German shorthaired pointer used for tracking, article searching and narcotics detection
- ◆ **One sergeant** and **two master deputies** manage the five remaining handlers

In 2022, the unit had **one K-9, Vilo, retire.**



3,226

SELF-INITIATED
CALLS

48

PRESENTATIONS

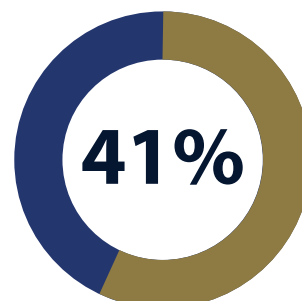
101

K-9 CALL OUTS

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 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, such as barricaded individuals, that might need additional assistance and tools. 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 2022, the team completed **245 hours of training**, which include 16 hours of routine training a month.

- ◆ Completed 135 hours of operation
- ◆ Served in 22 operations
- ◆ Forced entry eight times
- ◆ Enacted use of force four times



41% of SWAT operations were search warrants in 2022.

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**.

THIS PROGRAM
SAVED LEXINGTON
COUNTY TAXPAYERS

\$192,828

vs. \$28,191 in 2022

5,687

TOTAL HOURS
WORKED

vs. 1,140 in 2022

DRUG TAKE-BACK

This program allows people to **dispose of old or unwanted medications safely**. With drop-boxes at 521 Gibson Road, Lexington 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, Columbia (business hours)
- ◆ South Region drop-box: 102 Airport Road, Pelion (business hours)
- ◆ West Region drop-box: 4079-D Augusta Highway, Gilbert (business hours)

April 2022
198 lbs

+

July 2022
68.8 lbs

+

October 2022
211 lbs

=

Total 2022
477.8 lbs

PHOTOS



LEFT: Sgt. Applegate talked to students at Summer Connections Camp about what it's like to be a K-9 deputy, July 2022.

RIGHT: MD Natale rode Abraham the Camel at Gaston's National Night Out event, August 2022.



LEFT: SRO Isgett shopped with a child during Shop With A Cop just before Christmas, December 2022.

PHOTOS

RIGHT: First Baptist Church of Lexington provided home-cooked meals to our deputies and their families, February 2022.



LEFT: RD Apgar jumped in the dunk tank at Relay for Life in memory of our late co-worker Beverly Smith, May 2022.

RIGHT: Senior Investigator Yancey stamps unique numbers into trailers as a new method of theft prevention, March 2022.





LEXINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
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ANNUAL REPORT 2022

