

*HANCOCK COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE*

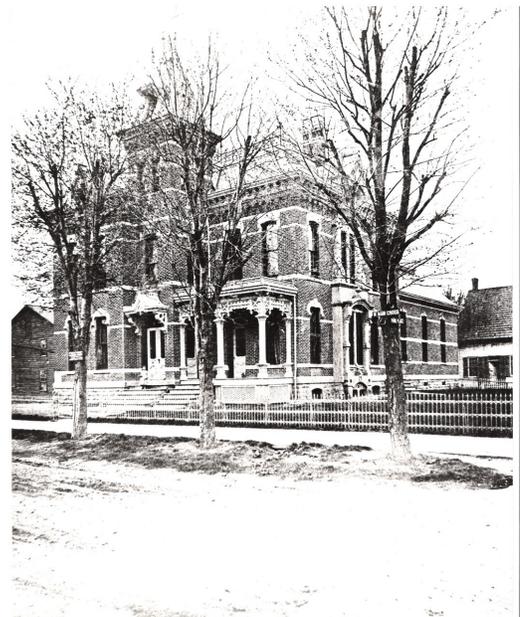
*A COMMUNITY ORIENTED  
POLICING AGENCY*



*2020  
ANNUAL REPORT*



*Hancock County Justice Center  
Built in 1989*



Hancock County Jail Circa 1890

*A Message From*  
*Michael E. Heldman*  
*Hancock County Sheriff*



Dear Citizens of Hancock County:

As another year draws to a close, we would like to thank our citizens for their support for law enforcement and the Hancock County Sheriff's Office. It means more than you know to my employees and myself to know we have the backing of our community.

In 2020, the COVID 19 pandemic changed a lot of our procedures. The staff did a great job of adapting and have persevered.

This past year saw changes within our organization. Chief Deputy Roger Treece, Lt. Cris Bell and Detective Lyle Harvitt all retired in 2020. With over 100 years of combined service, they will be missed.

We are looking forward to 2021 and the challenges it will present. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to continuing to serve you in the upcoming year.

Sincerely,

*Michael E. Heldman*

Michael E. Heldman, Sheriff





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# *The Mission of the Hancock County Sheriff's Office*

*We are committed to the people of our community and our profession. We are driven to provide service with understanding, respond with compassion and perform all duties with integrity.*

## *Values*

*Teamwork: Strengthen links with all community members through open communications and a commitment to service. Address crime trends utilizing crime prevention theories in order to reduce crime.*

*Integrity: Adhering to strict, unequivocal standards of conduct in keeping with our ethical obligations.*

*Service: Providing a professional approach to the needs of the community.*



## 2020 Highlights

### COVID 19

The Hancock County Sheriff's Office maintained normal operations and provided full service to the citizens of Hancock County during the COVID shutdowns and restrictions. Some of the actions taken by the Office to ensure protection of employees, inmates and the general public included:

- ◆ Developed new protocol for intake of prisoners to protect inmates and staff from contracting COVID.
- ◆ Developed new protocol for employees (wearing masks, washing hands before clocking in, taking temperatures and answering COVID questions, etc.) when reporting for work.
- ◆ Developed protocol for court entrances to screen all persons entering the buildings to help prevent the spread of COVID.
- ◆ Purchased UV units for disinfecting cells and office areas of the building.

- ◆ The Sheriff's Office continued working with Six Disciplines of Findlay to develop and update our strategic plan. Several meetings were held with staff members, reviewing our 2019 achievements, assessing our 2020 goals and starting to look towards 2021. We are also looking toward the future years for planning. We will be continuing to work on goals and reassess our operations on a yearly basis.

- ◆ The Sheriff's Office continued utilizing grants for traffic safety. Utilizing grant funding helps reduce funds needed from the county general fund.

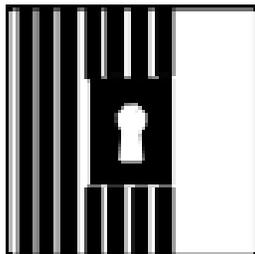
- ◆ Installation of the new jail cell doors was completed in 2020.

## 2020 Highlights

The Jail Study was started in 2019 and continued into 2020. Many meetings were held with stakeholders in the Criminal Justice System. The study collected information from all aspects of the justice system to help determine the future needs for Hancock County. This study will make recommendations not only for future jail expansion, but also for programming and other services that will be needed in coming years. The study should be finalized in 2021. Discussions can then be started on how to move forward with the information provided by the study.

*The Sheriff's Office maintained 100% compliance with the annual State Jail Inspection, despite overcrowding issues. This marks 22 out of 23 years of 100% compliance. The only year we were not 100% compliant was due to overpopulation on the day of the inspection.*

A new body scanner for the jail was ordered at the end of 2019. It was received and installed in 2020. The scanner replaced an outdated scanner with one that is much more sensitive. This should add to the safety of both employees and inmates.





# 2020 Employee Awards



## Peer Nominated Awards

### Deputy Sheriff of the Year

*Spencer Cooper*

### Corrections Officer of the Year

*Christina Shafer*

### 110% Award

*Fred Smith*

*Dalton Abell*

### Above & Beyond Award

*Rodney Griffin*

*Katie Wood*

*Congratulations to all award winners.  
Your dedication to the Sheriff's Office  
is very much appreciated.*

*Without our employees, we could not "get the job done".*



# 2020 Employee Awards



## Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association Awards

### BSSA Lifesaving Award:

**Justin Ritter**

### BSSA Individual Commendation:

**Lauri Lowden  
Katie Wood  
Megan Warnimont  
John Jenkins  
Christina Shafer  
Jennifer Evans  
Lance Butler**

### BSSA Certificate of Merit:

**Justin Ritter  
Katie Wood**

### BSSA Office Citation:

**Steven Lowery**

The BSSA awards are awarded based on the following criteria:

- Lifesaving Award: Awarded to all officers directly responsible for the saving of a human life.
- Commendation Award: For individual(s) who have performed efficient and valuable service to the office, either carrying out a specific task or in the performance of general duties.
- Certificate of Merit: Outstanding performance of duty under unusual or difficult conditions. The action need not involve exposure to physical danger but must involve the protection of life or property and involve unusual thoroughness, conscientiousness, determination and initiative.
- Office Citation: Performance of a difficult task involving personal risk to the employee or because of the actions of the employee, a serious crime is prevented or the perpetrator is apprehended.



# 2020 Employee Awards



## **Years of Service:**

### 5 Years

Robin May  
John Snodgrass  
Hilary Ruppright  
Katie Wood



### 10 Years

Kris Otto  
Steven Lowery

*Did you know? Each employee receives a star for every 5 years they are employed at the office. These stars are worn on the uniform shirt just above the right breast pocket.*

### 15 Years

T J Brooks  
Jim Saltzman

### 20 Years

Todd Bucher  
Jason Seem

### 25 Years

Jill Schmutz

### 30 Years

Bill Laveglia

## **No Sick Leave Used**

Rodney Griffin  
Kevin Keefe  
Ryan Kidwell  
Doug McCartney  
Mike McGuire  
Josh Peters  
Jake Powell  
Mark Price  
Justin Ritter

**HANCOCK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**

**SHERIFF**

**Fiscal Officer**

**Captain**

**HR**

**Lieutenant/Enforcement**

**Director/  
Transport**

**Lieutenant/Jail Administrator**

**Specialist**

**Lieutenant/Jail Operations**

12

**Enf Road  
Sergeants (4)**

**Detective  
Sgt**

**Dispatch  
Sergeant**

**Corrections  
Sergeants (6)**

**Acct Clerk**

**Enf Clerk (2)**

**Road  
Deputies (16)**

**Detectives  
(3)**

**Communication  
Officers (10)**

**Transport  
Deputies (6)**

**Clerks  
( 2 FT, 1 PT)**

**Corrections  
Officers (34)**

**Property Room  
(1)**

**SRO (5)**

**Detectives**

**Crime Preven-  
tion (1)**

**Drug Unit (2)**

**TW Clerk**

**Cleaning  
(1 PT)**

# Financial Data

Funds for the Sheriff's Office are allocated through the Hancock County Commissioners. Each year a request is submitted for funding. The Commissioners gather these requests from all county offices. Requests are then compiled and totals compared to estimated revenues. If requests exceed estimated revenues, the offices are asked to reduce their requests. Any changes needed during the year must be approved by the Commissioners through resolution.

The majority of funding for the Sheriff comes through the General Fund. There are a few special funds set up based on Ohio Revised Code (ex: CCW, Commissary, METRICH funds, grant funds, etc.) that receive and spend funds based on specific laws.

Analysis reports are done monthly and the budget is constantly being monitored to assure that the budget is being adhered to. The budgeting process for the upcoming year starts early each year and is fine tuned based on current activity, until Budget Hearings are held in early November.

All financial records are public and can be viewed at any time. Please feel free to call the Office with any questions regarding the stewardship of your tax dollars.

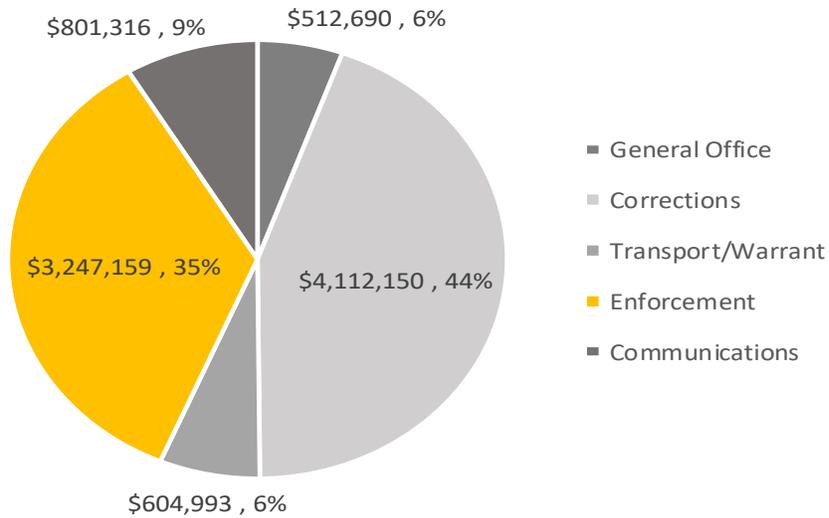
Funds Received	2018	2019	2020
Paper Service Fees	\$ 95,782	\$ 66,902	\$ 79,456
Prisoner Housing	\$ 880,161	\$ 575,209	\$ 382,826
Other Misc. Receipts	<u>\$ 119,929</u>	<u>\$ 171,920</u>	<u>\$ 167,502</u>
<b>Total Deposited into General Fund</b>	<b>\$ 1,095,872</b>	<b>\$ 814,031</b>	<b>\$ 629,784</b>
Contracted Security Services	\$ 181,696	\$ 222,792	\$ 244,279
Drug Fines	\$ 7,594	\$ 6,989	\$ 3,291
DUI Traffic Fines	\$ 1,839	\$ 950	\$ 2,132
Commissary Receipts - Jail	\$ 111,511	\$ 132,082	\$ 123,435
Concealed Carry Weapon Permits	\$ 70,578	\$ 43,815	\$ 85,397
Arson & SORN Registrations	\$ 50	\$ 225	\$ 250
METRICH Funds	\$ 17,305	\$ 9,395	\$ 31,254
Grant Receipts	<u>\$ 85,100</u>	<u>\$ 79,486</u>	<u>\$ 83,409</u>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 1,571,545</b>	<b>\$ 1,309,765</b>	<b>\$ 1,203,231</b>

# Financial Data

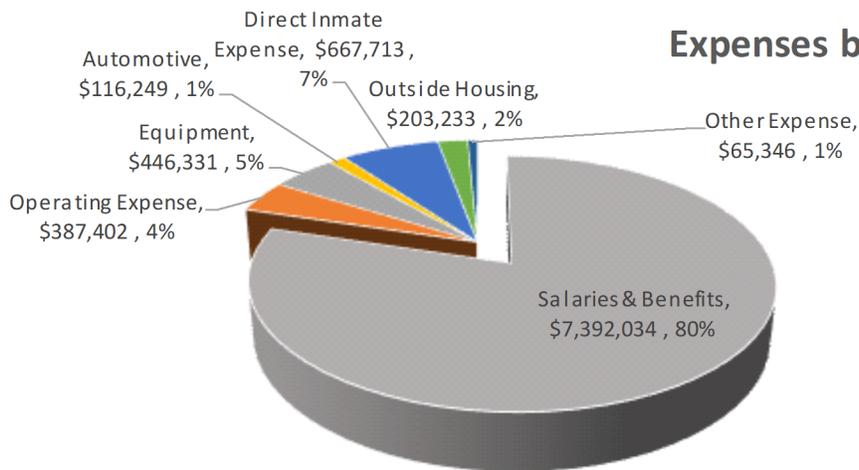
Expenditures	2018	2019	2020
<b>General Office</b>			
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 386,605	\$ 407,427	\$ 349,450
Operating Expense	\$ 76,407	\$ 85,365	\$ 94,873
Equipment	\$ 2,537	\$ 53,263	\$ 3,021
Other Expense	<u>\$ 48,656</u>	<u>\$ 36,646</u>	<u>\$ 65,346</u>
<b>Total General Office</b>	<b>\$ 514,205</b>	<b>\$ 582,701</b>	<b>\$ 512,690</b>
<b>Corrections</b>			
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 2,888,878	\$ 2,930,487	\$ 3,061,066
Operating Expense	\$ 76,995	\$ 144,079	\$ 138,735
Inmate Supplies	\$ 13,865	\$ 15,832	\$ 16,169
Inmate Medical	\$ 434,948	\$ 367,170	\$ 466,354
Inmate Meals	\$ 188,055	\$ 194,449	\$ 185,190
Equipment	\$ 2,988	\$ 23,643	\$ 41,403
Outside Housing	<u>\$ 489,781</u>	<u>\$ 542,753</u>	<u>\$ 203,233</u>
<b>Total Corrections</b>	<b>\$ 4,095,510</b>	<b>\$ 4,218,413</b>	<b>\$ 4,112,150</b>
<b>Transport Warrant</b>			
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 550,090	\$ 631,678	\$ 604,785
Operating Expenses	<u>\$ 579</u>	<u>\$ 273</u>	<u>\$ 208</u>
<b>Total Transport Warrant</b>	<b>\$ 550,669</b>	<b>\$ 631,951</b>	<b>\$ 604,993</b>
<b>Enforcement</b>			
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 2,537,785	\$ 2,559,957	\$ 2,599,091
Operating Expense	\$ 119,799	\$ 245,776	\$ 140,266
Automotive	\$ 131,513	\$ 121,336	\$ 116,249
Equipment	<u>\$ 407,192</u>	<u>\$ 74,323</u>	<u>\$ 391,553</u>
<b>Total Enforcement</b>	<b>\$ 3,196,289</b>	<b>\$ 3,001,392</b>	<b>\$ 3,247,159</b>
<b>Communications</b>			
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 798,763	\$ 801,640	\$ 777,642
Operating Expense	\$ 20,500	\$ 19,989	\$ 13,320
Equipment	<u>\$ 3,192</u>	<u>\$ 1,668</u>	<u>\$ 10,354</u>
<b>Total Communications</b>	<b>\$ 822,455</b>	<b>\$ 823,297</b>	<b>\$ 801,316</b>
<b>Total Sheriff General Fund</b>	<b><u>\$ 9,179,128</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 9,257,754</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 9,278,308</u></b>

# Financial Data

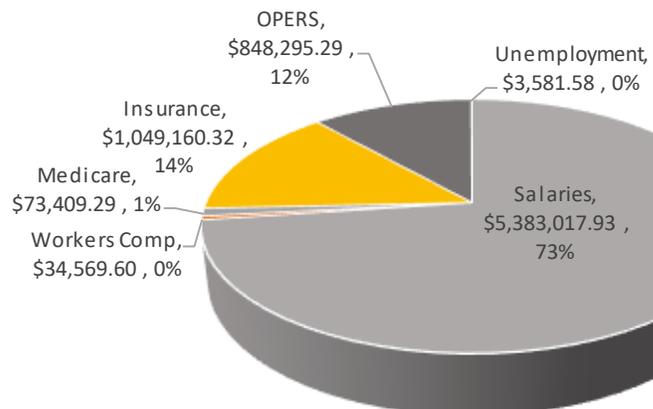
## Expenses by Area



## Expenses byType



## Salaries & Benefits Breakdown



# Corrections

**The Hancock County Justice Center is a 98 bed Adult,  
Male and Female, Full Service Jail.**

*A Full Service Jail is primarily used to detain adults for more than 120 hours, or 5 days.*

COVID 19 affected many of the jail statistics for 2020. Population was reduced to accommodate state mandates for jails during the pandemic, including distancing. Along with the pandemic, we had several major maintenance projects under-way. Cell blocks must be emptied when work is being done for safety reasons, limiting space for inmates.

As well as fewer inmates, the programming was also limited, as outside program facilitators could not come into the jail. Some programs were able to be done via technology, but most suspended programs until the pandemic restrictions are lifted.

# of Prisoners Booked	1,561
# of Prisoners Released	1,596
Highest Population	136
Lowest Population	53
Average Daily Population	84
# of days Exceeded (98) Population	91

<b><u>Gender</u></b>		<b><u>Marital Status</u></b>	
Male	1,133	Married	269
Female	428	Single	1,114
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,561</b>	Divorced	143
		Widowed	34
<b><u>Felons</u></b>		<b><u>Offenses</u></b>	
Male	435	Violent	73
Female	135	Property	95
<b>Total</b>	<b>570</b>	Drug	410
		Alcohol	222
<b><u>Misdemeanors</u></b>		Fines & Costs	0
Male	650	Public Order Offenses	60
Female	279	Traffic	328
<b>Total</b>	<b>929</b>	Parole	49
		Child Support	62
<b><u>Age Groups</u></b>		Miscellaneous	519
Under 20	57	<b><u>Total Number of Recidivisms</u></b>	
21 - 24	168	1st Time	419
25 - 29	303	2 or 3 Times	302
30 - 39	566	4 or 5 Times	215
40 - Over	477	6 or 7 Times	131
		8 or 9 Times	90
<b><u>Race</u></b>		10 or More Times	404
White	1,163	<b><u>Meal Service</u></b>	
Black	280	# of Prisoner Meals Served	82,337
Hispanic	12		
Asian	9		
American Indian	6		
Other	1		

# Corrections

The jail offers many programs for inmates. Some of those include Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Narcotics Anonymous (NA), GED classes, and Domestic Violence Offender classes. There are Mental Health Counselors available 80 hours per week. During the pandemic, the Counselors are available off-site. Normally, they are on-site. They offer one-on-one counseling as well as group sessions for both low-risk and medium/high risk offenders, teaching and working with the inmates to improve their quality of life and make better choices after being released.

There are also religious services offered twice per month and Bible studies conducted weekly. There is a library available with paperback books available for loan. Each inmate is allowed 1/2 hour per week to spend in the library. The library books are donated by individuals and other organizations. Every inmate is allowed 5 hours of recreational time each week as well.

Medical services are also available when needed. Nurses are on staff 125 hours per week, with doctor visits available to inmates who need further medical attention.

## Mental Health

Matrix - Male	105
Matrix - Female	100
# of Mental Health Visits	1,255
Support Group CH - Male	47
Support Group CH - Female	47
# Offsite Mental Health Counseling	4

## General

Alcoholics Anonymous	2
GED	0
OT Program (Male)	106
OT Program (Female)	50
Dad's Coaching Clinic	37
Domestic Violence Class (Male)	14
Domestic Violence Class (Female)	11
Male NA	0
Female NA	0

## Library

Number of Visits	2,146
Number of Books Issued	2,289
Number of Bibles Issued	470

## Religious

Bible Study (Males)	41
Bible Study (Females)	32
Protestant Church Services	66
Female Catholic Visits	17

## Medical

Intake Screening by CCS*	1,325
Medical Requests	386
Phone Calls to Doctor	2
Office Transports (TW) (BVH per deputy)	25
Prison / Jail Transports	192
# Seen by Facility Doctor (sick call)	225
# Seen by Facility Nurse	327
Responded to Accidents	3
Number of TB Tests (ppd's)	381
TB Tested Positive (ppd's)	0
Daily Count Diabetics (diabetics only)	654
Number of Lab Tests (Lab Draws)	17
Mental Health Requests	763
Prescreener Called	5
# of Inmates on Prescriptions	407
# of Inmates on Psychotropic Prescriptions	368
# of Psych Prescriptions	368
# Inmates on Special Diets (diabetics only)	654
# Off-Site Medical Care (ER, Doctor, etc.)	25
# Off-Site Medical Care—Long term	3

## Inmate Worker Program

# of Male Prisoners	240
# of Female Prisoners	121
# of Outside Work Details	3
# of Car Washes/Waxes Completed	1

# Housing Prisoners Outside of Hancock County

A lot of discussion has been, and will continue to be held regarding housing prisoners in other county facilities to relieve the overcrowding in Hancock County. Below is a brief compilation of statistics for the past 4 years. Over those 4 years, we have invested over \$1.7 million dollars housing elsewhere. This is only the financial burden. The logistics of scheduling, communication between the courts, the jail and the transport units, the increased need for manpower, and the wear on vehicles are all additional factors that need to be considered. Other concerns are the safety of both inmates and officers when there is constant overcrowding and movement of inmates. The atmosphere of the jail and the overall mix of inmates is vastly different than it was 15 to 20 years ago. We must continue to assess needs of the institution as a whole, including the human factor, to keep up with the changing demands of incarceration in Hancock County.

2020 and the COVID 19 pandemic saw outside housing eliminated until the pandemic is over. Other facilities no longer allowed inmates from outside counties to be housed in their facilities to reduce the risk of spreading the virus. As was seen in larger facilities, an outbreak in any facility could be catastrophic. Statistics reflect this event. Once the restrictions are lifted, outside housing will again become an option.

<u>TRANSPORTATION:</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Inmates transported out:	282	347	265	83
Inmates returned:	268	269	291	105
Total # of trips:	169	188	209	57
Miles driven:	9,400	13,393	17,094	4,485
Mileage cost:	\$ 9,537	\$12,659	\$ 16,261	\$ 4,542
Hours of transport:	316	384	463	132
Cost for Deputy time:	<u>\$12,186</u>	<u>\$12,410</u>	<u>\$ 15,830</u>	<u>\$ 4,732</u>
Total Cost for mileage and time:	\$21,723	\$25,069	\$ 32,091	\$ 9,274
 <u>COST TO HOUSE:</u>				
Cost paid to institutions:	\$442,635	\$497,635	\$531,620	\$147,375
Total bed days:	6,963	8,261	9,524	2,640
 <u>TOTAL YEARLY COST:</u>	 <u>\$ 464,358</u>	 <u>\$ 522,704</u>	 <u>\$ 563,711</u>	 <u>\$156,649</u>



# Transport / Warrant

One of the main duties of the Transport division is transport of prisoners to various court hearings, other institutions, medical appointments, etc. This includes both adults and juveniles, from all courts, including probate court. They are also tasked with returning prisoners from other jurisdictions, including out of state.

## Transports

Adult Escorts	906
Institution Transports	108
Total Adult Transports	171
Adult Transport Time	327.75
Mileage	12,297

Juvenile Transport Trips	88
# of Juveniles Transported	99
Juvenile Transport Time	370.75
Mileage	5,935

Probate Transports	5
Probate Transport time	6.25
Mileage	211

## Extraditions

# of Extraditions	1
Extradition Transport Time	9.25
Mileage	514

Other duties of Transport / Warrant include registration for various crimes, as well as civilian and court-ordered juvenile fingerprinting. Concealed Carry permits also take a large portion of the group's time:

## Sex Offender Registration

SORN Hours	198
Adult Registrations:	
Tier I	82
Tier II	123
Tier III	116
Juvenile Registrations:	
Tier I	0
Tier II	8
Tier III	9
<b>Total SORN Registrations</b>	<b>338</b>

## Arson Registry

6

## Civilian Fingerprints

Webcheck	185
Manual	98
<b>Total Civilian Fingerprints</b>	<b>283</b>

## Juvenile Fingerprints

19

## Concealed Carry Permits

CCW Hours	865
CCW Permits Issued	1,279

The Sheriff's Office is bound by the Ohio Revised Code to have charge of the courts, which includes providing security to all court buildings. This entails many hours spent in various buildings:

## Courthouse Security (Hours)

Common Pleas Court	219.0
West Entrance	2,133.9
BMV/CSEA	16.8
Juvenile Court	1,908.9
Findlay Municipal Court	180.3
In House Court	102.0
Total Security Hours	4,632.9

## West Entrance Traffic

56,765

# Enforcement

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The Hancock County Road Patrol is responsible for patrolling the roads for traffic control, handling accidents, and responding to any calls for service received by the dispatch center. They are the main point of contact for the Sheriff's Office with the public.

Deputies wrote up 3,012 incident reports. Incidents can include any type of activity , including mailbox damage, trespassing, burglary, domestic disturbances, alarm calls, animal complaints and disabled vehicles, just to name a few.

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Sheriff's Deputies drove a total of 624,572 miles while on patrol, using 44,162 gallons of gasoline. Total fuel costs were \$ 73,306, averaging 1.66 per gallon, down from \$2.19 per gallon in 2019.

Communications is a vital part of the Road Patrol. The Sheriff's Office received over 44,280 phone calls in 2020 . Calls involve complaints, accidents, weather questions, and many other general inquiries.

Dispatchers must filter these calls to determine if action is needed, then convey the information to the proper personnel within the office to be followed up on.

Dispatchers are also a lifeline to deputies. They always know where a deputy is and will check in on them periodically if they have not been heard from within a certain time frame.

# Enforcement

In 2020, Hancock County (including Sheriff's Office, State Highway Patrol, and Findlay Police Department) handled 2,087 crashes. Of those crashes, 9 involved fatalities, 369 involved injuries, and 1,709 involved property damage only.

441 accidents involved deer, 68 involved alcohol, 28 involved drugs and 229 involved occupants not wearing seat belts. Speeding caused 289 accidents, while Failure to Yield was a factor in another 289.

*The Hancock County Sheriff's Office handled 766 of these accidents.*

## Did you know?

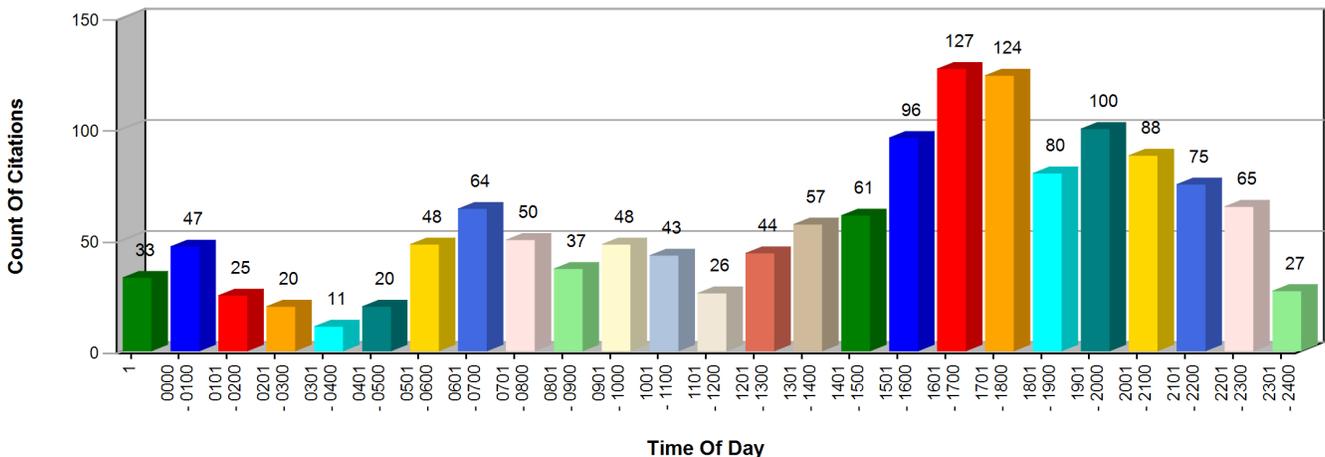
During the year 2020, the highest number of accidents occurred:  
 Month of the Year: November followed closely by December  
 Day of the Week: Wednesday, Friday came in second  
 Hour of the Day: From 5:00 to 5:59 p.m.

*Distracted driving continues to be a concern of Hancock County Deputies. In 2020, 77 accidents involved distracted driving.*

*Distracted driving is any activity that diverts motorist attention, including talking or texting on a phone, eating and drinking, or adjusting a stereo or navigation system.*

*The Hancock County Sheriff's Office issued 1,416 citations during 2020.*

### Count Of Citations By Time Of Day



# Enforcement

## Detective Unit

The Detective unit consists of a sergeant and five detectives, two of which are assigned to the METRICH Task Force. The unit is also responsible for juvenile assault and abuse cases, as well as all cases which require more in depth investigation than is provided by the road patrol. The detective unit was assigned 153 cases in 2020 and cleared 135, resulting in 54 arrests.

★ Sheriff's Line - Do not cross ★ Sheriff's Line - Do not cross ★

## METRICH Drug Task Force

The HCSO Detective Unit is part of a ten-county drug task force called METRICH. METRICH is one of the few de-centralized task forces in the State of Ohio promoting a Community Policing philosophy approach to task force operations. METRICH is also the largest drug task force in Ohio. The Sheriff's Office and the Findlay Police Department joined METRICH in October of 1999. METRICH is funded through the Office of Criminal Justice Services.

The METRICH unit opened 213 new cases in 2020 and closed 308; 12 search warrants were issued to the unit. There were 13 overdose death investigations.

The METRICH Unit seized \$17,255 cash and the following drugs:

Crack cocaine	72.6 grams
Cocaine	262.7 grams
Heroin/Fentanyl mix	158.8 grams
Methamphetamine	170.2 grams
LSD	135 doses



# Hancock County Sheriff's Office

## K-9 Units

	<u>K-9 Sonny &amp; Sgt. Miller</u>	<u>K-9 Charlie &amp; Dep. Brunswick</u>
Narcotics vehicle searches	18	19
Jail Searches	2	8
Jail Extractions	0	2
School Searches	2	6
Building Searches	0	1
Article Searches	1	3
Tracks	0	4
Area Searches	6	2
Aggression uses	6	0
Felony Warrants	0	1
ERT usages	0	0
Public Demonstrations	2	2
School/Classroom Demonstrations	0	20



The K-9's are supported financially by fundraising. Several items are sold, including K-9 calendars, challenge coins, clothing items and poker chips. Funds raised pay for vet visits, training items, and other incidentals for the units. This saves taxpayer money, and provides items that otherwise could not be purchased. Thank you for your continued support!

### Highlights from K9 Sonny & Sgt. Miller

K9 Sonny was called to a pursuit with the State Highway Patrol; they had stopped the suspect vehicle, however the occupants had thrown out items along CR 99 and needed assistance in locating those items. K9 Sonny was deployed and quickly located two baggies and roughly 25 syringes along the roadway in the grass.

K9 Sonny was called to the east side of the county for a Parole fugitive that had fled a residence. Upon arrival I deployed K9 Sonny to the area where, within 5 minutes of starting the search, he located the suspect. The suspect was called out and advised not to run; he quickly gave up and laid down. He was turned over to Adult Parole.

### Highlights from K9 Charlie & Dep. Brunswick

K9 Charlie was requested to assist the Putnam County Sheriff's Office with a report of a missing 1-year-old. It was reported the property was surrounded by a cornfield and there was a pond on the property. The heat index was 88 degrees and K9 Charlie located a track in the cornfield. K9 Charlie located the child approximately 100 yards into the cornfield.

K9 Charlie was requested to assist a deputy on a traffic stop where he made a positive alert. A search revealed a loaded handgun, 66 grams of methamphetamine, 8 grams of heroin/fentanyl, 2 grams of crack cocaine, 1 gram of black tar heroin, and a digital scale.

K9 Charlie was requested to assist the Findlay Police Department on a traffic stop. K9 Charlie made a positive alert on the vehicle. Methamphetamine, heroin, and over one hundred hypodermic needles were located.

**"Unfortunately 2020 was not kind to us on statistics for the year. Roughly seven to eight months of no traffic stops, and COVID 19 eliminated the options for demonstrations, public events and meet and greets with the K9 units which the public enjoys greatly. Hoping for a better 2021 K9 year." Sgt. Miller**

*K9 Sonny & K9 Charlie spend many hours training. They train with other area K-9 units, as well as training with our own Emergency Response Team. This assures they are always ready for a callout. The K-9 units also put on demos for the public, give demonstrations at schools, and are active on Facebook and Instagram.*



**Agencies requesting assistance:**

Ohio State Highway Patrol, Findlay Police Department, Wyandot County Sheriff's Office, Carey Police Department, Putnam County Sheriff's Office

## Crime Prevention at the Sheriff's Office

Crime Prevention Officer Corey Hartman plays many roles at the Sheriff's Office, representing the office and serving on multiple boards and committees, and planning and attending many events. There is also continued training and educational seminars to be attended.

However, like everyone else in 2020, things had to be altered due to the Coronavirus.

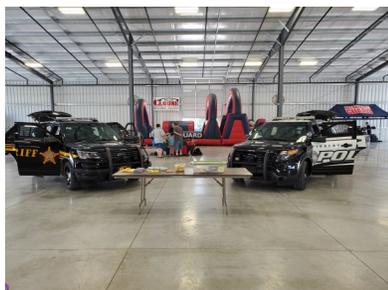
Deputy Hartman still attended meetings although not all were in person. He became very acquainted with working on Zoom. Deputy Hartman was still able to attend some monthly *Coffee with a Cop* events along with assisting the Village of Rawson with their Neighborhood Watch program. Below you can find the list of events, meetings and presentation which were able to be held during the 2020 calendar year, many prior to the COVID 19 restrictions being put into place.

### Community/Training Events:

- Coffee with a Cop
- Millstream Internet Safety
- Liberty Benton Holocaust survivor presentation
- Cory-Rawson School (BOOT) training
- Free to Fly (Human Trafficking Presentation BGHS)
- Sheriff's Office Mental Health Forum
- Responding to modern day slavery
- Birthday Parades
- National Night Out (Video)
- Child Passenger Safety Technician training
- Hancock County Leadership
- Children's Museum Project
- Amvets Trunk or Treat
- School Click it or Ticket Events

### Organization Meetings:

- OCPA District 2
- TRIAD
- Safety Expo
- Crime Prevention Association
- Safe Communities
- Project Lifesaver
- Crime Stoppers
- Opioid Disorders
- Neighborhood Watch
- Church Security Checks
- APS I Team
- Hancock County Community Partnership
- Hancock County Community Awareness
- Camp 911
- BIDPP (Blood borne Infectious Disease Prevention Program)
- Village of Arlington US 68 Project
- SART (Sexual Assault Response Team)
- G.A.P Regional Summit
- Domestic Violence Task Force
- TLC Committee
- Intelligence Liaison Officer (Homeland Security)
- Family Stability
- Boy Scouts Traffic Safety
- Welcome to a New Life
- Hancock Handle with Care
- United Way



## Support Staff & Civil Process

The Support Staff is comprised of 8 employees. The 3 Corrections Clerks are responsible for all paperwork produced in the jail. They process all commissary payments and accounts, maintain and store all inmate records, maintain policy and procedure manuals and assist the Corrections staff.

On the Enforcement level, the Support Staff is responsible for answering non-emergency phones, maintaining all records related to enforcement, processing all records requests, entering expungements, records retention, processing all civil papers and Sheriff's Sales processing.

The Administrative staff is responsible for payroll, human resource functions including interviewing, maintaining fixed asset records, receipt of monies, invoicing of services, accounts payable, budgeting, and financial analysis.

The Support Staff also organizes the Annual Banquet, prepares the Annual Report, collects statistics, manages the Web page and Facebook page, and all other office functions.

Civil Process is the processing of all paperwork related to civil and criminal court papers, including Sheriff's Sales, as received from the court system.

The Civil Clerk receives the papers, enters data into our system, and prepares papers to be served. The Road Patrol is then responsible for the service of the papers. Once served, papers are prepared and returned back to the respective courts. In 2020, the office received 1,902 civil papers to process, and 1,436 papers were served by the Road Patrol. There were 310 CPO's (Civil Protection Orders) issued by the court and served through the Sheriff's Office, up from 299 in 2019.

In 2019, the office received 32 Orders of Sale of real property. There were 29 appraisals performed and 22 made it through to sale without being withdrawn. When Sheriff's Sales are received, information is recorded, appraisals are scheduled, the sale dates are set and sales are performed. Once sold, entries are made to the court by the attorneys to finalize the sale, then the Sheriff's Office is responsible for getting the deeds recorded, distributing checks for the costs of the sale at the same time. Paperwork is returned to the court after each of these steps.

Due to changes in the Ohio Revised Code, some sales are now handled through Private Selling Officers (PSO). The Sheriff's Office receives the Sheriff Sale court order, processes the paperwork and conducts an appraisal for these sales, then returns the paperwork to the courts. We received 6 Sales of this type in 2020.

*Also of note:*

*The Records Clerk processed 1,403 reports,  
fulfilled 492 public records requests,  
and performed 1,125 local background checks for the public.*

# Special Units—Volunteer Organizations

## Y.I.E.L.D.:

Y.I.E.L.D. stands for “Young Individuals Educating Local Drivers”. This program started in 1999. Comprised of high school students from around the county, the program helps remind young drivers in our community of the dangers of drinking and driving, as well as texting and driving. The group’s goal is to provide informational programs to encourage youth to make good decisions and help prevent that simple mistake that could lead to a deadly mistake. Y.I.E.L.D. presents at all Hancock County high schools during prom season. Students watch a video, hear a short presentation and then have the opportunity to participate in demonstrations. Y.I.E.L.D. also participates in many community events, including *Safe Ride Home*, *Click It or Ticket* campaigns, Hancock County Fair, *National Night Out*, and *X the Text* (Health World, Allstate Insurance)



## Explorer Post:

The Law Enforcement Explorer Post has been active for close to 30 years at the Sheriff’s Office. Our advisor is Mike McGuire. The post meets twice a month. The Explorers assist with many events including the Balloon Fest, both craft shows held at the fairgrounds and the Hancock County Fair. Training is held at each meeting and members can ride along with deputies if they choose. This program allows teens to explore the profession and decide if this is a career path they would like to choose.



## Special Deputy Organization

The Special Deputy Organization is comprised of citizens who are trained to assist law enforcement agencies. This organization is responsible for security at the county schools’ football and basketball games and the Hancock County Fair.

These individuals log several thousand volunteer hours, including the hours at the Hancock County Fair. They also provide services for a variety of other special events around the county each year, including the Spring and Fall Craft Shows held at the fairgrounds. Other details included the Flag City Multi-sport Event, various parades and traffic details, school dances and other functions as requested.



## Posse

The Posse is a unit of the Special Deputy Organization and is utilized in parades and at the fair. The unit is also available for special duties which might arise where crowd control is an issue. The group also provided security presence in the Findlay Village Mall parking lot during the holiday shopping season.

Each certified posse member has had to undergo rigorous training with their horse and pass tests to determine that they and their mount are qualified to handle themselves in stressful situations. These volunteers provide their own gear and mount, and participate in all training on their own time and money.



## Underwater Search & Recovery Team

This unit is specially trained in underwater search and recovery, and has been utilized many times to search the reservoir, the Blanchard River, and area ponds and streams when the need arises. Members on the team include divers, boat crew, boat captain and the land crew. The unit undergoes regular training sessions throughout the year to strengthen their skills and teamwork.





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*Corrections: 419-424-7202*

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*Visit us at:*

*Web: [hancocksheriff.org](http://hancocksheriff.org)*

*Facebook: Hancock County Sheriff's Office*

*Call 9-1-1 for Emergencies*