Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office
2021 Annual Report

Integrity, Professionalism, Trust

William G. Prummell, Jr., Sheriff
Table of Contents

The Sheriff’s Message .............................................................................................................. 4
Sheriff’s Office Senior Command Staff .................................................................................... 5
Mission ..................................................................................................................................... 6
Vision ....................................................................................................................................... 6
Core Values ............................................................................................................................. 6
Organizational Goals and Objectives ....................................................................................... 7
The Community the Sheriff’s Office Serves ........................................................................... 8

2021 Members of the Quarter ................................................................................................... 9

  1st Quarter Awards ............................................................................................................. 9
  2nd Quarter Awards .......................................................................................................... 9
  3rd Quarter Awards ........................................................................................................... 10
  4th Quarter Awards .......................................................................................................... 10

Annual Budget/Finance Division ............................................................................................ 10

Professional Standards and Training Division ....................................................................... 12

  Professional Compliance Section ....................................................................................... 13
  Training Section ................................................................................................................. 15
  Internal Affairs .................................................................................................................. 16

Law Enforcement ................................................................................................................ 19

Patrol Division ...................................................................................................................... 19

  District 1 – Englewood ....................................................................................................... 20
  District 2 – Murdock Area ................................................................................................. 23
  District 3 – Port Charlotte ................................................................................................. 24
  District 4 – Punta Gorda .................................................................................................... 25

Intelligence Division ............................................................................................................. 27

  Intelligence ........................................................................................................................ 27
  Strategic Targeted Area Response Team (STAR) .............................................................. 28
  Mental Health Unit/Community Policing Unit .................................................................. 29
    Targeted Violence Prevention Program ........................................................................... 29
    Integrated Response for Intervention and Support (IRIS) .............................................. 30
  Community Policing Unit ................................................................................................ 30
  Do The Right Thing Program (with PGPD) ..................................................................... 31
  Bike Patrol .......................................................................................................................... 32
  Community Affairs ........................................................................................................... 32
School Resource Officers/Juvenile ................................................................. 33

**Criminal Investigations Division** .............................................................. 34
- District Investigations ................................................................................. 34
- Major Case Investigations .......................................................................... 39
  - Domestic Violence Unit ........................................................................... 41
  - Major Case’s Community Outreach ......................................................... 41
- Forensics Section ....................................................................................... 41
  - Crime Scene Unit .................................................................................... 41
  - Evidence Unit .......................................................................................... 43
- Special Investigations Section ..................................................................... 44
  - Narcotics Unit ......................................................................................... 44
  - Fugitive Apprehension Unit/Warrants .................................................... 48

**Operational Support Division** .................................................................. 48
- Special Operations ..................................................................................... 48
- Traffic Unit ............................................................................................... 48
- Emergency Response Team ........................................................................ 49
- Marine Unit ................................................................................................ 49
- Canine Unit ............................................................................................... 52
- Volunteer Services Unit ............................................................................. 53
- Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) ....................................................... 54
- Dive Team .................................................................................................. 54
- Honor Guard .............................................................................................. 55
- Communications Unit ............................................................................... 55

**Aviation Division** ..................................................................................... 57

**Support Services Bureau** .......................................................................... 60

**Human Resources Division** ..................................................................... 60

**Management Information Systems Division** ............................................ 61

**Detention Bureau** ................................................................................... 63
- Inmate Programs ......................................................................................... 65
- Courts Section ............................................................................................ 66
  - Adult Pre-Arrest Diversion (APAD) ......................................................... 67

**Sheriff’s Office Locations** .......................................................................... 68
The Sheriff's Message

It’s a brand-new year and 2021 marked our centennial year of service to Charlotte County. The year was not without challenges, as COVID continued to wreak havoc on all of us, but there were some other positive moments worth noting. As 2021 comes to a close, I want to take this opportunity to reflect on some of those more memorable moments of the year.

One of the biggest stories of 2021 was our implementation of body-worn cameras. I made a commitment to have this accomplished by year-end. I am proud to say that every road patrol deputy and vehicle has now been equipped with a camera. This process was very involved, including obtaining funding, company research, in-field trials, hardware and software purchasing, training, distribution, and troubleshooting.

Another major story this year was the launch of our new IRIS (Integrated Response for Intervention and Support) Team. This specialized unit was created to focus on the mental health-related calls for service, including drug overdoses, suicide threats, habitual runaway juveniles, well-being checks, death notifications, and more. To provide the best and most appropriate services, we have partnered with Charlotte Behavioral Health Care to include a Mental Health Clinician and will soon be including a Charlotte County Fire and EMS paramedic as well.

Several units of the CCSO were highlighted throughout the year for their high level of service. Our Aviation team continues to excel, providing mosquito control, fire suppression, missing person, and long-line rescue services. The K9 unit added a new element to their repertoire with the addition of scent kits and have had many successful tracks which resulted in the reunification of lost loved ones to their families. Our Communications team continues to earn recognition for their efforts that have led to countless lives being saved, and the Marine unit has been called upon to brave even the harshest conditions in order to preserve safety. The list goes on and on, but the theme is the same: the CCSO is dedicated to keeping this community safe.

As we look ahead now to 2022, there is still much work to be done. I am as determined as ever to battle the drug crisis and help those who want to get control over their lives. I will continue to seek new, proactive approaches to keeping crime out of Charlotte County so we can all continue to enjoy what God has blessed us with.

Be safe, stay strong.

Bill Prummell, Sheriff
Sheriff’s Office Senior Command Staff
Chief Deputy Michael Casarella is responsible for the coordination and implementation of agency initiatives, operations, programs, and activities as directed by the Sheriff through the general supervision of his Bureau Commanders.

Majors James Kenville, Earl Goodwyne III, and Norman Wilson (left to right) serve on the Sheriff’s Command Staff as Bureau Commanders of Law Enforcement, Support Services, and Detention, respectively.
Mission
It is our mission that the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office serve the citizens and visitors of Charlotte County by providing professional law enforcement, detention, and court security that protects and preserves the Constitutional Rights of the people and mandates the fair and impartial enforcement of the law.

Vision
It is our vision that Charlotte County remain one of the safest and most enjoyable places to live and visit in the State of Florida and in the nation and for the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office to be a leader in public safety. We achieve this through innovation, technology, and community partnerships. We strive to integrate the concepts of community policing with our community and achieve our vision through collaborative problem solving.

Core Values
We, the men and women of the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office, pledge to infuse our core values in every aspect of our service to our community. Our three core values are:

**Integrity**
We pledge to maintain a strong sense of honesty, morality, goodness, and ethical character.

**Professionalism**
We are skilled in the performance of our duties and governed by the code of ethics that demands integrity by word or by act publicly and privately, the allegiance to our oath of office and the laws that govern our Nation.

**Trust**
We must value and nurture the trust we earn through honesty and excellence in service. We pledge to treat those we serve and have sworn to protect with courtesy, respect, dignity, and compassion to achieve that trust.
This is a comprehensive report on the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) activities throughout the preceding year. This information is intended to give members of the agency and the community highlights of performance activities from 2020 containing material and data obtained from various CCSO units. This report will be posted online (https://www.ccso.org/AboutUs/PDF/AnnualReport) for members of the public to obtain a copy.

Organizational Goals and Objectives

Professional Law Enforcement, Court, and Detention Services

To provide the citizens of Charlotte County with the highest degree of professional services by investing in and developing the Sheriff's Office human capital and resources.

1) Recruit and retain individuals who demonstrate integrity, professionalism, and trust.
2) Train and provide educational opportunities to individuals in relevant and critical areas related to public safety and the proper care, custody, and control of detainee population.
3) Ensure compliance with professional standards.
4) Maintain functionality, security, and efficiency of information technology for the Sheriff’s Office and its ability to serve the public.

Attentiveness to Public Safety and Public Service

To maintain a high quality of life through the effective, efficient delivery of public safety services through Intelligence-Led Policing and community relationships.

1) Reduce crime and enhance quality of life through proactive initiatives, Intelligence-Led Policing, and partnerships with the community.
2) Enhance public awareness.
3) Safe care, custody, and control of detainees.
4) Provide high quality of assistance through the Communications Dispatch Center.

Traffic Safety

To make the roadways of Charlotte County safe for those who use them.

1) Enforce laws on roadways, concentrating on intersections and roads historically identified as problematic.
2) Reduce traffic crashes.

Drug Demand Reduction

To curtail illegal and synthetic drug, alcohol, and tobacco activities, and reduce the illegal use and demand for these substances.

1) Investigate and arrest individuals who participate in illegal drug trafficking, use, sales, or distribution.
2) Investigate and arrest individuals who participate in illegal alcohol and tobacco use, sales, or distribution.

School Safety

To aid in the safety and security of students and staff in and around schools, colleges, and universities in Charlotte County.
1) Provide a campus environment where students and staff can feel safe and secure while arriving, attending, and leaving school grounds.

Management of Detainee Population

To improve the jail and court processes and recidivism rates; Utilize all resources available to minimize current and future encumbrances on Charlotte County taxpayers.

1) Reduce the recidivism rate of incarcerated individuals by providing educational opportunities and programs.
2) Work as a team member in the Criminal Justice System to streamline cases with the primary focus concentrating on an expedited disposition.
3) Implement programs that reduce the tax burden on county taxpayers.
4) Maintain a zero tolerance on sexual abuse and harassment on detainee population through proper implementation of PREA standards.
5) Reduce the rate and time of segregation used in the management of detainee population through proper implementation of Administrative Hearings and alternative housing options.

The Community the Sheriff’s Office Serves

Nestled between Sarasota and Lee Counties in Southwest Florida, Charlotte County is made up of a total of about 868 square miles, consisting of 680.28 square miles of land and 178.02 square miles of coastal and intercoastal waterways (United States Census Bureau, 2020). From fertile agricultural lands towards the eastern portion of the County to the more conventional urban landscape and coastal amenities, the Sheriff’s Office provides law enforcement and public safety services for the estimated 186,847 residents of unincorporated Charlotte County (Office of Economic & Demographic Research, 2020). To properly serve the community, the Sheriff’s Office divided areas in Charlotte County into four distinct service Districts which encompass 16 Patrol Zones. The continued growth within Charlotte County prompted the Sheriff’s Office to
actively plan to increase the number of service zones and a new potential district office, based on population and calls for service.

- District One, with a substation located at 11051 Willmington Boulevard, is responsible for four zones in the Englewood area;
- District Two, with its substation located at 992 Tamiami Trail, Suite A, has Deputies who patrol four zones in Murdock, El Jobean, and Port Charlotte;
- District Three, located at 3110 Loveland Boulevard, has Deputies who patrol four zones in Port Charlotte and Charlotte Harbor; and
- District Four, with a substation located at 7474 Utilities Road, covers four zones comprised of Punta Gorda, Deep Creek, Harbour Heights, Burnt Store, and Babcock Ranch.

Based on service demand and call volume, the Sheriff’s Office has strategically placed District substations in these areas so Deputies and other members of the Sheriff’s Office can take ownership of their areas of responsibility. This provides a consistent, efficient response to and prevention of criminal activity.

2021 Members of the Quarter
Each quarter we recognize sworn and civilian employees along with members of the community who truly embody our core values. Due to COVID-19, an annual awards ceremony was planned instead of the regular quarterly luncheons. Below are the members that made a difference in our community in 2021.

1st Quarter Awards

Award Recipients
Law Enforcement – CPL Nick Westlake
Detention – CD Skylar Goddard
Civilian – Dan Ijpkemeule

Special Recognition
Sgt. Jacob Hawkins & Detective Shawn Preston
Human Resources & Risk Management

LifeSaver
Cpl. Robert Conant
Dep. Courtney Poormon

2nd Quarter Awards

Award Recipients
Law Enforcement – DFC Lou Henyecz
Detention – CDFC Michael Fraser

Special Recognition
CD Bryce Chandler
Life Saver
CD Paige Butzer
CDFC Frederick Frey
Dep. Robert Ramas

3rd Quarter Awards
Award Recipients
Law Enforcement – Dep. Taylor Morello
Detention – CDFC Michael Zamora
Civilian – Tammy Poulton

Special Recognition

4th Quarter Awards
Award Recipients
Law Enforcement – Sgt. Jacob Hawkins
Detention – CD Olivia Hawthorne
Civilian – Savana Crouch

Special Recognition
CDFC Frederick Frey
Nathan Huck

LifeSaver
Dep. Beatrice Argota
CD Daniel Quijada & CD Dylan Landmark
DFC Lane Stealey

Annual Awards (if applicable)
Purple Cross – Line of Duty Injury
Cpl. Brad Combs

Annual Budget/Finance Division
By providing accurate fiscal and budgetary information/data to agency and community stakeholders, the Finance Division, directed by Gio Orbe, is responsible for developing and monitoring the Sheriff’s Office’s budget, payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable, cash management, purchasing, and financial reporting.

The Sheriff’s Office prepares its own operating budget. The Finance Department develops an annual budget, which is submitted to the Board of County Commissioners no later than June 1st. After two public hearings in September, the County Commissioners approve an amount of funding for the Sheriff’s Office for the ensuing fiscal year.
The main source of revenue in the Sheriff’s Office budget are transfers from the Board of County Commissioners, consisting mainly of ad valorem revenues. The budget funds salaries and benefits, operating expenses, and capital related equipment. The budget is divided into three main areas: Law Enforcement, Detention, and Court Security.

![FY 22 BUDGET BY FUNCTION](image)

For the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021/2022, the Sheriff’s Office approved operating budget was $85,073,408. Law Enforcement represents 66% of the total budget, Corrections represents 30% and Court Security 4%. Total funded from County General Fund was $83,573,408, balance of $1,500,000 was funded by Federal Inmate Housing.

The Sheriff’s Office fiscal period runs from October 1st through September 30th. It adheres to the State’s Uniform Accounting System in its financial and budgeting functions. At the end of the fiscal year, Finance prepares the financial reports for all the Sheriff’s Office activities. Financial statements are submitted to the Board of County Commissioners along with any excess fees from the approved budget.

The Sheriff’s Office financial records are audited annually by independent outside auditors. The audited report is submitted to the Board of County Commissioners for inclusion in the overall County Financial Statements.

Salaries and Benefits account for 82% of the total approved budget. The salary budget covers 692 full-time employees and 34 part-time employees. Operating expense consists mainly of technology related contracts, liability and auto insurance and other mandated contracts, including
the Inmate Medical Contract. Vehicles and replacement equipment represent 90% of the capital related budget.

For Fiscal Year 2020/2021 our fiscally responsible actions allowed us to return $6,465,335 in excess fees from budget savings. In addition to the excess fees, we also submitted $116,426 in revenues collected from various sources (Federal Inmate Housing, Background Fees, Fingerprint Fees, Investment Interest, Alarm Registrations, Alarm Ordinance Fines, and Insurance reimbursements).

The Finance Department is also responsible for the financial operations of all special revenue funds. Special revenue funds are specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specific purposes. Our special revenue funds include State and Federal grants awarded to the agency. There was a total of $5,795,426 in grant monies awarded to our agency during FY 2020/2021. This money was able to fund some equipment in our investigation section, some overtime for special operations, and some COVID-19 operating expenditures.

In addition to the above, the Finance Department also maintains the County's Security Alarm Program under County Ordinance #2017-045. The maintenance of this program includes enrolling unregistered alarm holders, annual registration renewals, and educating alarm holders on the prevention of false alarms. For Fiscal Year 2020/2021, we collected a total of $27,280 in new alarm registrations and alarm renewals, and $7,281 in false alarm violation fines, these fees were part of the excess fees.

Other functions of the Finance Department include Payroll, Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Cash Management, Capital Assets, Grants, Purchasing, Supply, Receiving, Inmate Accounts and Financial Reporting. Finance has a total of 14 full-time employees and 2 part-time employees. The team is equipped with one Finance/Budget Director, one Finance Supervisor, one Supply/Receiving Supervisor, four Fiscal Support Specialists, one Fiscal Support Technician, one False Alarm Program Coordinator, one Inmate Account Clerk, one Grant Management Analyst, and three Supply & Inventory Assistants.

Professional Standards and Training Division
The Professional Standards Division encompasses Professional Compliance, Training, and Internal Affairs. Professional Compliance Manager Terry Cochran oversees Staff Inspections and Internal Affairs as well as performing duties of Planning and Research. Lead Staff Inspector Donald Barnett manages all formal inspections, informal inspections, audits, and oversees destruction processes to ensure compliance. The Internal Affairs Section is managed by Sgt. Nikki Wagner. The Professional Compliance Administrator, Deborah Maikowski, leads the Accreditation Team, consisting of a five-member team. The Training Section is led by Lieutenant Jason Zakowich, who has a staff of outstanding trainers for CCSO, including a Law Enforcement Sergeant, Corrections Sergeant, two Law Enforcement Corporals, a Corrections Corporal, a Training Specialist, and an Office Manager.
**Professional Compliance Section**

The units within the Professional Compliance Section work together to provide important services to the Sheriff, his employees, and the community. The Professional Compliance Section works to enhance the professionalism of the agency by monitoring the agency's compliance with State and Nationally accepted Accreditation standards, policies, conducting quality internal inspections, grant administration and research, analysis, and development of recommendations on a wide range of topics impacting the Sheriff's Office.

Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) was created in 1979 as a credentialing authority through the joint effort of law enforcement's major executive associations. Those organizations are the International Association of Chiefs of Police, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, National Sheriff's Association, and the Police Executive Research Forum. The purpose is to improve the delivery of public safety services.

The CALEA Law Enforcement and Communication Remote Web-Based Assessments were completed in April 2021 by a CALEA Compliance Service Member. This assessment included a combined total of 142 standards, which 141 were marked "Compliance Verified" and one was marked "Standard Issue." The standard marked "Standard Issue" only required a correction to a written directive to include the words "written report" instead of stating "a report."

In addition, our fourth-year web-based assessments were completed in October 2021 for Law Enforcement and Communications by a CALEA Compliance Service Member. A total of 153 Law Enforcement Standards were reviewed and all were marked "Compliance Verified", after additional documentation was provided by the Professional Compliance team for requisition and purchasing procedures.

In November 2021, the agency hosted its first On-Site Virtual Assessment due to COVID. The Accreditation Team had to migrate through learning and setting up all schedules and interviews using a Virtual Platform. During this Site-Based Assessment Review, a combined amount of 23 interviews regarding the topical areas were performed. The interviews were with agency members and members of the community. The approach not only confirmed standards adherence, but also considered effectiveness measures, process management and intended outcomes. It is expected that reaccreditation will be awarded at the next commission hearing in March of 2022.

The Detention Bureau has been accredited since 2004 by Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission, Inc., (FCAC) a state-wide accrediting body. To maintain accredited status by FCAC, facilities must undergo an intensive evaluation by a team of assessors to ensure compliance with standards and be re-evaluated every three years. From November 2021, a team of Assessors representing the Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission examined all aspects of the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office Detention Bureau.
procedures, management, operations, and facility. A total of 262 standards were reviewed for a three-year period. The assessment Team has unanimously recommended reaccreditation as an Excelsior agency at the next scheduled commission meeting being held in February 2022.

In accordance with Florida State Statute, the Charlotte County Jail is required to undergo a Florida Model Jail Standards (FMJS) inspection on an annual basis to ensure minimum standards regarding the supervision, care, custody, treatment, housing, and general handling of the inmate are being met. In September 2021, an On-Site Inspection was completed. There were 278 standards reviewed encompassing Jail Operation and Medical. There were no serious violations at the conclusion of the Inspection and one violation of FMJS standard 7.11b, which was corrected immediately while the inspectors were present in the facility.

General Orders and Procedures were sent for review in 2021. The results for these reviews are as follows:

- 353 General Orders sent for review
- 93 Amended
- 3 New Policies

- 250 Detention Procedures sent for review
- 98 Amended
- 0 New

- 116 Law Enforcement Procedures set for review
- 10 Amended
- 4 New

- 99 Communication Procedures sent for review
- 16 Amended
- 0 New

Professional Compliance also completed 14 on-site detention inspections and 10 file reviews for the purpose of monitoring compliance with Florida Model Jail Standards, other accreditation standards and procedures. These inspections were conducted in various areas to include housing units, property, kitchen, laundry, classification and medical.

Throughout 2021, numerous inspections and audits were conducted by the Staff Inspections Unit. The following inspection were completed:

- 9 Formal Inspections covering 6 units; 3 scheduled Formal Inspections were cancelled due to an on-site FMJS Accreditation inspection that covered those inspections.
- 23 Audits and Ancillary Inspections
• 1 Drug Destructs/Gun Destructs (No drug destructions were performed this year due to restrictions imposed by our contracted destruct location)
• 8 Other Verifications (quarterly narcotic and quarterly evidence checks)

Planning and Research has been working on an agency wide staffing model, as well as monthly meetings established with Charlotte County for Economic Development Department, zoning department, and members of Babcock Ranch, to ensure CCSO is equipped to meet the rapidly changing needs of the growing community. This included working with members of CCSO and Charlotte County to actively plan an increase to the number of service zones and a new potential district office, based on population density and calls for service.

The agency Strategic Plan has been revamped and six workload assessments were completed during 2021. During 2021, Planning and Research Specialist's grant duties were moved to a permanent Grants Management Analyst, now part of the Finance Division. During 2021, 13 grants were awarded and managed, while 4 were closed out upon successful completion of proposed projects. During 2022 the agency had applied for the grant Reducing Injury and Death of Missing Individuals with Dementia and Developmental Disabilities Program, but we were not awarded the grant at that time; however, in 2021, CCSO was awarded that 3-year grant. Unfortunately, in 2021 there were 2 grants that we applied for, but not awarded – the 2021 AAA Florida Traffic Safety Grant Program as well as an OJP-BJA Body-Worn Camera Policy with Implementation Program to Support Law Enforcement Agencies.

**Training Section**

2021 was a busy and challenging year for the Training Section. The unit began putting together block training sessions that involved all the mandatory training that our members must complete for Accreditation and Certification purposes all the while following along with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines for the COVID-19 pandemic. CCSO also hosted many other training classes and qualifications throughout the year. The Training Unit constantly strives to enhance our training staff's knowledge by attending classes and certifications ourselves as well.

This year had a challenge dealing with logistical issues with weapon qualifications and training due to the lack of an agency firing range. Members traveled to Sarasota County (Knights Trail Range) and South Charlotte County (Boy Scout Range) every day for weeks to complete training and weapon qualifications, rain or shine.

The Spring 2021 Block Training session consisted of 25 training classes during the months of March through June. During this time frame, weapon re-familiarization, shooting drills, training exercises and CPR/AED Certifications were conducted prior to the members qualifying on the Boy Scout Range.
In August, the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office partnered with Axon International and obtained body worn camera systems and a new and updated Taser model. To facilitate training on the new systems, the Fall 2021 Block Training session covered in person training on both items, as well as taser re-certification to staff members remaining with the current Taser system. The sessions were modified due to an uptick in COVID-19 cases, as we had to lessen class sizes, schedule more dates, and postpone other training ideas to lessen the exposure time for our members. The Fall 2021 Block Training session consisted of 35 training dates during the months of August through December.

Throughout the year online training was provided which consisted of several mandatory classes our members must complete annually such as First Aid, Bias Based Policing, All Hazards, Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) and Baton. The Training Unit also facilitated in house video recorded training named "Training on the Fly," covering various topics for Law Enforcement members to go over during role call briefings.

To assure members are physically fit to safely protect our community and provide proper care, custody, and control of our detainee(s), the annual Physical Agility Test (PAT) is used as an indicator of the health of our members. During the months of October and November, the training team successfully administered the annual PAT to 407 certified members.

The Training team is constantly working on the Police Training Officer (PTO) and Detention Training Officer (DTO) program. This benefits the new recruits that are consistently coming into the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office as new Deputies. In 2021, CCSO hired 23 Law Enforcement Deputies, and 11 Corrections Deputies. The Training Section worked arduously to keep the documentation and certifications up to date while dealing with any issues that may arise as the new recruits fall under the Training Division. The team also puts on schools to teach Deputies how to become a PTO/DTO trainer in efforts to help forge the new era of deputies coming into the rank and file.

**Internal Affairs**

To safeguard the integrity of the Sheriff's Office, Internal Affairs is responsible for conducting internal investigations of all accusations made against any member of the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office. The citizens of Charlotte County must be able to place their trust in Internal Affairs to ensure any accusation made against the agency or its members are investigated fairly and impartially, with the utmost professionalism and without bias.
The work involves documenting all allegations of misconduct, violations of rules, regulations, and policies directed at members of the Office. A thorough investigation in compliance with the Florida Officer Bill of Rights is completed, and final reports are prepared. Findings are reported to the Command Staff and the Sheriff. The Internal Affairs Office operated in 2021 under the general direction of Sergeant Wagner and Captain Rodriguez. Complaints are defined as any investigation, whether formal or informal, documented by the Internal Affairs Unit. This includes Administrative Investigations, Internal Investigations, Supervisory Inquiries, Miscellaneous Investigations, and Citizen Contacts.

In 2021, the Internal Affairs Unit documented 93 investigations and citizen complaints. The final dispositions of those cases are shown below.

Of these, 12 were formal Internal Affairs Investigations (IA) which encompassed 11 charges, not including the potential charges on five open IA cases at the time of this report. Out of the 8 closed formal IAs, all charges were sustained except one which was closed unfounded. The charges sustained included violation of official procedures or directives (both endangering and not endangering persons or property), conduct unbecoming, violation of law, and neglect of duty. The discipline imposed on investigated members included withdrawal of appointment, suspension without pay, disciplinary probation, documented oral counseling, written reprimand, suspension from specialty units, performance improvement plan, and presentations to command staff.

All completed Internal Affairs investigations were discussed with agency Lieutenants as a group to dispel rumors, clarify reasoning for the outcome of each case, and be used as a learning and teaching tool. Captain Rodriguez, the Internal Affairs Sergeant, and the Professional Compliance Manager also attended multiple roll call briefings, both with Law Enforcement and Corrections Deputies, in order to discuss closed cases. This provided our members with education to combat trending Internal Complaints, from external complaints to observed violations occurring within the agency. The goal is to continue to provide training and information to the members, supervisors, and leaders of the Sheriff s Office to better help identify and correct potential future violations.

In October 2021, the Internal Affairs Sergeant attended the IAPro Conference in Clearwater, Florida. This is a part of the continuing education for the new IA software system started in
November 2020, dedicated specifically to the Internal Affairs processes. This software program is a comprehensive case management program that integrates several different factors, including member's discipline and uses of force, that may indicate patterns of employee misconduct and behavioral shortfalls. The software, through a preset threshold, automatically alerts supervisors for early intervention of members who may be experiencing issues that could affect their work product. Most importantly for the environment, this software program is paperless, allowing every member of the agency access through CCSO's intranet for completion of any required report in this software.

Complainants may remain anonymous if they wish.

To report any issues or complaints, please use any one of the following contact methods (compliments are also graciously accepted!):

Telephone – Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

- Internal Affairs Unit – (941) 575-5246
- District One – (941) 475-9005
- District Two – (941) 613-3245
- District Three – (941) 258-3900
- District Four – (941) 575-5372
- Headquarters – (941) 639-2101
- Charlotte County Jail – (941) 833-6357

Email:

- InternalAffairs@ccso.org

Mail:

- Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office
  Internal Affairs
  7474 Utilities Road
  Punta Gorda, Florida 33982

In-Person:

- Internal Affairs Unit – 7474 Utilities Road, Punta Gorda
- District One – 11051 Willmington Boulevard, Englewood
- District Two – 992 Tamiami Trail, Suite A, Port Charlotte
- District Three – 3110 Loveland Boulevard, Port Charlotte
- District Four – 7474 Utilities Road, Punta Gorda
- Charlotte County Jail – 26601 Airport Road, Punta Gorda
Law Enforcement
The functions of Law Enforcement are to protect life and property, enforce criminal laws, conduct criminal investigations, enforce traffic laws, maintain crowd control, and conduct other public safety duties as necessary. As the Commander of the Bureau of Law Enforcement, Major James Kenville is responsible for planning, supervising, and coordinating the bureau operation in accordance with these functions; administration of all related laws, rules, and regulations involving those sections, staffing, and evaluations of division members, conducting meetings with allied agencies and other interested parties.

Patrol Division
Captain Darin Chandler, Commander of the Patrol Division, directly and indirectly supervised sworn and non-sworn personnel assigned to the Patrol Division. The Division consists of four Patrol Districts and five Watch Commanders.

The Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office Patrol Division continued to employ and expand upon Intelligence-Led Policing (ILP) practices over this past year. The continued adoption of this philosophy has fostered enhanced communication between the deputies on the street, support units within the organization and members of the community. Additionally, ILP has created an organizational culture that seeks to be more efficient and effective at fighting criminal activity and improving the quality of life for its citizens and visitors.

District Commanders, supervisory members, trainees, and Community Policing Officers have been actively participating in community functions and attending community meetings. This participative effort has allowed our members to understand community concerns, provide needed services, and educate the community about trending threats. These continued efforts have provided opportunities to build trust in the community and include the citizens in our efforts to gain valuable intelligence.

Patrol has actively participated and contributed to the weekly Actionable Intelligence Meetings (AIM) and seek to constantly improve the process through feedback and recommendations for improvement. The District Commanders have continued the utilization of Crime View and Report Management Systems (RMS) to generate tasks/initiatives based on district and county-wide indicators discussed during AIM. These initiatives reflect areas of concern that are most effectively addressed by utilizing multiple assets to quell the problem, gain information, make arrests, or educate, depending on what is the most appropriate action for each situation.
## Calls for Service

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District 1</td>
<td>29,813</td>
<td>31,427</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District 2</td>
<td>32,356</td>
<td>36,672</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District 3</td>
<td>39,001</td>
<td>42,509</td>
<td>8.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District 4</td>
<td>34,032</td>
<td>37,674</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>135,202</strong></td>
<td><strong>148,282</strong></td>
<td><strong>9.67%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These numbers include self-initiated criminal or arrest reports, but do not include traffic stops, directed patrols or other self-initiated activities. The increase is likely attributable to the population growth within the past year.

## District 1 – Englewood

Lt. Rocco Casano leads the members of the District 1 office and the residents of the Englewood community. District 1 encompasses the area west of the Myakka River, to include surrounding waters and the barrier islands. 2021 continued with a unique set of challenges and circumstances for Law Enforcement not only for Charlotte County but for the State of Florida due to the COVID pandemic. Law Enforcement services were delivered by alternate means whenever possible to reduce exposure to the COVID virus. Looking at past quarterly citizen surveys, District 1 citizens have expressed concerns regarding burglary, drugs, and fraud. Traffic concerns, speeding and crashes, are also a concern among the public from received complaints throughout the year.

Burglaries and thefts, residential/business/vehicle, were concerns in the District 1 area.

- Crime Analysis data shows that though calls for service had increased minimally in District 1 in 2021, burglaries were decreased by 20% over 2020. ILP (Intelligence Led Policing) initiatives were developed to reduce or prevent thefts and burglaries in the District 1 area, these include construction thefts, reoccurring residential burglaries, and the statewide trends of marine and storage yard burglaries. Through use of patrols, surveillance, investigative skills, and working relationships with the citizens affected, positive results were obtained with reducing burglaries and/or the successful resolution by arrest of suspects. Members of Patrol, Detectives, and Community Policing Deputies through patrols, direct contact, and electronic means shared information with heads of neighborhood groups, businesses and as many residents as possible. This information sharing brought about awareness and alertness, leading to more citizens calling in more suspicious incidents and persons.

- Thefts from motor vehicles were decreased by 30%; however, all other thefts, i.e., retail, petit, grand, had increased slightly from 2020 by 13%. The same tactics and measures used for burglaries are used to combat theft in the district.

Statewide trends and organized theft groups were a concern in District 1 as well as the Sheriff's Office.

- A statewide trend exists of an organized group that targets marinas and storage lots, stealing boats, boat equipment, and catalytic converters off commercial vehicles. Intel is shared by agencies across the State. The District 1 area is a beachfront community with many waterways and contains many target locations susceptible to theft. Regional BOLO's are consistently being reviewed for any nearby Counties that have become victim to these thefts to increase awareness and patrols in the District 1 area.
One specific trend common for the District 1 area is, Fishing Equipment theft trend during Boca Tarpon Tournament. Increased patrols and community awareness were done through social media and business contacts of the theft trend during this event. No incidents were reported where vessel burglaries and/or fishing equipment thefts occurred; however, 2-3 weeks prior to, and unrelated to the Tarpon Tournament, there was a burglary at the Sea Oats Condos on Boca Grande where fishing equipment was taken.

Drug activity is a concern among the citizens in District 1 as well as the Sheriff's Office.

- The Sheriff's Office takes an aggressive, proactive approach to this problem by utilizing Intelligence Led Policing philosophy and directing resources to those identified problem areas involving Road Patrol and ancillary units. One such area known for drug activity as well as other quality of life issues was a residence located in the District 1 area. Disturbance calls were responded to at this location as well as transient residents coming and going and vehicles in roadway causing traffic impediment. Complaints were also received of high foot and bicycle activity to and from this residence indicative of drug sales activity. Road Patrol and ancillary units swiftly responded to this area and conducted numerous stops in the area and on target persons of interest. Criminal Investigations Unit also made several arrests at this residence for Burglary involving over $100,000 in property stolen and three vehicles stolen. Road Patrol and ancillary units were able to get County Code Compliance involved with this property as well as the owner of the property due to its deteriorating state. As a result of these efforts, the residence owner started the eviction process and a successful conclusion ensued.

Fraud has been a consistent concern among the citizens of the District 1 area as well as the rest of Charlotte County.

- Fraudulent crimes come in a variety of ways and with advancements in technology many occur by electronic means. Many cases this past year involved compromised credit cards and/or theft of personal ID. Phone scams continued to be reported in 2021 involving citizens being misled through telephone communications and convinced to purchase gift cards and then reveal the gift card account number. The Sheriff's Office continues to provide awareness and education to the public in reference to current frauds and scams. The District has a good working relationship with local retail stores who will call the Sheriff's Office if they experience an elderly person purchasing a large amount of gift cards. Deputies are also provided with resource material from the Federal Trade Commission to distribute to those citizens who may fall victim to fraud/scams.

Traffic crashes and speeding are concerns facing the District 1 area as identified through citizen complaints and through data.

- Programs within the ILP (Intelligence Led Policing) concept are utilized to identify the problem areas of speeders and respond with initiatives to reduce or resolve the issues. Technology, such as speed signs that collect speed data, is utilized to assist in identifying those more problematic areas. Decoy cars are utilized in other areas that may need attention. The speed trailer is a good tool to assist in determining whether areas are a problem or a perceived problem. In this case, the issue appears to be a perceived problem,
but periodic patrols continued to help give comfort to residents in the area by maintaining deterrence.

- Traffic crashes are a concern in reference to the safety of District 1 residents and visitors. Resources, including Road Patrol and Traffic Unit along with speed trailers, message boards, and decoy car, were directed to those higher crash areas as identified, to create awareness and deter poor driving behavior with the goal of reducing crashes.

Special Events and/or Parades within the District 1 area and community:

- One of the largest events to be held in the District 1 area is the, Englewood Waterfest Power Boat Races. In 2020 this event was cancelled due to the Covid pandemic. November 17th thru 21st 2021, the event was held. This is a multi-agency event that encompasses many law enforcement entities to include the US Coast Guard. The event was a success and over the weekend of the event a crowd of approximately 35,000 people attended the event.

- The Sheriff also participated in the Englewood area parades this year that were also cancelled last year due to the pandemic. One of the largest parades held is the Rotonda Christmas Parade which was held, attended by the Sheriff and was very successful with a large crowd.

District 1 saw an increase of 4% in calls for service in 2021, when compared to 2020. District 1 stayed the same in assigned ILP initiatives and tasks in 2021, when compared to 2020. There was a slight increase of 4% in overall crime for District 1 in 2021, when compared to 2020. All the indicators for District 1, traffic stops, field interviews and arrests increased in 2021 when compared to 2020.

District 1 continues to use the ILP philosophies when mitigating criminal activity and quality of life issues within areas of concern and strives to seek out new ways to engage to mitigate criminal activity through partnerships and education. These actions are in line with the Mission and Vision of the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office.
**District 2 – Murdock Area**

Lt. Joseph Sousa leads District 2, which includes the area east of the Myakka River, Murdock, and Port Charlotte from the Midway area, north to the county line.

District 2 continues to foster new and continuing relationships with our community and the citizens we serve. The highest concerns citizens noted within District 2 have been Drugs county-wide. While implementing strategies on our citizens' concerns of drug activity in our neighborhoods and within the county, Road Patrol continued to work with and communicate with the Intelligence Unit (STAR) and the Narcotics Unit, exchanging information.

CCSO continues using a proactive approach, while we use our ILP philosophies and ensure appropriate resources are dedicated to each incident. District 2 has applied proactive measures while enforcing narcotic violations. CCSO continues to educate the public and promote the Drug Addiction Recovery Initiative when Road Patrol encounters potential violators. Our units work closely with the Narcotics Unit and share information on narcotic tip houses within the district. District 2 and county-wide has seen a 23% increase in drug arrests. District 2 and countywide still uses alternative measures to physical arrests for misdemeanor drug possession such as notice to appears and APAD.

COVID-19 related issues diminish some direct contact with the public on related traffic stops and field interviews to practice social distancing. In 2021 while dealing with work related COVID 19 issues a work from home schedule was created for employees who tested positive for Covid 19 but had minor to no symptoms. These employees handled non-priority calls for service where a report could be taken without direct contact. Since the State of Florida legalized marijuana for medicinal purposes, law enforcement agencies within the state have had to take different approaches for enforcement and prosecution. We will continue to use ILP, the SARA model, along with the overdose map for drug enforcement and drug-related crimes in our county.

The second major concern for our citizens in District 2 has been Residential Burglaries. The CPO, district supervisors, zone officers, and the citizens of this District continue to collaborate in sharing information about local crime, county-wide crime, and crime trends while educating them on how to prevent future crime or becoming a victim. Currently available programs such as the Citizens' Police Academy (CPA), Junior Law Academy, Project Life Saver, along with many other programs the Sheriff's Office has to offer are encouraged. Through this partnership, Neighborhood Watch Groups have shown their involvement aids in decreasing crime, while improving the quality of life in their respective watch areas through meetings and social media. During 2021, many of these programs were still impacted by instruction of government and citizen watch groups to do social distancing. To ensure relationships and information sharing is continued, many neighborhood watch meetings were conducted online through Zoom or Microsoft Teams, so information and concerns could be expressed.

The sharing of information between criminal investigations and Road Patrol has proved vital in conducting successful investigations. Intelligence shared between units looking for commonalities and MO during intelligence and AIM meetings has shown positive results. Proactive patrols, updating Tips and Tasks with information gathered have created actionable intelligence leading to the identification and apprehension of offenders. This is vital in crime prevention and closures. Following our ILP philosophy, we have continued the use of Tip and Tasks in areas of concern and ILP's within the district. These ILP's are focused on detecting and deterring criminal activity.
District 2 has experienced a 21% increase in burglaries for 2021 vs 2020 and a 34% decrease in theft from motor vehicles. Total property crime in District 2 has increased 17% for 2021 vs 2020, mainly in part to shutdowns during 2020 where business closed for a period, bringing overall theft for 2021 showing a 25% increase.

The third major concern for our citizens in District 2 has been frauds and scams. Our community has a high percentage of citizens vulnerable to these types of crimes. To help mitigate some of these types of crimes is awareness. CPO, Road Patrol, and the Economic Crimes Unit (ECU) keep citizens abreast in the identification of the latest fraud trends. These types of crimes are generally targeted at senior populations, and education is used through community meetings and the Citizens' Police Academy on how not to fall victim to frauds and scams. Road Patrol and ECU work closely on identifying and gaining intelligence on various fraud-type crimes. Flyers and pamphlets are given to victims on identity theft and the use of IdentityTheft.gov to assist victims in recovering from fraudulent crimes. These pamphlets and cards are supplied to the district by ECU detectives and handed out to the public. Brochures on fraud and identity theft are also made available in the District 2 lobby. We will continue to use social media and education in keeping the citizens informed of recent scams and fraud tactics.

District 2 has seen an overall increase in crime of 18% for 2021 along with an increase in calls for service of 10%. We will continue to use ILP philosophies when mitigating criminal activity and quality of life issues within areas of concern.

**District 3 – Port Charlotte**

Lt. Eric Burke leads District 3, which covers Port Charlotte from Haverhill Waterway between Midway Blvd. and West Tarpon Blvd. south to the Peace River and Charlotte Harbor North to Veterans Blvd. This district is the most densely populated area in Charlotte County.

Through Intelligence Led Policing, several areas of concern and residences were identified as nuisance to the quality of life in the community with confirmed concerns of narcotics and other criminal activities. Deputies, Watch Commanders, as well as Intelligence Unit, STAR Unit, Criminal Investigations Unit and the Narcotics Unit are continually advised of the situation and provided valuable information about the occupants of these homes to help resolve the issue. Community Policing Officers continually reached out to the property owners of these residences and educate the owners on processes to assist in alleviating the nuisances. Information via tips/tasks has been shared with other units such as Narcotics and STAR. As a result, there have been numerous drug arrests made from the areas of concern, as well as investigative stops that have led to arrests and assisted the Criminal Investigations Unit, Economic Crimes Unit, and the district in solving community issues.
In response to traffic complaints and enforcement, decoy car, social media information, and signboards are utilized. Contact is continually made with the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office Traffic Unit and the Florida Highway Patrol regarding issues with traffic crashes at problem intersections, such as the Kings Highway/Veterans Blvd., U.S. 41/Harbor Blvd., and U.S. 41/Conway Blvd. areas. The traffic unit has attempted to assist the district in these high crash intersections by conducting enforcement during the reported peak times. This has been a hot topic throughout the county, and District 3 made efforts to do directed patrols and enforcement at the high traffic crash intersections, which can be difficult due to the calls for service in the district. District 3 saw an increase of 21.98% in crashes in 2021 when compared to 2020.

Traffic-related complaints continue to be a reported quality of life issue within District 3. Road patrol and traffic units continue to monitor these areas of concern. Online tips are consistently providing information pertaining to vehicles committing traffic violations in District 3. In most of these cases a tip is created through the Intelligence unit, and it is assigned to the district or the traffic unit for follow up.

District 3 continues to use the Intelligence Led Policing directives and strives to seek out new and innovative ways to engage the community and mitigate criminal activity through partnerships and education. These actions are in line with the Mission and Vision of the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office. While District 3 embraced the Intelligence Led Policing directives, District 3 saw an increase of 11% in calls for service in 2021, when compared to 2020. District 3 did not have an increase or decrease in assigned ILP initiatives and tasks in 2021, when compared to 2020. While District 3 embraced the Intelligence Led Policing directives, the crime did not reflect our efforts, as District 3 did see an increase of 13% overall in crime for 2021, when compared to 2020. These increases in calls for service and overall crime resulted in an increase of 24% in Field Interviews conducted in 2021, when compared to 2020.

**District 4 – Punta Gorda**
District Four was led in 2021 by Lt. Randy Whitney followed by Lt. John Heck, Jr., who took over command at end of June. District Four is the largest of the four districts which comprise Charlotte County. District four provides coverage for the communities of Deep Creek, Harbor Heights, Tropical Gulf Acres, Cleveland, City of Punta Gorda, and Babcock Ranch (listed as one of the fastest-growing planned communities in the country). District Four borders Lee, Desoto, and Glades Counties with most of the area still considered to be rural. Road patrol members have responded to calls in which traveling into different counties, including Lee County and Glades County, is required to get to the properties and addresses in the southern area of the district that borders those counties.

Intelligence Led Policing is the foundation of how patrols are conducted within the district to help combat crime trends identified through crime reports, analysis, and historical crime data. Our teams will develop initiatives based on this information to help combat crime, traffic complaints, and other quality of life issues within the district.
Intelligence Led Policing includes working with other units to include Criminal Investigations, Agricultural Unit, Community Policing, STAR, Intelligence Unit, Aviation, Traffic Unit, Warrants, Narcotics Unit, Major Case and Canine Unit. Members of road patrol work closely with these units, sharing information gathered from field interviews, arrests, and community interactions to help identify and locate persons of interest who are responsible for crimes within our community.

The combined efforts from all units were responsible for an overall 5% reduction in crimes reported in the District Four area compared to 2020. Our teams are proud to report this reduction while showing an increase of 7% in calls for service for 2021. Several crime trends were reported for 2021 to include catalytic convertor thefts, vehicle burglaries, and stolen recreational type vehicles. Using Intelligence Led Policing members were able to identify and make an arrest in most of the cases reported.

Complaints regarding traffic and narcotics were the biggest quality of life issues that affected the citizens in the District Four area. Combined efforts with our traffic unit, community affairs unit, and road patrol members continue throughout the year. District Four, including the City of Punta Gorda, experienced a 24% increase in traffic accidents in 2021 compared to 2020. Narcotics complaints are reviewed by narcotics members to determine if the complaint involves an active narcotics investigation or if the complaint will be forwarded to road patrol to gather more intelligence on the type of activity occurring at the reported location. It is important to remember that the efforts of road patrol and our Narcotics Unit may not always be visible to our citizens based on traffic stops and investigation methods, but rest assured that your concern does not fall on deaf ears. We operate 24-hours a day, 7 days a week – we hear you and will take the time needed for a successful outcome to all of our concerns!

The District Four team would like to thank our community for their support and assistance in keeping our great community safe. We will continue to partner with our community through our patrol, community affairs team, social media, and (our favorite) the personnel interactions with our citizens. This interaction provides information in identifying problem areas within the district and allowed our teams to better serve our community.
Intelligence Division

The Division is led by Captain John Westlake and holds the Intelligence, Community Affairs, and the School Resource Officer (SRO)/Juvenile Sections. The Intelligence Section is comprised of Crime Analysis, the Real-Time Intelligence Center (RTIC), Community Policing Officers (CPO), Mental Health Unit (MHU), the Technical Surveillance Team (TST), and Strategic Targeted Area Response (STAR) Team.

Intelligence

In 2020, the Intelligence Unit began many expansions due to increasing demands placed upon the unit. In 2021 that expansion continued with the opening of the Real-Time Intelligence Center (RTIC). That section is of the unit is rapidly growing and has one analyst assigned. During the year, new positions were created for the Integrated Response for Intervention and Support (IRIS). These positions are an expansion of the current Mental Health Unit.

During this year, COVID-19 continued to impact The Intelligence Unit with the civilian employees assigned to work remotely to avoid exposures and spread of the virus. This hindered the physical expansion of the RTIC unit. During the beginning of 2021, the RTIC was still in the process of being completed, although the Intelligence Analysts were still working from home, which has slowed the RTIC from becoming fully operational. Towards the end of 2021, the analysts were bought back to the building and the RTIC section became operational with the assigned analyst working part-time with the RTIC and part-time with the crime analysts.

Civil unrest continued during 2021, with peaceful protests throughout the county. The RTIC was used as a Command Center during planned protests that had a large number of participants. The RTIC worked well for this event and received positive feedback from Commanders for the technological capabilities and cohesiveness of multiple units and agencies during the event.

The weekly Intelligence Meetings and Actionable Intelligence Meetings (AIM) continue to be a productive approach to solve problems within the County. In 2021, both meetings continued with the virtual platform to ensure proper social distancing to limit exposures of COVID-19. Using this platform to conduct the presentations has shown to be a positive change. Initially, the lack of face-to-face contact caused a diminished amount of communication with participants, it later developed into a catalyst for online communication. This platform also benefits work performance in that there is no travel time for participants to drive to Headquarters from other district offices. The overdose analysis was able to provide up-to-date information on reported overdoses to assist the Mental Health Unit in providing avenues for assistance to the victims. Throughout the year, the Mental Health Unit and the IRIS members were able to identify those that were receiving assistance and those that still need assistance.
The Intelligence Unit continues to modify the Risk Protection Order (RPO) process to keep up with current laws and procedures. These modifications were made by evaluating Florida Statute to clarify the necessary verbiage to ensure a nexus was established for each case. The members of the Intelligence Unit carefully decide the best approach for each RPO (approval, denial, and/or diversion to mental health services), with the assistance of in-house counsel, Captain Rodriguez, who makes the final decision. The Intelligence Unit utilizes the Juvenile Interdiction Investigator, the Sex Offender Detective, and the MHU/IRIS team to review the reported RPOs for completion and clarity before being sent to Captain Rodriguez.

The Technical Surveillance Team (TST) continued to expand in 2021. To meet the increasing demands of the TST and their abilities, the TST Unit acquired two additional License Plate Reader (LPR) trailers with far more technological advantages than the older, out-of-date trailers that required ongoing maintenance and fixes. Several other cameras were purchased for TST throughout 2021. This unit is a great asset to the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office and our community.

There have been changes with the Intelligence Crime Analyst tasks in 2021. The intelligence unit has seven assigned crime analysts and one RTIC analyst. The crime analysts are broken down into a jail analyst, a narcotics analyst, a domestic violence analyst, two intelligence analysts, and one crime analyst. The crime analysts are responsible for receiving and vetting submitted tips, social media inquiries, crime overviews, and work-up requests from various units.

**Strategic Targeted Area Response Team (STAR)**

The Strategic Targeted Area Response (STAR) unit had two squads that mirror the road patrol schedule and have coverage seven days a week. Each Squad is assigned a Sergeant, Corporal, Canine member, and two Deputies. Members of STAR, also, partake in specialty assignments ranging from Emergency Response Team (ERT), SWAT, K9, and DIVE. The primary focus of STAR is to address crime patterns, sprees, or trends throughout the county.

STAR members also assisted the Narcotics Unit, Criminal Investigations Unit, and the Major Crimes Unit for an assortment of objectives. This year alone, members apprehended an organized crime unit targeting catalytic converter thefts, assisted in locating a wanted subject for attempted kidnapping, conducted surveillance on a robbery suspect, composed initiatives for locating/apprehending habitual juvenile offenders, and maintained significant presence in locations deemed to be areas of concern or probable locations for criminal offenses. Members of STAR are also team members of the Emergency Response Team. This team assisted in maintaining order during some of the peaceful protests that were hosted locally. The STAR team coordinates with FDLE, Border Patrol, DHS, and surrounding counties to address crime in the area and intercept criminal activities.
Members of the STAR team continued to demonstrate the utmost commitment as confirmed by their flexibility in working an ever-changing schedule to accommodate the available criminal intelligence. Due to the pandemic, members experienced new challenges related to scheduling and flexibility. Within the last year, STAR was afforded overtime positions, which were made available to other members throughout the agency. Those members who chose to work with the STAR team were exposed to our directives and mission, thus educating them on our methodology and daily application of the ILP.

**Mental Health Unit/Community Policing Unit**

The Mental Health Unit continues to make great strides in its ability to provide services to the community and outreach from CCSO. The Senior Referral program has become a great resource for many different social issues in the community affecting our seniors. Debbie Howard has received additional training and becomes more knowledgeable of resources and services available throughout the community. The program has also been affected by COVID-19 which limited some in-home visits. Debbie has still managed to assist with issues concerning house cleaning, utility bills assistance, medical programs, veteran services, relationship assistance, food assistance, civil courts assistance, and more. Debbie received 284 senior referrals this year. She conducted 98 home visits and countless telephone calls. Below are some 2021 statistics:

- Calls For Service 1,807
- Baker Acts 1397
- Marchman Acts 195
- Suicide Follow-Ups 5 (C.A.R.E. primary entity)
- Overdose Survivors contacted 58
- Families connected to MHU services 85
- RPO follow-ups 20
- Critical Incidents 5
- MHU Diversion Program was implemented but later superseded by the creation of the IRIS Teams. It went from June 21, 2021, to October 1, 2021. During that span, Kelly Decker responded to 45 calls which resulted in 19 hospital diversions.

**Targeted Violence Prevention Program**

On April 11, 2021, Sgt. Brandon attended the Behavioral Threat Assessment Team training conducted by FDLE in Tampa. FDLE established regional task forces throughout the state to address growing trends of mental health crises resulting in tragic violent episodes. This training, in conjunction with resources of the Real-Time Intelligence Center, will benefit the MHU with future growth and expansion. Sgt. Brandon also attends Mental Health Court with Judge Mason. Both endeavors will expand the capabilities of the MHU and provide much needed assistance to our Charlotte County community.
Integrated Response for Intervention and Support (IRIS)

In May 2021, the MHU began working on a co-responder program. Due to limited manpower, a single response option was formulated using Kelly Decker to respond to mental health and substance abuse-related calls, including suicide attempts and overdoses, as follow-ups. The program continued to grow and eventually resulted in the creation of the IRIS program. This true co-responder program combined the skills, education, and training of a mental health clinician and a CIT Deputy riding together while responding to calls in real-time. The program was initiated in October 2021, wherein CCSO and Charlotte Behavioral Health Center combined forces with anticipation of Charlotte County Fire/EMS joining in the future. Sgt. Brandon assisted the Professional Compliance Office with the submission of a grant request through the Department of Justice to help fund the IRIS Program. This request was approved, and the agency was awarded the grant in December 2021. Sgt. Brandon also joined Sheriff Prummell in a presentation to the Board of County Commissioners in September 2021, which resulted in approval for funding for the IRIS Program. The MHU currently has two IRIS Teams with anticipation to expand the unit to five.

Community Policing Unit

Throughout the year, the Community Policing Unit assisted many other units with tasks, patrols, and missions to further the mission of CCSO. The CPO Unit is always available to help when manpower is needed, special tasks requiring special skills, or other needs of the agency arise. Members are versed in many aspects of law enforcement, business, and private matters. Many aspects of the CPO Unit were adversely affected due to COVID. Items such as neighborhood watch meetings, community and business surveys, registration events, and other in-person events were hugely impacted.

The Community Policing Unit started the year off with full staffing. A fourth CPO (DFC Michael Griffin), was added to the unit in November 2020, bringing the unit to full staffing after a long hiatus. In March 2021, DFC Michael Griffin was promoted to Corporal, bringing the unit below staffing once again. As it currently stands, District 4 has no assigned CPO. Other CPOs as well as the sergeant were tasked with covering District 4 responsibilities.

Despite the shortage, the CPO Unit still assisted with acquiring housing for 14 chronically homeless individuals. In addition, they assisted 134 homeless individuals to find housing and/or financial assistance. 14 unaccompanied youth or parenting youth were assisted. 40 subjects were assisted with transportation and/or shelter. Community meetings and operations were continuously impacted by COVID. To accommodate, the CPO unit moved these meetings to email communication or virtual meetings. The neighborhood watch meetings, community events, and abatements continued to some degree, even with COVID restrictions.
The CPO Unit held and attended numerous community functions and events throughout the year. Some are listed below:

- Tip A Cop
- Homeless Coalition Area Cleanup
- Veteran's Appreciation BBQ
- Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway
- Christmas Presents Drive
- Shop With A Cop
- Mobile Birthday Parades
- Speaking Engagements
- Bicycle Assembly and Giveaway with Boys and Girls Club
- Annual Recycle and Drug Take-Back
- Numerous Ribbon Cuttings and Parades

The District 3 CPO Office, starring DFC Lou Henyecz, was moved to the new Family Services Center located at 21500 Gibraltar Dr. in Port Charlotte. This project had been underway for over a year. This is a great community collaboration wherein CCSO joins other government and non-profit agencies to provide an integrated client service delivery system. This is quite possibly the only such location in America. Other partners are the Boys and Girls Club, Charlotte County Human Services, Charlotte Behavioral Health Care, Department of Health Charlotte County, Drug-Free Charlotte County, Jewish Family and Children's Service, and others. This is Phase I of a two-part venture by the county.

The CPO unit received training in several categories over the year to include required refresher courses, block training, and some advanced classes. The new members were scheduled to attend basic courses towards acquiring Crime Prevention Practitioner Designation. In addition, DFC Ierfino attended and completed a police officer bicycle certification course. This added another member being able to assist with bicycle and Segway patrols. DFC Ierfino also attended the Police Training Officer course. The CPO Unit was tasked with being the backup for the IRIS Teams. Training and in-the-field ride-a-longs were used to facilitate this. These training courses significantly increased the capabilities of the CPO Unit.

Do The Right Thing Program (with PGPD)
An accomplishment at the end of 2020 (November) was Sgt. Brandon becoming a Board Member of the Do The Right Thing Program hosted by the Punta Gorda Police Department. This membership serves to better combine the resources and efforts of both agencies towards recognizing and being a voice for kids in the community. This program has historically received little involvement from CCSO due to misunderstandings and confusion about law enforcement's collective involvement. Sgt. Brandon becoming part the board will bring cohesiveness and contribute to better working relations between the agencies. Overall, the kids of Charlotte County and their families will benefit immensely. CPOs attend and participate in the monthly award ceremonies. In addition, the SROs and other agency members are frequently
submitting award nominations to the program, providing a better representation of kids throughout the county who are doing the right things.

**Bike Patrol**
The bike patrol unit added two new bicycles to the fleet this year. The Approach Patrol Bicycle (APB) from Volcanic Bikes is a sleek all-black patrol bike that came highly recommended by Tampa Police Department. New uniforms were ordered, providing a sleek new look to go along with the new bikes. In addition, new bike racks with integrated locks were purchased to provide utmost security and convenience for transporting and peace of mind.

**Community Affairs**
The Community Affairs Unit is supervised by Thomas "Skip" Conroy. The Community Affairs Unit is responsible for the release of public information, to include information to all digital and print media. It is also responsible for community relations, promotion of the agency through video production and for crime prevention efforts.

2021 continued to present challenges for community involvement for the agency because of the ongoing COVID pandemic. Because of the pandemic, agency mandated COVID restrictions remained in place. There were no Citizen's Police Academy classes held as a result. Civic appearances trended down in order to lessen the potential of widespread agency sickness. However, the video production team increased their workload in an effort to educate the public on crime trends, to include all types of fraud. The video team produced 30 community public service announcements and 10 CCSO news pieces. The video production team also assisted the Training Unit with 29 training videos. As a way to assist in promoting the agency through awards and promotional events, the video production team also recorded 10 Awards Ceremonies. All in all, the video production section produced approximately 126 pieces for use by the agency compared to 98 in the year 2020.

The Community Affairs Unit continued to oversee the Senior Outreach Program, a program that connects with "shut-in" elderly members of the community. As per policy, the weekly calls placed to these community members were largely handled by the agency volunteer corps.

The CAU additionally instituted a new program in conjunction with our K-9 Teams called DNA Scent Evidence. This program allows for a K-9 tracking team to track and locate missing individuals who tend to wander because of Alzheimer's Disease or another debilitating condition. The CAU Community Relations Specialists coordinate this program.
The Crime Prevention Team continued to work closely with Community Policing Officers regarding neighborhood watch groups who act as the agency's eyes and ears in their respective neighborhoods. They also worked closely with the agency Intelligence Unit, bringing critical information to the public regarding crime trends and issues of interest in an effort to reduce the crime rate and improve police/community relations. The Community Affairs Coordinator continued her presentations to community members and associations – socially distanced, of course!

The Public Information Office continued to relay important information of public interest to the media and to those this information would directly affect. The agency's social media platforms, to include Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, continued to grow with additional followers, allowing our outreach to be more impactful.

School Resource Officers/Juvenile
The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office Juvenile Operations Unit / School Resource is a multifaceted component of the agency. The primary focus is keeping the children safe, while teaching them integrity, respect, and other various educational topics. The SRO Unit completed their mission by patrolling the schools on foot, interacting with the children/young adults, and being great mentors and teachers.

There is currently one deputy assigned at every elementary school and middle school and two deputies assigned to each high school. Since there is an exclusive deputy assigned to each school, the School Resource Officer concentrates their efforts by walking the school property to conduct security. This purposeful patrol assists the deputy in detecting any variance of routine or suspicious behavior. In between patrols, the SRO deputies are required to teach a wide variety of educational classes to the students. These classes are a compilation of both state required courses and the curriculum approved by the Sheriff and Charlotte County School Board. There was a total of 1,890 classes taught in 2021 by our SROs.

Another certified deputy was added to the SRO unit at the beginning of the 2021/2022 school year. This position is a floater position and has been instrumental in assisting with coverage at schools, crossing guard locations, schools zone enforcement and transportation of juveniles for arrests and/or Baker Acts.
Every year the SRO's go above and beyond their duties in the schools and conduct operations and events while school may be out. Due to Covid-19 issues many programs were put on hold for safety reasons, which affected this year's spring break sports camp, summer law academy, explorers, respect our schools, Fresh Start Program, ABT Operations and Teen Driver Challenge.

SRO supervisors remained part of the district wide threat assessment team, Suspension, Expulsion Review Team (SERT), School Safety and Transportation Committee, and the Truancy, Ungovernable and Runaway Network committee (TURN). Supervisors also took part in a county wide mental health initiative to help combat the growing number of children being Baker Acted.

Sgt. Marsh and Lt. Jonathan Waterhouse became certified as Practitioners in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) for Schools. CPTED principals are used to reduce the opportunities of crime, discourage undesirable behavior, and provide a safer atmosphere for students, staff, visitors, and Law Enforcement.

The Charlotte County Public Schools, with the assistance of the supervisors in the Juvenile Unit, implemented two new safety features within the schools:

- The first program is the Raptor System, which is a mobile application placed on mobile devices of school staff and law enforcement. The app can be utilized in the event of an emergency. If an emergency is initiated on the app, it will alert CCSO Dispatch, school staff, and the SRO.
- The second system, which is still being completed, is the One Button Lockdown system by Intralogic. This system works similar to a fire alarm. Once the button is pushed there is an audible alarm, audible message, and blue flashing lights throughout the campus. The system will also notify CCSO Dispatch.

Upon the activation of either of these systems, it will place the campus on lockdown and proper procedures will be followed.

Criminal Investigations Division

The Criminal Investigations Division has four different sections under its umbrella. District Investigations, Major Case Investigations, Forensics, and Special Investigations. This Division is led by Captain Mathew Dowling.

District Investigations

The District Investigation Section is led by Lieutenant Brian Harrison. This section consists of the following: District Detectives, Pawn Detective, Environmental Crimes Detective, and Agriculture Detective.
During 2021, the District Investigation Unit handled several cases where the elements met a threshold that either the Office of the State Attorney of the 20th Judicial Circuit prosecuted, or Office of the Attorney General assumed them for Statewide Prosecution.

In 2021, the District Detective Unit handled approximately 1,551 cases with a closure rate of approximately 50%. Here are some of the highlighted cases:

- District detectives, Road Patrol, agriculture detectives, the Environmental Detective, and the Forensic Unit were instrumental in the successful closure of a residential burglary and grand theft from an Englewood home. More than $400,000 of personal property and three vehicles that were stolen from the victim were recovered by detectives. Detectives partnered with adjoining agencies to gain intelligence and location of suspects along with executing search warrants at multiple locations to recover the stolen property. The team of detectives worked tirelessly and swiftly, completing an in-depth investigation that resulted in the arrest of three convicted felons for multiple felony charges.

- Charlotte County business owners were peppered with frequent burglaries during 2020 and 2021. The suspect would randomly break into the businesses in a "smash and grab" style by throwing an object through a glass window or door, unlawfully enter the businesses and steal the cash register, donation/tip jar or cash from the register. As detectives utilized various investigative techniques/tools and intelligence led policing, late in 2021 they ultimately got the break needed to solve many of these crimes through physical and video evidence, linking several of the crimes to a sole perpetrator. The relentless pursuit of solving these burglaries was a top priority of the agency with several units pitching in to assist the District Detective Unit and the male suspect was charged accordingly. CCSO detectives also assisted Punta Gorda Police Department detectives in identifying this subject for committing a similar business burglary within their jurisdiction.

- Shortly after being released from prison, district detectives quickly identified an Englewood prolific offender and arrested him as the culprit responsible for stealing several golf carts in the Englewood area. All the golf carts were recovered and returned to the victims.

- District detectives investigated a residential burglary where 10 firearms were stolen. During the investigation, it was learned the firearms had been buried in lot near one of the juvenile's home requiring a search warrant to recover the stolen firearms. Detectives were able to identify four local juveniles who were charged accordingly for the crime. The rapid response from detectives removed the weapons from our streets and returned them safely to the victim.

The District Investigation Unit continued in 2021 to work with several agencies across the state in reference to organized theft rings committing thefts of boats, boat motors, marine electronics, fuel, trailers, jet skis, semi tractor-trailers/cargo, heavy duty construction equipment and thefts from construction sites. A district detective and supervisor are members of the statewide cargo task force to share intelligence information connected to these organized rings.
A 2021 arrest of a male and female duo with known ties to these organized crimes were identified as the perpetrators of a lengthy and long-term plan that included days of scouting the area prior to the burglary of a dry storage marina in the Englewood area. A tenacious and enduring investigation in 2020 by CCSO detectives and forensic investigators led to the identity and arrest warrant for the culprits in 2021 and all but one of the devices were recovered and returned to the victims. The Charlotte County warrant on these subjects led to several more cases being solved by other law enforcement agencies for similar crimes throughout Florida and the southeastern United States.

Detectives arrested a male for unlawful conveyance/transport of fuel after he was stopped by a patrol deputy transporting approximately 300 gallons of fuel in unlawful containers. Arrestee is connected to a Cuban organized crime ring out of south Florida.

The collaborative effort between several law enforcement agencies led CCSO district detectives to the identity with charges pending for the arrest of four males involved in an extravagant diesel fuel theft ring totaling 6,000 gallons stolen from Charlotte County fueling stations.

Detectives developed probable cause for the arrest of two Miami subjects for the theft of a utility trailer and compact utility loader from District 2.

The Criminal Investigation Unit investigated multiple felony retail thefts that spanned over several counties in 2021. As these organized theft rings continue to plague our retail establishments, the Florida Attorney General's Office appointed a statewide prosecutor for these investigations in 2021, where a member of the CCSO's Investigation Unit is a participating member on the taskforce. This detective solved several of these cases for statewide prosecution, to include an organized ring stealing high end liquor. Another case that was swiftly solved, involved perpetrators who used violence toward the establishment employees during the theft. Those subjects were arrested for strongarm robbery, and their criminal enterprise stopped.

District Detectives worked a broad spectrum of unlocked vehicle burglary sprees and stolen motor vehicle cases. Many of those committing these crimes are traveling from outside the area to commit crimes in Charlotte County as well as local juvenile and young adult offenders. Collaboration among other agencies with ongoing virtual meetings established by the CCSO investigations unit, intelligence led policing within Charlotte County, organized nighttime operations and united efforts from other units (Road Patrol, STAR, Forensics, Intelligence Unit, Juvenile Detective), many of these burglaries resulted in the identity and arrest of the offenders, several who are prolific offenders.

- An Englewood man was identified and arrested by district detectives following a spree of six vehicle burglaries from a villa on Englewood Beach.
- Within hours, district detectives identified two of three male subjects from the Ft. Myers area after they committed seven vehicle burglaries and stole a Porche and BMW from a Port Charlotte neighborhood. CCSO detectives worked with the Ft. Myers Police Department to obtain a search warrant on one of the arrestee's residences to collect valuable evidence for prosecution.
Several agencies within the region saw a continuing trend in the theft of catalytic converters. Detectives spearheaded a statewide intelligence sharing meeting where several agencies experiencing these crimes met to network and share information. The communication with these agencies has improved as we continue our efforts to obtain credible and actionable intelligence resulting in case closures throughout the state. CCSO Detectives made five arrests of subjects stealing catalytic converters in 2021.

Charlotte County and surrounding counties saw an uptick in the theft of water softener units in 2021, primarily at newly constructed homes following the electricity hookup phase was completed and prior to obtaining a certificate of occupancy. Detectives worked with the Intelligence Unit to establish an ongoing report with the Charlotte County permitting office once this phase was completed so members could provide constant patrols at these locations. Despite no arrests being made in 2021 for these crimes, intelligence led policing efforts drastically reduced these crimes by the end of 2021.

Throughout the year, the Criminal Investigation Unit receives several cases from the Department of Children and Families in reference to potential elder abuse. This year, detectives investigated a total of 22 cases potential elder abuse DCF cases.

The Criminal Investigation Unit is also responsible for the investigation and locating missing adults. For the year 2021, detectives handled 51 missing persons cases, all of which were successfully located, in good health, and reunited with family.

The Agriculture Unit responds to violations of agricultural laws and enforces citrus, environmental, and livestock laws. The Agricultural Unit assists in the removal of livestock from roadways to help ensure the safety of the motoring public and will assist in the euthanizing of animals, when deemed necessary. The unit opened communications with Charlotte County Animal Control this year, meeting with them to discuss efforts to assist them as needed with animal cruelty cases.

The Environmental Unit is responsible for investigating criminal violations of the Florida Hazardous Waste Control Laws. During 2021, the Environmental Detective took on 61 trash dumping related cases, resulting in 39 criminal charges, and cleaned up more than 11,436 cubic feet of waste within Charlotte County. 19 of the arrestees were from Charlotte County and 20 lived outside the county.
Agricultural and Environmental Detectives, Community Policing Unit, and Public Information Unit participated in a month-long Florida Sheriff’s Task Force: Operation Lose Wire. This operation encouraged agencies statewide to identify animal neglect, animal abuse, livestock at large, trespassing on agricultural property, farm thefts, fuel thefts, and illegal dumping. This operation helped agencies identify habitual individuals that are not keeping their livestock secure, individuals who are continuously not caring for their animals, property owners who are having habitual theft and trespassing issues and help establish hot spots where illegal dumping is regularly occurring. Persons of interest, leads, and evidence was shared with surrounding agencies to identify theft/trespassing suspects and reduce dumping, livestock at large, and individuals failing to care for their livestock statewide. The Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office led many of the reporting categories during the operation because of our proactive and community-based approach. Here are some of the statistics from that operation:

- Trespass on Agricultural Lands:
  - Citizen contacts 37
  - Trespass warnings issued 3
  - Reports generated 114
  - Arrest 30
  - Cases referred to the State Attorney's Office 11

- Animal abuse / neglect (livestock):
  - Reports generated 41

- Livestock at large:
  - Complaints received 11
  - Reports generated 63
  - Animals located 3
  - Animals returned to owner 3

- Illegal dumping:
  - Habitual areas checked 114
  - Complaints received 518
  - Reports generated 20
  - Suspects arrested 3
  - Cases referred to the State Attorney's Office 5

- Social media and sign messages developed and distributed 4

- Citizen education 33

Advanced Training
Advanced training for CCSO detectives is a priority of the District Detective Unit. As the COVID-19 pandemic continued in 2021, there were some courses opened and made available for in person and online attendance yet several still had to be canceled. Detectives were able to attend the following courses:

- Criminal Investigations - 2 members
- Florida Law Enforcement Property Recovery Unit (FLEPRU) Symposium – 2 members
Reid Interview Technique – 4 members
IPTM, Managing a Detective Unit - 2 members
IPTM, Burglary / Robbery Investigations 2 members
Cellular Technology - 1 member
Advanced Report Writing - 1 member
Florida Agricultural Crimes Intelligence Symposium (FACIU) - 2 members
Court and Case Presentation - 1 member
One Face LLC Body Language Training - 2 members

The Criminal Investigation Unit trained 25 new Road Patrol members in a 40-hour training course and 7 new detectives were cycled through a 5-week training program.

There are three detectives who are certified in Computer Voice Stress Analysis who were certified or recertified as needed in 2021. This program is designed to measure changes in voice patterns caused by the stress, or the physical effort of trying to hide deceptive responses. The CVSA is utilized as needed to establish victim, witness, or suspect credibility during criminal investigations. There were 42 calls for service that required a CVSA in 2021; 9 passed, 5 failed, 5 failed to show for a scheduled appointment, and 23 failed to even make an appointment.

Members of the Criminal Investigation Unit will continue to work hard in 2022 to suppress crime, identify suspects, and bring to justice those responsible for criminal acts upon our citizens of Charlotte County.

Major Case Investigations
The Major Case Unit consists of several units to include the following: Major Crimes, Economic Crimes, Computer Crimes, Domestic Violence, and Cold Case. During 2021, the units were assigned 1,293 cases for investigation or review (ACISS), which showed a slight increase of 1.9% from the previous year (2020). The Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) sent 1,667 reports for review, showing an increase of 12.86% from the previous year. Out of those 1,667 reports, 559 were adopted and assigned for investigation, in comparison to 443 in 2020, resulting in a 26% increase (Excel). As compared to 2020, the Major Crimes Unit investigated three homicides in 2021, with two (2) being domestic-related, which were all closed by arrest (ACISS).

In 2021, the Economic Crimes Unit investigated 374 cases compared to 344 in 2020, showing a 9% increase (ACISS). Members of the Economic Crimes Unit investigated several fraud cases, resulting in the arrest and prosecution of the individuals involved. As a result, fruits of the crimes were confiscated and appropriated for agency use.

As a result of the increase in cases, the Major Crimes Unit and Domestic Violence Unit has added a Full Time Employee (FTE) to each respective unit. This will increase the manpower in the units to allow members the ability to equally share cases and conduct criminal investigations effectively and efficiently.
The Cold Case Unit focused their attention on four (4) cases based on new information obtained or learned through investigative leads. As a result of technological advancements, members of the unit were able to positively identify a victim involved in a case from 1994. Additionally, another case resulted in the service of two (2) search warrants on a person of interest currently incarcerated out of state. The FBI-Evidence Recovery Team has been assisting with this case due to jurisdictional boundaries. Lastly, members of the Cold Case Unit provided training and presentations for the International and National Homicide Investigators Associations.

Intelligence Led Policing helped foster updated or new partnerships with local, state, and federal agencies. These partnerships allowed members to gather intelligence to assist in current and future investigations. Economic Crimes worked on several cases with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Secret Service, and Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

The Computer Crimes members work closely with Internet Crimes Against Children (I.C.A.C.) in reviewing possible child pornography to develop local cases against the individuals in possession or sharing this material across the internet. Members of the unit completed 374 mobile device extractions, 23 Laptop/PC examinations, 18 DVR examinations, 13 video retrievals from scenes, approximately 26 video enhancement/frame exclusion processes, 3 game console examinations, and 3 vehicle infotainment system examinations (ACISS). Furthermore, members investigated another 6 cases involving the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC), in comparison to 10 cases in 2020.

A member from Major Crimes is also assigned to the FBI Child Exploitation Task Force based in Fort Myers. In 2021, the agency member investigated 49 cases, whether they were self-generated, FBI Guardians and/or FBI leads. Additionally, the member handled another 41 cases generated from ICAC. Collectively, agency members investigated 47 cases in 2021 in comparison to 63 in 2020, showing a 34% decrease. These cases were fully investigated with some resulting in indictments and lengthy sentencings. Lastly, the agency member was able to obtain a federal indictment for an adult suspect who lured a juvenile to travel from Texas to Florida to perform sexual acts with him.

The Forensic Child Interviewer conducted hundreds of specialized interviews with children during this year to help detectives working cases involving a child as a victim or witness. Interviews were also conducted for surrounding agencies at their request when one was not available through the Department of Children and Families. The Forensic Interviewer conducted 241 interviews in 2021, which was an increase of 24% from 2020 of 195.
Domestic Violence Unit
The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office handled 2,915 domestic related calls for service in 2021, in comparison to 2,490 in 2020, resulting in a 17% increase (ACISS). The Domestic Violence Unit (DVU) reviewed 681 arrests, compared to 633 in 2020, showing an 8% increase. Subsequently, the DVU filed an additional 40 charges against subjects involved in the original arrests. This number is comparable to the findings for 2020 (ACISS, Excel). The DVU also adopted 165 DCF related cases, in comparison to 141 in 2020, revealing a 12% increase as well (Excel).

Major Case's Community Outreach
As a result of the pandemic (COVID-19), in person community presentations were suspended to mitigate exposure to the virus. However, the Economic Crimes Unit partnered with the Community Affairs Unit by providing Public Service Announcements, via media outlets, to alert community members on the dangers associated with current financial scams targeting our area. These announcements provide additional resources for their review, hoping to keep them from being victimized.

The Major Crimes Unit continued to work cohesively with the Sexual Assault Response Team (S.A.R.T.), and the Center for Abuse and Rape Emergencies (C.A.R.E.) to provide Code Teal Boxes to local hospitals. The boxes help in the recovery of evidence from a victim of sexual assault, while also providing victims (and family members) clothing and items normally needed after their release from a hospital.

Forensics Section
The Forensics Section houses the Crime Scene and Evidence Units and is led by Criminalistics Manager, Ivan Kiselev.

Crime Scene Unit
The Crime Scene Unit is comprised of one Crime Scene Supervisor, one Assistant Crime Scene Supervisor, two Criminalistics Technicians, and five Crime Scene Technicians. This year, our part-time Crime Scene Technician was hired to a full-time position. Additionally, Casey Thames was promoted to the new position of Crime Scene Assistant Supervisor.
Criminalistics Technicians complete evidence processing for items submitted by deputies and detectives and most of the latent print examinations for the unit. Criminalistics Technicians also respond to court, at the request of the States Attorney's Office to collect fingerprints or DNA from various subjects. Crime Scene Technicians respond to a variety of cases to document, process for and collect physical evidence from crime scenes. These cases may include, but are not limited to, death investigations (i.e. homicides, suicides, etc.), robberies, sexual assaults, aggravated batteries, burglaries, and grand thefts. Crime Scene Technicians also assist in completing processing and search warrants of vehicles in impound, in lab evidence processing and latent print examinations.

In 2021, Crime Scene Technicians made 505\(^1\) responses to crime scenes, which was a slight decrease from 2020 (536 responses). Prints developed by Crime Scene Technicians lead to the identification of suspects in several cases throughout the year.

There were 374 reports (an increase from 327 in 2020) generated for activities completed by members of the Crime Scene Unit, which did not include responding to a physical crime scene, such as in lab evidence processing, collection of fingerprints or DNA from subjects, and/or lab or evidence submissions.

There were 278\(^2\) (decrease from 404 in 2020) evidence items checked out for processing\(^3\) or latent examination in 2021 by members of Crime Scene.

A total of 382\(^4\) (decrease from 507 in 2020) latent print reports, 113 (decrease from 140 in 2020) of which reported at least 1 identification, were also generated. AFIS (Automated Fingerprint Identification System) is a highly utilized tool when attempting to identify the source of a print collected from crime scenes, evidence, and/or unidentified persons.

During 2021, 794 prints were submitted to AFIS with 247 of those prints being identified to a subject. The number of AFIS submissions in 2021 (794) was a 23.1% decrease from the number of prints submitted in 2020 (1033 submissions). However, there was an 1.65% increase in the amount of AFIS identifications in 2021.

---

\(^{1}\)Actual amount of crime scene cases was less. This is individual responses. Multiple crime scene members may have responded to the same crime scene location and/or there may be multiple crime scene locations requiring multiple responses associated with a single case.

\(^{2}\) Evidence items frequently contain more than one item of evidence.

\(^{3}\) Processing is a multi-step process and may include, but not limited to, photo documentation, examination with light sources, swabbing for DNA, and/or using various chemical or powder techniques in an attempt to develop latent prints.

\(^{4}\) Latent reports often include the analysis and examination of more than one fingerprint. Multiple reports may also be generated for a single case due to additional prints being located or additional comparisons being requested by deputies or detectives.
In 2021, members of the Crime Scene Unit continued to seek continuing education in their field, despite some planned courses being cancelled due to COVID-19. Courses attended were Logical Latent Analysis (1 member); Analysis of Latent Prints webinar (2 members); The Examination of Bloody Friction Ridge Impressions webinar (1 member); Advanced Photography (4 members); Introduction to Fingerprint Science and Tenprints (1 member); Shooting Reconstruction (1 member); Bone or Stone Human or Non-Human webinar (3 members); Digital Photography For Crime Scene (1 member); Fundamentals of Death Investigations webinar (3 members); Forensic Bloodstains: Enhancement and Documentation (2 members); Basic Bloodstain Pattern Analysis (1 member); Violent Crime Scene Reconstruction (1 member); FARO Virtual Workshop: Crime Scene Reconstruction Series (1 member; Forensic FTO: Building a Training Program & Top Training Mistakes webinar (1 member); Buried Body and Surface Skeletons: Recovery Techniques (1 member). New members hired in 2020, continued to gain valuable experience and on the job training throughout 2021. They also began working on our in house latent print training program in between their crime scene cases. The latent training program typically takes approximately two years to complete.

Evidence Unit
The Evidence Unit is comprised of one Evidence Unit Supervisor and three Evidence Unit Technicians. The Evidence Unit was fortunate to add another person to the unit as an Evidence Unit Custodian. So, the unit now has a 5-person team.

Evidence Technicians attain this level through time in service in the department and by obtaining property and evidence certifications thru classes and webinars.

As of December 31, 2021, the Evidence Unit contained 102,846 items of inventory. This is another 9% increase in total inventory since 2020. Over the 2021 year, the Evidence Unit team moved, touched, released, added to inventory, returned to inventory, and updated 106,748 inventory items. As a part of this number, the Evidence Unit added 38,317 new items to be stored in inventory: a 9% increase over the previous year 2020. The Evidence team released 58,426 items: a 25% decrease over the previous year. This decrease can be attributed to the fact that drug destruction burns could not be completed due to Covid restrictions by the disposal site. Evidence was able to return 2162 pieces of evidence to owners or designated next of kin. The Evidence team updated 7232 items currently in inventory and the team copied or viewed 611 items by request.
Weapon inventory remained steady due to civil proceedings regarding Risk Protection Orders and Domestic Violence Injunctions, where 1,090 total weapons were received into inventory. Of the weapons in inventory, 787 were able to be released to owners or their designees. The Unit was able to complete one weapon destruct in 2021, where 343 weapons, plus multiple assorted ammo and weaponry accessories were disposed.

The Evidence Unit staffing increases with a much-needed Evidence Custodian to assist with the Unit's tasks and goals. Two Evidence Unit team members were able to complete their required certification by attending the Property and Evidence Association of Florida Conference and certification class hosted in Daytona Beach this past year. All other members attended quarterly PEAF virtual TEAM meetings as part of maintaining the certification processes.

The Evidence Unit has continually expanded and updated their current warehouse facility after moving into the new building March of 2020.

**Special Investigations Section**

The Special Investigations Section includes the Narcotics, Fugitive Apprehension, and Warrants Units.

**Narcotics Unit**

In 2021 the Narcotics Unit faced several changes, as well as challenges. Throughout the year we lost several seasoned supervisors and detectives to promotions, lateral transfers, and retirement. During various periods of the year the unit was faced with rebuilding and training both new supervisors and detectives. In June of 2021, Lt. Scott Clemens was also re-assigned to Commander of the Special Investigations Unit. Despite many changes, the members continued to stay resilient and work together as a team. Both the O/D and U/C Units collaborated, sharing information, and gaining intelligence related to dealers, overdoses, and other drug related crime in the community. Together, the two units were able to seize a remarkable amount of money and drugs, as well as identify and arrest numerous narcotic dealers.
This past year the O/D Unit responded to 239 possible overdoses between January 1, 2021, and December 31, 2021. Out of the 239 call outs, 222 were classified as overdoses while the remaining 17 incidents occurred due to natural causes, medical reasons, or alcohol intoxication. The yearly tally of overdoses is 186 non-fatal and 36 fatal, which is a 69% increase from 2020. The most widely used drug discovered at overdose locations was Fentanyl. The O/D Unit worked hard to identify narcotic dealers in Charlotte County and put them behind bars. In 2021, the O/D Unit gathered an abundance of intelligence, which ultimately led to the arrests of 59 overdose suspects for various charges.

In February of 2021, the O/D Unit obtained and executed a search warrant for a residence suspected of dealing Fentanyl and being related to multiple overdose investigations. In total, the following items were obtained during the service of the warrant: 9 baggies containing Fentanyl weighing 1.3 grams, 1 baggie of a Methamphetamine weighing 0.3 grams, 1 baggie of Fentanyl weighing 0.4 grams, 1 large baggie that contained 9 baggies of Fentanyl, 1 baggie of Methamphetamine, and $1327.00 in U.S. Currency. The main dealer in the home was charged with multiple counts of possession of narcotics and firearms possession.

In March of 2021, the O/D Unit obtained the first Grand Jury Indictment for First-Degree Murder – Unlawful Fentanyl Distribution (Capital Felony). During the investigation, members of the overdose squad served 18 search warrants and interviewed 41 different people across five different counties in Florida (including several at the Florida/Georgia line). They listened to thousands of hours of jail phone calls from the incarcerated suspect on unrelated charges in two different county jails. They also read hundreds of jail mail correspondences between the suspect and various other person(s) of interest in the case.

This investigation also led to the identification and arrest of another subject on unrelated charges. The subject was a person of interest in this case. Once this subject was arrested, it was discovered she had more than 80 pills (controlled) and 48 grams of Fentanyl located in her vagina. The subject was charged with seven counts of Possession of a Controlled Substance, Possession of Drug
Paraphernalia, Introduction of Contraband into a Detention facility, and Trafficking in more than 4 grams of Fentanyl. That suspect is facing 25 years in prison.

While working a fatal overdose in April of 2021, the O/D Unit identified a subject as a potential Fentanyl/Heroin dealer. On April 28, 2021, members of the O/D Unit and K9 conducted surveillance at the suspect’s residence. The suspect was observed departing the residence on an electric skateboard, it appeared he was meeting up with people on side roads to conduct illegal narcotics transactions. At one point, a member of the O/D Unit observed the suspect speaking on his cell phone while at the same time committing a traffic infraction. K9 was called and eventually got probable cause for a stop on the subject. When K-9 attempted the stop, the suspect refused commands to stop and sped away on the electric skateboard (which was capable of speeds over 40 mph). The suspect jumped off his skateboard and began to flee through a residential yard when the K9 sergeant was able to successfully deploy his taser, stopping him in his tracks. The suspect was placed under arrest and several baggies of suspected heroin/fentanyl were found in his pockets. At the jail, another baggie of suspected Fentanyl/Heroin mixture was located hidden on the suspect.

On the same day, probable cause was established to search the suspect’s residence and a search warrant was obtained. The O/D Unit executed the search warrant on the residence and located 5 plastic baggies containing suspected Fentanyl/Heroin mixture, digital scale, baggie containing Methamphetamine, baggie containing Heroin, multitude of small plastic baggies associated with narcotics sales, a Fentanyl/Heroin mixture, materials and supplies used in the cutting and mixing of Fentanyl/Heroin, and $22,487 in U.S. Currency. The suspect was arrested and charged with multiple felonies.

While working a fatal overdose in October of 2021, the O/D Unit identified a possible suspect in the case. Members of the Narcotics Unit and K9 Unit set up surveillance on a house where we believed the suspect was visiting. Members conducting surveillance observed the suspect get into a vehicle and depart the residence. K9 was able to get a stop on the vehicle and placed him under arrest for an Open PCA that was in the system. During the search of the suspect, 222 Green Pills in a clear plastic baggie, later determined to be illegally procured Xanax, multiple bags of Fentanyl and suspected Meth/Fentanyl mixture, 62 Suboxone Buprenorphine Strips, Cocaine, and a small plastic baggie containing Viagra were all discovered. The suspect was charged accordingly.

In addition, the Overdose Unit is working a case that has a high probability of going to grand Jury for First-Degree Murder – Unlawful Fentanyl Distribution (Capital Felony). The Overdose Unit is also working with the SAO on an Attempted Murder case related to an overdose.
The U/C Unit executed thirty search warrants in 2021. Fourteen of them resulted in notable seizures of fentanyl. The total amount of money seized from search warrants and other drug arrests was approximately $85,000. 110 individuals were arrested for various drug offenses throughout the year. Eleven of these arrests were the result of months of buy/walk operations that consisted of trafficking amount of fentanyl and methamphetamine. These suspects were also persons of interest in several fatal and non-fatal overdose investigations.

In August of 2021, the U/C Unit received information about an individual trafficking large amounts of narcotics from Miami to Charlotte County. Through surveillance efforts we were able to identify movement from the suspect driving down to Miami, then driving back to Charlotte County. A plan was developed to conduct a traffic stop at a suspect's residence in Charlotte County. Once the subject was stopped, he fled the area. He was eventually apprehended, and a search warrant was conducted on his vehicle and residence. This resulted in the seizure of 226g of Heroin, 17 ounces of Hydromorphone, 79g of Cocaine, 12g of Methamphetamine, and 1000g of marijuana.

The U/C Unit executed a Search Warrant on Hernando Avenue. This investigation started with a simple online tip complaining of a suspect selling large amounts of marijuana out of his home. It was also advised that the suspect would utilize the social media application, Snapchat, to advertise and sell marijuana to his customers. Multiple detectives were able to utilize their undercover Snapchat accounts and engage in conversation with the suspect, ultimately leading to several buy's out of the home. A search warrant was obtained, and it resulted in the seizure of almost 23 pounds of marijuana, 9 pounds of THC wax, several rifles, and over $19,000 in cash.

Englewood Beach Operation – through tips it was learned there was a suspect believed to be selling cocaine at bars/restaurants on the weekends near Englewood Beach. After several weekend operations, detectives were able to identify the suspect. They introduced themselves and eventually worked their way to purchasing a trafficking amount of cocaine from the dealer. This investigation eventually led to a buy/arrest operation that resulted in the purchase of trafficking amounts of cocaine and the arrest of the suspect. Detectives continued investigating the suspect and obtained a search warrant for his cell phone. This led to further information about his possible suppliers. The investigation regarding those suppliers is continuing into 2022.

(Pictures used in this section are from various Investigations & Search Warrants from 2021.)
Fugitive Apprehension Unit/Warrants
The Fugitive Apprehension Unit (FAU) worked diligently throughout the year to locate and apprehend those subjects that were wanted for warrants within Charlotte County, to include warrants issued by other Florida counties and states. The Fugitive Apprehension Unit had a total of 847 arrests in 2021. This includes warrants, summons served, and narcotics arrests. Members of the FAU worked closely with CCSO District Detectives, as well as Major Crimes Detectives, to locate and arrest subjects that had active open cases. FAU members are also deputized as US Marshals and assisted the Marshal Service with several high risk fugitive apprehensions within Charlotte County.

Fugitive Apprehension Unit Deputies being members of the Emergency Response Team (ERT)/Mobile Field Force (MFF) were on stand-by during hurricane season to respond to assist in Florida for locations impacted by storms. Again, the ERT/MFF were not needed.

As part of the Sheriff’s Intelligence-Led Policing initiative, members of the Fugitive Apprehension Unit took an active role in addressing prolific offenders where actionable intelligence existed, indicating they were actively committing crimes. By prioritizing these offenders through available intelligence, the Unit's members were able to remove these prolific offenders from the community in an effort to reduce the opportunity to re-offend. The FAU Clerks processed a total of 1680 warrants received, and 1366 warrants served for the agency in 2021. The FAU Clerks also checked 32,384 subjects appearing on the court list with 967 subjects on that list showing active warrants.

Operational Support Division
Captain Todd Davis manages sworn and non-sworn personnel assigned to the Operational Support Division. The Division encompasses the Special Operations Section and the Communications Unit.

Special Operations
Lieutenant Darrell Caparo oversees various Units under the umbrella of the Special Operations Section. Under his command are the Canine Unit, Special Services Unit, and the Volunteer Services Unit. The Special Services Unit is comprised of the Traffic Unit, Emergency Response Team, and the Marine Patrol Unit.

Traffic Unit
During 2021, in addition to traffic enforcement, the Traffic Unit attended several classes as well as taught a local class. Two members successfully completed the daunting class and certification to become Drug Recognition Experts. Members of the Traffic Unit taught a standardized field sobriety class. The Traffic Unit attended and provided demonstrations and presentations at community events throughout the County, to include but not limited to three different parades, welcoming our National Runner-Up youth football team, birthday day drive-by events for special children cases and three 100-year-old birthdays (including two 100-year-old WWII Veterans) and the 2021 Brotherhood Ride escort which honors and supports the families of fallen first responders. Additionally, members assisted with Road
Patrol coverage due to manpower shortages, as well as assisting with Narcotic and SWAT search warrants.

Below is a sampling of the performance indicators from the Traffic Unit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Arrests</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug Arrests</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUI Arrests</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other arrests</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Citations</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Citations</td>
<td>1800</td>
<td>3129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Stops</td>
<td>4150</td>
<td>6130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warnings</td>
<td>2986</td>
<td>4248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crashes worked</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Emergency Response Team**

The primary goal of the Mobile Field Force (MFF) Emergency Response Team (ERT) is to provide support during those incidents/events that exhaust normal manpower and resources. This team is on stand-by not only within the County but also for the State of Florida. During calendar year 2021, the Emergency Response Team was not activated for any local or state incidents. The team maintained its readiness by training bimonthly. Training consisted of Mobile Field Force Operations (several new members attended MFF training at CDP Anniston, Alabama), chemical munitions certification for all members, perimeter deployment, identifying FEMA standard building markings and equipment operation/maintenance (all members received OSHA approved chainsaw training).

**Marine Unit**

The Marine Unit's primary goal is the preservation of life and property on the waters of Charlotte County through education and enforcement. The unit is responsible for patrolling and enforcing laws in the 285 approximate miles of waterways which are utilized by fisherman, boaters, and vacationers at all times of the year. Daily, the Marine Unit patrolled the waterways and performed vessel stops, while enforcing speed restricted zones/manatee zones. The unit addressed areas of concern that were reported by citizens and other aiding assets, such as the marine volunteer units and the marine neighborhood watch groups throughout the county.

The Marine Unit worked closely with the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Border Patrol during operations related to boat thefts and human trafficking. Greater partnership and cooperation was
developed with the U.S. Coast Guard in training for and executing search and rescue type missions. The Marine Unit also worked closely with the Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) with the enforcement of fishery laws and marine-life conservation. The Unit worked closely with Mote Marine personnel with the recovery of stranded animals as well as marine life removal from waterways. The Marine Unit also worked hand in hand with the County Department of Natural Resources with identifying and assisting with the removal of derelict vessels due to major storms, at risk vessels or illegal dumping of vessels.

The Marine Unit maintains night shifts on an as needed basis as well as daily day shifts to remain vigilant and proactive to the continuing boat and motor theft trend throughout the state. The Marine Unit also continued to attend Marine Intel meetings along with multiple local, state, and federal agencies to exchange valuable information regarding marine related crimes. The attendance of these meetings were tempered due to the COVID-19 pandemic which began in the early months of 2020 and continued throughout 2021. Towards the end of 2021, interagency collaboration increased as entities attempted to obtain a greater return to normalcy.

Members of the Marine Unit continued to support Road Patrol daily with the handling of calls for service while maintaining their duties. FWC handles all vessel related crashes on the waterways throughout Charlotte County and was unable to provide any data at the time of this report. Members also maintained support with the Traffic Unit, providing proactive enforcement in high crash intersections, school zones, and complaint areas throughout the county. Schedule adjustments were made throughout the year to assist with agency needs for focusing on local crime, utilizing the intelligence led policing philosophy. The Marine Unit continued to notice an increase in vessel traffic on the waterways which was consistent with the trend observed in 2020. This was a contributing factor to the increase in boating related calls for service on the waterways. The additional increase of vessel traffic also directly relates to the increase of boater warnings and citations issued.

The Marine Unit maintained a close working relationship with all marine retail stores, marinas, and mechanical shops with regards to combatting thefts of boats, boat motors, and various marine related items. The unit accomplished this by making personal contact with different businesses each month to gather intelligence and assist business owners with keeping their businesses safe.

The benefits of the Marine Unit adding one additional member to general marine patrol in 2020, and the island deputy position in the same year, showed a consistent increase in patrol coverage and citizen contacts. The additional position allows more consistent on the water law enforcement coverage for the citizens of Charlotte County. The transfer of the island deputy was a common-sense transition as this position requires routine vessel operation to fulfill the designated functions while serving the barrier island communities.
The Marine Unit typically aids citizens in gaining a better understanding of boating and navigational laws through teaching Boater Safety Courses. The unit also typically educates the public about the daily duties and activities of the unit by teaching a block of the Civilian Police Academy held throughout the year. These two functions were suspended during 2020 and 2021 due to upheaval caused by the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic. It is anticipated these functions will resume as this pandemic subsides. Plans to begin Boater Safety Classes in 2022 are currently being made. The Marine Unit was able to aid with the Little Gasparilla Island Boat Parade and the annual Punta Gorda Isles Boat Parade.

In 2017 a plan was presented to the Marine Advisory Committee (MAC) and the County Commissioners on the goals of the unit over the next five years. This plan discussed equipment needs as well as training and manpower within the Marine Unit. The Marine Unit and members of the MAC as well as commissioners continue to work together as this plan moves forward. During 2021 the MAC assisted with a grant allowing the Sheriff's Office to purchase a new 24' bay boat. Due to a highly volatile boat market, adjustments to the original purchase plan had to be made requiring a new vendor to be identified. The purchase process has progressed and will be finalized in 2022. A second GPS/FLIR/Radar screen was also able to be purchased utilizing the MAC grant. MAC also assisted with providing funding for overtime utilized in special operations. Stone Garden funding was obtained to purchase new night vision goggles for the six members of the Marine Unit, which will allow safe operation of the vessels while using them at night.

The specialized operations for the year focused on days where there is historically high activity on the waters of Charlotte County. They covered Memorial Day, Labor Day, and Fourth of July weekend. These operations resulted in numerous directed patrols for high visibility, vessel stops, safety checks, warnings, response to calls for service and one rescue. The Offshore Power Boat Association Races were again held in 2021 and the Marine Unit was responsible for security on the water for the event. In 2021, members of the Marine Unit were responsible for numerous life-saving missions on the waterways, and protection of the citizens and visitors to Charlotte County.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marine activity</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drug Arrests</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Arrests</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Citations</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stops (Land/Water)</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>1321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warnings</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boater Warnings</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crashes</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S551 Calls for Service</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Canine Unit

The Charlotte County Sheriff's Canine Unit consists of one sergeant, two corporals, seven deputies, and eleven working canines. The Canine Unit (K-9) is supervised by Sergeant David Musgrove. The K-9 Unit assists with searches for narcotics, criminal suspects, and lost persons. This eight-member K9 team is utilized to support and assist other units within the agency using their specialized training and unique capabilities. The K-9 Unit supports local schools by conducting regular narcotics sniffs and demonstrations. The K-9 Unit supports our community by participating in numerous public demonstrations throughout the year for the Sheriff's Office Citizens' Police Academy, as well as leadership groups, civic groups, and daycares.

Even though members of the Canine Unit conduct public demonstrations throughout the County, the current pandemic, has limited these activities in order to protect our Deputies and the citizens we serve. In addition to maintaining K9 coverage during the day and night times, the K9 Unit maintains an on-call Schedule, 24/7, 365 days. The Unit completes monthly required training as well as patrol and narcotics certifications for all dogs within the K9 and STAR Units.

For 2021, the K9 Unit completed one canine school for CCSO. The unit is fortunate to have two trainers to maintain high level of proficiency and mandated training.

This year, the K-9 Unit received a Federal Grant to assist with training. The Grant paid for a full week's worth of Tracking Training to help better the tracking capabilities of our K9 Teams. The training helped the K-9 Unit with Scent Discriminating Tracking. The training was very beneficial to each K9 Team member.

Below are some highlights of the activity for the Canine Unit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Indicator</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Narcotics Sniff</td>
<td>566</td>
<td>618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narcotics Finds</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracks</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Man Find (Surrender)</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Man Find (Bite/use of force)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Searches</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area Searches</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Sniffs</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K9 Demonstrations</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Interviews</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Hours</td>
<td>1,920</td>
<td>3,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug Arrests</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Arrests</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUI Arrests</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Stops</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>1510</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Volunteer Services Unit

Sgt. Alfred Sacco leads the Volunteer Services Unit. The essential mission of the Volunteer Services Unit is to serve as a volunteer support service to the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office, enhancing the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing through the provision of administrative and support services.

The Volunteer Services Unit (VSU) made up of Citizens Observation Patrol (COP), Volunteer Marine (VM), Parking Enforcement (PE), Administration (Admin) Chaplains and Reserve Deputies. These volunteers recorded a total of 18,911.55 hours in the 2021 calendar year, an increase of 8,447.35 hours from 2020. (COVID-19)

The five volunteers with the highest recorded number of volunteer hours in 2021 were: Jack Mehl (COP, Marine, Admin), 1,103.0; John Harnden (Marine, COP) 1,074.0, Bob Church (PE, COP) 1,044.0, Ken Baus (PE, COP) 961.50 and Mike Reardon (Marine, COP) 867.25.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020 Hours</th>
<th>2021 Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Citizens Observation Patrol</td>
<td>3,812.25</td>
<td>6,697.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>3,383.20</td>
<td>3,775.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking Enforcement</td>
<td>1,152.50</td>
<td>3,697.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Patrol</td>
<td>1,554.00</td>
<td>3,415.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserves</td>
<td>542.75</td>
<td>1,293.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplains</td>
<td>19.50</td>
<td>33.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,464.2</strong></td>
<td><strong>18,911.55</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Volunteer Emergency Response Team (VERT) was instituted in July of 2018 and has been invaluable ever since. The Volunteer Supervisor is the primary contact for Dispatch. There are 15 members that will respond to a scene to assist deputies and is available to assist 24 hours a day, 7-days a week. VERT responded to five (5) call outs in 2021.

Volunteers completed the mail run 140 days in 2021. VSU assisted with nine abandoned vehicles, performed 271 vehicle identification number (VIN) checks, 192 disabled vehicles (DAV) assists, Parking Enforcement issued 707 parking related citations. Administrative volunteers assisted in Supply, HR, Logistics, IRIS, E-911, and Lobbies in all District Offices, the Mall for Community Affairs, and several other departments. The Volunteer Unit assisted with special events such as Shop with a Cop. All other special events were cancelled.
Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)
The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) is a 25-member, multidirectional, all volunteer team of highly trained Deputies, who are on call 24 hours a day to respond to high-risk law enforcement situations, including barricaded suspects, hostage situations, executive protection, and high-risk warrant service. The team's mission, first and foremost, is to protect and to serve the public that they are sworn to serve. SWAT, also, conducts demonstrations throughout the year for members of leadership groups, the Citizens' Police Academy, and other public events. During 2021, there were three community service demonstrations, nine Narcotics search warrants, and two emergency calls outs.

Dive Team
The Underwater Search and Recovery Dive Team provides the Sheriff's Office with readily available and trained personnel specializing in underwater search and recovery operations.

The Underwater Search & Recovery Dive Team consists of 14 divers certified by a nationally recognized training agency. The Underwater Search & Recovery Dive Team is made up of two teams: Gold Element and Green Element. Each team consists of a Team Leader and Assistant Team Leader. The team falls under the command of a Dive Team Commander.

During this past year the team has made great strides regarding training and diver development. This past year the dive team has implemented a weeklong training session in addition to the monthly planned training. The additional training time during this week allows for member to obtain certifications which would otherwise be difficult to obtain due to time restraints. This year, members received their PADI certifications for Advanced Open Water, Rescue Diver, and Night Diver during a 3-day intensive training session. On the fourth day the team traveled to train with the Collier County Sheriff's Office Dive Team, Naples PD Dive Teams, and the Collier County Fire Rescue Dive Team. The training involved victim recovery from a submerged school bus in approximately 30 ft of water with no visibility. This coming August, the next phase of training during the weeklong dive week will be focused on members obtaining their PADI Wreck Specialist Certifications. The Wreck Specialist Certification entails the proper procedures and techniques for entering submerged wreckage. This type of training is extremely important when there is an operation involving a submerged vessel, airplane, vehicle, or similar wreckage. In addition, specialty training involving the various types of lift bags and proper usage for vehicle and vessel salvage is in the planning process.

Along with the progress regarding training, the team has also been progressing with acquiring essential equipment. The Dive Team has acquired the 12 ft Jon boat with the specialized sonar for
specialized missions. This vessel has been utilized during operations and has been a valuable addition to the team. In addition, the Dive Team has acquired the necessary dive tanks, and associated gear through last year's MAC Grant funding. Although the list for essential equipment is dwindling, there is still equipment needs for the team which will be submitted during the 2022 MAC Grant process. Two of the larger items being requested is a trailer and a tank compressor. Even though the current trailer had been repaired two years ago, it will be reaching the stage for replacement due to the need for a larger trailer for storage and the overall size of the team. The second item would be a compressor for filling SCUBA tanks. Currently the team has been utilizing the fire department's compressors for filling tanks. Although the fire department has been accommodating to our team, it is an inconvenience for them when filling 25-30 tanks. With the acquisition of a compressor, the team would be self-sufficient and able to refill in a timely manner.

An additional, the goal for this year is to develop a regional/statewide first responder dive team competition. There currently is none offered in the state for first responder divers. We've seen the positive outcomes of these events while being on the Special Weapons and Tactics teams. The networking between agencies and the overall increase of camaraderie between members is immeasurable. The team is currently in the planning stages of this event and are striving for a September 2022 date.

The members have created a great atmosphere and have evolved into a true and dedicated team. Even though the team has advanced dramatically in the past year, there is still much needed training required for the team to obtain the next level of success.

**Honor Guard**

The Honor Guard is an elite group of 10 Deputies and Correctional Officers that are trained to perform at events that reflect favorably towards the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office. The Honor Guard will provide an appropriate tribute to those fallen comrades (Deputies, Officers, and others) by being present to honor their memories and assist their families with necessities of the situation. During 2021, members of the Honor Guard attended eight memorial services, two varying ceremonies, three 30-year flag folding, and one training event.

**Communications Unit**

The Communications Unit is the primary answering point for 911 and non-emergency callers who require assistance for Law Enforcement, Fire & EMS related services. Communications serves as an afterhours point of contact for additional County services in case of emergencies. The unit provides and maintains two-way radio communications for LE & Fire/EMS. Telecommunications
tools utilized to provide services include telephones, assorted radios, teletype, computers, and automated data communications devices.

During the year Training included the following to either obtain initial certifications or maintain current ones:

- 911 State Certification
- Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office Communication’s Academy
- FCIC
- Emergency Medical Dispatch
- ICS (Incident Command Courses)
- CTO (Certified Training Officer)
- Telecommunications Emergency Response Team (TERT)
- Police Legal Science

In 2021 there were 4 members of Communications enrolled in an undergraduate college program. Due to the ongoing pandemic and staffing shortages the Communications Unit was unable to send anyone to outside training.

Members of Communications participated in the following community involvement:

- Operator Kim Heffley received the Boys & Girls Club Volunteer of the Year Award.

- E911, Charlotte County Communications, and Punta Gorda Police Dispatch worked together to enter a float into the annual Punta Gorda Christmas Parade.
Communications Measure of Workload for 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Calls for</td>
<td>233,287</td>
<td>249,101</td>
<td>231,221</td>
<td>223,890</td>
<td>244,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law Enforcement</td>
<td>203,218</td>
<td>216,551</td>
<td>199,262</td>
<td>191,388</td>
<td>208,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire/EMS</td>
<td>31,335</td>
<td>32,061</td>
<td>31,400</td>
<td>31,995</td>
<td>36,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Control</td>
<td>643</td>
<td>489</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Inbound</td>
<td>208,404</td>
<td>197,229</td>
<td>197,074</td>
<td>261,203</td>
<td>219,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calls (includes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>911)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inbound Admin</td>
<td>130,586</td>
<td>121,503</td>
<td>119,087</td>
<td>116,582</td>
<td>128,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calls</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outgoing Admin</td>
<td>65,141</td>
<td>62,657</td>
<td>64,467</td>
<td>65,210</td>
<td>73,811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calls</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aviation Division

The Aviation Division is led by Chief Warrant Officer Shane Engelauf and staffed by Warrant Officer Jonathan Bautista, Lead Aviation Mechanic Dan Ijpkemeule, and Aviation Mechanic Nathan Huck. The division is also supported by several part-time deputies that fill the role of tactical flight officers and crew chiefs.

With the rate the County is growing and the makeup of our neighborhoods, aerial firefighting has continued to be a vital part of the fire suppression plan. Our County has vast areas of undeveloped land that is adjacent to our neighborhoods. This creates problems for both Charlotte County Fire and Florida Forestry equipment, thus endangering the life and property of our residents. This past year we have seen the higher-than-normal request for aerial fire suppression continue from Charlotte County and our neighboring counties as well.

The Aviation Division established itself as one of only two agencies in Florida capable of Night Firefighting. Through the use of night vision and the addition of the CCSO Aviation Ground Support Team. There are only two agencies in the state capable of nighttime firefighting, and this unique skill set was on display during the 900-acre Golden Gate Estates fire in Collier County. Collier County and Florida Forestry requested assistance for NVG firefighting and, through our mutual aid agreement with Charlotte County Fire, we were able to assist so all units could gain control of this fire. The Charlotte County Sheriff helicopter was directly responsible for saving over a dozen homes.

The Aviation Ground Support team were utilized on all fires, securing water sites for NVG operations, establishing landing zones and refueling helicopters to support ongoing operations. This allowed aviation to provide critical coverage day and night contributing to the swift containment of the fires. CCSO Crew Chiefs and Tactical Flight
Officer (TFO) provide established safe landing and refueling zones at multiple fires and multiple different agencies allowing the firefighters to focus on the fire.

The Aviation Division was featured in Aerial Fire Magazine for the multi-mission capabilities. We are the only law enforcement agency in the country that conducts law enforcement Aerial firefighting Aerial Mosquito Abatement, and long line water rescue.

The Sheriff's Office has continued to enhance quality of life in Charlotte County by supporting County's Mosquito Control with aircraft, crews and mechanics. In coordination with Charlotte County Public Works the Sheriff's Office provides all Mosquito Control Aerial treatments and surveillance. All pilots and maintainers are qualified and licensed in the public health and mosquito control areas.

The division Fly's over 250 hours annually to combat the mosquito borne illnesses, keeping our community safe and healthy. As our population continues to grow the need for more mosquito control continues to increase our coverage area. Because of the unique nature of a Sheriff's Office conducting mosquito control, the Aviation Division was featured on the cover of AgAir Magazine.

While firefighting and law enforcement has always been a staple of the aviation program, overwater rescue and mosquito control are relatively new. The Aviation Division conducted several rescues this year, with the most notable being in Charlotte Harbor where two kayakers were thrown out of there kayak without flotation devices and unable to get to safety. The helicopter was able to deploy a rescue swimmer and get the couple to safety.

In 2021, Dan Ijpkemeule was honored as the Florida Sheriff's Association Civilian of the Year for his excellent work updating the agency UH-1 Huey helicopter and building our new multi-mission AS350 Astar helicopter due to his efforts the Sheriff's Office saved over $500,000 in labor cost and has one of the best equipped multi-mission helicopters in the country.

All Aviation mechanics are FAA Airframe and Powerplant certified. They also completed additional UH-1 and AS350 maintenance qualification courses to conduct heavy
maintenance at our facility on the Punta Gorda airport. This allows us to be less reliant on factory service as we are able conduct more maintenance in our facility, saving time and money. During the pandemic we were able to remain fully mission capable due to the abilities of our maintenance staff.

The Sheriff’s Office has long been a proud supporter of our veterans. Our aviation mechanic Nathan Huck was happy to show his appreciation by assisting the military heritage museum in the assembly a Vietnam era Huey helicopter. This UH-1 Huey sits at the entrance to the museum.

The Aviation Division established our core missions based on enhancing public safety and public health for our citizens.

- Law enforcement (Enhanced capabilities by some of the most advanced aircraft in the Country)
- Aerial Fire Fighting (One of only two Florida agencies capable of Nighttime Aerial Firefighting)
- Over-water long-line helicopter rescue (Intercoastal Waterways and The Gulf of Mexico)
- Aerial Mosquito Control (Day and Night)

The Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office is the only agency in the Country to accomplish all these complex mission sets. These services are usually broken up into many different agencies. By combining them in the Sheriff’s Office Aviation Division, we can save money and provide services not normally available from an agency our size. Therefore, the community routinely sees the Aviation Division in the skies of Charlotte County, whether it be a rescue in the Gulf, firefighting in Rotonda Sands, or mosquito control treatments in Babcock Ranch. CCSO's Aviation Division is here to support our community, and they were recognized with an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo). The award honors innovative and effective county government programs that strengthen services for residents.
Support Services Bureau
The function of the Bureau of Support Services assists Law Enforcement, Courts, and Detention operations by providing administrative, information technology, training, and communications resources for the members of the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office. Major Earl Goodwyne, Commander of the Bureau of Support Services, is responsible for planning, supervising, and coordinating the administrative operations to ensure effective and efficient service delivery within the Sheriff’s Office. Under his purview are the Operational Support Division, Human Resource Division, and the Management Information Division.

Human Resources Division
Directed by Kevin Ostrowsky, the Human Resources Division (HR) has primary responsibility for handling, assisting, and dealing with all employee-related matters, including recruitment and assisting in the process of career development. This summary is drawn from a variety of sources, data documents, and other files that are compiled and analyzed to reflect the final work product. Human Resources assists Commanders, Directors, and Supervisors in several employment and employee-related issues, including hiring, disciplining, terminating, and other personnel-related matters.

At the end of 2021, the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office employed 641 full-time employees. This is compared to 647 full-time employees in 2019. These numbers include all employee positions: Law Enforcement Officers, Corrections Officers, Public Safety Operators, and civilian support staff. The information presents a statistical perspective of agency employees' status and events that shaped our employee workforce as of the December 31, 2021. CCSO strives each year to provide a report reflecting the essence of what our workforce is and the genuinely significant value that our employees bring to this service-oriented entity.

CCSO continues to hire qualified personnel to maintain the workforce's level to meet the needs of our community effectively. To attract qualified candidates of diverse backgrounds, we have focused our efforts on the previously more effective recruitment sources.

Recruitment efforts for 2020 and 2021 were severely restricted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As allowed, personnel attended or participated in person and virtually with the following:

- Southwest Florida Criminal Justice Academy (classrooms and graduations) on multiple occasions
- Sarasota Criminal Justice Academy (classrooms and graduations) on numerous occasions
- Local college job fairs
- Government job fairs
- The cross-over academy
As Law Enforcement agencies across the nation struggle in their recruitment efforts, the CCSO has approved an FTE for recruitment. Some of the essential functions of this position are as follows:

- Plans and coordinates recruitment efforts for all CCSO vacancies, including but not limited to developing recruitment strategies, and preparing advertisements.
- Networking with potential applicants through social media, hiring platforms and during job fairs/events.
- Host, schedule and participate in recruitment events and job fairs.
- Assist, answer questions and follow up with candidates throughout the hiring process.
- Scheduling SMEs within the CCSO to assist with recruitment efforts.
- Counsel's candidates, applicants, and members of the public regarding career opportunities.

Once this member is appointed an approved action plan will be implemented that addresses objectives, branding and how the program will be evaluated.

Labor turnover is equal to the number of employees leaving, divided by the average total number of employees, multiplied by 100 (to give a percentage value). The number of employees leaving, and the total number of employees is measured over one calendar year. During 2020, there were 53 full-time employees and four part-time employees who left. In 2021, 69 full-time employees left CCSO.

The U.S. State Government Industry annual separation rate as of December 2021 was 4.2%. The U.S. Unemployment rate as of October 2021 was 3.9% (Source: BLS.gov). Agency turnover for 2020 data was 8.8%, 2021 data was 10.7%. The agency continues to analyze exit interviews to evaluate and assess areas of improvement, communicate with employees, encourage suggestions for improvements and implement initiatives in supervisor training.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retirement</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resigned</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terminated</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deceased</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>57</strong></td>
<td><strong>69</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Management Information Systems Division

The Management and Information Systems (MIS) Division of the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office is responsible for planning, acquiring implementing and developing information technology solutions to facilitate the agency’s mission. Technologies supported by MIS include Financial Management, Human Resource Management, Risk Management, Records Management, Jail Bookings and Arrests, Civil Process, Computer Aided dispatch (CAD), Fleet Management, Warrants, email, cloud services and the CCSO public website. The Information Technology (IT) Unit implements and maintains mobile and desktop computers, servers and mobile phones. MIS provides technical support 365 days a year, 24 hours a day for a wide array of devices and platforms.
MIS is responsible for providing effective systems that are also reliable and secure. Additionally, MIS provides guidance to the CCSO regarding the acquisition of new technology. Due to rapid changes in technology, MIS must constantly research and evaluate emerging technologies to determine which should be acquired, as well as evaluating and recommending upgrades to current systems as they approach the end of their life cycle. The primary reason for obtaining new technology and upgrading current technology is to ensure that CCSO members are provided with tools to perform their jobs in the most efficient, secure and safe manner possible.

The following are a few of the major projects MIS has worked on during 2021:

**Security** – MIS chartered additional security assessments that were completed by third party partners. These assessments provided actionable items for the fortification of the agency's network. In addition, the agency added two additional avenues for monitoring network and edge devise activity to better understand and catch security related anomalies.

**Hardware/Software Support and Upgrades** – This year the unit completed several projects to support the agency's technical needs. This included the deployment of new time tracking software, a replacement GPS tracking solution, a redeployment of the agency's crime analysis software, report support for the agency's new IRIS unit, the development of a new APAD tracking application, and an overhaul of the access control configuration.

In addition, the unit supported the refresh of all office copier and multifunction devices as well as a new managed Wi-Fi solution to all the agency office locations.

**Verizon APN** – The final phase of the VPN redundant connection project was complete, the mobile terminals in the field now have a secondary path to the agency network if the agency's primary internet connections is lost.

**Body Worn/Vehicle Cameras** – In cooperation with the training unit, this project was completed. Cameras were issued to all LE and Detention deputies as well as cameras installed in 200 agency vehicles. MIS is now operating as a support unit for operation as well as for records redaction.

**Regulatory** – MIS continues to support the agency's role in the State of Florida's shift to NIBRS/FLIBRS, a new national and state-wide crime reporting database. The RMS system was successfully reconfigured to validate reports to the published state-wide FIBRS (Florida Incident-Based Reporting System) standard. The entirety of the 2021 records were uploaded to the state's FIBRS test portal and are awaiting approval for the submission to the production environment.
MIS also prepared and automated the submission of the required data to the state's data transparency portal. The agency was one of the first 5 to complete the task and has played a role in supporting other local agencies in meeting their submission requirements.

In summary, MIS continues to embrace emerging technologies and plays a critical role in implementing all software and hardware resources within CCSO. Additionally, MIS will continue to assist the agency in pursuit of its goal of greater efficiency, reliability, and security of operations.

**Detention Bureau**

The Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office Bureau of Detention consists of Jail Operations, Civil Services, and Court Security. Led by Major Norman Wilson, Captain Melissa Turney and Captain Tabbatha Carter, the Detention Bureau provides safety and security for all citizens of Charlotte County. The Bureau of Detention was tasked with modifying its operations throughout 2021 due to Pandemic challenges that affected Housing and Programming Services. The team remained flexible to successfully implement and continue a wide variety of programs while providing a safe environment for the inmate population.

![Image of Detention Bureau officers](image)

In accordance with Florida State Statute, the Charlotte County Jail is required to undergo a Florida Model Jail Standards inspection on an annual basis to ensure minimum standards regarding the supervision, care, custody, treatment, housing, and general handling of the inmates are being met. With enough precautions, an on-site FMJS inspection was successfully completed in September 2021. In November, we received a tri-annual Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission inspection and were in 100 percent compliance of the applicable mandatory standards.

The Bureau of Detention has continued its contract with the U.S. Marshal Service to house federal inmates. This contract brings in additional revenue to the County and reduces taxpayer support for detention operations. We can accommodate our local needs as well as offer service to other agencies that may benefit from our facility.

The following information has been compiled to give an overview of the Bureau of Detention and the programming offered for 2021:
Average Daily Population – Total Inmate Population by Month

Inmate Population Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average Daily Inmate Population (Char. Co.)</td>
<td>658.45</td>
<td>660.4</td>
<td>660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Inmates</td>
<td>626.4</td>
<td>632.7</td>
<td>635.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (State, Curtesy Holds, non-cc)</td>
<td>542.2</td>
<td>538.3</td>
<td>542.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trip (out of facility)</td>
<td>529.1</td>
<td>535.1</td>
<td>535.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Jail Average Daily Population</td>
<td>520.0</td>
<td>524.7</td>
<td>525.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Formula: Average of Daily Disposition totals at 0800 each day.

Average Length of Stay

| Charlotte County Inmates                             | 32.9 |

(ALOS): Average Daily Population (Char. Co) multiplied by 365, divided by Admissions.

Booking Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Average Jail Population</td>
<td>662</td>
<td>691</td>
<td>641</td>
<td>578</td>
<td>546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Bookings</td>
<td>6,045</td>
<td>6,689</td>
<td>5,663</td>
<td>4,564</td>
<td>5,123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Bookings</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekender Bookings</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Registrations</td>
<td>788</td>
<td>816</td>
<td>751</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Inmate Bookings</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Bookings</td>
<td>7,570</td>
<td>8,341</td>
<td>7,388</td>
<td>5,637</td>
<td>6,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Releases</td>
<td>7,562</td>
<td>8,325</td>
<td>7,432</td>
<td>5,690</td>
<td>6,213</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Inmate Programs

Due to the precautions for the COVID-19 virus, some of the public programs continued to be reduced, only allowing a few inmates to assist while keeping proper distances to prevent any possible contamination. These reduced programs included the cleanup efforts with Charlotte County Code Compliance, and the popular plant care program that assists non-profit organizations. The Charlotte County Jail coordinates with local retailers to accept donations of wilted or dying plants. Inmates work with a plant care specialist to revive and grow the plants. The revitalized plants are then donated to non-profit organizations throughout the year to help defer landscaping costs. For 2021, almost 50 rehabilitated plants were donated to non-profits. The inmate program provides plants to Habitat for Humanity, Team Punta Gorda, Center for Abuse and Rape Emergencies (CARE), as well as other non-profits who are in need.

Another popular program is where the inmates care for and harvest food for meals. This special program teams up inmates with staff who are knowledgeable in hydroponics and aquafarming to learn a new skill. In the process, the inmates help grow and harvest healthy food for the entire inmate population, and those occasional meals are highly anticipated throughout the facility! In 2021, the inmate program harvested 3,823 pounds of produce and 120 pounds of catfish! Not only is it tasty, but this program also saved the Charlotte County community $4,852.

The Charlotte County Jail currently offers 14 separate on-site courses for inmate enrichment. A total of 1,129 participants attended the courses, an average of 94 participants per month. The Charlotte County Jail also offers 4 courses through the inmate communications device. Inmates can choose to complete these in lieu of in-person classes. Current online course offerings include parenting, drug and alcohol courses, anger management, and domestic violence courses. These courses are free to take and provide self-improvement to the inmates while in custody. Highlighted classes and programs include:

- The Parenting Program is a 16-week course held weekly for general population. This is one of 4 onsite programs that provide a completion certificate. The instructors also hold group classes and provide one on one instruction in the classroom. Prior to Covid-19, the
The Anger Management Program is an ongoing 26-week program, offered once per week for female inmates and twice per week for male inmates. Inmates that enter the program and leave the facility prior to completion can complete the program at locations in the community. Prior to Covid-19, the seats in this course were 15 seats for males and 15 for females. However, these numbers were reduced to allow social distancing to 10 seats for males and 10 seats for females. In 2021, a total of 839 inmates took the Anger Management Program.

The GED program provides a complete program to assist inmates gain their high school diploma. Inmates are evaluated by a series of tests to determine their level of education to structure their studies in the appropriate areas. There are 9 seats for males and 9 seats for females. Instruction is ongoing and inmates can continue their education in the community if they are released prior to the end of the course. In 2021, a total of 682 inmates started the GED program prior to being released from the Charlotte County Jail.

The Jobs for Life Program is an 8-week program held on Thursdays & Fridays each week. This class is held on a volunteer basis and is eligible to the inmates that will be released within 8 weeks. The interactive class has a structured curriculum with the goal to improve the effectiveness of an inmate's release back into the community. This is accomplished by coordinating service goals for stable housing, employment, recovery, and self-actualization. In 2021, a total of 32 inmates completed this intensive course, and CCSO is happy to announce that there is a zero percent rate of recidivism for those inmates!

**Courts Section**

The function of the Court Security Section is to ensure the safety and security of the Charlotte County Justice Center while providing a safe environment for all those who work and appear in it. Court Security facilitates and maximizes the efficiency of all judicial and other courthouse functions.

The primary responsibility is to maintain security for the nine Judges assigned to the Charlotte County Justice Center, as well as their staff members and any visiting Judges or Hearing Officers.

The personnel assigned to the Court Security Section receive and guard in-custody persons accused of crimes. This involves dealing with people in a courteous, professional manner from those who have never been convicted of a crime to those
individuals convicted of the most heinous of crimes. These Deputies must also maintain the decorum of the courtroom while ensuring all parties present follow the basic rules and guidelines set forth by the Judge.

Because the Charlotte County Justice Center houses three elected officials, the Court Administration Office, and the Probation Office, Court Security personnel interact with non-law enforcement related issues daily. Deputies are required to maintain excellent customer service and people skills, which complement their law enforcement skills and training.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals Entering Justice Center through Security</td>
<td>312,825</td>
<td>322,765</td>
<td>257,947</td>
<td>149,966</td>
<td>143,441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contraband Found in Lobby</td>
<td>4,950</td>
<td>14,450</td>
<td>15,543</td>
<td>4,408</td>
<td>6,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X-Ray Scans in Lobby</td>
<td>156,271</td>
<td>149,510</td>
<td>145,901</td>
<td>119,174</td>
<td>93,179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warrant Arrests at Justice Center</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New In-Custody Arrests at Justice Center</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warrantless Probation Arrests at Justice Center</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inmates Transported to Courts</td>
<td>3,966</td>
<td>3,966</td>
<td>4,616</td>
<td>857</td>
<td>473</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Construction throughout 2019 and 2020 at the Justice Center front entry way has skewed accurate collection of data for entry.*

**Adult Pre-Arrest Diversion (APAD)**

The APAD program began in 2019. The referrals continue to increase and successfully divert qualifying individuals from the criminal justice system. The APAD program is administered by a full-time member of the Courts Section team.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adult Pre-Arrest Diversion (APAD)</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Referrals</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualifying Offense Reviews</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rejected</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed APAD</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-Offended</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sheriff’s Office Locations
There are several ways to reach the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office. Below is a listing of physical locations of District offices and phone numbers.

**William H. Reilly Administration Building (Headquarters)**
7474 Utilities Road, Punta Gorda – (941) 639-2101

**Englewood - District 1 Office**
11051 Wilmington Boulevard, Englewood - (941) 475-9005

**Murdock - District 2 Office**
992 Tamiami Trail, Suite A, Port Charlotte - (941) 613-3245

**Port Charlotte - District 3 Office**
3110 Loveland Boulevard, Port Charlotte - (941) 258-3900

**Punta Gorda - District 4 Office**
7474 Utilities Road, Punta Gorda - (941) 575-5372

**Charlotte County Jail**
26601 Airport Road, Punta Gorda - (941) 833-6300