

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

A MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF



SHERIFF S. DUANE LEWIS

My promise to you as your Sheriff is to keep you informed of the activities and successes of your Sheriff's Office. We will work together to keep Berkeley County a wonderful place to live and raise a family.

In the following pages you will see the many functions of the Sheriff's Office and how we have successfully accomplished many of our goals.

I am very proud of the men and women who work tirelessly to ensure our safety. These dedicated members of the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office are responsible for the many successes we have experienced in our mission of "Taking Care of People."

It is my privilege and honor to serve you as your Sheriff.

Sincerely,

Sheriff S. Duane Lewis

SHERIFF LEWIS BIOGRAPHY

Duane Lewis began his law enforcement career in 1984 at the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy.

In 1987, Lewis became a Patrolman with the City of Charleston Police Department. While there, he obtained the rank of Investigator.

Duane became a Special Agent for I.N.S Investigations Bureau, a national arson investigative unit for the insurance industry, in 1991.

Lewis was hired as a Detective at the Goose Creek Police Department in 1992. He was soon promoted to the rank of Detective Sergeant to supervise the Detective Division.

In 1994, Duane accepted a position with the South Carolina Public Service Authority (Santee Cooper) as a Special Agent in the Law Enforcement Division. He served at Santee Cooper for twenty-one years. During his time, he was promoted to Major and later Deputy Chief. Lewis was responsible for Criminal Investigations, Training and Development, Internal Investigations and Federal Regulatory Regulations. Lewis served as a member of the National Homeland Security Critical Infrastructure Coordinating Council after the terrorist attacks in 2001.

In 2015, he offered and was subsequently elected as the Sheriff of Berkeley County in June 2015. Sheriff Lewis was re-elected in 2018.

Sheriff Lewis is a graduate of Goose Creek High School and has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia College.

**OUR MISSION:
"TAKING CARE OF PEOPLE"**

**OUR VISION:
"TO BE THE BEST WE CAN BE
IN ALL THAT WE DO"**

**OUR CORE VALUES ARE NOT
NEGOTIABLE:**

- Integrity
- Treating people with dignity and respect

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SENIOR COMMAND STAFF



The Chief Deputy is responsible for the day to day operations of the Sheriff's Office. Chief Baker acts on behalf of the Sheriff in his absence. He is responsible for the management and oversight of the Sheriff's Office Budget. His duties also include coordinating the activities of the divisions of the Sheriff's Office to meet the mission and goals of the agency.



Major David Brabham commands the Investigations and Support Services Branch of the Sheriff's Office which includes Criminal Investigations, Drug Enforcement Task Force, DEA Task Force, Forensics, Crime Analysis, Sex Offender Registry, Victim Advocates, Internet Crimes Against Children, Computer Forensics, Pawn Shop Investigations, Civil Disturbance Team, K9, Traffic Unit, Marine Patrol, Rescue, Dive Team, Special Response Team, Bike Unit, Records, School Resource Officers, Duty Office and Animal Control.



Major Willie Hickman commands the Operations Branch of the Sheriff's Office which includes Uniform Patrol North and South Districts, Community Action Team Members North and South, Court Security, Warrants, Civil Process, Judgments and the U.S. Marshal's Task Force.



Randy Demory serves as the Director of the Detention Center. Director Demory is a nationally recognized jail professional with forty years of experience in the corrections field.



Inspector Dan Isgett commands the Office of Professional Standards. The Office of Professional Standards is responsible for Internal Affairs, Polygraph & Background Investigations, Grants, Accreditation, Recruitment, Planning and Research, and Emergency Operations.

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE COMMAND STAFF



Captain Jimmy Mixson
Judicial Services

Court Security
Civil Process
Judgments
Warrants
US Marshal Task Force
Training



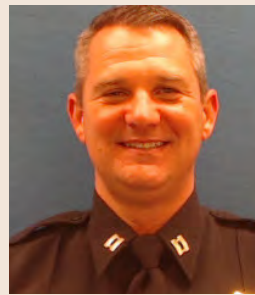
Captain Bobby Shuler
Special Operations

K9 / Traffic Unit / SRO
Special Response Team
Civil Disturbance Team
Marine Patrol / Animal
Control /
LE Explorers



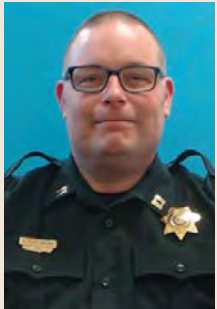
Captain Annie Jackson
Uniform Patrol North

Uniform Patrol North
Community Action Team North



Captain Michael Crumley
Criminal Investigations

Criminal Investigations
Drug Task Force
Forensic Services
Victim Advocates
Sex Offender Registry
URT



Captain Jason Pottegier
Uniform Patrol South

Uniform Patrol South
Community Action Team South



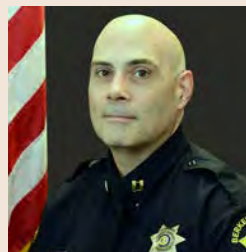
Captain Dan Barcus
Computer Forensics
Technical Services Division

CJIS /Computer Forensics
Crime Analysis / AFIS
Video Evidence / Records /
Duty Office



Captain Anthony Phyll
Hill-Finklea Detention Center
Operations

Inmate Supervision
SORT
Transport
Litter - Pick-up



Captain Kris Jacumin
Hill-Finklea Detention Center
Administration

Training
Records
Classification
Property Management

WORKING THROUGH COVID 19



In March 2020, the United States declared a national emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. COVID-19 has since taken over 500,000 lives. Sheriff Lewis acted quickly, securing grants to purchase equipment, personal protective gear and disinfecting services. Mask wearing, sanitizing and Zoom meetings became the new normal. Low level offenders were released on bond, court hearings were rescheduled and County Offices were closed. Video bond hearings and video visitations greatly assisted the Sheriff's Office to accomplish their mission safely. COVID protocols were put in place to limit exposure.

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE GOING GREEN



The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office upgraded their uniform look with a recent uniform color change. Deputies are now wearing green-colored uniforms with a new patch design as opposed to the previous blue uniforms. Sheriff's deputies proposed the new uniform design back in May of 2020. The uniform color change will allow citizens to easily identify Sheriff's Office personnel and allow deputies to stand-out from other agencies. There are many times where the Sheriff's Office and our municipal partners are on scene together on a call and our citizens may be confused about which agency a law enforcement officer represents. With the new uniform reveal, it will make it clear to our community who we are. The new Sheriff's Office patch features the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office badge between an American flag and the South Carolina state flag on a black background with gold lettering and outlining.

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SUBSTATIONS

At 1,229 sq. miles, Berkeley County is the 3rd largest county in South Carolina. The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office Headquarters is centrally located at 223 N. Live Oak Dr. in Moncks Corner. In an effort to better serve the citizens of the county, the Sheriff's Office has opened five substations across the county. Volunteers assist at the substations to assist the public. Citizens can visit these to obtain reports or information and to meet with a deputy when necessary.



Substations

South District Substation
301 Red Bank Rd. Goose Creek

Cane Bay Substation
1903 Cane Bay Blvd. Summerville

Cainhoy Substation
1501 Recreation Rd. Huger

Cross/ Pineville Substation
1659 Old Highway 6 Cross

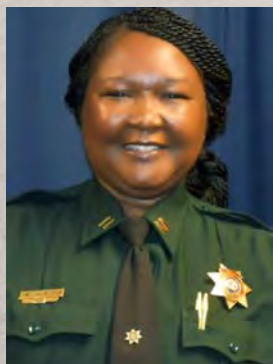
North District Substation
2184 Santee River Rd. St. Stephen

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

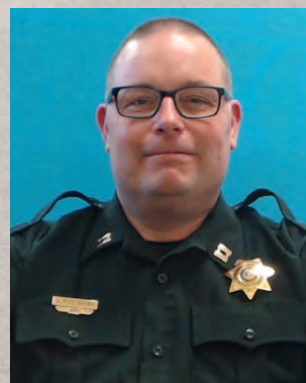
THE DISTRICT PLAN

The District Plan is designed to integrate the community policing concept into a rapidly growing county with densely populated communities. It also redistributes deputies to provide faster service and response to our rural areas.

SPAN OF CONTROL, REDUCED RESPONSE TIMES	In order to effectively manage span of control and increase responsibility and accountability, the Sheriff's office has developed a 3 year plan. The goal of the plan is to reduce response time to calls from an average of 14 minutes to <u>7 minutes or less</u> .
TWO DISTRICTS	Divide the county into a North District and a South District with a Captain commanding each district.
INCREASE THE NUMBER OF DEPUTIES	Increase the number of deputies by 24 deputies. An additional 8 deputies a year over the next three years.
CREATE A POWER SHIFT	Create power shifts to work noon until midnight.



North District Captain
Annie Jackson



South District Captain
Jason Potteiger

On January 1, 2021, The Sheriff's Office implemented the District Plan. The County was divided into North and South Districts. Power Shifts were created and personnel were assigned to specific areas of the county. The District Plan will significantly reduce response times and improve accountability.

District Captains were moved to substations. The South District substation is located on Redbank Rd. in Goose Creek and the North District Substation is located in Alvin.

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE NEW FORENSICS BUILDING



On January 11, 2021, Berkeley County held a ribbon-cutting for its new Sheriff's Office Forensic Services Building, located at 223 North Live Oak Drive in Moncks Corner, behind the Sheriff's Office. The 6,850-square-foot building is a main goal of the Sheriff's Office. The new facility is nearly three times the size of the old evidence building and offers several new features including a new public lobby and conference room. This facility will help streamline daily evidence input through the expansion of the packaging room and forensic laboratories. Many additions were made, including a new vehicle lift, conditioned garage, and back-up generator. These features will help provide a more functional and secure workplace to examine vehicles and larger evidence. The new building will offer more space to house evidence and will offer support space for Berkeley County Sheriff's Office Forensic Team as it investigates and researches cases around the County.

The new building also features a lobby for the return of property to owners.

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Advisory Board serves as the voice of their communities and act as liaisons to the Sheriff's Office. They are currently twenty-four members representing twenty communities across Berkeley County. Board Members meet with the Sheriff and his staff regularly to stay informed of the activities of the Sheriff's Office and address issues affecting their communities. Deputies are assigned to the geographic areas of the county and keep in contact with their respective board member.



LEBANON

Matthew Hoover

BONNEAU BEACH

Gary Smoak

BONNEAU BEACH

Cheryl Smoak

ST. STEPHEN

Sylvia Blake

RUSSELLVILLE

Darla Barnette

SANDRIDGE / RIDGEVILLE

Walter Early

CANE BAY/ DEL WEBB

Martin Ryan

CANE BAY WINDWOOD

Open

NEW HOPE / FELDER CREEK

Ron Harvey

CAINHOY / HUGER / WANDO

Sybill Mitchell

JAMESTOWN / HONEYHILL / SHULERVILLE

Open

DANIEL ISLAND

Marie Delcioppo

SANGAREE / TALL PINES SUMMERVILLE / LADSON

Willie Sanders

GOOSE CREEK

Cindy Long

GOOSE CREEK

Melissa Polutta

GOOSE CREEK

Cory McClary

CORDESVILLE

Francis Wright

CORDSVILLE

Jerode Johnson

ALVIN

Wendell Lampkin

HANAHAN

Michael Ramsey

CLEMENT FERRY

Lisa Kerns

CROSS / PINEVILLE

Rev. J. Howell

MONCK'S CORNER / PINOPOLIS

Mason West

MONCK'S CORNER

Chris Volf

MONCK'S CORNER

Harry Dupree

MACEDONIA

Phoebe Bradberry

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE UNIFORM PATROL DIVISION

Uniform Patrol

The Uniform Patrol Division provides 24 hour coverage, seven days a week.

Deputies are assigned to permanent 12 hour shifts. Each shift is led by a shift Sergeant and Lieutenant. Deputies are assigned to patrol zones which are divided between the South and North areas of the county. In 2020, Deputies responded to 82,772 calls for service. Power shifts were created to increase the number of deputies during the hours of high call volume.



Community Action Team

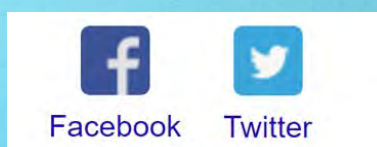
The Community Action Team has been very successful with developing relationships with community leaders across the county. Members are constantly meeting with the citizens in their assigned communities and addressing their concerns. Team Members act as liaisons to members of the Citizens Advisory Board.

In 2020, the team made 9,168 business contacts, 71,862 public contacts, attended 67 crimes watch meetings and attended over 238 community events. There were over 491 litter cases addressed in 2020. The numbers of community events and crime watch meetings have been low due to COVID-19 and the protocol restrictions.

Public Information

The Sheriff's Office is very active in social media providing accurate and timely information to the public about the activities of the Sheriff's Office. By providing current updates to the community, the citizens of the county stay informed with arrests in their neighborhoods and the latest enforcement efforts of the Sheriff's Office to address issues important to them. The Berkeley County Facebook page has definitely grown in likes! Currently, the BCSO Facebook page had approximately 53,000 followers and approximately 50,000 likes. The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office also has a presence on Twitter with over 8,000 followers.

Residents can follow the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office on Facebook and Twitter @BerkCoSheriff.



BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE JUDICIAL SERVICES DIVISION

The Courts

The Berkeley County Courthouse is home to the Circuit Court, Family Court, Probate Court and the Master in Equity Court. The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office is tasked with providing security for these courts. Reserve Deputies and State Constables provide additional manpower when needed. Deputies assigned to the unit are responsible for screening all persons entering the courthouse and they also inspect every courtroom prior to each session of court.

In 2020, courts were temporarily shut down due to COVID 19 beginning in March. All trials were postponed and bond hearings were adjusted. A

drive-thru process was established for emergency filings, and a drop box was used for court documents. The service of family court bench warrants was halted.



Warrants / Civil Process

The Warrants / Civil Process Unit is responsible for serving criminal arrest warrants, check warrants, family court, general sessions and magistrate bench warrants. The Warrants/Civil Process Unit is also responsible for serving jury summons and assisting with foreclosures. Civil process papers may include notices, summons and complaints, restraining orders, subpoenas, rule to show cause, attachments, mechanic's liens, claim and delivery and writs. Many of these orders were diminished in 2020. Evictions were halted during the year due to the economic impact that COVID 19 brought. The Warrants Unit served 2,853 warrants during the year.

Training Unit

The training unit is responsible for coordinating and conducting training for all LE-1, LE-2, and LE-3 personnel assigned to the Sheriff's Office. They also assist with training for Detention Officers, Reserve Deputies, Sheriff Special Deputies, Retirees, and Sheriff Office Auxiliary Personnel. The unit coordinates with the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy (SCCJA) for Basic LE training and advanced training. The training unit also provides training for local law enforcement agencies in Berkeley County.



In 2020, The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office contracted with Police One Academy. Police One Academy includes an extensive library of online law enforcement training content with more than 400 courses and 1,100 videos that can be delivered during roll-call, in-service, field or in a self-paced format to individual officers or groups. These videos range from Roll Call training to Active Shooter training.

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

Criminal Investigations

Criminal Investigations include Crimes against Persons, Property Crimes, Domestic Violence, Child/ Elder Abuse, Financial Crimes and Sex Offenders.

Cases assigned: 1,927

Cleared by arrest: 172 Exceptionally cleared: 214 Unfounded: 96 Administratively Closed: 523

Total Cleared:1,005

Drug Enforcement Task Force



The Drug Enforcement Task Force is staffed by detectives from the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office, the Goose Creek Police Department, the Moncks Corner Police Department, and the Hanahan Police Department. The Task force works with local, state and federal agencies to combat the illegal drug trade in Berkeley County. Citizens who want to provide information about illegal narcotics activity can go to the Berkeley County Sheriff's Website at <https://sheriff.berkeleycountysc.gov/report/give-us-a-tip/> or call 843-719-4424.

Citations 77	Seizures	Seizures
Arrests 234	Cocaine 17lbs .9 oz	Meth 9 lbs 10.6 oz
Search Warrants 85	Cocaine Base 382 grams	MDMA 116.6 doses
Consent Searches 126	Marijuana 290 lbs	Fentanyl 360 grams
Drug tips 360	Heroin 12 lbs .52 oz	Pills 1,161 doses

Forensics

The Forensics Unit is responsible for crime scene processing, all in-custody property and the processing of evidence. A Sergeant and three technicians are available 24/7 to respond to incidents. Members of the unit are trained in crime scene processing, blood spatter analysis, photography, and latent processing.

Crime Scene Responses: 466	Items sent to SLED: 783	Items returned to owner: 321
Items Logged into Evidence: 8,633	Drug Evidence: 225	Items destroyed: 4,088
Search Warrants: 112	GPM 243	Cases assisting
Items Processed in-house: 1,043	Other: 136	Solicitors Office: 1,124
ATF E-Trace Requests: 658		

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

Victim Advocates

Victim Advocates provide the public with a better understanding of the Criminal Justice system by providing information regarding their rights and responsibilities as victims and witnesses of crimes. They also advise victims of the procedures of the court system and County/State criminal codes related to their incident. Advocates assisted 958 victims of crime in 2020.

Information and Referral:	955	Sheltering / Housing Services:	6
Personal Advocacy / Accompaniment:	15	Criminal /Civil Justice System Assistance:	37
Emotional Support or Safety Services:	13		

Sex Offender Registry

The Sheriff's Office is mandated by law to conduct an annual check on all registered sex offenders in Berkeley County. The offenders must come to the sheriff's office to register quarterly or bi-annually depending on their tier level. Registered Sex offenders must also have their residency confirmed annually.

There are 380 Sex Offenders registered in Berkeley County. In 2020, the unit conducted 236 residency checks and obtained twenty arrest warrants for offenders.

Citizens can visit the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office website at Sheriff.berkeleycountysc.gov and select crime mapping to view the locations of sex offenders and their information.

Dive Team

In 2020, The Dive Team consisted of 10 team members; 7 sworn and 3 auxiliary.

The team logged 288 training hours. Dive Team members trained with agency members and also outside agencies. During 2020, the team assisted with 5 anti-terrorism missions at the Naval Weapons Station. The team conducted 2 victim recovery missions in 2020.



BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Internal Affairs

The Office of Professional Standards investigates serious incidents and coordinates citizen complaint investigations. The Division Commander reports directly to the Sheriff for Internal Affairs investigations.

Internal Affairs Investigations

Year	Not Involved	Unfounded	Not Sustained	Exonerated	Sustained	Pending	Total
2020	0	0	3	9	8	0	20

During year 2020 there were 14 Internal Affairs cases opened, involving 18 employees. It is noted that some cases involve more than one employee and or category.

Citizen Complaints

Year	Not Involved	Unfounded	Not Sustained	Exonerated	Sustained	Pending	Total
2020	0	2	2	7	3	1	15

During year 2020 there were 14 Citizen Complaint cases opened, involving 21 employees. It is noted that some cases involve more than one employee and or category.

Background Investigations

Applicants for Deputy Sheriff positions must successfully pass an extensive background process. This includes driver's license and criminal history checks, credit checks, verification of employment and education records, a reading comprehension test, a physical abilities test, a polygraph examination and medical and psychological screening. In 2020, the Sheriff's Office received 387 applications for LE1 positions. The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office hired twenty-five new deputies in 2020.

Recruitment

In person recruiting was difficult in 2020 due to COVID 19. The Sheriff's Office was able to attend two job fairs before the pandemic shut down in person job fairs. The Sheriff's Office maintains close contact with colleges, universities and civic organizations to assist with identifying future candidates for the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office. During the year, twenty-three deputies left the Sheriff's Office and twenty-five deputies were hired. The Sheriff's Office currently has 205 sworn positions. Of the twenty-five new hires, five deputies previously worked for the Sheriff's Office. Twenty-two new hires were certified officers working at a local law enforcement agency. Three of the new hires were un-certified.

Newly hired deputies were surveyed about joining the Sheriff's Office. The reputation of the Sheriff and the Sheriff's Office was listed as the most important or very important in 95% of the responses.

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Accreditation



In 2020, the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office was awarded their second re-accreditation award by CALEA (The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies). The Sheriff's Office was initially accredited by CALEA in 2013. CALEA Assessors visited the Sheriff's Office, touring the facilities and interviewing agency personnel and members of the community. Prior to the on-site assessment, CALEA service members evaluated 459 standards for compliance. The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office is 1 of only 10 CALEA accredited sheriff's offices in the state of South Carolina.

The Sheriff's Office was also re-accredited by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Accreditation Council. The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office has been state accredited since 2001.

Emergency Operations

The Sheriff's Office works with our emergency responder partners to plan and mitigate natural and man-made disasters. Hurricane Response Plans are updated annually to prepare for a hurricane landfall.

During these events, all sworn personnel are activated to ensure the safety of our residents. Deputies man traffic control points in the evacuation routes, man emergency shelters and patrol neighborhoods and businesses during the evacuation. In 2020, Berkeley County did not have a Hurricane landfall threat. Emergency Operations primarily addressed the COVID-19 Pandemic through-out the year. Personnel did attend table top exercises and webinars.



BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

School Resource Officers

The School Resource Officer Program is a collaborative effort by the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office, Berkeley County School District, educators, students, parents, and the community to offer law related educational programs in the schools in an effort to reduce crime, drug abuse, violence, and provide a safe school environment. Our deputies routinely accompany school groups as they travel to athletic and field trips. The School Resource Officer Program places a deputy in a school full-time to provide a variety of support programs and services to the students and staff. The overall goals of the program are to maintain a safe and secure learning environment on the school campus, influence the development of positive attitudes by youth towards the law enforcement community.

The Sheriff's Office provides SROs to three elementary schools, seven middle schools, five high schools and a charter School. SROs handled 138 incidents during the school year and made 35 arrests. Incidents and arrests were greatly reduced due to COVID-19. The majority of these arrests were for drug possession, assaults and theft.

Traffic Unit

The Traffic Unit is comprised of four deputies and a Sergeant. Three of the positions are grant funded. The grants are funded through the South Carolina Department of Public Safety and pay for the deputy's salary, fringe benefits, mileage and lodging and meals for in-state DUI training. One grant specifically addresses impaired driving while the other grant addresses other highway safety dangers such as reckless driving and speeding complaints.

The Traffic Unit made 18 DUI arrests and conducted or assisted with 35 checkpoints. The unit also conducted 12 safety presentations in addition to participating in the Sober or Slammer! campaigns, Buckle Up, South Carolina and Operation Southern Shield. There was a 74% decrease in DUI (alcohol or drug) involved fatal collisions from 2018 (10/2018-9/2019) to 2019 (10/2019-9/2020) in Berkeley County.



BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

Marine Patrol

During the 2020 calendar year the Marine Patrol Unit was able to actively patrol the waterways of Berkeley County to promote boater safety and also enforced state laws concerning the safe operation of watercraft. Numerous Safety Inspections of watercraft were conducted and enforcement actions to include warning citations, citations and arrests were made by the Marine Patrol Unit.



The Marine Patrol Unit did readily assist the following agencies during the 2020 calendar year; Department of Natural Resources, Santee Cooper Law Enforcement, Charleston County Sheriff's Office, State Law Enforcement Division and the United States Coast Guard, Clarendon County Sheriff's Office and Local Fire Departments with 24 rescue and recovery missions and five enforcement and security missions. The Marine Patrol did participate in three public events to include parades, festivals, community events, school events, and boater safety education training.

RESCUE

In 2018, the Sheriff's Office assumed the responsibility for rescue operations pertaining to marine and ground search rescue. There are currently twenty-five trained Sheriff's Office personnel assigned to the Marine Patrol Unit as a collateral duty along with thirteen Sheriff's Office Auxiliary personnel.

K9 Unit



There are currently eight handlers and nine canines in service. Seven of these canines are "Patrol Dogs" and two are tracking only bloodhounds. In 2020, the K-9 unit combined, responded to 6,017 calls for service, responded 410 times to other agencies to assist them, made 218 arrests, ran 261 tracks, located 43 fleeing suspects on track, conducted 125 searches for articles or hiding persons, seized 121 firearms, seized \$35,000, seized one vehicle and the following listed narcotics: 6336gm marijuana, 581gm meth, 97gm heroin, and 5,072gm of cocaine. Total street value of seized narcotics is approximately \$663,270. In addition to the above, the K-9 unit conducted approximately 20 community events this year despite the COVID epidemic.

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

Animal Control

The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office took over the duties of Animal Control for Berkeley County in July 2019. The Sheriff's Office has four Animal Control Officers. Animal Control Officers work the same shifts as patrol which keeps an Animal Control Officer working each day. Animal Control Officers handle all kinds of animal complaints in the County. COVID 19 did not slow down the Animal Control unit. The Animal Control unit handled 8,051 calls in 2020.



Bike Team

The Bike Patrol Team continues to patrol subdivisions and their utilized for large community events. The Bike Unit often teams up with other agencies such as Goose Creek PD, Moncks Corner PD, and Summerville PD to display a united effort in the communities. There has been an increase request from event planners, divisions within the Sheriff's Office and surrounding agencies for the assistance of uniformed bike patrol deputies. The deputies, on average, will patrol 15 miles at any given time. The Bike Patrol Team has assisted the Drug Enforcement Unit with several operations where the use of a vehicle would place detectives at a disadvantage.



BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE COMPUTER FORENSICS AND TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

In August of 2020 Sheriff Lewis created the Computer Forensics and Technical Services Division in response to the constant increase in the use of technology in law enforcement. The division oversees all technical projects and equipment for the Sheriff's Office, and also conducts forensic analysis of technology for criminal investigations.

The division contains several units, each responsible for different areas related to the use of technology.

Computer Forensics Unit – conducts digital and forensic analysis on information technology items to include mobile phones and computers.

Fingerprint

Analysis Unit – conducts fingerprint analysis using the agencies AFIS (Automated Fingerprint Identification System) computer.

Analytics

Collects analytical data from the Sheriff's Office RMS (Records Management System) and conducts an analysis on the data to assist with criminal investigations, crime prevention, unit deployment and manpower assessments.

Digital

Video Unit – manages and maintains the Sheriff's Office in-car and body worn video camera system.

C.J.I.S.
(Criminal Justice Information Services) Compliance – ensures compliance with FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigations) and SLED (South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division) CJIS policies and procedures.



BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

Special Response Team (SRT)



In addition to over 96 hours of training, the SRT unit responded to ten missions to include a heavily armed barricaded subject as well as a barricaded subject who attacked and assaulted a local agency Police Chief. The team participated in a weeklong FBI sponsored SWAT Summit as well as a week long joint Advanced SWAT team training. The team also assisted State, Local and Federal Agencies with several high-risk search warrant services. The team continues to meet the original goals, objectives and overall mission of the unit. The team also assisted with high risk warrant services.

Reserve Deputies

The Reserve Deputy program is made up of men and women from all walks of life who found a calling to serve in law enforcement and whom all had a desire to give back to their communities. A Reserve Deputy is a volunteer law enforcement officer whom has attended all required training as mandated by the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy and passed the testing requirements associated with their training. Training takes approximately 162 hours and spans a three month time frame. After becoming certified and being sworn in, State law requires that each Reserve Deputy maintain 60 hours a quarter of service time or 20 hours every month. Additionally they must attend training once a month.

Law Enforcement Explorers

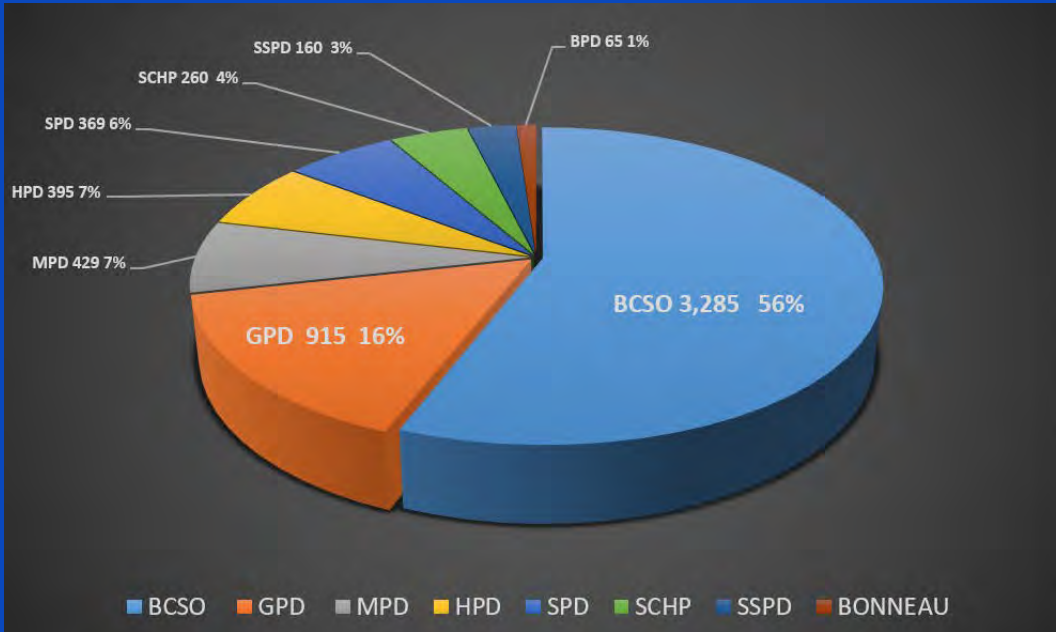
Law Enforcement Explorers are chartered by the Boy Scouts of America. Youths age 14 to 21 are eligible to become a Law Enforcement Explorer. Law Enforcement Explorers are trained in all areas of law enforcement duties to include traffic control, crime scene investigation, patrol duties, building searches and report writing.



Members of the Explorer Post, participate in SCALES (South Carolina Association of Law Enforcement Explorers) competition. Explorers are graded on events such as Active Shooter, Incident Report Writing, Legal Knowledge Testing, Courtroom Testimony, and TR-310 Report Writing. Due to COVID 19 restrictions, the explorers were unable to compete this year.

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE HILL-FINKLEA DETENTION CENTER

Our mission at the Hill-Finklea Detention Center is to provide a healthy, safe, secure and humane environment in a cost effective manner in which to detain persons in our custody.



Legend

- BCSO - Berkeley County Sheriff's Office
- GCPD - Goose Creek Police Department
- HPD - Hanahan Police Department
- SPD - Summerville Police Department
- MCPD - Moncks Corner Police Department
- SCHP - South Carolina Highway Patrol
- SSPD - St. Stephen Police Department
- BPD - Bonneau Police Department

TOP TEN CHARGES

2020			
	Category	Total	Percent
1	Drug Offenses	2,076	20.88%
2	Larceny Offenses	1,560	15.69%
3	Traffic Offenses	1,209	12.16%
4	Driving Under the Influence	644	6.48%
5	Assault Offenses (Not Domestic)	559	5.62%
6	Resisting, Evading, & Interfering with LE	516	5.19%
7	Domestic Violence	442	4.45%
8	Driving Under Suspension	384	3.86%
9	Weapons Offenses	378	3.80%
10	Disorderly Conduct	273	2.75%

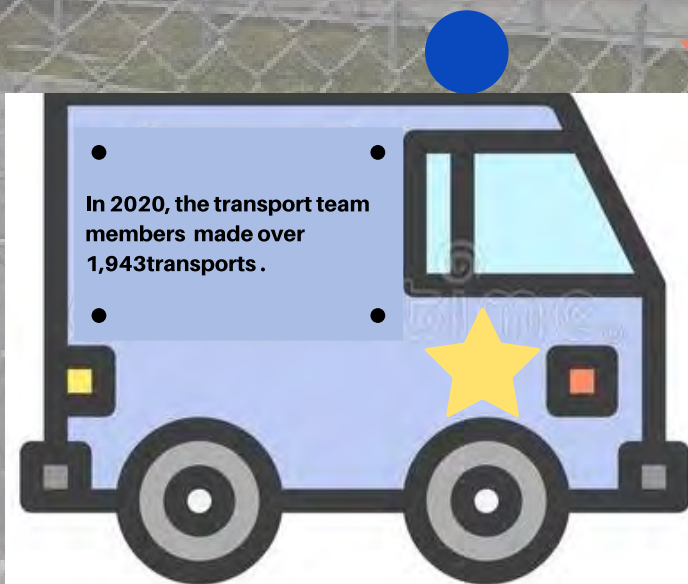
BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE HILL-FINKLEA DETENTION CENTER

The Operations Division at the Hill-Finklea Detention Center includes direct supervision of inmates, SORT (Special Operations Response Team), Transport Team and the litter pick up program.

TRANSPORT TEAM

The Transport Team covers all local and out-of-state transports. This includes transports to court hearings and medical facilities. Transport team officers are also responsible for the security of inmates at medical facilities. The transport team conducted 1,943 transports in 2020.

The Sheriff's Office implemented a weekend prisoner transport program in 2018. On Friday and Saturday nights, a transport van meets with any Berkeley County Sheriff's Office Deputy, Goose Creek Officer, Hanahan Officer or State Trooper who makes an arrest in the southern portion of the county. They transport the prisoners to the Hill-Finklea Detention Center.



The weekend Paddy Wagon Program has transported 286 detainees for Berkeley County Law Enforcement agencies and the Highway Patrol.

The Transport Unit is stationed in Southern portion of the county and picks up prisoners from Law Enforcement Officers. This allows these deputies and officers to return to their duties instead of traveling to the Detention Center in Moncks Corner.

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE HILL-FINKLEA DETENTION CENTER

LITTER PICK-UP PROGRAM

The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office instituted the Litter Pick Up Program in 2015. Prisoners who are classified as trustees volunteer to participate in this program. Under the supervision of detention officers, the prisoners clean up trash from the sides and medians of public roadways and other public areas.

**THE ROAD CREW VANS
HAVE PICKED UP
57,800
TOTAL POUNDS
OF TRASH FROM PUBLIC AREAS
IN 2020.**



BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE HILL-FINKLEA DETENTION CENTER

The Administrative Division includes the Classification Division, Records Division, Training Division, Property Management, Contracts, Policies and the Budget.

CLASSIFICATION DIVISION

The Classification Division has three officers that are responsible for evaluating the inmate population. They house similar inmates together in order to decrease acts of violence and issues among the inmate population. The division is also assigned the responsibility of tracking disciplinary procedures and providing monthly statistics on disciplinary actions.



RECORDS DIVISION

The Records Division is comprised of six civilians and three officers. The Records Division is tasked with records entry and management, inmate accounts and management of the inmate files. These records include JMS data, expungements and court and release records. Members of the Records Unit also are assigned victim notification and serve as receptionists in the lobby area of the Detention Center. The Records Division Sergeant is responsible for supervising officers that are assigned to the court house to act as escort officers.

CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

The Detention Center currently has several contracts executed for services. Their contractors include medical services, food services, inmate phone services, digital mail, and video visitation.

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE HILL-FINKLEA DETENTION CENTER

TRAINING DIVISION

The Training Division within the Detention Center consists of two officers that are responsible for state certifications of all Detention Officers. Detention Officers must complete a minimum of 40 hours of training each year. The Training Division ensures that the training is completed for each officer and maintains all training records. The division is responsible for daily, weekly, and monthly internal inspections of life safety equipment. Training Officers are also tasked with compliance with PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act). They also assist with the updating and reviewing of policies and post orders.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

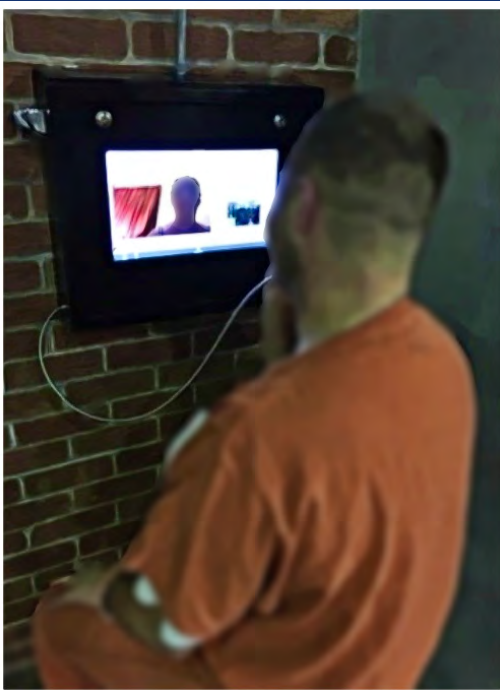
The management of inmate personal property is an important role within the Detention Center. Currently, there is one officer assigned to manage the property rooms.



TECHNOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS

In 2020, The Sheriff's Office obtained grants to address COVID concerns. Personal protective equipment, purchase disinfecting and sanitation supplies and equipment to purify the air and surfaces to protect the inmates and deputies from the spread of viruses.

Previous technological improvements such as video visitation, video bond hearing and smart tablets greatly assisted with preventing exposure to the virus.



BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IN MEMORY



Lieutenant Mark Tillman - End Of Watch September 27, 2018

Lieutenant Mark Tillman died unexpectedly on September 27, 2018.

Lieutenant Tillman was serving as a Patrol Squad Lieutenant at the time of his death. He was a 26-year law enforcement veteran. He served with Berkeley County for twenty years.



Deputy Marion Eugene Wright - End Of Watch November 19, 2002

Deputy Wright had just finished his shift and was en route home when he stopped to assist a disabled motorist. A Summerville Patrolman, William Bell, stopped to assist Deputy Wright. The two officers were changing a tire on the disabled vehicle when an oncoming vehicle left the roadway and struck both officers. The Patrolman and Deputy were both killed. The section of highway where the incident took place was renamed William Boland Bell and Marion Eugene Wright Highway.



Deputy Harvey L. Middleton - End Of Watch May 11, 1975

Deputy Sheriff Harvey Middleton was shot and killed when he and the St. Stephen Police Chief attempted to arrest a man who went on a shooting spree at his mother's home.



Deputy Warren Calhoun Guerry - End Of Watch May 27, 1947,

Deputy Sheriff Warren Guerry was stabbed to death while transporting a prisoner. Deputy Guerry had arrested the suspect for robbery and was transporting him to a local constable's home when the suspect assaulted him with a knife. He succumbed to his injuries before other officers arrived on the scene.

Photo
unavailable

Berkeley County Constable Robert Hasell - End Of Watch February 4, 1893

Constable Robert Hasell was shot and killed while attempting to serve a warrant for trespassing. Two people were convicted of Constable Hasell's murder and were sentenced to death. Constable Hasell had only served as a constable for one day.



We are thankful of the dedicated men and women of the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office

