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ANOXA COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE
13301 Hanson Blvd NW
Andover, MN 55304
(763) 324-5000
www.anokacounty.us/432/Sheriffs-Office
The Office of Sheriff was established over thirteen hundred years ago when the Anglo-Saxons first inhabited present-day England. They set up systems of local self-government and appointed chiefs to lead them. These chiefs were known as “Shire-Reeves” or what are now known as “Sheriffs.”

Throughout the centuries, the Office of Sheriff adapted to changes in society. Modern sheriffs must also adapt to meet the needs of their constituents. However, the Sheriff’s ultimate duty has remained constant – “Keeper of the County”.

1857 to 1858 J.C. Frost - appointed

Elected
1858 to 1862 Thomas Henderson
1862 to 1864 W.G. Randolph
1864 to 1868 Thomas Henderson
1868 to 1872 James Frost
1872 to 1874 M.V. Bean
1874 to 1884 James Frost
1884 to 1892 Chares W. Lenfist
1892 to 1898 John Tierney
1898 to 1900 George W. Merill
1900 to 1902 John Tierney
1902 to 1909 John Palmer
1909 to 1914 John Casey
1914 to 1930 U.S. “Red” Pratt
1930 to 1946 O.M. “Oscar” Olson
1946 to 1960 L.A. “Mike” Auspos
1960 to 1987 Ralph “Buster” Talbot
1987 to 1995 Ken Wilkinson
1995 to 2002 Larry Podany
2002 to 2011 Bruce Andersohn
2011-present James Stuart

Since 1857, Anoka County has grown considerably with over 352,000 residents today. The once rural county is part of the seven-county Metropolitan area and is comprised of 21 cities and townships, covering 440 square miles.
As the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office reflects on 2020, there have been many notable highlights and unprecedented challenges. Seemingly never-ending curve balls have required our members to embrace flexibility, teamwork, and the commitment to serving with distinction. Our Patrol, Justice Services, Jail, Laboratory, Criminal Investigations, and Administration Divisions have all risen to the occasion and adapted in order to continue the pursuit of excellence as we proudly serve the residents of Anoka County.

COVID-19 required every aspect of the office to create new operational plans and procedures to keep staff, detainees, and the community safe while continuing to meet our service standards. Actions such as wearing masks, increasing sanitizing efforts, and adjusting office practices to minimize in person contacts were quickly implemented with great success in preventing internal outbreaks of the virus. The Anoka County Jail and Courthouse staff also worked aggressively to implement systems that would allow for video court appearances between the two facilities.

During 2020, the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office committed significant resources throughout the year to quell violent unrest and criminal activities at large scale incidents in Anoka County and across the metro area. Our team members played a key role to bring an end to the historical rioting in Minneapolis in response to the death of George Floyd. In partnership with other Anoka County agencies, our peace officers also quickly quelled criminal activity arising within the County related to the riots. Members of the office, including myself, also engaged in productive dialogue at numerous peaceful protests with concerned members of the community to hear and understand their perspectives. Even during these difficult times, we encouraged a strong focus on what unites us and how we can grow stronger together.

Throughout the year, our office played many roles in the broader law enforcement community including the development of police reform efforts locally and nationally. We worked with other sheriff’s offices to develop response plans for possible pipeline unrest and pursued creative ways in which to continue positive impacts and interactions in our communities during a pandemic.

Reflecting on 2020 brings a lot of memories and mixed emotions for all of us. Despite the difficulties, we were able to continue setting the standard with innovative programs and new initiatives. Through the challenges, the members of the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office’s showed great resilience and a renewed and ongoing commitment to protect and serve the community in a manner that preserves the public trust.

As we prepare for the worst, we hope for the best and will continue to embrace our roles as collaborative ambassadors in the community to pursue the best possible outcomes for all involved. Our team remains committed to the pursuit of excellence and providing public safety services that exceed your expectations.

I hope that this report provides you with renewed insights into the hearts of your partners, the protectors who collectively serve you with pride as the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office and the “Keepers of the County.”

It remains our honor to serve the citizens of Anoka County and the State of Minnesota, and we look forward to serving and protecting you and your families in 2021!
CHIEF DEPUTY
KEVIN HALWEG

MISSION STATEMENT
TO PROTECT & SERVE THE COMMUNITY IN A MANNER THAT PRESERVES THE PUBLIC TRUST

ANOKA COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
Commander Wayne Heath
Lieutenant Andy Knotz

MIDWEST REGIONAL FORENSIC LAB
Director Scott Ford
Assistant Director Shawn Gallagher

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION
Commander Bryon Fuerst
Lieutenant Dan Douglas
Lieutenant Brent Erickson

JAIL DIVISION
Commander Dave Pacholl
Lieutenant Sheila Larson
Lieutenant Dave Tedrow

JUSTICE SERVICES DIVISION
Commander Shelly Orlando
Lieutenant James Schilling

PATROL DIVISION
Commander Paul Lenzmeier
Lieutenant Derek Schuldt
The Administration Division provides overall support services for all divisions within the office, including maintaining the office’s budget, issuing firearms permits, and public relations.

**BUDGET AND FINANCE**

The Administration Division is responsible for the oversight of the entire Anoka County Sheriff’s Office budget which encompasses all divisions, services, staffing, grants, and several different physical facilities. 2020 budgeted revenues were $10,513,774 with budgeted operating expenses of $39,151,966. Actual revenues were $11,002,444 with actual operating expenditures of $38,552,548 resulting in a Net County Share of $27,550,104. A team of three individuals including Resource Manager Jayne Faust, Administrative Specialist Cindy Hedberg, and Accountant Ruth Bromeling have a major role in budget, grant, and finance oversight for the entire office. In 2020 Cindy accepted the newly created administrative services coordinator position with Ruth Bromeling joining the office in Cindy’s previous role as accountant.

**OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

The Office of Professional Standards maintains, develops, and implements the policies for the office. Staff are also responsible for the investigation into allegations of wrongdoing made against employees. We strive to maintain the office’s core values of Honor, Sacrifice, and Pride as well as the mission statement of the office, “To Protect and Serve the Community in a Manner that Preserves the Public Trust.”

**PUBLIC INFORMATION**

The Public Information Unit facilitates the public information for all of the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office. Historically, this team has consisted of the division commander and lieutenant. However, in 2020 Tierney Peters was hired as the community relations coordinator to be the point of contact for media and public information requests. Additionally, she manages social media content to engage with communities we serve. The unit also ensures that information released pursuant to requests for data is done in compliance with state statute.

**HUMAN RESOURCES AND LABOR RELATIONS**

The division’s resource manager oversees the human resources functions for the office including recruitment, testing, selection, and retention of all personnel, as well as all labor relations and payroll functions. 2020 continued to be a busy year for recruitment and selections. Each year, our office has a variety of vacant positions requiring different and diverse qualifications of applicants. As the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office maintains a high standard in hiring, filling openings with qualified candidates can be challenging.

The following positions were processed and filled in 2020: 19 detention deputies, 4 deputies, 1 Crime Scene Unit detective, 2 record technicians, 5 community service officers, 2 court security officers, 1 background investigator, 1 forensic scientist, 2 property room technicians, 1 technical analyst, 1 accountant, and 1 community relations coordinator. There were also 15 internal position transfers and 2 promotions.

- @AnokaCountySheriffsOffice
- @AnokaCountySheriffsOffice
- @AnokaCoSheriff
The Training Unit ensures that all civilian and sworn staff have the training needed to perform their jobs to an exceptional level. In 2020, the division coordinated, hosted, or sent staff to more than 2,250 hours of training with coursework varying from use of force, implicit bias, cultural competency, and community engagement to very advanced forensic interviewing, specialty driving, and leadership coursework. Our office is also a host training site that partners with training vendors from throughout the nation to provide training to law enforcement from around the region.

Background investigations are conducted for a variety of purposes, but primarily for employment within our office, as well as for county and partner agencies. The investigations are done to ensure that the people hired are qualified, have appropriate education/training, and have no history that would disqualify them from employment in a position of trust. In 2020, a total of 305 background investigations were completed.

The Gun Permit Unit had a record-breaking year issuing and maintaining permits for the purchase and carrying of firearms pursuant to state and federal statutes. All firearms permit applicants must pass a comprehensive background check. In 2020, the office issued 7,743 permits to carry and 1,934 permits to purchase a firearm.

The office also has a firearms training range that is overseen and operated by division staff. The range is used by members of our office who are authorized by license and law to carry firearms. Range uses include proficiency qualifications and training to enhance the skills of our armed/licensed staff. When not in use by the members of the office, the range is rented out to other governmental law enforcement agencies for use by their staff. Two range masters maintain the facility and oversee the safety of training being held at the range. In addition to the firearms range, we also house and use a MILO Firearms Training Simulator for firearm use decision making exercises of licensed peace officers.

Technology continues to play a larger role in the daily operations. This includes personal computers and squad laptop computers, body worn camera systems, in-squad camera systems, complex scientific instruments, complex video and audio recording systems, and many software applications that assist our staff in performing their jobs. The division acts as the liaison between the office and Anoka County Information Technology, and ensures that our staff have the technology available to accomplish their duties.
The Midwest Regional Forensic Laboratory is an Anoka County Sheriff’s Office partnership between Anoka, Sherburne, and Wright counties and is located at our Andover office. The lab is comprised of four scientific areas of testing: Biology, Drug Chemistry, Toxicology, and Latent Prints. Additionally, the lab has property technicians to manage the intake, return, and movement of evidence throughout the facility.

In 2020, the lab had an intake of 1,952 new cases resulting in 3,476 requests for service. We saw a 15% decrease in submissions, that is likely a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Biology section experienced an increase in submissions in 2020, approximately 9% over 2019. The Drug Chemistry section experienced a decrease of just under 25% in the number of requests for service compared to 2019. This decrease in submissions is due to the change in submission policy to the Drug Chemistry section related to trace amounts of controlled substances and the testing of marijuana. Starting in 2020, a letter from the prosecutor was required to conduct testing on trace amounts of controlled substances and a court date was required to do testing on marijuana.

The Midwest Regional Forensic Laboratory had many success stories in 2020 including:

- Presented with the Maximus Award, establishing us as one of the top 14 performing forensic science laboratories in the world.
- Applied for and received a federal grant from the National Institute of Justice for a DNA Backlog Grant in the amount of $106,783 to continue the funding of a position in the Biology section.
- In April, the Drug Chemistry section became the first forensic laboratory in the state to conduct testing of the concentration of THC in samples submitted to the laboratory for testing.
- Completed construction of additional drug chemistry testing space, adding room for two additional scientists and an additional instrument room.

CODIS (Combined DNA Index System) is the national database maintained by the FBI and is a software that laboratories can use to store and routinely search DNA profiles. An offender or arrestee hit is generated when a DNA profile from a crime sample matches with an offender or arrestee profile. When two or more DNA profiles from different cases match one another, a case-to-case hit is generated.

### CODIS Hits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Case-to-Case</th>
<th>Offender</th>
<th>Arrestee</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>68</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Midwest Regional Forensic Lab Functions

- Biology Testing
- Latent Prints
- Drug Chemistry
- Alcohol Testing
- Quality Assurance
- Evidence Intake
DRUG CHEMISTRY
In 2020, the lab began a remodel project to add more workspace for the Drug Chemistry section located between the Drug Chemistry and Biology sections. The new space will allow for expanded instrumentation space as well as provide workspace for case prep. An additional workstation will also be included allowing for any potential future hires within the section.

A new High-Performance Liquid Chromatograph (HPLC) instrument was added, allowing the Drug Chemistry section the ability to perform multiple drug quantitation analyses at the same time. The instrument has also been designated for THC quantitation.

The previous Thermo HPLC is still in use and has been designated for methamphetamine quantitation, although columns can be switched between the two instruments if needed. The addition of a second HPLC also provides the lab with a means of continuing with quantitation requests in the event one instrument is down for maintenance.

LATENT PRINTS
The Latent Prints section received 122 requests for analysis and 190 requests for processing bringing the total to 312 requests, which is a slight increase from last year. 1,105 individual non-porous items (ex. drug packaging, firearms, beverage containers, etc.) and 30 porous items (ex. paper envelopes, paper, receipts, etc.) were processed. As a result, 165 latent prints were developed on those items.

147 lifts and 836 images of latent prints were also examined for suitability, with scientists conducting any subsequent comparisons that may be needed. The local fingerprint database generated 40 possible identifications from 124 unknown latent print entries and the federal database generated 13 matches from 84 unknown latent print entries.

Forensic Scientist I – Katrina Diaz continued her training to become a latent print examiner, with her training to be completed in late 2021/early 2022. Latent Prints Forensic Scientist Diaz along with Forensic Scientist Anthony Johnson continue to work part time in the Biology section, assisting with serology cases.

EVIDENCE INTAKE
The lab’s property room hired one new property room technician, Kylie Frohmader. The property room made great progress with the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative with Kayla Skoglund assisting with the collection, submission, and investigation of SAKI cases. Kayla and Kylie also completed training with the International Association of Property and Evidence. Finally, the property room was upgraded with the installation of new pass-through security windows.

New Evidence Intake Windows
The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) includes Fraud Prevention Investigations (FPI), the Anoka-Hennepin Narcotics and Violent Crimes Task Force (AHNVCTF), the Crime Scene Unit (CSU), and Major Crimes Detectives Unit. CID services are provided county-wide; regardless of whether the Sheriff’s Office is the primary patrol service provider for the city. FPI handles economic assistance fraud investigations in conjunction with Human Services and the Anoka County Attorney’s Office. The AHNVCTF investigates narcotics trafficking crimes and assists with violent crime investigations in Anoka County and northern Hennepin County, and is comprised of officers from multiple agencies in those counties. CSU provides evidence collection and processing services for all agencies in Anoka County. The Major Crimes Detectives Unit provides general felony level investigative services and specialized investigative methods to all of Anoka County.

FRAUD PREVENTION INVESTIGATIONS (FPI)
FPI is comprised of two deputy investigators. In 2020, they completed 789 investigations resulting in a savings of $1,467,784 and overpayments of $1,140,277. FPI programs are required to have a cost-benefit ratio above $3.00 and their cost of savings ratio was $8.92. FPI is consistently one of the highest performing units in the State of Minnesota regarding their ratio and savings/overpayments.

ANOKA-HENNEPIN NARCOTICS AND VIOLENT CRIMES TASK FORCE (AHNVCTF)
The AHNVCTF has 13 total investigators comprised of members of the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office, Anoka, Blaine, Champlin, Columbia Heights, Coon Rapids, Fridley, Maple Grove, Ramsey, and Rogers Police Departments. The task force also has a criminal analyst from the National Guard assigned to it and a criminal analyst assigned to the North Central High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Investigative Support Center in Minneapolis. The AHNVCTF commander oversees the overall operation of the task force which was supervised in 2020 by a CID detective and a Blaine sergeant. There were 604 new cases assigned, 396 of which were in custody cases. The task force executed 287 search warrants and 120 arrests were made during the year.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>2020 AHNVCTF Seizures</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cocaine</td>
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<td>Heroin</td>
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<td>Marijuana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Methamphetamine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Butane Honey Oil</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prescription Tablets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
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<tr>
<td>Firearms</td>
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CRIME SCENE UNIT (CSU)
CSU consists of six crime scene detectives that are supervised by Sergeant Jessica Slavik. CSU Detectives provide 24-hour crime scene processing services for Anoka County law enforcement agencies. Their specialties include photography, fingerprint evidence collection, DNA evidence collection, bloodstain pattern
analysis, trajectory analysis, impression collection, and analysis, and crime scene mapping. They also regularly conduct public speaking and education to other law enforcement agencies and groups.

**MAJOR CRIMES DETECTIVES**

CID has 18 major crimes detectives, 14 of which are assigned to general investigations. These detectives investigate all non-natural deaths, sexual assaults, and most major child abuse cases in Anoka County. Detectives also investigate a multitude of other felony level crimes including robberies, assaults, kidnappings, terroristic threats, burglaries, sex trafficking, arson, and other incidents. There are several specialties that CID detectives become experts in. These include computer forensics, cell phone, video, and digital forensics, special victims screening, polygraphs operations, human trafficking, arson, elder abuse, and overdose investigations.

**PERSONNEL UPDATES/SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:**

2020 continued to be a year of providing exemplary service for the citizens of Anoka County. For the first time, detectives could be hired or promoted from any Minnesota law enforcement agency. Detective John Wilson came from Eden Prairie Police Department and Detective Julie Dorr came from Crystal Police Department. Detective Nik Smith from the St. Cloud Police Department was hired as our newest CSU detective. Deputy Curt Grabmeier began his three-year rotation in FPI the beginning of 2020 and Deputy Rollie Sorensen finished at the end of 2020.

Anoka, Hennepin, Washington, Ramsey, and Dakota Counties teamed up and applied to join the Wisconsin High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program. This is a program that grants access to Federal monies to help combat drug trafficking. In mid-2016 the five counties were given HIDTA status and included in the Wisconsin HIDTA group forming what is now called the North Central HIDTA group. Forensic Analyst Kelly Madson continues to be an asset to the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office, as well as several outside agencies.

Human trafficking investigations and public speaking events continue in Anoka County. Detective Mike Schantzen is assigned to the Human Trafficking Task Force being overseen by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. In October, he was awarded the US Attorney’s Office Award of Excellence in the Pursuit of Justice for his involvement in the investigation of a high-profile labor trafficking case. Detective Chris Johnson continues to be assigned to the grant funded Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) position. All unsubmitted sexual assault kits that qualified for testing were tested in 2020.

The Prescription Drug Take Back Program continues to be a success with over 37,181 pounds of prescription drugs taken in and destroyed through the program. Across the division, CID personnel continues to provide training, education, and collaboration with many agencies and community stakeholders.
2020 SIGNIFICANT CASES INVESTIGATED

Anoka County Criminal Sexual Conduct

In June, detectives received a delayed criminal sexual conduct complaint that occurred in several locations within Anoka County. The victim reported being sexually abused by the suspect while he was a juvenile and the suspect was a teacher at Fred Moore Middle School for the Arts. During the course of the investigation, several more victims came forward to report sexual abuse by the suspect. Each victim described being groomed by the suspect before any sexual contact occurred. The suspect spent time with the victims outside of school hours and brought them to his house where they spent the night, took them out to dinner, and drove them where they needed to be. After establishing a relationship with them, he introduced them to graphic material and inappropriate sexual behavior. The suspect has been charged with three counts of 1st Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct, one count of 2nd Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct, and two counts of 3rd Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct. The suspect is currently released on bail pending trial.

Blaine Homicide & Suicide

In August, detectives responded with Blaine Police Department officers to a report of a domestic in progress. A 911 call was made by an anonymous male of a possible domestic at a neighbor’s house where a male, two juvenile females, and an adult female could be heard screaming. Upon officers’ arrival, Blaine Police Department officers made contact at the front door with two juvenile females who were immediately escorted to a safe location in a squad car. Shortly after, the adult female in the house called 911 and reported a domestic with her husband and screaming was heard in the background. Shortly after the call was made, a Blaine Police Department officer reported hearing multiple shots fired inside the residence. The Anoka County S.W.A.T. Team responded to the scene and made entry into the home finding an adult female and adult male deceased. After the scene was processed by the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office Crime Scene Unit, it was determined that the adult male shot the adult female prior to shooting himself, resulting in both of their deaths.

Columbia Heights Homicide

In August, detectives responded with Columbia Heights Police Department officers to a shooting which had just taken place outside of a strip mall located in Columbia Heights. Upon officers’ arrival, they located a male who had been shot several times. He was transported to the hospital but was pronounced dead shortly after his arrival. Surveillance videos from several businesses were reviewed which showed several men loitering in the area of Totem Superette. One of the men retrieved a handgun from a nearby vehicle and gave it to a second male. A short time later, the second male gave the gun back to the first male. The video showed the victim arriving at the scene and exchange greetings with several people which all seemed to be amicable. Surveillance footage then shows the first male handing a gun off to a third male and the male then putting the gun into his pocket.

Despite no apparent conflict of any kind, the third male is seen pulling the gun from his pocket and shoots the victim several times at very close range. The three defendants quickly ran to nearby cars and fled the scene. The first defendant was apprehended on August 25th and denied having any knowledge of the incident until he was confronted with witness statements and surveillance video. He later admitted that he knew the other defendants and he was at the scene of the shooting. After a very long and extensive investigation, all three suspects are in custody and charged with Murder in the 2nd Degree.

Lino Lakes Homicide

In August, detectives responded with Lino Lakes Police Department officers to a report of a male that had been
shot inside a residence in Lino Lakes. The first arriving officers found the victim suffering from a gunshot wound and was pronounced dead at the scene. During the investigation, it was learned that the victim’s father had interrupted what appeared to be a burglary in progress and observed an unknown male and female in his home. Both suspects fled in a vehicle after being confronted, and the suspect vehicle was captured on multiple cameras in the neighborhood and surrounding roadways as it left the area.

The scene was processed by the Crime Scene Unit where a 9mm gun was recovered near the victim’s body and was swabbed for DNA. The Midwest Regional Forensic Laboratory was able to develop a major male profile. The victim’s father was able to positively identify the male that was in his home as the suspect, and he was arrested by members of the Anoka Hennepin Narcotics and Violent Crimes Task Force. Additional evidence from the case led to the identification of the female as the other suspect and she was also arrested by detectives. Both suspects are in custody and have been charged with Murder in the 2nd Degree.

Carlos Avery State Wildlife Management Area Homicide
In October, detectives responded with deputies to Carlos Avery State Wildlife Management Area to a report of a male found deceased. Detectives arrived and met with deputies at the entrance to the gated vehicle path where the male was found by a witness. The witness stated he was walking his dog down a path and saw what he believed to be a pile of clothing. He then saw bare feet and called 911 immediately. The victim had a large laceration to his head, and it appeared as though he had been dragged to the location based on the imprints left in the leaves and grass. The male was not wearing any shoes or socks and multiple large bruises were discovered on his back, as well as a stab wound to his arm. His shoes were later located by a nearby pond. Several search warrants and interviews have been conducted and the investigation is ongoing.

Coon Rapids Homicide
In November, detectives responded with Coon Rapids Police Department officers to a report of a shooting in the parking lot of Cub Foods in Coon Rapids. Upon arrival, officers located a male lying in the parking lot with a gunshot wound to the chest. First responders pronounced him dead at the scene within a few minutes. As officers were arriving, bystanders directed officers to a male fleeing the scene, whom they took into custody.

Officers spoke with several witnesses and were advised that shortly before the shooting was reported, a vehicle being driven by the suspect pulled into the parking lot. Moments later, another vehicle pulled in next to the suspect’s vehicle and the victim went from the passenger seat of that vehicle into the passenger seat of the suspect’s vehicle. Witnesses described that a fight between the two males broke out inside the suspect’s vehicle which then spilled out of the driver’s door into the parking lot. They also reported that the males then separated from each other and the victim began picking up money which had also fallen out of the car onto the ground. One of the witnesses described that as he was watching the victim picking up the money and while still partially bent over, the suspect produced a handgun. The witness reported that the suspect closed some of the distance between the two and he shot the victim. The suspect is in custody and has been charged with Murder in the 2nd Degree.
The Anoka County Sheriff’s Office provides jail services for adult offenders to all law enforcement agencies located within Anoka County. Additionally, the jail holds adult individuals for the United States Marshals Service who have generally been charged with crimes ranging from white collar offenses to terrorism. Detainees in our facility are generally pre-trial offenders. Sentenced offenders are transferred to the Anoka County Workhouse, another county jail, or to a state prison.

The jail is operated using a “Direct Supervision” philosophy, meaning we expect rational, reasonable behavior from detainees. To accomplish this goal, the detention deputies actively supervise and work with the detainees. We utilize a system of rewards and consequences to obtain the desired behavior. Positive behavior is rewarded. Negative behavior may result in the loss of privileges or disciplinary action.

JAIL DESIGN AND CAPACITY
Opened in 1982, the jail is a high-rise with the original capacity of 112 male beds, 11 female beds, and 16 disciplinary male beds. The facility has been upgraded several times since it opened to improve public safety, enhance facility security, increase bed-space, and better meet the needs of law enforcement and our community. The facility is currently licensed by the Minnesota Department of Corrections to house 238 adult detainees. 120 general population (medium security) male beds, 60 flex beds for minimum and medium security males, 24 maximum security male beds, eight male protective custody beds, and 26 female beds. We also have eight male disciplinary beds and three mixed use medical beds that are not included in the overall capacity.

The jail consists of an intake and release area, six male housing units, three female housing units, a kitchen, laundry, infirmary, programming and exercise space, and social visiting areas.

CHANGES IN HEALTH CARE FOR DETAINEES
Anoka County Public Health and Environmental Services informed us that they would no longer provide the jail with medical, dental, and mental health services. As a result of this notification, it became necessary to look at other options for medical services.

Since this change also impacted Anoka County Community Corrections, we partnered to issue a Request For Proposal (RFP) for medical services. The RFP was sent to providers, including companies that specialize in providing jails with medical services. After careful consideration to all proposals, MEnD Correctional Care was selected to provide services to the Jail, Workhouse, and Juvenile Campus.

With the transition to a new service provider, the jail expanded our health care services in several areas to reduce liability and address key health care needs within the facility. We required the new service provider to provide 24/7 nursing as well as expanded, five-day-a-week mental health services. The transition from Anoka County Public Health to MEnD took place toward the end of October in 2020.

IMPACTS OF COVID-19
The Anoka County Jail was significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. We were fortunate that we had a pandemic plan in place along with an adequate supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) and cleaning supplies. However, it was still necessary to take aggressive action to limit the impact of COVID-19 on the jail staff and detainees housed in our jail.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JAIL DIVISION FUNCTIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Inmate Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Public Fingerprinting</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Booking Facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Video Imaging</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Detainee Programming</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Detainee Medical Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Warrant Entry/Verification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Records Management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
The PPE we needed to maintain on hand for staff and inmates included: plastic face shields, N95 and cloth masks for staff, reusable masks for detainees, plus surgical masks for vendors and visitors. Additionally, this required jail staff to have an adequate supply of PPE on hand and available for use. It also meant staff had to get used to performing their daily activities while wearing masks and face shields when necessary. We also provided them with the tools and instructions on how to maintain and clean their issued masks.

For detainees, we needed to have on hand cloth masks that were not a safety or security risk. For example, the cloth masks available for detainee use at the start of the pandemic had wire pieces across the bridge of the nose. These wires are contraband in the jail and could be converted into weapons or used as tools to injure themselves. To address this safety concern, the jail warrants records technicians modified over 1,000 masks by removing the wires.

Disinfectant Tools and Supplies
Throughout the pandemic, it was necessary to look outside the box for disinfecting and cleaning options. Some solutions included using new technology such as backpack disinfectant sprayers and UV light generators to disinfect large areas of the jail. We also implemented strict new cleaning standards throughout the facility. Jail staff worked closely with Anoka County Sheriff’s Office administrative personnel to coordinate our purchases of tools and disinfectant supplies.

Jail Population Reduction
Jail staff worked closely with the courts and our law enforcement partners to reduce the number of people incarcerated in our jail. This population reduction was necessary for us to meet the isolation and quarantine requirements recommended by the CDC. As a direct result of this reduction, we were able to significantly modify our housing plan in the jail. We were able to set up a COVID-19 screening unit with single cells and establish specialized housing for individuals suspected of having COVID-19. These changes helped us create a barrier between detainees already in the facility and incoming detainees who may have been exposed to COVID-19.

STATISTICAL OVERVIEW
The 2020 numbers showed significant reductions in detainee population given the impact of COVID-19. The average daily population (ADP) in 2019 was 196 and in 2020 the ADP decreased to 135. Despite this decrease, we continue to struggle to find space for our female detainees and appropriate classification/special housing beds for our male detainees.
UPGRADES AND IMPROVEMENTS

To further decrease the amount of contraband that enters the facility, the jail purchased and installed a TEK84 full body scanner in 2020. This scanner uses low-dose x-rays to detect contraband hidden on and inside individuals processed into our jail facility. TEK84 specializes in small-scale scanners that can be installed in jails with a minimal amount of remodeling.

Our jail was the first facility in Minnesota to install such a device after the state authorized their use in correctional settings. In just a few short months of use, the equipment has already proved itself useful. Staff have identified several suspicious items on individuals being processed into the jail, and we have then been able to isolate these individuals to prevent the introduction of contraband into the jail. We are also finding that the scanner has a deterrent effect as individuals are finding out we are using this device and are dumping contraband prior to entering the scanner.

Due to jail staff’s focus on health and welfare concerns related to COVID-19, there was limited ability to address jail physical plant issues. However, the paint and trim did receive an update in the booking area as the paint in this section of the jail was almost 20 years old and heavily worn. Additionally, all the floors in the jail were stripped and waxed. The reduced detainee population due to COVID-19 meant less jail movement and allowed us the time necessary to complete these tasks.

An unused part of the jail adjacent to booking intake was remodeled to create useable space for the new body scanner. Previously, this area held a series of non-contact visiting cells that were rendered obsolete when we went to video visiting. A phase two remodeling of this area will take place in 2021 which will provide an additional interview room for law enforcement and space for an officer report writing station.
WARRANTS AND JAIL RECORDS

Records technicians working in the Warrant Office and Jail Records play a critical role in the success of jail operations. They are excellent ambassadors for the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office and do an exceptional job when interacting with members of the public.

Warrants personnel are responsible for the processing of all warrants issued by the courts. Processing includes entering warrants into the state crime information computer and national crime information computer. There is also a clearing process that must be performed when an individual is arrested on a warrant or the court quashes (dismisses) a warrant. This data entry work must be done with 100% accuracy. In addition to data entry duties, the warrants personnel are responsible for coordinating with jail staff for walk-ins (individuals turning themselves in on their outstanding warrant), other agencies on extraditions, bail/bond information, and requesting daily prisoner transports.

The Warrants Office averages 3,000 active warrants at any given time. In 2020, that number decreased to approximately 2,600. Warrants personnel entered 4,601 new warrants which was a significant decrease from the 6,642 entered in 2019. They also cleared 4,899 warrants and quashed 1,959 warrants. Quashes increased by 39% in 2020. This increase can be attributed to arrest/detention decisions being made by the duty judge.

Jail records and administrative personnel staff process all records generated by or related to the detainees housed in the facility, including all electronic records and hard copy files. These individuals are also responsible for submitting detainee records to the state, calculating detainee out-dates, processing court related information, working with other justice partners to create more efficient work processes, and handling data requests. In addition, they help coordinate the transport of detainees into and out of the facility.
The Justice Services Division is a multi-faceted division which incorporates our Civil, Court Security, Transport, Warrant Apprehension, and Records Units. 2020 has been a historic year, which has changed a lot of the ways we perform our duties.

In March of 2020, Lieutenant Ronald Bouley retired after 36+ years of service to the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office. Ron was serving as the lieutenant of Justice Services at the time of his retirement, and his expertise and knowledge has been sincerely missed. Records Technician Brenda Kowski, began her retirement in August of 2020 after 16 years of service. She was a fixture at our front window for many years, prior to moving into a position of CID records technician. Brenda was also well versed in the patrol field-based reporting program and filled in at the CID window.

With Lieutenant Bouley’s retirement, CID Detective Jim Schilling was promoted to the position of lieutenant for Justice Services. Lieutenant Schilling began his new role while some operations were shut down due to COVID-19 and became an integral part of the Justice Services Division with his assistance during the Minneapolis unrest and riots.

WARRANTS APPREHENSION UNIT

Even with COVID-19 protocols, the Warrants Apprehension Unit deputy has maintained a steady workload during the year. This deputy focuses on arresting offenders who mainly have violent felony warrants. They also partner with the US Marshals in their efforts to arrest violent felons. This is a reciprocal relationship, where the US Marshals will assist in locating Anoka County violent offenders as well.

CIVIL UNIT

Due to the Governor’s Executive Order, a moratorium was placed on eviction proceedings from March through the end of the year. Our Civil Unit saw a reduction in the amount of papers that they served for mortgage foreclosures or evictions, however there was a steady stream of orders for protection or harassment restraining orders coming in. The overall difference in papers processed for our Civil Unit was 23% lower in 2020 than 2019.

TRANSPORT UNIT

Our Transport Unit is responsible for transporting inmates on writs, prison commits, and medical appointments, to state health facilities, jail transfers, and extraditions from out of state. In 2020, the number of inmates requiring transport has dropped dramatically, with the number of overall transports that they conducted down 59%. With more time available, the unit has been doing more extraditions and have also been helping other divisions across the office to take care of tasks that they are able to assist in.

RECORDS UNIT

The Records Unit is responsible for entering all the incident reports into a records management system and transcribing documents relating to calls for service and crimes. In 2020 our Records Unit processed 3,552 citations and warnings along with
Courts changed from having in-person appearances to having mainly virtual courtrooms. The courthouse was open for people who had scheduled appearances, however many of those were conducted virtually or court cases were delayed. Since most of the court rooms did not require an officer to be present, six detention deputies who are assigned to court security were transferred back to the jail to assist in their staffing plans.

Due to the lack of courtroom coverage, the Court Security Unit was able to reduce the use of part time court security officers. Part time court security officers’ hours worked decreased from 4,273 in 2019 to 2,036 in 2020. This was a 52% reduction. We do expect the numbers to go back up once court services return to a more normal workflow.

For two days in September, some of the controlled substance court calendar cases were held at the Bunker Activities Center. The Court Security Unit operated a makeshift check point and oversaw the security for the two “courtrooms” in which the cases were heard. The ability to hold the court appearances in a larger space allowed for 82 cases to be resolved. 50 cases had a first appearance but were continued.

With the downturn in activities, records technicians were able to focus on projects such as the electronic storing of old tow sheets and records database clean-up. One of the projects that is on-going is converting all the old homicide files into a digital format. Homicide files are kept indefinitely and many of the old files were becoming an issue due to the deterioration of old photos and typing paper. All files are being scanned so they will be preserved.

17,347 incident reports. The overtime worked by the unit was reduced by 62% from 2019.

Records Unit

Civil Unit
The Patrol Division provides contracted law enforcement services to eight communities within the county including Andover, Ham Lake, East Bethel, Oak Grove, Columbus, Linwood Township, Nowthen, and Bethel. We responded to 36,091 calls for service within the 270+ square mile area served. The Patrol Division includes a commander, lieutenant, sergeants, deputies, crime prevention team, and administrative assistant. Additionally, there are part time community service officers, volunteer reserves, chaplains, and explorers.

There are several specialty units that provide coverage for all of Anoka County’s 21 communities. These units include (4) K-9 teams, S.W.A.T. team, Marine Unit, Unmanned Aircraft System Unit (UAS), Honor Guard, and Mobile Field Force.

**PATROL STATISTICS**

The statistics below represent all contract serviced communities. The way we calculated our calls for service was altered in 2020 due to some changes within our Computer Aided Dispatched system. The lower calls for service reflect this change.
FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM
2020 started as usual as it pertains to the field training program with Deputy Grant Olson earning his solo patrol certification in March. Several Field Training Officers (FTOs) were also tasked with the reintegration of deputies Chris Beck and Rollie Sorensen back into the Patrol Division after their time in Court Security and Fraud Prevention Investigations.

As the normal response of patrol was adapted multiple times this year due to the pandemic, a myriad of challenges for training staff were present which required them to change how they responded to, and handled calls for service with the group of new hires we added in April. The unrest in Minneapolis last spring also created scheduling complications for four of our new hires who were in the training process at the time, requiring a great deal of flexibility from our entire staff. As expected, each member of the training team handled themselves with the utmost class, never complained regardless of the circumstances, and worked around the difficulties we encountered as an agency while continuing to provide a high level of training to our new deputies.

Deputy Eric Derner was selected as a FTO bringing the number of trainers up to 10. As the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office worked through the pandemic during the fall months, the FTOs were busy with the continuous process of updating the field training manual and redesigning the FTO PowerPoint presentation that new deputies are given prior to starting on the road.

The 2020 Field Training Program was responsible for nine deputies, graduating six of them through the process. There is great excitement for 2021, including the improvement upon the technological aspect of training with the intention of continuing to develop high quality deputies that understand the role of what it means to be a guardian in our communities.

2020 NEW DEPUTIES
- Grant Olson
- Jordan Abeler
- Ben Fischer
- Lindsey Sawatsky
- Brett Seide
- Donna Adrian

2020 FTOS
- Pete Psyck
- Justin Miller
- Ross Lorinser
- Patrick Darsow
- Tanner Shipman
- Joe Burk
- Chris Pierro
- Nate Arcand
- Jeffrey Barrett
- Eric Derner
MARINE UNIT
The 15 Marine Unit members are comprised of deputies, detention deputies, and detectives within the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office and responded to eight incidents in 2020. The Marine Unit had six local training days and three training days in the city of Silver Bay on Lake Superior to train and operate out of the local marina. This training was the first to be conducted without the recently retired leadership of Sergeant Dave Wiley. New team leads Detective Mike Schantzen and Deputy Luke Christofferson conducted navigational dives, entanglement drills, and shipwreck observations inside and off the break walls of the marina.

In 2020 the team focused on a new concept of rescue operations. Through federal grant funding received by the state of Minnesota, the team purchased multiple rapid rescue diving systems called the Zeagle Code 3. These units are designed to be an all in one SCUBA system that can be donned over the shoulders and buckled in seconds. They are then worn over uniform clothes and paired with fins and masks. A complete system can be packed into a duffle bag and placed into a trunk for rapid mobilization.
The Patrol Division K-9 Unit is comprised of four K-9 teams. All K-9 teams are trained in narcotic detection and apprehension. The Patrol Division delivers 24-hour coverage of K-9 services to all Anoka County.
S.W.A.T. TEAM

2020 for the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office S.W.A.T. team began with the absence of the team commander for three months who was attending the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA. In Lieutenant Brent Erickson’s absence, Sergeant Tim Day filled the role leading the team. During the first 10 weeks of 2020, the team assisted in executing 10 search warrants and had several other requests for service. Throughout the year, the team executed a total of 15 search warrants and responded to six tactical callouts.

Of the notable callouts in 2020, one occurred in June in the city of Andover when deputies were called to a house fire. This location had a history of domestic related issues and when the deputies arrived, they observed the house fully engulfed in flames. The resident was barricaded in a horse trailer on his property with a handgun. Attempted negotiations ensued with the suspect who ultimately was found deceased from a self-inflicted gunshot.

Later in June, the team was called to Spring Lake Park to assist on a call of a male who had threatened a neighbor with a gun and had barricaded himself in his residence. The suspect did not have a phone and his only method of communication was via Facebook Messenger through his girlfriend in Cleveland, OH. Negotiations worked via the third party for several hours during which, a chemical agent was introduced into the residence. Ultimately, the suspect surrendered without further incident.

The suspect was released from jail, and exactly one week later the S.W.A.T. team was once again called to assist at his residence when he threatened his neighbor with a handgun. Upon the team arriving, gunshots were heard from inside the residence. Negotiations with him were not successful and a chemical agent was again introduced into the residence. The suspect began firing out his windows at the Bearcat in his driveway. Numerous rounds were fired by the suspect, and the Bearcat was stuck with four bullets. The suspect was eventually captured when he went outside onto his deck to water his tomato plants.

In addition to the callouts, the team had the opportunity to assist in keeping the peace and restoring order to Minneapolis during the civil unrest that followed the George Floyd incident in May. Members of the team worked alongside numerous other members of the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office as well as hundreds of other peace officers over several days in an effort to curb the violence that was taking place.
Before COVID-19 precautions were put in place, the team conducted trainings on a monthly basis. However, because of the pandemic, it necessitated that the team temporarily suspend trainings. Unfortunately, no team training took place from April through August, or in November and December. Despite the annual Minnesota Tactical Officers Association Conference at Camp Ripley also being cancelled, the team was fortunate enough to be able to make a two-day trip to Camp Ripley in September to get in some quality training time. They were also able to train with our partners from the Anoka Police Department S.W.A.T. team in the month of October.

At the end of the year, North Memorial made the decision to end our partnership that provided paramedics to the team. This relationship had been in place since 1996 and there have been many wonderful paramedics who have supported operations during that time. Scott Oberlander, John Brosius, and Joe Lawrence were a valuable resource for us and their contributions will be missed. The Anoka County Sheriff’s Office is now partnered with Allina Health and we welcome Gabe Dutro, Jim Mesaros, Ryan Dougherty, and Matt Patterson to the team. Detective Gary Patterson has come out of retirement and will be helping the paramedics in their new roles.

In early 2020, the S.W.A.T. team took delivery of the ICOR Robotics Mini-CALIBER. This robot is a much-needed replacement to an old and failing robot that we had for many years. It will be able to open doors, pick up items, utilizes four different cameras, and can extend up to 9 vertical feet. It is also equipped with a FLIR (ability to see heat signatures) camera and can be utilized during explosive breachings. It has tremendous capability over our previous robot and has been utilized throughout the year.
UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM (UAS)
The Unmanned Aircraft System Unit was created in 2016 and is comprised of FAA Part 107 (Federal Aviation Administration Remote Pilot Certificate) certified pilots flying unmanned aircrafts weighing less than 55 lbs. Sergeant Andrew Lindberg and Sergeant Tony Nelson lead the unit with oversight from Commander Paul Lenzmeier. In 2020 the unit had 12 pilots and 4 aircrafts with 79 operational deployments (not including training flights). 40 flights were to collect information from a public area when there was reasonable suspicion of criminal activity and 39 flights were during or in the aftermath of an emergency that involved the risk of death or bodily harm to a person.

In 2020, the state legislature passed Minnesota State Statute 626.19 governing the use of UAS by law enforcement agencies. Each use of the UAS, if not pursuant to a search warrant, must fall under one of nine documented exceptions:
1. During or in the aftermath of an emergency situation that involves the risk of death or bodily harm to a person
2. Over a public event where there is a heightened risk to the safety of participants or bystanders
3. To counter the risk of a terrorist attack by a specific individual or organization if the agency determines that credible intelligence indicates a risk
4. To prevent the loss of life and property in natural or man-made disasters and to facilitate operational planning, rescue, and recovery operations in the aftermath of these disasters
5. To conduct a threat assessment in anticipation of a specific event
6. To collect information from a public area if there is reasonable suspicion of criminal activity
7. To collect information for crash reconstruction purposes after a serious or deadly collision occurring on a public road
8. Over a public area for officer training or public relations purposes
9. For purposes unrelated to law enforcement at the request of a government entity provided that the government entity makes the request in writing to the law enforcement agency and specifies the reason for the request and proposed period of use

Each use of our aircrafts are documented by a UAS Flight Report in our Field Based Reporting System and categorized under the appropriate authorized reason for the flight. Some common examples of when a UAS may be used:

- To locate a suspect of a crime who has fled on foot from law enforcement

- To locate a missing suicidal person who is reported to be on foot in a specific area

- To locate a missing vulnerable adult or child reported to be on foot in a specific area

- To document a crime scene
Each flight is conducted by a crew that includes the Pilot in Command (PIC) and a Visual Observer (VO). The PIC is responsible for safe operation of the aircraft via remote control and the VO maintains visual contact with the aircraft, notifying the PIC of any hazards in the flight path.

Technology in the UAS field changes rapidly, and this year we were able to upgrade some of our systems. The DJI Matrice 300 RTK is a new acquisition and is the largest of the fleet. The aircraft has a robust optical zoom and FLIR (ability to see heat signatures) camera system. The DJI Mavic 2 Enterprise Dual is a smaller aircraft with spotlight and speaker capabilities, allowing law enforcement to project an audible message if needed, which can be extremely helpful in search and rescue applications. The two DJI Mavic Minis, with their integrated prop guards, are small and maneuverable enough that they can be flown indoors.

Currently, one of the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office Dodge Durango squads is in the process of being outfitted to accommodate the UAS equipment. Having a dedicated vehicle being operated by deputies that are UAS pilots allows us to respond quickly to a location with the right equipment when needed. Each aircraft and associated equipment are stored in their own hard sided containers to protect them while in transit to their next flight.

**UAS FOOTAGE**

The image to the right was taken using the FLIR camera system at night. Heat signatures show up as white/yellow in this setting configuration. Note the heat showing from the recent footprints in the snow covered ground.

The two bottom photos show a suspect who was hiding from law enforcement and was located by a UAS device. The UAS team was then able to give direction to the K-9 team so the suspect could be placed under arrest.
RESERVE UNIT

The Reserve Unit is a valuable volunteer unit whose primary function is to support the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office with its focus on special events such as the Anoka County Fair and numerous other community gatherings such as parades and city festivals. Reserves also support the Patrol Division by providing additional support with non-emergency calls, assisting with Towards Zero Deaths impaired traffic enforcement details, recreational safety education and enforcement, and traffic control.

During 2020, we lost two of our Sergeants, as one retired and the other was hired as a Community Service Officer within the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office. Due to COVID-19 precautions, the unit was used sparingly in assisting from March through October. Additionally, all parades and other community gatherings were cancelled. The unit began patrol shifts again in October and restarted training efforts with new reserves. After all the interviews, 19 individuals moved forward to the background check process and six reserves joined the unit. We ended 2020 with a total of 19 reserves on our roster, up from 16 in 2019.

In 2020, the Reserve Unit provided 2,712 hours of volunteer time to the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office and the citizens of Anoka County which is an average of 180 hours per person. This equates to 4.5 weeks of a full-time job per person in addition to their normal daily jobs, college studies, and family lives.
EXPLORERS
The 2020 Explorers program faced similar challenges as the rest of the office due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For the first time ever, the State Conference in Rochester was cancelled bringing a unique and unfortunate end to the program for our graduating seniors. In order to continue one of the traditions from the conference, we planned a Zoom meeting on the evening of what would have been the last night in Rochester. This was followed by a barbeque (with safety precautions) in the summer at Lake George to give our seniors a proper send off.

In September, we conducted socially distant interviews to replace our graduated explorers. Thankfully, our candidate pool hasn't declined and interest from the public remains at an all-time high. After interviews, the post added eight strong candidates, and we began the season as normal with several in-house trainings.

As the pandemic increased again in the fall, in person trainings were discontinued and we focused on redesigning our current material. Our current Explorer Sergeants Riley Rosar and Hannah Stodolka implemented Zoom meetings that have been helpful in continuing to train the material the explorers need to know. While Zoom based trainings don't allow for the same level of education, the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

The explorers have expressed their excitement and hope to resume normal trainings and activities in 2021! If you know of any high school students interested in a career in law enforcement, please have them contact Sergeant Derek Peters at (763) 324-5164.
Like most of the country, the COVID-19 pandemic required the six divisions of the Anoka County Sheriff's Office to adapt operational procedures to help keep our community safe. Previously, public safety usually required face-to-face contact. However, throughout the past year, staff had to determine the appropriate balance in our operations to continue keeping the community safe, without inadvertently spreading the COVID-19 virus. To minimize cross contamination due to sharing workspaces, during the height of COVID-19, patrol deputies were allowed to take home squad cars during their rotations on duty. Some proactive enforcement was limited to decrease non-essential contact with the public, and if a call did not require an in-person response, calls for service were handled via telephone.

Detectives, victims, witnesses, and suspects were always wearing masks when conducting interviews on scene or in the office. While this was needed for safety, it was problematic as the mask can feel like a barrier between people, and we try to avoid creating barriers with those we serve. When detectives were called to a death where COVID-19 may have been a factor, greater discretion was used in determining the level of response, while still ensuring a thorough investigation was completed. Evidence intake procedures were altered by asking all agencies to schedule appointments to drop off evidence to aid in social distancing. Evidence receipts were emailed to reduce the contact between customers and staff, and the intake counters were always disinfected between uses.

The pandemic caused the Anoka County Courthouse to temporarily cease most in person court appearances in favor of virtual appearances. Therefore, jail and court staff had to revisit how incarcerated individuals could appear in court and meet with their attorneys. Initially, in conjunction with Anoka County IT, several
rooms in the jail were setup with laptops and iPads. These devices were utilized to facilitate video visits until a more permanent option was developed. When possible, court hearings have even been held using video.

Towards the end of 2020, CARES Act funds were utilized to purchase room kits, equipment specifically designed for video conferencing, to provide permanent video visiting options for individuals incarcerated in our jail. Both our Jail and Justice Services Divisions worked extremely hard to implement solutions that kept court proceedings moving, while keeping everyone as safe as possible.

Thanks to CARES Act funding, the jail purchased a UVC Disinfection System that can inactivate viruses, bacteria, and fungi in a room, allowing for faster and more effective cleaning of cells and communal spaces in the facility. With evictions being drastically slowed and transports of detainees between facilities reduced due to COVID-19 procedural changes, civil and transport deputies have been assisting in other parts of the office that have needed more hands during the pandemic.

Given the pre COVID-19 design and space issues of the jail, the ability to safely house individuals who required isolation due to stated COVID-19 symptoms became increasingly problematic. To protect all who entered our facility, we requested the assistance of all law enforcement agencies within Anoka County in limiting the jail population to only those most in need of incarceration. To accomplish this goal, agencies were asked to cite and release individuals charged with low-level, non-violent property, traffic, and drug crimes instead of bringing them to the jail, as the booking process alone puts staff and other incarcerated individuals at risk. In addition to the other methods already taken at the jail, limiting the
number of new intakes greatly reduced the likelihood of introducing the virus into the facility.

In accordance with the Governor’s Executive Order, the Andover office was closed to the public for a period in the spring resulting in a temporary halt to services such as firearm permits and in person records requests. Internal office operations were greatly affected by the pandemic. Contingency plans were developed for each division on how operations could continue if they had a temporary reduction in workforce due to staff being out of work ill. In person trainings at the office and the firearms range were cancelled, masks were worn when individuals were not alone in their offices or cubicles, and temperatures were taken at the start of all shifts. Communal spaces such as breakrooms and fitness facilities were closed, and staff was asked to limit their face to face contact with others to only what was necessary.

The need for an immediate increase in personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies created a difficult problem for the office. As everyone was trying to acquire more supplies, the traditional outlets of ordering were not able to meet the demand. Therefore, creative and alternative solutions had to be researched in order to acquire enough supplies to ensure the members of our office and community were being kept safe. With the increase of supplies, we needed to reconfigure spaces to store these items, as we rarely knew how many items we would be able to acquire at any one time.

One of the hardest hit parts of the pandemic was the nearly complete shutdown of in person community activities. The Anoka County Sheriff’s Office and Midwest Regional Forensic Lab did not host or participate in most community events, provide any tours, and limited training opportunities to primarily virtual methods. Since having a strong relationship with our community is essential, we are very excited for these operations to get back to normal.

As the Governor released Executive Orders to combat the virus, the number of questions regarding the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office policies of enforcement took a sharp increase. Staff was assigned to handle questions via phone and email from the public to share Sheriff Stuart’s plan of response as well as listen to their feedback. Area businesses also reached out to learn our response plans so they would be able to be prepared and know what to expect if an issue did arise. Finally, social media messages were created and posted to help clarify questions and reduce confusion for the community.

While it has not always been easy making the necessary alterations, we are proud that by taking measures in adjusting office practices to minimize in person contact have resulted in minimal infections amongst staff and detainees. We will continue to work hard to keep all members of the staff, detainees, and community members safe in 2021.
On Monday, May 25, 2020 George Floyd tragically died during an interaction with Minneapolis Police Department officers. The incident was witnessed by numerous bystanders and various parts of the interaction were captured on multiple cell phones and business security cameras. The aftermath of Floyd’s death caused outrage and protests in Minnesota which quickly spread around the world. Protests in Minneapolis quickly turned into full scale riots with activities such as arson and looting, in which law enforcement officers from around the state, and eventually the National Guard were called in to respond to the violence.

A few days after Floyd’s death, the Minneapolis Police Department released the names of the four officers involved in the incident. Shortly after, the Washington County Sheriff’s Office requested the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office’s assistance in protecting the Oakdale home of one of the officers. Around the same time, the unrest in Minneapolis continued to escalate and substantial damage and injuries were occurring.

The Anoka County Sheriff’s Office quickly designed plans to keep the basic public safety functions covered within the county, while sending the rest of the law enforcement staff to Minneapolis. All days off for licensed staff were cancelled and 12-hour shifts were put in place to help curb unrest. A Multi Agency Command Center (MACC) was set up at TCF Bank Stadium for all participating law enforcement agencies to work out of. Additionally, the Fridley Police Department hosted a command center at their office to monitor any unrest within the county.
During the unrest, an increase in criminal activity also began in Anoka County. A vehicle was used to enter Northtown Mall and agencies within the county quickly responded. A crowd of approximately 40 individuals had gathered and some businesses in the area suffered some minor damage. However, thanks to strategic law enforcement response, this minor unrest was under control by early the next morning.

Within Minneapolis, the level of rioting and violence continued to increase with the ultimate burning of the Minneapolis Police Department’s Third Precinct building, as well as multiple other buildings within the city. The Anoka County Sheriff’s Office could not staff the number of Mobile Response Units (MRUs) needed to curb the violence. A request from the Minnesota Sheriff’s Association for more assistance was made to sheriffs throughout the state. Deputies from Itasca, Isanti, Becker, Cass, Clearwater, Polk, Crow Wing, Morrison, and Le Sueur counties joined our office in staffing MRU teams. Sleeping accommodations for these deputies were set up at the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office to allow for efficient shift changes.

Additional vehicles to transport deputies to and from areas of unrest, as well as hundreds of arrested individuals to jail were quickly needed and obtained through the Anoka Hennepin Narcotics & Violent Crime Task Force, as well as Anoka County Highway and Corrections. Former patrol vehicles that were stripped and ready to be auctioned were immediately put back into service to assist with transportation needs. The MRUs were subjected to violence from rioters and vehicles were vandalized when trying to move through areas of unrest. Due to violence such as throwing items at MRUs it was decided that armored vehicles would always be deployed during the remainder of the event.
Due to the round the clock needs for deputies over many days, used riot gear was continually shared between individuals during shift transitions. Trading this gear immediately after use was not preferable, however deputies kept positive attitudes and stayed focused on their tasks to end the unrest. Moving forward, additional supplies and gear have been purchased for future situations that may arise.

One notable incident occurred at Bobby & Steve’s Auto World near the intersection of I-35W and Washington Avenue. A large group of rioters gathered who had been disturbing the peace. Voice commands and chemical munitions were used to disperse the crowd, however some individuals refused to leave. In coordination with the Minneapolis Police Department, Minnesota State Patrol, and other agencies, the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office deputies began to corral the crowd and arrest the rioters. Over 150 individuals were arrested in this incident alone.

On Friday, June 5th, our involvement in the unrest ended due to the riots being quelled. All costs incurred during our response to this event was covered by the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office and Anoka County. Many takeaways were learned to better prepare for future situations that would require that level of response. We appreciate the gratitude offered by law enforcement leaders in our participation and are willing to assist neighboring agencies in the future.
2020 was a dramatically different year of community outreach initiatives for the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office. The number of in person functions were much smaller due to a plethora of cancelled events that have typically been hosted by the office, as well as the county and cities. However, there were still many highlights to share on how our members of the office connected with our community.

The year began normally with participation in the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics in February. Employees, friends, and family of the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office hosted a fundraiser at Andover Lanes to support the important mission of the Special Olympics. Later that month, a team representing the office participated in the Coon Rapids Polar Plunge for Special Olympics and raised almost $8,000, crushing their $2,725 goal.

Unfortunately, shortly after the Polar Plunge, many normal activities shut down in accordance with COVID-19 precautions. Due to the Governor’s Stay at Home Order, there was a moratorium placed on evictions and mortgage foreclosures. Our Justice Services staff were challenged with pursuing tasks to serve the community. Staff from our Civil and Transport units began to participate in the Meals on Wheels program, assisting in delivering meals to those who needed them within Anoka County. Along with our Patrol Division, we began to participate in “Birthday Drive-By Celebrations” where a squad would drive by and wish the birthday person a happy birthday. These were very big hits with members of the community.

During October, the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office raised $5,840 for The V Foundation for Cancer Research. $2,170 was donated from the sales of specialty pink patches sponsored by the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office Supervisor’s Association and $3,670 was donated from lapel pin sales sponsored by the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office. These items were a hit in the community with the pink patches selling out quickly.
A COVID-19 adapted Hope 4 Youth event was again held at the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office in November. The event was hosted in a drive thru style where participants could come and donate money that support homeless youth in Minnesota. Sheriff Stuart proudly helped accept donations from passing cars, and Santa and Mrs. Claus even stopped by to say hi!

December of 2020 brought a bit of event familiarity back with the annual Shop with a Cop event. This program allows law enforcement to give back to students who have been selected by their school as needing assistance during the holiday season. In previous years, students were treated with a ride from school to the Andover Walmart where they shopped for what was on their lists with the assistance of Anoka County Sheriff’s Office and school employees.

This year required the event to operate a little differently due to COVID-19. Anoka County Sheriff’s Office staff received holiday shopping lists from the selected children ahead of time from the schools. They then worked hard shopping for 31 kids at the Andover Walmart. After shopping they returned to the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office to wrap all the gifts, before delivering them to families.

Traditionally, during December the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office hosts a Santa Night for staff and their families. Again, due to COVID-19 precautions, that was not possible for 2020. Knowing that many Santa related events were being cancelled because of the pandemic, a Drive Thru Santa Express event was created to serve the greater community. This event allowed families to watch holiday dancers, see the Grinch in a fire truck, listen to holiday music, and of course, see Santa and Mrs. Claus. Children were able to drop off their Christmas letters for Santa to read later, as well as receive a toy.

The Drive Thru Santa Express was a huge success as we had over 1,000 cars come through. Participants were asked to bring nonperishable food items or a toy to donate to local nonprofits. The response from the community was far greater than we could have expected, with over 4,000 lbs. of food being donated and an additional trailer full of toys. It was refreshing and uplifting to see the wonderful generosity in Anoka County!
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Pink Badge & Patch Fundraiser

Birthday Drive By

Drive Thru Santa Express

Drive Thru Santa Express

Drive Thru Santa Express

Drive Thru Santa Express

Drive Thru Santa Express Donations
ANOKA COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE

AWARDS

MINNEAPOLIS UNREST RESPONSE
Medal of Meritorious Service
Chief Deputy Kevin Halweg

MEDICAL RESPONSE TO CARDIAC EVENT
Lifesaving Award
Deputy Gordy Vitek

Blaine Police Department:
Officer Daniel Zimmerman

Andover Fire Department:
Paul Blesi
Bill Dietzler
Chris Dvorak
Larry Elfelt
Aaron Groven
Tom Johnson
Pat Nugent
Ernest Scherger

Allina EMS:
Mike Vander Heyden
Dana Bentfield

Civilians:
Chloe LeBlanc
Tiffany LeBLanc

DROWNING RESPONSE
Lifesaving Award
Deputy Mike Arthur

HOMICIDE SUSPECT APPREHENSION
Office Commendation
Deputy Cole Bangerter
K-9 Heinz

BURGLARY SUSPECT APPREHENSION
Office Commendation
Deputy Jesse Cutler
K-9 Diesel

SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE RESPONSE
Office Commendation
Deputy Jacob Bayer
Deputy Chad Erickson

NARCOTICS INVESTIGATION
Office Commendation
Deputy Jon Tschida

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE FRAUD
Office Commendation
Heather Rivers, Civil Specialist

LOCATED SHELTER FOR WOMAN AND CHILD
Office Commendation
Deputy Bryan Pierson

CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT INVESTIGATION
Office Commendation
Detective Matt Aker

HUMAN TRAFFICKING INVESTIGATION
Office Commendation
Detective Mike Schantzen

SEXUAL ASSAULT INVESTIGATION
Office Commendation
Detective Joe Price

HOMICIDE INVESTIGATION
Office Commendation
Detective Pat Nelson
Detective Bill Jacobson

YEARS OF SERVICE

5 Years
Nicholas Heinemann
Maggie Titus
Daniel Allen
Trena Balenger
Daniel Bullock
Matthew Kramar
Cassandra Miller
Amanda Yurek
Judith Kasberger
Lisa Lallak
Heather Rivers
Rebecca Dian
Jeffrey Barrett
Jacob Bayer
Daniel Dewey
Nicholas Duren
Ehren Lentsch

10 Years
Linda Johnson

15 Years
Kelly Wellman
Michael Schantzen
Michael Redman
Bradley Crego
Bryan Hermanson
David Tedrow
Lucas Christofferson
Joseph Burk
Michelle Lannan
Freddy Munoz
Tanner Shipman
Travis Wold
Robert Young

20 Years
Nathan Arvidson
Jeffrey Boelter
Michael Dold
Melanie Carlson
Joann Maro
David Carlson
Stephen Schell
Joshua Hatton
Michael Slavik

25 Years
Timothy Smith
Timothy Day
Sheriff James Stuart
Chief Deputy Kevin Halweg
Sheriff’s Secretary
Kelly Haigh

ADMINISTRATION
Commander Wayne Heath
Lieutenant Andy Knotz
Sergeant Andrew Lindberg
Deputy Nicholas Heinemann

Resource Manager
Jayne Faust
Community Relations Coordinator
Tierney Peters
Administrative Services Coordinator
Cindy Hedberg
Training Coordinator
Kelly Wellman
Accountant
Ruth Bromeling
Technical Analyst
Roni Ronyak
Technical Analyst
Brent Pringle

Gun Permits
Dave Westberg, Coordinator
Joseph Hughes
Julie Fjellman
Shannon Schultz
Kristi Pearson

Background Investigators
Kimberly Peterson
Scott Knealing
Dave Westberg
Craig Hendrickson
William Hammes
Bruce Hatton
Ed Egly
Paul Sommer

Range
James Plattner
Mark Peterson

MIDWEST REGIONAL FORENSIC LABORATORY
Lab Director Scott Ford
Assistant Lab Director
Shawn Gallagher

Forensic Scientists
Anne Cieko, Lead
Steve Banning, Lead
Scott Henderson, Lead
Katrina Diaz
Jessica Slater
Kristine Carmen
Brenda Hummel
Matthew Bune

Rebecca Dian
Anthony Johnson
Amanda Vukich

Property Room Technicians
Caitlyn Mahan
Kylie Frohmader
Kayla Skogland
Lourdes Swanson

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS
Commander Bryon Fuerst
Lieutenant Brent Erickson
Lieutenant Dan Douglas
Sergeant Jessica Slavik

Principal Administrative Assistant
Ashley Johnson
Case Aide
Laura Hudson
HIDTA Crime Analyst
Kelly Madison
Records Technician
Jill Maust
Property Room Technician
Katherine Szykulski

Detectives
Julie Dorr
John Wilson
William Jacobson
Joseph Price
Maggie Titus
Scott Schlender
Cullen Czech
Christopher McCall
Jeffrey Schoebel
Matthew Aker
Michael Schantz
Ryan Franklin
Gary Patterson
Nathan Arvidson
Patrick Nelson
Christopher Johnson
Justin Bloch
Thomas Strusinski
Gabriel Lee
Nicholas Smith
Shane Wernke
Bradley Baker
Jeffrey Piper
Christopher Fahey
Todd Diegnau

Deputies
Curt Grabmeier
Jonathan Tschida
Roland Sorensen

Sergeants
Richard Kreyer
Anne Bluml
Matthew Woitel

Principal Accounting Clerk
Sue Paulsen
Administrative Supervisor
Kelli Hill
Civil Specialist
Heather Rivers

Records Technicians
Brenda Kowski
Kelly Kirchner
Resa Shermer
Joy Sabin
Kelly Ruff
Linda Johnson
Tracy Ward
Ashley Lengyel
Judith Kasberger
Lisa Lallak

Deputies
Anthony Kvam
Michael Pudlick
Brian Mevissen
Ryannao Ninow
Hollas Erickson
Lucas Christofferson
Michael Wahl
Michael Dold
Brett Froslie
John Henrichsen
Patrick O’Hara
Curtis Hoeke
James Dussl
Thomas Kvam
Bryan Pierson
Eric Donarski
Stephen Schell
Gerry Dubay
Wendy Plattner
Edward Rice
Kevin Ivory

Detention Deputies
Brian Elmer
Brandon Cahill
Patrick Cosgrove
Jamie Hill
Dale Leslie
Shaun Young

PartTime Court Security Officers
Cory Gardner
Kirk Leitch
Caitlyn Sandstad
William Hammes
Jill Ahart
Gary Voit

Larry Eckman
James Penaz
Steven Korts
Jeffrey Brown
Daniel Irish
Fredrik Wiborg
Gregory Ross
Phillip Wege

Temporary Employees
Wyatt Rivers
Joan Taylor
Lori Taylor

JAIL
Commander Dave Pacholl
Lieutenant Sheila Larson
Lieutenant David Tredow

Sergeants
Lucas Meverden
Bradley Crego
Nicole Menne
Carrie Wood
Eric Stafford
David Nordland
Timothy Smith
Christina Brynteson

Principal Administrative Assistant
Angela McDaniel
Detention Clerk
Don Fields
Administrative Supervisor
Ann Slotsve

Program Coordinators
Melanie Hehr
Jill Hlavinika

Records Technicians
Justin Bell
Janine Dahle
Shauna Silbernagel
Dawn Brasch
Jacinda Anderson
Jessie Novy
Barbara Dupay
Trena Belanger
Jill Elmer

Detention Deputies
Trevor Germain
Michael Smith
Joseph Thweatt
Violet Malecha
Corbin Sycks
Derek Dovolos
Elizabeth Bowdich
Jacob Chamberland
Randall Cook
Quinn Henckel
Robert Kannegaard
Noushelong Vang  
Meng Kong  
Nicholas Parker  
Lillian Heymer  
Branden Cheney  
Jesse Rasmussen  
Jai Vang  
Jacob Peterson  
Ethen Purdy  
Thomas Kordiak  
Kevin Peterson  
Josephine Dennis  
Matthew Kramar  
Cassandra Miller  
Jared Pace  
Amanda Yurek  
Daniel Allen  
Daniel Bullock  
Michael Mingo  
Patrick Geertsema  
Chad Zabel  
Jason Pederson  
Douglas Edwards  
Denise Hazelton  
Rebecca Johnson  
Kirk Erickson  
Justin Parks  
Shannon Coulter  
Steven Boskowitz  
Bryan Hermanson  
Brent Foss  
Thomas Pacholl  
Charles Sohn  
Joann Maro  
Melanie Carlson  
Nathan Bubar  
Lynn Ochsner  
Jerrod Wengler  
Steven Cater  
Jeffrey Myers  
Crystal King  
Logan Knip  
Kayla Rasmussen  
Christopher Rice  
Carlie Robinson  
Dilanger Salfer  
Jonathan Evans  
Dhondup Shokta  
Joseph Pyhtila  
Hunter Arvidson  
Jeremiah Drinkwine  
Logan McEnelly  
Eric Rosier  
Kelleen LaNore  
Jordan Fields  
Chadd Thorpe  
Brandon King  
Bryan Graham  
Carl Erickson  
Matthew Buckley  
Nicholas Bownes  
Chris Pagel  
Ronald Spets  
Myra Stallworth  
Zoran Stojkovski  
Bradley Swanson  
Michael Turnbom  
Nikole Wendt  
Jeffrey Boelter  
**PATROL**  
Commander Paul Lenzmeier  
Lieutenant Derek Schuld  
Sergeants  
Joshua Hatton  
Eric Herschberger  
Wayne Hunt  
Tim Day  
Anthony Mendoza  
Derek Peters  
John Pilz  
Michael Slavik  
Anthony Nelson  
David Wiley  
**Principal Administrative Assistant**  
Debra Eskierka  
**Crime Prevention Coordinators**  
Laura Landes  
Melissa Reeder  
**Investigators**  
Robert Young  
Christopher Beck  
Steven Strecker  
Sean Merritt  
Nick Johnson  
**Deputies**  
Donna Adrian  
Brett Seide  
Jonathan Abele  
Joshua Berggren  
Matthew Hoefs  
Lindsey Sawatsky  
Grant Olson  
Marnae Klungseth  
Daniel Zimmerman  
William Jacobson  
Anne Jeske  
Brandon Kohler  
Derick Lien  
Benjamin Fischer  
Christopher Vitek  
Ehren Lentsch  
Daniel Dewey  
Matthew Madson  
Christopher Yantos  
Cole Bangert (K-9 Heinz)  
Chad Erickson  
Nathan Arcand  
Matthew O’Conner (K-9 Eli)  
Jesse Cutler (K-9 Diesel)  
Peter Grover  
Michael Arthur  
Justin Nelson  
Christopher Fjeld  
Jason Corlew  
Troy Edmond (K-9 Nieko)  
Jon Mathisen  
Justin Weller  
Cory Bowker  
Christopher Pierro  
Jordan Mobraten  
Shane Quinn  
Justin Alderink  
Ryan Rakatz  
Travis Wold  
Freddy Munoz  
Michael Redman  
Joseph Burk  
Michelle Lanman  
Tanner Shipman  
Brian Collier  
Ross Lorinser  
Justin Sabo  
Patrick Darsow  
Justin Miller  
Travis Bolles  
James Psyck  
Brian Torborg  
Brek Larson  
Donald Cebula  
James Dudgeon  
Robert Elmer  
Kaylyn Fahrendorff  
Ryan Schlesiger  
Michael Haflinka  
Nicholas Duren  
**Community Service Officers**  
Jacob Mullen  
Lauren Sycks  
John Dorion  
Karter Gorney  
Madison Straus  
Jonathan Fajardo  
Benjamin Powell  
Katherine Harris  
Kyle Meinke  
Joseph Ramaley  
Tristan DeMorett  
Bryan Johnson  
**Reserves**  
Paul Modica  
Kevin Rosar  
Korina Lantz  
Jack Johnson  
Matthew Vertina  
Scott Baumann  
Nicholas Long  
Holly Schultz  
Matthew Hoyhtya  
Mitchell Seybold  
Sydney Stodolka  
Cole Brownfield  
Matthew Beyer  
Cory John  
Matthew Saldana  
Randy Miller  
Darren Mitchell  
Christine Bosley  
Luis Hernandez Aguilar  
Mark Erickson  
Christopher Bastyr  
Kandi Gunia  
George Linngren  
**Marine Unit**  
Team Leads  
Michael Schantzen  
Luke Christopherson  
Branden Cheney  
Mike Wahl  
Justin Nelson  
Curtis Hoek  
Stephen Catter  
Patrick Cosgrove  
Jerrod Wengler  
Justin Alderink  
Christopher Fjeld  
Jason Corlew  
Nicholas Duren  
Brett Froslie  
Peter Grover  
**S.W.A.T. Team**  
Team Commander  
Brent Erickson  
Assistant Team Commander  
Tim Day  
Team Leads  
John Pilz  
Anthony Mendoza  
Joshua Hatton  
Nathan Arvidson  
Bryan Pierson  
Bryce Torborg  
Anthony Nelson  
Jeffrey Barrett  
Pete Psyck  
Robert Young  
Christopher McCall  
Jonathan Tschida  
Jacob Bayer  
Derek Peters  
Brek Larson  
Patrick Darsow  
Justin Weller  
Nathan Arcand  
Negotiations  
Christopher Beck  
Steven Strecker  
Christopher Fahey  
Maggie Titus  
Paramedics  
Scott Oberlander  
Mike Morelock  
Josh Brosius  
Joe Lawrence