DuPage County Sheriff's Office
2023 Annual Report

The mission of the DuPage County Sheriff's Office is to provide the highest level of law enforcement possible by:

P: Preserving and protecting life, property and the right of all our citizens to live in peace

E: Enforcing the laws of the State of Illinois and County of DuPage by being fair and impartial

O: Operating in a proactive manner so as to prevent criminal activity before it occurs

P: Positive and innovative working environments for all of our members

L: Listening to and acting upon the needs of our citizens and the communities they live in

E: Excel in the highest standards of professionalism, integrity and efficiency

A Letter From the Desk of the Sheriff



To the Citizens of DuPage County,

Each year, this report is prepared so you, the residents of DuPage County, can see what we are doing to keep you and your families safe. We want you to have the opportunity to see some of the changes over this last year and get a meaningful glimpse of the projects and initiatives that the DuPage County Sheriff's Office provides for you.

We have established the highest performance standards and expectations for our agency and are creating new innovations to improve your public safety services. Our goal is an improved and enhanced model of safety services to the citizens of DuPage County while using tax dollars in the most cost effective manner possible.

I am extremely proud of the men and women who diligently serve our citizens every single day. We are committed to the duties and responsibilities to protect and serve our community and I hope you enjoy our annual report.

James Mendrick

2023 Employee of the Year

In 2023, Detective James Buckardt was nominated three times for Employee of the Month, and won all three times for the month of August, October, and December.

You are hereby recognized for your exceptional achievements throughout numerous significant investigations in the year 2023. In addition to fulfilling your regular responsibilities, you played a pivotal role in investigating a Fatal Crash, a Drug-Induced Homicide, and a challenging Missing Juvenile case. Your unwavering commitment to these investigations has not only delivered justice for the victims but also provided much needed closure to their families.

For his dedication and compassion Detective James Buckardt has been chosen as the

DuPage County Sheriff's Office Employee of the Year for 2023.



2023 Employees of the Month

Administrative Bureau

Corporal John Kaldis	May
Megan Kupiszewski	July

Corrections Bureau

Deputy Gregory Terpin	February
Deputy Deborah DeYoung	March
Deputy Thomas Dodd	April
Deputy Chamario Dickerson	May
Deputy Jessica Alcaraz	June
Deputy Robert Scianna	July
Deputy Chamario Dickerson	August
Deputy Jamison Davis	September
Deputy Zachary Dusek	October
Deputy Alexander Corbo	November
Deputy Thomas Dodd	December

Law Enforcement Bureau

Detective Ian Northrup	January
Detective Lance Greene	March
Deputy Aaron Davis/ K9 Xena	April
Detective Jeffrey Carpenter	May
Detective Erin Schultz	June
Sergeant Steven Crane	July
Detective James Buckardt	August
Detective Jeffrey Carpenter	September
Detective James Buckardt	October
Deputy Danny Guzman	November
Detective James Buckardt	December

Office of Professional Standards

The Office of Professional Standards mission is to foster and monitor integrity and professionalism among the DuPage County Sheriff's Office members and activities. It acts as a fair and impartial entity, independent of any Bureau, to accomplish this mission and report the true facts.

The Office of Professional Standards, commonly referred to as OPS, is headed by a Director appointed by the Sheriff and includes command staff representatives from each bureau. The Director reports directly to the Sheriff on the Office's activities and investigations. The Director has the ability to request assistance from other Office personnel should the need arise.

Responsibilities of the Office of Professional Standards are internal affairs investigations, use of force reviews, on the job injury documentation, discriminatory practice investigations, and vehicle pursuit reviews. In addition, the Director of Professional Standards serves as the central records depository for all disciplinary records, outside employment, and Inspectional Services. The Director is ultimately responsible for ensuring the integrity of the Office. The Director of Professional Standards is the liaison with the States' Attorney's Office and Merit Commission in matters concerning discipline and external investigations of Office members.

An internal investigation can only be ordered by the Sheriff in response to either an internal or external complaint against a member of the Sheriff's Office. A resident or employee can call, send a letter, email a complaint anonymously or fill out a complaint form and it will be accepted and thoroughly investigated. A report is then generated to disclose the full facts of the independent investigation that was conducted.

In 2023, the DuPage Sheriff's Office is pleased to announce that NO COMPLAINTS were filed against any employee for either excessive use of force or bias-based policing.

Shop with a Cop

During 2023 we had one of our largest “Shop with the Sheriff” event. We partnered with the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #109, Glen Ellyn Park District, Glen Ellyn Police, and the Bloomingdale Meijer to make the event possible. We were joined by various police departments from DuPage County. Private donations of food and gifts made the event very memorable. Thirty-six children were referred by DuPage County Townships via their general assistance programs.



Each child was picked up by a uniformed deputy or officer and taken to Ackerman Park in Glen Ellyn for breakfast and photos with Santa. A large parade of police squads with lights then took place to the Meijer. Each child was allowed to spend $150 to purchase gifts for themselves and their family. The gifts were all wrapped by office volunteers at a designated location at Meijer. The child and gifts were then dropped off back at home. This year we were joined by Glen Ellyn Police, Elmhurst Police, Burr Ridge Police, Warrenville Police, Oak Brook Terrace Police and Brookfield Zoo Police.

Corrections

General Information

The mission of the DuPage County Sheriff's Office Correctional Center is to provide a secure correctional environment that adequately detains criminal offenders which is consistent with sound correctional principles and constitutional standards and to maintain programs to enhance the success of offenders' reentry into society

The DuPage County Sheriff's Correction Bureau encompasses the Correctional Center with many related detainee services and programs: Sheriff's Work Alternative Program (S.W.A.P.) - a sentenced offender community service program, Central Warrants and Transport Division, the Training & Accreditation Division and Periodic Imprisonment which allows for certain offenders to continue their employment off-site on a scheduled basis and then return to the facility. Safety for the Deputies, civilian staff, volunteers, and the detainees is of the upmost importance. The Sheriff and his staff are continuously looking for new and innovative methods for effectively utilizing allocated resources, to ensure public safety by maintaining the care, custody, and control of detainees sentenced to the DuPage County Correctional Center Correctional Center. One of these programs is the Sheriff's Work Alternative Program (S.W.A.P.) an alternative for sentenced offenders. In lieu of being incarcerated at the Correctional Center Correctional Center, sentenced offenders participate in work assignments that provide a valuable service to the communities of DuPage County. Additionally, the Detainee Recovery Program is another innovative method utilized by the Correctional Center. Detainees are assessed to determine their barriers to community re-entry. Those detainees who qualify for the program are housed in a peer support-based environment and are provided group and individual counseling by a diverse group of professionals. Counseling and education is provided in topics such as addiction recovery, education & life skills. The purpose of the Detainee Recovery Program is to develop a plan for the detainee to help those overcome barriers for re-entry into the community, prevent them from reoffending, and for the detainee to become a productive citizen. In 2018, an agreement was reached with the DuPage County Health Department to manage the detainee recovery pod. The Health Department staff works closely with the detainees to focus on their recovery and reintegration into society. Classes take place 5 days a week in addition to their personal work.

Corrections

General Information (Cont'd)

The DuPage County Correctional Center is comprised of two adjacent buildings totaling 430,000 square feet. The first built in 1983 and the second in 1997. Both buildings contain a total of 64 housing building units with a total housing capacity of 997 detainees. In addition to housing units, the Correctional Center has medical, dental, mental health units, a law & recreational reading library, kitchen, commissary, laundry, and detainee recreational areas.

No juveniles are housed at the DuPage County Correctional Center. In addition to the general population units for the detainees, there are also designated housing units for special management detainees. This allows for separate housing for protective custody, administrative segregation, disciplinary problem detainees. The detainees are housed in the facility based on a detainee classification system. Classification is generally based on gender, the nature of the offense, special medical or psychological needs and any special security concerns.

While the original Correctional Center has a linear design, the 1997 addition has a state-of-the-art operational design with indirect supervision. This type of supervision allows the deputies to constantly observe the detainees 24 hours a day without direct physical contact. The Correctional Center has numerous electronic systems throughout the facility including a CCTV camera and intercom system, electronic door control system, Inter-Office Communications systems, Emergency Alert System (man-down), Digital Optical Fingerprint Capture Machines, Video Bond Court system, computerized Correctional Center Management System, body scanner, along with a sophisticated computer network system allowing data to be shared throughout all facets of the DuPage County Sheriff's Office.

In 2023, the Sheriff's Office successfully integrated a new offender management system. This new system replaced the existing one which had been in place for over 15 years. The new system will greatly increase the efficiency of all aspects within the Correctional Center. In 2023, the Sheriff's Office began the process of upgrading the CCTV camera system to include the latest technology to ensure the safety and security of the Correctional center and detainees.

Corrections

General Information (Cont'd)

Detainees have access to tablets that are designed specifically for corrections. These tablets allow the detainees to participate in educational courses as well as purchase entertainment options that generate funds for the detainee welfare fund. Tablet implementation has been shown to reduce recidivism through education as well as reduce detainee violence towards staff and other detainees. Tablets are at NO COST to the taxpayers of DuPage County and has increased revenue to the detainee welfare fund.

The visitation management program is web-based software that allows the public to schedule dates and times to visit detainees at the Correctional Center. This has greatly improved Correctional Center operations, as these visits are reserved 24 hours in advance, which allows the Correctional Center staff to be aware of the amount of public traffic on each given day. This system also helps to inform visitors of availability and avoid times where space is unavailable for the public to visit. This system has eliminated large groups waiting in our visitation lobby and has greatly improved our ability to retrieve historical data. Visitors can schedule and confirm their visits from any web-based platform or use one of the kiosks in the visitation lobby. Video visitation is offered through the tablet system, in addition to regularly scheduled in person visitation. Video visitation provides detainees with more opportunity to connect with their support network of family and friends without leaving their assigned housing location. Video visitation is available to detainees any day of the week during certain hours and has no limitation on the number of visits that may be conducted. This system also provides visitation capabilities if in-person visitation is not an option for an individual or the facility as a whole.

The American Correctional Association is nonprofit organization that administers the only national accreditation program for all components of adult and juvenile correctional facilities. The purpose of accreditation is to promote improvement in the management of the participating agency, evaluation of their operations against national standards, remedy deficiencies and upgrade the quality of correctional services. The DuPage County Sheriff's Office continues to voluntarily subscribe to the requirements set forth by the American Correctional Association (ACA). Those agencies that subscribe to the requirements set forth by the ACA are subjected to an audit of their correctional facility every 3 years. In 2022 the Corrections Bureau successfully passed its audit with 100% on all mandatory files and 99.3% on all non-mandatory files. The next audit will be completed in 2025.

Corrections

Receiving & Discharge

The Receiving and Discharge (R & D) Office is responsible for processing all inmates brought into the DuPage County Correctional Center prior to their release. The Receiving and Discharge Office is responsible for maintaining all files for those inmates currently incarcerated within the facility. The admission procedures are the foundation for an inmate's incarceration. These procedures are designed to ensure the legality of the inmate's commitment and that the conditions of confinement to which the inmate is assigned are appropriate while maintain safety and security within the DuPage County Correctional Center.

Booking Process

Upon entry into the DuPage County Correctional Center, the inmate is pat searched, and body scanned. The inmate's fingerprints are taken digitally and are sent to the Illinois State Police for identification purposes. Booking photos including a front profile, right profile, and left profile are taken of the inmate. From there, the remainder of the booking process is completed, including entering the inmate's criminal charges and court information into the Jail Management System (JMS), completing a medical and psychological screening, documenting the inmate's demographic information as well as their personal property, running the inmate in LEADS for outstanding warrants or orders, and gathering all paperwork need for the inmate's court appearance. The inmate will then verify all the information documented and sign each booking form accordingly. Once the booking process is complete, the inmate is dressed into a DuPage County Correctional Center uniform and housed in the receiving area.

In 2023, the DuPage County Correctional Center processed a total of 8,697 detainees.

Release Process

All inmates are entitled to a timely release whether the inmate posts bond, receives a Pre-Trial release, is found not guilty, completed a sentence, or ordered released by a court of competent jurisdiction. All inmates prior to their release from the DuPage County Correctional Center or transfer to another correctional facility, are rerun in LEADS for any possible outstanding warrants or orders. All releases shall follow standard procedures to ensure proper documentation of the release, the collection and return of correctional center property issued during incarceration, the collection and storage of records related to the inmate's confinement, and the return of the inmate's personal belongings including any funds remaining on their accounts. Upon the release of an inmate, the booking file is forwarded to the Records Division for safekeeping.

Corrections

Court Coordinator

The Court Coordinator is a specially trained deputy with the rank of Corporal. The Court Coordinator is the liaison between the DuPage County Sheriff's Office Correction Bureau and the Judicial Office Facility. The Court Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the daily inmate court call with the Judicial Office Facility. The Court Coordinator maintains a log of inmates attending court and documents the time the Judicial Office Facility requested the inmate's presence for court, the time the inmate arrives for court and the time the inmate returns from court. Upon an inmates return from court, the Court Coordinator will verify all court paperwork issued to the inmate is accurate and if applicable, will update the inmate's future court date in the Jail Management System (JMS).

In 2023, the DuPage County Correctional Center coordinated 11,409 court appearances of incarcerated detainees. An additional 1,044 individuals were taken into custody and remanded to the care and custody of the Sheriff.

Bail Bond Fees

2023 Bail Bond Fees - $113,234

Corrections

Visitation

Detainee visitations are managed through web-based software that allows the public to schedule dates and times to visit detainees at the Correctional Center. Visits are reserved 24 hours in advance, which allows the Correctional Center staff to be aware of the amount of public traffic on each given day. This system also helps to inform visitors of availability, and avoid times where space is unavailable for the public to visit. Visitors can schedule and confirm their visits from any web-based platform or use one of the kiosks in the visitation lobby.

Video visitation is also offered, through the tablet system. Video visitation provides detainees with more opportunity to connect with their support network of family and friends without leaving their assigned housing location. Video visitation is available to detainees any day of the week during certain hours and has no limitation on the number of visits that may be conducted. This system also provides visitation capabilities if in-person visitation is not an option for an individual or the facility as a whole.

Corrections

Medical Services Unit

The mission of the DuPage County Sheriff's Office Correctional Center's Medical Services Unit (MSU) is to provide quality accessible medical, dental and mental health services to all patients incarcerated in the DuPage County Correctional Center. MSU is staffed with licensed medical professionals to include nurses, physicians, psychiatrists, dentists, psychologists, and clinical social workers, 24/7.

All detainees receive a full screening during the intake process as well as a full health evaluation within 14 days of their incarceration to ensure that any medication and / or treatment they were receiving prior to their incarceration continues without interruption.

Sick call, medical clinics, laboratory testing, and medication administration are part of the daily routine. When necessary, MSU works very closely with the local health department, hospitals, and other health care providers to provide specialist services that are not or cannot be provided within the jail. In such cases, the detainee will be transported under the supervision of a deputy to an appropriate service provider. Regardless of location or circumstances, deputies provide 24-hour security of detainees being housed at a medical treatment center. This may be at a local facility or in a facility in one of the surrounding counties.

CARE PROVIDED

Practitioner Visit	3,820
Chronic Care Clinics	471
Dental	477
Mental Health Professionals Visits	16,245
Nurse Visits	9,533
Intake Screenings	4857
Outside Consultations	211

Corrections

J.U.S.T. of DuPage

Justice * Understanding * Service * Teaching

Since 1986, the faith based nonprofit organization JUST of DuPage has been providing social services inside the DuPage County Correctional Center. These services include chaplain/spiritual enrichment, addiction recovery, education and vocational training, and reentry skills. With five fulltime staff members and three parttime staff members, along with nearly 200 volunteers, over 82,000 hours of service were provided to detainees in 2023.

More than seventy classes and programs are provided each week in the following areas:

Spiritual Enrichment: Purpose Driven Life, Alpha, Kingdom Man, Christian Worship Services, Islamic Worship, Christian Bible Study, Catholic Mass and Reconciliation, Catholic Worship Services, Spanish Catholic Worship Services, and individual chaplaincy services as requested.

Addiction Recovery: Variety of 12 step groups including – AA, NA, HA, Spanish AA, 12 Step Bible Study, and Living Sober, Celebrate Recovery, SMART Support Group, Understanding Addiction, Addictions: A Way Out, PTSD and Addiction, overviews of Problem-Solving Courts, overviews of local Recovery and Sober Living Homes, Preparing for Reentry, and Addiction and Reentry. Individual visits are available to those who request them.

Behavioral Modification: Criminal and Addictive Thinking, Life Skills, Anger Management, Building Confidence, Grief and Loss, Codependent No More, Inside Outside Dads, Storybook for parents of young children, Coping Skills for PTSD and Addiction, Self Discovery, Understanding Boundaries, Pain to Purpose, and an overview of Veteran's Benefits to those who qualify.

Education/Vocational Training: GED/ABE Prep, English as a Second Language, Math, and Poetry. In collaboration with the College of DuPage, also offered are classes in the Horticulture Program (indoor Hydroponics and outdoor Urban Farming) and Small Engine Repair Courses (4 cylinder, 2 cylinder, and electric). Also offered is the Custodial Training Program which culminates in a nationally recognized certification in janitorial maintenance. In collaboration with WOrkNet of DuPage, also offered are orientations and individual visits with job training and job assistance case managers. Individual visits from the education director are available as requested.

Corrections

J.U.S.T. of DuPage

(Cont'd)

Education/Vocational Training: GED/ABE Prep, English as a Second Language, Math, and Poetry. In collaboration with the College of DuPage, also offered are classes in the Horticulture Program (indoor Hydroponics and outdoor Urban Farming) and Small Engine Repair Courses (4 cylinder, 2 cylinder, and electric). Also offered is the Custodial Training Program which culminates in a nationally recognized certification in janitorial maintenance. In collaboration with WOrkNet of DuPage, also offered are orientations and individual visits with job training and job assistance case managers. Individual visits from the education director are available as requested.

JUST of DuPage also provides hundreds of religious and addictions related materials as well as other written materials to detainees at no cost each year.

JUST's mission is to provide a range of programs to the incarcerated men and women in order to empower them to make positive changes in their lives.

Corrections

SWAP

The Sheriff's Work Alternative Program (SWAP) is a sentencing alternative for select offenders. Instead of standard incarceration at the Correctional Center, these offenders participate in various work assignments that provide a valuable service to the communities of DuPage County.

In 2023, the S.W.A.P. program had a participation of 2,124 S.W.A.P. Offenders which provided 16,992 hours of unskilled labor. Providing unskilled labor at a rate of $16.50 per hour. This created a savings of at least $280,368 for county departments and municipalities. The following are the county departments, municipalities and not-for profit organizations that benefited from the Sheriff's Work Alternative Program in 2023.

DuPage County: Animal Control, Care Center, Coroner's Office, Division of Transportation (Highway Department/Grounds Department), ETSB, Facility Management, Probation & Court Services, Sheriff's Office Administrative, Sheriff's Office Correctional Center, Sheriff's Office Judicial Office Facility (J.O.F.) and the State's Attorney's Office.

Townships: Addison, Milton, Naperville, Wayne, Winfield

Park Districts: Addison, Bensenville, Elmhurst, Glendale Heights, Itasca, Lisle, Woodridge.

Public Works: Addison, Bensenville, Carol Stream, Glendale Heights, Itasca, Willowbrook, Woodridge.

In addition, Faith Bridge Church, First United Methodist Church, Catholic Charities, Catholic Charities Advocacy Housing, Sharing Connections, SCARCE, DuPage Airport Authority, Electri-Flex, Forest Preserve of DuPage County, Village of Winfield, West Chicago Fire Department, Wheaton VFW, also benefited from S.W.A.P. assistance.

Corrections

CERT

The Corrections Emergency Response Team (CERT) is made up of an elite tactical unit of Deputies and Supervisors, who are specially trained to respond to any and all critical incidents within the Jail. CERT members are also trained to respond to other incidents that occur outside of the Jail as deemed necessary by the Sheriff and assisting with bringing them to a successful conclusion.

The Team consists of 30 members: both male and female. Each Team member was selected through a detailed process. Considerations for selection included, daily work performance, specialized skills and knowledge, prior experience and training, experience within the Sheriff's Office, a teamwork mentality as well as a positive attitude and the desire to expand their knowledge and growth within the Department.



Team members include Supervisors, Deputies, Gang Specialists, and Specialty Instructors. Each Team member receives a minimum of 8 hours of specialized training every other month in addition to the standard in-service training that all deputies receive on a regular basis. This training allows each Team member to learn new skills as well as become more proficient with their current skill set so that they can safely and effectively handle any emergency situation that they may be faced. The specialized training that the CERT Team receives covers a variety of topics, such as Verbal Judo, de-escalation techniques, CPR / First Aid; less lethal uses of force such as Oleoresin Capsicum (O.C) spray, Taser X26, Electronic control Devices as well as soft empty hand control tactics. The Team also trains on areas of fire safety and building evacuations, high risk/high profile inmate transports, crowd and riot control, hostage negotiations and hostage rescue. Other areas of training that are regularly covered are Forced Cell Moves of barricaded / suicidal inmates, medical and mental health issues of inmates, defensive tactics, and also deputy health, wellness and fitness.

This year, several new members have been appointed to the team. We are especially focused on bringing them up to speed and integrating them into the team. With the relaxing of Covid 19 restrictions, we are returning to more physical training in several areas that were lacking during lockdown. We are also working on Teamwork and Communication. Although individual efforts and accomplishments were recognized. We are continue to developed and practice special tactics with the focus on minimizing the risk of injury to the inmates, visitors, and staff members.

Corrections

Training

There are at total of eight (8) field training officers in the Corrections Bureau. The Field Training Officers (FTO's) are appointed to the rank of Corporal and provide a minimum of forty (40) hours of Roll Call training annually. Field Training Officers also assist in providing training to all staff assigned to the Corrections Bureau. The Primary FTO assigned to each new deputy ensures all training and documentation is completed for that employee. An electronic system (CopFTO) is utilized for documentation and tracking of new employees through the field training process. Some Field Training Officers are also certified in other areas of instruction such as American Heart Association's CPR and First Aid, Axon Taser Instructors, Use of Force Instructors, etc.

The Corrections Bureau provides both In Service and Professional Development training to staff. The Correctional Bureau's Field Training program is 264 hours of In-Service and Orientation Training. This year there were eighteen (18) Deputies who were assigned to the field training program. Thirteen (13) of these new deputies were lateral hires who had already received the mandatory Basic Correctional Officer's Academy training. Each year the Field Training Officers provide the mandatory training requirements to new employees.

Here is some information concerning the number of Training events and Hours provided to staff.

TRAINING OFFERED	QUANTITY
In Service	115
Professional Development	82
Roll Call (or electronic equivalent)	730
TOTALS	**927**

Corrections

Training (Cont'd)



Thankfully this year, COVID-19 restrictions have been reduced. We were able to resume mostly in person training with electronic means such as e-mail and attendance in webinars being used as a backup and supplement.

The Correctional Bureau also utilizes Relias On line learning system to provide training modules to meet mandatory annual requirements. Relias learning program aids in tracking and assigning staff orientations, regular curriculum, CERT Team training, Preventing Disease Transmission and Mental Health training.

Sheriff Mendrick also hosts the Basic Correctional Officer's Academy. In cooperation with the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board and the Police Training Institute through the University of Illinois, the DuPage County Sheriff's Office provides state-of-the-art training for all new Correctional Officers. This was the first year with increased academies, bringing the training from 200 hours to 320 hours. The academy provides instruction in law and legal liability including use of force, arrest and control tactics, firearms, mental health and human behavior, American Heart Association CPR and First Aid, ethics, cultural responsiveness, gender responsiveness, safety and security, Officer wellness and stress management, Crisis Intervention Team Concepts, scenario-based training, and many other operational topics. This course is certified by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board. We managed to successfully complete three scheduled academy classes with eighty-eight (88) recruits graduating, five (5) of them from DuPage County Sheriff's Office.

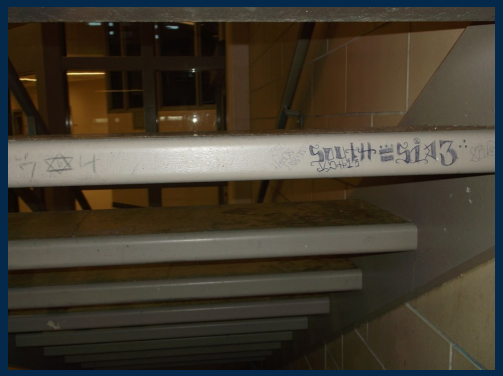
Corrections

Security Threat Analysis Group (STAG)

The DuPage County Sheriff's Office Corrections Security Threat Analysis Group (STAG) is a specialized unit assigned to the Correctional Center and that is focused on the monitoring of various security threats within the facility. In addition to its work with street gangs, the unit is also responsible for identifying and documenting inmates that are associated with Security Threat Groups including those involved in terrorism. The Security Threat Analysis Group works to assist in the detection and identification of various security threats mainly within the facility and assists other agencies with information regarding individuals incarcerated within the Correctional Center. The unit currently consists of one Lieutenant who oversees the unit, one Sergeant, and 10 deputies split among the shifts of the facility as a collateral assignment to their daily tasks. The unit and its personnel provide support and assistance to all bureaus of the Sheriff's Office twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

Personnel assigned to the unit are trained in the identification and detection of street gang members. Their past work performance, motivation, and skills determine each individual's assignment. As the Corrections Security Threat Analysis Group is a collateral duty for all members, each individual must not only perform their regularly assigned duties, but also perform gang and security related investigations and requisite documentation. Each member assigned to the unit is a Certified Gang Expert in the State of Illinois and has completed extra training in topics such as criminal interviewing and gang dynamics.

During 2023 the Corrections Security Threat Analysis Group conducted several gang related interviews, follow up investigations, and provided intelligence and assistance to outside law enforcement agencies on multiple different occasions. In addition to the interviews and investigations, the Unit also documents and analyzes graffiti found inside the facility. During 2023, members of the unit documented examples of graffiti allowing the tracking of gang activity within the facility.



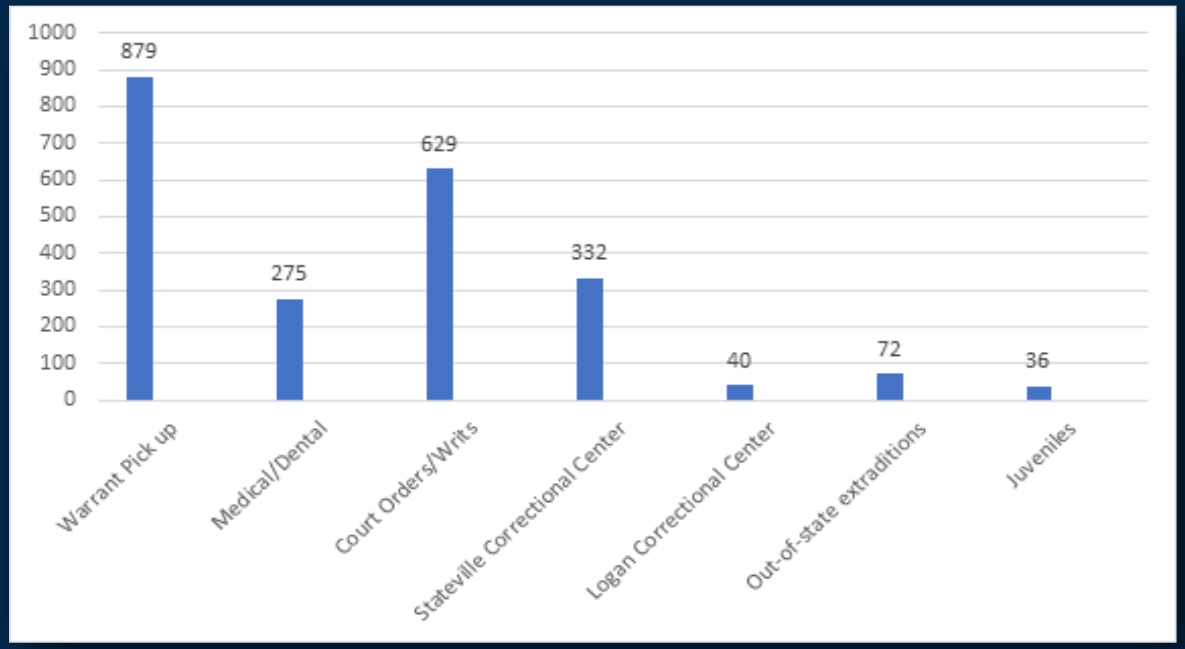


Corrections

Central Warrants and Transport Division

The Central Warrants/Transport Division is responsible for the service of DuPage County warrants both inside and outside of the county and the completion of out-of-state extraditions involving individuals arrested on DuPage County warrants. In 2023, the unit completed 72 out-of-state extraditions.

The Transport Unit is comprised of deputies responsible for the transportation of inmates housed at the DuPage County Correctional Facility to any of the following locations: courts in other jurisdictions, correctional facilities, medical facilities, mental health facilities, dental facilities and any other transport ordered by the court. Transport officers are assigned daily pick-ups at other law enforcement agencies within DuPage County as well as agencies in the counties outside of DuPage County. In 2023 the Transport Unit moved 1,991 males, 369 females and 36 juveniles for a total of 2,396 prisoners moved.



Corrections

Central Warrants and Transport Division (Cont'd)

The Central Warrants civilian support personnel are responsible for the following:

Validating and entering all active warrants assigned to the Sheriff's Office into the state LEADS system.

Removing warrants from the state LEADS system after the warrant has been served or quashed by the court.

Maintaining all warrant files.

Answering LEADS hits from other law enforcement agencies and confirming active warrants.

Disseminating court and bond information to other law enforcement agencies for individuals who have posted bond.

Coordinating out-of-state extraditions with the DuPage County States Attorney's Office.

Coordinating and assigning pick-ups for the transport deputies.

The Central Warrants Division civilian support personnel process warrants issued by the DuPage County courts, warrants issued by out-of-county courts, warrants received via the mail from other municipalities, and warrants issued by the juvenile court.

In 2023, 11,749 warrants were issued by the court for processing by the Central Warrants Division and entered into LEADS.

Law Enforcement

Patrol

The Patrol Division of the DuPage County Sheriff's Office is the "cornerstone" of the Law Enforcement Bureau, providing 24-hour police services to more than 95,823 unincorporated residents as well as the greater DuPage County population of nearly one million residents.

For the purposes of patrol operations, the nine townships in the county are divided into 36 sectors. These sectors are combined to form patrol areas, or "beats," based on the analysis of the severity and frequency of calls for service. To ensure continuous patrol coverage and make the most efficient use of manpower, three patrol shifts cover each day. These shifts are arranged to overlap during the peak activity times or periods that regularly have a higher volume of service calls. In 2023, the Office handled a total of 62,855 calls for service.

- Crime prevention
- Calls for service responses
- Traffic law enforcement and education
- Offender apprehension
- Evidence collection and preservation
- Domestic violence intervention
- Civil dispute mediation
- Disaster and emergency incident response
- Preliminary criminal investigations
- Civil process service
- Court testimony and trial preparation

Law Enforcement

Patrol

2023 Activity

Total number of DUIs	35
Total custodial arrests including traffic, DUI, misdemeanor, and felony arrest	513
Orders of Protection	960
Warrant Arrests	168
Sex Offender Compliance Checks	45
Registered Sex Offenders	440
Traffic Citation	1,403
Traffic Crash Investigations	1,222
Traffic Crash Fatalities	1 crash, which resulted in 2 fatalities

Law Enforcement

Canine Unit

Deputies are assigned to the Canine Unit as a collateral duty assignment and perform canine functions in addition to their primary assignment, either in the Patrol Division or Court Security. Canine teams have an on-call status for emergencies when a team is not on regular duty. The narcotic detection canine teams maintain 24 hour on duty coverage. Canine teams are generally assigned to central areas of the County in order to expedite their arrival to any incident that their specific skills can be of use.

The Sheriff's Office Canine Unit has the only explosives detection dog, human remains detection dogs, bloodhounds, and comfort dog of any law enforcement entity in DuPage County. These uncommon disciplines are utilized by nearly every law enforcement agency in DuPage County as well as adjacent counties and our federal partners.

All canine teams routinely take part in public demonstrations such as: The Boy & Girl Scouts of America, large events like the Sheriff's Safety Saturday, special needs groups, children's career days, homeowner's association meetings, and area law enforcement civilian police academies.

The K9 Unit also assists any Village, Town, City, County and Task Force within DuPage County as requested. At times, the K9 Unit will also respond to requests for assistance outside of DuPage County. The Unit assisted outside agencies for a total of 400 assignments in 2023.

The K9 Unit participated in over 30 demonstrations for various organizations, schools, and events in 2023.

Narcotics Detection K9s assisted in searching Hope's Garden on a weekly basis during growing season for a total of 7 searches.



Sheriff Mendrick and K9 Zeeva

Law Enforcement

Hazardous Devices Unit



2023 Hazardous Devices Unit / Bomb Squad Year-End Report

The DuPage County Sheriff's Bomb Squad / Hazardous Devices Unit is currently comprised of six (6) federally trained and certified public safety bomb technicians. We have an additional two (2) members who are currently waiting to attend the hazardous devices school. All six members are certified as level 1 hazardous materials operators, federally certified post-blast investigators, and certified evidence technicians. Five (5) of the members are Certified Homemade Explosive Technicians (FBI HME). During the 2023 year, the other members of the unit are scheduled to attend the FBI Slash course. Six Members of the unit are certified through the ATF for Advanced Explosive Demolition Techniques course (ATF AEDT).

The experience of the members of the unit varies from two (2) to Twenty-Two (20) years on the Bomb Squad. The number of calls for service the Bomb Squad responds to on average for the last five years has remained between 110-140 calls.

The unit is also supported by one explosive detection K9 (K9 Nitro) and his handler. This K9 unit is normally assigned to the courthouse. The K9 unit responds with members of the unit to special events, suspicious packages, and specialized training.

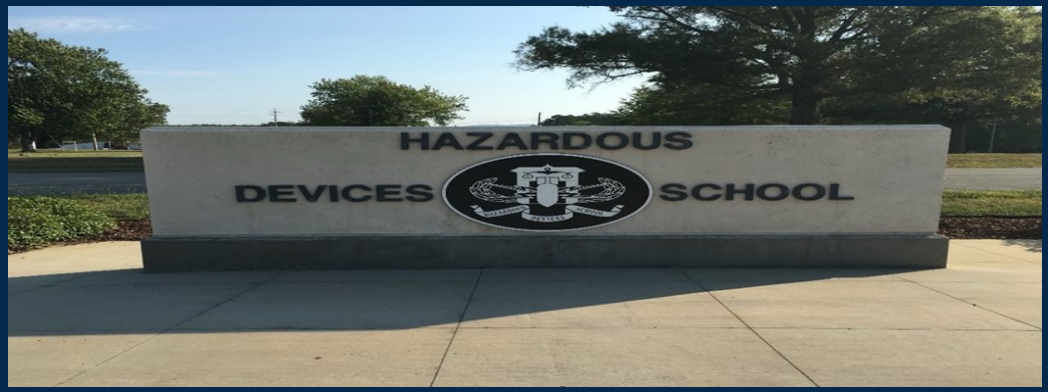
Law Enforcement

Hazardous Devices Unit (Cont'd)





All members of the Unit are certified through a rigorous six-week resident training course through the FBI at the Hazardous Devices School at Redstone Arsenal Army Base in Huntsville, Alabama. All civilian bomb technicians in the United States are trained through this program. Currently, there are approximately 2,500 certified bomb techs in the United States distributed among 462 units nationally.



Every three years the techs are required to return HDS to be tested for recertification over a 40-hour program.

Law Enforcement

Hazardous Devices Unit (Cont'd)

Specialty Units within the Bomb Squad

Three members are FBI certified Tactical Bomb Technicians that can offer tactical support to local, state, and federal SWAT/Tactical teams.

- All members have to attend a 2-week certification course that involves academics, Physical agility and tested scenarios. If they pass all the levels, they are certified by the FBI as a tactical bomb technician.

-The mission of this unit is to help maintain the forward momentum of SWAT / Tactical operations.

-The unit trains quarterly with Kane County, FBI and Chicago Police Bomb Techs and integrate with local SWAT teams.

-Provide support to SWAT/Tactical when and Where IEDs (Improvised explosive devices), Military Ordinance, Explosives, Labs, or Booby-Traps are known to be present or possibly present.





Law Enforcement

Hazardous Devices Unit (Cont'd)

The Unit currently has one member who will be attending certification April 2024 through the FBI Advanced Program as a Maritime Operator.

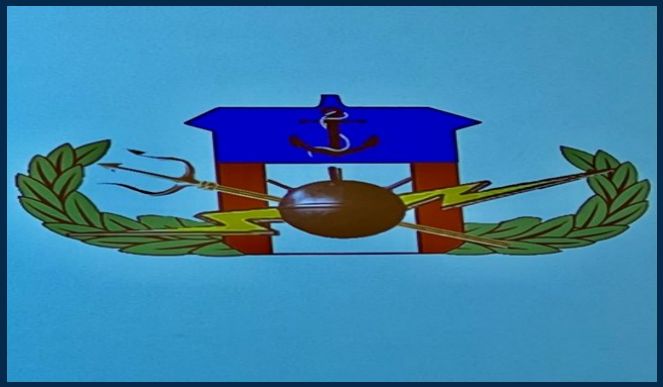
This certification allows the following:

Technical advice to management regarding Maritime policy, legal considerations, and impact to ports and vessel operations.

Response to suspected hazardous devices within dryland areas of the Maritime Domain, such as port facilities.

Response to suspected hazardous devices on the surface of the water and along the shoreline of the Maritime Domain, to include aboard ships.









Law Enforcement

Hazardous Devices Unit (Cont'd)

Chicago FBI Level 5 Stabilization Team

One of the members is certified Stabilization Technicians for the FBI Level 5 FBI Chicago Team.

There is currently 2 other members waiting to attend the training course in New Mexico.

Those members who are certified with the team are trained to handle nuclear and radiological explosive devices with the FBI. The Unit also works with the Department of Energy. The unit trains once a month and a 3-day training event quarterly with this federal team. Each member of the team is required to attend a 2-week program in New Mexico with the US Department of Energy.



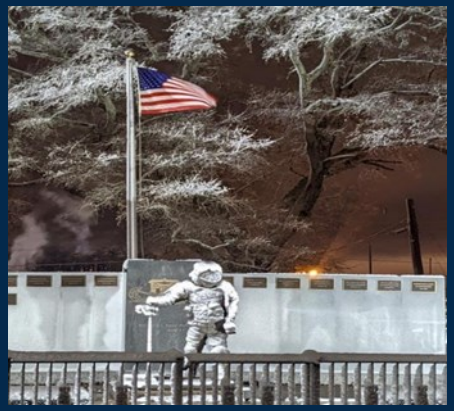


Law Enforcement

Hazardous Devices Unit (Cont'd)

Hazardous Device and Explosives Unit Mission

The mission of the DuPage County Sheriff's Office Bomb Squad is to investigate explosive related matters which include but are not limited to: bomb threats, Incendiary devices, hoax devices, Improvised explosive devices (IED), illegal use of explosives, illegal possession/use of pyrotechnics, military ordinance, commercial and consumer explosives. The Bomb Squad is to provide and render safe response capabilities, post-blast investigations, and other explosive-related expertise while ensuring the protection of lives and property and the prosecution of explosive or other hazardous devices related crimes. The Unit has maintained mission readiness through a collaborative relationship with local offices of the Federal government (ATF, FBI, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and Department of Energy).



Law Enforcement

Hazardous Devices Unit (Cont'd)

The public safety bomb technician will be trained and proficient in performing the following duties and responsibilities:

Render safe and disposal of suspected IEDs, incendiary devices, explosives, explosive materials (as defined by BATF), pyrotechnics, and ammunition.

Provide for legal, proper, and safe transportation, disposal, and/or storage of explosives and other items referred to above.

Conduct bombing crime scene investigations.

Collect and preserve evidence.

Prepare and provide courtroom testimony.

Store, maintain, and inventory bomb squad equipment.

Provide technical support to special operations.

Provide dignitary protection.

Prepare and participate in explosive-related training programs





Law Enforcement

Hazardous Devices Unit (Cont'd)

Training for the unit

All technicians are also required to attend a 40-hour program applicable to the mission each year. This training is available from several sources including the FBI, BATF, Department of Energy, Department of Homeland Security, and other federal agencies. All the training is paid 100% by the federal government. The unit conducts in-house training twice monthly and 4 times a year joint training with the FBI and Kane County Bomb Squad. Members of the FBI Stabilization Team train once a month and quarterly for a three-day assessment conducted by the Department of Energy. The FBI Maritime program trains once a month and is run by the FBI and Chicago Police Department. Local FBI and BATF bomb technicians and explosive experts regularly attend or provide training to our Unit. The Unit is also an active participant in the Great Lakes Bomb Technicians Association and regularly attends training meetings at various local sites. Members of the team are also members of the USBTA (United States Bomb Technician Association) and IABTI (International Association of Bomb Technicians Investigators) which provide training opportunities.

The Bomb Squad is also a member of ILEAS

ILEAS (Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System) hosts meetings in Urbana with the other thirteen Illinois bomb squad commanders to discuss mutual aid, cooperative training, and funds procurement.

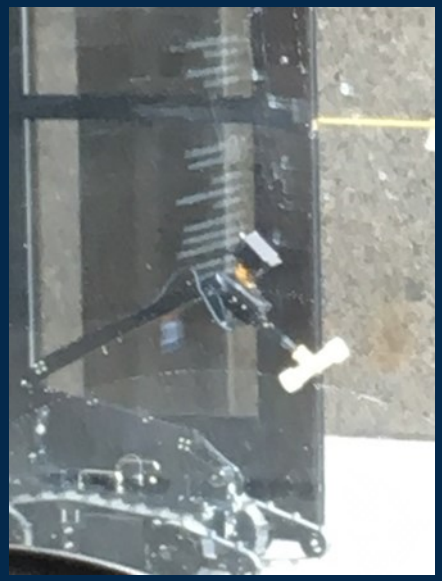
ILEAS has provided large monetary items for the unit to include Robots, Bomb Suit, X-Ray systems, and miscellaneous tools.

Law Enforcement

Hazardous Devices Unit (Cont'd)







Law Enforcement

Hazardous Devices Unit (Cont'd)

Community Training and Security Sweeps

The Unit is regularly requested to provide educational presentations and security sweeps for various Community entities. Due to the global pandemic of COVID – some of the events were canceled but are slowly returning to normal.

Some of the events the unit has participated with conducting security sweeps/community events:

Dupage County Art Fest, Chicago Marathon, National Night Out, College of DuPage events, Naperville Half Marathon, St.Patrick's Day Parades / Events, Turkey Trot Elmhurst, Elmhurst PD Sweeps, and Lombard Parades. The unit also participates with different agencies Citizen Police Academies. The Unit provides training to the Sheriff's Citizen Police Academy, The Lisle Citizen Police Academy, The Lisle National Night Out, and the Sheriff's Court House Academy. Mid-West University in Downers Grove- Security Team, Suspicious package training.



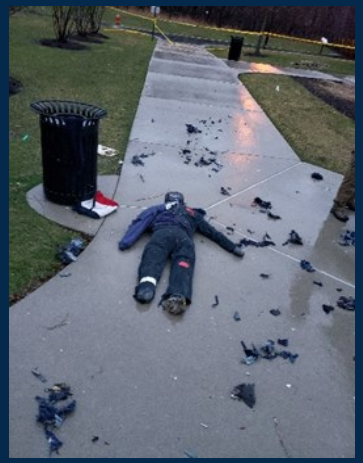


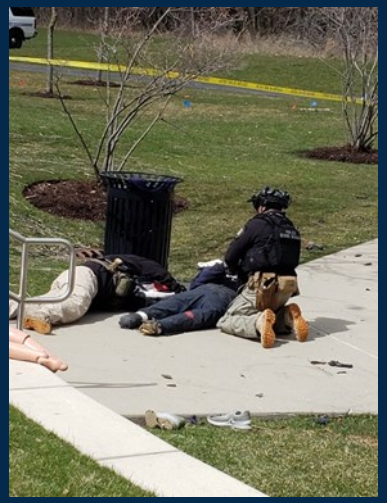


Law Enforcement

Hazardous Devices Unit (Cont'd)

In April of 2022, the Sheriff Bomb Squad assisted Will County Emergency Management / FEMA drill for terrorist attack training. This drill involved working with Kane County Sheriff Bomb Squad, Chicago Police Department Bomb Squad and the FBI Bomb Squad. The unit also had ATF and US Marshall K9 on scene to assist with the drill.





In June of 2023, the bomb squad assisted Parkhurst Army Reserve Station with active shooter drill.



Law Enforcement

Hazardous Devices Unit (Cont'd)

Bunker and Explosive magazine

The bunker, explosive magazine, and blasting cap magazine were recently inspected by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Division of Mines and Minerals and passed certification. The certification is good for one year. The magazine and explosives comply with ATF.

Callouts for 2023

In 2023 the Hazardous Devices Unit (HDU) responded to the following calls. The Hazardous Devices unit responds to DuPage County and Will County and any other agency within the State of Illinois requesting assistance.

The breakdown is as follows:

Class 1.1B commercial explosives - 0

Class 1.3 commercial fireworks Joliet PD 50 Pounds

Class 1.3 commercial fireworks- 150 items

Class 1.4 consumer fireworks – 200 items

DuPage County Citizen Police Academy, Court Security Academy, Lisle Police Citizen police academy, Lisle National Night Out, FBI Post Blast, FBI Tactical Bomb Technician Course, ATF Evidence Course (E3) ATF Advanced Explosive Dem Techniques, Annual IDNR Dog training Demo, Will County OEM / FEMA drill, Parkland Reserve Center Active Shooter drill, Hinsdale Open House.

Military hand grenades/ordnance - 23

Suspicious package/suspicious incidents - 15

Searches and security sweeps – 30 Assists to Addison PD, Chicago Police Dept, Downers Grove PD, Elmhurst PD, Hinsdale PD, Itasca PD, Kane County Sheriff, College of DuPage, Naperville Police, North Central College, Joliet Police Department, West Chicago Police, US Secret Service Vice President of US.

Law Enforcement

Hazardous Devices Unit (Cont'd)

Collaborative training (other agency/unit) - 10

FBI, ATF, Chicago Police, IDNR, Will County OEM, Will County SWAT, Bolingbrook SWAT, Kane County Sheriff.

Improvised explosive devices/pipe bombs - 0

Recovery of powders (flash/black/double based) - 30

Criminal damage to Property - 2

Chemical reaction bombs - 0

Hoax devices - 4

Assist to Addison Police Department

Assist to Naperville Police Department

Military or marine flares/gas - 5

Magazine/bunker State inspection - 2

Explosive license applications-33

Flash powder IED - 12

Render safe procedure/explosives disposal - 10

Hazardous materials disposal – 0

Post blast Investigation – 0



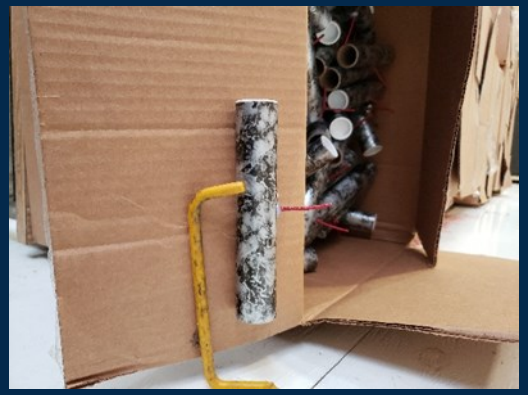
Bensenville Seizure*

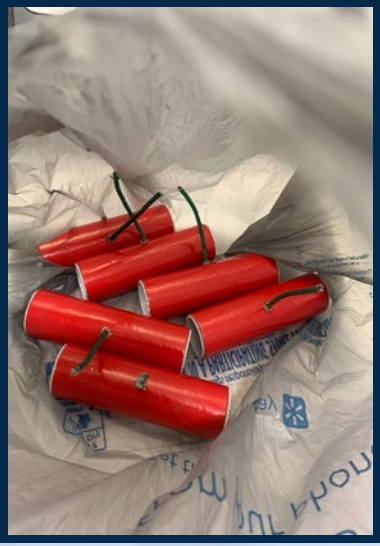


Bensenville Fireworks Case is still open, and we are still storing the fireworks pictured above.

Law Enforcement

Hazardous Devices Unit (Cont'd)









Law Enforcement

Hazardous Devices Unit (Cont'd)









Law Enforcement

Detective Division

The DuPage County Sheriff's Office Detective Division is responsible for following up on crimes reported to the Sheriff's Office and assisting patrol on a call-out basis when requested. The division operates a 24/7-hour response by having on-duty detective coverage on weekdays from 0730hrs -2300hrs, and a rotating on-call detective duty to cover any response needed outside of regular on-duty time. Assistance is also provided to other law enforcement agencies both inside and outside of DuPage County. The division is staffed by twenty-two detectives, two tac deputies, one Lieutenant, three sergeants, three civilians, and one detective commander reporting directly to the Deputy Chief of the Law Enforcement Bureau.

The Detective Division general investigations are organized into two teams, the North team, and the South team. This part of the division handles general case investigations, special victims' investigations, domestic violence, property crimes, vice crimes, and financial crimes investigations. The sergeants assigned to the division are responsible to review the patrol cases and determine if any follow-up is required by a detective. If follow-up is required the sergeants will assign the case to a detective for proper investigation. Juvenile Operations, Forensic Investigations Unit, Digital Forensic Investigations, and Cold Case Unit are also under the direction of the Detective Division.

The Detective Division was assigned 2,597 reports for review in 2023. Of those cases reviewed 684 were assigned to a detective for active criminal investigation resulting in 32 Misdemeanor charges, and 41 felony charges.

In the event of a major investigation by the division, the sergeant will assign a primary detective as well as a secondary detective to the case. This ensures that one detective is not overtasked and that the case moves quickly toward closure. All detectives currently assigned to the Division are tenured and have hundreds of hours of specialized training in areas including homicide, juvenile, interview, and interrogation.

Law Enforcement

Detective Division

One main detective case to note -

On June 18, 2023, the DuPage County Sheriff's Office detective division was called out for a mass shooting incident. It was a peaceful gathering in celebration of Juneteenth that turned suddenly violent.

A large gathering of 300-400 people in the vicinity of Hinsdale Lake Terrace at Honeysuckle Lane and Route 83 in Willowbrook started celebrating at around 6:00 PM that day. Police were in the area monitoring the scene. At approximately 12:25 AM police were called away due to a 911 call alleging a fight had broken out nearby. As deputies responded, they heard gunshots and immediately returned to the scene of the gathering. It was later determined that at least ten to fourteen suspects fired multiple rounds from multiple weapons into the crowd. At the time, we knew of 23 victims injured and 1 victim killed by gunfire. Several other victims were also injured while attempting to flee the area. The victims were treated at several hospitals in the area, and their conditions were minor to serious.

Investigators from the DuPage County Sheriff's Office conducted several hundred interviews of victims, witnesses, and potential suspects. In some cases, these interviews were conducted thousands of miles away from Illinois. They have reviewed hundreds of hours of video footage pulled from local businesses, witness cell phones, and social media. Over one hundred pieces of evidence were collected from the scene and were processed by local, state, & federal agencies to expedite actionable results. The DuPage County Sheriff's Office has made the identification and capture of the persons responsible for this heinous attack its top priority since it occurred.

Several suspects have been identified and questioned and charges are still pending the final state's attorney review. One of the identified suspects was charged which led to the following informational release on October 6th 2023.

"Pre Trial-Release Denied for Man Accused of Firing Weapon at Unincorporated Willowbrook Juneteenth Celebration."

WHEATON - DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Berlin and DuPage County Sheriff James Mendrick announced today that Judge Joshua Dieden granted the State's motion to deny pre-trial release for an Aurora man accused of firing a handgun at a Juneteenth celebration in unincorporated Willowbrook last summer. Anthony Mothershed, 19 (d.o.b. 8/1/2004) of the 3500 block of Willowview Court appeared at First Appearance Court this morning charged with one count of Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm – Direction of Another Person (Class 1 Felony) and one count of Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon (Class 4 Felony).

Law Enforcement

Detective Division

On June 18, 2023, at approximately 12:24 a.m., deputies with the DuPage County Sheriff's Office were alerted to gunshots fired at a Juneteenth celebration in a strip mall parking lot near Kingery Highway and Honeysuckle Rose Lane in unincorporated Willowbrook. Upon their arrival, deputies learned that thirty-one-year-old Reginald Meadows of Willowbrook had been shot and killed and multiple individuals had been shot. Following an investigation into the matter led by the DuPage County Sheriff's Office, it is alleged that while in attendance at the Juneteenth celebration, Mothershed was with a group of individuals standing outside the Legacy Beauty Supply when he began shooting a Kahr Arms CW45 .45 caliber pistol in the direction of others at the celebration. It is alleged that after the shooting, Mothershed fled the scene. Deputies with the DuPage County Sheriff's Office took Mothershed into custody on October 4, 2023, without incident.

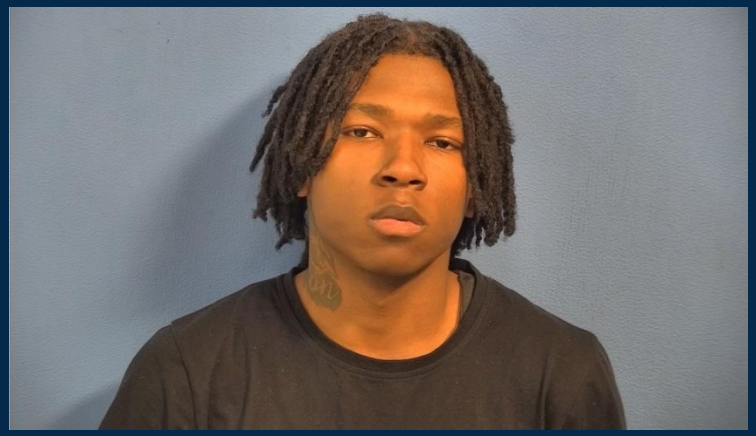
"The violent conduct alleged against Mr. Mothershed is outrageous and will not be tolerated in DuPage County," Berlin said. "A gathering of hundreds of people is no place for illegal guns, and my office stands ready to file the appropriate charges supported by evidence against anyone accused of behavior such as alleged in this case. The investigation into what turned a peaceful celebration into a deadly shooting continues to be extremely tedious and time-consuming, and I commend Sheriff Mendrick and the detectives involved who have invested countless hours to determine the truth about what actually happened that night. I thank Assistant State's Attorneys Katie Rowe, Kristin Sullivan, and Joe Lindt for their efforts in bringing today's charges against Mr. Mothershed."

"I would like to commend the detectives of the DuPage County Sheriff's Office for tirelessly working on this case since its inception," Mendrick stated. "These investigators have put in thousands of hours of work to reach this outcome. We will vigorously continue our investigation to hold anyone involved in this incident accountable. I would also like to thank State's Attorney Bob Berlin and his team for their legal guidance and continued support throughout this investigation."

Law Enforcement

Detective Division

Members of the public are reminded that these complaints contain only charges and are not proof of the defendant's guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial in which it is the government's burden to prove their guilt beyond a reasonable doubt."



Pictured: Anthony Mothershed, 19 YOA

This case remains actively investigated.

Law Enforcement

Detective Division-Juvenile Operations

The Juvenile Operations component is responsible for the creation and implementation of juvenile crime prevention programs. At present, the Sheriff's Office has 33 certified Juvenile Officers within the Law Enforcement Bureau.

In 2023, 355 juvenile cases were handled by the Law Enforcement Bureau, with 47 juvenile cases closed by arrest (including Patrol, and Detectives). This arrest action includes releasing the juvenile to parents, formal and informal station adjustments, ordinance arrests, direct filing to the court, incarceration, and the issuance of juvenile arrest warrants.

The juvenile files are purged quarterly and the records of those juveniles turning 18 years of age are destroyed. During the calendar year 2023 the juvenile files, located in the secure file cabinet within the Law Enforcement Bureau's Patrol Division, were purged four times of any individuals reaching the age of eighteen. The files were purged on March 20th, June 15th, November 30th, and December 30th, 2023.

Law Enforcement

Detective Division-Cold Case Unit

The Cold Case Unit of the Sheriff's Office is responsible for investigating any unnatural death or violent crime against persons that have not been resolved, generally, but not necessarily always, in a period that exceeds one year and is not actively being investigated. Solvability factors are applied to suspended cold cases to assist in identifying cases that can be reopened and actively investigated.

In 2023, the Cold Case Unit was supervised by Sergeant Wayda who works on Cold Cases however her primary duty assignment is that of a current general supervising detective.

As 2023 came to a close the Sheriff's Office currently has approximately fifty unsolved cold case murders and three missing person cases.

The number of cold cases has declined in each decade since the 1970s; with the 1970s being an anomaly when comparing thirty years before and after that decade. Advances in investigative techniques, such as investigator's interview and interrogation skills, along with technological advances in the areas of electronic tracking and data recovery via computers and cellular devices. Additionally, crime scene processing and evidence collection procedures have advanced significantly. Lastly, and along with the aforementioned advances, the ongoing progress in the field of Forensic Science, specifically, the advances in DNA testing, certainly contribute to the higher rate of solved homicides as demonstrated in the 1985 Kristina Wesselman case solved in 2015 with a conviction.

ERA	OPEN CASES
1940's	3
1950's	2
1960's	4
1970's	25
1980's	10
1990's	4
2000's	3

Law Enforcement

Detective Division-Cold Case Unit

The following is a review of the current open/suspended cold case investigations:

Debbie Fijan (10-year-old victim) -Date of Murder February 11, 1966:

The Debbie Fijan murder case remains an open/suspended investigation. The suspension status is due to no current leads to follow. Debbie was murdered and her body was found on the shoulder of Lies Road east of Fair Oaks Road in Unincorporated West Chicago. Bode Technologies along with the DuPage County Crime Laboratory was utilized to evaluate and attempt DNA extraction from several items of evidentiary value; ie., evidence labeled "Schofield's fingernail scrapings", along with Debbie's coat and other items related to the investigation. To date, the testing either did not result in obtaining a DNA profile or the profile developed was not incriminating.

In late December 2012, the Cold Case Unit contacted the Smithsonian Institution's Feather Identification Laboratory. The Feather Identification Laboratory has agreed to review feathers from this case that may tie a suspect to a stuffed duck found with Debbie's body. We have sent this feather evidence to the Feather Identification Laboratory. The results concluded that the feathers present and analyzed were from a different type of fowl than the stuffed duck found with Debbie's body (that she had taken to school that day).

In June of 2014, Sgt. Wayda and now-retired Sgt. Harris traveled to Missouri to attempt to interview Loren Schofield. In 1966, Schofield was originally charged with Debbie's murder, however, the Grand Jury failed to indict him and he was released. We were able to make contact with Schofield at his residence and a brief discussion took place. Schofield stated that he would consider a more in-depth interview after first consulting with an attorney.

Schofield never contacted our office and attempts to contact him have been met with no return calls or correspondence from him.

Loren Schofield died in 2018.

There were no viable leads on this case in the last 3 years and all physical evidence has been worked by our laboratory or outside laboratories with no leads obtained.

Law Enforcement

Detective Division-Cold Case Unit

The following is a review of the current open/suspended cold case investigations:

Mary Konder (29 years old) – Date of murder: September 17, 1971:

Mary Konder was found in her home at 30W150 North Aurora Road, unincorporated Naperville.

Mary was found in the morning hours by a co-worker with multiple stab wounds. At the time, Mary's young child was in the home while her other child was in school.

In 2020 a review of the evidence was conducted and a case review was conducted with the DuPage County Crime Laboratory. Some items have been tested to date with no viable suspects developed, but more evidence has been recommended to be tested.

Contact was made with her husband at the time of her death, her children, and multiple siblings

Law Enforcement

Detective Division-Cold Case Unit

Linda Sue Rhein: - Date of Murder: July 18, 1979:

Linda Sue Rhein was stabbed to death and her body was either placed or her death wounds occurred on 87th St. east of Madison St. The main suspect in her murder at the time was her boyfriend, William Baker. Baker was interviewed multiple times. Baker was the last person known to see Linda, he was driving her car and there was blood in her car.

Sgt. Wayda and then Det. Molzahn continues to investigate the case. In July of 2014, they traveled to Michigan and interviewed another person of interest, who is an inmate in the Gus Harrison Correctional Facility. Additionally, they traveled to central Illinois to conduct further interviews and conduct research.

A meeting was held with the DuPage County Crime Laboratory and a review of physical evidence was conducted. It was decided that the available evidence will be prioritized and then submitted in three waves. Throughout the years, our office also utilized the assistance of Bode Laboratory, and the FBI for mitochondrial DNA testing (specifically used for hair/roots).

Detective Sgt. Wayda maintains contact with the Rhein family.

This case remains open.

Law Enforcement

Detective Division-Cold Case Unit

Lorraine Bieze-Date of Murder: August 31, 1982:

Lorraine Bieze was found deceased near the railroad tracks off of Munger Road near the Pratt Wayne Woods Forest Preserve. Bieze was sexually assaulted and her cause of death was strangulation.

A review of the case was conducted in late 2011 and early 2012.

There is DNA evidence available and the DNA developed by our laboratory is sufficient to exclude suspects; however, there is not a complete profile to enter into C.O.D.I.S.

We have met with both Lorraine's mother and her sister in an attempt to generate leads. We are in the process of re-interviewing potential suspects and obtaining DNA samples from them for comparisons by our crime laboratory. One suspect in Lorraine's murder died in 2003. Sgt. Wayda was able to obtain biopsied tissue blocks from the hospital where this suspect died. These medical samples were found to be unusable (in developing a DNA profile).

However, Sgt. Wayda was able to obtain DNA from the suspect's brother and that DNA profile was able to be excluded.

Due to the DNA evidence and availability of persons of interest, the solvability of this case warrants an ongoing investigation. At this time Bieze's case is considered open.

This case is considered open.

Law Enforcement

Detective Division-Cold Case Unit

Kenyon Stapley-Missing Person-Last seen in August of 1993:

Kenyon Stapley was last seen at his home in August of 1993.

Keyon did not leave a note indicating his whereabouts and there was no apparent crime scene. Stapley's wallet and keys were found on his dresser and his vehicle was parked in his attached garage. Stapley's adopted son admitted to being in the home the day Stapley was last seen alive.

Det. Sergeant Wayda has been in contact with a woman who was Stapley's fiancé at the time he went missing.

2015: Det. Wayda has worked with Stapley's fiancé and spoken with Stapley's daughter and his attorney to attempt to gain traction in this case. Det. Wayda and then Det. Molzahn interviewed Stapley's son and he refused to provide a DNA sample for the CODIS-Unidentified Human Remains Database. Stapley's family states they are convinced their father committed suicide. We will attempt to obtain DNA from Stapley's daughter for the database.

2016: Detectives met with Stapley's attorney and it was learned that Stapley was having financial difficulties and had several lawsuits pending against him. Stapley's case information was entered into NamUs as a missing person case.

Efforts to obtain DNA from Stapley's daughter are underway to complete the NamUs entry.

Current: DNA from Stapley's sister and daughter was obtained and entered into NamUs.

This case is considered open.

Law Enforcement

Detective Division-Cold Case Unit

Sandra Allard-Date of Murder: October 3rd, 1993:

The Sheriff's Office responded to a fire in a townhome located at 2S760 Theresa Ct. in Oakbrook. Sandra's body was found in the home and an autopsy revealed she had been stabbed to death.

We have been in contact with Sandra's daughter and she is interested in being included in our investigation.

One of the first steps taken was to conduct a major case review with our crime laboratory. It was determined that evidence exists and Sgt. Wayda submitted that evidence to our laboratory. There has been a delay in the processing of that evidence due to a shortage of personnel in the laboratory.

2018: An additional case review was completed to include a review of all physical evidence.

Evidence was submitted to our crime laboratory. Interviews were completed with witnesses in an attempt to develop suspects.

This case is considered open.

Law Enforcement

Detective Division-Cold Case Unit

John Spira-Missing Person-Last seen on February 23, 2007:

John Spira was last seen at Universal Cable Construction in Unincorporated West Chicago, a company he is co-owner of with David Stubben. Our office continues to investigate this case and we have been working on interviews and research of both John's finances, as well as Universal Cable Construction.

We continue to follow up on cases of found human remains in this state and none have been linked to John Spira.

Then Detectives Wayda and Mowrer traveled to Missouri in June of 2014 to conduct interviews related to information received during the investigation of Spira's disappearance.

Detective Molzahn has completed subpoenas for Spira's finances and Universal Cable finances.

2019/2020: Det. Chiesa is continuing his efforts to look over financial records. Chiesa has made multiple out-of-state visits to discuss the case reviews with persons associated with the case information. Det. Chiesa remains in contact with John Spira's sister.

This case is open, and being actively reviewed.

Law Enforcement

Detective Division-Cold Case Unit

Baby Hope - discovered on August 15, 2016:

Baby Hope was a newborn found on the afternoon of August 15, 2016, by landscape workers maintaining property located at 25w445 Plamondon Road in unincorporated Wheaton, IL. The child was found in a backpack on the roadway. The exact cause of death cannot be determined however there is evidence that the baby was alive after her birth.

A genealogy test revealed that Baby Hope is of Hispanic descent. DNA from Baby Hope has been entered into CODIS in hopes of locating either the mother or father. A recent pollen test of items discovered with Baby Hope determined they originated in the Southwestern portion of the United States.

Efforts to contact media outlets in the southwestern states to highlight the Baby Hope case are underway.

This case remains open and is being actively worked via genealogy and the assistance of Parabon Labs

Law Enforcement

Detective Division-Cold Case Unit

Missing Person – Matthew "Matt" A. Barrera (unincorporated Wheaton) – Reported Missing on 12/29/21 by his adoptive mother.

He was 29 years of age at the time he went missing.

Matt was last seen in the early morning hours of December 25th, 2021, leaving Wheaton and heading into Chicago arriving at approximately 6am.

Initial indicators suggest that Matt left his home riding his 2021 Genuine motor scooter. The scooter remains missing as well.

Approximately a dozen Search Warrants have been issued throughout, and we have been able to establish an accurate route of travel as he leaves his home in Wheaton at approximately 4:46am and arrives in the area of Lockwood and Ohio, in Chicago, at approximately 6:02am. We have obtained Matt's text messages and Facebook messages and know who he spoke with and what was discussed.

There have been multiple bulletins issued, and area videos obtained and reviewed.

We have worked with Parole agents, USMS, Cook County Coroner's Office, FBI Chicago PD, and NAMUS to help locate Matt.

This case remains open and is being actively investigated.

Law Enforcement

Detective Division Forensic Investigations Unit

The Forensic Investigation Unit provides crime scene investigations and all related forensic functions to the citizens of DuPage County.

The Forensic Unit also handles all vehicle seizures for the Sheriff's Office and is responsible for the Evidence and Recovered Property Section.

The Forensic Investigations Unit Lieutenant serves as the Commander of the Metropolitan Emergency Response and Investigations Team, Forensic Investigations Unit (MERIT). All members of the Sheriff's Office Forensic Investigations Unit are part of MERIT as well as the DuPage County Fire Investigation Task Force

At the end of 2023, the unit consisted of 1 Lieutenant, in command of 6 FIU Detectives, and one civilian Staff Assistant.

The Forensic Unit handled over 1497 assignments in 2023. A breakdown of assignments follows-

Murder Investigations -32

Law Enforcement

Detective Division Forensic Investigation Unit (Cont'd)

Sex Offenses - 4

Robbery - 3

Assault/Battery/Agg. Battery/Domestic - 18

Burglary - 109

Home Invasion - 2

Burglary to Auto - 69

Theft - 8

Auto Theft - 27

Arson/Fire - 14

CDTP - 9

Obstructing - 1

Weapons Related - 52

Law Enforcement

Detective Division Forensic Investigation Unit (Cont'd)

Drugs - 3

Sex Offender Registrations - 435

Crash Investigations - 23

Assist Other Agencies - 107

Coroner Autopsy Assists - 428

Lost/Found Property - 2

Death Investigations - 105

Sick/Injured - 3

Civil/Admin Duties/Rx Box - 37

Suspicious Incidents - 2

Vehicle Seizures- 4

Total Assignments = 1,497

Law Enforcement

Detective Division Forensic Investigation Unit

The Forensic Unit members attend and assist on all autopsies at the DuPage County Coroner's Office of which there were 428 attended.

The Forensic Unit also assists any Village, Town, City, or Task Force within the County as requested. The Unit assisted outside agencies for a total of 107 assignments in 2023.

The total number of hours worked in relation to all Forensic Investigation Unit assists to other agencies, which include other Police Departments, Fire Departments, Coroner's Office, and other County Departments, totaled more than 458 hours.

Per the DuPage County State's Attorney Office and effective 9/9/2014, the Sheriff's Office is no longer required to handle the notifications for article 36 Vehicle Seizures for all of DuPage County. In 2023, FIU was responsible for 12 vehicle seizure cases.

The FIU purchased new equipment in 2023, CDR new release cables, CDR updates, folding tables, upgrading the Forensic Trailer, Bullet trajectory kits, and Digital cameras. The Total Station and FARO 3D scanner received its required maintenance.

FIU attended some in-house training, MERIT Task Force training, Illinois Homicide Investigators Conference, Illinois IAI Conference, FBI Post Blast School, Traffic Accident Investigation 1, and Lead Homicide Investigator Training.

Kristen Jordan maintains the Sex Offender Database for the Sheriff's Office and coordinates the registration of Sex Offenders. 435 sex offender registrations were completed in 2023. She also leads the S.P.E.A.R. task force, a multi-agency task force that monitors compliance of registered Sex Offenders.

The Evidence and Recovered Property Section (ERPS) falls under the umbrella of the Forensic Division. A Civilian Staff Assistant, Kristen Jordan, handled routine daily evidence submissions and management of Property Control involving evidence storage and disposal. Kristen Jordan managed property dispositions multiple times throughout the year. Many improvements were made in the Property Room by reorganizing current and cold cases. Two large Drug Burns were completed in 2023. Some various BEAST equipment was upgraded. Multiple audits for Property and Safe were completed.

Law Enforcement

Detective Division Digital Forensics Unit

The Digital Forensic Investigations (DFI) Unit routinely provides forensic examinations on computers, tablets, cell phones, and electronic storage devices for the Sheriff's Office as well as any local or federal law enforcement agency including the DEA, Children's Center, State's Attorney's Office, Probation Department, DUMEG, Illinois State Police, and occasionally jurisdictions from neighboring counties.

Approximately 390 cases were handled. The majority of evidence processed were cell phones, however, DFI processed laptop computers, DVRs, dashcam video recorders, routers, and hard drives, and performed BERLA vehicle infotainment extractions. The cases examined include murder, death investigations, child pornography, aggravated discharge of a firearm, sexual assaults, robberies, burglaries, drug investigations, and identity thefts. Of the 858 items analyzed, 226 items were from Sheriff's Office investigations. There were 42 ICAC CyberTips investigated by DFI detectives.

The Metropolitan Emergency Response and Investigation Team (MERIT) Digital Forensic Unit (DFU) has also investigated several of the above crimes. There were 10 DFU Merit cases and of the 858 items, 59 items processed were done for MERIT DFU. In addition, there is a DFU satellite lab at Westmont PD.

Administration

Central Records Division

The primary function of the Central Records Division includes the review, control, maintenance and retrieval of all reports and records of the Sheriff's Office. Central Records controls the availability of all reports and records maintained therein, to ensure confidentiality and the distribution to authorized persons and agencies only. These records are maintained in compliance with State and Federal statutes.

Central Records receives over 40 requests a week from other government agencies. County agencies (State's Attorney Office, Probation, Coroner's Office, etc…) request incident reports initiated by our Deputies to assist them with their investigations and/or court case preparations. Local/federal law enforcement and military stations throughout the United States Central Records requests background checks on individuals looking for employment and to satisfy federal/local firearm regulations.

Over the past year, Central Records processed almost 63,000 calls for service, just over 1,800 traffic citations, 1220 traffic crash incidents, and over 65 DUI traffic complaints from our Office's Patrol Division. We were also responsible for electronically imaging and updating booking jackets for each of the inmates that were arrested and booked in our jail by members of the Corrections Bureau.

The Office provides a service to make it easier to receive copies of traffic crash reports. BuyCrash.com is a website that you can print out a copy of your traffic crash report 24 hours a day. This service has assisted our Office by giving our staff additional time to fulfill the slight increase of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request received over the past year. Approximately 1100 FOIA requests were received from the public this year. In addition to the FOIA requests, the Records Division was served 75 subpoenas from attorneys requesting Sheriff's Office documents, photos, and videos. The public and other DuPage County law enforcement agencies also forwarded ~450 Judicial Orders to expunge or seal civilian jail/arrest records.

Court Security

General Information

The dedicated men and women of the DuPage County Sheriff's Office Court Security Division strive to provide the highest quality service to the citizens of DuPage County. This is accomplished by working cooperatively with members of the judiciary, elected officials, and other service providers that operate within the Judicial Office Facility. Our mission is to ensure the public, law enforcement officials, and Courthouse employees are able to fulfill their duties, obligations, and responsibilities in a safe and orderly environment.



Court Security

General Information (Cont'd)

During business hours, the primary function of the Court Security Division is to provide for a safe and orderly environment within the Courthouse and its associated buildings. Court Security Deputies and Court Security Officers maintain secured entrances to the Courthouse by which all visiting persons and their property must pass through a magnetometer and x-ray machine which allows them to identify items that are illegal or prohibited and to keep these items from entering our facilities.

In addition to providing a secured entrance, deputies also have full arrest powers, which they regularly use to serve outstanding warrants and respond to any criminal activity which may occur within the Judicial Office Facility.



Court Security

In 2023, 119,058 cases were heard in the 46 courtrooms in the Judicial Office Facility. Civil cases made up 24,443 cases and criminal made up 94,615. Court Security personnel screens up to 1 million people every year as they enter the court facilities to keep the Judicial Office Facility a safe place to conduct court proceedings.



Court Security

Training

Extensive training is conducted to prepare our personnel to fulfill the mission of the Court Security Division effectively and professionally. Although solid operational policies and procedures are imperative to maintaining a successful Court Security environment, it is the people assigned to the Division who put those procedures into action and serve as the backbone of the operation.

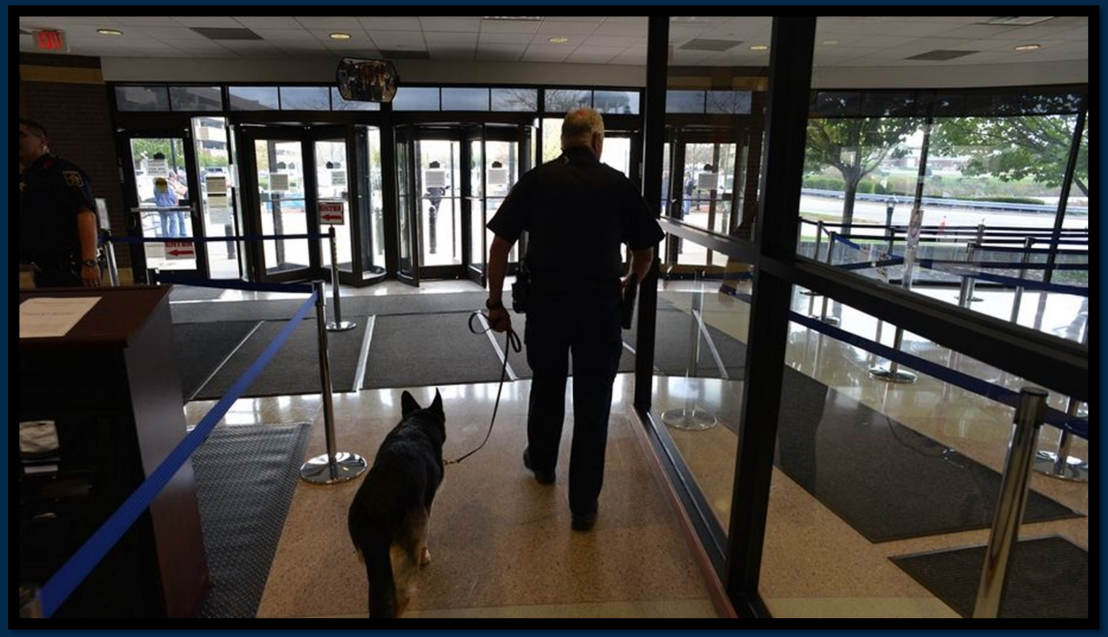
When deputies are administratively assigned to the Court Security Division they must complete a minimum of 200 hours of field training. The deputies assigned to the Judicial Office Facility are trained to conduct Sheriff's Office duties and responsibilities as they relate to the Courts and respond to any law enforcement related situations. To further professional growth, ongoing training is provided through both in-house and off-site classes.



Court Security

In 2023, the deputies assigned to the prisoner escort team escorted 12,453 inmates / prisoners to and from courtrooms, which represents an average of 51 prisoners per day.

In turn, these prisoners were handled by the deputies assigned to each of the courtrooms. In addition to handling day-to-day court appearances, the deputies handled 94 jury trials and several high-risk hearings. 1,003 people were taken into custody on warrants by the deputies assigned to Court Security.



Court Security

Civilian Court Security Officer

Court Security Officers are civilians that are assigned to work low risk courtrooms, and work alongside deputies when assigned to screening posts

In 2023 our current number of Court Security Officers has maintained it's number at 11 and it has proven to be a successful program since it's implementation in 2020.



Administration

Civil Process Division

The Civil Division provides services to the public and other government establishments to obtain civil process as required by the courts. In 2023, over 14,500court documents were entered by the Civil Division. Most of these documents were summons and subpoenas that requires service on corporations and individuals within DuPage County. The Civil Division is also responsible for handling mortgage foreclosures, evictions, replevins, and levies, both personal property and real estate within DuPage County. In 2023, DuPage County has experienced a total of over 694 foreclosures and 936 evictions.

2023 Civil Process Division Revenue

Chancery	$183,460.00
Stand by Fees	$17,290.00
Bail Bonds	$120,293.00
Property Levy	$0.00
Evictions	$178,740.00
Writs & Summons	$270,504.10
Accident Reports	$370.00
Real Estate Levy	$0.00
Writs of Replevin	$6,400.00
TOTAL	**$777,057.10**

Administration

Civil Process Division (Cont'd)

The following is a breakdown of the number of orders entered for FY 2023:

PROCESS TYPE	DOCUMENTS
BODY ATTACHMENTS	163
FORECLOSURES	541
CITATION GENERAL	3
CIT/CITATION ASSETS	40
ORDERS OF PROTECTION	1811
LEVY	0
FORCIBLE ENTRY	920
GARNISHMENT	5
NOTICE	509
ORDERS	1006
OTHER MISC	247
REPLEVIN	16
RULE TO SHOW CAUSE	51
SUBPOENAS	3941
SUMMONS	5180
TAKE NOTICE	520
RESTRAINING ORDER	0
WAGE DEDUCTION	1
2023 TOTAL ORDERS ENTERED	**14954**

Administration

2023 Annual Report Crime Lab

The Forensic Science Center of the DuPage County Sheriff's Office, also known as the Crime Lab, provides forensic science services for law enforcement agencies investigating crimes within DuPage County. The laboratory provides service in drug chemistry, forensic biology/DNA and latent prints.

In 2023, the laboratory received 1,534 cases (case type as reported by the submitting agency) from 36 agencies.

.

Case Type	# Cases
Controlled Substances	810
Cannabis	188
Burglary	108
Theft	147
Sexual Assault	89
Weapons	66
Armed Robbery	19
Proficiency Test	25
Assault	5
Criminal Violation (General)	12
Burglary to Motor Vehicle	18
Property Damage	11
Death Investigation	3
Homicide	3
Overdose	17
Home Invasion	10
Vehicular Death	2
Arson	1

Administration

Crime Lab

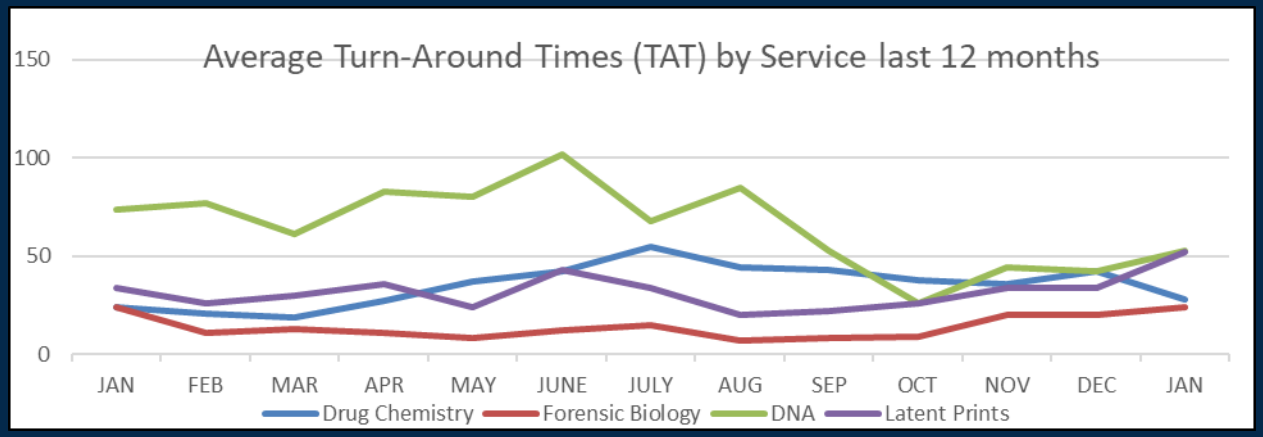
In 2023, the laboratory completed 2,662 assignments.

Assignment Type	# Assignments Completed
CHEMISTRY	1,266
FORENSIC BIOLOGY	456
DNA	486
LATENT PRINTS	227
CODIS	284
CODIS Administrative	146
PROFICIENCY TEST	34
CANCELED	15
SUPPLEMENTAL	2

Administration

Crime Lab

Turn-around time (TAT) is the time measured in days from evidence submission or assignment creation to the date the testing report is approved.



Administration

Crime Lab

The laboratory maintained its accreditation status with a successful full on-site assessment in October by the ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) by demonstrating compliance with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2017, ANAB 17025:2017 Forensic Science Testing and Calibration Laboratories Accreditation Requirements and FBI Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories:2020.

The laboratory started the year with thirteen employees: a director, an administrative assistant, a technical leader/ supervisor of chemistry, three drug chemists, a technical leader of latent prints (part-time), two latent print examiners, a technical leader/supervisor of forensic biology/DNA and three forensic biology/DNA examiners. In December we hired two forensic biology/DNA trainees expanding our team to fifteen.

In addition to primary work duties to include analysis of evidence, preparing testing reports, reviewing testing reports, testimony, preparation of reagents and standards, quality control of instruments, reagents, and standards, testing of safety devices, staff members may hold collateral duties such as quality manager, grant manager, CODIS administrator and health and safety manager.



Administration

Crime Lab

Drug Chemistry

Drug chemistry staff provide testing of powders, plants, tablets, liquids, etc. suspected of containing a controlled substance or cannabis. The laboratory tested 2,032 items and identified over forty different controlled substances. The following table

Drug Identified	# Exhibits
Delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (d9THC)	584
Cocaine	469
Heroin/Fentanyl Mixture	201
Methamphetamine	150
No Controlled Substance Identified (see breakdown below)	181
Fentanyl	123
3,4-Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA)	51
Psilocyn	48
Cannabis sativa (Delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (d9THC))	44
Amphetamine	33
Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD)	28
Alprazolam	15
Hydrocodone	12
Oxycodone	12
Heroin	8

Administration

Crime Lab

Drug Chemistry (Cont'd)

Delta-8-Tetrahydrocannabinol (d8THC)	6
Phencyclidine	6
Buprenorphine	5
Ketamine	5
Methadone	5
3,4-Methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDA)	4
4-Acetoxy-N,N-Dimethyltryptamine (4-Aco-DMT)	3
Clonazepam	3
Fluorofentanyl	3
Tramadol	3
4-Acetoxy-N,N-dimethyltryptamine (4-AcO-DMT)	2
Cannabidiol (CBD)	2
Codeine	2
Codeine / acetaminophen mixture	2
Methylphenidate	2
Metonitazene	2
Phencyclidine (PCP)	2
1,4-Butanediol	1
Carisoprodol	1
Consistent with Hydroxy-phencyclidine (OH-PCP)	1
Consistent with Lorazepam	1

Administration

Crime Lab

Drug Chemistry (Cont'd)

Consistent with Mitragynine	1
Diazepam	1
Dimethyltryptamine (DMT)	1
Hexahydrocannabinol (HHC)	1
Hydromorphone	1
Methorphan	1
Morphine	1
N,N-Dimethylpentylone	1
Oxandrolone	1
Promethazine	1
Testosterone propionate	1
Zolpidem	1

Table 3: 2023, January 1 – October 31 Reported results for chemistry assignments.

Administration

Crime Lab

Drug Chemistry (Cont'd)

Heroin, Fentanyl, and HEFE	# Exhibits
Heroin/Fentanyl Mixture	201
Fentanyl	123
Heroin	8

Table 4: 2023 January 1 – October 31, Breakdown of reported heroin, fentanyl and heroin/fentanyl mixtures.

NCSI Breakdown	# Exhibits
No Controlled Substance Identified	150
No Controlled Substance Identified - Insufficient Sample for Positive Identifi-	5
No Controlled Substance Identified (Consistent with Bupropion)	1
No Controlled Substance Identified (Consistent with Clonazolam)	1
No Controlled Substance Identified (Consistent with Flualprazolam)	1
No Controlled Substance Identified (Consistent with Phenethylamine)	1
No Controlled Substance Identified (Consistent with Bromazolam)	7
No Controlled Substance Identified - Insufficient Data for Positive Identi-	15

Administration

Crime Lab

The forensic biology/DNA staff test evidence for the presence of blood and body fluids. DNA profiles generated from case samples are compared to elimination and suspect standards if provided. When needed and if the case sample profile is suitable and eligible, it is searched in CODIS, the DNA database. Our laboratory is one of nine National DNA Index (NDIS) participating laboratories in Illinois. In 2023, our laboratory entered 346 profiles into CODIS, and generated 309 hits.

Examples of CODIS hits from 2023:

Swab of steering wheel hit to steering wheel in Chicago PD hijacking.

Swab of face mask hit to case out of Charlotte-Mecklenburg PD (North Carolina).

Swab from gun hit to offender.

Suspect standard hit to sample from shoe in Chicago PD aggravated battery. Another suspect standard hit to sample from glove in Oak Park PD hijacking, sample from balaclava in Cicero PD aggravated battery, and sample from driver door and steering wheel in Chicago PD hijacking.

Administration

Crime Lab

Latent Prints

The latent print staff evaluate and analyze evidence for the presence of fingerprints, palm prints and footprints. These prints, if suitable for comparison are compared to victim elimination standards and then suspect standards and may also be searched in the Illinois State Police and FBI Next Generation Identification (NGI) databases using the Automated Biometrics Identification System (ABIS) workstation.

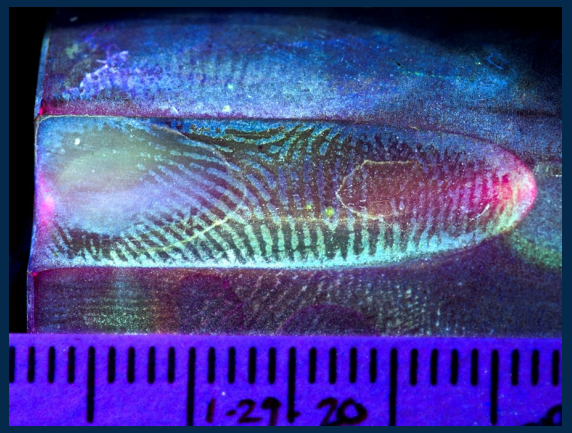
Use of ABIS to search unidentified prints in the Illinois State Police and FBI NGI databases led to twenty identifications. These identifications assisted investigations of theft, burglary, criminal investigation (general), unknown deceased and armed robbery.

Examples of ABIS hits from 2023:

A latent print from a submitted saw blade from a burglary.

A latent print from a submitted garbage bag from a burglary.

A latent print from a candy wrapper from an armed robbery.



Administration

Community Resource Unit

The Community Resource Unit consists of three members; three Neighborhood Liaison Officers (NLO's) and one corporal also serves as a Too Good for Drugs Instructor. The Unit is supervised by a Lieutenant. The unit is dedicated to resolving issues within various community groups, social service organizations, schools, homeowner's associations, along with local businesses. The Community Resource Unit offers programs and services to help citizens throughout DuPage County. The unit attended or participated in over 160 public events. During the 2023 year the Community Resource Units attended more community events as well as continued with providing assistance to residents in many different ways. All the corporals in the unit are also members of the Honor Guard Unit and attend funeral and memorial services as well as formal events on behalf of the office.



2023 Highlights
It Takes a Village Food Program
Community Resource Unit

In 2023 the Sheriff's Office continued with the "It Takes a Village Program". The program passed out over 35,000 meals. The program started in 2020 and has since provided residents in need about 155,000 meals since it was created. We continued working with our community partners in 2023 to get food for those in need. Some of our community partnerships include local private organizations like Electra-Flex based in Roselle and U Gazdy Restaurant based in Wood Dale. Electri-Flex and the Kinander Family again made food donations for Thanksgiving. Near the end of 2023, U Gazdy restaurant again provided hot meals for residents on Christmas Eve. Many of the distributed meals in 2023 came via our continued partnership with the DuPage County Senior Citizens Council. Through this partnership, seniors could pick up packs of frozen meals here at the county complex. In 2023 we were also able to pass out Indian and vegetarian meals via the Senior Citizens Council.



Neighborhood Liaison Officers (NLO's)

NLO's address community concerns and function as a liaison, facilitator, and coordinator of resources for our residents. In 2023 the unit addressed many community concerns, such as, neighborhood trouble or disputes, speeding autos, business concerns, tobacco sales and many more. Additionally, NLO's deployed the Sheriff's Speed Trailers at approximately 20 locations throughout the county and conducted numerous targeted patrols to address speeding auto concerns. NLO's also assist the Patrol and Detective Divisions in their daily operations and are assigned as needs arise. The Community Resource Unit provides follow-up services in situations that involve elderly persons who may be in need of crime prevention information or other social services. We also maintain involvement in Senior Services by attending Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (SALT) and TRIAD meetings in order to maintain a better understanding of issues affecting our Senior Citizens. The Community Resource Unit coordinates registration for individual programs such as the Sheriff's Program for at Risk Residents (SPARR), Lock Box, Guardian Program and our Autism Driving Program with STRIVE in Lombard. Each of these programs is designed to assist seniors and the special needs community. All of our NLO's are car seat certified and assisted community members with instruction on proper car seat and booster seat information and installation. Community Resource Unit members met with residents throughout DuPage County to discuss these services and enroll citizens. In 2023 we participated in the National Night Out Event in August. National Night Out is a national event where police and the community come together in a positive manner. Our office was able to attend community events with the West Chicago Police Department, Warrenville Police Department, Wheaton Police Department, Villa Park Police Department, Longwood Subdivision and Timberlake Subdivision.

The Community Resource Unit attended more than 20 community meetings on topics ranging from Neighborhood Watch to crime prevention at various events throughout the county. The unit also tends to about 60 different homeowner's associations (HOA) and neighborhood watch programs located within DuPage County. The NLO's are responsible for attending and actively participating in as many HOA meetings as possible.

Volunteer Unit

The Community Resource Unit oversees a volunteer staff of 43 individuals who assist in various functions throughout the Sheriff's Office. The Volunteer Unit donated approximately 2,482.25 hours of time in 2023. Additionally, within the Volunteer Unit the Office maintains a Volunteer Patrol Unit. The patrol Volunteers perform many duties, such as, residential and business security checks, assisting with traffic direction and many other duties that assist the Patrol Division. The Patrol Volunteers also perform bicycle patrol duties on the Illinois Prairie Path and Great Western Trail.

Tobacco Enforcement

The Community Resource Unit has been charged with monitoring tobacco vendors located in unincorporated DuPage County. The Unit provides informational and educational material provided by the State of Illinois. This information covers the dangers of tobacco use as well as the legal requirements on selling these products. Every year, the Community Resource Unit monitors these vendors with controlled buys. By using authorized underage youths along with deputies, we help to ensure the vendors are not selling tobacco products to minors. There are 39 vendors in unincorporated DuPage County, and they are checked three times a year. In 2023, several locations were cited for selling tobacco products to persons under the age of 21.

School / Education Programs

The Community Resource Unit has one NLO assigned as a Community Education Officer. This service is spread throughout participating schools located in both unincorporated an incorporated DuPage County. The curriculum involves the Deputy instructing a 10 week Too Good for Drugs (TGFD) class, which is presented in schools. We were able to teach 190 students at Prairieview Elementary as well as Benjamin Middle School in 2023.





The Sheriff's App

The Sheriff's App was developed and launched to connect the community with the Sheriff's Office through modern technology platforms. This allows for community members to download the application and have access to sex offender, inmate, and public information. Users can also submit tips to the Sheriff's Office about drug and criminal activity. The Application is available for download.



Special Olympics

The community resource unit coordinates our partnership and support with Special Olympics Illinois. Corporal Terri Albright and Corporal Crystal Mendez served as co- coordinators for our office. Staff members from all across the office assisted and volunteered in making several events possible in 2023. We participated in the Polar Plunge, Cop on a Rooftop event, The Law Enforcement Leg 14 Torch Run. We had two Tip a Cop events, thanks to the owner and staff at Mapleberry Pancake House.







Julia the Comfort Dog

In 2023 our office continued our partnership with King of Glory LLC. Julia the comfort dog was assigned to Cpl. Albright. Cpl. Albright and Julia made many visits to our jail and worked with DuPage Justice Understanding Service Training (JUST). Julia also attended the following locations. Many locations had multiple visits during the year.

64 total locations:

DuPage State's Attorney Office
DuPage County Probation
DuPage Domestic Advocate
DuPage Health Department
DuPage County Correctional Center and Roll Calls
DuPage County Peer Support Team
National Night Out-Warrenville
Seniors and Law Enforcement Together Meetings
Private and Public Senior Centers in the County
St. Vincent DePaul Residential Housing
Violets Kitchen Feeding the Underprivileged and Un-housed.
Veterans Meetings
Township offices in DuPage County
DuPage Corrections Academy
Special Olympics Events
Keltner Blood Drive
Jaimie Cox Blood Drive
Thrive Rehab Facility
Shop with a Sheriff
Franciscan Court Supportive living
City of Warrenville
Lombard Healthy Running for Kids



Julia the Comfort Dog
(Cont'd)

Willowbrook Kids Day
Winfield Fire Station
Funeral for Kane County K-9 Hudson
Funeral for Winfield Lt. Pete Daly
PATH Opioid Awareness Day
DuPage County Veterans Resource Fair
Concerns for Police Survivors Kids Camp
Conley Outreach for Kids Camp
Waubonsie Valley High School Fun Fair
Hanover Park Citizens Fun Day for Families
Bartlett High School creative Arts Event
Doodle Bug Workshop
Crime Prevention Events sponsored by elected officials.

Schools- Benjamin Middle School, Prairieview, Ann M. Jeans, West Chicago HS, Currier, Bartlett HS, Hillcrest, Arbor View, National Louis University, South Elgin HS tragic death of students, Able Academy, Longwood Elementary School, Awesome life academy, Arborview School, Butterfield school, Wegner Elementary School, Fox Meadow Elementary School.

Police Offices - Lisle, Warrenville, Darien, Aurora. Wayne, Hanover Park, DuPage Forest Preserve Police,
Dispatch Centers – ACDC, Tri-Com, DuComm, Aurora Dispatch

Administration

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training

First conceived in 2017, this Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board (ILETSB) certified, 40-hour mental health awareness curriculum focuses on policies, procedures, and resources available to and accessible by any law enforcement agency in DuPage County.

Attendees receive intensive training in addressing individuals in the community who have a mental illness or other behavioral health crisis. The CIT training program is an in depth, specialized course requiring two years of certified police experience prior to attending.

This five-day course includes presentations by behavioral health specialists, experienced field officers and representatives from DuPage County service providers. Training includes mental illness/signs and symptoms, co-occurring disorders, autism, child and adolescent issues, suicide awareness, medical conditions and psychotropic medications, law enforcement response, legal issues, advanced communication, and de-escalation techniques.

Attendees partake in valuable exercises and have a unique opportunity to participate in discussions with individuals who have a mental illness and or their family members, and they're given an opportunity to exercise their skills in realistic scenario training, or role plays. Professional (Standardized Patient) actors, as used in medical schools and law schools, are utilized to portray individuals in crisis and bring realism to the training. These 'immersion scenarios' are so realistic that attendees often comment they forgot they were merely training. The scenarios are proctored by experienced CIT officers and feedback is provided to the students.

Sheriff Mendrick has committed to training every Deputy Sheriff in CIT, as well as providing in-service training annually. The CIT training is offered by the Sheriff's Office at no charge to any DuPage County law enforcement agency personnel.

As of January 2024, the DuPage Sheriff's Office has trained over 1010 deputies (Patrol, Corrections and JOF) and municipal police officers from DuPage County.

Administration

Peer Support

Peer Support was established to provide confidential supportive assistance and referral service to all Office members.

The Peer Support team has 21 members. We will be adding to the team throughout 2024.

All PST members attend extensive training and volunteer their time to lend support during times of crisis.

The Peer Support Team members are available 24 hours a day.

Members are from all three bureaus and include civilian and sworn Office members.



In order to expand this effort around the region, the Office has been offering training to other public safety agencies so they can start or add to their own programs. This training is covered by a grant awarded to the DuPage County Sheriff's Office through COPS Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness in 2020. The grant period ended this year, but we look to pursue the grant again in 2024 to help expand the Peer Support program into a Wellness Program. The team also expanded its capabilities this year and will now be able to conduct Critical Incident Stress Debriefings and Group Crisis Interventions. The Peer Support Coordinator attended week long training in Peoria and has received certification to lead these valuable debriefings after a critical incident.

Administration

Quartermaster's Office

The Quartermaster's Office is responsible for ordering, inventorying and supplying many of the things needed for the office to function properly in its day-to-day responsibilities. The Quartermaster is also responsible for the Jails daily needs (Corrections Bureau). The Quartermaster services both inmates and deputies stocking all daily supplies in storage rooms.

There are many items that fall under the supervision of the Quartermaster including but not limited to daily office supplies, ordering, exchanging/returning and distributing personnel uniforms & body armor. Also, the office motor pool, in-car supplies and in-car equipment, along with all necessary paperwork for the Secretary of State for vehicles (i.e. license plate stickers, emissions test, titles and transfers on new and old vehicles). Quartermaster is also responsible for ordering business cards, all 20 yr plaques, awarded plaques, employee of the month nameplates, as well as wallets and badges for retiring sworn personnel. Quartermaster is now taking care of Medical, Kitchen, JUST organization, Commissary, Maintenance and biohazard wastes from the entire building.

The Quartermaster is also responsible for sorting and distributing daily mail, both incoming and outgoing, which contemporaneously acknowledging and abiding by any orders of protection and other legal requirements that may exist. Quartermaster is responsible for all deliveries that come into the building as well as packaging and sending out all FedEx and UPS packages. Finally, the Quartermaster also creates staff ID badges that permit access to various areas of the building.



The office is staffed by three individuals who service all three bureaus of the Sheriff's Office. The office is open Monday through Friday from 7 am to 3 pm.

Administration

Training, Grants, and Accreditation (TGA)

Law Enforcement Training

The year 2023 was a busy year for TGA. There were 211 in-service classes set up for Law Enforcement and Administrative Command Staff. In addition, conferences and outside training was set up as well. This training is to include all Law Enforcement Burau personnel. Additionally, TGA coordinates monthly online training for everyone in the Law Enforcement Bureau must complete.

TGA maintains files on everyone assigned to Law Enforcement. With the implementation of the Safe – T Act this is more important than ever. It is these records that allow every Deputy to keep their certification to enforce laws.

In addition to maintaining the training files, TGA ensures certifications are electronically filed with the State. This is a very important aspect of TGA's duties as it not only keeps its personnel in good standing with the State, but accurate and timely records keep the Office in good standing in order to receive State and Federal grants.

Grants

TGA is responsible for writing, submitting, and managing (with the exception of crime lab grants) grants awarded to the Office. These grants are both State and Federal. In 2023 several grants were submitted, including Illinois Traffice Safety, camera grants, recruitment grants, and SCAAP Grant. Most of the grants reimburse the County for personnel costs or equipment costs. 2023 grant submissions totaled $83,471.20. As of this submission $70,130.88 has been awarded. TGA is waiting to hear on the remaining $13,340.32.

Administration

Training, Grants, and Accreditation (TGA)

Accreditation

The Dupage County Sheriff's Office had their first onsite assessment for accreditation through the Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (ILEAP) in December of 2022. TGA handled and managed this process from start to finish. The Office opted for a Tier 2 accreditation standard, meaning that the Office would need to show proof of compliance with 181 overall standards.

In 2023 the Office was officially given ILEAP accreditation status. The Office achieved 100% compliance with all 181 standards. ILEAP officials awarded the Office it's official status at a County Board meeting in March of 2023.

Administration

Training, Grants, and Accreditation

Internships

The Office offers and internship program to students studying law enforcement at a university level. The program is beginning to get busy once again, as it was hampered by ongoing COVID restriction. In 2023 the Office hosted 5 students from universities around the state of Illinois and country. There are currently 3 interns in the pipeline for 2024.



Recruitment

The DuPage County Recruitment team in comprised of 18 members. These members represent all three bureaus of the Office. In 2023 the team attended 23 events and career fairs. Also, the recruitment team hosted the first ever First Responder Recruitment Expo. This event brought in several prospects that want to work in the law enforcement field. Over 30 public safety agencies from DuPage County and surrounding areas took part in this event. This effort was put forward to recruit the best and brightest that want to get into the law enforcement/public safety field.

