



# LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



## ANNUAL REPORT 2020



**PEYTON C. GRINNELL, SHERIFF**



# LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA | [WWW.LCSO.ORG](http://WWW.LCSO.ORG)  
360 W. RUBY ST / TAVARES

**PEYTON C. GRINNELL, SHERIFF**

Dear Citizens:

It is my pleasure to share with you the Lake County Sheriff's Office Annual Report for the Year 2020.

I hope you will take a moment to browse our Annual Report, and the data we have provided. We hope it will give you a better understanding of our duties and responsibilities, and our continued efforts to provide effective, efficient law enforcement to the citizens of Lake County.

As your elected Sheriff, I am grateful for your trust and confidence. It is my honor and privilege to serve you. On behalf of all the employees at your Sheriff's Office, I would like to thank you for working in partnership with us to make our communities a safer place to live.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read 'P. C. Grinnell'.

Peyton C. Grinnell  
Sheriff of Lake County





LCSO 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

# CONTENTS



- 1 MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF GRINNELL
- 4 SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTIES
- 5 COMMUNICATIONS CENTER
- 6 UNBIASED POLICY / CORE VALUES
- 7 AVIATION UNIT
- 8 HUMAN RESOURCES AND FINANCE
- 9 TRAINING BUREAU
- 10 CORRECTIONS OPERATIONS
- 11 DIVE TEAM
- 12 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- 13 COURT SERVICES / GENERAL COUNSEL
- 14 DRONE UNIT
- 15 K-9 UNIT / MOUNTED PATROL
- 16 AG AND MARINE UNIT
- 17 GREAT JOB
- 19 INVESTIGATION BUREAU
- 21 TRIBUTE TO FALLEN DEPUTIES
- 23 PUBLIC SERVICE OFFICERS / IN THE COMMUNITY
- 24 REPORT WRITERS / UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING



# SCHOOL RESOURCES



## School Resource Unit

In the spring of 2020, the SRD Unit became the back-up for multiple other units due to community quarantines and shut downs as a result of COVID 19. SRD duties included backfilling detention deputies within the Lake County Jail, covering hospital security positions for COVID positive inmates, backfilling the Uniform Patrol Bureau, and assisting the Lake County Emergency Management COVID response by providing all security operations for the Lake County Health Department's COVID testing locations around the county.

The SRD unit also covered security for all school lunch distribution programs including those schools not normally covered by SRD's. In February, the SRD Unit Lieutenant was loaned to the Lake County School District to fill in as the District Safety and Security Specialist for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

During the Summer, the unit participated in the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches Youth Camp in Barberville.

SRD Supervisors, in conjunction with Lake Technical College, held an SRO Basic certification class for new SRD'S/SROs from agencies around Central Florida.

The Lake County Sheriff's Office School Resource Unit would like to thank Clements Pool Services and Supplies for their donation to SRD training. Your kindness and support does not go unnoticed!



Criminal Charges		Disposition		Other	
Drugs	22	Adult Arrests	6	Tobacco Citations	131
Misc. Misdemeanor	42	Juvenile Physical Arrests	12	Sexting Citations	8
Battery/Affray	106	Warrants / Juv PickUp Order	4	Traffic Citation	11
Weapon Possession	8	Juvenile JCR	77	WW-Traffic	2
Misc. Felonies	12	Juvenile WILA Citation	64	Trespass / Field Interrogation Card	8
Sex Crimes	15			Assist DCF	52
Cyber Crimes	3			Use of Force Reports	2
Theft	8			Parent/Child Contacts	959
Criminal Mischief	5				
Threatening Phone Calls	37				
		Baker Acts			
		LEO Baker Acts	9		
		Mental Health Clinician Baker Acts	14		

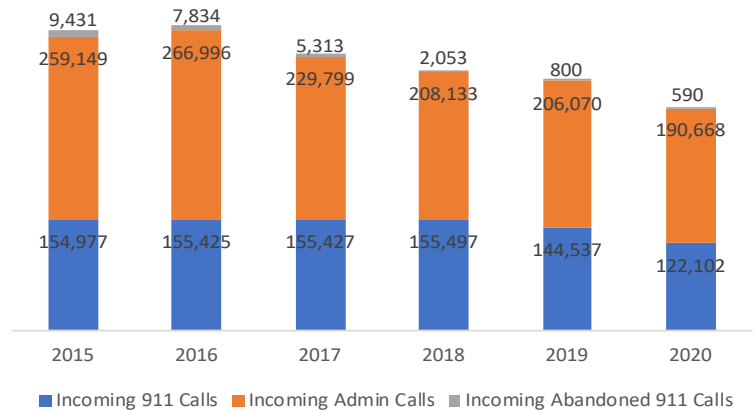
# COMMUNICATIONS CENTER / DISPATCH

Thanks to our hard-working dispatchers we had another record-breaking year. Through their dedication, they were able to increase the percentage of 9-1-1 calls answered in 10 seconds or less to 98.94%.

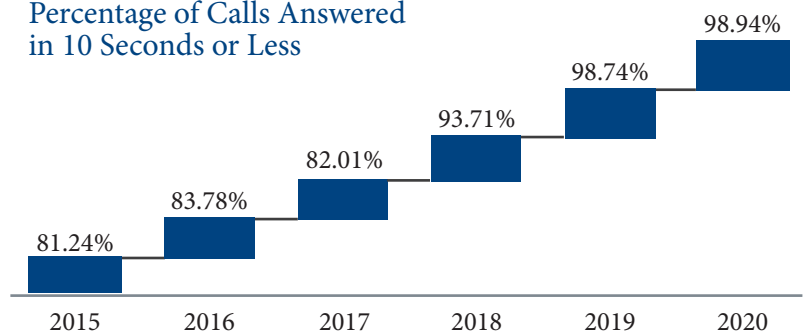
Uniform Patrol and other areas of our organization began utilizing the recorded STAR line to reduce unnecessary workload on the dispatchers patching deputies to complainants. This undoubtedly reduced our admin phone calls. Additionally, admin phone calls were reduced through the use of the County wide 1 radio channel to directly communicate with surrounding agencies rather than calling them on the telephone. The 9-1-1 calls were reduced through technological advances to directly route them to the geographically responsible agency rather than all cellular 9-1-1 calls going to LCSO and then being transferred to the appropriate jurisdiction.

During the month of December, the Communications Center processed 32,137 telephone calls. Our dispatchers answered 10,209 9-1-1 calls with 99.03% answered in 10 seconds or less. The two dedicated Animal Enforcement Dispatchers handled 783 telephone calls.

## COMM CENTER TELEPHONE STATS



## Percentage of Calls Answered in 10 Seconds or Less



## DISPATCHERS HELP OUT SENIOR WATCH MEMBER

Dispatcher Stephanie Benz was taking calls from our Senior Watch program when she learned one of our Senior Watch members was sleeping on a leaking air mattress. The member was unable to sleep comfortably and has back issues.

Benz spun into action and found that fellow dispatcher, Lauren Hodges, had a spare full-sized bed and frame she was planning to sell, but preferred to donate it to the cause. Benz purchased new bedding for the mattress and reached out to Community Services Sergeant Jim Vachon to arrange pickup and delivery. While doing so, other dispatchers passed a hat (per say) and gathered enough cash to buy a \$100 Visa gift card to donate as well. Once the bed, end table, and lamp (also donated by Hodges) were brought in, Benz and Hodges jumped in to put it all together

## RADIO SERVICES

The Mobile Radio Support Truck returned to service thanks to a generous donation from volunteer John Zimmerman and Leslie King. The remainder of the work to be done on the unit was done in-house allowing field communications support at an enhanced level.

A new Mobile Command Support Trailer entered service replacing an old 1998 vehicle. The trailer has enhanced satellite and multi-band radio capability to allow a second command platform. The Mobile Command Post saw updates with a new satellite communications platform and a new emergency power platform.

Two of our radio technicians attended the Motorola factory training on new APX series mobile and portable radios in a partnership with Flagler County.

# UNBIASED POLICY

## OVERVIEW

The policy of the Lake County Sheriff's Office is to treat every citizen with courtesy and respect. The purpose of this position is to reaffirm our commitment to unbiased policing in all its encounters between deputy sheriffs and citizens.

A fundamental right guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States is equal protection under the law. Along with this right to equal protection is the fundamental right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures by government agents as guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment. Citizens are free to walk and drive our streets, highways, and other public places without law enforcement interference so long as they obey the law. They also are entitled to be free from the acts of criminals, and to drive and walk our public ways safe from the actions of reckless and careless drivers.

## OUR DUTIES

The Lake County Sheriff's Office is charged with protecting these rights, for all, regardless of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender, or economic status. Law enforcement action which is biased is illegal and violates the equal protection clause and the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution. It also alienates citizens, fosters distrust of the Sheriff's Office, and undermines legitimate law enforcement efforts.

The nature of our business requires deputy sheriffs to be observant, to identify unusual occurrences and law violations, and to act upon them. Proactive law enforcement keeps our citizens safe to live and work in a crime free environment. Criminal profiling is a legitimate tool in the fight against crime. Criminal profiling is an investigative method in which a deputy, through observation of activities and environment, identifies suspicious behavior by individuals and develops a legal basis, consistent with the Fourth Amendment, to stop them for questioning.



## CRIMINAL PROFILING - VS- BIAS-BASED PROFILING

Criminal profiling is one of many accepted and necessary law enforcement investigative practices. However, it differs from and should not be confused with bias-based profiling. One is an investigative tool; the other, a discriminatory practice. Illegal profiling refers to a decision by a deputy to stop, detain, interdict, or search an individual based on their race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender, or economic status. The Lake County Sheriff's Office prohibits illegal profiling as a law enforcement tactic and will not tolerate or condone its use by any of our deputies.

## ZERO TOLERANCE

It is the Sheriff's Office philosophy to accomplish our mission in a way that respects the dignity of all persons and yet sends a strong message of zero tolerance to actual and potential lawbreakers.

## OUR CORE VALUES

**Integrity \* Professionalism \* People \* Leadership \* Loyalty \* Commitment \* Community \* Accountability**



# — AVIATION UNIT —

The Sheriff's Aviation unit are on a "ready" basis 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Typical calls for service include overdue boaters, missing Alzheimer's patients, late or lost hikers, warrants, and additional flights to help maintain the safety our Lake County residents and visitors. Each pilot is required to obtain a FAA Commercial Pilot License at their own expense off duty, prior to being considered for full time pilot positions. Flight Observers complete an in-house training program that includes aircraft safety, radio communications and aircraft ground handling. Each Flight Observer also completes extensive training with the Forward Looking Infra-Red (FLIR) camera system.

As many other units and agencies across the country, the Aviation Unit has had to adapt to the many challenges brought about in the year 2020. With that being said, the unit was able to continue airborne law enforcement operations safely while still operating to protect aircrews/personnel using proper precautions. Despite all the shortages in parts and services within many different industries, the Aviation Unit was able to accomplish the following:

- Upgrade all three helicopter's instrument panels with digital Garmin navigational equipment
- Upgrade all three helicopters with digital Garmin aviation radios
- Acquire and overhaul a spare turbine engine
- Upgrade the unit's night vision goggles to White Phosphorus Gen 3+
- Update the paint scheme along with an entire wrap on one helicopter
- Overhaul and stock up numerous time component items that will allow minimum down time and minimal tax dollars for future helicopter operation

Towards the end of 2020, LCSO Aviation was able to attain \$ 300,000 worth of helicopter parts at no charge from the Polk County air unit, which is one of the multiple agencies that LCSO works very closely with. In addition to revamping our own parts inventory, the Aviation Unit was able to assist Citrus, Hernando, and Alachua County Sheriff's air units by donating an abundance of essential parts that were needed to allow continuous operation with no effect to their respectful budgets.

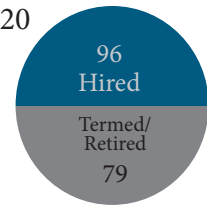


# HUMAN RESOURCES and FINANCE

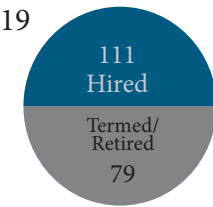
Accomplishments for the last three years include:

- Paperless Open Enrollment
- Electronic Change of Status
- Flu Shot Events on Site
- Annual Health Assessments on site
- Wellness Program Offered with Wallace Fitness
- Care Here Missed Appointments under 2% YTD
- John Hancock Employee Contributions Before and After Tax
- Long Term Disability Offered
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Employee Evaluations Current-Accreditation Standard Audits
- PREA Compliant
- New Positions Created were the Grants Coordinator, Audio/Video Redaction Tech, Public Safety Officers

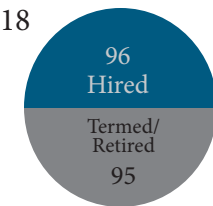
2020



2019



2018



2017



Congratulations to Lieutenant Ron Patton (pictured far left) for serving the citizens of Lake County for over 30 years. Lt. Patton currently serves as the Minneola District Commander which is a contractually run city department policed by sheriff's deputies.

Pictured right, Master Detention Deputy Curtistine Bryant who serves in the Corrections Bureau was also honored for her 30 years of service.

Both received an engraved gold watch commemorating their tenure.

Budget Year 2020-2021	General Law Enforcement Fund	Corrections and Detention Alternative Facilities	Court Services, Excluding Service of Process	Sheriff's Office Sub-Total
Personnel Services	\$34,441,861	\$20,872,988	\$2,464,069	\$57,778,918
Operating Expenses	5,621,756	6,051,369	701,334	12,374,459
Capital Outlay	1,363,347	75,000	-	1,438,347
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>\$41,426,964</b>	<b>\$26,999,358</b>	<b>\$3,165,403</b>	<b>\$71,591,724</b>



The Training Bureau implemented a new on-line Training system (Target Solutions) for sworn staff. It provides over 250 classes to choose from enabling more and specialized training to be delivered.

In addition, staff implemented a new filing system for all sworn staff at IPS. Archived over 16 boxes of old files working with the records department to follow correct protocol.

We began training on a new Firearms simulator through the state Guardian grant.

New Axon Taser 7 were issued to sworn deputies and training began on those. Six new instructors were certified in this field. Sensors were installed on all holsters assigned to deputies that will be issued a body cam.

Training built and issued new RMR Glock handguns for 31 SRDs.

Also built were 32 new RMR Glock handguns for Training Bureau and SWAT.

Personnel facilitated the guardian certification class for School Administrators as well as two separate in service trainings for all current Guardians.

The Institute of Public Safety Academy saw the completion of two night law enforcement recruitment classes and two day time recruit classes. The combined result of these two classes was 67 recruits with a placement rate of above 84%.

### **100% OF THE CORRECTIONS RECRUITS PASSED THEIR STATE EXAM.**

Four equivalency of Training classes had 49 attendees complete the course.

Background investigations completed 142 applications for new hires, processed 110 Equivalency of Training applications and assisted local agencies with their backgrounds.

### **Congratulations, Corporal Freddy Downey, Jr. on your retirement!**

Corporal Downey, pictured below with Sheriff Grinnell, began his career here at the Lake County Sheriff's Office in June 1993 after working for three years in Hillsborough County. He has worked in the jail's Training Department since 2007 where he has been instrumental in the field training of newly-hired detention deputies.

We thank you for the many years of hard work, dedication, and service to the Sheriff's Office and to the citizens of Lake County!

Freddy enjoys fishing and we hope he finds ample time to relax and reel in the big one!



# CORRECTIONS OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Lake County Detention Center is located in downtown Tavares, FL across from the county Judicial Center. It was constructed in 1992 and has a capacity of 960 incarcerated people. The detention center employs 248 personnel positions encompassing both sworn and civilian disciplines.

The Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission has accredited the Lake County Detention Center since 2006.



The Lake County Jail's Sewing and Textile program teamed up with Lake Support and Emergency Recovery, Inc. to make and deliver 1,000 masks to Orlando Health South Lake Hospital. We continue to work together to support our community. Another 5,000 masks were donated to community hospitals, nursing homes and local law enforcement. In addition, the Textile Program made personal bags for NASA to be used by Astronauts.

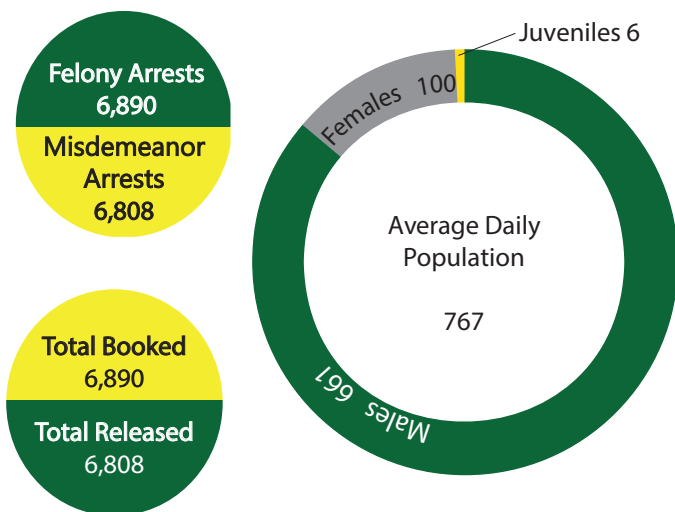
**Visit an Inmate from ANYWHERE with SECURUS VIDEO VISITATION!**

Click **HERE** to schedule your Video Visit **TODAY!**

**SECURUS** Technologies  
*connecting what matters*

## 2020 Detention Center Highlights

- New uniforms for Detention Deputies
- New Corrections FTO Process
- Textile program made over 20,000 cloth masks
- Utilized Zoom meetings in lieu of inmate transports to the courthouse
- Replaced TTY phones for deaf with live video sign language translators to inmates.
- Multiple security cameras were installed.
- Established Quarantine Units in response to COVID 19
- Detention Deputies completed the construction to the disaster response portable shower and water/fuel truck for the Emergency Operations Center
- Started the Special Response Team
- Became Prison Rape Elimination Act compliant
- Purchased firearm simulator for correctional personnel
- All inmates were offered Hepatitis A shots.
- Ophthalmologist and Orthopedic doctors were contracted in facility to reduce inmate transports.



# DIVE TEAM

The LCSO Dive team has continued to enhance member's training by attending monthly training sessions despite restrictions from the pandemic and weather concerns. The team was able to train ten months out of the year with a 90% team attendance average, which is far greater than previous years.

The Dive team has continued to offer its members the best training available in the public safety realm. We were able to get most team members to obtain their Master Diver certification. Some have obtained the Dive Master rating or are working toward it. Sgt. Jason Matthews obtained his Dive Instructor certification, which is a very prestigious and valuable rating. All team members are currently certified through PADI as a Public Safety Diver. We were also able to train with several other public safety agency teams during the year. This type of training is essential for networking, shared practices and consistency throughout the public safety communities.

In 2020 we were able to purchase new wrist-mounted dive computers for each diver on the team. This computer is the size of a wrist watch and has many benefits that make our team and members safer. The computer tracks health information and dive profiles to include: depth, bottom time, water temperature, location and heart rate for each diver. This information is vital for the team to monitor as public safety diving is an inherently dangerous activity. Other equipment enhancements included the purchase of new modern metal detectors to replace a 1995 era unit and upgrade to the Dive boat's SONAR system.

During the 2020 calendar year, the dive team was deployed ten times for call-outs. Most of these call-outs consisted as an assist to other agencies. All deployments were for drownings and evidence recovery searches. One assist for Tavares Police Department resulted in the recovery of a firearm used in a homicide case.



## Unit Achievements of 2020

- New modern metal detectors issued to team replacing 1995 era unit
- Dive boat electronics upgrade to support SONAR system.
- Additional dive team members achieved PADI Divemaster Rating & Public Safety Diver Rating .
- One team member has achieved PADI instructor rating & Divers Alert Network Instructor Rating, to allow in house training to be enhanced.
- One team member is now board certified by National Board of Diving & Hyperbaric Medical Technology as a Diver Medic Technician, enhancing tactical medical component for diving emergencies.



# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Information Technology section currently maintains 60+ servers, more than 300 workstations and 350 laptops. Our servers are housed at the Sheriff's Administration Building, Sheriff's Operations Building, South Lake District Office, and Corrections Facility. We utilize the latest technology from Dell and HP that runs operating systems from Microsoft Windows and Red Hat Enterprise Linux. The servers provide centralized data storage and management as well as application distribution throughout our



organization. We have also incorporated cutting-edge technology in our data security systems, utilizing advanced features for Internet security, data storage and availability, and virus protection.

Most of our workstations are located at the Sheriff's Administration Building, Sheriff's Operations Building and Corrections Facility while the remaining are at our multiple remote substations, providing information and services to the public throughout the County. These systems provide our personnel with the ability to perform their necessary duties from anywhere in the County at any time. IT removed all stand alone printers/copiers agency wide and reduced the number of models down to three for ease of maintenance and consistency. We began using print management software for deployment and tracking expenses to reduce overall print costs and we expanded the contract with Business Techs for maintenance.

Desktop computers were standardized agency-wide with a multi-year payment contract to keep costs consistent across the board and allow our agency the versatility of having one model of desktop throughout the agency. Smaller, form factors computers were installed in the Comm Center to save space and we began using ultra wide monitors to allow the use of two monitors to replace the four that were previously used. In addition, ten Comm Center training laptops were added that can be used in the event of an emergency that requires off-site dispatch.

The ever-increasing threat of viruses called for the implementation of Malwarebytes for agency-wide protection with additional tools at a cost savings from Sophos. An endpoint protection was added to include a 48-hour file recovery should a ransomware attack take place.

We began using Ninite software to keep standardized software updated remotely and automatically throughout the agency. The software at Fleet Maintenance was upgraded from on-premise to a more versatile cloud-based platform. Docusign was implemented for change of status forms and is also being used by the Legal Department to expedite the signing of documents and provides notification to proper stakeholders. A remote desktop software, Bomgar, is now being used so IT personnel can remote in to any computer as long as it has an internet connection to make remote troubleshooting more efficient and effective.

Our HelpDesk software was enhanced by FreshService, which allows IT a more efficient way to maintain Help Desk tickets, track inventory, and create a knowledge base so users can self-help when needed.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Combined IT department into one office, moving the three positions from the Jail to the Operations Building, providing a more fluid work environment.
- CBT Nuggets subscription to provide continuing education for members of IT to keep up with current technology.
- Pingboard (cloud based organizational chart) implementation in combination with HR/Finance to create a cloud-based organizational chart that is updated in real time with personnel information located in one place.
- State Attorney's Office now has the ability to get reports directly from Spillman using a "view-only" group, thus reducing the amount of printing and scanning done and getting them the information more quickly.
- Report Writers are working from home exclusively, thus minimizing personal contact due to the pandemic.
- Replaced and upgraded all WiFi access points
- Replaced and upgraded all switches throughout the agency.
- 99% of servers are virtualized

# COURT SERVICES BUREAU

We are continually evaluating and improving our security procedures and systems at the courthouse. We work closely with the administrative judge and Lake County to acquire security improvements as funds become available. This year we modified our Central Control Room by adding four 55-inch CCTV monitors. The Courthouse has over 300 cameras and we plan to add more in 2021. We completed the planning phase and have been approved to receive a new access control system in the North Wing Control Room, replace the building intercom system and add cameras to the north wing inmate corridor. Construction on these projects will start in early 2021.



In March, the Florida Supreme Court shut down most court activities because of the pandemic. Following the Supreme Court guidelines, we created a health screening post at the public entrance to the courthouse. This is manned by the G4S security staff at present and is a temporary position. We also assist the jail as needed with inmate hospital details or other requests. In August, some court hearings were resumed and we are preparing the courtrooms and procedures to conduct jury trials while complying with the social distancing requirements.

## 2020 COURT SERVICES STATS

Courthouse Public Visitors	119,964	Daily Average	457
Teen Court Attendance	300	Inmates Transported for Court	1,151
DJJ Juveniles transported for Court	74	Arrest made from Court Proceedings	77
Warrant Arrests	11	Warrant Alerts (referred by court, etc)	20
Injunctions Served	10	Deputy Escorts	524
Unscheduled inmate transports for Court	252	Fingerprinting (Lobby)	53
Felony Trials	10	Misdemeanor Trials	7
Civil Trials	4	Grand Jury Empaneling	2

## GENERAL COUNSEL

### LCSSO LEGAL DEPARTMENT

The Legal department successfully closed out eight forfeiture cases, which resulted in the Lake County Sheriff's Office obtaining two vehicles, valuable equipment and \$ 39,828 pursuant to the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act. As of December 31, 2020, there were 11 threatened lawsuits/claims pending against the Sheriff's Office, 18 lawsuits in litigation, approximately 250 active contracts and approximately 900 public records requests filled.



**NEW  
PROGRAM**

# DRONE UNIT

Drones are making law enforcement significantly safer and more efficient. They provide an invaluable tool for officer safety and utilize resources more productively with minimum wasted effort or expense. The drones save time, can cover a lot of ground quickly and get to scenes a lot faster than the helicopter can respond, in addition to being much cheaper to acquire and operate.

As an extra “eye in the sky”, the drones keep deputies out of harm’s way by extending situational awareness and increasing the vantage point for tracking and locating suspects, assessing dangerous situations involving active shooters/hostage situations or aiding in natural disaster response/recovery efforts.

The LCSO Drone Unit was established in July 2020, and has conducted over 200 flights including training and operational missions.

The Unit is a support element that serves as real-time tactical observation and tracking element within the Lake County Sheriff’s Office. It works closely with other elements within the Sheriff’s Office to include Road Patrol, Hazardous Devices Team, SWAT and any other element requesting assistance or support. The Drone Unit consists of 15 pilots, eight Patrol drones, four Special Unit drones (SWAT, HDT) and one industrial grade drone. The drones have the capability of seeing real-time in color and in infrared (night vision). All have recording capabilities and most have mapping capabilities for immediate documentation of a scene for tactical planning purposes.

All drone pilots have been tested and are licensed through the FAA (part 107). The pilots train in the areas of searching, over-watch and building/vehicle clearing.

Drone pilots have been activated multiple times for SWAT call-outs and once recently, for an escaped arrestee. The Drone Unit has assisted other agencies within and outside Lake Co. Some of them include Lake Co. Fire Rescue, Groveland PD, Mascotte PD, Clermont PD, Orange Co. S.O., Sumter Co. S.O. and the U.S. Marshall Service.

## DRONE UNIT ACTIVITY 2020

- LCSO Drones are deployed on average of five times every week.
- Drone pilots have located:
  - 7 lost/missing persons
  - 3 suicidal subjects
  - 5 fleeing suspects
- Searched for a victim ejected from a vehicle (traffic crash).
- Provided operational security (over-watch/situational awareness).
- Performed over-watch for K9 teams during K9 tracks of felony suspects.
- Located missing subjects (runaway juveniles, dementia patients, etc).
- Located an armed robbery suspect.
- Located a Homicide suspect for the U.S Marshall Service.

## K-9 Unit

Meet the newest member of the LCSO K-9 unit, Thor. Thor is a three year old German Shepherd and was actually donated to our agency with roughly 200 hours of police K-9 training under his collar. Central Florida K-9 owner Mr. Rock Galloway received Thor as a donation by “Videos By Andy” and “The Gadget Guru” founder Andy Pargh. Mr. Galloway, having spent a career as a police K-9 handler, began Thor's training at his newly constructed K-9 training facility in northeastern unincorporated Eustis. Galloway's team of trainers spent a few hundred hours preparing the fur-rocket for his future in law enforcement.



Mr. Galloway and Central Florida K-9 contacted K-9 Sergeant Yancy Isaacs about the donation and soon thereafter Thor was teamed up with Deputy Danny Hart. He and Thor began the state mandated K-9 training course. After spending an additional 380 hours with Deputy Hart, Thor was ready for his trials. Thor and Deputy Hart passed all assessments and went right to work. Within three weeks of their release from training, Thor and Deputy Hart responded to an armed robbery in Sorrento. Thor and Deputy Hart tracked the suspect and subsequently apprehended him. It is clear that this team will be a tremendous addition to the unit and the LCSO family.

A huge thank you for the donation by Mr. Pargh and Mr. Galloway! This donation saved the tax payers \$15,000 between his purchase and the training. It should be noted that many of our handlers will be using the new facility to take care of their furry partners while on vacation or away from work for any other reasons. Using a former K-9 handler to tend to these high-maintenance canines is a bit of a no-brainer.

The K-9 Unit as a whole responded to **4,581** miscellaneous calls for service, **571** alarm responses, performed **135** drug walks, had **122** arrests and completed **165** searches for people via tracks, building or area searches. The value of narcotics that were discovered as a result of drug searches was \$ **24,570**.

### MOUNTED PATROL STATISTICS

Meeting Hours	372
Training Hours	542.5
Details	605
Misc.	638.5
Total Hours	2,158

## Mounted Patrol

Changes were made that involved leadership, member changes and reinforcing policy issues. Due to these changes, we seemed to become a stronger unit.

During the early part of the year, we concentrated our training on preparing for Bike Fest and the State Law Enforcement Memorial. Both of these were canceled, but at least the training was accomplished.

In January, seven members of the unit traveled to Ft. Meyers to participate in a class hosted by the Lee County Sheriff's Office. The training was in performing Honors for a law enforcement funeral. We capped the training by performing services for Tornado, one of Lee County's horses that had to be put down. The training served us well, as we participated in services for two of our own fellow officers.

In February, two members traveled to Mobile Alabama to participate in their crowd control training and then assisted with their Mardi Gras celebration. We topped the year off in November by having ten of our members go to Tampa and complete the forty hour Basic Mounted Police class hosted by the Manatee County Sheriff's Office.





# AG AND MARINE UNIT

Throughout the 2020 year, the AG/Marine Unit responded to a high volume of calls for service to include boating emergencies, drownings, boating accidents, boat fires, lost or overdue boaters, noise violations and lost or missing and endangered persons in rural areas of the county. The Ag/Marine Unit investigated many cases of boat thefts from boat docks, dumping cases on agriculture property, trespassing on agricultural properties, burglaries, livestock neglect cases and thefts.

In March, the unit began heavy patrols during the COVID pandemic, which produced a large increase in the boating population. To ensure that boating safety and navigational rules were being followed, the Ag/Marine Unit was given additional deputies from the Traffic Unit, DUI Unit and School Resource Unit until the month of July to assist with the issues on the waterways. The unit also ensured that the boaters on our waterways were following the Governor's executive order for social distancing on the water. During the pandemic, response units responded to calls for service for large gatherings on sandbars, beaches and flotilla parties out on the lakes. Our waterways here in Lake County experienced a huge influx.

A new boat was purchased this year as well to assist with the pandemic response and increased need for water patrol. In response to the high increase, Sheriff Grinnell in conjunction with the Lake County Water Authority are adding three additional full-time Ag/Marine positions to the unit in an effort to continue the quality of life for our citizens on the waterways. Two more patrol boats were also ordered for the new positions.



Citations	121
Written Warnings	272
Verbal Warnings	3,153
Disabled Vessels	136
Noise Complaints	32
After Hour Call Outs	28
Fatal Accidents	4
Non-Fatal Accidents	59
Drownings	4
Hit & Run Accidents	8
Trespass	42
Police Info Calls	342

Stolen Property Recovered	\$ 198,763
Misdemeanor Arrests	43
BUI Arrests	4
Felony Arrests	2

Pictured left, Deputy Eric Van Buskirk, a 20 year veteran of LCSO checking a boater's registration and doing a safety check.

# Great Job!



Congratulations to Deputy Sheriff Clint Parish, pictured above, for receiving the Sheriff's Life Saving Award. Deputy Parish and other deputies responded to a suicidal subject on March 18, 2019. Shortly after locating the male subject inside a wood line, he jumped and hung from a tree utilizing a leather belt.

Deputy Parish worked together with additional deputies on scene to support the subject's weight to remove tension from his neck, cut the belt, and lower him to the ground, where he regained consciousness. Without a doubt, his immediate response saved this individual's life. We are proud of Deputy Parish and his service to the Lake County Sheriff's Office and the citizens of Lake County.



On Monday, February 10, 2020, deputies and paramedics responded to a medical call at Cemex Educational Center in the Four Corners area. One of the youth attending the field trip fell ill and Lake EMS assisted the juvenile. Pictured bottom left, Deputies Morrison and Castillo remained behind and helped the kids untangle lines, bait hooks, and then passed out LCSO stickers. Great job by deputies Morrison and Castillo for showing these children some love.



Major Chris De Libro, Captain David Pelton, and Captain Todd English read to the students of Seminole Springs Elementary School for "Read Across America." We aren't sure who had more fun, the students or our staff!



Corporal Abbott responded to a call for service on August 10, 2019, with reference to a naked male covered in blood running through a residential area. When he and other deputies arrived, he found the male had sustained a large laceration to his left bicep, muscle, ligament, and artery. Corporal Abbott and responding deputies were able to restrain the individual, who was also under the influence of methamphetamine, and apply a tourniquet to control his life-threatening blood loss. His immediate response may have very well saved this individual's life. We are proud of Corporal Abbott and all deputies on scene's dedication and service to the Lake County Sheriff's Office and the citizens of Lake County.



Animal Enforcement Supervisor Sydney Pelfrey was patrolling the Groveland area when she happened across this little girl who's birthday party was canceled due to the pandemic. AEO Pelfrey stopped and gave Ava, who turned six years old that day, a little gift.



SWAT Commander Lt. McDuffie receives 'Person of the Year' Award

Lake County Sheriff Peyton Grinnell recommended and introduced Homeland Security Director Lt. Ralph McDuffie. Grinnell said McDuffie makes him look good on a daily basis.

"With the world evolving, we must undergo different training," Grinnell said. "Who would have ever thought that we would have to provide active shooter training to schools and places of worship, but that's what we were faced with and had to do in short amount of time. With this task, I turned to one guy."

McDuffie and his team trained more than 4,000 school personnel in a short amount of time and provided active shooter training for every place of worship in Lake County.

"Not only that, but it was his team that took down the individual that tried to kill a Eustis captain," Grinnell said. "The operation was a success because of his leadership and in the f ase of a crisis, he's the guy I want sitting next to me."



Sheriff Grinnell and the Lake County Sheriff's Charities, Inc. would like to congratulate Mr. Simon Gracey, son of Lead Dispatcher Zoe Hinds-Gracey, for being selected for a full scholarship to Lake Technical College. Mr. Gracey will soon be entering the fire fighting program at Lake Tech's Institute of Public Safety. Congratulations Simon, we're sure you'll continue to make your mamma proud.



Congratulations to Master Deputy Stephanie Pfister and Master Deputy Richard Dolen on receiving their Life Saving Award.

Deputies Pfister and Dolen responded to a troubled resident attempting to hang himself in March of 2019. When they arrived, they found the man hanging from a tree by a leather belt. Deputies Pfister and Dolen quickly responded by pulling a pickup truck up to the individual to relieve the pressure on his neck and cut him down. Their quick response saved the gentleman's life and they were able to get him the help that he needed.



Our very own Detective Corporal Erica Rodriguez, along with her husband and daughter, with the help of Detective Tom Goring and Orange County Sheriff's Office, Florida Lieutenant Dale Mack spent their weekend serving the citizens of the Four Corners. Pastor Hopewell of the New Water Church has been feeding approximately 600 families twice a week in the Four Corners area since the onset of the pandemic. Rodriguez and Goring got involved as members of the Rotary Club of South Lake County District 6890 of which Lt. Mack is the president.

# INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

The Investigations Bureau is made up of Criminal Investigations, Crime Scene Investigation and Special Investigations. This bureau is responsible for investigating all death investigations, robberies, felonious assaults, batteries, stalking and undercover narcotics/vice operations just to name a few of their responsibilities.

In addition to the above described units, Criminal Investigations conducts Polygraph examinations for both our own and outside agency investigators. In addition, Criminal Investigations has its own Forensic Artist program with skilled artists capable of creating composite images of unknown suspects through interviews with victims and witnesses.



## Total Physical Arrests

124

2020

108

2019

## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS GENERAL CRIMES

Grant funds were used to obtain a mobile license plate reader (LPR) and outfitted four major intersections in the county with the LPR. These have aided in both proactive patrol as well as follow-up investigation.

Flock LPR is using Lake County as a pilot program and in the process of saturating our county with LPR's for up to six months. This will aid the agency further in proactive patrol and investigations. In addition, the results may provide proof of how valuable of an asset the LPR's can be and the need to obtain more.

The Sorrento area was plagued with stolen vehicles for an extended period of time. Detectives worked diligently and made numerous arrests, resulting in two search warrants and the dismantling of two active chop shops.

## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS MAJOR CRIMES

The Major Crimes Unit had a few cases of note for the year. First and foremost is the Shaver case. Laurie Shaver was arrested for the murder and burial of her husband beneath a fire pit in the back yard in 2015. Diligent work by many detectives made this success possible.

Another case of note is a 92 year old military vet was robbed and pistol whipped. Thanks to DNA technology, a suspect was arrested and identified.

Cold case detectives are currently using Genealogy technology with the assistance of FDLE and the District 5 Medical Examiner's Office to identify a suspect in a cold case sexual battery and an unidentified body found alongside CR 474 back in 1988. A family tree has been identified and the trace to first level relatives is progressing.

## SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS / INTELLIGENCE

The first in Lake County...we were instrumental in getting a first degree murder indictment for a drug overdose.

Purchased the Gray Key technology and Axiom and upgraded several computers that have brought LCSO into the forefront of cell phone forensics.

We moved away from Offender Watch and has saved the agency approximately \$15,000 per year by using the FDLE database instead. Also, a four team member gang reporting, documenting and investigative unit was formed.

Auto Theft	Auto Recovered	Child Neglect	Burglary Conveyance	Burglary Residence	Burglary Business	Grand Theft	Fraud	Forgery	Identity Theft
223	191	5	459	307	21	348	186	74	127
Scheme to Defraud	Missing Persons	Persons Recovered	Sexual Battery	Lewd/Lascivious	Domestic Violence	Stalking	Robbery	Ag Battery / Assault	Homicide
61	96	81	81	53	118	9	19	108	12

# NOTABLE CASES 2020

## LCSO DETECTIVES BUST POSSIBLY THE LARGEST MARIJUANA GROW OPERATION EVER SEEN IN LAKE COUNTY

### LADY LAKE MAN ARRESTED IN DRUG BUST

A Lady Lake man was arrested after detectives with the Special Investigations Bureau, along with the Sheriff's SWAT Team and detectives from the Clermont, Eustis, and Leesburg Police Departments, served a drug search warrant at his home. The investigation began in August 2020 after detectives received numerous citizen complaints regarding drug activity at the residence, which is located in Lady Lake.

Upon searching the home, detectives located 25 grams of methamphetamine, drug paraphernalia, a .22 rifle, and ammunition.

The target of the investigation was placed under arrest and taken to the Lake County Detention Center where he was booked in with a total bond of \$37,500. He was charged with the following: Trafficking in Methamphetamine, Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and Possession of Ammunition by a Convicted Felon

### DETECTIVES CRACK THEFT RING IN SORRENTO

In early July, detectives with the Lake County Sheriff's Office arrested eight people in Sorrento who were believed to be connected to numerous burglaries, thefts, and auto thefts that mostly occurred in nearby Orange County.

The investigation began after receiving citizen complaints, which led to a stolen vehicle being located at a home on Seaforth Lane in Sorrento. Detectives were then able to obtain a search warrant that was executed at the home.

Upon executing the search warrant, detectives recovered a Ford F-250 that was reported stolen out of Winter Garden, a trailer with the vehicle identification number removed, and a stolen KTM motorcycle. Also recovered were various lawn equipment items such as hedge trimmers, chain saws, weed eaters, a zero-turn lawn mower, and many other types of equipment. Detectives arrested six individuals at the home.

This operation was a coordinated effort with numerous units of the agency, to include patrol deputies, crime scene investigators, the Intelligence Unit, and the Special Investigations Bureau.

### RETAIL THEFT ARREST ORIGINATED IN SEMINOLE COUNTY

On April 15, 2020, detectives from the Seminole County Sheriff's Office contacted LCSO about a man who resides in Lake County suspected of multiple retail thefts. Detectives estimated the thefts that they are aware of to be somewhere between \$25,000-\$30,000.

Deputies and officers in Lake County also received retail theft reports from Lowe's Home Improvement, Lowe's Clermont and Publix Super Market at Tavares Crossroads with a similar description. Un-luckily for the suspect, detectives had him under surveillance. The total loss on this particular run was in excess of \$6,000. Detectives followed the suspect to his home in Groveland and arrested him for the day's loot. After the arrest, a search warrant was obtained and more stolen items were located.

On May 19, 2020, detectives with the Special Investigations Unit responded to Clermont to conduct an investigation into a suspected indoor marijuana cultivation operation after receiving a tip. Upon arrival, detectives made contact with a 79-year-old man who lives on the property.

While interviewing the man, detectives could smell the strong and distinct odor of fresh marijuana on the property. Detectives also began seeing indicators of a cultivation operation, at which time they secured the scene and obtained a search warrant for the premises.

During the search, detectives discovered one of the largest marijuana growing operations in the history of Lake County. Utility services responded to the scene to investigate the theft of utilities needed to power an operation of this magnitude, at which time they discovered that enough power was being stolen to power a small town. Representatives from the utility services requested to prosecute for the theft of the utilities and are finalizing the numbers; which they estimate the dollar amount to be in the millions.

Detectives observed that seven makeshift buildings consisting of semi-tractor trailers and homemade structures were being used solely for the purpose of growing marijuana. Detectives worked diligently to dismantle the operation, which resulted in the seizure of over 300 pounds of processed marijuana, large quantities of cannabis concentrates, 2 firearms, cultivation equipment, and 767 large marijuana plants. The street value of the marijuana seized is estimated to be approximately \$2.3 million.

The man living on the property was arrested and charged with cultivating marijuana, possession of cannabis concentrates, grand theft, trafficking in marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of a place for manufacturing a controlled substance. Detectives learned that both the arrested individual and his brother were born in Colombia and are a part of a large illegal Cuban drug ring that may have similar operations in other parts of Central Florida.

### ARREST MADE IN CHEVRON ROBBERY

Early morning on June 14, 2020, deputies were called to the Chevron fuel station on CR 19A in unincorporated Mount Dora due to a burglary in progress. A witness said two vehicles approached the business and several subjects exited with crowbars. Soon thereafter the subjects broke the windows of the business and began taking items. Luckily, the business also had security cameras.

Within minutes deputies located the vehicles fleeing the area exceeding the speed limits and running stop signs. One of the vehicles came to a stop and the subjects fled on foot. The second vehicle was safely stopped a short distance away and all occupants were taken into custody. The vehicles contained all of the items taken from the store and are estimated to be in excess of \$5,000.

After an extensive search of the area using aviation and K-9s, the fleeing subjects were located and complied with the handler's commands preventing a forceful apprehension. A 19-year old and six juveniles ranging in ages 14-17 were arrested. Deputies learned that both of the vehicles the subjects were driving were reported stolen out of the Tampa area. All seven subjects were from Tampa, Florida as well.



Master Deputy Lynn Jones

# *Gone but not forgotten.*

## MASTER DEPUTY LYNN JONES TRIBUTE

by Sgt. Jasen McCormick

In this life we meet people who leave a lifelong impact on us. We recall the stories and moments that make us smile and pass them along to others.

Lynn Jones was a very special person. His larger than life personality and attitude demanded attention when you met him. We all have a special story that we share with Lynn and the numerous lives he touched in the short time he was with us speaks for itself.

Lynn Jones officially started his service career in the United States Army and it is my opinion that people who selflessly serve others are not made but born that way. His passion for cooking and the feeling of satisfaction and joy that it gave him poured over as he served his military brothers and sisters. The true underlining reason he was passionate with cooking was not only the food but the joy of giving and making others happy.

This was also evident in Lynn's professional career. He started his Law Enforcement career as a Correctional Officer at the Department of Corrections where he sharpened his skills in communicating and managing the worst of society. He demanded respect but was never above giving it, always living by life's golden rule; treat other as you would want to be treated.

He came to the Lake County Sheriff's Office shortly thereafter and his love for Law Enforcement was evident as he accepted a position on the Honor Guard. A position where he could bring respect and dignity to our heroes, our profession, and continue to serve those who served. His appearance was sharp and he was proud of it.

Lynn's family was his true love and his girls were his life. He took the responsibilities of fatherhood eagerly and without hesitation. I recall conversations I had with him regarding his children and how proud he was that they were becoming mature responsible women. His attitude was a simple philosophy, "you get out what you put in" and it showed. His legacy will always be in his children and the love he gave them.

I recently learned something very interesting, the popular espresso coffee that Lynn would share with anyone at any time was actually made for him by his daughter every day before he would leave for work. For years it was thought that Lynn labored daily to make this delicious coffee when in fact it was his daughter and at the slightest inquiry of what was in his thermos he would happily share it with you.

I came to know Lynn shortly after he came to our agency. He and I spent many hours talking about life and our love for good food. He told me stories of his family's restaurant in Louisiana and growing up doing what he loved, cooking and being surrounded by family.

In the past year we've all felt the pain of loss as a nation as well as personally. Lynn Jones was not a statistic of a virus or a causality. He was a father, a son, a husband, and a brother. He was a proud soldier, a law enforcement officer and a true example of a man. The memories and the short time I knew Lynn Jones I will never forget and I am proud to have called him friend.

On Wednesday June 24,2020, at the blessed age of 52, Lynn Jones transitioned into eternal rest. He was born May 21, 1968.

Lynn attended Grambling State and later joined the Army, which is where he found his love and passion for cooking. This passion led him to Morrison's Cafeteria where he became a Head Chef and where he met his wife Felisia.

He then later followed another dream of his, which was Law Enforcement. He became a stand up, law abiding member of the Lake County Sheriff Office and worked his way up to become a Master Deputy and was recently promoted to Corporal. He loved his job and everything that came along with it. He was one day short of a thirteen year run with the LCSO.

He devoted his life to his family, friends and anyone else that needed assistance, guidance or a helping hand. He was full of knowledge and wisdom, yet understanding and could be very stern when needed to be. He was always there with open arms when you needed him.

Lynn is preceded in death by his parents Willie and Gladys Jones, his brother Joseph and his loving twin sister Lynette Jones.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his loving wife Felisia Jones, whom he was looking forward to celebrating their 11th year Anniversary with in August, three daughters: ShaLynn, Kandance and Jada. One Stepson Ricky, two stepdaughters Tadaisha and Rikeisha, four step grandkids Keonna, Keonndra, Keonnie and DeAngelo. Lynn also had the pleasure of being a stepfather to Sharlece, Arleen and Richard, all of which were from a previous marriage before he became a father of his own three children. Eight brothers: Willie Jr, Don (Bettina), Larry (Erma), Tommie (Crystal), Bruce (Renay), Bernard (Ivory), Cedric (Tina), and Rodney (Michelle). Five sisters: Gloria Jean Bobb, Carlyon Jones (Kietario Burt), Carnella Jones Lewis (Larry), Sylvia Marie Thomas (Dave) and Gwendolyn D Jones, a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, friends and loved ones.

# *We mourn the fallen...*

“Carve your name in hearts, not tombstones. A legacy is etched into the minds of others and the stories they share about you.” -Shannon L. Alder

“**Richard M. Barry** was a great husband, dad, son, brother, uncle, and friend. “Barry”, as he was affectionately called by his family, was a modern-day hero. He was Mr. Incredible to his wife, Dad Possible to our son, and Mr. Fantastic to everyone else who knew and loved him. A big guy standing 6’4” with a boisterous voice (that came with a wicked New England accent), tattooed arms, and equally charged personality made him appear intimidating to some, when in reality he was a gentle giant.

His service started when he was just a young man and enlisted in the United States Air Force. Stationed in Germany, he served as a telecommunications maintenance specialist. At the completion of his service with the Air Force he worked for Raytheon, Cabletron, and also as a tattoo artist. He later moved to Florida and decided to seek a career in law enforcement. After receiving his corrections certification, he was employed by the Volusia County Sheriff’s Office. He later joined the Lake County Sheriff’s Office, under the Corrections Bureau, and continued his service until his untimely and tragic death. His passing came one month short of his 25th anniversary with the agency and 5 months shy of his retirement date. During his tenure with the Sheriff’s Office, Barry served as a field training officer and recruit instructor at the Institute of Public Safety. He later re-entered the academy and earned his law enforcement certification which allowed him to serve as a deputy within the Fugitive Extradition unit. He remained there until his untimely death. While serving his country and the citizens of Lake County can be viewed as a great accomplishment, his own opinion was that his greatest achievement was serving his family.

Barry personified the definition of a true family man. Living with and loving Barry helped me to realize how beautiful and wonderful life could really be, but then again, he did make loving him extremely easy. He genuinely believed in not taking one day for granted and living each day to it’s fullest. He always stressed that you just couldn’t sweat the small stuff. His devotion to family started every day at 4:30 a.m. with a pot of coffee and his daily Bible readings. Breakfast was ready and lunches were packed and waiting for Brennan and I as he headed out for his day, never forgetting to give each of us a kiss and a “see ya’ later”. He was an avid believer that “goodbye” was too final and therefore it was never spoken in our home. The never ending just because flowers, evening greetings on the driveway to carry my work bags into the house, the aroma of dinner already cooking when I arrived home from work, and the knowledge that “the boys” homework was already started or completed were just a few indicators of the love and care that he provided to his family. His goal was to always make my life easier. It was the little things that counted and meant the most. It breaks my heart that the raucous play and laughter of my boys will never fill our home again.

His absence has definitely left a huge void. Barry’s carefree and childlike demeanor was always on display, he was a true kid at heart. He wore many hats when it came to being a dad. He was not only dad, he was a nurturer, confidante, viable opponent, coach, trainer, and most of all our son’s best friend. His love and devotion did not stop at his son and wife but spilled out to his extended family as well. Affectionately nicknamed “Bear” by the great nieces and nephews, he loved to harass the kids and send them running from his powerful tickle tackles. You could always find a kid perched high up on “Uncle Bears” shoulders and clinging to his bald head as he carried on with his task without missing a beat. He loved to host family and holiday gatherings, although he pretended as if he didn’t. He used them as a great excuse to load his smoker full of multiple selections of meats to share. He made sure there was always an overabundance of

food and that everyone was stuffed. No gathering would start without his announcement that the food was horrible and that no one should eat it. The family learned a long time ago that whatever he said was horrible was exactly what they should pile their plates with. He loved to eat, but he loved to cook even more.

Barry loved the great outdoors. A former avid motorcyclist, once he established a family he acquired new hobbies which included bike riding, leisure walks, fishing, and butterfly gardening. With loving the outdoors, he enjoyed being an all-around sports dad and Brennan was his pride and joy. A former high school and college football and hockey player assisted him in being able to help coach and train Brennan whether it was in football, lacrosse, or track. Watching Brennan play any sport was his passion and Brennan enjoyed hearing his support when he was in any setting. Being an extremely vocal person and never missing any games or competitions, he was always well known on the sidelines of any venue his son was playing in. Sending weekly sports photos, videos, and commentary to the New England family was one of the highlights of his weekend.

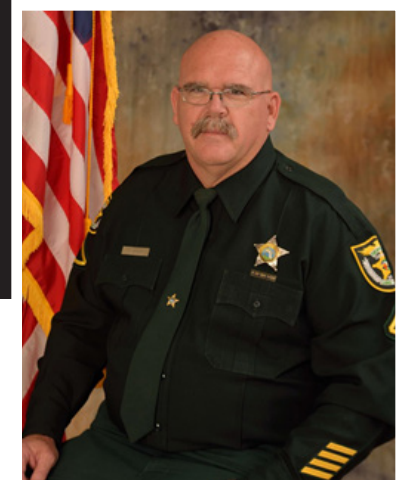
The sudden death of a love one can/will evoke many emotions. Though I am sad and angry and continue to mourn the time that we did not get to share, and the knowledge that you were taken way too soon, I am happy, humbled, and grateful for the years that GOD gave us together. The time that we shared and the memories that were made will never fall short of being simply amazing and irreplaceable. For our wedding he meandered down the aisle to the song “When Somebody Loves You Back”, and those words rung true, it was truly good to love someone who truly loved me back. It was just the little things that you did that meant so much.

So now, on the many nights that I lie awake and the weight of your absence and every day life bears down on me, I try and remember every encouraging word you have ever given to me. Whether it was as you held me up as I buried both of my parents 6 months apart, stayed with me and prayed with me during medical scares, or ran with me each and every time to help me make it through the P.A.T. course (although you had just run it for yourself), you never gave up and wouldn’t allow me to do so either. I hear you still speaking to me saying, “You got this babe”, and I pull it back together because that is what you would expect me to do.

In your last weeks of life, that strength and fight that you had in you never wavered. You continued to fight as I knew and expected that you would. I know in my heart that our Father above saw you fighting, saw that you were getting tired, knew that there was no earthly cure, and therefore he called his good and faithful servant home. We will continue to allow the great memories of the world’s greatest husband and dad to guide us through our days. Barry my love, there will never be a “goodbye” for us, just an until we meet again. I continue to love and miss you every day.”

-Bria

This tribute to Master Deputy Richard Barry, was written by his wife, Master Deputy Bria Barry



# IN THE COMMUNITY



**NEW PROGRAM**

## PUBLIC SERVICE OFFICER

In May 2020, the Lake County Sheriff's Office established a unit called Public Service Officers (PSO). Some of you are probably wondering what a Public Service Officer is, well they are civilian employees who have the ability to work a variety of different calls to assist patrol. They have no arrest powers or authority. They usually work Monday through Friday, but have been known to work some weekends if needed. They are part-time employees, and are dispatched to calls for service all over the county. They have been an asset for the entire Sheriff's Office. They have made themselves available to complete any tasks asked of them.

They handle the following types of calls: Burglary, Theft, Criminal Mischief, Fraud, Found Property, Lost Property, DAVs, Crashes, Stolen Vehicles, Recovered Stolen Vehicles and Traffic Obstructions

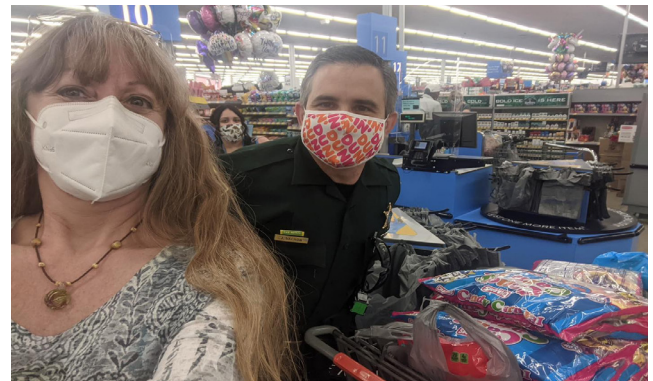
As a result of their work since August 2020 when they were released on their own they have handled the following:

Burglaries	14
Vehicle Burglaries	38
Grand Theft	17
Auto Theft	2
Petit Theft	7
Recovered Stolen Vehicle	2
Crashes Worked	13
Fraud	21
Criminal Mischief	4

More than 100 other calls for service which are not classified as crimes, but would have been handled by a deputy.

Thanksgiving, saw 23 employees of LCSO volunteer their time to deliver 123 meals to participants of our Senior Watch program.

The employees and recipients alike, enjoy participating each year.



Every December LCSO participates in almost every parade in the county (roughly 10). Our Community Services Sergeant, Jim Vachon, is tasked with purchasing all of the candy for these events. While Sergeant Vachon was checking out, Sheila Cichra, President of Streamline Permitting, Inc. stepped up and paid for all of it...over \$500 in candy! Thank you Sheila, for your kindness and Christmas Spirit!

Sadly LCSO wasn't able to host its' annual Shop with a Cop program this year. Instead employees received a \$100 gift card funded by the Lake County Sheriffs Charities, Inc. to shop for an "angel" chosen by the The Salvation Army of Lake & Sumter County.

Our employees went well above the gift card limits ensuring that each child received their Christmas wishes. Several hundred items including toys, clothing, make up and beauty products, scooters, bicycles, and skateboards were distributed to Lake County children through this program.





# UNIFORM CRIME REPORT 2020

## REPORT WRITERS

Report Writers take phone-in reports from personnel in every area of the Sheriff's Office; primarily from Uniform Patrol, who generated 9,087 reports in 2020. A deputy initiates his or her report by calling the Report Writers, who type the report into the call-in system while the deputy dictates the information.

### MAIN DUTIES:

The Report Writer is responsible for editing and proofreading each report for accuracy. A total of 13,432 reports were taken through the call-in system in 2020. The majority of those calls were from the Uniform Patrol Bureau

The Report Writing Unit is also responsible for maintaining accurate statistics that are sent to FDLE/Uniform Crime Reports Department to monitor the crime index throughout the state. In addition, paperwork pertaining to each report passes through the Report Writing Unit where each document is scanned by this 12-member unit, who are available 24/7.

Offenses	Total Arrested	Offenses	Total Arrested
<b>Homicide</b>	9	<b>Drugs/Narc Offense</b>	507
Murder	7	Drugs/Narcotics	472
Manslaughter	2	Drug/Equipment	35
<b>Forcible Sex Offense</b>	34	Bribery	2
Forcible Rape	27	Embezzlement	3
Forcible Sodomy	0	<b>Fraud</b>	23
Forcible Fondling	7	False/Pret/Swindle	8
Robbery	19	Credit Card/Atm	1
Aggravated Assault	160	Impersonation	13
Aggravated Stalking	5	Welfare	1
Burglary	67	Wire	0
<b>Larceny/Theft</b>	156	Counterfeit/Forgery	4
Pocket Picking	0	Extortion/Blackmail	0
Purse Snatching	0	Intimidation	13
Shoplifting	82	Prostitution	1
From Motor Vehicle	16	<b>Non-Forc Sex Offense</b>	8
Theft of MV Parts/AC	1	Sex Offense	4
Theft of Bicycle	0	Obscenity	4
From Building	18	Stolen Property	38
From Coin Machine	0	DUI	119
All Other	39	Destruct/Damage	15
Motor Vehicle Theft	37	Gambling	1
Kidnap Abduction	4	Weapons Violations	13
Arson	3	Liquor Violations	49
Simple Assault	392	Miscellaneous	1,232
Simple Stalking	12	<b>Total Arrests</b>	2,926



## Our Mission

To *Serve* people, *Support* our communities and  
*Safeguard* our quality of life.