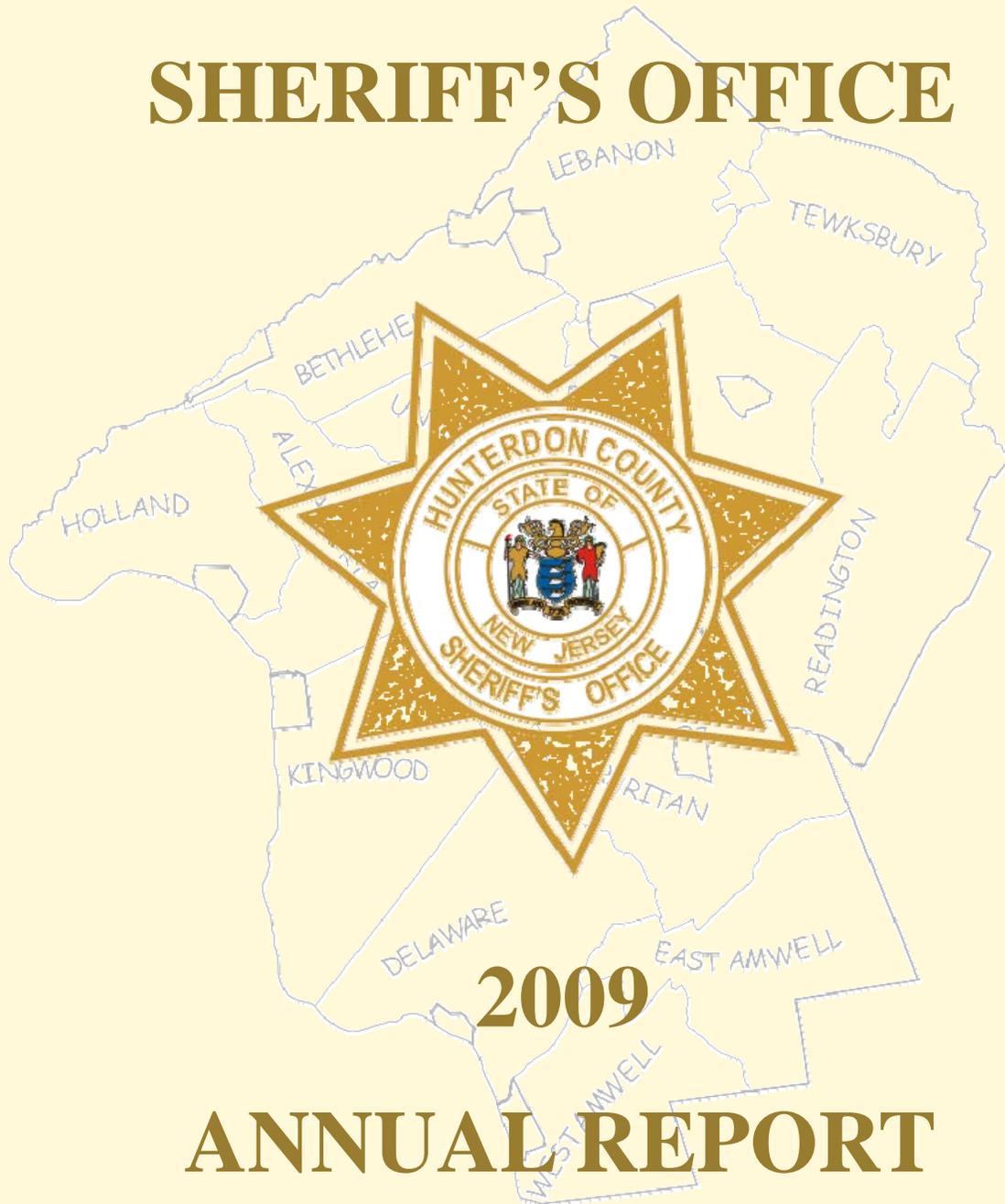


HUNTERDON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



2009

ANNUAL REPORT

8 Court Street
PO Box 2900
Flemington, NJ 08822-2900
(908) 788-1166 Fax (908) 806-4624
www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/sheriff.htm



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March 19, 2010

Deborah V. Trout
Sheriff

Mr. William Mennen, Freeholder Director
Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders
Administration Building
71 Main Street
Flemington, New Jersey 08822

Michael J. Russo
Undersheriff

John K. Maloney
Undersheriff

Dear Director Mennen,

George Muller
Undersheriff

I am pleased to submit the 2009 Annual Report for the Hunterdon County Sheriff's Office. The report chronicles a year of proud accomplishments and significant challenges. Despite its limited resources and budget, the Office of the Sheriff found innovative ways to bring in additional resources and improve productivity.

Edward W. Davis
Chief Warrant Officer

As you're aware, the Sheriff's Office's mission is the safety and security of the employees of and visitors to the Justice Center; the efficiency and security of the judiciary; the peace of mind of the County's citizenry via the service of domestic violence restraining orders and non-support warrants and by providing community service programs that benefit both young and old; the efficient providing of Civil Process services; and giving support and assistance to other federal, state, county and municipal agencies. These core mission objectives were met with professionalism, vigor, completeness, and competence. The officers and security personnel, as well as the administrative and clerical staff, were all instrumental in achieving these objectives.

As Sheriff of Hunterdon County, I look forward to continuing to serve the citizens of this County in 2010 and sincerely hope to improve the relationship between my Office and the freeholders.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah V. Trout", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Deborah V. Trout
Sheriff of Hunterdon County

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THE YEAR IN REVIEW

While 2009 saw some continuation of the budget turmoil and contentiousness of 2008, the ruckus and commotion were more subdued. Despite the tumult, the Sheriff's Office made significant strides and achieved numerous goals during the year.

A \$250,000 federal COPS grant was awarded to the Sheriff's Office by the United States Department of Justice. This technology grant will provide for a complete overhaul of the Justice Center's security with new cameras, additional cameras, upgraded communications equipment, video monitors, digital recording devices, a repeater to improve internal radio communications within the building, and a new magnetometer, as well as mobile data terminals for vehicles. Additionally, the parents of over 640 children in Hunterdon County were provided child identification cards and DNA kits. Continuing with the Sheriff's Office's goal of serving and aiding the public, Project Lifesaver, which provides a modicum of comfort and a great measure of security to the families of autistic children and seniors suffering from Alzheimer's or dementia, continued to grow. In fact, the number of clients has tripled since the beginning of January 2008.

At year's end, the service of civil process was up to date. Unfortunately, reflecting the national and state economies and government revenues in general, the high number of foreclosures continued but the revenue generated from Sheriff's Sales decreased significantly. This resulted from the simple reality that there were fewer third-party bidders and buyers, and most properties were returned to the plaintiff/lender banks and mortgage companies. The Sheriff's Office's legal mandate of serving papers, collecting child support, executing writs, enforcing levies, and conducting sheriff's sales produced 22% less in revenue in 2009 than in 2008.

The routine requests for security, police services and traffic control from county departments, private companies, community organizations, and municipalities throughout Hunterdon County were received and efficiently and professionally accomplished. The Sheriff's Investigations Unit (SIU) made 270 arrests for failure to pay child support and for violations of probation, as well as for juvenile, civil and domestic violence warrants. In fact, the SIU cleared more warrants than it received during the past year. Additionally, 259 prisoner transports and too numerous to tally prisoner escorts were carried out without incident. With regard to uniformed, law enforcement personnel, all required annual and on-going training was completed. Moreover, hundreds of hours of additional training, whether done in house or through attendance at seminars, colleges, schools or police academies, were undertaken.

In total for 2009, the Sheriff's Office produced \$609,577.29 in revenue and grants to the County: \$253,086.17 of revenue through the Civil Section, and \$356,491.12 in grant awards. Additionally, through the tremendous work of the Sheriff's Investigations Unit, its investigators and sheriff's officers, the Sheriff's Office recovered \$246,501.19 in delinquent child support for county parents.

ORGANIZATION

The Office of the Sheriff is one of three constitutional offices in Hunterdon County. It shares this distinction with the surrogate and the county clerk. The Sheriff has the responsibility of providing executive leadership and is the direct liaison with the freeholders, the county administration, the public at large, other law enforcement agencies, state and county departments and offices, and community organizations. Through her staff, Sheriff Trout directs the activities of the Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff's administrative staff consists of Undersheriff John Maloney, Undersheriff Michael Russo, Undersheriff George Muller, and Chief Warrant Officer Edward Davis. All undersheriffs are, of course, responsible for command of the officers to ensure proper performance of their duties, adherence to established rules, regulations, policies and procedures, as well as the development and maintenance of esprit de corps within the ranks. Similarly, all undersheriffs are responsible for the maintenance of discipline and morale within the office. Additionally, undersheriffs are empowered to act as law enforcement officers for the detection, apprehension, arrest and conviction of offenders against the law. Finally, with regard to general duties, all undersheriffs are to ensure the cooperation with other divisions within the Sheriff's Office and other county departments.

Because there have been no changes in the administration during the past year and because a full description of the backgrounds and complete duties of each of the administrative staff was included in the Sheriff's Office's 2008 Annual Report, that information will not be reprinted in full in this year's report. In brief:

As the administrative undersheriff, Mr. Maloney has the primary responsibility of conducting the administrative business of the office. As operations undersheriff, Mr. Russo is responsible for the Justice Center security and has direct oversight of the Sheriff's uniformed, sworn personnel. As civil undersheriff, Mr. Muller oversees the civil process activities of the Office, coordinates Project Lifesaver, and manages the Office's civilian personnel. As chief warrant officer, Mr. Davis ensures that all warrant information is kept up to date, that County Communications is provided with timely information, and is directly responsible for the Sheriff's Investigation Unit (SUI - Warrant Section).

Along with the above-noted tasks and duties, the Sheriff's administrative staff share twenty-four hour a day, seven day a week "on-call" supervisory responsibilities for the Office. The organizational structure of the Sheriff's Office is designed to provide maximum efficiency and effectiveness in the performance of its diverse functions.

In addition to the administration, the Sheriff's Office employs two sergeants, fifteen sheriff's officers, one investigator, twelve part-time security guards and four clerical personnel. At the conclusion of 2009, the uniformed law enforcement staff consisted of:

Currently the longest serving employee of the Sheriff's Office, Sergeant **Peter Hollender** has served for nearly twenty-five years. A resident of Cream Ridge, he graduated from the Middlesex County Police Academy in 1985. He also attended Raritan Valley Community College. In addition to his duties as a sergeant, he is a firearms instructor, a Live Scan supervisor, a TAC officer and is trained on NCIC/SCIC, ACS/ATS. Having completed Methods of Instruction (MOI), Sgt. Hollender is qualified to instruct law enforcement officers at police academies or in house;

Sergeant **Keith Schemick** has been with the Sheriff's Office for twenty years. A 1991 graduate of the Trenton Police Academy, a United States Air Force veteran, and a resident of Stockton, Sgt. Schemick has obtained over 200 college credits through the Community College of the Air Force. He is trained to work with K-9s, and holds dual certifications in corrections and law enforcement in the State of Florida;

A 2001 graduate of the Trenton Police Academy, Corporal **Sandra Ford** is the longest-serving sheriff's officer. A graduate of Central Bucks West High School and a resident of Phillipsburg, Cpl. Ford serves the Sheriff's Office as a Field Training Officer and Live Scan supervisor, and is trained in NCIC/SCIC, Project Lifesaver, MOI, ACS/ATS, blood borne pathogens, CPR, and DNA. She is also tasked to be the domestic violence, community policing and juvenile liaison for the Office;

An East Amwell resident, Corporal **Keith Yasunas** is a 2003 graduate of the Trenton Police Academy. After starting his law enforcement career with Hunterdon County Corrections, Cpl. Yasunas joined the Sheriff's Office in 2002. He serves the Sheriff's Office as a firearms and OC Spray instructor. A Hunterdon Central graduate, as well as a former student at Raritan Valley Community College, Missouri Valley College and De Sales College (Allentown, PA.), Cpl. Yasunas completed MOI and is qualified to instruct law enforcement officers at police academies or in house;

Sheriff's Officer **Kris Saharic** joined the Sheriff's Office in March 2005 and graduated the Trenton Police Academy the same year. She is a resident of Pohatcong;

A 2006 graduate of the Trenton Police Academy, Sheriff's Officer **John Sadusky** began his employment with this Office in late 2005. He'd previously been employed with Hunterdon County Communications as a Public Safety Tele-communicator beginning in 1999. A graduate of Rutgers University (B.A. - History, 1989), Officer Sadusky also earned an Associates degree in 1996 as a legal assistant. A resident of Alexandria Township, he is certified in Project Lifesaver and NCIC/SCIC, and is an EMT. In 2009, Officer Sadusky received a commendation for his participation in the capture of a wanted felon;

After earning an Associates degree in Business Administration in 2005 from Raritan Valley Community College, Sheriff's Officer **Frank Modaffare, Jr.**, began his law enforcement career with the Sheriff's Office in August 2006. A 2007 graduate of the Trenton Police Academy, Officer Modaffare earned "Academic Excellence" and

“Firearms” awards while in the academy. A resident of East Amwell, he is certified in CPR and completed training in recognizing and responding to autistic individuals;

Prior to graduating from the Trenton Police Academy in 2007, Sheriff’s Officer **David Bowlby** graduated the Somerset County Police Academy for Corrections in 2005, where he earned an “Academic Excellence” award. He was employed with Hunterdon County Corrections before joining the Sheriff’s Office in 2006. A resident of Delaware Township, Officer Bowlby is an EMT, certified in Project Lifesaver, and a graduate of Hunterdon Central High School;

After earning an Associates degree in Criminal Justice from Raritan Valley Community College in 2004, Sheriff’s Officer **Jesse Winfield** was employed with Hunterdon County Corrections. He joined the Sheriff’s Office in September 2006 and graduated from the Mercer County Police Academy in June 2007. A resident of Lebanon Township, Officer Winfield has been assigned as a detective with SIU since the summer of 2008. He has obtained training in background investigations and warrant service, and is certified in Project Lifesaver. Moreover, Officer Winfield received an “Exceptional Duty” award from Franklin Township, and letters of commendation from Clinton Township Police Department and the Hunterdon County Sheriff’s Office;

A resident of Belvidere, Sheriff’s Officer **Tina Groom** joined the Sheriff’s Office in 2006. She graduated in 2007 from the Trenton Police Academy. Officer Groom is certified in Project Lifesaver and is trained as a first responder. She is a graduate of Belvidere High School;

Sheriff’s Officer **Jeff Scanlon** is a 2007 graduate of the Trenton Police Academy. He joined the Sheriff’s Office that same year. Trained in Incident Command and certified in Project Lifesaver, he attended Raritan Valley Community College. A resident of Raritan Township, Officer Scanlon served with the New Jersey Army National Guard and was on active duty with the Guard from March 2004 through April 2005. He was stationed at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba;

In 1997, Sheriff’s Officer **Peter Swiston** earned a Bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice from New Jersey City University. He also attended the New Jersey Institute of Technology, South Florida University and Bergen County Community College. A resident of Lebanon Township, Officer Swiston joined the Sheriff’s Office in 2007, and graduated from the Mercer County Police Academy in 2008. He previously worked in corrections and attended the Corrections Academy at Sea Girt. In addition to being certified in CPR, Officer Swiston was trained in Gang Awareness;

A 2008 graduate of the Mercer County Police Academy, Sheriff’s Officer **James Klesney** earned an Associates degree in Criminal Justice from Raritan Valley Community College in 2005. He joined the Sheriff’s Office in 2007 and is certified in Project Lifesaver, Incident Command and CPR. Officer Klesney is also a trained EMT and firefighter. He is a resident of Delaware Township;

Although he was only hired by the Sheriff's Office in September 2007 and graduated from the Mercer County Police Academy in early 2008, Sheriff's Officer **Lucas Schwab** received a commendation in 2009 for his participation in the capture of a wanted felon. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Thomas Edison State College in December 2009, and had previously been awarded an Associates degree in 2007 from Mercer County Community College. A resident of Yardville, NJ, Officer Schwab obtained a certification in community policing and, more impressively, was honored with a membership in the New Jersey Police Honor Legion in May, 2009;

Prior to transferring to Hunterdon County in January 2009, Sheriff's Officer **Lamont Garnes** began his career as a patrol officer with the Bloomfield Township Police Department. He later served as a Detective Corporal with the Passaic County Sheriff's Department, having attained that rank after serving in various and diverse capacities throughout that agency, which included the Patrol Division's Paterson and Passaic Task Forces and the Traffic Bureau. Detective Garnes was also involved in the implementation of that department's Field Training Officer program, and is a certified Field Training Officer. A graduate of the Essex County Police Academy, he also worked in the Passaic Sheriff's Criminal Investigations Bureau and Bureau of Narcotics. Detective Garnes has been assigned as a detective with SIU since his arrival. Also while with Passaic, Detective Garnes served on the Passaic County Prosecutor's Joint Narcotics Task Force, where he held the position of "Task Force Officer" (case specific) with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. Detective Garnes attended Bergen County Community College, and has attended many in-service courses to complement and enrich his law enforcement career. During his career, he has received numerous awards and citations;

Before transferring from the Passaic County Sheriff's Department in January 2009, Sheriff's Officer **Scott DeGregorio** served nearly five years with that agency as a sheriff's investigator. He is a 2005 graduate of the Passaic County Police Academy. While with Passaic County, he was assigned to the courts division. Prior to being an investigator, Officer DeGregorio was a court officer and security officer with the Passaic Sheriff's Department for seven years. A resident of Woodland Park, he is a graduate of Passaic Valley High School;

Sheriff's Investigator **Raffaella Tozzi** was hired by the Sheriff's Office in February 2009, and graduated from the Mercer County Police Academy in July of last year. As a recruit at the Mercer Academy, she earned the "Academic Excellence" award. Mercer's Academy was, in fact, the third police academy Investigator Tozzi had completed. As a Special Police Officer I with the Flemington Borough Police Department, she graduated from the Somerset County Police Academy. Later as a Patrol Officer with Flemington, she attended the Union County Police Academy. A former student of The College of New Jersey, Investigator Tozzi has already obtained training in MOI, community policing and background investigations. A resident of Lebanon Township, she previously served with Flemington as an officer for five years;

A transfer from the Passaic County Sheriff's Office, Officer **Robert Klein** joined Hunterdon County in July 2009. He attended Marist College and graduated from the Passaic County Police Academy twice, once in 2000 and in 2005. In 2000, Officer Klein went through the academy while serving in Clifton, NJ, as a Class II police officer. In 2005, he attended the same academy while serving with the Passaic County Sheriff's Office and earned a Merit award as an academy recruit. Officer Klein is a resident of Clifton;

A twenty-three year employee of the County, Supervising Clerk **Debra Van Horn** is responsible for the day-to-day oversight of clerical personnel, processes all purchase orders and requisitions, and maintains attendance records. Additionally, for efficiency purposes, Ms. Van Horn is cross-trained and serves as a back-up for all other clerical staff. A resident of Kingwood Township, Ms. Van Horn is a graduate of Morristown High School;

Currently a student at Raritan Valley Community College, Legal Secretary **Beatrice Melnick** is pursuing an Associates degree in Liberal Arts - Social Sciences. A resident of Stockton, Ms. Melnick previously attended the Union County Technical School. She has been employed with Hunterdon County since the beginning of 1991. Ms. Melnick is responsible for handling summons and complaints, assists the administrative staff with secretarial duties, and is a member of the County Employee Appreciation Committee. Outside of work, Ms. Melnick is involved with the Board of Elections and the New Jersey Strengthening Family Initiative Task Force;

Senior Execution Clerk **Brenda Wilson** is responsible for handling, processing and conducting Sheriff's Sales. As part of cross-training, she also serves as the back-up for Ms. Hayth, who is responsible for Writs of Execution and Levies. A graduate of Delaware Valley Regional High School, Ms. Wilson has been with the County since 1996. She resides in Milford;

Also a resident of Milford, Senior Execution Clerk **Wendy Hayth** is responsible for processing all Writs of Execution and Levies. Moreover, for efficiency, Ms. Hayth is cross-trained and serves as the back-up for Ms. Wilson on Sheriff's Sales. She graduated with an Associates degree in Commercial Art from the Antonelli Institute for Commercial Art & Photography in 1989. Ms. Hayth has been employed with the County since 1998.

THE BUDGET

After the budget turmoil in 2008, 2009 was relatively placid. In 2009, the Sheriff's Office salary and wage budget was initially set at \$1,422,746.00, and the O&E budget was set at \$52,950.00. However, once the budget was established, the Sheriff was immediately informed by the freeholders and Finance Department that the budget figure for salaries, wages and overtime was in error as it did not reflect Sgt. Schemick's

compensation. The Sheriff was informed that at the end of the year, when first permissible by law, the freeholders would transfer \$70,546 to the Sheriff's Office salary and wage budget to cover the sergeant's salary. This end-of-the-year augmentation established the Sheriff's Office salary and wage budget at \$1,492,286.

In October 2009, the Sheriff's Office was projected to exceed the augmented budget because the initial budget appropriation was inadequate based on prior funding levels. On October 30, the Hunterdon County Courthouse Security Committee met at the direction of Assignment Judge Yolanda Ciccone. During the County's presentation to the Committee, Administrator Cynthia Yard distributed a document with budget information, and indicated that the freeholders had set aside a "reserve" for each department. Ms. Yard then indicated that the Sheriff's Office had a "reserve" of \$74,881. Since the concern about a potential budget overrun was no longer an issue because of the existence of the reserve, the Committee recessed with no action taken or recommendations made.

At year's end, the freeholders transferred \$143,000 into the Sheriff's Office salary and wage budget. Almost half of that transfer (\$70,546) represented Sgt. Schemick's salary which, as previously mentioned, was not included by the freeholders in the Sheriff's Office's original budget. This augmentation brought the total budget for salary, wages and overtime to \$1,565,746.00. At year's end, however, the Sheriff's Office only spent \$1,529,605.16 on salaries, wages and overtime, and returned \$36,140.84 to the County.

Finally, \$52,950 was provided in the O&E budget, a \$6,000 or 11.3% reduction from 2008. In reducing the O&E budget, the Sheriff met and slightly exceeded the freeholders' request that each department and/or office reduce its O&E requests by 10%. Over the course of the past year, the Sheriff's Office spent \$35,264.85 or 66.6% of its allotment, and returned \$17,685.15 to the County.

As it did in 2008, the freeholder board provided no funds in the County's capital budget for the Sheriff's Office.

COURTHOUSE SECURITY

In addition to utilizing a comprehensive approach, effective court security requires unity of command in the execution of the security plan. New Jersey statute, N.J.S.A. 2B:6-1d assigns operational responsibility for providing court security for the Superior Courts to the Sheriff. Unity of command holds that one individual, the Sheriff, should exercise supervision over all security functions and the personnel that perform them.

Fortunately and thankfully, there were again no courthouse security breaches during 2009. The professionalism, hard work and dedication of the sheriff's officers and security guards ensured that the security of the building remained whole and inviolate.

More importantly, it is the employees of the judiciary, the prosecutor's office, the surrogate's office, and county, as well as the judges, who benefit from the commitment and excellence of the fine men and women who comprise the Sheriff's Office.

In both 2008 and 2009, the Sheriff requested that the County include security and camera upgrades for the Justice Center in its capital budgets. Both years, the Sheriff's requests were denied without a hearing or a comment. In a 2008 Sheriffs Association of New Jersey court security survey, Union County Undersheriff Vincent DeTrollo and Morris County Sheriff's Office Sergeant Bruce Dunn recommended that the main entrance be manned by two sheriff's officers assisted by a third individual, which could be a security guard. Both men concluded that there were an inadequate number of sheriff's officers employed by the Hunterdon County Sheriff's Office.

With only one officer routinely assigned to each courtroom, they noted that "staffing of sheriff's officers in the courts is at minimum levels and inadequate to quickly address outbursts or violent incidents," and indicated that "the paucity of staff does not act as a deterrent, but only as a stopgap measure until help arrives." Inadequate staffing, they stated, does not permit for a proper relief factor to be built into the table of organization to account for on-the-job injuries, sick time or vacations, and most especially training. Training time, they noted, "is kept to a minimum and is reserved for Saturdays at overtime costs."

The evaluators concluded "there simply are an insufficient number of officers present in the Justice Center to respond to an incident without compromising security as the responding officers leave their assigned posts." Undersheriff DeTrollo and Sgt. Dunn recommended that, as is the case in almost every other courthouse throughout New Jersey, "there should be a minimum staff of two sheriff's officers in criminal, family and domestic courts, even when prisoners are not present." Unfortunately, as a result of inadequate funding, the Sheriff's Office does not have the number of personnel required to meet the level of court staffing recommended by the Sheriff's Association's Court Security Team.

As it has for more than a decade, the Sheriff's Office continued to utilize armed security guards for weapons screening and security checks at the main entrance of the Justice Center. The issue of security guards being armed has been repeatedly brought by the Sheriff to the attention of County Counsel Gaetano DeSapio and the Board. Once again, despite intermittent discussions and the repeated voicing of her concerns, the Sheriff has not been able to resolve the issues involved in the arming of security guards. As was indicated in past years' annual reports, the raising of this issue by the Sheriff or the Sheriff's Office is not meant in any way to disparage the professionalism, competence or dedication of the security guards. It is merely a concern over indemnification.

The issues are liability and indemnification. Without being armed, the security guards have almost no value to the Sheriff's Office. Other than manning the control room, there would be no function that security guards could perform. They cannot legally make arrests, conduct evictions, escort or transport prisoners, act as security in courtrooms,

serve civil process, etc. Disarmed, they would need to be replaced by sheriff's officers. Although the Sheriff's Office has continued to utilize security guards, the Sheriff has long opposed their use. As required by the Administrative Office of the Courts' (AOC) Model Court Security Plan, trained, armed sheriff's officers should be performing the duties with which the security guards are presently tasked. If one were to enter any other New Jersey courthouse, one would find the security posts at the public entrances manned by uniformed sheriff's officers.

The Sheriff informed county counsel, county administration and the freeholders that there are other issues beyond just liability and indemnification which involve the New Jersey Civil Service Commission, although the former remains the most pressing. At this time, the Sheriff insists that the freeholders must acknowledge the fact that the security guards are carrying firearms and indemnify them.

Furthermore, the Sheriff believes that all security guards should be carrying the same firearms as the sheriff's officers carry rather than their personal firearms. For their own safety, the safety of the sheriff's officers, the safety of the public and to achieve uniformity, the Sheriff intends to provide security guards with the same weapon that sheriff's officers carry. At the Sheriff's direction, in early 2010, the security guards will be provided with county weapons and ammunition. In furtherance of this goal, during the fall of 2009, each security guard with a law enforcement background and who is legally permitted to carry a firearm was provided proper training and qualified on .40 caliber Glock handguns.

The reason that all law enforcement officers within the same organization carry the same weapon is not only for uniformity, ease of purchasing and reduced costs, but because in a firefight, ammunition can be shared and each officer is trained and qualified on the same weapon. By being trained on and carrying the same weapon as sheriff's officers and other security guards, the benefits of such uniformity will be realized. Thus, when a security guard reports for duty, he will be provided a weapon to carry while on duty and will return the weapon upon the completion of his tour.

Finally, with regard to courthouse security, with the agreement of the AOC, the Justice Center's evening hours on Tuesdays were eliminated mid-year. It is important to note that this change did not affect court, courthouse or county operations, because no court-, courthouse- or county-related activities occurred within the Justice Center on Tuesdays. The only users of the building on Tuesdays were State Parole officers. More than a decade ago, the State Probation Department agreed to allow State Parole personnel to utilize its offices at the Justice Center to conduct meetings/reports/checks with parolees. Although this was a great convenience for Parole, Hunterdon County footed the bill.

The County received no funding from the State of New Jersey to compensate for the costs associated with keeping the building open on Tuesday nights or the use of the building. In costs to the Sheriff's Office alone, it is estimated that the County subsidized

State Parole's use of the building to the tune of slightly over \$12,000 per year. With budget shortages everywhere, the Sheriff could no longer countenance passing the cost for a state function onto the county.

THE COPS GRANT

A casual comment led to a \$250,000 COPS grant. In the spring of 2007, as a candidate for sheriff, George Muller spoke with U.S. Representative Mike Ferguson at a political event. Candidate Muller asked Congressman Ferguson to look into finding federal funding to help address some of the needs of the Sheriff's Office and the Justice Center. In March 2009, an article appeared in the Star Ledger concerning federal grants awarded to New Jersey law enforcement agencies. Alerted to this article, Undersheriff Muller brought it to the attention of Sheriff Trout.

Shortly thereafter, the Sheriff's Office contacted U.S. Representative Leonard Lance's office, as he is the successor to former Congressman Ferguson. Congressman Lance confirmed the \$250,000 COPS Technology Grant award to the Sheriff's Office, determined that the initial request for the grant had arisen from Congressman Ferguson's Office, and placed the Sheriff in contact with the appropriate personnel at the U.S. Department of Justice Programs (USDOJ).

Interestingly, although the grant had been "awarded," it was far from complete or guaranteed. The Sheriff's Office was simply at the starting point. A brief application needed to be immediately submitted to the federal authorities, and it was. Sheriff Trout brought the information regarding the award to the attention of the freeholders, who gave tentative approval to the Sheriff's Office to proceed with the grant process. The initial but very cursory application was followed several months later by the submission of a voluminous, detailed proposal enumerating the equipment to be purchased; the project's goals and objectives; an implementation plan; a justification for each item sought; a proposed budget containing the estimated cost of each item; all necessary training; and approximate installation costs. The formulation of the final proposal resulted from extensive research on the part of the Sheriff's administrative staff and from discussions with various county departments, potential vendors, and courthouse security experts.

Although not a complete list, the intended uses for the award are as follows: upgraded security cameras for the courtrooms, entrances, hallways, stairwells, elevators, cell blocks, and prisoner processing and transport areas; external cameras; a new magnetometer; flat-screen monitors; digital video recorders; portable and mobile radios; base stations; repeaters; antennae; hand wands; mobile data terminals; laptop mounts; and center consoles for vehicles.

Finally, in July 2009, the completed proposal was submitted. Final acceptance of the proposal was made by the Justice Department in August. However, it was not until September 21, 2009, that the formal award letter from the USDOJ was received by the

Sheriff. Once the formal award letter was received, the last stage of the process was begun. This final step was the opening of a dedicated account by the County Finance Department with a local financial institution and the forwarding of the account and routing information to the USDOJ. Thus, it was in December 2009, that the final pieces were in place. In 2010, the Sheriff's Office, the Justice Center and the County as a whole will see the benefits of the long grant process.

MOTOR VEHICLE SUMMONSES

The goal of traffic enforcement is to reduce traffic collisions, fatalities and injuries, as well as to facilitate the safe and expeditious movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic through the public's compliance with traffic regulations. The constitutional rights and privileges of all people regardless of age, race, creed, ethnicity or sex will continue to be faithfully observed and respected by all sheriff's officers in the enforcement of traffic laws, ordinances and regulations.

As part of their required training, sheriff's officers are annually instructed in the proper methods of traffic enforcement in accordance with established procedures. Sheriff's officers are not permitted to become involved in traffic enforcement when transporting prisoners, unless there is an imminent danger to citizens or officers. However, at other times, sheriff's officers are required as law enforcement officers to enforce the traffic laws of the State of New Jersey. As with any law enforcement officer, sheriff's officers are permitted to exercise professional discretion.

During 2009, personnel of the Sheriff's Office issued thirty-five motor vehicle summonses and fourteen motor vehicle-related warnings. Additionally, on numerous occasions, sheriff's officers provided assistance to other police agencies and aid to motorists. These contacts, with the public and outside agencies, help promote a positive image for the Hunterdon County Sheriff's Office. Moreover, these occasional but necessary motor vehicle enforcements enhance the safety of the residents of Hunterdon County.

PRISONER TRANSPORTS AND ESCORTS

The task of prisoner transports and escorts are critical factors in considering court security. It is by far one of the most dangerous assignments given to sheriff's officers, according to a National Sheriff's Association (NSA) study. According to the NSA, several deaths and countless injuries are suffered each year by escorting officers, bystanders and other prisoners. The handling of prisoners must be done in accordance with departmental policies and procedures, New Jersey law, and Attorney General Guidelines. These requirements cover the transporting of all adult and juvenile offenders.

Sheriff's officers completed 259 prisoner transports in 2009. A transport often entails more than one inmate. The 259 transports covered 27,990 miles, with the average transport being 108.1 miles. With two sheriff's officers involved in each transport, transports consumed 2,007.5 hours of work time. The average transport lasted three hours and fifty-three minutes. On the other hand, because they are such an everyday occurrence, prisoner escorts between the Hunterdon County Jail and the various courtrooms are not tracked and tabulated. Thus, no annual statistics are available.

With the closing of Warren County's juvenile facility Warren Acres in late 2008, the freeholders entered into a contract with Morris County for the housing of the county's juvenile offenders. Because the Morris County facility is thirteen and a half miles one way further than Warren Acres and, thus, adds twenty-seven miles round trip to each juvenile transport, it is estimated that this new contract added approximately one hour and fifteen minutes per juvenile transport in 2009.

This added distance impacted the overall 2009 numbers. Despite twenty-two fewer total transports in 2009 than 2008, the number of miles increased by 895. The average mileage for each transport rose from 96.4 miles to 108.1 in 2009. The time of an average transport increased from three hours and forty-five minutes to three hours and fifty-three minutes in 2009.

WARRANTS AND ARRESTS

The Sheriff's Investigations Unit (SIU) is responsible for serving and tracking all warrants received from the Hunterdon County Superior Courts. In 2009, 352 warrants were received, down from 375 in 2008. However, despite fewer warrants received, more warrants were closed. Last year, 395 warrants were closed and 270 individuals were arrested, both figures were up from 2008's totals of 329 and 208, respectively. At the conclusion of the year, the SIU had 187 active warrants, down from 230 at the end of 2008, with most of these subjects residing out of state and, therefore, outside of the jurisdiction of this agency.

As previously mentioned, the Sheriff's Office takes part in the State of New Jersey's "IV-D" program, which was renamed in 2009 to the "NJKids" program. The "IV-D" or "NJKids" program is a joint effort involving numerous county law enforcement and state agencies. This program is responsible for rounding up deadbeat parents for failing to pay their child support obligations. Of the 270 arrests in 2009, 167 were for non-support: in 2008, that figure was 123. Additionally, the 167 individuals arrested for non-support resulted in the collection of \$246,501.19 in back child-support payments. These efforts by the law enforcement professionals of SIU resulted in the County of Hunterdon receiving \$103,791.12 in grant money from the State of New Jersey for its part in these operations.

With regard to the collection of child support, the average collection of \$1,476.06 per warrant served was far below the record \$2,461.73 per warrant collected in 2008. However, all the Sheriff's Investigations Unit can do is track down the delinquent parent, arrest him or her, and bring that individual before the court. As for what amount the court decides to release the child-support delinquent parent is beyond the control of the Sheriff's Office. Finally, as discussed, although the total collected in 2009 (\$246,501.19) lags behind 2008's total (\$310,177.95), it still exceeds the previous high of \$217,960.85 and ranks as the second-best total in Sheriff's Office history.

In conjunction with its "IV-D" responsibilities, the Sheriff's Office participated in a three-day, statewide warrant sweep in December, which is coordinated through the New Jersey Office of Child Support Services and the Sheriff's Association of New Jersey. The warrant sweeps consist of sheriff's officers conducting widespread, coordinated raids.

TRAINING

The Chief Warrant Officer serves as the Office's training officer. The Hunterdon County Sheriff's Office is committed to training all officers so that they can be more efficient and effective, and conduct their duties in a professional manner.

Training is broken down into four major areas – basic recruit training, state-mandated training, in-service training and academy in-service training. At the conclusion of 2009, there were no recruits in an academy. During 2009, because of the three inter-governmental transfers from the Passaic County Sheriff's Office, only one recruit attended a police academy; thereby, saving Hunterdon County taxpayers a considerable expense.

There are four state-mandated, annual courses that are required of all law enforcement officers. They include firearms, use of force, motor vehicle pursuit and domestic violence. These courses are mandated by the New Jersey Attorney General's Office. Additionally, officers are also required to complete the Mandatory Agency Training Series (M.A.T.S.). In 2009, all sheriff's officers, investigators and administrative personnel completed the required training, either in-house or through the Somerset County Police Academy.

In-service trainings are training seminars that are taught within the Sheriff's Office so that officers are better prepared to perform their duties. These training programs are routinely coordinated and conducted by the training officer. Finally, academy in-service training consists of officers being sent to various police academies to be taught new and specific skills that will be used to enhance their job knowledge in various areas. Some examples of these trainings are: DNA Collection and Swab Training; blood-borne pathogens; arrest, search and seizure; report writing; tactical handgun; methods of instruction; O.C. (pepper spray) instructor school, etc.

The Sheriff's Office utilizes the County's firearms range to qualify officers and security guards twice a year in accordance with the Attorney General's Guidelines. The Office also certified and qualified numerous retired law enforcement officers, as well as police and law enforcement officers from other departments.

Finally, the following are some of the additional trainings and seminars that were attended by the Sheriff, sheriff's officers and members of the administration in 2009:

National Sheriff's Association Conference – National Sheriff's Association
Court Security Conference – United States Marshal's Service
NJKids Instruction on New Procedures for IV-D Program – New Jersey State Department of Children and Families
Suburban Drug Interdiction Patrol Tactics – Somerset County Police Academy
Handling and Transport of Prisoners – Somerset County Police Academy
Background Investigations – New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police
Internal Affairs: Current Trends – Somerset County Police Academy
Domestic Terrorism – New Jersey Office of Homeland Security & Preparedness
Off-Duty Survival – Somerset County Police Academy
First Responder Training – National Sheriff's Association
Certified Public Manager Program – Human Resource Development Institute (New Jersey Civil Service Commission)
Autism Recognition and Response for First Responders – Parents of Autistic Children (POAC)
Tactical Interviewing Program – Somerset County Police Academy
Contemporary Supervision Techniques – New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police
Crisis Intervention – New Jersey State Police
Domestic Violence: Training the Trainer – Mercer County Prosecutors Office
Constitutional Officers Association of New Jersey Conference - COANJ

NARCOTICS TASK FORCE

Although the Sheriff is concerned about the illegal drug problems in the County, fully supports the efforts of the Hunterdon County Prosecutors Office's task force, and desired to participate, the Sheriff's Office was not able to participate in this assignment due to manpower limitations.

THE D.A.R.E. PROGRAM

Although the Sheriff's Office continues to be supportive of the D.A.R.E. Program, it was not able to participate due to a manpower shortage. Therefore, local police departments and the New Jersey State Police continue to provide this training for local schools when possible and where available. However, if funding is made available in 2010, the Sheriff hopes to re-start the D.A.R.E. Program for the Office.

K-9 UNIT

The Hunterdon County Sheriff's Office at one time boasted a K-9 unit, which brought in significant revenue to the County; however, such a unit has not existed in more than a decade. It was disbanded early in Sheriff William Doyle's administration. It was the Sheriff's desire to re-establish the K-9 unit. Unfortunately, no funding was available in 2009, and it is doubtful that sufficient funding will be available in 2010.

OPERATIONS SECTION'S 2009 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The security of the Hunterdon County Justice Center continues to be the core function of the Sheriff's Office. The retention of uniformed personnel continues to be the number one objective.

The November 2008 appointment of Sergeant Keith Schemick, a twenty year veteran, to chief sheriff's officer was undertaken to streamline the chain of command. From sheriff to operations undersheriff to chief sheriff's officer to sergeant to corporal to sheriff's officer, the chain of command was clearly defined and each rank's responsibilities were plainly outlined and prescribed. Unfortunately, because of the County government's intransigence with regard to the sergeant's contractual salary increase, Chief Sheriff's Officer Schemick chose to return to the title of sergeant.

In late 2008, the County concluded a new three-year contract with the sergeants, which covered the years 2007-2009. Sergeant Schemick was provided back salary increases for the years 2007 and 2008. However, in early 2009, the County government refused to provide a salary increase and associated benefits to Chief Schemick consistent with what he would have been provided as a sergeant under the contract, which was the Sheriff's intent and the condition upon which Sgt. Schemick had accepted the chief title. Because returning to a sergeant's title would provide him the salary increase and benefits denied to him as chief, Sgt. Schemick resigned as the chief sheriff's officer. It is the Sheriff's intent in 2010 to once again address the issue of streamlining the command structure of the office and implement suitable changes to ensure same.

ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

The past year was event filled and busy for the Administrative Section of the Sheriff's Office. In addition to its primary responsibilities of serving civil process and warrants, the section coordinated numerous special projects and completed various studies and reviews.

In 2009, the Civil Process Section collected \$253,086.17 in fees for the County. This included \$24,760.67 for serving 723 summonses and complaints, \$27,652.32 for

processing 418 Writs of Execution, and \$200,673.18 for holding 58 Sheriff's Sales. In comparison, the Sheriff's Office in 2008 collected \$324,552.83. Thus, in 2009, the Sheriff's Office collected approximately 22% less in fees.

In 2009, the Sheriff's Office processed and served hundreds of writs, summonses and complaints. During the past year, the Sheriff's Office received 286 Writs of Execution and 666 Summonses and Complaints. The Administrative Section served 418 Writs of Execution and 723 Summonses and Complaints. This production reflects the dedication and hard work of its employees.

During the past year, ninety-eight Sheriff's sales were received, fifty-eight sales were held, and a total of eighty-seven sales were closed. Seven sales are in bankruptcy, and at year's end there were fifty-six active sales. In significant part, the reduction in the number of sales received, held and closed reflects the mediation and settlement programs instituted by the New Jersey judiciary during 2009 to address the statewide epidemic of housing foreclosures. Additionally, as previously mentioned, because of the lack of third-party bidders, more sales have returned to the mortgage holders. This reality is reflected in the amount of revenue generated by the average sale, which dropped from \$3,909.87 per sale in 2008 to \$3,459.88 per sale in 2009.

The Sheriff's Office continued its participation in New Jersey's IV-D program, now known as the NJKids program, through the State Department of Children and Families, Office of Child Support Services. In 2009, the Hunterdon County Sheriff's Office collected a total of \$103,791.12 through the grant. All IV-D funds awarded to the County through the efforts of the Sheriff's Office are turned in to the County Finance Department and help offset costs to the citizenry of Hunterdon County.

In total, the Sheriff's Office obtained \$356,491.12 in grants. These include \$103,791.12 from participation in the State NJKids program, \$2,700 from the State of New Jersey Body Armor Replacement Fund, and \$250,000 from a U.S. Department of Justice's COPS Technology grant.

PERSONNEL

There were no changes in the administrative personnel of the Sheriff's Office in 2009. Two experienced sheriff's officers were hired in January 2009 via inter-governmental transfer from Passaic County, and another sheriff's officer returned from an extended family leave that same month. Both transferees were brought aboard to replace officers who had departed in late 2008. During the past year, one sheriff's officer departed. He left to take a significantly higher paying position with a municipal police department. That officer was also replaced via intergovernmental transfer by an experienced veteran from Passaic County.

In breaking a long-standing tradition, the Sheriff's Office did not experience the usual high turnover rate for sheriff's officers in 2009. This peculiar development results in part from the overall economic situation in New Jersey and the United States. The normally high number of turnovers in any given year has a detrimental effect on the operation of the Office. As is well known, hiring a new, inexperienced sheriff's officer requires that the new hire complete the police academy, which consumes five months or more. Between the costs of salary, lost productivity, academy expenses, and related costs such as transportation, etc., it is estimated that each experienced hire saved the County approximately \$50,000. Moreover, even after academy graduation, a new officer must be brought along slowly as he/she learns the duties, responsibilities and nuances of the position. By hiring three trained officers, the Sheriff avoided incurring such costs to Hunterdon taxpayers.

One clerical position was eliminated. As a cost-saving measure, in November 2009, a senior receptionist with the Sheriff's Office accepted a transfer to the Finance Department, which had suffered several departures. The position within the Sheriff's Office was not filled, and will remain unfilled for 2010 and beyond.

Finally with regard to personnel, two investigators, Raffaella Tozzi and William Schultz were hired in 2009 to replace departed investigators. Unfortunately, because of pension concerns, Investigator Schultz resigned. He was not able to be replaced because of salary-and-wage budget cuts made by the County. Thus, once again, the Sheriff's Office will begin 2010 with a complement of fifteen sheriff's officers and one investigator, the same level of staffing as it had at the beginning of 2009. The full complement for the Sheriff's Office, as agreed to by the freeholders, is sixteen officers and two investigators.

COURTHOUSE TOURS & PUBLIC INFORMATION

From Cub Scouts to Brownies, from elementary to high school students, from Rotarians to pastors from Indiana, from junior police academy participants and senior citizens groups to corporate executives and tourists from all over the United States and abroad, the Hunterdon County Sheriff's Office conducted forty tours of the Historic Courthouse and Jail. In total, 813 visitors toured the facility in 2009.

Visitors from Israel, students from Hunterdon Central High School, Take-Your-Child-To-Work-Day participants and senior citizens were provided information on the Lindbergh Kidnapping and the Trial of Bruno Richard Hauptman, as well as the opportunity to view the jail cell of one of history's most infamous kidnappers and sit on the bench of a Superior Court judge.

Additionally, members of the Sheriff's Office participated in a question and answer discussion with criminal justice classes from Hunterdon Central High School. The topics for discussion ranged from the role of a sheriff, the duties and responsibilities of the

sheriff's office, election law, the role of women in law enforcement and politics, and law enforcement and political topics in general.

PROJECT LIFESAVER PROGRAM

Project Lifesaver was established in 1999 by the Chesapeake County Sheriff's Office, which built on the work of a North Carolina mountain rescue program. It pioneered the use of specialized equipment and procedures to locate lost and wandering elderly citizens suffering from dementia or Alzheimer's. The program eventually expanded to include adult citizens and children with Down syndrome and Autism. Project Lifesaver has become the nationwide and international leader in addressing the needs of these at-risk citizens, as well as bringing comfort and peace of mind to their families and caregivers. To date, Project Lifesaver has had over 2,100 successful rescues and rescue times have been reduced from days and hours to an average of less than thirty minutes.

Participation in Project Lifesaver in New Jersey is limited to sheriff's offices. All sheriff's offices in New Jersey now participate. This full participation was spurred by a Mercer County incident wherein an elderly man suffering from Alzheimer's wandered away from his home. A two-day search by numerous law enforcement personnel from multiple departments and jurisdictions, as well as the man's family and concerned neighbors, failed to discover his whereabouts. Unfortunately, the story did not end well. The man was discovered dead in the woods less than two miles from his home. He had died from exposure. After this incident, the Mercer County Sheriff's Office joined Project Lifesaver. Since joining, Mercer County has enjoyed many successful rescues. Thankfully, no Project Lifesaver searches were initiated in 2009 in Hunterdon County.

The year 2009 saw the continued expansion of Project Lifesaver in Hunterdon County. Undersheriff Muller attended Hunterdon County Senior Services-sponsored senior health fairs and presented a Project Lifesaver program to numerous community organizations. Combined training exercises were conducted in conjunction with the Somerset County Sheriff's Office. Additionally, the Sheriff's Office sponsored a state-required training program at the Hunterdon Medical Center which was open to all law enforcement and emergency responders. The training was entitled "Autism Recognition and Response for First Responders," and was presented by Parents Of Autistic Children (POAC). POAC provides services and programs for autistic children and education throughout New Jersey.

New clients were brought on. Last year saw an 83% increase in the number of clients. Services were increased, and new avenues of private funding were discovered. Undersheriff Muller secured a \$6,500 grant from The Merck Foundation, which was finalized in early 2010. New officers were trained in the use of Project Lifesaver equipment and were certified as responders. The Sheriff's Office now has eight sheriff's officers and four members of the administrative staff trained as Project Lifesaver search specialists.

In addition to learning how to utilize the electronic equipment, Project Lifesaver training involves teaching responders about Alzheimer's, dementia and Autism, and how to handle and interact with citizens suffering from these and similar disabilities. The Project Lifesaver specialist is taught how to approach the person, gain their trust and put them at ease for the journey home. The Sheriff's Office has continued to participate in joint training exercises with the Somerset County Sheriff's Office.

During 2009, the Sheriff's Office and Undersheriff Muller collected over 1060 donated cell phones. The proceeds of these phones and the Merck Foundation donation have been placed in a dedicated account which enables the Sheriff's Office to provide this service at no cost to the families and caregivers of clients. Through this effort of obtaining alternative funding sources via donations, the \$300 one-time transmitter fee and the \$120 annual cost for monthly battery changes continues to be completely covered for clients.

CHILD ID PROGRAM

In keeping with tradition, the Hunterdon County Sheriff's Office continued to provide a valuable service to parents. The Child ID program provided free identification cards to 642 children, bringing this Administration's two-year total to 1,493 child IDs. In addition to displaying a digitized photograph of the child, the Child ID card also contains the child's name, address, date of birth, sex, hair color, eye color, and information on any scars or marks.

Along with the identification card, parents are provided with a DNA ID kit. In addition to the photo and personal information contained in the CHILD ID card, this kit provides parents with fingerprints and a DNA sample for their child. Parents are instructed to keep this valuable information in a secure location.

The Sheriff's Office continues to utilize a state-of-the-art card data system. This system has a built-in camera and digitally impresses the child's photograph and personal information directly onto the ID card. The ID card is more durable than those provided in the past. After the creation and delivery of the CHILD ID card to the parents, all information obtained to create the CHILD ID card is deleted from the system to ensure privacy.

ATTORNEY ID PROGRAM

Utilizing the same data card system, the Sheriff's Office continued the Attorney Identification Card program launched in late 2008. Similar to the programs offered by sheriff's offices throughout the state, the intent of the program is to expedite attorney access to courthouses. The Attorney ID card costs \$25.00 and is renewed every five

years. Attorney identification card programs were developed statewide in conjunction with the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General, the New Jersey State Bar Association, and the Sheriff's Association of New Jersey.

STATE ACCREDITATION

Since the late fall of 2008, the Sheriff's Office has been pursuing state accreditation through the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP) and the Commission on the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). To date, only three sheriff's offices in New Jersey (Mercer, Monmouth and Morris) have obtained such accreditation. In furtherance of eventually obtaining accreditation, the Sheriff's Office has completed the accreditation application and agency survey, created a department profile, and obtained the CALEA software. Once the Sheriff's Office's new Standard Operating Procedures are revised and adopted, the process of accreditation will move forward expeditiously.

Accreditation has long been recognized as a means of maintaining the highest standards of professionalism. It is the certification by an independent reviewing authority that a law enforcement agency has met specific requirements and prescribed standards. CALEA and NJSACOP have established 110 recognition standards for law enforcement agencies. Some examples of the topics that these standards cover are as follows:

- organization and administration
- search and seizure
- use of force
- command protocols
- revisions of standard operating procedures
- fiscal management
- recruitment
- disciplinary procedures
- training and career development
- promotions and performance evaluations
- criminal investigation
- traffic enforcement and patrol
- processing and detention
- inmate transportation
- internal affairs
- communications
- recordkeeping
- property and evidence collection and control

The 110 enumerated standards were developed for large municipal police departments and, thus, some of the standards are inapplicable to the mission and duties of a sheriff's

office. Of course, some small municipal police departments would also find many of the topics beyond their responsibilities and duties. Accreditation is a two year-plus endeavor for most agencies.

At the beginning of the process, the Sheriff's Office conducts a thorough self-analysis to determine how its existing operations fulfill or fail to meet the objectives, requirements and standards. This self-analysis consists of a thorough examination and review of all facets of operations. Each area of operations is evaluated against the applicable standard. Changes to operating procedures, methods, and practices will be implemented to bring the Sheriff's Office into compliance with the enumerated applicable standard and best practice.

Once the self-analysis is complete and revised procedures and practices are identified, established and implemented to bring the Sheriff's Office into compliance, trained assessors from CALEA and NJSACOP conduct an on-site mock assessment. Deficiencies and areas of non-compliance are identified. The Sheriff's Office will then address the deficiencies and areas of non-compliance to bring them into conformity. Once finished, CALEA's and NJSACOP's assessors return and the on-site assessment is completed. If successful, public hearings are held, a final commission review is done, and an accreditation award is made.

THE MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSION CONTRACT

As in 2008, the Sheriff's Office was again approached during the year by officials from the Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) seeking to have the Sheriff provide security for the MVC's new Route 31/202 facility in Raritan Township. The MVC has similar contracts and working relationships with other sheriff's offices in the state: Sussex County being one. Raritan Township police ended the contractual relationship because the township no longer considered the contract financially profitable. The MVC turned to the Sheriff's Office as a potential new partner. In return for 49.5 weekly hours of coverage, the MVC would pay \$112,000 per year to compensate the Hunterdon County Sheriff's Office.

On numerous occasions in 2008 and this past year, the Sheriff brought the contract issue to the freeholders' and county counsel's attention. Each request to discuss the terms and viability of the contract was ignored or rejected. In the end, despite repeated demonstrations by the Sheriff's Office that the County would realize a net profit, the request to execute the contract was regularly denied.

The Sheriff's Office knew that the 2009 budget would be austere. The MVC contract would have permitted the County to offset some of the budgetary increases through an outside source. Most importantly, the contract would not have required the hiring of additional staff or the paying of additional employee benefits. The Sheriff's Office annually returns hundreds of thousands of dollars to the County through Sheriff's sales,

Civil Processing fees, the arrests of delinquent parents, and the like. This agreement would have allowed the Sheriff to continue to bring in money to the County and help offset budget increases.

In addition to providing a service to the State and security to County residents who utilize the MVC facility, the contract would have brought funding to Hunterdon County government to help offset costs. As of the preparation of this annual report, no action on the MVC contract has been taken by the freeholders and it appears that the MVC has chosen to pursue other avenues.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Sheriff's Office provides security and assistance for special events held in county facilities. Similarly, the Office provides security and special services for community events and is often asked to assist other police agencies with police-related functions and emergencies. The Sheriff's Office's participation in these events has provided valuable assistance to county residents. The following is a list of some of the special events in which the Sheriff's Office participated:

- 1) Provided security, and acted as bailiffs during the Hunterdon County Mock Trial Competition, which is sponsored by the Hunterdon County Bar Association, and assisted in the Bar Association's Court Night event and Reality Court held in the Justice Center.
- 2) Provided security and traffic control for the Hunterdon County 4H Fair.
- 3) Assisted several municipalities with traffic control for multiple and various road construction and repair projects.
- 4) Participated in Mercer County Sunshine Foundation's Operation Dream Lift.
- 5) Provided security for the several candlelight vigils on the steps of the Historic Courthouse, one was for SAFE in Hunterdon.
- 6) Assisted Readington Township Police with security and traffic control for the New Jersey Festival of Ballooning.
- 7) Provided security for the Bloomsbury Fall Festival Craft Show.
- 8) Hosted a Parents Of Autistic Children (POAC) seminar on Autism Recognition and Response for First Responders which was open to all Hunterdon County law enforcement agencies.
- 10) Participated in four Hunterdon County Senior Services Health Fairs.

- 11) Assisted Hunterdon County Roads & Bridges Department on at least fourteen occasions with traffic control for line-painting projects.
- 12) Assisted Hunterdon County park rangers with the county craft show.
- 13) Provided security and traffic control for the Lebanon Borough Fourth of July parade, and the Flemington Borough Fourth of July Fireworks and Concert.
- 14) Participated in the Hunterdon County Parks Department's Touch-A-Truck event.
- 15) Provided assistance with traffic and crowd control to the Town of Clinton's police department for the annual Christmas Parade.
- 16) Provided courthouse security to the County Election Board and Superior Court on Election Day.
- 17) Participated in Careers in Law Enforcement Seminar at Rutgers University in New Brunswick.
- 18) Assisted with the 26th Annual New Jersey Law Enforcement Torch Run to benefit Special Olympics.
- 19) Participated in Easter Bunny visits to children at the Hunterdon Medical Center and the Hunterdon Developmental Center through the Easter Bunny Foundation.

HUNTERDON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Deborah V. Trout
Sheriff

Chief Warrant Officer

Edward Davis

Sheriff's Officer

Jesse Winfield*

Sheriff's Officer

Lamont Garnes

Sheriff's Investigator

Vacant

Sergeant/Operations

Keith Schemick

Sheriff's Officer

Sandra Ford*

Sheriff's Officer

Kris Saharic

Sheriff's Officer

David W. Bowlby*

Sheriff's Officer

Tina Groom

Sheriff's Officer

James S. Klesney, Jr.*

Sheriff's Officer

Scott DeGregorio

Sheriff's Officer

Robert Klein

Undersheriff # 2

Michael Russo

Sergeant/Operations

Peter Hollender

Sheriff's Officer

Keith M. Yasunas*

Sheriff's Officer

John A. Sadusky

Sheriff's Officer

Frank G. Modaffare*

Sheriff's Officer

Jeffrey A. Scanlon

Sheriff's Officer

Peter Swiston

Sheriff's Officer

Lucas R. Schwab*

Sheriff's Investigator

Raiffella Tozzi

Sheriff's Officer

Vacant

Undersheriff # 1

John Maloney

Security Guard

Donald Kenney Jr

Security Guard

Andrew Kovacs

Security Guard

Charles DiNatale

Security Guard

Curt Steinmetz

Security Guard

Patrick Sullivan

Security Guard

John R. Walsh

Security Guard

Joseph L. Mackin

Security Guard

Jeffrey Person

Security Guard

Robert W. Smith

Security Guard

William Davis

Security Guard

George G. Parsons

Security Guard

Anthony D. DeNichilo

Undersheriff # 3

George Muller

Supervising Clerk/Civil Process

Debra Van Horn

Sr. Execution Clerk / Sales

Brenda Wilson

Sr. Execution Clerk / Writs

Wendy Hayth

Legal Secretary II / Summons

Beatrice Melnick

Updated

2010

MOTOR VEHICLE SUMMONSES/WARNINGS 2009

SUMMONSES

Garnes – 1
Sadusky – 2
Schwab – 1
Winfield – 10

Total – 14

WARNINGS

Danberry – 1
Sadusky – 1
Schwab – 10
Winfield – 23

Total - 35

HUNTERDON COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE

TRANSPORTATION TOTALS FOR 2009

MONTH	# OF TRANS	MILES	HOURS WORKED X (2) OFFICERS
JANUARY	16	1,947	69.25 X 2 = 138.50
FEBRUARY	23	2,849	106.50 X 2 = 213.00
MARCH	24	3,007	102.25 X 2 = 204.50
APRIL	25	2,350	85.50 X 2 = 171.00
MAY	14	1,306	51.75 X 2 = 103.50
JUNE	30	2,876	107 X 2 = 214.00
JULY	31	3,211	115.50 X 2 =231.00
AUGUST	14	1,274	51.25 X 2 = 102.50
SEPTEMBER	22	2,801	88.25 X 2 = 176.50
OCTOBER	25	3,006	110 X 2 = 220.00
NOVEMBER	17	1,613	49 X 2 = 98.00
DECEMBER	18	1,750	67.50 X 2 = 135.00
TOTALS	259	27,990	1,003.75 X 2 = 2,007.50

SHERIFF'S INVESTIGATIVE UNIT – 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

In 2009, there were...

Warrants received – 352

Warrants closed – 395

Warrant arrests – 270

Of the 270 arrests, 167 were for non-support, 84 were for violations of probation, 8 were on juvenile arrest warrants, 8 were on civil arrest warrants, and 3 were for domestic violence violations. Additionally, 12 evictions were performed. At year's end, there were 187 active warrants on file.

SUMMONS & COMPLAINTS 2009

	NUMBER RECEIVED	AMOUNT COLLECTED	SENT TO COUNTY	SENT TO TRUST ACCT.
JANUARY	49	1689.56	1445.56	244.00
FEBRUARY	50	1955.88	1699.88	256.00
MARCH	65	2491.32	2133.32	358.00
APRIL	43	1551.04	1297.04	254.00
MAY	62	2328.24	2020.24	308.00
JUNE	67	2306.17	1996.17	310.00
TOTALS	336	12322.21	10592.21	1730.00
JULY	70	2145.48	1819.48	326.00
AUGUST	43	2103.78	1805.78	298.00
SEPTEMBER	50	2410.96	2098.96	312.00
OCTOBER	52	1844.16	1580.16	264.00
NOVEMBER	57	1848.64	1602.64	246.00
DECEMBER	58	2085.44	1815.44	270.00
TOTALS	330	12438.46	10722.46	1716.00
GRANT TOTALS	666	24760.67	21314.67	3446.00

TOTAL OF PAPERS SERVED THROUGHOUT YEAR:

JANUARY	65
FEBRUARY	61
MARCH	73
APRIL	38
MAY	47
JUNE	81
JULY	69
AUGUST	59
SEPTEMBER	63
OCTOBER	40
NOVEMBER	72
DECEMBER	55
TOTALS	723

WRITS OF EXECUTION 2009

	NUMBER RECEIVED	AMOUNT COLLECTED	SENT TO COUNTY	SENT TO TRUST ACCT.
JANUARY	26	2803.41	2559.41	244.00
FEBRUARY	24	2224.45	2006.45	218.00
MARCH	23	2642.26	2368.26	274.00
APRIL	21	1970.38	1714.38	256.00
MAY	15	1607.68	1391.68	216.00
JUNE	28	2454.29	2150.29	304.00
TOTAL	137	13702.47	12190.47	1512.00
JULY	30	2245.35	1963.35	282.00
AUGUST	18	1927.63	1705.63	222.00
SEPTEMBER	29	2774.18	2480.18	294.00
OCTOBER	30	3050.48	2762.48	288.00
NOVEMBER	10	1603.36	1349.36	254.00
DECEMBER	32	2348.85	2048.85	300.00
TOTALS	149	13949.85	12309.85	1640.00
GRAND TOTALS	286	27652.32	24500.32	3152.00

TOTALS OF PAPERS SERVED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:

JANUARY	26
FEBRUARY	52
MARCH	25
APRIL	33
MAY	17
JUNE	31
JULY	51
AUGUST	48
SEPTEMBER	45
OCTOBER	30
NOVEMBER	19
DECEMBER	41
TOTAL	418

2009
HUNTERDON COUNTY SHERIFF'S SALES REPORT

TO: Sheriff Deborah V. Trout

FROM: Brenda Wilson

RE: Sheriff Sales Year (2009)

Sales Received 98

Sales Held 58

Sales Closed 87

Monies Received \$199,413.18 (COUNTY) 1,260.00 (TRUST)

At this time there are 56 active sales, 7 sales in bankruptcy, 6 sales to be closed, 1 deed to be typed and 3 sales that have money due.

CHILD ID PROGRAM FOR 2009

TOTAL

642

<u>DATE</u>	<u>KIDS</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PERSONNEL WORKED</u>
1/20/2009	86	GODDARD SCHOOL	9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM	LONG & MULLER
2/11/2009	26	GODDARD SCHOOL	3:00 AM TO 5:00 PM	LONG & MULLER
3/21/2009	13	STANTON LEARNING CENTER	12:00 PM TO 2:00 PM	VAN HORN & MULLER
4/21/2009	46	FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP SCHOOL, ICE CREAM SOCIAL	6:00 PM TO 8:00 PM	YASUNAS & FORD
4/23/2009	16	COUNTY BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK	2:00 PM TO 3:00 PM	MULLER
5/16/2009	166	KID AMERICA DAY AT HEALTH QUEST	12:00PM. TO 3:00 PM	GARNES, YASUNAS & MODAFFARE
5/31/2009	14	FAIRMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	12:00 PM TO 5:00 PM	VAN HORN & HAYTH
9/13/2009	42	THE LITTLE GYM - ROUTE 31 (PETE'S BIKE SHOP)	12:00 PM TO 3:00 PM	FORD & YASUANAS
9/19/2009	48	LEBANON TWP MEMORIAL PARK COMMUNITY DAY	12:00 PM TO 4:00 PM	GROOM & SWISTON
9/19/2009	19	GOOD NEWS HOME FOR WOMEN	11:00 AM TO 2:30 PM	MODAFFARE & BOWLBY
9/19/2009	21	KINGWOOD COMMUNITY DAY	12:00 PM TO 4:00 PM	WINFIELD & TOZZI
9/26/2009	13	DEER PATH PARK - County Picnic	11:00 AM TO 2:00 PM	MODAFFARE & WINFIELD
10/10/2009	82	MILFORD FALL FESTIVAL	11:00 AM TO 4:00 PM	YASUNAS & FORD
10/10/2009	26	WHITEHOUSE FIRE COMPANY	1:00 PM TO 4:00 PM	VAN HORN & LONG
10/28/2009	24	IVY LEAF SCHOOL	9:00 AM TO 10:00AM	MULLER

2009 SPECIAL EVENTS & COURTHOUSE TOURS:

- 1/4 Presentation on Women in Law Enforcement to Daisy Scouts at Valley View School (8 participants)
- 1/21 Three separate tours of Historic Courthouse/Jail (three classes from Hunterdon Central High School) (81 visitors)
- 1/29 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Whitehouse Cubs Scouts) (29 visitors)
- 1/30 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Whitehouse Station Cubs Scouts) (16 visitors)
- 1/31, 2/2 & 2/4 Hunterdon County Bar Association Mock Trial Competition
- 2/25 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Attleboro Retirement Village Seniors Group) (16 visitors)
- 3/16 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Raritan Township Brownies) (20 visitors)
- 3/18 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Students from Spring Run School) (24 visitors)
- 3/27 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Hunterdon County Homeschooled Students) (39 visitors)
- 3/31 Two separate tours of Historic Courthouse/Jail (two classes from Hunterdon Central High School) (57 visitors)
- 4/7 Visit by the "Easter Bunny" from the Easter Bunny Foundation to Hunterdon Medical Center
- 4/13 Visit by the "Easter Bunny" from the Easter Bunny Foundation to Hunterdon Developmental Center
- 4/15 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Hunterdon County Homeschooled Students) (14 visitors)
- 4/15 Constitutional Officers' Tour, presentation by Sheriff and tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (High Bridge 4th Grade Classes) (30 visitors)
- 4/24 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Take Your Child to Work Day) (19 visitors)

- 4/24 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Oracle Corporation) (21 visitors)
- 4/30 Court Night – Hunterdon County Bar Association
- 5/5 Operation Dream Lift with Sunshine Foundation
- 5/6 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Rotary Professionals Exchange – French Rotarians) (5 visitors)
- 5/8 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Hunterdon Brownie Troop) (9 visitors)
- 5/12 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Kohler Family) (4 visitors)
- 5/12 26th Annual New Jersey Law Enforcement Torch Run (benefits Special Olympics)
- 5/12 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Raritan Township Brownies) (15 visitors)
- 5/14 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Hunterdon County 4-H) (18 visitors)
- 5/15 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Raritan Township Girl Scouts) (12 visitors)
- 5/18 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Florida citizens) (2 visitors)
- 5/20 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (3 Indiana Pastors accompanied by Pastor Erickson) (4 visitors)
- 5/22 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Israeli citizens) (3 visitors)
- 5/28 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (High Bridge Elementary School – 4th Graders) (55 visitors)
- 5/29 Three tours of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Delaware Township Grammar School schoolchildren) (95 visitors)
- 6/5 Visit to Hunterdon Central High School’s Constitutional Law class (25 students)
- 4/16, 6/6,
10/9, & 11/5 Senior Health Fairs with Hunterdon County Senior Services’ Office on Aging
- 6/10 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Hunterdon Central Special Education students) (17 visitors)

- 6/11 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (two classes of Hunterdon Central High School Law Classes) (55 visitors)
- 6/30 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Clinton Township Junior Police Academy) (24 visitors)
- 7/3 Flemington Borough's Annual Fourth of July Fireworks and Concert
- 7/4 Lebanon Borough's Annual Fourth of July Parade
- 7/17 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Raritan Township Junior Police Academy) (27 visitors)
- 7/24 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Private citizens from No. Jersey) (2 visitors)
- 7/24 – 7/26 Readington Balloon Festival
- 7/27 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Private citizens from Ridgewood) (2 visitors)
- 8/7 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (MediaTech Non-Profit from Flemington) (40 visitors)
- 8/19 – 8/23 Hunterdon County 4-H Fair
- 10/26 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Raritan Twp. Girl Scouts) (16 visitors)
- 10/31 Mischief Night & Halloween (Lebanon Commons)
- 11/5 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Private Citizens of Clinton) (6 visitors)
- 12/15 Tour of Historic Courthouse/Jail (Private Citizens from Ewing) (3 visitors)