

*Forsyth County
Sheriff's Office*

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

MISSION

In an unwavering effort to keep our community safe, the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office exists to protect life and property, deter crime, create relationships in our community, and to set an example of professionalism in our service to others.





Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

"As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation; the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all persons to liberty, equality and justice. I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; be constantly mindful of the welfare of others; and be honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life. I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature, or what is confided to me in my official capacity, will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty. I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities, or friendships influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence, and never accepting gratuities. I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and accept it as a public trust. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession... law enforcement."

WE ARE HERE TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY

Service is the cornerstone of our value system at the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office. The highest form of service we can provide is to protect the lives and property of our fellow human beings. Our county provides an exciting and diverse environment for personal and professional achievement. Our school system and county resources are recognized nationally for their value. We recognize that our achievements as law enforcement officers will be measured by the level of safety and well-being enjoyed by our community.

INTEGRITY

If service is the foundation of our value system, integrity is the mortar that must hold it all together. The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office will demonstrate, through its actions, an uncompromising allegiance to the core principles espoused within the Police Officer's Code of Ethics. Every Forsyth County Sheriff's Office employee will embrace ideals such as honor, duty, courage, equality, fairness, and dignity.

EXCELLENCE

We strive to deliver the best service possible. This is the ultimate goal for each employee of the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office. The effort that one undertakes to obtain such a level of excellence is the most important aspect of this value. Sheriff's Office employees are expected to do the best possible job at all times.

WE APPROACH CRIME PROACTIVELY

Stopping crime before it occurs is our most important function. Identifying conditions which foster crime in our community and interceding is a joint law enforcement - community responsibility, but the actual prevention of crime is a task which no other entity can assume, it rests squarely on our shoulders.

WE TREAT PEOPLE CONSISTENTLY AND FAIRLY

The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office practices this value both within the organization and with the communities we serve. We are flexible in dealing with issues in an open and sensitive manner. We are committed to the consistent application of the law for the common good. We treat people with dignity and respect always. We practice impartiality, equity, and honesty without self interest, prejudice, or favoritism. We continually remember that we often encounter good people on less than their best day. We display patience and empathy for those in distress and work to resolve their issues.

COURAGE

Our courage helps prove us worthy of the trust given to us by the citizens. Our words and actions demonstrate the willingness to venture into danger and difficulty when our duties call for it.

SERVICE MATTERS

This is a phrase that must mean more than words, it must embody a state of mind, an approach to delivering law enforcement services which recognizes that to be truly effective we must express genuine concern that we are in the business of serving people. We appreciate the dignity of all people and treat them accordingly. Our intent is to always reach beyond the expectations of our citizens. We will work tirelessly to be positive role models in our community.

INNOVATION

Utilizing creativity to meet today's challenges is paramount for the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office to effectively solve problems. While having a consistent process to complete our daily tasks may be valuable in many circumstances, we do not serve this process. We must be willing to seek solutions that exist outside of our normal methodology in order to address the complexities of our era.

Forsyth County Sheriff's Office

JAIL BUREAU

The Jail Bureau is comprised of both the Security Division, and the Operations Division. The Bureau also has a Grievance Deputy who reports directly to the Jail Commander and serves as a non-partial representative to handle inmates' grievances regarding jail staff, contractors, or other inmates.

SECURITY DIVISION

The Jail's Security Division consists of four watches, each working 12-hour shifts. Each watch consists of approximately twenty-two employees, including the direct line supervision of sixteen Deputies and three Inmate Service Specialist's by a Lieutenant, Sergeant, and Corporal.

The Security Division has many roles within the jail; however, the most critical is managing all inmate housing areas. There are fourteen inmate housing areas, as well as an Infirmary. The Infirmary sees and treats inmates with medical issues, mental health issues, and suicide watches. Flex Housing is utilized for discipline issues, and housing the administrative segregation population consisting of individuals with mental health issues, those in protective custody, or the high profile.

All arrestees in the Forsyth County jurisdiction and geographic area are brought to the detention center for intake. The arrestees may be brought in by the Sheriff's Office, City Police, Department of Natural Resources, Georgia Bureau of Investigations, Corp of Engineers, or Georgia State Patrol. The Security Division is responsible for fingerprinting, photographing, and confirming the identification of all intakes.

After an inmate is processed through booking, it is the responsibility of the deputies in this Security Division to ensure the safety, security, medical, and dietary needs of each inmate are met. Inmates are issued a tablet with the Inmate Handbook on it, and must acknowledge that they have read and understand the handbook in order to move forward with using the various programs on it, and the kiosk in the housing unit; however, it is the Security Division that ensures compliance and addresses any violations.

Briefly, other essential functions of the Security Division include:

- Jail Deputy training
- Manage Inmates working in the kitchen
- Inmate movement (court appearances, visitation, evaluator meetings, etc.)
- Random & scheduled contraband searches
- Nightly security sweeps inside & outside the courthouse
- Inmate booking & classification
- Inmate background checks
- Inmate property custodians

The Special Response Unit (SRU) is a team within the jail's Security Division trained to handle riots, unruly inmates, mass movements of inmates from one location to another, large-scale shakedowns, and hostage situations.

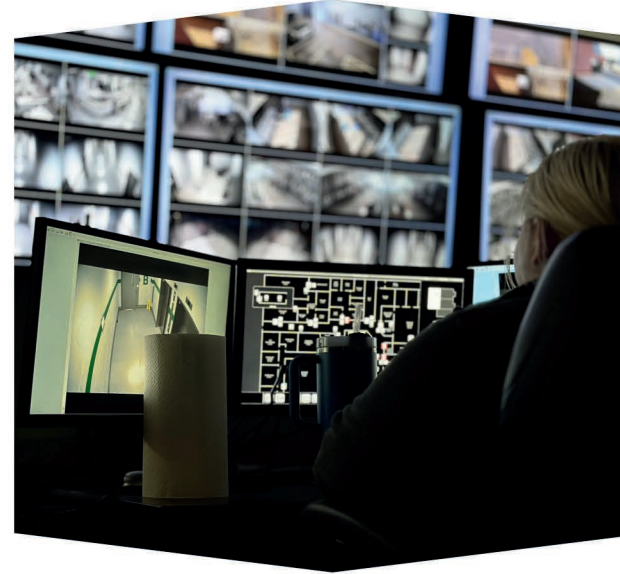


OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Jail's Operations Division has several areas with many responsibilities. These areas include Administrative, Communications, Resources, Grass Detail, Litter Detail, Transportation, and Programs. The Jail's Operations Division consists of twelve Civilians, two Corporals, four Transport Deputies, three Jail Resource Deputies, one Grass Detail Deputy and one Litter Detail Deputy. One Lieutenant and one Sergeant are the direct line supervision for Operations.

The essential functions of the Operations Division include:

- Documentation and records
- Bonding processes and records
- Inmate court files
- Security control and communications
- Inmate transportation; on and off-site
- Inmate release
- Jail sanitation and maintenance
- Inmate laundry
- Kitchen security
- Support and supplies for facility
- Supervision of inmate workers who cut grass, pick up litter, and move equipment for the entire Sheriff's Office, Georgia State Patrol, and National Guard.



Another function of the Operations Division is the Programs Unit. This unit provides the service of a law library, and a notary for the inmates. It also coordinates several activities and beneficial programs for inmates housed in the jail. Through partnerships with a significant number of community volunteers, we are able to provide the following programs to our inmates:

- GED training and testing (through Lanier Tech)
- Continued high school education (through Forsyth County Board of Education)
- Church Ministry
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Narcotics Anonymous
- Transition Classes; including anger management, parenting skills, budgeting and managing money, listening skills, and interviewing techniques
- Celebrate Recovery

Some of these programs were suspended in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Jail Operations Bureau is eager to commence these programs again in the future when feasible.

The Forsyth County Jail is a smoke-free environment. This means that no smoking of any substance, including any type of tobacco or vaping product, will be allowed. Smoking items that are brought into the Jail by the arrestee will be held with their personal property. Any of these items brought to the Jail for inmates will not be accepted and any items mailed to the Jail for inmates will not be returned. Contraband items are destroyed when discovered by jail staff.

INFORMATION

RECORDS

FORSYTH COUNTY JAIL
202 Veterans Memorial Blvd. Cumming, GA 30040
24 HOUR LINE: 770-781-2226

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:30AM TO 5:00PM



Programs

Through partnerships with a great number of community volunteers, we are able to offer many programs to inmates at the Forsyth County Jail. These programs include, but are not limited to:

- GED Program
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Narcotics Anonymous
- Church Services are available throughout the week. We currently have five denominations represented with over 120 volunteers.



Class Training


Transition Classes including Anger Management, Parenting Skills, Budgeting & Money Management, Listening Skills, Interviewing Techniques, How to Get a Job, 5 Lies That Ruin Relationships, How to Change For The Better, Becoming an R12 (Romans 12) Person, The Place of Forsyth Project, etc.

Litter Detail

The Litter Detail Deputy coordinates with Forsyth County Clean and Beautiful for road clean up, establishing which areas and roads within Forsyth County have been reported as needing clean up. The Deputy supervises four inmates who perform county roadside trash removal.

After its inception in mid-2018, 855 bags of trash were collected and 88 roads were maintained in the first six months.





Flip Your Script

We offer select inmates the opportunity to participate in our Pups with Purpose jail dog training program. This program partners inmates with rescued dogs from the animal shelter. Inmates are given an opportunity to provide care and obedience training to these homeless dogs during a 12-week class before the dogs are adopted out to citizens. This program enhances inmates' social and vocational skills while giving unwanted dogs a second chance. To learn more please visit the Pups with Purpose website.

www.ForsythPupsWithPurpose.com



The grant-funded RSAT (Residential Substance Abuse Treatment) program targets high-risk, high-needs offenders with a history of substance use as a crime producing behavior; providing them with the counseling and treatment they need while providing an opportunity to grow their skill set. FCSO offers the RSAT program, along with our community partners, in hopes of providing these men and women the opportunity to become healthier, productive members of our community once released from the jail.



**2023 RSAT
Graduates**

HONOR GUARD

Events Attended	38 Events/ 1,195 Hours
Funerals Served	12 Funerals
Longest Travel (One Way)	185 miles
Honor Guard Members	17 Members



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Forsyth County
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Sheriff Ron H. Freeman

IN MEMORIAM

Deputy Sheriff Larry Mulkey

EOW: Jan. 10, 1972

Deputy Mulkey died in the line of duty as he was patrolling with Chief Deputy Cantrell. A piece of paper containing the tag number of the suspect's vehicle, written in Deputy Mulkey's handwriting, was found hidden between the seats of the patrol car he was in. This valuable evidence led to the arrest and conviction of the suspects.

Chief Deputy William Cantrell

EOW: Jan. 10, 1972

On January 10th, 1972, Chief Deputy Cantrell, along with his partner, Deputy Mulkey, was shot and killed after being abducted during a traffic stop. Both deputies were found in the trunk of their patrol car, suffering from gunshot wounds.

number of the suspect's vehicle, written in Deputy Mulkey's handwriting, was found hidden between the seats of the patrol car he was in. This valuable evidence led to the arrest and conviction of the suspects.

*Never
Forgotten*

Deputy Sheriff Luther Charles Outz

EOW: Sept. 23, 1993

On Sept. 23rd 1993, Deputy Outz suffered a heart attack while in the process of transporting an inmate. During his time with FCSO, Deputy Outz worked in Uniform Patrol, Court Security, and the Transport Unit.

Sheriff Sergeant David P. Land

EOW: Mar. 26, 2003

Sergeant David P. Land was tragically killed in a motor vehicle accident while responding to a 911 call for service, on March 26th, 2003. He was 32 years old and had just been promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

Deputy Sheriff Mike Lord

EOW: Jan. 25, 2010

On January 25th, 2010, Deputy Sheriff Mike Lord suffered a heart attack while transporting inmates to Magistrate Court. Deputy Lord was a true gentleman, a

beloved Deputy, & friend to all who had the privilege of knowing him.

On April 4th, 2019, Deputy Englett suffered a traumatic medical event while participating in a training exercise at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center, Law Enforcement Academy. Deputy Englett served Forsyth County with distinction & honor & remains well respected by his peers.

Deputy First Class Spencer Englett

EOW: April 4, 2019

Forsyth County Sheriff's Office

AGENCY POLICY & ACCREDITATION

Accreditation of Law Enforcement agencies helps to ensure accountability and transparency which enhances confidence and trust in law enforcement among the communities they serve. Law Enforcement accreditation is a self-initiated process wherein standardized policies, procedures and practices are developed under the guidance of industry tested and proven standards, commonly referred to as 'best practices'.

CALEA[®]
THE GOLD STANDARD IN PUBLIC SAFETY

To obtain accreditation, Law Enforcement agencies must complete a 'self-assessment' process to assure policies and practices comply with the standards of the accrediting agency. Next, a team of assessors who are seasoned law enforcement veterans visit the agency and conduct an on-site assessment which consist of policy review, interviews with agency personnel, analysis of high liability issues, ride-alongs with deputies and interviews with citizens of the community. The on-site assessment determines adherence to applicable standards and the award of accreditation. Accredited agencies must then maintain annual compliance during the accreditation period, which is four (4) years.

Since being elected Sheriff in 2016, Sheriff Freeman has made Accreditation a priority. Upon taking office, he immediately

implemented the Accreditation Unit & asked it with obtaining CALEA Accreditation. On November 18, 2017, within eleven (11) months of taking office, the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office was awarded LE1 Accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

Seeking to achieve the highest level of accreditation available, Sheriff Freeman pursued Advanced CALEA Accreditation. This goal was quickly achieved when on May 4, 2019, an award of Advanced CALEA Accreditation was presented to Sheriff Freeman. After successfully completing four (4) annual CALEA Assessments, including an on-site assessment in March of 2023, the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office was awarded another four (4) year term of CALEA Advanced Accreditation on May 4, 2023.

The Sheriff's Office also maintains Law Enforcement Certification by the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police (GACP). On August 24, 2023, the Sheriff Office successfully completed Year 1 of a four year State Law Enforcement Certification by showing continued compliance with all applicable standards.



FORSYTH COUNTY JAIL ACCREDITATION

The Forsyth County Jail was awarded Level 1 accreditation by the National Institute for Jail Operations (NIJO) in August of 2022. This accreditation assures compliance with constitutional requirements for jail operations as well as compliance with applicable state laws and other best practices. In August of 2023, the Forsyth County Jail was recognized for maintaining the highest level of NIJO accreditation for two consecutive years.

Continuation of the various Law Enforcement and Jail accreditations is made possible by the resolute and professional members of the Sheriff's Office. Conducting the annual self-assessments provides an avenue for personnel to be involved in policy review as well as statistical and analytical reviews of various high liability topics. This process educates, trains and maintains the highest level of professionalism in agency personnel.



From the Desk:

Welcome to your 2023 FCSO Annual Report. Serving as your Sheriff is an incredible honor. I, along with the men and women of the FCSO, take keeping you and your family safe as our priority #1.

2024 is going to be an exciting year for the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office. We entered the year with significant improvements in our staffing. This gives us the opportunity to select only the best to serve the citizens of Forsyth County. While most agencies have dozens if not hundreds of vacant positions, FCSO currently has only 9 openings with over 50 current applicants as I write this.



In 2023, we accomplished so much, we made major inroads into taking down an international theft ring that had been operating with near impunity across nearly half of the United States. It was FCSO that took many of these criminals down. After their prison stays, many will be deported from the U.S. We took over a dozen child predators off the street in Operation Masquerade, where FCSO targeted those who would harm our children. We also targeted those dealing in deadly fentanyl drugs and ended a burglary ring targeting jewelers across the Metro.

One of our major objectives for FY 24-25 is to stand up a Real Time/Fusion Crime Center (RTCC). A RTCC is a centralized location, with specially trained crime analysts, that utilize various systems and technologies. These technologies consists of video and databases to analyze data, often in real time, and provide information to our Deputies even as they respond to 911 calls. The core function of a RTCC is data gathering, analysis, and sharing information to aid in decision making and response coordination. Unlike traditional policing, which is very reactive in nature, RTCCs take a more proactive approach and are helping law enforcement agencies do more with less. This is extremely important, given the increased need to be more strategic & efficient with the resources we have, as Forsyth County continues to grow and unbridled crime from metro-Atlanta reaches out to communities like ours.

The great news for our citizens is that Forsyth County continues to have the lowest crime rates in the Metro-Atlanta region. I often hear that crime is rising with the growth of Forsyth. Make no mistake, that growth brings additional challenges and needs, but crime is down in Forsyth and lower in most categories than we experienced even a decade ago with a significantly smaller population. We can attribute that to the partnership our citizens have with FCSO and the incredible work the Deputies and staff do every day to keep Forsyth safe. It will not stay that way if we take our eye off the ball or fall short on being both staffed and innovative in our approach to stay ahead of crime trends. Even in Forsyth, we battle international theft rings and organized criminal elements from around the world. They are learning quickly that FCSO doesn't play, and Forsyth is where many of them currently find themselves in jail without bond.

Serving the community I have called home for nearly 45 years is an incredible privilege. You have my commitment that we will not rest and will do what is needed to keep Forsyth the place you want to live, play, and raise a family.

Ron H. Freeman
FORSYTH COUNTY SHERIFF

Ron H. Freeman

FORSYTH COUNTY SHERIFF



Elected to office in 2016, Sheriff Freeman has been in law enforcement for over 35 years and began his career right here at the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office in 1987. Sheriff Freeman is well versed in all operations of the agency and has served in nearly every command. He entered his second term as Sheriff in 2021. Sheriff Freeman's family has a long history in Georgia law enforcement. His father, a former police officer in Savannah and a Deputy in Screven County, and two uncles, one who served as Chief of the Chatham County Police and later Chatham County Sheriff's Office. Together they have more than 130 years of service to the citizens of Georgia.

Sheriff Freeman, as all Georgia Sheriffs, is a constitutional officer and works directly for the residents of Forsyth County and not for any other Government entity. He answers directly to the citizens of Forsyth County. The Georgia Constitution mandates that Sheriffs oversee the jail, keep the security of the courts and serve the court's papers, and is to provide general law enforcement for the county. In 2022, Sheriff Freeman was elected by his fellow Sheriffs to serve on the Executive Board of the Georgia Sheriff's Association. He will become President of the Georgia Sheriff's Association in 2025.

Sheriff Freeman has been a resident of Forsyth County for more than forty years. He graduated from Forsyth County High School in 1987. He married his high school sweetheart, Dana, and they have two adult children whom both graduated from North Forsyth High School.

Sheriff Freeman holds an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice from Gainesville College, a Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Leadership from Reinhardt University and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Phoenix.

OUR CORE VALUES are fundamental convictions and beliefs that we hold so firmly that they cannot be altered by circumstances. Our values and how we define our values serve as our ethical compass in making decisions and taking actions. We refer to these values as **The Forsyth County Way.**



Joe Perkins, CHIEF DEPUTY

Chief Deputy Joe Perkins started his law enforcement career in 1994 with the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office. Over the twenty years that followed, he worked his way through the ranks at CSO to land at the position of Chief Deputy in 2014. Chief Deputy Perkins retired from CSO in December 2016 before beginning his career at the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office in January 2017.

Chief Deputy Perkins holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Mountain State University and an MPA from Columbus State University. He is a graduate of the Georgia Law Enforcement Command College (Class 33) and the FBI National Academy (247th session). Chief Perkins currently serves as the President for the Georgia Chapter of FBI National Academy Associates (FBI NAA). He is also a member of the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police and the Georgia Sheriff's Association.



**Major Deeann Cash
Jail Bureau**

Major Cash joined FCSO in 2018 and brings 34 years of law enforcement experience to Forsyth County. Before joining FCSO, she was with the Clayton County Sheriff's Office. In 2016, she was appointed as the Jail Administrator & Jail Operations Commander for the CCSO. In June 2017, Major Cash was recognized & bestowed the honor of the Georgia Jail Administrator of the Year award.

Major Cash served as the 2022 & 2023 President of the Georgia Jail Association



**Major Nick Curry
Sheriff Services Bureau**

Major Nick Curry began his law enforcement career at the City of Alpharetta in 1999, where he served in Uniform Patrol, K9 Unit, and as a SWAT team leader. In 2008, he was one of 11 inaugural officers that helped start the Johns Creek Police Department. In 2019, he joined FCSO, serving as the Sheriff Services Captain and Criminal Investigations Division Commander before being promoted to Major in 2021. Major Curry holds a Criminal Justice Bachelor of Science degree from UNG, and a Masters' Degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Columbus State. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy class 279 and a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

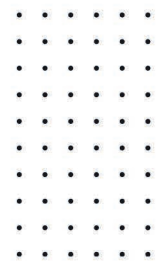


**Major Mark Hoffman
Law Enforcement Bureau**

Major Hoffman began his law enforcement career in 1983 with the Deerfield Beach Police as a graduate of the Broward County Police Academy. Shortly after, he moved to the Port St. Lucie Police Department, where he held numerous leadership roles throughout the agency. In 1997, Major Hoffman joined FCSO, where he started the current SWAT Team and has been assigned various command roles in the Law Enforcement Bureau, including Investigations, Patrol and Special Services.

Major Hoffman is a graduate of the FBI National Academy #229, and he stays active in the community via the United Way.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE COMMAND STAFF



Director Richard Tucker
Business Operations



Director Stacie Miller
External Communications



Captain Doug Rainwater
Executive Officer/Internal Affairs



Captain Jody Chapman
Uniform Patrol Division



Captain Eric Silveus
Special Operations Division



Captain Tom Moore
Jail Security Division



Captain Allan Frampton
Judicial Operations Division



Captain Rob Heagerty
Training Division



Captain Rich Wiggins
Criminal Investigations Division

OUR ORGANIZATION

CITIZENS OF FORSYTH COUNTY

**SHERIFF
RON H. FREEMAN**

**CHIEF DEPUTY
JOE PERKINS**

**OFFICE OF
PROFESSIONAL
STANDARDS**

**EXTERNAL
COMMUNICATION
S DIVISION**

**SHERIFF
SERVICES
BUREAU**

**JAIL
BUREAU**

**LAW
ENFORCEMENT
BUREAU**

**HEADQUARTER'S
DIVISION**

TRAINING DIVISION

**JUDICIAL OPERATIONS
DIVISION**

**OPERATIONS
DIVISION**

SECURITY DIVISION

**UNIFORM PATROL
DIVISION**

**SPECIAL OPERATIONS
DIVISION**

**CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION**

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

- Internal Affairs
- Open Records

SHERIFF SERVICES BUREAU

- Support Services
 - Evidence/Property Unit
 - GCIC/Records Unit
 - Logistics Unit
 - Fleet Manager
- Business Services
 - Finance Unit
 - Technology Unit (S.O.I.T.)
- Policy & Certification Unit
- Chaplain Unit
- Judicial Operations Division
 - Main Court
 - Magistrate Court
 - Probate Court
 - Juvenile Court
 - Accountability Court
 - Civil Unit
 - Ordinances/Permits Unit
 - Blue Coats
- Training Division

JAIL BUREAU

- Operations Division
 - Control Operations Unit
 - Transport Unit
 - Control/Communications Unit
 - Jail Resource Unit
 - RSAT
 - Litter Detail
 - Inventory
- Security Division
 - Watches (A, B, C, D)
 - Inmate Services Unit
- Jail Training Program
- Honor Guard

EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

- Public Information
- Community Relations Unit
- Problem Oriented Policing Unit

LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

- Uniform Patrol Division
 - North Precinct
 - South Precinct
 - Precision Patrol Section
 - K-9 Unit
 - Drone Team
 - CTOC Team
- Special Operations Division
 - Traffic Unit
 - Motor Unit
 - Traffic Specialist Unit
 - Traffic Response Vehicle
 - Incident Response Team
 - School Resource Unit
 - Marine/Bike Patrol Unit
 - Volunteer Unit
 - Public Safety Cadets
 - C.E.R.T. Unit
 - C.H.I.P. Unit
 - Reserve Unit
- Criminal Investigations Division
 - Major Crimes Unit
 - Criminal Intelligence
 - Victim Advocates
 - Property Crimes Unit
 - Financial Crimes Unit
 - Narcotics Unit
 - Drug Task Force
 - Hi-Tech Crimes Unit
 - ICAC
 - Computer Forensics
 - Sex Offender Registry
 - Crime Scene
 - S.W.A.T. & C.N.T. Teams
 - Peer Support Team
 - Warrant Unit

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

FIREARMS RANGE



9470 Old Federal Rd.
Cumming, GA 30107

HEADQUARTERS



100 E Courthouse Square
Cumming, GA 30040

FORSYTH COUNTY JAIL

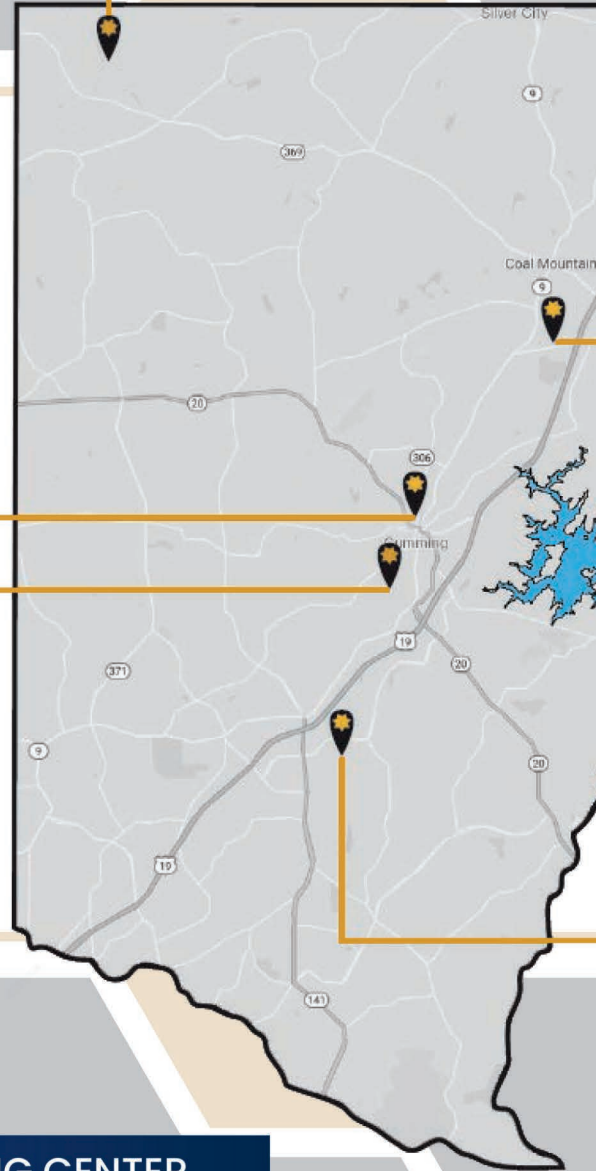


202 Veterans Memorial Blvd.
Cumming, GA 30040

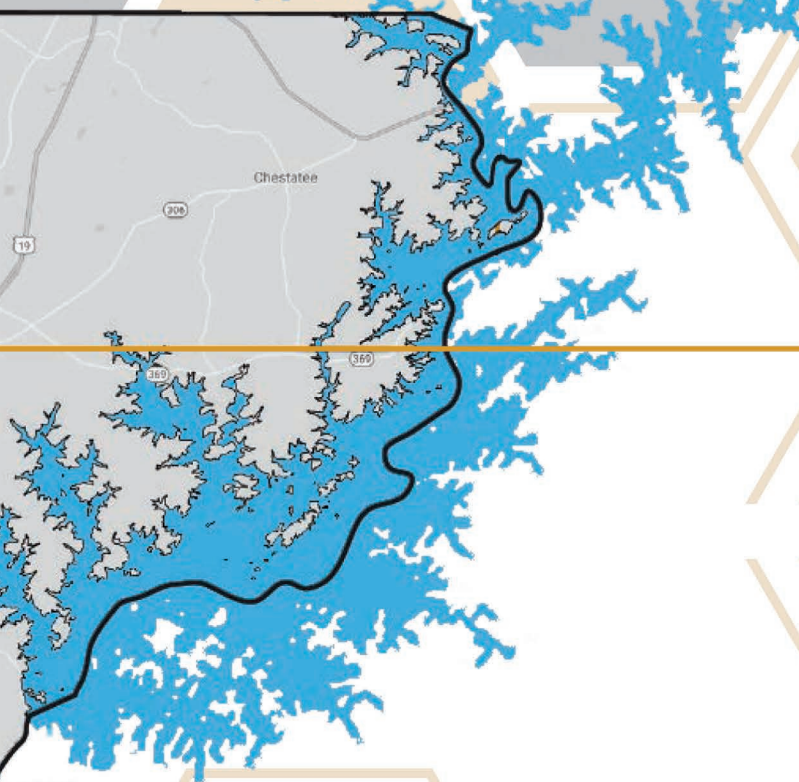
TRAINING CENTER



245 Castleberry Industrial Dr.
Cumming, GA 30040



FACILITIES



NORTH PRECINCT



2310 Keith Bridge Rd.
Cumming, GA 30040

CSI & QUARTERMASTER



2314 Keith Bridge Rd.
Cumming, GA 30040

SOUTH PRECINCT



2985 Ronald Regan Blvd.
Cumming, GA 30040

FORSYTH POPULATION
2012 - 190,665
2022 - 267,237

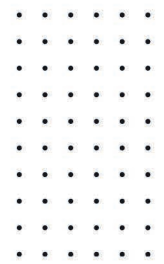
POPULATION PER SQUARE MILE
2010: 783.5
2020: 1,118.7

*Census information provided by Census.gov
(Numbers are subject to change based on new information provided.)*

40.16% GROWTH

AWARDS & HONORS

COMMENDATION BAR RECIPIENTS



Sgt. Kevin Pittman & DFC Mike Hobbs



Deputy Hector Becerril



Detective Connor Johnson



Sgt. Tyler Sexton, Detective Tim Connor, Sgt. Josh Bell & Lt. Bill Franco



Deputy Bob Abanto



Deputy Charles Capobianco & Deputy Jeffrey Folk



Sgt. Billy O'Haire

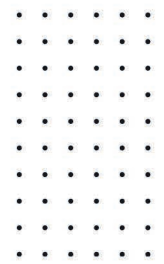


Deputy Brady Dover



AWARDS & HONORS

MEDAL OF MERIT RECIPIENTS



DFC Robert Bradford



Deputy Chris Robertson



DFC Robert Avedisian & K9 Kimber



Deputy Michael Jones, Cpl Josh Thomas & Deputy Taylor Swafford



Cpl. Nicholas Wimmer



DFC Dell Kubler

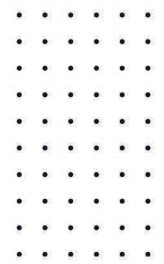


Lt. Jessica Daves



AWARDS & HONORS

LIFE SAVING AWARD RECIPIENTS



Sgt. Tim Kingsbury & Sgt. James Roberts



Sgt. Deidre Lotspeich



DFC Joseph Delapiana



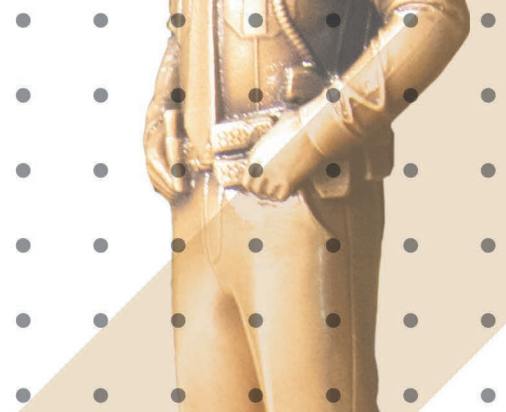
Reserve Mike Shamus & Reserve Paul Grimes



Sgt. Tyler Sexton



Sgt. Richard Funkhouser & Cpl. Brandon Zonyk



AWARDS & HONORS

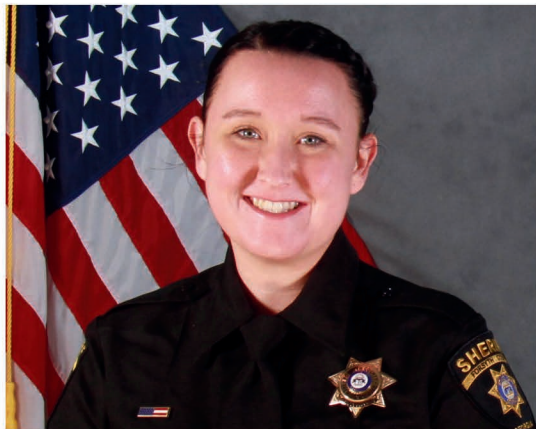
LIFE SAVING AWARD RECIPIENTS



Cpl. Johnny Burnette III

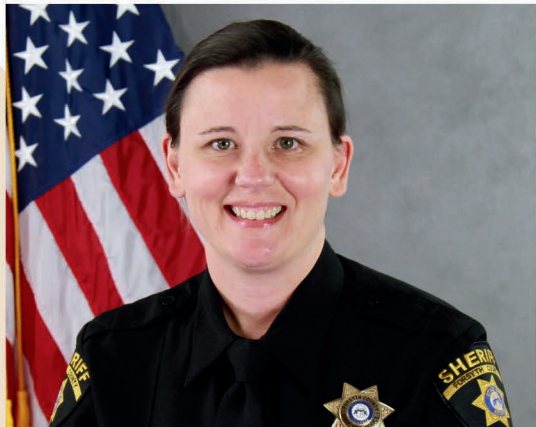


Sgt. Andrew Hubbard
& DFC James Moore



Deputy Marissa Gemmel

*I am a
Forsyth County Deputy Sheriff,
& I will answer the call.*



Lt. Christina Vickers



Deputy Sean Patterson

AWARDS & HONORS



Robert Bradford



Hannah Nix



Brian Vaughn



Julie Coulter

LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

SHERIFF SERVICES BUREAU



Shawtae Ferguson-Holland



Wendy Spota



Chris McHugh

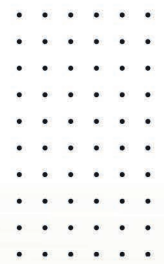


Ben Mathis

JAIL BUREAU

VOLUNTEERS

AWARDS & HONORS



2023 DEPUTY OF THE YEAR

Detective Caleb Martin

Fair



2023 CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR

Ms. Karleen Chalker

*Innovative
Honor
Integrity*



2023 SHERIFF'S LEADERSHIP AWARD

Lieutenant Mike Garrison

*Service
Excellence
Courage*

Forsyth County Sheriff's Office

LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

The Law Enforcement Bureau is a significant component of the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office & includes the Patrol Division (North & South), Criminal Investigations Division (CID), & Special Operations Division. Law Enforcement consists of the prevention, detection, & investigation of crimes and the apprehension of suspect violators of the law.

- Many specialized units fall within this bureau, including JCaF Drug Task Force, School Resource, SWAT, Traffic, & more.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) is comprised of investigative units whose primary responsibility is to investigate and follow-up on crimes committed against persons or property in Forsyth County. The Major Crimes Unit, Hi-Tech Crimes Unit, Property Crimes Unit, Narcotics Unit, SWAT & Crisis Negotiation Teams, Warrant Unit, Peer Support Team, and Financial Crimes all fall under the Criminal Investigations Division.

MAJOR CRIMES

The Major Crimes Unit of the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office is responsible for investigating all major crimes within Forsyth County, except for property crimes. Investigators within the Major Crimes Unit are tasked with providing follow-up investigations on cases where a major crime has been committed but no arrest has been made, as well as initiating new cases independently. Cases involving violent acts or death, sexual assault, threats, etc., are classified as major crimes.

PROPERTY CRIMES

Property Crime Detectives of the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office are assigned to investigate and respond to calls and crime trends that need follow-up by a trained investigator. Crimes investigated include, but are not limited to, burglaries, thefts (personal property and financial), auto theft, entering autos, theft of trailers, and large construction equipment.

CRIME SCENE

The Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) Unit is responsible for collecting, preserving, and analyzing evidence for all criminal investigations at FCSO. The Crime Scene Unit collectively holds hundreds of hours in advanced training and multiple State Certifications.

In 2023, the CSI Unit examined 440 pieces of evidence, and responded to 199 scenes.



WARRANT UNIT

The Warrant Unit is responsible for locating and apprehending fugitives from justice. Warrant deputies work closely with Forsyth County prosecutors and courts as well other local, State, and Federal Agencies. Our Warrant Unit consists of one civilian employee, four Deputy First Class deputies, one Master Deputy, and one Sergeant that oversees daily operations. In addition, a deputy from this unit is assigned to the U.S. Marshals Services Fugitive Task Force.

FORSYTH COUNTY WARRANTS

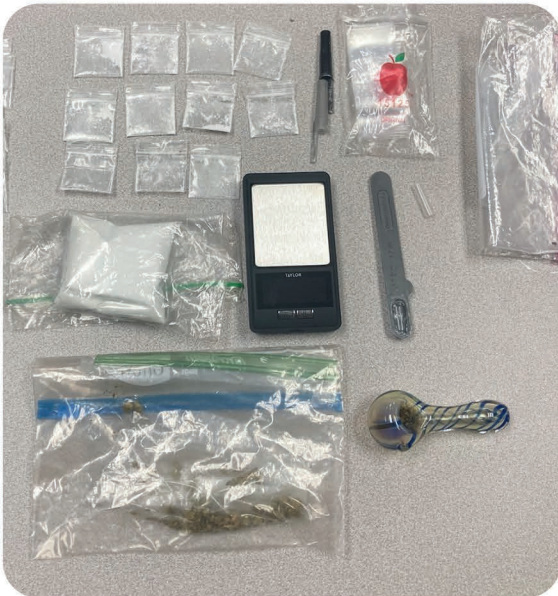
SEARCH WARRANTS	582
ISSUED WARRANTS	5564
WARRANTS SERVED	4998

Search Warrants listed are only Criminal Investigation Units (ICAC, Narcotics, Major Crimes, & Property Crimes). All other numbers listed above are combined totals from across all units of the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office.

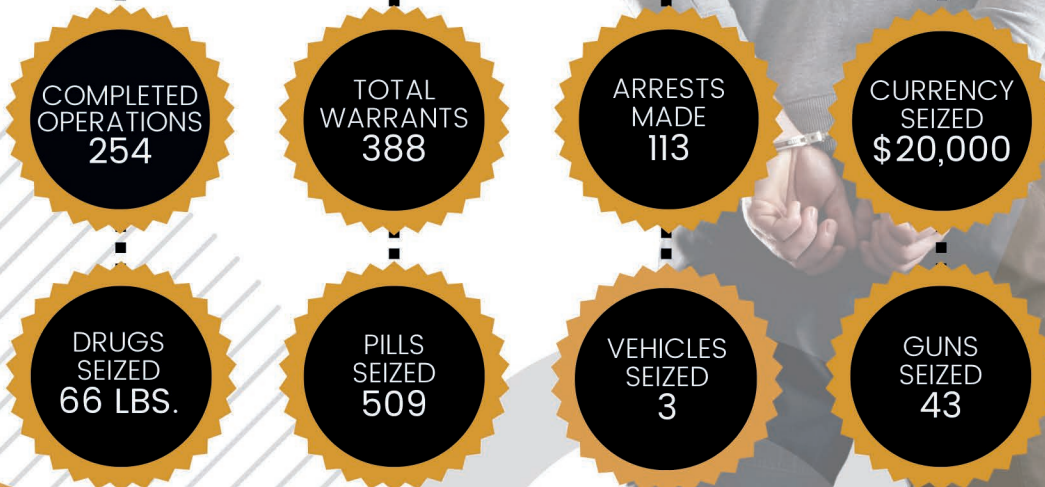
NARCOTICS

The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Unit is responsible for finding and investigating illegal narcotics use and distribution, as well as gambling, prostitution, and human trafficking within Forsyth County. This unit works hand-in-hand with the Major Crimes Unit.

These detectives are assigned county-wide and work wherever they find these illegal activities (listed above). With deputies assigned to the FBI task force and US Marshals office, our Narcotics Unit investigations often expand well beyond Forsyth County lines.



DRUG TASK FORCE 2023 RESULTS



HI-TECH CRIMES

The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office Hi-Tech Crimes Unit investigates, tracks, and apprehends individuals involved in and participating in cyber-related crimes; including identity theft/white-collar crime, unauthorized computer access, cyberstalking, online child enticements and exploitation, the possession, distribution, and manufacturing of child pornography, and much more.

The Hi-Tech Crimes Unit is comprised of the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC), Hi-Tech Crimes, Sex Offender Registry, and Crime Scene. ICAC Detectives work to safeguard children from sexual predators by investigating crimes involving child exploitation on the internet and track those involved with child pornography. Hi-Tech Crimes Detectives investigate the many other cyber-related crimes. The Hi-Tech Crimes investigative teams also conduct forensic examinations of cell phones, computers, and other types of digital media seized in investigations.

White Collar Crimes fall under this unit as well. White-collar investigations include the theft of credit and debit cards used in a fraudulent manner and forgery of any kind, whether it is documents, checks, or unlawful signing of a name without one's permission.

ICAC UNIT

CYBER TIPS RECEIVED	30
SEARCH WARRANTS	191
CASES CLEARED BY ARREST	10

FORENSIC LAB

CELL PHONES ANALYZED	317
EXTERNAL ANALYZED	68
TABLET ANALYZED	26
HARD DRIVES ANALYZED	86

VICTIM ADVOCATES

It has always been the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office's policy to offer assistance to victims of crimes when responding to a call. However, sometimes deputies have other calls to which they must immediately respond and cannot devote the time that the victim needs. Therefore our Victim Advocates assist victims of crime through the criminal justice system. Further, we know from first-hand experience that victimization does not end with the mere filing of a report to law enforcement, so Victim Advocates offer assistance throughout the criminal process.

In 2023, our Victim Advocates made contact with 692 victims, conducted 11 Forensic Interviews, assisted with 160 *TPOs, and had 498 follow-ups.

**TPO, Temporary Protective Order*

UNIFORM PATROL DIVISION

The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office Uniform Patrol Division (UPD) is comprised of the North Precinct, South Precinct, Crime Reduction Unit (CRU), K9 Unit, and Power-Shifts. The Uniform Patrol Division as a whole is responsible for providing uniformed deputies to manage and respond to calls for service, crime prevention, and maintain order.

CRIME REDUCTION UNIT

The Crime Reduction Unit (CRU) was created to provide intelligence driven proactive criminal enforcement throughout Forsyth County. CRU includes both uniformed deputies and K9 deputies with a variety of training and experience. The unit's primary function is to target patternable crimes such as burglaries, entering / theft from autos, and stolen vehicles. CRU is a force multiplier for the Uniform Patrol Division and provides a quick response of additional resources and manpower for critical incidents.

Crime will rise to the level a community allows.
The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office & citizens of Forsyth County do not tolerate crime!
R. Freeman

K9 UNIT (Canine)

The K9 Teams' primary responsibilities are tracking lost and/or missing persons, tracking suspects engaged in criminal activity, evidence & lost property recovery, assisting with high-risk warrant service, detecting explosives, and detecting narcotics. The K9 Unit works throughout the county & also assists other agencies as needed/requested. The K9 Unit keeps a constant training schedule to maintain an elite level of skill.

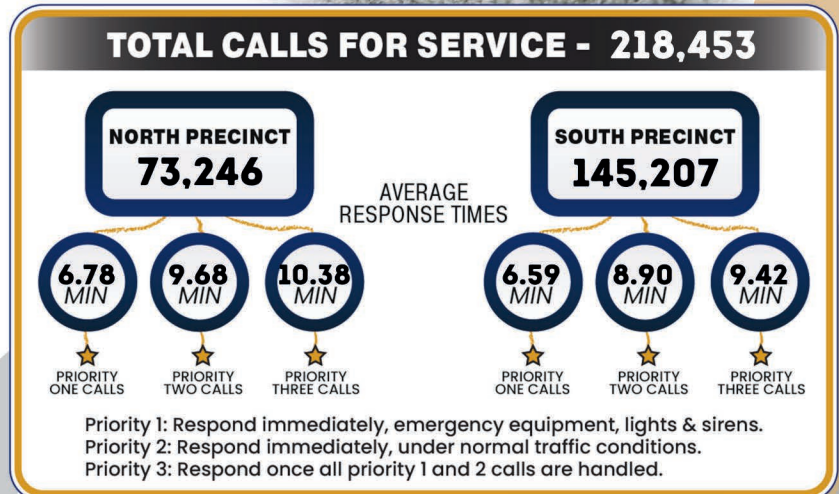
The FCSO K9 Unit consists of six K9/deputy teams:

- 2 K9 Teams - Patrol Certified (detection, tracking, apprehension)
- 1 K9 Team - Bloodhound with expert tracking skills
- 1 K9 Team - Explosives Detection
- 2 K9 Teams - Detection, tracking, & SRO Unit



POWER SHIFTS

Power-Shifts are a group of Deputies split into 2 teams that work to support the Uniform Patrol Division during high call-volume periods and evening shift-change time periods. The Power-Shifts follow crime trends, conduct directed and extra patrol requests, work traffic complaints, handle special detail requests, and assist the Uniform Patrol Division with critical incidents.



2023 CRIME STATS

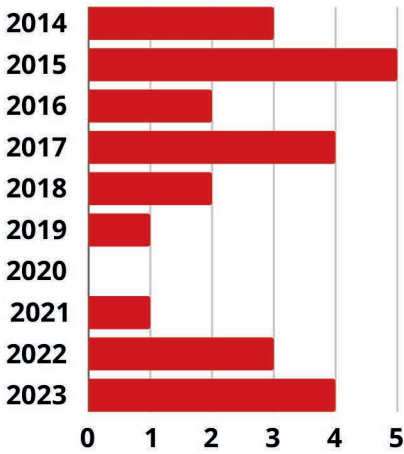
2023 CRIME BY COUNTY

	Cherokee	Cobb	Dekalb	Gwinnett	Hall	FORSYTH	Fulton
MURDER	2	26	102	33	9	4	188
RAPE	32	155	177	175	58	19	137
ROBBERY	15	204	977	437	49	9	866
BURGLARY	142	1,060	3,614	1,770	345	122	2,784
LARCENY/THEFT	1,459	8,951	18,927	11,117	2,356	1,002	21,199
VEHICLE THEFT	114	1,214	6,186	1,481	282	83	6,868

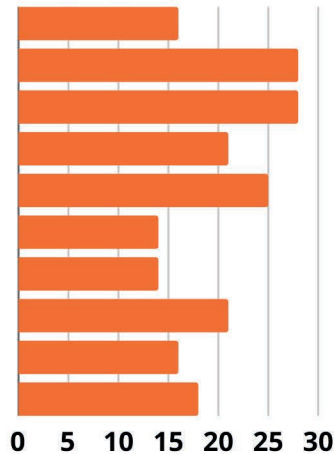
Stats provided are accurate as of 03/05/2024 from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation via NIBRs. The GBI cannot confirm all jurisdictions within each county reported and the numbers above are subject to change based on case reporting and case status updates.

10 YEAR CRIME COMPARISON (FORSYTH COUNTY ONLY)

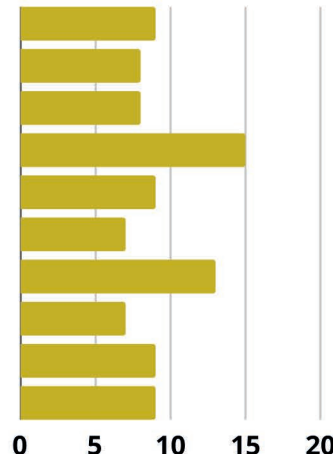
MURDER



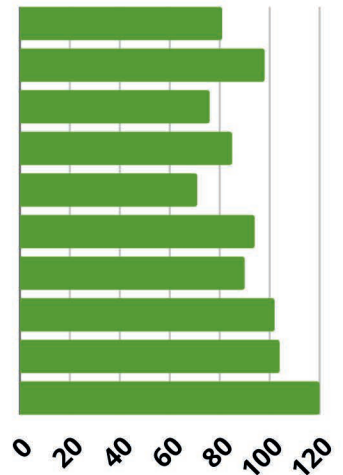
RAPE



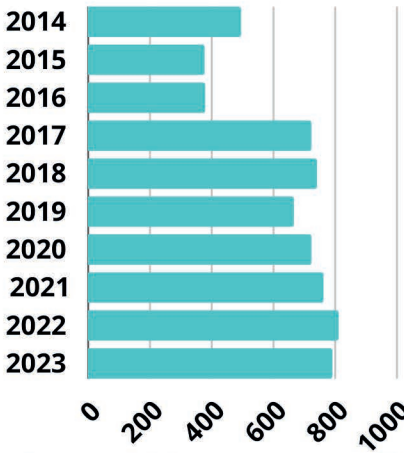
ROBBERY



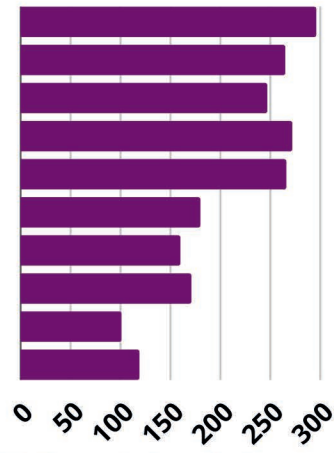
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT



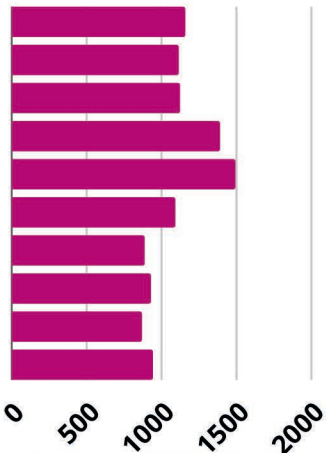
SIMPLE ASSAULT



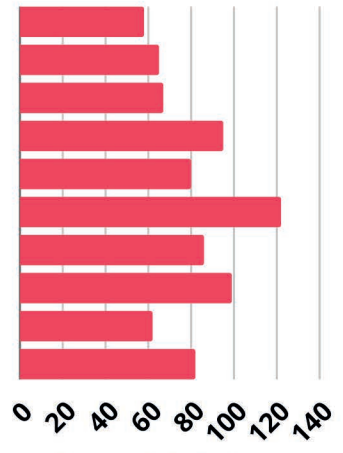
BURGLARY



LARCENY/THEFT



MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT



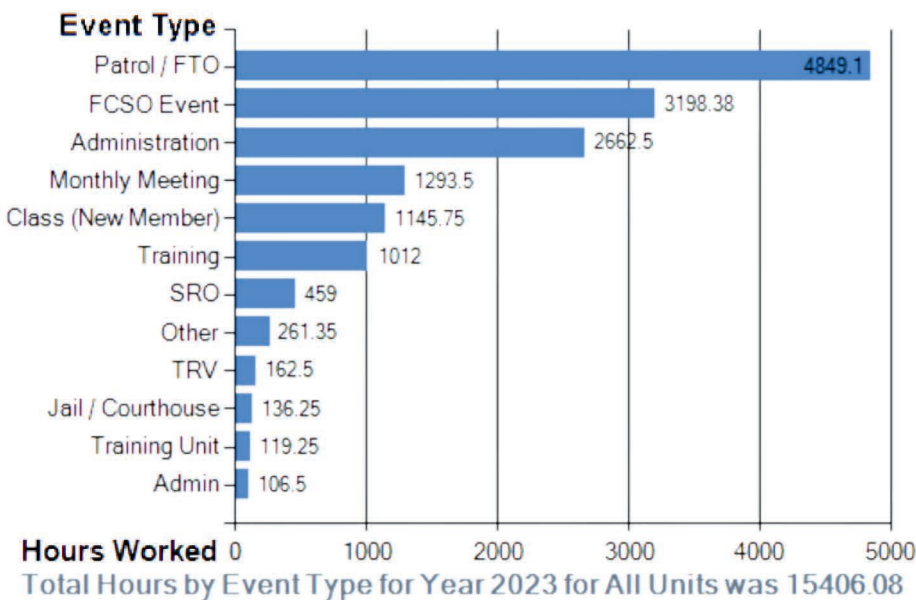
Stats provided are accurate as of 03/05/2024 from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation via NIBRs. The GBI cannot confirm all jurisdictions within each county reported and the numbers above are subject to change based on case reporting and case status updates.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Special Operations Division consists of the School Resource Officer (SRO) Unit, Volunteer Unit, Seasonal Patrols, Crisis Intervention Response Team, Traffic Specialist Unit, and the Traffic Enforcement Section.

VOLUNTEER UNIT

The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office is grateful to have numerous volunteers and Reserve Deputies who drop everything to help when called upon. Our volunteers are vital to our day-to-day operations and play a large part in our mission to keep Forsyth safe.



TOTAL VOLUNTEERS

CERT	125
ARES	46
CHIP	53
Admin	54
Reserve	14
Criminal Investigations Support Unit	2
Judicial Investigations Support Unit	11

2023 Traffic Stats

	2022	2023
TOTAL CRASHES	6836	7268
CRASHES WITH SERIOUS INJURY	64	92
CRASHES DUES TO ALCOHOL/DRUGS	131	122
CRASH FATALITIES	24	21

TRAFFIC SPECIALIST UNIT

The Traffic Specialist Unit consists of a specially trained team that investigates serious injury & fatal traffic crashes, as well as hit & run incidents in Forsyth County. Traffic Specialist Deputies are equipped with numerous state-of-the-art pieces of equipment, including the Total Station System, which is used to map a crash or crime scene to scale, a Bosch Crash Data Retrieval System that retrieves crash data from an airbag module, and other critical investigative software and hardware. Most of this equipment was purchased using drug seizure funds at no cost to taxpayers.

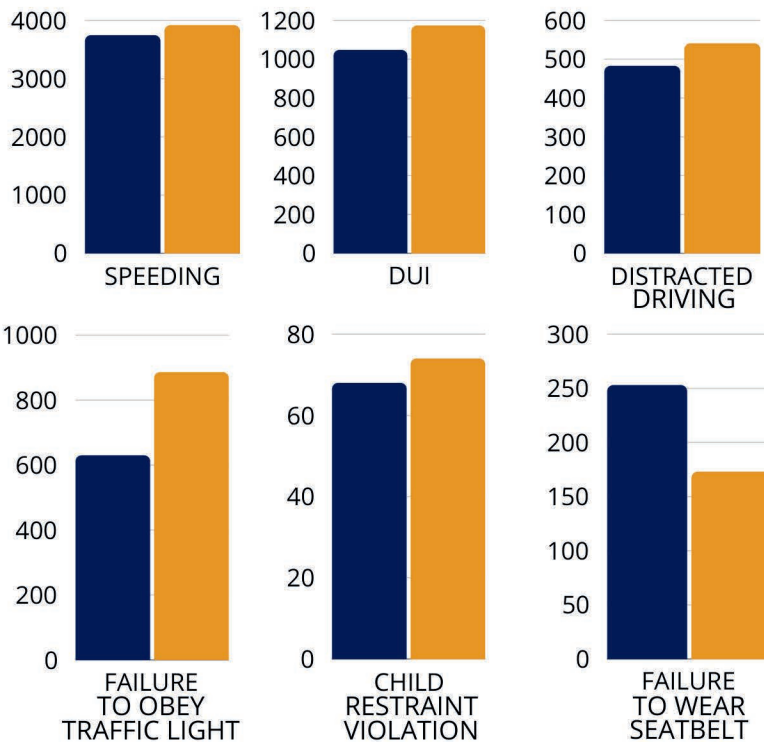
module, and other critical investigative software and hardware. Most of this equipment was purchased using drug seizure funds at no cost to taxpayers.

Traffic stats provided are accurate as of 3/05/2024. They were obtained from RMS and are subject to change based on case reporting and case status.

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SECTION

The Traffic Enforcement Section is responsible for keeping the roads safe and consists of the Traffic Unit, H.E.A.T. Unit and D.U.I. Task Force, the Motors Unit, the Traffic Specialist Unit, and a Traffic Response Vehicle.

TOTAL CITATIONS 2022: 14,645 2023: 13,223



H.E.A.T. UNIT

The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office is proud of its continued partnership with the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety (G.O.H.S.). In 2023, we renewed our H.E.A.T. Unit program beginning October 2023, and received a grant from the Governor's Office for our enforcement and educational efforts.

The mission statement for the H.E.A.T. members is to reduce accidents, fatalities, and serious injuries through education and enforcement. The H.E.A.T. Unit members aggressively target unsafe driving behavior in the areas of D.U.I., speeding, occupant protection, and distracted driving.

Not only do the H.E.A.T. members aggressively target unsafe driving violators, but they also spend time on educational efforts. The H.E.A.T. members are commonly requested to teach at schools, businesses, and community events to educate the public about Traffic Safety issues.

The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office also has a D.U.I. Unit that essentially has the same goals and responsibilities as a H.E.A.T. member, just not attached to the grant. The H.E.A.T. and D.U.I. members work side by side to combat unsafe driving behavior. For 10 months during 2023 the DUI unit consisted of six sworn deputies allowing for the same amount of enforcement while the H.E.A.T Grant was being renewed.

The above citation totals include all citations issued by FCSSO. Not all offenses are illustrated in graph. Citation numbers were obtained in March 2024 from RMS.

MOTORS UNIT

The Motor Unit, which grew to six deputies in 2022, is tasked with aggressive traffic enforcement, targeting high traffic crash areas and complaints from citizens of traffic issues. The Motor Unit also oversees deploying "Speed Smart Trailers" and TraxxPro devices. These devices help the agency target dates and times to best focus on speed enforcement and educate the public on speeding issues. The Motor Unit is also responsible for funeral escorts and other special assignments.



TRAFFIC RESPONSE VEHICLE

The Traffic Response Vehicle (TRV), much like the Georgia Department of Transportation's HERO truck, is designed to help residents with roadside problems. However, the FCSO Traffic Response Vehicle also enforces laws and issues citations as needed. The TRV Unit patrols high-traffic county roads and provides roadside help during busy weekday rush hours.



2023 PROCESSED REPORTS

CIRT Response to Calls for Service	437
Face/Phone Contact with Consumer	382
Mental Health Professional Assessment	332
Family/Caregiver Engagement	677
Consumer left on scene	270
Voluntary Transport to Facility	42
Involuntary Transport to Facility	85
Consumer Arrest	15

CRISIS INTERVENTION RESPONSE TEAM

The Crisis Intervention Response Team (CIRT) is a grant-funded special unit created by a partnership between the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office and Avita Community Partners. The unit's primary goals are to provide a co-response to citizens experiencing a mental health-related crisis, encourage connections between mental health consumers and local resource providers, and reduce the prevalence of mental illness in the Detention Center. The unit is funded in part by a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance's Justice and Mental Health Collaborative Program. The CIRT seeks to accomplish its goals by employing both reactive and proactive methods.

In 2023, our CIRT Unit expanded with the addition of a second co-responder. Now, four members make up our CIRT Unit, led by Sgt. Terry Hawkins, a twenty-year veteran of FCSO, who has had advanced training for the position through courses such as the GPSTC Crisis Intervention Team course, Mental Health First Aid, and many others. Avita provides the two other licensed Clinical Social Workers, who serve as clinicians on their respective co-response teams.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER UNIT

The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office School Resource Officer Unit is committed to working closely with the Forsyth County Board of Education and School Safety Department to maximize the safety of our most valuable treasure, our youth. Sheriff Freeman and the Board of Education have developed a plan to staff a minimum of one SRO at each public school campus in Forsyth County. Our School Resource Officers protect nearly 54,000 students and more than 8,000 school staff within 42 school campuses & 7 support facilities. The SRO deputies provide direct services to the schools, including campus safety inspections, classroom presentations, criminal investigations, student and parent conferences, and a variety of other activities, including traditional law enforcement duties and security.

2023 SRO UNIT	
LIEUTENANTS	1
SERGEANTS FIRST CLASS	1
SERGEANTS	3
CORPORALS	8
K9's	2
DEPUTIES (I, II, First Class, etc.)	43

The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office School Safety Task Force trains annually for active shooter situations, bomb threats, and other school threat scenarios. In 2023, six dedicated School Threat Investigations Teams were created within the unit that have the capability to respond to any potential threats made to our schools 24/7. Deputies are given full access to school campuses and all of the resources they need to keep our youth safe, and on the path to become our next successful generation.

Forsyth County Sheriff's Office

SHERIFF SERVICES BUREAU

The Sheriff's Services Bureau provides services to the community for which the Office of the Sheriff is constitutionally responsible and provides administrative and logistical support to the agency. The Bureau is comprised of three divisions: Judicial Operations, Training, and Headquarters, as well as the Policy and Accreditation function.

JUDICIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION



The Judicial Operations Division is responsible for the constitutional duties of Judicial Security and Enforcement. Forsyth County Sheriff's Office Court Security Deputies are responsible for providing a safe atmosphere within the Forsyth County Court, including but not limited to, Superior and State Courts, Grand Jury, Juvenile Court, Probate, and Magistrate Court.

JUDICIAL ENFORCEMENT SECTION

The Judicial Enforcement Section consists of the Civil Unit and the Ordinance and Permits Unit.

The Civil Unit provides personal service of official court papers such as summonses, civil complaints, protection orders, and other documents pertaining to legal proceedings. The Civil Unit also facilitates activities like evictions, property pick-ups, and court-ordered seizures.

The Ordinance and Permits Unit enforces certain county ordinances, with an emphasis on quality of life and safety concerns. Areas of focus include the sale of alcohol, vape and non-traditional tobacco products, and spa and massage businesses. In 2023, the Ordinance and Permits Unit conducted 19 massage parlors, 203 alcohol and 25 vape compliance checks.

The unit also provides fingerprint and criminal history services for Forsyth County residents and businesses for various purposes such as employment, adoption, firearms licenses, and alcohol permits. The Permit Office is open to the public, generally by appointment.



JUDICIAL SECURITY SECTION

The Judicial Security Section performs multiple functions for Forsyth County and its citizens. The utmost responsibility is to provide safety and security for all staff and visitors at numerous county buildings. These buildings are the main courthouse, three satellite courts, the Tax Commissioner's two offices and the County Administration building. Judicial services also work in other county buildings. The judicial services deputies also assist with tours of the main courthouse, these tours include students from our local schools, cub scouts and we host the Mock Trial Competitions annually. All deputies assigned to this unit train a multitude of hours in various scenarios, including courthouse active shooters, diversity training and numerous other topics that keep our deputies educated and prepared for real-world environments and situations.

JUDICIAL HIGHLIGHTS

2021	2022	2023	
129,442	158,777	193,408	ENTRY THROUGH SCREENING
1,803	1,576	1,494	COURTS IN SESSION
150	266	202	PROCESS & RELEASE
7,939	7,175	7,181	CIVIL PAPERS SERVED
282	267	256	PROTECTIVE ORDERS SERVED
3,780	2,140	1,824	FINGERPRINTS
9,976	4,152	3,734	CRIMINAL HISTORIES
114	114	136	FALSE ALARM ENFORCEMENT

Deputies assigned to this Section are trained in courtroom security, access control, inmate movement, and emergency response, using a variety of tools and the latest technologies. This unit further assists in court procedures, both in person and performing video conferencing for the judge & courts when in person court is not available due to restrictions.

Judicial Security also monitors program compliance of Accountability Courts participants. This assignment is extremely valuable to the success of the Accountability Courts. The deputy assigned works directly with the programs by conducting home searches, interviews and assisting the coordinators of these programs with face-to-face monitoring of the participants involved. It brings a personal aspect and a trusting atmosphere to the programs.

JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER

In September of 2022, the new Juvenile Courthouse building opened. This new Courthouse is a three story secure building, encompassing 70,000 square feet. It houses two courtrooms, judges' chambers, three training rooms, multiple conference rooms, secured holding areas for both adult and juvenile detainees, counselling offices, court administration staff, the Assistant District Attorney's office, Clerk of Courts, secure parking for the judges, and an unfinished floor for future expansion. The parking lot was enlarged and can now hold 150+ vehicles, including six ADA parking spaces for the public.



QUARTERMASTER

Quartermaster is responsible for meeting the agency's uniform and equipment needs, including issuing duty gear, body armor, and uniforms for deputies, certain civilian employees, and other personnel equipment, except for weapons. In addition, Quartermaster also:

- Maintains a working inventory of approximately 150K items for an agency with nearly 500 employees.
- Issues and maintains equipment for vehicles such as fire extinguishers, AED's, and tire deflation devices.
- Works with manufacturers and dealers to evaluate and recommend reliable, cost-effective gear.

FLEET/LOGISTICS UNIT

The Fleet & Logistics Unit manages and maintains the Agencies 430+ vehicles to emergency vehicles' stringent standards. These responsibilities include:

- Maintain Fleet policy and vehicle specifications, procurement, safety measurements and maintenance schedules, registration/inspection protocols and records administration.
- Select vehicles appropriate to the operational needs of the department to maximize effectiveness and efficiency.
- Provide vehicles and coordinate emergency response equipment required to optimize the effectiveness of operations
- Investigate and resolve operational problems at the field and headquarters level.
- Maintain and oversee the Fleet decommissioning process as well as the Fleet spare vehicle motor pool.

RECORDS UNIT

The Records Unit is the official repository of incident reports, crash reports, citations, inmate records, and other Sheriff's Office activity documentation. The Unit is responsible for preserving and producing such records in compliance with applicable laws governing record retention and release.

2023 PROCESSED REPORTS

JAIL WALK-UP WINDOW	2,202
REPORT ATTACHMENTS	15,357
REPORT SUPPLEMENTS	7,544
E-MAIL & NEXTREQUESTS	12,846

GCIC UNIT

The GCIC Unit (Georgia Crime Information Center) is responsible for the entry, maintenance, retrieval, and control of all information that falls within the Georgia Crime Information Center's scope. Such information includes active arrest warrants, stolen item files, missing persons, and other law enforcement sensitive records. The Unit is also responsible for institutional and individual compliance with GCIC rules and State Law.

In 2023, the GCIC Unit processed:

- 54,331 Queries
- 18,310 Entries Made

EVIDENCE & PROPERTY UNIT

2023 P&E PROCESSED ACTIONS

2021	2022	2023	
6,074	5,980	7,017	LOGGED ITEMS
688	856	985	RETURNED ITEMS
2,778	2,678	852	DESTROYED ITEMS
168	45	32	CONVERTED ITEMS
165	111	226	AUCTIONED ITEMS

The Property & Evidence Unit is responsible for maintaining, storing, and disposing of all property taken into law enforcement custody. Property taken as evidence must be carefully safeguarded to prevent contamination and insure its value in court. An important function of this unit is the proper and timely disposal of property. This includes the return of property to its rightful owner, destruction, conversion, or auction of items as prescribed by law.

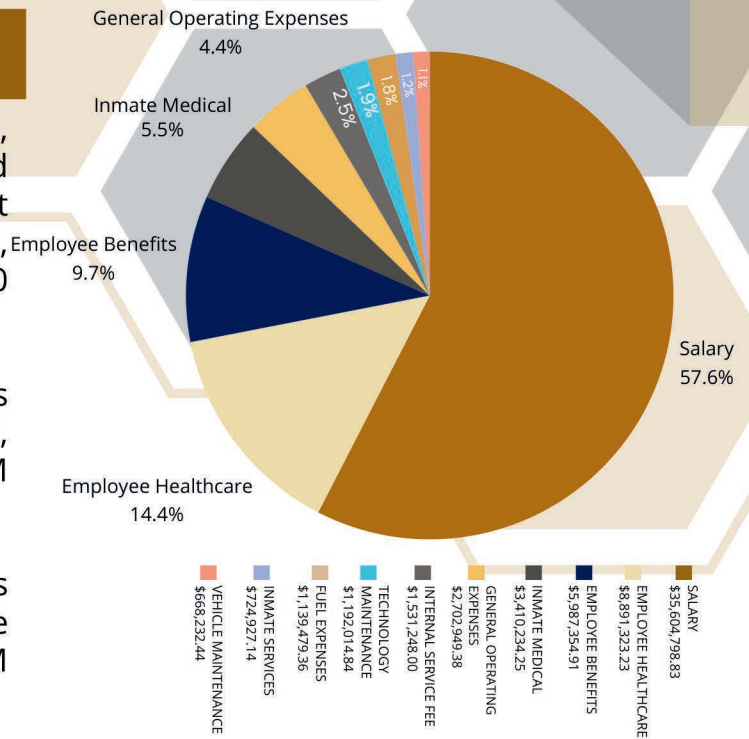
BUSINESS SERVICES SECTION

FINANCE UNIT

The Finance Unit is responsible for budgeting, financial analysis and reporting, purchasing and contract administration, inventory control, grant coordination and compliance, banking, accounting, and payroll for the Sheriff's Office's nearly 500 employees.

For fiscal year 2022, FCSO's actual expenditures were \$54.8M versus a revised budget of \$55.6M, the Sheriff's Office ended 2022 approximately \$.8M under revised budget.

For fiscal year 2023, FCSO's actual expenditures were \$61.9M versus a revised budget of \$63M. The Sheriff's Office ended 2023 approximately \$1.1M under revised budget.



BACKGROUND & RECRUITMENT

The Backgrounds and Recruitment Unit is responsible for promoting careers with the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office in locations such as colleges, technical schools, military posts, and other events. The unit also processes all applications, conducts applicant background checks, coordinates pre-employment testing and interviewing, and ultimately makes hiring recommendations to the Sheriff. FCSO has many career opportunities for jailers, certified law enforcement officers, and civilians.

2023 P&E PROCESSED ACTIONS

Applications Completed	558
Hired: Sworn*	76
Hired: Civilian	9
2023 New Hires (Total)	85

*Including POST Certified and Jailers

2023 ROSTER TOTALS



CIVILIAN
102



SWORN
385
including non-mandated jailer ranks

487 TOTAL EMPLOYEES
FILLED POSITIONS

Filled positions fluctuated before end of year.

The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office is the 3rd Largest Full Service Sheriff's Office in Georgia.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UNIT

Sheriff's Office Information Technology (SOIT) is responsible for evaluating, acquiring, supporting, and providing the security of the technology platforms that are crucial for day-to-day operations within the agency. This includes all items such as cell phones, laptops, in-car and body-worn cameras and all applications that are utilized by our staff. This includes dispatch software, records management, report writing, and countless specialized programs that allow our employees to complete their assigned duties.

We also conduct on-site physical agility tests of all sworn applicants. The Georgia Peace Officer Standards & Training (P.O.S.T.) council's Physical Agility Testing (P.A.T.) requirements.

Testing course description:

- The course measures a total of 870 feet (290 yards/265.2 meters - half-court basketball court).
- There is a time limit of two minutes six seconds, which starts on candidates movement from the starting line, & ends when they pass the finish line.
- The course consists of a series of nine interspersed individual tasks, arranged in a continuous format that may be viewed as being essential (physical) job tasks for law enforcement training:
 1. Running
 2. Jumping (low hurdle)
 3. Climbing stairs
 4. Low crawling
 5. Jumping (broad-type)
 6. Climbing a fence (chain-link/four feet)
 7. Climbing through a window
 8. Moving/dragging a weight (150lbs)
 9. Changing direction on the run



Our on-site Polygraphist, Detective Joe Amnicki, conducts polygraphs for the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office, which helps move the background & hiring processes along faster & more efficiently.

OPEN RECORDS

The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office adheres to the Georgia Open Records Act, which states all public records are available for inspection & copying unless they are specifically exempted from disclosure under the law. The Open Records Unit responds to all public records requests from citizens, inmates, law firms, and other private entities. Public records provided by the Open Records Unit vary greatly. Public records range from initial incident reports, to body camera videos, to complete investigative files. Requested documents and files are only released in accordance with Georgia law or court orders. Public records requests can be submitted on our website, via mail/email, or in person.

2023 OPEN RECORDS STATS	
Inmate Requests	693
Subpoenas Received	26
Reviewed Evidence (Hours)	288.86
Redacted Digital Evidence Files (Videos/Jail Phone Calls)	1404
JustFOIA Completed Requests (Nov. 20 - Dec. 31 - JustFOIA launch)	101
2023 NextRequest Open Records (Request System Prior to Nov. 20)	5887

In late November of 2023, the Open Records Unit began utilizing a new tracking software called JustFOIA. This new system has allowed the Open Records Unit to track, communicate, and fulfill public records requests electronically, while carefully protecting each citizen's information. Electronic records are much easier to access and are processed more efficiently for the citizens.

TRAINING DIVISION

The Training Division is dedicated to ensuring that Forsyth County deputies are knowledgeable, skilled, and well-prepared to meet the high expectations of the Sheriff and the community. Experienced instructors provide constant on-going training in tactics, firearms, driving, de-escalation/negotiation, respond to mass casualty incidents, emergency medicine, and more.

In 2023 the Training Division conducted 38,572 hours of training for Sheriff's Office personnel and officers from outside agencies. Throughout the year, the Training Division scheduled and conducted 79 Certified in-service training days, twenty-six advanced and intermediate classes and

twelve classes for the Georgia Sheriff's Office. Additionally, the Training Division hosted classes for Standardized Field Sobriety and Field Training Officer, Precision Immobilization Technique (P.I.T.), and Taser 7.

In addition to the Certified in-service, the Training Division scheduled training that focused on Jail personnel. Jail training consisted of an additional three days of in-service training and hosting four Basic Jail Officer schools, which are eighty hours each. The Jail in-service is scheduled over a week at a time to ensure all personnel can participate. This encompasses an entire week for each of the in-services.

The Training Division continued to host firearms training at the Sheriff's Office range. Training consisted of skill building with rifles and sidearms, tactics and qualifications. The Training Division was able to conduct several scenario-based training courses including judgmental situations throughout the year. This also included low-light training, allowing the deputies to train at night.

Another first for the Training Division was hosting the inaugural North Georgia University Public Safety Academy-Forsyth. The Academy consisted of the Basic Law Enforcement Training course along with five weeks of advanced training. The first class graduated twenty-six officers from ten different agencies from North Georgia. The officers that started the Academy completed the training and graduated in 2023. In addition to graduating the first Academy Class, the Training Division hosted Class 2 and Class 3 which began and graduated in 2023.

The newly created Physical Fitness Coordinator position was well received and had a successful second year. The coordinator was able to develop and schedule classes for the deputies and developed a year long competition for employees. This also included quarterly challenges that had high employee participation. This position is helping to create healthier and more physically fit deputies, which will provide a better service for the community.

Overall, 2023 was a very busy and successful year for the Training Division.

2023 TRAINING DIVISION STATS

Post-Certified Training Hours (Peace Officer Standards & Training)	38,572
Certified In-Service Days (Peace Officer Standards & Training)	79
Advanced/Intermediate Classes (Peace Officer Standards & Training)	26
Georgia Sheriff's Office Classes (Peace Officer Standards & Training)	12



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@ForsythCountySO

EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

It's a critical part of the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office's mission to effectively communicate with Forsyth County residents & businesses, journalists, and other stakeholders. Primary responsibility for this falls to the External Communications Division. The External Communications Division is led by the Director of Communications, Stacie Miller, who also functions as the Public Information (PIO) Unit and includes the Community Relations Unit and Problem Oriented Policing Unit.

Responsibilities of the Communications Division include maintaining the agency's brand, marketing materials, media releases, social media pages, websites, and all community related events, programs, and classes.

2023 SOCIAL MEDIA RESULTS

FACEBOOK
 132,115 FOLLOWERS
 6,697 NEW SUBSCRIBERS
 10,083,290 REACHED
 1,092,531 PAGE VISITS

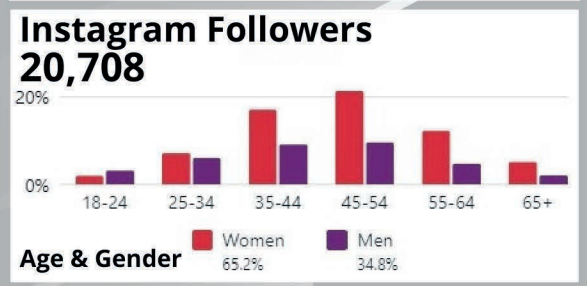
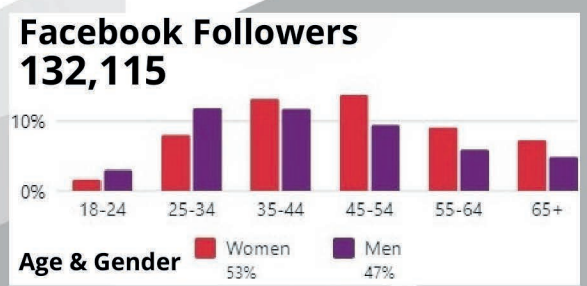
INSTAGRAM
 20,708 FOLLOWERS
 902 NEW SUBSCRIBERS
 81,265 REACHED
 30,038 PAGE VISITS

REACH: The sum of users who had FCSO's post enter their screen.



4,482 USERS
 141,745 Page Views
 384,966 Total Engagements
 Launched 8/1/2023

Social Media continues to be a predominant platform for FCSO to connect with Forsyth County citizens, allowing us to build better relationships with our community through stories and engagement. FCSO currently utilizes Facebook, Instagram, X, and YouTube to get valuable information out to the public quickly and to get feedback from our citizens. We encourage the citizens of Forsyth County to follow the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office on our Social Media pages to stay informed and better stay connected with us.



COMMUNITY RELATIONS



The Community Relations Unit is a vital component of the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office, as they promote safety and education to Forsyth County citizens and businesses. They are responsible for coordinating and delivering special classes and programs to better the relationship between the community and the Sheriff's Office.

Along with the Community Relations Unit's many classes and programs, they also partner with other organizations throughout the year and attend many community events.

The Community Relations team was able to conduct/attend nearly 300 public relations events. They attended or participated in multiple Neighborhood Watch meetings, Career Days, Touch a Trucks, National Faith and Blue Weekend, four Halloween Trunk or Treats, the Cumming Christmas Parade, and more. They also organized various FCSO events. The Community Relations Unit also assisted with the Holiday House program, which served over 2,400 families. Lastly, they organized The FCSO Holiday Hope Program, which included the preparation and delivery of a hot holiday meal, additional staple meals and comfort items to 300 at need senior citizens in the county.

It is also the responsibility of the unit to enter traffic complaints, security checks, and vacation checks submitted by citizens. In 2023, they completed 1,692 entries, 1001 vacation checks, 182 traffic complaints, and 509 extra patrol requests.

The FCSO Community Relations Unit provides many programs and classes. The one's listed on the next page are the most popular classes. If you would like information on any of those, visit our website or email the Community Relations team at: SCommRelations@forsythco.com.

PROBLEM ORIENTED POLICING

The Problem-Oriented Policing (POP) Unit was developed to improve strategies that prevent and reduce crime. POP Deputies analyze crimes and problem areas within the community and search for effective solutions. Communication is critical for our POPs team, so they spend a lot of time out in the community talking with citizens and business owners in Forsyth County. The POP Unit also heads up the FCSO Business Watch program.

CLASSES & PROGRAMS

CLASSES

Women's Self Defense

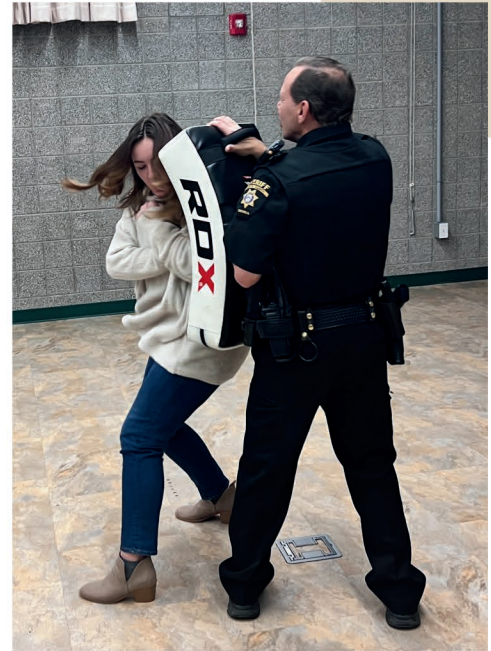
Designed to teach women situational awareness by reviewing case studies of previous abductions. Some hands-on training is provided but is limited.

CRASE (Citizens Response to Active Shooter Event)

Intended to teach what to do/not do in the case of an active shooter. The skills taught are to Avoid, Deny and Defend-STAY ALIVE and Survive!

Stranger Danger

Educates and empowers children ages 4-11 with knowledge and skills that will help them be safer from various crimes against children.



PROGRAMS

SALT (Seniors and Lawmen Together)

Open to all Forsyth County Senior Citizens and held monthly. Each month features different speakers and different topics pertaining to senior safety.

CLEA (Citizens Law Enforcement Academy)

The program closely follows the actual hands-on training that deputies undergo. Topics include constitutional law, conducting traffic stops, judgmental use of force, K9 and S.W.A.T. Demonstrations, ride-along with deputies, and much more.

TIP (Teen Interception program)

TIP has the sole purpose of saving teen lives by redirecting them to make better choices and live successful lives. This seven-week program includes several vital speakers and trips to a funeral home, the Forsyth County Jail, and a homeless compound in Atlanta.



STOPPED (Sheriff's Telling Our Parents-Promoting Educated Drivers)

If, for any reason a vehicle is stopped by a deputy while being driven by a teen, a notification letter is sent to the registered owner of the vehicle (1495 notifications were sent out in 2023, 833 Citations and 662 Warnings).



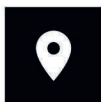
Thank you
Forsyth
County!





Forsyth County SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Ron H. Freeman



**100 E. Courthouse Square
Cumming, GA 30040**

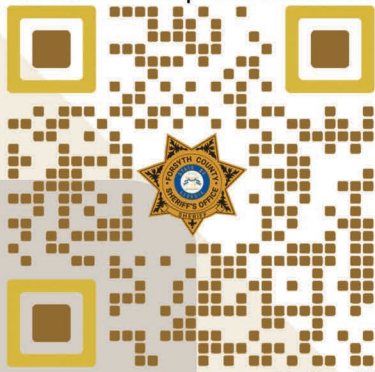


**Headquarters: 770-781-2222
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