

SKAGIT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



SHERIFF DON McDERMOTT
MOUNT VERNON, WA



SHERIFF'S MESSAGE

SHERIFF DON McDERMOTT

It is an honor to serve as your Sheriff of Skagit County. It is our mission to serve our community and to maintain the public's trust through our compassionate commitment to public safety and service. We could not achieve our mission and goals without the dedicated employees that have made it their priority to carry out our stated mission of the Skagit County Sheriff's Office.

We are dedicated to making a difference in our community. Even though there are many challenges that are facing Skagit County today, the Sheriff's Office is prepared to take on these challenges in our effort to help better our community. Many of our employees meet people experiencing the worst days of their lives. We recognize the great impact that we can make on a person's life. Our goal is to treat all people with dignity and respect during every interaction. The men and women of the Sheriff's Office demonstrate professionalism and compassion while humbly serving. I want to thank them for their daily sacrifice to serve.

In the 2022 Annual Report you will find information on every bureau of the Sheriff's Office. We pride ourselves in making the Sheriff's Office a fun and yet professional law enforcement agency. The commitment of this Office is to provide the citizens and visitors of Skagit County with effective and efficient public safety services through professionalism, enthusiasm, integrity, character, competence, and transparency. We believe mutual respect, trust, and pride in our organization and the community, combined with traditional values and innovative techniques will make the community a safe place to live, work and visit.

This publication is a snapshot of what the Sheriff's Office accomplishes daily throughout the county. We are honored to have the community's trust and support. If you are interested in learning more about the Sheriff's Office or volunteering to help with our mission, please visit our website.

I am so honored and proud to serve as your Sheriff.

Sincerely,



Don McDermott

2022 BUDGET SUMMARY UPDATE			
SKAGIT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE		SKAGIT COUNTY COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER	
Budget Expenses	\$12,471,053	Budget Expenses	\$19,710,814
Actual Expenses	\$11,688,207	Actual Expenses	\$17,004,021
Budgeted Revenue	\$1,347,237	Budgeted Revenue	\$17,080,924
Actual Revenue	\$1,429,685	Actual Revenue	\$19,076,494

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Cover photo by Lieutenant Jeffrey Willard



Mission Statement

*"The Skagit County Sheriff's Office is committed
to the safety of the citizens we serve,
visitors to our community and our employees.
Professionalism, enthusiasm and integrity
shall be our guiding principles
in accomplishing this mission."*

Vision

"Safety through courage and professionalism."



2022: YEAR IN REVIEW

Skagit County Community Justice Center's 5 Year Anniversary

October 7th, 2022 marked the 5th year anniversary of the opening of the Skagit County Community Justice Center. The continued successful operations of the SCCJC is an Office-Wide tribute to all of our Bureaus. The move to the Justice Center was years in the making and many of our employees worked in unison during the initial phase, construction phase and the transition phase.



Sterling Rd. Encampment Cleanup

Skagit County owns small parcel on Sterling Rd that was frequented by campers/transient. It had been a problem property for the last several years with trash, debris, abandoned vehicles etc. SCSO, with the guidance of the Prosecutors Office, removed/ trespassed the people that were trespassing. They also impounded the abandoned vehicles. 2,240 pounds of solid waste were removed from the property.

Recruitment

During 2022 the Sheriff's Office spent many hours creating promotional videos, attending career fairs, and engaging with the community. These efforts demonstrate the commitment of the Sheriff's Office to finding high-quality individuals willing to follow the mission of serving the community with professionalism and integrity.



Implementation and Wide Success of the Assisted Patrol Program

Assisted Patrol provides theft apprehension systems to law enforcement. Vehicle prowls have become an increasing issue in Skagit County, and Assisted Patrol has provided a way to identify repeat offenders, make arrests, and act as a deterrent for thefts from vehicles.

"Skagit County Sheriff's office continues to put arrests on the books with the help of Assisted Patrol. The agency has the most Assisted Patrol arrests in 2022. Photos and video have been instrumental in their success."

STAFFING/RECOGNITION

2022 Budgeted Positions	
Accountant	2
Animal Control Officer	1
Chief of Admin Services (appointed)	1
Chief of Corrections (appointed)	1
Chief Criminal Deputy (appointed)	1
Chief of Field Operations (appointed)	1
Corrections Deputy	58
Corrections Lieutenant	2
Corrections Sergeant	8
Civil Assistant	1
Criminal Justice Coordinator	1
Detective	7
Detective Sergeant	2
Evidence Technician	2
Patrol Corporal	2
Patrol Deputy	50
Patrol Lieutenant	1
Patrol Sergeant	6
RSO Coordinator	1
Sheriff (elected)	1
Support Services Technician	11
Undersheriff (appointed)	1

New Hires: Patrol

- Deputy Dustin Smith (1/13/2022)
- Deputy Anthony Betts (1/13/2022)
- Deputy Gary Huehnerhoff (3/9/2022)
- Deputy Matthew Barnett (5/3/2022)
- Deputy Trevor Waller (5/3/2022)
- Deputy Adam Brown (6/10/2022)
- Deputy Nicholas Johnson (10/21/2022)
- Deputy Hilton Hostler (11/14/2022)
- Deputy James Hays (12/13/2022)
- Deputy Gavin Pfuhl (12/15/2022)
- Deputy Hank Chou (12/15/2022)

New Hires: Corrections

- Deputy Keenan Williams (2/14/2022)
- Deputy Kyle Ekkelkamp (4/7/2022)
- Deputy Alexander Bridge (4/7/2022)
- Deputy Jorge Lopez-Aguilar (5/23/2022)
- Deputy Walter Esparza-Hernandez (9/8/2022)

New Hires: Records

- Tara Hammer
- Kara McAdams
- Maggie Palos
- Jenny Sheahan

Retirements

Frank Likehus—Jail Corporal	Kenneth Devero—Patrol Deputy
John Hendrickson—Jail	Jenny Sheahan—Detective Sergeant
Laurie Jarolimek—Records	Jess Brannon—Patrol Deputy
Linda Routon—TASK	John Hamlin—Patrol Deputy
Ron Coakley—Jail Corporal	

INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

CHIEF TOBIN MEYER

The SCSO Criminal Investigations Division (CID) is regularly assigned to the investigation of violent crimes including serious assaults, crimes against children or vulnerable adults, sex crimes, robberies, homicides, and other offenses. Staffing limitations have resulted in a significant reduction in the ability to address property crimes such as residential burglaries.

CID includes five detectives, two evidence technicians, and one sergeant. Detectives develop expertise in specific fields including crimes against children, computer forensics, and violent crimes. Evidence technicians handle all evidence-related issues at the office and assist with crime scene processing in the field.

A change in supervisors occurred in 2022 with the retirement of Detective Sergeant Jenny Sheahan. Detective Sergeant Ben Hagglund stepped into the role of CID supervisor. Sergeant Hagglund previously served many years as a detective and comes with extensive experience in major crimes, cold case investigations, and other complex criminal investigations.



Det. Emily Wolfe collecting evidence at a suspected arson scene.



Ret. Detective Sgt. Sheahan (Center)

Our team regularly partnered with other law enforcement agencies in the area including Washington State Patrol, municipal police departments, and tribal community police departments. We also worked with FBI and Homeland Security Investigations on criminal cases in our community. Detectives are a part of interagency groups such as Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) or Skagit-Island Multiple Agency Response Team (SMART). The focus of ICAC is on technology-facilitated child sexual exploitation and Internet crimes against children. SMART is an independent investigation team consisting of detectives from numerous agencies assembled to investigate officer-involved shootings and in custody deaths. Detectives also participate with a multi-discipline team for offenses against children. Additionally, one detective is assigned to the review group for registered sex offender levels.

INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

CHIEF TOBIN MEYER

2022 Training
Arson Investigations
Child Abduction Cases
Child Death Investigations
Cold Case Homicide Investigations
Crime Scene Processing
Critical Incident Training
Fentanyl Safety and Awareness
Firearms Training
Forensic Computer Investigations
Homicide Investigations

2022 Arrests and Charges Forward to Prosecutor	
Armed Robbery	Murder
Attempted Murder	Prison Riot
Crimes Against Children	Rape
Domestic Violence Crime	Sex Offenses
Drive By Shooting	Threats to Bomb
Explosives Device	Threats to Kill
Manslaughter	Violent Assaults

Detectives have secondary assignments including firearms instruction, homicide investigation instruction, first aid instruction, marine patrol, and un-manned aerial system pilots.

In September, SCSO detectives utilized their scene processing and management skills to assist Island County Sheriff's Office and Island County Coroner's Office with the recovery of victims that died in a plane crash off the coast of Whidbey Island. This event continues our philosophy of assistance and collaboration with local law enforcement, government, and the community. SCSO detectives are trained and ready to handle the most difficult investigations or assist other teams with their efforts.

The Skagit County Sheriff's Office maintains a team of highly experienced, trained, and specialized investigators. We work to improve community safety through professional criminal investigations, collaboration, and training.



Figure 3: Det. Jason Slack



Figure 4: Det. Anne Weed on a Barge Assisting with a Plane Crash Recovery

SKAGIT COUNTY INTER-LOCAL DRUG TASK FORCE

CHIEF TOBIN MEYER



MISSION — *The Skagit County Interlocal Drug Enforcement Unit (SCIDEU) was created in 1987 to disrupt, dismantle, and effectively prosecute criminal organizations such as gangs, drug traffickers and other high to mid-level criminal elements within Skagit County and beyond.*

(SCIDEU) is a multi-agency task force commanded by the Skagit County Sheriff's Office and comprised of personnel from several Skagit County law enforcement agencies. In addition to the core agencies, SCIDEU conducts complex joint investigations with surrounding county and city agencies as well as state and federal agencies to include the Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), the Federal Bureau of Investigation, (FBI) the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Naval Criminal Investigative Services, (NCIS). Several detectives hold collateral duties as Task Force Officers with the FBI, allowing them the to work cases into the federal justice system.

The Task Force achieves their goals through covert surveillance, undercover buys, and in-depth investigations to gather the evidence needed for a successful prosecution.



In 2022 the Skagit County Interlocal Drug Enforcement Unit continued its mission and remained focused on working cooperatively with our partners as we transitioned out of the pandemic.

SCIDEU has evolved and proven to be much more than just illicit drug investigations. We provide assistance with property crimes up to and including homicide investigations, kidnappings, and fugitive apprehensions. Through ongoing efforts with our partner agencies, we've aligned the needs of the agencies and the communities we work in, with the operational output of the unit.

Drug Type	2019	2020	2021	2022
Methamphetamine (ounces)	362.5	482	1385.75	757
Heroin (ounces)	170	178	100.58	329.5
Cocaine (ounces)	57.7	16	2.47	251
Fentanyl Powder (ounces)	0	0	0	106
Fentanyl (DU)	205	5979	18,600	301,190.5
Total	590.2	676	1488.8	1443.5

SCIDEU Seizures 2019-2022

SCIDEU detectives continue to work with local investigators and patrol officers in overdose deaths and addressing controlled substance homicides. Fentanyl, an all-to-often lethal drug, continues to gain a foothold in Skagit County resulting in an exponential increase in controlled substance overdose deaths.

The Drug Task Force, in coordination with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office continue to take an aggressive stance identifying and charging dealers with controlled substance homicides.

2022 also brought recognition for the outstanding investigative work performed by SCIDEU. The Western States Information Network named SCIDEU their Task Force of the Year. The Homeland Security Agent assigned to SCIDEU was also named HSI agent of the year for 2022.

FIELD OPERATIONS BUREAU

CHIEF CHRIS BALDWIN

The Skagit County Sheriff's Office Field Operations Bureau is the second largest bureau in the Skagit County Sheriff's Office. Chief Chris Baldwin oversees the Field Operations Bureau and Lieutenant Jeff Willard oversees the day-to-day operations of the Patrol Bureau. In 2022 The Skagit County Sheriff's Office responded to over 17,985 calls for service. The types of calls for service vary from crimes against persons, property crimes, traffic related issues, civil disputes, community caretaking issues, and animal problems.

The Field Operations Bureau is organized into a squad system and provides 24/7 law enforcement coverage throughout Skagit County. There are four primary patrol squads that provide law enforcement coverage to the central and western geographical areas of Skagit County. Each patrol squad has a sergeant and five deputies assigned. The East Precinct provides law enforcement coverage to the eastern geographical area of Skagit County. The East Precinct has a sergeant and six deputies assigned.



(Left to Right): Dep. Ayala, Dep. Marsh, Dep. Lukner, Dep. O'Reilly, Cpl. Gonzales, Dep. Case, Dep. Arndt



(Left to Right) (Top to Bottom): Dep. Willis, Dep. Koback, Dep. Mullen, Sgt. Holmes, Dep. Brown, Dep. Kuzminsky, Cpl. Gonzales, Dep. Dalton, Dep. Waller

FIELD OPERATIONS BUREAU

CHIEF CHRIS BALDWIN



The Field Operations Bureau features several specialty programs and assignments. The Traffic Unit has a sergeant and five deputies assigned. The Traffic Unit includes three deputies that are trained as motorcycle operators. Specialty programs also include a K9 Team, Skagit Regional Response Tactical Team (SRRT), Marine Patrol, UAV, Search and Rescue, and Animal Control. The Town of Concrete and Town of La Conner contract with the Sheriff's Office to provide law enforcement services.

(Left to Right) (Top to Bottom): Sgt. Moses, Dep. Kading, Cpl. Beisler, Dep. Olberg, Dep. Betts, Dep. Ibarra-Mendez, Dep. Eichman, Dep. Arndt, Dep. Halttunen, Dep. Murdock

In the 2022 budget cycle the Commissioners approved a new Patrol Lieutenant position for the Patrol Bureau. The Patrol Lieutenant is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Patrol Bureau and reports to the Chief of Field Operations. Sergeant Jeff Willard was selected to fill that role February 1st of 2022. Lieutenant Willard comes to the position with 28 years of patrol and traffic experience. In the 2022 budget cycle the County Commissioners also approved a new SAR Deputy position. This position will be assigned to the East Precinct Sergeant and manage the SAR program.



(Left to Right): Dep. Huehnerhoff, Dep. Lukner, Dep. Barnett, Dep. Rogers, Dep. Kahns, Dep. O'Reilly, Sgt. Wolfe, Dep. Ayala (front)

TRAFFIC UNIT

SGT. CRAIG CAULK

The Traffic Unit, made up of a Patrol Sergeant and five deputies, is responsible for around the clock traffic enforcement and collision investigation on over 850 miles of Skagit County roads. Their mission is to reduce collisions that result in injuries and property damage to the citizens of Skagit County and the people who visit our community.

The Traffic Unit leads the traffic safety effort in the county and is committed to the Target Zero goal. Emphasis patrols during high traffic volume events, such as the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival, Big Lake Fireworks, Oyster Run, and major holidays are another important part of providing traffic safety to our community. The Traffic Sergeant is the Region 11 Law Enforcement Liaison to the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission and is responsible for all county wide emphasis patrols funded by the Washington Traffic Safety Commission such as “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over”, “Distracted Driving,” “Click it or Ticket” campaigns and Motorcycle Safety Enforcement.



Traffic Deputy Walker and Traffic Sergeant Caulk with State Farm and the new equipment from their grant

In 2022, Sergeant Craig Caulk was appointed to the position of Traffic Sergeant. Sergeant Caulk came to the unit with 16 years of traffic experience as a traffic deputy, police motorcycle instructor and being trained in our ARIDE program (Advanced Roadside Impaired Drivers Enforcement). In 2022, the Traffic Unit has continued to streamline the process and improve the partnership with Skagit County Public Works who continue to process and dispose of “junk RV’s” and “junk motorhomes” on Skagit County right of ways. This is an ongoing project that has yielded measurable results for the citizens of Skagit County.

A grant from State Farm allowed the unit to purchase a radar & reader board sign. The sign has been deployed at high traffic events and locally to communities who are experiencing traffic complaints. Three of our traffic deputies worked as Field Training Officer’s (FTO) with newly hired deputies to teach them the mission of the Traffic Unit and how it relates directly to safety in our communities.

TRAFFIC UNIT

SGT. CRAIG CAULK

The Skagit County Motors Unit brought on a third instructor that assisted in teaching motorcycle safety familiarity to agencies across the state at the Washington State Patrol Academy. The motors unit works cooperatively with neighboring agencies ensure safety and monitor traffic during high volume events. The Traffic Unit has three Harley Davidson Electra Glide Police Motorcycles that are used for traffic enforcement, community events and assisting the United States Secret Service and other Motor Units in the Puget Sound region with escorting dignitaries during their visits.



Working collaboratively with Skagit County Public Works on education, enforcement, and engineering issues, the Traffic Unit assists public works with enforcement while the summer chip seal process is occurring on county roads. This is an important step in reducing speeds which keep people safe and reduce damage to private property and the road surface.

The Traffic Unit works in conjunction with the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission to spearhead a “Motorcycle Safety Emphasis.” The emphasis was held Friday, Saturday and Oyster Run Sunday, which included a motorcycle speed emphasis during the day shift and a DUI emphasis during the night shift. This high visibility emphasis was fully funded through the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission. It yielded numerous contacts and no motorcycle collisions or fatalities reported on county roadways during the emphasis.

TRAFFIC STATISTICS	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Traffic Related Calls for Service	3,461	3,529	3,144	2,779	2,268	1,171	1,195
Traffic Stops	11,767	11,092	9,727	9,997	9,568	4,621	2,283
Criminal Traffic	834	857	794	878	538	157	148
Criminal Non-Traffic	491	451	436	556	413	321	312
Traffic Infractions	3,849	3,095	2,548	1,943	1,156	800	487
Collisions Reportable	405	427	359	305	315	427	419
Collisions Non-Reportable	496	457	379	398	499	554	456
DUI	103	140	125	139	134	94	107

LA CONNER DETACHMENT

SGT. BEAU MONTGOMERY

Since 2001, Skagit County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) has contracted law enforcement services for the town of La Conner. A full time Skagit County Sheriff's Sergeant is attached to the town of La Conner as well as 24-hour patrol support. The assigned Sergeant provides policing services to the community as a liaison between the town of La Conner and the Skagit County Sheriff's Office. Along with community policing services, SCSO supports the La Conner School District, prioritizing the safety of their students and district personnel. Additionally, SCSO coordinates policing efforts with the Swinomish Police Department, establishing a positive working relationship between the departments while ensuring a common goal of safety and well-being of residents of La Conner.

Throughout the past year, as liaison, the Sergeant attended monthly city council and department head meetings and reviewed security needs for events occurring in La Conner. The Sergeant was involved in community functions and school activities. In 2022, Skagit County Sheriff's Office received 564 calls for service to the community of La Conner. The most frequent calls consisted of suspicious calls, traffic issues, property crimes and civil issues.

La Conner's Calls For Service	
Year	Number of Calls
2022	564
2021	585
2020	569
2019	564
2018	594



Sergeant Beau Montgomery with the La Conner City Council

Besides safety and patrol, the SCSO Sergeant, along with the La Conner City Council, supported the Sheriff's Office mission to honor fallen heroes from Skagit County. In 1945, La Conner firefighter and Town Marshal John Hilsinger, heroically died in the line of duty while fighting a blaze at the old La Conner Shingle Mill. After honoring Marshal Hilsinger, La Conner City Council formally recognized October 28th as "First Responders Day." Throughout 2022, the assigned Skagit County Sheriff's Sergeant and patrol bureau were committed to serving, protecting, and honoring the residents of the town of La Conner.

EAST DETACHMENT

SGT. STEVE DILLS

The East Precinct operates out of the town of Concrete, holding office space next to Concrete Town Hall. Concrete, with a population slightly over 750, has contracted with the Sheriff's Office for law enforcement services since 2004. Law enforcement services are provided to the towns of Lyman, Hamilton, Concrete, Rockport, and Marblemount. The Skagit County Sheriff's Office East Precinct is supervised by one Sergeant and six patrol Deputies.

The East Precinct is the primary law enforcement unit in Eastern Skagit County with Sergeant Dills as the supervisor of the unit. The patrol area stretches east of Sedro-Woolley all the way to the North Cascade pass, making up a little over 1,250 miles of the county. For context, that's almost half of size of the entire county!

Situated in the most rural part of the county, The East Precinct maintains a close working relationship with many law enforcement partners. Some of those partners include Skagit County Parks, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington State Patrol, and the National Park Service.

The East precinct is serviced by six deputies and a Sergeant. We welcomed the following deputies to the East Precinct, Deputy Joshua Case, Deputy Darren Arndt, Deputy Ruben Ayala, and Deputy Andrew Mueller. All are extremely excited to serve the citizens of Eastern Skagit County. This year the East precinct responded to 1,926 calls for service in our response ranging from domestic assaults to citizen assists. The service area consists of Lyman to the county line east of Marblemount and Day Creek to the county line to Snohomish County. The Skagit County Sheriff's Office and the Town of Concrete renewed their contract for law enforcement services this year. We are excited to work with the Town Council and Mayor Marla Reed to continue addressing the issues that face our town. Of the 1,926 calls for service, 622 were for the Town of Concrete.



Community Oriented Policing and the East Precinct are one in the same. Deputies assigned to the East Precinct regularly attend community meetings, town councils, and meet with stakeholders in the upriver area. The East Precinct works closely with organizations in the area, including Community Action, Concrete School District, Concrete Resource Coalition, Mount Baker Presbyterian Church, Puget Sound Energy, Concrete Chamber of

While not responding to calls for service the East precinct Deputies were involved in many community events such as parades, Concrete Youth Appreciation Day and the Concrete High School Career-Day. Sgt. Dills

actively participated in the Concrete Resource coalition community meetings and deputies assisted in judging door art presentations made by students at Concrete High School.

The East Precinct along with the Sheriff's Office are committed to the safety of the citizens and visitors of Eastern Skagit County and look forward to a prosperous 2022 and beyond.

ANIMAL CONTROL UNIT

ACO EMILY DIAZ

The Skagit County Sheriff's Office Animal Control Officer, Emily Diaz, responds to calls for service regarding a wide variety of animal related complaints, throughout the entire county. These include reports of animal cruelty, welfare checks, dangerous dogs, nuisance problems, injured animals, traffic hazards, abandoned animals, barking dogs, illegal kennels, cockfighting, weapon offenses, theft, natural disasters, rescue, and neglect. On average, the Sheriff's Office receives more than 1,300 animal problem complaints each year.

The Animal Control Officer (ACO) also investigates, applies for, and executes search warrants, and all charging documents related to animal cases in the county. Once animals are seized, appropriate placement must then be found. During the year the Sheriff Office seized 178 dogs, 25 cats, 18 pigs, 16 head of cattle, 1 chicken, and 1 horse.

2022 we were finally able to get back into the schools, including Animal Control! ACO Diaz assisted at Samish Elementary's Play Day, Clear Lake Elementary's Visions Program, and she even made an appearance at the Concrete High School.

The Skagit County Sheriff Office, Animal Control, and assistance from neighboring ACO's removed 126 dogs from an illegal kennel/hoarding situation in September. The owner has been charged in Superior Court, awaiting trial. ACO Diaz removed 18 pigs that soon became 30+ pigs from a hoarding situation from a repeat offender. All pigs were placed in Foster Homes and adopted out.

In addition to loads of dogs and pigs, ACO seized 15 cows from a residence in Conway after a long investigation involving neglect and unsafe confinement. Charges are currently pending.



Another part of the Animal Control job is the responsibility for declaring aggressive dogs as Potentially Dangerous and Dangerous. In 2022 we had 7 Potentially Dangerous Dog cases and 2 Dangerous Dog cases.

TYPE OF CALL	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Animal Problem-Total Calls for Service	1,529	1,522	1,408	1,555	1,381	1,436	1,298	1,118	1,352
Lost or Found Animals	323	321	286	306	241	250	231	288	217
Traffic Hazard (Animal Related)	279	307	197	310	130	21	74	99	79
Animal Cruelty or Neglect Calls	180	259	226	195	236	102	209	251	217

MARINE PATROL UNIT

SGT. BRAD HOLMES

SCSO Marine Unit is a specialized group that responds to boating calls and rescues year-round. The marine unit puts an emphasis on summer patrols to enhance the safety and enjoyment of water recreation in Skagit County.

2022 was a difficult year for the marine unit as there were unexpected departures and several long-term absences that interrupted the general operations. The marine unit consists of 10 operators who can respond at all hours for emergencies and patrol. 2022 saw the retirement of 3 operators, including the marine supervisor.

The marine unit still managed to serve the citizens of Skagit County and was able to reach the community in ways it never had before. In May of 2022, the marine unit was able to host an Adventures in Boating class at the Lake Cavanaugh Community Center. This was an 8-hour class where 30 citizens were trained and able to obtain the mandatory Washington State boaters education card.

Skagit County had 88 on the water boating calls during the year that included 4 accidents, 3 boat fires, 2 boating rescues, 57 boating problems, and 22 assists for the US Coast Guard. The unit also conducted 75 hours of on water patrols, 10 hours of ramp inspections and attended numerous community events.



Our fleet did not change in 2022 and still consists of 4 patrol/rescue boats. Marine 33 is a 33-foot Safeboat and is the primary vessel used for saltwater response in the bays of Skagit County. Our 21-foot Safeboat is the primary patrol vessel for Skagit County lakes and can be used as a backup vessel in the saltwater. We also have two 18-foot Koffler boats with outboard jet motors that are used for river patrols and flood water rescue.

The end of 2022 brought the marine unit back to full staffing and we are looking forward to a successful and safe 2023.

CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM (CRT)

SGT. BRAD HOLMES

2022 has been a year of transition for the SCSO crisis response team. The first half of 2022 the team was still operating with contract employees from Compass Health who were assigned to the SCSO. Early in the year it was decided that the operation would be moved in-house, and the crisis response team would become employees of Skagit County. Skagit County Public Health was instrumental in making this happen and took on the task of budgeting and hiring for the team. The crisis response team became an official Skagit County program in August 2022.

MHP Julie Wright was the first hire of the program and has been very successful in creating and maintaining relationships with community care organizations. MHP Wright has carried a case load the entire year while still attending community meetings and continuing follow-ups with existing programs. Having an in-house MHP has been extremely beneficial to law enforcement who have been able to reach out for direction and assistance when dealing with mental health cases that go beyond criminal law. The crisis response team has been able to have direct contact with designated crisis responders which has streamlined the process for field response and getting citizens the help they need.



(Left to Right): MHP Erin Birman, MHP Julie Wright, MHP Rose Ness, Deputy Shawn Dalton



2022 had several meaningful and successful contacts for the crisis response team. The hotel housing program has been maintained and has provided opportunities for those who are homeless to transition into a stable living environment. This is an ongoing program that is ever evolving and changing to become a success for all involved. One case that stands out for the team is the efforts to assist a young woman who has struggled with mental health and addiction issues for several years. This young woman was having increased contact with law enforcement and falling into homelessness. She was often living on the streets and doing whatever she could

to survive. Her addiction and mental health issues were beyond what law enforcement could deal with and often the only solution was jail. The crisis response team was able to get directly involved with the case and was able to open doors to treatment that had remained closed to law enforcement. This young woman was placed in long term treatment centers and remains an ongoing case for recovery.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

SGT. STEVE DILLS

The Skagit County Search and Rescue program remains one of the most capable and recognized units in the state. Search and Rescue or (SAR) is made up of highly trained volunteers whose mission remains, to help those in peril and rescue those in need. The group is supervised by Sergeant Steven Dills along with Skagit County Deputies who take on individual groups as a collateral assignment. Additionally, the Sheriff's Office would like to recognize the Search and Rescue Volunteer Programs Coordinator, Tina Bobbitt who accepted a position with Columbia County, Washington as their Emergency Management Director.

Although many of the call outs for the team involve locating the missing or injured, Skagit County Search and Rescue is a diverse team that works together to assist the Sheriff's Office under a multitude of collateral duties. Specifically, Search and Rescue has assisted in evidence collection, flood preparedness and consistent training evolutions to be ready at a moment's notice.

Skagit County Search and Rescue consists of eight groups divided between land and water operations. Each group specializes in their own discipline and works together cooperatively on missions. The land operation groups consist of, Ground Search and Rescue (GSAR), Mountain Rescue, K9, and Off-Road Vehicles (ORV). The Marine operation consists of Skagit Bay, East County, and Skagit Technical Water Rescue. Our communication group is made up of trained radio operators, Ares Races. In total, Skagit County Search and Rescue is made up of over 131 certified members. Through community involvement, an active presence online, Skagit County Search and Rescue will look to continue to recruit and retain highly motivated individuals.



Search and Rescue members go through rigorous training prior to deploying in the field.

Training for Search and Rescue Team includes our Search and Rescue Support Academy.

Volunteers from the County completed six weeks of training to assist in logistics and radio communication. Recruits that are interested in furthering their training in ground search and rescue then move on to the four-month ground academy or they report to the group that they are interested in for additional training opportunities.

This year, a few Search and Rescue members assisted in developing a recruitment video that can be seen on their YouTube channel and the Skagit County Sheriff's office website page.

Total SAR missions for the year was 45. This was a decrease from 2021 where the team responded to 55 total missions. These missions speak to the level of preparedness and ability to always answer the call for service.

SKAGIT REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAM

SGT. BEAU MONTGOMERY

Skagit Regional Response Team (SRRT) is a multi-jurisdictional unit of law enforcement officers specifically trained and equipped to work as a coordinated team to resolve critical incidents that are so hazardous, complex, or unusual that they may exceed the capabilities of first responders or investigative units including, but not limited to, hostage taking, barricaded suspects, snipers, terrorist acts and other high-risk incidents.

In 2022, Skagit Regional Response Team (SRRT) expanded its capabilities and resources by working with the Oak Harbor Police Department. In addition, SRRT added two medics from the Anacortes Fire Department. The team also includes officers from the Sedro Woolley and Burlington Police Departments.

Skagit Regional Response Team (SRRT) members participate in monthly training exercises which include weapon proficiency, emergency vehicle operation, less lethal munitions, building searches, high risk warrant service, and tactical medical operations. Furthermore, SRRT has a Sniper element, Open Air Scout Intervention Specialists (OASIS). OASIS members assist in bringing about the safe and peaceful resolution of critical incidents through stealth, tactics, and skills by providing real time information and protective overwatch. SWAT team members must demonstrate good judgment and understanding of their critical roles. Members of the team are subject to 24-hour callouts and unusual working conditions and training obligations. SRRT works closely with Skagit County Inter-Local Drug Enforcement Unit (SCIDEU), Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT), Unmanned Aerial Systems Team (UAS), Investigations, Marine Patrol, and other tactical teams to bring resolution to calls exceeding the capability of the patrol unit.



In 2022, Skagit Regional Response Team (SRRT) responded to 23 calls for service. A few examples include:

- SRRT responded to a high-risk traffic stop involving suspects under investigation from multiple drug offenses. The team deployed and was able to assist in the arrest of four individuals who posed a threat to the community. A subsequent investigation recovered a large amount of cash, firearms, and illegal drugs.
- SRRT team members assisted in the apprehension of a subject in eastern Skagit County. The suspect displayed a firearm to his neighbor. SRRT responded and worked with neighboring law enforcement agencies and the Crisis Negotiator Team. After negotiations, SRRT members were able to secure the suspect in custody without using force.
- SRRT members, along with the Mount Vernon Police Department tactical team, assisted in the execution of a high-risk search warrant in the Burlington area. SRRT used multiple tactics to bring the suspects out of the residence. This callout lasted nearly twelve hours. Members of SRRT, along with the UAV team, Investigations, K-9, and Crisis Negotiation Team, were able to place multiple suspects in custody.

K-9 UNIT

SGT. JASON MOSES



The Skagit County Sheriff's Office K-9 unit deployed over 21 times in 2022 and attended the WSPCA Spring K-9 Seminar as well as weekly trainings to stay proficient in their skill set. K9 Espo's year was cut short due to his handler, Corporal Moses, promoting to Sergeant. It did, however, allow K9 Espo to begin his retirement a little early at 10 years old. K9 Espo enjoys hanging out at home with Sergeant Moses and has endless amounts of chew toys. He is often found lounging on an oversized pillow or patrolling the perimeter of the yard.

One of the highlights in 2022 came during a cool January night in the Hamilton area of Skagit County. Deputies contacted an occupied stolen vehicle when it fled, almost striking a Deputy with the vehicle. After fleeing to a dead-end road, the suspect fled on foot and ran into a blueberry field. Containment was set up and K9 Espo responded with Sergeant Moses. K9 Espo tracked for almost two hours through several fields and thick terrain. With the assistance of multiple Law Enforcement agencies on perimeter and a drone being the eye in the sky, K9 Espo located the suspect hiding in tall grass near a pond. The suspect was apprehended by K9 Espo and taken into custody.



The Sheriff's Office K9 program is in a great position to start a new handler at some point in early 2023 with a plan to add a second dog hopefully the following year. This will benefit the citizens of Skagit County and help deter criminal activity whenever a K9 is on patrol.

FIELD TRAINING UNIT

SGT. CRAIG CAULK

The Skagit County Sheriff's Office Field Training (FTO) Unit trained more new hires in 2022 than ever before and we continue with a high tempo in hiring new deputies. Our office administrators have gone the extra mile to bring on the best and brightest new hires for our community. Sergeant Caulk took over the FTO program from Sergeant Dills after recent promotions and assignment changes. Sergeant Caulk brings 22 years in law enforcement and has been an FTO trainer himself for more than 10 years.



In 2022 the training unit, comprised of ten trainers, trained eight new hires in just one year. The following deputies completed field training in 2022: Anthony Betts, Dustin Smith, Wesley Kuzminsky, Trevor Waller, Erik Lukner and Billy Olberg. Two new hires did not graduate the training program. We also trained a lateral hire from another agency, Gary Huehnerhoff, and spent time reintegrating two deputies that were deployed on military duty for one year. Currently, Deputy Josh Meldrum is in the academy and Deputies Adam Brown and Matthew Barnett are in training. Deputies Nick Johnson and Hilton Hostler are scheduled for academy dates in 2023. Lastly, we have four more new hires scheduled for hire in 2023, with another four more applicants in hiring process.

We are continuously looking to grow our training program. Deputies Darren Arndt and Shawn Dalton attended Field Training Officer basic school this year. Nine of our ten trainers have additional specialties assignments, with some having two or more specialties. Our trainers are highly motivated and with them being trained in numerous specialties, it makes them invaluable to the mission of the Sheriff's Office for our community. We have made modifications to our Agency 360 Daily Observation report program to make it flow easier with the training process.



With the close of 2022, we look to continue to strive to provide the best training program that we can. We will continue to look for ways to build on our current program to meet the needs of our student officers, employees, and community members. We are projecting to have several more student officers in our post academy program for 2023.

UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS (UAS)

SGT. BEN HAGGLUND

The Skagit County Sheriff's Office began operations in early 2018 with Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS). SCSO maintains a UAS section primarily for search and rescue incidents, locating missing persons or fleeing suspects, and public demonstrations. The UAS section exists to further the Sheriff's Office mission of public safety.

In December 2022, the UAS section welcomed three new pilots. They attended two days of formal instruction and subsequently obtained their FAA certificate. Pilots are commissioned patrol deputies that receive initial training and complete testing and pilot certificates with the FAA. The Sheriff's Office currently has eight certificated pilots, including seven deputies/detectives and one sergeant. After initial training, pilots are evaluated individually on each aircraft the unit maintains. The section works toward 24x7 availability; pilots are called out as needed.

In 2022, the UAS section completed 36 total missions. Training flights include night operations, familiarization, maintenance, and competency. Active missions include search and rescue, assisting K9, searching for suspects, and other events such as flood survey. SCSO regularly assists allied agencies including local police, and government agencies such as the Town of Lyman.

The SCSO received a new Brinc Lemur UAS and two pilots completed training in January 2022. This aircraft is used for flying into a building and is primarily used with SWAT operations to check for people inside a building before deputies enter to maintain the safety of everyone.

The UAS section maintains multiple aircraft for a wide variety of missions:

- Brinc Lemur is used for indoor operations, primarily with the SWAT team.
- Matrice M210 carries thermal and zoom cameras. It can fly day or night.
- Inspire 1 can also fly day or night, and can easily deliver a payload such as a life jacket.
- Phantom model is flown in daytime flights with quick launch and longer flight times.
- DJI Spark allows for interior and Hazmat operations.



We are looking forward to continued training in 2023. We also hope to begin replacing our older Phantom aircraft with newer Mavic Enterprise model. This will help in Search and Rescue applications with FLIR and an attached loudspeaker, or anywhere an announcement could be helpful.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

CHIEF ANNETTE LINDQUIST

The Skagit County Sheriff's Office Records Bureau provides internal support to the Sheriff's Office and external services to the community. The team includes: Chief Annette Lindquist, one Accountant, one Civil Assistant, one RSO Coordinator, one Criminal Justice Coordinator and 12 Support Services Technicians. When the public enters our building the support services team is the initial point of contact to assist and provide general information. Some of the services we provide are processing police reports, citations, public records requests, concealed weapon permits, fingerprinting and management of all records held by the Sheriff's Office.

The warrants division processed a total of 15,594 entries into the state and national database to include warrants, protection orders, stolen articles, and missing/lost firearms. Data entry transcribed a total of 14,410 police reports while our public records specialist completed 1,987 public

Unit	Yearly Statistics
Warrants	15,594 WACIC/NCIC Entries
Data Entry	14,410 Police Reports Transcribed
Public Records	1,987 Public Disclosure Requests Fulfilled
	1,981 Records Transactions with Prosecutor
Civil	729 Orders Processed/Served
Front Office	2,536 Concealed Weapons Permits Issued
	3,049 Pistol Transfer Background Checks

disclosure requests and 1,981 records transactions with the Prosecutors Office. The Registered Sex Offender Coordinator completes registration and monitors sex offenders in Skagit County. Transient offenders check in on Mondays at the Sheriff's Office. Deputies check offenders at the registered address on a schedule based on their classification level. The Chief Accountant processes all accounts payable and receivable, semi-monthly payroll, general ledger entries, and does most of the purchasing for the Sheriff's Office including the jail. In addition, she manages inventory and monitors the budget for the Sheriff's Office. The jail accountant is primarily responsible for all jail billings for housing and medical. The Civil Assistant carries out the Sheriff's statutory responsibility for the service of civil process and execution of writs. Judicial process documents originate from the courts, governmental agencies, and private attorneys in Washington. Examples of documents include subpoenas, writs of restitution, orders of protection and civil evictions. In 2022 the Civil Assistant completed the statutorily required documents on 7 property sales, 68 restitutions, 40 evictions and 9 other writs. A combined total of 729 orders were processed and served by members of the Sheriff's Office. In 2022, we issued 2536 concealed weapon permits to include renewals and replacements. Records completed 3049 pistol transfers. Beginning in July 2019 full background checks are mandated on all pistol transfers. We have three staff members assigned to the Skagit County Justice Center. Two handle incoming calls and walk in customers at the Justice Center. The Criminal Justice Coordinator not only assists in coordinating inmates' court proceedings, but handles all Justice Center public disclosure requests and time served requests. A drug takeback bin is available in the Sheriff's Office main lobby. In 2022 we took in over 230 pounds of unwanted/expired medication at our drop off box and takeback events sponsored by the DEA. We are continuing our work to be fully digital on all files held at the Sheriff's Office. The team routinely reviews our workflow systems to best serve our agency and community. Chief Lindquist is currently partnered with Civil Service and Skagit County Human Resources working on retention and hiring. We currently have vacancies in the patrol and corrections bureaus. Law Enforcement recruiting has been a challenge for all agencies in Washington State.

COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER

CHIEF DON MARLOW

The Skagit County Community Justice Center had many challenges over the year. We were still under COVID protocols for most of the year, requiring the use of masks until October, and then only in our medical unit. We still had COVID screening and isolation upon entry into the jail throughout the year. Our daily population in January averaged 161, that grew to 202 in December, for an overall average of 192 for the year. Courts started to resume trials and we were able to accommodate 1 trial at a time which is largely due to jail staffing, drug court has also resumed requiring our presence. These processes are completed with deputies largely on an overtime basis. Two senior sergeants left, one retired and the other went to other county employment. In their place two deputies were promoted to sergeant.

Staffing

Staffing in the criminal justice, law enforcement sector, is a nationwide challenge and here at the SCCJC we are experiencing the same. 2022 has been extremely challenging as we lost 7 deputies who moved on to patrol (as patrol units throughout the state are also in the same position), 2 retirements, 2 deputies moved out of the area, 1 was let go for cause and 4 left the profession. This attrition totaled 16 deputies out of total allotted 58 positions, approximately 27% of the workforce. Hiring has been a challenge as the applicant pool is very small and most candidates don't pass portions of the background standards for employment. We did hire 7 deputies, but as the year ended, we still had 18 vacancies. We are competing for a very small labor pool. Recognizing this, we have partnered with our Human Resources Department to help expedite our processes without compromising the quality of our new hires. We have also utilized radio ads and recruiting agencies such as Indeed to promote the recruiting aspect. As with any new hire, they spend 10 weeks at the Correction Officers Academy and 3 months on field training. Staffing will be a main focus for the future until such a time we are nearer to our capacity of deputies.



Jail Command Staff, through agreement with the Corrections Guild, help supplement vacancies starting in November 2022, logging 73.5 hours helping to fill vacancies through December.

In 2022, we were awarded the Lexipol Gold Achievement award for the second year in a row. This award recognizes the employees for their dedication to policy training and keeping abreast of current updates to our policy manual. This helps reduce our agency liability and ensures the employees are up to date with current policy changes.

COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER

CHIEF DON MARLOW

Jail Alternatives

The varied duties of the personnel in the Alternatives Section include: inmate work and treatment programs, courthouse security, trial security planning, therapeutic court liaison, criminal records, and fugitive extradition. The Alternatives Section encompasses numerous programs, including inmates that are employed and continue to work during their sentence and those who do community service. Authorized staffing for this section in 2022 consisted of 1 Sergeant, 1 Court Deputy, 3 Alternatives Deputies and 1 Criminal Justice Coordinator

2022 has been a challenging year for the Alternatives Section. As some of the pandemic restrictions eased, Work Release started up again and the backlog of sentenced individuals that had been waiting to complete this program has been completed. The Alternatives Section is also tasked with 2 additional projects: Spillman quality control (jail booking database) and the ongoing effort to enhance the criminal history system. During 2022, the focus on Spillman quality control continued. The criminal history enhancement project involves research and coordination with several local and state agencies.

154 criminal history records were updated via the courts and the WSP Criminal History Division.

The Alternatives staff deals with defendants from immediately after their conviction until their sentence has been completed. Defendants are screened to determine appropriate sentence resolution, followed by a specific program-oriented interview, booking, and supervision while completing the sentence. Alternatives inmates are tested for alcohol and drug use prior to and during their sentence. All alternatives inmates are “booked in” and are carried on the Skagit County Jail Roster.

The alternatives staff also maintains the turn-in schedule of those defendants who must serve straight jail time and is responsible for court notification if the defendant fails to report for their sentence. Due to COVID-19, in early 2020, a significant number of inmates were released from jail to finish serving their sentences at a later time. The Alternatives Section has been responsible for tracking these individuals and setting up their return to custody. All of those delayed commitments have been completed or started.

37 referrals were submitted for failure to comply with Superior Court orders or commits.

15 referrals were submitted for Failure to Return to jail from a Temporary Release Order.

Electronic Home Monitoring (EHM)

Inmates live at a private residence and wear an electronic anklet that records when they leave and return to the premises. These inmates are allowed to go to their job, treatment appointments, self-help meetings (AA, NA, etc.) and some other limited destinations. All instances of leaving the premises must be approved by Alternatives Staff. These inmates pay a daily fee to participate in this program. We also utilize the Transdermal Alcohol Detection (TAD) program, which is a continuous alcohol detection system in conjunction with the EHM system, sampling alcohol intake from the perspiration of the offender. In December 2022, the EHM units were replaced with a smaller, updated version.

132 defendants participated on EHM, serving 6,189 days.

2 defendants participated on the GPS Pre-Trial Monitoring program, for a total of 647 days.

COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER

CHIEF DON MARLOW

Alternative Interview Bookings (AIB)

Some defendants are allowed by the Sentencing Judge to serve their sentence in a program administered by agencies other than the Skagit County Jail. These defendants must meet the same screening criteria as Alternatives inmates, to ensure that the basic participation criteria are met, as well as generating the appropriate tracking paperwork so the proper information is submitted to the Courts and State. Legislative changes in July 2015 dramatically affected this program, resulting in a significant decrease.

3 defendants were authorized to participate in other agency programs.

One Day Offender Program

Due to COVID-19 considerations, only 3 sessions of the ODO were held, with limited space available to maintain standards. Minimum security inmates spend their required hours in custody at a location other than the jail. During this time, they may receive an alcohol/drug evaluation, attend Alcohol Information School, attend the DUI Victim Impact Panel or complete Community Service work. These inmates pay a fee to participate in this program, **\$4,480.00** was collected.

112 defendants participated in the ODO, serving **112** jail days and completing **1,080** hours of work at the Skagit County fairgrounds.



Sprucing up the fairgrounds at the One Day Offender Program

Work Release

Inmates live in the jail and are released daily to continue to work at their job in the community. These inmates pay a daily fee to participate in the program and help offset the cost of incarceration.

23 inmates participated on Work Release, serving **1,110** days. (No Inmates were on Work Release for the month of January 2022)

COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER

CHIEF DON MARLOW

Out of Custody Worker Alternatives

Litter Crew – Joint program with Skagit County Public Works, Sheriff, Health Department, Washington State Department of Corrections, Washington Department of Ecology. Also provides workers to other governmental agencies, including Cities of Mt Vernon and Sedro Woolley; Town of Lyman; Skagit County Departments (Facilities, Sheriff's Office, Law Library, Prosecutor's Office, Parks, Records)

95 defendants participated on the Litter Crew completing 5,284 hours.

(Due to COVID-19 considerations, the Litter Crew daily limit has been capped at 5 participants. Additionally, there was no Work Crew ran in January 2022)



Courthouse Security

Security for the courthouse complex is provided in two ways; visitor screening by contract security personnel and uniformed deputies patrolling the complex. Kaeka Security began providing security services for the courts on January 1, 2022, to provide personnel who run the security checkpoints. There are 4 checkpoints, one each in the Superior Courthouse, Courtroom #5 (Administration Building), the Public Safety Building and the SCCJC. The Kaeka personnel also provide security checkpoint control for after-hours activities in the courthouse complex and SCCJC, including Small Claims Court and the monthly Teen Court Program that started in October of 2022.

The Court Deputy patrols 3 buildings, maintaining a uniformed presence in the corridors, outside premises and the 7 courtrooms. The Court Deputy is tasked with maintaining security and order within the courtrooms. The Deputy also assists with security of inmates being transported to and from hearings, fingerprinting of defendants upon conviction, perform DNA sample collections and arrest defendants with outstanding warrants or when ordered by a Judge. The Court Deputy also coordinates the transport to court of juveniles charged in adult court but held in Juvenile Detention.

The Court Deputy made 25 arrests, fingerprinted 20 defendants and conducted 22 DNA sample collections. 134 defendants were transported from the jail to court appearances in the complex.

Along with the courts, the campus houses the Clerk's Office, District Court Probation, Office of Assigned Counsel, Family Law Facilitator, Law Library and Public Defender.

92,595 visitors entered through the security checkpoints and 7 after-hours events requiring security were held. 99 prohibited items were abandoned at the checkpoints.

COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER

CHIEF DON MARLOW

Trial Security

The Alternatives Sergeant is responsible for the planning and staffing of court proceedings which may pose security risks. This includes trials which are high-profile, proceedings having an in-custody defendant or defendants, domestic issues or any other heightened security matters. As COVID-19 restrictions eased, we saw jury trials start up again using a COVID-19 compliant courtroom that was modified in 2021.

Due to the location of this room, increased security personnel were required at numerous times in 2022.

13 In-Custody trials took place in 2022.

Criminal Justice Coordinator

The Criminal Justice Coordinator audits and corrects Spillman bookings, then scans and stores these files electronically.

The Criminal Justice Coordinator also responds to inmate and attorney requests involving records, credit for time served and is the point-person for Jail Time Certifications when updating is needed by the Washington State Department of Corrections.

She is also the primary Public Records Specialist for the jail. In 2022, 98 PDRs were completed.

Therapeutic Court Liaison

The Alternatives Sergeant is the Sheriff's representative on the Skagit County Drug Court Team.

This program combines supervision and treatment for offenders whose criminal actions are a result of their dependence on drugs. Once an offender is admitted to Drug Court, they begin a two-year treatment plan. Drug Court participants make monthly restitution payments and in order to graduate are required to attain certain treatment and life goals, including education, continuing sobriety, treatment and employment.

Successful completion of Drug Court results in the charges eventually being dismissed.

The team consists of a Superior Court Judge, Court Coordinator, treatment professionals (Phoenix Recovery Services, Pioneer Health Services), legal professionals (Prosecutor, Public Defender) and law enforcement (Mount Vernon Police Department and Sheriff's Office). As the liaison, the Alternatives Sergeant is responsible for ensuring good communication between the Court, Jail and Sheriff's Office. Other duties include security for the court, arranging transport for any in-custody participants, taking sanctioned participants into custody and reporting on their behavior while in custody.

Fugitive Extradition

The Alternatives Sergeant is the Sheriff's representative to the Northwest Cooperative Shuttle Prisoner Transport System and also arranges extradition and transport of fugitives to and from Skagit County from around the state and country.

24 out-of-state fugitive extraditions were arranged in 2022.

COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER

CHIEF DON MARLOW

Medical

Jail health care is one of the most vital areas that the Skagit County Community Justice Center is responsible for. Our population has some of the most medically and mental health challenging situations in society. A good portion of these are not diagnosed until the inmate is brought to jail on criminal charges. Once accepted for booking, we have an obligation to provide the inmate with adequate health care comparable to that which can be obtained in general society. This leaves our medical team to administer care to those who may have chronic mental health/medical issues that have been left untreated for extended periods of time.

Our medical division is managed by a Skagit County Public Health nurse and the service is contracted by a private medical provider, Naphcare. This has proven to be a very effective way to ensure we are meeting required inmate medical needs and ensuring that Skagit County liability is minimized at the same time. Because of systems we have in place, we were ahead of most, if not all jails in the state regarding COVID protocols and response. Our jail transitions program is responsible for connecting inmates to service and managing care of some of those after they leave the jail. Initial assistance per month: 27 inmates average. Inmates referred to services: inmates average per month. Ongoing management: 34 during the year.

Our medical department managed the following:

- 1,053 detox inmates
- 3 overdose reversals
- 2,570 inmate initial screenings
- 202 suicidal inmates
- 1,803 mental health appointments* (due to low staffing, these appointments were down over previous year)
- 1,754 nursing/medical appointments

The inmate population consisted of **69%** of the inmates on some type of medication and **34%** on mental health medications.

Classification

Our Classification Division was staffed with 1 Sergeant and 4 deputies. Normally there is 8 deputies at full staff. This division is tasked with answering inmate kites, classifying inmates and housing taking into consideration crimes, gender, special needs, and behavior. Classification assisted in getting 42 inmates attaining their Food Handler permits and worked with the Underground Writing group, which is a nonprofit, focused on creative writing for the incarcerated, keeping inmates engaged with this program. Due to COVID and staffing considerations, there wasn't any other classroom type education provided. They also update inmate classification based on current status. This division is tasked with the following:

COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER

CHIEF DON MARLOW

Task	Staffing Hours
Covid Isolation Tracking	36.5 hours
AM BUP Pass	3 hours daily/1,095 hours annually
PM BUP Pass	4 hours daily/1,460 hours annually
Pro Se Rounds (Mon.—Fri.)	45 hours
Criminal Pro Se Court Preparation	110 hours
Inmate Electronic Kites	10,974 Responses
Inmate Isolation Movements	2,190 moves/383.25 hours annually
Initial Risk Assessments	2,880
Re-Classifications	5,400
Disciplinary Hearings	1,460
Jail Operation Assistance	2,555 hours

Transport

The Transport Division is responsible for running our court services, facilitating off-site appointments and mental health assessments. This division is staffed by 1 Sergeant and 4 Deputies.

SCCJC Court Totals	
Court	Inmates Transported
Zoom Court (Other)*	204
Municipal Court	909
District Court	553
Superior Court	3,694
Misdemeanor Rights	1,778
Felony Rights	1,188

This is the total number of professional visits in the video court area (attorney, probation, investigators etc.). This does not include any professional visits in the booking/intake or classroom area. This group moved **7,044 inmates** through the video court area just for professional visits.

Adding the court totals/professional visit totals, this group has moved **15,370 people through the video court.

This is the total number of inmates that have been taken to court held at the Justice Center. This group moved **8,326** inmates through the video court area just for court.

*Zoom Court includes Out of County, Dependency, Child/Civil, Criminal, Drug Court, Various Other Hearings.

SCCJC Professional Visit Totals	
Month	Inmates Transported
Jan.	497
Feb.	628
Mar.	653
Apr.	588
May	612
Jun.	639
Jul.	593
Aug.	656
Sept.	612
Oct.	600
Nov.	570
Dec.	396

COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER

CHIEF DON MARLOW

Training

The training division in the jail has the responsibility of training new recruits and ensuring ongoing training of current employees are maintained at required standards. 2022 was a rebuild year for our Training Division which resulted in the following: 14 Field training deputies, 5 range instructors and 2 Defensive Tactics instructors. This allowed for more range days and less than lethal training for our deputies.

The mandatory trainings include annual firearms, Taser, CPR and First Aid, Suicide Prevention, Communicable Diseases, PREA, Harassment, Defensive Tactics, Restraints, and Emergency Response Plan. The non-mandatory trainings we did this year were simunition, OC, Less Lethal Impact weapons, Transport Training, Gang Training, Body Cam Training, EVOC, Deter, Detect Defeat, and Spillman.



As we move into 2023 the focus will continue to be on providing high quality training while minimizing overtime for the benefit of staff. This will be done in conjunction with prioritizing FTO and new hire training to ensure success of every recruit and fill necessary hiring vacancies. The Training Sergeant has begun to utilize and convert training to an online format to enable staff to do training on shift where feasible given specific training requirements. Eliminating classroom hours for all except practical skills while maintaining the same level and quality of training.

EMPLOYEE AWARDS & RECOGNITION

2022 SHERIFF'S OFFICE AWARDS

DEPUTY ALAN HULTGREN MERITORIOUS SERVICE

AWARD: Awarded to a Sheriff's office employee who demonstrates outstanding performance of duty over an extended period of time.



Sergeant Jason Moses—K-9 Team Espo
Detective Paul Pacini—SCIDEU (not pictured)

SCCJC CORRECTIONS DEPUTY OF THE YEAR



Deputy Steven Pitts

DEPUTY ANNE JACKSON AWARD:

In remembrance of Deputy Jackson's characteristics of teamwork, commitment, thoughtfulness, charity, selflessness, humanity and humor. It serves as a reminder of the powerful impact we as individuals have on those around us.



Sergeant Steve Dills
Volunteer Dan Good (not pictured)

LIFE SAVING AWARD: Awarded to a Sheriff's office employee who acted in a significant manner to save or prolong another's life or directly assisted in delivery of a child.

Patrol

Deputy Murdock (2)
Deputy Erik Kading
Deputy Willis
Sergeant Montgomery
Deputy Lukner (2)
Sergeant Moses
Deputy Arndt
Deputy Case (2)
Deputy Walker
Deputy O'Reilly
Deputy Ibarra-Mendez

Corrections

Deputy Pitts
Deputy Sorenson (2)
Deputy Faddis
Deputy Likhachev
Deputy Otto
Deputy Lowery
Deputy Ekkelkamp
Deputy Kruse

EMPLOYEE AWARDS & RECOGNITION

2022 SHERIFF'S OFFICE AWARDS

HONORARY DEPUTY AWARD: Made a significant contribution to Sheriff's Office efficiency or effectiveness as demonstrated by a technical innovation or by a method resulting in significant cost savings.

Tom Sheahan (not pictured)

SHERIFF'S AWARD: Demonstrated either through a single event or a prolonged period, exceptional or superior work performance.

Assisted Patrol Program: Detective Paul Pacini (not pictured), Deputy Mark Walker, Deputy Jesse Koback



Deputy Mark Walker



Deputy Jesse Koback

SCCJC Transport Team: Sergeant Teresa Dorcy, Corporal Patrick Treadway, Deputy Guillermo Garcia, Deputy Blake Townsend, Deputy Cameron Larson



Sgt. Teresa Dorcy

Cpl. Patrick Treadway

Dep. Guillermo Garcia

Dep. Blake Townsend

Dep. Cameron Larson

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

SKAGIT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

Monthly contributions help make it possible for us to continue to support our employees, their families, and the community at large. A few contributions made to the community in 2022 include:

- Paid for picnic area for Annual Anne Jackson Picnic
- \$1,000 contributed toward humanitarian assistance to the Ukraine
- Purchased Gold Badge Sheriff Stickers to give to kids at the front counter and kids encountered at safety fairs and in the field.
- \$250 Gold course hole sponsorship for the annual Guns and Hoses Golf Tournament
- \$150 sponsorship to the Mount Vernon Steelclaw junior wrestling league
- \$1,000 donation to the Sedro-Woolley food pantry. This provides meals and snacks to kids during non-school hours who may not have access to any food at home.
- \$200 Sedro-Woolley Little League Sponsorship

SCHOLARSHIPS

The **Anne Jackson Memorial Scholarship** is awarded to a High School senior whose parent or grandparent is or was employed by a law enforcement agency in Skagit County.

Ryan Luvera

The **Erick Valenzuela Memorial Scholarship** is awarded to an outstanding Skagit County High School senior.

Angelina Gaertner

The **Robert Gates Scholarships** are scholarships given to children of fully commissioned active duty deputies.

Kylee Clark

Jonathan Hagglund

Elsie Lee

Logan Brannon

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



2022 Shop with a Hero



Animal Control Officer Diaz at Samish Elementary's Play Day



Corrections Deputy Kruse with supplies and backpacks to hand out to inmates in need upon release from jail



Lieutenant Willard with a thank-you poster made by students at the Northwest Career and Technical Academy

WA LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIALS

American writer, Joseph Skagit once said, “A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself.” The Skagit County Sheriff’s Office, established since 1883, has lost two deputies in the Line of Duty, Deputy Alan Hultgren and Deputy Anne Jackson. While the month of May is set aside to honor their memory, not a day goes by that they are not part of our thoughts. We must keep the light of those who have given the ultimate sacrifice, burning brightly.

Recognition of the loss of Law Enforcement Officers throughout the State of Washington in 2022:

Police Officer Jordan Jackson

Bellevue Police Department,
WA

EOW: Monday, November 21,
2022

Cause of Death: Motorcycle
crash



Deputy Sheriff Dominique Calata

Pierce County Sheriff's
Department, WA

EOW: Wednesday, March 16,
2022

Cause of Death: Gunfire



Police Officer Dan Rocha

Everett Police Department,
WA

EOW: Friday, March 25, 2022

Cause of Death: Gunfire



Police Officer Donald Sahota

Vancouver Police
Department, WA

EOW: Saturday, January 29,
2022

Cause of Death: Gunfire
(Inadvertent)

