

ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY 1, 2009 - DECEMBER 31, 2009

A portrait of Lt. Colonel Eileen M. Sprinkle, a woman with short dark hair, smiling. She is wearing a dark brown police uniform with gold stripes on the sleeves and a star-shaped badge on her chest. Her hands are clasped on a dark wooden desk. The background shows an office setting with a computer monitor and a bookshelf.

WOMEN IN UNIFORM

Lt. Colonel Eileen M. Sprinkle
Operations Bureau Chief

Newport News Sheriff's Office

NNSO

Committed to Making a Difference

Our Mission Statement

The Newport News Sheriff's Office shall safely and securely provide appropriate supervision of all persons entrusted to the care of the Newport News City Jail; provide for safe and secure operations in the courts; and guarantee expedient and accurate service of civil and criminal warrants.

2009 Annual Report

Produced by:

Office of the Sheriff

Sheriff Gabriel A. Morgan - Executive Editor

Major Jeffrey D. Vergakis - Graphics & Design

Lieutenant Kathleen Carey - Copy & Editing

A Message from Sheriff Gabriel A. Morgan



I am pleased to present the 2009 Annual Report. I hope you enjoy learning about some of our employees and discover all of the things for which the Newport News Sheriff's Office is responsible.

Diversity in the workplace is recognized to help organizations become more creative, open to change and more efficient. Multicultural differences bring values like understanding, respect and improved communication between staff and, in our case, improved communication with inmates. In our line of work that means greater safety and security. The Newport News Sheriff's Office continues to capitalize on workplace diversity whether it be ethnicity, gender, or age.

In the following pages, you will be shown our diversity in charts and graphs. You will also read stories highlighting our women in uniform. Law enforcement is moving away from being a male dominated profession. I believe for the better. Women have proven that they are capable and confident in delivering results. Personal stories of perseverance and

commitment demonstrate how change in the workplace benefits performance and customer service.

Our daily inmate population for 2009 ended with a significant decrease. In essence, the average daily inmate population is comparable to 1998 statistics. Through collaborative partnerships, we went from dangerous levels to manageable levels.

The report reveals other notable accomplishments. It also acknowledges ongoing challenges like housing people with mental illness. This problem is not confined to Newport News. A 50-state report by the Treatment Advocacy Center found that mentally ill persons are three times more likely to be in jail or prison than in psychiatric hospitals. If we cannot, as a society, turnaround this trend, we as a correctional community must find a new approach. The Newport News Sheriff's Office has expanded training for sworn and civilian personnel to better address this growing problem. And the criminal justice system has teamed with the private sector to adopt more treatment options.

The Newport News Sheriff's Office is comprised of people who are compassionate. Our dedicated professionals work as a team to find creative new approaches to old problems. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the men and women of the Sheriff's Office who proudly serve the community of Newport News and the volunteers for their continual support in achieving outstanding accomplishments for another very successful year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gabriel A. Morgan". The signature is fluid and cursive.

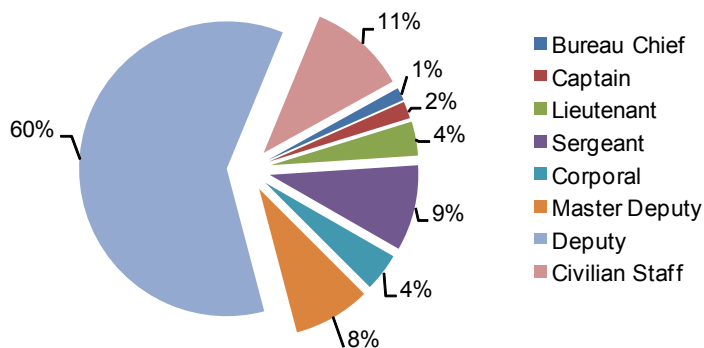
Gabriel A. Morgan
Sheriff

Staff Demographics

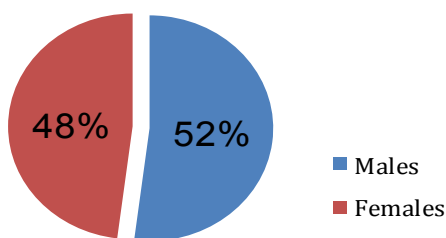
Authorized Personnel			
POSITIONS	Sheriff	1	0.5%
	Chief Deputy	1	0.5%
	Bureau Chief	3	1%
	Captain	4	2%
	Lieutenant	8	4%
	Sergeant	20	9%
	Corporal	9	4%
	Master Deputy	18	8%
	Deputy	129	60%
	Civilian Staff	23	11%
Total Personnel		216	

Charting Staff

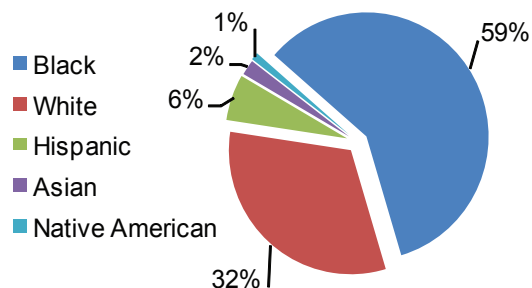
Authorized Personnel



Employee Gender



Employee Ethnic Diversity



Organizational Chart

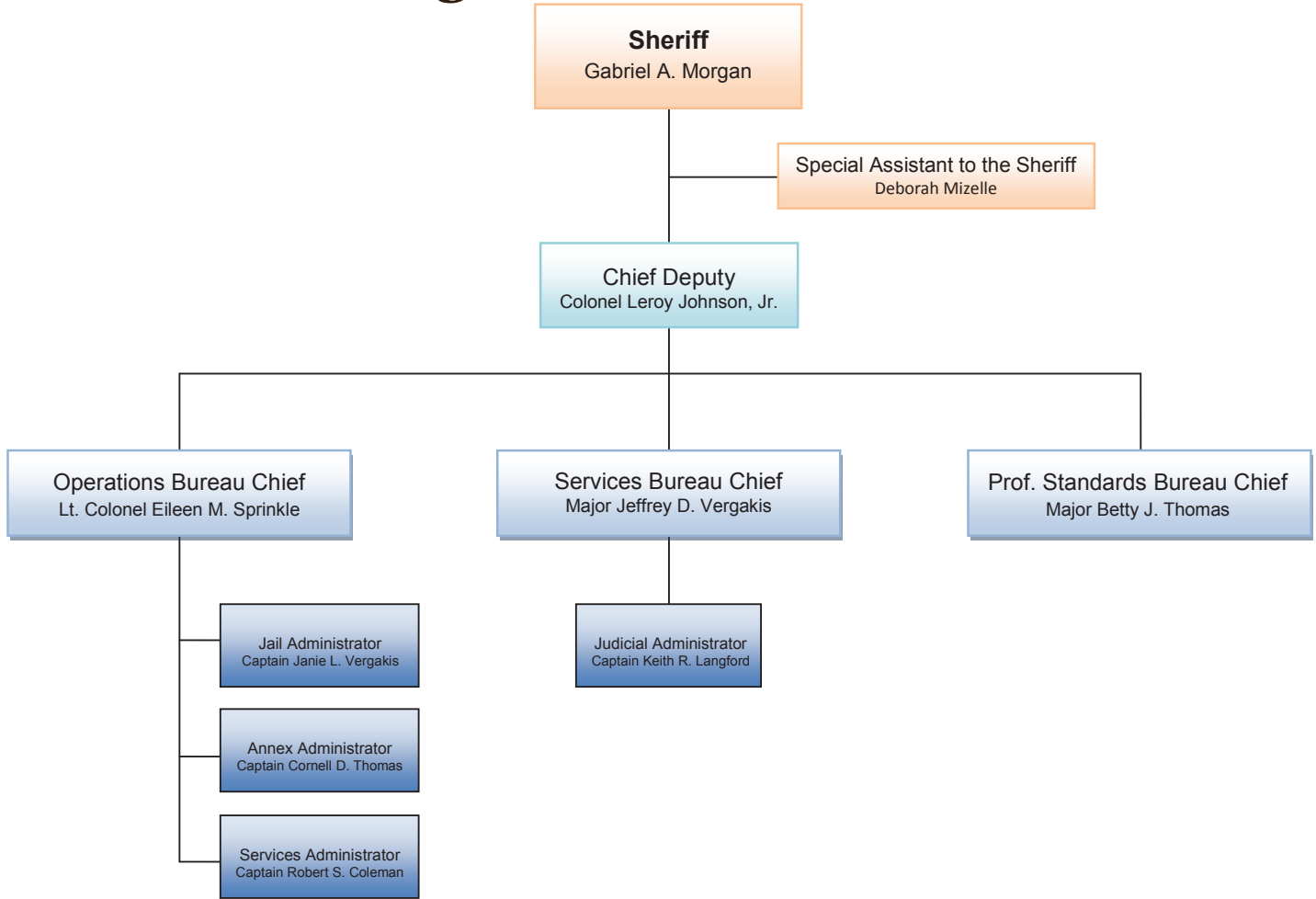


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Training Manager
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Inmate Statistics

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Lt. Colonel Eileen M. Sprinkle Operations Bureau Chief

When Eileen Sprinkle first applied for a job at the Sheriff's Office, she didn't know what the job entailed. When she learned she'd be supervising inmates, she said "Why not? I'll try it."

Twenty-two years later, Lt. Colonel Eileen Sprinkle is the Operations Bureau Chief. Third in command at the Newport News Sheriff's Office. She is responsible for everything on the corrections side of the Sheriff's Office, from a seven story maximum security jail built in 1976 to a minimum security facility dedicated in 2008.

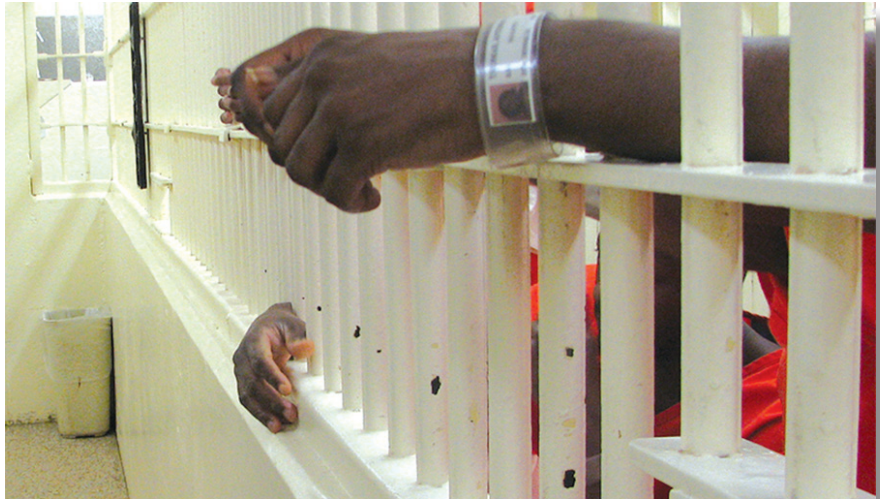
Don't think that her climb in rank and stature was easy. She started on the midnight shift. A single mother of two young children, she had to juggle odd work hours and babysitters.

In those days, not every deputy was issued a service weapon. Only supervisors or those working Civil Enforcement or Court Security were supplied with a department revolver. So she invested in her own. Her leather duty gear was handmade with love and support. "My dad made me my first holster. It was brown leather. A simple basket weave."

Her work ethic proved invaluable. She was rewarded for her demonstrated ability to get things done. Lt. Col. Sprinkle climbed rank by rank to get where she is. "This has been a long standing career. This has been a good career. I went a lot farther than I ever imagined. To have moved up in the ranks was beyond my wildest dreams." She beamed when she recalled being the first female Jail Administrator at the Newport News Sheriff's Office.

In 1988, corrections was a male dominated profession. She helped pave the way for future generations of women in uniform. When she looks at the younger women, she sees herself in them. And she hopes they can see themselves in her. "The sky's the limit for women now."

Operations Bureau



The Classification process changed in 2009 to house some inmates diagnosed with mental illness in the same cell block.

The Operations Bureau oversees all that is required to run the Newport News City Jail and Newport News Adult Detention (a.k.a. Jail Annex). Providing security and the safe supervision of inmates is a 24/7 job.

The Operations Bureau is required to comply with 143

Department of Corrections (DOC) standards in order to be certified. Operations received 100% in 2009.

Detailed records are maintained on every inmate. The classification process determines housing assignments. In today's climate of growing gang affiliation, those assignments are vital for the safety of staff and inmates.

Medical needs are met at the jails. In 2009, the Newport News Sheriff's Office, in collaboration with the Community Services Board (CSB), expanded services for the incarcerated mentally ill. An entire housing unit was dedicated to better serve this special needs population. CSB designated full time staff to diagnose and treat a wide variety of mental illnesses, ranging from mild to severe psychoses.

Mail delivery, family and attorney visits, recreational activities, worship services, commissary and inmate programs are functions that fall under the responsibility of the Operations Bureau.

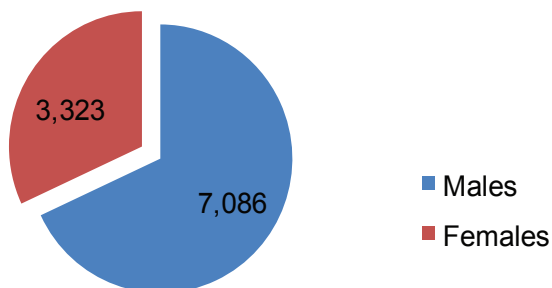
In 2006, the average daily inmate population neared 700 in a facility rated to hold 248. Under the leadership of Sheriff Gabe Morgan, significant progress has been made to resolve these dangerous conditions. In 2009, an average of 556 inmates were housed daily.



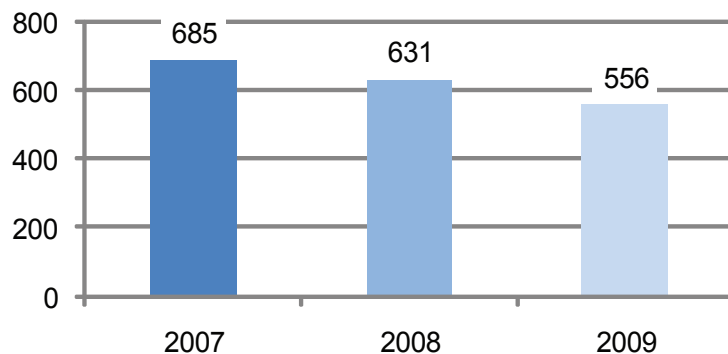
In the event of an emergency inside the City Jail, safeguards to enhance rescue operations were approved by City Council. The jail is being equipped with a fire suppression system and electronic door capability, among other life and safety renovations.

Charting Inmates

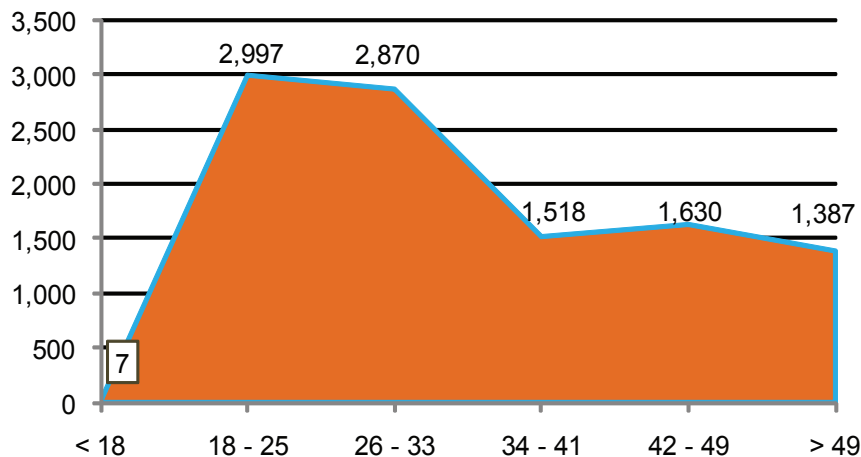
Total Committed Inmates = 10,409



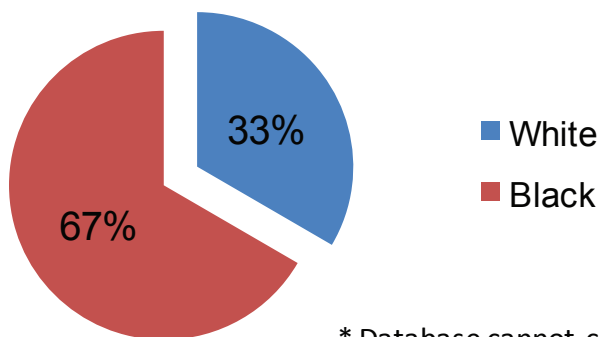
Annual Average Daily Population



Total Inmates by Age Groups



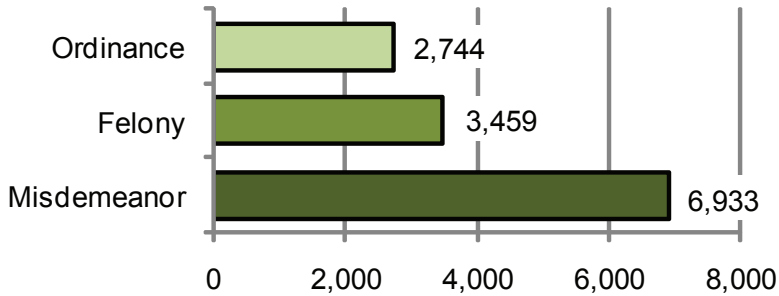
Inmate Race *



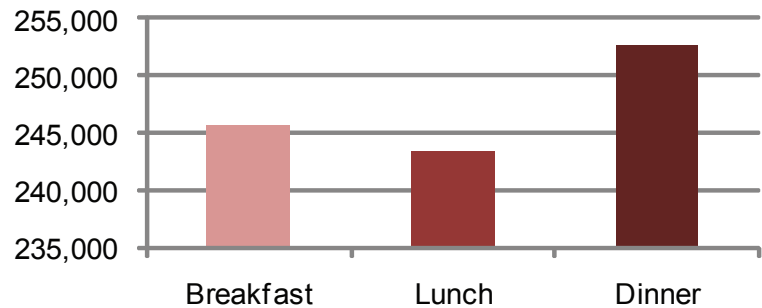
* Database cannot capture ethnicity

Charting Inmates

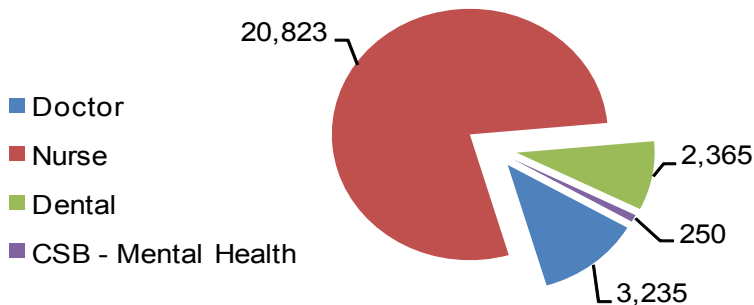
Inmate Population by Primary Offense



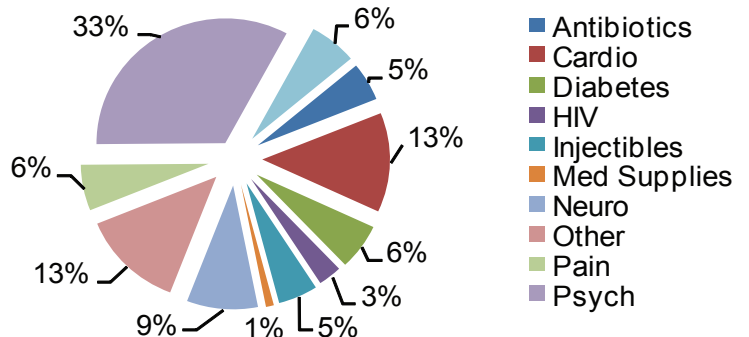
Total Inmate Meals Served = 741,865



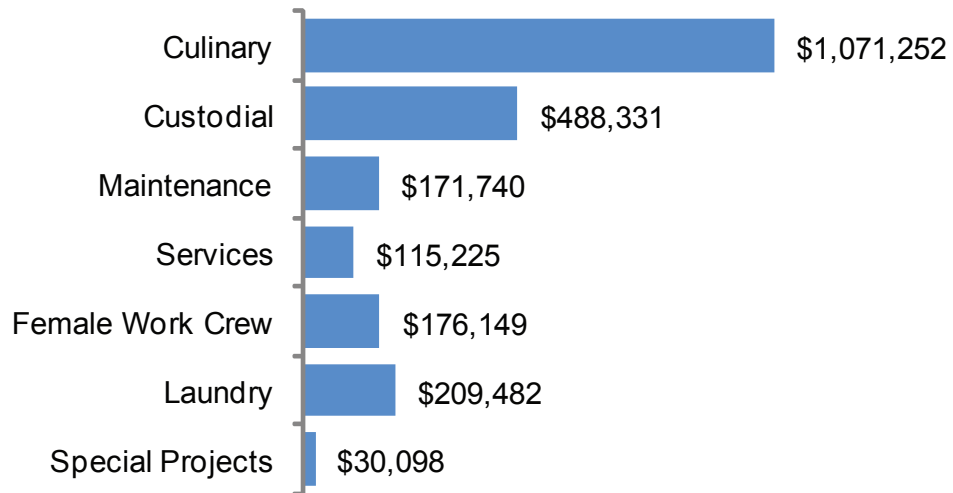
Inmate Medical Care



Pharmaceutical Expenditure by Drugs



Labor Categories - Cost Savings = \$ 2,262,277



Inmates worked on special City projects including painting railing and park benches at Victory Landing Park along the James River.

Approach to Mental Health

John Doe, not his real name, was an active duty sailor with the U.S. Navy. He was arrested during the summer of 2009 and charged with DUI, reckless driving and resisting arrest. During the course of the mental health screening interview, it was discovered that this young man was intentionally behind the wheel drunk in an effort to kill himself. This was one of several confirmed attempts to commit suicide. A judge

agreed to release the sailor and link him with in-patient psychiatric services through Portsmouth Naval Hospital.

Another example of the success of the Jail Diversion Program is that of a man arrested for trespassing. He was hostile with police and resisting arrest. It came out in the jail diversion interview that he was seeking safety from a government conspiracy.

He was acting out of fear during a delusional episode. He had a history of schizophrenia and prior psychiatric hospitalization. The presiding judge agreed to null process the charge to allow for immediate transport to a treatment facility.

Early identification of mental illness linked both these men with urgently needed intervention, rather than incarceration.

Services are delivered by the Jail Diversion Program in one of three contexts: _____

- 1. Emergency Contacts:** People in jail who are having an acute mental health crisis, including threats of suicide or psychotic behavior, receive more timely treatment as a result of an on-site response.
- 2. Clinical Contacts:** Due to the severity of their criminal charges, these people cannot be released from jail. They are enrolled into clinical services at the jail. This helps get them stabilized and helps reduce their condition from deteriorating.
- 3. Persons Diverted:** People whose needs would be better met outside of the criminal justice system are released from jail into a community-based treatment program. Most often this means involuntary psychiatric hospitalization.

Mental Health Services	
Emergency Contacts	233
Clinical Contacts	60
Persons Diverted	22
Total Interventions	315



Deputy Stacie Finney Work Release & Electronic Monitoring Coordinator *Operations Bureau*

As a little girl, Stacie Finney wanted to be Wonder Woman. There was something about the outfit, the lasso and the bullet deflecting bracelets. "Wonder Woman was always there to save the day. For the longest time, I wanted to grow up and be her," said Stacie with a smile.

The 23607 zip code in Newport News is notorious for being one of the toughest areas of the city for its reputed high crime, dilapidated buildings, under employment, and under education. And while some of that is true, the positive aspects of the neighborhood often go ignored. Like good families. Families like the one in which Stacie grew up.

If she saw a group hanging at the corner, she and her seven siblings were told to cross the street and go around them. "Those were the rules." Her mom and step dad brought calm to a house surrounded by neighborhood chaos.

Stacie may not be wearing the red, white and blue Wonder Woman leotards with the lasso and tiara, but she did choose a profession dedicated to saving the day.

As the Work Release Coordinator for the Newport News Sheriff's Office, she finds work for eligible inmates. If they don't pose a danger to the general public and they have an opportunity to pay child support, contribute to family expenses, pay down fines, pay court costs, and pay state and federal taxes, why not?

Work Release helps inmates learn how to fill out applications, how to conduct themselves on job interviews, and how to be responsible. Employers have found them to be some of their most reliable workers. Anything beats being behind bars all day. They are thankful for the chance to start over in life. They show their gratitude by working hard. "I get paid to help them better themselves," said Stacie. "They're coming back out. You might as well prepare them."

Jail Annex

The Newport News Adult Detention facility, otherwise known as the Jail Annex, was opened in December 2008 as a rehabilitative facility. With 100 beds, it eases the crowding in the main City Jail. But it is the mission of the Annex which sets it apart from other local correctional centers.

The men and women housed in this building are all enrolled in programs and classes. GED. Basic computer. Brick masonry. Money management. Inner Reflections - a comprehensive drug and alcohol rehab program. Inmates enrolled in Work Release are housed at the Annex.

That one program alone, Work Release, has netted significant returns. So far, nearly \$29K has gone to child support; \$42K has been contributed to home expenses; \$9K has been paid in state taxes and \$15K in federal taxes; and court costs and fines have been paid down to the tune of \$33K.

With only a few exceptions, educational and self-improvement classes are taught by volunteers. The Newport News Sheriff's Office is grateful for the assistance it gets from approximately 150 volunteers. If paid, they would earn an average of \$16 an hour. Multiply that by the 7,332 hours logged over the course

of the year, and volunteers saved the taxpayers of Newport News \$117,312.



Evangelist Iria Walker reacts to being announced as the "2009 Volunteer of the Year" at the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Banquet.

Rehabilitation Efforts



Vernessa Graves, Inmate Program Coordinator, serves cake to Christopher West and his little girl. West earned his GED behind bars. Part of the reward is a contact visit with family and a graduation ceremony.

In 2009, thirty-one (31) inmates earned their GED.

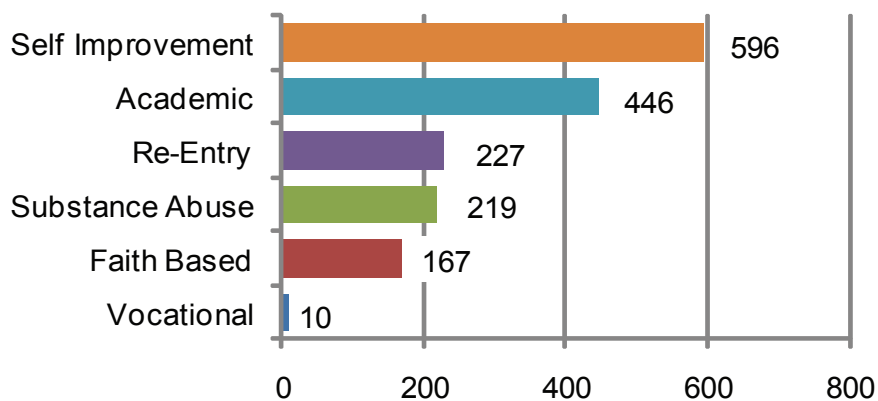
Constructive recreational activities are encouraged at the Annex. A chess tournament was sanctioned by jail staff. Players learn to think about their next move in the game of chess. That relates to real life.

If they were to pause before acting, imagine how different the outcome — both in choice of behavior and in consequence.



Charting Educational Programs

Inmates Completing Courses = 1,665





Sergeant Lynette Chandler Assistant Commander of Transportation *Services Bureau*

At 5'3", Lynette Chandler didn't let her petite stature stop her from surmounting tall goals. She was the first female to join the Newport News Sheriff's Office Honor Guard. Others had said she was too short. But she went to the top to ask. With Sheriff Morgan's blessing, she began proudly wearing the ceremonial uniform.

She is a Newport News native. One of nine children: six boys and three girls. When neighborhood friends would play "make believe," she always played the teacher. "I was sort of demanding," laughed Lynette. "It wasn't about having authority over them, but a desire to show them how you do it. To be the example."

Interesting how things play out in real life. Prior to becoming a deputy sheriff, she was a crossing guard, an assistant school teacher, and parking enforcement officer for the City Police Department.

Now she is the Assistant Commander of Transportation. Among other duties within this division of the Newport News Sheriff's Office, she conducts Temporary

Detention Orders (TDOs) daily. A TDO is when someone is taken to a medical facility and held for a mental health evaluation. This is a special needs population that requires a unique approach. Lynette is sensitive to their needs. "You always have to be patient with these types of transports. What good is it if I raise my voice? They are just going to get more agitated."

Deputies and nursing personnel are systematically receiving Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training. They are learning to recognize signs of mental illness and how best to communicate in these situations. The goal of CIT is to divert people away from jail and into treatment.

Lynette Chandler instinctively demonstrates respect of others. They respect her in return. Leading by example is how this diminutive woman conducts herself professionally, personally and faithfully.

Services Bureau

Transportation, Civil Enforcement, Court Security and Information Technology are functions of the Services Bureau.

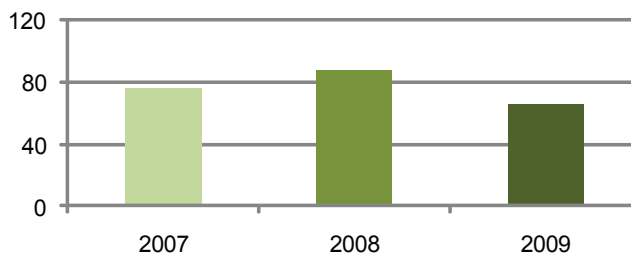
Because Transportation and Civil Enforcement deputies interact with the public outside of the detention facilities, they will have first contact on the street with people suffering with mental illness. At an incident scene, deputies with proper training can divert a person away from jail and into treatment. Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training is a critical component for such assessments to be made.

Mental health experts with the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board (CSB) head up the training. Deputies learn to identify indicators of mental illness and how not to confuse them with true criminal behavior. If the behavior stems from a mental imbalance that can be attended to at a treatment center, deputies will take the individual to a drop off center operated by CSB. This does three things: better serves the consumer, keeps the numbers down at the jail, and leaves jail beds open for real criminals.

Under the transportation function of the Sheriff's Office, there are many types of transports. They include moving inmates to and from courts in other jurisdictions; out of state extraditions, which can be performed by ground vehicle or commercial airline flight; medical appointments outside of the jail; etc. Temporary Detention Orders (TDOs) and Detention Orders (DOs) are transports ordered by judges or magistrates whereby an individual is detained at an area hospital to undergo a mental evaluation.

Charting Transportation

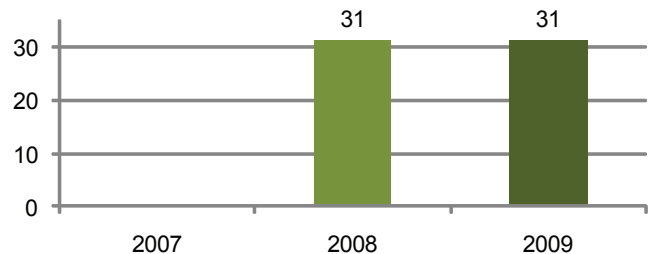
Extraditions



Temporary Detention Orders



Detention Orders



Statistics for DOs were not captured in 2007

Services Bureau

Civil Enforcement deputies serve court ordered papers like summonses and subpoenas. They execute levies, sales, and the seizure of property in order to collect on delinquent taxes and delinquent child support payments. Civil Enforcement is also responsible for evictions.

In the event of a death within the City of Newport News that involves an unclaimed body, the Sheriff's Office Services Bureau is responsible for the cremation and burial of the remains. In 2009, the Newport News Sheriff's Office handled six such cases.

There are three (3) courthouses in Newport News for a total of thirteen (13) courtrooms. The safety of judges, clerks, attorneys and visitors is the responsibility of Court Security. Deputies control courthouse entrances and are placed in each courtroom.

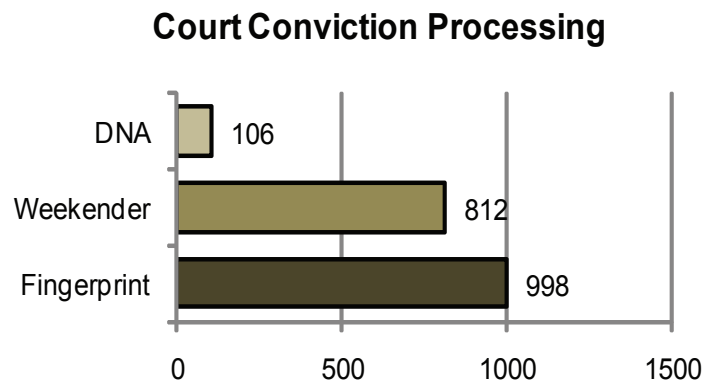
Some deputies are assisted by canines. Handlers and their K9 partners receive specialized training in explosives detection, drug detection, or dual purpose disciplines. The K9 Units respond to bomb threats called in to the courts. They also assist police officers with weapons searches across the City, including schools. Other Sheriff's Office K9 Units are utilized in the jail to ensure no one is smuggling narcotics into the controlled environment. They also assist with traffic stops, police operations, and school searches.



A 6-year old girl from Chesapeake, VA raised enough money to purchase a ballistic vest for a Sheriff's Office K9. Kayleigh Crimmins presented Cpl. Wayne Hill and his dog Vader with the bulletproof vest at an October City Council meeting.

Charting Civil Enforcement and Court Security

Civil Enforcement - Court Orders		
Papers	Unclaimed Bodies	6
	Traffic Tickets	33
	Protective Orders	523
	Criminal Warrants	539
	Jury Summonses	2,492
	Writs	10,767
	Subpoenas	18,399
	Other *	23,735
	Summonses	29,962
Total Quantity Served		86,456



* Includes warrant in debts, garnishments, interrogatories, notices, etc.



Master Deputy Janet Robbins Court Bailiff *Services Bureau*

Janet Robbins has been breaking barriers from a very young age. She didn't do so intentionally, but through circumstances.

Gold Sand, North Carolina was not a hot bed of ethnic diversity. Her mother, a naturalized citizen from Mexico, and her father, a soldier in the U.S. Army, had six children. "People formed their opinion about minorities. They treated you different and looked at you different. They treated me like an outsider."

Robbins was a minority of different sort when she first entered the corrections field. The industry was just warming to the idea of hiring women. Robbins started as a correctional officer at a North Carolina prison and ascended the ladder. "I met many of my goals," she smiled. There, Robbins was the first white/Hispanic female ever promoted to Sergeant. She became a member of their interview board, an experience that allowed her to influence the direction of that organization.

Learning opportunities at the Newport News Sheriff's Office are vast. The ability to master a range of responsibilities is what motivates Robbins. She is a sponge for knowledge crossing over from the corrections side to courts.

Today, she is a Circuit Court bailiff. Her call to order in the courtroom sets the tone for the day as she maintains order in the conduct of the trial and provides security in the courtroom. Her experience as a booking deputy is also called upon at the courthouse to conduct Live Scan. She processes weekenders, takes fingerprints and collects DNA samples using buccal swabs.

She has returned to school and is working on a degree in criminal justice as she continues to seek advancement as a participant in the Newport News Sheriff's Office Career Development program.



Lieutenant Jerri Smith
Training Manager
Professional Standards Bureau

There was no real sense of belonging said Jerri Smith of growing up. She was an Air Force brat. She and her siblings were always on the move. Perhaps that is why, when she was hired by the Hampton Roads Criminal Justice Training Academy, she spent the next two decades employed as the Student Coordinator. “I was involved with everyone’s careers from start to finish. I was able to develop some worthwhile friendships.”

The oldest of three, she was born in Durham, North Carolina. At a young age, her family transferred to Spain where they lived for several years. Then it was back to U.S. soil, specifically California. Finally, they settled in Virginia. But “settled” is a relative term.

A teenaged Smith went to several middle and high schools unable to make those tight knit bonds like her classmates. The prom meant little and class reunions are not significant.

She admitted to being a bit lost and unsure of what her future held. That lack of surety ended with a typing test for the City of Hampton. In February, 1987 she was hired by the training academy.

When it moved from Hampton to Newport News, she moved with it. For nineteen years, the academy provided the sense of belonging she missed as a youngster.

She challenged herself to return to school and earned a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice. Several years later, she was presented with another challenge: leave a secure job working for the academy in order to attend the academy as a recruit with the Newport News Sheriff’s Office. She wasn’t the oldest recruit. But neither was she the youngest. Jerri turned forty out at the firing range. “I had something to prove to myself.”

Now as the training manager for the Newport News Sheriff’s Office, Smith is well equipped to empathize with the new recruits and to motivate them to see their full potential.

Professional Standards Bureau

The Professional Standards Bureau (PSB) ensures that the integrity of the Newport News Sheriff's Office is maintained. Policies are written by members of this bureau. Aside from writing policies, the PSB maintains documentation which demonstrates compliance.

In addition to the Department of Corrections mandatory audits as noted under the Operations Bureau, the Newport News Sheriff's Office is accredited by the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC). Seeking VLEPSC accreditation is strictly optional and means the Newport News Sheriff's Office has earned the state's stamp of approval by meeting 187 standards.

This approval process is the responsibility of the Professional Standards Bureau. The Newport News Sheriff's Office believes this proof of accountability is important in earning public confidence in law enforcement.

Initial correctional training and on-going training of staff is scheduled by PSB. Since 2006, the Newport News Sheriff's Office has been approved as a satellite academy site. This academy status keeps costs down.

It also provides opportunities for outside agencies to train alongside NNSO personnel. We are being recognized as one of the region's centers of excellence.

Recruitment and retention strategies are implemented by the PSB. This is where applicants begin the process of joining the agency. From start to finish, their careers are followed by Professional Standards. That includes disciplinary action taken when deemed necessary by internal investigations. Every effort is made to ensure investigations are impartial and fair.

Charting Professional Standards

Total Employees Disciplined = 23		
Actions	Written Reprimand	13
	Suspension	8
	Termination	6
	Re-Train	6
	Other	3
	Transfer	2
	Demotion	1
Total		39*

Recruitment & Retention			
	2007	2008	2009
Turnover	39	36	34
Applications Reviewed	342	731	842
Applicants Hired	36	78	31

* Multiple actions taken against some individual employees

Professional Career Training



Courses of Instruction

	STAFF	HOURS
SPECIALIZED TRAINING		
New Deputy Orientation	22	4,400
Motorcycle School	2	160
Extra Duty	18	216
Driver Recertification	1	4
General Instructor	3	120
General Instructor Recertification	8	16
Crisis Intervention Training / De-escalation Techniques	22	880
Sheriff Emergency Response Team (SERT) Training	18	720
Management Development for the Future (Leadership)	26	1,872
NCIC/VCIN - Computerized Index of Criminal Justice Information	5	120
Project Lifesaver Search and Rescue	10	80
FIREARMS QUALIFICATIONS		
Tactical Qualification Course	22	1,232
Firearms Recertification	155	6,200
Firearms Instructor	1	56
FIRST AID/CPR TRAINING		
CPR/First Aid/Bloodborne Pathogens	4	96
CPR/First Aid/Bloodborne Pathogens Recertification	196	784
BASIC ACADEMY		
Combined Academy (Correction, Court Security, Civil Process)	22	11,000
Basic Law Enforcement	3	1,980
In-Service (two-year intervals, maintain active certifications)	69	2,760
Totals: Courses of Instruction: 84	607	32,696

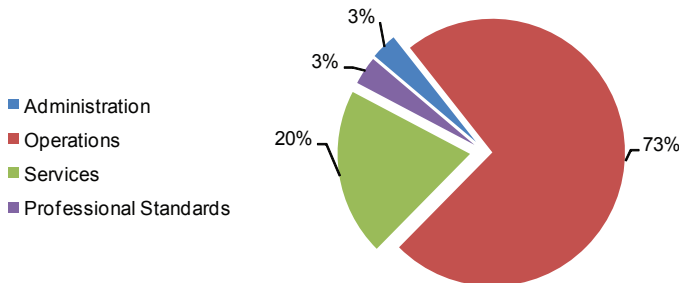
Operational Budget

	2007	2008	2009	2010*
Total Operational Budget	\$12,122,239	\$13,467,037	\$15,190,261	\$15,854,998
Personnel	6,422,869	7,187,113	11,810,562	12,135,669
Operations	5,699,370	6,279,924	3,379,699	3,719,329
Allocation by Bureaus				
Administration	536,001	498,013	504,633	505,873
Operations	9,982,475	9,483,779	10,620,339	11,595,726
Services	1,603,763	3,028,495	3,497,317	3,208,655
Professional Standards	0	456,750	567,972	544,744
Allocation of Jail Operations				
Personnel	\$9,982,475	\$9,483,779	\$10,620,339	\$11,595,726
Personnel	5,076,878	4,477,704	7,567,244	8,199,344
Medical	737,115	901,052	1,173,478	1,403,031
Food	867,333	907,567	927,126	925,166
Utilities	567,354	506,672	507,526	702,000
Other	2,733,795	2,690,784	444,965	366,185

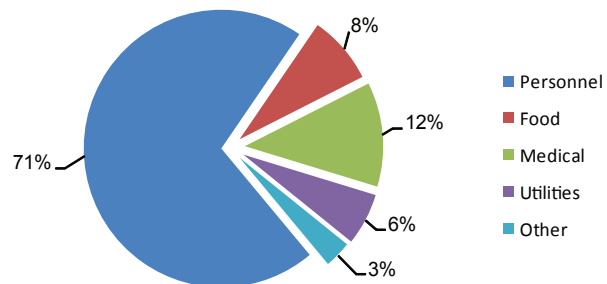
* Approved Budget

Charting Budgetary Spending

Allocation by Bureaus



Allocation of Jail Operations



Community Outreach & Public Information



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Identity Theft Lectures	356 Adults
Kids' Handy Prints	1,011 Children
File of Life & Yellow Dot	2,389 Adults
Safety for Our Seniors (S.O.S.)	31 Clients
Project Lifesaver	60 Clients
Life Skills (every 4th & 5th grader)	2,252 Students
Class Action: Reducing Gangs in Virginia (every 4th & 5th grader)	1,438 Students
Achievable Dream Academy (middle & high school contacts)	81,900 Students

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Annual Report	1 Published
National Sheriffs' Association Magazine	3 Published Articles
Virginia Sheriffs' Association Magazine	4 Published Articles
"On the Inside" Sheriff's Office Newsletter	4 Published
Newport News Channel 48	14 Featured Stories
Local Television Channels	10 Featured Stories
Newspaper Articles	71 Articles
Sheriff's Office Media Releases	53 Releases

Public Services

Youth PROMISE Act

Speaking from the Nation's Capitol

The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow. For this reason, young people will continue to be Sheriff Morgan's number one priority.

Morgan works closely with children of all ages. His efforts with the Commonwealth of Virginia Office of the Attorney General brought "Class Action: Reducing Gangs in Virginia" to our city's 26 public elementary schools in 2006. What began as a pilot program has become a permanent part of the 4th and 5th grade curriculum. Pre-teens and teenagers are being reached through other ways of mentorship.

Sheriff Morgan's reputation of being youth oriented was recognized on a federal level in 2009.

The Campaign for Youth Justice invited Newport News Sheriff Gabriel A. Morgan to speak Thursday, May 7, 2009, in the Nation's Capitol in recognition of Youth Advocacy Day. Morgan sat on a panel along with the Honorable Bobby Scott, U.S. Congressman (D-VA) and a council member from Los Angeles, California by the

name of Tony Cardenas. Gangs and violent crime are taking a toll on cities large, medium and small and from coast to coast.

As he addressed federal legislators, Morgan talked about the impact of crime specific to Newport News. Gang-related violence has had profound human costs, as well as economic and social costs.

Rep. Scott introduced the Youth PROMISE Act in the House and used this occasion to reinforce the bill. The acronym stands for Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Support, and Education. The legislation supports evidence-based intervention and treatment that have been shown to reduce youth crime and delinquency.

Morgan and Cardenas endorse the Youth PROMISE Act. They are among many representatives from localities and juvenile justice advocates who are giving a major boost to the measure.



Sheriff's Office Awards

Sheriff's Medal

Lt. Kathleen Carey

Citizen Service Medal

Iria "Evangelist" Walker,
Volunteer of the Year

Deputy of the Year

Sgt. Chanelle M. Zanders

Employee of the Quarter

Cpl. Willard Robinson, 1st Qtr.
Sheila R. Whitson, 2nd Qtr.
Sgt. Frank Broadwater, 3rd Qtr.
Sgt. Leslye Mebane, 4th Qtr.

Group Achievement

Jail Management System (JMS) Implementation Team

Project Executives

Maj. Jeffrey D. Vergakis
Capt. Robert S. Coleman
Sgt. Robert Summerford

Implementation Team

Lt. Gerald F. Grogan
Sgt. Frederick L. Hubbard
Sgt. Richard Touchstone
Sgt. Carl A. Wilberg
Cpl. Cleveland T. Zanders
Nurse Sharon D. Leonard

Subject Matter Experts

Lt. Col. Eileen M. Sprinkle
Capt. Janie L. Vergakis
Lt. Maria Moore
Sgt. Patricia A. Preyer
Dep. Christopher R. Agee
Gloria Johnson
Wanda Sigler
Cindylou Young

NN Police Department Exemplary Performance of Duty

Maj. Jeffrey D. Vergakis
Sgt. Robert Summerford
Dep. Christopher R. Agee

Awards Defined

The Sheriff's Medal is a commendation bestowed to an employee who distinguished himself/herself by an act of heroism, meritorious achievement or meritorious service.

The Newport News Sheriff's Office awards the Citizen Service Medal to honor the volunteer as one of its greatest assets. To give of one's time and expertise without expectation of anything in return holds tremendous value. The award is given in appreciation of the volunteer's spirit and commitment to making a difference.

The Deputy of the Year award is given to sworn personnel who exemplify professionalism and dedication to service by putting forth the extra effort. The selection is made by identifying who had the greatest positive impact on the Newport News Sheriff's Office.

The Employee of the Quarter award is given to the employee who had exceptional levels of work performance. It is selected by peers based on the recipient's impeccable character. It is open to sworn and civilian personnel.

The Group Achievement Award is a team award given to a group of personnel (sworn and/or civilian) for outstanding accomplishment through the coordination of many individual efforts which have contributed substantially to the Newport News Sheriff's Office mission.

NN Police Department Exemplary Performance of Duty award was given in a special presentation in recognition of the integral role played in the transition to the I LEADS/RMS/JMS Data System.

Community Recognitions

for Sheriff Gabe Morgan



People to People presented Sheriff Gabe Morgan with the HERO Award for his continuous devotion to the strengthening of race relations and championing the needs of young people.



The Hampton - Newport News Crisis Intervention Team presented Sheriff Gabe Morgan with the Bridge Builder Award for admirable dedication efforts to expand services and for increasing community awareness of mental illness.



Virginia Beach Public Schools presented Sheriff Gabe Morgan with the Outstanding Community Service Award for Virginia Beach Central Academy Black History Month Lecture Series.



Downtown Newport News Merchants & Neighbors Association, Inc. presented Sheriff Gabe Morgan with the Outstanding Service to the Community Award during the Annual Juneteenth Freedom Festival.



Edustar Performing Arts Society, Inc. presented Sheriff Gabe Morgan with the Outstanding Community Contributions with Proclamations from the Cities of Hampton and Newport News.



Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) presented Sheriff Gabe Morgan with the Outstanding Community Service Award.



Newport News Sheriff's Office

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