



Manitowoc County
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

2024
Annual Report

Daniel Hartwig

MANITOWOC COUNTY SHERIFF



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MESSAGE FROM YOUR SHERIFF



To the Manitowoc County Board and Citizens of Manitowoc County,

On behalf of the dedicated men and women of the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office, I am honored to present our annual report. This report highlights the work, dedication, and commitment of our employees and volunteers in ensuring the safety and well-being of our community.

First and foremost, I want to sincerely thank the Manitowoc County Board and our citizens for your continued support of the Sheriff's Office. Your trust and investment in our mission allow us to provide the highest level of service, ensuring that Manitowoc County remains a safe place to live, work, and visit. The professionalism and dedication of our employees are evident daily as they serve with compassion and a commitment to protecting our community.

In 2024, we faced the challenge of **hiring and training seven new deputies**, ensuring they are prepared to meet the high standards of service expected by our community. Recruitment and training continue to be priorities for our office as we work to maintain a strong, well-equipped team.

Beyond law enforcement, our office takes great pride in giving back to the community through programs like **Meals on Wheels**, where our jail kitchen staff prepared and served an incredible **37,743 meals** last year. This program is a vital lifeline for many in our community, and we are proud to play a role in supporting our citizens. Additionally, our dedicated **volunteers contributed over 2,160 hours** of service in 2024, demonstrating the selfless commitment of those who give their time to make a difference in Manitowoc County.

As we welcome new team members, we also take a moment to **congratulate our three retired staff members** for their years of dedicated service. Their commitment and contributions have left a lasting impact on our agency, and we wish them the best in their well-earned retirement.

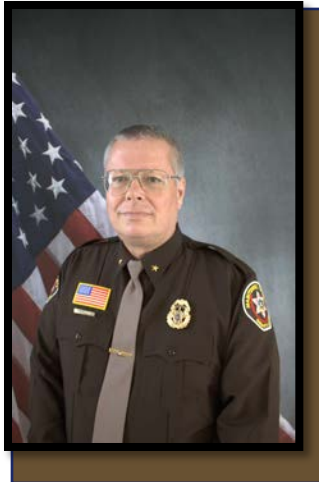
The Sheriff's Office remains committed to transparency, accountability, and innovation in serving our community. I encourage you to review this report to gain insight into the work we do and the challenges we face. As we move forward, we remain dedicated to enhancing public safety and fostering strong relationships with the community we are privileged to serve.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we will ensure that Manitowoc County remains a safe community.



Sheriff Dan Hartwig
Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office

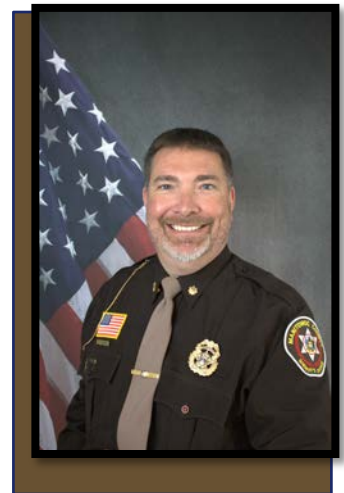
Command Staff



Brian Nack

Chief Deputy

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Jason Orth

Major - Operations

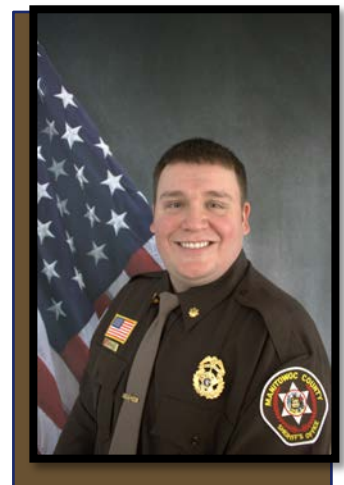
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Todd Cummings

Major - Support

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Andrew LaCrosse

Major - Jail

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Mission Statement



Our MISSION

To work in partnership with the community to provide public safety while respecting and protecting their constitutional rights.

In furtherance of this mission, we are committed to our employees and the following values, which are represented by the law enforcement star we wear while serving the citizens of Manitowoc County with P.R.I.D.E.

Awards



Life-Saving Award

The Lifesaving Award shall be presented to an agency member who performs an act that is determined to be directly responsible for the saving of a life of another with minimal risk to oneself.

On June 4, 2024, corrections officers responded to the 3rd floor of the jail for a medical emergency regarding an inmate who was exhibiting signs of unconsciousness and was not breathing. Corrections Officers Derek Stevenson, Bailey Otto, and Logan Arnold all worked quickly with a team mindset to perform quick and effective lifesaving measures, enhancing this individual's chances of survival.

Upon Logan and Bailey's arrival, they observed an individual in their bunk who was limp, not alert, and not responsive to verbal instructions. The individual was moved from the bunk to the floor where AED pads were applied and NARCAN was administered. Officers began CPR and continued giving chest compressions and air until Manitowoc Rescue arrived on the scene. Before the ambulance removed the inmate from the jail, he was conscious, alert, and breathing.

Derek, Bailey, and Logan were awarded the Life Saving Award at the Sheriff's Office Annual Swearing-In and Awards Ceremony. We commend you for your quick thinking and ability to act in a highly stressful situation.



Operations – *Patrol Unit*



Manitowoc County's jurisdiction covers 1,494 square miles, of which 589 square miles is land and the remainder is water. The Sheriff's Office has primary jurisdiction for all unincorporated towns, six villages, the Lake Michigan shoreline, and all inland lakes within Manitowoc County.

The Patrol Unit is responsible for maintaining public safety and enforcing and upholding state and local laws. This unit is tasked with patrolling rural areas, highways, and local communities ensuring a swift response to emergencies and incidents. Patrol deputies are often the first responders to accidents, criminal activity, and public disturbances. They conduct traffic enforcement, assist with crime prevention efforts, handle initial investigations, provide community outreach, and coordinate with other law enforcement agencies. The Patrol Unit also participates in various state-level activities, utilizing grants and other state funding to promote highway safety and accident reduction benefits.

The Patrol Unit is comprised of the following;

- 3 – Patrol Captains
- 6 – Patrol Lieutenants
- 27 - Patrol Deputies
- 2 – K9's (Rocky and Knox)

The Patrol Unit is a 24/7 operation with three scheduled eight-hour shifts. Each shift is comprised of a Captain who oversees the shift and two Lieutenants who report to the Captain. The entire unit is included under the Operations Division which is overseen by Major Jason Orth.

Deputies are the initial response to most incidents within Manitowoc County. This can include citizen assistance requests to major emergencies and everything in between. Besides their normal responsibilities, many of them are also involved in additional agency specialties and/or trainers. These extra roles assist the Sheriff's Office in being able to provide quality services to the community and beneficial training to our Team.



Traffic Enforcement Totals



2024 Patrol Deputy
Enforcement Efforts



Year	Traffic Citations	Warnings (Written)	Ordinance Citations	OWI Arrests	DNR Citations
2023	2,548	2,988	189	256	37
2024	2,698	2,420	165	175	26



2024 Enforcement Efforts
Comparison of Previous Years




Year	Traffic & Ordinance Citations	OWI Arrests
2019	2,845	186
2020	2,540	181
2021	2,679	171
2023	2,387	190
2023	3,177	256
2024	2,863	175

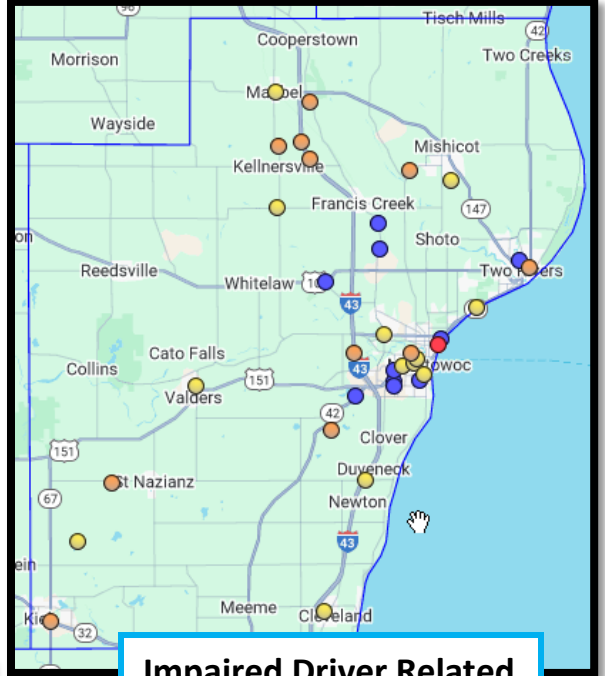
Operations – Patrol Unit Crash Investigation



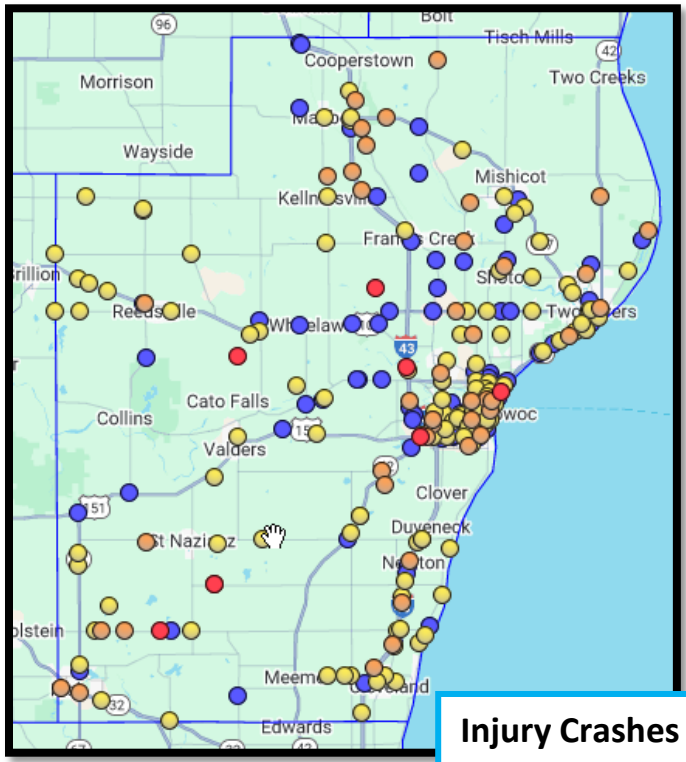
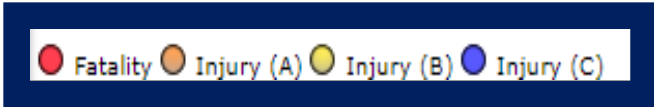
2024 Manitowoc County Vehicle Crash Demographics

	Car v. Deer	Property Damage	Injury	Fatal*
2023	559	320	159	10
2024	604	440	141	6

*Includes all jurisdictions within Manitowoc County




Impaired Driver Related



Injury Crashes

2024 Crash Investigations Comparison of Previous Years

	Crashes	Fatal Crashes*
2019	1,470	15
2020	1,153	9
2021	1,237	10
2022	1,165	11
2023	1,164	10
2024	1,191	6

Crime Statistics

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office



Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office 2024 Crime Counts by Incident

Crime Category	Offenses	Victims	Adult Arrests	Juvenile Arrests	Total Arrests
Total	577	600	343	14	357
Crimes Against Persons	103	103	69	7	76
Murder & Non-Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Offenses	7	7	3	1	4
Sex Offenses - No forcible	0	0	1	0	1
Assault Offenses	94	94	65	6	71
Kidnapping/Abduction	2	2	0	0	0
Human Trafficking	0	0	0	0	0
Crimes Against Property	187	210	40	4	44
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	12	15	4	0	4
Theft/Larceny	64	73	16	1	17
Motor Vehicle Theft	6	6	4	0	4
Stolen Property Offenses	1	1	1	1	2
Arson	1	3	0	0	0
Counterfeiting/Forgery	6	7	1	0	1
Fraud Offenses	41	44	2	0	2
Embezzlement	0	0	3	0	3
Extortion/Blackmail	8	8	0	0	0
Bribery	0	0	0	0	0
Destruction/Vandalism	48	53	9	2	11
Crimes Against Society	287	287	234	3	237
Weapons Law Violations	11	11	5	0	5
Prostitution Offenses	3	3	3	0	3
Drug/Narcotic Offenses	269	269	222	3	225
Gambling Offenses	0	0	0	0	0
Pornography	4	4	4	0	4
Animal Cruelty	0	0	0	0	0

Crime Statistics Comparisons

2021 – 2024 (Group A Offenses)



Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office

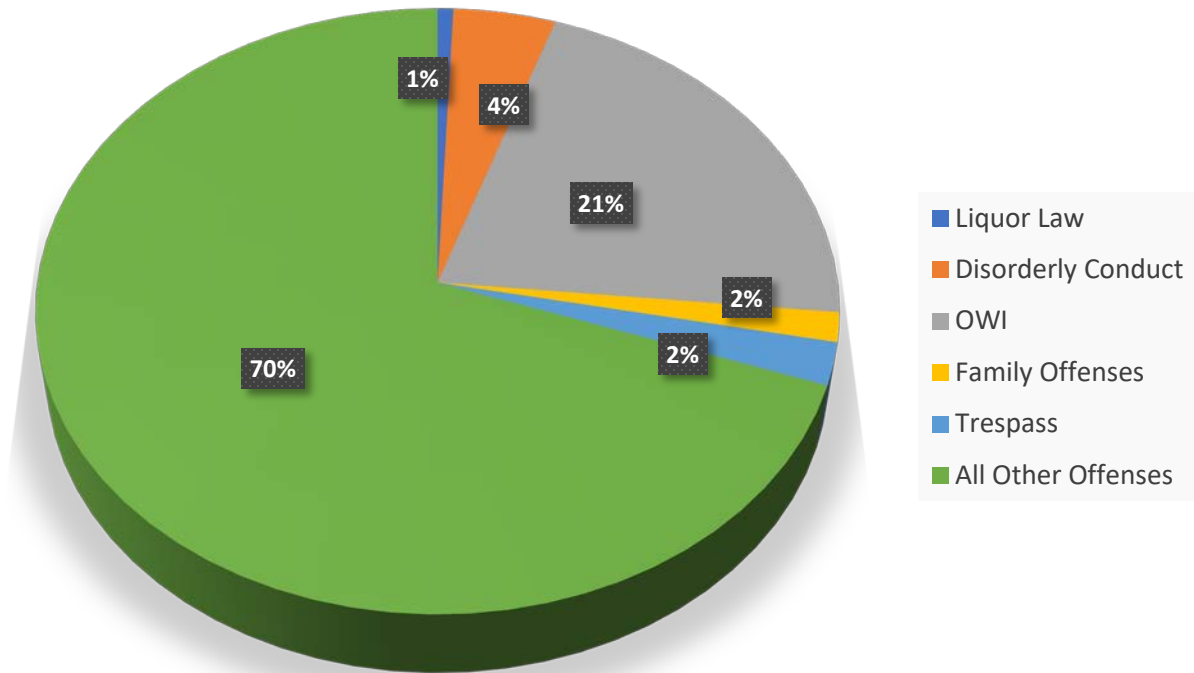
Crime Statistic Comparison -January 2021 - December 2024

Group A Offense	2021	2022	2023	2024
Murder & Non-Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	1	1	0	0
Rape	2	4	0	2
Sodomy	0	1	1	0
Fondling	8	10	1	3
Incest	0	0	2	0
Statutory Rape	3	1	1	0
Aggravated Assault	24	28	19	27
Simple Assault	85	85	74	63
Intimidation	6	5	17	4
Kidnapping	1	1	1	2
Human Trafficking Involuntary	0	0	0	0
Robbery	1	1	1	0
Burglary	32	29	29	12
Theft - All	93	64	81	64
Motor Vehicle Theft	17	8	6	6
Stolen Property Offenses	9	8	5	6
Counterfeiting/Forgery	6	8	4	6
Fraud - False Pretenses	40	32	33	21
Fraud - Credit Card/ATM	0	2	0	0
Fraud - Impersonation	7	2	5	2
Fraud - Identity Theft	42	36	33	18
Embezzlement	2	2	0	0
Bribery	9	4	4	0
Destruction/Vandalism	74	52	52	48
Weapon Law Violations	22	24	17	11
Prostitution	0	0	0	3
Drug/Narcotics Violations	171	264	196	153
Drug Equipment Violations	115	178	118	116
Pornography	11	4	7	4
Animal Cruelty	2	0	1	0

Group B Offenses Summary



Group B Arrests



2024 Group "B" Offenses	Adult	Juvenile	Total
Total Arrests	567	9	576
Bad Checks	0	0	0
Curfew / Loitering / Vagrancy	0	0	0
Disorderly Conduct	24	2	26
Driving Under the Influence	121	2	123
Family Offenses Nonviolent	9	0	9
Liquor Law Violation	3	1	4
Peeping Tom	0	0	0
Trespass of Real Property	11	2	13
All Other Offenses	399	2	401

Operations – *Investigation Unit*



The Detective Unit is comprised of a Lieutenant of Detectives (Bret Oswald) who currently oversees four detectives as well as the Criminal Support Specialist. Each of the detectives are cross-trained and also specialize in their own areas of expertise. Some of these specializations include Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC), Death Investigations, and Sexual Assault Investigations.

During 2024, there were several changes within the Detective Unit, which included the retirement of Detective Michael Herrmann. Detective Herrmann served with the MTSO for 30-plus years and was assigned to the Detective Unit for 6 years.

Within the Detective Unit, there are four Task Force Officers (TFOs) with the US Marshals Service (USMS). We have forged a relationship with the USMS to respond to unique cases that pose an immediate threat to the public.

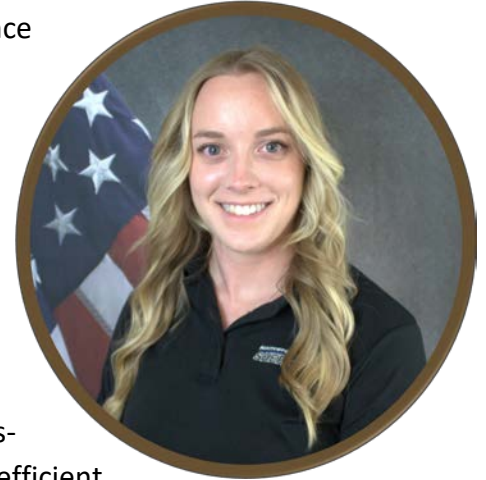
Criminal Support Specialist Jessica Trzebiatowski has completed her third year in this newly added position. The Criminal Support Specialist's primary role is the evidence custodian. She also responds to crime scenes, serving as an evidence technician and photographer. In 2024, she attended specialized training which included Crime Scene Processing, Crime Lab Symposium, and Firearm Disqualification Training. She has also hosted several evidence-based trainings for our staff.



Criminal Support Specialist



The Criminal Support Specialist (CSS) is part of our professional staff (civilian employee) and the primary roles of this position include; evidence room intake, purging and organization of evidence, and staff training. The CSS also analyzes evidence for fingerprints or DNA, completes NIBIN analysis and background checks for firearm returns, sends evidence to the WI State Crime Lab, testifies in court, and assists the Detective Unit/Metro Drug Unit on scenes or search warrants as an evidence tech.



Throughout the last year as CSS, Jessica has taken on tasks such as dispositions of firearms and older cases, attending training and forensics-related events, and working to update the evidence room to be a more efficient workspace. In total, 28 firearms were removed from the evidence room and taken to the Milwaukee Crime Lab for destruction.



She attended the WAI Conference and learned about topics such as evidence photography, digital forensic examinations, property room designs, genealogy, forensic mapping, evidence room procedures, evidence purging, trace evidence, and the utilization of different light sources. She also attended Crime Scene Processing School hosted by the WI SCL to learn advanced techniques and step by step crime scene processing from beginning to end.

Jessica facilitated and hosted a local event in the City of Manitowoc for National Forensic Science Week which the public could attend free of charge. Several northeast Wisconsin agencies attended the event, displaying to the public what members in the forensic field do.



Operations – *Metro Drug Unit*



Mission Statement

We, the law enforcement officials of Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, recognize the need for a cooperative effort to combat the illegal distribution and use of controlled substances within our respective jurisdictions. Therefore, we hereby establish a Drug Task Force (DTF) as a means to fulfill our obligation to the citizens of Manitowoc County. This task force shall be the Manitowoc County Metro Drug Unit and agree individually and collectively to support its efforts by endorsing this agreement.

Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Force

The Manitowoc County Metro Drug Unit (MDU) consists of law enforcement from the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office (MTSO), the City of Manitowoc Police Department (MTPD), the City of Two Rivers Police Department (TRPD) and the City of Kiel Police Department (KLPD). The MDU is housed at MTSO and all evidence seized is stored at MTSO. The MDU consists of one supervisor, Lieutenant Andy Beck, who is employed by MTSO. MTSO also provides two Investigators and one support staff reserve deputy. MTPD currently provides one Investigator and TRPD holds one vacant Investigator position. The MDU consists of an oversight board that consists of the MTSO Sheriff, MTPD Chief, TRPD Chief, KLPD Chief, and the Manitowoc County District Attorney. The MDU board meets quarterly where it receives a report from the MDU supervisor.

MDU Investigations

The MDU had a successful year, conducting 85 drug-related investigations. We continue to see a steady supply of fentanyl and methamphetamine in Manitowoc County. Approximately 33% (28 total) of the cases investigated by the MDU involved methamphetamine while 20% (17 total) involved fentanyl. The MDU saw a significant increase in the availability of cocaine within Manitowoc County. Approximately 11% (9 total) of the cases investigated by the MDU involved cocaine. Cocaine investigations conducted by the MDU have resulted in multiple-pound seizures of cocaine during investigations in 2024. Also, of significance, the MDU conducted a joint investigation with DEA Green Bay resulting in an 18-pound seizure of a Fentanyl/Carfentanyl mixture sourced from the State of AZ.

MDU Updates

In 2024 the MDU experienced many personnel changes. Lt. Andy Beck was promoted to the Lieutenant of the MDU. Two new investigators were also assigned to the MDU from the MTSO patrol division. The MDU is working with the WI National Guard to obtain analytical support for drug-related investigations.



Drug Seizures

2024 Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office Drug Seizures

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Amphetamines (gm)	1114.583	1533.011	7366	3839.89
Crack Cocaine (gm)	25.5	.27	0.68	29.38
Cocaine (gm)	167.05	178.53	847	1,628.44
Hallucinogen-other (gm)	133.52	2876.68	940	67
Hashish (gm)	0	0	44	0
Heroin (gm)	134.32	15.72	993	51.94
LSD (gm)	0	0	3.54	0
Marijuana (gm)	5364.049	9490.269	11174	6274.55
Morphine (ml)	35	0	0	0
Narcotics-other (gm)	846.927	1041.5	546	8981.18
Opium (gm)	0.1	0	0	0
Other Drugs (gm)	1.49	545.761	11	336.20



Drug Disposal Program

	2022	2023	2024
Medication Collected (lbs.)	2,111	2,065	1,823

K9 Unit



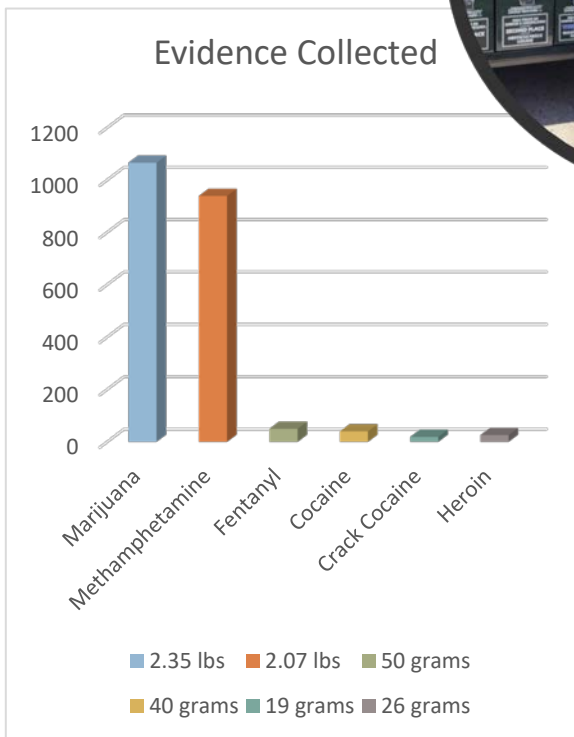
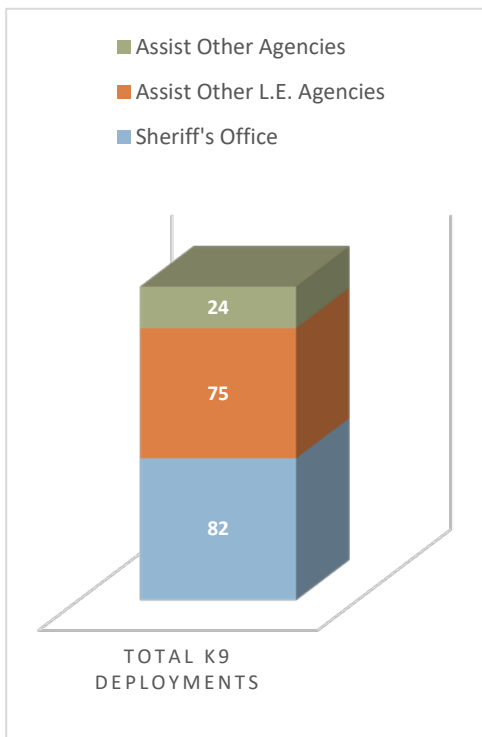
The Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office currently has two K-9 teams, which are K-9 Knox with his handler Deputy Chris Hemauer and K-9 Rocky with his handler Deputy Jon Schwede. Both of our K-9 teams are dual-purpose with patrol and narcotic capabilities.

Some of the patrol capabilities consist of tracking, building searches, area searches, and evidence recovery. Some of the narcotic capabilities consist of sniffs on vehicles, postal packages, and assisting school personnel with locker searches. Our K-9 teams are also very involved in our community with demonstrations and public engagements.



The K9 teams train a minimum of 16 hours per month to keep their skills refined as well as attend annual certification trainings. Over the past year, the K9 Team responded to 181 deployments.

This year at the annual Jessiffany Canine Challenge and Seminar, K9 Rocky and Deputy Jon Schwede took home the coveted Championship Belt as their team was named the overall best out of 50 different teams from across Wisconsin.



Civil Process and Bailiff



The Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office Civil Process Unit is comprised of two full-time sworn process servers and one civilian administrative specialist.

The Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office Civil Process Unit is responsible for serving legal documents and carrying out various court-ordered actions within the county. This includes serving summons, subpoenas, eviction notices, restraining orders, and other legal notices. The unit also handles the enforcement of civil judgments, such as property seizures or wage garnishments, and assists with the execution of court orders in both civil and family law matters. Deputies in the Civil Process Unit ensure that individuals and entities are properly notified of legal actions, helping to uphold the judicial process and the rights of all parties involved. They also assist with the service of legal papers from outside counties, both within the State of Wisconsin and other states.

Civil Process	2023	2024
Legal papers received for service	1,383	1,227
Writ of Assistance	6	4
Writ of Restitution	67	73
Writ of Replevin	9	11
Sheriff Sale Postings	42	33



Our Court Bailiffs play a crucial role in maintaining the order and security of all court proceedings. While specific responsibilities can vary, the primary role of the bailiff is to ensure the safety and security of all individuals inside the courthouse. Some of their other duties can include: responding to medical emergencies (medical or substance-related), investigating threats made to judges or courthouse personnel, handling disorderly individuals in the courtrooms, taking reports of theft, and taking custody of individuals who are ordered to report to the jail.

Jail Division



“Our Mission is to enforce the safety and security of all inmates and staff”

The Jail Division is comprised of the following Team members:

- 1 Major
- 2 Lieutenants
- 11 Sergeants
- 27 Corrections Officers (3 Short)
- 3 Full-time Nurses
- 6 Kitchen Staff
- 1 Bookkeeper
- 32-hour contracted mental health nurse
- AODA counselor



Our correctional officers play a critical role in maintaining safety, order, and security within the jail. They are responsible for overseeing individuals in custody, ensuring that inmates follow the rules and regulations while preventing conflicts or disturbances. Their duties include conducting regular security checks, supervising inmate activities, and responding to emergencies, such as altercations or medical crises. Correction officers also facilitate inmate rehabilitation through programs, such as educational and vocational training, that promote positive behavior which include; ***GED/HSED, AODA Group, EMP Program, Mental Health Counseling, Religious Programs, Employment Counseling, Making Reading Memories, Drug Court Life Skills (Coping and Parenting), and Manufacturing Classes.***

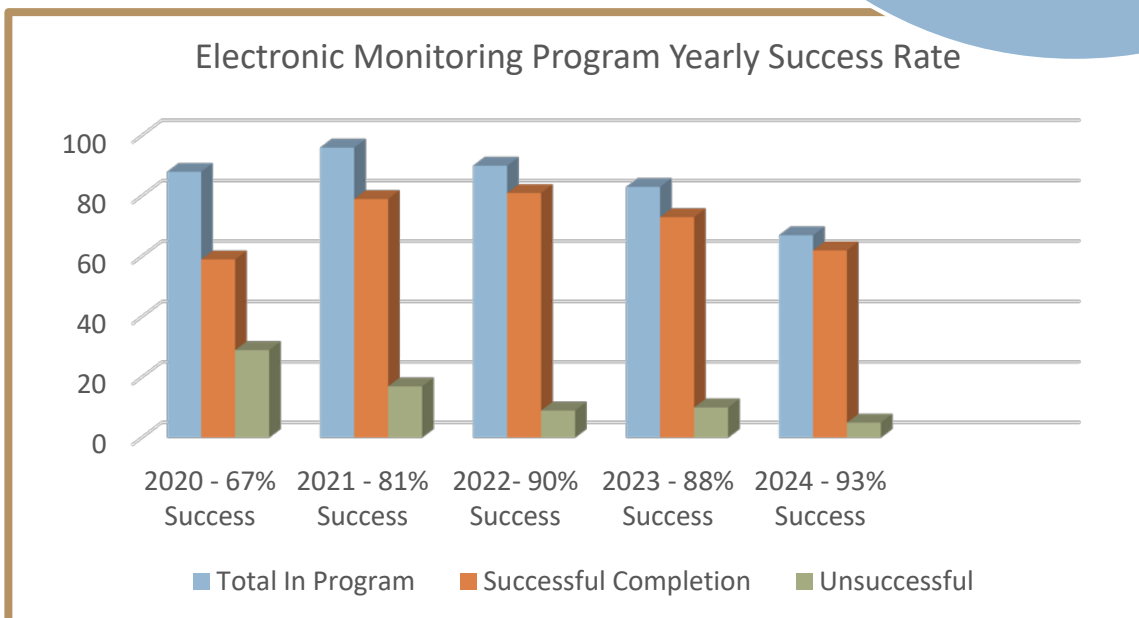
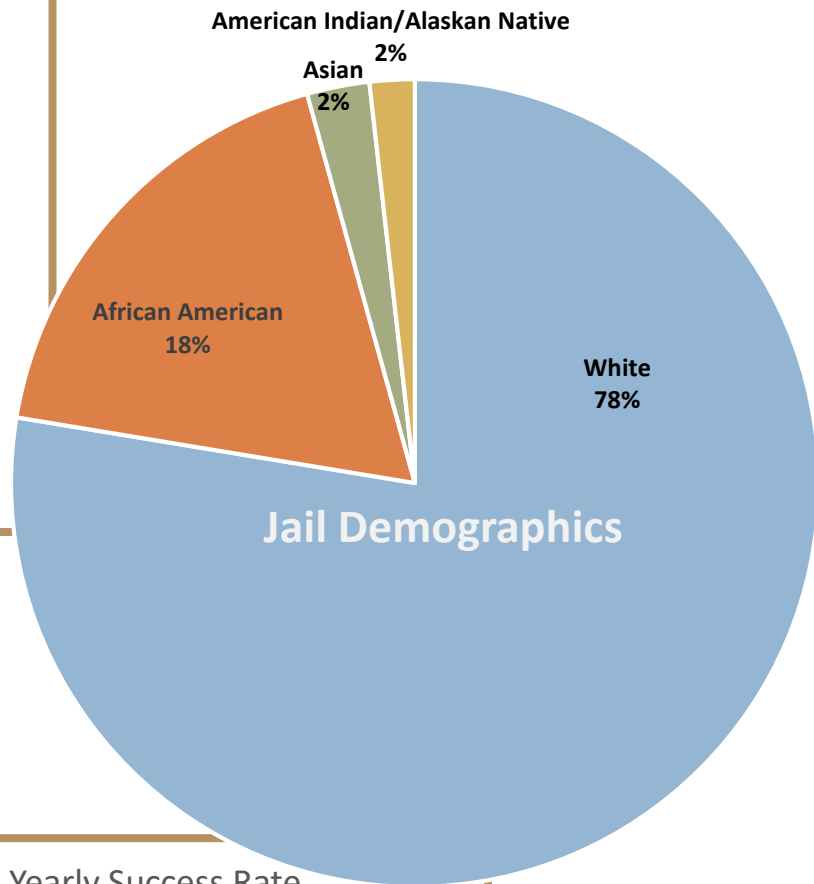
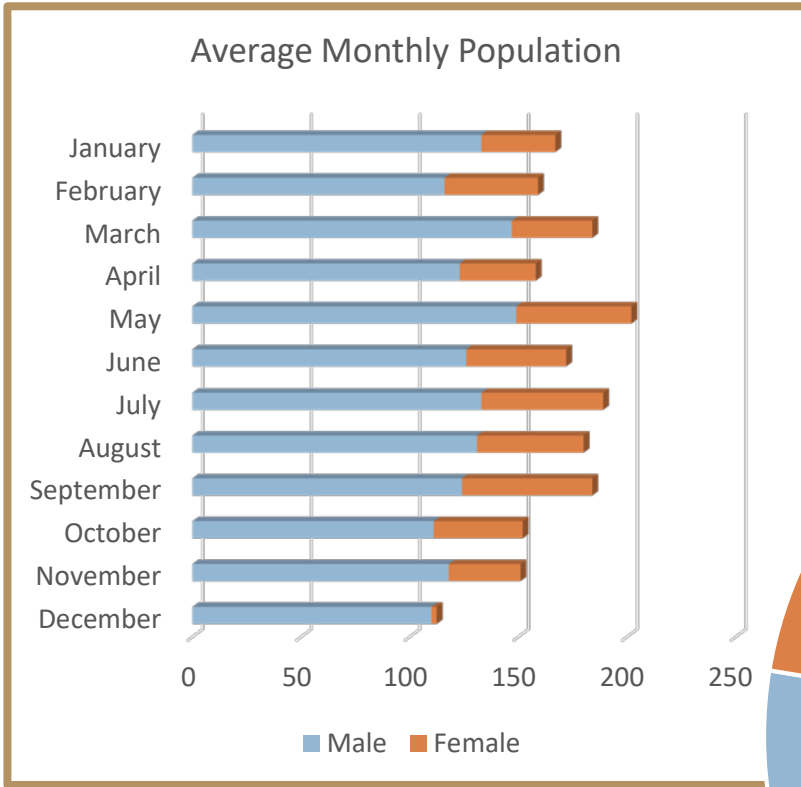


The safety and security of staff, incarcerated individuals, and visitors are a top priority. We maintain this by promoting a controlled environment while supporting the overall goals of the Manitowoc Sheriff's Office.

Over this past year, the Sheriff's Office Jail received a much-needed facelift in several areas. This has allowed for a more organized and efficient workplace environment. Some of these updates included;

- Replacing the flooring on both the 2nd and 3rd floors
- Updating cabinetry and storage in the nurse's station and the booking counter
- Completing a remodel of Central Control to maximize space and effectiveness

Jail Division...Continued



Reserve Deputy Program



The Manitowoc County Reserve Deputy Program is currently comprised of retired and current law enforcement officers. Reserve deputies are sworn law enforcement that work a part-time schedule and help with a multitude of different functions and responsibilities for the Sheriff's Office which include:

- Prisoner Transport (Mental Health, Prison, Jail, Court Appearances)
- Security Guard Duty
- Community Events
- Traffic Control
- Scene Security
- Special Events (Picnics / Races / Parades etc. / County Fair Detail)
- Background Investigation
- Bailiff Duties
- Investigation Assistance
- Training Role Players

During 2024 the reserve deputies worked a total of 4186 hours.

The reserve deputies play an important role in the day-to-day operations and success of the agency.



Food Services



The Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office runs a fully operational kitchen including five food service employees, currently down one position from our normal staffing of six, and one food service manager. This staff shortage did cause some challenges, however, we kept to the standards that we have in place. This year some of our newer staff were able to complete Food Safety Certification training.

This year the Food Services team prepared 166,513 meals for those housed within the Manitowoc County Jail. The daily calorie average per meal per day for inmate meals is 2,500 calories. The Food Services Team prepares food from a four-week rotating menu.

Additionally, 37,743 meals were prepared for the Manitowoc County Meals on Wheels Program. The Sheriff's Office is proud of the collaborative effort with the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) to provide these meals for those within our community. Since being involved with this program, the Food Services Team has made 121,000 meals!

A new dishwasher was purchased this year to replace our less efficient older model. The upgraded model will save on water consumption; yet provide the same quality of cleaning as the old one.

Food Services	2024
Meal Costs	\$432,902.63
Meals on Wheels Credit	\$195,461.97
Total Spent	\$237,440.66
Meals on Wheels Served	37,743
Jail Meals Served	166,513
Total Meals	204,256
Average Food Cost Per Meal	\$2.12
Average Jail Meal Cost	\$1.43

Volunteers



The Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office Volunteer Program is overseen by the Major of Support. The Volunteer Team currently has ten members. We can't say enough for how grateful we are to have these individuals who are willing to volunteer their time to assist the agency with daily tasks.

- *Roger Bauer*
- *Jeffrey Beckerleg*
- *Bob Blattler*
- *Al Krajnik*
- *Chuck Muench*
- *Norb Pellow*
- *John Schroeder*
- *Leigh Schroeder*
- *Duane Stoehr*
- *Carl Wardmam*



Volunteer assignments include: **Disabled Vehicle Checks, House Checks, Manitowoc TRIAD Meetings, Squad Maintenance Transport, assistance with Daily Operations, and Local Ballot Distribution**

During 2024, these ten volunteers donated 2,160 of their personal hours to helping out the Sheriff's Office. These volunteer hours not only significantly help to reduce the daily workload on our staff, but also save taxpayers money. Since conception of the program, volunteers have donated over

129,750 hours!

Thank you to each one of you for helping make a difference in our community and your continued dedication to the Sheriff's Office! Your daily efforts do not go unnoticed!



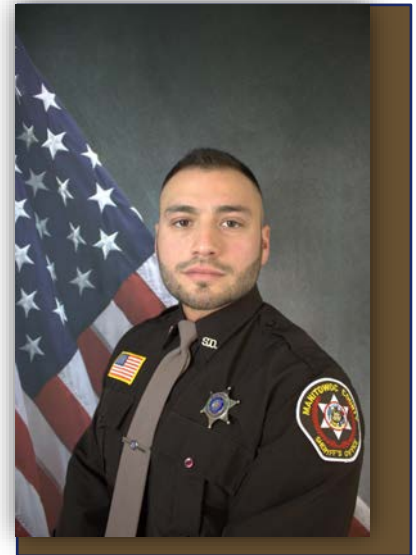
Officer of the Year



Deputy Dakota Gamez was honored by the Fraternal Order of Eagles on May 4, 2024, when he was nominated as the "2024 Eagles Officer of the Year", for his dedicated service to the community in the areas of law enforcement and crime prevention.

Yearly, officers are nominated by their peers for this award. Those recipients who are honored to be nominated for the Officer of the Year award have not only demonstrated an exemplary work history but also must exceed standards in the following areas:

- Appearance (how they represent the uniform)
- Overall Attitude
- Public Relation Skills
- Job Performance
- Sheriff's Office Involvement
- Ability to work well with others



Dakota Gamez began his career with the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office on March 14, 2022, as a Deputy Sheriff. Dakota came to us with prior law enforcement experience and once stepping through our doors, he hit the floor running. Throughout his time here he has excelled within the agency, specifically on the night shift, largely in part due to his motivation and self-initiated contacts.

This past year Dakota was recognized at our annual awards banquet where he earned the Merit Award for his initiative in helping apprehend and solve a multi-agency and state check theft/fraud operation that was responsible for well over \$500,000 in stolen funds. This is just one of Dakota's great arrests that he has made and continues to make through his ambitiousness and dedication to the profession.

Dakota is reliable, positive, confident in his abilities, and respectful of all individuals he works with and encounters on patrol. We are proud of the way he handles himself both on and off the job.

He is currently assigned to the SWAT Team as well as an instructor in Vehicle Contacts. He aspires to become involved in further training roles.

We are honored to have Deputy Dakota Gamez on our team at the Sheriff's Office and are proud to announce his recognition as Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

"One of the greatest honors for me as Sheriff is recognizing the men and women who put their lives on the line daily to protect the citizens we serve. This award cannot be overemphasized because it exemplifies the very best of our team."

Corrections Officer of the Year



Sergeant Steve Smith was honored by the Fraternal Order of Eagles on May 4, 2024, when he was nominated as the “2024 Eagles Corrections Officer of the Year”, for his dedicated service to the community in the area of corrections.

Yearly officers are nominated by their peers for this award. Those recipients who are honored to be nominated for the Corrections Officer of the Year award have not only demonstrated an exemplary work history but also must exceed standards in the following areas:

- ✦ Appearance (how they represent the uniform)
- ✦ Overall Attitude
- ✦ Public Relation Skills
- ✦ Job Performance
- ✦ Sheriff’s Office Involvement
- ✦ Ability to work well with others



Steve Smith began his career with the Manitowoc County Sheriff’s Office as a corrections officer on October 31, 2018.

In March of 2022, Steve was promoted to the position of Jail Sergeant. Though only having 3 1/2 years of experience he demonstrated and continues to demonstrate a positive attitude, dedication, passion, understanding, and respect for others.

Steve is currently the lead taser instructor in the jail and is responsible for ensuring our staff receives proper training in the usage of this equipment. He enjoys the added responsibility and takes pride in teaching and mentoring those around him.

Steve is an excellent recipient of this award earning this recognition through the way he handles himself day in and day out as a leader within our agency.

“We are honored to have Sergeant Steve Smith on our team at the Sheriff’s Office and are proud of this well-earned recognition as our Corrections Officer of the Year.”

Snowmobile and Boat Patrol



The Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office Boat and Snowmobile units are utilized for monitoring the trails, rivers, and waterways within Manitowoc County to provide education and to uphold the State recreational laws within Wisconsin. These programs are often funded annually between 60 to 80% through the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

The Sheriff's Office snowmobile and boat units are comprised of both full-time and reserve deputies who perform the enforcement of the State of Wisconsin's recreation laws within Manitowoc County.

The primary focus of both recreational patrol units is to provide education to those utilizing the Manitowoc County waterways and trails, to ensure an enjoyable experience for all, and provide enforcement to help keep everyone safe while in a boat or on a snowmobile.



Snowmobile Patrol

Manitowoc County currently has over 248 miles of snowmobile trails that are divided into six sections. During the 2024 winter season, 50 hours were designated for snowmobile patrol. A total of 13 citations and 20 warnings were issued.

- Common Violations –
 - Safety Certificate and Registration Issues
 - Failure to Comply with Signage
 - Operating on Closed Trails

Boat Patrol

The Boat Patrol unit provides education and enforcement to those utilizing the waterways within Manitowoc County. These include the rivers, inland lakes as well as Lake Michigan. During the 2024 boating season, the Manitowoc Sheriff's Office Boat Unit worked 157 hours.

- Written Warnings – 12
- DNR Citations – 12
- Common Violations –
 - Registration and Equipment Issues
 - Boater Safety Certificate
 - Slow No Wake violations



Specialty Teams – *SWAT /CNT TEAM*



SWAT Team

The multi-jurisdictional SWAT team includes members from the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office (lead), Manitowoc Police Department, Two Rivers Police Department, and Two Rivers Fire Department. This team is a designated unit of law enforcement officers and tactical emergency medical support (TEMS) that is specifically trained and equipped to work as a coordinated team to resolve critical incidents.



This includes, but is not limited to, hostage-taking, barricaded suspects, snipers, terrorist acts, and other high-risk incidents. As a matter of office policy, such a unit may also be used to serve high-risk warrants, both search and arrest, where public and officer safety issues warrant the use of such a unit.

During 2024 the SWAT Team conducted extensive training to help prepare them for actual call-out requests. The SWAT team was requested on 11 separate instances during 2024 for situations involving search warrants, and armed and dangerous individuals.

Crisis Negotiators Team (CNT)

The CNT is a joint agency county-wide team comprised of 11 negotiators from the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office, Manitowoc Police Department, Two Rivers Police Department, and Mishicot Police Department.

Each team member is responsible for completing the basic negotiator training and attending bi-monthly team training. During the monthly training, the team reviews past call-outs, their equipment and procedures, and works through team-building scenarios to help prepare them for actual calls for service.

In 2024 the CNT was activated on two call-outs.

Specialty Teams – *Dive & Recovery Team*



The Dive Team performs search and recovery operations in Lake Michigan, small lakes, and other bodies of water within Manitowoc County. The team consists of seven members, six from the Sheriff's Office and one from the Manitowoc Police Department, allowing for a joint operation.

New equipment such as dry suits, dive computers, fins, and air tanks were purchased to increase the safety and efficiency of the team.

During 2024, the team trained monthly from April through November in various bodies of water and conditions. Training, teamwork, experience, and knowledge of the equipment are important aspects that make this team successful.

Five of the current dive team members completed additional certifications in Public Safety and Rescue Diving. Two new members from the Sheriff's Office were added to the team in 2024. The two new members completed their basic open-water certification.

The team was utilized on two separate call-outs. In January they were deployed to a person who had fallen through the ice in the Manitowoc River near S. 10th St. In March the Dive Team was deployed to assist Two Rivers Police Department with a missing persons investigation.

Annually the team completes training to maintain certification in ice, deep, night, technical, and search and recovery dives. They complete the training on in-land lakes, ponds, as well as Lake Michigan.



Specialty Teams – *Drone Team*



In July of 2022, the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office created an Unmanned Aerial System team. The purpose of the Drone Unit is search and rescue, crash reconstruction, fugitive apprehension, assisting local Fire Departments/EMS, and Manitowoc County building inspections.

The team is comprised of two joint team leaders and eight additional pilots who have all passed testing by the FAA Part 107 guidelines.

In 2024 the Drone Team was utilized 45 times for a total of 128 times since its inception in July of 2022. These drones have been an integral part of the continued technological advancements of law enforcement allowing officers added safety during high-risk calls. Drone pilots continue to enhance their abilities through advanced training and actual callouts.

The drone was used for the following calls for service in 2024:

- TRPD – Elijah Vue search
- Shots Fired Call
- Vehicle Crashes
- Missing Persons / Runaways
- Suspicious Person
- Sexual Assault Suspect
- Structure Fires
- Suicidal Subject (Officer Safety)
- Suspicious Death
- Trespassing
- Check Welfare
- Vehicle Pursuit
- Vehicle Entries
- Locating Evidence
- SWAT Team Assist
- Warrant Arrest



Mobile Field Force



The Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office Mobile Field force (MFF) was a newly formed team in 2023, which includes all sworn officers who are trained to deal with civil disturbances. Currently assigned to the team is 3 patrol Lieutenants, 1 jail Sergeant, 1 Detective, and 5 Deputies. The majority of this team has FEMA Certification in Field Force Operations, with one of the Team leaders holding FEMA instructor certification. These officers are also equipped with uniforms and gear to assist them in dealing with unruly crowds.

The MFF team had a productive and successful year in 2024, with several key accomplishments aimed at enhancing operational readiness and ensuring the safety and effectiveness of our personnel. One of the team's major achievements was finalizing and obtaining uniforms for all members. Additionally, the team secured a grant to provide each MFF operator with an Individual First Aid Kit (IFAK), ensuring that our personnel are better equipped to respond to emergencies.

The MFF team also conducted joint training exercises with the Manitowoc Police Department and the National Guard, fostering stronger interagency collaboration and improving operational coordination in the field. Through these exercises, the team was able to refine tactics and build stronger partnerships for future response scenarios.

In addition, the team identified critical equipment needs, which will be prioritized for acquisition in the coming year to ensure the continued success and effectiveness of the MFF team.

Overall, 2024 was a year of growth and preparation, setting the foundation for an even more effective and efficient MFF team in the future.



Specialty Teams – *Honor Guard*



The Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard was formed by six agency members in 2012. Since then the team has continued to progress not only through their knowledge but also their experiences by partaking in many ceremonies. The uniform was hand-selected by all original team members. Currently, the Honor Guard Team consists of six members which include four Patrol Deputies, one Jail Sergeant, and one Patrol Captain.

In 2024, the Honor Guard Team responded to a total of six call-outs, all of which were partial team call-outs. The team trained for a total of 6 hours, primarily before each event to include, casket movements, flag folding, flag presentation, and the annual sunrise guard mount.



Honoring Those Who Have Paid the Ultimate Sacrifice

One member of the team was able to attend Police Week in Washington D.C. allowing him to proudly represent Manitowoc County in the process. Some of the responsibilities included during National Police Week included;

- Working closely with WI Honor Guard Association Member agencies and other agencies from around the nation to assist the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Foundation (NLEOMF), Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS), and the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) organizations with ceremonial duties.
- All functions were completed in full Honor Guard uniform and included: greeting and escorting surviving families and agencies of fallen officers at Reagan National Airport, Cordon of Honor and escorting Survivor families and agencies for the Candlelight Vigil, and providing a Cordon of Honor for Survivor families and agencies as well as VIPs for the Nation Police Officer's Memorial Ceremony.



Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

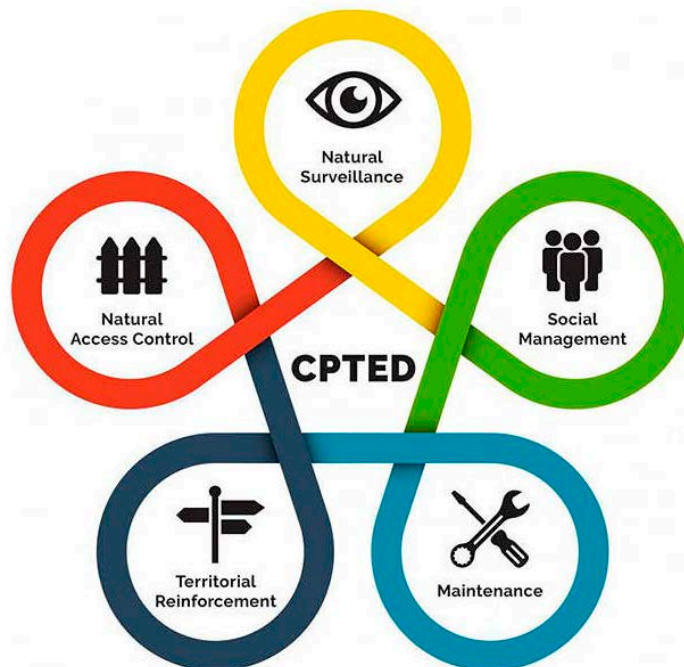
CPTED



The CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) Site Security Surveys team at the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office is dedicated to improving the safety and security of public spaces and private businesses by conducting comprehensive assessments of environmental factors such as site layouts, lighting, visibility, and accessibility. Through these surveys, the team provides recommendations designed to reduce crime and enhance safety for the public.

This year, the team completed two full CPTED surveys, including one for a school, where safety improvements were identified to reduce vulnerabilities. Additionally, the team provided a consultation at another school, offering expert advice on enhancing the security of the site.

These efforts contributed significantly to improving safety strategies at local schools, helping create safer environments for students, staff, and visitors. Moving forward, the team remains committed to expanding its impact and continuing to provide valuable CPTED assessments and recommendations to enhance public safety.



Training Program

Field Training Unit



The Field Training Unit is designed to provide new team members with the proper training, resources, knowledge, and experiences for solo job functions. This process lays down a strong foundation for the individual to build upon for the rest of their career. The training program allows newly hired individuals to learn from and work hand-in-hand with trainers specifically selected based on their knowledge and job performance. These selected trainers attend field trainer's certification training which we hold in-house. Currently, we have training programs designed for newly hired corrections officers, patrol deputies, as well as individuals promoted to first-level leadership and the detective and metro units.

Upon hire each new employee is also assigned a mentor who is a part of our Peer Support Team. This allows the newly hired individual an additional resource to go to that is outside the training or supervisory units.

Field Training in the jail division was once again an ongoing process during 2024 to ensure proper staffing levels were met. Five corrections officers were hired and successfully trained in 2024. Each new corrections officer receives seven weeks of in-house training as well as an additional 5 weeks of training during their first year of employment at an assigned technical college jail training academy. This year a total of six corrections officers attended either Fox Valley Technical College or Northeast Wisconsin Technical College. All were successful in completing the jail academy. One of our corrections officers even earned the Academic Award of Excellence at NWTC.

Currently, the jail has 11 field training officers and two field training supervisors. This year we also added a more in-depth orientation process allowing jail staff to job shadow patrol, dispatch, administration, and court bailiffs providing them with a birds-eye view of each division's responsibilities. We have been working on an updated field training manual that is anticipated to be completed in early 2025.

Field training in the patrol unit was a busy year. A total of eight deputies were hired and seven successfully passed the field training program moving on to solo patrol functions. These individuals were hired as a result of agency retirements. This year the Field Training Unit implemented the in-house FTO course. The course is a two-day course designed to provide new field trainers with the foundational tools to teach, evaluate, and document the performance and progression of trainees. We held two courses which consisted of both corrections officers and patrol deputies.



Meet Our New Team Members



Sara Derenne
Support Services



Kortney Roberts
Support Services



Jenny Siebert
Support Services



Jessica Martell
Correction Officer



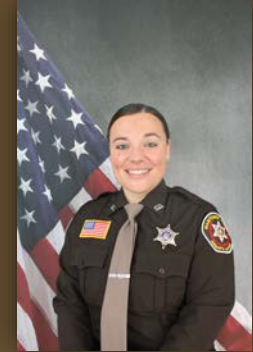
Aden Ording
Correction Officer



Nick Gorman
Correction Officer



Matt Hassemer
Patrol Deputy



Tania Grobman
Patrol Deputy



Nick Spurney
Patrol Deputy



Rob Wandrie
Patrol Deputy



Brogan Tremel
Patrol Deputy



Anthony Blish
Patrol Deputy



Joe Waystedt
Patrol Deputy

MANITOWOC COUNTY
SHERIFF

Training Program



Each year the State of Wisconsin mandates that all law enforcement and corrections officers obtain at least 24 hours of training. We ensure that all our staff receive this training through annual in-service training. Staff can also attend additional out-of-agency training if they so wish in more specialized topics that will not only benefit them in their daily job performances but also the rest of the agency. Often trainers are sent to these specialized courses as they can then teach what they learned to other team members.

All the in-service training is developed and instructed by our trainers and is completed throughout the year. We continue to develop and enhance the training topics and experiences to best prepare our staff for real-life situations.

In 2024, the following topics were trained during the in-service sessions;

Jail

- In-service #1 – (8 hours)
 - Defensive Tactics Review
 - Medical Review
- In-service #2 – (8 hours)
 - Fire Evacuation
 - Gas Mask Fit Testing
 - Report Writing
- In-service #3 – (8 Hours)
 - Professional Communication Training
 - Scenario Training
 - Report Writing



Patrol

- In-service #1 – (8 hours)
 - Defensive Tactics – Room Clearing – Scenarios
- In-service #2 – (8 hours)
 - Firearms – CPR
- In-service #3 – (4 hours)
 - Emergency Vehicle Operations
- In-service #4 – (8 hours)
 - Firearms – Standardized Field Sobriety Testing



Retirement



Mike Herrmann

On May 24, 2024, Mike Herrmann retired from the position of Detective where he has been a valuable resource to the MTSO investigative unit since 2018.

Mike's journey with the Sheriff's Office began back in August of 1993 when he joined us as a Corrections Officer. Over the years, he progressed through various roles, including Jail Sergeant, Patrol Deputy, and eventually, Detective. Throughout his tenure, Mike has exemplified the utmost professionalism, dedication, and unwavering commitment to serving our community.

In addition to his primary roles, Mike has been involved in numerous specialized units and initiatives within our agency. He has been an integral member of our Honor Guard, Fire Investigative Unit, Dive Team, and Mobile Field Force Team. Furthermore, Mike has generously shared his expertise by serving as an instructor in various topics, positively impacting the skillset of many of our colleagues. Some of these include the Field Training Unit, Stop the Bleed, ALERRT, CRASE, Defensive Tactics, and CPTED Security Assessment.

Beyond our agency, Mike has represented the Sheriff's Office with distinction on the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Memorial Board and the Wisconsin Honor Guard Association, leaving a lasting legacy statewide.



Jason Jost

On August 2, 2024, Jason Jost retired from the position of Court Bailiff.

Jason's journey with the Sheriff's Office began back in June of 1991 as a reserve deputy. Jason came to the Sheriff's Office after having served for the Janesville Police Department. Throughout Jason's tenured career at the Sheriff's Office, he has served in many roles and has worn various hats within our agency while maintaining a professional, dedicated, and skilled approach to each one of these responsibilities.

During Jason's career, he was a Reserve Deputy, Patrol Deputy, Patrol Sergeant, Patrol Lieutenant, Jail Administration, Lieutenant of Detectives, and most recently Court Bailiff. Jason has also been active in numerous specialized teams and held additional responsibilities during his career which have included the SWAT Team, PREA Coordinator, Crime Stoppers Program, Evidence Technician, Peer Support Program, and Field Training Officer to name a few.

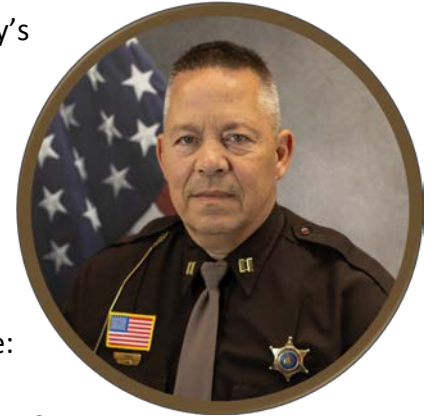


Retirement...Continued



Cory Zimmer

On September 23, 2024, Cory Zimmer retired after serving 36 years. Cory's journey with the Sheriff's Office began back in May 1988 as a reserve deputy. His dedication led to his full-time hiring as a corrections officer. Over the years, Cory has taken on various roles with distinction, including jail sergeant, patrol deputy, and patrol lieutenant. His current position, as Patrol Captain (shift commander) highlights the depth of his experience and leadership within our agency.



Throughout his career, Cory has exemplified the core values of our office: Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Dedication, and Excellence. His contributions have had a lasting impact on our team and the community we serve.

Mike, Jason, and Cory, on behalf of the entire Sheriff's Office, thank you for your unwavering dedication, service to the community, leadership qualities, and most importantly the friendships that you have made.

Community Involvement



The Sheriff's Office takes PRIDE in our involvement in community events and enjoy the positive interactions with everyone. This year our staff participated in 61 events from public appearances, presentations, and providing security during special community events. These are just a few of the events that we participated in during 2024.

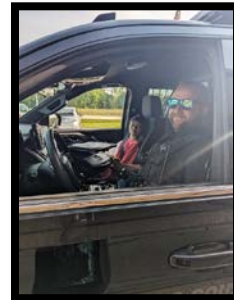
Sheriff's Office in the Community



D.A.R.E
Shop with a Cop
Trunk or Treat
National Night Out
Parades



LE Memorial
Cops & Bobbers
Touch the Trucks
Police Lights of Christmas
Community Helpers
Agency Tours



Prom
Run/Walks
Night Market 920
Cops on a Rooftop
Back to School Safety
County Fair
Professionals Day
Ant Hill Mob Charity Dance
Career Fairs



Where to Find Us



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@manitowocsheriffsofficewi



P.R.I.D.E

PROFESSIONALISM - RESPECT - INTIGRITY - DEDICATION - EXCELLENCE