



Annual Report

2025

MANITOWOC COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Intentionally Left Blank

A Letter From *Sheriff Hartwig*



On behalf of the men and women of the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office, I am proud to present our 2025 Annual Report. This report reflects the dedication, professionalism, and commitment demonstrated daily by our sworn and professional staff as we serve the citizens of Manitowoc County.

Throughout 2025, our office handled more than 9,400 cases across the Operations and Jail Divisions. Deputies, corrections staff, and support personnel worked around the clock to respond to emergencies, investigate crimes, maintain safe and secure jail operations, and provide essential administrative and community services. From proactive patrol and traffic enforcement efforts to complex criminal investigations and multi-agency task force operations, our team remained focused on protecting life, property, and public trust.

This year also brought notable achievements and challenges. We recognized outstanding service through our Officer of the Year and humanitarian awards, welcomed new team members, and honored the careers and lasting contributions of several retirees whose leadership and dedication helped shape our agency. Continued investment in training, equipment, and facility improvements ensured our personnel were prepared to meet evolving public safety demands while emphasizing accountability and professionalism.

Equally important is our strong connection to the community we serve. In 2025, members of the Sheriff's Office participated in dozens of community events, educational programs, and outreach initiatives. These interactions strengthen partnerships, build trust, and reinforce our shared commitment to safety and quality of life throughout Manitowoc County.

None of this work would be possible without the support of our community, partner agencies, volunteers, and the families who stand behind our employees. I am grateful for their continued trust and cooperation.

As Sheriff, I am honored to lead an agency guided by our core values of Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Dedication, and Excellence. We remain committed to serving "In Partnership with the Community, Dedicated to Your Safety," today and into the future.

Respectfully,



Dan Hartwig

MANITOWOC COUNTY SHERIFF

MISSION & VALUES STATEMENT

*“In Partnership with the Community,
Dedicated to Your Safety”*



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.

**PROFESSIONALISM RESPECT INTEGRITY
DEDICATION EXCELLENCE**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OUR TEAM

COMMAND STAFF

RETIREES

NEW TEAM MEMBERS

AWARDS

OFFICER'S OF THE YEAR

OUR DIVISIONS

OPERATIONS

JAIL

SUPPORT

OUR SPECIALTY TEAMS

SNOWMOBILE / BOAT

SWAT / CNT

SEARCH AND RECOVERY (DIVE)

HONOR GUARD

DRONE

MOBILE FIELD FORCE

HONOR GUARD

USE OF FORCE

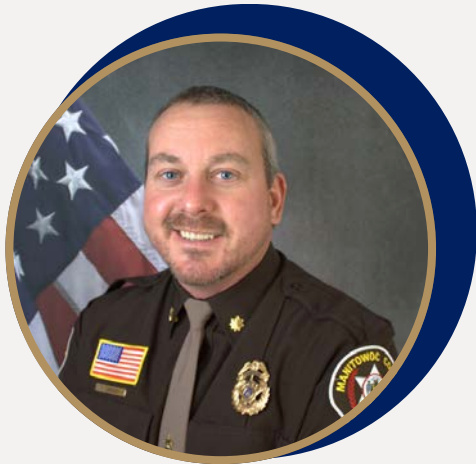
OUR COMMUNITY



COMMAND STAFF



Jason Orth
CHIEF DEPUTY /
UNDERSHERIFF



Todd Cummings
MAJOR OF OPERATIONS



Kevin Haese
MAJOR OF SUPPORT



Andrew LaCrosse
MAJOR OF JAIL

RETIRED STAFF



On January 3, 2025, Deputy Jeff Froelich retired from the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office following more than 35 years of dedicated service.

Jeff began his career as a reserve deputy in October 1989 and was appointed to a full-time patrol position in February 1992. In 2010, he transitioned to the role of bailiff and later assumed a position in civil process in 2015.

Throughout his career, Jeff served on the SWAT team for 18 years, including several years as a team leader. Since 2000, he has played a key leadership role in firearms training, serving as a rangemaster and armorer. His dedication, expertise, and commitment to training and equipment management significantly shaped and strengthened the Sheriff's Office firearms and armory programs, leaving a lasting impact on both instructors and colleagues.

On January 31, 2025, Chief Deputy/Undersheriff Brian Nack retired from the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office after more than 32 years of distinguished service.

Brian began his law enforcement career in February 1992 as a patrol deputy. He later served as a K9 handler from 1998 to 2005 alongside his partner, Apollo—a role he often described as the most meaningful of his career. He was promoted to Patrol Sergeant in 2005 and Patrol Lieutenant in 2007 and was recognized as Manitowoc County Officer of the Year in 2006. After serving 12 years as a patrol shift commander, Brian was promoted to Chief Deputy (Undersheriff) in 2019, a position he held until his retirement.

Throughout his career, Brian played a vital role in both operational leadership and the behind-the-scenes functions that enhanced the efficiency and effectiveness of daily operations. His enduring legacy is marked by his mentorship, steady leadership, and unwavering commitment to the success of those he served alongside.



RETIRED STAFF



Mike Polich began his law enforcement career in October 1989 as a Reserve Deputy and progressed through the ranks, serving as a Jail Corrections Officer, Jail Sergeant, Deputy Sheriff, Patrol Sergeant, Patrol Lieutenant, and, most recently, Patrol Captain in August 2024.

He also served part-time with the Mishicot Police Department. Mike was highly regarded for his deep knowledge of the agency and his willingness to assist wherever needed. In addition to his supervisory roles, he provided leadership for the Dive and Recovery Team, Crisis Negotiators Team, Boat and Snowmobile Team, and Honor Guard, leaving a lasting impact on the Sheriff's Office.



Rick Tisler began his law enforcement career with the Sheriff's Office in August 1993 as a Reserve Deputy before serving part-time with the City of Kiel and the Village of Reedsville. In March 1994, he began full-time service with the Manitowoc Police Department. He returned to the Sheriff's Office in March 1996 as a Patrol Deputy and later advanced through the ranks, earning promotions to Patrol Lieutenant in May 2018 and Patrol Captain in September 2024.



Throughout his career, Rick assumed numerous critical roles, including Snowmobile Patrol, Boat Patrol, Evidence Technician, Field Training Officer and Supervisor, and various equipment and fleet management assignments. He also served as the Fire Association liaison and played a key role in developing and managing the agency's Speed Board Program.

Jeff, Brian, Mike, and Rick, 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.

NEW TEAM MEMBERS



Kaden Hagenow
PATROL



Dave McCue
RESERVE DEPUTY



Alyssa Grotegut
SUPPORT SERVICES



Keegan Godwin
PATROL



Katrina Bullock
CORRECTIONS



Peter McGinty
RESERVE DEPUTY



Jordyn Tadych
CORRECTIONS

NEW TEAM MEMBERS



Dave Jansen
CORRECTIONS



Nicole Malek
SUPPORT SERVICES



Nolan Wilker
CORRECTIONS



Emalea Avery
CORRECTIONS



Santos Torres-Zapien
RESERVE DEPUTY



Lucas May
PATROL



Gina Wotruba
SUPPORT SERVICES



LIFE SAVING AWARD



Chris Hemauer



Kyle Stotzheim



Matt Schmaling - Preston Orth - Eddie Wick



Presented to an agency member who performs an act that is determined to be directly responsible for the saving of the life of another.

HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Through the performance of services or a series of acts that demonstrate a high level of compassion for others in the community.

These acts of caring and compassion go well beyond the line of duty expectations, as the agency member dedicates extraordinary time and/or effort in meeting the needs of an individual or group within the community.

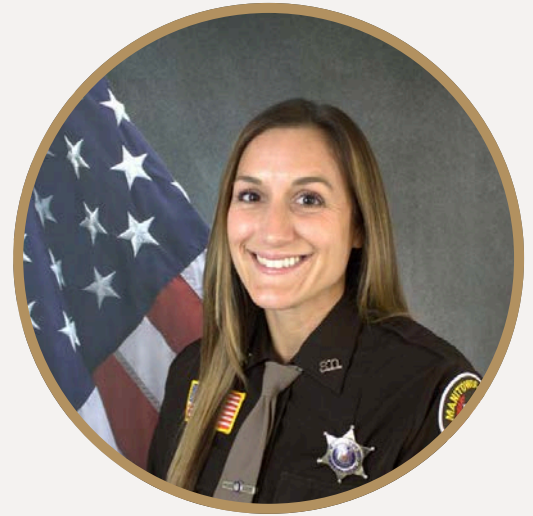


Dakota Gamez

OFFICERS OF THE YEAR

Since joining the Manitowoc Sheriff's Office in April 2014, Brittney has exemplified professionalism, dedication, and pride in her work. Brittney has worked as a 2nd shift patrol deputy until October 2023, when she was promoted to the Detective Unit.

During this time as a detective, she has embraced the challenges of her position, completing specialized training in critical areas such as Internet Crimes Against Children, Death Investigation, and Sexual Assault Cases. Brittney's ability to navigate difficult situations with grace and professionalism is truly commendable.



Detective
Brittney Schweigl

This prestigious award, sponsored by the Manitowoc Fraternal Order of Eagles, recognizes exemplary service and dedication by local Patrol and Corrections Officers.

Since joining the Manitowoc Sheriff's Office in May of 2022, Derek has consistently demonstrated exceptional skills in managing challenging situations and maintaining a positive environment. His ability to communicate effectively with both colleagues and inmates reflects his strong character and leadership qualities.

Derek has taken on added responsibilities within the agency, including Field Training Officer, Taser Instructor, and training role player. He is always willing to help out and lend an extra hand. This is evident through his willingness to assist with community events such as Touch the Trucks, County Fair, and involvement with our local parades.

Away from the Sheriff's Office, Derek can be seen driving an ambulance for the Town of Mishicot or working as a volunteer firefighter with the Town of Two Rivers Fire Department.



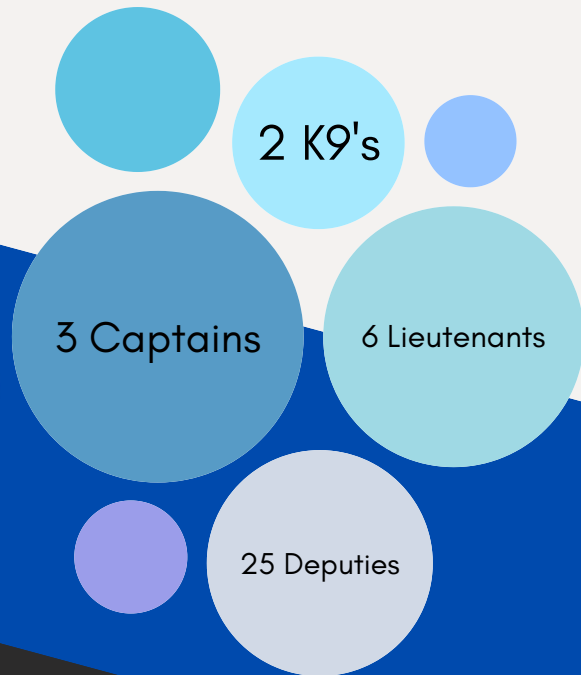
Corrections Officer
Derek Stevenson

OPERATIONS PATROL UNIT



Manitowoc County encompasses 1,494 square miles, including 589 square miles of land and the remainder comprised of water. The Sheriff's Office maintains primary jurisdiction over all unincorporated towns, six villages, and the Lake Michigan shoreline, and every inland lake within the county.

The Patrol Unit plays a crucial role in preserving public safety and enforcing state and local laws. Deputies are responsible for patrolling rural areas, highways, and local communities, ensuring a timely response to emergencies and incidents. Patrol deputies are often the first MTSO staff to arrive at crashes, criminal activity, and public disturbances. Patrol deputies conduct traffic enforcement, initiate preliminary investigations, support crime-prevention initiatives, engage in community outreach, and collaborate closely with partner law enforcement agencies. The Patrol Unit also participates in statewide safety efforts, utilizing grants and other state funding to enhance highway safety and reduce traffic-related incidents.



The Patrol Unit operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, utilizing three scheduled eight-hour shifts. Each shift is led by a Captain and supported by two Lieutenants, all of whom fall under the Operations Division, overseen by Major Todd Cummings.

Patrol deputies serve as the primary responders to most incidents within Manitowoc County—ranging from routine citizen assistance calls to major emergencies and everything in between. In addition to their core duties, many deputies also participate in specialized teams and serve as agency instructors. These additional roles enhance the Sheriff's Office's ability to deliver high-quality services to the community and provide valuable training and expertise to our Team.

Traffic Enforcement

Enforcement Effort Comparison

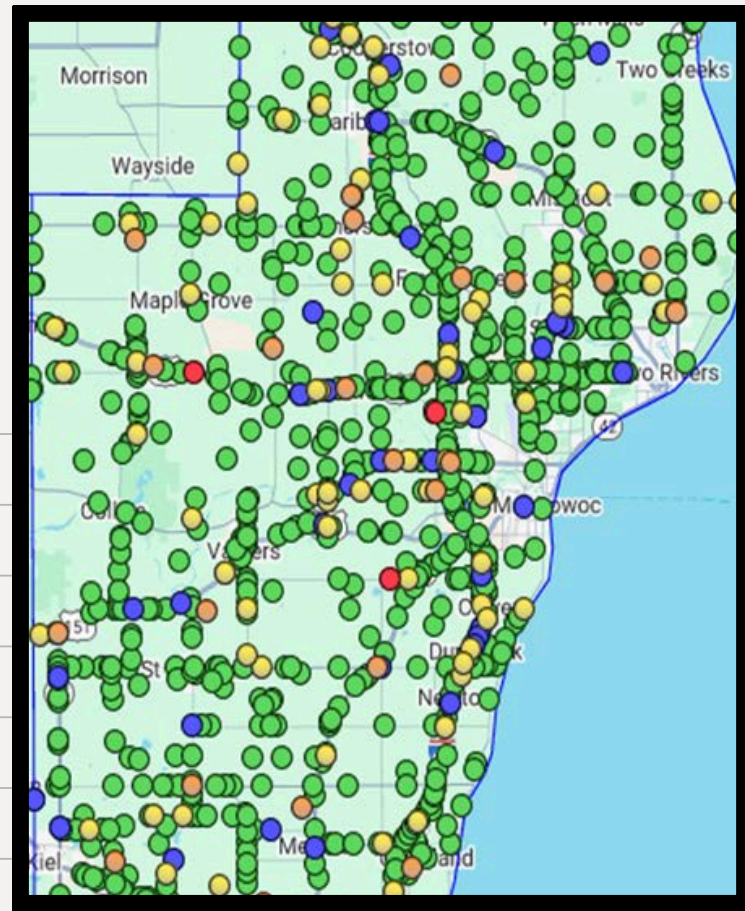
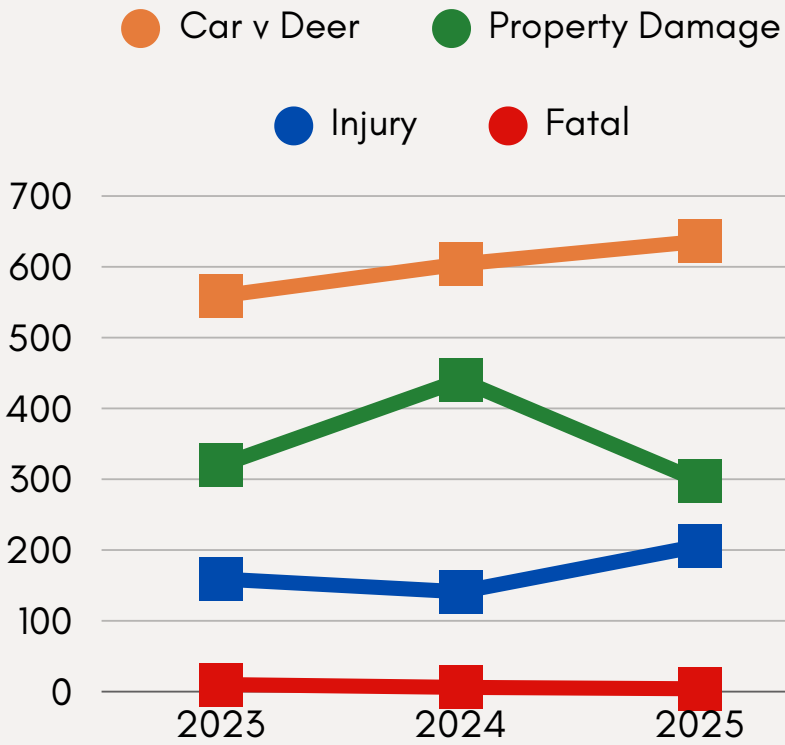
Year	Traffic & Ordinance Citations	OWI Arrests
2021	2,679	171
2022	2,387	190
2023	3,177	256
2024	2,863	175
2025	2,267	123

Patrol Enforcement

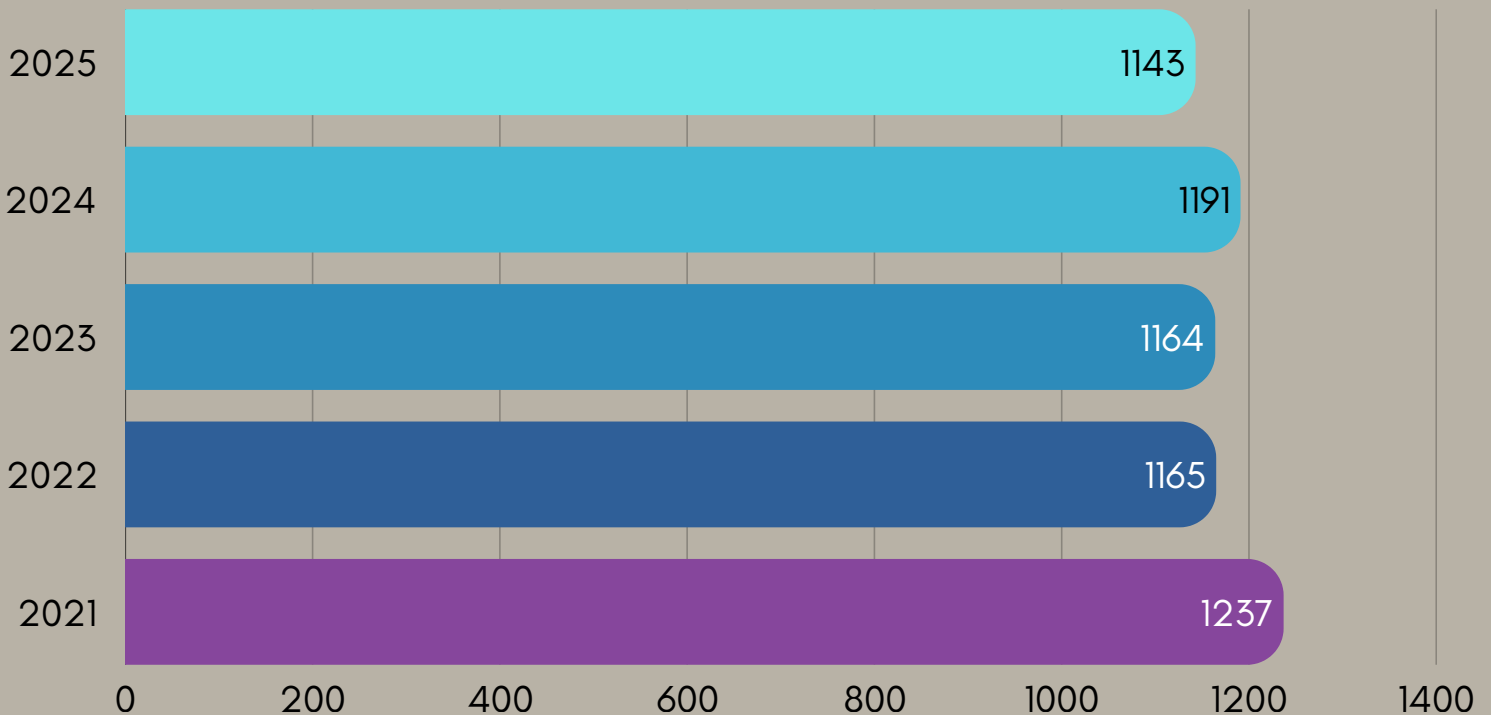
Year	Traffic Citations	Warnings (Written)	Ordinance Citations	OWI Arrests	DNR Citations
2023	2,548	2,988	189	256	37
2024	2,698	2,420	165	175	26
2025	2,121	2,440	148	123	18

Crash Investigation

Vehicle Crash Demographics



Yearly Total Crash Comparison



INVESTIGATION UNIT



The Detective Unit consists of Lieutenant Bret Oswald, five detectives, and a Criminal Support Specialist. All detectives are trained in all major investigative areas, while also maintaining specialized skills in areas such as Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC), death investigations, and sexual assault cases. In 2025, Detective Rob Wandrie joined the unit, bringing additional skills as an evidence technician and Drug Recognition Expert.

The Detective Unit was involved in several major investigations in 2025, including a case involving a local high school teacher charged with multiple offenses against a minor in State and Federal Court. Another notable investigation involved a man accused of starting multiple grass fires in Manitowoc County; after a lengthy investigation, the individual was arrested and faces arson charges. The unit also supported county-wide efforts to address drug crimes, leading to arrests and the seizure of drugs and weapons. Throughout the year, the unit focused on thorough investigations, professional development, and collaboration with other agencies to ensure the safety and well-being of the community.

Looking ahead to 2026, the Detective Unit will continue developing its investigative skills through training and hands-on experience. The team will work closely with other agencies, keep up with changes in forensic and investigative methods, and respond to new challenges in the community. The unit will remain dedicated to thorough investigations and supporting the residents of Manitowoc County.

Most Investigated Crimes

DEATH
INVESTIGATIONS

SEXUAL ASSAULT

FRAUD

INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST
CHILDREN THEFT

COLD CASE REVIEW

CHILD NEGLECT

CHILD ENTICEMENT

2025 Crime Statistics

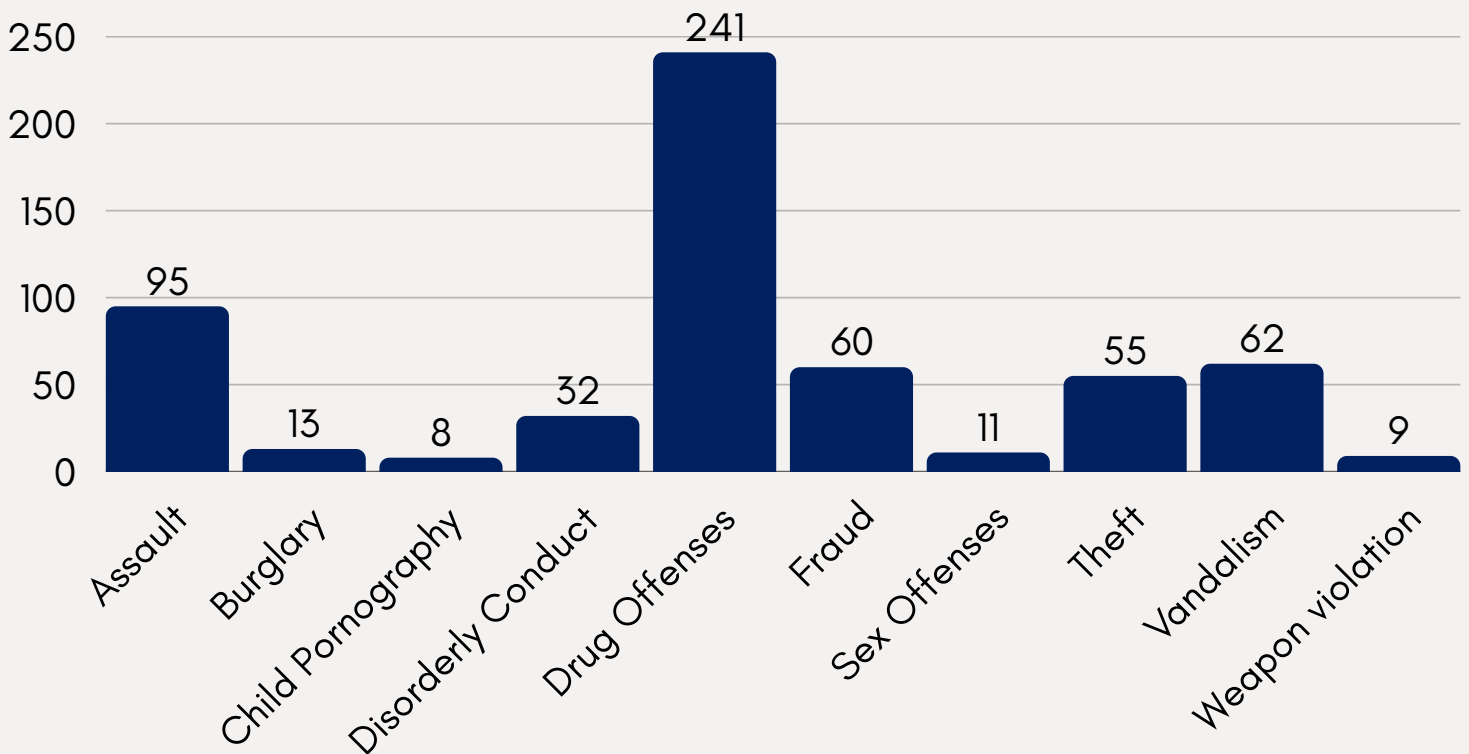
During 2025, the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office recorded 574 Group A offenses, resulting in 321 arrests, including 296 adult and 25 juvenile arrests. These incidents spanned crimes against persons, property, and society. Crimes against society made up the largest share of reported activity, largely driven by drug- and narcotics-related offenses. Crimes against property followed, with vandalism, theft, and fraud most prevalent, while crimes against persons were primarily assault-related.

The most frequently reported offenses included drug and narcotics violations, drug paraphernalia violations, simple assault, vandalism, fraud, theft and larceny, aggravated assault, burglary, identity theft, and motor vehicle theft. Drug-related activity continued to represent the most significant enforcement challenge, while assault remained the most common crime against persons and property crimes were dominated by vandalism, theft, and fraud.

In addition to Group A offenses, deputies made 500 Group B arrests during the year, consisting of 489 adult and 11 juvenile arrests.

Overall, 2025 crime and arrest data highlight the Sheriff's Office's ongoing commitment to proactive enforcement, traffic safety, and protecting the communities of Manitowoc County.

Top Crimes Investigated in 2025



CRIMINAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST



The Criminal Support Specialist (CSS) is a member of our professional civilian staff whose primary responsibilities include evidence intake, purging, and overall organization within the evidence room, as well as staff training. The CSS also analyzes evidence for fingerprints and DNA, conducts NIBIN entries and background checks for firearm returns, submits evidence to the Wisconsin State Crime Lab, manages property returns, provides courtroom testimony, and assists the Detective Unit/Metro Drug Unit at scenes or search warrants as an evidence technician.

In 2025, the CSS's largest undertaking was a full inventory of the Long-Term Storage (LTS) Evidence Room, which houses evidence requiring extended retention. This project involved reviewing the contents of each case, reorganizing evidence, disposing of items no longer required for retention, and entering all individual items into the electronic evidence system. At completion, the LTS Evidence Room contained 629 items. To increase available space and improve overall functionality, 25 firearms were transported to SCL for destruction, and all unneeded counterfeit currency was removed. Additionally, all evidence stored in the impound area has now been entered into the electronic system, significantly reducing the reliance on paper records.

She continues to pursue professional development opportunities that benefit both herself and the agency. This year, she attended the WAI Conference and the Property Room & Evidence Management training, which emphasized best practices, evidence-handling standards, and collaboration across forensic disciplines. She also developed and instructed an in-service training session covering DNA collection and NIBIN firearm analysis.



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 (MDU), and we agree individually and collectively to support its efforts by endorsing this agreement.

The Manitowoc County Metro Drug Unit (MDU) is a multi-jurisdictional task force comprised of law enforcement personnel from the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office (MTSO), City of Manitowoc Police Department (MTPD), City of Two Rivers Police Department (TRPD), and the City of Kiel Police Department (KLPD). The MDU is housed at the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office, where all seized evidence is securely stored. The unit is supervised by Lieutenant Andy Beck, an employee of the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office. MTSO provides two investigators and one support staff reserve deputy. MTPD and TRPD each provide one investigator. The MDU also partners with the Wisconsin National Guard Counter Drug Program and utilizes a Narcotics Analyst to support investigations.

The MDU operates under the direction of an Oversight Board consisting of the Manitowoc County Sheriff, Chief of the Manitowoc Police Department, Chief of the Two Rivers Police Department, Chief of the Kiel Police Department, and the Manitowoc County District Attorney. The Oversight Board meets quarterly and receives reports from the MDU Supervisor.

In 2025, the MDU conducted 101 drug-related investigations. Methamphetamine was involved in approximately 33% of cases, fentanyl in 9%, and cocaine in 15%. The unit continued to collaborate with local, state, and federal partners, including the DEA Green Bay Resident Office and the U.S. Attorney's Office – Eastern District of Wisconsin, to investigate and prosecute larger-scale narcotics traffickers.



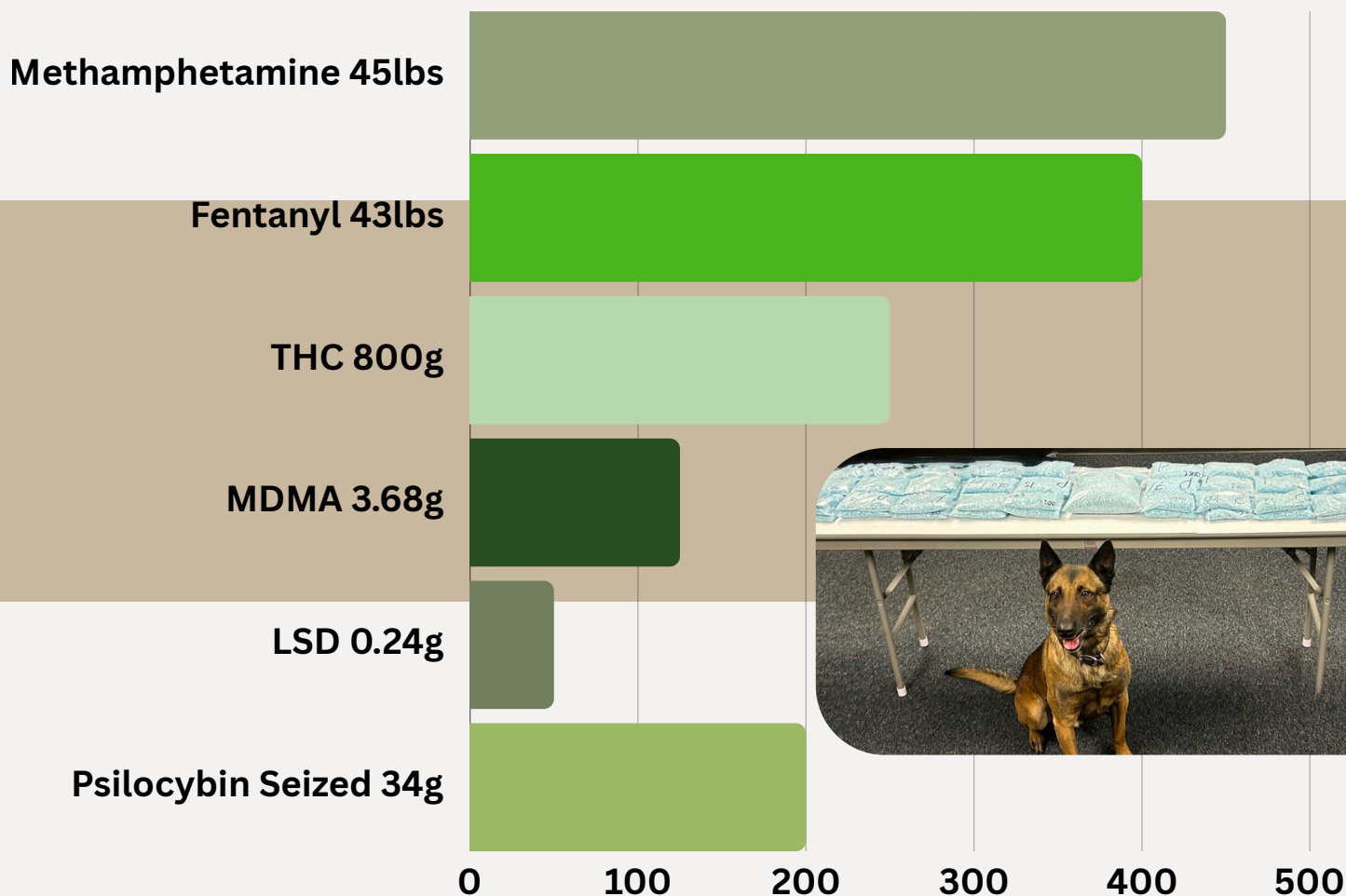
In 2025, the MDU seized 43.0 pounds of fentanyl, 45.23 pounds of methamphetamine, and 23.68 pounds of cocaine. Drugs were sourced from Milwaukee, Chicago, and the states of Virginia, California, and Arizona. A joint investigation with the DEA Green Bay Resident Office resulted in the seizure of approximately 43 pounds of fentanyl disguised as prescription medication, believed to be the largest seizure of its kind in Wisconsin.

Lieutenant Andy Beck continues to serve as MDU Supervisor throughout 2025. In October 2025, the MDU welcomed two new investigators, one from the Manitowoc Police Department and one from the Two Rivers Police Department. We also obtained an analyst through the Wisconsin National Guard who assists the drug unit in narcotic related investigation

Metro Drug Continued...

Metro Drug Unit Seizures

Total Metro Drug Cases: 101



Prescription Drug County Wide Disposal Totals

Drug Disposal Program

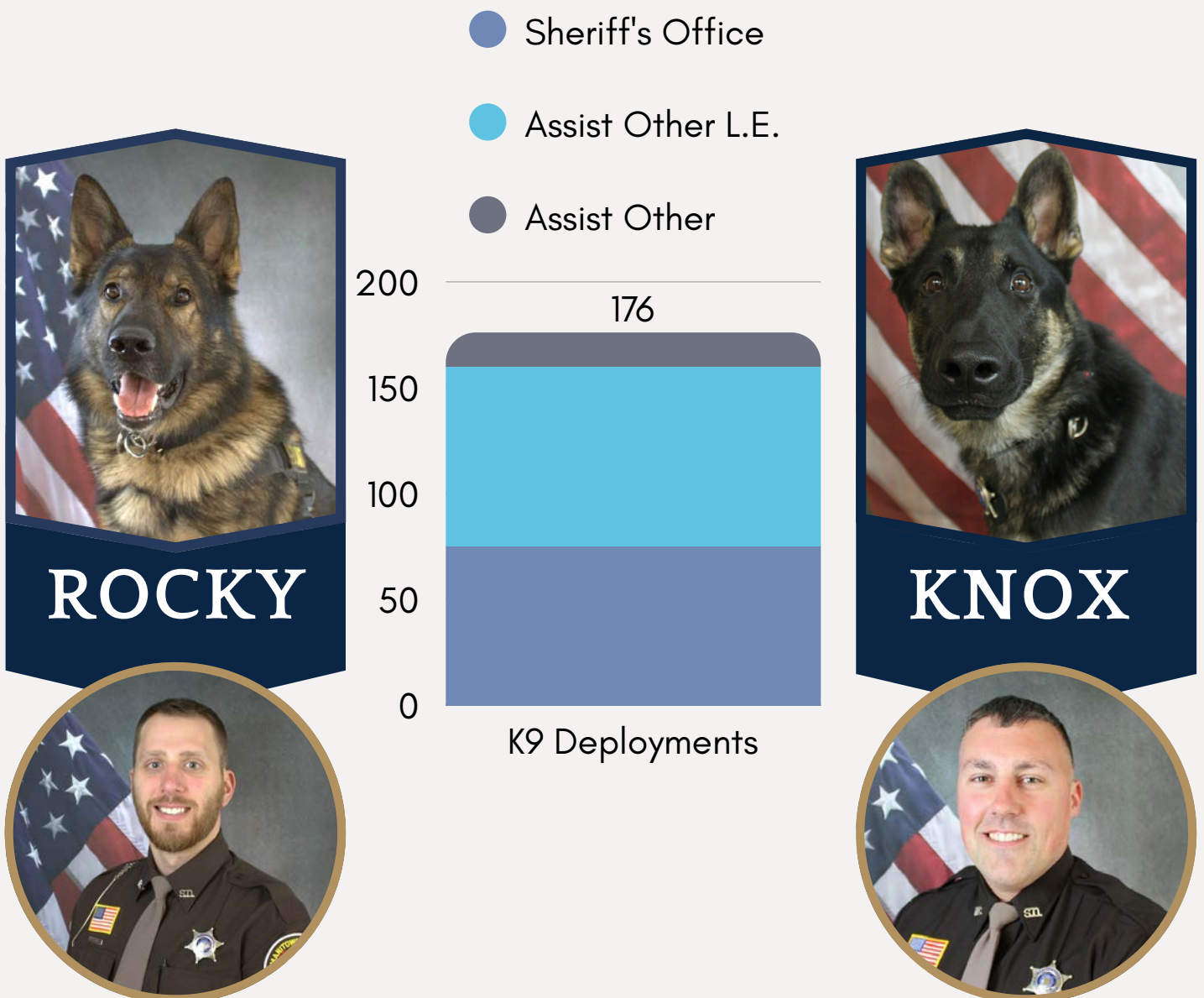
	2022	2023	2024	2025
Medication Collected (lbs.)	2,111	2,065	1,823	1,822

K9 UNIT

The Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office maintains two dual-purpose K-9 teams, K-9 Knox (Deputy Chris Hemauer) and K-9 Rocky (Deputy Jon Schwede), certified in patrol and narcotics detection. They assist with suspect and missing-person tracking, searches, evidence recovery, and drug detection, including vehicle and parcel screenings and school facility support.

The teams also engage in community outreach through demonstrations and educational events. Each K-9 team completes at least 16 hours of monthly training and annual certifications to maintain peak readiness.

In 2025, the K-9 teams were deployed 176 times—75 for MTSO, 85 for other law enforcement agencies, and 16 for community requests—recovering approximately 3.96 pounds of marijuana, 6.55 ounces of methamphetamine, 17.09 grams of fentanyl, and 35.28 grams of cocaine.



JAIL DIVISION

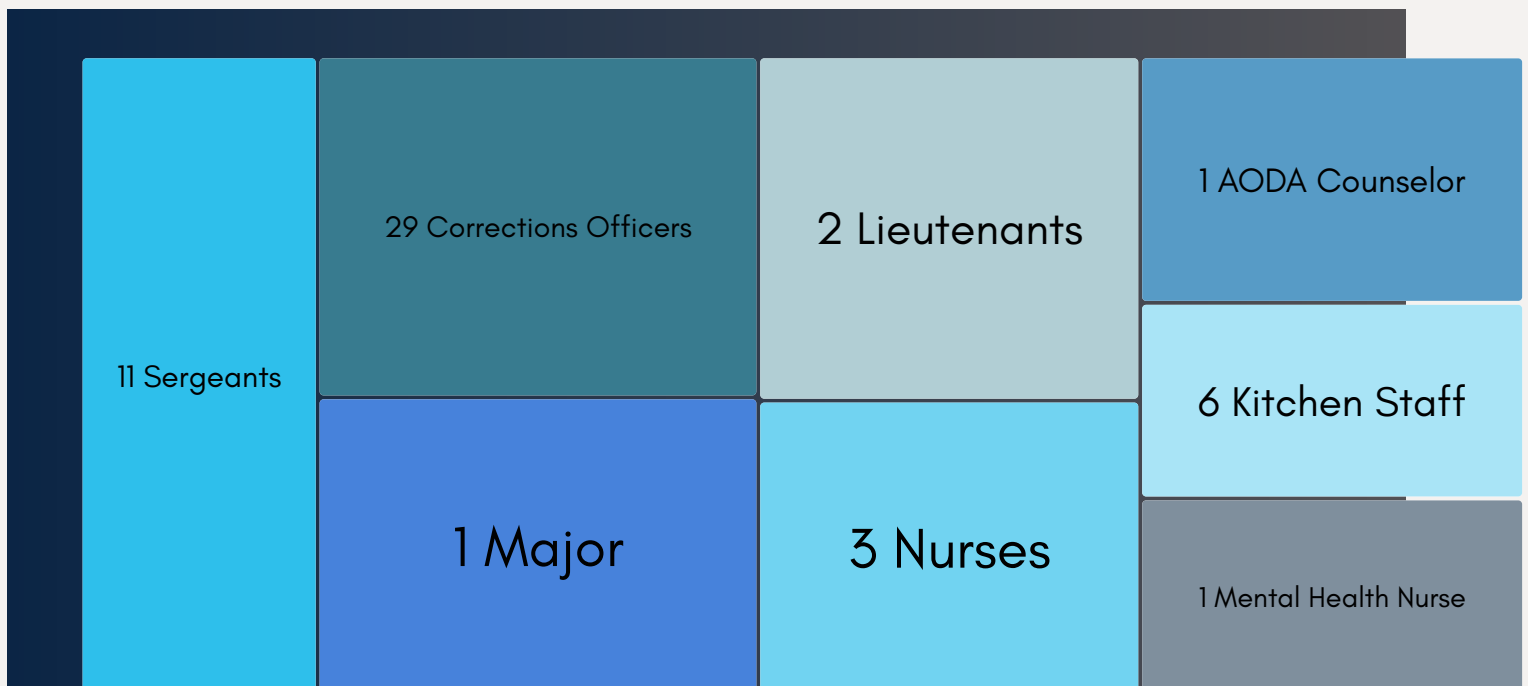
**“OUR MISSION IS TO ENFORCE THE
SAFETY AND SECURITY OF ALL
INMATES AND STAFF”**



Correctional Officers are responsible for maintaining the safety, security, and orderly operation of the Manitowoc County Jail. They supervise individuals in custody, enforce facility rules, conduct security checks, and respond to emergencies while also supporting rehabilitation through education, treatment, and reentry-focused programming.

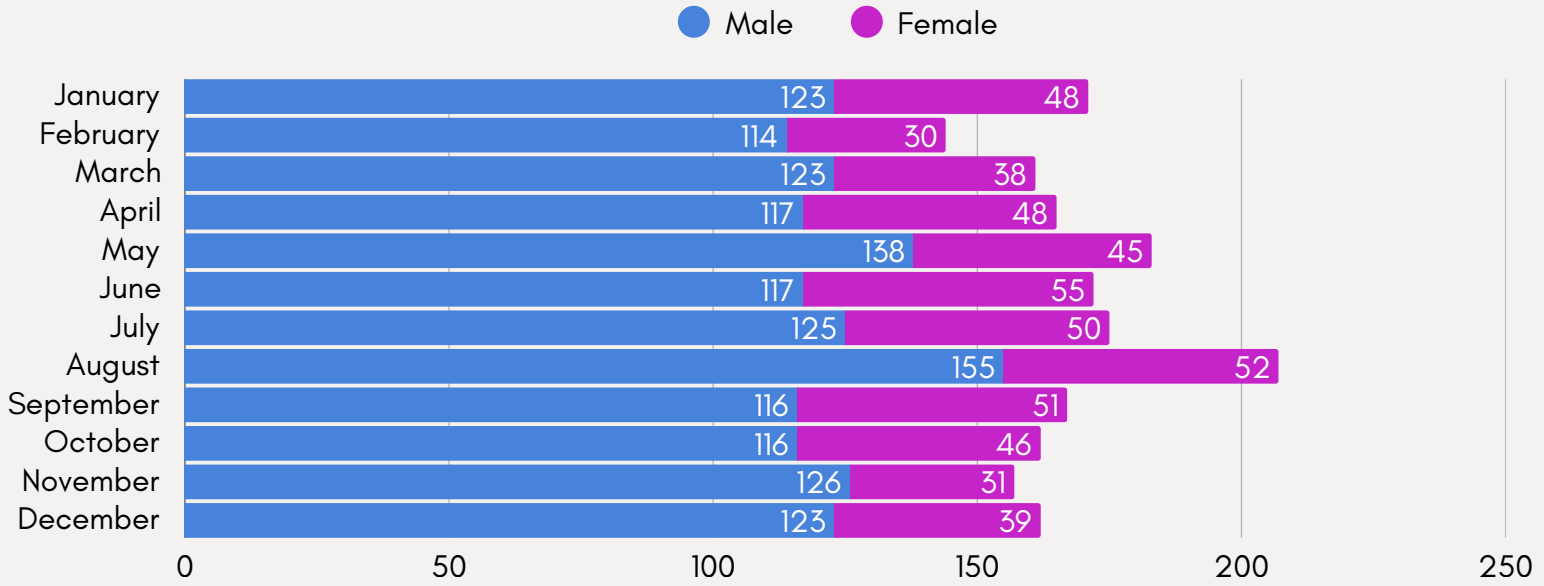
In 2025, the jail completed several key facility and operational improvements to enhance safety, efficiency, and living conditions. These included a redesigned Central Control area, upgrades to medical and booking workspaces, hallway replacements, a revamped classification system, new mattresses for inmates, kitchen equipment upgrades, housing unit repainting, fire alarm and intercom system replacements, and medical peer review audits.

Additionally, Jail Major Andrew LaCrosse graduated from the FBI National Academy, bringing advanced leadership training and national-level best practices back to the Manitowoc County Jail, further strengthening operations and professionalism across the facility.

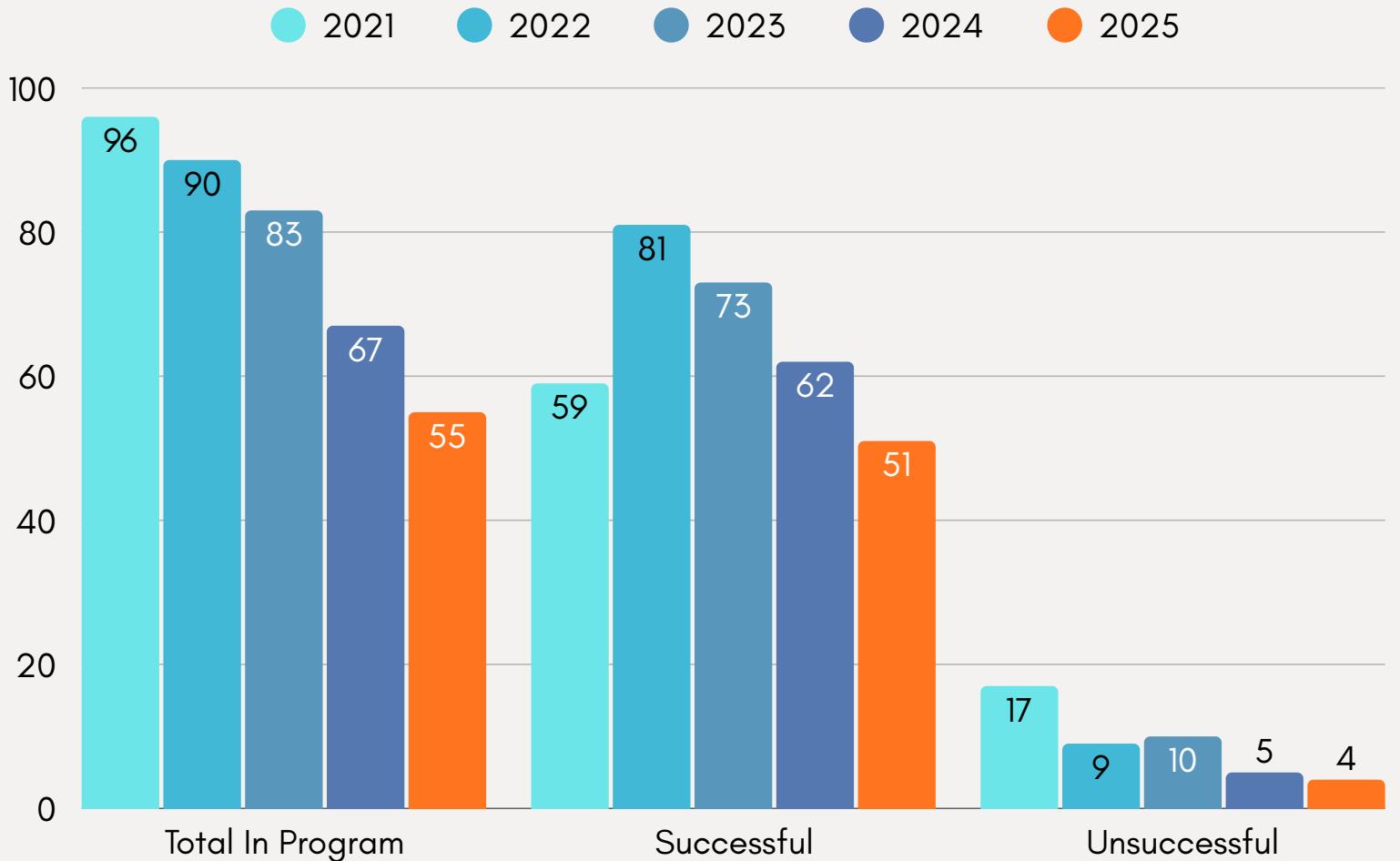


Jail Continued...

Monthly Bookings



Electronic Monitoring Program Success Rate



Food and Health Services

The Manitowoc Sheriff's Office runs a fully operational kitchen that includes five food services employees, currently down one position from our normal staffing of six, and one food services manager.

We produced a total of 166,138 meals for the jail at an average cost of \$1.44 per meal. In addition to the jail meals, we also provided 35,714 meals for the Senior Nutrition Program, bringing the total to 201,852 meals for the year.



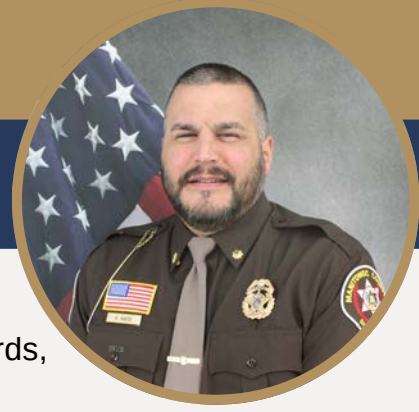
Food Services	2024	2025
Meal Costs	\$432,902.63	\$435,605.86
Meals on Wheels Credit	\$195,461.97	\$195,667.82
Total Spent	\$237,440.66	\$239,938.04
Meals on Wheels Served	37,743	35,714
Jail Meals Served	166,513	166,138
Total Meals Prepared	204,256	201,852
Average Cost Per Meal	\$2.12	\$2.16
Average Jail Meal Cost	\$1.43	\$1.44

The Sheriff's Office Jail Health Services Unit is dedicated to providing comprehensive, direct on-site medical care to the incarcerated patient population and contracted oversight support with 24/7 coverage by a Jail Medical Director.

The Health Services Unit is staffed by three full-time registered nurses, providing a combined total of 112 hours of nursing coverage each week. This staffing allows for timely assessment, treatment, medication management, and follow-up care for individuals housed within the facility. In addition to physical health services, on-site mental health counseling is available to address behavioral health needs, alongside contracted Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (AODA) programming to support treatment and rehabilitation efforts.

To further enhance the level of care provided, a variety of diagnostic services are available on-site, including radiological imaging, ultrasound services, electrocardiograms (EKGs), and laboratory orders. Providing these services within the facility allows for efficient evaluation and treatment while reducing the need for off-site transports. Collectively, these services reflect the Sheriff's Office's commitment to ensuring safe, effective, and constitutionally appropriate healthcare for the jail population.

SUPPORT DIVISION



The Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office Support Division comprises Support Services, Civil Process, Court Bailiff, Training, Professional Standards, Reserve Deputy and Volunteer Units, all overseen by Major Kevin Haese.

The Support Services Unit is made up of one business operations manager, six full-time administrative professionals, and one casual-call staff member.

In 2025, our Support Services team processed 9,472 incidents, including crash reports, case reports, civil papers, and documents related to inmate or mental health transport. Most reports are dictated by Deputies, Detectives, Corrections Officers, and Investigators, then transcribed and managed by our Administrative Professionals. They also handle citations, field warnings, warrants, crash documents, and daily requests for police or accident reports.

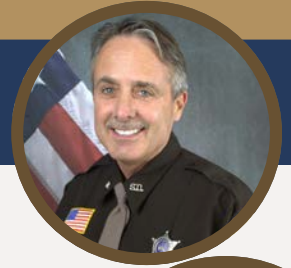
A dedicated civil process clerk manages legal papers such as restraining orders, injunctions, evictions, and writs of restitution.

Our Jail Account Specialist is responsible for managing and reconciling inmate financial accounts, investigating discrepancies, assisting with state audits, reporting collections to the Wisconsin Department of Revenue, billing and coordinating reimbursement with outside agencies, and tracking inmate medical expenses.

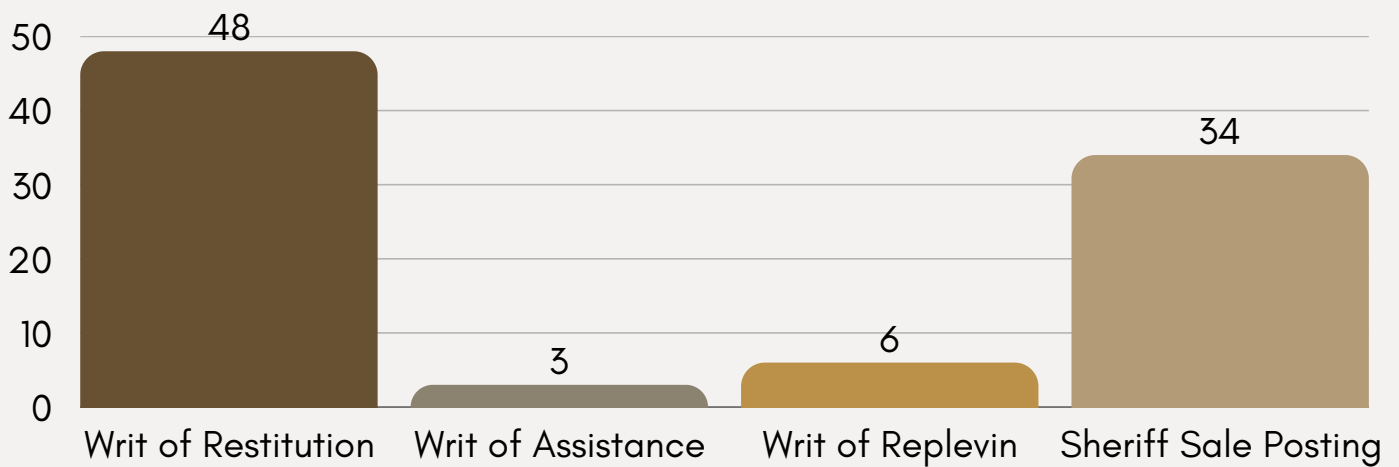
Our Administrative Professionals play a critical role in keeping the Sheriff's Office running smoothly, ensuring that thousands of documents are processed accurately and efficiently to support law enforcement and the community.



CIVIL PROCESS



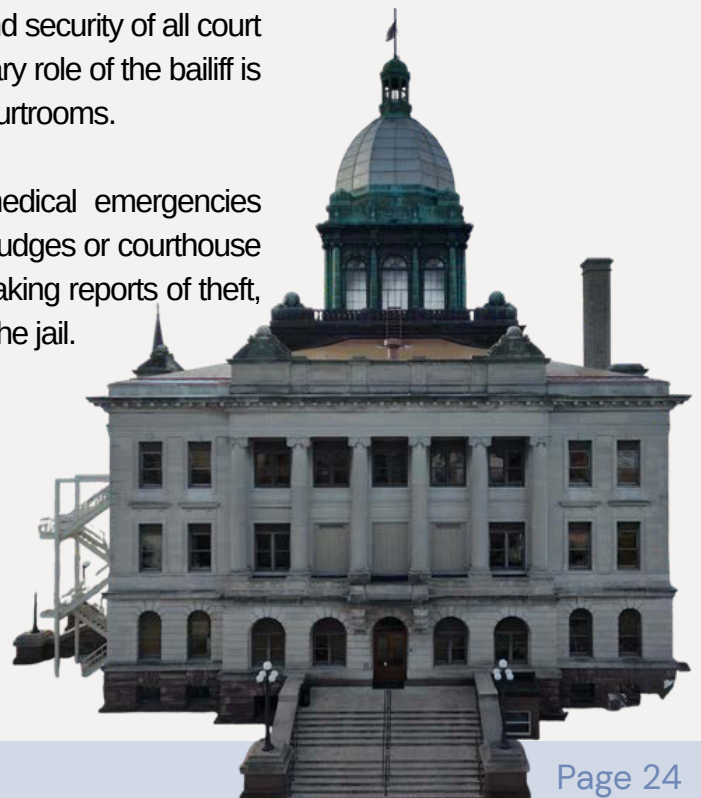
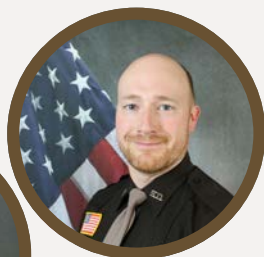
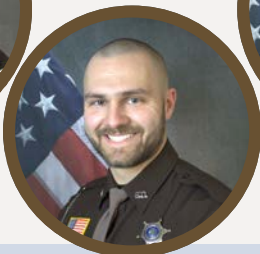
The Civil Process Unit is comprised of two full-time sworn process servers and one civilian professional support staff assistant. They are responsible for serving legal documents and carrying out various court-ordered actions within the county. This includes serving summons, subpoenas, eviction notices, 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. In 2025, a total of 1,117 legal papers were received.



COURT BAILIFF

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 courtrooms.

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.



TRAINING UNIT

The Professional Standards Lieutenant oversees the operations and jail division training program. Each year, the State of Wisconsin requires all law enforcement and corrections officers to complete a minimum of 24 hours of training. We ensure our staff meet or exceed this requirement through comprehensive annual in-service training. Additionally, personnel are encouraged to attend specialized training outside the agency, enabling them to develop advanced skills that enhance both individual performance and overall agency operations.

When possible, trainers are selected for these courses so the knowledge gained can be shared across the organization. All in-service training is designed and delivered by our certified instructors and conducted throughout the year. We continually review and enhance course content and training methods to ensure that our staff are well-prepared to meet the challenges of real-world situations.



Operations Division Inhouse Training

Inservice #1	Firearms	2 hours
Inservice #2	TECC Defensive Tactics Scenario Training	8 hours
Inservice #3	Vehicle Contacts Scenario Training Firearms	8 hours
Inservice #4	Legal Update Agency Overview Firearms	8 hours
Inservice #5	Firearms	2 hours

Jail Division Inhouse Training

Inservice #1	TASER Review Scenarios Medical Training	8 hours
Inservice #2	Fire Evacuation P.R.E.A. Suicide Prevention	8 hours
Inservice #3	Stun Shield Certification WRAP System Training Restraint Chair Training Dahlgren Decon Kit	8 hours

Officer Training

Implementing comprehensive training programs to enhance skills and preparedness.

FIELD TRAINING

F.T.O.

The Field Training Unit ensures that newly hired personnel receive the training, resources, and hands-on experience needed to perform independently while building a strong foundation for their careers.

Trainers are carefully selected based on expertise and job performance and complete an in-house Field Trainer Certification program. Training is provided for corrections officers, patrol deputies, first-level leadership promotions, and members of the detective and metro units. Each new employee is paired with a mentor from the Peer Support Team, providing additional guidance outside supervisory or training channels.

In 2025, the jail division continued field training to maintain staffing levels. Eight corrections officers were hired, with six completing the training process; all six, except one who has already completed jail school, are scheduled to attend Fox Valley Technical College in 2026. The jail training program is comprised of seven weeks of in-house on-the-job training and 5 weeks of jail school at a technical college.

Similarly, the Patrol Division trained three new deputies through a 14- to 16-week on-the-job program. This training provides hands-on experience and one-on-one guidance from a dedicated trainer, equipping each deputy with the skills and knowledge necessary to perform solo patrol duties effectively.



RESERVE DEPUTY PROGRAM

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

During 2024, the reserve deputies combined to work a total of 4186 hours.

Reserve deputies play a crucial role in the day-to-day operations and success of the agency.

Scene Security

Traffic Control

Bailiff

Transports

Backgrounds

Security Detail

Community Events



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



The Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office Volunteer Program, overseen by the Major of Support, is made up of ten dedicated members who generously give their time to support our agency. We are deeply grateful for their commitment and willingness to serve—each of them plays an important role in keeping our daily operations running smoothly.

Our volunteers assist in many essential areas, including Disabled Vehicle Checks, House Checks, Manitowoc TRIAD meetings, squad maintenance transport, support of daily operations, and local ballot distribution, to name a few. Their contributions allow our sworn and professional staff to stay focused on core public-safety responsibilities.

In 2025 alone, these ten volunteers donated an incredible 2,048 hours of their personal time. Those hours not only ease the daily workload for our staff but also represent meaningful savings for our taxpayers. Since the program began, volunteers have contributed more than 132,798 hours of service—a remarkable testament to their dedication and community spirit.

*Roger Bauer
Jeffrey Beckerleg
Bob Blattler
Al Krajnik
Chuck Muench*



*Norb Pellow
John Schroeder
Leigh Schroeder
Duane Stoehr
Carl Wardmam*

SNOWMOBILE & MARINE 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 240 miles of snowmobile trails that are divided into six sections. In the 2025 winter season, our Snow Patrol was not mobilized due lack of snow and the trails being open for a very brief time.



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 2025 boating season, the Manitowoc Sheriff's Office Boat Unit worked 127 hours.



S.W.A.T

The multi-jurisdictional SWAT Team is led by the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office and includes members from the Manitowoc Police Department, Two Rivers Police Department, and the Two Rivers Fire Department. This highly trained unit is comprised of law enforcement officers and Tactical Emergency Medical Support (TEMS) personnel who work together as an integrated team to respond to high-risk and critical incidents.

In 2025, the SWAT Team was deployed on eleven separate occasions, responding to incidents that required a heightened tactical response and demonstrating the team's continued readiness, professionalism, and commitment to protecting the communities they serve.

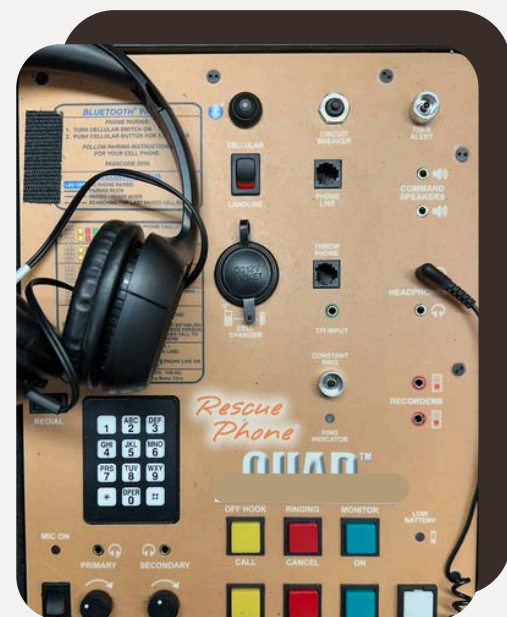


CRISIS NEGOTIATION

The Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) is a joint, countywide unit comprised of nine trained negotiators from the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office, the Manitowoc Police Department, and the Two Rivers Police Department.

All team members are required to complete foundational negotiator training and participate in monthly team training sessions. These sessions include reviews of prior callouts, evaluations of equipment and procedures, and team-building scenarios designed to enhance readiness for real-world incidents. In addition, team members had the opportunity to attend training with a neighboring county and the Wisconsin Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation, as well as attend the Negotiators Training Conference.

In 2025, CNT was deployed for two callouts.



SEARCH & RECOVERY

Our Search and Recovery Dive Team includes five MTSO divers, one MTPD diver, and two MTSO support members.

In 2025, the team responded to one mutual aid call, assisting the Sheboygan County Dive Team in the search for a juvenile drowning victim at the Sheboygan Quarry, demonstrating strong multi-agency coordination and effective training.

The team enhanced safety and operational readiness by acquiring new equipment, including a dry suit, dive computers, and updated air tanks. Members trained monthly from January through November, completing ice, deep, night, and rescue-based dives, with additional skills training at the Manitowoc YMCA pool.

Two divers earned advanced open water certification, one completed underwater evidence recovery training, and two new support members were added to improve diver safety and streamline operations.



HONOR GUARD

The Sheriff's Office Honor Guard responded to multiple law enforcement and public safety events, including local law enforcement ceremonies, state memorial services, and line-of-duty funerals.

The team provided support through ceremonial duties, funeral honors, procession assistance, and participation in galleries of officers, often coordinating with other law enforcement agencies and first responders.

During the year, the team added three new members, increasing its capacity to respond effectively to both full-team and partial-team callouts. In total, the team responded to four partial-team callouts and several full-team events, ensuring professional representation of the Sheriff's Office at significant community and law enforcement events.



DRONE

The Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office established its UAS (Drone) Team in July 2022 to support search and rescue, crash reconstruction, fugitive apprehension, fire and EMS response, and building inspections. The team was formed with 13 members and currently has nine FAA Part 107 certified pilots.

In its first six months, the team was deployed 32 times. Since its creation, the Drone Team has responded to 123 calls for service, primarily involving suspect searches and fire scene documentation.

In 2025, the team conducted joint training with MTSO SWAT to integrate interior search drones, including training with the DJI Avata 2, during a full-scale school clearing exercise. Pilots also completed ongoing in-house and college-based training to maintain a high level of readiness. In 2026, the team plans to add a thermal-capable Autel EVO Max 4N drone, replacing outdated equipment and expanding flight time and operational capacity.

The UAS Team is led by Captain Travis Aleff, who serves as Team Leader, with Lt. Kyle Stotzheim and Deputy Edward Wick serving as Assistant Team Leaders. In 2025, the Drone Team was deployed a total of 32 times, including one full-team activation, one partial-team deployment, and 30 pilot on-duty or AOLEA responses.



MOBILE FIELD FORCE



The Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office Mobile Field Force (MFF) currently includes 8 members drawn from the Sheriff's Office. The team's primary role is to protect people and property in the event of civil unrest or similar incidents.

Recently, the MFF equipped each member with new Avon gas masks and individual first aid kits.

In 2025, the team expanded its training by conducting joint sessions with officers from the City of Manitowoc Police Department. These sessions covered refresher training on core skills, team movements and commands, and familiarization with the new gas masks. The team also participated in live firearms exercises and underwent controlled live exposure to CS gas.

In December 2025, members of the Manitowoc Police Department Citizens Academy alumni served as role players during training. This realistic scenario-based practice helped the team navigate various situations while incorporating authentic distractions, such as added noise, to better simulate real-world conditions.



CRIME PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM



The Crime Prevention & Community Safety Team enhances public safety through proactive crime prevention, security assessments, and preparedness training. The team provides CPTED site surveys to identify and reduce environmental vulnerabilities, along with CRASE training to help schools, businesses, and community organizations prepare for and respond to active threats.

Through continued outreach, expanded training, and ongoing assessments, the team remains committed to strengthening safety and preparedness across Manitowoc County.

USE OF FORCE

The use of force by deputies and corrections staff is, at times, a required and lawful component of maintaining public safety, restoring order, and protecting the lives of citizens, staff, and individuals in custody.

Force is used only when required to gain compliance, prevent harm, or stop unlawful or dangerous behavior, and in accordance with established policies, training, and state law.

The Sheriff's Office emphasizes de-escalation and communication whenever possible, using force as a last resort and only to the extent reasonably necessary under the circumstances. Each use of force is carefully documented, reviewed, and evaluated to ensure accountability, transparency, and continuous improvement in training and practices.

The Sheriff's Office handled a total of 9,473 cases during 2025, with 559 of those cases handled by the Jail Division and 8,914 of those cases handled by the Operations Division. **Out of the 9,473 cases, 124 resulted in the use of force, or approximately 1.31% of the cases.** Some of the use of force cases required additional use of force techniques, which were utilized for the purpose of effecting a lawful arrest, to gain compliance, and or preventing harm to an individual or officer.

The total number of trained use-of-force techniques utilized in these 124 cases was 136. Out of the total 136 uses of force techniques, the Jail Division accounted for 66 incidents (48.5%). Thirty-nine of the 66 (59.09%) use of force techniques were for corrections staff utilizing the safety restraint chair to prevent self-injury, injury to others, or property damage.

The Operations Division accounted for 70 use-of-force techniques (51.5%). Thirty-nine of the seventy (55.7%) use of force techniques were for officers displaying their firearm to gain compliance during warrant checks, high-risk calls, SWAT activations, or similar circumstances.

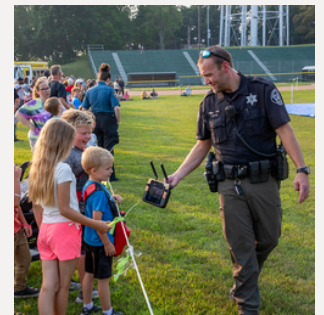
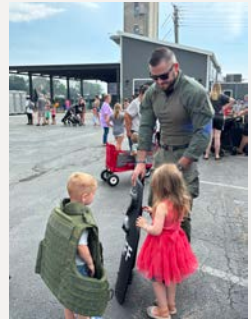
Type	#
OC Spray	3
Restraint Chair	39
Spit Hood	5
Hobble Cord	0
W.R.A.P. System	14
Pressure Point	7
Strikes	1
Decentralization	11
Stuns	1
ECD (TASER) Deployment	11
Stun Shield	3
Baton	0
Pepperball at Person	2
Pepperbal Area Saturation	0
Bean Bag Round	0
K9 Deployment	1
40mm Impact Round	0
Point Firearm Compliance Gained	39
Deadly Force	0

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Sheriff's Office takes great pride in its involvement in community events and values the positive interactions we share with the public. In 2025, our staff participated in 47 events, including public appearances, presentations, and providing security for special community activities. These are just a few highlights of the many events we were honored to support throughout the year.



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



Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office
1025 South 9th St.
Manitowoc, WI 54220



920-683-4200



@ManitowocCountySheriffsOffice



@manitowocsheriffsofficewi



[manitowoccountywi.gov/departments/sheriff/](http://manitowocountywi.gov/departments/sheriff/)



MANITOWOC COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

P.R.I.D.E.

PROFESSIONALISM - RESPECT - INTIGRITY - DEDICATION - EXCELLENCE