



Frederick County Sheriff's Office

Law Enforcement Bureau

2024 Annual Report



Sheriff Charles A. Jenkins

**110 Airport Drive East
Frederick, Maryland 21701
301-600-1046**

Table of Contents

Forward	3
Organizational Chart	5
Office of the Sheriff	6
Agency Statistics	7
Personnel Services	13
Fiscal Services	14
Technology	16
Training Services	17
Body Worn Cameras	18
Support Services	20
Patrol Operations	26
Special Investigations	47
Narcotic Investigations	62
SWAT	64
Judicial Services	66
Awards	70
Promotions	72
Retirements	73



Forward by Sheriff Jenkins

On behalf of the men and women of the Frederick County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) – Law Enforcement Bureau, I am proud to present our 2024 Annual Report.

The year 2024 proved to be another year of success and progress for the FCSO. I am proud of all we have accomplished this year as the lead law enforcement agency in the county. Our agency is currently made up of nearly 400 law enforcement officers, correctional officers, and civilian support staff supporting the approximately 300,000 citizens of Maryland's fastest-growing county.

Frederick County is the largest land mass county at 667 square miles and is the fastest-growing county in the State of Maryland by population. As in any U.S. town, city, district, and county, with more growth comes an increased demand for law enforcement and calls for service.

Deputies responded to 136,620 total calls for service in 2024. Those calls for service and the increased rates between 2023 and 2024 include:

- Juvenile Arrests – increased 43.4% to 76.
- Citations – increased 32.4% to 11,488.
- Traffic Stops- increased 17.5% to 25,297.
- School Safety Checks – increased 29.1% to 8,522.
- What's Important Now Checks – increased 25.4% to 7,385.

Additionally, our Criminal Investigations Section, Narcotics Investigations Section, Traffic Unit, Pro-Active Criminal Enforcement Team, Protective Order Unit, K9 Unit, Community Deputy Unit, and School Resource Officers all saw increases in their respective areas of responsibility in 2024. The work of the Narcotics Investigation Section along with our proactive drug interdiction efforts are showing solid results in seizures of illegal drugs. Also on a positive

note, the number of fentanyl and heroin overdoses both fatal and non-fatal continued to trend downward in Frederick County in 2024.

Frederick County Sheriff's Office personnel participated in approximately 74 planned community events and hosted numerous FCSO sponsored events. These sponsored events include the Annual National Night Out, Law Enforcement Open House, and a "Meet the School Resource Officer Night" during 2024 at Tuscarora High School.

It is my distinct honor and privilege to present this 2024 report to you, and I encourage you to view and read all the good things your deputies are doing. As always, I am very accessible to you. My door has always been and will always be open to anyone who wants to come in to see me. I am proud of this agency, the deputies, and the support staff who go above and beyond to support me and the citizens of Frederick County, every day.

Office of the Sheriff



The Frederick County Sheriff's Office is a full-service Sheriff's Office that serves as the primary law enforcement agency in Frederick County. The Sheriff's Office is responsible for civil process services and security within the County Courthouse, and the operations of the Adult Detention Center.

The Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement services to the unincorporated portions of the county and support to municipal law enforcement agencies. The Office of the Sheriff consists of two bureaus: Law Enforcement (181 sworn and 59 civilians) and Corrections (130 uniformed and 24 non-uniformed).

In addition, the Office of the Sheriff provides guidance and direction to all aspects of the agency. Personnel under the Office of the Sheriff include the Sheriff, the Chief Deputy, Colonel Dave Benjamin, Law Enforcement Bureau Chief, Lieutenant Colonel Jeff Eyler, and support staff.

Agency Statistics

The Frederick County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) has historically reported its crime data following the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Summary Reporting System (SRS) guidelines, in which only total counts of specific incident classifications are reported. In 2022, the Sheriff's Office began reporting details about its individual crime incidents through the FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). Under NIBRS, FCSO records all offenses associated with an incident, rather than only the most severe offense, which provides greater specificity in reporting (greater capability to break data into more categories). Under SRS, agencies only report the most serious index offense per incident of crime (the hierarchy rule).

Under NIBRS, the department collects and reports incident and arrest data on 52 Group A offenses and 10 Group B offenses (note: per NIBRS standards, only the Group B arrests are reported to the FBI specifically.)

Within the Group A category, incidents are further categorized as crimes against people, property, and society. These categories contain many of the same crime types that were provided by the UCR SRS data, while some of the crime types were not recorded as such in previous years. The chart below provides a more realistic depiction of the criminal activity in Frederick County, rather than looking at the quantity or percent change in the more detailed chart on the following page.

Starting in 2022, the FCSO started reporting NIBRS data directly to the State of Maryland since the State of Maryland's NIBRS transition was completed. The FCSO was required to undergo a NIBRS compliance process with the State of Maryland, where six months of data were submitted, which needed to contain an error rate of less than four percent. The compliance criteria were successfully met in August 2022, and the FCSO is now a compliant NIBRS agency with the State of Maryland. FCSO is implementing a new records management system and will not become fully NIBRS certified until six months of data with a less than four percent error rate is submitted to the State of Maryland via the new system.

The following tables and charts were compiled using the following criteria and include offenses that were reported to or investigated by the Frederick County Sheriff's Office.

NIBRS Standards:

- Compiled offenses based on the start date (or incident date) of the offense, if known
- Crimes against person are totaled based on the number of victims, not offenses
- Crimes against property, crimes against society and Group B offenses are totaled

based on the number of offenses, not victims

- Offenses that were unfounded or referred to another jurisdiction were excluded

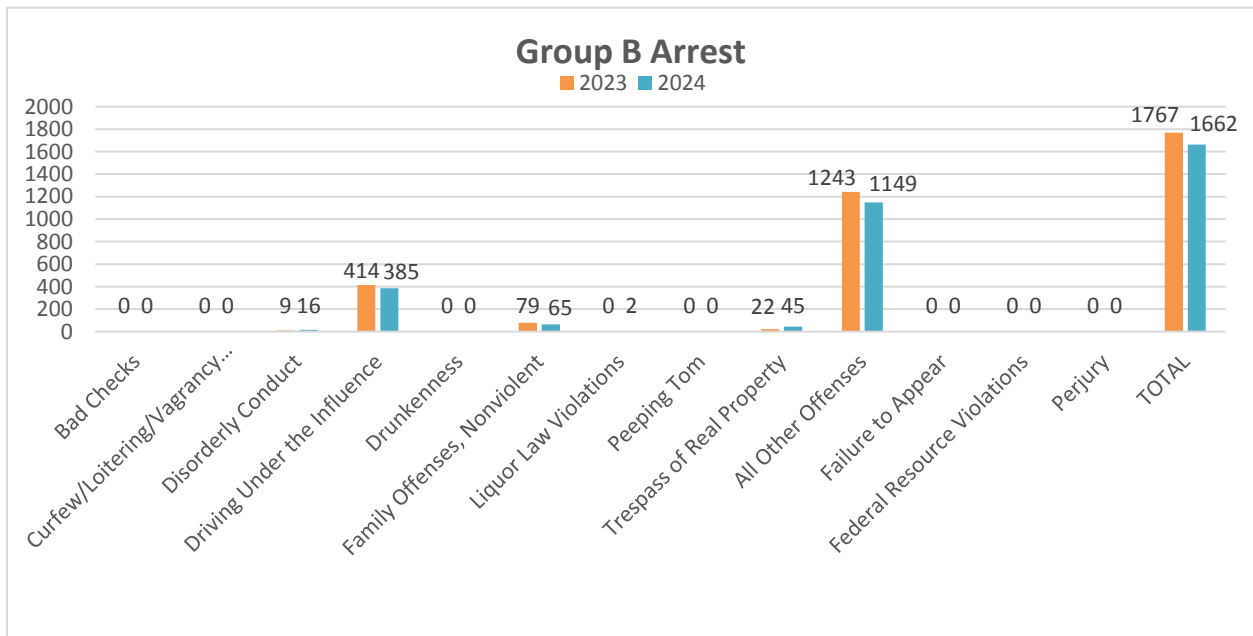
Additional offenses may have occurred within the county borders but are not depicted in the below charts and tables due to the location of the offense. Those incidents will be reported by the agencies that investigate them and include Maryland State Police, Frederick Police Department, Thurmont Police Department, Brunswick Police Department, and Mount Airy Police Department.

Frederick County Sheriff's Office Group A Offenses

Offense Categories	NIBRS Description	2023	2024
Homicide Offenses	Murder	1	3
	Negligent Manslaughter	0	0
	Justifiable Homicide	0	0
Sex Offenses	Rape	17	21
	Sodomy	6	0
	Sexual Assault with Object	3	5
	Criminal Sexual Contact	26	27
Robbery	Robbery	24	12
Assault Offenses	Aggravated Assault	149	131
	Simple Assault	803	786
	Intimidation	29	21
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	Burglary	152	107
Motor Vehicle Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	104	83
Larceny/Theft Offenses	Pocket-picking	11	6
	Purse-snatching	1	0
	Shoplifting	394	322
	Theft From Building	115	24
	Theft From Machine	0	1
	Theft From MV	153	120
	Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	104	61
	All Other Larceny	329	321
Kidnapping/Abduction	Kidnapping	0	1
Arson	Arson	4	8
Extortion/Blackmail	Extortion	31	20
Counterfeiting/Forgery	Forgery	69	85
Fraud Offenses	Swindle	189	119
	Credit Card - ATM Fraud	183	128
	Impersonation	41	30
	Welfare Fraud	22	9
	Wire Fraud	125	154
	Identity Theft	196	116
	Computer Hacking	9	3
Embezzlement	Embezzlement	16	9
Stolen Property Offenses	Stolen Property	11	3
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	Vandalism	322	195
Drug/Narcotic Offenses	Drug Violations	316	311
	Drug Equipment	224	240
Sex Offenses, Non-forcible	Incest	0	0

	Statutory Rape	0	0
Pornography/Obscene Material	Pornography	12	20
Prostitution Offenses	Prostitution	1	8
	Promoting Prostitution	0	0
	Purchasing Prostitution	0	14
Bribery	Bribery	1	0
Weapon Law Violations	Weapon Law	48	42
Human Trafficking	HT Commercial Sex Acts	0	1
	HT Involuntary Servitude	1	0
Animal Cruelty	Animal Cruelty	4	3
Total		4245	3570

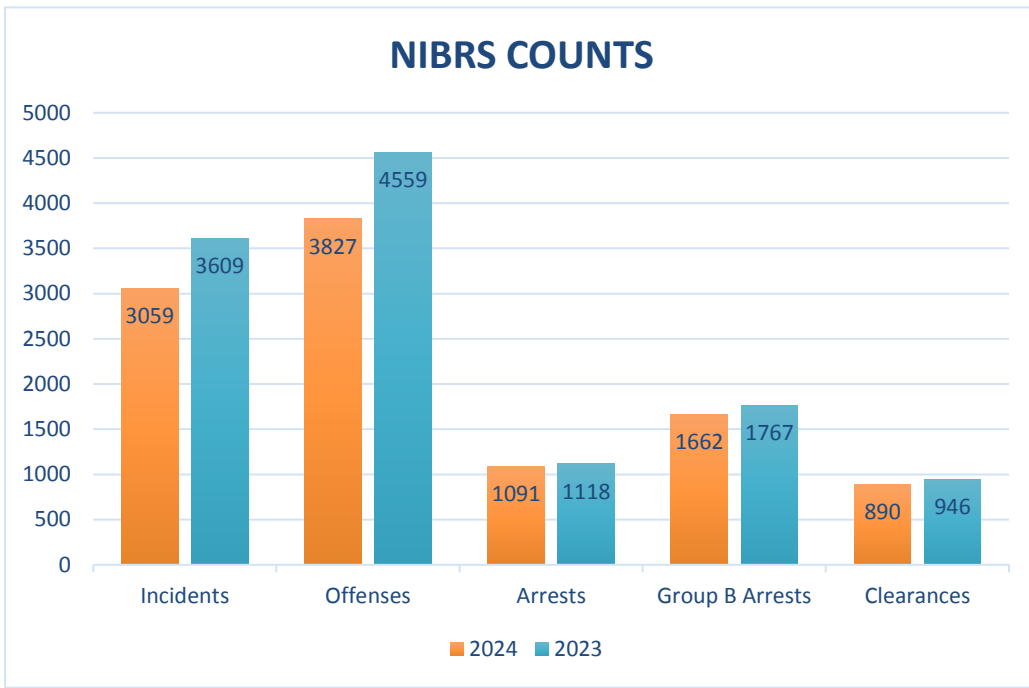
Source: NIBRS data pulled from CJIS.GOV Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal UCR Dashboard on 2/17/2025



NIBRS COUNTS

Violent defined by include Rape, Sexual w/Object, Aggravated

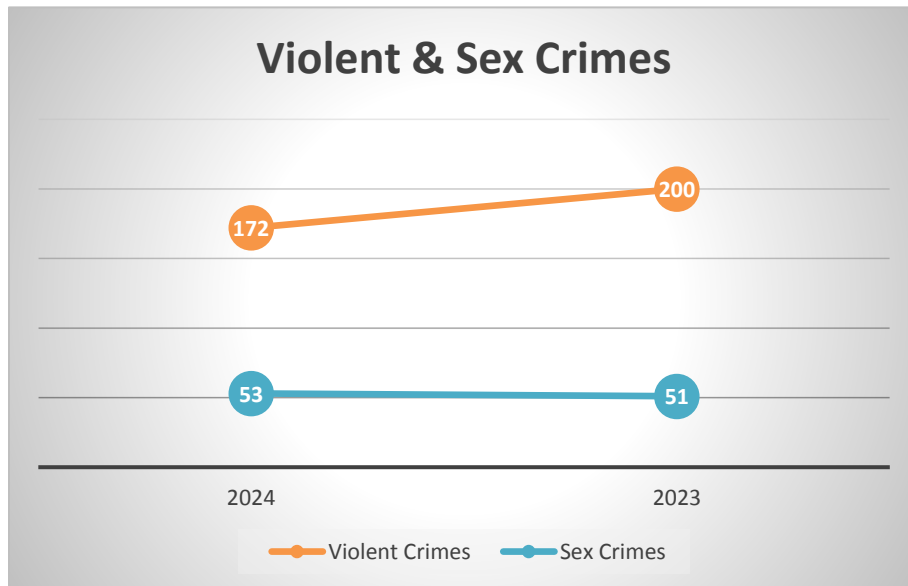
Sex Crimes as NIBRS Sodomy, Assault Criminal Contact, Statutory

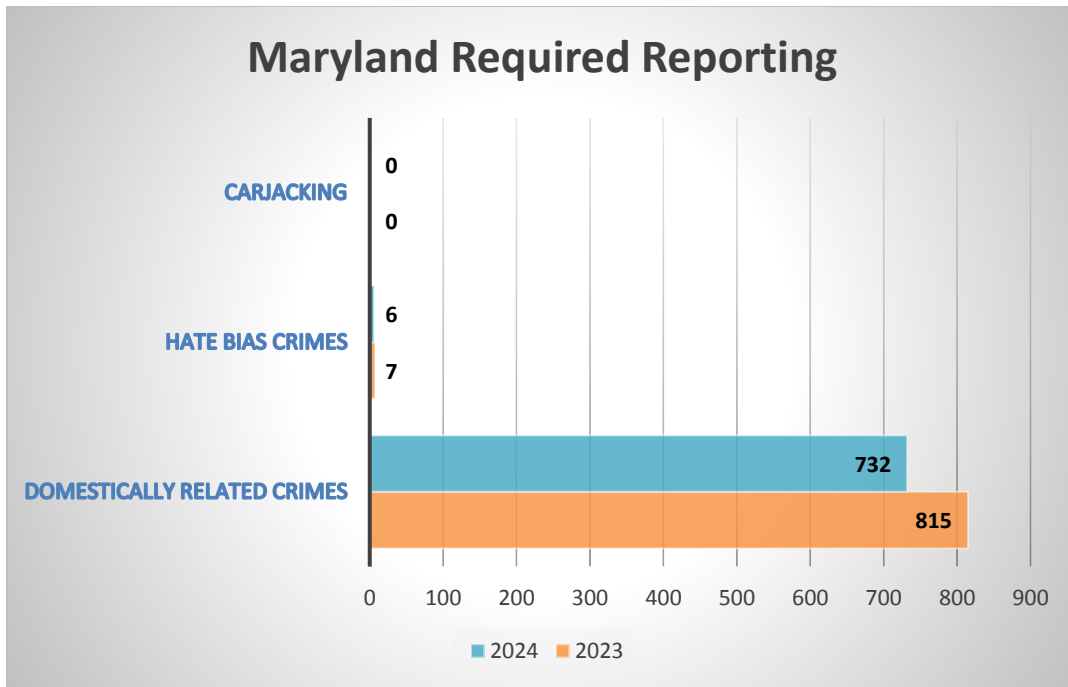


Crimes as NIBRS Murder, Sodomy, Assault Robbery, and Assault.

defined by include Rape, Sexual w/Object, Sexual Incest, and Rape.

Violent & Sex Crimes





The Maryland State UCR Program requires separate reporting for domestically related crimes, hate bias crimes, and carjackings

Office of Policy & Compliance

The Office of Policy & Compliance (OPC) is under the direction of Lieutenant Jeff Hyatt and encompasses the investigation of allegations of staff misconduct and Accreditation. The investigation of allegations of misconduct is important to the integrity and management of the Sheriff’s Office. Complaints provide feedback about how the community perceives employees of the Sheriff’s Office. Complaints also provide upper management with information to make corrections and carry out positive action through training and policy changes. Investigation of complaints protects employees from unwarranted allegations and criticism for properly conducting their duties.

The function of the OPC is to ensure that the integrity of the Sheriff’s Office is maintained through an internal system of objectivity and fairness. This internal system calls for an impartial investigation to clear the innocent or establish guilt, leading to fair, appropriate, and consistent disciplinary action.

Accreditation

Accredited since 1998, the Sheriff’s Office voluntarily maintains compliance with the standards established by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA). CALEA’s overall mission is to improve the delivery of law enforcement services. Accreditation is also a comprehensive model for recognizing professional excellence. CALEA is recognized as the preeminent accrediting body in the law enforcement field. Standards

continually evolve to address the challenges of current issues and emerging technology. The Sheriff’s Office’s next full accreditation review will be in 2025.

Several special orders were implemented during 2024. Special orders are utilized to amend sections of the general order, operating procedures, rules of conduct, and job descriptions. Members of the Sheriff’s Office who saw a need for improvement or revision of these directives initiated the changes. The accreditation manager assisted with several revisions to general orders, as well as assisting other units with the development of policy-related processes.

Spokesperson

The spokesperson/public information officer (PIO) coordinates the release of information to the media and Frederick County communities. This person works to build trust and community partnerships by preparing and disseminating on-time and newsworthy information to external audiences throughout Maryland’s largest land mass county. This position manages the Sheriff’s Office public website and social media sites, including Facebook, X, and Instagram. Additionally, this person expertly communicates the mission and vision of the Sheriff’s Office through press releases, public service announcements, newsroom stories, community events, and television and radio interviews.

During 2024, the PIO distributed more than 60 press releases, answered more than 485 media queries, and oversaw, participated in, and/or coordinated more than 74 community events.

In 2024, the FCSO Facebook reached more than 1.8 million people, the FCSO Instagram page reached approximately 228,000 people, and Twitter impressions exceeded 500,000. The FCSO website had 166,000 site sessions, defined as a visit to the actual website, with approximately 111,500 unique visitors.

Personnel Services

Personnel Services is under the direction of a civilian Personnel Supervisor, Jillian Rosensteel, and focuses on recruitment, the management of hiring processes, and providing administrative functions and direction for the people who work within the organization.

Personnel Statistics:

	2022	2023	2024
Personnel Actions	185	141	121
Secondary Employment	86	0	0
Personnel Transfers	53	102	105
Early Warning System	361	145	126
Personnel Orders	68	63	71

Recruiting



The Sheriff's Office actively recruits qualified individuals to fill vacancies within the agency. The Personnel Supervisor is responsible for attending recruiting assignments and developing recruiting programs, training, and special projects. Job and recruitment fairs are utilized to expand the applicant pool. Recruiters attended forty-one recruiting events to enhance hiring potential. The agency also made concerted efforts in other areas to reach potential candidates. Those efforts included: updated hiring forms, lists of all interested candidates spoken to at events, updated recruitment cards that included salary and benefit information, used social media platforms, two one-day hiring events, solicited interest from deputies to assist with recruitment events, and obtained a grant to fund advertising efforts.

Two continuous hiring processes were initiated for Deputy Sheriff Recruit and Lateral positions. Conditional offers of employment were given to forty-two Deputy Sheriff Recruit applicants, and of those, fifteen deputy recruits were hired. Conditional offers of employment were given to nine Lateral applicants, and seven laterals were hired. Out of the thirty-one conditional offers of employment given for civilian positions within the bureau, seven positions were filled.

Administrative Services

Administrative Services is under the direction of a Captain and is comprised of Fiscal Services, Support Services, Training, Body Worn Cameras, and SWAT.

Fiscal Services

Fiscal Services is under the direction of a Civilian Director, Renee Williar, and provides a wide range of administrative and financial support services to the Law Enforcement Bureau. Fiscal Services conducts the agency's financial functions in accordance with Frederick County policies. Fiscal Services is the primary liaison between the Sheriff's Office and the County Executive's Office, Accounting, Budget, Purchasing, and Treasurer's Offices. The Fiscal Services Director is responsible for all functions of the section. Staff include a Financial Business Office Manager, two Property Purchasing Coordinators, and four part-time Fingerprint Technicians.

Accounts Payable

Accounts Payable is responsible for processing payments to vendors for credit card purchases, purchase orders, contracts, operational expenses, employee uniform allowance, and travel expense reimbursements. Fiscal Services is also responsible for reconciling credit card and bank statements.

Accounts Receivable

Fiscal Services is responsible for collecting, recording, billing, and depositing Sheriff's Office revenues and reimbursement expenses. Revenues include fingerprinting and report fees, salary and operations recoveries, and donations.

Budget Development & Management

Fiscal Services prepares the annual budget for the Law Enforcement Bureau that is submitted to the County Executive for approval to include Capital Improvement projects. The FY 2025 operating budget totaled over \$40.5 million. Fiscal Services monitors budget expenditure and revenues to ensure the Sheriff's Office remains within the adopted budget. Staff conduct an ongoing analysis of budget departments and reports. Fiscal Services establishes and manages operating budgets in the County's financial system.

Contracts Administration

Fiscal Services coordinates contracts in which the Sheriff's Office participates to include purchasing contracts, hiring of deputy recruits, and law enforcement services that are provided to the towns of Emmitsburg, Myersville, and Middletown.

Grants Administration

Staff provide centralized grants management and administration. This includes securing grant funding for projects that cannot be funded through the regular budget process. The Sheriff's Office receives grants from federal and state funding sources including the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs and the Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention.

Purchasing

Fiscal Services staff follow the County's Purchasing Rules, obtaining necessary purchasing quotes. Fiscal Services purchases approved items and general operational items, including office supplies. Staff utilize the INFOR financial system and Frederick County purchasing credit cards to make purchases. Travel and training registration, and payments are also processed.

Quartermaster

Fiscal Services personnel are responsible for overall property management and accountability. This includes issuing, tracking, and maintaining inventory of all Sheriff's Office weapons and

agency property. An annual Frederick County Asset Inventory and a biannual weapons inventory are also conducted. In addition, Fiscal Services is responsible for the maintenance and issuance of all phones and related equipment.

Research & Strategic Planning

Staff reviews legislation for fiscal impact, compiles the annual report, prepares the Equal Employment Opportunity Plan, and conducts various accreditation functions. Police equipment is researched and evaluated regularly. In addition, Fiscal Services also completes staff reports for Memoranda of Understanding, coordinates special projects, and presentations.

Fingerprint Services

The Sheriff’s Office is the only law enforcement agency in the county that provides fingerprinting services to the public. The Fingerprint Technicians printed 4,954 people (4,174 Live Scan and 778 inked). The number of people fingerprinted increased by 20% since 2021. Citizens need to be fingerprinted for criminal history records checks for employment or licensing purposes for a variety of reasons, including county employees in sensitive positions, medical licensing, childcare employment, liquor board licensing, adoption processes, court order compliance, and handgun qualification licensing. Four Fingerprint Technicians work part-time. Fingerprint services are scheduled by appointment only, utilizing the online platform Acuity Scheduling.

Fiscal Services Statistics:

	2022	2023	2024
Law Enforcement Bureau Budget	\$36,106,071	\$38,995,463	\$40,514,931
Law Enforcement Operating Funds	\$4,899,639	\$7,416,178	\$8,160,605
Training Requests	282	325	237
Travel/Training Expenses	\$90,878	\$134,264	\$113,294
Fingerprinting Fees	\$207,531	\$215,130	\$186,256
Grant Programs	12	11	13
Grant Funding	\$690,377	\$326,237	\$421,180

Technology

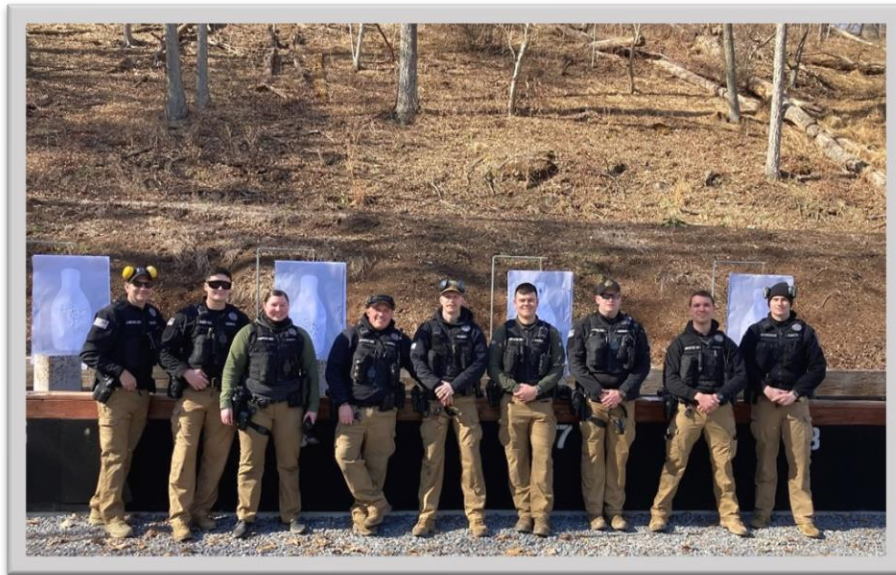
The Technology Section, overseen by Lieutenant Richard Balsley, is staffed by two dedicated civilian employees who manage the law enforcement bureau’s technology resources. This team supports IT operations for personnel at both the law enforcement center and the courthouse. The

scope of work includes computer-aided dispatch (CAD), mobile data systems, records and evidence manager, along with general business applications. Using a different workflow from other county divisions, we provide mobile and desktop computers ourselves. This workload increased in 2024 as we worked through a higher-than-normal number of employee turnover and took on a more formalized role supporting a smaller police agency with its mobile data terminal needs.

This year, our team played an integral role in three major software application projects through collaboration with allied police agencies, Emergency Communications, and Fire and Rescue Services. These projects focused on Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) and mobile applications, Records Management System (RMS), and Jail Management System (JMS). We went live with the new CAD and mobile applications in April 2024, marking a major milestone of this multi-year project. The RMS go-live, originally planned for the same time, was delayed due to vendor and application performance issues. It finally went live in January 2025, along with a parallel replacement of the JMS application.

Our efforts in 2024 showcase the Technologies Section’s commitment to supporting and enhancing the technological infrastructure of the Sheriff’s Office and the community.

Training



Training Services is under the direction of a Lieutenant. The section is responsible for coordinating and conducting new hires, specialized training and required annual training for Law Enforcement Bureau employees. Newly hired sworn employees receive extensive training and orientation before and after their initial certifications.

The Sheriff’s Office utilizes several different police academies in the region to certify them as a deputy sheriff. During 2024 a total of 11 recruits graduated from the police academy. The

Sheriff’s Office utilized the Howard County Police Academy, Carroll County Police Academy, and the Washington County Police Academy.

Academy	Recruits	Training Hours
Howard County	4	1,224
Carroll County	6	984
Washington County	1	952

There are currently 8 recruits attending police academies, with 3 recruits attending the Carroll County Police Academy, 1 recruit attending the Washington County Police Academy, and 4 recruits attending the Frederick Police Academy. All current recruits are scheduled to complete their respective academies in 2025.

Training Services is also responsible for ensuring sworn personnel are in compliance with training requirements set by the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions (MPCTC), the Sheriff’s Office General Orders and ensuring that all sworn employees meet or exceed those requirements. Many employees attend specialized training that goes above and beyond the minimum requirements. In addition, Training Services assists with training our agency’s Special Police Officers.

Training Statistics:

Employees	Training Hours		
	2022	2023	2024
Year			
Law Enforcement Bureau sworn	25,235	28,754	24,031
Civilians & Special Police Officers	341	516	561

Body-Worn Cameras

The Frederick County Sheriff’s Office established its Body-Worn Camera Unit in November 2021 in preparation to deploy body-worn cameras (BWCs) agency-wide. In 2022, the agency signed a contract with Axon Enterprise, Inc. to provide 210 BWCs along with supportive equipment and software for full agency implementation of the technology. By April 2023, all sworn deputies had been issued a BWC and trained on the use of the equipment. During 2024, the agency saw its first full year of agency-wide implementation of body-worn cameras. As

noted in the 2023 Annual Report, minor adjustments were made to the agency policy, and the wearing of the cameras on over-the-shirt carriers was deployed in December 2023.

The Frederick County Sheriff’s Office BWC Unit is overseen by Lieutenant Balsley and is staffed with two full-time civilian employees. The unit handles the daily operations of BWC equipment, software, and evidence captured from video recordings. The unit is also responsible for reviewing and providing footage to the State’s Attorney’s Office, other agencies, legal requests, and the public. The agency has seen a growing increase in requests since the initial agency-wide deployment. The ability to utilize deputies on restricted duty in the BWC Unit has been instrumental to handling the increased workflow and they can be quickly trained to review footage and share cases as they already have a basic knowledge of the Axon system; however, it is not a guarantee that there will be a deputy to always supplement staffing necessities of the unit. The table below illustrates the total number of requests that were received during 2024.

2024 Requests for Body-Worn Camera Footage

Requestor / Reviews	# of Requests
Frederick County State’s Attorney’s Office	3,218
Other Agencies or other State’s Attorney Offices	34
Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA)	62
Subpoenas	24
Totals	3,338

Comparison of Requests between 2023 and 2024

Requestor / Reviews	2023	2024	% Change
Frederick County State's Attorney's Office	2,091	3,218	35.0% ↑
Other Agencies or other State's Attorney Offices	15	34	55.9% ↑
Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA)	47	62	24.2% ↑
Subpoenas	13	24	45.8% ↑
Totals	2,166	3,338	35.1% ↑

All requests for BWC footage must be thoroughly reviewed to ensure all evidence is properly categorized with each related incident. Requests from the State's Attorney's Office are for any incident involving an arrest, ranging from a traffic arrest to a major felony. Many of these requests generate multiple pieces of evidence to review for each incident, as there may be multiple deputies on the scene. Throughout 2024, approximately 85,272 recordings titled as having evidentiary value were made. An increase in the number of requests rose 35.1% in 2024 as compared to 2023.

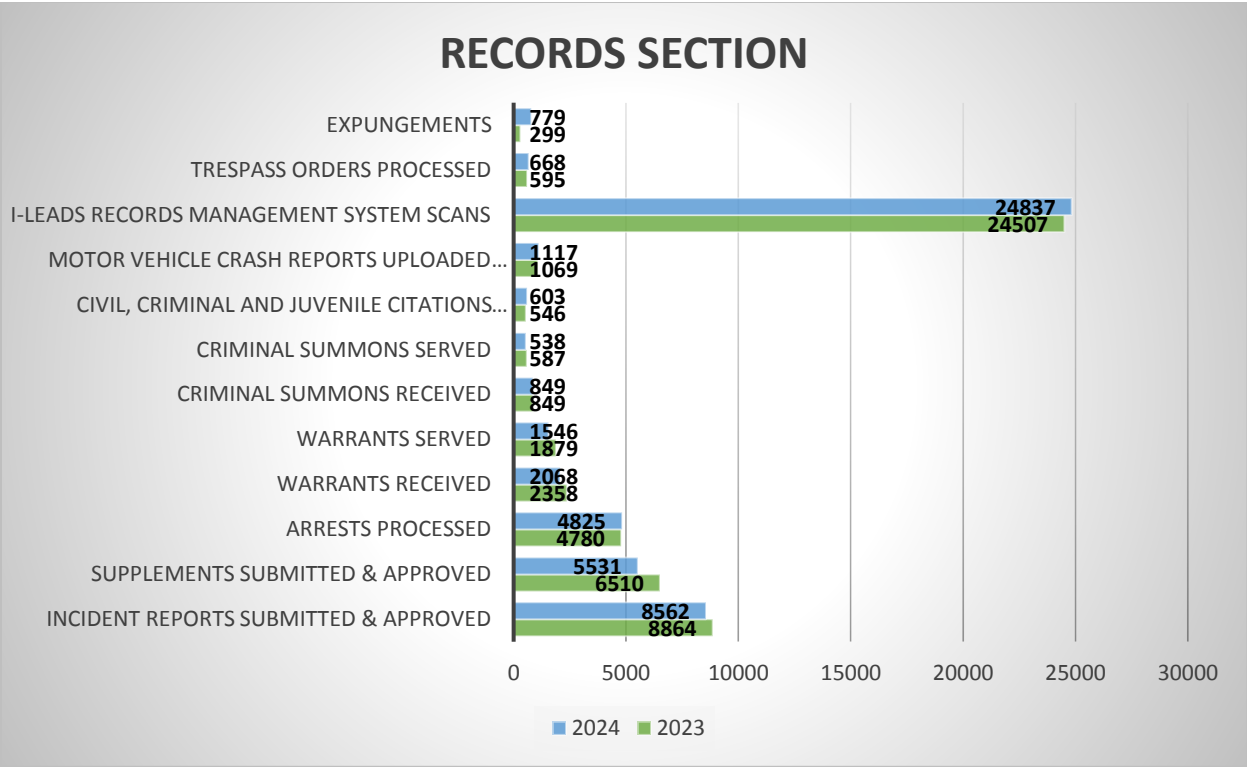
In addition to BWC footage, Axon offers a platform where citizens can upload their footage related to incidents. This platform has been extremely time-saving for the deputies and convenient for citizens. Deputies are now also using their agency-issued cellular phones to capture incident photographs, which allow them to directly upload them into the Axon Evidence Management System without having to return to the Law Enforcement Center as they did in the past. Much of the feedback from deputies, administrators, and citizens has been positive about the use of BWCs. During 2024, various things were learned about the BWCs and associated software, and continual adjustments have been made to improve efficiency for deputies, citizens, and the BWC Unit. As technology continues to evolve, it is anticipated that slight modifications will prevail to ensure that the technology is working most effectively.

Support Services

The Support Services Section is under the direction of a Lieutenant and includes Records, Police Information Specialists, Fleet Services, Building Management, Backgrounds, and Polygraph.

Records

The Records Section is responsible for the maintenance and security of the Sheriff's Office's central records. These responsibilities include report review, report control, records maintenance, records retrieval, records security, and digital archiving. Every police action is documented in writing and processed in the agency's in-house records management system and other law enforcement databases. The Records Section offers system/security administration to the National Crime Information Center's Maryland Electronic Telecommunication Enforcement Resource System (NCIC/METERS).



The Records Section offers system/security administration to the National Crime Information Center’s Maryland Electronic Telecommunication Enforcement Resource System (NCIC/METERS). This federal database allows patrol deputies to field check contacts for open warrants or criminal involvement. CJIS is an essential tool used by law enforcement.

The Records Section processes all Public Information Act and report requests. Citizens may contact the Sheriff’s Office to obtain accident or police incident reports. This contact can be done through the website, by phone, or by written request.

The Records section also processes all expungements granted by the Circuit and District Courts. Under Maryland law, an expungement is a process that allows for the removal of certain police records from public view. A petitioner may request an expungement, and in some cases, records qualify for an automatic expungement.

Additionally, the Records Section is tasked with completing Criminal Background Checks on individuals applying for entry into the military, jobs within local and state governments, law enforcement positions, and other sensitive employment.

In addition, Records is tasked with receiving and processing all charging documents issued by the court, law enforcement, and the public. These criminal charging documents can be in the form of an arrest warrant, criminal summons, or criminal citation. Two staff members are responsible for processing and dispersing these charging documents to the Patrol Division and Fugitive Unit for service. In an attempt to decrease the number of arrest warrants, the Sheriff’s Office has applied for and received a Warrant Grant, which has allowed deputies to work specific blocks of time attempting to locate wanted persons. These staff members are also

tasked with coordinating with other agencies to arrange for extraditions for fleeing felons to be returned to Maryland.

Police Information Specialist



The Police Information Specialist (PIS) is a non-sworn essential position that is readily available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week to serve the citizens of Frederick County, Maryland, and the deputies of the Frederick County Sheriff’s Office. The PIS team is responsible for handling all incoming telephone calls and routing those calls to the appropriate personnel. In addition, PIS personnel field citizen and law enforcement requests for assistance. The PIS team handles all National Crime Information Center (NCIC) entries. Those entries range from entering wanted or missing persons, entering stolen articles, firearms, vehicles, license plates, boats, and security. The PIS team also handles all teletypes in NCIC for the Frederick County Sheriff’s Office.

During evening hours and on the weekends, the PIS team handles entering all protective orders and peace orders issued through the State of Maryland District Court Commissioner’s Office. Furthermore, during these off hours, the PIS team also completes entries, removals, and HITS for the Brunswick Police Department and the Thurmont Police Department.

During 2024, the PIS team has had multiple staffing shortages. Although we have been hiring throughout the year, we were still down three positions as of December 31, 2024. We did have two new staff members who recently started in early 2025. At the end of March 2024, the warrant validations were moved back to the Records Department, where a new position was created to handle all warrant validations. This was done to help offset some of the workload for the PIS team, which was experiencing staffing shortages.

2024 Court-related paperwork processed by the PIS team:

- 1326 Warrants entered Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS)
- 1326 Quality control checks on Warrants
- 720 Warrant Validations (January – March)
- 504 Interim Peace / Protective Orders

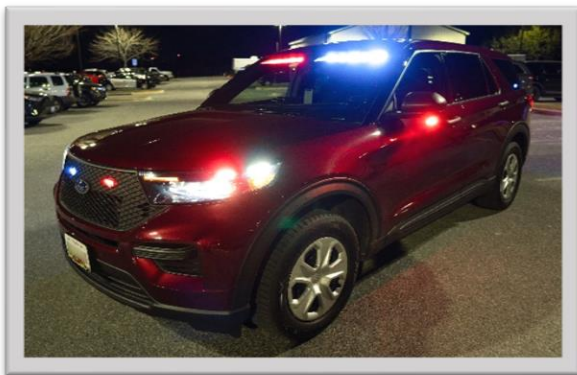
Fleet Services



The Frederick County Sheriff's Office fleet is comprised of approximately 200 vehicles ranging from sedans, sport utility vehicles, pickup trucks, and UTVs. The Law Enforcement Bureau utilizes marked patrol vehicles, unmarked patrol vehicles, covert vehicles, patrol motorcycles, a Tactical Rescue Vehicle, caged patrol vehicles for prisoner transport, and other special purpose vehicles. Majority of the vehicles are AWD Ford Explorers, AWD Dodge Durangos, and AWD Dodge Chargers.

In 2024, 24 replacement vehicles were purchased, consisting of 14 Ford Explorer PIUs, 2 Dodge Durangos, 2 Chevrolet Tahoes, 1 Chrysler Pacifica, 1 Nissan Rogue, 1 Mitsubishi Outlander, 1 Ford Explorer XLT, 1 Chevrolet Traverse, and 1 Chevrolet Express Van.

The current life and decommissioning standard in place for sedans is 5 years / 125,000 miles and 7 years / 150,000 miles for Sport Utility vehicles. Other considerations for replacement and decommissioning are in place for special-purpose vehicles, such as K9 vehicles and vehicles with costly maintenance repairs.



All 24 vehicles purchased have arrived and are either in the possession of Fleet Services for upfitting or in service. Currently, 8 out of 24 have been placed in service and are fully operational. The remaining 16 vehicles are currently in the upfitting stages and will be placed into service early in 2025. This delay was caused by vendor issues and product availability.

Law Enforcement Center

The Law Enforcement Complex is located at 110 Airport Drive East, Frederick, MD 21701. The building was constructed in 2002 and is approximately 72,000 square feet. The facility serves as the Headquarters for the Frederick County Sheriff's Office. In addition, the Maryland

State Police – Barrack B occupies a portion of the building as their Frederick Command, along with C.H.A.R.T. and Frederick County Emergency Communications one day per week as a backup 911 center.

The facility sits on 8.6 acres. The property houses a large metal storage barn, a full-service garage with three mechanics bays, a secure evidence bay, a commercial power wash bay for police vehicles, and a secure evidence/impound lot.

In 2024, the agency, with the assistance of the Department of Public Works and

Facilities Maintenance, completed a remodel of the patrol operations supervisor area on the basement level of the facility. An additional office was built for an Assistant Patrol Commander. The patrol deputy workroom was reorganized, and wall cabinetry was removed to provide additional space.

The Capital Improvement Project for a total roof replacement on the LEC, garage building, and fuel island roof began in late September.

Polygraph

In 2024, the Polygraph Unit utilized two full-time polygraph examiners after a second examiner was certified in the fall of 2023. Polygraph examinations primarily consisted of pre-employment screening exams conducted to assist background investigations. Examinations also included criminal and internal investigations as needed.

With the addition of a second examiner, the Law Enforcement Bureau and Corrections Bureau were able to schedule pre-employment screening examinations with an assigned examiner for each bureau. This reduced the wait time for examinees and the background process.

In July 2024, one polygraph examiner retired and returned on a part-time basis as the examiner dedicated to the Corrections Bureau. This examiner operates in the detention center to streamline scheduling for on-site examinations.

In addition to polygraph examinations, the examiners assist Personnel Services with hiring events. Assistance is also provided for background investigations not requiring a polygraph examination.

Both examiners are members of the American Polygraph Association, the American Association of Police Polygraphists, the Maryland Polygraph Association, and the Mid-Atlantic Police Polygraph Cooperative. Each examiner attends continuing education training regularly.

2024 Polygraph Statistics:

- 138 Examinations scheduled
- 106 Administered
- 53 Law Enforcement
- 52 Corrections
- 32 Administrative
- 1 Criminal

Background Investigations

The Background Investigations Section is responsible for conducting thorough background investigations on Sheriff's Office applicants. This includes full-time sworn law enforcement and civilian staff for the Law Enforcement Bureau and assisting with correctional officer applicants when requested by the Corrections Bureau. Since 2006, background investigators have conducted fewer evasive background investigations on sensitive county positions. These are positions such as Animal Control Officers, Emergency Communications Specialists, Software Integrators, and Wastewater Treatment Personnel.

Adding a third part-time background investigator at the end of 2023 has proven paramount in concluding investigations. It has reduced the completion time and allowed applicants a quicker background process, with investigations divided among three investigators. The background investigators continue to assist the Law Enforcement Bureau Personnel Services during recruit testing.

The background investigator position is essential in hiring the most qualified and competent personnel for the Sheriff's Office. Because of the sensitivity, demands, and responsibilities of these positions, a thorough and confidential background is completed on each applicant. Disqualifying factors are established through COMAR, the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission, and agency policy. Background investigations must be completed promptly to coincide with pre-scheduled police and emergency communication academies.

2023 Statistics:

Administrative Civilian Positions: 20
FCSO Deputy Recruit & Lateral Candidates: 40

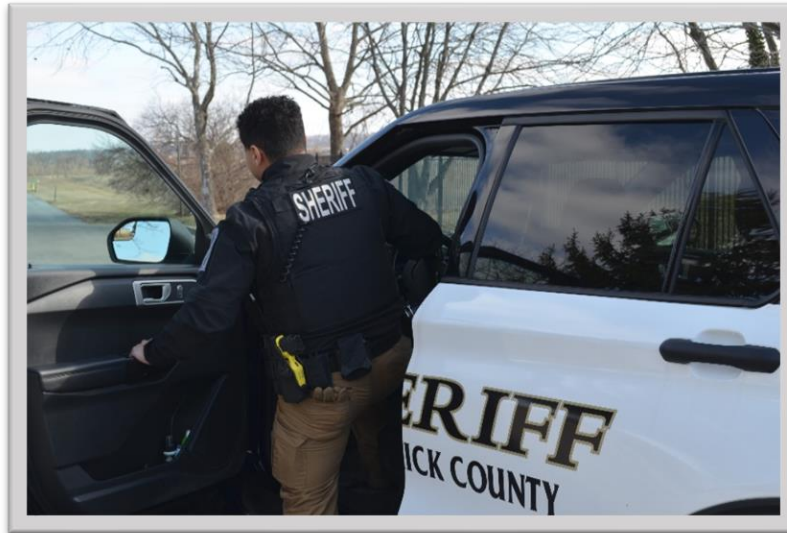
2024 Statistics

Administrative Civilian Positions: 18
FCSO Deputy: Recruit & Lateral Candidates: 39

FCSO Correctional Officer Recruit: 2
Frederick County Sensitive Positions: 183
Total Investigations Conducted in 2023: 245

FCSO Correctional Officer Recruit: 2
Frederick County Sensitive Positions: 168
Total Investigations Conducted in 2024: 227

Patrol Operations



Patrol Operations remains the largest and most visible section of the Sheriff's Office. It is comprised of the men and women in uniform who patrol the county's designated patrol beats twenty-four hours a day, three hundred sixty-five days a year. These highly trained and skilled professionals are the backbone and visual connection between the community and law enforcement. Patrol deputies are responsible for a wide range of duties, including responding to citizen requests for law enforcement services, investigating, educating, detecting, deterring, preventing crime, and ensuring traffic safety through effective traffic enforcement. A variety of tools and techniques are implemented to aid in the completion and efficiency of this mission, including new technology, FCSO Dashboard, radar/lidar, drones, electronic speed sign trailers, portable breath test units, night vision equipment, electronic traffic enforcement paperwork through Delta, crash reporting, highly advanced evidence and reconstruction equipment and mobile data computers. Each deputy is assigned a marked or unmarked police vehicle fully outfitted.

Frederick County Schools remained fully operational, and the FCSO School Resource Officer (SRO) Unit fully supported **51** combined elementary, middle, and high schools, including multiple pyramid school programs.

The agency held multiple in-house training classes that were conducted for personnel in multiple disciplines.

Patrol Operations continues to work closely with Frederick County Mobile Crisis and expands this partnership. Mobile Crisis conducts weekly and daily ride-alongs with patrol personnel

during day and evening patrol shifts to assist with interactions involving subjects in a mental health crisis. This has become a very effective working partnership, providing citizens with critical resources and assistance in mental health.

The Sheriff’s Office participates in the Overdose Response Program coordinated by the Health Department. Deputies are trained and authorized to carry and administer Narcan to address the opioid crisis that has become a serious public health problem across the country. The Sheriff’s Office responded to 81 overdose calls. Narcan was mentioned and administered 41 times in calls for service data, either by deputies, civilians, or EMS personnel.

Patrol Operations continues to compile and track calls for service and incident reports for several categories of call types (Emergency Petition, Mental, Suicide, and Overdose). Patrol deputies are increasingly dealing with more mental illness-related issues and individuals as mental person call types. The agency now partners with mobile crisis to assist with these call types. This relationship has proven to be beneficial to all involved.

	2021 CFS	2021 IR's	2022 CFS	2022 IR's	2023 CFS	2023 IR's	2024 CFS	2024 IR'S
EP's	474	440	591	451	560	444	593	463
Mental	198	N/A	169	N/A	197	N/A	238	N/A
Overdose	139	116	105	82	89	64	81	40
Suicide	202	87	206	110	162	57	160	57

Patrol Operations Comparison

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Calls For Service (Agency)	119,097	121,741	117,335	136,620
Calls For Service (Adjusted)	64,981	65,300	66,721	63,220
Adult Arrests	2,453	3,085	4,208	4224
Juvenile Arrests	98	243	53	76
Traffic Stops	17,555	21,541	21,521	25297
Citations Issued	6,053	8,242	8,678	11488
Warnings Issued	19,457	24,546	23,976	28365
SERO's Issued	367	546	437	683
Vehicle Crashes (ACRS Reported)	1,055	1,085	1,111	1011
M/V Crashes - Fatalities	6	6	11	4
Selective Enforcement	3,585	3,825	2,455	2794
Patrol Checks	27,479	33,487	35,605	31131
School Safety Checks	5,078	6,807	6,599	8522
WIN	6,445	4,514	5,887	7385

The agency-wide statistics listed above show a continued increase from previous years. Removing certain call types from the I-Leads reporting system determines the adjusted CFS number. Those call types include court, escort, extra duty, out-of-service, repo, off duty, test, tow log, and traffic stops. Deputies still seem to be maintaining proactive trends.

Juvenile arrests decreased significantly due to new programs put in place by legislative changes and the use of the diversion program.

Patrol Staffing

The average number of deputies working each shift decreased to 10.14 from 9.6.

The overall average number of deputies working each shift (D-E-M) decreased for all shifts.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Day Shift	11.44	11.09	10.83	10.27	9
Evening Shift	11.36	10.99	10.66	10.17	10
Midnight Shift	11.13	10.70	10.66	10.00	9
<i>Overall Average</i>	<i>11.31</i>	<i>11.57</i>	<i>10.75</i>	<i>10.14</i>	<i>9.6</i>

The overall average number of total deputies working each day decreased from **30** to **29**. The overall average number of deputies working each day of the week also saw an across-the-board decrease for the fourth year in a row.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Monday	33.4	32.55	31.57	30.33	28
Tuesday	35.25	34.73	32.40	31.80	28
Wednesday	34.51	33.63	32.72	30.87	31
Thursday	34.12	32.55	32.21	29.51	30
Friday	34.17	32.98	32.24	30.75	31
Saturday	34.2	32.46	31.01	30.70	28
Sunday	31.91	30.51	29.37	29.08	27
<i>Overall Average</i>	<i>33.94</i>	<i>32.77</i>	<i>31.65</i>	<i>30.43</i>	<i>29</i>

Retirements, resignations, and trying to staff specialized units will most likely keep the averages in a decreasing pattern unless mass hiring takes place. The agency is continuing its recruitment efforts and pursuing lateral hire deputies, but we continue to have vacancies.

WIN

The What's Important Now (WIN) program addresses specific locations that were identified by the Sheriff, commanders, deputies, or the public for immediate attention. These locations were constantly updated and adjusted to remain pertinent. Deputies initiated **5887** WIN cards in 2023- and 7385-WIN cards in 2024, an increase of **25%**.

School Safety Check Initiative

The school safety check initiative was completed for another year. The primary goal is to augment the School Resource Officer Unit activities using Patrol team personnel. Patrol deputies working day shift when school is in session increase their law enforcement presence using school safety checks. Patrol deputies are provided with a list of school locations in their assigned area and conduct checks at each school throughout their shift. Their focus is on elementary and middle schools. Deputies make themselves known to the school administration and are visible to the students and staff by walking the hallways and stopping in the cafeteria and gymnasium. This effort is to provide a greater presence and to prevent a catastrophe at one of our schools.

Patrol deputies initiated **6599** school safety checks in **2023** and **8522** checks in **2024**, an increase of **29%**.

Extra Duty Events

The Sheriff's Office received **2801** Extra Duty events, which is a slight decrease from 2023.

Year	Assignments	Deputies	Total HRS
2021	1839	109	7514
2022	2220	114	9042
2023	2830	122	11903
2024	2801	124	12407

Special Event Permits

Special event permits continued, with **24** permits being pulled for the year.

Ride-a-long Program

The Ride-A-Long program continued, with approximately **60** requests. Many of those requests came from the Leadership Frederick Program and ECC new hires.

Automated Enforcement Citations

The number of automated enforcement citations increased from 19 to 39. Three of those citations were justified and voided. New cameras at various locations have been implemented in the last year, such as the Town of New Market location, which has contributed to the increase.

UAS (Drone) Program



The use of drones in law enforcement has brought numerous benefits that enhance safety, efficiency, and effectiveness in various operations. Firstly, drones provide unparalleled surveillance capabilities. They can quickly cover large areas that would be time-consuming and resource-intensive for ground units to patrol. This is particularly useful in search and rescue missions, monitoring large public events, or surveying disaster-stricken areas. By providing real-time aerial footage, drones enable law enforcement to make informed decisions rapidly, ultimately leading to quicker response times and more successful outcomes.

Additionally, drones offer significant cost savings for law enforcement agencies. Traditional methods of aerial surveillance, such as helicopters, are expensive to operate and maintain. Drones, on the other hand, are relatively affordable and require fewer resources to deploy. This financial efficiency allows agencies to allocate funds to other critical areas, such as community outreach programs or advanced training for officers. Moreover, drones can be equipped with various sensors and technologies, including thermal imaging and high-resolution cameras, which enhance their utility in diverse scenarios without incurring substantial additional costs.

Finally, the use of drones can improve officer safety by reducing the need for officers to enter potentially dangerous situations. For example, drones can be used to assess the scene of a hazardous materials spill or to gather intelligence on a suspect's location before the deputy's approach. This remote capability minimizes the risk to human life while still allowing law enforcement to maintain control of the situation. Furthermore, the presence of drones can act as a deterrent to criminal activity, as potential offenders are aware that they are being monitored from above. This technological advancement not only protects officers but also promotes a safer environment for the community they serve.

These reasons led to the agency's implementation of a UAS program in 2024. The program consists of six Part 107 trained pilots operating three newly purchased Skydio X10 units when needed.

Traffic Unit

	Crashes	Citations	Warnings	SERO	DUI / Traffic Arrest	Selective	Calls For Service
2020	474	1,498	1,798	184	40	135	1,572
2021	568	1952	2191	223	52	620	3000
2022	628	1936	3398	243	97	1023	4344
2023	578	1217	1915	144	63	597	3418
2024	786	3410	3154	259	298	834	5013



The Traffic Unit is responsible for most traffic-related matters within the agency while providing support to the Patrol teams. Its focus is to gain voluntary compliance with Maryland's vehicle laws, thereby limiting the number of serious personal injuries and fatal crashes. The Traffic Unit seeks to accomplish this goal through various means, including high visibility enforcement, crash data analysis, public outreach, coordinated efforts with highway engineering partners, and other enforcement.

Like in previous years, Frederick County's population continues to increase, which translates to more vehicles being driven on its roadways. The Sheriff's Office's traffic enforcement efforts are carried out primarily by members of the Traffic Unit and Patrol deputies. Their combined effort to reduce the number of collisions and gain voluntary compliance through selective enforcement remains a major goal. During 2024, the Traffic Unit consisted of one sergeant and three deputies.

Collision Analysis:

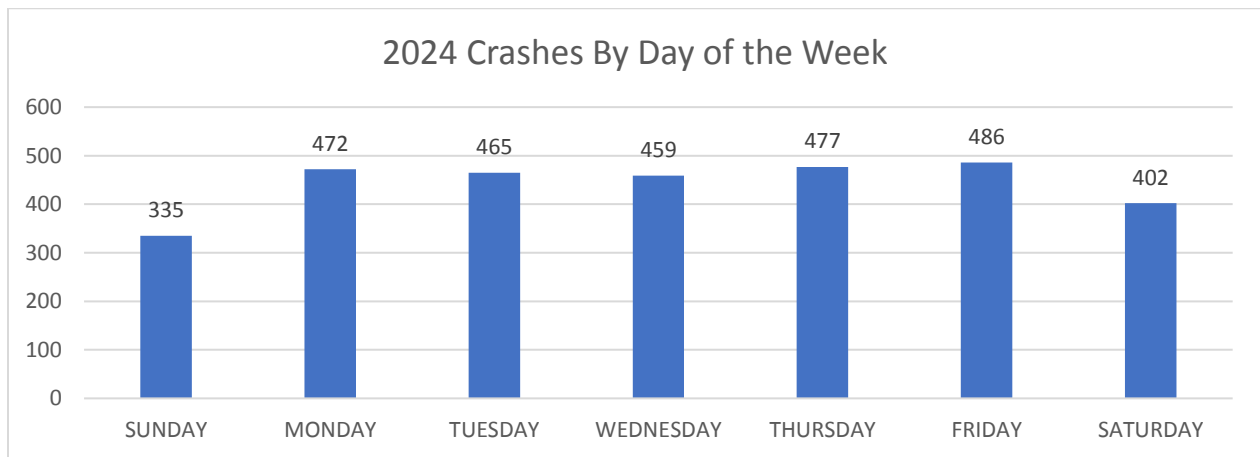
The Frederick County Sheriff's Office responded to 3096 calls for service involving vehicle crashes. A Maryland Automated Crash Reporting System (ACRS) report or crash-related incident report was required on 1011 crashes, or 36% of the total crash calls. The four Traffic Unit members handled 25% of all collisions. The Traffic Unit captured statistics on all motor vehicle collisions. These statistics are divided into several categories, including the area of occurrence, day of the week, and time of the day.

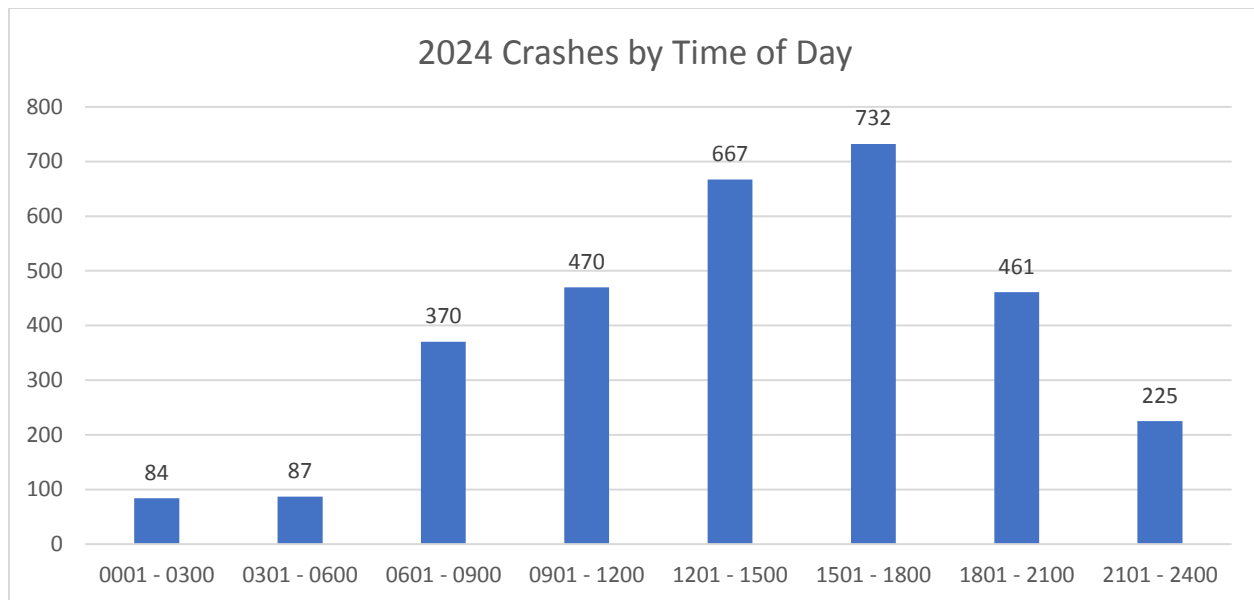
In 2024, Area 5 again led the county in total collisions. Area 5 is traditionally a high collision area from month to month. Area 5 had 288 more collisions than the next area, Area 6. Areas 5 and 6 are typically the most congested during commute and rush hours due to the large number of businesses and the high density of residential areas, which leads to the high probability of

collisions. It is suggested that our agency continue its selective enforcement and high visibility enforcement with special emphasis on the high-crash areas listed above. Many areas in the county have noticeably higher crash rates than in the previous year. The Traffic Unit continues to work closely with the Frederick County Department of Public Works, Frederick County Highways, MD State Highway Administration, and the Frederick County Traffic Team to evaluate roadway design, engineering, and traffic patterns to improve safety.

During 2024, the Sheriff’s Office investigated 632 collisions in areas outside of the nine traditional patrol areas. Several municipalities and large subdivisions have been designated with separate patrol areas (i.e., Lake Linganore, Spring Ridge, and Woodsboro), where the Sheriff’s Office is the primary response to calls for service. The Sheriff’s Office also continues to investigate all collisions involving county-owned vehicles/property within Frederick County, regardless of the primary jurisdiction where the collision may have happened. Many of these areas also experienced a significant percentage increase in crashes. However, the actual number of crashes in the auxiliary regions remains relatively low. The exception to this is Frederick City, which had a 72% increase in county vehicle-related crashes. Community Deputies are assigned to Emmitsburg, Middletown, and Myersville and are the primary responders to calls for service within those areas. In addition, the Sheriff’s Office investigated 30 collisions located on Frederick County Public School property.

The day-of-week statistics are captured in the collision day-of-week report; however, it is also important to pair this with the collision timeframes report; its relevance is more apparent on this form. It is essential to review the day and time of motor vehicle collisions to see if patterns emerge.





Of the 3096 crashes in 2024, 2,143, or 76% of all collisions, occurred on a weekday. This is a recurring trend. Friday averaged the highest frequency of crashes compared to the other days of the week, although they are all relatively close to one another, except Sunday and Saturday. It should be noted that in 2024, the top five days, the Traffic Unit will continue to monitor crash data to maintain effective deployment and use of the workforce.

In 2024, 2,700 crashes, or 87% of all collisions, occurred within the 15-hour time frame of 0601-2100 hours. This is a recurring trend. This shows many collisions start at the beginning of the morning rush hour and continue through the evening rush hour. The fewest collisions, or 5%, occurred in the early morning hours between 0001-0600 hours. The 1201-1800 hours period stands out as the most common time for reported motor vehicle crashes. It accounted for 45% of the crashes.

The Traffic Unit supervisor monitors traffic and collision trends, allowing the Traffic Unit to respond to traffic-related matters, take enforcement action as appropriate, and investigate collisions, thereby reducing this burden on the Patrol teams. The current Traffic Unit schedule rotation is the most effective to meet the needs of the community and agency. The schedule utilizes an 11.5-hour shift with scheduled working hours of 0600-1730 or 0900-2030 hrs. The Traffic Unit hours were spread to cover the most effective enforcement and crash-prone times. The Traffic Unit schedule is Monday through Saturday. This utilizes the limited number of team members most effectively, during the days that most collisions occur.

Online reporting, using LexisNexis, was used to report hit-and-run crashes 37 times. However, only 15 of those reports were approved. The rejected reports were due to jurisdictional issues, i.e., the reported hit-and-run occurred outside of FCSO's primary jurisdiction.

Selective Enforcement:

Voluntary compliance with traffic laws through selective enforcement continues to be one of the Traffic Unit's primary missions. The Traffic Unit documents citizen requests for traffic enforcement on a rotating, selective enforcement log. It also tracks areas and locations showing increased collisions and/or collision frequency. The Traffic Unit Supervisors maintain the selective enforcement log and distribute it via the FCSO Patrol Dashboard.

In 2024, speeding complaints were most often received during the morning and evening commute times, which also coincides with the higher volume of collisions during this time frame. The areas with the most crashes did not align with the areas that received the most requests for enforcement. Areas 4 and 9 had the most requests. Deputies accomplished 2795 selective traffic enforcement events, a 13% increase over 2023. The Traffic Unit accounted for 834 selective enforcement details, which accounts for approximately 30% of all selective details.

The Traffic Unit continues to emphasize collision statistics, traffic trends, and citizen complaints to focus selective enforcement efforts based on specific real-time needs and complaint locations. This commitment will increase voluntary compliance, reduce the frequency of serious/fatal collisions, and increase public perception. The addition/replacement of radar units to outfit patrol will further assist with this commitment to safe roads and traffic enforcement. In addition to equipment, the Traffic Unit must continue to conduct radar training for newer deputies. The Traffic Unit must also utilize alternative methods of enforcement and public education. The Sheriff's Office's variable message boards are outfitted with radar to display real-time messages to drivers to let them know to "slow down" and "avoid the ticket." The purpose of this electronic sign board is to be deployed on county roadways, developments, and communities to gain voluntary compliance for speeding. The signboards have been deployed to approximately 50 locations. Many requests for the signboards placed in specific locations have been received. Traffic data recorders were added to these VMBs. The data has been analyzed and used to educate communities and individuals about the speeds and volumes of vehicles on their roads.

2024 Unit Call-Outs / Fatal or Serious Injury Collision Investigations:

The Traffic Unit reconstructionist responded to seven (7) callouts for collision investigations. A Reconstructionist investigated a total of four (4) fatal collisions with four (4) fatalities. Three (3) investigations were conducted for serious injury collisions.

The following is a list of the fatal or serious injury collisions investigated:

- 3/7/2024 – SGT Rector / RT-85 @ Marcie's Choice, Two vehicle, Serious Injury
- 3/30/2024 – DFC Lucente / Araby Church Rd, Single Vehicle, Single Fatal
- 5/28/2024 – SGT Rector / New Design @ Crestwood / Single Vehicle, Single Fatal
- 10/16/2024 – DFC Lucente / Rt-85 @ Greenfield / Two vehicle, Single Fatal

- 10/29/2024 – DFC Bittenmaster / 12000 Legore Bridge Rd / Truck, Car and Tractor / Serious Injury
- 12/5/2024 – DFC Bittenmaster / Ballenger Creek Pike / Single Vehicle. Serious Injury
- 12/21/2024 – DFC Reggio / Sundays Ln / Single Vehicle, Single Fatal

Vehicle Storage Reports & Abandoned Vehicle Log:

The Frederick County Sheriff's Office made 543 requests for tows in 2024. There were 597 Vehicle Storage Reports for towed/stored vehicles. The Traffic Unit Supervisor oversees the vehicle storage log, completing a review of the log on a daily/weekly basis. The Traffic Unit supervisor handled all owner notification certified letters, Circuit Court public notice postings, CS-078 certificate issuance, and agency-specific concerns involving towing. A total of 69 CS78s were issued to towing companies during 2024.

A contract by the Frederick County Department of Procurement and Contracting governs the two companies on the list. The law enforcement responsibilities for our agency with rotational tows remain with the Sheriff's Office and the Traffic Unit supervisors. Any concerns related to the tow rotational list for law enforcement are reviewed by the Tow Oversight Committee (TOC), which is composed of representatives from the Department of Procurement and Contracting, the Emergency Communications Center, and the Traffic Unit supervisors.

School Bus Violations:

The Traffic Unit received 61 complaints from bus drivers during 2024. As a result, twelve bus violation letters were sent to registered vehicle owners that could be identified.

Intoximeter Program:

Intoximeter Operators receive specialized training from the Maryland State Police, Chemical Test for Alcohol Unit (CTAU). Upon certification, Intoximeter Operators utilize the Intoximeter EC/IR II assigned to this installation to administer evidentiary breath tests to impaired drivers. To utilize the Intoximeter instrument in the State of Maryland, operators must successfully complete a 40-hour class approved by the State Toxicologist and demonstrate proficiency in its use. Operators remain certified through required monthly subject testing, simulation testing, and annual retraining provided by the Maryland State Police, CTAU.

In 2024, Intoximeter operators performed 190 evidentiary breath tests. That is a decrease of 18% increase over 2023. The Intoximeter program additionally captured 222 refusals, an increase of 36%. Additionally, 15 blood evidentiary tests for alcohol concentration were captured, totaling 412 combined breath tests, blood tests, and refusals from impaired drivers in Frederick County in 2024. That is a total decrease of 2% over the prior year. There were six DRE blood kits. These numbers are not necessarily the same as Delta+ DUI numbers due to alternative charging

methods, such as applying charges and juvenile referrals. These tests could not exist without the current Intoximeter operators. Seven active Intoximeter operators were serving within the agency during 2024. By the end of the year, teams 3 and 6 will need additional operators due to transfers. Our goal is to maintain each patrol team with at least one operator, but staffing assignments and transfers affect this goal. Additional training for FCSO personnel to be certified in the breath test program will be requested in 2025 through MSP, CTAU, as needed, in conjunction with balancing of operators, will be considered to better achieve this goal. Sgt Rector is the current Breath Test Supervisor (BTS). MSP requires a backup BTS for the agency, and this role is filled by Sgt. Sanders.

Location/Area	2021	2022	2023	2024	%
Area 1	73	75	58	49	-15
Area 2	75	69	85	84	-1
Area 3	77	71	76	60	-21
Area 4	248	318	304	377	24
Area 5	989	940	939	914	-3
Area 6	629	585	603	626	4
Area 7	116	141	97	136	40
Area 8	54	38	54	49	-9
Area 10 (Frederick)	111	114	116	200	72
Area 11 (Emmitsburg)	63	67	72	69	-4
Area 12 (Spring Ridge)	39	19	18	28	56
Area 13 (Middletown)	58	65	13	82	530
Area 15 (Myersville)	19	14	15	12	-20
Area 16 (Lake Linganore)	30	48	41	24	-41
Area 18 (Woodsboro)	17	8	9	12	33
SRO's	47	73	60	33	-45

Time of Day	2021	2022	2023	2024
0001-0300	79	80	75	84
0301-0600	65	72	75	87
0601-0900	301	328	328	370
0901-1200	401	397	406	470
1201-1500	600	576	592	667
1501-1800	695	694	663	732
1801-2100	443	418	412	461
2101-2400	189	208	214	225

Day of the Week	2021	2022	2023	2024
Monday	412	394	400	472
Tuesday	351	459	410	465
Wednesday	448	450	423	459
Thursday	403	402	420	477
Friday	487	438	462	486
Saturday	370	371	356	402
Sunday	302	259	294	335

Drug Recognition Expert Program:

DRUG CATEGORIES FOR EVALUATIONS CONDUCTED	2023	2024
CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM DEPRESSANTS:	0	0
CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM STIMULANTS:	1	0
HALLUCINOGENS:	1	1
DISSOCIATIVE ANAESTHETICS:	0	0
NARCOTIC ANALGESICS:	2	2
INHALENTS:	1	0
CANNABIS:	10	8
POLYDRUG:	10	7
MEDICAL RULE OUT:	0	0
NOT UNDER INFLUENCE:	5	2
NOT COMPLETED:	0	0
DAY OF EVALUATION	2023	2024
MONDAY:	4	3
TUESDAY:	3	4
WEDNESDAY:	2	1
THURSDAY:	4	2
FRIDAY:	5	4
SATURDAY:	6	3
SUNDAY:	4	3
DRE SERVICES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES	2023	2024
FCSO	13	12
FPD	1	3
MSP HAG.	2	1
MSP FRED.	1	1
CCSO	1	1
Hag PD	1	2
MT Airy PD	1	0
Total Number of Evaluations	2023	2024
Total Number of Evaluations	28	20

The Frederick County Sheriff's Office currently has five certified Drug Recognition Experts. This includes one Drug Recognition Expert Instructor. The Frederick County Sheriff's Office conducted twenty Drug Influence Evaluations in 2024 and consulted on multiple cases that are not captured in the statistics. It is the goal of the Drug Recognition Expert Program to increase knowledge, understanding, and experience with both the Drug Recognition Experts and Patrol Deputies.

Pro-Active Criminal Enforcement (PACE)



The purpose of the PACE Team is to supplement daily operations with a cohesive group of individuals capable of acting independently and effectively to address any issue that would otherwise deplete manpower requirements of patrol staffing. The team works closely with other sections of the agency such as NIS and CIS with their active investigations, and Training Services with the required annual or specialized training. The year began with the team consisting of three members including Sgt. Welsh, Cpl. Smith, and DFC Parson. In May, Cpl. Smith was promoted to Sgt. and transferred to Team 3, DFC Parson was promoted to Cpl. in place, and DFC Jenkins was transferred to PACE. Daily, the team focused their efforts on proactive criminal enforcement in communities throughout Frederick County.

These efforts were based on intelligence obtained from the patrol deputies, CIS, NIS, and I-Leads reports. Most of the time, the team based their enforcement

	Total Calls	Veh. Stops	Criminal Arrests	Traffic Arrests	Warrants Served	Total Arrests
2020	682	135	23	47	17	87
2021	1088	252	72	42	44	159
2022	1475	486	286	86	98	471
2023	927	117	108	42	50	201
2024	997	742	106	82	66	259

efforts on communities that create the most call volume, resulting in criminal activity. On numerous occasions, members of the team gathered information during traffic

Year	FENTANYL SEIZED	METH SEIZED	COCAINE SEIZED
2023	475.3 g	45.1 g	556.7 g
2024	230.8g	72.3 g	452.85 g

stops or field interviews that were then passed on to members of CIS and NIS, resulting in larger-scale arrests and investigations. Throughout the year, the team was called upon to conduct in-service training, train new recruits, assist with other specialized training, provide an interior law enforcement presence for the Great Frederick Fair, provide security for contentious public meetings, and provide security for gatherings involving Judges.

Highlights:

PACE developed an MPCTC-approved training titled Conducting Complete Traffic Stops. The training revolved around 4th Amendment Search and Seizure Law, criminal indicators, and tools to be effective in proactively interdicting criminal activity. During the months of January and February, PACE instructed this training to 26 Deputies over 4 training sessions. Each training session consisted of classroom instruction followed by a live interdiction where the Deputy is joined by a PACE member or another experienced Deputy. The 4 training sessions resulted in the following statistics:

- 76 traffic stops

- 39 arrests
- 2 handguns seized
- 139.4 grams of fentanyl seized
- 22.3 grams of cocaine seized
- 2 grams of seized ecstasy
- 1 gram of methamphetamine seized

During February, PACE assisted NIS with an ongoing investigation into a local distributor of Cocaine. The target of the investigation had a lengthy criminal history and was already wanted for several warrants. PACE provided a location of the target in Frederick City and was tasked with arresting if an opportunity presented itself. PACE members formulated a plan to take the suspect into custody with the support of FPD, MSP, and FCSO K9. PACE members observed the target on foot and were able to take him into custody after a brief foot pursuit. NIS furthered their investigation by conducting an SSW on the target's vehicle, which was in the area where he was apprehended. The SSW resulted in the seizure of 2 ounces of Cocaine. The target of the investigation ultimately pleaded guilty to his crimes and was sentenced to prison.

Throughout March, PACE assisted FPD Narcotics with a T3 Wiretap investigation. PACE was requested to conduct a traffic stop on an involved party, which resulted in the seizure of Cocaine and Fentanyl. The seizure during the traffic stop was instrumental in furthering FPD's investigation, which resulted in several residential SSWs executed in MD and WV. The SSWs resulted in a seizure of 1,175 grams of fentanyl, 230 grams of cocaine, \$66,000 in US Currency, and a .25 caliber handgun.

K9 Program



The Frederick County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit provides line support to the agency's bureaus with a highly mobile, specially trained police dog. The police canine has attributes for searching for items and/or people to quickly facilitate their location. Thus, resources can be managed more efficiently and effectively. Additionally, the police dog provides safety to officers, and while the canine is primarily a tool for location, it can become an instrument of force when necessary.

Cpl. Kocevar supervises the unit, which consists of five canine teams. During 2024, the unit provided the agency with three dual-purpose (apprehension and narcotics detection) canine teams as well as two single-purpose narcotics detection canine teams. One handler was removed from the unit in 2024 and was replaced with the selection of DFC Sowers as the new handler. DFC Sowers was partnered with the existing trained canine and completed an approximately 160-hour in-house

handler familiarization school. 2024 saw a substantial increase in both narcotics apprehensions, as well as money and guns seized because of K-9 scans.

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Narcotic Apprehensions	332	571	254	487
Vehicle Scans	385	606	335	553
School Scans	8	4	7	3
Patrol Apprehensions	7	9	5	11
Tracks	21	32	23	5
Building Searches	2	6	4	3
Area Searches	8	18	6	11

Seized	2021	2022	2023	2024
Marijuana (grams)	1,366.6	822.6g	168g	2681g
Cocaine (grams)	391.5	1,919.3g	1,096.9g	3246.6g
Heroin (grams)	1497.9	3,385.8g	1,633g	1515.9g
Ecstasy/Meth(grams)	564	294.3g	77.7g	31g
PCP	4	45g	34g	0g
Prescription Pills	182	238.5	122.5	421.5
Other CDS Items	236	91	50	34
Paraphernalia	674	1025	250	783
Vehicles Seized	4	2	6	0
Currency Seized	\$15,026	\$20,213	\$5,126	\$36,916
Firearms Seized	4	12	7	20

Community Deputy Program



The Community Deputy Unit is a cooperative effort between the Sheriff’s Office and three incorporated municipalities in Frederick County. Two deputies are assigned to Middletown, two are assigned to Emmitsburg, and one is assigned to Myersville. A Sergeant and Corporal supervise the unit. Below is the statistical comparison between 2023 and 2024 for the unit.

The town’s contract with the Sheriff’s Office is to have deputies assigned to work primarily within the town limits.

Deputies assigned to these communities provide a consistent law enforcement presence in the towns, handle calls for service, and enforce criminal and traffic laws. Community Deputies build relationships with residents, business owners, and other stakeholders (such as civic

organizations and churches) in the towns. This provides a more personal approach where citizens become familiar with their deputies.



Being assigned directly to the towns creates an atmosphere where deputies can quickly respond to needs or complaints. Town officials frequently contact the unit supervisor or on-duty deputies regarding complaints that come in from citizens or town personnel. Many of these complaints relate to traffic issues, crossing guard issues, and suspicious people or activities.

The towns also occasionally have unique or unplanned needs, such as large funerals, road closures, or special stand-by requests, such as when town employees are terminated from employment. Fortunately, deputies in the unit are often able to change their schedules on short notice to accommodate these requests.

Deputies are tasked with increasing communication with the towns and residents through inclusion in town newsletters and bulletins, and providing information on the town's websites and Facebook pages. Recently, deputies reviewed town events to ensure the safety of all vendors and attendees.

This year, Deputies assigned to the Community Deputy Unit participated in the following special events for 2024:

Emmitsburg: Heritage Day (Lion's Club function), Eucharistic Revival, Annual Rosary Walk, Town-sponsored pool parties, National Night Out, MSMU back-to-school event, Halloween Parade, Turkey Trot, and the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Middletown: Middletown's 4th of July Celebration, Bike-to-Work Day, Emergency Management sponsored Touch-A-Truck, National Night Out, Heritage Festival, Classic Car Show, Scarecrow Walk, Halloween Parade, Memorial Day and Veterans Day events at the War Memorial, and Christmas in the Valley Celebration.

Myersville: FCPL sponsored Touch-A-Truck, Mother's Day and Father's Day events at the Elementary school, the Baseball Parade, the Trolley Festival, and the Christmas Parade.

Overall

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Calls for Service	8,041	10621	13202	9193	7820
Vehicle Stops	1,030	1545	2929	811	992
Selective Enforcement	492	813	972	630	455
Special Assignments/Events	91	127	93	86	64
Arrests	35	26	66	80	61
Walks	315	671	516	335	323
Bike Patrols	21	48	34	38	48
Patrol Checks	3,659	4188	4140	3802	3497
Talks Cards	387	900	1140	874	609

Middletown

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Calls for Service	3,866	6009	6640	4420	4131
Vehicle Stops	193	668	1106	833	557
Selective Enforcement	239	604	622	438	332
Special Assignments/Events	14	27	37	33	25
Arrests	5	6	11	11	16
Walks	162	447	396	254	222
Bike Patrols	21	41	34	38	42
Patrol Checks	2,331	2765	3185	2153	1773
Talks Cards	166	480	417	334	309

Myersville

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Calls for Service	1,856	1967	2050	2059	2023
Vehicle Stops	320	333	377	337	250
Selective Enforcement	167	159	167	108	120
Special Assignments/Events	33	46	11	20	19
Arrests	3	4	9	10	5
Walks	32	37	23	6	9
Bike Patrols	0	1	346	1048	6
Patrol Checks	1,098	1077	364	375	1145
Talks Cards	76	111	2050	2059	212

Emmitsburg

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Calls for Service	2,124	2460	4203	2055	1593
Vehicle Stops	512	514	1366	513	185
Selective Enforcement	56	50	183	84	34
Special Assignments/Events	44	54	45	33	20
Arrests	27	16	36	52	40
Walks	120	187	97	73	91
Patrol Checks	169	329	586	559	551
Talks Cards	120	288	335	156	77

Executive Protection

The purpose of the Executive Protection Detail is to provide plain clothes and personal protection for the County Executive of Frederick County. The detail is comprised of a decentralized group of Deputies at the rank of Sergeant or below, who have permanent assignments throughout the agency. The Deputies assigned to the details were selected after their interest in the position was expressed via a transfer request, supported by a supervisor endorsement. The supervisors of the PACE Team provide oversight and management of the details. The PACE supervisors provide training, guidance, and expectations to the Deputies assigned to the detail.

2024 started with 19 Deputies assigned to the detail, including the PACE supervisors. Four deputies requested to be removed from the detail in March, reducing the number of Deputies to 15. Eight deputies were added to the details after a selection process in April, increasing the number of Deputies to 23. Seven deputies were removed from the detail in November after requesting to be removed or due to a lack of contribution to the detail. 2024 ended with 16 Deputies assigned to the detail, including the PACE supervisors.

Categories	2024
Total events	173
Total Time	303.5
Avg. Time	1.75
Avg. # events per month	14.4
Highest number of events per month	25 September

The County Executive's staff identify events that the County Executive will be attending and request personal protection for the events. The request for protection is sent via email to the PACE supervisors, who upload the event information to a schedule and ensure that the event is covered. The PACE supervisors routinely communicate with the County Executive's staff to ensure that event information is accurate and make changes when needed. The Deputies assigned to the detail all have access to the schedule and sign up for events voluntarily. Deputies providing personal protection will either meet the County Executive at the event or

provide transportation to and from the event, which is dictated by the County Executive’s staff and PACE supervisors. Each event requires the use of an unmarked vehicle, and when transporting the County Executive, the Sheriff’s Office has designated a Ford Expedition for transport. Deputies providing personal protection will typically wear business attire unless otherwise dictated by the PACE supervisors. Deputies working at an event are compensated at a minimum of 3 hours of overtime pay.

Honor Guard

The Frederick County Sheriff’s Office Honor Guard consists of thirteen members from the Law Enforcement and Corrections Bureaus. This unit participates in ceremonial details throughout Frederick County and the surrounding areas. The members of this unit demonstrate the most exceptional standards of appearance and conduct within the Sheriff’s Office. They complete the mission of the Honor Guard unit as a collateral duty to their primary functions within the agency. The unit is regularly on the front lines of forming the public image of the Sheriff’s Office to members of our community.



In 2024, the Honor Guard participated in twenty-eight events. The unit represented the agency at local assignments, including parades, funerals, Corrections Academy graduation ceremonies, Special Olympics Opening Ceremonies, and several outside agency funerals.

School Resource Officer Unit

The Frederick County Sheriff’s Office School Resource Officer (SRO) program places sworn deputies in select Frederick County Public School buildings. Currently, twelve deputies and three supervisors’ staff the SRO Program. SROs are currently based at Frederick County High Schools and work across their feeder elementary and middle schools. Sheriff’s Office SROs provide primary service to 51 schools and work in conjunction with SROs from the Frederick Police Department to provide service to all Frederick County Public Schools. Frederick County Public Schools has approximately 48,000 students enrolled and 7,509 staff members.

The SRO serves as a law enforcement officer, mentor, instructor, and role model. As part of this program, each SRO develops unique relationships with its school community. SROs attend various school meetings, training, and school functions to connect the Sheriff’s Office with the community. The SRO Unit also serves as a resource to the Frederick County Public Schools for school-based emergency planning.



School Resource Officers perform a variety of duties at their assigned schools. The SRO acts as a resource to the school community, which includes students, teachers, faculty, administration, and parents. In addition to handling calls-for-service, conducting traffic enforcement, and criminal investigations at their assigned schools, they assist in maintaining a safe and secure environment for students that is conducive to learning.

In September, SROs at Thomas Johnson High School responded to an active fight occurring in one of the hallways between two female students and other students attempting to get involved. The SRO took control of one of the students and escorted her to an administrator's office. The student continued to be aggressive, punching the desk and walls, kicking and throwing items in the room. School staff and the SRO grabbed hold of the student to place her in restraints to avoid any injuries. The student resisted but was eventually placed in restraints, continuing to be aggressive and make threatening statements. During the altercations, the SRO received a minor head injury and injury to a finger. Two students were charged via referral with assault, resisting, and other related charges.

In September, SROs responded to a trespassing at Urbana High School. Students propped open a door to retrieve an item from their vehicle. While they were outside, an unknown, unauthorized male approached the school and entered through the door. The subject was confronted by a teacher a short time later about being in the school. The teacher observed the subject attempting to enter the auditorium, speaking to himself and acting erratically. The male then assaulted the teacher as the man left the building. The subject was eventually located in the community. The subject was not trespassed and taken to the hospital for emergency evaluation.

In November, SROs at Tuscarora High School responded to an assault that occurred between three students in the hallway. SROs were able to separate the students; one student was uncooperative and continued walking throughout as the SROs attempted to de-escalate him. The student continued walking back to where the fight occurred, pushing an administrator, at which time the SROs placed the student in handcuffs. The student continued threatening the SROs and would not listen to their direction. The student would not stay on the ground and was able to access his phone, trying to contact someone to retaliate against the other students after school. The student was then taken back to the ground by one of the SROs. No SROs were injured. All three students were charged with assault, affray, and disrupting school activities.

Annual data for the School Resource Officer Program:

	2024	2023	2022
Total Calls for Service	6,409	6,320	7,706
School Safety Checks	2,281	2,570	3,253
CDS Investigations****	6	4	67
CDS Investigations – Diversion*	2	1	32
CDS Investigations – Charged**	0	0	5
Assault Investigations in School	106	84	101
Assault Offenders – Diversion*	47	41	38
Assault Offenders – Charged**	36	20	15
Total Juveniles Recommended for Diversion	53	57	95
Total Juveniles Criminally Charged	39	34	37
Traffic Stops	256	147	224
School Threats Investigated	28	20	37

* Diversion – A juvenile is referred to a pre-adjudication diversion program (Juvenile Entry Diversion Initiative) that diverts the juvenile from formal Department of Juvenile Services processing before they are criminally charged. A juvenile is eligible to be referred to diversion if the following conditions are met: they are a Frederick County resident, they are a first-time offender, and the crime they are accused of is a misdemeanor. If the juvenile fails to complete the diversion program, the case is forwarded to the Department of Juvenile Services.

**Charged – A juvenile is criminally charged either by juvenile referral, citation, or arrest with a criminal offense. The case is referred to the Department of Juvenile Services.

***CDS Investigations – Barring any extenuating circumstances, due to recent Maryland law changes, students found to be in possession of cannabis or THC products are typically handled via school discipline with no law enforcement involvement.

School Crossing Guard Program

The School Crossing Guard Program provides crossing services at 31 locations for 24 Frederick County schools. The program is designed to ensure that students and parents can safely transit from schools to property immediately adjacent to the school. The program is administered by a private vendor. The School Resource Officer Unit is responsible for oversight of the vendor, annual review of crossing locations, and consideration of requested new crossing locations.

Special Operations

The Frederick County Sheriff's Office Special Operations Section is composed of two main sections: the **Criminal Investigations Section** and the **Narcotics Investigations Section**. Captain Sedat Caliskan oversees the Special Operations Section. Lieutenant Robert Deckhut is the commander of the Criminal Investigations Section, and Lieutenant Chad Atkins is the commander of the Narcotics Investigations Section.

Criminal Investigations

The Criminal Investigations Section includes the Persons/Property Crimes Unit, the Sex Offender Registry, the Pawns Unit, Crime Analysis Unit, Victim Services Unit, the Internet Crimes Against Children Unit, the Evidence Unit, the Fugitive Unit, and the Frederick County Fire Investigation Task Force. Personnel in these units are experienced and have received specialized training and education.

The Frederick County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Section currently consists of ten detectives with six supervisors. The detectives are divided into three specialized divisions that include Person's/Property crimes, Internet Crimes Against Children, and Fugitive. Each receives specialized training in their areas of expertise. Five civilian personnel are also assigned to the unit to include the Sex Offender Registry Manager, Crisis Support Lead, Victim Witness Coordinator, Crime Analyst, and an Administrative Specialist/Pawn Administrator Coordinator.

The primary focus of the unit is to reduce the number of cases being investigated by deputies assigned to Patrol Operations and to identify and locate repeat offenders. Frederick County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) detectives are assigned to the more serious cases that require follow-up or further investigation. Detectives assigned to this unit are responsible for handling a wide variety of cases. Detectives are on-call throughout the year and can be called out on anything from a theft investigation to a homicide investigation. The combined efforts of this unit are directed towards conducting thorough investigations and preparing successful cases for prosecution. Detectives authored 261 search and seizure warrants during 2024.

Case Highlights:

FCSO 24-095628 Homicide: The Sheriff's Office responded to Mandalong Court in New Market for a homicide investigation. The suspect entered the residence and discharged a firearm over 40 times, striking and killing the two victims in their bed. Three children were in the home and were unharmed during the incident. The suspect fled before police arrival. No eyewitnesses could place a suspect at the scene. Detectives obtained home surveillance footage from neighboring homes and camera footage from the Town of New Market. While reviewing the footage, detectives discovered that a vehicle that was similar to the victim's ex-husband's vehicle from Florida was on the video. Detectives completed many search warrants, court

orders, and subpoenas on the ex-husband. Detectives traveled to Florida and completed interviews and search and seizure warrants on the suspect's residence and vehicle. With the investigation findings, an arrest warrant was issued for the ex-husband. He was arrested in Florida, and the Fugitive Unit completed the extradition back to Frederick County. The suspect was indicted on home invasion, first-degree murder, and second-degree murder charges. The investigation utilized assistance from multiple agencies around the country, including local jurisdictions in Georgia and Florida and the FBI.

FCSO 24-003713 Homicide: The Sheriff’s Office responded to a suspicious vehicle that was abandoned in a field in the area of 8225 Crum Road. Deputies arrived and located a deceased subject in the passenger seat of the vehicle with obvious signs of trauma, including stab wounds. There were no initial suspects. Throughout the investigation, detectives authored numerous search warrants, subpoenas, and court orders to retrieve cell phone data to develop a suspect. Charges were able to be filed on two suspects for first-degree murder.

FCSO 24-002401 Homicide: The Sheriff’s Office responded to the Giant Food parking lot in Urbana for a homicide investigation. This investigation unfolded very quickly as detectives learned that the suspect was the female's estranged husband. Video surveillance was obtained from local businesses where the suspect was observed both in the area and committing the murder. The Fugitive Unit was activated and was quickly able to locate the suspect and get him into custody. The subject was transported to FCADC and charged with first-degree murder.

FCSO 24-063854 Burglary/Arson: The Sheriff’s Office responded to a burglary, arson, and vehicle theft at the Hi-Lo Auto Sales on Urbana Pike in Frederick. Detectives completed a thorough investigation, which included obtaining vehicle location data, cellular phone location data, and canvases of many locations in both Frederick and Washington Counties. The video was obtained of the suspect entering Sheetz before the burglary, and from that video, the suspect was able to be identified. The subject has been charged with burglary, vehicle theft, and arson.

STATISTICS:

COMPARATIVE CLOSURES	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Cases Handled	942	1,014	1,070	976	981	1,300	1,062	975
Total Carried Over from Previous Year	139	95	129	138	122	151	132	132
Total Cases Closed	838	655	652	828	841	930	802	757
Total Cases Closed by Arrest	133	191	195	168	147	175	132	103

Total Cases Suspended	290	241	257	242	196	276	259	218
Closure Rate	74%	73%	72%	77%	81%	77%	76%	77%

PAWN UNIT

The Frederick County Sheriff’s Office Pawn Unit carries out a system of identifying and recovering stolen property identified as pawned at Frederick County pawnshops and is responsible for filing criminal charges in related cases. There is a full-time Pawn Coordinator devoted to pawn activity within Frederick County, the unit handles cases for the Frederick County Sheriff’s Office, Maryland State Police, Frederick Police Department, and other surrounding agencies in the quad-state area (Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia).

Using electronic reporting, LeadsOnline has shown to have been beneficial in solving property crime cases. In 2024, the Frederick County Sheriff’s Office Pawn Unit recovered 12 items from pawn shops.

2024 Pawn Unit Statistics:

<u>FCSO CASES</u>	
FCSO CASES	2
REPORTED VALUE FCSO	\$15,050.00
ITEMS RECOVERED	5
PAWN AMOUNT	\$1,185.00
<u>ASSIST OTHER POLICE DEPARTMENTS</u>	
AOPD CASES	4
REPORTED VALUE	\$2,671.99
ITEMS RECOVERED	7
PAWN AMOUNT	\$450.00
TOTAL PAWN TRANSACTIONS	\$17,721.99

INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

The primary mandate of the Frederick County Sheriff's Office ICAC Unit is to conduct thorough investigations into internet-driven crimes against children, including offenses such as the possession and distribution of child sexual assault material (CSAM), trafficking involving children, and online luring. Collaborating closely with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) and various state and federal agencies, the Frederick County Sheriff's Office ICAC Unit is dedicated to combating online child predation and other computer-facilitated crimes targeting children.

In addition, the Frederick County Sheriff's Office ICAC Unit plays a crucial role in increasing awareness through outreach services and educating communities about the susceptibility of children to cybercrime and the significant consequences of technology-driven crimes on young individuals. The Frederick County Sheriff's Office ICAC Unit is part of the Frederick County Cyber Crimes Task Force (FCCCTF) as well as the INTERCEPT Task Force. Since the inception of INTERCEPT, the Frederick County Sheriff's Office ICAC Unit has been tasked with investigating human trafficking crimes specifically related to juveniles. The ICAC unit has one detective who is currently going through the TFO process with HSI. The collaboration between the Frederick County Sheriff's Office ICAC Unit and these task forces highlights the recognition of the growing threat of cybercrime and human trafficking involving juveniles. By having these taskforces, the ICAC unit is equipped with specialized expertise to effectively investigate and combat these technology-driven crimes against the most vulnerable amongst us.

The ICAC task force received **429** tips in 2024 (FCSO 280 and FPD 154), which is a **10%** increase from the total number of CyberTips from the previous year. FCSO-ICAC made **21** arrests in 2024. As in years past, there are current cases in various stages of investigation, including 2024 cases that are still pending forensics or still being reviewed. In total, the ICAC Detectives handled a total of 355 cases in 2024; 111 of those cases were not related to ICAC CyberTips.

24-000976: A Howard County man was charged with eight (8) counts of sexual solicitation of a minor and two (2) counts of obscene material sale to a minor. This stemmed from an online investigation where an ICAC Detective posed as a 13-year-old female.

24-009209: A Frederick man was charged with thirteen (13) counts of possession of child pornography.

24-017941: A Frederick man was charged with five (5) counts of possession of child pornography.

24-068703: A Frederick juvenile was charged with fifty-three (53) counts of possession of child pornography.

24-051080: A Frederick man was charged with seventeen (17) counts of possession of child pornography.

24-082444: A Monrovia man was charged with twenty-four (24) counts of possession of child pornography.

24-089499: A New Market juvenile was charged with nine (9) counts of possession of child pornography.

24-088408: A Fairfax man was charged with five (5) counts of sexual solicitation of a minor.

24-105139: A Clarksburg man was charged with two (2) counts of solicitation of a minor.

24-022572: A Frederick juvenile was charged with one (1) count of distribution of child pornography and one (1) count of possession of child pornography.

24-044733: A Frederick juvenile was charged with one (1) count of possession of child pornography.

24-041654: A Frederick juvenile was charged with nine (9) counts of possession of child pornography and six (6) counts of distribution of child pornography.

24-060800: A Walkersville juvenile was charged with two (2) counts of distribution of child pornography and two (2) counts of possession of child pornography.

24-056534: A Woodsboro juvenile was charged with five (5) counts of distribution of child pornography.

ICAC Court Cases Heard or Sent in 2024:

24-000976: A Howard County man was sentenced to ten (10) years in jail, all suspended but two (2) years and five (5) years of supervised probation. This man traveled to Frederick County with the intent to have sex with a 13-year-old girl.

24-088408: A Fairfax man pled guilty to one (1) count of sexual solicitation of a minor. Sentencing has not been set.

22-094147: A New Market man pled guilty to two (2) counts of possession of child pornography and sentenced to five (5) years supervised probation.

23-002153: A Frederick man pled guilty to one (1) count of distribution of child pornography and sentenced to ten (10) years, suspended all but eighteen (18) months and five (5) years supervised probation.

23-117621: A Virginia man was charged with eight (8) counts of sexual solicitation of a minor and pled guilty to one (1) charge. This stemmed from a UC chat operation where a Detective

was claiming to be a 14-year-old girl. The man traveled from Stephen City, VA to have sex with the minor.

FUGITIVE UNIT

Warrant investigations remain under the supervision of the Criminal Investigation Section. The Fugitive unit consists of a Corporal and one Detective. The Fugitive Unit falls under the supervision of the Special Investigations Sergeant.

Arrest warrants are assigned to either the Fugitive Unit, or the Patrol Division based on a tiered rating system. Attempts are made, and then the status is returned to the records section. During 2024, the Fugitive Unit served 415 Warrants and completed 34 extraditions. 3 of these extraditions were flights across the United States in Florida and Washington. One of the extraditions was to bring back a Murder suspect from Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The Fugitive Unit also seized drugs during their investigations. They seized 11.9 grams of Heroin, 11.2 grams of Crack Cocaine, and 14 grams of Methamphetamine. Fugitive Unit Detectives successfully built relationships with confidential informants that assisted the Narcotics Investigation Section in several arrests.

During 2024, the Fugitive Unit conducted surveillance, handled all extraditions, and arrested numerous individuals in several high-profile cases. Additionally, the Fugitive Unit partners with the United States Marshal's Service Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force (CARFTF) and one detective serves as a deputized task force officer. During 2024, CARFTF assisted in numerous apprehensions of violent offenders in Frederick County.

24-002401: Fugitive Unit Detectives were contacted to locate a murder suspect who had just murdered his ex-wife in a parking lot in Urbana. Detectives located the suspect vehicle in Howard County and conducted surveillance to apprehend the suspect without further incident. The subject was transported to FCADC and charged with first-degree murder.

24-065693: Fugitive Unit Detectives working alongside U.S. Marshals CARFTF, arrested a suspect with an arrest warrant out of Columbus, Ohio, for sexual abuse of a minor. Fugitive Unit Detectives seized the suspect's phone and authored a search warrant to assist the U.S. Marshals.

24-000976: Fugitive Unit Detectives assisted the Internet Crimes Against Children Unit (ICAC) with apprehending a sex offender who was talking with a Detective online, believing she was a 13-year-old girl. Fugitive Unit Detectives aided with surveillance and the arrest team to safely apprehend the suspect.

CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

The Child Advocacy Center (CAC) of Frederick County is a child-friendly facility designed, staffed, and equipped to provide comprehensive services to child abuse victims and their families. Direct services are offered through teams of partnering agencies representing law enforcement officials, child protection professionals, prosecutors, mental health clinicians, medical practitioners, victim services providers, and CAC staff.

There are currently six (6) detectives assigned to the Persons Crime Unit. All but one (1) of the detectives assigned to this unit receive training in the “Finding Words / Child First” forensic interview techniques. This unit works with members from Child Protective Services (CPS) who are assigned to the Child Advocacy Center. The detectives in the unit routinely handle cases and attend meetings at the Child Advocacy Center. The detectives assigned to this unit work very closely with the State’s Attorney’s Office on criminal investigations. Detectives in the unit attend training when available to further foster their working partnership with the CAC, CPS, and families.

FIRE INVESTIGATION TASK FORCE

The Frederick County Fire Investigation Task Force is a multi-disciplinary team dedicated to investigating suspicious fire cases occurring within the county. The team is comprised of detectives from the Frederick County Sheriff’s Office, Fire Marshals from the Frederick County Department of Fire and Rescue, and members from the Frederick County State’s Attorney’s Office. When a suspicious fire occurs within Frederick County, members of this team are called in to conduct the investigation. Team members collaborate to ensure the case is thoroughly investigated. In 2024, the task force was notified of 9 incidents. One incident involved a single fatality, one incident involved juveniles setting fire to a playground, and one incident involved a burglary where the suspect was charged.

FCSO 24-110930: Investigators responded to a house fire in Myersville for a reported residential fire with one deceased adult male. Based on the investigation of the scene and interviews with persons known to the decedent, there was no indication that the fire was the result of intentional actions or arson. The Frederick County Fire Marshall’s Office advised that the cause of the fire would be undetermined. The decedent was transported to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) where the cause of death was determined to be smoke inhalation and thermal injuries. The OCME listed this as an accidental death.

FCSO 24-074799: The Sheriff’s Office responded to a report of a playground fire located at Greenhill Park. Video surveillance and evidence collected at the scene, including fireworks, were collected. The juvenile suspects were identified through the surveillance footage. Investigators were advised that the replacement cost of the damaged playground was

approximately \$230,000. A phone download was completed on one juvenile suspect's phone. Evidence was located on the phone. Interviews were conducted and the juvenile was charged with arson and destruction of property on a juvenile referral.

FCSO 24-063854: The Sheriff's Office responded to a burglary, arson, and vehicle theft at the Hi-Lo Auto Sales on Urbana Pike in Frederick. Detectives completed a thorough investigation which included obtaining vehicle location data, cellular phone location data, and canvases of many locations in both Frederick and Washington Counties. Video was obtained of the suspect entering Sheetz before the burglary, and from that video, the suspect was able to be identified. The subject has been charged with burglary, vehicle theft, and arson.

VICTIM SERVICES UNIT

The Victim Services Unit consists of two civilian personnel: the Crisis Support Lead (CSL) and the Victim Witness Coordinator (VWC) I. The CSL oversees the daily functioning of the VSU and provides direct services to victims of crime. The VWC I position provides direct services to victims of crime and maintains relevant data for the unit. The CSL is a credentialed advocate locally, through the Maryland Victim Service Certification Program; both the CSL and VWC are nationally certified Comprehensive Victim Intervention Specialists through the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA). Both members of VSU maintained certification in crisis intervention by attending (both in person and virtually) twelve trainings throughout the year, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Trauma Notification Training and Frederick County's Human Trafficking Response Team Annual Summit. During the year, the VSU also conducted multiple trainings and presentations for community partners, as well as the Frederick County Sheriff's Office. VSU conducted four in-house training courses for FCSO recruits/lateral deputies and Brunswick Police Department regarding Domestic Violence Investigations, Non-Fatal Strangulation and Rights of Crime Victims: three trainings for Frederick County Emergency Communications staff on Non-Fatal Strangulation and a special training for the District Court Commissioners of Frederick and Washington Counties on Domestic Violence and Non-Fatal Strangulation. Other notable events include providing presentations to the Frederick County State's Attorney's Office, Ft. Detrick's Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Protection program (SHARP), and Frederick County Fire/Rescue Community Paramedics regarding law enforcement victim services.

Throughout the calendar year of 2024, the VSU contacted 1,522 victims and citizens, showing a slight decrease of 2.59% from 1,562 contacts in the 2023 calendar year. Of the 1,522 victims/citizens, 889 were new contacts. VSU provided in-person services to 111 victims/citizens, including accompaniment to civil and criminal proceedings, specialized interview accompaniments and on-scene responses. Other forms of contact included phone calls, emails, and letters with services such as timely emotional and logistical support, case information, and referrals to appropriate agencies in the community. VSU works closely with Patrol Operations and the Criminal Investigations Unit to provide these services and crisis

intervention for victims and witnesses of crime, but also provides support to vulnerable members of the Frederick County community, including seniors and those experiencing a mental health crisis.

During 2024, VSU saw an increase in Child Abuse (including Child Sexual Assault), Intimate Partner Violence, Rape/Sexual Assault, and Death related calls, with a decrease in Assault, Family Violence and Harassment related calls.

The following is a breakdown of contacts by offense type:

Offense	Number of Victims/Citizens Contacted *
Assault	207
Child Abuse (including Child SA)	44
Death (includes all death investigations, homicides, and suicides)	136 (76 Homicide contacts)
Domestic Violence (DV assaults, Protective Order assistance, Violations of Protective Orders, DV-related Stalking)	753 (249 involved Non-Fatal Strangulation)
Rape/Sexual Assault	67
Family Violence	51
Harassment	60
Mental Health	43
Other (non-fatal OD, MDOP, missing, elder)	161

Number of victim/citizens contacted include new and continuing contacts

FCSO and VSU are mandated reporters of suspected child abuse and elder abuse, the VSU often assists in making referrals/reports to Child Protective Services and Adult Protective Services. During the calendar year of 2024, VSU made 262 referrals to Child and Adult Protective Services.

VSU oversees the facilitation of the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) at FCSO Patrol level and FCSO Courthouse level. For 2024, VSU logged 307 screens conducted at the courthouse. Of these screens, 164 petitioners screened in as “high danger” and 91 of those petitioners were connected to Heartly House for further assistance. At the Patrol level, Deputies initiated 269

lethality screens; of these screens, 151 screened in as “high danger,” and 51 victims were placed directly on the phone with Heartly House. VSU also conducts investigations regarding the disposition of firearms; utilizing local, state, and federal databases, VSU investigated 48 firearm return requests, determining eligibility and identifying any restrictions. Of those, all but 2 were approved; the denials were based on state and federal disqualifiers located using the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).

In June of 2024, VSU participated in the Frederick County Sheriff’s Office Open House, providing outreach to over 1,000 Frederick County residents. Also, of note in June of 2024, VSU received special recognition as an Honorary Awardee of the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) Tadini Bacigalupi Jr. Award, which is presented to distinguished victim service programs. Additionally, in July, the CSL was chosen by NOVA to present alongside ASA Brett Engler at their 50th National Conference in D.C. on the topic of the intersection of Domestic Violence and the judicial system. With over 150 attendees, the presentation was well-received and garnered highly satisfied survey results.

In August, VSU hosted a resource table during “National Night Out,” providing information and referral services to hundreds of community members; additionally, the VWC volunteered at the School Resource Officer special outreach event, assisting in providing school supplies for needy school-aged children in Frederick. In September 2024, at the request of the Public Safety supervisor at Mt. St. Mary’s University, VSU provided a special, on-scene Critical Incident Stress Management session to the Public Safety team of Mt. St. Mary’s University due to a suicide that occurred on campus. In October of 2024, in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness month, VSU planned, organized, and hosted the Frederick County Sheriff’s Office One in Four conference “Stalking: Know It, Name It, Stop It”. Over sixty professionals from Frederick and Carroll Counties attended, where the Chief of the Domestic Violence Unit at the State’s Attorney’s Office and the FCSO Community Services deputy presented alongside VSU. The program was a big success with exceptional feedback from participants.

Throughout the year, the VSU represented the Sheriff’s Office at multiple community meetings, including (but not limited to): the Elder Abuse/Vulnerable Adult, Domestic Violence Coordinating Council of Frederick County, Frontline Crisis Services and Outreach Committee, the Domestic Violence High Risk MDT, and the Overdose Fatality Review Team.

The VSU remains committed to the community and maintaining positive relationships with the citizens of Frederick County and collaborative agencies.

Additional Information

Victim Services works directly with the Peer Recovery program of the Health Department by referring **Non-Fatal Overdoses** to them for outreach services; the following represents those incidents and outcomes for January 1, 2023- December 31, 2024.

FCSO Peer Recovery Referral Program (FY 2023):

Total individuals where contact was attempted: 39

Total individuals successfully contacted: 30

Total individuals connected to treatment/ services: 30

Total receiving Narcan training/education: 7

Total receiving Harm reduction/ Safe use: 5

Total referrals to care secondary to initial contact: 6

100% of those successfully contacted were connected to treatment, illustrating the referral program's effectiveness.

**For those where contact was not attempted, it may be due to active involvement in recovery programs or out-of-county residents.*

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY

The Frederick County Sheriff's Office is responsible for monitoring and ensuring that registered sex offenders in Frederick County are in compliance with the State of Maryland Sex Offender Registry. There is one full-time program manager, one full-time detective, and one coordinator assigned to the unit.

During 2024, the Frederick County Sheriff's Office Sex Offender Registry lost several sex offenders due to death, residence change(s), incarceration, and registration term expiration. As of December 2024, there were 263 sex offenders, reflecting an increase in the number of sex offenders since December 2023. The sex offender registry is ever-growing with new sex crime convictions and offenders moving into or becoming employed in Frederick County. The sex offender registry encompasses all categories of sex offenders to include, Tier I Sex Offenders, Tier II Sex Offender, Tier III Sex Offenders, and Sexually Violent Predators.

During the 2024 Great Frederick Fair, the Sex Offender Registry participated in the outreach efforts to bring awareness to registered sex offenders residing in Frederick County. Information was provided to patrons regarding sex offender's locations throughout Frederick County. Patrons of the fair were also given the opportunity to sign up for notifications and alerts, as well as receive safety tips from OffenderWatch.

On October 11, 2024, the Sex Offender Registry participated in outreach efforts by attending the Frederick County Sheriff's Office Victim Services 1 in 4 Conference. Information was provided to attendees of the conference. This gave attendees the opportunity to sign up for

notifications and alerts for registered sex offenders residing in Frederick County, as well as receive safety tips from OffenderWatch.

Throughout the year, the Frederick County Sex Offender Registry has assisted deputies with active investigations utilizing Offender Watch. Frederick City Police have requested assistance utilizing OffenderWatch for sex offenses and indecent exposure investigations. OffenderWatch has also assisted the Frederick County Narcotics Investigation Section and the Frederick County ICAC unit with investigations involving registered sex offenders. Throughout the year, the Sex Offender Registry has referred sex offenders to ICE for possible deportation. Of these offenders, one was arrested by ICE and deported. ICE is currently conducting surveillance on another offender for deportation.

Brandy Keyser and Det. Skelley has been working with the U.S. Marshals Service - Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force to apprehend Tier III Sex Offender, Ivan Alexander Salinas. Salinas has been deported previously on two separate occasions and has an extensive criminal history. On February 9, 2024, Salinas was taken into custody and is currently incarcerated at the Moshannon Valley ICE Processing Center awaiting deportation.

During 2024, the Frederick County Sheriff's Office has charged 13 sex offenders with registry violations. Some of these sex offenders were charged multiple times throughout the year. Of those charged, 6 were for failure to register, 3 were for failure to notify of employment change, 1 was for failure to notify of address change, 1 was for failure to notify of telephone information, and 2 were for failing to notify of vehicle information. Of the 13 sex offenders charged, 3 have pleaded guilty and were sentenced, 2 were placed on the stet docket, 1 was found guilty and sentenced, 2 were found not guilty, and 3 are still wanted on an outstanding warrant. The 2 additional sex offenders charged are pending disposition in 2024.

In 2024, those assigned to the Sex Offender Registry attended monthly Frederick County Sex Offender Containment Team meetings held at the Office of Community Supervision.

On April 12, 2024, Brandy Keyser and Det. Skelley attended the quarterly Maryland State Sex Offender Registry meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to increase the level of collaborative innovation, problem solving, and proficiency in Offender Watch, and with the Maryland Sex Offender Registry Unit. Speakers at this meeting included Assistant Attorney General Mike Doyle, and Adam Kirhagis, National Training Coordinator with OffenderWatch.

On October 24, 2024, Brandy Keyser and Det. Skelley attended the quarterly Maryland State Sex Offender Registry meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to increase the level of collaborative innovation, problem solving, and proficiency in OffenderWatch, and with the Maryland Sex Offender Registry Unit. Speakers at this meeting included Adam Kirhagis, National Training Coordinator with OffenderWatch and Barbara Solomon, Forensic Scientist III with the MSP Forensic Sciences Division. During this meeting the removal of compliance checks from COMAR was discussed and a legal team meeting is scheduled to discuss this issue.

Brandy Keyser and Detective Skelley attended the OffenderWatch Symposium 2024 from November 11-13, 2024. This Symposium provided presentations, workshops, and hands on training developed for persons that work directly with the management and supervision of sex offenders.

2024 Sex Offender Registry Statistics:

Total Sex Offenders in Frederick County	263
Sex Offenders registered/re-registered in 2024	1,234
Total Sex Offender compliance checks	541
Sex Offender charged for non-compliance in 2024	13
Non-compliant Sex Offenders that pled guilty/found guilty and sentenced	5

CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM

The Frederick County Sheriff’s Office maintains a lateral “part-time” position of crisis negotiator. The Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) consists of thirteen negotiators and one deputy assigned as a logistics officer. The team members have received specialized training, from the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the National Tactical Officers Association, in the practice of negotiations. Oversight is provided by the Criminal Investigations Commander, a Team Leader, and an Assistant Team Leader.

In 2024, CNT was activated 22 times. 15 of these were to assist FCSO SWAT with Level 1 or Level 2 residential search warrants (to include FCSO SWAT assisting allied agencies). CNT was also activated during 7 calls for service. CNT responded to a shots fired incident in Urbana where a subject was firing rounds from inside his residence, a known wanted subject fled into a residence in Mt Airy and barricaded himself inside, a subject was on the outside of the safety fence on Ridge Rd threatening to jump onto I-70, Brunswick PD requested assistance with a subject violating a protective order that was barricaded in a residence and a subject wanted for 1st degree assault that was known to have weapons was barricaded in his residence. On 2 occasions, CNT was canceled before arriving on scene due to the situation being resolved prior to their arrival. In-person training was conducted as agency staffing allowed, to include joint trainings with Frederick City Police and the FBI.

EVIDENCE UNIT

The Frederick County Sheriff's Office Evidence Unit is responsible for the collection, preservation, and storage of evidence from crime scenes, motor vehicle collisions, unusual occurrences, and disasters. This collection and storage is done in such a way as to assure its integrity and to protect its scientific and evidentiary value. The unit also develops latent fingerprints, collects trace evidence, and DNA and firearm function tests. The unit examines and analyzes surveillance video evidence, such as retail store, residential, and bank security footage. The unit is also responsible for photographing agency functions and processing digital images related to the Sheriff's Office.

There is one full-time civilian Evidence Custodian position dedicated to the evidence unit. There is one sworn deputy and one sworn corporal assigned to process in-house evidence and process crime scenes in addition to assisting with daily operations within the unit. Additionally, there are sworn Evidence Technicians within the agency. In 2024, the civilian Evidence Custodian retired, and the position was filled through an internal county employment hire. In December of 2024, the unit's assigned corporal also retired, eliciting the transfer of a patrol corporal to the unit.

The Frederick County Sheriff's Office continues to partner with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives to participate in the NIBIN, National Integrated Ballistic Information Network. This is an agreement between the FCSO and ATF to take digital images of fired cartridge cases from crime scenes or test-fired cartridge cases from seized firearms and submit them to NIBIN. This is completed by utilizing the BRASSTRAX Acquisition Station provided by the ATF. The ATF provided an IBIS-TRAX HD3D/BRASSTRAX Acquisition Station and an enclosed cargo trailer with a Retrieve-All shell case retrieval system. The NIBIN program operates out of the Crime Scene Unit and is supervised by the CSU supervisor.

The digital evidence is being stored and edited by using the AXON software; all former software systems that were used by the Evidence Unit have transitioned over to AXON and are utilized by the newly formed Body Camera Unit

In 2020, the FCSO acquired the FARO 3D Scanner. The FARO 3D Scanner uses laser technology to deliver highly detailed 3D documentation. FARO 3D Laser Scanner is used for the collection of evidence at crime scenes, such as blood spatter, artifacts, and traffic crashes, such as skid marks and vehicle positions. This can be documented in half the time it takes with traditional methods. FARO 3D can produce compelling reports and courtroom exhibits that accurately represent the traffic crash or crime scene. The FARO is shared by the traffic unit and the crime scene unit for accident reconstruction and crime scene documentation. This equipment has continued to be used during 2024 on numerous homicides, shootings, and fatal crash scenes. The product this technology produces is irreplaceable in court proceedings and assists in securing successful prosecution.

Total Cases with Physical Evidence Received	1207
Total Evidence Items Received	3503
Controlled Dangerous Substance Cases	404
Controlled Dangerous Substance Items Received	1506
Total Firearms Recovered	337
Money Deposited to County Treasurer Office	\$38,258.10
Total Items Disposed	2589
Total Crime Scene Processed by ET's or CSU Personnel	48
Latent Prints & DNA Developed In-House for Lab Submission	40
NIBIN Entries	137
Presumptive Investigative NIBIN Leads from ATF	95

PUBLIC SAFETY CADET UNIT 1218

The FCSO continues its partnership with the “Public Safety Cadets” to provide a youth law enforcement program for the community. The unit meets every Tuesday for three hours between February and November. Throughout 2024, the membership ranged between 27-39 members. Currently, there are 27 members. During the fall, some members discontinued the program to attend college or to focus on other academic/extracurricular activities.

During 2024, the Cadets assisted with various functions throughout the county. They directed traffic at the annual National Night Out and car shows. The Cadets also assisted with the FCSO Open House event, Meet the SRO Night, Urbana Latino Celebration, and Brunswick Railroad Days. They had an opportunity to attend the annual National Law Enforcement Officers’ Memorial Candlelight Vigil in Washington, DC. Tours were also conducted at the Detention Center, the courthouse, and Trooper 3. Cadet Unit 1218 strengthened its bond with the newly formed Brunswick Cadet Unit. The Cadets were paired together during Brunswick Railroad Days. The Brunswick unit also attended instruction at the LEC.

Meetings were carefully structured around lectures and hands-on topics. These topics included officer safety, traffic stops, building clearing, first aid & CPR, and many more. Physical fitness was implemented during various meetings. The wide variety of classes and opportunities has given members an idea of what to expect with a career in law enforcement or corrections. Several current and former members were hired as deputies or correctional officers in 2024.

NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS SECTION

The Narcotics Investigations Section is attached to the Frederick County High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area group (HIDTA). HIDTA comprises members from the Frederick County Sheriff’s Office, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Frederick City Police Department, Maryland State Police, and Brunswick Police Department. The Narcotics Investigations Section is primarily responsible for handling narcotics investigations, vice investigations, surveillance operations, and any other investigations that would require specialized, undercover personnel. In addition to investigations, the unit is responsible for collecting intelligence information on criminal enterprises and activities that have a direct impact on Frederick County, as well as aiding other units within the Sheriff’s Office and allied agency investigations.

2024 Statistics as follows:

Search Warrants	82	Cocaine	817.5 grams
Vehicle Seizures	0	Crack/Cocaine	676.5 grams
Currency Seized	\$44,238.00	Heroin/Fentanyl	128.1 grams
Drug Talks/Education	22	Marijuana/Edibles	3460.3 grams/500
Other Special Operations	21	Methamphetamine	212.5 grams
Firearms Seized	16	PCP (liquid)	115.6 grams
NIS Case Expenditures	\$9,260.00	Psilocybin	101.5 grams

SEARCH WARRANTS

82 search and seizure warrants were executed. **24** search warrants were served on cell phones. **20** search warrants were served on residences. **9** served on vehicles. **12** were served on GPS orders, and **17** additional search warrants were served, consisting of Cash App, cell towers, person warrants, etc.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

During the year, approximately **65** additional narcotics operations were conducted by NIS. These operations included takedowns, consent searches, controlled purchases using confidential informants and undercover deputies, directed traffic stops, and surveillance efforts. NIS also participated in an operation during the week of the Great Frederick Fair that targeted child predators and human trafficking victims. As part of this effort, NIS assisted in the takedown and arrest of two individuals known as "Travelers" and identified two victims of human trafficking. Additionally, NIS conducted several hotel/motel and highway interdiction operations. Throughout the year, **68** consensual monitoring calls were carried out, and numerous confidential informants were signed up.

WIRES/PENS

NIS authored **30** PEN registers and **7** PING orders during the year.

VEHICLE SEIZURE

None

CURRENCY/ASSET SEIZURES

\$44,238.00 was seized by NIS in 2024. Sixteen (**16**) firearms were also seized during the year. At this point, forfeiture proceedings on these monies are in various stages of litigation in civil court; therefore, final forfeiture amounts are inconclusive.



NIS CASE EXPENDITURES

NIS spent approximately **\$9,260.00** from the cash-on-hand Narcotics account. Expenditures included operations for undercover narcotics purchases, informant payments, travel expenses, training, surveillance operations, prostitution/human trafficking operations, cell phone minutes, and items needed for covert case operations.

DRUG TALKS and EDUCATION

NIS conducted **22** drug education programs and talks. The drug talks were conducted for the Frederick County Grand Jury, Frederick County Public Schools, and various community organizations.

ASSIST OTHER

During 2024 NIS assisted allied agencies with surveillance, controlled buys, technical equipment operations, and manpower. Some of the federal agencies included: Homeland Security Investigations/Immigrations Customs Administration and Drug Enforcement Administration. Additional local agencies included the Frederick City Police, Brunswick Police, Maryland State Police, Washington County Task Force, and various other units within the Frederick County Sheriff's Office.

ANNUAL ASSESSMENT

The focus of NIS is to reduce the supply and demand of all illegal substances in and around Frederick County by infiltrating and dismantling any drug trafficking organization operating in and around Frederick County. NIS has met most of the unit goals and objectives set for 2024. NIS continues to be an asset for the Sheriff's Office and a resource for other units within the agency and surrounding agencies. The influx of heroin and fentanyl-related overdoses and deaths continues to be a significant concern to NIS and FCSO. NIS will continue proactive efforts and will self-initiate operations to focus on heroin/fentanyl, drug interdiction, hotel/motel prostitution, and human trafficking operations.

Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team

The Frederick County Sheriff's Office Special Weapons and Tactics Team is a group of deputies that assemble when situations arise dictating the use of specialized tactical skills and equipment. These situations include high-risk/critical incidents where an imminent danger is present to either law enforcement or the public. The SWAT Team is decentralized, meaning that all members are assigned to the Team as a collateral duty assignment. Each team member is readily available for recall to respond to critical incidents and, when needed, for the execution of search and seizure warrants with little advanced notice.

In 2024, the Frederick County Sheriff's Office SWAT team was responsible for serving all search warrants where a known threat was located inside the residence. The majority of the warrants were a result of cases from the Frederick County Sheriff's Office Narcotics and Criminal Investigations Sections, with several other warrants coming from surrounding jurisdictions. The SWAT Standard Operating Procedures outline the level of search warrant entries as "Level I" and "Level II" responses. A Level I response is considered a high-risk warrant service, and team members are outfitted in full tactical gear, utilizing all available equipment if necessary. A Level II response is for the "lower" risk warrants, and SWAT members wear the class C/D patrol uniform to execute the search and seizure warrant. This has proven to be an effective method for conducting search warrant entries by utilizing the highest trained personnel, even when the threat level is considered "lower".

In 2024, the Frederick County Sheriff's Office SWAT Team was comprised of an average of nineteen members, which consisted of three Team Leaders and sixteen Operators. The team conducted twenty-one operations in 2024. The majority of operations executed were search and seizure warrants. Eleven of the search warrants were considered "high" risk and were executed with a Level I response, and seven were executed as a Level II response. Three of the Level I search warrants were conducted for other agencies, which include the Brunswick Police Department, the Washington County Sheriff's Office, and the Frederick Police Department. The search warrant for Brunswick Police was related to a homicide, and the Frederick Police and Washington County warrants were joint operations that required two teams to conduct multiple searches. In addition to the search and seizure warrants, FCSO SWAT handled barricaded subject incidents. One of the barricade incidents was also in Brunswick and SWAT was requested due to their training and experience to resolve the incident for the Brunswick Police. FCSO SWAT also handled a critical incident involving an arrest warrant. None of the search warrants executed by the Sheriff's Office were served as a "no-knock" warrant.

None of the SWAT operations in 2024 resulted in injuries to any citizens, suspects, or deputies. SWAT members conduct regular training on Tactical Medical Care and carry individual medical kits as well as a team medical kit on every operation. EMS personnel from the Department of Fire and Rescue Service are also staged in the command post near the incident location for all SWAT operations.

SWAT had one team member successfully complete the Anne Arundel County Police Department's Basic SWAT school in 2024. Another team member attended the school but was not able to complete school due to an injury. SWAT had one team member retire from the agency during 2024, and his position has not been filled at this time. SWAT did not conduct its annual selection process during 2024, so there are no eligible candidates until a selection process is approved.

SWAT Team members are allotted two eight-hour training days per month, but due to staffing requirements, not all team members were able to attend both training days each month.

Judicial Services

Judicial Services is under the command of Captain Jason Null and Lieutenant Dave Keefer. Judicial Services consists of the Court Security Unit, the Civil Process Unit, and the Firearms Surrender Program. The Court Security Unit includes a sworn sergeant, a sworn corporal, one Special Police Officer corporal, seven deputies, and nine Special Police Officers. The Civil Process Unit consists of a sworn sergeant, three deputies, four Constables, and two administrative specialists. The Firearms Surrender Program consists of a coordinator and one part-time employee and is supervised by the Civil Process Sergeant.

The number of visitors, prisoners, and the docket size have continuously increased over the last three years. With more visitors and prisoners, it brings more weapons and contraband to the building. With more court cases, there is a greater need for courtroom security. This year, two lateral deputies were hired to fill vacancies. Judicial Services used creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving to adapt to the challenges presented by large docket sizes and an increase in visitors to the Courthouse. Personnel had to keep up with frequently changing policies, procedures, and practices in the courts and other agencies within the Courthouse. This required a large amount of research and careful collaboration, communication. The Firearms Surrender Program was moved under Judicial Services for 2024.

Court Security Unit

The Court Security Unit (CSU) provides security and law enforcement services to Frederick County's multi-service court facility and tenant agencies. CSU personnel are directly responsible for the security and protection of Circuit Court courtrooms, offices, and staff of six judges and two magistrates. Law enforcement and security assistance are also provided to the District Court's three courtrooms and judges. CSU personnel provide oversight of private security (Metropolitan Security) screening of all persons entering the facility through one of the three public entrances.

The Court Security Unit manages holding facilities for prisoners transported to the courthouse from detention facilities all over the state. CSU staff coordinate prisoner movement to court appearances within the building. CSU personnel also handle intakes of new prisoners who are sentenced directly to incarceration as a result of court proceedings.

Court Security Statistics:

	2022	2023	2024
People screened	174,972	233,462	241,975
Adult Prisoners	2,508	3,148	2,736
Juvenile Detainees	54	80	137
Warrants Served	29	78	74
Criminal Summons	78	85	75
Peace/Protective Order Interviews	998	990	958
Contraband items	1,467	1,841	1,857

Civil Order & Firearms Surrender Program

The Civil Order & Firearms Surrender Program Coordinator, along with the assigned deputy, is responsible for the processing of and management of services for Peace Orders, Protective Orders, Extreme Risk Protective Orders, Emergency Evaluations, and Firearm Transfer Orders. The coordinator also relays information to sworn personnel to ensure firearms are surrendered to law enforcement when ordered by the court. The Civil Order & Firearms Surrender Program Coordinator maintains all hard copies of protective and peace order files, grant-related documents, court-ordered emergency evaluations, firearms transfers ordered by the court, and the surrendering of firearms documents.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Peace Orders Received	502	533	601	535	558
Peace Orders Served	411	437	470	475	438
Percentage Served	81.9%	82%	78.2%	88.8%	78.5%
Protection Orders Received	883	885	943	938	856
Protection Orders Served	729	746	77	808	732
Percentage Served	82.6%	84.3%	84.4%	86.1%	85.5%

Extreme Risk Orders Received	18	20	25	25	30
Extreme Risk Orders Served	18	20	24	23	30
Percentage Served	100%	100%	96%	92%	100%
Guns Surrendered	112	182	221	193	308

Civil Process Unit

The Civil Process Unit is required to attempt service of all court-issued papers directed to it by the courts or private parties, and files the returns of those services with the courts. Constables are responsible for most of the civil paperwork received. They utilize extensive research and effort to locate persons for service. Deputies are responsible for all court-ordered documents requiring service by a sworn law enforcement officer. These documents include landlord complaints, evictions, and a variety of warrants, writs, and replevin orders. It is also responsible for the attachment and/or seizure of personal property and the attachment of real property, as it pertains to certain writs. Sheriff Sales are then held by a public auction using an auctioneer designated by the Sheriff's Office. The purpose of the sale is to sell assets to satisfy court-ordered judgments.

The overall number of civil processes not served (non-est rate) for the Civil Process Unit was 11%. A service fee is required for most of the legal processes received, and the unit took in \$180,504. These fees are deposited into the County general fund and are not used by the Sheriff's Office.

Civil Process Statistics:

	2022	2023	2024
Circuit Court Papers Received	3,472	5,046	5,725
District Court Papers Received	1,004	1,082	1,780
Bulk Papers Received	2,923	3,472	7,833
Evictions Received	2,166	1,477	1,310
Landlord Complaints Received	6,983	7,477	6,523
Total Papers Received	16,584	17,303	23,171
Total Papers Served	15,695	16,495	22,330
Actual Evictions	171	242	185

Fees Collected	\$156,450	\$180,504	\$156,823
----------------	-----------	-----------	-----------

2024 Law Enforcement Awards

Deputy of the Year

Nathan Rector

Civilian of the Year

Ha Van

NAME	TYPE OF AWARD
CPL Stephani Bird	Life Saving
DEP Ryan Blackwood	Life Saving
DFC Cassy Boettcher	Life Saving
DFC Patrick McCarrick	Life Saving
DFC Brian Mothershead	Life Saving
DFC Christian Roush	Life Saving
DFC Travis Stely	Life Saving
Deborah Alston	Outstanding Performance
CPL Jason Brady	Outstanding Performance
DEP Daniel Clemson	Outstanding Performance
DFC Alexander Crane	Outstanding Performance
DFC Travis Dykoff	Outstanding Performance (3 Awards)
DFC Robert Eyler	Outstanding Performance
Karen Gaither	Outstanding Performance
DFC Paul Graves	Outstanding Performance
DEP John Harding	Outstanding Performance
DFC Chase Hoffman	Outstanding Performance
DFC Christian Lucente	Outstanding Performance
DFC Bryce McGuire	Outstanding Performance (3 Awards)
DFC Tyler Mueller	Outstanding Performance
SGT Nathan Rector	Outstanding Performance
DFC Samantha Reese	Outstanding Performance
DFC Christian Roush	Outstanding Performance
SGT Zachary Sanders	Outstanding Performance (4 Awards)
CPL Harry Sier	Outstanding Performance (2 Awards)
DFC Douglas Story	Outstanding Performance
Anastasia Pollatos	Special Appreciation
Ha Van	Civilian of the Quarter
SGT Marc Destefano	Leadership Award
LT Timothy Grove	Leadership Award
LT Joshua McFarland	Leadership Award
CIS LT Robert Deckhut SGT Jeffrey Hyatt SGT Ira Redman	Unit Citation

CPL Jason Brady CPL Alexander Mendez CPL Sean Sheehy CPL Harry Sier CPL Jayson Snyder CPL John Wolfensberger DFC Takin Abbasian DFC Alexander Crane DFC Luke Lawson DFC Michael Leveille DFC Bryce McGuire DFC Jesse Patterson DFC Amanda Read DFC Samantha Reese DFC Collin Schultz DFC Jennifer Skelley DFC Kayla Staub DFC Joshua Stears DFC Louis Whitehouse Hannah Hart Catherine Hayter Margaret Henderson Brandy Keyser	
Rachel King	Outstanding Citizen

2024 Promotions

Name	Action	Rank	Date
Abbasian, Takin	Promotion	Corporal	6/15/24
Deckhut, Robert	Promotion	Lieutenant	1/13/24
Holler, Jeremy	Promotion	Captain	1/13/24
Jewell, Brandon	Promotion	Corporal	10/5/24
McLeroy, Nathan	Promotion	Deputy First Class	1/24/24
Olejniczak, Tyler	Promotion	Corporal	12/28/24
Phelps, Benjamin	Promotion	Corporal	1/13/24
Redman, Tyler	Promotion	Corporal	11/16/24
Turvin, Christopher	Promotion	Corporal	10/5/24
Voland, David	Promotion	Sergeant	1/13/24
Woolcock, Kimberly	Promotion	P.I.S. II	8/24/24

2024 Retirements

Name	Title	Years Service
Blare, Anthony	Corporal	20
Eighenbrode, Joshua	SPO Sergeant	23
Griffin, Steven	Deputy First Class	20
Hopkins, Scot	Lieutenant Colonel	35
Hubble, Barry	SPO Corporal	20
McCutcheon Tracy	Lieutenant	38
Noblick, Jason	Corporal	20
Sidow, Robert	Deputy First Class	20
Smith, Brenda	Retired	28
Stears, Joshua	Deputy First Class	20
Warner, Gregory	Lieutenant	23
Young, Andrew	Deputy First Class	22