

# **2018 CUSTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**



## **ANNUAL REPORT**

To the Citizens of Custer County,

It is my privilege to present to you the 2018 Annual Report. As we worked through the completion of my fourth year as your Sheriff, it was a year to evaluate the changes made through those four years, anticipation of the November election, and what the future could offer with another four years in the Sheriff's Office. In 2018, we continued to strive to increase services and fine tune those we currently provide through improved officer and citizen safety. We forged ahead with several capital improvement projects within the office which improved the working environment for staff and the inmates. In our continued effort to make the Sheriff's Office more welcoming while maintaining a safe environment for the staff working the front desk, we installed a new counter and safety window. This allows citizens to complete paperwork and forms without using a clipboard and provides us with space to offer maps, gunlocks, and other pamphlets as they are available.

We remodeled the commons area and developed a holding cell for arrestee's or other challenging individuals who are in custody. Citizens who visit the office for Fingerprint Services, Concealed Carry processing, or any other purpose, no longer find themselves sharing the common area with an arrestee. We replaced a 22-year-old air handling unit that was not functioning properly, with a new unit to improve the air quality in the jail pod. This project reduced the liability of inmates getting sick and increased the living standard in the jail which has resulted in a more positive environment for the inmates, and less altercations between them and staff.

I am proud to report our criminal case clearance rate has increased for the third year in a row. This is a direct result of the positive work our staff continue to do throughout the community and the partnerships we foster with our citizens. Quicker reporting of criminal activity coupled with improved investigative procedures provides better service to the community. Our goal is to solve crimes committed against our citizens and the work we are doing is beginning to result in more positive outcomes.

Each year we attempt to detail the excellent work done each day by the staff in the office. What truly makes our office different than many other agencies is our involvement in the community. From the community wide National Night Out, to Tip-A-Cop fundraising for the Animal Welfare group, Polar Plunge for Special Olympics, Kid's ID Events, and so many other activities, our staff truly epitomizes the phrase "Caring for your Community". It is humbling to work alongside so many people who give selflessly to others.

For the employees of this office, it is with sincere thanks I express how grateful I am to each of you in the Sheriff's Office. Your commitment to our county and citizens is remarkable. As our profession continues to face negativity across the nation, the continued demands of doing more with less, the daily pressures of the work you perform, and the challenges each of you face on a daily basis illustrates how special you are. Your professionalism and dedication to our county is second to none, and I am honored to serve alongside you.

It is difficult to adequately express my appreciation and respect to the citizens of this county who continually demonstrate love and support for our staff members. We are blessed to live in such a remarkable area and every day I am reminded of why Custer County is truly a very special place. I am humbled to be your Sheriff.

*Shannon K. Byerly*

Custer County Sheriff

# OUR MISSION AND VALUES

We provide the citizens of Custer County, in partnership with our communities, effective and efficient public safety services. We deliver these services with: *Character, Integrity, Respect, Accountability, and Professionalism*

We *value* the principles of the constitutions of the United States and the State of Colorado...

We *value* the system of laws which govern us...

We respect the dignity and rights of the individual. We are governed by a set of laws, not men; as such, we value the system of the system of laws of the United States, the State of Colorado, and Custer County. We recognize that our role as a member of the Executive Branch of government is to uphold the Constitution and laws.

We *value* human life...

We expect employees to preform their jobs professionally which emphasizes *Accountability* and *Respect*, minimizing the risk of unnecessary injury or death to any person.

We *value* the communities we serve...

We believe that the purpose of our organization is to serve our communities. We must be open and responsive to changing conditions and needs. We believe that it is our responsibility to keep the peace not only by enforcing the law, but also by working with communities to reduce problems by identifying and addressing causes. We believe community and problem oriented policing is an on going process, and not a program with a beginning and end.

We *value* the person...

We value the diversity of the individual which stems from differences in race, age, sex, religion, sexual orientation, handicap, or socio-economic status. We will treat all individuals with courtesy, *respect*, and dignity.

We *value* organizational excellence...

We value a working environment in which individuals working as a team strive for superior professional performance focused towards achieving organizational mission goals.

We *value* the strength of personal character in our employees...

We value open and honest communicators who display high moral and ethical conduct, *integrity*, adaptability and sound judgement. We believe each employee must be a leader in the office and community. We expect employees to be result-oriented problem solvers who are responsible and *accountable*.

# COMMAND STAFF



Shannon Byerly  
Sheriff



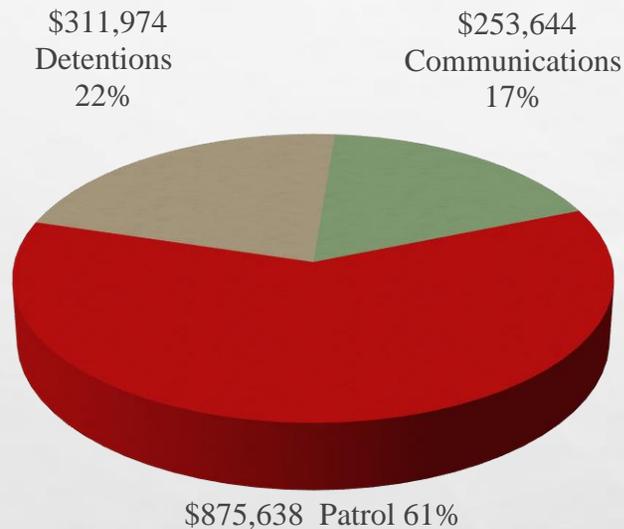
Chris Barr  
Undersheriff

# BUDGET OVERVIEW

Managing the Sheriff's Office budget is one of the most important responsibilities the Sheriff holds within his office. It encompasses four different funds including the Administrative and Patrol Division, Detention Center (Jail Division), Emergency Services Center (Communications Division), and the Wildland Fire account that is dedicated solely to the Emergency Fire Fund for wildland fire fighting. Custer County continues to experience a significant increase in tourism and traffic in and through the county which has presented certain challenges in meeting community expectations and safety concerns while still conducting the additional duties of law enforcement throughout the county. The annual projected budget request is submitted by the Sheriff to the Board of County Commissioners in October, projecting the revenues and financial obligations for the following year. Operations costs, inmate populations, the price of fuel, and staff turnover all have a significant impact on the budget and yet these factors can be difficult to project from one year to another. Our commitment to improve the working environment within the office by making building improvements, addressing salary deficiencies, and purchasing new and updated equipment all reflect the changes you see in the budget through the last few years. The Sheriff and his staff work very hard to balance the needs of the office to serve the county while ensuring we are good stewards of county tax dollars.

# SHERIFF'S OFFICE BUDGET

## 2018 Office Budget



## General Budget

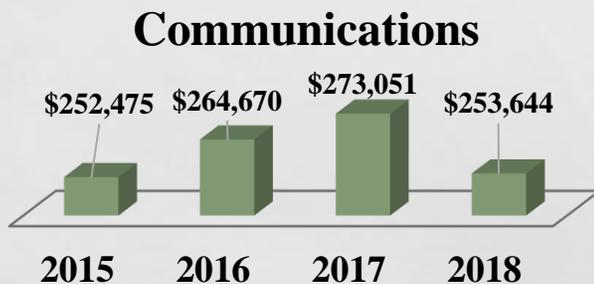


The overall budget for 2018 was 2% lower than in 2017. This decrease was due to changes in the way the county managed building maintenance and a reflection of how we were able to decrease operating expenses.



Over the last three years, the Patrol budget has increased by 7% although it remained flat in 2018. The increase you see from 2015 to current is primarily attributed to salary increases, making Custer County a more attractive place to work and live.

Our Detention Center is still in the process of upgrading and improving services. Due to a lack of space and resources, we are limited in the programs we provide, however we have made significant progress in offering substance abuse programs as well as counseling to offenders.



With a new Communications Center and several new Dispatchers, the 2018 budget had fewer maintenance costs and salaries were lower which resulted in a smaller budget. This funding has also been helped by the increased assistance from the Emergency 911 Board.

# ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIGNMENTS



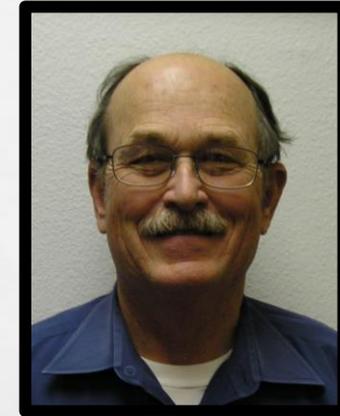
**Paula Mankel**  
Admin. Manager

Paula Mankel is a State Certified Records Manager who handles most of the day-to-day office operations. She coordinates records management, civil process, sex offender registrations and submittals of State and Federal Statistics.



**Katherine Barr**  
Property/Evidence Technician

Katherine Barr manages and documents the chain of custody for all evidence, found property, or other property as it is recovered or collected by the deputies. Katherine also acts as the agency's Concealed Weapons Technician. Ninety new and 120 renewed permits were issued for 2018. (42 new/41 renewed for 2017)



**Jake Kincaid**  
Property/Evidence Technician

Jake Kincaid moved from a dispatcher position to replace Katherine as the Property / Evidence Technician late in 2018. He is excited to begin training for a new adventure in law enforcement.

# COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION



Kaire Gallegos  
Communications Supervisor



Samantha Moos  
Dispatcher



Scott Ayotte  
Dispatcher



Alex Anderson  
Dispatcher



Arthur "Skip" Arnold  
Dispatcher

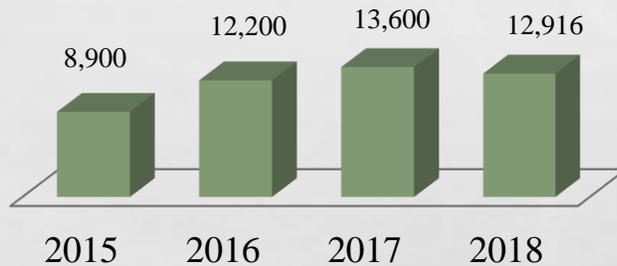
The Communications Division are the true first responders of county emergency services. When someone needs to call 911, report a crime, ask a question, or check to see how Hardscrabble is, these men and women are the ones who answer that call. They are highly trained and efficient in managing critical situations as they direct emergency personnel to where they are needed. Currently we are scheduled to have 6 staff working in our Communications Center, 1 supervisor and 5 dispatchers. The 911 calling system was recently upgraded in the center to CallWorks 911. This upgrade was long overdue, and allows texting to 911, and enhanced mapping capabilities. Callworks is very user-friendly allowing for quick dispatch of emergency services, and less maintenance and repair time.

Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) and RapidSOS were implemented in 2018. IPAWS is a system similar to Amber Alert used to quickly notify citizens of emergency alerts, such as wildland fires or floods. RapidSOS is a tool used to pinpoint the exact location of a caller based on their smart device.

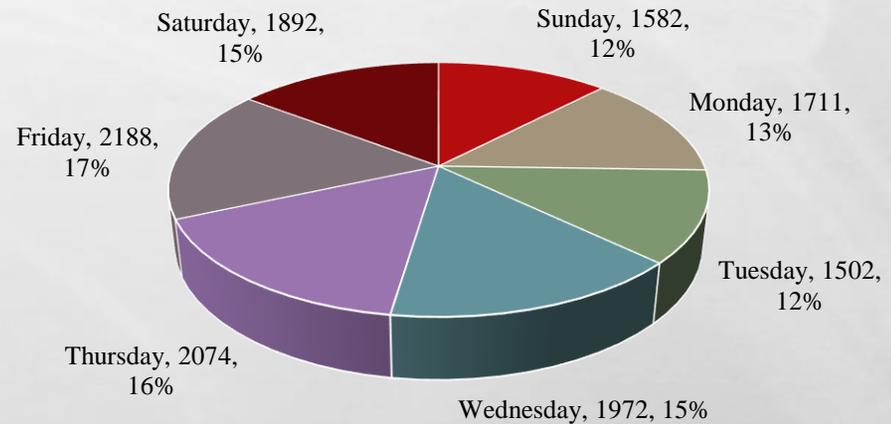
Communications dispatchers answer the call and begin emergency response protocol for all calls made by citizens. We answer 911 emergencies and send the appropriate response. We are responsible for all emergency response in the county and some designated areas in Fremont County. Custer County Communications dispatches for the Sheriff's Office, Wet Mountain Fire Protection District, Wetmore Fire Department, Emergency Medical Services, Search and Rescue, and several state agencies.

Someone is on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week experiencing the same emergency situations as a deputy – only through the telephone.

Calls for Service



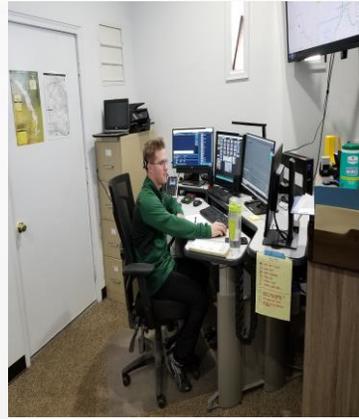
Calls for Service by Day of the Week



Dispatchers are often called **THE** first responders.



Sergeant Buck during the 911 system changeover.



Alex Anderson hard at work



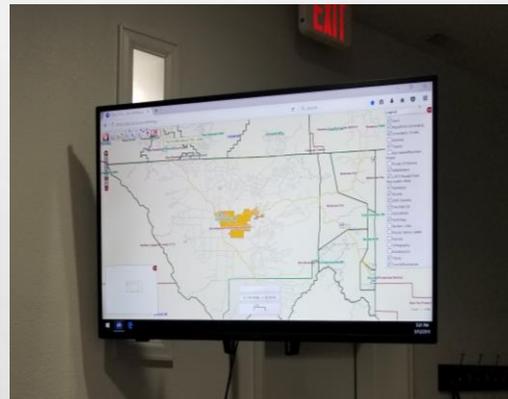
Are You Authorized?



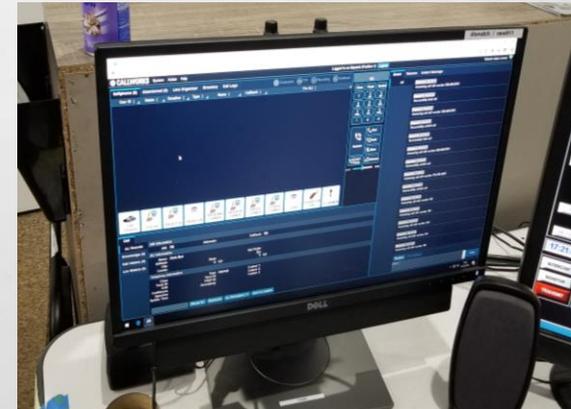
Joseph McCarthy – on to new adventures



Saying Goodbye to Katherine Barr



911 Mapping of Custer County



911 CallWorks Screen

# DETENTION DIVISION



Anne Lowatchie  
Detentions Sergeant



Dawn Ramsdell  
Detentions Deputy



Mel Vanderhoff  
Detentions Deputy



Nathan Wiener  
Detentions Deputy



Chris Bryson  
Detentions Deputy



Mike Dickinson  
Detentions Deputy

The Detention Division is staffed by one supervisor and five full-time Detentions Deputies. Currently the Jail is only capable of housing male inmates as we have one pod with twelve-beds. We are a full-service facility which houses pre-adjudicated and adult offenders who have been sentenced for up to two years. Currently, all female offenders are housed at the Fremont County Detention Center in Canon City.

The Detention staff perform many duties from day to day. They complete booking and bonding paperwork, ensure the housing unit is a safe and secure environment, conduct searches, security rounds, inspections of offender living quarters, meal preparation, cleaning, laundry, and maintaining a clean and orderly facility. They also perform fingerprinting services for citizens for concealed handgun permits, employment applications, sex offender registrations as well as criminal offenders. We provide drug and alcohol testing for probation and the handling of high risk, complex or sensitive incidents or cases within the jail and for the courts. We continue to strive toward providing programs for offenders such as Alcohol Anonymous and faith based services.

| Housing Costs |  |  | Offender Data |                |                 |                  |                       |
|---------------|--|--|---------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------|
|               | Female<br>(Fremont County<br>Sheriff's Office) | Male<br>(Offenders From<br>Other Facilities) |               | Days<br>Served | Meals<br>Served | Avg Meal<br>Cost | Avg Meal<br>Cost / Yr |
| 2017          | -\$9730  | \$50,842                                     | 2017          | 2497           | 7491            | \$2.29           | \$17,167              |
| 2018          | -\$13,420                                      | \$30,431                                     | 2018          | 3101           | 9303            | \$1.62           | \$15,071              |

Sheriff's Office staff continue to assess and evaluate the functionality of the building to improve safety for staff and offenders. We organized a rarely used multi-functional room into a booking area with a prisoner restraint bench which removed offenders from the office area and allows Detention and Patrol staff to have a private area for processing offenders. The booking room is under 24-hour video surveillance and can be connected to the court camera system for video advisements.

Our Detention unit continues to house offenders from outside agencies who are over their capacity and need assistance. We have agreements with Huerfano, Otero, and Alamosa Counties, and with Colorado Department of Corrections to house their inmates which generates revenue at \$45 per day per offender. The average offender population was 8.5 offenders per day with a total of 3101 offenders for 2018. Our housing revenue for the year was \$30,430 which is down 36% from 2017. The reason for the decrease is because we had more local offenders in 2018 and other agencies did not have the need for outside housing assistance at the same levels as prior years.

The purchase of an eight-person transport van from Eagle County for prisoner transports was a significant upgrade from the 2000 Chevy Van we were using. The new addition offers better safety, ease of loading and unloading prisoners, and dependability as we move prisoners around the state each week.

Additionally, a new air handler was installed on the housing unit which greatly enhanced the air quality in the unit. This improvement decreased the humidity levels in the jail which will help reduce maintenance costs and improve the living environment for offenders.



### Sheriff's Fees

|      | Civil Service | Reports | Fingerprints | VIN Inspections | Sex Offender Registration | Bond Fee | Booking Fee | Sobriety Testing |
|------|---------------|---------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------------|----------|-------------|------------------|
| 2016 | \$5,320       | \$505   | \$1,149      | \$570           | \$615                     | \$840    | \$2,460     | \$7,225          |
| 2017 | \$5,832       | \$361   | \$935        | \$600           | \$535                     | \$1,054  | \$3,090     | \$6,420          |
| 2018 | \$5,350       | \$540   | \$640        | \$460           | \$840                     | \$1,040  | \$2,940     | \$7,275          |

# PATROL DIVISION



Michael Halpin  
Court Security Sergeant



Harry "Buck" Wenzel  
Patrol Sergeant



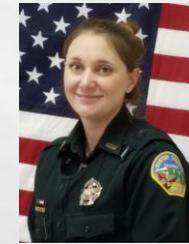
James Barr  
Deputy Sheriff



Charles Cox  
Code Enforcement



Eric Dunston  
Deputy Sheriff



Chelsea Geanetta  
Deputy Sheriff



Michael Kear  
Deputy Sheriff



Nathan Koury  
Deputy Sheriff



Brandon Schoch  
Deputy Sheriff



Kendall Zoss  
Deputy Sheriff

DEPUTIES WORKING IN THE PATROL DIVISION OF THE OFFICE ARE TASKED WITH THE DAILY DUTIES OF LAW ENFORCEMENT WITHIN CUSTER COUNTY. PATROL IS COMPRISED OF 10 DEPUTIES WHO ARE POLICE OFFICERS AND STANDARDS TESTING (POST) CERTIFIED WITH ARREST POWERS, 1 COURT SECURITY DEPUTY WITH ARREST POWERS, AND 1 CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPUTY. THESE MEN AND WOMEN PERFORM A WIDE ARRAY OF ASSIGNMENTS SUCH AS RESPONDING TO CALLS FOR SERVICE FOR CRIMINAL AND CIVIL ACTIVITIES, EMERGENCY CALLS, FIRE CALLS, TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT, CIVIL SERVICE PAPERS, VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION VERIFICATIONS, TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS, AND OTHER CITIZEN ASSISTANCE NEEDS TO NAME SOME OF THE DAILY ACTIVITIES DEPUTIES OFTENTIMES FIND THEMSELVES DOING. IN ADDITION TO ROUTINE ACTIVITIES, PATROL DEPUTIES ARE OFTEN REQUESTED TO ASSIST THE ZONING AND PLANNING DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, AND PROBATION STAFF IN THE FIELD TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THOSE PERSONNEL WHILE PERFORMING OFFICIAL BUSINESS. THE DEPUTIES RARELY EXPERIENCE THE SAME CHALLENGES FROM ONE DAY TO ANOTHER, OR FROM SHIFT TO SHIFT, MAKING THIS JOB MUCH DIFFERENT THAN MOST PROFESSIONS. BY AND LARGE THE GENERAL PUBLIC DOES NOT ALWAYS KNOW OR UNDERSTAND MOST OF THE ACTIVITY REQUIRED OF THE DEPUTIES THROUGH THEIR SHIFTS AND THIS LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OR UNDERSTANDING CAN LEAD TO MISINFORMATION OR PERCEPTIONS WHICH WE ALL HAVE TO WORK TO CLARIFY.

THE COURT SECURITY DEPUTY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECURITY OF THE COURT STAFF, THE SECURITY OF THE COURTS AND THE GENERAL SAFETY OF ALL PERSONNEL WHO WORK WITHIN THE COURTS. A COMMON MISCONCEPTION IS THE COURT SECURITY DEPUTY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SECURITY WITHIN THE COUNTY BUILDING. THIS IS NOT THE CASE, HE DOES WORK WITH COUNTY EMPLOYEES AND THE BOCC TO HELP ENSURE THE SECURITY IN THE COUNTY BUILDING, BUT HE IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTIVITIES IN THE COUNTY BUILDING. IN ADDITION TO COURT SECURITY, THIS SERGEANT ALSO ASSISTS IN REPORT APPROVAL, AND FLEET AND STAFF MANAGEMENT.

PATROL HAS ATTEMPTED TO PRESENT A BETTER PRESENCE THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE COUNTY, INCLUDING WETMORE AND SAN ISABEL. TRAFFIC SAFETY ENFORCEMENT CONTINUES TO BE EMPHASIZED AS THE INCREASE OF VEHICLES ON THE ROADS IN CUSTER COUNTY IS AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH. OUR COMMITMENT TO KEEPING THE COMMUNITY SAFE THROUGH THE FIVE PILLARS OF OUR MISSION; CHARACTER, INTEGRITY, RESPECT, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND PROFESSIONALISM, ALLOWS US TO SERVE THE CITIZENS OF THE COUNTY WITH PRIDE AND HONOR.

# CUSTER COUNTY CRIME DATA

## REPORTED CRIMES

(LESS THAN FIVE NOT SHOWN)

| Offenses                  | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Assault                   | 31   | 32   | 34   | 33   |
| Harassment                | 26   | 51   | 38   | 30   |
| Burglary                  | 16   | 23   | 27   | 9    |
| Criminal Mischief         | 45   | 64   | 74   | 42   |
| Drug Equipment Violations | 2    | 5    | 6    | 6    |
| Drug/Narcotic Violations  | 8    | 13   | 9    | 13   |
| Unlawful Sexual Contact   | 3    | 6    | 0    | 1    |
| Fraud Offenses            | 11   | 15   | 18   | 12   |
| Theft Offenses            | 55   | 81   | 84   | 56   |
| Theft, Motor Vehicle      | 6    | 8    | 9    | 3    |
| Weapon Law Violations     | 6    | 10   | 11   | 15   |
| Total                     | 221  | 319  | 316  | 234  |

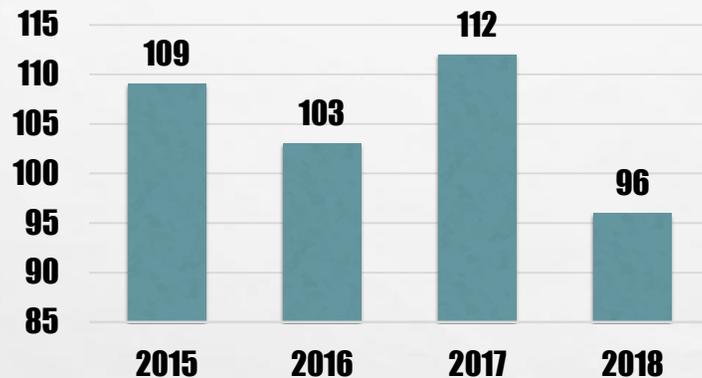
## CLEARED BY ARREST

OR EXCEPTION

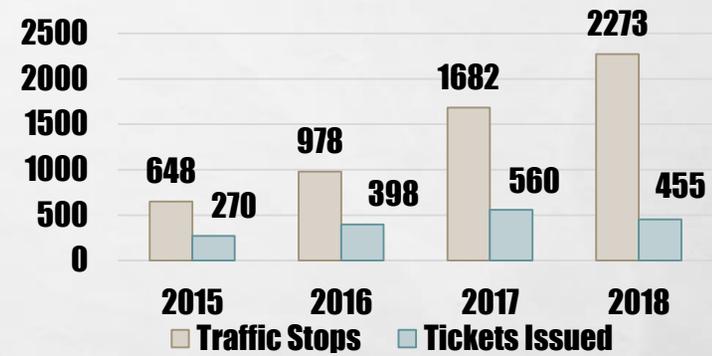
| Offense                   | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Assault                   | 25   | 28   | 28   | 31   |
| Harassment                | 12   | 35   | 26   | 28   |
| Burglary                  | 2    | 3    | 6    | 1    |
| Criminal Mischief         | 14   | 13   | 15   | 16   |
| Drug Equipment Violations | 2    | 5    | 6    | 6    |
| Drug/Narcotic Violations  | 7    | 9    | 9    | 13   |
| Unlawful Sexual Contact   | 0    | 2    | 0    | 1    |
| Fraud Offenses            | 3    | 3    | 3    | 2    |
| Theft Offenses            | 6    | 16   | 18   | 10   |
| Theft, Motor Vehicle      | 2    | 5    | 9    | 1    |
| Weapon Law Violations     | 3    | 10   | 9    | 15   |
| Total                     | 82   | 131  | 134  | 131  |

Through the last 4 years we have observed a variety of changes in reported crimes. 2018 was similar in reported criminal activity to 2015, while we had higher numbers in 2016 and 2017. Defining these trends is not always simple or obvious. The clearance rates for our office is something I am proud of, as we are continuing to improve our performance in this area. In 2015, our clearance rates were 37%, in 2016 41%, 2017 42% and in 2018 56%. The national average for Clearance rates is well below 50% in all reported crimes so we are performing above the national average. Our goal is to reach the 75% level and we will continue to strive for that accomplishment.

## TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

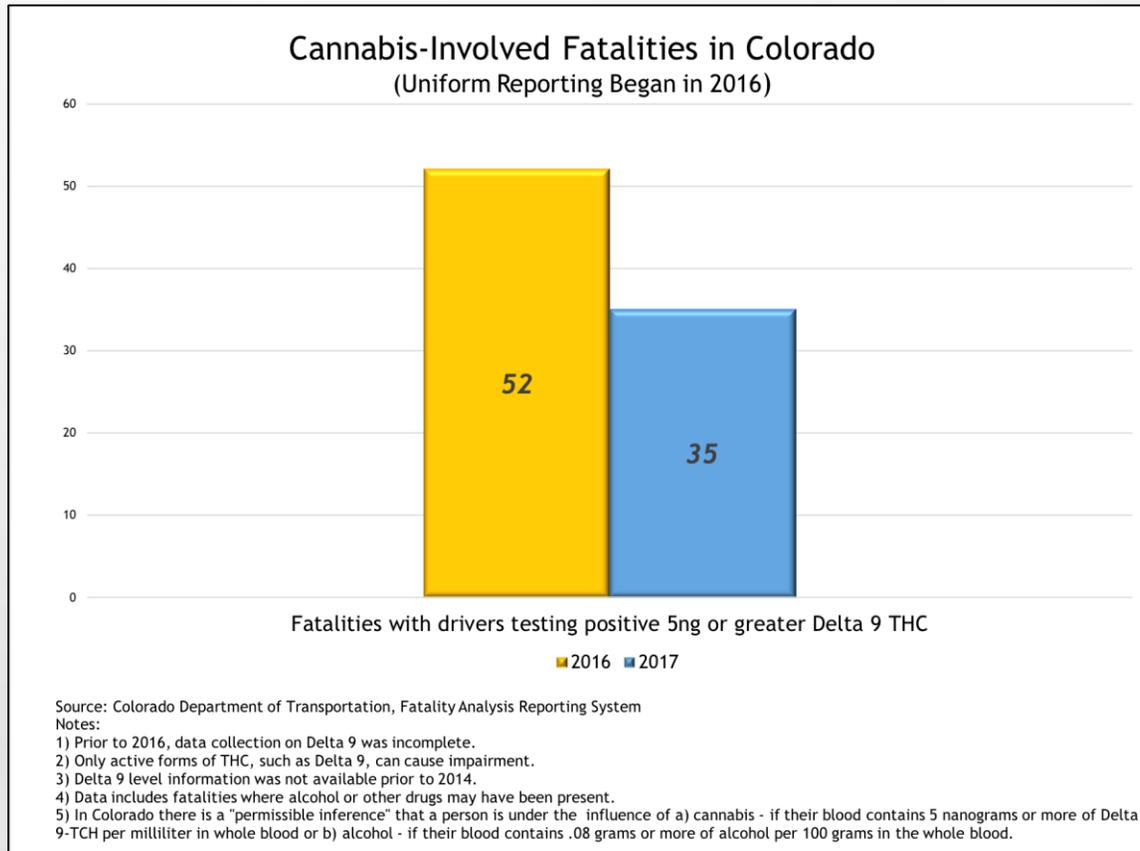


## TRAFFIC CONTACTS VS TICKETS ISSUED

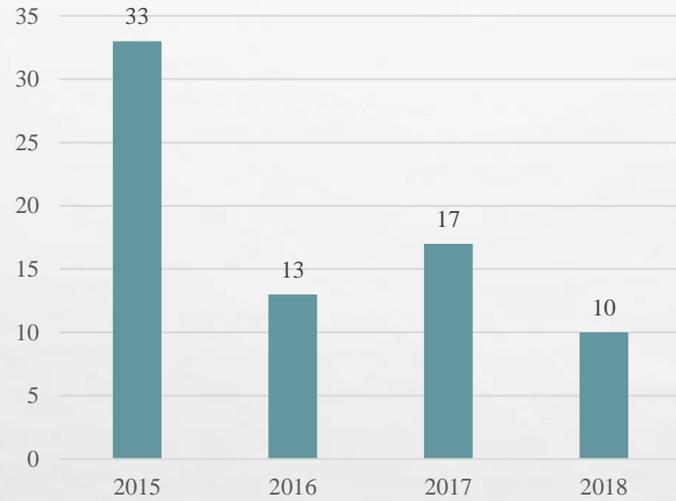


As you can see from these graphs, overall traffic accidents are down, however this does not reflect the fatal traffic accidents or serious bodily injuries handled by the Colorado State Patrol in Custer County. The ratio of traffic stops to tickets issued continues to be below 35% while continuing to set new levels in contacts made. In the Traffic Enforcement graph, you will notice a Traffic Ticket was only issued on 20% of the stops conducted for various traffic infractions.

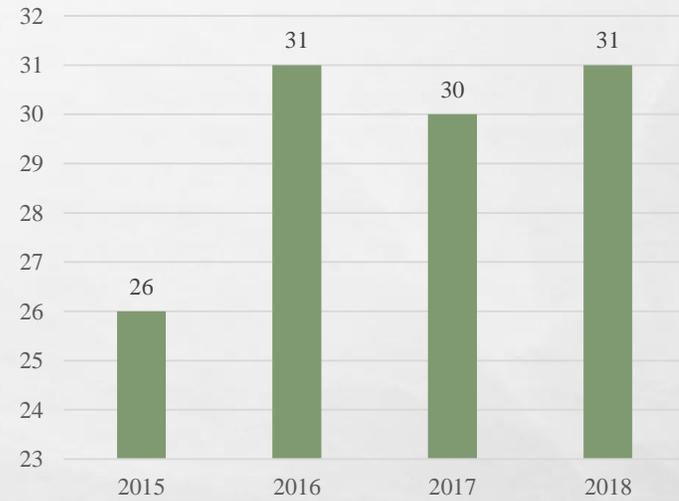
# CANNABIS-INVOLVED FATALITIES IN COLORADO 2016 & 2017



### Rollover Accidents



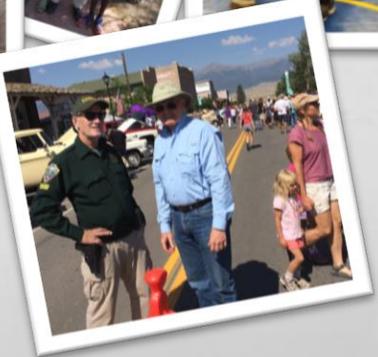
### Animal Collisions



We continue to see a decline in the number of rollover accidents in the county, however we continue to have many vehicle vs. animal accidents. We just have to figure out how to teach those animals to use the crosswalks!!!!

# POSSE

In 2018 the Sheriff's Posse volunteered over 3,000 hours in service to the community. They provided critical services such as security for Athletic Events, Courts, Detentions, Parade security, School Patrols, and Traffic Control. The assistance they provide to the staff at the office is critical to our success. They are an exceptional group of individuals.



# SEARCH AND RESCUE

The group of dedicated volunteers in SAR are very highly respected in our county and across the state. They perform missions many other teams cannot accomplish and the expertise we have within the team is something Custer County can be proud of. 2018 was a little slower for the team as they completed 16 Missions that took 1,512 hours in the field. These missions were for 7 injured or ill climbers, 2 overdue hikers, 2 stranded climbers, 2 lost hikers, 2 missing climbers/hikers, and 1 other climber. Each year the Search and Rescue team is responsible for saving lives and reuniting families who face the reality of losing a loved one. The Sheriff believes we have one of the best SAR teams in the country.



# WELCOMING NEW DEPUTIES



DEPUTY NATHAN KOURY

1/16/2018



DEPUTY MICHAEL KEAR

6/11/18

# TIP-A-COP

Deputy Chelsea Geanetta did a fantastic job organizing this event. 2018's Tip-A-Cop fundraiser was to aid the Wet Mountain Animal Welfare group. Everyone had a good time, some great food, and we were able to donate over \$1,000 to an organization that greatly assists the lost animals in our community.



# NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes Law Enforcement/Community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. Last August, the Custer County Sheriff's Office invited our neighbors to a community-wide picnic and had a great turnout! We enjoyed eating, serving our friends and neighbors, dancing to some fantastic music, and getting to know everybody a little better!







# POLAR PLUNGE

## FREEZIN' FOR A REASON

The Polar Plunge is hosted by Special Olympics of Colorado and used to help raise money to send athletes to compete in the National Special Olympics. 2018 was the third year the event was held at the Pueblo Reservoir and the Custer County Sheriff's Office was there for our third year to "Plunge" in support of the Special Olympics. On February 17, 2018 our team gathered in the glow of the sunshine, and anticipation of the 36 Degree water, to do more for those who really needed it. We had great success and raised over \$1,600 for the Special Olympics. The members who participated truly do understand the gift of giving. They are pretty well versed in the art of freezing too!!



# MADD AWARD



OFFICE OF  
SHERIFF, CUSTER COUNTY  
702 Rosita Avenue, Westcliffe, Co. 81252  
Phone (719)783-2270 Fax (719) 783-9085



SHANNON K. BYERLY  
SHERIFF  
CHRISTOPHER R. BARR  
UNDERSHERIFF

TO: Media  
From: Undersheriff Chris Barr  
RE: Awards  
Date: May 31, 2018

To whom it may concern;

On May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Deputy Kendall Zoss and Deputy Eric Dunston were honored in Denver, CO, at the annual Mothers Against Drunk Drivers Awards Banquet. Deputies Zoss and Dunston received a team award in recognition of their combined efforts in arrests for driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. Deputies Zoss and Dunston, during 2017, had 31 arrests of impaired drivers. Custer County's population per capita versus the number of arrests ranked as one of the highest percentages in the state. Deputy Zoss's and Deputy Dunston's tenacity and dedication to enforcing impaired driving laws has enhanced safety on our county roads. The Custer County Sheriff's Office could not be prouder of Zoss and Dunston and their commitment to our community.

# KID'S ID EVENT

On January 26, several members of the Sheriff's Office teamed up with the American Legion to offer an opportunity for parents to bring their kids to the library to complete the identification kits we provided. We fingerprinted over 50 children and handed out lots of booklets and fun learning tools to the kids in hopes of educating them on what to do if they were approached by a stranger. It also allowed us to talk to parents about what they would need to do if they were ever to be separated from their children. It was a lot of fun for us and we think the kids had a good time too!



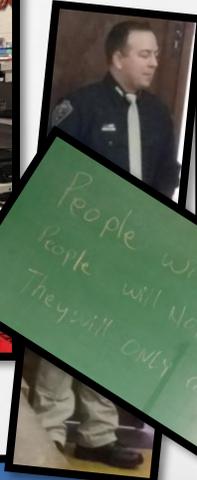
**Kids ID & Safety Event**  
Friday, Jan. 26, 2018 1 - 4 pm  
at West Custer County Library

- Free identification kits with fingerprinting from a sheriff's deputy for kids and teens.
- Families will keep the kits, information will not be kept by any organization or agency.
- Those with little ones can also learn about safe car seat installation from certified National Child Passenger Safety Technicians through Custer County Drive Smart, a program of Safe Kids Worldwide.

West Custer County Library www.westcusterlibrary.org • 719-783-9138



# AROUND TOWN



People will NOT remember what you said,  
People will NOT remember what you did,  
They will ONLY remember how you made them feel.



# MERRY CHRISTMAS



# 2018 AWARDS BANQUET

## ☞ FRIEND OF THE SHERIFF ☞

DAVE AIKEN • JOHNNY AINSWORTH  
ANDY BOLTON • DAVID BUSH  
YEVETTE CHRISTY • JERRY DURLING  
JUDY & BRUCE ELKINGTON • SUSAN GILLESPIE  
MARILYN & JERRY KEFFER • DAVE PURNELL  
WILLIE QUINNEY & CHERYL JENKINS  
DEB RIMMER • CANDI SAGE • DEAN SELDON JIM  
& JOANN SILVER • HERDIS SOBEL  
ELANOR STRAIGHT • TERRY & CHERYL SWARTZ

## ☞ MERITORIOUS SERVICE BY A CITIZEN ☞

JARED BAKER • JOHN "JACK" CHRISTIANSEN  
GARY HYDE • BRUCE PAULMAN • RON TAYLOR

## ☞ SHERIFF'S COMMENDATION ☞

JAMES BARR • ERIC DUNSTON  
CHELSEA GEANETTA • NATHAN KOURY  
ANNE LOWATCHIE • DAWN RAMSDELL  
VERNON ROTH • MELVIN VANDERHOFF  
NATHAN WIENER • KENDALL ZOSS

## ☞ MERITORIOUS SERVICE ☞

SCOTT AYOTTE • CHRISTOPHER BARR  
KATHERINE BARR • KAIRE GALLEGOS  
SAMANTHA MOOS • H.A. "BUCK" WENZEL

## ☞ LIFE SAVING AWARD ☞

MICHAEL KEAR • BRANDON SCHOCH

## ☞ POSSE AWARDS ☞

TROY COUCH • BRUCE ELKINGTON  
BILL PARKER • JIM PARKES  
TED ROCKENHAUS

## ☞ POSSE MEMBER OF THE YEAR ☞

BILL PARKER