

**STEARNS COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

**Sheriff Don Gudmundson
807 Courthouse Square
St. Cloud, MN 56303**

**Chief Deputy Jon F. Lentz
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St. Cloud, MN 56303**

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Administration 259-3702

Civil Office 259-3720

EMERGENCY 911

Jail Administration 259-3750

Non-Emergency 251-4240

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Stearns County Sheriff's Office is to provide efficient, high-quality, compassionate law enforcement services to all citizens. To achieve these objectives, the Office will constantly strive to enforce laws courteously and appropriately without fear, favor, malice, or ill will. The Sheriff's Office will work with the public, offering guidance and assistance to aid in combating crime and protecting life and property.

It is the responsibility of the Stearns County Sheriff's Office, through Correctional Staff, to ensure the efficient operation and maintenance of a safe, secure detention facility. This facility shall administer policies and procedures sensitive to the humane needs of the incarcerated while acknowledging financial limitations.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Code of Ethics



AS A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, by virtue of the authority conferred upon me by the State of Minnesota and the local governments by which I am employed, I accept it as my responsibility and fundamental duty to devote my abilities, energies and efforts to the preservation of law and order; to the safe guarding of lives and property, the protection of the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation and the peaceful against violence.

IN THE FACE OF DANGER, scorn or ridicule, I will remain courageous and calm, I will respect the constitutional rights of all individuals, regardless of color, race or creed. I will practice self-restraint and understanding in dealing with human frailties, and I will never lose sight of the fact that, as an officer of the law, I am not the master of the people - but the servant of the law-abiding.

IN THOUGHT AND DEED, both in my personal and official life, I will strive to set a good example to all by obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my Office. Confidential information divulged to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret, unless revelation is necessary in the proper performance of my duties.

EVER MINDFUL of the fact that it is better to prevent the commission of an act of crime than to apprehend the wrongdoer after the act has been committed, I will constantly strive to communicate to the general public ways and means in which crime may be prevented.

WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR, malice or ill will. I will enforce the law courteously, impartially and effectively. Without compromise, I will pursue the perpetrators of criminal acts relentlessly, never employing unnecessary force in making apprehensions and bringing law violators to justice.

I REGARD THE BADGE OF MY CHOSEN PROFESSION as a symbol of public faith and I accept it as a public trust.

I DEDICATE MYSELF to be true to the trust, and I will keep the faith, by upholding the ideals set forth in this code of ethics.

Unanimously adopted by the Minnesota Sheriff's Association in Conference, at Duluth, Minnesota, December 4, 1973.

STEARNS COUNTY
STATISTICAL DATA

Area.....	1,362 Sq. Miles
County Established In.....	1855
County Seat.....	St. Cloud, Minnesota
Population (2015)	154,708
Number of Cities.....	31
Number of Townships.....	34
Interstate Highway Mileage	57.76
Trunk Highway Mileage	174.14
County Road Mileage	366.00
County State-Aid Mileage.....	593.00
Township Road Mileage	1,419.00

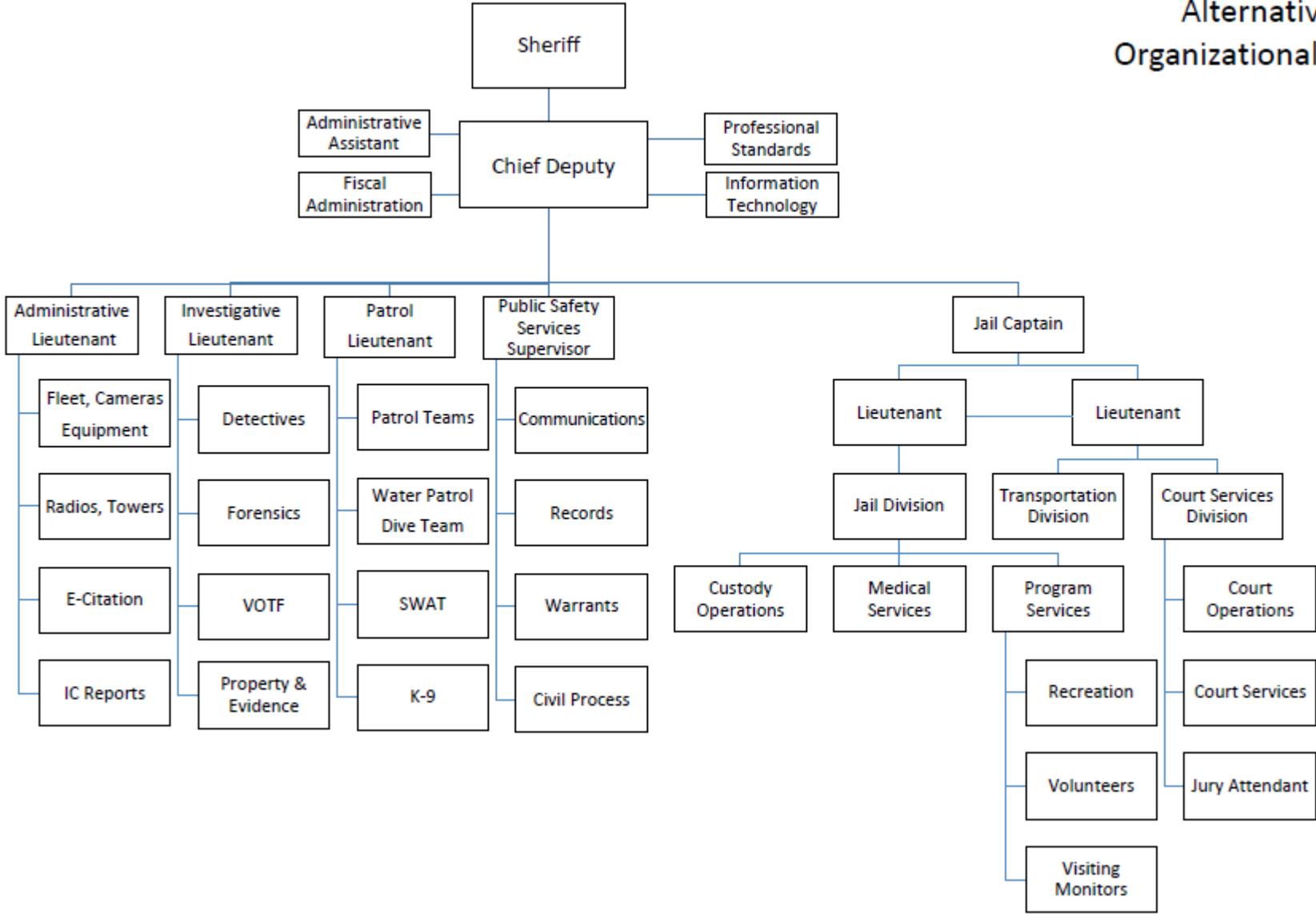
SHERIFF'S OFFICE STAFF

Sheriff Don Gudmundson

Chief Deputy Jon F. Lentz

Support Staff:	Mary Lieser – Public Services Support Supervisor Staff: 15
Patrol Division:	Lieutenant Robert Dickhaus Lieutenant Victor Weiss Lieutenant Kellan Hemmesch Sergeants: 9 Deputies (full-time): 41 Deputies (part-time): 0 Investigators: 5 Background Investigators (part-time): 3 Court Security (full-time): 8 Court Security (part-time): 1
Dispatch Center:	Supervisors: 1 Dispatchers (full-time): 20 Dispatchers (part-time): 6
Jail Administration:	Captain Mark Maslonkowski Lieutenant James Illies Lieutenant Sean Haney Correctional Officers III: 8 Correctional Officers II: 65 Correctional Officers I: 6 Correctional Officers I (part-time): 6 Program Staff: 3 Visiting Monitors (part-time): 2 Jury Attendants: 14

Stearns County Sheriff's Office Alternative Organizational Chart



BUDGETS

YEAR	OFFICE	BUDGETED AMOUNT	ACTUAL EXPENDED	DIFFERENCE
2017	Sheriff	\$10,829,818	\$10,652,774	\$177,044
	Jail	\$10,525,131	\$11,190,492	(\$665,362)
2016	Sheriff	\$9,987,325	\$9,506,733	\$480,592
	Jail	\$10,446,908	\$10,601,803	(\$154,895)
2015	Sheriff	\$10,155,524	\$9,748,266	\$407,258
	Jail	\$10,184,693	\$10,342,380	(\$157,687)
2014	Sheriff	\$9,359,464	\$9,290,984	\$68,480
	Jail	\$9,922,548	\$10,409,373	(\$486,824)
2013	Sheriff	\$8,982,744	\$9,185,656	(\$202,912)
	Jail	\$9,802,505	\$10,253,175	(\$450,670)
2012	Sheriff	\$8,765,294	\$8,871,289	(\$105,995)
	Jail	\$10,273,847	\$9,635,629	\$638,218
2011	Sheriff	\$8,174,027	\$8,200,309	(\$26,281)
	Jail	\$10,278,871	\$9,540,859	\$738,012
2010	Sheriff	\$8,174,027	\$8,564,731	(\$390,704)
	Jail	\$10,279,467	\$9,354,570	\$924,897

Expense Boarding Inmates from Stearns County in Other Jails

2010	\$684,923
2011	\$535,699
2012	\$615,885
2013	\$879,472
2014	\$910,681
2015	\$701,439
2016	\$648,764
2017	\$839,609



COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

The 911 Dispatch Center is the heartbeat of the Stearns County Sheriff's Office. Nearly anyone who has contact with law enforcement in Stearns County starts by talking to one of our Dispatchers. Even if an incident is initiated by a police officer, the Dispatch Center is notified to create a call and monitor what's happening with it. Not only are the Dispatchers responsible for answering all of the incoming phone calls, they also need to monitor the numerous radio channels and are the lifeline for each and every police officer and emergency responder in Stearns County.

24-hour staffing coverage in the Dispatch Center is comprised of 5 Lead Dispatchers, 20 Dispatchers and 5 part-time Dispatchers. The Dispatch Center is supervised by 1 Dispatch Supervisor and 1 Public Safety Services Supervisor.

In addition to working with the Stearns County deputies, the Dispatch Center also provides services to the 13 police departments, 31 fire and rescue departments and 6 ambulance services sprinkled throughout Stearns County. The Dispatchers are also EMD (Emergency Medical Dispatcher) Certified and can provide lifesaving instructions over the phone prior to rescue and ambulance arrival.

The 911 Dispatchers are put through a grueling 6-month training process. That might seem like a long time, however, the knowledge received by on-the-job experiences are invaluable. Voices of the numerous officers need to be repeatedly heard so they are easily recognized. Any experienced Dispatcher will tell you they can tell if an officer needs help just by the tone of that officer's voice.

During the year 2017 the Dispatch Center received approximately 236,565 emergency and non-emergency phone calls and endless radio transmissions from officers and EMS responders. The busiest time of day is consistently from 5-6pm.

In addition to radio and telephone communications, the Dispatch Center is connected to the MN Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) data network. This network provides information to and from all law enforcement agencies to include numerous state and federal agencies.

**COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY STEARNS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
2017**

TOWNSHIP (34)	#
Albany	821
Ashley	121
Avon	1,531
Brockway	1,034
Collegeville	576
Crow Lake	215
Crow River	141
Eden Lake	320
Fairhaven	1,015
Farming	247
Getty	84
Grove	234
Holding	458
Krain	254
Lake George	73
Lake Henry	125
LeSauk	1,186
Luxemburg	207
Lynden	796
Maine Prairie	979
Melrose	563
Millwood	281
Munson	570
North Fork	88
Oak	517
Paynesville	632
Raymond	46
Sauk Centre	1,308
St. Joseph	2,290
St. Martin	143
St. Wendel	969
Spring Hill	112
Wakefield	945
Zion	121
Total Township Complaints	19,002

**COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY STEARNS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
2017**

CITY (30) OTHER (3)	#
Albany	3,080
Avon	1,796
Belgrade	714
Brooten	603
Cold Spring	4,985
Eden Valley	84
Elrosa	62
Freeport	441
Greenwald	70
Holdingsford	869
Kimball	861
Lake Henry	34
Meire Grove	87
Melrose	4,168
New Munich	409
Paynesville	4,919
Richmond	1,230
Rockville	2,002
Roscoe	47
St. Anthony	21
St. Cloud	16,241
St. Joseph	4,700
St. Martin	95
St. Rosa	28
St. Stephen	795
Sartell	12,019
Sauk Centre	8,520
Spring Hill	30
St. Augusta	2,067
Waite Park	12,131
Other Cities	543
Other Counties	481
Unknown	424
Total City/Other Complaints	84,556

GRAND TOTAL ALL COMPLAINTS: 103,558

**COMPLAINTS HANDLED BY THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE
YEARLY COMPARISON**

YEAR	# OF COMPLAINTS	DIFFERENCE (+/-)
2000	21,998	+2099
2001	23,075	+1077
2002	24,133	+1058
2003	24,760	+627
2004	25,594	+834
2005	28,032	+2438
2006	33,180	+5148
2007	35,310	+2130
2008	37,363	+2053
2009	34,360	-3003
2010	34,373	+13
2011	31,131	-3242
2012	32,878	+1747
2013	38,661	+5783
2014	38,500	-161
2015	41,676	+3176
2016	41,548	-128
2017	40,316	-1,232

In addition to receiving calls for the Sheriff's Office, the dispatchers also receive many calls for the Police Departments, Fire Departments, and Ambulance Services within Stearns County. Following is a breakdown of those calls in 2016 and 2017:

POLICE DEPARTMENT	2017	2016
Albany Police Department	3,073	2,299
Avon Police Department	2,641	1,867
Belgrade Police Department	936	1,008
Cold Spring/Richmond Police Department	6,261	6,957
Eden Valley Police Department	0	0
Kimball Police Department	1,666	1,489
Melrose Police Department	3,839	3,960
Paynesville Police Department	5,383	5,411
Sauk Centre Police Department	8,692	8,171
St. Joseph Police Department	4,528	4,277
Sartell Police Department	12,063	10,291
Waite Park Police Department	9,974	9,427
TOTAL CALLS:	61,073	55,157

AMBULANCE	2017	2016
Brooten Ambulance	215	189
Gold Cross Ambulance	3,102	4,912
Melrose Ambulance	823	719
Paynesville Ambulance	654	567
Sauk Centre Ambulance	701	708
Watkins Ambulance	121	127
Life Link Helicopter	13	9
North Air Helicopter	7	3
TOTAL CALLS:	7,653	7,234



FIRE DEPARTMENTS	2017	2016
Albany Fire Department	234	214
Annandale Fire Department	9	13
Avon Fire Department	189	176
Belgrade Fire Department	111	99
Brooten Fire Department	60	44
Chain of Lakes Fire Department	132	108
Clearwater Fire Department	58	46
Cold Spring Fire Department	418	392
Elrosa Fire Department	20	33
Eden Valley Fire Department	38	47
Freeport Fire Department	75	81
Holdingsford Fire Department	113	118
Kimball Fire Department	179	164
Lake Henry Fire Department	24	22
Melrose Fire Department	86	99
New Munich Fire Department	34	27
Paynesville Fire Department	127	126
Richmond Fire Department	113	117
Rockville Fire Department	107	97
Sauk Centre Fire Department	93	108
Sartell Fire Department	124	162
South Haven Fire Department	46	43
St. Augusta Fire Department	93	93
St. Cloud Fire Department	6,224	5,929
St. Joseph Fire Department	412	350
St. Martin Fire Department	44	38
St. Stephen Fire Department	118	78
St. John's Fire Department	7	0
Watkins Fire Department	11	12
Waite Park Fire Department	168	175
Upsala Fire Department	0	0
TOTAL CALLS	9,467	9,011

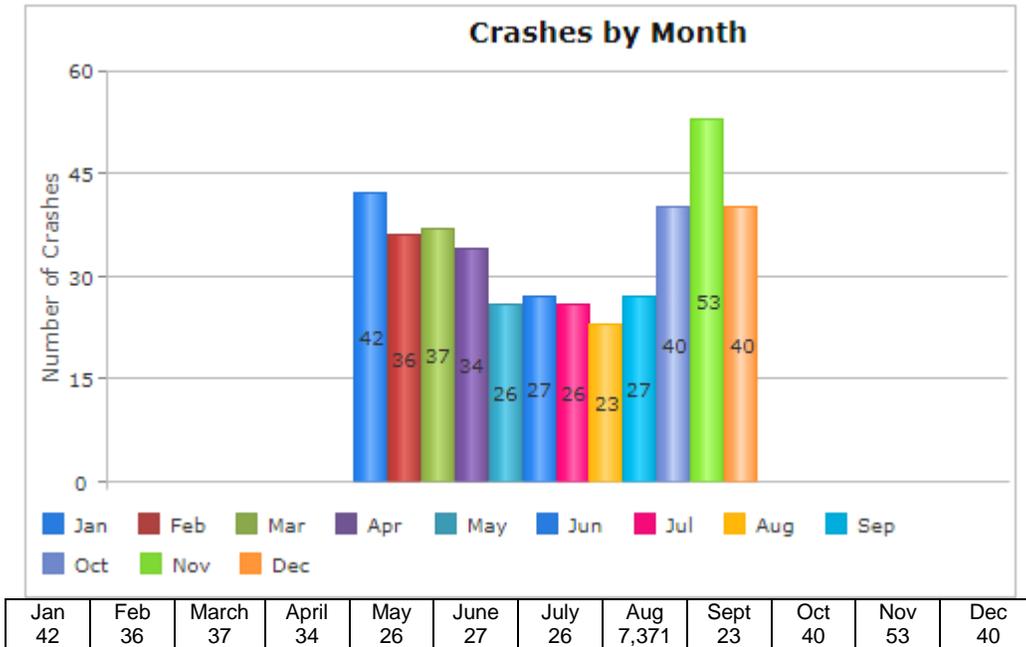
2017 OFFENSES

OFFENSE	TOTALS
Murder	0
Rape	10
Robbery	0
Burglary	83
Larceny	262
Assault	21
Auto Theft	29
Arson	1
Other Assaults	157
Family/Children	10
Forgery/Counterfeit	41
Fraud	89
Stolen Property	12
Vandalism	140
Weapons	13
Other Sex Offenses	29
D.U.I.	186
Liquor Laws	82
Disorderly Conduct	71
Miscellaneous	218

TOTAL ACTUAL OFFENSES: 1,454

TRAFFIC CRASHES

REPORTED BY THE STEARNS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



Crash Summary	
Total Crashes:	411
Injury Crashes:	121
Total Injured:	155
Fatal Crashes:	4
Total Fatalities:	4
Commercial Vehicle Crashes:	20
Property Damage Crashes:	286
Work Zone Crashes:	2

Represents preliminary data gathered from MNCrash

PATROL DIVISION

The Stearns County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division is the most visible and high profile division within the Office. The patrol officers are the uniformed deputies driving marked squad cars and responding to calls for service within the county.

The patrol officers are assigned to shifts on a yearly basis. The Office utilizes the following four shifts: day shift (7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.); day power (12:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.); evening shift (5:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m.); and midnight shift (9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.). Officers are also assigned areas or quadrants of the county during their shifts. This is done in an effort to minimize officer response time and maximize the protection provided to the citizens of Stearns County. Stearns County Patrol Deputies are responsible for answering calls for service, providing assistance to other agencies, warrant arrests, serving civil process papers, and performing numerous public speaking engagements throughout the county.

The Patrol Division is currently comprised of 60 full-time officers and 4 canines. Of these 60 officers, 3 hold the rank of lieutenant and 9 hold the rank of sergeant. The entire patrol division is under the direction of the patrol lieutenant and the 9 sergeants supervise various patrol shifts. From the patrol staff, 2 officers are assigned to the civil process position, 2 officers and 1 sergeant are assigned to the recreational safety officer position, handling water patrol and snowmobile patrol duties and 2 officers and 1 sergeant are assigned to the Central Minnesota Violent Offender Task Force.

Also included in the patrol division are the Stearns County Campus Security officers. There are 9 security officers, 1 part-time and 8 full-time, covering the Stearns County Administration Center, Stearns County Courthouse, Stearns County Courts Facility Building, and the Probation Reporting Center/License Center West. These 9 campus security deputies are fully deputized and licensed by the State of Minnesota. They provide armed security for court trials and handle numerous calls for assistance by other Stearns County Service Agencies.

Officers from the Patrol Division provide the personnel for specialized functions of the Sheriff's Office. These include the underwater dive and rescue team, specialized emergency response team, crime prevention, neighborhood watch, 4 canine units (2 Bloodhounds for tracking, 2 for narcotics detection), seasonal weight restriction enforcement and UAV (drone) flight team.

Stearns County remains committed to the concept of community policing. Community policing can best be described as a partnership between law enforcement and the citizens of the community. The Sheriff's Office strives to nurture this relationship through a number of various mediums including neighborhood crime watch and public speaking engagements. As public servants, law enforcement officers need to be approachable and in touch with their respective communities. The public is asked to feel free to share their thoughts or concerns with the patrol officers....together we can make a difference.

CONTRACTING FOR POLICE SERVICES

The Sheriff's Office now contracts with four cities in the county to provide additional law enforcement services. The four cities are St. Stephen, Rockville, Holdingford, and St. Augusta. Although the Sheriff's Office is responsible to provide law enforcement to these cities, they have elected to have officers assigned to their city at specific times for additional patrolling and protection. The city then pays the county for each hour an officer is specifically assigned to that city. City officials work closely with the Sheriff's Office to set the schedule and coverage for any special events taking place.

The Sheriff's Office is committed to continuing contract services as more townships and small cities become incorporated.



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Stearns County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Unit consists of five investigators assigned to general investigations and three investigators assigned to the Violent Offenders Task Force (VOTF). The Stearns County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Unit is supervised by a Lieutenant.

The investigators assigned to general investigations conduct a wide range of investigations including, but not limited to, homicide, sexual assault, physical assault, financial crimes, theft, and burglary. The investigators conduct in depth investigations of any crimes against persons and property. The investigators work closely with Stearns County deputies in the Patrol Division, the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA), and other local law enforcement entities.

The investigators assigned to the Violent Offenders Task Force conduct investigations into violent offenders, drug investigations, and fugitive apprehension. The Violent Offenders Task Force works closely with local, state and federal authorities.

The Stearns County Criminal Investigations Unit partners with other entities, both private and public, in multidisciplinary teams (MDT) to better serve the public. In addition to being on VOTF, Stearns County is part of the MN BCA Financial Crimes Task Force, the Central Minnesota Sex Trafficking Task Force, Internet Crimes against Children (ICAC), and part of a MDT at the Child Advocacy Center (CAC).

The Stearns County Criminal Investigations Unit investigates reports of both physical and sexual abuse involving children as part of multidisciplinary team that includes members of the Stearns County Sheriff's Office, the Stearns County Attorney's Office, Stearns County Human Services, other local law enforcement entities, and the CAC.

The Stearns County Criminal Investigations Unit members receive specialized training that includes interview and interrogation training, homicide schools, child forensic interview training (Corner House), and other related courses.

The Stearns County Criminal Investigations Unit actively investigates "cold cases" and works extensively with outside agencies such as the MN BCA and the FBI.

CIVIL PROCESS 2017

MONTH	SERVICES
January	311
February	263
March	371
April	282
May	353
June	325
July	314
August	435
September	280
October	277
November	235
December	231
Total	3,677

Breakdown	
Outside Agency	2,252
Court	929
County Attorney	262
Human Services	161
Auditor	73
Total	3,677

2017		
Foreclosures	83	Total: \$29,764,123.29
Redemptions	20	Total: \$2,894,555.73



PROGRAM

The Stearns County D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program started in the fall of 1992 in three different schools in Stearns County: Sauk Centre Holy Family School, Sauk Centre Public Elementary and Kimball Elementary. During the first semester of the 1992-93 school year, one officer was assigned to the D.A.R.E. program and instructed approximately 275 students. The Stearns County D.A.R.E. program is instructed by one deputy and classes are being taught in 19 schools.

Albany Public School	Avon Public School
Holy Family School-Albany	Sacred Heart-Freeport (bi-yearly)
Belgrade/Brooten/Elrosa Elementary School	Kimball Public Elementary
St. Mary's School-Melrose	Paynesville Area Elementary
St. Joseph Lab School	St. Wendelin School Luxemburg (bi-yearly)
Sauk Centre Public Elementary School	Holy Family School-Sauk Centre
St. John's, St. Andrews School (bi-yearly)	Holy Cross School-Marty (bi-yearly)
St. Mary Help of Christians-St. Augusta	St. Peter and Paul-Richmond

Currently over 12,701 students have participated in and have successfully completed the D.A.R.E. program. Listed below are the schools and number of students per school who completed the D.A.R.E. program in 2017.

<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>NUMBER OF STUDENTS</u>
Albany Public School	88
Avon Public School	63
Belgrade/Brooten/Elrosa Elementary School	61
Holy Family School-Albany	32
Kimball Public Elementary	68
St Mary's-Melrose	31
Paynesville Area Elementary	92
Sacred Heart School	31
Sauk Centre Holy Family School	42
Sauk Centre Public Elementary School	72
St. John's, St. Andrew's School	25
St. Joseph Lab School	31
St. Mary Help of Christians	30
St. Peter & Paul Elementary, Richmond	18
Holy Cross School-Marty	22
St. Wendelin School	20
TOTAL FOR 2017	726

D.A.R.E. is an eight week course where each school is visited once a week by a specially trained Stearns County deputy and each week a different lesson is taught to the students. These lessons involve the students in a variety of written and oral exercises. They also learn through role-playing. The D.A.R.E. program equips fifth and sixth grade students with the life skills necessary to identify and to resist peer pressures to experiment with drugs and alcohol. The lessons focus on five major areas: providing accurate information about alcohol and drugs, teaching students decision making skills, dealing with violence, showing students how to resist negative peer pressure, giving students ideas for alternatives to using drugs and building self esteem. The deputies also present short talks on basic safety issues in grades K-4, meet with teachers and interact with students at lunch and recess and, when possible, attend extracurricular activities.

The goal of the D.A.R.E. program is to reduce the supply of controlled substances as a result of reducing the demand, to promote a positive relationship with peace officers and to achieve an overall reduction in criminal behavior. The D.A.R.E. program attempts to provide children with the opportunity to grow up feeling good about themselves without the use of drugs or alcohol.

A recent National Gallup poll states that 94% of students polled after participating in D.A.R.E. indicate they know how to say "NO" to a friend if asked to take drugs, by using the D.A.R.E. techniques. Over 75 research studies have documented D.A.R.E.'s effectiveness in delaying and/or preventing drug, alcohol, and tobacco use. Studies on D.A.R.E. show these results:

- ❖ Improved student knowledge of drug dangers and consequences.
- ❖ Increased student social skills.
- ❖ Better student attitude towards police.
- ❖ Stronger attitudes against drug use.
- ❖ Enhanced self-esteem.

D.A.R.E. is the lowest cost drug prevention education program in the United States. The total cost of D.A.R.E. for one child is just \$12.50. D.A.R.E. classes are currently being held in all 50 states and 49 foreign countries. Check it out at www.dare.com. This site has an educator's site, parents' site and children's' games!



SNOWMOBILE PATROL ACTIVITY

The purpose of the Stearns County Sheriff's Snowmobile Patrol is to fulfill the statutory duties of the Office of the Sheriff associated with the use of snowmobiles: to provide public safety to users of the public snowmobile trail system; to investigate incidents regarding snowmobiles; to promote snowmobile, ice, and cold weather education to citizens of Stearns County; and to maximize the efficient use of the available resources in providing these services.

SNOWMOBILE SAFETY ENFORCEMENT

The 2017 snowmobile season was extremely limited in Stearns County due to lack of snow. There was not a significant snow base to allow the trails to be properly groomed. This also limited the snowmobilers from enjoying the trails or roadway ditches due to areas of bare ground and the risk of damaging the snowmobiles. We were able to get out on the trails one weekend day and had contact with 10 snowmobilers throughout the day. Those contacts included equipment violations, expired registrations and assisting an inoperable snowmobile.

OTHER SNOWMOBILE PATROL ACTIVITIES

The Stearns County Sheriff's Office Snowmobile Patrol continues to reach out to the public with educational materials through the Stearns County Fair and at various public displays. The snowmobile patrol also trains with and assists the Sheriff's Dive Team to be ready for search and rescue efforts.



The Boat and Water Recreation Division

Mission: To educate and enforce watercraft safety regulations, mark navigational hazards and ensuring the safe condition of rental watercraft.

Duties included are in accordance with MN Statute [86B.105](#)

1. Enhance safety on the waterways of Stearns County
2. Buoying or marking designated waterways
3. Removal of Hazards
4. Promote boat and water safety and enforcement
5. Respond to water rescues and searches

- **Buoying:** Stearns County currently uses a specifically designed Pontoon for hazard/channel markings to improve watercraft navigation and safety. Currently 78 buoys are placed in designated lakes and rivers as a service to boaters.
- **Boat & Water Enforcement and Accident Response:** Stearns County Sheriff's Office is the primary law enforcement agency responsible for search, rescue, patrol and inspection of watercraft on the lakes and rivers in Stearns County. Deputies can participate in watercraft enforcement patrols throughout the county on grant-paid overtime. Stearns County employs seasonal non-licensed staff also who assist to educate the public on water safety. A state grant covers much of the cost associated with the seasonal staff. In 2017, seasonal staff issued 353 written warning regarding various boating safety violations.
- **Lifejackets:** Every person on board a watercraft shall wear or have readily accessible a U.S. Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device. This is covered by MN State Statute [6110.1200 Sub. 3](#). In 2017, boaters were cited 19 times for children under 10 years of age for not wearing a life jacket.
- **Resort/Rental Boat Inspections:** Every year, deputies visit area resorts and outfitters to inspect their rental equipment for serviceability. This is covered by MN Statute [6110.1100](#). In 2017, 18 resorts/rental operations were visited and 219 watercraft were inspected.
- **Swimming Areas:** The owner or lessee of shoreline property may place white markers defining a swimming area adjacent to the property for personal use covered in MN statute [6110.1600](#). Currently there are 531 permits for swimming rafts/swimming areas.
- **Water Events:** A permit is needed whenever a race, regatta, tournament or other competition or exhibition occurs on water or ice. This would include events such as ice fishing contests, snowmobile races on the ice, summer fishing contests, etc., which is covered by MN Statute [86B.121](#).

For more information regarding swimming areas or water events please visit the website:
<https://co.stearns.mn.us/LawPublicSafety/SheriffServices/PublicSafety/WaterPermits>



Stearns County Underwater Search and Recovery Team

The Underwater Search and Recovery Team, commonly referred to as the Dive Team, has been in existence since 1979. The Dive Team is a joint cooperative effort with Benton County, which provides two divers to the team. The team is responsible for responding to criminal related incidents involving bodies of water in both counties. The team is first and foremost utilized in its recovery capacity, which includes locating evidentiary items, removing the items, maintaining the integrity of the evidence, and documenting for testimonial purposes. The Dive Team is also responsible for the location and recovery of water related incident victims.

The Dive Team operates under the direction of the Sheriff and under the supervision of a Lieutenant.

The team is comprised of:

Sergeant /team leader – who is responsible for the organization, planning and implementation of the Dive Team

Dive Instructor/Dive master- who plans and conducts training of team members to achieve and maintain acceptable levels of performance

Quartermaster- who is responsible for maintaining all the gear, vehicles and equipment that the Dive Team uses

Certified divers – who are trained to a minimum of Rescue Diver

ROV Team – who operate and maintain the Remotely Operated underwater Vehicle or underwater robot

Surface support personnel – who assist divers with their gear and other various top side activities

The Dive Team is currently comprised of personnel from the Stearns County Sheriff's Office Patrol, Jail and Investigations Divisions, along with the Benton County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division.

Team members are trained by our certified dive instructor in both recovery and rescue techniques. Each diver is assessed to ensure their performance meets or exceeds industry standards. This is done to ensure divers are capable of performing the task required of them and to maintain the safety of the divers. Divers are encouraged to seek diving opportunities outside of normal training and many take advantage of these opportunities.

The Dive Team works closely with the Stearns County Water Patrol in order to provide the best service to the county. The Water Patrol provides and maintains the boats and specialized equipment used by the Dive Team. This includes a shallow draft rescue boat, a pontoon boat with lifting capabilities and a towed side scan sonar for locating objects underwater.

The Dive Team utilizes another tool to successfully complete its mission, the ROV. The ROV or remotely operated underwater vehicle is used for underwater searches and can be used to recover smaller objects. The Seabotix LBV 150 se used by the Dive Team is capable of diving to a depth of 500 feet and staying submerged almost indefinitely, which is much deeper and longer than a diver. The ROV is equipped with a color camera and lights to provide pictures back to the surface. It is equipped with a sonar system to locate objects underwater and a grappling claw to retrieve objects. If the ROV locates an object that is too large to retrieve, divers can follow the tether to the object and bring it to the surface.

The Dive Team is often called upon to assist local fire departments with water rescue training. This is done in both open water and on the ice. The Dive Team discusses specific water related calls unique to each fire department's area. They discuss equipment that is available and various techniques that might be appropriate for each scenario. The fire departments are briefed on the equipment and capabilities of the Dive Team and their role in these incidents. Training scenarios are then conducted with the divers sometimes playing the part of the victim and different techniques are used and evaluated. This training serves to provide a quick, organized response by sheriff and fire personnel in the unfortunate event of an actual water related incident.

Monthly training sessions may include the following specialties:

- Ice Diving
- ROV
- Recovering Victims of Water Related Incidents
- Underwater Crime Scene Investigations/Evidence Recovery
- Moving Water
- Underwater Searches
- Diver Emergencies

MOUNTED RESERVE UNIT



The Stearns County Sheriff's Mounted Reserve Unit was organized by a group of volunteers in 1991. The unit's goal is to assist the Sheriff's Office with search and rescue situations. There are 18 riding members, 3 ground support members and 1 probationary members. Each of these members have met the requirements and accepts the responsibility of volunteering their time and efforts to organize and further develop the unit through training and certification of riders and their mounts.

Members are responsible for supplying their own horses and transportation for each function. Any horse used at any unit function must have a current negative coggins test and up to date immunizations filed with the SCSMR. Before a horse may be used in public it must pass the certification test set up by the unit. This test is a trail-type obstacle course designed to test the manageability and temperament of the mount in addition to the skill and ability of the rider. Passing this test is required before becoming a riding member of the SCSMR. The unit holds three certifications per year as each horse and rider team must re-certify every three years. All members are also required to be CPR certified.

Elected officers in the unit include: Captain, Lieutenant, Sergeant, Corporal, Secretary, Treasurer, and Quartermaster. The Mounted Reserves also includes a liaison officer from the Sheriff's department. Meetings are held once a month with some form of training at each meeting. Trainings are usually on horseback, but may also include seminars on horse safety, horse health, first aid, CPR, search and rescue protocols, etc. Training on horseback may include, desensitization, horsemanship, formation riding, search drills, horse handling, teamwork, or crowd control. Guest speakers, trainers, farriers, Veterinarians, CMTs, and unit members have been beneficial to the training.

Mock searches are used to drill the unit in formation riding, and hone our skills in radio communications, mapping, documentation, evidence locating, first aid, and people skills. In the past we have participated in mock searches with fire departments, the Civil Air Patrol, National Guard, canine search teams, water patrol, and local Boy Scouts.

Members have the opportunity to attend training and competition in Crow Wing County in the Spring to observe and learn skills from other units around the Upper Midwest. The unit has done well at this competition.

Stearns County Mounted Reserves has had an action packed history. They've gone on evidence searches, missing people searches and participated in a mock disaster drill at Bel Clare Acres. They've trained at Camp Ripley, put on 9 wagon trains, been on horseback near landing helicopters, ridden security at a music festival, assisted with handicapped riding, patrolled football games and parked over 10,000 boy scouts for the Boy Scout Jamboree at Camp Ripley.

The unit also rides security for the Albany Pioneer Days, escorted the Humane Society during their annual walk around St. Cloud, helped the American Quarter Horse Association with their ride at Richmond, trained with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, manned a booth at "Horse Fest" at the St. Cloud Civic Center, and put on training sessions for the local 4-H clubs. The Mounted Reserve also tries to participate in a few parades each year and have been at Albany, Waite Park, Rockville, St. Joseph, Paynesville, Holdingford, Cold Spring, Sauk Centre, Eden Valley, Richmond, Roscoe, St. Augusta and the December Parade in downtown St. Cloud. The Mounted Reserve also participates at the Stearns County Fair.

The training and dedication that goes into producing a suitable Mounted Patrol horse takes a special commitment and a willingness to prioritize the needs of others. This is not a saddle club but a group of professional, trained horsemen and women volunteering many hours a week, days, and weeks out of the year to provide a service to the County under the auspices of the Stearns County Sheriff's Office. They do this willingly and with pride in what they have done and have become.

There are three major reasons volunteers join this unit. They are:

*Commitment to use their skills and animals to benefit the people of the county.

*To provide a well-trained unit available for immediate emergency service.

*Commitment to promoting good, safe horsemanship.

The future goals of the unit are to expand the services available to the Sheriff's Office and the County by:

*Continuing to perfect search and rescue techniques.

*Being a public relations tool and role model for youth of the County.

*Parking, perimeter, and crowd control and patrol.

These short term and long term goals are attainable through the training and dedication of a cohesive unit of willing volunteers from our county.

JAIL ANNUAL REPORT

The Stearns County Jail was completed in July of 1987. The original Work Release (Huber) addition was completed in October, 1997. The intake / processing unit was renovated, and the addition of a first floor housing unit were completed in 2015.

The Stearns County Jails current capacity is as follows 135 secure housing general population beds in 8 different housing units, 12 secure Huber beds, 22 holding cells, 2 medical cells, and 8 segregation cells. It is considered a medium/maximum security jail.

The jail staff is comprised of 11 full-time and 4 part-time Correctional Staff whose primary duties include acting as court bailiffs, performing transports and assisting in the jail. There are 65 Correctional Officers II whose primary duties are correction counselors working in the housing units, the booking area, Central Control and court. There are 8 Sergeants (Correctional Officers III) who are first line shift supervisors. There are three program staff employees whose duties consist of coordinating programs such as work release, screening inmates who may be eligible for Community Service work, library services, recreation, self-help groups such as Alcoholic/Narcotic Anonymous, education and various volunteer religious groups. And there are 2 Visiting Monitors and 14 Jury Attendants who work on a part-time basis.

The jail administration offices include a Jail Administrator, and two Assistant Jail Administrators, and two support staff.

Statistics on income, booking and charges are as follows:

JAIL STATISTICS – INCOME	2017	2016
Income: Housing Inmates – Other Juris.	\$947	\$0
Income: Huber/Work Release	\$45,735	\$34,456
Income: Miscellaneous	\$1,948	\$1,927
Income: Booking Fees	\$70,168	\$68,852
Income: Inmate Supply	\$38,662	\$35,530
Income: Telephones	\$18,652	\$27,998
Income: Inmate Medical Co-Pay	\$11,529	\$12,023
Income: Pay For Stay	\$55,848	\$30,229
TOTAL INCOME TO THE JAIL:	\$243,489	\$211,015

The Stearns County Jail is a 6-hour hold facility for juveniles. Costs for boarding juvenile delinquents and adult prisoners at outside jurisdiction facilities are as follows:

	2017	2016
Housing for Juveniles at Other Facilities	\$361,206	\$333,534
Housing Inmates at Other Facilities	\$542,469	\$315,230
TOTAL OUTSIDE HOUSING COSTS:	\$903,675	\$648,764

BOOKING STATISTICS

	2013 # BOOKED	2014 # BOOKED	2015 # BOOKED	2016 # BOOKED	2017 # BOOKED
JANUARY	626	565	581	689	657
FEBRUARY	588	521	519	575	582
MARCH	628	553	686	685	661
APRIL	617	546	582	583	678
MAY	597	555	637	650	658
JUNE	603	560	616	605	664
JULY	631	612	628	671	664
AUGUST	644	638	703	732	701
SEPTEMBER	566	547	647	637	649
OCTOBER	633	606	647	674	667
NOVEMBER	561	489	609	554	597
DECEMBER	486	529	574	574	607
TOTALS:	7180	6721	7429	7629	7785

As of July 1, 1994, through legislative action, county jails must now comply with good time guidelines as outlined by the Office of Corrections. These guidelines allow for one day of good time for every three days served.

BOOKING STATISTICS BY GENDER

YEAR	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
MALE	5488	5021	5637	5747	5830
FEMALE	1692	1700	1817	1882	1954
TOTAL	7180	6721	7454	7629	7784

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES ANNUAL ANALYSIS

Program	Average No. Monthly Students	Average No. Hours/Month
Adult Basic Education	155	943

RECREATION PROGRAM REPORT

GYMNASIUM STATISTICS	
Total Gym Days Offered	309
Total Inmates Eligible to Use the Gym	21,736
Inmate Participation Hours	8,993
Daily Average of Inmates Using Gym	29
Percentage of Inmates Using Gym	41%

LIBRARY USAGE	
Total number of Inmates Using Library	1,807
Number of Books Checked Out	5,105
Number of Library Days	52

Annual List of Programs Offered

At the Stearns County Jail 2017

Adult & Teen Challenge

Meets twice monthly on Fridays. This group is chaired by Anne Kackman

Alcoholics Anonymous

AA meets every Wednesday night for both men and women here in the jail.

Arts & Crafts

This group meets the 2nd Thursday each month. They offer the inmates a chance to create their own greeting cards of all kinds. This group consists of Gail Watercott and Phyllis Schindeldecker.

Bible Study

They meet every Wednesday afternoon for a bible study.
This group is chaired by Roy and Caroline Schoenleben.

Bingo

Bingo is offered twice a month to all the units. The ability to go to bingo is based on good behavior over the last two weeks.

Sunday Services

A catholic faith based group that presents a religious service every Sunday. All are welcome to attend the service and the discussion group that follows.

Gambler's Anonymous

This service is presented to our inmates upon request. Staff from Recovery plus come into to do One on One sessions.

Hope Ministries

This group meets every Friday evening in our gym. Roy and Caroline Schoenleben from the Joy Christian Center chair this group.

Let's Talk

They meet every Monday night. They are a Catholic based group sharing their faith with the inmates. This group is chaired by Tom Mathias.

Library Services

Inmates are offered to come to our Jail Library each Thursday. Jo Blanchard is our volunteer who runs our library. This year 1807 inmates checked out over 5,105 books to read.

Mennonite Choir

This group is based out of Padua, Minnesota. They perform two concerts each year in our gym, usually around Christmas and Easter.

One on One

They meet every Wednesday morning for One on One bible study and individual discussion. Roy and Caroline Schoenleben also chair this group.

Open Door Bible Study

This group meets twice a month on Thursday's. Darrel Armburst is their chair.

Parenting Class

They meet each Monday during the school year. Lucy Bauer and Florence Orionzi of District 742 come in to facilitate the class.

Pilot Outreach / Gideon

Pilot Outreach / Gideon meets each Tuesday afternoon for music, bible study and fellowship for both male and female inmates.

"RAP" Release Advanced Planning

This group meets each Wednesday afternoon. They assist in helping inmates prepare for their release from jail. Jobs, Housing, Medications, VA benefits and Identification are some of the things the group can help with. It is chaired by Jeff Pollreis.

VA Outreach

This program meets each Monday morning to help veterans that are incarcerated. It is chaired by Tonya Green.

Making Her Story

This group is staffed by two students from St. Cloud State University. They come in to do a group for female offenders.

Summary

The total number of volunteers varies throughout the year. The average number of volunteers at any one time was 97. The total number of volunteer hours averaged 116 hours per week or the equivalent of three full-time staff positions.

Group Meeting Statistical Data 2017

Program	# Meetings	Average # of Inmates
Adult & Teen Challenge	20	5
Alcoholics Anonymous	36	11
Art Group	12	8
Bible Study	46	11
Bingo	20	10
Church Services	52	21
Gambler's Anonymous	0	0
Hope Ministries	46	19
Let's Talk	49	16
Mennonite Concert	2	31
One On One	46	6
Open Door Bible Study	21	8
Parenting Class	28	8
Pilot Outreach / Gideon	44	14
"RAP" Release Advance Planning	42	1
VA Outreach	47	3
Making Her Story	8	9