



Sutter County Sheriff's Office 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the following people for their support in 2024

CAO Steve Smith

OUR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Karm Bains, District 4
Mat Conant, District 5
Dan Flores, District 2
Nick Micheli, District 1
Mike Ziegenmeyer, District 3

OUR LIVE OAK CITY COUNCIL

City Manager Aaron Palmer
Mayor Ashley Hernandez
Vice Mayor Nancy Santana
Council Member Jeramy Chapdelaine
Council Member Lakhvir Ghag
Council Member Bob Woten



MAT CONANT

DAN FLORES

NICK MICHELI

KARM BAINS

MIKE ZIEGENMEYER



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OUR VALUES

FOR OUR COMMUNITY:

- Treat all with candor, empathy and respect
- Be accountable to the public trust
- Develop strength through partnerships and collaboration

FOR OUR DUTIES:

- Lead through exemplary conduct, demeanor and appearance
- Maintain order and custody of inmates in a safe, professional fashion
- Encourage excellence through self-improvement, education and training
- Recognize our actions today will have everlasting effects on those we serve

FOR OUR FELLOW EMPLOYEES:

- Treat each other with respect, courtesy and fairness
- Appreciate and accept our differences
- Ensure positive recognition and encouragement of all employees
- Work as a team to accomplish our goals

OUR MISSION

The Sutter County Sheriff's Office will strive to enhance public safety while remaining loyal to the principles of the Constitution of the United States of America and the State of California. We will champion the civil liberties afforded to our citizens. We will celebrate our diversity and strive to improve the quality of life to those we protect and serve.

OUR MOTTO

Serving and Protecting Your Community



“

Sutter County is a great place to live and work. I am amazed by the level of dedication our staff demonstrates daily to provide quality services for our communities. We value our relationships with the public and know what an honor it is to be called a public servant.

”

LETTER FROM SHERIFF BRANDON BARNES

Greetings and welcome to our annual report. My name is Brandon Barnes, and I am the 24th Sheriff elected to Sutter County. I am a long time Sutter County resident and make my home in the City of Live Oak. I have two adult children and three amazing grandkids. While I may be the sheriff, there is no greater honor than being promoted to the rank of “Grandpa.” I am a member of Kiwanis International where supporting the kids in our communities is our primary focus. I am truly blessed to be part of such an amazing community.

I am also a member of the California State Sheriff’s Association (CSSA) and in 2024 served as the Vice President. The CSSA is committed to supporting sheriffs in each of our fifty-eight counties. I also chair two committees through CSSA, which are the legislative committee and the corrections committee. Both areas are at the center of our profession and can have huge impacts on the future of public safety. The challenges facing California are evolving and elected officials must stay informed and work to ensure our communities are safe. County Sheriffs are Constitutionally Elected Officials, which means we serve the people and to that end many feel sheriffs are the last line of defense in protecting our citizens.

This report is for calendar year 2024 and is designed to inform the Board of Supervisors, as well as the public, about what goes on here in the Sheriff’s Office. We have three divisions, and each division is unique and serves the community in a variety of ways. We routinely set goals and track our progress throughout the year. I am a firm believer in making constant progress and moving the organization forward.

We are working on a closed circuit television network for the jail that will allow us to provide unique and educational viewing options for those in our custody. The office started a remodel of our evidence system to create more storage space and useable workstations. These are just a few of the projects being completed to enhance our services here in Sutter County.

In 2024, the citizens of California passed Proposition 36 that reimplemented jail and prison time for certain theft and drug related offenses. While the effects of this will not be fully realized for the next few years, we are prepared for increases in calls for service, our incarcerated populations and rehabilitation services.

Also highlighted throughout this report are the men and women who work to serve this community. Our dedicated employees are the heart and soul of this office, and I am so thankful to work alongside them. I hope you will find this report useful, and I hope it gives you some insight to the compassionate people that wear the badge. We are honored to serve!

Sincerely,



Sheriff Brandon Barnes



COMMAND STAFF



**SHERIFF-CORONER
BRANDON BARNES**



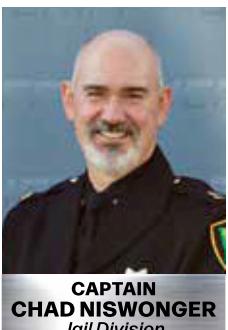
**UNDERSHERIFF
SCOTT SMALLWOOD**



**ADMIN. ASSISTANT
JESSALYNN RAY**



**CAPTAIN
JASON PIAZZA**
Operations Division



**CAPTAIN
CHAD NISWONGER**
Jail Division



**COM. MGR.
TABATHA LOPEZ**
Support Division



**ASO
KIM RANDHAWA**



**LIEUTENANT
MATT MAPLES**
Patrol



**LIEUTENANT
RAV MANN**
Detective Unit



**LIEUTENANT
RAJ GILL**
Live Oak Operations



**LIEUTENANT
KRISTIE GARZA**
Jail Operations



SIERRA PEDLEY
Sheriff Media Relations

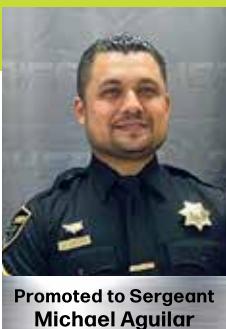
PROMOTIONS



**Promoted to
Correctional Sgt.
Zachary Henderson**



**Promoted to Captain
Matt Maples**



**Promoted to Sergeant
Michael Aguilar**

NEW EMPLOYEES *Welcome*



Deputies Jace Garza, Chris Lopez, and Clayton Wymore



Rios, Woods



Deputy Nadeem Alvarez, Deputy Serinity Gilbert, Dispatcher Brandy Curt, and Dispatcher Katie Miller



Correctional Officers Aaron Maeda, Jonathan Jones, Vladamir Dorecelus, Nick Talamantes, Kevin Yang



Correctional Officer Gurvinder Chaunan, Deputy Mikell Nichols, and Correctional Officer Kyle Taylor



Correctional Officer Joseph Crook and Correctional Officer Gisella Morfin

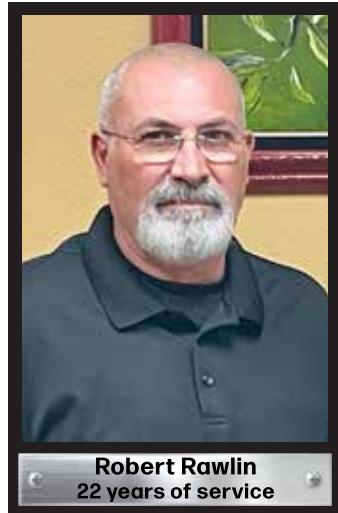
EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

Left to right:
Non-Sworn Employee CSO Robert Tan
Peace Officer of the Year Deputy Scott Brooks
Correctional Officer of the Year C/O Ryan Hough
Volunteer of the Year Lydia Roach



RETIREMENTS

Thank you for your service



Captain Chad Niswonger
24 years of service

Correctional Lieutenant Kristie Garza
27 years of service

Patrol Lieutenant Craig Hungridge
28 years of service

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Congratulations



Deputy Garza – Life Saving Award

Deputy Garza responded to a vehicle accident at LOMO crossing, involving several vehicles. Some of those involved were reported to have major injuries. Deputy Garza quickly began to assess the scene and render medical aid. In the case of one of the victims, Deputy Garza was able to place a tourniquet on the persons arm, to help slow the bleeding. Deputy Garza properly documented the time he placed the tourniquet, which helped following personnel to provide proper medical care. The patient was later air lifted from the accident scene and a statement from one of the air medics noted that without Deputy Garza's quick actions, the patient in all likelihood would have bled out and died from their injuries.



**Deputy Sean Anub
MADD Award**



**Deputy Tyler Kasch
Life Saving Commendation**



**Deputy Austin Howard
Life Saving Commendation**



**Deputy Ashlee Moseley received the Heros with Hearts
awarded by Trauma Intervention Program**



**Daniel Inguanzo
Life Saving Award**



**Deputy Ryan Tapia received a proclamation from
the City of Live Oak for his work related to traffic
safety education and enforcement in Live Oak.**



**Sergeant Michael Aguilar
Life Saving Commendation**



**Harjot (Wellpath)
Life Saving Commendation**



**Deputy Steven Shorey
Life Saving Commendation**

ACADEMY SPONSORSHIP

The Sutter County Sheriff's Office continues to implement our recruiting tool of sponsoring Deputy Sheriff Trainees at the Butte Police Academy. Those that are sponsored must successfully complete an oral panel, Pellet B Test, physical agility test, an extensive background and medical screening. This year we had the privilege of sending three individuals to the academy, all of whom have family currently working at the Sutter County Sheriff's Office.

From left to right: Sheriff Barnes, Jace Garza, Captain Maples, Lt., Garza, Chris Lopez, Deputy Lopez, Communications Manager Lopez, Lt., Gill, Undersheriff Smallwood, and Clayton Wymore.



SHERMAN BLOCK LEADERSHIP



This year we had the privilege of sending Suman Basi and Bryan Read to the Sherman Block Leadership Institute (SLI). Sergeant Carlos Mendoza and Sergeant Gloria Espana (Schuck) both participated in and graduated from the POST Leadership Course. SLI is a leadership program developed by the California Commission on Peace Officers Standards

and Training and is an intense program based on experiential learning techniques. Participants are challenged to learn new ways to resolve issues through group and individual work.

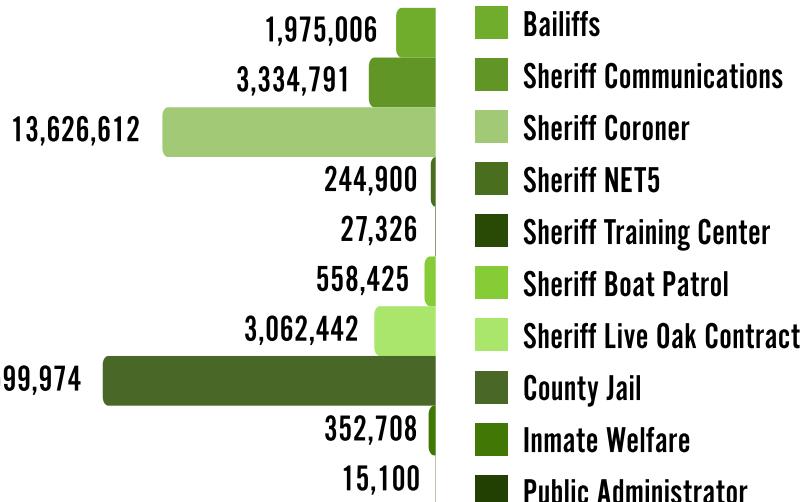
Post Leadership Course is intended to enhance the leadership potential and capabilities of law enforcement executives.



2024-2025 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS



DEPARTMENT TOTAL \$39,797,284



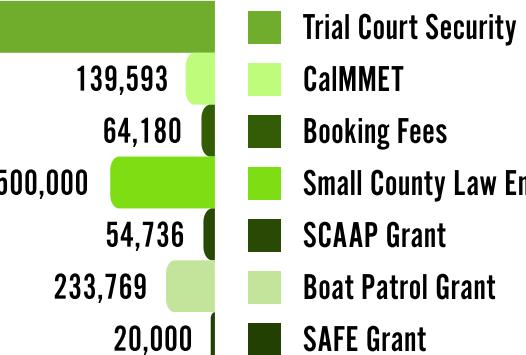
GRANTS/LEGISLATIVE PMTS TOTAL \$6,139,390

- * OT Grant Funds utilized to train staff at California Traffic Safety Summit
- * DUI Saturation Patrol Operations Conducted with OTS Grant
- * Collaborative DUI Enforcement Operations Conducted along with YCPD with OTS Grant Funds
- * Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (SAFE) Operations conducted with SAFE Grant



The Side by Side is new to the Sutter County Sheriff's Office and was purchased through our Boat Patrol Grant.

1,745,686



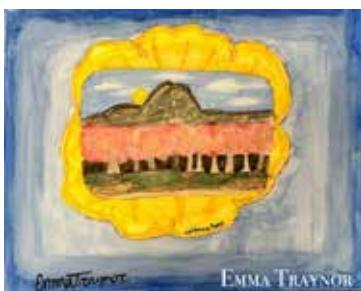
Deputy Combs educating our citizens on the importance of traffic safety during a sobriety check point made possible by the OTS Grant.



DISPATCH REMODEL



Art Contest



CISM

Captain Piazza personally served on a Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team for over ten years in Butte County. When he came to Sutter County Sheriff's Office, his goal was to start a CISM team here. It is vital to provide this service to our employees. These debriefings help employees mentally and emotionally process the critical incidents. It is also important the team be made up of people from multiple agencies

since several agencies may respond to critical incidents. Licensed Marriage Family Therapist Karie Kaufman leads the team by arranging periodic team meetings, trainings, and call outs for debriefings. The Sutter Team is comprised of employees from Sutter County Sheriff's patrol and jail divisions, Sutter County Probation, Sutter County Fire Department and Bi-County Ambulance. Each staff member

from these different disciplines has a perspective specific to what they do and can help share and facilitate a discussion. During 2024, the team had five meetings and conducted three debriefings. It is anticipated even more debriefings will have been conducted in 2025. A call-out procedure has been adopted, and the team is eager to assist their fellow colleagues.

PEER SUPPORT

Peer support employees take care of others on a personal, but individual level. This could be lending an ear about something a fellow employee is going through, pointing an employee in the direction of a mental health care professional, or acting as a liaison with associations or non-profits for financial assistance during a difficult time. Peer Support staff may be called upon at any time with the sole purpose of responding to assist with an employee or employee in need.

There are currently nine people on the Peer Support team. This team is comprised of staff from the Sheriff's Office, Sutter County DA's Office, and the Sutter County Probation Office. The team is led by Probation Deputy Chief (DC)

Nicole Norman. DC Norman does an amazing job by arranging for quarterly meetings, creating an agenda, conducting the meetings, and keeping statistics for Peer Support hours. In 2024, 4.5 peer support hours were logged serving and mentoring peers. Now that the peer support team is off and running, more hours are expected to be spent helping others.

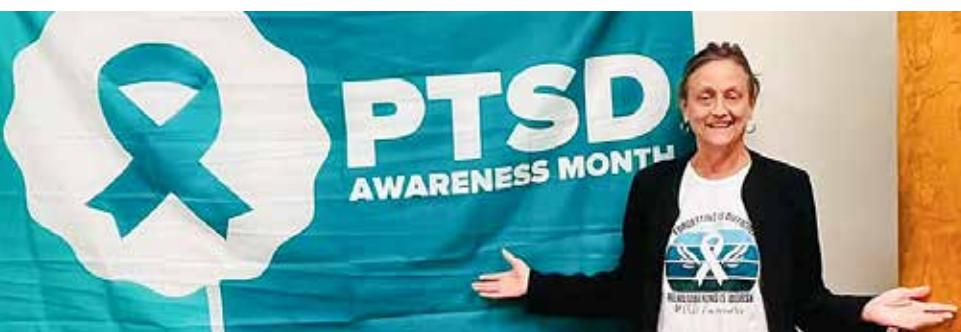
The Sutter County Sheriff's Office has contracted with a highly trained and experienced psychotherapist to provide emotional and/or mental Health services. The primary goal of the department's new mental health program is to provide culturally competent psychotherapy services that are easily and quickly accessible. The Emotional and/or

Mental Health activities/projects provided by the Sheriff's Office and the contracted department psychotherapist include many activities such as provides individual psychotherapy services, responding to calls, texts, or emails within the same day while maintaining a flexible schedule to accommodate changing shifts and overtime hours to sworn staff.

There are many resources available to peers, and also to the general public. These centers are supported by local and state sources as well as the Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA.)

988 | SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

 **Veterans Crisis Line**
DIAL 988 then PRESS 1



Karie Kaufman is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who joined our office this year providing services to employees. Karie is funded through the Officer Wellness Grant.

WHEN YOU CALL

78,931
ANSWERED
NON-911 CALLS

15,720
ANSWERED
911 CALLS

52,091
CALLS MADE /
TRANSFERRED

WE RESPOND

PRIORITY 1 calls are generally 911 calls and immediate response calls with life-threatening circumstances.

PRIORITY 2 calls are generally immediate response calls with property threats or potential of escalation.

PRIORITY 3 calls are non-immediate response calls such as counter calls.

PRIORITY 4 calls are generally routine response calls such as traffic stops and civil problems.

7,800

PRIORITY 1
CALLS FOR SERVICE

8,120

PRIORITY 2
CALLS FOR SERVICE

5,600

PRIORITY 3
CALLS FOR SERVICE

27,320

PRIORITY 4
CALLS FOR SERVICE



Dispatchers, Jordan Garcia and Brandy Curt

COMMUNICATIONS DISPATCH

When our community needs help in an emergency, they call 911. These are the highly skilled professionals answering those calls. The Communications Center answers all 911 calls, 7-digit emergency lines, and business calls all while communicating with officers on the radio.



Dispatcher Brandy Curt

In 2024, our Communications Center processed 94,651 calls, including 15,720 911 calls answered.

SUPPORT SERVICES RECORDS / CIVIL

1,700
LIVE SCANS PROCESSED

610
PAPERS SERVED

540
ATTEMPTED SERVICE

480
NEW CCW PERMITS

190
CCW MODIFICATIONS

1,125
CCW RENEWALS



Records Division: Shawn, Jessica, Jamie



Civil Division: Suzanne, Deputy Putney, Kathi



BOAT PATROL

Sutter County Sheriff's Office has a fully operational boat patrol unit presently comprised of a sergeant, two to four deputies, and several reserves. The unit is responsible for the public's safe enjoyment of its 187 miles of waterways in or bordering the county year-round. These waterways include the Sacramento River, Feather River, and Sutter by-pass canal system.

Some of the unit's responsibilities include enforcement of boating laws and regulations, assistance to stranded boaters, inspection of vessels for proper equipment, supervision of organized water events, search and rescue operations, recovery of drowning victims, investigation of boating accidents, and boating safety presentations, and evacuation of citizens in flood conditions.

7

BOATS AND WATERCRAFT
IN SERVICE

187

MILES OF WATERWAYS
PATROLLED



PATROL

The Patrol Section has the responsibility for providing law enforcement services to approximately 608 square miles. There are two incorporated cities: City of Yuba City and the City of Live Oak. The City of Yuba City has its own police force. The City of Live Oak contracts with the Sutter County Sheriff's Office for all its law enforcement services.

The Patrol Section has a total of 44 deputies: 35 deputies, 6 sergeants, 2 lieutenants and the division commander. Seven deputies, one sergeant and one lieutenant are assigned to patrol the City of Live Oak. Two deputies are assigned to the Boat Patrol along with a sergeant on a half time basis.



SPECIAL DEPLOYMENT

TRAFFIC DEPLOYMENTS

- **5,900 Traffic Stops**
- **1,162 Citations Given**
- **7 Traffic Safety Presentations**
done pursuant to the OTS Grant



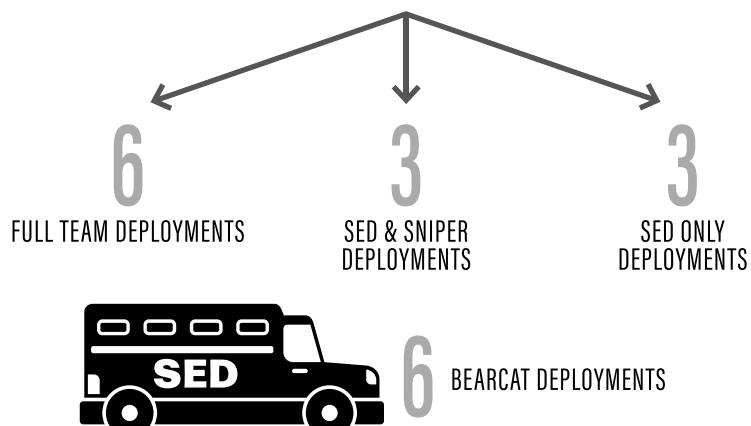
VEHICLE PURSUITS

29
VEHICLE PURSUITS
INITIATED

6
VEHICLE PURSUITS
CANCELLED

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT DETAIL (SED) DEPLOYMENT

- **6 Special Enforcement Detail (SED) Deployments**
SED is formerly known as SWAT



DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE (DUI)


15
DUI ENFORCEMENTS
paid for through
the OTS Grant


185
DUI ARRESTS
with 7 occurring during
special details

CRISIS NEGOTIATIONS TEAM

6
CALLS FOR SERVICE



6
DEPLOYMENTS AS
PART OF SED



UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE

16
DRONE
DEPLOYMENTS



SHOOT WITH THE SHERIFF



Every year Sheriff Barnes hosts one of our favorite events, Shoot with the Sheriff. This year we were happy to include Solano County Sheriff Tom Ferrara, Solano County CCW Coordinator Joe Pinder and Placer County CCW Coordinator Sarah Everhart at this event.

- 1 Sheriff Barnes
- 2 Range
- 3 Shoot House Group 1
- 4 Solano and Placer Counties Agency Presence
- 5 Krohn & Boys
- 6 Range Group
- 7 Garza and Jessalynn





LIVE OAK SUBSTATION

The City of Live Oak contracts with Sutter County to provide law enforcement services to approximately 8,770 citizens in Live Oak. Sheriff's Deputies operate out of a substation located at 2755 Fir St., at the corner of Fir and O Streets. The substation is staffed by seven patrol deputies, one sergeant, and one lieutenant.

Lieutenant Rajinder Gill is responsible for overseeing law enforcement operations in the City of Live Oak and serves as the liaison between the Sheriff's Office and the Live Oak City Council and city officials.



CANINE (K-9) UNIT

The K-9 Unit currently consists of three teams; two teams working out of the main office, and one team assigned to the City of Live Oak.

The K-9 teams are primarily trained for patrol and protection, but they can also track people and search for objects. Additionally, these teams are utilized during critical incidents within the jail when there are safety concerns for personnel and inmates. Furthermore, K-9 teams are often called upon by outside agencies to assist in tracking fugitives who have fled or to search for illegal drugs.

The K-9 Unit actively engages with community organizations, providing demonstrations for schools, youth groups, and retirement homes. These events are especially rewarding for children, allowing them to see law enforcement officers in a fun and relaxed light, which helps build trust between deputies and the community.



CORRECTIONS



CORE ACADEMY

From left to right - US Smallwood, Anthony Crabtree, Sgt Kaitlyn Olson, Jonathan Jones, Kevin Yang, James Aulds, Gisela Morfin, Aaron Maeda, Celina Ramirez, Kalvin Lutgens, Vladimir Dorcelus and Sheriff Barnes.

Correctional Officers are enrolled in the academy for five weeks with members of agencies from around the northern state. Throughout the academy officers are trained and educated on the principles of working in a correctional facility. Officers are trained on use of force, defensive tactics, hand cuffing, and cell extraction.

Officers are required to complete an STC (Standard and Training for Corrections) Certified Correctional Academy within one year of employment. The academy, paired with on-the-job training, prepares officers for what to do and provide expectations for working in a correctional facility.



Alondra Gonzalez
and Wyatt Hancock

EVIDENCE UNIT



Kimber Lemming, Elisa Garcia, Butah Uppal

The Evidence Unit's task is to ensure the integrity and reliability of evidence used in criminal investigations and prosecutions. This involves collecting, processing, analyzing, and safeguarding evidence. In addition, all property is logged into a database system for tracking and accountability, including release of property to its rightful owner, for court presentation, or destruction.

- **Evidence:** Property is generally held until the conclusion of any pending court action. Subsequently, the prosecuting attorney may initiate a court order for return certifying that the property is no longer needed for court and may be returned to the rightful owner.
- **Found Property:** Found property and/or unattended property is taken into custody for safeguarding until the owner is located. This property is held a minimum of 90 days while attempts to locate the rightful owner are made.

9,414
PIECES OF PROPERTY
PROCESSED

1,046
PIECES OF PROPERTY
RETURNED TO THE OWNER

125
FIREARMS RECEIVED
(does not include those recovered
from the gun buyback program)

TRAINING



We train all employees to provide professional and ethical services to ensure the office can carry on its tradition of excellence.

Lt. Basi is tasked with scheduling training for all employees and recording those training events to POST.

TRAINING TOPICS

include, but are not limited to:

- De-escalation
- Use of Force
- Crisis Intervention
- Mental Health & Wellness
- Firearms
- Hostage Negotiation Course
- Supervisory Leadership Training
- Interview & Interrogation
- Conferences and workshops on variety of topics pertaining to law enforcement, general public safety, communications, management, operations, wellness, etc.

TRAINING EFFORTS

9,365

NUMBER OF TRAINING HOURS
COLLECTIVELY FOR
ALL SCSO PERSONNEL

954

NUMBER OF TRAINING HOURS
COLLECTIVELY FOR SWORN
PERSONNEL

\$27,326

FY 2023/2024
TRAINING BUDGET

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

▪ Community Events

We are pleased to attend community events as our resources allow. We enjoy answering questions, distributing freebies, and engaging with community members. In 2024, we were proud to be invited to participate in several community-led festivals, fundraisers, and events.



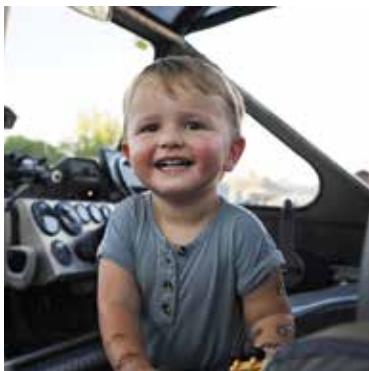
SCHOOL VISITS

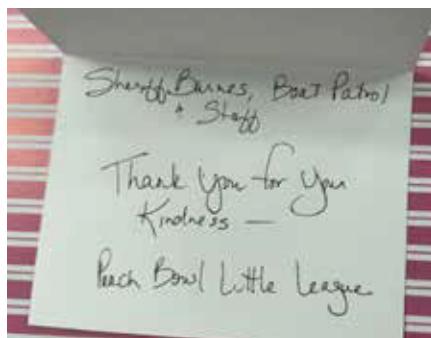


NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



This event brings our department and the residents of our community together in a fun setting and gives them the opportunity to get to know each other and ask questions.



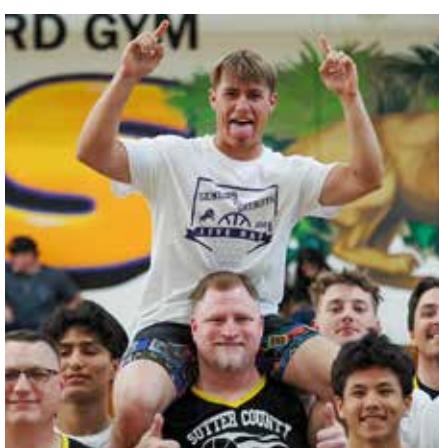


COMMUNITY APPRECIATION — We appreciate you too! —





LIVE OAK SPECIAL EVENTS



SHOP WITH A COP

Shop with a Cop invites children and families, identified by the City's Human Services Department and the Yuba City Unified School District, to participate in a special event where they can shop for holiday gifts. In 2024, Shop with a Cop served over 50 children from 14 different families.



How Can You Help?

SEE SOMETHING? SAY SOMETHING!



Send your anonymous tips by texting "Tip SUTTERCOUNTY" followed by your message to 555-555. Or you can call our silent witness hotline at 530-555-5555.

Connect With US!
SUTTER COUNTY SHERIFF
1077 Civic Center Blvd, Yuba City, CA 95993
(530) 822-7307

- ✉ Email: suttersheriff@co.sutter.ca.us
- 🌐 Web: <https://www.suttercountysheriff.org>
- 📷 Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/suttercountysheriff>
- 👤 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SutterCountySheriffsOffice>
- 𝕏 Twitter: <https://www.x.com/suttersheriff>
- ▶ Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/@SutterSheriff>



**WE ARE
HIRING**

Join Our Team!



CONTACT US:

📞 (530) 822-7307

🌐 www.suttersheriff.org

✉️ suttersheriff@co.sutter.ca.us