

# THE STATE OF THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE ANNUAL REPORT



2021



WASHOE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
DARIN BALAAM, SHERIFF  
CELEBRATING 160 YEARS OF SERVICE









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# OUR AGENCY

*The Washoe County Sheriff's Office is the only full-service law enforcement agency in Northern Nevada. We are responsible for operating the only adult detention facility for pretrial detainees and sentenced misdemeanants within Washoe County.*

## WCSO MISSION STATEMENT

Dedicated to preserving a safe and secure community with professionalism, respect, integrity, and the highest commitment to equality.

## WCSO VISION STATEMENT

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office strives to ensure public safety by building trust and creating partnerships within the diverse communities in which we serve. We will promote the dignity of all people supported by our words and actions through open communication while fostering an environment of professionalism, integrity, and mutual respect.

## Core Values: PRIDE





## MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF



**Darin Balaam**  
Washoe County Sheriff

### PROUD...

If you asked me to choose a word for 2021, I think "proud" would be the word. In the midst of a continued worldwide pandemic, I am proud of the dedicated, committed work of the men and women of the Washoe County Sheriff's Office and proud of the community we serve.

First, the women and men of the Washoe County Sheriff's Office, both in the commissioned and the civilian ranks, continued to adapt, adjust, and deliver the high level of service our community deserves. From working with the public on things such as Concealed Carry Weapon Permits to patrolling the County and investigating crime, to finding ways to bring programming back to the Detention Facility and assisting inmates as they transition back into the community, I am proud of the imaginative and outstanding ways the Sheriff's Office was able to serve Washoe County in 2021.

To our community – thank you. 2021 continued to be a difficult and challenging year for many of you, as well. Time and time again, however, and interaction and interaction again, we were impressed by your resiliency, your compassion, and your commitment to helping us and members of our community. Whether it was a non-profit program helping an inmate transitioning out of the Detention Facility, one of the many citizens who went above and beyond for their neighbor, or someone who connected with a Sheriff's Office employee, you should be proud of yourselves – I know we are proud of you.

While I continue to hope that 2022 will bring us much more light, I am now proud to present to you the 2021 State of the Sheriff's Office.

Thank you for the privilege of letting us serve you for the last 160 years.

# WASHOE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## COMMAND STAFF



**Darin Balaam**  
SHERIFF



**Wayne Yarbrough**  
UNDERSHERIFF



**Tim O'Connor**  
CHIEF DEPUTY  
ADMINISTRATION



**Jeff Clark**  
CHIEF DEPUTY  
DETENTION



**Greg Herrera**  
CHIEF DEPUTY  
OPERATIONS



**Jennifer Felter**  
COMMUNICATIONS  
CENTER MANAGER



**Shannon Hardy**  
DIVISION MANAGER  
ADMINISTRATIVE  
SERVICES



**Ralph Caldwell**  
CAPTAIN  
DETENTION  
OPERATIONS



**Scott Iacoboni**  
CAPTAIN  
DETENTION SERVICES



**Marc Bello**  
CAPTAIN  
VALLEY PATROL



**Phil Jones**  
CAPTAIN  
SPECIAL  
OPERATIONS



**Kerri Heward**  
DIVISION DIRECTOR  
FORENSIC SCIENCE



**Brooke Howard**  
DIVISION MANAGER  
COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT



**Kim Lintz**  
DIVISION MANAGER  
DETENTION



**Corey Solferino**  
CAPTAIN  
INCLINE PATROL



**Russ Pedersen**  
CAPTAIN  
ADMINISTRATION







# AUTHORIZED FULL-TIME POSITIONS

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<b>Total Authorized Full-Time Positions</b>	<b>781</b>
<b>Detention Bureau</b>	<b>390</b>
Commissioned Members	
Commissioned Supervisors	30
Deputies	232
Civilian Members	
Civilian Supervisors	15
Civilian Members	113
<b>Operations Bureau</b>	<b>186</b>
Commissioned Members	
Commissioned Supervisors	38
Deputies	133
Civilian Members	
Civilian Supervisors	0
Civilian Members	15
<b>Administrative Bureau</b>	<b>205</b>
Commissioned Members	
Commissioned Supervisors	10
Deputies	14
Civilian Members	
Civilian Supervisors	25
Civilian Members	156

**The Detention Bureau** includes the Administration of the Detention Facility, Alternative Sentencing Programs, Inmate Programs, Transportation of Inmates to Court and Medical Appointments, Court Security and Commissary Services for Inmates.



**The Operations Bureau** includes Patrol, Detectives/Investigations Unit, Consolidated Bomb Squad, Extraditions, Northern Nevada Regional Intelligence Center (NNRIC), Hostage Negotiations, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA)/K9, Search and Rescue, SWAT, and RAVEN.

**The Administrative Bureau** includes Background Investigations, Community Engagement, Training, Fleet Services, Research and Development, Records, Field Services, CIC, and Civil Sections, Dispatch, oversight of the Regional Public Safety Training Center, and the Forensic Science Division (Crime Lab).





# FINANCIAL FACT SHEET

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	FY2020/2021	FY 2021/2022
<b>Total Budget Authority</b>	<b>\$126,489,546.80</b>	<b>\$129,055,452.00</b>
<b>Detention Bureau</b>	<b>\$65,194,458.41</b>	<b>\$65,624,858.66</b>
Salaries	\$33,334,173.83	\$34,045,685.84
Benefits	\$20,839,142.21	\$20,313,576.43
Services and Supplies	\$11,021,142.37	\$11,265,596.39
Capital	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Operations Bureau</b>	<b>\$34,843,111.12</b>	<b>\$40,146,076.68</b>
Salaries	\$19,261,323.17	\$22,688,357.52
Benefits	\$11,965,551.64	\$13,305,623.86
Services and Supplies	\$3,616,236.31	\$4,152,095.30
Capital	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Administrative Bureau</b>	<b>\$26,451,977.27</b>	<b>\$23,284,517.11</b>
Salaries	\$14,518,933.58	\$12,424,579.32
Benefits	\$8,908,894.53	\$7,369,994.78
Services and Supplies	\$3,024,149.16	\$3,489,943.01
Capital	\$0.00	\$412,222.21
<b>WCSO TOTAL SALARIES</b>	<b>\$67,114,430.58</b>	<b>\$69,158,622.68</b>
<b>WCSO TOTAL BENEFITS</b>	<b>\$41,713,588.38</b>	<b>\$40,989,195.07</b>
<b>WCSO TOTAL SERVICES AND SUPPLIES</b>	<b>\$17,661,527.84</b>	<b>\$18,907,634.70</b>
<b>WCSO CAPITAL</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$412,222.21</b>

## WASHOE COUNTY FACT SHEET

Washoe County, Nevada's estimated population is **485,849** with a growth rate of 1.50% in the past year according to the most recent United States census data.

Washoe County, Nevada is the 3rd largest county in **Nevada**.

The County has a total area of **6,542** square miles.

The **Median** household income in Washoe County (in 2019) **\$71,881**.

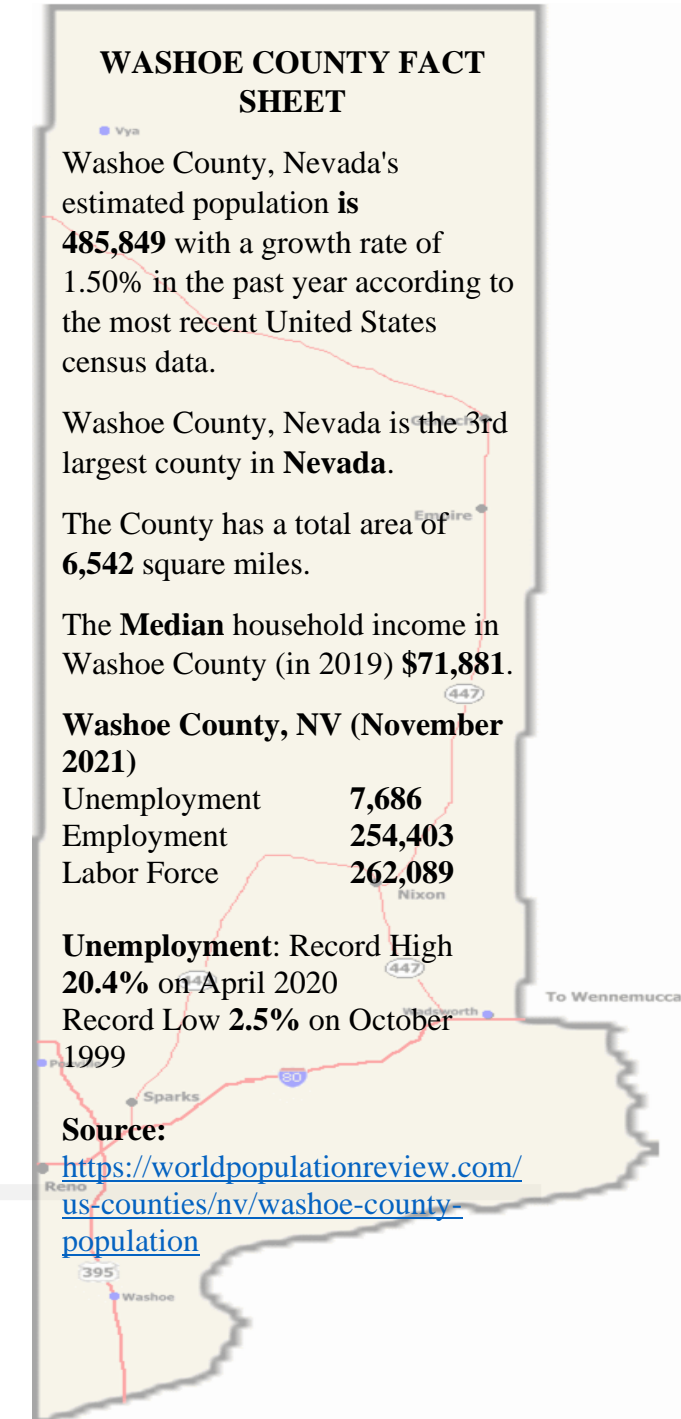
**Washoe County, NV (November 2021)**

Unemployment **7,686**  
Employment **254,403**  
Labor Force **262,089**

**Unemployment: Record High 20.4%** on April 2020  
**Record Low 2.5%** on October 1999

**Source:**

<https://worldpopulationreview.com/us-counties/nv/washoe-county-population>



# AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS









# OUR COMMUNITY MATTERS



The Sheriff's Office continues to focus on a collaborative community-oriented approach and building strong partnerships to promote public safety and community trust. Despite the pandemic, the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) has maintained a consistent presence within our community both virtually and in-person when safe. During 2021, the Office coordinated multiple outreach events, provided resources, hosted podcasts, monthly Facebook Live broadcasts, and attended school safety days, caravans, forums, conferences, and public safety meetings.

Information is power and empowering the public is what public safety is all about. That's why we created the Community Engagement Office (CEO) designed to communicate, collaborate, and work with our community to hear their concerns, answer questions, and provide relevant and timely crime prevention information. CEO manages eight different social media platforms and/or websites, to include: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, [WashoeSheriff.com](https://www.WashoeSheriff.com), WCSO App, and an internal website for employees.

The Community Engagement Office monitors emerging trends and works creatively with community partners, citizens, and the media to mobilize efforts and resources to better protect our community. The Community Engagement Office also broadens the scope of our outreach efforts on crime prevention by exploring new ways to protect and enhance the lives of all Washoe County residents.

Making a difference in our community starts with the community. We are sharing the responsibility of making Washoe County safer by partnering with our fellow public safety agencies, and other community stakeholders, linking prevention and enforcement efforts more closely together.

We encourage you to follow us on our social media platforms for practical and valuable information that can help keep you and your family safe and make informed decisions. It's also an opportunity to know more about your Sheriff's Office: our programs, services, and the partnerships we maintain within our community. You can also download our WCSO App on your respective smart device(s).



[@WashoeSheriff](https://www.instagram.com/WashoeSheriff)



Available on the  
**App Store**



Get it on  
**Google play**





"We each have a vested interest in making this community the best it can be," said Sheriff Balaam. "We look forward to continuing the conversation and finding cooperative solutions that strengthen the ties between all community members."



## Faith and Blue Community Cornhole Tournament

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office, in partnership with the Reno Police Department, Sparks Police Department, University of Nevada, Reno Police Services, and the Nevada State Police hosted the inaugural Faith and Blue Community Cornhole Tournament event.

National Faith & Blue weekend is designed to bring together community members, faith leaders, and law enforcement professionals to strengthen the relationships and foster a safe environment where people can have fun and get to know each other and the agencies that serve and protect their communities.



## Faith-Based Community Breakfast

Sheriff Balaam, along with regional law enforcement partners, had a great time hosting the Regional Law Enforcement Faith-Based Community Breakfast.

After nearly 22 months apart due to COVID restrictions, members from law enforcement, faith-based communities, social service organizations, educators and more met at the Peppermill Resort Spa Casino, Reno to network, share information and have fruitful discussions about public safety, public trust, community issues and engagement.



## Christmas in July Back-To-School Event

We know the pandemic has kept children from attending events and in some cases in-person learning. Consequently, some children haven't been able to get daily necessities and/or school lunches, often the only source of nutrition school-aged children receive.

THIS EVENT IS FREE TO ALL YOUTH IN NEED. Just in time for the school year, we provided roughly 750 students from the Northern Nevada area with backpacks, school supplies, hygiene items, lunch, and a little carnival fun in the sun! Students from pre-kindergarten through high school were welcomed.



## Shop with the Sheriff

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office in partnership with the Washoe County Honorary Deputy Sheriff's Association have supported local families during the holiday season for 19 years through the Annual "Shop with the Sheriff" event.

The 2021 Annual event was a huge success. 235 children were paired with volunteers from the Sheriff's Office and the community for a once in a lifetime shopping trip at a local Walmart, where they purchased items for themselves and/or members of their family.



## No Shave Campaign

Washoe County Sheriff's Office staff have donated more than \$120,000 since 2016 to local non-profits and good causes by taking part in the Sheriff's "No Shave" campaign.

Employees put down the razors, or have relaxed grooming standards, to raise money for a variety of causes.

October–Pinocchio's Moms on the Run  
November–Renown Institute for Cancer  
December–The late, retired Deputy John Randall's daughter's College Fund  
January–(50/50 split) Community in Schools Nevada & Chaplain Lorraine Smith









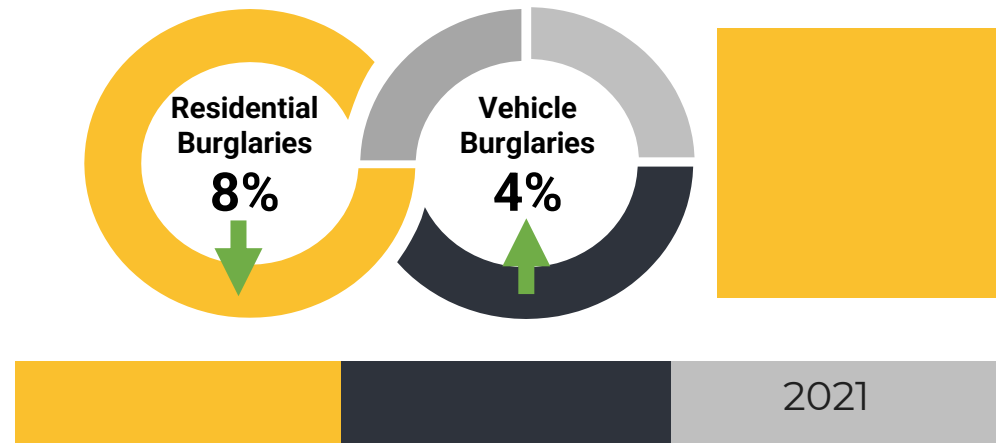


# STRATIFIED POLICING

March 2021, Sheriff Balaam implemented a new policing model at the Office. Stratified Policing is an intelligence-based, proactive crime reduction policing model that uses crime analysis to identify and prioritize crime patterns and locales.

Washoe County Sheriff's Office analysts and deputies focused on two crimes for initial implementation – vehicle and residential burglaries. Past-tense property crime reporting moved away from online filing. Victims have since, and continue to, report all burglaries to dispatch for an in-person response. Deputies or a Sheriff's Office Specialist then gather information, evidence, canvass neighborhoods to identify whether there are more victims, and increase patrols in these neighborhoods. An initial goal of reducing those burglary crimes by 15% within one year's time was set.

## USING PRELIMINARY DATA COLLECTED BETWEEN FEBRUARY 8, 2021 – DECEMBER 31, 2021, WASHOE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PERSONNEL IDENTIFIED .....



19 crime patterns mostly affecting Spanish Springs, Cold Springs, and Hidden Valley/Washoe Valley

- 178 vehicle burglaries
- This is a 4% increase from the 2019-2020 average of 167 vehicle burglaries, however the 2021 total was right about average for our area.
  - 17 total arrests for vehicle burglaries
- 132 residential burglaries
- This is an 8% decrease from the 2019-2020 average of 140 residential burglaries, and significantly lower than our five-year average
  - 48 total arrests for residential burglaries

**Although, we saw an increase in vehicle burglaries, it is attributed to the new model of real-time in-person response, immediate reporting and increased canvassing and patrolling of these neighborhoods. This year we will continue to focus on vehicle burglaries, commercial burglaries and improving safety and awareness prevention and response to sexual assault.**





# THE KEY TO UNLOCK MENTAL WELLNESS



In 2021, Sheriff Darin Balaam announced the creation of a full-time Mental Health Counselor position to work with Sheriff's Office staff.

The position was approved by the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners, March 23, 2021. Ryan Simpson was hired and has been working with staff for almost a year. Ryan holds a master's degree in Counseling and Educational Philosophy from the University of Nevada, Reno, and was a Police Officer with the City of Sparks for 10 years.

In order to identify additional resources and effective program coordination, the Sheriff's Office welcomed Dr. Jena Casas to the team as a Clinical Consultant, in November of 2021. Dr. Jena Casas holds a master's degree in criminal justice and a doctoral degree in clinical psychology from the University of Nevada, Reno. She has a breadth of both clinical and research experience.

Dr. Casas will be working with the WCSO to develop and implement best practices for wellness in an effort to strengthen the resiliency of employees and their families. The mental health team is excited to be developing a robust and sustainable mental health program for the agency. The team aims to ensure that all employees can access appropriate support when they need it.

"The sudden and unfortunate loss of two Washoe County Sheriff's Office personnel in January 2021 underscored the urgent need for such a practitioner to be on staff, and to be immediately accessible to those who work at the Office." - Sheriff Darin Balaam



# SPECIAL OPERATIONS

CONTINUOUS TRAINING  
AND REGIONAL  
PARTNERSHIPS ENABLE  
US TO OBTAIN HIGH  
QUALITY RESULTS.

The Special Operations Division of the Washoe County Sheriff's Office is comprised of multiple task forces and units including Detectives, Consolidated Bomb Squad, Consolidated Extraditions Unit, Northern Nevada Regional Intelligence Center (NNRIC), Northern Nevada Interdiction Task Force, Regional Gang Unit, K-9 Unit, Mounted Horse Unit, Regional Aviation Enforcement Unit (RAVEN), Search and Rescue, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), and the Hostage Negotiation Team.

## Northern Nevada Interdiction Task Force

The task force provides a regional effort to reduce and/or stop the flow of illicit drugs and criminal activity on our Highways, Busses, Trails, Planes, and postal system. NNITF stats during the 2021 year:

Total cases:	130
Total arrest:	94
Missing/Endangered:	Recovered 1 female juvenile
Cash seized:	\$1,242,192.11
Marijuana:	6,369.09 pounds
Cars:	3 recovered stolen

## Regional Narcotics Unit (RNU)

This HIDTA funded multi-agency unit was formed in January of 2020, with detectives from seven different local and federal agencies. RNU stats during 2021:

Operations:	627
Cases:	160
Arrests:	103
U.S. Currency Seized:	\$52,893.50
Weapons Seized:	13 guns
Fentanyl:	10,627 Pills

## Detectives

The Detective Division is organized into two specialized units: Crimes vs. Persons and Crimes vs. Property. There is also one detective assigned to the Sparks Police Department's Regional Sex Offender Unit. Detective stats 2021:

Property Reports Written:	826/Arrests 68
Person Reports Written:	737/Arrests 30

## Consolidated Bomb Squad (CBS)

The Northern Nevada Federal Task Force was the first federal bomb task force in the nation. The 20-member unit consists of law enforcement personnel from Washoe County Sheriff's Office, Reno Police Department, Sparks Police Department, Douglas County Sheriff's Office, Tahoe/Douglas Fire Protection District, Elko Bomb Squad, Placer County Sheriff's Office, and the FBI and ATF. CBS stats for 2021:

Callouts:	28
Hours:	3409
Training:	87
Sweeps:	117

## Regional Gang Unit

The WCSO, Reno Police Department, Sparks Police Department, & Washoe County School District established a single multi-jurisdictional gang unit which is not bound by jurisdiction limits.

RGU stats for 2021:

Total Arrests:	138
Recovered Guns:	23

## Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)

The SWAT team currently consists of 28 members (25 WCSO and 3 UNR) and 2 SWAT doctors. The team is also supported during trainings and missions by the REMSA Tactical Emergency Medical Services program. The SWAT Team meets the NTOA standards of a Tier one team. SWAT stats 2021:

Tactical Callouts:	6
Felony Arrests:	4
Civil Disturbances:	2

The team also provided Quick Response Teams for several events including, University of Nevada football games, Hot August Nights, and Street Vibrations.







## K9 Unit

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office K9 Unit's primary mission is to make the Deputies' job safer. K9s are cross trained in Patrol and Narcotics. Canines, training, equipment, and medical needs are paid for through an ongoing partnership with Washoe County K9 Partners. A non-profit organization designed to help Washoe County, Nevada's law enforcement dogs that serve and protect our communities.

K9 stats 2021:

Felony Arrests:	231
U.S. Currency Seized:	\$589,339.00
Fentanyl Pills Seized:	10,000
Firearms Seized:	44
Hydrocodone Pills Seized:	1,100
Marijuana Seized:	5,188.72 Pounds
Methamphetamine Seized:	76.6 Pounds
Cocaine Seized:	6.8 Pounds
Heroin Seized:	1.83 Pounds
Community Events:	26
Training Outside WCSO:	7/total of 242hrs



## Mounted Horse Unit

The Mounted Horse Unit is a huge asset to the services the Washoe County Sheriff's Office offers our community. The unit is comprised of one sergeant along with nine deputies.

Deputies provide their own horse, trailer, and mounted unit functions are in addition to the deputy's normal duty assignment.

Horse and rider teams must complete required Nevada Peace Officer Standards and Training courses before they are able to be utilized. They are then used in assisting with crowd management, apprehension, and community outreach. While citizens may not feel comfortable approaching a deputy in a patrol car to chat, they generally love to talk to a deputy on a horse! The unit participated in 15 Community Outreach/Special Events



## Regional Aviation Enforcement Unit (RAVEN)

RAVEN has become a self-sufficient aviation unit that has dedicated deputies assigned both full and part time to flying duties. The primary mission of RAVEN is to respond to calls of crimes in progress, search and rescue missions, counter drug surveillance, Department of Homeland Security missions, and other emergencies such as fire and flood. To accomplish these wide ranging and technically challenging missions, RAVEN aircraft have been fitted with some of the latest available technologies. RAVEN stats 2021:

Calls for service:	28
Flight Hours:	121
Training Flights:	39
Fires:	5



## Search and Rescue (SAR)

The Search and Rescue Unit is responsible for search and rescue functions, assists in major events, maintains the fleet of specialty vehicles, conducts CDL training for the department, and provides logistical help to other divisions and agencies.

The manpower for these functions is provided by volunteers from six separate groups, which include:

- \* Washoe County Search & Rescue, Inc.
- \* Washoe County Sheriff's Hasty Team
- \* Washoe County Sheriff's Air Squadron
- \* Specialized Vehicle Unit
- \* WOOF Search Dog Team
- \* Incident Management Team

The combined membership for all the search and rescue teams is approximately 400 volunteers. SAR stats 2021: Calls for service: 167 requests/89 actual responses

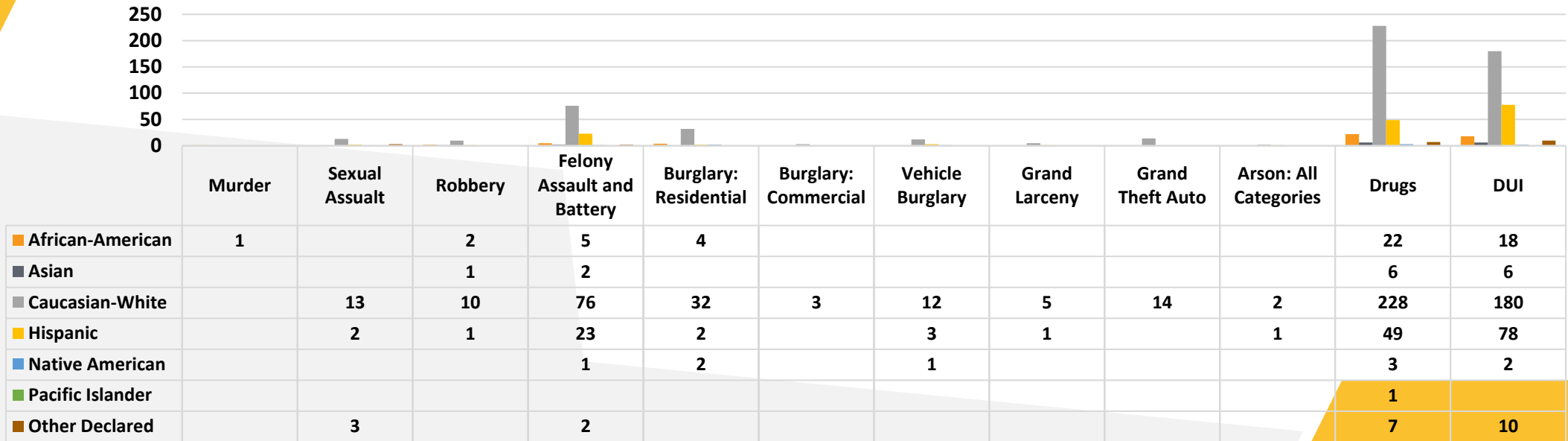
Volunteer Hours:	3,659hrs
Cost Savings:	\$245,153.00

# ANNUAL STATISTICS

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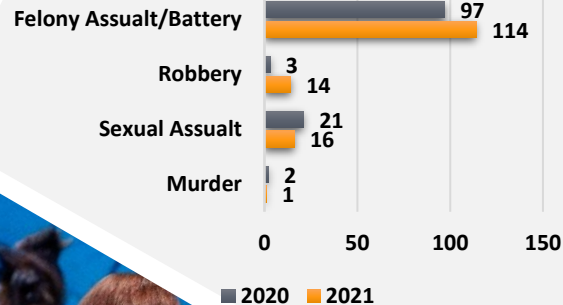
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## ARREST BY RACE 2021

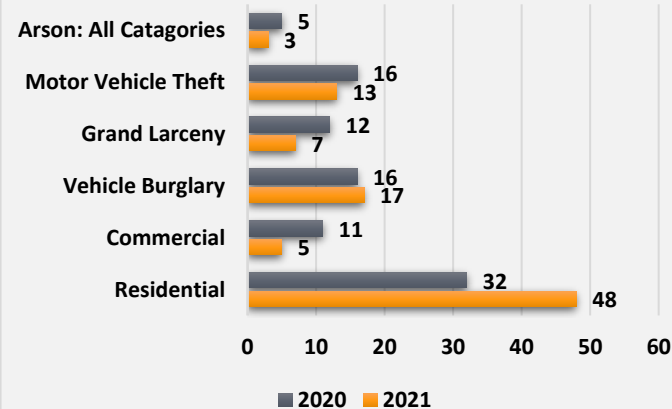


## CRIME CATAGORIES (WCSO ARRESTS)

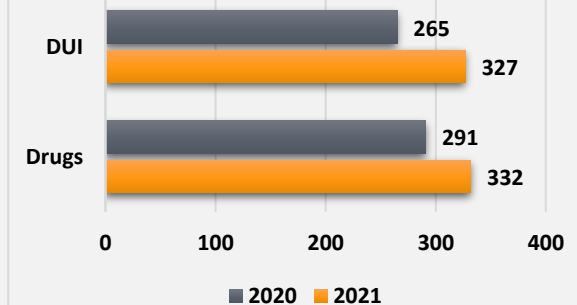
### Violent Crimes



### Property Crimes



### Other Crimes

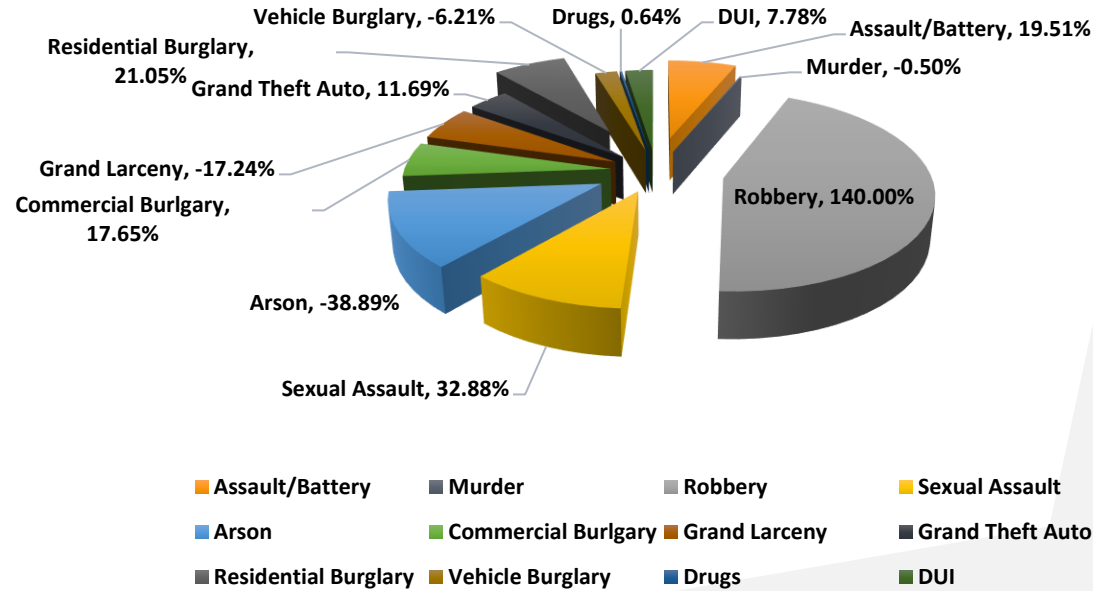




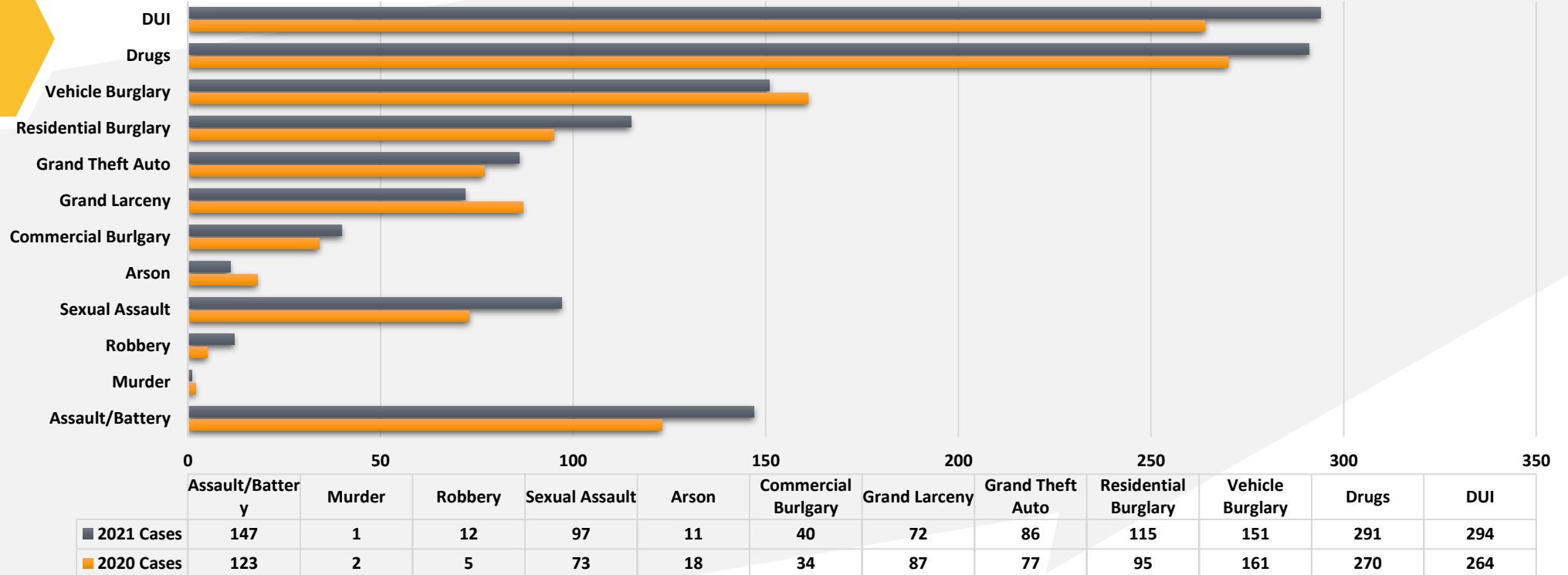
## 2020/2021 CASE PERCENT CHANGE

Note: This data is representative of case reports taken from January to October within the specified year as of November 18th, 2021. Final numbers are pending verification.

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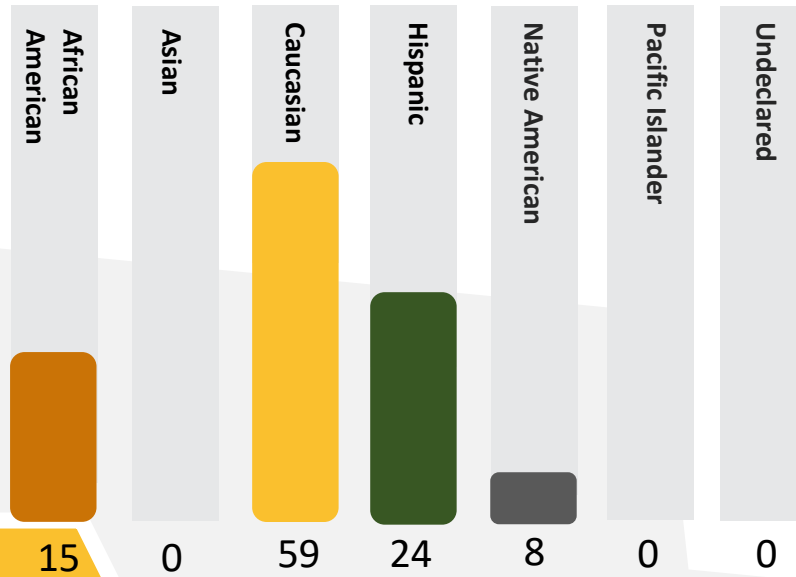


## CRIME CATEGORIES (CASES)

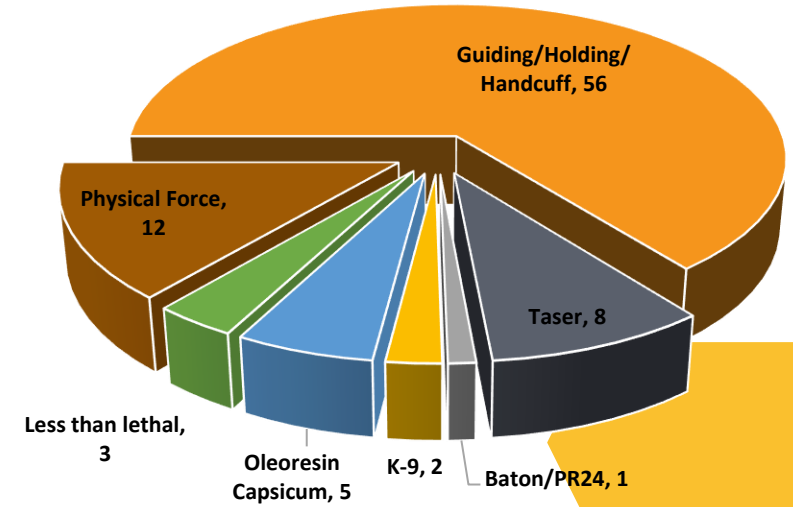




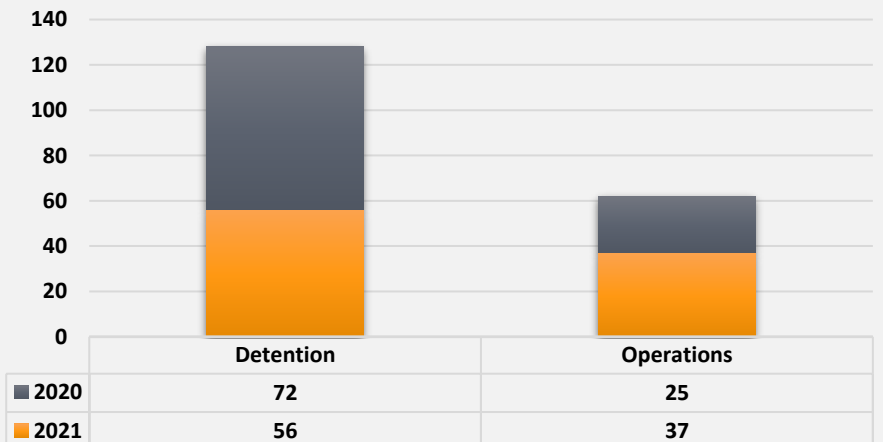
### USE OF FORCE BY RACE



### NUMBER AND TYPES OF FORCE USED



### USE OF FORCE DIVISION AND INCIDENT TOTALS









# PATROL

## Incline Village

On July 1, 2021, the Sheriff's Office was the proud recipient of a public safety grant from the Dave and Cheryl Duffield Foundation. This public safety grant enabled the Sheriff's Office Incline Patrol Division to increase its staffing footprint and provide additional resources to the Incline Village Community.

In 2008, during the great recession, Sheriff Mike Haley had to make the difficult decision to close the substation. While enforcement services were still provided to Incline Village, the station was managed out of the Reno Patrol Office.

As one of the **crown jewels of Nevada, Lake Tahoe** brings millions of tourists throughout the year as a world-class resort and outdoor adventure destination. The remoteness, high traffic, recreation, and transient issues present challenges to law enforcement. Having a dedicated team that networks with public safety resources in the Lake Tahoe Basin is invaluable to the myriad of problems that present themselves to the largest alpine lake in North America. Some of these issues include but are not limited to – maritime enforcement, wildland fires, avalanche and high mountain search and rescue, coordination of local, state, and federal assets. The Incline Patrol Division is excited to become more involved in the day-to-day interactions of the community we serve and welcome the challenge to earn their respect.

## Homeless Outreach Proactive Engagement (HOPE) Team –

Sgt. Daniel and Deputies Turner and Silva comprise the newly formed Homeless Outreach Proactive Engagement (HOPE) Team. The HOPE Team's mission is to establish proactive law enforcement and build relationships with vulnerable populations and those experiencing homelessness. In concert with other community programs, emergency shelters, and critical services (mental health and substance abuse), this team strives to earn the public's trust. It attempts to pair those less fortunate with the services they need to thrive.

Frequently it takes several positive encounters to earn the trust of those experiencing homelessness, which is what HOPE was built for and continues to do – day in and day out. COVID, the lack of affordable housing, unemployment, and the like have helped compound an already resource-starved problem in our community. As a result, those experiencing homelessness have migrated out of the downtown corridor and into surrounding neighborhoods. Sgt. Daniel and her team have done an incredible job networking and building positive rapport with those experiencing homelessness to reduce the number of camps and assist with long-term housing resources.

## CARES Campus – Washoe County took control of the CARES Campus in the fall of 2021 from the City of Reno. **The Cares Campus serves as an emergency shelter to over 600 residents daily.**

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement services to the campus and surrounding areas. Working in conjunction with Washoe County, the Sheriff's Office is helping to guide the safety and security of the campus and establish procedures for crimes versus rule violations. The community partnership is encouraging, and a step in the correct direction, but the long-term solutions have yet to be identified to assist in this transition. Washoe County recently ordered (52) "Mod Pods" that will increase housing capacity and serve as more permanent fixtures for heating and cooling during inclement weather and get our vulnerable populations out of the elements. Calls for service continue to rise, and the Sheriff's Office has partnered with MOST (Mobile Outreach Safety Team) to ensure we bring the right resources to each call for service. Having Licensed Clinician Social Workers (LCSW) partnered with our deputies helps de-escalate matters and provides guidance in the most challenging situations. The Sheriff's Office is excited to have MOST housed and led by the Sheriff's Office moving forward. This team is critical to the Sheriff's Office's success in our community, and we couldn't be prouder to have them join our team.









# 2021 WCSO AWARD RECIPIENTS



**MEDAL OF HONOR:** The Sheriff's highest award for members who distinguish themselves by heroism under exigent or life-threatening conditions, and consciously perform acts of bravery or outstanding feats while facing imminent danger without detriment to their mission.

**MEDAL OF VALOR:** Awarded to members who distinguish themselves by acts of heroism performed at personal risk of life or limb. These acts shall demonstrate great courage while facing extreme danger, but to a lesser degree than required for the Medal of Honor.



**BRONZE STAR:** Awarded to members who distinguish themselves in a duty of great responsibility wherein extraordinary efforts were used and personal risk was involved, but to a lesser degree than required for the Medal of Honor or the Medal of Valor.



**MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION:** Awarded to any bureau, division, section, subdivision, unit or squad of members of this Office who have displayed extraordinary intelligence, service, crime prevention, response to critical incidents and the like.



**SHERIFF'S STAR:** At the discretion of the Sheriff, is awarded to WCSO members or those outside the agency who, by their actions, have demonstrated conduct that is clearly beyond normal expectations.



**PURPLE HEART:** Awarded to members of this Office who sustain a traumatic physical injury as a result of a suspect's action(s).

**LIFESAVING MEDAL:** Awarded to members who act to save or preserve a life, or lives, that would otherwise have expired without the direct actions taken by that member.

**VINCENT SWINNEY AWARD:** Awarded to those who, by their actions, have provided the Washoe County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue program with exemplary service through leadership, volunteer service, and/or introduced programs and techniques to Search and Rescue that significantly contribute to the statutory mandate of the Sheriff to preserve life and property, all of which is clearly beyond normal expectations.



## MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

LIEUTENANT ANDREW BARRETT-VENN  
SERGEANT SHATAWNA DANIEL  
VICTIM WITNESS ADVOCATE HEATHER DREILING  
RETIRED SERGEANT JOE DURBIN  
SERGEANT JOSHUA JENKINS  
CAPTAIN RUSS PEDERSEN

## MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION

SERGEANT BRIAN ATKINSON  
DETECTIVE TRAVIS BAILEY  
SERGEANT DANIEL BALES  
LIEUTENANT ANDREW BARRETT-VENN  
CAPTAIN MARC BELLO  
SERGEANT ROB BOWLIN  
SERGEANT NOAH BOYER  
DEPUTY TIMOTHY BRAGINTON  
DEPUTY JACQUELINE BURFIELD (2)  
DEPARTMENT SYSTEMS TECH JUSTIN CARDELLA  
DEPUTY LISA COOK (2)  
INMATE CLASS/INMATE ASSIST SPECIALIST  
MAGGIE DICKSON  
OFFICE ASSISTANT II CASSIE DONNAN  
DEPUTY DAVID DUNHAM  
RETIRED DEPUTY RON ENCINAS  
LIEUTENANT AMELIA GALICIA (2)  
SERGEANT FRANCISCO GAMBOA  
SERGEANT BRYAN GASTON (2)  
DEPUTY JUAN GOMEZ  
DEPUTY JONATHAN GONZALEZ  
DEPUTY JASON GRULLI  
DOCTOR RICHARD HAYES  
LIEUTENANT SCOTT IACOBONI  
DEPUTY AMI IRBY  
RETIRED DEPUTY DENISE JAMES  
SERGEANT BROCK KYLER  
INMATE CLASS/INMATE ASSIST SPECIALIST  
BRENDA LARSON  
RETIRED DEPUTY DOMINIQUE LeBLANC  
DEPUTY BRADLEY LEWIS  
INMATE CLASS/INMATE ASSIST SPECIALIST  
ANGELA LEYVA  
RETIRED DEPUTY SCOTT LINDER  
DEPUTY JEFF MALEWSKI  
DEPUTY GARY MARTIN  
DEPUTY MILES McGUIRE  
DEPUTY PETER MICHEL  
INMATE CLASS/INMATE ASSIST SPECIALIST  
DEBORAH MORENO  
LIEUTENANT TIMOTHY MOSLEY (2)  
RETIRED SERGEANT GREG NAUMAN  
SERGEANT MARTIN OBOS  
SERGEANT ANDREA O'BRIEN (2)

## MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION (CONTINUED)

DEPUTY KENNETH RANGLE  
LIEUTENANT DARRIN RICE (2)  
SERGEANT JOSEPH ROSA  
SERGEANT CHAD ROSS  
DEPUTY PATRINA RYALS  
DEPUTY JOHN SARRATEA  
SERGEANT JOHN SCHUETTE  
DEPUTY BRETT SEEGMILLER  
DEPUTY CLAIRESSA SHIPLEY  
DEPUTY JUSTIN SIMMONS  
DEPUTY SITA SINGH (3)  
SERGEANT LEVI SMITH  
DEPUTY SEAN SMITH (2)  
CAPTAIN COREY SOLFERINO  
RETIRED DEPUTY HEATHER STEWART  
DETECTIVE JOSHUA SWANSON  
DEPUTY JAMES SYLVESTER  
SERGEANT JASON WALKER  
RETIRED SERGEANT SEAN WALLACE  
DEPUTY JUSTIN WIKE  
DEPUTY DANIELLE WILLIAMS  
SERGEANT JASON WOOD  
INMATE CLASS/INMATE ASSIST SPECIALIST  
ERIC ZAPPE

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

RETIRED LIEUTENANT JANIT BAILEY  
DEPUTY JEFFREY McCASKILL  
CAPTAIN COREY SOLFERINO

## SHERIFF'S STAR

RUFINO ALEMAN  
TMFPD FIRE CAPTAIN BRADLEY NOBLE  
PORSCHIE HILL  
GILBERT PIERCE  
MATTHEW WILKINS

## MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING

DEPUTY SCOTT BUTLER  
DEPUTY JAMES DAVIS  
DEPUTY CHARLES EVANS  
DEPUTY JUAN GOMEZ  
LIEUTENANT JOHN LEONARD  
DEPUTY BLAKE LUX  
DEPUTY KENNETH RANGLE  
DEPUTY GIANNA ROSA  
DETECTIVE JESSICA TROUP  
DEPUTY CRAIG TURNER  
SERGEANT CAMERON WAGNER

## LETTER OF COMMENDATION

DUSTIN MILEHAM







# DETENTION

## Virtual Courtrooms

The Detention Facility continues to utilize virtual hearings, in collaboration with all the regional courts for the sake of transport time and inmate, employee safety.

At roughly 750 square feet, the complex has the capacity to hold eight hearings simultaneously for 35 different courts in the region. With these new courtrooms the Detention Facility can now run **12 virtual court hearings** at one time.

## Inmate Mental Health Units

In July 2021, both housing units 16 and 17 were cleared of general population inmates and named the dedicated housing units for male mental health inmates. There were approximately eight CPF (Programmers) inmates at the onset of this move, that number has grown to **41 CPF inmates**.

The housing units offer an environment more conducive for mental health programming to include but not limited to:

- **More allotted tier time** for programming CPF inmates.
- Additional programs such as workout program, noteables music program, self-help, and self-care program.
- New **uniform colors** to help inmates' mental stability within the detention setting.

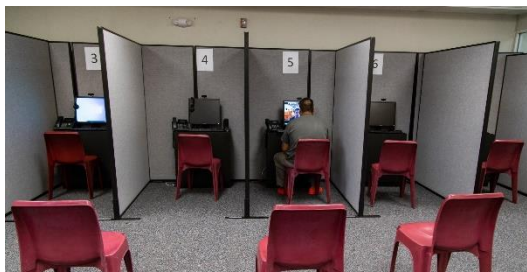
## Detention Services Unit (DSU)

Since January 2021, DSU has provided services to approximately **387 inmates**. This includes processing applications for a variety of programs and services within and outside of the Sheriff's Office.

The Washoe County **Veteran's Barracks** is also a component of the Detention Services Unit. Deputies continue to offer veterans every opportunity to be aware of the resources available to them at the jail and upon release. Services include a partnership with Veteran Services and the VA Hospital to provide in-person programming and outreach.

The **Medication Assisted Treatment program** has assisted **160 patients during 2021**. 38 inmates were evaluated and approved to receive either Methadone, Buprenorphine, or Naltrexone treatment. The MAT program had the highest inductions in July. Over 3300 inmates attended group counseling sessions this year. More than **222 inmates participated in individual counseling sessions** in 2021. **115 inmates** were provided **Naloxone kits** before leaving the Washoe County Sheriff's Office.

In September, Sheriff Darin Balaam announced the Washoe County Detention Facility [earned accreditation from the National Commission on Correctional Health Care \(NCCHC\)](#). Opioid Treatment Programs (OTP) accreditation enables opioid treatment programs to obtain legally required certification from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

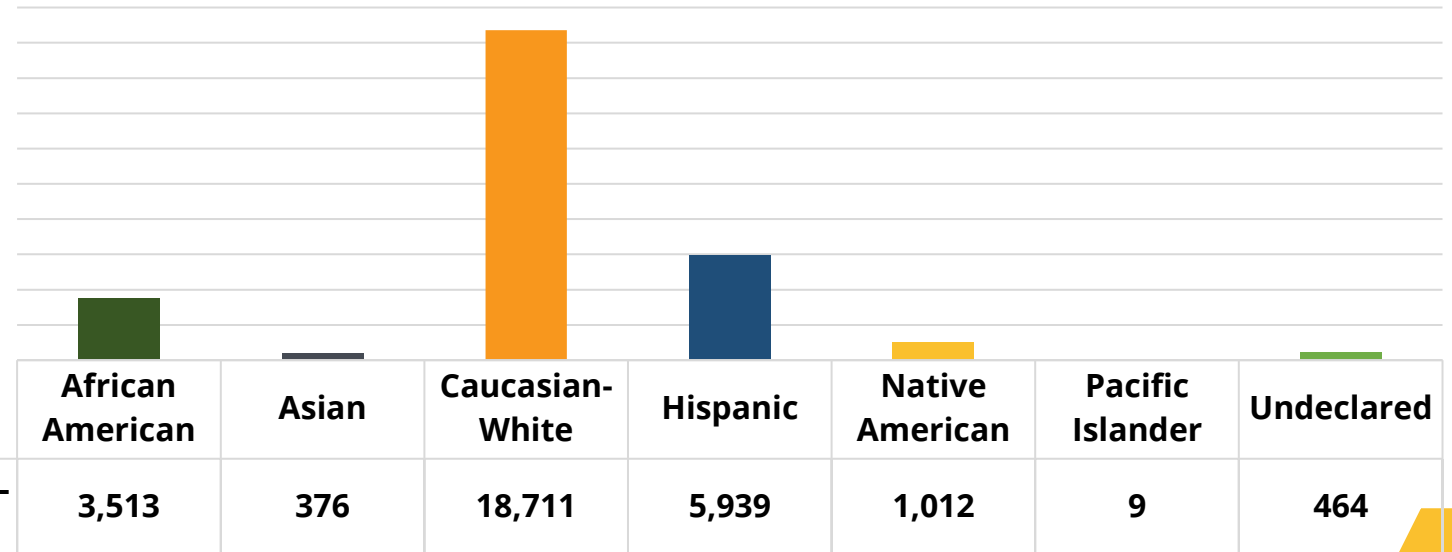




## 2021 JANUARY - DECEMBER JAIL POPULATION BY RACE

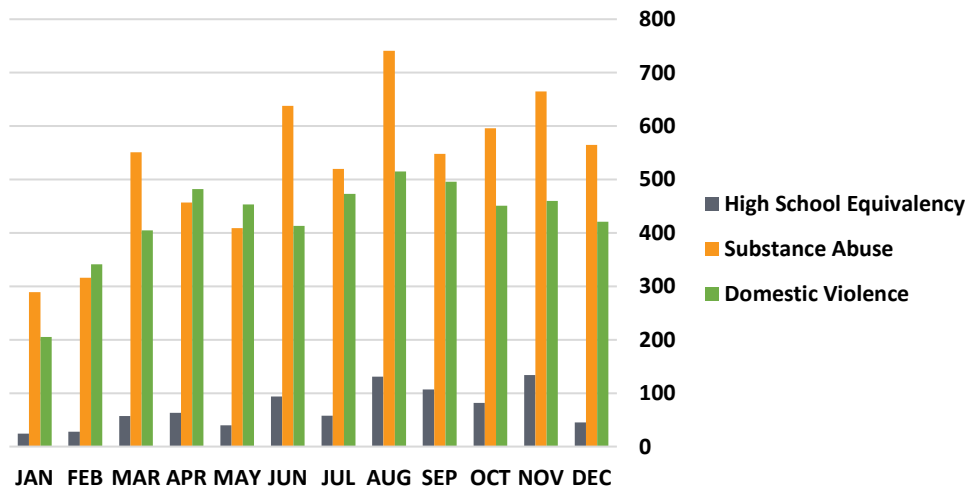


20,000  
18,000  
16,000  
14,000  
12,000  
10,000  
8,000  
6,000  
4,000  
2,000  
0

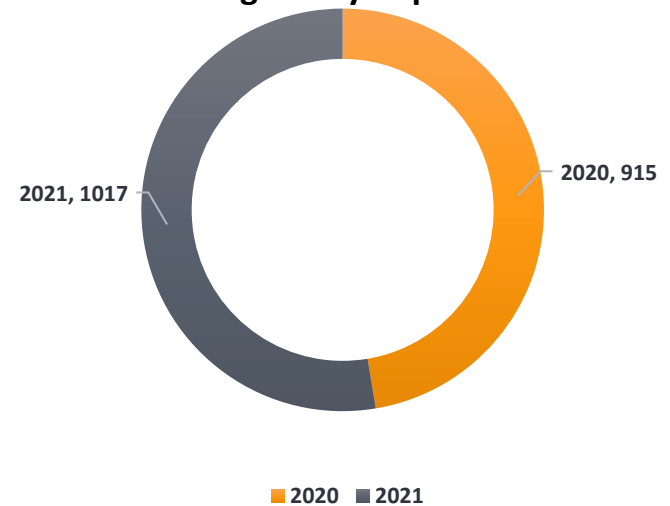


2021 JANUARY - DECEMBER JAIL POPULATION BY RACE

## Inmate Programs Attended 2021



## Average Daily Population





# DISPATCH

In April of 2021, Sheriff Balaam announced that Patrol Deputies will respond in-person to all burglary crimes, including those which have already occurred, as part of a new policing model implemented at the Office.

Instead of being directed to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office website, victims of vehicle, residential and commercial burglaries will need to call the non-emergency dispatch line at (775) 785-WCSO. For burglaries in-progress, residents should call 911.



Communications Specialists perform a variety of duties involved in the operation of the emergency service systems and various communication devices to receive, route, relay and dispatch calls for emergency and non-emergency law enforcement and other services.

Behind every one of your calls is a team of dedicated, professional Communications Specialists who are typically the first, and often most important link between the deputies and the people we serve.

Sheriff's Office Communications Specialists are the information lifeline for more than 500 public safety personnel 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The twenty-five Communications Specialists, four supervisors, and manager who serve at the Washoe County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center provide this critical service to the Sheriff's Office, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Police Department, Pyramid Lake Tribal Police, United States Department of Veterans Affairs Police, the Washoe County Department of Alternative Sentencing, and after-hour services for the Washoe County School District Police.

They handle more than 150,000 calls for service each year, covering an area of approximately 6,500 square miles.

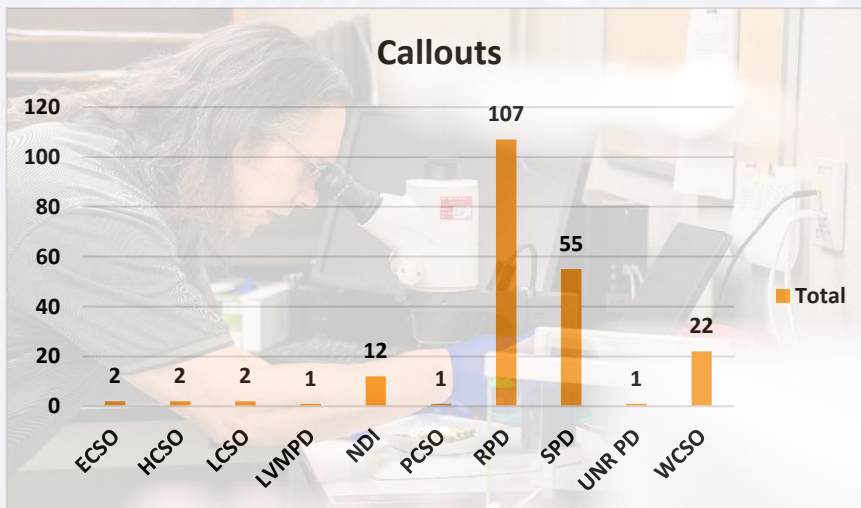




The staff of the WCSO-Forensic Science Division continues to work as a team through another difficult and unusual year. Despite the difficulties, in 2020 the unit saw a reduction in backlogs across all sections. This was achieved in part due to the reduction in subpoenas from the courts in 2020 and some creative scheduling and implementation of paperless systems. There has been an increase in subpoenas and court appearances during 2021. The division continues to implement efficiencies across all sections to maintain the gains achieved in 2020. One of these efficiencies is the use of Zoom and Microsoft Teams to support remote testimony. The hours of travel this has saved staff is tremendous.

Since January 1, 2021, our Forensic Investigation Section has investigated **78 cases (205 different scenes)** which included:

- 6 Officer Involved Shooting (OIS) cases in neighboring counties.
- 26 homicide cases (**117 different scenes**).



In 2021 the Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division released a new podcast, "Coffee with a Criminalist."

**Do you love true crime?** Imagine sitting down for a cup of coffee with two of WCSO's forensic scientists as they pull back the curtain on what goes into criminal justice investigations.

Brittney "Bodean" Chilton and Darby Stienmetz have a combined 15 years working at the Washoe County Sheriff's Office crime lab and host the podcast.

The Podcast takes listeners on an audio tour of forensic science in Northern Nevada, highlighting notable local true crime cases, while also featuring local coffee shops that fuel our community.

Be sure to subscribe so you don't miss a single episode. **Coffee with a Criminalist is available on:**

**Podbean:** <https://coffeewithacriminalist.podbean.com/>

**Spotify:** <https://open.spotify.com/show/0pcPbUZHn9LzGVRsRe13cm...>

**Google:** <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/4SnACJ6ABpuB9mqRfVnXeR...>

**Amazon:** <https://music.amazon.com/.../a5370f73-c926-427d-9398...>

**Apple:** <https://podcasts.apple.com/.../coffee-with-a-.../id1560703751>



"When Darby and Bodean proposed this idea of the podcast I jumped at the opportunity," said Sheriff Balaam. "What better way to highlight the Forensic Science Division which has been recognized nationally as one of the top crime labs in the country."

COFFEE  
WITH A  
CRIMINALIST







# PROJECTS





# PROJECTS

In October, members of the Washoe County Sheriff's Office said "goodbye" to a piece of history in the Detention Facility – the housing unit 5 'sprung' structure. The temporary modular building has been used for many purposes.

The structure located on the property of the Washoe County Detention Facility was better known as Housing Unit 5 and originally erected in the mid 1990's when Sheriff Kirkland established the Hi-Step program. Hi-Step was initiated as an alternative sentencing program designed to offer structure and life skills to inmates. Inmates that were housed in this area experienced a regimented daily routine which included inspection, physical fitness, self-help classes, and hands-on instruction for valuable skills to be applied upon release from the Detention Facility. The unit was an open bunk housing unit like military barracks. Each inmate was assigned a footlocker and had access to an in-house library, which other units in the facility did not. Inmates assigned to Hi-Step also enjoyed great food prepared by the inmates enrolled in the culinary program through Hi-Step.

The Hi-Step program became popular and eventually outgrew Housing Unit 5 and was moved to housing unit 10.

Housing Unit 5 was then converted to an all-female housing unit at the Detention Facility. Many of the inmates housed in House 5 were inmates assigned to work in various areas of the facility. One portion of the unit was still reserved for the female inmates assigned to the Hi-Step program. The housing unit remained an open bunk area where inmates were not housed in individual cells. The unit remained a female housing unit until 2009 when it was converted to a supply area for the facility.

The construction of the sprung structure had a limited life due to the external membrane and the harsh elements of Northern Nevada. Due to this, the structure eventually became too deteriorated to house the facility supply and has been vacant for several years. The structure has been demolished, leaving only the concrete pad where the unit once stood.

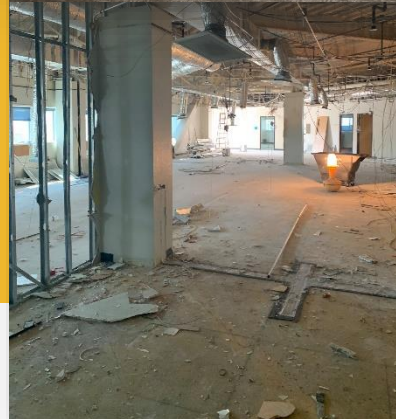
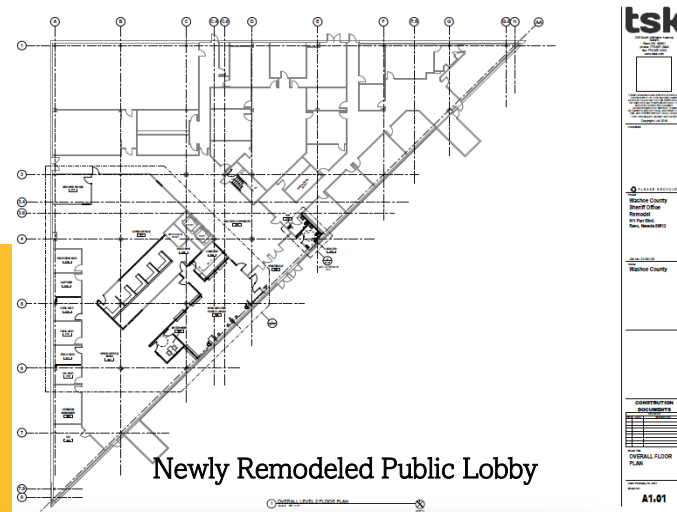




# REMODEL

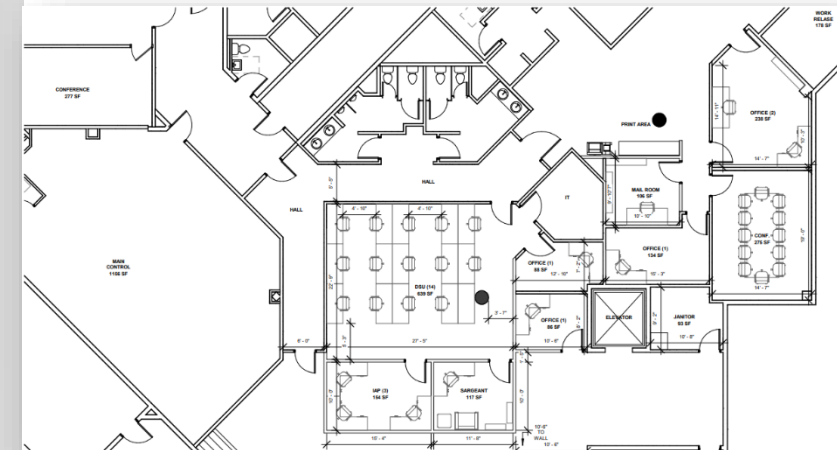
The Washoe County Sheriff's Office public access areas and inmate visiting are currently being remodeled utilizing a **\$1.5 million COVID Emergency Supplemental Funding** award from the United States Department of Justice through the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Criminal Justice Administration. The remodel is to create safety measures to protect the health and safety of the community and staff. Modifications will provide one point of entry for the public coming into the facility. Services which used to be further inside the facility (such as inmate video visiting and cashier services for inmate bail) will be moved to the front public access area.

The remodel is on schedule to be complete at the end of January 2022.



**Phase 2** of the capital improvement project will be the remodel of the Detention Administration area. The renovation will assist with the displacement of personnel such as Accounting, Payroll, and the Grants office, which were housed in the area that is now part of the front lobby/public access area.

## Phase 2: Detention Administration Remodel



<b>Phase 1</b>	Scheduled completion January 2022
<b>Phase 2</b>	Scheduled to begin construction May 2022



# EMPLOYMENT AT THE WASHOE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



## THERE ARE MANY WAYS YOU CAN CONNECT WITH US:

- You can **Apply** for positions currently available online by clicking [HERE](#) which will lead you to the Washoe County Human Resources website. (We can only accept online applications. Resumes can be attached when you apply online).
- If you would like to be notified when a job is open for recruitment, please register for [cMail](#).
- You can Contact our Human Resources at (775) 328-6383 or [CMcBride@washoecounty.us](mailto:CMcBride@washoecounty.us)
- Qualified people who might be interested in becoming a Reserve Volunteer Deputy Sheriff can call (775) 328-6355.

**Whether you are looking for a career for the first time, changing careers or returning from military service**, deciding what career is right for you can be confusing. The right choice can offer you the right opportunities, professional advancement, a rewarding work environment, diversity in job options, service to your community and attractive benefits. At the Washoe County Sheriff's Office, we understand that these opportunities are an important part of your career building plan.

**The Sheriff's Office is the premier law enforcement agency in Northern Nevada**, and we're committed to providing the highest quality police service and protection to the residents and visitors of Washoe County.

We are looking for career seekers who understand problem solving, critical thinking, are disciplined, good communicators, display integrity, honesty, and commitment to serve their community.

We can offer you a variety of exciting and challenging career opportunities that make a difference in the community in which you **work, live and play**.



# WCSCO 2021 DATA





# PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Patrol Division	2020	2021	2020/2021 Case Percent Change
Citations / Warnings Citations	6,167	6,175	0.13%
Traffic Accidents	358	412	15.08%
Regional Teams Statistics			
Cyber/Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC)	2020	2021	2020/2021 Case Percent Change
Digital Exams	233	361	54.94%
Indictments	5	5	0.00%
Sex Offender Notification Unit (SONU)	2020	2021	2020/2021 Case Percent Change
Active Registrants (Average)	1,395	1,400	0.36%
Arrests	34	57	67.65%
Non-Compliant (Average)	129	140	8.53%
Patrol/ROP Assists	77	89	15.58%
Verifications	340	1447**	325.59%
Administrative Services	2020*	2021*	2020/2021 Case Percent Change
CCW applications received	2,596	5,508	11.17%
Convicted Person/ Sex Reg	194	186	-4.12%
Desk Reports	328	294	-10.37%
Evictions Received (Not Served)	1,694	3,878	128.93%
Field Services Reports	152	198	30.26%
Field Services Request for Abandoned Vehicles	385	399	3.60%
Field Services Towed Abandoned Vehicles	124	151	21.77%
Online Reports	1,301	1,196	-8.07%
Work Permits	989	1,226	23.96%
*2021 Data is representative of case reports taken from January 1st to November 30th, 2021.			
**During 2021 SONU Detectives conducted scheduled sweeps, where teams physically verified 1000 of the Sex Offenders which accounts for the increase.			



# COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY



## Washoe County Sheriff's Office

Dedicated to preserving a safe and secure community with professionalism, respect, integrity and the highest commitment to equality.





**Washoe County Sheriff's Office**

**Location:** 911 Parr Blvd, Reno, NV 89512

**Phone:** 775-328-3001

**Email:** [sheriffweb@washoecounty.gov](mailto:sheriffweb@washoecounty.gov)