A MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF

My promise to you as your Sheriff is to keep you informed of the activities and successes of your Sheriff’s Office. We will work together to keep Berkeley County a wonderful place to live and raise a family.

In the following pages you will see the many functions of the Sheriff’s Office and how we have successfully accomplished many of our goals.

I am very proud of the men and women who work tirelessly to ensure our safety. These dedicated members of the Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office are responsible for the many successes we have experienced in our mission of "Taking Care of People."

It is my privilege and honor to serve you as your Sheriff.

Sincerely,

Sheriff S. Duane Lewis

SHERIFF LEWIS BIOGRAPHY

Duane Lewis began his law enforcement career in 1984 at the Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office as a Deputy.

In 1987, Lewis became a Patrolman with the City of Charleston Police Department. While there, he obtained the rank of Investigator.

Duane became a Special Agent for I.N.S Investigations Bureau, a national arson investigative unit for the insurance industry, in 1991.

Lewis was hired as a Detective at the Goose Creek Police Department in 1992. He was soon promoted to the rank of Detective Sergeant to supervise the Detective Division.

In 1994, Duane accepted a position with the South Carolina Public Service Authority (Santee Cooper) as a Special Agent in the Law Enforcement Division. He served at Santee Cooper for twenty-one years. During his time, he was promoted to Major and later Deputy Chief. Lewis was responsible for Criminal Investigations, Training and Development, Internal Investigations and Federal Regulatory Regulations. Lewis served as a member of the National Homeland Security Critical Infrastructure Coordinating Council after the terrorist attacks in 2001.

In 2015, he offered and was subsequently elected as the Sheriff of Berkeley County in June 2015. Sheriff Lewis was re-elected in 2018.

Sheriff Lewis is a graduate of Goose Creek High School and has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia College.
OUR MISSION: "TAKING CARE OF PEOPLE"

OUR VISION: "TO BE THE BEST WE CAN BE IN ALL THAT WE DO"

OUR CORE VALUES ARE NOT NEGOTIABLE:

- Integrity
- Treating people with dignity and respect
The Chief Deputy is responsible for the day to day operations of the Sheriff's Office. Chief Baker acts on behalf of the Sheriff in his absence. He is responsible for the management and oversight of the Sheriff's Office Budget. His duties also include coordinating the activities of the divisions of the Sheriff's Office to meet the mission and goals of the agency.

Major David Brabham commands the Investigations and Support Services Branch of the Sheriff's Office which includes Criminal Investigations, Drug Enforcement Task Force, DEA Task Force, U.S. Marshal's Task Force, Forensics, Crime Analysis, Sex Offender Registry, Victim Advocates, Internet Crimes Against Children, Pawn Shop Investigations, Records, Training, Duty Office and Animal Control. He also serves as the Special Response Team Commander.


Randy Demory serves as the Director of the Detention Center. Director Demory is a nationally recognized jail professional with forty years of experience in the corrections field.

Inspector Dan Isgett commands the Office of Professional Standards. The Office of Professional Standards is responsible for the agency’s Administrative Investigations, Polygraph & Background Investigations, Grants, Accreditation, Recruitment, Planning and Research, and Emergency Operations.
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<th>Captain</th>
<th>Department/Services</th>
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<td>Jimmy Mixson</td>
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<td>Anthony Phyall</td>
<td>Hill-Finklea Detention Center Operations</td>
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<td>Litter - Pick-up</td>
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<td>Kris Jacumin</td>
<td>Hill-Finklea Detention Center Administration</td>
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<td>Classification</td>
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<td>Property Management</td>
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Two Berkeley County deputies were awarded the Medal of Valor at the South Carolina Sheriffs' Association Awards Banquet. Corporal D. Morris and Deputy W. Kimbro were both awarded the Medal of Valor. Every year the South Carolina Sheriffs’ Association Medal of Valor award is presented to law enforcement officers who perform actions above and beyond the call of duty. Our deputies were honored for exhibiting exceptional courage, extraordinary decisiveness and acting with unusual swiftness, regardless of their personal safety, in an attempt to save or protect human life.

The Patrol Division provides 24-hour coverage throughout the county. Patrol deputies are led by a Lieutenant and two Sergeants. Deputies are assigned to permanent 12-hour shifts. Deputies are assigned to patrol zones which are divided between the South and North areas of the county. In 2019, Deputies responded to 103,889 calls for service. This included 2,556 disturbance calls and 400 domestic violence calls. Calls for service have increased 90% from 2009 rising from 54,744 calls to 103,889. Power shifts were created to increase the number of deputies during the hours of high call volume. This has greatly increased the efficiency of the Sheriff's Office to meet the needs of the community.

Berkeley County Deputies

Assisted 1,858 Motorist
Wrote 2,366 Reports
Issued 4,515 Citations
Issued 9,194 Warnings
Made 3,821 Arrests
Sheriff Lewis decided joining ‘Live PD’ was a good idea and an opportunity to highlight the deputies working day and night for the people of Berkeley County. “They’ll get an opportunity to actually see what's going on in the community,” he said. “They'll be able to visualize and, in some situations, almost feel the danger that the deputies are faced with on a nightly and daily basis. We're not here to glamorize or discredit the county because of crime.”

According to Sheriff Lewis, "Between two and four deputies at a time will be joined by a camera crew. Deputies will be followed on all types of calls". Sheriff Lewis hopes the show will also highlight the agency's community-oriented policing model. “I think this show will reinforce the high morale of this agency, the fact that they care about their job and they care about the people here, and I think you're going to see that,” said Sheriff Lewis. “It's not always about chasing criminals down.”
K-9 UNIT

The K-9 Unit was created to enhance the agency's narcotic interdiction, assist uniform patrol, assist local agencies, and conduct searches of missing persons and suspects. The unit had over 5,024 training hours, responded on approximately 246 occasions to assist local agencies, and were involved in a total of approximately 6,836 unit of self and patrol dispatch responses, and 3,233 back up for patrol deputies, searches for persons, and narcotics detection. The K-9 Unit has utilized the K-9s in 410 searches (vehicle, building, articles), 69 apprehensions and no bite apprehensions, 210 tracks, and 45 demos.

Taking Drugs and Guns off the Street

The K-9 unit has taken approximately 115.1 gg of Cocaine, 15 gg of Crack Cocaine, 12,942 gg of Marijuana, 72.5 gg of Heroin, 30,696 gg of Meth, approximately $20,000.00, and 61 firearms off the streets.
The Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office Traffic Unit is funded by Target Zero grants through the South Carolina Department of Public Safety. Target Zero is a statewide comprehensive safety plan that provides a coordinated framework toward eliminating traffic deaths and reducing severe injuries on South Carolina roads. The traffic unit was created to address collisions and fatalities due to impaired drivers.

Our DUI deputies regularly participate in operations Buckle Up SC and Sober or Slammer. The Sheriff’s Office also has a grant funded part-time prosecutor to handle the agency’s DUI arrests. Our prosecutor manages the adjudication of all DUI related arrests by Berkeley County Deputies. 196 DUI arrests were made in 2019.

Traffic related complaints are common throughout the county. This year, two additional grant-funded positions were added. Complaints along with collision data will be reviewed and addressed by the traffic unit. Members of the Traffic Unit conduct traffic safety presentations at Berkeley County schools and community groups.

DUI Fatalities decreased 60% from 2018 to 2019.

DUI related accidents decreased 7 1/2 % from 2018 to 2019.
The purpose of the Community Action Team is to liaison with the stakeholders of each community to identify concerns in their area and develop strategies to address their issues.

The Community Action Team (CAT) was established by Sheriff Lewis to restore trust, provide support and build stronger relationships throughout our communities.

In 2019, CAT/COPS deputies attended over 200 community events and 179 Community/Crime Watch meetings.

The CAT and COPS deputies had 53,724 public contacts and 5,028 business contacts.

All members assisted with two summer camps for at risk juveniles.
Sheriff Lewis established the Citizens Advisory Board to serve as the voice of their communities and act as liaisons to the Sheriff’s Office. The Citizens Advisory Board currently has twenty-four members representing the communities in Berkeley County. Board Members meet with the Sheriff and his staff on a regular basis to stay informed of the activities of the Sheriff’s Office and address issues affecting their communities. CAT deputies are assigned to twenty geographic areas of the county and to specific Citizen Advisory Board members. They maintain weekly contact with members of the Citizen Advisory Board.
BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM DEPUTIES

Lieutenant
Trey
Boyd
Bonneau Beach / Russellville / Santee Circle

Lieutenant
Daniel
Morton
Sangaree / Goose Creek

Sergeant
Jay
Riser
Lebanon / Sandridge Ridgeville / Pringletown

Sergeant
Hurshel
Tanner
Goose Creek

Corporal
Raeford
Carr
Sangaree / Summerville

Corporal
Steve
Zubkoff
Sangaree / Summerville

Corporal
Tony
Brown
Cross / Pineville

Corporal
Jimmy
Smith
Jamestown / Shulerville / Honeyhill

Pfc.
Bradley
Pitsinger
Canebay / New Hope

Corporal
Daniel
Lambert
Hanahan

Corporal
Corinthian
Green
Moncks Corner / Pinopolis

Corporal
Tyler
Clark
Goose Creek

Corporal
Quinn
Hayden
Spring Grove / Pimlico

Corporal
Kathryn
Whetstone
Cane Bay / Del Webb

Corporal
Carl
Harris
Huger / Clements Ferry

Pfc.
Lauren
Santos
Huger / Daniel Island / Wando

Corporal
John
Caddell
Cordesville / Macedonia / Alvin

Pfc.
Austin
Longieliere
Goose Creek
SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

The School Resource Officer Program is a collaborative effort by the Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office, Berkeley County School District, educators, students, parents, and the community to offer law related educational programs in the schools in an effort to reduce crime, drug abuse, violence, and provide a safe school environment. Our deputies routinely accompany school groups as they travel to athletic and field trips.

The School Resource Officer Program places a deputy in a school full-time to provide a variety of support programs and services to the students and staff. The overall goals of the program are to maintain a safe and secure learning environment on the school campus, influence the development of positive attitudes by youth towards the law enforcement community, and to reduce juvenile crime through the use of intervention strategies, proactive policing, and networking.

The Sheriff’s Office provides SRO’s to six middle schools and five high schools. School Resource Officers SROs provide security for students and staff. SROs handled 925 incidents during the school year and made 125 arrests. The majority of these arrests were for drug possession, assaults and theft. SROs attend Youth Court in Goose Creek once a month on Saturdays. The Youth Court handles all juvenile cases in the county.

ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST

Throughout the years, there has been an increase in calls for service involving littering. The Sheriff’s Office has deputies assigned to litter control. The Sheriff’s Office received the Palmetto Pride Grant to assist with fighting litter in the county. This grant provides funds to enforce litter statutes and promote anti-litter campaigns.
The Berkeley County Courthouse is home to the Circuit Court, Family Court, Probate Court and the Master in Equity Court.

The Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office is tasked with providing security for these courts. Reserve Deputies and State Constables provide additional manpower when needed. Deputies assigned to the unit are responsible for screening all persons entering the courthouse and they also inspect every courtroom prior to each session of court.

**COURT SECURITY**

In 2019 there were:
- 973 sessions of court

Court security deputies conducted
- 2,365 adult transports
- 330 juvenile transports.

*DID YOU KNOW?*

In 2019, The Sheriff’s Office instituted video bond hearings to improve the safety of the hearings and to increase the efficiency of the hearings.

**Contact information for the Courts**

Charleston: (843) 723-3800 Ext 4234
Moncks Corner: (843) 719-4237
St. Stephen (843) 567-3136 Ext 4234
The Warrants / Civil Process Unit is responsible for serving criminal arrest warrants, check warrants, family court, general sessions and magistrate bench warrants. The Warrants/Civil Process Unit is also responsible for serving jury summons and assisting with foreclosures. Civil process papers may include notices, summons and complaints, restraining orders, subpoenas, rule to show cause, attachments, mechanic's liens, claim and delivery and writs. To increase proficiency, unit deputies take active warrants and civil papers with them for the areas they are assigned to work.

In 2019, the Warrants / Civil Process Unit served 1,139 warrants. The unit also collected $19,295 in fees from the service of civil papers.

The Sheriff's Office also received 289 new judgments and collected $9,069.24.

The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office maintains a list of local wrecker companies to be called for service.

To ensure our citizens are treated fairly by these companies, a standard fee schedule has been established. Wrecker companies on the list are inspected by Sheriff’s deputies twice a year. There are currently 35 companies on the list.
The Criminal Investigations Division. The division is comprised of the Criminal Investigations Unit, Forensic Services Unit, Drug Enforcement Task Force, Sex Offender Registration Unit, Victim/Witness Advocates and Internet Crimes Against Children.

### CLEARANCE RATES

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<tr>
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<th>CID</th>
<th>National</th>
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<tr>
<td>Violent Crimes</td>
<td>60.9%</td>
<td>45.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property Crimes</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>All Crimes</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
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The Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office Criminal Investigations Unit clearance rate greatly exceeds the national average. The current clearance rate for violent crimes investigations is 60.9%. This rate is 15.3% higher than the national clearance rate. The clearance rate for property crimes is 3.6% higher than the national average.

### 2019 Criminal Investigations

- Actively investigated 2,455 cases
- 315 cases cleared by arrest
- 292 exceptionally cleared
- 85 unfounded

### 2019 Criminal Investigations Division Arrests

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<th>Crimes Against Persons</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kidnapping</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sexual Offense</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Crimes Against Property</th>
<th>211</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arson</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fraud</td>
<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
<td>83</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>27</td>
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**TOTAL** 315
The Forensics Unit is responsible for crime scene processing. The unit is also responsible for all in-custody property and the processing of evidence. Forensics technicians are available 24/7 to respond to incidents. A Sergeant and three technicians are assigned to forensics. Members of the unit are trained in crime scene processing, blood spatter analysis, photography, and latent processing. Due to spatial challenges, the forensic unit will be moving into a new building in 2020 that should meet the needs of the Sheriff’s Office for years to come.

Forensics investigators have:
- responded to 427 incidents to process crime scenes
- Assisted in 91 search warrants

The Property and Evidence Room has approximately 30,267 items of evidence and/or maintained property. In 2019, 11,322 items were logged into evidence. 2,731 items were sent to SLED’s laboratory for examination. In 2019, the unit destroyed or returned to the owner 16,829 items from adjudicated cases.
The unit is staffed by Berkeley County detectives and detectives from the Moncks Corner Police Department, Goose Creek Police Department and Hanahan Police Department. The Task force works with our Uniform Patrol Division, Community Action Team and state and federal narcotics agencies to address the plight of narcotics in Berkeley County. Citizens who want to provide information about illegal narcotics activity can go to the Berkeley County Sheriff's Website at https://sheriff.berkeleycountysc.gov/report/give-us-a-tip/or call 843-719-4424.

DRUG TASK FORCE SEIZURES

- Cocaine: 54.59 ounces
- Cocaine Base: 8.49 ounces
- Meth: 9.10 pounds
- Heroin: 7.06 ounces
- Marijuana: 93.18 pounds
- Marijuana Plants: 18
- Fentanyl: 6 ounces
- Pills: 854 pills

462 SEARCHES BY CONSENT
143 SEARCH WARRANTS
430 ARRESTS
The Sheriff’s Office is mandated by law to conduct an annual check on all registered sex offenders in Berkeley County. The offenders must come to the sheriff’s office to register quarterly or bi-annually depending on their tier level. Registered Sex offenders must also have their residency confirmed annually. In 2019, the unit conducted 415 residency checks, made 1,245 in person contacts and obtained nine arrest warrants for offenders.

**SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY**

There are 415 registered sex offenders in Berkeley County.

Victim Advocates provide the public with a better understanding of the Criminal Justice system by providing information regarding their rights and responsibilities as victims and witnesses of crimes. They also advise victims of the procedures of the court system and County/State criminal codes related to their incident.

Our Victim Advocates provide crime-to-courtroom assistance to victims and their families. They work with victims in the areas of crisis intervention, one-on-one support and referrals through the State Office of Victim Assistance. The unit has partnered with Trident Technical College to sponsor a volunteer internship program. This intern earns college credit in the field of human services by volunteering alongside the victim advocates. The victim advocates will continue to ensure crime victims are informed and that their voices are heard in the criminal justice process.
There are currently twenty-six cases that the Cold Case Unit is investigating. Of these twenty-six cases:

18 are homicides
3 are missing persons
1 is a death investigation and
1 is an arson investigation

The Cold Case Unit reviews case files searching for any physical evidence that may be retested using current forensic techniques. They follow up with prior witnesses to review their testimony to possibly gain additional information. The mission of the unit is to gather information which may result in a resolution or adjudication of a case.

The Office of Special Investigations is tasked to review unresolved homicides, suspicious deaths, missing persons, sexual assaults or other serious cold cases from the archives of the Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office. The unit also investigates cases the Sheriff specifically designates for further investigation.
The training unit is responsible for coordinating and conducting training for all LE-1, LE-2, and LE-3 personnel assigned to the Sheriff’s Office. They also assist with training for Detention Officers, Reserve Deputies, Sheriff Special Deputies, Retirees, and Sheriff Office Auxiliary Personnel. The unit coordinates with the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy (SCCJA) for Basic LE training and advanced training.

In 2019, the Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office was designated as a regional academy training point for local agencies recruit training. Recruits from the unit conduct monthly block training for annual firearms and less lethal weapons training, legal updates, driver’s training and other mandatory training. Deputies certified in specific areas of training assist the unit as a collateral duty. Members of the unit also coordinate all travel arrangements associated with training.

In 2019, the Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office procured a MILO firearms simulator through a federal allocation grant. This assists our deputies to train for split second judgments in critical incidents.

The simulator will also allow deputies to improve their proficiency with their weapons without expending ammunition and procuring time at our range.

The Sheriff’s Office also developed an outdoor range to enhance our firearms training. This allows the Sheriff’s Office control over the cost for firearms training and the flexibility of training times and dates.
Animal Control
The Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office took over the duties of Animal Control for Berkeley County in July 2019. The Sheriff’s Office has four Animal Control Officers. Animal Control Officers work the same shifts as patrol which keeps an Animal Control Officer working each day. Animal Control Officers handle all kinds of animal complaints in the County.

FRONT DESK
A Sergeant and six civilians staff the front desk. Employees assigned to the front desk are responsible for answering the phones, taking reports over the phone or from persons who walk in the Sheriff’s office requesting an incident report. They are NCIC (National Crime Information Center) full functional certified. This allows them to conduct inquiries, enter NCIC data, remove NCIC data from the system and conduct NCIC validations. Duty Officers also run criminal histories for the Sheriff’s Office and other agencies. In addition, they also run agency arrest warrants for dispatch and deputies. They issue non-ferrous metal permits.

DID YOU KNOW?
In 2019, the front desk handled 55,778 phone inquiries, 8,959 window assists, wrote 1,345 incident reports, 1,599 supplemental reports and 1,563 Repo/Tow Reports.
RECORDS UNIT

The Records unit is staffed by three civilians and an expungement clerk. Agency reports and documents go through this division. They are reviewed for any errors. The Sheriff’s Office transitioned to a new records management system in 2019. Records Unit personnel received training required for the new system which will increase the efficiency of all divisions.

Records personnel also are responsible for responding to freedom of information (FOIA) records requests. They run criminal history checks, military background checks and DSS background checks. Records personnel enter warrants and protection orders. They process Concealed Weapons Permit entries and responses. They enter NCIC (National Crime Information Center) validations and checks and process Rule 5 requests and expungements.

| RECORDS |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| FOIA Requests 318             | Secondary Checks 2,915        |
| Criminal Histories 10,690     | In-House Checks 5,444         |
| NCIC Validations 5,390        | CWP Entries 1,684             |
| Expungements 917              | CWP NCIC Responses 1,619      |
| Warrants Entered 1,416        | Rule 5 Orders 309             |
| Protection Orders Entered 151 | DSS Background Checks 1,615   |
| Other NCIC Entries 1,237      | Military Background Checks 413|
| NCIC Hits Handled 776         |                               |
The Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office is committed to ensuring that it meets the national and state standards for law enforcement excellence. B.C.S.O. was awarded their initial Advanced Law Enforcement Accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) in 2013. The Sheriff’s Office was re-accredited in 2016 and 2020. The Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office is 1 of only 10 CALEA accredited sheriff’s offices in the state of South Carolina. There are 459 standards that the Sheriff’s Office had to either show proofs of compliance or proof that the standard was not applicable to the agency.

CALEA was formed in 1979 to establish an accreditation process that provides law enforcement agencies an opportunity to voluntarily demonstrate that they meet an established set of professional standards. The body of standards is designed to increase law enforcement agency capabilities, to prevent and control crime, as well as improve agency effectiveness and efficiency in the delivery of law enforcement services. These standards also increase cooperation and coordination with other law enforcement agencies, and they raise citizen and employee confidence in departmental goals, objectives, policies, and practices.

Law Enforcement Accreditation is a voluntary program that benefits the citizens of Berkeley County. Accreditation increases community advocacy, reduces risk and liability exposure, provides greater accountability within the Sheriff’s Office and a stronger defense against civil lawsuits.

The Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office is also accredited by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Accreditation Council. Berkeley County was initially awarded State Accreditation in 2001 and has been re-accredited every three years since the initial award. The Sheriff’s Office was most recently re-accredited in 2020.

**Comments by the team leader during the last assessment:**

"The Sheriff’s Office has developed a reputation for transparency and partnership with local government service providers at the county and other local governments within the County"

"The Sheriff’s Office core values are "integrity and treating people with dignity and respect". The agency's mission of taking "care of people" is based upon relationships and transparency."
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT

Sheriff Lewis created the Office of Professional Standards Division and the Internal Affairs unit to investigate serious incidents and coordinate citizens complaint investigations. This unit is also responsible for conducting background investigations for all Sheriff’s Office applicants. The unit reports directly to the Sheriff for Internal Affairs investigations.

Applicants for Deputy Sheriff positions must successfully pass an extensive background process. This includes driver’s license and criminal history checks, credit checks and verification of employment and education records. It also includes a reading comprehension test, a physical abilities test, a polygraph examination and medical and psychological screening.

In 2019, The Professional Standards unit conducted 109 background investigations and processed 384 applications. The Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office hired 31 sworn deputies and six civilian employees in 2019.

The unit also conducted 8 internal affairs investigations and coordinated 10 citizen complaints.

PLANNING & ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Office of Professional Standards also develops long term plans and reports.

Every year, the agency’s multi-year plan is updated and reviewed. This plan addresses the organizational structure, population trends, calls for service, personnel levels, capital improvements and long-term goals and operational objectives.

Annual reports are also provided to the Sheriff and Command Staff for use of force, pursuits, recruitment, response to active threats, biased policing, grievances, internal affairs, task force reviews, specialized unit reviews, audits of property and evidence, central records password audits, juvenile justice programs, personnel early warning system review and annual goals and objectives.
The Grants Office is responsible for developing and submitting grant applications, assisting with project planning and budgeting and detailing performance measures. Once a grant is awarded, grants personnel approve procurement expenditures to ensure they are within the terms of the grant. They oversee the implementation of the grant and submit financial and programmatic reporting. Fifteen additional positions have been funded through grants.

**15 Positions added through grants since 2016**

A DUI Prosecutor, a DUI Enforcement Deputy, two (2) Traffic Unit Deputies, an additional Victim Advocate, a Domestic Violence Investigator, a Child/Elder Abuse Investigator and eight (8) Community Oriented Policing Deputies. The Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office was the first agency to be awarded a DUI Prosecutor and a Child/Elder Abuse Investigator.

**ITEMS PURCHASED WITH GRANT FUNDS:**

- 137 BODY WORN CAMERAS
- 15 DASH CAMERAS
- 49 PORTABLE RADIOS
- 21 TASERS
- LITTER CONTROL EQUIPMENT
- 1 PATROL K-9
- 1 FIREARM SIMULATOR
- 1 PHARMACEUTICAL SAFE
- SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS FOR THE SHERIFF’S OFFICE
- COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM EQUIPMENT
- MARINE PATROL EQUIPMENT (BOAT MOTOR)
- 12 RADIOS FOR COURT SECURITY
- 360 DEGREE CAMERA FOR FORENSICS
- 5 DIGITAL CAMERAS FOR FORENSICS
- 6 WIRELESS PHONE HEADSETS FOR DUTY OFFICE
- 20 MARK KITS (HELMET HEADSET MOUNTS) FOR SRT
- 2 DOCUMENT SCANNERS
- TEMPERATURE/METAL DETECTOR PORTAL FOR THE DETENTION CENTER
- WHOLE SYSTEM AIR PURIFIERS FOR DETENTION CENTER
- 6 IMPAIRMENT SIMULATION GOGGLES FOR DUI ENFORCEMENT UNIT
- 30 TRAFFIC CONES FOR DUI ENFORCEMENT UNIT
- 2 LAPTOPS FOR TRAFFIC UNIT

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office has been awarded over $3.4 million in state and federal grants since 2016.
RECRUITMENT

To meet the demands of the growing population we are constantly recruiting personnel to serve. The Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office recruitment team consists of six deputies. The team attends job fairs at local colleges and Universities across the state and hiring expos to attract candidates. The Sheriff’s Office also reaches out to community leaders and the public at community meetings to assist with our recruitment effort. The Sheriff’s Office cadet program and reserve deputy program have also assisted with recruitment.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

The Sheriff’s Office works with our emergency responder partners to plan and mitigate natural and man-made disasters. Hurricane Response Plans are updated annually to prepare for a hurricane landfall. During these events, all sworn personnel are activated to ensure the safety of our residents. Deputies man traffic control points in the evacuation routes, man emergency shelters and patrol neighborhoods and businesses during the evacuation. In recent years the Sheriff’s Office has activated the Emergency Operations plan for Hurricanes Matthew, Irma, Florence, Dorian, Isaias, the Solar Eclipse and the snowstorm in 2018.

Sheriff’s personnel train annually through table top exercises and full-scale exercises to ensure our readiness for these events.
Staff Services and Logistics serve the uniform and equipment needs of the Sheriff's Office. Each year, the number and type of vehicles are determined to meet the needs of the Sheriff's Office. Vehicles are evaluated each year to determine when it is no longer beneficial to continue to repair them. Specifications are provided to Berkeley County Procurement for police equipment for the coming year. Quotes are obtained for equipment and installation with strict adherence to the Berkeley County procurement guidelines. Vehicles under state contract are reviewed to determine if they meet the needs of the Sheriff's Office. Staff Services and Logistics also work with the County Shop and Risk Management coordinating with local body shops requesting estimates, repairs and service as necessary.

The unit maintains an accurate inventory of the agency’s equipment. An inventory of in-vehicle camera systems supplied by the South Carolina Department of Public Safety (SCDPS) and annual reports are provided to them. Management of the 800 MHz system is also coordinated through the unit. Members of the unit ensure that all deputies have the proper PPE (personal protection equipment) to safely perform their duties. Staff Services and Logistics also handles logistics for large or sustained deployments.
The Sheriff's Office is very active in social media providing accurate and timely information to the public about the activities of the Sheriff's Office.

By providing current updates to the community, the citizens of the county stay informed with arrests in their neighborhoods and the latest enforcement efforts of the Sheriff's Office to address issues important to them.

Residents can follow the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office on Facebook and Twitter @BerkCoSheriff.

The Berkeley County Facebook page has definitely grown in likes! Currently, the BCSO Facebook Page has approximately 71,000 followers and 68,000 likes. For last year's Annual Report, the BCSO Facebook page had approximately 53,000 followers and approximately 50,000 likes.

The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office also has a presence on Twitter with over 8,000 followers.
The Administrative Officer prepares and manages the Sheriff’s Office Budget. Each year, Division commanders submit budget requests for the upcoming fiscal year. Sheriff Lewis and Chief Baker review and approve budget recommendations to Berkeley County Council. Once approved, members of the Chief Administrator’s Office tracks and monitors all spending to ensure that the Sheriff’s Office stays within budget.

All invoices for payment and supply request purchase orders are handled by the Administrative Office. Time sheets are also processed by this office. The Administrative Office is responsible for the payroll of 331 employees of the Sheriff’s Office.

Sheriff's Office Personnel

In the past ten years, Berkeley County has grown by more than 50,000 residents. To maintain the level of service, the Sheriff’s Office has added 37 more deputies since 2016. Twelve of these positions are grant funded.
In August of 2020 Sheriff Lewis created the Computer Forensics and Technical Services Division in response to the constant increase in the use of technology in law enforcement. The division oversees all technical projects and equipment for the Sheriff’s Office, and also conducts forensic analysis of technology for criminal investigations.

The division contains several units, each responsible for different areas related to the use of technology.

**Computer Forensics Unit** – conducts digital and forensic analysis on information technology items to include mobile phones and computers.

**Fingerprint Analysis Unit** – conducts fingerprint analysis using the agencies AFIS (Automated Fingerprint Identification System) computer.

**Analytics**
Collects analytical data from the Sheriff’s Office RMS (Records Management System) and conducts an analysis on the data to assist with criminal investigations, crime prevention, unit deployment and manpower assessments.

**Digital Video Unit** – manages and maintains the Sheriff’s Office in-car and body worn video camera system.

**C.J.I.S. (Criminal Justice Information Services) Compliance** – ensures compliance with FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigations and SLED (South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division) CJIS policies and procedures.

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### Technical Upgrades

#### Dash Cameras

The Sheriff’s Office has 110 In-Car Video Recording Systems deployed and 128 Body Worn Cameras.

#### Body Cameras

SOUTHERN SOFTWARE

In August of 2019 Berkeley County Emergency Services began using the newly deployed Southern Software suite of applications. This system allows for information integration between the Communications Center’s CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch), the Sheriff’s Office RMS (Records Management System) and the Detention Center’s JMS (Jail Management System). This allows for the sharing of information creating a more efficient records system. The software also includes mobile applications that allow for Sheriff Deputies, EMS Units and Fire Personnel to receive dispatch and call information over MDT’s (Mobile Data Terminals). A mobile phone is also incorporated allowing these units and the Coroner’s office to receive call data on their cell phones.
The Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office utilizes a Latent Print Identification Specialist to examine latent prints from crime scenes. The agency’s Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) is a biometric identification (ID) methodology that uses digital imaging technology to obtain, store, and analyze fingerprint data. Deputies submit fingerprint impressions from crime scenes to the unit for identification.

Analysis of crime data is shared with patrol and command personnel to be used to address crime trends in the county.

An interwatch report is provided to all command personnel detailing incidents that occurred during the shifts of Patrol, K9 and Community Action Team Members. This helps keep commanders informed of the incidents in the county.

Hot Sheets of the most current stolen motor vehicles are also provided to patrol personnel.

Since 2018, the Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office had over 72 successful fingerprint identifications from crime scenes resulting in arrests.

Information from Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office reports are submitted online so that Berkeley County residents can view crime reporting in their area.

Citizens can view crime reporting in their communities online at https://communitycrimemap.com. The site can be filtered to view specific criminal activity and to view specific crimes, sex offender information and analytics.
SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM (SRT)

The Sheriff's Office Special Response Team (SRT) is responsible for providing specialized trained and equipped personnel to respond to high risk situations. The Special Response Team (SRT) responds to incidents such as hostage events, barricaded suspects, civil disorders, execution of high-risk warrants or pick-up orders, VIP escorts / security operations, and special assignments as approved by the Sheriff or his designee. The S.R.T. Team is also available to assist local, state, and federal agencies upon request.

In addition to over 96 hours of training in 2019, the SRT unit responded to eight missions to include a heavily armed Active Shooter involving an agency LE Officer Rescue situation. The team participated in a week long FBI sponsored SWAT Summit. The Team assisted with the protection/security detail for the annual Cooper River Bridge Run. The team also assisted State, Local and Federal Agencies with several high-risk search warrant services.

CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM (CNT)

The Crisis Negotiation Team. The team is comprised of deputies trained to safely resolve critical incidents such as barricaded armed suspects and hostage takers. The team trains monthly and semi-annually with the Special Response Team.
BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
COLLATERAL DUTIES

MARINE PATROL

Members of the Marine Patrol Unit actively patrol Lake Moultrie and the waterways in Berkeley County. They promote boater safety and enforce state laws concerning the safe operation of watercraft. In 2019, The Marine Patrol Unit worked several special assignments and events to include: Operation Hammerhead, Operation Shrimp and Grits, Cooper River Bridge Run, Short Stay Recreation 4th of July Celebration, and numerous weekend Holiday events.

The Marine Patrol personnel attended several NASBLA (National Association of State Boating Law Administrators) certification training classes as well as participated in numerous public events to include parades, festivals, community events, school events, and boater safety education training.

UNDERWATER RECOVERY TEAM (URT)

The Underwater Recovery Team (URT), responds to incidents involving the recovery of persons, articles, vehicles or other items of evidentiary value to support law enforcement objectives.

During 2019, the team assisted with 5 anti-terrorism missions at the Naval Weapons Station and supported the law enforcement operation at the Cooper River Bridge Run.

The team conducted 2 evidence recovery missions. The URT team trained for a total of 125 hours in 2019.
BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
COLLATERAL DUTIES

RESCUE

In 2018, the Sheriff’s Office assumed the responsibility for rescue operations pertaining to marine and ground search rescue. There are currently twenty-five trained Sheriff’s Office personnel assigned to the Marine Patrol Unit as a collateral duty along with thirteen Sheriff’s Office Auxiliary personnel. The Rescue team responded to twenty-five water missions and four ground search missions in 2019.

BIKE TEAM

The Bike Team was formed to provide deputies with certain advantages over the traditional motorized vehicle patrol. The close contact of deputies on bicycle patrol with the citizens within the patrol area tends to promote enhanced community relations and crime prevention.

The Bike Patrol Team patrols subdivisions and works special assignments and events. The team also works with local agencies to support their missions and events. The specially equipped bikes allow deputies to patrol areas that are not accessible to vehicles. This is very beneficial in neighborhoods experiencing car break-ins, burglaries or drug issues. The deputies, on average, will patrol 15 miles at any given time.
The Reserve Deputy program is made up of men and women from all walks of life who found a calling to serve in law enforcement and whom all had a desire to give back to their communities. A Reserve Deputy is a volunteer law enforcement officer whom has attended all required training as mandated by the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy and passed the testing requirements associated with their training. Training takes approximately 162 hours and spans a three month time frame.

After becoming certified and being sworn in, Reserve Deputies are used to supplement the day to day operations of the Uniform Patrol Division as well as assisting during times of emergency where extra hands are needed throughout our communities. State law requires that each Reserve Deputy maintain 60 hours a quarter of service time or 20 hours every month. Additionally they must attend training once a month.

Reserve deputies have logged more than 24,000 hours of service representing $481,000 in supplemented manpower.

Law Enforcement Explorers are chartered by the Boy Scouts of America. Youths age 14 to 21 are eligible to become a Law Enforcement Explorer. Law Enforcement Explorers are trained in all areas of law enforcement duties to include traffic control, crime scene investigation, patrol duties, building searches and report writing.

The Berkeley County Post currently has 20 cadets. Cadets participated in the SCALES (South Carolina Association of Law Enforcement Explorers) competition for law enforcement cadet programs in South Carolina. In 2019, the explorer cadets participated in several competitions. The post was awarded 1st place in the Active Shooter Event and Incident Report Writing, 2nd Place in the Impersonating a Police Officer Event, Legal Knowledge Testing, Courtroom Testimony, and 3rd place for TR-310 Report Writing, Escape Fugitive and Advisor Firearms qualifications. The post placed 2nd overall in the Winter SCALES event hosted at the Charleston County Sheriff’s Office.
Our mission at the Hill-Finklea Detention Center is to provide a healthy, safe, secure and humane environment in a cost effective manner in which to detain persons in our custody.

**TOP TEN CHARGES**

- **Drugs - any type**: 24.4%
- **Traffic - (not DUI/DUS)**: 7.5%
- **Larceny**: 6.3%
- **DUI**: 5.7%
- **DUS**: 5.1%
- **Weapons**: 4.9%
- **Disorderly Conduct**: 4.4%
- **Child Support**: 4.2%
- **Assault (not domestic viol.)**: 3.4%
- **Domestic Violence**: 3.3%
TRANSPORT TEAM

The Transport Team covers all local and out-of-state transports. This includes transports to court hearings and medical facilities. Transport team officers are also responsible for the security of inmates at medical facilities. The transport team conducted 2,669 transports in 2019.

The Sheriff’s Office implemented a weekend prisoner transport program in 2018. On Friday and Saturday nights, a transport van meets with any Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office Deputy, Goose Creek Officer, Hanahan Officer or State Trooper who makes an arrest in the southern portion of the county. They transport the prisoners to the Hill-Finklea Detention Center.

The weekend Paddy Wagon Program has transported 464 detainees for Berkeley County Law Enforcement agencies and the Highway Patrol. The Transport Unit is stationed in Southern portion of the county and picks up prisoners from Law Enforcement Officers. This allows these deputies and officers to return to their duties instead of traveling to the Detention Center in Moncks Corner.
SORT (Special Operations Response Team)

The Special Operations Response Team (SORT) is a specialized team that handles safety issues. Duties include cell searches, strip searches, disturbances in the jail, escapes or attempted escapes and hostage situations. They also provide transports of inmates for court appearances, provide security at video bond court hearings and assist when needed at the court house for bomb threats. The team is also responsible for contraband control.

LITTER PICK-UP PROGRAM

The Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office instituted the Litter Pick Up Program in 2015. Prisoners who are classified as trustees volunteer to participate in this program. Under the supervision of detention officers, the prisoners clean up trash from the sides and medians of public roadways and other public areas.

THE ROAD CREW VANS HAVE PICKED UP 175,385 TOTAL POUNDS OF TRASH FROM PUBLIC AREAS IN 2019.
The Administrative Division includes the Classification Division, Records Division, Training Division, Property Management, Contracts, Policies and the Budget.

CLASSIFICATION DIVISION

The Classification Division has three officers that are responsible for evaluating the inmate population. They house similar inmates together in order to decrease acts of violence and issues among the inmate population. The division is also assigned the responsibility of tracking disciplinary procedures and providing monthly statistics on disciplinary actions.

RECORDS DIVISION

The Records Division is comprised of six civilians and three officers. The Records Division is tasked with records entry and management, inmate accounts and management of the inmate files. These records include JMS data, expungements and court and release records. Members of the Records Unit also are assigned victim notification and serve as receptionists in the lobby area of the Detention Center. The Records Division Sergeant is responsible for supervising officers that are assigned to the court house to act as escort officers.

CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

The Detention Center currently has several contracts executed for services. Their contractors include medical services, food services, inmate phone services, digital mail, and video visitation.
The Training Division within the Detention Center consists of two officers that are responsible for state certifications of all Detention Officers. Detention Officers must complete a minimum of 40 hours of training each year. The Training Division ensures that the training is completed for each officer and maintains all training records. The division is responsible for daily, weekly, and monthly internal inspections of life safety equipment. Training Officers are also tasked with compliance with PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act). They also assist with the updating and reviewing of policies and post orders.

The management of inmate personal property is an important role within the Detention Center. Currently, there is one officer assigned to manage the property rooms.

There have been many technological improvements at the Hill-Finklea Detention Center in 2018 and 2019. Video visitation was implemented in 2019. This program greatly reduces the manpower needed to manage inmate visitation. Video bond hearings have also reduced manpower needs and increased security for victims and witnesses. The Detention Center also added Smart Tablets which will deliver personal mail, educational programs and other services. These are provided at no cost to the county. Digital mail has increased the efficiency of controlling communication and controlling contraband risk at the center.
Lieutenant Mark Tillman - End Of Watch. September 27, 2018
Lieutenant Mark Tillman died unexpectedly on September 27, 2018. Lieutenant Tillman was serving as a Patrol Squad Lieutenant at the time of his death. He was a 26-year law enforcement veteran. He served with Berkeley County for twenty years.

Deputy Marion Eugene Wright - End Of Watch November 19, 2002
Deputy Wright had just finished his shift and was en route home when he stopped to assist a disabled motorist. A Summerville Patrolman, William Bell, stopped to assist Deputy Wright. The two officers were changing a tire on the disabled vehicle when an oncoming vehicle left the roadway and struck both officers. The Patrolman and Deputy were both killed. The section of highway where the incident took place was renamed William Boland Bell and Marion Eugene Wright Highway.

Deputy Harvey L. Middleton - End Of Watch May 11, 1975
Deputy Sheriff Harvey Middleton was shot and killed when he and the St. Stephen Police Chief attempted to arrest a man who went on a shooting spree at his mother’s home.

Deputy Warren Calhoun Guerry - End Of Watch May 27, 1947,
Deputy Sheriff Warren Guerry was stabbed to death while transporting a prisoner. Deputy Guerry had arrested the suspect for robbery and was transporting him to a local constable’s home when the suspect assaulted him with a knife. He succumbed to his injuries before other officers arrived on the scene.

Berkeley County Constable Robert Hasell - End Of Watch February 4, 1893
Constable Robert Hasell was shot and killed while attempting to serve a warrant for trespassing. Two people were convicted of Constable Hasell’s murder and were sentenced to death. Constable Hasell had only served as a constable for one day.