



FRANKLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff A.J. "Tony" Smith

2024 Annual Report

Presented By :

FCSO Executive Team



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MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF

SHERIFF A.J. "TONY" SMITH

BIOGRAPHY



EDUCATION

Barry University

Bachelor's degree in Public Administration

EXPERIENCE

- Franklin County Sheriff's Office, 1980-82, 1983-87
- Florida Marine Patrol, 1983
- Leon County Sheriff's Office, 1987-1992
- Florida Department of Insurance, Division of State Fire Marshal, Lieutenant Special Operations, 1992-1999
- Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, 1999-2005
 - Alcoholic Beverage & Tobacco, chief of law enforcement
- Walton County Sheriff's Office, chief deputy, 2013-2016
- Elected Sheriff of Franklin County, 2016 and re-elected 2020 and 2024

MEMBERSHIPS

- Florida Deputy Sheriffs Association, former President
- Florida Police Chiefs Association
- National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives
- Florida SWAT Association
- National Tactical Officers Association
- National Rifle Association, Life member
- FDLE Chief Executive Seminar
- FBI LEEDA since 2017
- Ramp It Up, founding member
- Apalachicola Chamber of Commerce
- Carrabelle Chamber of Commerce
- Forgotten Coast Parrot Head Club

“ Dear Citizens of Franklin County,

I write to you today with a deep sense of pride and responsibility as your Sheriff. Our community's safety and well-being remain my highest priority, and I am committed to working tirelessly alongside you to maintain the secure, welcoming environment we all cherish.

Over the last year, our office has implemented several initiatives aimed at strengthening public safety and fostering community trust. We have increased our community patrols, improved our communication channels, and partnered with local organizations to better address the challenges we face. I am pleased with the progress we have made, yet I also recognize that our success depends on continued collaboration and mutual support between law enforcement and the citizens we serve.

I encourage every one of you to remain vigilant and to report any suspicious activity promptly. Your insights and cooperation have proven invaluable, and together we can ensure that Franklin County remains a safe place to live, work, and raise a family.

Thank you for the trust you have placed in me and the entire sheriff's office. We are here to serve you, and I am confident that by maintaining open lines of communication and strong community partnerships, we will continue to build a brighter, safer future for all residents of Franklin County.

Sincerely,
Sheriff A.J. "Tony" Smith

”

About the FCSO

FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA, EST. 1831



ABOUT

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office was established in 1831. There have been 36 people to serve as Sheriff since that time. A.J. "Tony" Smith is the current Sheriff of Franklin County. He has held the office since 2017 and is in his third term as Sheriff.

MISSION

The mission of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office is to create a safer Franklin County by reducing crime, ensuring the safety of our citizens and visitors with commitment to making our community a better place to live, work, and visit.

VISION

We are dedicated to serving the public with a commitment to excellence, contributing to the quality of life, and fostering a vibrant community for all individuals.

VALUES

"Doing the right thing, the right way, all the time."

GEOGRAPHY & COUNTY STATS



Franklin County Sheriff's Office serves a 545 square mile area and waterways.

Franklin County is bordered by Liberty County to the north, Gulf County to the west, Wakulla County to the east, and the Gulf of Mexico to the south.

FCSO deputies have a county-wide jurisdiction and are the primary law enforcement authority for the unincorporated areas of Franklin County.*

St. George Island is a very well-known visitor destination with a large amount of visitors per year.

*The unincorporated areas of Franklin County are those areas that are located outside of city limits.



**U.S. 2023 Census Population Estimate for Franklin County, Florida

HISTORY

Established in 1832, Franklin County was named in honor of Benjamin Franklin. During the period when Florida was still a territory, the state lines and county boundaries were often undefined, and in some areas, even the exact state border was unclear. Sheriff Baker served as sheriff in 1831, but his position was that of an appointed territorial sheriff, since Florida was not yet a state.

In 1841, Henry Williams took on the role of sheriff, followed by Charles Shepard, who served from 1843 to 1844. Both were appointed territorial sheriffs, as Florida would not become a state until March 3, 1845. John Lucas served as sheriff from 1845 to 1849, and is believed to have been the first elected sheriff of Franklin County.



COMMAND STAFF



CHIEF DEPUTY
CLIFF
CARROLL



CHIEF OF STAFF
DEBORAH
DEMPSEY



C.F.O.
GINGER
COULTER



COLONEL
DWAYNE
COULTER



DIRECTOR
RENEE
BRANNAN



MAJOR
GARY
MARTINA



MAJOR
BRAD
SEGREE



MAJOR
DAVID
VARNES



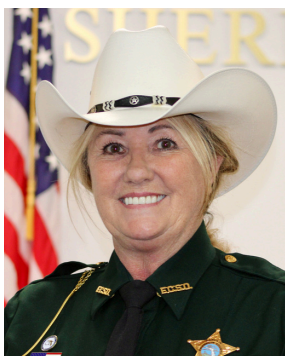
H.R.
DANA
PAVON



C.O.C.
SOPHIA
HARRELL



CAPTAIN
JAMES
HAMM



CAPTAIN
ANGIE
MILLENDER

C.F.O. = Chief Finance Officer

H.R. = Human Resources

C.O.C. = Community Outreach Coordinator



COMMAND STAFF



LIEUTENANT

**JAMES
WARD**



LIEUTENANT

**ALLEN
HAM**



LIEUTENANT

**GABE
LOCKLEY**



LIEUTENANT

**WESLEY
CREAMER**



LIEUTENANT

**STEVE
JAMES**



LIEUTENANT

**LAWRENCE
BRANNAN**



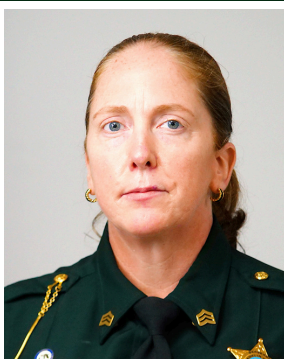
LIEUTENANT

**JASON
REGISTER**



LIEUTENANT

**T.J.
CARROLL**



LIEUTENANT

**KATHY
PALMER**



LIEUTENANT

**FRANCES
MESSER**



LIEUTENANT

**DALLAS
SHIVER**

OUR AGENCY

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office consists of five main categories: Law Enforcement, Corrections, Administration, Dispatch, and Care Coordination.



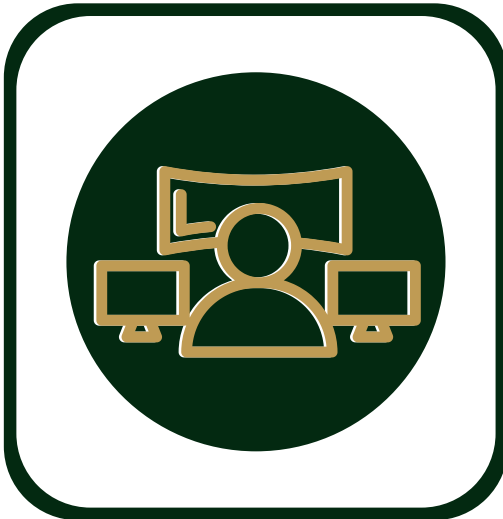
Law Enforcement



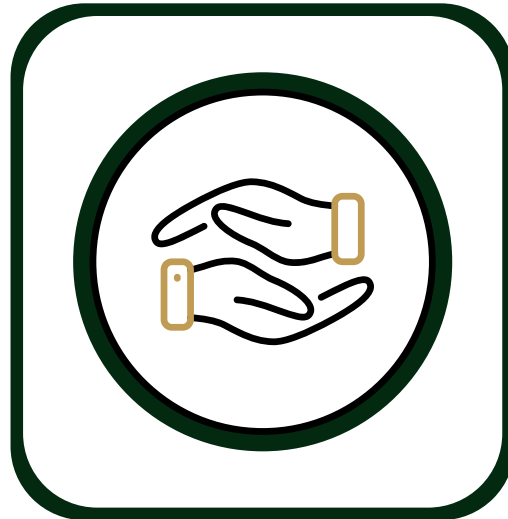
Corrections



Administration



Dispatch



Care Coordination

TOTAL EMPLOYEES

88

60 Sworn

25 Civilian

2 Part-time

YEAR IN REVIEW

PATROL

4,728 Traffic Stops

1,946 Verbal Warning

114 Arrests

8 Arrested on Warrant

41 Criminal Citation

1,103

Warning Citation

1,377

Traffic Infraction

138

Report Due

14 DUI Arrests

677,809 Miles Driven

655 Total items received by evidence

333

Drugs

59

Firearms

MENTAL HEALTH

27

Marchman Act

57

Baker Act

64

Mental Health Check

CRASH REPORT

6

Fatalities

8

Property Damage

164

No Injuries

19

Hit & Run

50

Unknown Injuries

278

Crash Total

36

Injury

7

Resulted in Arrest



YEAR IN REVIEW

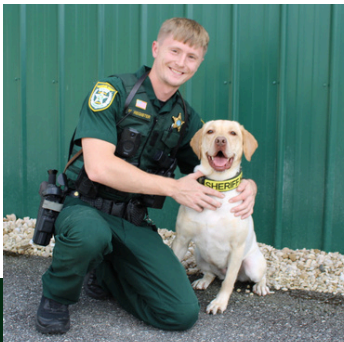
INVESTIGATIONS & NARCOTICS

- 59 Overdoses
- 4 Overdose Deaths
- 14 Search Warrants Executed



K9 UNIT

- NARCOTICS**
 - 165 Deployments on traffic stops
 - 100 Narcotic Seizures
- TRACKING**
 - 3 Article Locations
 - 4 Suspect Tracks
- 330 Training Hours
 - 230 Narcotics Detection
 - 100 Tracking



K9 Deputy Register & K9 Piper

VICTIM ADVOCATE

- 333 Offered Services
- 25 Received Services



YEAR IN REVIEW

SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTY UNIT

SCHOOLS SERVED

FRANKLIN COUNTY SCHOOL

**Pre-K through 12th grade

APALACHICOLA BAY CHARTER SCHOOL

**Pre-K through 8th grade



ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

\$8,225,779 Total Budget for 2024

\$5,250,276 Patrol

\$2,247,774 Corrections

\$188,609 Judicial

\$539,122 LE Incentive

\$203,966 Vehicle Maintenance

\$178,462 Fuel

\$62,853 Education & Training

\$2,756,802 Grant Funds Received

1,864 Total Training Hours

3,708 Criminal & Civil Papers Served

350 Public Records



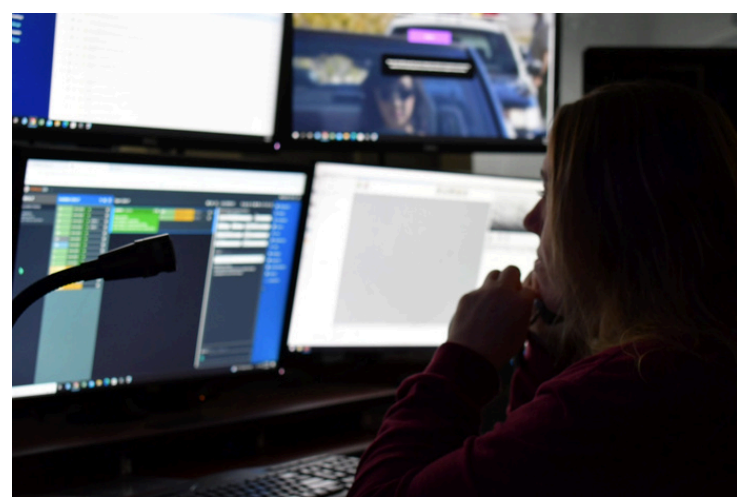
YEAR IN REVIEW

DISPATCH

33,235 Total calls for service

2,957 911 Calls

2,555 Calls to Senior Citizens



YEAR IN REVIEW



CORRECTIONS

100 Max Capacity

66 Average Daily Population

671 Inmates Booked

\$89.42 Average Daily Cost Per Inmate

71,449 Meals Served

1,172 Inmates Seen by Nursing Staff

4,004 Prescriptions Processed

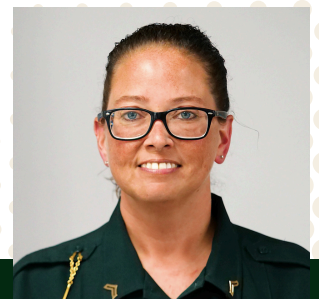
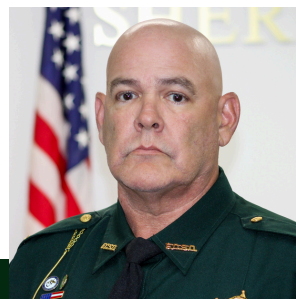
12 Inmates Transported for Outside Medical Care

153 Inmates Escorted to Court (Felony & Misdemeanor)

32 Inmates Transported to DOC After Sentencing

268 Inmates Attending Programs

26,800 Pounds of Trash Picked Up



YEAR IN REVIEW

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

"It takes everyone working together to make our community whole!"



YEAR IN REVIEW

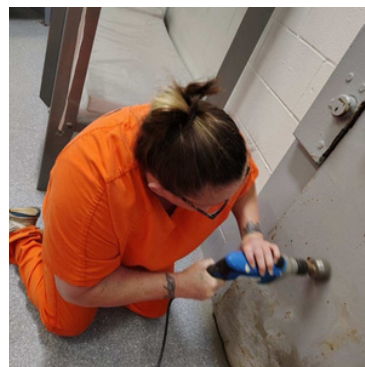
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

EXPLORER'S PROGRAM POST 59

Established 2024



SHERIFF'S WORK CREW



YEAR IN REVIEW

CHARITY FUND

Helping Franklin County folks!

\$1,240,382.92 Money Received Since July 2018

\$208,623.72 Money Received in 2024

\$156,500.86 Money Spent in 2024

15 Ramps Built in 2024



FOOD TRUCK & ICE CREAM PATROL

"We feel the need to feed!"



"SHERIFFS HELPING SHERIFFS" HURRICANE RELIEF



YEAR IN REVIEW

CARE COORDINATORS

Community Outreach Coordinator
K9 Valentine's Handler



Care Coordinator



The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Community Outreach Coordinator program allows non-sworn civilians to bridge the gap between individuals and law enforcement as well as essential behavioral health services. The program focuses on raising community awareness about the importance of behavioral health, fostering relationships of trust with local resources, and promoting proactive help-seeking behaviors. By addressing the intersection of behavioral health and criminality, it works to reduce the cycle of reoffending related to untreated behavioral health challenges, ultimately leading to safer communities and better outcomes for individuals in need.

2,597 Number of contacts in 2024

NWF HEALTH INITIATIVES

NWF Health Network's criminal justice initiatives enhance community well-being by addressing behavioral health needs within the criminal justice system, particularly in rural communities. These efforts reflect their commitment to holistic public health and safety.

Community Outreach Coordinators

The Community Outreach Coordinator program allows a non-sworn civilian to connect incarcerated individuals with behavioral health services upon release, educate the community on behavioral health needs, and establish trusted resources for seeking help, ultimately mitigating the criminality associated with behavioral health issues.

Behavioral Health Transport

NWF Health network proposes using off-duty law enforcement officers for these transports, offering financial reimbursement to ensure public safety and maintain service levels. This approach aims to improve outcomes through trained de-escalation techniques and provide a formal standard of care.

S.M.A.R.T. Meth Prevention

The S.M.A.R.T. (Stopping Methamphetamine Among Our Teens) prevention program includes an in-school curriculum for middle and high schoolers with messages specifically oriented to how teenagers in rural communities view drug usage.

In-Jail Telehealth

NWF Health has partnered with Access Discount Health Care (ADHC) to offer behavioral health assessments and outpatient therapy to connect licensed therapists with inmates in local rural jails via Telehealth.

Certified Recovery Peer Specialist

NWF Health offered an opportunity for members of law enforcement to earn a continuing education incentive by becoming Certified Recovery Peer Specialists (CRPS). Law Enforcement Certified Peers will be able to refer those who seek help beyond the services of a Certified Peer to a network of licensed mental health providers.

Mobile Response Teams

MRT provides on-site assessment, support, and resources for rural individuals in crisis who may need mental health stabilization but can be averted from in-patient care or hospitalization. Law enforcement uses MRTs when responding to mental health crisis-related calls for service.

YEAR IN REVIEW

COMMUNITY & EMPLOYEE WELLNESS

🐾🐾 *Therapy Dog at Work* 🐾🐾

In December 2023, the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Community Outreach Coordinator, Sophia Harrell, attended the Paws & Stripes College at the Brevard County Sheriff's Office. While there Sophia adopted K9 Valentine and together they became a certified Therapy Dog Team. In January 2024, Sophia and K9 Valentine started their community and FCSO office work in effort to enhance the emotional health and well-being of FCSO and the community they serve.

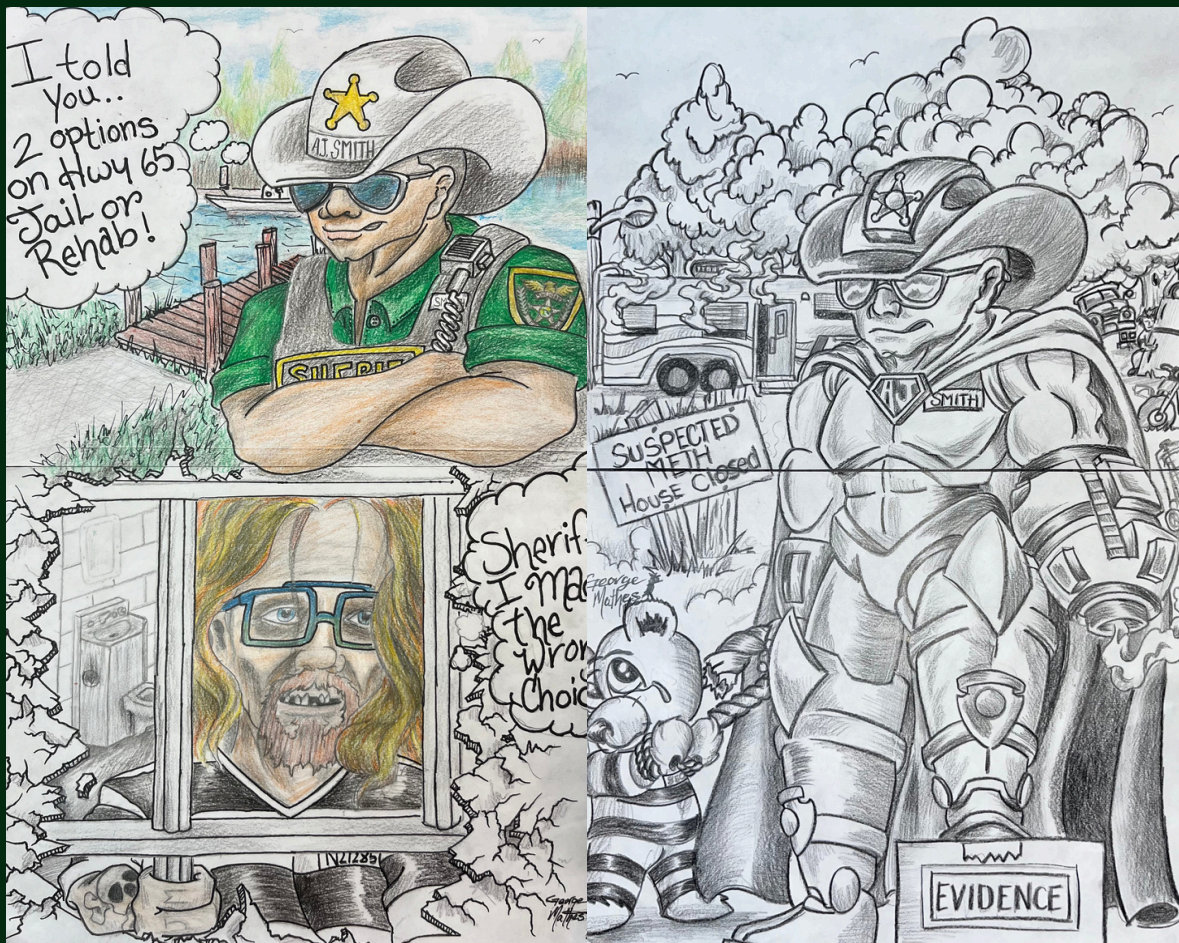
K9 Valentine is specially trained to work with children, adults, and even veterans to reduce anxiety & anger, increase communication, act as a positive mood stabilizer, reduce symptoms of PTSD, obtain higher test scores through positive interaction, and kids interacting with therapy dogs are more likely to graduate!



K9 VALENTINE



INMATE ART



Contact Us



FRANKLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



850-670-8500



**270 State Road 65
Eastpoint, FL 32328**



**FCSOFL
FL.FCSO**



www.franklinsheriff.com

#FCSOFL