

Sonoma County Sheriff's Office

Fiscal Year

2021-2022

Annual Report



Published August 2022



Mission Statement & Core Values

In partnership with our communities, we commit to provide professional, firm, fair, and compassionate public safety services with integrity and respect.

A Message from Sheriff Essick

Success stories feel tough to find these days, but they're often all around us. Fundamentally, it's our job to keep Sonoma County safe, so people can live better and fuller lives – free from whatever threats they face. Despite budget cuts and low staffing here at the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office, we continue to provide a high level of service that we can all be proud of.

Think about this: we administered Narcan more times than we care to count, but in the process, we helped create the opportunity for a new life instead of an overdose. We removed 40,000 dangerous fentanyl pills from the streets in just one arrest, doing our part to save untold lives in the opioid epidemic. Working in partnership with the Board of Supervisors, we saved Henry-1 – the lifesaving symbol of our agency and a critical public safety tool for our nature-blessed county.

With far fewer willing to choose a career in law enforcement, we still processed 52% more job applications than last year – and we're still attracting the best of the best. And even with tough overtime that forces some in our agency to work over 60 hours per week, we're still maintaining our impressive response times when our neighbors need us.



Despite our resilience, we are still faced with harsh realities. Lieutenant Bobby Travelstead's name is now etched on the memorial stone in front of our office – our first line of duty death in more than a quarter century. We mourn his loss and celebrate a lifetime of service.

It hasn't been an easy year for any of us. But our commitment to service remains, and our constant drive for self-improvement challenges us to learn more, to get creative, and to be better. These past four years, we've developed a strategic plan, implemented it, and stuck with it – it's a win for us and for this community we all love. In a world that too often tells us to be negative, we choose to focus on the victories.

Staff Demographics



White	472	71.2%
Hispanic or Latin	122	18.4%
Not specified	31	4.7%
Asian	15	2.3%
Black or African American	15	2.3%
American Indian/Alaska Native	3	0.5%
Two or More Races	3	0.5%
Male	476	71.8%
Female	187	28.2%
TOTAL EMPLOYEES	663	

1,126

Candidates processed

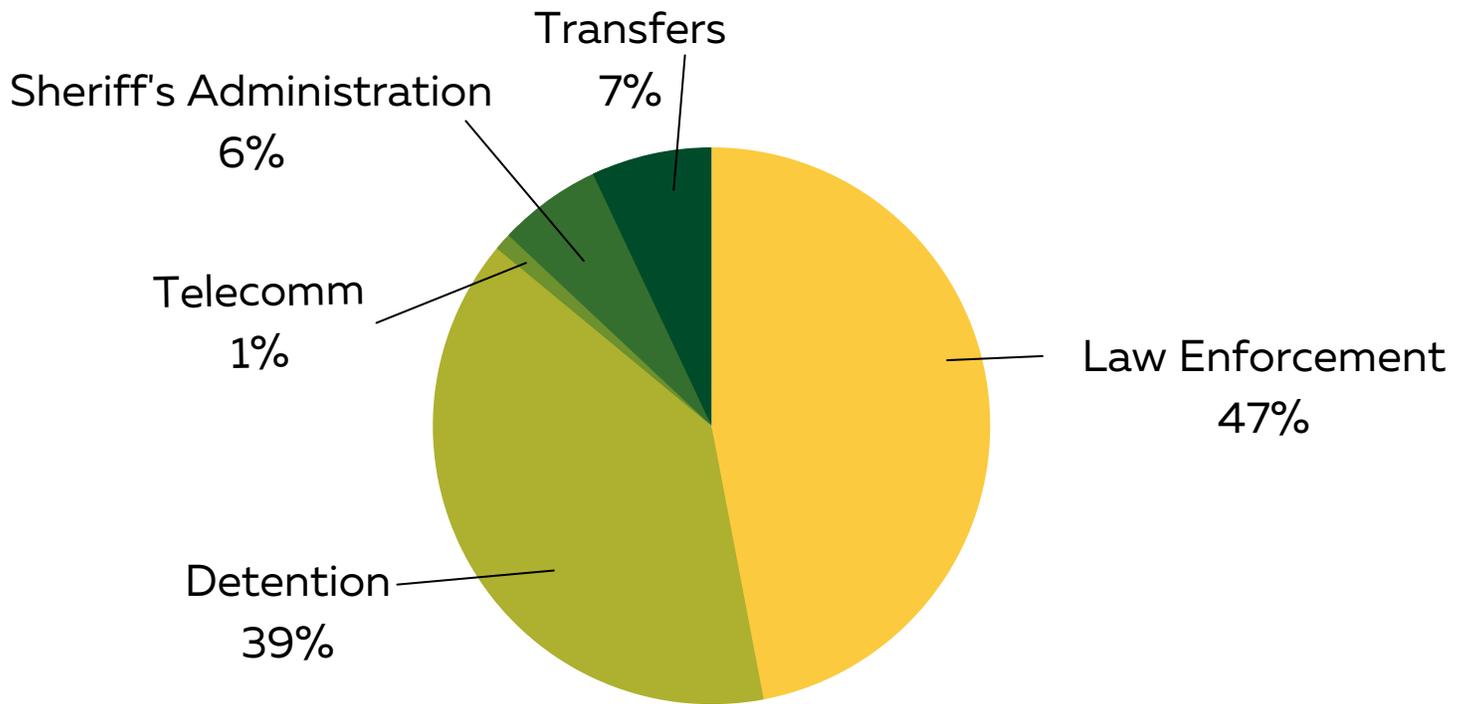
70

Candidates hired

Career opportunities!



\$209,497,550 Budget



TOTAL ALLOCATED STAFF: 628.5

Law Enforcement Division	297 allocated staff	222 sworn deputy sheriffs 6 sworn correctional deputies 69 civilians
Detention Division	280 allocated staff	1 sworn deputy sheriff 201 sworn correctional deputies 78 civilians
Sheriff Administration	46 allocated staff	10 sworn deputy sheriffs 3 sworn correctional deputies 33 civilians
Telecommunications	5 allocated staff	5 civilians

TOTAL EXTRA HELP STAFF: 99

Extra Help	99 extra help staff	58 sworn deputy sheriffs 10 sworn correctional deputies 31 civilians
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\$209,497,550

Budget

55,984

Calls for Service

819,425

Inmate meals served

30,261

9-1-1 calls

507

Death investigations

11,029

Bookings

663 Employees

Men 72% Women 28%

1,708

Arrests

4,656

Civil notices served

1,155

Henry 1 missions

1,126

Candidates processed

2021-2022 At A Glance



Detention



While much of the world opened up this year, COVID-19 still had significant impacts on the daily operations in the Detention Division, including required testing, masking, and sanitation protocol. Visitations and in-person classes remained limited. The North County Detention Facility remained closed due to the reduction of our inmate population.

11,029

Bookings

9,998

Releases

12,140

COVID-19 tests administered

613

Inmates tested positive for COVID-19

281

COVID-19 vaccines provided



Our goal is to ensure an inmate leaves in better condition than when he or she arrived at jail. Key actions to help inmates include educational classes and health treatment programs.

Medical Assisted Treatment is an opioid substance abuse treatment program. Of the **102** inmates evaluated, **55** inmates were deemed eligible and **47** were treated.

3,240 Class hours provided

79 Classes offered to inmates

The Jail Based Competency Program aims to restore inmates who are deemed mentally incompetent to stand trial by offering intensive mental health services. **82** inmates were admitted to this program. **65** were restored to competency, **12** were discharged to a State hospital for continued treatment, and **3** were determined non-restorable.

It took an average of **48** days to restore an inmate to competency.

Detention Facts

732

Average Daily Population

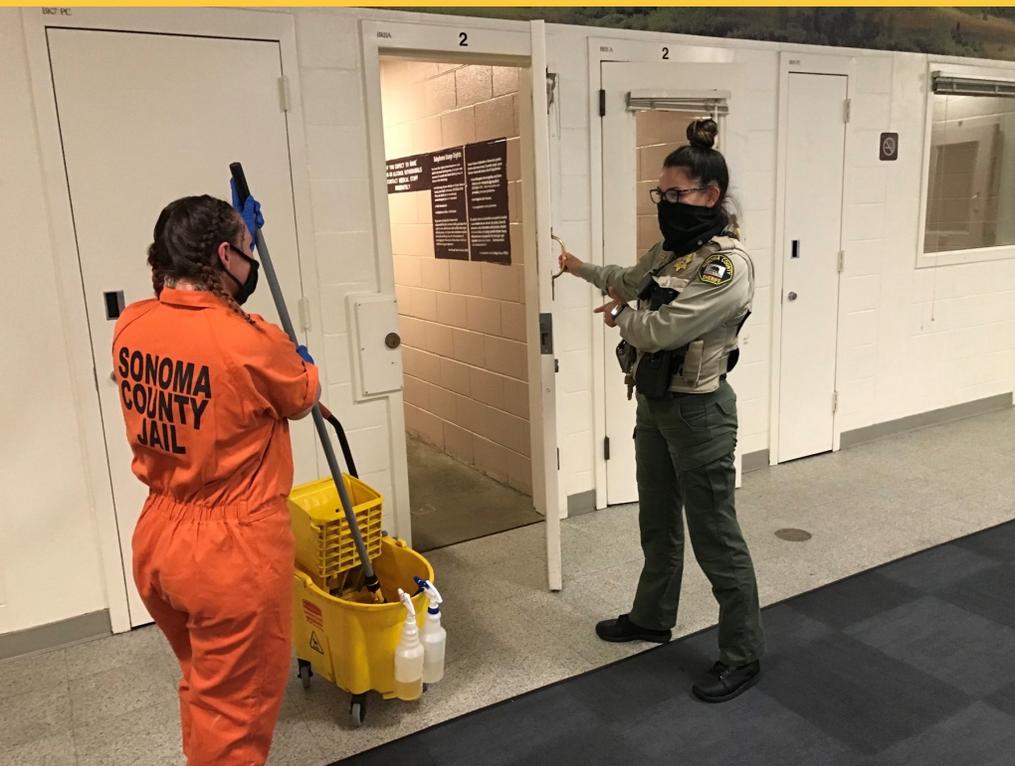
48%

Inmates with a mental health diagnosis

28%

Inmates report as being homeless

We housed **853** AB 109 inmates. These are inmates that would normally serve time in State prison, but are housed in county jails instead.



It takes approximately **100** full-time employees to operate the Main Adult Detention Facility in a 24 hour period.

We served **819,425** meals to inmates.

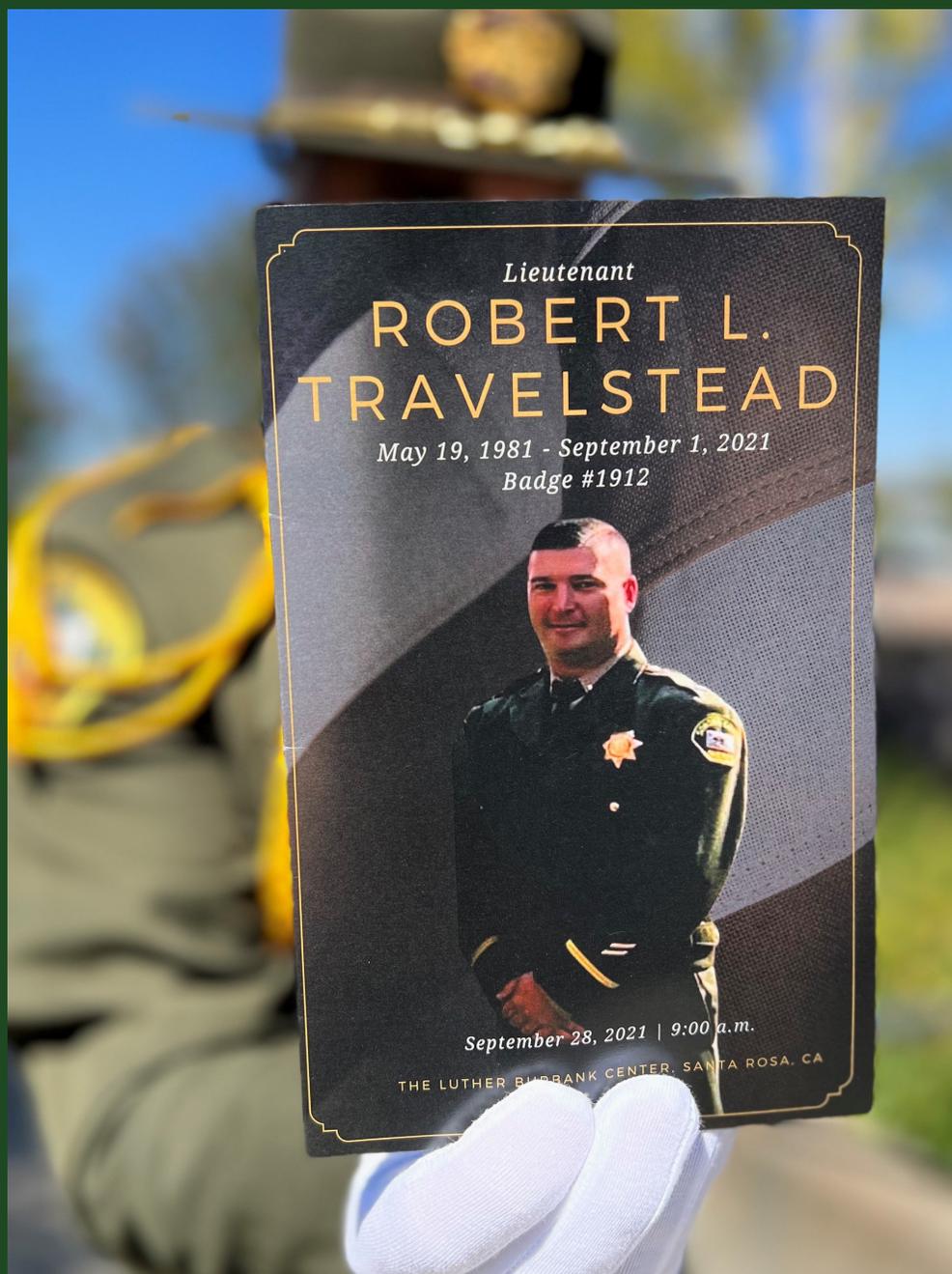
Lt. Robert "Bobby" Travelstead

On September 1, 2021, we said farewell to our brother, Bobby. He died in the line of duty from complications of COVID-19. He was 40 years old.

Bobby was one of 301 peace officers who died of COVID-19 in the United States in 2021. He served this Office for 14 years. This is the first line of duty death the Office experienced in 26 years.

Bobby is survived by his two daughters.

In May 2022, Bobby's family and members of the Honor Guard travelled to Washington, D.C. to honor Bobby at the National Peace Officers Memorial. He was one of 458 peace officers who died in the line of duty in 2021.



End of Watch: September 1, 2021



Patrol

All unincorporated county

55,984

Calls for service

**11 minutes,
12 seconds**

Average response time
(Priority 1)

1,708

Arrests

**1.37 deputies
per 1,000
residents**

Staffing to population ratio

River Substation*

9,755

Calls for service

366

Arrests

**8 minutes,
46 seconds**

Average response time
(Priority 1)

Valley Substation*

8,835

Calls for service

250

Arrests

**7 minutes,
59 seconds**

Average response time
(Priority 1)

*These numbers are included under "All unincorporated county" above.

Patrol Facts

Use of Force

The State's definition of "Use of Force" now includes a deputy pointing his/her service weapon at someone to gain compliance. Our average Use of Force statistic noticeably increased because the definition is more broad.

This year we used force **292** times. Of those, **98** incidents were pointing a service weapon at someone.

Deputies used force in **7.86%** of arrests (three year average, unincorporated county and contract cities).

Patrol policies



Dispatch



179,120

Calls received

30,261

9-1-1 calls received

99.93%

of 9-1-1 calls were answered in less than 10 seconds

Investigations

Detectives from five units were assigned **1,567** cases to investigate. It's important to note that the Coroner's Bureau reports to a separate Lieutenant to avoid conflict of interest with the other investigative units.

420

Crime scene investigations cases

352

Property crimes cases

153

Domestic violence/sexual assault cases

135

Violent crimes cases, including **3** homicides

507

Death investigations

Read Michelle's story



In February 2022, Violent Crimes Detectives announced they solved a 25-year-old cold case. Using the latest DNA technology, detectives determined serial rapist Jack Bokin killed 32-year-old Michelle Veal, who was found naked and battered in a field in Santa Rosa in 1996. She was a single mom with three young daughters. Jack Bokin died in prison in December 2021. We hope that solving this case helps Michelle's family find closure.

Central Information Bureau

246

Public Records Act requests processed

25,152

Pieces of evidence processed

12,708

Pieces of evidence disposed of or released

We launched a new online public reporting tool this year. Since its launch, Central Information Bureau staff now write an average of **51** reports per month; they previously wrote an average of **14** reports per month. This takes some workload off deputies, allowing them to focus more on their patrol duties.

Civil Bureau

The Civil Bureau serves notices and executes processes. Examples include restraining orders, levies, and evictions. Civil staff served and executed **11%** more items than last year. Their work consisted of **221** evictions, **396** garnishment levies, **2,850** services performed, and **1,189** miscellaneous Civil actions performed.

4,656

Notices served and processes executed

Windsor Police Department

The Windsor Police Department is staffed by our employees through a negotiated contract between the County and the Town of Windsor.

The Police Department employs **24** full-time employees: **one** Chief, **three** sergeants, **15** patrol deputies (including **one** K9 deputy), **one** traffic deputy, **one** school resource officer, **one** community services officer, and **two** support administrative staff.

12,419

Calls for service

**.77 deputies
per 1,000
residents**

Staffing to population ratio

406

Arrests

**5 minutes,
42 seconds**

Average response time
(Priority 1)

Sonoma Police Department

The Sonoma Police Department is staffed by our employees through a negotiated contract between the County and the City of Sonoma.

The Police Department employs 15 full-time employees: **one** Chief, **two** sergeants, **10** patrol deputies, and **two** community services officers.

6,377

Calls for service

1,326

Arrests

**1.21 deputies
per 1,000
residents**

Staffing to population ratio

**5 minutes,
46 seconds**

Average response time (Priority 1)

Henry-1

The Henry-1 helicopter crew flew **1,155** missions ranging from public demonstrations to searching for suspects. Here are some highlights:

760

Law Enforcement

29

Search

26

Fire

115

Training

149

Rescue

On the evening of June 16, 2022, a 16-year-old collapsed while playing basketball with his friends at Sonoma Valley High School. Henry-1 chose to respond when they heard the call on the radio; they landed about three minutes later. Meanwhile, the teenager's friends started CPR and used an AED. Once paramedics arrived, they took over life-saving measures. Henry-1 quickly flew the the teenager to a hospital in Santa Rosa.

He survived.

The combination of his fast-acting friends, highly skilled paramedics, and rapid transport to a trauma center likely saved his life.

Search & Rescue Team

46

Volunteers

15

Missions

5,397

Hours

Community Engagement

5%

Agriculture

17%

Black, Indigenous, and People of Color

6%

Business

10%

Fire & Recovery

37%

General

43%

Youth & Family

We attended **218** events this year and spent **418** hours at events all over Sonoma County with a wide range of people - about **32,822** people! The percentages on this page may not add up to 100 because events sometimes include a diverse group of people.



