

# Butler County Sheriff



# 2015 Annual Report





## Mission Statement of the Butler County Sheriff's Office

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The Butler County Sheriff's Office is devoted to excellence in all aspects of service provided to our community and its visitors.

We are dedicated to enhancing our citizens' quality of life by reducing crime and the fears associated with crime.

## Our Core Values

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### Honesty

Fostering sincerity, openness and transparency

### Integrity

Adhering to moral and ethical principles

### Humility

Modesty of one's own importance

### Sense of Community

Being part of, not above, those we serve



## Our Motto

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"Spectemur Agendo"

Let us be judged by our actions.



## Message from Sheriff Jones

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### The Heroin Epidemic

This powerful drug has grabbed the world and is turning lives inside out. It affects people in all walks of life. Heroin's addictive and deadly qualities make no distinction between the very poorest to the wealthiest of people. Our jails, our courts and our hospitals are overburdened with the heroin epidemic.

In the United States heroin overdoses took the lives of an estimated 45,374 people from 2011 to 2015. Ohio's portion of those numbers of heroin overdose related deaths more than quadrupled from 426 in 2011 to an estimated 1,883 in 2015.

Closer to home, the heroin overdose related deaths in Butler County have increased 15 fold from 7 in 2011 to 108 or more in 2015. Toxicology reports are pending in death investigations from September through December, 2015, so a total is not available as of this writing. It is important to note here that these numbers obviously do not reflect those who have been rescued from an overdose death with the use of Narcan at the scene.

Our BURN unit has arrested 229 people and investigated 260 heroin related criminal cases in the past two years alone.

Heroin affects the lives of those who use it, their children, family and friends. An unknown number of infants throughout this country are born addicted to heroin because their mother and father are heroin addicts.

In January, 2016, a 7 month old child was in a local hospital recovering from major surgery. Her parents, a young couple from Alabama, overdosed on heroin while in the child's hospital room. The mother died and the father is in jail on various drug related charges. What will happen to this young child and sibling now that heroin has stolen their parents?

Additional lives are being destroyed as you read this message. I don't know that we are winning this battle from the enforcement perspective, or with the current medicinal treatment options.

We need to continue and enhance our "Just Say No" program. Working with children at an early age and educating their parents is of critical importance as well.

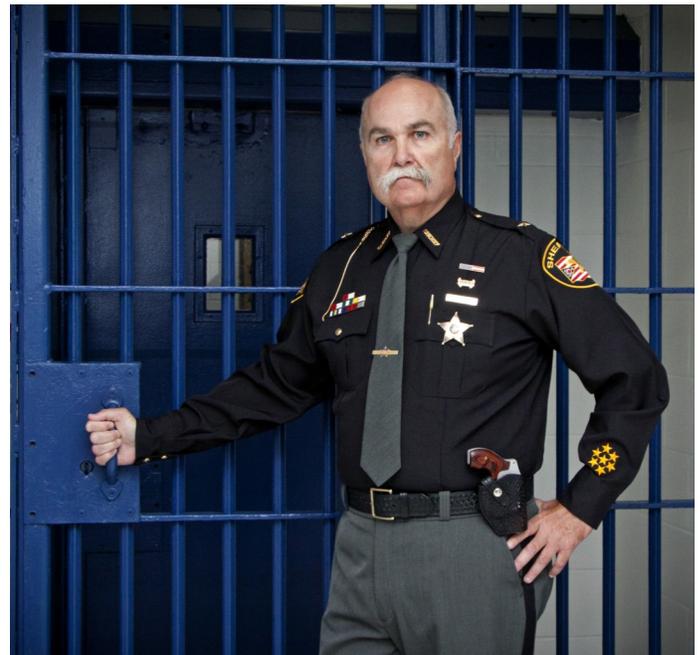
The workload of all Sheriff's Office employees has increased due

to the heroin epidemic. I am proud of all they do to protect and respond to the calls for service to the citizens of Butler County, Ohio.

This job is not for everyone – but I can say that those who have chosen this as a career with the Butler County Sheriff's Office are "Second to None".

Proud to Serve as your Sheriff,

*R. K. Jones*



## Sheriff Richard K. Jones

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Richard K. Jones was elected to serve as the 45th Sheriff of Butler County, Ohio in November 2004. He took over the office on Monday January 3, 2005. He was elected to serve his third term as our Sheriff in November 2012. Before being elected as Sheriff, he served as Chief Deputy of the Butler County Sheriff's Office for twelve years.

Sheriff Jones' history as an administrator of the Butler County Sheriff's Office for over twenty years reflects a continuing dedication and commitment to the safety of everyone in Butler County.



## Chief Deputy Anthony E. Dwyer

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Chief Anthony Dwyer is a lifelong resident of Butler County. Born and raised in Middletown, Ohio, he graduated high school in 1981 and attended West Virginia Tech University on a football scholarship. Chief Dwyer began his employment with the Sheriff's Office in 1984 originally working in the Corrections Division and then as a patrol deputy.

In 1986, Chief Dwyer was transferred to the Detective Division where he remained for the next thirteen years being promoted through the ranks of Detective, Detective Sergeant, Detective Lieutenant, and Detective Captain. During his tenure in the Detective Bureau, Chief Dwyer worked on several high-profile homicide investigations that have been featured on "America's Most Wanted" and the Discovery Channel's "New Detective" series. He is also a recipient of the National Sheriff's Association award for exceptional investigative work and has been published in "Ohio Police" magazine.

In 1999, Chief Dwyer accepted a management position as Major overseeing all operations of the Sheriff's Office. Traditionally, newly elected Sheriff's bring with them a new administrative staff. When Sheriff Jones took office in January of 2005, he promoted Dwyer to his current rank of Chief Deputy. This promotion marks the first time in modern Butler County Sheriff's Office history that the Chief Deputy has progressed through the ranks within the Sheriff's Office to the second position of authority.

## Major G. Michael Craft

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Major G. Michael Craft graduated from Hamilton Taft High School in 1980. He is a lifetime Hamilton resident and a former Champion Paper employee. He made his career switch to law enforcement when he joined the Butler County Sheriff's Office in October 1989, as an undercover drug agent. After attending the Basic Peace Officer Training Academy, Major Craft was assigned

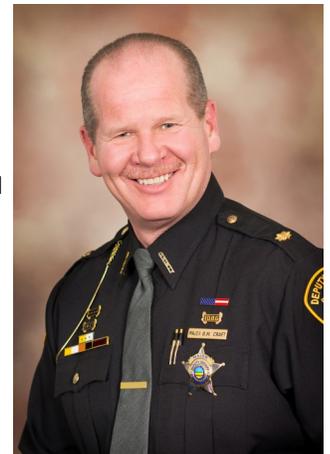
as a Corrections Officer until he was promoted to Road Patrol in June 1991.

After being promoted to Detective in 1996, Major Craft was completed three tours in the Drug Unit, was a D.A.R.E. & G.R.E.A.T. Officer assigned to the Crime Prevention Unit and was the first Detective assigned to the newly created "Crimes against the Elderly" program in 1995. In 1996, he was named "Employee of the Year."

After his promotion to Sergeant, Major Craft was assigned to supervise the Detective Division and Drug Unit until his promotion to Lieutenant in 2000. As Lieutenant, he worked assignments in Court Security and the Civil Division and served as Deputy Warden of Corrections for over four years. His final assignment as a Lieutenant was with Criminal Investigations, until his promotion to Operations Captain in November 2013.

In addition to his other assignments, Major Craft has also been a member of and supervised the Marine Patrol Unit and Hostage Negotiators. With over twenty-seven years of experience at the Butler County Sheriff's Office, Major Craft has worked countless high profile homicides and investigative cases along with county-wide, record breaking drug cases.

Based on his extensive knowledge and experience throughout his many years of service, Sheriff Jones promoted him to Major on February 24, 2015.



## Executive Secretary Pam Stroup

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Pam was hired in 1984 under Sheriff Walton. She has served the Sheriff's Office for 32 years as an Executive Secretary to four consecutive Butler County Sheriffs. Sheriff Jones and Pam worked closely on many projects while he served as Chief Deputy. He chose to continue that valuable working relationship by continuing Pam's employment as Executive Secretary.



## Highlights from 2015 at the Butler County Sheriff's Office

### Story of kind-hearted deputy goes viral

Brian Bussell, a 25-year veteran with the Butler County Sheriff's Office, noticed something was not quite right when he entered the jail lobby one Sunday morning. It isn't unusual to see people waiting there, but seeing two young boys with blankets from the jail sleeping in chairs while their mother watched over them is not a common occurrence.

Deputy Bussell approached the mother and asked her if she needed assistance. He learned they had been evicted from their home in Oxford and had no place to stay. They were in the waiting process for assistance with housing and would know something by Wednesday.

Deputy Bussell along with Dispatch Supervisor Miranda Sheppard began calling area homeless shelters in an effort to find this family a temporary place to stay. Unable to find a shelter with availability, Deputy Bussell couldn't turn them away. Instead, he loaded them up in his cruiser and drove them to an Oxford hotel where he took out his wallet and booked a room for the family of three for ten days. But the story doesn't end there...

The next stop for the boys and their mom was Walmart. Deputy Bussell dropped them off at the store telling them to pick out clothing and call him when they were ready to check out and he would come in to take care of the payment. When the boys asked if they could have shoes he told them they "absolutely could."

"He went to the Walmart when they were done and paid for everything," Sheriff Jones said. "This is a true act of kindness. He did not tell anyone at work what he had done but the lady took a picture with him and posted it on Facebook. That's actually how we found out. It was shared so many times that I got a phone call asking if I knew what a generous gesture my deputy did. I am pleased that he was able to help this family out. This speaks volumes in light of all the recent negativity people are



saying about law enforcement. I have some of the best employees here."

### Multi-million dollar food stamp fraud ring

Three years ago, a partnership was formed between Job and Family Services and Butler County Sheriff's Office to attack the growing problem of food stamp fraud. From July 2014 to June 2015, 413 allegations of food stamp fraud have been investigated resulting in the arrest of 108 people with 93 of those being convicted.

In August, working alongside federal, state, and other local law enforcement agencies, the Butler County Sheriff's Office executed search warrants at businesses and homes located in Butler and Hamilton Counties. This was the result of an 18-month undercover investigation into a multi-million dollar food stamp fraud operation. Two Fairfield businesses were at the heart of the investigation, U.S. Beef and Butcher Shop Food Distributors. Sheriff Jones said the 18-month investigation is one of the largest of its kind in Ohio history.

Business owners and workers illegally obtained food stamp cards in exchange for cash and drugs scamming taxpayers out of more than \$2 million which is 38 percent of the \$5.3 million lost last year to food stamp fraud in Ohio. Investigators believe the operation doesn't stop here and reaches into other states and





## Highlights from 2015 at the Butler County Sheriff's Office



*Above: Butler County kids flocked to the jail on Hanover Street for our first annual Halloween event*

nationwide. During this operation 13 of the 14 people targeted in Hamilton and Fairfield were taken into custody. The resulting criminal charges included conspiracy, wire fraud, money laundering, illegal use of food stamp benefits, and other drug charges. Property and assets seized included a Corvette, Hummer, Cadillac, additional vehicles, and guns.

According to Sheriff Jones, this operation targeted the “big boys” of food stamp fraud. “This has tentacles and there will be more arrests,” he said. The Butler County Sheriff's Office continues to investigate and catch intentional food stamp program violators.

### First annual Halloween event held at jail

Halloween 2015 brought a zombie attack to the Butler County Sheriff's Office. Two zombies made their way through the halls heading to see Sheriff Jones and presumably turn him into a member of the walking dead. Meanwhile, the Sheriff sat calmly inviting residents to come to the Sheriff's Office for our first annual Halloween Event.



Hundreds of trick-or-treaters had the opportunity to interact with members of the SWAT Team, Marine Patrol, Mounted Patrol, Motorcycle Unit, Bomb Squad, and more.

Don't worry; Sheriff Jones was on the job to “take care of” those zombies before they could spoil the festivities. It was a huge success with trick-or-treaters of all ages attending.

### Donations bring Christmas cheer

Every child dreams of getting a puppy or a kitten under the tree at Christmas. This year those dreams can come true for some Butler County children. Well, sort of anyway...

Donations made at the PetSmart in Bridgewater Falls helped BCSO provide the stuffed version of a brown and tan pup with floppy ears named “Chance” and a black and grey tiger striped kitten named “Lucky” to children from low income families. Chance and Lucky might have been one of the few presents those children received during this Christmas season.

Thanks to the abundance of donations, we were able to pay them forward to the Butler County Educational Service Center.

Over 2,000 low income pregnant mothers and children from across Butler County are provided Early Childhood Programs through BCESC with programs such as Head Start and appreciated these cuddly stuffed friends to hug.





# Highlights from 2015 at the Butler County Sheriff's Office

## Fingerprint scanners in cruisers

Biometric fingerprint scanners were added to the mobile data terminals (MDT) in twenty-eight of our older cruisers. These will provide an added layer of security as required by Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS) for access to the terminal in a deputy's cruiser. Newer model cruisers are already in compliance. MDTs provide a direct link for law enforcement officers on the road with their dispatch centers along with many other useful functions such as data entry, reporting, and mobile inquiries into state and federal databases.



## Employees recognized

Sheriff Richard K. Jones named Lieutenant Morgan Dallman and Deputy Brian Oswald as 2015 Deputies of the Year due to their apprehension of a Kentucky murder suspect the previous fall. The suspect, Terry Froman, was accused of kidnapping his estranged girlfriend and fatally shooting her 17-year-old son.

Froman was stopped on I-75 by the Ohio State Highway Patrol, and troopers heard gunshots when they initially attempted to approach the vehicle.

Sheriff Jones said both men "went above and beyond" and that he is proud of their actions.

"You have a guy that is armed, has already killed someone, has taken his girlfriend against her will, and is running from the cops," the Sheriff said. "That type of scenario almost never ends well."

Corrections Officer Bill Kelly was also awarded as Officer of the



Year for consistently going the extra mile in running his housing unit and training new recruits. He was singled out for excellence in the categories of technical skills, documentation skills, good housekeeping, and being a team player.

## Employee Awards

Jackson, Howard	Life Saving Award
Hatfield, Jasen	Life Saving Award
Maxwell, Matt	Life Saving Award
Cook, Shannon	Life Saving Award
Davenport, James	Life Saving Award
Marcum, Derek	Life Saving Award
Boughen, Elizabeth	Life Saving Award
Fryer, Paige	Certificate of Appreciation
O'Neill, Robin	Certificate of Appreciation
Robertson, Holly	Certificate of Appreciation
Sherwin, Susan	Certificate of Appreciation
Taylor, Dave	Certificate of Appreciation
Turner, Darla	Certificate of Appreciation
Sherwin, Susan	Life Saving Award
Dallman, Morgan	Certificate of Merit
Oswald, Brian	Commendation Award
Kugler, Justin	Civilian Commendation
Blume, James	Military Service
Boyd, John	Military Service
Catron, James	Military Service
Newton, Paul	Certificate of Appreciation
Vedra, Bill	Certificate of Appreciation
Whiteman, Taylor	Certificate of Appreciation
Sherwin, Susan	Certificate of Appreciation
Emmons, Brad	Certificate of Appreciation
Mayor, Damon	Certificate of Appreciation
Lambert, Janee	Certificate of Appreciation
O'Neill, Robin	Commendation Award - Individual
Nethers, Kaitlyn	Commendation Award - Individual
Root, Donna	Life Saving Award
Jeffries, Lauren	Life Saving Award
Johnson, Arlen	Life Saving Award
Green, Jody	Certificate of Merit
Dallman, Morgan	Field Training Officer



# BCSO Finance in 2015

## Finance Director Vickie Jo Barger

Director Vickie Jo Barger leads the Finance Division of the Butler County Sheriff's Office. The Finance Division oversees all financial, human resources, payroll, inmate accounts, grant administration and purchasing functions of the Sheriff's Office. It directs the annual performance-based program budgets for the office, which includes monitoring expenditures and performance measures, producing financial reports and projections, conducting financial analysis, and implementing fiscal control policies and procedures.

The division represents the Sheriff when presenting budget, fiscal, and contract requests for the Board of County Commissioners for approval. The division also monitors and oversees multiple budgets – six general fund departments and twenty-four non-general/agency funds.



### Expenses

The 2015 Butler County Sheriff's Office General Fund expenditures, excluding the expenses associated with the Payroll, totaled \$9,889,452 which was a 24% increase from the prior year. During 2015, the majority of the General Fund increase was due to the fact that payments to Motorola Solutions and Aramark were for 2014 expenditures. Therefore, 2014 expenses would have been understated. Overall, the Sheriff's Office General Fund expenditures increased 9.8% from 2014 to 2015.

### Revenues

The Sheriff's Office collects and deposits receipts with the County Treasurer from Area Courts, Boarding of Prisoner contracts, and other miscellaneous fees.

During fiscal year 2015, the Sheriff's Office deposited \$12,142,434 with the County Treasurer in the General Fund, Contract Funds and Grants Funds. This was a decrease of \$998,810 or 7.6% from the 2014 collected revenue of \$13,141,244. Of the revenue collected by the Sheriff's Office, 43.4% was generated through the operation of the jail. This revenue comes predominately from the housing of federal inmates but also includes various local Boarding of Prisoner contracts as well as the monies collected through the Inmate Phone Service and the Social Security Incentive Program. Boarding of Prisoners recognized a decrease of \$1,440,142 during 2015 while the Contract Deputies Fund saw an increase of \$335,442. The agreement between Butler County and the City of Hamilton for emergency dispatch services generated \$1,014,866 in revenue during 2015.

The Sheriff's Office continues to explore new avenues in which to bring in additional monies to Butler County as well as maintain the existing grant funding.

The Finance Division is charged with developing and administering contracts for deputy services for agencies throughout the county. In 2015, the Sheriff's Office received \$3,988,287 in revenue for the Sheriff's Policing Revolving Fund from these contracts.

The Sheriff's Office absorbed the responsibility of the Dog Warden in September 2013. The Dog Warden operates independently of the General Fund. Revenues are generated from the sale of dog tags.

### Inmate Accounts

The Inmate Accounts Unit is manned by one full-time clerical specialist. Each inmate has an account assigned to them when they enter the facility in which money is deposited. These funds are used for commissary purchases such as snacks, clothing, telephone cards and special meal orders as well as reception fees, court related fees, attorney fees and/or bond fees. Visitors can deposit money onto the inmate's account by utilizing the kiosk machine located in the main jail lobby installed in 2015.

Credit card deposits can also be made by telephone or via the internet. The new kiosk system has been widely accepted and has collected a total of \$77,668 during November and December 2015. When inmates are booked into the jail, any money on their person may also be deposited into their account for use during their stay at the Butler County Jail. The inmates use the deposits for commissary purchases, reception fee, court related fees, attorney fees and/or bond fees. During 2015, the inmate account deposits totaled \$1,379,757 with commissary sales totaling \$1,012,447. Any balance that remains on the inmate's account at time of release is refunded to the inmate.



# BCSO Finance in 2015

Finance Director Vickie Jo Barger

## 2015 BCSO General Fund Budget Expense Summary

Category	2015 Final Budget	2015 Actual Expense	2015 Carry Forward	2015 Total Expenditures
Academy	30,734	27,902	2,314	30,216
Boarding of Prisoners	3,793,203	3,384,109	227,997	3,612,106
Sheriff	21,541,767	20,758,759	188,289	20,947,048
Paramedic	1,661,366	1,620,003	20,422	1,640,425
General Communication	3,823,956	3,697,937	52,779	3,750,716
E911 Dispatch	2,710,384	2,611,325	32,475	2,643,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,561,410</b>	<b>32,100,035</b>	<b>524,276</b>	<b>32,624,311</b>

## 2015 BCSO Revenue Summary

Revenue Category	2015	2014	Increase/Decrease
Boarding of Prisoners	5,266,858	6,707,000	(1,440,142)
Contract Deputies	3,988,287	3,652,845	335,442
Sheriff Fees	1,833,232	1,689,654	143,578
Grants	543,695	690,372	(146,677)
Patrol	463,446	360,656	102,790
Dog & Kennel	46,916	40,717	6,199
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,142,434</b>	<b>13,141,244</b>	<b>(998,810)</b>



# BCSO Finance in 2015

## Finance Director Vickie Jo Barger

### Grants

The Finance Division is responsible for managing all grants received by the Sheriff's Office which includes submitting applications and financial reports. They have a history of aggressively pursuing grant funding. These efforts maximize the services the agency is able to provide the citizens of the county while lessening the financial burden upon them. During 2015, the Sheriff's Office received State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) reimbursement for the 2014 program year.

### Payroll

The Finance Division's payroll responsibilities include maintaining, preparing and processing bi-weekly payroll, tracking all employee accrual balances, pay adjustments, account changes and leave usage records. Payroll staff also perform internal audits of employee payroll records to certify accuracy and completeness. The timekeeping system was also upgraded in 2015 and now provides more efficient time reporting and features. Portals have been placed throughout Sheriff's Office facilities which allow employees to check their accruals. Payroll is trended to budget to ensure continuity and compliance with the Butler County Auditor and Ohio Revised Code.

Grant Name	2015
High Visibility Enforcement Overtime	106,342
Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant	32,966
Violence Against Women Act	64,573
BURN Taskforce	54,414
Victimes of Crime Act	56,918
Waterway Safety (Marine Patrol)	35,225
Ohio Peace Office State Grant	19,200
Ohio PET Grant	4,000
Drug Use Prevention Grant (SRO)	59,051
State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP)	111,006
<b>Total</b>	<b>543,695</b>

Kiosks in the jail lobby have improved service while reducing staff time required to accept monies





# BCSO Finance in 2015

## Finance Director Vickie Jo Barger

### Human Resources

With an agency of over four-hundred employees, Human Resources (HR) must be well-versed in multiple human resource disciplines: compensation and benefits, employee relations and personnel related data/statistics.

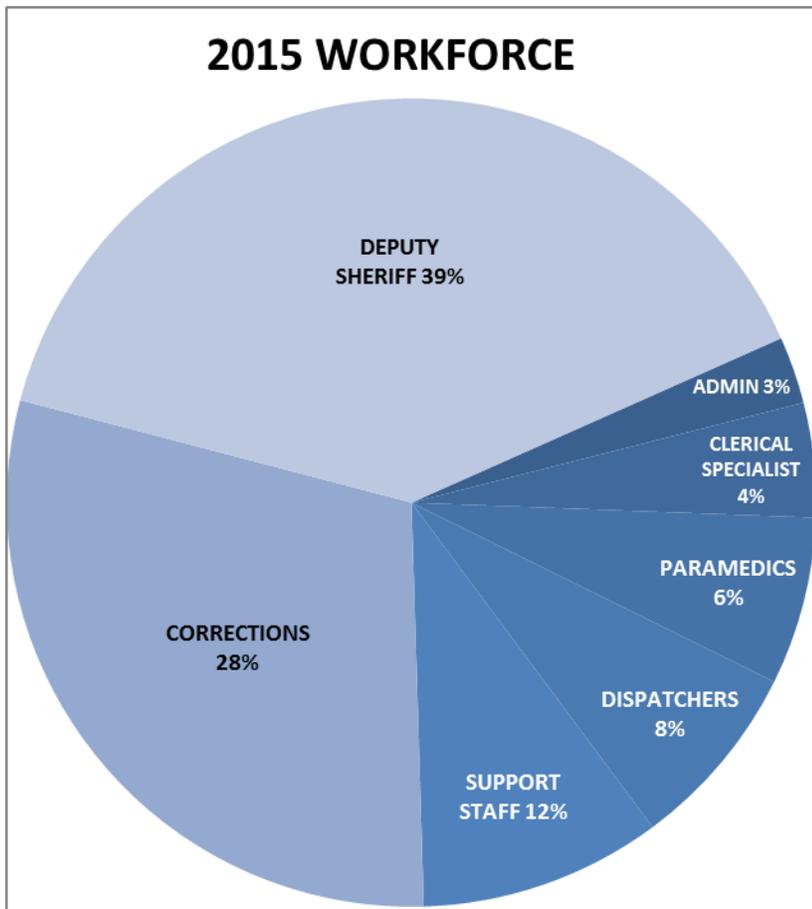
HR personnel monitor and provide information regarding employee benefit packages and conducts open enrollment for employees' annual elections pertaining to health care coverage. Additional duties include addressing employee issues as related to medical benefit discrepancies and/or changes, along with providing assistance to employee for other benefit issues and questions.

Additionally, HR works in conjunction with the Butler County's wellness coordinator to offer a wellness program to all insured employees, in an effort to maintain a healthy workforce.

Other responsibilities include: monitoring Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) compliance and employee tracking, managing Workers' Compensation claims, and maintaining leave request records and transitional duty assignments.

The Finance Division and HR have made great advances in "going green" over the last year. All personnel and medical files for employees are maintained in a digital format, creating a paperless HR environment, while insuring the preservation, security and integrity of such records.

HR provides a link between management and employees for addressing any employee benefit related issues or problems. They work closely with management, providing feedback on related HR functions and process. HR also maintains records and compiles statistical reports concerning personnel-related data such as hires, transfers, performance appraisals, and absenteeism rates.



<b>408</b>	<b>TOTAL EMPLOYEES</b>
<b>10</b>	Administration
<b>15</b>	Clerical Specialist
<b>30</b>	Paramedics
<b>33</b>	Dispatchers
<b>43</b>	Support Staff
<b>115</b>	Correction Officers
<b>162</b>	Deputy Sheriffs

#### Total 2015 Workforce Includes:

336 Full-Time Employees  
72 Part-Time Employees

including

36 New Full-Time Employees  
(with 20 Full-Time Terminations  
and 3 Retirements)

32 New Part-Time Employees  
(with 32 Part-Time Terminations)

# Operations Section



## Captain Lance Bunnell

Captain Bunnell commands the Operations Section which consists of:

Headquarters Division, Liberty Township Division, Hanover Township and College Corner patrol assignments including K-9, Weights and Scales, Animal Control, Aviation, Forensic, and Motorcycle Units.

Captain Bunnell's command also includes the Investigations Division composed of Warrants, START, Property Room, Victims Advocates, Children Services Investigations, Welfare Fraud, BURN, Bomb, Caisson, OVI Task Force, DEA Task Force .

His command includes the following special teams: Marine Patrol, Dive Team, Regional Water Rescue Team

Captain Bunnell brings twenty-two years of service to the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Jones and his Command Staff conduct an inspection of Operations Section staff and vehicles





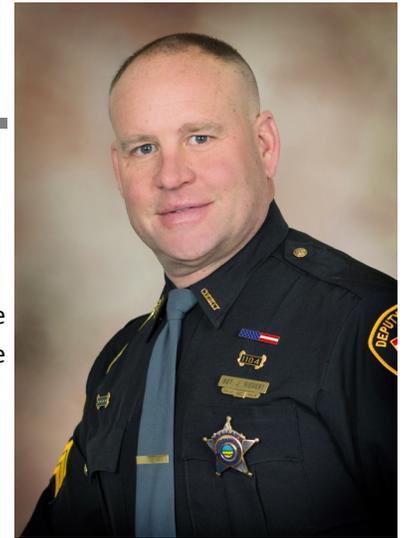
# Headquarters Division

## Lieutenant Jeff Riegert

Lieutenant Jeff Riegert commands the Headquarters Division.

### Headquarters Road Patrol Unit

The Butler County Sheriff's Office Road Patrol Unit consists of the first responders who routinely patrol the residential areas of the county to keep the citizens safe during their daily routines. They are responsible for all calls for service within the unincorporated areas of Butler County's 469 square miles. They also respond to calls within the areas covered by part-time service agencies and assist other full-time municipal agencies for critical incidents when requested. The Headquarters Road Patrol Unit provides contracted patrol service to Hanover Township and the Village of College Corner. These contract deputies provide extra patrol units in addition to the other road patrol units working. In 2015, patrol deputies responded to over 81,000 calls for service throughout Butler County.



### K9 Patrol Program

The K-9 Unit provided a valuable service to the Butler County Sheriff's Office as well as other agencies within the county. Four specially trained deputies work with the canines every day they are on duty. The handlers and canines attend specialized training together to perform their duties which include illegal narcotics detection, building searches, vehicle searches, crowd control, and tracking suspects or fugitives who flee on foot.

The unit trains sixteen hours a month to maintain proficiency in performing the skills associated with their duties and are on call twenty-four hours a day



### Animal Control

As Dog Warden, Sheriff Richard K. Jones is committed to serving the community by protecting the health, safety and welfare of animals. BCSO's Deputy Dog Wardens are primarily focused on

domestic animal issues and the enforcement of dog laws. They are also certified humane officers.

Deputy Dog Wardens respond to calls of dogs at large, dog license enforcement, dog bites, and dog attacks. They also assist BCSO Deputy Sheriffs and local police departments with search warrants and selling dog licenses. Deputy Dog Wardens, as certified humane officers, handle all animal cruelty complaints, neglect cases, and abandonment cases in the county. These cases involve many different kinds of animals from horses and goats to dogs and cats. The Deputy Dog Wardens normally work an eight hour shift, however the job does not stop there. The Deputy Dog Warden unit is on call at all hours for emergency situations as they arise.



In 2015, BCSO Deputy Dog Wardens drove more than 66,000 miles, impounded a total of 1,202 animals either to the shelter or back to the owners, wrote 1,217 citations and 454 written warnings, handled 580 counts of animal cruelty, neglect or abandonment cases, and wrote 13 citations for cruelty or abandonment and 165 humane warnings. They patrol and cover all of Butler County except the City of Fairfield and the City of Oxford as they have their own Animal Control Officers. BCSO's Deputy



# Headquarters Division

## Lieutenant Jeff Riegert

Dog Wardens have the responsibility of full time duties in the City of Middletown and the City of Hamilton.

### Forensic Unit

The Butler County Sheriff's Office Forensics Unit consists of one deputy assigned to Butler Behavioral Health Services in Hamilton as part of the Butler County Crisis Team. The Crisis Team, which is comprised of the deputy and three crisis therapists, is responsible for the mental health assessment and linkage for the appropriate level of mental health care for the residents of Butler County.



In 2015, the Forensic Unit had two hundred and twenty-two calls for service. Eighty-two of those calls required transport of those evaluated to area hospitals for mental health reasons.

### Weights and Scales

The Weights and Scales Unit performs enforcement duties on the transportation of heavy loads throughout Butler County. The unit aids in the prevention of major damage and repair costs associated with overweight loads traversing our roadways and bridges.



Fines associated with overweight loads are utilized to conduct repairs to the roadways throughout the county. In 2015, Deputy Mike Day issued 117 citations for a total of over 1,353,000 pounds in overweight violations and over \$49,800 in fines.

### Aviation Unit

The Butler County Sheriff's Office operates an Aviation Unit with two helicopters—a Robinson R44 Police Helicopter that has been part of the fleet since 2007, and a Bell OH58 Kiowa helicopter that was acquired in 2015. The unit flew the R44 for 159.3

### Aviation Unit Statistics for 2015

Searches, crime related	5
Searches, lost or missing persons	6
Searches, found missing	1
Searches, found suspect	3
Drug related flights	22
Photo flights	2
Displays	3
Funerals	3
Call-outs	8
Miscellaneous assistance to agencies	5
River patrol missions	9

hours, and the OH58 for 163.3 hours, for a total flight time of 322.6 hours, which is 52.1 hours more than last year's total of 270.5 hours flown.



The OH58 received from the 1033 Program, a Federal program that puts surplus equipment into service with local law enforcement, began operations with the Aviation Unit in April. It was utilized primarily for the drug eradication contract to help reduce flight time on the Robinson R44 helicopter, thus extending the time that it will be subject to a mandatory overhaul.

Throughout the year, BCSO's Aviation Unit assisted several different law enforcement agencies including other sheriff's offices, police departments, BCI, DEA, ICE, and other county



## Headquarters Division

### Lieutenant Jeff Riegert

agencies such as the EMA and the Butler County Engineers Office. The assists were for everything from drug surveillance, searches, photo flights, evaluations of the river, memorial ceremony flyovers, funeral escorts, and other requested events and applicable missions.

From August 4th to September 8th, the unit assisted 20 counties across northwestern Ohio with marijuana eradication. During the eradication effort, the unit found 5,168 plants with a street value of over \$5 million dollars. In Crawford County, the Aviation Unit found 3,552 plants in one day. Overall, this was a huge increase of plants from the year before, even though fewer missions were flown.

The unit flew 168.6 hours on a drug eradication contract for Ohio's Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI). For this contract, they flew 10.9 hours less this year than the year previous. During these missions, the OH58 was flown for 125.1 hours and the R44 for 43.5 hours. The decline in flight time was due to federal budget cuts.

In the coming year, the unit plans to continue to find ways to utilize the helicopters more cost effectively. Due to the economic concerns of Butler County, we must try to combine flights whenever possible, only respond to situations which we believe we have a good chance of success with the mission, and try to find other sources of revenue so that the unit will continue to operate as it has since 2001, without any tax monies being used in the operation of the helicopter.

### Motorcycle Unit

The Butler County Sheriff's Office Motor Unit is comprised of one Sergeant and three Deputy Sheriff's and is utilized for traffic control, routine patrol, and specialized traffic details. In the beginning of 2015, Sheriff Jones was able to secure a fourth Harley-Davidson Electra Glide. This motorcycle replaced two outdated Kawasaki motorcycles which were sold at public auction.

The Motor Unit is used for patrol purposes such as congested traffic situations, funeral escorts, V.I.P. details, shopping center and business patrol, sporting events, parades, various charitable events, and displays at the Butler County Fair. In addition to routine functions, the Motor Unit provided escorts for such charitable events as the Peace Officer Memorial Ceremony in London, Ohio, for fallen officers, the Special Olympics Torch Run

through the city of Hamilton and into Middletown, the 9-11 Hero's Ride out of Fairfield, the Miller/Coors Benefit Ride out of Trenton, the Autism Benefit Ride, the Iron Shield Ride, and Fire & Iron Ride.



Other notable details include the 4th of July parades in Hamilton and Liberty Township, the Memorial Day parade in West Chester, escorting five Edgewood Elementary School bike rides around St. Clair Township with retired teacher Joe Malicote, and security at the Christmas Gala and tree lighting at the Liberty Mall. The Motor Unit was also requested to escort the home and visiting collegiate football teams to Miami University in Oxford during the football season.



In late December, the Motor Unit was asked to assist with the funeral procession of Hamilton Firefighter Patrick Wolterman, who was killed in the line of duty. It was truly an honor and privilege to escort this local hero to his final resting place.



# Liberty Township Division

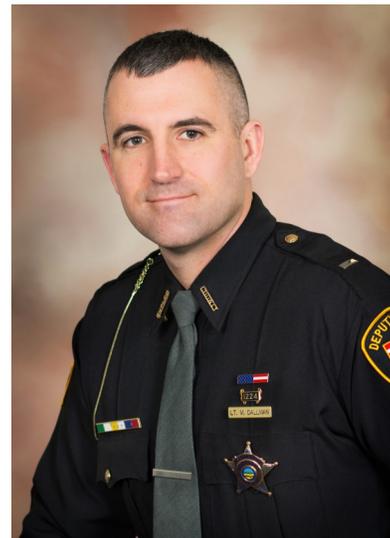
## Lieutenant Morgan Dallman

Lieutenant Morgan Dallman commands the Liberty Township Division as well as School Resource Officers and the Regional SWAT Team.

### Liberty Township Road Patrol Unit

In 1992, the Butler County Sheriff's Office began providing contract police services for Liberty Township. This successful collaboration between the township and the Sheriff's Office provides township residents with a comprehensive and affordable law enforcement service.

There are currently twenty-four full-time deputies assigned exclusively to Liberty Township. Among these deputies is the Division Commander, Lieutenant Morgan Dallman. Lt. Dallman acts as the first shift road patrol supervisor and handles the operational needs of all the police services within Liberty Township. Sergeant Rich Prescott and Corporal Rob Reiff are the second shift supervisors, with Sergeant Hung Tri-Rudolf leading third shift.



Under their supervision, these veteran officers oversee seventeen patrol deputies and three detectives. In 2015, seven additional deputies were assigned as School Resource Officers for the Lakota School District in Liberty Township and one deputy was assigned to the new Liberty Center. These deputies enhanced local police services to match the township's ever increasing call volume.

Together these deputies provide 24/7 police coverage for all of Liberty Township, dealing with anything from traffic enforcement to homicide investigations. Township ordinances are also enforced in addition to state and federal laws.

In 2015, deputies assigned to Liberty Township responded to 18,307 calls for service. This number continues to grow as the population of over 38,000 residents increases and businesses flourish. In May 2014, the residents of Liberty voted "Yes" to the police levy which will maintain the Sheriff's Office current services until 2020.



### School Resource Officers

With violence increasing in schools across the country, the Butler County Sheriff's Office has pledged to provide extra patrol in the schools that are in their areas of responsibility. With the high call volume for road patrol, this is exceedingly difficult. To combat this issue and provide superior protection, the Sheriff's Office, in collaboration with several school districts, has added twelve deputy sheriffs to act as School Resource Officers. The sole responsibility of these specially trained deputies is to work within the schools across the county. They interact with the students, staff, and parents in a community oriented manner, but provide increased security as well. The duties of an SRO range from investigating criminal offenses within the schools to counseling troubled youth.

Currently there are SRO deputies assigned to Lakota, Edgewood, Madison, New Miami, and Talawanda School Districts. The SROs work with students from pre-school up to high school.





# Liberty Township Division

## Lieutenant Morgan Dallman

### Regional SWAT Team

The Butler County Regional SWAT Team consists of thirty-seven members from seven different agencies within Butler County. In recent years the Oxford City Police Department and the Monroe City Police Department joined the Butler County Regional SWAT Team, which also includes Fairfield Township and Trenton Police, Fairfield Township and Liberty Township Fire Departments, and the Sheriff's Office. The membership positions are broken down as follows: Critical Incident Manager, Captain J. Sons; Team Commander, Lt. M. Dallman; two Assistant Commanders-, Lt. R. Lambert and Sgt. Ed. Tanner; two team leaders, two assistant team leaders, two entry teams, and one negotiator team. Team personnel include twenty-seven entry team members, five snipers, seven negotiators, three tactical medics, and seven members of the Regional HAZSWAT Team. Personnel who are part of the sniper and HAZSWAT teams are cross trained and perform other duties when needed.



The Butler County Regional SWAT Team responded to seventeen callouts during 2015. The team responds to various situations including barricade and hostage/barricade situations, search warrants for Criminal Investigations and Drug Investigations, fugitive apprehensions, and search warrants for other agencies outside of Butler County. In 2015, the team responded to a total of eleven high-risk narcotics search warrants for the BURN Regional Narcotics Unit, five barricade situations, and one search warrant for the United States Department of Agriculture. Members of the team also responded to Baltimore, Maryland to assist with civil unrest in that region.

The team trained a total of 141 hours in 2015. Annual training

topics included Vehicle/Bus Assaults, Dynamic Entries, Stealth Tactics, Hostage Rescue, Barricaded Subjects, School Crisis/Active Shooter Response, Physical Agility Testing, Man-down Rescue Drills, and a three day tactical operator training at the Tactical Defense Institute.



### Liberty Center

In October 2015, the Liberty Center complex opened its doors to the public. Liberty Center is located at 7100 Foundry Row on the east side of Liberty Township just off of I-75. Liberty Center is a multi-use complex that brings together the community's recreational, social and civic passions. With this expanding new development comes the need for added police presence. The Butler County Sheriff's Office took the initiative to contract a full-time deputy to work exclusively on the Liberty Center property.

This deputy actively patrols the shopping centers, restaurants, bars, hotel, and apartments, as well as attends a multitude of special events that are hosted by Liberty Center. From the grand opening on October 15th through December 31st, the Sheriff's Office fielded 348 calls for service on the property. These calls range anywhere from public assistance calls to robbery. While business is booming with more commercial tenants coming in, residents moving into the residential developments, and the construction of phase two just around the corner, the need for full-time deputy sheriffs totally dedicated to Liberty Center is increasingly evident.





# Investigations Division

## Lieutenant Todd Langmeyer

Lieutenant Todd Langmeyer commands the Investigations Division.

### Criminal Investigations Unit

The Criminal Investigations Unit consists of seven detectives and two sergeants. The detectives are assigned to townships throughout the county. In 2015, the unit investigated a total of 3,117 cases. Of those, 364 cases were juvenile, and 2,861 were adult cases. The unit did a total of thirty-one search warrants and sixty-nine death investigations.

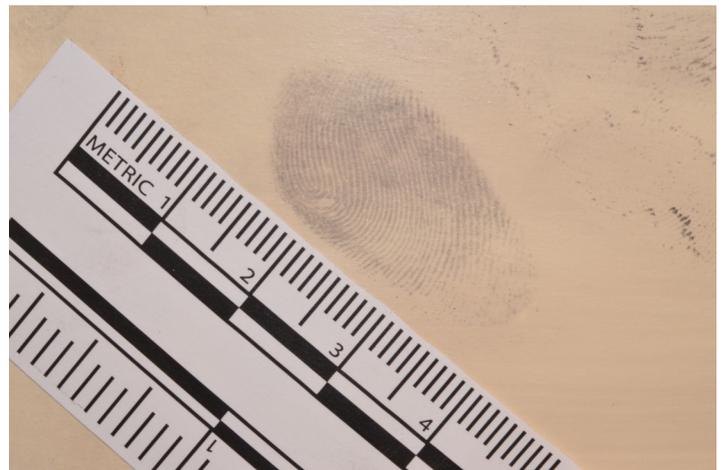
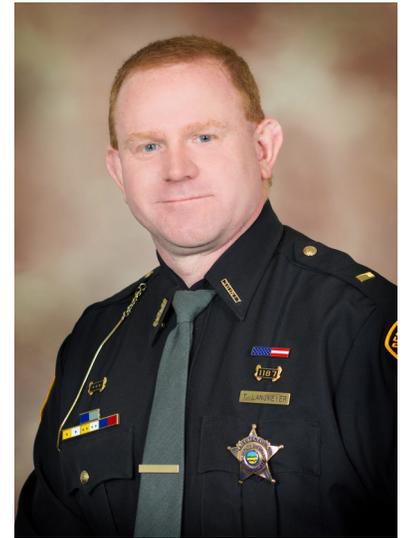
#### Notable Cases

One notable case investigated during 2015 was a robbery in Liberty Township: The victim responded to a Craigslist advertisement that listed games for sale. During his conversation with the seller, a price was negotiated and they agreed on a meeting place in the parking lot of the Heritage Elementary School. When the victim arrived for the exchange, he was as-

saulted and robbed. The suspects then fled on foot to a car that was parked in a subdivision behind the school. Within 24 hours, detectives had all three suspects in custody. Through interviews, the suspects were charged with robbery, assault and theft. All three suspects plead guilty and were sentenced. They are Logan Jatsek, Tyler Bostion and Randy Ehrardt.

With this and similar cases in mind, in January of 2016 the Sheriff implemented a safe zone in the lobby of the Butler County Sheriff's Office for all online sales and purchases if the buyer and seller so choose.

In November 2014, detectives began a nearly yearlong investigation of a theft from an elderly victim by a caregiver. The victim, an 83 year old resident of Butler County, was being taken care of by Nancy Taylor, her home health care nurse. Over time Nancy Taylor gained the victim's trust and was able to get Power of Attorney over her estate.



This investigation involved subpoenas of bank records, interviews and assistance of the Butler County Prosecutor's Office. In December 2015, Nancy Taylor was found guilty of Theft, Felony of the 2nd degree. She was sentenced to three years in prison and ordered to pay back restitution in the sum of forty seven thousand dollars.



### BURN Task Force

BURN (Butler Undercover Regional Narcotics) is a multi-agency narcotics taskforce hosted by the Butler County Sheriff's Office. The taskforce is designed to use the resources and information of multiple agencies more effectively.

The United States as a whole has experienced a 60% increase in heroin-related overdose deaths in 2015. Butler County has experienced this increase as well. Agents with the BURN Taskforce are constantly battling heroin traffickers bringing their drugs into



# Investigations Division

## Lieutenant Todd Langmeyer

Butler County. Agents attempt to target the source suppliers and disrupt the pipeline of heroin entering the county.



The picture above provides an example of items seized during a BURN search warrant in 2015: drugs, guns and money out of the hands of drug traffickers in Butler County.

### Traffic Unit / START Team

The Serious Traffic Accident Reconstruction Team (START) is a multi-jurisdictional, specialized collaboration of Butler County law enforcement agencies who have pooled resources to respond twenty-four hours a day to assist with serious traffic crashes by mapping the crash scene and conducting a reconstruction of the incident. START is currently staffed with members from two members from the Butler County Sheriff's Office, two from Monroe Police Department, one from Fairfield Township Police Department and one from the Butler County Prosecutor's Office, all certified in crash reconstruction.



When a serious traffic crash occurs in a particular agency jurisdiction, the handling agency may choose to have START assist with the investigation. If START is needed, Butler County dis-

patchers are notified and they request members of the START team to respond. Members respond directly to the scene with equipment needed to conduct the crash investigation. It is the responsibility of the agency where the incident occurred to complete the crash report and file the appropriate criminal charges. START is responsible for mapping and reconstruction of the scene and to testify in court if deemed necessary.

START conducts bi-monthly training sessions to become familiar with other agencies' equipment and the capabilities of all members assigned. This allows the team to know everyone's strengths, which translates into timely and organized crash investigation. Training sessions also contribute to information sharing in the field of reconstruction, legal updates and familiarization with new technology available.

START has been operational for six years and has proven very successful. START investigated eight fatal accidents in 2015 and has assisted other agencies with fatal accidents on two different occasions.

### Property Room

The Butler County Sheriff's Office Property Room is managed by Sergeant Ed Tanner and Deputy David Rumpler. They process, inventory, catalog, and store every piece of property or evidence that is collected by Sheriff's Office personnel. They also return property, auction, or destroy items as determined by court dispositions.



In 2015, the Property Room processed 5,981 items. The Property Room deputy also transported evidence to various laborato-



# Investigations Division

## Lieutenant Todd Langmeyer

ries for testing purposes. Sixty-seven lab runs were made in 2015 with 964 items to be tested.

### Warrants Unit

The Warrants Unit consists of six deputies and one clerk. The unit received 7,071 warrants and served 6,074 in 2015. At year end, there were 6,395 active warrants.

The unit is responsible for a quarterly Most Wanted poster and also does a weekly Most Wanted that goes to the Sheriff's Office website and social media followers. The unit has received numerous tips throughout the year that have resulted in multiple arrests.

Deputy Connie Rockey was assigned to Southern Ohio Fugitive Apprehension Team (SOFAST). The team consists of multiple agencies in southwest Ohio and is run by the U.S. Marshals Service. What SOFAST of seven brings to residents of Butler County is the ability to apprehend fugitives that commit any violent crimes in the county wherever they hide, because the team has no jurisdictional boundaries. They are also able to utilize all federal resources when looking for these violent felons.

Deputy Ryan Hensley is assigned to Juvenile Court and handles all juvenile warrants. Deputy Hensley averaged twelve juvenile arrests per month.

### Welfare Fraud Unit

BCSO's Welfare Fraud investigative unit began in 2012 and is lead by Sergeant Jason Rosser. Deputy Green Detherage and Deputy Mike Gutowski served as investigators in the unit and hit the ground running every day to deter welfare fraud. In 2015, the unit continued to see many of the same types of investigations related to drug related offenses. Trading or selling of food stamp benefits for heroin or crack cocaine was typical.



In 2015, the unit received 411 tips regarding fraud being committed by individual benefit recipients. From the tips received, 99 arrests were made with an additional 130 administrative disqualifications. Administrative disqualifications are where recipi-

ents agree to a voluntary disqualification of benefits based on facts of an investigation. Administrative disqualifications carry a penalty of removal from the food stamp program from one year up to a lifetime ban depending on whether they were previously disqualified.



As part of a combined effort to investigate retail establishments, the unit worked cooperatively with the USSS, USDA and OIU as part of the Southern District of Ohio Task Force. An 18-month undercover investigation into retailers U.S. Beef and Butcher Shop resulted in a federal search warrant. On August 26, 2015, the combined investigations lead to two retail owners being charged federally with an additional 12 employees being arrested on federal warrants. Nineteen simultaneous search warrants were conducted in Butler and Hamilton Counties in relation to the companies. Total estimated fraud between two companies involving SNAP EBT transactions was approximately \$1.4 million.

Food Stamp Trafficking in 2015	
Investigations Initiated	391
Arrests	99
Administrative Disqualifications	130
Total Savings to State Treasury	\$7,444,569

### Children Services Investigator

Eight years ago, Sheriff Jones and the Butler County Commissioners created a Criminal Investigation Unit at Butler County Children Services—the first of its kind in Ohio. It was recognized that case workers needed immediate information on persons involved in child neglect, abuse and sexual abuse cases before



# Investigations Division

## Lieutenant Todd Langmeyer

entering the field to make contact with a suspect. The issue was safety for those case workers, who were having to enter the homes unaware of the person or persons who could be a threat or danger to them.

Children Services Activity in 2015	
Incoming Referrals	4,466
Adoption Background Checks	135
Agency Visits	980
Hits Processed	1,243

The unit consists of four civilian investigators and one deputy sheriff supervisor, Deputy Ginia Riegert. The unit creates a criminal history report on every person involved in a Children Services case and investigates all “threat” cases against case workers. It also provides support for the Adoption Unit at BCCS by providing fingerprints via electronic BCI/FBI criminal history checks with immediate results.

The number one commitment of BCSO, BCCS and this unit is “to keep the children and families of Butler County safe.”

### Ohio Means Jobs

For the people of Butler County using Ohio Means Jobs, Sheriff Jones, the County Commissioners, and Job and Family Services provides a deputy, from the Investigation Division within the Sheriff’s Office, to maintain a safe and secure environment for its citizens. This deputy is posted at Ohio Means Jobs to help deter any illegal or inappropriate behavior by being highly visibly to staff and clients.

Deputy Jordan Lyon is responsible for assisting clients with guidance through the building, providing staff with security training, performing vehicle unlocks, escorts to vehicles, and addressing any other security needs that may arise. Deputy Lyon is responsible for providing a safe and controlled environment for employers to hold job fairs at Ohio Means Jobs along with outside locations. Within Ohio Means Jobs the deputy consults with the WIAO (Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act) coordinators and the Ohio Means Jobs staff, to help determine eligibility for the programs that are offered.

With a 7% increase of clientele within the last year, Ohio Means Jobs has 25,000 people utilizing the agency. As of July 2015, Ohio Means Jobs became a host site for the Food Assistance Education Program. This program is estimated to increase the number of people using the site to 30,000 people by December 2016. With the number of clients continuing to increase, it opens opportunities to allow a deputy to connect with the community and build stronger relationships between the Sheriff’s Office and Butler County citizens.

### Victim Assistance Program

The Victim Assistance Program was founded in 1997. Program Director Sara Flynn and advocates Michelle Lawrence and Christy Blundell maintain a strong presence in the Butler County courtrooms. Their mission is to empower victims of crime by serving as a liaison of communication between the courts and the victim, providing each victim with information and support both during and after the victim’s involvement in the judicial system.

Our advocates fulfill many duties including: crisis intervention, emotional support, safety planning, assistance with restitution, court advocacy/escort, notification of court dates and times, and much more. We believe that each person has a right to live free of violence and have a voice in the judicial process.

The Victim Assistance Program serves Area I, Area II, Area III, and Fairfield Municipal Court. They also serve as advocates at Domestic Relations Court and Common Pleas Court to victims filing for Civil Protection Orders. In 2015, court advocacy was provided to approximately 2,865 victims of crime in Butler County.





# Investigations Division

## Lieutenant Todd Langmeyer

### Bomb Squad

The Butler County Sheriff's Office Bomb Unit consists of three certified technicians and an assistant. It services not only Butler County, but several adjacent counties as well. As of December of 2014, there were 466 accredited Bomb Squads nationwide. This unit is one of 11 FBI accredited squads in the State of Ohio, with 177 Technicians collectively.

FBI Accredited Bomb Squads and Bomb Technicians are like no other public safety entity in the United States. All bomb technicians have nationally mandated certification requirements that are taught at the FBI Hazardous Devices School at Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Alabama. This unique approach of one training facility and one training curriculum is unlike any other public safety agency's (law enforcement, fire and EMS) training. Public safety agency training and certifications vary by agencies, counties, state or regions. Additionally all bomb technicians are also required to be hazardous materials technicians and have other training deemed necessary by their work environment.



The Butler County Sheriff's Office Bomb Squad operates with two bomb trucks and one total containment vessel (TCV). The larger truck is the work horse of the unit and carries bomb mitigation equipment to include 2 robots (Andros F6B and an Icor Mini-Caliber). We also utilize portable digital x-ray technology.

Newer instrumentation to battle WMD threats includes the Fisher Scientific TruDefender and First Defender, both chemical analyzers that can identify unknown products to include homemade explosives.

Bomb Squad instruments also include a MultiRae Pro which shows oxygen levels, hazardous gases and explosive atmospheres as well as radiation hazards. Another tool utilized is a thermal imager. This instrument shows thermal activity, such as

a chemical reaction occurring in a chemical bomb. It will also show liquid levels in containers, based on the temperature differentiation of the liquid level and the empty level.

In Southwest Ohio, there are four bomb squads, which include the Butler County Sheriff's Office Bomb Squad, Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Bomb Squad, Cincinnati Fire Dept. Bomb Squad and the Dayton Police Bomb Squad. These units have strived to purchase compatible equipment and train together. This regional concept allows a seamless operation on a mission regardless of which technicians are involved and whose equipment is being used. We also work very closely with our Federal counterparts in the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

The Bomb Unit also supports the Butler County Undercover Regional Narcotics Unit with responses to clandestine drug labs. Mitigation of labs requires technicians to have additional training in the neutralization techniques needed to render the lab safe. In the clandestine lab culture, it is not uncommon for suspects to also experiment in the manufacturing of home-made explosives. In 2015, the Bomb Unit assisted in nine clandestine lab calls.

Technicians monitor emerging threats to the nation and our local communities, by tracking and reporting all known incidents. This information is reported to the National Bomb Data Center Database called "Bomb and Arson Tracking System" or BATS. This database tracks trends and threats nationwide and gives immediate feedback to the technician. The database also steers our in house training, in dealing with specific improvised explosive device threats that have been identified, most common being M-series devices, and chemical bombs.



# Administrative Section

## Captain John Sons



Captain Sons commands the Administrative Section consisting of:

Citizens on Patrol, Firing Range, Quarter Master, Training, Professional Compliance, Special Deputies, Honor Guard, Pipe and Drums, Mounted Patrol, Explorers, Bicycle Patrol, Public Information, SORN, CCW, Civil, Sheriff Sales, Court Security, Transportation, and the Hiring and Exit Process.

His command also includes the Regional SWAT Team. Captain Sons has twenty-two years of service with the Butler County Sheriff's Office.

Extreme Cold Weather Training at the BCSO Firing Range



*Spectemur Agendo—Let us be judged by our actions*



# Court Services Division

## Lieutenant Randy Lambert

Lieutenant Randy Lambert commands the Court Services Division, which is comprised of Court Security and Transportation. The Court Security and Transportation units are responsible for securing various court related buildings, servicing and assisting the courts, escorting and transportation of inmates/prisoners, and providing security for Butler County Children Services.

Lieutenant Randy Lambert and Sergeant Jeff Gebhart oversaw the activities of the twenty eight deputy sheriffs assigned to this division in 2015.

### Court Security Unit

The men and women of the division are committed to providing a safe and secure environment during the operations of the Butler County Court system, and to ensure the timeliness of court proceedings for those arrested and incarcerated. The primary areas of responsibility includes the seven Common Pleas Court General Division Judges, two Domestic Rela-

tions Court Judges, and various Magistrates housed in the Government Services Building on High Street. Additionally, the Court Services Unit serves two judges and their respective magistrates housed at the Juvenile Justice Center on Fair Avenue.

On specific days, additional security is provided at all three of the Area Courts. These are: Area I Court in Oxford, Area II Court inside at the Historical Courthouse in Hamilton, and Area III Court in West Chester. The unit also provides security for the Children Services offices in Butler County. Lastly the unit is responsible for providing security for the 12th District Court of Appeals. Various methods are used to enhance courtroom safety while screening visitors. Court Services personnel utilize metal detectors (walkthrough and hand-held devices), x-ray machines, and if the need arises, a physical pat-down.

In 2015, 260,823 items were checked through the x-ray machines. Based on those x-rays and metal detector alerts, more than 2,556 items considered as contraband were stopped at Court Security checkpoints and prevented from entering various courtrooms. It is unknown whether the possession of any of that contraband was truly an innocent oversight, or a clever attempt to get a weapon into the courtroom and ultimately into the hands of a jail inmate who might be in court for a hearing or trial.

Court Services deputies frequently



respond to other county offices housed inside the Government Services Building for any kind of trouble call or request for assistance. Court Services deputies also routinely handle issues that may arise within the parking garage which is attached to the Government Services Building. Through investigation, collaboration with the courts and probation, deputies made over 479 arrests at the various posts.

### Transportation Unit

Prisoners housed in the Butler County Jail, other correctional facilities, and prisons have to be transported to the various county courts for their respective trials and hearings. The Transport Unit is responsible for the movement of those inmates along with the movement of ICE detainees and United State Marshal inmates to court in Cincinnati, Dayton and Columbus. The Transport Division also conducts the movement of inmates

to outside medical appointments. Prisoners/inmates are often transported in groups to the court buildings where they are placed in holding cell areas. Prisoners must then be escorted to the individual courtrooms to ensure they remain in custody and arrive safely before the judge or magistrate. The Transportation Unit drove over 185,000 miles in 2015 transporting 12,700 inmates.





# Administrative Services Division

## Lieutenant Rick Bucheit

Lieutenant Rick Bucheit commands the Administrative Services Division.

### Public Information Unit

Snow Advisories, fatal crashes, homicides, major drug busts, and Sheriff's Office accomplishments are just some of the types of incidents deemed important for public disclosure. As the Public Information Officer (PIO), Sgt. Melissa Gerhardt is responsible for keeping the public and news media informed of these types of events. Providing accurate, timely information to the Cincinnati and Dayton area television stations, the local newspapers, various radio stations, and national media outlets, is accomplished mostly through news releases. During 2014 and 2015, a more digital approach was implemented at the Sheriff's Office to disseminate information through social media. Rather than just news releases, there are often times a video message from the Sheriff or other employees can be posted to social sites such as Twitter, Facebook and the Sheriff's Office web page. The Sheriff also released several public service announcements such as the video referencing the heroin epidemic in Butler County.

Melissa Gerhardt has worked in several areas of the Sheriff's Office including Corrections, Court Security, Road Patrol and Investigations. She was promoted to Sergeant in 2013 and currently is the PIO for the agency. She also supervises the Carry Concealed Weapons Unit, Civil Unit, and Sexual Offender Registration Notification Unit.



criminal proceedings), and notices for petit jury service. Sergeant Gerhardt supervises the "serving process" which is handled by seven part-time deputy sheriff process servers who are occasionally assisted by volunteer special deputies.

### Civil Unit

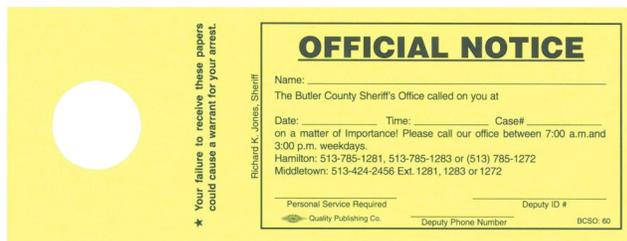
Every Sheriff's Office in Ohio is mandated by the Ohio Revised Code to serve the court system. The Butler County courts served by our Civil Processing Unit includes the Butler County Common Pleas Court, Domestic Relations Court, Juvenile Court, Probate Court, and Area I, II, and III Courts. In addition, the Butler County Sheriff's Office must provide for "Foreign" service. This includes serving various papers that originate from courts outside Butler County (from other Ohio counties or even from other states), but must be served upon people or businesses who live or operate in Butler County.

Civil processing includes serving a variety of court documents and orders such as subpoenas, writs of possession, domestic violence protection orders, restraining orders, foreclosure notices, grand jury notices (for both civil and

This unit's deputies are tasked with serving civil papers that are processed by several courts and at the Butler County Sheriff's Office. There are a variety of court documents that we are mandated by the Ohio Revised Code to serve. In 2015, there were 13,509 subpoenas and summons served as well as 666 domestic violence protection orders and 305 civil stalking orders served. That is an average of 1,207 per month. The unit receives the paperwork from the courts, processes it at the Sheriff's Office and provides it to the deputies to serve.

Foreign paperwork comes from agencies outside of Butler County to be processed and served to citizens in Butler County. The information is entered into the RMS system here. Once processed, the paperwork is distributed to be served to the alleged defendant or responsible parties of a court case.

When those papers are served or failed due to no contact with the party involved, an invoice is issued for the fees and they are mailed to the respective agencies.





# Administrative Services Division

## Lieutenant Rick Bucheit

### Concealed Carry Weapon (CCW) Unit

The Butler County Sheriff's Office has been responsible for the issuance of Ohio's Concealed Handgun Licenses since 2004. Corrections Officer Ken Webster and Ms. Vickie Baird are tasked with handling all CCW appointments and background checks, as well as revoking, suspending, and issuing new licenses. Applications are accepted from residents of Butler County and any adjoining Ohio county. Background checks are required for any potential candidates. The applications are reviewed for renewals, suspensions, revocations, and, if needed, denials.

With the demand for CCW licenses growing, the Sheriff's Office must remain diligent in ensuring that all the mandated guidelines are followed by the public. Applicants for a CCW must first attend a firearms safety course which includes six hours of instruction and two hours of handgun proficiency. Next applicants must provide a certificate of competency of the safety course, a valid Ohio Identification or Driver's License, and the processing fee for the background check. The Sheriff's Office obtains fingerprints from applicants and conducts an extensive background check through a National Web Check, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigations, and the Federal Bureau of Investigations. There were 2,090 new applications, 24 replacements and 1,559 renewals issued in 2015.



### Sex Offender Registration Unit

On July 27, 2006, the Adam Walsh Act organized sex offenders into three tiers according to the crime committed and mandates. Tier 3 offenders (the most serious tier) update their residential address every three months with lifetime registration requirements. Tier 2 offenders must update their whereabouts every six months with 25 years of registration, and Tier 1 offenders must update their residential address every year with 15 years of registration. Failure to register and update information is a felony under the law. States are required to publicly disclose information of Tier 2 and Tier 3 offenders, at minimum. It also contains civil commitment provisions for sexually dangerous persons.

Deputies Mike Jacobs and Toby Spencer are assigned to the SORN unit and have a combined forty years of service in law enforcement. Deputy Jacobs has been assigned to the SORN unit for 9 years and Deputy Spencer for 5 years. Both deputies conduct address verifications on a regular basis even though it is not a requirement to do so. They also plan the annual address verification sweeps which involve approximately twenty-eight deputies and over a hundred address checks in one day, each year.

In Butler County alone there are 465 active sex offenders that the SORN Unit tracks. In 2015, the SORN Unit completed 1,638 registrations (some offenders must register multiple times per year). There were 250 address verifications completed and numerous investigations conducted. As a result of the address verifications, several investigations were initiated that resulted in warrants being issued. Some sex offenders were charged for failing to notify the Sheriff's Office of a new address or simply not registering

SORN Activity in 2015	
Active Offenders	488
Registrations	1638
Address Verifications	250
Arsonists	19

### Sheriff Sales Unit

In Ohio, each county's Sheriff has the unenviable task of processing and administering court-ordered foreclosures. Here in Butler County, the Sheriff has delegated those responsibilities to Civil Administrative Specialist James Allen, who is assisted by Clerical Specialist Bobbie Benton and Paralegal Sherry Buchheim. During 2015, the Butler County Sheriff's Office processed 1,523 initial orders for foreclosure sales of real property, primarily the result of defaults on mortgage payments and/or non-payment of real estate tax bills. A good portion of those initial orders of sale are withdrawn or recalled by the plaintiffs for a variety of reasons before completion of the legal foreclosure process. Still, in 2015 the Sheriff's Office conducted 869 actual public auction sales of properties.



# Administrative Services Division

## Lieutenant Rick Bucheit

### Training Unit

In 2015, the Butler County Sheriff's Office invested in PowerDMS, a document management system. The system has many benefits, but when it comes to training, PowerDMS provides the Sheriff's Office with the ability to conduct online training and an efficient means of managing training records. The system went live on June 1st. Training certificates achieved in 2015 were uploaded to the system. Courses have been created through PowerDMS, making access simple. The statistics provided for this report were generated through PowerDMS. The initial purchase was for 300 licenses, but was quickly upgraded to 500 licenses, once its many uses became evident.

One of the training goals for 2015 was to work towards legally defensible training. This begins with an effective Field Training Program, which starts with well-trained field training officers. In March, eleven staff members, representing Patrol, Corrections, Court Security, BURN and Communications attended this three-day course.

In an effort to enhance our FTO Program as well as benefit the Sheriff's Office with qualified instructors for Continuing Professional Training, eight staff members completed the Instructional Skills Development Course through Butler Tech. There were also two Corrections supervisors who completed the American Heart Association's Basic Life-Saving Instructor's Course. In addition, BCSO certified three staff members as instructors through the TASER Train the Trainer Course.

The 2015 Continuing Professional Training mandate stipulated that all certified peace officers in the State of Ohio were required to receive four hours of CPT. One hour of the training had to be on the topic of domestic violence and the three remaining hours on any other law enforcement topic. Two hundred and five BCSO certified staff completed the Domestic Violence course on PowerDMS. In addition, thirty three special deputies took the same course in a classroom setting. This course covered the lethality factors that deputies need to assess

victim safety when responding to domestic violence calls.

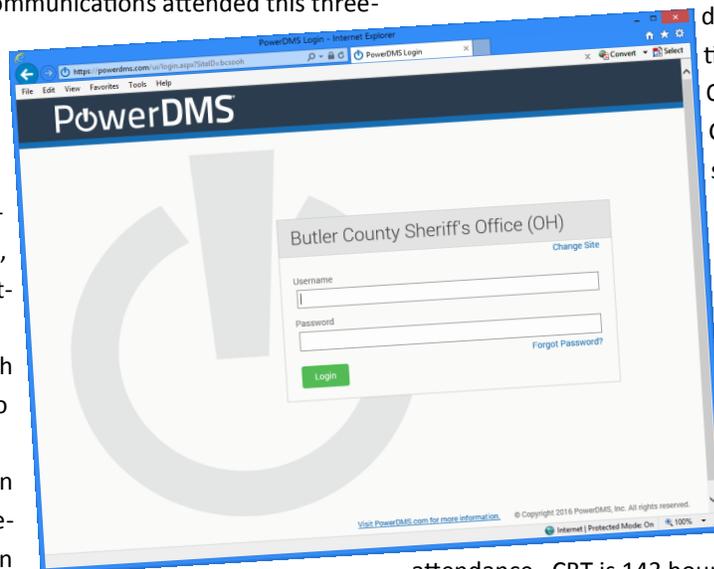
The remaining three hours of CPT were dedicated to Tactical Combat Casualty Care. With the increase in active shooter and suicide bombing situations in the U.S., law enforcement agencies are being encouraged to consider Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC). Officers are taught how to enter "hot" situations to rescue injured civilians and first responders. They are also given the skills to perform potentially life-saving measures on themselves and fellow officers until advanced care can safely enter the scene. A total of 198 staff members completed this course. BCSO would like to thank the instructors for the course affiliated with the county's regional SWAT team who donated their time for this training. In addition to the TECC, 142 staff members were re-certified in CPR/AED.

The BCSO patrol fleet began trading in sedans for SUVs in 2015, which made it an ideal time to conduct an eight hour block of Driving In-Service Training. After reviewing the pursuit policy, deputies spent about 6 hours of practicing various driving skills using the OPOTA Peace Officer Basic Training Curriculum. Deputies assigned to second and third shift attended an afternoon/evening class to enable them to practice skills at dusk and in the dark. First shift patrol, detectives and transport deputies attended the day sessions.

Two Corrections Basic Training (CBT) academies were held in 2015, with a total of 10 corrections officers and two full time medics in attendance. CBT is 143 hours of training in basic corrections duties, communications skills, subject management control and first aid/CPR. An additional eight hours was added for ASP certification.

With the recent consolidation of dispatch centers, the Sheriff's Office added dispatchers to handle the increase in the service provided. The new dispatchers attended one of two Emergency Medical Dispatching sessions provided by Priority Dispatch. Each session was opened to outside agencies, filling the class to capacity.

In April, the Sheriff's Office hosted its sixth Sheriff's Citizen Acad-





## Administrative Services Division

### Lieutenant Rick Bucheit

emy. At this most challenging time for law enforcement, the Sheriff's Office opened its doors and allowed twelve Butler County residents a look "behind the scenes" at the Butler County Sheriff's Office. This eight-week course provided participants with background in what it takes to protect our county 24/7.

In addition to the training provided through the Sheriff's Office, forty-four employees received 1139 hours of elective training this year. In-house instructors provided an additional 463 hours of training through the Sheriff's Office.

Creating courses and coordinating training is a major portion of the duties of the Training Unit. In 2015, the unit took on the responsibility of conducting the physical training (PT) assessment of candidates for employment. This year, twenty-six assessments were completed.

### Special Deputy Unit

The Butler County Sheriff authorizes and provides the framework for a Special Deputies Unit that supports, assists and complements the full-time staff of the Butler County Sheriff's Office. Special Deputies are state certified as Ohio Peace Officers and must meet the same continuing education and training requirements as full time personnel. Over the years many special deputies have become full-time officers with the department. Most special deputies are employed in other vocations full time or have prior law enforcement experience but each special deputy must volunteer at least sixteen hours per month to fulfill his/her obligations to the Sheriff's Office.

In 2015, there were fifteen active special deputies serving under the direction of the Sheriff. These individuals contributed to the betterment of the quality of life in Butler County by infusing their time, talent, experience and enthusiasm in complimenting departmental operations. Special Deputies are assigned as needed to support overall operation of the Sheriff's Office.

The Special Deputy Unit strives to serve the Sheriff and community by assisting patrol operations, corrections operations, civil and court services, sexual offender registration and notification, chain gang operation, transport services and community-charity events. Community services and charity support have included Hamilton Clean-Up Days, Butler County Fair, Memorial Day and July 4th parades, Veterans Day Ceremonies, Butler Rural Electric Cooperative Family Day, Hanover Township Kids Fest and Car Show, Hanover Haunted Harvest as well as other special details

that arise throughout the year.



Future goals of the unit are to expand training for members, provide quality support to community activities and events, and to enhance the unit's effectiveness, professionalism and reliability in support of the Sheriff's Office functions. The Special Deputies Unit is under the general direction of Special Deputy Steve Vollmar, a retired police chief and a former training officer with the Butler County Sheriff's Office.

### Marine Patrol Team

The Butler County Sheriff's Office is responsible for all waterways throughout the county. The Sheriff's Office works in partnership with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Division of Watercraft. The Marine Patrol provides services including: rescue, boat inspections and general assistance to boating public. During the summer months, Marine Patrol deputies conduct boater safety inspections for required equipment, boater education and enforce traditional law and alcohol enforcement while on water patrol. These duties take place on the Great Miami River and on Acton Lake at Hueston Woods State Park.





# Administrative Services Division

## Lieutenant Rick Bucheit

The Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol is often times called upon to provide water rescue stand-by at special events. In 2015 the Marine Patrol provided such duties at Voice of America Park in West Chester for the USA Tri-Athlon National Championship.

### Regional Water Rescue Team

The Butler County Sheriff's Office Regional Water Rescue Team is in its fourth year of existence. Sheriff Jones realized the need to pull resources together in these tough economic times. The sharing of manpower and equipment is a true benefit to the citizens of Butler County.

The team currently consists of the following agencies: Butler County Sheriff's Office, Madison Township Fire Department, Middletown Police Department, St. Clair Township Fire Department, Hanover Township Fire Department and Fairfield City Fire Department. The members from these agencies are trained in many diverse areas of expertise and bring many years of experience to the team.



Members have specialty training in Swift Water Rescue, Rope Rescue, Hazmat, and certified in NIMS/ICS. They are required to train together as a team which makes them better prepared to respond to a water related emergency in Butler County and to assist other jurisdictions.



With two fully equipped mobile units located in separate areas of the county, they are prepared to respond quickly due to proper training and equipment.

Sheriff Jones is committed to advancing the expertise of this unit every year with new equipment and training while saving tax dollars.



In addition, the Regional Water Rescue Unit participates in ice rescue training each year with members of surrounding agencies to maintain proficiency in ice rescue events.

### Dive Team

The Task Force One Dive Team is a multi-jurisdictional dive team based in Loveland, Hamilton County, Ohio. The team consists of members from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, Clermont County Sheriff's Office, Loveland-Symmes Fire Department, Union Township (Clermont County) Police Department, Liberty Township (Butler County) Fire Department, and the Butler County Sheriff's Office. Butler County members include CO Evan Depew, CO Holly Schickner, Dep. Steve Tanner, Dep. Mike Matala, and Dive Team Co-Commander Dep. Greg Wargo.



Task Force One serves all of Southwest Ohio and has qualified for a Type One status allowing the team to respond anywhere in the nation, in lieu of a natural disaster, if needed. All members



# Administrative Services Division

## Lieutenant Rick Bucheit

are certified divers through Dive Rescue International with a few members holding dual certifications through PADI.

### Citizen Patrol Program

The Citizens on Patrol (COP) is an active volunteer group that was established by the Sheriff's Office over eight years ago. The members originally attended the Sheriff's Citizen Academy classes and then were recruited for the Citizens on Patrol. Members were chosen after interviews with the department's staff and then attended an eight week course especially designed for patrol members. All patrol members wear uniforms only when out on patrol or assigned a community service project.

The patrol members drive a marked cruiser and cover all of Butler County. They check on the homes of those who have requested vacation checks in all thirteen townships. These are radioed into dispatch after each home check. The patrol also checks the Metro Parks and other small parks.

They patrol school lots within the county, neighborhoods and other businesses. All the areas are documented by a patrol member and these are kept for reports. Members aim to go out on patrol twice a month and try to see that each week of the month has some coverage. Most patrol times are from six to eight hours.

Reports are made and documented for BCSO and a special volunteer hour report for the Auditor's Office. This and the monthly schedule of patrol hours and correspondence are handled by the Civilian Coordinator who is a patrol member.

In 2015, Citizens on Patrol logged 1,239 hours of volunteer time, conducted 747 vacation home checks, 1740 extra patrol requests and drove in excess of 9,000 miles throughout Butler County. There are currently fourteen active COP members. Marilyn Schellenbach is the civilian coordinator of the program. Her duties include scheduling, maintaining statistical information, and assisting with meetings. All the members are proud to be a part of Citizens on Patrol and take our commitment seriously.

### Bicycle Patrol Team

Bike patrol has many advantages over a motor unit. Bike Patrol personnel, throughout the year, brought their bikes with them mounted on their patrol units so they can utilize the bikes at any giving time during their daily patrol. The Bike Patrol Unit was

able to acquire newer up to date uniforms that consist of specialized coats, and pants that are flexible yet keep the Bike Patrol personnel warm and dry. As the weather breaks the Bike Patrol is utilized more often. In areas of higher populations where the crime rate increases, the bikes are deployed to give law enforcement the upper hand. It is much easier to locate criminal activity riding the bikes through streets and alleyways without being detected. By doing so, criminals are surprised when they are actually caught in the commission of a crime.



The unit has many other useful purposes and are often deployed to assist with parades, local fairground patrol, training of students at local schools and even assisting with large groups of children on cross county bike rides.

During 2015, the Bike Patrol was deployed as part of a daily patrol routine, weather permitting. There has been an increase in deploying the Bike Patrol Unit in the Liberty Township area due to having an increase in population and a new Liberty Center Mall. The Bike Patrol, besides their daily routine of patrol is also involved in parades, Butler County Fair and different bike runs.

### Mounted Patrol Program

The Butler County Sheriff's Mounted Patrol is a dedicated group of volunteers who are Honorary Special Deputies and come from a variety of backgrounds. The unit is made up of members who work for the Sheriff along with members who work outside the agency.

All members share a common interest in horses, law enforcement, and serving their community. The Mounted Patrol has fifteen members, one auxiliary member, and three "Friends of



# Administrative Services Division

## Lieutenant Rick Bucheit

the Butler County Mounted Patrol Members," who have volunteered 981 hours of service in 2015 at no cost to the community. The members participate in many activities throughout the county. These activities include: the Butler County Fair, OPTOA Memorial Parade, Memorial Day and Independence Day Parade, Halloween at the Sheriff's Office, Christmas in Shandon, the Buckeye State Mounted Patrol meetings, Buckeye State Mounted Patrol rides, along with monthly unit meeting at the Sheriff's Office.



All members have passed a personal interview, criminal background check, financial background check, drug screen, and horsemanship test. They are required to be active within the unit throughout the year and are required to stay certified through trainings that are offered within the Sheriff's Office.

In 2015, the Mounted Patrol Unit enjoyed some unique events. In the spring, the unit had the pleasure of having Sheriff Jones as a guest rider. The unit was also honored when the unit's commander, Billy Kelly, was named Officer of the Year for 2014 from the Butler County Sheriff's Office.

### Honor Guard Program

The Butler County Sheriff's Honor Guard is made up of deputies who are assigned to various positions throughout the agency such as Corrections, Court Security and Patrol. Deputies tryout for the Honor Guard and are put through military drill and cere-

mony movements. Deputies who perform the best during tryouts are then selected for the Honor Guard.



The Honor Guard consists of fifteen members who have a talent for precision and mental focus in any environment. When not reporting for their regular assigned duties within the Sheriff's Office, the Honor Guard is training in an array of complex drills. Members attend dinners, parades, swearing-in events, and funerals. They may present the Colors for various ceremonies or be faced with performing casket guard for a fallen law enforcement officer.

In 2015, the Honor Guard presented the colors for Ohio Supreme Court Justice Sharon Kennedy's swearing in ceremony and Butler County Common Pleas Court Judge Michael Oster Jr. The Honor Guard also presented the colors for several Cincinnati Reds baseball games and special events around the county.

### Pipe and Drum Band

The Butler County Sheriff's Office Pipe and Drum Corp consists of thirteen volunteer members that perform in parades, memorials and funeral services. The band functions at no expense to the taxpayers of Butler County. Expenses for uniforms, instruments and maintenance are all covered through the volunteers themselves and through generous donations from the community. It can cost in excess of two thousand dollars to outfit one performer!

The Pipe and Drum Corp has performed in many parades in Butler County and traveled across the state, playing for memorials, funerals and for law enforcement meetings. In 2015 some of the events that the Pipes and Drums participated in include:



# Administrative Services Division

## Lieutenant Rick Bucheit

V.F.W. Founders Day Ceremony in Columbus, Miami University's R.O.T.C. Graduation Ceremony; Reds Opening Day Parade; as well as funeral services honoring fallen Police Officer Sonny Kim and Firefighter Patrick Wolterman.

The band provides weekly lessons to members ranging from the beginners on practice chanters to advanced musical theory and piping techniques.



## Explorer Program

Our Explorer program allows youths ages 14 – 21 the opportunity to see and learn all of the exciting facets of a career in law enforcement. Our Explorers meet every Tuesday to learn and practice law enforcement techniques. Each year our Explorers are tested on their knowledge of what they've learned over the past year. They apply their learned skills in scenarios designed to

be as realistic as possible.

In December 2014, Sheriff Jones was pleased to announce the addition of a second Explorer Post, when he re-chartered Post 2916 he also signed a new charter for Post 2917. Both posts will continue to receive the same top level of instruction as the one post has since 1989. Deputy Connie Rockey, Deputy Brian Romans and Deputy Adam Boyd were assigned as the Advisors of Post 2916. Deputy Matt Kellum, Deputy Nicole Roberts and Officer David Geiger (Oxford Twp PD) were the advisors of Post 2917. Both Explorer Posts are under the direction of Deputy Matt Ginter.

In 2015 Post 2916 had two competitions totaling four 1<sup>st</sup> place finishes, two 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishes, and five 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishes. The Post finishes 2<sup>nd</sup> overall in the state and 4<sup>th</sup> overall at the regional competition.

In 2015 Post 2917 also had two competitions and totaled four 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishes and three 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishes, while finishing 4<sup>th</sup> overall at the regional competition and 7<sup>th</sup> in the state competition.

Details worked by the both of the Explorer Posts included: the Butler County Fair, Lakota East, Middletown Rotary Club, Balloon Fest, Memorial Day parade, 4th of July parade, BCSO Halloween Festival, and at Butler Tech Academy.



# Communications Section



## Captain Matt Franke

Captain Franke commands the Communications Section, consisting of:

The Regional Dispatch Center, LEADS and Entries, Information and Technical Services, Fleet Management, Salvage Inspections, Master Name Index, Website and Social Media, 800 MHz Radio System, VHF Radio System, County Wide 911, and Weather Sirens.

Captain Franke serves as the Butler County 9-1-1 Coordinator and on the 800MHz Advisory Board.

Captain Franke brings 34 years of service to the Sheriff's Office.

Top: 9COM Dispatch Center; Bottom: BRICS Radio System Master Site





# Dispatch Services Division

## Lieutenant Carrie Schultheiss

Lieutenant Carrie Schultheiss commands the Dispatch Services Division in the Communications Section.

### Regional Dispatch Center

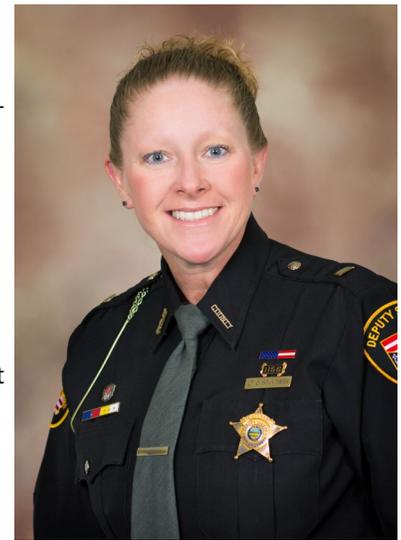
In 2015, Butler County dispatchers handled 106,677 total 9-1-1 calls for service, an increase of 3.3% from the previous year. The Regional Dispatch Center handled 48.33% of all 9-1-1 phone calls received by PSAPs in Butler County, with the remaining percentage being handled by the four other PSAPs (Oxford, Fairfield, West Chester, and Middletown). Total phone calls handled by our PSAP (9-1-1 and non-emergency calls) were 293,495 for 2015 resulting in 151,151 calls for service. In addition to all this, our dispatchers also entered and performed a LEADS-required second check on a total of 16,852 warrants for the year.

The Butler County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Services Division saw many changes during 2015. After working 30 1/2 years in dispatch, Dispatch Manager Bonnie Short retired in November 2015. Now working in the capacity of Dispatch Specialist, Bonnie tends to our CAD system and spent most of the year implementing changes in the way Hamilton Fire Department dispatch-

patching experience to her role as supervisor, and she joins existing Dispatch Supervisors Angie Mondello (19 years' experience) and Miranda Sheppard (10 years' experience) in managing our 29 full-time dispatchers, six part-time dispatchers, two full-time clerks, and four part-time clerks.

Beginning late December 2015, the Butler County Sheriff's Office Communications Division took over all of the 9-1-1 calls and most of the dispatching duties for the City of Oxford. To help facilitate the takeover, the decision was made to begin dispatching their fire department and medics first and then dispatch their police departments at a later date in 2016.

Dispatchers also began using the "Incident Dispatcher" model of



dispatching in 2015. This dispatch model requires the patching of the Alpha and Bravo fire channels (county fire and Hamilton Fire) into one county-wide channel, thus freeing up a dispatcher to be the room's back-up. The Incident Dispatcher's duties include handling any major incidents that may occur during the shift (vehicle pursuits, structure fires, etc.), being a secondary calltaker,



es all their equipment, while also adding all the necessary information to begin dispatching Oxford. Bonnie will handle CAD entries, public records requests, and training in dispatch.

Dispatcher Debbie Rednour accepted the position of Dispatch Supervisor in December 2015. Debbie brings nine years of dis-

patching experience to her role as supervisor, and she joins existing Dispatch Supervisors Angie Mondello (19 years' experience) and Miranda Sheppard (10 years' experience) in managing our 29 full-time dispatchers, six part-time dispatchers, two full-time clerks, and four part-time clerks. Beginning late December 2015, the Butler County Sheriff's Office Communications Division took over all of the 9-1-1 calls and most of the dispatching duties for the City of Oxford. To help facilitate the takeover, the decision was made to begin dispatching their fire department and medics first and then dispatch their police departments at a later date in 2016. Dispatchers also began using the "Incident Dispatcher" model of dispatching in 2015. This dispatch model requires the patching of the Alpha and Bravo fire channels (county fire and Hamilton Fire) into one county-wide channel, thus freeing up a dispatcher to be the room's back-up. The Incident Dispatcher's duties include handling any major incidents that may occur during the shift (vehicle pursuits, structure fires, etc.), being a secondary calltaker, running and entering vehicles and subjects on the law dispatchers' calls, calling for tow trucks (or medical helicopters, Duke Energy callouts, etc.), and taking over the fire or law channels to provide breaks for the other dispatchers.



# Technical Services Division

## Lieutenant Nick Fisher

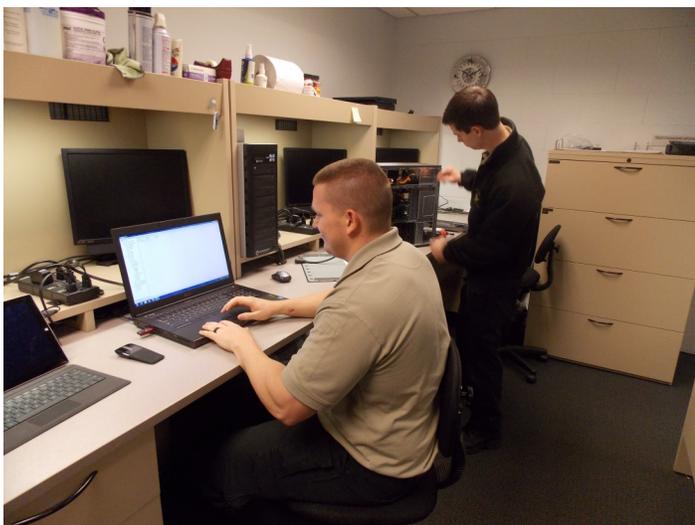
Lieutenant Nick Fisher commands the Technical Services Division.

### IT Services Unit

The IT Services Unit supports the information technology needs for every division in the Sheriff's Office. In the constantly evolving field of technology, the IT Services staff is always preparing for and learning about the next "new thing." The unit is led by IT Manager Ken Carpenter.

Carpenter is responsible for managing the overall daily IT operations and works closely with technicians whose duties encompass every element of Information Technology. Some examples are server management; application installation; hardware acquisition, configuration, and repair; database management; report writing; desktop support; and general troubleshooting.

After a busy 2014, when efforts primarily focused on expansion to accommodate merging agencies, I.T. Services found it necessary to turn 2015's focus to solidifying core technologies. As trusted keepers of other agencies' data the first project undertaken was to implement a storage attached network. This new network ensures that all data can be backed up quickly and efficiently without any impact on the Sheriff's Office local network. On-site and off-site network attached storage devices retain multiple copies of the full Sheriff's Office data set and provide protection in the event of a disaster.



The next major group of upgrades included the installation of an upgraded Internet connection, firewall and content filter. The Sheriff's Office had previously relied solely on an Internet connection which was traversing multiple networks making it somewhat unreliable. This upgraded Internet connection brings fiber optics from the Internet provider directly into the Sheriff's Office



for maximum reliability and performance. Additionally, the previous connection serves as a backup to be used in the event that a disaster causes an unexpected outage.

In an effort to minimize cost and increase reliability, I.T. Services has begun the process of migrating all of the physical servers to virtual servers. Virtual servers will allow the Sheriff's Office to reduce the overall amount of hardware required for I.T. operations. Additionally, virtual servers allow for more flexibility when selecting a physical location for the servers to be installed. Placing servers in multiple physical locations greatly increases the speed at which I.T. can recover from a disaster scenario.

While I.T. has long used dual factor authentication coupled with device forensics to prevent unauthorized access to criminal justice data, 2015 brought the implementation of biometrics as an additional layer of security. Fingerprint readers were deployed throughout the fleet of patrol vehicles to ensure that only deputies approved for a vehicle can access that vehicle's mobile data system.

Looking forward to 2016, I.T. Services will continue migrating existing physical servers to the pool of virtual servers. Additionally, the Sheriff's Office will be undertaking a technology merger where the Oxford Police Department will be abandoning their existing criminal justice systems to move onto the Sheriff's Office software and servers. This technology merger coincides with a dispatch center merge and will reduce expenses for the City of Oxford, simplify data sharing, and ease the transition to the Sheriff's Dispatch Center.



# Technical Services Division

## Lieutenant Nick Fisher

### BRICS Support Unit

The Butler Regional Interoperable Communications System (BRICS) is supported by the BRICS Support unit, including responsibility for the county's 800MHz radio system and the IP-based 9-1-1 system. BRICS staff consists of five technicians and one clerical specialist.

#### BRICS 9-1-1 System

In 2015 the BRICS 9-1-1 system delivered 220,748 emergency 9-1-1 telephone calls to the five Public Safety Answering Points in Butler County. The system also delivered 414,299 non-emergency calls to those PSAPs and processed 146,555 outgoing calls.



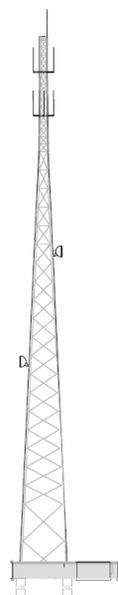
In March, BRICS staff worked with wireless companies to allow callers in Butler County to send texts to 9-1-1. In addition to the 325 9-1-1 text contacts received from callers, the new software permitted dispatchers to send messages to callers on '9-1-1 abandoned' calls – calls where the caller disconnected before reaching a dispatcher.

#### BRICS Radio System & Support

The BRICS Trunked Radio System went through a month-long upgrade in 2015 to Motorola's version 7.15, which kept our communications network's technology up to date and on par with the rest of the state. In addition, five channels of capacity were added to the system bringing the total to twenty, allowing the system to support additional radio users in the region.

BRICS staff provide communications support for all fifteen law enforcement agencies, twenty-three fire and EMS agencies, eight dispatch centers with 33 dispatch consoles, as well as twenty-four non-public safety agencies that include hospitals, transit, and public works. There are 2,912 radio users on the system. This also includes eighty-five school buildings in the county that have had emergency radios installed from a School Security Grant.

The county-wide 800MHz radio system had 9.751 million Push-To-Talks (PTTs) in 2015. This



represents the number of times a radio user transmitted from their radio to the system by pressing the PTT button.

Butler County's 800 MHz system has fourteen tower sites and eight dispatch centers supported by BRICS. Our technicians are on call to respond for problems that may arise at either end of a connectivity or technical problem. It is not unusual to have one address the issue while another helps users and dispatch centers continue operating despite an outage. Technicians perform monthly site inspections on each of the towers that include routine testing of equipment alarms. Generators are tested on a weekly basis to ensure they are operating correctly should a power outage occur.

New, large-scale construction in the county brought new challenges when it comes to radio signals and making sure first responders have the ability to communicate inside the building should an emergency arise. BRICS technicians performed multiple signal tests in 2015 at locations for Miami University as well as the Liberty Center multi-use complex. This allows the building to be inspected for service issues prior to completion and signal boosting equipment to be installed if necessary.



In 2015, a weather siren project was undertaken to enhance the alerting of weather sirens throughout Butler County. Additionally, a weather service box was installed in the Government Services Center for making announcements inside the building in the event of an emergency weather event. Our technicians reprogrammed sixty-one weather sirens located around the county and now perform weekly siren testing and troubleshooting.

Through a program developed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, several of our staff are trained and certified as COMT (Communications Unit Technician) and COML



# Technical Services Division

## Lieutenant Nick Fisher

(Communications Unit Leader). During an incident, natural disaster, or pre-planned event, the Incident Command System (ICS), led by the COML and assisted by one or more COMTs are responsible for both the technical and operational aspects of interoperability. In 2015, the BRICS Incident Communications Team provided support for public safety agencies working at the Butler County Fair, the USA Triathlon Junior National Championship, Independence Day fireworks, and other special events.

BRICS staff routinely performs preventive maintenance and repairs for users as well as providing replacement parts and accessories to agencies at cost. In 2015, technicians performed preventive maintenance 968 times, serviced approximately 600 radios, reprogrammed approximately 2,500 radios and began a software update project during which each radio will need to be physically touched for 10-30 minutes per radio. This project is expected to be completed mid-2016. There were twenty-seven radios added to the system in 2015 and sixty-three emergency school radios were installed and personnel trained by our staff. Purchasing 380 portable batteries in 2015 represented about 17% of portables on the system that needed replaced due to age and usage. BRICS staff also replaced forty UPS batteries which provide critical backup support for half of the 9-1-1 system at eight dispatch centers and exchanged two UPS devices at one center to allow for higher capacity and capability for emergency power. Improvements were also made to the remote monitoring equipment on network equipment located at the dispatch centers.

Although each agency using BRICS has discretion as to how it will maintain its Subscriber Equipment, they are strongly encouraged to utilize the flat fee annual maintenance and repair program offered by the Butler County Sheriff because of the significant cost savings which can be achieved over commercial repair facility costs, as BRICS has the ability to provide a temporary portable radio for the user while the radio being repaired or maintained remains out of service. Non-public safety agencies are charged a monthly user fee per radio. Items such as speaker mics, antennas, batteries, etc. are also made available at cost for our subscribers. Over \$278,000.00 was invoiced out in 2015 for maintenance, repairs, and purchases with \$227,500.00 received by the end of the year.



## Fleet Services Unit

Fleet Services is responsible for managing and maintaining all vehicles along with the safety and other specialized equipment installed in cruisers, transport vans and buses, K-9 and dog warden units, unmarked units, motorcycles, and other support vehicles. Preventative maintenance is a key factor for safety and maximum usage of each vehicle.

Emergency safety equipment such as lighting, sirens, etc. is done in house if possible by Fleet Manager Josh Readnowner. He also assists technicians from I.T. Services and BRICS Support with troubleshooting and repair issues with mobile computer software and wireless communications equipment as well. When repairs and maintenance require the services of an outside vendor, these are coordinated and tracked by the unit.



## Salvage Unit

In 2015, the Butler County Sheriff's Office impounded approximately 709 vehicles within Butler County. Of the 709 police impounds, 201 of the vehicles were referred for salvage and title processing and transfer. This is managed by Deputy Mike Martinsen.

The Butler County Sheriff's Office also processed 49 vehicles impounded by the Ohio State Highway Patrol which were referred for salvage and title transfer.

BCSO utilized nine different tow service companies in 2015: Day's, Dietz, Fox's, House's, Paul & Sons, Reffitt's, S&S, Sandy's, and Wayne's.

# Corrections Section



## Captain Dennis Adams

Captain Adams commands the Corrections Section consisting of:

The Correctional Center at 705 Hanover Street, the Court Street facility, and the Resolutions jail facility

Classification, 287g Program, Housing Contracts, Public and Inmate Records, PREA Compliance, Food Service, Laundry, Facility and Grounds Maintenance, Commissary, Environmental Services, Medical Services, CERT Team, PRIDE and Chain Gang operations, GED, Recreation and Religious Services and the Inmate Worker Program.

Captain Adams has 14 years of service with the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Jones conducting an Inspection of the Corrections Staff



# Corrections Section

## Corrections Lieutenant Scott Brown

Lieutenant Brown is responsible for jail housing units, security, inspections, facility grounds, communications, chain gang, and the Corrections Emergency Response Team.

He supervises Sergeants Calhoun, Roark, Grathwohl and Young.



## Corrections Lieutenant Rob Clendenin

Lieutenant Clendenin is responsible for inmate discipline, classification, records, intake, visitation, training, federal contracts and the ICE 287(g) program.

He supervises Sergeants Rumpler, Smith, Seals and Slone.



## Corrections Lieutenant Dave Reynolds

Lieutenant Reynolds is responsible for housing units, employee awards, trusty inmate workers, facility fire drills, security reports, key control, volunteer inmate services and the jail control room.

He supervises Sergeants Hurst, Schroeder, Lay and Dietz-Rumpler.



## Medical Administrator Curt New

Administrator New and two shift supervisors lead the Medical Services Unit. He is responsible for all inmate medical needs, including routine and emergency medical care, medical isolation, appointments and the administration of medications.

He supervises Medical Supervisors Oney and Estep.



## An Overview

Butler County's correctional facilities are a multi-million dollar operation with the goal of providing a safe environment for the employees as well as the inmates and visitors who visit the complex. When an inmate enters the jail complex, they are immediately aware of the professionalism of the staff and the expectations of their behavior while they are incarcerated in the jail.

The Warden of the Butler County Correctional Centers, Captain Dennis Adams, was promoted to the position in 2012 and continues to ensure the jail is used to its maximum potential. Captain Adams has continued to make improvements within the facility, increasing bed space and contracts held by the Sheriff's Office.

The Hanover Street facility houses all classifications of inmates and has an inmate capacity of 848. Built in 2001, it is a state-of-the-art facility that houses not only Butler County inmates, but also contracted inmates for the US Marshals Service, Immigrations and Customs Enforcement, and the Bureau of Prisons. Contracted beds are also available for inmates of other county jurisdictions. All inmates are received, booked and released from this facility. Last year alone, over 12,500 inmates were booked into the facility. An equal number were released. The jails are a 24/7 operation.



# Corrections Section

## Captain Dennis Adams

Since 2008, the Resolutions Minimum Security Jail on South Second Street has a current capacity of 200. It has been mostly utilized to house trustys (inmate workers). From time to time, the facility has also been utilized as a temporary shelter when The Butler County Group Home was destroyed by fire as well as safe haven for the homeless during extreme weather conditions. When a neighboring county temporarily closed their jail for repairs in November 2015, two additional dormitories were opened for housing of eighty inmates.



### Classification Unit

Upon entering the facility, inmates go through the booking process. All inmates are interviewed by the Classification Officer and classified to their proper level. Once they are classified they will be moved to the proper housing units to minimize risk to both the inmate and the facility. Inmates are classed Minimum, Medium or Maximum, depending upon their charges, prior criminal histories, jail behaviors and physical and mental conditions. Uniforms are colored according to classification level, which helps officers distinguish their level of security at a glance. Inmates are reclassified every thirty days to assure no changes to their classification are warranted.



### Forensic

The Sheriff's Office recognizes that an arrest and incarceration can be one of the most traumatic events in the average person's life. Thus, a forensic team comprised of three full time licensed employees and a part-time psychiatrist is available to provide the inmates with crisis intervention, suicidal/homicidal risk assessments, special housing requirements, medications, and post discharge planning. Inmates are assessed for their need of forensic intervention upon entering the facility and a system has been implemented allowing inmates to leave a request via phone for forensic aid during their stay. This line is monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Once under forensic care, the forensic team interacts with these inmates on a daily basis or until they are returned to the general population.

### Inmate Services

Inmates use our Inmate Services unit to request legal services which include the law library computer, voice grievances and request special services. Clerical Specialist Susan Gill receives these "Kites" and processes them. In 2015, she responded to 22,294 inmate requests. She is also responsible for supplying indigent inmates with packets containing hygiene, correspondence and phone card items on a weekly basis. During the year 12,672 indigent packets were distributed.

The Butler County Sheriff's Office realizes the need for increased educational programming for inmates and the increasing impact of drug abuse within the community. In 2015, a full time Jail Program Services Supervisor (Matt Brashear) was hired. Matt supervises five staff members providing drug and alcohol services within the jail. He oversees and coordinates the Adult Educational Program, facilitated through Butler Tech, which provides two programs and four staff members. He oversees and coordinates the efforts of Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous, and religious services-which provide Baptist, Methodist, Catholic, Muslim, Jewish, Rastafarian, Wicken, Jehovah Witness, and non-denominational services to inmates several days per week.

Future goals include: continuing growth of existing programs within the Resolutions facility, providing medication assisted treatment to inmates, introduction of a faith based mentoring program, introduction of an alternative sentencing program-working with all of the local court jurisdictions, and continuing to



# Corrections Section

## Captain Dennis Adams

strengthen the relationship between the jail services program and all local commitment authorities.

### Inmate Discipline

Rules and regulations must exist in any correctional facility to maintain order and inmate and officer safety. Upon entry into the facility, inmates are issued a handbook which outlines the facility rules and consequences if they are not adhered to. Inmate rule violations can be punishable by loss of commissary, loss of visitation or even in the more extreme cases, physical isolation with three meals a day comprised of the Warden Burger. Inmates requesting a hearing in regards to their "ticket" can meet with the Hearing Officer, who will hear the facts and determine guilt or innocence. In 2015, over 1,000 such hearings were held.



### Medical Services

Medical services are provided to the inmates through our Medical Services Unit. Inmates are medically screened upon entering the facility to discern special needs or medication requirements. Inmates who require medical care during their stay may make the request by filling out a "green slip." Much like an Inmate Service Request, these requests are submitted to the medical staff that assess them and arrange the appropriate medical treatment. Medics perform sick-call visits in each housing unit and screenings on a daily basis-averaging sixty per day.

The unit is comprised of a Medical Administrator, two Medical Supervisors, two part-time registered nurses for immigration detainees, four full-time paramedics, 22 part-time paramedics, a physician, a physician assistant, a dentist, and one full time clerk. Mental health services are contracted through Transitional Living Inc.

Medical Services Administrator Curt New has implemented additional on-site lab testing, innovative procedures to help cut medication and medical procedure costs, improvement of delivery methods to assist with the ever increasing number of dispensed medications to our inmate population, and methods to assist the development of a Tele-Medical inmate care delivery.

The Medical Services Unit is committed to offering the best medical care to all inmates during their stay, to include: working closely with the Transportation Unit on outside medical appointments and continues to make improvements in the areas of electronic filing of inmate medication requirements-including the ordering, processing, recording, and control of prescription medication.

### ICE 287(g) Program

The Butler County Sheriff's Office provides offices for local Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents employed by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Daily duties for agents in the Criminal Alien Program include the investigation, apprehension, and detention or deportation of criminal aliens encountered in the state of Ohio. Butler County 287(g) program officers encounter criminal aliens suspected of being illegal in the Correctional Facility and have the responsibility to perform the same duties as ICE agents. During 2015, over sixty criminal aliens were placed into removal proceedings through the Federal Immigration Court in Cleveland, Ohio. A video connection to the court allows detainees to attend legal proceedings without leaving the facility. This cuts the elevated costs of transporting ICE detainees to their proceedings, and the amount of manpower needed to do so.

### Trusty Program

The Butler County Sheriff's Office utilizes inmate labor to help offset costs in the everyday operation of the agency. Work details are coordinated by a Trusty Coordinator who qualifies and assigns inmates to their details. In 2015, inmates worked on inside details (including commissary, kitchen, and laundry) and outside details (grounds crew, maintenance, and miscellaneous details) for a total of 129,912 hours saving the county \$1,052,287 in labor cost. Inmates work in our facility and also assist with numerous details within the community. Inmate labor is used to do all the laundry in house, keep the grounds well



## Corrections Section

### Captain Dennis Adams

maintained at our facility, and assist in the kitchen with the preparation of all three meals for all the inmates. Those in house details were completed by approximately 853 inmates during 2015. Inmates who work are eligible to receive "Good Days" from their sentencing Judge after they work at least thirty days. Inmates can earn up to three "Good Days" for every thirty days worked. As an example: Inmate works for ninety days, and he or she is eligible for up to nine "Good Days" for their work.

### Pride Detail

The PRIDE (Providing Responsibility for Inmates through Duties for the Environment) Detail, supervised by Corrections Deputy Chris Wells, conducts litter control throughout the county. The program is funded primarily by state and federal grants; the "Chain Gang" recycles the cans collected and puts the money from the cans toward the program as well.



During 2015, the Chain Gang worked 1,562 hours and collected 4,958 bags of garbage while walking more than 400 miles of both county roads and state highways. The detail gives the inmates an opportunity to show PRIDE in their community by serving the community and cleaning their roads.

### Corrections Emergency Response Team

CERT is a group of officers who have received extensive and specialized training in the areas of cell extraction, riot control, and munitions. Sergeant Kevin Grathwohl is the commander of the CERT team and has been instrumental in the improvement of regular in-service training as well as specialized training with the SWAT team and CERT teams from other jails and prisons.



### Central Records

Sergeant Carol Seals is the supervisor over the Central Records unit. As one of the first points of contact for the public, Central Records serves not only the public, but government agencies, as well as all divisions within the Butler County Sheriff's Office. Central Records provides several services including, but not limited to, fingerprinting BCI and I (state) and FBI (national) web checks, local background checks, public records requests, inmate-attorney visits, video court arraignments for inmates, copies of accident and criminal offense reports and releasing of towed vehicles.

Central Records processed 8,199 and validated 4,050 offense and incident reports created by patrol deputies and collected more than \$90,000 through fingerprinting and local background checks for our armed services and other government agencies.

More than 1,800 crash reports and over 6,000 offense report copies were provided to various courts and other public agencies. To better serve the public, a "kiosk" that accepts cash and credit/debit cards was installed in the lobby in 2015 to streamline the process of leaving money for inmates.





## Retirements

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5/31/2015	Brickles, Art	Deputy Sheriff	BCSO service since May 1998
7/10/2015	Kohlhorst, David	Corrections Officer	BCSO service since February 2002
8/3/2015	Bryant, Charles	Deputy Sheriff / Court Services	BCSO service since May 1998
11/30/2015	Short, Bonita	Dispatch Center Manager	BCSO service since October 1985

## Promotions

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1/7/2015	Vedra, William	from Communications Technician to Deputy Sheriff
1/9/2015	Emmons, Bradley	from Court Security Deputy Sheriff to Deputy Sheriff
1/10/2015	Romans, Brian	from Corrections Officer to Deputy Sheriff
1/21/2015	Asher, Edward	from Corrections Officer to Court Security Deputy Sheriff
2/7/2015	Hale, Douglas	from School Resource Officer to SRO Leader
2/24/2015	Craft, G. Michael	from Captain to Major
2/24/2015	Bunnell, Lance	from Lieutenant to Captain
2/24/2015	Lambert, Randall	from Sergeant to Lieutenant
2/25/2015	Schuster, Jeffrey	from Detective to Sergeant
2/25/2015	Andrews, Timothy	from Deputy Sheriff to Detective
5/13/2015	Henson, Taylor	from Corrections Officer to Deputy Sheriff
6/9/2015	Wells, Joseph Mitchell	from Corrections Officer to Deputy Sheriff
7/25/2015	Owens, Jason	from Detective to Acting Sergeant
8/12/2015	Turner, Daniel	from Deputy Sheriff to Detective
9/11/2015	Kuhlmann, Allen	from Corrections Officer to Deputy Sheriff
9/11/2015	Cardwell, Leroy	from Corrections Officer to Court Security Deputy Sheriff
9/30/2015	Givens, Marquis	from Corrections Officer to Deputy Sheriff

