



**CHARLES COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Sheriff Rex W. Coffey**

*Annual Report 2010*





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The Charles County Sheriff's Office is accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies.

## 2010 Fast Facts

COUNTY POPULATION 146,551 (Census estimate)

SWORN OFFICERS 284    CORRECTIONS OFFICERS 146    CIVILIANS 192

CALLS FOR SERVICE 215,667    ARRESTS 11,746 Adults and Juveniles    DUI ARRESTS 325

AUTOMOBILE CRASH DEATHS 16\*    ALCOHOL-RELATED AUTOMOBILE CRASH DEATHS 3\*

\* Statistics include Maryland State Police traffic fatality investigations.

# A Message from Sheriff Coffey

As the Sheriff of Charles County, I have the honor of presenting our 2010 Annual Report, the official record of our activities and accomplishments throughout the year.

When I reflect on 2010, I cannot help but recall the financial challenges brought on by a nationwide recession that began in late 2007, the year after I took office. These challenges restricted our budget and demanded intense frugality but it is what we accomplished despite these challenges that defined us. We made sacrifices but remained true to our promise that our sacrifices would never threaten public safety.

It is in this time of struggle and sacrifice that the commitment the Charles County Sheriff's Office has made to our community is overwhelmingly evident. Our police officers, correctional officers and civilian personnel forego fancy jobs and higher salaries offered by the federal government and private workforce to protect us and our families. Leading them in this endeavor gives me great pride and I believe wholeheartedly we are doing remarkable work together and taking good care of our community.

In fact, our fight against crime this year was stronger than ever. Our approach was two-fold: maintain a highly visible patrol contingent and conduct special operations to prevent crime, end crime trends, and provide citizens with information about crime problems, police activity, ways they could help the CCSO fight crime, and safety tips they needed to know. Our approach lowered crime again slightly after having a more than 13 percent

decrease the previous year.

In addition to vehemently fighting crime, we are part of many outreach programs that support organizations like Special Olympics Maryland, United Way of Charles County and the American Cancer Society, among others. These programs not only raise money for special causes but also help us connect with people in our community. We value the opportunity to take part in these noble efforts and cherish the friendships we make along the way.

The Charles County Sheriff's Office's success is made possible by our dedicated and professional personnel and by our strong alliance with citizens, businesses, community organizations, and government officials. The extraordinary work we accomplish together makes our community a better place and helps to ensure the safety of our families. In the end, that is what matters most.

Sincerely,



Rex W. Coffey  
Charles County Sheriff





REX W. COFFEY  
SHERIFF





# A Brief History of the CCSO

The Charles County Sheriff's Office has a hallowed obligation to maintain law and order and to protect life and property. Centuries of growth and innovation have transformed how it fulfills its mission but its rich history is an indelible element behind its modern achievements.

When the Sheriff's Office was established in 1658, it was staffed by only one law enforcement officer, Sheriff Nicholas Gwyther, who served dually as sheriff in St. Mary's County. Sheriff Gwyther's responsibilities were collecting taxes, serving warrants, apprehending and executing criminals, and occasionally investigating witchcraft. He conducted business wherever he could, usually at his home.

Nearly 100 sheriffs have served as Charles County's chief law enforcement officer since Sheriff Gwyther and throughout the years these sheriffs have addressed the perpetually growing demand for law enforcement services, most of which are a product of commercial and residential growth. As the responsibilities of Charles County sheriffs grow, so too grows their contingent of personnel. Today, the CCSO employs more than 600 police, corrections and civilian personnel.

In its transformation from a one-man operation into one of its community's largest employers, the CCSO's physical presence in the community expanded. In the 20th century, the Sheriff's Headquarters moved from the County Courthouse to an abandoned military site and then to a renovated truck stop, which now serves as the La Plata District Station. The current Headquarters, which sits adjacent to the La Plata station, opened in July 2000

and is the first building erected specifically as the Agency's flagship. Additional district stations are operated in Waldorf and Indian Head and a Community Services and Property Management annex opened in 2005 beside the Charles County Emergency Operations Center, a state-of-the-art facility for police communications officers and the county's Emergency Services Department personnel.

The first county jail was built next to the county's original courthouse in Port Tobacco, the former county seat. The second jail was built in 1897 behind the current courthouse in La Plata and a third, which the CCSO still uses for Court Holding, was built beside it in 1926. A detention center behind the La Plata Station operated from 1981 to 1995 and reopened in 2007 as an annex of the current detention center adjacent to Headquarters.

The CCSO earned accreditation from the Commission on the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) in 2001 and was successfully audited in 2004, 2007 and 2010. The CCSO earned CALEA's flagship status in 2010, designating it as one of the best among accredited agencies worldwide.

The CCSO is one of the oldest sheriffs' offices in the world. It celebrated its 350th anniversary in 2008. A nationwide recession, the worst financial crisis in the U.S. since the Great Depression, prevented a large celebration but the Agency issued commemorative badges and patches.

As the primary law enforcement agency in Charles County, the CCSO is a full-service operation which provides all the services commonly associated with police departments and sheriffs' offices in addition to operating the detention center.



# Our Mission

*The men and women of the Charles County Sheriff's Office are dedicated to service through superior performance. We believe mutual respect, trust and pride in our organization, combined with traditional values and innovative techniques, will ensure the community's right to a safe environment.*

## Our Values

The men and women of the Charles County Sheriff's Office are bound by the highest standards of conduct, as exemplified in the following values:

**LIFE** We believe the protection of life is our highest priority.

**RESPECT** We believe in individual human dignity and the preservation of human rights under the rule and spirit of law, always treating others as we would like to be treated.

**INTEGRITY** We believe in maintaining the public trust by holding ourselves accountable to the highest moral and ethical standards.

**FAIRNESS** We believe in the delivery of service that provides fair and equal treatment to all citizens without regard to age, gender, race, creed, color, religion or national origin.

**TRUST** We believe in order to provide effective service we must develop and maintain the confidence of the community.

**PARTNERSHIPS** We believe in working in partnership with the community and each other to identify and resolve problems and issues which effect the safety of our citizens.

**LOYALTY** We believe in an allegiance to the community, to the organization and to each other.

**PROFESSIONALISM** We believe in delivering a level of service which will reflect the pride we have in our community and organization.

# The Year in Review

A nationwide recession that began late in 2007 and brought about the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression ended officially in 2009. The recovery would be slow, however, and in 2010 state and local government budget cuts deepened in a still-weak economy. Logic would suggest such circumstances would contribute to increased crime but the Charles County Sheriff's Office vowed public safety would never suffer the consequences of the Agency's financial challenges. The CCSO remained true to its word in 2010 and by making tough budgetary sacrifices the Agency reduced crime, initiated valuable and cost-effective public-safety programs, spearheaded new legislation, expanded its youth- and community- outreach efforts, and was recognized as one of the best law enforcement agencies in the world. When its frugality and resourcefulness were challenged most, the CCSO celebrated one of its best years yet.

**BEST OF THE BEST** The Commission on the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) – the premier credentialing authority for police departments and sheriffs' offices worldwide – recognized the CCSO as one of the best law enforcement agencies in the world after conducting an on-site assessment in August.

During the three-day assessment CALEA assessors extensively reviewed the CCSO's polices, procedures and operations and ultimately found zero file-maintenance or applied-discretion issues, CALEA's way of measuring success. When the assessors returned their findings to CALEA, they recommended the CCSO receive CALEA's highest honor: *Flagship Status*. Flagship agencies are con-

sidered the best among CALEA-accredited agencies; when non-accredited agencies begin seeking accreditation, CALEA refers them to the flagship agencies to observe "best practices." The CCSO would be officially recognized as a flagship agency at a CALEA ceremony the following year.

Sheriff Coffey said the honor was a testament to the work performed each day by the CCSO's dedicated staff and recognized the Planning and Accreditation Section – Director Dan Johnson and Planners Carol Davis and Reagan Hehehan – and the section's commander, Capt. Robert Cleaveland, for leading the Agency's effort to meet a standard so difficult to achieve.

CALEA regularly evaluates its accredited agencies to ensure they consistently meet the Commission's strict standards of professional excellence. The agencies must submit reports annually and must participate in on-site audits every three years to maintain accredited status. The CCSO was accredited in 2001 and was successfully audited additionally in 2004 and 2007.

**SMART THINKING CHANGES LAW, SAVES MONEY** The CCSO began extensive research early in 2010 that would ultimately change legislation governing traffic court proceedings and save police agencies in Maryland thousands in taxpayer dollars when a new law took effect January 1, 2011.

The existing traffic court law required District Court to automatically set a trial date for motorists who received a payable citation from a police officer. The ticketed motorists could choose to pay the applicable fines; otherwise they would be required to appear for the trial as scheduled. However, research conducted by Major Joseph



**LEFT:** Major Joe Montminy and Sheriff Rex Coffey present Delegate Sally Jameson with a plaque honoring her role in the successful passing of new legislation governing Traffic Court proceedings. **RIGHT:** Sheriff Coffey discusses with reporters the CCSO's role in a new statewide maritime security initiative.

C. Montminy, Jr. revealed a significant number of officers were being subpoenaed to Traffic Court only to find the driver had neither paid the fine nor appeared for the trial. Because officers are often required in court during off-duty hours, the CCSO was paying thousands of dollars in overtime for officers to appear at trials that ultimately could not proceed without the offending motorist.

The discovery prompted Major Montminy to collect overtime and traffic court data from 16 other police agencies in Maryland. He found that in Fiscal Year 2009, police officers issued more than 971,000 payable traffic citations to motorists, 530,000 of whom paid the applicable fines. The court scheduled trials for the remaining motorists but an astonishing 274,000 of them failed to appear in court as scheduled. As a result, police departments paid nearly \$838,000 in overtime in just one month to officers who appeared at the trials as required only to discover their services were not needed.

Armed with this information, the CCSO worked with Delegate Sally Jameson to change the law. They presented the research before the Maryland General Assembly and proposed a new law that would eliminate the automatic court dates and require ticketed motorists to pay the fine, request a waiver hearing instead of a trial or inform the court in writing of their intent to dispute the citation in court. Their legislative proposal – known officially as SB 560 (Chapter 195) and HB 829 (Chapter 196) – was ultimately passed by the Maryland General Assembly and would become law January 1, 2011.

In October, the Maryland Sheriffs' Association presented Major Montminy with its President's Award in acknowledgement of his monumental effort in this im-

portant money-saving achievement, which would ultimately ensure better use of police resources, too.

### **CCSO LEADS STATE WATERWAY SECURITY INITIATIVE**

When Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley introduced his new Maritime Strategic Security Plan in 2010, he called upon Charles County – with its 150 miles of tidal and inland waterways – to lead his initiative. The CCSO worked with federal, state and local government agencies to enhance its existing Marine Unit, strengthen its alliance with other police marine units and acquire better tools for policing waterways.

The CCSO Marine Unit primarily detects, prevents and responds to security threats along waterways but also protects important infrastructures like bridges and a power plant; responds to maritime emergencies; assists in the response to large-scale incidents and special events throughout Maryland and the National Capital Region; and, when necessary, enforces boating laws. After securing grant funding, the CCSO purchased two new boats, a 28-foot Zodiac and a 25-foot Sea Ark. The CCSO named Cpl. Chris Spaulding, a US Coast Guard veteran, as Chief Vessel Operator and assembled a crew of sworn and civilian personnel who volunteered for the Marine Unit in addition to their regular assignments. Every employee assigned to the Marine Unit was required to meet the same operating standards required by the US Coast Guard.

To assist in the State's initiative, the US Department of Homeland Security provided the CCSO with additional funding. Two local partners, Mirant Mid-Atlantic LLC and the Dominion Power Company, made operational and financial commitments to the program. State officials and the CCSO announced the new initia-



tive at a press conference in August.

**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT** Residents in 157 neighborhoods joined the Sheriff's Office in August for the 27th Annual National Night Out, a celebration of the community's alliance against crime, drugs and violence. Many neighborhoods hosted block parties and others lit porch lights to signal their participation. Some businesses including Target, the event's corporate sponsor, donated money and prizes and displayed NNO-themed messages on their marquees. Candice Quinn Kelly, owner of Meredith Management and Candy Clark Boutique in La Plata, donated \$1,000 to support the event and the Moose Lodge donated the use of its facility for a pre-event ceremony.

For the 17th consecutive year, the National Association of Town Watch recognized Charles County's enthusiastic participation in National Night Out by awarding the CCSO with a Category II Award for communities with populations between 100,000 and 299,000. Charles County ranked 13th out of 29 award recipients.

In October, McGruff the Crime Dog and his nephew Scruff joined Sheriff Coffey in congratulating the 18 winners of the annual National Night Out Coloring Contest. The winners ranged in age from 4 to 12. SMECO donated \$500 to the contest and the Waldorf Jaycees donated the use of its facility. The CCSO used SMECO's donation to purchase prizes and refreshments.

**MEDICATION DISPOSAL PROGRAM GOOD FOR EARTH, BAD FOR DRUG USERS**

Properly disposing of unused medication keeps it out of the hands of medication abusers and prevents it from entering waterways and becoming an environmental hazard. In 2010, the CCSO began offering citizens a way to discard prescription and non-prescription medications, pet medications and vitamins safely, anonymously and for free at drop boxes installed at each district station. After removing any identifying information like Rx numbers from

prescription packaging, citizens place their medication in a protective plastic bag and discard it in the drop box. The CCSO collects the medication regularly and transports it to the local hospital, Civista Medical Center, where medical personnel ensure its safe destruction. In September, the CCSO partici-

pated in the Take Back Medications Initiative, a national program that encourages people to submit their unused medications for safe destruction. The CCSO collected 90 pounds of medication during the operation.

*Community Outreach*

The CCSO proudly sponsors, coordinates and participates in many community outreach initiatives. In 2010, despite a still-weak economy, the Agency's fundraising efforts were strong as ever.

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS MARYLAND** It was a donation of Olympic proportions: The CCSO raised an astounding \$16,178 for Special Olympics Maryland in 2010 and was recognized as the top fundraising organization in the state for the fourth consecutive year.

The CCSO coordinates two major Special Olympics fundraisers each the year: Tip-a-Cop and the Maryland Law Enforcement Torch Run. In April, the Red Robin restaurant in Waldorf hosted Tip-a-Cop; Officers waited tables, sold T-shirts and hats that commemorated the Torch Run and collected tips to donate to Special Olympics. The day-long event, one of many held at Red Robins throughout the country, raised \$4,960. In June, the Sheriff's Office hosted the Charles County leg of the 25th Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run, a community event that helps escort an Olympic Torch called the Flame of Hope across Maryland. The event is one of multiple Torch Runs in the state that converge at Towson University to light the cauldron at the Opening Ceremony of the Special Olympics Summer Games.

About 450 CCSO employees and community citizens including school students, US Marines from the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Indian Head, Special Olympics athletes and the athletes' families, participated in the Torch Run. Three routes – one for runners and two for walkers – departed and returned to the Texas Roadhouse restaurant in La Plata. Volunteers from the restaurant and other local businesses provided lunch and other refreshments. Sheriff Coffey later presented plaques to Texas Roadhouse, Rita's of La Plata and Chick-fil-A for their contributions to the event.

At the Law Enforcement Torch Run International Conference in Long Beach, California in October, Special Olympics officials recognized the Maryland chapter of the organization for raising more money than any chapter in the world for the fourth consecutive year and for becoming the first chapter to exceed \$4 million. Maryland's





**LEFT:** Sgt. Chris Schmidt, one of two officers who coordinate Special Olympics fundraisers, helps sell Torch Run T-shirts during Tip-a-Cop at Red Robin. **RIGHT:** The participants in the Charles County leg of the Torch Run — the largest in Maryland — gathered at Texas Roadhouse before setting off and returning there for lunch and other refreshments provided by the restaurant’s volunteers and other local businesses.

2010 fundraising total was significantly higher than even the second-place fundraising state, New Jersey, which raised \$2.7 million. Special Olympics has chapters in all 50 states and in more than 30 countries.

### **BIKE RIDE FOR UNITED WAY AND SPRING DELL CENTER**

When the pedals began turning on more than 100 bicycles at the start of the Indian Head Hiker-Biker Trail early one March morning, the cyclists were motivated not just by spring weather but by the cause for which they were biking: the CCSO’s First Annual Community Bike Ride to raise money for United Way of Charles County and the Spring Dell Center, Inc. The 122 riders of all ages and skill levels raised \$2,380 for the organizations. Some biked part of the trail while others made the entire 26-mile journey to White Plains and back. Ever thankful for the cyclists’ efforts, volunteers from United Way and Spring Dell provided water to the riders at several stations along the trail. Chick-fil-A provided each with a complimentary lunch and each rider also received a commemorative T-shirt donated by KNC Marketing. The Charles County Department of Parks and Recreation helped plan and execute the fundraiser and the Department of Emergency Services remained at the trail throughout the event ready to provide medical treatment to any injured or exhausted riders.

### **A DAY OF CARING**

With a combination of hard labor and artistic talent, the CCSO helped improve two community organizations’ facilities in October as part of the United Way Day of Caring. At the Accokeek Foundation — home of the National Colonial Farm and the site of many school field trips — CCSO personnel repaired a fence, pruned overgrown shrubbery and removed debris

in pastures to allow the foundation’s rare heritage farm animals to graze more comfortably. Other CCSO volunteers helped build and paint carnival-style games for the Center for Children. The work at both sites was part of a larger effort in which community volunteers improved the facilities that house United Way’s non-profit organizations.

### **BLUE LIGHTS AND PINK RIBBONS**

The CCSO tied pink ribbons to the antennas of its police cruisers in October in honor of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Supporting important medical research and family services is important to the CCSO: The Agency also has teams who participate in Relay for Life — an overnight community walk that raises money for the American Cancer Society — and in the Walk for Babies, which raises money for the March of Dimes, an organization dedicated to helping to prevent premature births.

### **FOOD DRIVE**

The CCSO’s School Resource Unit collected a ton of donated food — literally, it weighed a ton — from students at Charles County Public Schools and delivered the goods the Wednesday before Thanksgiving to the Southern Maryland Food Bank. Sheriff Coffey initiated the food drive during a meeting with school administrators and in just a single school day, the students turned the idea into a massive contribution.

### **HAVE A HOLLY JOLLY CHRISTMAS**

The CCSO helps make the holiday season bright for less fortunate families whose struggles are especially difficult at Christmastime. Three programs provide special gifts and food to families who cannot afford such luxuries themselves:

**SHOP WITH A COP** Eighty-five youngsters spent a Saturday morning in December shopping for Christmas





THIS PAGE: Correctional Officer Crystal Parum helps a young man select a fun T-shirt during Shop with a Cop.



presents as part of the third annual Charles County Shop with a Cop program sponsored by the CCSO and the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 24.

The event paired specially selected children with police and correctional officers who met the children at their homes and transported them to the Elks Lodge in Waldorf for breakfast and hot chocolate. Then, in a mile-long convoy of police cruisers with lights and sirens blaring, the officers escorted the children to Wal-Mart and helped them shop for Christmas presents. The children received about \$200 each and were required to spend at least half on clothing and necessities, leaving the rest for toys, gifts for family members and other fun purchases. When the shopping was finished, everyone returned to the Elks Lodge for lunch, face painting and visits with Santa Claus and the Chick-fil-A cow while volunteers wrapped all the presents.

In addition to the CCSO police and correctional officers, Maryland State Police troopers and officers from the Maryland Transportation Authority, Department of Defense and La Plata Town Police also participated. KNC Marketing donated a commemorative T-shirt to each child; Empire Graphics donated a banner; the Lions Club, WaWa and Chick-fil-A donated food; and the Elks Lodge donated the use of its facility for pre- and post-shopping activities. Wal-Mart warmly welcomed the event's participants and reserved several registers specially for the young shoppers and their law enforcement friends. Shop with a Cop raised about \$17,000 for its 2010 shopping spree.

**CHRISTMAS CONNECTION** The Corrections Division collected more than \$3,000 in toys, bicycles, stuffed animals and clothing as part of its annual toy drive for the Children's Aid Society's Christmas Connection, which provides an opportunity for less-fortunate families to "shop" for donated items at a store assembled each year at the Maryland Army National Guard armory in La Plata. Christmas Connection provides not just toys but food and other necessities for struggling families. Sheriff Coffey and School Resource Unit officers helped the Children's Aid Society prepare for the event by unloading truckloads of donated items and by helping to load the items into the cars of families who shopped at the Christmas Connection.

**BICYCLE GIVEAWAY** For 12 years, the CCSO and the Bike Doctor retailer and repair shop in Waldorf have worked together to provide children of low-income families with a new bicycle for Christmas. Bike Doctor orders

and assembles the bicycles at no cost and shortly before Christmas, COPS officers deliver the bicycles to unsuspecting children or to parents who wanted to keep the special gift a secret until Christmas morning. In 2010, the CCSO and Bike Doctor gave away 31 bicycles.

**BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE!** Each year, without fanfare, many CCSO personnel quietly donate portions of their paychecks to United Way of Charles County, which provides critical funding to community organizations like Big Brothers and Sisters, Hospice, the Literary Council and the Humane Society, which all provide important services in our community. In 2010, the CCSO raised \$13,776 for United Way through the payroll deduction campaign. Additionally, in a separate fundraiser established by Sheriff Coffey, the CCSO raised \$1,600 for Safe Nights, a program coordinated by LifeStyles, Inc. that provides shelter for the homeless on cold winter nights.

### *Awards and Accolades*

**AWARD RECIPIENTS, RETIREES HONORED AT BANQUET** The CCSO honored 10 retirees and 24 award recipients at its annual banquet in October. Honored for their years of service were: Cpl. Douglas Campbell, 22 years; Cpl. Daniel Bell, 20 years; Sgt. Joseph Goldsmith, 22 years; CFC David Thomas, 26 years; Bernadine Abell-McNulty, 12 years; Joseph Maloy, 11 years; Sharron Winkler, 11 years; Barbara Hammett, eight years; Samuel Sherwell, 10 years; and Mary Jo Clements, 11 years. Cpl. Dorrell Savory received a bronze medal of valor for safely removing a man from a truck that had just crashed into an electrical tower. The tower had the potential to generate up to 500,000 volts of electricity and several small fires had ignited nearby. Meritorious awards were presented to Lt. Kevin Barrows, Sgt. Christopher Bean, Cpl. Neill Bewsick, Cpl. Michael Clark, PFC William Halt, PFC Alexander Sullivan, PFC Jamel Clagett, CFC Ronald Goldsmith and local resident Aleta Bunch, a registered nurse who came upon an automobile crash and provided life-saving aid to one of its victims. Sheriff's awards were presented to Lt. Michael Almassy, Cpl. Rhett Calloway, Cpl. Christopher Spaulding, Cpl. David Baden, Planning and Accreditation Director Danny Johnson and planners Carol Davis and Reagan Henehan. Certificates of commendation were presented to Cpl. Elizabeth Clark, Cpl. Brion Buchanan, PFC Christopher Shankster, PFC John Riffle, PFC Jennifer McKenzie, and Officer William Mayhew. A certificate of appreciation was presented to Police Communications Supervisor Antonella Volpe.



LEFT: Cpl. Rhett Calloway, left, and Forensic Science Technician Shelly Progovitz are pictured with students from Cpl. Calloway's Criminal Justice class who participated in a SkillsUSA competition. RIGHT: Blue Crabs Team Manager Butch Hobson addresses students participating in Badges for Baseball as Officer Paul Anderson and Sgt. Robert Vaughn, who are assigned to the School Resource Unit, look on.

**WORK IT, WOMAN!** The Charles County Chamber of Commerce selected CCSO Community Organizer Connie Gray as its Working Woman of the Year. The Chamber honored her during its annual Working Woman's Appreciation Day in April. Ms. Gray, a five-year veteran of the CCSO, coordinates many of the Agency's community events including the Crime Watch Kick-Off, safety workshops for citizens, fundraisers for March of Dimes and the American Cancer Society, and Charles County's award-winning National Night Out celebration. In his congratulatory remarks, Sheriff Coffey described Ms. Gray as "a fantastic employee who always goes that extra mile" and said her work "exemplifies the high standards the Sheriff's Office sets in serving our community."

**TRAFFIC SAFETY EFFORTS RECOGNIZED** The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association, Maryland Sheriffs' Association and Maryland State Highway Administration Highway Safety Office recognized the CCSO's traffic safety efforts as part of the 2010 Maryland Law Enforcement Challenge. The Challenge promotes friendly competition among Maryland police agencies and recognizes those agencies that excel in traffic safety enforcement. Awards are presented in 12 categories and a panel of law enforcement officials throughout the state determines recipients. More than 80 police agencies competed. The CCSO's Traffic Operations Unit conducts seatbelt and sobriety checkpoints, car-seat safety inspections and saturation patrols as part of its efforts.

**GOVERNOR RECOGNIZES CCSO CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAM** The Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention recognized the crime prevention work of the CCSO and six county residents at

its 31st Annual Crime Prevention Awards Ceremony in December. The CCSO award recognized the Agency for its efforts in personal, residential and commercial security. Victor Curtis, Beverly Deniston, Diana Donahue, Wayne Magoon and Allen Stevenson were honored for their work as volunteer Teen Court judges. Karen Williams, the facilities director and community affairs director for the Town of Indian Head, was recognized for taking an active role in crime prevention in her community by vigorously promoting and coordinating crime prevention events and offering to bring homemade food to CCSO functions.

**POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE** Lt. Marvin Butler and Lt. Jeff Holter graduated the prestigious School of Police Staff and Command at the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety. The 10-week program provides upper-level college instruction in management and management theory, organizational behavior, human resources for law enforcement, staffing allocation, and personnel deployment. Students must successfully complete written examinations, quizzes, projects and a research paper. Twenty-three students graduated the program and Lt. Holter was selected as class president.

### *Youth Outreach*

**BADGES FOR BASEBALL** Nearly 70 youngsters between 10 and 14 years old spent two days learning baseball techniques and character-building concepts at Charles County's first annual Badges for Baseball camp sponsored by the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation, hosted by the Southern Maryland Blue Crabs and presented by the CCSO. The Ripken Foundation sponsors Badges for Baseball camps nationwide using baseball to bring together police



and children for playtime and learning. Blue Crabs players taught the participants proper baseball technique and the CCSO's School Resource Unit officers taught them important lessons about teamwork, communication, respect and leadership. Before the camp's activities began, Sheriff Coffey and Blue Crabs Team Manager Butch Hobson addressed the youngsters.

The participants were also treated to breakfast and lunch, playtime on the stadium's rock-climbing wall and bumper boats, an autograph session, commemorative T-shirts and tickets to a Blue Crabs game, which included a two-hour Texas Roadhouse buffet. The Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation offers the camps at no cost to participants.

**HERE'S LOOKIN' AT YOU, KID DRIVER** As part of ongoing efforts to prevent teen-driver crashes, the CCSO and Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) joined Erie Insurance in sponsoring the Lookin' Out Safety Bug safe-driving event at North Point and La Plata high schools in October. Students got behind the wheel of a Volkswagen Beetle custom engineered to demonstrate the loss of control a person would experience if operating the vehicle while impaired by drugs or alcohol. A trained mentor in the front passenger seat controls the settings, causing clumsy steering and an unpredictable braking mechanism. Local Erie representative Gina McElhaney offered the car to two high schools at no cost.

The program was presented as part of the We Care teen driving campaign, which the CCSO and CCPS launched at the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year. Nine students had died in automobile crashes the previous school year and the community emerged from the shocking tragedies determined to prevent recurrences. Under the direction of Sheriff Coffey, the CCSO established We Care with CCPS staff and students and each school year since, the program has made safe driving a central focus for students. On the first day of school, the CCSO distributes flyers with safety tips and information about teen-specific traffic laws and throughout the year officers conduct random checkpoints to ensure students wear their seatbelts and comply with laws restricting passengers who can occupy vehicles driven by teens. The schools have safe-driving assemblies and sponsor events like Lookin' Out Safety Bug and the Charles County Association of Student Councils organizes monthly campaigns that include creating posters, recording public service announcements for local radio stations and government cable channels, and participating in Red for Dead Day in which students wear red shirts to symbolize teens who died in crashes.

This unprecedented program drastically reduced the number of teen deaths on Charles County roadways: The number of teens killed in crashes dropped to zero the first year and remained there through 2010. Sadly though, one Charles County student died in a crash in a neighboring county in 2009.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDENTS EARN AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS** North Point High School Senior Chris Chamblee, a student in the Criminal Justice Program offered by the CCSO and CCPS, earned first place in the 2010 SkillsUSA regional competition in February.

SkillsUSA is a national non-profit organization for teachers and high school and college students preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations. Four other Criminal Justice students participated in the SkillsUSA regional competition: senior Sierra Saunders and juniors Tyler Jenkins, Jania Osborne and Katie Collins. Two students, including Chamblee, participated in the Criminal Justice category, which required them to execute mock traffic stops. The others participated in the Crime Scene Investigators (CSI) category, which required them to process a mock crime scene.

As students in the Criminal Justice Program, the SkillsUSA competitors and their fellow classmates learned about the criminal justice system as part of their daily school curriculum. However, in the weeks preceding the competition, the five competitors and two alternates spent time after school participating in additional training. Cpl. Rhett Calloway, the Criminal Justice class instructor, trained the students in responding to and investigating crimes and Evidence Technician Shelly Progovitz provided CSI training.

Chamblee and Saunders graduated North Point in June. Later that month, as they prepared to enter college in the fall, the CCSO and the Maryland Sheriffs' Institute awarded them each a \$1,000 scholarship. Chamblee planned to study criminal justice at the College of Southern Maryland and Saunders would study criminology at Florida Southern College.

# Justice for Chris Mader

Chris Mader was by all accounts a good person. At 23, he was a well-liked bartender at a local restaurant and a burgeoning sportscaster interning at a Fox News affiliate in Washington, D.C. Early Thanksgiving morning in 2004, someone shot and killed him as he was driving home after finishing a late bartending shift. Years passed and despite an aggressive investigation by the CCSO, the assailant's identity and motive remained unknown. Chris's grieving family stopped celebrating Thanksgiving and each year on the anniversary of his death, the CCSO reached out to the community through the news media hoping to convince anyone with information to come forward.

But the 2010 anniversary of Chris's murder was unlike the others.

Earlier in the year, new information surfaced indicating Matthew Derek Correl, a 29-year-old King George, Virginia, man was responsible for Chris's murder. With quiet aggression a group of detectives – Sgt. Robert Kiesel, Detectives Kevin Keelan, Jack Austin and John Elliott, and Sgt. Keith Moody, the original lead investigator who had since been promoted but remained close to the investigation – began gathering information that ultimately revealed Correl had killed Chris during a robbery attempt.

The detectives presented their investigation to a Grand Jury in October. The Grand Jury returned a six-count indictment charging Correl with first-degree murder, attempted robbery and other crimes related to Chris's death. The CCSO detectives and King George sheriff's officers arrested Correl at his home on October 22. He was extradited to Maryland and held at the Charles County

Detention Center to await court proceedings.

In the years following the murder, Chris's family had moved to New Jersey, their grief too difficult to bear in the home they had once shared with him. The detectives traveled there to personally deliver the news of Correl's arrest. On November 4, Chris's mother, Samantha Payne, and her family returned to Maryland and gathered at the Sheriff's Headquarters with Sheriff Rex Coffey, Major Joseph C. Montminy, Jr., and the detectives who participated in the investigation. Together, they announced the arrest at a press conference that drew local television, print and online news media coverage.

During the press conference, Ms. Payne said, "In our lifetime we never thought this would end. It just ate at me every day not knowing the why. But now that we've gotten this...Chris is never coming back but we have closure we never would have had without Charles County." She also said the family planned to celebrate Thanksgiving that year for the first time since her son's death.

From its start, the Mader homicide investigation garnered local and national media attention, including two appearances on America's Most Wanted. At its peak, the reward for information topped \$60,000: Mader's family raised \$30,000; Ironworkers Local 5, a union serving Washington, D.C., and surrounding areas, offered \$25,000; Willett Construction of White Plains offered \$4,000; and Charles County Crime Solvers offered up to \$1,000. However, despite all this attention, the case might have remained unsolved for years to come if not for the strong-willed, perceptive and compassionate detectives who worked diligently to bring Chris's murderer to justice.





**THIS PAGE:** Chris Mader in a photograph provided by family members. **INSET:** Chris's mother Samantha Payne, her husband, Phaon, and other family members joined the CCSO for an emotional press conference announcing the arrest in her son's murder.



# About the CCSO

With an effective blend of proud traditions and innovation, the Charles County Sheriff's Office operates as the primary law enforcement agency in its community. As a full-service agency, the CCSO provides all services associated with police departments and sheriffs' offices and also operates the Charles County Detention Center. The CCSO employs more than 600 sworn, corrections and civilian personnel, making the agency one of the largest employers in Charles County.

The CCSO has been accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) since 2001. CALEA regularly evaluates accredited agencies to ensure those agencies consistently meet CALEA's strict standards of professional excellence. Accreditation is voluntary and difficult to achieve but it is a testament to the CCSO's commitment to providing quality public safety services and reflects the Agency's own high standards of professionalism and integrity.

The CCSO operates under the leadership of Sheriff Rex W. Coffey, the chief law enforcement officer in Charles County. The sheriff is an elected office; Sheriff Coffey was elected in 2006 and re-elected in 2010. He officially began his second term after being sworn into office at a ceremony in December.

Sheriff Coffey has devoted much of his life to fighting crime. He began a 23-year career at the CCSO as a correctional officer and, after shifting to police work three years later, rose through the ranks and retired as a lieutenant. After being elected sheriff a decade later, he quickly became known for being tough on crime; he often

makes time for street patrols and requires his command staff to patrol regularly, too. In addition to fulfilling his public safety obligations, Sheriff Coffey also works diligently to guide the young people of Charles County by serving as a mentor for the Center for Children and by creating and participating in other youth-focused initiatives.

Sheriff Coffey's many responsibilities are assigned by the Maryland State Constitution, the common law and statutory laws of the State of Maryland. He executes these responsibilities through the **OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF**, which oversees, guides and directs all components of the Agency and its nine divisions.

Two Assistant Sheriffs aid Sheriff Coffey in the daily operation of the Agency and would fulfill his duties and responsibilities during periods of his absence. Major Joseph C. Montminy, Jr., serves as the Assistant Sheriff of Operations and manages the Patrol, Special Operations, Criminal Investigations and Corrections divisions. Major Joseph "Buddy" Gibson serves as the Assistant Sheriff of Administration and manages the Special Services, Information Services, Executive Services, Training and Administrative Services divisions.

The **OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY** (OPR), an independent component of the Sheriff's Office, maintains the integrity of the Agency by ensuring the professional conduct of Agency personnel. OPR's two sections, Internal Affairs and Standards and Audits, operated under the command of Capt. Troy Berry for much of 2010, with assistance from Lt. Michael Almassy. Capt. Jon Norris was named OPR's commander in December.





LEFT: Sheriff Coffey and Major Gibson greet citizens at Pomfret Estates during National Night Out. RIGHT: Clerk of the Circuit Court Sharon Hancock administers the Oath of Office to Sheriff Rex Coffey following his re-election to the Office of Sheriff in November.

The **Internal Affairs** section ensures employees comply with all the CCSO's policies and procedures, investigates complaints of employee misconduct and manages the Agency's random drug testing program. Internal Affairs handled 66 cases in 2010. Of those, 16 were exonerated, four were unfounded, 13 were sustained, 15 were non-sustained, two were withdrawn, one was classified as a critical incident, nine were classified as inquiries and six were pending completion at the end of the year. The cases involved 59 police officers, 12 correctional officers and five civilian employees.

The **Standards and Audits** section prevents and detects fraud by conducting routine financial audits of all Agency cash flow/charge accounts and by auditing the property and narcotics vaults.

The **OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL** also operates under the Office of the Sheriff and provides legal guidance and representation for the Sheriff and Agency personnel. Mr. Phillip Hinkle, a specially assigned county attorney, served as the Sheriff's General Counsel in 2010. The General Counsel works with the Sheriff, Charles County Commissioners, Southern Maryland Delegation, Maryland Sheriffs' Association and Maryland Chiefs of Police Association to draft, review and make recommendations regarding legislation. The General Counsel also responds to civil suits involving the Sheriff's Office, examines the rules, policies and procedures of the Agency, and provides advice and counsel to the Sheriff.

When life or property is in peril, citizens rely on the protection of the CCSO's first responders – the officers of the **PATROL DIVISION** – whose chief responsibilities are maintaining law and order and restoring peace

when public safety is threatened. Commanded by Capt. Daniel Gimler with assistance from Lt. Ronald Farrell, the Patrol Division prevents and investigates crime, responds to calls for service, and enforces traffic laws. It is the Agency's most visible component.

Five shifts of 24 patrol officers each provide police services day and night throughout Charles County. Each officer is assigned to one of the Sheriff's Office's four patrol districts and each district station is assigned a commander. District commanders manage their assigned patrol officers and address public safety issues in their respective districts. Lieutenants Brian Herlihy, Jeff Holter, Troy Berry and Stan Gregan served in 2010 as commanders of the La Plata, Indian Head, Waldorf East and Waldorf West districts, respectively. Additionally, three other lieutenants serve as operational commanders in the Patrol Division, ensuring a commander is always on-duty and available to coordinate the Patrol Division's response to major incidents and to make critical operational decisions. Lieutenants Chris Becker, Kevin Barrows and Ralph Acquaviva served as operational commanders in 2010.

Patrol officers respond to thousands of calls for service each year – 204,675 in 2010 – and face a variety of emergency and non-emergency situations. The nature of their work requires acute vigilance and they must always be prepared to encounter unpredictable circumstances. They often have mere seconds to consider all the aspects of a situation before deciding on a course of action.

Responding to emergencies is one of a patrol officer's most serious responsibilities. They not only must be fast but must also navigate the roadways cautiously while listening to new information being dispatched. This skill



requires extensive training and leads to many on-scene arrests.

In 2010, patrol officers made 4,110 arrests. These include not only arrests made on-scene after responding to a call but also those made after interrupting crimes in progress during proactive patrols; during traffic stops where more serious crimes like drug possession are uncovered; and as a result of extensive investigations.

Patrol officers are not responsible for every arrest recorded by the Sheriff's Office but how they respond to calls ultimately influences how quickly officers and detectives in other divisions can make an arrest. As first responders to serious crimes like murder and sexual assault, patrol officers are responsible for immediately securing crime scenes and protecting evidence and for gathering and acting upon information provided by victims and witnesses. How these crucial tasks are accomplished can seriously affect an investigation's progress.

Investigating crime is a time-consuming effort during which officers collect and analyze evidence, gather victim and witness information, and interview suspects. To facilitate these investigations for patrol officers, the CCSO in 2008 began training select officers in advanced crime scene processing. The officers are trained in advanced fingerprinting, blood collection procedures and other evidence recovery techniques and are equipped with special tools to allow them to assist their fellow patrol officers at crime scenes. Because these officers are able to provide many of the services once provided exclusively by Forensic Science Unit (FSU) personnel, they not only help patrol investigations but also free FSU to analyze other cases and evidence in the Crime Lab.

Responding to and investigating crimes are essential in police work but preventing crime and addressing crime trends are also hallmarks of the Patrol Division. Because a highly visible police force is a proven crime deterrent, Sheriff Coffey assigns a significant percentage of the sworn contingent to Patrol and when officers are not responding to calls or investigating

crimes, they can be found patrolling throughout Charles County or strategically parked somewhere visible – at a park-and-ride, for instance – while they write reports. Some patrol officers are also certified bike riders, allowing them to patrol areas less accessible by a police cruiser, interrupt crimes in progress more stealthily, and interact with citizens more easily. Officers often patrol the Charles County Hiker-Biker trail on bicycles.

Because officers gain such invaluable experience in the Patrol Division, they are assigned there during the first two years of their career before becoming eligible to transfer to a specialty assignment. Ultimately, every function of the Sheriff's Office supports the efforts of the Patrol Division.

The **SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION** performs tactical assignments and provides community- and school-based services that engage citizens and businesses in public safety activities. Capt. Michael McGuigan served as the division's commander until December, when Capt. Michael Rackey was appointed to the position. The division includes two sections: Special Operations and Community Services.

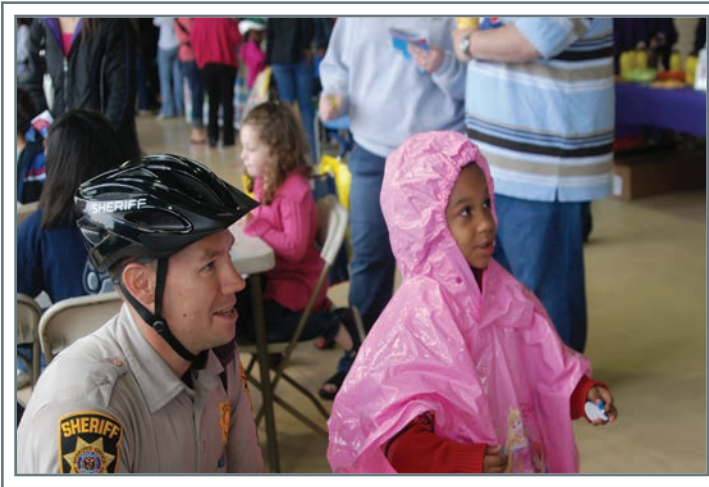
The **Special Operations Section** is supervised by Lt. Brian Herlihy and includes the Tactical Response Squad, the K9 and Traffic Operations units, and the Emergency Services and Hostage Negotiations teams.

The **Tactical Response Squad (TRS)** is comprised of highly motivated veteran officers with vast law enforcement experience and expertise. The squad focuses its resources on ongoing public safety concerns such as robberies, burglary sprees and drug problems. Their operations supplement the efforts of patrol officers, who also address these issues but are often needed for unrelated calls for service. TRS conducts surveillance and other covert operations, assists in warrant sweeps, and participates in other Agency initiatives. In 2010, the squad arrested 154 adults and 25 juveniles for various crimes.

Each member of TRS must be also be a member of the **Emergency Services Team (EST)**. EST is comprised of 18 officers who respond to crisis situations and perform high-risk operations as a voluntary service provided in addition to their regular duties. Their training emphasizes tactics and teamwork and they must maintain a high level of physical fitness and expert marksmanship.

The **K9 Unit** is comprised of seven officers, two sergeants, and 14 dogs. Using a keen sense of smell supe-





**LEFT:** Officer Jeremy Timko, who was assigned to the Community Policing Unit in 2010, demonstrates an important bicycle safety tip — wearing a helmet — to a youngster participating in Early Childhood Day at Regency Furniture Stadium. **RIGHT:** Officer Juan Morales conducts a traffic stop. A new law took effect in October requiring motorists to move over one lane when they come upon a traffic stop or other police work occurring on a highway.

rior to the olfactory capabilities of any human, K9s perform narcotics detection, patrol work, and/or explosives detection. The handlers use both verbal commands and hand signals to communicate with the dogs. In 2010, the unit conducted 89 building searches, seven explosives searches, and 82 tracks and made 108 apprehensions. They also conducted 254 drug searches.

The [Traffic Operations Unit](#) investigates traffic fatalities, school bus crashes, school bus complaints and abandoned vehicles; conducts radar operations and commercial vehicle inspections; and manages crossing guard assignments. In 2010, the unit conducted eight sobriety checkpoints, making nine arrests after checking 7,335 drivers. The unit also conducted 12 saturation patrol assignments and subsequently made 17 arrests. Traffic Operations manages the Red Light Camera Program which, after processing 141,012 incidents in 2010, issued 12,172 citations. The unit coordinates the Agency's participation in Chiefs' Challenge, a statewide campaign that raises awareness about the lifesaving benefits of seatbelt and child safety seat use. In 2010, the Sheriff's Office earned its 13th consecutive Chiefs' Challenge award from the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association, which hosts the challenge. The Sheriff's Office conducts seatbelt checkpoints and donates a child safety seat to the first baby born on or after Mother's Day as part of the campaign.

The [Hostage Negotiations Team](#) is specially trained to bring situations involving barricaded individuals and hostages to peaceful conclusions. Teams include a primary negotiator, a coach and an intelligence officer. Each negotiator in the two three-member teams is cross-trained to be effective in each position. In addition to hav-

ing specialized skills, negotiators must be able to remain calm under pressure. Negotiators volunteer for the team in addition to their regular Agency assignments.

The Agency's [Community Services Section](#), under the command of Lt. Stephen Salvas, administers innovative and effective crime prevention programs and leads numerous community outreach efforts.

This section works closely with citizens and businesses and coordinates a number of successful programs including National Night Out, Citizens on Patrol, Neighborhood Watch, and Operation Identification and provides free residential and commercial security surveys that offer citizens and business owners advice about how to better prevent burglaries and other crimes. The section also presents safety talks to children, adults and senior citizens on issues ranging from stranger danger and identity theft to Internet safety and road rage, and provides safety information at many community events including the Charles County Fair. Each year since 1988, the section has received the State of Maryland Governor's Crime Prevention Award for coordinating the CCSO's community crime prevention programs.

The [Community Policing \(COPS\) Unit](#) is recognized as one of the finest in the country. Although every officer is trained in the community-policing concept, the unit's 10 officers and two sergeants are primarily responsible for maintaining ties with participating neighborhoods. Each neighborhood works with one officer who helps implement crime prevention programs and addresses problems and concerns. COPS officers attend community meetings and conduct foot, bicycle and ATV patrols during investigations and to make themselves more ap-





THIS PAGE: Corporals Robert Taylor and Jason Hopkins are assigned to the Traffic Operations Unit. Although this puts them on the scene of horrific crashes, they also have enjoyable assignments, like providing a motorcycle escort during the Torch Run.



proachable.

COPS officers also participate in a number of community outreach efforts, including an annual Christmas bicycle giveaway. The unit raises money to purchase bicycles for specially selected children and Bike Doctor, a local business, orders and assembles the bicycles at no cost. Many other businesses, civic organizations and families donate money to make the program possible.

The **School Resource Unit** facilitates a strong alliance between police and Charles County school students. As part of an agreement with Charles County Public Schools, an officer is stationed at each middle and high school to provide programs that encourage good decision making, build self esteem and teach students to be positive role models in the community. The school resource officers work closely with the administrative staff, teachers and students in their schools to provide programs including Safe Schools, Truth and Consequences, Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE), and the Summer Youth Achievement Program. They also work closely with their assigned elementary schools. The officers host a three-on-three basketball tournament for students and participate in Expanding Horizons, an after-school program that raises cultural awareness to help students become better citizens and neighbors. The section also operates a Student Crime Solvers Program, allowing students to anonymously submit information about crimes in schools and making the students eligible for reward money. The program is offered in conjunction with Charles County Crime Solvers.

**Teen Court** provides first-time youth offenders with an opportunity to accept responsibility for traffic offenses and misdemeanor crimes without the stigma of a formal criminal record. Youth offenders are represented by youth defense attorneys, prosecuted by youth prosecutors and sentenced by youth juries. An adult volunteer, generally from the legal profession, serves as a judge. The program teaches students about the criminal justice process, helps them better resolve problems, and reduces recidivism. In 2010 Teen Court heard 161 cases and sentenced youth offenders collectively to 4,222 hours of community service.

To ensure all Charles County's 182 liquor-licensed establishments adhere to all federal, state and local regulations, the **Alcohol Enforcement Detail** conducts routine compliance inspections. The detail leads the Cops in Shops program to ensure businesses are checking for

identification and making efforts to recognize false identifications. The detail conducts inspections on businesses licensed to serve alcohol and in 2010 brought 49 of them before the County Board of License Commissioners for sanctions after being cited for various violations, resulting in more than \$24,800 in fines against the offending establishments, clerks and servers. The Alcohol Enforcement Detail also conducts underage tobacco enforcement operations, which are funded by a grant from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention.

The Community Services Section also supervises the **Honor Guard**, which was formed originally to assist families of fallen officers at funerals. It is now a dignified presence at many important Agency and community functions. The Honor Guard presented the colors at numerous events in 2010 including police and correctional officer graduations and an annual candlelight vigil hosted by the Center for Abused Persons.

The **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION** (CID) investigates complex crimes and crime trends. Under the command of Capt. Scott Whitcraft, the division operates three sections – Persons Crimes, Property Crimes and Narcotics Enforcement – which were reorganized in 2010 to better focus the division's resources and further improve its already impressive case closure rate.

The **Persons Crimes Section**, commanded by Lt. Kevin Leahy, investigates violent crime. It includes four units: Major Crimes, Special Victims, Robbery and Forensic Science.

The **Major Crimes Unit** investigates homicides, deaths, shootings, stabbings, life-threatening assaults, cold cases and the rare occurrences of police-involved shootings. Detectives investigated two murders in 2010 and both cases were successfully closed. The Major Crimes Unit investigated 29 other deaths, including suicides and accidental or natural deaths.

The **Special Victims Unit** (SVU) investigates rapes, sexual assaults, physical and sexual child abuse, the exploitation of the elderly and missing persons. The circumstances of these investigations can be difficult and very emotional for SVU detectives. In 2010, the unit investigated 73 physical child abuse cases, 49 sexual child abuse cases, 30 sexual assaults and 43 juvenile and adult missing persons.

SVU maintains the Charles County section of

the Maryland Sex Offender Registry. At the end of 2010, there were 201 registered sex offenders in the county. The CCSO has a zero-tolerance policy for offenders who fail to report an address change and register when required by law. Detectives in 2010 conducted more than 770 unannounced home inspections to ensure offenders living in Charles County accurately reported their respective addresses.

The **Robbery Unit** is comprised of a supervisor and three highly-motivated detectives who investigate citizen and commercial armed robberies. In 2010, the unit investigated 46 robberies.

The **Forensic Science Unit** (FSU) is comprised of a police sergeant, evidence technicians and latent fingerprint examiners who process crime scenes and analyze evidence. In 2010, FSU was assigned 1,460 cases and responded to more than 115 crime scenes. The unit also collected 436 items for DNA analysis from 79 investigations. They submitted 197 of the DNA items to the Maryland State Police Forensic Laboratory and to BODE, a privately-owned laboratory, for analysis. FSU also conducted 537 examinations of suspected marijuana. Latent Fingerprint Examiners processed 1,500 prints, which resulted in the identification of 319 individuals, 287 of whom were identified using the Maryland Automated Fingerprint Identification System (MAFIS), a state database that stores fingerprints collected in Maryland during arrest booking procedures.

The **Property Crimes Section**, commanded by Lt. David Saunders, investigates property and financial crimes; is responsible for the CCSO's homeland security and intelligence operations; participates in a regional investigative task force; analyzes crime trends and provides services to crime victims.

In 2010, the Property Crimes Unit investigated 150 residential and commercial burglaries and 79 auto thefts and made 142 arrests. Detectives work with pawnshop owners and scrap-metal recyclers to combat thefts and detect stolen property. In 2010, the detectives intensified this effort as thefts of gold and scrap metal increased. This unit also investigates major theft schemes and the unlawful auto-dismantling operations known as "chop shops."

The **Financial Crimes Unit** investigates fraud schemes and identity theft. The complexity of the schemes vary. In 2010, detectives investigated a series of crimes in which the thieves stole credit cards from women's purses at

grocery stores, sometimes using an accomplice to distract the victims. Another investigation uncovered a scheme operated by a local attorney who defrauded his clients out of more than \$1 million. At the end of the year, detectives had investigated 26 identity thefts, 16 embezzlements and 222 incidents of counterfeiting, forgery and credit card fraud. They made 68 arrests.

The **Homeland Security and Intelligence Unit** investigates street gangs, outlaw motorcycle gangs, extremists' activities, threats against public officials, terrorism and organized crime. The unit receives and disseminates intelligence information and publishes law enforcement bulletins for the CCSO and for allied agencies nationwide. Investigators identify and interview suspected gang members in Charles County, including those being held at the Charles County Detention Center. A bilingual intelligence specialist is assigned to the unit and provides invaluable assistance during investigations involving anyone from Charles County's ever-growing Spanish-speaking population.

Detectives from the Homeland Security and Intelligence Unit are also part of the **Southern Maryland Information Center** (SMIC), a regional operation that facilitates information sharing between the CCSO, the Calvert and St. Mary's County sheriffs' offices, the Maryland State Police and the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center. Representatives from each agency analyze reports and identify cross-jurisdictional crime trends.

The **Crime Analysis Unit** collects, analyzes and disseminates crime data for the CCSO. District Commanders use the data as part of weekly CompStat meetings. The CCSO first implemented CompStat, an analysis-driven method of proactively addressing crime problems, in 2009.

The **Victim Services Unit** provides services and resources to crime victims in Charles County. The unit works with local, state and regional agencies including the Center for Abused Persons, the Center for Children, the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, and Victims Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) to ensure victims understand their rights and have access to counseling and compensation.

The **Narcotics Enforcement Section** (NES) commanded by Lt. Reynal Aportadera works covertly and aggressively to disrupt drug trafficking in Charles County. The effective disruption of drug trafficking is vital to the





**LEFT:** CID's complex investigations are not only time consuming but emotionally taxing as well. After making an arrest in the Chris Mader cold-case homicide investigation, detectives traveled to New Jersey to deliver the news to Chris's mother in person, then gathered for a special photo to commemorate their tireless efforts. Pictured from left to right are Sgt. Robert Kiesel, Sgt. Keith Moody and detectives Jack Austin, Kevin Keelan and John Elliott. **RIGHT:** Officer Steven Bryant inspects a vehicle for alcohol during Project Graduation.

reduction of crime overall.

In 2010, NES detectives arrested 298 individuals for violating Maryland's controlled dangerous substance laws, nearly tripling the number of arrests made the previous year. NES also executed 96 search warrants and investigated 339 cases. Detectives seized \$469,980 in cocaine, \$72,640 in crack cocaine, \$252,570 in marijuana and \$15,802 in prescription drugs and other miscellaneous drugs. They also seized \$244,497 in cash from local drug dealers.

The [Major Narcotics Unit](#) investigates and completely dismantles drug trafficking organizations in Charles County by identifying the entire operation from the source of the supply to the street-level distributors. Among their caseload in 2010, detectives investigated an operation in which two individuals were discovered growing marijuana indoors. The detectives arrested the offenders and seized more than \$181,000 in marijuana, as well as drug paraphernalia, a bulletproof vest, firearms and more than \$6,000 in cash. In another investigation, detectives arrested a major cocaine distributor and seized \$62,000 in cocaine, \$7,000 in cash and a vehicle.

NES's Major Narcotics Unit is comprised of five details: Major Narcotics Investigations, Human Trafficking/Illegal Gambling, Interdiction, Asset Forfeiture, and Technical Investigations.

The [Human Trafficking/Illegal Gambling Detail](#) investigates and dismantles organized groups conducting forced prostitution, the prostitution of minors and illegal aliens, organized illegal gambling, and money laundering. Detectives work with Immigrations and Customs

Enforcement (ICE), and the IRS, FBI, Maryland State Police and Center for Missing and Exploited Children during these complex investigations. In 2010, detectives investigated a group forcibly prostituting a minor. They arrested the "pimp" and owner of the establishment and rescued the minor involved in the operation. Detectives also worked with the Fairfax County Police Department and the IRS to investigate and ultimately arrest a "bookie" involved in illegal gambling. The bookie brought in more than \$6 million in illegal proceeds during the investigation. Detectives seized \$86,000 in cash and three vehicles.

The [Interdiction Detail](#) conducts parcel, storage unit and highway interdiction operations during which they intercept drugs and untaxed cigarettes being transported through Charles County. During one operation in 2010, detectives intercepted \$50,000 in marijuana and made two arrests. In another, detectives seized \$85,000 in untaxed cigarettes bound for New York City and Canada and seized \$6,000 in cash. In 2010, the unit acquired its own K9 handler and the handler's partner, Dino, to assist in drug searches.

The [Asset Forfeiture Detail](#) investigates the seizure of money, vehicles and property in drug and gambling investigations and determines whether a seizure will be conducted at the federal or state level. In 2010, the detail processed more than \$289,000 in cash seizures, 33 vehicle seizures and more than \$30,000 in property seizures.

The [Technical Investigation Detail](#) is responsible for maintaining the audio/video and other technical equipment NES uses during its investigations. The detail also properly stores electronic evidence collected during NES investigations.



**LEFT:** Inmates discuss what they learned during a horticulture program offered as part of recidivism-reduction efforts at the Charles County Detention Center. Giving inmates skills to take with them once they are released from incarceration often helps them become more productive citizens. **RIGHT:** A motivational speaker whose two sons died separately under tragic circumstances discusses life choices with inmates as Sheriff Coffey, far right, listens in.

The [Major Narcotics Unit](#) also assigns a detective to the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)/ Metropolitan Area Task Force (MATF) comprised of local, state and federal detectives who investigate drug organizations involved in national and international activities. In 2010, the task force closed a long-term investigation into such an organization with ties to Charles County. They seized more than \$400,000 in cocaine.

The [Narcotics Street Enforcement Unit](#) investigates street-level narcotics investigations, drug diversions and other related crimes. In August, the unit conducted several operations in which undercover detectives purchased drugs at a residence in Indian Head. The unit subsequently executed a search and seizure warrant, resulting in the seizure of \$12,400 in crack-cocaine and the arrest of two offenders who were ultimately convicted of felony drug charges.

The unit investigated 219 cases in 2010 and executed 41 search and seizure warrants. They conducted 90 undercover drug purchases and seized \$20,155 in cocaine/crack-cocaine, \$4,795 in marijuana and more than \$9,700 in illegal OxyContin/oxycodone. They also seized phencyclidine (PCP), Heroin, Ecstasy, mushrooms, methadone and other commonly abused pharmaceutical medications.

Correctional officers walk one of the toughest beats in law enforcement: the halls of a jail. The responsibility of keeping inmates at the Charles County Detention Center (CCDC) secure rests with the CCSO's **CORRECTIONS DIVISION** under the command of Director Pamela Dottellis.

Sheriff Coffey selected Director Dottellis, a career correctional officer, to lead the Corrections Division in 2006. She was the first correctional officer to lead the division in more than a decade and is the division's first-ever female commander. With assistance from Deputy Director Susan Rice, Director Dottellis oversees the CCDC's daily operation, ensuring its safety and efficiency.

The CCDC is a secure facility that opened in 1995 and stretches 135,000 feet with 203 cells. In 2010, Corrections processed 3,661 inmates and maintained an average daily population of 338 inmates.

The [Custody and Security Section](#), commanded by Capt. Morris Gant, maintains the general inmate population. The section has an Emergency Response Team (ERT) and Security Enforcement Team (SET). Under the command of Lt. Brandon Foster, the teams are comprised of specially trained correctional officers who remain prepared to mobilize quickly when the need to quell disorder arises. In 2010, ERT and SET handled 1,423 fights, assaults, forced movements, cell extractions and shake-downs.

Lt. James Kelly is assigned to the Custody and Security Section and serves as the Corrections Division's training coordinator. He ensures all correctional officers fulfill training obligations mandated by the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions (MPCTC). He also oversees the Training Unit, which provides officers with the mandatory training. As part of the unit's 2010 activities, 17 new officers were weapons certified and 12 new correctional officers completed a Field Training Officer (FTO) program which pairs new officers with veteran officers who provide training and mentoring before the

new officers are permitted to perform their duties solo. Three veteran officers were trained as FTOs. Additionally, the unit trained six officers as MPCTC-certified general instructors. The unit also provided the division with its annual Electronic Control Device (ECD) training and trained three officers as ECD instructors.

The [Standards Section](#), commanded by Lt. Amy Stine, conducts audits and inspections to ensure the CCDC operates according to the hundreds of standards set by the Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards (MCCS). The process requires Corrections personnel to keep accurate, detailed records of all inmates including how they are classified, whether they require special diets, their hygiene items, all the mail they receive, their financial accounts, their visitors, the religious and educational services they use, disciplinary hearings they attend, and when, where, and why they are transported. Corrections also keeps records of employee training and mandatory health department and fire marshal inspections, and an inventory of every key, pair of handcuffs, and tool within the facility. In 2001, the CCDC became the first in Maryland to score 100 percent on an MCCS audit and continued its success by achieving 100 percent scores during audits in 2004, 2006, and 2009.

The [Support Services Section](#), commanded by Capt. Deborah Dofflemyer, is responsible for central processing, inmate programs and services, the commissary, and security maintenance. This section also oversees the inmate library, the law library, inventory, and supplies.

[Central Processing](#), under the direction of Lt. Randolph Thompson, ensures the completeness, accuracy, and security of inmate records and maintains communication with court systems, police agencies, and other correctional facilities. Records, Intake, Finance, Transportation, and Court Holding comprise this unit. The unit spent 11,345 man hours and covered 87,380 miles transporting more than 11,300 inmates to various court proceedings and medical appointments or as required by a state juvenile services policy. The unit also collected 438 DNA samples as required by the Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention.

[Inmate Programs and Services](#), commanded by Lt. Gerald Duffield, classifies inmates. They also determine whether an inmate might be affiliated with a gang or other Security Threat Group (STG) using specific criteria and by documenting body markings such as scars and tattoos. In 2010, the unit interviewed 258 inmates and

confirmed 187 of them were STG members. The unit also forwarded information about 210 inmates to the CCSO's Homeland Security and Intelligence Unit and forwarded information about 107 inmates to ICE.

Officers assigned to this unit's [Security Maintenance Program](#) are responsible for maintaining the CCDC's security cameras and for ensuring the security of the facility and appliances and other equipment in the building. The unit installed six new cameras to improve video coverage of the facility and enhanced the phone system to enable recording of all inmate conversations. To enhance officer safety, the unit also installed food chutes in Administrative Isolation Unit cell doors. They also oversaw the installation of a new steamer in the kitchen where inmate meals are prepared, removed old dryers and installed replacements. These tasks may seem routine to the average property owner but the CCDC must take special precautions to ensure the security of the facility while such work is completed.

[Inmate Programs and Services](#) reduces recidivism by offering programs that help inmates re-enter society as productive citizens. One program, Successful Transitioning and Reentry Skills (STARS) provides inmates with skills and knowledge to help them succeed in life. Inmates who apply for the program write a resume and appear before an interview panel. Thirteen inmates graduated STARS in 2010 and the program celebrated a 92 percent success rate.

In January, the Corrections Division invited Dr. Lonise Bias, a motivational speaker and the founder of The Abundant Life Resources, a More Excellent Way LLC, to speak with inmates about how life choices can impact the inmates' lives and the lives of people around them. Dr. Bias became a motivational speaker after her two sons died in tragic, unrelated circumstances: One died of cocaine intoxication four days after being drafted by the Boston Celtics and the other was killed in a drive-by shooting at a shopping center.

After female inmates moved to the CCDC annex, the Division also established a Diamonds Program, a faith-based life skills and transitioning program that addresses specific issues for female inmates. The CCDC also offers a general-equivalency diploma (GED) program that provided the opportunity for 17 inmates to earn GEDs in 2010. Additionally, 117 non-English-speaking inmates were enrolled in an English as a Second Language program in 2010. Many of the inmate programs are made



possible by community volunteers.

As part of other programs and services, Correctional Officer Ryan Taylor publishes an inmate newsletter, "Inspiration for Free," which offers inmates inspirational quotes, stories and more. Correctional officers also organized an inmate basketball tournament and treated the winners to a pizza party.

The Corrections Division operates an annex adjacent to the primary Detention Center. Under the command of Capt. DuWayne Gaddy, the annex maintains an average daily population of 103 inmates. It houses female inmates, work-release and school-release inmates and inmates sentenced to weekend service. The Corrections Division successfully transitioned all female inmates to the annex in 2010 to better utilize bed space and alleviate overcrowding. During the process, the division developed new programs for the inmates being housed there and established a computer workstation for school-release inmates. Correctional officers assigned to the annex must constantly monitor work release inmates to ensure the inmates follow the rules and regulations of their sentence. When inmates fail to meet the requirements of the program or to fulfill their employee/employer contract obligations, correctional officers must remove them from the program and return them to the general inmate population.

Correctional officers at the annex are also responsible for performing all court-mandated drug screenings. They screened 1,360 inmates in 2010.

The annex building served as the county jail from 1981 to 1995 and reopened as an annex in 2007.

The CCDC contracts the medical and food services provided for inmates. In 2010, the Corrections Division served 564,000 meals including 41,600 pounds of potatoes, 168,480 eggs, 11,700 pounds of coleslaw, and 163,800 cartons of milk. It also performed 4,980 medical screenings and 1,530 physicals, dispensed 6,694 prescriptions and evaluated 2,547 inmates who reported various illnesses.

In addition to tending to their required responsibilities, Corrections personnel also coordinate community outreach projects throughout the year. In 2010, they donated food and hygiene items and \$3,200 to the Robert Fuller Transitional House and Angels Watch Center. They also donated mattresses to other correctional institutions in need of bedding and volunteered their time for Toys for

Tots and Shop with a Cop.

Each quarter, the Corrections Division recognizes correctional officers who go above and beyond the call of duty and demonstrate commitment and dedication to the division and the CCSO. In 2010, Correctional Officers Michael Hurd, Amber McAlwee, Christopher Morris and Robert Wood were named correctional officers of the quarter and Officer McAlwee was named Correctional Officer of the Year.

The employees of the **INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION** are the critical link between citizens and police and between officers and the information they need to do their jobs safely and efficiently. The division also ensures the safekeeping of police reports and manages the Agency's computers and software. Capt. Dave Saunders served as the division's commander until December, when Capt. Bonnie Johnston was appointed to the position.

The **Communications Section**, commanded by Lt. Richard Williams, provides police radio communications to officers and clerical coverage of the district stations in La Plata, Indian Head and Waldorf. The section also operates the **Telephone Reporting Unit** (TRU), which offers citizens a convenient method of reporting certain crimes and allows officers who would have responded to the calls to continue patrolling their sectors. The unit handled about 200 reports in 2010.

Each district is staffed by **station clerks** responsible for helping citizens who visit the stations and for answering the Sheriff's main non-emergency telephone lines. Their training prepares them to handle a variety of reports and inquiries, from life-threatening emergencies to the occasional non-police matter. The primary mission of station clerks is to obtain clear and concise information and relay it to **police communications officers** (PCOs). The PCOs determine whether the report is eligible for telephone reporting or dispatch it to officers working the streets. Station clerks handled 216,702 calls for service in 2010.

PCOs work day and night in a state-of-the-art communications facility at the Charles County Emergency Services Center. In addition to dispatching calls for service, they also serve as each officer's link to potentially life-saving information from nationwide databases containing stolen property and wanted persons. PCOs managed a 593 call-per-day average in 2010, sometimes reach-

ing 1,000 calls in 24 hours.

The **Management Information Systems (MIS) Section**, managed by Deputy Director Eric Halvorsen, ensures the CCSO functions efficiently in the digital world. The Applications Support, PC Operations, and Systems Operations units maintain hundreds of PCs, printers, networks, complex servers, software applications and the CCSO's patrol-car video camera system. Every function of the Sheriff's Office relies on the daily use of computers and MIS must remain on-call to address computer or software problems whenever such issues arise.

The **Applications Support Unit** manages the CCSO's computer-aided dispatch and records management systems. The unit works closely with the CCSO personnel who rely on these systems including PCOs, Records Management, Judicial Services, the Charles County Detention Center, Patrol, Special Operations and all CCSO personnel who use PC-based software, as well as Charles County Fire and Emergency Medical Services personnel.

The **PC Operations Unit** maintains the CCSO's PC hardware, software, printers, scanners, and other devices. They install the equipment, maintain an inventory, provide improvements in hardware and software, and resolve technological problems.

The **Systems Operations Unit** manages the CCSO's critical networking hardware and software, including servers and backup systems.

In 2010 MIS received 3,430 work orders ranging from requests for new ink cartridges and forgotten passwords to complex projects including a major upgrade of hardware and software, equipping a newly opened Waldorf District Station with necessary technology, enhancing the report-writing systems for police officers' mobile data terminals (MDTs), upgrading mapping systems and equipping more patrol cars with tag readers, among other projects.

The **Records Management Section**, supervised by Manager Judy Torney, preserves and maintains thousands of police reports filed through the CCSO each year. In 2010, Records processed and catalogued 19,473 reports and supplemental reports, and completed 593 expungements. The section also processed 11,232 citations, parking citations, warnings, and safety equipment repair orders. Records personnel maintain the custody and security of videos recorded by the patrol-car cameras. They also greet all visitors to the Sheriff's Headquarters and provide

them with initial assistance. In 2010, they answered more than 8,482 telephone inquiries and processed approximately 32,189 pieces of Agency mail.

The **SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION** handles judicial matters, ensures the security of the Charles County Courthouse, and maintains the Agency's fleet, supply stock, and property inventory. Capt. Michael Klotz served as the division's commander until December, when Capt. Michael McGuigan was appointed to the position.

The **Judicial Services Section**, commanded by Lt. Randy Stine, serves arrest warrants, civil papers, and other legal documents; addresses child support and domestic violence problems; and provides Courthouse security services.

The **Warrant Fugitive Unit** serves arrest warrants, attachments, criminal summonses and indictments, issues detainers for wanted individuals being held at detention centers outside Charles County, and arranges for the extradition of individuals who are wanted by the CCSO and apprehended outside Maryland. In 2010, the unit served 1,765 warrants and 1,121 criminal summonses, processed 61 fugitives and arranged for 122 extraditions.

Failure to pay child support is a serious offense and the members of the **Child Support Enforcement Unit** ensure violators are held accountable for their basic financial obligations to their children. The unit serves arrest warrants, attachments, summonses and other process related to child support and provides security for Domestic Relations Court. The unit is largely funded by the Maryland Human Resources Child Support Enforcement Administration Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement. As part of its efforts, the unit publishes the names and photographs of wanted persons in local newspapers and on the Sheriff's Office's website. The unit served 340 warrants and 1,346 summonses in 2010.

The **Domestic Violence Unit** serves protective orders, peace orders, arrest warrants, criminal summonses, and other criminal and civil process related to domestic violence. The unit also works with community groups and service providers to offer guidance to domestic violence victims. When someone prohibited from owning a firearm because of domestic violence-related restrictions attempts to purchase a gun, regardless of whether the attempt is successful, the Domestic Violence Unit conducts an investigation. The unit served 1,048 protective orders, 754 peace orders, 235 warrants and 677 summonses in





**THIS PAGE:** PCOs must monitor incoming and ongoing calls for service, research information for police officers, maintain awareness of the locations of officers assigned to their district and relay important information to the officers. They are the ultimate multi-taskers.

2010.

The **Civil Unit** is responsible for serving time-sensitive civil process including subpoenas, evictions, and juvenile court papers and for processing, serving, and posting landlord/tenant court documents. The unit is also responsible for serving writs of execution and replevins, conducting Sheriff's sales, and handling other civil process matters. The unit served 2,506 evictions and 6,586 landlord/tenant-related documents in 2010. It also processed 27,635 civil documents, netting the CCSO about \$200,000 in service reimbursement.

The **Court Security Unit** protects the occupants of the Charles County Courthouse by monitoring its entrance, providing security in courtrooms, and transporting prisoners between the courtrooms and a Court Holding facility adjacent to the Courthouse. Each of the 183,900 visitors to the Courthouse in 2010 passed through a metal detector and their briefcases, purses and bags were all scanned in an x-ray machine. In 2010, Court Security arrested 184 individuals for warrants and criminal offenses.

The **Property Management Section**, commanded by Lt. Billy Caywood, manages the CCSO's Quartermaster, Fleet Management, Property Held Unit and Firearms Tracking operations.

The **Quartermaster** provides personnel with uniforms, office supplies and other items essential for the CCSO's operation. They also monitor the bulletproof vests assigned to officers to ensure expired vests are replaced and maintain the CCSO's stock of citations books and other forms.

The **Fleet Management Program** maintains the CCSO's fleet, which stood at just over 500 vehicles in 2010. Fleet Management creates vehicle safety policies, purchases new vehicles, and disposes of old vehicles. The program is supervised by Cpl. David Fromme and its manager, Bruce MacLean, serves on the Ford Motor Company Police Advisory Board. Mr. MacLean participates in product development and assesses ideas proposed by Ford and the law enforcement community.

The **Property Held Unit** regulates the receipt, storage, security, and disposal of property, contraband, and narcotics recovered by CCSO personnel. In 2010, the unit received and stored 8,386 pieces of property and handled 1,327 drug seizure cases.

The **Firearms Tracking** operation records and

maintains custody and safekeeping of firearms, conducts seized firearms investigations, schedules and conducts firearms hearings, serves as a liaison to the courts in firearms matters, and provides citizens with information about firearms laws. In 2010, the Sheriff's Office seized 378 firearms, 94 of which were recovered from persons restricted from carrying firearms because of domestic violence issues or protective orders. In 2010, as a result of this operation's efforts, 15 persons were denied firearms because of disqualifying convictions. The operation also held 86 firearms hearings, destroyed 140 firearms, identified eight previously undetected stolen firearms, and returned 191 firearms to their legal owners.

The **EXECUTIVE SERVICES DIVISION**, commanded by Capt. Robert Cleaveland, Jr., oversees the presentation of information to the Sheriff and manages Planning and Accreditation, Media Relations, Chaplain Services and the Cadet, Criminal Justice and Auxiliary Volunteer programs.

**Planning and Accreditation**, directed by Mr. Danny Johnson, writes and maintains the policy contained in the Agency's Administrative and Operational Manual and ensures the Agency maintains its internationally recognized certification from the Commission on the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The office also creates and maintains standard operating procedure manuals for each component of the Agency and facilitates the Agency's strategic management planning process, which includes establishing long- and short-term goals. In 2010, Planning and Accreditation wrote or revised 33 policies and conducted testing to ensure employees understood the new directives. The section also revised 56 forms and six standard operating procedure manuals; participated in five special projects; and conducted research on existing and proposed policies to determine whether the policies need to be revised or enhanced.

Through regular press releases and 24-hour on-call responsibilities, the **Media Relations Office** serves as the critical information link between the Agency and the news media. The office ensures the smooth distribution of consistent and accurate information about the Agency, its activities and its investigations. The office is responsible for the Agency's public relations efforts and maintains a working relationship with Agency personnel, elected officials, the general public and peer groups. It also manages the Agency's website, provides photography services and produces the Annual Report, the Agency's internal newsletter, advertisements, brochures, posters, flyers and other





**LEFT:** Pictured from left to right are Major Joe Montminy, Planner Raegan Henehan, the two CALEA assessors — Lt. John Dolan from Hillsboro, Missouri and Chief Roy Liddicott from Fort Lauderdale — Planner Carol Davis, Sheriff Rex Coffey and Planning Director Danny Johnson. The group celebrated the end of the Agency’s third successful CALEA on-site assessment and the assessors’ recommendation that the CCSO receive Flagship status. **RIGHT:** Cadet Andrea Duckett helps direct traffic during Project Graduation.

communicative pieces.

Local clergymen offer guidance and inspiration to employees of the Sheriff’s Office and the public through [Chaplain Services](#). Chaplains minister to Agency personnel in times of personal need or strife and provide comfort to those who are injured or afflicted. They accompany officers who must notify families of the death of a loved one and would assist in notifying the family of an officer who was seriously injured or slain. Chaplains also provide invocations and benedictions at Agency ceremonies. The Chaplains are Dr. Steve Davis; Dr. Wilson Morales; Dr. Lovell King, II; and Major Richard Black.

College students who want to pursue a career as a CCSO police officer gain invaluable on-the-job experience in the [Cadet Program](#), which employs young adults between 18 and 21 years of age. Cadets perform a variety of duties while learning law enforcement techniques, Agency policy and procedures, and criminal and traffic law. These duties include traffic direction and enforcement, seatbelt and child safety seat inspections, tagging abandoned vehicles, and truck and school bus safety inspections.

High school students considering a career in law enforcement have an opportunity to learn about the criminal justice system as part of their academic curriculum in the [Criminal Justice Program](#) offered through an alliance between the Sheriff’s Office and Charles County Public Schools. A Sheriff’s officer who instructs the class daily at North Point High School for Science, Technology and Industry teaches students about all aspects of the criminal justice system, from police and corrections to courts. Students learn criminal and traffic law, law enforcement

procedures, how to fingerprint, first aid, physical fitness, and personal safety. They also participate in Detect and Deter, a holiday safety assignment that hones their crime prevention and observation skills while helping to prevent the theft of gifts and other valuables from vehicles by notifying citizens of unsafe practices, namely leaving gifts and other valuables in plain view inside their vehicles.

The [Auxiliary Volunteer Program](#) was established in 2008 to offer citizens the opportunity to actively participate in public safety activities. Citizen volunteers assist the Sheriff’s Office during law enforcement and community outreach activities by providing services such as traffic direction, crowd control, fingerprinting, office support and citizen patrols. To help them perform their duties, volunteers are issued a uniform and have access to other equipment. All volunteers must pass a background investigation and participate in basic training. They are held to as high a standard of conduct as paid personnel.

The CCSO is committed to maintaining a highly qualified workforce and to utilizing our financial resources efficiently. The [ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION](#) is responsible for helping the CCSO meet its strict personnel and budgetary standards.

The [Financial Services Section](#), managed by Deputy Director Gloria Bowers, ensures the integrity and accuracy of the Agency’s financial operations. A well-trained team of finance professionals promotes sound financial management practices, accounts for Agency-owned property, effectively allocates resources, oversees the budget preparation process and assists in meeting the operating needs of the Sheriff’s Office.

**Accounting** handles accounts payable, accounts receivable, purchase orders, outside billing invoices and collections. Its employees also prepare monthly and quarterly financial reports for federal, state and local grants, prepare monthly bank reconciliations, maintain the Agency's master grant file, and ensure timely payment for goods and services.

**Payroll** prepares payroll and salary reports.

**Inmate Accounting** manages the financial records of inmates at the Charles County Detention Center. Employees prepare bank reconciliations and review all accounting records, billing, and invoices paid for by inmate funds.

**Grants Management** researches grant opportunities for Agency programs and capital items not funded by the normal Agency budget process. In 2010, the Sheriff's Office received 20 grants totaling \$873,729.58. These grants support, among other efforts, cold case investigations, the Child Support Enforcement Unit and the CCSO's auto theft, drug and youth tobacco enforcement initiatives.

The **Budget** component assists in the development and preparation of the Agency's financial operating and capital budgets, reviews all requisitions, prepares and updates Agency pay scales, prepares monthly management reports, and assists in annual audits. The Agency's amended operating budget for Fiscal Year 2010 was \$62,449,060.

The **Red Light Camera Finance Section** is responsible for the financial review of the Agency's Red Light Camera Program. This section answers questions about citations, processes information about vehicle rentals, and submits monthly reports to Charles County Government for the monthly deposit reconciliation.

The **Human Resources Section**, managed by Deputy Director Betsy Leonhard, handles administrative personnel tasks for potential and current employees. This section maintains the Agency's position classification system, processes all employment applications and maintains personnel records. As the CCSO and its community grow, the Human Resources Section ensures the Agency stays ahead of staffing needs. In 2010, Human Resources processed approximately 900 employment applications, which included administering written examinations and physical agility tests to police and correctional officer candidates. The testing process for police officers is nationally

accredited, which ensures the process is fairly and equitably administered.

Once the Human Resources Section determines an applicant meets position requirements, the **Pre-Employment Investigations Unit** performs an extensive background investigation of the applicant. The unit's mission is to ensure only the applicants with the highest levels of integrity are awarded positions within the Agency. Background investigations involve polygraphs, psychological examinations, physical examinations and drug screenings.

The CCSO hired 37 new employees in 2010 including eight police officers, 12 correctional officers and 17 civilians.

In addition to performing their regular duties, the employees of the Administrative Services Division also voluntarily participate in community outreach activities. They lead the Agency in supporting Christmas in April, the March of Dimes and Relay for Life by coordinating fundraisers that support these events.

To ensure the CCSO's police and correctional officers are thoroughly trained and highly skilled, the **TRAINING DIVISION** offers entry-level and in-service training and provides regular firearms instruction to all new and veteran personnel. The division was commanded by Capt. Michael Rackey until December, when Capt. Michael Klotz was appointed its leader. The division includes the Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy, the Recruitment Unit and the Firearms Instruction Detail.

The Training Division manages the CCSO's Taser recertification program, which requires officers equipped with Tasers to pass a written examination and successfully complete three skill scenarios. The scenarios include properly firing the Taser at a simulated aggressor, de-escalating a scene using verbal skills and handcuffing a role player while the Taser is powered, which emphasizes the need to limit the Taser's exposure to the arrestee. Additionally, when officers are first trained to use the Taser they must also be exposed to a series of shocks from the device.

The Training Division also requires police officers and other personnel assigned Agency vehicles to attend annual driver in-service training created by the division's emergency vehicle instructors and approved by the Maryland Police and Corrections Training Commissions (MPCTC). Driving courses replicate potential conditions including backing, confined spaces, diminishing lanes,





**THIS PAGE:** The Police Academy is not easy — but neither is police work so instructors are tough on recruits to prepare them for when the real work begins after graduation.

swerving and avoidance. Police officers also attend pursuit training each year during which they review pursuit policies and participate in practical exercises including the rolling road block — a low-speed technique used to surround a vehicle and bring it to a slow, controlled stop and thus avoiding a pursuit — and the Precision Immobilization Technique, or PIT maneuver, which is designed to end police chases quickly and safely. Officers also participate in a mock high-speed pursuit scenario that tests their understanding of policy and decision-making skills. Vehicle training is important considering the amount of time police officers spend driving each shift.

Each year, the Training Division also offers specialized courses, many of which are available online to allow CCSO personnel time to pace themselves as necessary and reducing loss of manpower.

The Training Division helps operate the [Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy](#), a cooperative effort between the Sheriffs' offices in Charles, Calvert and St. Mary's counties. The Academy provides entry-level and in-service training for all police and correctional officers in Southern Maryland and maintains 100 percent compliance with strict standards set by the MPCTC.

Upon their graduation from the Academy, recruits assigned to the CCSO must participate in three weeks of Agency-specific training to discuss policies, computer programs, tactics and other information unique to the Agency. After completing the training, the new officers enter the Field Training Officer program, which pairs them with veteran officers and familiarizes them with the county's four patrol districts. Throughout the FTO phase, the officers are consistently evaluated on their ability to perform as a solo officer. At the end of the FTO program, they receive one final evaluation before being assigned to Patrol Operations.

The [Recruitment Unit](#) commanded by Lt. J. J. Fenlon seeks the best potential police and correctional officer candidates for employment with the CCSO. The unit attends job fairs and other events to provide information to potential applicants.

The [Firearms Training Unit](#) ensures officers are skilled marksmen by providing firearms training and practice sessions to new and veteran police and correctional officers throughout the year. Among their training requirements, officers participate in tactical scenarios such as shooting on the move, identifying the appropri-

ate target and engaging in multiple targets. They are also required to shoot in reduced light to simulate conditions they may face in an emergency. Officers must qualify with their on-duty and off-duty pistols and, if they are issued patrol rifles or shotguns, with those weapons as well.



# ALL GAVE SOME *Some Gave All*



## **PATROLMAN LAWRENCE H. MCPARLIN**

Patrolman McParlin is the first Charles County deputy known to have fallen in the line of duty. On May 12, 1918, a short time after becoming a police officer, Patrolman. McParlin and Metropolitan Police Department Officer John Conrad attempted to serve a court summons in Washington, D.C. As they entered the building, the suspect, who was wanted, shot and killed both officers.



## **PATROLMAN FIRST CLASS DENNIS L. RILEY, #49**

On January 11, 1977, PFC Riley was killed in a crash at the intersection of Route 228 and U.S. Route 301 in Waldorf. As he waited for a traffic light to change, a tractor-trailer fuel tanker skidded to a stop and overturned on his cruiser, killing him instantly. PFC Riley left a wife and four children.



## **SERGEANT FRANCIS "LEO" YATES, #40**

On June 8, 1988, Sgt. Yates suffered a fatal heart attack as he left the Charles County Courthouse. He left a wife and four children.



## **SERGEANT JOSEPH E. STINE, JR., #62**

On May 12, 1990, Sgt. Stine arrested a disorderly subject and transported the resisting prisoner to the Charles County Detention Center. Sgt. Stine then collapsed and suffered a fatal heart attack. He left a wife, two children and three step-children.



## **SERGEANT TIMOTHY C. MINOR, #109**

On February 12, 1996, Sgt. Minor was killed when a vehicle pulled in front of his police motorcycle on Route 257 in Newburg as he was responding to a call near Cobb Island. Sgt. Minor left a wife and two children.



## **STATION CLERK WILLARD C. KEESEE, #1123**

On January 23, 1998, Mr. Keesee was on-duty at the Indian Head District Station when he suffered a fatal heart attack. He left two sons and a daughter.





CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



"ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL"

DEDICATED TO ALL WHO HONORABLY SERVED  
THE OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF  
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND  
MAY 2002  
FREDERICK E. DAVIS, SHERIFF

MEMBERS LISTED  
[Illegible names and dates]

CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
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[Illegible names and dates]





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