



ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Charles County Sheriff's Office

6915 Crain Hwy, La Plata, MD 20646

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2025 FAST FACTS

County Population*	176,593*
Sworn Officers	307
Corrections Officers	132
Court Security Officers	14 Full time 1 part-time
Automated Enforcement Unit (AEU)	1 Supervisor 1 Sworn Civilian 5 Specialists
Civilian Employees**	106
Calls for Service	273,374
Arrests	3766
Motor Vehicle Citations	5900
Warnings	13,403
Safety Equipment Repair Orders	679
Automobile Fatal Crashes	6
Alcohol or Drug DUI Related Arrests	209

*Number based on U.S Census Bureau 2025 Estimate

Crime statistics for Charles County, to include crimes investigated by the Maryland State Police and the La Plata Police Department, are available in the Maryland Uniform Crime Report. Citizens can also search for crimes investigated by the Charles County Sheriff's Office using [CrimeReports.com](https://www.crimereports.com), which provides citizens with near instant access to calls for service data.

A MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF TROY D. BERRY



As Sheriff of Charles County, it is my honor to present the Charles County Sheriff's Office 2025 Annual Report. This report reflects a year of progress and dedication made possible by more than 650 sworn and civilian professionals who proudly serve our community every day.

As Charles County continues to grow and law enforcement agencies across the country face staffing challenges, our mission remains clear: keep our community safe, prevent crime, and build strong relationships with the people we serve. Our team uses

modern tools such as digital forensics, drones, and body-worn cameras to investigate crime and strengthen accountability. We also work closely with local, state, and federal partners to stay ahead of crime trends and respond effectively.

Just as important is our work with young people. In recent years, we have expanded youth engagement through school visits, our School Resource Officer program, after-school mentoring, summer sports programs, and this year, we added a new Youth Engagement Unit to address youth-related issues proactively and directly. These efforts help build trust and create positive connections between officers and the youth of our community. We also continue to work closely with community organizations, local leaders, and service providers to address issues affecting our neighborhoods and provide support where it is needed most.

Our employees are the heart of this agency. Policing can be demanding, and we remain committed to supporting the health and well-being of our personnel through wellness programs, peer support, and continued training that helps them serve with professionalism and confidence.

I am grateful for the continued trust and support of the Charles County community. Public safety is a shared responsibility, and together we will continue working to keep Charles County a safe and welcoming place for all.

Sincerely,
Troy D. Berry

OUR HISTORY

As the primary law enforcement agency in Charles County, the Charles County Sheriff's Office (CCSO), one of the oldest law enforcement agencies in the United States, is a full-service operation. The CCSO provides all the services commonly associated with police departments and sheriffs' offices and operates the Charles County Detention Center.

The CCSO has a hallowed obligation to maintain law and order and to protect life and property. Centuries of growth and innovation have transformed how the CCSO fulfills its mission, but its rich history is an indelible element behind its modern achievements.

When the CCSO 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 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 result 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 650 police, corrections, and civilian personnel.

As the CCSO transformed from a one-man operation into one of its community's largest employers, it expanded its physical presence in Charles County. The current Headquarters, which sits adjacent to the La Plata Station, opened in 2000 and was the first building erected specifically as the CCSO's flagship. Additional district stations are operated in Waldorf and Bryans Road. 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 in Port Tobacco. A second jail opened behind the current courthouse in La Plata in 1897, followed by a third detention center behind the La Plata Station, which operated from 1981-1995 and reopened in 2007 as an annex of the current detention center.

The CCSO earned accreditation from the Commission on the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) in 2001 and 2004, 2007, 2010, 2013, and 2016. The CCSO earned CALEA's flagship status in 2010 and from 2020 - 2024 was accredited with Excellence, the highest rating possible, designating it as one of the best among accredited agencies worldwide.

MISSION AND VALUES

Mission Statement

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.

Value Statements

The men and women of the Charles County Sheriff's Office are bound by a higher standard of conduct as exemplified in the following values (P.R.I.D.E.):

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

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.

Duty - We believe the protection of life is our highest priority.

Excellence - We are dedicated to service through superior performance.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2025, we gathered with community members and organizations, celebrated the successes of our employees, and further developed ourselves professionally as individuals and as an Agency. The CCSO is steadfast in its dedication to fostering positive relationships with the community, particularly with the youth. Recognizing the importance of collaborative efforts in ensuring public safety and building trust, the Agency remains committed to sustaining and enhancing training in critical areas and enhancing transparency.

Key Initiatives:

- 1. Community Policing Programs:** The Agency actively engages in community policing initiatives that prioritize building strong relationships with residents. Officers participate in neighborhood events, attend community meetings, and actively seek feedback to better understand the needs and concerns of the community.
- 2. Youth Outreach Programs:** A range of youth-centric outreach programs has been a priority for Sheriff Berry since taking office in 2014. These programs include school resource officers, after-school activities, the Youth Advisory Council, youth sports camps, and mentorship programs, which aim to provide positive role models and foster a sense of community among the youth.
- 3. Crisis Intervention Training:** Recognizing the complex nature of encounters involving individuals experiencing mental health crises, officers receive specialized Crisis Intervention Training. This training equips them with the knowledge and skills to respond to such situations with empathy, understanding, and an emphasis on de-escalation rather than confrontation.



Sheriff Berry greets high school students as they arrive to remind them of the importance of safe driving practices as part of CCSO's We Care initiative in collaboration with Charles County Public Schools.

ABOUT OUR AGENCY

The Office of the Sheriff

The Office of the Sheriff is comprised of the Sheriff, Chief of Staff, three Assistant Sheriffs, the Office of Professional Responsibility, and the Office of the General Counsel.

Sheriff Troy D. Berry is a 33-year veteran of the Charles County Sheriff's Office and was first elected as Sheriff in 2014. He was re-elected in 2018 and again in 2022. He leads an Agency of over 700 employees and is the final authority on all matters of policy, operations, and discipline.

Mr. Brian Eley serves as Sheriff Berry's Chief of Staff. He is the highest responsible senior administrative and supervisory authority of all employees of the Agency. He is directly responsible for the Office of the General Counsel and the Executive Services Division. Chief of Staff Eley is a retired CCSO Captain and previously served as the Assistant Sheriff of Administration.

Three Assistant Sheriffs are responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Agency. Major Andrew Schwab serves as the Assistant Sheriff of Operations and is responsible for Patrol Operations and the Criminal Investigations Division. Major Joseph Pratta serves as the Assistant Sheriff of Administration and is responsible for the Corrections Division, the Special Services Division, the Information Technology Division and the Administrative Services Division. Major David Kelly serves as the Assistant Sheriff of Field and Support, and is responsible for the Special Operations Division, Community Services Division, and the Training Division.

The Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR)

The Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) is an independent component of the CCSO and maintains the integrity of the Agency by ensuring the professional conduct of Agency personnel. OPR's two functions include *Internal Affairs* and *Standards and Audits*, and it operates under the command of Captain John Dodge.

An internal investigation can be comprised of multiple misconduct violations, each of which is closed with one of the following dispositions:

- Sustained: The investigation supported the conclusion that the officer engaged in the alleged conduct and violated a policy by doing so.
- Exonerated: The investigation supported the conclusion that the incident did occur, but the officer's actions were legal, proper, and reasonable.
- Unfounded: The investigation supported the conclusion that the officer did not engage in the alleged conduct and did not violate an agency policy by doing so.
- Not Sustained: The investigation did not prove or disprove the alleged conduct.

Internal Affairs handled 66 internal investigations in 2025. Of the 66 investigations:

- 55 were received from the public.
- 11 were initiated internally.

The complaints involved 63 police officers, 11 correctional officers and 2 civilian employees. As of the close of 2025, the dispositions of the investigations were as follows:

- 13 investigations were found to have at least one sustained allegation.
- 13 investigations were found to have at least one exonerated allegation.
- 24 investigations were found to have at least one unfounded allegation.
- 18 investigations remained open.

The Office of General Counsel (OGC)

The Office of the General Counsel (OGC) is responsible for providing legal advice to and representing the Office of the Sheriff. Additionally, OGC acts as the agency's liaison with the Maryland Attorney General's Office.

The Office is led by Mr. Jerome Spencer, a former prosecutor and circuit court judge, who serves as General Counsel. He is supported by Ms. Misty Good, Deputy General Counsel. OGC plays a key role in the ongoing legal education of the Sheriff's Office. This includes delivering annual in-service training for sworn officers and offering instruction in criminal law and procedure at the Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy.

OGC also actively contributes to broader legal and policy discussions through participation in several professional organizations. These include the Maryland Chiefs' and Sheriffs' Associations

Legislative Committee, the Maryland Police Legal Advisors Group, the Maryland State Bar Association's State and Local Government Section, and the legal and impact projectile sections of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Patrol Division

Charles county citizens rely on the protection of the CCSO's first responders – the officers of the **Patrol Division** – to maintain law and order and restore peace when public safety is threatened. The Patrol Division prevents and investigates crime, responds to calls for service (including crimes in progress, non-emergency calls, and medical emergencies), and enforces traffic laws. The Patrol Division also assists with safety at large community events such as the Charles County Fair and Fourth of July events. It is the CCSO's most visible component.

Charles County covers 643 square miles. For the purposes of law enforcement, the county is divided into two divisions - North and South. Captain Clarence Black serves as the Commander of the North Patrol Division and Captain Anthony Celia serves as the Commander of the South Patrol Division.

There is a total of six shifts of patrol officers and supervisors that provide services to Charles County 24 hours a day. Five shift rotate between days, evenings, and midnights - each consisting of four squads (La Plata, Indian Head, Waldorf West, and Waldorf East). The sixth is a permanent midnight shift. Each rotating shift consists of 18 patrol officers, four sergeants, and two lieutenants for a total of 24 officers. The permanent midnight shift has nine patrol officers, one sergeant, and one lieutenant for a total of 11 officers.

Lieutenants serve as shift commanders in the Patrol Division, ensuring a commander is always on duty in both the Northern District and Southern District. Shift commanders coordinate the Patrol Division's response to major incidents and make critical operational decisions.

The K-9 Unit

The agency's **K-9 Unit** is assigned to the Patrol Division. The K-9 Unit is supervised by Sergeant Kristen Clark, and consists of two sworn trainers, one civilian trainer, and twelve dogs which include:

- 7 Patrol/Narcotics Detection canines.
- 3 Patrol/Explosive/Weapons Detection canines.
- 2 Bloodhound/Trailing canines.

Each K-9 team is certified by our agency, International Police Working Dog Association (IPWDA) and Old Dominion SAR/K-Star standards. In 2025, the unit was utilized as follows:

- 22 Building Searches
- 50 Criminal Tracks
- 16 Evidences Searches.
- 78 Narcotics Scans
- 1 Explosive Scan
- 17 Weapon Scans
- 4 Bloodhound Trails
- 17 patrol arrests resulting from searches/trails
- 46 narcotic arrests resulting from searches/trails
- 2 evidence recoveries
- 6 weapon recoveries
- 3 bloodhound trail recoveries
- 7 community demonstrations



*Remembering K9 Ryker - Shown here with his handler Cpl. Darin Behm, Ryker was a Belgian Malinois who served and protected the Charles County community from 2013 - 2020 .
End of watch - Summer 2025*

The Cadet Program

The Cadet Program is supervised through the Patrol Division. People ages 18-21 who want to pursue a career as a CCSO police officer or correctional officer gain invaluable on-the-job experience in the Cadet Program. Cadets perform a variety of duties while learning law enforcement techniques, CCSO policy and procedure, and criminal and traffic law. These duties include assisting all components of the Agency and assisting with the areas of responsibility of the various Divisions. Cadets take part in ride-along operations with Patrol Officers, assisting with the training of officers and acting as role-players, truck and school bus safety inspections, traffic safety operations, and other duties as assigned.

Neighborhood Enforcement Team

The Neighborhood Enforcement Team (NET) serves as a specialized extension of the Patrol Division, addressing a wide range of community concerns through non-traditional policing strategies. These efforts include targeted patrols, covert surveillance, data-driven initiatives, collaborative partnerships,

and innovative problem-solving approaches. NET remains committed to enhancing public safety, reducing crime, and strengthening community trust. Key operations include:

- Addressed persistent quality-of-life and criminal concerns at the Smallwood Village Center through strategic business partnerships, targeted enforcement, and proactive surveillance, resulting in multiple arrests and citations, as well as a notable reduction in calls for service.
- Led a complex theft investigation in Waldorf in collaboration with a local business, identifying and arresting a suspect responsible for approximately \$600,000 in losses; recovered over \$31,000 and secured a guilty plea with court-ordered restitution.
- Conducted a targeted narcotics and firearms investigation in the 300 block of Smallwood Drive, utilizing surveillance and investigative techniques to obtain search warrants, seize illegal drugs and firearms, and secure guilty pleas from two offenders.
- Strengthened partnerships with property management at multiple housing complexes, enhancing intelligence-sharing, supporting crime prevention strategies, and establishing both overt and covert on-site police presence to assist with ongoing investigations.
- Partnered with Target Corporation to host the county's inaugural "Heroes and Helpers" event, providing holiday assistance to five families in need through coordinated community outreach efforts.

Special Operations Division

The **Special Operations Division** performs tactical assignments and provides services to keep the community safe. Captain Jason Carlson is the division's commander. The division includes the Field Operations Section.

The Field Operations Section

The **Field Operations Section** is commanded by Lieutenant Christopher Barrows and includes the Traffic Operations Unit, Security Response Vessel, Unmanned Aerial System (UAS), Emergency Services Team, Automated Enforcement Unit, Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Function, and the Hostage Negotiations Team.

The **Traffic Operations Unit** investigates traffic fatalities, school bus crashes, school bus complaints, and abandoned vehicles; conducts radar operations and commercial vehicle inspections; manages

crossing guard assignments; provides funeral escorts; and manages all traffic-related grants awarded to the CCSO.

The **Security Response Vessel** is a specially trained team of officers and civilians who provide law enforcement services on the waterways of Charles County. The vessels are specially designed for law enforcement use and are equipped to handle a variety of possible situations.



Lt. Kaylor prepares for an Unmanned Aircraft demonstration during a community event.

Members of the **Unmanned Aerial System** are specially trained and federally licensed Unmanned Aircraft pilots who provide aerial support during operations requiring a bird's eye view or tactical search using the aircraft instead of exposing an officer to extreme danger.

The **Emergency Services Team** is a group of specially trained and equipped officers who are called upon to handle high-risk calls, rescues, and the service of high-risk search warrants.

The **Automated Enforcement Unit** oversees and administers the school zone Speed Cameras program, the Red-Light Camera Program, and the Bus Patrol Camera Program.

The **Motorcycle Function** is a group of specially trained and certified officers who operate agency police motorcycles for funeral escorts and special events.

The **Drug Recognition Expert Function** is a group of specially trained and certified officers who have been certified to investigate Driving While Under the Influence of Drugs. They have been extensively trained in the detection of drivers under the influence of a controlled dangerous substance.

The **Hostage Negotiations Team** is specially trained to bring situations involving barricaded individuals and hostages to peaceful conclusions. Negotiators volunteer for the team in addition to their regular duty assignments.

The Community Services Division

The **Community Services Division** provides community and school-based services that engage citizens and businesses in public safety activities. As a testament to the success of our Agency's Community Services programs and its commitment to working closely with citizens and businesses to prevent crime, the CCSO has received the Maryland Governor's Crime Prevention Award each year since 1988. Captain Caroline Baker is the division's commander. The division includes two sections: Community Relations and School Resources.



Members of our Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) pictured with young students during the COPS and Slurpees event, hosted in partnership with neighborhood 7-Eleven stores. The event brought officers and residents together in a fun, positive setting—helping build stronger relationships, engage with local youth, and reinforce a supportive presence in the community.

Community Relations Section

The CCSO's **Community Relations Section**, under the command of Lieutenant Travis Yates, combines a unified effort from the **Community Engagement Unit** and the **Community Policing Unit** to plan, schedule, and coordinate many events throughout the year. In 2025, these efforts included:

- 195 meetings.
- 33 Presentations.
- 28 General events.
- Five block parties.
- 5 Seasonal events.
- 58 National Night Out events.
- 238 business file updates.
- 7 surveys.
- 3,886 community/business contacts.

In addition, the Section provided services in the areas of crime prevention talks, community policing enforcement efforts in the neighborhoods, Project Lifesaver, National Night Out, the County Fair, graduations, and Project Graduation. The Section's focus on the community also extends to local businesses. The **Community Organizer** attends the Charles County Chamber of Commerce monthly meetings. This fosters and strengthens communication with local businesses where they exchange ideas, trends, program successes, and failures, to improve the partnership. The combined efforts demonstrate the importance the agency puts on community relations. In 2025, the Agency continued growing grassroots efforts to build positive community/law enforcement relationships through varied outreach and engagement programs.

Alcohol Enforcement Unit

The Alcohol Enforcement Unit is a specialized component of the Sheriff's Office responsible for enforcing state and local alcohol and tobacco laws, particularly as they relate to licensed establishments and community safety. The unit conducts routine inspections, investigates violations, responds to complaints—including underage drinking and illegal sales—and performs compliance checks using approved underage participants. Officers also enforce applicable criminal and civil laws, prepare reports, testify in court and administrative hearings, and maintain detailed records of enforcement activity.

In addition to enforcement responsibilities, the unit serves as a liaison to the Board of License Commissioners, supporting regulatory oversight and presenting violation cases. Emphasizing a community policing approach, the unit works closely with business owners, partner agencies, and residents to promote compliance and provide education, including training on identifying false identification. Through proactive enforcement, training initiatives, and collaborative partnerships, the unit works to reduce illegal activity, enhance public safety, and strengthen relationships within the community.

Honor Guard

The Honor Guard is a specialized ceremonial unit that represents the Sheriff's Office at funerals, memorial services, and public events through formal drill and ceremony. Comprised of highly trained sworn and correctional officers, the unit performs duties such as color presentations, funeral honors, casket watch, rifle salutes, and participation in parades and national events, including Police Week. Members are selected based on professionalism, discipline, and appearance, and are held to high standards as they serve as visible representatives of the agency.

The Honor Guard also carries out detailed funeral protocols to honor fallen or deceased members and support their families. Responsibilities include coordinating and executing elements such as flag folding, last call ceremonies, casket teams, honor platoons, and three-volley salutes, all performed with precision and adherence to tradition. Through structured leadership and ongoing training, the unit ensures readiness for both planned ceremonies and line-of-duty death responses, with the mission of honoring service and preserving tradition with dignity and respect.

Special Events Response Team (SERT)

The Special Events Response Team (SERT) is a highly trained unit that provides rapid and flexible support during critical incidents and large-scale operations. Its primary mission is to respond to civil disturbances and other high-risk situations, while also supporting routine and specialized law enforcement functions. Operating within the Incident Command System, SERT can be deployed in full or in part for events such as protests, natural disasters, search and rescue operations, executive protection details, and other complex incidents. The team serves as a force multiplier by providing specialized training, equipment, and coordinated tactical capabilities.

SERT places a strong emphasis on discipline, preparedness, and professionalism. Members are selected based on experience, physical readiness, and the ability to perform under pressure, and they maintain proficiency through regular training. The unit operates under a structured chain of command and follows established protocols, particularly in crowd management and the use of less-lethal tools. Whether supporting other units or serving as the primary response element, SERT is committed to maintaining public safety, preserving order, and ensuring effective coordination during dynamic events.

Youth Engagement Function

The Youth Engagement Function, staffed by sworn officers within the Community Engagement Unit, is dedicated to building positive relationships with youth throughout Charles County. These officers work to foster trust, respect, and open communication between law enforcement and young people, serving as mentors and role models while promoting responsible decision-making and public safety. Through collaboration with schools, families, and community organizations, Youth Engagement officers provide consistent outreach and meaningful interaction opportunities. They utilize creative, age-appropriate strategies to connect with youth, identify potential concerns early, and provide guidance and support. This function plays a key role in crime prevention and helps ensure the Sheriff's Office remains a trusted, accessible presence in the lives of the county's youth.

The Fingerprint Unit

The Fingerprint Unit, which is also part of the Community Relations section, includes a Civilian Coordinator and Civilian Specialist. Fingerprinting services are offered by appointment only in our office in the St. Charles Towne Center.

The School Resource Section

The School Resource Section under the command of Lieutenant Devin Arends, facilitates the strong alliance between police and Charles County school students. As part of an agreement with Charles County Public Schools, officers are assigned to each elementary, middle, and high school to provide programs such as Truth and Consequences, and Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE). The officers host an annual Ladies Leadership Soccer Camp, Badges for Baseball Camp,

Basketball Camp, Cops for Kids Football Camp, Just Say No Camp, a Summer Youth Achievement Program, and We Care, a program designed to reduce teen traffic fatalities by using innovative methods to encourage young motorists to drive safely. 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 CCSO and Charles County Public Schools. The program is held at North Point High School. The School Resource Section Lieutenant also commands the **Public Safety Cadets Post**, **School Crossing Guards**, and the **Search Management Function** for the Agency.



Teams celebrate their success on the final day of the COPS for Kids Football Camp.

Teen Court

Teen Court is a valuable community-based program that empowers first-time youth offenders to take accountability for traffic offenses, misdemeanor crimes, and cannabis and alcohol-related offenses—while avoiding the long-term consequences of a formal criminal record. Through a peer-driven model, youth participants take on the roles of defense attorneys, prosecutors, and jurors, with guidance from an adult volunteer judge. This approach not only promotes accountability, but also builds confidence, leadership skills, and a deeper understanding of the justice system.



Beyond the courtroom, Teen Court creates meaningful, positive outcomes for both participants and the broader community. The program equips young people with problem-solving skills, encourages better decision-making, and plays a key role in reducing repeat offenses, helping set youth on a more positive path forward.

In 2025, Teen Court heard 59 cases and assigned 1,875 hours of community service directly benefiting local organizations and neighborhoods. Teen Court also demonstrates its commitment to meeting real community needs by hosting the Annual Hygiene Drive, collecting essential supplies for local schools and supporting students in need and providing a Resource Hour to provide community members access to valuable information and services from various community resources in a welcoming, no-questions-asked environment that respects privacy and dignity.



Through accountability, education, and service, Teen Court continues to make a lasting, positive impact—supporting youth development while strengthening the entire community.

Criminal Investigations Division

The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) investigates complex crimes and crime trends. Under the command of Captain Harry Ivers, the division operates five sections – Persons Crimes, Property Crimes, Forensic Science, Homeland Security, and Narcotics Enforcement.

The **Persons Crimes Section**, commanded by Lieutenant Erica Budd, includes the Major Crimes, Special Victims, Robbery, and Digital Forensics Units.

The Major Crimes Unit

The Major Crimes Unit is responsible for investigating the county's most serious and complex criminal cases, including homicides, shootings, stabbings, life-threatening assaults, cold cases, missing persons, and police-involved shootings. Detectives assigned to the unit utilize advanced investigative techniques, forensic evidence, interviews, and partnerships with local, state, and federal agencies to identify suspects and pursue successful case resolutions. In 2025, detectives investigated five homicide cases, all of which were closed with arrests, and conducted follow-up investigations on 27 missing person cases.

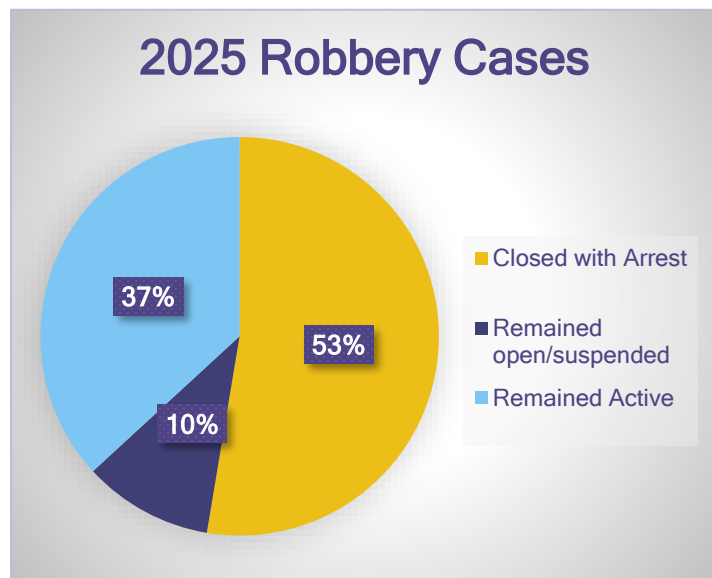
The Special Victims Unit

The Special Victims Unit (SVU) investigates rapes, sexual assaults, physical and sexual child abuse, and the exploitation of the elderly. The circumstances of these investigations can be difficult and very emotional for detectives. Of the total cases assigned to SVU, at the year's end:

- 41 cases were closed.
- 51 cases were closed with arrests.
- 5 cases were closed unfounded.
- 52 cases were open/suspended.
- 10 cases are open with arrest warrants pending for suspects.
- 44 cases are still active.
- 324 abuse intake reports were accepted.
- 1018 intake reports were screened out for various reasons.
- 550 cyber tips were received from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.
- Liberty, the Unit's Comfort K-9, had 64 victim contacts and was invited to many community events. There were also additional contacts internally through different components of the agency.

The Robbery Unit

The Robbery Unit investigates citizen and commercial armed robberies. In 2025, the unit was assigned 38 robbery investigations. Of those cases, at the end of the year:



- 20 were closed with arrests.
- 8 cases from prior years were closed
- 4 remained open/suspended.
- 14 investigations remained active.

The unit also conducted 9 miscellaneous investigations. Of these miscellaneous investigations, 4 were closed with arrests. Additionally, detectives secured and executed 172 search and seizure warrants for their investigations.

Victim Services

The Victim Services Unit plays a vital role in supporting individuals and families during some of their most difficult moments, ensuring that crime victims have access to compassionate care, critical resources, and ongoing guidance. From providing immediate assistance at crime scenes to offering continued support throughout investigations and beyond, the unit helps victims navigate the aftermath of traumatic events with dignity and understanding.

Through strong partnerships 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)—the Victim Services Unit connects victims to counseling, financial assistance, and essential services. These collaborations help ensure victims are informed of their rights and empowered to access the support they need to begin healing.

In addition to assisting victims, the unit also provides on-scene support to witnesses and others affected by serious and tragic incidents, helping stabilize situations and offer reassurance during times of crisis.

The Victim Services Coordinator most often responds to incidents such as domestic assaults, suicides, assaults involving weapons, sexual assaults, rapes, homicides, and death investigations. Support is also extended, when needed, to those impacted by armed robberies, carjackings, and fatal motor vehicle collisions.

In 2025, the Victim Services Unit made initial contact with 202 victims, including 14 on-scene responses and 48 direct referrals from officers—demonstrating the unit’s ongoing commitment to reaching those in need and providing meaningful, timely support.

The Property Crimes Section

The Property Crimes Section is commanded by Lieutenant Scott Fetterolf, investigates property and financial crimes, analyzes crime trends, and provides services to crime victims. The Burglary Unit investigates residential and commercial burglaries, large shoplifting incidents, and any other theft that requires a detective to be assigned. In 2025, the unit was assigned 71 Burglary investigations. The status of these cases is as follows:

- 40 were closed with arrests.
- 60 were open/suspended.
- 632 supplements were written

One hundred twenty-eight search and seizure warrants were completed on residences, phones, and business records.

The Digital Forensics Unit

The Digital Forensics Unit (DFU) provides specialized technical support across the agency, with a primary focus on assisting Criminal Investigations Division (CID) detectives in complex cases involving digital evidence. This includes the forensic examination of cell phones, computers, tablets, and digital video systems. The DFU plays a critical role in identifying, preserving, and analyzing digital evidence, which is often essential in modern investigations. From communications and location data to video and internet activity, digital evidence can establish timelines, corroborate witness statements, and directly link suspects to criminal activity—making it a vital component in building strong, prosecutable cases.

The unit’s work has been instrumental in the investigation and successful prosecution of serious offenses, including homicides, sexual assaults, and child exploitation cases. By ensuring the integrity and accuracy of digital evidence, the DFU supports both investigators and prosecutors in holding offenders accountable.

Staffed by three forensic examiners and a supervisor, the DFU continues to demonstrate exceptional productivity and impact. In 2025, the unit received 573 devices related to new investigations and processed a total of 687 devices—the highest output in its seven-year history. Additionally, DFU personnel responded to 94 requests to recover video surveillance, further supporting investigative efforts in real time.

Financial Crimes Unit

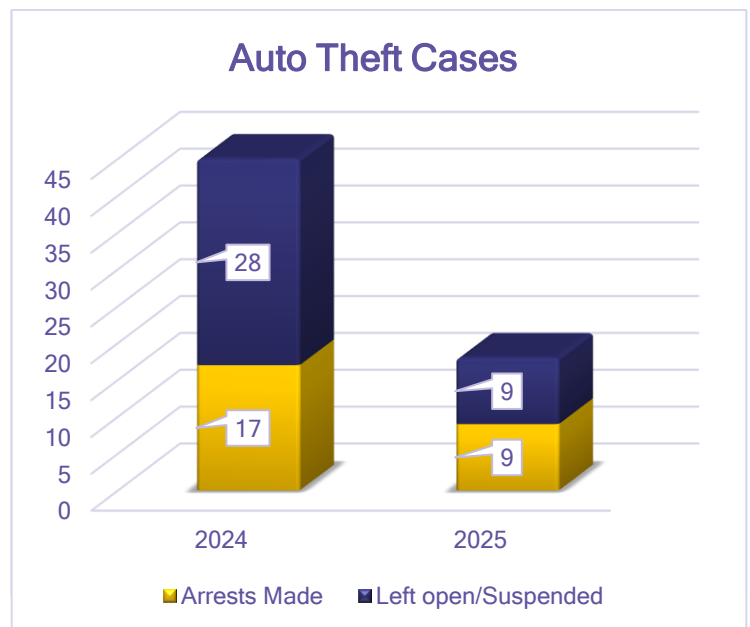
The Financial Crimes Unit is responsible for investigating complex financial offenses that impact individuals, businesses, and the community. Detectives assigned to the unit investigate crimes such as fraud, identity theft, embezzlement, forgery, credit card fraud, and other offenses involving financial exploitation. Working closely with financial institutions, businesses, prosecutors, and partner agencies, the unit analyzes financial records, digital evidence, and transactional data to identify suspects and build prosecutable cases. Through thorough investigations and collaborative partnerships, the Financial Crimes Unit plays a critical role in protecting victims, recovering assets when possible, and holding offenders accountable for crimes that can have significant financial and emotional impacts on the community.

In 2025, the Financial Crimes Unit investigated 26 cases. Of those, there were 4 arrests and 15 that remained open/suspended. The unit served 4 search warrants. Financial Crimes wrote 13 supplemental reports this year.

Auto Theft Detail

Auto Theft Detail was assigned 20 cases in 2025. Nine arrests were made and nine remained open/suspended. Additionally, the Auto Theft Detail wrote 25 search warrants.

There were 294 stolen motor vehicles. One hundred seventy-two of those vehicles were also recovered in Charles County. Eighty-Seven of them were recovered in other jurisdictions. In addition to those stolen from Charles County, detectives recovered eighty-four vehicles that had been reported stolen in other jurisdictions.



The Digital Forensics Unit

The Digital Forensics Unit (DFU) provides technical assistance to all facets of the Agency, but specifically to CID detectives on large, complex cases involving digital devices such as cell phones, digital video recorders, computers, and tablets. The DFU helps investigators find and preserve digital evidence that is critical to supporting investigations and ensure that detectives and prosecutors have the evidence they need to hold suspects accountable. The evidence provided by the DFU has been instrumental in identifying, apprehending, and convicting suspects in some of the most high-profile cases, such as homicides, sexual offenses, and child pornography cases. The DFU is staffed by three examiners and a supervisor. In 2025, the DFU received 573 devices related to new cases, and was able to process 687 devices, the most in the unit's seven-year history. DFU personnel also responded to recover video surveillance on 94 occasions.

The Forensic Science Section

The **Forensic Science Section (FSS)**, managed by Deputy Director Noelle Gehrman, is comprised of a Forensic Science Supervisor, a Quality Assurance Manager, a Forensic Chemist, a DNA Analyst, four Forensic Science Technicians, and two Latent Print Specialists - all who provide critical support to patrol officers and detectives by processing crime scenes and analyzing evidence.

In 2025, the FSS was assigned more than 526 cases. Technicians processed more than 57 scenes, including crime scenes, vehicles, attending autopsies, and assisting with Search Warrants. They assisted adjoining counties with casework, as well as the State Fire Marshal and the Town of La Plata Police Department. Together, Technicians investigated approximately 433 cases involving DNA—totaling approximately 2,046 DNA items, and at least 122 cases involving firearms—totaling approximately 216 firearms.

During 2025, the Latent Print Specialists worked on 182 latent fingerprint cases resulting in 130 identifications. In addition to working active cases, the Latent Specialists also worked 2 cases in the Maryland Automated Fingerprint Identification System (MAFIS) “Unsolved Latent” queue, as well working CCSO’s Cold Cases. In December of 2025, the Forensic Science Section added the National Capital Region Automated Fingerprint Identification System into their workflow. This computerized fingerprint network integrates the Northern Virginia Regional Identification System (NOVARIS), the Washington, D.C. Automated Fingerprint Identification System (DC-AFIS), and the Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties Regional Automated Fingerprint Identification System (RAFIS). This expanded connectivity enhances the Section’s ability to search unidentified latent prints, conduct print

comparisons, and support criminal investigations, expanding upon their previous capabilities of MAFIS and the FBI database.

In September 2019, the Section began utilizing the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) - a program managed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). The NIBIN program automates ballistics evaluations and provides actionable investigative leads in a timely manner by allowing forensic examiners to compare ballistic evidence to crimes throughout the region. The FSS also assisted allied agencies including St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office and the La Plata Police Department in completing NIBIN acquisitions. In 2025, the FSS had 180 cases with NIBIN entries resulting in 247 acquisitions, 141 leads, and 3 cases warranting microscopic comparison.

Homeland Security & Intelligence

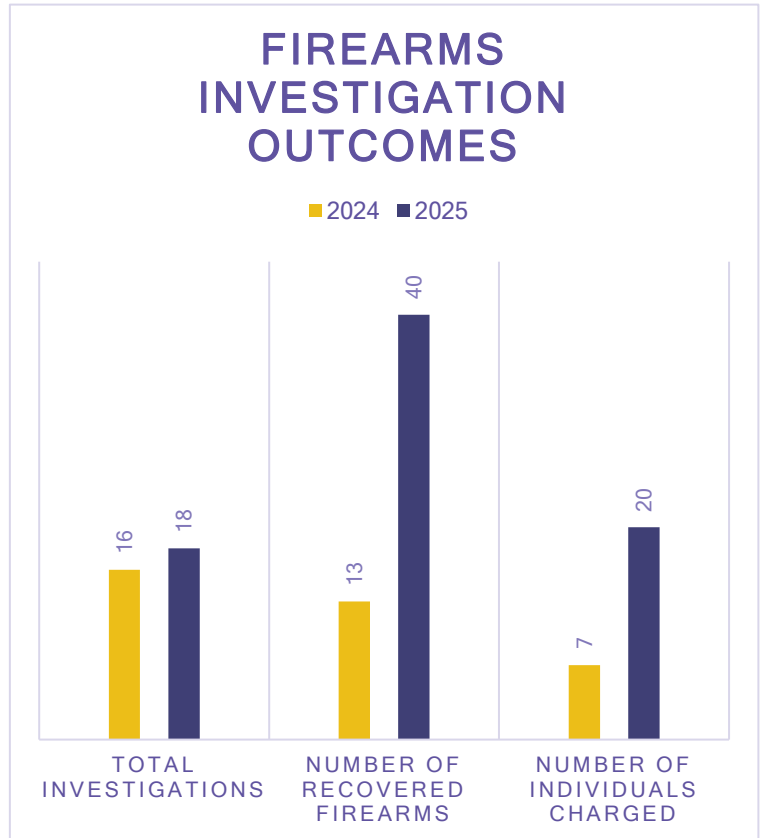
The Homeland Security & Intelligence Section, commanded by Lieutenant Mark Kaylor, investigates street gangs, outlaw motorcycle gangs, extremist activities, threats against public officials, terrorism, and organized crime. The Section receives and disseminates intelligence information and publishes law enforcement bulletins for the CCSO and allied agencies nationwide. An investigator from the Homeland Security & Intelligence Section is 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

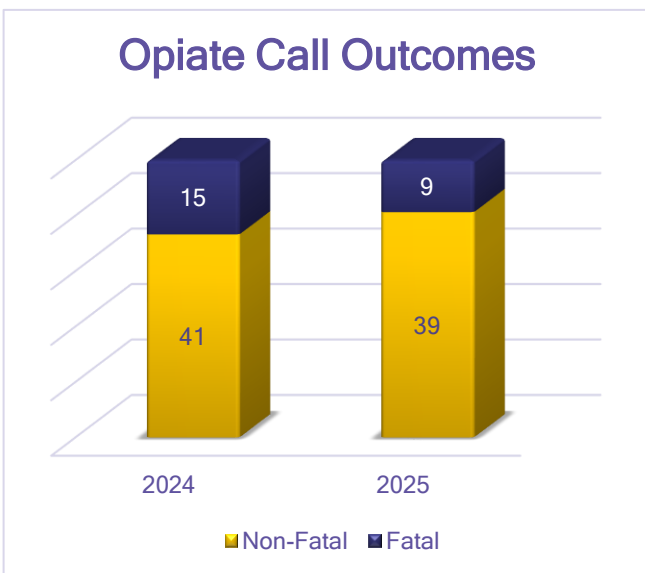
The Crime Analysis Unit collects, analyzes, and disseminates crime data for the CCSO's CompStat program. CompStat is an analysis-driven method of proactively addressing crime problems. District Commanders use the crime analysis data as part of weekly CompStat meetings to address crime in their districts.

The Firearms Investigations Unit

The Firearms Investigations Unit (FIU) is a team of experienced detectives who investigate cases involving the illegal manufacture, sale, and/or possession of firearms, gun trafficking, and other crimes involving firearms. The FIU coordinates their efforts with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and is responsible for following-up on leads developed from NIBIN (National Integrated Ballistic Information Network). FIU conducted 18 investigations in 2025 resulting in the recovery of 40 firearms and 20 persons charged. Five of those investigations were still active at the end of 2025.



Opiate Call Outcomes



The CCSO employs a full-time **Narcotics Intelligence Analyst** as part of the Opioid Addiction Program. In 2025, Charles County received 48 calls related to opiates (compared to 56 in 2023). Nine of those calls resulted in fatalities (compared to 15 in 2023).

According to the CCSO Narcotics Intelligence Analyst, Charles County experienced a steady decrease in the number of reported overdoses. Statistical data suggests that the increased availability of Narcan and deployment of outreach personnel have contributed to the decrease.

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Narcotics Enforcement

The Narcotics Enforcement Section (NES), commanded by Lieutenant John Elliott, works covertly and aggressively to disrupt drug trafficking in Charles County. The effective disruption of drug trafficking is vital to the reduction of crime overall. The section includes the Major Narcotics Unit and the Narcotics

Street Enforcement Unit. In 2025, NES investigations led to the service of 53 search warrants and the seizure of:

- 40 Firearms
- \$123,676.25 of U.S. Currency
- 2 vehicles valued at \$17,000.00
- Controlled Dangerous Substance with a street value of \$1.8 million.

Support Services Division

The employees of the Support Services Division, commanded by Captain Louis Schmidt, are the critical link between citizens and the police and between officers and the information they need to do their jobs safely and efficiently.

Records Management

The **Records Management Section**, comprised of the Records Compliance Unit, the Body-Worn Camera Unit, and the public-facing lobby at Sheriff's Office Headquarters, is commanded by Deputy Director Amber DiToto.

This section of the agency is responsible for maintaining and monitoring police record systems, processing all police footage, fulfilling discovery requests in preparation for trial, as well as managing the security, storage, retention, retrieval, and destruction of all police records.

Also serving as the Custodian of Police Records, the Deputy Director ensures that records are complete, legible, and accessible in accordance with the agency's retention schedule. The Deputy Director oversees the processing, redaction, and release of all agency body-worn camera footage and dash camera footage, ensuring compliance with legal requirements and the Maryland Public Information Act.

Since the launch in Spring of 2024, Deputy Director DiToto's implementation of the agency's online records request portal has proven successful in improving the accessibility and convenience of obtaining police records. The portal, accessible through the CCSO website, under "Records Requests," has eliminated the need for in-person visits to district stations and Headquarters, as well as the previous reliance on outdated payment methods for the submission of records requests. The agency's records portal is available 24/7, providing the public with a streamlined and user-friendly way to request and receive records.

Through the portal, Records Technicians have processed and fulfilled 17,783 requests and released 36,553 records to the public. The median turnaround time for these requests was just 8 days, reflecting the efficiency and effectiveness of the system in delivering timely access to records.

Key 2025 Achievements:

- Provided frontline customer service by handling all initial inquiries from visitors at the Sheriff's Office Headquarters building
- Processed and cataloged 21,939 police and supplemental reports, including incidents, accidents, missing persons, and alcohol influence reports
- Completed 1,793 expungement requests
- Processed 21,446 citations, including ETIX, parking citations, warnings, and safety equipment repair orders
- Handled 560 DUI-related citations
- Recorded 5,587 alarm notifications
- Validated 2,619 METERS entries
- Processed and fulfilled:
 - 2,354 requests for in-car and body-worn camera video
 - 3,355 discovery requests from the State's Attorney's Office
 - 9,235 other report requests
- Managed 12,914 pieces of postal mail
- Completed 546 law enforcement background checks

The Communications Section

The Communications Section, commanded by Lieutenant Patrick Tona, provides police radio communications to officers and clerical coverage of the district stations in La Plata, Bryans Road, and Waldorf. Each district station is staffed by Police Station Technicians who are responsible for answering the CCSO's non-emergency telephone lines and for helping citizens who visit the district stations. The station clerks' training prepares them to handle a variety of citizen reports and inquiries, from life-threatening emergencies to the occasional non-police matter. Their primary mission is to obtain clear and concise information and relay that information to Police Communications Officers (PCOs), who dispatch the information to officers conducting patrol or other assignments. In 2025, the Communications Section answered 238,882 calls for service.

Information Technology Division

The Information Technology Division (ITD), led by Director David Hanna, is vital in ensuring the CCSO functions efficiently in our digital world. ITD develops and implements a strategic plan to maintain and evolve systems, infrastructure, physical and virtual servers, enterprise applications, security, cloud, mobile initiatives, training, and future growth to support the objectives and success of the Charles County Sheriff's Office. The highly knowledgeable staff assigned to the Technical Support, Applications Support, and Systems Operations Support Sections maintain hundreds of PCs, printers, networks, complex servers, and software applications. Every function of the CCSO relies on

the daily use of computers and digital police databases. ITD personnel are always available to ensure law enforcement services are uninterrupted.

In 2025, the Information Technology Division (ITD) implemented a cloud based Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) solution for all personnel that is essential to keeping the Agency's data secure. Continuing to advance the Agency, ITD implemented a paperless workflow solution that provides security, timeliness, and efficiency with legally compliant signatures while reducing paperwork and the cost associated. ITD, along with other divisions, are in the process of implementing a Digital Evidence and Investigation platform that consolidates, analyzes, and provides redaction into a single cloud-based platform, eliminating physical media, speeding up case closure, and ensuring chain-of-custody compliance.

Special Services Division

The Special Services Division, commanded by Captain Scott Grove, handles judicial matters, ensures the security of the Charles County Courthouse, and maintains the Agency's fleet, supply stock, and property inventory.

Judicial Services

The **Judicial Services Section**, commanded by Lieutenant Christopher Cusmano, serves arrest warrants, civil papers, and other legal documents, and addresses child support and domestic violence problems. In 2025, the Judicial Services Section served:

- 1,252 criminal summonses
- 1,068 warrants
- 10,889 criminal summons and warrant service attempts
- 4,088 civil summonses
- 1,728 evictions
- 2,720 protective orders
- 1,136 peace orders
- 140 extraditions
- 4,651 rent notices
- 72 criminal arrests

Property Management Section

The Property Management Section, commanded by Lieutenant Jeremy Timko, manages the CCSO's Quartermaster, Fleet Management, Property Held Unit, and Firearms Tracking operations.

The Courthouse Section

The **Courthouse Section**, commanded by Lieutenant John Hastings, contains Volunteers in the Community (VICS) and the Court & Judicial Security Unit. The Court & Judicial Security Unit is responsible for physical security, maintenance of courtroom order, and general law enforcement duties within the Charles County Circuit Court.

Executive Services Division

The Executive Services Division, commanded by Captain Ashley Burroughs, manages Planning and Accreditation, Media Relations, and the Chaplain program and acts as the liaison to the Sheriff.

Planning and Accreditation

Planning and Accreditation, managed by Deputy Director Laurie Coyle, is responsible for maintaining the Agency's policy manuals and forms, coordinating the process for obtaining grant funding and overseeing the Agency's accreditation process.



Sheriff Troy Berry, Chief of Staff Brian Eley, Cpt. Ashley Burroughs, Deputy Director Laurie Coyle and Planning and Accreditation staff celebrate the agency's Accreditation with Excellence Award received from CALEA.

The Agency continues to maintain the highest standards. In October 2025, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), Inc., assessed more than 100 standards to evaluate CCSO's compliance. The assessor reviewed CCSO policy and procedures and conducted a series of employee interviews to gain further insight into Agency practices. At the conclusion of the assessment, the CCSO was found to be in full compliance with all standards reviewed.

The CCSO was awarded more than \$2.7 million in grant funding in 2025, increasing the Agency's ability to provide enhanced training opportunities for employees and initiate new projects and programs to fulfill the CCSO's mission.

Media Relations

The Media Relations Office coordinates the distribution of information about police investigations, crime prevention, and CCSO events to the news media and the public. The office issues regular press releases; manages portions of the content of the CCSO's website; produces the Annual Report, advertisements, brochures, posters, and fliers; and develops content for and manages the CCSO's social media accounts. At the end of 2025, the CCSO had more than 63,000 Facebook followers, and almost 8000 followers on Instagram.

Local clergymen offer guidance and inspiration to CCSO personnel, their families, and the public through **Chaplain Services**. Chaplains minister to CCSO 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 assist in notifying the family of an officer who was seriously injured or slain. In addition, they play a critical role in acting as a liaison between the Agency and the faith-based community. Chaplains also provide invocations and benedictions at CCSO ceremonies.

Administrative Services Division

The CCSO is committed to maintaining a highly qualified workforce, utilizing financial resources efficiently, and maintaining thorough and accurate record-keeping. The **Administrative Services Division**, commanded by Captain Kenneth Klezia, is responsible for helping the CCSO meet its strict personnel, budgetary, and records management standards.

The Budgeting Section

The Budgeting Section, managed by Deputy Director Erin Shoemaker, provides leadership on all accounts and projects that affect the budget for the Office of the Sheriff. This section is responsible for preparing the annual budgets and financial analyses of the Sheriff's Office operations for upper-level management and County agencies. A well-trained team of budget professionals promotes sound budgetary management practices, oversees the budget preparation process, and assists in meeting the CCSO's personnel and operational needs. The FY2025 approved budget (7/1/24 through 6/30/25) was \$130,585,500.

The authorized strength of the Sheriff's Office was increased by 16.3 full-time equivalent positions: Ten (10) Sworn Officer positions (February 2025 hire), a full-time DNA Analyst (July 2024 hire), an full-time Automated Enforcement Unit (AEU) Specialist position (July 2024 hire), four (4) full-time Records Technicians to support the body worn camera (BWC) program (September 2025 hire), and the upgrade of a part-time to full-time reduced hour After School Coordinator position.

The FY2025 Capital Improvement Program, coordinated with the Department of Public Works, includes funding to continue the Detention Center Pump Station Rehabilitation.

The FY2025 approved budget included \$3,271,000 for Sheriff's Office vehicles and various other capital outlay equipment. Also included, was \$1,650,600 for various one-time equipment purchases.

The Accounting Section

The Accounting Section, managed by Deputy Director Amy Mayor, promotes sound financial management practices, accounts for agency-owned property, and assists in meeting the operating needs of the Sheriff's Office. The section is composed of four major areas, which include Accounts Payable, General Accounting, Payroll, and Inmate Accounting.

The Human Resources Section

The Human Resources Section, managed by Deputy Director Brian Daniels, handles administrative personnel tasks for potential and current employees. Once the Human Resources Section determines a job applicant meets the position requirements, the Pre-Employment Unit performs an extensive background investigation of police officer, correctional officer, and civilian applicants. The unit's mission is to ensure only the applicants with the highest levels of integrity are awarded positions with the CCSO. Background investigations for police officer and correctional officer applicants involve polygraphs, psychological examinations, physical examinations, and drug screenings.

The Pre-Employment/Recruitment Unit

The Pre-Employment/Recruitment Unit seeks the best potential police and correctional officer candidates for employment with the CCSO. The unit attends job fairs and other events to engage and guide those who are interested in pursuing careers in law enforcement. The unit increases awareness of available roles through various marketing methods.

The Pre-Employment/Recruitment Unit attended numerous career fairs, community service events, and many high schools and colleges in Charles County and surrounding areas to promote the agency as a potential employer. Members of the unit maintain a strong network of connections within the military, educational, and the local community to connect with potential employees. In 2025, members of the Pre-Employment/Recruitment Unit attended over 53 events specifically designed to expose attendees to law enforcement, and particularly the Charles County Sheriff's Office as a viable career path.

Recruiters also used print, digital, online and commercial messaging platforms to reach potential recruits throughout the year. This included radio and television recruiting campaigns, road-side billboard messaging, online advertising and promotion on job search websites, and direct messaging on college websites.



Recruitment staff on site at the Army National Guard Job Fair in Washington D.C.

2025 Recruitment Efforts for Police Officers:

- 592 police applications received in 2025; however 95 applications were incomplete and never proceeded past the application process. This made 497 applications eligible for the process and considered in the stats below.
- 452 police applications received in 2024; however 106 applications were incomplete and never proceeded past the application process. This made 346 applications eligible for the process and considered in the stats below.
- 436 police applications received in 2023; however 107 applications were incomplete and never proceeded past the application process. This made 329 applications eligible for the process and considered in the stats below.

- 14 Police and Lateral applicants were hired in 2025 compared to 15 in 2024 and 25 in 2023. (This must be viewed in a three (3) year time period since most police hires are done prior to the start of an academy). This will sway the number of hires per year depending on when an academy starts.

Training Division

The training division ensures the CCSO meets state-mandated requirements and provides a variety of other training needs to sworn, civilian, and corrections personnel. Commanded by Captain Matthew Thompson, the division is comprised of the Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy, the Training Unit, the Firearms Instruction Detail, and the Cadet Program.

The Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy (SMCJA) provides entry-level training to all police and correctional officers in Southern Maryland. The SMCJA is funded and governed by the sheriff's offices in Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's Counties, which provide the Academy's full-time staff of instructors and support personnel.

Once officers have completed entry-level training, they must complete a required number of hours of "in-service" training. The Training Division handles all annual in-service training classes including ethics, bias-based policing, cultural diversity, interacting with persons suspected of having mental health issues, use of force, and other topics mandated by the Training Commission and the Sheriff. The Training Division ensures all required documentation is submitted to the Maryland Police and Corrections Training Commission (MPCTC) to maintain each officer's State certification as a sworn police officer.

The Firearms Instruction Detail

The Firearms Instruction Detail is comprised of highly skilled instructors who must maintain expert proficiency in firearms. The Chief Firearms Instructor and his staff provide regular firearms training to all new and veteran officers and to Correctional Officers who carry firearms in the performance of their duties.

In addition to the required classroom instruction, officers must complete annual handgun, shotgun, and rifle qualification courses. Officers are also trained in tactical scenarios, responding to active shooters, shooting on the move, shooting behind various types of cover, general marksmanship skills, and various other courses of fire related directly to the performance of duties as a police officer.

Corrections Division

The responsibility of keeping those held at the Charles County Detention Center (CCDC) secure rests with the Corrections Division under the command of Director Ryan Ross and Deputy Director Matthew Dixon. In addition to his role as Director, Director Ross is also the Past President of the Maryland Correctional Administrators Association, Chairman of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Corrections Chiefs Committee, and serves on the Charles County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and justice reform committees with the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy.

National Correctional Officers and Employees Week is celebrated annually during the first full week of May. Our Agency, with Director Ross as emcee, members of the Corrections Division, and the Agency Honor Guard, proudly participate in the National Correctional Officers and Employees

Sgt. Gilroy honors those who have fallen in the line of duty during the Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony in Washington, DC.



Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony in Washington, D.C. which serves to honor those who have fallen in line of duty.

The CCDC is a secure facility that opened in 1995 and covers 140,000 square feet with 219 cells. In 2025, The Corrections Division processed 4,894 arrests through intake and booked 1,384 individuals into the facility. The CCDC maintained an average daily population of 186 offenders.

The **Custody and Security Section**, commanded by Captain Tony Oliver, is responsible for the internal and external security of the facilities. This section is comprised of four security teams which are the main operational element of the Corrections Division.

Four Lieutenants, who serve as Shift Commanders, manage the daily security operations of the detention center. The four Shift Commanders are Lieutenant Richard Hulvey,

Lieutenant Dustin Hendricks, Lieutenant Jonathan Palmer, and Lieutenant James Kelly.

The **Special Services Section**, commanded by Captain Brian Gardiner, is responsible for standards and accreditation, training, security maintenance, inmate commissary, and supplies. Collaterally, Captain Gardiner represents the Southern Region of Maryland as a Governor appointed member of the Maryland Correctional Training Commission.

The **Standards and Accreditation** Commander is Lieutenant Michael Smith. He conducts reviews and inspections to ensure the CCDC operates according to hundreds of standards set and audited triennially by the Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards (MCCS). In 2001, the CCDC became the first detention facility in Maryland to score 100 percent on an MCCS audit and achieved 100 percent scores after audits in 2004, 2006, 2009, 2012, 2016, 2019, 2022, and 2025.

In 2023 the CCDC earned accreditation from the National Commission on Correctional Health Care by demonstrating compliance with NCCHC's nationally recognized standards of care for correctional health services in jails. Accreditation recognizes the Charles County Detention Center's commitment to providing quality health services for the incarcerated population.

Lieutenant Ryan Taylor serves as the Corrections Division's Training Commander. He ensures all correctional officers fulfill training obligations mandated by the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions (MPCTC). This position is also responsible for finding additional training opportunities and handling arrangements for Correctional employees to attend.

Lieutenant Matthew Becker serves as the Corrections Division's Facilities Management Commander. He ensures the facilities are well-maintained and properly supplied. He also works closely with contractors who maintain various systems and equipment within the detention center.

The **Support Services Section**, commanded by Captain Stacy Kelly, is responsible for central processing, medical operations, and programs and services. This section also oversees the inmate library and the law library.

Lieutenant Matthew Irby serves as the Central Processing Commander. He ensures completeness, accuracy, and security of records and maintains communication with court systems, police agencies,

and other correctional facilities. The unit is comprised of Records, Intake, Finance, Transportation, and Court Holding.

Lieutenant Matthew Kline serves as the Jail Services Commander. He strives to reduce recidivism by offering programs that help individuals re-enter society as productive citizens. The detention center became the sixth branch of the Charles County Public Library in 2023, offering library cards and literary programs to those incarcerated. A GED Program, grant-funded certification programs through the College of Southern Maryland, and the annual Re-Entry Fair are highlights from the year.

Lieutenant Kevin Conley serves as an Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) investigator to ensure the integrity of Corrections Division personnel.