



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

S H E R I F F C O R O N E R

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



Santa Cruz County has 682 farms covering 47,489 acres

MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF JIM HART

2014 was a year of significant achievements that were built on the strong foundation created by outgoing Sheriff-Coroner Phil Wowak. Following my election in June 2014, a seamless, six-month transition in leadership took place. During that time, three goals were achieved that I had set for the Sheriff's Office:

- **Increased staffing:** Phase one and two of deputy sheriff staffing increases have nearly brought us up to pre-recession levels, and in 2014 we sent the largest number of candidates to a single academy in the history of the Sheriff's Office. We are on a path to fill all unfunded deputy sheriff positions with the 2016–2017 budget.
- **Formed Sheriff's Advisory Team:** 17 county citizens from all walks of life and all areas of the county meet with me monthly to discuss how the Sheriff's Office can improve service, especially in neighborhoods and rural areas. This initiative is facilitating information sharing and building stronger bonds between residents and the Sheriff's Office.
- **Secured funding for a Recovery Center for Chronic Inebriants:** a \$2.1 million federal grant is funding the development of a facility that will open in June 2015. The center will provide humane treatment of people experiencing a health crisis, free up space in county jails, and save law enforcement officers thousands of hours each year. The center is a key part of the county's comprehensive, new Substance Use Disorder Strategic Plan, which aims to tackle the county's \$207 million annual cost of emergency room visits, jail stays, and other expensive services related to alcohol and drug addiction.



OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF 2014:

- Crime rates in the unincorporated areas of the county continued to fall and are now at the 1960s level.
- Average daily jail population decreased 20% between 2013 and 2014.
- Proposition 47, passed by California voters in November 2014, reduced certain drug possession felonies to misdemeanors. The impact of this legislation is yet to be determined.
- Phase two of the new Sheriff's Office Headquarters, the Center for Public Safety, was completed with the opening of the Operations Building. The final phase that consolidates all of our operations will take place in May 2015 when the Administration Building opens.
- The Investigation Division crime scene unit is now 100% staffed with professional civilians, saving approximately \$100,000 in staff labor and training costs, and freeing up deputies to do front line police work.
- A new employee awards system was implemented to better recognize outstanding individual and team performance in the Sheriff's Office.
- A new weapons system was implemented that includes more reliable side arms and a model of more readily available patrol rifles.
- The Ford Explorer SUV has been added to our fleet.

"I am honored to be serving as the 26th Sheriff of Santa Cruz County. I pledge to continue to be engaged, involved, and available to our personnel, the community, and to other local law enforcement agencies, and to make effective decisions based on good public safety policy."

- Sheriff-Coroner Jim Hart



Santa Cruz County's newly elected
Sheriff-Coroner Jim Hart

2014



Patrol car winds its way down the coast

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ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION



The official uniform hat of the Sheriff's Office

MISSION STATEMENT

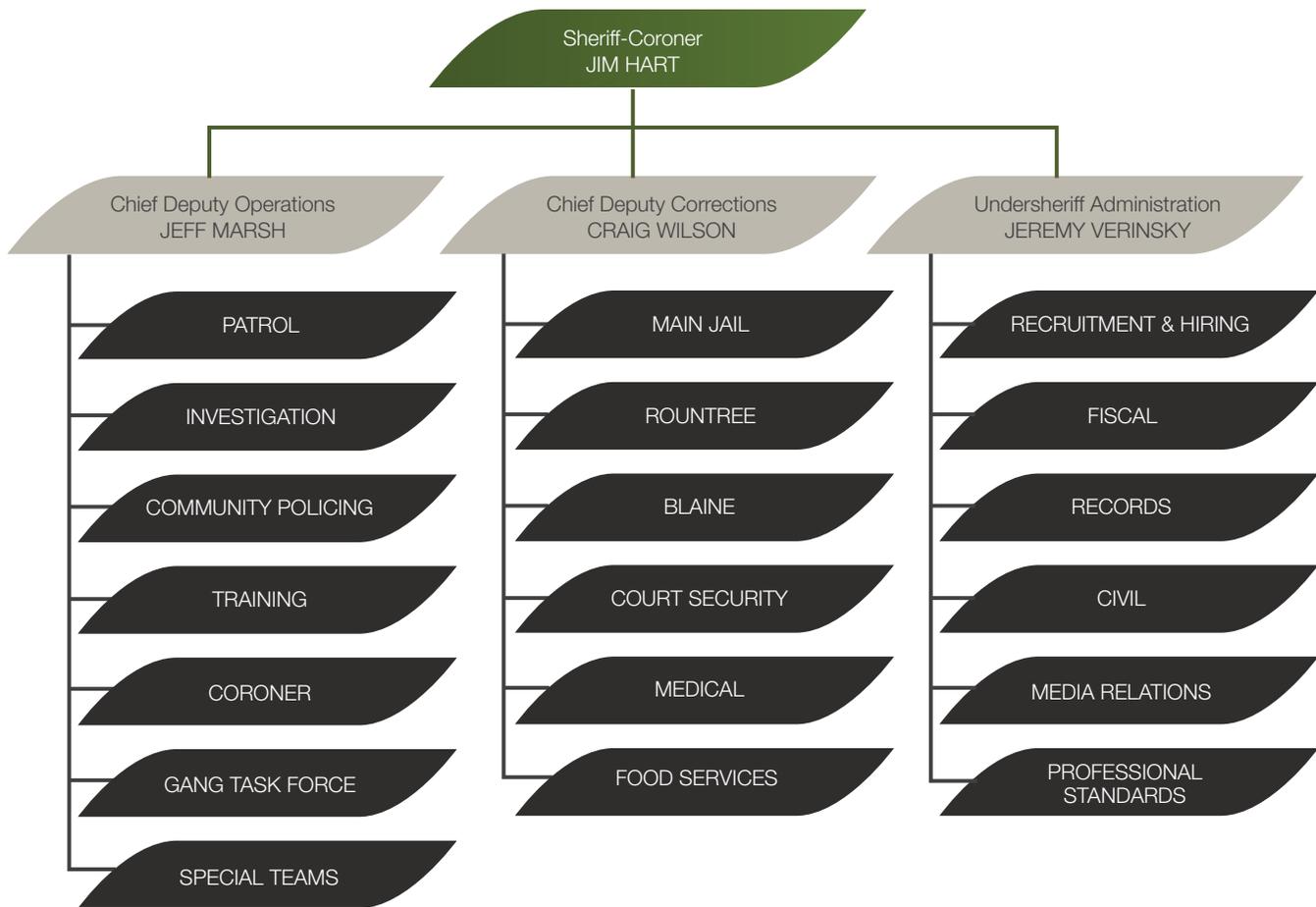
Our mission is to ensure public safety in Santa Cruz County. We accomplish this through open communication and collaboration with our community as well as continuous professional development of staff to address crime and promote innovative corrections solutions.

The Santa Cruz County Sheriff-Coroner is an elected official and the county's chief law enforcement officer. Sheriff's Office employees are responsible for law enforcement services including patrol and criminal investigations in the county's unincorporated areas, operating the adult jail system, providing court security for the Superior Court, and providing coroner and civil service throughout the county. The Sheriff's Office consists of three bureaus: Administration, Operations, and Corrections. Operations and Corrections are overseen by a chief deputy and Administration is overseen by the undersheriff.

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Santa Cruz County's resident and tourist population continues to grow, adding to the demands on law enforcement. During the summer, holidays, and when large sporting and cultural events occur, all of the resources of the Sheriff's Office are engaged to ensure the safety of the public. With 441 square miles and 29 miles of beaches, the county has a population of 269,419 (2013 U.S. Census Bureau estimate). About half of the residents live in 13 unincorporated areas that are served by the Sheriff's Office: Aptos, Ben Lomond, Bonny Doon, Boulder Creek, Brookdale, Corralitos, Davenport, Felton, Freedom, La Selva Beach, Rio Del Mar, Soquel, and Zayante. The other half lives in the four incorporated cities of Santa Cruz, Capitola, Watsonville, and Scotts Valley.

ORGANIZATION CHART



BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2013/2014

OPERATIONS	\$35,596,321
CORRECTIONS	\$36,252,263
COURT	\$6,394,993
TOTAL	\$78,223,577

AUTHORIZED POSITIONS

SWORN	161
CORRECTIONS	112
CIVILIAN	66
TOTAL	339

ADMINISTRATION BUREAU



The Sheriff's Administration office

Operating 24/7, the Administration Bureau continued to serve as the backbone of the Sheriff's Office in 2014. The Administration Bureau performs support work for the entire Sheriff's Office and keeps it running smoothly. Managed by the undersheriff, this bureau oversees recruitment, hiring, records management, media relations, civil services, financial accounting, technology improvements, and professional standards for the Sheriff's Office.

RECRUITMENT AND HIRING DIVISION RECEIVES COUNTY AWARD

The process of finding and hiring the best qualified candidates for positions within the Sheriff's Office in a timely and cost effective manner is a daily challenge of the Administration Bureau. The bureau not only handles recruitment and hiring, it also helps employees transition into training programs within the organization.

To fill a large number of open positions in 2014, a new Hiring and Recruitment Team was established that consists of 11 staff members from the Sheriff's Office and the County Personnel Department.

To meet the requirements of a wide variety of jobs within the organization, many applicants were tested and screened in 2014, and only a small percentage was added to our workforce. The team processed and hired 15 deputy sheriff candidates within a few months, and sent the largest number of candidates to a single academy in the history of the Sheriff's Office. The Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors recognized the successful efforts of the team with a 2014 Employee Silver Award in the Justice category.

ADMINISTRATION HIRING ACTIVITIES 2014

	APPLIED	INTERVIEWS	BACKGROUNDS	HIRED
DEPUTY SHERIFF TRAINEE	873	332	37	23
ACADEMY GRADUATE	61	16	2	2
LATERAL DEPUTY APPLICANT	18	5	6	4
CORRECTIONAL OFFICER	526	238	31	11
PROFESSIONAL STAFF	376	89	11	7
TOTAL	1,854	680	87	47

RECORDS DIVISION UPGRADES RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Records Division provides customer service to the public and support to law enforcement personnel locally and throughout the county around the clock. The division inputs and maintains a wide range of data in the California Department of Justice and National Criminal Information Center systems, including county-wide wanted persons, missing persons, and stolen property items. Division services also include responding to public record requests; maintaining agency law enforcement report files, missing person reports, and warrants issued by local magistrates; and data entry into the Sheriff's Office Records Management System.

In 2014 the Records Division collaborated with the Santa Cruz Superior Court to develop and implement a major upgrade to the Sheriff's Office Records Management System. The new electronic warrant system eliminated several thousand paper warrants that the Records Division would normally receive each year, saving significant time and resources.



Files stored at the Sheriff's Administration offices

RECORDS DIVISION ACTIVITY 2014

CRIME REPORTS	10,451
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS	4,430
TELETYPES SENT	55,595
TELETYPES RECEIVED	29,463
PHONE AND IN-PERSON CONTACTS	41,879
TOTAL WARRANTS RECEIVED	7,588
TOTAL WARRANTS CLEARED	6,141
RESTRAINING ORDERS	1,301

CIVIL DIVISION ACTIVITY 2014

EVICCTIONS	278
LEVEES	616
TOTAL COURT DOCUMENTS PROCESSED	3,079

CIVIL DIVISION COLLECTED OVER \$1.2 MILLION OF GARNISHED MONIES

The Administration Bureau's Civil Division is responsible for receiving, processing, and serving various types of legal documents, such as summons, complaints, small claims actions, subpoenas, restraining orders, eviction notices, and civil warrants of arrest. Pursuant to court judgments in 2014 the Civil Division collected over \$1.2 million of garnished monies to be paid to the judgment creditors in court actions. This division is composed of three full-time and one half-time staff members.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE GETS MORE SOCIAL TO BETTER SERVE THE COMMUNITY

Communicating with the public is an essential part of the Sheriff's Office's charter of law enforcement, and social media has become a vital component. In the same way that community policing positively changed the relationship between law enforcement and the community decades ago, social media is providing the Sheriff's Office with an effective means to connect, engage, and interact with the people we serve in Santa Cruz County.

In 2014 the Sheriff's Office expanded its social media by increasing the number of Facebook posts and adding a Twitter account that enables the public and the media to follow breaking news and the day-to-day operations of the Sheriff's Office. The first ever "Virtual Ride-Along" via Twitter allowed the public to observe a deputy sheriff on patrol in real time. In an effort to support recruitment and hiring and attract more applicants, the Sheriff's Office began another Twitter campaign to follow the daily activities of recruits in the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office Police Academy called #beadeputy.



Hard copy records easily accessed at the Administration Offices



2014 SHERIFF'S OFFICE AWARDS



SUPERVISING CORRECTIONS OFFICER RYAN FULTON CORRECTIONS OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Supervising Corrections Officer Fulton consistently displayed the ability to solve critical problems with practical solutions. His efforts have created a safer environment for both corrections staff and inmates. He is a team player who leads by example and motivates his fellow officers to produce at a high level.



DEPUTY DUSTIN SILVA SWORN DEPUTY OF THE YEAR

Deputy Silva received this award for his outstanding service and selfless actions. He served as a member of the Santa Cruz County Anti-Crime Team Gang Task Force and was then transferred to the Santa Cruz County Anti-Crime Team Narcotics Task Force. Deputy Silva contributed to several major case investigations involving violent criminal street gang members and major distributors of drugs throughout the Central Coast. He testified as a gang expert in many cases and seized several firearms that had been in possession of local gang members.



CORRECTIONS OFFICER NATHAN KENVILLE LIFE SAVING AWARD

Corrections Officer Kenville's attentiveness and swift action saved the life of an inmate who attempted to commit suicide. Officer Kenville had noticed on the monitor the unusual positioning of the feet of the arrestee who was hanging and in acute medical distress. Officer Kenville called in correctional officers who performed life-saving actions and organized the emergency response.



CORRECTIONS OFFICER JAIME FLORES LIFE SAVING AWARD

Corrections Officer Flores' diligence and familiarity with the inmates in his work area saved an inmate's life. The inmate was in the booking area for two hours without any indication of any health issues, but during a 10 minute period between conversations with the officer, the inmate suffered medical distress and became nonresponsive. Officer Flores responded immediately and the inmate was taken to the hospital for further evaluation and treatment.



DEPUTY BRIAN LANDE MEDAL OF MERIT

Deputy Lande was recognized for his heroic actions and tenacity throughout an event that successfully ended the violent rampage of a suspect who was brutally attacking an elderly man who lived in a mobile home park. Deputy Lande single-handedly engaged the violent suspect and risked his life in order to save the lives of other officers and protect neighbors from harm.



LINDA BINGHAM

PROFESSIONAL STAFF EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Linda is overseeing the interior design for all of the new Sheriff's Office headquarters. Her dedication to this task and her attention to detail has resulted in a beautiful and functional environment for employees and the public.



SECURITY OFFICER GABRIELA MAGANA

COMMENDATION

Security Officer Magana's attention to her job prevented a potentially tragic incident from occurring inside a court room. While screening a bag she noticed an object that appeared to be a handgun. She alerted Deputy Chuck Brzozowski who discovered it was a loaded .25 caliber pistol with a round in the chamber. Two suspects were arrested for possession of a loaded firearm inside of a court building as well as a variety of other charges



SERGEANT STEFAN FISH

COMMENDATION

Sergeant Fish responded to a shooting in Watsonville and discovered a critically wounded child. He immediately drove her to Watsonville Hospital. Unfortunately the child died at the hospital. Sergeant Fish collected all of the evidence at the hospital which was essential for the prosecution of the suspects.

VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Every year during the National Volunteer Appreciation Week the County Board of Supervisors recognizes county volunteers from all county departments. These volunteers give selflessly of themselves and assist in the daily work in the department of their choice. The Sheriff's Office is very fortunate to have a great group of volunteers serving in a wide variety of capacities. We heartily thank our 2014 volunteers.

STEPHANIE
WHITCOMB
ADMINISTRATION



JENNIFER
BACHMAN
FORENSICS
SECTION



BERT
DONLIN
PATROL
FLEET



ERIN
JOHNSON
LIVE OAK
SERVICE
CENTER



RICK
HEALEY
SAN LORENZO
SERVICE
CENTER



2014

COUNTY EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARDS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

GOLD AWARD



DEPUTY
DUSTIN
SILVA



SERGEANT
PETE
HANSEN



SERGEANT
STEFAN
FISH

DEPUTY DUSTIN SILVA, SERGEANT PETE HANSEN, AND SERGEANT STEFAN FISH

The Santa Cruz County Anti-Crime Team is a multi-jurisdictional task force that consists of peace officers and support staff from local, state, and federal agencies. The mission of the team is to reduce harm to the community caused by gang activity and the manufacture, trafficking, and use of illegal narcotics, with a special focus on safeguarding children who are endangered by these activities. The team was recognized for its effective work that resulted in 262 criminal arrests, 186 local agency assists, 440 probation and parole compliance checks on supervised subjects, and the seizure of 83 weapons, including 59 firearms. The team also confiscated more than 3.6 kilos of hard drugs, 2 kilos of hash, and 549 pounds of marijuana.

SILVER AWARD



SERGEANT
KELLY KENT



DEPUTY
JACOB COOPER



LISA
MARR



LAURA
HERNANDEZ



NIKKI
OTTAVIANO



LISET
VARGAS

SHERIFF'S OFFICE HIRING AND RECRUITMENT TEAM

SERGEANT KELLY KENT, DEPUTY JACOB COOPER, LISA MARR, LAURA HERNANDEZ, NIKKI OTTAVIANO, AND LISET VARGAS

In January 2014 the Sheriff's Office had a large number of vacancies for deputy sheriffs and correctional officers, which presented challenges for two county departments, and involved a variety of processes that needed to be completed in order to fill these key positions. Staff from both the Sheriff's Office and the County Personnel Department came together and streamlined the entire hiring process. As a result, the Sheriff's Office hired the largest number of employees in one year and completed this in about half the time. We had over 1,400 applicants and hired a total of 41. This included 23 deputies, 11 correctional officers, and seven professional staff members.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTION OF 2014 RETIREES

WE ARE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL FOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OVER THE YEARS OF THESE DEDICATED AND TALENTED
STAFF MEMBERS:

DEPUTY SHERIFF JULIE AMAYA
22 YEARS OF SERVICE

DEPUTY SHERIFF CHARLES BRZOZOWSKI
13 YEARS SERVICE

CLERICAL SUPERVISOR MARGRET CRANE
25 YEARS OF SERVICE

DEPUTY SHERIFF LARRY GRIFFIN
17 YEARS OF SERVICE

HEAD JAIL COOK JAMES HOESSEL
35 YEARS OF SERVICE

CORRECTIONS SERGEANT DANIEL KEMPER
26 YEARS OF SERVICE

CORRECTIONS SERGEANT ANDREW LERIOS
33 YEARS OF SERVICE

FORENSIC PATHOLOGIST DR. RICHARD MASON
34 YEARS OF SERVICE

JAIL COOK GERARDO MENDEZ
19 YEARS OF SERVICE

TYPIST CLERK III ELLEN METCALF
17 YEARS OF SERVICE

SHERIFF-CORONER PHILIP WOWAK
20 YEARS OF SERVICE

2014 SPOTLIGHT ON SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

A SMALL SAMPLING OF THE MANY ACHIEVEMENTS AND EVENTS THAT TOOK PLACE IN 2014.

WINTER

VIOLENT DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE DEFUSED

On New Year's morning, Deputy Lande was dispatched to a mobile home in Aptos where he found a large man, who was under the influence of mushrooms laced with PCP, severely beating a victim. Deputy Lande commanded him to stop but he fled to a nearby residence where he turned on the deputy and threatened to kill him. Deputy Lande deployed his taser and kept the suspect incapacitated until other Sheriff's Office personnel arrived. The suspect began to struggle but was eventually subdued by seven deputies and officers, and was then transported to the emergency room. The next day the apologetic suspect, who was employed as a scientist for the U.S. Government, claimed to have no memory of the incident. He was charged with 21 felony counts from criminal threats to battery with great bodily injury.

DANGEROUS FELON TAKEN OFF THE STREETS

Deputy Dustin Silva targeted a former gang member who was a felon and prolific crook engaged in trafficking methamphetamine and heroin and in possession of firearms. Deputy Silva worked with Gang Task Force Commander Sergeant Stefan Fish, the Sheriff's Office SWAT Team, and the Santa Cruz Police Department to formulate a plan to apprehend the suspect. The Sheriff's Office Air Squadron was able to locate the suspect in Capitola. He eluded capture but evidence of drug trafficking and illegal firearms was seized. The suspect was eventually tracked to an Aptos hotel where he was finally taken into custody.



Handcuffed inmate at the Main Jail

SPRING

RAPE CASE SOLVED AFTER 10 YEARS

A brutal rape took place in 2004 in Aptos but no suspects had been found. In April 2014 a local taxi driver was identified in the attempted rape of a passenger. He confessed to the assault when interviewed by Detective Daniel Cruz and was booked into jail. Correctional Officer Adriana Zaragoza collected his DNA and submitted it to the U.S. Department of Justice database. It was a hit on the DNA from the 2004 rape case and the suspect was re-booked into jail.

BOMB TEAM RENDERS GRENADES SAFE

Patrol deputies responded to a death and learned that there may be guns contained in a safe in the house. Deputies opened the safe and found two hand grenades inside. One of the grenades was a pineapple grenade and the other was a sting-ball grenade, both from the World War II era. The Bomb Team responded and rendered the grenades safe by countercharging them.

SUMMER

CHILD MOLESTER ARRESTED

Deputy Luis Melgoza was dispatched to a child molest that had just occurred, and gathered information about the incident. The victim had been molested by a family member who was staying overnight. Deputy Daniel Robbins found the suspect walking from the house and eventually arrested him. Deputy Nathan Murray, the acting Watch Commander, brought Deputy Robbins and the suspect to the Sheriff's Office, where after two hours of patient questioning, Robbins obtained a full confession.

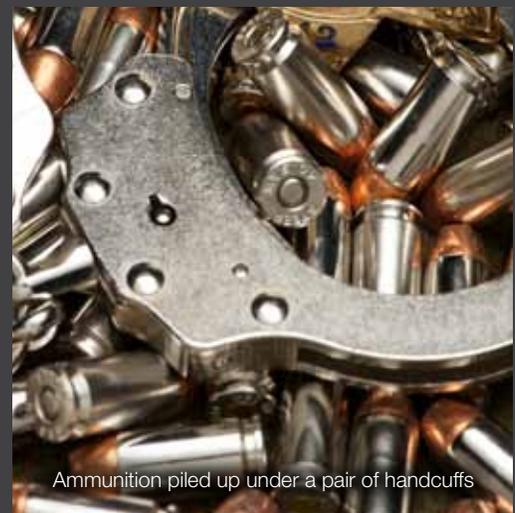
OFFICER DISCOVERS GUN SMUGGLING AT COURTHOUSE

Security Officer Magana was screening bags for contraband when she located a loaded .25 caliber handgun. She notified Deputy Chuck Brzozowski who arrested two suspects for possession of a loaded firearm inside a court building and other charges. Officer Magana's diligence and attention to detail prevented a potentially tragic incident from occurring.

FALL

IN-CUSTODY DEATH PREVENTED

Patrol deputies arrested a Live Oak man on weapon charges after he fired at least one round from a high-powered rifle into a neighbor's home. On booking, the suspect denied being suicidal and was placed in a holding room pending housing assignment. He hung himself in the restroom where visibility is limited, but Officer Nathan Kenville was quick to notice something amiss and the arrestee was immediately attended to. Supervising Correctional Officer Omar Martinez performed life-saving actions while another team organized the emergency response. The arrestee was admitted to the hospital where he recovered and was released back into custody.



Ammunition piled up under a pair of handcuffs

MISSING WOMAN RETURNED HOME SAFELY

A woman diagnosed with mental illness, who self-medicated with cannabis oil for the first time, ran out of her Aptos house to Freedom Boulevard. She jumped in front of a passing vehicle and received minor injuries. She then ran into the woods wearing only a shirt and shorts and no shoes. The Search and Rescue Team, including citizen volunteers and several other Sheriff's Office personnel, assisted with the search. The woman was located in a rural area with limited access. Quad vehicles were used to reach the woman and take her to the hospital for physical and mental evaluation.



OPERATIONS BUREAU



Patrol vehicle interior

In 2014 the Operations Bureau combined the resources of three divisions: Community Policing, Patrol, and Investigation. Moving the Community Policing Division from the Administration Bureau to under the umbrella of Operations enables us to utilize our resources more effectively and better respond to the increased calls for service, carry out criminal investigations, and ensure the safety of our staff.

OPERATIONS BUILDING OPENS, COMPLETES PHASE TWO OF THE CENTER FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

In 2012 the county contracted with Barry Swenson Builders and began construction of the centralized Sheriff's Office Headquarters at 5200 Soquel Avenue, Santa Cruz, to improve public access and increase operational efficiency. Three buildings totaling over 84,000 square feet of space are being retrofitted to replace five aging Sheriff's Office worksites with one state-of-the-art campus. Phase one was completed in 2013 with the opening of the Sciences Building, which houses all of our forensic science services. Phase two was completed in April 2014 with the opening of the Operations Building, which contains the Patrol, Community Policing, and Criminal Investigation divisions.

CONSOLIDATION INCREASES OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES

The opening of the Operations Building has created significant improvements in efficiency that benefit Sheriff's Office operations and the community:

- The centrally-located headquarters enables our patrol staff to get to their beat areas faster. The SWAT Team, Bomb Squad, and the Search and Rescue Team are all housed in this centralized location for efficient response.
- The workflow-designed campus that includes a modern patrol briefing room encourages regular contact and information exchange between our divisions.
- The purpose-designed property and evidence room is easily available to all of our sections who receive, analyze, and return evidence.
- Our Forensic/CSI Division is better able to analyze evidence with purpose-built equipment, specialty work spaces, and vehicle processing bays.
- Our Coroner Division is now able to perform all pathology, administrative, and public relations services at one professional state-of-the-art location.
- Patrol law enforcement weapons are more secure.
- Secured parking is available for marked patrol cars, all specialized vehicles, and equipment utilized by CSI.
- Staff members can exercise at our in-house gym, which was fully equipped with state-of-the-art exercise equipment donated by our Deputy Sheriff's Association at no cost to the public.

HEADQUARTERS' MOVE NEARS COMPLETION

Construction is well underway on the final building that will serve as the public face of the Sheriff's Office. Phase three, which entails the completion of the public-accessible Administration Building, is on schedule for completion in May 2015. The Administration Building, which sits on the north side of the campus outside the fenced Operations and Sciences Buildings, is visible from both Hwy 1 and Soquel Avenue, and will house Sheriff Hart's office. It is here that the public can access the Records Division, Civil Division, and Live Oak/Soquel Community Services Office to file or obtain criminal or civil papers, talk with a deputy or community service officer, or obtain other services provided by the Sheriff's Office. Office space will be available for county board members and a large community room will be available for government and community meetings. Plenty of parking and the convenient, centralized location will allow for improved access for our county population.

COMMUNITY POLICING FORGES VITAL PARTNERSHIPS AND INCREASES COMMUNICATION

Community policing is based on the belief that the public needs to have a voice in how problems in the community are prioritized. The Community Policing Division works with neighborhoods in our communities to find long-term solutions to neighborhood issues. Our Community Policing Team forges partnerships among law enforcement and community members and groups, government agencies, nonprofit groups, service providers, private businesses, and the media. These partnerships build trust with law enforcement agencies to foster collaborative, long-term problem-solving plans and actions.

Members of our Community Policing Team provide law enforcement and crime prevention services on the Cabrillo College campuses in Aptos, Watsonville, and Scotts Valley. Our dedicated staff handles a large number of calls for service and helps to maintain a safe learning environment for students.

The Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office was the first sheriff's office in the country to partner with NextDoor.com, which is an online, virtual neighborhood watch platform. Participation increased from 30 neighborhoods using NextDoor.com in 2013 when it was launched, to 123 neighborhoods in 2014 with 8,866 members. The site enables residents to share information with neighbors, such as block parties, items for sale, recommendations for services, and information on crimes. The Sheriff's Office can distribute information to the members of a neighborhood group, such as sightings of suspicious persons, law enforcement activities in the area, burglaries, or mail thefts. Residents can send the Community Policing sergeant assigned to their community a message, keeping important information flowing both ways.



Sheriff Volunteer Janet Kennedy works the kids jump house for National Night Out

VOLUNTEERS PLAY A VALUABLE ROLE AT THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE SERVICE CENTERS

Our four Service Centers in San Lorenzo Valley, Live Oak-Soquel, Aptos, and Watsonville enable the Sheriff's Office to form partnerships with the residents of the communities we serve. The Centers provide a meeting place for residents and Sheriff's Office members to come together and discuss neighborhood issues, as well as serve as critical incident centers in the event of an emergency or natural disaster. A Sheriff's Office sergeant supervises the daily operations of each Service Center, which is staffed by community service officers and Sheriff's Office volunteers. In 2014 dedicated Sheriff's Office volunteers donated over 12,800 hours of service by answering phone calls, greeting the public, writing crime reports, doing vacation checks on homes, checking on abandoned vehicles, and working at community events. The Sheriff's Office cannot thank the volunteers enough for their valuable contribution to the community.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE FURLOUGH ENDS, TRAINING EXPANDS TO SUPPORT NEW HIRES

In November 2014 the Sheriff's Office Training Unit was restructured to include the Field Training Program. The Training Unit is overseen by a lieutenant and a sergeant who manage in-house and field training as required by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training. In September 2014 the Sheriff's Office furlough ended, and monthly training days were reinstated. 15 new deputy sheriff trainees were hired. To support the new staff and monthly training days, the Field Training Unit increased its staff to 17 full-time and alternate field training officers. Another important activity of the unit was providing training that ensured a smooth transition to our new weapons system, which includes a 9mm caliber handgun known for its reliability, and the M4 patrol rifle, a model that is more readily available than what was used in the past. In October 2014 the Sheriff's Office partnered with local first responders and participated in a county-wide training day for emergency and critical incident response. The Training Unit conducted a total of 4,770 training hours in 2014.

INVESTIGATION DIVISION COMPLETES MOVE TO HEADQUARTERS, ADDS KEY STAFF

During 2014 several positive changes took place within the Investigation Division. Most significant was that all division sections are now housed at the new Operations Building. Other highlights include hiring a highly experienced, board-certified forensic pathologist and creating and filling a new position for a professional civilian criminalist. The addition of this position professionalizes and standardizes our ability to process and collect forensic evidence, and it allows the deputy sheriffs who were assigned to the Forensics Division to return to their duties as patrol officers in the community. Fortunately, there were no new homicides to investigate in 2014; work continued on cases from previous years and new leads were developed. Once again, our clearance rates (ratio of the number of solved to number of cases reported) were well above state and national averages.

The Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigation staff members have advanced training and technical skills, such as forensic analysis and interview skills. Investigators work closely with other law enforcement agencies, the District Attorney's Office, and other agencies such as Family and Children's Services and Monarch Services (formerly Women's Crisis Center/Defensa De Mujeres) to solve crimes. An Investigation Division lieutenant oversees the division's five sections: Coroner, Crime Scene Investigations, Crimes Against Persons/Assault, Crimes Against Persons/Sexual Assault and Crimes Against Property/Burglary. This lieutenant also provides assistance to the Sheriff's Office sergeants assigned to the county-wide Narcotics Task Force and the county-wide Gang Task Force. The Sheriff's Office is committed to ending gang-related violence and crime in Santa Cruz County. The Investigation Division has two sergeants and two deputies assigned to work in conjunction with other agencies as part of the Gang Task Force.



An entry door at the new Sheriff's Office



Typical abandoned vehicle

ABANDONED VEHICLE ABATEMENT STATISTICS 2013/2014

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT	TOTAL INVESTIGATED	VEHICLES TOWED
DISTRICT 1	454	20
DISTRICT 2	154	3
DISTRICT 3	4	4
DISTRICT 4	30	1
DISTRICT 5	89	12
TOTALS	731	40



A patrol vehicle passes by during the night shift

PATROL DIVISION SERVICE CALLS BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA 2014

AREA	CALLS	% OF TOTAL
NORTH COAST	2,060	2%
SAN LORENZO VALLEY NORTH	8,394	8%
SAN LORENZO VALLEY SOUTH	11,539	11%
LIVE OAK EAST	10,459	10%
LIVE OAK WEST	14,338	14%
SOQUEL	13,368	13%
SUMMIT	1,980	2%
APTOS NORTH	13,368	13%
APTOS SOUTH	6,954	7%
PAJARO VALLEY NORTH	9,784	10%
PAJARO VALLEY SOUTH	3,818	4%
MISCELLANEOUS	5,503	6%
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	101,565	100%

INVESTIGATION DIVISION SECTIONS

The Criminal Investigation Division is responsible for the investigation of major crimes requiring advanced training, technical skills, specialized resources, and close coordination with other agencies. A lieutenant oversees six sections: Coroner, Crime Scene Investigation, Crimes Against Persons/Assault, Crimes Against Persons/Sexual Assault, and Crimes Against Property/Burglary.

CORONER SECTION is composed of one forensic pathologist, one sergeant, and three detectives. During 2014, the Coroner Section moved its operation to the new Sciences Building at the Center for Public Safety. Following the retirement of pathologist Dr. Richard Mason, the Sheriff's Office recruited and hired board-certified Dr. Stephany Fiore to take over this key role. Investigators assist Dr. Fiore in conducting statutorily required medicolegal investigations to determine cause and manner of death.

CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION SECTION is composed of a civilian forensic services supervisor and two deputies. This unit is responsible for the identification, collection, preservation, development analysis, and reconstruction of physical evidence to solve crimes and support prosecution. As of 2014 a civilian supervisor oversees the unit rather than a Sheriff's Office sergeant. One civilian criminalist has also been added to replace a deputy sheriff, with more civilian staff to be added in the future. The criminalist assists with the analysis of fingerprint evidence as well as all other aspects of forensic investigation.

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS/ASSAULT SECTION is composed of one sergeant and three detectives who investigate sexual assault allegations involving children and adults, physical child abuse, sex offender registrants, and missing persons. In 2014 detectives from this unit were assigned 255 cases resulting in 38 arrests, 26 arrest warrant requests, 14 search warrants or court orders, and 258 reports.

CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY/BURGLARY SECTION is composed of a sergeant and three detectives who investigate residential and commercial burglaries, grand theft, identity theft, and financial crimes against the elderly. In 2014 detectives from this unit were assigned 512 cases resulting in 112 arrests, 98 arrest warrant requests, 68 search warrants or court orders, and 429 reports.

FORENSICS SECTION is composed of a forensic services supervisor, a criminalist, and two Sheriff's Office property clerks. This unit examines latent fingerprint submissions for all local law enforcement agencies. The forensic services supervisor also oversees the County Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Program, which consists of a team of specially-trained medical professionals contracted to perform forensic physical examinations to identify and collect evidence of sexual assaults involving children, adults, and suspects. In 2014 the Forensics Section processed 77 crime scenes, completed 356 follow-up requests from the District Attorney's Office, and wrote 267 reports.



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION
DIVISION ACTIVITIES IN UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF SANTA CRUZ

	2013	2014
CASES ASSIGNED TO DETECTIVES	545	1,022
ORIGINAL/SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS	2,096	441
ARRESTS	188	216
SEARCH WARRANTS AND COURT ORDERS	359	126
MISSING PERSON INVESTIGATIONS	100	248
DEATH INVESTIGATIONS	869	779
AUTOPSIES	190	199
CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATIONS	77	79
LATENT PRINT IDENTIFICATIONS	129	253
SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMINATIONS	64	73

UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING
IN UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF SANTA CRUZ

	2012	2013	2014
CRIMINAL HOMICIDE	4	3	0
FORCIBLE RAPE	22	20	19
ROBBERY	32	35	28
ASSAULT	654	700	686
BURGLARY	721	745	660
LARCENY-THEFT	1,219	1,139	1,046

INVESTIGATION CLEARANCE RATES*

	2013	2014
HOMICIDE	100%	n/a
ROBBERY	54.3%	78.3%
ASSAULT	68.4%	78.3%
BURGLARY	13.7%	14.8%

*Ratio of number solved to number of cases reported. Clearance rates were well above state and national averages.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS TEAMS HAVE EXTRAORDINARY SKILLS

The Operations Bureau has five special teams who provide critical services to ensure public safety: Bomb Team, Search and Rescue, Search and Rescue Mountain Bike Team, Correctional Emergency Response Team, and the Air Squadron Team.

BOMB TEAM

This team supports all agencies and jurisdictions in Santa Cruz County and provides services in Monterey County during short periods of time when their team is unavailable. There were 22 total callouts for suspicious devices in 2014, an increase of 100% over 2013. Events included live improvised explosive devices, homemade explosives, hand grenades, fireworks, and military ordnance. The Bomb Team assisted with security and pre-race inspections during the Wharf to Wharf Race and assisted at the Aptos Showcase Business Expo at the Capitola Mall. Bomb technicians regularly attended trainings to hone their skills and were re-accredited by the FBI in 2014.

SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM

This non-profit group of approximately 70 people, mostly community volunteers, is managed by one lieutenant, supervised by three sergeants, and staffed with eight deputies. The primary job of team members is to systematically search large areas on foot in a prescribed pattern. Several team members have secondary roles involving mountain bikes, off-road highway vehicles, swift water rescue, technical ropes, aerial overhead observation, overhead incident management, team coordination, or canine handling. During 2014 the duties of the Search and Rescue Team expanded to include overhead support for critical incidents and for incidents requiring command post operations of the Sheriff's Office SWAT Team. The team participated in several community outreach activities, including the Wharf to Wharf footrace, Read Across America, Aptos 4th of July Parade, and the Santa Cruz County Fair. Members dedicated over 312 hours to community outreach.

SEARCH AND RESCUE ACTIVITIES 2014

Searches Conducted	15
Community Outreach Events	8
Mission Hours	754.5
Training Hours	2,688.75
Meetings	165
Community Outreach Hours	312.5
*Bureau of Labor Statistics rates volunteer labor at \$24.75 an hour	3,928.75

SOME OF THE SUCCESSFUL SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSIONS IN 2014

May	Castle Rock State Park, lost hiker	August	Camp Harmon, missing adult at risk
May	Newell Creek, missing 9-year-old child	August	Assisted Monterey County with multi-day search
May	Santa Cruz, missing 12-year-old child	October	Freedom Blvd, missing adult at risk
July	Henry Cowell, two missing children	November	Wilder Ranch, missing adult mountain biker

Members of SWAT team taking a break during training



SWAT TEAM

Special Weapons and Tactics Team members are specifically trained and equipped to work as a coordinated team to resolve critical incidents that are so hazardous, complex, or unusual that they may exceed the capabilities of first responders or investigative units. Incidents include hostage taking, barricaded suspects, snipers, and terrorist acts. The SWAT Team also serves high-risk search and arrest warrants. Toward the end of 2013 the team received training to improve mission readiness, team efficiency, merit-based testing, and overall team sustainability, which was applied with improved outcomes in 2014. The team is managed by one lieutenant, with four sergeants supervising nine tactical operators. Team members participated in several community events in 2014, such as the Live Oak Boys and Girls Club Grand Opening and the Special Olympics Torch Run, for a total of over 109 hours of community outreach.

SWAT TEAM MISSIONS 2014

Missions/Callouts	7
Training Sessions	65
Mission Hours	453.5
Training Hours	3,511.25
Community Outreach Hours	109.75
Total Hours	4,074.50

CORRECTIONS BUREAU



An inmate's hand is scanned at the County Main Jail

The mission of the Corrections Bureau is to protect the public by providing safe and secure custody of inmates and preparing them for successful community reentry to reduce recidivism.

The Corrections Bureau is responsible for Main Jail operations, Rountree Jail operations, medical services, food services, court/security transportation, work release/Custody Alternatives Program, and administration/reception. During 2014 Corrections Bureau personnel recommitted to complying with and improving life safety standards, cleanliness, and orderliness in the facilities, and reviewing procedures to determine whether or not they were still achieving their objectives. The addition of a compliance officer greatly increased our ability to routinely inspect our facilities and evaluate work processes to identify areas for improvement. We anticipate hiring additional correctional officers to reduce the officer-to-inmate ratios in our housing units in order to increase safety and improve our ability to provide greater access and support for inmate programs and services.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF A SUCCESSFUL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

The Sheriff's Office complies with what the National Institute of Corrections has identified as the six essential elements for a successful correctional facility:

- Assessing the risks and needs of each inmate
- Assigning inmates to housing
- Meeting the basic needs of every inmate
- Defining and conveying expectations for inmate behavior
- Supervising inmates
- Keeping inmates occupied with productive activities

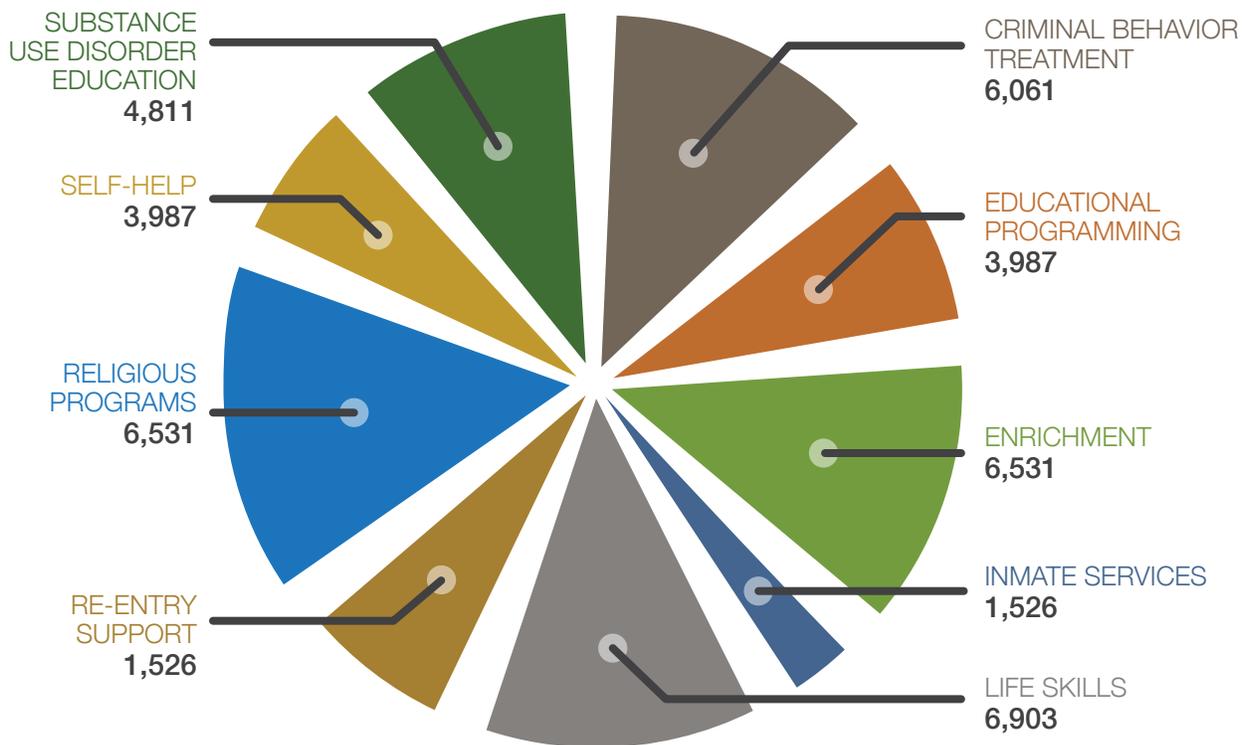
INMATE PROGRAMS SUPPORT RE-ENTRY AND REDUCE RECIDIVISM

The Corrections Bureau makes available to inmates a total of 75 different programs at our three correctional facilities. Programs include Substance Abuse Education/Treatment, Cognitive Behavioral Treatment, Educational & Vocational Training, Community Re-entry Support, and Faith-Based Programs. Programs are designed to support inmates by addressing the risk factors that lead to repetitive criminal behaviors and to promote successful reintegration of inmates from correctional facilities into communities. Inmates can begin programs while in custody and continue to receive on-going support in the same programs upon release. This wrap-around approach provides continuity of care and an increased opportunity to make sustainable, long-term, positive change. Inmate programming is underwritten by AB 109 state prison realignment funds and the Inmate Welfare Fund. Volunteers from various community-based and religious organizations provide additional support to inmates.

SHERIFF'S CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES INMATE PROGRAMS 2014

NUMBERS SHOWN INDICATE NUMBER OF TIMES INMATES PARTICIPATED IN A SESSION.

2014 TOTAL: 44,431



CUSTODY ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM EXPANDS

The Custody Alternatives Program (CAP) reduces the jail population by utilizing various alternatives to custody. A key component of AB 109, Public Safety Realignment, CAP continues to expand within the Corrections Bureau and is playing a larger role in reentry services for long term inmates who previously would have been sentenced to state prison. CAP uses electronic monitoring, evidence-based risk and needs assessments, and a comprehensive release plan for low-level, non-violent inmates. CAP participants pose minimal risk to the community and are closely monitored. Participants are out of custody and are able to work, attend school, go to medical appointments, and complete court-ordered treatment while serving their sentences. CAP monitors long-term inmates throughout their time of incarceration to ensure they are participating in programs and other activities that reduce recidi-

vism. Once released into the community, inmates are monitored by CAP. Work-Release is also an important program within CAP. Participants pay a nominal fee to support the program and are assigned to duties such as landscaping, light maintenance, or picking up litter at over 50 sites throughout the community.



Ankle bracelet applied to an inmate in the CAP program

NUMBER PARTICIPATING IN WORK RELEASE PROGRAM	1,171
NUMBER PARTICIPATING IN ELECTRONIC MONITORING	392
BED DAYS SAVED	19,915
BED DAYS DOLLARS SAVED*	\$1,633,030
JOB SITES WHERE COMMUNITY SERVICE WAS PERFORMED	53

* Savings generated by inmates participating in the Custody Alternatives Program as opposed to being housed in jail.

PLANS UNDERWAY FOR THE NEW REHABILITATION AND RE-ENTRY FACILITY

A grant secured in 2013 through California State SB 1022 will fund the construction of a Rehabilitation and Re-entry (R&R) facility on the Rountree Lane campus in Watsonville. Completion is expected in late 2017. The new facility will provide beds for 64 inmates, classroom space, and new educational programming to help hundreds of inmates prepare for successful re-entry into the community. Direct inmate supervision and a normalized environment will promote good conduct by inmates, who will enroll in vocational and education activities, external work programs, cognitive behavioral programs, and other re-entry/recidivism reduction programs. The R&R is the last step in the incarceration process prior to an inmate's re-entry into the community and positive outcomes are anticipated.



GET TO KNOW A FEW OF THE VALUED PEOPLE WHO SERVE



GET TO KNOW LAURA HERNANDEZ

ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE **ADMINISTRATION**

A life-long resident of Santa Cruz and Harbor High graduate, Laura comes from a family dedicated to public service. Her father is retired Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Al Stevens, and her husband and brother also worked in law enforcement. Laura has played a role in almost every major incident investigated by the Sheriff's Office over the past several years. She has provided invaluable support to the Narcotics Task Force, Patrol Division, Investigation Division, and the Administration Bureau.



GET TO KNOW ERIN JOHNSON

VOLUNTEER **SHERIFF'S OFFICE LIVE OAK SERVICE CENTER COMMUNITY POLICING**

Erin has been a volunteer for three years and has donated over 1,000 hours of service. A real go-getter, she is our go-to gal for any project or event the Sheriff's Office is planning. She also helps with fundraising, new volunteer training, and deputy trainings. Erin started volunteering because she wanted to learn about the workings of law enforcement. She works at UC Santa Cruz as an on-call community service officer and plans on furthering her career in law enforcement. Her hobbies are playing Ultimate Frisbee and training for half-marathons.



GET TO KNOW GENEVIEVE REILMANN

CORONER FORENSIC TECHNICIAN **OPERATIONS**

Genevieve's duties include setting and cleaning up the morgue, processing decedents, and providing general assistance to the Coroner during autopsies. She earned a Bachelor and a Master of Science in Forensic Science from UC Davis. Genevieve did not originally intend to make forensics a career, but her professor recommended it while she was working in the Zoo-Archeology Department at UC Davis rendering animals for skeletons. Genevieve interned in Solano County for 3.5 years prior to joining the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office in December 2014. What she likes best about her job is the variety of work: every case being different.



GET TO KNOW DETECTIVE JORDAN BROWNLEE

PERSONS CRIMES UNIT **OPERATIONS**

Jordan investigates homicides, robberies, serious bodily injury, and domestic violence cases. He is also a member of the SWAT Team. Not only is Jordan an outstanding detective, he has many other talents. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Music from UC Santa Cruz and a Master of Arts in Music from the University of Idaho. He plays the guitar and volunteers as a music teacher. He also regularly wins medals in Police surfing competitions. A native of Santa Cruz County, Jordan married his high school sweetheart and they have five children. What he likes best about working for the Sheriff's Office is the camaraderie among his co-workers.

THEIR COMMUNITY AT THE SHERIFF-CORONER'S OFFICE



GET TO KNOW SUSIE MOOREHEAD
CRIMINALIST II LATENT PRINT EXAMINER **FORENSICS SECTION,**
OPERATIONS

Susie documents and processes items of evidence for the presence of latent prints. She also responds to crime scenes and testifies in court. During her first year of employment with the Sheriff's Office in 2014, she identified over 200 latent prints and had over 60 hits using the FBI's Automated Fingerprint Identification System. Susie previously worked as a latent print examiner for seven years in Minnesota. Susie has a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Wisconsin and a Master of Science in Forensic Science from the University of New Haven. She says the best thing about working for the Sheriff's Office is that it is truly a family.



GET TO KNOW UNDERSHERIFF JEREMY VERINSKY
ADMINISTRATION

Jeremy was promoted to undersheriff in 2014 and serves as second in command to Sheriff Hart in overseeing the Administration Bureau. Since joining the Sheriff's Office in 1995, Jeremy has held many positions, including reserve deputy sheriff, deputy sheriff, sergeant, lieutenant, chief deputy, range master, and alternate field training officer. He also served as a member of the Firearms Team and was team leader of the SWAT and Search & Rescue Teams. Jeremy has been instrumental in development of the Custody Alternatives Program Team, which he led, and the adoption of the Lexipol policy manual for the Operations Bureau.



GET TO KNOW ROGELIO DELATORRE
CORRECTIONS OFFICER **CORRECTIONS**

Rogelio has been a Correctional Officer at the county jail for the past seven years and is currently assigned to the Classification Unit, which completes an evaluation of every inmate housed in the County Jail. Prior to coming to work for the Sheriff's Office, Rogelio worked as a machinist and helped build devices that our troops used in Iraq to scramble the codes on enemy military explosive devices in order to disable them. Rogelio has lived in Santa Cruz County his entire life and is a graduate of Watsonville High School.



GET TO KNOW RUTH HONG
RECEPTION SUPERVISOR **CORRECTIONS**

Ruth grew up in Santa Cruz County and graduated from Soquel High School. Before coming to work for the Sheriff's Office in 2014, Ruth worked as a bank manager in the Bay Area. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Religion. Ruth says she is glad to be back in Santa Cruz County and doesn't miss the commute.

A TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF PHILIP WOWAK

Sheriff Phil Wowak retired in late December 2014 after leading the Sheriff's Office for nearly six years. Sheriff Wowak accomplished many things during his tenure including professionalizing the organization through education, making significant technology advances, securing funding for the New Rountree Rehabilitation and Re-entry facility, and keeping the Sheriff's Office running through a very challenging fiscal crisis. Sheriff Wowak will probably be most remembered in the coming years for securing funding to purchase and build the new Sheriff's Office Headquarters that will be completed in May 2015. His retirement follows 20 years of employment at the Sheriff's Office. On behalf of the men and women of the Sheriff's Office and the citizens of Santa Cruz County we would like to thank Sheriff Wowak for his service, dedication, commitment, and leadership.



Sheriff Phil Wowak





In 2014 the Sheriff's Office hired the largest group of deputy sheriff trainees in the history of the Sheriff's Office.
A total of 15 new deputies were sent to the Santa Clara County Academy.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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