



**MERCER COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
DETENTION FACILITY**

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

MERCER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

4835 STATE ROUTE 29
CELINA, OH 45822

PH: (419) 586-7724
FX: (419) 586-2234

WELCOME

Thank you for taking the time to read through our 2025 Annual Report. This past year has been a significant one for the Mercer County Sheriff's Office — and for me personally, as it marks my first year serving as your Sheriff. After Sheriff Grey retired following 24 years of dedicated service, there were naturally some changes, adjustments, and new directions taken within the office. I'm grateful for the support and patience the community and staff has shown during this transition.

Inside this report, you'll find updates on our budget, how we've managed our resources, and the steps we're taking to stay responsible with taxpayer dollars. You'll also see what's been happening throughout the office this year — new projects, improvements, and some highlights from our staff. A lot of work goes into keeping this office running smoothly, and I want to make sure the employees get the recognition they deserve.

Stepping into this role has been both an honor and a challenge, and I am proud of how our team has handled the transition into new leadership. Their professionalism and dedication to serving Mercer County never wavered, and I couldn't ask for a better group of people to work alongside.

Most importantly, I want to thank the citizens of Mercer County. Your support, feedback, and involvement truly matter. We serve this community, and we do it best when we stay connected with the people who call it home.

I hope this report gives you a clearer look at where we are today and where we're heading in the future. Thank you again for your trust and allowing me the opportunity to serve as your Sheriff.

Respectfully,

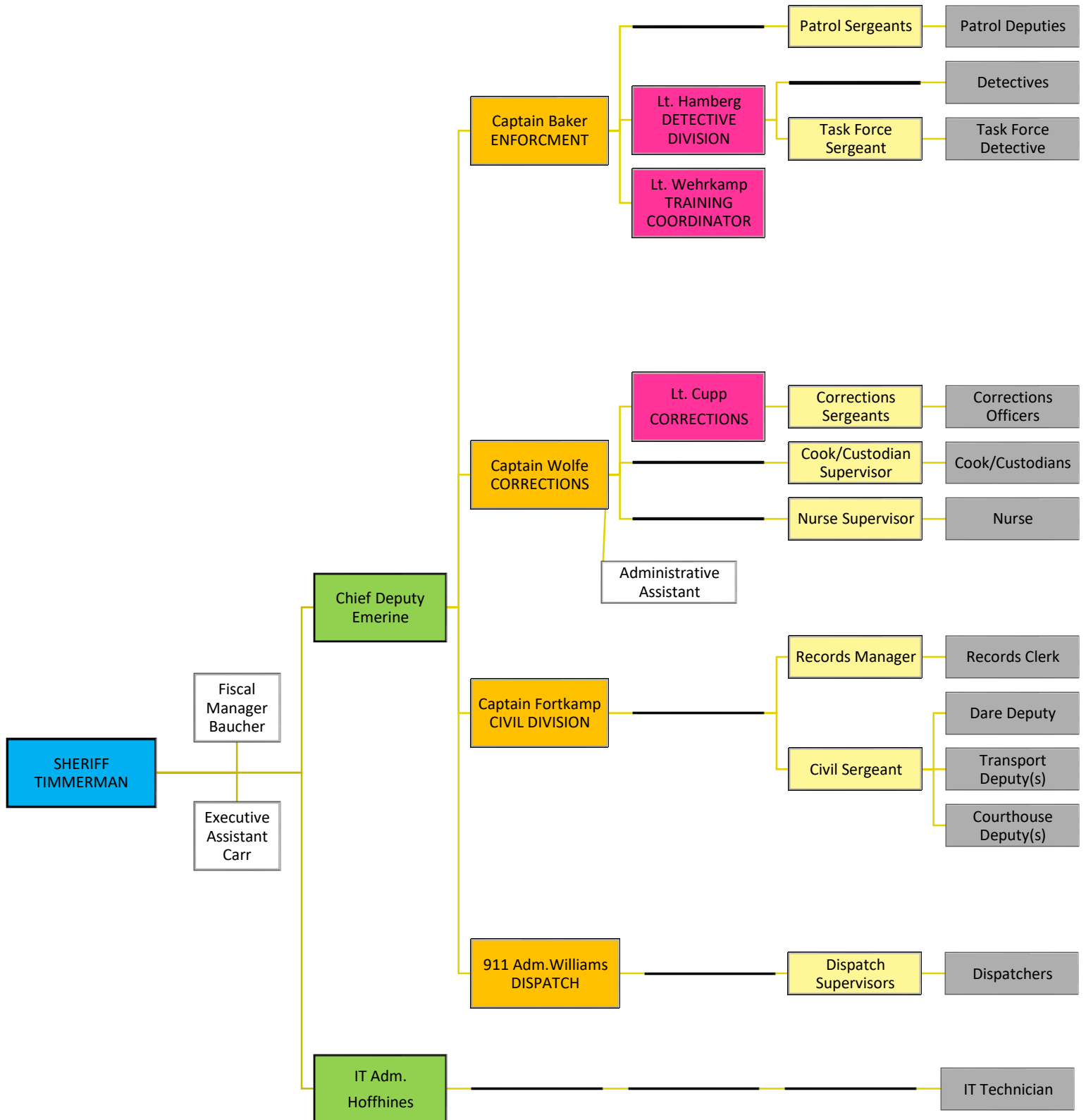


Doug Timmerman
Sheriff, Mercer County

Contents

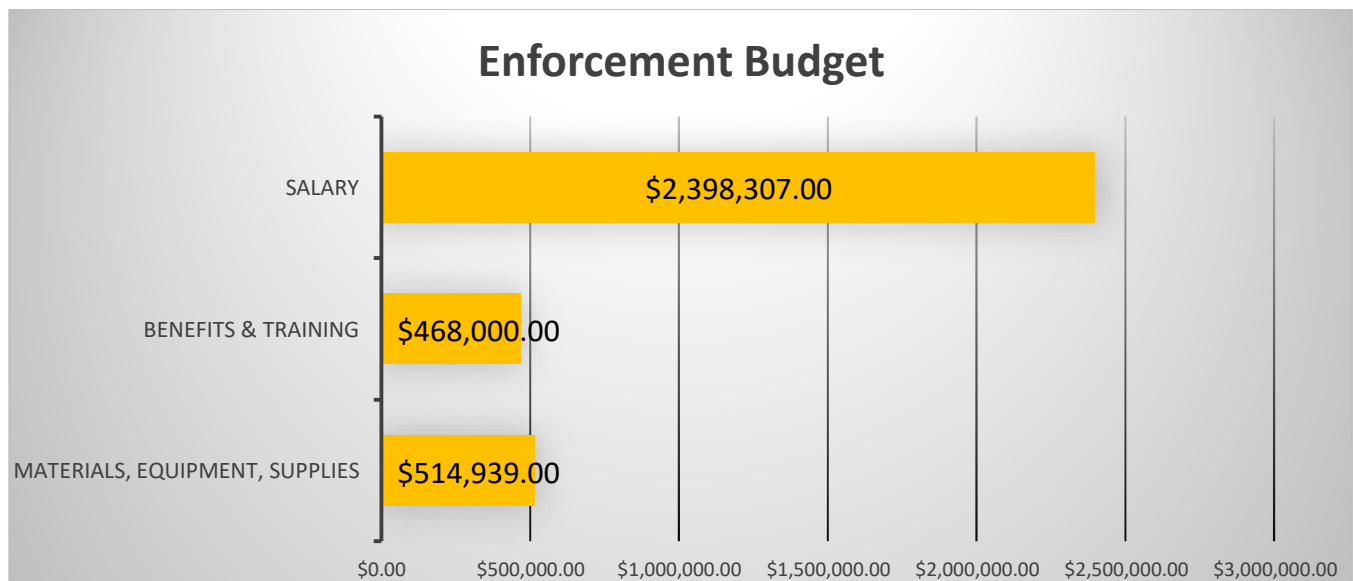
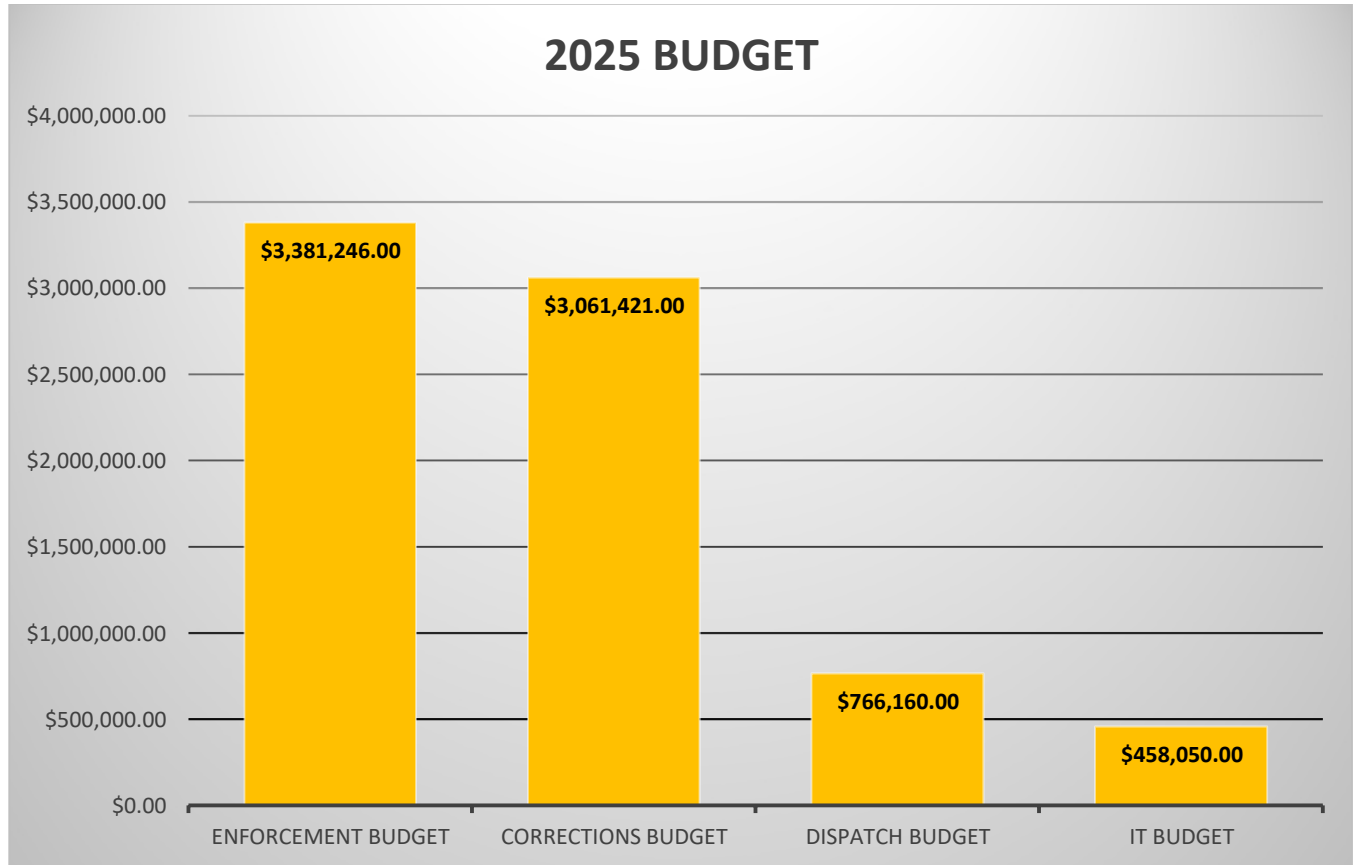
WELCOME	2
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE	4
BUDGET	5
ADMINISTRATION	7
IT DIVISION.....	9
CIVIL DIVISION.....	10
Transports.....	11
Child Support Enforcement Contract.....	12
ENFORCEMENT	13
Investigations.....	14
Traffic Enforcement	15
Crash Investigations.....	15
Warrants	16
DETECTIVES	17
CORRECTIONS	18
Inmate Population Statistics	20
Detention Facility Income	21
Commissary	21
Medical Reimbursement.....	22
Inmate Work Release Program	22
Treatment Programs in the Jail.....	23
Inmates House for other Agencies.....	23
Cook/Custodians.....	24
DISPATCH	25
Types Of Calls.....	26
Dispatcher In-Service Training	29
CANINE PROGRAMS	30
Enforcement Canine	30
Jail Canine	30
TRAINING CORRINATOR.....	31
Milo Simulator Training	32
Opota VR Training.....	33
DARE GRADUATIONS.....	34
SPECIAL OLYMPICS BASKETBALL GAME	35
MERCER COUNTY FAIR	36
CIT TRAINING – VAN WERT	37
ASSURE SUICIDE PREVENTION WALK.....	38
STAFF PHOTOS	39
CITIZEN’S ACADEMY	41
CHRISTMAS DOOR DECORATING CONTEST.....	43
CONCLUSION.....	47

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

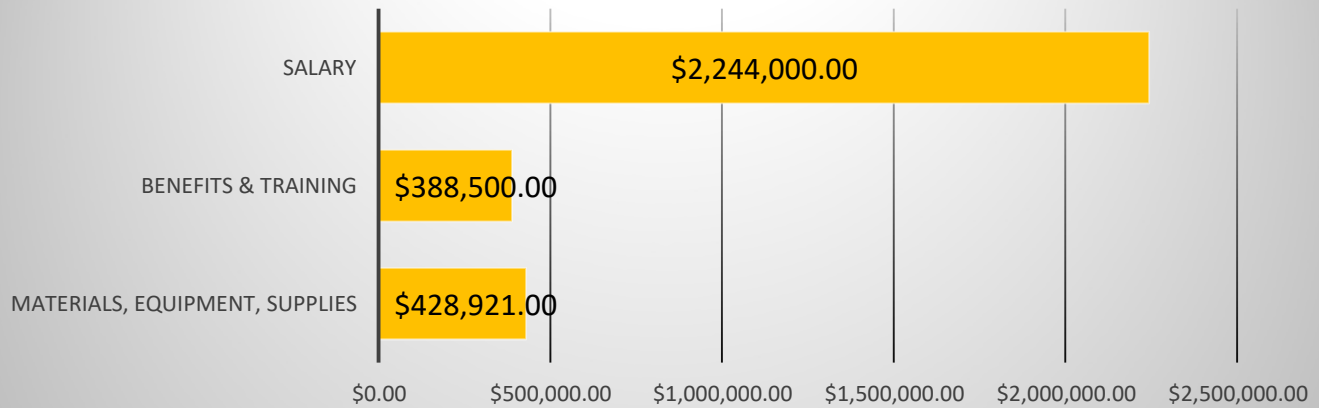


BUDGET

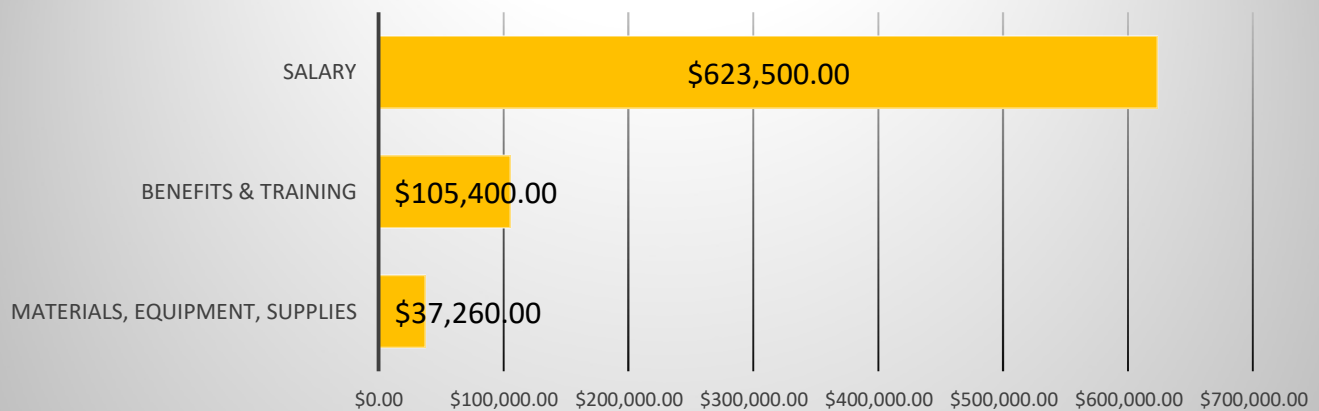
The bulk of the Sheriff's Office funding comes from the county general fund, which is overseen by the Mercer County Commissioners. These charts show how each division used those funds.



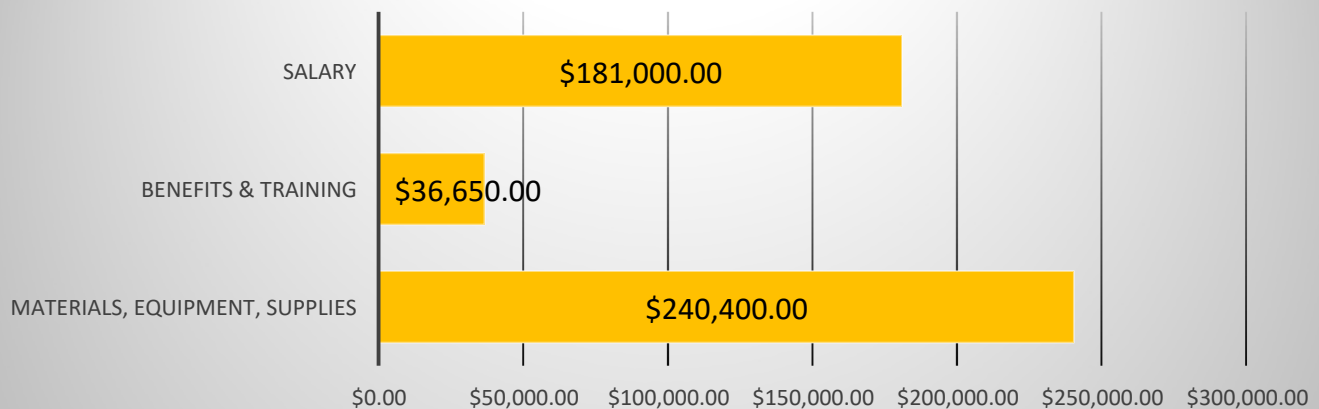
Jail Budget



Dispatch Budget



IT Budget



ADMINISTRATION



SHERIFF DOUG TIMMERMAN

The Sheriff's Office is under the command of Sheriff Doug Timmerman. Sheriff Timmerman has 31 years of law enforcement experience and has spent his entire career at the Mercer County Sheriff's Office. He has held the ranks of Dispatcher, Patrol Deputy, Detective, Detective Sergeant, Captain of both the Jail & Enforcement, and Chief Deputy. 2025 was Sheriff Timmerman's first year as Sheriff.



CHIEF DEPUTY MARTIN EMERINE

Chief Deputy Martin Emerine oversees all of the day-to-day operations throughout the entire office. Chief Deputy Emerine has been with our office for 34 years and has held the ranks of Deputy, Lieutenant, Captain of Enforcement, Captain of Corrections and Chief Deputy of Corrections.

The Chief Deputy is the highest, non-elected law enforcement position in Mercer County and is second in command of the Sheriff's Office.



CAPTAIN MEGAN BAKER

Captain Megan Baker oversees all of the day-to-day operations in the Enforcement Division. Captain Baker has worked for the Sheriff's Office for 21 years, and has held the ranks of Patrol Deputy, Detective, Detective Sergeant, and Captain of Enforcement.



CAPTAIN CHAD FORTKAMP

Captain Chad Fortkamp oversees all of the day-to-day operations for the Civil Division. Captain Fortkamp has worked for our office for 25 years and has held the position of Deputy, Detective, Detective Sergeant, Civil (Courthouse) Sergeant and now Captain of Civil.



CAPTAIN JONATHAN WOLFE

Captain Wolfe is responsible for the overall operations in the detention facility. He has worked for our office for 14 years and has held the position of Corrections Officer and Corrections Sergeant.



9-1-1 ADMINISTRATOR RACHEL WILLIAMS

The Communications Division is under the direction of 9-1-1 Administrator Rachel Williams. Administrator Williams has been at the Mercer County Sheriff's Office for 9 years, where she began her career as a 9-1-1 Dispatcher.



LIEUTENANT ROBERT CUPP

Lieutenant Robert Cupp oversees all of the day-to-day operations for the Corrections Division. Lieutenant Cupp has worked for the Sheriff's Office for 8 years and has held the title of Corrections Officer and Corrections Sergeant.



EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT ASHLEY CARR

Ashley Carr is the Sheriff's Executive Assistant to the Sheriff. Ashley has worked for the Sheriff's Office for 9 years and has held the rank of 9-1-1 dispatcher prior to becoming the Executive Assistant.



FISCAL MANAGER KANDI BAUCHER

Kandi Baucher is the Mercer County Sheriff's Office Fiscal Manager where she oversees all the annual budgets, manages accounts payable/receivable, processes payroll, and is in charge of purchasing. Kandi has been with the Sheriff's Office for 12 years and was a 9-1-1 dispatcher prior to becoming the Fiscal Manager.



IT DIVISION



IT ADMINISTRATOR KORY HOFFHINES

Kory Hoffhines is the Mercer County Sheriff's Office Network Administrator. Kory has been with our office for 19 years. He maintains the entire Sheriff's Office computer network.



IT TECHNICIAN DANNY SAUNDERS, JR.

Danny Saunders, Jr. is an I.T. Technician for the Mercer County Sheriff's Office. Danny has been with our office for 2 years. He assists in maintaining the Sheriff's Office computer network.



IT TECHNICIAN GAVIN HARRISON

Gavin Harrison is an I.T. Technician for the Mercer County Sheriff's Office. He started working for our office in October of 2025. He also assists in maintaining the Sheriff's Office computer network.



CIVIL DIVISION



SERGEANT PATRICK FORSTHOEFEL



RECORDS MANAGER NICOLE GRABOW



DEPUTY KYLE STROHL, COURTHOUSE



DEPUTY SCOTT GEIS, DARE



DEPUTY KENT TAYLOR, TRANSPORTS



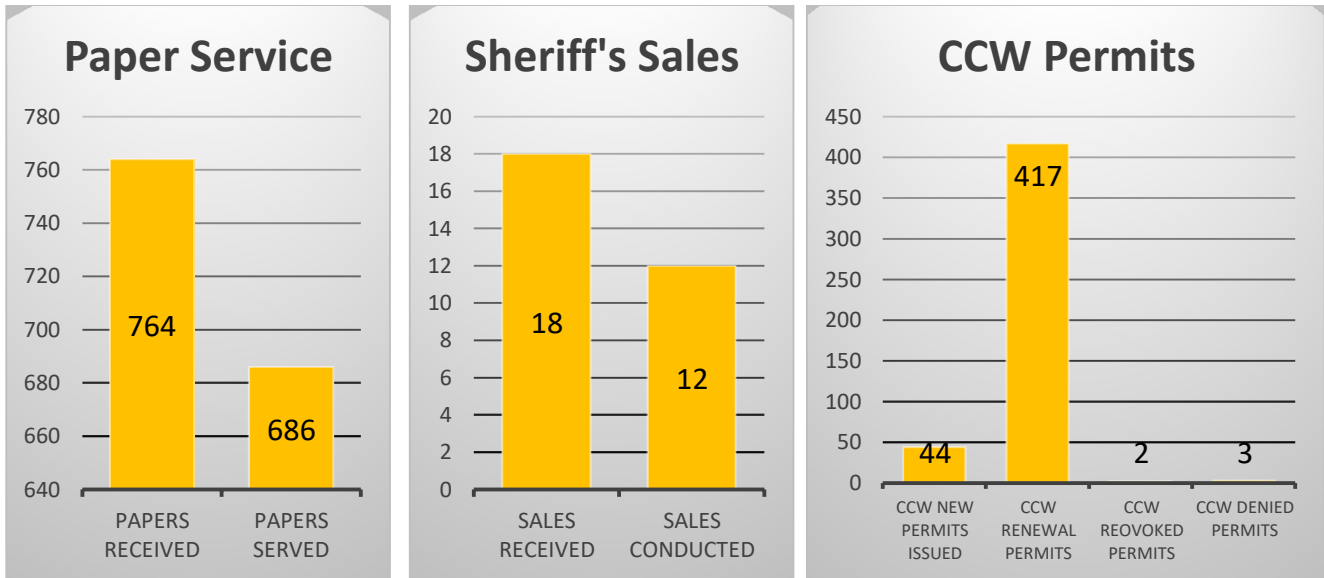
RECORDS CLERK BRITTANY WURSTER



DEPUTY JASON PORTER, COURTHOUSE

The Mercer County Sheriff's Office Civil Division is responsible for many services. These include performing Sheriff's Sales, serve civil processes and court related paperwork. In addition, the Civil Division is responsible for Sex Offender and Arson Offender registration and notification. They handle matters pertaining to the application for Carry Concealed Weapons Permits, commonly referred as CCW. Public record requests and civilian background checks are the responsibility of the Civil Division.

The Civil Division is instrumental with record retention for the Sheriff's Office, which includes criminal reports, crash reports, and all other records. The Civil Division also coordinates the Web Check program.



In 2025, the Civil Division handled a minimum of 165 periodic registrations of Sex Offenders who currently reside in Mercer County. Currently, Mercer County has 72 registered Sex Offenders. Civil and Patrol Deputies also did a total of 557 sex offender address verifications throughout 2025 to ensure offenders were compliant with their registry.



Transports

Transport Deputies are responsible for transferring inmates to and from Court, transferring inmates to doctor's appointments, and taking them to State institutions (Prisons). In 2025, deputies traveled out of state on 13 trips to Indiana (10), Florida (1), Tennessee (1), and Michigan (1).

TRANSPORT Yearly Totals

# of Transports	451
Transports Mileage	42,131 Miles

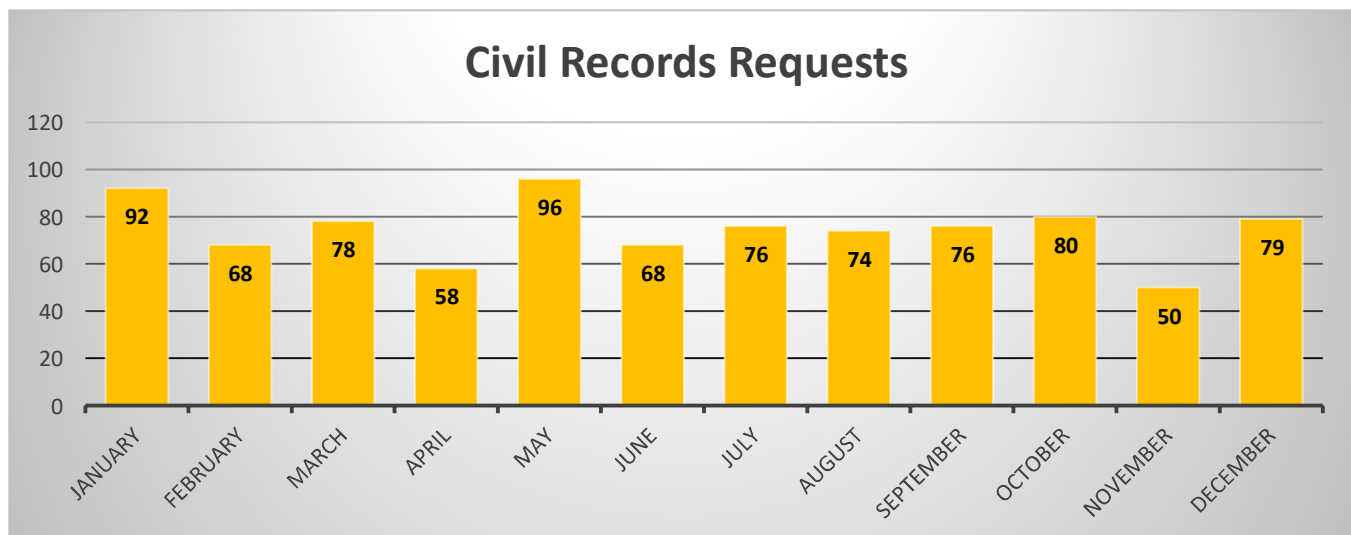
Child Support Enforcement Contract

In 2025, the Mercer County Sheriff's Office continued to contract (IV-D contract) with the Mercer County Child Support Enforcement Agency. The purpose of the contract is to provide services to the Agency, which allows the Sheriff's Office to be reimbursed for those services through a grant. The services would include Child Support investigations, extradition of felony cases, and security for administrative hearings on a needed basis.

CHILD SUPPORT Yearly Totals	
Child Support Enforcement Total Miles	4,034
Child Support Enforcement Mile Fees	\$2,686.79
Child Support Enforcement Hours Worked	304.5 Hours

Records Requests

The Civil Division plays a critical role in maintaining transparency and public access to information by processing records requests. In 2025, the division fulfilled 895 requests from the public, with each request requiring an average of 56 minutes to complete. These requests often involve locating, reviewing, redacting, and preparing official documents in accordance with legal requirements and privacy standards. The Civil Division's work ensures compliance with public records laws while balancing efficiency, accuracy, and the protection of sensitive information.



ENFORCEMENT

The Sheriff's Office has five supervisors in Enforcement, including three Patrol Sergeants, one Detective Sergeant, and a Detective Lieutenant. The Grand Lake Drug Task Force is under the command of the Mercer County Sheriff and the Auglaize County Sheriff. The Task Force also includes representatives from Celina, Coldwater, Ft. Recovery, St. Henry, Wapakoneta, St. Marys, Cridersville, New Bremen, Minster, and Waynesfield police departments.

The Patrol Division of the Sheriff's Office patrols 472 square miles, which include 14 townships, one city, and all villages in Mercer County. In 2025, deputies patrolled 318,183 miles, handled 504 traffic crashes, and completed a total of 4,188 reports. The sheriff is the chief law enforcement officer in Mercer County, and his deputies have jurisdiction throughout all of Mercer County including municipalities. Patrol deputies conduct criminal investigations, issue citations, warnings, and make arrests. Patrol deputies serve warrants and civil papers and give safety talks and presentations throughout the year.



SERGEANT RACHEL HEINTZ



SERGEANT KYLE FINK



SERGEANT PATRICK CUPP



DEPUTY JUSTIN BARNA



DEPUTY WILLIAM FOX



DEPUTY SPENCER HEINTZ



DEPUTY JACOB HUBER



DEPUTY DERIC KROFT



DEPUTY KRISTEN NIXON



DEPUTY HANNAH OAKLEY



DEPUTY DONALD SITES, JR.



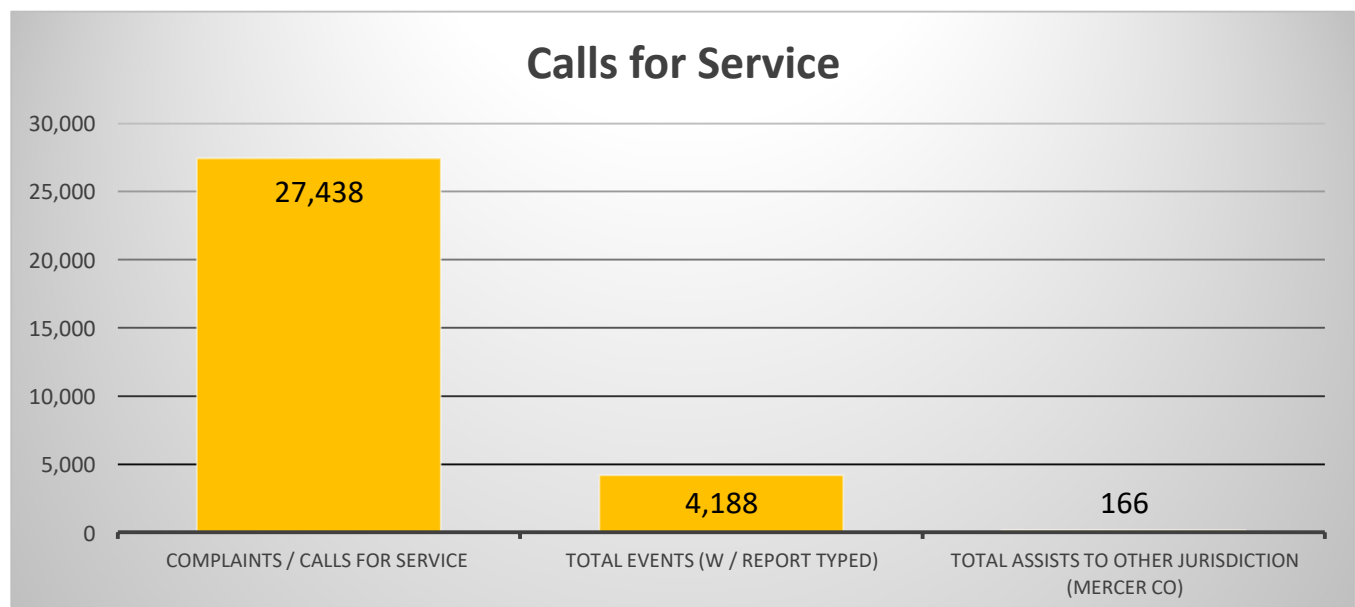
DEPUTY HAIDEN STIDAM



DEPUTY QUINTIN THOMAS

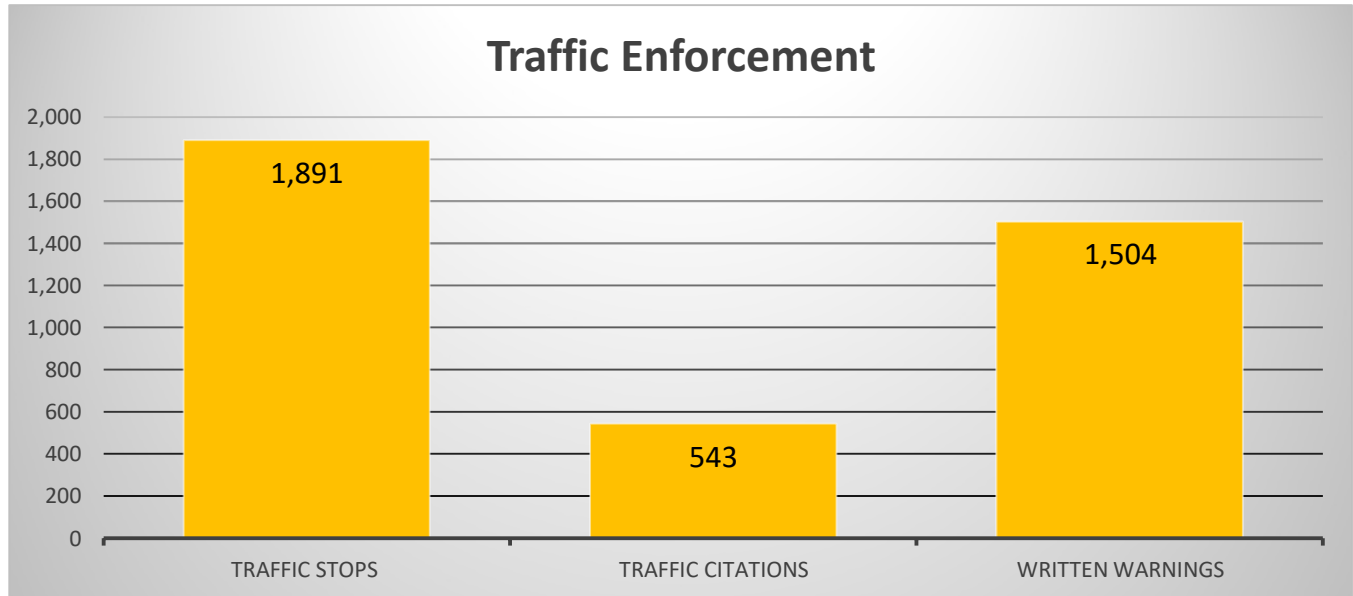
Investigations

In 2025, the Enforcement Division investigated numerous crimes. Investigations include death scenes, sexual assaults, burglaries, computer crimes, cyber-crimes, financial crimes, assault cases and assisted with traffic fatality investigations. The Mercer County Sheriff's Office had over 27,438 calls for service.



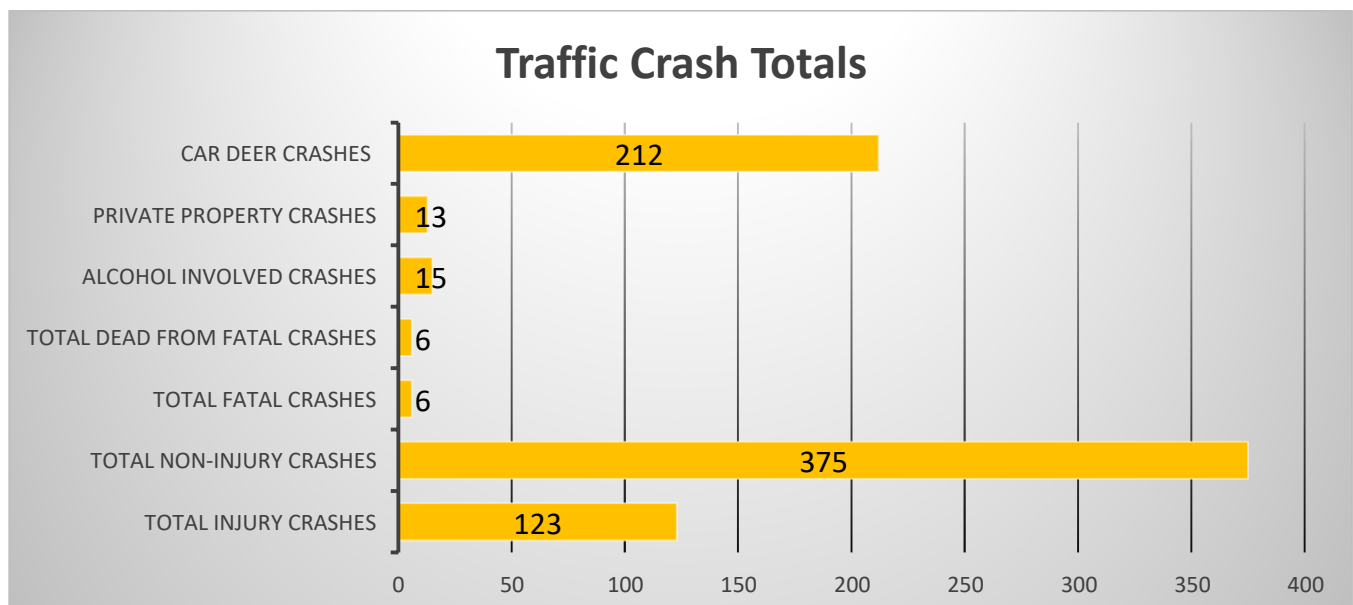
Traffic Enforcement

Traffic Enforcement is done routinely by deputies. There are occasions where deputies are assigned specifically to enforce traffic violations for problem areas. Deputies conduct traffic enforcement through a grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



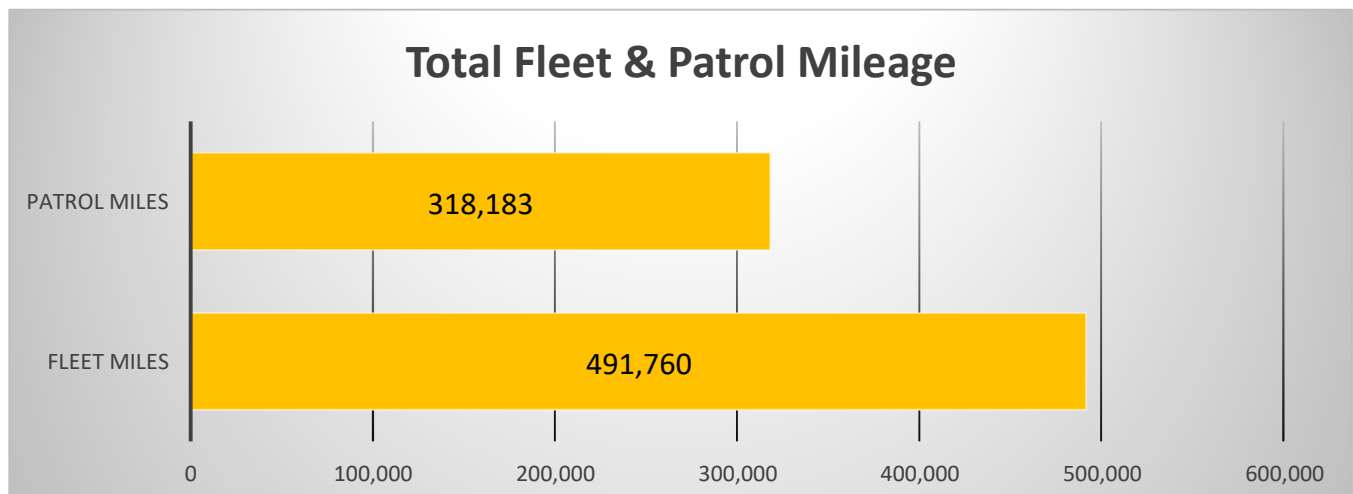
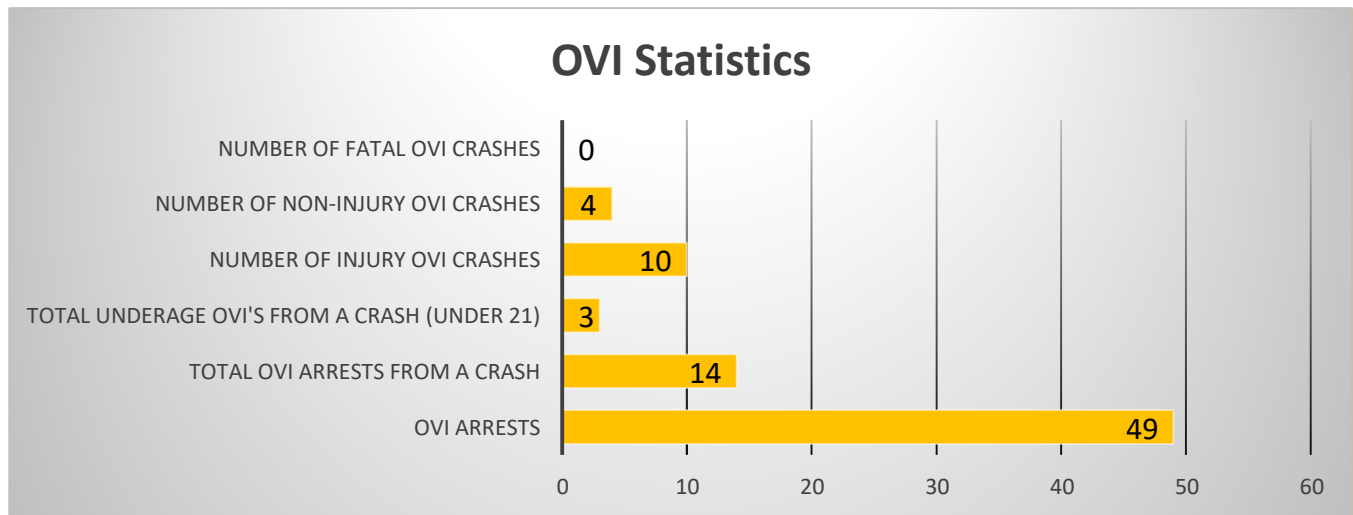
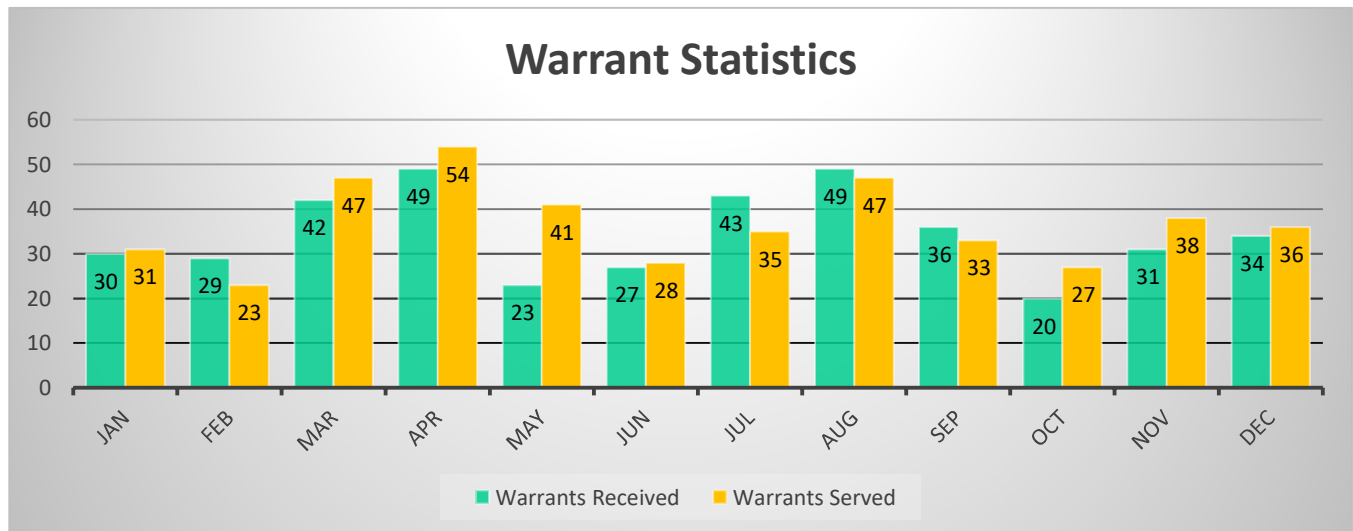
Crash Investigations

The Sheriff's Office handles crashes reported through the Central Dispatch. All deputies are trained in crash investigation. We have several sworn deputies who have been trained and assigned to the crash reconstruction team, including Chief Deputy Martin Emerine, Detective Carla Baucher, Captain Chad Fortkamp, Sergeant Rachel Heint, and Sergeant Kyle Fink. These Deputies respond to fatal crashes and use state of the art equipment to reconstruct crashes. In 2025, deputies handled 6 fatal traffic crashes resulting in 6 deaths on Mercer County roadways.



Warrants

The Mercer County Sheriff's Office received 401 warrants and served 427 warrants in 2025. The Sheriff's Office currently has 292 active warrants.



DETECTIVES



DETECTIVE LIEUTENANT CHRIS HAMBERG



DETECTIVE SERGEANT JOHN WESTGERDES



DETECTIVE JOHN MARBAUGH



DETECTIVE CARLA BAUCHER



DETECTIVE DOUGLAS WUEBKER

The Detective Division of the Mercer County Sheriff's Office plays a critical role in safeguarding the community using thorough, professional investigations and close collaboration with patrol, prosecutors, and partner agencies. Throughout 2025, the division demonstrated a strong commitment to accountability, victim advocacy, and case clearance, handling complex investigations with diligence and integrity. Their continued focus on evidence-based practices and teamwork has strengthened public trust and contributed to the overall effectiveness of the Sheriff's Office.

CORRECTIONS



ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT THERESA DELLINGER



SERGEANT HEATHER LEIST



SERGEANT KEVIN SCHNIPKE



SERGEANT ZACH VOGEL (K9 HANDLER)



SERGEANT DENNIS FRANKS, JR.



DEPUTY LORI PEASE



DEPUTY LISA MEEKER



DEPUTY AUSTIN PRENGER



DEPUTY ALEXIS MARLOW



DEPUTY GREG SCHOEN



DEPUTY AMANDA HILE



DEPUTY DESTINY THOBE



DEPUTY JARED LALONDE



DEPUTY LANDON HUNT



DEPUTY ASHLEY GOSSARD



DEPUTY JORDYN BIBERSTINE



DEPUTY RILEY FRANCK



DEPUTY NICHOLAS WARD

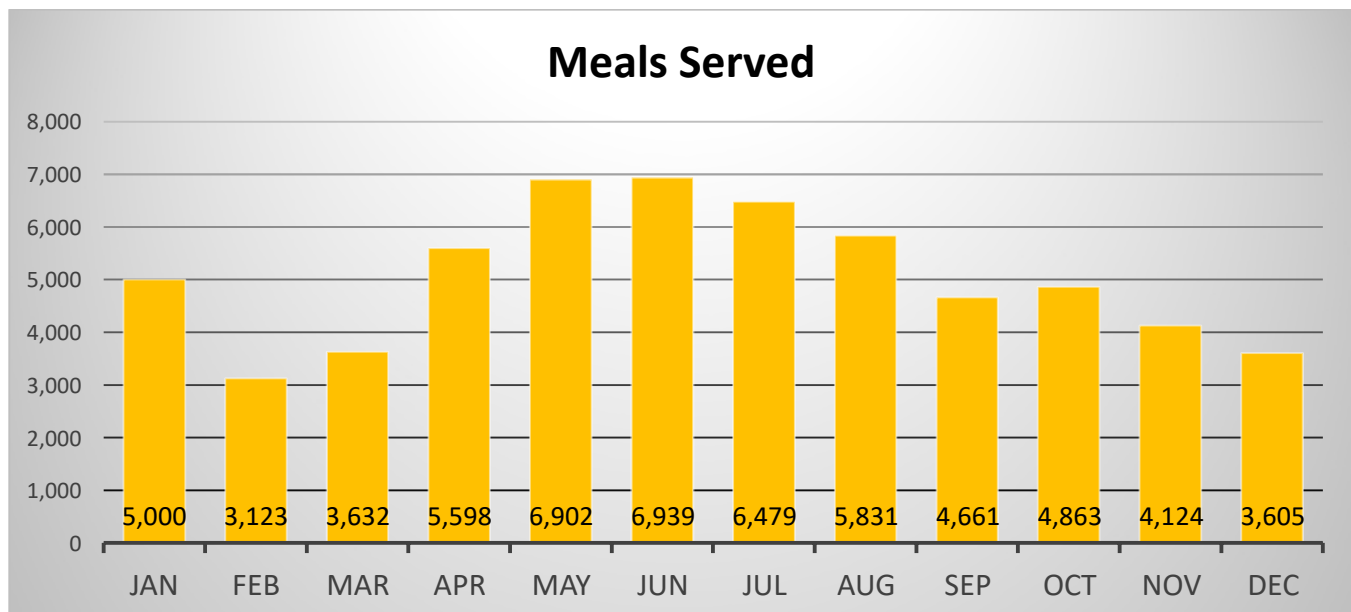
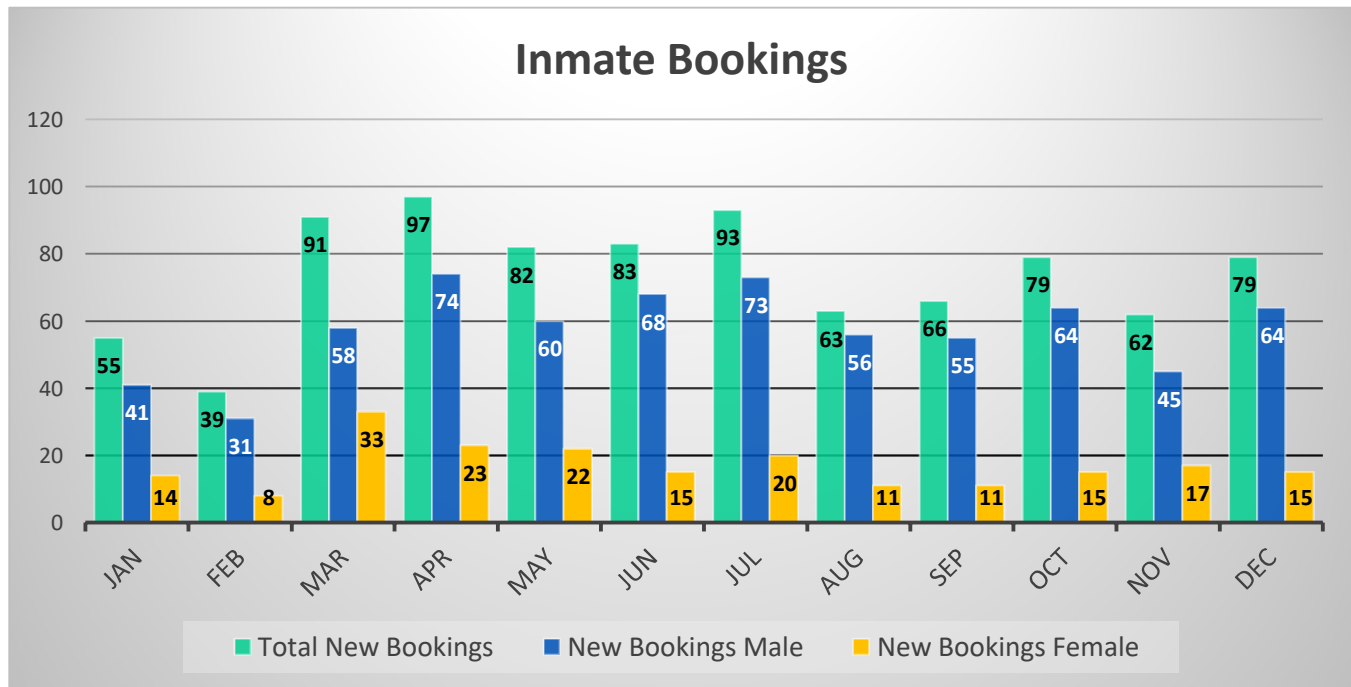


DEPUTY BRADY STEINBRUNNER

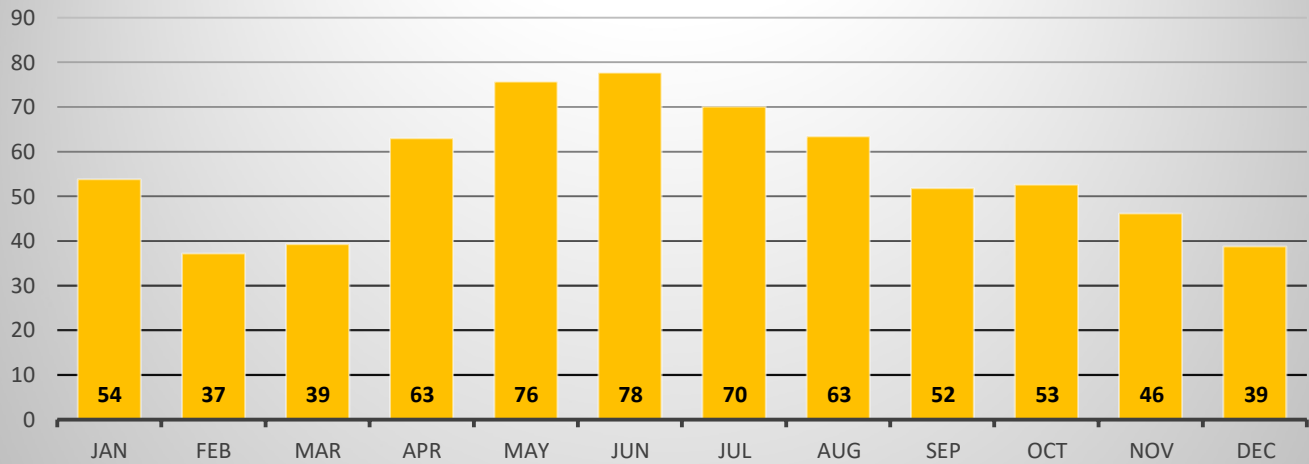
The Adult Detention Facility has 4 sergeants who oversee all shifts. The Detention Facility must have a minimum of 3 state-certified corrections officers working per shift, which includes both female and male corrections officers. The staff of the Mercer County Detention Facility are responsible for the security and safety of the inmates who are housed within the facility. The inmates are monitored 24 hours a day. In addition to corrections officers, the Detention Facility also has a full-service kitchen, one Registered Nurse, an LPN nurse and a Medical Doctor.

Inmate Population Statistics

In 2025, the Mercer County Adult Detention Facility booked in 889 inmates. Of those inmates, 689 were male and 204 were female. The Detention Facility served 60,757 meals in 2025. Daily inmate totals vary. The following chart shows the average daily inmate trends and meals served by month.



Average Daily Inmate Count



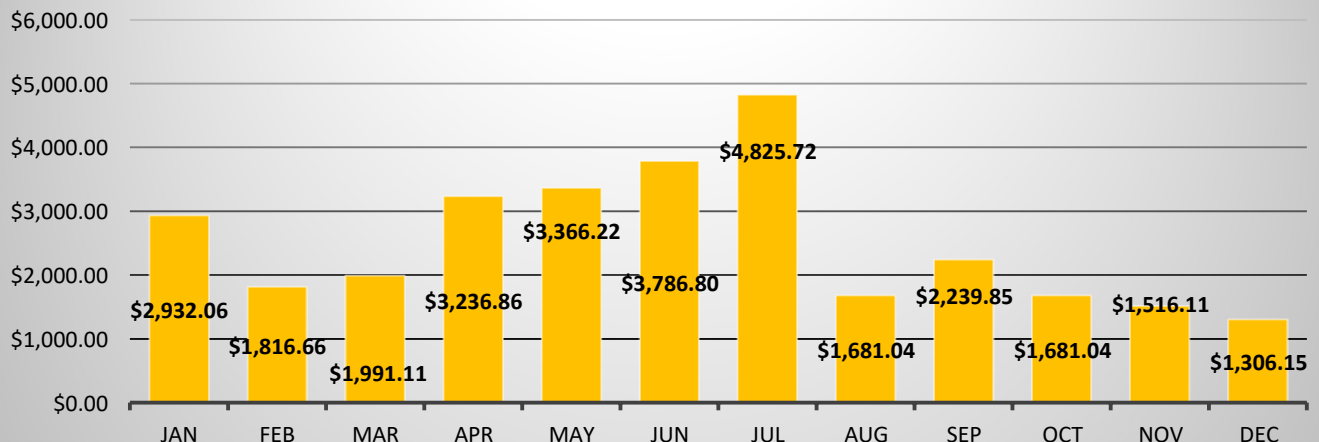
Detention Facility Income

The Detention Facility generates revenue through diverse inmate-related services and programs. Revenue is received from housing inmates for other agencies, commissary, medical reimbursement, and inmate work release. These programs save money for the taxpayers of Mercer County. The following charts show where the revenue comes from and a description of the program. Total revenue generated for 2025 was \$212,587.03.

Commissary

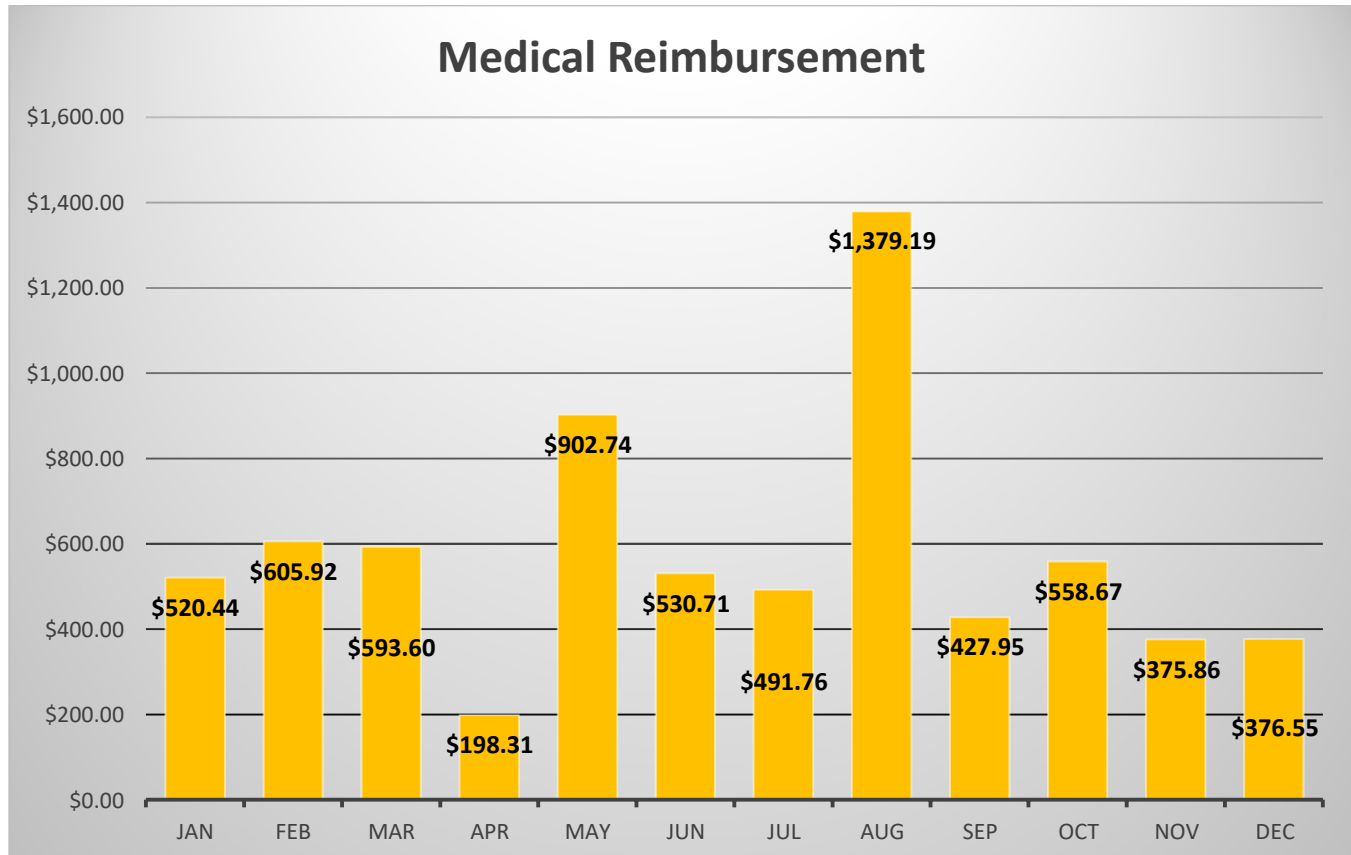
Commissary are items that have been approved for purchase by inmates. Items include coffee, personal hygiene products, socks and underwear, snacks, paper, envelopes, and various other items. The profits generated by commissary purchases can only be used to benefit inmates. Commissary funds inmate programs such as the garden and landscaping. Commissary is also used to purchase equipment, work clothes, work boots, and tools used for the inmate garden. A total of \$29,251.55 was collected through commissary in 2025.

Commissary



Medical Reimbursement

Medical Reimbursement funds are collected from inmates that require medical treatment while being incarcerated at the Detention Facility. Inmates are billed for medical costs incurred while housed at the Detention Facility. When money is deposited on an inmates' account, a portion of the money is used to pay their outstanding medical expenses. In 2025, a total of \$6,435.48 was collected through the medical reimbursement program.

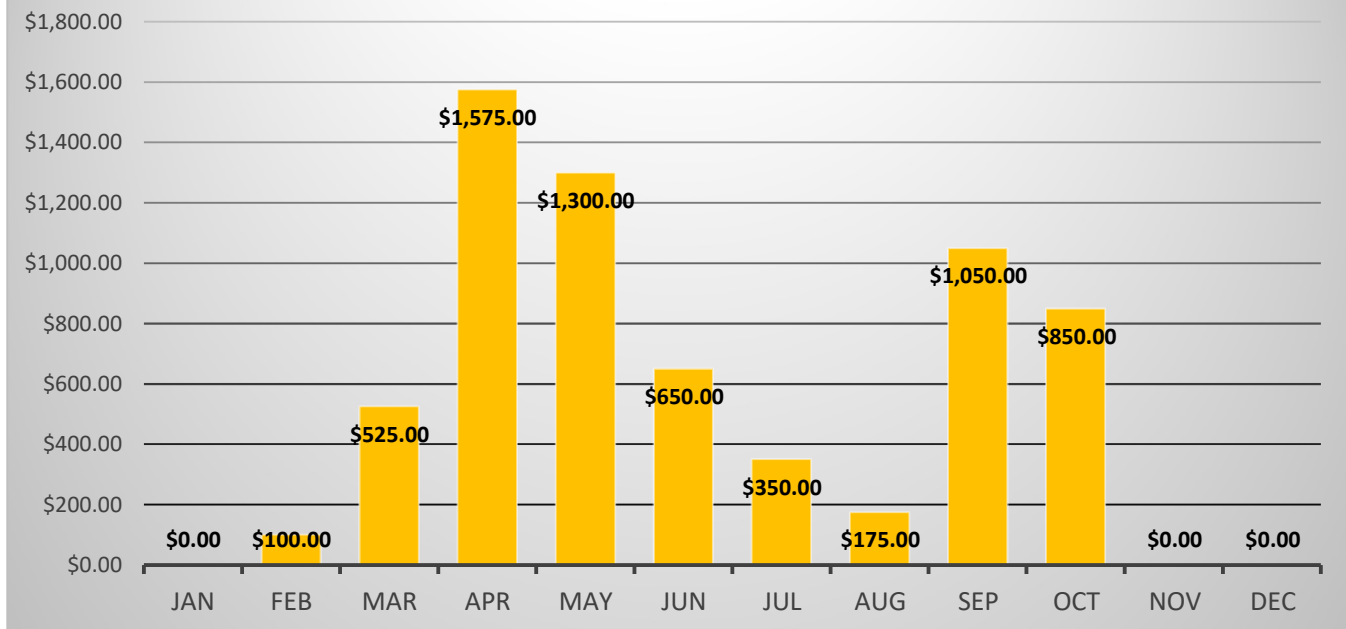


Inmate Work Release Program

Work Release is a program by which approved inmates can be released from the detention facility during the time the inmate is scheduled to work. Participants in the work release program must have verified employment. Inmates are released during those work hours. Program participants are required to sign and follow the work release guidelines and must follow all the rules & regulations of the detention facility to participate in this program.

Inmates pay to be in the work release program, and payment guidelines have been set up according to wages earned. Mercer County Sheriff's Office staff periodically visit the workplace to ensure the inmate is working. Program violators are terminated from the program and the courts are notified. In 2025, a total of \$6,050 was collected through the inmate work release program.

Money Received from Work Release



Treatment Programs in the Jail

The Detention Facility also offers the following treatment programs:

Both male and female AA classes.

Brianna's Hope - A Better Life: Brianna's Hope is a participant driven, faith-based, and compassion filled addiction support and recovery group. Their mission is to provide hope through Christ to individuals and communities battling addiction using support, encouragement, and collaboration.

Church Services - We have Church services for both male and female inmates on Sunday afternoon.

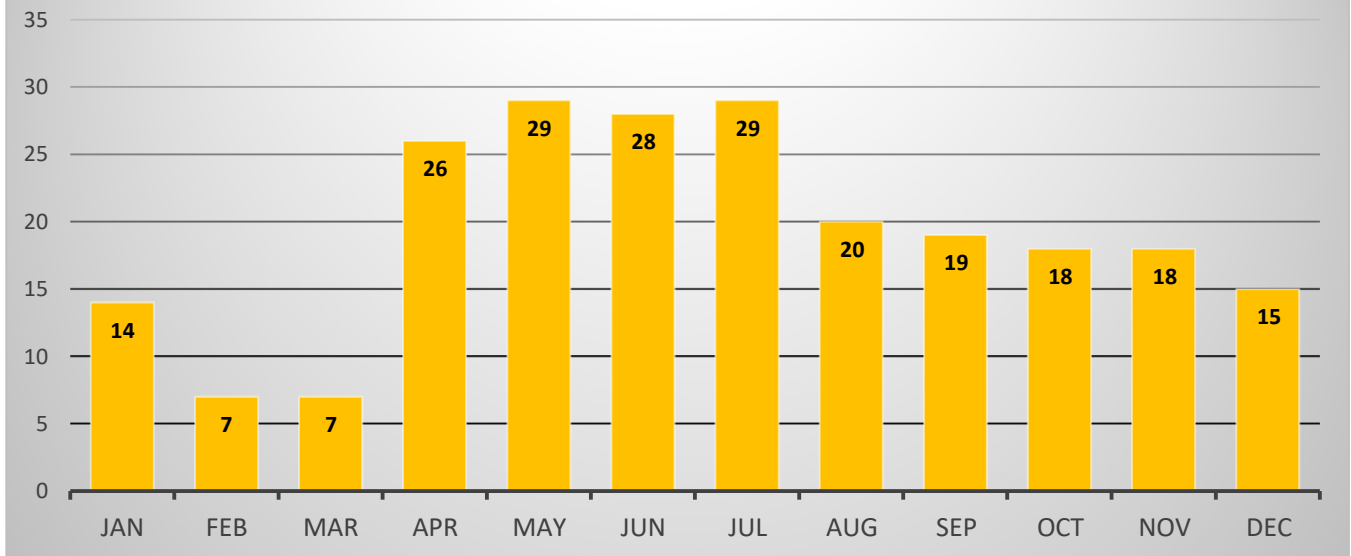
Job and Family Services - Job and Family Services meets with interested inmates for re-entry services. They assist with writing resumes, job seeking, and mock interviews.

Male & Female Bible Study – held weekly with local religious organizations

Inmates House for other Agencies

In 2025, a total of 230 inmates were held in the Mercer County Detention Facility for other agencies. The money generated by housing inmates for other agencies goes into the County's General fund. By agreement between the Sheriff and the County Commissioners, the money is portioned out and a percentage of it is returned the Sheriff's Office. A total of \$170,850.00 was collected for housing inmates for other Agencies in 2025.

Inmates Housed for other Agencies



Cook/Custodians



CUSTODIAL SUPERVISOR KATHY GIERE



MARIE STAHL, COOK/CUSTODIAN



BETTY STEINBRUNNER, COOK/CUSTODIAN



EMMA POEPELMAN, COOK/CUSTODIAN



DELLA SHIVELY, COOK/CUSTODIAN

DISPATCH



DISPATCH SUPERVISOR STEPHANIE BLEDSOE



DISPATCH SUPERVISOR BRIANNA PARK



DISPATCH SUPERVISOR ALEXIS METZ



DISPATCHER ELIZABETH JOHNSON



DISPATCHER REBECCA FITZGERALD



DISPATCHER DALE FULLENKAMP



DISPATCHER SAMANTHA HILES



DISPATCHER QUINTEN DOSECK-WATERS



DISPATCHER BRIANNA MILLER

Under the purview of the Sheriff's Office, the Mercer County 9-1-1 Central Dispatch is staffed by committed and extensively trained professionals. These dispatchers are equipped to manage a full spectrum of calls, from urgent, life-threatening situations to general non-emergency requests.

Operating as the central hub for emergency communications, the Mercer County Sheriff's Office 9-1-1 Central Dispatch dispatches for the Sheriff's Office, four village police departments, 1 university police department, four life squads, and ten fire stations within Mercer County. The center receives all 9-1-1 calls throughout the county, encompassing landline and cellular calls from all municipalities, including Celina. Beyond emergency response, Central Dispatch also manages tornado warning activations, the Informer system for severe weather alerts, and the NIXLE public notification system.

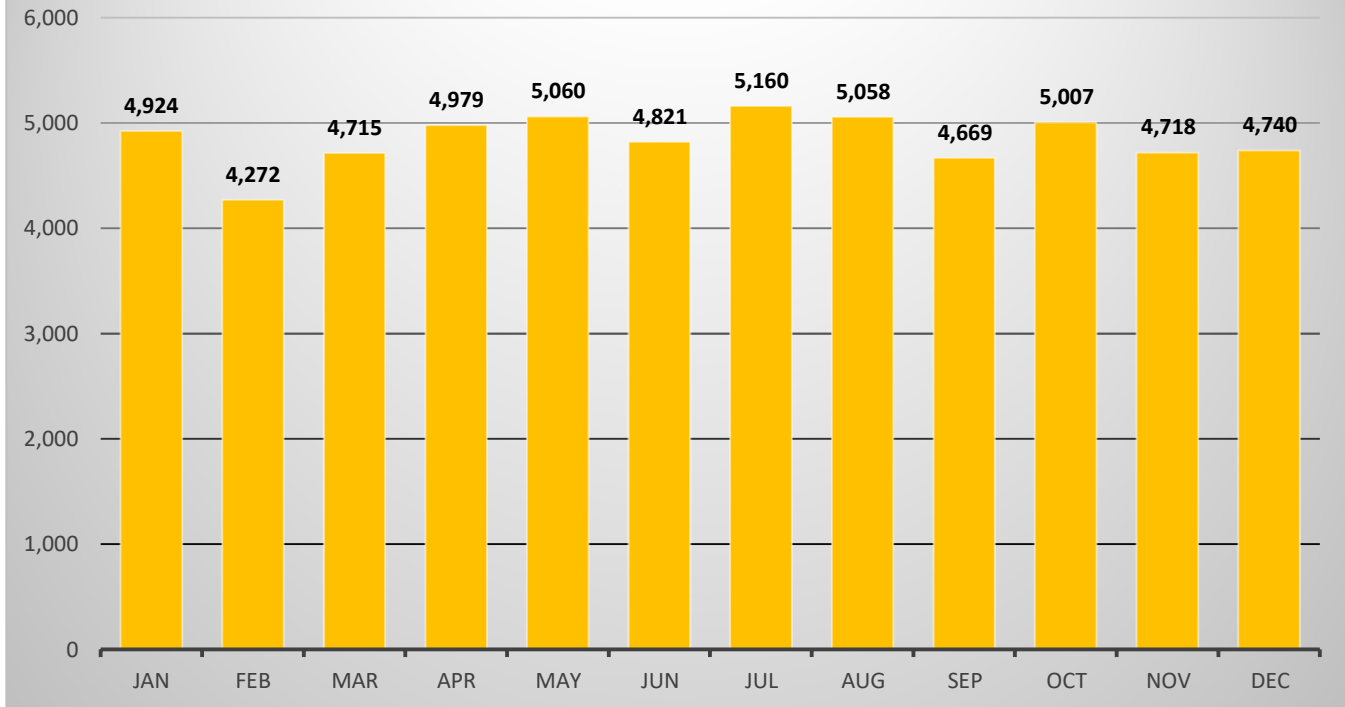
Every 9-1-1 dispatcher is Emergency Medical Dispatcher (EMD) certified, enabling them to systematically manage medical calls. This certification ensures that trained telecommunicators can swiftly determine call urgency, dispatch the correct resources, and deliver vital medical instructions to callers which provides immediate patient care even before EMS units arrive on scene.

In addition to their primary duties, dispatchers are integral to law enforcement operations through their management of the Ohio LEADS (Law Enforcement Automated Data System). This system facilitates immediate responses to officer inquiries regarding driver's license and vehicle registration data, as well as verification of individuals against outstanding warrants from other agencies. Furthermore, dispatchers are charged with the daily input of critical information, including stolen items, warrants, protection orders, missing persons, and concealed carry permits, into the LEADS/NCIC databases.

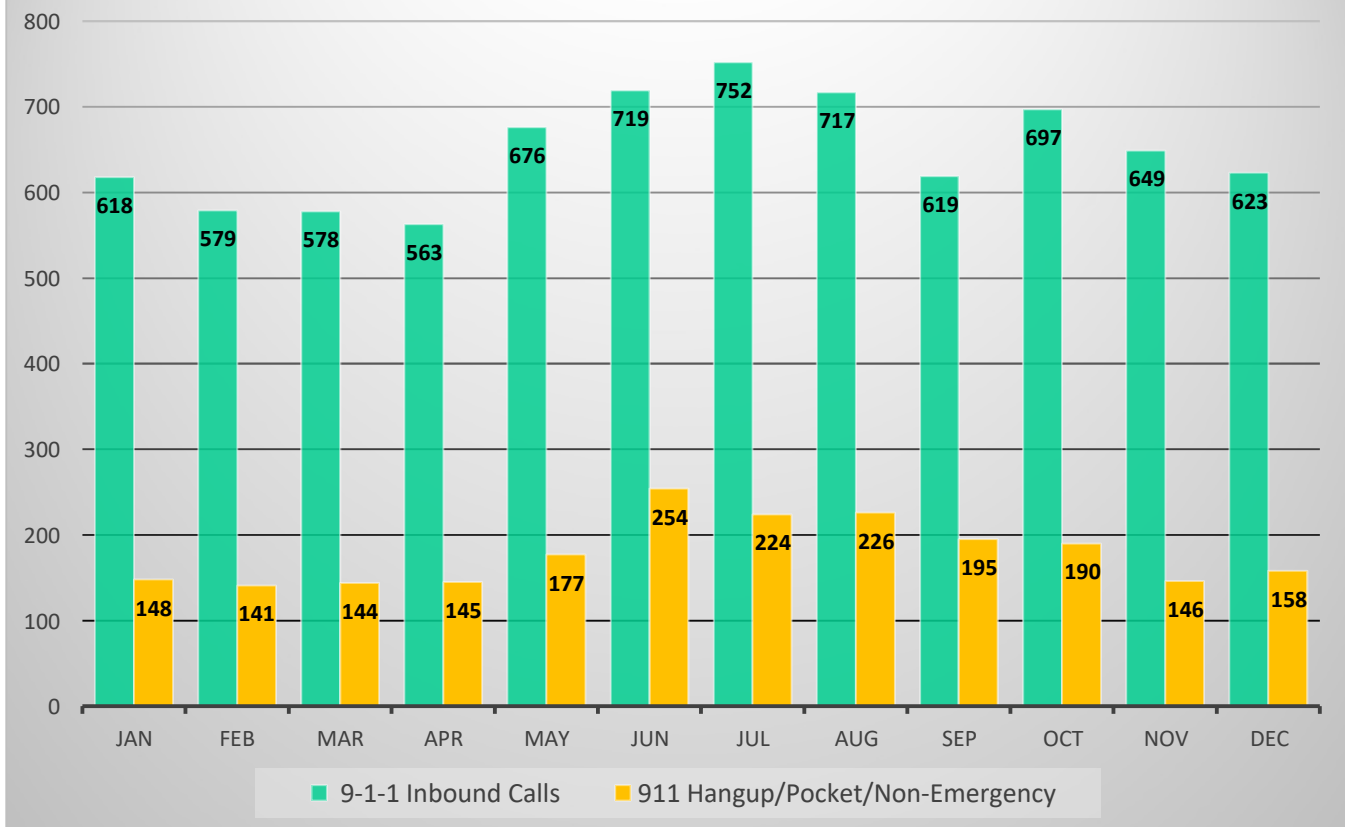
Types Of Calls

In 2025, our Dispatch Center received 58,123 incoming calls into the Sheriff's Office. That is an average of 4,844 calls per month.

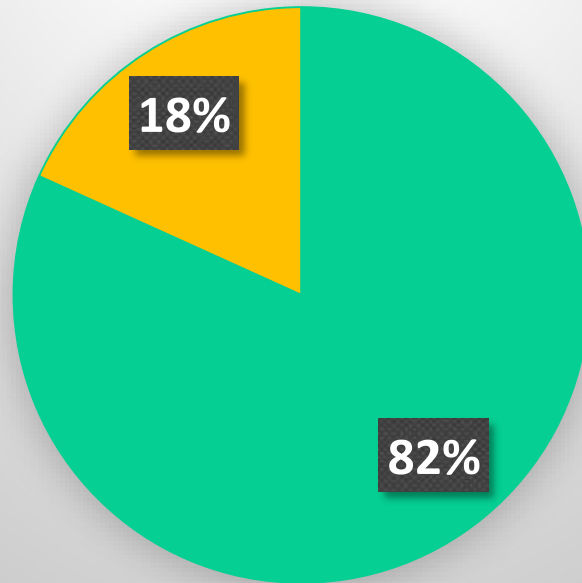
Total Calls Received



Types of Calls Received

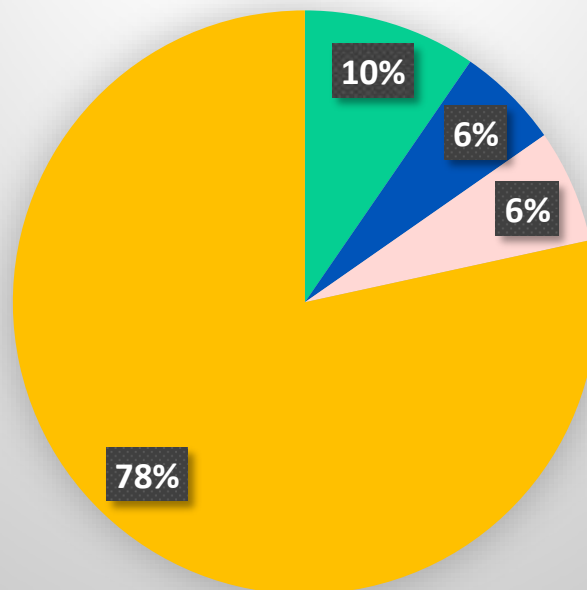


How Calls are Received



■ Total 9-1-1 Wireless Calls ■ Total 9-1-1 Landline Calls

Fire & EMS Calls



■ Alarm Drops ■ Fire Alarms ■ Fire Calls ■ Squad Calls

Dispatcher In-Service Training

On October 7, 2025, the Mercer County Sheriff's Office co-hosted the annual dispatcher in-service training with the Celina Police Department. This training is provided for free to other agencies. There were over 29 agencies from the state of Ohio attended the training, with a total of 78 participants.

The In-Service has been held for over 17 years.



 Celina Police Department Police Chief: Tom Waile Assistant Chief: Colin Fuelling Dispatchers: Colleen Bigham, John Mangen, Jenna Newbauer, Tim Drosch, Nathan Cupp	Agenda 7:30 - 8:15 am Registration and Breakfast 8:15 - 8:30 am Welcome 8:30 - 10:30 am Bill Jo Baneck- First Reach Foundation Topic: Rising up from the Ashes 10:30 - 10:45 am Break 10:45 - 11:30 am Patrick Brandt - Ohio 9-1-1 Administrator Ken Stewart - Ohio NG911 Manager Topic: Next Gen 9-1-1 11:30 - 12:30 pm Lunch Fly-in with Lutheran Air (Weather Permitting) 12:30 - 1:30 pm Dan Harman - Crisis Intervention Team Coordinator Topic: CIT for Dispatchers 1:30 - 1:45 pm Break 1:45 - 2:45 pm Shane Dumen LPCC - Tri-County ADAMHS Topic: First Responder Mental Health & Self-Care 2:45 - 3:00 pm Break 3:00 - 4:00 pm Liz McQuade - Athens County Senior Supervisor and Training Coordinator Topic: Alzheimer's & Dementia Behaviors and Communication Techniques	LUNCH MENU CATERED BY C-TOWN WINGS <u>Appetizer</u> Meatballs <u>Mains</u> Shredded Chicken Boneless Wings Assorted Wraps <u>Sides</u> Cheesy Potatoes Green Beans Salad Fruit <u>Bread</u> Buns Rolls
---	---	--

CANINE PROGRAMS

The Mercer County Sheriff's Office uses trained and controlled canines in support of law enforcement operations where the dog's superior sense of smell, hearing, and physical capabilities, can efficiently and effectively aid in the accomplishment of tactical objectives.

Enforcement Canine

Our K-9 Program consists of Deputy Spencer Heintz & his partner, Deputy Hex. Deputy Heintz has been partnered with K-9 Hex since May 2022.

Utilization of canines requires adherence to procedures that properly control their use-of-force potential and channel their specialized capabilities into acceptable enforcement activities.



Jail Canine

Our office was able to purchase a canine for the detention facility in September 2025. Sergeant Zach Vogel was assigned K9 Randy and completed training in October 2025.

The corrections canine at the Mercer County Sheriff's Office is a singular purpose trained in the detection of drugs.



TRAINING COORDINATOR



LIEUTENANT JAY WEHRKAMP

Pursuit Scenario Training



One of the main duties of the training coordinator is to track training for each of the 3 main divisions of the Sheriff's Office (enforcement, corrections, and communications).

Each division has different training requirements as established by law and policy from the State of Ohio. The coordinator tallies the training information so that each of the division heads can determine if their employees have met their yearly training requirements. This information is also used to help maintain our certification with the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission and the Bureau of Adult Detention.

This year Lt Wehrkamp has taken on an Accreditation Manager position as our office is in the process of completing the accreditation process with the Ohio Collaborative Law Enforcement Accreditation Program.



Bullet Proof Mind Training

Milo Simulator Training



A mobile training officer from OSSC came to the Sheriff's Office from 11/17/2025 until 11/21/2025. He provided MILO Firearms simulator training sessions for (30) deputies while at the Sheriff's Office. Deputies were able to simulate their response to multiple deadly force situations including Active Killer Incidents.

Information from OSSC

Situational Awareness Simulator Training

This free course is designed to provide pertinent and tactically sound instruction in the following areas:

- Decision-making
- Situational awareness
- De-escalation techniques
- Communication
- Tactics for responding to critical incidents
- Neutralization of potential threats
- Proper firearms handling and usage

After each scenario individuals will debrief with an instructor. The goal is to initiate those responding to critical incidents into considering all available information when making split second decisions in situations that are tense, uncertain, complex, and rapidly evolving in order to obtain the optimal outcome.

The OSSC will bring the equipment to a location that is convenient for those attending and run the simulator for the duration of the training.

Opota VR Training



This year we added some virtual reality (VR) based scenario training for our staff, with the assistance of equipment loaned by the Ohio Attorney General's Office. After having one of our instructors attend specialized training, we were able to bring the training here to our staff. Deputies put on the VR headsets and were "dropped" into the virtual world of real-life law enforcement scenarios. Because the videos are filmed with 360-degree cameras — a technique that records the view in every direction at the same time — officers feel as if they're part of the scenario.

In immersing deputies into a simulated lived experience, deputies can use it to transform their own skills and abilities in a safe environment. The deputies become a "fly on the wall" to absorb the critical learning objectives. The viewing was followed up with an extensive debrief led by our instructor. The desired outcome is to improve the response that our deputies provide to people in crisis and to the community we serve.

Topics covered included:

Suicide Prevention
The Teen Brain
Mental Health

Domestic Violence
Irate Families
School Violence

DARE GRADUATIONS

Marion Local Dare Graduation



Immaculate Conception School – Dare Graduation



SPECIAL OLYMPICS BASKETBALL GAME January 13, 2025



MERCER COUNTY FAIR

August 7 – 13, 2025



CIT TRAINING – VAN WERT

May 5, 2025



ASSURE SUICIDE PREVENTION WALK

September 6, 2025

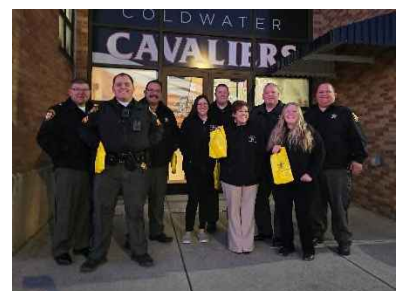


STAFF PHOTOS



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Our office was able to stop in at area schools for their first day and pass out Sheriff's Office pencils! We had so much fun greeting the kids.



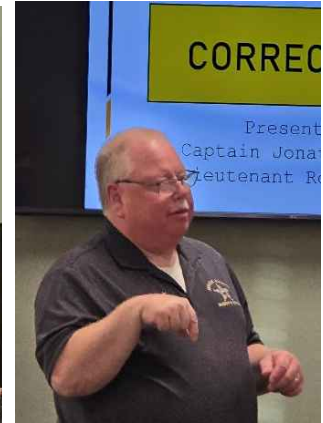
CITIZEN'S ACADEMY

This year, we held our ninth Citizen's Academy. The academy allowed citizens from Mercer County to obtain a "behind the scenes" look at their Sheriff's Office. The students attended informative classes explaining each of the different divisions that make up the Sheriff's Office and how they work together to keep Mercer County safe. They got to interact with numerous members of the office, take part in tours of the facility, and get to be involved in "hands on" demonstrations of the equipment used by our employees. Each student was also given the opportunity to "job shadow" with employees in differing areas of the Sheriff's Office.

There have been (92) students to graduate from the Citizen's Academy since its introduction in 2013. These students come from diverse backgrounds and geographic areas of the county. The class is open to residents of Mercer County who are 18 years of age or older. A background check is required, and class space is limited.

The 2025 Citizen's Academy ran from October 14, 2025, to November 5, 2025.







SHERIFF DOUG TIMMERMAN

Mercer County Sheriff's Office

2025 - CITIZEN'S ACADEMY

October 14, 2025 until November 5, 2025

Class Syllabus

Session 1	Tuesday	October 14, 2025	Introduction to Program	6-9 PM
Session 2	Thursday	October 16, 2025	Enforcement Division Part # 1	6-9 PM
Session 3	Monday	October 20, 2025	Corrections Division	6-9 PM
Session 4	Wednesday	October 22, 2025	911 & Dispatch Services	6-9 PM
Session 5	Saturday	October 25, 2025	Firearms (Outdoor Range)	9-11 AM
Session 6	Monday	October 27, 2025	Enforcement Division Part # 2	6-9 PM
Session 7	Wednesday	October 29, 2025	Civil Division / K-9	6-9 PM
Session 8	Monday	November 3, 2025	Enforcement Division Part # 3	6-9 PM
Session 9	Wednesday	November 5, 2025	Graduation Ceremony	6-8 PM

Session 1 (10/14/2025, Tuesday, 6-9 PM) Instructors: Wehrkamp, Sheriff Timmerman, C/D Everline
Introduction to the program. Overview of Sheriff's Office functions. History of the Office of Sheriff. Staffing and Budgeting. Tour of Enforcement.

Session 2 (10/16/2025, Thursday, 6-9 PM) Instructors: Wehrkamp, Hamberg, Baucher
Enforcement Part 1: Patrol, Detectives, and functions, CVSA, CIT, DNA, Total Station, Drone

Session 3 (10/20/2025, Monday, 6-9 PM) Instructors: Wehrkamp, Wolfe, R. Cupp
Introduction to Corrections: Discuss Corrections, inmate care, Bureau of Detention regulations and jail tour.

Session 4 (10/22/2025, Wednesday, 6-9 PM) Instructors: Wehrkamp, Williams
Introduction to 911 and Dispatch Services: Overview of calls, GPS and LT. as needed by dispatch. Actual time in the 911 Center. **Division Coordination and Collaboration:** How we work together.

Session 5 (10/25/2025, Saturday, 9-11am) Instructors: Wehrkamp, Safety Officers
Firearms: Outdoor Range. Overview of Sheriff's Office firearms. Live Fire.

Session 6 (10/27/2025, Monday, 6-9 PM) Instructors: Wehrkamp, R. Heini, Baucher
Enforcement Part 2: Patrol equipment and vehicle overview. Taser demonstration. Body Camera Overview. Active Killer Response Explanation.

Session 7 (10/29/2025, Wednesday, 6-9 PM) Instructors: Wehrkamp, Fortkamp, Forsthoefel, Heini, Hex
Introduction to Civil / K-9 Demo: Sheriff's Sales, Sex Offenders, DARE, Transports, Court & CCW. K-9 Demonstration.

Session 8 (11/03/2025, Monday, 6-9 PM) Instructors: Wehrkamp, Hamberg, Westgerdes, Fortkamp, Fink
Enforcement Part 3: Drugs, Grand Lake Task Force, Heroin Interdiction Team, and Evidence.

Session 9 (11/05/2025, Wednesday, 6-8 PM) Instructors: Wehrkamp & All Invited
Graduation: Including meal and certificates.

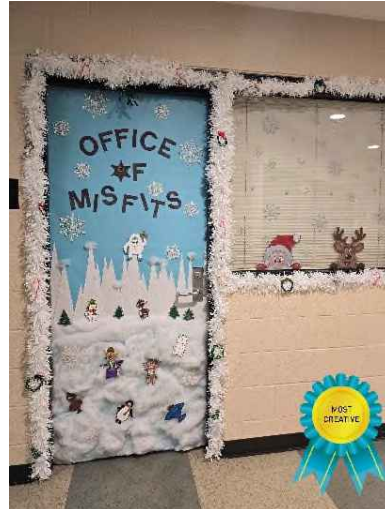
Revised 09/22/2025

CHRISTMAS DOOR DECORATING CONTEST

This year, members of our staff were allowed to choose a door in our office and decorate it in a Christmas theme. Our staff had a great time working on their doors, and the hallway was super festive for the entire month of December! The winners of the doors were chosen during our office Christmas party. Each of the doors were judged by 3 different agencies: one person from our office, one Commissioner, and one Celina PD Officer.



BEST OVERALL:
Patrol Report Tree – Rachel Heini



MOST CREATIVE:
Frosty Door – Kathy Giere



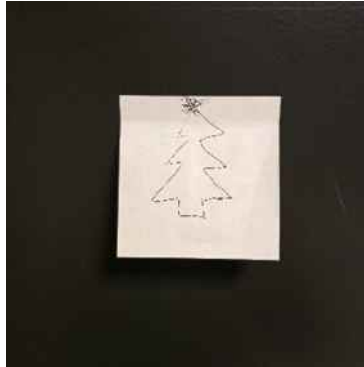
HONORABLE MENTION:
Kandi Kane Lane – Kandi
Baucher



MOST FESTIVE:
Gingerbread House – Rachel Williams







CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the employees of the Sheriff's Office are dedicated individuals who work towards one unified goal: the safety and security of the citizens of Mercer County. The values of our motto are displayed every day.

Many things were accomplished in 2025, and we look forward to serving our community in 2026.

Direct Phone Lines:

Civil Division:

Phone: 419-586-5770

Fax: 419-586-2234

Detention Facility:

Phone: 419-586-5753

Fax: 419-586-9142

Patrol Division:

Phone: 419-586-7724

Fax: 419-586-2234

Central Dispatch:

Phone: 419-586-7724

Fax: 419-586-1979

