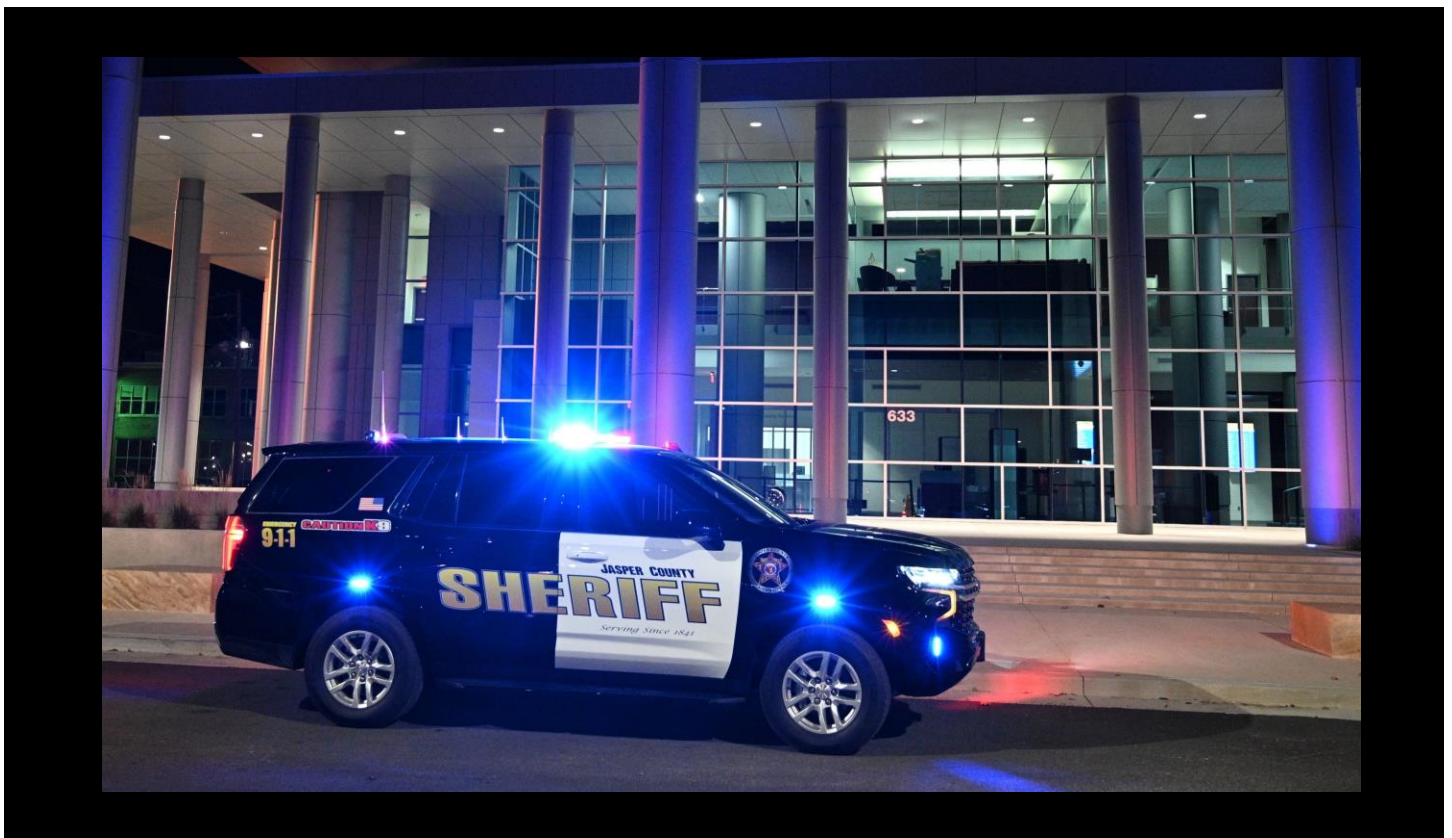


# 2023

## JASPER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE YEAR END REPORT





## **Jasper County Sheriff's Office**

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As we reflect on the past year of accomplishments, there is certainly plenty to take note of. For starters, the Detective Division did some amazing work this year, not the least of which was solving a mail theft ring that included more than 300 Jasper County residents getting their stolen mail returned. The detectives are a group of highly skilled and trained law enforcement officers that continue to solve crimes at a rate above the national average.

When it comes to crime fighting, we certainly take care of business. We take pride in handling the challenges that come with serving this community in a professional way. We are not only invested in fighting crime, but we are also invested in making our community better in every possible way.

The Sheriff's Office received recognition from the Missouri Association of Counties for the innovative idea of having a treatment program for our jail detainees. After a full year of tracking the graduates from the Jail Treatment Program, we found we are dramatically decreasing recidivism, the rate people reoffend and return to jail. We have a dedicated team that is making a huge impact on those who have spent a lifetime battling addiction. The end result is less crime, less strain on the justice system and a better community.

Every day we face a variety of challenges in law enforcement. One minute an officer may be fighting for his life and the next minute he may be required to console a small child, or someone who has lost a loved one. All the while, that officer is asked to do these things with professionalism and compassion. And that compassion can go a long way. After 28 years of serving in law enforcement in this community, I frequently come across people who have had a positive interaction with myself or another member of the Sheriff's Office that had a deep impact on them. You see, anybody can write tickets and make arrests, but doing that while showing compassion is what sets law enforcement officers apart as true professionals.

We continue to remain steady with key numbers such as calls for service, arrests and crime numbers. Those numbers have remained basically unchanged for more than a decade now. We do face challenges today that we did not face just a few years ago, such as a continuing decline in police academy enrollment and workforce shortages. Every single person at the Jasper County Sheriff's Office has a desire to serve their community and I am glad for the choice they have made. Their outstanding work is highlighted in the pages that follow.

Thank you for your continued support.

Randee Kaiser  
Jasper County Sheriff

# Jasper County Detectives Division

The Jasper County Sheriff's Office Detective Division is responsible for a variety of tasks. Along with the traditional roles of detectives, 2023 was a busy year as the unit continued to track registered sex offenders, keeping this community under the national average of non-compliance throughout the year. The Jasper County Sheriff's Office currently monitors 363 sex offenders and has maintained one of the highest compliance rates in the state for registered sex offenders at an average of over 98% compliance.

Along with this, detectives also dedicated time and energy towards cases such as crimes against children, burglaries, thefts, tampering, frauds, and other various cases. This past year the Detectives Division, along with local partners, conducted an undercover operation that was designed for and focused on identifying active human trafficking victims and those who could potentially become victims of human trafficking. The operation was successful as multiple victims were identified and directed to local services.

Jasper County has six detectives that are cross trained in all areas of crime that we investigate on felony levels. For more than a decade now, we have continued to clear cases above the national average. The Detective's Division had been assigned over 500 cases this year, not counting warrant arrests, traffic stops, and other investigations. Often, detectives will help patrol on calls with runaway juveniles or missing people. The detectives continue to go to various training courses to learn the newest ways to collect evidence and conduct investigations.

Detectives also spent time this past year helping with instruction for the Citizens Sheriff Academy, Junior Deputy Academy and Explorers Program. Detectives also responded to Tri-State Major Case Squad callouts, Cellebrite phone extractions for the Sheriff's Office, as well as for local municipalities, court preparation and testimony, off duty callouts and extended investigations such as death investigations, property recovery, and locating missing persons. We also have one detective assigned to the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) and one detective serving with the Ozark Drug Enforcement Team (ODET). Those two units provide invaluable services to our citizens, protecting children from internet predators and working to keep drugs out of our county.

CASE TYPE	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
HOMICIDE	0	0	0	3	1	0
CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN	61	88	57	85	122	86
BURGLARY	96	117	55	65	83	63
FELONY STEALING	98	110	108	149	137	138
TAMPERING	64	70	61	56	74	34
FELONY ASSAULT	9	14	12	10	12	12
ADULT SEX CRIMES	13	10	16	14	14	12



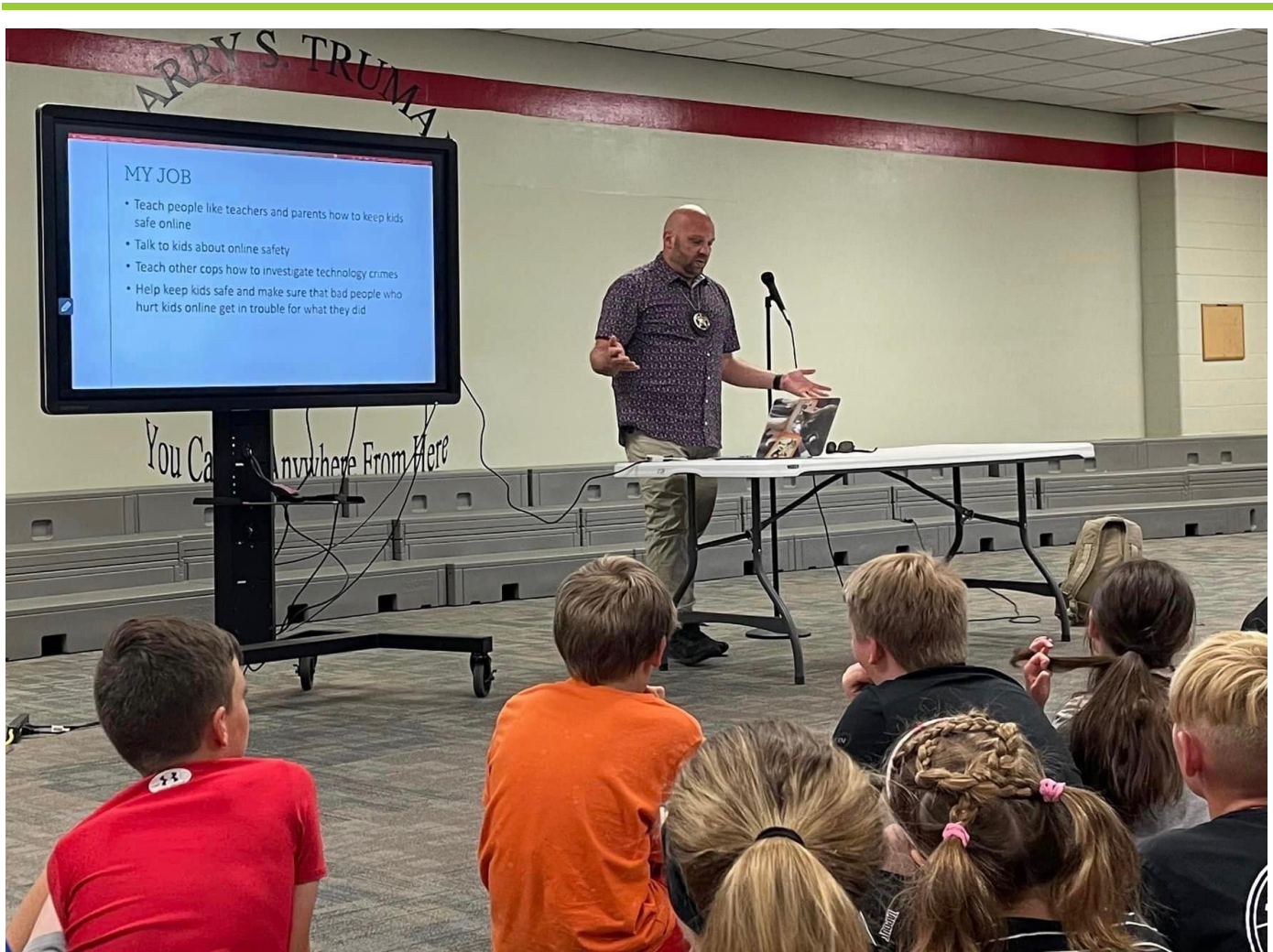
Our Detectives continue to outpace the national average with their clearance rates.

**Burglary 20% vs 14%**  
**Assault 83% vs 53%**  
**Theft/Larceny/Fraud 54% vs 19%**  
**Tampering 58% vs 14%**

Detectives worked on several big cases in 2023. Here work begins on a sub-surface excavation for potential buried evidence.



One number that was up significantly in 2022 was crimes against children. This is primarily because of reports we receive where juveniles are being solicited online. This is a very real problem and a significant danger to our children. As a result of this, we engaged in a number of programs in 2023 to bring awareness to this issue. We held community training events and our detective assigned to the Internet Crimes against Children Task Force, Chris Corbett, spent a lot of time training the public, both adults and children, on how to stay safe online. The Sheriff's Office would like to continue to remind parents and grandparents of this very real threat and that while you would not allow your children to have unsupervised conversations with strangers, it can happen when children have access to internet connected devices.



## **Jasper County Patrol Division**

The Patrol Division is comprised of twenty-eight sworn deputies, all full-time and uniformed. The division is broken down into four (4) shifts, each shift being 12 hours long. These deputies are the most visible representatives of the Jasper County Sheriff's Office. They are dedicated to patrolling and are first responders to all emergencies and calls for service in the community.

In 2023, the patrol division answered 31,003 calls for service. These calls for service included thefts, 911 hang-ups, medical calls, traffic accidents, assaults, animal complaints, and alarm calls, to name a few. Out of the 31,003 calls for service, there were 3,499 reports generated. The Patrol Division conducted 4,609 traffic stops which resulted in 600 citations and 105 DWI arrests. The patrol deputies also made 670 custodial arrests for a variety of offenses. While effecting arrests, force was used 50 times.

While patrolling Jasper County, the deputies conducted 34,913 extra patrols, community checks, and business checks to deter criminal activity. They also participated in DWI Wolf Packs and Hazardous Moving Violation enforcement throughout the county.

Deputies also help with a variety of community events throughout the year including the annual Community Safety Day, Shop with a Deputy, Salvation Army bell ringing, Jasper County Kids Summer Camp and the Jasper County Citizens Academy. These events allow the public to interact with deputies and provide some insight into the work that goes into the daily law enforcement work, all the while, building relationships with those in the community.

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## **Jasper County Reserves**

The Jasper County Sheriff's Office Reserve Unit contributed a total of 1,008 hours to the Sheriff's Office in the 2023 calendar year.

The Reserves work in a variety of areas including civil process, transportation, patrol, court security and assorted security details as well as SWAT.

In the fall of 2023, a new reserve deputy was added to the ranks to bring the total number of reserve officers to seven. There are also two certified firearms instructors that conduct training in fundamental handgun skills and assist with the Jasper County Sheriff's Office firearms qualifications.

All the reserve officers are POST trained and, along with assisting the Sheriff's Office throughout the year with everyday duties and tasks, they also work special security details such as Marian Days and the Maple Leaf Festival.

## Airport Drive

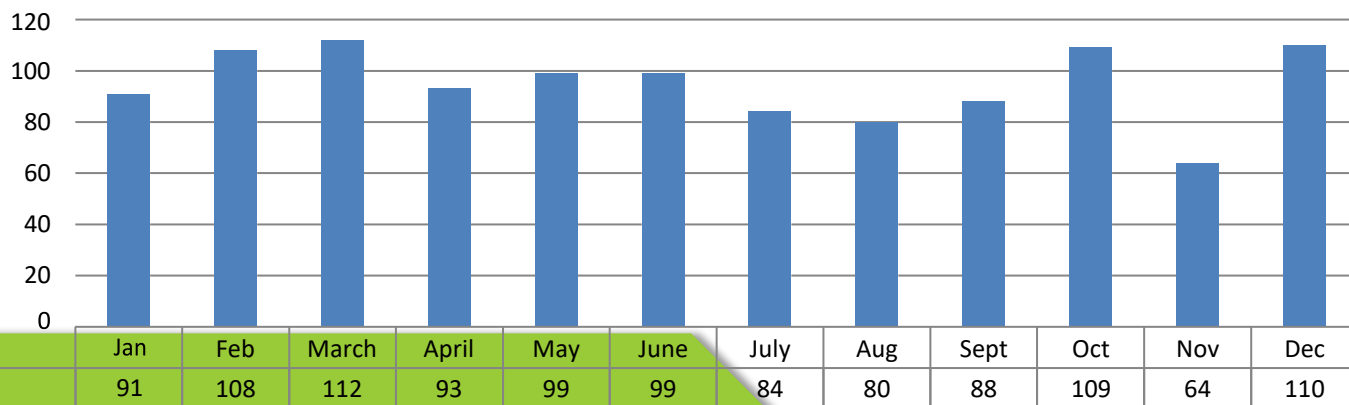
2023	
911 Hangups	136
Alarm Calls	117
Animal Complaints	47
Assaults	4
Burglary Calls	4
Careless Driving Complaints	57
Check Well Beings	51
Domestic Disturbances	25
Drug Offenses	2
Fraud Calls	17
Harassment	5
Indecent Exposure	1
Intoxicated Subject Calls	7
Medical Calls	43
Motorist Assists	37
Motor Vehicle Accidents	97
Nuisance Complaints	26
Property Damage	5
Robbery Calls	1
Stealing	78
Stolen Vehicle	1
Suicidal Subject (includes 96 hr. calls for service)	4
Suspicious Activity (includes person and vehicles)	62
Trespassing	22
Threats	4
Vehicle Fire	2
Vehicle Lockouts	26
Weapon Complaint (includes Gunshots Heard)	3
Department Assists (includes DFS Assists)	17

The Jasper County Sheriff's Office continues contracting with Airport Drive for law enforcement services. Three deputies are assigned to patrol Airport Drive. They perform many roles, including community policing, business checks, enforcing Airport Drive city ordinances, and traffic control. Currently Sgt. Crossley, Deputy Henry, and Deputy Linder are in this assignment.



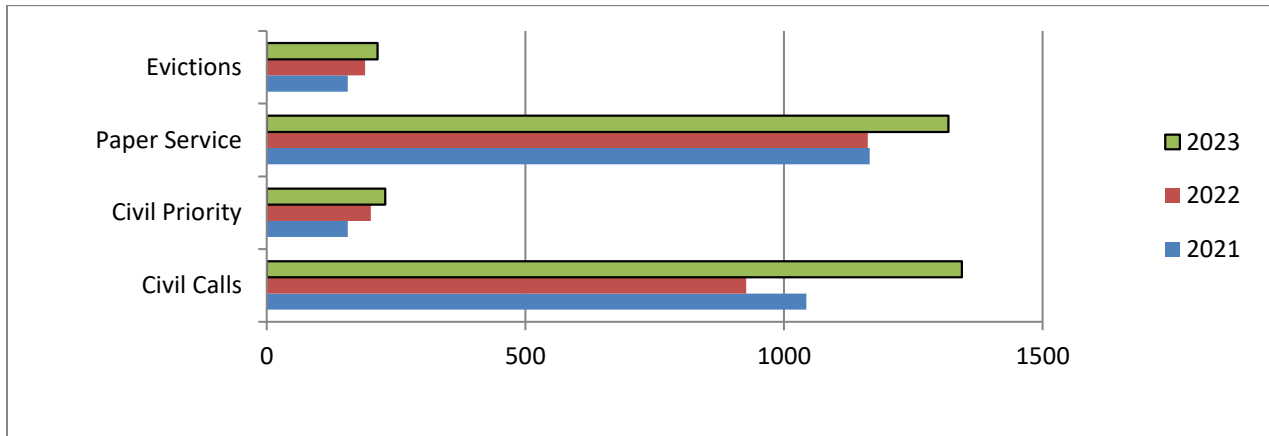
## Calls for Service

(Minus Traffic Stops)



## Civil Process Division

In 2023, the Jasper County Sheriff's Office handled just over 4,500 documents for service. This represents a nine percent (9%) increase over the 4,116 documents served in 2022. This year we answered 1,344 civil calls for service, which is nearly a 45 percent increase over 2022 when we answered 927 such calls.



The Civil Process Division serves summons, writs (wage garnishments or other Court ordered execution of judgments), and other legal documents. Some examples are:

- Landlord –Tenant disputes
- Divorce proceedings and child custody hearings
- Real estate attachments and seizures
- Sheriff sales of property
- Subpoena of witness
- Ex partes (restraining orders)
- Replevins and Levies

In 2023, the Civil Process Division served 3,521 summons and writs (18 percent increase from 2022), 515 subpoenas and 837 ex-partes (9 percent increase from 2022). In addition, the Civil Process Division attempted to serve 723 individuals with some form of legal process but were unable to locate them.

Also, we handled 27 Civil Standbys (steady with 2022). The Sheriff's Office serves court orders for the removal of persons from the residence or other places, so the property may be restored to the property owner. There were a total of 214 forcible evictions/foreclosures in 2023.



## Jasper County K-9 Division

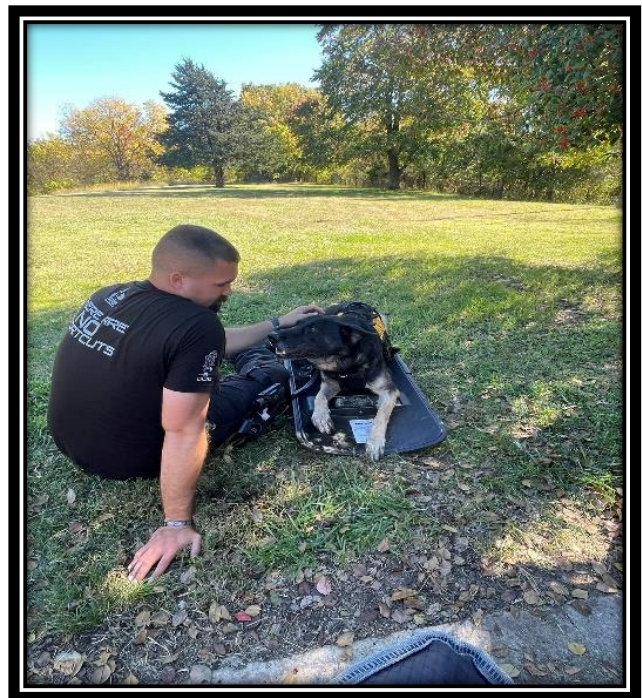
The Jasper County Sheriff's Office K-9 Division consists of two teams, Sergeant Nathan Deherrera / K-9 Arner (Certified in Narcotics) and Deputy Darren Prater / K-9 Valor (Certified in Narcotics and Patrol).

During the 2023 calendar year, our K-9 teams assisted local, state, and federal agencies. All Jasper County Sheriff's Office K-9 teams must undergo yearly in-house testing to maintain standards that have been set by the Sheriff. Each team is also required to complete a yearly accreditation through North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA), which is a nationally recognized certifying organization. The team is trained bi-weekly by a (NAPWDA) Master Trainer.

Each year, our K-9 teams educate the general public and community in the variety of resources our teams provide and on how a well-trained dog and handler can benefit our area. Some of the positive community relations the K-9 Division worked to build include demonstrations at schools, various community events, the Jasper County Sheriff's Office Community Safety Day, and the Jasper County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Academy. Through demonstrations, handlers educate the public about how often a K-9 team can be utilized and what types of instruction is used to train the dogs.

The Jasper County K-9 Division located 209 Fentanyl pills, many other types of illegal narcotics and located numerous firearms in 2023. The division also located six lost individuals and arrested 14 fugitives this past year.

Deputy Prater was selected, after an extensive selection process, to be the K-9 Division's second handler for K-9 Valor. They graduated the Handlers Course in November and have actively begun to do their part to help keep the community safe with proactive policing and assisting other agencies.



The K-9 Division had a tumultuous year, dealing with restructuring, unforeseen events, and two tragic losses. On February 24<sup>th</sup>, the K9 Division suffered a tremendous loss with the sudden passing of K-9 Skye. K-9 Skye had served the Sheriff's Office for five years when she suffered a medical episode, passing away at home with her handler, Deputy Joseph Deras, at her side. K9 Skye assisted with tracking and locating numerous suspects and lost children throughout her career and will be deeply missed by her family and the Sheriff's Office. On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, retired K9 Gunny passed away. K9 Gunny had served many productive years with the Sheriff's Office, seeing multiple handlers during his career, eventually retiring with former Deputy Jeremy Eads. Members of the Jasper County K9 Division, the Joplin Police Department K9 Division, and Patriot K9 presented Jeremy with an urn containing K9 Gunny's ashes.

## K-9 SKYE

*EOW February 24, 2023*

*Jasper County Sheriff's Office*



*Partner - Friend - Family*



**K-9 GUNNY**  
**JASPER COUNTY**  
**SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**EOW: December 2, 2023**



# Detention Center

As we bid farewell to 2023, it is with great pride that we reflect on the remarkable journey our division has experienced over the past 12 months. As we highlight the significant accomplishments and milestones achieved by our dedicated team, it gives us a chance to truly appreciate all of the hard work that goes in to running an operation of this size.

A crowning achievement for our division most recently was the prestigious award bestowed upon us by the Missouri Association of Counties in September. Our innovative approach to addiction treatment garnered well-deserved state-wide recognition, reflecting our unwavering dedication to providing cutting edge solutions to address the complex challenges of addiction.

Recognizing the pivotal role our staff plays in the success of our programs, the Detention Center placed a strong emphasis on training initiatives throughout the year. Scheduling training always proves to be a challenge, but Investing in the professional development of our team members not only enhances their skills but also ensures the delivery of high-quality services to our community.

In 2023 we saw the welcome addition of several new faces to our Detention family. These talented individuals bring diverse skills and perspectives, enriching our collaborative environment. Notably, the introduction of a new case worker to our treatment program further strengthens our capacity to provide personalized and comprehensive care to those in need.

Looking ahead to 2024, the Detention Center is excited to implement substantial enhancements to our facilities. Our ambitious plans include retrofitting all existing door locks with a more secure design and introducing touchless sinks throughout the facility. These upgrades not only prioritize the safety and well-being of our community and staff but also align with our commitment to safety and health of those in our facility.

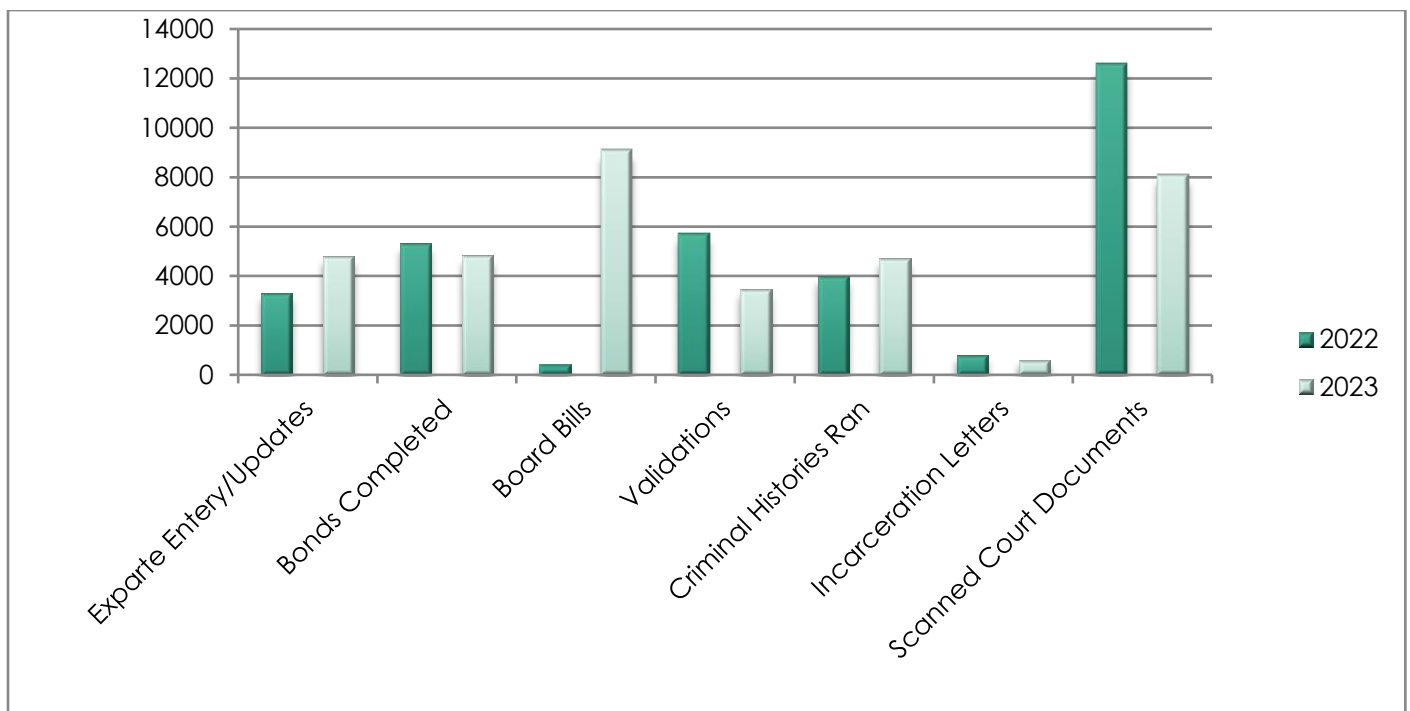
The Detention Center remains resolute in its commitment to community services. We will continue to offer a wide array of services, including Life Choices programs, religious services, and various educational programming services. These initiatives underscore our dedication to addressing some of the needs of those we serve.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF INMATES INCARCERATED MONTHLY—6 YEAR PERIOD

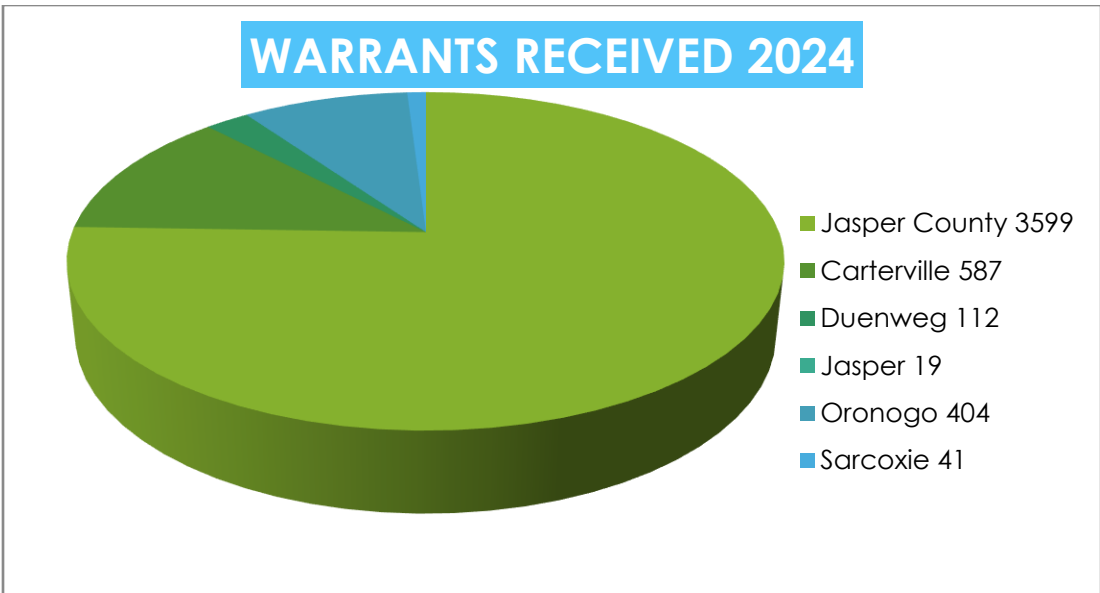
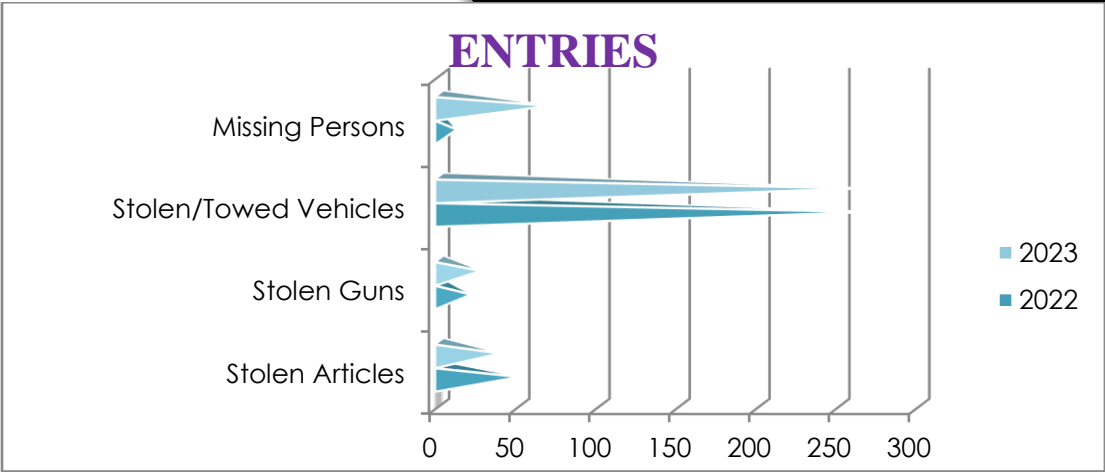
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
JAN	235	221	187	189	173	181
FEB	228	257	183	196	192	193
MAR	236	230	185	176	202	196
APR	252	192	131	182	204	205
MAY	251	195	141	190	207	199
JUN	222	202	159	182	221	219
JUL	237	187	165	182	215	223
AUG	239	178	202	189	222	209
SEPT	224	176	199	190	219	224
OCT	236	172	182	183	231	227
NOV	222	177	173	192	215	211
DEC	208	168	176	179	194	195
ANNUAL AVG	233	196	174	186	208	207

# Warrants Division

The Warrants Division is staffed 24 hours a day and consists of 2 Sergeants, 1 Corporal, 6 Warrants Deputies and 1 Court Deputy. Every employee in the Warrant's Division is MULES certified by the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Warrants officers are sent for numerous trainings throughout the year in order to maintain certifications and continually grow our department's knowledge.



Some responsibilities of the Warrants Division include keeping an accurate count of inmates coming and going from the facility. The Warrants Deputies maintain door security of arrivals and releases, maintain the jail management system with accurate record keeping, registering sex offenders when needed, answering inmate correspondences, and communicating with other agencies for pick up and release of inmates. Other duties consist of entering and validating warrants, ex partes, stolen guns, stolen and towed vehicles, other stolen items, and missing persons. These entries and validations are done for Jasper County and five city agencies within Jasper County. Our Court Clerk communicates with the courts on docket entries and inmate court lists. This year we received approximately 24,230 emails from the court. Last year we received approximately 22,275 emails from the court.



#### Average Daily Inmate Count 2023

January	181
February	193
March	196
April	205
May	199
June	219
July	223
August	209
September	224
October	227
November	211
December	195
<b>Total</b>	<b>207</b>

## Transportation Division

The Transportation Division, consisting of five deputies, often assists with duties that support the jail staff in the detention facility, with patrol duties, as well as bailiff and legal paper service when necessary. The Transportation Division is also responsible for arranging and handling all warrant and waiver extraditions to the Jasper County Detention Center and conducting the live video court hearings for our county and other jurisdictions.

Of course, the primary duties include transporting inmates to and from the courts in Jasper County, to and from other detention centers, hospitals, medical appointments, and mental health facilities in Missouri as well as from other states and transporting convicted felons to and from the Missouri Department of Corrections. This past year, the division logged more than 100,000 miles and delivered 131 inmates to the Department of Corrections.



## Jail Treatment Program

It was a productive year for the Jasper County Jail Treatment Program. Thirty-eight new participants were admitted into the 120-day program and 92 percent of them graduated! We learned just as much from our participants as they did from us and look forward to continuing to make this program better each year. We would also like to take a moment to acknowledge that the community support for our program is very much appreciated, and together with our community, we look forward to changing lives. Upon tracking the first 40 of our 52 treatment graduates over the past year, we were able to see that particular group had picked up three new charges. That is a 7% recidivism rate. This is a dramatic difference from the control group of 40 individuals who have not been through the treatment program, who had picked up 17 new charges (a 43% recidivism rate). The national average of individuals returning to prison after release is 46%. We are excited to see how many lives we can positively impact with this program.



## Community Events



Columbian second graders were among more than 300 children who toured the Jasper County Sheriff's Office throughout the year. Children and adults alike frequently tour our buildings to learn a little more about the operations of the Sheriff's Office.

Sgt. Tom Crossley was nominated for the Local Government Hero award this year. He was a top five finalist in Missouri. He was recognized for his outstanding work in the community of Airport Drive. Some of the community events that Sgt. Crossley organizes or helps with include pictures and cookies with Santa, Cupid and candy for widows at Valentines, water balloon fight with the youth, and community outdoor movie night. Sgt. Crossley has been a member of the Jasper County Sheriff's Office since June of 1995.





Outdoor movie night in the summer of 2023 was a big hit in Airport Drive, one of the communities the Sheriff's Office serves. Deputies and members of the community enjoyed an evening movie behind city hall.



Newstalk KZRG radio host Peter Thiele puts on his toughest look as he prepares to take the battering ram to a metal door during the annual Community Safety Day this past May.



More than 300 Jasper County residents stop by for free food and fun every year. Besides SWAT exercises such as this, there are K-9 demonstrations, firearms safety demonstrations with a chance for target practicing on the 'smokeless range' and plenty of time to spend interacting with the Sheriff's Office employees.



Twice a year, citizens have the opportunity to attend the Jasper County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Academy. The Spring and Fall classes are a big hit as members of our community can see the many functions within the Sheriff's Office.

This includes a tour of the jail and the 911 center. Participants can gain insight into daily activities of the patrol division, detective division and the Ozark Drug Task Force. Just to name a few.



The Jasper County Sheriff's Posse prepares for the annual Maple Leaf Parade. This group of mounted volunteers assists the Sheriff's Office in many ways, including searching for missing persons and community events. They are also one of the few Sheriff's Poses in Missouri that are trained in rescue, basic first aid and trauma, as well as evidence preservation and recovery. They are a huge asset and we are very fortunate that they are willing to serve and represent our county.

The Junior Deputy Summer Camp offered a fascinating and immersive experience to kids aged 12-14. Over the course of four days these enthusiastic young participants learned through on-hands experience. The campers had the opportunity to interact with K-9 officers, understanding how they assist deputies in various tasks, and they explored the cutting-edge technology of drone usage in modern law enforcement. They learned about the SWAT team and firearm safety and then finished the day at the range shooting .22 conversion Glocks with the rangemaster. From drug enforcement strategies to an eye-opening guided tour of the detention center, the Junior Deputies gained valuable insights into the efforts aimed at combating drug-related issues and understanding the workings of correctional facilities. Through practical exercises, they received hands-on experiences during simulated car stop scenarios, building clearing and handcuffing techniques. To end the week, the Junior Deputies were detectives-in-training; they explored the intricacies of crime scene investigation, from foot impression recovery, to photography, fingerprints, blood spatter analysis, and even understanding gunshot trajectory. The culmination of the week involved working a mock crime scene where what they had learned was put to the test.

