The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office was created in 1861, when El Paso County was formed as one of the 17 counties created in 1861, when El Paso County was created in the new Colorado Territory. Sheriff R. Scott Kelley was appointed Sheriff, the first of 27 men to hold that title over the first of 27 men to hold that title over the 153 years. Sheriff Kelley to Sheriff Maketa understands the importance of the mission of the Office and the need for the services we provide. They have provided that service with professionalism unmatched by any law enforcement agency in the country.

The Office has evolved from the Sheriff to a force of 526 sworn members, 262 civilian support staff, and 527 volunteers. This report is a salute to every man and woman who chose to serve the citizens of El Paso County as members of the Sheriff’s Office.

But one tradition has never changed: The professionalism and dedication of the men and women who have worked for the Office.

They have been called the “backbone,” “lifeblood,” and “heart” of the Office. They have dedicated their lives and the use of technology. Call boxes on street corners have given way to digital radios and iPhones. We have seen the Courts Unit change from a jail without indoor plumbing or electric lights to a twenty-first-century tower. We have seen the Canine unit introduced, the TASER is introduced. And they have provided that service with professionalism unmatched by any law enforcement agency in the country.

The Sheriff’s Office has seen significant changes over the last 153 years. Green uniforms gave way to tan and brown uniforms, which ultimately gave way to our current gray and blue uniforms. The Sheriff’s Office has seen significant changes over the last 153 years. Green uniforms gave way to tan and brown uniforms, which ultimately gave way to our current gray and blue uniforms.

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The old Mesa jail was remodeled to house Work Release inmates, and we opened a new list bed minimum security facility designed to maximize supervision of inmates. The jail was expanded with a new, secure facility, and SHERIFF was installed. This allows the operator to see any contraband internally or externally on an inmate being processed into the Criminal Justice Center.

We purchased 148 WRASs for deputies in Detentions and on Patrol, providing access to life savings data when necessary. Patrol offices were created within each Patrol vehicle, enabling deputies in vehicles to receive an accurate, as well as a forward and rear facing, live video feed of the inside of the vehicle. A new Computer-Aided Dispatch system was installed and has increased our mapping capabilities. A modern Records Management System was implemented to bring the Sheriff's Office into compliance with federal crime data submission guidelines.

The Cheyenne Mountain Shooting Complex was opened, offering a clean, safe, and accessible range for the public and law enforcement. A lawsuit was filed by 54 County Sheriffs against the State of Colorado for passing laws which criminalize the law-abiding citizen. The Community Detoxification Facility was opened, offering a clean, safe, and accessible range for the public and law enforcement.

With the passing of 1A ‘Support our Sheriff,’ we have been able to fix our staff levels in our gone to a new list bed minimum security facility designed to maximize supervision of inmates. The jail was expanded with a new, secure facility, and SHERIFF was installed. This allows the operator to see any contraband internally or externally on an inmate being processed into the Criminal Justice Center.

A new Computer-Aided Dispatch system was installed and has increased our mapping capabilities. A modern Records Management System was implemented to bring the Sheriff's Office into compliance with federal crime data submission guidelines.

This letter does not begin to express all of the progress we have made in the last 12 years. It has been an honor to work with the people I work with here at the Sheriff’s Office. This report will highlight many of the achievements by the people at the Sheriff’s Office and will also showcase some achievements of the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office. To the citizens, thank you for putting your trust in me and it has been a privilege to serve as your County Sheriff for the past 12 years. Thank you for your support of the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office. To the citizens, thank you for your support of the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office.
Patrol Division

The Patrol Division is the second largest Division in the Sheriff’s Office with 163 authorized positions. It’s important to recognize that although the overall law enforcement mission is the same throughout the Division, there are many moving parts and specialized units which make the Division a multifaceted operation that never sleeps. The specialized units and teams serve to enhance the patrol response or to offer unique skill sets not available in the field. The same units are also used to focus an investigation or resolve an incident as safely and efficiently as possible.

The Patrol Section is of course the most visible aspect of the Division as it’s the deputies assigned there who interface with the citizens the most by answering the nearly 45,000 calls for service which will be received this year. As the Patrol Section has grown due to the hiring made possible by the voters’ approval of tax initiative 1A in 2012, there is a visible change in the shift briefings: more deputies sitting around the table eager and excited to hit the streets and make a positive difference in the community. But what has also changed, and began well before 2012, is the Patrol Division’s ability and readiness due to technology and additional equipment to complete its mission successfully and safely.

2003

The Crime Reduction Unit (CRU) is a semi-undercover, rapid-response team that supports Law Enforcement and Detention operations of the Sheriff’s Office. The duties and responsibilities of CRU deputies vary greatly, but can generally be summed up as encompassing fugitive apprehension, case follow-up in support of Patrol Deputies, response to crime-related tips, and self-initiated investigation. Any of these duties may take priority at any given time. CRU deputies regularly work interactively with officers and agents from a number of local and federal agencies. These include ATF, FBI, the United States Marshals Service, the United States Postal Inspection Service, local police departments, and others. Additionally, CRU deputies work tips and leads which are received from a number of sources, including Crime Stoppers, anonymous calls, requests from other agencies, information shared by other deputies, and more. Much of the work typically done by CRU deputies originates as a simple warrant service or traffic stop. But these contacts have often been taken further by the deputies’ developing probable cause to secure search warrants for motel rooms, apartments, vehicles, and houses. The search warrants have resulted in the recovery of several methamphetamine labs and hundreds of thousands of dollars’ worth of illegal drugs and stolen property.

These advancements are seen by simply looking at how each patrol car is equipped and the items worn on a deputy’s duty belt now compared to even 10 short years ago. Sheriff Maketa ensured this Office has remained progressive by offering the proper tools and equipment to deputies to enhance their personal safety and their ability to carry out the duties expected of them each day. Mobile Data Computers (MDC), vehicle mounted RADAR units, and Electronic Control Devices (Tasers) are just a few examples. MDCs allow deputies to receive not only live updates to all calls for service right into the MDC mounted in their vehicle; they can enter their own updates to the call which becomes part of the permanent record in the Computer Aided Dispatch system without having to use air time to conduct a radio transmission, and can rely on the MDC mapping system to point them to the location of the call and the location of other patrol units. The mapping capabilities alone allow for a more timely response and better coordination of responding units. Vehicle mounted RADAR units have provided versatility in the area of traffic enforcement. Rather than having to park along the side of the roadway to monitor the speed of traffic, deputies can be actively patrolling while monitoring the speed of traffic traveling toward or away from the front or rear of the patrol vehicle.

The Office maintains a healthy approach in its traffic enforcement, providing far more warnings than citations at almost a 2-to-1 ratio with the goal to impact traffic safety and safeguard the motoring public. Electronic Control Devices, more commonly referred to as Tasers, have provided a less lethal option for controlling a potentially or actual combative suspect, often gaining compliance from the suspect with just the display of the Taser. The compliance gained reduces the chance for injury to the deputy as well as the suspect.

As 2014 comes to a close, it’s exciting to reflect on the activities and professional work accomplished by the dedicated members of the Patrol Division throughout the year. Due to the unpredictability of many aspects of law enforcement, any given year presents its challenges; however, with each call for service, whether it be out of the ordinary, comes an opportunity to serve and protect the citizens who rely on the men and women of this Office, a duty our employees stand ready to fulfill.

Major Crimes Unit

The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Major Crimes Unit consists of five detectives assigned to investigating homicides, robberies, assaults, and any other major case. In 2014 the Major Crimes Unit investigated numerous cases to include four homicides.

In May of 2014, detectives were called to investigate the death of a male party in the Security area. The male party was lured to the address and shot with a .50 caliber pistol. Three suspects were arrested for first degree murder. Later in the month of May, detectives were contacted by Pueblo County to assist with a homicide investigation. Pueblo had recovered a body of a man who had ties to El Paso County. Within a short period of time detectives determined the homicide was committed in El Paso County, identified two suspects, and arrested the individuals involved.

Detectives also investigated a death resulting from a fight in Security. The male victim was engaged in an altercation when the suspect applied a choke hold, ultimately contributing to the death of the victim.

In September of 2014, detectives investigated a shooting near Calhan involving a dispute over dumping sewage. The victim was shot five times at close range and a small child was almost struck by a bullet.

Detectives promptly and efficiently investigated all homicides, making arrests on three of the cases and continuing their investigation of the fourth. The Major Crimes Unit worked as a team and continues to show its professionalism and knowledge when investigating major crimes.

General Crimes Unit

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office General Crimes Unit is composed of four detectives conducting follow-up investigation into property-related and miscellaneous felonious crimes.

In 2014, the Unit was tasked with the investigation of approximately 82 property related cases. The Unit was involved in the investigation of several high-profile cases including an organized group committing burglaries in the Black Forest area, an organized group committing credit card skimmer identity theft, and a severe animal abuse case which garnered international attention. Some of the cases investigated have netted multiple arrests and were found to have multi-jurisdictional ties.

The Unit continued collaborative working relationships with local law enforcement agencies, as well as federal law enforcement personnel. These relationships have led to intelligence sharing, joint investigations, and operations to reduce motor vehicle theft-related incidents through the Southern Colorado Auto Theft Task Force.
The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Financial Crimes Unit went through some changes in 2014 with the retirement of a senior financial crimes detective. The additional three detectives stepped up to the plate and took on a heavy case load while still assisting on several other cases, to include a kidnapping in the Falcon neighborhood. With the addition of a new detective, the Unit again consisted of four detectives assigned to investigating fraud, forgery, identity theft, counterfeiting, theft, and embezzlement.

In 2014, the Financial Crimes Unit investigated numerous cases and worked with local and national agencies to identify and arrest suspects.

One specific case the Financial Crimes Unit investigated involved the Colorado Springs Police Department, along with Monument Police and Fountain Police. The investigation was on a group of suspects placing Bluetooth skimmers on local area gas pumps. The skimmers would record credit card information when customers paid for gas at the pumps. The suspects would then use Bluetooth technology to retrieve the card information. The stolen information was copied onto a magnetic strip of another card which they then used to buy several thousand dollars in gift cards from local area merchants at their self-check-out registers. The suspects were identified and either arrested or warrants were issued for their arrest.

In 2013, newly elected Sheriff Terry Maketa reestablished the Canine Unit. The Office had not had an active Canine Unit since the early 1990s. Learning from past experiences, the new Canine Unit would have three handlers and a supervisor. The Unit debuted in mid-2003 with Sgt. Bob McDonald and Deputies Mark Miller, Sean Hartley, and Dave Yarbrough, along with their four-legged partners, Chase, Justice, and Ivar. The new Unit hit the ground running, providing a new tool for the Office to employ. The three European-bred German Sheppard dogs, were dual purpose Patrol and Narcotics Detection trained. The teams served as a ready back up for Patrol; they also served as a resource for the Detention Bureau during ward shakedowns. The canine’s sensitive noses came in handy for tracking and article recovery. The Canine Unit serves as a force multiplier, the team is able to search a building quicker and safer with fewer personnel. In many instances, the mere presence of the Canine Unit has gained compliance from an otherwise uncooperative suspect.

Since its reactivation, the Canine Unit has recovered in excess of $1.4 million in narcotics and has assisted in countless building searches and in locating 130 fugitives. The Canine Unit has also integrated itself into the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team, deploying as a member of the containment team to aid in recovering suspects fleeing a location or as a member of the entry team aiding in the search. The Unit also has hosted two regional canine certification trials and in 2007, the Sheriff’s Office hosted the National Detector Dog trials.

In 2003, newly elected Sheriff Terry Maketa introduced the Jail Mental Health Aftercare Program in an effort to combat the return to custody (recidivism rate) of offenders who suffer from diagnosed mental health conditions that often contribute to their criminal behavior. The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office entered into a partnership with ComCor, Inc. to provide post-release offenders who suffer from mental illness with case management and therapy in an effort to stabilize and rehabilitate them. Potential candidates are assessed and referred to ComCor, Inc. as appropriate and a portion of the inmate processing fee is used to financially support the program. The program has experienced significant success, significantly reducing the recidivism rate among this particular population.
Sex Crimes & Crimes Against Children Unit

The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Sex Crimes/Crimes Against Children Unit conducts follow-up investigations of cases involving felony sexual assault, incest, and various crimes against children. The Unit interfaces with the Department of Human Services, hospital staff, and other law enforcement personnel on child abuse referrals.

In 2014, the Unit was tasked with the investigation of approximately 249 cases, of which approximately 135 were crimes against children, in addition to a number of重大 child abuse investigations. The Unit was instrumental in building a collaborative working relationship with the Department of Human Services as well as community resources such as Safe Passage. Of note, the Unit was involved in the investigation of several high profile cases involving local educators. In each of these cases, the involved teachers have been charged with Sexual Assault on a Child by One in Position of Trust.

House Bill 1020 went into effect in 2014, mandating most of the Sexual Assault Forensic Collection kits be sent for DNA testing. Although this has not significantly affected current case testing, it was a catalyst to review a number of cold cases.

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Sex Offender Registration Unit

The Sex Offender Registration Unit is composed of one registration coordinator and supported by a number of sex crimes detectives, as well as patrol personnel working in conjunction to effectively provide accurate and timely tracking of registered sex offenders within unincorporated El Paso County.

In 2014, the Unit was responsible for tracking 380 and 385 active registered sex offenders each month through the year 2014. Such activity included quarterly and annual registrations, home visit verifications, and collection of approximately $20,000 in registration funds which were used to enhance the effectiveness of the program.

Through concerted efforts tracking registered offenders, as of October 1, 2014, fifteen offenders were identified to be non-compliant in regards to failing to register as a sex offender, which resulted in the issuance of arrest warrants for those offenders. A number of offenders were subsequently arrested and brought back into compliance.

Sheriff Maketa began holding Community Meetings throughout El Paso County. The intent of the meetings was to share crime-related data with citizens and discuss priorities, and to address concerns and crime-related issues. Furthermore, it offered an opportunity for citizens to voice their concerns and to gain a better understanding of the operation of the Sheriff’s Office. Attendees are given presentations on crime prevention, neighborhood watch, business watch, sex offender registration updates, and budget updates as they relate to the County’s overall financial situation with regard to how that could impact service delivery. These meetings provided a great venue for creating a stronger partnership between the Sheriff’s Office and community members. In a typical year, six to eight meetings are hosted throughout the County.

The Crime Analyst is a full-time civilian position designed to enhance the capabilities of the first responders and investigators. This goal is accomplished by reviewing case reports, dispatch logs, criminal history records, other agency crime bulletins, gang-related databases, jail and prison history records to join evidence, and circumstances found in individual cases. The compilation of information often brings to light details which paint the incriminating finger to one suspect. The Crime Analyst also acts as a liaison with surrounding local agencies and their crime analysts to work across jurisdictional lines because, as everyone is aware, crime knows no boundaries.

The information such as patterns, suspect descriptions, vehicles descriptions, as well as modus operandi, is passed along to the patrolling deputies in the field. This information allows the field deputy to focus on businesses or residential areas identified as having an increased risk to receive a higher patrol presence needed to deter crime and contact suspects or vehicles matching the description of suspects committing the crime.

In addition, the Crime Analyst provides vital information to the investigator. Often an investigator working a case is simply not aware of another case with common factors. The case can be separated by time, geographic factors, or is simply reported differently or reported by a different agency. The Crime Analyst is trained and in tune with events occurring within El Paso County and often has information unavailable to the investigator. Once the Crime Analyst has all the information gathered from various available sources and the information is reviewed, the Crime Analyst meets with the investigator and discusses the common factors that point to a suspect or suspects. That information is then used to arrest and ultimately prosecute the offender.

In June, the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office hired Valerie Moser as their new Crime Analyst. Valerie comes to El Paso County with twenty-three years of related law enforcement experience. She started her career with the Fairfax County Police Department in Virginia, having worked for them for nineteen years. After the September 11th attacks, Valerie worked in their Crime Analyst Unit Task Force and assisted with organized crime investigations in the National Capital Region until the summer of 2010, when she and her family moved to Colorado Springs after her husband Larry, also with Fairfax County Police, retired. From 2010 until June of 2014, she was a crime analyst with the East Metro Auto Theft Team, a task force targeting auto theft and related offenses in the Denver Metro Area. Due to the types of investigations Valerie has been involved in, and the extensive training she possesses, Valerie has already proven to be a valuable asset to the Sheriff’s Office, having captured information on a variety of cases which have allowed deputies to move investigations forward swiftly and with arrests.

Sheriff’s Office introduced its first annual Teen Academy in July of 2004. The academy is designed to give young adults between the ages of 14 to 17 an opportunity to learn about the Sheriff’s Office operations. The students learn through a combination of classroom instruction, practical demonstration, and hands-on training. The one-week academy is held every year during the summer months. Since the inception of this program 250 teens have had the opportunity to attend this academy. This program did not require additional tax funds.
The Sheriff’s Office Wildland engine was identified as the second dispatched resource for those federal lands, which also insured the closest firefighting resource was dispatched in a timely manner.

The seasonal staffing allowed the Sheriff’s Office Type III engine to be resourced nationally. This resulted in four resource orders for the engine and in return brought significant revenues back to the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Wildland Section budget. During the time the engine was staffed with volunteers from the Wildland section, the seasonal program continued to provide seven-day-week coverage. Having the seasonal program in place allowed the deployment of the engine while increasing the wild fire fighting capabilities of the county.

The seasonal personnel were instrumental in accomplishing the move of all the equipment, logistics, and vehicles from the County Fire Base to the new County Fire Base on Mark Dabling. They also assisted in the move of Emergency Services Division, Wildland Fire Section, personnel to the new location. No additional county funds were needed to accomplish the exhausting task of the move. They were also able to elevate the county’s available fire suppression resources.

In 2014 fires were attacked aggressively with overwhelming resources; and as a result of the rapid response of firefighting resources, fires were kept manageable. Fire crews were able to respond in under ten minutes to larger fires within the county of dispatch. The county crew has increased its reputation as a reliable resource by outside partner agencies. Fire Protection District and Volunteer Fire Departments within the urban environment have come to rely on the knowledge of the County Wildland Crew, knowing they will respond to provide both fire suppression resources as well as overhead leadership/guidance. Strong partnerships have been established with the Green Mountain Falls/Chipita Park FPD, Cascade FPD, Crystal Park VFD and Southwest Highway 115 FPD. The El Paso County Wildland program was also able to reach out to other agencies and provided training and coordination with those agencies. They also participated in community education programs and community support events.

Following the catastrophic 2013 Wildland Fire season, three seasonal firefighter positions were funded for 2014. The selection process started in February 2014 with the first seasonal firefighter starting on April 14, 2014. It was an immediate success, allowing the Sheriff’s Office Wildland engine to respond with a crew of two for initial attack on reported fires. On May 1, 2014, two additional seasonal firefighter positions were staffed as fire danger increased, allowing the Wildland program to have three total seasonal fire fighters and two full-time employees as engine captains. With the staffing of three firefighters and two engine captains, a Type IV Incident Commander could respond with a fully staffed Type III or Type VI engine. Having the fire personnel located at County Fire Base reduced the response time and provided an increase in service to the citizens of El Paso County. With the continued vigilance by citizens who had the ongoing memories of both the Waldo Canyon Fire and Black Forest Fire fresh in their minds, there was an increase in calls for service. Having the ability to respond quickly with firefighting equipment reassured the community there was a need, based on the conditions, which was recognized and immediately addressed by the Sheriff to provide a critical component in responding to wildland fires and getting resources on scene as soon as possible. The funding of the three seasonal positions helped leverage the two permanent full-time positions, which are funded by 1A dollars, and provided a much needed staffing level for El Paso County. The plan is to fund eight seasonal positions for 2015, which will further enhance the wild land fire section capabilities in responding to fire calls. The eight positions will be staffed with an overlapping schedule.

The three seasonal positions also allowed staffing for seven-day-week coverage of the county, and the program was supplemented with personnel from volunteer positions which contributed significantly to the staffing levels. Most shifts were staffed with six personnel, increasing the safety for fire personnel.

The commitment by the Sheriff’s Office to staff a Type III engine and Incident Command overhead position provided a capability to other agencies for automatic aid response to Volunteer Fire Protection Districts and Volunteer departments when calls for service were dispatched. Agencies that benefited considerably from the additional staffing were the Green Mountain Falls/Chipita Park Fire Protection District, Cascade Fire Protection District, Crystal Park Volunteer Fire Department, and Southwest Highway 115 Fire Protection District. Agreements were implemented with these fire agencies to have county resources respond to all reported outside/vegetation fires and smoke investigations. The Sheriff’s Office also formalized an agreement with the United States Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to provide initial response on federally managed lands for fire suppression. The Sheriff’s Office Wildland engine

2004

services division, Wildland Fire Section, personnel to the new location. No additional county funds were needed to accomplish the exhausting task of the move. They were also able to elevate the county’s available fire suppression resources.
Evidence Unit

The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Evidence Unit is composed of two civilian employees whose main duties are to receive, store, and maintain all the evidence taken into custody by the Sheriff’s Office. Additionally, this Unit handles property, impounded vehicles, and property held for safekeeping.

In 2014, the evidence Unit took in more than 17,000 pieces of evidence, nearly double the 9,136 items collected in 2011. This evidence includes items ranging in size from small, flat envelopes that can be stored rather easily to large items such as furniture, tires, and cars that cause a problem because of the amount of space needed for storage. There were approximately 730 items released back to owners and 4,200 items destroyed.

Vehicle impounds for the year numbered 350, and of these approximately 150 needed to be processed by detectives. After processing, these vehicles were either returned to owners or held as evidence.

The passing of House Bill 1020 required the Department of Public Safety to create rules governing forensic evidence (DNA Evidence) collected in sexual assault investigations. Evidence personnel were tasked with locating and cataloging all Sexual Assault Nurse Examination Kits that were currently in evidence. Approximately 150 needed to be processed by detectives.

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Evidence also prepared 600 items to go to auction. There were approximately 100 bicycles and numerous items such as household goods, clothing, stereo equipment, various electronics, jewelry, and tools. Each of these items had to be verified and cataloged before it could be available for auction.

2005

On November 1, 2005, the Court Date Reminder Call Center began making phone calls to defendants reminding them of their upcoming court dates. The idea with this simple, but has proven to be very effective. With this program, individuals who have received a traffic or misdemeanor summons from our Office are contacted by telephone 1-2 weeks prior to their court date to remind them of their scheduled court appearance. The volunteer who answers the call is from our Office staff costs are minimized.

The cost savings to our local criminal justice system has tremendous potential. Since initiating the call center, we have seen the number of traffic and misdemeanor Failure to Appear warrants reduced by nearly 30 percent. Our call center averages over 8,000 calls per year. From November 2009 to present, they have made over 33,000 calls. By trying to reach defendants at different times of the day, we have a high success rate of contact. So far, the comments have been very positive, with several defendants remarking that they appreciate the reminder phone call from our Office. Some of the specific comments received by our volunteers were: A woman said she was unaware that her twenty-year-old son had a court date, but she assured the caller that he would make his appearance. A man said he had received a number of tickets over the years, but he had never gotten a reminder phone call before and he appreciated the caller’s efforts. A number of independents indicated that they preferred to pay the fine and not go to court, but were unsure about the process. Our callers were able to instruct them on how to go about paying their fines. The volunteers also gave directions to the Court House and offered advice on when to arrive for court and parking alternatives in the downtown area. The Call Center exists to provide as much information as possible to ensure that the defendants make their court dates, and has only been successful due to the hard work and dedication of several employees and volunteers.

FTO Program

With the passage of ballot initiative 1A spearheaded by Sheriff Makieta, the Patrol Division has received a total of 44 additional full-time sworn deputies. This increase in manpower was unprecedented in the history of the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office. This increase in staffing challenged the deputies and supervisors assigned to the Field Training Officer (FTO) Program who are directly tasked with training the deputies transferring from the Detention Bureau to the Patrol Division.

The FTO Program was established and modeled after successful programs that have stood the test of time, turning out highly trained deputies and officers across the nation. The current FTO Program was then tailored to meet the high standards of service the citizens of El Paso County have come to expect in their law enforcement professionals.

The FTO Program currently consists of 16 weeks of intensive training that begins with two weeks of classroom curriculum. The curriculum is designed to build upon the basic law enforcement academy all deputies employed by the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office attend, and to build on the practical on-the-job experience gained by working in the Detention Bureau. Some of the classes they attend cover the basics of report writing, mobile data computer operation, accessing the National Crime Information Center and Colorado Crime Information Center databases, standardized field sobriety testing, advanced roadside impairment detection education, patrol rifle training, and qualification and training provided by the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF). Once the classroom portion of the training has been successfully completed, deputies are assigned to an FTO and begin the four-phased training program that embraces the educational philosophy of teaching a task, demonstrating the task, discussing the task, and then having the deputy demonstrate proficiency in the task. Using a checklist, the new patrol deputies are given an in-depth refresher in the criminal and civil law that they are expected to enforce. They are also trained in procedures to handle all foreseeable calls for service that they will be responding to, and are provided resource materials and access to supervisory staff to handle those incidents no one can predict. Each phase of the training process is instructed by a different FTO on a different shift. This gives the deputy in the FTO Program a well-rounded training experience. The entire 18 week training regimen equates to approximately 720 hours of training per deputy. Once all 44 deputies complete the process, over 31,600 training hours will have been administered.

When ballot initiative 1A was approved by the citizens of El Paso County, Sheriff Makieta promised them their 1A money would not be wasted and that he would bring an increase in staffing on-duty as quickly as possible. The almost impossible task of training 44 new deputies and have them on the streets by the end of 2014 began.

The first and biggest hurdle encountered was to maintain qualified FTOs available to train the influx of deputies. Often times, Patrol Deputies who serve as FTOs are selected to fill vacancies in specialized units or other divisions in the Office. Unwilling to compromise on the quality of training, an ambitious schedule was developed to meet the 2014 goal. In addition, a call went out to all experienced deputies within the Patrol Division to submit their applications to become certified FTOs to offset the natural attrition seen amongst the FTO staff due to transfers.

By the end of October 2014, we will have met the goal established by Sheriff Makieta to have all 44 deputies authorized by the ballot initiative 1A in the field, whether on their own or with their FTO, performing law enforcement services and protecting the citizens of El Paso County.

2005

In April of 2005, the Criminal Justice Center opened the new 864 bed minimum-medium security tower which increased the inmate housing from 1040 to 1599 beds. This much needed expansion filled to capacity within the first few months of opening. The three-story open bay tower contains 12 wards with 72 beds in each ward. This facility was designed to maximize supervision of inmates’ activities and uses staff as efficiently as possible.
Victim’s Assistance Unit

The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office victim advocates not only continued to serve victims in 2014 as we have for the last 22 years, but we also spent a great deal of time in 2014 reaching out to citizens in El Paso County. Advocates went out into the community on several occasions not only to serve victims but also to provide educational opportunities regarding services available to victims and witnesses of crime who may live in El Paso County.

On January 15, 2014, Advocate Connie Bryan attended a meeting at the Community Outreach Coalition in Calhan and presented information on the services provided by the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Victim Assistance Program. Advocate Bryan is a member of the coalition and continued to participate in its monthly meetings and other community events throughout the year.

El Paso County Sheriff’s Office victim advocates once again recognized and hosted several events for National Crime Victims’ Rights Week held April 6–12, 2014. Susan McAlee-Acre “Sam,” Victim Assistance Program Coordinator, was one of the 48 judicial district victim advocates who participated in the 48th Judicial District Victims’ Rights Week planning committee. The week began with a kick-off mock rape, and our very own Deputy Jeremy Juhi won the short dash competing against several other agency representatives from the 48th Judicial District. Through a partnership with the Rocky Mountain National Classical Academy, artwork from 4th grade students was displayed during the week that reflected the interpretation of this year’s theme: 30 years: restoring the balance of justice.

EPSO Advocates Louise Becker and Ginger Brown participated in the first Child Abuse Prevention BBQ sponsored by the Exchange Club of Falcon on July 12, 2014, in Falcon. The purpose of the event was to bring together agencies whose mission is to support children and families. Advocate Becker was recognized as the student of the year. Advocates continued to serve the public to help stop child abuse. EPSO advocates were on hand to provide citizens of El Paso County information on community resources available to them and the victim and their families. Advocates attended a day-long event at Synthes, Inc. in Monument on July 16, 2014.

 Victim Assistance Program Coordinator, Connie Bryan participated in a display at the El Paso County Fair on July 20–21, 2014, at the El Paso County Fair Grounds in Calhan. Advocates manned the EPSO booth during fair hours and gave out literature to fair goers as well as answered questions from citizens. Four EPSO victim advocates participated in National Night Out on August 5, 2014. Advocates responded to three locations during the evening and assisted with the evening’s activities, and promoted awareness of victims’ rights and services available in the community for victims of crime. Advocates helped support Project Cape and the Pioneers Museum through an entry in the Came Dian Cook Off contest with a favorite green chili entry entitled “Connie’s Killer Green Chili” on September 4, 2014.

EPSO advocates Bryan and Richards participated in the Calhan School District Community Expo and Bright Futures School Night event held at the county fairgrounds on August 14, 2014. The advocates manned a display booth and answered questions and got to meet community members who passed through the exhibit hall.

Volunteer advocates assisted Advocate Connie Bryan with a display table at the 48th Annual Community Outreach Coalition Health and Education Fair on October 18, 2014. The event was held during the homecoming festivities for Calhan High School on September 13, 2014. Community members enjoyed browsing several community service providers during the event.

Several advocates from the EPSO Victim Assistance Program assisted the Calhan and Miami School Districts upon request in immediate crisis assistance of several students’ dying in tragic accidents in 2014. Advocates responded to both schools to provide short-term crisis intervention and information and referrals for grieving students, parents, teachers, and other community members.

As a result of the efforts of one paid program coordinator, two grant-paid victim advocate staff and, 13 volunteer advocates, our program provided services to 2,445 victims and witnesses in the first 6 months of 2014. Our staff responded to 175 crime scenes, court appearances, and other locations to provide direct victim advocacy. Our volunteer staff devoted over 10 hours of their time to be on-call during the first six months of 2014. These dedicated volunteers also provided 170.5 hours of direct contact, working one-on-one with victims and witnesses.

Due to funding opportunities through local Victim Assistance Law Enforcement and Federal Victims of Crime Act funds, and in partnership with the Fountain and Manitou Springs Police Departments, we were able to continue advocacy services 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in all three law enforcement jurisdictions.

In 2005, the El Paso County Jail opened the Video Visitation Center adjacent to the Criminal Justice Center. All public visits and some professional visits are conducted through the video center, which is equipped with 26 booths for the public and 4 private booths for professional visits. This visitation process allows the inmates to remain in their assigned wards and visit via the video monitor and a phone handset. Due to the efficiency of this process, inmates can receive more frequent visits and the risk of contraband introduced in the facility is significantly reduced. Approximately 75,000 public visits are conducted annually.

2005

During the previous years of 2012 and 2013, El Paso County saw an increase in the number of fires occurring in the unincorporated portions of El Paso County. The increase seen in El Paso County was consistent with the increased activity noted throughout Colorado and the nation. The year 2014 brought many exciting changes for the Metro Crime Lab, including the expansion of its ISO 17025 Accreditation scope to include both DNA and Forensic Chemistry, the addition of a full-time Forensic Examiner, acquisition of a Digital Information Management System, Laboratory Information Management System, and the development of a pilot program focused on increasing the effectiveness of National Integrated Ballistic Information Network. In addition, the Metro Lab was awarded federal grant funds for the addition of a full-time DNA Analyst with an anticipated start date in early 2013. In addition, Sheriff’s Office Forensic Chemist Stefanie Watkins obtained her Explosives Evidence Examination and Identification Certification. As we move forward, it is anticipated that these additions will greatly enhance the lab’s ability to provide top quality services to the low enforcement agencies in El Paso County.

In 2005, the Metro Crime Lab is a joint operation between the Colorado Springs Police Department and the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office. The Crime Lab is comprised of a total of 13 personnel who provide forensic services in the areas of Crime Scene Investigation, Controlled Substance Analysis, Serology/DNA, Latent Print Analysis, Firearms/Tool Mark Analysis, Bloodstain Pattern Interpretation, Footwear and Tire Track Analysis, and Crime Scene Reconstruction. In addition, laboratory personnel provide training in the Forensic disciplines to the Basic Law Enforcement Academies for the Sheriff’s Office, the Police Department and to the District Attorney’s Office. Analysis are also called upon to present at various events hosted by the Sheriff’s Office and Police Department in an effort to promote community awareness of the many functions of the Crime Lab and the vital role forensic evidence plays in the successful prosecution of many serious crimes.

Metro Crime Lab

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Fire Investigations

The Metro Crime Lab continues to attend training to improve their skill sets and work toward additional national certifications. Close coordination with other local, state, and federal fire investigators has continued to foster information sharing and training. The addition of the second investigation position has allowed flexibility in manpower to investigate and process fire scenes. The addition of the second investigation position has allowed flexibility in manpower to investigate and process fire scenes. The addition of the second investigation position has allowed flexibility in manpower to investigate and process fire scenes. The addition of the second investigation position has allowed flexibility in manpower to investigate and process fire scenes.

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The Sheriff's Citizen Patrol (SCP) is a program that was initiated by Sheriff Maketa in the latter months of 2008. At that time, no one in Colorado and very few agencies across the United States had any programs like it. As with any law enforcement agency, the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office was dealing with budgetary constraints brought about by a struggling economy. Sheriff Maketa has always looked for ways to trim the budget while still providing the best law enforcement services possible, while constantly striving to meet and exceed the goal of improving the quality of life for all citizens of El Paso County.

The SCP is designed to place non-sworn, uniformed citizen volunteers into specially marked patrol vehicles and have them handle routine service calls that do not require law enforcement intervention. As a result, sworn deputies are able to focus on emergency and high priority calls that require immediate response. The time savings also allows deputies the ability to conduct criminal investigations, ultimately bringing the offenders to justice.

SCP members are able to handle parking complaints, impounding vehicles, alarm responses, animal complaints, criminal and non-criminal reports, crime prevention, motorist assists, traffic control, and routine patrol.

Several times each year the Sheriff’s Office offers the citizens of El Paso County the opportunity to attend the Sheriff’s Citizen Academy. Members of the public are offered the opportunity to get a snapshot of exactly what it takes to be a sworn deputy. Attendees who successfully complete the Citizen Academy are then offered an opportunity to become an SCP volunteer. Those that accept the challenge begin a rewarding journey. The journey begins by attending the Citizen Patrol Academy in which attendees learn a wide variety of skills from vehicle operation and officer safety techniques to report writing and assisting the public. Those members that complete the academy become a proud member of the SCP and begin the next phase of training.

The SCP begins a Field Training Program, and the first phase places the SCP into a patrol vehicle with a deputy assigned to the Field Training Officer Program. These are the same deputies who train deputies newly assigned to the Patrol Division. The new SCP then schedules and rides with an SCP Field Training Officer for a total of 40 hours. Lastly, the new SCP rides with the Sheriff’s Citizen Patrol Coordinator. Once the Field Training Program is complete, the SCP can volunteer as many hours as he or she likes.

As an effort to prevent and reduce crime occurring within the El Paso County Jail, a full-time investigator was assigned to investigate criminal activity and other activities contrary to the safety and security of the El Paso County Jail and its occupants. This quickly expanded to two deputies as criminal activity continued to increase. Since inception in 2006, these two deputies initiated 1,441 cases, assisted outside agencies with 2,837 cases, and assisted other detention deputies with 1,743 cases. In addition, these deputies completed 1,107 sex offender registrations, 3,042 DNA tests, and are also responsible for monitoring inmate phone calls and checking 6,801 calls that came through the inmate Crime Tip Hotline.

The Sheriff’s Citizen Patrol is a rewarding and exciting way to give back to the community. Of the original 19 members of the SCP, 9 are still active members. They are Barbara Helwig, Pete Ismail, Phil Nagle, Brian Weiss, Wanda Williams, and Doug Wolf.

Since 2009, members of the Sheriff’s Citizen Patrol have volunteered a total of 31,550 hours of service to the people of El Paso County. This is a staggering number of hours, at a fraction of the cost to the citizens of El Paso County, and it represents the time deputies were able to spend on patrol or conducting investigations improving the quality of life for our community.

In June 2014, the Sheriff’s Office hosted the 7th Annual Teen Academy. Fifteen kids ages 14-17 attended this year’s academy. The Teen Academy originated in 2007 under the direction of Sheriff Maketa and was run by Research and Development. The Teen Academy has been a key component for sustaining the Cadet Program and teaching area teens about the Sheriff’s Office. Several of the kids who attend the Teen Academy each year eventually join our Cadet Program.

The Sheriff’s Office Cadet Program benefits the Office in many ways. The Cadets augment several sections of the Office by volunteering countless hours. They also are able to educate the community by taking what they learn about the Office back to their schools. Most important of all, the teens in the Cadet Program are the future of the Office. Several sworn personnel got their start in the Cadet Program, to include Lieutenant Cheryl Peck, Sergeant Jason Hess, Detective John Watts, and Deputy Jacob Dial.

In 2013, Sheriff Maketa attended the annual Friends of the National Rifle Association Banquet. The Cadets were in attendance, assisting with the event. During the banquet, he accepted grant money for the Special Response Team for the 2012 grant cycle. Sheriff Maketa made the suggestion to have the Office compete in the 2013 Friends of the NRA Grant cycle for money to support the Cadet Program. This money would be used to purchase a firearms training program for the Cadets, one of the first firearms training programs of its kind in the State of Colorado.

The NRA Grant application was submitted in October 2013 and was approved in February 2014. The Office was awarded $3,566.17 to start a cadet firearms training program. The Office purchased .22 caliber conversion kits for the Glock 22s, Ruger SR22 rifles (an AR-15 copy in .22 caliber), and .22 caliber ammunition to start the training program. By purchasing the conversion kits for the Glock and rifles similar to the Patrol issued rifles, it afforded a commonality of training that simplified the instruction processes for the instructors and allowed the Cadets to receive training on firearms that were identical to Office-issued weapons.

In September 2014, the Cadets attended an eight-hour basic firearms safety class taught by Sergeant Greg White and Deputy Chris Herman. The following month in October, the Cadets participated in an eight-hour range day with one-on-one instruction from Range Instructors. The Sheriff’s Office Cadet Program looks forward to another busy year in 2015 to continue to serve the citizens of El Paso County.

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The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Cadet Program had a busy year in 2014. The Cadets participated in their normal meetings twice a month and continued to support the Office by assisting full-time deputies. They also participated in numerous special events, including the Pikes Peak Hill Climb, the Big Dog Mud Run, the El Paso County Fair, the Friends of the NRA Banquet, and the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo.

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HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office Hazardous Materials Response Team (HMRT) is actively working in all jurisdictions within the County to achieve the goal of a coordinated response to any accidental or man-made HAZMAT incident through planning, standardized training, and equipment.

HMRT participated in numerous trainings and calls for service in 2013. Thanks to the passage of 1A, the increased overall office manning of the HMRT was able to participate in two regional exercises, three community events, and four recruit academy training days. This was in addition to our twelve normally scheduled training days for the year. We then were awarded just under $12,000 in grant funded equipment from the State of Colorado.

Our regional exercise participation continued to build upon the working relationships with the Colorado Springs Fire Department, Colorado Springs Police Department, Fort Carson Fire Department, Peterson and Schriever AFB, plus Security, Fountain, Cimarron Hills, and Falcon Fire Departments. The “Skyfall” exercise at the Colorado Springs Airport tested all first responders in dealing with a downed aircraft with mass casualties and survivors. The USAA exercise scenario involved a troubled employee who introduces multiple explosive bombs within the facility, spreading an unknown toxic industrial chemical.

Our participation in community events was one of the highlights for the team members. At the Security Fire Department’s Annual 4th of July Breakfast, citizens were able to see equipment and suits used by responders. At the Annual Camarillo Hills Open House Safety Day, HMRT members completed fire extinguisher training for more than 150 adults and children, allowing them to put out real fires on our Butxix training system. Mass decontamination training and public relations were also put to task at the Dirty Dash 5K Mud Run at Pikes Peak International Raceway in Fountain. Our Mass Decontamination Trainer and Engine were used to augment the portable shower system in place by the event organizers. The event was so successful that the Fountain Fire Department also enabled the HAZMAT Fire Engine to join Fountain’s Engine in creating a large system utilizing opposing master streams. The HMRT received many thanks and kudos from the citizens at all events attended.

Our team continued to support the training division with instruction in Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, HAZMAT Awareness, Incident Command System, and Oleoresin Capsicum Decontamination.

Throughout the beginning of October, the HMRT responded to 13 calls for service, consisting of fuel spills, chemical releases, white powder, chemical dumping, and chemical investigations. HMRT Team members attended off-site training in Clandestine Lab Safety, Environmental Protection Agency Waterway Spill training, and Crude by Rail response. Five team site visits were also conducted at various Tier II reporting sites within the county, enhancing our site knowledge and working with our business partners for a safer community.

The HMRT is also currently preparing to add an additional 9 team members in October, bringing our total to 11 new members in 2014. These are the first new members that have been added to the team since 2010. With the passage of 1A and future growth of the Office, the HMRT continues to grow and enhance our capabilities to serve the citizens of El Paso County.

On July 21, 2012, the Sheriff’s Office received re-accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The award was received by Sheriff Maketa on behalf of all Sheriff’s Office employees at the CALEA awards banquet held in Scottsdale, Arizona. This is the fifth consecutive award for the Sheriff’s Office.

Every three years, the Sheriff’s Office undergoes a CALEA on-site assessment to demonstrate continued compliance with 445 CALEA standards. They represent a standard of excellence that must be maintained in Patrol Operations, Investigations, Emergency Services, Communications (Dispatch Operations), Evidence Facility Operations, Training, Human Resources, Court Services, and other areas within the Sheriff’s Office that are required for the delivery of low enforcement services.

Since that time we have made great strides forward with the CALEA program. In past years all CALEA files were paper copy and retained in folders. Second copy was or is a hard copy file. Today, we call this document by those individuals responsible for reporting their assigned standards. A new software program, Power DMS, became available for agencies to go paperless with the CALEA records. Individuals now gather proofs and are able to email copies to the CALEA manager, who in turn maintains a master file available for review. Prior to our upcoming On-Site inspection in March of 2015, these files will be reviewed remotely by the assessors. This precludes the previous practice of making an additional copy of each file and mailing them to the assessors for review.

The new system also allows us a much quicker response time to make any required adjustments to the files prior to the On-Site inspection. Many individuals within the Office have stated they are much more satisfied with this system. What used to take several attempts via inter-office envelope can now be done instantly through email. The information is then turned over to the CALEA manager to visit the larger sections with the individual standard sheets and meet with the section representative. This can usually be accomplished in a one-to-two-hour visit and complete the section requirements for that year. This process has reduced the time individuals must spend doing files and frees them to focus on their individual job responsibilities.

The next milestone reached by our CALEA program came after completing our 5th Accreditation in 2012. Several state agencies were new to CALEA and required assistance in setting up their programs from the ground up. The first call came from the Colorado Bureau of Investigations (CBI). Over the course of two years we coordinated files and procedures with the CBI team to prepare them for their initial On-Site audit. EPSO conducted a Mock Audit of CBI’s operations and Communications facility. A review of all files was also completed with several suggested adjustments. In 2014 CBI successfully completed their On-Site inspection and attained their first Accreditation.

The Sheriff Maketa recognized the benefit of partnership with federal agencies in the area of drug enforcement and interdiction. Drug trafficking is not just a local issue since the drugs are usually manufactured outside the state of Colorado and normally outside the United States. Since the Sheriff’s Office does not have the authority or resources to pursue these trafficking enterprises, it made perfect sense to assist DEA’s Southern Colorado Task Force. This partnership develops a force multiplier that has in effect taken down international cartels engaged in meth and marijuana trafficking. These arrests would not have been possible if it were not for the broad resources supplied by the Drug Enforcement Administration. Asset seizures from these illegal trafficking organizations have supplemented funding for local drug investigation efforts, thus increasing the safety of our citizens and the quality of life in our community.
The year 2014 has been a year of growth and change for the Detention Security Division, better known as Floor Security. The Detention Security Division has seen its authorized sworn staffing levels grow from 166 to 202 after the passage of 1A. Eight Security Technicians have been added as well. The year 2014 has also seen the completion of a number of projects. Specialized training continued in addition to the required annual in-service training for sworn officers. Through it all the jail prepared for, and reassuringly passed, an audit performed by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Under the leadership of Sheriff Maketa, personnel assigned to Floor Security have met and overcome every challenge and difficulty encountered during this “Year of Growth and Change.”

In November 2012, the voters of El Paso County passed initiative 1A which provided increased funding to the Sheriff’s Office. During 2014, the most significant impact to the Detention Security Division as a result of 1A has been a significant increase in personnel. From the Graduation of Academy Class 2013-1 to the current time, Floor Security has seen approximately 180 new Deputy IIIs join the ranks. An additional 20 (Class 2014-2) more recruits are scheduled for graduation December 15, 2014. With the number of new deputies that have been assigned to Floor Security, the Detainings Training Program has been improved in several ways to enhance the tracking of training and ensure the new deputies are receiving the best possible training. This increase has allowed Floor Security to staff a minimum of 34 sworn space of the jail has been increased as well. In 2012 a second spring spout structure was completed on the north end of the jail complex to house Detox. This ultimately led to the first spring structure’s becoming available for inmate housing. After the structure’s refurbishing, 134 beds became available to house minimum security inmates. Male Gateway inmates and trustees moved into the structure, freeing up room in the main jail. Doing so allowed the creation of an additional female ward, allowing the jail to adjust to significant increases in the female population at CJC.

Under the leadership of Sheriff Maketa, available bed space of the jail has been increased as well. In 2012 a second spring spout structure was completed on the north end of the jail complex to house Detox. This ultimately led to the first spring structure’s becoming available for inmate housing. After the structure’s refurbishing, 134 beds became available to house minimum security inmates. Male Gateway inmates and trustees moved into the structure, freeing up room in the main jail. Doing so allowed the creation of an additional female ward, allowing the jail to adjust to significant increases in the female population at CJC.

With dramatic changes in staffing levels came challenges. One such challenge was a reduction in the overall experience level of the average staff members assigned to Floor Security. The vast majority of newly hired deputies started their law enforcement careers at CJC. Detention Training Officers and civilian trainers rose to the occasion and provided their expertise to the newer deputies and staff. With the increased staffing levels, deputies became available for the patrol Division in numbers never before experienced. Personnel transferred from CJC, Court and Transport, and inmate Labor were used to erect the tent and build the sub floor. This project involved grinding the paint off the wall and floors and then dying and sealing them. The end result is a floor that takes very little maintenance and is a vast improvement from the old worn out paint look that we had and will last for many years. The project cost year to date is $230,849.

In 2014, the epoxy coating was failing in the hallways. This was very unsightly and not in keeping with Office standards. After research into options to repair the hallway floors, it was decided to use rubber flooring on the E Tower hallway floors to bring the failing epoxy up to Office standards. As part of this project the bottom floor was sealed to prevent ground water emanating through the cracked epoxy coating to crack and bubble. The rubber flooring is expected to last for many years with little or no maintenance required. The project cost is $89,995.

The year 2014 has been very busy and productive. The Assault/Fighting incident reports have seen a slight increase in numbers from what was recorded through September of 2013. There has been a rise in Incident Reports, Trusty Contracts and Grievances, as well as American Disability Act (ADA) interviews. As of September 30, 2014, Inmate Classification Counselors interviewed 12,570 inmates, reviewed 6,875 incident reports, processed over 2,203 trusty contracts, assigned and tracked over 2,208 grievances, and completed 226 ADA interviews. The section has prepared and mailed billings to Federal, State, and Local authorities for the housing of inmates, which amounted to $2,301,029.30.

The Accreditation Section has been working hard maintaining files for ACA, NCCHC, ICE, and 287/G accreditations. In May, ICE inspected CJC and gave us an “Acceptable” rating. In October, NCCHC is currently in the process of the their once every three year audit of the Medical Section.

After an exhaustive look at options to repair and give CJC’s older ward floors a professional appearance, the Grind/Seal Project was initiated in which the floors were updated with state-of-the-art dyes/sealant. In the past these floors were painted to give the facility a professional appearance. We learned the paint would wear off and that this was a waste of money to keep painting and painting.

The El Paso County Reintegration and Recovery Program was developed in 2007 to address the growing average daily population and recidivism rates among the inmate population at the El Paso County Jail. The multi-systemic program targets sentenced inmates in the El Paso County Jail and provides them with basic education, life skills, substance abuse prevention, anger management classes, vocational assessment and preparation, and work study programs. Early data indicate the program has been successful by reducing the recidivism rate, or return to custody, for this population from 65% to 21.90% and by reducing the overall recidivism rate for the entire population to 58.78%. This was accomplished without the use of local tax dollars and continues to grow and operate without the use of local tax dollars. This program has been nationally recognized by the National Criminal Justice Association and the National Association of County Organizations.

Volunteer Program. This program was initiated in response to a shortage of qualified, sentenced, trustees and has filled worker shortages in critical areas such as the kitchen and laundry. Volunteers receive a small stipend of $10 in commissary items for working, as they are not eligible for trusty time. Since its inception there have been over 1,400 volunteer contracts processed.

Inmate Classification

Training for all classification staff members in the various areas of the Classification Section and Jail Management System has continued. As a result of this cross training, all staff members are now well versed in the intricate flow of inmate processed through the section. On July 28, 2014, Lieutenant Glen Atchey transferred to the Law Enforcement Bureau and Lieutenant Brian Matson took over as the new programs manager. Lieutenant Matson hit the ground running and is eager to tackle the challenges that remain ahead.

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The mission of the Special Response Team (SRT) is as varied as its members. While it is often viewed as the team designed to safely extract combative inmates within the detention, the scope and responsibilities of SRT are much broader. A few of the additional responsibilities include extraditions, mental health pickups, and riot control. SRT is authorized 24 members, one lieutenant and two sergeants, although SRT’s current assigned personnel are 22 members and two sergeants.

From January to September of 2014, SRT performed 6 flying armed extraditions. Each deputy must complete a certified course on doing an extradition on a commercial airline while carrying a weapon. After completion of the course, each deputy is assigned to a rotating schedule to perform extraditions as they become available. Once the District Attorney’s Office has determined it is necessary to extradite an individual from an out-of-state jurisdiction, SRT is given the role of completing the mission and returning the fugitive to our jurisdiction for adjudication.

Another function of SRT is mental health pickups within the community. When members of a family or the community become concerned about the behavior of an individual, they can petition the courts to have that individual evaluated by a mental health facility typically identified by the courts. From January to September 2014, SRT has performed 5 court-ordered mental health pickups. Each September SRT holds an academy to train Potential Team Members (PTM). This year was no exception, when the team ushered in the addition of 9 new members. During the academy, each PTM is put through rigorous physical and endurance testing. The basics of cell extractions and safely moving an inmate from one location to another within the Criminal Justice Center is practiced over the week-long process. Each PTM must prove he or she can safely perform a lift and carry of the inmate and if necessary, do it repeatedly. Each must also prove proficiency in riot control and proficiency and orientation with less lethal tools. Fly armed class, arrest control, and use-of-force policy are just a few of the areas covered extensively. After successfully completing more than 50 hours in the SRT academy, each new member must complete the Patrol Rifle Course. New members are typically given an opportunity to train with SWAT and attend one of their week-long academies at some point later in his or her career.

In July 2008, Sheriff Terry Maketa proudly announced the opening of the new Work Release Facility. Making efficient use of the Metro Jail (previously the maximum security facility which was closed due to outdated safety codes) it was renovated into an open bay dorm-style housing unit able to accommodate up to 555 work release inmates. A team of inmates, under close supervision of a Sheriff’s Office lieutenant, completed the demolition by essentially stripping it to bare walls. They removed over 331.2 tons of metal in a period of six months to prepare the facility for renovation. The cost for demolition was $100,974.93; a fraction of the $793,828.00 that would have been the cost had the labor been contracted.

Metro Intelligence, FBI, EPSO SWAT, Colorado Springs Police Department, Department of Homeland Security, and others to prepare for any possible threats to visiting dignitaries speaking at the AFA Graduation. The primary role of SRT is to work with the Air Force JAG Office when they brief protesters on the rules governing their behavior while on AFA grounds. SRT also works with Air Force Security Forces in training and responding to a possible riot situation. SRT prepares to deploy with lethal, less lethal, and full riot gear if necessary to deal with any given threat.

As part of an annual event, the SRT stages at the Air Force Academy (AFA) to assist with riot control. Each year SRT coordinates with other agencies to plan for and assist with protesters at the Air Force Academy Graduation. This year SRT worked in conjunction with the Secret Service, Air Force OSI and Security Forces, Air Force JAG, and the Colorado Springs Police Department to ensure the safety and security of those attending the graduation ceremony.

The Court and Transport Section experienced many challenges throughout 2014. The biggest challenge for the section was the responsibility of the standard to have all inmates to court in a timely manner. This challenge required a modification to the start time of the Transport Unit and the hiring of a part-time Transport Specialists. When all vehicles assigned to the Transport Unit are available, they can move only 111 inmates from the Criminal Justice Center (CJC) to the courthouse in one trip. There are times, especially on Mondays and Thursdays the day after execution of inmates, where the number of inmates exceeds 120. With some planning and the additional employees, a second trip from CJC can be completed before the first required court appearance at 8:30 a.m. Some judges have modified their appearance dockets to help alleviate this burden of multiple trips. During 2014, the Transport Unit experienced a significant increase in the number of out-of-facility scheduled medical appointments. On average, each outpatient medical appointment is a daily outside medical appointments to the various medical facilities. To accomplish this mission successfully, there was close coordination and synchronization between the Court House and the Transport Unit.

The next challenge was to get all the inmates to their assigned courts on time. The Court Services Unit is primarily responsible for this task. At the beginning of 2014, there were 53 deputies assigned to cover up to 44 court rooms. Supervisors were required to prioritize which courtrooms received their inmates on time and if necessary, hold the person in jail until a date could be scheduled. That was Dressed Out Jury Trials (DOJT) had priority, followed by District courts and then County courts. In 2014, six deputies who had just completed their Basic Law Enforcement Academy and their initial Detention Training Program (Daily Evaluation) with floor security were transferred to the Court Services Unit. Initially this decision was met with some skepticism because these deputies were new and had not completed the entire Detention Training Officer (DTO) program, but in hindsight it was the right call. These six deputies were selected based upon their academy training evaluations, limited DTO evaluations, and a review of On Duty for unexcused leave absences. These deputies proved to be a valuable asset to the courthouse in both motivation and skill. With the increase of deputies assigned to the Court Services Unit, 37, all 44 courtrooms have received their inmates on time since the deputies’ arrival. This new standard of “no courts will be unassigned” was established in April of 2014 and has been proudly maintained since inception. Without a doubt, the passage of ballot initiative 1A by the citizens of El Paso County has significantly enhanced our customer service for the community.

In September 2008, the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office entered into an Intergovernmental Services Agreement (IGSA) with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for the housing of detainees awaiting deportation. Since inception this has generated $10,617,796.80 in revenue for Sheriff’s Operations and support of the El Paso County Health and Benefits by stabilizing the increasing cost of insurance to all county employees.

In 2008, Sheriff Terry Maketa was pleased to announce the addition of Offender Watch on the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office website to provide the public the ability to identify and track the whereabouts of registered sex offenders in their community. Offender Watch is a registered sex offender management and community notification tool available to the citizens of El Paso County. Citizens can search for registered sex offenders in their neighborhoods, and register to receive email alerts as well as receive safety tips. Additionally, the Sheriff’s Office negotiated and was able to include the smaller municipalities in the service agreement at no cost. This effort substantially benefits the citizens throughout El Paso County as they have just one site to visit to track sex offenders without having to research multiple law enforcement agencies. Only the City of Colorado Springs chose not to participate in this citizen-focused effort. This was accomplished within our base budget and did not require a tax increase.
The year 2014 was a busy year for the Reintegration and Recovery (R&R) Program. In late February, two new clinicians were hired to assist with discharging and providing aftercare services for releasing participants. In July, the program received funding to provide wrap-around services for releasing clients. Clients who enroll in therapy after release from CJC can now receive a 31-day bus pass and up to $100 in clothing and shoe vouchers through the Goodwill. In August, the Office of Behavioral Health audited the R&R Program for license renewal. The result of the audit was that the program was awarded a 2-year license renewal, and was given positive accolades for client care and case management, expert and methodical documentation, and professional therapy to our clients.

On October 1, 2014, the program was again awarded an increase in funding to increase aftercare services as well as expand the program. The additional funding will assist with staffing a part-time position into a full-time position, providing women-specific therapy, and increase the number of women participating in the program. In addition, the R&R program will be a funding collaboration with community agencies to provide additional treatment to R&R participants.

In mid-October, the program received another audit from our contracting agency Jail Based Behavioral Health Services (JBBHS) and was given positive feedback on our documentation. JBBHS representative, Jagruti Shah, recognized the excellent client documentation/case management. She has recommended Pueblo County receive documentation training from our staff. She also took samples of our documentation to use as training for other agencies.

From January through September 2014, the R&R Program provided treatment and opportunities for 265 clients. Our average monthly enrollment is approximately 30 clients per month. Based on this information, we anticipate an additional 90 clients through the end of 2014, which will increase the number of newly enrolled clients to 355. Since inception through September 2014, the total of R&R clients equals 3,343.

Most R&R clients received 60 plus days of education and therapy. Our program has maintained compliance and protocol for clients enrolled through our established case management practices. All clients are assessed for an Axis I diagnosis, admission summaries and treatment plans are prepared, and clients are assigned to mandatory weekly therapy, such as Driving with Care Education and Therapy (DWC) or Criminal Conduct and Substance Abuse Treatment: Strategies for Self Improvement and Change (SSC). All clients are enrolled into general elective classes and assigned to a Thinking for a Change (T4C) group. All R&R education and therapy allows opportunities for clients to assess personal needs, experiences, and discussions; participate in therapy sessions; engage and develop aftercare/community reintegration plans; and develop peer support opportunities for changing criminal behaviors and substance use concerns.

In July 2014, the R&R Program received the fourth of a 6-year contractual funding through the Colorado Department of Human Services Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) Jail Based Behavioral Health Services. The R&R program has continued the Collaboration efforts with School District 11 (Joyce Schoeller and staff), and our partnerships for sober living assistance with Alano Recovery Homes, New Beginnings, and ComCor. Additional collaboration efforts include relationships with Access Recovery; Colorado-211; DWS, Ecumenical Social Ministries; Goodwill; LEAP Program; Pikes Peak Workforce Center; Peak Vista; Serve-Empower-Transform (SET) Program; and Catholic Charities. Collectively these entities provide assistance for medical, dental, financial, and employment services.

In April 2008, the El Paso County Jail implemented a new incentive-based progressive/regressive inmate classification system in an effort to reduce violence and inmate assaults. This new system, developed by the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office, not only classifies inmates’ security level based on charges, history, and propensity for violence, but also takes into consideration good but positive behavior. The inmate has the opportunity to earn his or her way out of restrictive housing through good behavior and positive actions. Privileges such as reduced lockdown time, increased visits from family or friends, and the opportunity to order additional commissary, can be earned and permit the inmate an opportunity to take responsibility and make decisions. The number of inmate assaults has been reduced significantly, providing a safer and more secure environment in the wards.
INTAKE & RELEASE

Beginning Monday, February 17, 2014, the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office resumed the Falcon and Stetson Hills substation transports. These transports allow both officers from the Colorado Springs Police Department and deputies from the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office to use the holding cells at both the Falcon and Stetson Hills substations. Intake and Release makes scheduled trips throughout the day to pick these inmates up and bring them to the Criminal Justice Center.

These transports have greatly enhanced public safety by allowing patrol personnel to more quickly return to their patrol districts. Each of these transports has taken an average of one hour and twelve minutes. This is time that patrol personnel can now spend in their districts instead of processing their inmates into the Criminal Justice Center. As of August 2014, 407 trips transporting 579 inmates have been conducted. This equates to over 492 hours of additional patrol time in the City and County as a result of this program.

The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office participates in the Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s (ICE) 287G program. There are fifteen deputies assigned to Intake and Release who are cross-trained to do intake and release duties. Specialized training and investigations and enforcement at the Criminal Justice Center. Through August 2014, these 287G Deputies have interviewed 429 foreign-born individuals processed through CJC, putting in over 822 staff hours dedicated to the program. Additionally, in August and September, thirteen 287G deputies attended refresher training at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Academy in Charleston, South Carolina.

The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Pre-Trial Service Program was initiated in February of 2012 as an additional service to the Academy in Charleston, South Carolina. It was initiated in February of 2012 as an additional service to the Academy in Charleston, South Carolina. Through February 2014, Pre-Trial Services has interviewed 1,451 individuals processed through the Criminal Justice Center, and the courts have approved 1,075 Personal Recognizance Bonds, allowing these low risk individuals to remain out of custody, under monitoring, pending their court date.

The SECURPASS is an x-ray based body scanner which is positioned in the Intake and Release Pre-Admit area which assists in discovering contraband before it has a chance to enter the secure area of the Criminal Justice Center. Through August 2014, a total of 266 individuals were discovered on 226 individuals through the use of this tool. Examples of the items found include drugs and drug paraphernalia, lighters, keys, jewelry, money, cellular phones, bullets, and tobacco. Particular noteworthy: In January of 2014, an Intake and Release Deputy was completing the booking process on an inmate who was a fugitive from justice and had been brought in following a stand-off with the arresting agency. He was armed when he was arrested and incurred several new charges as a result of his arrest. Upon review of the SECURPASS scan, the deputy noticed an anomaly in the mouth area of the scan. It was readily apparent the inmate was hiding a handkerchief in his mouth. He was taken to the dress-out area and confronted about the item. He handed the key to the deputies and confessed he had the key prior to the time of his arrest. This is an example of the importance of this tool as another way to avoid contraband coming into the facility. This SECURPASS scan and attentiveness of the deputy made a direct contribution to the safety of staff members and the community and kept this individual from making an attempt to escape custody during transport or a court appearance.

The Automated License Plate Reader System (ALPRS) provides yet another opportunity for technology to assist in providing a safe environment at the Criminal Justice Center. The license plates of vehicles entering the campus are run through a database which identifies stolen vehicles and wanted persons. During 2014 (as of 10/6/14), 75 ALPRs were registered which resulted in 7 arrests.

This has been a great year for the El Paso County Sheriff’s Community Detoxification Facility (Detox). August 20th marked the 5th anniversary of the facility, which was started to fill the gap in public services left by the closing of the Lighthouse facility.

The facility is an open-door concept which is beneficial for optimum care and safety of the clients. Detox has implemented a Transitional Residential Treatment (TRT) program and set aside separate areas for that program. This program is open to anyone in our community who is over 18 years of age and in need of a 30 day inpatient drug and alcohol treatment. This program is relatively inexpensive compared to other in-patient programs throughout the United States, making it affordable to all.

The Detox program leadership and personnel are community minded and work diligently to try to mitigate the problems of addiction and homelessness. Detox staff members participate in community events such as the annual Homeless Coalition Fair and Director Teri Lawrence participates on the panel for the United Way Homeless Project.

Throughout the year, Director Teri Lawrence and Specialist Rod Branch visited several schools in El Paso and Teller Counties to present a program titled “The Dirty Truth.” This presentation was created by Director Teri Lawrence and outlines the dangers of drug and alcohol use with the target audience being young adults. Included in the presentation are interviews with a crack cocaine addict and a heroin addict. These presentations have been received positively by the students, school staff, and the community.

The average length of stay for our Detox clients is approximately 2.5-3 days. Clients who are under the influence of drugs versus alcohol typically have a longer length of stay due to the severity of withdrawal. The Detox center has a strong working collaboration with local sober-living homes as well as Cross Roads of Pueblo and Reseda, located in Las Animas.

Each client entering the facility, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, meets with a Detox Specialist to do an intake and management interview. This interview determines the particular needs of each client. This information is used to develop a solid plan for a successful recovery upon the clients’ release. Referrals and appointments for issues such as future medical needs, housing, food stamps, employment, out/patient therapy, and support systems are made before the client is discharged. As a direct result of these efforts and the well planned case management with each client, the current recidivism rate for the facility is 13.9 %.

For those clients who have exhibited a propensity to be unable to maintain a productive, sober, life in our community, a system is in place to file an Involuntary Commitment with the State of Colorado. Family members are encouraged to participate in this process when clients truly need help, and information is provided about how to complete this process.

The El Paso County Detoxification Facility has been very successful at helping citizens obtain sobriety in a safe and secure environment. Since its inception five years ago, Detox has served 26,441 clients. There have been thirteen occasions this year alone where the facility had to go an “divert” status because there was no remaining bed space. Detox continues to make a difference and fills a void that was greatly needed in our community.

2009

The volunteer Sheriff’s Citizen Patrol was introduced in January of 2009. The program is aimed at providing support to patrol deputies and providing a service to the community. Citizen volunteers, who receive several hours of specified training prior to deployment, perform law enforcement related duties that serve the community but do not require a sworn peace officer. Citizens Patrol conduct motorist assists, provide traffic control at the scene of accidents, respond to parking complaints, check abandoned vehicles, investigate certain animal complaints such as stray livestock, and conduct vacation checks upon request. Since inception in 2009 the SCPs have handled 10,996 incidents, written 329 reports, and donated $3,650 hours equating to a salary savings of $354,106.70. This program was implemented and sustained without additional funding from local tax dollars.

The Mobile Computers currently in Sheriff’s vehicles were limited in functionality and reliability. Through grants and other revenue sources, the Sheriff was able to expand the use of these computers to give deputies more access to information and mapping systems with GPS greatly enhancing deputy safety, messaging, and the ability to file some reports electronically. Prior to Sheriff Maketa’s taking Office, these computers were ineffective and underused. Today every patrol vehicle is equipped with this state-of-the-art technology and there were no additional County General Fund dollars used nor was a tax increase or budget increase needed.
30

In January, the Center transitioned from 2014 was in the realm of fire dispatching. One of the challenges that the will increase by 25% by year’s end. In addition, the dispatchers have handled 19,069 of which were 9-1-1 calls. In has handled 239,819 telephone calls, telephone calls and radio traffic. Through to be the busiest year yet in terms of Center has seen tremendously growth additional equipment needed to outfit vehicles into our fleet, along with all the new vehicles and keeping up with the maintenance of our current fleet. In an effort to keep up with the additional work load, the passage of 1A gave us the ability to hire Frank Wetsch as our 4th mechanic in 2014. Welcome aboard, Frank.

Since the passage of 1A, the Sheriff’s Office has received a total of 46 new vehicles into the fleet along with the additional equipment needed to outfit these vehicles. This 46 is composed of Chevrolet Impalas, Wildland fire vehicles, and other support vehicles in the Office. Nine additional Chevrolet Impalas are on order and should arrive in December of 2014, along with the total of 55 1A vehicles. During the 2014 calendar year, 13 replacement Impalas were also received for the patrol section, along with an additional 4 unmarked Impalas and 3 new Chevy Tahoes for the Canine Unit. To keep up with the maintenance of the additional vehicles added to our inventory, Fleet services also had a new vehicle lift installed, allowing each mechanic to have his own lift. During the 2014 calendar year, fleet services was also able to replace the Office’s fuel pumps which had been in operation since 1988. Along with the new electronic fuel pumps, new software was installed which provided a new automated fuel tracking system.

As always, our Team goal is to fulfill the needs of the Office and provide the fleet customer service while maintaining and building a safe and reliable police vehicle. Below are some additional statistics reflecting some of the work accomplished by fleet:

- Fleet deecommissioned 25 vehicles and sent them to auction.
- Cages were installed in all the Civil’s Units vehicles.
- Fleet replaced more than 600 oil changes.
- Fleet replaced more than 400 tires in 2014 costing $49,535.73.
- Fleet performed more than 100 front brake jobs and 50 rear brake jobs.

El Paso County Sheriff’s Office joined the Secure Communities Program, designed to complete a criminal records and immigration check using fingerprinting to assist local law enforcement.

Fleet services was also recognized by the local DEA task force this year. On August 14th, Sgt. Steve Buzzell with the DEA task force presented the DEA task force with a plaque in recognition of its assistance in helping to recover over $20,000.00 in cash and almost 3.5 million dollars in methamphetamine hidden in vehicles this year.

In June, the Communications Center celebrated the retirement of Manager Liz Brown after 38 years of service with the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office. Liz led the Center from her heart with calmness and tenacity. Her knowledge and leadership will be difficult to replace.

Working with the Tri-County Fire Department and the Miami-Yoder School District, the Communications Center developed and implemented a full-scale active shooter exercise on September 17th. This was the first time an entire dispatch team was involved in a realistic simulation of regular daily activities with an incident of this magnitude thrown into the mix. Working out of the 9-1-1 backup center, the team fielded mock calls from the Center from the scene of the exercise. Throughout the day, strengths and weaknesses in the dispatch protocol were identified and the objectives of the exercise were met. With careful planning, the Communications Center is looking to perform these exercises on an annual basis.

Thank you to all the volunteers who participated in the event and to the El Paso Teller E911 Authority for their assistance in bringing this exercise to reality.

Who will face more challenges to the Communications Center with the ever-evolving world of technology. The most important changes will be concerning the evolution of NG9-1-1 and the test to 9-1-1. Without a doubt, the dispatchers of the El Paso County Communications Center will face these changes with resilience and teamwork. Nothing will stand in the way of success.

In 2006, Sheriff Maketa further improved the operational capacity of the Civilian Section by eliminating the old Excel spreadsheet time card tracking system and adopting the On Duty time tracking system that secures more than $6,000,000 of dollars of medical bills following a critical incident.

With the advent of ballot Initiative 1A in 2012, Sheriff Maketa added an additional Human Resources Specialist to meet the increased demands of a rapidly growing Office. Hiring continued in 2014, resulting in 47 new recruits and 55 non-sworn personnel for a total of 105 new employees to date. Adding to the 47 new Deputy Designees was the addition of 13 Detention Specialists, 3 Security Technicians, and 1 Dispatcher applying for and successfully passing all the requirements for Deputy Sheriff. This brings the total deputy designees processed through HR to 64. The Impacted for the 2014 classes are as follows:

- Basic Academy 14-01 = 44
- Basic Academy 14-02 = 20

In 2011, a member of the Sheriff’s Office underwent a critical life-changing that resulted in astronomical medical bills, further exacerbating an already unfortunate situation. Always an advocate for his employees, Sheriff Maketa garnered an agreement with the El Paso County Health Board to allow any active member of the Reach Your Peak Wellness Program to be reimbursed for any active member of the Reach Your Peak Wellness Program to be reimbursed for any amount of medical bills following a critical incident.

With the advent of ballot Initiative 1A in 2012, Sheriff Maketa added an additional Human Resources Specialist to meet the increased demands of a rapidly growing Office. Hiring continued in 2014, resulting in 47 new recruits and 55 non-sworn personnel for a total of 105 new employees to date. Adding to the 47 new Deputy Designees was the addition of 13 Detention Specialists, 3 Security Technicians, and 1 Dispatcher applying for and successfully passing all the requirements for Deputy Sheriff. This brings the total deputy designees processed through HR to 64. The Impacted for the 2014 classes are as follows:

- Basic Academy 14-01 = 44
- Basic Academy 14-02 = 20

We secured funding to install fixed-mount radars in each patrol vehicle. Previously department were required to sign out portable speed radar units. These units, although functional, created officer safety issues while operating a vehicle in motion and suffered short service lives due to damage from sliding around in the car. The addition of forward and reverse-facing radars created not only more efficient with traffic enforcement, but the fixed units suffer less down time due to damage and create a much safer situation for deputies while actively patrolling. These 45 units were purchased with grants and IGSF funds without the support of local tax dollars or an increase in the base budget to support.
As the Sheriff fought to protect our 2nd Amendment rights, our Range Masters successfully operated two firearm ranges. The year was full of projects to restore the Pikes Peak Community College (PPCC) Range and completed new construction at the H.D. Bradley Firearms Training Facility located at the Cheyenne Mountain Shooting Complex (CMSC).

Construction projects completed at the H.D. Bradley Firearms Training Facility included a range building complete with classroom, offices, and an instructor’s work room. The facility also includes eight (8) computerized turning target system manufactured by Action Target, wireless public address system, night training lighting system, and five 42-inch Auto Reset steel popper targets. We had our security cage and alarm system installed along with a repair project for the extreme rainfall this year. To round out the projects, a knee-wall was built along the fence line to protect the target system. Finally the range instructor’s building was adorned with a sign in honor of Major Bradley for his dedicated devotion to our community.

Along with all the employees and volunteers of the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office, members of the Training Section seek only to provide the best possible service to the community. Deputy Mynatt was awarded Employee of the Month, Deputy Bogan was awarded first place in handgun at the Air Force Academy, and Deputy Kafel was awarded first place in handgun at the Air Force Academy. Deputy Mynatt also received the Hundred Club Award.

Another critical component of the Sheriff’s Office is the Records Section. Law enforcement agencies must have the ability to process quickly all incoming reports, follow-up reports, court ordered expungements, and sealings. During his tenure, Sheriff Maketa ensured that this section was equipped with the latest technology required for transcribing case reports and reporting crime statistics.

Prior to 2003, the Records Section used an MS-DOS based version of the Records Management System (RMS). As technology advanced, Sheriff Maketa was quick to see the advantages of moving to a Windows-based RMS program and adopted that system in 2004. The new system captured more data resulting in better accuracy in reporting crime statistics. This change resulted in the Sheriff’s Office becoming a National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) compliant. Information from this system is uploaded directly into the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) system that tracks all crime statistics for Colorado law enforcement agencies.

In late 2008 Sheriff Maketa directed the Automatic Field Reporting (AFR) system be implemented. This system allows deputies to input incident reports having no suspect or evidence information directly into the Records Management System. This new approach reduced the volume of reports that would be pasted in the Records Section, which in turn reduced the backlog the section was experiencing at the time. The AFR System was replaced by the Coplogic system in 2010. The new system allows citizens to enter incident reports having no suspect or evidence information into the system. Citizen entries are reviewed and handled by the Patrol Division each day.

In 2012, the Sheridan Community College (SCC) purchased the AFR System for the Blauer Armor skin line and the Sheriff’s Office. The system now tracks all crime statistics for Colorado law enforcement agencies.

Every year we review the qualitative and quantitative value brought about by the service provided by the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office volunteers. This year will be no different; however, we will take a closer look at the past twelve years and the impact Sheriff Maketa’s vision has had to the volunteer program.

Fortunately, 2014 was much less dramatic in the area of disasters or catastrophic events. For this we can be thankful. Our 530 volunteers continued to bestow to our community and this Office steadfast and excellent assistance by donating over 76,000 hours, equating to a financial value in excess of $1.8 million. Without their dedication and commitment to service, the Office could not provide all the support to the community that we do.

Since taking Office in 2002, Sheriff Maketa’s commitment and innovative thinking has strengthened and developed the volunteer-to-based program as recognized as one of the best in the nation. It is because of his belief in the value of volunteers that the volunteer program was awarded the Distinguished Service Award at the International Conference on Volunteer Administration by the Association for Volunteer Administration in 2005.

In 2008 the Sheridan Community College graduate, Brian S. Donaven, was hired to coordinate the Volunteer Programs, Sheriff’s Citizen Patrol, Information Technology and Inmate Tracking Program, and ASCARS. Brian was responsible for overseeing the Volunteer Program, the Community Animal Response Team, and Criminal Justice and Volunteer Administration.

Our volunteer program strives to offer the best in quality service in the support of the mission of the Sheriff’s Office. The volunteers, who serve in this capacity, do so because of their faithfulness and dedication to this Office and the community they live in. It is due to Sheriff Maketa’s leadership and foresight that this program continues to thrive and serve the public well.
**Information Technologies**

It looks as if things have come full circle for the IT Section in 2014. What was once new is now being revisited and improved. Technology that is being used today and is accepted as an everyday part of the job was the new frontier for the Office as little as ten years ago.

The Office is looking at a Jail Management System (JMS) triage in early 2015. We have been building towards this since the fall of 2012. Our first modern JMS was installed in 2014. Almost eleven years after the first implementation, the Office is again looking forward to a positive change with this new system. Our first incarnation of JMS ran on two servers that filled two racks in the computer room. This new version runs on eight servers and will still use the same two racks.

We started installation of our then new Mobile Data Computer (MDC) systems in early 2005 with computers being placed in about two dozen cars. Today we have over 150 cars outfitted with computers. And they are able to do much more with them than was possible ten years ago. Back then we installed Panasonic laptops. Soon after laptops, the Office made the move to a more robust and permanent computer that was hard-installed in the cars. With the development of more mobile computing options, the Office is now making the move back to laptops.

Another system that was once new to the Office and now being revisited is Video Visitation. This system was originally installed in 2011. Technology systems have come and gone, with some still around. Software systems have become much else. As the Office has grown, so have the IT needs, and current/future IT projects within the Office.

Ten years ago, the IT Section consisted of three people. We were responsible for supporting computers and printers and not much else. As the Office has grown, so have the IT needs, and thus the IT Section. By 2007, we were at six people. We added number seven in 2011. Technology systems have come and gone, with some still around. Software systems have become more complex. We have expanded the number of systems we support. Throughout all of the growth and changes within the Office, the mission for the IT Section is the same as it has always been: Provide the technology and support that enables the Office to carry out its primary missions.

**2012**

Through the IGSA with ICE, we were able to expand our current jail bed capacity by an additional 142 beds. The project is almost complete and will expand the jails capacity from 1599 to 1741, and will better accommodate the current population of 1432 inmates we currently house. This additional bed space will also ensure the better use of existing jail space and offer support for any growth in the jail population. Additionally, this jail annex was designed and constructed without the use of any local tax dollars.

Inmates at the El Paso County CJC receive a body scan as part of the admission process. The digital security screening system, SECURPASS, which provides both internal and external images will scan individuals for any contraband ranging from weapons to drugs that may be concealed underneath clothing, in body cavities, or ingested. Since its installation in 2012, there have been over 250 positive images for curious items detected either internally or externally.

**Background Investigations**

Vital to any law enforcement agency is the ability to conduct thorough background investigations on all new employees. Prior to 2006, the background investigation process was integrated into the Research and Planning Section. As technology advanced, so did the responsibilities of the Research and Planning Section. In 2007, Sheriff Maketa directed that the background investigations function be separated from the Research and Planning Section. He further directed that one deputy be assigned as the background investigator with the flexibility of adding additional investigators as hiring needs dictated. The hiring influx in 2013 validated Sheriff Maketa’s plan by adding three additional background investigators to the team. These investigators processed over 550 sworn and non-sworn background investigations to date.

**Budget & Finance**

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<tr>
<th>2014 Unrestricted General Fund Revenue</th>
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<tr>
<td>State Detentions</td>
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<td>Federal Detentions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Revenues</td>
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| 2014 Restricted Revenue               | $372,871   |
| Concealed Handgun Program             | $257,206   |
| Gateway Through the Rockies           | $57,638    |
| Work Release Program                  | $591,015   |
| Inmate Processing Fees                | $331,375   |
| Sex Offender Registration             | $14,191    |
| ICE - Federal Detentions              | $519,293   |
| Firing Range                          | $40,840    |
| Detoxification Center                 | $897,122   |

| 2014 General Fund Expenditures        | $31,744,649 |
| Personnel                             | $28,795,505 |
| Operations                            | $3,928,227  |
| Sheriff’s Office Fleet                | $999,841    |
| Inmate Medical Contract               | $3,649,542  |
| Inmate Food Contract                  | $1,137,933  |
| Internal and External Extraditions    | $209,363    |

| 2014 1A Public Safety Tax Initiative  | $10,736,396 |
| 2013 Fund Balance Reappropriation in 2014 | $4,915,276 |
| 1A Public Safety Revenue              | $110,736,396|
| 1A Public Safety Personnel Expenditures | $9,041,869  |
| 1A Public Safety Operations and Capital Expenditures | $5,130,635 |
In January of 2013, we began the search for a facility for the Emergency Services Division vehicles. In April of 2013, the Sheriff’s Office purchased a 56,000 sq. ft. building located on Mark Dabling Blvd. through 1A funds. This facility is not only large enough to house all of our vehicles, but all ESD personnel, the Emergency Operations Center, the Joint Information Center, and Firebase. The remodel was completed in September of 2014 and ESD personnel moved to their permanent home on October 1, 2014.

New Promotions

Promoted to Commander
- John San Agustin
- Jeff Kramer
- Joe Raybal
- Michael St. Charles

Promoted to Lieutenant
- Chuck Harrington
- John Huntz
- Joe Roybal

Promoted to Sergeant
- Brad Barter
- Bill Ewell
- Bill Otto
- Aaron Palm
- Kevin Tedesco
- Gregory White
- John San Agustin
- Jeff Kramer
- Joe Raybal
- Michael St. Charles

Retirements

- Caron Allen
- David Breiden
- Joseph Breister
- Elizabeth Brown
- Jeffrey Canitz
- Eugene Fairchild
- Karla Heckman
- William Kelly

- Brian Livingstone
- John McDevitt
- Cindy Montgomery
- Pamela Robinson
- Bradley Shannon
- Robert Stone
- Curtis Tippey
- Christopher Ward
PROTECTING YOUR 2ND AMENDMENT RIGHTS

In light of the Aurora theater and Sandy Hook Elementary mass shootings, the legislature passed two bills as they relate to our Second Amendment rights. House Bill 1224 bans ammunition magazines that hold more that 15 rounds. When it passed, supporters said the law would save lives by forcing gunmen in shootings like the Aurora theater and Sandy Hook Elementary massacres to reload more frequently. This has negative consequences, for law-abiding citizens, as these restrictions would be imposed on individuals who have no ill intent. House Bill 1229 expands the existing universal background check requirements to include any transfer of a firearm. The law’s supporters want to make it harder for guns to fall into the hand of criminals, and I support efforts that keep guns from criminals. However, criminals will not be affected by these new laws and we know that. These bills are aimed directly at law-abiding citizens in suppressing their lawful property rights and use, especially the defensive use of firearms.

In 2013, a majority of Colorado Sheriffs and I joined together in a lawsuit to try to block these two gun laws from taking effect. In all, 55 of the 62 County Sheriffs in Colorado have filed a civil rights suit claiming the language of House Bill 1224 and House Bill 1229 is unconstitutional. We went to trial in March 2014, and I was called to give testimony on what practical problems I saw House Bills 1224 and 1229 caused for citizens. After a two-week civil trial, a U.S. District Chief Judge, Marcia Krieger, ruled the lawsuit with Sheriff Maketa for a new case. The issues that we will raise in the case—including her dismissal of the Sherrifs in their official capacities, and her allowing only 11 Sheriffs to continue in the case in their individual capacities.

The Notice of Appeal was filed in July of this year. It is now in the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, with a new case number, as it is viewed as a new case. The issues that we will raise on appeal will include Judge Krieger’s ruling on the Second Amendment and the law-abiding citizens’ right to bear arms is protected. I personally believe this right, among others, is non-negotiable.

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2013

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WITH OUR DeePEST AppRECIATION

Sheriff Terry Maketa started his career with the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office in 1987 and is, in many ways, the classic American success story, working his way up through and holding every rank in the organization from Deputy to Sheriff.

In November of 2002, he received 78% of the vote, winning the General Election and paving the way for him to become the twenty-seventh Sheriff of El Paso County. This was historic in three ways, as both the youngest Sheriff in El Paso County history and the first to be elected from within the organization. In 2006, he was elected Sheriff for a second term. During that time period, the term limit for Sheriff had been increased from two terms to three. In November of 2010, Sheriff Maketa was elected for a third and final term, which again is history in the making.

Sheriff Maketa has led the Sheriff’s Office for 12 years and indeed, for the majority of the Office, is the only Sheriff they have known. Over 60% of our employees have been hired since he took office in January of 2003. Many of his accomplishments are woven throughout this publication, but the community and the Sheriff’s Office will benefit for many, many years to come.

He has been a source of calm and strong leadership through fires, floods, and other natural disasters. He fought for and won the public’s approval with the passage of the “1A Support our Sheriff” Ballot Initiative after many years of budget cuts. He has seen the county grow from 394,843 in 1987 to over 650,000 citizens and he has seen the Office go from approximately 300 employees in 1987 to over 800 today. He was instrumental in the fight for our Second Amendment rights and a leader when it comes to thinking outside the box and doing more with less.

Sheriff Maketas, we, the employees of the Sheriff’s Office, would like to thank you for your efforts in continuing to make the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office one of the most premier Law Enforcement Agencies in the country. We would not be the organization we are today without your innovation, commitment, and guidance.
**The Mission**

The mission of the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office is to provide public safety services to our community by fulfilling the duties and responsibilities as defined by Colorado law with a determination to meet the growing expectations of our citizens.

**Our Vision**

Our vision is to ensure the future quality of life for our citizens as our community grows. We will set the standard in public safety through innovation, flexibility, and commitment while recruiting and retaining a dynamic work force. Through community support and fiscal responsibility we will strategically plan and prepare for the necessary resources to meet future needs in Law Enforcement, Detentions, Wildland Fire, Search and Rescue, and Civil Process.

**We Believe...**

- In protecting the Constitutional rights of all individuals.
- Our Civilian and Sworn employees are our greatest asset and the key to our collective success.
- We work for and with the citizens of our community in a partnership based on mutual trust.
- In identifying, prioritizing, preventing, and solving community problems.
- In supporting on-going organizational change that strengthens our ability and capacity to serve our community.
- All our actions and decisions are driven by a commitment to Honesty, Loyalty, and Unity.