



2025 ANNUAL REPORT

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff S. Duane Lewis

BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



SHERIFF S. DUANE LEWIS

223 N. Live Oak Drive
Moncks Corner SC 29461

Duty Office: 843-719-4412
Dispatch: 843-719-4505



LETTER FROM THE SHERIFF



Dear Citizens of Berkeley County,

It has been my honor to serve as your Sheriff since 2015, and I am deeply grateful for the trust and support you continue to place in the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office. That trust is the cornerstone of our mission.

We believe transparency, accountability, and open communication are essential to maintaining a strong and effective partnership between law enforcement and the community we serve.

I am proud to present the 2025 Annual Report, which highlights the work, accomplishments, and continued progress of this agency over the past year. This report provides insight into our operations, initiatives, and the dedicated men and women who serve Berkeley County with professionalism, integrity, and commitment. Each day, our deputies work tirelessly to protect life and property, uphold the law, and enhance public safety across our growing county.

None of this would be possible without the support and cooperation of our citizens. Your involvement, trust, and partnership enable us to serve effectively and continually improve how we meet the needs of our community. We do not take that responsibility lightly. Together, we are working toward a safer, stronger Berkeley County for today and for future generations.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your Sheriff. I remain committed to keeping you informed and to strengthening the partnership between the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office and the citizens we proudly serve.

With sincere appreciation,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S. Duane Lewis".

S. Duane Lewis, Berkeley County Sheriff



Sheriff S. Duane Lewis, born in Conway, South Carolina, began his law enforcement career in 1984 as a Deputy Sheriff with the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office. He later served as a Patrolman with the City of Charleston Police Department, where he rose to the rank of Investigator. Lewis also worked as a Special Agent/Investigator with the INS Investigations Bureau, a national arson investigative unit for the insurance industry.

Returning to his hometown, Lewis accepted a position with the Goose Creek Police Department, where he was promoted to Detective Sergeant and managed the Detective Division. In 1994, he joined the South Carolina Public Service Authority (Santee Cooper) as a Special Agent in the Law Enforcement Division. Over the years, he earned promotions to Major and then Deputy Chief, overseeing Criminal Investigations, Training and Development, Internal Investigations, and Federal Regulatory Regulations.

In June 2015, Lewis was elected Sheriff of Berkeley County after winning the Special Election by majority vote. He graduated from Goose Creek High School and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from Columbia College. He has completed extensive academic training in Criminal Justice and Fire Sciences and is a graduate of both the prestigious FBI Command College and the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar.

Sheriff Lewis is an active member of numerous professional and community organizations, including the FBI Law Enforcement Executives Development Association, the South Carolina Sheriff's Association, the Police Chief's Association, the Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce, the Berkeley County Museum Board of Directors, the Moncks Corner Lions Club, and the Fraternal Order of Police, Berkeley County Lodge 19.

Sheriff Lewis is married to Janet Rabon Lewis and is the proud father of six children and grandfather to one grandson.



At the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office, our mission is simple: "Taking care of people." We are dedicated to serving and protecting our community with compassion, professionalism, and an unwavering commitment to public safety.

Our vision is "to be the best we can be in all that we do." This drives us to continually improve our services, strengthen community trust, and uphold the highest standards of law enforcement.

Our core values are non-negotiable. We believe in integrity as the foundation of our service, and we are committed to treating every individual with dignity and respect.



KEEP IN TOUCH

SHERIFF'S OFFICE / ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES:

223 North Live Oak Drive, Moncks Corner 29461 > Office: (843) 719-4465

NORTH DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS – ALVIN / ST. STEPHEN:

2184 Santee River Road, St. Stephen 29479 > Office: (843) 749-1006

SOUTH DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS – GOOSE CREEK:

653 Red Bank Road, Goose Creek 29445 > Office: (843) 471-2403

CROSS/PINEVILLE SUBSTATION:

1659 Old Hwy 6, Cross 29436 > Office: (843) 753-2455

HILL-FINKLEA DETENTION CENTER:

300 California Avenue, Moncks Corner 29461 > Office: (843) 719-4546

***THESE OFFICES ARE NOT MANNED 24 HRS A DAY.
PLEASE DIAL 911 IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY.***



BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

Berkeley County – 272,732 Residents

Calls for Service – 107,619

North: 24,346

South: 83,273

Arrests – 1,880

North: 586

South: 1,294

High Visibility Patrols – 1,977

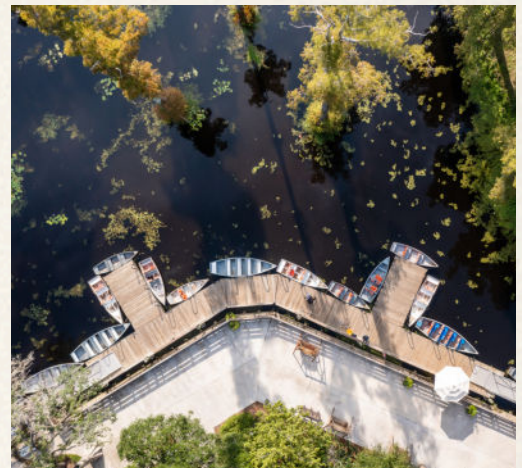
North: 1,227

South: 750



Average Daily Inmate Population – 502

Bookings – 6,304





STAY CONNECTED WITH US!

We invite our citizens to stay connected with the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office through a variety of convenient platforms designed to keep you informed and engaged. Visit our official website for updates, resources, and important announcements, or download our mobile app to receive real-time alerts and access essential services at your fingertips. You can also follow us on social media to stay informed about community news, safety tips, and upcoming events. We are committed to maintaining open lines of communication and keeping our citizens informed every step of the way.

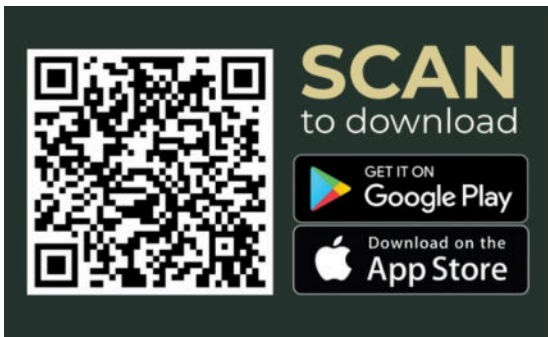
OUR WEBSITE

Berkeley County citizens can also visit the Sheriff's Office Website. Citizens can apply for a job at the Sheriff's Office, request extra patrol, give tips on criminal activity, search for an inmate, and much more.



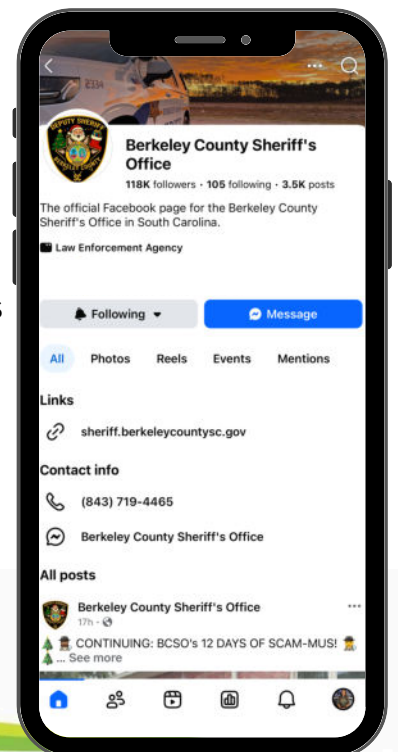
OUR SMARTPHONE APP

In 2024, Sheriff Lewis introduced BCSO's custom smartphone application that is available to the public. The app serves as an innovative way for the Sheriff's Office to connect with Berkeley County residents and visitors. The app is available to download for free in the Apple App Store and Google Play by searching "Berkeley County Sheriff."



CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

At the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office, we are committed to staying connected with our community. One of the best ways to keep up with important updates, safety tips, community events, and news from our office is through our social media platforms. We encourage you to follow us on Facebook and Twitter, where we share timely information and resources to keep you informed and engaged. Social media also gives us another opportunity to hear from you, our citizens, as we work together to keep Berkeley County safe.





SENIOR COMMAND STAFF



Chief Deputy Baker is second in command at the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office and acts on behalf of the Sheriff in his absence. He is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Sheriff's Office, develops and oversees the Berkeley County Sheriff's office budget, and manages and coordinates the various divisions within the Sheriff's Office.



Major Willie Hickman commands the Operations Branch of the Sheriff's Office which includes the North and South Uniform Patrol Districts, the North and South Community Action Team members, Court Security, Warrants, Civil Process, Judgments, and the U.S. Marshals Task Force.



Major Bobby Shuler commands the Investigations and Support Services Branch of the Sheriff's Office which includes: Criminal Investigations, Drug Enforcement Task Force, Forensics, Crime Analysis, Sex Offender Registry, Victim Advocates, Internet Crimes Against Children, Computer Forensics, Pawn Shop Investigations, Civil Disturbance Team, K9, Traffic Unit, Marine Patrol, Search and Rescue Team, Dive Team, Special Response Team, Bike Unit, Records, School Resource Officers, Duty Office, Animal Control, & LE Explorers.



Major Crumley is the Operations Commander at the Hill-Finklea Detention Center. He is responsible for inmate supervision, Special Operation Response Team (SORT), transport and Litter Pick-Up.



Director Randy Demory serves as the Director of the Detention Center. Director Demory is a nationally recognized detention professional with 40 years of experience in the corrections field.



Inspector Dan Isgett commands the Office of Professional Standards. The Office of Professional Standards is responsible for Internal Affairs, Grants, National and State Accreditation, Recruitment, Polygraph & Background Investigations, Planning and Research, Emergency Operations, BCSO Awards, Peer Support, Promotional Processes, and Accident Review.



Elisabeth Hoover serves as General Counsel for the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office. She was raised in Moncks Corner and graduated from Berkeley High School in 1998. She earned her degree from the College of Charleston in 2002 and graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 2006. Before joining the Sheriff's Office, she served as the administrative judge for the Town of Moncks Corner for seven years and has over 18 years of legal experience.



BCSO COMMAND STAFF



Captain Jimmy Mixson
Uniform Patrol North

Uniform Patrol North
Community Action Team North



Captain Matt Woodall
Uniform Patrol South

Uniform Patrol South
Community Action Team South



Captain Annie Jackson
Judicial Services

Court Security
Civil Process
Judgments
Warrants
US Marshal Task Force
Training



Captain Christopher Dirks
Criminal Investigations

Criminal Investigations
Drug Task Force
Forensic Services
Victim Advocates
Sex Offender Registry



Captain Dan Wilson
Special Operations

K9 Unit
Traffic Unit
Special Response Team
Civil Disturbance Team
Marine Patrol
Animal Control
URT



Captain Dean Kokinda
Computer Forensics
Technical Services Division

CJIS
Computer Forensics
Crime Analysis
AFIS
Video Evidence
Records / Duty Office



Captain Dave Kolega
School Resource Officers

Peer Support
Awards



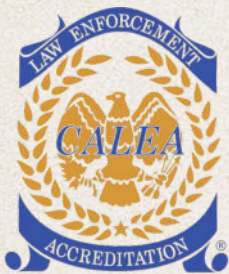
Captain Matt Downing
Hill-Finklea Detention Center
Administration

Training
Records
Classification
Property Management

PROFESSIONALISM YOU CAN TRUST!

In 1979, with support from the U.S. Department of Justice, major international and national executive law enforcement associations created a credentialing authority known as the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. or "CALEA." The purpose of CALEA then and today is to promote uniformity and the improvement of public safety services through the maintenance of professional law enforcement standards and a rigorous accreditation process.

CALEA operates as an independent, nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation and is not part of, or beholden to, any governmental entity. CALEA seals of accreditation are widely recognized nationally and internationally as the "Mark of Professional Excellence" and are awarded to public safety agencies that have demonstrated compliance with CALEA standards and have been awarded CALEA accreditation. Each accreditation is a four-year process, and the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office must meet 376 CALEA standards to receive CALEA accreditation. The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office is a state and nationally accredited public safety organization having received CALEA accreditation three consecutive times in 2016, 2020, and 2024. We are proud to showcase our CALEA gold stars and strive to maintain them for years to come.



BCSO ANNUAL AWARDS

Sheriff Lewis takes great pride in recognizing the dedication and hard work of the deputies at the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office. Through our quarterly and yearly awards, we honor those who go above and beyond in their service to the community. These awards highlight outstanding performance, bravery, and commitment to keeping Berkeley County safe. Sheriff Lewis believes that acknowledging the efforts of our deputies not only boosts morale but also reinforces the values of integrity and excellence within our department.

Deputy of 1st Quarter – Cpl. Hunter Rogers
Supervisor of 1st Quarter – Sgt. Steve Zubkoff

Civilian of 1st Quarter – Lacey Mixson
Detention Deputy of 1st Quarter – PFC Robert Adamson
Detention Supervisor of 1st Quarter – Sgt. Scott Vaughn
Detention Civilian of 1st Quarter – Hannah Pridemore

Deputy of 2nd Quarter – Cpl. Robert Bailey
Supervisor of 2nd Quarter – Sgt. Travis Richardson
Civilian of 2nd Quarter – Donna Henning Eyraud
Detention Deputy of 2nd Quarter – PFC Michael Skipper

Deputy of 3rd Quarter – PFC Alex Hernandez
Supervisor of 3rd Quarter – Lt. Obie Pittman
Civilian of 3rd Quarter – Brandi Clark
Detention Deputy of 3rd Quarter – PFC Sheryl Weinreich
Detention Supervisor of 3rd Quarter – Sgt. Ezequiel Valladares
Detention Civilian of 3rd Quarter – Faith Cali

Law Civilian of the 4th Quarter - Telissa Mack
Law Deputy of the 4th Quarter - Cpl. Michael Taylor
Detention Deputies of the 4th Quarter - PFC Hunter Elswick & PFC Rylee Enevoldsen
Law Supervisor of the 4th Quarter - Sgt. Gavin Brewer

Law Civilian of the Year - PSO Jason Dixon
Law Deputy of the Year - Cpl. Travis Dodd
Detention Deputy of the Year - PFC Alissa Jackson
Law Supervisor of the Year - Lt. John Caddell
Reserve Deputy of the Year - Khari Ford
Volunteer of the Year - Peggy Lasanke

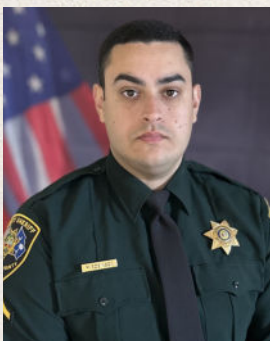
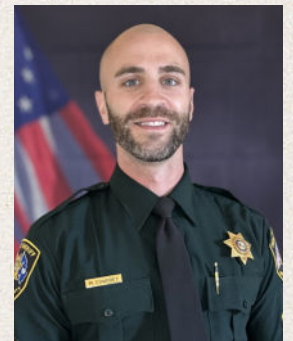
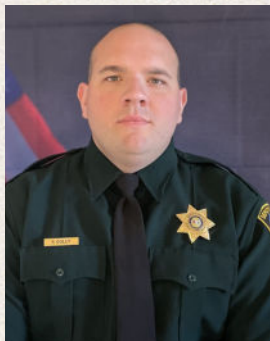
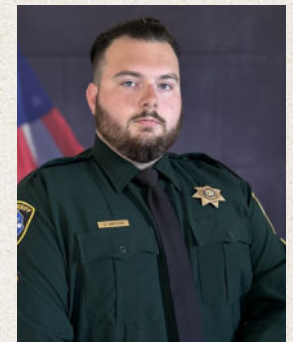
CONGRATULATIONS



BCSO PROMOTIONS

In 2025 at the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office, the agency continued to recognize and advance qualified personnel through its promotional processes and internal career development efforts. Throughout the year, deputies and supervisors were evaluated and promoted into leadership roles based on performance, experience, and departmental needs, reflecting the office's commitment to professional growth and public safety excellence.

These promotions helped strengthen BCSO's operational capabilities and ensured that experienced, mission-driven leaders were in key positions to serve the community. Congratulations!





UNIFORM PATROL DIVISION



The Uniform Patrol Division serves as the backbone of the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office, providing front-line law enforcement services to ensure the safety and security of all residents. Composed of highly trained deputies, the division is responsible for responding to emergency calls, conducting routine patrols, enforcing traffic laws, and maintaining a visible law enforcement presence throughout the county.

The mission of the Uniform Patrol Division is to protect life and property, prevent crime, and promote public trust through professional policing and community engagement. Deputies are often the first responders to incidents ranging from routine traffic violations to critical emergencies, demonstrating unwavering dedication to the safety and well-being of the community.

The division provides 24-hour coverage, seven days a week. Deputies are assigned to permanent 12-hour shifts led by a Shift Sergeant and Lieutenant. Deputies are assigned to patrol zones divided between the South and North areas of the county, ensuring consistent and comprehensive coverage throughout Berkeley County.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Beyond traditional law enforcement duties, the division actively participates in programs that foster community relationships. The Community Action Team (CAT) has been successfully developing relationships with community leaders across Berkeley County. CAT members are assigned to specific areas of the county and work collaboratively with community leaders to address concerns, improve quality of life, and proactively resolve issues before they escalate.



2025 HIGHLIGHTS

- Responded to 2,587 calls for service
- Provided rapid and professional support to citizens in need
- Collaborated with other divisions and community partners on targeted crime prevention strategies

The Uniform Patrol Division remains committed to excellence in policing, emphasizing integrity, professionalism, and community partnership. As the first line of defense in public safety, the division continues to uphold the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office's mission of service, protection, and trust.



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

2025

YEAR IN REVIEW

24-25 School Year:

Completed Incident Reports – **712**
Arrests for School Violations – **287**

25-26 School Year YTD:

Completed Incident Reports – **271**
Arrests for School Violations – **75**



The School Resource Officer Division is a collaborative effort between the Sheriff's Office, Berkeley County School District, and Charter Schools USA to provide a deputy sheriff in all schools located in the unincorporated areas of Berkeley County. The SRO Division strives to keep campuses safe and foster positive relationships with the students and community. The SRO Division consists of 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 3 Sergeants, 1 Administrative Assistant and 32 deputies who are assigned to five high schools, seven middle schools, 13 elementary schools, and one charter school. Deputies are often found interacting with students and staff, from providing instruction on drug and gang resistance programs to mentoring and counseling students when appropriate.



SRO deputies use teacher workdays and summer break to attend advanced training classes to be better prepared to carry out their duties. SRO deputies host a free Sheriff's Office Summer Camp one week each summer where approximately 65 children from the community enjoy the opportunity to interact with deputies and learn about public safety and military career fields. Campers are able to go on several field trips during the week too. Over Christmas Break, deputies take part in Toys for Tots and assist with collecting, sorting, shopping and delivering Christmas gifts to deserving children in the community.



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS



2025 YEAR IN REVIEW



The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) handles complex cases that require in-depth follow-up, specialized investigative techniques, and meticulous attention to detail. The division is organized into two primary units:

Crimes Against Persons and Crimes Against Property. The Crimes Against Persons unit investigates serious offenses such as assaults, homicides, and other violent crimes. Within this unit, the Major Crimes Unit is specifically tasked with handling the most heinous and high-profile cases, ensuring that the most serious threats to public safety are thoroughly investigated. The Crimes Against Property unit focuses on offenses such as burglaries, thefts, vandalism, and other crimes affecting citizens' property. Detectives work diligently to identify suspects, recover stolen property, and bring perpetrators to justice.

In addition, the division includes a white-collar crime detective, who investigates fraud, embezzlement, identity theft, and other complex financial crimes. The division also manages the Sex Offender Registry Unit, which monitors registered offenders and ensures compliance with the law to protect the community.

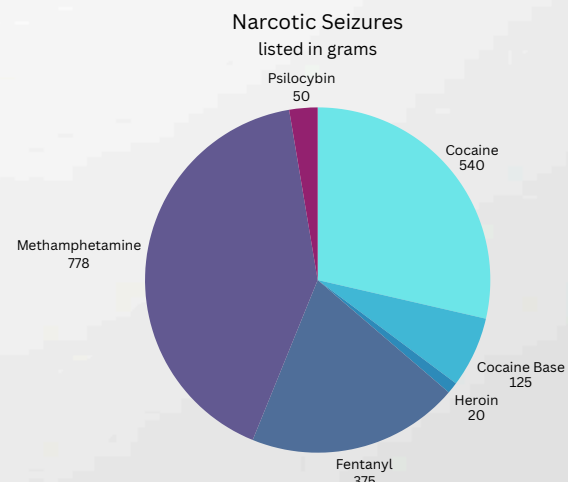
Together, these specialized teams collaborate to solve complex cases, deliver justice to victims, and enhance the overall safety of Berkeley County.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE

The Berkeley County Drug Enforcement Task Force is a collaborative effort comprising detectives from the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office, Goose Creek Police Department, Moncks Corner Police Department, & Hanahan Police Department. The Task Force partners with local, state, and federal agencies to investigate and combat illegal drug activity throughout the community. Citizens with information about narcotics activity are encouraged to call 843-719-4424 to assist law enforcement in keeping Berkeley County safe.

In 2025, narcotic agents seized nearly 800 grams of Methamphetamine. They also seized 44 firearms and \$94,990.00 in currency.

Agents made 73 arrests and issued 172 arrest warrants.





K9 UNIT

The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office currently has nine handlers and nine canines in service. Seven of these canines are "Patrol Dogs" and two are bloodhounds used only for tracking. In 2025, the Sheriff's Office Canine Unit conducted numerous functions for the agency. In total, the unit deployed canines a total of 520 times. The K9 Unit had 126 tracks, on 73 of them, the subject was captured, evidence recovered, or investigations confirmed that deputies reached the end of the track which is a 57%. Forty-five of the tracks ended with a suspect capture.

The canine unit seized a total of 17 firearms and 13 stolen vehicles.

The unit assisted with the arrest of 420 individuals this year.

There were 290 self-initiated arrests by the unit, where they were the primary charging officer. This included incidents where the handler was the primary charging officer, arresting a wanted subject, or having a direct impact in the arrest with their canine.

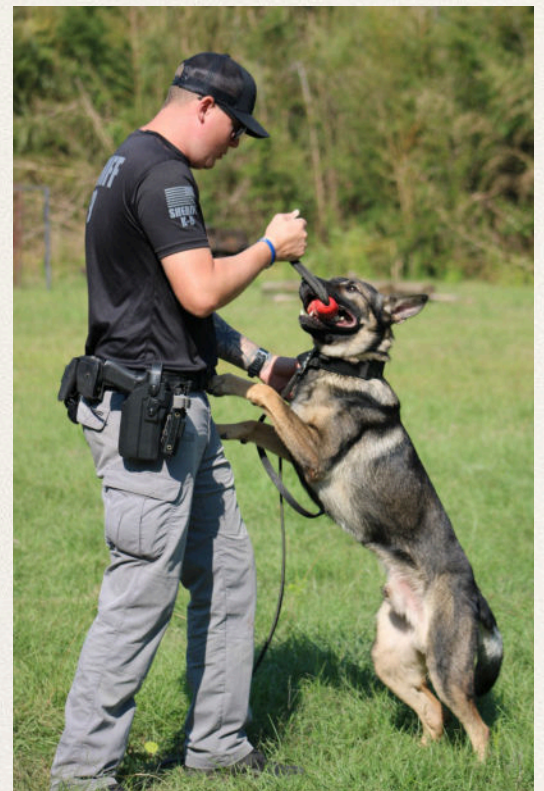
The unit had 104 apprehensions in 2025, with 15 of them being bite apprehensions.

The unit supported other units in the service of 59 search warrants.

NAPWDA 2025: NAPWDA stands for the North American Police Work Dog Association, a non-profit organization founded in 1977 that is dedicated to assisting law enforcement agencies in the training and improvement of police work dog teams worldwide. Individual team members also completed several training certification classes that adds value to the Sheriff's Office.

Deputies were utilized for a number of jail narcotic sweeps, school narcotics sweeps, narcotics sweeps of businesses per request.

Deputies assisted in approximately 20 community events and demonstrations. Team members also assisted heavily in surveillance, containment, and take down vehicles for operations with DEU, DEA, Intelligence Unit, CID, SRT, USMTF, and the Warrants division.





TRAFFIC TEAM

The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office Traffic Unit is comprised of one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, four full-time motor deputies and two deputies assigned to traffic safety grants. For the 2025 year, the traffic unit made 80 DUI arrests. The agency had 90 total DUI arrests for the year. The team accounted for 89% of the agency's total DUI arrests. Three members achieved the SCDPS SC DUI Hero award. The unit achieved one gold award and two bronze awards. The team issued 3,663 Citations; the agency issued 5,990. That's 61% of the agency's citations, which were issued by the traffic team. This also shows an 12% increase in citations from the year prior. The Team also issued 2,805 Public Contact Warnings. This is also an increase of 13 % from the previous year. The team also investigated 146 collisions during the year. This also shows a 26% increase in collisions investigated. The traffic team was also called to assist two local agencies in two fatal collision reconstructions. This includes solving a hit-and-run involving death and great bodily injuries.



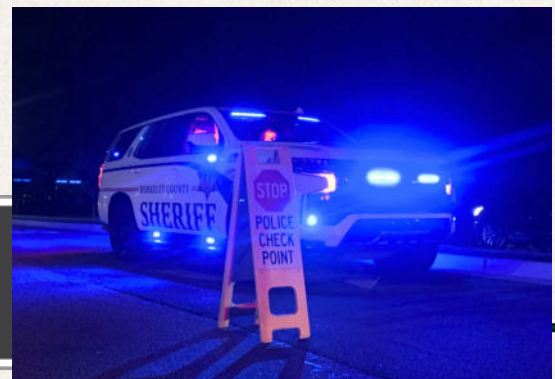
The motor team completed 101 escorts throughout the year, which is double last year and a 102% increase. Of the escorts, 37 funeral escorts, including three dignitary escorts, including the VPTOUS. At the 2025 Matt Miller Memorial Motorcycle Skills competition, the team placed 1st and 2nd in the Novice and 3rd in the Novice ELTRA glide competition. The team also completed 478 hours of motor training. The motor team welcomed one new rider who successfully passed his 80-hour basic police motorcycle class and 120 hours of FTO with another certified motor officer.

The team also completed 118 selective enforcements (STE) in complaint areas around Berkeley County. The unit also handled 149 traffic complaints in various parts of Berkeley County. The unit participated in all four of SCPDS enforcement campaigns throughout the year and attended all 9th Circuit Law Enforcement Networks meetings. The Unit has achieved a gold award through the SCDPS Law Enforcement Network for the third consecutive year and is the only Berkeley County Agency.

The units completed over 1500 hours of advanced training for the calendar year. This includes two members achieving Traffic Safety Instructor Certification (520 Hours of total SCCJA training) and three achieving Traffic Safety Officer Certification (380 hours of total SCCJA training). The unit also welcomed two new certified traffic collision reconstructionist (440 Hours of total training). The traffic unit also hosted two SCCJA SFST Practitioner classes and two SMD Operator classes.

The unit completed 12 safety presentations to over 400 people. The traffic team gave four Prom Promises speeches to four local High Schools. Seven news media stories were aired featuring the traffic unit, and two social media videos were also posted. The unit also participated in seven special operational periods and completed 18 SCDPS saturation patrols related to those operational periods. All this was completed while all members attended all court proceedings and SCDMV hearings.

The goal for 2026, the team will continue to work to decrease the number of traffic fatalities and collisions. The traffic unit will continue to dedicate itself to our main goal of Target Zero traffic fatalities. The unit will also continue to take advanced training to curb traffic fatalities. The team hopes to increase its manpower by adding two new officers and providing the citizens of Berkeley County with 24-hour-a-day traffic coverage.





JUDICIAL SERVICES

Berkeley County Sheriff's Office Court Security is comprised of both full duty and limited duty deputies. The Berkeley County Courthouse is open Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM, except for holidays. During any given week, there are approximately 1,000 to 2,000 people that enter the Courthouse for various reasons. There are six courtrooms located in the Courthouse: three full-time Family Court courtrooms and the remaining courtrooms are used for General Sessions (Criminal), Common Pleas (Civil), Probate Court, and the Master-in-Equity. Occasionally, all six courts will be in session simultaneously.



Court Security Deputies are tasked with maintaining the peace and protecting the citizens, court staff, attorneys, and judges. Court Security Deputies are also responsible for managing adult inmates and juveniles that are brought into the courtrooms. In addition to the required training all deputies receive each year, deputies assigned to Court Security also receive specialized court security training.

The Warrants / Civil Process Unit is responsible for evictions, Writ of Possession, Claim and Deliveries and Judgments. The Warrants/Civil Process Unit also serves jury summons, assists with foreclosures, and serves a variety of civil court documents.

Warrants Issued: **4021**

Warrants Served: **3462**

Civil Papers Issued: **4347**

Civil Papers Served: **2487**

TRAINING UNIT

The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office Training Unit is responsible for coordinating and conducting training for all LE-1, LE-2, and LE-3 Berkeley County Sheriff's Office personnel. They also help train Detention Deputies, Reserve Deputies, Special Deputies, Retirees, and Auxiliary Personnel. The Training Unit coordinates with the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy (SCCJA) to ensure that Berkeley County Sheriff's Office personnel have required basic law enforcement training as well as advanced training. The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office Training Unit also provides training for other local law enforcement agencies in Berkeley County. In 2025, the training unit conducted three, 12-hour block training classes for sworn deputies. This includes annual firearms qualifications, vehicle operations, and other mandatory in-service training. The Training Unit prepared 10 new recruits for the academy in 2025. The Training Unit conducted 24 hours of block training, monthly, to 223 deputies and officers at Hanahan PD, Moncks Corner PD, and St. Stephen PD. They also conducted 40 hours training for 72 Detention Deputies. In addition, the Training Unit hosted and organized approximately 15 advanced training seminars for LE statewide.





SPECIAL OPERATIONS

SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM (SRT)

The Special Response Team (SRT) is an elite unit comprised of highly trained deputies who respond to high-risk incidents that exceed the capabilities of standard patrol operations. This specialized team is tasked with handling situations such as hostage rescues, barricaded suspects, high-risk warrant service, and active threats to public safety. Equipped with advanced tactical gear, specialized weapons, and extensive training in crisis response, the SRT is prepared to swiftly and effectively resolve dangerous situations while minimizing risks to civilians and law enforcement personnel. Their dedication, discipline, and teamwork make them a vital asset in protecting the citizens of Berkeley County.



RESERVE DEPUTY SHERIFFS

A Reserve Deputy is a volunteer law enforcement officer that has attended all the required training and passed all the required tests as mandated by the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy. Reserve Deputies receive the same training as full-time deputies. Training takes approximately 162 hours and spans a three month time frame. South Carolina state law requires that each Reserve Deputy maintain 60 hours of service time each quarter or 20 hours per month. They are also required to attend training once a month. Berkeley County currently has 14 Reserve Deputies.



LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORERS

Law Enforcement Explorer Post 700 is chartered by the Boy Scouts of America. Youths ages 14 to 20 are eligible to become a Law Enforcement Explorer. In 2025, there were about 20 Explorers a part of the program. Law Enforcement Explorers are trained in all areas of law enforcement duties to include traffic control, crime scene investigation, patrol duties, building searches and report writing. During the SCALES (South Carolina Association of Law Enforcement Explorers) conference, BCSO Explorers competed in several events that involved a wide variety of law enforcement-related topics including high-risk traffic stops, drug search warrants, arrest warrants, crime scene, firearms, active shooter, mental health crisis intervention, civil disturbances, officer down scenarios, court room testimony, traffic collision reports, incident reports, an emergency operation course and a physical agility course.





SPECIAL OPERATIONS

MARINE PATROL

The Marine Patrol Unit consists of 10 Boat Captains and 16 crew members. During 2025, the Marine Patrol Unit logged 114 tours of duty, 350 extra patrols, assisted 32 disabled vessels. The Active Patrols started in April through Labor Day, during which time the Marine Patrol Unit logged over 912 hours of active patrolling of the 130 sq miles of Berkeley County's waterways. The Marine Patrol Unit responded and participated in 35 rescue/recovery missions, as well as 35 security/law enforcement related missions. Marine Patrol assisted Federal, State and Local Law Enforcement with multiple Port Security and Waterway patrols and special events.



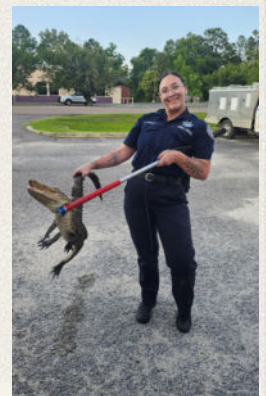
DIVE TEAM

In 2025, the Dive Team consisted of 12 team members: seven sworn members, three auxiliary members and two paramedics from BCEMS. This year, the team logged 200 training hours, including training with other agencies. During 2025, the Dive Team performed four victim recoveries, one rescue, and three vehicles recovered from the water. In 2018, the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office assumed the responsibilities of marine and ground search/rescue operations from the Berkeley County Rescue Squad.



ANIMAL CONTROL

In 2025, the Sheriff's Office employed five Animal Control Officers who collectively responded to 8,173 calls for service across Berkeley County. ACOs completed intake for approximately 2,022 animals. These officers are responsible for enforcing animal-related laws, protecting public safety, and promoting the humane treatment of animals. Animal Control Officers respond to calls involving stray, injured, or dangerous animals, investigate cases of neglect and abuse, and work diligently to reunite lost pets with their owners. They also play an important role in educating the community on responsible pet ownership and enforcing local ordinances to ensure a safe and healthy environment for both residents and animals. Animal Control Officers are essential to safeguarding the well-being of the public and the animals that call Berkeley County home.



PROTECTING OUR ANIMALS

The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office Animal Cruelty Investigator, Detective Corporal J. DiFalco, is dedicated to protecting the welfare of animals throughout Berkeley County. Detective Corporal DiFalco leads investigations into reports of animal abuse and neglect, enforces South Carolina animal cruelty laws, and works closely with animal control, partner agencies, and community organizations. With a strong commitment to both compassion and accountability, this role helps ensure justice for animals while promoting education and prevention across the community.





FORENSICS

The Forensics Unit is responsible for crime scene processing, all in-custody property, and the processing of evidence. A Lieutenant, Sergeant, and three technicians are available 24/7 to respond to incidents. Members of the Unit are trained in crime scene processing, blood spatter analysis, photography, and latent fingerprint processing.

2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

ATF Trace - 458
 Processed - 532
 Call out - 275
 Impound - 14
 IBIS - 429
 Evidence logged - 6709
 Solicitors - 899
 Detectives - 910
 Returned - 753
 Destroyed - 3614
 Search warrant - 115
 SLED return - 1941
 NCIC check - 412
 DNA - 128

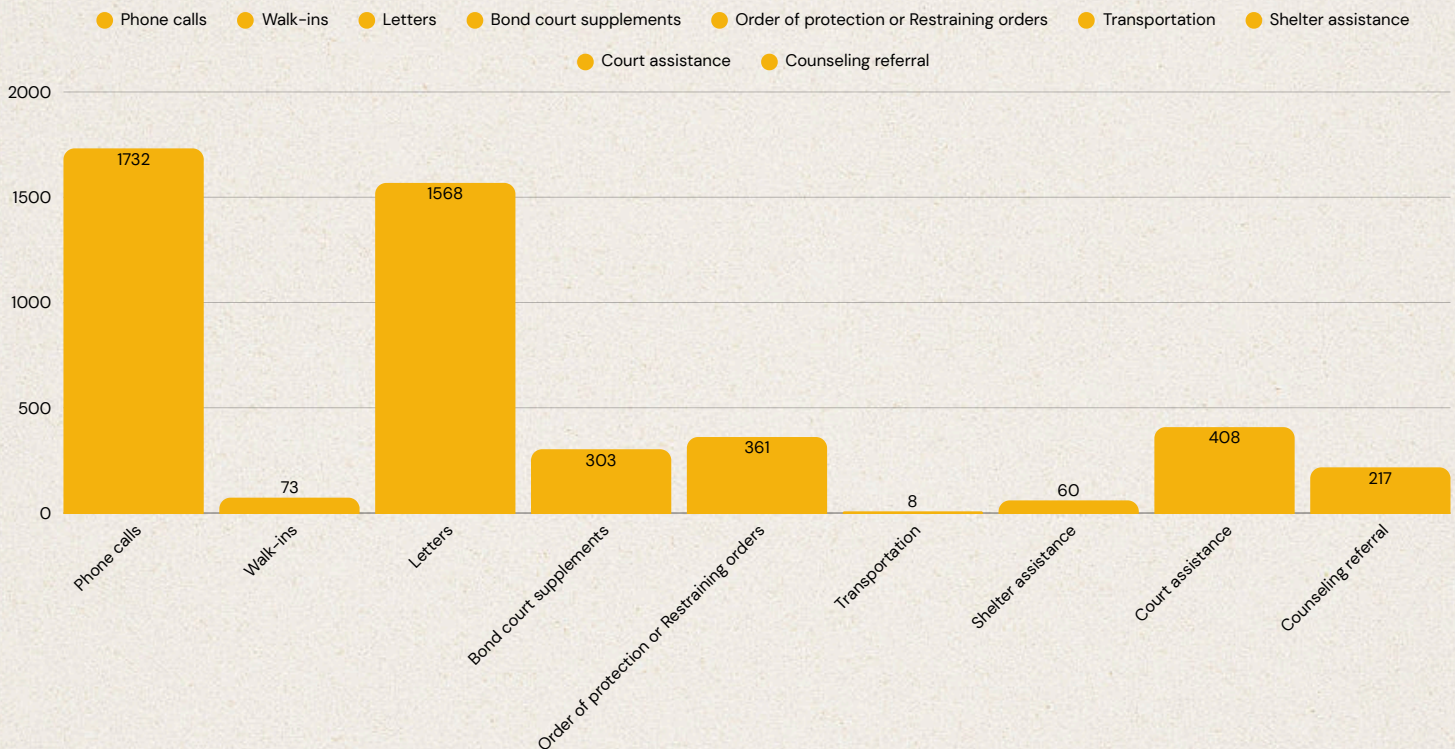




VICTIMS ADVOCATES

The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office Victim Advocates play a vital role in supporting victims and witnesses of crime throughout Berkeley County. Their mission is to ensure that individuals affected by crime are treated with dignity, compassion, and respect while being informed and empowered as they navigate the criminal justice process.

2025 YEAR IN REVIEW



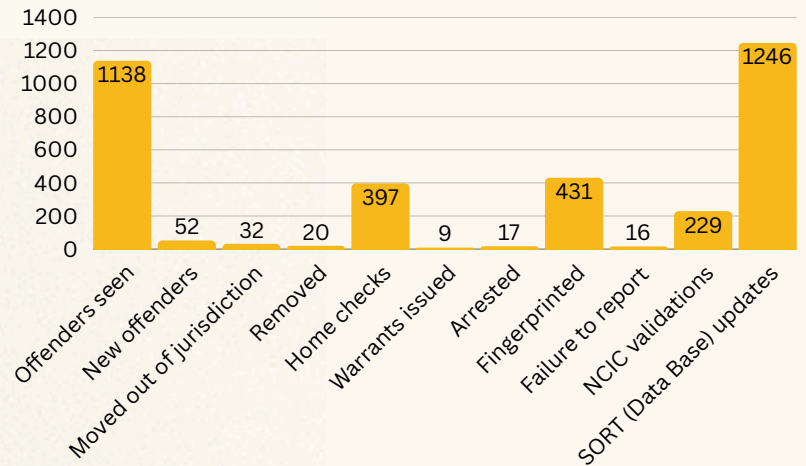
Victim Advocates serve as a vital link between victims, law enforcement, and the court system. By advising victims and witnesses of their rights and explaining court procedures, Advocates help individuals understand what to expect throughout the criminal justice process, easing confusion and reducing stress during difficult situations.

Advocates provide support from the early stages of a case through investigation, court proceedings, and resolution. Services include assistance with victim compensation, protective orders, referrals to community resources, and guidance on safety and recovery options. While Advocates do not provide legal advice, they ensure victims are informed and supported.

In 2025, the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office assisted approximately 1,510 victims of crime through its Victim Advocate services. This reflects the Office's continued commitment to victim-centered policing and ensuring victims are never left to navigate the justice system alone.



SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY



In South Carolina, individuals convicted of qualifying sex offenses are required by law to register with the Sheriff's Office in the county where they reside. This requirement also applies to individuals convicted under federal law or the laws of another state when the offense is substantially similar to a South Carolina registrable offense. Offenders must provide all required information for inclusion in the State Sex Offender Registry within three days of establishing residency in South Carolina. Additionally, registered offenders are required to re-register within three days of any change in residence.

The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office Sex Offender Registry Section is responsible for managing and enforcing these registration requirements. The section ensures that all registered sex offenders are accurately listed on the South Carolina Sex Offender Registry website and that their information remains current. Personnel work to monitor compliance with state registration laws, track and verify offender-provided information, and maintain detailed records and databases related to registered offenders.

The Sex Offender Registry Section also works closely with the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) and other law enforcement agencies, conducts follow-up on registered offender cases, and provides relevant information to deputies in the field. These efforts support public safety and transparency within the community.

For additional information regarding the Sex Offender Registry, please contact the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office at (843) 719-5151.

You may view the current Sex Offender Registry for Berkeley County by going to the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (S.L.E.D.) website at www.SLED.SC.Gov



Current Total Offenders Registered with Berkeley County - 383
Offenders seen in 2025 - 1138



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Office of Professional Standards investigates serious incidents and coordinates citizen complaint investigations. The Inspector of Internal Affairs investigations reports directly to the Sheriff for Internal Affairs investigations. In 2021, the Sheriff's Office began using Guardian Tracking software to track administrative documents to include corrective action. This software also allows supervisors to provide coaching documentation.

Citizen Complaints: In 2025, there were 37 citizen complaints filed against employees of the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office in person or online. Some of the complaints filed included more than one deputy and more than one category of complaint. Of the 37 complaints filed, only 4 were sustained.

Internal Affairs Investigations: Complaints of a serious nature are assigned to The Office of Professional Standards to investigate. Internal Affairs Investigations include serious policy violations, reviews of accidents involving agency vehicles in which death or serious injury are involved and Officer Involved Critical Incidents. In 2025, there were 16 IA investigations involving 19 deputies. Some investigations included more than one category. Of the sixteen complaints, six were sustained.

Corrective Actions: Corrective actions for deputies refer to measures taken to address misconduct, policy violations, or performance deficiencies, ensuring accountability and adherence to professional standards. These actions can range from retraining and counseling to formal discipline, such as suspension or termination, depending on the severity of the issue.



The Grants Office is responsible for developing and submitting grant applications, assisting with project planning, and budgeting and detailing performance measures. Once a grant is awarded, the Grants Specialist reviews procurement expenditures to ensure compliance and managing the submission of financial and programmatic data. In 2025, the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office was awarded 5 grants totaling \$2.4 million. The grants awarded were: DUI Enforcement Grant, DUI Prosecutor Grant, Traffic Safety Grant, SAVS Grant, and SRO Grant. The Grants Specialist wrote and manages these grants which fund the salaries and benefits of 19 Sheriff's Office employees.

RECRUITMENT + THE HIRING PROCESS

Deputy Sheriff applicants must successfully pass an extensive background process including driver's license and criminal history checks, credit checks, verification of employment and education records, a reading comprehension test, a physical abilities test, a polygraph examination, and medical and psychological screening.

In 2025, the Sheriff's Office received 211 applications for LE1 positions. The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office hired 31 new deputies in 2025.

Individuals interested in joining the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office may apply online.

Questions about employment may be emailed to: recruitment@bcsosc.org.

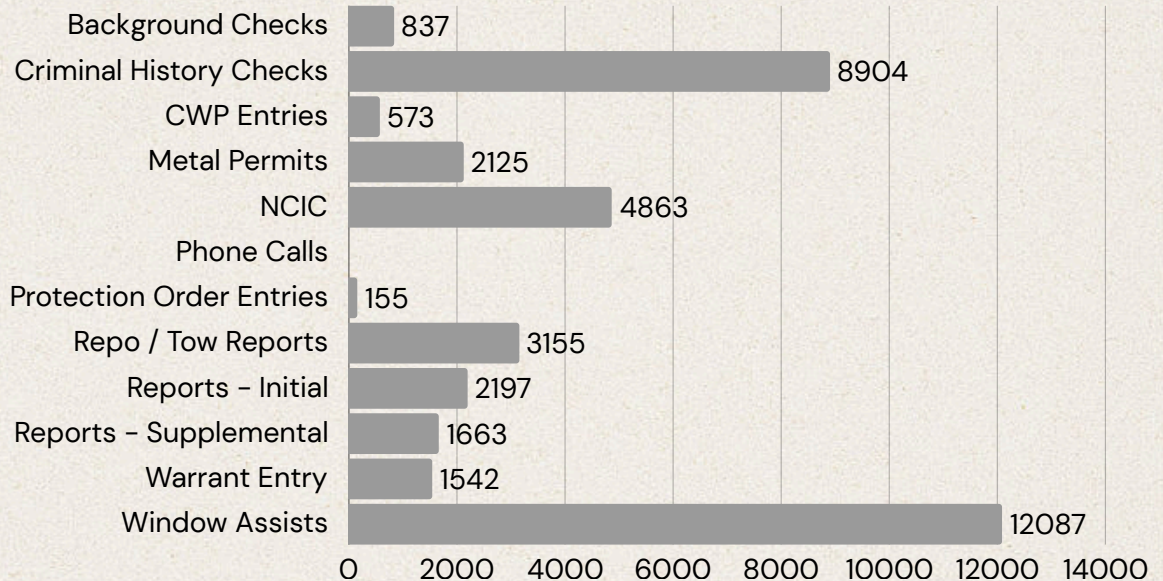




TECHNICAL & SUPPORT SERVICES

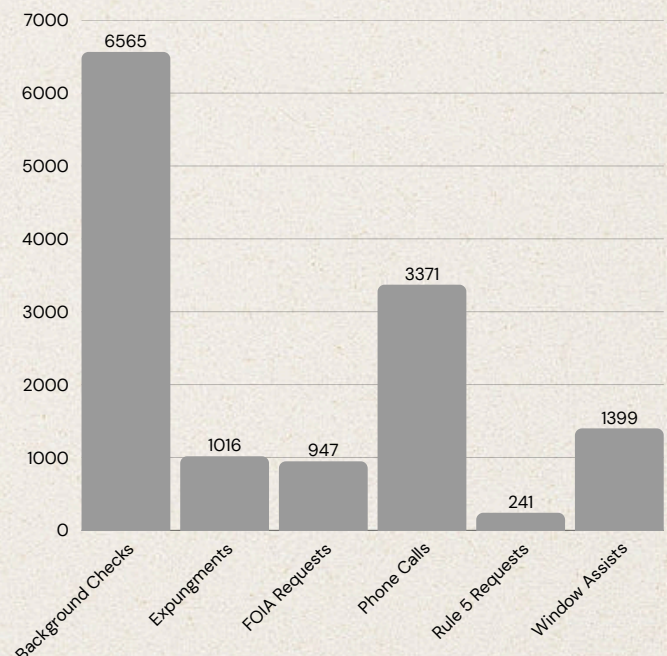
The Technical & Support Services Division oversees all technical projects and equipment and also conducts forensic analysis of technology for criminal investigations. The Records Office and the Duty Office are included in this Division.

2025
YEAR IN REVIEW



RECORDS UNIT

The Records Unit is staffed by a unit supervisor, three administrative support specialists, and an expungement clerk. Agency reports and documents are submitted to the Records Unit. Records personnel also are responsible for responding to Freedom of Information Act records requests as well as running criminal history checks, military-background checks, and DSS background checks. Records personnel enter warrants and protection orders, process concealed weapons permit entries and responses, enter NCIC (National Crime Information Center) validations, process Rule 5 requests, and process expungements.

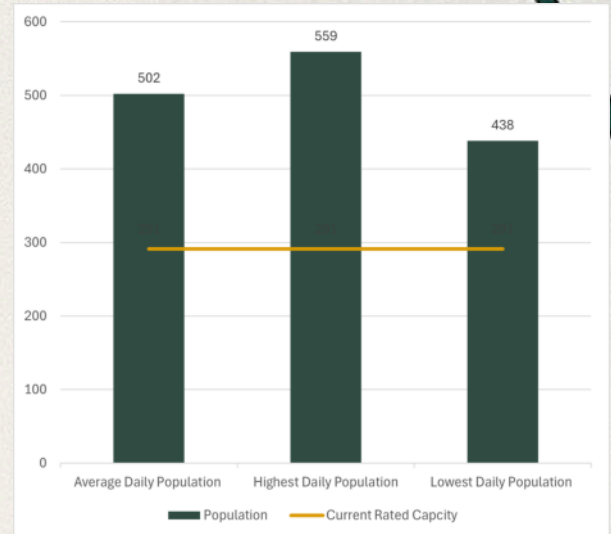




HILL-FINKLEA DETENTION CENTER

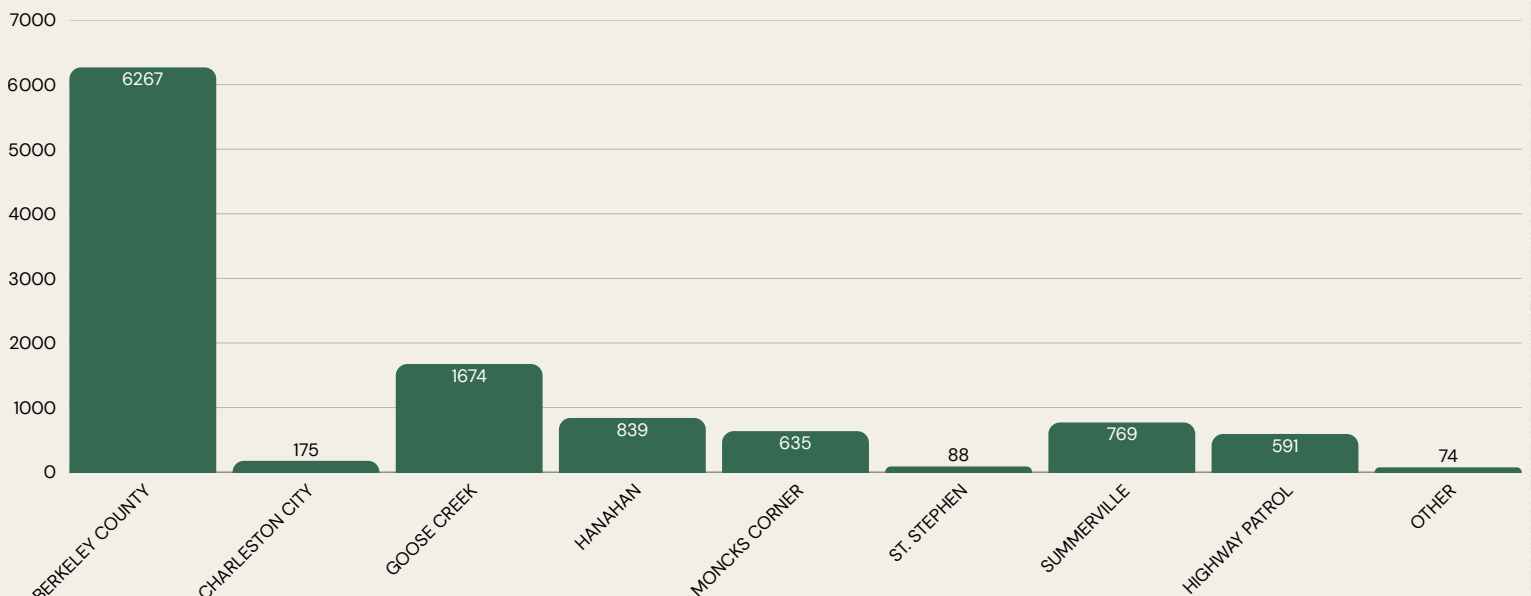
The Hill-Finklea Detention Center is located at 300 California Avenue adjacent to the County Courthouse. Our mission at the Hill-Finklea Detention Center is to provide a healthy, safe, secure and humane environment in a cost effective manner in which to detain persons in our custody.

Randy Demory serves as the Director of the Detention Center. Director Demory is a nationally recognized jail professional with forty years of experience in the corrections field.



Berkeley County's detention center will soon get a major expansion over the next few years to add more room and modernize the facility. After breaking ground in May 2023, the detention center expansion was substantially completed in December 2025. Berkeley County Sheriff Duane Lewis said the detention center has been over capacity for the last 20 years. This expansion will nearly double current capacity to 565 beds. Along with improved workspaces for staff, it will also provide different housing plans to facilitate keeping dangerous inmates away from each other and provide new multipurpose spaces for mental health programs, GED classes, and religious services. Detention staff will be very busy in 2026 preparing to move over 340 inmates into the expansion.

INMATES BOOKED INTO HFDC BY AGENCY





HILL-FINKLEA DETENTION CENTER

The Hill-Finklea Detention Center is located at 300 California Avenue adjacent to the County Courthouse. Our mission at the Hill-Finklea Detention Center is to provide a healthy, safe, secure and humane environment in a cost effective manner in which to detain persons in our custody. Randy Demory serves as the Director of the Detention Center. Director Demory is a nationally recognized jail professional with forty years of experience in the corrections field.

Operations Division

The Operations Division is responsible for the direct supervision of inmates, SORT (Special Operations Response Team), the Transport Unit, and the litter pick-up programs.

Transport Unit

The Transport Unit is responsible for all local and out-of-state transports, to include transports to court hearings and medical facilities. Transport Unit Detention Deputies are also responsible for the security of inmates at medical facilities. In 2025, the Transport Unit conducted 1,207 regular transports, 150 therapeutic transports, 467 juvenile transports = 1,824 total transports. The Transport Unit is also responsible for operating Detention-1, a service that transports arrestees from the arrest location to the detention center on Friday and Saturday evenings. Detention-1 keeps deputies and officers available for calls instead of driving to the detention center. Detention-1 transported 402 arrestees in 2025.

Litter Pick-up Program

In 2015, the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office instituted the Litter Pick-Up Program. Inmates meeting certain classification criteria volunteer to participate in this program. Under the supervision of detention deputies, the inmates clean up trash from the sides and medians of public roadways and other public areas.

THE LITTER PICK-UP PROGRAM REMOVED 113,530 POUNDS OF TRASH FROM PUBLIC AREAS IN 2025.



Administrative Division

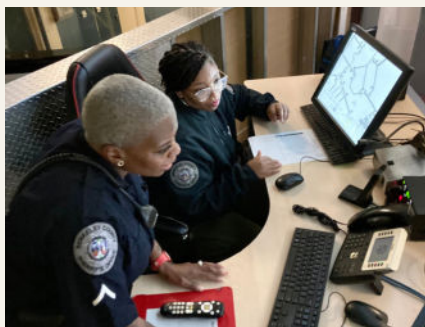
The Administrative Division includes the Classification Unit, Records Unit, Training Unit, Policies and Budgeting, Property Management, and Contract Management.

Classification Unit

The Classification Unit has two detention deputies that are responsible for evaluating incoming inmates for classification. The Unit tracks disciplinary procedures and provides monthly statistics regarding inmate disciplinary actions to the Hill-Finklea Detention Center Director.

Records Unit

The Records Unit is comprised of six civilians and one detention deputy. The Records Unit is tasked with records entry and management, inmate accounts, and management of the inmate files. These records include Jail Management System data, expungements, certain court records, and release records. Members of the Records Unit also are assigned victim notification responsibilities and serve as receptionists in the lobby area of the Detention Center. The Records Unit Sergeant is also responsible for supervising detention deputies that are assigned to the courthouse to supervise inmates at the court house and act as escort officers.





HILL-FINKLEA DETENTION CENTER

Contract Management

The Administrative Captain coordinates contractor services to include: medical services, food services, inmate phone services, digital mail services, and video visitation.

Training Unit

All newly hired detention deputies are required to complete 80 hours of pre-service training prior to working inside the detention center, followed by 6 weeks of supervised in-house training. After earning their detention officer certification from the SC Criminal Justice Academy, detention deputies must complete 40 hours of continuing education training each year. The BCSO Training Unit maintains training records for the detention center and coordinates training using detention center instructors.

Property Management

The management of inmate personal property is an important role within the Detention Center. Currently, there is one detention deputy assigned to manage the property rooms.

Booking Procedures

Staff assigned to this unit are responsible for receiving and processing all new inmates to include fingerprints, photographs, and verifying charging and bond paperwork. They are also responsible for processing inmates for release. These responsibilities require a high degree of attention to detail. This unit processed 11,085 arrestees in 2025. A sergeant is always on duty to supervise these activities.



MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

In 2022, Sheriff Duane Lewis and State Representative Sylleste Davis secured \$378,000 in state funding to launch a pilot partnership between the Hill-Finklea Detention Center and Berkeley County Mental Health. This funding added a clinician and increased mental health services within the facility, including referrals from staff and inmates, post-release follow-up care, and employment assistance. Due to the program's success, an additional \$400,000 was allocated in 2023 to expand services. Providing mental health care in a jail setting is critical to inmate and staff safety, reducing recidivism, and supporting successful reintegration into the community.

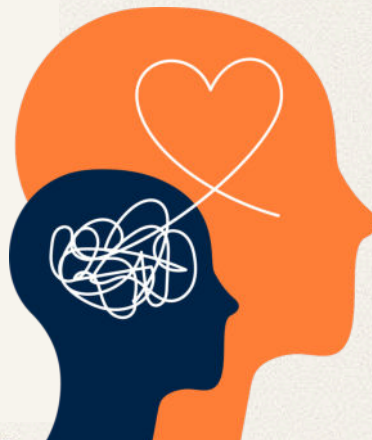
MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM STATS

FY 24

- **MHP Visits: 2148**
- **Psychiatrist Visits: 1022**
- **Outreach/Resource: 1278**

FY 25

- **MHP Visits: 1925**
- **Psychiatrist Visits: 703**
- **Outreach/Resource: 744**



BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IN MEMORY WALL



BCSO CAPTAIN (RETIRED) WILL ROGERS: END OF WATCH AUGUST 27, 2021

Captain Will Rogers passed away after a battle with COVID. Captain Rogers gave over 30 years of his life to service. In 2015, he survived an ambush attack in the line of duty that doctors never expected him to endure. Will was an outspoken advocate for the prevention of violence against members of Law Enforcement until his very last days.

BCSO LIEUTENANT MARK TILLMAN: END OF WATCH SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

Lieutenant Mark Tillman died unexpectedly on September 27, 2018. Lieutenant Tillman was serving as a Patrol Squad Lieutenant at the time of his death. He was a 26-year law enforcement veteran. He served with Berkeley County for 20 years.

BCSO DEPUTY MARION EUGENE WRIGHT: END OF WATCH NOVEMBER 19, 2002

Deputy Wright had just finished his shift and was on his way home when he stopped to assist a disabled motorist with a flat tire. A City of Summerville Officer, William Bell, also stopped to assist Deputy Wright. As the officers were changing the tire, an on-coming vehicle left the roadway and struck both officers. Deputy Marion Eugene Wright and Officer William Bell were both killed. The section of highway where the tragedy took place was renamed William Boland Bell and Marion Eugene Wright Highway.

BCSO DEPUTY HARVEY L. MIDDLETON: END OF WATCH MAY 11, 1975

Deputy Sheriff Harvey Middleton was shot and killed when he and the St. Stephen Police Chief attempted to arrest a man on a shooting spree.

MAGISTRATE WARREN CALHOUN GUERRY: END OF WATCH MAY 27, 1947

In the 1940's Magistrates still made arrests in their jurisdiction. Magistrate Guerry had arrested a suspect for robbery and was transporting him to a local constable's home when the suspect stabbed him with a knife. He succumbed to his injuries before other officers arrived on the scene.

BERKELEY COUNTY CONSTABLE ROBERT HASELL: END OF WATCH FEBRUARY 4, 1893

Constable Robert Hasell was shot and killed while attempting to serve a warrant for trespassing. Two people were convicted of Constable Hasell's murder and were sentenced to death. Constable Hasell had only served as a constable for one day.

Photo
unavailable



**WE ARE THANKFUL OF THE DEDICATED MEN AND
WOMEN OF THE BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

