



# The Wisconsin **SHERIFF &** **DEPUTY**

*The Official Publication of the Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association*

**Winter 2019**



**2020 WINTER TRAINING  
CONFERENCE BROCHURE**

*pgs. 7-10*

The Wisconsin  
**SHERIFF &  
DEPUTY**

**COVER PHOTO INFORMATION**

On September 11, 2019, Taylor County Sheriff Larry Woebbecking organized a 9/11 memorial flag run which consisted of a five-mile run on State Hwy 13 from the Village of Stetsonville to the City of Medford.

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*by Chief Deputy Jeff Spencer, WS&DSA President*

Greetings!

It is an absolute honor and privilege for me to serve as your President of the Wisconsin Sheriff's and Deputy Sheriff's Association. I would like to thank Sheriff Nancy Hove for serving as our past President over the past two years.

From negotiating a contract with SAMI, to working with our state legislative to ensure the enactment of stronger public safety laws and law enforcement training, I am very proud of everything WS&DSA has accomplished in the last few years.

Now as we move forward, I want you to know that I will keep an open line of communication with you. We have an outstanding Board of Directors that are dedicated to serving you. We look forward to improving and working on several key issues for our association over the next two years:

1. **Training:** this is one of the fundamental missions of our association. The past few years we have focused on the topic of employee wellness. We want to increase training opportunities in the near future and have been working closely with our Badger Sheriff's Association partners on providing additional training classes for dispatchers.
2. **Communication:** we are planning on a redesign of our website that will increase communication throughout our membership and offer opportunities to pay memberships and order association apparel online. I would like to see an area added that is dedicated to our history and our retired members, as well.

3. **Legislative:** our legislative committee, chaired by Captain Jeff Klatt, works closely with Hamilton Consulting Group to track legislation that affects law enforcement. New bills are introduced every year and staying on top of them as they flow through the legislative process is another way our members need to stay informed.
4. **Networking:** the depth of knowledge combined with the varied pool of experienced WS&DSA members is undoubtedly one of our greatest resources. We are stronger together. I urge you to get involved in our many committees or consider a future opportunity as a director or alternate.
5. **Membership:** as I stated earlier, we are stronger together. The more members we have, the stronger our voice. I request all of our members to go back to your agencies and recruit new members. The \$15.00 membership fee is very inexpensive compared to the benefits our association offers.

Our 2020 Winter Training Conference will be held at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Green Bay on February 2-5, 2020. Our training committee, chaired by Chief Deputy Mike Horstman, has been working very hard to bring you a great training opportunity. Registration information can be found in this magazine or on our website. I encourage all of our members to attend this training conference.

Please if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas, I encourage you to reach out to any of our directors or to myself. Stay positive and stay safe!

**Chief Deputy Jeff Spencer**  
*President of WS&DSA*



# WHY SHOULD I BELONG TO THE WS&DSA?

*by Sandy Schueller, WS&DSA Business Manager*

During year-end, in the time of membership dues renewal season, the questions are often raised: Why am I paying these dues? My individual dues dollars can't make that much of a difference, can they?

The strength of an organization comes from its members collectively. Every member makes up the association to have an impact on the overall industry.

The WS&DSA is constantly working towards its mission of providing information and education material to law enforcement officers and organizations.

Along with driving towards the long-term vision year after year, members also receive countless additional benefits that are difficult to measure precisely:

## **Networking**

There is rarely a higher ranked value in membership above networking. From sitting at the Board table, working with other law enforcement agencies and legislators, and being friends while learning about trends and best practices from those you can relate to, to socializing with customers and colleagues at the conference technology show – face-to-face interaction is one of the best ways relationships are made.

## **Events**

Every year, WS&DSA holds the Winter Training Conference and Technology Show. The Winter Training Conference offers a mix of association business, networking, comradery, and educational sessions. Members of WS&DSA receive a discount on their conference registration. This year, the Winter Training Conference will be held February 2-5 in Green Bay; more information can be found in the brochure on pages 7-10 of this magazine. Attendees will enjoy many opportunities to network with attendees, speakers, and Board Members over the course of the conference.

## **Legislative Advocacy**

The Legislative Committee, our Public Affairs Counsel, and the Board of Directors work with state and federal elected representatives to discuss laws and regulations that enhance your ability to provide for safe communities in Wisconsin.

When you consider your dues contribution for 2020, please remember that your dues dollars count. Along with the discounted membership rates you receive on conference registration costs along with all the valuable benefits described here, above all, you are empowering this great organization to continue to achieve its mission and become a leader for Wisconsin Law Enforcement.



## Wisconsin Law Enforcement Death Response Team

Members of the team are available to help your agency prepare for the unimaginable:

- Line of Duty Death/Injury Policies & Procedures
- Peer Support Teams
- Public Safety Officer Benefits (PSOB)
- Suicide Prevention

Follow us on Facebook: WI Law Enforcement Death Response Team



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And since we have again been recognized among the Top 50 Companies for Diversity by Diversity Inc. and the World's Most Admired Companies by FORTUNE Magazine, we want to thank you, our valued customers. We are proud to sponsor the Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association and thank you for the sacrifices you make every day to keep our employees, your facilities, and the overall community safe.

**WE ARE HONORED TO BE YOUR PARTNER**

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# *Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association*

## **2020 WS&DSA Winter Training Conference & Technology Show**

*February 2-5, 2020  
Radisson Hotel &  
Conference Center  
Green Bay, WI*

**Wisconsin Sheriffs &  
Deputy Sheriffs Association**  
6737 W. Washington St., Suite 4210  
Milwaukee, WI 53214  
Phone: 414-488-3906  
Email: [info@wsdsa.org](mailto:info@wsdsa.org)



# Conference Details

## Conference Cancellation and Substitution Policy

All refund requests must be made in writing to the WS&DSA office via mail, fax or email. Phone requests will not be honored. No refunds allowed after January 17, 2020. All refund requests are subject to a \$10 processing fee. Substitutions are allowed and not subject to a fee.

## Conference Location

All the sessions, exhibits, meals and networking events will be held at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center unless otherwise noted. The Radisson Hotel and Conference Center is the official conference hotel. Visit the WS&DSA website for a link to get more information on Green Bay.

## Register by Mail

1. Complete the paper application and submit with payment to the WS&DSA office. (6737 W Washington St, Suite 4210 · Milwaukee, WI 53214)

## Register Online

1. Visit the Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association website, [www.wdsda.org](http://www.wdsda.org) and click on conference registration.
2. Complete the online form and select your options. Your credit card will be processed through PayPal and FormSite's secure server.

## Hotel Information

The Radisson Hotel is the official conference hotel. Come prepared for walking a short distance between your hotel room and the conference events. The hotel's official website is: <https://www.radisson.com/green-bay-hotel-wi-54313/greenbay>. The room block is currently open. The rate per night is \$82 (based on room type). There is a link on the WS&DSA website to make your reservation online.

**Please make your reservations early!** All hotel reservations must be made by January 11, 2020 to receive the WS&DSA rate.

## Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association (WS&DSA) Photo and Video Disclosure

Photos and video footage are periodically taken of people participating in a WS&DSA meeting. Please be aware that by registering for a WS&DSA meeting or participating in an activity or attending an event at a WS&DSA meeting, you authorize WS&DSA to use these photos and video footage for promotional purposes in WS&DSA publications, advertising, marketing materials, brochures, social media (including Facebook, Twitter, and other social media sites operated by WS&DSA), and the WS&DSA website without additional prior notice or permission and without any compensation. All photos and videos are property of WS&DSA.

# Agenda

## Sunday, February 2

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm  
**Registration**

5:00 pm

### NFL Super Bowl Party

All attendees and registered vendors are invited to attend! Enjoy dinner while watching the Super Bowl!

Sponsored by Aramark



## Monday, February 3

7:00 am – 4:00 pm  
**Registration**

8:00 am – 8:30 am

### Opening Ceremony

Presentation of Colors  
Announcements

8:30 am – 12:30 pm

### Officer Wellness: Enhancing Your Health, Wellness, and Resilience

**Dr. Olivia Johnson, Institute for Intergovernmental Research**

This course inspires officers to take responsibility for their own health and wellness. It increases officers' resilience by identifying stressors and providing practical solutions that can help officers work through their own personal challenges. This course



addresses the stigma associated with seeking help through employee assistance programs and encourages officers to reach out to fellow officers who have risk factors associated with stress, anger, and burnout. In addition, this presentation discusses how health and wellness affects officer safety, department morale, and the agency's mission.

Bio: Olivia Johnson, D.M. Dr. Olivia Johnson is a senior research associate for the Institute for Intergovernmental Research. She is the founder of the Blue Wall Institute, an organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for first responders through training and education on the dangers of the job. Because of her dedication in raising awareness of first-responder issues, Dr. Johnson was named the Illinois state representative and an active board member for the National Police Suicide Foundation. Dr. Johnson is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force. She worked for four years as an officer with the Sandoval, Illinois, Police Department and for one year as a federal police officer with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Police Department. Dr. Johnson holds a doctorate degree in organizational leadership management from the University of Phoenix, School of Advanced Studies; a master's degree in criminology and criminal justice from the University of Missouri– St. Louis; a bachelor's degree in workforce education and development from Southern Illinois University; and an associate's degree in administration of justice from Southwestern Illinois College.

8:30 am – 12:30 pm

### Executive Leadership Workshop

**Chief Richard Beary, University of Central Florida**

The VALOR Executive Leadership Workshop INSPIRES, EDUCATES, and CHALLENGES law enforcement executives to advance officer safety and wellness strategies within their own agencies.



Bio: Chief Beary began his law enforcement career in 1977 with the Altamonte Springs Police Department. He worked through the ranks from Communications Operator to Commander of Police Operations. In 1992, he was appointed Chief of Police for the City of Lake Mary, Florida and served there until retirement after thirty years of municipal service. On June 29, 2007, he was appointed Chief of Police for the University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida. UCF is the largest university in Florida and the 2nd largest in the United States, serving a student population in excess of 58,000.

Chief Beary has received numerous awards from civic and service organizations. He has twice been awarded the Medal of Valor for Performance Undertaken at Great Personal Hazard as well as other Law Enforcement Awards.

# Agenda continued

## Monday, February 3 continued

Chief Beary holds a Bachelor's degree in Public Affairs from Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida and a Master of Science degree from the University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida. Chief Beary is a graduate of the 143rd session of the F.B.I. National Academy. Chief Beary serves as an adjunct faculty member at Seminole State College of Florida and has been a certified law enforcement trainer since 1981.

Chief Beary is a member of numerous professional organizations on a State, National and International level. Chief Beary served as President of the Florida Police Chiefs Association and the Central Florida Criminal Justice Association. Chief Beary is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and was elected as 4th Vice President in 2010. Chief Beary has provided expert witness testimony before the Florida Legislature and the United States Congress. He has served on numerous focus groups to enhance the delivery of criminal justice system related services.

**12:30 pm – 1:30 pm**  
**Lunch with Exhibitors**

**12:30 pm – 4:00 pm**  
**Technology Show - Exhibits Open**

## Tuesday, February 4

**7:30 am – 4:00 pm**  
**Registration**

**8:00 am – 12:00pm**  
**Fundamentals of Realistic De-Escalation**  
**Nicole Florisi, Patrol Sergeant, Clarkdale Police Department & Force Science Institute**



Law enforcement has come under intense pressure in recent years to prioritize its efforts at "de-escalation." We will discuss the often-challenging expectations of law enforcement professionals to gain compliance without using physical force and how oftentimes, this may not be realistic or safe. The legitimate goal of de-escalation tactics is to resolve problems with minimal harm. This distinction is critical.

The course will present concepts and methods to support de-escalation efforts when personal connections can be made. Attendees will be provided with knowledge to apply to, and to address the needs of those in mental health crisis or those whose perception of reality is altered. The course is designed to improve the law enforcement officer's ability to manage human beings by enhancing skills to establish contact, build rapport, and gain influence to achieve a police objective. The course provides knowledge on how to apply core skills of incident stabilization, tactics and decision-making and verbal and non-verbal skills to establish contact, build rapport and create influence with difficult subjects.

Bio: Nicole Florisi started her public safety career in 1999 as a communications specialist. In 2002, she became a certified peace officer in Arizona and has been a law enforcement trainer and instructor for the past 14 years. She has specialized training in crisis de-escalation, crisis negotiations, child abduction response, domestic violence, forensic phlebotomy, drug recognition, and standardized field sobriety testing.

Nicole is currently employed with the Clarkdale Police Department as a patrol sergeant. She is the lead training coordinator/FTO sergeant for both her home agency and a neighboring department. She served on the Verde Valley Regional SWAT Team for 11 years as their lead negotiator. She is certified through the Crisis Prevention Institute as an instructor for non-violent crisis de-escalation as well as a Mental Health First Aid Instructor for both Adults and Public Safety Personnel through the National Council on Behavioral Health. Nicole is also certified by the Force Science Institute as certified Use of Force Analyst and De-escalation Instructor.

Nicole graduated with an M.S. in Professional Counseling from Grand Canyon University with additional post-master focus in trauma counseling and human

factors performance. She has a B.S. in Public Safety Administration and Emergency Management as well. Nicole works part-time as a therapist on the Adult General Mental Health and Substance Use team for an integrated community healthcare agency. She also serves as the Vice President on the Board of Directors for the Verde Valley Sanctuary, a local domestic violence shelter.

**12:00 pm – 1:00 pm**  
**Annual Business Meeting & Lunch**

**1:00 pm – 5:00 pm**  
**Fundamentals of Realistic De-Escalation – Continued**  
**Nicole Florisi**

**6:00 pm**  
**WS&DSA Banquet**  
All attendees are invited to attend!

## Wednesday, February 5

**8:00 am – 12:00 pm**  
**Jayme Closs Case**  
**Detective Jeffrey Nelson, Barron County Sheriffs Office**  
**Special Agent Joe Welsch, Wisconsin Department of Justice- Division of Criminal Investigation**

The Jayme Closs Abduction and double homicide presentation will detail the investigatory steps involved in the case. It will describe how the case was managed until her heroic recovery on January 15th after 88 days of captivity. Lastly, it will detail the prosecution of Jake Patterson and then dealing with the reports and information from multiple local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.



Bios: Detective Jeffrey Nelson is an experienced law enforcement officer with the Barron County Sheriff's Department in northwest Wisconsin. Detective Nelson has over 24 years of law enforcement experience and has served as a major crimes Detective for the last 17 years. He has been involved in multiple death and homicide investigations in his career and has also worked on drug task forces and general investigations. Detective Nelson also has attended the National Fire Academy and has investigated multiple arson fires as an arson investigator. Detective Nelson currently serves as the Tactical Team Commander for the Barron/Rusk County regional Emergency Response Team (ERT) and has been a member of the tactical team for over 21 years.

Detective Nelson holds a Bachelors of Science degree from the University of Wisconsin- River Falls in the field of Criminal Justice and Sociology. He also has advanced training from the Wisconsin - Department of Justice and FBI in the areas of advanced interviews and interrogations as well as major crime scene investigations. Detective Nelson was also a recent recipient of the 2019 Meritorious Service Award from the Wisconsin Association of Homicide Investigators Association.

Detective Nelson also serves as a Director for the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Officers Association (WLEOA) and is the President of the Barron Area School district -Board of Education and serves on multiple other community associations.

Special Agent Joe Welsch has been employed in law enforcement for over 29 years. For 16 years, S/A Welsch was employed by the Sauk County Sheriff's Office, Wisconsin where he worked in the patrol and detective divisions. For the last 4 years working at the Sauk County Sheriff's Office, S/A Welsch was promoted to supervisor of criminal investigations. S/A Welsch has been employed as a Special Agent with the Wisconsin Department of Justice- Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) for the past 13 years. S/A Welsch is currently assigned to the Major Crimes Bureau, where his primary responsibility involve investigating homicides, child abductions and officer-involved deaths. He has been assigned as lead investigator in several high-profile homicides and death investigations.

# Registration Form

## WS&DSA 2020 WINTER TRAINING CONFERENCE

Only one registration per form.

### ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Agency/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### REGISTRATION TYPES & FEES

*\*Price in parentheses rate after January 19, 2020.*

Registration Levels		
Members	\$100 (\$110)	\$
Non-Members*	\$125 (\$135)	\$
Retired Members	\$45	\$
Special Events		
Sunday NFL Super Bowl Party	___ x \$0	
Tuesday Banquet Guest(s)**	___ x \$45	\$
<i>*Non-Member registration includes membership for 2020 (1/1/20-12/31/20)</i>		TOTAL \$
<i>**One banquet ticket is included with each registration level.</i>		

Do you have any dietary or specialty needs? \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT

Make checks payable and return with form to: WS&DSA, 6737 W. Washington St., Suite 4210, Milwaukee, WI 53214.

Or pay by credit card (VISA/MasterCard only): Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Please contact the WS&DSA office at 414-488-3906 or [info@wsdsa.org](mailto:info@wsdsa.org).

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2019 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

by Sandy Schueller, WS&DSA Business Manager



The Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs Association (WS&DSA) is honored to announce this year's winners of the Annual Scholarship Awards Program. This program offers financial assistance to any Wisconsin college or full-time university students who are enrolled in criminal justice programs to encourage educational growth and professionalism among police officers and deputy sheriffs. A total of six \$500 scholarships were awarded to the following individuals:

**District 1 Award Recipient:** Josephine Carlson, Polk County. Josephine graduated Osceola High School in the spring and is now attending the University of Wisconsin-Superior. She has a great passion for giving back to her community and participated in many various community service projects. One of her favorites was becoming a youth leader in her local 4-H club.



*"She is not only determined, but she has a heart of gold. She looks after people and puts them before herself. If she sees that someone is in trouble, she will be there and help them out."*

**District 3 Award Recipient:** Alexandria Shibilski, Portage County. Alexandria is attending Saint Mary's University of Minnesota after graduating Pacelli Catholic High School. She was part of the Service Club, which organized a fundraiser to raise money for hurricane victims, made blankets for the salvation army, and more.

*"She is a wonderful, well-rounded young woman and has always pushed herself to do more. Balancing life is not an easy task, but she is able to balance school life, volunteer work, school extracurriculars, sports, and friends/family."*

**District 4 Award Recipient:** Madison Shepler, Pepin County. Madison participated in her local Law Enforcement Explorer Program and multiple ride-alongs with her local Police and sheriffs department. Madison graduated Magna Cum Laude from Durand High School and is now attending the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.



*"I have no doubt Madison will continue to excel in the community and continue to serve it in the unselfish way that I observed in the past."*

**District 5 Award Recipient:** Mathew Skiles, Juneau County. Mathew recently graduated Mauston High School and is currently attending the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. In high school he took two college level law enforcement classes based out of WITC, as well as interned at the Juneau County Sheriff's Department.



*"With being so humble and loyal, Mathew's maturity exceeds his age. I foresee Mathew being a strong, well-rounded police officer."*

**District 6 Award Recipient:** Austin Conroy, Columbia County. Austin is currently attending the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. He was a Community Service Officer for his local police department where he assisted officers with their daily tasks. Prior to his position, he participated in numerous ride-alongs with Sauk County Sheriff's Department.



*"Austin is a hard worker that does not require much guidance, as he is a fast learner and adapts quickly to changing working conditions."*

**District 7 Award Recipient:** Gabrielle Richardson, Walworth County. Gabrielle is attending the University of Wisconsin-Parkside after graduating from Elkhorn Area High School this past spring. She is a licensed EMT and was appointed to the Elkhorn Area High School Safety and Security Committee.



*"With every opportunity to serve, Gabrielle brings a vivacious spirit, a tenacity to preserve, and an empathetic heart that endears her to everyone with whom she comes in contact. She is accepting, kind, and eager to help."*

Congratulations to the 2019 scholarship winners! If you know a student pursuing education in criminal justice, please encourage them to apply for our 2020 Scholarship Award Program. Information can be found on our website at [www.WSDSA.org](http://www.WSDSA.org).

# SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

*by Josh Kaul, Attorney General, State of Wisconsin*



Sexual assault is a serious violent crime. The investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases must be a priority, and justice should never be delayed because of unnecessary delays in testing sexual assault kits.

Through the Wisconsin Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (WiSAKI) project, and with the assistance of law enforcement, nurses, prosecutors, and advocates for survivors, over 4,000 previously untested sexual assault kits have been tested. The WiSAKI project has made clear that Wisconsin does not—but should—have clear guidelines for those who are responsible for sending sexual assault kits to the crime labs.

## **Proposed Legislation Regarding Sexual Assault Kits**

In April, with the support of the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, the Wisconsin Chapter of the International Association of Forensic Nurses, and others, a bipartisan group of legislators and I announced proposed legislation that is designed to prevent Wisconsin from ever having another backlog of untested sexual assault kits. That legislation, which has been introduced as Assembly Bill 214 and Senate Bill 200, has the support of more than 50 members of the state legislature.

Under the proposed legislation, when a health care professional collects sexual assault evidence, a survivor will have the choice of whether or not to report to law enforcement. If a survivor chooses not to report to law enforcement, the health care professional must, within 72 hours, send the sexual assault kit to the state crime labs for storage. The kit will then be stored for 10 years or until the survivor decides to report to law enforcement.

If a survivor chooses to report to law enforcement, the proposed legislation would require the health care professional to notify law enforcement within 24 hours after collecting the sexual assault kit. The law enforcement agency would then have 72 hours to obtain the kit from the health care professional, and 14 days after that to send the kit to the state crime laboratories.

The proposed legislation would also require the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) to collect information regarding sexual assault kits collected in Wisconsin and thereby facilitate future analysis and evidence-based policymaking.

## **Notifying Survivors About Sexual Assault Kit Testing Results**

When survivors are notified about the results from the testing of sexual assault kits, a victim-centric approach should be taken. Sexual assault response teams can help ensure that notification to survivors of testing results and other important parts of sexual assault cases are conducted in a manner that empowers survivors, is trauma-informed, and protects survivors safety and privacy. If your jurisdiction is interested in creating a sexual assault response team, please contact DOJ's Office of Crime Victim Services at (608) 264-9497 or [ocvs@doj.state.wi.us](mailto:ocvs@doj.state.wi.us).

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MEMBERSHIP  
FOR 2020**

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membership for 2020  
today at [wsdsa.org](http://wsdsa.org) or  
414-488-3906.**



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

by Caty McDermott, *The Hamilton Group, LLC*

## **2019-20 Legislative Session Overview**

The 2019-20 legislative session in Wisconsin was inaugurated on Jan. 7, 2019. Governor Tony Evers was sworn into office, along with members of the Wisconsin Legislature. During the first six months of the legislative session, the focus was on the development and passage of the 2019-21 Wisconsin State Budget.

Governor Evers signed the budget into law on July 3, as 2019 Wisconsin Act 9. After months of speculation that the governor may reject the entire budget, he instead used his partial veto authority 78 times.

With the budget finished, the legislative bill activity in the Capitol has ramped up. Starting in September, the number of committee meetings begins to pick up, more bills are introduced, and the legislative fall agenda starts to take shape. This fall, however, is different than the last couple legislative sessions, in that the number of *actual* floor days is very limited.

The Senate and Assembly leadership have announced they will not be convening in September. The Senate will convene on Tuesday, October 8, and Tuesday, November 5. The assembly will be on the floor Thursday, October 10, with no set date in November yet.

There are general business floor periods available for the legislature to convene through March, however many Capitol-watchers predict that the legislature may only be on the floor a small handful of times in the new year. The limited number of floor periods means that there likely will not be many bills making it to the governor's desk.

## **2019-21 Budget Highlights**

During the development of the 2019-21 state budget, WS&DSA engaged on several budget items, including:

- **Office of Emergency Communications** – WS&DSA advocated to keep OEC at the Department of Military Affairs after the governor proposed to move the office, including PSAP oversight and WISCOM to the Department of Transportation. Ultimately, OEC remained at DMA.
- **Department of Justice Funding** – WS&DSA advocated for additional funding to support the state crime lab and continued funding for the Division of Criminal Investigation, which was added to the budget.

- **Emergency Detention** – WS&DSA supported an initiative for a northern Wisconsin regional crisis center and \$2.5 million for a facility grant program. Unfortunately, both items did not make final budget.

## **WS&DSA Legislative Priorities**

### **Protective Status for Jailers Hits a Major Roadblock**

After several legislative sessions of advancing legislation for protective status for jailers, this session's bill is at a stalemate. The bill (Senate Bill 5/Assembly Bill 5) was reintroduced by Rep. Born and Sen. Marklein in February. As with last session's bill, the legislation was a compromise bill between WS&DSA, Badger State Sheriffs' Association (BSSA) and the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA). The groups worked with the authors over the past several years to develop a compromise policy.

Under the bill, counties can classify county jailers as protective status under the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) without requiring that their principal duties involve active law enforcement. The bill gives county jailers *the option* to obtain protective status at the time of hire. The additional cost associated with protective status, including duty disability, is paid for by the employee (county jailer), not the county. The bill also defines county jailer, providing more uniformity to the job function and duties statewide.

A public hearing was held in both the Senate and Assembly in March. At the hearings, the Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF) raised a new issue pertaining to IRS regulations. ETF testified that the IRS doesn't allow government defined benefit plans to allow participants to select their benefits, thus making it a non-qualified CODA.

After review by the legislative attorneys, the authors determined two options to amend the bill to ensure it is compliant with IRS regulations: 1) only provide the option for protective status for new hires or 2) require all jailers be in protective status and pay for the benefit. WS&DSA discussed these options and reviewed the draft amendment.

Ultimately, the WS&DSA legislative committee determined that both amendments are problematic. There does not appear to be a resolution forward right now, however WS&DSA will continue

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** *continued on next page*

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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to discuss this important issue and assess if there is a legislative path forward.

### **Joint Public Hearing Held on Benefits to Survivors of Those Killed in the Line of Duty**

Sen. Wanggaard and Rep. Spiros have reintroduced legislation (Senate Bill 266/Assembly Bill 300), which requires any government entity and Marquette University to provide health insurance benefits to the widowed spouse and/or children after a police officer is killed in the line of duty. Currently, provisions are in statute for firefighters and full-time public EMS providers, but not law enforcement.

A joint public hearing was held on September 17 in the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety and the Assembly Committee on Insurance. WS&DSA advocated for a quick committee vote and floor vote to move the bill to the governor's desk.

In previous sessions, the bipartisan bill has passed the Senate in some form but failed to pass the Assembly due to concerns from Speaker Vos. This session's legislation has 91 cosponsors. Speaker Vos recently announced he now supports the bill. The authors have introduced an amendment modifying the funding source of the bill to shared revenue and applying the benefit to January 1, 2019.

### **Several Proposals Seek to Address Emergency Detention Issues**

Under Wisconsin's emergency detention process, if an individual is believed to be a danger to themselves or others because of suspected mental illness, drug dependence or development disability, they can be involuntarily detained. While these are delicate and urgent situations, the current emergency detention process in Wisconsin is very time consuming for law enforcement. Often officers wait for several hours for a medical determination at the emergency department and then spend additional time transporting the individual to a treatment facility.

WS&DSA is working on several proposals related to emergency detention. This session, WS&DSA has chosen to first focus on clarifying the use of private transport to allow counties more options and flexibility. WS&DSA continues to work with Rep. Born on the bill draft, that has yet to be introduced.

WS&DSA is also focused on working with stakeholders to provide more state resources for additional beds. WS&DSA is exploring policies to increase bed availability and transparency and also allocate resources. There are several legislative proposals targeting this element of the issue, including one from Sen. Schachtner (D- Somerset) and Rep. Spiros (R-Marshfield) to develop a \$5 million grant program for regional crisis facilities, and a proposal for \$15 million for 22 beds in an Eau Claire area hospital, authored by Sen. Bernier (R-Chippewa Falls) and Rep. Jesse James (R-Altoona).

WS&DSA is meeting with other stakeholders regularly on the issue, including representatives from the Wisconsin Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians and Wisconsin Psychiatric Association. Also, WS&DSA has been discussing the issue with the Attorney General, who has decided to hold a Policy Summit on the topic on October 31<sup>st</sup> in Madison.

### **Other Legislation of Note**

WS&DSA has been active on several bills including:

- **ATV/UTV/Boating and Snowmobiling OWIs:** WS&DSA supports legislation (Senate Bills 10 and 331 and Assembly Bill 356) to target OWI use on ATVs, UTVs, boats and snowmobiles. These bills aim to increase penalties and link OWI offenses for intoxicated use of a snowmobile, ATV/UTV, boating.
- **Industrial Hemp:** WS&DSA worked to amend legislation (Senate Bill 188/ Assembly Bill 206) regulating hemp. The original bill removed delta-9 THC from the definition of restricted controlled substance as applicable to the operation of a motor vehicle (as well as snowmobile, ATV/UTV/OHM, boat and use of a firearm). Working with BSSA and the Chiefs, WS&DSA opposed the bill because of this provision and requested it be removed. WS&DSA worked with the authors and other key stakeholders, including DOJ and the Hemp Alliance to develop an amendment to address concerns from law enforcement and DOJ. The agreed-upon amendment added Delta-9 THC back on the restricted controlled substance list as applicable to the operation of a motor vehicle (as well as snowmobile, ATV/UTV/OHM, boat and use of a firearm), excluding its precursors or metabolites, at a concentration of one or more nanograms per milliliter of a person's blood.
- **OWI Mandatory Holds:** WS&DSA is working with legislators on an amendment to a bill (Senate Bill 161/ Assembly Bill 172) that prevents individuals arrested for OWIs from being released from custody to a responsible adult. WS&DSA, along with BSSA, have met with staff of both authors to discuss the cost impact of the bill, including the impact on jail capacity and an increase in costs.
- **Body Cameras:** WS&DSA supports legislation (SB 50) to develop basic statewide standards for body cameras and set privacy standards for the release of body camera footage.
- **Medical Marijuana:** There is no bipartisan legislation currently introduced to allow for medical marijuana, however several legislators are exploring the issue. However, it is likely there will be some bipartisan legislation advanced this session. WS&DSA continues to monitor developments closely.

*If there is an issue that you feel needs to be addressed legislatively, please let us know! The committee meets regularly and continuously reviews legislation. Contact Caty McDermott from the Hamilton Consulting Group team (mcdermott@hamilton-consulting.com).*



# REINVENTING TODAY'S PUBLIC SECTOR WORKFORCE

by Victoria J. McGrath, Ph.D., SPHR

As we travel across the United States working on compensation plans, one theme is evident throughout - it is becoming progressively harder to hire qualified public safety personnel. The number of applicants has dramatically dropped from the past for both police officers and firefighter/paramedics. The answer, according to our clients, is to pay these positions more money. Compensation may be part of the problem; however, it isn't the only solution.

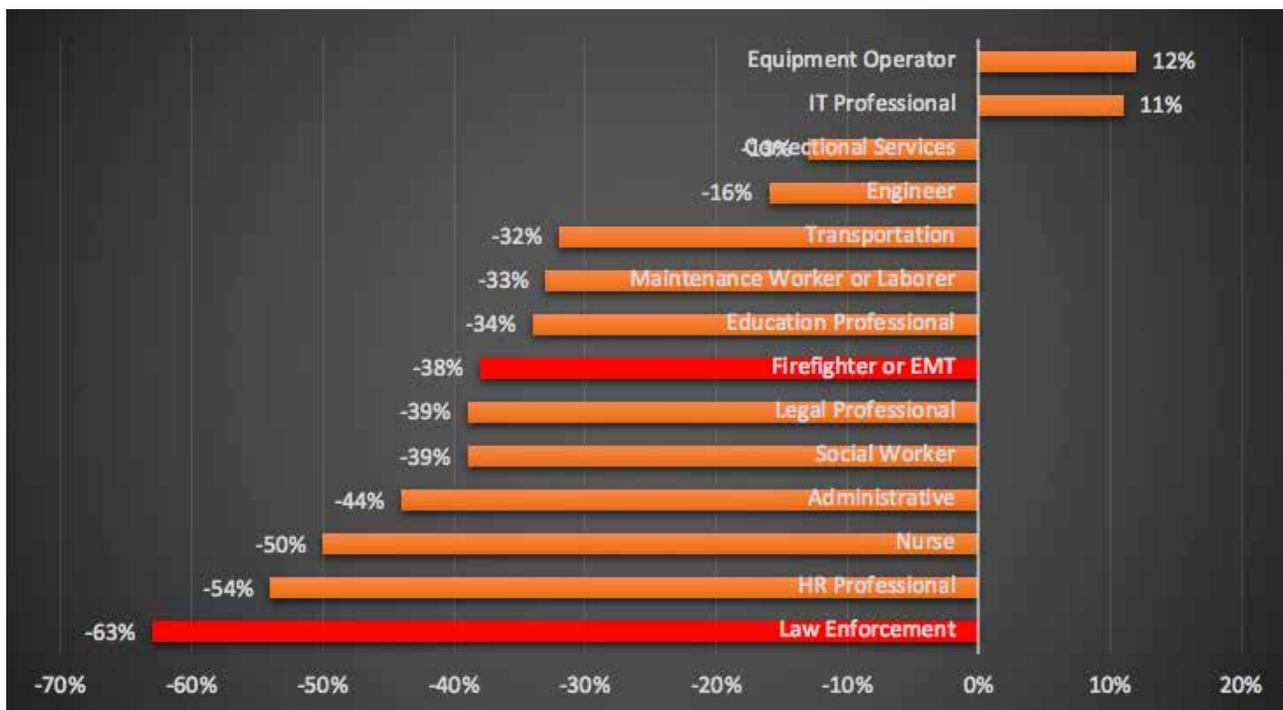
Looking at a tight labor market, recruitment and retention of qualified personnel with the needed skills for public service topped the list of workforce challenges (State and Local Government Workforce: 2017 Trends). According to Job One: *Reimagine Today's State Government Workforce*, between 2013 and 2017, postings for state government jobs have increased by 11% while the number of applicants fell by 24%, resulting in a 35% gap.

The figure below is a snapshot of the types of positions where the number of applicants is shifting, in some cases, dramatically.

When talking with HR directors or chief administrators, 42% indicate that attracting new employees to the work for the organization is the number one problem. Current trends in the workforce illustrate an increasing number of retiring employees and the need to establish a more flexible work group for the applicants that are replacing them. Thus, the need to redesign traditional jobs, offering more flexible work arrangements, and automation of the processes is becoming the challenge for the public sector.

Government historically has had a compelling total benefit package to offer workers: secure lifetime employment, generous health benefits, followed by a robust pension for retirement. With the package, it wasn't unusual to receive more than 100+ applications for

Figure 1: Percent Change in Applicants By Job Type (1/2013-12/2017)



Source: NEOGOV 2019

TODAY'S PUBLIC SECTOR continued on next page

## TODAY'S PUBLIC SECTOR

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a police officer or firefighter. In many states, that package is now eroding. Layoffs of public safety have occurred over the years since the recession; thus, job security is no longer a 'given'. Workers are being required to contribute more of their salary to health benefits – which are also eroding in coverage. The Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that state and local contributions to single health insurance has increased from \$31.94 to \$90 per month; deductibles have increased by \$300 (June 2012). Defined benefit pensions are underfunded, or in some states being phased out, reduced for new applicants, or both. Compounding these challenges are several additional factors:

- **Changing Expectations:** Lifetime employment has less appeal, especially among the Millennial generation. For example, 43% of the turnover in the Idaho public sector were millennials.
- **Lack of Public Support:** Many governmental officials and legislators are villainizing their own workforce – often publicly. As a result, government is no longer perceived as a noble profession. The media hasn't assisted the public safety profession either. In the above referenced Job One survey, 55% of those surveyed pointed to a negative perception by the public for those who work in government. This has become the number one reason why individuals are not attracted to work for government.
- **Inability to Compete:** 85% of the states cited an inability to offer salaries that were competitive with the private sector. This disadvantage is exacerbated by the decline in other benefits. Although police and fire do not have major private sector competition, there are other professions more attractive than being a police officer or firefighter (Job One, 2019).
- **Low Unemployment and Growth in the Private Sector:** The private sector continues to outpace government in job growth. Since the recession, the private sector has grown almost 13%, shrinking the available labor pool.

### ITS TIME FOR CHANGE

Government has a tendency to move more cautiously than the private sector; however, it is time for significant change and modernization at every phase of the employment lifecycle. Here is a roadmap for change.

#### Reshape Recruiting

Recruitment is where it all begins. By updating the recruitment process, this can be the start of a total transformation. Today's applicants want:

- Meaningful contributions
- Increased speed in recruitment
- Interesting and varied work
- Flexible work arrangements

The first step is to demonstrate this is *'interesting and meaningful'* work. The organization has to show why this is a 'Great Place to Work'. What does your job posting look like – the traditional boring job title, list of expectations, and how to apply? Or can applicants go to your website and see a video of all the great reasons one wants to work there? Maybe it's time to enlist your marketing department to rebrand your department.

In addition, where are you seeking employees? Today, job seekers have taken their *career search online* to job boards like Indeed and GovernmentJobs.com, as well as your organization's website. Rather than having job descriptions that list responsibilities – what about job descriptions that are more project based, or expectations that show how the job has *value to the individual and to the community?*

**Increase your hiring speed.** With unemployment standing at 3.6% in June 2019, the competition for talent is extreme. The qualified applicant is unlikely to wait months for you to make your decision. Now is the time to analyze the data in your applicant tracking system or your recruitment process to find areas where you can streamline and speed up the hiring process. Can you combine some of the steps in your process? Does it need to take two months to do a background search? Can you include some of the decision makers in your process so that when you are ready to hire, the applicant is known.

*'WE USE OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS TO  
SHOWCASE OUR AGENCY'S CULTURE AND TO  
HELP APPLICANTS SEE OUR DUTIES AND  
RESPONSIBILITIES IN A DIFFERENT WAY'*

FLORIDA

**Redesign the job:** The private sector has a jump on redesigning jobs in anticipation of automation and career succession. As a consultant, I still walk into organizations where the administrative assistant in the fire department is attempting to input payroll on a DOS green screen system (some of you reading this do not even know what this is!). Many organizations still require a written application packet to be turned into the closest station (no email or mail application packets accepted).

Police departments have jumped on the technology bandwagon with computers in cars, cameras, and more efficient report writing software. Even some fire departments have computer systems in the apparatus in which one can pull up preplans of the building they are going to be entering. But currently, this is more of the exception than the norm.

Job redesigns also need to look at flexibility in staffing. I totally understand that public safety is a 7 day a week, 24-hour, 365-day business. Neither department can 'close' for the night. However, utilizing call data, one can more efficiently utilize its staffing. For example, do all stations need to be open; should there be smaller substations for just EMS rather than staff with all the apparatus and manpower; or can there be a joint police/fire substation? The answer lies in your assessment of your community risk and aligning that with your data.

Workers want more flexibility. No matter where I am, the staffing schedule is always a problem. The Millennial generation doesn't want to come back to staff open shifts or return for call-backs (un-

**TODAY'S PUBLIC SECTOR** *continued on next page*

## TODAY'S PUBLIC SECTOR

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less of course it is the 'big one'). Yet for the fire service, we are tied to the 24-hour schedule. Moving to 48-96 isn't the answer – especially if we want quality patient care and minimize potential lawsuits based on a tired worker treating a patient. Can we offer 10, 12, 14, or 16-hour shifts? Not only are these more productive, but also offer a better work-life balance. Oh, that's right – our collective bargaining agreement doesn't allow that!

I recently spent some time in the ICU unit of a hospital. While talking to an RN, she mentioned she loved working at this hospital due to its flexibility. They signed up for the shifts they wanted to work. They had to work a certain number of hours per week and sign up for two weekends per month, but each sign up period, she could look at her personal calendar and schedule her hours around it. I mentioned this idea to an EMS agency that was having a terrible time recruiting paramedics. All EMS employees had an assigned shift. Their response was "wow, that would be difficult to manage! What if someone didn't sign up for some needed shifts?" The EMS Director went on to say that they had a great labor pool they could tap into from the local fire departments. Firefighter/paramedics have applied to this agency but have turned the job down as their 24-48 work schedule doesn't align with the fixed EMS work schedule. Thus, the perceived complexity of a flexible work schedule to tap into a pool of applicants is too difficult! Hmmm!

Rather than finding the collective bargaining language or the reasons why we 'cannot' be more flexible; we need to start repositioning our jobs to what the workforce is demanding.

### **Transform the Employee Experience**

*The median age of the public sector workforce is older than that of the private sector. A high number of Baby Boomers are expected to retire in the coming years. Have you implemented any succession planning?*

Recently when auditing the human resource practices of a fire department – the vast majority of job responsibilities were written

into collective bargaining language. Trying to allow employees the opportunity to experience other aspects of the profession or hiring applicants with different skills was prohibited due to the contract.

It's time to get serious about developing your people. As the job continues to evolve, employees need training to build the necessary skills. This is a great opportunity to use the department's performance evaluation as a way to discuss future career goals and set goals to achieve them. Employee development also means that officers need to provide praise, coaching and mentoring to their employees during the entire year – not just at the required performance evaluation.

I know – we can't do it! If we offer training, we have to pay for it, or it has to be done on overtime. Again, we tend to look at the roadblocks of doing something different than looking at the outcomes.

How serious are you on succession planning? Not just planning for the supervisor who will be retiring soon – but developing your employees to be successful within the organization. Succession plans can also help reduce the need to rely on external applicants by focusing efforts on grooming internal candidates for key positions.

Consider adding higher ranks – master officer, or career tracks to entice employees to continue to grow. This also provides not only a financial incentive; but accomplishing the expectations to achieve the next career track provides accolades for accomplishments and demonstrates new ways in which the employee is providing meaningful contributions to the department and the community. Often, succession planning or growth comes from upward promotion, rather than allowing employees who do not want to (or shouldn't) be promoted to an officer as the only way to grow.

Providing employees with goal setting, performance feedback, and diverse and challenging training opportunities will keep them engaged and motivated. There is a strong need to begin transferring that institutional knowledge and preparing your organization for the future – today.

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*Job One: Reimagine today's state government workforce. NASCA and NEOGOV. March 2019*

GOAL: DESIGN A COMPREHENSIVE, ENTERPRISE-WIDE SUITE OF LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT. 2016 LAUNCHED SUPERVISOR TRAINING. 2017 LAUNCHED MIDDLE MANAGER TRAINING. EXPERIENCED JOB GROWTH IN KEY LEADERSHIP AREAS – MANAGING STRESS, DRIVING RESULTS, AND BUILDING TRUST  
WASHINGTON

# THE FIRST OFFICER KILLED IN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN: PORTAGE COUNTY SHERIFF JOSEPH H. BAKER



*by Stan Potocki, WS&DSA Director at Large  
Chairman Portage Public Safety/Emergency  
Management Committee*

Portage County Sheriff Joseph H. Baker was the first law officer in the State of Wisconsin to be killed in the line of duty. To be honest I must clarify that Sheriff Robert D. Lester of Crawford County died prior to Wisconsin becoming a State in 1844. As the story goes Sheriff Lester had been canoeing down the Mississippi River on official business when he was shot by an Native American perched on a riverbank. This article does not seek to split hairs on the matter but bring to light the brave officers who gave rise to the foundation with which all current officers sit upon. Let us never forget their ultimate sacrifice!

To give a proper account of the death of Sheriff Baker one must look back into the type of man he was. Joseph H. Baker was born in Maine in 1835 and eventually moved to Wisconsin. Joseph was a farmer by occupation and occasionally piloted logs on the Wisconsin River as a lumberjack. Like many Portage County pioneers, Joseph joined the Union Army in 1861 to fight in the Civil War. Joseph joined Company E of Wisconsin's 18th Infantry Regiment and was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant and wounded in the Battle of Shiloh.

After his service in 1865, Joseph had four sons and two daughters. Baker was well liked and universally respected in the community. One pioneer is quoted as saying, "He was brought up in this county and was personally known to almost every man in it, and to know him was but to like him. Sheriff Baker was prompt, energetic, honest, faithful and the possessor of excellent judgment, he has always filled every position with credit to himself and the universal acceptance of his friends." So in January of 1875, he was elected Sheriff of Portage County.

Unbeknownst to Baker, a civil issue regarding property had been brewing since 1856. Two brothers, Amos and Isiah Courtwright, had moved to the area and partnered with Luther Hatchet in ownership of a local sawmill. The partnership dissolved and the Courtwrights agreed to pay for Luther's share. As time passed the debt was never paid and the matter was taken to court. Unable to satisfy the debt, the court ordered the Courtwrights farm to be sold in August of 1872 for \$3000. The farm was sold in 1873 to James Raymond who attempted to peacefully settle unpaid taxes through additional property the Courtwrights owned. The Court-

wrights refused and remained in possession of the farm property. In March of 1875, James had Sheriff Baker evict the Courtwrights placing the property into his possession. During the summer of 1875, the Courtwrights forcefully took possession of the property several times and were removed. Sheriff Baker attempted to reason with Amos and told him that he had no discretion in the matter and that as an officer it was his duty to execute any process placed in his hands. At the time, word had gone around that the Courtwrights had threatened to shoot the sheriff. The sheriff boldly responded to these threats, "and if you kill me... it will make no difference in the end, other officers will take my place and the command of the court will be obeyed though it takes every man in Portage County to enforce it."

During the property dispute, it is rumored James Raymond summoned a drunken posse to evict the Courtwrights from the property. During this repossession, many believe some of the posse may have sexually assaulted one of the Courtwright's daughters. On September 20, 1875, the Courtwrights held forcible possession of the property. A court action was immediately set forth allowing the sheriff to again remove the Courtwrights and arrest them for criminal offenses. From September 20 to October 11, the Courtwrights held the property while armed and were under the impression from an attorney they had the right to shoot anyone who attempted to come onto their property. It is also rumored the Courtwrights had paid their debts off but the courts never found this claim to be true.

On Monday October 11, 1875, Sheriff Baker and Austin Sidmore arrived at the farm in the middle of the morning. Both brothers were at the farm and held conversation with the Sheriff who did not enter the property. The men stated they would never come out alive and would shoot the first man that came inside the yard. Baker withdrew and summoned a posse of approximately 40 local men. Between noon and 1:00pm the group approached the farm. Baker said, "Come on boys we must get these fellows out of there." Sheriff Baker led the way with an axe in his hand. Sheriff Baker took one step past the gate onto the property and was shot with a rifle from a second story window. The ball went

**JOSEPH H. BAKER** *continued on next page*

## JOSEPH H. BAKER

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into Baker's right ribs, through his intestines, and out his left hip. Baker allegedly caught the ball with his hand as it worked its way out of his hip. Baker stated, "Boys I'm shot and it's going to kill me, but we have got to get these fellows out of here." Baker discharged four shots from his revolver into the lower room of the farm. In a great deal of pain, Baker remained at the farm and took cover in the granary, ordering the posse to set fire to the house. The fire was kindled on the southwest corner of the house and started up before the Courtwrights were aware. Mrs. Courtwright and their oldest daughter came out of the house in an attempt to extinguish the flames but were prevented from doing so by warm pistol fire. David Kameron, who was standing on the road in front of the house, was shot with a charge of buck and fine shot from a second story window in the face. David's cheek was badly perforated, three of his teeth knocked out, two or three of the shots passing through his tongue, and others through his nose. David was moved to a nearby house where he eventually recovered. The Courtwrights remained in the building until it was well on fire and attempted to throw furniture out a window. With smoke covering, the Courtwrights escaped east towards Amherst. Altogether 40 shots were fired during the engagement with Mrs. Courtwright's finger grazed and her oldest daughter being wounded in the foot. According to witnesses, the sheriff claimed Isiah shot him. It is rumored Isiah supposedly admitted to killing a man in New York, for which he served time in Sing Sing Prison years prior. This information was never corroborated.

Sheriff Baker remained at the property for approximately 30 minutes before walking to Wah. Lombard's home a quarter mile to the east with little assistance. Doctors arrived about 1600 hours but pronounced his case as hopeless. Sheriff Baker suffered intense pain and had frequent fits of vomiting. Sheriff Baker remained conscious up until midnight when the doctors succeeded in get-

ting morphine to remain in his stomach. Soon after Sheriff Baker fell into a slumber and appeared to be sleeping naturally. A little after 1:00am hours October 12th 1875 Sheriff Baker's soul was summoned to the unfathomable beyond.

Enraged by the passing of the Sheriff, the posse became blood thirsty. The two brothers, believing they were within their legal rights to protect their property, sought refuge at Justice of the Peace Lombard. Deputy and father-in-law to Baker, John Eckels, advised the posse against any unlawful proceedings. John's influence on the side of law and order calmed the mob from wreaking havoc on the spot. The two brothers were subsequently taken to the Portage County Jail the next morning without incident. On Tuesday night, a group of men planned to break the brothers out of jail and take the law into their own hands. This plan collapsed when the leader of the group got cold feet and backed down. Three days after the slaying, Sheriff Baker was buried with Masonic honors in Plover. During this time, Sheriff Baker's wife, Ellen Stephens, donated Sheriff Baker's Civil War Sword to the Plover Masonic Lodge. The week following his death was especially hard for Mrs. Baker, as one of her duties as the Sheriff's wife was to cook for inmates of the jail. It is rumored the Courtwrights didn't receive much food and were given bread by family members. As time passed, the residences believed the hysteria was over and things would go back to normal. Unfortunately for the Courtwrights, an unknown group of men were plotting the revenge of their beloved sheriff.

On October 19 at 2:00am a Portage County Deputy in charge of the jail, Frank Wheelock, admitted he was asleep as a mob of men broke into the jail and grabbed him. Wheelock was overcome by three men who stuck a pistol in his face and handcuffed him with

**JOSEPH H. BAKER** *continued on next page*

his own handcuffs. As the group entered the jail inmates began chanting, "MURDER!" at the pending excitement they knew was to follow. An inmate named Thomas Cash, fearing for his life began to scream out. One of the group members spoke up and said, "stop your noise, Tom, we are not going to touch you." The group never said another word. Little is known about the group and how they were able to enter the jail with such ease. It is rumored Sheriff Baker's wife may have taken the key after he passed and given it to the group.

As the group entered the Courtwright's cell, a struggle ensued. From later accounts a large amount of blood and a tattered hat were the only things left in the cell. Some speculate the Courtwrights received a hidden knife inside their bread with which they attempted to defend themselves with. The knife did not help the brothers, as Amos and Isiah were nearly beaten to death inside the cell. The brothers were dragged to a waiting wagon a block from the jail and taken a mile outside of the city and hung. The bodies dangling several inches over a main road leading into town for all to see. Both men were stripped of their right boot which was said to be the private mark of having been judged by "Judge Lynch." The following morning, townsfolk, including children who skipped school, came to see the battered, bloody and bruised bodies of the men who had killed their beloved Sheriff Baker. The perpetrators of the hangings were never caught, with many men taking their secret to the grave. The Courtwright family surmised

the Masons may have had a hand in carrying out such unlawful justice, but such was never proven.

Yes, the Courtwrights had carried out their murderous threats. An innocent officer had been shot in cold blood while in the discharge of a duty over which he had no control. Another had been widowed and six children made fatherless. A faithful officer, kind hearted neighbor, an honest man, as innocent of any wrong in this matter as a babe, had been shot down in cold blood by a concealed foe. Is it any wonder that strong men mingled their tears with those of the agonized wife as she stood by the death bed of her husband, or that a desire for revenge was uppermost in everybody's thoughts?

143 years later the local Masonic Lodge conducted a ceremony in honor of Sheriff Baker and presented his Civil War sword to our office. We proudly showcase his sword in the halls of our office and will never forget the ultimate sacrifice he made.



*The information on Sheriff Baker was researched and pieced together by Portage County Detective Dustin Kitzman. Detective Kitzman's initiative in saving and presenting history has unofficially listed him as Portage County Sheriff's "Office Historian".*

# GET YOUR MERCHANDISE

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CHECK OUT OUR FULL INVENTORY AT **WWW.NSTEAMS.COM**

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The advertisement features a dark background with a repeating pattern of the Sheriff's Office seal. In the center, several pieces of merchandise are displayed: a blue hoodie, a blue zip-up jacket, a black t-shirt with a logo, a black t-shirt with an American flag graphic, a blue zip-up jacket, and a grey zip-up jacket. A large blue starburst graphic in the bottom left corner contains the text 'ONLY AVAILABLE UNTIL DECEMBER 13TH'. At the bottom, the website 'WWW.NSTEAMS.COM' is prominently displayed in white, with the 'NS' logo and 'NORTHSHORE COMPANY' text below it.



# 2019 WINTER TRAINING CONFERENCE RECAP

by Sandy Schueller, WS&DSA Business Manager

Thank you to the 120 Sheriffs, Deputies, Jail Officers, and more that attended the 2019 WS&DSA Winter Training Conference in Green Bay! The week provided invaluable education and networking opportunities for Wisconsin's Sheriffs, Deputies, and Officers from all department types. Vendors at the Technology Show were excited to showcase their newest products and services and to meet with the department's decision makers.

On Sunday, we welcomed everyone to the conference with the NFL Super Bowl Watching Party. Thank you Aramark for sponsoring the party!

Monday started with the opening ceremony and Chris Prochut, Mental Health Advocate and Law Enforcement Suicide Prevention Trainer, spoke on Taking Care of Our Own, followed by Greg Young, FBI Chaplain, addressing How to be Resilient in Law Enforcement in Challenging Times.

Following the breakout sessions on Monday afternoon, was the Technology Show. Thank you to all our vendors!

Tuesday included a full day presentation, "Read, Recognize and Respond," by Lieutenant Jim Glennon from Calibre Press. Tuesday concluded with our Banquet with speakers Attorney General Josh Kaul. The conference concluded on Wednesday with a half-day session, "Personal Growth and Development for Law Enforcement" by Dave Funkhouser, Chief of Police – City of Kiel.

## Winter Conference Feedback

We asked attendees what they would like to tell their peers that missed the conference. A few of the responses were:

*"I love how we have been including mental health in law enforcement/public service and survival in this career. It is so eye opening and a necessary topic."*

*"The roster of speakers this year was one of the best I can remember in recent years."*

*"You can't beat the conference and all it offers for the cost of registration."*

*"That the training and speakers are/were great, but there's also opportunities to network with people from other departments (larger and smaller) to exchange ideas for how to approach demands on each others departments."*

## Winter Training Conference Sponsors

Please thank the following organizations for supporting different functions of the Winter Training Conference:

- Appriss Safety (Tuesday Afternoon Break)
- Aramark (NFL Super Bowl Dinner)
- First Tactical (Conference Bag Sponsor)
- Marsy's Law for Wisconsin, LLC (Technology Show Reception)
- Nuctech US (Tuesday Morning Break)
- Stellar Services, LLC (Hospitality Room)
- Verizon (Technology Show Reception)
- Visual Labs, Inc. (Monday Lunch)
- Wisconsin Department of Justice Training and Standard Bureau (Speakers)
- Wisconsin Lock and Load Prisoner Transports (Monday Morning Break)



## Register Now – 2020 Winter Training Conference!

Please see the brochure for more information on speakers and registration information for the 2020 WS&DSA Winter Training Conference & Technology Show (pages 7-10)! It will be held in Green Bay again at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, February 2-5. See you soon in Green Bay!

## 2019 CONFERENCE RECAP PHOTOS

*continued on next page*

**2019 CONFERENCE RECAP PHOTOS** *continued from previous page*



MILWAUKEE BUCKS

## 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL BADGE NIGHT

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# MILWAUKEE BUCKS VS. OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER FRIDAY

FEBRUARY 28, 2020 | 7PM

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- One (1) Bucks vs. Thunder game ticket
- One (1) limited edition Bucks & Law Enforcement branded challenge coin
- One (1) entry into a raffle drawing to win a spot in our halftime high five tunnel with both teams (ages 6-16)
- One (1) invitation post-game to listen to a faith Q&A with a Bucks player

(Four tickets include four coins, four raffle entries, etc.)



### ADDITIONAL FEATURES:

- Game Ball delivered by Sgt. RJ Lurquin from the Dane County Sheriff's Office
- Our Nation's colors presented by Winnebago County Sheriff's Office
- Pregame acknowledgement for officer(s) going above and beyond the line of duty
- BMO Cap Series Giveaway (First 10,000 fans, not exclusive to Badge offer)
- A portion of the proceeds donated to the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Memorial

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# WISCONSIN SHERIFFS & DEPUTY SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**The Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association promotes the general public welfare through the cooperation of the different Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs in the State of Wisconsin in the performance of their duties.**

The Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association is a professionally oriented association. We are dedicated to serving the officers of sheriff and its deputies/jail officers through planning and organizing various training events and conferences for its members throughout the year.

In addition, WS&DSA provides scholarships to students who are pursuing a career in law enforcement or corrections.

### MEMBER INFORMATION

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Agency/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address Line 2 \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Beneficiary Name \_\_\_\_\_ Beneficiary Relation \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP TYPES

Sheriff \$25

Associate \$25

Retired \$10

Deputy Sheriff/Jail  
Officer \$15

Honorary \$20

Business \$50

### PAYMENT

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Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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**Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association, 6737 W. Washington St., Suite 4210, Milwaukee, WI 53214**

Questions: Call us at 414-488-3906 or email [info@wsdsa.org](mailto:info@wsdsa.org)

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# DISTRICT REPORTS

## DISTRICT 1

**Director: Chad Roberts**

Counties: Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Polk, Rusk, Sawyer, and Washburn

## DISTRICT 2

**Director: Aemus Balsis**

Counties: Ashland, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Price, Taylor and Vilas

Greetings, WS&DSA members in District 2! I hope all is well with our members throughout the state.

### New Hires

#### Taylor County

Matthew Parks, Rebecca King, Tyler Paul, John Hanson, and Kent Allyson Farrand were hired as Correctional Officers. Dylan Lindsley was hired as a Patrol Deputy.

#### Lincoln County

Conner Monk and Brian Burkhardt were hired as Patrol Deputies. William Gibson, Emily Hunter, Tom Laiter, and Jamie Malone were hired as Correctional Officers.

#### Langlade County

Josue Rojas, Justin Grones, Robert Uttecht, Misty Servi, Christopher May, and Amanda Young were hired as Patrol Deputies, four of whom transferred laterally from other agencies. Noah Nicholson, Rachel Huebsch, Christopher Resch, Kalynn Wolter, and Michael Gottschalk were hired as Corrections Officers. Jessica Mandli and Lindsey Steger were hired as E911 Dispatchers.

### Promotions

#### Taylor County

Corey Dassow was promoted to Chief Deputy after Larry Woebbecking took the Office of Sheriff in January 2019. Deputy Chad Kowalczyk was promoted to Detective which will be effective in November 2019 after the retirement of long-time Detective Harlan Schwartz. Deputy Nick Schuld was promoted to Patrol Sergeant in September 2019.

#### Marathon County

Lucas Volden was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in the Jail.

#### Langlade County

Ted Skarlupka was promoted to Jail Sergeant, Jake DeFiore was promoted to Patrol Sergeant, Greg Carter was promoted to

Lieutenant, Jordan Sorano was promoted to Detective Sergeant, and Dan Bauknecht was promoted to Chief Deputy.

### Retirements

#### Taylor County

Patrol Sergeant Nick Synol and Detective Harlan Schwartz will both be retiring at the beginning of November 2019 after long-time service to Taylor County.

#### Langlade County

Sergeant Kevin Ison and Chief Deputy John Schunke have all retired this past year in 2019.

We wish all retirees the best in their future endeavors.

### Awards

#### Marathon County

On September 17, 2019, Sheriff Parks awarded three Corrections Officers with a Life Saving Award for their efforts to save an inmate who attempted suicide in the jail on August 24, 2019. Awarded were: Corporal Shawn Schnelle, Corrections Officer Justin Forester, and Corrections Officer Diana Christiansen.

### Other News

#### Taylor County

On September 11, 2019, Sheriff Larry Woebbecking organized a 9/11 memorial flag run which consisted of a five-mile run on State Hwy 13 from the Village of Stetsonville to the City of Medford. The run was well attended by members of the Sheriff's Office. The highway and streets along the route were lined with supporters during the run. The Taylor County Sheriff's Office wants to remember the sacrifices of everyone involved including law enforcement officers, EMS first responders, fire department personnel, and all other victims of the September 11, 2001 attack on our country.



**DISTRICT REPORTS** continued on next page



### Marathon County

Long-term Deputy **Matthew Kecker** left the Sheriff's Office to take a position with North Central Technical College as an instructor in their criminal justice program. Matt was a Field Training Officer, Firearms Instructor and was a member of the Bomb Squad. Matt will remain as a member of the Sheriff's Office in the capacity of Reserve Deputy. We are excited for Matt to start this new career and although we will miss him at the office wish him the best of luck and look forward to working and training with him in the future.

In October of 2018, the Marathon County Crisis Assessment Response Team was recognized by the Community Corner Clubhouse for their efforts to work with and improve the lives of persons managing a mental illness in our community. They received a Community Partner Award for these efforts.

Also, in November of 2018 the Sheriff's Office, and all our municipal partners, went live with a new records management system. We went live with one of the Central Square products and have been managing the change that comes along with that. Although rocky at first, we are beginning to get used to the new software and are working to fix modules that aren't working as designed. This will continue to be a work in progress for some time.

In December the Sheriff's Office hosted our first ever Shop with a Cop. This was a great event that went over well. We had the opportunity to take fifty children from across Marathon County shopping for basic necessities and a gift for themselves. If not for the help from our Social Services Department and the municipal police agencies in Marathon County, we would not have had the great response we did.

**Marathon County Sheriff's Office and municipal police officers at their first annual Shop with a Cop.**



In early 2019 the Sheriff's Office officially joined a federal taskforce with the FBI to address many of the controlled substance issues in Marathon County and across the region. An FBI agent is now assigned to our office and we have recently added an agent from the Wisconsin Division of Criminal Investigations as well as other county and municipal agencies. Very soon we will have an analyst from the National Guard as a member of our team. This team continues to grow and do amazing work. Several significant arrests have been made in the short time this group has been together.

We also created a regional forensic computer lab. Working with surrounding counties and municipal agencies, we are working to create a lab that helps better meet the technology needs of law enforcement agencies in our region. Although we haven't started construction on the lab, we do have much of the technology in place and ready for investigative use.

For the last couple of years, the Sheriff's Office as well as our facilities department have been monitoring a structural issue at our jail. This all came to a head this summer when it was determined that immediate remediation of the structure needed to take place. This resulted in our office moving several additional inmates out of our facility and into adjacent counties. The solution has been identified and construction has started. It is estimated to take about six weeks to complete this work and get our facility back to normal.

### Price County

The Price County Sheriff's Office welcomed its first ever K9 Officer to the Department in June 2019. Deputy **Joseph Janak** became the County's first K9 handler when he became partners with K9 Dixon. Dixon is a dual-purpose dog, trained in narcotics, persons searches, article searches and patrol.

Price County would like to thank surrounding agencies and K9 units for their guidance, training opportunities and help in getting our program off the ground. Dixon has already had several successful narcotics searches and is helping to make our community safer.



*Joseph Janak and K9 Dixon.*

### Langlade County

For the third time in three years, a Lincoln County Deputy was involved in a use of force incident involving a firearm. According to media reports, Deputy Travis Watruba, who serves as the agencies Recreation Deputy, stopped a man on State Rd 64 near Sunset Drive in the Town of Scott as part of an investigation into a violent domestic. The suspect, who is a convicted felon, exited his vehicle with a firearm prompting Deputy Watruba to use deadly force. The suspect was taken from the scene by helicopter and later released from Aspirus Wausau Hospital. The suspect has been charged with multiple felonies including possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Deputy Watruba remains on administrative leave while the Wisconsin Department of Criminal Investigations completes their investigation. That has now become the standard in officer involved

## DISTRICT REPORTS *continued from previous page*

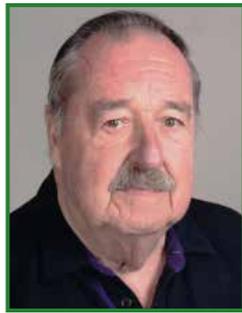
use of force incidents. Deputy Watruba is reported to be doing well and is looking forward to returning to work. The suspect is being held in the Marathon County Jail.

### Condolences

#### Lincoln County

Former Sheriff **Ronald W. Krueger** was honored this past February after succumbing to cancer at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

Ron was first appointed as a Deputy Sheriff in 1969 where he initially served as a radio dispatcher and jailer. Prior to his appointment, he had served part-time as a constable. In 1973, Ron was named the Outstanding Young Law Enforcement Officer of the year by the Merrill Jaycee's. He was a 1977 graduate of the prestigious FBI National Academy. Ron was first elected Sheriff of Lincoln County in 1974 and served until January of 1993.



*Ronald W. Krueger*

He was re-elected in 1994 and served in that capacity until his retirement in January of 1997. Ron oversaw the formation of the agency's very first Special Response Team, its Youth Aid Bureau and Detective Division. He also oversaw the construction of the new Safety Building in the 1980's, served as a leader in the Wisconsin Sheriff's and Deputy Sheriff's Associations, and the Badger



State Sheriff's Association where he served as President in 1979. While he was Sheriff, he served as vice chairman of the Lincoln County Highway Safety Committee, was a state certified snowmobile safety instructor, served as a member of the Police Science Advisory Committee for Northcentral Technical College, and was a member of the Jailer Training Advisory Committee for the University of Wisconsin Extension.

Stay Well!!

**Det. Aemus M. Balsis, District Director**

## DISTRICT 3

**Director: George Lenzner**

Counties: Brown, Door, Florence, Forest, Kewaunee, Marinette, Menomonee, Oconto, Outagamie, Portage, Shawano and Waupaca

#### Brown County

Congratulations to Sheriff **Todd J. Delain**, newly elected in 2019, Chief Deputy **Brad Brodbeck** promoted in 2019 and Captain **John Rousseau**, Support Services.



*Todd J. Delain*

### New Hires

Brown County welcomed eleven new patrol hires in the last twelve months: **Austin Arts, Adam Jensen, Colton Zimmer, Charles Nelson** (transitioned from jail to patrol), **Phillip Pavichevich, Adam Waeghe, Beau Berger, Joshua Kraft, Tyler Heupel, Ryne Francour, and Ryan Nystrom.**



*Brad Brodbeck*

We also welcomed 22 new correctional hires in the last twelve months: **Zachary Olson, Tyler Bartles, Destiny Pleau, Blayne Lanser, Adam VanMatre, Mitchell Lemke, Joseph Prindle, Getty Foss, Casey Langenberg, Jared Francis, Robert Campbell, Kyle Eisch, Nicholas Herlache, David Gustafson, Matthew Abegglen, Brandon Lohrentz, Shane Johnson, Kyle Messer, Trevor Tilot, Veronica Rouse, Gina Danielski, and Cheyenne Sarver.**



*John Rousseau*

Brown County also added three new K-9 in the past twelve months, **K9 Benzi** and Deputy **Garett Roush**, **K9 Mattis** and Deputy **Nick Dennis**, and **K9 Harli** and Deputy **Brock Sanborn.**

### Promotions

Congratulations to the following for receiving promotions in the last twelve months: Sergeant **Matt Omdahle**, Investigative, Lieutenant **Tim Bernklau**, Courts, Lieutenant **Jason Katers**, Patrol, Lieutenant **Adam Schartner**, Jail, Lieutenant **Kristy Jolly**, Jail, Lieutenant **Scott VandeVoort**, Patrol, Sergeant **Joe Patenaude**, Patrol, Sergeant **Mike Calmes**, Investigative, Sergeant **Jason O'Connell**, Investigative, Sergeant **Alan Snover**, Patrol, Captain **Kayla Kuchta**, Jail, and Sergeant **Brad Dernbach**, Investigative.



*K9 Benzi and Deputy Garett Roush*



*K9 Harli and Deputy Brock Sanborn*

Twelve members of Brown County retired in the last 12 months: Sheriff **John Gossage**, Lieutenant **Scott Semb**, Lieutenant **Jim Cuny**, Sergeant **Guy Shepardson**, K9 Deputy **Tony Tasch**, Deputy **Scott Simoens**, Deputy **Scott Priebe**, Deputy **Bryan Clevn**, Deputy **Kevin Stahl**, and Correctional Officer **Jeff Lelinski.**

**DISTRICT REPORTS** *continued on next page*

Awards

**Achievement in Criminal Investigation (22 recipients)**

On Saturday May 21st, 2016 the body of Nicole VanderHeyden was located in a field off Hoffman Road in the Village of Bellevue. Officers secured the scene and called in any and all available resources. The investigative team worked together to canvas neighborhoods, conduct interviews, write and serve search warrants, collect evidence, obtain witness statements, collect video, phone and social media information, conduct follow up interviews, etc. During the months that followed investigators, administrative assistants, crime analysts, computer forensic analysts and evidence technicians all did their part to investigate this case and prepare it for trial. With over 1000 investigative hours committed to this case, the hard work and dedicated efforts of this team secured an arrest and conviction of George Steven Burch on March 1, 2018. From the initial response to the completion of sentencing, the efforts of the investigative team are the example of professionalism and dedication to the agency and the community.

**Merit Award/Arrest: Sergeant Phil Nelson**

On February 17, 2017, Brown County received a report of someone molesting horses in the Town of Eaton. Sergeant Nelson was assigned the case and immediately put all investigative efforts into identifying the suspect. Sergeant Nelson worked with investigators from other counties in addition to utilizing interview skills, DNA evidence, video surveillance, GPS and cameras to identify and forward charges. Additionally, Sergeant Nelson worked with the Wisconsin State Director for the Humane Society of the United States and State Representative Andre Jacque to author legislative reform for the protection of animals from sexual abuse. His efforts led to the Brown County Sheriff's Office being presented with the Humane Law Enforcement Award for leadership in combating animal abuse.

**Merit Award/Arrest: Deputy Derek Kozak**

On April 1, 2018 Deputy Kozak conducted a traffic stop for suspended plates. Upon approach, Deputy Kozak noted the smell of marijuana coming from the vehicle and requested backup units to assist. During the course of the search of the vehicle and occupants, officers seized various drugs including cocaine, marijuana, heroin and pills along with \$1100 cash and various items of paraphernalia. Both occupants of the vehicle were arrested and charged with multiple counts of possession and intent to deliver.

Deputy Kozak coordinated the turnover of information to the Drug Task Force which aided in the investigations of other drug cases in and around Brown County. Deputy Kozak's keen observations and interest in furthering a suspected drug investigation helped to take drugs off the streets and ensure the safety of citizens in our community.

**Distinguished Service: Sergeant Chris Amraen**

Sergeant Amraen was working a safety enforcement operation when he conducted a traffic stop on a female driver. After issuing a citation for the violation, Sergeant Amraen discovered the driver was struggling with depression issues due to a recent family member suicide. Sergeant Amraen invited the driver to join him for a cup of coffee at Kwik Trip so he could further assess her situation. After some discussion, Sergeant Amraen encouraged the driver to talk with a Family Services Crisis Worker and made the phone call on

her behalf with her permission. He coordinated the phone contact and stood by while the female made an appointment to be seen. Following this encounter, the grateful driver sent a thank you card to Sergeant Amraen thanking him for the kindness, compassion and extra consideration he gave her that day. She was truly thankful for his dedicated service.

**Distinguished Service: Lieutenant Scott Semb**

On January 18, 2018, Lieutenant Scott Semb closed the book on a 32-year law enforcement career. In his time with Brown County, he was an active SWAT team officer and commander and promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. He spent the last 18 years of his career as the Professional Standards Lieutenant, actively involved in the recruitment, background and hiring process for approximately 125 current sworn officers and 250 current correctional officers. He has conducted countless backgrounds in his efforts to find quality employees worthy of employment with Brown County. The individuals he has recruited and recommended for hire have helped to shape the reputation of the Sheriff's Office and have played a significant role in the professionalism we currently enjoy. Lieutenant Semb also played an instrumental role in every Internal Affairs investigation in the past 18 years. In his role as "finder of fact," Lieutenant Semb committed himself to pursuing outcomes that were fair and consistent. He maintained the highest level of confidentiality and professionalism, for both himself and the employee being investigated. Lieutenant Semb considers his co-workers "friends" and truly cares about the people he works with.

**Distinguished Service: Sergeant Roman Aronstein**

On September 1, 2017, Sergeant Aronstein was assigned to investigate a fraudulent check case in the Village of Bellevue. The case involved a homeless person attempting to cash a check from a business in Brown County. Sergeant Aronstein quickly discovered this was more than a single incident of fraudulent activity, it was an organized and coordinated effort of targeting homeless persons to perpetuate fraudulent activity on financial institutions across the United States. Sergeant Aronstein worked with federal authorities along with state and local law enforcement officials throughout Wisconsin, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Georgia. Using photo lineups, cell phone extractions, geo-location data, rental car receipts, video surveillance and other investigative techniques, Sergeant Aronstein was able to identify four separate groups operating with similar methods and intentions. The total loss to banks and businesses in Wisconsin was over \$269,000 with an additional \$102,654 in fraudulent checks in other states. Dedicating over 800 investigative hours to this case, Sergeant Aronstein was able to obtain federal indictments for numerous financial crimes.

**Distinguished Service: Crime Analyst Tyler Behling**

On May 21, 2016, the body of Nicole VanderHeyden was located in a field off of Hoffman Road in the Village of Bellevue. The case attracted international attention and Tyler's commitment to aiding in the criminal investigation was about to be highlighted. Tyler worked closely with lead investigators to review video footage, analyze FitBit data and review phone records to identify suspects, corroborate witness accounts and establish a verifiable timeline. Once obtaining DNA information, Tyler applied his professional

## **DISTRICT REPORTS** *continued from previous page*

expertise to tie all evidence together to eliminate any doubt that George Burch was the person responsible for the murder. His testimony was instrumental in obtaining a conviction and showcased the talents of civilian specialists and their contribution to investigating complex crimes.

### **Distinguished Service: Sergeant Rick Loppnow**

On May 21, 2016, the body of Nicole VanderHeyden was located in a field off of Hoffman Road in the Village of Bellevue. The case attracted international attention to the local law enforcement efforts in a homicide investigation. Sergeant Loppnow worked closely with the Wisconsin Crime Lab's Field Response Unit to process the scene and collect evidence. He attended the autopsy and collected evidence which ultimately identified George Burch as the suspect. Sergeant Loppnow communicated with the family as the investigation progressed and assisted the DA's Office in preparing the case for trial. Sergeant Loppnow's handling of the evidence and professional investigative efforts were instrumental to the successful prosecution and conviction of the George Burch. Sergeant Loppnow was able to obtain justice and a sense of closure for Nicole and her family.

### **Distinguished Service: Corporal Ralph Leyendecker**

Corporal Leyendecker proudly and professionally serves the jail in a supervisory capacity. He treats all others with dignity and respect and is a role model for others to look up to. Corporal Leyendecker goes out of his way to seek out tasks and projects that can aid the operations of the jail, seeking to make processes more effective and efficient. Corporal Leyendecker has been instrumental in the development and implementation of PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) investigations, taking on the Main Jail's Compliance Manager position. He has fielded over 100 PREA complaints in 2018 and has completed accurate and thorough investigations on them, ensuring the rights of inmates are protected within the walls of the Brown County Jail.

### **Lifesaving: Jail (4 recipients)**

On Friday January 19, 2018, Correctional Officer Pratt observed an inmate had been in the intake bathroom for a longer than normal period of time. After receiving no response to knocking on the door and calling for the inmate, she summoned the assistance of her peers. Correctional staff assembled and opened the door to find the inmate was bleeding from self-inflicted injuries. The team immediately coordinated their efforts to secure the inmate, apply pressure to the wounds, summons supervisors and EMS resources and stabilize the inmate until he could be turned over to Green Bay Fire and Rescue for transport to a local hospital for advanced lifesaving treatment.

### **Lifesaving: Patrol (2 recipients)**

On Sunday November 11, 2018, Brown County deputies were dispatched to the Country Express on Monroe Road for a pulseless non-breathing female in a semi-tractor. Upon arrival, deputies found the husband attempting rescue breathing. Deputies immediately took action to remove the female from the vehicle and place her on the parking lot surface so that proper CPR could be initiated. Deputy **Estano** began CPR while Deputy **Nerat** prepped the AED for activation. Deputies Estano and Nerat exchanged chest compression duties while attempting to obtain necessary medical information from the extremely distraught husband. County Res-

cue arrived and took over primary life saving measures while deputies turned their attention to the husband. Deputy Estano stayed with the husband, providing him a ride to the hospital in addition to providing compassionate care and comfort to the husband until he learned his wife was not only breathing but was stable and being moved to ICU.

### **Correctional Officer of the Year: Corporal Brian Laurent**

As the juvenile superintendent of the Brown County Jail, Corporal Laurent extends his involvement far beyond his job duties. He has become an advocate for juveniles and adults alike, finding ways to connect, mentor and aid in rehabilitation so inmates return to society better than they left. Corporal Laurent plays an active role in juvenile staffings with families and their social workers, finding ways for juveniles to become productive members of society. In addition to his contributions to inmates, Corporal Laurent has become an active participant in the jail expansion committee, the Secure Residential Care Centers for Children or Youth (which looks at restructuring the juvenile correctional system in Wisconsin), and has also taken the lead on the jail's new Turnkey program, becoming the go to person for issues and questions. In all he does throughout the jail, Corporal Laurent looks to find ways to improve efficiency and assist his peers in doing their jobs more effectively. He does all this with a positive attitude and a progressive outlook.

### **Officer of the Year: Sergeant Brian Slinger**

On May 21, 2016, the body of Nicole VanderHeyden was located in a field off of Hoffman Road in the Village of Bellevue. The case attracted international attention to the local law enforcement efforts in a homicide investigation. Sergeant Slinger was the lead investigator who coordinated the efforts of the investigative team. He spent countless hours collecting and reviewing electronic evidence, location data, interviews, statements, etc. along with regular contact with Nicole's family to keep them updated on the status of the investigation. Once DNA evidence confirmed the person of interest to be George Burch, Sergeant Slinger reviewed available evidence and worked closely with the DA's Office to prepare the case for trial. His attention to detail was instrumental to the successful prosecution and conviction. Following the conviction, Sergeant Slinger gave interviews to several national syndications highlighting the investigative challenges and successes of this case along with professionalism of the Brown County Sheriff's Office.

Sergeant Slinger was able to give this case the attention it deserved, all while working another homicide case which was occurring at the same time.

### **Shawano County**

#### **New Hires**

Shawano County welcomed **Whitni Wiederholt**, **Alan Leiser**, **Brett Hendzel**, and **Cody Vigue** to patrol. **Mike Mason**, **Drake Feriancek**, and **Reed Ambrosius** to the transport division. **Kaitlyn Hamlett-Wallace**, **Shona Trappe**, **Travis Sadenwasser**, **Joseph Kahlow**, **Lakeisha Malave**, **Dennis VanDenHeuval**, **April Fischer**, **Scott Brown**, **Dan Almario**, **Calissa Hawley**, **Gabe Hein**, **Corinne Frye**, and **Hunter Ludvigsen** joined corrections this year. **Stephanie Hintz** and **Robin Mavis** joined dispatch.

## DISTRICT REPORTS *continued from previous page*

### Promotions

In corrections, **Josh Steppe** and **Jason VandenLangenberg** were promoted to Sergeant. In patrol, **Jesse Sperberg** was promoted from the traffic division to Patrol Lieutenant and **Ty Raddant** was promoted from Patrol Lieutenant to Field Services Captain.

### Retirements

**Joe Verbrigghe** retired from patrol on January 3rd, **Tom Tuma**, Field Services Captain, retired February 2nd and past WS&DSA District 3 Director and Patrol Sergeant **Mike Wizner** retired on July 3rd.

### Awards

Officer **Eric Strike** received the Optimist Officer of the Year Award. Eric has been with the Shawano Sheriff's office since 2009. He was in the US Army prior where he was a Purple Heart recipient due to being wounded in combat in 2004. He is the team leader of the sheriff office Honor Guard. Eric also works for the Tigerton Fire Department and volunteers as a coach for Tigerton High School varsity girls softball coach, middle school girls basketball coach, little league coach and volunteers for numerous other activities.

Officer **Shawn Copsy** will be awarded Law Enforcement Officer of the Year at the first annual Ball of the Badges in Shawano County that honors law enforcement, fire & EMS. Shawn has been with the sheriff's office since 2000. Shawn is a dedicated officer and a leader in Highway safety. Shawn is a member of our Special Response team. He is a firearms and DAAT instructor, Glock and AR armorer, lead field training officer. Shawn is very involved in DNR patrol and is a Wisconsin Boating safety instructor and also helps out with the Explores Post and Citizens Academy. Shawn is a very hard worker and takes great pride in his work.



*Ty Raddant*



*Mike Winzer*



*Eric Strike*



*Shawn Copsy*

### Waupaca County

Sheriff Timothy R. Wilz has been elected as the new Sheriff of Waupaca County. Sheriff Wilz served as one of our patrol sergeants prior to being elected and led our training programs at our agency. Sheriff Wilz and our agency have been busy with promotions and new hires throughout the year.

### New Hires

The following individuals joined Waupaca County this year; Patrol Deputy **Paul Hanneman**, Patrol Deputy **Clint Schroeder**, Transports Deputy **Adam LaBrosse**, Telecommunicator **Jessica Carlin**, Telecommunicator **Kelly Yewer-Jones**, Corrections Deputy **Bill**

**Rotta**, Corrections Deputy **Francisco Martinez**, Corrections Deputy **Amy Bigalke**, Corrections Deputy **Ryan Magnusson**, Corrections Deputy **Emily Sparkes**, Corrections Deputy **Alex Midthun**, Corrections Deputy **Dylan Bosquez**, Corrections Deputy **Autumn Ferg**, Corrections Deputy **Christina Rasmussen**, Corrections Deputy **Josh Morrison**, Corrections Deputy **Jacob Bina**, and Records Specialist **Heather Gall**.

### Promotions and Transfers

Congratulations to the following Waupaca County members on their promotions; Chief Deputy **Carl Artz** from Detective Captain, Detective Captain **Julie Thobaben** from Detective Sergeant, Detective Sergeant **Nick Traeger** from Drug Investigator, Detective Sergeant **Pete Kraeger** from patrol, Patrol Sergeant **Bill Zeamer** from patrol, Patrol Deputy **Autumn Ferg** from Corrections, Patrol/Transport Deputy **Joe Kriegel** from Corrections, Patrol/Transport Deputy **Adam Lange** from Corrections, Deputy **Shane Bazile** to Communications Captain, and Records Specialist **Lindsey Diercks** from Corrections.

### Retirements

Sheriff **Brad Hardel**, Chief Deputy **Allen Kraeger**, Detective Captain **Don Conat**, Detective Sergeant **Darold Krueger**, Records Specialist **Debbie Behnke**, Deputy **Traci LaBrosse**, Captain **Rob Karski**, Deputy **Bridget Richter**, Deputy **Tammy Kanaman**, and Records Specialist **Sheila Wolfram** have retired from our agency after numerous years of serving the citizens of Waupaca County.

### Other News

Deputy **Adam LaBrosse** will be becoming a K9 handler in October. Deputy LaBrosse's K9 will be replacing K9 Cesar, who is retiring from service and will be enjoying retirement with his handler, Sergeant. **Bill Zeamer**.

On June 29, 2018, Telecommunicators **Kim Allard**, **Kelly Yewer-Jones**, and **Nicole Schuelke** assisted a subject with delivering a baby using the Emergency Medical Dispatch protocol.



On September 6-7, 2018, Waupaca County Sheriff's Office investigated a missing 92-year old female. The female wandered off from her residence. After a large ground search with approximately 100

**DISTRICT REPORTS** *continued on next page*



first responders and approximately 300 volunteers, the subject was found about 18 hours after initially going missing.

## **DISTRICT 4**

**Director: Jeff Klatt**

Counties: Buffalo, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, Pepin, Pierce, St. Croix, Trempealeau and Wood

Greetings from District 4. Where did the summer go? It seems as if the summers get shorter and the winters are longer. Which brings me to the WS&DSA Winter Training Conference. This year's conference is being held February 2-5, 2020 at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Green Bay with the Super Bowl party taking place on Sunday. Hopefully we can see the Packers in The Big Game this season. As always, Chief Deputy Mike Horstman and his team have put together another excellent training conference with great speakers and training sessions. I hope to see as many of you there who can attend. Registration information can be found on pages 7-10.

The legislative session is now in full swing after the budget was passed and the summer recess so look for more information coming out in the 'Legislative' page on our website.

Our association has a large number of retired members and Stan Potocki is always looking for interesting news and information on our retired members, your contact information would be a great help to him. You can contact Stan at potocki357@gmail.com.

As always, feel free to contact me with news about your agency. If our association can be of any assistance to your office, feel free to contact me at 715-381-4331 or jeff.klatt@sccwi.gov

### **Buffalo County**

Buffalo County D.A.R.E. Officer **Sheyann Wieczorek**, in her first year as the County D.A.R.E. Deputy, had the opportunity to attend the 30th Annual Wisconsin D.A.R.E. Officer Association Training Conference in Minocqua, WI. During the conference, Deputy Wieczorek was elected to be on the Board of Directors as the Secretary for the Wisconsin D.A.R.E. Officer's Association; she was elected by her peer D.A.R.E. officers. Deputy Wieczorek is



*Sheyann Wieczorek*

looking forward to serving on the Board of Directors and becoming more involved in the D.A.R.E. program.

On Tuesday, September 10, 2019 shortly before 1AM, Buffalo County Sheriff's Deputies **Nic Scholl** and **Mitch Zastrow** responded to a report of a male contemplating suicide outside of his residence. They were advised that the subject was on a ladder and was trying to hang himself.

Both units arrived at the same time and observed the subject on an 8-foot-high extension ladder with a cord like object around his neck. The subject's wife was trying to prevent him from jumping off the ladder and the subject's 15-year-old daughter was watching from the house.

As the deputies neared, the subject stepped off the ladder. Deputy Nic Scholl quickly picked the subject up and relieved pressure from the cord around the subject's neck. Deputy Mitch Zastrow attempted to cut the cord which was secured around the subject's neck. Deputy Zastrow met resistance while trying to cut the cord, as the cord was a coated metal cable. Deputy Zastrow looked for other resources and was able to locate a fabric strap connecting the cable to the tree and was able to cut the fabric strap.

The subject survived his suicide attempt, sustaining moderate injuries. The deputies in this situation were under added stress with the wife and child watching as they attempted to save the subject. Despite unforeseen hurdles, the deputies were able to provide a positive resolution for the family.

### **Clark County**

#### **New Hires**

Our newly elected sheriff, **Scott Haines** comes to us out of retirement to serve as our sheriff. He has nearly 25 years of experience within Clark County. He was a patrol deputy, communications/corrections deputy, the Clark County drug investigator with W.C.D.T.F. Eau Claire for 13 years until his retirement in March of 2015.

Detective **Scott Klueckmann** was hired with Clark County on February 2, 2019. Scott started his career with the Neillsville Police Department in which he served for 28 years. He had been the Neillsville Chief of Police since 2014.

Patrol Deputy **Jason Scheffler** was hired full time on January 1, 2019. He was currently a patrol reserve since November 25, 2018 and before that was a corrections reserve since July 31, 2017.

## **DISTRICT REPORTS** *continued from previous page*

He graduated from Chippewa Valley Technical College with an associate degree in Criminal Justice.

Patrol Deputy **Matthew Larsen** was hired full time on April 1, 2019. He was currently a patrol reserve since February 18, 2019. He graduated from Northland College of Environmental Liberal Arts with a Bachelors degree in Natural Resources, and most recent graduated from the Police Academy at Northcentral Technical College.

Patrol Reserve Deputy **Eric English** was hired on February 4, 2019. He graduated from Waldorf University with a Criminal Justice degree.

Patrol Reserve Deputy **Michael English** was hired on November 9, 2018. He graduated from Waldorf University with a Criminal Justice degree.

Patrol Reserve Deputy **Louis Rosandich** was hired on March 8, 2019. He retired as the Clark County Sheriff in 2010 after serving the county for 35 years (8 years as Sheriff).

Administrative Assistant **Alexis Schulze** was hired on February 4, 2019. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh with a Human Services degree.

Corrections Deputy **Richard Bravener** was hired on June 24, 2019.

Corrections Deputy **Louise Hackel** was hired full time on April 1, 2019. She worked as a reserve since 2014 and previously full time for 16 years before that.

### Promotions

Congratulations to the following for their promotions in Clark County this year; **Todd Tessman** - Promoted from Jail Sergeant to Jail Captain, **Lea Sterry** - Promoted from Telecommunications Deputy to Communications Captain, **Kerry Kirn** - Promoted from Detective to Detective Captain, **Aaron Ruggles** - Promoted from Patrol Deputy to Detective, **Alexander Cattanach** - Promoted from Patrol Deputy to Patrol Sergeant, and **Michael Koprek** - Promoted from Detective to Corrections Sergeant.

### Retirements

**Gregory Herrick** retired December 31, 2018 after serving Clark County for 40 years (last 8 years as Sheriff).

**Richard Englebretson** retired January 5, 2019 after serving Clark County for 28 years (last 7 years as Jail Captain).

### Other News

The Wisconsin Professional Police Association 2019 Award of Valor was awarded to Patrol Deputy **Nicholas Klemm**, Clark County Sheriff's Office, and Police Officer **Jacob Schar**, Loyal Police Department.

Clark County Sheriff's Office Fair Booth at the Clark County Fair- "Hidden in Plain Sight". This booth had a bedroom scene that parents and guardians could help identify drugs and other known hazardous materials that could easily be "hidden in plain sight". The Clark County Sheriff's Office along with the Clark County Social Services Department contributed to this fair booth.

The CCLEA (Clark County Law Enforcement Association) Annual Golf Tournament was held on Tuesday, August 6th, 2019 at the Neillsville Country Club to raise funds for the "Shop with a Cop" program. The "Shop with A Cop" program is a CCLEA program

in which allows children to shop with law enforcement to purchase presents for themselves or family members for the holidays.

The Clark County Sheriff's Office has implemented a chaplaincy program for the Clark County Sheriff's Office as well as the other emergency services within the county. Currently, we have two chaplains, Joseph Matthews and William Krebs on board to help current employees' needs as well as assisting with services for the community such as death notifications. We are hoping they will be utilized to the best of their potential.

Over the weekend of August 2nd, Clark County Sheriff's Office Investigator **Matt Malovrh** decided to go for a little run-the Badger 100, from Orangeville, IL to Belleville, WI, back to Orangeville and then back to Belleville. He ran 100 miles in a little over 24 hours! We are super proud of him and his accomplishment.



*Matt Malovrh*

### Dunn County

#### New Hires

Deputy Sheriff **Dan Westlund**, previously with Menomonie Police Department, Deputy Sheriff **James Gates**, previously with Menomonie Police Department, Deputy Sheriff **Corey Steinkraus**, previously with Menomonie Fire Department, Deputy Sheriff **Pete Forbes**, previous Dunn County Deputy who returned from contracted position, Correctional Officer **Heidi Gorton**, and Correctional Officer **Allison Schemenauer**, previously with Pierce County Sheriff joined Dunn County this year.

#### Promotions

Sergeant **Scott McRoberts** to Field Services Captain replacing Captain **Kevin Bygd** who was elected Sheriff. Investigator **Jason Stalker** and Deputy **Josh Christenson** to Sergeant. Deputy **Dan Westlund** to Investigator. Deputy **Rebecca Merryfield** to Investigator and Community Service Officer.

#### Retirements

Sheriff **Dennis Smith**, after nearly 45 years with Dunn County, and Investigator **Rod Dicus** with over 30 years with Dunn County retired from Dunn County this year.

### Pepin County

#### New Hires

Deputy **Darrin Loewenhagen** was hired April 2019 into the Patrol Division.

#### Retirements

**Sheila Severson** retired on October 1, 2019 from the Communications/Corrections Division.

### Pierce County

#### New Hires

**Melissa Diedrich** was hired as a patrol deputy on November 15,

## DISTRICT REPORTS *continued from previous page*

2018. **Bryce Frion** was hired as a corrections deputy on Sept. 16, 2018. **Cathy Warnke** was hired as a corrections deputy on March 8, 2019. **Brent Wiersma** was hired as a corrections deputy on June 16, 2019. **Wendy Fluery** was hired as a 911 dispatcher on October 15, 2018. **Alex Dravis** was hired as a 911 dispatcher on June 29, 2019

### Promotions

**Jeremy Lewis** was promoted to patrol deputy on April 28, 2019. **Zach Newton** was promoted to patrol deputy on August 18, 2019. **Steve Albarado** was promoted to Chief Deputy on January 1, 2019. **Ali Verges** was promoted to Jail Lieutenant February 14, 2019.

### Additional information

In August of 2019 we had our annual “Badges and Backpacks” campaign where we were able to provide school supplies to 20 schools in our county. This campaign, as well as our “Shop With A Cop” are two programs that our community supports and funds.

Pictured from left to right. Deputy **Melissa Diedtrich**, Deputy **Eric Van Knocker** and Deputy **Zach Newton**



*Pictured from left to right. Deputy **Melissa Diedtrich**, Deputy **Eric Van Knocker** and Deputy **Zach Newton***

### St. Croix County

#### New Hires

Hired as Correctional Deputies are:

- **Joe Kormanik** was hired on November 26, 2018
- **Serena Hoisington** was hired on November 26, 2018
- **Ashley Johnson** was hired on January 7, 2019
- **Richard Westphal** was hired on January 7, 2019
- **Aileena Marsh** was hired on June 17, 2019
- **Brittany Edge** was hired on August 19, 2019

Hired as Patrol Deputies are:

- **Mitchell Schaepfi** was hired on Oct. 18, 2019. Mitch comes to the sheriff's office from the WI State patrol.
- **Aaron Boldt** was hired on March 11, 2019. Aaron comes to the sheriff's office from the Hammond Police Dept.
- **Joel Benson** was hired on May 20, 2019. Joel comes to the sheriff's office from the Woodville Police Dept.
- **Vincent Rudesill** was hired on June 3, 2019. Vince comes to the sheriff's office from the Glenwood City Police Dept.
- **Benjamin Trebian** was hired on August 19, 2019. This is Ben's first full time law enforcement job having graduated from US-Stevens Point in 2019 and getting his law enforcement training from Mid-State Technical College.

### Promotions

- Captain **Chris Drost** was promoted from Court Services sergeant to Jail Captain.
- Lieutenant **Tim Kufus** was promoted from Court Services sergeant to Jail Lieutenant.
- Deputy **Curtis Johnson** was promoted from Court Services

deputy to Court Services Sergeant.

- Sergeant **Charles Coleman** was promoted from Patrol Deputy to Patrol Sergeant.
- Sergeant **Nick Raiolo** was promoted from Patrol Deputy to Patrol Sergeant.
- Sergeant **Jeff Mentink** was promoted from Jail Deputy to Jail Sergeant.
- Sergeant **Stephanie Caress** was promoted from Jail Deputy to Jail Sergeant.
- Sergeant **Joe Kormanik** was promoted from Jail Deputy to Jail Sergeant.
- Deputy **Mike O'Keefe** was promoted from Patrol Deputy to Investigator.
- Deputy **Sally Standaert** was promoted from Patrol Deputy to Investigator.
- Deputy **Matt Howe** was promoted from Corrections Deputy to Court Services Deputy.

### Retirements

Investigator **Cary Rose** retired on March 29, 2019 after serving almost 26 years with the sheriff's office.

Sergeant **James Sande** retired on April 17, 2019 after serving almost 31 years with the sheriff's office.

Investigator **Shawn Demulling** resigned on June 28, 2019 after serving 22 years with the sheriff's office to pursue other endeavors in the private sector.

## DISTRICT 5

### **Director: Mike Horstman**

Counties: Adams, Crawford, Grant, Iowa, Juneau, La Crosse, Lafayette, Monroe, Richland, Sauk and Vernon

Please feel free to contact me with any news about your department, as I would be happy to add it to our magazine. I can be reached at 608-785-9629 or through email at [mhorstman@lacrossecounty.org](mailto:mhorstman@lacrossecounty.org). Thank you to all of you that are currently sending me your department updates!

Our 2020 Conference registration is now open! The dates are February 2nd-5th, at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, in Green Bay. We hope to see you there!

### New Hires

#### La Crosse County

**Jeff Wolf**, a 31-year veteran of the La Crosse Sheriff's Office, was elected as Sheriff. Sheriff Wolf has served as a deputy, a member of the first ERT, FTO, Patrol and Investigative Sgt., Captain of Investigations and Chief Deputy.

Jailers **Jessica Bautch**, **Emily Everson**, **Kristie Marx**, **Tabitha Breen**, **Shaelee Schmidt** and Patrol **Brad Thompson**, **Sam Leinfelder**, **Cody Ratkovich**, and **Pam Betthausen** joined La Crosse County this year.

## DISTRICT REPORTS *continued on next page*

## **DISTRICT REPORTS** *continued from previous page*

### **Sauk County**

Sauk County hired Jail Deputy **Jackson Snow**, Telecommunicator **Abigail Gallagher**, Patrol Deputy **Kyle Mueller**, Jail Deputy **Margaret Fichter**, Patrol Deputy **Steven Messner**, Prisoner Transport **Spencer Nett**, Telecommunicator **Zachary Andraea**, Jail Deputy **Joseph Eytalis**, Jail Deputy **Elizabeth Mitchell**, Jail Deputy **Jacob Kleeber**, Prisoner Transport **Harry Lutz**, Jail Deputy **Adam Yasick**, Jail Deputy **Hunter Jackson**, Telecommunicator **Chloe Ware**, and Jail Deputy **Joseph Bartelt**.

### **Crawford County**

In the Jail we hired **Farshaun Ardestani** and **Elizabeth Lahaie**. They replace **Emily Pedley-Fecht** and **Dwight Kussmaul** after they resigned.

On Traffic we hired **Tony Berg** and **Marcus Ploessl**. One was hired to fill a vacant traffic position the other to replace Sgt. Steve Wagner.

### **Adams County**

New hires in Adams County include: Patrol Deputy **Brooke Vanbeek**, two Administrative Records Officers; **Tina Martin** and **Brooke Delconte**, and 3 jail staff; **Nick Cleland**, **Stephanie Hajdas**, and **Tom Peterson**.

### **Vernon County**

New hires in Vernon County this year included: **Elizabeth Nachtigal**, Dispatch division; **Chris Caliva**, Jail division; **Zachary Kammel**, Jail division; **Jareth Hagen**, Jail division; **John Sharp**, Jail division; and **Tyler Jordi**, Jail division. Transfers included: **Brad Stuber**, Jail division to Court Services/Patrol division, **Don Krzewinski**, Jail division to Patrol division and **Amanda Lathrop**, Jail division to Dispatch division

### **Grant County**

**Ben Wohland**, **Megan Klema**, **Cassara Bray**, **Jordan Scott** and **Zach Olson** were hired as jailers.

### **Iowa County**

Iowa County welcomed the following individuals this year Deputy **Mike Havlick**, Deputy **Noah Goetzke**, Deputy **Alex Cepjek**, Corrections Officer **Brooke Oxnem**, Corrections Officer **Tannler Ames**, Corrections Officer **Derek Freymiller**, Corrections Officer **James Bendickson**, Corrections Officer **Andrea Connelly**, Corrections Officer **Courtney Hams**, and Administrative Assistant **Deanna Brennum**.

### **La Crosse County**

**John Siegel** has been promoted to the position of Law Enforcement Captain. Captain Siegel has been with La Crosse County since 2003; prior to that he worked for Waushara County. In his time with La Crosse, he has served in Patrol, Court Services, DARE and Investigations as both an Investigator and as an Investigative Sergeant.

**Bryan Cessford** has been promoted to the position of Patrol Sergeant. Sergeant Cessford has been with the Sheriff's Office since 2013. He is a field training officer, member of our Emergency Response Team and serves as a trainer in a number of different areas.

Sergeant **Marte Peterson** has been moved from the patrol division and will now be assigned as an Investigative Sergeant. Sergeant Peterson has been with the Sheriff's Office since 2001. He has

worked as a jailer, deputy, DARE/GREAT Officer, Patrol Sergeant, is a member of our Emergency Response Team and is a department trainer.

Deputy **Patty Stoughtenger** will be moving into our Training Division. Deputy Stoughtenger has been with the Sheriff's Office since 2010, she is a field training officer, a member of our Emergency Response Team and a field training officer.

**Jim Verse** has been promoted to the position of Jail Captain. Captain Verse has been with La Crosse County since 1998 and has served as a jailer, jail sergeant and administrative sergeant.

Sergeant **Bret Miller** has moved from the position of 3rd shift Jail Sergeant to that of the Jail's Administrative Sergeant. Sergeant Miller has been with La Crosse County since 2001.

**Denise Borchert** has been promoted to Sergeant. Sergeant Borchert has been with our department for 11 years and also serves as a JTO and is one of our primary trainers.

Deputy **Bobby Kachel** has completed his K9 handler training and is our newest K9 Handler.

### **Sauk County**

**James Hodges** was promoted to Field Services Captain, **Eric Vandeneuvel** was promoted to Patrol Lieutenant, **Ljupcho Gjorgjiev** and **Christopher Gallagher** were promoted to Patrol, and **Scott Steinhorst** was promoted to Patrol Sergeant.

### **Adams County**

**David Carlson** was promoted from lieutenant to Chief Deputy. Lieutenant **Ryan Greeno** has moved from supervising patrol to supervising investigations.

### **Vernon County**

The following were promoted in Vernon County this year; **Matt Hoff**, Jail Corporal to Jail Sergeant, **Steven LaForce**, Correctional Officer to Jail Corporal, and **Jonathan Dregne**, Correctional Officer to Jail Corporal.

### **Grant County**

**Craig Reukauf** was promoted to Sergeant, Deputy **Nate Gallagher** was assigned as a Detective and **Blake Bender** transitioned from Jailer to Deputy.

### **Retirements**

#### **La Crosse County**

Deputies **Taylor Henry** and **Jorrey Olson**, along with Jailer **Colin Walsh**, resigned to pursue other options. Training Deputy **Brian Buckmaster**, Sheriff **Steve Helgeson**, and Jail Captain **Steve Anderson** have all retired.

#### **Sauk County**

Jail Deputy **Kristin Ziech** and Field Services Captain **Michael Stoddard** have retired this year.

#### **Crawford County**

Sergeant **Steve Wagner** retired February of 2019 after 29 years of service with the Sheriff's Office.

Investigator Lieutenant **Jaden McCullick** resigned December of 2018 to take the Chief of Police Job in the City of Boscobel.

**DISTRICT REPORTS** *continued on next page*

## **DISTRICT REPORTS** *continued from previous page*

### **Adams County**

Greg Erdmann retired from the jail.

### **Grant County**

Jailer Joann Koeller retired after 25 years of service. Sergeant Todd Kasper retired after 25 years of service to include time with the Dane County Sheriff's Office and the Platteville Police Department.

### **Iowa County**

#### **Resignations**

Corrections Officer Robert Busser and Corrections Officer Jade Black both resigned from Iowa County this year.

#### **Special trainings and achievements**

### **La Crosse County**

#### **Awards Ceremony**

On May 13th, as part of National Law Enforcement week, Sheriff Wolf presented the following awards:

- **Career Achievement:** Deputies Brandon Stoughtenger and Brian Buckmaster
- **Life Saving Awards:** Sergeant Dan Baudek, Deputies Robert Kachel (2), Emily Kjos, Nathan Cibulka, Richard Amundsen, Jailers Alyssa Bowe, Rebecca Grim, Jackie Zimmerman, Trevor Jorgenson, David Siddons, William Wolf and Jason Lawrence
- **Certificate of Commendation:** Deputies Brian Buckmaster and Kevin Bauer.

### **Sauk County**

Two Sauk County Drug Detectives were honored in Washington DC for their part in a Federal, multijurisdictional drug case involving Fentanyl being mailed to several locations in the United States. The case began after a Florida man died of an opioid overdose, and investigators learned the fentanyl the man had used was mailed from Madison, WI under the guise of decongestants.

Sauk County Detective Scott Steinhorst and Detective Sergeant Eric Miller were part of a team who received the "2018 U.S. Interdiction Committee Award for Investigative and Prosecution."

Sauk County Sheriff Chip Meister said the award represents more than just one drug bust. "We as a department are honored to have (Miller and Steinhorst), and have them recognized," Meister said.



*Scott Steinhorst and Eric Miller*



Chief Deputy Jeff Spencer said the sheriff's office handles 18,000 cases every year, and he's proud of the work its detectives put in day in and day out.

Steinhorst was promoted to Patrol Sergeant while in Washington. "I was leaving the White House when I got the call," Steinhorst said.

#### **Deputies awarded for Life Saving:**

Patrol Deputy Brian Schlough, a 16 year veteran of the Sheriff's Office was presented his life saving award for saving his mother's life on March 22nd, 2019 after he received a call that she was in distress. He responded off duty, along with two Sauk Prairie Police Officers. Schlough performed CPR on his mother, Diane Endres, and a defibrillator was deployed. EMS arrived and took over medical care. She was transported to a hospital where she received further treatment and was later released.



*Brian Schlough*

"I cannot begin to imagine how difficult that was for him. His training and experience took over and he saved the life of the person who gave him life. Thank you Brian and congratulations. No award can take the place of your mother and thankfully, due to your efforts, this award doesn't have to," said Sheriff Chip Meister.

"I just want to thank you guys all so much for saving my life, it just means so much to me," Endres said. "I'm forever grateful for all you've done."

**DISTRICT REPORTS** *continued on next page*

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## **DISTRICT REPORTS** *continued from previous page*

Jail Deputy **Jon Greenwood**, a two year veteran of the Sheriff's Office was presented his life saving award on September 10th for his actions while on duty in the Sauk County Jail on July 9th, 2019.

Deputy Greenwood, while working in the booking area of the jail, heard loud breathing noises coming from a cell. He immediately conducted a safety check and found an inmate lying on his side coughing with the blanket pulled up to his chin.



*Jon Greenwood*

Once additional personnel arrived, entry to the cell was made and Deputy Greenwood found that the inmate had tied his jail pants around his neck and was no longer responsive. Removal of the pants and immediate medical care resolved the issue and certainly saved the inmates life.

### **Vernon County**

#### **Awards**

- Investigator **JoEllen Egge**: VCSO Law Enforcement Officer of the Year
- Correction Officer **Lincoln Collins**: VCSO Correctional Officer of the Year
- Dispatcher **Jared Rahr**: VCSO Employee of the Year
- Deputy **Larry Howell**: Lifesaving Award
- Deputy **Eric Tollackson**: Lifesaving Award and Stoddard American Legion Law Enforcement Officer of the Year
- Deputy **Isaac Gjefle**: Viroqua Eagles Law Enforcement Officer of the Year
- Deputy **Ted Harris**: award for dedicated and committed service since 1976
- Chaplain **Don Ehler**: award for dedicated service and commitment to police memorial service since 1992

The Vernon County Sheriff's Office congratulates all of these employees the best in their new positions. Every one of them is a big asset to our department and we wish them well! Special congratulations goes to officers who were promoted and received awards...job well done! We would also like to congratulate Deputies **Eric Tollackson** and **Isaac Gjefle** for obtaining their EVOC instructor certification.

Vernon County organized and held our first-ever National Night Out event, which was held in August at our county fairgrounds. This event was very well-organized from the start and as a result, the event was well-attended by families within Vernon County. There was a lot of work that went into this event and we thank every person who had a part in making this a very successful event. We would like to thank all emergency services personnel and businesses for their willingness to help out at this event.

The Sheriff's Office 911 Dispatch Center has had some upgrades recently including enhancements to our 911 and CAD systems as well as adding more computer monitors for each workstations and obtaining Emergency Medical Dispatch certifications for all dispatchers.

### **Grant County**

The Grant County Sheriff's Office has continued to move forward with the completion of the new Sheriff's Office and Jail over the past year. It is anticipated that we should be moving to the new facility sometime in the late fall. As part of this project we are upgrading our 911 system, installing new dispatch console radios and continuing to fill staff positions for the new facility.



## **DISTRICT 6**

### **Director: Roger Brandner**

Counties: Calumet, Columbia, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Manitowoc, Marquette, Ozaukee, Sheboygan, Washington, Waushara and Winnebago

### **Columbia County**

#### **New Hires**

Columbia County welcomed the following this year: Deputy Sheriff's **Tyler Henriksen**, **Daniel Hayes**, **Travis Lange**, **Brian Poulin**, **Kourtney Zenk**, and **Mariah Voge**; Jail Deputies **David Christensen**, **Tyler Schultz**, **Sarah Birdyshaw**, **Lukas Dexter**, **Brock Mosier**, and **Joshua Tester**; Dispatcher **Markie Gorski-Kassner**; Part-Time Sheriff's Office Secretary **Marsha Neef** and Court Services Unit Deputies **David Knapp** and **Robert Kiefer**.

#### **Promotions**

**Roger Brandner** was elected Sheriff. **Gregory Bisch** was promoted to Chief Deputy Sheriff. **Jason Kocovsky** was promoted to Captain/Detective and Patrol Divisions. **James Stilson** was promoted to Captain/Jail and Communications Center. **Todd Horn** was promoted to Patrol Lieutenant. **Brian Kjorlie** was promoted to Jail Lieutenant. **Michael Haverley**, **Leda Wagner**, **David Clark**, **Timothy Schultz** were promoted to Detective Sergeants. **Cory Miller**, **Mike Schultz**, **Chris Weber** were promoted to Patrol Sergeant. **Josh Priske** was promoted to Jail Sergeant.

#### **Retirements**

Sheriff **Dennis Richards**, Captain **Darrel Kuhl**, Deputy **Greg Kaschinske**, and Lieutenant **Wayne Smith** retired this year from Columbia County.

#### **Awards**

Communication Sergeant **Elisabeth Schutz** was awarded Dispatcher of the Year from the Wisconsin EMS Association.

**Dodge County**

**New Hires**

Deputy **Scott Anderson**, Deputy **Martin Keberlein**, Deputy **Matthew Mayer**, Deputy **Jeremy McCarty**, Deputy **Secretary Jennifer Stokes**, Deputy **David Trevarthen**, CSO **Dylan Ott**, and CSO **Zachary Kuckkahn** joined Dodge County Sheriffs Office this year.

**Promotions**

**Bill Pansier** was promoted from Deputy to Sergeant and **Robbie Weinfurter** was promoted from Sergeant to Lieutenant in April.

**Retirements**

Corrections Officer **Donald Davidson**, Deputy **Brenda VanDenHoek**, and Deputy **Greg Weihert** retired this year.

**Marquette County**

Marquette County has had several new Deputies hired over the past few months. Here is a list of the new hires and their assignments.

- **Brenda Pulver**, Chaplain
- **Kim Crandall**, Administrative Assistant
- **Patricia Schaefer**, Corrections/Dispatch
- **Brittany Beahm**, Corrections/Dispatch
- **Lisa Krueger**, Corrections/Dispatch
- **Brent Ziebarth**, Corrections/Dispatch
- **Marie Kallas**, Promoted to Corrections/Dispatch Sergeant
- **Eric Briski**, Patrol
- **Jeremy Krueger**, Patrol

K9 Bac and Handler Deputy **Joe Stolpa** were selected as Marquette County's third K9.

The D.A.R.E. Program is also brought back into the schools. Deputy **Doug Lloyd** was selected as the new D.A.R.E. Program Instructor. Deputy Lloyd attended a two week D.A.R.E. Certification training in North Dakota this past summer where he graduated and awarded the outstanding team member.

Marquette County also had its very first Pinning Ceremony for new employees.

**DISTRICT 7**

**Director: Luke Johnson**

Counties: Dane, Green, Jefferson, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, Rock, Walworth and Waukesha

**DISTRICT AT LARGE**

**Director: Stan Potocki**

**Polk County**

**Retirement**

**Sheriff Peter Johnson Retirement**

Sheriff Johnson started his career as a Reserve Deputy in Burnett County in 1990. He completed Recruit School in November of 1990 at Chippewa Valley Technical College.

Sheriff Johnson was hired as a patrol officer with the Tomah Police Dept. in March of 1993. He was assigned as their School Liason Officer and later promoted to a Patrol Sergeant before leaving in 1999.

In February of 1999 he was hired as a patrol deputy for the Polk County Sheriff's Office.

He was assigned to the Investigation Division in mid 2007 and was elected Sheriff in 2010. He served as Sheriff for two terms and chose not to run for a third term.

In retirement, he has taken a full time position with a small law-firm in Central Minnesota as an Associate Attorney. He hopes to ride some motorcycle and became a grandfather of a baby girl in Mid-June. He states, "Life is good".

Congratulations on your retirement and becoming a grandfather.



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