

# Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

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Our services, our issues, and  
your help to keep our community  
safe.

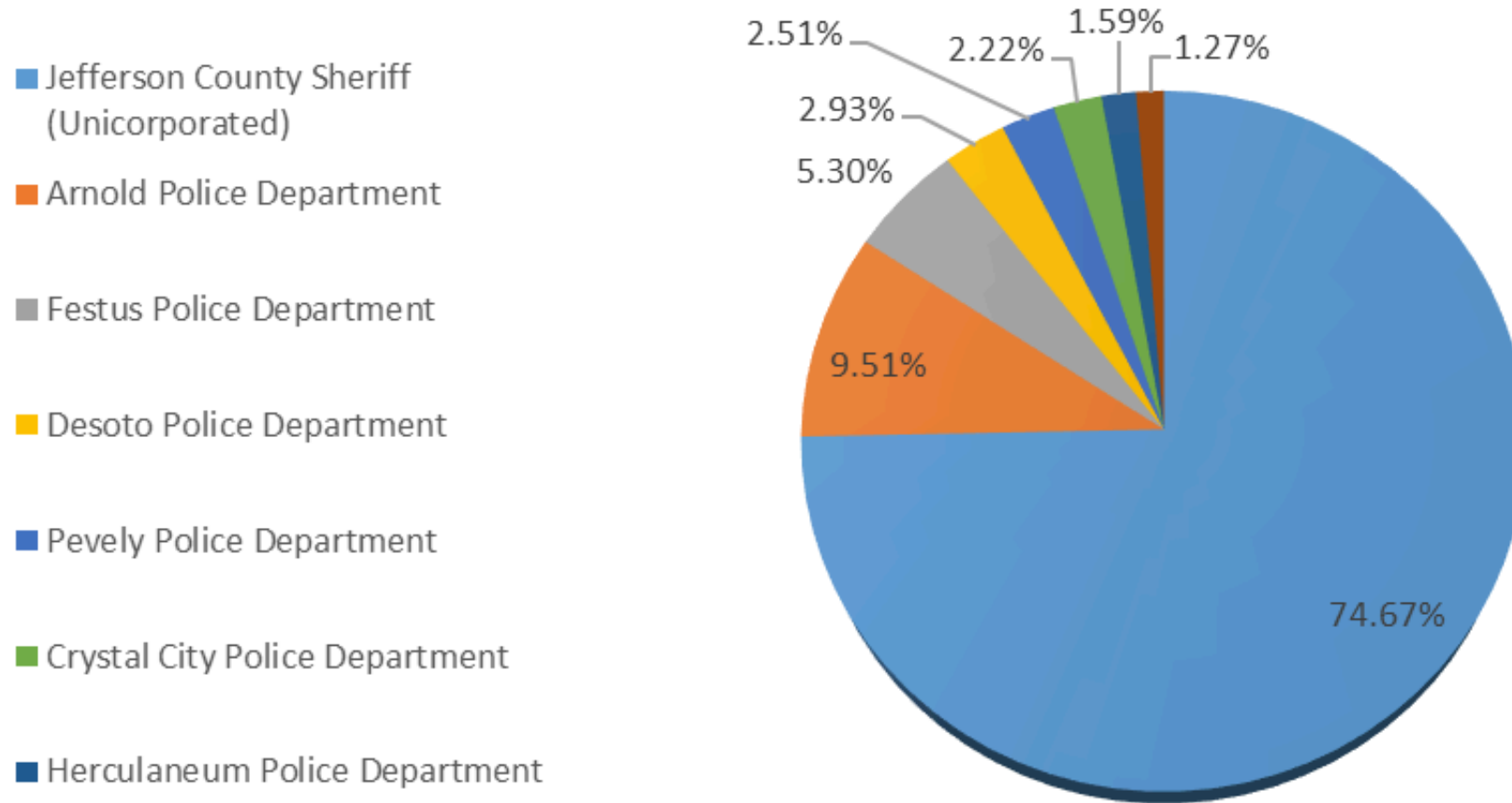


# The Realities of the Sheriff's Office

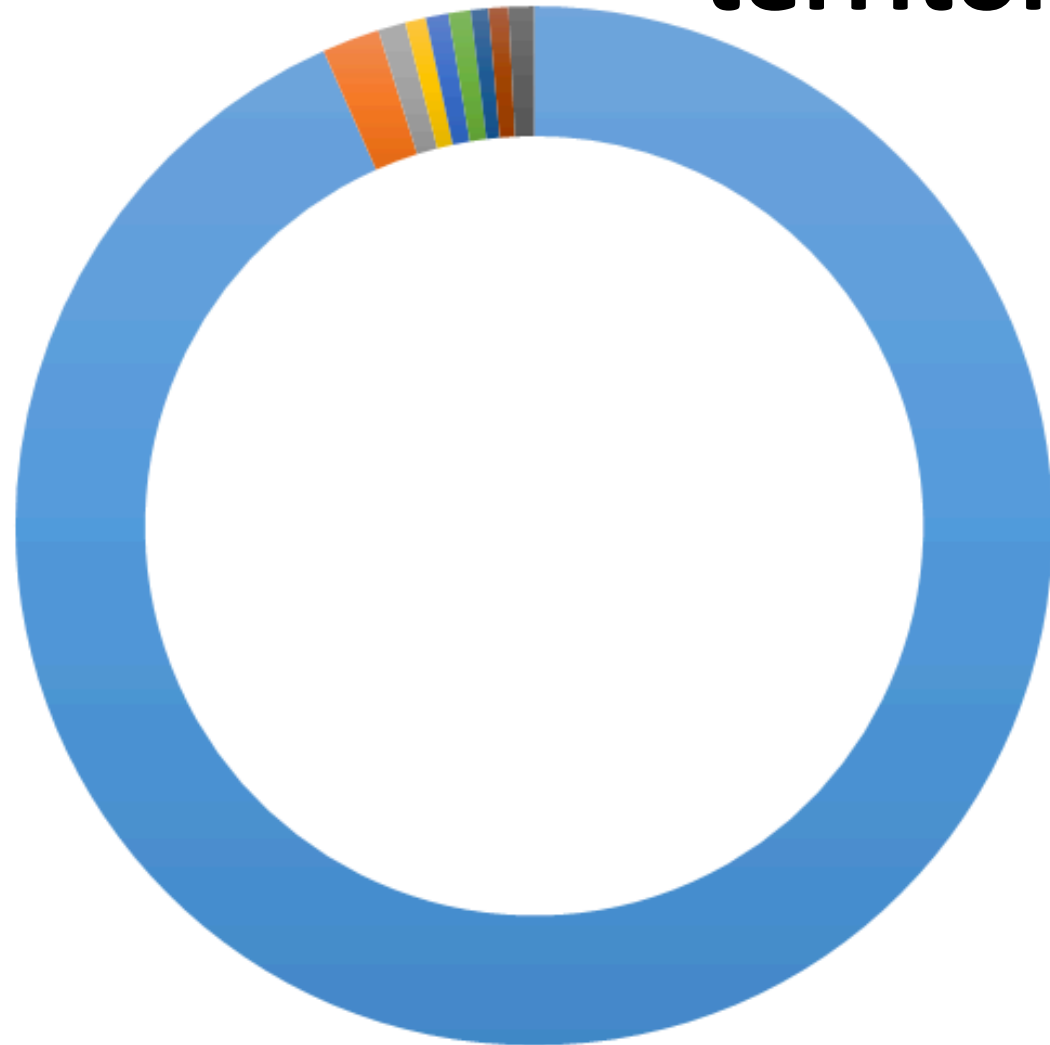
- Only 11-12 Deputies and Supervisors per shift
  - Cover 620 of 664 Square Miles (93% of the land and 74% of the population)
  - Handle over 50,000 calls for service a year
  - By comparison, Arnold covers nearly 12 Square Miles with as many officers a shift
- Calls are prioritized based on severity
  - Sometimes as many as 20-30 calls may be pending
- Deputies nearest assist may be 20 minutes away
  - In 2013 two deputies were shot and it took 11 minutes for assisting deputies to arrive
- Detectives have a caseload of 40-50 felony investigations
- The Sheriff's Office is responsible for the county jail that houses between 300-350 inmates

# 74.67% of County Population Served by the Sheriff's Office

Percentage of County Population Served



# The Sheriff's Office covers 93.34% of the territory



- Jefferson County Sheriff (Unincorporated)
- Arnold Police Department
- Festus Police Department
- Desoto Police Department
- Pevely Police Department
- Crystal City Police Department
- Hillsboro Police Department
- Herculaneum Police Department



# Responsibilities

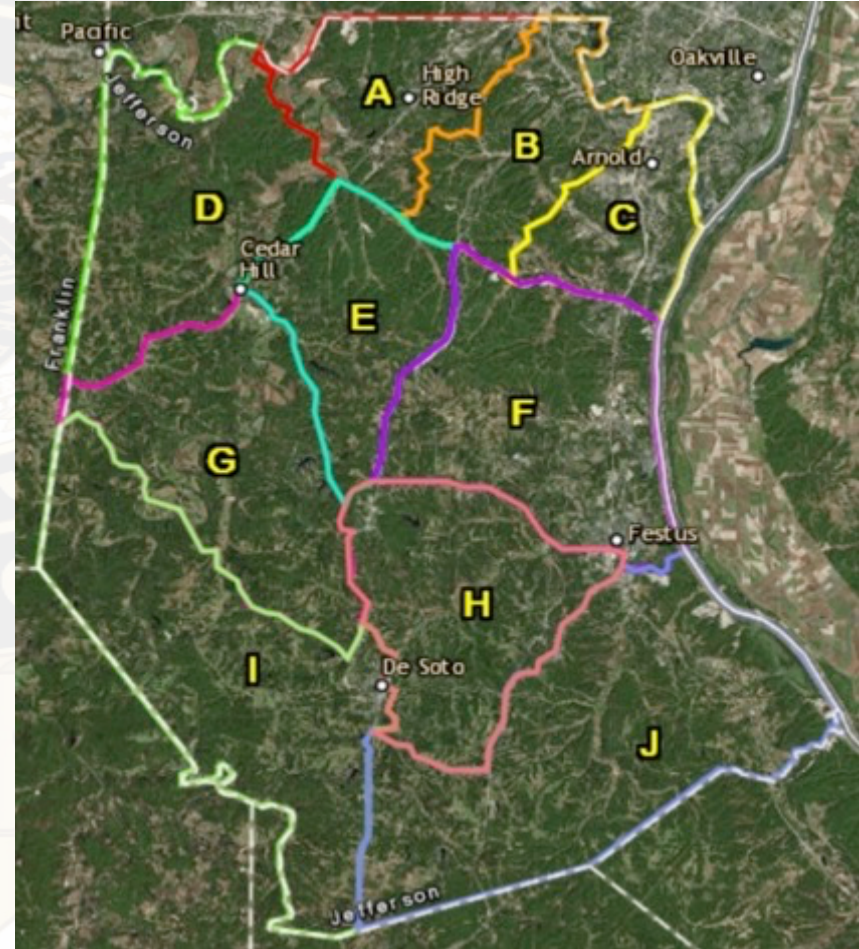
**The Sheriff's Office has statutory requirements that police departments do not:**

- Responsible for the county jail
  - daily population between 300-350 inmates
  - 7,266 prisoners booked in 2017
  - 330,634 meals served in 2017
- Required to transport prisoners arrested on state warrants issued by Jefferson County from all over the United States and St. Louis Region.
  - 5,368 Transports in 2017
- Required to have a bailiff assigned to each court and provide courthouse security.
- Required to serve all civil process paperwork (garnishments, orders of protection, divorces, liens, etc.).
  - 16,760 papers Served in 2017

***These requirements take a minimum of 26 deputies to fulfill***

# Sector Assignments

- Typical manpower allows for 1 deputy in each sector, supervisors are not assigned a sector but roam the entire county to assist deputies as needed
- Uniform patrol deputies completed 7,397 reports in 2017
- **11-12 deputies** and supervisors will cover the entire **620 square miles** of unincorporated Jefferson County each shift





# ***There are simply not enough deputies***

According to 2011 FBI Uniform Crime Reporting reporting, nationally the rate of sworn officers was 2.4 per 1,000 citizens. The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office currently staffs

***only .92 sworn officers per 1,000 served.\****

Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/police-employee-data>

\*based on 2010 census which reflected 163,335 citizens lived in unincorporated county.

# Snapshot of calls for service in *just one sector*

## Sector B ONLY

|                        |     |                         |     |
|------------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|
| • 911 Hang ups         | 249 | • Prowler               | 5   |
| • Alarms               | 186 | • Robbery               | 1   |
| • Animal Complaints    | 24  | • Security Checks       | 19  |
| • Arson                | 3   | • Sex Offenses          | 5   |
| • Assaults             | 12  | • Stealing              | 156 |
| • Building Checks      | 60  | • Suicidal Subject      | 40  |
| • Burglaries           | 25  | • Suspicious Persons    | 186 |
| • Welfare Check        | 187 | • Traffic Complaints    | 288 |
| • Misc. Complaints     | 275 | • Weapons Offenses      | 12  |
| • Death Investigations | 6   | • Extra Patrol Requests | 66  |
| • Disturbances         | 170 | • Missing Persons       | 24  |
| • Juvenile Complains   | 69  | • Property Damage       | 60  |
| • Keep the Peace       | 91  | • Harassment            | 23  |



# How Calls Are Prioritized

- Suicides, Deaths, Assaults, Fights, Disturbances are first, serious crimes in progress



- Alarms, serious crimes no longer in progress



- Burglaries, Stealing, Fraud, Suspicious Vehicles, Suspicious Person



- Drug Violations, Traffic Complaints, Drinking, Inappropriate Text Messages, Dogs Barking, Social Media Complaints, etc.

# Criminal Investigations Reality

- There are (8) detective and (2) crime scene investigators for Jefferson County
- Each detective has a caseload of 40-50 felony investigations
- The group handled a total of 1,221 new cases in 2017

In the first six months of 2017,  
Detectives were assigned **669** Felonies

4 Homicides

108 Auto thefts

137 Burglaries

51 Child sex offenses

46 missing persons

147 felony stealings

Plus many more!

# How investigations are prioritized

## **1) Crimes against persons are prioritized first**

*Homicides, Sexual Assaults, Suspicious Deaths, Missing Persons*

## **2) Crimes against property are second**

*Burglaries, Property Damage, Auto Theft, Stealing*

- Felonies are assigned to the detective Bureau
- Misdemeanors are sent back to patrol officers for follow-up



# The realities of the Sheriff's Office Budget

- Primarily funded by a ½ cent sales tax passed in 1987.
  - Generates approximately \$11,500,000 annually
  - Approximately \$1,900,000 is received from general revenue
  - The remainder of the budget comes from grants, reimbursements (SRO's, security details, etc.) and revenue generating contracts such Jail commissary, jail phone, and e-cigarette sales.
- The rapid increase in internet sales (**which are not taxed locally**) means sales tax revenue is starting to decline, *as the population grows and the need for our service grows, the revenue is being reduced.*

**In 2018, we budgeted to receive \$11.5 million from sales tax but as of today's projections (Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>), we are on pace to only receive \$10.7 million**



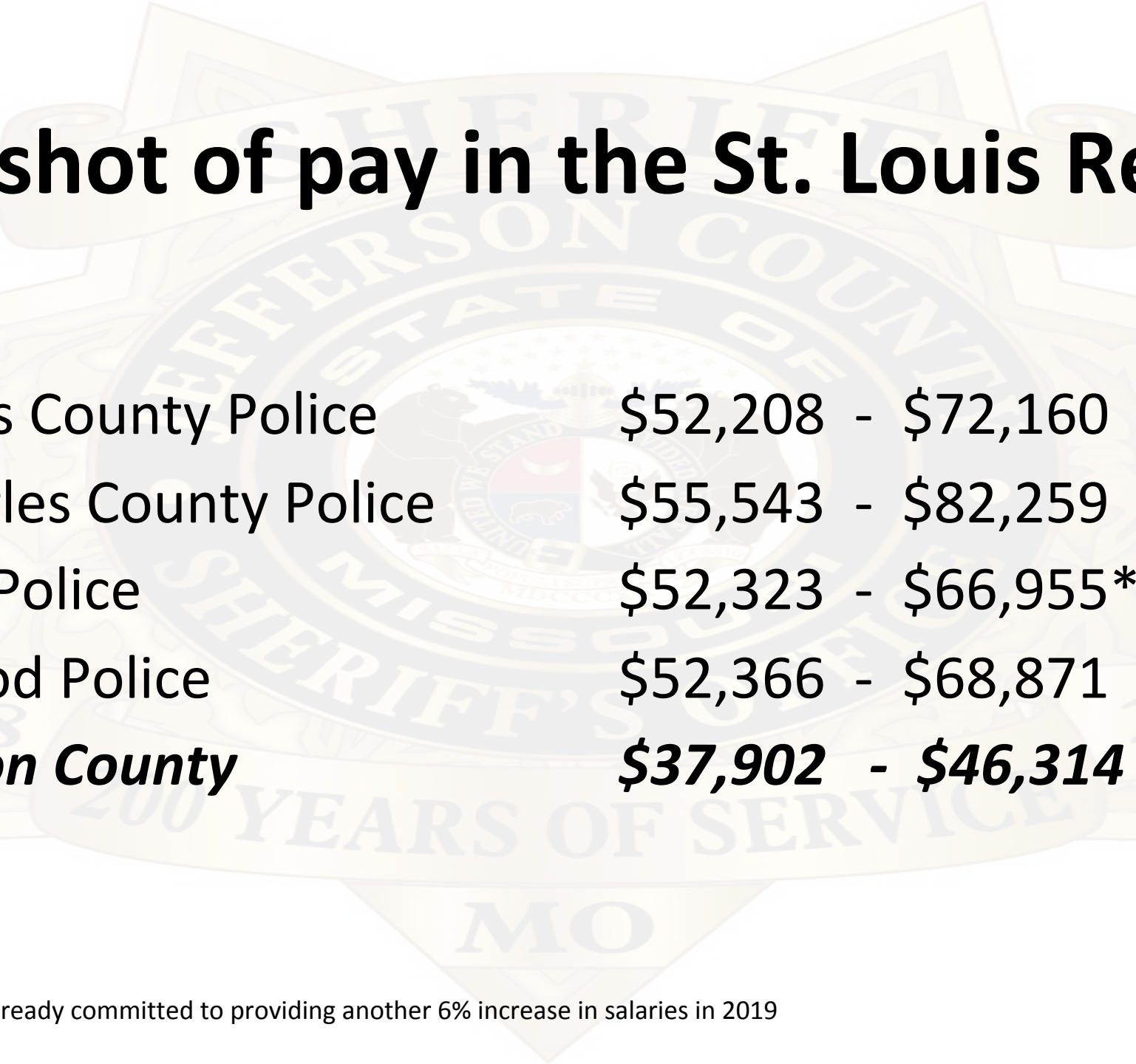
# Fewer and Fewer are entering or profession

- Academy classes are a fraction of the sizes they were in the past
  - In 2017 the Jefferson College Law Enforcement had a class that only graduated (6) recruits.
  - The Missouri State Highway Patrol has cancelled academy classes
- Fewer and fewer qualified candidates are entering the profession
- Police Officers are in high-demand, thus can command higher wages than in the past.

# The realities of Hiring and Retaining Deputies

- The Sheriff's Office is struggling to retain it's great employees
  - 3 Deputies resigned in February alone to work for higher paying agencies
  - 1 employee who recently left revealed he had been unable to afford health insurance for his wife for the previous year and had to leave for a higher paying department.
  - Currently down 10 deputies
- Difficulty recruiting new deputies
  - Limited back-up, many recruits fear for their safety when considering us because of limited manpower
  - High Call volume (Over 50,000 calls for service annually)
  - We pay amongst the lowest in the St. Louis Region
- Background investigations for potential hires are troubling
  - Some candidates background investigations have revealed a history of: Thefts, Burglaries, Stealing, Prescription Drug Abuse, Cocaine Use, Prostitution, Multiple DWI's
  - We refuse to reduce standards to fill positions

# Snapshot of pay in the St. Louis Region

The background features a large, faint watermark of the Sheriff's Office seal. The seal is circular with a central emblem and the text "SHERIFF'S OFFICE" and "SHERIFFSON COUNTY MISSOURI" around the perimeter. Below the seal, a banner reads "200 YEARS OF SERVICE" and "MO" is visible at the bottom.





\*The City of Arnold has already committed to providing another 6% increase in salaries in 2019



# Changes were made in 2017

- January 2017, Lieutenants and Sergeants previously assigned to administrative positions were assigned to uniform patrol to add manpower and increase experience level.
- Provided deputies with less-lethal force option (Tasers) for the first time in 2017 which resulted in our **first decrease in Use of Force Incidents in three years.**
  - Expected to reduce officers injuries by upwards of 70% and suspect injuries by 40%
- Provided deputies with email to communicate case information with the public (deputies were not authorized email prior to 2017).
- Began re-negotiating service contracts (food services, etc.) within the jail to reduce the financial burden of operating the jail.
- Provided much needed emotional survival training to commissioned personnel.



# Changes were made in 2017

- In the Summer of 2018 we will began an online reporting program.
  - Reduced response to citizens for minor offenses
  - Citizens who do online reporting will not have to pay for a copy of the report
- Jail contracts (telephone service, commissary, etc.) have been re-worked or are in the process of being re-worked to ensure more money comes to the sheriff's office to help offset the costs of housing 300-350 inmates daily.
- Summer of 2018 re-work how we provide food service and meal choices to inmates
  - Overhaul everything!
  - Fewer hot meals
  - (Conservative) savings of \$150,000

# Thank You



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