



BURKE COUNTY 
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

BURKE COUNTY SHERIFF

ALFONZO WILLIAMS



2024
ANNUAL
REPORT

*"THE BEST WAY TO FIND
YOURSELF IS TO LOSE YOURSELF
IN THE SERVICE OF OTHERS."*

-MAHATMA GANDHI-

BURKE COUNTY 
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

225 GA Highway 24, Waynesboro, GA 30830
(706) 554-2133





2024 Annual Report Designed By:
Deputy Ryan Krafthefer
Media Content Specialist



BURKE COUNTY AT A GLANCE

**ESTABLISHED
IN 1777**

**836
SQUARE MILES**

**POPULATION
OF 24,442**

Burke County, Georgia, located in the eastern part of the state, is known for its rich agricultural heritage, historic sites, and rural charm. Founded in 1777, it is one of Georgia's oldest counties, featuring a mix of small towns and farmlands. Major towns in Burke County include Waynesboro, the county seat and the "Bird Dog Capital of the World," known for its historic charm and community events; Sardis, a small town with a close-knit, rural atmosphere; Midville, near the Ogeechee River, popular for fishing and boating; Girard, with a strong agricultural background; and Keysville, known for its peaceful landscapes. The Ogeechee River borders the county, providing recreational opportunities, while the community's caring, family-oriented culture is evident through local events and services.



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A Message From

Sheriff Alfonso Williams

Dear Citizens of Burke County,

As we approach the end of another year, I want to take a moment to reflect on our journey together and express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support during a challenging campaign season. Achieving 72% of the votes is not just resounding victory; it is a testament to the trust and confidence you have placed in the Sheriff's Office to keep our beloved community safe. For that, I thank you.

Hurricane Helene, recognized as the most devastating storm to hit Georgia in decades, posed a significant challenge. Our team demonstrated remarkable resilience as we collaborated with Dr. Angela Williams and the Burke County Public School System, Sheriff Freeman and the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office, along with various local business partners, to clear roadways, driveways, and other affected areas for those in need. We also assisted churches throughout the county that lacked the financial means to manage their cleanup efforts. We were able to feed the community hot meals, provide toiletries, pet food, ice, tarps, and other supplies.

This year has been marked by our tireless efforts to address the pressing issues affecting law enforcement both here at home and across the nation. We have focused on recruitment, hiring, and retention by implementing the latest and best practices from accredited certification standards. These initiatives ensure that we are not only attracting top talent but also retaining experienced personnel who are dedicated to serving you.

Technological advancements have played a crucial role in our strategy to enhance public safety. We have invested in professional development and training, particularly in handling the challenges posed by fentanyl and other drug addictions, as well as addressing the mental health needs of those we encounter in our line of duty. Our commitment to providing the best team with the highest level of experience available to Burke County remains steadfast.

A Message From
Sheriff Alfonzo Williams

In our pursuit of building mutual trust and respect between law enforcement and our community, we proudly completed 115 community service events this past year. These initiatives not only strengthen our resolve but also foster deeper connections with you, the citizens we serve. We are dedicated to engaging in the latest best practices to minimize civil liability, equipping our officers with greater training and exposure to emerging standards in the field.

As we continue to embrace technology, we have incorporated tools such as Flock cameras, gang intelligence software, aerial drones, and body cameras to enhance our operations. These innovations help us maintain transparency and accountability while effectively addressing crime in our neighborhoods.

Our commitment to community health is evident through our recent health fair, conducted in partnership with Communities in Schools and various nonprofit organizations. Together, we spread vital messages about drug prevention, particularly concerning the dangers of fentanyl, marijuana use, and vaping.

I am pleased to report that our crime statistics continue to fall well below state and national averages for both Part One and Part Two crimes, with a remarkable 37% reduction in crime compared to data from 2023. This achievement speaks volumes about our collective efforts and the resilience of our community.

As we look ahead to 2025, we will build upon the successes of 2024, further fostering relationships across our communities. We are committed to the continued professional development of our personnel and working towards a safer, more connected Burke County.

Thank you for your support, trust, and partnership. Together, we will ensure that Burke County remains a safe and vibrant place to live, work, and raise our families.

Warm regards,

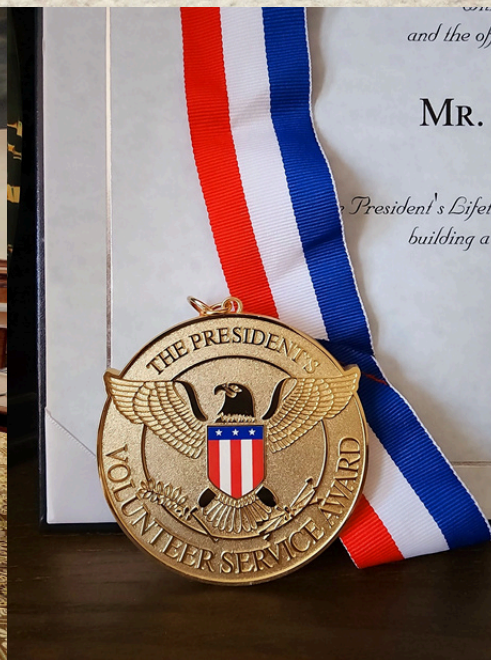
Sheriff Alfonzo Williams
Burke County Sheriff's Office





In 2024, Sheriff Alfonzo Williams was honored with the President's Lifetime Achievement Award, the highest distinction within the President's Volunteer Service Award Program. This prestigious recognition is awarded to individuals who have dedicated at least 4,000 documented volunteer service hours to their communities, exemplifying an extraordinary commitment to service and making a lasting impact.

The award was presented to Sheriff Williams by Georgia State Representative L.C. Myles and his wife, Dr. Sharron Brown, in acknowledgment of his unwavering dedication to improving the lives of those in Burke County and beyond. This honor highlights Sheriff Williams's lifelong commitment to serving and uplifting the community.



2024 SHERIFF ELECTION



In the 2024 election for the position of Sheriff, Alfonzo Williams (Incumbent, Democrat) secured re-election with a decisive victory, receiving a total of 7,279 votes (72.08%). His votes were distributed as follows: 2,917 on Election Day, 3,933 during Advance Voting, and 429 through Absentee by Mail.

Write-in candidates collectively garnered 2,823 votes (27.96%), with their totals including 1,002 votes on Election Day, 1,737 during Advance Voting, and 84 through Absentee by Mail.

The election saw a total of 10,098 votes cast, with all 16 precincts fully reporting. These results reaffirm Alfonzo Williams' leadership and continued service as Sheriff for another term.

2024 ELECTION STATISTICS

Write-in Votes:

- Election Day: 2,917 votes
- Advance Voting: 3,933 votes
- Absentee by Mail: 429 votes
- Total Votes: 7,279 (72.08%)
- Election Day: 1,002 votes
- Advance Voting: 1,737 votes
- Absentee by Mail: 84 votes
- Total Votes: 2,823 (27.96%)
- Total Votes Cast: 10,098

BURKE COUNTY 
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
RETIREES
2024



MARY KELLY
15 YEARS



FANNIE JOHNSON
11 YEARS



JOHNIE WRIGHT
14 YEARS

LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS' CODE OF ETHICS

As a Law Enforcement Officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all men to liberty, equality, and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department.

Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice, or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.


I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held as long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession.



 **COL. CHAD PLUEGER**
FIELD OPERATIONS

 **COL. LEE WEBSTER**
AUXILIARY SERVICES

 **COL. JIMMY WYLD**
DETENTION & COURT SERVICES

 **RICHARD ELIM**
CHIEF OF STAFF

 **MAJ. BEN HARMAN**
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

 **MAJ. JASON VINSON**
NARCOTICS, GANGS

 **MAJ. DEDRIC SMITH**
DETENTION CENTER

 **MAJ. BRANDON REEVES**
FIELD OPERATIONS



BURKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

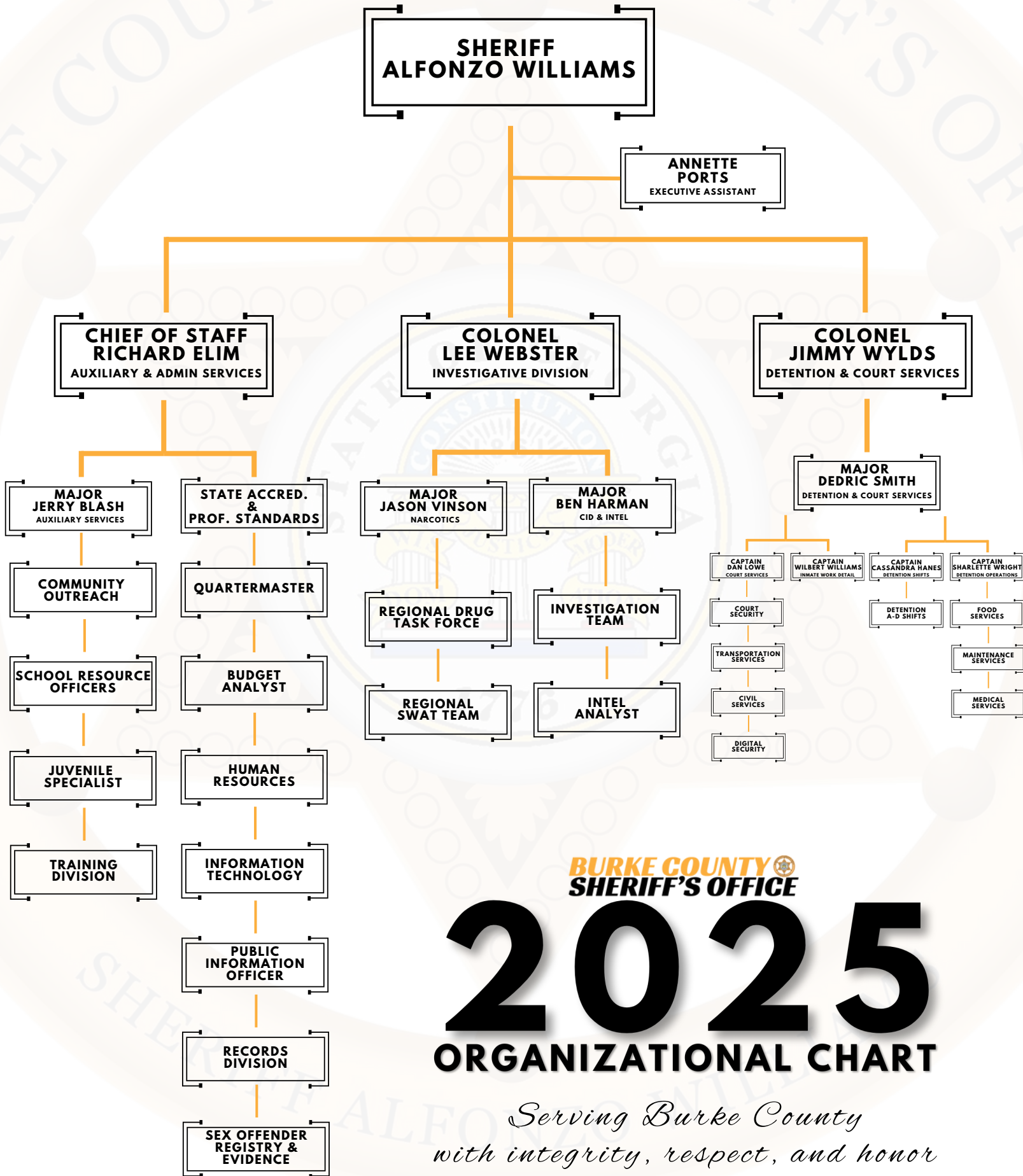


MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF THE BURKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IS TO FOSTER A STRONG PARTNERSHIP WITH ITS EMPLOYEES, RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES, COMMUNITY LEADERS, AND ALL INDIVIDUALS WHO LIVE, WORK, VISIT, HUNT, PLAY, OR LEARN IN OUR COMMUNITIES. OUR COMMITMENT EXTENDS TO SAFEGUARDING LIVES AND PROPERTY, ADDRESSING SOCIETAL CHALLENGES, AND PROMOTING SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ECONOMIC, AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL MEMBERS OF BURKE COUNTY.

VISION STATEMENT

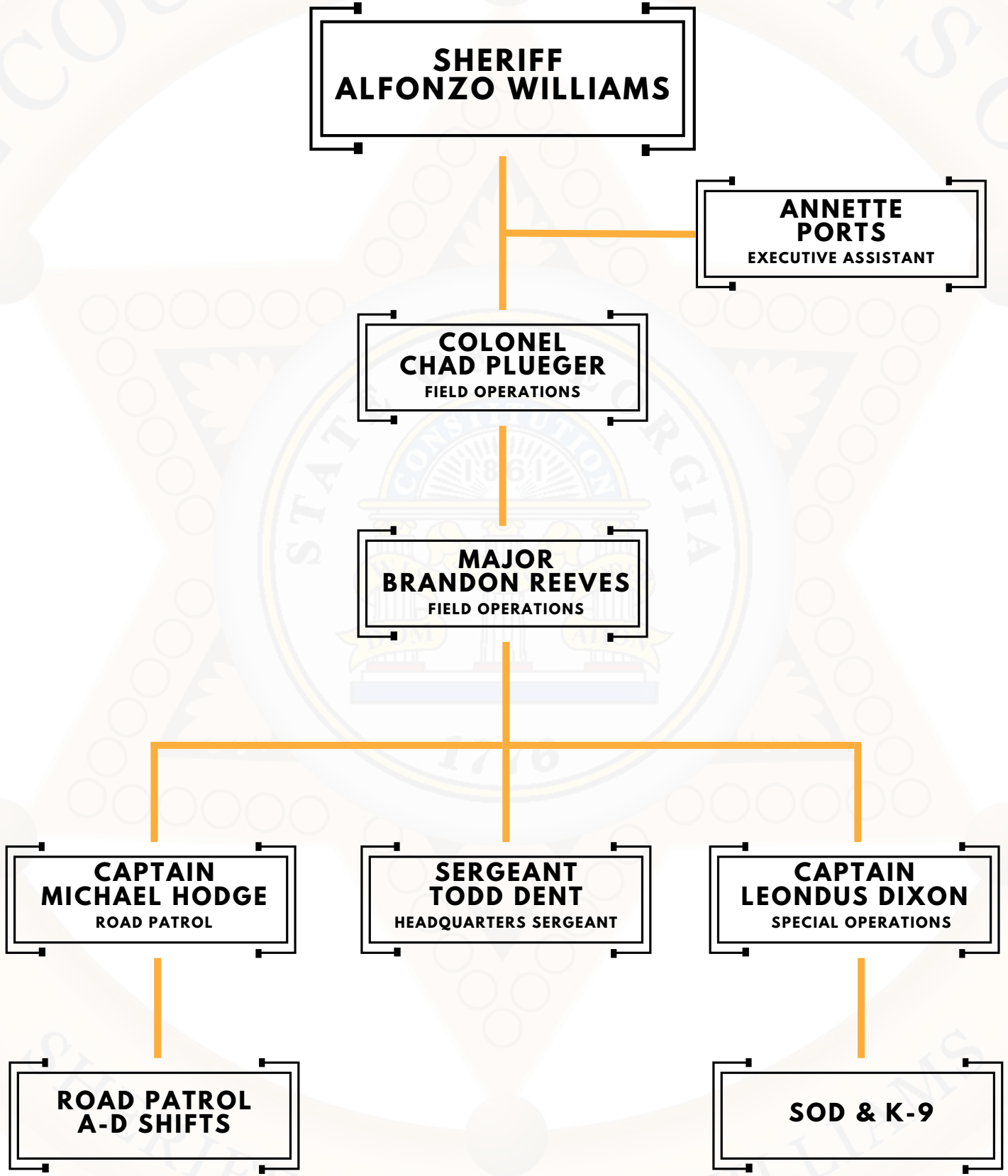
THE BURKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IS COMMITTED TO LEADING ITS PROFESSION BY UTILIZING THE LATEST AND MOST COST-EFFECTIVE METHODS TO DELIVER EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF BURKE COUNTY. WE PRIORITIZE BUILDING AND MAINTAINING POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH THOSE WE SERVE TO ENSURE TRUST AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.



BURKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

2025 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Serving Burke County with integrity, respect, and honor





The Field Operations Division encompasses several key functions, including road patrol, traffic enforcement, school resource officers, community outreach, records management, and the sex offender registry.

Deputies within this division are responsible for providing both emergency response in life-threatening situations and non-emergency assistance to the community. The road patrol unit, also known as the uniformed patrol, operates on two 12-hour shifts. Each shift is overseen by a lieutenant, sergeant, and corporal, with deputies assigned to specific zones throughout Burke County to ensure effective coverage and rapid response.

Field Operations deputies deliver a broad range of law enforcement services, demonstrating a commitment to the safety and well-being of Burke County residents. The division is led by Colonel Chad Plueger.



COL. CHAD PLUEGER
FIELD OPERATIONS

FIELD OPERATIONS STATISTICS

Computer Aided Dispatch Events	Incident Reports	Misc. Reports	Felonies	Misdemeanors	Family Violence
68,883	1,029	1,583	136	102	180





The Burke County Sheriff's Office Traffic Division is dedicated to ensuring the safety and efficiency of roadways throughout the county. This division focuses on enforcing traffic laws, investigating motor vehicle accidents, and educating the public on safe driving practices.

Deputies assigned to the Traffic Division are specially trained to identify and address hazardous driving behaviors, including speeding, impaired driving, and distracted driving. Through proactive enforcement and community engagement, the division works to reduce accidents and promote responsible driving habits.

Additionally, the Traffic Division provides support for special events and coordinates efforts with other agencies, such as the Governor's Office of Highway Safety and Georgia State Patrol, ensure public safety on the roadways.

TRAFFIC DIVISION STATS

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Crashes	1,009	859	570	585	648
Crashes w/ Injuries	69	72	70	70	163
Total Injured	108	104	98	98	229
Fatal Crashes	6	9	4	7	7
Total Number of Fatalities	7	10	5	8	7
Commercial Motor Vehicle Crashes	34	25	19	35	36
Property Damage Reports	934	778	412	447	480
Hit and Run Crashes	60	73	16	48	28

95

DUI RELATED

74

DISTRACTED DRIVING

1328

SPEEDING

354

SEAT BELT

2813

CITATIONS

5639

WARNINGS





The Burke County Sheriff's Office Crime Suppression Team is a specialized unit focused on proactively addressing criminal activity and enhancing public safety throughout the community.

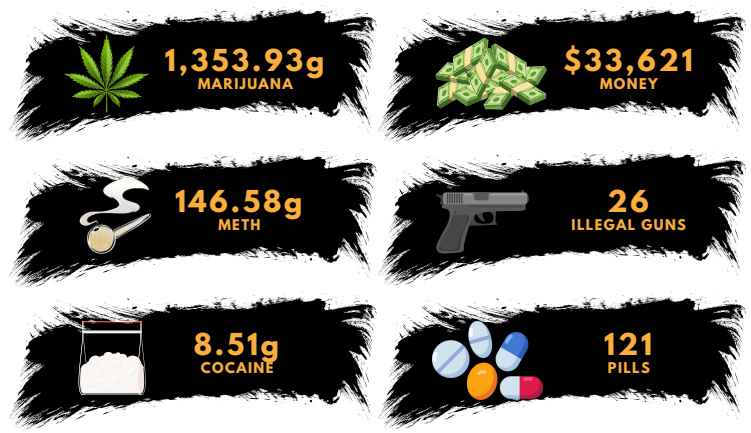
This team, lead by Captain Leondus Dixon, is tasked with identifying and targeting high-crime areas, investigating ongoing criminal patterns, and disrupting illegal activities such as drug trafficking, gang-related offenses, and property crimes. The team's efforts are bolstered by the use of a highly trained K-9, which plays a vital role in narcotics detection, suspect apprehension, and area searches.

Working closely with other divisions and community partners, the Crime Suppression Team employs intelligence-driven strategies, advanced investigative techniques, and the unique capabilities of the K-9 to prevent crime and apprehend offenders. Their work ensures a safer environment for all residents while strengthening trust between law enforcement and the community.



CRIME SUPPRESSION STATS

Total Contacts	2,923
Traffic Stops	1,594
Vehicle Searches	606
Citations	402
Warnings	1317
Warrants/Arrests	156
Drug Cases	140
K-9 Deployments	379

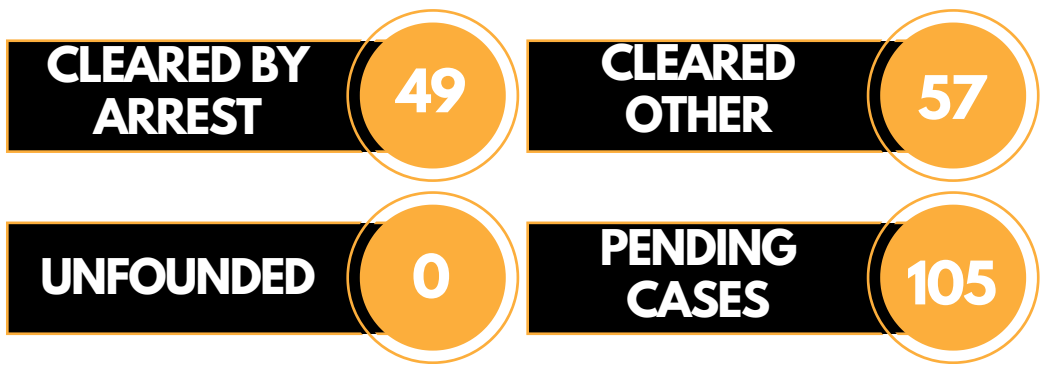
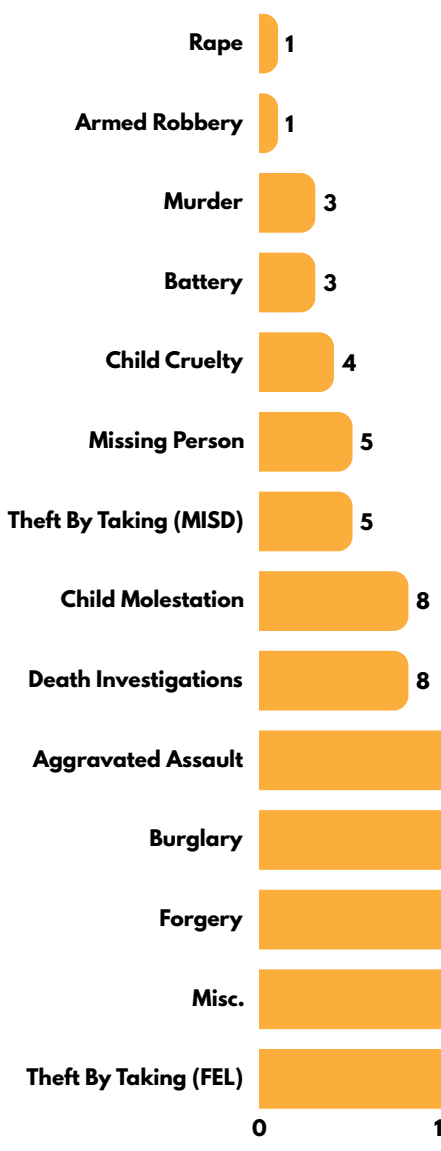




The Criminal Investigations Division is responsible for investigating all crimes, both felonies and misdemeanors, occurring within unincorporated areas of Burke County.

This division includes specialized units such as Narcotics and Gangs, which focus on addressing specific criminal activities. From January 1 to November 2024, the division was assigned 211 cases, of which 106 were successfully cleared by arrest or other means, such as the victim not prosecuting, or being turned over to another agency.

The Criminal Investigations Division operates under the leadership of Major Ben Harman, ensuring thorough and professional investigative services to the community.





MAJ. JASON VINSON
NARCOTICS & GANGS

The Burke County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Division is dedicated to combating illegal drug activity and reducing its impact on the community. This specialized division focuses on identifying, investigating, and dismantling drug trafficking operations and other narcotics-related crimes within Burke County.

Deputies in the Narcotics Division conduct undercover operations, surveillance, and collaborative efforts with state and federal agencies to target offenders and intercept illegal substances. In addition to enforcement, the division plays a key role in educating the public about the dangers of drug abuse and supporting community initiatives aimed at prevention and rehabilitation.

Through these efforts, the Narcotics Division works to enhance public safety and promote a healthier, drug-free community.

AMOUNT SEIZED



\$243,872
MONEY



57
ILLEGAL GUNS



25
VEHICLES

WEIGHT SEIZED



10,890.5g
MARIJUANA



21,771.6g
METH



6,741.6g
COCAINE



MAJ. JASON VINSON
SRT COMMANDER

The Burke County Sheriff's Office Special Response Team (SRT) is a highly trained tactical unit designed to handle high-risk situations that exceed the capabilities of standard law enforcement units.

The SRT specializes in critical incidents such as hostage rescues, barricaded subjects, high-risk warrant services, and active shooter scenarios. Team members undergo rigorous training in advanced tactics, weapons handling, and crisis negotiation to ensure swift and effective responses to dangerous situations. The SRT also collaborates with other divisions and agencies during large-scale operations and public safety events.

By maintaining readiness and employing precision strategies, the Special Response Team plays a vital role in protecting the community and resolving complex incidents safely.



CRIMES PART I

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
HOMICIDE	1	1	2	0	1
RAPE	1	0	1	0	0
ROBBERY	8	1	2	1	1
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	20	11	8	6	6
BURGLARY	62	33	22	22	8
LARCENY AUTO	59	18	10	4	3
LARCENY OTHER	129	84	58	61	42
VEHICLE THEFT	24	21	16	21	8
ARSON	6	1	0	3	1
TOTAL	310	170	117	118	70

CRIMES PART II

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
OTHER ASSAULTS	147	129	109	120	121
FORGERY/COUNTERFEITING	9	4	5	12	4
FRAUD	28	20	14	24	20
EMBEZZLEMENT	0	1	0	0	0
STOLEN PROPERTY	4	2	0	1	0
VANDALISM	18	24	22	24	15
WEAPONS	33	30	14	28	22
PROSTITUTION	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER SEX OFFENSES	4	3	7	1	1
NARCOTICS	8	5	4	10	7
GAMBLING	0	0	0	0	0
FAMILY/CHILDREN	6	25	12	11	18
DUI	56	65	29	45	71
LIQUOR LAWS	0	0	0	0	0
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	25	6	4	18	21
TOTAL	338	314	220	265	300



The Burke County Sheriff's Office Detention Service is responsible for the safe, secure, and humane management of individuals in custody within the Burke County Detention Center.

The division ensure the orderly operation of the facility while maintaining compliance with local, state, and federal regulations. Detention officers are tasked with the care, custody, and control of inmates, overseeing daily activities such as housing, meals, medical care, and rehabilitation programs. Additionally, the division facilitates inmate transportation to court appearances and coordinates with other law enforcement agencies for transfers.

By upholding strict standards of professionalism and accountability, Detention Services supports public safety and contributes to the justice system's effective operation.

“THE DETENTION CENTER RENOVATION PROJECT”

The initial stages of a comprehensive renovation project for the Detention Center are now underway, focusing on addressing critical concerns related to security, overcrowding, and outdated facilities. This initiative aims to create a safer and more efficient environment for both staff and inmates. By enhancing security measures, we seek to mitigate risks and ensure the safety of all individuals within the facility. Tackling overcrowding will improve living conditions, promote better health standards, and support the overall rehabilitation process for inmates. Upgrading outdated infrastructure will provide staff with the modern tools and resources needed to perform their duties effectively and with confidence. This project underscores our commitment to fostering a secure, humane, and operationally efficient detention center that aligns with current standards and future needs.

1,068

TOTAL INMATES BOOKED IN 2024

BY AGE

20 and under	21 to 30	31 to 40	41 to 50	51 to 60	61 and over	Unspecified
102	284	283	162	94	72	1

BY GENDER

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Male	708	709	684	813	804
Female	224	178	168	214	260
Unspecified	0	1	3	4	4
TOTAL	932	888	855	1,031	1,068

2

AVERAGE BOOKINGS PER DAY









The Auxiliary Services Division oversees critical functions including Training, Procurement, Fleet Management, and Information Technology. This division primarily serves to support the operational needs of the Burke County Sheriff's Office as a whole.

Training remains a core focus, ensuring deputies are well-prepared to serve the community with professionalism and expertise. Fleet Management ensures that agency vehicles are properly maintained and operational, while Procurement is responsible for securing necessary equipment and resources at the best possible value.

The Auxiliary Services Division operates efficiently under dedicated leadership, supporting the Sheriff's Office's mission of excellence in service to the community.

Mandated Training Course Highlights

-  **FIREARMS**
-  **COMMUNITY POLICING**
-  **DEADLY FORCE**
-  **GANG AWARENESS**
-  **DE-ESCALATION**
-  **HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

Special Training Recognition

- Sgt. Charles Schofield
Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Certification
- Lt. Cory Barrs
Firearm Instructor Certification

10,319

Training Hours in 2024

Field Training Officer Certifications

- Cpl. Aaliyah Correa
200 Shift
- Sgt. Charles Gunn
400 Shift
- Dep. Tyler May
Traffic Division

DISCLAIMER

In the 2024 Annual Report, the Total Training Hours amounted to 10,319, reflecting a decrease compared to 10,518 in 2022 and 10,814 in 2023. This reduction can be attributed to two vacancies in training staff and a county-imposed hiring freeze, which prevented the timely re-staffing of these positions despite having experienced candidates available. These circumstances, beyond the control of the Burke County Sheriff's Office, resulted in a gap of over three months in training, along with a re-orientation period once a re-hire was made. It is important to note that, under normal circumstances with adequate staffing and a full year of training schedules, the Total Yearly Training Hours for 2024 would likely have increased. This disclaimer provides context for understanding the reported figures.



The Court Services Division plays a critical role in ensuring the safety and efficiency of judicial operations within Burke County.

This division is responsible for providing comprehensive security at the Burke County Judicial Center, ensuring a secure environment for judges, staff, attorneys, and the public. Court Services also facilitates the safe and timely transport of inmates to and from the Judicial Center for court proceedings, as well as coordinating inmate transfers from other counties and states.

By maintaining a strong focus on security and operational logistics, the Court Services Division supports the effective functioning of the judicial system while prioritizing the safety of all involved.

COURTHOUSE ENTRY SCREENINGS BY YEAR

2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
31,897	34,552	34,073	39,270	36,805

420

PROHIBITED ITEMS FOUND

Guns Detected	1
Knives Detected	312
OC Spray Detected	57
Other	50

303

TRANSPORTS MADE

Housed	209
Prison	76
Medical	18
Mental	0

993

WEBEX HEARINGS

Superior & State Court	Magistrate Court
364 Cases	629 Cases



SUPERIOR COURT

DELIVERED		DUE SEARCH		RETURNED	
Summons	172	Summons	43	Summons	23
Subpoenas	128	Subpoenas	31	Subpoenas	0
Grand Jury	278	Grand Jury	0	Grand Jury	0
Garnishments	6	Garnishments	0	Garnishments	0
FIFA	16	FIFA	0	FIFA	0
Dispossessory	1	Dispossessory	0	Dispossessory	0

MAGISTRATE COURT

DELIVERED		DUE SEARCH		RETURNED	
Summons	622	Summons	94	Summons	71
Subpoenas	265	Subpoenas	55	Subpoenas	32
Writ	113	Writ	0	Writ	0
Garnishments	6	Garnishments	1	Garnishments	0
FIFA	56	FIFA	0	FIFA	0
Dispossessory	266	Dispossessory	0	Dispossessory	1

STATE COURT

DELIVERED		DUE SEARCH		RETURNED	
Summons	122	Summons	41	Summons	27
Subpoenas	436	Subpoenas	54	Subpoenas	38
Writ	5	Writ	0	Writ	0
Garnishments	7	Garnishments	0	Garnishments	0
FIFA	19	FIFA	0	FIFA	0
Dispossessory	24	Dispossessory	0	Dispossessory	1

JUVENILE COURT

DELIVERED		DUE SEARCH		RETURNED	
Subpoenas	370	Subpoenas	8	Subpoenas	5
Court Orders	14	Court Orders	0	Court Orders	0
TPO	28	TPO	0	TPO	2
Divorce	12	Divorce	0	Divorce	1
Child Support	113	Child Support	15	Child Support	24
Probate	13	Probate	0	Probate	0

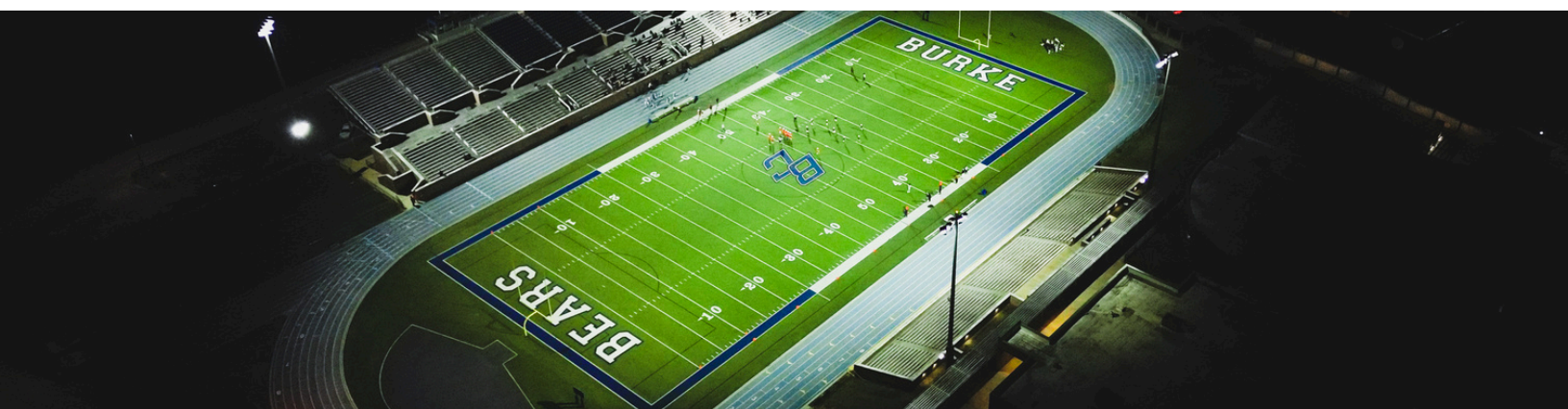


The Role of the SROs

SROs are not just enforcers of the law—they serve as mentors, educators, and critical safety figures within the school environment. The training is structured to ensure SROs have the knowledge and skills to handle emergencies, provide preventative education, and help build a positive relationship between law enforcement and the school community.

40+ Hours Training and Readiness

- **Gang Awareness:** Officers are trained to identify gang activity, recognize warning signs, and address gang-related issues within the school setting. This includes understanding gang culture, behaviors, and recruitment tactics.
- **Building Clearing and Active Shooter Training:** SROs are trained in building clearing techniques, simulating real-life emergency scenarios like active shooter situations. They practice working with other law enforcement agencies and school personnel in handling such crises quickly and effectively.
- **School Bus Assaults:** Handling incidents involving school buses, from physical altercations to safety breaches.
- **CPR/First Aid**
- **Narcan (Naloxone) Training**
- **Fentanyl Awareness**
- **De-escalation Techniques**





C.H.A.M.P.S. Program

Led by Lieutenant Michael Munro, the C.H.A.M.P.S. (Choosing Healthy Activities and Methods Promoting Safety) program targets 5th-grade students, providing education on several important topics to keep them safe and aware of risks. Some of the key components of the program include:

- **Drugs Education:** Teaching students about the dangers of both over-the-counter and illegal drugs, including how to spot them, their effects, and why to avoid them.
- **Home Alone and Abduction Awareness:** Empowering students with strategies for staying safe when they are home alone, as well as how to recognize potential abduction risks and how to react in dangerous situations.
- **Water Safety:** Education on water safety, such as swimming safety, recognizing dangerous water conditions, and practicing safe behaviors around pools, lakes, and oceans.
- **ATV (All-Terrain Vehicle) Safety:** Teaching students how to safely operate or be around ATVs and other vehicles, emphasizing proper usage, safety gear, and the dangers of reckless behavior.
- **Leader vs. Follower:** A leadership lesson focusing on the importance of making good decisions and understanding the difference between being a leader and following negative influences.

325 Students graduated from the program!

(EBA, SGA, and Blakeney Elementary)





C.A.H.O.O.T.S PROGRAM

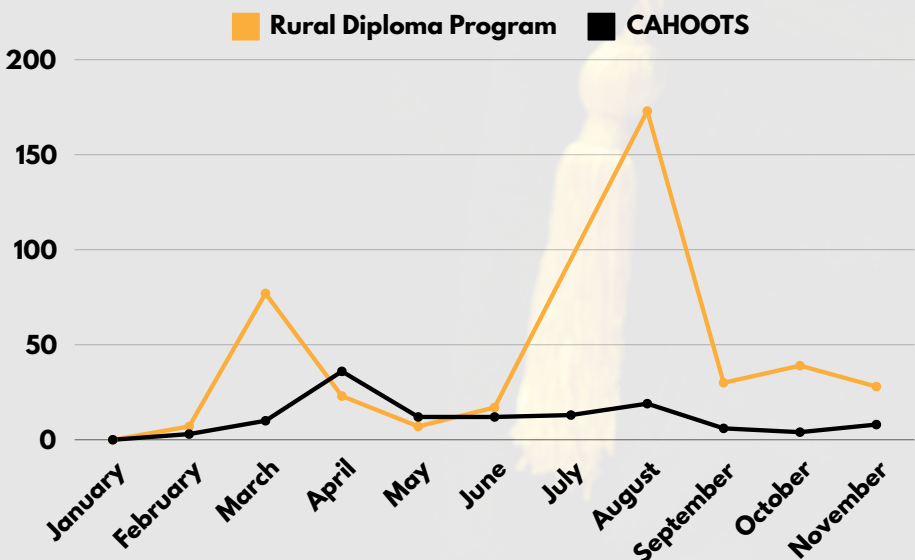
LifeSkills Reimagined is an evidence-based curriculum designed to empower at-risk youth by fostering personal growth, emotional resilience, and practical life skills. Launched in June with counseling services and fully implemented by September, the program enrolled 9 participants who were dual-enrolled in LifeSkills Reimagined and the Rural Communities Diploma Program for a holistic approach to education and development. Of this initial cohort, 5 participants graduated in October, achieving a 55% graduation rate.

Aligned with Burke IMPACT goals, the program addresses three key areas: reducing violent behaviors through emotional management and decision-making training (supporting the Cure Violence model); equipping participants with social-emotional and practical skills to address systemic challenges (aligned with the CAHOOTS rural-based model); and teaching job readiness, personal finance, and independent living skills to break socio-economic barriers alongside the Rural Communities Diploma Program. With measurable outcomes, including a 60% increase in knowledge and a 50% increase in participant confidence, LifeSkills Reimagined is a cornerstone of Burke IMPACT's mission to reduce violence and improve opportunities for at-risk youth.

RURAL DIPLOMA PROGRAM

The Public Safety and Community Violence Reduction Grant Program is a comprehensive initiative aimed at reducing youth violence through collaborative efforts between law enforcement and community-based support systems like CAHOOTS (Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets). By providing law enforcement with specialized training, advanced technology, and essential equipment, the program enhances public safety and addresses community violence proactively. It also tackles the root causes of youth involvement in crime by integrating social services and mental health counseling. A key element of the initiative is the Rural Diploma Program, which improves educational outcomes for youth in underserved rural areas by reducing dropout rates and promoting education as a pathway away from crime. Additionally, the program emphasizes community policing to build trust and cooperation between law enforcement and residents. Through these multifaceted approaches, the program aims to create safer, more supportive environments for at-risk youth in both urban and rural communities.

INQUIRIES PER PROGRAM



The Rural Diploma Program experienced significant increases from the first half (January–July) to the second half (August–November) of 2024:

- Total Inquiries: **Increased by 106.11%**
- Total Intakes: **Increased by 755.00%**
- Total Enrollments: **Increased by 630.00%**
- Total Graduates: **Increased by 116.67%**

These figures highlight the program's rapid growth and expanded impact in the second half of the year.



RURAL COMMUNITIES DIPLOMA PROGRAM TEAM
Left to Right: Shameka Jones, Patricia Barber, Rasham Parker, Sgt. Antonio Young

COUNTIES SERVED

- BURKE**
- RICHMOND**
- JEFFERSON**
- COLUMBIA**





The Budget Analyst position within the Burke County Sheriff's Office is essential for ensuring the effective allocation and management of financial resources. This role involves analyzing budgetary needs, preparing financial reports, and monitoring expenditures to ensure compliance with county policies and fiscal regulations. The Budget Analyst works closely with department leadership to develop annual budgets, identify cost-saving opportunities, and forecast financial trends to support strategic decision-making.

By maintaining accurate financial records and providing data-driven insights, the Budget Analyst helps ensure the Sheriff's Office operates efficiently while meeting the needs of the community.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE
\$7.9 MILLION
BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Salaries, Overtime, & Benefits	\$5,543,000.00
Gasoline	\$362,800.00
Veh. Repairs	\$237,200.00
Contracted Services	\$146,750.00
Equipment & Uniforms	\$79,422.00
Comms & Software	\$125,942.00
Dues, Fees, Rewards, & Advertising	\$5,296.00
Training & Travel	\$31,010.00



DETENTION CENTER
\$4.4 MILLION

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Salaries, Overtime, & Benefits

\$2,276,000.00

Repairs & Maint.

\$28,487.00

Inmate Medical & Food

\$295,000.00

Equipment & Uniforms

\$66,600.00

Comms & Software

\$17,967.00

Training & Travel

\$10,132.00

Utilities

\$183,740.00

Site Improvements

\$264,814.00

The Records Division of the Burke County Sheriff's Office plays a vital role in supporting the department's mission to serve and protect the community.

This division is responsible for maintaining, organizing, and securing a comprehensive database of law enforcement records, including incident reports, accident reports, arrest records, and other essential documentation. By ensuring accurate and efficient record-keeping, the Records Division provides critical support to law enforcement operations, legal proceedings, and public safety initiatives. Additionally, the division facilitates public access to certain records in compliance with state and federal laws, promoting transparency and trust within the community.



KIM BRISCOE
RECORDS MANAGER

Through meticulous data management and adherence to confidentiality standards, the Records Division serves as a cornerstone of the Sheriff's Office, enabling informed decision-making and seamless coordination across various law enforcement and judicial functions.

489

**WARRANTS
ENTERED**

4,125

**CRIMINAL HISTORIES
ENTERED**

479

**OPEN RECORD
REQUESTS**

OTHER RECORDED ITEMS

28

GUNS ENTERED

43

VEHICLES ENTERED

1

ARTICLES ENTERED

31

MISSING ENTERED



JOIN OUR TEAM

APPLY NOW!

✓ COMPREHENSIVE BENEFITS PACKAGE

- Health insurance to keep you and your family covered.
- A secure retirement plan to help you plan for the future.
- Paid vacation and sick leave to support your work-life balance.

✓ OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH

- Advance your career with clear pathways for promotion.
- Take advantage of professional development programs to enhance your skills and knowledge.

SCAN HERE!

BURKE COUNTY **SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

ARE YOU READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY WHILE
BUILDING A REWARDING CAREER?

THE BURKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IS HIRING, AND WE'RE OFFERING MORE
THAN JUST A JOB – WE'RE OFFERING A CAREER WITH PURPOSE AND
OPPORTUNITY!





**Sgt. Billy
Albright**



**Cpl. Aaliyah
Correa**



**Sgt. Trentin
Edgemon**



**Sgt. Charles
Gunn**



**Lt. Aaron
Hannsz**



**Cpt. Michael
Hodge**



Sgt. Michael Hickson



Cpl. Aldrina Kent



Cpl. Donald Lockhart



Cpl. Chris Rabun



Lt. Laura Turner

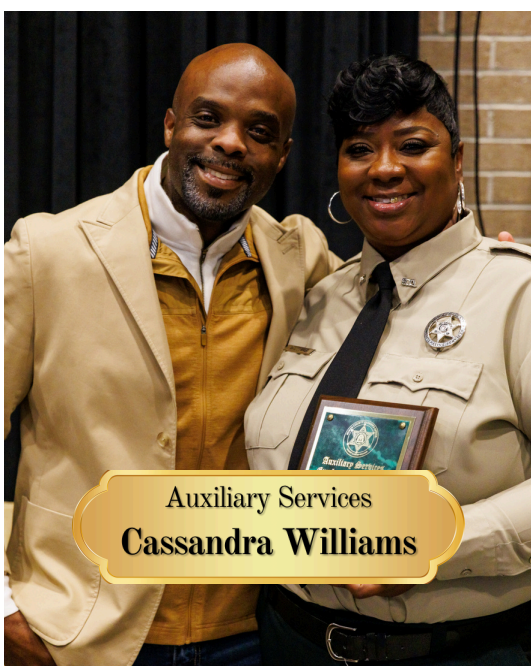
BURKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



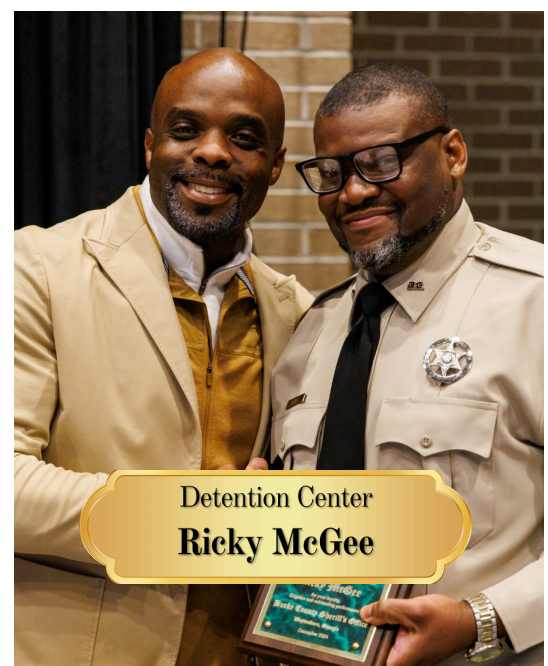
Citizen of the Year
Ryan Mobley



Court Services
Jennifer Williams



Auxiliary Services
Cassandra Williams



Detention Center
Ricky McGee



Employee of the Year
Chad Plueger



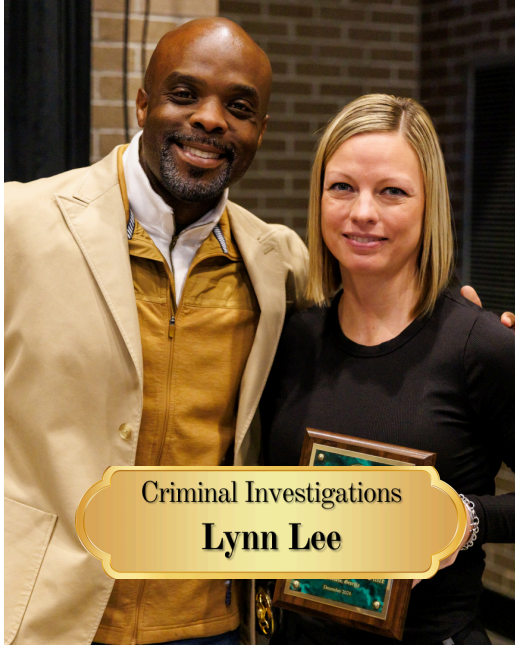
Road Patrol Deputy
Shannon Scott



School Resource Officer
Asheà Whitfield



Administrative Services
Annette Ports



Criminal Investigations
Lynn Lee



The Community Outreach Division is a cornerstone of the Burke County Sheriff's Office, fostering meaningful connections with citizens through a variety of events and programs. In 2024, the division participated in 114 community service events, including organizing the first-ever Community Christmas Carnival in Burke County, a milestone achievement. Guided by the principles of the Community Oriented Policing model, the division aims to build strong relationships with residents, provide educational and safety-related programs tailored to community needs, and remain actively involved in schools through drug resistance and mentoring initiatives.

The Community Outreach Team, led by Lieutenant Lexie Johnson, Deputy Chasity Miles, and Major Brandon Reeves, carries out its mission by developing and presenting innovative programs that address the evolving needs of the county while maintaining established prevention, safety, and educational efforts. Team members engage with various groups to share crime prevention strategies, distribute educational materials, and establish strong ties with neighborhoods. Through these efforts, the Community Outreach Division continues to enhance the safety, well-being, and unity of the Burke County community.





SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

360

**VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATED
IN EVENTS**

6,300

**ESTIMATED COMMUNITY
MEMBERS REACHED**

3

**FAMILIES HELPED WITH
HOUSE FIRE RECOVERY**
(ONE FAMILY BEING A DETENTION CENTER EMPLOYEE)

HURRICANE HELENE RELIEF SUMMARY

FOOD AND WATER DISTRIBUTION SITES

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4
Midville & Vidette	Keysville	Girard and Sardis	Hwy 25 at Winter Road

CRITICAL TEAMS FOR THE RELIEF EFFORTS

BURKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	FORSYTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	BCSO COOK TEAM
18 Members	17 Members	9 Members

SPECIAL EVENTS

- **HEALTHY HARVEST FESTIVAL: DISTRIBUTED 500 TURKEYS**
- **EASTER EGG HUNT: 11,000 EGGS HIDDEN FOR PARTICIPANTS**
- **COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL**



SENIOR COMMUNITY MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

This year, the Burke County Sheriff's Office proudly engaged with our senior community through several special visits to the Burke County Senior Citizen Center.

We kicked off the year with a fun-filled Bingo and Lunch, sharing laughs and camaraderie with our cherished seniors. During Halloween, we brought festive cheer with a lively Trunk or Treat, creating a joyful atmosphere for everyone. To close the year, we delivered holiday happiness by distributing Christmas presents, ensuring that the season was bright and memorable.

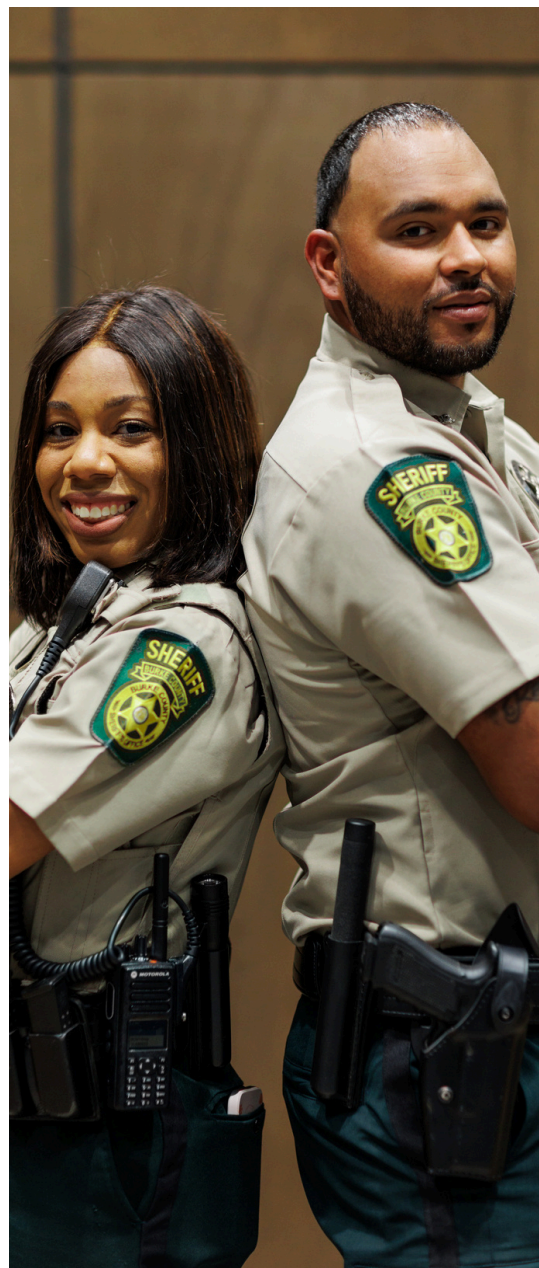
These moments reflect our dedication to fostering meaningful relationships and supporting all members of our community, and we look forward to continuing these cherished traditions in the future.



THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO PARTNERED WITH US THIS YEAR!

- UNITED WAY ● BURKE COUNTY RECREATION DEPARTMENT ● SHEPEARD BLOOD CENTER
- INGEVITY ● THE BLUFF PLANTATION ● A.R. JOHNSON MAGNET SCHOOL
- PRUITT HEALTH ● PINETUCKY GUN CLUB ● BRENTWOOD NURSING HOME
- KEYSVILLE NURSING HOME ● GREENS CUT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
- SOUTHERN BANK ● AUGUSTA TECHNICAL COLLEGE ● WAGON BARN
- PHILLIP GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH ● AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY (GEORGIA CANCER CENTER)
- COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARD OF MIDDLE GEORGIA ● APPLEWOOD GOLF COURSE
- BOSS HOG COOK-OFF ● FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF WAYNESBORO







Burke County, GA



THE RECOVERY OF HURRICANE HELENE



September 27th, 2024







K9 Halo
End of Watch
November 21, 2024

"To my faithful partner, Today has been the most difficult day of my career. I made the decision to end your pain and suffering, however I'm hurting far more than I anticipated. I already miss you, my girl. I remember picking you up from Quality K9 right before we began K-9 school together. My first impression wasn't accurate. I thought you were small and you appeared to be a bit timid at first glance. Nonetheless, we started K-9 school together in April of 2023. I quickly learned my initial assessment was wrong. You proved yourself to me time and time again. Your willingness to please me, your loyalty, and your fearlessness was very apparent as we progressed and graduated K-9 school.

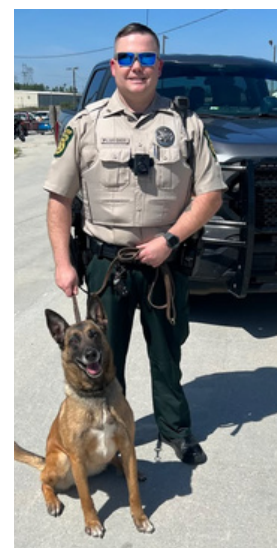
As a team, we had immediate success on the road. During our first week together, you successfully tracked and located a young child who wandered from her home, deep in the woods. Our skills and ability got better day in and day out from that point. Throughout our time, we located dozens of criminals, illegal narcotics, firearms, and other items, making the streets of Burke County safer. These arrests and finds wouldn't have been possible without you. You made me look like a superstar at times; truth be told, I was nothing more than the guy who held your leash. You brought joy to myself, our family, co-workers and to the citizens you served. I will be better in my career just from the time I had the pleasure to serve alongside you. When you get to heaven, find a police officer- and tell him that you are reporting for duty! Fly high Halo---- Never forgotten

A dog is a human's best friend. The unconditional love, The selflessness, the bond that is so true. The tail wags, the ear perks, the leaps of joy when they see their human, their person, tells the story in itself between a man and his dog. Halo, gained her wings last night after a tough battle with cancer. She dedicated her entire life to serve and protect. From a veteran who served in the military, to a K9 partner who worked alongside me day in and out.

Halo, you will be missed. I love you my girl!"

"Helen Vann Haus"
E.O.W 11/21/24

- Deputy Austin Plueger, Halo's Handler -



NEW DIVISION RECOGNITION



RICHARD ELIM
CHIEF OF STAFF

The Chief of Staff at the Burke County Sheriff's Office serves as a key advisor to the Sheriff and oversees the daily operations of the agency. This position is responsible for managing administrative tasks, coordinating with department heads, and ensuring the efficient implementation of policies and procedures. The Chief of Staff plays a critical role in strategic planning, resource allocation, and aligning the agency's goals with community needs. Additionally, they act as a central point of communication between the Sheriff's Office and external stakeholders, facilitating collaboration and maintaining transparency. Their leadership helps ensure that the agency operates effectively, supports staff development, and remains focused on delivering exceptional service to the community.



TERRANCE LAKES
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Information Technology (IT) position at the Burke County Sheriff's Office plays a critical role in maintaining and supporting the agency's technology infrastructure. This includes managing computer systems, ensuring secure network operations, and providing technical support to staff. The IT professional oversees the implementation of new software, maintains databases, and ensures all communication systems, such as radios and mobile data terminals, function seamlessly. Additionally, they work to safeguard sensitive information through robust cybersecurity measures and provide training to staff on utilizing technology effectively to enhance public safety operations.



MONIQUE WILLIAMS
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

The Public Information Officer (PIO) at the Burke County Sheriff's Office serves as the primary liaison between the agency and the community. This position is responsible for managing the dissemination of information through press releases, social media updates, media interviews, and visual content such as photos and videos. The PIO captures and curates high-quality photographs and videos to document community events, highlight agency initiatives, and support public safety campaigns. These visual assets are used to enhance communication, increase public engagement, and provide transparency during emergencies and daily operations. By fostering strong relationships with the community and media outlets, the PIO ensures the agency's activities are effectively communicated and its mission is well-represented.

BURKE COUNTY **SHERIFF'S OFFICE**



LIKE *and* **FOLLOW**



SCAN HERE

BURKE COUNTY **SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

BURKE COUNTY SHERIFF

ALFONZO WILLIAMS

To our cherished community in Burke County,

As we reflect on this past year, we are filled with gratitude for the resilience, unity, and unwavering support you have shown us. Your belief in our mission to protect and serve is the foundation of everything we do, and we are honored to serve such a strong and compassionate community.

This year, Hurricane Helene brought unprecedented challenges to Burke County, testing the strength of our bonds and the depth of our resolve. The devastation caused by the storm was immense, but the way our community came together during the relief and cleanup efforts was nothing short of extraordinary.

We witnessed neighbors helping neighbors, strangers becoming friends, and countless acts of kindness and bravery that reminded us of the unbreakable spirit of Burke County. Your patience, cooperation, and dedication to rebuilding our community inspired us every single day. Together, we overcame adversity and emerged stronger, more united, and more determined than ever.

As we step into 2025, we carry forward the lessons of resilience and togetherness that Hurricane Helene taught us. We renew our commitment to serve you with integrity, dedication, and compassion. Whether responding to emergencies, ensuring public safety, or simply being there when you need us, we will continue to give our very best.

We are more than a Sheriff's Office; we are a family—your family. Together, we will face the challenges of tomorrow, celebrate our triumphs, and build a future that is brighter and safer for all.

From all of us at the Burke County Sheriff's Office, thank you for your trust, your kindness, and your unwavering support. Here's to another year of partnership, progress, and pride in our remarkable community.

With deepest gratitude,
Burke County Sheriff's Office

