

BENTON COUNTY Sheriff's Office



Message from the Sheriff



Each year I continue to be proud of the many accomplishments achieved by the members of the Sheriff's Office. It is especially gratifying to be able to share that information with our community through this annual report. While we can't include everything the Sheriff's Office does in this report, there are a number of ways for you to learn more, including: participating in our Citizen Academy, signing up for our electronic newsletter, and visiting our website.

Many of these opportunities are made possible through our Sheriff's Auxiliary Team. This group of volunteers has done everything from revamping our website to writing our electronic newsletter; from setting up the speed radar trailer to organizing the Chili Cook-Off and the Drug Turn-In program. We can always use more volunteers and I would encourage you to consider this opportunity as a way of learning more about the Sheriff's Office.

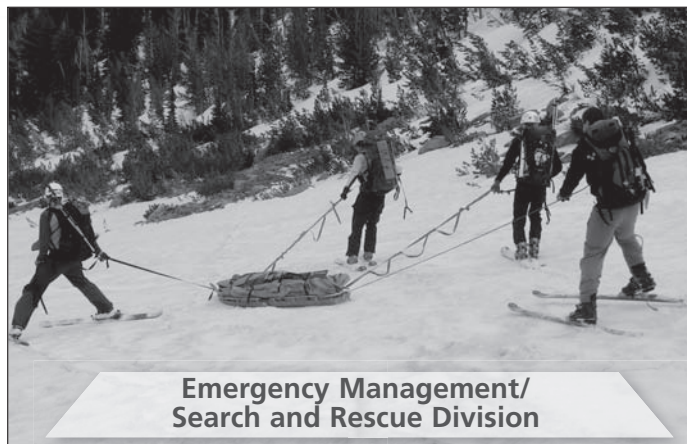
We reached full staffing with our Law Enforcement Division and last December we resumed full time patrol coverage in the county. We have a number of enthusiastic deputies who are eager to do the job well. They have proven to be respectful to both community members and offenders, regardless of the situation, and their self-initiated activities have resulted in an increase in arrests and in crimes solved.

We continue to look at the prospect of building a new jail facility and toward that end several of us attended a federally-sponsored training titled "Planning of a New Institution." Further, we hired an independent consultant to look at our local criminal justice system and determine if we need a new jail and, if so, what types of programs it should include. Our expectation is a recommendation for a new facility, simply based on the deteriorating building we currently have. Beyond that, we expect recommendations for a new facility that will include a work release center, a mental health unit, a medical unit, substance abuse treatment, and transitional programming.

I always like to close my message by thanking the community for the honor of serving as their Sheriff and I also consider it an honor to work alongside the members of the Sheriff's Office who hold the values of honor, integrity, professionalism, and ethics.

Diana L. Simpson
Sheriff

To provide professional service and protection with honor and integrity.



Emergency Management/
Search and Rescue Division



Support
Services



Law Enforcement Division



Parole & Probation Division



Corrections Division



Come visit us online at:
www.co.benton.or.us/sheriff/



Law Enforcement Division by Lt. Greg Ridler

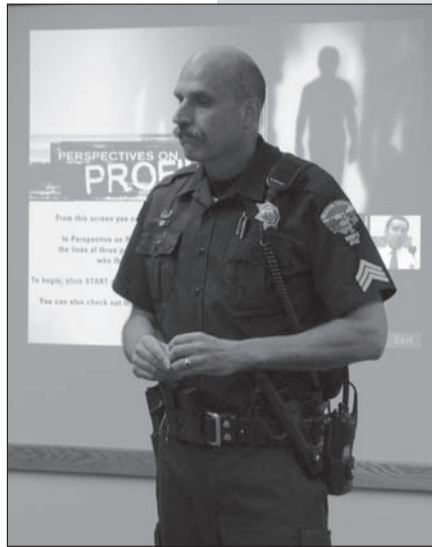
We have had an excellent year in the Law Enforcement Division of the Benton County Sheriff's Office (BCSO). The most significant event has been the continuation of the hiring, training, and progression of ten new deputies over the last two years. This number reflects 1/3 of the total sworn deputy positions in the Law Enforcement Division during this time. This group of new, enthusiastic, eager, and energized deputies has gone out and increased production in all areas of protecting the public through education, enforcement, and presence.

The successful integration of these new deputies has allowed the BCSO to once again provide 24/7 coverage and to increase detective investigations. The diligence of all deputies conducting investigations has increased positive results and assures people they will receive quick and comprehensive service when they seek assistance from the Benton County Sheriff's Office. A couple of examples from this past year include the recent recovery of an \$18,000.00 statue from a residential burglary and the investigation of an Identity Theft ring. This investigation coordinated with five other law enforcement agencies, identified 28 victims and resulted in 4 arrests.

We have also provided public service in other areas besides criminal apprehension. Examples include attendance at the Alsea Safety Fair, training two deputies in the area of semi truck safety inspections, and even finding the owner of a beagle wandering in North Albany who had been reported lost three years ago from the Brownsville area.

One of the areas we hope to continually improve upon is driving under the influence of intoxicants (DUI) accidents. Last year provided us with several examples of this dangerous activity. Some of the more callous illustrations include a crash on South 99W when a drunk male crossed the center line and hit a vehicle head on. In that accident, a young man was irreparably injured and has not yet regained consciousness. In another example a mother, with a young child still strapped in a car seat, drove off a straight road into a ditch after consuming a large box of wine. And just recently, a male crashed head on into a vehicle carrying a father and his four children all under the age of 11. These are just three examples of criminal activity we hope to curtail with our increased presence and enforcement efforts. This year we arrested 172 DUIs as compared to 108 last year, an increase of 61 percent.

In conclusion, the Law Enforcement Division has had a very successful year due to all of the highly motivated deputies who are committed to providing the best public safety for the community they serve.



Ethics Training: Perspectives on Profiling™

Perspectives on Profiling™ is an interactive, award-winning training program that addresses the controversial issues surrounding racial profiling. During this past year, Sgt. Clay Stephens of the Law Enforcement Division taught this program to police officers and deputies around the state. To date over 1,000 law enforcement personnel have been trained statewide.

"This training explores deputies' constitutional obligation to treat everyone fairly and tests their ability to do so... a task that is hard to do," says Stephens. With travel expenses and program support paid for by a federal grant, Stephens has taught the six-hour class to law enforcement personnel from Klamath Falls to Pendleton. He co-facilitates with Lt. Jana McCandless of the Tillamook County Sheriff's Office.

Perspectives on Profiling™ was developed by the Simon Wiesenthal Center, Tools for Tolerance® program with the goal to strengthen law enforcement's ethical and bias-free decision making. Guided by a facilitator, the program is delivered on CD-ROM. The CD uses branching technology that allows users to see the outcome of their choices and evaluate their consequences. The scenarios are based on ethical dilemmas identified by officers in focus groups. They begin fairly easily and then get progressively harder.

By the end of the program, deputies and officers should have a new understanding of the significant issues concerning racial profiling. They should have learned how to differentiate criminal profiling from racial profiling and been challenged to explore their own areas of hidden bias.

Emergency Management/Search & Rescue



Volunteers with Search and Rescue, from left-to-right: Jill Bartlett (Marys Peak Search and Rescue and current president of the Benton County Tracking Unit), Jason Killian, Nate Meehan, and Aaron Hartz (all members of the Corvallis Mountain Rescue Unit).

by Emergency Services Manager Mary King

Benton County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services is composed of two primary efforts: Search and Rescue and Emergency Management.

SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR) is accomplished with the support of approximately 100 volunteers, who are divided into volunteer units, based on particular skill levels and interests. Current units with the BCSO are:

- **Benton County Amateur Radio Emergency Service.** BCARES is a professional communications team that provides critical support to incident communications.
- **Benton County Crisis Response Team.** BCCRT is responsible for providing emotional support and counseling services to those directly affected by an incident.

- **Benton County Sheriff's Mounted Posse.** The Posse's mission includes both community service and search and rescue response.
- **Benton County Tracking Unit.** BCTU boasts members certified in advanced tracking skills, capable of following a subject's path.
- **Corvallis Mountain Rescue Unit.** CMRU is an advanced SAR team with high angle and mountaineering rescue qualifications.
- **Marys Peak Search and Rescue.** MPSAR is a general SAR team with individual members of varying capabilities, including, but not limited to, water SAR, 4-wheel drive, bike response, advanced medical, and canine search abilities.
- **Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue.** SOSAR is a newly developed team comprised of BCSO employees, willing to train and respond to SAR missions in addition to their regular duties.

BCSO SAR is an incredible effort made successful by amazing individuals willing to donate their time to fundraise, plan, train and respond to missions. Recently, a regional effort was put forth by Benton County to share resources across county lines. BCSO SAR members respond to 10-12 local missions annually, and 6-8 mutual aid responses to support incidents in other jurisdictions.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT consists of the need to plan, prepare, respond and recover from large incidents and disasters. Major efforts this year included working with health professionals throughout the county to plan and prepare for a virus outbreak that could overwhelm local resources, partnering with Linn County to activate a Linn-Benton Alert System, and partnering with the City of Corvallis to add a new position of Emergency Services Planner. With the support of this new individual, a critical facility inventory was created and the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan updated for the residents of the County.

Linn-Benton Alert System Activated

This year the Benton County Sheriff's Office joined with Linn County to provide an important new public safety service to residents. Designed to warn residents of impending or occurring emergencies, the Linn-Benton Alert System was activated this past March. This mass notification system automatically sends alerts to landline telephones in Linn and Benton county zip codes and is also available via subscription. Residents may subscribe to have alerts sent via voice or text to their cell phones, to their email accounts, their work phones, or their hearing impaired devices. Subscriber and landbased information is protected and not sold or shared with others.

To subscribe, or for more information, access the Sheriff's Office website at <http://www.co.benton.or.us/sheriff/>. Go to the "Sheriff's Topics A-Z," click on "ALERT, Linn-Benton Emergency Notification System" and follow the prompts.

Drug Turn-In Event a Success



Reserve Deputies Matt Rouleau and Brian Horn accept medications for destruction during the drive-up BCSO Drug Turn-In event in May.

This May the Benton County Sheriff's Office held its first annual "Drug Turn-In Event." During the four-hour event, the public was invited to dispose of unused or expired prescription drugs and other medications. The primary purpose of the event was to keep unused prescription drugs from being misused. A number of national studies indicate that the intentional abuse of prescription drugs, particularly among teens, is a growing concern. The side benefit of the event was keeping the medications out of the water supply. Collected medications were incinerated in an environmentally sound manner.

The results of the event were surprising. Over 175 households disposed of nearly 260 pounds of medication. Among the medications collected were prescription narcotics that included oxycodone, morphine, vicodin and codeine. Forty (40) pounds of plastic pill bottles were recycled, along with an unspecified amount of cardboard, paperboard, glass bottles and plastic film.

The event was organized by the Benton County Sheriff's Office and staffed by Reserve Deputies and Auxiliary Team members. Partners in the event included the Philomath Police Department and the Benton County Fairgrounds.

Corrections Division by Lt. Chris Schlegel

The present Benton County Corrections Facility was built in 1976 with an original capacity of 27 offenders and at a cost of about \$800,000. It is approximately 8,000 square feet and replaced the old stucco and tile building that served the citizens of Benton County since 1929.

The facility was originally intended to operate as a short term regional facility associated with the Oregon Department of Corrections. Plans changed and the facility has been the county's primary jail since construction. We have modernized the facility in many ways by adding temporary holding areas, touch screen computer capabilities in the control room, internal and external camera security system, and video court arraignment systems. All of these efforts have contributed to the ongoing safety and security of the facility and reduced the potential of litigation. Further, these changes have added to the security of the facility and better utilized staff time and inmate management.

Despite security changes, there are issues with the facility structure itself that have been problematic and will continue to be so in the future. Plumbing in the cells is a battle that is waged on a weekly basis. In order to maintain security and functionality of the sink and toilet fixtures, a certain style of apparatus is needed. These are much more expensive and more durable than you may find at hardware stores. The equipment used to control how water flows into the units is housed in a small area in between cells only accessible by authorized personnel. These devices are outdated and spare parts are difficult to find. Even with specialized personnel working on these devices, we cannot expect another 30+ years of livability. Eventually they will have to be replaced.

Recently we have come across a more structurally damaging issue. Cinder blocks have a certain amount of time before they start deteriorating as well. We have found chunks of cinder block literally peeling off in our facility in various areas. Due to leakage of the roof, and other water related issues, the bricks have softened and aged over time and could potentially become a significant safety and security issue. When we physically inspect our facility we include

inspecting the walls to ensure the integrity of the cinder blocks.

About ten years ago, there was a significant push to construct a new jail. Voters turned down a bond measure twice, but did approve a levy that would allow for the rental of jail beds in other counties. We have now spent more than \$11 million in renting jail beds from other counties – nearly the cost of building a new jail. That figure does not include transportation costs or the personnel costs for transporting inmates.

Our average jail bed population is between 75 and 85 which means at times we are still releasing inmates for overcrowding. However, the ability to rent jail beds in other counties has certainly given us the ability to hold offenders accountable. That along with excellent staff has allowed us to manage our jail population in a safe, secure, and meaningful manner. However, we have reached a point where a new jail is not just about meeting overcrowding issues, but rather a need to replace a deteriorating building that has the potential of being unsafe for deputies and inmates.



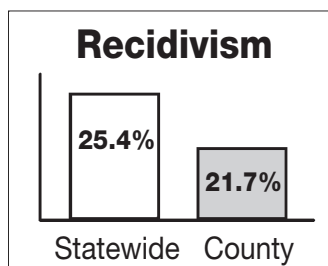
Want to learn more about the Benton County Sheriff's Office?

Sign up for our electronic newsletter.

Published quarterly, the newsletter provides information about a variety of Sheriff's Office activities. To subscribe, go to our website and look for the newspaper icon under the "More Information" heading. Click on "sign up" and follow the prompts.

Parole & Probation Division by Lt. Gail Newman

The Parole and Probation Division remains committed to enhancing public safety through the reformation of offenders and the reduction of criminal conduct. Incorporating evidence-based practices and supervision principles, higher risk offenders are identified and targeted to receive additional supervision, services, and sanctions. By targeting higher risk offenders, limited resources can be expended on those individuals who pose the greatest risk to the community. Evidence-based supervision strategies have resulted in a reduction in recidivism, the rate at which offenders are convicted of new felonies. The current 3-year recidivism rate for supervised felony offenders statewide is 25.4%; the recidivism rate for felony offenders supervised in Benton County is 21.7%.



Parole and Probation continues to operate a 6-bed Transition Center that provides highly structured, alcohol and drug-free housing for offenders who are transitioning back to the community. We also

participate in the multi-agency Drug Treatment Court program that offers intensive supervision, clean and sober housing, long-term treatment, and immediate accountability for offenders with chronic substance abuse patterns. Other specialty caseloads include the sex offender supervision program and the mental health transition caseload. Parole and Probation Officers assigned to these caseloads receive specialized training in the assessment and supervision of offenders on their respective caseloads.

Offenders who violate their conditions of supervision may receive a community sanction in lieu of incarceration. A frequently used sanction is the Corrections Work Crew which is operated through a partnership with the Benton County Natural Area and Parks Department. The supervised crew performs a variety of parks clean-up, parks maintenance and other projects in the county. This program saves tax dollars by allowing offenders to perform a day on the work crew in lieu of a day in jail. Work crew participants performed 1,442

shifts on the work crew in lieu of jail days during the 2009 – 2010 fiscal year. At the current incarceration cost of \$150.00 per bed day, this resulted in savings of over \$200,000.00 in jail bed costs.

Payment of court ordered financial obligations is typically a condition of supervision. Parole and Probation Officers monitor the collection of restitution, fines, court fees, and monthly supervision fees. Supervision fees are retained by this office and utilized to help offset the costs of community supervision. During fiscal year 2009 – 2010, supervised offenders paid \$125,636.00 in restitution, fines, and court fees. Additionally, \$108,428.00 was paid toward supervision fees.

Financial Collections

Restitution & Fines Collected	\$125,636.00
Supervision Fees Collected	\$108,428.00
Work Crew Jail Days Savings*	\$216,300.00

*1442 days @ \$150.00 per day

By the Numbers...

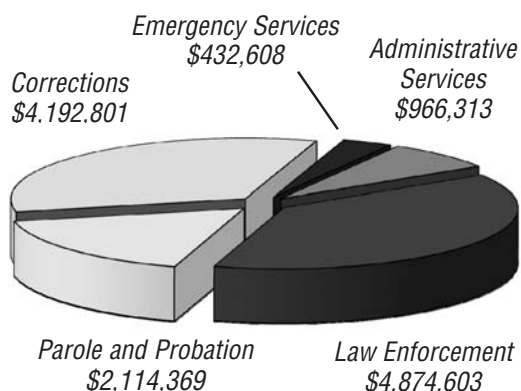
Offense	09-10
Murder	1
Rape	3
Robbery	1
Aggravated Assaults	18
Burglary-Commercial	29
Burglary-Residential	29
Burglary-Non-Residential	0
Larceny/Theft	197
Motor Vehicle Theft	26
Arson	5
Assault	196
Forgery/Fraud	100
Vandalism	166
Weapons Law Offenses	38
Sex Offenses	28
Kidnapping	4
Drug Offenses	164
DUII	172
Liquor Law Offenses	33
Disorderly Conduct	81
Trespass/Prowler	159
Runaway Juveniles	36
Offenses Against Family	18

Performance Outcomes	09-10
Calls for Service	5,461
Motor Vehicle Crashes	220
Fatal Vehicle Crashes	3
Arrests	1,643
Citations-Traffic	2,623
Warrants Served	444
Minor in Possession	38

Personnel Profile	09-10
Total Employees	76
Sworn Deputies	62
Women/Minorities	32%
College Graduates (AA or BA/BS)	67%

2009-2010 Budget

Total Budget \$12,580,694.00



Volunteering at the Benton County Sheriff's Office

Auxiliary Team

By Steve Mills

The newly established Auxiliary Team has completed its first year as a support unit to the Sheriff's Office. As the Sheriff's Office Auxiliary Team Liaison, I have found it rewarding to serve as a noncommissioned volunteer working alongside other excellent volunteers and law enforcement professionals.

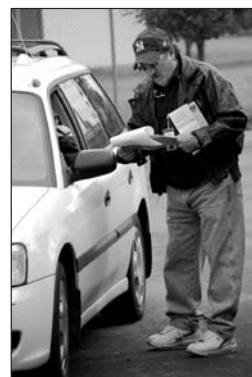
Auxiliary Team members perform various assignments ranging from publishing the quarterly Sheriff's Office electronic newsletter to placing the radar trailer to managing the Neighborhood Watch and You Are Not Alone programs to coordinating the annual Chili Cook-Off. Duties for the team continue to expand as the Sheriff's Office learns what it needs for support.



Auxiliary Team Members Danny Jackson (left) and Steve Mills (right) set up the radar trailer.

A volunteer must successfully complete the application, background, and training process. We are always looking for additional volunteers to help out. If you are interested in finding out more about volunteering with the Sheriff's Office call 541-766-6877.

Auxiliary Team Member Nicole Dodson hands out awards at the 2nd Annual BCSO Chili Cook-Off that benefited Strengthening Rural Families.



Auxiliary Team Member Vito Racanelli gives directions to a participant in the BCSO Drug Turn-In Program.

Reserve Program

by Deputy Jerry Williams

The Benton County Reserve Deputy program is coordinated in conjunction with the Benton County Sheriff's Office - Patrol Division. The Reserve applicant goes through a screening process similar to that of a Deputy Sheriff applicant. The Reserve program provides supplemental personnel for routine law enforcement activities, which broadens the capabilities of the Sheriff's Office to handle unusual events and emergencies.



Reserve Deputies help sort medications during the BCSO Drug Turn-In Program.

Many Reserve Deputies are looking to get their foot in the door for a future career in law enforcement. Many of the Deputies working for the Benton County Sheriff's Office started their career as a Reserve. There are also those Reserves who are looking for an exciting, but very fulfilling way to give back to their community as a volunteer. The Sheriff's Office Reserve program increases citizen involvement in law enforcement by their participation in Sheriff's Office activities.

Reserves are required to complete in-house training and have the opportunity to attend a Reserve Academy to further their knowledge and skills. Reserves are expected to attend monthly Reserve meetings and fulfill the monthly obligation of 24 volunteer hours each month. Reserves can complete this requirement by attending meetings and training, and doing patrol work or special events work. If you are looking for a start in a law enforcement career, or an awesome way to volunteer for your community, please contact the Sheriff's Office for more information.

Other Volunteer Opportunities

by Sgt. Leslie Pomaikai

The Sheriff's Office relies heavily on volunteers to deliver services to the residents of Benton County. In addition to our Auxiliary Team and Reserves we also have numerous volunteer opportunities in the jail setting, with Search and Rescue, and for college interns.

The jail utilizes volunteers to teach valuable classes such as Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous, GED, parenting classes and non-denominational religious services. Opportunities in Search and Rescue range from mountain rescue to tracking, to amateur radio operation. Interns gain valuable experience working in Parole & Probation and administrative functions.

To learn more about these opportunities, or to complete an application, please go to our website.

RESOURCE DIRECTORY

Emergencies Only	911
Non-Emergency	541-766-6858
General Information	541-766-6858
Administration	541-766-6858
Animal Control	541-753-0732
Civil	541-766-6814
Corrections Facility (Jail)	541-766-6866

Benton County Sheriff's Office
180 NW 5th Street
Corvallis, OR 97330

Detectives	541-766-6860
Emergency Management	541-766-6864
Parole and Probation	541-766-6887
Records	541-766-6858
Fax	541-766-6011