



Benton County Sheriff's Office

Our Mission: We provide professional public safety services with integrity and accountability.

Managing the Budget

Benton County operates on a biennial (two-year) budget cycle which runs from July 1st through June 30th and follows the process as outlined by Local Budget Law which is defined by the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS). We are currently in the fiscal year (FY) 2021-23 which ends June 30, 2023 with a budget of \$41.7 million.

During the FY 2019-21, personal property taxes and the local option levy accounted for 75% of the actual Sheriff's budget spent. At the beginning of the biennium and after the budget is adopted, we supplement funding with grants from the Oregon State Marine Board, Oregon Criminal Justice Commission's Justice Reinvestment Initiative, State Homeland Security, Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership, Oregon Emergency Management, Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management, US Department of Agriculture Forest Service, and Oregon Department of Transportation High Visibility Overtime Enforcement. Other sources of revenue include fees from concealed handgun licenses, civil document processing, and liquor licenses.

During the FY 2019-21, we were faced with many challenges: a pandemic, wildfires, and major crime investigations. To ensure operation within budget, we carefully monitor how money is spent. Historically we have maintained our record of staying within budget and this biennium was no different. Our budget to actual ratio was at 91% while still providing a high level of service to the community. Wages and benefits, categorized as Personal Services, continues to be our largest expenditure at 68% of our total budget.



Message from the Sheriff



What an amazing year! I was appointed as the Benton County Sheriff in March of 2021 and have received an incredible amount of support. I want to recognize and thank the 100 plus members in all divisions of the Benton County Sheriff's Office (BCSO). The last year was particularly challenging and they all did an exemplary job.

I also want to thank the Benton County community for the overwhelming support of the Sheriff's Office. As an organization, we value the responsibility you have placed with this Office. I appreciate the trust and confidence of the community and pledge to run this Office with the continued degree of professionalism and service you have come to expect.

We continued to provide excellent service while navigating the ever-changing landscape. From daily operations in the jail, to response to calls for service in the community, to providing supervision and opportunities to the community we serve, this Office remained steadfast in delivering an outstanding work product. Polite, Professional and Prepared is what I ask of each Sheriff's Office member, in all divisions, both sworn and non-sworn, and I believe they exceeded this standard.

Sheriff Jef Van Arsdall

FISCAL YEAR 2019-21	Budget	Actual	% Spent
Personal Services	\$26,268,316	\$24,406,441	92.91%
Materials and Services	\$10,914,470	\$9,695,451	88.83%
Capital Outlay	\$1,237,294	\$1,099,727	88.88%
Transfer Expense	\$837,752	\$834,998	99.67%
Contingency	\$154,727	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$39,412,559	\$36,036,617	91.43%

Come visit us online at:

www.co.benton.or.us/sheriff • 541-766-6858

Law Enforcement

Acting In Capacity Captain Chris Duffitt

OFFENSE *	2020	2021
Murder	0	0
Manslaughter	0	3
Rape	5	3
Robbery	0	2
Assault/Stalking	164	135
Burglary: Business	14	5
Burglary: Residential	37	23
Burglary: Other Structure	26	18
Auto Vehicle Theft	25	25
Arson	1	6
Forgery/Fraud	87	133
Sex Offenses	65	54
Kidnapping	1	2
Drug Offenses	156	51
DUII	92	104
Suicide	5	6
ID Theft	38	52
Trespass/Prowler	154	121
Animal & Littering Ordinances	99	92
Runaway Juveniles	12	18

PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES *	2020	2021
Dispatched Calls	6,338	8,151
Arrests	1,519	1,153
Warrants	617	700
Traffic Citations	2,310	2,231
Motor Vehicle Crashes	236	293
Fatal Vehicle Crashes	4	4

* BCSO statistics DO NOT include offenses reported to the Philomath, Corvallis, OSU, or Albany Police Departments.



The Benton County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division diligently patrols the county, responds to calls for service, and investigates criminal complaints. Deputies provide services and support to the schools of Benton County with continued efforts to keep kids safe. The school resource deputies assist with school activities, sports events, and dances as requested by school administrators.

In 2021, five of our outstanding patrol deputies received awards from the Oregon State Sheriff's Association for lifesaving actions. Deputy Gevatosky was recognized for saving the life of a young woman who was unresponsive from an opioid overdose. Deputies Miller, Hesselning, Williams, and Pratt were recognized for responding to an actively suicidal male in the process of self-harm. After several hours, the deputies were able to deescalate the man and assist him with recovery and emergency medical treatment.

The job responsibilities of a deputy have shifted due to the recent decriminalization of dangerous and deadly drugs. Training regarding these changes continues, as does training regarding crisis intervention and behavioral health response.

Patrol deputies and detectives maintain working relationships with several interagency teams within Benton County. These teams include the Major Crimes Team, the Crash Response Team, and the Child Abuse Response Team. Interagency teams allow for collaboration and problem solving while addressing the needs of Benton County.

The Benton County Sheriff's Office works continuously on forming relationships with the community as we work towards maintaining trust and confidence. As conservators of the peace, the patrol deputies work to resolve all situations in the county peacefully, and with compassion for those involved.

The Patrol Division is actively training and hiring new deputies who have a strong desire to serve the community. With these new deputies, it will expand our ability to serve the community and respond to those in need.



Small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUAS) – aka Drones

The Benton County Sheriff’s Office uses many tools to keep our community safe. Among them are three sUAS drones, which were deployed by patrol 101 times in 2021. This technology is useful in reducing costs and improving the safety of the public and deputies. For instance, in December of 2021, one of our licensed sUAS pilots was dispatched to investigate a suspect fleeing from law enforcement and was quickly located by air.



Jail

Captain John DeVaney, Jail Commander

In 2021, the Jail Division was again affected by COVID-19. We restricted the types of arrestees that could be lodged at the jail to limit chances of an outbreak, and we continued to quarantine new intakes for extended periods. With the advancement of testing and vaccinations for COVID-19, the jail changed its protocols to utilize these tools. Testing, prior to accepting new adults in custody (AICs), resulted in limited quarantine times, which

JAIL	2020	2021
Total Bookings	1,003	782
Cite & Matrix Releases	47/113	36/70
Forced Release	173	130
Facility Closure	14	17
Total AICs Transported	644	592
Total Transport Miles	39,695	38,025

translated to increased capacity for housing AICs. In addition, vaccination clinics were coordinated with the Benton County Health Department and offered to AICs in the jail.

Taking advantage of the lower number of AICs at the jail, a few major facility projects were completed in order to preserve the functionality and safety of the jail. A large-scale rewiring project, which included the intercom system, was completed. This \$137,707 expenditure will help our aging facility remain operational until the passing of Benton County’s Justice System Improvement Program (JSIP) bond to construct a new facility.

We improved our booking/holding capacity by installing cameras in three single bunked cells in the main hallway. This allows AICs on observation to be moved out of holding cells and into the hallway cells while remaining on video monitoring. The change helped to reduce the number of jail closures caused by the holding cells in booking being full.



In July 2021, we entered into a contract with Polk County to hold up to 10 of our AICs, improving our local jail capacity needs for pretrial AICs.

Also, in July, Sergeant Hunnemuller began overseeing the Pretrial Services Program. The Sheriff’s Office utilizes a case management system, to track those that are cited and released from custody through the court process. The system enables Justice-Involved-Individuals (JII) to receive text, phone, and email message reminders about their upcoming court dates, decreasing the high failure to appear rate, as revealed in the Benton County Criminal Justice System Assessment in 2019.

In September of 2021, the Jail Division welcomed two new full-time deputies: Deputy Blackshear and Deputy Lunsman. Hiring of these deputies ensured all shifts have full time coverage.

Parole & Probation

Captain Justin Carley

We are fortunate to have a professional and dedicated staff in our Parole & Probation Division (P&P). Our staff work with JIIs supervised in the community on formal probation or post-prison supervision. Our goal is to help protect the community by holding individuals accountable while helping them access resources they need to be successful. Our staff's roles range from being a case manager, to counselor, to law enforcement deputy, and everything in between. For the 2021-23 biennium, our staff of 12 includes seven P&P deputies, two sergeants, two administrative specialists, and a captain.



Funding for the P&P Division comes primarily from the state Community Corrections Act. We manage our funds by prioritizing resources to focus on those JIIs who pose the greatest risk to the community.

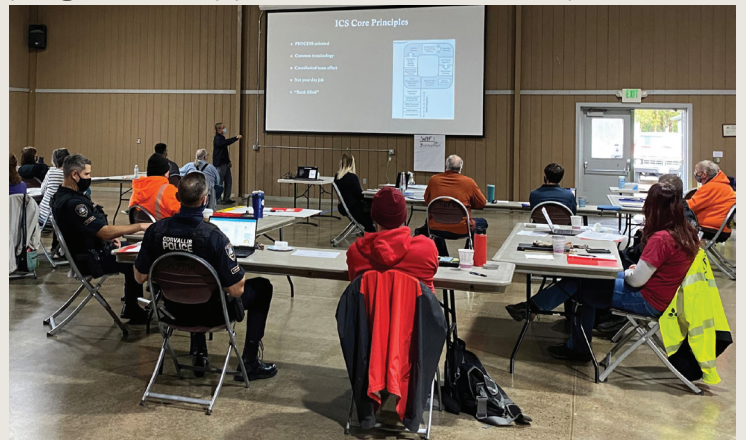
P&P ACTIVITY	2020	2021
Justice-Involved Individuals Under Supervision <i>(average per month)</i>	352	303
Sex Offenders Under Supervision <i>(average per month)</i>	62	50
Work Crew <i>(hours on work crew in lieu of jail)</i>	4,432 hours	5,888 hours

Our deputies supervise JIIs to make sure they are following through with the conditions of their supervision, which might include hours on a work crew (picture left). Through the use of evidence-based practices, the use of validated risk assessments, and effective case planning, we work to help people make positive changes and reduce the likelihood that they will be involved in new criminal activity.

Emergency Management

Manager Bryan Lee

Benton County Emergency Management Division has been busy over the last year. Throughout 2021, we wrapped up our involvement with our Emergency Operations Center (EOC) by conducting COVID-19 vaccine operations and quickly shifted gears towards wildfire and flood preparedness. We have taken the many lessons learned from our wildfire and COVID-19 response to incorporate updated best practices into our EOC Team monthly trainings. Benton County has taken a very progressive approach to the development and



maintenance of its EOC Team by training over 80 personnel. These individuals are highly trained and dedicated to help the community navigate through disasters.

Emergency Management also focused on updating plans, managing grants, training exercises, and participated in workgroups to better deliver emergency services to the Benton County Community. Sierra Anderson, Emergency Management Planner, received the Sheriff's Award for her dedication and work during the COVID-19 Pandemic and her efforts to make the community more resilient.

Special Services

Manager Kevin Higgins

The Benton County Sheriff’s Office is responsible, by state law, for search and rescue (SAR) activities. Without the skills and talent of our dedicated SAR volunteers, we could not meet that obligation.

The Sheriff’s Office SAR program consists of six non-profit specialty units. These SAR units focus on specific areas of expertise such as mountain and high-angle rescue, emergency communications, as well as searches on foot, on horseback, by air, and with canine. In 2021 we had 125 dedicated volunteers in SAR.

Benton County SAR also assists neighboring counties and agencies around the Willamette Valley. Our K9 unit was deployed to find a missing 58-year-old-man in Polk County and assisted in a Lebanon cold case.

Locally, our Mountain Rescue Team performed a rescue of two hikers on top of Mary’s Peak stuck in ice (picture below).



Our SAR units often assist with evidence searches when there is a major crime that is being investigated.

In 2021, there were 115 missing person calls received by Benton County dispatch. Many calls are resolved by patrol; however, those that are not resolved by patrol are handled by SAR volunteers.

Community Service

School Supply Drive



2021’s Benton County Sheriff’s Office School Supply Drive was a huge success. Employees donated and delivered supplies to five county schools: Alsea Elementary, Blodgett Elementary, Kings Valley Charter, Muddy Creek Charter, and Monroe Grade School.

Annual Shop with a Cop

For the 27th year, Benton County’s Shop with a Cop program offered the opportunity for children to spend a morning with law enforcement personnel creating memories and building community. Forty-nine children participated in the event. The Sheriff’s Foundation raised \$2,165 and pulled additional funds from reserves to make the event successful. Donations are accepted year-round for this event.



Upcoming Events

- Mary’s Peak CleanUp is August 13th from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.
- The Annual BCSO Chili Cook-Off is September 11th at 2 p.m. at the Philomath Frolic & Rodeo grounds
- Citizens’ Academy runs September through October
Details found on the Sheriff’s Office website.

BCSO Re-Accredited

Every three years, the BCSO is audited by the Oregon Accreditation Alliance (OAA) to ensure we are meeting OAA standards. These standards are best practices for law enforcement agencies and cover a variety of topics including use of force, property and evidence, training, fiscal management, and more.

We received our first accreditation in 2009 and have been re-accredited every cycle, most recently in April 2021.



Retirements: 55 Years of Service

Undersheriff Greg Ridler retired after 39 years in law enforcement. He spent his last 17 years with BCSO, moving through the ranks from patrol lieutenant to captain to undersheriff.



Sergeant Randy Hiner's entire 27 year career was spent serving Benton County. Over the years he filled many roles beginning as a reserve deputy in 1994 and retiring as a sergeant.



Program Specialist Lacey Duncan served the community for 11 years working in the Emergency Services Division. Her organizational skills ensured the BCSO Search and Rescue Academy, Special Needs Ride, and volunteer group responses were well coordinated and ran smoothly.



Thank you all for your service and congratulations on your retirement!

Support Services

The Support Services Division consists of six dedicated employees, who helped the Office successfully navigate 2021. They are responsible for civil paper processing, accreditation, and issuing concealed handgun licenses. Their contributions also include training and recruiting, managing the budget, processing timesheets, and personnel functions, all while maintaining the Sheriff's standard of Polite, Professional and Prepared.



In Memoriam of Deputy Lancaster

In June of 2021, BCSO and family members suffered the loss of Deputy Paul Lancaster. Deputy Lancaster joined BCSO in January of 2016 as a reserve deputy sheriff, became a full-time jail deputy in 2017, and transferred to the Patrol Division in 2019. The tremendous support we received from surrounding agencies and the Benton County community was overwhelmingly warm and generous. Deputy Lancaster was considerate, loyal, and always professional. He was "one of the good ones," remembered by many for his smile and calming presence; he is deeply missed.

BCSO PERSONNEL PROFILE	2020	2021
Total Employee FTE*	84	85
Sworn Deputy FTE	69	70

* FTE = Full Time Equivalent

Benton County Sheriff's Office

Follow us on
 Twitter, Facebook, Nextdoor & Instagram

