HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY
SHERIFF’S OFFICE

DAVID GEE, SHERIFF
Tampa, FL

“7a Serve And Protect”

2009
ANNUAL REPORT
The Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office is proud to honor the fallen heroes of our nation’s armed forces by escorting these heroes on their final trips home. When these heroes arrive at MacDill Air Force Base, their last journey through Hillsborough County is under the watchful and reverent eye of Sheriff’s deputies. We consider these honor escorts through the roads and highways of our county to be but a small way we can show these heroes and their families that we are grateful for their service and their sacrifice. To serve and protect knows no borders!
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Dear Citizens of Hillsborough County,

You can be very proud of the performance of your Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office in 2009. Through the hard work, dedication and determination of the men and women of this Office, unincorporated Hillsborough County experienced significantly less crime as compared to 2008. From our deputies who answered calls for service, to our latent investigators, to our school and crime prevention programs, the effort paid off.

• Violent Crimes: Down 21 percent (as compared to 2008)
• Property Crimes: Down 9 percent (as compared to 2008)

The good news did not stop there. We also had reductions in traffic crashes, traffic fatalities and driving under the influence-related deaths. All of this while we answered more calls for service from the public: 2 million.

In addition, our clearance rate for crimes was the best it has been in eight years.

1.67 deputies per 1,000 residents; the average is 2.7).

In addition, we generated $10 million in revenue for the county, and through our fiscally responsible actions were able to return $35 million to the county’s general fund. We are proud to have done our part during these fiscally challenging times in our county’s history.

Other highlights included saving money by closing the Work Release Center ($5 million); re-negotiated inmate medical care contract ($3 million); and extension of patrol deputy assigned vehicles to six years ($1 million).

Within the pages of our 2009 Annual Report, you can learn about the various bureaus and divisions in our Office. I hope you find this information useful and informative.

Sincerely,

David Gee
Sheriff’s Command Staff

Department of Investigative Services

Col. Albert Frost  
Special Investigations Division  Major Donna Lusczynski  
Criminal Investigations Division  Major Harold Winsett  
Child Protective Investigations Division  Major Robert Bullara

Department of Patrol Services

Col. Greg Brown  
District I  Major James Burton  
District II  Major Clyde Eisenberg  
District III  Major Ray Lawton  
District IV  Major Ronald Hartley

Department of Operational Support

Col. Ed Duncan  
Homeland Security Division  Major Louis Hollinshead  
Community Outreach Division  Major Mary Tully  
Training Division  Major Thomas Feeney

Department of Detention Services

Col. James Previtera  
Jail Division I  Major Thomas Blase  
Jail Division II  Major Robert Lucas  
Jail Division III  Major Curtis Flowers  
Court Operations Division  Major James Livingston
Mission

The Mission of the Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office is to serve, protect, and defend the community while preserving the rights and dignity of all.

Vision

The Vision of the Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office is to provide effective, efficient, and professional law enforcement, detention and court services while maintaining the highest standards of integrity, accountability, and community service.

Core Values

Integrity
Service
Fairness and Equity
Commitment to Quality
Each year in May, we present the Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office Law Enforcement Memorial. Survivors, deputies and citizens gather to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

We will never forget them.
The Office of Chief Deputy is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the agency. Five sections report directly to Chief Deputy Jose Docobo: Legal Section; Community Affairs Office; Information Services Division; Public Information Office; and Office of the Comptroller.

**Legal Section**
Tony Peluso, Chief Legal Counsel

The Legal Section provides a diverse range of administrative, training and litigation services to the Sheriff’s Office and all of its personnel.

The Legal Section has had a very busy year participating in numerous training programs. Whether it was providing training to new recruits or veteran deputies through in-service; attending roll calls to address current legal matters; or issuing legal bulletins on changes in the law, the Legal Section always appreciates the opportunity to interact with personnel during training functions. Also, due to the hard work of countless deputies, 2009 was an extremely successful year in civil forfeiture cases. The Legal Section recovered millions of dollars in cash and assets, some of which can be used to support law enforcement and community grants, groups and projects.

The Legal Section additionally successfully defended the Sheriff’s Office and individual deputies in a state and a federal civil jury trial that involved complex detention and law enforcement issues.

**Community Affairs Office**
JD Callaway, Director

The Community Affairs Office (CAO) embarked on a full-scale makeover of the public website, with new interactive features and user-friendly functions. We created the Cell Block Shakedown link to generate the public’s help in locating fugitives. CAO personnel also assisted with media requests, news conferences and duplication of video and photographic material to accompany news releases.

Our Print Shop duplicated thousands of pages of material for internal distribution from training manuals to investigative forms, and hundreds of brochures of various topics for public consumption.

Our videography unit produced training videos for deputies ranging from Intelligence-Led Policing to Crime Scene preservation and techniques. In addition, bilingual videos related to inmate booking procedures and inmate orientation were completed and delivered to the Department of Detention Services.

**Public Information Office**
Debbie Carter

The Public Information Office is responsible for disseminating information to the public and media on a wide variety of subjects, including agency facts, policies and procedures, breaking news stories and relevant office information. The office operates in the 14th largest media market in the nation. The Public Information Office consists of two employees: Vida Morgan and Debbie Carter. As the Public Information Officer, Debbie Carter’s interactions with the media ranges from providing basic incident reports to managing a major media event.

During 2009, the Public Information Office responded to numerous requests for information and public records from local, state, national and international media. Over 350 press releases were issued, over 600 electronic alerts to the media were sent out on a wide variety of subjects. Ms. Carter is also responsible for scheduling and coordinating Sheriff’s Office news conferences. The Public Information Office processed hundreds of requests from the general public requesting information relevant to crime arrests, vehicle crashes and topics related to law enforcement.

**Information Services Division**
Chris Peek, Director

The Information Services Division’s (ISD’s) focus over the last several years has been on identifying and implementing technologies that improve the efficiency and automation of the Sheriff’s Office. This year the same focus
continued with several major projects completed, and a few new ones started.

In February of 2009, ISD completed implementation of the CourtNotify system within the Sheriff’s Office, and work continued on implementing the system for the rest of the criminal justice community including the Tampa Police Department and other agencies. The CourtNotify system replaces the paper subpoena and deposition delivery process with a fully automated electronic system. The CourtNotify system interfaces with the Kronos timekeeping system to keep the schedules of personnel in synchronization, and interfaces with the back office systems at the Public Defender’s Office. We have continued to work with the State Attorney’s Office (SAO) in order to have their subpoenas delivered using the CourtNotify system.

The process of selecting and implementing a full electronic traffic crash reporting and traffic citation system began in the fall of 2009. The selection and review of all possible vendor solutions was conducted throughout late 2009, with the project installation set to begin in summer of 2010.

Throughout 2009, work continued on the Versaterm Versadex system. In summer of 2009, ISD completed intensive training and rollout of the Records Management System (RMS) modules for full electronic report writing for all personnel, electronic case management for investigative personnel, and other support modules for the ILP initiatives being implemented throughout the agency. These modules moved the agency from a paper-based reporting into a full electronic reporting concept. In fall of 2009, ISD completed a major upgrade to the Versadex CAD system that greatly expanded the future capabilities of the CAD and MDT components.

Throughout 2009, the document imaging project continued to implement in areas of the Sheriff’s Office including evidence, court process, payroll, and identification. The implementation process involves setting up the area to scan in new documents, and converting any legacy documents they have into the new system. Many times the document imaging process also focuses on business process improvements. Additionally, all data and images from old document imaging systems such as Info Image were converted from the old systems to the new document imaging system.

In December of 2009, ISD, working with the Community Affairs Office, developed and released a brand new website for the Sheriff’s Office. This new website represents a dramatic shift in technologies for use on the Web and moves the Sheriff’s Office to the forefront.

In addition to the above, a number of other projects were completed including: a web-based video distribution system for viewing of critical news channels and helicopter downlinks; data center upgrades to ensure disaster preparedness; upgraded email system providing greater connectivity via web technologies and mobile phones; and an electronic enterprise fax system that delivers faxes to email inboxes and eliminates the need for fax machines.

The Office of the Comptroller (OTC) manages all of the financial affairs of the Sheriff’s Office. In 2009, the comptroller monitored a total budget of $366 million, as well as a $12 million budget from the state of Florida to fund our Child Protective Investigations Division.

The comptroller performs the typical accounting functions, such as payroll, accounts receivable/payable and capital outlay requests. OTC also manages purchase orders, the Inmate Cash Section with millions of dollars and thousands of transactions, cash bonds (bail bonds transactions) and collection of revenue and fees.

Some highlights for 2009:

- Handled 90,000 inmate cash account transactions
- Managed fees and revenues totaling $10 million
- Processed more than 28,000 accounts payable transactions
In 2009, the geographical boundaries of District I, which now encompass 96.6 square miles, were expanded into eastern Hillsborough County. These new boundaries now incorporate the Thonotosassa area and the Nuccio area which had traditionally been part of District II.

For District I, the 2009 Uniform Crime Report reflects a 12% reduction in Part I Crimes when compared to the previous year (2008).

In October 2009, **Intelligence-Led Policing Unit** personnel were instrumental in establishing a link between a group of known offenders committing robberies in District I. Utilizing an Intelligence Profile provided by the Sheriff’s Law enforcement Intelligence Nexus Center, or LINC, a known offender was interviewed in the jail, which in turn identified a potential target for surveillance. Acting on this information, DI ILP detectives initiated an investigation into the activities of the identified suspects. DI detectives subsequently arrested two suspects after they committed an armed residential burglary. Both subjects were responsible for at least six robberies within the district and were identified as Hot Boyz gang members.

**Patrol Operations Bureau** personnel have focused on zone accountability with self-initiated action plans to combat spikes in crime activity in their respective areas of assignment. This required coordination with their counterparts on the opposite shift. Deputies have utilized innovative techniques to patrol apartment complexes on covert bicycles dressed in civilian attire to suppress vehicle burglaries and suspicious activity.

During the 2009 calendar year, district personnel handled 152,960 calls for service, which resulted in the origination of 21,633 incident reports with 7,025 cases being cleared by arrest. A bureau total of 26,188 traffic stops were conducted, resulting in the issuance of 10,565 traffic citations.

During 2009, **Traffic Section** personnel completed 22 Sheriff’s Traffic Operations Program details (STOP) and 19 high school safety belt checks. These operations were held monthly and targeted enforcement along the high traffic crash corridors of Fletcher Avenue, Bruce B Downs Boulevard, Bearss Avenue, and Dale Mabry Highway. In 2009, there was a decrease in traffic crashes for District I by 11% from the previous year.

In 2009, the Traffic Section conducted 6,160 traffic stops, investigated 1,219 traffic crashes, and made 209 DUI arrests.

In 2009, **District I Investigation and Community Section** detectives began investigating persons crimes in addition to property crimes. Detectives were assigned 3,362 cases to investigate. They recovered $174,731 worth of stolen property and made 412 felony arrests. There were four search warrants authored and served in which the entire investigative section was utilized.

**Community Resource Deputies** were utilized to implement new programs such as Project Lifesaver. Community resource deputies are an integral part of local events such as the Northdale Family Fun Fest, Lutz Trash Bash, and University Community Development Awards.

The **Street Crimes Unit**, along with the entire agency, has undergone a paradigm shift from quantity of arrest to quality of prosecutable cases. With that focus, targeting of habitual or prolific offenders has been underway to not only arrest these individuals but have them receive lengthy incarceration sentences or enhanced penalties. The familiar street level narcotics investigations are still conducted, but no longer dominate the unit’s focus. Crimes such as burglary and robbery are now being addressed.

During 2009, 857 individuals were arrested for misdemeanor charges and 515 individuals were arrested for felony offenses. Narcotics arrests and seizures involved the usual marijuana and cocaine offenses; however investigations now include a growing trend of drug law violations involving prescription medication. Cases involving doctor shopping, fraudulent prescriptions and sale of prescribed medication were conducted.
Street Crimes Unit 251 was selected as Squad of the Quarter for their work as a cohesive unit removing criminals from the streets. During a three-month period in 2009, Squad 251 arrested 188 subjects, resulting in 377 charges.

Operation 3D is a countywide DUI task force based out of District II. The squad, consisting of 12 deputies and two supervisors, are specially trained in DUI detection and enforcement. Operation 3D, known by its acronym “Don’t Drink and Drive,” utilizes checkpoints, saturations and educational events to combat the problem of driving impaired.

In 2009, the 3D squad conducted 29 operations and 152 saturations, affecting a total of 1,132 DUI arrests which accounted for 43% of the total DUI arrests for the Sheriff’s Office.

The Intelligence-Led Policing (ILP) concept was expanded in mid-2009, when changes were made at the district level. Accordingly, the Investigative Bureau was formalized. The bureau has many components with support staff, to include the following: Investigations & Community Service (ICS) Squad, which consists of latent investigations detectives; ILP squad, whose primary role is to provide actionable intelligence for the entire Investigative Bureau and patrol function; community resource deputies (CRDs); community service officers (CSOs); the District Intelligence Unit (DIU) and two Street Crimes Units (SCU).

Formerly known as property detectives, ICS is now an active general assignment squad, which investigates burglary, grand theft, aggravated assaults, aggravated battery (non-life threatening), felony battery, shooting into occupied dwelling/vehicles, robbery of a person (armed & unarmed), strong arm robbery (business), carjacking, and home invasion robberies. The strategic goal is to identify and monitor the 6% of these habitual offenders who are committing 60% of the crime.

The community resource deputies have their assigned areas of responsibility, which includes a community substation with a full-time community service officer. Their assignments vary on a daily and weekly basis to include truancy issues, code enforcement, animal control complaints and networking with community organizations.

Juvenile Probation Program

In mid-October, District II began an initiative to monitor repeat juvenile offenders who are on probation. Juveniles who had a history of committing serious felonies and had a mandated curfew and/or school attendance requirement were included in this initiative.

After only 2½ months, more than 1,300 compliance checks were conducted at school by the school resource deputies (SRDs) and at home by the patrol zone deputies. Of these, forty-three juveniles were arrested for violating their court ordered probation or committing new criminal offenses. In addition, fourteen offenders were removed from the program for either successfully completing their probation or being committed to a residential program.

The potential exists that a deputy could become a mentor for the juvenile, have a positive impact on their life, and spare a young person from becoming a habitual criminal offender.

District II follows the agency’s zero tolerance policy regarding truants. Community resource deputies (CRDs) have partnered with the Truancy Intake Center (TIC) and school resource deputies (SRDs) to ensure habitual truants are attending school. The CRD’s also network with the District’s Intelligence Unit (DIU) in an effort to monitor juvenile offenders and ensure they are in compliance. In 2009, one hundred thirty-six (136) truants were located and either returned to their respective school or transported to the Truancy Intake Center (TIC).

The District II Motorcycle Unit conducted a wide variety of public safety awareness campaigns throughout the year. These included an intensive seatbelt enforcement initiative to complement the recent enhancement to the seatbelt law, as well as the continued “Operation Safe – Not Sorry” campaign at area high schools.
District III, under the command of Major Ray Lawton, covers approximately 101 square miles in the northwest quadrant of Hillsborough County and includes the communities of Carrollwood, Carrollwood Village, Citrus Park, Odessa, Town ‘N Country, Westchase and western Lutz. An agency-wide redistricting in 2009 slightly changed the boundaries between District I and III, and a new method of zone deployment were the highlights of 2009.

**District III Intelligence Unit**

The District III Intelligence Unit continues to apply the concepts of Intelligence-Led Policing to crime reduction efforts and prolific offender identification. Unit members search for actionable intelligence such as identifiable trends, suspects, and common threads. Once this intelligence is compiled, intelligence products are produced and disseminated. This intelligence is utilized by command staff, field commanders, squad supervisors and deputies to assist them in deploying limited assets in the most efficient manner.

**D3 Street Crimes A and B**

In February 2009, District III formed a second street crimes squad to provide the community with greater coverage and come in line with the A/B platoon concept utilized by patrol squads. This expansion now provides daily coverage by the street crimes units. Street crimes squads utilize tactical analysis completed by the District Intelligence Unit to develop bi-weekly strategies to combat current crime trends.

**Investigations and Community Service Section**

In March 2009, the Latent Investigations Section assumed investigative responsibility for eight additional categories of persons-related crimes. They include aggravated assaults, aggravated batteries (non-life threatening), felony batteries, shooting into dwellings and vehicles, robbery of a person, strong arm robbery of a business, carjacking and home invasion robberies.

**Community Services**

While two community substations were closed during 2009, the five full-time community resource deputies never missed a beat. They relocated their operations to other existing sub stations and participated in many community events:

- Town ‘N Country community’s annual American Cancer Society’s “Relay for Life.”
- Deputies prepared food for 400 guests who attended a N.O.P.E. (National Overdose Prevention and Education) function.
- Collected, packaged and distributed Christmas presents to over 300 needy families.

**Traffic Section**

District III Traffic Section’s strategic implementation is utilized by motor units and traffic crash investigators to ensure the safety of the citizens traveling within District III. Traffic crash investigators investigated 4,858 crashes in 2009. There is a strong focus on the safety of students attending Alonso, Leto, and Sickles high schools by conducting seatbelt enforcement before and after school. Frequent traffic blitzes are conducted within the top 5 traffic corridors in District III to reduce the amount of traffic crashes. With these corroborative efforts, there has been a reduction in traffic crashes resulting in injury by 16.1% and non-injury by 8.3% for 2009.
Investigations and Community Service Section

The District IV Latent Investigations and Community Service Section (ICS) accumulated a variety of statistics during 2009. District IV detectives investigated 700 active burglary incidents. District detectives also assumed responsibility for handling violent crimes against persons. The detectives produced 224 arrests in result of these investigations. One of the responsibilities of the detectives is to regulate pawn shops and recycling facilities. During 2009, 10 inspections were completed to verify that the shops were in compliance with state law.

District IV also has four community resource deputies assigned. These deputies handle criminal and quality of life issues within their assigned targeted areas. The community resource deputies arrested a total of 27 subjects for a variety of criminal offenses during 2009.

Street Crimes Unit

In 2009, the District IV Street Crimes Unit conducted 25 undercover drug buys and seven drug-related search warrants. The year produced seizures of 45 grams of crack cocaine, 4 grams of powder cocaine, 3 pounds of marijuana and 324 grams of various of other drugs including LSD, methamphetamine, and pharmaceuticals. The total street value of the seized drugs was over $8,525. Street crimes units conducted 583 traffic stops, issued 65 traffic citations, with 42 of them being criminal, 401 warnings and 48 street checks. There were a total of 66 misdemeanor arrests, 68 felony arrests, resulting in 91 felony and 76 misdemeanor charges. D-IV street crimes units conducted five details involving sale of alcohol to minors with a total check of 82 stores. The details resulted in the arrests of ten store clerks and servers from area convenience stores and bars/restaurants.

Traffic Section

The District IV Traffic Unit works hard to efficiently investigate traffic crashes, aggressively enforce traffic laws, and thereby effectively address one of the highest priority problems of the citizens we serve, traffic. The D-IV Traffic Unit is comprised of eight traffic crash investigators and six motorcycle deputies. In 2009, the unit issued over 8,200 traffic citations. They handled numerous citizens’ complaints of traffic problems, utilized variable message sign boards to educate drivers, and conducted data driven deployments along high-volume traffic corridors and high-risk crash locations throughout southeastern Hillsborough County.

In 2009, public awareness of traffic safety was focused on two particular issues that received extensive media attention. Seat belt infractions became a primary stop violation and red light enforcement cameras came on-line. These traffic issues provided a platform for education to the motoring public that was further enhanced by the aggressive enforcement of the D-IV Motor Unit. The seat belt enforcement activities continued at area high schools – 32 deployments were conducted near campuses. Thirty eight (38) data driven special deployments were conducted in 2009.
Support Services Division

General Services Bureau

The General Service Bureau is responsible for providing support services to the various organizational components within the Office. The bureau is comprised of three (3) sections.

Fleet Maintenance Section

Employees are responsible for a fleet of 1,850 vehicles. In 2009, the section responded to 16,600 requests for vehicle service and our fleet collectively traveled over 27 million miles.

Communications Maintenance Section

Employees provide technical support for the 800 MHz trunked communications systems. These networks are responsible for processing over 50,000,000 radio transmissions in 2009. The section responded to 13,300 requests for service and equipped 170 new vehicles with communications equipment.

Maintenance Support Section

In 2009, the section processed over 178,000 requests for inventoried items stored in four warehouses. The section also purchased, received, and distributed new uniforms to over 1,100 deputies this past year. Employees sorted, processed and delivered over 314,000 pieces of U.S. Mail and inter-office correspondence.

Facilities Management Bureau

The Facilities Management Bureau is comprised of the Contract Administration Section, Maintenance Support Section, and the Construction Section.

The bureau manages and maintains 35 facilities and thousands of square feet of office space for personnel and equipment. In 2009, the Construction Section completed the renovation and development of the Sheriff’s Office Operations Center Annex building to add over 15,000 square feet of additional office space. The Contract Section directed the security enhancement project at the Sheriff’s Operations Center which included the construction of the security wall and a new Access Control Center.

Risk Management Bureau

This bureau consists of the Employee Benefits Section, Workers’ Compensation, and Personal Claims Sections.

The Employee Benefits Section oversees our health and wellness initiatives including our transition to a “tobacco-free workplace,” presentation of smoking cessation and healthy habits classes, providing flu shots and organizing the annual employee health fair. This section also administers life, dental, vision, deferred comp and an array of optional benefits.

The Claims Section manages Workers’ Compensation and Personal Claims. Our self-insured Workers’ Compensation program has reduced office expenses by more than $20 million while continuing to provide quality care to the employees. The Personal Claims Section manages the Federal Family Medical Leave Act, short term and long term disability programs, and light duty assignments.

Human Resource Bureau

The Human Resource Bureau consists of the Personnel Processing Section and the Records Section. The bureau continued its efforts in 2009 to reduce and replace paper records with the Records Section utilizing Versadex and ImageNow to house all documents generated throughout the agency and the Personnel Processing Section adding all retirement and position control documentation to ImageNow.

The Personnel Processing Section processed over 680 full-time, part-time, temporary and contract employees and assisted 116 employees into retirement and/or deferred retirement plan. They responded to 126 subpoenas and public record requests for employee personnel information.

The Records Section reviewed and/or processed, for information collection, more than 112,000 incident reports in 2009. They also responded to over 19,700 requests for information to include subpoenas, public record requests, court orders and other law enforcement agency requests.
The Communications Bureau is comprised of several different areas: Switchboard Operations Section, the Training Section, Dispatch Operations Section, the Teleserve Unit, the Sheriff’s Tactical Amateur Radio Communications Unit, and as of 2009, the Red Light Camera Enforcement Program. There are a total of 159 personnel and 48 volunteers.

The Switchboard Operations Section, which consists of six receptionists, answers all incoming calls to the main Sheriff’s Office number. The switchboard personnel handled approximately 240,000 calls during 2009.

The Training Section consists of a training manager, three training supervisors, and 24 APCO certified communications training officers. In 2009, this section was responsible for training 28 new, full, and part-time dispatchers and call taking personnel, in addition to the training for new CAD updates, Record Management System updates, Reverse 911, Downlink, Interoperability (FIN/ACU1000 Radio Systems), FDLE/FCIC Certification for all LEO recruits, as well as providing agency-wide training on the FCIC query via the RMS System.

The Dispatch Operations Section is responsible for answering all incoming emergency and non-emergency telephone calls, as well as voice dispatching all calls for the Sheriff’s Office. The section answered a total of 475,249 emergency calls and 572,067 non-emergency calls. These resulted in a total of 705,560 calls for service having been entered into the Computer Aided Dispatch System. In addition to the non-emergency and emergency lines, the Dispatch Operations Section is also responsible for answering the agency-to-agency “ring down” lines, media lines, and dedicated command position lines. Call volume for this bureau for 2009 exceeded 1.6 million.

The Teleserve Unit is staffed with eight community service officers. In 2009, this unit initiated approximately 3,000 offense reports, 1,500 supplements, and logged over 5,000 private impounds and repossessions called in by wrecker companies. This is also where light duty deputies initiate reports and assist the patrol units by taking calls that community service officers cannot. In June 2009, the Teleserve Unit staff was trained to use the Mobile Report Entry (MRE) to generate paperless reports, ensuring standardization with other divisions.

Red Light Camera Enforcement Program

The Sheriff’s Office Communications Bureau became the home for Hillsborough County’s Red Light Camera Enforcement Program violation review. The Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners enacted an ordinance to bring red light camera enforcement to the county. Currently, violation images and videos for six intersections are reviewed by four Reserve I deputies for approval.

The Sheriff’s Office Tactical Amateur Radio Communications Unit is responsible for supplying ancillary communications between Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office facilities, establishing and maintaining communications with other public safety, utility and disaster service organizations, and providing an alternate means for the timely reporting of hazardous or emergency situations from the public to the Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office Communications Center via amateur radio.

This unit is comprised of approximately 50 volunteer civilians and employees of various Hillsborough County government agencies, Verizon Telephone, Tampa Electric, St. Joseph’s Hospital, Tampa Police Department, and other public and private agencies.
The Criminal Investigations Division is located at 2224 North Falkenburg Road, Building C. A staff of approximately 140 sworn and non-sworn personnel provides law enforcement investigative support for all divisions within the Sheriff’s Office. Division personnel are also responsible to provide forensic law enforcement services within the unincorporated county and Plant City. It is comprised of two areas consisting of the Major Crimes Bureau and the Forensics Services Bureau.

Major Crimes Bureau

The Major Crimes Bureau is composed of six areas that include the Homicide Section, Violent Crimes Section, Juvenile Services Section, Auto Theft Section, Economic Crimes Section and the Traffic Homicide Section. Investigations typically handled within the bureau are diverse, complex and manpower intensive.

Homicide Section

The Homicide Section is responsible for investigating all homicides, critical incidents such as police shootings, in-custody deaths and adult missing persons. While the section handled a number of noteworthy cases in 2009, one stands out as being one of the most significant.

On December 29, 2009, detectives were dispatched to investigate a triple homicide that occurred at a residence along Oakwood Drive in Brandon, Florida. Upon arrival they found three subjects that had been brutally murdered outside of the residence. After an extensive investigation, spanning multiple counties in central Florida and into several states, detectives tracked down one of the suspects in the Orlando area. Information provided by him led to a second suspect who was located in Pennsylvania. It was determined that both the victims and suspects were all either certified gang members or known associates.

Violent Crimes Section

The Violent Crimes Section is assigned to investigate all commercial robberies, adult sex crimes, kidnappings and violent crimes where a victim is seriously injured. They also conduct investigations involving deaths caused by suicide and by drug overdose. While the section handled a number of noteworthy cases in 2009, one stands out as being the most significant.

On November 17, 2009 detectives were dispatched to a residence along Oxford Gardens Circle in Apollo Beach, Florida regarding a structure fire. Upon arrival detectives found that the fire had been intentionally set by a resident. It was also discovered that the resident had violently attacked his estranged wife, who had also shown up at the residence, beating her severely and setting her on fire. Responding personnel were able to get the wife to safety and subsequently found the husband and arrested him for attempted homicide.

• In 2009, the section investigated 957 cases.

Juvenile Services Section

The Juvenile Services Section is assigned to investigate all crimes committed against children. They also monitor hard-core juvenile offenders currently assigned to probation and post-trial residential confinement programs.

During 2009, the section was selected, based upon the expertise of assigned personnel, to implement an Intimate Violence Enhanced Services team. This program, staffed by a detective and a victim advocate seeks to identify those victims involved in domestic violence who may be at risk of serious injury and/or death. Program services are offered to victims seeking to reduce the circle of violence and ultimately reducing the number of domestic-related homicides occurring within the county.

• In 2009, the section investigated 6714 cases.

Auto Theft Section

The Auto Theft Section investigates the theft and recovery of all stolen motor vehicles and watercraft through proactive investigations. They are responsible for conducting site inspections of salvage yards, body shops, licensed motor vehicle and vessel dealerships, repair shops and tow yards. In addition, they also confiscate property used in conjunction with auto theft and initiate forfeiture proceedings.

• In 2009, the section investigated 2,291 cases.

Economic Crimes Section

The Economic Crimes Section conducts criminal investigations into crimes that inflict a serious financial hardship on the community.
Criminal Investigations Division

The section also conducts investigations into identified organized criminal groups and enterprises, which by their nature require investigative resources.

In 2009, the section uncovered a fraud ring being operated by an organized group out of South Florida. Personnel, using undercover techniques, conducted surveillance on the group for several weeks which resulted in four arrests. It is believed that the group was responsible for more than $500,000 in fraud until they were apprehended.

• In 2009, the section investigated 842 cases.

Traffic Homicide Section

The function of the Traffic Homicide Section is to investigate all prosecutable fatal vehicle crashes, conduct the follow-up investigation of all felony hit and run crashes and assist the Forensics Services Bureau with the laser transit diagramming of major crime scenes.

• In 2009, the section investigated 78 cases.

Forensics Service Bureau

The Forensics Services Bureau is composed of three areas that include the Identification Section, Crime Scene Section and the Photo Lab. The duties conducted by this bureau can vary from being very basic in nature to those that can become very complex and involved in support of law enforcement investigations.

Identification Section

The Identification Section is tasked with comparing latent prints from crime scenes against offender databases, arrestee fingerprints, against databases of unidentified latent prints, fingerprints of suspects specified by investigating personnel. In 2009, the section compared 10,625 latent print cases (including AFIS and IAFIS cases), resulting in 1,508 suspects being identified. Additionally, the arrest record fingerprints of 69,618 (60,103 adults and 9,515 juvenile) arrestees were processed. They also coordinate fingerprint evidence for presentation in court.

Crime Scene Section

The Crime Scene Section is one of the most important sections in the area of criminal investigation. They are tasked with gathering evidence at crime scenes to provide investigators with the ‘silent witness’ that helps solve crime. They examine scenes and conduct meticulous searches to recover evidence which can prove or disprove if a crime has occurred. They look for fingerprints, footprints, biological and trace evidence that can be used to aid investigators. They also prescreen evidence and insure its transfer to both the state crime lab and private labs for processing.

• In 2009, the section responded to 2,148 crime scenes.

Division Accomplishments for 2009

During 2009, division personnel continued the integration of Intelligence-Led Policing which is the “strategic, future-oriented and targeted approach to crime control” into division operations. This year saw the creation of Intelligence-Led Policing Detail within the Major Crimes Bureau. Its purpose is to bridge the communication gap between latent investigative personnel and the Law enforcement Intelligence Nexus Center (L.I.N.C.), providing timely and actionable investigative information. The detail produces daily crime briefs, alerts, maintains listings of known offenders and provides timely information to investigative staff so that actions can be taken to target crime and the criminal element.

Finally, the Forensics Services Bureau completed construction on the first DNA Prescreening Lab operated by local law enforcement within Hillsborough County. The purpose of the lab is to pre-screen evidence involving biological materials that are found suitable for DNA testing and in turn expedite its examination. The lab, constructed by Sheriff’s Office personnel, will be staffed with personnel trained in the prescreening of evidence by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.
The Special Investigations Division (SID) is comprised of various units and sections which conduct undercover, covert, analytical and latent investigations into narcotics, child pornography, gang violence, prostitution and numerous other crimes. SID includes Major Violators, Narcotics, Vice, the Gang Enforcement Section, the Law enforcement Intelligence Nexus Center (LINC), the Sheriff’s Targeted Area Response (STAR) Squads, the Crime Analysis Unit, the Selective Operations Section and Warrants.

The Major Violators Section conducts investigations which involve large scale smuggling, sales, distribution and/or conspiracy organizations. During 2009, the section initiated a narcotics investigation into a cocaine smuggling organization located within Plant City. The organization was suspected to be smuggling between 3-5 cocaine shipments per week into the Tampa Bay area. After an intensive investigation, detectives located a “stash house” used by this organization to store the proceeds of the drug sales. Further investigation resulted in the arrest of five people, the seizure of five vehicles valued at $115,000, two handguns, five SKS assault rifles, 179 kilograms of cocaine and a total of $3,955,722.

The Narcotics Section has the responsibility of investigating narcotics sales, manufacture, distribution or conspiracy violations, which are shorter in duration. Cultivation of marijuana was a continuing problem in our county, so an organized initiative known as the Marijuana Indoor Grow House Task Force (MIGTF) was created.

The task force identified 69 marijuana grow operations and served 35 search warrants. As a result of these investigations, 73 suspects were arrested on various charges, and 2,700 marijuana plants weighing 2,638 pounds were seized. The estimated street value of the seized marijuana was $10,454,488.

The Vice Section primarily investigates crimes which involve social, moral and ethical behaviors and violations. During 2009, numerous Internet child pornography investigations were conducted resulting in the rescue of child victims, multiple arrests and convictions.

The Vice Section joined ICAC (Internet Crimes Against Children) to enhance the unit’s investigative ability involving Internet crimes involving children. The Vice Section also became an active member of the FBI “Innocence Lost” initiative, which actively seeks to combat the exploitation of minors who are used for prostitution. Detectives conducted multiple undercover investigations involving pain management clinics, pharmacies, and doctors who prescribe without medical necessity.

The Gang Enforcement Section has a primary goal of identifying, investigating, apprehending and prosecuting persons who actively participate in gang-related offenses. The section arrested 92 individuals on 343 felony charges, 66 of which were related to trafficking of drugs. A six-month investigation by the Gang Enforcement Section resulted in the arrest of eleven members of the Southside gang in Wimauma. This gang conducted drug distribution transactions and robberies in Bethune Park located in southern Hillsborough County. The suspects were convicted and received years in prison. Another investigation into the Latin Kings gang resulted in 23 felony convictions, 1,365 months prison time (federal and state) and 714 months probation for 23 different Latin Kings gang members. There are two pending cases against additional Latin Kings members.

In 2009, Detective Marc Wilder was named the Law Enforcement Gang Investigator of the Year, and Crime Analyst Deborah J. Eash was awarded Gang Crime Analyst of the Year by the Florida Gang Investigators Association (FGIA). Detective Wilder was also recognized during the Florida Gang Investigators Association’s 16th Annual Conference, MAGTF (Multi-Agency Gang Task Force) for the Tampa Bay Area, and was awarded 2009 Gang Deputy of the Year.
The Law enforcement Intelligence Nexus Center (LINC) was established in May 2009 to further the concept of Intelligence-Led Policing (ILP) within the agency. The unit acts as a central depository for information gathered for the patrol districts, Criminal Investigations, Detention, and Special Investigations. The LINC analyzes and shares information with the other ILP units agency-wide so they may reallocate and direct their resources in a more effective manner.

The STAR Section has transitioned to the ILP model of policing, conducting latent investigations and surveillance of high-level offenders. The section is assigned targets by the LINC but also identifies targets through self-initiated investigation. In 2009, targets ranged from prolific burglars to bank robbers to sexual offenders.

In one investigation, the STAR Section was provided the name of an offender who attempted to abduct a 14-year-old girl. The section set up surveillance and the suspect was observed contacting numerous females. An undercover deputy was introduced who the suspect believed was 16 years old. The suspect propositioned the deputy for sex and was arrested.

The Selective Operations Section is tasked with latent investigations involving domestic terrorist threats, civil unrest and breaches of security to our community’s infrastructure. Additional latent investigative tasks included cases involving human trafficking, threats to public officials and complaints of fraudulent immigration documents. Detectives have continued to cultivate new informants and provide investigative leads to other sections of the Sheriff’s Office. The section is also the liaison on behalf of the Sheriff’s Office with numerous agencies to include the Regional Organized Crime Information Center and the Florida Intelligence Unit.

The Warrants Section currently operates with fourteen detectives who are responsible for thousands of active felony and misdemeanor warrants. Of these warrants, 2,814 individuals were arrested by these detectives in 2009. The section processes 37,154 warrants and underwent multiple felony and misdemeanor warrants purges where approximately 17,000 warrants were removed from the state and federal databases. This reduced the HCSO active warrants from approximately 51,000 active warrants in January 2009 to approximately 32,500 warrants in December 2009.

The Crime Analysis Unit (CAU) experienced significant change and progress in 2009. During agency reorganization, the CAU has formed a unique partnership with the Law enforcement Intelligence Nexus Center. The partnership with the LINC has thrust CAU into the forefront of the agency’s implementation of Intelligence-Led Policing, demonstrating the importance the agency has focused on criminal intelligence and analytics. With the ILP focus in mind, the CAU was able to hire and train four new criminal intelligence analysts to the unit.

As Intelligence-Led Policing evolves at the HCSO, analytical support will continue to be of significance. This impact is certainly meaningful to the support of the Tactical Coordination Group (TCG) and Strategic Coordination Group (SCG) meetings. The TCG and SCG meetings were implemented to develop tactical and strategic plans to continue with the support of ILP as an agency. The analysts support these meetings on a regular basis, disseminating valuable analysis and statistical documents that provide actionable intelligence to commanders giving them the ability to make more informed decisions to combat crime and address habitual offenders.
The Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office is one of seven Florida sheriff’s offices that investigate child abuse, neglect, and abandonment. These services are funded through contract with the Florida Department of Children and Families. The Child Protective Investigations Division marked its three-year anniversary on July 1, 2009.

The Child Protective Investigations Division has 163 personnel, of which nine are sworn positions. Personnel include: one major, one captain, two lieutenants, one program administrator, five sergeants, three general managers, 20 child protective investigator supervisors, 101 child protective investigators, two training personnel, 19 community service officers, and clerical support personnel. The Child Protective Investigations Division handled nearly 14,000 reports of abuse, neglect, and abandonment this year, involving over 15,000 victims.

The mission of the Child Protective Investigations Division is to safeguard, protect and promote the well-being of the children within our community by conducting quality investigations while preserving families through advocacy, guidance, education and supportive services. The Child Protective Investigations Division provides analytical, data entry and other investigative support to child protective investigators. Community service officers assist with background preparation for case files and transportation for children to various appointments. The child protective investigator’s role is to respond to reports accepted by the Florida Abuse Hotline, make contact with the child victim and all household members, complete a safety assessment and implement a safety plan, if necessary, to ensure the child’s safety, and determine the appropriate service referrals to mitigate the risk of future abuse to the child.

The Child Protective Investigations Division is committed to protecting our children and keeping more children safe in their homes. The Child Protective Investigations Division has partnered with six community agencies, including our community based care provider, Hillsborough Kids, Inc. (HKI), to co-locate in our office with the investigators. HKI maintains a resource library available for investigators, containing information on over 450 community resources for our families. This collaborative effort has contributed to an increase in the number of children remaining in their homes, free of abuse and neglect. In 2009, just over 1,000 children were sheltered from their parents, compared to 1,775 in 2006, when the Sheriff’s Office first assumed responsibility for conducting child protective investigations.

The Child Protective Investigations Division is dedicated to giving back to our community. Members of the Child Protective Investigations Division have participated in the Lynn Sowers Bowl-a-Thon, Ranch Run, Hispanic Advisory Council Dinner, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, and the Black Advisory Council Dinner. The Child Protective Investigations Division held their 2nd Annual Food Drive which yielded over 13,000 items of food for donation to local food banks to provide assistance for children and families in need.
The Advanced and Specialized Training Section was created in 2009 to provide instruction in areas such as the effective management of confidential informants, surveillance operations, covert operations and supervisory training for newly promoted employees. In addition, this section collaborated with the U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Department of Homeland Security to bring several other highly touted courses of instruction.

Annual and In-Service Training

Each year the Training Division oversees annual training for more than 2,300 sworn employees. Presently, that training consists of the yearly fitness evaluation, as well as specialized firearms training and qualification.

In addition, the 2009-2010 In-service Training cycle commenced for detention and law enforcement deputies. In-service Training is presented over a three-day period. It is specially designed to reflect the needs of the workforce, and enhance capabilities and performance, so they may safely and effectively serve Hillsborough County. During this cycle, all sworn personnel received refresher training in first aid and legal issues. Detention deputies received training in managing stress, interacting with inmates who have special needs, and scenario-based exercises. Law enforcement deputies received extensive training in advanced firearm techniques, non-static shooting, active shooter scenarios and driving.

The Pinebrooke Training Center has expanded the ability of the Training Division to provide additional training for all employees. In 2009, the training center either hosted or conducted hundreds of training classes, seminars or conferences which were attended by federal, state and local law enforcement counterparts from throughout the United States. The training center is home to the Law Enforcement Training Section, staffed by a sergeant, six deputies and two training specialists, and the Detention Training Section, staffed by a sergeant, three deputies and two training specialists.

The Recruitment and Screening Section is staffed by a sergeant, special projects manager, five law enforcement detectives, three detention deputies, three polygraphists, a community service officer and three civilian support staff. This unit is responsible for recruiting and processing all prospective applicants for sworn and civilian positions. In 2009, the section processed nearly 2,000 applicants for law enforcement and detention positions.

In 2009, recruiting efforts were redirected to focus on graduates from universities and colleges in Florida. We also focused on hiring former members of the armed forces. This past year, groundwork was laid to institute an aggressive, proactive recruitment strategy that targets qualified applicants by utilizing the resources of the Informational Services Division (ISD), Community Affairs Office and the Training Division to design a new and innovative web site, including a video presentation for the upcoming year.

The Walter C. Heinrich Practical Training Site (WCHPTS), staffed by a corporal, three law enforcement deputies, two detention deputies and a civilian. This 220-acre facility located in southeastern Hillsborough County continues to serve as a regional training facility for law enforcement and military organizations. There are eight separate firearms ranges, a sniper range, an indoor range, and a range for ordinance training, shooting house, and a pursuit driving course. There are currently more than 60 federal, state and local law enforcement agencies using this facility each year.

In 2009, the infrastructure for Tactical City, a dedicated tactical complex, was completed. Expansion of this site will continue in 2010, with the approval of a master construction and drainage plan.

Sheriff’s Orientation Training (SOT), which was introduced in late 2007, also continues to be conducted at this facility.
The division is composed of seven full-time sections, six part-time specialty teams, and nearly 200 sworn volunteers who have dedicated themselves to ensuring the safety and security of Hillsborough County.

These professionals interact on a daily basis with a variety of representatives from all levels of the federal, state, and local government. They work diligently with collective initiatives such as the Regional Domestic Security Task Force, Urban Area Security Initiative, and Joint Terrorism Task Force to proactively plan, project, and effectively manage the law enforcement needs of our community.

In addition to co-hosting Super Bowl XLIII, the Special Incident Management Section coordinated the agency’s public safety initiatives for the annual Gasparilla Parade celebrations, the 2009 Tampa Bay Buccaneers and University of South Florida football seasons at Raymond James Stadium, the Florida State Fair, the Florida Strawberry Festival, and a variety of concert events at the Ford Amphitheatre without a single incident of civil unrest or breach of our critical infrastructure. The section worked closely throughout the year with the Off Duty Events Section to coordinate over 40,000 private security details at local businesses totaling more than $6.5 million that was paid by the private sector, while generating $540,000 in administrative fees that were returned to the county.

The success of these many events and our other daily operations would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of the nearly 200 volunteer members of the Division’s Reserve Deputy Program. Our reserve deputies provided more than 50,000 free volunteer hours in 2009, through a variety of services such as traffic crash investigation, patrol saturation, undercover operations, and special event coverage. The citizens of Hillsborough County saved more than $1.5 million in personnel costs as a direct result of these civic oriented individuals.

In late 2009, our Port Security Section renewed its longstanding agreement with the Tampa Port Authority to ensure an increased law enforcement presence is maintained in the Port of Tampa. The port deputies work closely with the 14 members of the Marine Enforcement Section who operate nine tactical ready vessels around the clock and throughout the waterways of the Tampa Bay area. During their 2,856 patrol hours in 2009, the Marine Enforcement Section contacted 1,375 vessels and conducted 651 safety inspections. The section continues to be the first line of maritime defense for the Port of Tampa, MacDill Air Force Base, and is the only full-time local marine enforcement unit in the area.

Another integral part of the Homeland Security Division’s diverse field of professionals is the operational relationship between our Canine Section and the Aviation Section. In an effort to reduce the response time to in-progress calls for service, our 22 specially trained canines and 18 handlers of the Canine Section are often transported to the incident scenes by our 11 pilots and five highly technical aircraft of the Aviation Section. In 2009, the Canine Section responded to 2,363 calls for service resulting in 213 felony arrests. They also conducted 216 canine searches that produced 122 pounds of illicit narcotics and the seizure of over $1 million. The Aviation Section responded to 2,323 calls for service as they logged more than 2,044 total flights. Our pilots located 188 missing persons, rescued eight endangered citizens, identified 41 stolen vehicles, and assisted in the arrest
of 334 criminal suspects, 38 of which were located by the pilots themselves with night vision technology.

The Division’s Tactical Section maintains some of the most highly trained, physically fit, and well-disciplined personnel in its numerous specialty teams. The Special Incident Response Team (SIRT) is considered a Tier 2 team in accordance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency - National Incident Management System and is designated as a regional response team for a nine county area within central Florida. SIRT has the capability of rapidly deploying specially equipped forces to conduct search and rescue operations, protect property and maintain order during incidents of civil unrest, and assist during natural or manmade disasters. The five members of the Mounted Enforcement Team worked closely with SIRT during a variety of field force operations, crowd control situations, and special events as they took part in over 40 details totaling more than 900 hours in 2009. During the same year, our Crisis Negotiations Team responded with the Special Weapons and Tactics Team to six armed barricade situations that were peacefully resolved without a single loss of life. The SWAT Team also participated in 20 other activations associated with high-risk search warrants, dignitary protection details, and public demonstrations.

The Underwater Recovery Team procured a new “Side Scan Sonar” device that assisted them during some of their 49 activations in 2009. The team used the new technology to recover three firearms that were used in three separate homicides from bodies of water with no viable area to search. Other activities included 14 vehicle recoveries and the discovery of 28 stolen motorcycles during almost zero visibility underwater operations.

While the Underwater Recovery Team was investigating many feet below the surface, our Tier 1 regional response Bomb Disposal Team was busy handling reports of suspicious packages, substances, and explosive ordnance on the landside. The team responded to 172 calls for service in which they unfounded, disarmed, or rendered safe a countless number of high-hazard items that were reported to the agency. One member of the Bomb Disposal Team also participated in a prestigious International Law Enforcement Exchange Program to Israel where he learned the importance of maintaining vigilance with regard to prevention and mitigation of explosive ordnance related incidents.

The division also recognizes viable threats to our environment and agricultural lands which are monitored by the Environmental Enforcement Section. Members of the Agricultural Crimes Unit made over 3,400 contacts with local farmers and responded to 1,340 calls for service that were related to animal abuse or neglect and criminal farmland complaints. Their counterparts in the Environmental Unit arrested 220 individuals for environmental related offenses, issued more than 300 civil citations, and coordinated the removal of over 141,000 pounds of illegally dumped waste from public and private lands during 2,000 calls for service. The newest component to the section is the Parks Unit which is funded by the County Parks Department. These two detectives actively patrolled 230 county-owned parks covering 105,000 acres, responded to 1,500 calls for service, and contacted over 700 local businesses associated with park activities.
The Community Outreach Division serves as the public’s direct link for safety and education awareness programs. We accomplish our mission through various programs: Neighborhood Watch; Business Watch; Minority Outreach Programs; Volunteer Citizens Patrol Program; Law Enforcement Exploring; elementary through high school education; and Refugee Victimization Programs.

The School Services Squad provides elementary education programs at elementary schools. In addition to the education component, the squad augments the School Crossing Guard Program which facilitates the safe crossing of school children. In 2009, the School Crossing Guard Program staffed more than 80,000 crossings at various intersections within the county. Staffing levels were maintained at 99.8%, which set a record.

The Community Services Squad which is probably the most visible within the division, coordinates Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch. These programs encourage citizen participation in protecting their communities by serving as extra eyes and ears for the Sheriff’s Office. The Minority Outreach Programs mitigate specific needs identified by the minority community while providing awareness and diversity to all citizens.

Getting involved is the cornerstone of the Volunteer Citizens Patrol Program (VCPP). Participants undergo an intensive training program before their assignment to one of four deployment areas. With more than 80 volunteers, VCPP aids the patrol function by responding to traffic crashes, vacation watches, parking violations, school crossings, and other special details.

Youth interested in law enforcement are mentored by Deputy Sheriffs through the Law Enforcement Exploring Program. Established in 1966, Explorer Post #238 provides youth, ages 12 to 21, the opportunity to see, learn, and experience the inner workings of law enforcement operations. Youth also participate in various community service programs and compete within state and national competitions.

Support of our armed services and those in need, has been a long standing mission of the Sheriff’s Office. Our division hosts many functions throughout the year to meet and exceed this commitment. In 2009, these functions benefited; The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Boys and Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay, Judeo Christian Health Clinic, Special Operations Warrior Foundation, and The Haley House, just to name a few. While economic conditions were challenging for many of our functions, the dedicated men and women within the division, through their professionalism, planning, and commitment made this year a success!

The Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office enjoys an excellent working relationship with Hillsborough District Schools thanks to the energy and determination of those within the School Resource Section.

Since 2005, the Gang Awareness Training Education Program has been taught by school resource deputies. This program strives to prevent gang activity, youth violence, and drug use among students. Lessons are focused on whole life skills, social norms and critical thinking.

School resource deputies encourage students to be extra eyes and ears in their school through the Crime Stoppers Program. The goal of this program is to offer a means of communicating information on possible criminal activity within the school, anonymously without fear of retaliation. During the 2008/2009 school year more than 125 criminal cases were cleared and $49,504 worth of stolen property recovered as a result of student tips.

In the 2008/2009 school year, school resource deputies initiated more than 1,600 offense reports which resulted in 1,061 arrests.
Jail Division I, part of the Department of Detention Services, includes the Orient Road Jail consisting of Central Booking, Intake and Housing Operation Bureaus, and Central Breath Testing Unit; Juvenile Assessment Center; Work Release; House Arrest; and Criminal Registration Unit.

Central Booking staff managed to book 60,208 individuals into the county jail system in 2009, while undergoing construction renovations to the Orient Road Jail.

Central Booking
- Staff managed to book 60,208 individuals into the county jail system in 2009.

Intake Operations is the initial housing for all inmates with the exception of those with specific medical needs or special classification indicators. Inmates generally reside within intake housing for a maximum of 72 hours, prior to their assignment within general housing. In 2009, additional medical screening protocols were implemented regarding concerns with the H1N1 virus.

Housing Operations is general population and confinement housing for inmates. This area is broken into two commands; North and South housing over 1,500 inmates. In March of 2009, South Command was closed as a result of a reduction in inmate population. Staff were redeployed to cover posts that in previous years were paid overtime positions. This contributed to the Department of Detention Services saving over $2,000,000 dollars in overtime expenditures.

Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) serves as a national model for processing and evaluating juvenile offenders. In cooperation with other local agencies, the Sheriff’s Office provides deputies to book arrestees and provide security for the facility. In 2009, the JAC processed 9,919 juvenile offenders.

The Work Release Center closed in 2009. The staff was reassigned to fill vacancies and defer overtime expenditures.

House Arrest / GPS Unit - In 2009, over 1,300 individuals were placed on the house arrest, GPS and day reporting programs. This resulted in a savings to the tax payers of Hillsborough County of over $1,000,000 in allocated direct costs versus housing them in the county jail system.

Central Breath Testing Unit underwent an extensive renovation that was initiated in September of 2008 and concluded in November of 2009. Last year, Central Breath Testing Technicians processed 5,822 individuals, 3,712 submitted to breath-alcohol testing.

Criminal Registration Unit (CRU) - Staff members fingerprint, photograph and gather information on convicted felons, sexual offenders and sexual predators who reside in Hillsborough County. In 2009, the unit processed 6,944 criminal registrants, 4,337 sex offenders, 649 sexual predators and facilitated 3,149 self arrests.

Community Involvement/Charities
- Jail Division I staff participated in many community projects/events in 2009, including but not limited to; Sheriff’s Florida Youth Ranch, Lynn Sowers Foundation and the Special Olympics. In December 2009, Jail Division I learned of the Joshua House Foundation, a safe haven for abused, abandoned, and neglected children offering residential care. Staff raised funds for this worthwhile organization and our alliance will continue into 2010 as staff volunteer and work at the Joshua House assisting with minor projects.
Falkenburg Road Jail, the largest jail in Hillsborough County, is the responsibility of Jail Division II. At a rated capacity of 3,072 inmates, Falkenburg Road Jail has 10 general population housing units, two confinement housing units and two medically staffed infirmaries.

In 2009, Falkenburg Road Jail opened its new visitation building. The state-of-the-art computer system allows two citizens to visit with one inmate for a 40-minute session over a two-way monitor. This is similar to the current system set in Falkenburg Road Jail except now citizens can visit, in one location, an inmate housed at either Falkenburg or Orient Road. The new building allows for up to 250 visitors in comfortable semi-private booths. The visiting periods were shortened from one hour to 40 minutes to allow for more visiting sessions.

In keeping with the agency's goal of service to the community, Jail Division II continued in its second year of partnership with Tampa Meals On Wheels. Over 50 volunteers donate time every Friday to deliver hot meals and frozen weekend meals to 30 homebound recipients in the northeast Tampa area. Along with the "Booked" program where deputies read to elementary school children, we are proud to maintain continued regular service to the community.

For convenience to the community, and staying in line with technology, all of the visiting rules and information can be found at the Sheriff's Office public website by entering "visitation" in the search area.

As great opportunities present themselves, teams of deputies have bowled for Boys and Girls Club and the Lynn Sowers Foundation, walked or ran for the Sheriff's Youth Ranch and for Special Olympics. Jail Division II, as the Sheriff's Office, is driven by community service.
Jail Division III encompasses Records, Classification, Transportation, Inmate Programs, Medical Services, Food Services, Central Laundry, and the Property Room.

Records & Classification Bureau

The Records and Classification Bureau is responsible for classifying all adult and juvenile arrestees, processing court dockets, screening for various programs, and preparing inmate files for release. During 2009, a total of 40,327 arrestees were classified, 8,224 court dockets covering more than 155,000 cases were processed, and 60,397 files were prepared for release. The In-Active Records section scanned 51,954 inmate files, creating an electronic record and eliminating the hard copies and the need for records storage.

Transportation Bureau

The Transportation Bureau is charged with transporting inmates to court, other jurisdictions, outside medical appointments, and between facilities. Throughout the year, transportation deputies logged over 619,636 miles and transported 95,560 inmates. In 2009, Sergeant Stephen Farley implemented several initiatives involving a logistical approach to trip planning and working with other agencies to share trips and improve efficiency. These efforts resulted in a 37% decrease in overtime as well as a considerable savings in operational costs.

Food Services Section

The food service contract, based on inmate population, was reduced from more than $5 million in 2008 to $4.7 million in 2009. This was due in part to several cost-saving initiatives including serving a cold sandwich lunch meal, and the implementation of pre-ordered staff meals. In 2009, 3,581,916 dietician approved inmate meals were prepared.

Inmate Programs Bureau

The Inmate Programs Bureau benefits the inmates, the community, and also generates a cost savings to the agency. In 2009, there were 375 vocational certificates awarded, 113 inmates earned their GED, 1,744 inmates participated in substance abuse treatment, 566 inmates participated in domestic violence counseling, and 50 juveniles graduated from Juvenile Offender Life Skills Training program. There was $98,880 worth of inmate uniform repairs completed by the sewing class and 17 community landscaping projects completed by the horticulture program.

Medical Services Bureau

The Medical Services Bureau is proud to be accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care. The current budget of $20 million provides for a basic standard of care for all inmates. In 2009, medical staff completed 60,208 receiving screenings, 568,876 medical exams, 19,101 sick calls, 5,103 dental exams, and 46,565 clinical visits.

Central Laundry

In 2009, the Central Laundry processed over 2.7 million pounds of laundry. In one of the many cost-saving measures initiated by the department, the Central Laundry modified its hours of operation to run during off-peak times, reducing electrical costs by over 30%.

Inmate Property Section

The Property Room at Orient Road Jail is responsible for processing all incoming personal property for arrestees, maintaining secure storage of that property, and processing that property back to the inmate upon release. In 2009, the property staff processed more than 150,000 bags of inmate property.
The Judicial Protection Bureau is the largest component of the Court Operations Division. The bureau has 136 deputies and 11 supervisors assigned and is responsible for providing courtroom security for numerous courtrooms and hearing rooms located within the George E. Edgecomb Courthouse and Annex, the Plant City Courthouse, and the Floriland Mall. The deputies (bailiffs) are also responsible for ensuring the safety and security of 62 judges, seven general magistrates, three hearing officers, multiple courtroom staff members, plaintiffs, victims, witnesses, the accused, and the general public who are in attendance.

In October 2009, the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners approved and accepted Sheriff Gee’s cost-saving plan to take control of the Court Complex security responsibility from the Hillsborough County Public Safety Departments’ 79-person security force.

Within a 120-day transition period, the Sheriff created a Court Complex Security Section by approving the staffing for two law enforcement supervisors, 12 law enforcement deputies, 10 community service officers, two office assistants, and a 43-person contingency of contracted armed and unarmed security to complete the mission.

The section’s personnel are responsible for all aspects of security access control, all law enforcement responsibilities, crowd control, perimeter security and enforcement support for courtroom bailiffs. An additional effort is placed on the safety and security of the general public and employees working within the Court Complex facilities.

Additional responsibilities include County Center building security and law enforcement presence to ensure the safety of the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners and the other constitutional officers who work within the facility.

During a 6-month period from October 2009 to March 2010, the section provided security screening for 1,259,217 staff and visitors. In addition, 9,929 restricted items were recovered at designated controlled access points which included 3,438 edged weapons, as well as other items that could potentially be used as weapons.
Statistical Data Through 2009

Traffic Crashes 2003 - 2009
Unincorporated Hillsborough County

Traffic Fatalities 2003 - 2009
Unincorporated Hillsborough County
Retirees

Adams, Janie
Anthony, Zen
Arnold, Glorious
Barber, Jesse
Barker, Alice
Birch, Nelson
Bruce, Carolyn
Buchanan, Stephan
Burns, Michael
Burton, Shane
Carrow, Thomas
Carter, Arthur
Chancellor, Charles
Compton, Jimmy
Cooke, Curtis
Cornelius, Wayne
Cunningham, Robert
Daly, Beverly
Davis, Sandra
Davy, Noel
Deaton, William
Fischer, Todd
Fonseca, Jose
Fowler, Lynda
Galto, Raymond
Gardella, Danny
Giles, John
Graham, Joyce
Gray, Beverly
Green, Norman
Hamilton, Henry
Hargan, James
Harkness, Royal
Hawkins, Carl
Hertzber, Robert
Hilton, Gayle
Hunt, Lois
Jackson, Terry
Johnson, Essie
Kee, Harold
Kimpel, Phillip
Koudouna, Andreas
Laubach, Jack
Lence, Arturo
Lichtenberg, Michael
Lock, David
Loper, Bryan
Malcom, Mary
Marsicano, John
Martin, Dale
Mateo, Angel
Meals, Kenneth
Medina, Josephine
Moll, Rudolph
Morris, Mattie
Och, James
Palmer, Ina
Phillips, Robert
Prange, Allen
Prince, Ella
Radtke, Thomas
Richardson, Mildred
Robedee, John
Saccente, William
Segarra, Maryann
Small, Alicia
Smoak, Cheryl
Spain, Horace
Spafford, Robert
Sumner, James
Waldman, Michael
Watts, Linda
White, Marianne
Williams, Angell
Williams, Kenneth
Yeazel, Sandra
York, Rebecca

In Remembrance

Cook, Patricia
Gibson, Theo
Gonzalez, Louis
Heim, Morton
Hook, Julian
Howell, Russell
Howeth, Delvin
Kirkconnell, Lori
Lewis, James
McCaskill, Suzanne
Moreno, Juan
Mynatt, David
Nelson, June
Nyland, B L
Sikes, Percy
Sorensen, Frank
Watson, Charles
Weatherman, Dena
Woehlert, James
Wolfe, William

Anderson, Larissa
Braddock, Jeffrey
Burdon, Stephen
Casillas, Jose
Castillo, Richel
Clynes, Royale
Cortes Castro, Daniel
Cortes, Pedro
Crowe, Stephen
Freeman, David
Goodwin, Lawrence
Henson, Craig
Hernandez, Edgar
Keeny, Colin
Kettler, Jamey
Lee, Keith
Leighly, Joshua
Livernois, Richard
Maurer, Joseph
Maze, Geoffrey
McDaniel, Cassie
McDaniel, James
McNealy Simmons, Angela
Meyer, James
Myrick, Daniel
Nieves, Anibal
Noble, Jayson
Olding, Randy
Olivero, Joseph
Pask, Jasen
Peake, Gregory
Perez-Feliciano, Javier
Powell, Christopher
Pyals, Joel
Sadler, Sean
Salmon, Ayanna
Scobie, William
Shea, Derrick
Sublette, Clint
Tokarski, Arthur
Varga, Kiel
Vasquez, Dario
Wester, Richard
Wilson, Robert
The Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office Operations Center is at 2008 E. 8th Avenue in Ybor City.

General mailing address:
P.O. Box 3371
Tampa, FL 33601

hcso@hcso.tampa.fl.us
www.hcso.tampa.fl.us

**Sheriff’s Operations Center**
2008 E. 8th Ave
Tampa, FL 33605

**Main Switchboard**
813-247-8000

**Communications Center**
(Non-Emergency Number)
813-247-8200

**Emergency Numbers**
911 or 813-224-9911

**District I**
14102 N. 20th Street
Tampa, FL 33613
813-247-0600

**District II**
2310 N. Falkenburg Road
Tampa, FL 33619
813-247-8560

**District III**
7202 Gunn Highway
Tampa, FL 33625
813-247-0330

**District IV**
508 SE 33rd Street
Ruskin, FL 33570
813-247-0455

**Jail Division I**
Orient Road Jail
1201 Orient Road
Tampa, FL 33619
813-247-8371

**Jail Division II**
Falkenburg Road Jail
520 N. Falkenburg Road
Tampa, FL 33619
813-247-0234

**Jail Division III**
Falkenburg Road Jail
520 N. Falkenburg Road
Tampa, FL 33619
813-242-5101

**Criminal Registration**
1800 Orient Road
Tampa, FL 33619
813-247-8460

**Training Division**
1409 N. Falkenburg Road
Tampa, FL 33619
813-627-1000