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Dear Friends,

Another year has gone by and we at the Sheriff’s Office have taken the time to reflect on what we accomplished.

This publication offers a compilation of much of what we did in 2003. As I read through it, I can’t help but feel a great sense of pride in the men and women of the Office who get so much accomplished with such limited resources. We have a large number of men and women who have been called to active duty to help ensure that our country is safe and secure. As a result, you have provided an innovative way of accomplishing tasks through the use of personnel and equipment and through just plain, old-fashioned hard work that gets the job done.

Another important factor in our ability to deliver is the support we get from the community. We are lucky to have members from the business, civic and neighborhood sectors working hand-in-hand with our agency, making it easier for our common goals to be achieved.

All of us remain dedicated to providing good law enforcement and detention services with the same enthusiasm and commitment in the next year.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Cal Henderson
Staff Photographs of 2003

Sheriff
Cal Henderson

Chief Deputy
David Gee

Department Colonels

Executive Support and Enforcement Operations
Colonel Jose M. Docobo

Detention
Colonel David Parrish

Administration
Colonel Daron Diecidue
Major Carl W. Hawkins, Jr.  Major Gary Terry

Criminal Investigations  District I

Major Robert Shrader  Major Greg Brown  Major Eugene Stokes  Major Bill Davis

District II

Major Richard Cipriano  Major William Law

District III

Jail I

Major Elaine White

District IV

Jail II

Major Robert Lucas

Jail III

Major Stephen Saunders

Human Resources Services
Inspectional Services

Policy Compliance

The Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office received reaccreditation from the Commission on Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation. This award continues the office’s four-star accreditation status.

Staff Inspections set a record for inspections in 2003, with a total of forty-one. These inspections facilitated positive change within several organizational components. For example, one inspection conducted was on the management of ammunition inventory which resulted in an automated ammunition inventory system. This will reduce man hours and provide our agency with a “real time” inventory of ammunition on hand.

Internal Affairs conducted a total of 97 investigations, processed 196 administrative cases from other districts or divisions and generated 384 random drug screenings throughout the year.

Recruitment and Screening

The Deferred Retirement Option Program created a large personnel void. The Recruitment and Screening Section was tasked with completing background investigations on many applicants to fill these vacant positions. The office hired almost 400 employees and our polygraph examiners completed 1,389 pre-employment polygraphs. The Recruitment and Screening Unit attended 43 job fairs and advertised on the Internet, radio and television in their recruiting efforts.

The “Creating a Culture of Integrity Grant” is a new approach to attracting law enforcement applicants. In partnership with the United States Department of Justice, the office is participating in this hiring initiative. Selected candidates attend the law enforcement academy where tuition is free and students are provided a stipend. The participants who complete the academy and pass the state certification exam will be offered full time employment with the Sheriff’s Office.

The “Hiring in the Spirit of Service Grant” is another example of our commitment to attract the best possible applicants to our agency. This grant provides our agency with recruiting materials and research information to help “select applicants with traits that predispose them to success as community oriented law enforcement deputies.”

Information and Technology

The Applications Development Section established interface between a new Printrak Automated Fingerprint Information System, Jail Management system, and Florida Department of Law Enforcement to provide automated fingerprinting and automated retrieval of criminal histories. This new system is experiencing a 72% “hit” rate with the statewide database, and has an average response time of less than five minutes.

The Information Technology Bureau implemented the I-4 Data Sharing Consortium that allows participating law enforcement agencies along the I-4 corridor to share information related to pawned items. The data increases the chances of recovering stolen property and identifying thieves.

The User Support Section re-cabled the Communications Center and the emergency backup Communications Center. The new Video Visitation area at the Falkenburg Road Jail was re-cabled, which included the preparation and installation of more than 200 computers.
The Technical Services Section deployed wireless access points within the Sheriff’s Operations Center, the district offices, and all community stations; and completed deployment of fiber optic cable to provide gigabit connection speed.

The Information Technology Bureau Support Unit provided training classes to more than 400 students. This training included introduction, intermediate and specialized training for Excel, Word and Outlook. The unit also assumed responsibility for the update of the law enforcement Quick Reference Manual, and established a committee to review and ensure the manual remains current.

**All Wrapped Up In The Web**

The HCSO employee intranet received 8,525,294 hits with an average of 455 users per day.

The HCSO Internet website received 109,351,686 hits, averaging over 8,343 users per day.

**Versaterm**

After product proposal evaluations by the Special Projects Section and cross-organizational committees, a software and services contract was signed with the new integrated CAD and Records Management applications vendor, Versaterm. A multi-year project implementation was initiated and a task force from the Communications Center and the four patrol Districts came together to begin the system’s configuration.

**Saving Money**

The Fiscal Bureau assisted in bringing JD Edwards/People Soft and KRONOS online. To reduce expenses, cost recovery and energy performance contracts were negotiated. The Nextel agreement was renegotiated to standardize pricing and roll-over minutes. A new plan was developed and implemented to replace all XEROX leased machines with Minolta equipment. Additionally, credit cards were changed to use a new Internet based purchasing system with Works, Inc., through SunTrust Banks credit card network.

The Fiscal Bureau submitted budget requests for FY 04 of $264,334,442. Our agency again received a clean external audit report from Ernst & Young LLP.

**Community Relations Transitions**

The Community Relations Section experienced a transition in 2003. The section received federal grant money for Homeland Security and allocated the funds for new deputy positions. The section now has a full compliment of deputies to serve the public and support neighborhood watch and business watch. The additional personnel have allowed the section to represent the Sheriff’s Office in more functions such as the Northdale Family Safety Fun Fair, where several hundred residents came to learn about crime awareness and prevention.
Special Operations Division

The Special Operations Division continues to expand to meet increased demands for law enforcement response to critical incidents and threat management. The division is comprised of two bureaus, which are divided into sections and units, including aviation, canine, mounted team, marine unit, narcotics, vice, tactical support, and other investigative and covert support. These sections provide highly trained deputies, specialty team members and undercover investigators to protect and serve the citizens of Hillsborough County.

State of the Art Response Vehicle

On December 19, 2003, after eighteen months of intense research and planning, a thirty-nine foot, Incident Command Vehicle was delivered to the Sheriff’s Office. This new “Incident Command Center” will enable rapid deployment and implementation of resources for a variety of major incidents, including natural disasters, terrorist events, hostage and barricade situations, dignitary details, civil disturbances, major crime scenes, search missions and special events.

Auto Theft Detectives Merge

After nearly twenty years of working solo out of District Offices, the Auto Theft Section was formed to unite detectives and deputies trained in auto theft investigations. The section also conducts salvage inspections, investigates chop shops, identifies burned vehicles or vehicles without visible vehicle identification numbers and assists other agencies with the recovery of stolen vehicles. The detectives worked more than 4,000 auto theft or auto theft related cases last year.

Nowhere to Run

Between the months of January and November, Warrants Unit personnel arrested more than 4,100 suspects on outstanding warrants. Additionally, 189 out-of-state felons and 1,827 interstate fugitives were extradited to Hillsborough County to face charges including murder, burglary, robbery, and various misdemeanors offenses.

Boat Smart

Marine Unit deputies completed DUI training and conducted Operation Boat Smart during the Labor Day weekend. Deputies issued 268 marine warnings and conducted 293 safety inspections.

The Marine Unit worked with Pinellas and Pasco Counties on Operation Grease Trap. Companies illegally discharging into lift stations were targeted and one arrest was made.

Tire Dumping

The Waste Tire Unit’s investigations resulted in the safe removal of more than 35 tons of automotive tires last year alone.

Volunteer Deputies Donate Time

The Special Assignments Section administers the efforts of over two hundred reserve deputies who volunteer their time to the Sheriff’s Office. These valued deputies donated nearly 40,000 hours to the citizens of Hillsborough County in 2003, equating to a savings of approximately $800,000.00 to taxpayers.
Pilots Go Swimming

Members of the Aviation Unit participated in Emergency Underwater Egress Training hosted by the US Coast Guard’s Air Station Clearwater Rescue Swimmer Unit. The training is designed to expose pilots and aircrew to the hazards associated with escaping a helicopter after a water ditching. This type of training is especially important with the increased over-water patrols in support of Homeland Security.

Canines Add Bite to Apprehension Efforts

The K9 unit responded to 2,200 calls for service and assisted patrol and other components of the Sheriff’s Office in over 700 arrests. K9 teams located weapons, criminal evidence, handguns, suspect clothing, 1,300 pounds of various illegal drugs, and over $22,000 in U.S. currency. Explosive detection K9 teams responded to 377 incidents of threat or security sweeps in response to Homeland Security concerns.

Baby Formula Linked to Terrorism

The Criminal Intelligence Section worked with the Regional Domestic Security Task Force on cases involving dealing in stolen property at local convenience stores. Eleven suspects were arrested for selling and buying stolen beer, cigarettes, and large amounts of baby formula. Selling stolen baby formula is a nationwide epidemic. The suspects arrested in this case were tied to a federally indicted terrorism suspect and some of the out of state investigations were linked to terrorism fund-raising.

Illegal Slots

The Vice Section served a search warrant in a gambling case involving a business that was operating a gambling house using video slot machines. The unit seized 65 slot machines and arrested several individuals for keeping a gambling house.

Crack Down On Crack

In cooperation with the Brooksville Police Department, the Lakeland Police Department, the D.E.A. and a narcotics detective, negotiations were established with a Brooksville resident to buy a kilo of crack. The investigation resulted in the seizure of over a kilo of crack cocaine (1009.6 grams).

Trash Bags Double for Marijuana Storage

In January 2003, the Major Violators Unit began an investigation into a Tex-Mex marijuana trafficking organization in southern Hillsborough County. This organization was responsible for transporting thousands of trash bags full of marijuana into Hillsborough County. The investigation resulted in detectives seizing a total of 1,489 pounds of marijuana, $184,637.00 in currency, 13 firearms, and a 2000 GMC Yukon XL valued at $40,000. Eight suspects were charged with trafficking in marijuana and conspiracy to traffic in marijuana.
New Technology - Old Crime

A diligent Homicide Section investigation by detectives combined with new technology, solved a 1996 homicide/home invasion/sexual battery/arson. On November 13, 1996, while a husband and wife slept, an intruder forced entry into their home and attacked and killed the husband and brutally raped the wife. Prior to departing, the intruder started a fire within the home to conceal the crime. The female victim escaped and called 911. Following an exhaustive investigation, the case detectives had developed no suspect leads. In December 2002, the surviving victim requested a meeting with detectives to obtain an update on the case. Sergeant Willette and Detective Hoover met her and reviewed the physical evidence with FDLE. Evidence was resubmitted for DNA testing with the latest technology. A suspect DNA profile was developed and a positive match was made. Suspect DNA samples were obtained and cross-matched to confirm the hit. The suspect, Chatsiam Adam Lioy, was arrested in October, almost 7 years after the crime occurred. The suspect admitted to his crime after being confronted with the DNA evidence.

Not So Random

The Crimes Against Persons Section conducts latent investigations into crimes committed against individuals. Seven random shooting cases were linked to the same assailant for incidents that occurred on April 26 and 27. Motivated by road rage, the cases of shooting into an occupied vehicle and shooting into unoccupied dwellings threatened the community safety of Brandon and Valrico. Within three days, detectives developed a suspect, who was charged with seven felonies and one misdemeanor. In December, the defendant, a Valrico resident, was brought to trial and convicted as charged and sentenced to ten years in Florida State Prison.

Robbery Detectives Answer the Call of Duty

The Robbery Section investigates all robberies, carjackings, and home invasions. Robbery detectives respond to all bank robberies and home invasions with injuries. For the past year, Detective Craig Henson has been on military leave, serving in Kuwait. He is one of many Sheriff’s Office personnel who have answered the call of duty and put their lives and professions on hold to fight for our freedom.

Armed robbery is a particularly frightening and dangerous event for the victims. On the night of May 22, three males attacked an armed security guard outside the Jared Jewelry store. They took his gun, handcuffed him and put him face down outside the rear of the store. All three males entered the store and demanded everyone inside down on the floor. One of the suspects held the victims at gunpoint, while the other suspects broke the glass to the jewelry cases and removed jewelry. They stole jewelry and cash valued at over one million dollars and fled through the rear door. The security guard was able to call 911 from his cell phone, and deputies arrived on the scene. As the suspects fled, they were confronted by responding deputies, and a foot chase began. All three suspects ran in different directions, but were captured a short distance away. Robbery detectives responded to assist in the investigation, which resulted in the arrest of all three suspects. The jewelry and cash were
recovered and returned to the jewelry store. The suspects were charged with armed robbery, kidnapping, grand theft and false imprisonment.

**Specialized Support**

The Crime Scene Section provides specialized investigative support to deputies and detectives in the processing of crime scenes. This includes actions such as digital crime scene photography, evidence collection, latent fingerprint processing, DNA evidence collection, crime scene graphic depiction and any additional crime scene processing that is requested.

**Hybrids Come Into the Photo Lab**

The Photo Lab purchased a Fuji 370 Frontier Photo Processor that is known as a hybrid machine and merges the printing of the two major forms of images; film-based or digital. The Fuji Frontier’s quick printing speed, coupled with a dual workstation allows one lab tech to work on film images while another works on digital images, improving production levels.

**Homeland Defense Academy Candidate**

Crime Analyst Julie Martinez was one of 18 candidates selected for the new Homeland Defense Academy established in Tallahassee. The course is designed to impart the latest methods of crime analysis as related to Homeland Defense and to establish a “common crime analysis language” among law enforcement agencies across the state.

**Team Work .... Worked**

The Domestic Violence Section reviews incidents of domestic violence and share the numerous caseloads of child physical and sexual abuse. These detectives joined forces with detectives from Crimes Against Persons, to apprehend the perpetrator of a residential burglary and sexual battery of a nine-year old female. In January, an unknown male entered an unlocked sliding glass door of a Valrico residence, observed the victim in her bedroom, and sexually battered her. Her mother arrived at the home within a few minutes of the attack, to find her daughter locked inside a bathroom. Deputies responded but the perpetrator was not apprehended. Detectives were briefed on the case and responded to the incident scene to gather more information. That same evening, armed with the composite drawing, a team of detectives and deputies returned to the neighborhood and conducted a traffic survey of all vehicles entering and exiting the community. The survey produced a sixteen year-old suspect, David Johnson, who was apprehended at a nearby trailer park. During a subsequent interview, Johnson admitted to Detective Esquinaldo that he burglarized the residence and sexually battered the victim. Crime scene evidence confirmed that Johnson’s fingerprints and DNA were at the scene. Johnson is currently incarcerated and will be tried as an adult.

**Chillin’ Out School Violence**

School Resource Deputy Wynn of Riverview High School organized a youth summit, “Chillin Out School Violence.” All resource deputies in the county were invited to bring student representatives, resulting in an audience of over one hundred fifty. The event enabled youths to become resources for preventing crime, drug use and violence.
Leadership Change

District I entered 2003 with much anticipation. January ushered in a new era of leadership with a new Major, a new Captain and later in March, three new lieutenants and sergeants. It became a year of renewal, rebuilding and remodeling. District I established itself as an integral component within the neighborhood and a problem solver for the community. Many important contacts and programs were initiated through the support of citizen groups, and during the changes in management it became a priority to maintain those valuable interactions.

Active Partnerships

The Lutz community has remained an active partner with the District I Community Resource Deputies, and participates in the annual “Bike Rodeo.” The Lutz Community Council gathered for the “Bike Rodeo,” which emphasizes bicycle safety. Two hundred seventy-two parents and children participated in the rodeo. All of the children received bicycle helmets and 26 new bicycles were awarded to some very lucky participants.

Community Interaction

The Hunter’s Green Health and Safety Expo provided another opportunity for District I to interact with its citizens. Along with the Tampa Police Department, Tampa Fire Department, and Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, the Sheriff’s Office was able to exhibit its commitment to serving the community with demonstrations from the Dive Team, Emergency Response Team, Tactical Action Control Team, District I Motor Unit and the District I Bicycle Unit, featuring six recently donated Cannondale Law Enforcement Package bicycles. There were displays from the Sheriff’s Explorer Post, the Armored Personnel Carrier and the “Shoot-Don’t Shoot Simulator.” Without a doubt, the favored experience for the crowd of 1,400 was the arrival of the Sheriff’s Office new A-Star helicopter, which was met by hundreds of excited children. This marked the third year District I had an Expo and it was the strongest showing with nearly thirty Sheriff’s Office employees participating. The event drew numerous compliments and expressions of gratitude from the New Tampa residents.

Weed and Seed

In the Weed and Seed area, District I serves as the hub of many community programs. An example included the fair hosted by Saint Mary’s Catholic Church on the site of their future Outreach Center at 142nd Avenue and 15th Street. Deputies participated in the distribution of donated food and clothing to many needy families in the area.
**Party Patrol**

A suggestion from a deputy, who had previously been employed with an agency that served a large university community, resulted in the implementation of the District I “Party Patrol.” This unit targeted house parties and underage drinking. In four weekends, the unit arrested 167 suspects for consumption of alcohol under 21 and an additional thirteen suspects were arrested for open house parties. This resulted in praises from area apartment management and prevented an unknown number of alcohol related traffic crashes.

**Truant Apprehension**

As an added patrol enhancement, one deputy per day shift was assigned to search for and apprehend truants. District I apprehended and transported 108 truants to the Juvenile Assessment Center – an increase of 180% from 2002.

**Speed Trailer Deployment**

Several patrol deputies were trained by members of the Motor Unit to operate and deploy the Speed Trailer. The trailer is intended to make drivers aware of their speed and reduce traffic crashes. Incorporated into the trailer is a computer that records and categorizes the traffic readings and assists the Motor Unit in recognizing areas where further enforcement may be necessary. Using patrol deputies to deploy and retrieve the speed trailer allows it to be in operation during the day when traffic is at its heaviest, and relieves the Motor Unit for traffic enforcement in other areas. The trailer also gives patrol deputies a tool to use in their zone while being free to handle calls for service. Though not used as frequently in the past, the speed trailer has become a priority and is currently deployed on a daily basis, barring severe weather.

**Santa and Elves of District I**

The District I Motor Unit, disguised as Santa and his elves, delivered thousands of toys to hundreds of hospitalized and less fortunate children as part of the “Little Angels” program.

**In High Gear**

The Selective Enforcement Squad shifted into high gear last year. A change of strategy resulted in a total of 3,211 traffic stops with 1,486 total arrests. This was an increase of 197 arrests from 2002. The dramatic increases were found in the seizure of illicit drugs, including crack cocaine, up 324%, powder cocaine, up 597%, heroin, up 381%, and marijuana, up 142%.

**Law Enforcement Data Sharing Consortium**

District detectives participated in the organization and implementation of a regional automated pawn alert system that links agencies in Hillsborough, Seminole, Orange, Osceola, Polk and Citrus counties. The Law Enforcement Data Sharing Consortium allows participating agencies to check for pawned items within the jurisdiction of other participating agencies and to share suspect information.

**Change at District I**

The district building is the public symbol that represents the office. Previously, the building was separated into two areas and the commanders decided to move the front desk forward and open the hallway behind the desk deputy. Merging the two previously separate areas created one interconnected office for all district personnel. The change in the layout of the building reflects a “team” philosophy and provides a better work environment.
District II

Easy Access

District II is located within the County Government Complex on Falkenburg Road, where citizens are provided easy access to needed services. District personnel presently cover 259 square miles of northeastern Hillsborough County, providing service to a diverse population of citizens living in the local communities.

High Tech

The Selective Enforcement Squad, known as SES, consists of 9 deputies, one corporal and one sergeant. SES is a patrol based squad, but does not respond to routine calls for service. Instead, they respond to specific complaint locations, usually involving street corner drug dealing, criminal gang activity, graffiti, prostitution and property crimes. They work in uniform and undercover, and use a variety of high tech surveillance equipment to observe criminal activity. The squad uses a variety of methods to suppress street level crime, and undertakes a wide range of investigations. Deputies may conduct covert surveillance, undercover narcotics investigations or uniform saturation of high crime areas. This flexibility allows the squad to respond to citizen complaints more effectively than traditional patrol methods. In 2003, the Selective Enforcement Squad made over 1,400 arrests, seized over 77,000 dollars and over 50 pounds of illegal narcotics with an estimated value of $211,000. Additionally, 44 stolen cars were recovered and 34 illegal firearms were seized.

Community Policing

District II continues to embrace the philosophy of Community Oriented Policing. Community Resource Deputies work full or part-time in Thonotosassa, Dover, Plant City, East Lake Park, Seffner, Valrico, East Brandon, Central Brandon, West Brandon (Regency-Brandon Town Center), Sabal Park, Clair Mel/Palm River and Nuccio Park.

Throughout the year, Community Resource Deputies participated in numerous programs to improve the quality of life and assist underprivileged families during the holiday season. In the fall of 2002, senior citizens of the Williams Landings Senior Living complex on Williams Road contacted Seffner Community Resource Deputy Tommy Shannon. He was made aware of the dangers to the seniors who travel on Williams Road, as the sidewalk ended a short distance from the front of the complex. Deputy Shannon contacted the Public Works Department and the sidewalk was extended to Martin Luther King Boulevard and modified for wheelchair access early in 2003. This is just one example of how Community Policing works to improve all aspects of citizens’ lives.
Disturbing Case

The Detective Bureau is comprised of 10 detectives, one crime analyst and one sergeant. They are responsible for investigating burglaries, thefts and white-collar crimes.

One of the most disturbing cases of 2003 occurred on August 16 when deputies were called to the Apostles Lutheran and Methodist Churches in Brandon. Both churches were extensively vandalized and the Apostles Lutheran Church was set on fire. The damage to the churches exceeded $50,000. Following media coverage of the incident, detectives received numerous tips and leads for their investigation. On August 18, detectives arrested an adult male who had been living in the Brandon area. During questioning, the suspect admitted to the crimes. The suspect stated he did so because of his hatred for religion.

Training For Port Security

The newly formed Port Squad was based out of District II. This marked the second year of a six-year agreement with the Port Authority. The squad consists of 13 deputies, two corporals and one sergeant who are responsible for security and law enforcement services at the Port Of Tampa. The Port Squad enhanced their response capabilities by receiving training that focused on chemical, biological and radiological incidents. The squad also received BIO-Hazard protective equipment to utilize when responding to potentially dangerous situations.

Operation 3D

Operation 3D is an acronym for “Don't Drink and Drive.” It is a countywide DUI task force based out of District II. The task force consists of 9 deputies and one sergeant. The deputies are specially trained for DUI enforcement. In 2003, the 3D squad effected a total of 1,043 DUI arrests, which accounted for 33% of the total DUI arrests for the entire Sheriff’s Office.
Raider Units

The District III patrol platoons have targeted problem areas on each shift. When available, three deputies and a corporal log on as “Raider Units.” These resources are specifically tasked with directing their enforcement efforts towards a specific identified crime trend mapped out by the Sheriff’s Crime Information Strategy System. The “Raiders” routinely target areas plagued by various crimes and develop plans to conduct surveillance in unmarked vehicles. Raider Units have targeted street racing, sought out and apprehended suspects for detectives, and assisted in D.U.I. enforcement. These deputies have provided crowd control at a newly opened Super-Wal-Mart and later, on the same shift, conducted directed patrol targeting auto theft suspects. The units made numerous interdiction stops in high crime areas plagued by narcotic violations and apprehended various wanted persons. Their arrest activity level is over 3 times greater than that of the average patrol unit. The activity has made a significant impact in the arrests of prolific burglars and car thieves. The Raider concept has provided shift commanders and squad supervisors with a valuable tool for use in addressing crime problems quickly and directly in a proactive manner.

Community Resource Deputies

The District III Community Resource Deputies address a variety of issues within the community with the ultimate goal of improving citizens’ quality of life and reducing calls for service. The CRD’s accomplish this through partnerships within their respective communities, other divisions within the Sheriff’s Office, Code Enforcement, Probation and Parole, Animal Control, County Maintenance and other governmental agencies. Community Resource Deputies initiated a new program designed to help businesses that have been victimized by burglary or robbery. Deputies visited over 400 businesses to assist the businesses from being targeted a second time. The community stations provide service to thousands of citizens. Services provided are fingerprinting, report initiation and the distribution of information. In conjunction with community organizations, they also identify the needy and provide food, clothing, and gifts during the holiday season.

Enforcing Traffic Laws

Traffic enforcement constitutes one of the greatest demands of a community. The District III CRD’s conduct traffic enforcement details on a weekly basis, in cooperation with the motor units with the goal of reducing crashes and traffic related injuries. The Motor Unit’s mission is to aggressively patrol the area, enforcing traffic laws. There are currently six full time deputies assigned to the unit. Motor Units focused their enforcement efforts in high volume traffic crashes areas, where there was a large number of citizen requests for enforcement. The unit conducted 3,349 traffic stops, and issued 4,190 traffic citations and 1,662 warnings during 2003.
District III has twelve full time Traffic Homicide Investigators that are dedicated to investigating all serious injury and fatal crashes. A total of 6,896 crashes were investigated in 2003. Nineteen of those crashes resulted in fatalities.

DUI Investigators made 454 arrests for DUI in 2003. Three of the four deputies assigned to this unit reached a recognized milestone of each making more than 100 DUI arrests for the year. These deputies will be honored for their efforts in Tallahassee by Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

**Addressing Community Concerns**

The Selective Enforcement Squad investigates a variety of crimes and community concerns, ranging from underage drinking, drug related complaints and the location of wanted persons. Through the use of uniform and plainclothes personnel, the squad is able to address the numerous street level crimes that erode a neighborhood’s quality of life. The “Green Team” members placed specific emphasis on identifying known and potential gang members during 2003. Two squad members monitor gang related activities and keep the squad apprised of any potential problems. This is accomplished through direct interaction with parent groups, school leaders and detectives within the Criminal Investigations Division.

**Aggressive Long-Term Investigations**

The Detective Bureau consists of eleven detectives, a criminal analyst, a word processing operator and a sergeant. Seven of the detectives investigate property crimes including felony theft, felony criminal mischief, and all burglaries of vehicles, businesses and residences. They also investigate abandoned or found property cases. Three detectives investigate white-collar crime cases involving forgeries, frauds, counterfeit documents, embezzlements and identity thefts. The bureau also has a full time pawn detective who conducts inspections into pawnshop operations, oversees stolen property identification and recovery, and the collection of pawn activity transactions.

Based on identified crime trends, stakeouts and surveillances were increased. A more aggressive approach to long-term investigations was adopted and the unit successfully initiated and executed six court ordered search warrants during the year. The unit initiated a multi-state investigation with Ohio, which resulted in several arrests and recovered property valued at $63,928.00. For 2003, the bureau investigated 6,516 cases, resulting in 470 arrests and recovered stolen property valued at $970,465.29.
District IV

Diverse Service

District IV is responsible for southeastern Hillsborough County, continues to pride itself as a “Community District.” By providing an open door policy to the citizens it serves. District IV covers 468 square miles, providing law enforcement services to a diverse population of citizens living in various local communities.

Community and Business Needs

Patrol deputies are usually the first contact a citizen has with law enforcement. The patrol zone assignment allows deputies to handle calls for service and the opportunity to identify with the needs of the community and businesses.

2 Million Dollars Recovered

District IV detectives investigate crimes against property. The Property Section is comprised of 1 Sergeant, 8 detectives, 1 Community Resource Deputy and 1 Community Service Officer. Six detectives investigate Automobile and Residential Burglaries, Felony Criminal Mischief, Grand Theft, Pawn, and other felony property crimes. Two detectives investigate white collar crimes including Internet frauds that have extended to cases as far away as Germany and Luxemburg, credit card frauds and forgeries. In 2003, detectives investigated 4,972 cases resulting in the arrests of 547 individuals for various property and white-collar crimes. The section also recovered a total of $2,759,802.92 in stolen property.

Traffic Crashes

District IV has six full time traffic homicide investigators. Their primary duty is to investigate traffic crashes that involve death or serious bodily injuries. The Traffic Homicide Unit investigated 19 traffic fatalities, while the district investigated 3,678 traffic crashes.

Combatting Aggressive Driving

During the year, the Motor Unit converted their patrol vehicles into unmarked cars in an effort to combat aggressive driving. The motor unit is an invaluable asset in handling traffic problems both large and small. Last year, deputies assigned to the unit assisted the Kyle Petty Charity Ride as it made a stop to refuel. A high point came for the deputies when Kyle Petty took the time to chat and pose for photographs.

Removing Impaired Drivers

District IV has four full time Traffic D.U.I. Investigators, who specialize in removing
impaired drivers from the roadways of Hillsborough County. These deputies operate low profile vehicles equipped with video cameras, which assist them in conducting D.U.I. investigations. Last year, these deputies arrested 462 impaired drivers and issued 1,994 traffic citations.

Selective Enforcement

The Selective Enforcement Squad engages in numerous activities including stakeouts, gang interdiction and street level narcotic investigations. The unit is deployed to assist in any type of law enforcement function requiring manpower or specialized equipment. The squad handles numerous citizen complaints concerning narcotic sales as well as self-generating drug investigations.

During the year, the unit seized crack cocaine, hydroponic marijuana, unlawful prescription medication and all forms of methamphetamines. In separate investigations, the squad discovered an active counterfeit U.S. currency operation and a counterfeit social security card and Mexican driver license operation. The counterfeiting equipment was seized and the perpetrators were arrested in both cases.

Community Policing

District IV continues with Sheriff Henderson’s commitment to Community Policing. Community Resource Deputies work diligently with citizens in their neighborhoods, which has led to noticeable differences in the quality of life in District IV, with some communities enjoying a dramatic decrease in neighborhood crime. District IV remains committed to working with its citizens and forming a partnership with other entities of government to improve the living conditions for all members of the community.

Riverview Community

The Riverview Community Station’s Deputy Susan Shute and Community Service Officer Barbara Jones-Kiplinger, the Communications Center and the Enforcement Operations Department adopted the Riverview Manor Assisted Living Facility for Christmas. Twenty-seven residents of the facility were treated to a Christmas party where Santa (Deputy Paul Shute) delivered gifts. Hungry Howies Pizza and Winn Dixie donated the food for the event.

Farewell to Friends

A crowd of approximately 350 fellow officers and members of the community came together, volunteering hard work and food on Friday, May 30. Well wishes and congratulations were extended to nine retirees that commemorated 332 years of public service. The donations of food, beverages, cooking supplies, coolers, serving trays, tents and flowers, to name a few, made our event an overwhelming success. Sheriff Henderson extended warm congratulations and appreciation for their dedicated commitment and many years of valuable service to the community. Members of the community, families of the retirees and employees of the Sheriff’s Office were humbled and impressed by the efforts put forth by the partnership of various organizations and the Sheriff’s Office.
Jail I

Book and Process

Jail Division I includes the Orient Road Jail and all components associated with the booking and processing of individuals arrested in Hillsborough County. Facility operations includes the secure housing and supervision of inmates, as well as support services essential to daily activities for an inmate population of 1,711.

Receiving Area

The Intake Operations Bureau is comprised of a central receiving area for new admissions. It includes Central Booking, Intake Housing, Central Breath Testing, a Medical Clinic and numerous other support services. Central Booking receives all arrestees in Hillsborough County for 25 law enforcement agencies. Each inmate is processed through property intake, medical screening, fingerprinting, photographing and classification during the booking procedure. State-of-the-art technology is used throughout booking, including video imaging photographs and electronic (inkless) fingerprinting. The Automatic Fingerprinting Identification System (AFIS) identifies inmates within minutes and provides a real-time positive identification on all inmates arrested. Inmates are assessed a $20 initial per diem fee, which generated $746,284 for the County’s general fund. Last year, the number of persons booked in 2003 increased by 2.9%, totaling 66,344.

Housing

The Housing Operations Bureau is divided into two areas: North and South. Each is comprised of three housing units totaling approximately 750 inmates per area. A housing unit is comprised of four inmate-housing pods. Each unit has its own multipurpose room, which is used for various educational programs and religious services. This design limits the amount of traffic throughout the facility, thereby improving security and control. Newly arriving inmates are received throughout the day from Intake Housing, as well as transfers from other parts of the Jail System. The deputies assigned in the pods use Direct Supervision management to maintain control of up to seventy-two inmates. The pods are designed to be as self-sufficient as possible. Each pod is equipped with a food service area, laundry, recreation yards and visitation booths. Nurses visit each pod throughout the day to dispense prescribed medications. The Orient Road Jail inmate demographics are as varied as any large city. The facility houses sentenced and pretrial, men, women, juveniles, and mentally ill inmates. Staff ensures persons remanded to their care are provided with safe, secure and humane treatment and supervision.
Over 6,000 DUI Cases Processed

The Central Breath Testing Unit is adjacent to the booking area of the Orient Road Jail and is staffed by certified technicians. In addition to operating within the confines of the facility, the technicians are able to perform testing from a mobile unit. In 2003, the Central Breath Testing Unit processed 6,067 DUI cases.

Savings In Fiber Optic Connection

A fiber optic link connects the jails and the courthouse via closed circuit television. This enables inmates to appear in court without having to leave the secure confines of the jail. First Appearance Court is scheduled 365 days a year to accommodate inmates who are required to appear before a judge within twenty-four hours of their arrest. During this hearing, defendants are advised of their charges and bonds. Representatives from the State Attorney’s Office and the Public Defender’s Office also appear on the video monitors. Other courts utilizing the fiber optic link include Circuit Division “O,” Afternoon Traffic, and Misdemeanor and Felony Video Court. This technology saves the costly transportation of hundreds of inmates every day and results in enhanced security.

National Model

The Juvenile Assessment Center serves as a national model for tracking juvenile offenders. JAC is a multi-agency collaborative effort established to facilitate the processing of juveniles taken into custody by law enforcement. The facility is designed to allow arresting officers to release juveniles to detention deputies and return to patrol duties. It is Central Booking for juveniles without the associated housing found in a jail.

In 2003, 10,047 juveniles were processed through this innovative system, and their criminal behavior documented. While in custody, the offenders are assessed for educational deficiencies, chemical dependencies and family needs. When the screening is completed, a determination is made whether the youth will be transported to the Juvenile Detention Center, placed in Home Detention, released to his/her family or assigned to a supervised program while awaiting a court date.

Supporting the Community

In support of the Children’s Home, Inc., Jail Division I volunteers have collected over 300 Christmas gifts for needy children. Agency employees were supported by the project Leadership Tampa Class of 2000, Griffin Industries and various individual citizens from around the community. The Children’s Home, which offers programs and services for abused children and at-risk families. The home is often where both youths and their families begin to heal emotionally, physically and spiritually.
Jail Division II is comprised of the Falkenburg Road Jail and the Work Release Center. The Falkenburg Road Jail opened in 1998 and is the model for all future detention facility construction in Hillsborough County. This year an expansion of the Falkenburg Road Jail opened six new housing units, which will house an additional 1,536 inmates, for a total rated capacity of 2,304. A Medical Services Building provides for the care and treatment of inmate patients with current technology in an up-to-date medical setting. The new infirmary consists of two 50-bed units, each with two 10-bed wards, 10 acute care beds and 20 isolation rooms. The clinic is equipped with a dialysis treatment room, x-ray room and pharmacy. An inmate programs building completed the expansion, with educational and sewing classes, religious services, domestic violence and parenting classes, and a video courtroom.

Coordination Point

Programs and projects coordinated under the direction of Jail Division II include the Detention Department’s Tactical Action Control Team, the Sheriff’s Office Honor Guard Team and Strategic Management. This year the Honor Guard sent six team members to Washington, D.C., to attend the National Law Enforcement Memorial in honor of the fallen Law Enforcement and Correctional Officers nationwide. The Honor Guard is comprised of an Honor Team and a Color Guard Team. The Honor Team provides services for funeral details for sworn, civilian and other members of the law enforcement community who have died. The Color Guard provides services for civic events, law enforcement and detention academy graduations and participates in numerous annual parades in the community. The Tactical Action Control Team provides specialized services in response to emergency situations occurring in detention facilities. TACT participates in community and civic events by demonstrating their skills and tactics, and by using visual static displays.
Strategically Managing

A Strategic Management Program was developed to function as a tool to better serve management and the agency by identifying key areas of concern. By identifying, tracking and assessing jail related activities through four specific measures; each division collects data showing improvements or problems to be corrected through everyday operations. These measures embody the Sheriff’s Office Mission Statement and the Character First ideals. The efficient and effective operation of each unit, division, and thus the department, will be enhanced.

People Oriented Positive Leadership

The Detention Department has implemented and established the philosophy of POPL, or People Oriented Positive Leadership, developed by Lieutenant Terrence Griffiths. This philosophy is shared, used and taught through example in everyday duties. A monthly periodical is disseminated throughout the Detention Department and other departments. This periodical emphasizes “words of wisdom” and methods of surviving day-to-day through the use of positive leadership practices. The POPL Tribune is an interactive tool and relies on input for its success.

Alumni Association Born

This year Jail Division II initiated the Sheriff’s Office Alumni Association. The Alumni Association was developed in order to better inform our esteemed retirees and associates of current Sheriff’s Office events and issues affecting retirees (benefits, insurance, etc.). The association will also serve as a means for Sheriff’s Office employees, past and present, to maintain links forged together through years of employment and friendship. The association also provides all Sheriff’s Office retirees with informative communications, through quarterly meetings, relative to upcoming annual and current events by dissemination of information through the Sheriff’s Observer and other periodicals.
Jail III

Variation

Jail Division III is comprised of multiple bureaus that function at all facilities throughout the department. Classification, Facilities Maintenance, Food Service, Inmate Programs, Inmate Services, Medical Services, Transportation, Criminal Registration and the Morgan Street Jail are all part of this unique division.

Steel and Catwalks

Morgan Street Jail currently houses up to 200 federal inmates under a contractual agreement with the United States Marshal’s Service. However, soon this facility will close its steel doors and give way to the national trend of the more cost effective direct supervision jails. Since 1964, this high maintenance, staff intensive facility has held some of the most notorious criminals in our county behind its bars. Understandably, Morgan Street Jail has had some of the finest detention deputies working the catwalks.

Registrations

The Criminal Registration Unit provides a vital service to public safety. Staff members are responsible for gathering information, fingerprinting, photographing and registering felony criminal offenders, sexual offenders and sexual predators who have been released from prison and currently reside in Hillsborough County. On any given month, an average of 366 offenders register through this unit.

Classification of Inmate

Responsibility for all aspects of an inmate’s incarceration is within the scope of the Classification Bureau. This bureau works around the clock determining inmate custody levels and housing assignments, documenting court information and processing releasing paperwork. All trusties in the jail system are processed through the Classification Bureau for work assignments based on need, security levels and medical clearance.
Inmate Health

Inmate medical and dental needs are provided by Prison Health Services under a contractual agreement with the Sheriff’s Office. This past June the infirmary at Orient Road Jail was closed and its services were relocated to Falkenburg Road Jail in a new state of the art 46,000 square foot Medical Services Building which includes a 100 bed infirmary. Our vision is that this will maximize onsite services, reduce the need for outside medical treatment, and serve as a national model.

Community Service Cleans Up

The Transportation Section provides transportation for all inmates throughout the county and is responsible for the Sheriff’s Jail Work Crew. With the use of individuals sentenced to community service, this crew collected 32,940 bags of garbage from the roadsides in Hillsborough County during the past year.

Inmate Needs Met

The Programs Bureau and Inmate Services Section meet the daily needs of inmates, providing services such as mail, laundry, accounting, commissary privileges and educational opportunities. Profits made from the commissary are used to purchase inmate recreational items and educational equipment such as televisions, computers and supplies for sewing and carpentry classes. Recently, female inmates enrolled in sewing classes began making their own sleep gowns thus saving the county an estimated $6.00 per gown, or approximately $3,414 per year.

Community Involvement

Personnel assigned to Jail Division III, both sworn and civilian alike, are eagerly involved in serving and supporting various community resource programs. Team members give unselfishly, serving as coaches and scout leaders as well as participating in civic clubs and organizations throughout the Tampa Bay area.

This past summer, a local community service was given eight backpacks filled with pens, pencils, paper, markers, crayons, etc. The goal was to give children the supplies needed to get off to a great start this school year. At Christmas, seven families were adopted through this same community resource program, providing gifts and services to struggling members of the community. The families’ list of needs and desires was divided among the different facets of Jail Division III and each was responsible for providing and collecting the donations of clothes, toys and household items. The response was overwhelming. Employees used their own creativity to collect monetary donations, which were used to purchase gift cards to stores such as Publix and Wal-Mart. One family even received a needed Christmas tree with lights and all the decorations.
Central Repository

The Records Section is the central repository of incident and Florida traffic crash reports. The section is staffed with twenty-five positions that support and manage various administrative services. This includes the processing of approximately 130,000 reports and recording detailed crime data for Uniform Crime Reporting. The Records Custodian managed the process of stored records and provides responses to subpoenas and other consumer requests. These services allow information to be accessible to the public and all other criminal justice agencies.

Safety to Meals

The Court Services Section provides support for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, which includes 52 Judges, 6 General Masters, 16 Hearing Officers and 2 Enforcement Officers. The section is responsible for security and decorum in the courtroom. The section is also responsible for juror meals, and the transportation and overnight accommodations for sequestered jurors. Additionally, bailiffs provide security for numerous attorneys and juvenile program personnel who administer hearings and teen courts during evening hours. This year, 50,237 inmates were transported to the Hillsborough County Courthouse to appear in court; often more than 300 per day. In addition, 3,200 defendants were taken into custody for arrest warrants or court orders. The Court Services Section dedicates 105 detention bailiffs, 8 detention supervisors, 1 law enforcement supervisor and a clerical position to these efforts.

Service and Execution

The Court Process Section, a vital part of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, is charged with the service and execution of all legal papers and processes within Hillsborough County. This includes Subpoenas, Writs of Possession, Replevins, Levies, and Injunctions Against Violence. The section dedicates 13 law enforcement deputies, 4 law enforcement supervisors, 18 process servers, and 16 clerical positions to the monumental task of insuring the public that these processes are properly served or executed. Service is made to more than 1,083,520 citizens in Hillsborough County. The section received an average of 19,000 processes a month during the past year, of those received, 16,000 a month were either served or executed.

Positive Identification

The Identification Section is the central repository for criminal history records, fingerprints and photographs of all persons arrested in Hillsborough County. These records are stored and retrieved by Sheriff’s Office Identification number (SOID#), with the most recent numbering 538,246.

Last year the Forensic Print Unit processed 3,129 requests for fingerprint comparisons, resulting in 692 persons being positively identified. This unit is online with the statewide
database Automated Fingerprint Identification System, receiving 3,981 requests. Fingerprint Technicians who processed the fingerprints of 77,032 arrested persons made eighty identifications via AFIS. Using this statewide database insures that anyone with prints in this database cannot enter the system under an alias.

**Training Never Stops**

The Training Section kept all Sheriff’s Office employees current in job related information in their respective areas through ongoing training. This is accomplished in the form of annual in-service training in addition to, advanced, specialized, civilian choice based and computerized training. Multiple detention academies and law enforcement modules kept the section extremely busy in 2003.

At the Firearms and Practical Training Facility in Lithia, a Boeing 727 commercial airliner was added for Anti-Terrorism training. This aircraft was disassembled in Orlando and transported by back roads to the training site, where it was reassembled. Over a span of several months, it took the efforts of more than a hundred people, most of whom volunteered their services to accomplish this very unusual mission. This aircraft is now one of only two facilities available in the United States for this type of training. This whole idea was born in the minds of two individuals, Mr. Edward Hill, whose company Capital Cargo International was about to scrap the aircraft, and his brother Deputy Bill Hill, who brought the idea to Sheriff Cal Henderson.

The Anti-Terrorism Training Facility was dedicated on December 8, 2003. Keynote speaker, John Walsh featured the new facility on his nationally televised program “America’s Most Wanted”. Law enforcement agencies, United States Central Command and United States Special Operations will use the facility.

Among the other features of this out-standing training facility are nine separate firearms ranges, a full tactical obstacle course, twelve classrooms, administrative offices, a state-of-the-art shooting dark house, a 360-degree shoot house, a 360-degree bomb detonation area, a 300-yard sniper range, a multilevel 6 story rappel tower, a six and one half acre tactical driving pad and a school bus and passenger bus for hostage exercises.

**Employees – Our Most Valuable Asset**

The Personnel Processing Section continued to process new employees, while assisting D.R.O.P. participants with their retirement processing. The section assisted the greatest number of employees ever with retirement needs including 73 employees that retired in June 2003.

The Employee Benefits Section conducted two open enrollment sessions for all employees. Employees were assisted in changing to new carriers and plans for medical, dental and life insurances. A new U.S. Savings Bond program was also introduced to all employees with the opportunity to purchase different types of savings bonds. The section assisted 83 employees with disability claims, 208 employees with FMLA claims and 449 employees with workers’ compensation claims.
New for Old at No Cost

The employees of the Automotive Section are responsible for a vehicle fleet of 1,849 vehicles. In accordance with our vehicle replacement plan, 195 patrol vehicles were replaced with 2003 Ford Crown Victoria pursuit vehicles. The “new for old” plan continued with patrol motorcycles. All 25 Harley Davidson motorcycles in the fleet were replaced with 2003 models at no cost. During 2003, our vehicle fleet of both marked and unmarked vehicles collectively traveled more than 20 million miles and consumed approximately 1,852,332 gallons of fuel.

Improving Customer Service

Communications Maintenance personnel provide technical support for all components within the Sheriff’s Office by maintaining critical communications networks, such as the countywide 800 MHz trunked radio communications system, in-house telephone network, cellular telephones, and pagers. These networks were responsible for collectively processing over 20 million calls from customers last year.

Several significant projects were undertaken to improve customer service and usability. The installation project associated with the new laptops and console equipment for patrol vehicles and the renovation of the Communications Center. The renovation project involved removing the old dispatch consoles and replacing these consoles with enclosures manufactured by Facilities Maintenance personnel. A control base installed into the Communications Center will allow communications between state agencies and interoperability between Tampa Police, USF Police, Temple Terrace Police, and Plant City Police.

Securing Evidence

The Evidence Control Section provides secure intake, storage, transfer and disposal of all evidence and found property. In 2003, over 55,000 items from more than 22,300 cases were impounded also, 16,300 narcotics items and 1,100 firearms were destroyed, and more than $375,000 was converted to government funds. Additionally, many building improvements were undertaken that provided more efficient use of work and storage space. One evidence technician position was upgraded to a manager, providing supervision 24 hours a day.

New and Improving

The Print Shop provides design services, signs, laminating, along with black and white and color printing services. The Print Shop completed
completed over 2,050 graphic services requests in 2003.

**A Category Five Year**

The winds of change blew through the Communications Bureau like a category five hurricane. Aesthetically, the bureau received new paint, carpet, brick pavers. Ergonomically, all chairs were replaced with new twenty-four hour chairs and all workstations were upgraded with motorized furniture that makes it possible for dispatchers to sit or stand while performing their duties.

Technical advances were equally as impressive, as seventeen 911 positions were increased to twenty-six Plant “911 Intelligent Workstations,” completely computerizing the existing telephone system. Accompanying this system is a management program, which makes it possible to capture much more critical information than the previous system. The existing recording system was upgraded from a sixty-four channel digital tape recorder, to the Plant Pyxis one hundred-twenty channel recorder with over one and one-half terabytes of storage space. This eliminated the need to change media on a daily basis. The electrical system underwent a complete restructuring to accommodate all of the upgrades with a new uninterrupted power supply that is dedicated to the 911 equipment. The calm during the eye of this gale force technological development came when the Communications Bureau proved capable of relocating the entire operation to the Emergency Back-Up Communications Facility for a period of two months. Along with these changes last year the Communications Bureau received 945,183 incoming calls and dispatched a total of 305,784 calls for service.

**Tele-Service**

The Teleserve Section of the Communications Bureau is comprised of seven community service officers who are part of an integral team assisting road patrol deputies in initiating reports telephonically. These officers wrote approximately 12,513 offense reports last year on delayed or low priority offenses, and assisted the citizens on 1,603 referrals, while answering numerous inquiries.

The Teleserve Section has an impound officer who manages the fifty-two wrecker companies currently on the tow-rotation list. The impound officer audits vehicles on “hold” for evidence procedures, in addition to investigating complaints made against the wrecker companies in conjunction with the Public Transportation Commission, while administratively completing paperwork mandated by state statute and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

**550,000 Square Feet of Maintenance**

The Property Control Section, comprised of 27 assigned personnel, maintains 51 facilities comprising over 550,000 square feet of office space. During the latter portion of 2003, the section was combined under Mr. Bruce Sullivan with Detention Facilities Maintenance, unifying all facilities maintenance employees. Major renovations and projects completed by the newly combined section include: the Sheriff’s conference room, renovation of ceramic tile in District I, renovation of the Communications Center and modification of a portable classroom to office space for the Marine Unit at the Port of Tampa. At the Firearms and Practical Training Facility, the section renovated two portable classrooms, completed the ERT obstacle course, and reassembled a 727 aircraft for terrorism training.
Legal

Lawyer: n. An individual whose principal role is to protect his or her clients from other lawyers. Anonymous

If only it were always that simple. It has been another “exciting” (read as exasperating with a hint of sarcasm) and “event filled” (read as replete with never-ending legal battles) year in the legal section where those who “serve and protect” turn for protection when they get served.

For those of you who haven’t had the distinct pleasure of working with legal, a brief introduction is in order.

Operating under the Executive Support Department of the Sheriff’s Office chain of command, Chief Legal Counsel Ellen Leonard heads a full service legal and risk management department that handles everything from administrative housekeeping issues to full-blown multimillion-dollar lawsuits and everything in between. She has been the chief for 5 years and has ushered in an era at the Sheriff’s Office where nearly every legal matter is now handled in-house by a staff of litigation attorneys, claims managers and legal secretaries. Unlike previous years where the majority of lawsuits and legal concerns were contracted out to an array of private attorneys, the current legal unit strives to develop a strong understanding and rapport with all deputies and employees of the Sheriff’s Office so areas of potential liability can be addressed from the very beginning.

Trial attorneys, Chris Sabella, Thea Clark and Michael Perotti handled the bulk of the incoming lawsuits this year, which unfortunately kept pace with the general trend of increased litigation. With collective backgrounds in state and federal prosecution and insurance defense, this team of young litigators routinely advocates head to head with the areas most recognized Plaintiff’s attorneys. In 2003 alone, the Sheriff’s Office or its deputies were named in 49 new civil complaints ranging from minor property damage to Federal Civil Rights cases in which Plaintiffs are seeking millions of dollars. Whether it is vehicular crashes or use of deadly force situations, the legal staff is always on standby to help sort out the details with regard to potential liability and evidentiary concerns.
Joining the legal staff in mid-year, attorney Jason Gordillo was originally hired in anticipation of the Sheriff’s Office assuming the Children and Family Services responsibilities. However, when the state budgeting fell short, he became a welcome addition to a legal staff that saw its active caseload eclipse the century mark.

Working alongside the attorneys are: Civil Claims Administrator, Linda Unfried; Risk Manager, Charlie Downie; State Attorney’s Office Liaison, Tom Roberts; and Legal Secretaries, Merrill Blau, Rose Stanton, and Kelly Hornbeek. Put all of these components together and you have a risk assessing, liability limiting, lawsuit handling legal team that helps the Sheriff’s Office continue to be a superior agency and a role model for other law enforcement communities.

The results of this team provided even more support that this staff can and does handle it all. Three cases ended in weeklong jury trials this year. Two were auto accidents involving deputies and one was a federal civil rights trial against an individual deputy arising from a shooting. All three resulted in complete defense verdicts. The attorneys won several other cases without even making it to trial thanks to effective motion work. Meanwhile the Sheriff’s Office had another year in which total assets seized through contraband forfeiture was well over $300,000.00 this has occurred at least 5 consecutive years.

All told, 2003 was a productive and memorable year for the Sheriff’s Office legal staff. It would appear that teamwork and constant interaction with deputies and other HCSO staff by this qualified group has provided an excellent recipe for continued success in the Sheriff’s Office’s legal affairs.
Crime Stoppers of West Central Florida is a community program, which is designed to bring law enforcement, the news media, and the citizens together in an effort to combat crime and make the community a safer place to live. It is a safe, effective outlet for the citizen to provide much needed information on crime and criminals. Callers can remain anonymous and collect a cash reward if their information leads to the solving of a crime or the apprehension of a felony offender. Crime Stoppers also acts as a conduit between law enforcement and the media for the purpose of bringing public attention to unsolved crimes and fugitives who frustrate law enforcement.

Although Crime Stoppers is coordinated by a detective from the Community Relations Section, the private, non-profit organization is governed by a volunteer board of directors and serves the communities and law enforcement agencies in four west central Florida counties: Citrus, Desoto, Hillsborough, and Pasco. Falling under the Crime Stoppers umbrella is the Hillsborough County Student Crime Stoppers program, which is active in every public middle and senior high school in Hillsborough County. To date, the program includes a total of sixty-four schools.

During 2003, Crime Stoppers of WCF, Inc. received 2,766 calls to its anonymous tip-line. This helped law enforcement make 76 arrests, clear 257 criminal cases and recover $98,023 in property and narcotics. The Hillsborough County Student Crime Stoppers program was just as busy this year. Anonymous student tips led to the arrests of 66 students, the clearing of 133 criminal cases and the recovery of narcotics and property valued at over $10,000. The student program also successfully removed one firearm, fifteen knives, and five other types of weapons from Hillsborough County schools.

Crime Stoppers of West Central Florida, Inc. averages approximately 33 criminal cases solved and 12 arrests per month. Since the program’s inception in 1988, Crime Stoppers has assisted law enforcement in clearing over 7,356 criminal cases, effecting over 2,220 arrests, recovering property and narcotics valued at over $1,063,608 and has paid out over $231,156 in rewards. The savings to the public is enormous when you consider that each unsolved crime costs taxpayers thousands of dollars for investigation. When a crime is solved through Crime Stoppers, the cost is approximately $31 per solved case without the use of tax dollars.

Since 1999, Crime Stoppers has received the majority of its funding from the Crime Stoppers Trust Fund. In every judicial circuit in the state, judges assess a $20 surcharge on all criminal fines for the Crime Stoppers Trust Fund. These funds are then returned to the local Crime Stoppers program via grants through the Office of the Attorney General. The irony of this arrangement is that criminals are helping pay for the very same program which may have been responsible for their identification and arrest.

In addition to providing the community with an anonymous tip-line for reporting crime related information, Crime Stoppers introduced a new, prevention based program in 2003: Project Picture and Print. Using a laptop computer, webcam, digital fingerprint scanner, color laser printer and specialized software, Crime Stoppers is able to provide a program for digitally fingerprinting and photographing young children in less than sixty seconds. The child’s picture and thumb prints appear on a card, which the parent then takes home to complete with all of the child’s personal information should the child ever become missing. Since the program’s inception in June, over 1000 children have been fingerprinted and photographed.
If it seems like there has been a lot of new equipment and staffing in the last few years, you are correct. What you may not know is that most of it was acquired with monies provided through federal and state grants.

In the four years that she has served as the grant writer, Lorelei Bowden has successfully written 35 grant applications that brought the agency more than $10.3 million dollars in funding. In fact, Ms. Bowden has written applications that have resulted in:

- fifty new deputies
- six civilians
- a new Mobile Incident Command vehicle
- traffic enforcement equipment for every district
- the new Printrak Automated Fingerprint Identification System used in the jail
- a community substation
- hundreds of thousands of dollars in domestic security equipment
- canines
- communications systems
- defibrillators
- accident investigation technology
- video and digital cameras
- scholarships for law enforcement applicants
- a new agency marketing campaign
- bulletproof vests
- guns
- cars
- a video stabilization/enhancement system
- two computer servers
- more than a hundred computers and laptops
- and an information sharing network.

The Sheriff’s Office has only had two grant applications denied, and those were years ago. When asked why she thinks she has been so successful at acquiring funds for the agency, Ms. Bowden answers: “Two reasons. First you have to have a good program that you’ve thought out well, and that will truly result in a safer community. Second, you have to have support in the agency. I have had phenomenal support and help from every commander in the agency and their staff. No matter what I needed, every single person I’ve turned to has been concerned and helpful in getting me whatever I needed in pursuit of grants. This is why we’ve been successful.”
ALARM CALLS FOR SERVICE

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<th>Alarm Calls Updated to Non-Alarm Calls</th>
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<td>61,512</td>
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All Districts per quarter for 2003*

2003 Population: D1 = 80,248 D2 = 177,113 D3 = 241,699 D4 = 199,250 **
Square Miles: D1 = 73.28 D2 = 254.48 D3 = 118.04 D4 = 460.98 ***

* District totals may not match agency totals due to calls handled by deputies not assigned to districts.
** 2003 Population Estimates by Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission
*** Square Miles calculated by Planning and Research 08-22-03
Retirees

Julia Adams
Kenneth Alan
Kay Alvarez
Stanley Amsler
Frank Anello
Judy Anello
Fannie Arenas
Elaine Atkinson
Joseph Bamford
Linda Bauer
Drucilla Bishop
Lorena Bitetto
Charles Blitch
Mark Bocknor
Albert Brackett
Kenneth Brandon
Robert Brents
Jerry Bryan
Virginia Bryant
Albert Butner
Ardet Campbell
Seymour Campbell
Jaun Campos
Gerald Carline
Kimberly Cashwell
Earl Chantlos
Bradford Chappel
Andre Chartier
Fred Childers
Richard Clark
Bryant Cochran
Moses Coley
Jerald Comellas
James Core
Gordon Davis Jr.
Lance Delaney
Andrew Deluna
Daniel Deweese
Zeron Dexter
George Dlugia
Stanley Doss
Edward Duncan Sr.
George Ernst
Donald Fairburn
Joseph Farmer
Clyde Fisher
Kevin Fitzpatrick
Naomi Fleming-George
Larry Flynn
James Forbes
Willard Ford
Charles Forrester
Gene Fricke
Robert Gardner
Edemira Goodwin
Joseph Grasso
Glenn Gray
Joe Greco
Bruce Griffis
Karlean Gross
Charles Haber
Keith Halbasch
Thomas Hankerson
George Hannon
Morris Harrison
Robert Hart
Yolanda Hartzog
James Heard
Morton Heim
Dianne Heller
Margaret Herz
Michael Higgins
Joe Howlett
John Hrabovsky
Donald Hunt
James Hutcheson
Gregory Irizarry
Robert Jackson
Madeline Jones
Donald Juettner
James Kelley Jr.
James Kiley
Judith Larsen
Randall Latimer
L. T. Lee
Robert Lee
Robert Libengood
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