



# Operations Report 2023



Dear Fellow Citizens,

It is with great pride that I present the Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office Annual Report for the year 2023. This marks my sixteenth year as your sheriff and it has been an exciting and productive one. It is my pleasure to provide you with the information about the operations and accomplishments of your sheriff's office, information that reflects the dedication and hard work of all the members. The men and women of the Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office have worked diligently to provide high quality service and continue to strive toward a better community. I am proud of their efforts.

As you read through the 2023 Annual Report, you will better understand the function and organizational structure of the sheriff's office. I assure you that we will continue our efforts to better serve you, the community. We will strive to achieve our mission, vision, and values by being one of the most effective and efficient sheriff's office in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

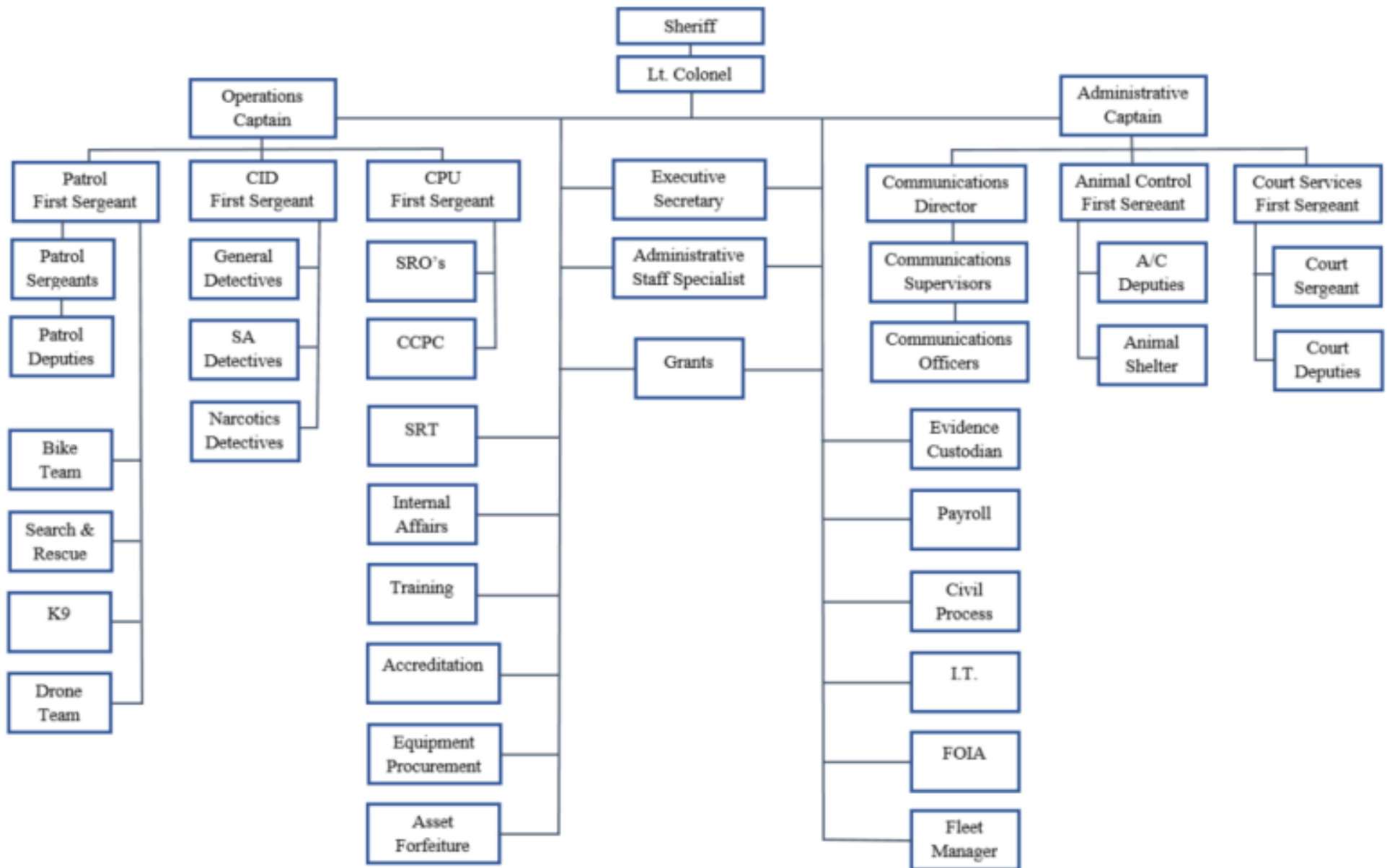
Sincerely,

C.O. Balderson, Sheriff

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# Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office

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## Mission Statement

The Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office will commit its resources in partnership with the community to:

Promote a safe and secure environment, free from crime and the fear of crime

Maintain order and provide for the safe and expeditious flow of traffic

Practice our core values of integrity, respect, service and fairness

**INTEGRITY** Integrity is the hallmark of the Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office and we are committed to the highest performance standard, ethical conduct, and truthfulness in all relationships.

We hold ourselves accountable for our actions and take pride in a professional level of service.

**RESPECT** We treat all persons in a dignified and courteous manner, and exhibit understanding of ethnic and cultural diversity, both in professional and personal endeavors. We guarantee to uphold the principles and values embodied in the constitution of the United States and the State of Virginia.

**SERVICE** We provide quality service in a courteous, efficient, and accessible manner. We foster community and employee involvement through problem-solving partnerships.

**FAIRNESS** We treat all people impartially, with consideration and compassion. We are equally responsive to our employees and the community we serve.

C.O. Balderson Sheriff  
Westmoreland County



### **Accreditation**

The Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office is among an elite group of law enforcement agencies having earned accreditation through the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC). Of the more than 400 law enforcement agencies in Virginia, 109 of them have achieved this distinction.

Accreditation is considered the ultimate measure in professionalism among law enforcement agencies. The Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission consists of members of the Virginia Sheriffs' Association, Virginia Association of Chiefs' of Police, and the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. It has established 192 professional standards divided into four general subject areas: Administration, Operations, Personnel, and Training by which law enforcement agencies are measured. In providing the accreditation program, the Commission's goals are:



To promote public confidence in law enforcement.

To promote cooperation among agencies.

To ensure proper training for law enforcement personnel.

To increase the effectiveness and efficiency of services provided by law enforcement.

In October 2005, the sheriff's office embarked on this ambitious project of becoming accredited through VLEPSC. One and a half years of hard work and dedication culminated in April 2006 when the Office was formally assessed by VLEPSC and subsequently awarded official accredited status on May 25, 2006.

Accreditation sets the standards by which an agency must continue to operate in order to retain their accredited status. These professional standards must become a routine way of conducting sheriff's office business. There are on-going yearly reviews, with re-accreditation scheduled every four years. The sheriff's office was Re-Accredited in May of 2022 with the next audit scheduled for May of 2026.

**Prescription Drug Drop Box Initiative Continues**

The Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office continues its "Prescription Drugs Drop-Box" Initiative. The focus is to alleviate health and safety concerns from our community by collecting and properly disposing of unused and unwanted prescription medications which can be accidentally ingested, stolen, misused and abused. 78.5 pounds were collected and disposed of in 2023.

The Drop-Box is located in the Sheriff's Office lobby. It is labeled/identifiable and is available 24/7 for drop offs. **NO QUESTIONS ASKED!!!**

The Sheriff's Office website ([www.westcoso.us](http://www.westcoso.us)) lists acceptable and unacceptable items.

**Sheriff's Office Participates in TRIAD Program**

TRIAD is a cooperative partnership between senior citizens, law enforcement and prosecutors to share information on how seniors can avoid becoming victims of crime and enhance the safety and quality of their lives. The Westmoreland County S.A.L.T. Council (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) serves as a volunteer advisory committee for the county's TRIAD program.

Membership on the S.A.L.T. committee is comprised of seniors from the community to include members from business, healthcare, legal sectors, service clubs and other community service agencies who are not seniors but who have an interest in their safety and security.

The national based program was established in 1988 when three organizations agreed that senior citizens could better be protected by cooperative efforts. The relationship was cemented when the organizations - the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), and the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) - signed a cooperative agreement.



### **Sheriff's Office Participates in Project Lifesaver**

The Westmoreland County Sheriff's office is a participating member of the Project Lifesaver program. The service is designed to assist families with loved ones suffering from Alzheimer's disease or related dementia disorders, as well as families with children afflicted with Down's syndrome, autism, traumatic brain injuries or cognitive impairments. These persons might be prone to wander away from home and become lost or confused.



### **Thank You from the Sheriff's Office**



On Friday, September 15, 2023, the Westmoreland Ruritan Club donated \$300.00 to our Project Lifesaver Program. This initiative assists our deputies in locating those persons suffering from Autism, Dementia and other cognitive conditions due to a proneness to wander off and become lost or confused. This program is FREE of charge to the participants through the Sheriff's Office.



**Popes Creek Baptist Church Thanks Law Enforcement**



Thank you to Pastor Thomas Preston and Popes Creek Baptist Church for providing a Thanksgiving luncheon on Monday, November 21, 2023 for Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office personnel. We are extremely grateful for the wonderful meal and your thoughtfulness. Your support and generosity is greatly appreciated.

### Shop With The Sheriff Brings Christmas Cheer



The Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office presented thirty four children with clothes, toys and a Subway gift card as part of our annual Shop with the Sheriff event. Sheriff's office personnel and community volunteers conducted the shopping on Tuesday, December 5th at the Walmart Supercenter in Central Park.

On Wednesday, December 20th, the children and family members arrived at the sheriff's office to pick up their wrapped gifts. A special trip was also made by Santa to greet each child and to take photos.

Having the opportunity to provide children with these Christmas gifts is what makes Shop with the Sheriff so meaningful and special for everyone. Seeing the smiles to include a few tears lets you know that you have truly made an impact on someone's life and that is what it is all about. It has truly touched us to witness the heartfelt thanks from the youngsters as well as the adults.



National Night Out Draws Large and Enthusiastic Crowd



I want to express my deepest appreciation to those who came out to the 2023 National Night Out. It was great to see so many people coming together to share in fellowship and enjoy the festivities as a community.

I want to thank the businesses, agencies and their personnel for providing displays to include the live entertainment from the Hard To Tell Band. A special thank you to Stan's Skateland, Carry On Trailer, Blue Ridge Bank, Los Portales, C&F Bank and the O'Gara Group for their sponsorships as well as those who volunteered to assist. Without the support and generosity of all involved, this event would not be possible.

## Sheriff's Office Conducts Junior Deputy Academy



The Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office launched its first Junior Deputy Academy for six grade students at Montross Middle School. The week-long program introduces our youth to the field of law enforcement and the operations of the sheriff's office. Classroom instruction and specialized demonstrations were provided for the eleven cadets which included crime scene investigations, first aid, K-9 usage, gang education, drone deployment, motorcycle patrols, accident investigations and narcotic awareness/prevention. At the end of the week, each cadet was provided with a certificate of completion at their recognition ceremony.



Westmoreland Deputies Receive MADD Awards



On Wednesday, October 25, 2023, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) held their annual awards ceremony in Midlothian, VA. Two deputies, Sergeant Anthony J. Darby and Deputy Rhiannon J. Mulvena, were among those recognized from across the commonwealth for their outstanding efforts in highway safety through enforcement of DUI laws.

I am extremely proud of Sergeant Darby and Deputy Mulvena for their efforts to prevent injury and save lives on our roadways. I commend them for their hard work, continuous commitment and dedication to highway safety. Congratulations and job well done!!

### Little Zion Baptist Church Holds Prison Ministry Event



On Sunday, October 29, 2023, I had the distinct honor to attend and be among other presenters at Little Zion Baptist Church's Prison Ministry Event. The Informational and Educational Community Program focused on the dangers and consequences associated with drug/alcohol abuse and addiction. It also included treatment resources and testimonials from those who have overcome their addictions. A wonderful event with great fellowship, a delicious meal and extremely important information provided by all participants.

I want to thank Minister Anita D. Johnson, Prison Ministry Leader, Reverend Earl T. Howerton, Jr., Pastor and the entire Little Zion Baptist Church family for all of your support and community involvement.

**Sheriff's Office Safe Exchange Zone**

Safe Exchange Zones are designed to increase safety for individuals buying and selling goods through websites such as Craigslist, Offer Up, and Facebook Marketplace, etc. The zones are also used for child custody exchanges.

The Sheriff's Office has designated two parking spaces as a Safe Exchange Zone. The zone is located on the east side of the sheriff's office main entrance. It is clearly marked in yellow along with signage that indicated the spaces are for safe exchanges. However, the zone may be monitored by surveillance cameras and/or law enforcement at all times.

"I was more than happy to designate parking spaces to provide the public with a safe environment to conduct business. Policing is not solely about enforcing laws. It's about offering preventative crime measures as well as providing quality of life based services to our community. This initiative is another way to do exactly that. I encourage those that conduct E-commerce and/or child custody exchanges to take advantage of the Safe Exchange Zone at the sheriff's office as a safe alternative during private party transactions."

C.O. Balderson, Sheriff



Deputy Allison A. Nowacki with K-9 'stitch'

**Community Presentations**

The Sheriff's Office conducted 45 Crime Prevention/Community Relations presentations in 2023. There were 1,647 citizens in attendance during the presentations, which covered the topics of golf cart safety, crime prevention, and traffic safety.



Group A Offenses 2023	Group A Offenses Total
MURDER/NONNEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	1
NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	0
JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE	0
KIDNAPPING/ABDUCTION	2
SEX OFFENSES (FORCIBLE)	15
SEX OFFENSES (NON FORCIBLE)	1
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	16
SIMPLE ASSAULT	96
INTIMIDATION	15
ARSON	1
BRIBERY	0
BURGLARY/BREAKING AND ENTERING	16
COUNTERFEITING/FORGERY	4
DAMAGE/VANDALISM OF PROPERTY	55
EMBEZZLEMENT	3
EXTORTION/BLACKMAIL	0
FALSE PRETENSE/SWINDLE/CONFIDENCE	12
CREDIT CARD/ATM FRAUD	1
IMPERSONATION	1
WELFARE FRAUD	0
WIRE FRAUD	4
IDENTITY THEFT	2
ROBBERY	1
SHOPLIFTING	5
THEFT FROM BUILDING	3
THEFT FROM COIN MACHINE-DEVICE	0
THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	5
THEFT OF MV PARTS	2
ALL OTHER LARCENY	69
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	8
STOLEN PROPERTY OFFENSES	2
DRUGS/NARCOTICS VIOLATIONS	37
DRUG EQUIPMENT VIOLATION	2
PORNOGRAPHY/ OBSCENE MATERIAL	7
WEAPON LAW VIOLATIONS	8

## Group A Offenses

Group A offenses consist of the most serious crimes reported by the Sheriff's Office to the State. Group A offenses consist of 22 categories of crime.

The Crimes reported column represents the total number of offenses reported by the Sheriff's Office to the State in calendar year 2023.\*

GROUP B OFFENSE 2023	TOTAL ARRESTS
BAD CHECKS	1
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	0
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	41
DRUNKENNESS	20
FAMILY OFFENSES (NON VIOLENT)	1
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	0
RUNAWAY	0
TRESPASS OF REAL PROPERTY	3
CONSPIRE TO COMMIT GROUP A OFF	0
ALL OTHER OFFENSES	38

## Group B Offenses

Group B offenses are crimes of a less serious nature. The State requires only that arrests for these offenses be reported. There are 12 crimes which require reporting arrest data

The total column represents the number of arrests for each offense reported in 2023.

\*Records source IBR submissions to VSP



<b>Offense</b>	<b>2023</b>
MURDER/ MANSLAUGHTER	1
RAPE	5
SODOMY	5
SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH AN OBJECT	1
ROBBERY	1
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	15
SIMPLE ASSAULT	91
INTIMIDATION / HARASSMENT	13
ARSON	1
EXTORTION/BLACKMAIL	1
BURGLARY/BREAKING & ENTERING	18
SHOPLIFTING	5
LARCENY FROM BUILDING	3
LARCENY FROM VEHICLE	5
LARCENY PARTS /ACC FROM VEHICLE	2
ALL OTHER LARCENY	69
VEHICLE THEFT	8
COUNTERFEITING/FORGERY	5
FRAUD (FALSE PRETENSE, SWINDLE)	12
FRAUD (CREDIT CARD, ATM)	1
IMPERSONATION	1
FRAUD BY WIRE	4
EMBEZZLEMENT	3
RECEIVE / POSSESS STOLEN PROPERTY	1
DAMAGE PROPERTY	63
DRUG NARCOTIC VIOLATIONS	42
DRUG EQUIPMENT VIOLATIONS	2
PORNOGRAPHY/OBSCENE MATERIAL	7
BRIBERY	0
WEAPON LAW VIOLATIONS	2
ANIMAL CRUELTY	3
BAD CHECKS	3
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	2
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	41
DRUNKENNESS	28
FAMILY OFFENSES, NONVIOLENT	1
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	0
RUNAWAY	0
TRESPASS OF REAL PROPERTY	3
ALL OTHER OFFENSES	325

## **2023 Group Offenses**

The numbers represented on these pages are the total offenses reported to Westmoreland Sheriff's Office in 2023. Summary numbers attributed to State IBR statistics from previous pages may not match these totals due to type of crimes involved per incident, unfounded cases, and other reporting procedures.

**2023 Drug Enforcement**

In 2023 there were a total of 96 narcotics offenses reported in Westmoreland County. These and older investigations resulted in 61 arrests for narcotics violations in the county.

The Sheriff's Office is also a member of a Tri-County Drug Task Force. The Task Force is comprised of sheriff's offices from Westmoreland County, King George County, Caroline County, to include the Virginia State Police and Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

Drug Seizures reported by the Task Force during 2021 were predominantly Cocaine, and Marijuana.



Cocaine — 2,813.86 grams  
Fentanyl --- 309.46 grams  
Eutylone (Salts) — 99.9 grams  
Crystal Meth (ICE) — 40.10 grams  
Heroin – 37.00 grams



## Traffic Summons Issued in 2023

Failure to Wear Seatbelt	15
Failure to Secure Child	4
Reckless Driving	36
Illegal Window Tint	4
Driving Suspended/revoked	30
Expired State Inspection	373
Expired Registration	11
Fail to Obey Highway Sign	69
No Operator License	52
Fail to Yield Right of Way	4
Eluding	1
Improper Equipment	10
Improper Registration	10
No Liability Insurance	6
Speeding	100
All other Traffic Offense	598

The chart at left represents the traffic summonses issued by the Sheriff's Office in 2023.

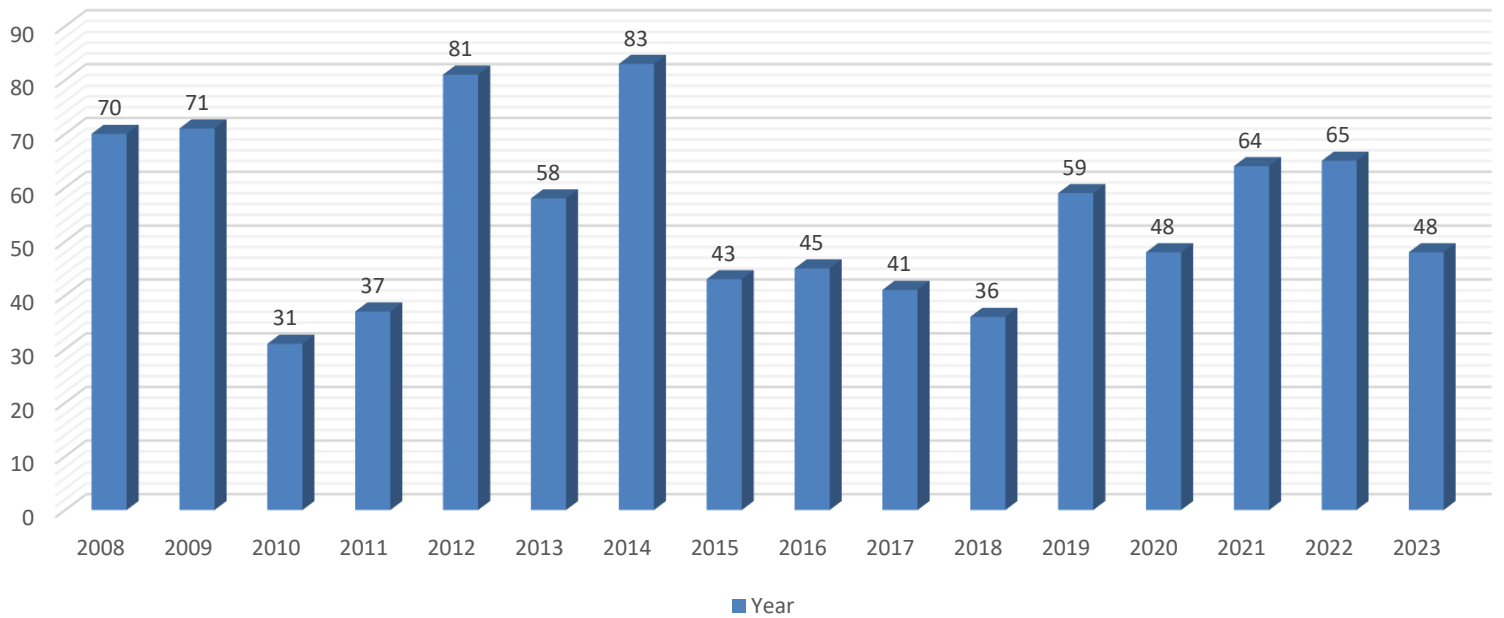


## Accident Investigations

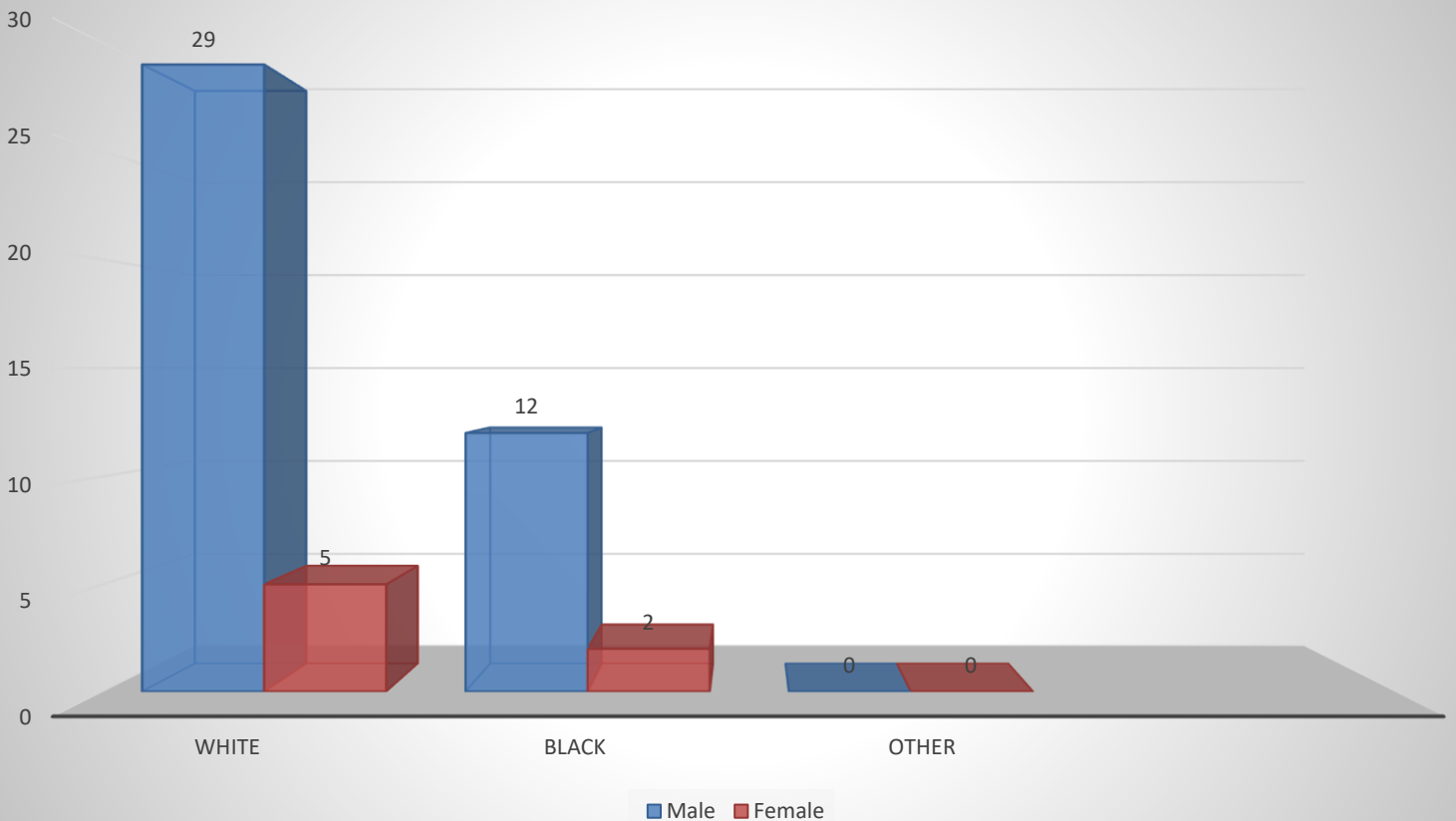
### Accidents Worked Each Year



## DUI Arrests 2008 to 2023



## DUI Arrests 2023 by Race/Gender





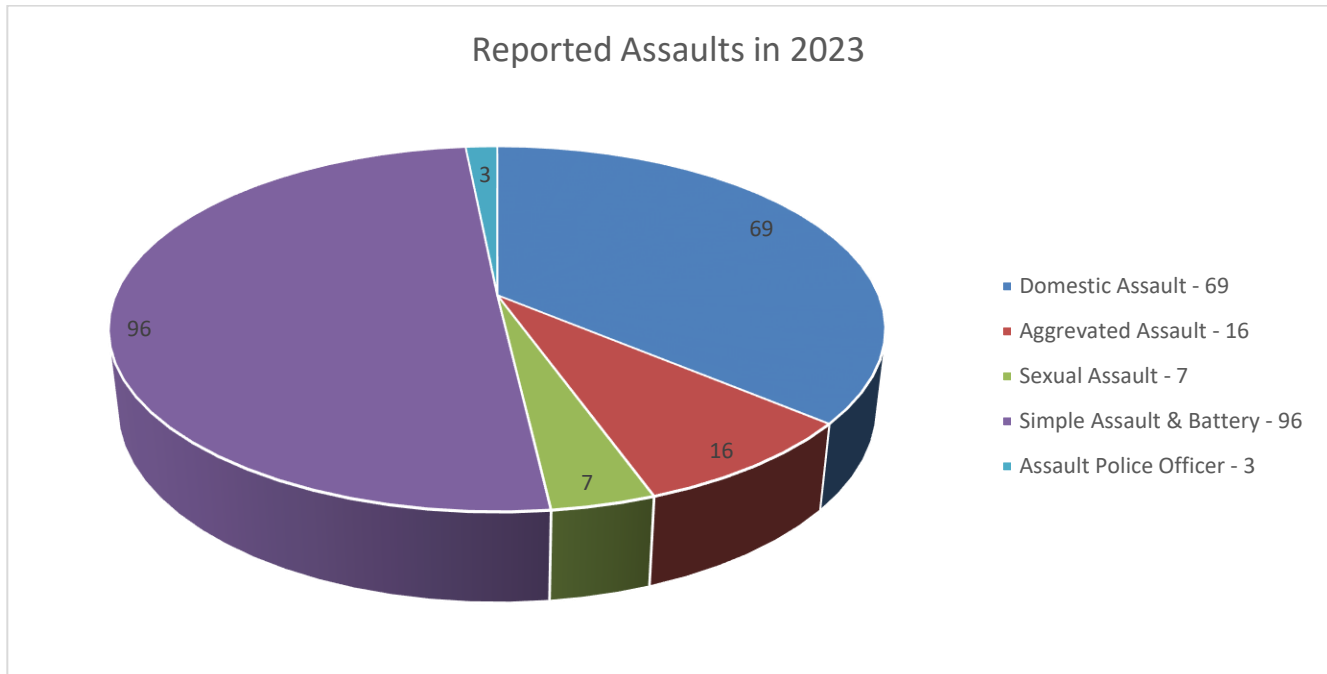
**Arrest Statistics**

The data below represents the total arrests for each offense in 2023. The data does not indicate the number of incidents, just the number of arrests per offense.

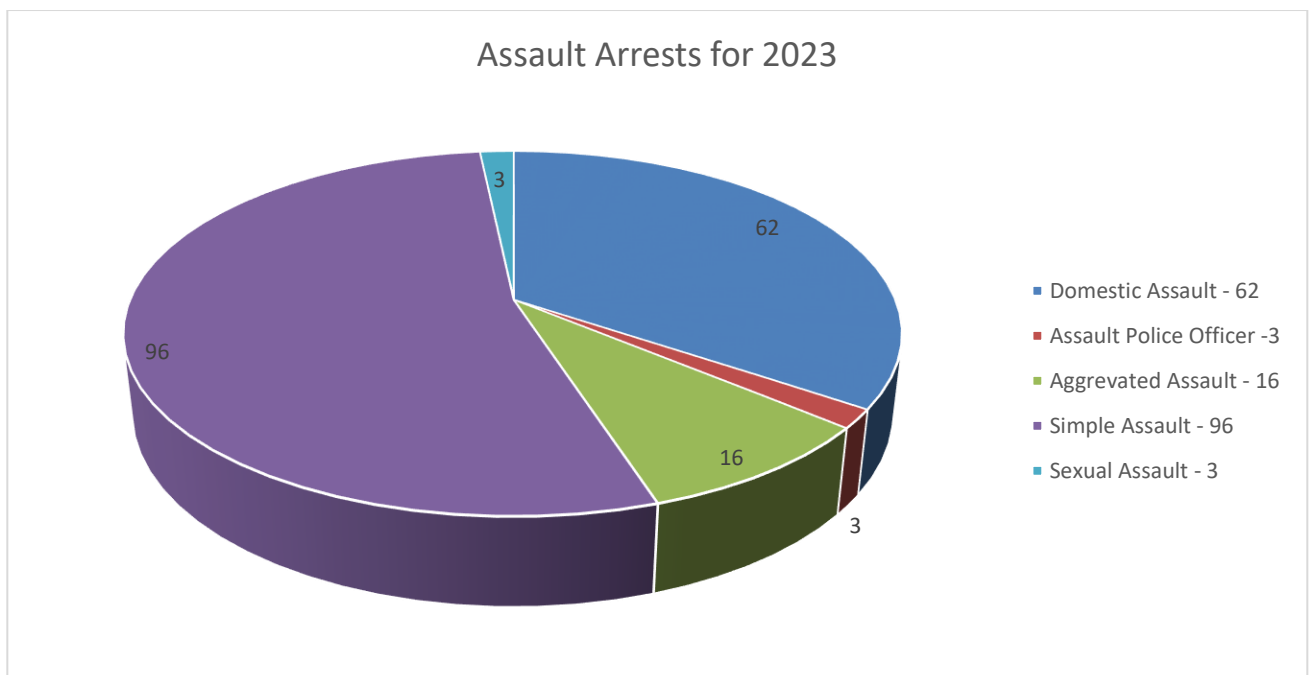
Offense	2023
Murder	2
Rape	1
Sodomy	1
Sexual Assault with Object	0
Aggravated Assault	9
Simple Assault	74
Intimidation	4
Extortion/Blackmail	0
Burglary/ Breaking & Entering	3
Shoplifting	2
Theft from Building	0
Theft from Motor Vehicle	2
All Other Larceny	10
Counterfeiting/Forgery	0
Credit Card/ATM Fraud	0
Embezzlement	0
Stolen Property Offenses	0
Damage, Vandalism to Property	19
Drug/Narcotic Violations	25
Drug Equipment Violations	0
Pornography/Obscene Material	3
Bribery	0
Weapon Law Violations	2
Animal Cruelty	3
Bad Checks	3
Disorderly Conduct	1
Driving Under the Influence	41
Drunkenness	28
Family Offenses, Nonviolent	0
Liquor Law Violations	0
Trespass of Real Property	3
All Other Offenses	59



## Reported Assaults in 2023



The chart above represents the number of assaults reported in 2023. The chart below represents the number of arrests made for assault offenses.



**Court Security Statistics**

<b>Court Days</b>	<b>Court Days</b>	<b>Man-hours</b>
2012	193	5,269
2013	187	4,888
2014	197	4,875
2015	196	4,638
2016	179	3,964
2017	168	3,419
2018	136	3,419
2019	224	4,115
2020	227	3,925
2021	227	4,025
2022	191	4,397
2023	203	4,985

<b>Inmate Transports</b>	<b>Man-hours</b>	<b>Miles</b>
2012	847	24,858
2013	1,279	32,422
2014	1,480	37,156
2015	1,192	31,380
2016	827	27,380
2017	1,183	27,463
2018	1,321	32,817
2019	1,482	30,025
2020	1,405	21,660
2021	1,506	21,534
2022	2,417	30,126
2023	2,809	33,813

## Civil Papers Served

Paper Type	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Paper Type not specified	2					
Admins. Support Order	9	4	9	9	9	6
Advance Notice of Lien						
Emergency Removal Order		3		1	6	
DMV Notice	111	111	74	106	99	47
Domestic Violence Protective Order						
ECO	12	11	13	12	13	6
Emergency Protective Order	271	271	236	328	328	285
Employer's Income Deduction Order for Support						
Eviction Notice	56	64	27	18	31	26
Garnishment Summons	250	297	178	211	240	280
Information						
Jury Summons	672	816	383	352	412	509
Juvenile Petitions/Summons	706	944	893	745	624	720
Motion for Judgment	3	2	3	1	1	3
Motion Order to Amend	14	8	6	8	48	78
Notice	328	427	309	260	308	284
Notice of Appeal	7		1	1	2	1
Notice of Depositions		1				
Notice of Hearing	102	67	347	85	89	55
Notice of Seizure		1	1			2
Order of Attachment				1	1	
Payroll Deduction Order						
Petition for Support						
Petition	36	32	31	90	77	61
Preliminary Protective Order-Family Abuse	222	212	192	189	247	189
Protective Order - Family Abuse	39	54	61	45	70	58
Show Cause Summons	201	208	90	131	97	178
Subpoena	303	304	243	276	190	198
Subpoena Duces Tecum	21	24	16	17	19	16
Subpoena for Witness	1432	1569	1,442	1411	1642	1352
Summons Answer Interrogatories	24	28	13	15	18	6
Summons for Unlawful Detainer	258	259	150	95	134	179
TDO	24	30	31	35	31	34
Trespass Notice	48	56	42	40	38	60
Warrant In Debt	493	608	322	361	321	397
Warrant In Detinue	35	22	17	17	27	35
Writ of Execution	1			1		
Writ of Fieri Facias	6	8	8	7	5	9
Writ of Possession	73	70	23	11	20	11
Writ of Possession/Fieri Facias				1		3



911 hang up	1857	HIGH WATER / FLOODING	22	TREE DOWN	148
ABDUCTION	2	HUNTING-FISHING VIOLATION	17	TRESPASSING	104
ALARM	680	ILLEGAL DUMPING/LITERING	25	UNAUTHORIZED USE OF VEHICLE	7
ANIMAL BITES/ATTACKS	80	INDECENT EXPOSURE	0	VEHICLE THEFT	27
ANIMAL CONTROL ( NOT ATTACKS)	1042	INTOXICATED SUBJECT	42	WARRANTS / WANTED PERSONS	476
ANIMAL CRUELTY	17	INVESTIGATION	8	WELFARE / SECURITY CHECK	3428
ANIMAL IN ROAD	101	JUVENILE ISSUE	126		
ANIMAL INTRUSION	48	K-9 USAGE	16		
ANIMAL WILDLIFE CALL NOT ATTACKS	76	LARCENY	181		
DAMAGE TO ANIMAL / LIVESTOCK	5	LOITERING	4		
FOUND ANIMAL	152	LOST PROPERTY	32		
MISSING ANIMAL	49	MEDICAL CALL	4387		
STRAY DOG	260	MISSING PERSON	20		
ASSAULT & BATTERY	58	NOISE COMPLAINT	67		
ASSIST MOTORIST	1	OFF ROAD VEHICLES	60		
ASSISTING OTHER AGENCY	160	OPEN DOOR/WINDOW	18		
ATTEMPT TO LOCATE	218	OTHER	967		
B&E	33	PANIC ALARM	20		
BOAT IN DISTRESS	14	PAPER SERVICE	4392		
BOAT ACCIDENT	2	PARKING VIOLATION	118		
B O L	82	PORNOGRAPHY	11		
BOMB THREAT	0	POWEROUTAGE	1		
BUSINESS CHECK	1302	PROJECT LIFESAVER	28		
CHECKING DETAIL	6	PROTECTIVE ORDER	136		
CHILD ABUSE / NEGLECT	14	PROWLER	1		
CHILD CUSTODY/SUPPORT ISSUE	43	PSYCH/ABNORMAL BEHAV/SUICIDE ATTEMPT	353		
CITIZEN REQUESTED ASSISTANCE	2074	PURSUIT	7		
CIVIL MATTER	93	RAPE	5		
COMMUNITY/DIRECTED PATROL	395	RECKLESS OPERATOR	345		
COUNTERFEIT	6	ROAD HAZARD	211		
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	128	ROBBERY	1		
DEER VS. VEHICLE	80	RUNAWAY	2		
DISABLED / ABANDONED VEHICLE	282	SCHOOL POLICING	863		
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	164	SEARCH WARRANT	21		
DOA	20	SEXUAL ASSAULT	15		
DOMESTIC	194	SHOP LIFTING	4		
DROWNING	4	SHOTS FIRED / WEAPONS OFFENSE	76		
DRUG VIOLATION	35	SPECIAL / DIRECTED ASSIGNMENT	243		
FIGHT	42	STABBING	0		
FIRE RELATED CALLS	365	STALKING	8		
FINGERPRINTING	222	STRAY LIVESTOCK / PETS	48		
FIREWORKS VIOLATION	18	SUICIDE	4		
FOLLOW UP INVESTIGATION	733	SUSPICIOUS PERSON/VEHICLE/ACTIVITY	859		
FOLLOW UP CALLS OR STATUS UPDATE	607	THREATS	93		
FOUND PROPERTY	96	TRAFFIC CONTROL	135		
FRAUD	85	TRAFFIC STOP	3673		
FUNERAL TRAFFIC	48	TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS	25		
GENERAL INFORMATION REQUEST	54	TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS	413		
HARASSING COMMUNICATIONS	89	TRAILER INSPECTION	6		
		TRANSPORT	227		

These calls for service were processed through the Sheriff's Office dispatch center in 2023. The information at left represents the initial complaint classification and may not reflect the final disposition of the call.

## Summons and Warnings Issued During Traffic Stop

52-30.2 of the Code of Virginia was passed in 2020 that requires all law enforcement agencies to collect specific information about the traffic stop that includes race/gender of the vehicle driver. The data on this page reflects a selection of the information collected.

The charts below represent the number of traffic encounters occurring in 2023, where a summons or warning were issued. The chart breaks down the race/gender of the vehicle operator and the number where a summons/warning were issued.

For clarity, the abbreviations in the chart are explained here;

W—White  
B — Black  
A — Asian  
U — Unknown

