

PENNINGTON
COUNTY
SHERIFF



2016 ANNUAL
REPORT

Our Mission

To provide innovative,
professional quality service to the public,
protecting life and property.

By valuing well trained and dedicated staff

By valuing and strengthening relationships
with other professional organizations

By valuing and promoting positive
relationships with the public

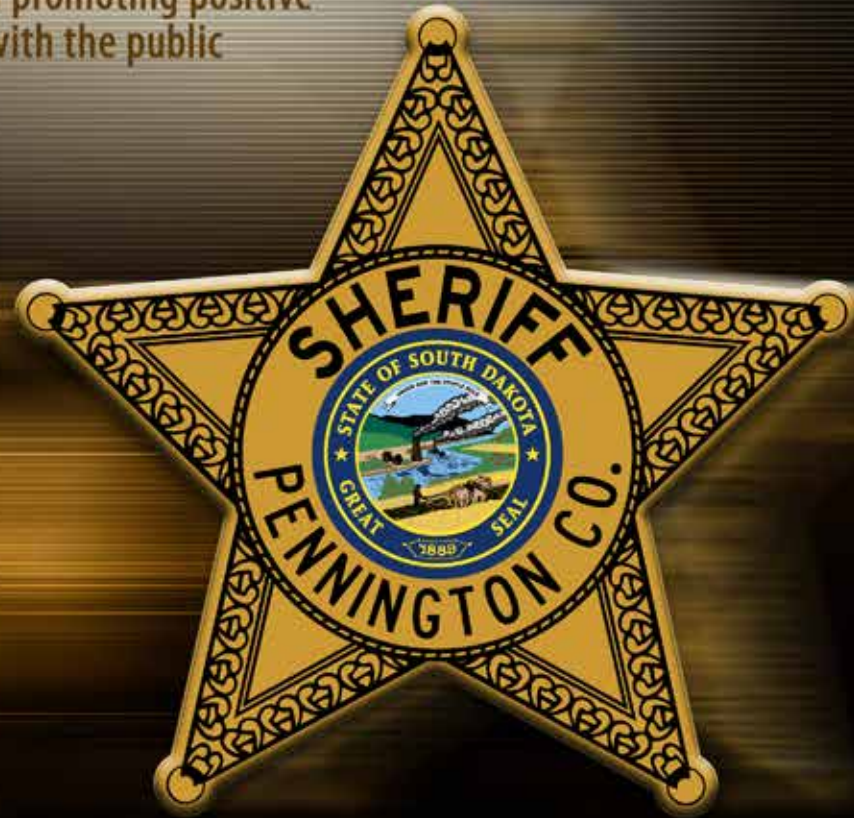


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Sheriff's Message

This was a challenging year across the nation for those of us in the field of public safety. We all enter this profession knowing it is dangerous, but the recent ambush attacks and assaults are unprecedented. This takes a toll on us, our families and the communities in which we serve.

Fortunately, we are blessed with strong community support here in Pennington County. Although we occasionally have some vocal critics, they are small in number. Our community support is something that is earned by each of you every single day and for that I say THANK YOU.

Our task is not always an easy one. As it is our job to help people in difficult situations, we often get to see people at their worst. In spite of this, our staff continues to treat the public with respect and dignity, for which you are to be commended. Regardless of your role in the Pennington County Sheriff's Office, each of you contribute to our team effort to provide crucial services to our community. I am appreciative of everyone who serves on our staff and look forward to working alongside you in 2017. Also, thanks to our community and the support that so many offer throughout the year.

*Best Regards,
Sheriff Kevin Thom*

Citizens of
PENNINGTON COUNTY



Sheriff
Kevin Thom



Chief Deputy
Willie Whelchel



Captain
Jay Evenson
Patrol



Program Director
Brenda Wood
City/County Alcohol and
Drug Programs



Captain
Marty Graves
Warrants, Civil,
Transport,
Courthouse Security



Captain
Corey Brubakken
Investigations



Commander
Rob Yantis
Pennington County Jail



Chief Deputy
Brian Mueller



Captain
Peggy Severson
Pennington County Jail

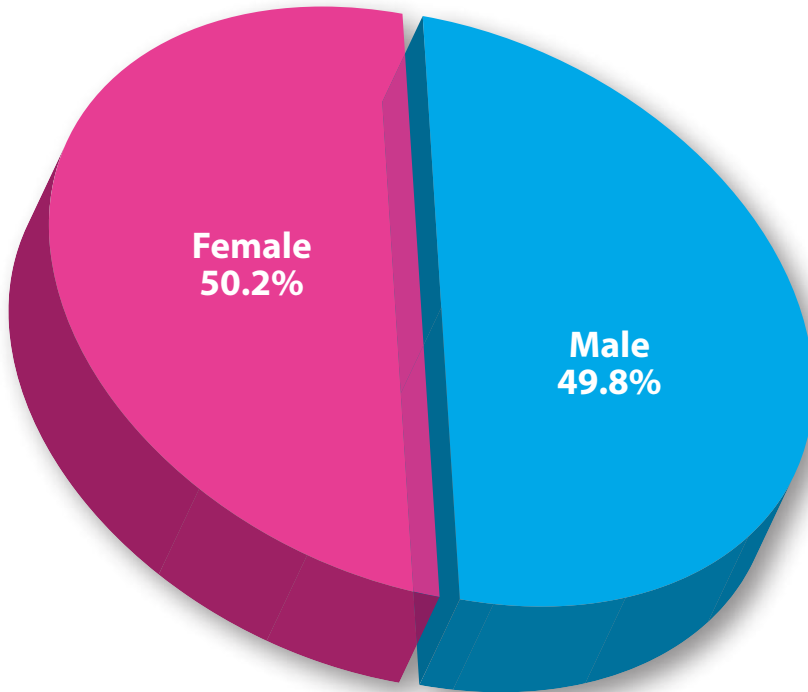


Commander
Joe Gutierrez
Western SD Juvenile
Services Center



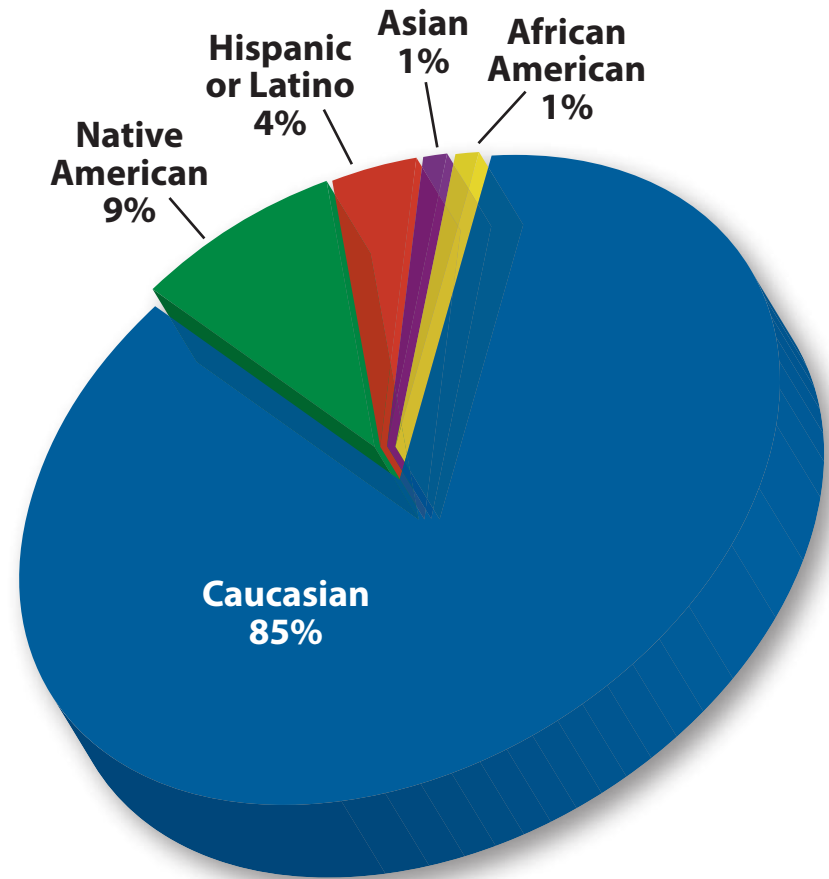
Captain
Brooke Haga
Pennington County Jail

About Us - Pennington County
DEMOGRAPHICS



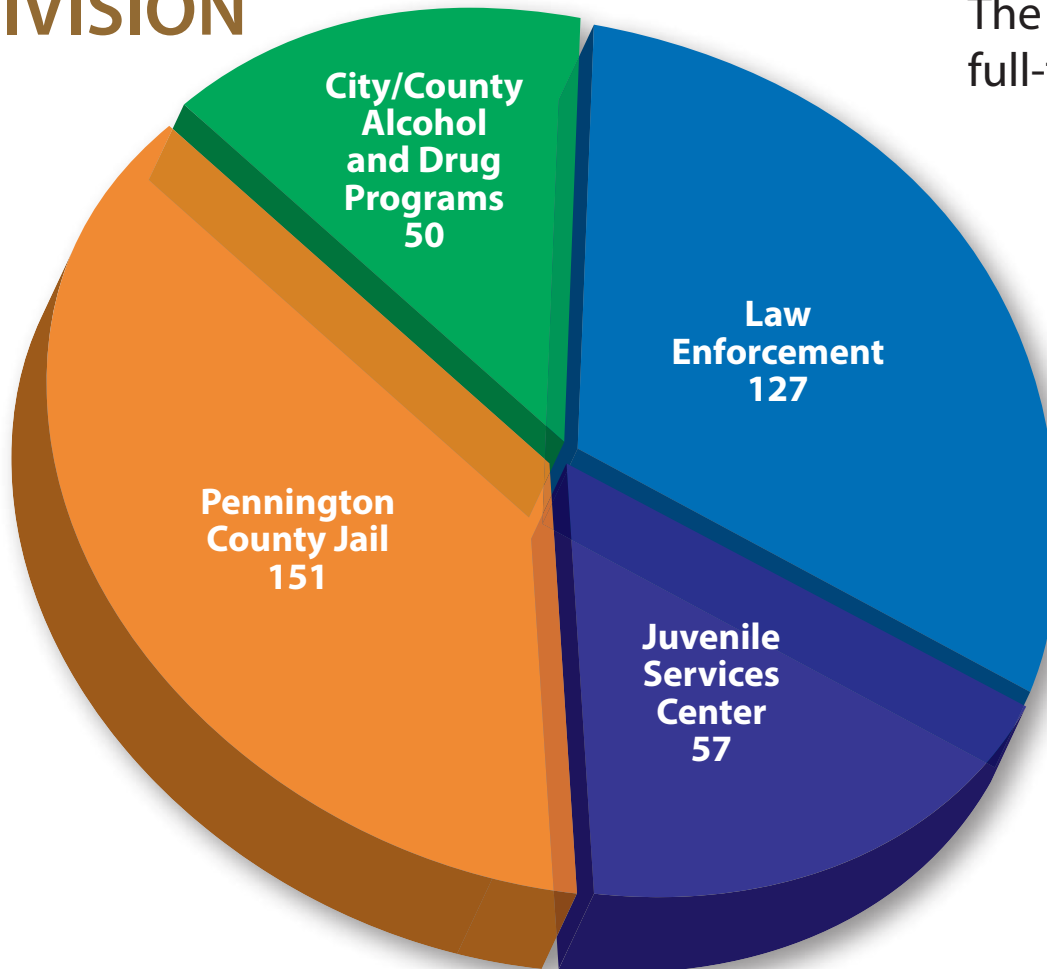
Area: **2,776 square miles**
Total Population: **108,702**

Median Age: **38.2 years old**
Median Income: **\$48,379**
Median Home Price: **\$156,250**



Sheriff's Office OVERVIEW

Employees By DIVISION



To best serve its citizens and oversee its \$30 million budget, the Sheriff's Office is split into four divisions.

The Pennington County Sheriff's Office has 384 full-time employees and another 230 volunteers.

Total 2016 County Budget
\$84,712,601

Sheriff's Office Budget
\$30,083,436

**42% of the Sheriff's Office budget is supported by outside revenues*

35.5% of Total 2016 County Budget

Recruiting PRACTICES

A successful organization often mirrors the members of its community. By participating in community outreach initiatives and recruitment events, our Human Resources Department actively seeks to hire the most qualified applicants who represent the community we serve.

MILITARY

We offer a natural fit as 27% of our staff are current or former members of the military. Presently we employ 30 National Guard Servicemen and recruited 15 more to join our ranks in 2016.

Meet Gordon Larsen

Gordon Larsen was hired as a correctional officer in 2015 after over 20 years in the United States Army. He recently transitioned to the Patrol Division as a deputy sheriff.



FEMALE

We hired 14 female deputies and correctional officers in 2016.

Meet Heather Heinert

Heather Heinert has spent over 18 years at the Western South Dakota Juvenile Services Center. She currently splits her duties at JSC as a correctional officer and case manager.



LOCAL GRADUATES

We actively recruit and hire local graduates. In 2016, the Sheriff's Office hired seven employees from Western Dakota Tech and six from the University of South Dakota.

Meet Joel Kirst

Joel Kirst, is a recent graduate of West River Nursing. He is employed as a charge nurse at the Pennington County Jail.



CAREER ADVANCEMENT

We celebrated 35 internal promotions this year, rewarding hard work and providing career ladders for our dedicated team members.

Meet Justin Hansen

Assistant Detox Supervisor at City/County Alcohol and Drug Programs. During his 15 year stint at CCADP, Justin has served as an EMT and Detox Tech before being promoted again to his present supervisory position.



2016 Year In REVIEW

The Sheriff's Office embarked on a new safety campaign adding two patrol missions this year.

The new boat hit the water on the busiest of our local lakes, Pactola and Sheridan, to assist South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks and the U.S. Forest Service. Our primary goal was to help educate the public, along with making safety inspections and ensuring compliance and enforcement of our state boating statutes. The patrol boat is also available to provide support to the Rapid City/Pennington County Water Rescue Team.

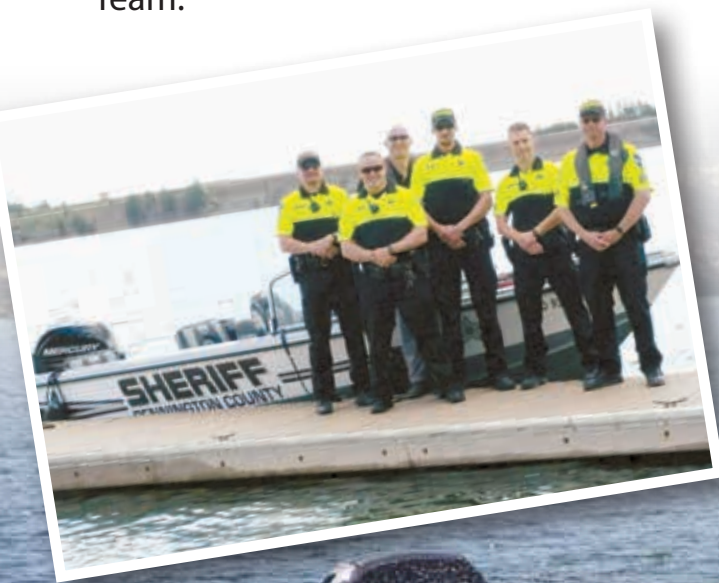
We also upgraded our all-terrain and utility vehicles to allow us to more easily navigate the remote parts of our county when responding to law enforcement, search and rescue, blizzards and fire related incidents.

UTV PATROL

5 shifts worked
16 hours spent on the UTV

Boating PATROL

26 shifts worked
133 hours spent in the boat
315 contacts made
34 verbal warnings issued
4 written warnings issued



Juvenile Services Center **RECOGNIZED**

Western South Dakota Juvenile Services Center (JSC)
recognized as a premier facility in the country

In a move to consolidate juvenile detention facilities, the Federal Bureau of Prisons selected JSC to be one of only three facilities nationwide to house their juvenile offenders, expanding on a long-term relationship between the two.

JSC also received national accreditation from the American Correctional Association for the 17th year in a row. The facility scored 100% on all mandatory standards – on things like education, health care, living conditions and security. “Since 1999, JSC has demonstrated the highest standards of care, and this award is a symbol of the enormous dedication and commitment shown by our staff,” said Commander Joe Gutierrez.



3rd Annual Pumpkin **GIVEAWAY**

Like the jail garden, our pumpkin giveaway keeps getting bigger and better every year. Not only did the community walk away with 1,100 free pumpkins but also bags chock full of produce. Cookies and juice were also available along with a chance to hang out with our deputies and correctional staff.

80 pumpkins were also donated by jail staff to the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the Black Hills.



Woman's Body Found In FREEZER

On March 10th, deputies responded to a Rapid Valley residence and found the body of an elderly female stored in a freezer. The body, eventually identified as Adele Zebrowski, was discovered after the occupants of the home became suspicious of the freezer's contents after being contacted during a Social Security fraud investigation. An autopsy revealed that Ms. Zebrowski had died of natural causes.

It was later learned that her body had been transported from out of state by her son, Stewart Zebrowski. Stewart passed away a month prior to the discovery of his mother's body. It is believed that she had been stored in the freezer for nine years.



Sturgis Rally RECAP

Although the biker numbers paled in comparison to last year's 75th anniversary event, the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally continues to be a challenge for the Sheriff's Office.

Pennington County Rally Tally

	2015	2016
Calls For Service	1,111	1,222
Accidents	69	29
DUI's	6	10

Pennington County Accident Breakdown

Injury	16
Non-Injury	13

Pennington County Fatalities

2015	2016
2	1

Animal **RESCUE**

Animals seized at Creighton residence in December

Acting on a tip from a concerned citizen, sheriff deputies rescued 75 animals (including 45 dogs, 15 rabbits, 14 cats and 1 bird) from a residence in Creighton, South Dakota. Many of the animals were malnourished and in poor condition. They were eventually taken to the Humane Society of the Black Hills for follow up care.

Not surprisingly, the influx of so many animals created a desperate need for pet food and supplies. The community responded in a big way, filling the facility while also offering to adopt many of the animals.

The owner of the residence, Janell Gibson, 46, was charged with 33 counts of Inhumane Treatment of an Animal. A court date is set for 2017.



Deputy Mark Osborn, Sergeant Matt Sargent and Deputy Callie Carlson

Toys And **SLIPPERS**

Toys for Tots - Slippers for the Children's Home

Our daily interactions with the public often give us an up close and personal look at those in the community who are most in need. What better time to help out than at Christmas?

Our employees participated in a toy drive, an Angel Tree gift collection for the Salvation Army and slippers were also purchased to give to the Children's Home Society in Rockerville.



United Way DAY OF CARING



The Sheriff's Office once again participated in the United Way Day of Caring, a day set aside to assist the community in many different ways.

This year, it was all about getting our hands dirty, sprucing up the gardens at the Senior Citizens Center on Canyon Lake Road.

**Captain
Jay Evenson**

The Patrol Division is made up of one captain, two lieutenants, five sergeants, three corporals and forty-two deputies.

Here at the Sheriff's Office, we truly believe that safety is a quality of life issue. Our Patrol Division takes great pride in seeking innovative ways to enhance our public safety services while continuing our commitment to the prevention of crime.

On any given day, our deputies may be asked to handle many of these duties...

- Responding to civil disputes and providing aid to citizens
- Enforcing all state vehicle laws and county ordinances
- Traffic crash investigations
- Preliminary investigations of people and property crimes
 - gathering evidence
 - making arrests
 - testifying in court
- Management and transfer of suspects to jail
- Community outreach, safety presentations, volunteering



Calls For SERVICE

As Pennington County continues to grow, so does the workload for our patrol deputies.

Our calls for service are normally generated two ways:

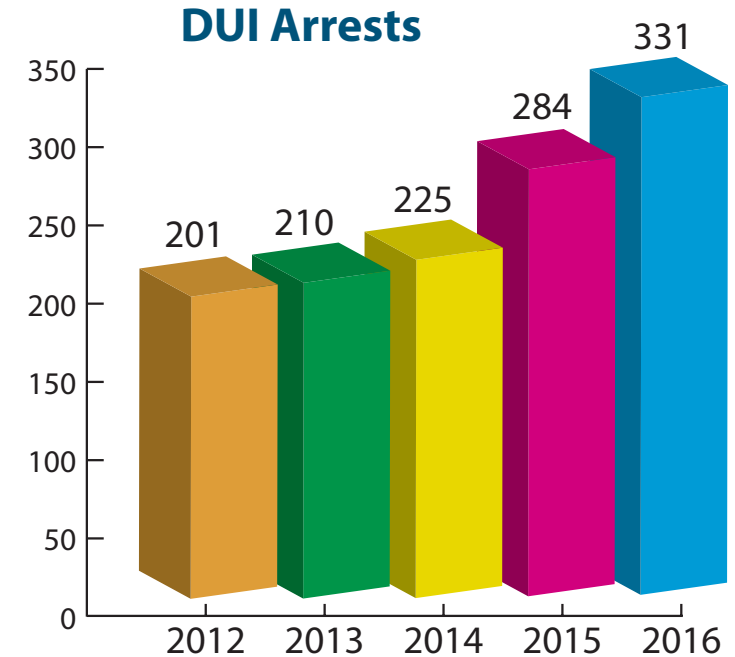
Citizen Initiated – Emergency 911 or non-emergency calls citizens place to the Sheriff's Office that are relayed by dispatch to our deputies.

Deputy Initiated* – Calls that are usually the result of observation while a deputy is on patrol. They may include a traffic infraction, a crime committed in their presence, checks of buildings or places where criminal activity has been recently occurring, assisting a motorist, etc.

***24/7** – Deputies also arrested and transported 1,345 violators to the Pennington County Jail.

Calls for Service Numbers

	2014	2015	2016
Citizen Initiated	24,899	28,266	28,724
Deputy Initiated	7,786	10,081	11,441
Total	32,685	38,347	40,165



Our deputies also made 331 DUI arrests last year, a 16% increase from 2015.



Academy GRADUATES

The Sheriff's Office had four deputies graduate from the Law Enforcement Academy in Pierre in 2016.

They successfully completed a 13-week, 520-hour course teaching police practices and procedures, human behavior, firearms proficiency, emergency vehicle operations, use of force and defensive tactics.

Deputy Jeremy Miller was awarded the distinguished Coler-Williams Award as the top graduate in his class, while Gordon Larsen captured the Top Marksman Award this November.



Deputy Jason Mitzel, SD Attorney General Marty Jackley, Deputy Jeremy Miller, Deputy Ethan McManigal, Training Manager CJ Messiah and Reserve Deputy Gerad Strong.

Captain Marty Graves, Deputy Chaz Foss, Deputy Gordon Larsen and Sergeant Mark Hughes.

Structure fire on 3200 Raveen Dr. on February 19

David Hill, 28, was arrested for 1st Degree Arson and Unlawful Occupying of a Building.



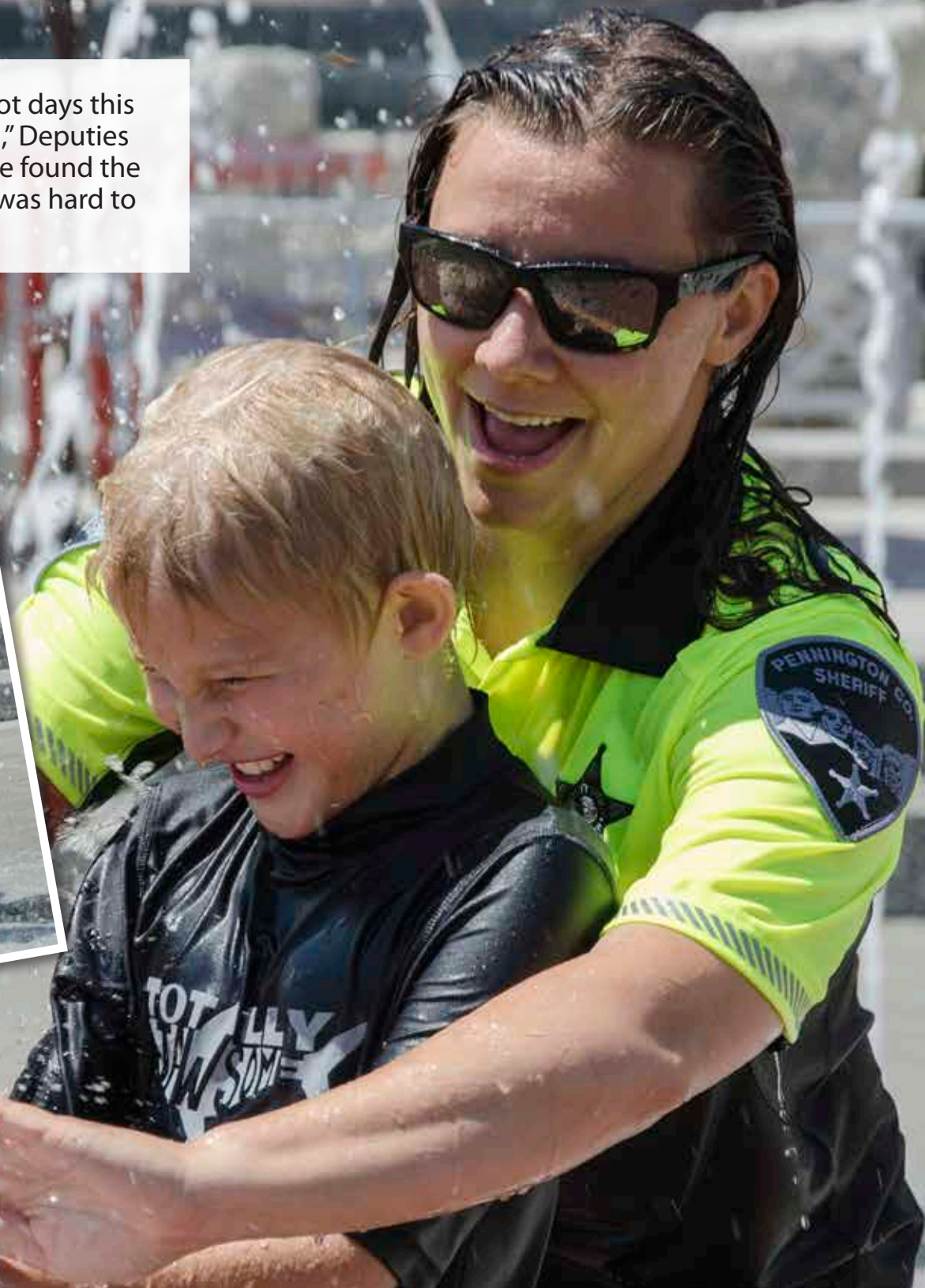
Community SUPPORT

It feels great to be appreciated, especially in the face of the anti-law enforcement rhetoric and violence that spread at an alarming rate across the country in 2016.

Instead, we have felt the love from our community with an abundance of flowers, food and kind gestures. Thanks to the citizens and visitors of Pennington County who continue to be our greatest allies.



Record breaking temperatures created some steamy hot days this summer. So in the case of "if you can't beat em, join em," Deputies Amanda Swanson, Kristina Weckman and Trista DePerte found the fountains at Main Street Square more to their liking. It was hard to tell just who was having more fun...



Four of our small towns find it advantageous to partner with the Pennington County Sheriff's Office to staff and maintain law enforcement services.

Hill City, Keystone, New Underwood & Wall



**Deputy
Danni Owens**
Wall



**Deputy
Cam Beyer**
Wall



**Deputy
Jacob Tweenen**
Wall



**Deputy
John Campbell**
Wall



**Deputy
Chris Plawman**
Keystone



**Deputy
Rick McPherson**
New Underwood



**Deputy
Doug Kimball**
Hill City



**Deputy
John Isakson**
Hill City



**Deputy
Chris Tegnazian**
Hill City

Out In The COMMUNITY



Deputy Dan Rose
Seat belt compliance award
East Middle School



Deputy Vic Gust
Central States Fair
Rapid City



Deputy Chris Tegnazian
Boys & Girls Club
Hill City

Sometimes a house call can be fun...

We're still not sure if they were invited or crashed the party, but **Deputies Ethan McManigal, Kristina Weckman and Amanda Swanson** showed up as the real McCoys, surprising this youngster at his law enforcement themed birthday party.



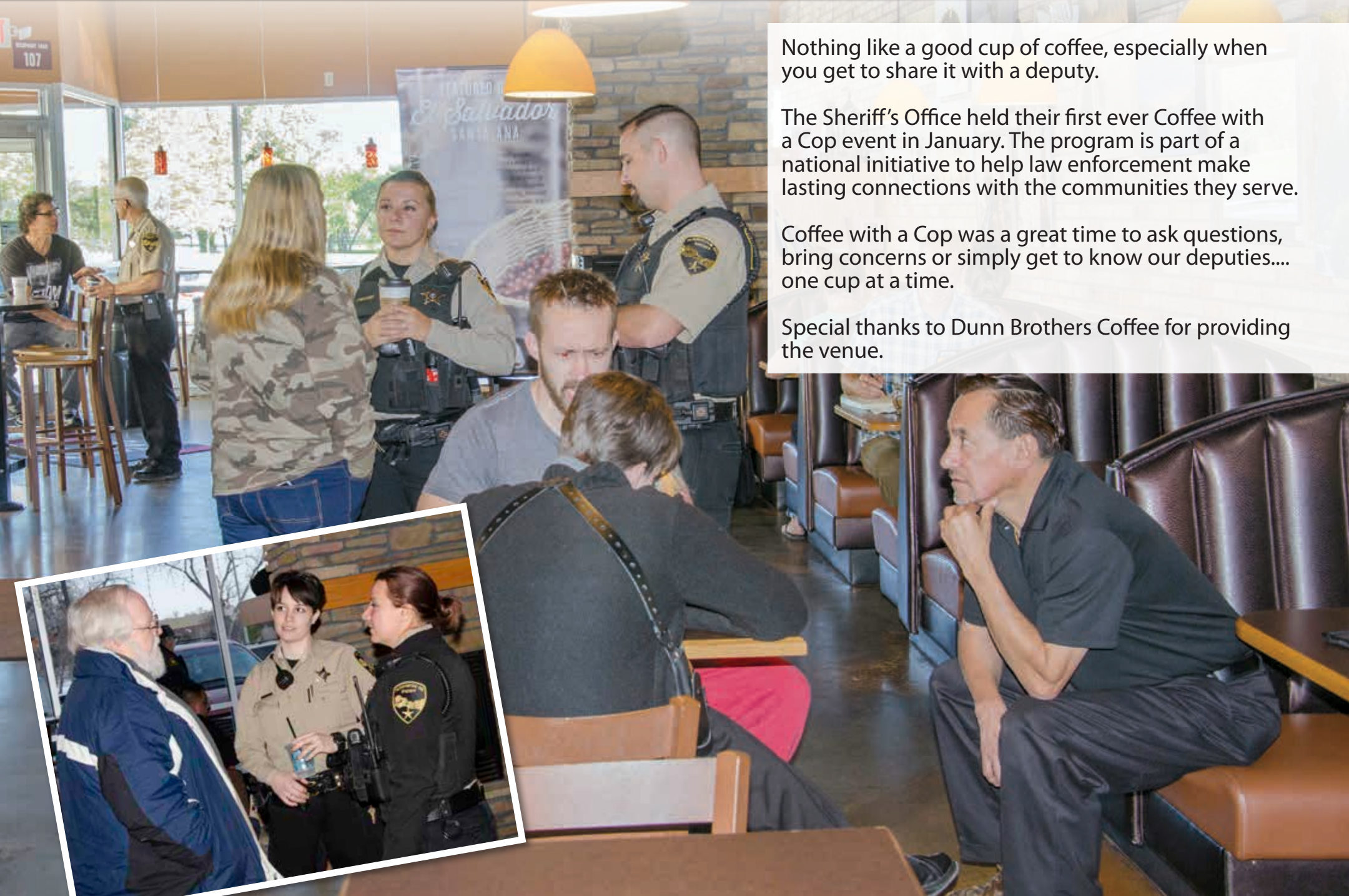
Coffee With A COP

Nothing like a good cup of coffee, especially when you get to share it with a deputy.

The Sheriff's Office held their first ever Coffee with a Cop event in January. The program is part of a national initiative to help law enforcement make lasting connections with the communities they serve.

Coffee with a Cop was a great time to ask questions, bring concerns or simply get to know our deputies... one cup at a time.

Special thanks to Dunn Brothers Coffee for providing the venue.



Pennington County Sheriff INVESTIGATIONS

**Captain
Corey Brubakken**



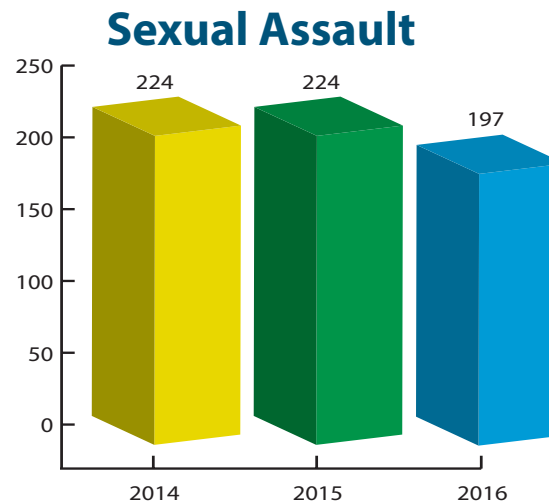
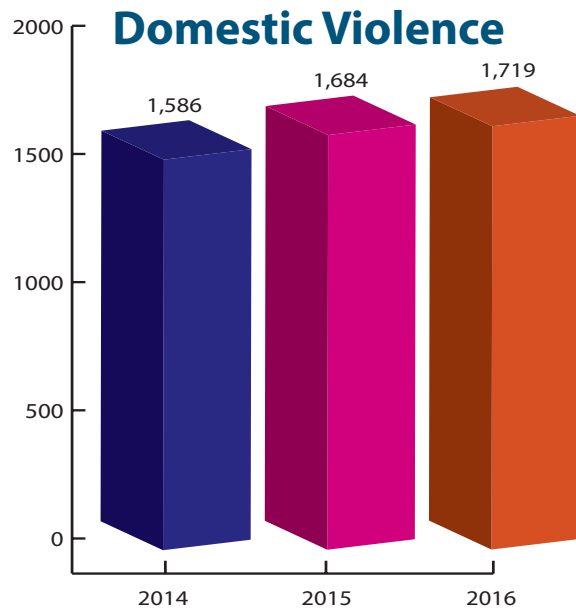
Captain Corey Brubakken heads up the Criminal Investigations Division, a group of deputies who are responsible for the investigation of crimes against people and property. The division is further broken down into two specialty teams designed to address domestic violence and sexual assault.

The team is currently made up of thirteen investigators, two victim specialists, one crime intelligence analyst, one computer forensic examiner and two Rapid City Police Department detectives who assist

with our domestic violence and sexual assault cases.

The Sheriff's Office also partners with the Rapid City Police Department and the South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation to share duties with the Internet Crimes Against Children unit (ICAC) and the Unified Narcotics Enforcement Team (UNET).

Investigations also handles coroner duties and oversees the School Resource Deputy Program.



Single cases including Box Elder, Rapid City and Pennington County.

Reported Crime Data*

	2014	2015	2016	% change 2015-16
Murder	1	1	1	0%
Sexual Assault	63	74	55	-25.7%
Aggravated Assault	52	69	61	-11.6%
Robbery	7	4	6	+50%
Burglary	86	88	86	-2.3%
Theft	402	389	414	+6.4%
Stolen Vehicles	22	28	23	-17.9%

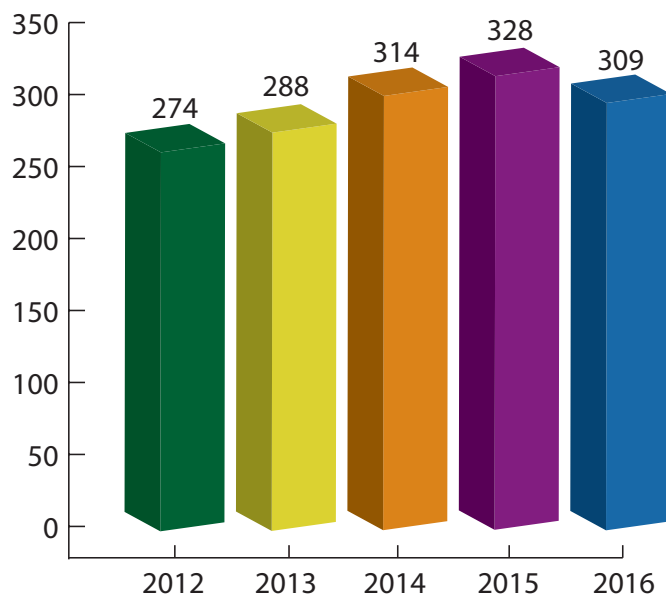
*Statistics represent the reported cases taken in Pennington County. Some of those crimes may have actually occurred in another jurisdiction.

Overall Crime Data in Pennington County**

	2015	2016
Murder	10	3
Sexual Assault	224	197
Aggravated Assault	318	282
Robbery	82	93
Burglary	551	594
Theft	2,383	2,693
Stolen Vehicles	254	257

**Includes Box Elder, Rapid City and Pennington County combined

Coroner Calls



The Sheriff's Office serves as county coroner and currently has 31 deputies certified to act as deputy coroner in the event of a death. The coroner investigates deaths that are a result of an accident, homicide, suicide or a natural death that occurs outside the care of a medical provider.

Victim SPECIALISTS

Being a victim of a crime can be devastating for most people. Who and where do they turn to in times of crisis?

The Sheriff's Office obtained a grant to hire two victim specialists in 2016. They are shared with the Rapid City Police Department and are available to assist crime victims and their families.

Our goal in adding these two positions is to provide crime victims with the following services as they cope with the potential feelings of terror, confusion, anger and grief that may accompany this life-altering event.

- Provide emotional support
- Assist victims to better understand the criminal justice system and notify them of important case events
- Connect victims with needed services
- Assist with victim compensation applications
- Provide special services for child victims

If you feel you've been a victim of a crime, please call (605) 394-6113 to ask for assistance.

***Scott Hultgren &
Teresa Riggio***



Raising AWARENESS

Denim DAY



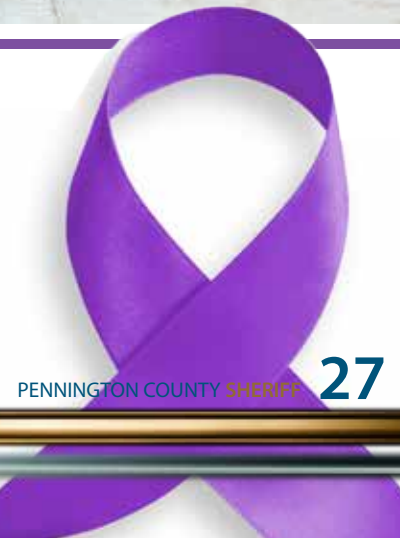
A day set aside to focus on the victims of sexual assault

In the words of those who showed their support by walking on this freezing, rainy day, "it's a small price to pay compared to the suffering of many sexual assault victims in our community."

Domestic Violence AWARENESS MONTH



Wearing purple to show our support



Battle Of The BADGES



Back Row
Dave Ricke, Zac Palmer, Wade Anderson,
Taylor Muhlbeier, William Sullivan

Front Row
Taylor Erickson, Thomas Mossman, Dave Rubins,
Sean Holloway, Casey Munsch

Back Row
Josh Kraft, Brian Freeouf, Lance Steiger, Jake Vigor

Front Row
Vic Gust, Kent Holland, Dan Rose, Keith Carlson,
Dustin Calhoun



School Resource DEPUTIES



Our deputies serve a variety of functions in our schools. They are positive role models, youth advocates, classroom instructors and much, much more.

Promoting a safe environment for learning is paramount. Our deputies are dedicated to helping students make the best choices in life, and to building a trusting lifelong relationship with our educators, students, parents and the community.

SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTIES

Douglas School System

Vic Gust

Jamin Hartland

East Middle School

Jesse Fagerland

Stevens High School

Sergeant Chris Hislip

Mike Ghents

Southwest Middle School

Kevin Climis

Jesse Fagerland THE BEARD SAGA

Every now and then, we get the chance to be a part of a teaching moment...

When School Resource Deputy Jesse Fagerland showed up at East Middle School sporting what the kids termed "a creepy mustache" the student council took action.

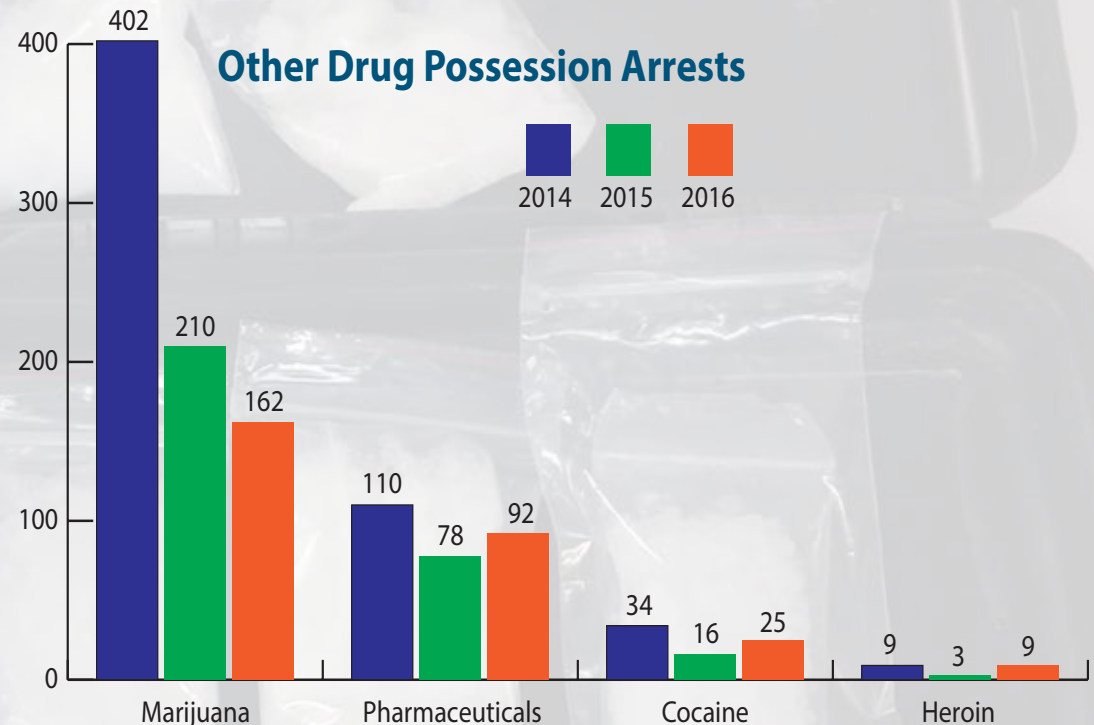
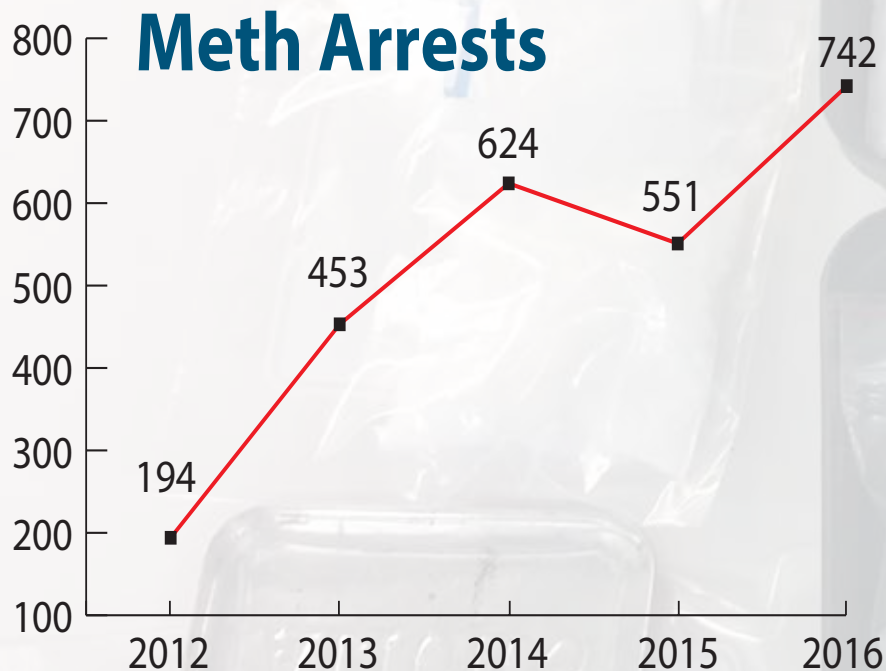
They sent a letter to Sheriff Thom asking if Fagerland could grow a beard instead, which was against company policy. Sheriff Thom met with the group and it was decided that Fagerland could grow the beard, but shave it off at the end of the school year for charity. He not only had his beard shaved but his head as well. \$550.00 was raised and donated to Love, Inc., a local non-profit organization that works to help people in need.

We applaud the initiative of these students and Deputy Fagerland for providing a life lesson on what can be accomplished when opening a proper dialogue.



The UNET continues to be a vital tool in the ongoing enforcement of state and federal drug laws in our area. The unit includes investigators from city, county and state law enforcement agencies and is overseen by the South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation. Two investigators from the Sheriff's Office are part of this team, tasked with reducing the flow of drugs into our community.

Meth arrests up 35% in 2016.



Number of
search warrants
executed
71

Currency and
property seized
\$300,416

Firearms
seized
80

ICAC INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

How do we keep our children safe online?

It's no secret that children are using the internet and computers at a younger age these days, which makes them increasingly vulnerable to online sexual predators. The Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) is primarily focused on the investigative response to offenders who use the internet and other communications systems to sexually exploit children.



The unit also provides public education about the dangers of the internet along with sharing their computer forensics expertise with other law enforcement agencies.

They have also been tasked with monitoring the growing threat of human sex trafficking within our area.

Partnered with the Rapid City Police Department and the South Dakota Division Of Criminal Investigation, the unit includes an investigator and a forensic analyst from the Sheriff's Office.

127 computers and 483 cell phones containing 70 terabytes of data were examined

Possession/Distribution/
Manufacture of Child
Pornography Cases

2015 - 71

2016 - 55

Solicitation of a
Minor Cases

2015 - 24

2016 - 39

71 internet safety trainings were presented by ICAC to nearly 6,300 people in 2016

Polar PLUNGE



Our chief deputies decided to make a friendly competition out of the Polar Plunge this year. The division raising the most money would dictate who took the plunge.

But being the good sports that they are, Brian Mueller and Willie Whelchel both decided to take the plunge anyway.

Lucky for them, it was a balmy 70°, a far cry from the icy 3° temps a year ago.

We were all proud to be part of a record breaking event, raising \$4,600. The Rapid City Polar Plunge raised over \$94,000 dollars (twice as much as the year before) to benefit the South Dakota Special Olympics.



Pennington County **JAIL**

As our jail population continues its upward climb, so does the demand for services at the Pennington County Jail. Yet our correctional staff, along with our community based organizations and volunteers, remain committed to improving the lives of our inmates while also maintaining public safety.

Exploring ways to make it easier for inmates to communicate with their loved ones through the latest technology is just one example. We are proud to be accredited by the American Correctional Association for over twenty years running.

The jail saw major changes in 2016. Captain Rob Yantis became the Jail Commander. Lieutenant Peggy Severson was promoted to Captain and now oversees daily jail operations with Captain Brooke Haga.

Together they manage the services necessary for the secure booking, housing and supervision of the inmate population.

Captain Haga is in charge of medical/mental health, work release, trustees, maintenance and food service.

Captain Severson is responsible for the operational security of inmates and the facility, ensuring the care and custody of inmates as well as the safety and security of staff.

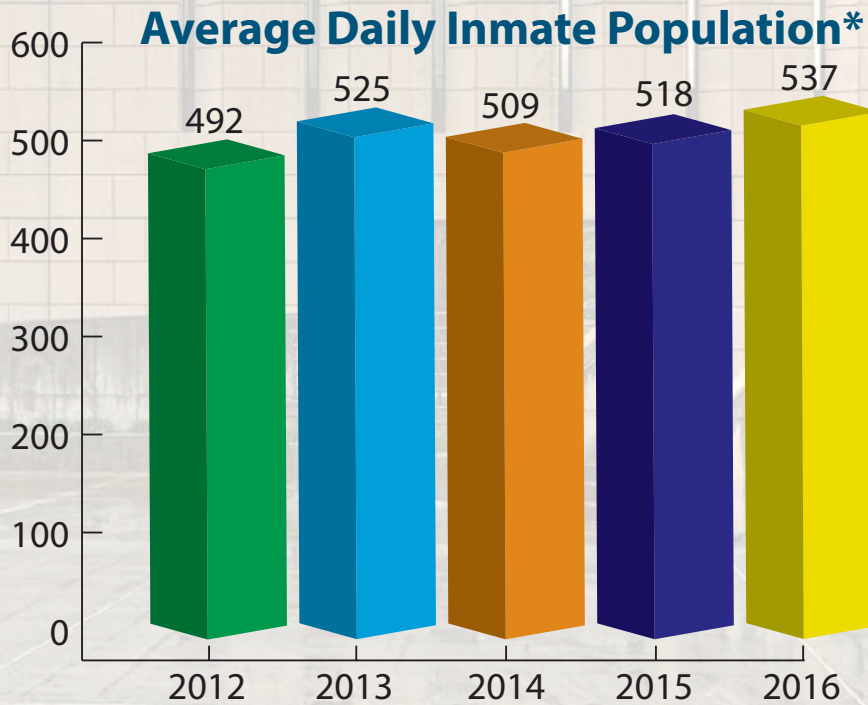
**Commander
Rob Yantis**



**Captain
Brooke Haga**



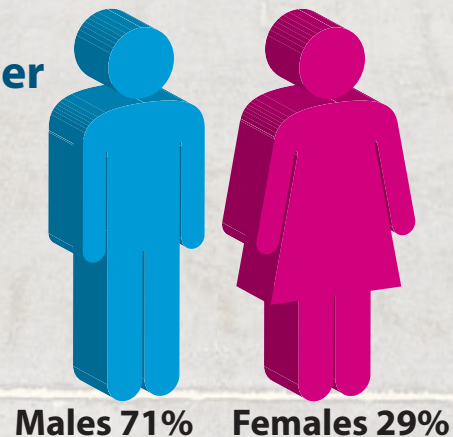
**Captain
Peggy Severson**



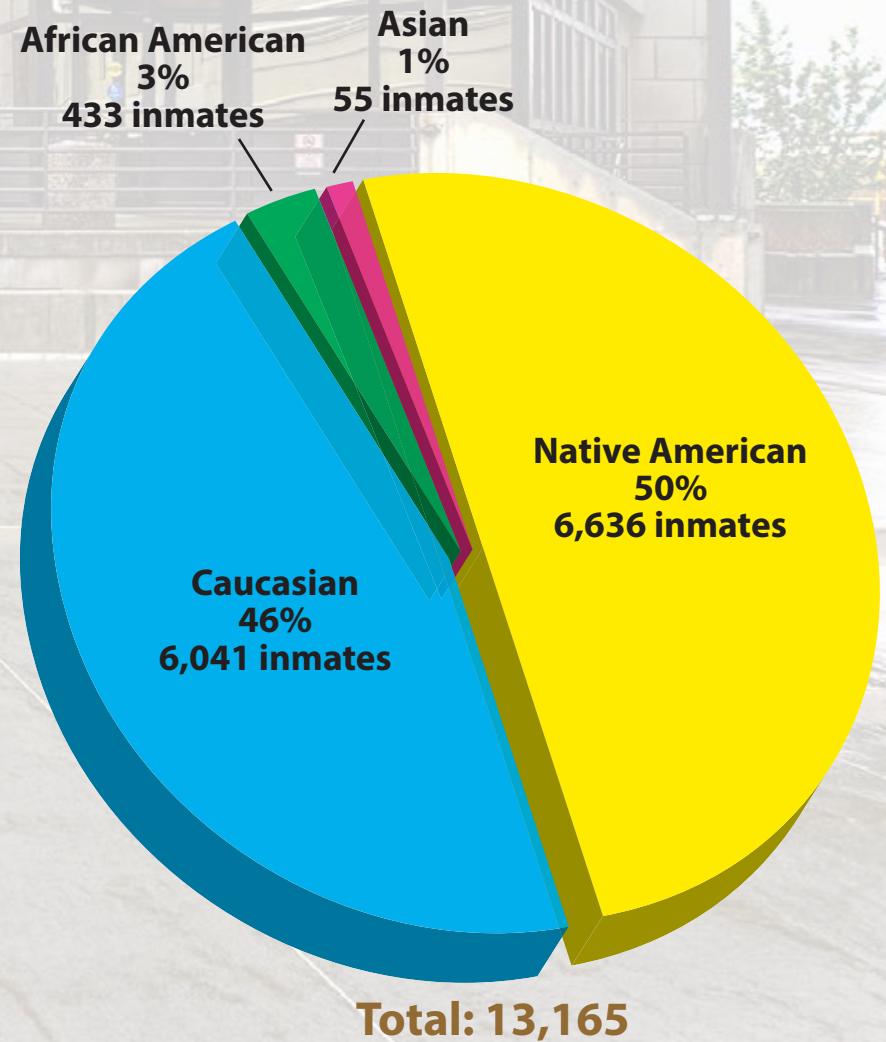
*Includes electronic monitoring

**Average length of stay -15 days
(vs. 10 days in 2015)**

By Gender



Racial Demographics



Pennington County JAIL

Inmate Booking

Individuals who are arrested and brought to jail are searched, fingerprinted and photographed during what is called the booking process.

If they are not immediately released on bond, they will be classified to determine where they will be placed in the jail housing units.

12,627 people were booked into the Pennington County Jail

Video Court

Video court has been in existence for over 16 years at the jail. It reduces the need for inmate transports, conserves court and corrections resources, while also ensuring public safety.

4,723 video court appearances by inmates in 2016



Electronic Monitoring

It costs an average of \$80 dollars per day to house an inmate in the Pennington County Jail. Electronic monitoring programs exist to help us reduce the skyrocketing costs of incarceration. 399 inmates participated in our electronic monitoring program last year. Of those, 326 were successful in completing the program.

In order to participate, inmates must be sentenced to the work release program. They pay \$15 daily. The electronic device

allows real time tracking which can ensure that the individual is complying with the terms of their release. Previously, we relied on random job checks and random urinalysis tests to supervise inmates who were on traditional work release.

Each day that an inmate is housed at home offsets annual inmate population growth and extends the life of our facility. Inmates can continue to work, pay taxes, have access to community services and maintain their family connection.

Pennington County Jail GARDEN

Growing Character and Harvesting Hope

How much can we grow? We've gotten used to record breaking numbers every year when it comes to the Pennington County Jail garden. Tended by inmates, the garden in Box Elder produced over 33,000 pounds of fruits and vegetables in its fourth year of operation, an increase of 3,000 pounds from the year before.

Nearly half was given to local church groups, food banks and the pumpkin giveaway. Another chunk was sold at cost to a vendor to offset food costs at the jail.

Pumpkin Giveaway, Church Groups, Food Banks	16,534 lbs
C.B.M. Jail Food Vendor	13,814 lbs
Cornerstone Rescue Mission	1,518 lbs
Women's and Children's Mission	937 lbs
Working Against Violence, Inc. (WAVI)	483 lbs

Jail Garden County Commissioner's Award

Meanwhile, the Jail garden continues to rack up the accolades, adding the 2016 South Dakota County Commissioners Award to its growing list of accomplishments.

Left to right...

Jail Commander Rob Yantis, Bill Atyeo, Capt. Brooke Haga, Correctional Officer Gretchen Sitzes, Correctional Officer Jeff Boal



Giving BACK

Our employees showed that charity begins at home in 2016, volunteering their services, fundraising for a variety of causes and even donating blood at the Guns and Hoses Blood Drive.



Pennington County Sheriff WARRANTS

Captain Marty Graves

Located on the 1st floor of the Public Safety Building, the Warrants Division is currently staffed with one captain, one sergeant and three deputies. This division is responsible for locating and apprehending suspects who have outstanding arrest warrants. They also provide self-turn in services.

Extraditions 149 Fugitives

were brought back from other states.

Total Warrants served/cleared

2015 - 8,401

2016 - 9,229

2016 Warrants

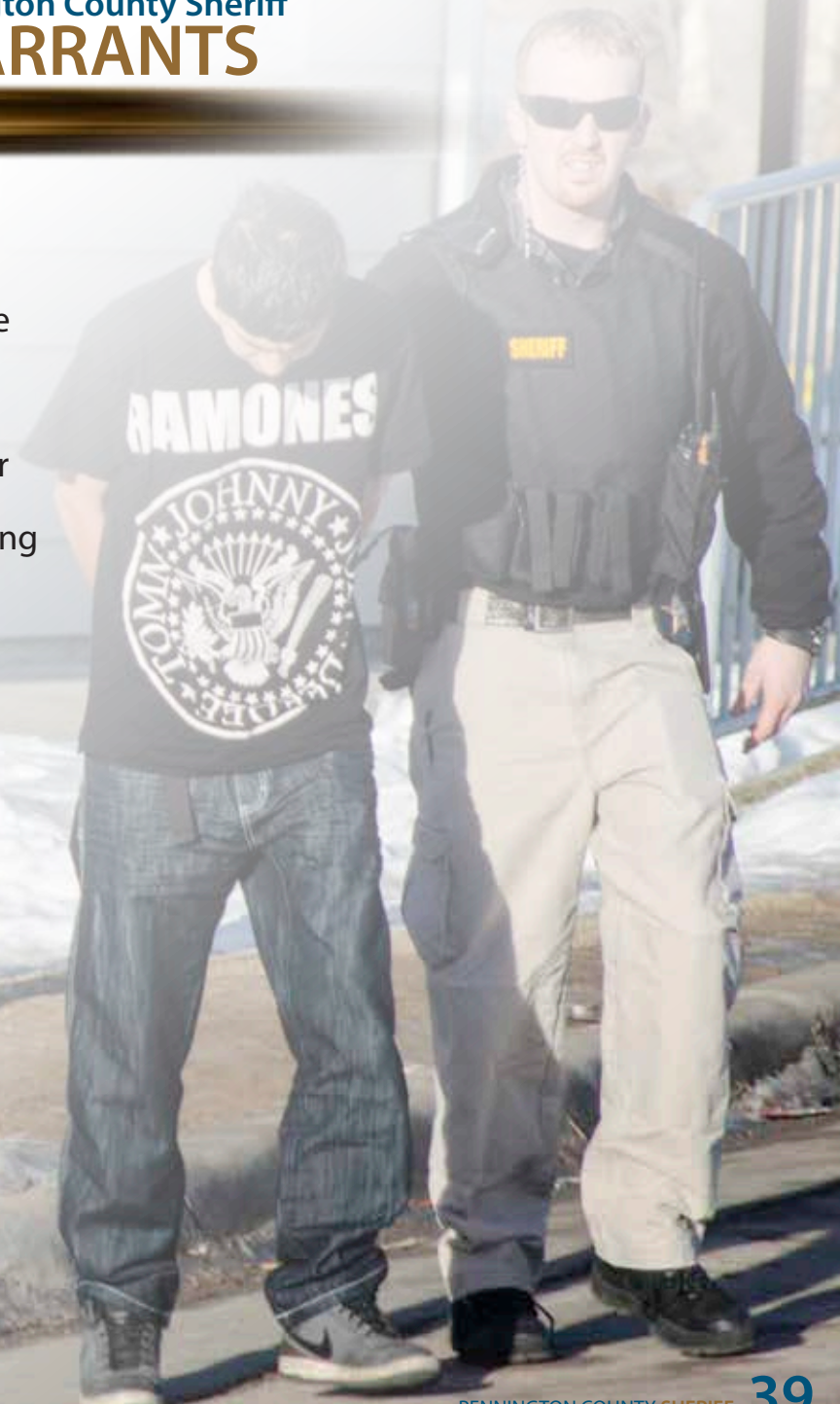
- Felony 2,448
- Misdemeanor 5,797
- City 364
- Other 125

Warrant Fees Collected

2015 \$153,674

2016 \$154,359

Self turn-ins - 1,340



Pennington County Sheriff CIVIL DIVISION

Our four civil deputies are tasked with notifying individuals when they are facing a legal action in a court of law or administrative court. These delivered documents may include summonses, complaints, subpoenas, writs or other legal paperwork from the courts, attorneys or citizens.

**Dave
VanDenHemel**

**Dave
Douma**

**Cindy
Fullen**

**Tana
Gajeski**

Papers Served

2015 - 10,001

2016 - 9,853

Money Collected: Executions

2015 - \$248,413

2016 - \$237,850

Tax Warrants

2015 - \$93,470

2016 - \$96,020

Civil Fees

2015 - \$133,777

2016 - \$177,965

Sheriff's Sales on Executions

2015 - 4

2016 - 9

Foreclosures

2015 - 80

2016 - 82

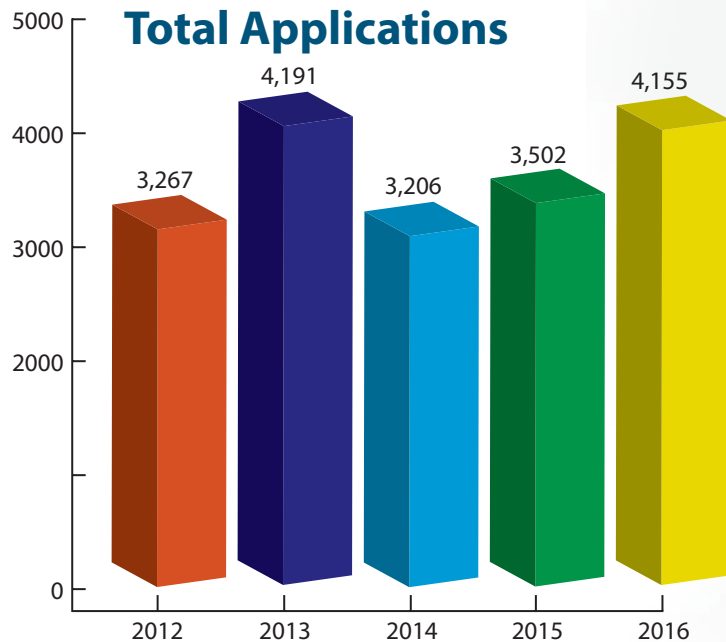
Pistol PERMITS

Concealed pistol permit applications reached an all-time high in the state of South Dakota this year. Applications at the Pennington County Sheriff's Office increased 16% from 2015 but failed to eclipse record totals in 2013.

Pennington County offers three types of concealed weapons permits.

They include:

- Regular Permit**
- Enhanced Permit**
- Gold Permit**



To find out what requirements are necessary to obtain a concealed pistol permit or to check state reciprocity agreements, please visit:

<https://sdsos.gov/services-for-individuals/concealed-pistol-permits/default.aspx>

Applications must be filled out IN PERSON at the Public Safety Building.

Carrying a concealed pistol without a permit is a Class 1 misdemeanor punishable by one year imprisonment in a county jail or \$1,000 fine or both.



Pennington County Sheriff TRANSPORT/COURTHOUSE SECURITY

Transport

Our deputies handle two types of transports – local and across the state.

Local – Inmates may need to be moved for medical appointments, evaluations, or court appearances on a daily basis.

Local Transports

2015	9,043
2016	11,353

Across the state – Our transport bus makes two round trips per week to the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls. Expenses are offset by offering these services to other counties and the state.

Trips East

2015	6,605
2016	6,951

2015 Total Transports	15,648
2016 Total Transports	18,304

Courthouse Security

The Sheriff's Office is also charged with providing security for 12 judges who preside over 10 courtrooms, along with courthouse personnel and the general public.

Considering that an estimated 600-800 people enter the Pennington County Courthouse daily (and even more when there are multiple trials or jury selection), screening individuals who enter the courthouse is one of the most effective ways to ensure public safety.



24/7 PROGRAM

Program Director Tessia Johnston

The 24/7 Sobriety Program has been in existence since 2005 and is located on 108 E. Main Street in Rapid City. The program serves as an alternative option for the court rather than a jail sentence.

24/7 may also be used as a condition of bond and/or sentence as part of probation or parole, as well as a tool for the Department of Social Services for child custody issues.



By The Numbers

Average Daily
Participants

599

(up from 585 in 2015)

DUI
Offenses **49%***

Non-DUI
Offenses **51%***

PBT Stats

1,198 Participants

151,137 Test Administered

99.39 % Pass Rate

Urinalysis Stats

1,041 Participants

27,187 Tests Administered

98.57 % Pass Rate

*This includes visits for breathalyzers, urinalysis and alcohol monitoring devices. Of these participants, approximately 49% were DUI offenders ranging from first offense to fifth and above. The other 51% were in 24/7 for drug related charges, simple assault and a variety of other offenses.

The 24/7 program is 100% funded by offender fees.



A Success STORY

Turning twenty-one can often be a cause for celebration. But for Brandon, it began an endless cycle of heavy drinking. Before long, the DUI's started piling up. Two years behind bars soon followed. With the prospect of more jail time looming, he was offered a lifeline: DUI Court.

This challenging voluntary program requires an offender to be held accountable through regular appearances before the DUI Court judge, daily random testing, substance abuse and mental health counseling, behavior modification and intense community supervision by the DUI Court team. One of the many goals of DUI Court is for participants to gain self-esteem and self-motivation in order to live an alcohol-free lifestyle.

Once there, he came to the conclusion that his life was unmanageable, "not just saying it, but truly believing it." His life then took a 180 degree turn. Conditional follow up visits with the 24/7 program also kept him on track towards his eventual sobriety.

Looking back, Brandon is thankful that no one was injured or killed while he was driving impaired. He's also thankful for a family that never gave up on him. He's bought his own place, has a great job where people look up to him and his relationship with his family is the best it's ever been. And he credits it all to his time spent in the DUI Court program.

Success stories like this one can happen.

If you or someone you know is struggling with alcohol or substance abuse issues, please call [605-394-6128](tel:605-394-6128) to find out how we can help you on your way to recovery.

City/County
ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM

**Program Director
Brenda Wood**

CCADP operates two facilities at separate locations in Rapid City. Both are accredited by the State of South Dakota Division of Behavioral Health through the Department of Social Services.

725 North Lacrosse Street (CCADP)
3505 Cambell Street (Life Enrichment Center)

Typical services provided by CCADP include: assessments, detox, treatment, safe beds and counseling to help manage risk factors and coping skills for individuals with high risk substance abuse and criminal behaviors.



3,634 admissions for treatment services including detox
3,457 safe bed admissions
104 individuals in 12-hr DUI Class
492 treatment assessments
793 Urinalysis/sweat patch tests under federal contract

Phone (605) 394-6128
Hours of Operation:
Monday-Thursday 8am-5pm
Friday 8am 4pm

Detox facility is open 24/7 for admissions

Western South Dakota JUVENILE SERVICES CENTER

**Commander
Joe Guttierrez**



The Western South Dakota Juvenile Services Center is a regional youth detention facility serving western South Dakota. Fall River, Custer, Pennington, Lawrence, Butte and Harding County are all part of a six county compact that oversees the operation of this juvenile center.

The Juvenile Services Center is a 106 bed facility currently staffed to hold up

to 41 juveniles, ages 10-20, who have committed felony or misdemeanor offenses that are either going through the court system, awaiting placement or serving sentences.

JSC provides education and structured programming geared towards giving juveniles the tools to cope or improve their situations in life.

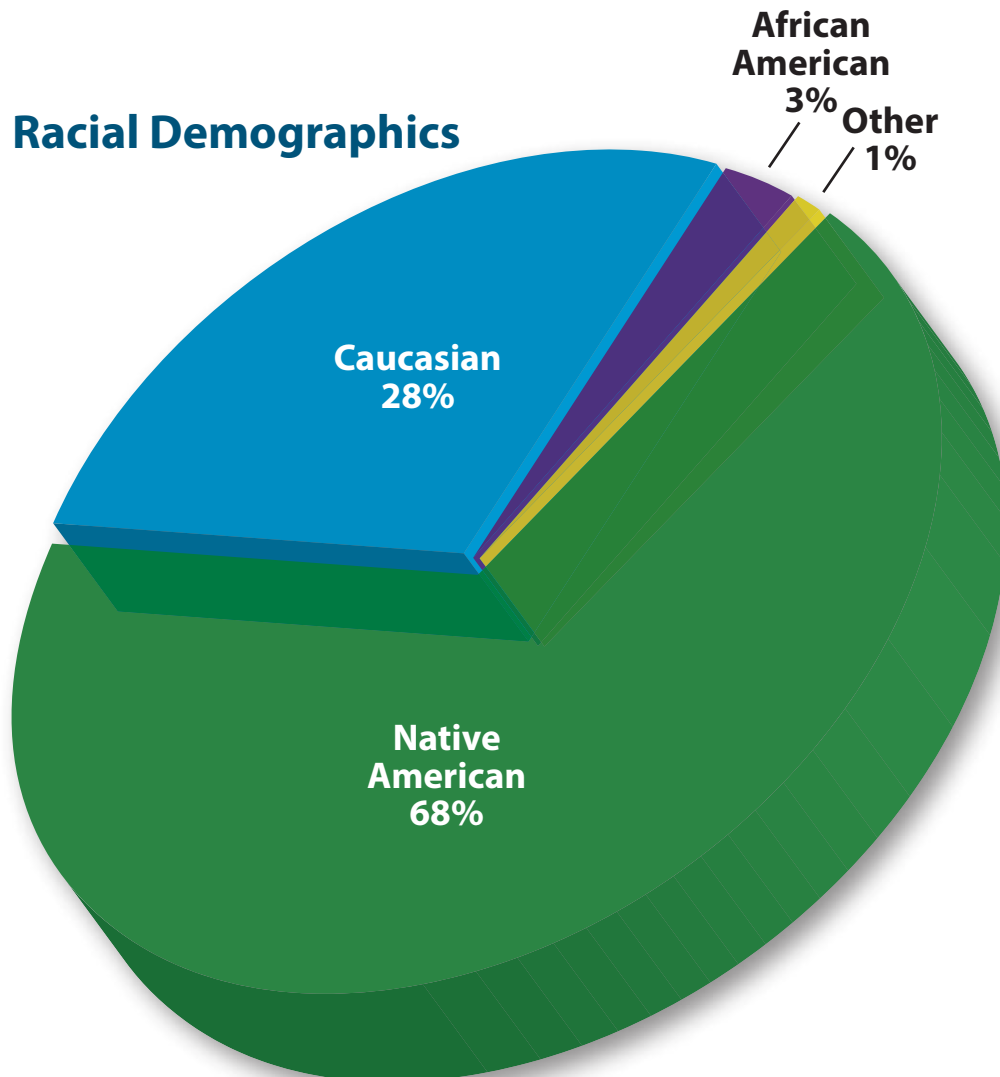


A Life Skills and Career Development program was recently implemented. This program is dedicated to building life skills, vocational skills, and career knowledge. The curriculum also touches on time and money management, team work, leadership, goal setting, physical and emotional hygiene and problem solving.

Average daily classroom membership:
26 detainees

By The Numbers JUVENILE SERVICES CENTER

The Juvenile Services Center offers electronic monitoring to include Home Detention and Community Monitoring. In both cases, the juvenile may remain in the community while they are awaiting court or serving a sentence. They may be returned to detention if additional contact with law enforcement occurs and a new arrest report has been completed.



188 juveniles took part in the electronic monitoring program in 2016, (down from 340 in 2016) due to changes in state law. Rather than serving a sentence, most juveniles have been ordered to Community Monitoring instead of Home Detention.

Average Age: 16 years old

Average Daily Population: 33 detainees*

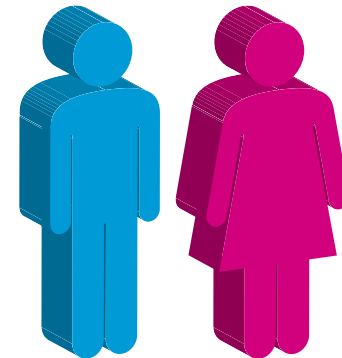
*Increase of 6 per day on average due to Federal Bureau of Prisons contract

Average Length of Stay

Local detainees: 14 days

Federal detainees: 121 days

Gender Breakdown



Males 64%

Females 36%

ARISE YOUTH CENTER



A stay at the ARISE Youth Center (AYC) located at JSC, may also be a consideration. Run by Lutheran Social Services in conjunction with the Sheriff's Office, the facility consists of a Reception Center, an Evening Reporting Center (ERC) and Shelter Care, which is licensed by the South Dakota Department of Social Services.

The Reception Center serves as an intake facility for those who have allegedly committed non-violent, low level offenses and cannot be immediately released to a parent, guardian or custodian.

Shelter Care is an out of home setting for youth who cannot be released home, but are not appropriate for a referral to detention. Youth can be referred to Shelter Care for up to 30 days.

Total Clients: 301

Average Length of Stay: 11 days

Average Daily Population: 9 per day

At risk youth may also be ordered to attend the Evening Reporting Center (ERC), an after school and evening program that provides educational and life skills programs in a structured environment.

Total Clients: 81

Average Length of Stay: 17

Average Daily Population: 4 per day

SRT SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM

The Special Response Team is a highly trained, specialized tactical unit designed to respond to high risk or crisis situations. Its members are drawn from the Pennington County Sheriff's Office, Rapid City Police Department, Rapid City Fire Department and the Emergency Communications Center.

Typical call outs may include assisting in the apprehension of dangerous fugitives, barricaded subjects, hostage situations, or civil disturbances.

As the only major tactical team in Western South Dakota, the SRT also provides assistance to neighboring areas or counties if and when the need arises.

The unit was called out 13 times in 2016.



Pennington County Sheriff's **HONOR GUARD**



The Pennington County Sheriff's Honor Guard continues to be our official ceremonial unit, representing the highest ideals of the Sheriff's Office. The Honor Guard presented colors at numerous events last year, including funerals, parades, school functions and other special events.

Members included:

Correctional Officer Gretchen Sitzes
Correctional Officer Chris Daniel
Correctional Officer Natalie Morem
Lieutenant Wade Anderson
Deputy Corey Dressler
Deputy Matt Jackson
Corporal Nick Nelson
Deputy Thad Schmit

Pictured left to right:

Chris Daniel
Wade Anderson
Nick Nelson
Natalie Morem

Pennington County Sheriff's TRAINING

Total training hours
Pennington County
Sheriff's Office employees

51,832

Training is essential to every law enforcement agency and the Sheriff's Office provides comprehensive training for all four of its divisions. From problem solving skills, to the newest investigative techniques, to deputy/correctional officer safety, training must constantly be updated to adapt to the times and changing laws and regulations.

Accreditation standards require 40 hours annually for each of our sworn corrections staff. South Dakota state law mandates 40 hours of training every two years for sworn law enforcement deputies. The Sheriff's Office sets a minimum of 40 hours each year covering specific areas like firearms (every year), and domestic violence training (every four years). Additional hours of training routinely take place when the need arises.



Reserve DEPUTY PROGRAM

Reserve Deputies are trained volunteers who support the operations of the Sheriff's Office. They may be asked to assist with regular patrol shifts, fill in for guard duty or transport shifts along with working special events like the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally and the Central States Fair.

Back Row:
Patrick Van Loan &
Chris Stickler

Front Row:
Thad Finch, Alyssa McGhee,
Mark Bartik & Jason Lind

Not Shown:
Gerad Strong, James Hogue,
Don Lampert & John Dunlop



Gerad Strong during the Sturgis Rally taking information at scene.



Senior VOLUNTEERS

There may not be a more willing group to help out at the Sheriff's Office than our senior volunteers. They welcome folks into our building, perform office tasks or do whatever it takes to assist our office.

Our 15 senior volunteers accounted for 1,448 hours served this year and we are truly grateful for their service to our organization and the community.



Senior Volunteer
Lila Sharp



Senior Volunteer
Sharon Scudder

Pennington County SEARCH AND RESCUE

What would a summer be without at least one person lost in the Badlands? Our dedicated Search and Rescue team (29 members, 4 trainees) responded to 73 calls for service in 2016.

Notable calls included lost hikers, rescuing 30 stranded motorists and 5 dogs during a Christmas blizzard, and their usual vehicle extrications, high and low angle rescues, and fire/weather related incidents.

Team members put in a total of 5,063 hours responding to calls and training, saving county taxpayers over \$120,000 for their services.

Pennington County Search and Rescue Responses

Building fire **14**

Vehicle extrication **9**

Rescues **6**

Search **2**

Vertical **2**

Wildland support **6**

Total 39

Cancelled 34

Total Calls for Service 73

The Pennington County Search and Rescue team is always looking for volunteers. Please contact Lieutenant Kraig Wood at (605) 394-6113.



Rapid City/Pennington County WATER RESCUE TEAM

Formed in 1987, the Rapid City/Pennington County Water Rescue Team is a combined effort of the Sheriff's Office, Rapid City Police and Fire Departments.

With the area's growing population and increased interest in water recreation activities, as well as the potential for flooding from Rapid Creek, the WRT is an essential part of the public safety efforts provided by the Pennington County Sheriff's Office.



Explorer PROGRAM

The goal of our Explorer program is to give young men and women a hands-on look at a law enforcement career and to build character through physical fitness, leadership opportunities and community service events.

Along with competing in the annual statewide Explorer Challenge, our Explorers helped out at the Central States Fair, Disaster Awareness Day, and for the first time, held a cookout to raise money for a local food bank.

Interested in the Explorer Program? If you're between the ages of 15-20, please contact Lieutenant Kraig Wood at (605) 394-6113 for more details.



Pennington County Sheriff's CHAPLAINS

Our chaplains may be one of our greatest luxuries at the Sheriff's Office. Day and night, they can be called upon to provide emotional support, guidance and crisis intervention for staff and the community in need.

It also helps that they feed us on a regular basis: cookouts, the Christmas party, weekly coffee and donut days. We've come to expect nourishment of both the body and soul from our chaplains and they do it better than anyone.

Pictured below: Gerad Strong, Bryan Faltynski, Ted Huffman, Denny Dickson, David Piper and Rebecca Piper. Not pictured: James Castleberry.



Awards And RETIREMENTS

Sergeant Matt Sargent
Optimist Club
Respect for Law Award
Given for his lifetime of
work with kids and the
School Resource Deputy
Program.



AWARDS

Sheriff Kevin Thom
Elected Leadership Award
Family Heritage Alliance Award



Deputy Brian Freeouf
William Janklow Law
Officer of the Year
Member of the
ICAC Task Force
Given for his tireless
dedication to protecting
children. His efforts have
led to the arrest and
prosecution of child sex
offenders.



Gerard Strong
Medal Of Merit Award
Chaplain and Reserve Deputy
Presented by the National
Sheriff's Association for
his contributions to the
community and field of law
enforcement and criminal
justice.

Deputy Anthony White
Mother's Against Drunk
Driving Service Award
Made over 100 DUI arrests as
a patrol deputy in 2016.



RETIREMENTS



Lt. Tony Verchio
25 years
Law Enforcement Division



Julie Blanden
19 years
Correctional Officer JSC



Robert Luedtke
15 years
Correctional Officer JSC



Trent Fliginger
26 years Correctional Officer
Pennington County Jail



Mark Steele
20 years Correctional Officer
Pennington County Jail

Social MEDIA



We make it a point to give our followers a firsthand look at what goes on at the Pennington County Sheriff's Office every day.

From solving crimes to emergency warnings, to recognizing our employees and community partners, social media now plays a vital role in our communications with the public. Whether its Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, we're able to spread knowledge quickly to protect the community we serve.

Law enforcement is a people business. We welcome you to take part.

Join us on social media today
www.pennco.org

Kevin Thom - Pennington County Sheriff
300 Kansas City Street • Rapid City, SD 57701 • (605) 394-6113

