

PENNINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF

ANNUAL REPORT

2022



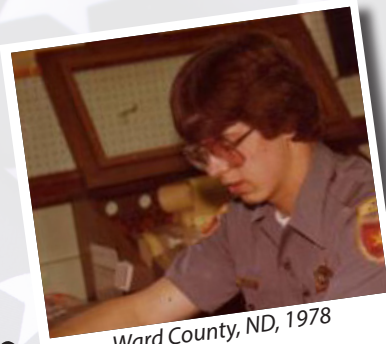
SHERIFF KEVIN THOM 2011-2022

*Thank You
For Your Service*

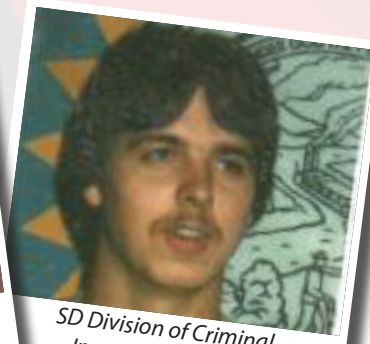
Kevin Thom was sworn in as Pennington County Sheriff on January 1, 2011 and started his third term on January 1, 2019. The Pennington County Sheriff's Office employs 431 employees with an annual budget of \$38 million and consists of four divisions: Law Enforcement, Jail, Western Dakota Juvenile Services Center and Addiction Treatment Services at the Care Campus.

Sheriff Thom began his law enforcement career with the Ward County Sheriff's Department in Minot, North Dakota in 1978. In 1982, he was hired by the South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation as a Special Agent with duty stations in Aberdeen, Rapid City, and Pierre. During his career at DCI, Thom served as Drug Task Force Supervisor, West River DCI Supervisor, Training Administrator, and was appointed Director in 2003. Thom retired from DCI in 2006 and was hired by the City of Rapid City in 2007 as Community Resources Director where he was responsible for Human Resources, Information & Technology, Code Enforcement and the Community Development Block Grant Program.

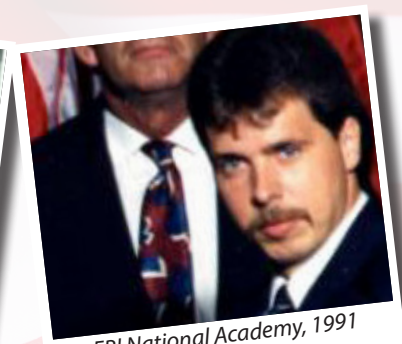
Thom earned his undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice from Minot State University and his Master of Public Administration from University of South Dakota. He and his wife Gayle reside just west of Rapid City in Pennington County.



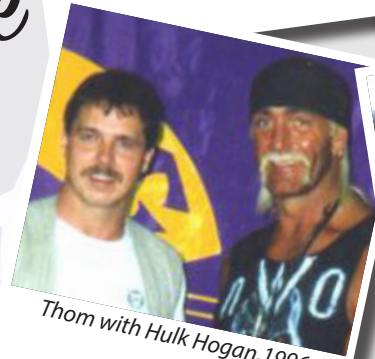
Ward County, ND, 1978



SD Division of Criminal Investigation, 1982



FBI National Academy, 1991



Thom with Hulk Hogan, 1996



Thom and wife, Gayle, 2017



Justice Kern administers oath, 2015



WDT Outstanding Public Servant, 2018



Thom in Jail wagon, 2017



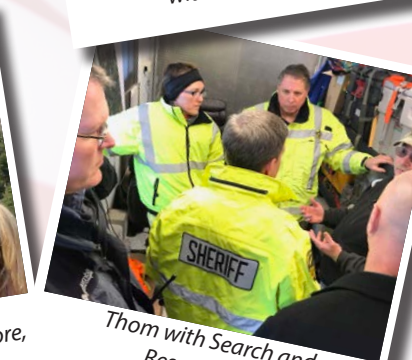
Chief Deputy Whelchel with Thom, 2017



Thom with Chief Deputies Whelchel and Mueller, 2017



Thom on national TV for Presidential visit to Mt. Rushmore, 2020



Thom with Search and Rescue, 2019



SHERIFF'S MESSAGE

It has been my honor to serve as your Sheriff for the past 12 years and the pinnacle of my 44-year career in law enforcement. With a thankful heart, it's time for me to move on to the next chapter of life.

I did not realize law enforcement would become my life mission when I started at the age of 19. In reflecting back on my career, I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve all these years. Pursuing this calling was not without personal and professional challenges, but those are the things that mold us into who we are. Life is a tough teacher, oftentimes giving the test first and the lesson later. And in my experience, I've found this to be especially true for those of us in law enforcement and public service.

The Pennington County Sheriff's Office is full of men and women committed to serving others with compassion and respect. You are a great team, doing excellent work and faithfully providing a breadth of crucial resources to our community. Every day you stand between good and evil, supplying the highest quality of service even in the most challenging of situations. I am excited about the future of the PCSO and am confident you are in good hands.

My wife Gayle and I appreciate the support and friendships from you over the past 12 years. I wish you and your families well. Take Care and God Bless.

Best,

Sheriff Kevin Thom



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CITIZENS OF PENNINGTON COUNTY

CHAIN OF COMMAND



Chief Deputy
Brian Mueller



Sheriff
Kevin Thom



Chief Deputy
Willie Whelchel



Commander
Rob Yantis
Pennington County Jail



Commander
Joe Gutierrez
Western SD Juvenile
Services Center



Captain
Tony Harrison
Investigations



Captain
Mark Hughes
Patrol



Captain
Casey Munsch
Pennington
County Jail



Captain
Wade Anderson
Pennington
County Jail



Director
Steph McCoy
Personnel Services



Director
Deanna Nolan
Care Campus Clinical



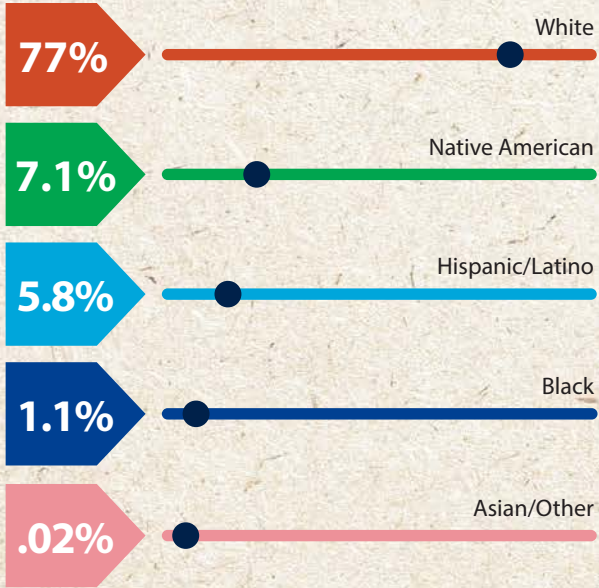
Captain
Kraig Wood
Warrants, Civil,
Transport,
Courthouse Security



Director
David Oster
Care Campus Housing

PENNINGTON COUNTY ABOUT US

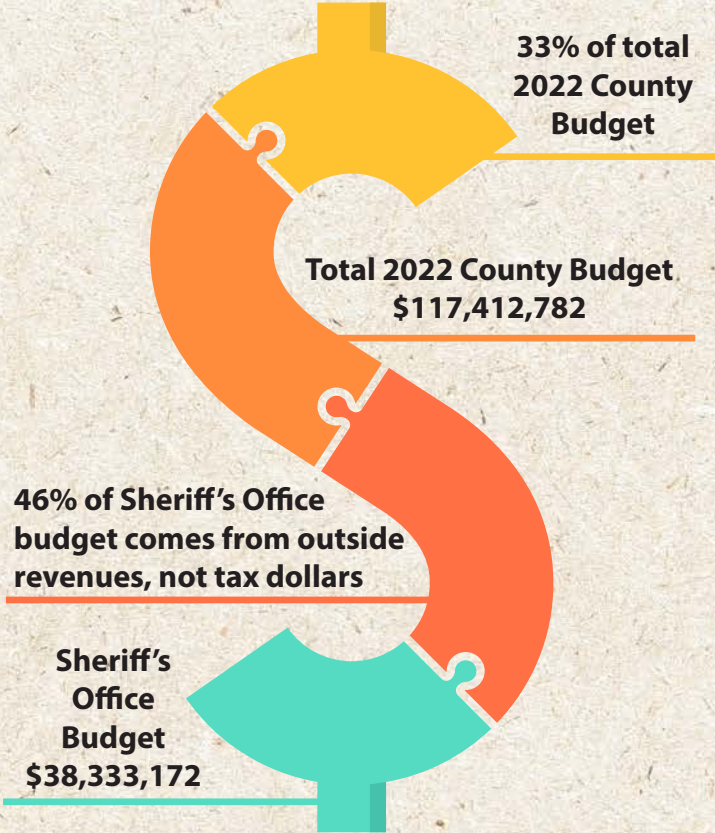
RACIAL DEMOGRAPHICS



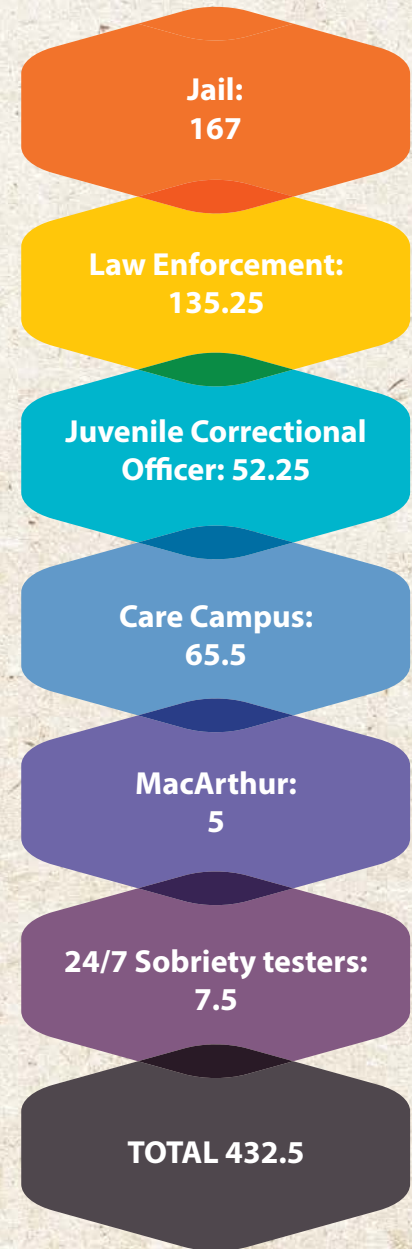
Pennington County

Population:	111,806
Area:	2,784 square miles
Median Age:	40 years
Median Household Income:	\$64,057
Median Home Price:	\$425,624
Persons in Poverty:	11,927 or 11%
Education:	95% high school diploma 36.1% bachelor's degree or higher

* Source: US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey 1 Year Estimates



Employees by Division



AWARDS 2022



*Josh Lavene
Jay Evenson Patrol Award*



*Pennington County Sheriff's Office
WDT Silver Star of Excellence*



*Jayson Herra
Optimist Respect for Law Award*



*Thomas Mossman
Distinguished Service Medal*



*Dan Lewis
Child Abuse Prevention Award*



*Pennington County Sheriff's Office
Crime Victim Services Award*



*Anthony White
Meritorious Service Award*



*Chris Lindquist
Distinguished Service Award*



*Rob Yantis
NIJO Executive Director's Award*



*Hollie Strand
Freedom Fighter Award*



*Jorge Salas, Jacob Mundt
Meritorious Service Awards*



*Yolanda Vivardo
Meritorious Service Award*

IN REVIEW 2022



Palmer Gulch wildland fire near Hill City, October 29



Protest and march with tribal leaders from Roosevelt Park to Grand Gateway, March 24



Cactus Café Lounge fire, June 20



IN REVIEW 2022

The family of former Correctional Officer David Henry gathered for recognition of his line-of-duty death from COVID-19 in September 2021. His name was engraved in the Fallen Officers Memorial in Pierre.



Pennington County Commission recognizes Henry family for their loss



PCSO representatives, Henry family and Governor Kristi Noem



Law Enforcement Memorial Service in Pierre

IN REVIEW 2022

Pivot Point, the West River crisis stabilization unit, was finished at the end of the year, with the ribbon cutting in January. It paves the way for a new, more effective, and more affordable regional model of care for citizens who are experiencing mental health crises. Behavior Management Systems

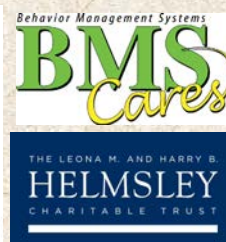
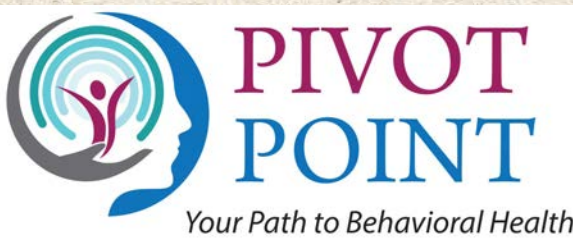
operates the facility with eight recliner chairs for stays up to 24 hours and 16 beds for stays up to five days.

The Helmsley Charitable Trust awarded a \$4 million grant to launch and operate the facility, along with a \$1 million pledge from

Monument Health. Pennington County, City of Rapid City, State of South Dakota, Monument Health and philanthropy support built the \$6.2 million Pivot Point.



Walter Panzirel announces Helmsley operations grant



Ribbon cutting by Sheriff Brian Mueller, State Senator Helene Duhamel, Health and Human Services Director Barry Tice, BMS CEO Amy Iverson, Commission Chairman Lloyd LaCroix, Commissioner Gary Drewes, Chief Deputy Willie Whelchel, former State Senator Al Solano and former Sheriff Kevin Thom

BACK-TO-BACK DECEMBER BLIZZARDS



Westbound lane of I-90 came to standstill with whiteout conditions, numerous accidents and stalled vehicles



As many as 700 stranded motorists were fed and housed by volunteers, churches, hotels and community centers



With a Deputy, Highway Patrol Trooper and plow, four groups of stranded motorists were escorted from Wall, Wicksville and New Underwood to Rapid City



Fighting ferocious winds, Pennington County Highway and state plows worked tirelessly to clear our roads



PATROL

CAPTAIN MARK HUGHES Our goal is to serve the citizens of Pennington County. With a proactive approach, we work to stay visible and respond quickly where needed.

The patrol division has one captain, two lieutenants, seven sergeants and 34 deputies. These men and women are out serving the citizens of Pennington County, day and night, every day of the year. In December, Captain Hughes was promoted to Chief Deputy and Captain Chris Hislip took command of the division.



Sgt. Scott Sitzes and Captain Dustin Morrison organized shifts and communicated safety messages to the public during the Central States Fair



Patrolling the midway at the Central States Fair is a big job every August. From left: Deputy Gordon Larson, Reserve Deputy Kyle McSherry, Deputy Thad Schmidt and Reserve Deputy Jason Lind

PATROL

Calls for Service 2022

Citizen Initiated	28,984	DUI	232
Deputy Initiated	14,262	Coroner calls	421
Arrests	3,323	Drones deployed	31
Case Reports	4,567	Fatal Traffic Accidents	17
Vehicle Stops	7,154	Motor Vehicle	9
Citations	807	Motorcycle	3
Warnings	3,951	Car/Pedestrian	5



Traffic enforcement and vehicle crashes are a significant part of the job for those in the patrol division



Almost 100 Deputies cover shifts around the clock every day of the year in Pennington County



When road conditions are ice covered, Deputies are still out rescuing people, even in dangerous situations. Luckily no one was injured when a driver rear-ended our patrol vehicle

PATROL BOAT/UTV

Deputies enjoy summer months patrolling Sheridan Lake, Pactola Reservoir and Black Hills trails, helping when needed and ensuring citizens follow the laws on land and water. Safety checks include making sure boats have a personal flotation device, fire extinguisher and enough life jackets for each person on board.

Boat Patrol

18 Shifts
72 Hours spent in boat
300+ Contacts made
10 Verbal warnings
0 Written warnings
0 Arrests

UTV Patrol

20 Shifts
80 Hours spent on UTV
200+ Contacts
1 Verbal warnings
0 Written warning
1 Arrest



Deputy Skye McKelvey enjoys her shift on Black Hills trails



Deputy Thomas Mossman checks safety gear on pontoon



Sgt. Jeremy Milstead and Deputy Joshua Fresquez provide UTV/ATV education on Memorial Day weekend



Deputies stay visible in highlighter shirts to help public in Black Hills, Hill City, Keystone and Wall



Many Rally Deputies return year after year

STURGIS MOTORCYCLE RALLY

Sturgis Rally Recap (August 5-13, 2022)

Pennington County Rally Tally	2020	2021	2022
Calls for Service	1,751	1,506	1,242
Motorcycle Accidents	21	27	13
Injury	9	21	9
Non-injury	12	6	4
DUI Arrests	16	11	4
Fatalities	1	2	1



Traffic enforcement and parking are always big issues, especially in Keystone

CONTRACT COMMUNITIES

Four towns in Pennington County partner with the Sheriff's Office to staff and maintain law enforcement services:

Hill City, Keystone, New Underwood and Wall



From left: Sergeant Gordon Larsen, Deputies Chris Plawman (Keystone), Keith Fenner, Jim Waldrop, Doug Kimball (Hill City), Will Christopherson, Chris Lindquist, Catlyn Cordell (Wall), Jeff Jones (New Underwood) and Sergeant Randy Harkins

2022 RESERVE DEPUTIES

13 men volunteered to serve as reserve deputies. Most have full-time jobs and still find time to give back to the community by serving and assisting the mission of the Pennington County Sheriff's Office. Reserve deputies provided 1,571.5 hours in 2022 including patrolling our lakes and trails, Central States Fair and the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally.



Ian Bridge



Brennan Culverhouse



Jonathon McCary



Kyle McSherry



Thad Fitch



Jason Lind



Brian Harlan



Donald Lampert



Kendrick Larson



Mark Bartik



Jacob Mayberry



Kevin Sosa



Timothy Montgomery

INVESTIGATIONS



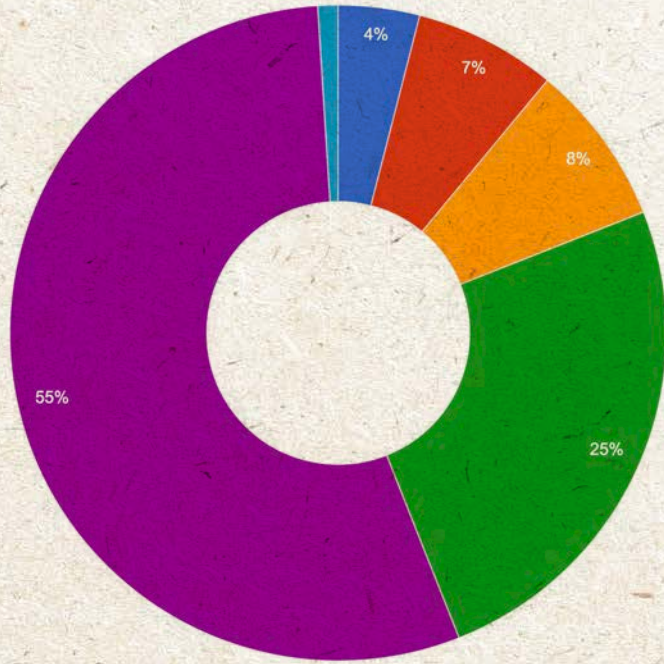
CAPTAIN DUSTIN MORRISON took over the Criminal Investigations Division midyear from retiring Captain Tony Harrison, supervising a group of deputies responsible for the investigation of crimes against people and property.

The CID team consists of a lieutenant, four sergeants, 15 investigators, two victim specialists, crime intelligence analyst, computer forensic examiner, investigative assistant, three Rapid City Police Department detectives who assist with domestic violence and sexual assault cases, and a staff assistant.



Front from left: Scott Hultgren, Jose Romero, Santee Clemons, Rick Arlaud, Jodi Glasgow, Nick Nelson, Kylie Kintigh, Rio Shearer. Back row: Becky Elger, Sergeant Paul Stevens, Sergeant Ryan Cook, Damon Baker, Trent Nelson, Captain Dustin Morrison, Dave Olson, Cameron Ducheneaux, Joseph Lupher, Ethan McManigal, Karen Olson, Josie Frank

CRIME DATA 2022

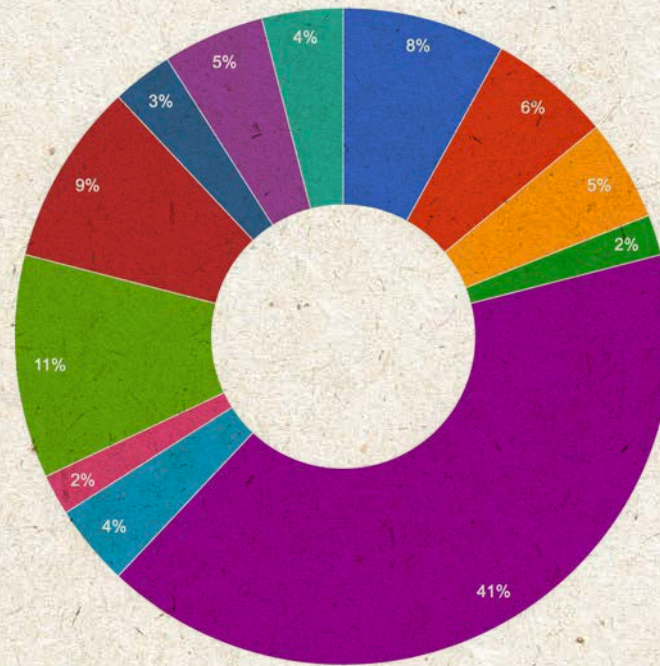


Coroner Cases by Type

- Homicide 4%
- Suicide 7%
- Pending 8%
- Accident 25%
- Natural 55%
- Undetermined 1%

Accident Type

- Other 8%
- Asphyxia/Choking 6%
- Car/Pedestrian Accident 5%
- Drowning 2%
- Fall 41%
- Gunshot/Wound (Unintentional) 4%
- Hypothermia 2%
- Vehicle Fatality (Pennington) 11%
- Vehicle Fatality (Outside Co) 9%
- Ethanol Toxicity 3%
- Meth Toxicity 5%
- Fentanyl Toxicity 4%



Pennington County Sheriff's Office crime

	2020	2021	2022
Murder	2	0	1
Sexual Assault	57	55	51
Aggravated Assault	102	83	82
Robbery	7	2	1
Burglary	101	78	55
Theft	366	445	333
Stolen Vehicles	48	40	46

Overall Crime Data in Pennington County

	2020	2021	2022
Murder	14	16	9
Sexual Assault	198	213	263
Aggravated Assault	659	584	601
Robbery	120	85	70
Burglary	803	612	538
Theft	2,833	2,906	3,054
Stolen Vehicles	581	524	537

(includes Box Elder, Rapid City and Pennington County combined)

Domestic Violence

2020	2021	2022
1,858	1,643	1,854

(Single cases including Box Elder, Rapid City and Pennington County)

INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN



ICAC Case Examinations

500+ devices
135 TB data
26 arrests
168 years sentenced in federal prison

Non-ICAC cases

(drugs, homicides, and other major crimes)

408 devices
22 TB data

Solicitation of a minor 20 cases

Possession of Child Pornography 160 Cases

Community Outreach

40 presentations
approximately 2700 attendees

SPECIAL AGENT 3 BRIAN FREEOUF As the year progressed, so did the workload. At times it felt like a runaway train with cases piling up. Increasingly, criminal investigations involve data analysis and forensic phone examinations performed by the ICAC division.

In 2022, the court system also worked through the backlog of the COVID-19 years. This caused our team to be away from our workstations to attend court trials. Still, it was a great year of success in big court cases that put predators behind bars to better protect our children.



Forensic Computer Analyst Hollie Strand talks to students and staff about dangers lurking on the internet



ICAC team from left: Elliott Harding (RCPD), Jesse Fagerland (PCSO), Matt Almeida (RCPD), Hollie Strand (PCSO), and Brian Freeouf (DCI)



UNIFIED NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT TEAM



Counterfeit M30 pills

SERGEANT CASEY KENRICK

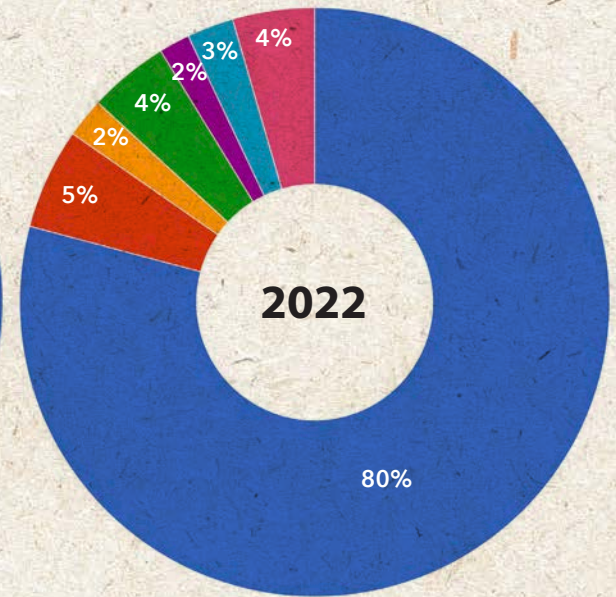
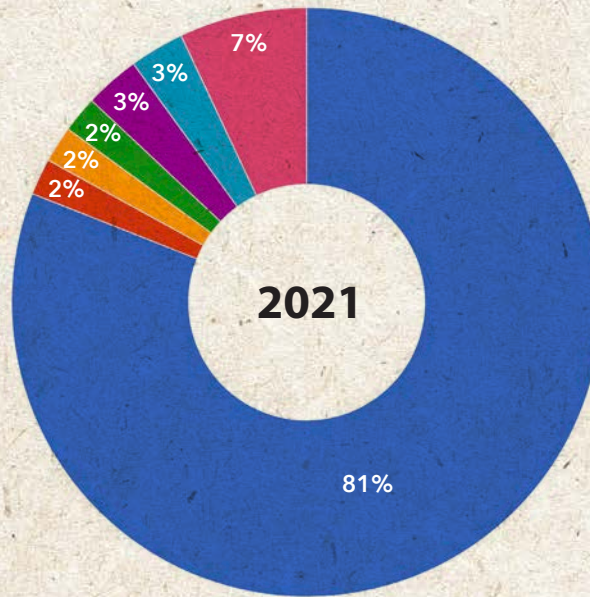
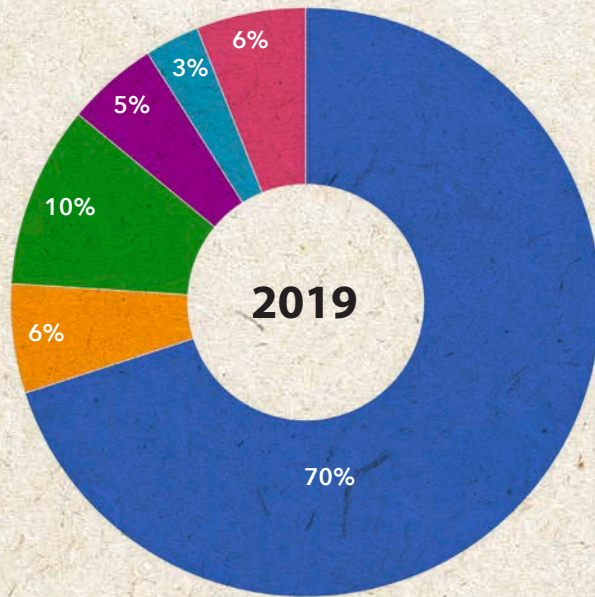
2022 was marked by a dramatic increase of fentanyl-laced counterfeit pills. There was also a marked increase of overdoses, both fatal and non-fatal. UNET is working to hold dealers accountable for selling these drugs that result in overdoses.

Methamphetamine continues to be the most common controlled substance we see on the streets with patrol and investigations divisions.

This year we assisted the RCPD with operations to attempt to curb violent drug-related crimes in certain northern Rapid City neighborhoods. The team relied on our operational expertise in these unconventional investigations.

Search warrants executed	138
Cash seized	\$372,000
Firearms seized	26

DRUG POSSESSION ARRESTS



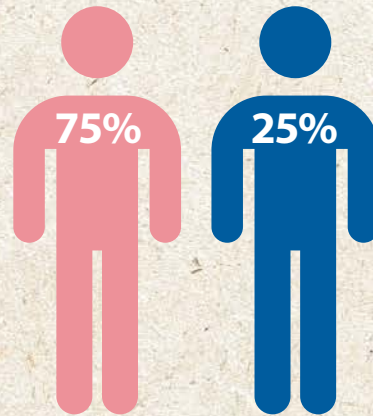
- Methamphetamine
- Fentanyl
- Pharmaceuticals
- Marijuana
- Heroin
- CocaineCrack
- Other

VICTIM SPECIALIST PROGRAM

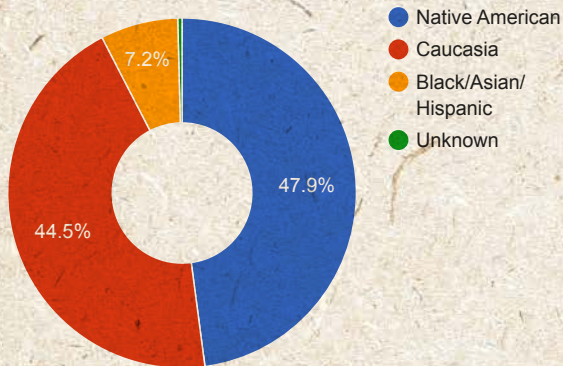
THE PENNINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE and the Rapid City Police Department established the joint victim assistance program in 2016. In 2022 the South Dakota Legislature allocated funds for the program. It is now funded nearly 80% by state funds and 20% federal dollars through a Victims of Crime Act grant. Two full-time victim specialists respond immediately when called to assist victims alongside patrol and criminal investigators.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO INDIVIDUALS

- Victim compensation assistance
- Emotional support and/or safety services
- Emergency financial assistance
- Sexual assault services
- Information and referral
- Crisis intervention/counseling line
- Personal advocacy and accompaniment
- Transportation assistance
- Notification of criminal justice events
- Criminal/civil justice system assistance



VICTIMS SERVED BY RACE



GENDER
 Female Male
422 TOTAL VICTIMS

Under 18	76
19-59	303
Over 60	43



Victim Specialists Scott Hultgren and Rebecca Elger





SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

SERGEANT SCOTT SITZES supervises the Sheriff's Office School Resource Officer program. SRO's are an integral part of Rapid City, Douglas, and Hill City schools working with each district to protect, educate, and be a positive role model. In addition to their normal duties, online safety and social media issues have become an increased area of concern.



Deputy Abraham Wheeler with Douglas Middle School students



Deputy Kelsey Schwartz helps with holidays at Stevens High School



ALICE training at Douglas: Abigail Pi, Vic Gust, Jayson Herra, Officer Chris Swan and Cody Rhoden



School Resource Officer Jayson Herra welcomes students back to school



Deputy Thad Schmidt is welcomed in Hill City



Deputy Alix Whittle at East Middle School

SPECIAL TEAM RESPONSE



THE SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM was on standby numerous times but was only activated four times in 2022, down from eight call-outs in 2021. The team's mission is to safely resolve dangerous situations with as little force as necessary.

The Special Response Team includes members from the Pennington County Sheriff's Office, Rapid City Police Department, Rapid City Fire Department and Emergency Services Communication Center. They work closely with the South Dakota Highway Patrol SWAT Team. Long-time SRT member and Commander Captain Harrison retired in 2022 and RCPD Captain Andrew Becker took the reins.



SRT Commander training at Ellsworth Air Force Base



SRT call-out in August on Wood Avenue



SRT training at Ellsworth Air Force Base



CIVIL DIVISION

CAPTAIN KRAIG WOOD Civil deputies are tasked with notifying individuals when they face 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. Fees brought in by the civil division support the Sheriff's Office budget.



from left: Ed Schulz, Niki Kruse, Tammy Ellison, Lisa Bellew, Rusty Schmidt, Dave Douma, Dave VanDenHemel, Bob Sanders, Tana Gajeski

2022 Pistol Permit Applications

Received	1,725
Denied	63
Regular Permit	1,442
Enhanced	212
Gold	1

An increase in pistol permits was attributed to a change in South Dakota law in July. Instead of citizens paying for their pistol permit, the state now reimburses counties for pistol permit fees. The application must be filled out in person at the sheriff's office.

Papers Served

2020	9,002
2021	9,816
2022	7,424

Protection Orders

2020	819
2021	864
2022	1,631

No Contact Orders

2020	1,467
2021	1,484
2022	1,305

Money Collected:

Executions	
2020	\$725,486
2021	\$296,797
2022	\$310,625

Tax Warrants

2020	\$108,686
2021	\$80,530
2022	\$104,234

Civil Fees

2020	\$192,085
2021	\$176,573
2022	\$215,831

Sheriff's Sales on Executions

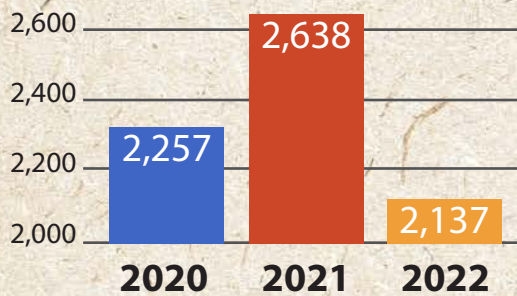
2020	3
2021	4
2022	4

PCSO WARRANTS

2022 Warrants Processed

Felony	3,540
Misdemeanor	5,823
City	88
Other	262
Felony Drug Warrants Received	2,111
Served/Cleared	11,107
Fees Collected	\$125,583
Self turn-ins (people)	664
Self turn-ins (warrants cleared)	831
Extraditions	27

Felony Drug Warrants



The Warrants Division focuses on arresting suspects wanted for violent crimes in the community. The deputies and sergeant are members of the US Marshal Federal Task Force which allows our agencies to combine resources to safely and efficiently arrest wanted suspects in the region. Staff assistants processed 10,163 felony and misdemeanor warrants into federal and local databases. They also manage the Northwest Shuttle which transports inmates throughout the Western United States back to Pennington County to face criminal charges at a minimal fee for taxpayers.



From left: Abbee Griese, Robin McCool-Deneke, Jenn Frisk, Brandon Akley, Nichole Dubbs, Jeromey Smith, Justin Grable, Dustin Meyer

TRANSPORT

Local Inmate Transports	10,135
Juvenile Inmate Transports	375
Inmates Transported by bus	6,059
Round-trips to Sioux Falls	99
Trips to Health and Human Services Center	8

Deputies and transport officers transfer adult and juvenile inmates to court appearances, medical appointments, and to and from the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls. This is also a service to other counties, offering a cost-effective method of moving inmates across South Dakota.



Front row from left: Billy Davis, Christine Heying, Eric Mendez, Caleb Dirksen, Brett Casey, Matt Chalk, Kent Holland, Glenn Miller, Jane Cheesman, Thad Mason
Back Row: Bruce Seumanutafa, Josh Kunde, Christian Raby, Austin Sorensen, Brandon Dirksen, Branden Spence, Aaron Cox, Shawn Stalder, Neal Hofer, Nick Novak

SECURITY

Personnel from the Transport Division also perform security duties at the Courthouse, Jail and Administration Building. Their mission is to provide a safe environment for employees, inmates and the public. It includes a screening location to ensure weapons don't enter the courthouse or the jail. They also provide a presence inside and outside the courtroom and courthouse to deter and detect criminal activity in the area.





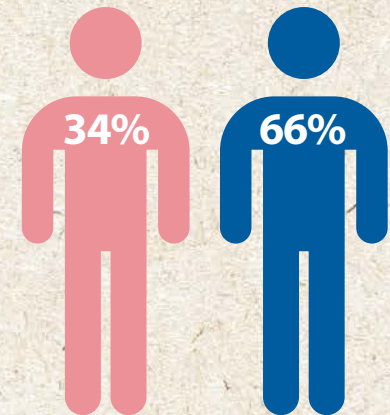
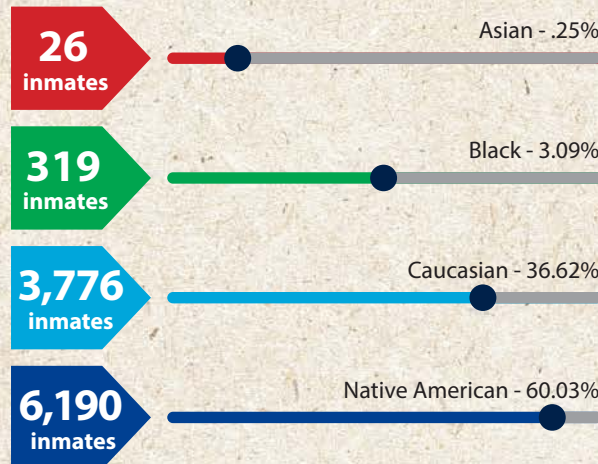
JAIL

COMMANDER ROB YANTIS The truest testament to our national decency are those local officers that we employ as civil guardians of individuals who have been arrested. Officers in charge of jails hold those individuals until the community through a system of objective judgment, can determine a course of action that will continue the safety of the community as well as to rehabilitate the offender.

A community is no greater than the conditions and the culture that exists to care for the accused offenders. Correctional Officers endure the grind of daily care for accused individuals entrusted to confinement in the facilities they supervise. They represent the best of society to those who are experiencing the worst consequence of civilized community.



RACIAL DEMOGRAPHICS



GENDER

Female:	Male:
3,488	6,823
inmates	inmates

JAIL



Adam Johnson talks to the media about his career choice in corrections



Sergeant Krystal Gentile recommends females serve in corrections.



Captain Casey Munsch supervises support operations including medical/mental health, facility maintenance, electronically monitored work release, inmate trustees, inmate programs and volunteers, inmate communication services, laundry and food service.



Captain Wade Anderson supervises facility security, maintains internal order and discipline with the direct supervision philosophy, and oversees staff development and accreditation.



Lieutenant Kathy Houston supervises daily housing and classification operations, staff and inmate safety and security, and adherence to policy and procedures.



Lieutenant Ken Wilson supervises inmate intake and release, control functions, and is the liaison with courts and law enforcement.

TRIBAL PARTNERSHIP



Sheriff Kevin Thom, Oglala Sioux Tribal President Kevin Killer and Oglala Sioux Tribal Police Chief Algin Young sign historic agreement, September 1, 2022

We select the best and train
to make them the finest.



Community gathering to denounce racist statements made by Rapid City hotel owners including Sheriff Kevin Thom, Chief Deputies, Legislative Liaison Darrell Hernandez, Oglala Sioux Tribal President Kevin Killer and Rapid City Chief of Police Don Henrick



Rapid City Council President Lance Lehmann, Deputy State's Attorney Lara Roetzel, Rapid City Chief of Police Don Henrick and Sheriff Kevin Thom speak against misinformation and racism



24-7 PROGRAM SOBRIETY

PROGRAM DIRECTOR LUCAS OYLER The 24-7 Sobriety Program is a South Dakota program that is spreading across the nation. The goal is to keep people out of jail, while promoting accountability and allowing the client to maintain a job and family relationships. It is a payer-supported program designed to help clients work toward a life of sobriety.

A variety of testing is available from twice daily breath tests to urine tests and ankle monitors. The clients pay their own testing fees and accept immediate consequences for failure. Bottom line is that it works!

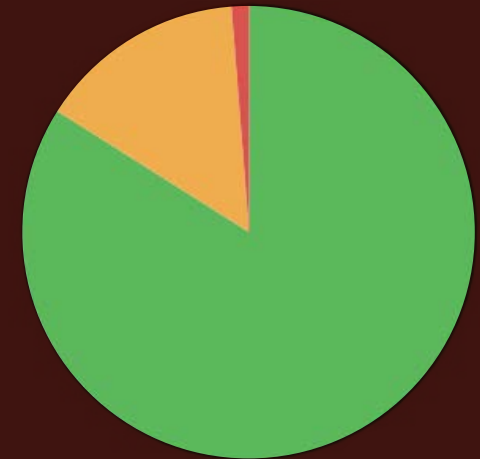


Twice a day, every day of the year, our Techs are available to help clients stay sober



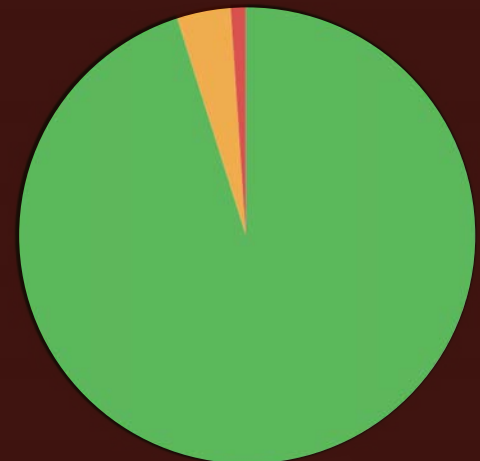
Lines form daily from 6-8 am and pm for breath tests, and 6-7:30am and pm for urine tests

URINE ANALYSIS



Passed: 18,820
Missed: 3,323
Failed: 281

BREATH TEST



Passed: 61,828
Missed: 856
Failed: 351

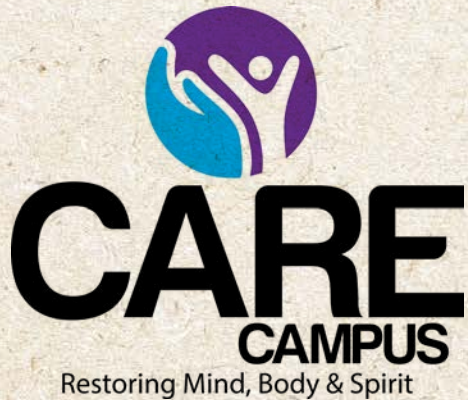


CARE CAMPUS

CHIEF DEPUTY WILLIE WHELCHER Lives were saved, relationships were created, and some of the highest utilizers of the Care Campus are no longer using the services at the facility. Through ongoing coordination and partnerships with community organizations, many familiar faces are now living in apartments or back with family, or due to health issues, in long-term care facilities.

In 2022, we identified a trend of an aging population using our facility. We also saw the highest increase of new individuals coming to our community from other states. We continue to work with community partners to help these individuals return to their homes.

Our bi-monthly coordination meetings grew from six representatives to more than 25 community organizations having meaningful conversations and working to develop solutions. The biggest success will be the completion and opening of Pivot Point to serve the behavioral needs of our region.



CARE CAMPUS

25,195 Total admissions*

DETOX

5,858 Detox admissions

SAFE SOLUTIONS BEDS

17,869 Safe bed admissions (beds turn-over multiple times each day)

ADDICTION TREATMENT SERVICES

97 Individuals in 12-hour DUI class

796 Treatment assessments

309 Admissions for residential treatment services

Behavior Management Systems CRISIS CARE

1,159 Total intakes

** some clients use more than one service*

PENNINGTON COUNTY CARE CAMPUS



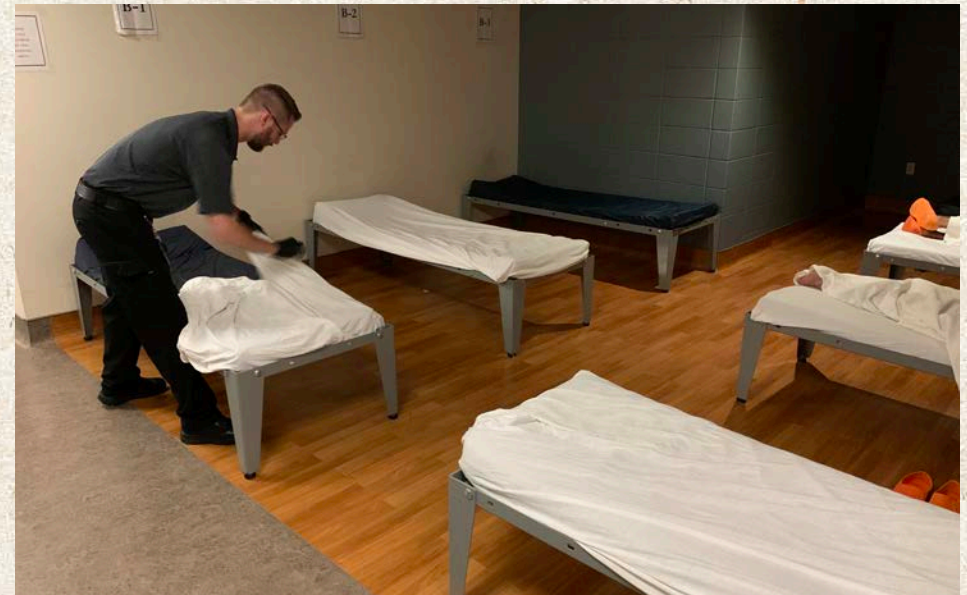
Deanna Nolan
Clinical Director



David Oster
Program Director



Care Campus hosts quarterly advisory board meetings



Detox Tech Tim Montgomery makes beds in the Care Campus

WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA JUVENILE SERVICE CENTER



**COMMANDER
JOE
GUTIEREZ**

Nationally accredited, Western South Dakota Juvenile Services Center continues to be one of three detention facilities in

the country to house federal juveniles. With a joint powers agreement, it serves as a regional youth detention facility for Pennington, Fall River, Custer, Meade, Lawrence, Butte and Harding Counties.

WSDJSC offers weekly programing to include corrective thinking, life skills, education, religious services, and vocational/career development. Some detainees also receive mental health counseling, chemical dependency and sex offender treatment. In 2022, community

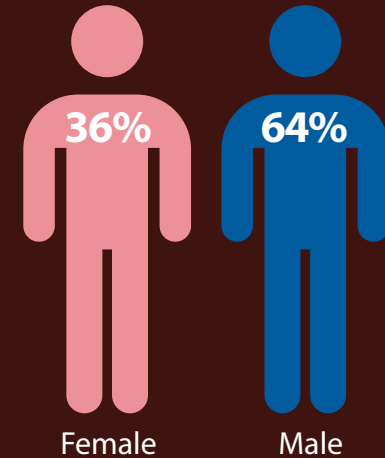
volunteers presented drug and alcohol prevention, mental health, sex trafficking prevention, and Lakota talking circles and drum group.

The Juvenile Services Center offers alternatives to detention through electronic monitoring. In 2022, 123 juveniles participated in the electronic monitoring program for an average of 27 days. Located on campus, we continue our partnership with Lutheran Social Services (LSS) to run the Arise Youth Center. LSS offers alternatives to incarceration with a reception center, shelter care and evening reporting center. 636 juveniles were processed in 2022. 335 spent an average of 11 days in shelter care.

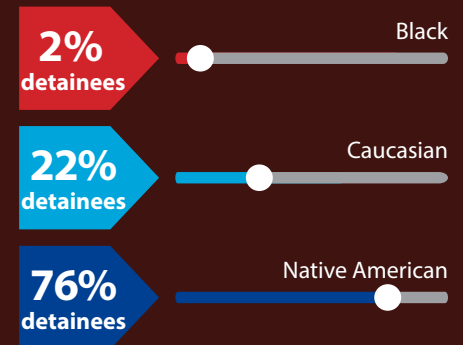
LSS operates the Street Outreach Program for homeless, runaway and street youth to help them find stable housing and services. In 2022 the program served more than 50 youth/families.

WSDJSC STATS 2022

Total Detainees 380
Average Age 17 years



RACIAL DEMOGRAPHICS



Average Daily Population 37
Average Length of Stay 38 days
Local 18 days
Federal 183 days
Bureau of Prisons 222 days
United States Marshals 66 days

SERVICE CENTER JUVENILE



Juvenile Services Center staff in 2022



Employees of the Month



Medicine Wheel Journey



Guttierrez and Accreditation Manager Melissa Reckling

HUMAN RESOURCES



Human Resources Generalists Nikki Farrar and Kim Bloomenrader

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST ROGER BELISLE offers unique psychological services that enhance wellness for every employee.

He leads debriefings for first responders and law enforcement officers following critical incidents and performs psychological assessments for every new hire at the Pennington County Sheriff's Office, to help make sure those entrusted to serve and protect have their hearts and minds in the right place.

HUMAN RESOURCES GENERALISTS NIKKI FARRAR AND KIM BLOOMENRADER 2022 was a challenging year marked by change and creativity. Steph McCoy left mid-year and Kim Bloomenrader and Nikki Farrar took the reins in the Human Resources division.

In a competitive job market, where job postings outnumber job seekers, we had to get creative to fill vacant positions. We refocused our hiring strategies and realize we can no longer take a one-size-fits-all approach to recruiting and retention.



Dr. Roger Belisle, Ph.D.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Our Employees are our best recruiters!

We get it, not everyone geeks out about recruiting like your HR team, however there are a number of reasons why we look to our current employees to help us recruit. Current employees understand our agency's culture and leadership style, which gives them a unique perspective. Employee referrals tend to have a better conversion to hire rate than candidates that come from other sources, and in general, boast a higher retention rate as well.

HIRING EFFORTS

Job Offers	275+
Job Offers rescinded	76
Applicants who withdrew after receiving an offer	77
Hires	122
Exits	125
Applications	940+



THE SHERIFF'S CHAPLAINS

The mission of this unique group is simple: to serve the employees and families of the Pennington County Sheriff's Office. Over the past 10 years our Chaplains Program has put down strong roots and continues to grow.

Through generous financial contributions from donors, the PCSO Chaplains provide special and fun opportunities for fellowship, support and guidance.

2022 Chaplains

Becky Piper
David Piper
Todd Lynch

Chris Swarthout
Evan Fowler



Nikki Farrar, Todd Lynch, Chris Swarthout, Corey Brubakken, David Piper and Becky Piper at annual Christmas party



Chaplain Chris Swarthout at annual staff meeting



2nd annual Chaplains' Smoked Butt Challenge and lunch



COREY BRUBAKKEN WELLNESS COORDINATOR

Our mission is to develop a robust and relevant Wellness Program for PCSO staff and family members. The goal is to maintain a healthy family dynamic amidst the unique stresses of careers in law enforcement.

- Through the COPS Wellness Grant we hired part-time Family Liaison Candy Alexander, the spouse of Deputy Jeff Jones. Candy created our Significant Others Directory and Family Wellness Connection Facebook page.

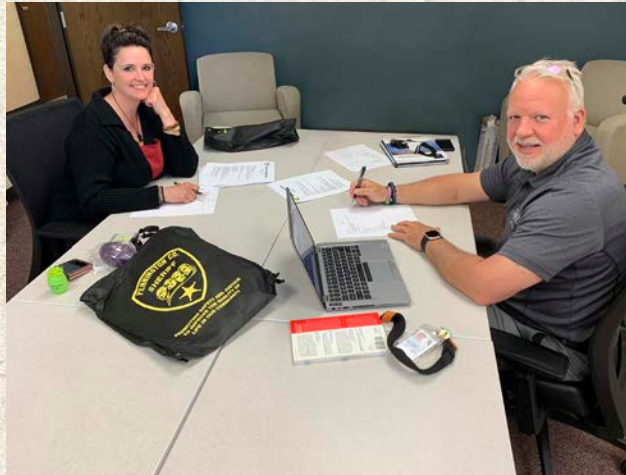
- In 2022 we launched the Cordico Wellness App—one of the most comprehensive wellness apps available for First Responders and their families.

- Our Peer Support Team remains active in all divisions, helping with 140 confidential contacts with employee or family members.

- Therapy Dog, Harley, has adapted to part-time work, enjoys interacting with staff and graciously accepts treats.



Wellness Coordinator works with employees at the Juvenile Services Center



Corey Brubakken and Family Liaison Candy Alexander



Harley, PCSO Therapy Dog, does weekly rounds visiting with employees in all divisions

PCSO TRAINING



TONY VERCHIO TRAINING MANAGER The Sheriff's Office provides essential and comprehensive training for all four divisions. We continually update our training adapting to changing times, laws and regulations.

2022 was another busy year in which we conducted new hire training each month in addition to providing 40 hours of training to all correctional officers, and a minimum of 40 hours of training for each deputy. Our in-service training included de-escalation, mental health, direct supervision, use of force and emergency vehicle operations. We also coordinated continuing education for our medical and counseling staff throughout the year.

**TOTAL TRAINING
HOURS**
39,015 hours



Non-violent crisis intervention



Medivac operations training



Annual firearms training



Onboarding on all new employees



Training for our field trainers

ACADEMY GRADUATES



Pennington County's winter 2022 class, from left: Lt Chris Hislip with Deputies Keith Fenner, Richard Felix, Jordan Decker and Baron Juhl, February 25



The Pennington County Sheriff's Office had eight deputies graduate from the Law Enforcement Training Academy in Pierre over three 13-week sessions in 2022.



Deputies Anthony Combs and Marc Davies graduated November 18



Pennington County's spring 2022 class, from left: Training Deputy Jon Edwards with new Academy graduates Deputies Stephen Stewart and Ryan McMurray and Lt. David Switzer, June 3

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Search and Rescue Team Calls during extreme temperatures and from distant locations continued in 2022. The team performed vertical rope rescues in the Badlands at 105°F and winter rescues in frigid -50°F wind chills. During the December blizzard, we rescued a stranded individual nearly on the Wyoming border. Hours later, we stationed personnel and equipment in Wall on multiple-day assignments to assist with rescues and law enforcement transportation. In between, we helped stranded motorists along I-90 east of Rapid City.

Pennington County Search & Rescue is more frequently using our Sherp rescue vehicle. Besides snow events, we are seeing more water and ice operations, in particular in missing person searches and recoveries in wet terrain including marshes, creeks and lakes.

Most of the 2022 PCSAR class fulfilled their training requirements and are nearing team member status. Recruitment efforts have been fruitful and we have another great class of trainees beginning in early 2023.



2022 CALLS

- 24 - Vehicle Extrication
- 23 - Search
- 22 - Carry-Out
- 8 - High Angle Rescue
- 24 - Water Rescue



Sherp pro training at Pactola Reservoir



Downed aircraft rescue in October

WATER RESCUE TEAM

The Rapid City/Pennington County Water Rescue Team was dispatched to more than 20 calls for service in 2022. The team includes personnel from the Pennington County Sheriff's Office, Rapid City Fire Department, and Rapid City Police Department. They provide local water rescue and recovery as well as a regional deployable response. In 2022, several team members trained on advanced boat rescue operations and three more team members were certified as Public Safety Divers.



Drowning at Angostura Reservoir, August 9



Water Rescue team training in Jackson Hole on advanced boat and swift water rescue operations



Annual ice training at Pactola Reservoir in February



Big role in the drowning deep-water recovery at Pactola, July 28

OUT IN THE COMMUNITY



First Responder Night at Rush Hockey



Six members deploy with SD National Guard



Jail staff at Faith & Hope Community Breakfast



Tough Enough to Wear Pink efforts to support breast cancer survivors at Care Campus



Hooked on Hardwater, fishing event for youth at Club for Boys



Deputies Salas, McKelvey and Burgner buy gifts for victims of house fire

OUT IN THE COMMUNITY



PCSO booth at 2022 Ellsworth Air & Space Show



Deputy Doug Kimball at Easter Egg Hunt in Hill City



PCSO booth at Ellsworth Open House



Polar Plunge Team PCSO raises \$8,500 for Special Olympics South Dakota



Tip a Cop at Outback Steakhouse to benefit Special Olympics



Cops on a Donut Shop raise money for Special Olympic athletes

OUT IN THE COMMUNITY



Shopping with a Sheriff, Douglas School Resource Officers, Explorers and Box Elder Police Officers filled the Christmas lists of needy families



Lieutenant Paul Stevens and Sheriff-elect Brian Mueller shop with students



Deputy Vic Gust organizes annual Shopping with a Sheriff

COMMUNITY SUPPORT



Girl Scout Troop 74030 uses cookie proceeds to buy gifts for kids who come in contact with law enforcement



Weekly cookie delivery from Crumbl enjoyed by all divisions



Daughters of American Revolution give Certificate of Appreciation to Captain Woods



Black Hills Autism Society hosts Ice Cream with Officers at Armadillos



Open Bible Church meals for all shifts on July 4th



Police Week goodies from Physical Therapy Center

EXPLORER PROGRAM

The Explorer Program gives young men and women exposure to a career in law enforcement. It builds character through physical fitness, leadership and community service.

We encourage youth between the ages of 15 and 21 to apply to be part of the Pennington County Sheriff's Explorer Program. Contact Lieutenant Dave Switzer for details: (605) 394-6113.



Explorer Talyiah Green works with Sergeant Milstead, Deputy Lavene and Deputy Dross



Deputies work with Explorers on techniques and safety with firearms



From left: Janae Olson, Otto Sitzes, Talyiah Green, Braydon Spear, Nick Koehler, Neveyah Lampert



TRANSITIONS

2022 marked a year of much transition. In December, Patrol Captain Mark Hughes was promoted to a chief deputy. Dustin Morrison, Chris Hislip and Taylor Sperle were promoted to captains. Casey Kenrick

and Paul Stevens were promoted to lieutenants. Dave Olson and Nick Nelson were promoted to sergeants. Jason Mitzel moved into a new role as sergeant of the Criminal Investigations Division.



*Mark Hughes
Chief Deputy*



*Dustin Morrison
Captain CID*



*Chris Hislip
Captain Patrol*



*Taylor Sperle
Captain Warrants, Civil, Transport*



*Casey Kenrick
Lieutenant Patrol*



*Paul Stevens
Lieutenant Investigations*



*Dave Olson
Sergeant Patrol*



*Nick Nelson
Sergeant Patrol*



*Jason Mitzel
Sergeant CID*

RETIREMENTS



Tony Harrison, 26 years (last 8 at PCSO),
Captain of Investigation



Tim Lindblom, 26 years
JSC Sergeant



Michele Kaiser, 23 years
JSC Sergeant



Jeff Boal, 20 years
Jail Sergeant

Mischelle Boal, 21 years
Deputy II



Tana Gajeski, 19 years
Civil Deputy



Joan Fletcher, 19 years
Booking Tech



Roy VanBerkum, 18 years
Correctional Officer



Dennis Feller, 17 years
Correctional Officer



Kent Przymus, 17 years
Deputy



Rebecca Maclanders,
17 years JSC Teacher



Rocky Volker, 6 years
Building Service
Superintendent

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

New Sheriff

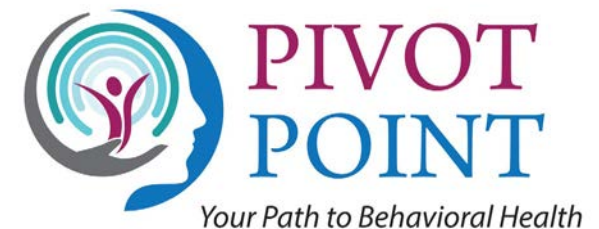
For the first time in 32 years, there was a contested race for Pennington County Sheriff. Long-time Chief Deputy Brian Mueller transitions into the top job after a 26-year career with the Pennington County Sheriff's Office.

Jail Updates

We are deciding how to best address an aging infrastructure along with needs for expansion. The first jail tower opened in 1990 and needs an internal overhaul (HVAC, plumbing, electrical) to extend its life another 30 years. Pennington County is also exploring long-term options for new property to consider an expansion of bed space.

Pivot Point

The 24-bed facility extension of the Care Campus opened in December and will be fully on-line in 2023. It is a new regional model of care that is the first of at least three such facilities across South Dakota.





Our Mission:

Promoting safety and justice to improve the quality of life in our community.

Thank You!

**SHERIFF KEVIN THOM
FOR YOUR SERVICE**

Kevin Thom - Pennington County Sheriff

300 Kansas City Street • Rapid City, SD 57701 • (605) 394-6113 • www.pennco.org/sheriff