

ANNUAL REPORT



2013

San Benito County Sheriff

Darren Thompson – Sheriff Coroner

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Presented by

San Benito County Sheriff's Office

Darren Thompson

Sheriff—Coroner

San Benito County Sheriff's Office

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Sheriff's Message

I am pleased to present the latest annual report. 2013 was a year full of exciting changes for the Sheriff's Office:

We completed our move into our new facility at 2301 Technology Parkway. As with any new facility move, there were some challenges but most of them have been overcome. The facility has room for all of our staff, equipment and room for future growth.

The new San Benito County courthouse is almost complete with an expected opening in March 2014. My staff has put together an initial staffing and security plan which will be updated as the building opening draws closer. The plans will be further developed during the first few months of operations.

I have started the reorganization of the Sheriff's Office with the creation of two captain positions. The new structure will have three divisions; operations, corrections and administration, each with its own commander. The new department structure is depicted on the organization diagram presented later in this report.

We started the hiring process for Deputy Sheriff and Correctional Deputy positions. We will hire only the best candidates to serve our community so the process will be very thorough.

We introduced a completely redesigned web site. www.sbcsheriff.org. The site will make it much easier to interact with our office and to get the information you are looking for.

I am proud to serve as your Sheriff and I thank you, our community members, for your support over the past year.

I am proud of the men and women who make up the Sheriff's Office and who, on a daily basis, provide excellent service to our customers.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "D Thompson". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Darren Thompson, Sheriff – Coroner

San Benito County

San Benito County is located in the Coast Range Mountains of California. As of 2013 the population was 56,884. The county seat is Hollister, which includes nearly two-thirds of the county's population. El Camino Real passes through the county and includes one mission in San Juan Bautista. The county has a total area of 1,390.73 square miles and is bordered by Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterey, Fresno and Merced counties.

San Benito County is comprised of an eclectic mix of industry, tourism and attractions. The County is proud to feature several world-class wineries as well as the Pinnacles National Park. One of a very few State run off highway vehicle parks, *Hollister Hills*, is just a few minutes from downtown Hollister.



The cities of Hollister and San Juan Bautista are the two incorporated cities that join the communities of Aromas, Bitterwater, New Idria, Paicines, Panoche and Tres Pinos to make up the population centers.

Mission Statement

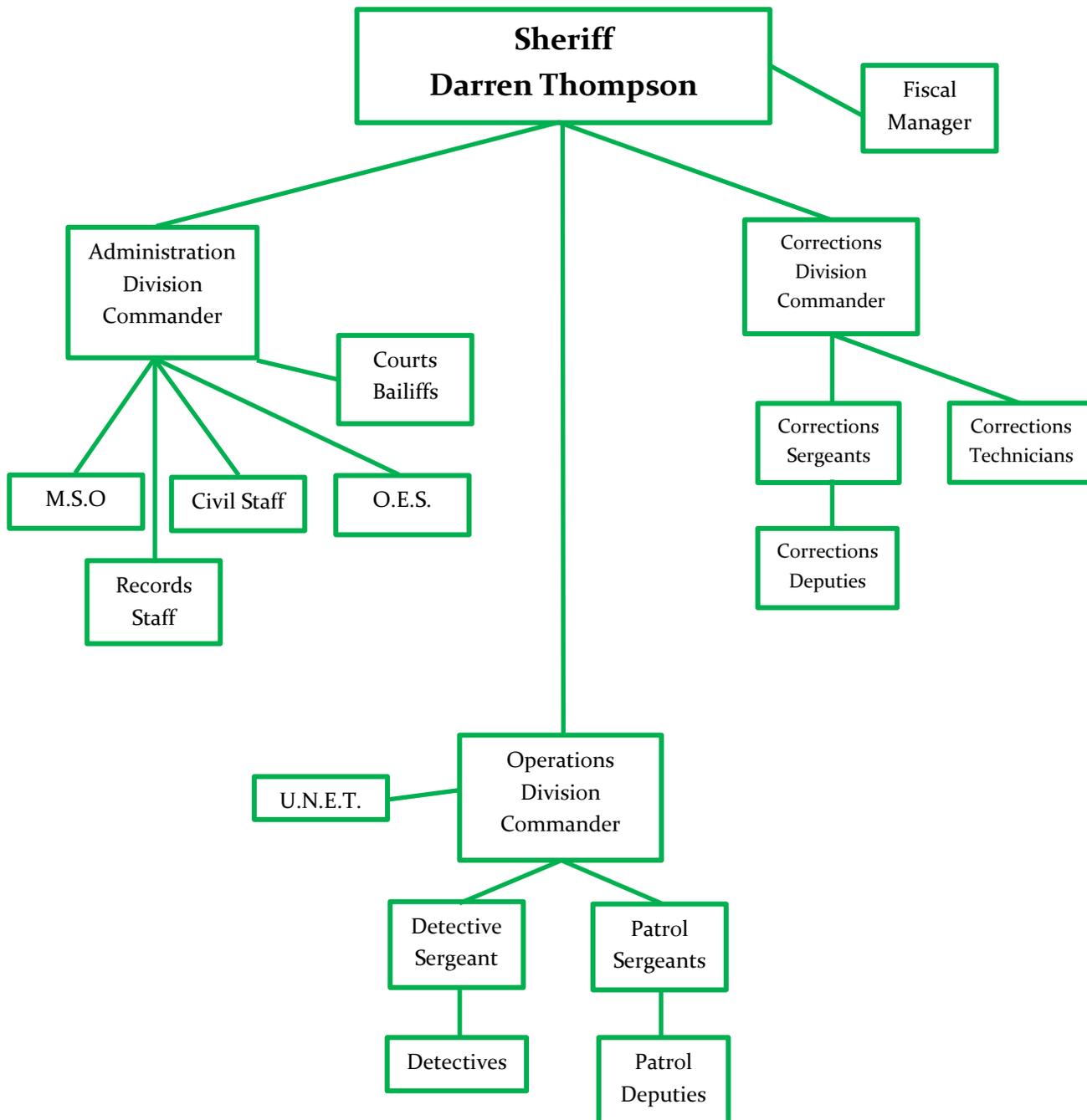
The mission of the San Benito County Sheriff's Office is to serve the public by establishing a partnership with the community; to protect life and property, prevent crime, and solve problems.

According to the California state constitution, the Sheriff is the chief law enforcement officer in the county. The Sheriff's Office is also constitutionally mandated to provide the following services to the entire county (including the cities of Hollister and San Juan Bautista):

- Civil process and court document service
- California Department of Justice computer system access for local agencies
- Court security and bailiff service
- Coroner duties
- Corrections - Jail services and inmate transportation
- Community - Search & Rescue operations.



Organizational Structure



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Patrol Operations

The patrol division personnel are the first to respond to emergencies within the county. Patrol Deputies handle the enforcement of criminal and vehicle code regulations, and investigate misdemeanor and felony crimes. Deputies are also responsible for the enforcement of state laws as well as coroner investigations and civil process service.



For 2013, Deputies saw an 11% decrease in calls for service over last year (12,684 vs 14,189).

Average response time to priority one calls increased by 26 seconds (+5%) while average response time to priority two calls increased by 3.5 minutes (+30%). Priority three decreased by 22 seconds (-3%) and priority four calls increased by 2 minutes (+10%). Response time to priority

two and four calls increased significantly because of low patrol staffing levels. Deputies must handle all priority one calls before handling any other calls.

CALLS FOR SERVICE

BEAT	TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE
Beat 1 – West San Benito County	2,039
Beat 2 – East San Benito County	5,768
Beat 3 – San Juan Bautista	1,533
Beat 4 – South San Benito County	130
Calls within the City of Hollister	104
Civil processes service (includes attempts)	3,110
Deputy initiated field events	4,680

RESPONSE TIME

CALL PRIORITY	AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME
Priority 1 – Immediate threat to safety or in progress felonies	10 minutes 34 seconds
Priority 2 – In progress threat to property or non-violent crime	16 minutes 24 seconds
Priority 3 – Misdemeanor calls for service	15 minutes 51 seconds
Priority 4 – All other calls for service	28 minutes 39 seconds

Corrections

The Corrections division administers the jail system in San Benito County and is staffed by Correctional Deputies, Sergeants and administrative support staff. An additional 3 Correctional Deputies are assigned to court security and prisoner transportation.

The jail staff handled 2,227 bookings in 2013, a decrease of 2% (46 bookings) from 2012.

The Sheriff's Office had 46% of the bookings followed by the Hollister Police Department with 36%, CHP with 7% and all other agencies with 11%

The 28,000 square foot jail facility consists of two maximum-security modules with a capacity of 27 inmates each and two medium security modules with a maximum of 35 inmates each. The rated capacity for the jail is 142 inmates. The jail also houses female inmates in two separate housing units. One unit can house up to 10 medium female inmates. One maximum unit can house up to 8 females.



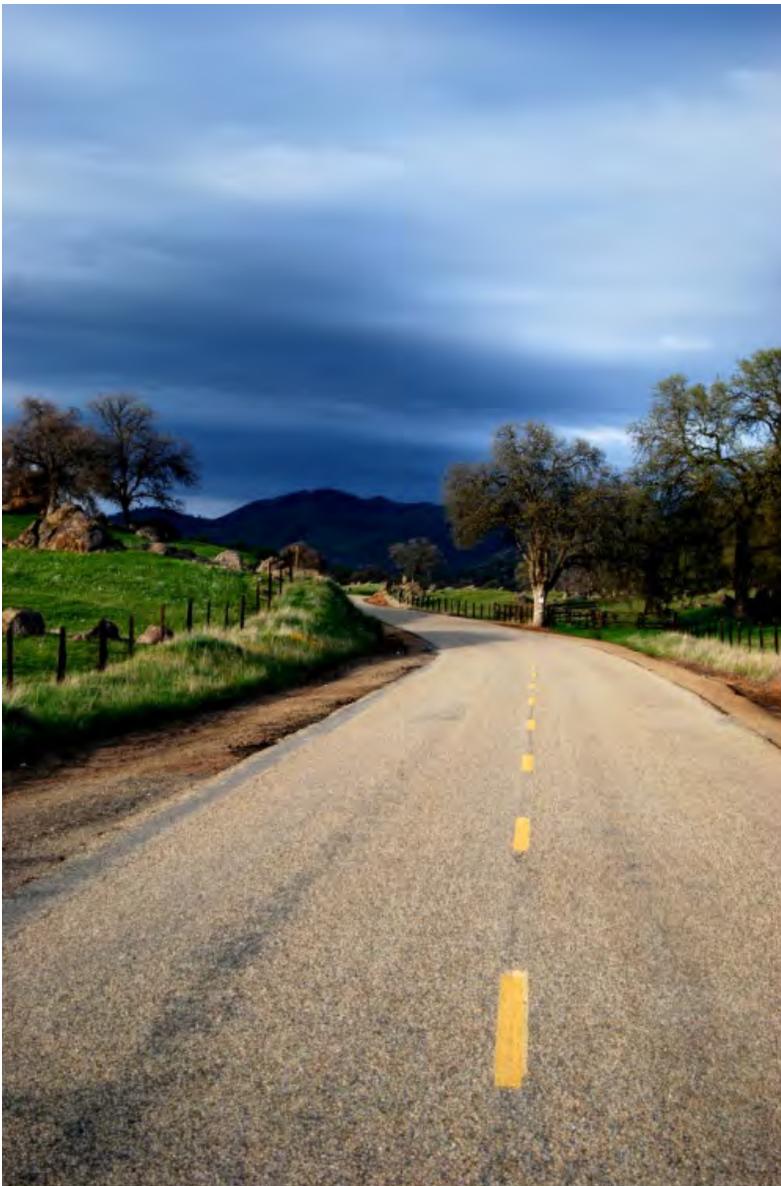
In lieu of incarceration, the Corrections Division of the San Benito County Sheriff's Office has an inmate Work Alternative Program. The program is known to most as W.A. (Work Alternative) or S.W.A.P. (Sheriff Work Alternative Program).

The Inmate Services Program provides academic/vocational education and religious services to both sentenced and non-sentenced inmates.

Coroner

In 2013, 84 Coroner cases were handled by the Sheriff's Office, a 6% increase over last year.

Coroner cases are investigated by Sheriff's investigators who also handle general criminal and internal investigations. Patrol Deputies handle the preliminary investigation and then notify the on-call detectives who are on call 24 hours per day for coroner cases.



The Sheriff/Coroner handles all cases in the entire county including the cities of Hollister and San Juan Bautista and at the hospitals, other medical facilities and long term care facilities.

In June 2013, the Sheriff's Office terminated their contract with Monterey County and entered into a new contract with Santa Clara County for the handling of autopsies and related coroner duties.

The new coroner agreement, which costs less than the old agreement, not only saves money, but saves time as well. Sheriff's investigators now have more time to dedicate to other cases and events in the County.

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Civil

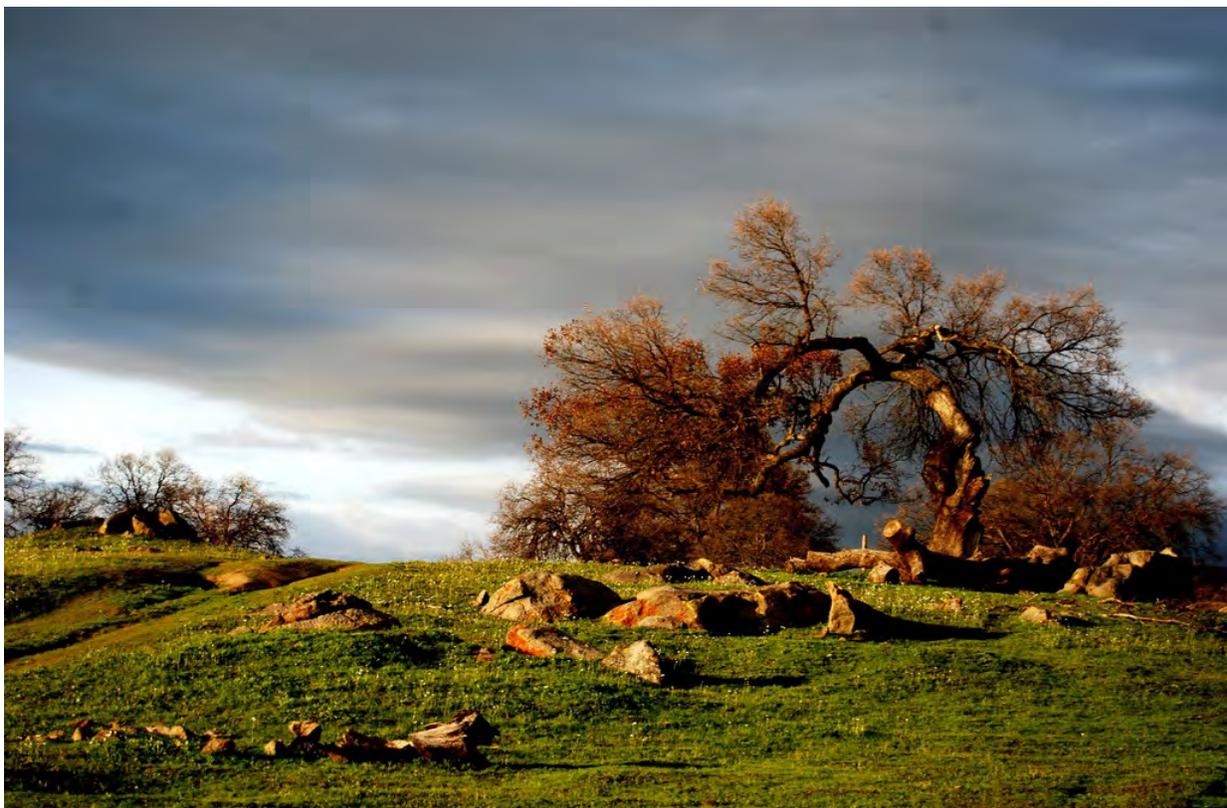
The Sheriff's Office completed 1,869 civil process services in 2013 a decrease of approximately 5%.

Civil papers are served by on-duty patrol Deputies as daily.

Most services take multiple attempts before a successful service is complete. The 1,869 services took approximately 3,110 attempts.

CIVIL PROCESSES SERVED

COURT ORDERS	EVICCTIONS	SUMMONS	LEVY	SUBPOENAS
749	122	543	207	202
TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDERS			TOTAL PROCESSES SERVED	
46			1,869	



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Community Outreach



Each year the Sheriff's Office participates in a number of community events including the County Fair, National Night Out, Halloween, Drug Take-Back and Aromas Days. San Benito County residents can meet our Deputies and our K-9, tour our vehicles and learn about what the Sheriff's Office provides for the County.

Most of the events were made possible through the dedication of our Explorer advisors and the entire group of Explorers

who donated many hours of their time to ensuring the events were well planned and very well run.



In December 2013, the Sheriff's Office worked to surprise thirty children who were identified by our staff. The 3rd annual bicycle give away teamed the Sheriff's

Office with *Turning Wheels for Kids*, a non-profit organization that encourages physical activity for children to make the holiday season special for girls and boys in San Benito County. The children were able to interact with department members who then presented them with a brand new bicycle, helmet and lock



San Benito County Superior Court



The Sheriff is responsible for providing bailiff services, building security and prisoner transport & holding for the Superior Court. The 1960's era court facility is overcrowded and outdated. A new state of the art courthouse has been built across the street from the old facility and is scheduled to open in March 2014.

The new courthouse will include a single point of entry security system to ensure total building and court employee safety. Sheriff's Office staff has put together an initial staffing and security plan which will be finalized as the building opening draws closer. The plans will be re-assessed and further developed during the first few months of operations.



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