

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



2018 Annual Report

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

In 2018, I had the honor of being re-elected by the voters of San Benito County to serve a third term as your Sheriff-Coroner. It is a tremendous privilege and honor to serve our community.

The Sheriff's Office works vigilantly to maintain your safety, as well as your trust. Our 2018 milestones include:

- Improved video technology for our deputies and our facilities.
- Operations (patrol) Division developed a policy and deployed body worn cameras (BWC) on each uniformed deputy.
- Upgraded all patrol cars to modern, integrated cameras that are compatible with our BWCs, making evidence sharing more secure and efficient.
- Upgraded and added cameras inside and outside the San Benito County Correctional Facility for the safety and security of the inmates and staff.
- Replaced 14 existing analog cameras with digital cameras.
- Added microphones for the pre-booking cameras and expanded storage on the recording system.
- Deployed BWC's on each person in the jail facility to reduce inmate conflicts, damage to our facility, and inmate attacks on the jail personnel.
- Redesigned the badge and patch our deputies wear on their uniform. The new badge and patch are featured on the front and back cover of this report.

I am proud of the work the men and women of the San Benito County Sheriff's Office do every day. We know this is a job that comes with great responsibility.

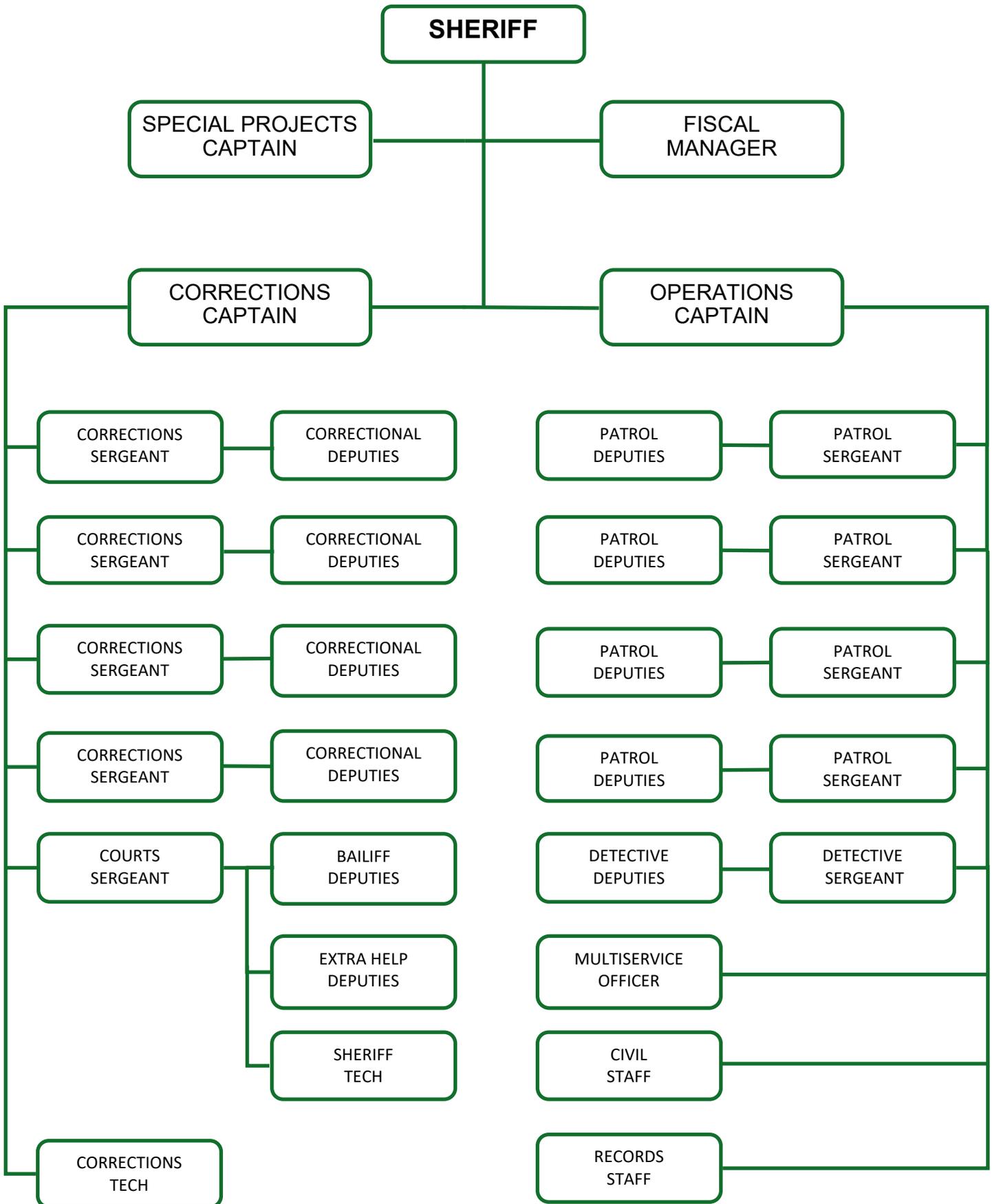
With your continued support, we look forward to working together to keep San Benito County a great place to live.

It has been an honor to serve as your elected sheriff, and my privilege to serve with the men and women of the San Benito County Sheriff's Office.

Darren Thompson
Sheriff-Coroner



Department Organization



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. 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.

The County was established on February 12, 1874, from the inland portion of Monterey County. The city of Hollister was chosen as the county seat. The county grew so quickly that in 1887, additional acreage, including the New Idria quicksilver mines, were acquired from Merced and Fresno Counties.

The boundaries have remained unchanged since 1887.

San Benito County is 1,396 square miles – 893,440 acres. The 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 SVRA, is just a few minutes from downtown Hollister. El Camino Real passes through the county and includes one mission in San Juan Bautista.



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.

The Sheriff's office is mandated by the constitution of the State of California to provide the following services to San Benito County residents:

Corrections

Court
Security

Coroner

Search &
Rescue

Civil
Processes

Operations

Deputies handle two types of calls or events as they are called:

One is a call for service where someone calls 9-1-1 or otherwise contacts the Sheriff's Office for police services.

The other is an event that Deputies initiate themselves. These can be traffic stops, security checks or other types of field initiated events. Every event is closed with a disposition that details what happened with the situation



Calls are assigned a priority based on the initial information received by the call-taker at the 9-1-1 communications center. Priority 1 calls are handled first, while priority 4 calls are handled after all other calls have been cleared.

Deputy Initiated Activity		Event Dispositions		Area	Location	Total Events
Traffic stop	1752	No report required	8577	Beat 1	Western San Benito County	2232
Vehicle/subject check	1563	Subject(s) contacted	2049	Beat 2	Eastern San Benito County	8290
Civil	1087	Report taken	745	Beat 3	San Juan Bautista	2296
Other	1973	Traffic citation	216	Beat 4	Southern San Benito County	160
Area check	3915	Criminal citation	125	Hollister	Calls within the City of Hollister	2484
Security check	858	Arrest made	341	<p>Priority 1 - Red Immediate threat to safety or in progress felonies</p> <p>Priority 2 - Blue In progress threat to property or non-violent crime</p> <p>Priority 3 - Yellow Misdemeanor calls for service</p> <p>Priority 4 - Green All other calls for service</p>		
Follow up	660	Response Times				
Attempt to contact	85	Priority 1 - Red	14:30			
Flag down	103	Priority 2 - Blue	18:15			
Foot patrol	34	Priority 3 - Yellow	20:00			
Probation search	47	Priority 4 - Green	42:25			



Corrections

The San Benito County Jail is a 25,000 square foot facility with 26 correctional deputies who work to ensure the health and safety of individuals held in the facility. The jail serves a population of approximately 127 inmates daily. The rated capacity is 142. Additionally, 40 people are assigned to work alternative programs every day. The jail also contributes to the electronic monitoring program which is run by the Probation Department where there is an average daily attendance of 24.

Annually, approximately 147,000 meals are served. Jail medical personnel see approximately 6,242 inmates per year and provide medication and triage to other treatment modalities that may be required. Transportation deputies safely delivered over 3,270 inmates to local courts every year. Corrections deputies drive over 50,000 miles annually to facilitate inmate pickup and delivery statewide. Trips include transport to and from medical care, local and abroad; delivery to state prison reception centers post sentencing; and pick up from all California Counties as we are notified.

The Sheriff's Office offers a work alternative program (SWAP) to allow individuals meeting certain criteria, to serve their sentence through the performance of community based service work assignments. The Sheriff's Office assigns convicted low level offenders to specific worksites throughout the County of San Benito. Eligibility is based on court orders, type of charges, number of days to serve, other charges pending and previous attendance history.



2018 Bookings by agency	
Sheriff's Office	1054
Hollister Police Department	1046
California Highway Patrol	119
San Benito County Probation	97
Other (Parole, CA State Parks)	152

Inmates Transported	
To and from court	2809
To other counties	231
To State prison	45
Medical appointments	74

Alternative to incarceration	
Work alternative (SWAP)	198
Electronic monitoring	78
Letter from the D/A	110



Other Duties

Civil processes

The Sheriff's Office provides civil process and court document service to the entire county (including the cities of Hollister and San Juan Bautista).

It takes an average of 2 attempts to complete 1 process service. For 2018, the 1257 completed services took approximately 2,400 attempts. The civil processes served included:

Evictions 86	Orders 286	Levies 142	Subpoenas 190	Summons & Restraining order 454
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Coroner

San Benito County Sheriff's Deputies act as the coroner. Initial death investigations are handled by Sheriff's deputies and further investigation is conducted by Sheriff's detectives. The County contracts with the Santa Clara County Coroner's office for autopsies as needed. In 2018 the Sheriff's office handled 44 death cases. Of those, 38 were sent to Santa Clara County.

Registrant tracking

Sheriff's detectives also verify the compliance of those residents living in the County who are required to register with the Sheriff's Office as part of a court order.

A total of 43 registered sex offenders live in the county (not including the City of Hollister). All were in compliance for 2018.

City of San Juan Bautista

San Juan Bautista is a unique village, alive with early California history and home to one of the most authentic, picturesque and pristine missions along the California mission trail. The diverse community embraces a slower way of life, a kind attitude to everyday encounters and a devotion to preserving the beauty and heritage of the historical foundation.

Since 1995, the Sheriff's Office has been proud to provide law enforcement services to the city under a contract with a service level agreement (SLA). Sheriff's Deputies spend 40 hours per week in the City enforcing laws and working with the community. The City also contracts with a private security company for additional security services.



Special Projects

Jail Expansion

The Sheriff's Office is proud to report on the progress of a State grant funded expansion of our current detention facility. This project includes a new booking area; new administrative area; a new medical and dental unit; a new training and briefing room; a new public lobby and video visitation room; and 2 new housing pods each containing 36 beds with programming rooms and recreational areas for each.

The facility design can greatly enhance the life coaching and rehabilitative processes which conceptually can lead to a reduction in recidivism.

This facility is designed with and will be constructed with program/classrooms in each housing pod. The inmates live in a dorm style space which increases socialization and mentoring processes. The end results are not guaranteed but this new construction gives a fighting chance to offer things we cannot currently offer in the present setting.



The facility includes a medical unit with an exam room, dental services and medical beds should an overnight stay be indicated.

The facility will also offer video visitation as an enhancement/add to in person visitation. The anticipated date of completion and turn over to the sheriff's office for occupancy is late 2019. We thank our community for allowing this project to allow us to provide opportunities for positive outcomes.

Body Worn Cameras

Body worn cameras (BWC) have numerous benefits, such as increased officer safety; documentation of traffic violations, citizen behavior, and other events; reduced court time and prosecutor burden; video evidence for use in internal investigations; reduced frivolous lawsuits; and increased likelihood of successful prosecution. In many instances police agencies have found the BWC useful for officers in the favorable resolution of both administrative and criminal complaints and as a defense resource in cases of civil liability. Officers using these recorders have a clearly documented, firsthand, completely objective account of what was said during an incident in question. The utilization of BWC video and audio recordings at trial can provide the court with the actual statements of officers, suspects, and others that might not otherwise be admissible in court based upon hearsay concerns, or might not get sufficient consideration if there are conflicting memories of the statements.

In addition, recordings made at crime and incident scenes are a tangible benefit of BWCs and can provide investigators, prosecutors, and juries with far more detailed, accurate, and compelling evidence.



Courts

The San Benito County Superior courthouse building completed its fifth year of operations.

Full time Deputies serve as bailiffs while temporary extra help Deputies, (TEHDS), provide building security and single point of entry visitor screening. The court operations team is led by one court operations Sergeant. Court operations fall under the corrections division and is overseen by Capt. Tony Lamonica.

The courthouse is open approximately 250 days per year from 8am to 5pm. Over the course of a year, deputies screen an average of 75 people per day who come to the building for various reasons. That equates to approximately 19,000 people screened each year.



For 2018, items found in the screening process included:

Knives 370	Chemical agents 66	Permanent markers 11	Other 85 Blow torch, long chain, golf club, syringe, scissors
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Deputies of the Year

Each year, a member of the Sheriff's Office operations division is selected for the honor of being awarded Deputy of the year.

What's unique about the selection process is that it's a peer award. Each member of the Sheriff's Office nominates the person who they feel deserves the award. Being selected by their peers is quite an honor!

The 2018 Deputy of the Year recipient is Deputy Breyon Canez. Breyon has been with the Sheriff's Office for 4 years and is currently in the patrol division. Congratulations Breyon on a job well done!



The sheriff's office correctional deputy of the year recognizes outstanding service by an individual assigned to the corrections division. It is marked by the individual upholding the core values of the department and by going above and beyond what is required.



It is with great pride that we introduce the 2018 correctional deputy of the year, Mario San Paolo. Mario has been with the department since 2013 and is well known for playing a vital role as an instructor in multiple disciplines, including one of the range-masters.

Mario served our country in the U.S. Coast Guard and he has a positive attitude no matter the task. He is always courteous and helpful to others and is highly respected by his peers. Congratulations Mario on a job well done!



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