

2021 – 200th Anniversary

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Year End Report



Celebrating 200 Years

Bartholomew County Sheriff Matthew A. Myers and many BCSO deputies wore special Bicentennial badges (purchased with personal funds) to commemorate Bartholomew County's 2021 Bicentennial Anniversary.

Serving Bartholomew County

Matthew A. Myers, Sheriff

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Mission, Vision Core Values

Agency Mission

To provide the highest level of protection and service.

To prevent crime and injustice.

To enforce laws and defend rights.

To be good stewards of public resources.

Vision

To provide excellent public safety.

To create a world class agency.

To be a safe, enjoyable place to live, work and visit.

Core Values

Committed to honorable perform our duties with integrity, professionalism and respect.

To stand against bigotry in all forms.

Bartholomew County Sheriffs 1821-2021

Joseph McKinney	1821-1824
Gideon B. Hart	1825-1827
Daniel Zeigler	1828-1830
John M. Gwin	1831-1832
J. Hubbard	1832-1833
John F. Jones	1834-1835
John McKinney	1836-1837
James Herod	1841-1845
William Hobbs	1846-1848
N. O. Hinman	1849-1850
Wilkerson B. Horn	1851-1852
Samuel Stuckey	1853-1856
Richard Carter	1857-1860
Mahlon Hayes	1861-1864
Thomas J. Kennedy	1865-1868
Michael McGrayel	1869-1870
Francis Whittington	1871-1872
Daniel Lynch	1873-1874
William B. Davis	1875-1876
Tillman F. Everroad	1877-1878
William R. Spurgeon	1879-1880
Thomas C. Burgess	1881-1882
Miles S. Thompson	1883-1884
James S. Brown	1885-1888
William C. Smith	1889-1892
Isaac Lucas	1893-1894
Vincent Thompson	1895-1896
Thomas Cox	1897-1898
Henry Howe	1899-1900
Charles H. Wagner	1901-1904
William F. Dinkins	1905-1906
Irvin A. Cox	1907-1910
Edwin E. Miller	1911-1912
John W. Burns	1913-1914
Matthew T. Shaw	1915-1916
Milo Silver	1917-1918
Damas Essex	1919-1920
John W. Phillips	1921-1922
Arlie Arbuckle	1923-1926
Linza Allen	1927-1928
Alonzo E. Fitch	1929-1930
Dr. J. W. Foust	1931-1934
Elmer H. Nolting	1935-1936
Robert J. Urbahns	1937-1938
Elmer H. Nolting	1939-1942
Walter O'Neal	1943-1946
Richard Thayer	1947-1950
Earl Hogan	1951-1958
J. Walter Johns	1959-1962
Charles D. Nolting	1963-1970
Jimmie D. McKinney	1971-1978
Michael L. Coy	1979-1982
Jimmie D. McKinney	1983-1986
Rick L. Hill	1987-1990
David Mann	1991-1998
Kenneth J. Whipker	1999-2006
Mark Gorbet	2007 – 2014
Matthew A. Myers	2015 - Current

Three major responsibilities that your Sheriff must uphold include: enforcing the laws...serving as an officer of the court...maintaining the County Jail.

Greetings citizens of Bartholomew County:



I am pleased to present your Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) 2021 Year-end Report. This report serves as a blueprint of how we achieved our goals and objectives while keeping with our Mission, Vision and Core Values.

As 2021 came to a close, I was reminded of the fantastic support we have received from our community. I am honored to serve as your Sheriff. I am forever grateful to the men and women at BCSO who have helped build and sustain the legacy and safety for our community. "Keeping Bartholomew County Safe" will continue to be our top priority.

We work hard every day to build relationships that are based on trust. We have an aggressive agenda that clearly articulates our mission. Since 2015, we have fine-tuned our goals and objectives, provided excellent transparency, strengthened our partnerships, improved efficiency and enhanced services. We must never take the unparalleled safety of Bartholomew County for granted.

We took an Oath to serve and protect and we are dedicated to delivering the best possible public safety for/in a county where everyone matters.

As I prepare for my final year as your Sheriff, I hope you will find this report informative. I also hope it will inspire you to be ever vigilant to the safety of our great community.

With best regards, I remain,
Sincerely

Matt

Matthew A. Myers
Sheriff



"The nation which forgets its defenders will itself be forgotten."

President Calvin Coolidge

Sheriff's Leadership Team



Chief Deputy Major Chris Lane 

As Chief Deputy, Major Lane serves as the operational manager of the Sheriff's Office. He participates in command decisions and reports directly to the Sheriff. He is responsible for the direction and leadership of the department.

Major Lane is a graduate of the National FBI Academy



Matron Vicki Thompson

As BCSO's Matron, Vicki has numerous and diverse responsibilities which includes supervising our Front Desk and our Records Division.



Jail Commander Major John Martoccia 

Major Martoccia manages, directs and administers all functions and daily operations of the Jail Division.

Major Martoccia is a graduate of the National FBI Academy



**Road Patrol Division Commander
Captain Dave Steinkoenig**

Captain Steinkoenig manages and supervises the day-to-day operations of Road Patrol, SWAT and BCSO Reserve Units.



**Investigations Division Commander
Captain Christopher Roberts**

Captain Roberts plans and coordinates criminal investigation services for BCSO.



**Administrative Commander
Captain Brandon Slate**

Captain Slate is responsible for planning, supervising and reviewing the activities of all personnel assigned to a major division, which may include a patrol or support function.



**Road Patrol Division Commander
Captain Dave Steinkoenig**

The Road Patrol Division was the frontline defense against crime in 2021. They are led by Captain Dave Steinkoenig.

The men/women of Road Patrol are the most visible employees of the Sheriff's Office. Uniformed deputies conduct patrols, respond to calls for service, direct traffic and enforce local, state and federal law.

Patrol deputies possess a wide range of technical skills and are equipped, trained and prepared to deal with situations ranging from administrative details to life-threatening encounters.

**TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE
30,980**



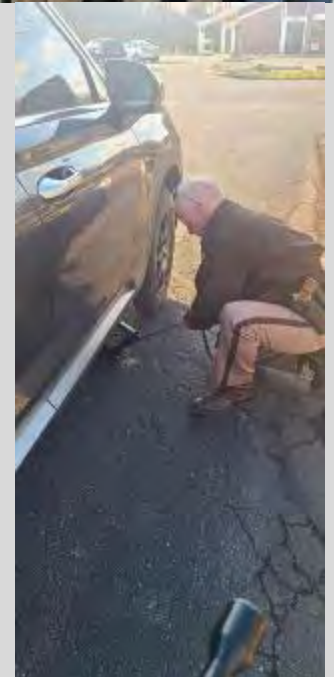
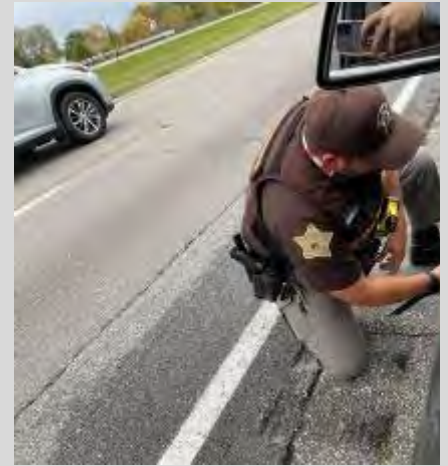
**ASSIST OTHER AGENCIES
560**

**CITIZENS ASSIST
5,083**

**POSSIBLE DRUNK DRIVER
476**



Protect and Serve



K9 Units

A police K9 is a dog that is specifically trained to assist law-enforcement personnel. Some of their duties include: searching for drugs, locating missing people and finding crime scene evidence. Police dogs respond to verbal cues and hand gestures.



Deputy Leah Burton with K9 Bravo



Deputy Dylan Prather with BCSO's newest K9 Frizko

Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office would like to thank Vested Interest in K9s, Inc., for the bullet and stab protective vest.

This K9 vest is embroidered with the sentiment "In memory of K9 Diesel EOW 11-14-2020".

Bartholomew County Sheriff's Deputy Brandon Sellers, K9 Jari and Deputy Dylan Prather (red jacket) are presenting a K9 demonstration for students at Hope Elementary school.



Deputy Brandon Sellers with K9 Jari



To request a demonstration go to:
sheriff@bartholomew.in.gov

New Deputies



January 25, 2021, Deputy Ryan Smith

Smith came to BCSO from Orange County Sheriff's Department where he served as a K9 Officer, Field Training Officer, STOPS instructor and EMT.

Smith received an Associate's degree from IVY Tech State College in the field of Human Services.



June 1, 2021, Deputy Dayan Smith

He immediately began his duties at the Sheriff's Youth Academy at CERAland Park.

Smith is a graduate of Anderson University. He spent one-year as a member of the Columbus, Georgia, Police Department working DUI and Family Violence cases.



October 11, 2021, Deputy Daniel Dawson

Meet BCSO's newest Deputy, Daniel Dawson. Dawson moved from Colorado with his family where he was a Deputy with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office.

Traffic Enforcement Crash Prevention

Since speed remains one of the leading causes of collisions and speeding/traffic enforcement is one of the complaints most often received by BCSO, we continue to be more aggressive with traffic enforcement.

Extra Patrols	Traffic Stops
2,897	4,683

Traffic enforcement is a key strategy to help reduce crashes in Bartholomew County. BCSO continues to be extremely aggressive with traffic enforcement.

The primary cause of crashes was distracted drivers. Additional traffic enforcement has been a top priority since 2015.

Routine traffic stops that lead to drug-related arrests are much more common and deputies are recovering more drug-related items and paraphernalia.





**Investigations Division Commander
Captain Christopher Roberts**

The Bartholomew County Sheriff's Investigation Unit is staffed with detectives who specialize in investigating various types of crime and evidence collection to aid in the prosecution of cases. They are led by Investigations Division Commander, Captain Christopher M. Roberts.

This Division is responsible for follow-up investigations and work all crimes/investigations ranging from murder to misdemeanor crimes.



Lt. Swank



Det. Kinman



Det. Holderness

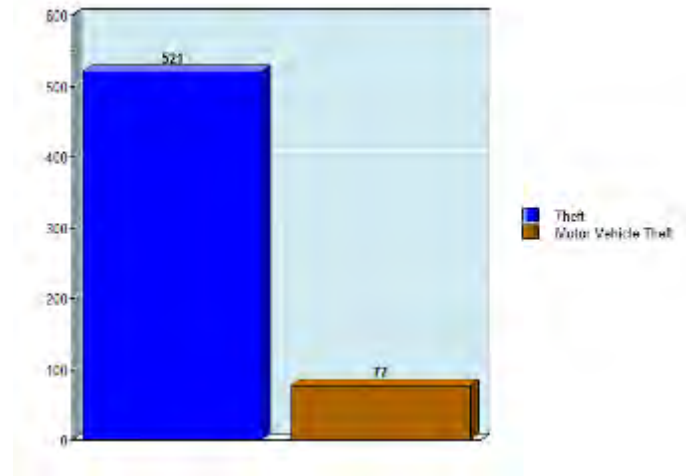


Det. Duke

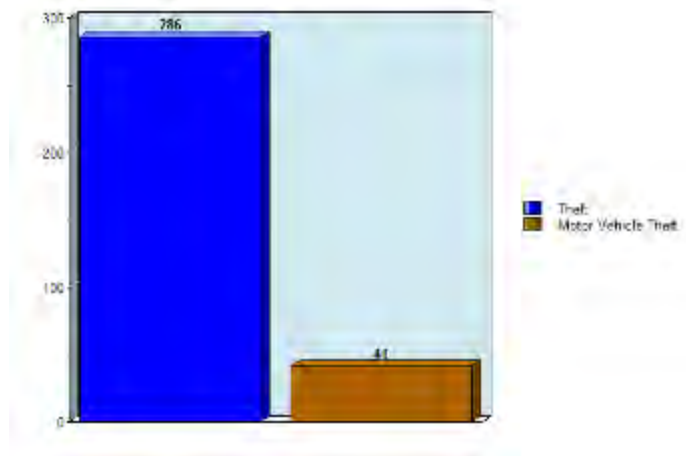


Det. Abner

Thefts down almost **50%** since establishment of Intelligence Led Policing Unit (ILPU)



2017
Thefts 521
Motor Vehicle Thefts 77

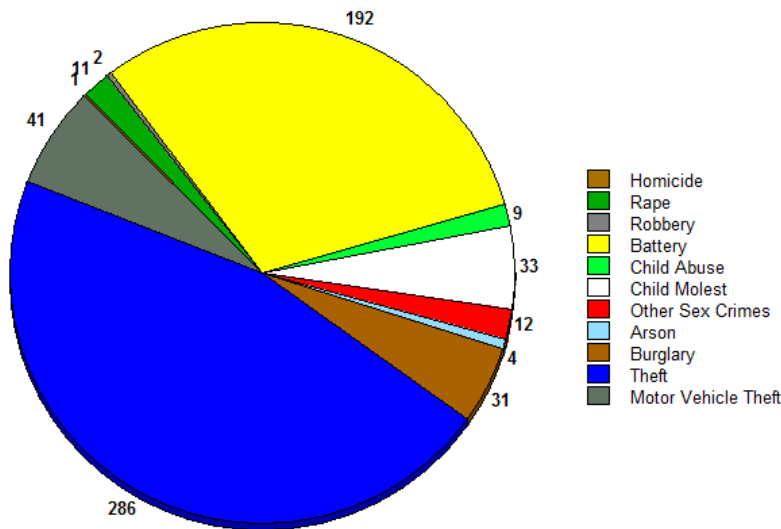


2021
Thefts 286
Motor Vehicle Thefts 41

Established in 2017, the Intelligence Led Policing Unit is a combination of the Columbus Police Department, the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office and the Bartholomew County Prosecutor's Office.

Investigations Division

Property and Evidence Room



BCSO's Criminal Investigations Division consists of five Detectives who specialize in investigating various types of crime and who specialize in evidence collection to aid in the prosecution of cases. It is the responsibility of Captain Roberts to ensure effective investigations, seek specialized and advanced training for members of his Division and to provide an appropriate link to return stolen property to its rightful owner(s).

Tip Line
812-379-1712

If you see something, no matter how insignificant it may seem Say Something!

You may provide information anonymously on BCSO's Tip Line.



BCSO's Property and Evidence Room is supervised by Dave Lutz. The importance of his work cannot be overstated. Our agency has a fiduciary and legal obligation to store and protect thousands of individual pieces of evidence and property including firearms, clothing, blood, narcotics, etc., that is in our custody. Equally important is our obligation to return property to its rightful owner or to facilitate the legal disposition of property and evidence.

One component for successful prosecution is dependent on how evidence is handled and preserved. Mr. Lutz is responsible for ensuring that all evidence is properly packaged and stored to allow for laboratory analysis and if required, court presentation, transporting any/all evidence, properly disposing of property that is no longer needed for court purposes – this can include return to owner, auction, destruction or donation.

In 2015, an Evidence Bar Code system was implemented which allows quick and easy management of evidence. This allows tracking of items that are up for review and items that are scheduled to be destroyed.



Dave Lutz, Manager
BCSO Property and Evidence Room

Reserve Unit

BCSO's Reserve Unit deputies are dedicated volunteers who assist and augment merit deputies with everything from road patrol to special events.



BCSO's Reserve Unit is led by Reserve Deputy Andy Riddle.

All Reserves are certified law enforcement officers most of whom have fulltime jobs outside BCSO. Reserves work numerous hours each year and save taxpayers thousands of dollars.



Reserve Deputy, and CPD retiree, Alan Trisler, assists during multiple slide offs and crashes during an icy, snowy day in Bartholomew County,

School Resource Officers

Our SRO program is a partnership with BCSC and Flatrock Hawcreek school corporations.

SRO's establish and maintain close partnerships with school administrators in order to provide safe school environments for Bartholomew County students.



Deputy Jessica Pendleton
SRO Flatrock Hawcreek



Deputy Teancum Clark
SRO BCSC

School Safety Checks in 2021

1,001

RESPECT FOR MILITARY HEROES

BCSO is proud to have veterans on our team. In recognition of all BCSO employees who served our country and our county, "Thank You" - we appreciate each veteran employee.



While the state of Indiana only requires a minimum of 24 hours of training per year, BCSO deputies went above and beyond in 2021.

BCSO's Training Division is responsible for the initial training and continuing skills development of all agency personnel. To fulfill those requirements, BCSO is dedicated to creating and providing quality training programs that reflect the needs and changing responsibilities of the Sheriff's Office.

Law enforcement is an ever changing field that evolves with society, as such, it is important that law enforcement organizations recognize the importance of continuing education and training.

Today, it is crucial that law enforcement also have the interpersonal skills necessary to effectively communicate to investigate crimes, de-escalate situations, build trust with their communities and to write reports and grants.

Sheriff Myers is a firm believer in the concept of professionalism through training. Since 2015, training has been a **Hallmark** at your Sheriff's Office.

The Bartholomew County Crisis Intervention Team completed their first training class from November 1 to November 5, 2021 at the Evolution Training Center. 17 law enforcement officers from the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office, Columbus Police Department, Hope Police Department and Columbus Regional Health Police Department participated in a 40-hour class focusing on topics that build skills related to communicating with and de-escalating those experiencing a mental health issue, including substance use, or in a general crisis.

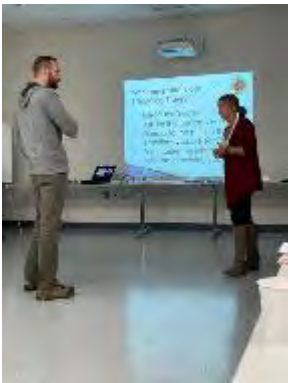


Photo L: Deputy Jon Lanning practicing the skills taught during the class through a mock mental health scenario.



Photo R: 17 newly trained C.I.T. trained officers and class facilitators.

5 representatives from the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office and Columbus Police Department completed Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training in Boone County.

CIT certified law enforcement officers receive specialized training to respond to calls involving persons experiencing a mental health crisis. From CIT International, "The Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program is a community partnership of law enforcement, mental health and addiction professionals, individuals who live with mental illness and/or addiction disorders, their families and other advocates. It is an innovative first-responder model of police-based crisis intervention training to help persons with mental disorders and/or addictions access medical treatment rather than place them in the criminal justice system due to illness related behaviors. It also promotes officer safety and the safety of the individual in crisis."



Photo L-R: CPD Officer Cody Wooten, CPD Sgt. Alyson Eichel, BCSO Sgt. Andrew Whipker, CPD Chaplain John Bundick, BCSO Detective Dane Duke



Emergency Vehicle Operations Training.



The Bartholomew County Jail Division is led by Jail Commander Major John Martoccia and Assisted by Jail Captain Tyler Stillabower and Lieutenant Kaleigh Morey.



No other law enforcement agency in Bartholomew County is responsible for housing inmates.

TOTAL NUMBER BOOKED
2,509

CORRECTIONS STAFF

BCJ is operated by a correction's staff that includes classification officers, transportation and administrative corrections officers. CO's are responsible for ensuring that statutory requirements from the state are met for all inmates.

"As Sheriff, my number one responsibility is the jail". "For that reason, I monitor activity in our jail on a daily basis."

Sheriff Matthew A. Myers



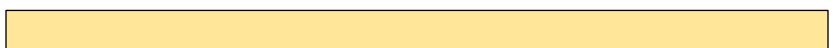
Correction's Officer Lane Cruz

June 8, 2021...Correction's Officer Lane Cruz rendered aide to inmate - received accommodation from Bartholomew County Sheriff Matthew A. Myers. In part it read:

I want to express my sincerest thank you for your heroic efforts. ...your quick thinking, your training, your professionalism and your caring concern about a fellow human being.

Watching the tape, ...you have my sincerest appreciation for the aide you provided.

Matthew A. Myers
Sheriff



Work Crew Transportation Courthouse Security

Work Crew

Our Sheriff's Work Crew, the least restrictive of all BCJ programs, has saved Bartholomew County taxpayer's thousands of dollars by allowing inmates to perform community services at many city-owned and/or county-owned facilities.

The Work Crew was suspended in 2020 due to COVID-19; however, BCSO's Work Crew is back in 2022!

On their first day back (March 10, 2022), members of the Work Crew cleaned up 200 pounds of trash along Jonathan Moore Pike to State Road 11 as well as State Road 11 in the area of the Bartholomew County 4-H Fairgrounds.



TRANSPORTATION OF INMATES

Correction Officers have the primary responsibility of transporting inmates to and from other correctional facilities. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, Video Court was used as much as possible in 2020.

VIDEO COURT

1,810

TOTAL INMATES

2,752

TRANSPORTED

1,647

TOTAL MILES TRAVELED

38,377

MEALS SERVED

(including Work Release)

264,899



Donna Lowe, Kitchen Supervisor

COURTHOUSE SECURITY

Courthouse security falls under the Jail Division. Correction Officers/Special Deputies are responsible for all enforcement and security for the building, scanning all who enter and searching all packages brought into the facility.

COURTHOUSE VISITORS

3,506

BUSIEST DAY OF THE WEEK

Monday



Gun Permits

Apply for a Gun Permit

1 Apply online. Complete the online application at www.in.gov/isp/firearms
2 Scan fingerprints
Schedule an appointment to have your fingerprints electronically scanned at any IdentoGo location (a list of locations is available at: www.in.gov/isp/firearms)

3 Call 317-773-1872
Within 90 days and after you have received the confirmation email from IdentoGo that your fingerprints are ready. Contact the Sheriff's Office at 812-379-1650 to verify your application is ready for the final step. (Please have your application number available).

Cable-style gun locks are available for pick up (as long as supplies last), at BCSO's front desk, M-F, 8:am – 5:pm.

Always make certain that firearms are securely stored and out of reach of children and other unauthorized persons.

Gun locks provided (at no charge) by Project ChildSafe



BART Treatment Program Begin...Accept...Reveal...Transform

Throughout the year, graduation ceremonies were held for BCJ inmates who graduated from the BART Treatment Program.

The program is called **BART: BEGIN, ACCEPT, REVEAL, TRANSFORM.**

BCJ's Program Coordinator initiated the process of review which includes: intake, screening, classification, admission, assessment, diagnosis and treatment planning. We are currently averaging 14.5 weeks of treatment.



6th District Congressman Greg Pence congratulates and visits with some of the August 10, 2021, BART grads.

Change to Inmate Mail Policy

On December 6, 2021, BCJ's inmate mail went electronic with Earth Class Mail (an extension of HomeWav).

With a one-month grace period, giving inmates time to contact their friends/families to inform them of the change, all incoming mail to the jail was still accepted.

However; on January 3, 2022, all mail became digital and BCJ no longer accepted any incoming mail.



Earth Class Mail

Public Safety Partners

BCSO remains committed to working closely with all law enforcement agencies as we continue to pool resources and information thereby elevating public safety in all areas of Bartholomew County.

Joint Narcotics Enforcement Team (JNET)

The Joint Narcotics Enforcement Team, a combined unit of the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office, the Columbus Police Department and the Bartholomew County Prosecutor's Office is proactively targeting the manufacturing and abuse of dangerous drugs in Columbus and Bartholomew County.

JNET Highlights

February 25, 2021, 817 Fourth Street, occupants dealing fentanyl/heroin. The residence is directly across the street from St. Peter's Lutheran School.



Multiple suspects arrested. During the search, detectives located more than **10** grams of fentanyl/heroin, methamphetamine, synthetic drug material, stolen property, syringes, drug-related paraphernalia and a significant amount of packaging material used to package illegal drugs for distribution.

Operation "Columbus Day"



March 31, 2021, a News Conference was held at the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office, hosted by John E. Childress, Acting United States Attorney Southern District of Indiana.

The News Conference was in reference to an extensive drug trafficking organization responsible for selling large quantities of illegal drugs in Bartholomew County and the surrounding area.

"Operation Columbus Day" netted approximately **114** pounds of methamphetamine, **4** pounds of heroin/fentanyl and **28** pounds of marijuana. In addition to drug seizures, approximately **\$224,124** in US currency was seized as drug proceeds. Agents/officers also recovered approximately **115** firearms.

36 individuals were federally indicted through the US Attorney's Office and **23** additional individuals were prosecuted through the Bartholomew County Prosecutor's Office on charges ranging from possession with intent to distribute to felon in possession of a firearm.

More arrests were forthcoming and later those warrants were served.

6 people were arrested in May, 2021, after a lengthy investigation that focused on narcotics dealing in Columbus. Shortly after 8:30 a.m., officers from the CPD SWAT Team, which is comprised of officers from the Columbus Police Department and Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office, executed a search warrant at a home in the 700 block of Fairview Drive in Columbus. A follow up investigation was conducted at a Columbus auto repair garage located in the 500 block of S. Cherry Street. That garage was subsequently closed down by Columbus Code Enforcement.

The arrests made today were the result of a continuation of the Operation Columbus Day investigation involving illegal drugs and firearms.

Operation "Columbus Day" continued...

During the warrant service, officers located methamphetamine, marijuana, **4** firearms, and a stolen Chevrolet Corvette.

"I want to give special recognition to those officers with 'boots on the ground' who day in and day out are working to keep illegal drugs off our streets", said Bartholomew County Sheriff Matthew A. Myers. "I said during the March 31st news conference that more arrests were forthcoming and even after being forewarned, these people haven't stopped. 'If you deal or abuse illegal drugs in Bartholomew County, you will be arrested'", added Sheriff Myers.

The Columbus Fire Department and Columbus Code Enforcement also assisted with this investigation.

The investigation into the sale of illegal drugs in Columbus and Bartholomew County continues and additional charges are possible in this ongoing investigation.



4 Pounds of Meth Discovered



Operation "Columbus Day" continued...

A narcotics investigation lasting several months ended early Friday morning after a Lafayette man was stopped by officers from the CPD/BCSO Intelligence Led Policing Unit and a CPD police service dog later alerted to the odor of narcotics in his vehicle.

Officers stopped the vehicle driven by Phillip Rothbauer, 45, of Lafayette, and during a search of the vehicle, the officers located syringes, drug paraphernalia, a controlled substance, as well as **4** pounds of methamphetamine.

Rothbauer was placed under arrest and transported to the Bartholomew County Jail where he was remanded on the following preliminary charges:

Dealing in Methamphetamine, Possession of Methamphetamine, Possession of a Controlled Substance, Possession of a Legend Drug Injection Device, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

The investigation into the sale of illegal drugs in Columbus and Bartholomew County continues and additional charges are possible in this ongoing investigation.



"JNET and your Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office will never stop pursuing those who are distributing and abusing dangerous drugs in Bartholomew County". "Collectively, we continue to maximize our resources to succeed in this mission", said Bartholomew County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Major Chris Lane.

All suspects should be considered innocent unless/until proven guilty in a court of law.

SWAT



SWAT is a specialized Team prepared to handle highly volatile situations including high-risk search warrants, armed suicidal persons, barricaded persons, hostage situations and many other high-risk scenarios.

SWAT is activated when an incident presents significant risk to law enforcement officers or to the public. Because SWAT is expensive and labor intensive, BCSO and CPD have a combined SWAT Unit.

SWAT CHALLENGE

In September, the Columbus Police Department SWAT team, which has several BCSO deputies assigned to it, participated in the Indiana SWAT Challenge. The challenge tests the teams' skill and teamwork.

"Columbus #1" team finished in third place. Not bad for their first year.

Great job to everyone who participated. Continued collaboration elevates public safety in all areas of Bartholomew County.



Deputy Jon Lanning



Deputy Jon Lanning holds his "First Place" trophy from SWAT completion. Deputy Lanning won the individual obstacle course known as SWAT "O" Course.

This is physically demanding work and simulates the kind of barriers that officers routinely encounter. Nonetheless, officers are expected to have the physical capability to handle these challenges when and as they arise, no matter how random the barrier or obstacle may be.

Congratulations to BCSO Deputy Jon Lanning for winning this individual event.

Water Rescue and Recovery



The Bartholomew County Water Rescue & Recovery Team is a special unit that responds to all water rescue calls in Bartholomew County.

The Bartholomew County Swift Water Rescue Team is a combined unit of the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office, the Columbus Township Fire Department, Southwest Fire Department and the Wayne Township Fire Department.

Death Investigation Team

Death Investigation Team: Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office, Columbus Police Department, Indiana State Police, Bartholomew County Coroner's Office and the Bartholomew County Prosecutor's Office.

Sex Offenders

Bartholomew County Sheriff's Sex Offender Tracking up 111% since 2018

Bartholomew County residents may view the website: <http://www.icrimewatch.net/indiana.php> to research important neighborhoods and addresses. You can also register to receive email notifications on registered sex offenders within proximity of these addresses.



Volunteer Firefighters

Our agency could not provide the services we provide during medical runs, traffic accidents and/or house fires without Bartholomew County volunteer firefighters.



911 Dispatchers

The "life line" to community members calling for help and to first responders who rely on them for accurate and detailed information. Bartholomew County's unsung heroes – our 911 Dispatchers!

BCSO Honor Guard



L-R: Detective Dane Duke, Deputy Leah Burton, Deputy Jarod Aspenson, Sergeant Andrew Whipker, Deputy Dustin Newland, Deputy Brandon Sellers

The Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office has a group of deputies, both male and female, from all divisions within the office that are assigned to a special duty. As the group of deputies work together at various ceremonies and patriotic events, they honor and give high respect for those who have fallen in the service of protecting our liberties and stand as sentinels assigned to guard and protect the virtues of the American flag. These deputies comprise what is known as the Sheriff's Honor Guard.

A primary role for honor guards is to provide funeral honors for fallen peace officers.

An honor guard may also serve as the "guardians of the colors" by displaying and escorting the national flag on ceremonial occasions at official state or office functions.

Whether presenting the nation's flag or honoring those fallen, the Honor Guard is professional and precise in its demeanor and presentation of duties. One must understand and have within them the conviction and belief that what we serve and protect is worth the price that is needed to be paid, and we recognize those who shared that conviction and have paid that price. Whether it is from the special uniform, the march, the salute, the posting of the colors, or folding of the American flag, each detail is practiced and performed with an exactness that shows the respect we all have of our profession and the flag.

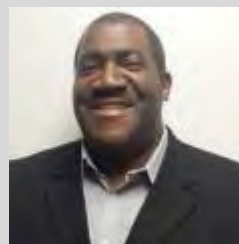
BCSO Chaplains



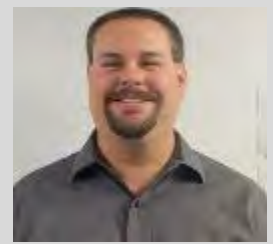
Pastor Robert Vester, Westside Community Church, located at 124 Tipton Lakes Blvd., Columbus and Senior Chaplain at the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office, was elected and sworn in as the Region #4 Director at the International Conference of Police Chaplains Training Conference held in Shipshewana, IN, March 15-17, 2021.

As Regional Director, Chaplain Vester will oversee (approximately) 450 chaplains in Region 4 which includes: Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia.

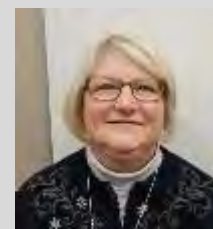
BCSO has three additional Chaplains:



Chaplain Bosley



Chaplain Maddox



Chaplain Hargett

Community Involvement

How does the Sheriff's Office enhance the quality of life in Bartholomew County?

The Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office creates opportunities for the community and law enforcement to support each other. This includes creating a legacy with young residents, supporting our hard-working employees and building strong relationships in Bartholomew County.

Website: <https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-d&q=bartholomew+county+sheriff>

Facebook: <https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-d&q=sheriff+matt+myers>

Email: sheriff@bartholomew.in.gov

FOP Youth Program – Shop with a Cop – Back to School



BCSO employees, their families and Santa all joined forces and partnered with the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) youth program (Shop with a Cop) to provide toys and clothing for Bartholomew County youth.

This is a long, but fun-filled day, not only for the children who participate but for everyone from your Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office who joins in the excitement. [#bcsoproud!](https://twitter.com/bcsoproud)

Domestic Violence

The Sheriff's Office supports our local victim advocacy organization Turning Point. Turning point offers support for victims of domestic and sexual violence and their families. 24-hour Crisis Line: (800) 221-6311
Turning Point Office: (812) 379-9844.

BCSO's Domestic Violence Coordinator is Captain Christopher Roberts. Office: (812) 379-1650
Hot Line: (812) 565-5924.

Neighborhood Meetings

It has been our policy to provide a close relationship with the community through partnership and community outreach. Since 2015 we brought BCSO to Bartholomew County neighborhoods with a series of community meetings where we discussed issues important to residents and to see how we could better serve all areas of Bartholomew County.

Sheriff's Youth Academy



This Academy presents a wide range of topical training subjects and provides a positive career development experience with acquaints attending youth with the goals and functions of a working law enforcement agency as well as heightens awareness of the positive aspects of being a good citizen.

This Academy is made possible due to the generosity and contributions of supporting businesses, organizations and individuals.

Anderson Community Center

BCSO joined residents at the Anderson Community Center “Block Party” on McClure Road in August.



Joining together for the betterment of those who live, learn, work & play in the State Street-East Columbus Area.



Calvary Community Church Block Party

Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office employees had a great time at the Calvary Community Church “Block Party” handing out free book bags and other school supplies.



Juneteenth

In June, BCSO Deputies and staff attended the Juneteenth event.



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Click to see Captain Stillabower and CO Pattingill “busting some moves” during the celebration.

Columbus Chinese Expo

In August, local law enforcement joined the Columbus Chinese Expo on 4th Street in downtown Columbus.

The Columbus Chinese Association presented a celebration of Chinese culture in Downtown Columbus during the second-of-four events in the 2021 Ethnic Expo Event Series!

This family-friendly festival featured food, music and culminated in a Chinese Lion Dance - a colorful, vibrant folk art performed at various celebrations and festivals to promote joy, excitement and cheer.



9/11 Observance



Remembering 9/11 on the 20th Anniversary September 11, 2021.

Fiesta Latino



On October 2 from 12pm to 10pm, BCSO deputies and Correction's staff were on 4th Street as downtown Columbus showcased the beauty of Brazil.

Pack-a-Patrol Car



Pack A Patrol Car 2021

November 1-November 22, 2021
Accepting canned food/non-perishable food items
Benefiting the Love Chapel Center – Columbus,
Indiana

After being cancelled in 2020, due to Covid concerns, the Bartholomew County Sheriff's "Pack-a-Patrol Car" food drive returned in 2021.

Bartholomew County Sheriff Matthew A. Myers and BCSO employees went all out for Bartholomew County residents who may need a little extra help during this holiday season.

Hope Elementary School 6th Graders collected more than 1,000 food items for this year's "Pack-a-Patrol Car" food drive.

On November 23, thanks to residents and county employees who donated thousands of non-perishable food items to BCSO's "Pack-a-Patrol Car" food drive, Sheriff Myers and BCSO staff delivered just under 7,000 items, totaling 4,548 pounds of food, to Love Chapel's food pantry.



Congressman Greg Pence (second from right) joined BCSO employees at Walmart to accept food from Walmart shoppers on November 13, 2021.



On November 20, 2021, Major Chris Lane, Detective Will Kinman, Lieutenant Kaleigh Morey, Sheriff Myers and Major John Martoccia accepted donations from Kroger shoppers for BCSO's "Pack-a-Patrol Car" food drive.

Anderson Community Center Thanksgiving Meal Delivery

Sheriff Myers and BCSO employees helped deliver more than 300 meals around the county for Anderson Community Center. This is the 6th year that BCSO has helped deliver meals to Bartholomew County residents.



Deputy Frank Munoz



Lieutenant T. A. Smith



Major Chris Lane and Connie Lane

Sheriff of the Year Award from ISA



In November, the Indiana Sheriffs' Association recognized all 92 Indiana Sheriffs as recipients of the "Sheriff of the Year" for 2021. ISA thanked each of us for our commitment to the Office of Sheriff and for the work we performed during the COVID-19 Pandemic of 2020-2021.



FOP Youth Program Shop with a Cop 2021



Several members of BCSO participated in Shop with a Cop on Sunday, December 19.

This is one of our favorite events.

For information, or to make a donation to Shop with a Cop, contact:

FOP Earl Brown Lodge #89
Columbus, IN



This is a long but fun-filled day, not only for the children, but for all who participate.

This unique shopping experience is one that you won't want to miss.

Major Chris Lane spoke with Bartholomew County: Future Leaders”

For more than 40 years, Youth Leadership Bartholomew County has recognized thousands of local high school seniors for their leadership skills, high school accomplishments and their community service.

*“It was an honor to visit with these young leaders of tomorrow”.
“Congratulations to each and every one of these future Bartholomew County leaders”.*

Major Chris Lane



During an extremely cold February morning, Major Chris Lane, Captain Chris Roberts, CPD Officers Angie Owens and Brian Voules were out checking on Bartholomew County’s homeless population.



While driving through Grammar on a beautiful September day, K9 Deputy Brandon Sellers stopped to see Karson Frazee, who wanted to meet BCSO’s K9 Jari.



End of the semester for the D.A.R.E. program at ABC Stewart. Everyone enjoyed the "end of semester pizza party".



A big THANK YOU to the Dorel Juvenile Group for presenting a \$15,000 check to D.A.R.E. and the FOP Youth Program (Shop with a Cop) during the start of their golf tournament at Otter Creek.



L-R: BCSO Sergeant Andrew Whipker, BCSO Chief Deputy Major Chris Lane, BCSO Deputy Nick Martoccia, CPD PIO Lt. Matt Harris, CPD Chief Mike Richardson and Columbus Mayor Jim Lienhoop



BCSO Leadership joined other Bartholomew County men who stepped forward and publicly denounce acts of dating and domestic violence.

Retirements

A grateful law enforcement community would like to give special thanks to Sgt. James Stevens and Deputy Leah Burton for their outstanding talents, leadership, professionalism and service to the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office and to the citizens of Bartholomew County.

Sergeant Jim Stevens retires following 30 years of service to Bartholomew County citizens.



Sgt. Jim Stevens

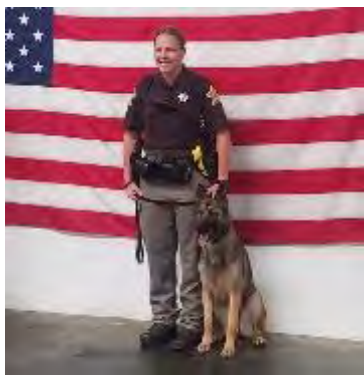


Sgt. Stevens was presented a plaque by Bartholomew County Sheriff Matthew A. Myers during a retirement ceremony at BCSO.

On January 1, 2022, Deputy Burton left her full-time merit K9 Deputy Sheriff position with BCSO to pursue other career goals.



Deputy Leah Burton



Deputy Burton with K9 Bravo

Steward Taxpayer Resources

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

During the budgeting process, Sheriff Myers and Division Commanders spend several weeks gather information, obtaining costs and drafting proposals into detailed financial documents to account for every budgetary request.

BCSO's leadership evaluates every proposal against the value added it would provide in helping our agency fulfill its mission.

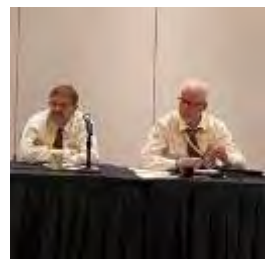
Our projects are driving a data-based approach for key decisions. This allows BCSO to provide County Council with the best information possible – including the impact of their decisions, so they can make the best possible budgeting decisions for the Sheriff's Office.

GRANTS

BCSO continues to seek grant opportunities to aid in funding so that improved services can be provided. Our employees work diligently to be resourceful, utilizing cost and savings measures whenever possible.

OPERATION PULL OVER

Operation Pull Over (OPO) grants promote a coordinated effort to improve vehicular occupant protection strategies and reduce fatalities and injuries related to seat belt usage and impaired driving.



BCSO employees take great pride in our tax-payer-owned facility and equipment

2022 Goals & Objectives



Goal 1: Suppress illegal narcotics

Objective 1: Joint Narcotics Enforcement Team continue to proactively target the manufacturing and abuse of dangerous drugs in Bartholomew County.

Objective 2: Continue collecting and disseminating narcotics related intelligence for successful investigations and prosecutions.

Objective 3: Investigate, apprehend and aid in the prosecution of illegal narcotic dealers/users.

Goal 2: Provide the highest level of protection through effective enforcement, education and partnerships.

Objective 1: Reduce crime.

Objective 2: Ensure safety on roadways through effective enforcement and education.

Objective 3: Continue to develop new, innovative and cost-effective training techniques.

GOAL 3: Provide employees with support, development and resources needed to promote excellence in service.

Objective 1: Hire highly-skilled, service-oriented professionals.

Objective 2: Streamline documentation of training records.

Objective 3: Continue ability to collect and process evidence.

Goal 4: Maximize Funding

Objective 1: Be effective while controlling tax dollars.

Objective 2: Continue to refine our strategies, goals and objectives.

In Memoriam

From a grateful law enforcement community

In recognition of loyal and dedicated service of those who are no longer with us but will always hold a special place in our memories.



Former Bartholomew County Sheriff Rick Hill died on February 28, 2021.

Sheriff Hill received full BCSO honors and received his "Final Call" on March 5, 2021: "Bartholomew County Sheriff Hill is 10-42 - may you rest in peace."



Sheriff Myers and deputies at the service for former BCSO Reserve Deputy James Albert Green, Sr. who passed away on August 19, 2021.

K9 DIESEL REMEMBERED ON THE ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH

November 14, 2021, marked the one-year anniversary of the death of Bartholomew County Sheriff's K9 Diesel. One year since Diesel's partner, Deputy Matt Bush and our BCSO family began mourning his loss and honoring his memory.

On November 14, 2020, approximately 4:20 p.m., Bartholomew County Sheriff's K9 Diesel was involved in a foot pursuit which resulted in his death in the line of duty.

We have not forgotten, nor will we forget, Diesel or his sacrifice.

Bartholomew County Sheriff Matthew A. Myers remembered Diesel for the ultimate sacrifice he made in service to our community.

Diesel's portrait hangs in the lobby of the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office.

K9 Pledge

I promise to track down criminals who threaten and harm our community.

I promise to stand against the violence that penetrates our society.

I promise to sniff out the drugs being advertised to children.

I am loyal until the very end.

I do all these things with bravery, honor and valor.





With gratitude to all essential workers in Bartholomew County!

Contact Us

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Emergency..... 911

Office.....812-379-1650

Tip Line.....812-379-1712

Email: sheriff@bartholomew.in.gov

Like or Follow Us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/SheriffMattMyers>

www.bartholomew.in.gov/sheriff

543 Second Street Columbus Indiana 47201