

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ANNUAL REPORT
2021



The Kern County Sheriff's Office values the sanctity of human life and the freedoms guaranteed by the United States and California constitutions. The Kern County Sheriff's Office is committed to work in partnership with our community to enhance the safety, security, and quality of life for the residents and visitors of Kern County through professional public safety services.

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MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF



Sheriff Donny Youngblood

During my career as your Sheriff, I have been and continue to be a proponent of community policing, as a problem-solving philosophy. I expect all members of the Kern County Sheriff's Office to consider themselves problem solvers. It's easy to point out a problem, but not so easy to find solutions. I have consistently emphasized the phrase, "We can't do it because..." is unacceptable and must be dismissed. I have encouraged and empowered all members of the Sheriff's Office to figure out how we can.

To that end, our Mission statement involves working in partnership with our community to provide effective public safety services:

The Kern County Sheriff's Office is committed to work in partnership with our community to enhance the safety, security, and quality of life for the residents and visitors of Kern County through professional public safety services.

The public we serve is an essential part of that equation and we cannot solve the problems facing our community alone. We have long believed the public should take an active part in solving problems facing our community. Over the years, we have tried various ways to solicit community feedback with varying degrees of success such as holding Community Academies, hosting National Night Out events, and participating in many other community events throughout our great county.

As our county worked through the pandemic related recovery process, my staff and I did not deviate from our service commitment. I am proud to reflect on the things we accomplished despite the repeated challenges this year presented. We continued to hire quality staff, promote qualified candidates, and focus our efforts as a team.

This year allowed the Sheriff's Office to resume face to face events and ramp up community engagement. Efforts to enhance accountability were successful as we expanded the Body Worn Camera program to more areas we operate in. Additionally, my team and I continued to make significant progress with the Department of Justice, our Monitoring Team, and the Kern County Community Advisory Council as we work to achieve our objectives related to the Stipulated Judgement.

As we formalize these processes and build on the work already done, our dedication to the Sheriff's Office's mission remains the same. I am excited to use annual reports, like this one, as transparency tools to educate our community about our efforts in meeting our goals.

We understand the need to address community concerns in a fair and consistent fashion. Our policies and procedures are always available for the public to review at www.kernsheriff.org/policies.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donny Youngblood".

Sheriff Donny Youngblood
County of Kern

CORE VALUES

The following core values are vital to the success of the Kern County Sheriff's Office and complement our Mission Statement.

Community Policing: The Sheriff is committed to the philosophy of community policing and problem solving. Members of the Kern County Sheriff's Office should consider themselves as problem solvers. It's easy to point out a problem, but not so easy to find solutions. The phrase, "We can't do it because..." is unacceptable and must be dismissed. Let's figure out how we can.

Integrity: This a noble profession, not a job. Any misconduct that reflects negatively on this organization or the community we serve will be dealt with swiftly and decisively.

Uniformity and Pride: The Kern County Sheriff's Office is built on tradition, pride, and earned respect. Treat the public with respect and never tarnish the badge or good reputation of our organization.

Honesty: We demand honesty. Honesty, credibility, and ethical conduct should describe who we are and nothing less is acceptable.

Accountability: The Kern County community will hold us accountable. We hold each other and ourselves accountable.

Education and Experience: Future leaders should pursue educational opportunities and diversity in experience to become well-rounded and informed.



KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ORGANIZATION

The Sheriff-Coroner of Kern County exercises original jurisdiction in the unincorporated area of Kern County and provides supportive assistance and mutual aid to local and neighboring agencies for law enforcement duties pursuant to Section 26600 through 26778 of the Government Code.

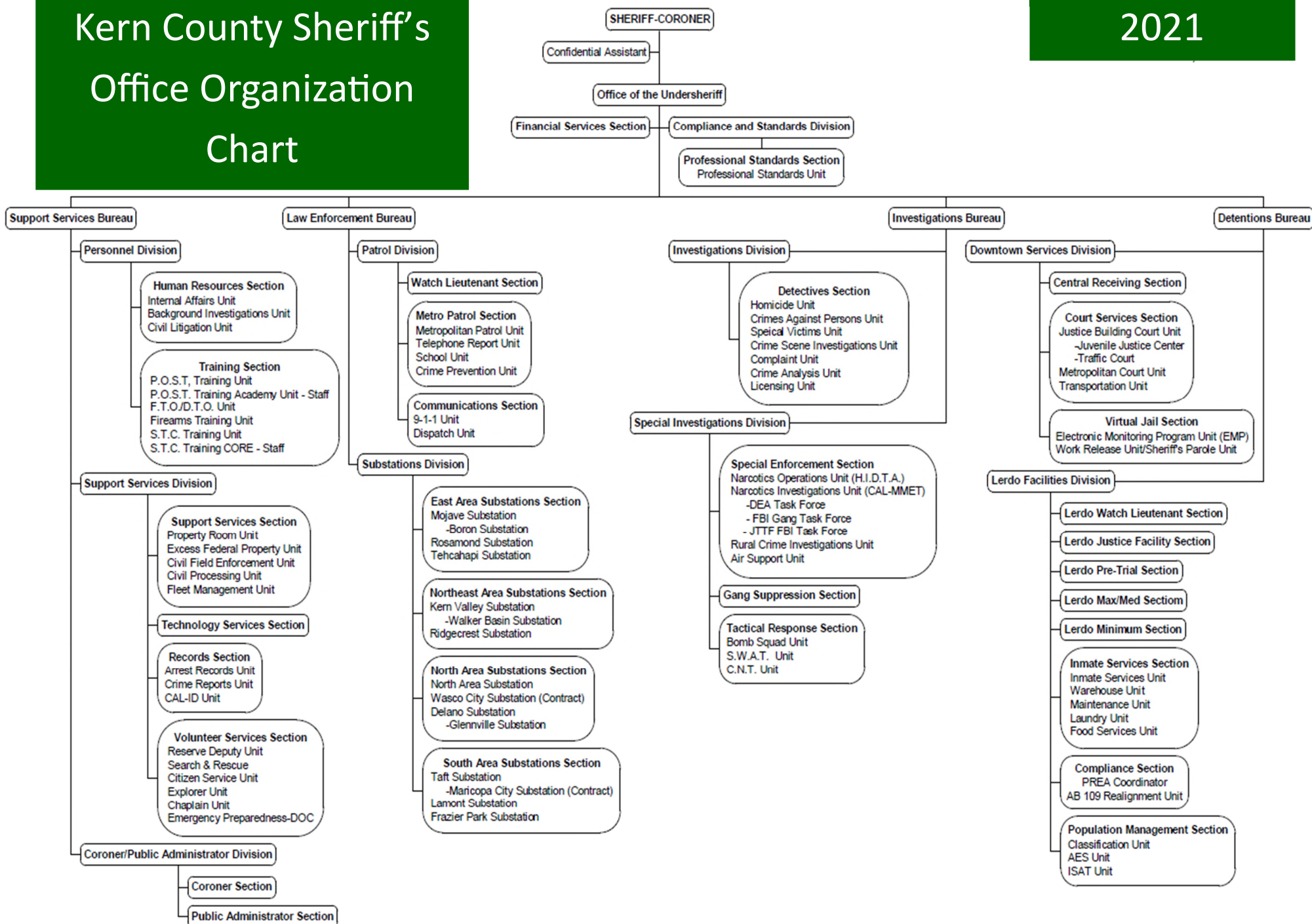
The Kern County Sheriff's Office is organized and exists to facilitate compliance with the lawfully prescribed duties of the Sheriff-Coroner. Such duties include the preservation of the peace, arrest of offenders, investigation and suppression of public offenses, maintenance of the jail system, endorsement and service of processes and notices, attendance upon Superior and Municipal Courts, search and rescue of lost or endangered persons, and such other duties as may be required by law.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office is organized for an optimal chain of command with four bureaus. The Sheriff oversees the Office of the Undersheriff. The Office of the Undersheriff oversees the Financial Services Section and the Compliance and Standards Division. The Office of the Undersheriff includes four bureaus: Support Services Bureau, Law Enforcement Bureau, Investigations Bureau, and Detentions Bureau. Each bureau is managed by a Chief Deputy who employs commanders to supervise each division.



Kern County Sheriff's Office Organization Chart

2021



KERN COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS VS. KCSO

As of April 2021, the United States Census Bureau estimated the County population to be approximately 917,673 residents living within a geographical area encompassing 8,163 square miles. Based on current estimates of 917,673 residents, Kern County is California's 11th most populous county.

WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS

Employees of White descent account for the largest ethnic category of employees in the Sheriff's Office with 572 out of the 1234 total personnel, or 47 percent. The following depicts actual Department personnel categories according to ethnicity, along with their respective totals and percentage breakdowns.

Personnel by Gender:

Males accounted for 783 of the 1234 total personnel, or 63% percent, and females total 424 employees, or 34% percent.

Ethnicity	Employees	Workforce Percentage	Kern County Population %
Asian/Pacific Islander	17	1.4%	5%
Black	32	2.7%	5.2%
Hispanic	554	46%	56.1%
White	572	47%	31.1%
Other	10	.8%	1.9%

*49 KCSO personnel not accounted for in ethnicity statistics, due to the employee not reporting their ethnicity

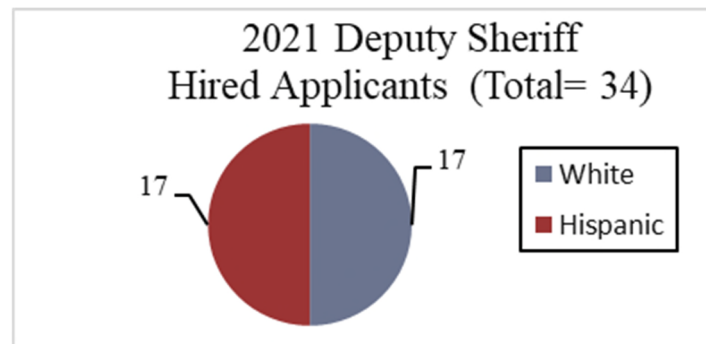
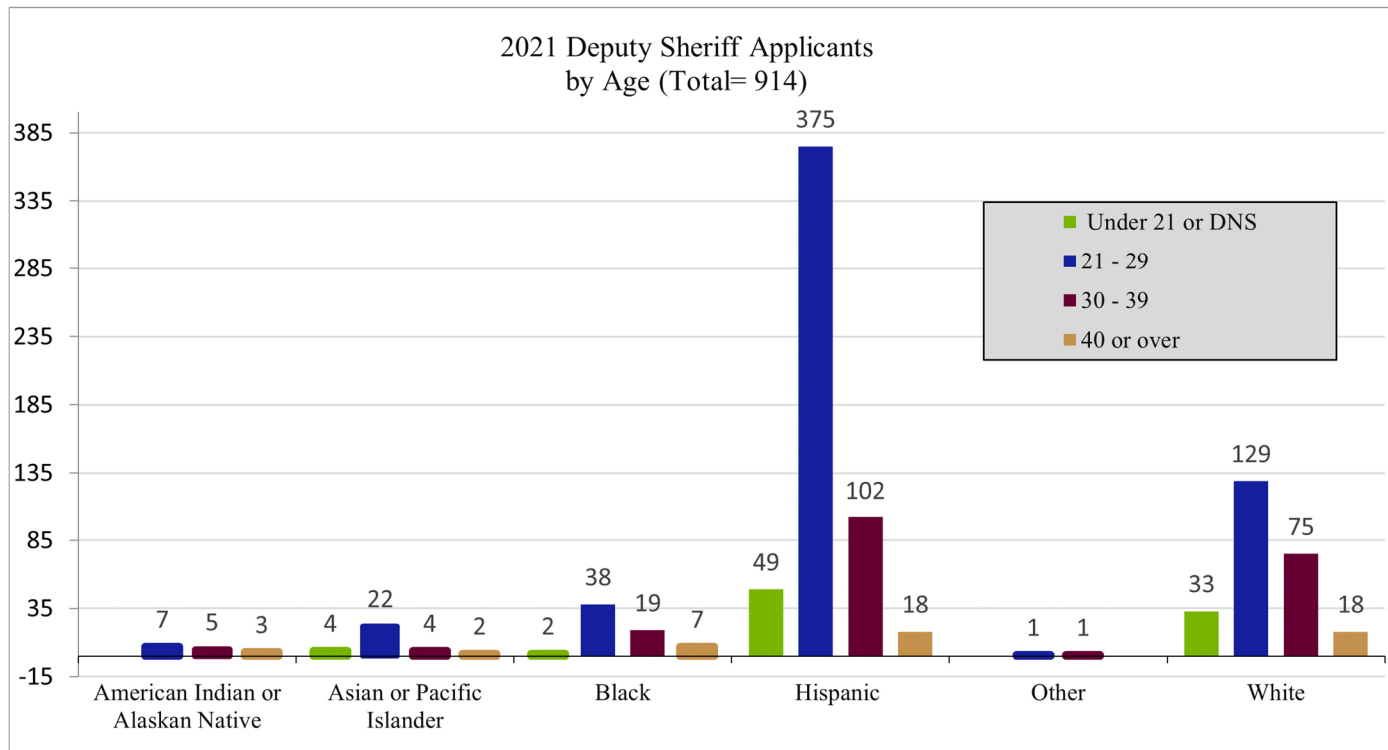
*<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/kerncountycalifornia>



312 Vacant positions within the
Sheriff's Office at the end of 2021

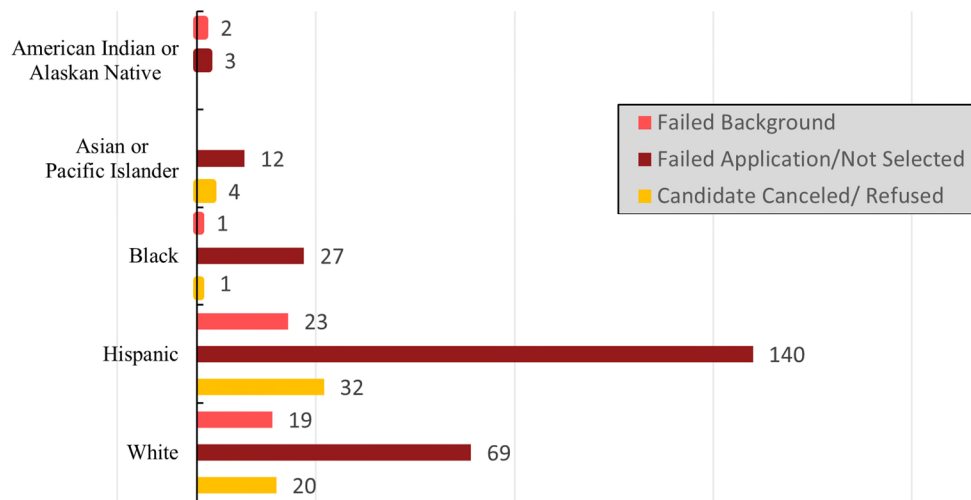
HIRING DEMOGRAPHICS

In 2021, the Kern County Sheriff's Office received 914 applications for Deputy positions. Out of those, 34 applicants were hired. The age ranges and ethnicities of the applicants are shown below.



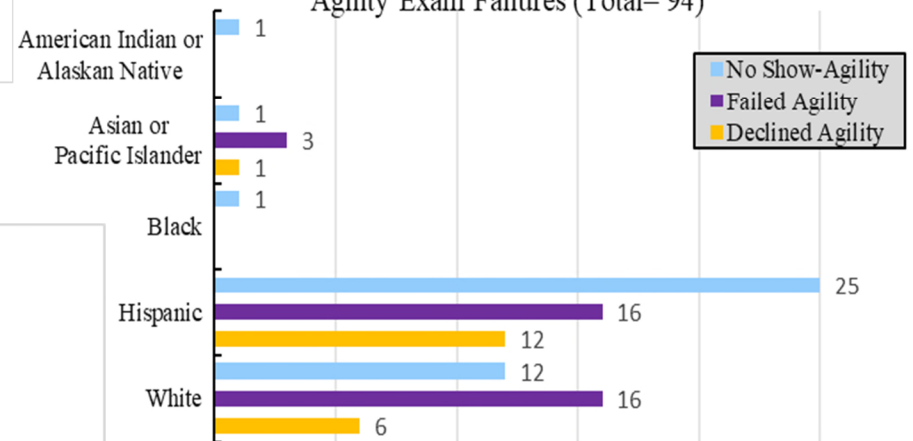
HIRING DEMOGRAPHICS

2021 Deputy Sheriff
Application Failures (Total= 353)

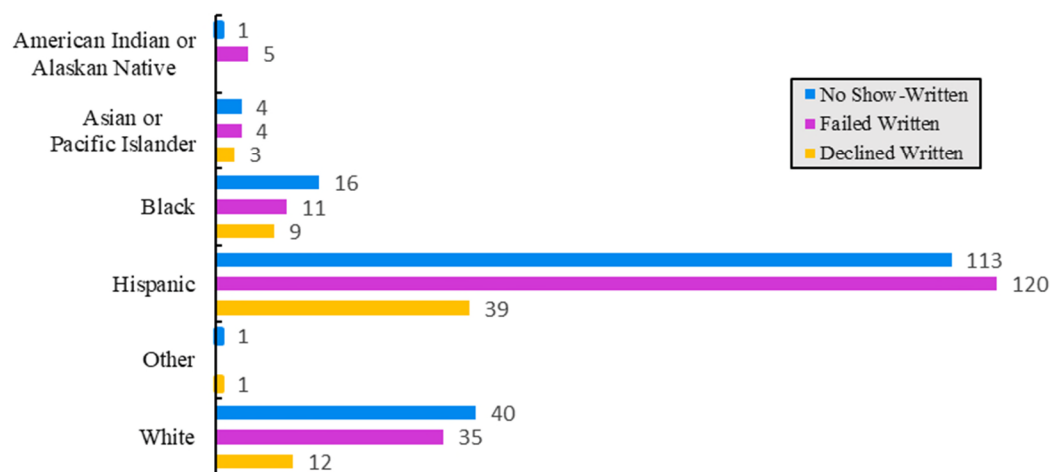


Applicants may fail at various points during the application process. The charts on this page highlight the areas where applicants have failed the application process. The reasons highlighted in the charts include written exam failures, agility exam failures, failed background, failed application/not selected, and candidate canceled/refused.

2021 Deputy Sheriff Applicants
Agility Exam Failures (Total= 94)

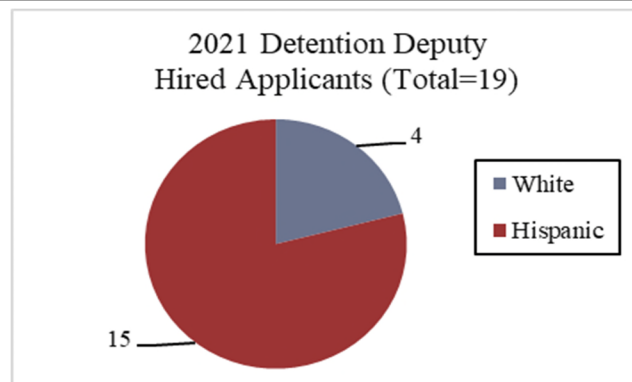
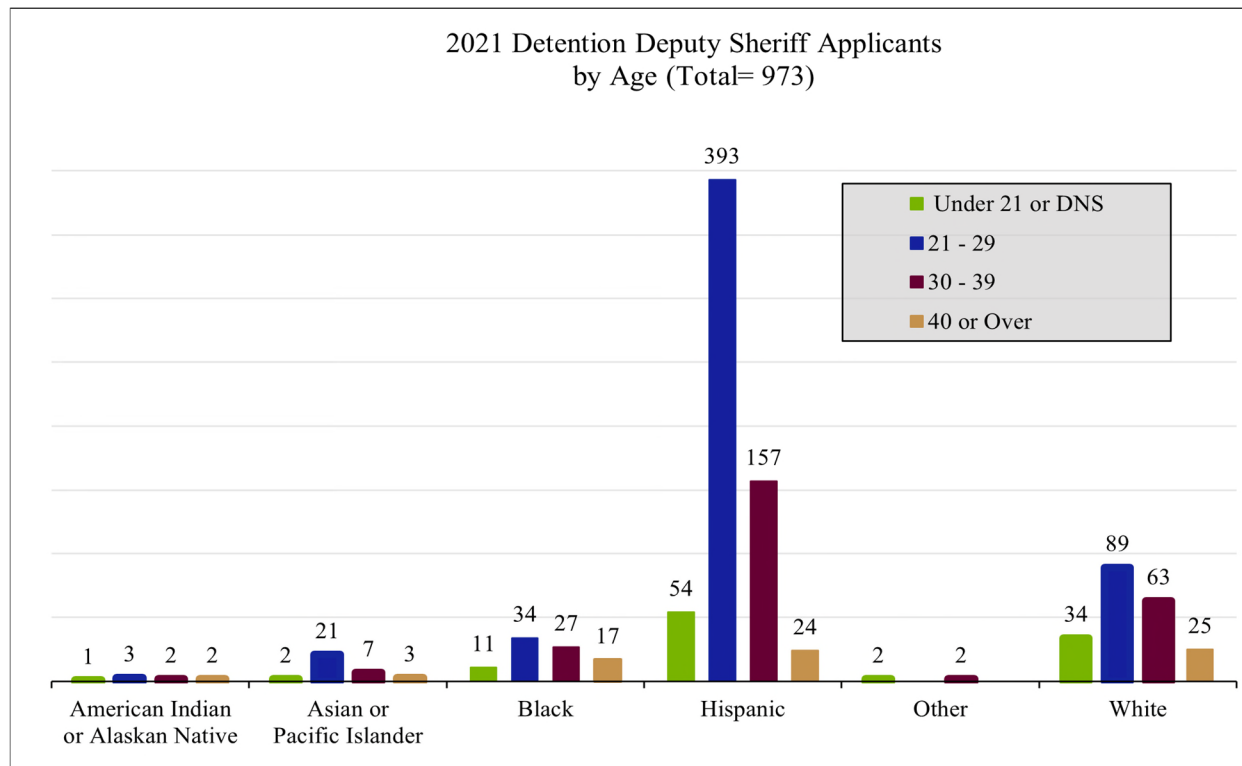


2021 Deputy Sheriff Applicants
Written Exam Failures (Total= 414)



HIRING DEMOGRAPHICS

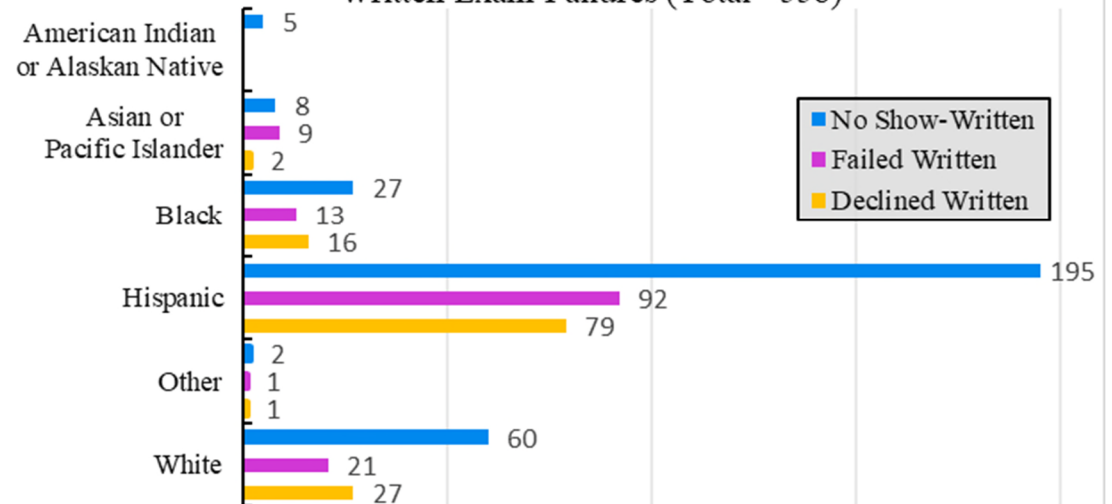
In 2021, the Kern County Sheriff's Office received 973 applications for Detention Deputy positions. Out of those, 19 applicants were hired. The age ranges and ethnicities of the applicants are shown below.



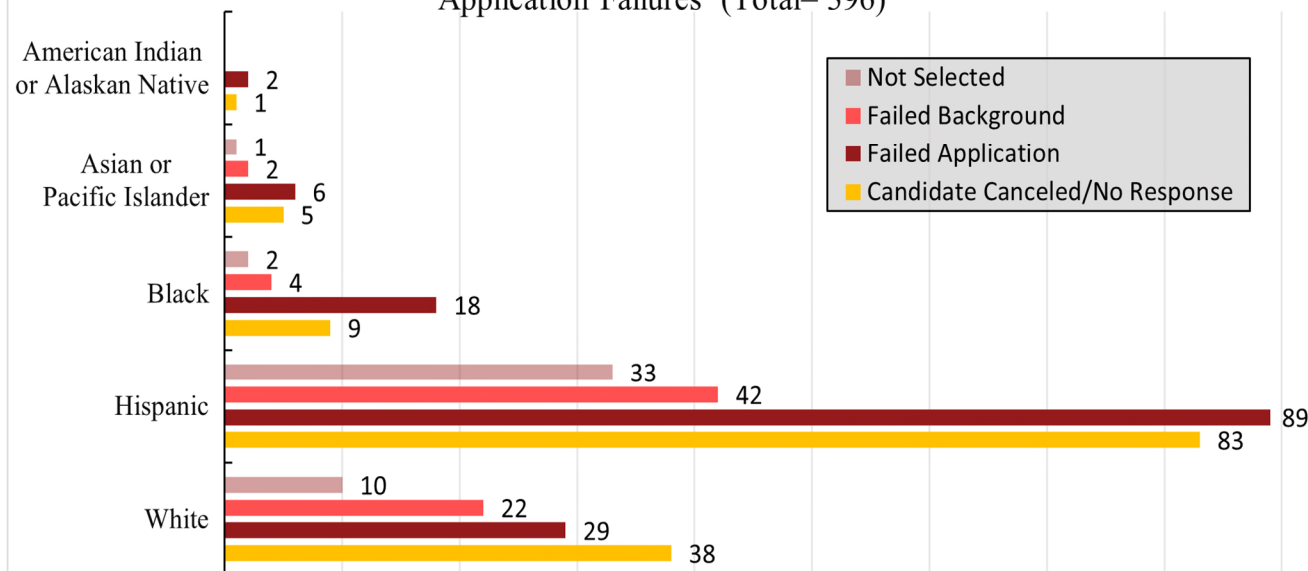
HIRING DEMOGRAPHICS

Applicants may fail at various points during the application process. The charts on this page highlight the areas where applicants have failed the application process. The reasons highlighted in the charts include written exam failures, failed background, failed application/not selected, and candidate canceled/refused.

2021 Detention Deputy Applicants
Written Exam Failures (Total= 558)



2021 Detention Deputy
Application Failures (Total= 396)



PROMOTIONS

AND WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS

The Kern County Sheriff's Office has a rich history of dedication and service to the community. As an organization, we continue to evolve and look to improve service, dedication, trust, diversity, and values. Envisioning and adapting to change throughout our organization is at the forefront of our guiding principles. In anticipation of future hiring challenges, the Kern County Sheriff's Office is working collaboratively with the Kern County Human Resources Division to recruit and retain a well diverse workforce representing the growing community we serve.

In recent years, we have had many successes hiring highly qualified, diverse employees given the many challenges affecting our society. We have made strides in addressing compensation issues, developing a dedicated Public Safety Recruitment Team within the HR division, and implementing key operational changes. There are many hurdles to overcome such as distributing recruitment information, recruiting diverse candidates, and retaining qualified applicants, including from unrepresented areas. This also includes providing information to interested members of our public on career opportunities, compensation, the testing and hiring process.

We look forward to the future and our continued work with the Kern County Sheriff's Community Advisory Council and other organizations to help overcome these challenges and help us reach out to the members of our community. In doing so, we will be able to provide hiring information readily available on multiple platforms, engage with the community we serve at events and other community functions, explore new ideas to ensure safety and accountability, promote trust, and strengthen community policing within Kern County.

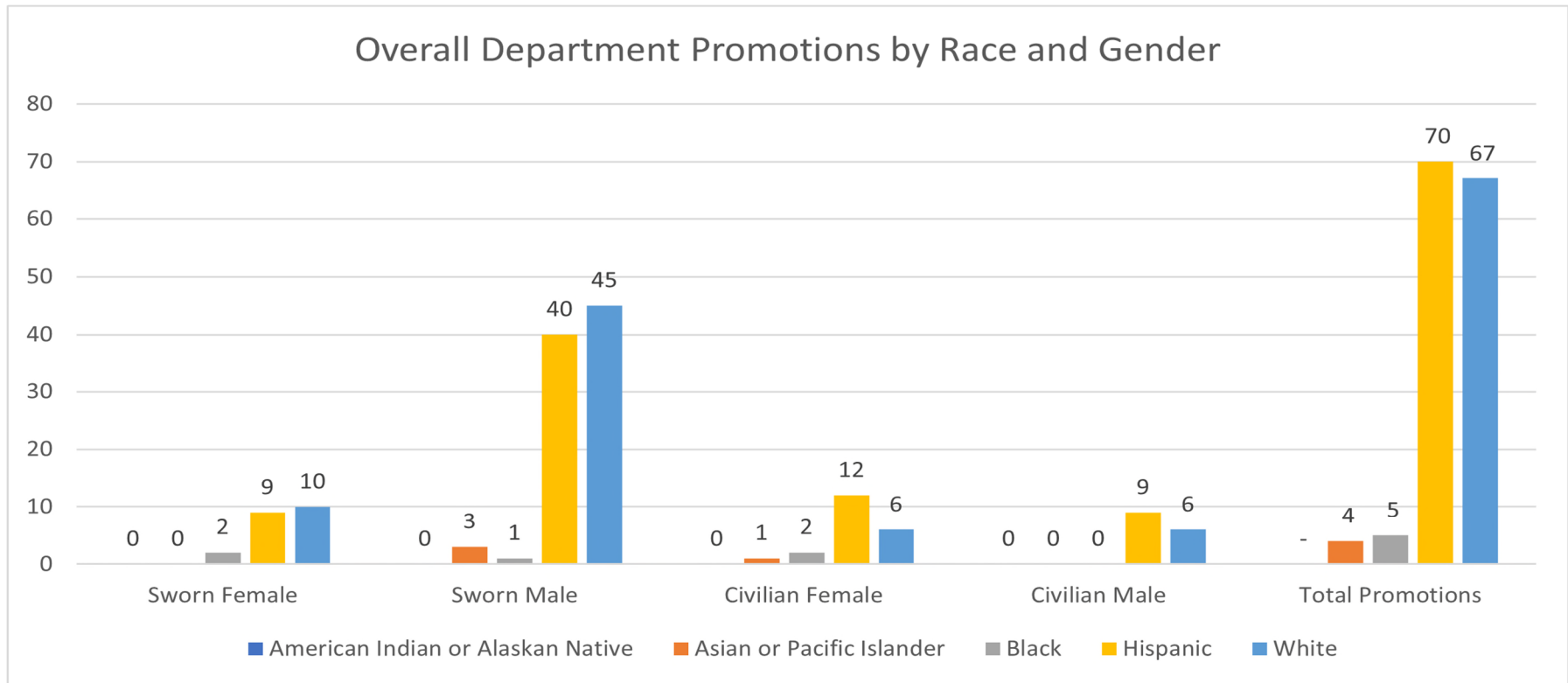
We look forward to implementing a promotional and hiring plan as it aims to build equitable and inclusive relationships within our organization and ensure our workforce is reflective of the community. The Kern County Sheriff's Office is hiring and invites community members to apply. For further information about joining our team and the hiring requirements please visit

<https://kcssojobs.org/>.



PROMOTIONS

AND WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS



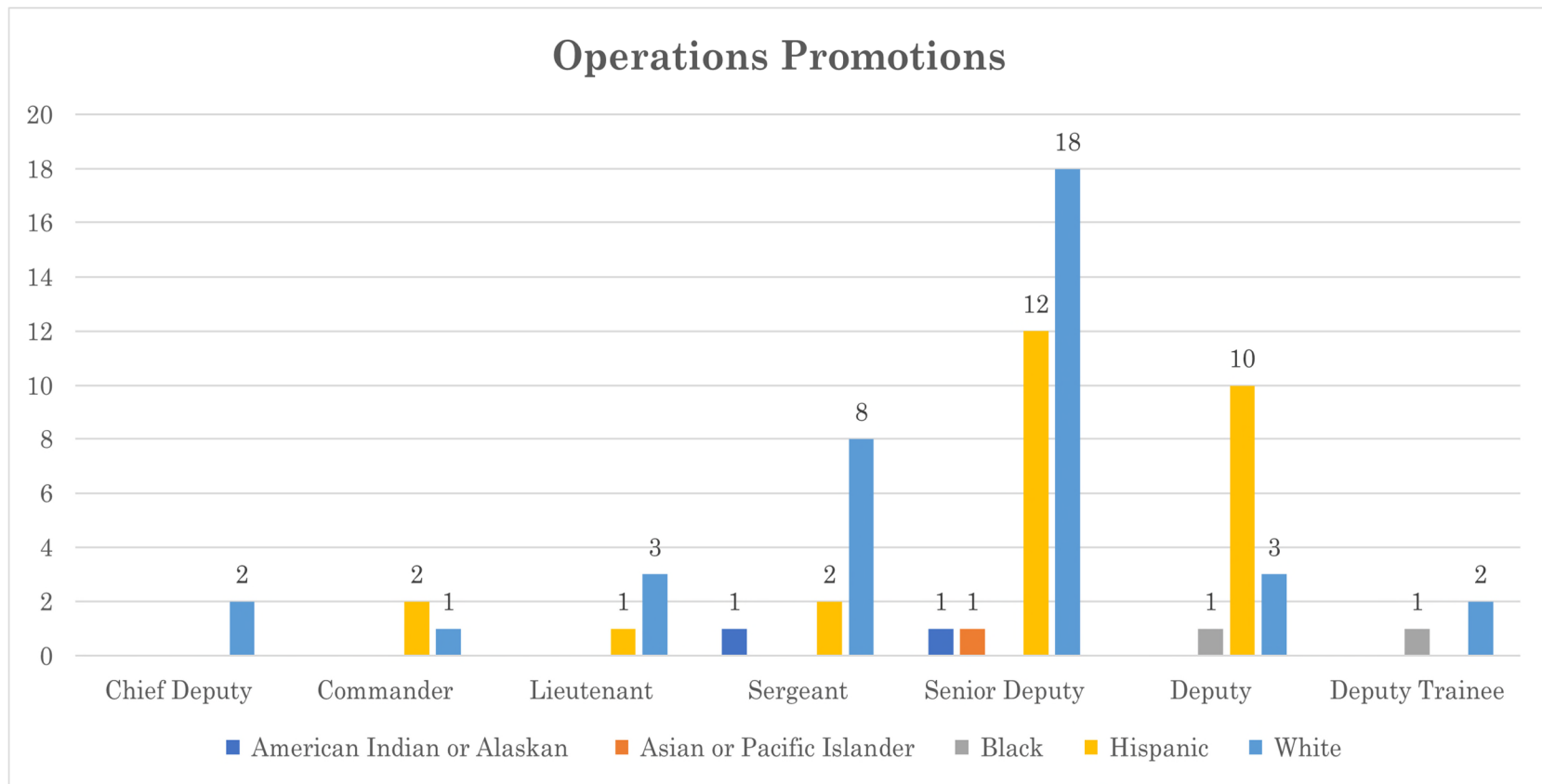
In 2021, the Sheriff's Office promoted 146 uniquely qualified employees to a higher rank. The employees that were promoted represent the organization's core values, mission and vision statements. Of the 146 promoted employees, 110 were sworn positions and 36 were support staff. Overall, there were 70 Hispanic, 67 White, 5 Black, and 4 Asian or Pacific Islander promotions.

Sworn & Civilian Department Promotions	Sworn Female	Sworn Male	Civilian Female	Civilian Male	Total Promotions
American Indian or Alaskan Native	-	-	-	-	-
Asian or Pacific Islander	-	3	1	-	4
Black	2	1	2	-	5
Hispanic	9	40	12	9	70
White	10	45	6	6	67
Total	21	89	21	15	146

PROMOTIONS

AND WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS

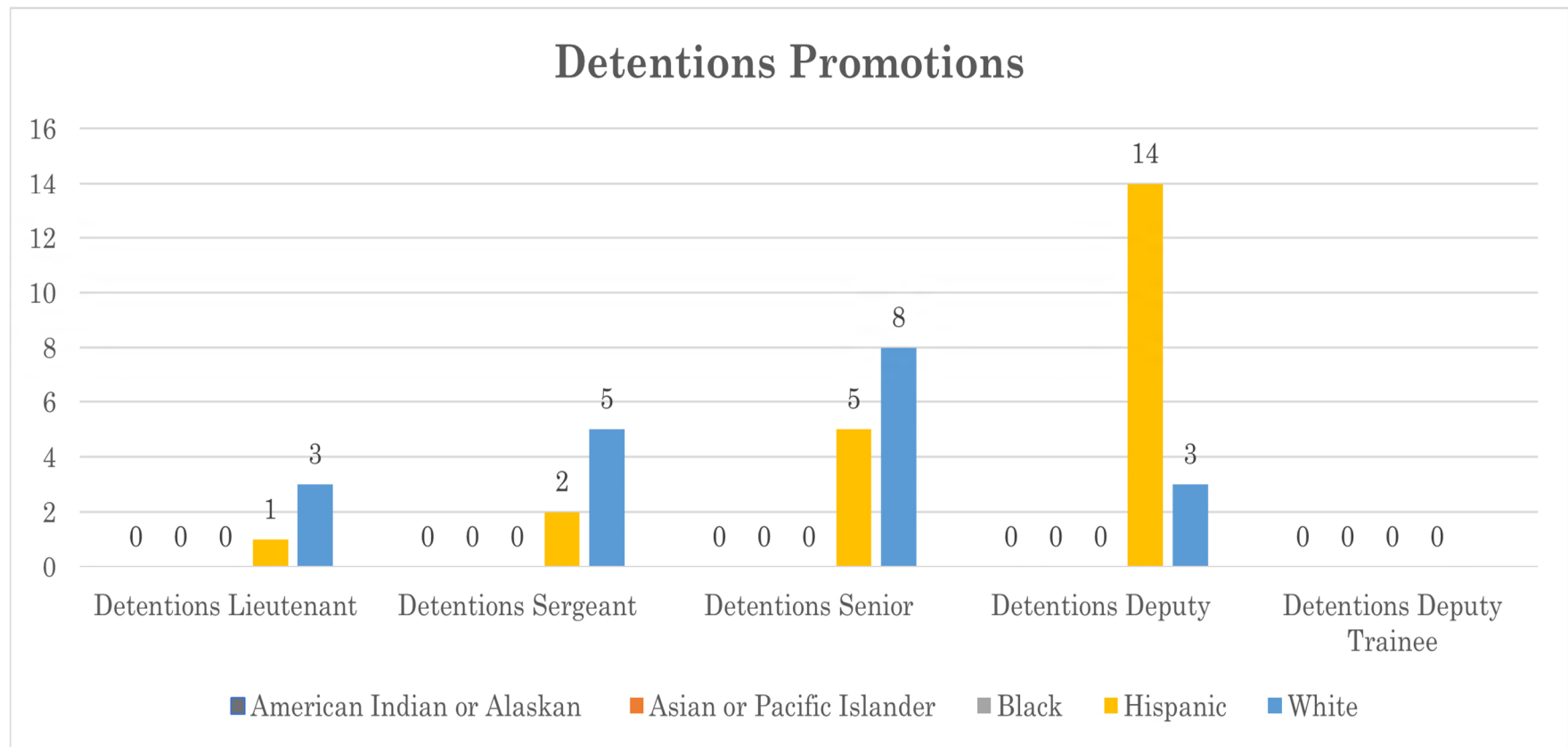
	Chief Deputy	Commander	Lieutenant	Sergeant	Senior Deputy	Deputy	Deputy Trainee
White	2	1	3	7	18	3	2
Hispanic	-	2	1	2	12	10	-
Black	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Asian	-	-	-	1	2	-	-
Total	2	3	4	11	32	14	3



PROMOTIONS

AND WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS

	Detentions Lieutenant	Detentions Sergeant	Detentions Senior	Detentions Deputy	Detentions Trainee
White	3	5	10	1	-
Hispanic	1	2	3	16	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-
Asian	-	-	-	-	-
Total	4	7	13	17	-



RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT (RIPA)

The Racial and Identity Profiling Act (RIPA) was formed as part of AB953 (GOV § 12525.5). The [Racial and Identity Profiling Advisory Board \(RIPA Board\)](#) is a diverse group of members that represent the public, law enforcement, and educators. At the direction of the Legislature, their charge is to eliminate racial and identity profiling and improve diversity and racial and identity sensitivity in law enforcement. The RIPA Board aims to strengthen law enforcement-community relations in California through collaboration, transparency, and accountability. The California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, has primary oversight of the RIPA Board.

Beginning July 1, 2018, law enforcement agencies, starting with the eight largest agencies, began collecting stop data and reporting the information to the DOJ. The Kern County Sheriff's Office was required to start collecting data January 1, 2021.

Who is required to report the stop-data?

Article 2 of the Regulation ([CCR 999.225](#)) identifies law enforcement agencies subject to stop-data collection, which includes:

- Only peace officers, as defined in Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part 2 of the Penal Code, as set forth below:
- Probation Officers are not subject to this chapter.
- Peace Officers shall not report stops that occur in a custodial settings. Peace officers who work in custodial settings are subject to this chapter for stops that occur in non-custodial settings.
- DOJ Division of Law Enforcement Special Agent is exempt.
- Peace Officers employed by a reporting agency, except Probation Officers, are subject to this chapter even if the officer makes a stop while assigned or contracted to work for another governmental agency or private entity.
- Peace Officers employed by a "reporting agency", defined as any city or county law enforcement agency that employs Peace Officers, including officers who are contracted to work at other governmental agencies or private entities. This includes, but is not limited to, Peace Officers assigned to work in cities or other jurisdictions that are not within the original jurisdiction of the city or county law enforcement agency; Peace Officers of city or county agencies assigned to or contracted to work at housing or transit agencies; and school resource officers assigned to work in California state educational institutions.

RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT (RIPA)

What data do we need to collect?

Article 3 of the Regulation ([CCR 999.226](#)) identifies the data elements to be reported, as:

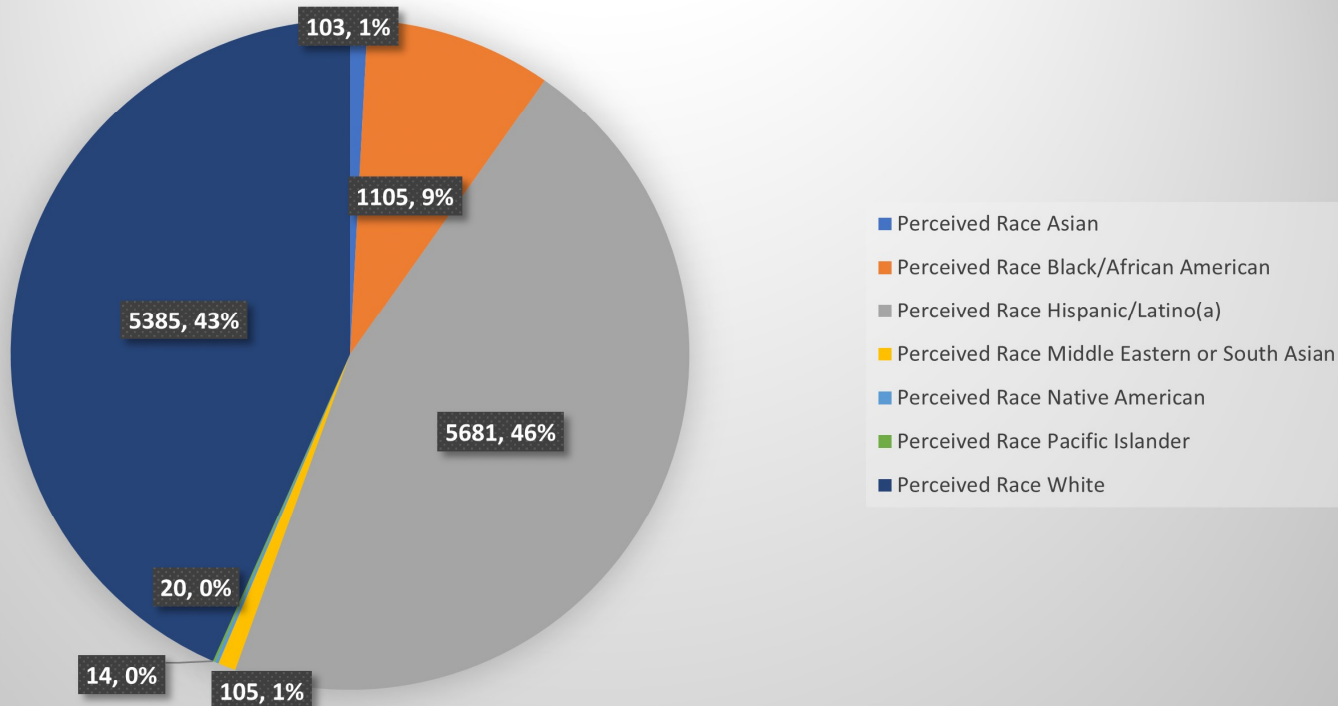
1. ORI number (Originating Agency Identifier)
2. Date, time, and duration of the stop
3. Location of stop
4. *Perceived* race or ethnicity of person stopped
5. *Perceived* gender of person stopped
6. Person stopped *perceived* to be LGBT
7. *Perceived* age of person stopped
8. Person stopped has limited or no English fluency
9. *Perceived* or known disability or person stopped
10. Reason for stop
11. Stop made in response to a call for service
12. Actions taken by officer during stop
13. Results of stop
14. Officer's Identification (ID) Number
15. Officer's years of experience
16. Type of assignment of officer



Article 3 of the Regulation ([CCR 999.226](#)) states that, “‘Perceived Race or Ethnicity of Person Stopped’ refers to the officer’s perception of the race or ethnicity of the person stopped. When reporting this data element, the officer shall make his or her determination of the person’s race or ethnicity based on personal observation only. The officer shall not ask the person stopped his or her race or ethnicity, or ask questions or make comments or statements designed to elicit this information.” A stop is defined as any detention or search (including consensual searches).

RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT (RIPA)

Perceived Race and Detentions



There were 12,413 reportable RIPA stops made in 2021. The majority of civilian stops were perceived to be Hispanic/Latino with 5,681 at 46%, perceived to be White with 5,385 at 43%, followed by perceived Black/African American with 1,105 at 9%. Since this is KCSO's first year of gathering data for RIPA, this will serve as a baseline

Perceived Race	Detentions	KCSO Percent	State RIPA*
Asian	103	1%	6%
Black/African American	1105	9%	16%
Hispanic/Latino(a)	5681	46%	39%
Middle Eastern or South Asian	105	1%	5%
Native American	20	0%	0%
Pacific Islander	14	0%	1%
White	5385	43%	33%
Total	12413	100%	100%

for subsequent years in a comparative analysis. This data has been compared to the California's RIPA data and is aligned with the analysis. The State RIPA data is comparable to the Kern County Sheriff's Office as shown in the table.

[*https://oag.ca.gov/ab953/board/reports](https://oag.ca.gov/ab953/board/reports)

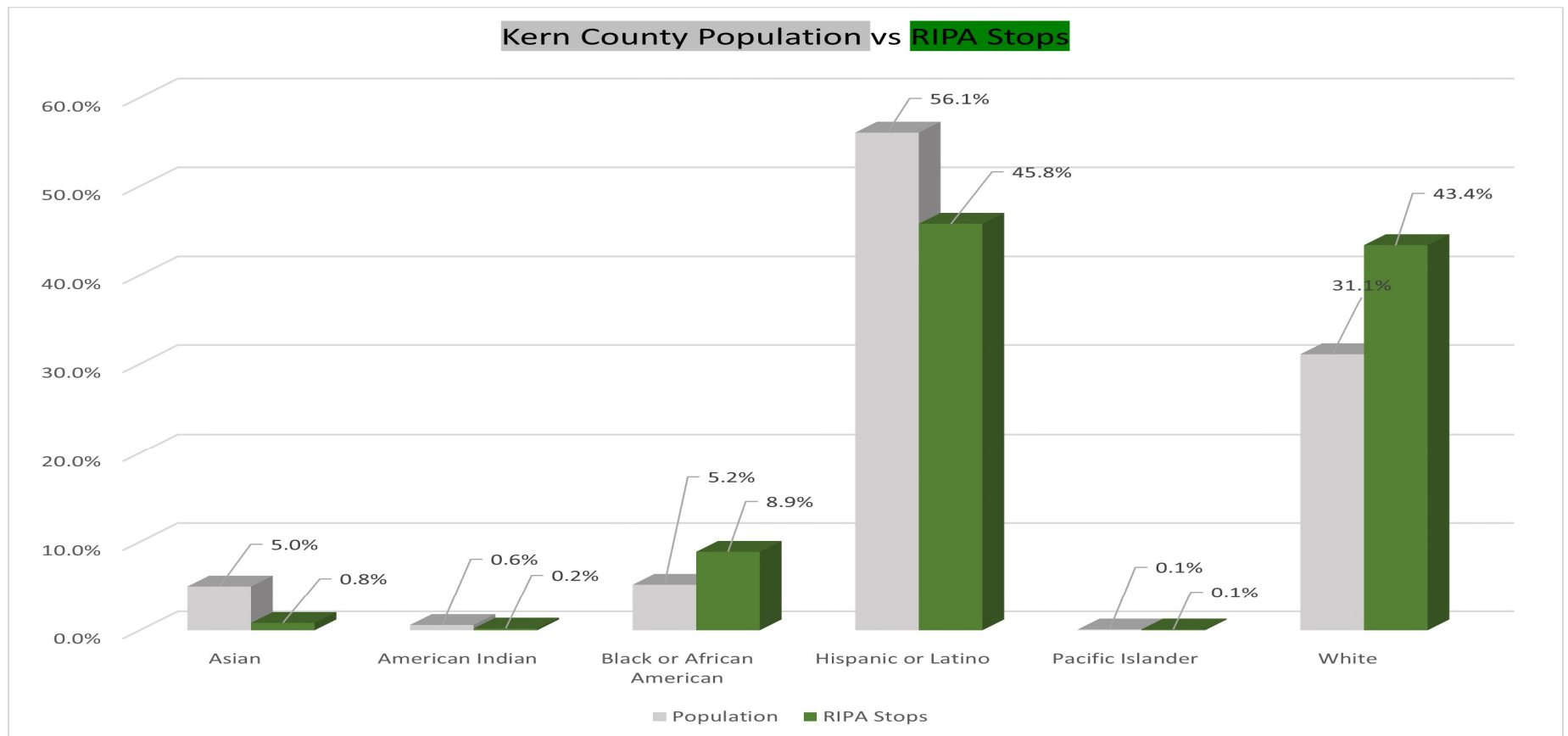
RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT (RIPA)

Kern County has a total population of 917,673 individuals. The majority race in Kern County is Hispanic/Latino with 515,237 at 56.1%, White with 285,148 at 31.1%, and Black/African American with 48,199 at 5.2%. There is a higher ratio of patrol RIPA stops on perceived White at 43.4% with a population of 31.1% compared to patrol RIPA stops on perceived Black/African American at 8.9% with the population of 5.2%.

Perceived Race	Population*	Percent
Total	917, 673	
White	285,148	31.1%
Black or African American	48,199	5.2%
American Indian or Native American	5,355	0.6%
Asian	44,636	5%
Pacific Islander	1,082	0.1%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	515,237	56.1%

*18,016 or 1.9% individuals not accounted for in ethnicity statistics, due to no reported ethnicity or no response

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/kerncountycalifornia>



RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT (RIPA)

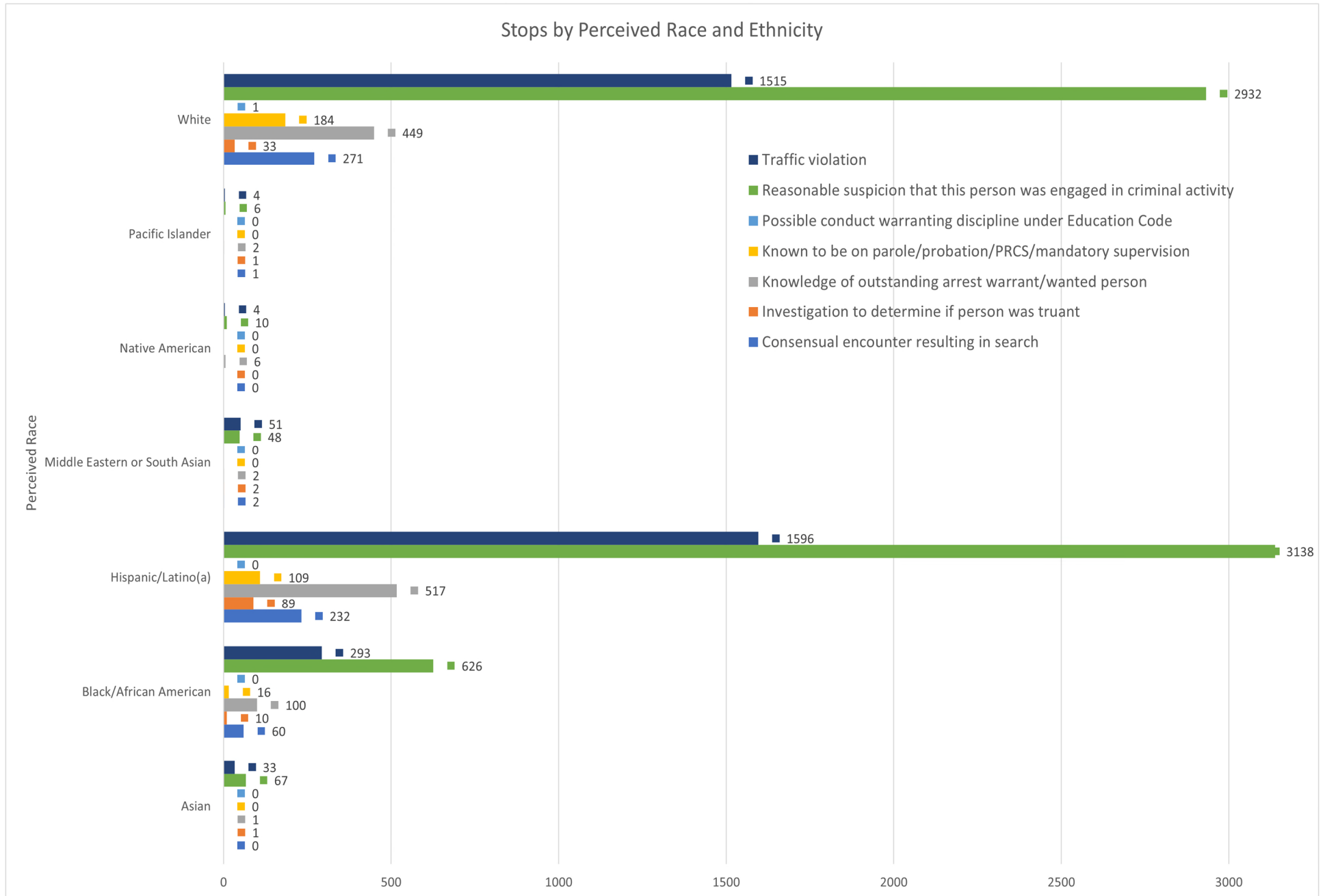
Perceived Race and Reason for Stop

PERCEIVED RACE OR ETHNICITY	Consensual encounter resulting in search	Investigation to determine if person was truant*	Knowledge of outstanding arrest warrant/ wanted person	Known to be on parole/ probation/ PRCS/ mandatory supervision	Possible conduct warranting discipline under Education Code	Reasonable suspicion that this person was engaged in criminal activity	Traffic Violation	TOTAL
Asian	-	1	1	-	-	67	34	103
Black/African American	60	10	100	16	-	626	293	1105
Hispanic/Latino(a)	232	89	517	109	-	3138	1596	5681
Middle Eastern or South Asian	2	2	2	-	-	48	51	105
Native American	-	-	6	-	-	10	4	20
Pacific Islander	1	1	2	-	-	6	4	14
White	271	33	449	184	1	2932	1515	5385
Total	566	136	1077	309	1	6827	3496	12413

*Upon further review of truancy statistics, it was learned that a data entry error was made by deputies. It has since been corrected and edited for accuracy.

There are many reasons a vehicle is stopped. The cause for detentions can help establish a clear reason for a stop and identify any trends. Reasonable suspicion that the individual is engaged in criminal activity accounted for 6,827 of the 12,413 stops at 55%. Traffic violations accounted for 3,496 stops at 28.16%. Knowledge of outstanding warrant/wanted person accounted for 1,077 stops at 8.68%. Some other reasons include consensual encounters resulting in search, subjects known to be on parole/probation/PRCS/mandatory supervision, investigation to determine if a person was truant, and possible conduct warranting discipline under the Education Code.

RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT (RIPA)



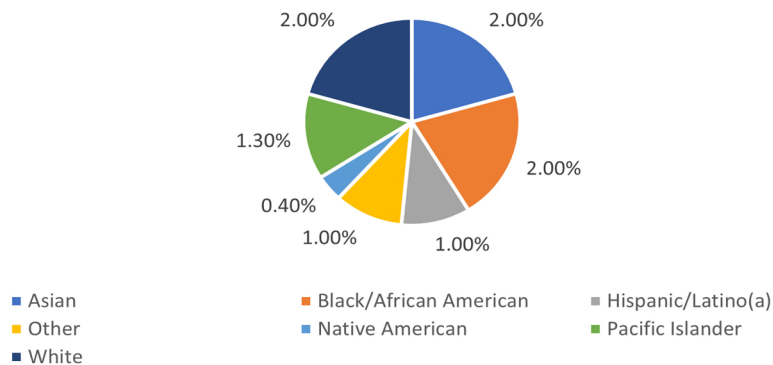
RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT (RIPA)

The results of the RIPA stops are important to further determine race/ethnicity and population correlations. This is represented by the pool of population of Kern County. Arrests with open charges resulted in 2,776 (22.4%) RIPA stops; race/ethnicity was reflected as Hispanic/Latino with 50%, White with 38.1%, and Black/African American with 9.2%. Deputies issued warnings in 2,718 (22.8%) RIPA stops; race/ethnicity was reflected as White with 46%, Hispanic/Latino with 42%, and Black/African American with 9.5%. Deputies released subjects in 2,009 (16.1%) RIPA stops; race/ethnicity was reflected as White with 46.1%, Hispanic/Latino with 44.3%, and Black/African American with 8.7%. This is aligned with California's RIPA data, where it is reflective of the residential race data of Kern County.

RACE AND RESULT OF RIPA STOPS

	Released	Warning	Citation	Cite/ Release	Arrest/ Warrant	Arrest/Open Charge	Field Interview	Noncriminal Transport	Contacted Parent	Psychiatric Hold	Total	Kern County Population
Asian	2	26	6	23	3	37	5	1	-	-	103	44,636
Black/African American	174	257	54	26	155	255	100	55	4	25	1105	48,199
Hispanic/Latino(a)	890	1139	491	218	741	1393	578	153	19	59	5681	515,237
Other	13	41	6	-	6	25	9	5	-	-	105	18016
Native American	2	1	4	5	2	3	1	2	-	-	20	5,355
Pacific Islander	1	4	-	-	2	4	2	1	-	-	14	1,082
White	927	1250	368	234	753	1059	502	185	20	87	5385	285,148
Total	2009	2718	929	506	1662*	2776*	1197	402	43	171	12413	917,673

Representation of RIPA stops and Perceived Race



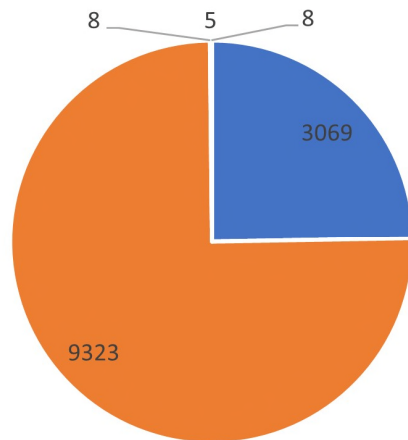
*Due to data entry errors, this does not reflect an accurate number of overall arrests. This was discovered upon review of the RIPA data. RIPA arrests do not include Electronic Monitoring Program participants, court remand subjects, or subjects of search warrants.

The graph displays the ratio representation outcomes of all RIPA stops. The number of RIPA stops conducted by deputies is proportionate to the county's population by race.

RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT (RIPA)

Overall, the Sheriff's Office performed 12,413 enforcement stops. Males were the majority detained with 9,323 stops at 75.1%, followed by females with 3,069 stops at 24.7%. Transgender males were detained on 5 stops at four ten thousandths percent and transgender females were detained on 8 stops at six ten thousandths percent. Gender nonconforming or not reported genders were detained on 8 stops at six ten thousandths percent. Men are more likely to be stopped for vehicle registration and equipment violations in comparison to females.

Stops and Gender



■ Female ■ Male ■ None Listed ■ Transgender man/boy ■ Transgender woman/girl

Stops and Gender

	Frequency	Percent
Female	3069	24.7
Male	9323	75.1
None Listed	8	.0006
Transgender man/boy	5	.0004
Transgender woman/girl	8	.0006
Total	12413	100.0

SUBJECTS CHARGED WITH RESISTING ARREST

In 2021, The Kern County Sheriff's Office made 808 arrests related to resisting arrest. The Sheriff's Office is now publishing the adjudication information connected to these offenses. The adjudication process primarily lies with our court system. The court system includes the District Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, and the Judicial authorities appointed by the State of California (judges).

It is important to note that probable cause is a standard law enforcement officials must establish when making an arrest or obtaining an arrest or search warrant. It requires sufficient facts and circumstances that would lead a reasonable person to believe that a crime has been committed and that the person being arrested or searched is likely responsible for that crime. Beyond a reasonable doubt is a higher standard of proof used in criminal trials, which requires evidence so convincing that no reasonable doubt exists in the minds of the jurors about the defendant's guilt.

As is the case with any other arrest offense, some charges may be submitted by the arresting agency but not filed by the District Attorney's Office. Other times, the District Attorney's Office will file the charge(s) but later dismiss it for a variety of reasons including civil remedies, plea deal negotiations, the furtherance of justice, or a perceived lack of evidence. Therefore, it is common that even filed offenses fail to reach an adjudication status of guilty, not guilty, or nolo contendere.



At times, a deputy may have probable cause to believe that a crime has occurred, but not all reports are submitted to the District Attorney's Office for prosecution. This often happens in our Detentions Bureau. When the Sheriff's Office creates an Incident Report, we will include a criminal charge if the necessary elements are present. However, even if a report is not submitted for prosecution, or if force is used, we still document the incident in our records for future reference and investigative purposes. Some reports are not submitted to the District Attorney's Office if the inmate is already in custody serving a long sentence, as adding an additional charge may overwhelm the court system. In such cases, the charges will usually run concurrently with their existing sentence.

SUBJECTS CHARGED WITH RESISTING ARREST

The Kern County Sheriff's Office is now analyzing the frequency and nature of uses of force. We are committed to transparency, especially when it comes to resisting-arrest-type charges. In order to accomplish this, we compiled arrest data for the following Penal Codes:

PC 148(a)(1)

(a) (1) Every person who willfully resists, delays, or obstructs any public officer, peace officer, or an emergency medical technician, as defined in Division 2.5 (commencing with Section 1797) of the Health and Safety Code, in the discharge or attempt to discharge any duty of his or her office or employment, when no other punishment is prescribed, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by imprisonment in a county jail not to exceed one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

PC 243(b)

(b) When a battery is committed against the person of a peace officer, custodial officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, lifeguard, security officer, custody assistant, process server, traffic officer, code enforcement officer, animal control officer, or search and rescue member engaged in the performance of their duties, whether on or off duty, including when the peace officer is in a police uniform and is concurrently performing the duties required of them as a peace officer while also employed in a private capacity as a part-time or casual private security guard or patrolman, or a nonsworn employee of a probation department engaged in the performance of their duties, whether on or off duty, or a physician or nurse engaged in rendering emergency medical care outside a hospital, clinic, or other health care facility, and the person committing the offense knows or reasonably should know that the victim is a peace officer, custodial officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, lifeguard, security officer, custody assistant, process server, traffic officer, code enforcement officer, animal control officer, or search and rescue member engaged in the performance of their duties, nonsworn employee of a probation department, or a physician or nurse engaged in rendering emergency medical care, the battery is punishable by a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars (\$2,000), or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

PC 69

(a) Every person who attempts, by means of any threat or violence, to deter or prevent an executive officer from performing any duty imposed upon the officer by law, or who knowingly resists, by the use of force or violence, the officer, in the performance of his or her duty, is punishable by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170, or in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

(b) The fact that a person takes a photograph or makes an audio or video recording of an executive officer, while the officer is in a public place or the person taking the photograph or making the recording is in a place he or she has the right to be, does not constitute, in and of itself, a violation of subdivision (a).

PC 245(c)

(c) Any person who commits an assault with a deadly weapon or instrument, other than a firearm, or by any means likely to produce great bodily injury upon the person of a peace officer or firefighter, and who knows or reasonably should know that the victim is a peace officer or firefighter engaged in the performance of his or her duties, when the peace officer or firefighter is engaged in the performance of his or her duties, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for three, four, or five years.

SUBJECTS CHARGED WITH RESISTING ARREST

Adjudication Types:

Dismissed : This means the court or prosecutor has decided the charge against the subject should not go forward, terminating the case.

Guilty/No Contest : Subject pleads guilty to the charges filed and admits to the allegations or are found guilty after trial. No Contest/Nolo Contendere means of defendant agrees to accept conviction, but does not admit to being factually guilty when entering a plea. A No Contest Plea typically has the same legal effect as a guilty plea with the following exception—a No Contest plea to a misdemeanor cannot result in a lawsuit against defendant. In certain civil cases as evidence of criminality.

Not Filed : The District Attorney's office did not file the charges; sometimes due to further investigation needed, incorrect filing, lack of evidence, civil remedies, or filed more serious offenses.

Pending : The court case has not yet reached a verdict of guilty, not guilty, dismissed or a plea deal. The court case still has pending dates.

Plea Deal : The Prosecution may offer the defendant a plea deal to avoid trial and perhaps reduce their exposure to a more lengthy sentence. A defendant may only plead guilty if they actually committed the crime and admits to doing so in open court before the judge. Some charges may be dismissed as long as the plea stays in effect.

Not Submitted : Refers to a situation where law enforcement officers have investigated an incident or crime and have created a report documenting their findings, but have chosen not to submit the report to the District Attorney's (DA) office for prosecution. This decision may be based on a variety of factors, such as insufficient evidence to support a prosecution, the perpetrator already being in custody for other crimes, victims deciding prosecution or not cooperative, or other reasons that may make it impractical or unnecessary to pursue prosecution. However, even in cases where the report is not submitted to the DA's office, it is typically still documented in law enforcement records for future reference and investigative purposes.

Sealed : Record sealing is a legal process involving sealing criminal records to the public. The records cannot be viewed or accessed by the general public, although they could still be available to certain government agencies or individuals with a court order.

Adjudication Results

Dismissed	Pled Guilty/No Contest	Not Filed	Pending	Plea Deal	Not Submitted	Sealed	Total
124	302	121	141	52	64	4	808

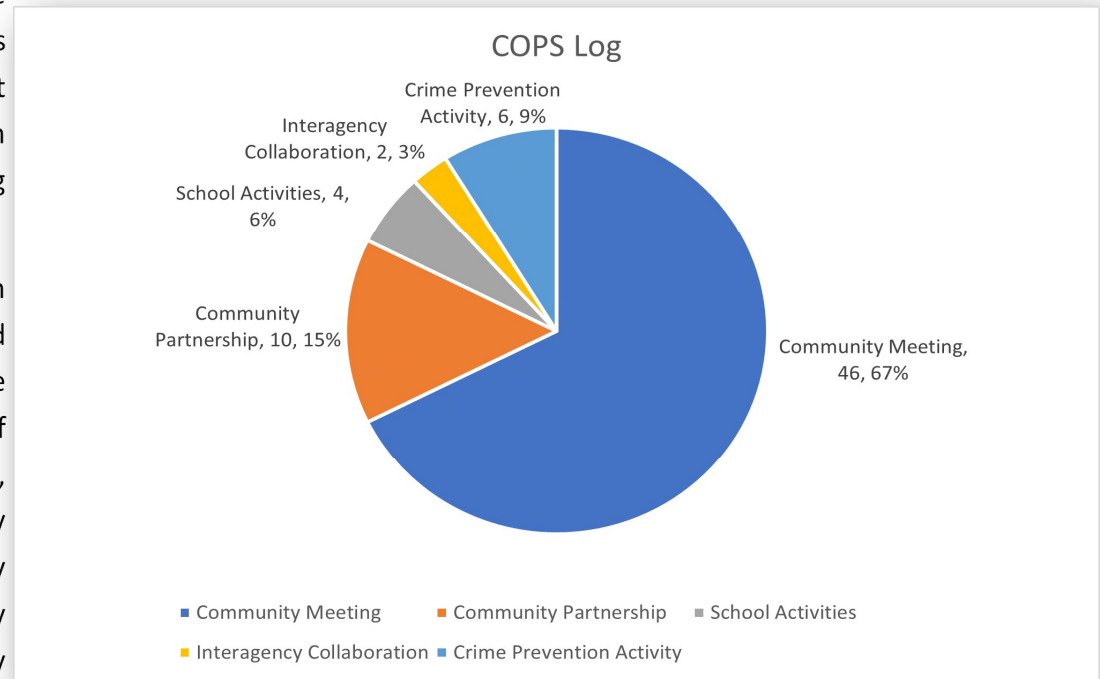
Of the 808 cases documenting a resisting offense 15% were dismissed , 44% pled guilty/no contest, 15% were not filed, 17% are pending, 6% took a plea deal, 8% were not submitted, and .4% have been sealed. The Law Enforcement Bureau authored 505 reports. The Detentions Bureau authored 71 reports. There is a discrepancy between the total number of case adjudications, 808, and the total number of reports written, 576, as each report can have more than one subject per report.

COMMUNITY POLICING

The Crime Prevention Unit (CPU) serves the community by providing services that reduce crime and improve the quality of life through mutually beneficial partnerships in the county's communities. Increased safety through awareness is the primary function of the unit. We offer safety programs, presentations, resources, public events, and so much more. Our goal, as a community liaison, is to initiate an open dialogue with all members of the community. We are dedicated to educating the public how to safely take steps that improve the security of neighborhoods and businesses by appearing less desirable to criminals, making them more resistant to crime, and ultimately to enhance the safety, security, and quality of life for the residents and visitors of Kern County.

The Community Oriented Policing (COPs) Log below includes the community events where CPU was present. This includes KCSO attending community events where employees field questions for community stakeholders about KCSO activities, identify issues facing the county, and crime trends in the area. KCSO also meets with local businesses to address security concerns and threat assessments, attend neighborhood watch meetings, and attend school assemblies about safety and how to report crimes. Canine Unit demonstrations are also held to discuss how the dogs are trained, which drugs the dogs are trained in detecting, and the importance of canines in our agency. KCSO holds Q&A's in schools that allow students to ask questions and show how the canine's bite using the bite suit. Some other events include Trunk or Treat events where candy is handed out to the community, guest speakers for children to learn about gun safety, distributing food baskets, and giving stuffed toys to needy families.

2021 provided some challenges for the Crime Prevention Unit as Covid had many social distancing regulations and there were mandates by the federal and state governments to maintain safety above all else. Some of the challenges include, not enough community events, failed opportunities for additional community partnerships, and lack of staffing. The Kern County Sheriff's Office hopes to tackle these problems by developing new partnerships, holding more community events, and prioritizing recruitment for hiring.



COMMUNITY POLICING

In addition to the Crime Prevention Unit offering events and activities for community engagement, KCSO maintains a social media presence to connect to the greater community.




<https://www.tiktok.com/@kerncosheriff>



<https://twitter.com/kerncosheriff>

Social Media Goals:

- Increase awareness of community oriented policing strategies.
 - Increase genuine engagement with community members by providing relevant information.
 - Generate traffic to our external web page as well as recruitment web page.
 - Increase following of Sheriff's Office social media venues by community members (vs. viral interaction).
 - Create an interactive platform to serve as a liaison for necessary departments/units.
 - Promote employment opportunities available.
 - Build a foundation for the *3 Pillars of Communication*
 1. Demonstrate Community Oriented Policing
 2. Recruitment and Hiring, communicate availability of opportunities
 3. Provide information and clarity on the processes within the organization that are necessary for public/community interaction, awareness, prevention, and other FAQ's
- 

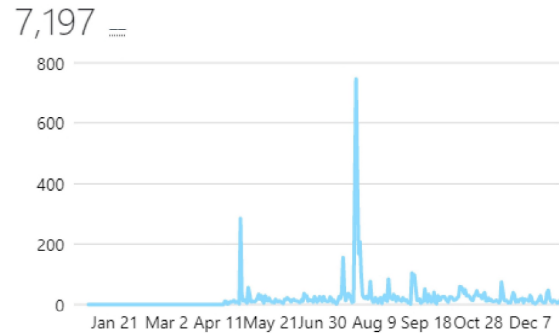


<https://nextdoor.com/agency-detail/ca/kern-county/kern-county-sheriffs-office/>

COMMUNITY POLICING

New likes and follows

Facebook Page new likes ⓘ

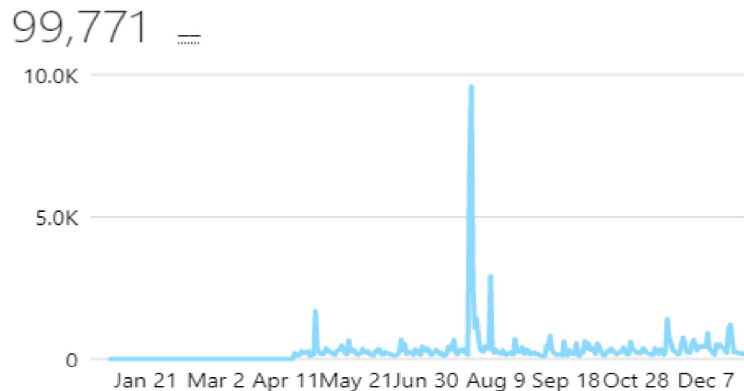


Facebook and Instagram both have significant social media followings. There were a total of 7,197 total Facebook Page likes in 2021. There were a total of 99,771 Facebook Page visits in 2021. Instagram had a total of 109,794 profile visits, which is 10,023 more than Facebook Page visits.

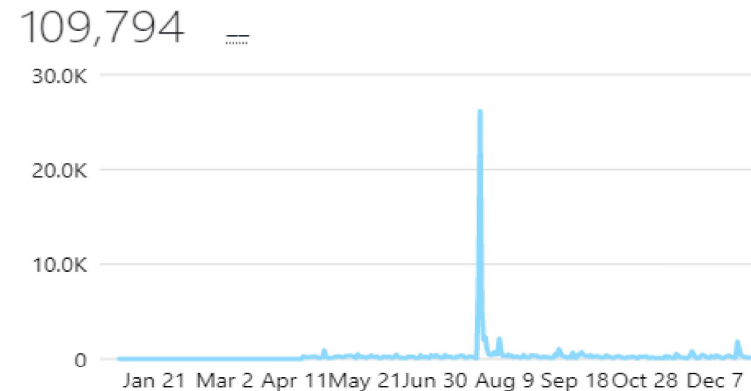
The peak for Facebook and Instagram occurred in July and August, likely due to Deputy Phillip Campas' End of Watch on July 25, 2021.

Page and profile visits

Facebook Page visits ⓘ



Instagram profile visits ⓘ

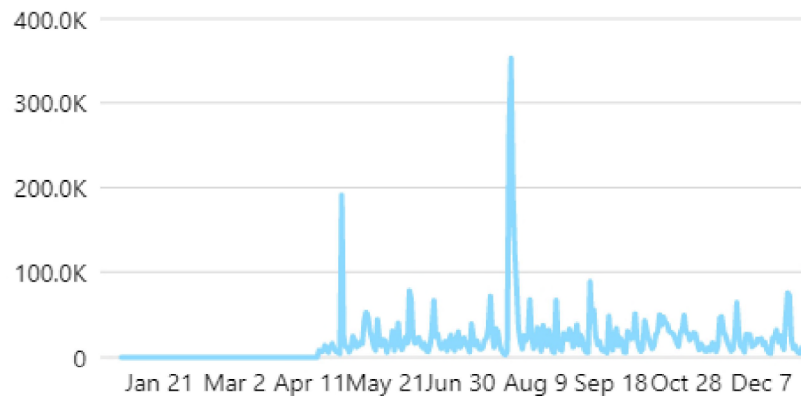


COMMUNITY POLICING

Reach

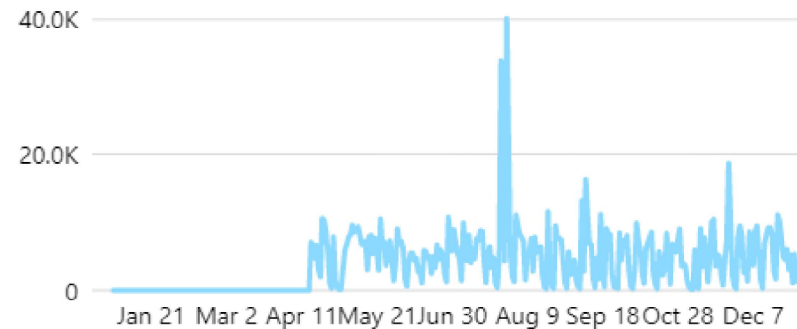
Facebook Page reach ⓘ

2,504,952 —



Instagram reach ⓘ

212,990 —



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

A reach is how many times an article/video has been shared across the web while using other social media apps, emails, or reposting to websites. Our Facebook Page reached 2,504,952 individuals while Instagram reached 212,990 individuals. The peak is shown around July 25, 2021, which is aligned with Deputy Phillip Campas' End of Watch. The peak views for our Facebook Page was above 350,000 for the month of July. The peak for Instagram was over 40,000 views.

<https://www.instagram.com/kernsheriff/>



Instagram

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

CAC Mission

The Community Advisory Council (CAC) will work collaboratively with the Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) to bridge the gap between the diverse communities of Kern, as envisioned in the Stipulated Judgment. The CAC will provide input into policy and procedure, provide insight into the community's concerns, educate the community about the KCSO, and work to build a safer community for all people.

CAC Vision

Our vision for the community is strengthening communication, generating mutual trust, and promoting understanding for a more cohesive and safer Kern County.

CAC Structure

The CAC provides community input to the Sheriff's Office about crime, culture, relationships, and quality of life issues. The Council offers new plans for community policing efforts, provides input for policy from a community perspective, attends community meetings, and proposes and facilitates activities that strengthen trust between the community and the Kern County Sheriff's Office. We built the CAC on the principles of improving community relations and efficiency with law enforcement. To meet these goals, the CAC has created three subcommittees to focus on distinct, but related areas:

- Policy & Education Subcommittee
- Communications Subcommittee
- Community Policing & Engagement Subcommittee



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL HISTORY

The CAC was officially established in November 2020 and described itself as “a group of concerned Kern County residents working to improve the relationship between the community and the KCSO.” This group was motivated to action by George Floyd. This incident prompted Kern County community members to commit to being a part of a community-organized effort to be the community's voice. The community stakeholders were concerned with the relationship between law enforcement and the public, specifically with the relationship between law enforcement and African Americans in Kern County.

This tragic event prompted law enforcement agencies to examine their policing efforts and KCSO was no exception. This group met with the Sheriff and other KCSO staff to talk through their concerns and to create a path toward improving police legitimacy in the eyes of different communities the county. It is important to note that these meetings occurred before the Stipulated Judgment (SJ) was signed and made public. On December 18th, 2020, KCSO agreed to the Stipulated Judgment issued by the Office of the Attorney General of the State of California. As a part of this agreement, KCSO redoubled its efforts to engage the public in initiating equitable community policing practices. What had begun as informal meetings coalesced into the community-led CAC we have today.

Specifically, the SJ required that KCSO establish a Community Advisory Panel (CAP). However, KCSO had already partnered with the community by launching the CAC. The CAC's mandate is to be a general and broad representation of Kern County as a whole and not focused on any particular group or one segment of the community. The CAC takes its role very seriously, intending not to lose focus of what brought the CAC together.

The CAC is a group of community stakeholders working with the Kern County Sheriff's Office to organize, build mutual trust, and enhance community policing efforts. The current CAC members are all residents of Kern County and represent various walks of life, representing most of the area KCSO serves. Many members volunteer for this service in addition to their careers, educational pursuits, and family commitments.

At the advent of the CAC, most members were not experts in law enforcement engagement. A natural learning curve increased each members knowledge of KCSO policies and practices and local, state, and federal laws about law enforcement. A natural learning curve also occurred with KCSO staff on their reach, engagement, and understanding of community true relationships.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL PURPOSE

The CAC is community-policing at its core and serves to provide current knowledge, critical thinking, and insights to aid the Kern County Sheriff's Office in making operational changes.



If you are interested in joining this team and participating in this intentional effort, please apply at:

<https://kerncac.org/>

For more information, please email:

kernsheriffcac@gmail.com

LANGUAGE ACCESS

The Sheriff's Office is working to establish policies to monitor Language Access throughout the department. KCSO works in conjunction with the Kern County's Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). The CAC has members who have experience in language access. KCSO is currently exploring services to better help deputies while they are in field.

Currently, field deputies have access to deputies who have bilingual certificates. In the event this access is not available, deputies may ask for help from members of the community. While this does exist as a weak point for KCSO, there are improvements planned for the future. KCSO was awarded a grant from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services to use translation services paid for by the state during a 9-1-1 call.

The Sheriff's Office uses Voiance and LanguageLine Solutions, third-party interpretation providers, to assist with field, station, and detention facility translation services. These services allow a deputy in the field to call for assistance to facilitate communication with a person who has limited English proficiency (LEP). However, this will not resolve all challenges that are encountered, such as when the deputy is unable to discern the language with which a person needs interpretation assistance. Issues may also arise if the person with LEP speaks a language that is not commonly provided by the general interpretation service.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office, the County of Kern, and the CAC will continue to make progress toward compliance with the Stipulated Judgment, which consists of four main components: (1) creation of a language access policy in meaningful collaboration with the CAC; (2) training in the language access policy for all KCSO deputies, communication supervisors, call-takers, and dispatchers; (3) designation of a language access coordinator; and (4) development and implementation of a language access audit protocol.



CIVIL LITIGATION

Civil litigation exists for the scope of civil lawsuits against the County and Sheriff's Office, as well as individual deputies and/or employees of the Sheriff's Office. Such matters can arise from law enforcement incidents, traffic accidents, or incidents involving incarcerated persons. Civil lawsuits may be filed in state or federal district courts. Typically, before a lawsuit can be filed, a litigant must comply with the claims statute by filing a Government Tort Claim pursuant to California Government Code § 900, et seq. The laws governing federal lawsuits are different than those governing state law matters. Claims and lawsuits both must be served to the Kern County Clerk of the Board as the governing body of the County of Kern.

Lawsuits involving the Sheriff's Office are handled by the County Counsel's office. The Sheriff's Office works closely with County Counsel to defend the County, the Sheriff's Office, and involved employees. Extensive discovery efforts occur between the parties in lawsuits. Discovery is the exchange of records and information and taking of sworn testimony from witnesses and experts. Discovery is an essential part of litigation because it assists the litigants in determining the extent of damages or uncovering mitigating (defending) factors in lawsuits. Lawsuits are a long, slow process often taking several years to go from the claim stage to conclusion. Lawsuits may be concluded by a court judgment on a dispositive motion, settlement of the issues, or by jury trial.

In a civil case, an alleged use of force refers to a claim that one party used physical force against another party. This can include actions such as hitting, pushing, or restraining someone.

The term "alleged" is used because the claim of force is still being investigated or has not been proven in a court of law. In a civil case, the burden of proof is generally lower than in a criminal case. The standard for proving an alleged use of force is often based on a standard of preponderance of the evidence or clear and convincing evidence, meaning that it is more likely than not that the force was used or the evidence leaves you with a firm belief or conviction that it is highly probable that the factual contentions of the claim or defense are true.

If the alleged use of force is proven in a civil case, the victim may be entitled to damages such as compensation for medical bills, lost wages, or pain and suffering. However, it is important to note that civil cases are separate from criminal cases and a finding of liability in a civil case does not mean that the person who used force will face criminal charges.



2021 Pending Cases —

Sanchez, Juana v. Mario Garza – USDC Case No.: 1:21-CV-01280
(CC202118328/2020000646) - *Use of Force: OIS*

Ceballos, H.C., et al. CC202117541- USDC Case No.: 1:20-CV-00142
(CC202117541/2020000065 - *Use of Force : OIS*

Lewis, Jr., Mickel CC202117742 – USDC Case No.: 1:21-CV-00378
(CC202117742/2020000474) - *Use of Force : OIS*

Roberts, Willie CC202117942 – USDC Case No.: 1:21-CV-00725
(CC202117942/2020000751) - *Use of Force: OIS*

Pre-2021 Pending Cases—

Dustin Moore v. County of Kern et al. – KCSC Case No.: BCV-20-102134
(CC202017114/2020000045) - *Use of Force: K9 Bite*

Alejandro Ochoa v. County of Kern et al. – USDC Case No.: 1:18-CV-01599
(CC201815291/2017000935) - *Use of Force: K9, Impact Munitions*

Jane Doe v. County of Kern et al. – USDC Case No.: 1:20-CV-01544
(CC202017341/2019000664) - *No Use of Force*

Zachary Johnson v. County of Kern et al. – USDC Case No.: 1:20-CV-01062
CC202017003 - *Use of Force: Physical Force*

Hagwood, Rhonda CC201814980 – USDC Case No.: 1:18-CV-01092
(CC201814980/2017000466) - *Use of Force: Physical Force*

Lucas, Israel CC202017155 – USDC Case No.: 1:20-CV-01420
(CCC202017155/2019000778) - *Use of Force: OIS*

LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

The Law Enforcement Bureau is comprised of all uniformed patrol staff throughout the county, as well as several primarily civilian units that directly support the functions of patrol. There are two Divisions within the Law Enforcement Bureau, the Patrol Division and Substations Division.

The Patrol Division includes the Metro Patrol Section, the Watch Lieutenant Section (which is responsible for on-duty management of Sheriff's Office operations after regular business hours), and the Communications Section. The Metro Patrol Section is divided into four Zones in the unincorporated areas of Bakersfield.

The Substations Division includes East Area Substations, Northeast Area Substations, North Area Substations, and South Area Substations. These sections are responsible for uniformed patrol throughout the county.

EAST AREA SUBSTATIONS

- Boron Substation
- Mojave Substation
- Rosamond Substation
- Tehachapi Substation

NORTHEAST SUBSTATIONS

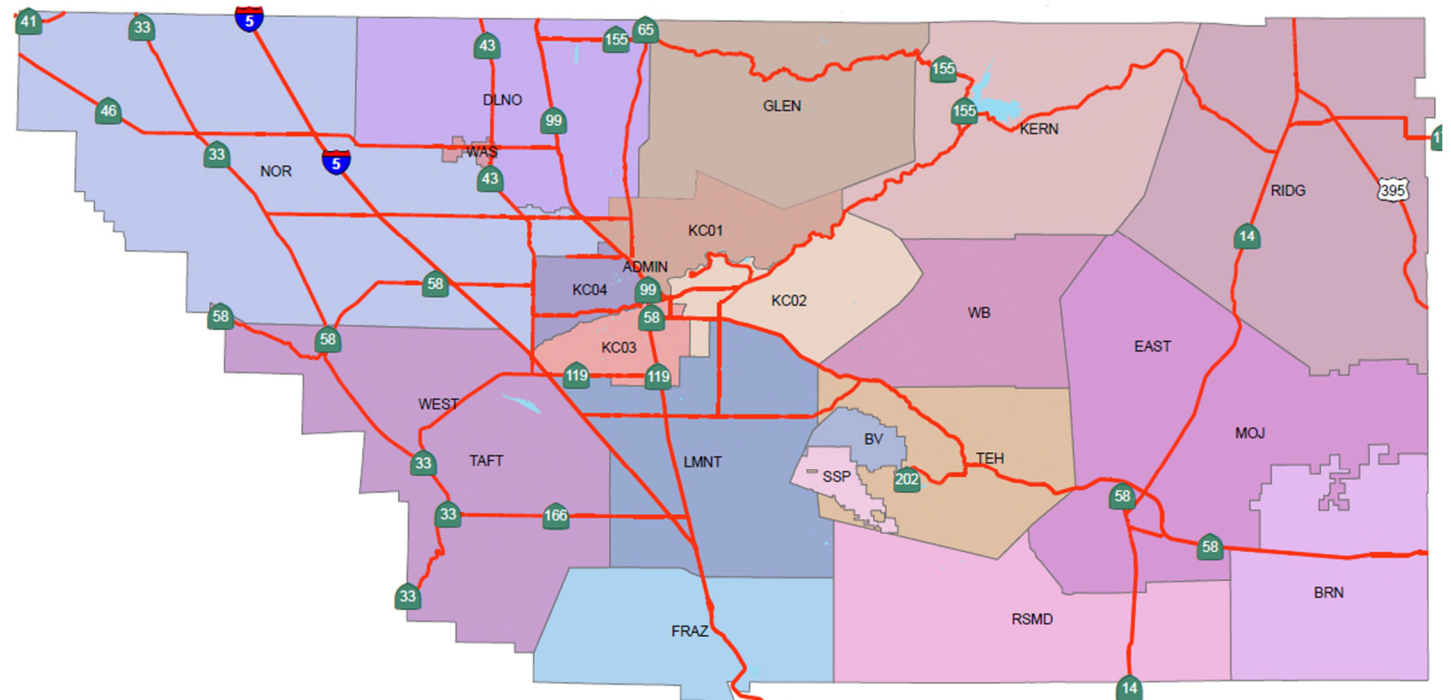
- Kern Valley Substation
- Ridgecrest Substation
- Walker Basin Substation

NORTH AREA SUBSTATIONS

- Buttonwillow Substation
- Delano Substation
- Glennville Substation
- Wasco Substation (Contract City)

SOUTH AREA SUBSTATIONS

- Frazier Park Substation
- Lamont Substation
- Taft Substation



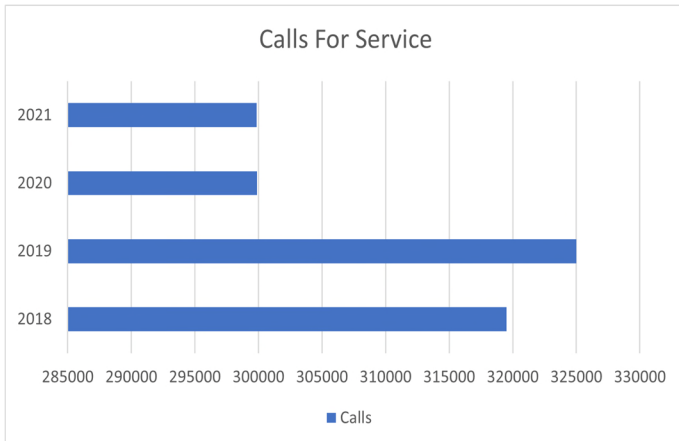
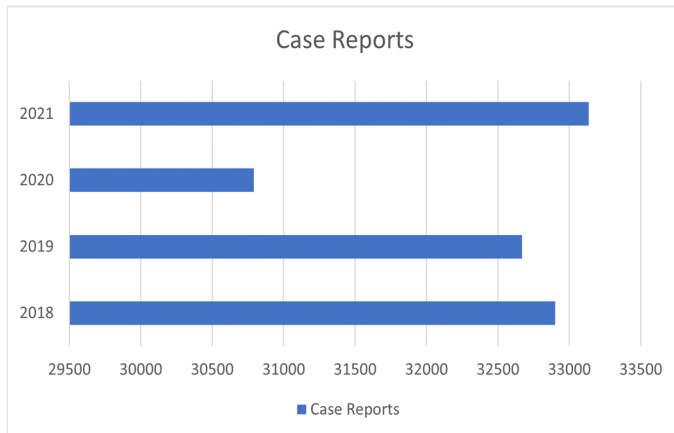
SHERIFF'S OFFICE CALL FOR SERVICE INFORMATION

The Sheriff's Office received 299,872 calls for service in 2021, which was a decrease of four calls, or 0.1%, compared to the 299,876 calls for service in 2020. From the years 2019-2021, there was a three-year annual average of 307,805 calls for service. In 2021, the Communications Center answered 188,203 9-1-1 calls and 1,350 Text-to-911 messages. During those calls for service, 12,413 subjects who contacted, which met RIPA reporting requirements. All figures were based on information contained in the Kern County Sheriff's Office database and population demographics were retrieved from the United States Census Bureau American Community Survey for 2021.*

Deputies arrived on scene for 177,888 of the 299,872 calls generated in 2021. The other 41% of calls were handled by the Telephone Report Desk, canceled prior to arrival, or transferred to another agency.

In 2021, the Metro Patrol area accounted for the most calls for service with 97,715 of the total 177,888, which represented 55% of all calls for service generated for the Sheriff's Office's 15 response areas. Kern Valley accounted for the second highest call for service count with 11,428, or 6.4%, of the total calls for service. The Lamont Substation had the third highest radio call count with 9,897 calls, or 5.6% of the total calls for service.

The Sheriff's Office wrote 33,136 incident reports from the Calls for Service responded to in 2021, which was an increase of 2,344 investigations over 2020, or 7% more case reports compared to the 30,792 reports in 2020.



*<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/news/data-releases.2021.html>

UNDERSTANDING KCSO USE OF FORCE POLICY

AND THE LEGAL STANDARD

LEGAL STANDARDS

Federal and State law defines general Use of Force (UOF) policy standards and practices for all law enforcement agencies. The Department's prescribed policies and procedures can be more restrictive when compared to the broader legal guidelines. Therefore, officer-involved shooting (OIS) incidents and other applications of force utilized by Department personnel can be adjudicated as Out of Policy, regardless of the lawfulness of an officer's decisions or actions. Force used within the Sheriff's Office Facilities shall never be for the purpose of maliciously or sadistically causing harm [(Johnson v. Glick (1973) U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit) and (Whitley v. Albers (1986) U.S. 312)]. Officers shall never be "deliberately indifferent" to the rights, health, or safety of inmates. The 8th and 14th Amendments of the United States Constitution protect inmates against cruel and unusual punishment.

FEDERAL LEGAL STANDARDS

The United States (U.S.) Constitution and extensive case law dictates how all law enforcement organizations across the nation establish and maintain their UOF policies. The federal legal standard used to determine the lawfulness of a UOF is the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. In *Graham v. Connor*, the U.S. Supreme Court determined that an objective reasonableness standard should apply to a civilian's claim that law enforcement officials used excessive force in the course of making an arrest, investigatory stop, or other "seizure" of his/her person. *Graham* states in part: The reasonableness of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer at the scene, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight. The calculus of reasonableness must embody allowance for the fact that police officers are often forced to make split-second judgments in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving. The test of reasonableness is not capable of precise definition or mechanical application. In essence, the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling established that the force used must be reasonable under the circumstances known to the officer at the time. Therefore, the Department examines all UOF incidents from an objective, rather than a subjective, reasonableness standard.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA LEGAL STANDARDS

In accordance with California Penal Code Section 835(a), law enforcement personnel may only use the amount of force that is "objectively reasonable" to:

- Effect an arrest;
- Prevent escape; or,
- Overcome resistance;



KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE USE OF FORCE POLICY

A peace officer who makes or attempts to make an arrest need not retreat or desist from his efforts by reason of the resistance or threatened resistance of the person being arrested, nor shall such officer be deemed an aggressor or lose his right to self-defense by the use of reasonable force to effect the arrest or to prevent escape or to overcome resistance. On August 19, 2013, the California State Supreme Court held, in the case of *Hayes v County of San Diego*, that under California negligence law, liability can arise from tactical conduct and decisions employed by law enforcement preceding the use of deadly force. As such, an officers tactical conduct and decisions leading up to the use of deadly force are evaluated to determine the objective reasonableness of an incident.

PURPOSE

The policy established guidelines for the use and application of force policies, as well as the procedures for after force medical care and for the reporting, investigation, and review of incidents after an application of force.

POLICY

The KCSO Use of Force policy is to provide officers of the Sheriff's Office with guidelines on the reasonable use of force. It is the policy of the Sheriff's Office that law enforcement officers, in the performance of their duties, shall use reasonable force, given the facts and circumstances known or reasonably believed by the officer at the time of the event, to effectively prevent escape, overcome resistance, or effect arrest.

The decision by a peace officer to use force shall be evaluated from the perspective of a reasonable officer in the same situation, based on the totality of the circumstances known to or perceived by the officer at the time, rather than with the benefit of hindsight, and the totality of the circumstances shall account for occasions when officers may be forced to make quick judgments about using force (Penal Code Section 835a(a)(4)).

In addition to Penal Code Section 835a, law enforcement officers in a custodial assignment may use reasonable force in establishing and maintaining custody of prisoners to maintain the safety and security of the facility. The use of such force by officers shall conform to Penal Code Section 831.5(f) and the policies, procedures and any applicable sections in the Detentions Bureau Manual.

Nothing in Kern County Sheriff's Office Use of Force Policy is intended to hinder or prevent an officer from using deadly force immediately to protect or defend themselves, another officer, or any other person from a significant threat of death or serious bodily injury.

California Penal Code Section 835a provides in part:

Any peace officer who has reasonable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed a public offense may use objectively reasonable force to effect the arrest, to prevent escape, or to overcome resistance.

A peace officer who makes or attempts to make an arrest need not retreat or desist from their efforts by reason of resistance or threatened resistance of the person being arrested; nor shall such officer be deemed an aggressor or lose their right to self-defense by the use of objectively reasonable force to effect the arrest or to prevent escape or to overcome resistance. “Retreat” does not mean tactical repositioning or other de-escalation tactics.

California Penal Code Section 831.5 (f) provides that:

Law enforcement officers in a custodial assignment may use reasonable force in establishing and maintaining custody of prisoners to maintain the safety and security of the facility. No policy can realistically predict or cover every possible situation an officer might encounter. Each officer, therefore, must be entrusted with discretion in determining the force necessary in each incident. While it is the ultimate objective of every law enforcement encounter to minimize injury to everyone involved, nothing in this policy requires an officer to actually sustain physical injury or allow physical injury to any other person before using reasonable force.

DEFINITIONS

“Law enforcement officers” or “officer” shall include Sheriff’s Deputies and Detentions Deputies.

“Force” means physical contact with a person by hand or instrumentality to gain control of that person when verbal command is unavailing, inappropriate, or futile in the circumstances.

- Force shall not mean or include routine or incidental physical contact with a person as is necessary to take the person into actual, physical custody during a routine arrest situation when the arrestee does not offer physical resistance. Similarly, force does not mean or include the application of a wrist lock or control hold to handcuff an inmate, prior to movement for security reasons, when there is no physical resistance by the inmate.

“Deadly force” means any use of force that creates a substantial risk of causing death or serious bodily injury, including but not limited to, the discharge of a firearm (Penal Code 835a(e)(1)).

The term “Deliberate Indifference” means the conscious or reckless disregard of the consequences of one’s acts or omissions. It entails something more than negligence, but something less than acts or omissions intended to cause harm or undertaken with knowledge that harm will result (18 U.S.C. § 242).

RELATIONSHIP WITH LAW

The KCSO policy does not have the effect of law and is not intended to have the effect of law. The law is contained in the federal and state constitutions, statutes, and court decisions. Ultimate liability of law enforcement officers under law can only be determined by the courts. Violation of this policy does not and is not intended to mean that the involved law enforcement officers are liable under the law.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE PHILOSOPHY

The use of any force, including deadly force, by law enforcement officers is a matter of critical concern both to the public and the law enforcement community. Officers are involved on a daily basis in numerous and varied human encounters and, when warranted, may use reasonable force in carrying out their duties.

Law enforcement officers must have an understanding of the extent of their authority, particularly with respect to overcoming resistance from and gaining and maintaining control over those with whom they come in official contact.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office recognizes and respects the sanctity of human life and dignity without prejudice to anyone. It is also understood that officers have the authority to use reasonable force, including deadly force, to protect the public and carry out their duties.

Any use of force, including deadly force, by a member of the Kern County Sheriff's Office must be judged by the standard of "reasonableness." When determining whether to use force and evaluating whether an officer has used reasonable force, a number of factors should be taken into consideration. Those factors include, but are not limited to:

- The conduct of the individual being confronted (as reasonably perceived by the officer at the time).
- Officer/subject/inmate factors (age, size, relative strength, skill level, injury/exhaustion, number and location of officers vs. subjects).
- Influence of drugs/alcohol (mental capacity).
- Proximity of weapons of any kind.
- Whether or not the subject/inmate has been searched.
- Whether the subject/inmate poses an immediate threat to the safety of officers or others and the seriousness of the threat.
- Seriousness of the suspected offense or reason for contact with the individual.
- Whether the subject/inmate is resisting arrest by force.
- Whether the subject/inmate is evading arrest by flight.
- Whether efforts were made to temper the severity of the force used.
- Training and experience of the officer.
- Potential for injury to citizens, officers, subjects, and inmates.
- Number of subjects/inmates involved in the event.
- How organized the subjects/inmates in the disturbance appear to be.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office values the sanctity of human life and the freedoms guaranteed by the United States and California constitutions. Use of Force (UOF) by an officer is an important concern to the community. The role of law enforcement is to safeguard life, dignity, and liberty of all persons without prejudice to anyone. Officers shall carry out duties, including UOF, in a manner that is fair and unbiased.

At times, officers are called upon to make split-second decisions. In such cases, the amount of time available to evaluate and respond to changing circumstances may impact an officer's decision. When judging an officer's decision, this fact shall be given due consideration and weight. Each officer is expected to use objectively reasonable force under the circumstances at the time to prevent escape, overcome resistance, effect arrests, restore order, and maintain the safety and security of the facility and inmates. The decision to use force rests with each officer.

SB230 Section 1 (b) - Law enforcement officers shall be guided by the principle of reverence for human life in all investigative, enforcement, and other contacts between officers and members of the public. When officers are called upon to detain or arrest a suspect who is uncooperative or actively resisting, may attempt to flee, poses a danger to others, or poses a danger to themselves, they should consider tactics and techniques that may persuade the suspect to voluntarily comply or may mitigate the need to use a higher level of force to resolve the situation safely.

An officer shall consider the principles of proportionality in looking at the totality of the circumstances by weighing the severity of the offense, the reasonably perceived level of resistance, and the need for apprehension prior to the utilization of force. An officer may only use force that they reasonably believe is proportional to the seriousness of the suspected offense or the reasonably perceived level of actual or threatened resistance. An officer shall continually evaluate their tactics when determining the appropriate UOF response. If necessary, an officer shall render medical aid pursuant to KCSOPPM Section P-0600 (Emergency Care for Individuals Under Sheriff's Office Care or Control) as soon as reasonably possible.

An officer shall employ de-escalation and crisis intervention techniques when feasible and when doing so does not increase the risk of harm to officers or another person. When making UOF decisions, an officer should be mindful that subjects may be physically or mentally incapable of responding to police commands due to a variety of circumstances including, but not limited to, alcohol or drugs, mental impairment, medical conditions, or language and cultural barriers.

Officers shall use deadly force only when reasonably necessary in defense of human life or serious bodily injury. The decision by an officer to use force shall be evaluated from the perspective of a reasonable officer in the same situation, based on the totality of the circumstances known to or perceived by the officer at the time, rather than with the benefit of hindsight. The totality of the circumstances shall account for occasions when officers may be forced to make quick judgments about using force. The Kern County Sheriff's Office shall evaluate the Use of Force used by its deputies to ensure that the use of such force is lawful and consistent with this policy.

KCSO will continue to regularly review and update the Use of Force policy with developing practices and procedures.

[To view the KCSO Policies and Procedures, click here](#)



KCSO

No policy can anticipate every conceivable situation or exceptional circumstance which officers may face. In all circumstances, officers are expected to exercise sound judgment and critical decision making when using force options.

OFFICER PERCEPTION



SAFETY

1. When your safety is compromised
2. When the public's safety is compromised



FLIGHT

1. Subject attempts to escape
2. Lawfully detained
3. Lawfully arrested



5 times words fail
S.A.F.E.R.



REVISED PRIORITIES

1. Safety, attack, flight, excessive repetition—action necessary!

ATTACK

1. Physical assaults towards officers
2. Physical assaults towards the public



EXCESSIVE REPETITION

1. Noncompliance with commands and directions
2. Subject detects a weakness in your command presence and ability
3. 5-Step Technique exhausted

De-escalation Core Concepts

Assess & Decide

Assess circumstances, respecting Dignity and Sanctity of Human Life:

Critical Decision Making:

- Collect Information
- Threat & Risk Assessment
- Identify Issues
- Determine stakeholders
- Consider options
- Choose appropriate option
- Consider consequences
- Implement course of action
- Reassess and Adapt, if necessary

Ethical Decision Making:

- Bell – Do any “bells” go off as I consider my choice?
- Book – Does it violate any laws, policies, etc.?
- Candle – Will decision withstand light of day/publicity?
- Outcome – Will you achieve desired outcome in a way consistent with traits and competencies of an ethical public servant?

Self-Control

Self-awareness of demeanor helps to maintain self-control.

- Emotional Control – Managing / Controlling emotion controls reaction
- Mental Control – Sleep deprivation affects decision-making and reaction
- Physical Control – Maintain physical health and be aware of personal limitations

Compartmentalize stressors – Avoid bringing home problems to work and vice versa.

Communicate

Avoid disparaging or offensive language and maintain cultural awareness when working in diverse communities.

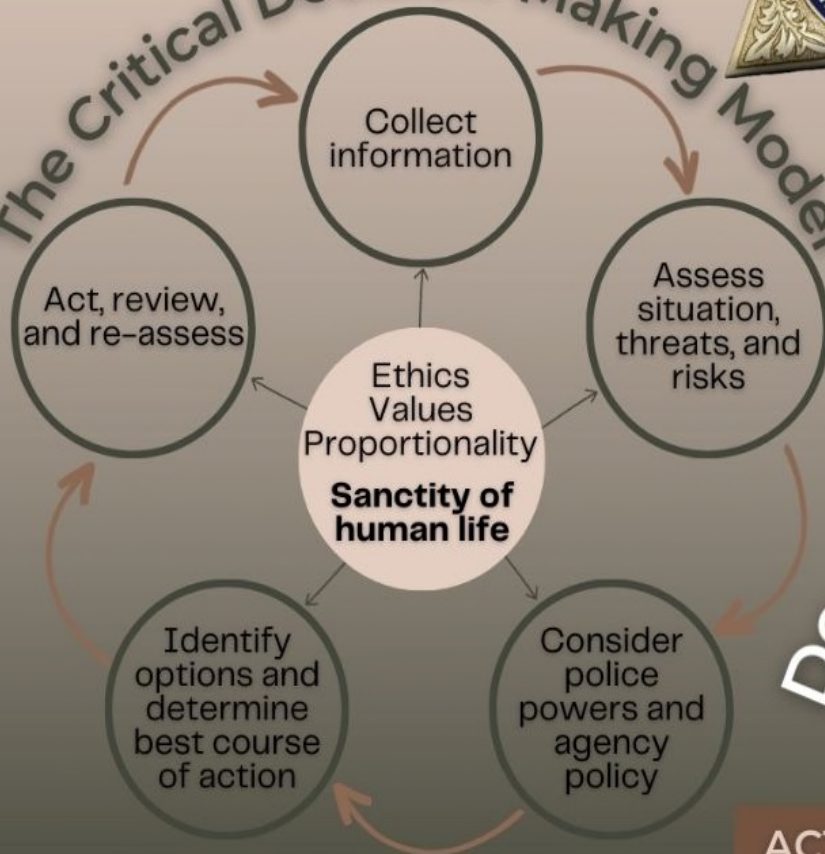
- Be intentional with body language.
- Active Listening
- Establish Rapport
- Empathize
- Ask clarifying Questions
- Paraphrase/Summarize
- Explain Initial or Follow-Up Action that may be taken, if necessary

Be aware of communication barriers: Limited English Proficient (LEP), Language Barriers, Developmental or mental disabilities or substance abuse.

Kern County Sheriff's Office



The Critical Decision-Making Model



De-escalation through Rapport

ACTIVE LISTENING

EMPATHY

RAPPORT

INFLUENCE

BEHAVIOR CHANGE

Don't be afraid to change tactics as information develops. A tactical retreat or repositioning is a strategic decision in certain circumstances. If feasible, obtaining distance and cover equals increased time to react. The more time you have the more informed decisions can be.



LESS-LETHAL USE OF FORCE

The Sheriff's Office's guiding value when utilizing force shall always be the Reverence for Human Life. When a situation warrants the use of intermediate force, personnel, when practicable, can utilize a variety of less-lethal force options to attempt to safely defuse a situation.

Less-lethal, or intermediate force options as defined by recent court decisions, shall not be used on a suspect or subject who is passively resisting or merely failing to comply with commands. Verbal threats of violence or mere non-compliance alone may not justify the use of less-lethal force. Personnel may use less-lethal force options when they have a reasonable belief that a suspect or subject is violently resisting arrest or poses an immediate threat of violence or physical harm.



Less-lethal devices can afford deputies the opportunity to seek cover and maintain distance between themselves and suspects. The use of cover and distance are fundamental concepts that create time to allow for tactical decision-making. When deputies are able to safely and effectively deploy less-lethal devices, the risk of injury to themselves, the suspect(s), and the public can be reduced. Less-lethal devices can also be effective tools to prevent the escalation of an incident to a higher, more serious level of force. The Sheriff's Office currently has a variety of less-lethal devices available to personnel for daily field operations and other tactical situations.

40-MILLIMETER (MM) LESS-LETHAL LAUNCHER

The Defense Technology Tactical Single Launcher Model 1425LA 40mm Less-Lethal Launcher is a single shot, 40mm launcher configured with a yellow stock, a rifled barrel, picatinny rail mounting system, and Sheriff's Office approved optic. The yellow coloring of the launcher is consistent with the Sheriff's Office color code system for less-lethal devices and signifies that the 40mm launcher is for the Less-Lethal 40mm round only. The 40mm round is a point-of-aim, point-of-impact, direct fire round consisting of a plastic body and a sponge nose. It can be identified by its silver metal case and blue sponge material nose. These sponge rounds are designed to be non-penetrating and upon striking a target, distribute energy over a broad surface area. Due to the smokeless powder propellant, it has velocities that are extremely consistent. Originally authorized for use only by Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), the 40mm Less-Lethal Launcher was later approved for deployment by patrol personnel in 2020.



FN-303 LESS-LETHAL LAUNCHER

The FN-303 Less-Lethal Launcher is a semi-automatic, shoulder fired device that fires non-lethal munitions and liquids. The device is powered by compressed air to fire the projectiles, which are loaded into an attached 15-round drum magazine. The Sheriff's Office approved the FN-303 Less-Lethal Launcher to be utilized by SWAT and the Sheriff's Emergency Response Team (SERT).

OLEORESIN CAPSICUM SPRAY

Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray is a chemical agent that is either extracted from cayenne pepper plants or produced by synthetic means. Oleoresin Capsicum spray primarily affects the eyes, the respiratory system, and the skin by generating an intense burning sensation. The mucous membranes may swell, causing uncontrollable coughing, gagging, and/or gasping. Oleoresin Capsicum spray can be an effective tool for law enforcement but has proven to have varying degrees of effectiveness on individuals, with some even being unaffected or immune. Additionally, OC spray may contaminate enclosed areas, is susceptible to wind and other weather factors, and can have unintended effects on officers and/or the public in close proximity.



BATON



A baton is an impact and/or control device used to push, move, or strike individuals who exhibit unlawful or hostile behavior. Currently, the Sheriff's Office authorizes three versions of the baton for department-wide use: a collapsible baton, 29-inch baton, and a 36-inch baton (only deployed during civil unrest situations).

TASER

The Electronic Control Device (ECD) is a conducted electrical device that has the ability to cause the neuro-muscular incapacitation (NMI) of a subject. Neuro-muscular incapacitation is the involuntary stimulation of both the sensory and motor nerves, causing uncontrollable muscle contractions that inhibit a subject's ability to perform coordinated movement, thereby reducing the subject's ability

to harm themselves or others. The Sheriff's Office issued TASER features a yellow body and removable black cartridge, which houses the probes and wires. The yellow coloring is consistent with the Sheriff's Office color code system for less-lethal devices and signifies that the TASER is a less-lethal device. The current model of ECD deployed by the Sheriff's Office is the model X26P manufactured by Axon. This model has the following additions from the previous generation:

- Consistent performance and complete data capture due to a new all-digital architecture
- Improved ergonomics
- Yellow color coding for easy identification by officers and the community

The TASER has three activation techniques, listed below:

Probe Mode:

This is the most effective way to deploy the TASER and provides officers the ability to maintain distance from the intended target. This method utilizes the TASER cartridge to deploy two metal probes attached to wires. Once both probes make contact with the subject, NMI is possible.

Drive-Stun/Direct-Stun:

This method is used in close quarters situations and requires the device to be brought into direct contact with the subject's body or clothing. As soon as the TASER is moved away from the subject's body, the energy being delivered to the subject ceases. This feature may be used with or without a cartridge in place. If a cartridge is in place, the probes will deploy into the subject when the TASER is activated. The drive-stun mode generally will not cause NMI and is primarily a pain compliance option.

Three-Point Drive-Stun:

This is a technique where a drive-stun is applied with a cartridge in place. After deploying the probes from the cartridge into the body of the subject at a minimum of two inches, the officer applies a drive-stun to an area of the body away from the probe impact site. The spread between the deployed probes and the area of the applied drive-stun is used to create NMI. All uniformed officers assigned to the Patrol are required to carry a TASER on their person while working any field assignment.



STUN SHIELD

The Stun Shield is a concave Lexan shield coated with energy conductor strips. These strips, which resemble duct tape in appearance, are attached to an electronic, battery operated stun unit. Also, attached to the Stun Shield are two handgrip units that contain the trigger mechanism for the shield's stun unit. The Stun Shield may be operated as a standard riot shield, without activating the stun unit, or with the stun unit activated as an electronic immobilization and take down device.



RESTRAINT CHAIR

The restraint chair consists of a sturdy frame, padded seat and padded reclining back, arm rests, a foot rest, and a set of back wheels. Straps secure the individual at the ankles, wrists, shoulders, and waist in upright sitting position.



PEPPERBALL LAUNCHER

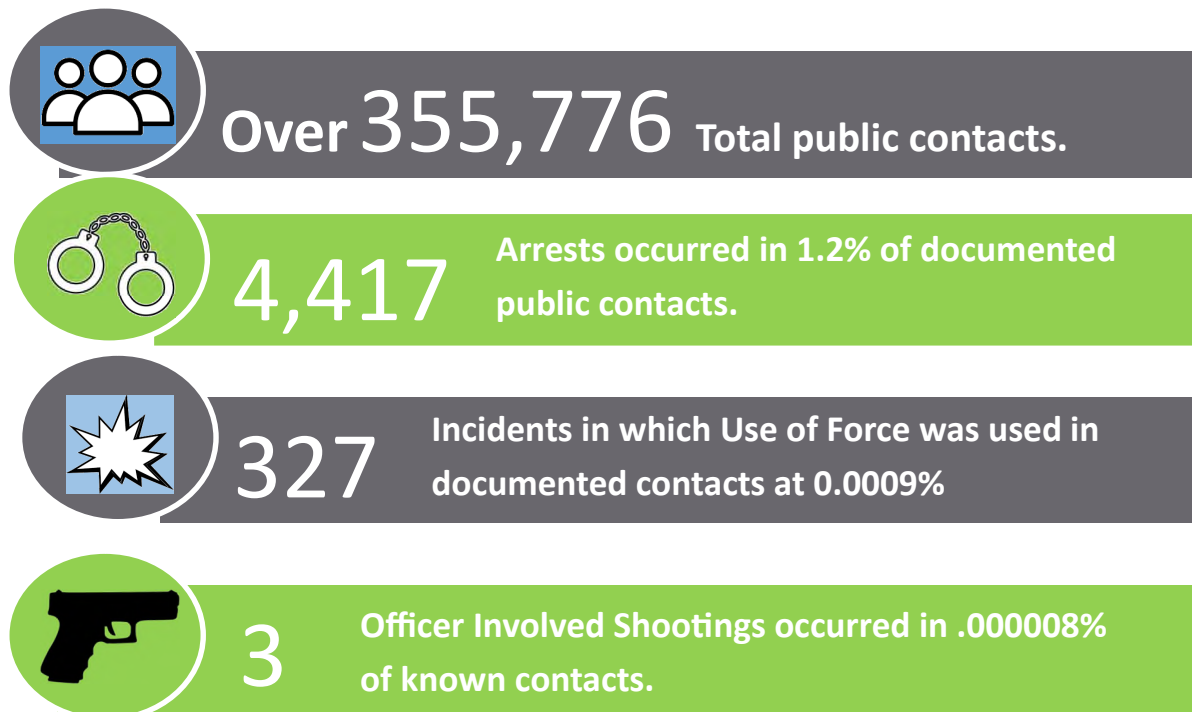
Pepperball Launcher is a semi-automatic, shoulder fired device that fires non-lethal munitions. The device is powered by compressed air to fire the projectiles, which are loaded into a hopper. The projectiles are plastic spheres that are filled with Oleoresin Capsicum II (O.C.) PAVA powder and designed to burst on impact. The Sheriff's Office approved the Pepperball Launcher to be utilized by SERT.



USE OF FORCE IN PERSPECTIVE

LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

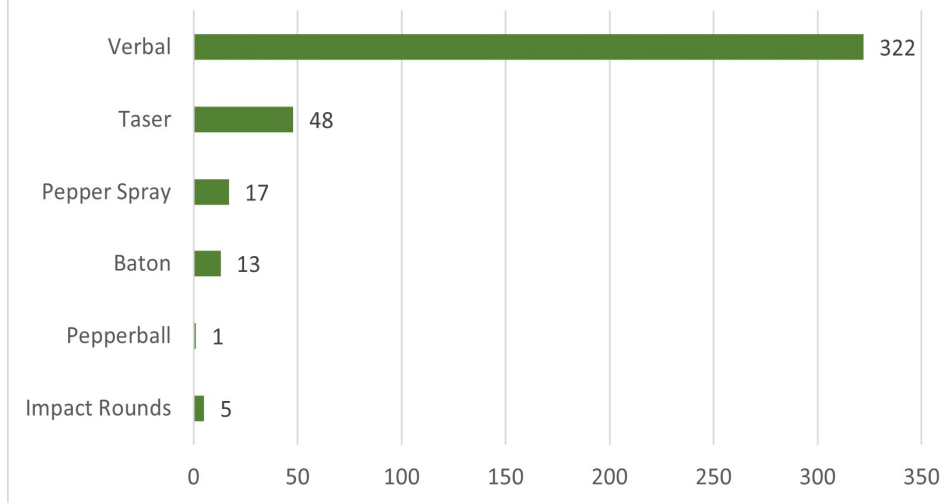
It is important to note that a vast majority of deputy interactions with the public do not result in a use of force. In 2021, the Department had 33,138 documented public contacts in incident reports. Deputies responded to 177,888 calls for service with an average of two public contacts per call. During those contacts, 4,417 arrests (including 89 juveniles) were effected and 327 Use of Force incidents occurred (3 of which were Officer Involved Shooting incidents). Those arrested do not include those cited and released in field. The ratio of violence or contacts with Use of Force is minimal compared to the ratio of stops, at a rate of .009%. These statistics come from databases that maintain arrest records and calls for service.



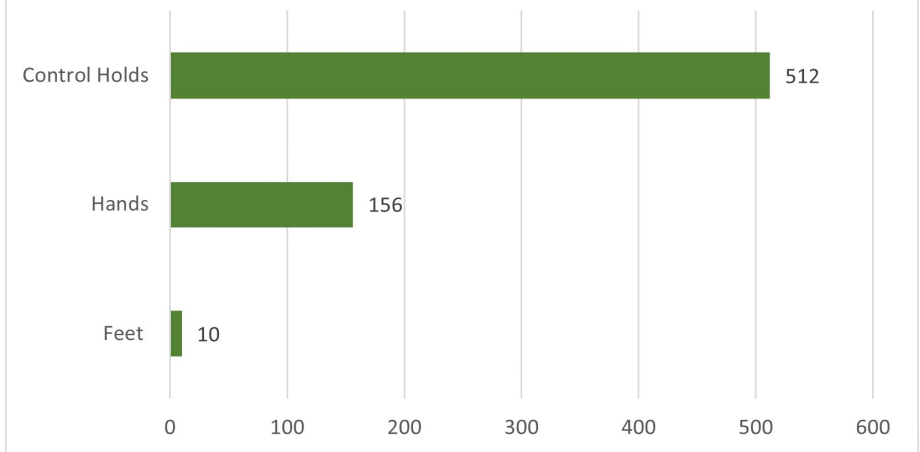
PATROL USE OF FORCE—BY THE NUMBERS

In 2021, there were 327 reports written in the Law Enforcement Bureau documenting force. In those 327 reports, 1154 different force options were used to control the suspect. 295 of the force options used were personal weapons. Control holds were used to overcome resistance 45% of the time (512 incidents). Compared to year 2020 where there were 359 reports, the Law Enforcement Bureau has seen a decrease of 9% in Use of Force reports for 2021. While violent crime has increased 23% from 2020 to 2021, Use of Force incidents have declined by 9%.

2021 Less-Lethal Use of Force Comparison



2021 Use of Personal Weapons Comparison



59%

Of Force Options used were
Personal Weapons

(Control Holds, Hands, and Feet)



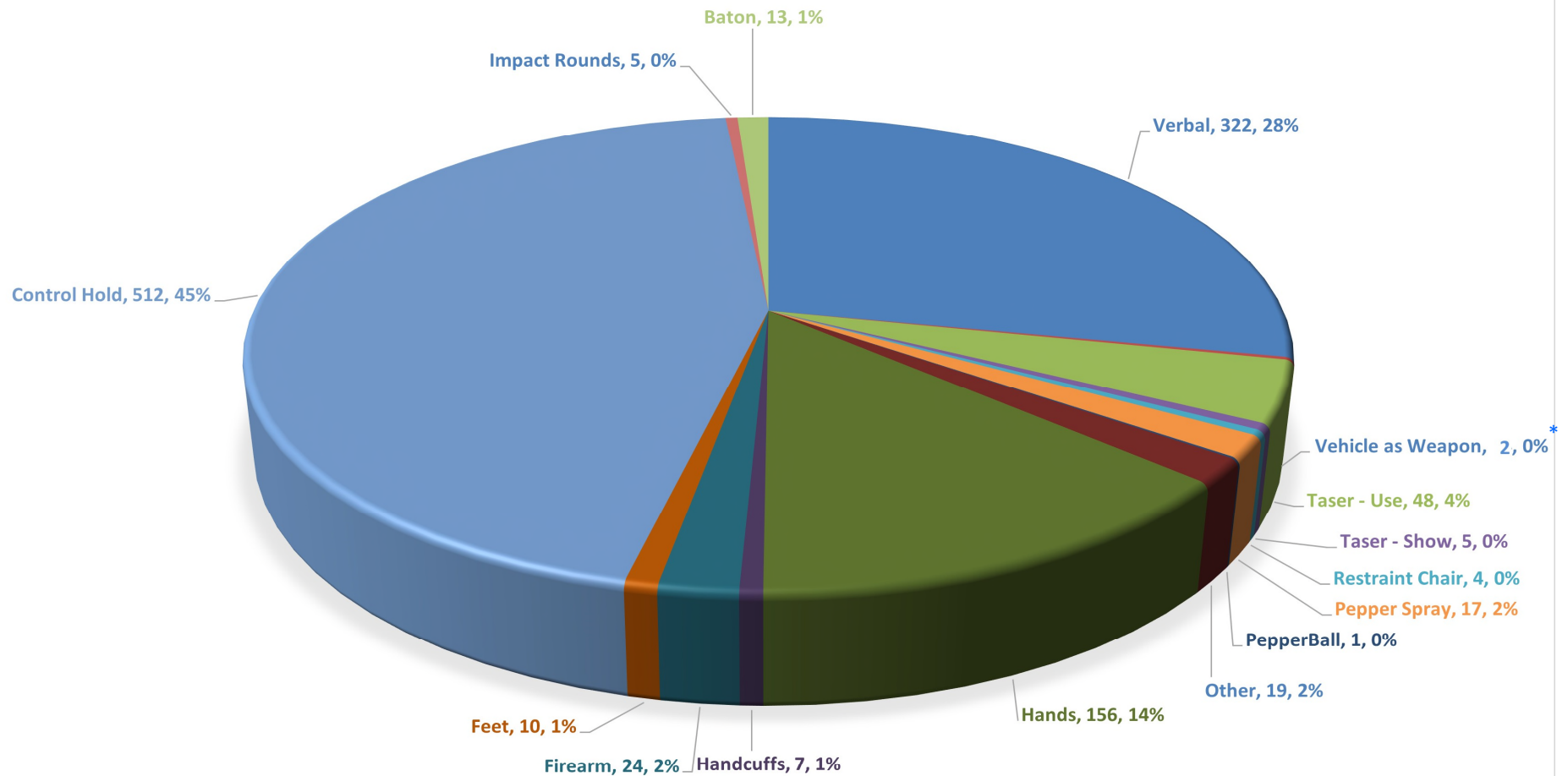
23%

**Violent Crime has
increased by 23%**



PATROL USE OF FORCE—BY THE NUMBERS

2021 USE OF FORCE



*While compiling data for Use of Force entries for 2021, a data entry error was noticed. Vehicle as a Weapon had 0 incidents for the year.

LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

INJURIES RESULTED FROM SUSPECT OR UOF

The Kern County Sheriff's Office works closely with the Kern County Fire Department and various ambulance companies throughout Kern County to provide immediate care and treatment of individuals injured during a Use-of-Force incident. When Injuries are sustained due to a Use-of-Force, or injuries are reported to the arresting officer, the individual will be examined on scene by medical personnel. For minor injuries, the individual will be transported to the local hospital for medical clearance by the deputy. For more serious injuries, medical personnel will determine the safest mode of transportation. Once released from the hospital, the individual's medical treatment continues in custody by the Nurses and Doctors contracted by the Sheriff's Office.

All injuries are documented in an offense report and a Use-of-Force tracking system. Each Use-of-Force is reviewed for compliance with Policy and State Law. For those incidents found not to meet that standard, the incident is referred to the Internal Affairs Unit or the Professional Standards Unit for investigation. Injured suspect rates have gone down and the number of Use of Force incidents have gone down. As a result of our analysis of Use of Force for 2021, we found no need to change policy or training criteria.

42% ↓

Suspect Injuries versus 2020

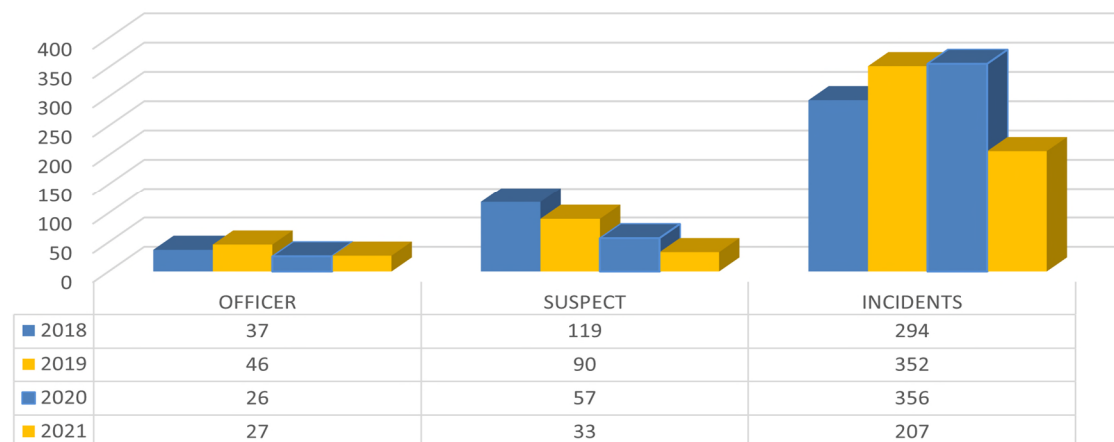
4% ↑

Officer Injuries versus 2020

42% ↓

Number of UOF Incidents
Compared to 2021 from 2020

LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAU INJURIES



SHERIFF'S CANINE UNIT 2021 UPDATE



In 2021, the Sheriff's Canine Unit was comprised of five Deputy and dog teams. Four teams are certified in narcotics detection while one is certified in the detection of explosives and dangerous materials. They are supervised by a Metro Patrol Section Sergeant who is trained and departmentally approved to coordinate all matters related to canine use. Members of this highly specialized unit service all 8,163 square miles of Kern County and are on call at all times.

The Canine Unit's primary purpose is to support members of the Sheriff's Office during searches for suspects, narcotics, items of evidence, dangerous materials, and the arrest of actively resistive and dangerous persons. Canine teams are used most commonly at vehicle pursuits, narcotics searches, violent felony crime scenes, and area searches.

In 2021, the Canine Unit worked closely with DOJ and the Monitoring Team to draft, approve, and implement all new policies related to canine training, deployment, equipment, and documentation.

Our canine partners are indispensable to our mission and are valued members of our family. Each dog's intelligence, handler relationship, and incredible training can be enjoyed by the public during any one of our many annual demonstrations, both at the Sheriff's Office and off site locations.



CANINE TEAM — BY THE NUMBERS



Canine Use of Force Occurred in 0.17% of the
Total Canine Team Calls for Service

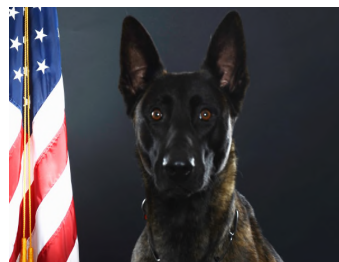


Hannes

Sheriff's Canine Teams responded to 6,586 calls for service and were involved in 338 deployments during 2021. Of the 338 deployments, 187 were incidents during which a suspect was located but surrendered without being apprehended by the dog. A canine physically apprehended a suspect and used force on 11 occasions. The remaining 140 deployments did not involve any individuals. The 2021 annual ratio of located suspects versus suspects physically apprehended is 5.8%.

↑ .03%

**Canine Use-of-Force
Incidents from 2020**



Rico



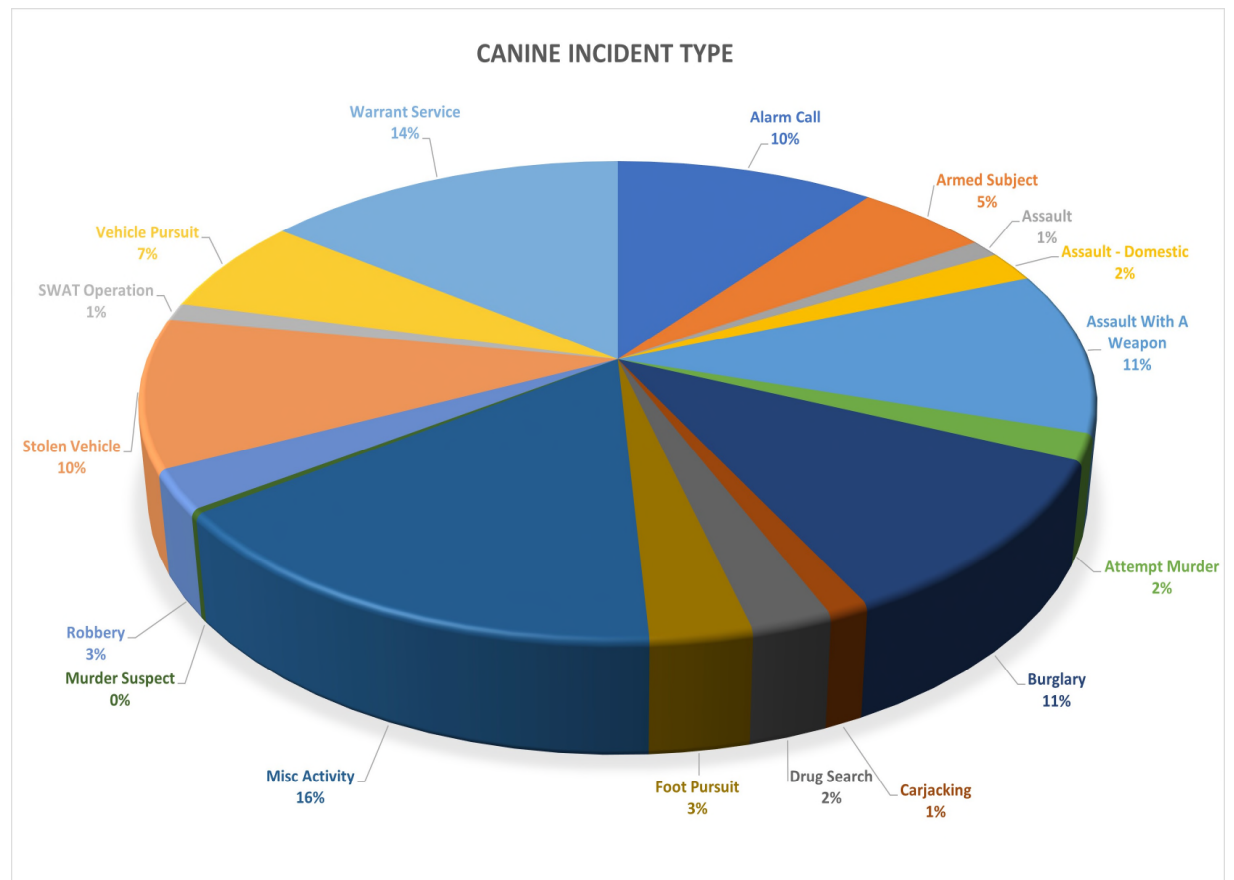
Drogo



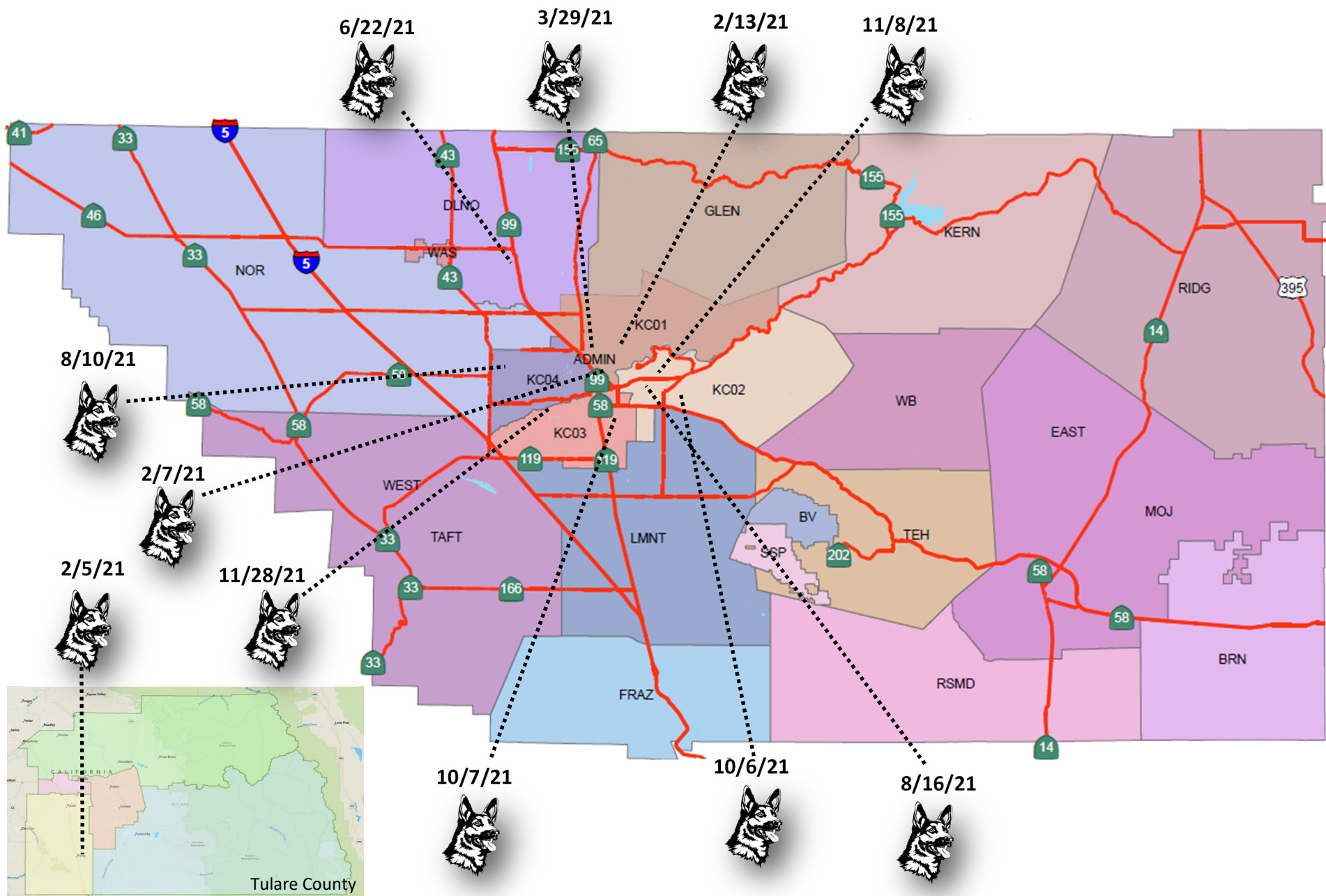
Viktor



Hero



CANINE APPREHENSIONS MAP



OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING INCIDENTS

In 2021, there were 3 incidents during which deputies discharged their firearms. All incidents involved a Deputy discharging their firearm at a person compared to 16 incidents in 2020. All 3 incidents involved a suspect that was armed with a firearm. All 3 shooting incidents were found within policy and California state law. The Kern County District Attorney's Office is sent the incident for an independent review as well. Each critical incident video and additional statistics for each incident can be found online at <https://www.kernsheriff.org/Transparency>.



Suspect Weapon	No. of Incidents	Percentage
Handgun	2	66.7%
Long Gun	1	33.3%
Officers Weapon	-	0%
Knife	-	0%
Replica Firearm	-	0%
Attacked Officer	-	0%

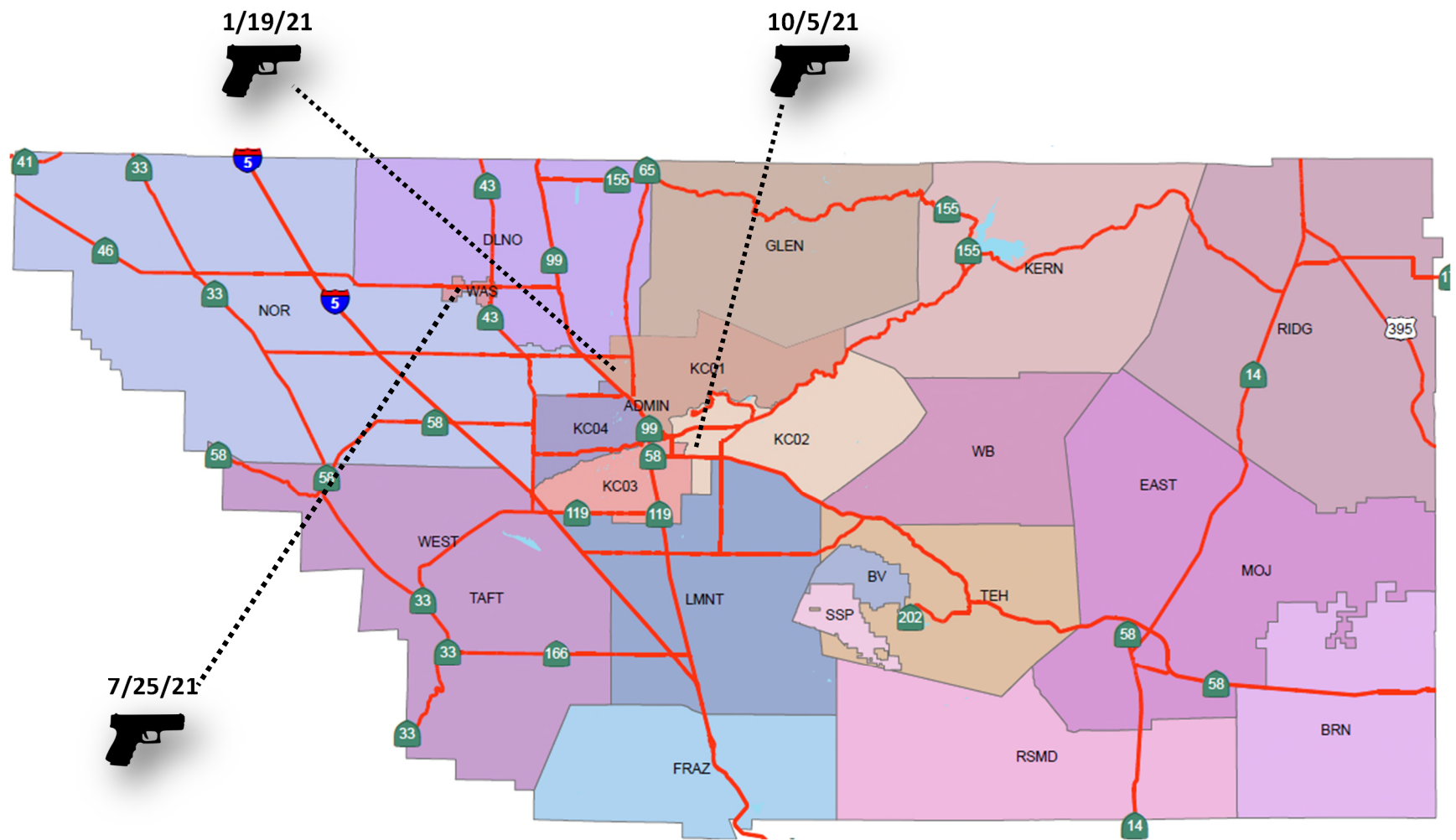
100%

**SUSPECT WAS ARMED
WITH A FIREARM**

Suspect Ethnicity	No. of Individuals	Percentage	County Population
Black	-	0%	6.3%
Hispanic	3	100%	56.1%
White	-	0%	31.1%
Other	-	0%	1.9%



OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING MAP



VIOLENT CRIME IN PERSPECTIVE

In 2021, there were a total of 2,684 violent crimes reported in the county, which accounted for an increase of 627 more violent crime occurrences, or 23 percent, compared to 2,057 in 2020. Of 2,684 violent crimes, 2,125 suspects and 2,684 victims were identified.

A review of the four violent crime categories revealed rape experienced a fourteen percent increase while robbery experienced a six percent decrease in 2021 when compared to the prior year. Homicides decreased by 18 incidents, or 24 percent when compared to the prior year. Aggravated assaults increased by 649 incidents, or 49 percent in 2021 when compared to the prior year.

COUNTY CRIME STATISTICS

Violent Crime

Of the 2,684 violent crimes reported in the unincorporated county, 57 were homicides, which was a decrease of 18 incidents, or 24 percent, compared to the 75 homicides in 2020.

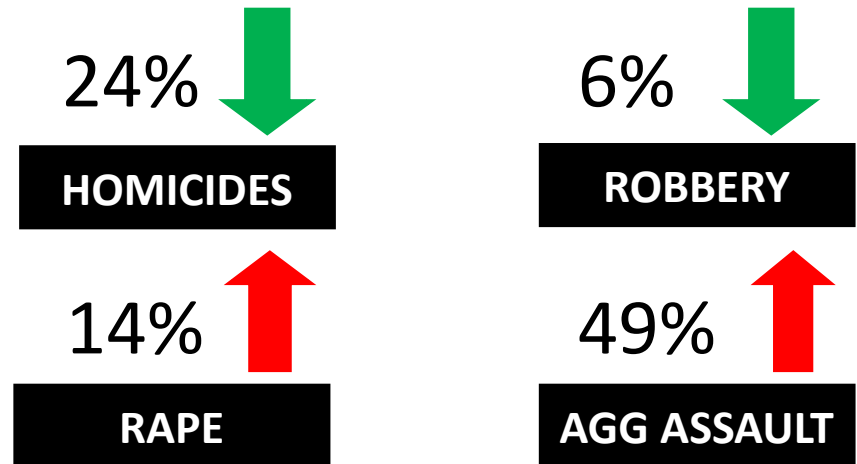
In 2021, a total of 1,000 out of the 2,125 suspects, or 47 percent, involved in violent crime were Hispanic. During the same period, 686, or 32 percent, of the suspects involved in violent crime were White. Black suspects involved in violent crime, accounted for 275, or 13 percent. Lastly, 139 suspects, or 6.5 percent, were classified as Other or Unknown ethnic origins.

Part I Crime

In 2021, 2,902 Part I Crime incidents (consisting of homicides, rapes, robberies, aggravated assaults, burglaries, burglaries/thefts from motor vehicles, personal/other thefts, arson, and auto thefts) occurred throughout the county. The Part I Crime total had a .46 percent decrease, or 14,895 incidents, compared to 14,964 incidents in 2020.

Part II Crime

In 2021, 3,683 Part II Crime incidents (kidnap, other sex crimes, simple assaults, crimes against family/children, weapons violations, identity theft, fraud, forgery/counterfeiting, embezzlement, prostitution, disorderly conduct, and vandalism) were reported to KCSO. The 2021 Part II Crime total was 9,385 incidents, or 21 percent, less compared to the 11,854 incidents in 2020.



	2018	2019	2020	2021
HOMICIDE	55	36	75	57
RAPE	184	152	172	196
ROBBERY	445	453	479	451
AGG ASSAULT	1052	1062	1331	1980
TOTAL	1736	1703	2057	2684

— KERN COUNTY VIOLENT CRIME SUSPECTS BY REPORTED RACE —

Hispanic suspects accounted for 1,000 of the four cumulative violent crime categories, which represented 47.1 percent of the 2,125 total violent crime suspects identified in 2021. White suspects accounted for the second highest group with 686 suspects, or 32.3 percent of the total. Black suspects had the third highest count with 275 suspects, or 12.9 percent of the total. Other ethnic classifications (includes Asian/Pacific Islander) accounted for 88 suspects, or eight percent, of the total. Race was not reported for 114 suspects, or five percent. Given the data and percentage for race and violent crime, the percentages align with RIPA data trends. Compared to 2020, violent crime has decreased by 1.1%, Homicides have increased by 9.8%, Rape has decreased by 2.2%, Robbery has decreased by 5.3%, and Aggravated Assault has decreased by 1%.

	Black	Hispanic	White	Other	Unknown
Population	10.4%	48.3%	34%	1.3%	3.9%
Suspect Violent Crime	12.9%	47.1%	32.3%	.1%	.03%
Homicide	19.1%	53.2%	21.3%	0%	6.3%
Rape	6%	49.5%	33.5%	1.1%	3%
Robbery	13.3%	42.3%	38.7%	4%	1.4%
Agg Assault	12.3%	47.3%	33.5%	.9%	.4%



— KERN COUNTY VIOLENT CRIME VICTIMS BY REPORTED RACE —

Hispanic victims accounted for 1,321 of the four cumulative violent crime categories, which represented 49.2 percent of the 2,684 violent crime victims identified in 2021. White victims accounted for the second highest group at 35.2 percent, of the total. Black victims accounted for third highest count with 211 victims, or 7.9 percent of the total. Unknown race victims had 108 entries, or 2.4 percent of the total.

	Black	Hispanic	White	Other	Unknown
Population	10.4%	48.3%	34%	1.3%	3.9%
Victim Violent Crime	7.9%	49.2%	35.2%	1.7%	.6%
Homicide	8.8%	54.4%	24.6%	1.8%	1.8%
Rape	7.1%	48%	38%	1%	.5%
Robbery	5.1%	53%	30.8%	4%	1.1%
Agg Assault	8.5%	48.4%	36.5%	1.3%	.4%

Kern County Sheriff's Office Seized Firearms	
2018	908
2019	844
2020	928
2021	1027

10.7% 

Firearm Seizure
Increase from 2020

DETENTIONS BUREAU

The Kern County Sheriff's Office has the legal obligation to manage the needs of persons incarcerated within the County Jail System. The Sheriff's Office operates a system of professionally staffed detentions facilities designed to manage the complex process of providing for each of those needs. The Kern County Jail accepts approximately 46,000 new arrests annually. Each arrestee must be processed into a limited system of jail-beds (just over 2,800).

The Detentions Bureau is responsible for the provision of a variety of services within the scope of jail and court security. Foundational duties within the Detentions Bureau include jail security, court security, inmate processing, inmate transportation, and inmate classification. Other functional duties include activities associated with maintaining the welfare of those incarcerated (medical & mental health treatment, education, support services, and recreation). These obligations are managed by approximately 600 dedicated employees within the Detentions Bureau.



The Lerdo Facilities Division is comprised of the following Sections: Pre-Trial Facility, Justice Facility, Maximum-Medium Facility, Minimum Facility, the Compliance Section, Population Management Section, and the Inmate Services Section.

The Downtown Services Division is comprised of the following Sections: Central Receiving Facility, Court Services Section, and the Virtual Jail Section. The Virtual Jail was conceived as a mechanism to offset the growing numbers of persons entering the local jail system. The Virtual Jail features several alternatives to conventional incarceration such as Electronic Monitoring, Sheriff's Parole, and Work Release.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office currently partners with the State of California to provide for the security of numerous Superior Court facilities. The Transportation Section provides logistical support for the

many movements required within the Detentions Bureau. In fact, the Transportation Section facilitates the movement of thousands of inmates monthly.

The Detentions Bureau works in partnership with our community to provide inmate labor, inmate education, and utilizes alternative programs to reintroduce inmates into our community with the goal of significantly reducing the underlying causes that have historically contributed to recidivism.

Members of the Detentions Bureau remain committed to the provision of the highest levels of service and professionalism. Our commitment to the community remains foundationally predicated on the principles of service and duty. Those driving principles support the primary mission of the Kern County Sheriff's Office to enhance the quality of life for those in Kern County.

USE OF FORCE IN PERSPECTIVE

DETENTIONS BUREAU

It is important to note that a vast majority of deputy interactions with individuals in-custody do not result in a Use of Force. In 2021, the Sheriff's Office had over 2.7 million inmate interactions. During those contacts, 204 arrests were effected and 1353 Use of Force incidents occurred (0 of which were OIS incidents).



2.7

Over 2.7 million inmate interactions



204

Arrests occurred in 0.0075% of our inmate interactions



1353

Use of Force occurred in 0.05% of our inmate interactions



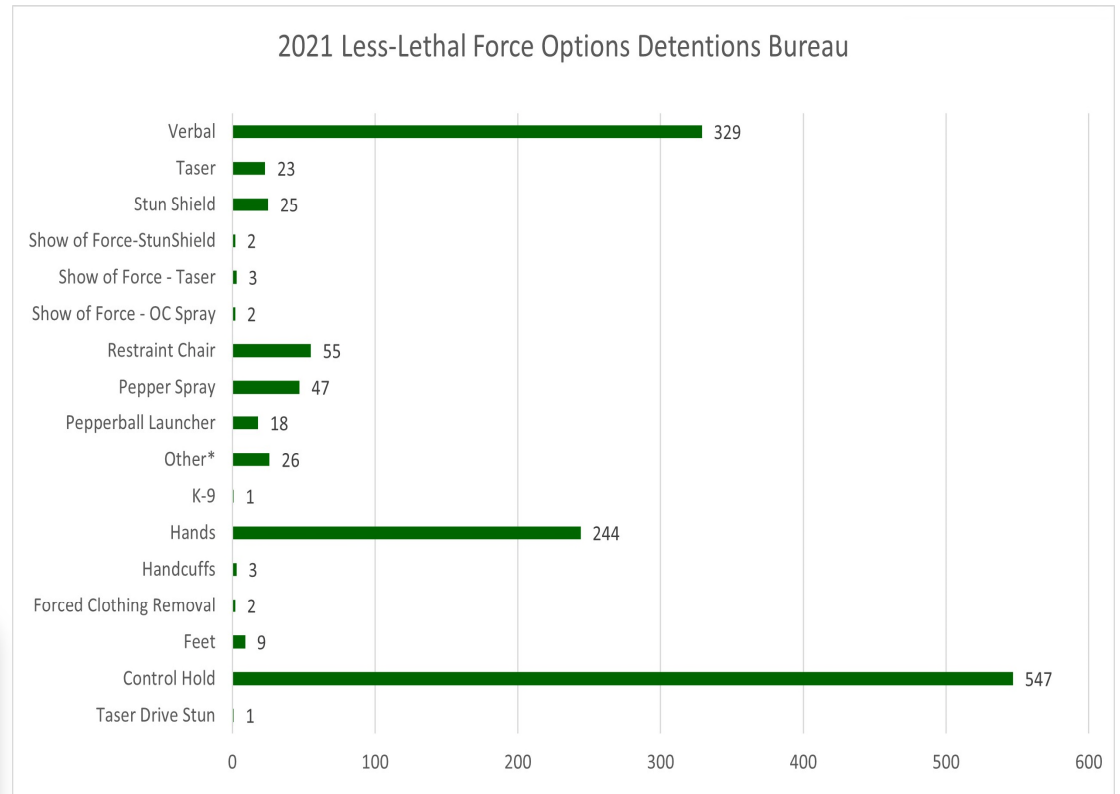
0

Officer involved shootings occurred in the Detentions Bureau.



DETENTIONS BUREAU USE OF FORCE—BY THE NUMBERS

In 2021, the daily occupancy averaged 1,787 inmates for a total annual occupancy of 652,255. This was an increase from the 1,770 inmate daily average in 2020. In 2021, the Detentions Bureau had over 2.7 million interactions with individuals in custody. Interactions include the booking process, daily counts, investigations, inmate movements, releases, transporting inmates to and from Court, and the interactions Court Bailiffs and Guards have with the public. The Sheriff's Office Detentions Bureau wrote 13,917 reports from incidents that occurred in the correctional facility in 2021, which was an increase of 605 investigations from 2020. Of the 13,917 documented incidents, 1,005 reports involved a Use of Force incident, or 7.2 percent.



*Less-lethal force option of "other" refers to personal weapons or body weight used by the detentions deputy



DETENTIONS BUREAU

INJURIES RESULTED FROM SUSPECT OR UOF

The Kern County Sheriff's Office works closely with Kern Medical and the various ambulance companies throughout Kern County to provide long term and immediate care and treatment of individuals injured while in custody. When injuries are sustained due to a use-of-force or they inform a deputy of an injury, the individual will be examined on scene by medical personnel. For minor injuries, the individual will be moved to the infirmary for medical clearance. For more serious injuries, medical personnel will determine the safest mode of transportation to the hospital for treatment.

All Use of Force related injuries are documented in an incident report and a Use of Force tracking system. Each Use of Force is reviewed for compliance with policy and state law. For those incidents found not to meet that standard, the incident is referred to the Internal Affairs Unit or the Professional Standards Unit for investigation. As a result of our analysis of Use of Force for 2021, we found no need to change policy or training criteria.

62% ↑

Suspect Injuries from 2020

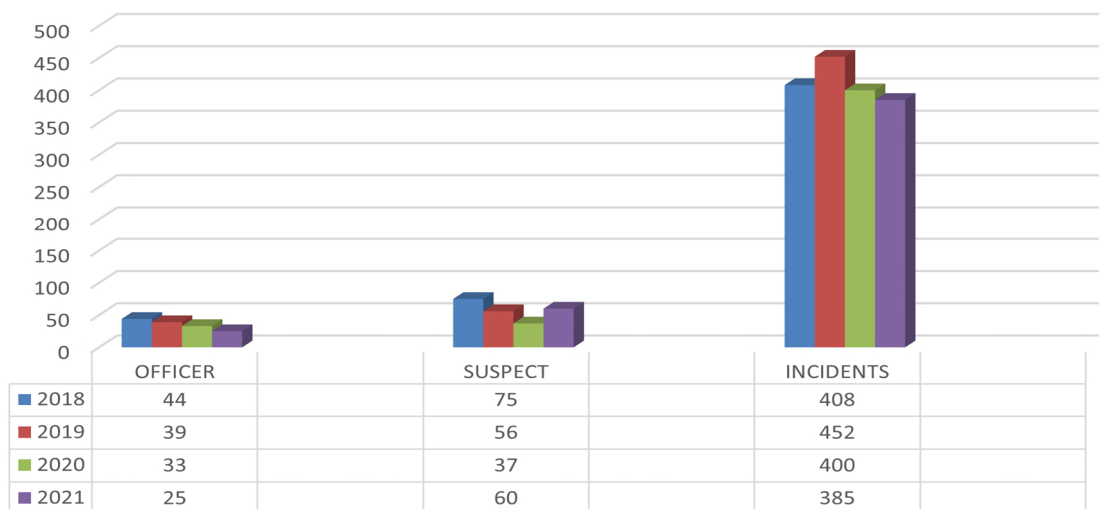
23% ↓

Officer Injuries from 2020

11% ↓

Number of UOF Incidents
Compared to 2020

DETENTIONS BUREAU INJURIES



INMATE STABILIZATION AND ASSESSMENT TEAM

MISSION STATEMENT

The Inmate Stabilization and Assessment Team (I.S.A.T.) shall be proactive in rendering professional custodial and social services to the inmates at the Kern County Jails who are suffering from the most grievous mental, behavioral and intellectual disabilities.



I.S.A.T. TEAM CORE VALUES AND OVERVIEW

Four Core Values

- Empathy
- Courage
- Adaptability
- Spirit of Volunteerism



Overview

- Program Description
- Program Evaluation
- ISAT Moving Forward

I.S.A.T. PROGRAM PURPOSE

Benefits for Correctional Behavioral Health

- Better communication
- Easier access to clients
- More follow-through
- Medication Compliance
- Consistency
- More Accurate Referrals
- Compliance with Inmate Rights

Benefits for Kern Medical

- Better Communication
- Stabilized inmates are easier to treat
- Bed space management
- More hygienic inmates

Benefits for Kern County Sheriff's Office

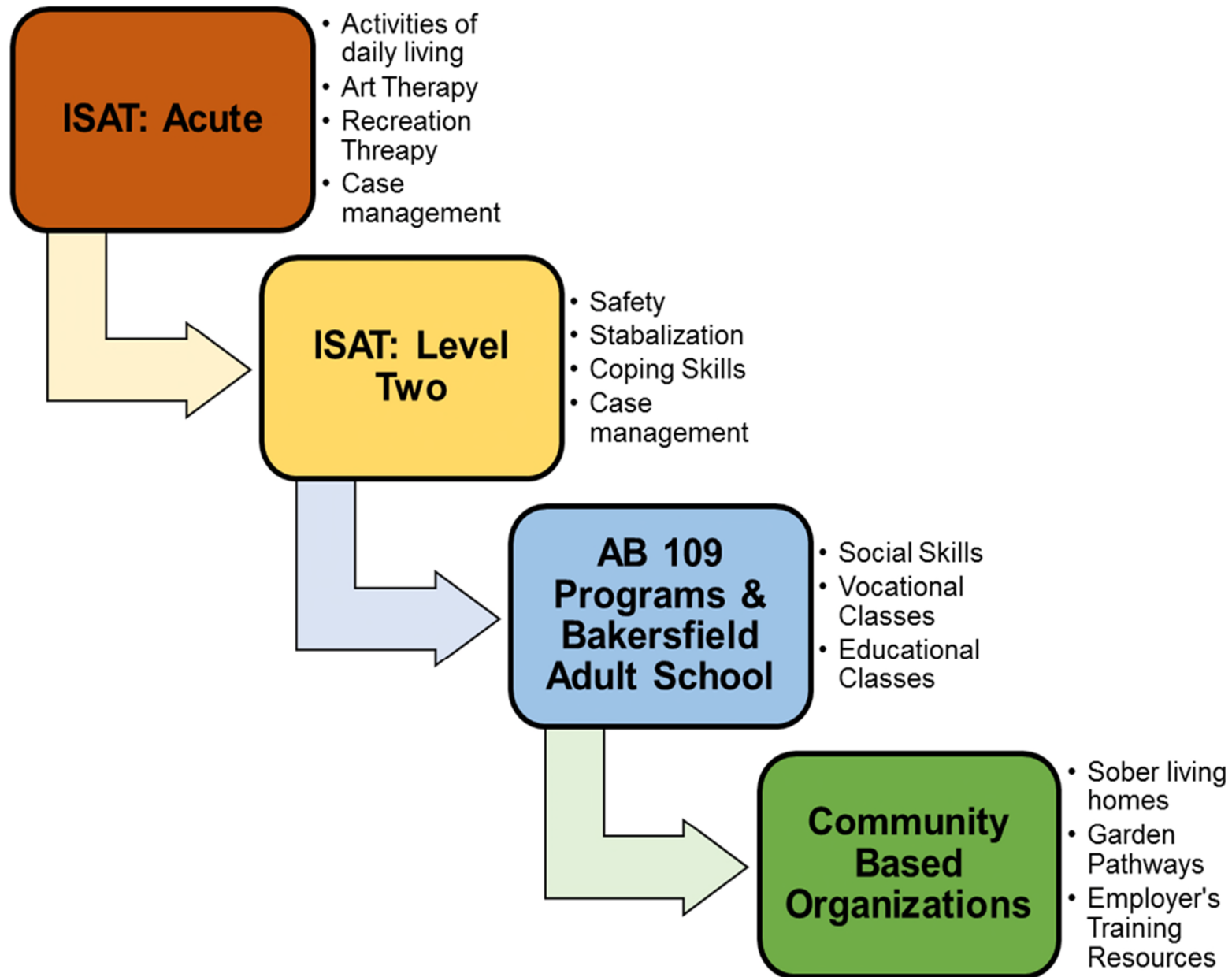
- Reduces liability
- Compliance with DOJ #93
- Positive Public Relations
- Cleaner and Safer Facilities
- Reduced UOF incidents
- Training & accountability
- Speedier administration of justice
- Increased bed space
- Facility Integrity
- Less inmate discipline

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- The program was started in October 2020 by a Detentions Senior Deputy as a response to inmate suicides.
- A Sheriff's Office Commander saw the benefit of the program and authorized the implementations.
- Designed to be a team that coordinates between the Sheriff's Office, Correctional Behavioral Health, and Correctional Medicine.
- The Team has focused on the following custodial concerns:
 - Medication Compliance.
 - Cleaning cells.
 - Managing the Direct Observation Unit.
 - Managing suicide watch bed space.
 - Administrative welfare checks of segregated inmates.
- The Team has focused on the following programmatic concerns:
 - Creating a case-management system.
 - Creating a caseload.
 - Intake.
 - Risk Assessments.
 - Targeted interventions.
 - Discharges.
 - Data collection and analysis.

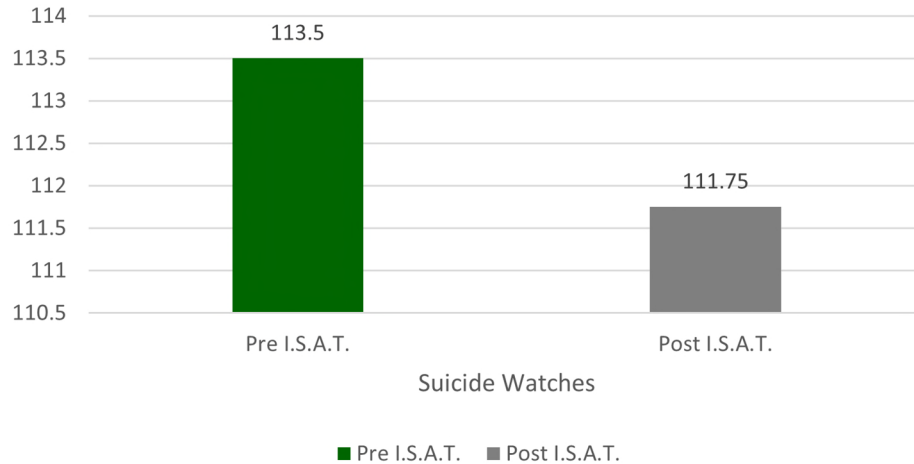


PROGRAM DESCRIPTION—THE I.S.A.T. MODEL



I.S.A.T. PROGRAM EVALUATION

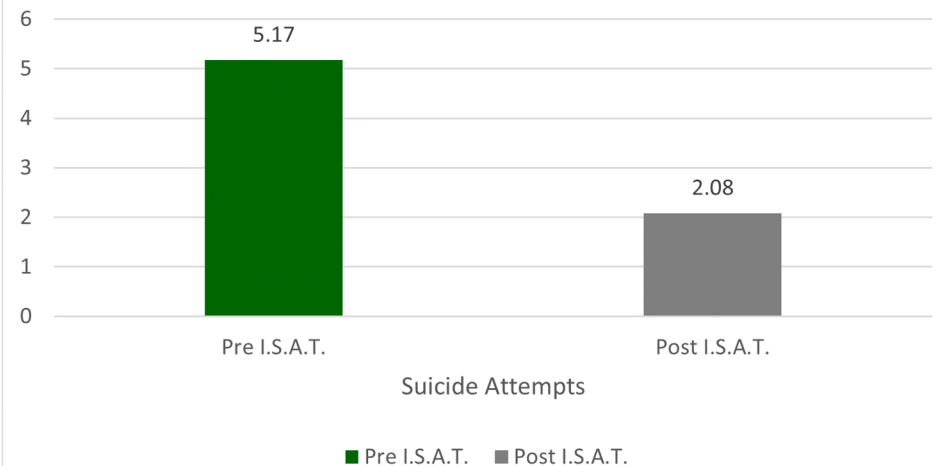
Average Monthly Suicide Watches



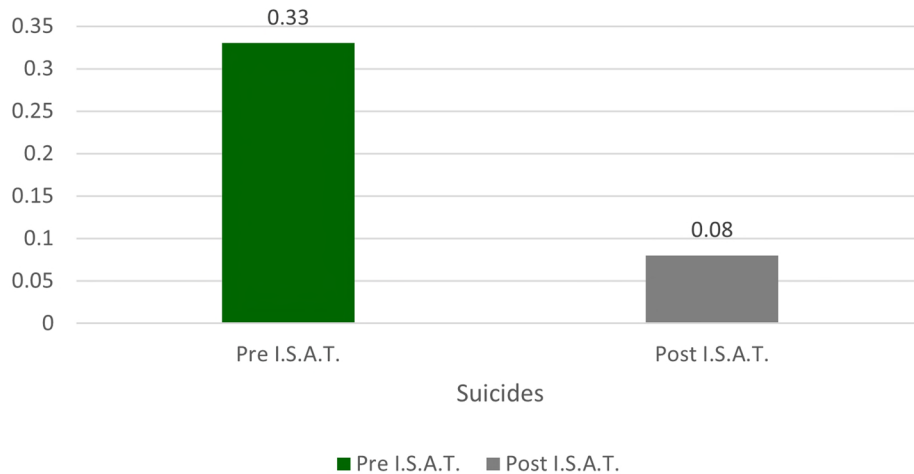
Average monthly inmate suicide watches have decreased from 113.5 to 111.75. This represents a decrease of 1.54%.

Average monthly inmate suicide attempts have decreased from 5.17 to 2.08. This represents a decrease of 53.98%.

Average Monthly Suicide Attempts

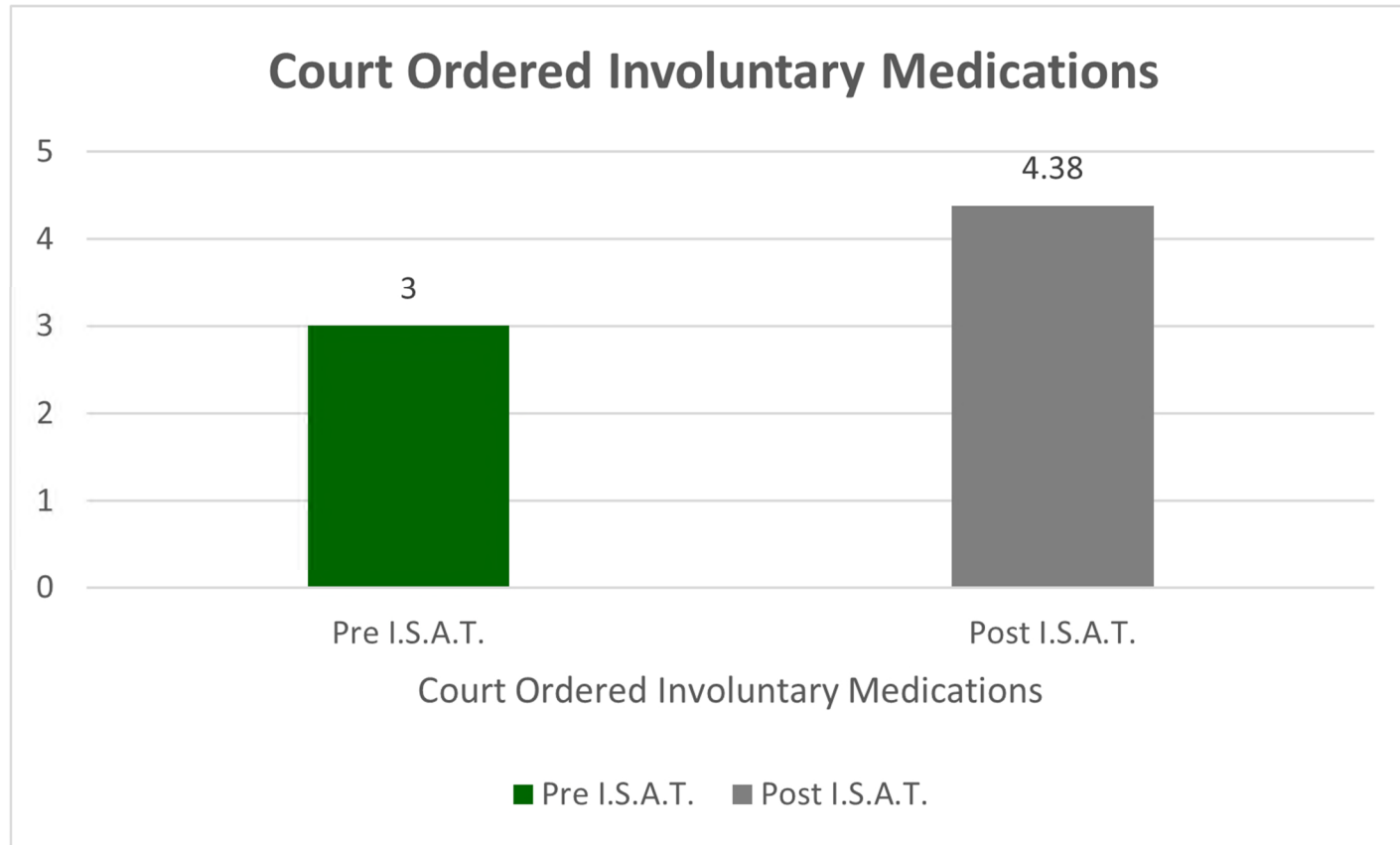


Average Monthly Suicides



Average monthly inmate suicide have decreased from .33 to .08. This represents a decrease of 81.25%.

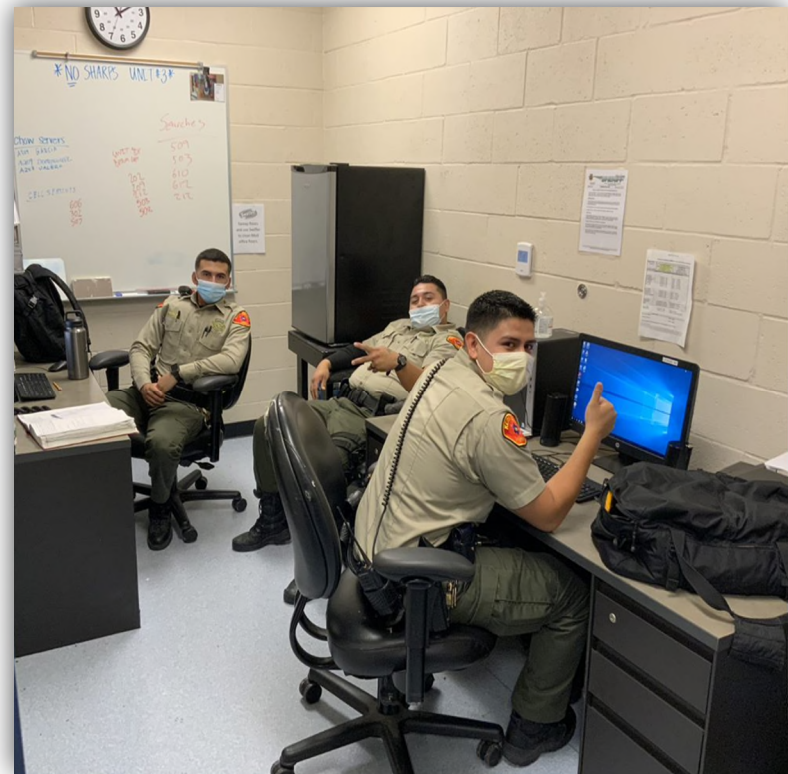
I.S.A.T. PROGRAM EVALUATION



Average monthly court ordered involuntary medications have increased from 3 to 4.38. This represents an increase of 43%. The percentage of monthly uses of force during an incident of court ordered involuntary medication has maintained at 30%.

I.S.A.T. MOVING FORWARD

- Staffing : Increase staffing for a more permanent program at the facilities
 - Propose to the Board of Supervisors to create an additional Program Technician position, create eight additional Sheriff's Program Specialist positions, create a Sheriff's Program Supervisor, and create a Sheriff's Assistant Program Director position.
- Expansion: Expand throughout facilities
- Re-Evaluation: IST Re-Evaluation Services Program



ADMISSION EVALUATION AND STABILIZATION—AES

In 2018, the Sheriff's Office opened the AES Center inside the Lerdo Pre-Trial Facility. The AES Center is a 60-bed jail-based State Hospital program run under the umbrella of the California Department of State Hospitals (DSH). Incarcerated persons that are found to be incompetent to stand trial by the court system are Admitted to the State Hospital system, Evaluated for needed treatment, and Stabilized on medication (AES).

With the assistance of contracted mental health personnel including psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and mental health technicians, incarcerated persons are evaluated for a variety of mental health issues. Incarcerated persons are stabilized on medication if needed and attend classes to learn and understand the process of attending court and aiding in their defense. The AES Center provides a safe housing location that promotes evidence-based treatment plans that can be molded to the incarcerated persons individual needs. Detentions Deputies assist mental health professionals daily in identifying issues that allow the correct treatment pathways to be identified and carried out in a safe manner.

Prior to the AES Center opening in 2018, Kern County incarcerated persons had to wait as long as 11 months from the time they were found incompetent to stand trial until they were admitted to a State Hospital for treatment. The current wait time from being found incompetent to stand trial to being admitted to a State Hospital program is as low as 1-2 months. The Kern AES Center currently handles the most admissions and highest restored to competency rates than any other Jail Based Competency Program (JBCP) in the State.

While there are Jail-Based Competency Treatment Programs (JBCT programs) at other sites, this is a unique JBCT program located only at Lerdo. The program is operated by Wellpath on a contract basis with Kern County Sheriff's Office providing law enforcement. The AES Center is different from other JBCTs because of the in-house medical team, including its own medical doctor, nursing staff, and psychiatric team. All other JBCTs rely on operating facilities for medical and psychiatric services. Additionally, Wellpath also employs Mental Health Technicians that stay in unit one, with a deputy, 24 hours a day. This allows a check for Inmates/Patients (I/Ps) in all units every 30 minutes or more frequently, depending on need. Mental Health Technicians also assist deputies with encouraging the I/Ps to take care of themselves and clean their cells.



ADMISSION EVALUATION AND STABILIZATION—AES

These programs have the right to refuse I/Ps that are proposed to them by the Department of State Hospitals. Some examples of this can be an I/Ps gang affiliation or prior failure to participate in the program and failure to cooperate. Once the inmate is approved, Wellpath staff contacts DSH and the inmate is transported by the county they came from to the program.

Once the I/P arrives, they are evaluated by medical staff and escorted to their new housing location. Upon arrival at the AES Center, a “stabilization unit” is used. All new arrivals start in this unit and remain there for at least 72 hours. While stabilization is in progress, I/Ps are brought out of their cell for “class time.” During this time, they come out with other I/Ps in the unit. Depending on their mental state and class participation, I/Ps can graduate to units 2, 3, or 4, with unit 4 designated for lower-functioning or intellectually impaired individuals. AES also houses a small population of monolingual Spanish I/Ps who participate with assistance from Wellpath and KCSO staff. Some I/P’s that attend the program are subject to involuntary medication orders by the court, allowing medical staff to administer antipsychotic medication despite a patient refusing. Some I/Ps do not have an involuntary medication order but continue to take medication of their choosing. The AES Center has also pursued new orders for involuntary medications through the courts, allowing them to medicate I/Ps who display a danger to themselves and others or a lack of capacity to make rational decisions.

The AES Center employs dedicated teachers for class activities and social workers for individual activities. During class time, between 10 and 16

I/Ps are together in the day room. They are instructed on various topics, including what will occur inside the courtroom, mental health and stress management, general wellness education, competency restoration, and various topics as needed such as coping skills.

Throughout their stay, I/Ps are evaluated by Wellpath psychologists to return the I/Ps to court. If the I/P is deemed competent by Wellpath staff, the I/P is transported back to their county of origin the next day to attend court. Deputies are handpicked to work for the program by applying and going through an interview process for this assignment.



BODY WORN CAMERA AND DIGITAL IN-CAR VIDEO

The Kern County Sheriff's Office currently deploys both the Digital In-Car Video System and the Body Worn Camera (BWC). Both devices and their related software serve a crucial role in streamlining data collection and evidence sharing. The effective management of the ever-growing repository of digital evidence is critical given that the overriding goal of these systems is to increase transparency while simultaneously assisting the Department and its personnel in the performance of their duties. In addition, these platforms have facilitated the Department's initiative to release video recordings as part of the Critical Incident Video Release, which is used to enhance transparency and build public trust. It is also the goal of the Department to utilize these platforms to enhance accountability, deter criminal activity and uncooperative behavior, assist in resolving personnel complaints, and to provide information for officer training and improvement.

BODY WORN CAMERA (BWC)

BWC equipment generally consists of a body-mounted camera with a built-in microphone and a separate handheld viewing device. The BWC camera is worn facing forward, on the outside of the uniform. The BWC recordings are stored digitally on the camera's internal memory and can be immediately viewed on department issued smartphones or once uploaded, may be viewed on any tablet or computer. The recordings cannot be manipulated, altered, or deleted. Prior to usage and deployment in the field, Department personnel assigned a BWC must complete the Department's training on proper use, maintenance, and activation criteria. Supervisors are required to ensure that subordinates adhere to Department BWC policy and procedures by providing the necessary guidance, training, and compliance with both mandatory and proactive implementation standards.

CAMERA DEPLOYMENT

In 2021, the Kern County Sheriff's Office deployed 325 cameras to classifications ranging from Deputies to Lieutenants assigned to the Electronic Monitoring Program, Central Receiving Facility, Metropolitan Patrol, and Wasco Substation. The Wasco Substation has five Digital In-Car-Systems (the Digital In-Car Video was decommissioned later on in the year). In total, the Sheriff's Office recorded a total of 147,530 individual videos and generated 171,529 hours of video.

FUTURE DEPLOYMENTS

Currently, the Sheriff's Office is working on expanding BWC deployment to include all deputies on patrol. In 2022, the department will be obtaining the funds to expand and explore contracts to include technology in other areas.



BODY WORN CAMERA AUDITS

Footage recorded by body worn cameras help protect both the deputy and citizen(s) against false accusations, claims of misconduct, or abuse. It greatly

increases transparency and accountability for law enforcement and the public.

The Body Worn Camera (BWC) Unit went live in September 2021. It took time to train and learn as a department and to strengthen the foundation of the unit and expand body worn camera usage throughout the Sheriff's Office.

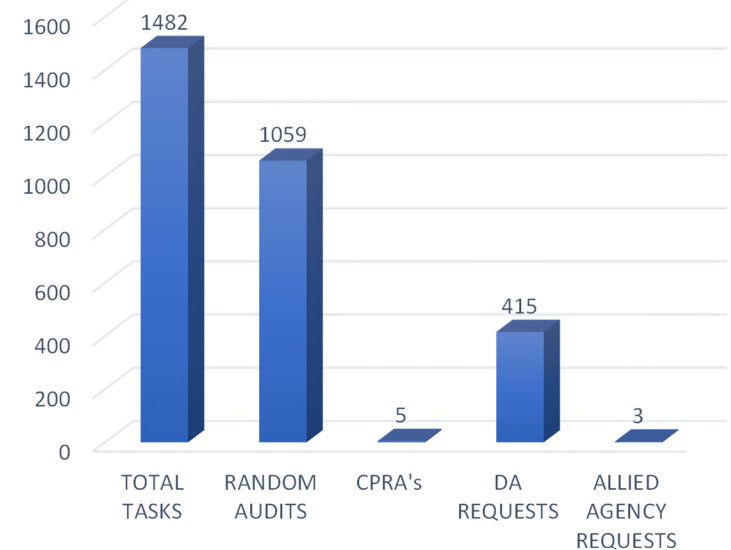


The BWC Unit was created for the sole purpose of examining body worn camera footage. This unit is comprised of Sheriff's Aides that are trained to examine the footage with the experienced discernment of a law enforcement officer.

BWC AUDITS AND REQUESTS

RANDOM AUDITS	1059
CALIFORNIA PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS	5
DISTRICT ATTORNEY REQUESTS	415
ALLIED AGENCY REQUESTS	3
TOTAL TASKS	1482

BODY WORN CAMERA UNIT (2021)



Make A
Difference
#JoinKCSO



A place
to work
and live

Your COMMUNITY.
My COMMUNITY.
Our COMMUNITY.

