



Franklin County Sheriff's Office

August 2018



Sheriff Dallas Baldwin

WHO WE ARE

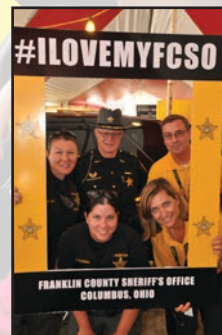
The Franklin County Sheriff's Office, Columbus, Ohio, is a full-service law enforcement agency, an arm of the courts and the custodial keeper of those who break the law.

WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2. Sheriff's Message
- 3. Administration Division
- 4. New Jail update
- 5. Corrections
- 6. In-Car Video System
- 7. S.O.R.N. Unit
- 8. Security Operations

FUN AT THE FRANKLIN COUNTY FAIR

This year at the Franklin County Fair Sheriff Dallas Baldwin, Deputies and Staff had a great time meeting and greeting people of all ages. A new attraction for the FCSO tent was the Dunk Tank and Nerf target practice! On Friday and Saturday several employees, including the Sheriff, volunteered to be dunked by fair goers in which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. At another attraction, kids of all ages enjoyed trying to hit the plastic bottles with the Nerf balls. Fairgoers also had the opportunity to experience the very popular distracted driving simulator, get child ID's, pictures with #ILOVEMYFCSO and check out the FCSO tent filled with information and a cruiser.



www.myfcsso.news



Sheriff's Message

Newsletter is back!



Let me begin by saying how pleased I am that our newsletter is back because it's another way for my office to connect with, and create better bonds between, the people of Franklin County and law enforcement.

In the 18 months since I was elected Sheriff, so much has happened to bring together all the communities of Franklin County – be it townships and villages, ethnic and social organizations, or neighborhoods. This was one of my primary goals when I decided to run for Sheriff.

I am so proud our staff has embraced the vision to strengthen the communication and interaction between the Sheriff's Office and the great people who make up Franklin County.

During this time, we have enhanced our Community Advisory Council (C.A.C.), created the first Therapy Dog program, strengthened our partnership with local clergy (P.A.C.T. – Police and Clergy Together), and developed a greater community presence with our Community Response Bureau (C.R.B.).

Our new state-of-the-art correctional facility broke ground just a few months ago, and the construction is progressing quite nicely. The people behind this project are known as the C.O.R.E. Team – Correctional Operations Reorganizing for Excellence. Throughout this time, the C.O.R.E. Team continues to do the legwork necessary to ensure when it's time to open the new facility, it will truly be the state-of-the-art jail we've envisioned.

As 2018 continues, there will be additional programs and services coming, all of which will add to our mission of serving and protecting the people of Franklin County.

I am proud of what we have accomplished to this point, and I am even more excited by what will be coming in the near future.

As your Sheriff, I, along with everyone who is a part of the FCSO family, are committed to serving all of Franklin County.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dallas Baldwin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sheriff Dallas Baldwin

Meet the Administration Division

The Administration Division of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office is commanded by Chief Deputy David Conley and Major George Capehart. The Administration Division is comprised of the Civil Division, Civil Real Estate, the Internal Affairs Bureau, and Public Records.

The Civil Division reports directly to the Major of Administration and consists of two Sergeants, 15 Deputies, six Clerical Specialists, one Real Estate Account Clerk Supervisor, and three Real Estate Account Clerks.

Non-uniformed Civil Deputies are responsible for the service of process on behalf of the courts. Operating during normal business hours, they are in constant contact with the public, other agencies, attorneys and court personnel. Uniformed Deputies assigned to the Civil Division serve Civil Protection Orders, Stalking Protection Orders and Writs of Habeas Corpus throughout Franklin County. These Deputies operate in full uniform and use marked cruisers and can function in all law enforcement aspects. The Executions Deputies execute court orders that often times require them to take possession of a real estate property and turn possession over to the lawful owner. They receive orders that require them to close and lockdown businesses, seize and sell property and repossess vehicles. The civilian staff serves as support staff to the supervisors and deputies. They receive and process all paperwork submitted by the court and are responsible for maintaining accurate records.

The Real Estate Division is accountable for all court orders to sell foreclosed real estate property including bank and tax foreclosures. They process these orders, provide information to the appraisers, set the properties for sale and conduct the weekly auction. After the auction, they process the sale information and coordinate with the Franklin County Auditor and Recorder to finalize the sale of the property.

The Internal Affairs Bureau reports directly to the Chief Deputy of Administration and is responsible for investigations into the alleged misconduct of

personnel of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. These complaints include those filed by the public or other employees of the Office. Investigations may also



result from the routine review of reports submitted, primarily consisting of a response to aggression incidents.

The Internal Affairs Bureau is staffed by four Lieutenants, and it is their mission to maintain the integrity of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office through unbiased and thorough investigations. These investigators are required to have thorough knowledge of the Rules and Regulations and the current collective bargaining agreements.

It is a misconception the Internal Affairs Investigators recommend or render discipline. After an investigation is complete through the collection of evidence and interviews, a summary of facts are submitted to the Chief Deputy for review and ultimately to Sheriff Baldwin for a final decision.

Public Records is a newly created position assigned to the Administration Division, and the Administrative Assistant is responsible for providing records according to ORC 149.43. She is well-versed in public records law and must stay up-to-date by attending training classes.

Update on the new Corrections Center Construction



FCSO New Corrections Center update

Construction is currently underway on the new Franklin County Corrections Center in Columbus. The project broke ground on Nov. 6th, 2017 and has a projected construction schedule of 24-30 months. Partial completion is expected by December 2019 and full completion in 2020. Franklin County currently has two facilities: a downtown facility that was constructed in the late 1960's and houses 643 inmates, and a second facility, dubbed "Jackson Pike," that was built in the 1990s. "Jackson Pike is mostly dormitory-type spaces, and currently, between the two facilities, the county houses higher –security and special needs inmates at the downtown facility where they have single-occupancy cells, with the general population by and large held at the Jackson Pike facility" said David Bostwick, justice principal at HDR Architects. "Given the shortcomings of the two existing facilities, which do not meet the needs of the population, the goal of the new corrections center for Franklin County is to create a single facility that will also serve as a model jail facility for the rest of the country. Our aspirations for this facility are quite high".

The county plans to build the new jail in phases; the first phase will have all of the core infrastructure with the future potential to accommodate 3,000 beds. Once Phase 1 is complete, the county plans to shut down the existing downtown facility. Phase 2 will provide general population housing and, upon completion, will bring the total capacity of the building to approximately 2,400 beds, thus enabling the county to close the Jackson Pike facility. "We are focusing on design in phase one to determine better ways to house and transition those suffering from Mental Illness who enter through the doors of the Jail" said Sheriff Dallas Baldwin. "Spaces are being designed so we can more efficiently deliver programming to those incarcerated. Each pod will have counseling rooms and a classroom designed into the space. This will allow us to add more programming to address the cycle of recidivism. 73% of 30,000 inmates in Franklin County are released back into the community and our hope is to insure we are releasing folks in better shape than we received them, connecting them to services in the community, and increasing their chances for success as they re-enter the community."

**Portions taken from the featured article in Correctional News*

New In Car Video System

In the month of April, the Patrol Division implemented a new in-car video camera system. The new system is made by a Dallas, Texas based company known as WatchGuard. WatchGuard was founded in 2002 and manufactures their camera systems in the United States. The system installed in all of our marked Patrol cruisers includes three cameras. Two of which are forward facing, with one of them being a panoramic view camera. The third camera is installed in the rear seat area of the cruisers. The videos have incredible, in color clarity and have the option to be recorded in high definition.

Throughout the 1990's and early 2000's, the Patrol Division experimented with various in-car video systems, with little success. In 2007, the Sheriff's Office was able to obtain a grant to fund the purchase of new in-car video systems. Unfortunately, this grant would only cover the cost of outfitting about half of the Patrol fleet. The Franklin County Commissioners stepped up and provided the remaining funding needed to make the project a success. That system was known as ICOP and provided consistent video evidence for the Patrol Division for many years.

In 2011, we were able to negotiate a trade-in deal with ICOP to obtain newer video recording systems. The new in-car video systems we installed in 2011 were beginning to have mechanical failures in 2016 (unfortunately, about 5 years is the normal life of an in-car video system). A lengthy research and evaluation process led the Sheriff's Office to our current WatchGuard system.

The WatchGuard system has several innovative features that save our personnel time when processing in-car video content. This system allows for wireless uploading of the video content from our cruisers to the server. As soon a cruiser pulls on to the Patrol substation lot, the system automatically begins uploading video from the previous shift to the server. No input is required by the Deputy during this process. Another time saving feature is viewing of uploaded video events can be done on desktop computers within the Patrol substation and at the courthouse for evidence review.

The improvement to our in-car camera system is another example of Sheriff Baldwin's commitment to improved law enforcement operations and better transparency to the public we serve.



CID Unit

Over the past several months, the Community Response Bureau has been carefully reviewing how we, as a professional law enforcement agency, handle situations involving those individuals that are struggling with mental health issues or are currently experiencing a mental health crisis. Although we have been successful, a clear understanding came into focus; we could be doing a better job with the resources available to us.

One of the many responsibilities of the Sheriff's Office is locating and transporting individuals to receive mental health treatment and care at a hospital (probate orders). These orders originate from Probate Court and are issued based upon evidence presented to the court. Another responsibility includes transporting those same individuals from their treatment centers to probate court for hearings. The number of individuals that have been ordered into treatment has exploded over the past five years.

The Community Intervention and Diversion Unit (C.I.D. Unit) will continue to assist in locating and transporting individuals to receive treatment, however, there are larger goals – assisting individuals who are experiencing mental health crisis before their behaviors result in arrest or criminal prosecution. Successful models have been in place around the country that promote this kind of approach. As a result, individuals have received the care they need instead of being arrested and sitting in jail where the environment often causes more mental health harm than benefits.

Sheriff Baldwin is committed to helping those that need help and ensuring that they receive the care that will help them. The C.I.D. Unit is one way we will be achieving that goal and at the same time, diverting people needing mental health care from the jails and getting the mental health treatment that they desperately need.

As we continue to forge partnerships with Probate Court, Netcare, and various other stakeholders throughout central Ohio, we are progressing in getting the C.I.D. Unit online and operational. This new and innovative approach to serving the public is slightly different from the traditional way of doing business and is proving, not only successful for other agencies, but also for the people who need mental health care.

Corrections Division

There are approximately 520 uniform and non-uniform staff members who work in the Corrections Division of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office which is the largest Division of the Office. The Corrections Division is comprised of two facilities, an Identification (ID) Bureau and a Professional Service Bureau (PSB). Each facility has one major, the ID Bureau is led by an ID Unit Manager and a Captain oversees the daily operations of PSB. The operation of the Corrections Division is headed by the Chief of Corrections.

The Corrections Division primary responsibility is the care, custody and control of the offenders who are incarcerated within our facility.

The ID Bureau is primarily responsible for the accurate identification through various means of offenders processed in the jails. The Bureau also provides identification related to services to the courts, State of Ohio and Law Enforcement Agencies.

The PSB Bureau oversees the daily operations of the kitchen, medical, classification and social services.

In April 2018, the Corrections Division launched the ODOT road crew. This is the fourth year FCSO/ Corrections has collaborated with ODOT and we are very proud of the continued partnership with ODOT. Male offenders are selected to participate in this program once they meet the criteria. This program is considered a seasonal program that begins in April through December, weather permitting. The animal shelter crew continues to assist the county animal shelter, the crew is made up of female offenders. Pathways to women's healthy living will began their 10th class at the end of June. This program helps female offenders who have mental health and co-occurring addictions. Due to the success with this program, Sheriff Baldwin is pursuing a program for men.

The Corrections Division continues to review projects and programs to help reduce recidivism by teaching life skills that will help improve their life upon release.

Sex Offender Registration and Notification

Since 2014, the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, along with law enforcement from supporting agencies, have conducted Operation Verify, an initiative developed to attempt to verify the residences of over 1700 registered sex offenders residing in Franklin County in a single week. It's a tremendous task, but one that keeps the public more informed about the sex offenders near them.

However, verifying sex offenders' addresses is not simply an annual occurrence. It's a fulltime assignment which involves a dedicated group of detectives, each of whom is committed to ensuring sex offenders are compliant with the law requiring them to register. The men and women of the SORN Unit (Sex Offender Registration and Notification) pursue criminal charges if offenders are not compliant.

In Ohio, there are varying degrees of sex offenders and a three-tiered system is utilized to separate sexual predators and habitual offenders from other offenders. The tier system allows for a clearer description and understanding of the nature of the offense and the imposed penalties.

Please take the time to learn about the importance of the tier system. It will offer a comprehensive understanding of how offenders are classified. Please visit: <https://sheriff.franklincountyohio.gov/Services/About-Esorn>

While visiting the Sheriff's website, sex offenders who are registered in your neighborhood can be viewed. You can do so electronically at: <https://sheriff.franklincountyohio.gov/Services/Sex-Offender-Registry>

By knowing the differences in the severity of sex offenses, as well as those residing in your neighborhood, you'll have more awareness to help make informed decisions concerning you and your family.

If you notice anyone suspicious in your neighborhood, adults loitering near a playground (especially if they don't have their own children) or a stranger talking with kids on your street, please take the following steps:

1. If you see suspicious activity, call your local law enforcement agency or in an emergency call 911.
2. If you have reason to suspect a sex offender is not living where they are registered, call the Franklin County Sheriff's Office SORN Unit: 614-525-5272.
3. Go online to the FCSO website and submit a tip: <https://sheriff.franklincountyohio.gov/Safety/Submit-a-Tip>

And, as always, you can remain anonymous.

Are you thinking about getting your Carry Concealed Weapon license? Find out how in the next issue!

Security Operations

The Security Operations Division has a total roster number of 215, which includes Court Services deputies and supervisors, FSU deputies and supervisors, and civilian security personnel and supervisors. Although most of our staff work at the Government Center, the FSU has staff at Memorial Hall, Job and Family Services, and Children's Services locations.

When the Facility Security Unit became active on March 10, 2014, it fell under the control of the Corrections Division as part of the Court Services Bureau. In January 2017, the Court Services Bureau, consisting of Court Services and the Facility Security Unit, became the Security Operations Division.

Court Services deputies and FSU deputies typically work independently from one another but routinely provide support for each other when necessary. FSU deputies are often called to courtrooms during the reading of verdicts for high-profile cases or when there are large, agitated galleries.

Some FSU deputies are assigned rifles, and most division deputies are qualified with the department-issued shotguns. All deputies assigned to the FSU are issued rifle-rated plate carriers, helmets and related 'active threat' response gear. Additionally, all Security Operations Division deputies have received crowd control training from the Mobile Field Force, and FSU deputies participate in ongoing training from SWAT in room clearing and 'active threat' scenarios.

Civilian Security personnel provides general security services to the buildings which they are assigned. Depending on location and classification, these services include the operation of the three control rooms (cameras and communications), x-ray machines and magnetometers at Government Center entrances, and access control for vehicles.

The Security Operations Division strives to provide a safe and secure environment in all county buildings we staff.

We're Hiring!

Human Resources: (614) 525-3397

<http://sheriff.franklincountyohio.gov/employment>

CONTACT US

Find us and follow us on:

www.myfcsso.news



The Franklin County Sheriff's Office partners with Nextdoor.com, the private social network for neighborhoods.

Those interested in joining their neighborhood's Nextdoor website can visit www.nextdoor.com and enter their address.