

# 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

## Berrien County Sheriff's Department



### MISSION STATEMENT



The mission of the Berrien County Sheriff's Department is to enforce the laws of the State of Michigan and Berrien County, to safeguard life and property, to prevent and detect crime, to preserve the peace, and to protect the rights of all citizens. We will serve all citizens with fairness, integrity, respect and compassion without discrimination of any persons or groups.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	1
Retirees .....	2
Deputy of the Year.....	2
In Honor and Appreciation.....	2
Records Bureau.....	3
Budget Information.....	4
Training Facility.....	6
Crime Prevention.....	8
Explorers.....	10
Support Services Division.....	11
Tether.....	11
Department of Human Services.....	11
Jail Division.....	12
Inmate Worker Program.....	12
Classification.....	13
Jail Population Monitor.....	13
Jail Food Service.....	13
Medical Services.....	14
Forgotten Man Ministries.....	15
Detective Bureau.....	16
Southwestern Michigan Commission for Auto Recovery (SCAR).....	18
Bomb Squad.....	19
Narcotics.....	20
Tactical Response Unit (TRU).....	22
Road Patrol.....	26
Watervliet Township.....	26
Niles Township.....	27
New Buffalo Township.....	27
Accident Reconstruction Team.....	28
Marine Division.....	29
Dive Team.....	30
Snowmobile Unit.....	31
Motorcycle Unit.....	32
Reserve Division.....	33
Mounted Division.....	34
Emergency Management.....	35
Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team.....	37
Conclusion.....	38



# INTRODUCTION



Last year and previous years, jail overcrowding has always been my main concern. Last year (2006) the total number of inmates booked into jail was 9,148, this year 8,762 inmates were booked, a significant drop of 386. With consent efforts by judges suspending sentences, alternative programs, and sentence reduction of 25% of non violent offenders, by myself, overcrowding still continued throughout the year. Jail overcrowding, I am sure, will continue to be an issue for many years, not only in Berrien County but Counties throughout the state.

In this introduction I have decided not to focus on a situation that we are constantly challenged with, but other divisions that have had a positive impact on residents in the community of Berrien County.

Narcotics Division, Detective Bureau and Crime Prevention are the three divisions I would like to point out in this year's annual report. These Divisions go hand in hand in protecting citizens, deterring crime, and keeping our county safe.

As we all know, drugs in the community are very prevalent, whether we would like to admit it or not. Instead of turning our backs hoping the problem will diminish, our Narcotics Division is constantly working to improve the control on drug distribution. This year the Narcotics Unit investigated 1,855 incidents, which resulted in 595 arrests. There were 124 search warrants served, many resulted in arrests. Drugs, from marijuana to methamphetamines, seized off the street totaled \$1,034,310. The Narcotics Unit contributes information received from Crime Stoppers, citizens and local police agencies, which brings me to the significance of Crime Prevention.

As you read the Annual Report, the Crime Prevention Division, you will be amazed with the many programs presented throughout the year to educate the citizens, young and old, of Berrien County. 143 programs were presented to 44 area schools including personal safety, drug and alcohol prevention, peer pressure, bullying and babysitting safety, just to name a few. The Crime Prevention Division works closely with area senior citizen centers to educate them about schemes/scams/swindles, safety, self defense and other areas that affect the vulnerability of seniors. Deputy Karen Klug was honored with three awards for working with the elderly population of Berrien County. Presented to Deputy Klug was the Excellence in Caring Award by Quad County Dementia Consortium, Guardian Angel Award presented by Child and Family Services, and the Community Service Award presented by Area Agency on Aging. All of the programs that are offered by Crime Prevention open many eyes to awareness around the community which in turn prevents and solves crime.



Solving crimes is the top priority of the Detective Bureau. The Sheriff's Department employs 5 dedicated detectives, who work diligently with other departments to achieve numerous arrests. Out of 146 cases handled by the Detective Bureau, 80 arrests were made. The Detective Bureau also investigates cases, internal and criminal, handed down from the Prosecutors Office. The Detective Bureau has 2 full time Detectives at the Niles Sub Station. Plans are in transition in making office space for one FBI agent at the Sub Station enabling close working relations on federal cases. Not only does the Detective Bureau solve cases but has formed an arson task force, updated the interview/interrogation room, implemented an evidence tech coordinator, has 3 Detectives on the bomb squad and 5 members on the crisis negotiation team.

The three divisions I have pointed out in this years introduction are a significant part to the Berrien County Sheriff's Department and will continue to work together to prevent crime and educate the community.

## Retirees



**Joe Garski**  
25 years of service



**John Briney**  
25 years of service



**Patty Reed**  
12 years of service

## Deputy of the Year

Deputy Ben Crawford was selected by his peers as Deputy of the Year for 2007.

Ben does an outstanding job in his day to day duties. His main focus is to provide the utmost safety to everyone within this facility. His attitude towards everyone he comes in contact with is remarkable. He is a wonderful example of what the brown uniform should stand for.

Ben has completed his nineteenth year with Berrien County. He served fifteen and a half years as a Court Security Officer in Niles and four years at the Berrien County Jail.



## In Honor and Appreciation

Berrien County Sheriff's Department records clerk Felicia M. White was presented an Honor and Appreciation Certificate for providing essential information that led to the identification, arrest and conviction of an individual charged with robbing the Chemical Bank in Benton Township. As a direct result of Ms. White's information the individual was sentenced to a minimum eight year prison term.



# Records Bureau

The Records Bureau provides many services to both the public and other law enforcement agencies. Located in the front lobby of the Sheriff's Department, the Records Bureau fields numerous requests for general information and is the main reception area for anyone visiting the department. The office is responsible for preparing all of the police reports and traffic citations for the Sheriff's Department and the Baroda – Lake Township PD. The Records Bureau has custody of all jail records – inmate criminal files, mugshots, and fingerprints. Duties of the records personnel also consist of cataloging all crime scene evidence photos and patrol car videos. Staffing consists of five (5) full-time employees and three (3) part-time employees.



Services provided to the public include permits to purchase handguns, handgun safety inspections, fingerprinting for concealed weapons permit applications and various types of employment, (such as postal workers and teachers), criminal background searches, and the release of copies of reports.

In 2007, Records Bureau issued 1,498 individual permits to purchase handguns and 201 firearms dealer permits to purchase. Safety inspections were completed for 1,201 handguns. Fingerprinting services were completed for 305 citizens to obtain concealed pistol licenses.

Another of the duties of the Records Bureau personnel is the registration / address verification of sex offenders living within Berrien County. Offenders are required to report quarterly and show proof of residency. This information feeds the Michigan State Police on-line sex offender registry, (SOR), which is accessible to the public. The SOR is also used by law enforcement to track and prosecute those offenders that failed to report their current address. In 2007, 563 sexual offenders reported addresses in Berrien County.

The video mugshot system yields a very important investigative tool, not only for the Sheriff's Department, but for other law enforcement agencies, as well. This system has the capability to produce photo line-ups, which include a suspect's photograph, along with five (5) other similar photographs. Officers are then able to show this to crime victims / witnesses, who then attempt to identify the suspect. Photos in this system are e-mailed to law enforcement agencies throughout the country, to aid in their investigations. Numerous crimes have been solved through the use of these photographs.



The Sheriff's Records Bureau has seen the implementation of new technology, which has yielded the capability to capture many types of information on various types of crimes. This has helped to keep our department on the cutting edge of law enforcement reporting and procedures. The Records Bureau personnel have received highly specialized training and are very dedicated to providing the highest level of service to the citizens of Berrien County.

# Budget Information

In 2007 total budget expenditures for the Sheriff's Department were \$15,624,037. General fund budget expenditures totaled \$12,185,145, broken down by division as follows:

Sheriff's Office & Patrol	\$4,083,618
Jail Inmate Rehabilitation	\$84,628
Sheriff's Radios	\$67,213
Special Teams	\$45,203
Jail Division	\$7,417,134
Emergency Management	\$264,234
Sheriff's Marine Safety	\$223,115



The Sheriff's Department had 21 special fund budgets in 2007, which had expenditures totaling \$3,438,892, as follows:

## **Act 302 Training Fund - \$15,681 expended**

Two distributions are received each year based on the number of MCOLES certified road officers employed by the Sheriff's Department. These funds are used to provide training and purchase training equipment for certified road deputies.

## **Drug Law Enforcement Fund –State Forfeitures - \$154,660 expended Federal Forfeitures - \$10,290 expended**

These funds are derived from forfeiture of money or items confiscated from individuals convicted of illegal drug offenses and are used to support the Sheriff Department's continued fight against the sale and distribution of illegal drugs.

## **Narcotics Special Fund - \$1,153,569 expended**

These are mileage funds that are used to fund and support the Narcotics Unit.

## **Inmate Worker Program - \$189,051**

Two deputies are supported by this program who supervise inmates assigned to work crews to assist the Berrien County Road Commission and Drain Commission. Part-time employees funded by this budget also provide inmate work crews for the County Parks Department, Bridgman City, litter cleanup from the landfill and other miscellaneous projects. The municipalities are charged to cover the costs for the crews.

## **Auto Theft Prevention Fund - \$116,605 expended**

One deputy and a part-time secretary are funded with 75% state funds and a 25% county match. The deputy participates, along with deputies from other areas, in the Southwestern Michigan Commercial Auto Recovery Unit, which investigates auto theft and insurance fraud cases.

## **Drive Michigan Safely Task Force Grant - \$15,525**

This grant is funded by the State and provides funding for overtime wages for officers to conduct alcohol enforcement and seatbelt enforcement patrols. In 2007 the Sheriff's Department served as the lead agency. Other participating police agencies were Benton Township, Niles Township, Lincoln Township, Benton Harbor City, Baroda-Lake Township, New Buffalo City, Niles City and Bridgman City.



## **Secondary Road Patrol Grant - \$319,398.65 expended for grant year 10/1/06-9/30/07 (State \$286,350/County \$33,048.65)**

For the 2006/2007 grant year, because of cuts in the funds received from the state, the county had to allocate funds so that four full-time deputies could be maintained in this program. However, beginning with the grant year 10/1/07-9/30/08, because of further funding cuts from the state, one additional position had to be eliminated from this program. Even with the elimination of one position, which reduces the deputies assigned from four to three, state funds will not be enough to maintain three deputies and will require supplemental funding from the county.

**Local Correctional Officers Training Fund - \$31,968 expended**

In March 2004 the Sheriff's Department began collecting a booking fee of \$12 for inmates booked into the jail, pursuant to Public Act 124. For each fee collected, \$2 is remitted to the state and \$10 is deposited into the Local Correctional Officers Training Fund. The funds retained by the county are used for costs relating to continuing education, certification and re-certification for jail personnel. Total amount of money collected for booking fees in 2007 was \$48,003.

**Drug Education Coordinator - \$8,112 expended**

These funds, which are millage funds, are used to support the Sheriff's Department Drug Education and Crime Prevention programs.

**Snowmobile Enforcement Grant 2006/2007 - \$6,211 expended (DNR \$5,280/County \$931)**

This is a grant through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to fund snowmobile patrols. The grant is funded 85% by the D.N.R. with a county match of 15%.

**Marine Safety Equipment Grant - \$6,254 expended**

The Sheriff's Department received a federal pass-through grant from the State Department of Natural Resources for the purchase of equipment for the Marine Division. This grant was 100% funded by the DNR and was used to purchase equipment needed by the Marine Division.

**Berrien Community Foundation Donation Fund – \$10,591.56 expended**

In 2004, the Sheriff's Department entered into an agreement with the Berrien Community Foundation to act as a depository for donations for those who wish to support the Sheriff's Department. In 2007, \$15,659 was received in donations. Expenditures from that fund in 2007 totaled \$10,591.56, which went to support the Motorcycle Division.

**Local Police Protection contracts:**

The Sheriff's Department contracts with several local municipalities to provide police protection for specific purposes. In 2007 there were seven contracts; six of the contracts were fully funded by a municipality. In addition to the contract costs for these fully-funded agreements for police protection, an additional 10% is charged to the municipality for administrative costs. A special fund budget is set up for each contract so that expenses and revenues can be tracked individually for each municipality.

**Watervliet Township** – Two full-time deputies - \$192,252 expended

**Niles Township** – Seven full-time deputies and one full-time records clerk - \$683,831 expended

**Coloma Township** – Marine deputies to patrol Paw Paw Lake area during boating season \$3,989 expended

**New Buffalo Township** – Five full-time deputies - \$400,131 expended

**Buchanan Township** – Deputies for security at the annual Red Bud Track and Trail event –\$13,205 expended

**Hagar Township** – Deputies to patrol Hagar Township parks during the summer months \$5,879 expended

**Benton Harbor City** - In addition to the five fully-funded local police protection contracts, the local police protection contract for Benton Harbor City is funded 50% by a donation from Whirlpool Corporation and 50% by the county. In 2007 Whirlpool donated \$50,000 and the county matched the donation with \$50,000.

Expenditures in 2007 for special patrols in Benton Harbor were \$99,660.

**Michigan Prisoner Reentry Initiative** - In 2007 the Sheriff's Department also entered into a contractual agreement with Berrien County Michigan Prisoner Reentry Initiative (MPRI) and Michigan Works to do community policing to check on high risk offenders. A sheriff's deputy partnered with a parole agent and accompanied them to perform routine checks of offenders and their residences. This was fully funded by MPRI and \$2,030 was expended in 2007.

General fund revenues collected in 2007 totaled \$945,526. Revenue sources in 2007 for the Sheriff's Department included payments from TV rental to inmates, inmate commissary sales reimbursement for housing state prisoners, inmate room and board charges, inmate pay phone usage reimbursement, sheriff's auction, and charges for various fees such as DNA tests, abandoned vehicle inspections, fingerprinting, sex offender registrations, and photocopying of documents.

# BERRIEN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT TRAINING FACILITY

The Berrien County Sheriff's Department's Training Facility was completed in the fall of 2007 and was immediately placed into use. The Training Facility will allow the Department a venue for more effective and efficient training for the Sheriffs Department and other agencies. The building and classroom were completed first and have been utilized by over 200 BCSD and other agencies' officers for PPCT in September and First Aid/CPR training in November, along with several other courses.

The Firearms Ranges were completed in October and all BCSD Enforcement Division officers underwent firearms training on the new ranges. The Tactical Response Unit has also utilized the ranges on a monthly basis since completion.



# Training

The Berrien County Sheriff's Department currently has all sworn and civilian employees up to date on the required trainings of CPR/First Aid/AED, Blood borne Pathogens, Firearms Qualifications and Hepatitis Vaccinations. We have also once again recertified all sworn fulltime personnel in PPCT training.

As of January 1, 2005, The Michigan Department of Corrections requires all new Jail Deputies to attend a four-week Local Corrections Academy training program. This 160 hour academy trains officers on correctional law, booking and intake, suicide awareness, fire safety, prisoner behavior, report writing, interpersonal communications, stress management, PPCT defensive tactics, cultural diversity and CPR/First Aid/AED. Eleven BCSD officers attended the Corrections Academy in 2007: Deputies Crosby, Durham, Mann, Miles, O'Brien, Odell, Simmons, Summers, Stanearth, Turner, and Ward.

One Deputy became a licensed law enforcement officer in 2007. Deputy David Albers attended the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) seventeen-week Police Academy at Kalamazoo Valley Community College. Deputy Albers was the Class Valedictorian. Deputy Albers has been transferred to the Enforcement Division and is assigned to the Road Patrol.

The Sheriff's Department is a member of the West Michigan Criminal Justice Training Consortium (WMCJTC). In 2007 the Sheriff's Department had 54 officers participate in 14 different WMCJTC courses, which accounted for 776 hours of in-service training. These courses included: Legal Update, Field Training Officer, Background Investigations, Dive Rescue, Firearms Laws, Motorcycle Operations, Barricaded Suspect & Hostage Rescue, Basic SWAT, Accident Investigation Levels 3, 4, 5, & 6.

The specialty teams: Accident Reconstruction Team, Bomb Squad, Dive Team, Evidence Technicians, Fire Investigation, Hazardous Materials Response Team, Motorcycle Team and Tactical Response Unit continue to have monthly trainings and/or receive additional training in their specialized area.



# Crime Prevention

The Berrien County Crime Prevention Unit began with two deputies in 2007 but due to budget cuts, finished the year with one deputy. Deputy Steve Campbell was promoted to Road Patrol Sgt. after serving a year with Crime Prevention. While Deputy Campbell was in The Crime Prevention Unit, he developed and organized the first ever Sheriff's Kid's Camp and launched a new and revised Berrien County Sheriff's Department website updating it with current programs and interesting history.



The Crime Prevention Unit presented 143 educational programs to over 44 area schools. The programs presented ranged from stranger danger, personal safety, sexual harassment, law enforcement as a career, law enforcement career displays, drug and alcohol prevention, internet safety, peer pressure, rules and laws, gangs, bike safety, general safety, bullying, babysitting safety and McGruff Safety. The Crime Prevention Unit also presented numerous children's programs outside of the schools. These programs were given to Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, numerous church groups, and daycares, Boys and Girls Club, New Buffalo Community Youth Center, YMCA, Berrien County Juvenile Center, and area businesses. Along with educating the students, we also informed the teachers about current drugs and identification, safety in the workplace and internet safety for students.

The Crime Prevention Unit spends many hours teaching safety programs to the adult and senior population of Berrien County. The programs consisted of Identity theft, violence in the workplace, personal & home safety, winter driving, schemes/scam/swindles, seven signs of terrorism, safety at work, working with the elderly, drugs in the workplace, fire safety, keeping our children safe (for parents), senior citizen safety, and R.A.D.(women's self defense). The senior citizen population of Berrien County received additional crime prevention through the cooperative effort of our seven senior centers.



Sheriff's Kids Camp

## Crime Prevention (cont.)

Programs were presented on safe winter driving, identity theft, current scams and swindles, Project Lifesaver, senior safety, Driving- When is it time to give up the keys?, and personal safety. Other presentations from the unit included Senior Expo, Safe-Sound-Secure Workshop, and Hooray for Gray. Other safety presentations were held at Mill Pond and too Foster Grandparent Group. Crime Prevention, along with TRIAD of Berrien County, introduced Phones for Seniors, which distributes phones to senior citizens at no cost for emergency 911 calls only.



Crime Prevention also presented to numerous church groups in Berrien County on women's safety, personal safety, current scams, internet safety, safe driving and identity theft. Crime Prevention Safety in the Work Place was presented to fifteen local businesses. Financial institutions received education and training on how to deal with a robbery. The Crime Prevention Unit also completed eight security site surveys for commercial buildings within Berrien County. The unit also assisted the Berrien County Health Department at flu shot clinics.

The Crime Prevention Unit partners with numerous agencies which include Triad, Benton Harbor Area Schools "Host" mentoring program, Junior Achievement, Baroda Fest, Crime Stoppers Golf Outing, Child Safety Seat Checks, Benton Harbor Neighborhood Watch Block clubs, Gloria Cooper radio show, informational press releases for newspaper and local radio shows, local fire departments, law enforcement agencies, Berrien County Health Department, St. Joseph City Police

Department 911 Camp, Some Bunny Loves You Program ( children in hospitals visit with Deputy), Boys and Girls Club Niles, Eau Claire/Berrien Springs/Sodus Library's and Whirlpool Employee Safety Day. The unit also stays active with Berrien County TRIAD, Neighborhood Watch groups (Niles, Sodus, Lincoln, Galien, and Royalton Townships), Public Safety Education Program, Berrien County Youth Fair (placing 1st for our display), Berrien County Children Council, Aging Services Network, Traffic Safety Council, Berrien County Tobacco Coalition, Berrien County Career Development/ Public Safety Advisory Committee meeting, Community Awareness Days, and the Michigan Sheriff's Association STOPPED program.

The Crime Prevention Unit assists with traffic accidents, motorist assists, medical assists from the jail, assists in court-ordered pickups, honor guard, instructors at Reserve Deputy Academy, court security, homeless count, men's health fair, service of subpoenas, Guest Speaker for Alzheimer's candlelight ceremony, and visits to assisted living and nursing home facilities. The unit also provided extra patrols for the opening of the Four Winds Casino and provided the Berrien County Explorers Post 602 with thirteen events throughout the year and attending their monthly meetings.

With all the activities and presentations, the Crime Prevention Unit continues training to maintain standards in Driving School, Active Shooter, Accident Investigation, Mobile Field Force, Legal Update, Firearms, CPR, PPCT, Radar Class, Street Survival, and Crime Prevention Association of Michigan Annual Conference.

# Explorers

The Sheriff's Department Explorer Post 602 is sponsored by F.O.P. Lodge 96 and is made up of young adults ages 14-20, who are interested in a career in law enforcement. Explorers receive mentoring from Sheriff's Deputies along with Police Officers on different aspects of the job.

This year, after five years of service Deputy Juan Mata handed the position of Post Advisor to Deputy Steve Campbell and the Explorer Post was officially classified under Crime Prevention.

March of Dimes Crop Walk	27
Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 96	18
Deer Forest	51
McGruff at Crystal Ave.	8
BCCC	5
Relay For Life	18
Sheriff's Kids Camp	24
Bridgman City Run & Parade	25
Venetian Festival	55
Point O Woods Golf Tournament	106
Berrien County Youth Fair	184
Red Bud Track & Trail	78
Berrien County Deputies Association	25
<b>Total Hours Work for 2007</b>	<b>591</b>

Money that is donated by various organizations and businesses throughout Berrien County helped pay for equipment, such as radio updates, and uniforms. The remaining funds are being saved to sponsor Explorers to attend the 2008 National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference in Denver, Colorado.

Former Explorers, Lt. Matt Dickerson and Captain Aaron Barker received Life Saving Achievement Awards for their assistance in helping an injured Explorer. The post was also issued an award from the March of Dimes for assisting in traffic control during the local chapter of Walk America and in December, Donald Head was awarded "Explorer of the Year."

In July, Explorer Anna Petlick attended a one week Explorer Academy in Grayling, Michigan. Lt. Spencer Hartman and Explorer Donald Head successfully graduated from the Berrien County Sheriff's Department Fall 2007 Reserve Academy. This was the first time that Explorers were invited to attend the academy, which is an intensive 84 hour class broken up over 14 weeks.



## Support Services Division



Lt. Mike Kline, Quartermaster, and Sgt. Tina Morrow, Assistant Quartermaster, are the supervisors of the Support Services Division. The Division consists of nine full time deputies and two part time deputies that perform a variety of security related tasks. Their duties include obtaining warrants, conducting video arraignments, and transporting prisoners to other facilities or outside doctor visits.

Support Services Division is also responsible for security at both the St. Joseph Courthouse and the Niles Courthouse. In 2007, the number of inmates transported through the St. Joseph and Niles Courthouse averaged approx. 21 inmates per day. Furthermore, averages of 9 people per day were taken into custody on warrants or by judge's orders while attending court hearings.

As, Quartermasters, Lt. Kline's and Sgt. Morrow's duties consist of issuing uniforms, equipment, and supplies needed for the entire Sheriff's Department. They also supervise the Tether Division.

## Tether

Tether Division continues to play a vital role in reducing jail overcrowding and has proven itself as an effective tool in monitoring tether participants. With a total of 697 participants (538 males and 159 females), a total of 21,881 days were spent on tether. 293 individuals were placed on alcohol monitoring and 404 on electronic monitoring. The Tether Division had a successful completion rate of well over 80%.



Cellular technology continues to be an extremely important aspect in the Tether Program. This allows an individual with a non-alcohol related case to be monitored without the use of a land-line based phone. The use of the electrical outlet is all that is needed. Additionally, Global Positioning Technology is now being expanded to enhance monitoring capabilities. Tether personnel have received extensive training in this new and exciting technology. Further advancement in monitoring capabilities will be coming in the near future. This includes an ankle bracelet equipped with alcohol monitoring sensors all contained in one unit worn on the ankle.

## Department of Human Services



Deputy Dave Camp was assigned to the Berrien County Department of Human Services. Deputy Camp completed 36 incident reports for various incidents, including felony warrant arrests, medical problems, threat complaints and internal investigations. He also assisted Child Protective Services with investigations on a day to day basis by running L.E.I.N. (Law Enforcement Information Network) on subjects involved in CPS cases. The entire Department of Human Services staff is trained on the building emergency plan (fire drills, medical drills, weather drills) and Deputy Camp was responsible for providing this training. Deputy Camp was also responsible for training all employees on the use of 800 MHZ police radios.

# Jail Division

Overcrowding continues to be a concern for the Jail Division even though efforts are made to control the population on a daily basis. Jail Population Monitor, Joann Roberts presents possible candidates for sentence suspension to each Judge assigned to a particular case. If the Judges can not get the population within capacity, names of non-violent, low risk offenders are presented to Sheriff Bailey for a 25% reduction of their sentence. The jail population reached or was under capacity 72 times throughout the year enabling the Sheriff to release fewer individuals and less sentences to be suspended.

	2005	2006	2007
Booked	9,504	9,148	8,762
Male	7,370	7,142	6,793
Female	2,131	2,006	1,969
Misd	5,299	5,344	5,277
Felony	3,786	3,425	3,127
Civil	419	379	358



Capt. Cochran



Jail Adm. Lt. Allred

This year the number of bookings dropped dramatically by 386 inmates compared to previous years. August came in as the highest month for bookings, 857 and February the least amount of bookings at 602.

Even though the year had fewer bookings from previous years, Chief Judge Maloney and acting Chief Judge Nelson granted sentence reduction on four separate occasions.

February 9, 2007—210 sentenced—47 released (day 23 of overcrowding)  
 July 12, 2007—191 sentenced—42 released (day 22 of overcrowding)  
 July 24, 2007—N/A sentenced--35 released (day 34 of overcrowding)  
 August 16, 2007—212 sentenced—54 released (day 20 of overcrowding)

Sheriff Bailey released 280 sentenced inmates throughout the year, 60 charged with non-pay child support.

## Inmate Worker Program

The Jail Division's inmate worker program gives 40 to 50 inmates the privilege of receiving days off their sentence in exchange for working inside or outside of the jail. Inmate workers receive 1 day for every 6 days they work and 1 day for every 15 days for good behavior. This year 645 inmates were reviewed and assigned positions by Lt. Wheeler and processed by Administrative Deputy JoAnne Stevens.



Any inmate who is sentenced is eligible. Each sentenced inmate, male or female, who requests to become an inmate worker or has been chosen starts with a criminal history review. Their criminal history determines which area of the jail they will be assigned. Once they have been cleared they are given their duty assignment and can accept or deny the position they have been given. Rules and regulations are reviewed and must be signed by the inmate.

An inmate worker can be removed for any violation and will only receive days off their sentence for the number of days worked.

The inmate worker program gives inmates the opportunity to be productive, follow orders and possibly prepare for a job once they leave the facility.

## Classification

Approximately 4,640 inmates were interviewed and classified to cell assignments for the year. Of those inmates there were 3,798 males, 842 females, which consisted of 2,364 African American, 2,098 Caucasian, 75 Hispanic and 103 of another origin.

Upon interview, 277 inmates admitted to having alcohol issues, 334 admitted to drug problems and 370 admitted having some type of mental disorder. Inmates are interviewed during the classification process, which occurs after arraignment, to ensure that they are housed in locations appropriate to their security designation



Sentenced inmates are offered a number of services at the jail during classification, G.E.D., inmate worker, group counseling, religious services, and psychological counseling, just to name a few. Dr. Stan Sholwalter ended the year with 31 inmates attending group counseling. 24 sentenced inmates completed the G.E.D. program and received thirty days off their sentence.

On a daily basis Classification Officer Sgt. Corey Burks calculates the number of inmates housed, including parolees who are held at the jail for the Department of Corrections. In the year 2007, the average daily population consisted of 388 inmates, 14 parolees, and 47 females.

## Jail Population Monitor



It is the responsibility of the Jail Population Monitor, JoAnn Roberts, to review the sentenced/unsentenced population of the jail on a daily basis. The objective is to determine whether or not an inmate is eligible for release. Felony Probation is contacted when it is time for an inmate to be released to an alternative sanction. This contact ensures that the inmate does not remain incarcerated when they should be in a program. During overcrowding situations, the JPM contacts the sentencing Judge and/or Probation Officer to obtain authorization to proceed with an early release. The JPM also initiates the release of inmates with serious medical issues. In 2007 the JPM was involved in the early release of 377 inmates.

## Jail Food Service

Jail meals are prepared by a staff of three paid cooks, who are assisted by a crew of 12 inmate workers. The inmate workers are trained in safety & sanitation procedures, given a job description, and are expected to complete specific duties each day.

A total of 470,631 meals were served from the jail kitchen in 2007. This figure includes jail meals for inmates and staff, meals for the Sheriff's outside work crews, Niles lockup, EOC drills and the Sheriff's Kids Camp. Average cost per meal stayed the same as in 2006 at \$.88 per meal. Two new vendors have been added to create competition and ensure the lowest prices for needed products and services.



The Jail Food Service continued their record of excellent inspection reports in 2007, receiving high ratings from the Berrien County Health Department, the Michigan Department of Corrections and the National Commission on Correctional Health Care.

# Medical Services

Medical staffing has remained a challenge during the year trying to keep 24 hour service. In December, one RN left our employment and one LPN will be retiring during the early part of 2008. Currently the medical department has one RN, four LPN's, and one LPN completing orientation. The Department is also utilizing an outside agency for part time nurses to cover open shifts.

This year, psychologist Lynn Leggett became a full time contracted employee and provided mental health services to 1,269 incarcerated inmates. One of Lynn's responsibilities is to divert inmates with mental health issues to various outside programs.

The pharmacy services were converted to a national pharmacy demonstrating a cost savings to the County, although remaining costs associated with running medical services have increased. Due to diligence of the department's medical secretary, multiple billings have been declined that were not the responsibility of the County totaling over \$96,000.00.

The National Commission of Correctional Health Care conducted an inspection of the Medical Department finding it to be in compliance with national standards.

Total inmate visits continued to climb to 4,227 as compared to 4,054 in 2006.

Breakdown of medical expenses	2005	2006	2007
Radiology	\$15,461.61	\$12,664.93	\$20,137.10
Outside Specialists	\$45,001.45	\$53,244.00	\$59,619.93
Hospitals	\$141,460.32	\$160,029.44	\$183,020.81
Ambulance	\$27,520.36	\$43,226.30	\$26,084.15
Laboratory	\$15,655.57	\$19,670.74	\$22,084.55
Pharmacy	\$278,304.31	\$240,068.16	\$219,979.52
Disposal of Medical Waste	\$1,251.51	\$1,337.37	\$1,795.51
Medical Supplies	\$5,670.57	\$6,474.35	\$9,338.98
Dentist/Supplies	\$9,960.00	\$7,830.80	\$7,773.25
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$540,285.70</b>	<b>\$544,546.09</b>	<b>\$549,833.80</b>



# Forgotten Man Ministries

Chaplain Russ Simonson serves as the Berrien County Jail's full-time Chaplain and with Forgotten Man Ministries. FMM offers Bible Studies, weekly chapel services for the men on Monday nights, and Thursday afternoons for the women. Monday nights also allow for a "cat-walk" ministry where volunteers from local churches will come in and minister one-on-one. Volunteers assist the chaplain providing the inmates, both men and women, opportunities to attend Bible-based 12-step drug and alcohol abuse classes, as well as anger management classes.

Forgotten Man Ministries is a non-profit organization and does not receive any local, state or federal funding. Since FMM is dependent upon the support of local churches and individuals, Chaplain Russ continually promotes the jail ministry at the Berrien County Jail by visiting pastors and churches. Pastors and volunteers are screened by the chaplain and must be approved by the Berrien County Sheriff's Department.

Chaplain Russ also hosts two Stewardship Dinners in the spring, an annual Golf Outing, and one or two benefit concerts.

<b>Services provided by Forgotten Man Ministries:</b>
Provided over 700 Bibles
Handed out over 1,200 introductory Bible Courses
Distributed 490 Advanced Bible Courses
Graded over 4,300 Bible lessons
Taught 224 Christ centered drug/alcohol and anger management classes, men & women
Brought over 196 Bible classes and Church services
Provided daily counseling one-on-one with inmates
Provided books, magazines, & movies for the Library Cart and Video Ministry weekly
Witnessed 296 professions of faith
Distributed Christmas cards, stamps and gift bags to incarcerated inmates



Some of the Forgotten an Ministry Volintees trying to make a differance in Gods World left to right Bill, Jerry, Chris, chaplain Russ Simonson, Elmer, and Greg

# Detective Bureau



Armed Robberies	5	1 arrests
Home Invasions	26	13 arrests
Criminal Sexual Conduct	27	5 arrests
Burglaries	30	6 arrests
Suicides	8	
Frauds	3	
Embezzlement	2	
Escape	2	2 arrests
Bribery	7	
Child Neglect	1	
Death	4	
Larceny From Auto	4	3 arrests
Larceny In Building	1	
Computer Forensics	26	5 arrests
a. Criminal sexual conduct	3	
b. Pornography	4	
c. Other	2	
Other Agency Assists	25	10 arrests

## **MAJOR CASES:**

**One Offender** - found guilty of a gun charge following a two week trial in Niles Court.

**Business Burglaries:** - BCSD Detective Bureau investigated 30 Burglaries of businesses in various locations in Berrien County; arrested ten and obtained convictions. Three of the burglaries involved safe breakings.

**Home Invasions:** - BCSD Detective Bureau brought a 2005 Home Invasion and safe burglary to a close with the arrest and conviction of two suspects.

**Hagar Township B&E:** - One suspect arrested and convicted following a B&E of a residence. Six other suspects arrested and convicted following a 4 month investigation of 5 additional home invasions in Berrien County. Through this investigation, confessions were obtained that these suspects also were responsible for home invasions in Cass County. A group of 7 individuals were arrested that were responsible for 20 home invasions and B&E's of buildings and credit card frauds. As a result of this investigation, prison terms were handed down. Approximately \$100,000.00 worth of property was recovered as a result of this investigation.

**Armed Robberies:** - BCSD Detective Bureau currently is investigating 5 armed robberies and an attempted murder in Niles Township.

**Election Law Violation:** - The Election Law violation case from Benton Harbor was brought to a close with the arrest and conviction of one suspect.

## Detective Bureau (cont.)

**Criminal Sexual Conduct Cases:** - The BCSD Detective Bureau worked 24 CSC cases in 2007. One suspect arrested in Kentucky and later returned to face charges of 4 counts of CSC and a felony firearms charge. The suspect pled guilty as charged. A Doctor is being investigated on a CSC charge which resulted in a warrant being issued for the Doctor.

**Other Agency Assists:** - 1.) Assisted in the investigation of a homicide in Benton Harbor resulting in the arrest and conviction of one suspect. 2.) Assisted Benton Township Police Department in the investigation of 4 larceny cases involving truck stops in Benton Township. 3.) Assisted Berrien Springs/Oronoko Police Department with the investigation of the armed robbery of the BP Gas Station located in Berrien Springs. A suspect was arrested and convicted in this incident. 4.) Assisted Elkhart County with the investigation of numerous gang related shooting crimes. 5.) Assisted MSP with the investigation of a strong armed robbery occurring in Watervliet, resulting in an arrest of one suspect after information of this suspect obtained by the BCSD Detective Bureau. 6.) Assisting the FBI on a Bank Fraud investigation. 7.) Internal investigations for other agencies are being conducted by the BCSD Detective Bureau. 8.) Assisted Coloma Township with the investigation of a 14 year old found dead next to a residence, the investigation showed the 14 year old's death was self-induced by inhaling Freon from an air conditioner unit. 9.) Assisted Van Buren County in the investigation of the bank robbery at the Chemical Shoreline Bank. Suspect has been identified by the BSCD Detective Bureau.



**Deaths:** - Investigated 2 drug overdose, 8 suicide deaths and 2 infant deaths.

**Stolen Autos:** - Investigated 4 vehicles stolen from the YMCA, resulting in the arrest and conviction of one juvenile. BCSD Detectives also recovered an additional 6 autos.

**Recovery of Firearms:** - Recovered 3 stolen hand guns.

**Search Warrants:** - 1.) Served two search warrants in Benton Township resulting in the recovery of \$5,000 worth of stolen property. Also, an additional \$55,000.00 worth of stolen property was recovered from other locations throughout Southwest Michigan. 2.) A search warrant executed in Cass County where approximately 38 firearms was seized. A 38 foot Scarab was recovered after being stolen out of New Buffalo. Also recovered was a stolen John Deere Gator and a farm tractor. Suspect was charged with Federal charges of firearms violation and is to be sentenced to 15 years in prison.

**ATM Burglary:** - A suspect was arrested and confessed to the burglary of 2 ATM machine burglaries, one in Niles Township and one in Van Buren County.

**Computer Crimes:** - 1.) A search warrant was served at a Niles Township home regarding child pornography and 5 computers were seized. 2.) Assisted the FBI in 10 additional child pornography cases. 3.) BCSD Forensic Unit conducted forensic analysis on 16 computers used to facilitate child pornography.

**Arson Task Force:** - The arson task force did thirteen fire burns in various locations throughout the County. BCSD Detectives investigated multiple arsons with New Buffalo, Eau Claire, and Sodus Fire Departments.

## Detective Bureau (cont.)

**Operation Night Hawk:** - Assisted the Department of Corrections Parole Agents during operation Night Hawk which resulted in the check of 111 parolees and 5 Felony arrests.

**Larceny:** - 1.) The BCSD Detective Bureau investigated the larceny of power wire of AEP with the wire stolen having a value of \$30,000.00. This investigation resulted in the arrest of one suspect. 2.) BCSD Detectives and MSP Troopers are investigating multiple electrical wire thefts in the Pipestone Berrien Township areas; three suspects have been arrested. This investigation is ongoing.

**Bank Robbery:** - The BCSD Detective Bureau and FBI are working a combined investigation into the armed robbery at the Berrien Teachers Credit Union located in Niles Township.

**Computer Forensic Unit:** - With the increasing demand for examination of computers due to child porn, identity theft, and illegal use of computers cases, the BCSD Detective Bureau has one Detective assigned to examine computers and a second Detective trained in computer forensics. Both of these Detectives attended Eastern Michigan University, National Center of Academy Excellence School of computer forensics. The Detective Bureau also has a Forensic Lab located at South County and North County.

**Interview/Interrogation Room:** - The BCSD Detective Bureau updated its interview/interrogation room with the state of the art equipment, since this equipment has been installed, other agencies, including Chicago Police Department investigators, have been able to obtain excellent quality recordings of interviews which helped clear up any doubts by Jurors as to conversations of admissions and confessions between defendants and investigators.

## Southwestern Michigan Commission for Auto Recovery (SCAR)

The Scar Unit is a tri-county unit consisting of Berrien County, Cass County and Van Buren County who work together in the recovery of Auto Theft.

Detective Sergeant Rick Biggart is assigned to this unit which is operated by Michigan State Police under the direction of Commander, Lt. Charles Christianson.



2007 SCAR STATISTICS		
	SCAR UNIT	D/Sgt. Biggart
Complaints	143	52
Arrests	87	43
Recoveries	116	67
Value	\$1,281,415	\$799,050

Statistics reflect totals for the SCAR Unit as a whole and totals handled by Detective Sergeant Biggart.

# Bomb Squad

The Sheriff named David Chandler as the new Bomb Squad Commander after the retirement of Commander John Briney.

Three members of the bomb squad were sent to Bomb Technicians Certification Course sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the U.S. Army Ordnance Unit. The course was held at the Missile & Munitions Center & School, Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama, also known as the Hazardous Device School (HDS). The center, which is a state of the art facility and is one of two in existence world-wide, under went a 25 million dollar building upgrade. Needless to say, Berrien County Bomb Technicians are trained to the highest of standards.

<b>CALLS RESPONDED TO IN 2007</b>		
March 20	Suspicious Package	Watervliet
May 7	Ordinance Disposal	Buchanan
May 21	Ordinance Disposal	St. Joseph Township
June 15	Suspicious Package	Dowagiac
June 29	Bomb Threat	Galien
July 4	Ordinance Disposal	Lincoln Township
July 13	Ordinance Disposal	Royalton Township
August 10	Explosives Seizure	St. Joseph
August 17	Bomb Threat	Watervliet
August 17	Post Blast Investigation	Buchanan
August 17	Post Blast Investigation	Buchanan
September 4	Post Blast Investigation	Coloma Township
October 19	Suspicious Package	St. Joseph



# Narcotics

The Berrien County Narcotics Unit investigated 1,855 incidents, which resulted in 595 arrests. The number of arrests includes felonies, misdemeanors, custodial arrests, and citations.

The Narcotics Unit served 124 search warrants and conducted 40 consent searches. Many of the search warrants were the direct result of information received from the South Bend Area Crime Stoppers, citizens, and local police agencies.



Nineteen (19) undercover investigations were conducted where undercover officers purchased illegal narcotics. Marijuana and crack cocaine continue to be the most common drugs of choice, although heroin incidents have steadily increased. Cocaine hydrochloride (powder cocaine) was also commonly encountered. The Narcotics Unit seized 5 kilograms of cocaine located in a vehicle on I-94 in Lincoln Township with a wholesale value of \$100,000. Also, seized was 230 pounds of marijuana from a vehicle on I-94 in Chikaming Township with a wholesale value of \$230,000. The Narcotics Unit was successful in the interdiction and arrests in several cases involving significant quantities of marijuana being shipped interstate via parcel delivery services. With the assistance of the Michigan State Police Aviation Unit, Operation HEMP was conducted in searches for marijuana cultivation. In August and September the Narcotics Unit seized 618 marijuana plants from several sites in 6 townships. Methamphetamine Laboratory Technicians took part in the investigation and dismantling of 11 Methamphetamine Laboratories throughout Berrien County.

**BREAKDOWN OF DRUGS AND VALUES SEIZED OR PURCHASED BY THE NARCOTICS UNIT. THESE VALUES ARE ESTABLISHED USING DEA DATA.**

<b>DRUG TYPE</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>STREET VALUE</b>
Crack Cocaine	208 grams	\$21,865
Cocaine	912 grams	\$21,400
Cocaine	5 kilograms	\$100,000 (wholesale)
Heroin	5 grams	\$1,165
Marijuana	255 pounds	\$268,540
Marijuana Plants	618 plants	\$618,000
Methamphetamines	11 grams	\$1,100
Methamphetamines Liquid	452 grams	\$1,000
Miscellaneous Drugs	\$1,240	
<b>Total Value</b>	<b>\$1,034,310</b>	

## Narcotics (cont.)

Significant civil forfeiture investigations included the seizure of \$145,960.00 in U.S. Currency from a hidden compartment in a vehicle on I-94 in Saint Joseph Township as well as the seizure of \$240,720.00 in U.S. Currency from a hidden compartment on I-94 in New Buffalo Township.

The Narcotics Unit was awarded \$227,418.62 in cash as a result of civil forfeiture cases. Additionally, the Narcotics Unit received \$26,955.00 in proceeds from vehicles and other property sold at auction in 2007, for total civil forfeiture proceeds of \$254,373.62. This number does not reflect 2007 civil forfeiture cases still pending or vehicles and property awarded in 2007 and awaiting auction.

Deputy Casto and his drug detection dog "Noel" conducted 102 searches in 2007, both for the Sheriff's Department and in assists to other agencies. The K9 Unit also assists in area schools conducting searches for drugs. Even if no drugs are found, the searches will continue in hopes to deter drugs from being brought into the schools.

Another important activity was drug awareness education for school teachers, health care providers, neighborhood watch groups, realtors, landlords, utility service workers, fire departments, and law enforcement officers. The goal of drug awareness is to educate the public of signs of drug use and to promote safety in the event a person came into contact with drugs or a drug lab. The Narcotics Unit provided training for 250 people in 2007.

The Narcotics Unit continues to work with other agencies inside and outside Berrien County on investigations. In 2007 the Narcotics Unit provided assistance in 71 cases with other agencies, including the DEA, FBI, Southwest Enforcement Team (MSP), Van Buren County Narcotics Unit, Cass County Drug Enforcement Team, the Benton Harbor City Police Department's Narcotics Unit, the Saint Joseph City Police Department, and the Niles City Police Department's Narcotics Unit. The Benton Township Police Department has also significantly increased its involvement with the Sheriff's Narcotics Unit.



# Tactical Response Unit

The Tactical Response Unit participated in ten operations, six operations involved serving high risk search warrants, and two of the ten operations which occurred in Cass County.

Mar 14	High risk search warrant Bainbridge Twp. Assist to BCNU
Mar 29	High risk search warrant Benton Twp. Assist to MSP SWET
Apr 04	Search warrant Buchanan. Assist to Buchanan PD (partial team response)
May 01	High risk search warrant Benton Harbor Assist to BCNU
May 05	Barricaded gunman Benton Harbor. Assist to BHPD (partial team response)
May 17	High risk arrest & search warrant Dowagiac, Cass Co. Assist to VCTF & SCAR
Aug 08	Barricaded gunman Dowagiac. Assist to Dowagiac PD (cancelled, suspect surrendered)
Aug 27	Suspected hostage/explosives threat at Hardings Market, Buchanan
Oct	Barricaded gunman (with shots fired) Niles Twp. Assist to BCSD Niles Twp Patrol
Dec 21	Two search warrants Buchanan. Assist to BCNU



## Tactical Response Unit Training

	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Training Location / Objective</i>
Jan 11	40	M/O's attended the WMTOA Sniper Competition Allegan Co
Jan 23	152	Monthly Team Training, Annual Haz-Mat First Responder Recert and React Team response to "Covered Pile", BCSD and LMC Property
Feb 16	136	Monthly Team Training, Cold Weather Firearms Qualifications and Drills, Palisades Range
Feb 27	480	Haz-Mat Operations Level Training (24 hours),
Mar 01		BCSD and Berrien Springs/Oronoko Twp Fire Dept
Mar 13	144	Monthly Team Training, Chemical, SIM, FN303 Recert, BCSD
Mar 29	40	Marksman/Observer Training, Qualification and Fundamentals, BCSD Range



# Tactical Response Unit (cont.)

	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Training Location / Objective</i>
Apr 05-06	240	Monthly Team Training, Firearms and Live Fire Dynamic Entry, BCSD Range
Apr 12	64	WMTOA Pistol Competition, Voluntary Participation And Expense by 8 Team Members, SKSC, Dorr, MI
Apr 19-21	24	Dep Puffer attended Michigan EMS Expo for EMT/P, Grand Rapids
May 07-11	80	Sgt Sanders and Dep Soulard attended the FBI M/O Course, Alpena, MI
May 09	117	Monthly Team Training (with EOD Team), Dynamic and Deliberate Entry, Perimeter, and Explosive Breaching, Harbor Shores Property
June 11	128	Monthly Team Training, Firearms Qualification and Training, BCSD Range
June 18	40	Marksman/Observer Training, Qualifications and Vehicle Hides, BCSD Range
July 09-13	80	Sgt Jewell and Lt Sanders attended the NTOA Hostage Rescue & Resolution of Barricaded Suspect Course in Holland, MI
July 12-13	128	Monthly Team Training, Victim Recovery and Vehicle Assault Training, BCYF and BCSD Range
Aug 10	12	Operational Testing of the Peacekeeper Ram on Tax Reverted Structures in Benton Twp
Aug 28-30	48	Sgt R Biggart and Dep Zehm attended DHS Surveillance Detection Crs at MSP HQ, Lansing, MI
Aug 31	160	Monthly Team Training, Dynamic and Deliberate Commercial Bldg Entry and Search, Explosive and Mechanical Breaching, Harbor Shores Property
Sept 10	40	Marksman/Observer Training, BCSD Range
Sept 10-14	120	Ofc Blaskie, Dep Soulard, & Dep Yech attended the WMCJTC Basic SWAT Officers Sch in Alpena, MI
Sept 19	8	Basic TRU Weapons Familiarization for Ofc Komdeur, BCSD Range
Sept 20	64	BCSD TRU Participated in the Michiana SWAT Challenge in South Bend, IN



# Tactical Response Unit (cont.)

	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Training Location / Objective</i>
Sept 25	128	Monthly Training, Firearms Qualifications and Drills, BCSD Range
Oct 01-05	80	Dep's Casto and Mazurek attended Singleton International's Hostage Rescue Crs in Lansing, MI
Oct 06	16	Lt Sanders and Ofc Plane participated in the Sag/Chip Tribal Police Sniper Competition in Mount Pleasant, MI
Oct 10-11	300	Monthly Training, Small Unit Tactics, Armored Veh Ops, Night Containment Ops, and Coordinated Air/Ground Ops with the Mich Army National Guard RAID Team and Cass CSD and Van Buren CSD Tactical Teams at Ft Custer Training Center, Augusta, MI
Oct 29	8	Sgt Zehm attended "School Violence: Lessons Learned, by LTC Grossman at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
Nov 05	128	Monthly Training, Firearms Qualifications and Drills, BCSD Training Facility
Nov 10	2	Dep Babcock participated with a US Coast Guard Survey of the Larfarge Shipping vessel in the St Joseph Harbor
Nov 29	40	Marksman/Observer Training, Shooting Through Vehicles and Structural Glass, BCSD Range
Dec 07	128	Monthly Training, Firearms Qualifications and Drills, BCSD Training Facility



## Patrol Response to an Active Shooter Training for 2007

The TRU provided Patrol Response to Active Shooter training to 114 officers from the Berrien County Sheriff's Dept, Baroda/Lake PD, Bridgman PD, Buchanan PD Chickaming PD, St Joseph PD, and St Joseph Twp PD in 2007. The training included an eight hour basic course and four hour refresher course.

Apr 03	Bridgman HS	8 Hr Basic	23 Officers / 5 Agencies 8 TRU
Apr 04	Bridgman HS	4 Hr Recert (2 Crs)	53 Officers / 5 Agencies 9 TRU
Apr 26	St Joseph HS	4 Hr Recert (2 Crs)	38 Officers / 4 Agencies <u>Warrant Service Training for 2007</u>

# Tactical Response Unit (cont.)

## Mobile Field Force Training for 2007

The TRU provided Mobile Field Force response training (4 hour classes) for 58 BCSD, 17 BTPD, and 5 BHPD officers on May 08 and 11, 2007.

## Warrant Service Training for 2007

The TRU provided warrant service training to Benton Harbor PD's newly formed Warrant Service Team (ten officers) and two Berrien County Sheriff's Deputies on January 02-03, 2007

## Training Summary for 2007

The total number of training hours for 2007 was 3,521. This number includes monthly team training (3175), Mobile Field Force training (80), Patrol Response to an Active Shooter training (226), and the training provided to the BHPD Warrant Service Team (40). The average number of training hours per team member in 2007 was 167. This compares with an average of 151 in 2006.

A primary reason for the increased training hours in 2006 was that the entire TRU was trained and certified in Haz-Mat Operations through a twenty-four hour course provided by the BCSD Haz-Mat Team. In addition, the BCSD Emergency Management Division obtained a \$30,000 DHS grant to equip the TRU with Level C Haz-Mat response suits and respirators.

The TRU also incorporated a new agency and team member in 2007. The St Joseph Police Dept has joined the TRU and has assigned Ofc Paul Komdeur to the team. Ofc Komdeur is a licensed Paramedic and provides an integral TEMS capability to the team. Benton Twp Police Dept Sgt William Melcher was also added to the TRU to replace a reassigned BTPD team member.

The TRU now consists of 16 BCSD officers, 2 BHPD officers, 2 BTPD officers, and 1 SJPD officer. The Sheriffs Dept appreciates the involvement of these other agencies and their officers significantly add to the TRU capabilities.

As has been the case for the past three years, the Southwest Michigan Regional Airport has continued to provide very valuable training support to the TRU in 2007 by providing access to its property. The Harbor Shores Development Company and the Berrien County Treasurer's Office also provided the TRU with some very useful training locations at its demolition sites.



# Road Patrol

In 2007, the Road Patrol Division responded to 16,966 complaints, which was an increase of 1,073 complaints compared to 2006 (15,893 complaints). Patrol officers traveled 750,043 miles throughout the county in 2007, which is an increase of 80,942 miles compared to 2006.

Traffic Stops	11,264
Tickets Issued	4,676
Total Arrests	4,519
Misdemeanor	3,582
Felony	937



Investigated Complaints by Offense	2006	2007
Criminal Sexual Conduct	61	76
Robbery	15	16
Assault/Domestic Violence	458	525
Breaking & Entering	300	287
Larceny	567	607
Motor Vehicle Theft	61	94
Malicious Destruction of Property	389	452
Carrying Concealed Weapon	34	27
Operating While Intoxicated	243	240



## Watervliet Township (Contracted Police Protection)

Deputies Mark Lundin and Guy Puffer were once again assigned to the Watervliet Township Sub-station. These deputies work closely with Watervliet Township officials and Watervliet Public Schools to provide police protection for the citizens in the area.



Investigated Complaints by Offense	2006	2007
Criminal Sexual Conduct	5	6
Robbery	0	1
Assault/Domestic Violence	44	49
Breaking & Entering	40	29
Larceny	77	65
Motor Vehicle Theft	1	3
Malicious Destruction of Property	32	46
Carrying Concealed Weapon	3	1
Operating While Intoxicated	25	20
<b>Total Incidents</b>	<b>1,172</b>	<b>1,368</b>

## Niles Township (Contracted Police Protection)

The Sheriff's Department, for the last two years (2006 & 2007) has continued to provide police services under contract for Niles Township. Currently, six deputies and one sergeant are assigned to the Niles Township Patrol. Several deputies assigned to Niles Township have received specialized training in different areas of law enforcement, including Accident Reconstruction, Tactical Response, Evidence Technician, and Dive Team.

<b>Investigated Complaints by Offenses</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Criminal Sexual Conduct	13	8
Robbery	6	9
Assault/Domestic Violence	112	157
Breaking & Entering	61	74
Larceny	142	185
Motor Vehicle Theft	13	20
Malicious Destruction of Property	112	141
Carrying Concealed Weapon	9	4
Operating While Intoxicated	38	40
Embezzlement	NA	11
Felonious Assault	NA	7
Arson	NA	1
Fraud/Forgery	NA	13
Retail Theft	NA	27
Warrant Arrest	NA	120
VCSA	NA	85
Obstructing Justice	NA	49
<b>Total Incidents for the year</b>	<b>4,367</b>	<b>4,424</b>



274 individuals were lodged at the Niles Law Enforcement Complex.

## New Buffalo Township (Contracted Police Protection)

On August 1, 2007, the Berrien County Sheriff's Department began providing services under contract for the New Buffalo Township community. This contracted service coincides with the opening of the Four Winds Casino Resort which also opened in August.

New Buffalo Township is served by four deputies and one sergeant. The New Buffalo Township Patrol Division shares an office with the Pokagon Tribal Police. This facility is located on tribal land near the M-239/Wilson Road intersection. Several deputies assigned to New Buffalo Township have been trained in several specialty areas of law enforcement, including Tactical Response, Hostage Negotiations, and Field Training.

<b>Investigated Complaints by Offenses</b>	<b>August-December 2007</b>
Criminal Sexual Conduct	1
Robbery	1
Assault/Domestic Violence	16
Breaking & Entering	10
Larceny	20
Motor Vehicle Theft	6
Malicious Destruction of Property	4
Carrying Concealed Weapon	0
Operating While Intoxicated	15
<b>Total Incidents</b>	<b>957 (222 by Tribal Police)</b>

# Accident Reconstruction Team

A total of 1,363 accidents were reported utilizing the Accident Reconstruction team twenty six (26) times; fourteen (14) times for fatal car crashes, and eight (8) times for serious injury crashes. The team was also called out for a fatal house fire in Van Buren County, a shooting in the City of Benton Harbor, a body found in Coloma Township, and the attempted shooting of a Michigan State Trooper in Niles Township.

<b>ACCIDENTS</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Property damage	849	1153
Injury Accidents	190	206
Injuries Occurred	250	239
Fatal Accidents	10	15



<b>VEHICLE VS. ANIMALS</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Deer	315	347
Turkey	0	4
Dog	6	2
Raccoon	2	1
Possum	1	0
Coyote	1	0
Goat	1	0
Cow	1	0

October and November of 2007 were the worst months for vehicle vs. deer. Seventy eight (78) in October and eighty four (84) in November.

<b>ALCOHOL/DRUGS ACCIDENTS</b>	<b>ALCOHOL</b>	<b>DRUGS</b>
Property Damage Accidents	37	3
Injury Accidents	15	0
Fatal Accidents	4	1

This year Deputy Rich Albers, Deputy Jennifer Mize and Deputy Aaron Nannfeldt completed the course in Accident Reconstruction and are State certified.

# Marine Division

Under the leadership of Lt. Martin C. Kurtz IV, the Marine Division was fortunate enough to have a very capable crew of 8 part-time deputies. Their dedication to the enforcement duties is truly the backbone of our success.

The official boating season begins with the Memorial Day holiday weekend and ends with the Labor Day holiday weekend. However, many hours are spent before the season with training and maintenance, concluding in late September with pulling boats to be serviced.

Patrols cover Lake Michigan, from Hagar Twp. to New Buffalo, as well as the St. Joseph and Galien Rivers. This year, additional bodies of water patrolled included Paw Paw Lake, Lake Chapin, Pipestone Lake, Little Paw Paw Lake and Black Lake. The Marine Division also assisted with patrol and search & rescue with Cass County on both Diamond and Magician Lakes and assisted South Bend Fire in Indiana on the St. Joseph River.

Total statistical breakdown:

Patrol Hours	3,443
Contacts	1,621
Tickets	214
Written Warnings	153
Verbal Warnings	488
Complaints	19
Arrests (OUIL)	2



The tickets and warnings issued were for violations pertaining to, but not limited to: No or expired registrations, no Boater Safety Certificate, PWC operations after hours, slow/no wake violations, navigational rules, reckless and careless operations, no PFD (personal floatation device), lack of required safety equipment, and operating under the influence of alcohol.

To help promote a safe boating environment, the Marine Division held 8 Boater Safety Classes throughout the summer, certifying 207 students. Boater Safety classes began in April and ran throughout the summer. Classes were held on the weekends at various locations throughout Berrien County. The 6 hour classes are free of charge and are a required course for anyone at least 14 years old, and those born after December 31, 1978, who wish to operate Personal Watercraft in the state of Michigan.



ACTIVITY	HOUR	LOCATION/TYPE
Accidents	12.0	Paw Paw Lake
Search & Rescue	219.0	Lake Michigan and St. Joseph River
Body Recovery	64.0	Lake Michigan
Officer Training	877.0	New officer training/review
Livery Inspections	75.0	10 rental operators, 83 boats passed
Maintenance	1151.0	Boats, trailers, PWC's motors & vehicles
Administrative Duties	872.0	BCSD office
Public Meetings	79.0	Earth Day, Camp 911, Pier Safety,
		BCYF Safety Day, Berrien Springs
		Kids Fishing Day

# Dive Team

The Berrien County Dive Team was called out twice for two separate drownings and once to recover stolen property. Team members with call out and regular monthly training logged over 130 hours. Training took place in swift water (River), boat based dives in Lake Michigan and ice diving in some of the inland lakes. 74 dives were logged with 52 hours of under water time. Team members Lt. Don Goulooze, Sgt. Greg Morrow, Sgt. Randy Miller and Dep. Barry Oliver attended a three day Dive Rescue course in Holland Michigan, which covered scene safety and risk benefit for divers. The Dive Team continues to train monthly picking a different location each month. It has been during these monthly trainings that several stolen items have been recovered. The Team with the assistance of the Marine Division has been able to train on the Sea Ark boat and the PWC in conducting open water searches.

## DROWNINGS

On June 19, 2007 the dive team was called out to the South Pier on Lake Michigan in St. Joseph to locate a subject who had jumped off the pier into large waves. The following day, June 20, 2007, the body of a 20 year old male from Elkhart, Indiana was recovered.

September 9, 2007 the dive team assisted Cass. Co. at Long Lake in the recovery of the body of a 44 year old male from South Bend, Indiana who had fallen out of a paddle boat.



## PROPERTY

On September 19, 2007 the Dive Team recovered a 2001 Chevrolet S-10 Blazer from the St. Joseph River in Niles Township. It had been reported stolen in 2006 in South Bend, Indiana.

On October 17, 2007 the Dive Team recovered a safe and a boat motor from the St. Joseph River at the Bertrand Road Bridge in Niles Township.

On November 21, 2007 & December 19, 2007 the Dive Team recovered stolen property taken in several break-ins in Lincoln & Royalton Townships, from the St. Joseph River at the M-139 Bridge.

# Snowmobile Unit

Under the supervision of Lt. Martin C. Kurtz IV, the Snowmobile Unit is staffed by certified Snowmobile Law Enforcement officers.

Patrol hours consisted of hours patrolling state trails 59 & 590 in the north, and the Galien trail to the south. Mutual aid agreements with Van Buren County Sheriff's Department, allowed for combined enforcement efforts patrolling trails shared by both counties.

The Snowmobile Law Enforcement program completed its second year for Berrien County. Many of the contacts made were groups of recreational snowmobilers, that were glad to have the assistance to help make the trails safe.

There were two Snowmobile Safety Classes offered in 2007.

Patrol Hours	272
Contacts	614
Tickets	33
Warnings	83
Complaints	6

<b>TICKETS WRITTEN</b>	
No Trail Permit	14
Expired Registration	7
No Registration	5
Operation on roadway	2
Failure to stop	2
Prohibited Conduct	2
Warrant Arrest	1



Combined Enforcement-Berrien, Cass & Van Buren Counties

# Motorcycle Unit

The Berrien County Sheriff's Motorcycle Unit consists of 6 members. For the last 2 years six motorcycles have been leased from Hamilton Harley Davidson in Sturgis, Michigan.

In 2007 the motor unit escorted 12 charity rides, raising money for cancer research, children's hospital, Special Olympics and several other worthy charities in Berrien County.

Throughout the year the Sheriff's Motorcycle Unit escorted two funerals, attended 6 parades, was assigned to 4 traffic details and was requested to be on display at various events. The largest traffic detail was for the grand opening at the Four Winds Casino. The Motorcycle Unit was assigned to the Casino for the first two weeks that the casino was open.

This year all members attended the Law Enforcement refresher training for certified police motorcycle operators, which was held at Camp Grayling Military Base.



# Reserve Division

This year the Reserve Division assisted the Road Patrol, Crime Prevention, Emergency Management, Narcotics Unit, and Jail Division totaling 5,923 hours volunteered. The Reserve Division began with 25 active reserve officers and finished the year with 31 officers.

Road Patrol	1,478
Training	464
Administration	523
Silver Beach	168
Other Festivals	227
Miscellaneous	878
Blossom Time	405
Sporting Events	345
Crime Prevention	108
Emergency Management	23
Youth Fair	642
Jail	80
Niles Twp Building Checks	582
<b>Total Volunteer Hours</b>	<b>5,923</b>



The Reserve Division has worked a total of 41 scheduled events for this year, which totaled 215 days throughout the year, an increase compared to 179 days for 2006. The events ranged from parades, property/building checks, sporting events for local schools, and numerous festivals throughout Berrien County, as well as providing security at the Berrien County Youth Fair.

The Reserve Division was activated on three call outs this year. The Reserves assisted the Detective Bureau at a crime scene in New Buffalo Township. They also assisted with traffic control during the investigation of a fatal accident in New Buffalo Township. Niles Township also requested assistance from the Reserve Division on a lost child.

The Reserve Division adopted three families (one from Niles Township, one from Watervliet Township, and one from New Buffalo Township) for Christmas with the 'Shop With A Cop' Program at the Niles Wal-Mart.

The Berrien County Sheriff's Department once again hosted a Basic Reserve Officer's Academy. Twenty individuals from eight departments throughout Berrien County participated in this 96-hour course. Of that total there were four Berrien County Sheriff's Department reserve officers.

# Mounted Division

The Mounted Division dedicated a total of 4,948 volunteer hours in 2007.

## Breakdown of volunteer hours

Events (Parades, Security, & Community Relations)	2,618
Road Patrol / Jail	95
Administrative ( <i>Meetings &amp; Departmental Assistance</i> )	1,495
Training	<u>800</u>
<b>TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS</b>	<b>5,008</b>

## Parades

Blossomtime Parade, Eau Claire Fourth of July Parade, Berrien Springs Fourth of July Parade, Watervliet Fourth of July Parade, Berrien Springs Pickle Festival Parade, Coloma Glad-Peach Festival Parade, Buchanan Parade, and the Niles Apple Festival Parade.

## Security Events



Blossomtime King Pageant, Blossomtime Queen Pageant, Blossomtime Coronation Ball, Crop Walk, Blossomtime Blessing of the Blossoms, Fashion Show, Blossomtime Youth Parade, Blossomtime Carnival, Lakeland Nursing Home Musical Event, Lane Automotive, American Cancer Society Berrien County Relay for Life, Krasl Art Fair, Venetian Festival, Boulevard Hotel, National Night Out Against Crime, Berrien County Youth Fair, St. Joseph Yacht Club Regatta, and the Chapel Hill Arts & Crafts Show.

Among the many hours volunteered, the Mounted Division participated in a two-day training exercise instructed by officers from the Detroit Police Department Mounted Division and the London (England) Mounted Police.

In April, the Second Annual Berrien County Sheriff's Department Mounted Division Spring

Fling Horse Show took place. The money that was raised from the horse show assisted in the purchase of additional officer's safety equipment.

The Mounted Division participated in the 'Coats for Kids Program', which assisted 30 children from local area schools with winter coats, hats, boots, and gloves.

# Emergency Management



2007 Homeland Security Grants (grant years are one year behind calendar year)

2006 HS Regional Grant	\$1,643,120.00	SHSP (State Homeland Security Program)
	\$30,000.00	RRTN (Regional Response Team Network)
	\$1,191,068.00	LETPP (Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program)
	\$30,940.00	CIPP (Critical Infrastructure Protection Program)
2006 Michigan Citizens Corps Program	\$11,500.00	CERT (Citizens Emergency Response Training)
	\$ 2,500.00	NW (Neighborhood Watch)
2006 Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program	Equipment Awards - Six (6) Received	Night Vision Equipment, Thermal Imaging Equipment, and Video Surveillance Equipment.

The regional grant is awarded to the 5<sup>th</sup> District, which includes 8 counties, and one city: Berrien, Allegan, Van Buren, Kalamazoo, Cass, Barry, Branch, Calhoun, and the City of Battle Creek. The awards above are distributed among these counties and city based on need. Each must request their purchase through the Regional Board for a vote.

With the HS Regional Grant, Berrien County has been able to obtain a 24' cargo trailer, Personal Protection Equipment for our HazMat team and a radio tower for the new 911/EOC.

2007 saw the adoption of the Berrien County Animal Emergency Response Plan, which was drafted and put together by members of the Berrien County Disaster Committee, representatives from the State Dept. of Agriculture, Berrien County Animal Control, and the MSU Extension office. This Response Plan will be added to the Berrien County EOP.

The Donald C. Cook Nuclear plant installed new warning sirens throughout Berrien County. This major project took months to complete, along with months of silent testing the new sirens prior to getting approval from FEMA and NRC to go live.

Also in 2007, a Teen SERT (Student Emergency Response Team) was put together at Lake Michigan Catholic High School with the help of the St. Joseph Police Department and Sgt. Rick Smiedendorf.

Work continues on our new EOC and office space at 2100 Empire Ave. Moving is projected to be early 2008.

A total of 110 public, private and parochial school buildings in Berrien County participated in the new lockdown requirement, working with local police, fire and EMS agencies. The Fire Prevention Code, PA 1941, and Act 207 were amended to require a minimum of 2 drills per school year, where occupants are restricted to the interior of the building and the building is secured. Training is ongoing with teachers and administrators.

## Emergency Management Time-line:

1/28-1/29	Snow Emergency
2/13/07	D.C. Cook Communications Exercise
2/20/07	Berrien Co. Health Dept. Pandemic Flu Table-top @ Michigan Works
3/14/07	National Weather Service Storm Spotter Training
3/15/07	Berrien Co. Health Dept. Pandemic Flu Table-top @ Andrew's University
4/11/07	120-day planning meeting w/D.C. Cook
5/8-5/10	Homeland Security Terrorism Training Conference, Grand Rapids
5/21-5/25	Homeland Security Peer Review in Maryland
5/23/07	MS-1 FEMA Evaluated Exercise, Lakeland, SJ
5/24/07	EV-II FEMA Evaluated Exercise at Lakeshore High School and Bridgman High School
6/13/07	Continuity of Operations Business Summit, Lake Mich. College Mendel Center
6/18-6/20	Radiological Emergency Preparedness Training Conference, Bay City
7/10/07	D.C. Cook Drill #1
7/17-7/19	D.C. Cook Comprehensive Review
7/23/07	Table-top Exercise Berrien County Youth Fair
7/31/07	D.C. Cook Drill #2
8/2/07	Four Winds Casino Grand Opening
8/13/07	Congregate Care FEMA Evaluated Exercise @ Brandywine High School
8/13/07	Public Reception Decontamination FEMA Evaluated Exercise @ Brandywine High School
8/14/07	Emergency Operations Center (EOC) FEMA Evaluated Exercise
8/14/07	Emergency Worker Decontamination FEMA Evaluated Exercise @ Galien River Sanitation Dept.
8/21-8/23	Palisades Comprehensive Review
8/23-8/24	Severe Storm / Storm Damage Assessments
8/27/07	Bomb Threat/Hostage Situation @ Harding's Buchanan (hoax)
8/28/07	Table-top Exercise Community Hospital
9/7-9/10	Boil Water Order for Benton Harbor due to Water Pipe Break
9/19/07	Media Breakfast
9/25/07	Table-top Exercise Niles Haunted House
10/16-10/18	Michigan Emergency Management Association (MEMA) Training Summit, Bay City
10/18-10/22	Boil Water Order issued for Benton Harbor
11/8/07	Countywide Disaster Exercise Lakeland Hospital, SJ
11/13-11/14	REP Scheduling Conference, FEMA Headquarters, Chicago
11/14/07	D.C. Cook Table-top Security Exercise
11/28/07	D.C. Cook Table-top Security Exercise



# Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team

The Hazardous Materials Response team was formed in 1981, in response to a tragic train derailment in Berrien County that resulted in the death of a Michigan State Police Trooper. The team consists of 15 members of the Sheriff's Department. Each member is specially trained to deal with a wide variety of hazardous materials which include various chemicals, biological agents, radioactive products, nuclear and explosives.

The Hazardous Materials Response team is a member of the State of Michigan Regional Response Team Network (RRTN), one of 16 throughout the State of Michigan. The RRTN teams are capable of responding State wide with interoperable equipment and communications. When activated, the RRT's become a task force which operates within the command structure of the requesting jurisdiction.

## Responses in 2007

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Call for Service</b>
2-12-07	Royalton Twp.	Possible Chemical Spill
2-19-07	Paw Paw	Chemical Odor
5-30-07	Buchanan Twp.	Possible Anhydrous Ammonia leak
9-5-07	Paw Paw	Unknown substance-55 gal drum
9-26-07	Benton Twp.	Unknown substance in Ox Creek
10-1-07	Hagar Twp.	Assist Coloma-Hagar Fire at a garage fire w/ oil leaking
11-27-07	Benton Twp.	Assist Benton Twp. Fire-Semi trailer leaking unknown substance
12-19-07	Buchanan Twp.	Assist Buchanan Twp. Fire –Medical Office fire – x-ray machine found, check for radiation leak.
12-29-07	Pipestone Twp	Assist Eau Claire Fire – House fire w/fuel leak

# CONCLUSION

As Sheriff, reading this annual report, I cannot express how proud I am of the men and women who work together in achieving the mission of the Berrien County Sheriff's Department. As you read through the annual report, you too will realize what a strong and caring group of Deputies are employed at the department. Each division works hard to achieve what the department stands for, enforce laws, safeguard life and property, to prevent and detect crime, to preserve peace and protect the rights of all citizens. In achieving our mission it makes this department a place to be proud of and to say, "I work for the Berrien County Sheriff's Department".

Respectfully Submitted,



L. Paul Bailey  
Sheriff

