

# ANNUAL REPORT 2015



GREENE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Gregory R. Seeley  
Sheriff

Steven W. Worth  
Undersheriff

# Office of the Sheriff.

*A Message from Sheriff, Gregory R. Seeley*



As I end my second term in office, representing the people of Greene County as **YOUR** Sheriff, I am proud of my accomplishments in my first two terms in office.

The Office of the Sheriff of Greene County is mandated by the New York State Constitution. As the county's only elected law enforcement chief executive officer, the Sheriff of Greene County is answerable directly to the people. The Office of the Sheriff of Greene County works for the citizens of Greene County through its primary divisions and support units administered by the Sheriff. The Office of the Sheriff of Greene County provides services to the public with integrity, persistence and sensitivity.

In view of the rapidly changing public safety and law enforcement environment in the Hudson Valley/Catskills region, as well as current practical limitations on the size and scope of individual agency resources the Greene County Sheriff's Office, Columbia County Sheriff's Office, and the City of Hudson Police Department formed the Columbia Greene Shared Services Response Team (C.G.S.S.R.T). The C.G.S.S.R.T is utilized on high risk warrants, active shooter situations, hostage situations, search and rescue operations, etc. The C.G.S.S.R.T is the first Special Response Team in New York State where two adjoining counties combined their services in this manner. Because of the formation of the C.G.S.S.R.T, grant funding was available. A total of \$250,000.00 in grant money was secured for training including rope rescue operations equipment for the team.

During my first two terms, as you are aware, we also were able to develop a K-9 Unit. We have (2) K-9's trained in drug detection and search and rescue. The K-9's are basically sustained by community donations and funding from drug seizures.

As I begin my third term, I will continue to work for the citizens of Greene County. I will continue to seek grant funding and make the Greene County Sheriff's Office a more professional, full service, law enforcement agency and I will continue to put forth the continued effort to make Greene County a safe place to live, work and attend school.

The Sheriff's Office will continue to work well with other departments and agencies within the county, including the District Attorney, Greene County 911 Center, State and Local Police.

In closing, I would like to thank my staff, the Greene County Legislature and the people of Greene County for their continued support.

Sincerely,

*Gregory R. Seeley*

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# CIVIL DIVISION 2015

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Civil Enforcement Division is responsible for the enforcement of all civil processes in Greene County which includes Summonses, Property Executions, Evictions, Income Executions and Subpoenas just to name a few.

The Civil Office also undertakes a large majority of our business functions including financial functions such as cash receipts, cash disbursements and accounts payable. The accounts involved are Bail & Fine funds, Records funds, and all Civil Account funds.

Your Civil Division consists of one Civil Administrator, assisted administratively by the Secretary to the Sheriff, and the Civil Papers are served by the deputies on patrol.

The Courts in Greene County and the surrounding counties depend on our Deputies to handle matters received from various Towns, Villages, Supreme, Surrogates and Family Courts. Your division often receives Orders of Protection, Summons, Petitions and other orders from all counties in New York as well as other states requesting us to affect service for them within our county.

In the year 2015, the Civil Division brought in (1465) cases resulting in the service of (1465) Civil Papers. The Civil Division processed (144) Summonses, (154) Family Court Papers, (62) orders of protection, (624) Landlord/Tenant Papers and (481) other Civil Processes. A more detailed breakdown of these services is included in this report

The Civil Division is also responsible for the service and enforcement of several different types of Property executions. During 2015, the Civil Division served at total of (384) Property and/or Income executions. Through the service of the aforementioned executions, the Civil Division was able to collect \$957,568.19 in revenue for Creditors and Attorneys.

The Civil Enforcement Division handled (190) Warrants of Eviction in Greene County in 2015. The process for enforcing an eviction would include the Deputy overseeing the actual removal of a tenant's personal property. The Deputy would then ensure that the rights of both landlord and tenant are being observed and seeing that proper procedures and law are being followed. A Deputy could spend several hours on each eviction depending on the amount of personal property to be removed in each eviction.

Revenue for the county brought in for services in 2015 was \$94,845.78. The Civil Division collected \$60,135.84 for Fees, \$34,709.94 for Poundage collected on management of Executions. This money is all turned over to the Greene County Treasurer.

## CIVIL DIVISION – ANNUAL FIGURES

### CIVIL PAPERS SERVED

2013: 1,396

2014: 1,314

2015: 1,465

# CIVIL DIVISION YEARLY SERVICES REPORT 2015

	2014	2015
Summons:	104	144
Property/Income Executions	386	384
Family Court Papers	161	154
Notice of Petition & Petition	174	246
Notice to Tenant	147	188
Eviction Warrant	155	190
Family Court Order of Protection	62	49
Subpoena	25	24
Order to Show Cause	25	12
Action for Divorce	22	9
Criminal Court Order of Protection	10	13
Citation	3	9
Information Subpoena	3	1
Warrant of Arrest/Civil Warrant	0	0
Other Papers	37	42
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1314</b>	<b>1465</b>



# ROAD PATROL 2015

The Road Patrol Division serves the residents of Greene County. Your Deputies serve the county's residents within the local municipalities as they attend school, work and shop in the county. In an effort to further serve the residents of Greene County, your Deputies supplement police service to the Villages and Towns that provide a local police force and answer calls for service in those jurisdictions whenever a need arises. The Division is responsible for enforcing the laws of the State of New York while patrolling 192 miles of state highways, 262 miles of county highways and 719 of local municipality roads on a twenty four hour, seven days a week basis. They are also responsible for patrolling the Hudson River and other waterways throughout the county.



The Road patrol consists of the following staff and works out of five different locations.

- 2 Lieutenants
- 6 Sergeants
- 3 Investigators
- 13 Full time Deputy Sheriffs
- 8 Part-Time Deputy Sheriffs

**The Catskill Main Office** houses our Administration along with the Pistol Permit and Civil divisions. As in the previous year, there are four deputies assigned to the Town of Catskill Post. The deputies of the road patrol answer the complaints of our Greene county citizens by working rotating shifts, twenty four hours a day, and seven days a week.

**The Ashland Satellite** was opened in 2012. As you are aware, the Prattsville Satellite was in the direct path of the flood waters of Hurricane Irene and was flooded with several feet of water and mud. Through the support of the residence in Ashland, we opened a new satellite located at the new Ashland town building to continue our service to the mountain top residents. It remains staffed by four deputies working a rotating shift, twenty four hours a day, seven days a week.

**The New Baltimore Satellite** was opened in early 2009 and has made an immediate impact on the communities it provides service for. This Satellite is located in the New Baltimore Town Hall on C/R 51 in Hannacroix. We currently staff the Satellite in the same manner as our other Stations on a twenty four hour basis.

The members assigned to this Satellite have earned the respect and trust of the citizens of New Baltimore and continue to be a valuable asset to the county providing law enforcement to the communities on the northern end of the county.

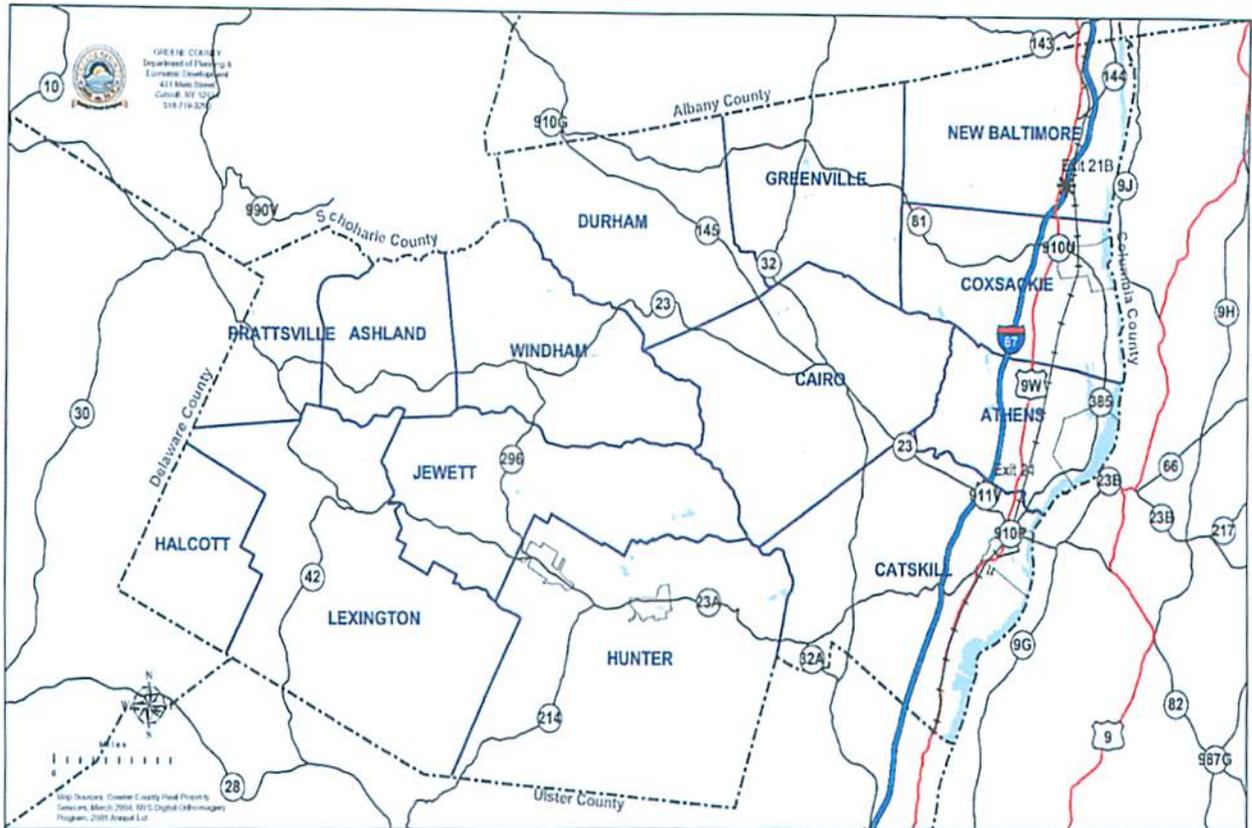
This Satellite is also manned by a Deputy who is certified in the proper installation of child safety seats and is available to install and check child safety seats, on an appointment basis, right at the New Baltimore Satellite.

**The Greenville Satellite** continues to primarily service the Towns of Greenville and Durham.

The patrol division handled **7,558** calls for service in 2015. The Sheriff's Office responded to approximately **38.7%** of the **19536** calls received in the county through Greene County Emergency Operations Center. The remaining **61.3%** were answered by Local Police Agencies, EnCon Police the State Police and a small percentage were cellular 911 calls received for incidents occurring in adjoining counties. A call for service includes any activity a deputy does while on patrol, including assists to other agencies.

The following is a breakdown of the calls:

	2014	2015
Assault/Assault in Progress	13	18
Dead Body	1	1
Drowning	0	0
Harassment	82	110
Domestic Disputes	281	223
Disorderly Conduct/General Disturbance/Fight	36	74
Rape	3	0
Sex Abuse/Assault	0	1
Burglary	67	60
Robbery (including home invasions)	1	2
Criminal Mischief	44	42
Kidnap/Abduction complaint	0	0
Larceny (including vehicle)	58	73
Trespass	61	50
Alcohol Related/Drug Related	18	28
Lost/Missing Person	33	36
Suicide/Suicide Attempt/threat	55	69
Menacing	7	1
Shooting Complaint	41	35
Mental Health Call	110	102
Noise Complaint	57	51
General Complaint	1269	1384
Vehicle Traffic Stops	2219	2098
Assist to Motorist (including lockouts)	352	251
Parking Complaint	32	34
Erratic Driver Complaint	120	129
Hit and Run Accident	8	7
Motor Vehicle Accidents (no injuries)	484	468
Motor Vehicle Accidents (with injuries)	129	107
ATV Accident	0	1
Boat Accident/Fire/Sunk/Water Rescue	10	10
Road/Traffic Hazard	131	119
Suspicious Person, vehicle and/or object	196	157
Vehicle Pursuit	2	4
EID (alarm activations)	795	719
Civil Matter	103	131
Criminal Warrants	121	101
Check the Welfare/Attempt to Locate	146	167
Animal complaints	231	198
Misc. non-emergency calls (including 911 Hang up/Abandoned)	789	194
EMS & Fire Dept Assists	234	299
Child Abuse	0	1
Bomb Threat	0	1
Home Invasion	0	3
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>8,340</b>	<b>7,558</b>



## PENAL LAW ARRESTS 2015

The patrol division made a total of **451** arrests in 2015 resulting in **46** Felony counts, **256** Misdemeanor counts and **132** Violation counts. This number is a slight decrease from 2014.

## ARRESTS BY MUNICIPALITY

	2014	2015
Town of Ashland	23	6
Town of Athens	14	23
Town of Cairo	89	79
Town of Catskill	205	175
Town of Coxsackie	30	37
Town of Durham	14	28
Town of Greenville	17	20
Town of Hunter	30	18
Town of Jewett	7	6
Town of Lexington	6	6
Town of New Baltimore	113	17
Town of Prattsville	7	4
Town of Windham	<u>26</u>	<u>32</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>451</b>

# DRUG & MARIJUANA ARRESTS 2015

Your Sheriff's Office is actively investigating and pursuing drug offenses in Greene County. In 2015 we made a total of 51 Drug and Unlawful Possession of Marijuana arrests. We again conducted outdoor marijuana eradication operations with the New York State Police utilizing and the NYS Army National Guard Counter Drug Unit helicopters. We continue to work well with other law enforcement agencies within and outside of Greene County and also pursue "anonymous tips" from Greene County Citizens to establish leads assisting us with eradicating this increasing problem in our county. Heroin use has also increased throughout New York State. Heroin is no longer concentrated in urban areas. It has spread to our rural communities. The Greene County Sheriff's Office is actively working cases through our Criminal Investigations Unit as well as partnering with the District Attorney's Office, NYS Criminal Narcotics Enforcement Team, and the Drug Enforcement Administration Albany Field Office. We at the Sheriff's Office continue to encourage citizens to come forward with information to help us with this issue.



# VEHICLE & TRAFFIC OFFENSES 2015

The road division, patrolled 465,051 miles in 2015. In August of 2015, we ordered (1) Ford Police Interceptor SUV along with (1) Ford Police Interceptor Sedan to replace aging road patrol vehicles, surrendering (2) older vehicles from our fleet, keeping our fleet numbers the same. It continues to be the goal of the Sheriff's Office to work with the County Legislature in utilizing a County Wide Fleet Maintenance Program where as our higher mileage vehicles, that are otherwise mechanically sound, are transferred to other needs in the County for them to utilize. We continue to have our vehicles serviced and repaired at the County Highway Garage in Athens as a cost savings to the taxpayer. This program has been successful and our agency has developed a great relationship with the employees at that garage.

In 2015 our road patrol conducted 2,098 traffic stops resulting in the issuance of 1,401 traffic summonses.

In addition, these traffic stops resulted in 23 DWI/DWAI Drug arrests. This statistic is lower than last year which will hopefully continue to be the trend.

## FLEET MANAGEMENT

A breakdown of our Vehicles and their mileage as of January 01, 2015 is as follows:

<u>CAR NUMBER</u>	<u>MILEAGE</u>
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1	2009 Dodge Durango	193,218
2	2012 Ford Explorer	97,719
3	2012 Ford Expedition	47,494
4	2009 Chevy Impala	93,792
5	Investigator	75,331
6	Investigator	125,755
7	Investigator	96,397
9	Ford Crown Vic	109,321
25	2010 Chevy Impala	98,892

### DAILY PATROL VEHICLES

10	2014 Ford Taurus	24,206
11	2013 Ford Taurus	72,453
12	2013 Ford Taurus	82,776
13	2011 Ford crown Vic	122,192(K-9)
14	2014 Ford Explorer	33,577
15	2012 Ford Taurus	120,779
16	2013 Ford Taurus	105,375
17	2014 Ford Taurus	39,324
18	2011 Chevy Impala	131,636
20	2013 Ford Explorer	98,622
21	2011 Ford Crown Vic	102,000
23	2012 Ford Expedition	71,487 (K-9)
24	2015 Ford Explorer	10,673
25	2010 Chevy Impala	98,892
26	2008 Chevy Impala	171,885

## SPECIAL DETAIL FOUR WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLES

8 2008 Ford F250 P/U 31,281

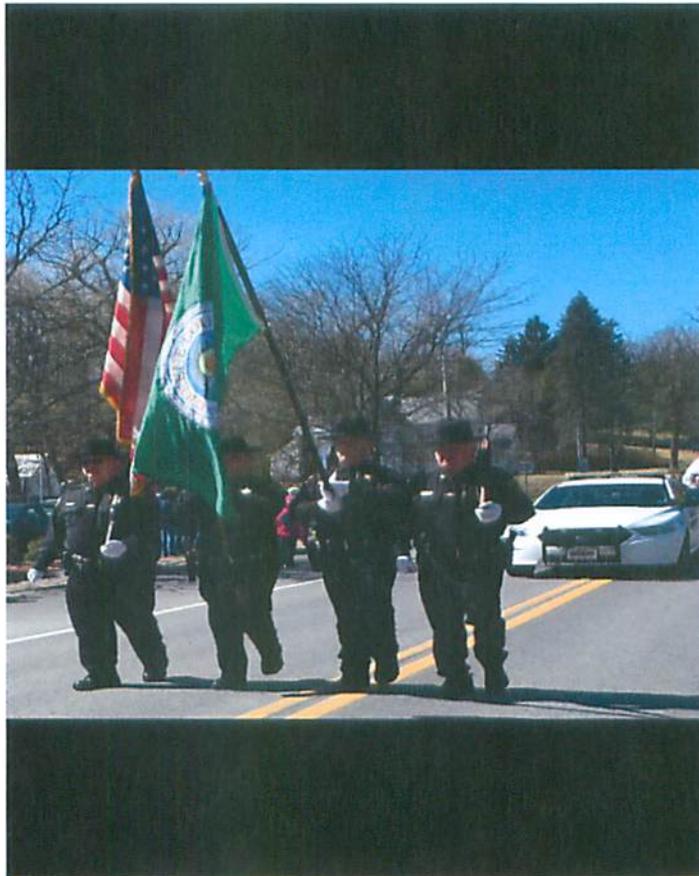
## CORRECTIONS VAN

CV-1 2008 Chevy Van	117,033
CV-2 2007 Chevy Van	70,888
CV-3 2011 Crown Vic	110,109
CV-4 2010 Chevy Impala	130,030

## Color Guard

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Color Guard continues to participate and support various civic functions throughout the area. This past year, we continued along that same path. The Greene County Sheriff's Office Color Guard participated in the following events in 2015:

- Wake and Funeral for retired Deputy Mike Fries in Palenville
- St. Patrick's Day Parade – Greenville
- Welcome Home our Returning Heroes in Oak Hill
- Memorial day Parade in Tannersville
- Memorial Day Parade in Cairo
- Memorial Day Parade - Villages of Catskill
- Fourth of July Parade – East Durham
- Greene County Volunteer Fireman's Association Convention in Palenville
- Dedication for those who died in the line of duty Greene County Memorial Wall - Cairo



# Criminal Investigations Unit

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Unit (CIU) currently has (3) Full-time Investigators and (1) Deputy assigned to Investigations. The Criminal Investigations Unit is responsible for a variety of Felony and Misdemeanor investigations including Robberies, Burglaries, Larcenies, Sex Crimes and Drug Investigations. The Criminal Investigations Unit is also responsible for the tracking of Sex Offenders in Greene County ensuring that they are properly registered with New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services and are up to date with the mandatory annual verification process which gives Law Enforcement the most up to date information on each Sex Offenders whereabouts and activities within Greene County. The Criminal Investigations Unit is also tasked with monitoring and controlling all misdemeanor and felony warrants for the Greene County Sheriff's Office as well as conducting background investigations on all potential county employees before they are hired.

## **Notable Cases from 2015**

### **May, 2015**

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Unit was called to assist the New York State Attorney General's Office to assist in an investigation at a local nursing home. During the investigation it was learned that the suspect was falsifying business records and taking prescription medications from patients. The investigation originally began in January 2015 and the suspect was arrested on May 04<sup>th</sup>, 2014 by the Greene County Sheriff's Office and the Attorney General's Office. The suspect was charged with Falsifying business, records in the 1<sup>st</sup> degree, a class E felony, Criminal possession of a controlled substance, a class A misdemeanor and Petit Larceny, a class A misdemeanor

The Greene County Sheriff's Office was dispatched to Old Plank Road in the Town of Greenville for a missing person complaint. The first arriving Deputy learned that the missing person was an elderly female who was not from the area, but from Alaska and here for a short period of time visiting a relative. The Criminal Investigations Unit was contacted and responded to the scene. Additional patrols as well as the Greenville Fire Department were called in to assist in searching for the elderly female. A command post was established at the Greenville Fire Department and the reverse 911 system was utilized to make notification to local residents. A missing person's file was sent via the New York State EJustice Portal and just before sunset the Greene County Sheriff's Office received notification from the City of Albany Police Department that an Officer was currently taking with someone that matched the description of our reported missing person and that the Officer would stand by to assist further once the person was identified. The missing person was identified and two Deputies were sent to make contact and bring the person back to the relative's house in Greenville. Adult protective services was contacted and made their services available to the family.

### **June, 2015**

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Unit was contacted by the Mental Health Association of Columbia and Greene Counties to report sexual activity between a counselor and a client. Over the next month, Investigators from the Criminal Investigations Unit conducted interviews and obtained warrants to search cell phones and other records to obtain evidence needed to make an arrest in this case. After the investigation was completed, the counselor was arrested for Sexual Abuse in the Second Degree, a class A misdemeanor.

**July, 2015**

The Greene County Sheriff's Office was conducting a property check on county owned property in the Town of Cairo when the observed an individual operating an all-terrain vehicle on the property. The two Deputies attempted to make contact with the individual and during the attempt on of the Deputies was struck and dragged for 88 feet. The ATV eventually became stuck between several trees and the Deputy was able to free himself. The other Deputy then made contact with the individual and he began to fight the Deputy. The Deputies called for assistance and were able to place the suspect under arrest a short time later. The Criminal Investigations Unit was called in to Investigate the incident and charged the suspect with Aggravated DWI, Assault in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree with intent to cause injury to an Officer, Reckless Endangerment in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Resisting Arrest and several Vehicle and Traffic violations. The suspect was arraigned in the Town of Cairo Court and remanded to the Greene County Jail on \$50,000 cash bail.

**July, 2015**

The Greene County Sheriff's Office has continued its fight on illegal drugs and as part of this fight it has been learned that people will continue to use until they receive the proper help. Keeping this in mind, in June of 2015 the Criminal Investigations Unit trained each member of the Greene County Sheriff's Office in the use of Naloxone (narcan). Each Deputy went through an instructional period as well as a practical application period where they have to show that they know how to properly administer the naloxone to a victim. In early July of 2015 this training and equipment was put to use when the Greene County Sheriff's Office was dispatched to assist with an EMS call in the Town of Catskill. Upon arrival Deputies were able to identify the symptoms of an overdose and administered the naloxone to the victim. A short time after administering the naloxone, the victim started to breath at more normal rate and became aware of his surroundings. It is without a doubt that this victim would have died if it were not for these Deputies utilizing the training and tools that they have been given.

**September, 2015**

The Greene County Sheriff's Office was contacted by a victim reporting that his truck along with an attached trailer and atv were stolen out of his driveway in the Town of New Baltimore. The Criminal Investigations Unit was able to obtain video footage from local businesses in the area and begin to establish leads. During the investigation, the stolen truck was discovered in Saugerties, NY. Members of the Criminal Investigation Unit and an evidence tech were able to process the truck and obtain valuable evidence. Information regarding this case was discussed with the Saugerties Police Department and a possible suspect was identified. The suspect was interviewed by the Criminal Investigations Unit and confessed to the crime. The suspect was arrested by Saugerties Police Department for criminal possession of stolen property and remanded to the Ulster County Jail. The Criminal Investigations Unit has lodged a warrant of arrest for this suspect with the Ulster County Jail for the charges he will be facing in Greene County.

**December, 2015**

The Greene County Sheriff's Office, Town of Coxsackie Ambulance Service, Town of Catskill Ambulance and Greene County Paramedics responded to a report of a four month old choking and not breathing in the Town of Coxsackie. Upon arrival emergency services personnel provided the four month old with life saving measures and transported him the Albany Medical Center. The Criminal Investigations Unit began to investigate this case immediately. With the assistance from the Greene County District Attorney's Office, Greene County Child Protective Services and Albany Medical Center, the suspect in this case has been arrested for Assault in the Second Degree, a class D Felony. The Greene County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Unit also handled 24 Unattended Death Investigations, 5 Suicide Investigations, 2 Fatal Motor Vehicle Accident Investigations, 1 Fatal Snow Mobile Accident Investigation, 5 Sex-Offense Cases, 4 Child Abuse Cases, assisted with and investigated over 20 burglaries, 11 fraud cases and over 60 Drug Investigations during 2015.

# Sheriff's K-9 Unit



## Greene County Sheriff Office 2015 K9 Report

This year has been a busy year for the Greene County K-9 Unit. Deputy Stern and Deputy Braden handled 430 calls for service, 71 being directly related to K-9 deployments. These deployments ranged from tracking and finding a suicidal women in the town of Cossackie and getting her the help she needed. Successfully tracking a pair of burglary suspects in Pallenville, locating stolen items along the track, aiding in the prosecution of the suspects. While searching a vehicle for narcotics in the town of Catskill, the K9 alerted to 17000.00 dollars in cash that was hidden in the trunk of the vehicle. A test of the money showed that there was illegal levels of cocaine residue on the money. Both K9 units work closely with Greene County Probation doing many successful narcotics searches, with one search yielding 50 bags of heroin. Every time the Columbia Greene Shared Service Response Team is deployed one or both K9 units assist. The K9 teams did several K9 demonstrations all over the county and was an important part of crowd control at the Taste of Country, Mountain Jam and the Athens Street Festival. The K9 units did searches for other Law Enforcement agency's within the county at there request, ranging from simple demonstrations to narcotic searches. As always the K9's are available to any agency that request them 24 hours a day. Both K9 units hold national level and state level certifications going above and beyond the state requirements. We have become a highly respected K9 program where teams from all over the country have come to us for Police K9 tactics training. We also host monthly trainings for City of Albany Police, Cohoes Police, Saratoga County Sheriff Office, Albany County Sheriff Office and University of Albany Police as well as hosting two major tactics trainings for teams from as far away as Virginia.

Vehicle Narcotics search	49
Building Narcotics search	15
Building Clearing	19
Tracks	21
Apprehension	5
Officer Safety	28
Crowd Control	9
Perimeter Control	13
Mandatory Training hours	192 hrs
<b>The following are narcotics located by K9 teams (various quantities)</b>	
Marihuana	31
Heroin	10
Cocaine	1
Prescription pills	12

# GREENE COUNTY DEPT. OF MENTAL HEALTH

For over the past eight years the Sheriff's Office has been providing a Deputy to the County Office of Mental Health to provide security for their workers at the Cairo Office Building Annex. In 2013, the Sheriff's Office assigned (1) full-time deputy to the Office of Mental Health and (1) part-time deputy to ensure that (2) deputies were in the building during normal business hours. Also, a magnetometer was installed to provide additional safety to the Office of Mental Health. The deputies primary duties are to ensure the safety of the mental health employees and patients. They also assist the road patrol with the detention of patients who are being ordered to be transported to mental health treatment facilities. They work varying daytime hours Monday thru Friday.

## Mental Health Office 2015 Report

<b><u>CLINICIAN ASSISTS:</u></b>	19
<b><u>E.M.S. ASSISTS:</u></b>	7
<b><u>FIRE DRILLS:</u></b>	3
<b><u>FIRE ALARM ACTIVATIONS:</u></b>	3
<b><u>MENTAL HEALTH PICKUP ORDERS:</u></b>	62
<b><u>CIVIL PAPERS SERVED:</u></b>	1
<b><u>ASSIST OTHER AGENCY</u></b>	2
<b><u>ARRESTS:</u></b>	1
<b><u>FOUND PROPERTY:</u></b>	1

## MAGNETOMETER STATISTICS:

<b>TRAFFIC COUNTER:</b>	<b>27,144</b>
<b>ALARMS:</b>	<b>9,764</b>
<b>WEAPONS:</b>	<b>245</b>

# PISTOL PERMIT DIVISION

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Pistol Permit Office is responsible for issuing pistol permits and related documents to the residents of Greene County. The Pistol Permit division is also responsible for the issuance of I.D. cards for county employees and also issues identification cards for local police agencies.

**The following is an account of the Pistol Permit Division activity for 2015:**

## Pistol Permit Related Requests Processed:

	2014	2015
Amendments to pistol permits:	690	704
Purchase Coupons:	606	625
Pistol Permit applications:	503	652
Pistol Permit transfers:	23	48
Original Pistol Permits:	183	212
Duplicate Pistol Permits:	118	119
Conversions from paper style permit:	62	371
Received and processed:	\$10,041.00	\$10,908.00

## GRANTS

We continue to actively pursue all grants that would increase the productivity of our Office without the added burden to our county taxpayers.

We also continued applying for Department of Homeland Security Funding. Our agency was advised in early August that we were awarded **\$100,000** in funding for FY 2015. We intend continue to use this funding to purchase equipment and to reimburse for training to continue to enhance our Special Response Team and our Dive Team.

We also received a federal grant for the Bullet Proof Vest Replacement Program. We were awarded **\$6614.49** towards new bullet proof vests. All new deputy hires are covered **100%** through the federal grant and a state grant at no direct cost to Greene County tax payers.

We received approximately **\$3300.00** from the Department of Homeland Security towards our Marine Patrol operations.

# MARINE PATROL

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol is comprised of one Patrol Sergeant, five full - time and four part-time deputies who are responsible for the enforcement of boating safety regulations, as well as conducting search, rescue and recovery operations. Their primary patrol zone is the Hudson River and the Catskill Creek, but they are available to respond to the lakes and reservoirs throughout our county, if needed.

The Marine Patrol Unit primarily patrolled the Hudson River with a 28ft McKee Craft patrol boat which this agency received from the New York State office of Parks and Recreation. The Unit is also equipped with a smaller aluminum patrol boat, for shallow water operations, and two jet skis which again were obtained, free of charge, from the NYS Office of Parks and Recreation.

During the 2014 boating season the Greene County Sheriff's Marine Patrol worked a total of **(1049)** hours. During this time period, **(101)** boats were stopped and **(77)** warnings were issued. While on patrol, they handled **(11)** assists to boaters, investigated **(1)** boat accident, inspected **(24)** and also covered numerous events. They also conducted and assisted various law enforcement agencies with **(7)** search and rescues.

The Greene County Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol also has become involved with many civic organizations in Greene and Columbia Counties. The Greene County Sheriff's Office conducts a boater's safety course at least once a year.



# **DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING SECURITY DETAIL**

Since its opening, the Sheriff's Office has been providing security and services to the employees and customers of the County Office Building and the Department of Social Services. We currently have (2) deputies assigned to DSS and the County Office Building (COB) and continue the successful use of Special Patrol Officers.

The Special Patrol Officers' primary duty is to oversee entry into the building and passage through the Magnetometers. In order to be considered for this position the applicant must be either a retired Police or Peace officer. This requirement ensured our agency that the SPO's were knowledgeable with NYS Laws and had experience dealing with the public. We currently utilize (5) SPO's who work on a part - time basis.

The magnetometer has also been helpful in producing various arrests throughout the year. These include few for drugs, and a few for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Some clients were also found to be in possession of firearms, although the clients were licensed to carry the weapons, they were immediately advised that firearms were not allowed in the County Office Building and the clients left the premises without incident.

Between the Department of Social Services and the County office building, there were a total of (161) calls for service. Among these calls for service were lost license plate reports for DMV, employee business related injuries, training, meetings, etc. These calls also include but are not limited to:

- (11) Arrests
- (20) Assists to other agencies (which include assisting other Police, as well as Fire/EMS)
- (8) Fire alarm activations
- (38) Lost license plate entries
- (4) Lock down drills
- (1) Auto Accident
- (1) Domestic Incident

## SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM



The Special Response Team (S.R.T.) is trained in various tactical operations to include: building entry and clearing, vehicle assaults, search and rescue, drug/high risk warrants, crisis negotiations, active shooter incidents and correctional facility incidents.

The Special Response Team is continuously active in the apprehension of suspects relating to drug/high risk arrest and search warrants. More importantly, the team is continually training and preparing for the impending risk of "active shooter" type incidents. With the heightened threat of active shooter incidents becoming more frequent it is imperative that the Special Response Team continue to train and coordinate efforts with other local emergency service personnel.

New for 2015, The Greene County Sheriff's Office is now working closely in conjunction with the Columbia County Sheriff's Office and the City of Hudson Police Department. The three agencies together have now formed the "Columbia Greene Shared Services Response Team" (C.G.S.S.R.T.) The new team is an expanded version of the Greene County Special Response Team. To our knowledge, we have formed the first, and only, "multi-county" jurisdictional tactical response team in the State of New York. By combining our efforts we have almost tripled team personnel as well as reduced operational costs by the sharing of equipment and other assets. By joining the three teams into one we have made the three agencies more eligible to grant money and other municipal assets due to consolidation.

In 2015, the GCSSRT was activated and conducted several successful operations in both Greene and Columbia counties. Listed below are a few notable incidents:

- In June GCSO patrol Units were dispatched to a residence in the Town of Cairo for a report of a male armed with a gun threatening to commit suicide. Upon arrival, patrol units set up a perimeter near the residence in an effort to contain the suicidal male. Once the perimeter was put in place the CGSSRT was activated. Patrol units started checking neighboring residences for any innocent bystanders while other units attempted to make phone communication with the suicidal male. While CGSSRT members were arriving on the scene the suicidal male subsequently took his own life.
- In October the CGSSRT was activated to assist in a multi-agency drug enforcement investigation in which the team executed three "back to back" high risk search warrants. During the operation three warrants were executed at three separate locations resulting in the detention of 7 suspects who were subsequently turned over to the Investigation Units.
- In November the CGSSRT was activated and responded to the Town of Horicon, in Warren County, to assist with a woodland search for an elderly male hunter who was reported missing. CGSSRT assisted the Warren County Sheriff's Office, NYS DEC, NYS Forest Rangers, NYS Police and numerous other agencies in the search.

# Training

The Sheriff and the administration continue to feel strongly regarding the need to stay current with training. We had members participate in over **2000+** hours of training. We sponsored (2) Greene County residents to attend the Zone 14 Law Enforcement Academy at Columbia Greene Community College. This is a part time academy that the recruits pay all tuition out of their own pocket but gives them the valuable training and certification they need in order to pursue a career in law enforcement in NYS.

In addition to the mandated training which includes, firearms, workplace violence and harassment along with OSHA mandated training we sent several members to specialized and advance training courses sponsored by various agencies throughout the state. Some of that training includes:

- (4) SRT members attended the NYTOA training conference
- Monthly in-service training for our Special Response Team and Dive Team
- Bi-weekly training for our K-9 Division
- Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement Course (ARIDE)
- Basic Crime Scene Photography
- Drug Recognition Expert
- Course in Police Supervision for our new Sergeants and Investigators
- Law Enforcement continuing education courses for supervisors
- New York State Sheriff's Association Supervisor Conference
- Law and Legal Updates
- Forensic Evidence Technician School
- Tactical Team Leadership Course
- Field Intelligence School



Above: Deputies train in defensive tactics

## Dive Team



The Greene County Sheriff's Dive Team is made up of (7) divers and (7) diver tenders. The Dive Team trains once a month. On occasion, our dive team partners up with the Ulster County Dive Team and Columbia County Dive Team, to conduct joint training operations. Our dive team's equipment and upgrades are purchased through a Homeland Security Grant thus adding no direct cost to the Greene County tax payers.

In 2015, the Dive Team did not have any actual Dive Emergency Calls which was a good thing. The Dive Team scheduled their training days to assist other organizations and provide services that will build solid relationships for our team in the future.

In January the Dive Team joined up with Ulster County Dive Team for monthly training. The Dive Teams spent the day at Camp Tri-Mount on Boy Scout Rd in Jewett educating the Boy Scouts on the dangers of unstable ice and the methods deployed to affect ice surface rescues as well as recoveries of victims who have fallen through the ice. Although Ulster Co. has been providing this service for several years past, it was an opportunity for the leaders at the camp to familiarize themselves with our team and our capabilities should the need arise to assist them in an emergency.

During April's training in the Hudson River near Coxsackie, the Dive Team asked to assist the United States Coast Guard (USCG) with locating and assessing damage done to Channel marker #161 that was knocked off its rock base by last year's heavy river ice. Our divers, assisted by our marine patrol, and Columbia County's Marine and Dive units, found the 30' high structure still attached to its 6,000lb base approximately 50yds south of its original location, in about 50' of water. Again we took our training opportunity to assist another agency while showcasing our abilities and forming a working relationship with the Coast Guard for future needs.

Over the summer months the Dive Team continued to train among themselves as well as with other agencies. The Team trained in Ulster County at the U.S. Coast Guard Property where Deputy Steyer instructed us on how to properly conduct hull inspections for damage and incendiary devices on large ships. The Team also had the opportunity to dive on the Hydro-Electric Plant located in Leeds. Once again the Team utilized its training day to assist an outside company, Gravity Renewables Inc. by inspecting their Intake Grates. This not only benefited GRI, but it gave our divers the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the hazards we would encounter in an actual emergency at this location, as it is a popular swimming hole throughout the Summer.

During the fall, and into the winter, the Dive Team continued to train. Utilizing some recently purchased equipment, Dep. Steyer started some overview training for swift water rescue. Given the recent past floods that this county has experienced, having a team of trained professionals would only prove to benefit the department and save lives.

In December during training, the dive team sank a car in the Catskill Creek. Our divers practiced and trained on victim recovery from within a vehicle, as well as rigging and securing of vehicles to be towed out of the water after submergence.

# Sex Offender Registry

In September of 2011 the Greene County Sheriff's Office appointed Investigator Robert LaBuff to monitor sex offenders who reside in Greene County. Investigator LaBuff monitor's, tracks and manages sex offenders, assists outside agencies and the general public with questions or concerns regarding sex offenders. Investigator LaBuff has reported, in 2015 members of the Sheriff's Office CIU, contacted 211 Offenders, 52 residency checks were performed, 15 complaints or calls were received from the public, 32 assists with probation/parole, 113 address updates were completed, 109 electronic photo updates, 251 Sex Offender Registry updates, and 14 Outside Agency Assist's.

Notable cases for 2015 include the arrest of a level 2 sex offender who left his residence In Greene County and failed to report his new address. Investigator LaBuff immediately initiated an investigation into the location of the offender. Through various investigative methods, a photo that the offender posted online was soon discovered and used to locate the offender in Columbia County. With the assistance of the Columbia County Sheriff's Office Investigation Unit, the subject was placed in custody at a residence that was under surveillance by members of both Columbia and Greene County Sheriff's Offices. The subject was arraigned in Greene County for failure to report a change of address within 10 days. The subject also faced similar charges in Columbia County.

In addition to performing residency checks, investigators are tasked with searching and monitoring various online websites that offer social networking to locate offenders who fail to report these internet identifiers or use an alias and operate these accounts under a false persona. Investigator LaBuff made 3 arrests directly related to social networking due to offenders failing to report internet identifiers for internet profiles under their control.

As of February 1st 2016, the Greene County Sheriff's Office is currently monitoring 86 registered sex offenders which reside within the 22 Towns, Villages and Hamlets outside of the Village of Catskill and Village of Coxsackie. This is an increase of 2 registered sex offenders from the previous report. There is 1 case currently pending for level designation. Investigator LaBuff is the main contact for the agency and can be easily reached via [rlabuff@discovergreene.com](mailto:rlabuff@discovergreene.com) (518) 943-3300 ext 8019 or (518) 965-2560.

The following charts below reflect the Greene County Sex Offender Registries 86 registered sex offenders, registered as of February 1st 2014, categorized by the Town or Village in which they reside and their respective "risk level":

TOWN/VILLAGE	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
ACRA	2	3	
ASHLAND	1		1
ATHENS	1		
CAIRO	3	7	4
CATSKILL	12	7	1
CORNWALLVILLE	2	1	

TOWN/VILLAGE	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
COXSACKIE	1	3	
DURHAM	1		
EARLTON	2	1	1
FLEISCHMANN'S		1	
FREEHOLD	1	1	
GREENVILLE	2	1	
HAINES FALLS		1	
JEWETT		1	1
LANESVILLE		1	
LEEDS	7	2	
NEW BALTIMORE	3	1	2
PALENVILLE		1	
ROUNDTOP	1		1
SHANDAKEN	1		1
TANNERSVILLE	2		
WINDHAM			

# Summer Camp 2015

The Sheriff Summer Camp, which is located near Penn Yan in Yates County, is supported by the NYS Sheriff's Association Honorary Members through their contributions and annual dues. In 2015, the camp accommodated over 900 boys and girls from across New York State including 16 children from Greene County.

Throughout the week-long stay, the children observe special exhibits and demonstrations presented by deputies from Sheriff's Departments from across the state. Included in these presentations are D.A.R.E. presentations, boat and bike safety programs, law enforcement equipment and technical demonstrations, pistol and archery competitions and even a talent show just for fun.

Upon completion of their stay, all the children were awarded a diploma for their participation in a program of "Good Citizenship and Law Enforcement Studies.

## **GREENE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CORRECTION'S DIVISION**

Greene County continues to operate the oldest Jail in the State of New York. The 108-year-old facility houses 56 inmates in four (4) housing units. The original facility consisted of three (3) housing units, which housed 40 inmates. In 1978 the county started construction on D-block which was completed in 1981. This increased the facility's capacity to 56 inmates. However, due to structural issues at the facility, and several inspections by the Commission of Corrections, the state has enforced the 80% capacity limit for the old style linear jails, which is what this facility is classified as. This affected the number of inmates we are allowed to keep in-house before boarding out to other counties. The maximum allowed was dropped to 45 inmates to be housed at the Greene County Jail.

### ***STAFFING LEVELS***

The County Jail is currently staffed with 1 Superintendent, 1 Lieutenant, 5 Sergeants, 32 Correction Officers, 1 Registered Nurse, 1 part time Physician, and 5 Correction Cooks (4 of these are part time). We also have, in cooperation with Greene County Mental Health, a social worker that is at the facility 5 days a week and a mental health psychiatrist that reports to the facility 1 day a week. Questar provides us with a teacher for the inmate's G.E.D. program during the normal school calendar.

### ***GOV. PAY NET.***

2015 was the seventh full year of providing a pay bail by credit card service and it has continued to prove to be a cost savings, successful program. In 2015 this service was used a total of 85 times, paying \$164,405 in bails. Since midway through 2008, this service has been utilized 623 times yielding \$1,155,861 in bail payments. Although the county does not receive any revenue from this program, the taxpayers do realize a tremendous savings in reducing the number of inmates that we would have been required to board out to other counties.

### **INMATE WORK CREWS**

In 2012 the State of New York changed its stance on allowing county inmates to participate in work crews. Since then inmates confined to the jail worked on several community projects. They have done work in New Baltimore Town Hall converting a basement into a Sheriff's Office Satellite; they have cleaned and stained the pavilion in Haines Falls, and scraped and repainted the fence along the cemetery in New Baltimore. The municipality is responsible for the costs of materials and the Jail provides the labor. Management staff has advised the local municipalities of the availability of these crews and hopes that these types of projects continue. Below are some of the projects inmate crews worked on during 2015.



Sacred Heart Church- Cairo



Greene County Transfer Station



Hunter Mt. Historical Society



Windham Fire House



Hensonville Park Dedication



Hensonville Cemetery



Sacred Heart Church Palenville



Greene County Fireman's Parade



Halcott Town Hall



Halcott Town Hall

### ***BOARDING OF INMATES***

In 2015 the Greene County Jail averaged 29.79 inmates a day boarded out to other jails. This number is up compared to 2014. In 2014 it was 28 and 38.75 in 2013. In 2015 the boarding of inmates cost the taxpayers \$827,890, (\$821,775 to Columbia County, \$3795 to Oneida County (Mental Health), and \$2320 to Albany County), up from \$788,670 in 2014 and down from \$1,096,170 in 2013. This number is strictly the amount of money paid to other counties and does not include the cost of staff and travel expenses.

### **2013/2014/2015 INMATE POPULATION COMPARISON:**

Below is a 2013, 2014, and 2015 inmate population comparison:

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Total # Inmates Received:	729	680	651
Adults:	695	661	648
Minors:	34	19	3
Total # of Males			
Adults:	539	536	489
Minors	30	16	3
Total # of Females			
Adults:	156	125	159
Minors:	4	3	0
Avg. Daily Population:	85	72	76
Highest Daily Count:	102	92	96
Lowest Daily Count:	69	55	59
Sentenced to State Prison	66	72	81

**2013/2014/2015 INMATES ADMITTED BY ETHNIC ORIGIN:**

	<u>Hispanic (M)</u>	<u>Hispanic (F)</u>	<u>Non-Hispanic (M)</u>	<u>Non-Hispanic (F)</u>	<u>Total</u>
2013	60	11	511	147	729
2014	66	10	488	116	680
2015	69	13	423	146	651

**2013/2014/2015 MALE INMATES ADMITTED BY RACE:**

	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Am. Indian</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Total</u>
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2013	3	111	0	42	413	569
2014	2	113	1	49	387	552
2015	1	105	0	33	353	492

**2013/2014/2015 FEMALE INMATES ADMITTED BY RACE:**

	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Am. Indian</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Total</u>
2013	0	10	0	6	145	161
2014	0	14	0	8	106	128
2015	0	21	0	4	134	159

**2013/2014/2015 TRANSPORT COMPARISONS:**

	<u>Prisons</u>	<u>County Jails</u>	<u>Medical</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total#</u>
2013	33	472	230	284	1019
2014	31	328	180	321	860
2015	36	335	215	360	946

# SHERIFF'S OFFICE CHAIN OF COMMAND



## *Deputy Sheriff's Prayer*

*When I start my tour of duty God,  
wherever crime may be,  
As I walk the darkened streets alone,  
let me be close to thee.*

*Please give me understanding  
with both the young and old.  
Let me listen with attention  
until their story's told.*

*Let me never make a judgment  
in a rash or callous way.  
But let me hold my patience,  
let each man have his say.*

*Lord if some dark and dreary night,  
I must give my life,  
Lord with your everlasting love  
protect those special in my life.*



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