

# GILMER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**2024**

## *ANNUAL REPORT*



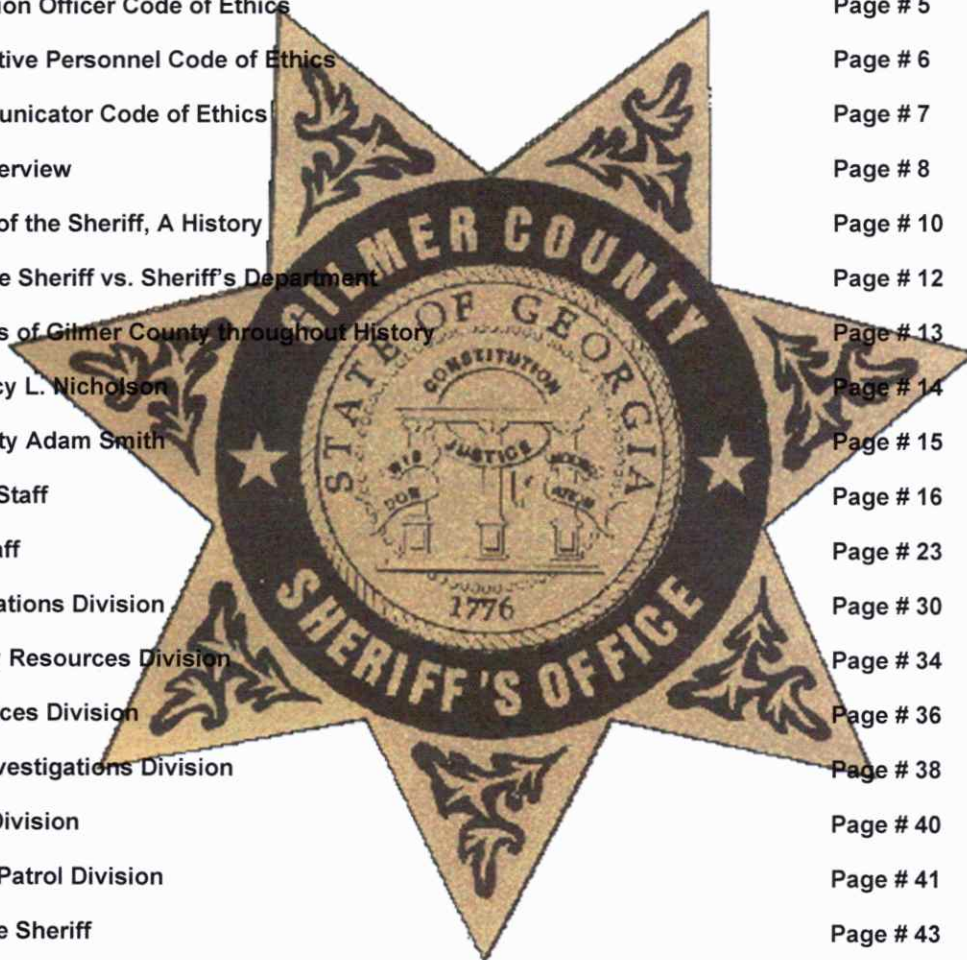
*Stacy L. Nicholson, Sheriff*

A State Certified Law Enforcement Agency  
[www.gilmersheriff.com](http://www.gilmersheriff.com)



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## A Word from Sheriff Nicholson

As Sheriff of Gilmer County, I take great pride in presenting our 2024 Annual Report—now the fifteenth year we have opened our doors wide to show our community who we are, what we do, and most importantly, *why* we do it. This report reflects our ongoing commitment to transparency, accountability, and the bond we share with the people we serve.

We are truly blessed here in Gilmer County. While much of the country struggles with growing mistrust toward law enforcement, our citizens continue to show us respect and support. That trust is not automatic—it is something we work hard to earn and protect through professionalism, compassion, and constant communication. We know that when a community and its law enforcement stand together, everyone is stronger and safer.

Transparency has always been one of our top priorities. Along with this annual report, we continue to engage with the community through our website, mobile app, social media, and programs like our Citizens' Law Enforcement Academy. We believe the more you know about who we are and what we do, the stronger our bond becomes.

One of my proudest ongoing commitments is the presence of trained School Resource Officers in every public school in our county - something we have maintained for years to help ensure a safe, supportive environment for students and staff alike.

I am deeply proud of the men and women who make up the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office. Their courage, compassion, and commitment to service are what make this agency something special. I may be the one wearing the star, but this Office belongs to you - the people of Gilmer County. I am simply honored to lead it for a time.

You may never need us—and we sincerely hope you don't—but rest assured: we are always here, always ready, and always on watch for you.

Thank you for allowing us to serve.

**Stacy L. Nicholson**  
Sheriff, Gilmer County



**Gilmer County Sheriff's Office**  
*Sheriff Stacy L. Nicholson*  
"A Professional Law Enforcement Agency"



## Mission Statement

**The primary mission of the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office is to maintain social order within the prescribed ethical and constitutional limits, while providing professional law enforcement services.**

To attain this, the Agency enforces the law in a fair and impartial manner, recognizing both the statutory and judicial limitations of police authority and the constitutional rights of all persons.

The agency recognizes that no law enforcement agency can operate at its maximum potential without supportive input from the citizens it serves. The Agency actively solicits and encourages the cooperation of all citizens to reduce and limit the opportunities for crime and to facilitate the maximum use of resources.





# Gilmer County Sheriff's Office

## *Sheriff Stacy L. Nicholson*

"A Professional Law Enforcement Agency"



### **Our Core Values**

- Integrity:** We demonstrate this cornerstone of our agency through honesty, accountability, and high ethical standards.
- Respect:** We create respect within our agency and community through listening, understanding, and acknowledging feedback.
- Adaptability:** We ensure the success of our agency by embracing positive change and by nurturing diversity, creativity, and visionary thinking.
- Communication:** We cultivate and maintain excellence by remaining approachable at all levels, communicating openly, and building strong relationships.
- Commitment:** We are steadfast in our goals to develop learning opportunities for career-minded professionals and to strengthen efficiency and effectiveness.



# Gilmer County Sheriff's Office

## *Sheriff Stacy L. Nicholson*

"A Professional Law Enforcement Agency"



## The Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all men to liberty, equality, and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all and will behave in a manner that does not bring discredit to me or to my agency. I will maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities, or friendships to influence my decision. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice, or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith and I accept it, as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession...Law Enforcement.



# Gilmer County Sheriff's Office

## *Sheriff Stacy L. Nicholson*

"A Professional Law Enforcement Agency"



## The Detention Officer Code of Ethics

As a Detention Officer, I regard myself as a member of an important and honorable profession

I will always keep myself in the best possible physical condition;

I will always perform my duty with efficiency;

I will be exemplary in my conduct, edifying in my conversation, honest in my dealings and obedient in the laws of the city, county, state, and country;

I will regard my oath as I regard sacred honor;

I will not, in the performance of my duty, work for personal advantage or profit;

I will always recognize that I am a public servant;

I will give the most efficient and impartial service of which I am always capable;

I will always be courteous in my contacts;

I will regard my fellow officers with the same standards as I hold myself;

I will guard the honor and life of my fellow officers as I guard my own;

I will be loyal to my fellow officers, my supervisors, and my institution;

I will accept responsibility for my actions;

I will only do those things that will reflect honor on my fellow officers, my institution and myself;





**Gilmer County Sheriff's Office**  
*Sheriff Stacy L. Nicholson*  
"A Professional Law Enforcement Agency"



**Administrative Personnel Code of Ethics**

**SERVE THE PUBLIC INTEREST**

Serve the public, beyond serving oneself.

**RESPECT THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAW**

Respect and support government constitutions and laws that define responsibilities of public agencies, employees, and all citizens.

**DEMONSTRATE PERSONAL INTEGRITY**

Demonstrate the highest standards in all activities to inspire public confidence and trust in public service.

**PROMOTE ETHICAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Strengthen organizational capabilities to apply ethics, efficiency, and effectiveness in serving the public.

**STRIVE FOR PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

Strengthen individual capabilities and encourage the professional development of others.





# Gilmer County Sheriff's Office

## *Sheriff Stacy L. Nicholson*

"A Professional Law Enforcement Agency"



### **TELECOMMUNICATOR'S CODE OF ETHICS**

As a tele-communicator I regard myself as a member of an important and honorable profession.

I will recognize the positive relationship between good physical and mental conditioning and the performance of my job.

I will perform my duty with efficiency to the best of my ability.

My conduct and my performance of my duties will be accomplished in an honest manner, contributory to my fellow workers, and observant of the laws of the city, state, and country.

I will not, in the performance of my duty, work for unethical advantage or profit.

I will always recognize in my duty that I am a public safety employee, and that ultimately, I am responsible to the public.

I will give the most efficient and impartial service of which I am always capable.

I understand the importance of courtesy and will maintain it as my reference point in all my duties.

I will regard my fellow tele-communicators with the same standards as I maintain myself.

I share a reciprocal affinity and obligation with my fellow tele-communicators, my administration, and my agency.

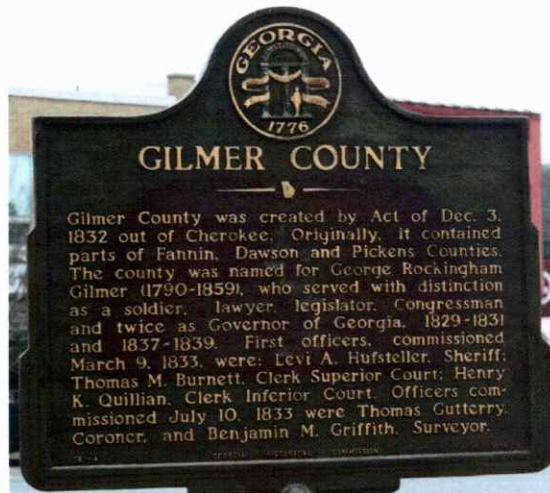
I will accept responsibility for my actions.

I will strive for those values which will reflect honor on my fellow tele-communicators, my agency and myself.

# The Gilmer County, Georgia Sheriff's Office

## 2024 Annual Report

Gilmer County, Georgia was created in 1832 from part of what was then Cherokee County. The county is 432 square miles in area, and according to Gilmer County Chamber of Commerce, the estimated population of Gilmer County in 2024 was 33,000. In 2000, the population was 23,456 and in 1990 there were 13,368 people living in Gilmer County. The population of our county has more than doubled in less than thirty years!



The Gilmer County Sheriff's Office is a professional, progressive full-service law enforcement agency dedicated to providing the best possible service and protection to citizens and visitors in our community. The Sheriff's Office is charged with providing general law enforcement and investigative services throughout the unincorporated areas of Gilmer County.

The Gilmer County Sheriff's Office provides uniformed patrol, criminal investigations, traffic accident investigation, school resource officers, court security and civil process service, prisoner transportation, warrant service, crime prevention and operation of the adult detention center.

The Sheriff's Office provides service and protection to citizens and visitors twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year. The agency responds to all emergency and non-emergency calls received by the agency's 911 center.

In December 2024, the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office had one hundred and twelve members not including Sheriff Nicholson. Sixty-three of these were State of Georgia certified peace officers (Deputy Sheriffs), twenty-five were sworn detention officers, and eighteen were communications officers. There were six civilian personnel working in administrative positions.

Our agency is led by Sheriff Stacy L. Nicholson. Sheriff Nicholson is the thirty-sixth man to be elected Sheriff in Gilmer County's one-hundred-and-ninety-two-year history. Sheriff Nicholson was first elected in 2004 and sworn in as Sheriff in January 2005. In 2024, Sheriff Nicholson was re-elected without opposition for his sixth four-year term.

The Sheriff is the chief law enforcement official in the county. The Sheriff is also a constitutional officer provided for by the Georgia State Constitution. The Sheriff's Office is described in the State Constitution as one of four independently elected county officers.

The Sheriff is not, without unusual circumstances, appointed by a governmental body and is not subordinate to the county government. The sheriff is elected by the citizens and is directly responsible to them. Thus, the sheriff is the only law enforcement official to be selected by and accountable directly to the citizens he or she serves.

In March, 2008, the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office became only the twelfth Sheriff's Office in the State of Georgia to attain State Law Enforcement Certification. The agency has maintained the level of professionalism that certification requires and in February 2011 attained our first recertification. Only through the efforts of the entire agency has this process been accomplished. The agency was successfully inspected for state law enforcement recertification every three years since 2011. The agency successfully completed its fourth state law enforcement recertification inspection in February 2023 and we will undergo our next inspection in February 2026.

In 2024, the Georgia Sheriff's Association created an accreditation program designed specifically for Sheriff's Offices. We are currently in the "self-assessment" phase of obtaining this second law enforcement certification and anticipate receiving the GSA accreditation by mid-year in 2025.

In August, 2011, Sheriff Nicholson created the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office Citizens Law Enforcement Academy. This on-going public relations program brings members of the community into the agency for a fourteen-week course consisting of presentations, tours, and riding on patrol with deputies. The goals of this program are to bring the community and the agency closer together and foster better understanding between citizens and law enforcement. In today's environment of growing mistrust between communities and law enforcement, it is of the utmost importance that lines of communication remain open and agency transparency be maintained.

Since the first session in August of 2011, over two hundred Gilmer County citizens have attended the fifteen-citizen law enforcement academy sessions. In 2024, one session of CLEA was conducted, graduating eighteen students.

This document was created to provide our citizens, visitors, and agency members with a snapshot view of *their* Sheriff's Office and offer a glimpse of the extraordinary men and women who protect and serve our community daily.

## The Office of the Sheriff, A History

The Office of the Sheriff is one of antiquity. It is the oldest law enforcement office known within organized civilization. One of the earliest mentions of the "Sheriff" is in the King James Version of the Bible. In *Daniel, Chapter 3: 3*, Sheriffs are mentioned as supervisors under King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon.

The Office of the Sheriff is one that evolved out of necessity. Without the laws that required enforcing, there would have been no need for the Sheriff.

The Office of the Sheriff as we know it today originated in early England. Sheriffs have served and protected for well over 1000 years. Around 500 A.D., Germanic tribes from Europe called the Anglo-Saxons invaded England. This invasion resulted in the consolidation of England as an Anglo-Saxon kingdom.

King Alfred the Great who reigned from 871 to 901 A.D. divided England into geographic areas called "shires." He appointed "Reeves" or overseers to manage the shires in the name of the King. These shires evolved into our modern-day counties. As the English language changed over the years, the "Shire-Reeves" as the King's representatives were known became the Sheriff.

In 1116, King Henry I delegated the power to investigate and arrest for crimes against the newly established Penal Code to the Sheriff. In 1215, King John signed the English Magna Carta which established basic rights and freedoms for the people of England. In the Magna Carta, the Sheriff retained the critical task of "keeper of the peace." The role of the Sheriff is prominently mentioned throughout the Magna Carta.

In 1634, the Office and traditions of the Sheriff were brought to the New World. In the newly formed colony of Virginia, one of the first acts performed was the election of the Sheriff.

In the American Colonial period, the Sheriff was a central figure as towns and communities were formed in the New World. As these colonial governments were established, the Sheriff became an officer of the court, collector of public taxes and private levies, keeper of prisons and the public hangman. As the chief arresting officer, the Sheriff was required to "Lay hands upon the accused, use all and sundry force to open all doors and commandeer any person, any entity or enactment to accomplish his commission."

In the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, American Sheriffs continued to be tasked with a broad range of duties by the colonial and later state legislatures. Some of these duties included maintaining jails and workhouses, general law enforcement, keeping the peace and the handling of criminals throughout the judicial process.



The Office of the Sheriff has been held in high esteem by the American public dating back to before the Revolutionary War. George Washington's father was a Sheriff in colonial Virginia. Thomas Jefferson wrote in his constitutional assessments that "The Office of the Sheriff is the most important of all executive offices of the country."

Today in the United States there are more than 3,000 counties. In all but twelve of these counties, the Sheriff is elected and answers directly to the electorate.

Although the Sheriffs of today do not have the same responsibilities and duties of the ancient Shire-Reeves appointed by English Kings, they hold the position as chief law enforcement officer in the county and are elected by those they serve.

The duties of the modern Sheriff vary from state to state. In the State of Georgia, the Sheriff is active in all three branches of the criminal justice system: law enforcement, the courts, and corrections.

*Article IX, Section 1, Paragraph III* of the State of Georgia Constitution establishes that the Sheriff is one of four constitutional officers elected by the citizens. In Georgia, the Office of Sheriff is both a constitutional office and a county office. The constitutional status of the Office of the Sheriff is evolved from English common law, and from the constitutional provisions extended to certain offices in existence when the first State of Georgia Constitution was ratified.

In Georgia, upon election, Sheriffs serve four-year terms and have no term limit other than the will of the people.

Many of the functions and duties of Sheriffs in the State of Georgia are mandated by Georgia Code.

The Office of Sheriff was established in Gilmer County in 1832 when the county was formed from parts of Cherokee County. The first Gilmer County Sheriff was Levi A. Huffstetler who served from 1833 through 1834. In the one-hundred-and-ninety-year history of Gilmer County, thirty-six men have served as the Sheriff. Our current Sheriff is Stacy L. Nicholson, who has served the citizens of Gilmer County since he was first elected in 2004.

Sheriff Nicholson has the proud distinction of being the longest serving sheriff in Gilmer County history.

## Office of the Sheriff vs. Sheriff's Department

What is the difference between the Office of the Sheriff and other county departments? To answer this question, one must understand the definitions of each term.

Black's Law Dictionary, defines the terms as follows:

**Department:** *"One of the major divisions of the executive branch of government...generally, a branch or division of governmental administration."*

**Office:** *"A right, and correspondent duty, to exercise a public trust."*

The holder of the Office is under a public charge and is duly elected to exercise a public trust. The Sheriff is not appointed by a government body and is not subordinate to the county government. The Sheriff is elected by the people and is responsible to them and as such, is the only law enforcement official that is selected directly by and accountable to the citizens.

Clearly, the Office of the Sheriff is not simply another department of the county government.

Sheriffs and their deputies provide public safety service by mandate and tradition.

Today's Sheriffs are responsible for protecting human life, maintaining the public peace and order, protecting the rights of individuals and their property, crime prevention and the enforcement of laws and ordinances without discrimination or favor.

## The Sheriffs of Gilmer County

Stacy L. Nicholson	2005-Present
Billy Bernhardt	1990-2004
Larry Henson	1985-1990
Ferman Stanley	1972-1984
Clarence L. Ray	1969-1972
Robert Worley	1965-1968
Ed Goble	1961-1964
J. H. Hefner	1950-1960
Ralph Davis	1949-1950
Grady Daves	1944-1948
Foster Milton	1943-1944
E. H. Rackley	1938-1943
W. E. Rackley	1933-1938
A. J. Pinson	1929-1932, 1898-1908
R. L. Milton	1913-1928, 1908-1910
J. H. Penland	1910-1912
W. H. Foster	1895-1898
H. M. Bramlett	1891-1895, 1881-1887
M. L. Cox	1887-1891
J. R. Johnson	1877-1881
William Jones	1875-1877
G. H. Randell	1873-1875, 1864-1868, 1860-1862
P. H. Milton	1868-1873
William Stott	1862-1864
James A. Gudger	1858-1860
Austin Painter	1856-1858
William Cox	1854-1856, 1850-1852
William E. Plemmons	1852-1854
Ebenezer Whitzell	1848-1850
John Thomas	1846-1848
Samuel Jones	1844-1846
Johnathan Cox	1842-1844, 1838-1840
John M. Griffeth	1840-1842
John T. Bailey	1836-1838
Isham C. King	1834-1836
Levi A. Huffstetler	1833-1834

# Sheriff Stacy L. Nicholson



Stacy L. Nicholson is the elected Sheriff of Gilmer County, Georgia. He is the thirty sixth man to serve as Sheriff in the county's one hundred-and ninety-year history. He was elected to his first term in 2004 and took office in January 2005. Sheriff Nicholson won his sixth consecutive term in June 2024 without opposition.

With twenty years as Sheriff, Stacy Nicholson holds the distinction of being the longest serving Sheriff in the history of Gilmer County.

Sheriff Nicholson is a thirty-three-year law enforcement veteran, beginning his career with the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office on March 3, 1991. Prior to his election as Sheriff, he served in many assignments within the agency including radio dispatcher, jailer, patrol deputy, investigator, chief of investigations, and public information officer.

Sheriff Nicholson serves or formally served on several committees and organizations which include:

- Current Vice President of the Constitutional Officer's Association of Georgia
- Past Secretary/Treasurer of the Constitutional Officer's Association of Georgia
- Past President of the Georgia Sheriff's Association (2018-2019)
- Past Region 1 Vice President of the Georgia Sheriff's Association
- Member of the Georgia Sheriff's Association Training and Standards Committee
- Officer on the Executive Board for Gilmer County Family Connection
- Past President, Fraternal Order of Police, Appalachian Lodge #92
- Past Board Member of the Appalachian Children's Center

Sheriff Nicholson is very active in our community. He coaches youth sports and enjoys working with our children.

Sheriff Nicholson attended Berry College and North Georgia College where he majored in Criminal Justice.

Sheriff Nicholson is an avid hunter and outdoorsman. Sheriff Nicholson is a lifelong resident of Gilmer County, graduating from Gilmer High School in 1989. Sheriff Nicholson played football and baseball at Gilmer High and remains a tried and true "Bobcat" fan.



## Chief Deputy Adam Smith



Adam Smith serves as the Chief Deputy Sheriff of the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office. He is second in command of the agency and is responsible for the daily operations of the Sheriff's Office.

Chief Deputy Smith is a thirty-year veteran law enforcement officer. He began his career with the Reinhardt College Department of Public Safety in 1994.

Adam Smith joined the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office as a patrol deputy in 1997. During his twenty-seven years with our agency, Chief Deputy Smith has served in many assignments. He has been a patrol deputy, detective, sergeant and lieutenant in the criminal investigations division, and agency training officer. Prior to his appointment as Chief Deputy he was a major, commanding the Field Operations Bureau.

Chief Deputy Smith has also held positions as uniformed patrol night shift watch commander, jail administrator and as a captain he was the commander of the former Field Operations Division. On April 4, 2016, Adam Smith was promoted to major and appointed by Sheriff Nicholson as the commander of the Field Operations Bureau. He was then appointed as the Chief Deputy in January 2024.

He is a graduate of the Georgia Law Enforcement Professional Management program. During his career, Chief Deputy Smith has completed over 3,500 hours of advanced and in-service training. He also has completed numerous advanced SWAT and tactical operations training courses.

He is a Georgia P.O.S.T. certified general instructor and firearms instructor. Chief Deputy Smith is a founding member of the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office SWAT team. Chief Deputy Smith is also a member of the National Tactical Officers Association.

Adam Smith attended Reinhardt College.

He graduated from Sequoyah High School in Cherokee County, Georgia in 1991.

## **DIVISION COMMANDERS**

### **Captain Frank Copeland, Communications Division and Office of Professional Standards**



Captain Frank Copeland is the commander of the Communications/Addressing Division and the Office of Professional Standards. He is responsible for managing the daily operations of the 911 center and conducting inquiries and investigations into allegations of serious misconduct by any Gilmer County Sheriff's Office employee.

Captain Copeland also serves as the public information officer for the Sheriff's Office and is the agency's Crisis Negotiation Team Leader.

Captain Copeland is a twenty-six-year veteran law enforcement officer, beginning his career in Moultrie, Georgia in 1998. He also served with the Woodstock and Holly Springs, Georgia Police Departments before joining the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office in 2005.

During his law enforcement career, Captain Copeland has served in such varied positions as a patrol officer, detective, uniform division commander, administrative division commander and he also served as the interim Chief of Police in Holly Springs, Georgia.

Since joining our agency, Captain Copeland has served as a patrol deputy, court deputy, detective, internal affairs investigator, public information officer, and division commander.

Captain Copeland serves as the commander of the Human Resources, Sexual Offender and Background Investigations, and Certification Units. Frank Copeland is also a certified Computer Voice Stress Analysis Operator.

Captain Copeland is a State of Georgia Law Enforcement Certification Assessor and Certification Manager. Captain Copeland is certified as an Accreditation Manager by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA)

Captain Copeland is a graduate of the State of Georgia's Law Enforcement Professional Management Program. During his career, Captain Copeland has completed over 1,900 hours of advanced and in-service training.



## Captain Michael Gobble, Community Resources Division



Captain Michael Gobble commands the Community Resources Division. Captain Gobble is a thirty-two-year law enforcement veteran. His career began in 1992 with the Copperhill, Tennessee Police Department. Michael Gobble joined the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office as a patrol deputy in 1997.

During his career with our agency, Captain Gobble has served as a patrol deputy, patrol watch commander and commander of the warrants division. He was promoted to captain in January 2013 and assumed command of the newly created Community Resources Division.

In addition to commanding the Community Resources Division, Captain Gobble coordinates the C.H.A.M.P.S program which is taught to Gilmer County fifth grade students. He is a certified C.H.A.M.P.S. instructor and actively teaches in the program. Captain Gobble is a certified ATV safety instructor and a certified car safety seat technician.

Captain Gobble is a founding member of the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office SWAT team. He has completed the Georgia State Law Enforcement Professional Management program and holds all three levels of law enforcement supervision training.

Captain Gobble was awarded the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office Combat Award for his actions during an armed suspect incident in 2007.

During his career, Captain Gobble has completed over 2,100 hours of advanced and in-service training.

Captain Gobble is a United States Army veteran serving as an infantryman and cavalry scout from 1989 to 1992 with the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and the Tennessee National Guard.

## Captain Howard Ensley, Court Services Division



Captain Howard Ensley commands the Court Services Division. He is responsible for the administration of the division and oversees all its functions and operations.

Captain Ensley is a fifty-one-year veteran peace officer, beginning his career with the Murray County Georgia Sheriff's Office in 1973. Prior to joining our agency in March 2013, Howard Ensley served the citizens of Murray County as their Sheriff for twenty-four years.

Howard Ensley began his career with the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office as a deputy in the Court Services Division prior to his promotion to lieutenant and assignment as the Court Services Watch Commander. On April 4, 2016, he was promoted to captain and assumed command of the Court Services Division.

Captain Ensley is a 2001 graduate of the F.B.I. National Academy. He also is a graduate of the Georgia Sheriff's Academy and the Cobb County Police Academy. Captain Ensley is a past president of the Georgia Sheriff's Youth Home and he remains an active member of the Georgia Sheriff's Association. He has attained over 1,900 hours of advanced and specialized training.

During his long and distinguished career, Howard Ensley has dedicated himself to the advancement and betterment of all phases of law enforcement. Captain Ensley enjoys spending his off-duty time on his small farm and especially enjoys his time with his grandchildren.

Captain Howard Ensley holds the distinction of being the longest actively serving law enforcement officer in the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office.



## Captain Brian Shepard, Criminal Investigations Division



Captain Brian Shepard is the commander of the Criminal Investigations Division. He is a twenty-five-year veteran of law enforcement. Captain Shepard began his law enforcement career as a patrol officer with the Marion, South Carolina Police Department in 1999. In January, 2002, he was hired as a patrol officer and K-9 handler by the Griffin, Georgia Police Department. Captain Shepard attained the rank of sergeant while with the Griffin PD.

In April, 2008, Brian Shepard was hired by the Butts County, Georgia Sheriff's Office where he served as a patrol deputy and K-9 handler. Upon his promotion to sergeant, he was assigned to the Butts County narcotics unit.

In May, 2013, Brian Shepard began his career with the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office. He was assigned to the uniformed patrol division as a patrol deputy and K-9 handler. In April 2016, Brian Shepard was promoted to sergeant and assigned to supervise a patrol shift. While in the uniformed patrol division, Captain Shepard also served as K-9 supervisor and field training program coordinator.

In January 2018, Brian Shepard was promoted to the rank of Captain and assigned to his present position.

## Captain Misty Williams, Detention Division



Captain Misty Williams serves as the Detention Division Commander. She is responsible for the operational and administrative functions of the Adult Detention Center. She is a twenty-four-year veteran law enforcement officer, all of which has been with the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office.

Captain Williams began her law enforcement career in March, 2000. Misty Williams graduated from the North Central Georgia Law Enforcement Academy, and, at the time, became the third female to serve as a deputy sheriff in Gilmer County.

During her career, Captain Williams has served as a detention officer, detention sergeant, patrol deputy, court services deputy, and communications officer. She was assigned as a school resource deputy in 2013. Misty Williams was awarded the School Resource Officer of the Year award by Sheriff Nicholson that same year.

She was promoted to Corporal in 2015, Sergeant in 2018, and Lieutenant in 2019, all while assigned to the SRO unit. Misty Williams was promoted to captain on April 12, 2021 and assumed command of the Detention Division.

Captain Williams is a graduate of the State of Georgia's Law Enforcement Management Program and had completed over 2,400 hours of advanced, specialized, and in-service training.

Captain Williams is a certified School Resource Officer and certified CHAMPS instructor. She is also involved with the agency's Explorer post. She is a member of the Georgia Gang Investigator Association.

Misty Williams also graduated from the inaugural Intermediate Gang Investigator course held in 2018.

Captain Williams is a native of Gilmer County, and graduated from Gilmer High School in 1998.



## Captain Brian Crump, Uniformed Patrol Division



Captain Brian Crump is the commander of the Uniformed Patrol Division. He is responsible for the administration and operation of this division.

Captain Brian Crump is a twenty-two-year veteran law enforcement officer. He began his career with the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office in 2002 as a detention officer. Captain Crump attended the basic law enforcement academy in 2003 and after graduation was assigned as a deputy in uniformed patrol.

Captain Crump has spent much of his career in uniformed patrol working both day and night shifts. He also was briefly assigned to the Court Services Division during this time. In 2007, he was promoted to sergeant and assigned as a shift supervisor and field training officer in the Field Operations Division. In 2012, Brian Crump was promoted to lieutenant and assigned as a shift commander at the Adult Detention Center. In 2013, then Lieutenant Crump was transferred from the Detention Division to the Field Operations Division where he assumed duties as the patrol night shift watch commander. On April 4, 2016, Brian Crump was promoted to Captain and assigned as the Uniformed Patrol Division Commander.

Captain Crump is a graduate of Reinhardt College where he received his Bachelor of Criminal justice degree. Captain Crump is also a graduate of the State of Georgia Law Enforcement Professional Management program. He is a recognized traffic accident reconstruction expert, and a certified field training officer. In recognition of his experience and continuing advanced training, Captain Crump has obtained the highly respected Georgia Sheriff's Association Senior Deputy Certification.

In addition to his duties as Uniformed Patrol Division Commander, Captain Crump also serves as the senior advisor for the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post. He is a founding member of the agency's Honor Guard and is active in the GCSO Citizens Law Enforcement Academy as a presenter.

Captain Crump is a certified Crisis Intervention Team member. During his career, Captain Crump has completed over 2,400 hours of advanced training. Captain Crump has received several awards from the Mothers against Drunk Driving organization for his accomplishments and commitment to their cause. Captain Crump was named the Detention Division Officer of the year in 2002 and Field Operations Division Deputy of the Year in 2007 and 2009.

## Lieutenant George D. Ellis, Certification Manager



Lieutenant George Ellis serves as the agency's state law enforcement certification manager. He also serves as the agency grant manager and coordinator of the citizen law enforcement academy.

Lieutenant Ellis is a forty-six-year law enforcement veteran, beginning his career in 1978 with the Winter Springs, Florida Police Department as a patrolman. In 1979, he was hired by the Orange County, Florida Sheriff's Office. He retired from that agency in September 2005 as a Lieutenant after a twenty-six-year career.

During his career, Lieutenant Ellis has worked in uniformed patrol, motorcycle and DUI units, street vice, narcotics and organized crime units, community affairs, SWAT, underwater search and recovery, honor guard and training. He was an instructor in the Central Florida Criminal Justice Institute at Orlando, Florida for twenty-three years. He is certified as a police motorcycle instructor, human diversity instructor, and while in Florida he was recognized as an expert and conducted investigations involving cults and ritual related crimes.

George Ellis joined the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office in July 2008 as a patrol deputy. In November 2009, he was appointed to his current position by Sheriff Nicholson. He was promoted to sergeant in August 2012, and to lieutenant on January 5, 2015.

Lieutenant Ellis holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Columbia College. He is a graduate of the 106<sup>th</sup> Administrative Officers Course, and the 23<sup>rd</sup> Command Officer Development Course at the University of Louisville's Southern Police Institute. During his career, Lieutenant Ellis has completed over 5,200 hours of advanced and in-service training.

Lieutenant Ellis is a State of Georgia certified criminal justice instructor, field training officer and departmental training officer. He is Georgia crisis intervention team qualified.

George Ellis is a State of Georgia Law Enforcement Certification Manager and Assessor.

Lieutenant Ellis is a United States Marine Corps veteran having served from 1973 through 1978 as an infantryman. He served in both the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Divisions. He was honorably discharged from Marine Corps active duty in 1978 holding the rank of Corporal.

He graduated from Winter Park High School in Winter Park, Florida in 1974.



## **General Staff**

### **Uniformed Patrol Division Watch Commander**



Lieutenant Mark Patrick, Day Shift Watch Commander

Lieutenant Mark Patrick serves as the day shift watch commander in the uniformed patrol division. Lieutenant Patrick is a seventeen-year veteran law enforcement officer, spending his entire career with the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office which began as a dispatcher in 2007.

Mark Patrick has served as a communications officer, patrol deputy, detective, patrol corporal, and patrol sergeant. In April 2021, he was promoted to lieutenant and assigned as the patrol day shift watch commander. He is also a certified Field Training Officer. Lieutenant Patrick takes great pride in serving our community and prior to joining the sheriff's office, he spent ten years as a volunteer with Gilmer County Fire Rescue.

Lieutenant Patrick has twice been awarded the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office Medal of Merit, which is the agency's second highest award. He received these medals for his actions which saved two people's lives. Mark Patrick has also received the agency's Community Relations Award for his participation as a presenter in the citizens law enforcement academy.

He was named the Field Operations Division Deputy of the Year for 2017 and has also been named Deputy of the Month three times during his career. Lieutenant Patrick graduated from the State of Georgia Law Enforcement Professional Management program and has attended two thousand hours of advanced and in service training.

Mark Patrick is a lifelong resident of Gilmer County and he graduated from Gilmer High School in 1991. He married his high school sweetheart and has been married for thirty years. Lieutenant Patrick enjoys spending time with his family, gardening, and antiquing. He also enjoys kayaking and bow hunting for whitetail deer.

## Uniformed Patrol Division Watch Commander



Lieutenant Harold Hefner, Night Shift Watch Commander

Lieutenant Harold Hefner is a twelve-year veteran law enforcement officer and serves as the Uniformed Patrol Division Night Shift Watch Commander. He has been with the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office since 2012, when he began his law enforcement career.

During his career with the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office, Lieutenant Hefner has served as a detention officer, deputy sheriff, corporal, and sergeant.

He was promoted to Lieutenant in the Adult Detention Center in April of 2021 and assigned as the night shift watch commander. He was transferred to the uniformed patrol division in July 2022, and assumed duty as the night shift watch commander.

Lieutenant Hefner was awarded the agency Combat Award Ribbon for his actions during an encounter with a subject who was armed with a firearm. He also received an employee of the month award, and is a State of Georgia certified crisis intervention team member.

Lieutenant Hefner enlisted into the Georgia Army National Guard in 2009 and received an Honorable discharge in 2015. He is currently a member of the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard.

He moved to Gilmer County in 2015 from Cherokee County where he was born and raised.



## Community Resources Division Watch Commander



Lieutenant Greg Dotson

Lieutenant Greg Dotson is a twenty-seven year veteran peace officer and he commands the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office School Resource Officer (SRO) Unit. He is responsible for the daily supervision and management of the SRO Unit. Lieutenant Dotson has commanded the SRO Unit since 2010. Greg Dotson began his law enforcement career in 1997 and joined the GCSO in 2006 as a patrol deputy.

Lieutenant Dotson previously served with the Decatur County, Georgia, Sheriff's Office as a patrol deputy, attaining the rank of lieutenant. He also served in the United States Army for six years as a Military Police officer, rising to the rank of sergeant. During his law enforcement career, Lieutenant Dotson has served as a patrol deputy, investigator, and school resource officer.

Lieutenant Greg Dotson manages the CHAMPS program and is an active CHAMPS instructor. He is a member of the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard unit and is a presenter in the agency's Citizens Law Enforcement Academy. Lieutenant Dotson has received training in crisis intervention, hostage negotiations and management and supervision, among many other topics.

Lieutenant Dotson has received numerous awards and commendations throughout his career and is a certified jailer and field training officer. Greg Dotson holds a bachelor's degree and has earned the supervisory, and advanced law enforcement certifications through the state of Georgia.

Greg Dotson has also achieved the highly respected Senior Deputy certification from the Georgia Sheriff's Association.

Lieutenant Dotson attended the Military Police school and the Primary Leadership Development Course while in the Army.

He has attended numerous other military and civilian courses throughout his career and has over four thousand seven hundred hours of training.

## Court Services Watch Commander



Lieutenant James Knight

Lieutenant James Knight serves as the Court Security Watch Commander. He is responsible for scheduling and overseeing the daily operations of the personnel assigned to the Court Services Division. Lieutenant Knight also manages the safety and security functions at the Gilmer County Courthouse.

James Knight is a nineteen-year veteran law enforcement officer, beginning his career with the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office in 2004. Lieutenant Knight has served as a detention officer, patrol deputy and K-9 deputy. In 2011, he was promoted to Sergeant and assigned to supervise a uniformed patrol shift.

On April 4, 2016, James Knight was promoted to Lieutenant and assigned as the court security watch commander.

Lieutenant Knight is a graduate of the State of Georgia Law Enforcement Professional Management Program and has completed over 1,700 hours of advanced training.

James Knight is a 1991 graduate of Fannin High School. He is dedicated to serving and protecting the citizens of Gilmer County.

Lieutenant Knight enjoys spending his off-duty time with his wife and children.



## Detention Division Watch Commanders



Lieutenant William Bryan, Day Shift Watch Commander

Lieutenant William Bryan serves as the day shift watch commander in the adult detention center. He is responsible for the direction and coordination of the daily operations at the adult detention center. Lieutenant Bryan is a fourteen-year law enforcement veteran, all of which has been with the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office.

Lieutenant Bryan began his law enforcement career in 2010 as a detention officer. During his service, he has worked as a detention officer, detention sergeant, uniformed patrol deputy, court services deputy, and court services sergeant.

He was promoted to detention sergeant in 2011, then he graduated from the law enforcement academy in 2012 and became a deputy sheriff. In 2018, William Bryan was promoted to sergeant in the Court Services Division. He was then promoted to lieutenant in July 2022 and was assigned to the Detention Division as a Watch Commander.

Lieutenant Bryan has over 1,300 hours of advanced and continuing education and is certified as a crisis intervention team member. He is active as a presenter in the agency citizens law enforcement academy as well. In 2014, he was named the Field Operations Division Deputy of the Year. Lieutenant Bryan also received two Officer of the Month awards, the Community Relations Award, and a Certificate of Commendation.

William Bryan grew up in Union County, Georgia. He is an avid outdoorsman and enjoys hunting and fishing. He is also a motorcycle enthusiast and enjoys riding to different states.



Lieutenant Walter Leite, Night Shift Watch Commander

Lieutenant Walter Leite II serves as the night shift Lieutenant over the Adult Detention Center. He has served three years in law enforcement, all of which has been with the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office.

He came from a background in sales management, before starting his career in law enforcement.

Lieutenant Leite started his law enforcement career in October 2020. Walter Leite graduated from the Basic Law Enforcement Training Course in December 2022, became a CPR instructor through the American Heart Association, and W.R.A.P instructor.

He was selected to be an officer in charge over day shift in 2021, promoted to Sergeant in 2022, and became Lieutenant in 2023. Through his career he has received detention officer of the month in 2021, detention officer of the year in 2022, and a certificate of commendation from the Sheriff.

Lieutenant Leite has completed over 600 hours of specialized and in-service training.

## Lieutenant Jason Reed, Sex Offender Compliance Officer



Lieutenant Jason Reed serves as the Sex Offender Compliance Officer. He also serves as the Applicant Background Investigator.

Lieutenant Reed is a seventeen-year law enforcement veteran who began his career in 2007 with the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office as a detention officer. In 2008 he was promoted to a Detention Sergeant. In 2009 He transferred to the Animal Control Division and went to the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Dalton, GA and received his certification as a basic law enforcement Officer.

In 2010 Lieutenant Reed was transferred to Uniform Patrol and worked as a road deputy until 2012 where he was transferred to the Office of Professional Standards as a Detective where he took on the duties as the Sex Offender Compliance Officer and the Applicant Background Investigator. Since that time, he has been promoted from Deputy 1<sup>st</sup> Class, Corporal, Sergeant, and Lieutenant.

Lieutenant Reed is a certified Jailer, a certified Law Enforcement Officer, a certified Crisis Intervention Team member, a certified Animal Control Officer, and certified in the Offender Watch Program.

In 2019 Lieutenant Reed was awarded the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution Law Enforcement Commendation Medal.

Lieutenant Reed is an honor graduate of the Gilmer County High School in Ellijay, GA in 1995.



## **COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION**

The Gilmer County Sheriff's Office Communications Division is commanded by Captain Frank Copeland. This division is in a state-of-the-art communications center which opened in 2009.



Communications Division officers staff the communications center 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Communications Division personnel work twelve-hour shifts. Each shift is supervised by a communications sergeant.

Division operators are responsible for all public safety related communications within Gilmer County. Operators are responsible for receiving all 911 emergency calls and non-emergency calls on the 706-635-8911 non-emergency telephone line.

The Sheriff's Office Communications Division is responsible for dispatching and communications support for the following agencies:

- Gilmer County Sheriff's Office
- Gilmer County Fire/Rescue Department
- Gilmer County Emergency Medical Service
- City of Ellijay Police Department
- City of Ellijay Fire Department
- City of East Ellijay Police Department

Communications officers are considered the "life line" for the law enforcement, fire service and emergency medical personnel of Gilmer County. Communications personnel are the vital link between a citizen in crisis or in need and the public safety personnel sworn to protect and serve. Communications officers are also tasked with running teletype checks for wanted persons and warrants checks. They conduct vehicle registration and tag checks when requested by law



enforcement officers. Driver's license status checks are also performed by communications officers. The Communications Division conducts criminal background checks for the public upon request.

The Communications Division serves as Gilmer County's link to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) as well as the Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC). All law enforcement agencies in Gilmer County make inquiries to NCIC and GCIC through our communications center.

#### Enhanced 911

The Gilmer County Sheriff's Office Communications Center is equipped with an Enhanced 911 (E-911) system. The Federal Communications Commission is rolling the E-911 system out in three phases. The Gilmer County Sheriff's Office E-911 system is in Phase II which is the most advanced of the three. When a call comes in to the GCSO Communications Center, the operator is provided automatically with the following information:

##### Landline Telephone:

- Calling Telephone Number and Physical Address
- Name that the telephone number is registered in
- Prior call history at address

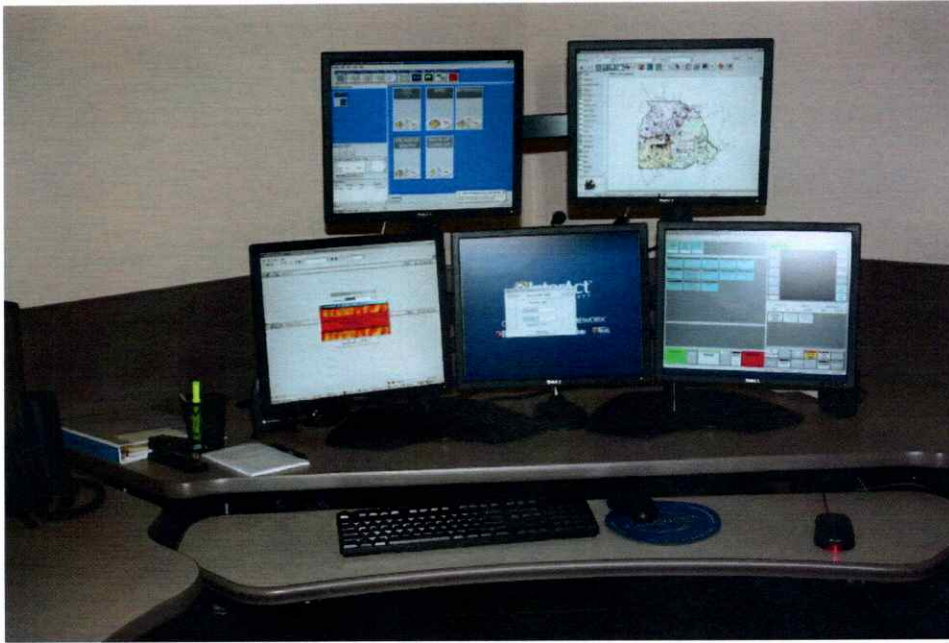
##### Cellular Telephone:

- Calling Cellular Telephone Number
- Cellular Carrier
- Calls can be tracked on map

A little-known fact is that a person can dial 911 from a cellular telephone even if it is not active. All that is needed is power and a signal.

#### Computer Aided Dispatch

Computer Aided Dispatch, commonly referred to as CAD, is used to enter all information received from a 911 or non-emergency caller. This information is entered into the computer by the communications officer. The CAD tracks all information such as the time the call was received and the time it was dispatched. All these data are then available for future reference and as information to units responding to the same address on subsequent calls for service. The system is fully compatible with Mobile Data Terminals (In-vehicle computers) when this technology is obtained by Gilmer County.



## Addressing

The Addressing and Mapping Section is an integral part of the Communications Division. The addressing and Mapping section determines the addresses of all new construction in Gilmer County. Due to the predominately rural nature of Gilmer County, addressing is done via a "metering system." This system measures distances from the beginning of a road to the location's driveway. Public safety services are then able to know the approximate distance to an address from an intersection or beginning of a road.

The section also changes addresses when required and provides descriptions of structures at a location to the public safety units responding. Addressing and Mapping section personnel assist the public with concerns they might have regarding their address. Correct addresses can be confirmed through the section's computer database which is updated daily. This section provides current address information to other county agencies such as the Tax Assessor and county planning and zoning.

The Addressing and Mapping Section has a Geographical Information System which keeps mapping current throughout Gilmer County. This information is provided to communications officers via the computer aided dispatch system and provides the most up to date data possible. This provides emergency services units with timely information on new or existing streets, structures, forest service trails and landmarks. This function is invaluable in assisting public safety units in responding in a timely manner to the correct locations when called.

Other duties of the Addressing and Mapping Section are:

- Maintains the telephone database which ensures the proper telephone number is reflected when a call for service is received by the communications center

- Maintains a database of all addresses in Gilmer County including a description of each address
- Developed and maintains a direction guide for every road in Gilmer County
- Developed and maintains an Emergency Service Number (ESN) database which ensures the correct public safety personnel respond to any call for assistance within Gilmer County

## **COMMUNITY RESOURCES DIVISION**

The Community Resources Division is commanded by Captain Michael Gobble. The division was created by Sheriff Nicholson in January 2013 in furtherance of the goal of making the agency more responsive to the community that it serves.

The Community Resources Division provides numerous citizen-oriented programs such as safety programs, crime prevention and awareness presentations and other interactive community-based activities. The School Resource Unit is the primary unit assigned to the Community Resources Division.



The Gilmer County Sheriff's Office School Resource Unit consists of one lieutenant, and five deputies. Each member of this unit has received specialized training as a school resource officer. Each School Resource Deputy is also certified as a Georgia Sheriff's Association C.H.A.M.P.S (Choosing Healthy Activities and Methods Promoting Safety) instructor.

The School Resource deputies are assigned to one or more schools within the Gilmer County School System.

When schools are in session, the School Resource Deputies spend their daily tours of duty at their assigned schools.

While at their assigned schools, Resource Deputies provide a variety of services:

- Act as a highly visible law enforcement representative on the school campus providing safety and security for students, faculty and staff, and visitors
- Act as an extension of the school administration in matters involving crimes or in unique situations as requested by the administration
- Provide a positive role model for the students



- Conduct the twelve-week course of instruction in the Georgia Sheriff's Association approved C.H.A.M.P.S. (Choosing Healthy Activities and Methods Promoting Safety) Course for all fifth-grade students.



**C.H.A.M.P.S.**  
 CHOOSING HEALTHY ACTIVITIES & METHODS PROMOTING SAFETY

- Act as a resource for school administration, teachers and staff, students, and parents in dealing with non-criminal problems or issues
- Provide security at school related extracurricular activities, such as sporting events
- Make presentations to students, faculty and staff in matters related to gangs, drug or alcohol abuse, school violence, bullying and other crime related issues

The agency's School Resource Deputies play a vital role in maintaining a safe and secure learning environment for students on campus as well as giving students the opportunity to interact with the deputies on a personal, non-enforcement level.

In addition to the duties the School Resource Deputies perform at their schools, they are an important part of the Sheriff's Office community relations function. They also investigate crimes that occur upon Gilmer County Board of Education property.

Deputies of the School Resource Unit make presentations at School Career Days, present gang awareness classes, alcohol and drug awareness classes, DUI prevention demonstrations, and racism awareness classes. Classes in bullying prevention and awareness were also conducted by School Resource Deputies in Gilmer County schools.

The School Resource Unit provides valuable assistance to the Detention, Uniformed Patrol and Court Services Divisions by providing additional personnel to these units when schools are not in session.

All of Gilmer County's School Resource Deputies are members of the Georgia Association of School Resource Officers.

## **COURT SERVICES DIVISION**



The Court Services Division is commanded by Captain Howard Ensley. The Court Services Division is based out of the Gilmer County Courthouse and it is tasked with numerous responsibilities. The Court Services Division is part of the Headquarters Bureau and consists of one Captain, one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, one Corporal, six full-time sworn Deputies, a warrants clerk, and an administrative assistant.

This Division is primarily responsible for the security of the courthouse and for the safety of Judges, jurors, attorneys, courthouse employees and visitors to the building. These deputies are tasked with ensuring the safe and undisturbed functioning of the courthouse.

The Court Services Division is also responsible for providing security at non court related activities within the courthouse such as County Commission meetings.

The Court Services Division is responsible for serving and executing arrest warrants, civil process, such as evictions and writs, as well as summons, probate orders and condemnations.

Another important function of the Court Services Division is that of extraditions and prisoner transport. The deputies of the Court Services Division are tasked with traveling out of the county and on occasion outside of the State of Georgia to return fugitives to Gilmer County to face trial. Deputies assigned to this division are also tasked with transporting convicted felons to state prisons as well as returning them to Gilmer County for any required court proceedings.

The Court Services Division is also responsible for transporting juvenile offenders to and from juvenile detention facilities.

Deputies of the Court Services Division serve and execute mental health evaluation and involuntary commitment orders. Court Services Division deputies also transport these

individuals to appropriate medical or mental health facilities within Gilmer County and outside our county.

The Court Services Division conducts fingerprint checks to ensure that applicants for firearms permits in Gilmer County meet standards set by the State of Georgia.



## **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION**

The Criminal Investigations Division is commanded by Captain Brian Shepard.

This division consists of the Criminal Investigations Unit and the newly created Crime Suppression Unit. The Criminal Investigations Unit is responsible for conducting follow up investigations on preliminary reports submitted from the uniformed patrol division or other sources. The Crime Suppression Unit is primarily responsible for targeting violent criminals and those with outstanding felony warrants.

The Criminal Investigations Division is staffed by one captain, four detective sergeants, one crime suppression unit sergeant, two detective corporals, and two crime suppression unit corporals, who have received specialized training in the field of investigations.

### **Criminal Investigations Unit**

The detectives investigate crimes against persons (such as assault, battery, robbery, stalking, kidnapping, sexual assault, rape, terroristic threats, and domestic violence) and crimes against property (such as burglary, theft, criminal damage, and auto theft). They also investigate suspicious or unattended deaths and suicides.

This unit is also responsible for investigating all crimes against children, such as cruelty to children, child molestation, enticing children and statutory rape. Missing adults and juvenile cases are also investigated by Criminal Investigations Unit.

While each detective in the Criminal Investigations Unit is trained as a generalist and is able to conduct investigations of reported crimes of any type, they are also trained in a specific area of investigations.

All the detectives are assigned to one (or more) specific investigative duty:

- **General Assignment**
- **Crime Scene**
- **Burglary**
- **Financial Crimes**
- **Crimes against Children**
- **Family Violence**

At least two detectives are assigned to each of the above investigative areas.

The Criminal Investigations Unit maintains a Crime Scene Unit consisting of two trained detectives. The Crime Scene Detectives process and collect evidence as well as prepare any required documentation for presentation in subsequent court proceedings. The Crime Scene detectives also photograph or video tape items of evidentiary value found at crime scenes.

The Criminal Investigations Unit works closely with the Appalachian Circuit District Attorney's Office, partnering with assistant district attorneys and their investigators in preparing cases for successful prosecutions.

The Criminal Investigations Unit is also responsible for the agency Property and Evidence facility. All evidence, contraband and property obtained or seized by deputies is stored in this facility. The Criminal Investigations Unit is tasked with ensuring the security and accountability of all property and evidence held by the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office. One detective is assigned the additional duties of Property and Evidence custodian.

The Criminal Investigations Unit has one detective trained as a forensic interviewer of child victims. This detective works hand in hand with the Appalachian Children's Center while conducting criminal investigations involving child victims.

The Criminal Investigations Unit conducts regular "roll call" meetings with each shift in the Uniformed Patrol section. These meetings encourage a closer working relationship between detectives and patrol deputies which results in a better exchange of information leading to a higher clearance rate for reported crimes.

The Criminal Investigations Unit also conducts regularly scheduled multi-agency intelligence meetings. These meetings with other agencies develop better cooperation between different organizations and provide information that assists in identifying suspects conducting their crimes across jurisdictional boundaries.

The Criminal Investigations Unit also partners with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation on major case and drug related investigations.

#### Crime Suppression Unit (CSU)

The Crime Suppression Unit was formed at the direction of Sheriff Nicholson on June 1, 2019. The unit is made up of a sergeant and two deputies, all three of which are also K-9 handlers.

The unit is responsible for serving arrest warrants on violent or dangerous felons, other high risk arrest warrants and search warrants. The CSU also conducts extra patrols in areas that have experienced a rise in criminal activity, narcotics investigations and directed traffic enforcement.

The personnel assigned to the CSU have received additional advanced and specialized training that makes them better equipped to combat criminal activity in our county. The CSU works cooperatively with the Criminal Investigations Unit, Uniformed Patrol Division, and other agencies such as the United States Marshal's Service.

#### K-9 Unit

The K-9 unit is part of the Crime Suppression Unit, and their primary responsibilities are the support of uniformed patrol deputies in the apprehending of offenders, detecting concealed illegal drugs, and tracking missing, lost or wanted persons. The K-9 unit is also available for community relations details and to assist other agencies when requested.

There are currently three K-9 teams in the Sheriff's Office. All three K-9 team are assigned to the Crime Suppression Unit of the Criminal Investigations Division. Each team works a regular shift and performs their assigned duties in addition to their K-9 responsibilities.

## DETENTION DIVISION



The Gilmer County Sheriff's Office Detention Division is commanded by Captain Misty Williams, and is located at 106 Brett Dickey Memorial Drive in Ellijay. The Adult Detention Center staff consists of certified peace officers, a captain, two lieutenants and a corporal, five detention sergeants, four detention corporals and thirteen uniformed detention officers, as well as two civilian detention office staff members, and one civilian support person.

The Adult Detention Center is responsible for securely housing suspects arrested in Gilmer County while awaiting trial, persons convicted of misdemeanors and sentenced to jail for up to twelve months and convicted felons awaiting transfer to state prisons to begin their sentences. All persons taken into custody in Gilmer County, no matter what law enforcement agency made the arrest, are processed at the Adult Detention Center.

Detainees in the Adult Detention Center are separated by gender. Juveniles who are taken into custody may be booked at the Adult Detention Center but are housed at a Youth Detention Center unless they have been adjudicated as an adult by a competent court.

While housed at the Adult Detention Center, detainees are provided with all necessary medical treatment, food, and clothing. Detainees are provided access to a law library and exercise area regularly. Visitation with family and friends is done over video calls only. There is no current in person visitation.

A select few detainees get to take part in the detainee work crew. Those detainees assist in helping with building maintenance, laundry service, food preparation and general upkeep of the facility. This is all conducted under the supervision of an officer at all times day and night.



## UNIFORMED PATROL DIVISION



The Uniformed Patrol Division is commanded by Captain Brian Crump. This division is part of the Field Operations Bureau. The Uniformed Patrol Division consists of the following units:

- Uniformed Patrol Section
- Training Unit
- Honor Guard

### Uniformed Patrol Section

The deputies of the Uniformed Patrol Section are the most visible members of the agency. The Uniformed Patrol Section consists of one Captain, two Lieutenants, five Sergeants, four Corporals and fourteen Deputies. Uniformed Patrol deputies are the first responders to a citizen's call for law enforcement services within the unincorporated areas of Gilmer County. Uniformed Patrol deputies are on duty twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. They work twelve-hour shifts. There are two shifts, one day and one evening. Each shift is commanded by a Lieutenant who acts as Watch Commander.

The on-duty deputies are supervised by a shift Sergeant. Gilmer County is divided into three patrol zones, each of which has at least one deputy assigned.

Uniformed Patrol deputies are tasked with conducting preventative patrol, responding to both emergency and non-emergency requests for service, conducting preliminary investigations and writing initial reports, and making physical arrests when required.

Uniformed Patrol deputies also investigate traffic crashes, conduct traffic related enforcement and DUI enforcement.

### Training Unit

One of the most important functions in any professional law enforcement agency is that of training. Sheriff Nicholson is committed to maintaining the highest level of training within our agency. This unit is responsible for coordinating the training function within the Sheriff's Office. The State of Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council (POST) requires 20 hours of in-service training annually for law enforcement officers to maintain state certification. Agency policy requires that each sworn deputy receive 30 hours of training annually. During 2022, we averaged over 80 hours of training for sworn personnel.



Training includes but is not limited to:

- Firearms requalification
- Less Lethal Weapons Refresher Training and Proficiency Testing
- De Escalation Techniques and Community Policing
- Use of Force Policy and Use of Deadly Force Policy Training
- Scenario Based Tactical Training
- Legal Updates

In addition to the in-service training provided by the Sheriff's Office, all personnel are encouraged to apply for advanced training courses outside the agency at facilities such as the Georgia Public Safety Training Center.

## **OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF**

The Office of the Sheriff consists of Sheriff, Stacy L. Nicholson, Chief Deputy Randy Moore, the Human Resources Unit, the State Certification Unit, and the Office of Professional Standards. The Office of the Sheriff is located at the Gilmer County Courthouse.

The Office of the Sheriff is the executive staff organization of our agency. It also functions as the administrative section. All members of the Office of the Sheriff report directly to Sheriff Nicholson or Chief Deputy Moore.

### **Human Resources Unit**

The Human Resources Unit reports directly to the Chief Deputy. This unit is responsible for new applicant processing, employee records management, benefit management and worker's compensation claims processing.

### **Office of Professional Standards**

The Office of Professional Standards is commanded by Captain Frank Copeland. In addition to the traditional "internal affairs" responsibility, the Office of Professional Standards also performs additional duties that ensure citizens and visitors to Gilmer County receive the most effective and efficient law enforcement services possible.

The Office of Professional Standards is divided into three units, each of which performs unique functions that contribute to maintaining and improving the outstanding service our agency provides to the community.

### **Internal Affairs Section**

The Internal Affairs Unit was established by Sheriff Nicholson to provide the agency's "quality control" function. This Unit ensures that all personnel conduct their daily duties in accordance with Sheriff's Office policies and procedures as well as state and federal laws.

When a complaint of a serious nature is received, it is investigated by the Internal Affairs Unit. Allegations of a Sheriff's Office employee's inappropriate behavior, misconduct or failing to abide by agency policy or procedures are generally investigated by the Internal Affairs Unit. Complaints that are investigated by Internal Affairs:

- Allegations of Corruption and Perjury
- Gross Misconduct
- Allegations of Excessive Force or Brutality
- Use of Deadly Force
- Civil Rights Violations



- Sexual Harassment Complaints
- Harassment in the Workplace
- Any Administrative Investigations at the direction of the Sheriff

Allegations of a less serious nature are generally referred to the accused employee's division for investigation.

#### Certification Unit

This unit was created by Sheriff Nicholson in 2009 and is responsible for ensuring that the agency maintains compliance with all required standards of the Georgia Law Enforcement Certification program. In 2008, the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office became one of only twelve Sheriff's Offices in the State of Georgia to attain the coveted and respected Law Enforcement Certification.

The agency's certification is valid for three years. This program is voluntary and being awarded this certification reflects that the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office is among the "best of the best" of law enforcement agencies in the State of Georgia.

In February 2023 the agency underwent a thorough inspection by state assessors and was found to be following all applicable state standards. The Sheriff's Office was re-certified for three years because of this inspection. The agency will again be re-inspected by state assessors in early 2026.

The Certification Unit is also tasked with researching, applying for and administering funding through federal, state and private sector sources via grant programs. Obtaining funding through grants provides the agency with the ability to purchase state of the art equipment, technology and training that would not be available through the Sheriff's Office fiscal year budget. Funding through grants relieves some of the burden on already hard-pressed budgets.

The Certification Unit became responsible for administering and coordinating the Citizens Law Enforcement Academy upon its creation in 2011.

#### Sexual Offender Registry and Background Investigations Unit

The Sexual Offender Registry and Background Investigations Unit is responsible for registering and tracking of all sex offenders located in Gilmer County in accordance with state and federal requirements. This unit is also tasked with conducting thorough and complete background checks on all applicants seeking employment with the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office.

## **Citizen's Law Enforcement Academy**



### **Citizens Law Enforcement Academy Session 24-18**

In May, 2011, at the direction of Sheriff Nicholson, the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office began the process of creating a Civilian Law Enforcement Academy (CLEA). In June, 2011 Sheriff Nicholson authorized the initial session of our CLEA and it began in August, 2011.

The course is conducted by the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office and all presenters in this program are Gilmer County Sheriff's Office employees. Topics include law and criminal procedures, conducting traffic stops, use of force, K-9 demonstrations, ride-alongs with patrol deputies and much more.

The primary goal of the program is to build a closer bond between the community and the agency through communication and education.

Students have full access to the sheriff's office, learning about everything from communications to court room security. Students do ride-alongs with uniform patrol deputies and other units. The students find CLEA an "eye-opening" experience and it gives them a new appreciation of the excellent service the sheriff's office provides. One student observed "This is a program that every citizen of Gilmer County should participate in!"

The Citizens Law Enforcement Academy is a free fourteen-week course that meets from 7 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. on consecutive Tuesdays.

The Academy is open to those who live or work in Gilmer County and are at least 21 years of age.

The Academy provides students with personal training and provides knowledge of law enforcement techniques and procedures in a friendly environment.

In 2024, the sheriff's office presented one CLEA session which graduated sixteen participants.

Anyone interested in the CLEA may contact the course coordinator, Lieutenant George Ellis at 706-515-2654 or [george.ellis@gilmersheriffga.gov](mailto:george.ellis@gilmersheriffga.gov)



# Gilmer County Sheriff's Office

*Sheriff Stacy L. Nicholson*

"A Professional Law Enforcement Agency"



## **Agency Contacts**

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1 Broad Street, Suite 103, Ellijay, Georgia 30540

**Captain Michael Gobble, Commanding.** [Major.gobble@gilmersheriff.com](mailto:Major.gobble@gilmersheriff.com)

**Court Services Division-** 706-635-4162, Fax-706-635-4172

1 Broad Street, Suite 103, Ellijay Ga. 30540

**Captain Howard Ensley, Commanding.** [capt.ensley@gilmersheriff.com](mailto:capt.ensley@gilmersheriff.com)

**Criminal Investigations Division-** 706-635-4646, Fax-706-635-4604

258 Maddox Drive, Ellijay, Ga. 30540

**Captain Brian Shepard, Commanding.** [bshepard@gilmersheriff.com](mailto:bshepard@gilmersheriff.com)

**Communications Division-** 911/Communications Center- 1 Broad Street, Suite 10, Ellijay, Ga. 30540

Emergency- 911

Non-Emergency- 706-635-8911

Addressing- 1 Broad Street, Suite 10, Ellijay, Ga. 30540, 706-635-4653, Fax-706-635-4699

**Captain Frank Copeland, Commanding.** [fcopeland@gilmersheriff.com](mailto:fcopeland@gilmersheriff.com)

**Detention Division-** 706-635-4625, Fax- 635-6625

Adult Detention Center-106 Brett Dickey Memorial Drive, Ellijay, Ga. 30536

**Captain Misty Williams, Commanding.** [mwilliams@gilmersheriff.com](mailto:mwilliams@gilmersheriff.com)

**Uniformed Patrol Division-** 706-515-2868, Fax- 706-515-2869

1561 S. Main Street, Ellijay, Ga. 30540

**Captain Brian Crump, Commanding.** [bcrump@gilmersheriff.com](mailto:bcrump@gilmersheriff.com)

**Office of Professional Standards-** 706-515-2657, Fax-706-635-4641

1 Broad Street, Suite 103, Ellijay, Ga. 30540

**Captain Frank Copeland, Commanding.** [fcopeland@gilmersheriff.com](mailto:fcopeland@gilmersheriff.com)





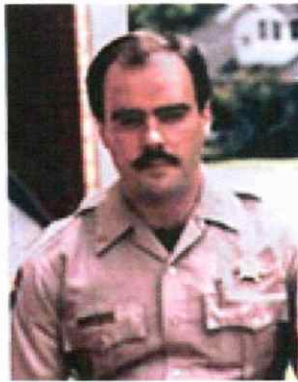
**Gilmer County Sheriff's Office**  
*Sheriff Stacy L. Nicholson*  
"A Professional Law Enforcement Agency"



**Useful Telephone Numbers**

<b>All Emergencies</b>	<b>911</b>
Non-Emergency	706-635-8911
Georgia State Patrol	706-632-2215
Georgia Bureau of Investigation	1-888-233-5680
Georgia Driver License Office (Blue Ridge)	678-413-8400
Georgia Probation Office	706-635-5125
Gilmer County Tax Commissioner's Office (Motor Vehicle Tags)	706-635-4762
City of Ellijay Police Department	706-635-7430
City of East Ellijay Police Department	706-276-3111
Superior Court	706-635-4462
Probate Court	706-635-4763
Magistrate Court	706-635-2515
District Attorney's Office	706-635-5381
Public Defender's Office	706-698-7322
Division of Family and Children Services	706-635-2361

# In Memoriam



**Deputy Sheriff Brett C. Dickey**

**End of Watch: Tuesday, February 13, 1996**

Deputy Sheriff Brett Dickey, a four-year veteran, was shot and killed in the line of duty while attempting to serve an arrest warrant. Deputy Dickey was thirty years old.

We will never forget his ultimate sacrifice while protecting the citizens of Gilmer County.

“Blessed are the Peacemakers:

For they shall be called the children of God”

Matthew 5:9

## **2024 Agency Employees of the Year**

Detention Officer of the Year:	Corporal I Emily Moseley
Communications Officer of the Year:	Communications Officer Aliana Barclay
Detective of the Year:	Sergeant II Russell Henson
Court Services Deputy of the Year:	Corporal II George Blackwell
Uniformed Patrol Deputy of the Year:	Corporal II Jeremy Carver
School Resource Deputy of the Year:	Deputy First Class Jamie Cantrell



## **ROLL OF HONOR**

### **Gilmer County Sheriff's Office Medal of Valor Recipients**

Deputy Sheriff Brett Dickey	February 13, 1996
Deputy Sheriff Mark Sanford	February 13, 1996
Deputy Sheriff Christopher "Bo" Hughes	June 1, 2012

### **Gilmer County Sheriff's Office Medal of Merit Recipients**

Ms. Danielle Weaver	May 14, 2013
Deputy Sheriff Rodney Sawyer	December 12, 2013
Deputy Sheriff Mark Sanford (Retired)	January 10, 2014
Deputy First Class Mark Patrick	April 3, 2015
Lieutenant Mark Patrick	September 7, 2022
Sergeant Joshua Perigo	September 7, 2022
Detention Officer Tyler Woody	May 2, 2023
Corporal II Ryan Scott	March 24, 2024

### **Gilmer County Sheriff's Office Purple Heart Award Medal Recipients**

Deputy Sheriff Brett Dickey	February 13, 1996
Deputy Sheriff Mark Sanford	February 13, 1996

### **Gilmer County Sheriff's Office Distinguished Service Medal Recipients**

Detective James Turner	May 25, 2012
Lieutenant Thomas Speir	September 18, 2012
Deputy Sheriff Samuel Smith	October 24, 2012
Deputy Sheriff Michael Lerman	December 7, 2012
Addressing Supervisor Warren Swem	December 21, 2012
Sergeant George Ellis	May 2, 2014
Ms. Misa Luong	November 23, 2016
Chief Deputy Randy Moore	December 29, 2023

### **Gilmer County Sheriff's Office Sheriff's Citation Medal Recipients**

Deputy Sheriff Clint Waldrip	January 10, 2014
Corporal Rodney Sawyer	February 3, 2017
Detective First Class Scott Camp	February 1, 2018
Captain Misty Williams	February 22, 2023

Gilmer County Sheriff's Office  
Communications Division-2024

Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024 Year Total
<b>Calls Entered Into CAD For:</b>													
Gilmer Sheriff's Office	2271	2168	2272	2033	2391	2011	2471	2552	2340	2118	2066	2400	27093
Elijay Police Department	538	552	671	592	423	498	457	464	456	548	535	545	6279
East Elijay Police Department	548	488	681	581	443	551	637	512	475	528	506	468	6418
Gilmer Fire/EMS	520	494	409	441	576	486	622	542	449	472	482	556	6049
Elijay Fire Department	66	87	66	71	74	69	83	82	55	72	57	74	856
<b>Total Calls Entered Into CAD</b>	<b>3943</b>	<b>3789</b>	<b>4099</b>	<b>3718</b>	<b>3907</b>	<b>3615</b>	<b>4270</b>	<b>4152</b>	<b>3775</b>	<b>3738</b>	<b>3646</b>	<b>4043</b>	<b>46695</b>

**Gilmer County Sheriff's Office**  
**Community Resources Division- 2024**

School Resource Unit	Summer Vacation												
Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024 Total
Traffic Accidents	1	0	0	0	0	4	1	1	2	2	0	0	11
Injuries	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Fatalities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Worked By GCSO	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	6
Worked By GSP	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	5
Affray	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault/Battery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alarm	1	7	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Alcohol Offenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assist Motorist	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	32	32	32	0	1	101
Assist Citizen/Student/Staff	295	232	308	239	282	6	39	280	218	271	286	191	2647
BOE Event	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	13	15	13	42
Battery/Simple Battery	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Bullying	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHAMPS Classes	5	4	3	2	1	0	0	0	5	5	2	0	27
Child Abuse/Neglect	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Class Presentations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Civil Papers Served	0	0	0	0	1	6	9	0	0	0	0	0	16
Civil Papers Attempted	0	3	0	0	2	11	43	0	0	0	0	0	59
Damage to Property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Disorderly Conduct	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Disruption of Public School	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	7
Domestic Disturbance	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Interference with Government Property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical Calls	1	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	3	3	1	0	19
Meetings	42	31	42	21	38	3	10	46	42	55	33	15	378
Monitor/Secure School Interior	441	413	483	391	438	58	110	508	483	588	375	279	4567
Obstruction LEO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Calls	3	2	0	5	7	20	21	0	5	0	1	2	66
Other Details	8	7	3	6	11	20	7	1	2	3	5	17	90
Perimeter Patrol	358	347	423	372	396	68	109	458	471	539	404	323	4268
Public Relations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	10	0	29



Gilmer County Sheriff's Office  
Community Resources Division- 2024

SUMMER VACATION													
School Resource Unit (Contd.)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024 TOTAL
Activity													
School Bus Incident	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3
Sex Crimes	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Sports Details	6	7	5	2	1	1	1	10	17	19	0	2	71
Student Transport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suicide Threats/Attempts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Suspicious Vehicle/Person	1	0	0	2	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	2	14
Theft	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	8
Threats	0	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	9
Tobacco Offenses	0	1	1	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Traffic Control	32	31	28	27	33	1	0	21	55	60	46	36	370
Traffic Stops	0	0	1	0	4	9	1	9	1	1	0	3	29
Citations Issued	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
Warnings Issued	0	0	0	0	4	9	1	0	2	1	0	2	19
Unruly Juvenile	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	9
Unsecured School Building	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	17	15	13	59
VGCSA	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Weapon Offenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Welfare Checks	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Zone Patrols	147	144	162	128	165	554	512	448	640	667	136	123	3826
Total Calls	1355	1235	1488	1209	1403	781	867	1806	1955	2275	1345	1024	16743
Arrests Non-VGCSA													
Juvenile Male	0	0	3	5	3	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	14
Juvenile Female	0	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	12
Adult Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Adult Female	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Arrests VGCSA													
Juvenile Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adult Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adult Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ARRESTS	0	1	6	8	3	2	2	0	2	3	3	0	30
Miles Driven	2087	1785	1680	1448	2093	3212	2582	2181	3478	3588	2581	2212	28927

**Gilmer County Sheriff's Office**  
**Community Resources Division- 2024**

School Resource Unit (Contd.)		Summer Vacation												
	Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024 TOTAL
	Gasoline Used	139	128	89	72	118	121	196	135	289	318	188	136	1929
	Personel Hours	648	752	778	658	704	744	594	824	976	968	144	144	7934
	Training Hours	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	4	32
	Administrative Hours	36	28	40	37	43	14	16	44	25	41	32	17	373
	CHAMPS Hours	7	6	2	2	2	0	0	0	5	4	2	0	30

Gilmer County Sheriff's Office  
Court Services Division-2024

ACTIVITY	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL-2024
Warrant Attempts	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	7
Warrants Served	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	7
Civil Process Attempts	139	224	154	167	294	128	279	267	168	214	250	229	2513
Civil Process Served	89	165	97	101	208	59	160	145	104	113	128	109	1478
Subpoena Service Attempts	57	32	0	84	3	5	149	49	66	29	12	0	486
Subpoenas Served	52	32	0	84	2	5	141	40	61	29	10	0	456
Writ of Possession	0	1	2	3	4	2	2	1	1	1	0	3	20
Writ of Possession Hours	0	2	3	5	7	5	1	1	1	1	0	8	34
Juvenile Transports (Male)	6	2	2	10	0	1	4	2	11	3	0	1	42
Juvenile Transports (Female)	0	7	0	4	4	5	1	2	3	5	2	1	34
Adult Transports (Male)	18	26	20	10	17	10	18	11	16	18	10	16	190
Adult Transports (Females)	8	2	3	4	3	11	8	10	14	5	5	5	78
Out of County Transports	28	35	18	26	22	16	26	20	34	21	10	15	271
Out of State Transports	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Circuit Probation Transports	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
State Probation Transports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transports Males Court to Jail	4	2	6	2	4	1	2	1	2	8	4	3	39
Transports Males Jail to Court	5	3	7	2	3	2	6	3	8	6	5	4	54
Transports Female Court to Jail	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	2	2	1	1	10
Transports Female Jail to Court	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	12
10-13 Transports (Adult Males)	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	4
10-13 Transports (Adult Females)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	3
10-13 Male Juvenile Transports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-13 Female Juvenile Transports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Call Outs	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	8
Control Hours	358	348	344	363	363	302	381	417	310	391	321	326	4224
Training Hours	5	16	0	17	16	17	18	45	0	4	24	0	162
Holding Cell Hours	3	8	14	6	8	5	31	5	16	6	28	20	150
Superior Court Hours	67	52	92	88	39	45	167	65	94	68	60	63	900
Magistrate Court Hours	0	12	0	0	1	10	0	0	14	1	30	1	69
Probate Court Hours	5	0	0	19	0	8	7	5	5	6	4	1	60
Juvenile/DCFS Court Hours	16	18	20	8	16	11	4	19	25	16	191	13	357
Hours Courthouse Open	182	186	180	196	188	171	193	193	168	189		173	2019
Daily People Count	8766	8329	8519	8803	8197	7463	8845	8094	7698	9542	9201	7756	101213
Finger Prints	34	34	48	0	48	30	22	45	0	40	42	50	393



Gilmer County Sheriff's Office  
Criminal Investigations Division-2024

CID 2024	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total-2024
Investigations Opened	38	27	35	20	24	24	31	27	27	31	12	31	327
Investigations On-going	92	86	104	104	106	114	114	109	122	133	140	125	
Investigations Closed	23	16	18	9	16	12	16	15	12	10	6	18	171
Cases Cleared By Arrest	9	5	8	7	6	2	5	7	4	2	1	4	60
<b>Investigations Opened</b>													
ASSAULT/BATTERY	1	4	7	2	4	0	4	4	5	5	1	2	39
BURGLARY	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	0	1	9
CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN	7	3	9	5	3	2	3	4	3	7	1	7	54
DEATH INVESTIGATIONS	7	6	2	2	4	9	8	6	6	4	2	11	67
ELDER ABUSE	4	0	2	1	1	3	1	0	1	1	1	1	16
FINANCIAL / ID FRAUDS	3	2	2	1	3	2	2	1	4	2	0	3	25
KIDNAPPING	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
MISCELLANEOUS	7	6	1	3	4	3	3	2	2	2	1	2	36
MISSING/ RUNAWAY	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	5
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
MURDER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OVERDOSE	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
ROBBERY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SEX CRIMES /ADULT	1	1	3	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	1	0	17
THEFTS/PROPERTY RELATED	1	2	7	3	2	3	6	6	3	3	4	3	43
VGCSEA/Gang Related	5	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>327</b>

## Detention Division-2024

[illegible]

**Gilmer County Sheriff's Office**

[illegible]



## Office of Professional Standards-2024

Business within 1000 ft. of an area where minors congregate

Gilmer County Sheriff's Office  
Uniformed Patrol Division-2024

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>2024 Year Total</b>
Traffic Accidents	50	41	54	66	76	44	55	58	37	64	53	41	639
# of Injuries	7	1	3	11	5	4	4	7	6	9	3	1	61
# of Fatalities	0	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	7
Worked by GCSO	40	28	32	44	62	31	31	46	27	50	39	24	454
Worked by GSP	10	13	23	22	16	13	21	10	10	14	7	6	165
Animal Investigations	23	4	10	15	19	14	13	12	10	14	20	9	163
Alarms	95	68	71	64	90	60	64	57	48	49	64	51	781
Arson/Fire	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	7
Aggravated Assault	0	2	1	1	2	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	12
Armed Robbery	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Back-Ups	172	129	287	173	183	192	209	204	173	217	139	163	2241
Burglary to Business	1	0	1	0	2	3	0	0	3	1	0	0	11
Burglary to Residence	1	1	6	3	4	1	2	1	2	3	0	3	27
Business Dispute	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Civil Process Served	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	5
Criminal Damage	0	4	0	2	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	24
Criminal Trespass	11	8	11	8	10	8	14	9	11	7	10	1	108
Child Abuse/Neglect	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	3	10
Family Violence/Verbal	36	25	33	31	32	29	17	34	21	25	18	21	322
Family Violence/Physical	8	12	22	16	29	6	17	23	13	17	7	8	178
DUI/ Alcohol	0	2	1	0	3	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	16
DUI/ Drugs	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	3
Death Investigation	8	5	4	2	3	10	7	5	7	3	4	5	63
Forgery	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Fraud/Counterfit	5	13	0	1	1	2	1	4	4	8	2	6	47
Funeral Escorts	13	11	7	9	7	6	7	15	12	7	7	6	107
Harassing Communications	3	8	3	6	8	5	8	16	10	5	7	7	86
Juvenile Call	21	11	8	4	9	12	5	9	15	8	3	6	111
Missing Person	7	8	2	5	10	1	4	3	1	5	2	4	52
Money/Person Escort	3	5	6	7	10	8	3	2	6	4	4	14	72
Other Call	508	400	493	374	463	388	480	508	445	443	328	362	5192
Prowler	3	3	16	33	12	15	7	12	8	15	7	11	142
Public Drunk	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

Gilmer County Sheriff's Office  
Uniformed Patrol Division-2024

<b>Activity</b>	<b>JAN</b>	<b>FEB</b>	<b>MAR</b>	<b>APR</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>JUN</b>	<b>JUL</b>	<b>AUG</b>	<b>SEP</b>	<b>OCT</b>	<b>NOV</b>	<b>DEC</b>	<b>2024 YEAR TOTAL</b>
Rape/Sex Crime	1	1	0	1	1	1	4	2	0	3	0	1	15
Shoplifting	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Simple Battery/Assault	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	6
Speeding/Reckless	2	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8
Stranded/Disabled Motorist	27	13	18	17	16	18	16	17	21	24	30	17	234
# of Zone Patrols	2364	1535	1998	1844	2126	1813	1917	1704	2257	2132	1782	1971	23443
Suicide Threat/Attempt	13	16	8	6	12	10	18	6	11	8	7	13	128
Suspicious Person/Vehicle	57	53	61	68	68	83	51	49	98	46	52	50	736
Theft by Taking	19	27	17	20	22	8	13	12	14	13	18	11	194
Theft of Motor Vehicle	8	6	6	2	5	5	10	0	3	2	5	4	56
Traffic Stop	135	114	157	159	126	98	182	201	131	78	147	145	1673
Citation Issued	20	22	41	62	39	45	49	76	35	28	39	36	492
Warning Issued	100	104	124	108	94	57	136	130	78	57	109	112	1209
Transport out of County	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
Unsecured Building	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	5
VGCSA	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	4
VIN Verification	28	36	32	41	37	38	32	48	115	80	31	23	541
Warrant Served	37	20	4	24	11	12	15	19	46	33	27	50	298
Weapon Offense	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL CALLS</b>	3661	2616	3343	3005	3407	2901	3488	3041	3534	3325	2778	3015	38114
<b>ARREST NON-VGCSA</b>													
Adult Male	28	11	17	20	24	20	30	25	9	20	19	11	234
Adult Female	4	7	5	6	9	7	9	2	6	8	7	6	76
Juvenile	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	10
<b>ARREST VGCSA</b>													
Adult Male	3	0	2	2	0	2	6	1	1	0	1	0	18
Adult Female	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	6
Juvenile	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL ARRESTS</b>	36	20	25	29	34	29	48	31	22	28	27	18	347
Miles Driven	33226	25777	29436	27424	34682	34442	33212	28872	28899	24075	22564	20986	343595
Gasoline Used	2177	1703	2480	1848	1850	1888	2416	2210	1887	1798	1836	2148	24241