

2021

ANNUAL REPORT

LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

14750 Six Mile Cypress Pkwy.
Fort Myers, FL 33912

(239) 477-1000

www.sheriffleefl.org



ZERO TOLERANCE FOR ANIMAL ABUSE

Sheriff Carmine Marceno is a tireless advocate for abused animals. Since taking office in September 2018, he has made animal cruelty prevention a top priority. He formed the Animal Cruelty Unit to enhance our animal cruelty investigations and assist Lee County Domestic Animal Services with suspected animal cruelty cases. Sheriff Marceno also formed the Animal Cruelty Task Force to spread the message that he has zero tolerance for animal abuse.

This Agency uses billboards, social media and rescue animals to spread the message. It also has a team of animal ambassadors, including Deputy Chance, an abused Florida cur dog, that serves as official spokes dog. Chance visits schools, hospitals, and community events. He promotes goodwill, has become an advocate against animal cruelty and helps promote adoption of shelter pets. Chance is joined by Lieutenant Hope, a pit-bull mix that lost a leg due to neglect. She serves as the face of the Animal Cruelty Unit. LCSO also adopted two great Pyrenees – Luna and Phoenix, after deputies seized them due to mistreatment by their owners. They are both in training for future assignments.



MOTTO

“Proud to serve.”

MISSION

To safeguard lives and property; respectfully enforce the laws of the land;
and work cooperatively to lessen the impact of crime on the lives of
residents and visitors in Lee County.

MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY

Thank you for placing your trust in me to lead Southwest Florida's largest law enforcement agency. I am pleased to announce that for the 14th consecutive year, the crime rate fell in unincorporated Lee County. According to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Lee County saw a 5.4% drop in reported crime. That's fantastic, and I couldn't be more proud.

I attribute this Agency's success to our dedicated team of great men and women who work selflessly day and night to keep Lee County safe. I also must recognize our essential community support. Without you, we could never achieve our level of success. "See Something, Say Something, Make the Call" is a proven law enforcement tool. Your tips help us solve cases.

Moving forward, I am grateful to Lee County Administration and the Board of County Commissioners for their approval earlier this year to expand our Agency's Narcotics Unit from 24 to 44 certified employees. The opioid epidemic is taking lives at an alarming rate, and Lee County is not immune. Our Narcotics Unit has been working diligently, 24-hours-a-day, to locate and eliminate these dealers and their suppliers. I look forward to expanding our operations to take out the drug dealers who are poisoning our community.

"Safe Kids Safe Schools" remains another of my top initiatives. We take student safety seriously. It starts with students walking to and from the bus stop. It involves security at the bus stop, traffic safety while being transported by school bus and complete safety

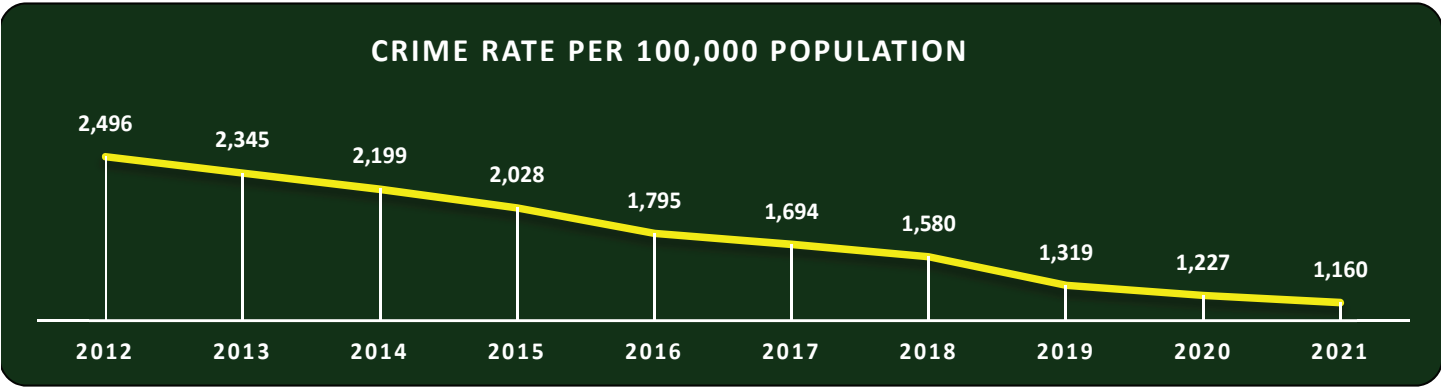


while in school. We have School Resource Officers in every school – in some instances two resource officers – to ensure campus safety. Our Youth Services Division has Jr. Cadet, Cadet and Explorer programs in the county's schools to provide opportunities to students interested in community service. The safety of Lee County students, school staff and our educational facilities is our top priority, and we will continue our "Safe Kids Safe Schools" initiative.

We will continue to make community outreach and the prevention of animal abuse a priority (see Page 2). We now have seven community outreach centers throughout the county, with one more planned in the near future. Look for me in the community scooping ice cream from the LCSO Ice Cream Response Truck.

Working together, we will make Lee County an even better place to live and work.

– Sheriff Carmine Marceno

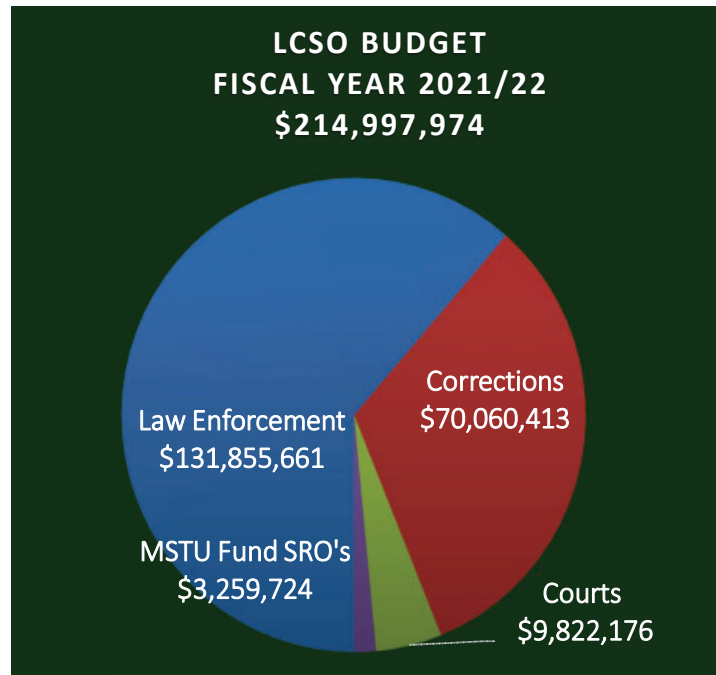


BUDGET

The Lee County Sheriff's Office Budget is divided into three distinctive components:
Law Enforcement, Corrections and Courts

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Law Enforcement is the largest component of the Sheriff's Office and includes everything from traditional Patrol responsibilities to Support Services, the Criminal Investigations Bureau and many specialized units such as Youth Services, Communications and Marine. Law enforcement has 998 authorized positions.

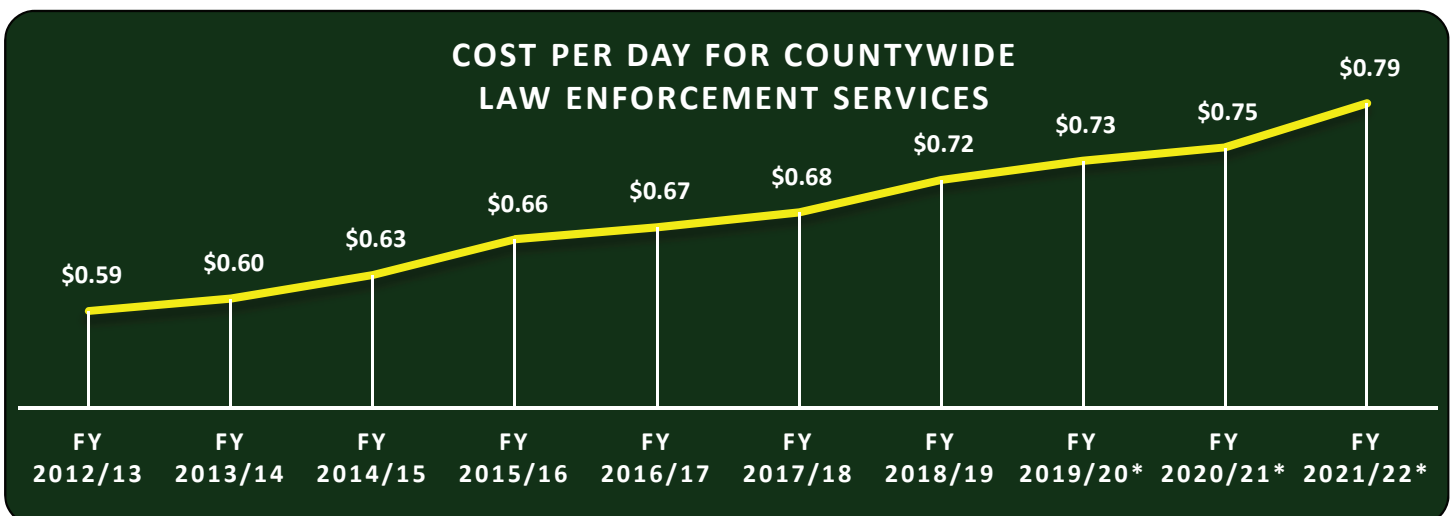


CORRECTIONS

The Corrections Bureau is responsible for the care and control of inmates as well as the operation and maintenance of all county jail facilities. This includes the Maximum Security Downtown Jail and Core Facility, which includes the Community Programs Unit. The Juvenile Assessment Center also is part of this bureau. Corrections has 507 authorized positions.

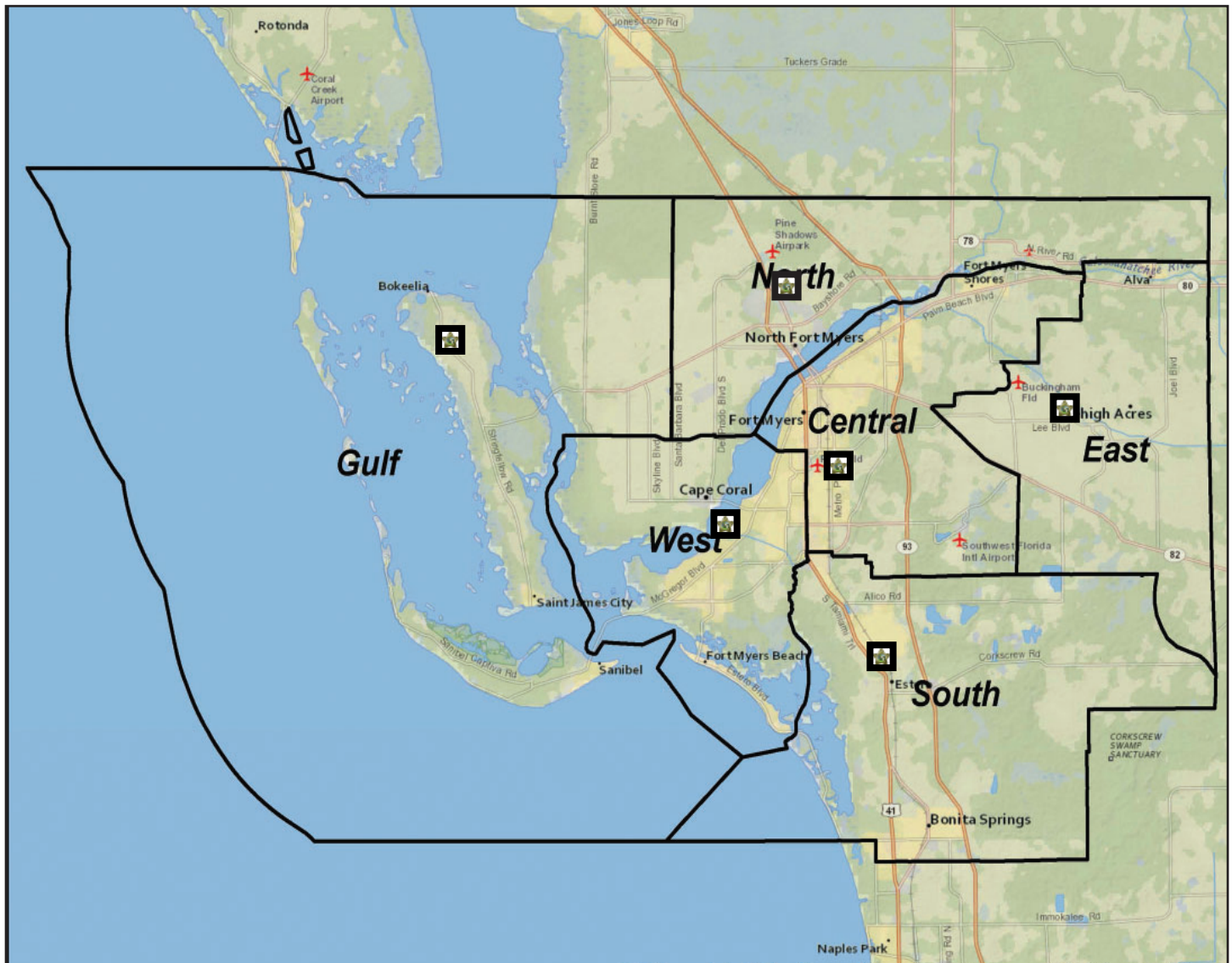
COURTS

Members of Court Operations are responsible for security at the Lee County Justice Complex. Members also coordinate the transfer of inmates to and from trials as well as screen visitors of the complex. Court Operations has 112 authorized positions, which also includes the Civil Division. Civil is responsible for service that originates in the Supreme Court, Circuit Court, County Court and Board of County Commissioners.



*NOTE: FY 2019/20, FY 2020/21 & FY 2021/22 include reserve and supplemental funding.

PATROL DISTRICTS



NORTH DISTRICT

121 Pondella Road
N. Fort Myers (239) 477-1810
Hours: M-F 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WEST DISTRICT

15650 Pine Ridge Road
Fort Myers (239) 477-1830
Hours: M-F 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

HEADQUARTERS AND CENTRAL DISTRICT

14750 Six Mile Cypress Pkwy.
Fort Myers (239) 477-1850
Hours: M-F 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

EAST DISTRICT

1301 Homestead Road
Lehigh Acres (239) 477-1820
Hours: M-F 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SOUTH DISTRICT

8350 Hospital Drive, Suite 114
Bonita Springs (239) 477-1840
Hours: M-F 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

GULF DISTRICT

13921-4 Waterfront Drive
Pineland (239) 282-5766
Hours: M-F 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH CENTERS

Community outreach is an essential component of the Lee County Sheriff's Office. We have opened seven Community Outreach Centers throughout the county, and plan to open one more at the Coconut Point Mall in Estero to provide enhanced service and offer the public a place to meet, gather and interact with law enforcement.



BELL TOWER (CSU Office)

13499 S. Cleveland Ave Suite 151
Fort Myers (239) 477-1422
M-F: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

CAPE CORAL OUTREACH (Brotherhood of Heroes Museum)

4522 Del Prado Blvd. South,
Cape Coral (239) 360-8913
M-F: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
SA: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

COCONUT POINT MALL OUTREACH

23140 Fashion Drive
Suite 111, Estero

(Coming soon)

DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS OUTREACH

2125 W. First St. Suite 100,
Fort Myers (239) 220-0329
DAILY: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

EDISON MALL OUTREACH

4125 Cleveland Avenue Suite
1930, Fort Myers
(239) 910-6585
M-SA: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
SU: Noon to 6 p.m.

FORT MYERS BEACH OUTREACH

(Relocating)
(239) 292-2443

GULF COAST TOWN CENTER OUTREACH

9918 Gulf Coast Main St. Suite
B120, Fort Myer (239) 910-9210
M-F: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

MIROMAR OUTLETS OUTREACH

10801 Corkscrew Road Suite 190,
Estero (239) 676-7971
M-SA: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
SU: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

CRIME ANALYSIS

In 2021, unincorporated Lee County experienced a **5.4%** decline in its crime rate.

This is the 14th consecutive year that the rate has dropped.

Since 2010, the crime rate has fallen **59.4%**.

Crimes Against Persons								
Incident Type	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	5-year ave.	% change from 2020	% change, 5-year average
Murder	32	26	9	22	17	21	-22.73%	-19.81%
Forcible Sex Offenses	288	318	320	305	388	324	27.21%	19.83%
Robbery	313	257	256	217	206	250	-5.07%	-17.53%
Agg. Assault/Stalking	780	787	780	949	935	846	-1.48%	10.49%
Violent Crimes	1,413	1,388	1,365	1,493	1,546	1,441	3.55%	7.29%
Crimes Against Property								
Burglary Residence	1,124	848	653	545	410	793	-24.77%	-48.26%
Burglary Non-Residence	215	152	153	132	157	163	18.94%	-3.68%
Theft	4,108	4,023	3,398	3,029	3,036	3,640	0.23%	-16.58%
Motor Vehicle Theft	555	624	428	560	457	542	-18.39%	-15.64%
Property Crimes	6,002	5,647	4,632	681	524	4,241	-23.05%	-87.64%
Larceny-Theft Analysis								
Incident Type	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	5-year ave.	% Change from 2020	% change, 5-year ave.
Pocket Picking	9	7	2	4	2	5	-50.00%	-58.33%
Purse Snatching	1	3	3	4	3	3	-25.00%	No change
Shoplifting	899	1,040	1,067	712	700	884	-1.69%	-20.78%
From Motor Vehicle	1,145	1,187	853	911	791	977	-13.17%	-19.07%
Motor Vehicle Parts	126	110	79	89	178	116	100.00%	52.92%
Bicycles	217	160	158	159	191	177	20.13%	7.91%
From Building	808	676	527	380	406	559	6.84%	-27.42%
From Coin Machine	5	28	76	31	11	30	-64.52%	-63.58%

IN MEMORY OF OUR FALLEN HEROES

There were 458 law enforcement officer fatalities nationwide in 2021, including 301 confirmed COVID-19 related deaths. As a result, line of duty deaths increased 55% from the prior year, according to by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.

Ten deputies have made the ultimate sacrifice at the Lee County Sheriff's Office, including two who died last year as a result of COVID-19:

Sgt. William Diaz, Sgt. Steven Mazzotta.

