

Lake County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Frank Leonbruno

I EVIDENCE COLLECTION:

In order to prove criminal cases, it may become necessary for Deputies to collect and store evidence at the Lake County Sheriff's Office. Evidence collected may be as small as a piece of paper or as large as a motor vehicle. Whatever the case may be, it is the responsibility of the evidence technician to properly file and store evidence for various cases. It is important to note that not all property collected by the Lake County Sheriff's Office is for the sole purpose of pursuing a criminal case. Many times the Lake County Sheriff's Office is called upon to hold items for safekeeping. An example of such a request may come from the Domestic Relations Court. It is not uncommon for the Sheriff's Office to receive an order from a Judge, directing us to remove weapons (mainly firearms) from what the court deems a "volatile home" anywhere in Lake County. Many items, whether they are criminal or civil in nature, remain in evidence until ordered released by a Judge or Prosecutor. This process alone may take many years to complete.

2019 Statistics:

- (557) total cases were processed through the Lake County Sheriff's Office Evidence Room.
- (1,334) items of evidence were processed as a result of those 557 cases.
- (271) cases were sent to the Lake County Crime Lab for forensic analysis.
- (660) items were sent to the Lake County Crime Lab for forensic analysis.
- (1,099.26 lbs.) of pharmaceutical drugs were disposed of from the drop box in the front lobby of the Lake County Sheriff's Office.

II SORN/ARSON/CCW:

S.O.R.N.:

In recent years there have been laws/provisions made to the ORC in regards to sex offenders who are either incarcerated or have been released from prison. Sheriffs' Offices throughout the State of Ohio have been tasked with the important responsibility of tracking sex offenders. The responsibility involves registering offenders in the following manner:

- **Tier I** offenders register with their local Sheriff's Office once a year for 15 years.
- **Tier II** offenders register with their local Sheriff's Office once every 180 days for 25 years.
- **Tier III** offenders register with their local Sheriff's Office every 90 days for life.

Deputies assigned to this detail must keep updated records of offenders, to include where they reside, work, or even go to school. It is also the responsibility of these Deputies to notify residents and local schools when a registered sex offender moves into their community. These notifications are almost always made in the form of mass mailings which is supported by the taxpayers of Lake County.

2019 Statistics:

- (197) Sex Offenders are registered with the Lake County Sheriff's Office
- (58) Tier I Sex Offenders registrations were complete.
- (61) Tier II Sex Offenders registrations were complete.
- (15) Tier III Sex Offenders registrations were complete.
- (40) Pre AWA Sexual Predator registrations were complete (every 90 days).
- (3) Pre AWA Habitual Sex Offender registrations were complete (every 90 days).
- (20) Pre AWA Sexually Oriented Offender registrations were complete (once a year).
- (325) Residential verifications were made by Deputies.
- (51) Reports were submitted regarding alleged sexual offender violations and other violations of laws.
- In properly documenting the moves of registered sex offenders there were 3,554 offender notifications made throughout various communities in Lake County for 2019.
- Notifications resulted in a mail cost of \$2,037.70.

ARSON:

In 2019, the Lake County Sheriff's Office, as mandated by the State Legislature, registered (10) convicted arsonists.

CCW:

As with sex offender registrations, Sheriffs' Offices throughout the State of Ohio have been given the statutory responsibility of issuing concealed handgun permits. Permits may be issued on a permanent/renewable basis or on a temporary/emergency basis. Registrations involve the verification of an applicants mandated firearms training and the completion of a criminal background investigation. Deputies must also issue a physical permit which is subject to revocation if the CCW law is not followed by the permit holder. What is important to note is that eligible citizens may apply for a CCW permit in their home county or in a county adjacent to their home county. Not all CCW permit applicants who have registered in Lake County are residents of this county.

2019 Statistics:

- (4,422) New CCW permits were issued through the Lake County Sheriff's Office.
- (3,745) CCW permits were renewed in 2019.
- (0) CCW temporary licenses issued.
- (134) CCW permits were suspended.
- (102) CCW permits had been denied.
- (103) CCW permits had been revoked.

III ISSUANCE OF COURT ORDERS:

Lake County Sheriff's Deputies are responsible for the issuing of various orders from the Lake County Courts of Common Pleas. These orders are in the form of indictments, domestic violence protection orders, civil stalking orders, warrants on indictment, and civil/criminal subpoenas. The Lake County Sheriff's Office will also serve papers from other county courts as long as the recipient of those papers resides in Lake County.

2019 Statistics:

- Summons on Indictment issued: **384**
- Stalking/Domestic Protection Orders issued: **618**
- Service was made on **1,606** orders.
- Service could not be made on **343** orders.

SHERIFF'S SALES:

2019 Statistics:

- Foreclosures: **402**
- Writs: **62**
- Executions: **9**
- Replevins: **21**

IV FUGITIVE EXTRADITIONS/WARRANTS:

Whether an arrest warrant has been issued by a grand jury or through a probable cause hearing, it is the responsibility of the Lake County Sheriff's Office to locate and apprehend those individuals. People who flee prosecution are commonly known as fugitives. Regardless if someone has fled 1 mile or 3000 miles, it is our responsibility to apprehend these individuals and bring them back to Lake County for their day in court. Many fugitives leave the State of Ohio figuring they can simply blend in with society to avoid prosecution. Some feel the further they travel the better off they are; this is not the case. Fugitive extraditions require coordination not only logistically, but financially.

The Lake County Sheriff's Office is always looking at ways to save taxpayer money in order to bring fugitives back to Lake County for their necessary court hearings. Outside of having L.C.S.O. Deputies bring fugitives back to Ohio, which may be costly, assistance from the U.S. Marshall's Office is often sought. In using the U.S. Marshall's Office for long distance extraditions, we have saved the taxpayers thousands of dollars annually. We no longer have to pay Deputies to travel to far away locations, which would include the cost of meals, hotel accommodations and air fare. Exceptional cases aside, Deputies from the L.C.S.O. mainly handle extraditions that do not require an overnight stay.

2019 Statistics:

- (8) Extraditions were completed by the Lake County Sheriff's Office.
- (16) Extraditions were completed by the U.S. Marshalls at a cost of \$37,714.00.
*NOTE: The above arrest numbers represent out of state extraditions. This year alone, fugitives were extradited from Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, N. Carolina, Nevada, S. Carolina and Texas.

The Lake County Sheriff's Office currently holds approximately (931) outstanding arrest warrants. Communication and coordination with other local, state, and federal police agencies is key to having successful criminal apprehensions when pursuing fugitives. The Lake County Sheriff's Office is always seeking innovative ways to locate fugitives. Thanks to technological advances and an outstanding rapport with other police agencies, the Lake County Sheriff's Office has been successful in apprehending fugitives.

2019 Statistics:

- (1,867) Warrants were received at the Lake County Sheriff's Office.
- (1,524) warrants were served.
- (319) warrants were recalled or returned to the court for dismissal.

V COURT HOUSE SECURITY:

With public safety being paramount, there have been numerous changes in the security procedures at the various Lake County Common Pleas Courts in the past few years. One item in particular is the way we track and prohibit contraband from entering the Lake County Court House, Lake County Probate Court and the Lake County Juvenile Court. In tracking our progress we are able to fairly evaluate what might be missed if we were not diligent in our duties. The following numbers represent what was barred in 2019:

- (70) Items of contraband were barred in January
- (46) Items of contraband were barred in February
- (70) Items of contraband were barred in March
- (80) Items of contraband were barred in April
- (58) Items of contraband were barred in May
- (65) Items of contraband were barred in June
- (64) Items of contraband were barred in July
- (63) Items of contraband were barred in August
- (63) Items of contraband were barred in September
- (44) Items of contraband were barred in October
- (56) Items of contraband were barred in November
- (38) Items of contraband were barred in December

TOTAL: 717 Items

*NOTE: Contraband has been determined to be any weapon, item that may be used as a weapon, or item not permitted into the court house by a Judge's order.

VI PRISONER TRANSPORTS:

It is the responsibility of the Deputies from the Court Services Division to complete all prisoner transports to and from court hearings, hospitals, and the various prisons and county jails throughout Ohio. The L.C.S.O. also assists the U.S. Marshal's Office in transporting prisoners they have housed in the Lake County Jail to the Federal Court Houses in Cleveland and Akron. It should be noted that the U.S. Marshal's Office reimburses the Lake County Sheriff's Office for all of their prisoner transports.

2019

INMATE TRANSPORTS/COURT ESCORTS:

JUDGE BARTOLOTTA	0	JUDGE LAWSON	75
JUDGE CONDON	269	JUDGE LUCCI	379
JUDGE CULOTTA	366	JUDGE O'DONNELL	498
JUDGE FALKOWSKI	8	MAGISTRATE SPANGLER	4
PAINESVILLE MUNICIPAL	137	WILLOUGHBY MUNICIPAL	0
MENTOR MUNICIPAL	16	GRAND JURY	2

COUNTY JAILS:

ASHTABULA	7	MORROW	2
CUYAHOGA	23	RICHLAND	1
GEAUGA	4	STARK	2
LUCAS	1	SUMMIT	3
MAHONING	2		

PRISON TRANSPORTS:

BELMONT CORRECTIONAL	1	MANSFIELD CORRECTIONAL	4
GRAFTON CORRECTIONAL	4	MARION CORRECTIONAL	2
LAKE ERIE CORRECTIONAL	10	MARYSVILLE WOMENS REF.	34
LEBANON CORRECTIONAL	1	TRUMBULL CORRECTIONAL	8
LORAIN CORRECTIONAL	196		
NORTHCOAST BEHAVIORAL	5	NEOCAP	4

FEDERAL TRANSPORTS:

CLEVELAND	11	AKRON	2	YOUNGSTOWN	2
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MEDICAL TRANSPORTS:

HOSPITAL ESCORTS 132

INMATE DOCTOR APPOINTMENTS:

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS 270