

Queen Anne's County

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF



2019

End of the Year Report



MISSION, VISION & GOALS



VISION

Our vision is to maintain a safer Queen Anne's County where citizens and Law Enforcement are joined together, the rights of all persons are respected, and community values are reflected.

MISSION

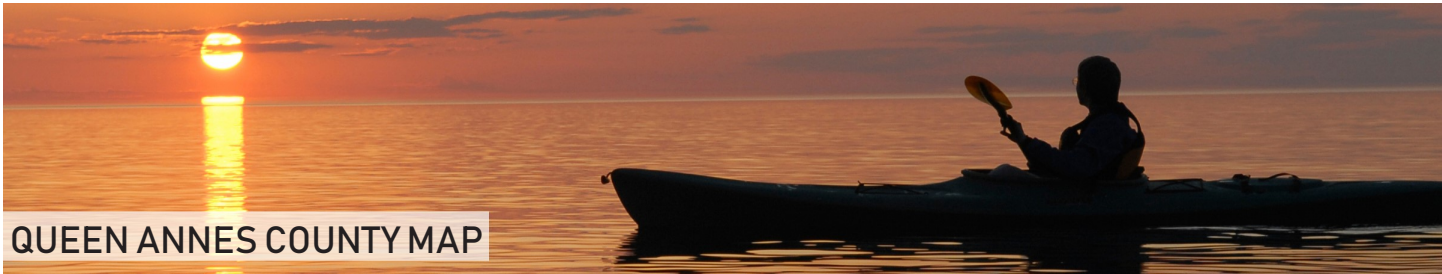
The Queen Anne's County Office of the Sheriff is committed to protecting life, property and individual rights while maintaining

peace and order. "Prompt, Professional and Courteous police services with a ***no tolerance to crime approach***".

GOALS

GOAL 1: Increase the number of patrol sectors in order to assign additional patrol coverage to the northern end of the county with the goal of reducing law enforcement response times and increasing law enforcement presence in the community.





QUEEN ANNES COUNTY MAP



QUEEN ANNES COUNTY, MD

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

Year of Incorporation: 1706

Land Area of County in Square Miles:

Land: 372 Water: 139

Population: 49,770

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF PERSONNEL: *(As of December 31, 2019)*

Authorized Sworn: 70 Sworn: (65 current) Civilian: 12

TOWNS IN QUEEN ANNES COUNTY:

Barclay

Centreville

Chester

Chestertown

Church Hill

Crumpton

Grasonville

Henderson

Ingleside

Marydel

Millington

Queen Anne

Queenstown

Stevensville

Sudlersville

Templeville

Wye Mills

COMMAND STAFF PERSONNEL



Sheriff GARY HOFMANN

sheriff@qac.org 410.758.0770 x1213



Major DWAYNE BOARDMAN

dboardman@qac.org 410.758.0770 x1224



Lieutenant MARK MEIL

mmeil@qac.org 410.758.0770 x1235



Lieutenant DUKE JOHNSTON

ejohnston@qac.org 410.758.0770 x1270



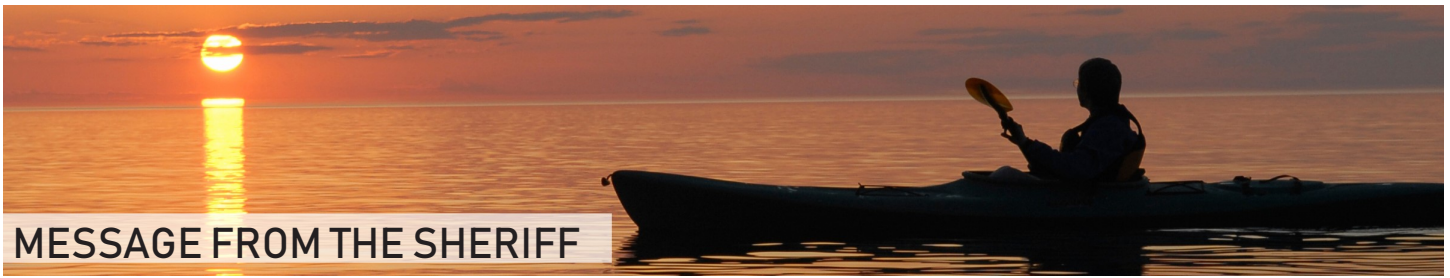
1st Sgt. JOHN MEYERS

jmeyers@qac.org 410.758.0770 x1288



1st Sgt. PHIL ENGLISH

penglish@qac.org 410.758.0770 x1278



Welcome!

As your Sheriff I want the citizens of Queen Anne's County to know that it is a true pleasure to serve you. We know the importance of building positive relationships with our community. We stress that maintaining prompt, professional and courteous service is our promise we make with our community.

There isn't a day that goes by where citizens do not interact with or assist us in performing our duties and we greatly appreciate this involvement. Our beliefs in providing factual, transparent and real-time information make our community well informed and a safe place for us to "Live, work and play!"

As you look through this Annual Report of the Queen Anne's County Sheriff's Office, I believe you will see the many varied duties the employees perform throughout the year.

The Sheriff's Office has three main areas: Administrative Services, Field Operations, and Support Services.

As our population continues to increase the request for increased service is growing. To maintain the safe social environment of Queen Anne's County is a daunting task. We are consistently faced with the growing challenges of social media and information sharing.

Technology, although we are consistently on the cutting edge, changes daily and becomes outdated quickly. As seen, the criminal element becomes more sophisticated and challenging, so maintaining the highest level of training for the staff to keep us safe is ever-evolving.

We are working closely with the County Commissioners to ensure through our fiscal responsibility that we continue to keep our County one of the safest counties in Maryland.

Our Annual Report has two main purposes: 1) to report on crime data. 2) to report on the success of our community policing and interaction. I hope that we are successful in conveying our message. We are continuing to maintain a significant milestone by maintaining our accreditation on a national level to ensure that we are at and above the national standards for law enforcement. This process is done through CALEA, and we're very fortunate as less than 10% of law enforcement agencies across the nation ever achieve this and maintain this standard. [Click here to learn more about CALEA.](#)

We truly live in the greatest place in the world. Queen Anne's County has the best scenery with a great community that is willing to work together in making this beyond a doubt a wonderful place to raise a family, go to school, work, and play. Each one of us has to play a role in maintaining what we have here. It is an honor to work and live with you, our citizens, and a great honor to serve you. Together we will make a difference.

I am always available to meet with and talk with our community. I hope you feel free to contact me for any compliments, issues or concerns.

Your Sheriff,

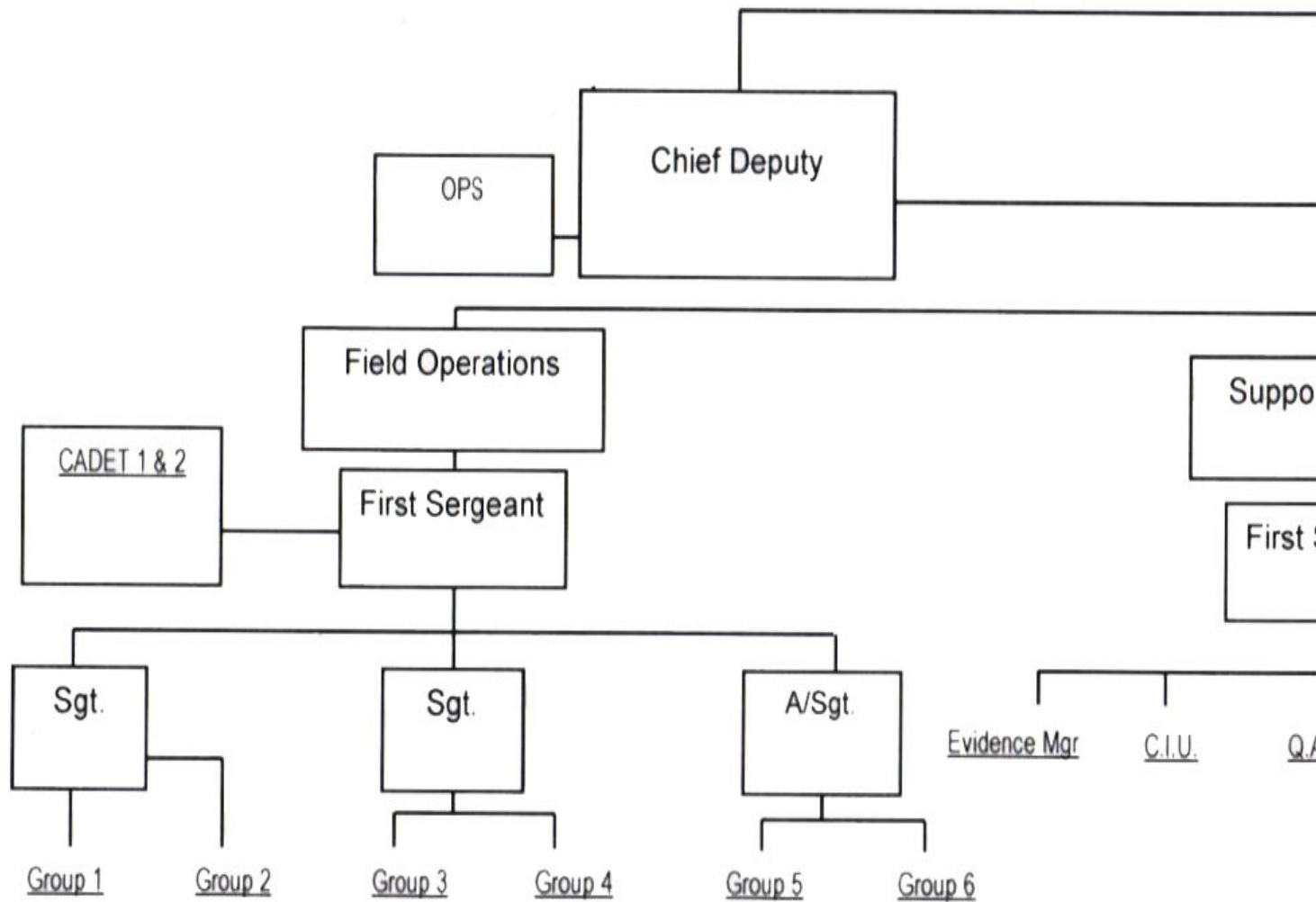
Sheriff Gary Hofmann

Sheriff@qac.org

Work 410-758-0770 ext. 1213

Cell phone 443-496-1277

Sheriff's Office



Authorized Sworn: 70 plus 1 Grant Funded Dare Deputy (65 current)

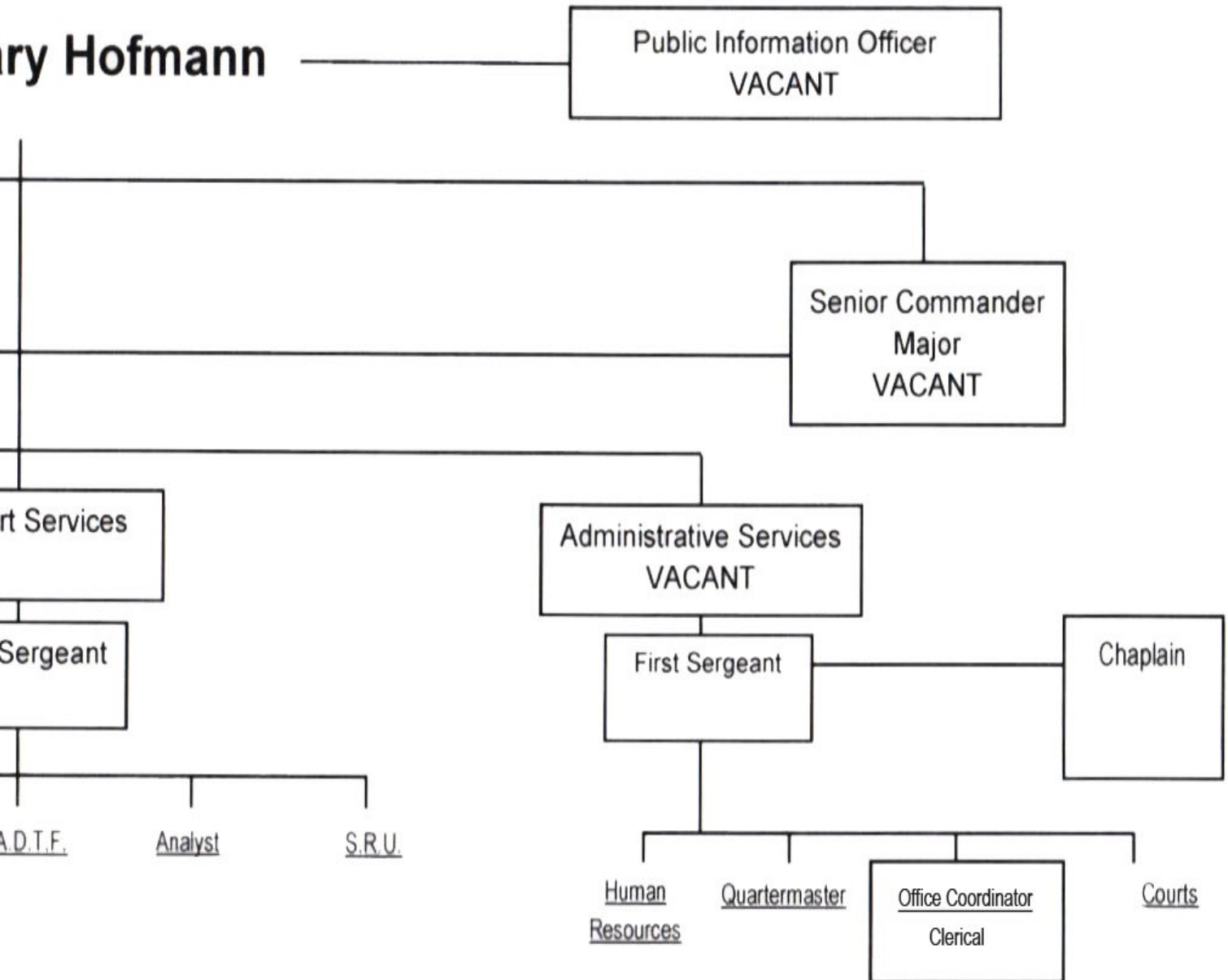
Non-Sworn 13 (12 current)

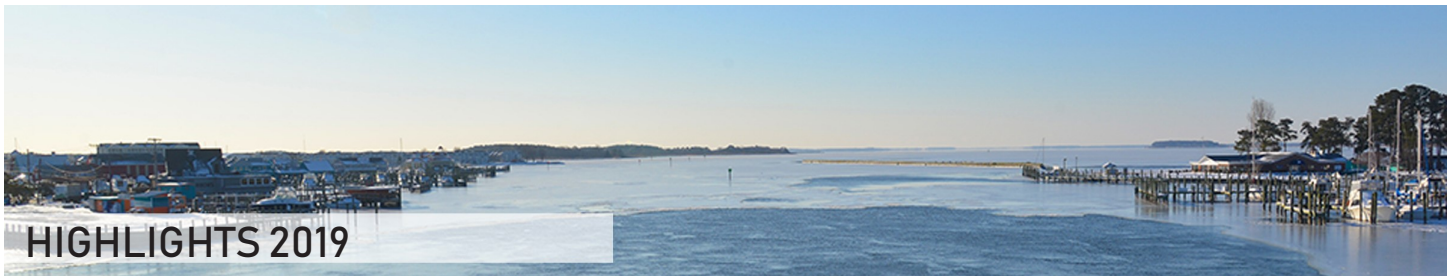
*Contractual Employee

**Part Time

County Office of the Sheriff

ry Hofmann





HIGHLIGHTS 2019

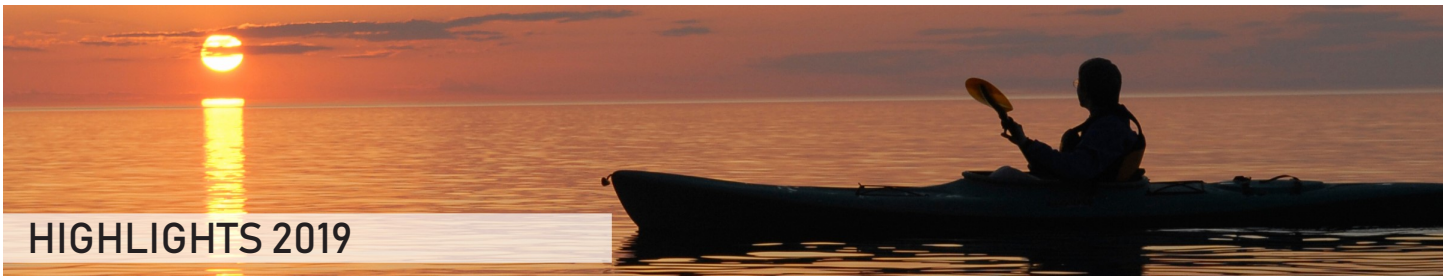


SHOP WITH A COP

Sheriff's Office donates to local Food Pantry Box

Numerous Deputies and Civilian employees from the Office of the Sheriff donated several canned food items, winter socks and gloves to the Wye River Upper School Food Pantry which is located at St Paul's Episcopal Church in Centreville. This food pantry was a student project and holds canned food items throughout the year. Recently, they were having a hard time keeping it stocked during this time of the year, so the Office of the Sheriff donated several items to help this pantry stay full! We are so grateful that Wye River Upper School students created such a great project that helps the community out!

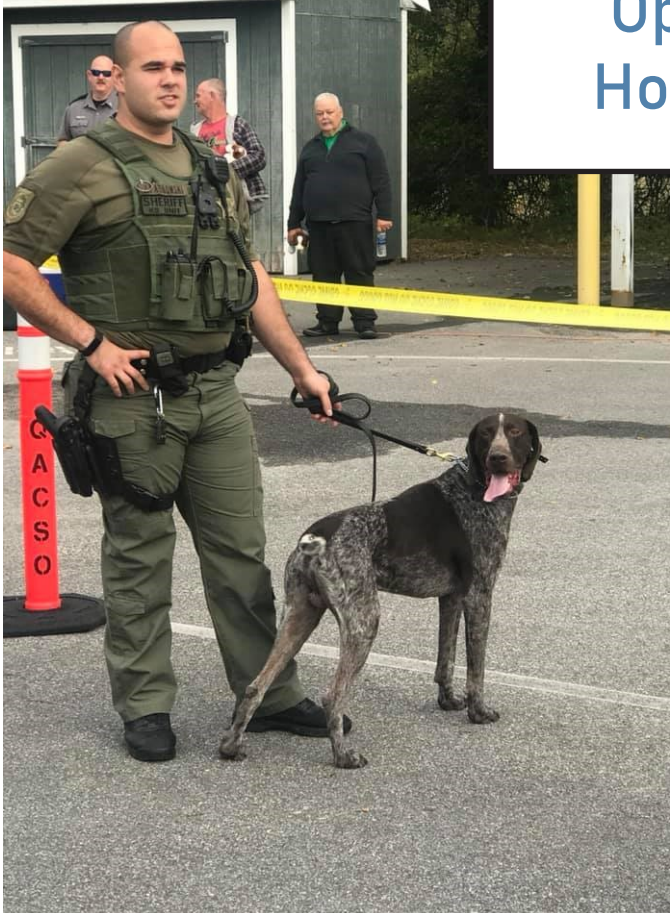




HIGHLIGHTS 2019



Sheriff's Office Open House



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Queen Anne's County Has Decrease in Overall Violent Crime Rate

The year 2019 proved to be an eventful and rewarding year for the Queen Anne's County Office of the Sheriff and the County in general. We saw a significant decrease in our already low overall violent crime rate and opioid overdose/death rate. The new Circuit Courthouse opened in Centreville with enhanced security provided by the Office of the Sheriff and top-level school safety was achieved through an increase in School Resource Deputies and training offered to all school staff, students and bus contractors so that all persons involved with school activities are vigilant at all times to help detect any possible threat to school safety.

For 2019, Queen Anne's County experienced zero

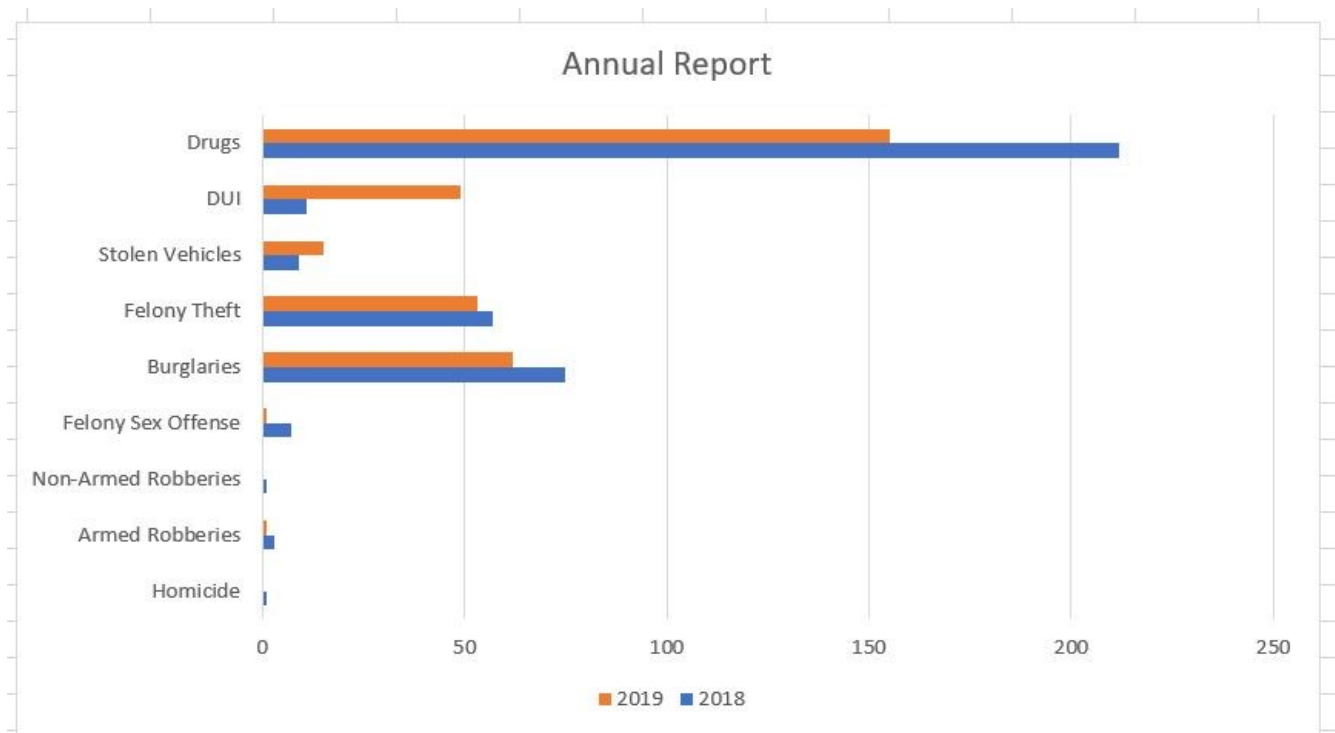
homicides, one (1) armed robbery and 1 reported felony sex offense in 2019 compared to 1 homicide, 4 robberies and 7 felony sex offenses in 2018. We saw a decrease in burglaries from 75 in 2018 to 62 in 2019, felony thefts from 57 to 53 and drug offenses from 212 in 2018 to 155 in 2019. We did experience an increase in stolen vehicles throughout the County from 9 in 2018 to 15 in 2019 and an increase in drunk drivers apprehended by QAC deputies from 11 in 2018 to 49 in 2019. Another indicator that overall crime was down in 2019 vs. 2018 is that 575 warrants and/or criminal summonses were served in 2019 where 824 were served in 2018 which is a 30.2% decrease.

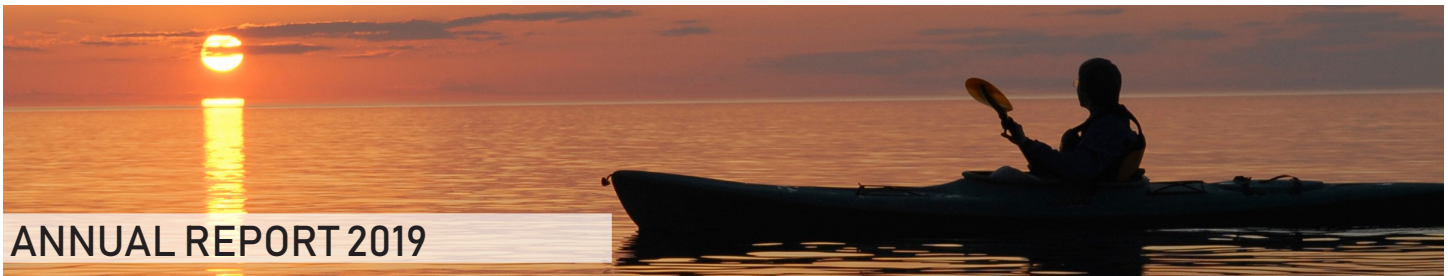
Some notable statistics for 2019 are 140 emergency petitions

were served, 8262 traffic-related warnings were issued, 325 safety repair orders were issued and 1942 citations were issued to motorists in Queen Anne's County by deputies.

There were 139 K9 scans performed by our Office's K9 patrol, 2 building searches and 1 K9 apprehension by a patrol dog.

The MRAP vehicle responded to three incidents in 2019 to include a barricaded subject in Caroline County, a high-risk search and seizure warrant in Easton and an armed barricaded subject incident in Northern Queen Anne's County. All three incidents involving the use of the MRAP resulted in a peaceful resolution.

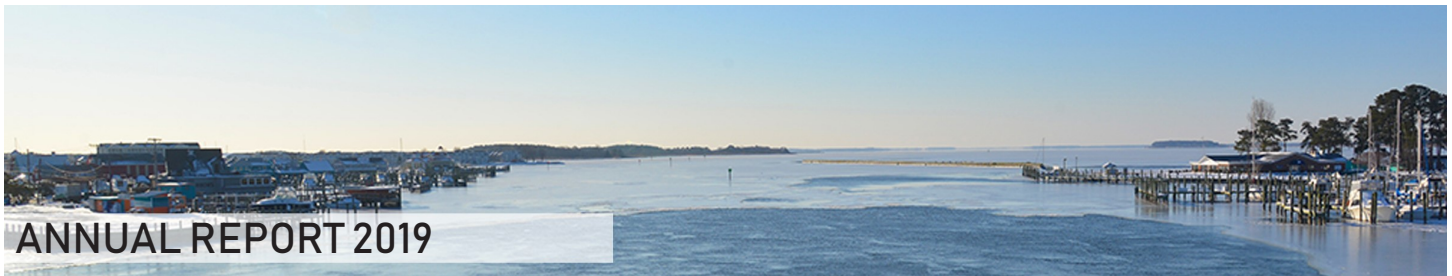




Criminal Investigations Unit Detectives Investigate 186 Cases

The Criminal Investigation Unit is staffed with three primary detectives, one detective Corporal, and one detective Sergeant. Two detectives are assigned to the Queen Anne's County Drug Task Force along with one civilian contractual drug case analysis expert. The Criminal investigations Unit was assigned 186 cases to investigate in 2019. Investigators completed 53 original offense reports, along with 598 supplemental reports. 20 cases were cleared by arrest or by charging document, 95 cases were cleared exceptionally, 38 cases were suspended, and 33 cases remain open. In 2018, the case closure rate for CIU was approximately 57 percent which is 3% higher than in 2017. The clearance rate for 2019 was 75 percent which is 18% higher than in 2018. This clearance rate is significantly above the overall national average. There were 14 Child Abuse cases investigated not including all cases where the child abuse investigation resulted in a simple second-degree assault or the complaint was coded as police information due to the claims not being able to be substantiated such as child custody disagreements. 28 sex assault cases were also investigated including all degrees of sexual assault.

Name	Case Cleared by Arrest	Case Cleared Exceptionally	Case Suspended	Cases Open	Total Cases
Sgt. Lowery	0	29	1	3	33
D/Cpl. Bassaro (June – December)	3	5	1	7	16
Det. Rickard	4	18	4	10	36
Det. Matthews	8	15	12	6	41
Det. Lewis	3	23	12	6	44
Det. Bennett (Jan – June)	2	5	8	1	16
TOTALS	20	95	38	33	186



Sex Offender Registry

The Sheriff's Office again applied for and received a grant from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to be utilized for Sex Offender Registry overtime. This grant of \$4,567.00 was administered and monitored by Sgt. Troy Lowery. We currently are monitoring thirty six (36) Sex Offenders. This number fluctuates up and down during the year and on average we monitor approximately forty (40) offenders at any given time. This time last year we were at 38 offenders so we are down 5% of offenders residing in our jurisdiction. Approximately 120 re-registrations and random checks were completed on our resident sex offenders.

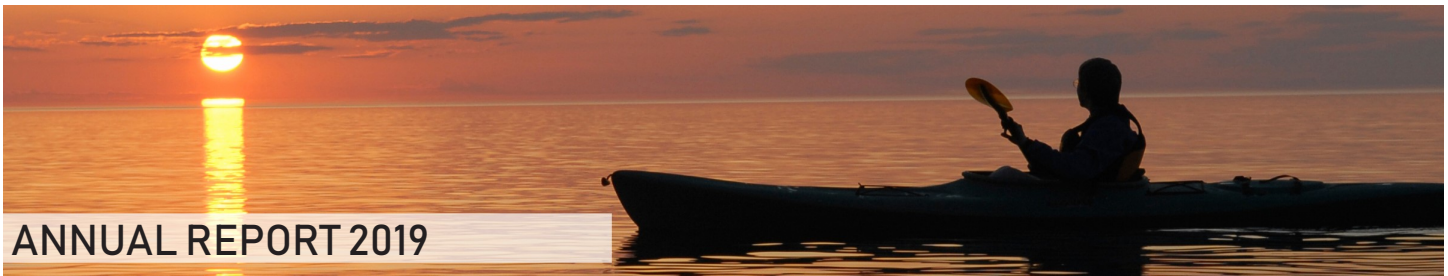


Queen Anne's County Office of the Sheriff's Office Attends Numerous Events

The Office of the Sheriff was honored to participate during the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Department Open House on Friday October 18, 2019. Auxiliary Deputy Scott Dembowski was present at the display table and greeted members of the public and those from the fire department who attended the open house.

The Office of the Sheriff thanks SVFD for allowing us to support them during this special event, and for their support and service throughout the years.





ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Sheriff's Office Welcomes New Evidence Manager, Pete Lunn

The Property and Evidence Section is now managed by a full time Evidence Manager since November 2019. The current Evidence Manager has assumed the full responsibility for the control and accountability of all items submitted for safekeeping, analysis, or evidence. During 2019, Nine hundred eighty one (981) pieces of evidence entered the property room.

Currently, there is a total of four thousand five hundred forty six (4,546) pieces of evidence or property held within the various storage areas of the Property and Evidence Section. Those items included seized currency, illegal drugs, jewelry, firearms, trace evidence, and many other types.

During 2019, seven hundred eighty six (786) pieces of evidence were lawfully disposed of after it was determined they were no longer needed for any purpose. Three hundred sixty eight (368) pieces of evidence and property were returned to their owner to include 221 firearms. There were Two hundred seventy seven (277) firearms seized and placed into the evidence room during 2019. There has been a significant increase in firearms entering and exiting the property room due to the newly created Extreme Risk Protective Orders. This also requires several firearms applications being processed. There are currently two hundred eighteen (218) pieces of evidence that are awaiting destruction including firearms and CDS. We are anticipating a destruction date of these items for February 2020. Two hundred and ninety one (291) cases have been created in Evidence.com to



store body camera videos for the State's Attorney's Office to use for prosecution.

During 2019, the Sheriff's Office continued collecting unwanted prescription medications from the public. Six hundred eighty three (683.4) pounds of prescription medications were collected during various initiatives, or dropped off at the Sheriff's Office by the public and subsequently destroyed in the most environmentally friendly way known possible. This year, used or unwanted syringes were also collected and disposed of, free of charge. Mr. Lunn has also been assigned validations for stolen property and has conducted 45 validations for 2019. Prior to Mr. Lunn taking over the evidence room, an audit of all property was conducted with 100% accountability.



Major Dwayne Embert

Retired July 1, 2019

Roxie Cross

Retired December 31, 2019

