

# HONOR DUTY SERVICE



DURHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
ANNUAL REPORT **2015**



## The Office of **SHERIFF MIKE ANDREWS**

Greetings,

I hope the information provided in the annual report introduces you to our agency and makes you aware of our continued daily effort to serve our citizens throughout the community of Durham. Our duties include much more than enforcing laws. Whether tackling recent renovations to the jail kitchen, assisting young inmates with earning their high school diploma, or providing Automated External Defibrillators (AED) for all patrol deputies, we seek to provide the best service to Durham's residents.

The past year has been extremely productive but busy as we meet the ever growing needs of our community. The men and women of this office have taken the bull by the horns, so to speak. While we continue to look at innovative methods to address needs centered on our youth and work to direct change in a positive way, we must also focus on our working and retired population and seek their input and involvement related to issues in their residential neighborhoods.

Please take a few minutes to review our recent accomplishments and feel free to contact us if we can be of assistance.

**Sheriff Michael D. Andrews**

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## BY THE NUMBERS

### Law Enforcement & Detention Services

**\$31,965,799**

agency budget

**\$4,100,623**

operating

**\$329,500**

capital

**201**

DETENTION  
OFFICERS

**18**

CIVILIAN  
DETENTION  
STAFF

**181**

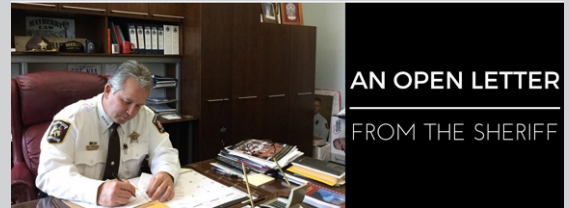
DEPUTIES

**59**

LAW  
ENFORCEMENT  
CIVILIAN  
STAFF

## WE ARE SOCIAL

Follow us! The Durham County Sheriff's Office is committed to the community it serves. That requires the agency to actively engage the public on a variety of social media platforms. The Sheriff's Office has more than 8,000 followers on Facebook and 2,700 on Twitter. The agency's Senior Public Information Officer routinely posts emergency information and produces timely and relevant content for the agency's Instagram and YouTube accounts. Animal Services deputies Melinda Hester and Dakota Beck (also known as #MelinKota) are featured in a monthly pet safety video announcement. The agency recognizes civilian employees who provide much needed support in its Behind the Badge video series.



 8,217 likes

 2,768 followers

 @DurhamSheriff

 110 subscribers

**@DURHAM SHERIFF**



**FOLLOW US!**

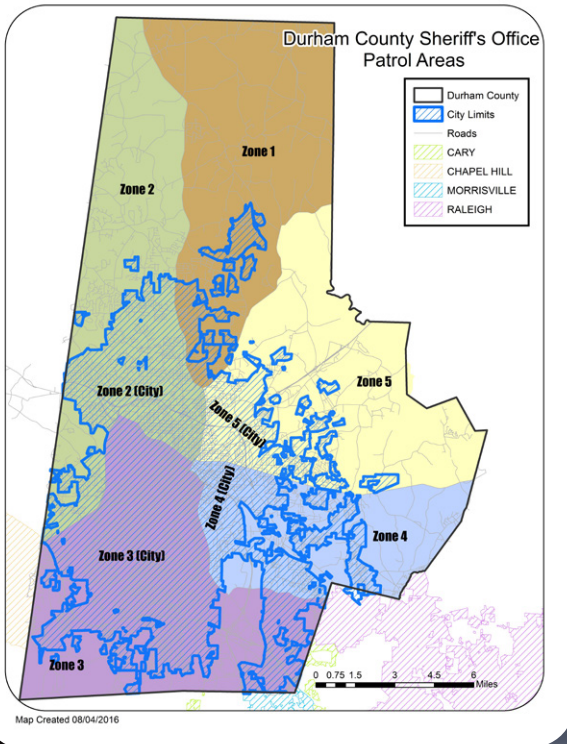
   

#HONOR #DUTY #SERVICE

# LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Durham County Sheriff's Office serves as the primary law enforcement agency for the approximately 200 square miles of unincorporated area within Durham County. The Office operates sixteen distinct divisions to provide a comprehensive approach to reducing crime and its effect on our community. The 181 sworn officers and 59 civilians assigned to law enforcement services work across the many divisions and units to ensure the safety of Durham County's citizens. A nationally accredited agency since 1998, the Office continues to demonstrate its commitment to professional excellence and compliance with national standards.

# KNOW YOUR ZONE



# COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Public Safety Telecommunicators handle emergency calls and connect those in need to emergency personnel who can assist them. All telecommunicators with the Durham County Sheriff's Office have received Crisis Intervention Training, a program that helps emergency workers safely engage people in emotional or mental distress.

**48,872** CALLS PROCESSED





Deputy A. Rothwell (left)  
Cheri Fuller (right)

## MEDALS OF COMMENDATION

Durham, N.C. - Few people can boast that they've saved a life, but our Deputy A. Rothwell and 911 Communicator Cheri Fuller can proudly say when duty called, they didn't hesitate to answer.

Rothwell, a former nursing assistant turned deputy, raced to the scene of an EMS call last September where she found an unresponsive man inside a vehicle. He had suffered a heart attack, and medical personnel was still on the way. There was no time to waste. His pulse was faint, and his life was hanging in the balance. Deputy Rothwell found two Good Samaritans who helped her to remove the man from his car. She immediately administered life-saving chest compressions. EMS personnel would later credit Deputy Rothwell with the man's survival.

Communicator Cheri Fuller is also no stranger to high stress and life-threatening situations. Last September, she would take a call from a distraught caller who threatened to commit suicide by cop. The man on the phone told Fuller that he planned to point his gun at officers when they arrived at his home. He abruptly hung up the phone as units arrived to help him. Fuller kept dialing the caller in a last-minute attempt to save his life and the lives of others. Finally, he would take her call and moments later, and he would emerge from his home with one hand up and the other clutching his cell phone, clinging to the sound of Communicator Fuller's comforting voice. The man would later admit that it was Fuller who convinced him to put down his weapon. "She told me things would get better," the man shared with investigators.

"And she was nice," he added.

Communicator Fuller is one of the dozens of Durham County Sheriff's Office employees who have received Crisis Intervention Team training in Durham County. From law enforcement officers to detention officers, emergency personnel learn how to assist people in distress or people with mental illness. All Communicators with the Durham County Sheriff's Office are CIT-trained.

In addition to saving lives, Deputy A. Rothwell and 911 Communicator Cheri Fuller have something else in common. Rothwell was the first on the scene that day in September when a heart attack victim desperately needed help. That same day last year, Fuller's expertise would restore a desperate man's hope. In fact, it was September 11, the day most Americans pause to remember the lives lost on that tragic day along with the brave emergency workers who risked life and injury to save them.

The Sheriff's Office is proud to celebrate Deputy Rothwell and Communicator Fuller's service with a Medal of Commendation. They exemplify the Sheriff's Office creed: honor, duty, and service. We're so glad when duty called, they answered.

## PISTOL PERMITS

North Carolina residents seeking to purchase a handgun must first apply for a pistol permit. In June 2015, the Sheriff's Office launched an online application process for pistol permits. Residents are allowed to carry a concealed handgun if their application is approved by the Sheriff's Office after a thorough and comprehensive screening process mandated by North Carolina law. Permits are denied for a variety of reasons including and applicant's mental status and criminal history.

**3,167**

PISTOL PERMIT ISSUED VIA PERMITIUM

**196**  
denied

**3,307**

CONCEALED CARRY PERMITS ISSUED

**27**  
denied



## 2015 HONOREES

### Patrol Division

Law Enforcement Division of the Year

### Lisa Richmond

Detention Officer of the Year

### Davidsine Brown

Detention Civilian Employee of the Year

### Records Division

Detention Division of the Year

## DETENTION SERVICES

The Sheriff's Office is responsible for the administration and operation of the Durham County Detention Facility. The duty of Detention Services is to house detainees in a safe and secure environment while ensuring the protection of staff and the surrounding community. Staffed with 219 employees (201 Detention Officers and 18 civilians), the Sheriff's Office is dedicated to fulfilling these duties by providing education, treatment, and confinement when needed to reduce and eliminate the opportunity for crime in Durham County.

The average daily inmate population for 2015 was 510, a decrease of four days from the previous year. The number of persons processed at the facility during 2015 was 9,910, which reflects nearly a ten percent decrease from 2014. Of the individuals processed, 74 percent were admitted into the facility's housing units.

The average length of stay for detainees in the Durham County Detention Facility during 2015 was 19 days, an increase from 17 days in 2014. This total includes both sentenced and pre-trial detainees. Staff members responsible for addressing detainees' mental health issues continue to be instrumental in identifying and managing these detainees, ensuring that they receive appropriate services. During 2015, suicide prevention measures were implemented on 152 detainees as directed by health care providers at the Detention Facility. The Sheriff's Office continually evaluates methods to address this important issue. In 2015, Sheriff Mike Andrews submitted a formal request to the National Institute of Correction to review the facility.

# 1:64

officer to detainee ratio

# 99

DETENTION OFFICERS  
TRAINED IN CRISIS  
INTERVENTION

# 9,910

 ARRESTEES BOOKED AT  
THE DETENTION FACILITY

6,471 charged with misdemeanor  
1,018 charged with a felony  
56 charged with murder

# 20%

detainees with mental illness

# \$

 daily cost **\$110.19**  
per detainee

# 29,770

  
DETENTION FACILITY VISITORS

## HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA PROGRAM | THE FIRST GRADUATE

Durham, N.C. - Since 2014, Durham Public Schools has offered detainees the opportunity to earn a high school diploma while in custody. For the first time, a detainee has completed the program and received a diploma from Hillside High School. Inside a detention facility classroom, Rasheed Harris-Mitchell donned a cap and gown over his orange jumpsuit as his family and friends stood to their feet at the sound of "Pomp and Circumstance." With the help of the detention staff and Durham Public Schools, Harris-Mitchell was given the chance to march in a procession of one to receive his diploma from Hillside High School's Principal and the DPS Superintendent.

Sheriff Mike Andrews thanked Harris-Mitchell's family for their support and then encouraged the new graduate with remarks for the momentous occasion. Harris-Mitchell's family wiped away tears of joy as he beamed with pride at what he had accomplished while incarcerated at the Durham County Detention Facility.

"Nothing is built without a foundation, and your rock has been your family," Sheriff Andrews told Harris-Mitchell. "Take that and move forward. We're very proud of you."



# 277

## youthful offenders

(Age 16 to 17)



## STARR GRADUATION | THE ROAD TO RECOVERY STARTS HERE

Durham, N.C. - It's graduation day at the Durham County Detention Facility. The smell of celebratory pizza fills the air as a young man in an orange jumpsuit under a graduation robe holds his infant daughter. He smiles at her and proudly walks across the room to receive his certificate, and a handshake from the mentor who helped him to choose the road to recovery.

Sheriff Mike Andrews is a longtime supporter of the STARR program, a successful drug addiction recovery initiative facilitated by the Criminal Justice Resource Center (CJRC). Treatment programs can help close the revolving door on repeat offenders who often turn to a life of crime because of drugs and alcohol. Mental health care in the Durham County Detention Facility is provided by the Criminal Justice Resource Center in Durham, a vendor under contract with the Department of Public Health. CJRC spearheaded the STARR Program more than 20 years ago.

Each month, 40 detainees are allowed to participate in the popular recovery program that explores the reason for their addiction and how to overcome it. According to CJRC, detainees under a court order are the priority followed by detainees who volunteer for drug treatment under the program. There are 15 additional slots each month for detainees who complete the first 30 days of the program. Unfortunately, an alarming trend in detention care is the number of detainees fighting addictions while incarcerated. The need for programs like STARR far exceeds the number of available seats. It takes hard work to recover from addiction. We want to congratulate the STARR program participants and their families who support them. Best of luck on your road to recovery.



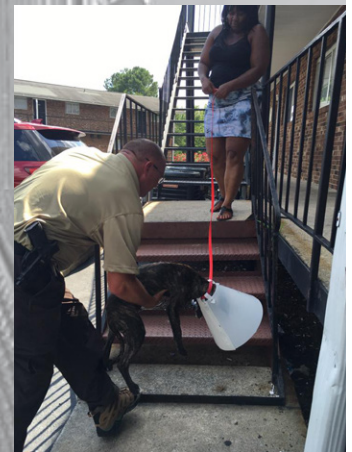
# ANIMAL SERVICES

## HEALTHY ANIMAL INITIATIVE

Durham, N.C.- In 2015, our Animal Services Division demonstrated their continued commitment to keeping animals in our community healthy and happy. In partnership with the Coalition to Unchain Dogs and the Animal Protection Society, the Durham County Sheriff's Office Healthy Animal Initiative (HAI) helped out pet owners who were in need of spay and neuter services but without the ability to travel to a veterinarian's office. With the help of our new Animal Response Team Mobile Shelter, several pets got a free ride to and from their homes so that they could be spayed or neutered.

"People are already good pet owners but sometimes they need a little help getting the services they need," said Lt. T. Deck. "We're here to help with our Healthy Animal Initiative. We've done some great work with the Coalition to Unchain Dogs and the Animal Protection Society of Durham."

During the Health Animal Initiative event, we were able to test out our new Animal Response Team Mobile Shelter for emergency situations. The mobile shelter will be a helpful resource during severe weather. Our mobile shelter allows families to bring their pets to our mobile shelter while they get help at an emergency shelter. It is equipped with several adjustable crates, air conditioning, heat and a water supply.



## Uniform Crime Reporting Breakdown - 2015

|     |                     |
|-----|---------------------|
| 3   | MURDER              |
| 2   | RAPE                |
| 15  | ROBBERY             |
| 35  | AGGRAVATED ASSAULT  |
| 380 | BURGLARY            |
| 283 | LARCENY             |
| 56  | MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT |
| 0   | ARSON               |

## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

The Durham County Sheriff's Office tracks criminal activity in the unincorporated area within the county. The Crime Analysis Unit reports monthly to the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) in compliance with the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) standards. UCR Part I crime data is divided into two primary areas – violent crime and property crime. Violent crimes include Murder, Non-negligent Manslaughter, Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault. Property crimes include Burglary, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson. UCR Part I crime decreased by seven percent from 2014 to 2015. Investigators were assigned 733 cases in 2015 and reported an overall clearance rate of 39 percent.

# \$2,034,669

TOTAL VALUE OF STOLEN PROPERTY

# 143

FIREARMS REPORTED STOLEN



**DURHAM CRIME STOPPERS**  
683-1200

## FORENSICS UNIT



RESPONDED TO  
**198** CALLS



COLLECTED **365**  
LATENT FINGERPRINTS



DEVELOPED  
**3,363** PHOTOS

79  
ARRESTS

130  
CASES ASSIGNED

114  
CASES CLEARED

16  
ONGOING  
INVESTIGATIONS

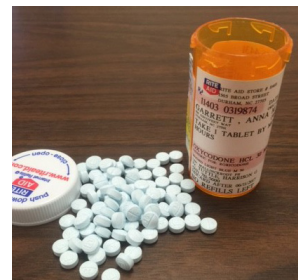
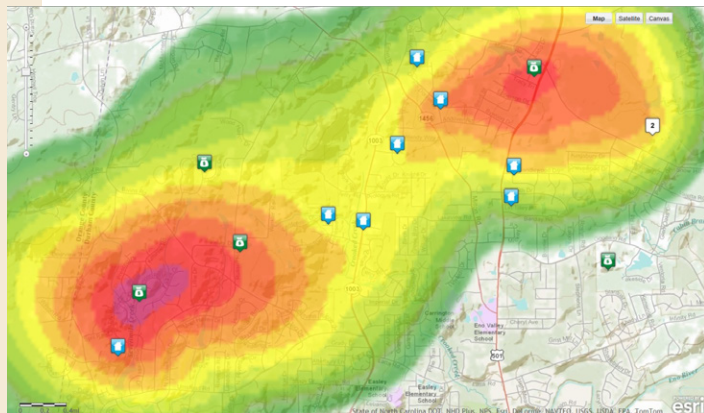
## SHERIFF'S ANTI-CRIME AND NARCOTICS UNIT (SACNARC)

The Sheriff's Anti-Crime and Narcotics Unit's (SACNARC) investigates illegal narcotics and weapons violations within Durham County. The SACNARC Unit utilizes various law enforcement techniques such as covert and technical surveillance, undercover operations, and confidential sources to investigate narcotics and weapons case.

## PATROL UNIT

Community presence and response times have been essential in impacting the number of reported crimes. The Patrol Division, comprised of four 10-deputy squads, responded to 31,612 calls for service within their 200-mile coverage area with an average response time to all calls of 12 minutes and 45 seconds. The average response time to Priority 1 calls (in progress, traffic crashes with injury, and panic alarms) was eight minutes and 32 seconds. This Division performed 5,500 property checks and conducted 6,246 directed patrols. Deputies also provided 24-hour security coverage at the public entrance of the Detention Facility.

The Patrol Division uses ATACRAIDS, a crime analysis software along with a monthly Crime Reduction Initiative report which offers feedback on how each unit addresses property crimes and motor vehicle accident prevention. In 2015, the Patrol Division was equipped with mobile Automated External Defibrillators (AED) and received additional training to save lives during an emergency.



## SEARCH AND RECOVERY TEAM

The Search and Recovery Team of the Durham County Sheriff's Office completed 27 missions consisting of scuba diving, land and underwater searches in 2015. Whether a missing person or a weapon in a criminal investigation, trained divers use sonar imaging equipment to help locate the target of a deep water search. During a deep water search, divers can encounter several challenges including the depth of the water, the current, lack of visibility, and equipment entanglement due to underwater debris such as litter. The Sheriff's Office Search and Recovery Team has earned certifications in Advanced Open Water, Search and Recovery Diver, Dry Suit Diver, Under Water Navigation, Rescue Diver, Night Diver, Underwater Naturalist, and Master Diver.



## INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Professional Standards Division conducted six internal affairs investigations during the past fiscal year. Two cases were sustained, three were unfounded, and one was exonerated. There was no increase in the number of complaints submitted to the Division compared to the previous calendar year.



## CIVIL DIVISION

**31,087**

CIVIL PAPERS  
PROCESSED

**1,368**

CHILD SUPPORT  
PAPERS SERVED

**466**

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
PROTECTIVE ORDERS  
SERVED

## SEX OFFENDER UNIT

The Durham County Sheriff's Office Sex Offender Registration Unit is essential to the safety and security of Durham County families. Deputies assigned to this unit monitor registered sex offenders in Durham County, conduct investigations, and apprehend offenders in violation of the conditions of the registry.

**366**

Registered Sex Offenders in Durham County

## COURT SECURITY DIVISION

Court Security Deputies are responsible for the safety of the general public as well as the courthouse employees. The Sheriff's Office tracks the number of weapons deputies detect at the public entrance of the facility. In 2015, deputies assigned to security detail at the Durham County Criminal Justice Center identified and confiscated 634 weapons. Deputies denied 996 people access to the building because of weapons.

**549**

Address Verifications

**140**

Change of Address Notification

**634**

weapons seized

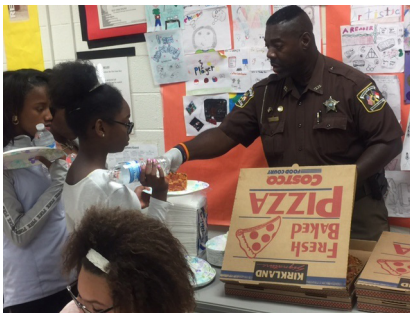
**996**

VISITORS DENIED ENTRY



## SHERIFF'S COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING EFFORT

Agency personnel from the Sheriff's Community Oriented Policing Effort (SCOPE) Unit attended over 175 community meetings and participated in eight Governor's Highway Safety Program initiatives, such as Booze It & Lose It and Click It or Ticket, and provided seven Impaired Driving Education & Awareness (I.D.E.A.) programs.



## SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

Durham, N.C. — School Resource Officers (SRO) with the Durham County Sheriff's Office are going into the classroom to teach valuable life lessons and to encourage students to engage in positive decision-making. More than 20 deputies walk the hallways of Durham Public Schools, developing a rapport with thousands of students in middle and high school. This relationship-building strategy is expanding to the classroom where deputies can share their personal and professional experiences while encouraging students to make positive decisions.

"We want to build bridges, not walls. We want to empower students to make better decisions," said Captain Raheem Aleem with the Durham County Sheriff's Office Community Services Division. "We want students to see School Resource Officers as not only members of law enforcement but also as real people who were once students just like them."

At least once a week, School Resource Officers in Durham Public Schools will attempt to conduct classroom sessions. Initial classroom sessions have proven successful with deputies encouraging students to ask questions and to consider their future goals. Deputies have found students to be responsive and appreciative of the classroom sessions.

The Durham County Sheriff's Office has participated in the School Resource Officer program for more than 20 years.



## Making Better C.H.O.I.C.E.S.

Durham, N.C. - Miles away from their home, and surrounded by acres of farmland, the tension that sometimes comes with inner city living seemed to melt away. A recent trip to Hester Hill Farms inspired one young man to pick up a fishing pole while another couldn't resist the call of the wooded trails and horseback riding. It's a place where kids can be kids, and their curiosity can inspire them to try new things, and to learn valuable lessons. That's what the Durham County Sheriff's Office likes to call "sheriffing." In other words, making friends, building relationships, and choosing to make a difference in our community while protecting it. It's about building a better tomorrow. We're especially proud of our C.H.O.I.C.E.S. program which stands for Creating Healthy Opportunities Inspiring Children to Have Everyday Success. For one year, our deputies and detention officers serve as mentors. They work alongside parents to help give their children a strong foundation. The kids learn that they have a choice; they can go anywhere and achieve anything they want to achieve. The payoff for the community is kids who make smart choices and lead successful lives. That's one of the many benefits of what we like to call "sheriffing." We're working hard to be part of the solution.



## HOMETOWN HERO: DEPUTY DAVID EARP

Emergency Chaplains, an organization, dedicated to pastoral care during critical incidents, acknowledges public safety personnel who go above and beyond the call of duty. In 2015, the Emergency Chaplains recognized Deputy David Earp with the Hometown Hero Award for his quick and selfless response to two children who were involved in a tragic incident.

On September 20, Deputy Earp received a call from an apartment manager who desperately needed his help. He immediately responded to a nearby lake where two children were at risk of drowning. Initially, he encountered a man who would later be identified as the children's father. After hearing cries for help, Deputy Earp pointed his flashlight toward the water and noticed two children in the water. He immediately removed his equipment and went into the water to rescue both children. With the help of another officer and two civilians, Deputy Earp performed CPR on the children until Emergency Medical Services arrived.

Deputy Earp's effort on that night saved the life of a child. His heroic efforts garnered the attention of the national news media and an outpouring of support from people across the United States. In addition to the letters and emails from citizens expressing their gratitude, Deputy Earp received praise from the family of the children he tried to save. As a School Resource Officer, he is a great asset to the community, and to the Durham County Sheriff's Office.



### **CONNECT WITH US**

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Facebook: [facebook.com/DurhamCountySheriffsOffice](https://www.facebook.com/DurhamCountySheriffsOffice)

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