



Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

Centering on Excellence



Annual Report 2012

Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

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Letter from Sheriff Ted Mink

There is a great sense of excitement and momentum within the circles of law enforcement as we reflect on 2012 and continue to experience growth midway through 2013. Our movement is redefining itself and expanding at a healthy pace thanks to the generosity and commitment of our volunteers, employees, and citizens.

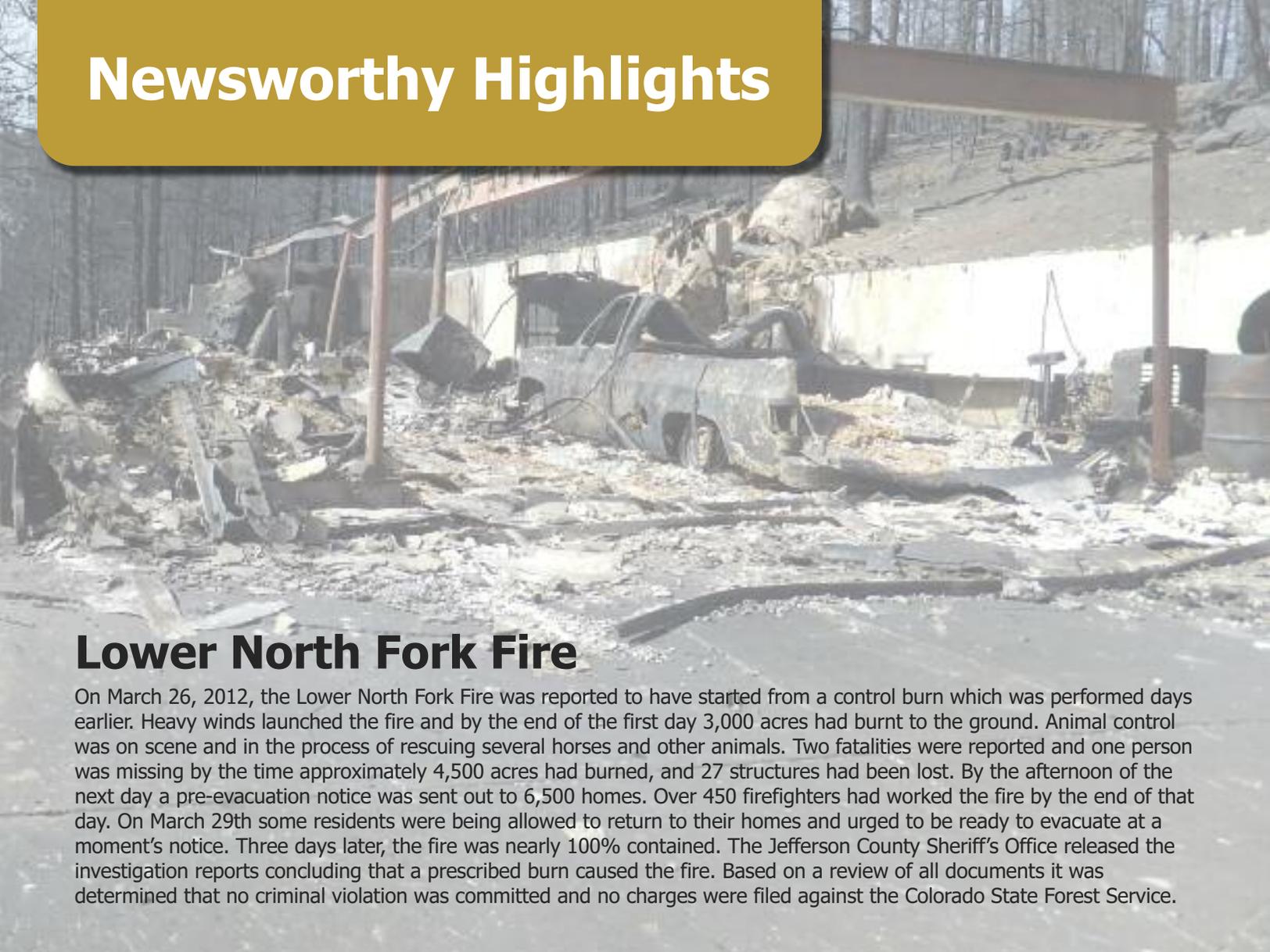
During the past year, you've helped us sustain our work as a leader in the field. In 2012 we strengthened our excellence in the form of social media serving thousands of residents in the twitter sphere, especially in communications of the Lower North Fork Fire. A regionalization of our forensic lab and upgrades of our detention facility serve as testimony for our innovation and partnership.

It is imperative that we continue to grow our base and support those who need us most. The dedication and passion of our deputies is evident in the results and impact we are making in lives—it's vital to our continued excellence. Through the design of service, we will continue to change attitudes, foster relationship building, provide crime prevention tools, and influence policy, creating a more dynamic community for us all. Thank you for your support and partnership in 2012 and beyond.

T. B. Mink



Newsworthy Highlights



Lower North Fork Fire

On March 26, 2012, the Lower North Fork Fire was reported to have started from a control burn which was performed days earlier. Heavy winds launched the fire and by the end of the first day 3,000 acres had burnt to the ground. Animal control was on scene and in the process of rescuing several horses and other animals. Two fatalities were reported and one person was missing by the time approximately 4,500 acres had burned, and 27 structures had been lost. By the afternoon of the next day a pre-evacuation notice was sent out to 6,500 homes. Over 450 firefighters had worked the fire by the end of that day. On March 29th some residents were being allowed to return to their homes and urged to be ready to evacuate at a moment's notice. Three days later, the fire was nearly 100% contained. The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office released the investigation reports concluding that a prescribed burn caused the fire. Based on a review of all documents it was determined that no criminal violation was committed and no charges were filed against the Colorado State Forest Service.





Election Year

Due to 2012 being an election year, the sheriff's office was called upon to provide unique services. Specially designed units provided dignitary protection on 15 occasions in 2012 to include: Mitt Romney's visit to Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Paul Ryan's visit to Lakewood High School, President Obama's visit to Golden, Mitt Romney's visit to D'Evelyn High School, Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan's visit to Red Rocks and election night security detail. The tactical element of these teams requires bi-monthly training throughout the year in multiple skill areas to prepare for a variety of scenarios. Training includes diverse skills, such as firearms, rappelling, hostage negotiation, physical fitness and explosive breaching.



Fires, Restrictions and Bans

The 2012 wildfire season took a devastating toll on Colorado. State fire departments reported 6,014 wildland fires, which destroyed 648 structures, killed 6 civilians, burned 287,300 acres and caused \$483.5 million in property losses.

In June the sheriff ordered a countywide fire ban which also banned the sale, use and possession of legal fireworks. The sheriff extended the ban to also include all commercial fireworks displays countywide—with the authority given to him by the governor. A new county ordinance allowed the sheriff authority to ban the use, sale, and possession of legal fireworks in 2012.



Notable Incidents

Homicide



On July 27, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office attempted to locate an individual who had an active warrant. While deputies were checking the exterior of the home they looked through a window and observed droplets of blood on the floor inside. An injured male exited the home at that time with multiple lacerations to his arms and legs. The male told deputies that his injuries were self-inflicted. More alarming, is that his elderly father was deceased inside the home. When asked about his father he stared blankly at the deputies. According to the son his father had a stroke 12 years ago and was in stage four kidney failure when he passed away. The son had been the caregiver for the past two years and had confined the father to a wheelchair. The injured male was transported to the hospital and treated for the lacerations. Investigators arrived to speak further to the son. It was then that he admitted to smothering his father to death. The son was arrested for 1st degree murder of his elderly father.

Road Rage

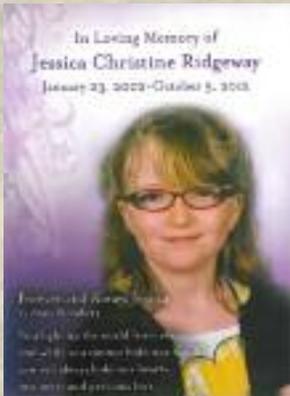


Deputies met with two victims that had been shot at while driving on west-bound C-470 between Bowles and W. Quincy Avenues. The victims stated they were involved in a road rage incident where they thought the other driver threw something at their car. The victims had followed the car into Denver where they got a license plate number and a description of the driver. The evidence led to an address in Jefferson County. Investigators searched the home and two semi-automatic handguns were found fully loaded. The roommate agreed to a search of his truck and the deputy found a semi-automatic Colt 45 in the truck fully loaded. The driver attempted to say his vehicle had been stolen during the time of the incident, however the evidence, including a bullet hole near the passenger door showed otherwise and linked them to the crime. The suspect was arrested for attempted murder.



Shots Fired

In December of 2012, Jefferson County deputies responded to the King Soopers at 8900 W. Belleview Ave. on a report of a suspicious male wandering the store talking to himself. A handgun was visible in his pants pocket. Due to concerns for customer safety, deputies withheld contact with the man until he exited the store. Several deputies waited outside while one entered the store to observe his behavior. When the suspect exited the store deputies asked to speak with him. The man responded by pulling his gun from his pocket. A series of shots were fired between deputies and the gunman. The gunman was pronounced dead at the hospital and no deputies, employees, or customers were injured.



Jessica Ridgeway

On October 5, 2012, the Westminster Police Department received a report of a 10-year-old female that failed to arrive at her school after leaving home earlier that morning. Throughout the following days, numerous deputies volunteered to assist in the continued search for the missing girl by changing their assignments, staying beyond their normal shifts and working on their days off. When Jessica Ridgeway's body was discovered, the sheriff's office continued to provide assistance and resources as necessary. The command bus was utilized for close to 90 hours. 1,500 sheriff's office deputy hours were devoted to bringing justice to Jessica.

Theft



In January, two brothers were arrested for the theft of \$96,500 worth of copper from the RTD West Rail Line in Golden. This caused more than \$250,000 in damages. The brothers removed 7,150 linear feet of two types of copper wire from overhead. The wire was custom made for the light rail system. A Jefferson County Sheriff's Office investigator removed a sample of the copper from the scene and visited several recycling centers that accept copper for cash in the metro area. A match in Englewood led investigators to the suspects. When the cables were cut, the tension was released which caused the I-beams to bend. Additionally, the copper wire cannot be spliced, meaning all of the wire must be replaced. The men are now serving a five year prison sentence.

Felony Menacing

In May, deputies responded to a call where a male pointed a handgun at his own mother after an altercation with his girlfriend and several drinks at the GI Jodi's bar. Deputies were aware that he had been making suicidal statements and had shot the .45 caliber handgun several times. Deputies set up a perimeter and evacuated nearby homes. The males' father exited the home saying his wife would not leave her son. After several hours, the standoff ended successfully. The mother exited the home and the male taken into custody; no one was injured.



Aurora Theatre Shooting

On July 20th, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office along with 24 other law enforcement agencies responded to the active shooter situation in Aurora which left twelve people deceased and dozens more injured inside the theater. Patrol deputies, public information officers, victim advocates, and the bomb squad responded to the scene. The sheriff's office devoted a total of 114 hours of assistance to the Aurora Police Department.

Innovations

Academy

The sheriff's office, in coordination with the Lakewood Police Department, created a new Peace Officer's Standard Training academy; the 'Jefferson County Sheriff's Office and Lakewood Police Department Combined Regional Academy.' This was accomplished by creating all new lesson plans. The academy strictly adheres to the specific performance objectives outlined in the state curriculum, but exceeds those standards. The sheriff's office recognized that protecting and serving the residents of Jefferson County is a joint effort. While we fight crime together, why not train together? The new academy strategy improves public safety efforts by developing partnerships and coordinating efforts between city and county law enforcement agencies. The benefits of the regionalization stretch beyond cost savings. The combined regional academy consists of 840 curriculum hours; the state only requires a minimum of 540 hours. The academy is an additional eight weeks longer than the standard. The 21 week academy accommodates a higher number of recruits and allows for ample instruction time. For instance, the state recommends firearms instruction time to be a minimum of 64 hours; we do 95 hours. Arrest control instruction minimum is 62 hours; we do 92 hours. Driving instruction minimum is 44 hours; we do 56 hours. Director Phil Baca says, "We want to make sure we are producing the best product we can within the time frame we have." In adding to its success, the academy provides an exclusive electronic curriculum, a first for the Denver area. Recruits take online tests while instructors watch with instantaneous results. The first graduating class was made up of 41 recruits representing nine law enforcement agencies.





Combine Emergency Management with WMFD

The emergency management section provides overall management and coordination of the county's emergency operation in support of local response agencies and jurisdictions. Emergency management maintains and activates the county emergency operations center as needed, and collects, analyzes and disseminates critical information on emergency for decision making purposes. Reorganization to emergency management included an agreement with West Metro Fire District to share an experienced fire chief. West Metro Division Chief, Clint Fey, became the Director of Emergency Management in July of 2012. Director Clint Fey worked diligently to implement changes within the emergency operations center to create a multi-disciplinary, multi-agency team. This unique partnership brings together the power of incident command, resource allocation and all-hazards management to the sheriff's office. The hope is to create a model for the future of public safety and emergency management. The team works to continually evaluate disaster preparedness including wildfire and did so in updating operations plans to ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. There are four phases to emergency management; mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. These phases were incorporated in the "Emergency Preparedness Guide" with 13,000 copies distributed throughout the county. In 2012, the emergency operations center was activated 11 times; five for monitoring election campaign events, five times for training exercises, and the Lower North Fork Fire.

Cyclist Program

The cyclist program deputies are hand selected and must pass a cycling specific fitness test and successfully complete a standardized basic police cycling course. The cyclist program allows the deputies easy maneuverability during large crowds as well as ease of access to areas otherwise inaccessible by vehicles. Generally, deputies ride and undertake normal, on-the-beat duties, from neighborhood patrol to event security. Deputies on bikes are simultaneously a friendly presence on the street and a stealthy, unexpected one in hard-to-reach places where crime tends to occur. The cyclist program provides greater visibility to the public and offers deputies easier access to congested areas. Bike patrols also represent cost savings as maintaining a bike in comparison to a patrol car is less expensive. Since 2009, the cyclist program has gained momentum. As supervisors begin to see results in crime reduction efforts, cost effectiveness, and favorable community response, the usage of police bicyclists may increase. In 2012, ten new bicycles were added. There are currently 43 deputies trained in the cyclist program. The cyclist program patrols from March through October.

Safe2Tell

High School can be one of the most difficult times in a person's life. Safe2Tell was implemented fully in 2012 as an outreach for students. Safe2Tell provides a safe and easy way for students to report information that is a school or community concern. In 2012, investigators were alerted to a Safe2Tell report from Conifer High School indicating that a student was overheard stating an intent to kill a step-parent. After receiving another related report of a stolen gun a search warrant was issued and it was discovered that the student had indeed obtained a handgun. The student was taken to Mount View Detention Center.



Generally, most tips received contain valuable and credible information. Often the same tip was repeated several times. In 2012, there were six cases of cyber harassment wherein a caller created a tip in hopes of getting another

student in trouble. False reporting is occasional, but a small price to pay for an excellent outreach service to students. In 2012, there were 261 Safe2Tell reports received.

Field Training

In 2012 the sheriff's office created the position of a master field training instructor. The sheriff's office will now teach newly promoted field training instructors through the nationally renowned Kaminski program as it is adapted to the sheriff's office's teaching methods and theories. The original training method was reduced by ten hours. The program uses a computerized evaluation system. This paperless database aptly captures scores and narratives in real time accuracy. The 30 week training program is more efficient and places deputies in their positions at a greater speed while maintaining the level of professionalism Jefferson County Sheriff's Office is famous for.



E-mail Alerts

One of the best ways you can bolster your own safety is to stay informed about crime trends affecting your community. The mainstream news media is one valuable source, but did you know you can also sign up to receive crime updates distributed by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office?

Sign up for e-mail alerts on crime and quality-of-life issues by visiting jeffcosheriff.com.

JCSO's Social Media:



What's in it for you?

- Exchange information with the sheriff's office and citizens
- Engage in discussions
- Receive real time alerts
- Receive notification about important dates for Shred-A-Thon, slash sites, Coffee With A -Cop and other events
- Photos and videos

Facebook: Allows you to share your opinions; get notified about events

Twitter-site: Provides you with real-time alerts and emergency notifications, as well as event information

YouTube: Video site where you'll find Jefferson County Sheriff's Office themed videos of the academies, our history, the community, and much more. Videos are available for the public to view and share.



Patriot Award

Sheriff Mink received the Patriot Award from the US Department of Defense for his ongoing support of the Guard and Reserves and for going above and beyond in providing significant benefits above what is required by law.



Court Security

Court security monitored the passing of 438,230 people through the magnetometers. The demand for extra security requests in the courts increased by 40% from 2011.

Smart911 System and the Communications Unit

The sheriff's office is taking new leads in helping the community in the event of an emergency. In 2012, dispatch received 75,936 calls to 9-1-1. The new tool, Smart911, was added to the sheriff's office belt in 2012. Smart911 allows citizens to create a safety profile for their household that includes any information they want 9-1-1 and response teams to have in the event of an emergency. When a citizen makes an emergency call, their safety profile is automatically displayed to the 9-1-1 call taker, allowing them to send the right response teams to the right location with the right information. Responders can be aware of many details they would not have known previously. Fire crews can arrive at a house fire knowing how many people live in the home and the location of bedrooms, EMS can be advised of allergies or specific medical conditions, and deputies can have the photo of a missing child in seconds rather than hours. Visit Smart911.com to begin your profile.

Records Go the Way of Green

In an effort to reduce paperwork and increase work space, the records unit began scanning criminal history records. This project was so successful that other processes were reviewed to use this same manner of paperwork reduction.

In April 2012, the records unit, in coordination with the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, was able to start submitting fingerprints electronically. This process resulted in an immediate reduction in turnaround time and reduced the need to procure and mail hard copy fingerprint cards.

Community Outreach

More than ever before, the sheriff's office is committed to providing community outreach and safety-based education to its citizens. We believe that partnership with community groups is essential to reducing crime.

National Night Out

Each year on the first Tuesday of August, the sheriff's office joins neighborhoods throughout the county to celebrate National Night Out. More than three dozen neighborhoods hosted block parties that deputies attended. Deputies visited each of those celebrations to greet citizens, share crime prevention information and listen to residents' safety concerns. National Night Out is a nationwide event, billed as 'America's night out against crime.'



Shred-A-Thon Breaks Guinness World Record

The sheriff's office hosted another 9News Shred-A-Thon in May, joined by officers from the Westminster and Aurora police departments as well as the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office. From 7 a.m. to noon, hundreds of cars passed through the event, with drivers dropping off boxes of paper for shredding. Jefferson County citizens' donations benefited metro Crime Stoppers and from our site alone totaled \$18,881. The 459,368 pounds of paper collected certified the event to be included in the prestigious Guinness Book of World Records.



The Citizens' Academy



The 2012 citizens' academy was bigger and better than ever. This free, 12-week program provides an inside look at the sheriff's office. Class members learn about everything from jail operations to victim advocacy to arrest control techniques. The academy has added several new events and class topics, including taser, community-oriented government and building searches. The citizens' academy is designed to provide Jefferson County residents and merchants with first-hand information about how the sheriff's office functions. The academy prides itself on being a fun-filled way to gain a better understanding of law enforcement.

Scout Mystery Day

Scout mystery day is an opportunity for scouts from Jefferson County to learn about crime scene investigation. The scout mystery day features education on fingerprinting, interview techniques and evidence collection. The scout mystery day curriculum is designed to help scouts fulfill safety-related badge requirements. Sheriff's office scout programs began in 2005 as a response to the high number of speaker requests from scout groups each fall. Check our website for fall 2013 dates.



Support Services

Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Support Services staff ensures that deputies and citizens have the best tools at their disposal to help them fight crime. From police cruisers, to databases, to criminal records, these men and women provide a foundation for success.

Volunteer Services Program

The volunteer services program is comprised of several groups of dedicated volunteers who provide valuable services in the community and to the sheriff's office. These individuals may work in nearly every area of the agency. Volunteers donated just over 20,406 hours of service to the sheriff's office in 2012, saving Jefferson County taxpayers over \$200,000. The volunteers are a diverse group of individuals from teens to retirees. A few are Peace Officer Standard Training certified law enforcement reserves and provide their own horses as part of the mounted patrol or the reserve program. Reserves' assignments may include fugitive extraditions, search and rescue, crime scene security or security at large events. Other volunteers worked in the jail and donated 8,478 hours of service. Detention counselors provide one-on-one inmate counseling and act as a group facilitator for programs such as Alcoholics Anonymous. Volunteers in the jail's chaplaincy program work as teachers, worship leaders and care counselors. They are essential in assisting the chaplain in providing spiritual and religious support to the inmate population. For high school or college students, volunteer opportunities are available through the explorer program. The selection process for most volunteer positions involves an application, interview, polygraph examination and background investigation.



Civil

The civil unit is responsible for the service and execution of civil processes in Jefferson County as directed by the courts. Eviction notices, temporary restraining orders, and summonses for appearances in small claims courts all need delivered to citizens. The unit received a total of 7,276 requests for service in 2012. Deputies executed 696 evictions, otherwise known as Writs of Restitutions. Evictions happen to have the most cumbersome paperwork processes. This requires time in actually removing tenants, but also proactive steps to encourage them to move out on their own. The unit also serves temporary protection orders. In 2012, the unit was tasked with delivering 897 temporary restraining orders.

Concealed Handgun Permits

In February 2012, the processing of Colorado concealed handgun permit applications was revamped in order to streamline the process and speed up turnaround time for our citizens. Applications were accepted five days a week as opposed to two days a week, giving citizens more opportunity to apply for a permit. The sheriff's office received 4,345 Colorado concealed handgun permit applications in 2012, a 63% increase from 2011.

Accreditation

The accreditation unit ensures that the sheriff's office meets or exceeds the requirements of the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), the American Correctional Association (ACA), the National Commission on Correctional Healthcare (NCCHC) and the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD). The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office voluntarily complies with or exceeds nationally recognized standards of operation in order to earn and maintain accreditation. Accreditation through these groups demonstrates that the sheriff's office's management, personnel, operational and technical procedures, equipment and physical facilities meet established standards. Because the accreditation process is an accomplishment that cannot be achieved without a total office-wide commitment, every member of the sheriff's office contributes in some way to achieving and maintaining accreditation standards.





Fleet Maintenance

The fleet maintenance unit is responsible for servicing and maintaining a 310 vehicle fleet. They are tasked with equipping these vehicles with radios, computers and emergency equipment. The vehicles range from sedans to an RV-sized mobile command bus. The patrol vehicles are all equipped with mobile data terminals which act as laptop computers capable of running instant checks on license plates, driver's licenses and criminal records.

In 2012, the fleet maintenance unit purchased 40 vehicles and sold surplus vehicles to other government agencies. Vehicles are now surplus at 125,000 miles versus the previous 100,000 mile requirement. The sheriff's office also signed intergovernmental agreements to maintain and fuel the Mountain View Police Department, Morrison Police Department, Lakeside Police Department, and the Colorado School of Mines Police Department vehicles.

Information Technology Unit

The informational technology unit is responsible for installing, configuring and maintaining all computers, printers, servers and network resources for the sheriff's office including major reconfigurations and new programming projects. The unit also networks the copiers by configuring them for printing and scanning, and assists with any problems or repairs whenever possible. The unit maintains a 'helpdesk' service assisting all employees with problems, questions and concerns. While ensuring that computer operations go uninterrupted, the unit is always seeking new technology and upgrades to improve the current system and programs, and is constantly testing and implementing new software. In 2012, a web filtering software was initiated. As a result, virus infections decreased 67%; average yearly virus infections before the software were between 4,500 to 4,700 instances. The unit thwarted seven crashes to the computer aided dispatching equipment, seven to a patrol reporting software, and received 4,971 'helpdesk' tickets for service.

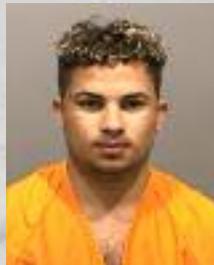
Investigations

The criminal investigation division conducts thorough investigations of crimes from theft and vandalism to financial fraud and homicide. With modern tools and techniques, and improved inter-agency communication, investigators work to solve crimes and bring justice for victims.

Operation 'Bloodsport'

The West Metro Drug Task Force (WMDTF) initiated a major investigation, dubbed 'Bloodsport', into the methamphetamine world of Jefferson County. The investigation concluded with the grand jury indictment of 16 individuals on 49 counts and resulted in the arrests of 12 associated individuals, six warrants, the seizure of over 12 pounds of methamphetamine, one kilo of cocaine, eight vehicles, \$32,000 and 80 chickens and roosters. As with any major investigation, considerable time is taken to successfully target, dismantle, or disrupt a major sophisticated organization. In 2012 there was a significant increase in methamphetamine and heroin seized; specifically, a 173% increase totaling about 100 pounds. The explanation comes from two drug trafficking organizations bringing an influx of drugs from Mexico into the Jefferson County area. The WMDTF was successful in dismantling these organizations.

In December, the WMDTF seized four ounces of heroin that were individually packaged in 220 sellable items. This was the result of an undercover operation into distribution by Honduran and Mexican Nationals. All four suspects were arrested on charges of distribution of controlled substances.



Crimes Against Persons Unit

The crimes against persons unit investigates homicides, adult sexual assaults, kidnappings, domestic violence cases, serious assault cases, robberies, missing persons, and unattended deaths. There were simply enough cases in 2012 to amount to one case per day. Of those, 212 were death investigations.

In March of 2012, investigators and the crime lab were sent to a residence in the Lower North Fork Fire burn area to investigate the death of a body found by firefighters.



Investigators arrived to the burned property amidst the still venting propane tanks. They identified the adult female as homeowner Linda Lucas. Firefighters located her in the driveway of the home. Her husband's body was also found, Samuel Lucas, inside the garage under debris that had fallen from the collapsing upstairs. During the next three days investigators sifted through a second burned out residence to discover the human bone fragments of homeowner Ann Appel.

Representing yet another victory, the crimes against persons unit investigators brought justice to one homeowner this year. An elderly woman's home was unlawfully entered and when she confronted the burglar he hit her over the head with a piece of pipe and fled. Five investigators responded and assessed the scene. Due to their diligence, the suspect was located inside another home in close proximity to the victim's home. The thorough work of investigators led to a 20 year sentence for the suspect.

Liquor Compliance

The special investigations unit conducted a county wide liquor sting on 70 varied liquor licensed establishments. Of those, only five sold liquor to underage patrons who assisted with the efforts. An average compliance rate of 96% was achieved compared to 77% in 2011.

Distressed Properties

In 2012, a county ordinance was passed that requires the registration, security and maintenance of distressed properties. A total of twelve distressed properties were investigated. Warning letters were sent to the acting owners of the properties resulting in all reaching a resolution.

Safe Street Tasks Force

The Colorado Safe Streets program was named number one in the nation by Washington D.C. Investigators note that bank robberies were down 22% from 2011.

Victim Services

In 2012, the victim services unit provided assistance to victims of trauma in a number of challenging cases. In March, the unit provided services to over 220 victims of the Lower North Fork Fire including the families of three people killed by the fire. Staff from the victim services unit assisted at the emergency operations center, the command post and the Red Cross shelter and were with victims as they toured the damage to their homes.

In July, they assisted the Aurora Police Department Victim Services Unit with the initial response to the Century Theater shooting. Staff and volunteers provided crisis support to witnesses following their interviews, families of those killed or injured and during reunification of movie goers and their loved ones. In the following days, staff and volunteers assisted with a phone bank established by the Aurora PD.



In November, the victim services unit assisted the Lakewood Police Department (LWPD) with an officer involved shooting that resulted in the death of a LWPD Agent. This was the first in their agency's history. Staff provided immediate assistance to the victim's family after the notification and to witnesses and staff of the departments involved. The victim services unit also covered calls for LWPD victim assistance the day of Agent Davies funeral. The sheriff's office also provided 18 deputies and three K9 vehicles to serve the citizens of Lakewood.

Criminalistics

Criminalistics personnel processed a significantly larger amount of latent prints this year due in part to the implementation of a new latent print searching device. The increase was 485 more prints than processed in 2011. Fingerprint comparisons also increased by 33% equaling 225 fingerprint identifications for the year. The criminalistics manager became recertified as a senior crime scene analyst through the International Association for Identification. On their fifth year of accreditation through the American Society of Crime Lab Directors, the crime lab completed a rewrite of all laboratory manuals and forms as well as submitted suggestions to architects for the design of the proposed Jefferson County Regional Crime Lab. The crime lab is instrumental in the community outreach, and as such participated in mock crime scene lectures at Dakota Ridge High School and for the Jefferson County Sheriff Office's Citizens' Academy.

Evidence Vault

The evidence vault stores approximately 57,000 items. In 2012 four evidence vault employees worked diligently to reduce those items by some 9,000. In 2012 alone, 13,000 items were routinely collected. The evidence vault is the location for evidence procured from varied crimes. Staff must book, store, record and submit status on every piece of evidence stored in this location. They must ensure that deputies and investigators are notified if items are to be purged, destroyed, or auctioned. Annual audits, quarterly inspections and unannounced inspections are routinely executed to maintain the integrity of operations and ensure that accountability is reached.

Special Investigations Unit

The special investigations unit includes the Joint Terrorism Task Force, Metro Gang Task Force, Safe Streets Task Force and Rocky Mountain Regional Computer Forensics Lab with an individual investigator assigned to each of these task forces. The unit was assigned 455 cases in 2012 equating to about 37 cases per month amongst six investigators. Of these cases, 46 were threats to R-1 schools and government agencies.

The special investigations unit identified a massage parlor used as a base for prostitution and human trafficking. Investigators discovered that women from Korea were brought to work in Jefferson County as well as other locations throughout the US. The special investigations unit collaborated with the FBI's Colorado Trafficking and Organized Crime Coalition which resulted in numerous arrests and seizures of monies associated with the criminal enterprise.

Crimes Against Children Unit

The crimes against children unit is responsible for investigating juvenile criminal cases, such as child abuse and sexual assault. Duties include tracking and monitoring serious habitual juvenile offenders as well as reviewing misdemeanor case filings on juvenile suspects. The unit is responsible for registering convicted sex offenders, coordinating sex offender address verifications, monitoring, identifying and tracking sex offenders who fail to register, and filing failure-to-register cases with the Jefferson County First Judicial District Court. Investigators were assigned 310 crimes against children, tracked 341 sex offenders, and investigated 18 failure-to-register cases.

In January, 23 year-old Kenneth Vigil struck his 14 year-old girlfriend with his fists multiple times to her face. Shortly after, he took her cell phone and instructed her to clean herself up for a trip to the liquor store. When they returned to his apartment she ran to a neighbor's residence for help. The suspect was subsequently arrested. Although he denied the allegations, the crimes against children Unit obtained a search warrant and located evidence that led to his sentence. In September, suspect Kenneth Vigil was sentenced to 12 years in the Department of Corrections. In addition to the sentence, he must now register as a sexually violent predator.

Property Crimes Unit

The property crimes unit investigates felony property crimes such as burglary, auto theft, first-degree criminal trespass, felony theft, criminal mischief, computer crime, fraud and identity theft. In 2012, there were 2,508 cases assigned to the property crimes unit; a 5% increase from 2011.

In February, Planet Honda employees noticed irregularities in funds that should have been deposited to the bank. Turning to investigators, the employees provided deposit slips that did not match transaction amounts. Investigators conducted interviews of employees in an effort to locate the \$45,000 suspected embezzlement. Investigators determined the bookkeeper to be the suspect. She ultimately admitted to the theft.

In an unrelated case, investigators executed a search warrant on a residence spurred by a counterfeit \$20 bill passed at a Dairy Queen. Of the two suspects, one had a warrant from the city of Denver, and the other suspect confessed and indicated that the first male produced the counterfeit bills in his home. Investigations discovered that the suspect's home was filled with printing equipment, sheets of counterfeit bills, and drug paraphernalia. Felony charges were filed. Follow up with the district attorney revealed that justice would be better served at the Federal level where the manufacturing charge could be added to the passing of counterfeit currency.

In April of 2012, investigators filed fourteen counts of burglary and theft on Donald Citron, also known as the "crapper scrapper". Citron was accused of stealing the metal plumbing supply materials from area businesses in the south precinct and throughout the metro area. In a three month span Citron committed 18 commercial burglaries by entering businesses armed with a backpack and tools, going to the restrooms and stealing the plumbing from the toilets. He would steal the pipe along the wall, flush valves and any brass hardware associated. Then, he would simply put the load in his back pack and walk out the door. Facilities such as Taco Bell, King Soopers, a theatre, a university, and a hospital were known victims. Collectively their replacement costs equaled \$6,390. Citron pled guilty and was sentenced to 4 1/2 years in the Colorado Department of Corrections.



Patrol

The patrol division is committed to improving public safety and quality of life for Jefferson County residents. Deputies patrol the county's 774 square miles day and night, using problem solving techniques to address crime trends and patterns, quality of life issues and non-criminal repeat calls; such as mental health issues or suicidal parties. The patrol division is the second largest of the five divisions with 206 full time employees.

Lower North Fork Fire

Four Jefferson County deputies were awarded the Medal of Valor in November for their efforts to evacuate residents during the Lower North Fork Fire. Deputies David Bruening, Randy Barnes, Jason Hertel, and Jerry Chrachol received the recognition, which is awarded for courage that goes beyond the call of duty. On March 26, the deputies responded in three vehicles to reports of a large fire in a rural area off Kuehster Road in south Jefferson County. Once in the area, the deputies encountered numerous small ground fires and near zero visibility due to smoke and fire embers and began going door to door evacuating homeowners. The deputies encountered at least one resident who refused to leave the area and stayed to round up his livestock into a horse trailer. Deputies Barnes and Chrachol assisted the man in this effort before leaving to help evacuate other residents.

With fire visibly in the trees and on the ground, and winds of 30-40 miles per hour creating an increasingly dangerous situation, the deputies looked to finding safe ground before continuing evacuations. In the process, Deputy Bruening's vehicle drove off the road, into a tree, and eventually high-centered on a large rock. Trapped in his car by the smoke and fire that was all around him, he radioed for help. Through smoke and near-zero visibility, Deputy Chrachol eventually made visual contact with Deputy Bruening and used his car radio to guide him to his patrol car.

With the fire too intense to continue in the direction they had begun, the deputies found refuge in a field nearby where they attempted to put out a raging woodpile fire nearby a log home with a garden hose. Firefighters ultimately assisted them in putting out the fire and, after the fire 'exploded' overhead, told the deputies that they would need to vacate the area for their own safety.

The deputies returned to Kuehster Road where they were able to meet with homeowners, apprise them of the fire's location, and advise them to evacuate to a nearby high school where they would be safe.

Eluding

On November 28, 2012, patrol deputies received a report of a domestic violence incident involving a man and a woman in the cab of a U-Haul truck in south Jefferson County. Deputies stopped the truck at the intersection of Quincy and Eldridge. The female got out of the truck, and the suspect, later identified as Jarrett Cooper Stoner, took off in the truck east bound into a nearby neighborhood. He rammed a deputy's patrol car head-on and continued to flee. Stoner continued east into Denver, where he collided with two more cars. The drivers of the two cars and the deputy were not injured. Stoner continued driving until he ran out of gas then abandoned the U-Haul truck and attempted to steal another truck. The occupants of the truck did not cooperate, and after a brief struggle, were able to detain Stoner until he was placed into custody. During the investigation the U-Haul truck was determined to be stolen out of Denver. Stoner was interviewed and jailed on 15 felonies and 4 misdemeanor charges. The female was booked-in on drug possession charges. Stoner is looking at a sentence of 20-48 years in the Department of Corrections.



Top Five Traffic Crash Sites in 2012



You've seen deputies and other emergency personnel clearing the scenes of traffic crashes throughout the county. What you may not know is that deputies identify road segments for enforcement based on the number of traffic accidents and citizen complaints. Reducing speeds in these high accident areas results in fewer crashes and the crashes that do occur are less severe. Deputies also conduct operations targeting drinking and driving, seat belt use, street racing and other violations likely to cause crashes.

The traffic unit enforcement is focused on these high accident areas. Where patrol deputies work to provide education with their traffic stops and attempt to change behavior through education (frequently using lecture and release), the traffic unit is called in when education has not been effective. The traffic unit writes summonses in a high percentage of their stops in another sort of effort to change driving behaviors.

Deputies and the traffic unit work with county highways and transportation to identify road design that may contribute to traffic accidents. In 2012, the traffic unit teamed with road and bridge to redesign the roadway due to concerns on I-285 and Shaffer's Crossing.

You can help decrease the number of traffic crashes by avoiding the use of your cell phone (talking or texting) while driving, watching your speed, choosing to never drink and drive and never attempting to 'push' through yellow traffic signals.

Mental Health Committee

As part of our problem solving focus for repeat occurrences, a group was created to address repeat mental health calls. These service calls typically require multiple patrol deputies and an extensive amount of time. The group consists of sheriff's office staff, Jeffco Mental Health, Jeffco District Attorney's Office, and Jeffco Adult Protection. Individual cases from the sheriff's office are discussed and alternate resources proposed to address that particular problem. The intent is to find resources that can address the problems the citizens are encountering before they become a risk to themselves or others. The aim is to alleviate returning to that person's home multiple times for the same problem.

Animal Control

Animal control officers are experienced, certified, highly trained professionals who are commissioned as agents of the Colorado Department of Agriculture Bureau of Animal Protection. The animal control unit provides services regarding all domestic animals, large or small, and works closely with the Foothills Animal Shelter. In 2012 animal control staff completed 51 public outreach events including, the 23rd annual Be Kind to Animals Week Poster Contest, HOA meetings, Coffee With A Cop events, and community fairs. In 2012, animal control responded to 56,984 calls for service ranging from animal bites to impounds. Animal control also plays a key role in the response to wildfires by evacuating all types of animals that are at risk. Animals are assisted in evacuations by the Jefferson County Animal Rescue Team, a group made up of volunteers from your community



DRINKING & DRIVING IS A COSTLY MISTAKE

Defense Attorney	\$3,500
Ignition Interlock Device	+ \$475
First Conviction Fine	+ \$500
Probation Supervision Fee	+ \$600
Alcohol Education Classes	+ \$375
Driver's License Costs	+ \$450
"Prescribed Drug Driver" Surcharge Fee	+ \$275
Alcohol Treatment Evaluation	+ \$200
Self Fee	+ \$150
Testing Fee	+ \$150
License Reinstatement	+ \$55
Civilian Testing Fee	+ \$50
Community Service Supervision Fee	+ \$30
Court Cost	+ \$25
License Reinstatement (New License)	+ \$21
Miss. Federal Charges	+ \$150
Auto Insurance Increase	+ \$8,000

TOTAL \$10,270
IS IT WORTH IT TO YOU?

YOU DRINK, YOU DRIVE, YOU LOSE!
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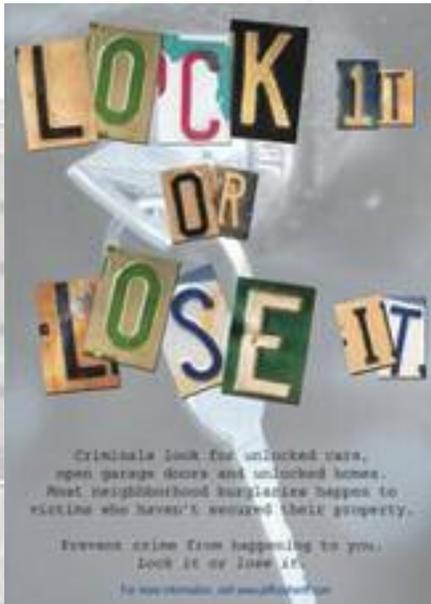


DUI Checkpoints

During 2012, the traffic unit conducted three DUI checkpoints, participated in DUI saturation patrols, and one DUI Taskforce Operation (of combined law enforcement agencies throughout the metro area) as well as two Click It or Ticket enforcement periods. The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office is committed to reducing the number of drunk drivers and alcohol-related accidents in Jefferson County. These operations are funded through grants which totaled approximately \$83,540.

Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT)

In Jefferson County, there are exceptional instances where other-than-normal law enforcement resources or procedures are necessary. The SWAT team is comprised of SWAT operators, dispatchers, hostage negotiators, commanders and supervisors. The SWAT team is deployed to assist in the following situations: crowd control, rescue of civilians and law enforcement personnel from gunfire, hostage rescue, high risk warrants, use of chemical agents, security for dignitaries, and to contain and neutralize barricaded armed or unarmed subjects. During 2012, the Jefferson County Regional SWAT Team was activated ten times. There were approximately 986 total operational man hours spent on these operations.



Lock It or Lose It

In September of 2012 patrol noticed a 50% increase in vehicle trespasses as compared to September of 2011. The 64 trespasses were all committed at night on unlocked vehicles, with no signs of forced entry. The majority were done in clusters, with 40 trespasses in three days. It appeared that the suspects were simply going down the street trying doors. When they found one unlocked it only took seconds to take laptops, GPS units, wallets and purses, tools, cell phones and cash. The Lock It or Lose It program was created to encourage homeowners to lock their car doors, take anything of value out of the car when they leave it, close garage doors and lock homes in order to prevent and discourage crime. Are you interested in crime statistics for your neighborhood? The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office offers a crime mapping tool that allows citizens to view the volume of crime data specific to neighborhoods and the community as a whole. Visit: www.jeffcosheriff.com and search for "Crime-Mapping Tool."



Crime Prevention

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office crime prevention program was established to create partnership and a foundation of trust between Law Enforcement Officers and Jefferson County communities. The crime prevention deputies address community perceptions and misperceptions of crime by hosting numerous safety and informational seminars and presentations throughout the year. In 2012, crime prevention deputies received 710 requests and made 62 formal community presentations. The deputies coordinated 52 National Night Out events, wrote 78 crime alerts, conducted eight realty classes, presented to five faith groups, and attended 44 community events that were attended by approximately 60,730 citizens. The crime prevention deputies strive towards prevention efforts for maximum effectiveness.

Detentions

The detention services division strives to respond to maintain a safe and secure jail facility, respond to community needs, and provide a variety of inmate services and programs for stability and enrichment. Administrators continually look for ways to reduce jail overcrowding. In 2012, the average daily inmate population of the jail was 1,232. Over 129,600 meals were served to inmates in 2012, and 7,408 loads of laundry cleaned. As the largest division, the detention services division employs 272 sworn employees and 99 non-sworn civilian employees. Volunteers in detentions donated 8,478 hours of service.

Training

A 2012 goal was achieved under the auspices of the division advisory council. The goal of monthly training was conducted on several operations to include restraint chair protocol, handling of certain inmates, active shooter scenarios, hospital watches, contraband warning signs, complacency, officer survival, integrity, body counts, accurate tool inventories as well as use of inmate workers. The counseling unit benefitted from specific training to include interviewing skills, crisis intervention, grief counseling, and suicide prevention.

POLICE INTERCEPTOR

Intelligence Operations

The gang intelligence unit worked in conjunction with the booking process to compile inmates' gang related tattoo information in a database to including photos. They then began distributing a monthly bulletin to including information for law enforcement. In November the unit received training at the United States Penitentiary in Florence, Colorado. The gang intelligence unit has been implemental in providing valuable intelligence towards the interagency cooperation with the directed operations unit and Parole.

Sheriff's office drug recognition experts were called upon to aid the work release program. A proliferation of a synthetic compound called 'Spice' was experienced this year. This synthetic drug cannot be detected with standard urinalysis tests and so drug recognition experts were used to determine if work release inmates were under the influence.



Construction Project

There is currently a construction project occurring at the Golden headquarters. Elements of the project include a new central plant to replace and update the aging critical building systems (heat, cooling, steam, electrical), a crime lab and evidence storage structure, expansion of the court holding area, additional inmate recreation areas and additions and remodeling to some administrative areas, primarily associated with the detention division.



Detention Facility Tours

82 tours of the Jefferson County Detention Facility were provided to 1,130 citizens.

Inmate Management

The transportation unit supports the Transports Across Colorado program that began in 1995. Since the implementation, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office has saved approximately \$4,463,069.70 in transportation costs. In February, the special operations response team was specifically requested to transport a psychologically disturbed inmate to a facility in Fort Logan. Several days later, that facility requested the team's services to transfer the inmate to the Colorado Mental Health Institute as the task was beyond their capabilities.

The inmate services unit processes and maintains the inmates' files. Technicians manage updates such as court dates, inmate funds, and release dates. Technicians updated records electronically approximately 35,796 times.

In 2012, the detentions medical unit developed a new procedure with the help of iPads. The new technology decreases the amount of inmate traffic to the medical unit by 20% as nurses are now able to remotely provide services. This in turn aides deputies as they are not required to escort inmates throughout the facility to the medical unit.

Inmate Programs

In 2012 there were 54 weekly programs offered to inmates. This year, a new addition to these programs is the Education on the Nature and Dignity of Women. The sheriff's office provides a variety of programs to the inmate population, many of which are financed with proceeds from inmates snack, stamp and other commissary-item purchases.

The religion group is led by a full-time, on-staff chaplain and is supplemented with the hard work of approximately 90 lay and clerical volunteers. Religious studies for people of any religious faith are available through volunteer staff, and some worship services are offered regularly.

The counseling unit in detentions provides counseling, recreation, education and religious services for inmates. Counselors are responsible for screening each new inmate to determine whether he or she is mentally unstable, suicidal or has been prescribed psychotropic medications. Counselors approved 1,301 inmates to participate in the work release program.

The recreation staff supervises and develops programming for all inmate recreation activities. This year, the detentions recreation unit held a quarterly art contest. In September the theme was Colorado. The recreation unit also created a comprehensive inmate fitness program, including monthly health information and workout programs. The program began in May with exercise packets provided to inmates and workout videos shown twice a week. Another completed goal for 2012 was to increase the amount of reading material available, specifically those in Spanish.



Inmate Workers

An outside inmate worker coordinator facilitated both a manual and electronic irrigation system to aid in the planting, watering, and weeding of pumpkins, gourds, and decorative corn in the inmate garden. 126 pumpkins were harvested and donated to local schools. Inmate workers were also sent on trash detail throughout the county for such events as Golden's Super Cruise and the Summerset Festival. Inmate workers maintain county facilities, and this year added five handmade picnic benches to the property.



200 Jefferson County Pkwy.
Golden, CO 80401-2697

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Emergency in Progress: Dial 911

Note: If you wish to report a crime or incident, please call. We do not currently take reports by email.

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