



Park County Sheriff's Office



2023 Annual Report

Darrell D. Steward, Sheriff

"Service, Safety, Security"

A MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF DARRELL D. STEWARD

To the citizens of Park County:

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the confidence the people have bestowed in me to be their Sheriff for the next four years. The support I have received from the people of Park County is very touching. During the swearing-in process, I promised to uphold the Constitution of the United States and the State of Wyoming, as well as enforcing the Wyoming State Statutes in a fair, but firm, unbiased manner, which I take very seriously.

This past year was certainly an eventful year for the men and women of the Park County Sheriff's Office. A change in Administration is always an uncertain time for them. We have faced numerous shifts in personnel, such as retirements and resignations. The Park County Sheriff's Office has not been immune to the lack of applicants for the various vacancies we have had. It has seemed like a constant struggle to keep positions filled.

When I took office in January of last year, the Sheriff's Office Investigator and Patrol Deputies were investigating several major crimes and were still recovering from an Officer-Involved shooting. The Park County Sheriff's Office is also still actively investigating a Missing Person/Homicide investigation regarding Kathryn "Katie" Ferguson, which is believed to span over several states.

These types of cases, as well as tragically fatal car crashes, cases of suicides, and other violent high stress events, cause deputies and dispatchers to reconsider their career choices. With this in mind, we are currently working on a multi-faceted wellness program for our staff. We are also continuing to try to implement a body-worn camera program for our deputies.

Our Park County Search and Rescue personnel continue to be a huge asset in attempting to locate lost or injured persons, rescuing those in emergencies, and assisting whenever called on. Such as a missing man from Laurel, Montana, who was later located on Dry Creek north of the Newton Lakes area. The SAR members donate countless hours of their personal time to these missions as well as constant weekly trainings.

Our Detention staff is regularly faced with multiple challenges, such as coordinating major jury trial security operations, court appearances and prisoner transports, sometimes leading outside of our jurisdiction, and dealing with people in mental crisis and with severe mental illnesses. Not to mention the daily care and protection for our ever-fluctuating population of incarcerated individuals.

Our Communications Division has been very busy and is often inundated with medical, fire, and the usual ongoing law enforcement operations such as domestic violence, traffic stops, or just assistance to the public in verifying vehicle identification numbers on their new vehicles.

The Park County Sheriff's Office remains committed to our mission of "promoting public trust and providing service, safety and security to those we are sworn to serve". We continue our promise to keep you informed regarding trending crimes, enforcement, and general information through our social media and a newly implemented Hyper-Reach notification system. We look forward to continuing our service to you in 2024.

Sincerely,

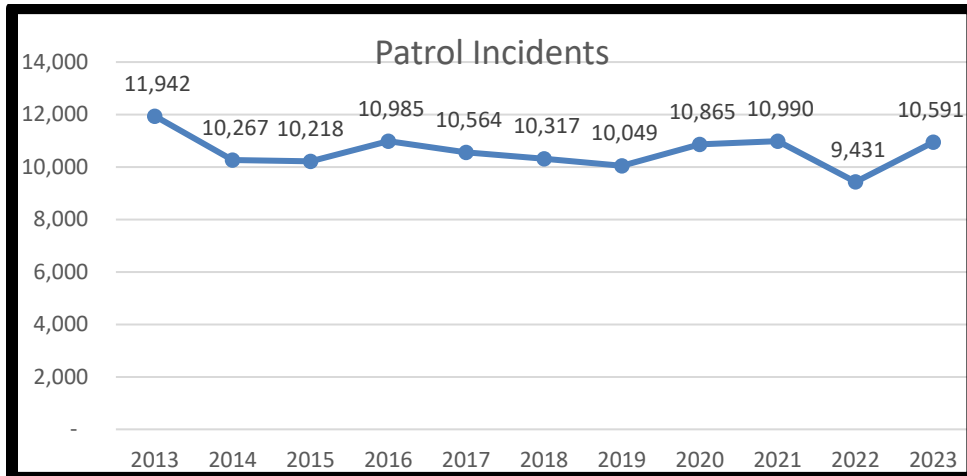
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darrell Steward", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Darrell Steward
Sheriff, Park County, Wyoming

PATROL DIVISION

PATROL ACTIVITY - Patrol deputies continue to serve the citizens of Park County in the manner to which they have come to expect, with pride, compassion, and professionalism. In 2023, the patrol division responded to 10,591 calls for service. These included 2,856 motor vehicle inspections, 1,504 civil paper services, 1,569 traffic stops, 561 animal related calls, 170 warrant service attempts, 200 felony and misdemeanor arrests, 102 motor vehicle crash investigations, 273 criminal investigations and 733 non-criminal investigations. All of this activity was accomplished by 19 full-time patrol deputies (with two vacancies) who are responsible for patrolling nearly 7,000 square miles of rural Park County. That equates to an average of 557 calls for service handled by each deputy during the year.

Overall, the data indicates a 12.3 percent increase in patrol incidents from 2022. Administrative time (time spent completing incident or case reports; follow up investigatory activity; or contacting residents to inform them of the progress on their incidents) were factored into existing incidents, rather than creating separate incidents for this time.



INCIDENTS

Total Patrol Incidents	10,591
Calls for Service Incidents	5,889
Deputy Initiated Incidents	4,702
Traffic Stops	1,569 (14.98% resulted in citations)
Business/Building/Vehicle Checks	6
Other Incidents	3,133

ARRESTS

Total Arrests	200
Misdemeanor Arrests	146
Felony Arrests	54

CASE INVESTIGATIONS

Total Case Investigations	1,109
Vehicle Accident Investigations	102
Criminal Investigations	273
Non-Criminal Investigations	733
Unclassified Investigations	1

WARRANTS

New Warrants Received	472
New Circuit/District Court Warrants	373
Warrants Closed	346

VIN INSPECTIONS

Total VIN Inspections	2,856
VIN Inspection Fees Collected *	~ \$28,560.00

CIVIL SUMMONS

Total Service Attempts	1,501
Total Served	551
Total Attempts with No Service	950
Civil Service Fees Collected *	\$19,820.30

CITATIONS

Total Citations Issued	368
Misdemeanor Criminal Citations	108
Traffic Citations	235
Parking Citations	2
Unclassified	22

OTHER REVENUES COLLECTED

Inmate Phone Revenue*	\$16,112.55
Medication Reimbursements *	\$4,239.64
Restitution*	\$2,924.94
Miscellaneous **	\$12,433.75

* Fees collected are returned to the county general fund

** Fingerprint/Notary/Record fees/CCW fees/SOR Registration Fees

PATROL INCIDENTS BY TYPE

INCIDENT TYPE		INCIDENT TYPE	
911 HANG UP CALL	56	MENTAL PROBLEM	9
ABANDONED VEHICLE	91	MESSAGE DELIVERY	6
ADMINISTRATIVE DUTY	3	MISCELLANEOUS ASSISTANCE	372
ALARM-INTRUSTION/HOLDUP	45	MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH	143
AMBULANCE-DEPUTY ASSIGNED	23	NCIC WARRANT ENTRY	119
ANIMAL-BITE	15	NOTIFY CITY DEPARTMENTS	30
ANIMAL-DECEASED	13	OPEN DOOR/WINDOW	4
ANIMAL-LOST	112	OTHER ACCIDENT	3
ANIMAL-NOISY	3	OTHER LAW VIOLATIONS	15
ANIMAL-OTHER	154	PARKING PROBLEM	14
ANIMAL-ON ROADWAY	152	PATROL-EXTRA	124
ANIMAL-STRAY	112	PERSON LOST	1
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY	728	PHONE RELATED COMPLAINT	2
ASSAULT	11	PRISONER TRANSPORT	35
ATTEMPT TO LOCATE	21	PROBATION CHECK	1
BAD CHECK COMPLAINT	2	PROBATION VIOLATION	1
BARWALK	3	PROPERTY DAMAGE	47
BODY FOUND	31	PROPERTY FOUND	55
BUILDING BURGLARY	12	PROPERTY LOST	79
CHILD WELFARE	23	PROTECTION ORDER	10
CITIZEN/BUSINESS CONTACT	88	PROWLER	4
CIVIL ATTEMPTS	1,504	REDDI REPORT	46
CIVIL DISPUTE	110	ROAD HAZARD/BLOCKAGE	73
CIVIL STANDBY	61	RUNAWAY JUVENILE	3
COMPUTER CRIME	2	SEARCH AND RESCUE CALL	26
CUSTODY DISPUTE	24	SECURITY CHECK	2
DISTURBANCE	24	SEXUAL ASSAULT	13
DOMESTIC	56	SEXUAL OFFENDER NOTIFICATION	22
ESCORT-FUNERAL	1	SEXUAL OFFENDER RECORD	2
ESCORT – MISCELLANEOUS	1	SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION	78
EXTRA PATROL REQUEST	20	SEX OFFENDER REPORTING	102
FIRE CALL-DEPUTY ASSIGNED	11	SPECIAL INCIDENT- Undefined	20
FIREWORKS COMPLAINT	2	STOLEN LICENSE PLATES	3
FLAGDOWN OF DEPUTY	29	STOLEN VEHICLE	13
FOLLOWUP INVESTIGATION	68	SUICIDE ATTEMPT/THREATS	27
FRAUD RELATED	81	SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	125
HARASSMENT	35	SEARCH WARRANT	3

HAZARD TO SAFETY	1	THEFT	71
INCORRIGIBLE JUVENILE	6	UNKNOWN CALL TYPE	7
INFORMATIONAL CASE	67	US FOREST SERVICE PATROL	49
INTOXICATED SUBJECT	6	VIN INSPECTIONS	2,856
LITTERING	8	WARRANT SERVICE	170
JAIL INCIDENT	1	WEAPONS OFFENSE	23
KIDNAPPING	1	WELFARE CHECK	143
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATION	2	TOTAL PCSO PATROL INCIDENTS	10,591
THREATS	35		
TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	98		
TRAFFIC STOP	1,569		
TRAINING/ INSTRUCTION	45		
TRESPASS COMPLAINT	61		

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

The Park County Sheriff's Office Communications Division handles calls for the Park County Sheriff's Office, Cody Police Department, Park County Search and Rescue, Cody Regional



Healthcare EMS, the Cody, Powell, Meeteetse and Clark Fire/First Responder Districts as well as auto launching the Cody Guardian life flight services for scene flights to medical emergencies further than 20 miles from town. In 2023, seven total emergency telecommunicators (with two vacancies) handled 23,279 calls for service which is a 5.44 percent increase from 2022. However, this equates to over

3,325 calls per emergency telecommunicator. The Emergency Communications center received just shy of 6,000 emergency 911 calls which is 78% of the total 911 calls in Park County. With recent 2023 FCC changes, cellular 911 calls will be routed

by the callers actual GPS coordinates and not by the location of a cell tower which will cause this number to continue to increase. This doesn't count the multitude of non-emergency calls that are received daily either. Park County 911 Emergency Telecommunicators play many roles: therapist, Emergency Medical Dispatcher (EMD)



providing pre-arrival medical instructions to callers, lawyer, teacher, weatherman, guidance counselor, psychologist, priest, secretary, supervisor, politician, and reporter. And few people must jump through the emotional hoops on the trip through the routine of one caller's request for a phone number, to the fear of another caller's burglary in progress, to the anger of a neighbor blocked in their drive, to the sorrow of a caller who lost their pet, to the stress of an officer's request for help, and back to the phone number request all in a five-minute time frame. But Park County 911 emergency telecommunicators accept these responsibilities and handle them with expertise and confidence.

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION CALLS FOR SERVICE

Park County Sheriff's Office	10,591
Cody Police Department	9,670
Cody Fire Department	296
Clark Fire Department	50
Powell Fire Department	243
Meeteetse Fire Department	33
Cody Regional Health EMS	2,357
Park County Search and Rescue	22
Guardian Air Ambulance	17

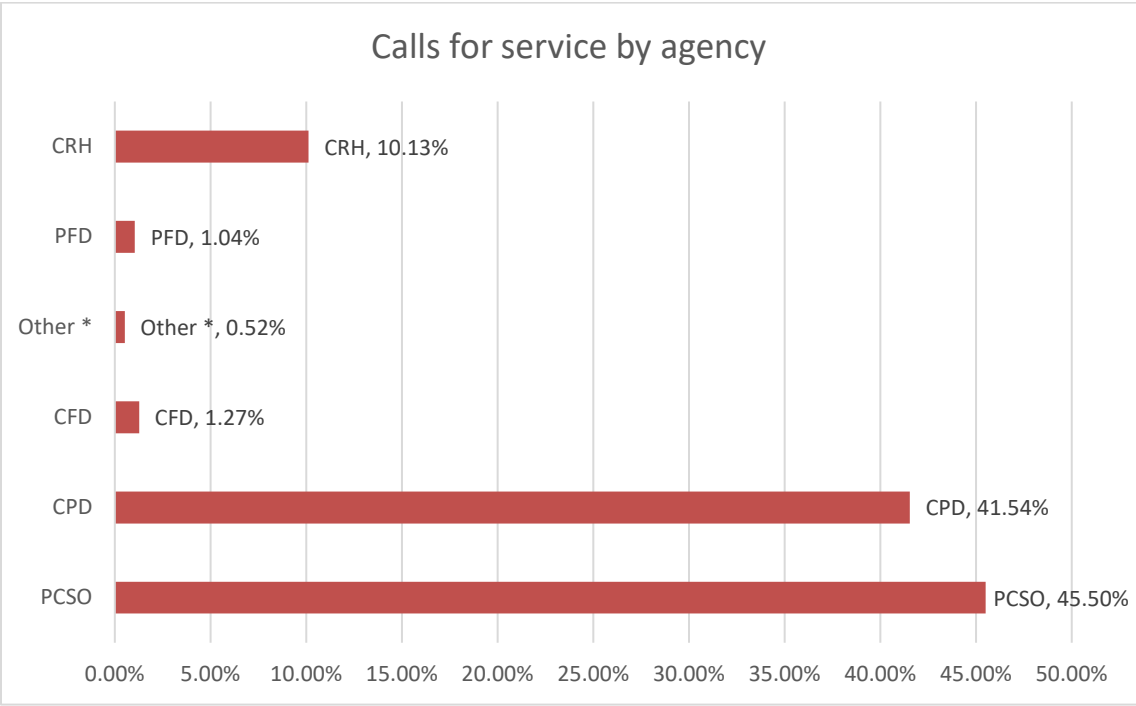
Total Calls for Service **23,279**

Controlled Burn Permits

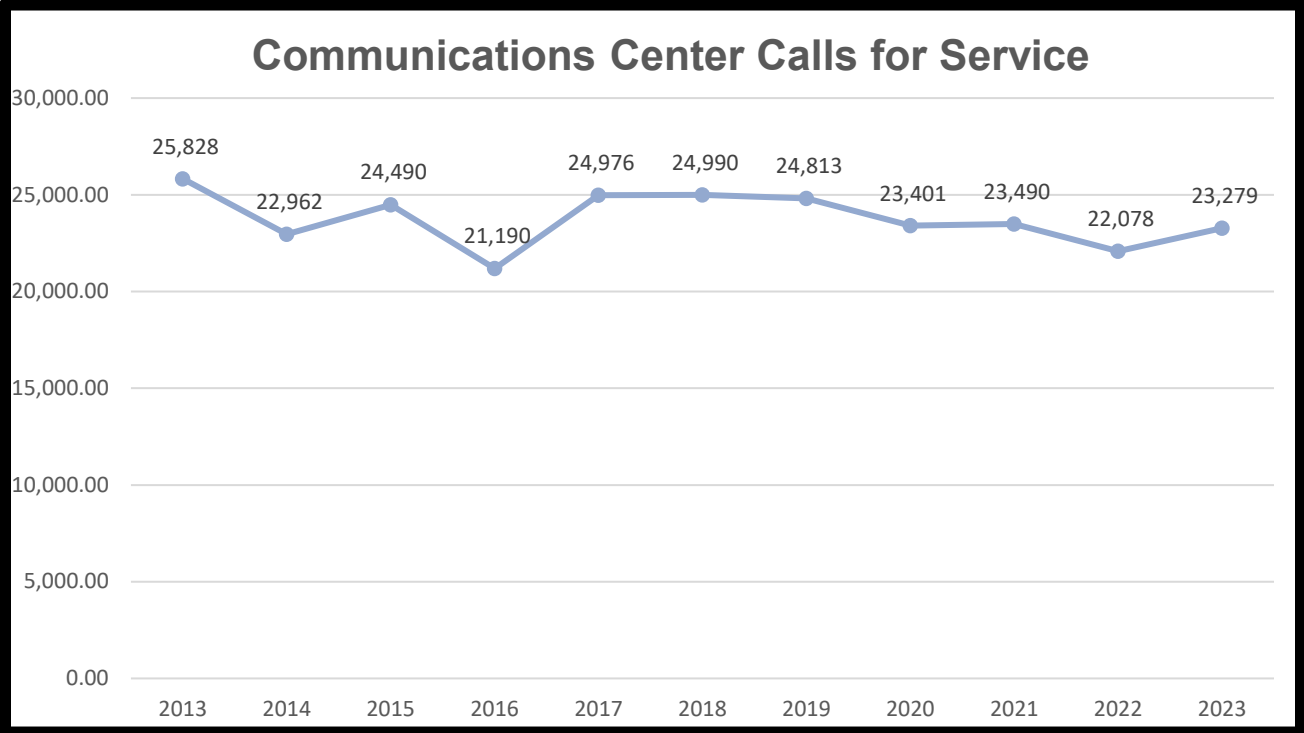
Total Permits Issued	3,088
Cody/Meeteetse Area	1,323
Powell/Garland/Ralston/Clark Area	1,667

Fire Calls Dispatched

Cody Fire Department	296
Clark Fire Department	50
Powell Fire Department	243
Meeteetse Fire Department	33
Total Fire Calls	622 (2.67% total calls)



* Clark Fire / Meeteetse Fire / Search & Rescue / Guardian EMS



DETENTION

The Park County Detention Center is a 106-bed facility that is a twenty-four-hour, seven-day-a-week operation staffed with 26 deputies (with 4 vacancies at the time of this report.). The staff is tasked with the safe and secure confinement and management of inmates. 2023 was an example of the staff's ability to adapt and evolve quickly and efficiently. The staff also continued to reevaluate policy, making updates and modifications as needed, focused on training, and streamlining the processes in the Detention Center. In 2023, the Park County Sheriff's Office Detention Division booked a total of 741 prisoners into the holding facility. The second table below breaks it down even further.

TOTAL DETENTION BOOKINGS FOR 2023

	2023
Park County Sheriff	141
Cody Police Dept.	333
Powell Police Dept.	101
Wyoming Highway Patrol	30
Other Agencies	9
Individual Booking Charges *	1,300
Total Bookings *	741

* Includes "weekender" bookings, where someone comes to serve time on weekends only. Some arrests had individuals with multiple charges per booking equating to the higher number of charges above.

Monthly Stats	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023	Jun 2023	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	TOTAL
Total Bookings	71	56	67	61	56	69	60	69	61	67	57	66	760
Male	50	47	45	40	40	51	45	46	37	56	40	49	546
Female	19	7	20	18	15	17	14	22	24	10	15	14	195
Juvenile	2	2	2	3	1	1	1	1	0	1	2	3	19
Total Releases	75	43	75	59	66	68	60	62	59	75	50	58	750
Male	52	36	57	39	54	50	45	41	39	60	35	46	554
Female	23	7	18	20	12	18	15	21	20	15	15	12	196
Average Daily Pop	44	49	47	34	31	30	31	32	37	32	25	35	
Male	37	41	43	29	26	23	25	26	28	25	20	27	
Female	7	5	4	5	5	7	6	6	9	7	5	8	
Highest 1 day pop	52	52	55	42	40	36	37	43	44	40	33	41	
Lowest 1 day pop	40	41	42	31	25	29	27	27	34	28	25	24	

USE OF FORCE - The Park County Detention Center also tracks the use of force incidents against inmates within our care and protection. These incidents are created whenever a detention deputy has to utilize force against a non-compliant inmate. This can be in the form of compliance holds such as a wristlock up to and including the use of non-lethal weapons such as a Taser or pepper spray. We continually strive to keep these incidents to a minimum by providing the best possible training to our deputies in methods to mitigate situations prior to resorting to physical force. Assaults by inmates against officers and each other decreased in 2023, but our use of force increased. As with use of force incidents, we continually strive to minimize inmate assaults through training. All inmates who assault officers or other inmates are prosecuted under state law.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Use of Force Incidents *	13	9	21	13	16
Inmate Assaults	4	4	6	6	3

* Force is used to gain compliance only

The fight for those suffering from mental health problems continues. A Title 25 (WSS 25-1-109) hold is a hold placed on an individual in order to detain them for the protection of themselves or others, placed by a mental health professional, licensed physician, or law enforcement officer. In 2023 fourteen people were placed on Title 25 holds were in the Park County Detention Center.

These individuals occupied either the padded cell or an alternate protective housing (to accommodate multiple mental health holds simultaneously) for 447 days in 2022. In 2023 there were fourteen (14) inmates that occupied either the padded cell or an alternate protective housing for 162 days. These numbers represent multiple rooms simultaneously per day, reflecting as multiple days. This is a significant decrease we are grateful for.

FACEBOOK & HYPER REACH - The Park County Sheriff's Office continued to utilize social media and emergency notifications in 2023 to communicate directly with residents through the use of its Facebook page and through direct communications via Hyper Reach. The social media is used to inform and engage the residents of Park County on a variety of topics. Safety messages, emergency bulletins, and agency information are included, but also the accounts are used to distribute information on incidents reported to the sheriff's office that may be of interest to our residents. The intent is to proactively distribute information that is both informative and safety-oriented in content and when necessary, ask for assistance from residents in emergency situations. At the end of 2023 Park County switched our "reverse 911" provider from Code Red to Hyper Reach which allows us to disseminate messages easier and quicker to residents. This will be utilized by the Sheriff's Office, Cody PD, Powell PD, Homeland Security, Public works and more. If you had previously signed up for Code Red notifications, your information was transferred to the Hyper Reach program for you. We are extremely pleased with the popularity of these services.



If you have not yet signed up for emergency notifications, you can sign up quickly by scanning the QR code below with your mobile device. Residents and people who work in Park County are encouraged to enroll now (using a Park County address) either by calling or texting "Alert" to **307-213-7177** or by going to the website: <http://hyper-reach.com/wyparksignup.html>.



Should you have any further questions or need more information, please contact the Public Information Officer Monte McClain via phone at 307-527-8700 or email at Monte.McClain@parkcountysheriff-wy.gov.

Thank you!