

Barron County Sheriff's Dept

2023 Annual Report



2023 was a tragic year for Barron County Law Enforcement with the loss of Emily, Hunter and Katie in St. Croix County. The Sheriff's Department played a major role in all of these cases and coverage of shifts. We learned, saw and felt, what we already knew, is that this county loves its law enforcement. We will become stronger together and continue to make Barron County a great place to live, work and play.

We also lost, to retirements, 85 years of service to the county with Jason Leu, Vice Graf and Dale Hrdlicka which has created lots of movement and restructuring in the department. We also added two new patrol officer positions in July and have those positions up and running on our night shift. We added two new K-9s in 2023, K9 Jasper and K9 Kyro, and continue the fight on drugs and alcohol in the county. The jail continues to stay steady again bringing in approximately \$395,177 of out of county prisoner housing revenue. Dispatch also stayed steady in 2023. Drug cases were down due to the transition in personnel and one less detective for 5 months of the year.

Budget in	2023 – 9.3 Million	2022 – 8.8 Million	2021 – 8.5 Million
	2020 – 8.35 Million	2019 – 8.15 Million	2018 – 7.85 Million
Personnel -	78 in 2023	76 in 2022	76 in 2021
	77 in 220	75 in 2019	76 in 2018

2024 goals

- Complete the restructuring/transition of promotions in the patrol/detective division
- Bring staffing to 100% and continue to look at staffing levels
- Jail Sally Port Expansion - 2.0 million
- Radio Communications Upgrade - 1.5 million

Accidents

2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
279	296	291	340	362	356
7 Fatal	7 Fatal	9 Fatal	4 Fatal	7 Fatal	5 Fatal

Of the 2023 accidents; 187 were property damage, 88 were injury and 4 fatal crashes.

OWI

For 2023 – 93 people arrested for OWI including four ATV/UTV OWI.

Monday 7	Tuesday 11	Wednesday 9	Thursday 8	Friday 14
Saturday 16	Sunday 28			

Of the 93 - 27 were female. Youngest person arrested was 18 and oldest was 68.

Time of arrests were all times of the day, from early morning until after bar closing.

OWI's in 2022 were 83; increase of 10 total OWI arrests from 2022 to 2023. This is a crime that is 100% preventable. Never get into the driver's seat after you have been drinking. What is

concerning is that 35 or **38%** of these arrests still took place between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. when

more of our families are on the roadway. This is a decrease in the percentage from 2022 but is still not acceptable.

For 2022 – 83 people arrested for OWI including six ATV/UTV OWI.

Monday 15	Tuesday 3	Wednesday 11	Thursday 6	Friday 12
Saturday 22	Sunday 14			

Of the 83 - 15 were female. Youngest person arrested was 16 and oldest was 72.

Time of arrests were all times of the day, from early morning until after bar closing.

OWI's in 2021 were 78; increase of 5 total OWI arrests from 2021 to 2022. This is a crime that is 100% preventable. Never get into the driver's seat after you have been drinking. What is concerning is that 49 or 59% of these arrests took place between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. when more of our families are on the roadway.

For 2021 – 78 people arrested for OWI including one Boating OWI and four ATV/UTV OWI.

Monday 7	Tuesday 11	Wednesday 8	Thursday 11	Friday 12
Saturday 18	Sunday 11			

Of the 78 - 22 were female. Youngest person arrested was 17 and oldest was 68.

Time of arrests were all times of the day, from early morning until after bar closing.

OWI's in 2020 were 85; decrease of 7 total OWI arrests from 2020 to 2021. While these numbers are slightly decreased in 2021 this is a crime that is 100% preventable. Never get into the driver's seat after you have been drinking. What is concerning is that 39 or 50% of these arrests took place between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. when more of our families are on the roadway.

For 2020 – 85 people arrested for OWI including one Boating OWI and two ATV OWI.

Monday 8	Tuesday 10	Wednesday 6	Thursday 13	Friday 12
Saturday 17	Sunday 19			

Of the 85 - 27 were female. Youngest person arrested was 14 and oldest was 66.

Time of arrests were all times of the day, from early morning until after bar closing.

OWI's in 2019 were 83; increase of 2 total OWI arrests from 2019 to 2020. While these numbers are slightly increased in 2020 this is a crime that is 100% preventable. Never get into the driver's seat after you have been drinking. What is concerning is that 27 or almost 32.5% of these arrests took place between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. when more of our families are on the roadway.

For 2019 – 83 people arrested for OWI including one Boating OWI and three ATV OWI.

Monday 6	Tuesday 12	Wednesday 9	Thursday 11	Friday 5
Saturday 24	Sunday 16			

Of the 83 - 27 were female. Youngest person arrested was 17 and oldest was 74.

Time of arrests were all times of the day, from early morning until after bar closing.

OWI's in 2018 were 93; decrease of 10 total OWI arrests from 2018 to 2019. While these numbers are down in 2019 this is a crime that is 100% preventable. Never get into the driver's seat after you have been drinking.

Traffic Data

Number of traffic stops – 2369

Number of citations issued – 1212

Number of traffic stops in 2022 were 2058 and 2022 citations issued were 1003.

Number of traffic stops in 2021 were 1732 and 2021 citations issued were 1029.

Number of traffic stops in 2020 were 1318 and 2020 citations issued were 1142.

Number of traffic stops in 2019 were 2189 and 2019 citations issued were 1299.

Number of traffic stops in 2018 were 2009 and 2018 citations issued were 1559.

Recreation Deputy

Snow 2022/2023

386.5 hours billed of which 301 were patrol hours, 62 hours of administrative time and 23.5 exempt hours for crash investigations, instructing snowmobile safety courses and training.

124 Contacts – 4 Warnings – 13 Citations

Claim Amount: \$31,203.78 (reimbursement at 74.6%- \$23,278.90)

Water 2023

255.5 hours billed of which 146 were patrol hours, 31.5 hours of administrative time and 78 exempt hours for crash investigations, instructing boaters safety courses and training.

202 Contacts – 2 Warnings – 15 Citations

Barron County had 2 drownings in 2023.

Claim Amount: \$21,248.95 (reimbursement rate to be determined in April of 2024)

ATV 2022/2023

963 hours billed of which 813 were patrol hours, 128.5 hours of administrative time and 21.5 exempt hours for crash investigations, instructing ATV safety courses and training.

327 Contacts – 2 Warnings – 71 Citations

Claim Amount: \$50,928.77 (reimbursement at 100%)

Trail Improvement Grants- Ongoing maintenance grants/bridge rehab & replacement/new trail grants \$985,828.75.

Snow 2021/2022

232.5 hours billed of which 166.5 were patrol hours, 29.5 administrative time and 36 exempt hours for crash investigation and instructing Snowmobile Safety and training.

71 contacts - 6 warnings, 7 citations.

57 students completed the DNR Snowmobile Safety course instructed by sheriff's department.

Claim Amount: \$15,231.95 (reimbursement at 60.37% - \$9,195.34)

Water 2022

146 hours billed of which 90 were patrol hours, 15 administrative time and 41 exempt hours for training, crash/drowning investigations.

110 contacts - 1 warnings, 10 citations

Barron County had three drownings in 2022.

Claim Amount: \$15,026.22 (reimbursement rate to be determined in April of 2023)

ATV 2021/2022

1024.5 hours billed of which 896.5 were patrol hours, 99.5 administrative time and 28.5 exempt hours for crash investigations and training.

562 contacts - 8 warnings, 66 citations

Claim Amount: \$51,204.15 (reimbursement at 73.13% - \$37,446.88)

Trail Work Grants – Ongoing maintenance grants/bridge rehab & replacement/new trail grants \$1,153,024.

Snow 2020/2021

275.5 hours billed of which 214 were patrol hours, 29.5 administrative time and 32 exempt hours for crash investigation and instructing Snowmobile Safety and training.

158 contacts - 5 warnings, 13 citations.

53 students completed the DNR Snowmobile Safety course instructed by sheriff's department.

Claim Amount: \$17,446.00 (reimbursement at 67.33% - \$11,747.15)

Water 2021

246.5 hours billed of which 206 were patrol hours, 25 administrative time and 15.5 exempt hours for training and assisting Burnett County with a drowning investigation.

448 contacts - 6 warnings, 24 citations

Barron County had two reportable boating crashes.

Claim Amount: \$25,161.62 (reimbursement rate to be determined in April of 2022)

ATV 2020/2021

849.5 hours billed of which 717 were patrol hours, 72 administrative time and 60.5 exempt hours for crash investigations and training.

503 contacts - 11 warnings, 73 citations

Barron County investigated three ATV/UTV crashes of which one was a fatality.

Claim Amount: \$44,363.48 (reimbursement at 66.18% - \$29,359.87)

Total Cases

2023 – 1222 (16 – ICAC)	2022 – 1158 (19 – ICAC)	2021 – 1191	2020 - 1176	2019 - 1112
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Vehicles

32 squads, Armored Vehicle, Drug Unit Van, SWAT Van, Mobile Command Center, Emergency Management Vehicle, 2 snowmobiles, 2 ATV/UTV and 2 Boats

Process Service

Papers Served

2023 - 1101	2022 – 1083	2021 - 1345	2020 - 1196	2019 - 1241
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2023 Sheriff Sales – 30 scheduled (8 cancelled).

2022 Sheriff Sales – 20 scheduled (5 cancelled).

2021 Sheriff Sales – 24 scheduled (15 cancelled).

2020 Sheriff Sales – 30 scheduled (13 cancelled).

2019 Sheriff Sales – 44 scheduled (10 cancelled).

Dispatch

2023

2022

2021

911 Calls	14,924/40.9 per day	13,503/37 per day	14,767/40.5 per day
CAD's	38,411/105.2 per day	38,843/106.4 per day	39,680/108.7 per day

	2020	2019	2018
911 Calls	13,954/38.2 per day	13,855/37.9 per day	4,377/39.4 per day
CAD's	36,330/99.5 per day	39,797/108.7 per day	60,417/165.5 per day
Domestic Disturbance/Violence Calls for Service			
	2023 – 270 County Wide/76 Sheriff		2022 – 258 County Wide/73 Sheriff
	2021 – 330 County Wide/76 Sheriff		2020 – 335 County Wide/103 Sheriff
	2019 – 480 County Wide/256 Sheriff		2018 – 429 County Wide/190 Sheriff

Drug Cases

YEAR	Poss MDPV	Deliver MDPV	Poss Synthetic THC	Deliver Synthetic THC	Poss/Deliver Psilocybin	Poss/Deliver Heroin	Poss Marijuana	Poss Marijuana w/Intent to Deliver	Deliver/Manufacture Marijuana	Poss Drug Paraphernalia	Poss Meth Paraphernalia	Poss Meth	Manufacture Meth/Poss Meth Waste	Delivery of Meth	Poss Meth w/Intent to Deliver	Poss/Deliver LSD	Poss Cocaine	Delivery or Poss w/Intent to deliver - Cocaine	Poss/Deliver Prescription Meds	Maintain Drug House	TOTALS
2019	0	0	0	0	5	3	15	5	10	28	0	20	0	16	10	0	1	0	1	8	122
2020	0	1	0	0	4	2	17	8	5	35	0	21	0	42	5	0	4	0	0	3	147
2021	0	0	0	0	3	0	30	8	2	40	10	24	0	22	9	0	0	0	8	4	160
2022	0	0	0	0	0	2	10	2	0	30	6	15	0	12	9	0	0	0	0	2	88
2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	6	0	10	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	26
TTL	0	1	0	0	12	7	77	23	17	139	16	90	0	95	35	0	5	0	9	17	543

YEAR	Vehicle Seizure	Cash Seizure	Drug Search Warrant	Cell/WI-FI SW	251-NBOME (Bath Salt)	Mephedrone	oxycodone case	hydrocodone case	manufacture drug para	Del Counterfeit substance												TOTALS
2019	0	1	21	14	0	0	0	0	0	0												36
2020	1	1	24	18	0	0	0	0	0	5												49
2021	0	4	20	15	0	0	0	0	0	0												39
2022	0	1	8	6	0	0	0	0	0	0												15
2023	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0												1
TTL	1	7	74	53	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	140

Barron County Sheriff's Dept. (Drug Arrest Summary - criminal arrests)

The drug cases generated by the patrol division are not included above.

In 2023, the sheriff's department spent \$2,500 on drug buy money for the above listed cases. This funding is not tax payer dollars and is funded through court ordered forfeitures and seizures.

In November 2011, the Barron County Sheriff's Department installed a 24/7 drop box for unused/expired prescription drugs and has already been a huge success to keep the citizens safe.

Text to Tip Line

Text to Tip was discontinued in 2023 and a new version will be implemented in 2024. Residents can still use our Facebook for tip and call into dispatch. Our Facebook continues to be our main source of sharing information.

Jail

Bookings in the jail

2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
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Total	1120	1060	974	945	1877	2172
Male	760	780	725	728	1351	1654
Female	360	280	249	217	526	481

In 2022, the out-of-county housing revenue was approximately \$395,177.58 for housing of inmates for other agencies.

During 2023, there were 3,650 inmate worker hours. Total hours include work in the jail laundry, cleaning in the jail and jail library.

Fees Collected

	Collected – 2022	2022	2021
Daily Maintenance Fee	\$ 21,210.23	\$ 19,278.21	\$ 13,371.63
Booking Fee	\$ 1,606.49	\$ 1,740.32	\$ 1,451.13
Nurse Fee	\$ 60.77	\$ 213.69	\$ 435.00
Tax Refund Intercept Program	\$ 22,667.07	\$ 29,791.21	\$ 26,223.18

(Includes collections from inmate accounts for fees sent to WI DOR)

	Collected – 2020	2019	2018
Daily Maintenance Fee	\$ 18,782.24	\$ 30,704.90	\$ 40,625.59
Booking Fee	\$ 658.52	\$ 1,795.51	\$ 2,572.27
Nurse Fee	\$ 760.47	\$ 1,596.63	\$ 2,572.27
Tax Refund Intercept Program	\$ 20,434.99	\$ 13,425.94	\$ 19,368.76

(Includes collections from inmate accounts for fees sent to WI DOR)

Underage Drinking Citations

2023	44	(includes 2 adult permit/underage drinking)
2022	32	(includes 2 adult permit/underage drinking)
2021	135	(includes 5 adult permit/underage drinking)
2020	111	(includes 23 adult permit/underage drinking)
2019	99	(includes 38 adult permit/underage drinking)
2018	170	(includes 63 adult permit/underage drinking)

Emergency Response Team (ERT)

2023

- 6 Total Call Outs
- 3 High Risk Arrest/Barricade Firearms
- 2 High Risk Search Warrants
- 1 Suicidal/Barricaded Subject

2022

- 3 Total Call Outs
- 1 High Risk Search Warrants
- 2 Suicidal/Barricaded Subject

2021

- 14 Total Call Outs
- 5 High Risk Search Warrant
- 1 Suicidal/Barricaded Subject with Firearm
- 8 High Risk Arrest/Barricade Firearms

2020

- 5 Total Call Outs
- 2 High Risk Search Warrants
- 2 Suicidal/Barricaded Persons with Firearms
- 1 Wooded Search (Rusk County for Missing Persons)

2019

- 11 Total Call Outs
- 3 High Risk Search Warrants
- 1 Judicial Center Security Operations – Jake Patterson Sentencing
- 1 False “Swatting” Call Out
- 6 High Risk Arrest/Barricade Firearms

Team consists of 2 Commanders, 9 Entry and 3 Snipers. Members of the team are 8 Sheriff’s Department personnel and 6 from Rusk County Sheriff’s Department.

Grants 2023

County Law Enforcement	\$25,661	County/Tribal Law Enforcement	\$18,509
COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Task Force			\$5,000
COPS Anti-Heroine Task Force			\$10,000
Safe Ride Program	\$3,586.20	ALERT Grant Program	\$1,500
Safer Communities LEA Grant			\$66,137.70

2022

County Law Enforcement	\$24,593	County/Tribal Law Enforcement	\$18,188
COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Task Force			\$0
COPS Anti-Heroine Task Force			\$5,000
Safe Ride Program	\$4,000	ICAC Cellebrite Grant	\$2,440
Fatal Vision Kits Grant	\$4,545		

2021

County Law Enforcement	\$24,056	County/Tribal Law Enforcement	\$16,805
COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Task Force			\$7,500
COPS Anti-Heroine Task Force			\$1,500
Safe Ride Program	\$3,000	ICAC Cellebrite Grant	\$4,300

2020

County Law Enforcement	\$21,481	County/Tribal Law Enforcement	\$14,904
COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Task Force			\$15,000
Safe Ride Program	Cancelled		
BC UVC Decontamination Devices Project			\$58,000

2019

County Law Enforcement	\$21,287	County/Tribal Law Enforcement	\$15,074
COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Task Force			\$15,000
COPS Anti-Heroine Task Force			\$15,000
Safe Ride Program	\$2,500	Barron County Drug Task Force	\$25,000

Thank you for your time in reading this report and as stated we are looking forward to a safer 2024.

Sheriff Chris Fitzgerald