



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

ANDERSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

SHERIFF PAUL N. WHITE

May 21, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

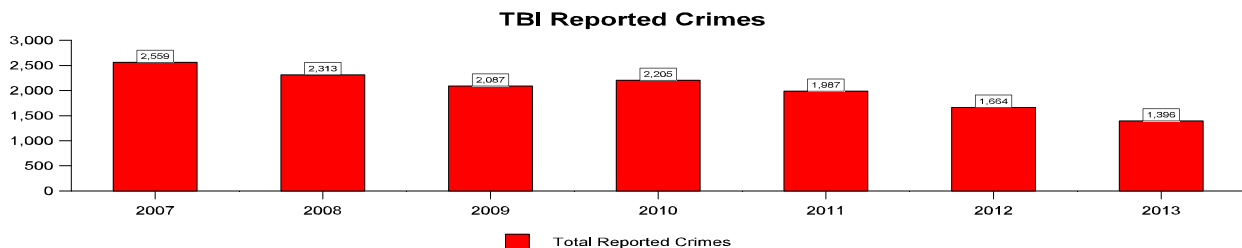
Crime Shows Significant Decline

An analysis of criminal offenses reported to the Anderson County Sheriff's Department shows a significant decline since 2007. The most dramatic drop in crime numbers have occurred over the last two years, in 2012 and 2013.

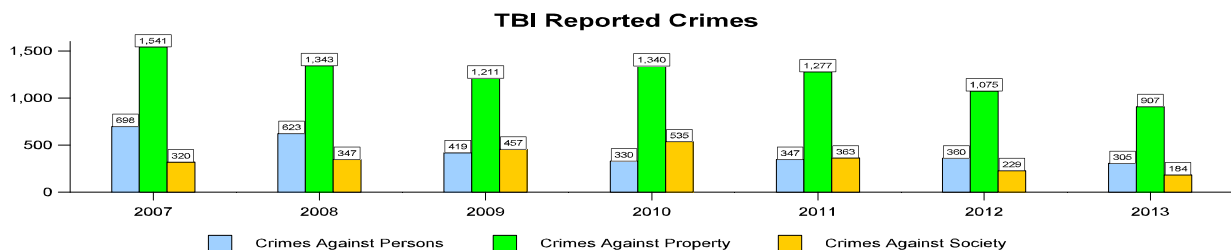
Some of the highlights include:

	<u>From 2012</u>	<u>From 2007</u>
• Total Reported Crimes	- 16.80%	- 45.45%
• Crimes Against Persons	- 15.75%	- 56.30%
• Crimes Against Property	- 16.10%	- 41.14%
• Crimes Against Society	- 21.70%	- 42.50%

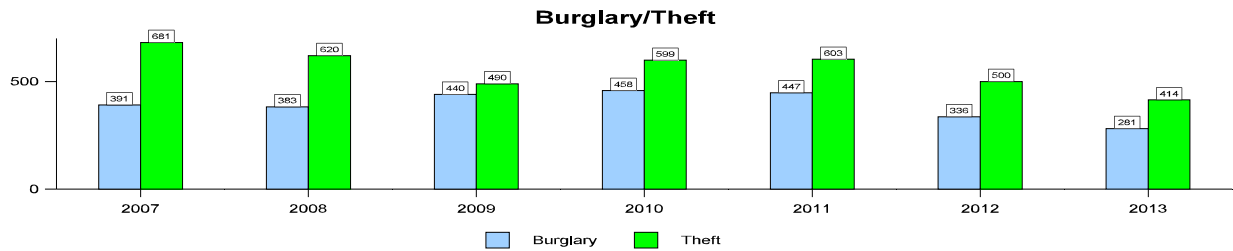
The overall number of crimes reported to the Sheriff's Department have decreased 45.45% from 2007 to 2013.



Since 2007, Crimes Against Persons have decreased 56.30%, Crimes Against Property have decreased 41.14%, and Crimes Against Society have decreased 42.50%.



The most prevalent crimes in the rural areas of the county are property crimes such as burglaries and thefts. Both have decreased significantly over the last two years.



This drop in overall crime can be directly attributed to proactive law enforcement and increased patrols of the rural areas of the county. Added personnel in 2007 and 2008 have allowed directed patrols and enhanced investigations of property crimes. These efforts have resulted in more crimes solved and over 800 arrests for burglary and theft offenses since 2007.

A new, proactive team of deputies was formed in 2008, aptly named the Aggressive Criminal Enforcement (ACE) Unit, that targets burglaries and thefts not only by beefed up patrols but also in serving arrest warrants on those offenders involved in criminal activity. This has been found to be an effective tool in combating crime and has been copied by other law enforcement agencies in our area.

Crime analysis and mapping have also allowed deputies to patrol “smarter” in areas where crimes are occurring. Crime analysis has also linked burglaries to offenders resulting in arrests and a significant drop in burglaries and thefts over the last two years. Each day, a crime report is forwarded to all deputies and investigators noting where crimes are occurring. A crime map shows “hot spots” and prediction zones so patrol deputies are aware of where and when these crimes are happening.

Crime prevention and programs such as Neighborhood Watch have also helped to reduce crime in Anderson County. A full-time crime prevention officer was established in 2009 and has allowed the Anderson County Sheriff’s Department to interact with the community and use their “eyes and ears” to thwart criminals. Neighborhood Watch is one of the oldest and most effective crime prevention programs in the country, bringing citizens together with law enforcement to deter crime and make communities safer. Throughout the rural areas of county there are some 30 Neighborhood Watch groups keeping a close eye on their community. Neighbors watching out for neighbors has been a success and the department thanks those volunteers who have made a difference.

Cooperation with other law enforcement agencies has also made a difference. Investigators share information with other agencies on a daily basis and by working together are solving cases and making arrests. This cooperation extends not only to our local police departments but to state and federal law enforcement agencies as well.

A close partnership with the District Attorney's Office is yet another method to help reduce crime. Sheriff's deputies and investigators work each day with the DA's Office on ensuring cases are properly prepared and ready for court. A tough stance on crime by District Attorney Dave Clark has allowed successful prosecutions of criminal offenders and many of the habitual criminals in Anderson County are now in jail or prison.

Above all, this significant decline in reported crimes is from the hard work and dedication of the men and women serving with the Anderson County Sheriff's Department. Sheriff's deputies and investigators work tirelessly to combat crime. It is through their efforts these results were achieved and they are to be commended for all they do each and every day.

All crime statistics are from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. These crime numbers are from reported incidents to the Anderson County Sheriff's Department and are primarily from the rural, unincorporated areas of the county. Crimes reported to the municipal police departments are not included.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.tncrimeonline.com>.

Sheriff Paul White



DAVE CLARK
DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL

SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
STATE OF TENNESSEE
101 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 300
CLINTON, TENNESSEE 37716

PHONE (865) 457-5640

FACSIMILE (865) 457-9352

www.attorneygeneral.org

MEDIA RELEASE

Contact: Dave Clark

Release Date: Immediate

District Attorney General Dave Clark is very pleased to announce that the crime rate in Anderson County has decreased for the seventh consecutive year. According to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, crime in Anderson County was down by 10.1% in 2013. Crime in Anderson County is down over 37% in the last seven years. There are thousands of fewer crimes in Anderson County now as compared to 2007.

District Attorney General Dave Clark said, "This is great news for the people of Anderson County because we are safer from crime and can enjoy the benefits of having a crime rate that is below average for the State. This is also great news for recruiting good industry and retail jobs to Anderson County and a variety of other benefits. While these results are great, the law enforcement community is not satisfied. There is much work to be done; particularly in combating the effects of drug addiction and crimes related to drug addiction. We need to do more to make our community even safer."

"This success comes from the considerable planning and the deliberate effort of many people working together. I am very proud of our law enforcement team and the cooperative manner in which they have maximized communication and joint effort to achieve the biggest bang for the taxpayer's dollar," remarked Clark.

Two departments deserve special recognition this year. The crime rate in Clinton was down by over 20% in 2013 and in the area patrolled exclusively by Sheriff Paul White's Department, the crime rate was down by over 16%. These are incredible numbers seldom seen anywhere in the country during a single year!

"During this period of time, we have tried to increase the detection and arrest of criminals as well as the quality of the cases and the resulting punishment for criminals. Some of the habitual criminals that have plagued Anderson County in the past are now in prison or jail. Some criminals have relocated to other areas that they think are better places to do business. Where appropriate, others have been given drug treatment and supervision. "

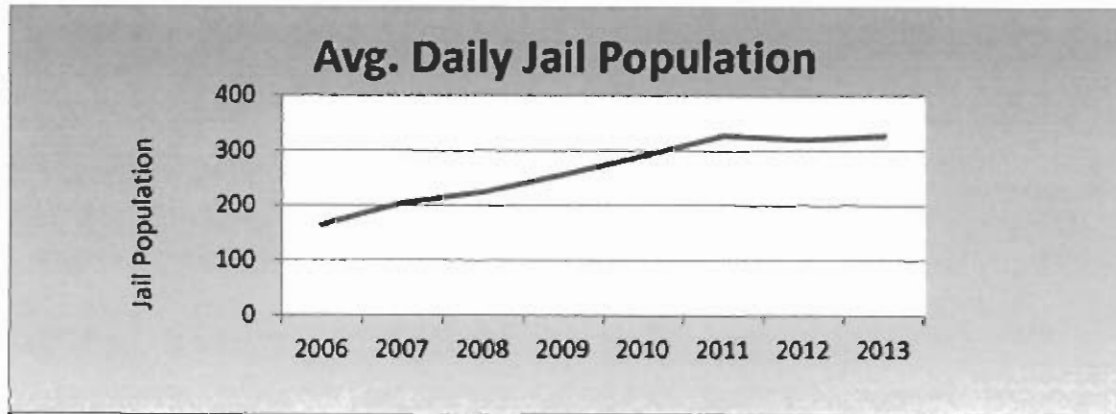
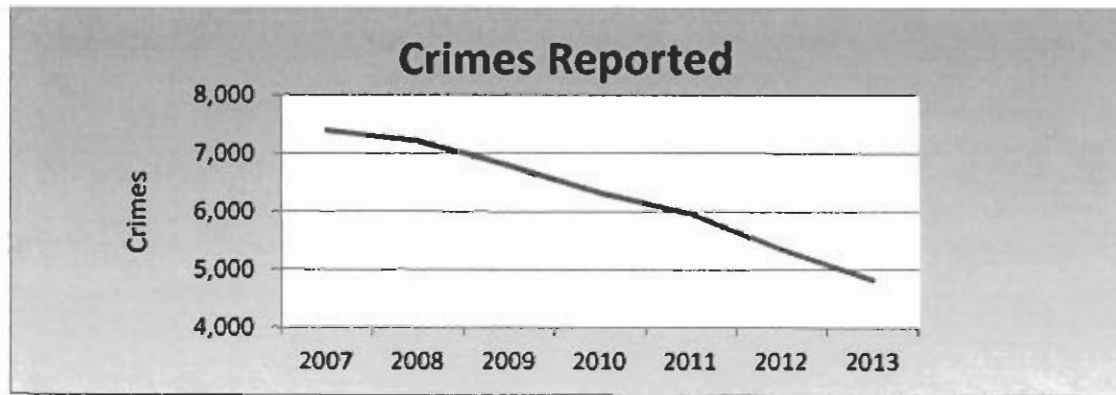
The crime problem in America is caused by social factors that are bigger than the ability of any local criminal justice system to fix and there is no single solution to the problem of every crime or criminal. We have tried to get tough on crime locally while at the same time managing the system and taxpayer resources wisely by using a variety of tools to match the problem. As a law enforcement community, we are all grateful for the support we have received from the public and our governments that have permitted us to use these various tools. We will continue to lobby for stronger state laws where appropriate and pursue the same strategies that have been working. One of the takeaways from this news is that local efforts and initiatives can make a big difference" concluded Clark.

###

ANDERSON COUNTY

7th JUDICIAL DISTRICT CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATISTICS

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
Crimes Reported ¹		7,387	7,221	6,793	6,327	5,976	5,351	4,830
Percent of Crimes Solved ¹	32.65	38.13	38.54	40.62	40.81	39.88	41.19	**
Avg. Daily Jail Population ²	165.6	205.4	225	256.9	291.6	328	321	328
New Gen. Sessions I Cases ³	3,320	3,375	3,959	3,592	3,355	3,724	3,351	3,168
New Gen. Sessions II Cases ³	3,733	3,471	3,777	3,957	3,819	4,086	3,681	3,670
New Circuit Court Indictments ³	356	674	762	1,009	1,677	1,427	680	537



¹ Tennessee Bureau of Investigation TIBRES

² Anderson County Sheriff's Department

³ Anderson County Circuit Court Clerk

** Not yet available