



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

ANDERSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

SHERIFF PAUL N. WHITE

July 10, 2014

Message From Sheriff Paul White

Since 2006, the Anderson County Sheriff's Department has implemented many changes and programs to better serve the citizens of Anderson County.



The Sheriff's Department was reorganized to be more efficient and more effective. Emphasis has been placed on enforcement for the prevention, detection, and investigation of crimes. This reorganization has placed more deputies on patrol and on investigating crimes. This has allowed more proactive patrols of the rural areas as well as enhanced investigations of offenses resulting in more arrests being made and crimes solved.

We have focused the efforts of the Sheriff's Department on drug enforcement and in reducing property crimes such as burglary and theft. These efforts have paid off as overall crime numbers have fallen over 45% from 2007 through 2013. Crimes Against Property, including burglary and theft, have dropped over 41% since 2007. The first six months of 2014 have shown an additional 30% decrease in burglaries and a 15% drop in thefts over the first half of 2013.

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 have allowed directed patrols and enhanced investigations of property crimes. These efforts have resulted in more crimes being solved and arrests made. Burglary and theft arrests have increased over 73%.

Drug arrests increased over 281% from 2006 to 2010. From 2007 through 2013, deputies arrested 1,603 persons for drug related crimes. In addition, over 50 additional persons have been arrested on federal charges in cases involving the Sheriff's Department.

The department's crime clearance rate has risen from less than 20% to over 35% in just the first two years.

Crime prevention programs such as Neighborhood Watch were reinstated and a dedicated crime prevention officer works hand-in-hand with the community to help in reducing crime. This has been beneficial to both homeowners and businesses alike in not only preventing crime but helping solve crimes after they occur.

The Sheriff's Department is using technology for not only crime prevention and investigation but to also be more efficient. Deputies now have laptop computers in patrol cars which allow them to remain out in the community instead of driving back to the office to fill out reports. With our mobile data system, deputies have access to criminal warrants information and arrest history as well as mugshots to identify offenders and wanted persons.

The department is now using crime mapping and analysis to identify areas where crimes are occurring. Deputies are made aware where burglaries and thefts are happening so extra patrols are done in these neighborhoods. Crime analysis has been very beneficial in linking crimes to offenders and has resulted in successful investigations and arrests.

We have forged close relationships with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. These relationships have resulted in numerous joint investigations both for illegal drug activity as well as the investigation of burglaries and thefts. One such drug investigation resulted in forty-two persons being indicted on federal methamphetamine charges which was one of the largest joint operations in East Tennessee history.

A close partnership with the District Attorney's Office is another method we use to help reduce crime. Sheriff's deputies and investigators work with the DA's Office on ensuring cases are properly prepared and ready for court.

A partnership with the Anderson County Board of Education has allowed eight sheriff's deputies to be assigned as school resource officers in our county school system. These SROs work every school day to protect our students and staff.

In addition, since 2006, the Sheriff's Department has reinstated DARE classes to the 5th grade students in the Anderson County Schools. We are also now teaching DARE to the 5th and 6th grade students at the Clinch River Community School.

The most recent joint partnership is with the District Attorney's Office and the Anderson County, Clinton, and Oak Ridge School Systems in a program designed to protect our children from online predators. An investigator has been trained and has the technology and tools to seek out, arrest, and prosecute those who would do harm to our children.

These successful efforts in reducing crime and providing quality law enforcement services are from the hard work and dedication of the men and women serving with the Anderson County Sheriff's Department. It is through them the job gets done and they are to be commended for all they do on a daily basis.

We sincerely appreciate and thank the members of the Anderson County Sheriff's Department who work day-in and day-out serving and protecting the citizens of Anderson County. We are proud of the accomplishments and improvements that have been made and give the credit to those who are out doing the job each and every day.

Sheriff Paul White