

## **SHERIFF**

### ***OPERATION AND MISSION***

Kansas's law designates the Sheriff as the chief law enforcement officer in the County. Operating under this mandate, the Sheriff's Office provides complete law enforcement and maintenance of order services throughout the County, manages the County Jail, serves court orders and warrants issued through the District Courts, provides security services in the Courts and in other public facilities, and works closely with other law enforcement agencies in the delivery of patrol, investigations, communications, and forensic laboratory and other technical services.

The Sheriff's Office carries the primary responsibility for the training of law enforcement personnel in the County, and for the maintenance of criminal records and statistics. The Sheriff also maintains a strong program of Community Policing, and community educational activities, such as the Citizens Academies.

Persons being held for criminal trial or under sentence of the District Courts are detained in the County's two Adult Detention Centers under direction of the Sheriff. The facilities are staffed with sworn officers to ensure that all persons incarcerated are provided with safe, secure and humane treatment consistent with applicable standards, laws, and judicial decisions.

### ***INTERACTION AND ADJACENCIES***

The executive and administrative offices of the Sheriff are maintained in the County Courthouse to ensure public access and transparency, and to facilitate interaction at the highest level with the Courts and the District Attorney.

Other primary interactions and adjacencies are listed as follows:

- Clerk of the District Courts
- Court Services
- District Attorney
- Emergency Communications
- Justice Information Management Systems
- Department of Corrections
- Public areas of County facilities
- Municipal law enforcement agencies
- Facilities Management



### *FACTORS INFLUENCING CHANGE*

- Continued coordination and operational integration of law enforcement operations across the County.
- Increasing demand for security services in County and other public facilities.
- Continued coordination and operational integration of communications and emergency management systems.
- Development of an advanced technology Criminalistics Laboratory.
- Continued development of Community Corrections treatment programs and capacity.
- Continued demand for detention beds exceeding available capacity.
- Reduced availability of out-placement capacity for County detainees.
- Delayed development of State Prison capacity.

### *SPECIAL NEEDS*

- Identification and acquisition of technically advanced systems for Crime Lab development.
- Additional facilities for management of departmental property, recovered property, and evidence.
- Provision of appropriate structural and HVAC environments for advanced communications and data management systems.
- Duplicate facilities for executive personnel at Operations Center and Courthouse.
- Continued cost-effective placement for radio broadcast equipment.

### *CURRENT CONDITIONS*

The Sheriff's Office occupies parts of the Courthouse, Crime Lab space at the Northeast Office Building (NEOF) and all of three other major County buildings: the Adult Detention Center across from the Courthouse in downtown Olathe, the new Adult Detention Center at the Fred Allenbrand Criminal Justice Complex (FACJC) at New Century Airport, and the Sheriff's Operations Center, also at FACJC. In addition the Sheriff uses and maintains several of the older NORAD buildings and two small newly constructed buildings at FACJC, as well as the County's main radio antenna, located at the County Farm site, and smaller radio antenna placements at five other sites. The Sheriff also provides security services at the Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center (JIAC) and a presence at Court Services.

The Sheriff's facilities at the Courthouse occupy areas of the basement and first floor that were constructed, renovated, and re-renovated, over a long period of time. Indeed, a more or less continuous process of renovation is on going at this time. Consequently, there is little standardization of materials and systems, and both functional and spatial



adequacies are subject to severe compromise in many instances. Provisions for secure prisoner access to courtrooms are circuitous and perhaps even dangerous, and some courtrooms presently used for criminal cases cannot be reached by defendants in custody without the use of the public corridors. Office space in use by the executive, administrative and fiscal components of the Sheriff's operations are being used at the absolute limit of their capacity, and spaces allocated to property storage and distribution, and for JIMS training, are completely inadequate.

Law enforcement operations are deployed from the new (1999) Operations Center at the FACJC. The building was programmed and designed in 1996 with the participation of a "Transition Team", and so provides adequately for the functions housed both in terms of space allocations (quantity) and appropriate materials and systems (quality). The only areas in any way stressed at present are those allocated to the receiving and holding of property. Otherwise, no modifications of the facility within the plan period are anticipated.

The two jails, particularly the newer facility at the airport, are state-of-the-art structures, incorporating most if not all the lessons learned in jail design since the Clearinghouse. Both facilities are designated an Adult Detention Center (ADC), being distinguished from each other by location, and both are in excellent condition and well maintained. The downtown jail, ADC/Olathe, came on line in 1987 with 270 beds in an assortment of pod sizes and supervision modes appropriate to the mixed population including both men and women in the complete range of custody classes. The newer (1999) ADC at the airport site provides 263 beds, including five 48 bed direct supervision pods for minimum and medium custody occupancy, plus two smaller pods for medical and high security (segregation) use, and the design of the facility has a core capacity sufficient to accommodate an additional 250 beds. All the capacity in both facilities is designed for one occupant, meeting the 35 unencumbered sq ft requirement of ACA accreditation standards. During peaks above the single-cell capacity, which occur frequently now, the Sheriff accommodates the excess in "boats" in the day space. Expansion of the Jail at New Century (Phase II) has been approved with construction to begin during the 4th quarter of 2007 and completion during the 2nd quarter 2009. This new addition will house another 554 inmates in a combination of 9 single cell housing units and 6 multi-occupancy cell units. These two phases are part a long term construction to include two additional jails (Phase III and Phase IV) and are planned to occur at the FACJC after 2010. It is anticipated for each phase to house any additional 752 inmates in a variety of cell configurations.

Funding has been approved for the construction of a new 51,000 square foot full service Crime Lab with the ability to expand this new building to 67,000 square feet. Currently the Crime Lab occupies 10,000 square feet of the NEOF Building.

