# LEA Report

### Law Enforcement Authority

03 Quarterly 2024 Report

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### **Quarry Fire Response**

On July 28, Jefferson County experienced a significant wildfire in Deer Creek Canyon. The fire was discovered by a patrol deputy around 9 p.m. while on regular patrol. Over the course of 10 days, the Quarry Fire grew to just under 600 acres. While it was a relatively small wildfire, it was one of several burning in Colorado at the time, leaving us with limited resources. Hundreds of homes were threatened and the landscape was full of hazards. From steep slopes, rocky terrain, and soaring temperatures, to mountain lions, bears, and rattlesnakes—



Crews working the Quarry Fire gathered each morning to assess the fire and make a plan

firefighters on the fire line put themselves at risk to keep our community safe.

Surrounding homes were evacuated for more than a week, and residents relied on the JCSO to provide timely, accurate, and comprehensive information. The Jeffco Incident Management Team, the Emergency Operations Center, and many county and JCSO staff worked non-stop alongside first responder agencies from Colorado and throughout the country. We are forever grateful for the amazing work done by everyone involved.

### **New Technology Helps Us "Smell" Wildfires**

The JCSO Emergency Management Team received 20 new wildfire sensors that detect chemical changes in the air up to five miles away. Unlike traditional wildfire sensors which utilize a camera to detect smoke on the horizon, the sensors can alert us to a potential fire before smoke is even visible. Each device costs about \$2,500, which was covered by a grant from the Department of Homeland Security.

Emergency Management Manager Nathan Whittington (pictured right holding a sensor) was featured on 9News to speak about the sensors. He says the goal is to get even more

of these small boxes distributed throughout the county over time, and create a grid network of sensors that catch fires when they first start. The JCSO hopes to finalize locations and installation of the first 20 by the end of the year,

and begin using them in 2025.



### **Records Requests Now Online**

On September 23, the JCSO launched a new online records request system. Now, all requests for law enforcement records, including body worn camera video, will be done through an online portal called NextRequest.

This will help cut out paper copies and make requests easier, faster, and more streamlined. For requests with fees, you are able to pay online as well. For patrons with accessibility needs, the Records Unit will supply paper request forms, and the Records staff will manually input



their request into NextRequest on their behalf. The Records Unit will also provide iPads for requestors to submit their requests in person. Look for the NextRequest logo on our website to begin your request. More details are available at <a href="https://jeffcosheriff.co/RecordsRequest">https://jeffcosheriff.co/RecordsRequest</a>.

### Vision

Our vision is for Jefferson County to be a safe place for all people to live, learn, work, and play.

Mission

Protect, Serve, Enforce

### Values

Honest
Accountable
Excellence
Honor
Respect

### **Giving Inmates Tools for Success**

The Jefferson County Detentions Division recently partnered with a company called Edovo, to provide online access to classes and courses designed to help people get a high school diploma. The online classes prepare students for the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET) and the General Education Development (GED) exam. They are tested on their knowledge of math, science, social studies, and language arts. However, many other subjects are available to inmates beyond the basics.

From the inception of the program on June 12 through September 30, inmates completed 2,805 courses over 13,300 hours! On average, participating inmates spent a little over 10 hours in class. The top courses sought out by inmates include traditional math classes, but also courses in legal studies, behavioral changes, job seeking, and substance abuse recovery. More classes are added by Edovo to the online platform on a regular basis, giving students an even larger variety of courses.

### The Story of Artemis

Back in April, in the middle of the night, a dog was abandoned and left at Foothills Animal

Shelter. Severely emaciated and weighing only 18 pounds, the pup couldn't stand up on her own. When Animal Control Officer Kylie Rupe responded to the shelter to begin an investigation, she looked into the eyes of the pup and immediately placed a hold on her.

The dog had an incredible will to live and when she was well enough to leave, Rupe fostered her. In August, Rupe became her forever family and gave her the name Artemis.



Artemis is the goddess of the hunt, bounty, and wild animals. Rupe picked the name, because the scrawny 1½-year-old dog went from almost starving to death, to never having to worry about hunger again.



Now, Artemis is at her goal weight of 45 pounds and learning for the first time how to be a dog. Just one example of the extraordinary care given to animals by our Animal Control officers.

With the help of JCSO criminal investigators, they were able to track down the neglectful owner in Denver, and handed the case over to Denver Police, who charged them with animal cruelty.



### Authorized Sworn Personnel

Sheriff	1
Undersheriff	1
Division Chief	4
Commander	20
Sergeant	55
Deputy Sheriff Investigator	45
Deputy Sheriff POST and Dept. Certified	409
TOTAL	535

### Staffing the JCSO

As of September 30, the JCSO was considered 94% staffed with sworn personnel (503 out of 535) and 90% staffed with professional personnel.

The attrition rates this quarter were 12.73% for professional staff and 6.42% for sworn staff. Generally, an attrition rate between 5-10% is considered low and healthy.

In the third quarter, the overall vacancy rate for sworn personnel was 6%. The ideal vacancy rate is 5% or less. The table on the right illustrates third quarter staffing.

Staff	Sworn	Professional	Total
Funded	535	252	787
Actual	503	227	730
Total Unfilled	32	25	57

### **Priority One Calls**

A priority one call is a "call for service which is critical or in-progress, where immediate intervention is required to avert personal injury, or where prompt arrival is necessary to affect

criminal apprehension."



		July	Aug	Sept
Mountain Precinct	Priority One Calls Received	46	38	38
	Average Response Time*	00:10:27	00:12:40	00:11:17
	Target Response Time	0:10:00	0:10:00	0:10:00
North Precinct	Priority One Calls Received	56	67	58
	Average Response Time	00:08:37	00:11:22	00:15:20
	Target Response Time	0:07:00	0:07:00	0:07:00
South Precinct	Priority One Calls Received	130	128	145
	Average Response Time	00:06:32	00:08:20	00:08:08
	Target Response Time	0:05:00	0:05:00	0:05:00
	Total Priority One Calls	232	233	241

<sup>\*</sup>Average Response Time: the time from the first 911 call to arrival on scene.

### **Emergency Management**

The Office of Emergency Management hosted the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Integrated Emergency Management Course (IEMC) from September 23 to 26. The IEMC combined classroom lectures, discussions, small-group sessions, and exercise -based training designed to expose participants to new ideas, increasing their awareness of the coordination needed during an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activation. (Examples are wildfires, floods, severe weather storms, etc.). Approximately 100 participants from the County and external partner agencies came together to build inter-agency



awareness, leadership, and communication skills needed to develop, refine, and implement policies, plans, procedures, and mutual aid agreements in a whole-community environment. Jefferson County was one of 12 applicants nationwide to be selected for this unique opportunity. Keynote

speakers included Sheriff Marinelli, Commissioner Lesley Dahlkemper, Commissioner Andy Kerr, and FEMA Region 8 Administrator Nancy Dragani.

### **Crime Prevention & Education**

### **Crime Prevention**

Crime Prevention Deputy Mark Bybee addresses citizen concerns and shares vital information with the public through on-site visits, public presentations, tours, special events, Nextdoor.com notifications, and other opportunities. Highlights from the third quarter:

- Attended 16 community events
- Coordinated JCSO involvement in 22 National Night Out events
- Managed 50 citizen inquiries
- Conducted one Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) survey
- Presented at 11 HOA/community meetings

Deputy Bybee showing off his police car to a future member of the team!

Report Type

Aug

Sept

#### School Resource Officers

School Resource Officers (SRO) are embedded within schools in Jefferson County for the duration of each school year to provide security, safety, resources, and guidance to students and staff. The table to the right reflects activities during the third quarter, which includes part of the summer break.

0 3 25 Felony Misdemeanor 3 7 4 Incident 3 35 70 Supplemental 5 8 5 Total 11 53 104 Added to these numbers. School 0 52 17 Presentations Safe2Tell 55 66 163

are the total number of calls received through Safe2Tell. The Safe2Tell hotline

provides a confidential, anonymous platform for individuals, particularly students, to report concerns related to safety and well-being without fear of retaliation. It allows law enforcement, schools, and communities to respond quickly to potential risks, enabling them to address issues before they escalate into more serious situations.

Your 2024 JCSO School Resource Officers

### **Detention Facility**

The Detentions Division provides housing, security, and physical and mental health services for inmates, as well as programs to reduce recidivism and set individuals up for success upon release. The jail houses offenders awaiting court appearances, being transported to another detention facility, or sentenced to serve their time at the county jail. The table below includes jail statistics from the third quarter:

DETENTION FACILITY	July	Aug	Sept
Average Males Housed	717	734	717
Average Females Housed	142	163	148
Transgender-Specific Intake Totals*	4	9	5
ADA-Specific Intake Totals*	19	17	22
Narcan Incidents*	2	2	2
Total Intake	1,436	1,488	1,239
Total Released	1,453	1,452	1,280

- \*Transgender People who self-identify as other than their biological sex during the intake process.
- \*ADA We provide accommodations for all disabilities: hearing, vision, movement, etc.
- \*Narcan Incidents Inmates who were unresponsive and given at least one dose of Narcan. Narcan has no negative side effects and does not cause any further harm to someone suffering from an unrelated medical emergency.

### CAC/CHEEZO New Cases

July	45
August	35
September	46

## Third Quarter Runaway Cases

New Cases Assigned	37
Cases Closed	39
Cases Open	0

### Sex Offender Statistics

In the third quarter, the Records Unit maintained over 350 sex offender records and verified 58 addresses. Per HB 21-1064, juveniles meeting certain eligibility requirements are now automatically deregistered from the database.

New Registrations	57
Re-registrations	148
De-registrations	38



### **Crimes/Internet Crimes Against Children**

The Child Sex Offender Internet Investigations Unit, known as Cheezo, is at the forefront of the Sheriff's Office commitment to ensure the safety of our children. Predators use the internet as a gateway to victims because of the anonymity and the ability to lure children with minimal detection and apprehension.

In early August, a man was arrested in Idaho for a disturbing series of online communications with underage girls throughout multiple states. The investigation began with the JCSO Cheezo Unit in May, when 34-year-old Michael Hendren of Idaho made contact with Jeffco investigators portraying underage teen females on social media. When investigators tracked the alleged predator to Idaho, law enforcement there took the case and potentially connected Hendren to cases in Idaho, New Jersey, Arizona, and Hawaii. The FBI also investigated Hendren for similar child exploitation accusations in Montana in 2022. Hendren was arrested on a \$1 million bond for 10 felony charges related to sexual exploitation of children over the internet.



Michael Hendren (Mug shot from Lewiston, ID)

### **Family Crimes**

In the third quarter, the Family Crimes Unit was assigned 81 cases: 29 cases in July, 19 in August, and 33 in September. Of the 81 cases, 37 were domestic violence (DV) related incidents, 27 rose to the level of DV felony, with 12 assault cases, and three cases involved acts of strangulation. There were 13 arrests in the third quarter. Some notable cases:

In July, a woman was walking to her car when her ex-husband approached as if he were going to hug her and instead, put her in a headlock that caused strangulation. The victim already had a protection order in place against the suspect, which was issued for a prior strangulation case in another county. A warrant was issued for the suspect for 1st degree assault (DV). He was located and arrested in Colorado Springs by the JCSO Fugitive Unit and the El Paso County Fugitive Unit.

On September 15, deputies responded to a domestic call where the suspect kicked in the front door of his ex-girlfriend's house, tearing it from its hinges. He then reportedly threatened the roommate of his ex-girlfriend, accusing them of having an affair. The suspect fled before deputies arrived, however, he was later located and picked up by Greenwood Village Police. He was booked on suspicion of Second Degree Burglary (DV) and Criminal Mischief (DV).

### **Victim Services Unit**

The Victim Services Unit (VSU) provides respectful care to victims of crime and trauma. Specialized counselors and volunteer victim advocates respond to calls 24-hours a day, 365 days a year. In the third quarter, the VSU was assigned 724 cases and responded to 517 calls including: 239 in-person callouts; 223 immediate phone responses; 1 attempted homicide; 54 deaths (suicide & unattended deaths).

In September, the 5th grade Dakota Ridge Football Team donated 15 bears to our Deputy Hugs program. The team donated because "they want any kid or person who is ever hurt or scared to know



that people care about them." Deputy Hugs bears are given to victims of crime to provide comfort in times of crisis. More details on the program at <a href="https://www.jeffco.us/1193/Victim-Services">https://www.jeffco.us/1193/Victim-Services</a>

### **Traffic Summonses**

Summonses include those issued by the Traffic Unit and Patrol for Model Traffic Code violations or state violations.

Summonses	3rd Quarter
2023	2,150
2024	2,297

### **Traffic Operations**

The primary goal of the JCSO Traffic Unit is to reduce traffic accidents involving fatalities and injury. Each month, the Traffic Unit provides the Patrol Division with strategic deployment recommendations based on monthly crash analysis. In addition, the Traffic Unit assisted with evacuations and operations for the Quarry and Goltra Fires; participated in eight community events/parades; led two processions for a fallen Arvada firefighter; participated in and helped organize the MC-1 Honor Run (see photo below).

### **Speed Mitigation Grant**

A federal speed mitigation grant allows for additional hours of enforcement along Highway 93 and Highway 285. The table illustrates third quarter results for the grant activity.

Speed Mitigation Grant	July	Aug	Sept
Time Dedicated (in hours)	135	48	108
Summonses	309	111	251

## Quarter 3JulyAugSeptTotal DUI Arrests242716

Crash Type	July	Aug	Sept
Fatal	1	1	0
Injury	30	25	21
Property	150	165	95
Total	181	191	116

#### **DUI Arrests**

The JCSO receives federal grant funding for DUI enforcement to increase traffic safety. Efforts of regular patrol operations, along with specific DUI enforcement, resulted in 67 DUI arrests in the third guarter.

#### Crash Data

The top three common causal factors for fatal and injury crashes in the third quarter remain speed, inattentive driving, and DUI.



Each year, Deputy Mark Miller (right) and the JCSO Traffic Unit help host the MC-1 Run; an annual bike ride to raise money for first responders injured in the line of duty. This year's recipient was South Adams County Firefighter Ryan Applegate (middle). Applegate was hit by a DUI driver last December. The MC-1 Foundation was created in memory of JCSO Sgt. Dave Baldwin. To date, the foundation has given over \$400,000 to injured first responders.

### **Focus Crimes**

In Jefferson County, property crimes such as residential and commercial burglaries, motor vehicle trespasses, and motor vehicle theft are crimes we categorize as "focus crimes." Often, we find that the same person(s) commits more than one of these crimes, and when these crimes are studied, we learn patterns of behavior. Therefore, we expend considerable effort reviewing focus crimes that are of great concern and impact to the community.

The Patrol and Criminal Investigations Divisions research occurrences of focus crimes to determine if there are similarities that would indicate a spree or a crime series involving the same suspect or suspects. Studying these trends helps us to better anticipate and prepare for responses with the intent to apprehend suspects who may be responsible for multiple offenses.



Third Quarter	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Burglary	159	118	103	124	73	95
Theft from Motor Vehicle	281	257	230	190	184	121
Motor Vehicle Theft	95	124	157	151	85	97

### **Notable Law Enforcement Activity**

### **Rocks Thrown at Moving Cars**

Between July 19 and August 4, unknown suspects were involved in a series of six incidents in which rocks were thrown at moving vehicles from a suspect vehicle traveling in the opposite direction. All incidents occurred in south Jeffco in the late evening or early morning hours. All six cars suffered body damage from the rocks, but no injuries were reported. In one case, a rock struck the hood of a car and bounced into the windshield, shattering it. The suspect vehicle has been described as a smaller, four-door sedan. The investigation is ongoing.



Ryan Trujillo-Falcon

### **Homicide at Cemetery**

JCSO and Wheat Ridge Police were dispatched to Crown Hill Cemetery on August 17 regarding a shooting. Law enforcement quickly located a male victim with a gunshot wound and a woman who had suffered non-life threatening injuries. Both victims were transported to an area hospital, where the male was pronounced deceased and the female was treated for her injuries and released.

During a search of the cemetery, a suspect was located. The suspect is identified as 23-year-old Ryan Trujillo-Falcon. He was arrested on suspicion of 1st degree murder and 2nd degree assault. The investigation revealed that a group of acquaintances gathered at the cemetery to visit the gravesite of a friend. At some point, an altercation broke out, leading to an assault and subsequent shooting.



### **Juvenile Shot by Property Owner**

On September 10, deputies responded to a trespassing report in the 23000 block of Pleasant Park Road after a homeowner, who was not home, saw two trespassers on her surveillance camera. Before deputies arrived, the homeowner's boyfriend, Brent Metz, confronted the two trespassers who had returned to their car. Metz pointed a gun at the windshield and fired the weapon. The 17-year old driver was struck through the windshield, causing serious injuries to his face. The juveniles were looking for a place to take homecoming pictures and were in the process of leaving a note seeking permission. Metz was arrested on suspicion of 1st degree assault, felony menacing, illegal firearm discharge, and reckless endangerment.

### **4 Suspects In Custody for Attempted Murder**

Four men are in custody, accused of attempted first degree murder for their roles in kidnapping and torturing a fellow housemate in the 4700 block of South Oak Court. Deputies were first alerted to the incident on September 16 after hospital staff reported a male patient who claimed to have been tied up and tortured over a 14-hour period.

The victim, a 45-year old man, sustained injuries stemming from being tied up, beaten, burned, and whipped. He also suffered serious bodily injury after one of the suspects stepped on his neck, applying enough pressure to cause him to lose consciousness. An uninvolved person who was in the house was eventually able to help the victim get out and get him to the hospital.

The owner of the home, 49-year old Jason Carlson, was arrested on suspicion of attempted 1st degree murder, 2nd degree kidnapping, and 1st and 2nd degree assault. The three other suspects associated with the address were also arrested on suspicion of similar charges. They are 48-year old Sherell Allen, 41-year old Luke Anaya, and 39-year old Jimmy Ray Smith II. All are being held on cash-only bonds, originally ranging from \$150,000 to \$500,000.











(Left to right)
Jason Carlson
Sherell Allen
Luke Anaya
Jimmy Ray Smith II

### **Crime Statistics**

Third quarter crime statistics are reported in NIBRS, the National Incident Based Reporting System. This system is a more inclusive method for collecting and standardizing crime data from law enforcement agencies, and is used by most other agencies in Colorado. The data is accurate as of the release of this report, however numbers are subject to change.

		Ti di							
	C	RIME TYPE	Breakouts	3Q19	3Q20	3Q21	3Q22	3Q23	3Q24
		Murder		0	1	0	1	0	1
		Negligent Manslaughter		0	0	0	0	0	0
	ins	Kidnapping		5	1	11	4	17	5
	Aga son	Sex Offenses		32	26	49	44	42	42
	C - I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	Aggravated	70	82	91	71	58	52	
		Assault	Simple	254	189	314	277	286	207
	၁		Intimidation	17	41	40	16	25	44
		Human Trafficking		0	0	0	0	0	0
		TOTAL		378	340	505	413	428	351
		Arson		2	8	7	7	5	22
		Extortion		0	8	18	13	22	20
		Burglary		159	118	103	124	73	95
		Robbery		5	4	6	10	4	8
			Coin-Operated Machine	0	2	1	0	1	1
ses		Theft	From Motor Vehicle	281	257	230	190	184	121
en	inst	111011	Vehicle Parts	49	67	104	126	51	45
5	mes Agai Property		Other Larceny	272	197	157	195	168	145
ρA	ope	Motor Vehicle Theft		95	124	157	151	85	97
Group A Offenses	Crimes Against Property	Counterfeiting		24	15	27	22	13	30
Ē	ū	Fraud	False Pretenses	64	52	53	27	40	45
			ATM	52	64	70	42	25	30
			Impersonation	34	50	6	10	7	13
		5.11	Wire Fraud	22	23	65	45	13	9
		Bribery		0	0	0	0	0	0
		Identity Theft		33	101	68	69	114	75
		Vandalism		361	391	386	411	305	237
		TOTAL		1453	1481	1458	1442	1110	993
		Drugs		133	54	104	103	117	80
	Crimes Against Society	Pornography		19	19	35 0	20 3	15	18 0
	Criir Nga Soc	Prostitution Animal Cruelty		1 11	0 5	3	1	10	4
		Weapons Violations		21	18	14	15	24	23
		TOTAL		185	96	156	142	167	125
		GROUP A TOTAL		2016	1917	2119	1997	1705	1469
		Bad Checks		0	0	0	0	0	0
Sa		Disorderly Conduct		22	17	9	14	11	15
sue	_	DUI		86	26	42	41	47	57
Group B Offenses	Other	Family Offenses – Non-Violent		9	4	3	6	7	3
B (	Liquor Law Violation		38	16	22	30	12	15	
dne	Trespass Real Property All Other Offenses			26	19	21	12	15	17
Gro				574	184	324	119	69	66
0.07	<i>y</i>	GROUP B TOTAL		755	266	421	222	161	173
		OVERALL TOTAL		2771	2183	2540	2219	1866	1642
		OVERALL TOTAL		2//1	2183	2540	2219	1866	1642

- ID Theft in 2020: Fraudulent unemployment insurance claims trending up in 3Q 2020, peaking in 1Q 2021.
- Vehicle Parts includes catalytic converters, license plates, etc.
- Group B—All Other Offenses includes things like harassment, failure to register, contempt of court, indecent exposure, etc.