



SOUTH CAROLINA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY &
LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Law Enforcement, Criminal and Civil Justice
Subcommittee

Chairman Chris Wooten

The Honorable William H. Bailey

The Honorable Kambrell H. Garvin

The Honorable Leon Douglas “Doug” Gilliam

The Honorable Jefferey E. “Jeff” Johnson

A G E N D A

Wednesday, August 20, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Room 105 – Gressette Building

- I. Approval of Minutes
- II. Discussion of the study of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division
- III. Adjournment



**SOUTH CAROLINA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY &
LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

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Research Analyst	Research Analyst	

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Room 228 Blatt Building

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, July 30, 2025
10:30 a.m.
Room 516 – Blatt Building

Archived Video Available

- I. Pursuant to House Legislative Oversight Committee Rule 6.7, South Carolina ETV was allowed access for streaming the meeting. You may access an archived video of this meeting by visiting the South Carolina General Assembly’s website (<http://www.scstatehouse.gov>) and clicking on Committee Postings and Reports, then under House Standing Committees click on Legislative Oversight. Then, click on Video Archives for a listing of archived videos for the Committee.

Attendance

The Law Enforcement and Criminal and Civil Justice Subcommittee meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Wooten on Wednesday, July 30, 2025, in Room 516 of the Blatt Building. Representative Leon D. “Doug” Gilliam, and Representative William H. Bailey were present for all or a portion of the meeting. Representative Jeffrey E. “Jeff” Johnson and Representative Kambrell H. Garvin were not in attendance.

Minutes

- I. House Rule 4.5 requires standing committees to prepare and make available to the public the minutes of committee meetings, but the minutes do not have to be verbatim accounts of meetings.

Approval of Minutes

- I. Representative Gilliam made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from prior meeting. A roll call vote was held, and the motion passed.

Rep. Garvin's motion to approve meeting minutes.	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Wooten	✓		
Rep. Johnson			✓
Rep. Garvin			✓
Rep. Gilliam	✓		
Rep. Bailey	✓		

Discussion of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

- I. Prior to beginning today's testimony, Chair Wooten asks if there are any agency representatives who may address the subcommittee today or at future meetings who have not been placed under oath. Captain Matt Downey, Vice Special Operations and Interdiction Unit; Captain William B. Keller, Arson Unit; Lieutenant Aubrey Richardson, III, Bomb Squad and Counterterrorism Drive Unit; and Lieutenant Catherine Powell, Protective Services Emergency Management Unit, were all sworn.
- II. Captain Matt Downey then begins his presentation to the subcommittee and discusses the following topics:
 1. Vice Special Operations and Investigations.

Throughout his presentation to the subcommittee, Members ask Captain Downey questions and he responds.

- III. Major Stewart Robertson begins his presentation to the subcommittee and discusses the following topics:
 1. Overview of SLED Counterterrorism Unit.

Throughout her presentation to the subcommittee, Members ask Major Robertson questions and she responds.

IV. Captain William B. Keller begins his presentation to the subcommittee and discusses the following topics:

1. SLED Arson Investigations Unit.

Throughout his presentation to the subcommittee, Members ask Captain Keller questions and he responds.

Adjournment

- I. There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned.

STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION (SLED)



ABOUT

On May 14, 1935, the General Assembly created the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division to enforce the state liquor law, assist any law enforcement officer in the detection of crime, along with the enforcement of the state's criminal laws. Funding was provided for 21 new officers to the existing three members of the State Constabulary.

MISSION

The primary mission of SLED is to provide quality manpower and technical assistance to all law enforcement agencies in South Carolina to ensure that every citizen in the State of South Carolina is afforded an equal level of law enforcement service. SLED is also tasked with protecting and preserving the safety, integrity, and security of South Carolina's citizens and all statewide public resources, infrastructure, and data. SLED also conducts timely, thorough, and professional criminal investigations on behalf of the State of South Carolina along with many other statutory roles and responsibilities.

VISION

SLED seeks to be the premier law enforcement agency in the State of South Carolina so as to ensure every citizen in South Carolina is provided an equal level of law enforcement services.

SUCSESSES

- ❖ Experienced staff with a wide range of talents capable of handling a variety of tasks and projects.
- ❖ Collaboration and coordination with regional and federal counterparts to provide the highest quality of service.
- ❖ Personnel's dedication, ability and involvement in the law enforcement profession as subject matter experts in their own individual areas of expertise.
- ❖ Commitment to maintaining accreditation to ensure law enforcement partners have access to the best forensic analysis possible.

DEPARTMENTS

- ❖ Alcohol, Narcotics & Vice Services
- ❖ Criminal Justice Information Services
- ❖ South Carolina Information and Intelligence Center
- ❖ Counterterrorism
- ❖ Forensic Services
- ❖ Homeland Security
- ❖ Investigative Services
- ❖ Regulatory Services

EMPLOYEES

758

Authorized FTEs

FUNDING

\$148,137,395

Total Funds

CHALLENGES

- ❖ Personnel turnover
- ❖ Succession planning issues
- ❖ Reliance on others and outside factors causing a delay in case progress.
- ❖ High volume of plant material testing cases has caused a time delay in receiving results.
- ❖ Continued use of an outdated case management system.



BOMB SQUAD & COUNTERTERRORISM DIVE UNIT

House Oversight Committee

Lieutenant Aubrey P. Richardson III

Bomb & CDU



SLED's ROLE & RESPONSIBILITY

SECTION 23-3-15

- (A)(1): the investigation of organized criminal activities or combined state-federal interstate criminal activities, all general criminal investigations, arson investigation and emergency event management pertaining to explosive devices;
- (A)(8): the coordination of counter terrorism efforts, including prevention against, preparation for, response to, and crisis management of acts of terrorism, in or affecting this State; coordination of federal grants associated with homeland security; creation of councils appropriate to its mission; and service as the Governor's representative to the United States Department of Homeland Security;

SLED BOMB SQUAD



OVERVIEW

- The SLED Bomb Squad responds to all types of explosives - related calls for service, such as; improvised explosive devices (IED's), Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) missions, explosives recoveries, military ordnance, bomb threats, and pyrotechnics. The Bomb Squad also conducts routine proactive protective sweeps for special events, dignitary protection details, large gatherings, mass transit locations and other public safety venues. The Bomb Squad provides support and technical training to Federal, State and local law enforcement / public safety agencies in South Carolina and throughout the United States.
- The SLED Bomb Squad consists of team members certified as; Underwater Hazardous Device Technicians (UHDTs), Tactical Bomb Technicians (TBTs), Explosive Detection Canine Handlers (EDCs), Explosive Breachers, and subject matter experts (SMEs) in numerous specialized areas throughout the explosives industry.

SLED BOMB SQUAD



OVERVIEW

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has assigned SLED a Target Staffing Level (TSL) of 12 Public Safety Bomb Technicians.

- The SLED Bomb Squad is currently compromised of 11 total personnel: 1 Lieutenant, 1 Bomb Squad Commander, and 9 Agents throughout the State and all are paired with an EDC.
- Agents are divided into 4 geographical regions, which allows for quicker response times.
 - The regions are staffed as follows:
 - 5 in the Midlands (including the Bomb Squad Commander)
 - 2 in the Upstate
 - 2 in the Lowcountry
 - 2 in the Pee Dee (including the Bomb Squad Lieutenant)

SLED BOMB SQUAD

AGENTS



- Lieutenant Aubrey Richardson: 14 Years LE, 5 Years at SLED, 6 Years as Bomb Technician
- Bomb Squad Commander Joshua Duerkop: 11 Years Total LE, 6 Years at SLED, 6 Years Bomb Technician
- Senior Special Agent Robert “BJ” Foster: 20 Years Total LE, 10 Years at SLED, 14 Years Bomb Technician
- Counterterrorism Dive Unit Team Leader Daniel Weaver: 18 Years LE, 4 Years at SLED, 8 Years Bomb Technician
- Senior Special Agent David Gulley: 16 Years LE, 9 Years at SLED, 1 Years Bomb Technician
- Special Agent Lee Webb: 11 Years LE, 2 Year at SLED, 4 Years Bomb Technician
- Special Agent Keenan Johnson: 10 Years LE, 2 Years at SLED, 4 Years as Bomb Technician
- Special Agent Joel Stewart: 12 Years LE, 2 Years at SLED, 3 Years as Bomb Technician
- Special Agent Tyler Papp: 13 Years LE, 2 Years at SLED, 3 Years as Bomb Technician
- Special Agent Paul Myers: 22 Years LE, 1 Year at SLED, 4 Years as Bomb Technician
- Special Agent Dylan McCreery: 1 Year LE, <1 Year at SLED, 0 Years Bomb Technician (*4 years NAVY EOD)

SLED BOMB SQUAD



Average Service

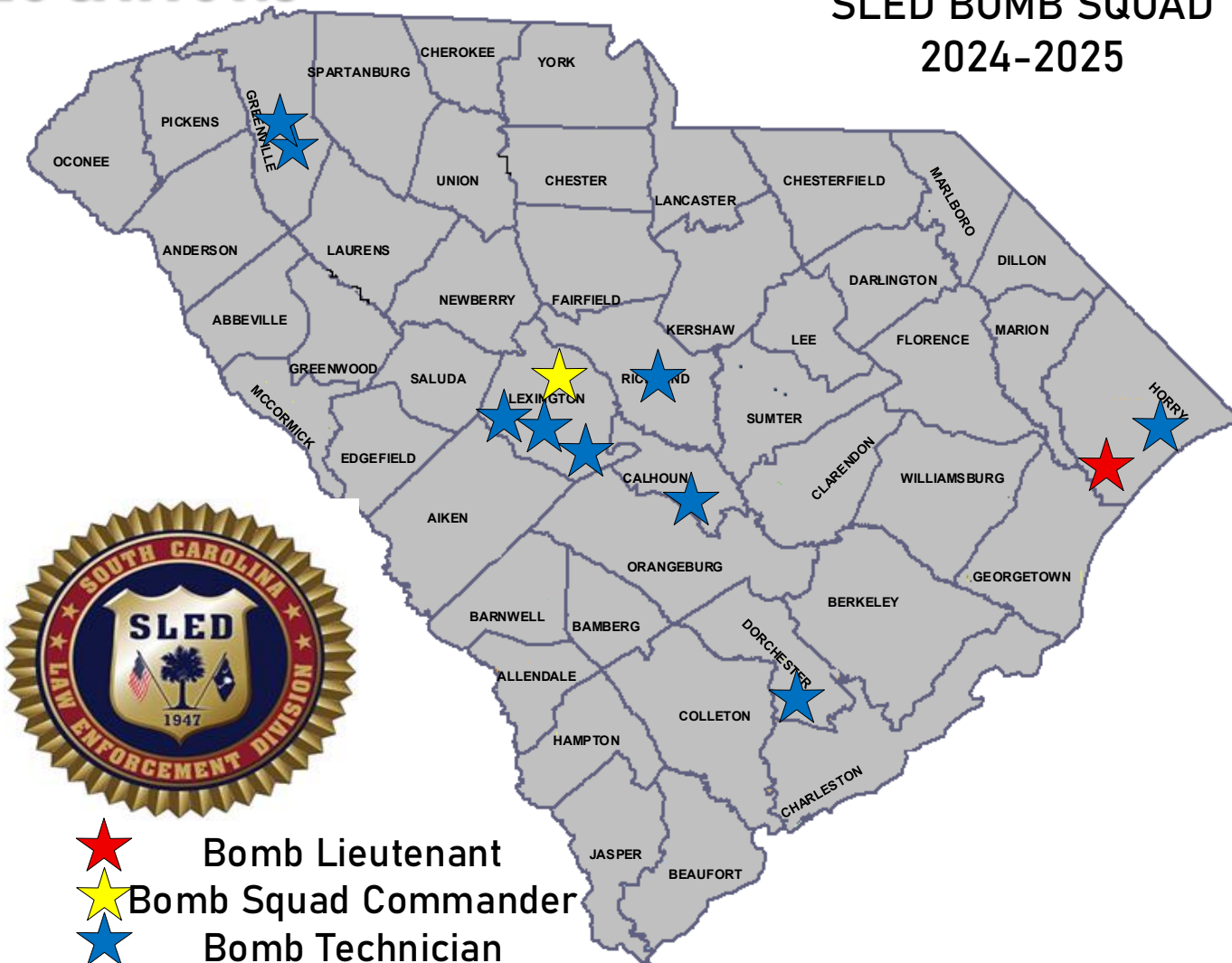
Average Years in Law Enforcement: 14 years

Average Years at SLED: 4 years

Average Years as Bomb Technician: 4.81 years

AGENT LOCATIONS

SLED BOMB SQUAD
2024-2025

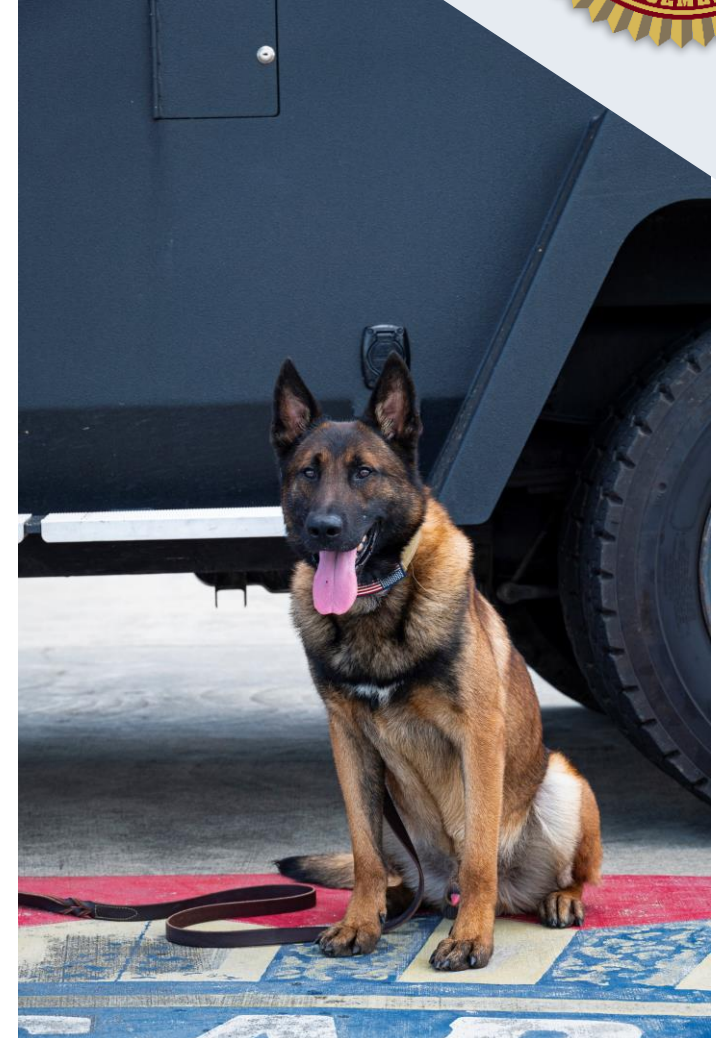
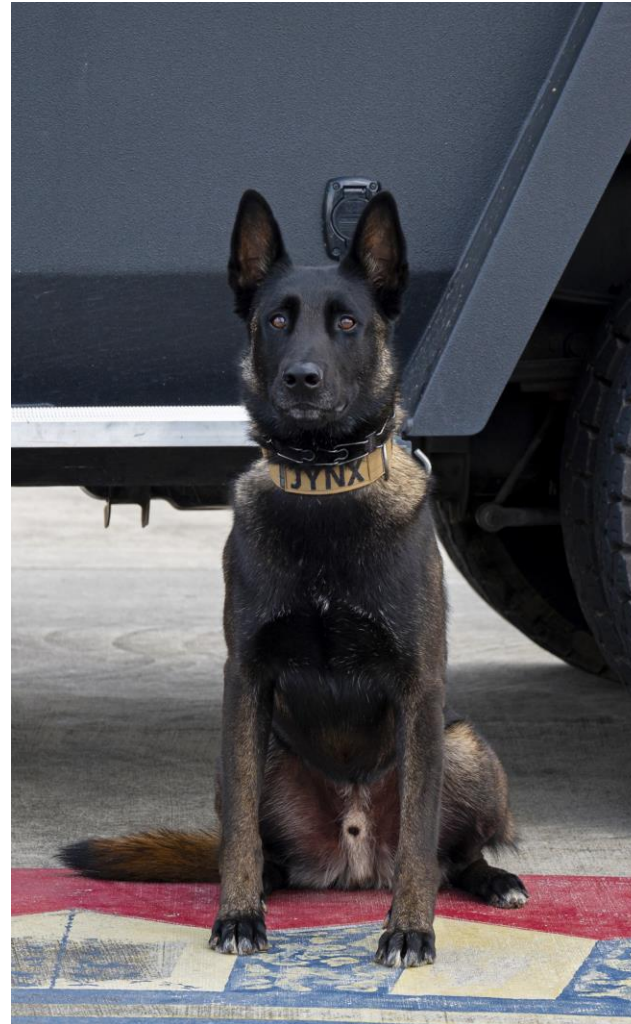


- ★ Bomb Lieutenant
- ★ Bomb Squad Commander
- ★ Bomb Technician

SLED BOMB SQUAD



SLED BOMB SQUAD Explosive Detection Canine (EDC)



SLED BOMB SQUAD



Initial Training and Continuing Education

- All personnel assigned to the Bomb Squad complete an initial two hundred and forty (240) hour U.S. Public Safety Bomb Technician course sponsored by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Hazardous Devices School (HDS) in Huntsville, Alabama which must be recertified every three (3) years.
- Each Public Safety Bomb Technician is responsible for a minimum of two hundred and forty (240) hours of continuing education each year (to include 40 hours of external training).
- **Total Training Hours July 2024 – June 2025:** 3,704 hours

SLED BOMB SQUAD



Additional Training and Certifications

- All SLED Bomb Squad Agents are also assigned an Explosive Detection Canine (EDC).
 - All canines are certified by the North American Police Working Dog Association (NAPWDA) yearly.
 - Agents and canines are responsible for a minimum of sixteen (16) hours of monthly training.
- All SLED Bomb Squad Agents are also certified as Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus (SCUBA) Divers and assigned to the SLED Counterterrorism Dive Unit (CDU).
 - SLED's CDU is one of only five (5) teams in the United States recognized by the FBI and the National Bomb Squad Commander's Advisory Board (NBSCAB) as an Underwater Hazardous Device Countermeasures Team, covering from VA/NC line to Jacksonville, FL.
 - SLED currently has three (3) certified Underwater Hazardous Devices Technicians (as of 06/2025) with one (1) Agent scheduled to complete the course in FY25-FY26.

SLED BOMB SQUAD



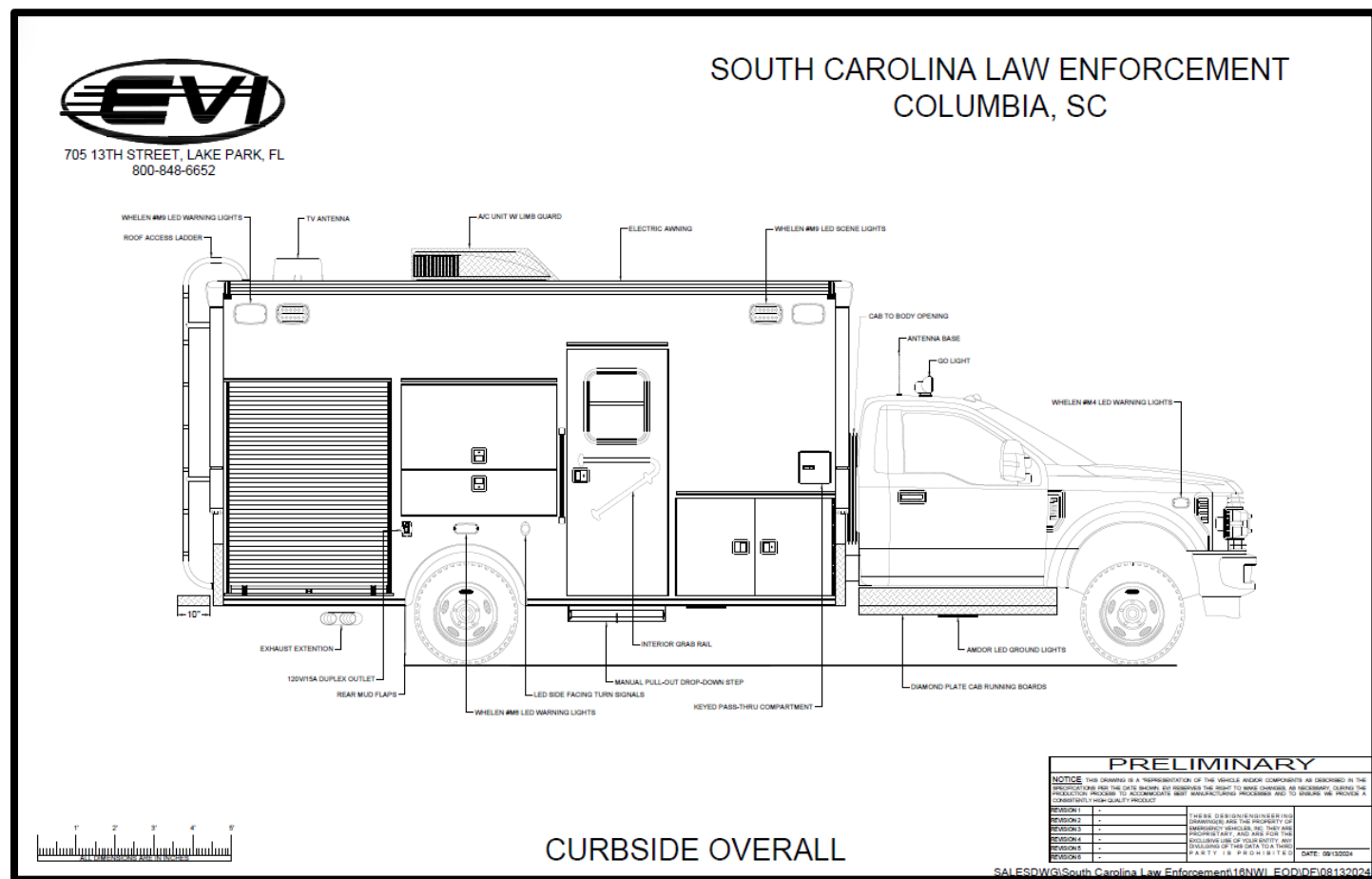
Specialized Equipment

- Multiple Fully NIJ Certified Public Safety Bomb Suits
- Multiple Robotic Platforms positioned throughout the State
- Multiple Digital Radiography (DR) X-Ray Systems
- Multiple Computed Radiography (CR) X-Ray Systems
- Three (3) Regional Response Trailers
- One (1) Custom Bomb Response Vehicle (*expected delivery FY2025-FY2026*)
 - *The funding for the Custom Bomb Response Vehicle was received in the FY24-25 Budget year.*
- One (1) WMD Capable - Total Containment Vessel
- The Bomb Unit also has a variety of CBRN detection equipment

SLED BOMB SQUAD



Custom Bomb Response Vehicle (expected delivery FY25-26)





SLED BOMB SQUAD

Large Robots

- Multiple Robots with an approximate cost of \$400,000/ each strategically located throughout the State.



SLED BOMB SQUAD



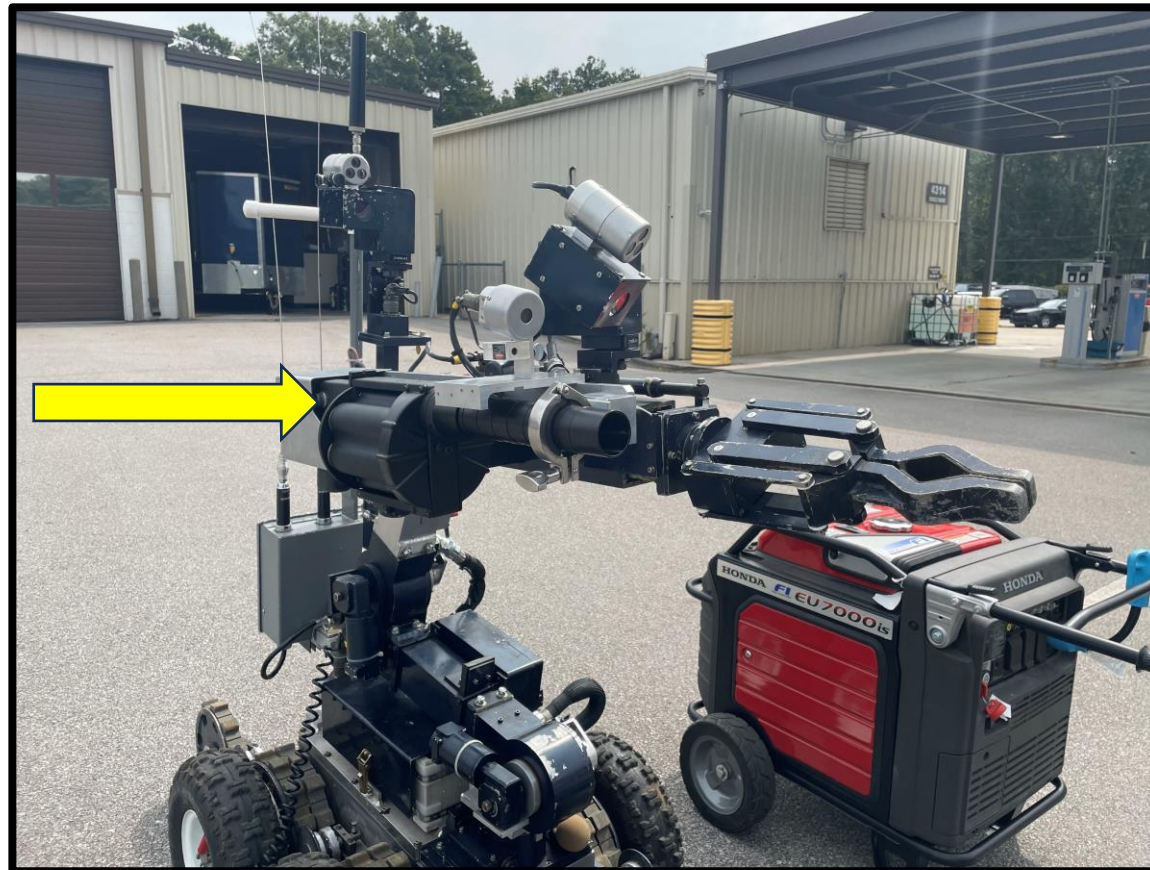
Robots

- SLED robots can be used for traditional explosive calls.
 - “Start Remote, Stay Remote”
- SLED robots have been deployed numerous times with the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team. Numerous robots have been damaged by gunfire during SWAT calls. On one occasion, a robot was completely destroyed during a SWAT call that resulted in a structure fire. There is no doubt that the use of this equipment has saved the lives of countless Agents and helped bring many of these situations to a peaceful resolution.
- **SLED Robots can be used to deliver lethal or less lethal munitions to include:** chemical irritant (CS), OC spray, and have 40mm kinetic impact capability.

SLED BOMB SQUAD



Robot with 40mm attachment



SLED BOMB SQUAD

Robot Damage

- Horry County PD SWAT Assist.
- The suspect fired at police officers from a barricaded position inside the residence. The robot was sent to locate the suspect but was shot on the stairs. The suspect set the house on fire and the robot was unable to be retrieved before being consumed in the fire.

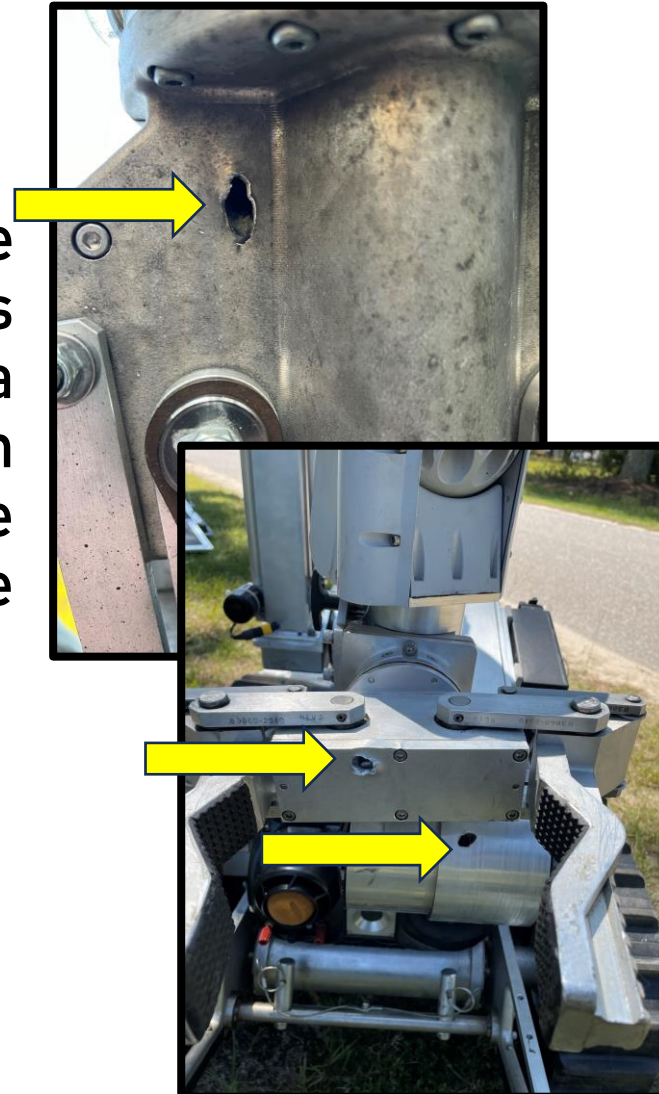


SLED BOMB SQUAD



Robot Damage

- SLED SWAT call in Pageland, SC – The suspect fired at 3 local police officers before barricading himself inside a residence. The robot was used to breach the front door and deliver multiple rounds of gas. The suspect shot the robot numerous times.





FY 24-25 BOMB SQUAD REQUESTS FOR SERVICE

Total Number of Calls July 2024- June 2025

• Protective Sweeps (Special Events/VIP)	103
• Suspicious Package	14
• Post Blast Investigation	1
• Proactive Mass Transit Sweeps	19
• Disposal	1
• SWAT Support	15
• Bomb Threats	8



FY 24-25 BOMB SQUAD REQUESTS FOR SERVICE

Total Number of Calls July 2024- June 2025 (continued)

• Render Safe IED or Hoax	9
• Military Ordnance	11
• Illegal Explosive Possession	7
• WMD/CBRN	5
• Community Relations	37
• Miscellaneous	11

Total - 241



BOMB SQUAD REQUESTS FOR SERVICE

Total Number of Calls

- FY 2020-2021: 189 *COVID*
- FY 2021-2022: 269
- FY 2022-2023: 239
- FY 2023-2024: 238
- FY 2024-2025: 241



BOMB SQUAD OVERTIME FY24-FY25

Hours

- 2225.14

- Overtime compensation is awarded for all hours worked over 86 in a specified two (2) week work period.
- According to a recent study, seventy five percent (75%) of OT hours are directly related to canine care and maintenance in addition to normal assigned duties.
- Additionally, all members of the Bomb Squad are assigned to the Counterterrorism Dive Unit (CDU) and four (4) members are assigned to the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team as operators. The remaining Bomb Squad members respond with SWAT as support.

Cost

- \$119,405.71

BOMB SQUAD: ACTUAL CALLS



77-22-0146 - Found Dynamite



July 2022 - The Horry County Police Department and SLED received a call for found dynamite in the attic of an abandoned home. The call was made by the owner who stated that his grandfather kept dynamite in the attic in a sealed metal container.

BOMB SQUAD: ACTUAL CALLS

77-22-0146: Found Dynamite

The container was located in the attic. Diagnostic testing was completed to include X-Ray and Raman Spectroscopy (commonly used in chemistry to provide a structural fingerprint by which molecules can be identified). A liquid was seeping out of the container and was confirmed to be nitroglycerin, the main ingredient in dynamite.





BOMB SQUAD: ACTUAL CALLS

77-22-0146: Found Dynamite

A countercharge known as a FfRED (Fast Forming Reliable Explosive Device) was constructed and placed over the top of the container since the item was too dangerous to be transported.





BOMB SQUAD: ACTUAL CALLS

Items Recovered

- World War 1 “Cooper Bomb” Located in Myrtle Beach.
 - The bomb was 24 lbs. in weight, of which 20 lbs. was the bomb casing and 4 lbs. was an explosive charge of Amatol (mixture of TNT and Ammonium Nitrate) with a flash powder primary charge fuzing system.
- Joint operation with SLED, Horry County Police Department, and the United States Air Force (Shaw EOD). Item was buried and destroyed in a neighborhood due to the extreme hazard.





EXPLOSIVE LAWS & DEFINITIONS

(S.C. CODE 6-23-720)



EXPLOSIVE RELATED DEFINITIONS

Explosive

A chemical compound or other substance or a mechanical system intended for the purpose of producing an explosion capable of causing injury, death, or damage to property or an explosive containing oxidizing and combustible units or other ingredients in such proportions or quantities that ignition, fire, friction, concussion, percussion, or detonation may produce an explosion capable of causing injury, death, or damage to property. Explosives include, but are not limited to, the list of explosive materials published and periodically updated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF).

EXPLOSIVE EXAMPLES



BOMB SQUAD: ACTUAL CALLS



Items Recovered

- Union County - Military TNT located in a family barn. Item was collected and disposed of by SLED Bomb Technicians.





EXPLOSIVE RELATED DEFINITIONS

Destructive Device

- (a) a bomb, incendiary device, or anything that can detonate, explode, be released, or burn by mechanical, chemical, or nuclear means, or that contains an explosive, incendiary, poisonous gas, or toxic substance (chemical, biological, or nuclear materials) including, but not limited to, an incendiary or over-pressure device, or any other device capable of causing damage, injury, or death;
- (b) a bacteriological weapon or biological weapon; or
- (c) a combination of any parts, components, chemical compounds, or other substances, either designed or intended for use in converting any device into a destructive device which has been or can be assembled to cause damage, injury, or death.



EXPLOSIVE RELATED DEFINITIONS

Bomb

Includes a destructive device capable of being detonated, triggered, or set off to release any substance or material that is destructive, irritating, odoriferous, or otherwise harmful to one or more organisms including, but not limited to, human beings, livestock, animals, crops or vegetation, or to earth, air, water, or any other material or substance necessary or required to sustain human or any other individual form of life, or to real or personal property.

Parts

A combination of parts, components, chemical compounds, or other substances, designed or intended for use in converting any device into a destructive device.

BOMB SQUAD: ACTUAL CALLS



Item Recovered

- Clarendon County - Improvised clothespin switches located during a search warrant. Due to the suspect's age and mental condition, the suspect was not prosecuted.





EXPLOSIVE RELATED DEFINITIONS

Incendiary Device

A destructive device, however possessed or delivered, and by whatever name called, containing or holding a flammable liquid or compound, which is capable of being ignited by any means possible. Incendiary device includes, but is not limited to, any form of explosive, explosive bomb, grenade, missile, or similar device, whether capable of being carried or thrown by a person acting alone or with one or more persons but does not include a device manufactured or produced for the primary purpose of illumination or for marking detours, obstructions, defective paving, or other hazards on streets, roads, highways, or bridges, when used in a lawful manner.

Over Pressure Device

A container filled with an explosive gas or expanding gas or liquid which is designed or constructed so as to cause the container to break, fracture, or rupture in a manner capable of causing death, injury, or property damage, and includes, but is not limited to, a chemical reaction bomb, an acid bomb, a caustic bomb, or a dry ice bomb.

EXPLOSIVE EXAMPLE

Incendiary Device



EXPLOSIVE EXAMPLE

Over Pressure Device



BOMB SQUAD: ACTUAL CALLS

Items Recovered

- PVC Pipe Bomb dropped off at Clarendon County Sheriff's Office. The suspect was located but due to age and mental condition was not prosecuted.





EXPLOSIVE RELATED DEFINITIONS

Terrorism

includes activities that:

- (a) involve acts dangerous to human life that are a violation of the criminal laws of this State;
- (b) appear to be intended to:
 - (i) intimidate or coerce a civilian population;
 - (ii) influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or
 - (iii) affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping;
and
- (c) occur primarily within the territorial jurisdiction of this State.



EXPLOSIVE RELATED DEFINITIONS

Weapon of Mass Destruction

- (a) any destructive device as defined in item (7); (Destructive Device)
- (b) any weapon that is designed or intended to cause death or serious bodily injury through the release, dissemination, or impact of toxic or poisonous chemicals, or their precursors;
- (c) any weapon involving a disease organism; or
- (d) any weapon that is designed to release radiation or radioactivity at a level dangerous to human life.

TERRORISM



SECTION 16-23-715

Possession, threatened or attempted use of weapon of mass destruction for act of terrorism; penalty.

A person who, without lawful authority, possesses, uses, threatens, or attempts or conspires to possess or use a weapon of mass destruction in furtherance of an act of terrorism is guilty of a felony and upon conviction:

- (1) in cases resulting in the death of another person, must be punished by death or by imprisonment for life; or
- (2) in cases which do not result in the death of another person, must be punished by imprisonment for not less than twenty-five years nor more than life.

USE OF DESTRUCTIVE DEVICE WITH DEATH OR INJURY



SECTION 16-23-720

(A) It is unlawful for a person intentionally to use a destructive device or cause an explosion, or intentionally to aid, counsel, solicit another, or procure the use of a destructive device. A person who violates this subsection is guilty of a felony and, **upon conviction**:

- (1) in cases resulting in the death of another person where there was malice aforethought, must be punished by death, by imprisonment for life, or by a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment for thirty years;
- (2) in cases resulting in the death of another person where there was not malice aforethought, must be imprisoned not less than ten years nor more than thirty years; and
- (3) in cases resulting in injury to a person, must be imprisoned for not less than ten years nor more than twenty-five years.

USE OF DESTRUCTIVE DEVICE WITH PROPERTY DAMAGE



SECTION 16-23-720

(B) A person who intentionally causes an explosion by means of a destructive device or aids, counsels, solicits another, or procures an explosion by means of a destructive device, which results in damage to a building or other real or personal property, or a person who attempts to injure another or damage or destroy a building or other real or personal property by means of a destructive device, **is guilty of a felony** and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned for not less than ten years nor more than twenty-five years.



POSSESSION, MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION, ETC.

SECTION 16-23-720

(C) A person who knowingly possesses, manufactures, transports, distributes, or possesses with the intent to distribute a destructive device or any explosive, incendiary device, or over-pressure device or toxic substance or material which has been configured to cause damage, injury, or death, or a person who possesses parts, components, or materials which when assembled constitute a destructive device is **guilty of a felony** and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned for not less than two years nor more than fifteen years.

BOMB SQUAD: ACTUAL CALLS

Items Recovered

- Pipe Bomb in Florence, SC
 - 2 suspects live streamed the construction of the device on Facebook.
- Both Suspects were charged with Possession / Manufacturing of a Destructive Device.



THREATS



SECTION 16-23-720

(D) A person who threatens, solicits another to threaten, or conspires to threaten to cause damage, injury, or death or to cause damage to or destroy a building or other real or personal property by means of a destructive device is **guilty of a felony** and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned for not more than fifteen years.



PROTECTION, HARBORING, CONCEALMENT

SECTION 16-23-720

(E) A person who knowingly protects, harbors, or conceals another who is known by the person to have planned, executed, or committed any violation of the provisions of this article is **guilty of a felony** and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned for not more than fifteen years.



HOAX OR REPLICA DEVICE

SECTION 16-23-730

A person who knowingly manufactures, possesses, transports, distributes, uses or aids, or counsels, solicits another, or conspires with another in the use of a hoax device or replica of a destructive device or detonator which causes any person reasonably to believe that the hoax device or replica is a destructive device or detonator is **guilty of a misdemeanor** and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned for not more than one year or fined not more than ten thousand dollars, or both.

A person who communicates or transmits to another person that a hoax device or replica is a destructive device or detonator with the intent to intimidate or threaten injury, to obtain property of another, or to interfere with the ability of another person to conduct or carry on his life, business, trade, education, religious worship, or to interfere with the operations and functions of any government entity is **guilty of a felony** and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned for not less than two years nor more than fifteen years.



HINDERING EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE TECHNICIAN

SECTION 16-23-740

A person who knowingly and willfully hinders or obstructs an explosive ordnance technician, bomb technician, law enforcement officer, fire official, emergency management official, public safety officer, animal trained to detect destructive devices, or any robot or mechanical device designed for or utilized by a law enforcement officer, fire official, emergency management official, public safety officer, or bomb technician of this State or of the United States while in the detection, disarming, or destruction of a destructive device is **guilty of a felony** and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned for not less than one year nor more than five years.



CONVEYING FALSE INFORMATION

SECTION 16-23-750

A person who conveys or causes to be conveyed false information, knowing the information to be false, concerning an attempt or alleged attempt being made or to be made to kill, injure, or intimidate any person or to damage or destroy any building or other real or personal property by means of an explosive, incendiary, or destructive device or who aids, employs, or conspires with any person to do or cause to be done any of the acts in this section, is **guilty of a felony** and, upon conviction, for a first offense must be imprisoned for not less than one year nor more than ten years. For a second or subsequent offense, the person must be imprisoned for not less than five years nor more than fifteen years. A sentence imposed for a violation of this section must not be suspended and probation must not be granted.

REPORTING



SECTION 16-23-780

All state, county, and municipal law enforcement officers who encounter a known or suspected destructive device, biological or bacteriological weapon or a nuclear, biological, or chemical weapon of mass destruction in the course of their employment must immediately report the existence and location of the device or weapon to the State Law Enforcement Division for purposes of disseminating the information to law enforcement agencies, and to the appropriate state and local public health officials for purposes of enabling public health officials to assess the nature and extent of the threat of the device or weapon to public health.



COUNTERTERRORISM DIVE UNIT (CDU)



COUNTERTERRORISM DIVE UNIT (CDU)

MISSION

- The SLED Counterterrorism Dive Unit's (CDU) mission is to protect the State of South Carolina's maritime infrastructure from terrorism through explosive, radiological and hazardous device detection sweeps and mitigation of incidents at those locations. Additionally, through the use of specialized divers, underwater robotics and other search and recovery equipment, the CDU provides manpower and support to our Federal, State and Local partners in the maritime environment supporting the Global War On Terror (GWOT).
- The SLED CDU has been part of the FBI Maritime Working Group Partnership since the groups inception in 2010, tasked with drafting and implementing policies for Maritime Counter-IED Operations nationwide.
- The SLED CDU also assists with high profile SLED cases (*State v. Murdaugh*), critical infrastructure explosive sweeps, cruise ship escorts, and large events (Cooper River Bridge Run).



COUNTERTERRORISM DIVE UNIT (CDU)

MISSION

- The SLED Counterterrorism Dive Unit hosts a yearly Underwater Post Blast Investigations Course at Lake Murray (Lexington, SC) with the Federal Bureau of Investigations Hazardous Devices School (HDS) and Counter Improvised Explosive Devices Unit.
- SLED has hosted the course for 13 years for Federal, State, Local, Military and International partners to include the US Navy, Royal Navy (UK), Japanese Coast Guard, Ukrainian Military, and FBI.
- The most recent course was completed in August 2024, training 24 students from across the world [Nineteen (19) from the United States, four (4) from Ukraine, and one (1) from Japan].

COUNTERTERRORISM DIVE UNIT (CDU)

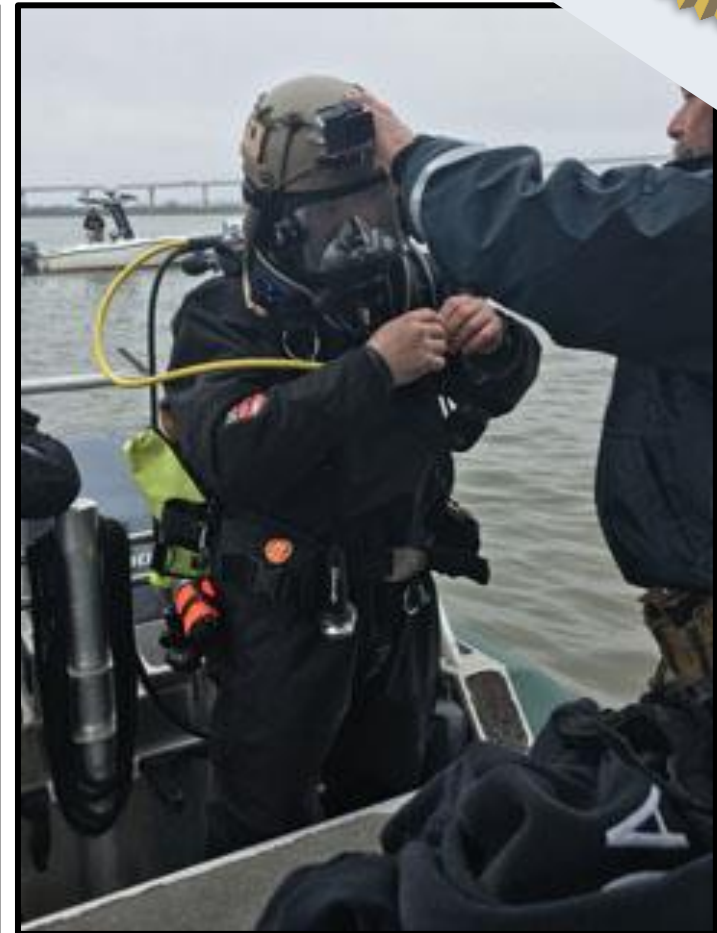




CDU TEAM STRUCTURE

- Maritime Team Leader- 1
 - Bomb Technicians - 10 (3 hold FBI Underwater Hazardous Device Technician (UHDT) certifications)
 - *Projected to be 4 certified UHDTs by the end of FY25-26*
 - SCUBA Instructor Trainer - 1
 - SCUBA Instructor - 4
 - Dive Masters - 7
 - Supplied Air Divers (Helmet Divers) - 3
 - Supplied Air Tenders - 4
 - Advanced Open Water Diver - 14
 - Basic Open Water Diver - 24
 - NASBLA Certified Boat Crewman / Coxswains - 9
 - FBI Underwater Hazardous Devices Countermeasures Course Instructor - 2
 - FBI Underwater Post Blast Investigations Course Instructor - 4
 - FBI Maritime Operations Bomb Technician Course Instructor- 3
 - Dive Medical Officer (MD) - 1
 - EMT Advanced - 3
 - EMT Basic - 2
- **Many members hold multiple certifications**

CDU TEAM STRUCTURE





SLED CDU EQUIPMENT

Specialized Equipment

- 34ft Munson Vessel
- 23ft SafeBoat Vessel
- Zodiac 4.7-meter Inflatable Boats
- Equipment Trailer
- SABB Underwater Remote Operated Vehicle (Robot)
- Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Detection System
- Handheld Sonar System
- Surface Supplied Air Diving System
- Full SCUBA Diving Ensemble for Divers
- Two (2) Portable Dive Compressors and One (1) Fixed Compressor

SLED CDU EQUIPMENT

Specialized Equipment



- 34ft Munson Vessel (*purchased with FY20 Port Security Grant money and 25% State match*)





SLED CDU EQUIPMENT

Specialized Equipment

- 23ft SafeBoat

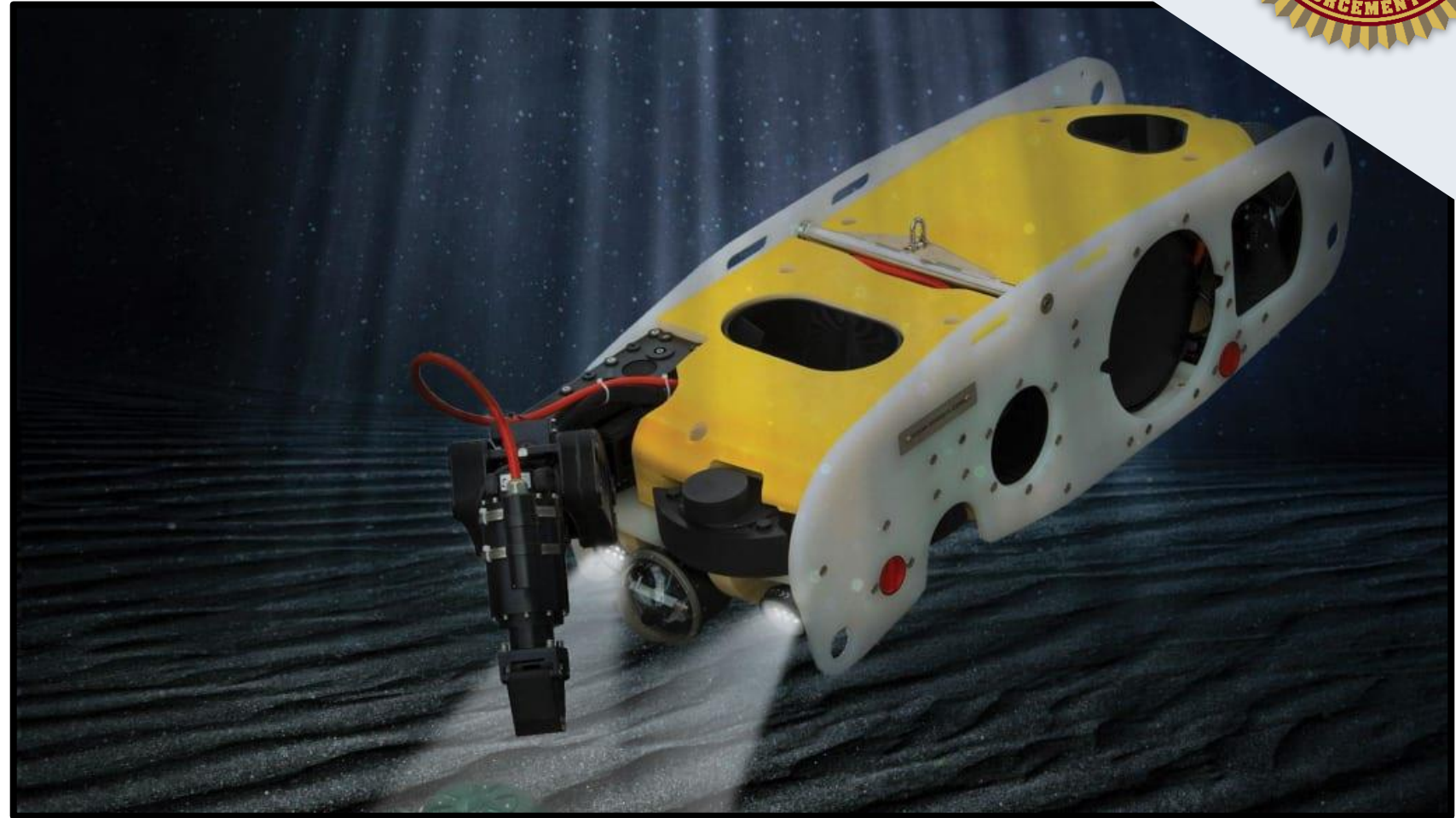




SLED CDU EQUIPMENT

Specialized Equipment

- SAAB Sea Wasp
 - Used for underwater search and Explosive mitigation.



SLED CDU EQUIPMENT

Specialized Equipment

- DeDrone Counter UAS System
 - Used to detect/locate drones and their operators.
 - Stationary and Boat Mounted Sensor.





FY 24-25 CDU REQUESTS FOR SERVICE

Total Number of Calls July 2024- June 2025

- Maritime Security Details – 7
- Maritime Evidence Recovery Mission – 3*
- Maritime Protective Sweeps – 41
- Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems (cUAS) Deployment – 10

Total – 61

**Nearly \$100 billion passes through the Port of Charleston each year. Even the smallest shutdown of normal operations would represent a drastic financial impact to South Carolina.*

CDU REQUESTS FOR SERVICE



Total Number of Calls

- FY 2020-2021: 102
- FY 2021-2022: 42
- FY 2022-2023: 22
- FY 2023-2024: 22
- FY 2024-2025: 61





QUESTIONS or COMMENTS?

SEAHAWK INTERAGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (IOC)



House Oversight Committee

Lieutenant Sigrid Phinney

LIEUTENANT SIGRID PHINNEY

BIOGRAPHY



Certified officer in the state of South Carolina for 27 years. She has been employed with the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division for 20 years. Prior to that, she worked for Summerville Police Department for 7 years.

LT Phinney was also an active-duty member for the United States Coast Guard for four years in New York and then continued in the USCG Reserves for another four years in South Carolina where she worked in law enforcement and search and rescue.

She is the SeaHawk Interagency Operations Center (IOC) Coordinator and Fusion Liaison Officer (FLO) for the state and overseas daily operations among interagency partners.

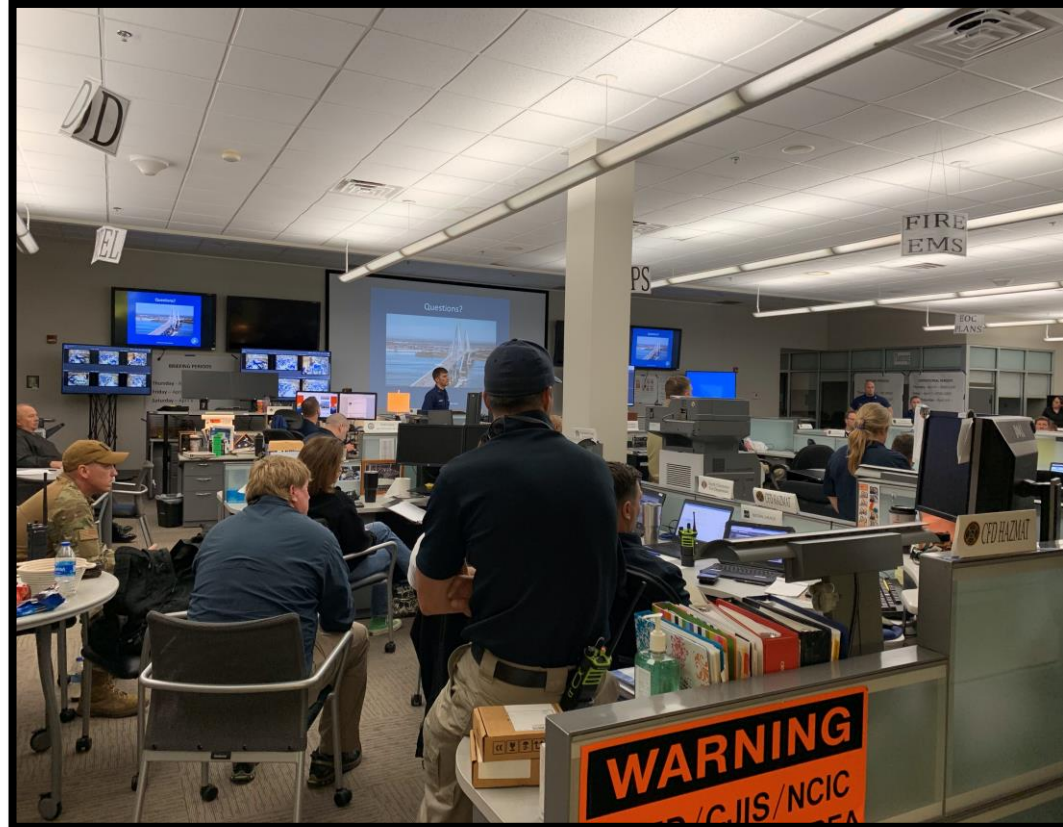


SEAHAWK IOC



- The SeaHawk Interagency Operations Center (IOC) is the coordinating body of government agencies focused on the safety, security, and prosperity of the South Carolina maritime domain. It utilizes a systematic approach to facilitate information sharing; conducts a thorough analysis of risks and threats; plans for emergent, potential, and upcoming incidents; and coordinates operation between federal, state, and local partners.
- SLED has assigned a Lieutenant as the IOC Coordinator and there are four SLED agents assigned to the IOC. One of those agents are hired under a Department of Homeland Security grant. This grant also helps fund the Alastar program which is utilized as a real time common operating picture and the FLO Collaboration app.
- In April 2024, the SeaHawk IOC was moved under SLED's Counterterrorism Division. Prior to that the IOC was under the fusion center.

SEAHAWK IOC



LT Phinney –	certified LE for 27 years
SSA Amos –	certified LE for 17 years
S/A Martinez –	certified LE 1.5 years/ JTTF - prior USCG enlisted officer
S/A Sutler –	certified LE for 17 years
Vacant -	DHS grant Position

SEAHAWK IOC HISTORY



= DOJ 2005 to 2009



= DHS 2009 to present



- FEDERAL
- STATE
- LOCAL

	Then	Now
Name:	Project SeaHawk	SeaHawk IOC
Oversight:	DOJ (est. 2003)	DHS (as of 1 Oct 2009)
Mission:	Terrorism Focused	All threats all hazards
Budget:	\$27M	\$0
Personnel:	Reimbursed	Agencies' budget
Technology:	Research & Development	Continued R&D

SOUTH CAROLINA PORTS



Wando Welch
Hugh K. Leatherman
North Charleston
Columbus Street
Union Pier
Inland Port Dillon
Inland Port Greer
Passenger Terminal

SEAHAWK EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE (ESC)



- **Federal** – United States Coast Guard, Homeland Security Investigations, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Customs and Border Protection, and United States Border Patrol.
- **State** – South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, and South Carolina Port Authority.
- **Local** – Charleston County Sheriff's Office, Berkeley County Sheriff's Office, City of Charleston Police and Fire Department, North Charleston Police and Fire Department and Mount Pleasant Police and Fire Department.
- **Stakeholders include but are not limited to:**
- 43rd Civil Support Team, Joint Base Charleston, Charleston Airport PD, Army Corp, Charleston County EMS, Charleston County Consolidated Dispatch Center and EOC, Coast Guard Investigative Services, Citadel PD, Colleton County SO, Department of Criminal Investigative Services, Dorchester County SO, Drug Enforcement of Agency, Department of Homeland Security, Federal Protective Services, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Folly Beach PD, Isle of Palms PD, Monks Corner PD, MUSC PD, Naval Criminal Investigative Services, National Insurance Crime Bureau, National Park Service, SC Highway Patrol, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, SC Transport Police, Summerville PD, State Department, Sullivans Island PD, Transportation Security Agency.

SEAHAWK IOC REORGANIZED



- 2024 the SeaHawk ESC has reorganized the IOC.
- More collaborative effort to mimic the earlier models of the SeaHawk IOC. More operational tempo and adding additional partners to the ESC.
- Updating the SeaHawk IOC Charter with new partners and updating the SeaHawk IOC standard operating procedures to align with the increased operational tempo. The updated charter is authorized under the provisions of 14 U.S.C 141 which allows the Coast Guard to enter into cooperative agreements with other government agencies (OGAs). This charter is also authorized under the provisions of the Security and Accountability for Every Port Act of 2006 (SAFE Port), Public Law 109-347, which permits the establishment of a maritime interagency operations center to facilitate federal, state, and local incident management response to a transportation security incident or transportation disruptions.

SEAHAWK IOC BEST PRACTICES



- Weekly Regional Coordinating Mechanism (ReCOM) meetings.
- Monthly all hands briefs with all partners.
- Multi-agency gate strike operations on the ports.
- Multi-agency statewide and multi-state surge operations on the water.

SEAHAWK IOC REQUESTS



- January 2020 to June 2025–
- IOC analysts assisted with 14,498 requests from over 109 different agencies (Facial recognition, DMV requests, partial tag, photo line ups, automated license plate recognition etc).
- Note SeaHawk was under the fusion center until April 2024.

SHORESIDE OPERATIONS AT THE PORT GATE STRIKE/Multi-Agency Strike Force Operation (MASFO)



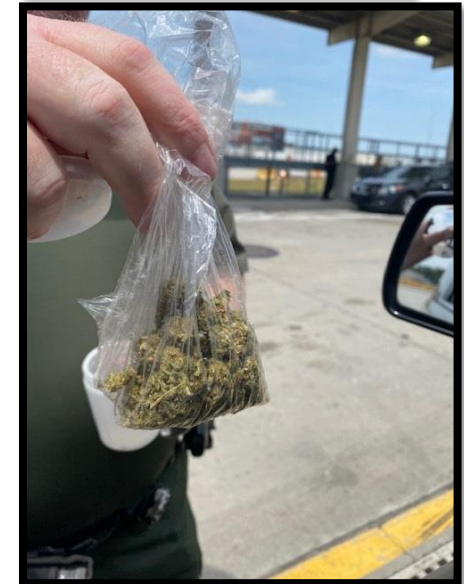
January 2020 – June 2025 Gate Strike/MASFO
73-Gate Strikes/MASFO

- Anywhere from 4-15 different agencies and 7-40 personnel assisting
- 4,728 vehicles stopped.
- 13-wanted and 11-arrested.
- 53-gun violations.
- 56-alcohol violations.
- 19-drug violations.
- 5,069 radiation scans – 2 alerts.
- 5,076 TWIC scans – 27 violations.

SHORESIDE OPERATIONS AT THE PORT OF CHARLESTON (GATE STRIKE/MASFO)



SHORESIDE OPERATIONS AT THE PORT OF CHARLESTON (GATE STRIKE/MASFO)



WATER OPERATIONS

OPERATION HAMMERHEAD = HEIGHTENED ACTIVITY MARITIME RESPONSE —
HARBOR ENFORCEMENT AND DETERRENCE

OPERATION FRIED SHRIMP N' GRITS = FISHERIES, RECREATION, IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT, DRUG —
HARBOR REACH ON INTELLIGENCE FOR MULTI-STATE PARTNERSHIPS N' GUARDING RESPONSIBLE INTERESTS FOR
TARGET SAFETY

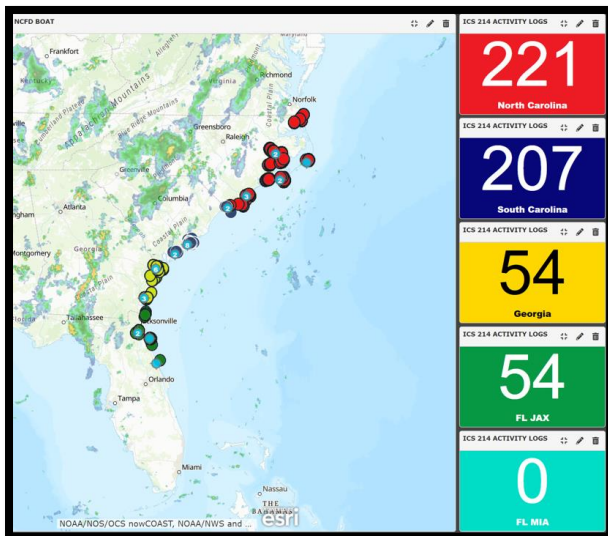
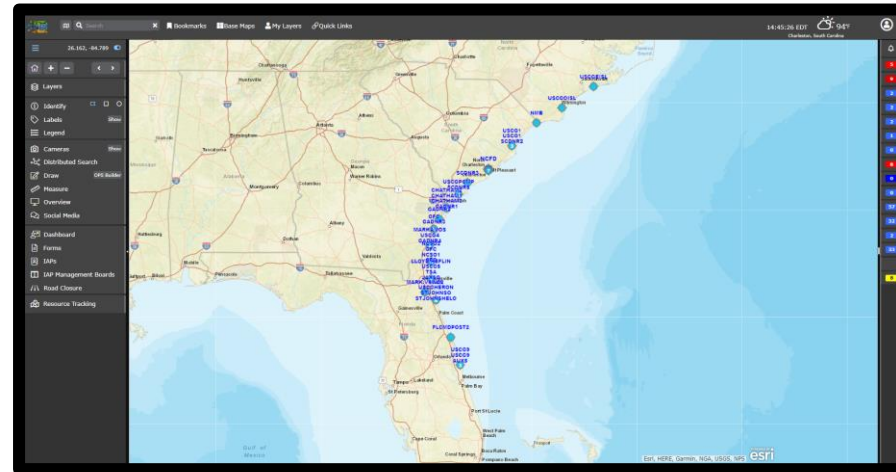
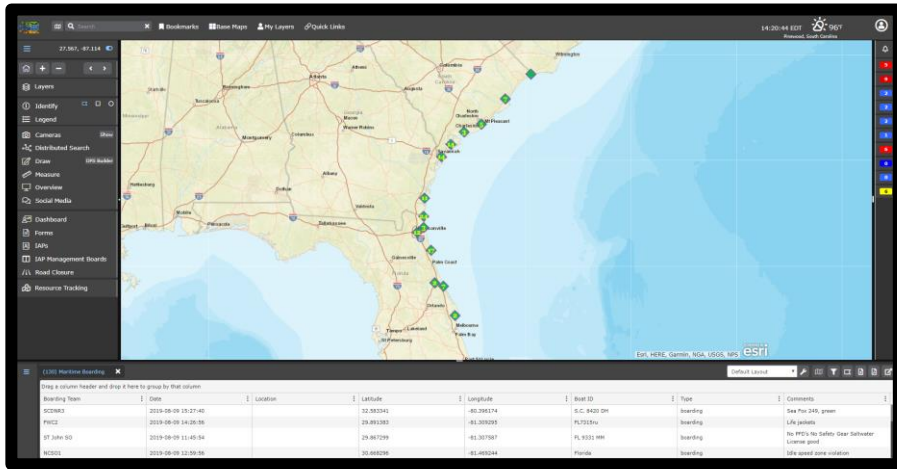


January 2020 — June 2025 Hammerhead/Fried Shrimp n' Grits Operations

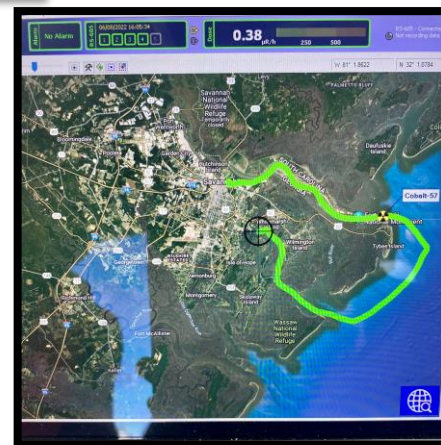
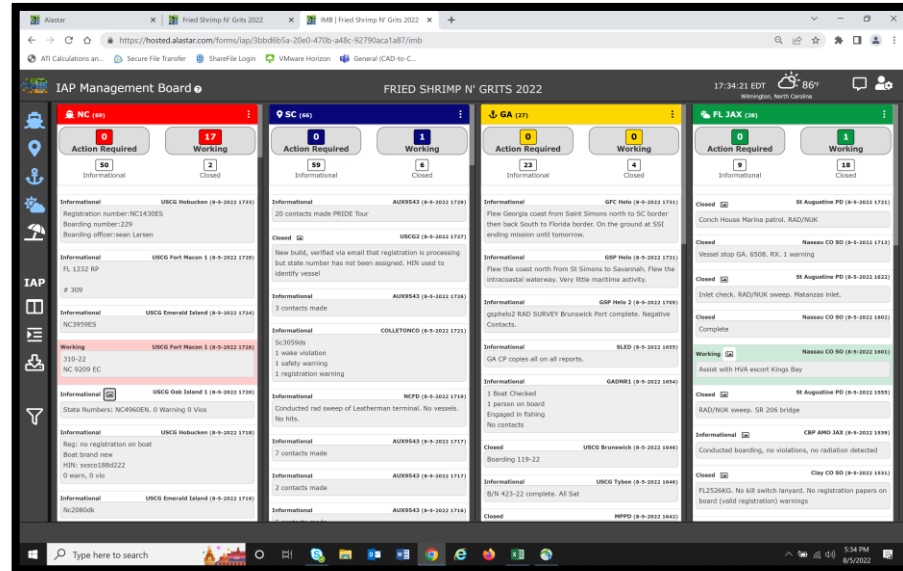
II - Operations

- Overarching goal is to encourage boating safety and maritime security.
- 28-104 different agencies and 94-461 personnel assisting – 4 State, 2 USCG District and 5 COTP zones
- 1,396 boardings conducted.
- 136 written violations – 318 warnings issued.
- 27 voyages terminated.
- 7 CBP failure to report.
- 5,651 radiation scans – 0 alerts.

WATER OPERATIONS (HAMMERHEAD/FRIED SHRIMP N' GRITS)



WATER OPERATIONS (HAMMERHEAD/FRIED SHRIMP N' GRITS)




WATER OPERATIONS (HAMMERHEAD/FRIED SHRIMP N' GRITS)



JOINT BASE CHARLESTON

Home News Article Display



NEWS | Aug. 14, 2018

Operation SHRIMP and GRITS: boating safety, maritime security

By Senior Airman Terrell Long 628th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

JOINT BASE CHARLESTON, S.C. — When someone mentions "shrimp and grits," what comes to mind: a traditional dish in the Lowcountry of coastal South Carolina? In 2016 the U.S. Coast Guard gave "SHRIMP and GRITS" a whole new meaning. Save Harbor Reach on intelligence for Multi-state Partnerships and Guarding Responsible interests for Target Safety.

Operation SHRIMP and GRITS is an annual multi-jurisdiction and multi-state maritime enforcement operation which took place Aug. 11, 2018. The operation targets recreational and commercial boaters traveling along the water in South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. One of the objectives of this operation is to unify and coordinate investigative efforts between federal, state and local agency assets.

"This is a huge operation for us and it's all about our inter-agency partnerships," said Cmdr. Matt Baer, chief of response at U.S. Coast Guard Sector Charleston and the incident commander for Operation SHRIMP and GRITS. "This is our third year conducting Operation SHRIMP and GRITS, and the first year we've expanded it down to Florida. The U.S. Coast Guard is responsible for over 95,000 miles of coastline around this country and over 360 different ports around the nation. We cannot do it alone. Joint operations like this allow us to ensure a unified response should an unknown or an unfortunate event occur in ports or waterways."

There are approximately 35 different agencies and 400 people in the states of Florida, Georgia and South Carolina that are participating in the operation with the U.S. Coast Guard. The agencies cover about 430 to 440 miles of coastline and about 500 miles of internal waterways.

"It's a unique blend of authorities, and jurisdictions," explained Lt. Lloyd Heflin, enforcement division chief at USCGC Sector Charleston. "As the Coast Guard, we have pretty broad authority and jurisdiction, but with some of the state and local laws which the local partners can enforce, it gives them the opportunity to expand the scope of the operation. While we all bring something unique to the table, we're a lot stronger when we bring everybody together."

The main objective of Operation SHRIMP and GRITS is ensuring maritime security and boating safety. The Coast Guard, along with the helping agencies, accomplishes this by conducting searches on the water. During these operations, they conduct boardings to make sure everyone follows the rules and stays safe on the water.

"We respond to events that occur on the water through search and rescue as well as law enforcement, but we're also about preventing these things from happening," Baer said. "It's important for us to get out there, educate and inform the boating public, while also learning from them about what's normal and what's not."

The overall goal is boating safety and maritime security, but this mission also allows the Coast Guard to strengthen their relationships, not only with other agencies, but with the boating public.

"Joint operations like this help with our relationships with local law enforcement, and it brings us together for one common goal," said Seaman Nathan Guillot, boat crewman at USCGC Station Charleston. "We're strengthening our relationship with the public, and they're really thankful for what we do. This shows the community that we're here for them, they don't see us as people who are here to ruin their day."

"We want people to be comfortable sharing information they see on the waterways if something looks strange to them. We want them to be confident in reporting to law enforcement what they see, because they are our eyes and ears on the water," Baer said. "We're always excited to get out there and talk to the boating public. We want people to enjoy the water, but we want folks to do so safely."




United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

PHOTO RELEASE: Coast Guard, partner agencies conduct law enforcement operation throughout 430 miles of coastline
U.S. Coast Guard sent this bulletin at 08/15/2018 11:28 AM EDT

U.S. Coast Guard 7th District PA Detachment Jacksonville
Contact: Coast Guard PA Detachment Jacksonville
Office: 904-714-7666/766
After Hours: 305-318-1384
PA Detachment Jacksonville online newsroom

Photo Release

Coast Guard, partner agencies conduct law enforcement operation throughout 430 miles of coastline



Editor's Note: Click on images to download a high-resolution version.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — The Coast Guard and partner agencies conducted a law enforcement operation Saturday from Horry County, South Carolina, to Brevard County, Florida covering approximately 430 miles of coastline.

Coast Guard crews conducted the operation in coordination with 89 partner agency units from several federal, state and local agencies. The operation focused on the education and enforcement of boating safety and maritime security throughout the Southeast.

"We want to thank each individual and organization for the level of coordination and collaboration in planning and executing this iteration of this operation," said Capt. Todd Wiemers, commander, Sector Jacksonville. "We are grateful to each and every agency and the individuals involved who made this possible."

During the operation, 54 law enforcement fire vessels, 33 auxiliary vessels, one fixed wing law enforcement aircraft, four auxiliary fixed-wing aircraft, three helicopters, four Air Force strike teams, one aircraft mounted Mobile Detection System and one Transportation Security Administration surface inspection team were used.

During the operation, 368 vessel boardings were conducted resulting in 26 violations, 65 warnings, 15 local police department citations, 77 local police department warnings and six vessel terminations.

"Their contributions to our collective maritime safety and security, as well as living marine enforcement, go a long way toward achieving the objectives of our agencies and we trust the collaborative nature of these types of operations will also contribute to our ability to respond holistically in times of crisis," Capt. John Reed, commander, Sector Charleston.

For more breaking news follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

MSC MICHIGAN VII — 997FT CONTAINER SHIP STUCK THROTTLE — 17 KNOTS OUTBOUND



FUSION LIAISON OFFICER (FLO) PROGRAM



Benefits of the FLO program are to expand the awareness of the terrorism and criminal indicators and warnings, increase awareness of the established reporting protocols with the fusion centers area of responsibility, opening communication channels and fostering subject matter experts.

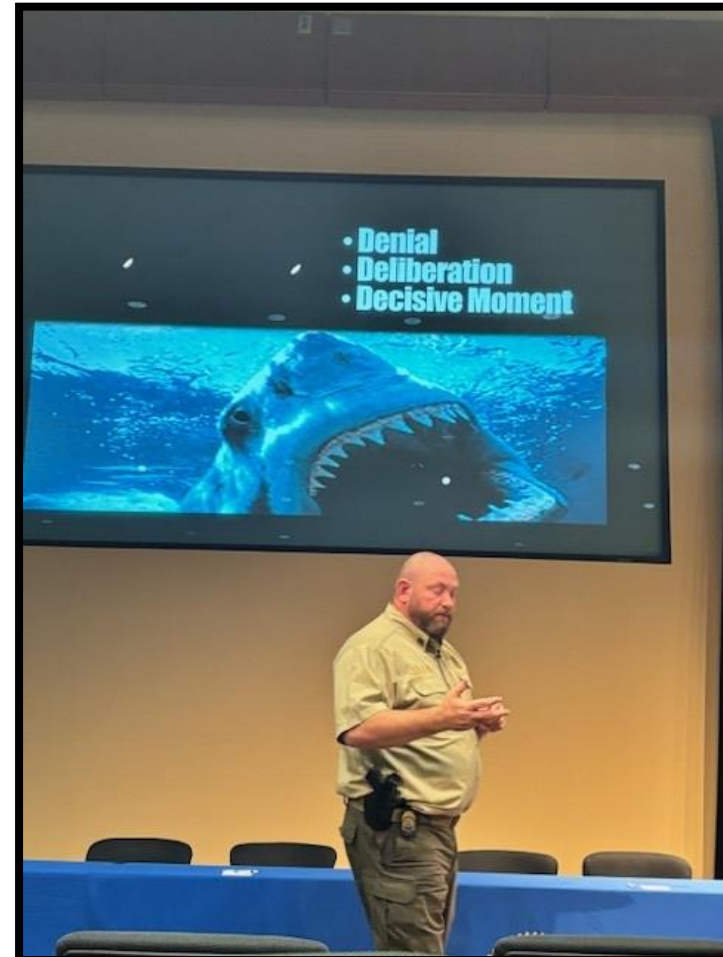
FUSION LIAISON OFFICER (FLO) PROGRAM



January 2020 — June 2025 FLO Program

- January 2020 SLED revitalized the FLO program.
- Went from 0 FIO's to currently 512 FIO's.
- FIO's consist of Law Enforcement, Fire Departments, Emergency Medical Systems, Emergency Management personnel, School District Security and select Private Sector.
- 33 training classes provided around the state to the FIO's.
- 224 intelligence documents or information were shared with FIO's.
- 4 - one day seminars with guest speakers were facilitated.
- In April 2024, was restructured and placed under counterterrorism.

FUSION LIAISON OFFICER (FLO) PROGRAM



FUSION LIAISON OFFICER (FLO) PROGRAM

FLO COLLABORATION APP



Alastar Collaboration Admin - SLED Users Groups Posts About

USERS

GROUPS

POSTS

ABOUT

PRND

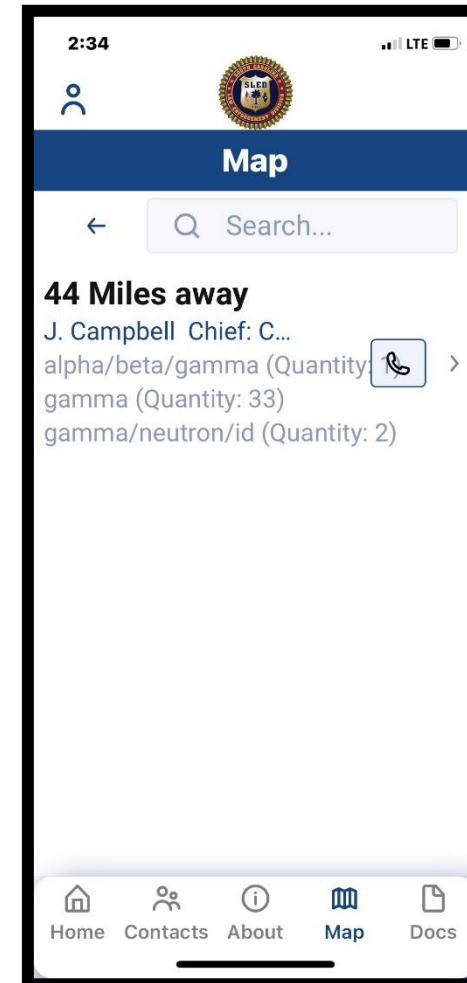
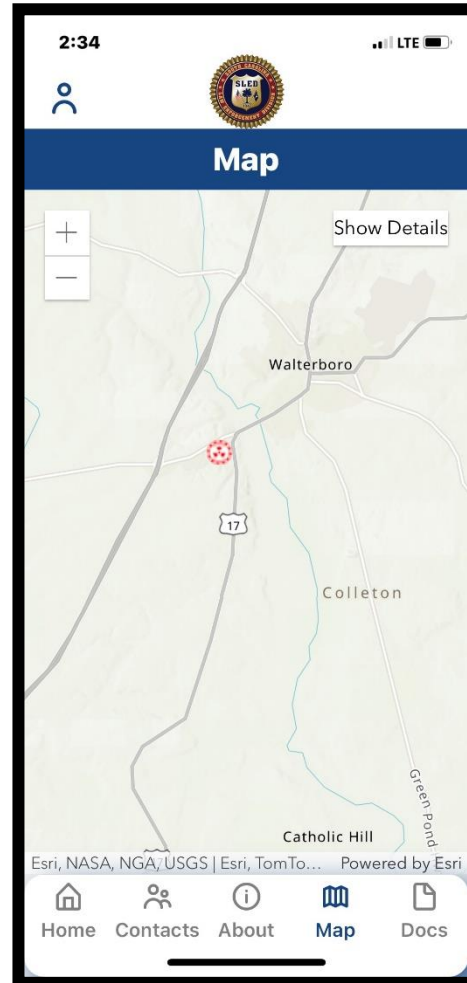
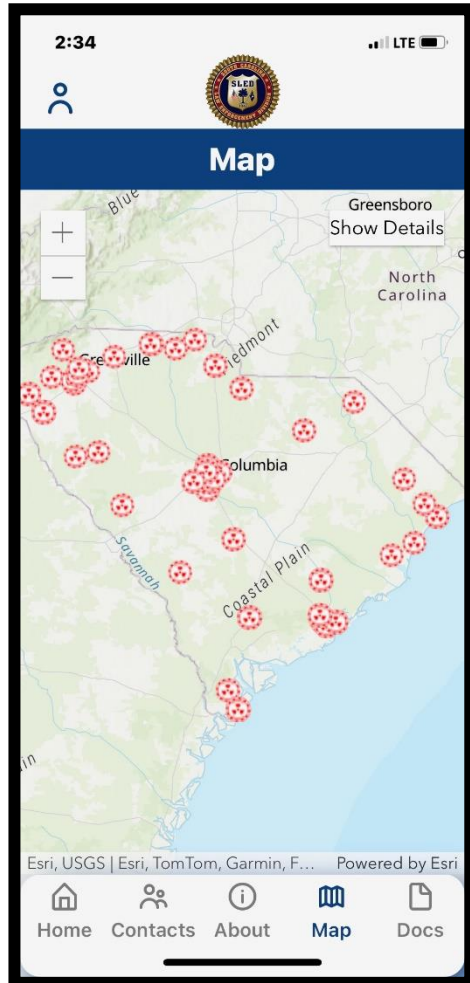
DOCUMENTS

EMAIL BUILDER

EMS	FD	LE
6 Contacts Created 6/2/2022 Updated 6/2/2022	104 Contacts Created 6/3/2022 Updated 6/3/2022	203 Contacts Created 6/2/2022 Updated 6/13/2022
NC Fusion Center	PRND	EMD
0 Contacts Created 7/8/2022 Updated 7/8/2022	93 Contacts Created 8/8/2022 Updated 8/8/2022	38 Contacts Created 12/12/2022 Updated 12/12/2022
NYPD Intelligence Bureau	Private Sector	SCIIC/SC Fusion Center
2 Contacts Created 12/16/2022 Updated 12/16/2022	16 Contacts Created 2/21/2023 Updated 2/21/2023	14 Contacts Created 7/1/2022 Updated 2/21/2023
SE Region FLO's	School Security	
18 Contacts Created 8/21/2023 Updated 8/21/2023	21 Contacts Created 10/25/2023 Updated 10/25/2023	

FUSION LIAISON OFFICER (FLO) PROGRAM

FLO PRND COLLABORATION APP



AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATED READER (ALPR) PROGRAM



AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATED READER (ALPR) PROGRAM



ALPR TRAILERS

- SLED has 5 ALPR trailers they provide to agencies around the state for various events, around critical infrastructure, incidents etc.



SEAHAWK IOC SHORT FALLS

- USCG personnel **turnover every two to three years**. Difficult to maintain consistency.
- Obtaining security clearances and title 19 authorities – slow process in obtaining from Federal partners.
- Not a line item in the DHS - USCG budget. Unsure future of office and dock space as Charleston is becoming a USCG super base.

CONCLUSIONS & QUESTIONS



SLED BLOODHOUND



TRACKING & CANINE TEAM

UNIT OVERVIEW

Aaron Rawl / Captain / Tactical Operations

Jacob Pridgen / Lieutenant / Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team

MISSION STATEMENT



The SLED Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team is a specialized tactical unit that assists federal, state, county, and municipal law enforcement in locating wanted and missing individuals by utilizing bloodhound-mix tracking dogs. The team provides Patrol K9s in support of SWAT and fugitive operations to include, but not limited to: apprehension, building search, tracking, and article search. The team also provides a Human Remains Detection (HRD) canine to assist in the location of deceased individuals. The team promotes positive public relations throughout the state by conducting presentations to the community.



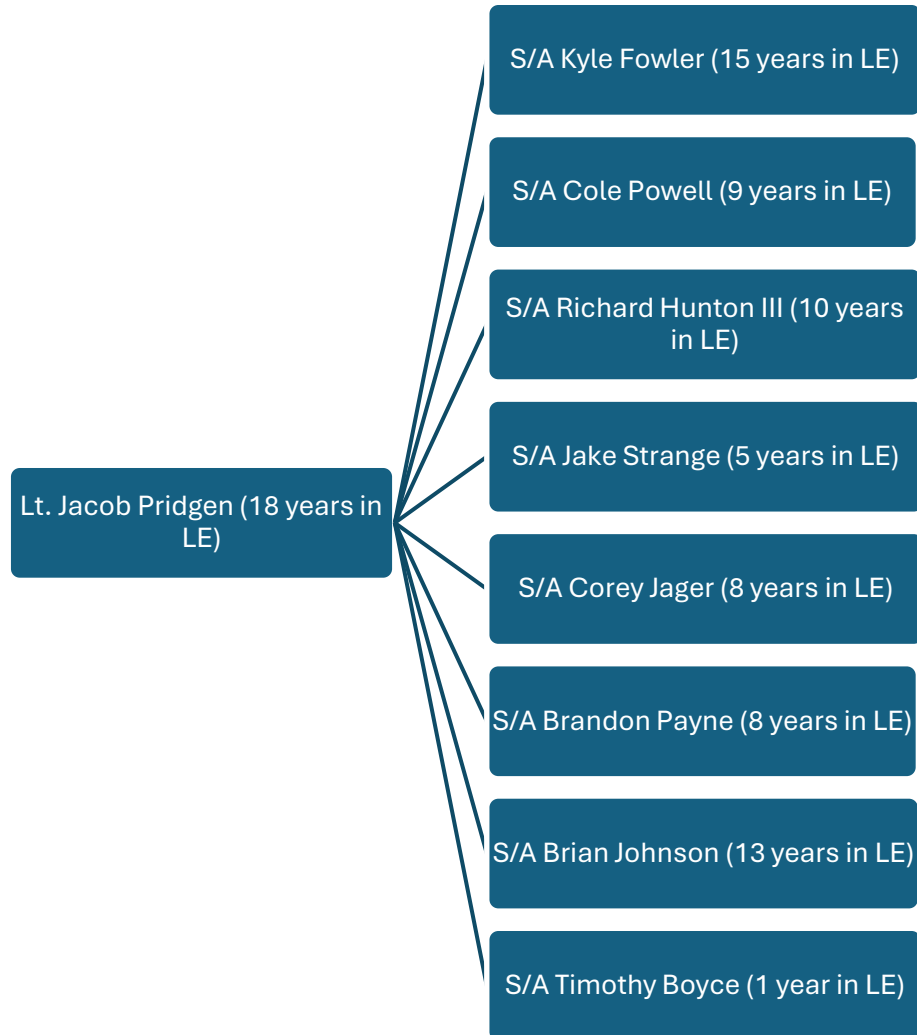
HISTORY OF THE TRACKING TEAM



- Shortly after the SLED's formation in 1947, Sgt. JP Strom (later Chief of SLED) bought the first two bloodhounds in 1949.
- This began a rich history of the bloodhound program at SLED in which the hounds were bred and trained at Headquarters.
- In the beginning, Department of Corrections inmates would assist agents on calls, but was later discontinued as team's personnel grew.
- The Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team continues to breed and train a Bloodhound, Redbone and Blue Tick mix hounds for utilization within the program because this mix works best for South Carolina's climate and terrain.



ORGANIZATION



- The Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team is comprised of highly trained Special Agents and one Supervisory Lieutenant.
- Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team has two personnel on rotating 24 hour call 7 days a week 365 days a year.
- Members of the Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team hold Special Deputy status with the US Marshals Carolina Regional Fugitive Task Force.

OPERATIONS

- Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team is centrally located at SLED headquarters in Columbia, which allows for rapid deployment to all areas of the state.
- Tracking calls can happen day or night and in any weather conditions to include extreme conditions.
- Tracking calls also occur in some of the toughest terrains throughout our state's diverse environment.
- Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team K9s consist of five Bloodhound mix canines and three K9 Malinois and Malinois/Shepherd mix.



BREEDING PROGRAM



BREEDING

- Intense training of new pups begins at around 8 weeks old.
- As the pups mature, they are moved into more difficult training scenarios and environments.
- The pups are graded for the next 6 to 12 months.
- Out of the litter, only 1 to 2 pups make the team.
- Pups that do not make the team are offered to other local law enforcement to continue training.

BLOODHOUND TRAINING



- Once a Bloodhound mix dog makes the team, their rigorous training continues throughout their lifetime.
- The Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team trains the Bloodhound mix dogs for all environments and all situations.
- Agents often recreate actual calls so that the agents gain a better understanding of the dog's behavior in certain situations.
- The Bloodhound mix dogs typically have a working life span of 8 to 10 years.
- Agents often attend outside training courses and seminars to learn new techniques and increase knowledge.



TRACKING AND CANINE MISSIONS



- Types of Tracking Calls

- Fugitive
- Escape
- Bushbond
- Missing Person
- Murder
- Burglary
- Home Invasion
- Armed Robbery
- Warrant Service
- Warrant Round up
- SWAT Call

PATROL CANINES

- SLED Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team's Patrol K9s are utilized for SWAT and Fugitive operations.
- K9s are used as a deterrent to encourage suspects to peacefully surrender.
- The following are the type of Canine deployments:
 - Apprehension
 - Building Search
 - Article Search
 - Tracking
- SLED K9 Rico (2023) and K9 Coba (2024) have been killed in the line of duty.
- K9s have a monthly requirement of 16 hours of training every month in all deployment disciplines.



K9 RICO

- K9 Rico was killed in the line of duty in September of 2023.
- K9 Rico was clearing a building in front of an Entry Team during a manhunt/SWAT call in Charleston County when an a subject armed with a rifle shot and killed K9 Rico.



K9 COBA

- K9 Coba was killed in the line of duty in June of 2024.
- K9 Coba was engaged in an apprehension on a subject's arm during a fugitive call in Newberry County when the subject shot K9 Coba with a shotgun.



HUMAN REMAINS DETECTION (HRD) CANINE



- The Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team utilizes the HRD K9 for the detection of deceased human remains as well as for search and rescue missions.
- The K9 was obtained on June 9, 2025, and will go through a 6-month training and certification course with Master Trainer Doug Wannemacher and should be certified in December of 2025.
- The HRD K9 will be the first law enforcement certified HRD K9 at SLED.



COLLATERAL DUTIES (SWAT)



- Each member of the Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team also has the following assignments on the SLED SWAT team:

- Entry Team
- Sniper Team
- EMT
- Containment Team
- WMD Team
- Aerial Overwatch



BLOODHOUND ASSISTANCE TEAM

- The Bloodhound Assistance Team (BAT) assists the Bloodhound Tracking & K9 Team on calls in which a higher possibility of danger exist.
- BAT is comprised of SWAT team members who were formally assigned to the Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team or have received specialized training by the Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

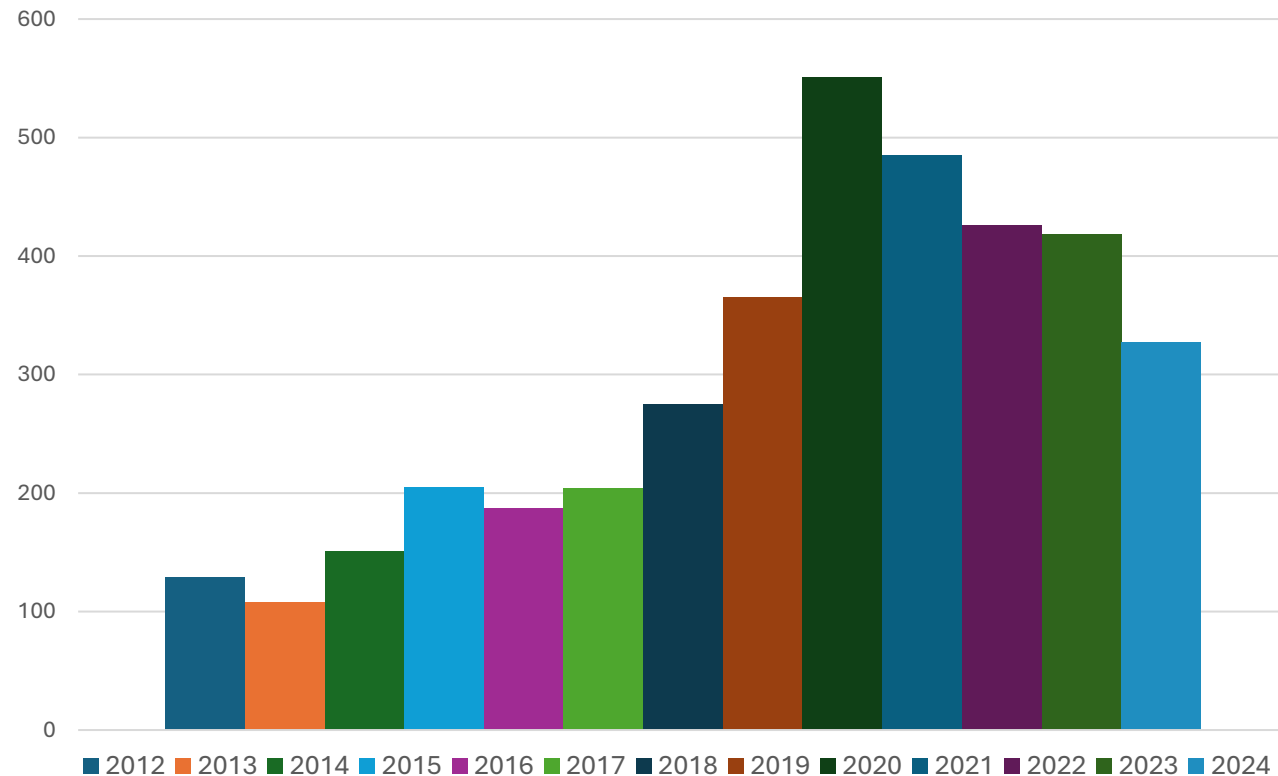


- The Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team attends community events and conduct tours of the kennels at headquarters.
- Types of community events attended:
 - National Nights Out
 - Schools
 - Crime Stoppers
 - Junior Leagues
 - City, State, and Federal Leadership

CALL VOLUME

Year	Call Total
2012	129
2013	108
2014	151
2015	205
2016	187 (1 st K9)
2017	204
2018	275
2019	365
2020	551
2021	485
2022	426
2023	485
2024	327

BLOODHOUND TRACKING & CANINE TEAM TOTAL CALLS BY YEAR

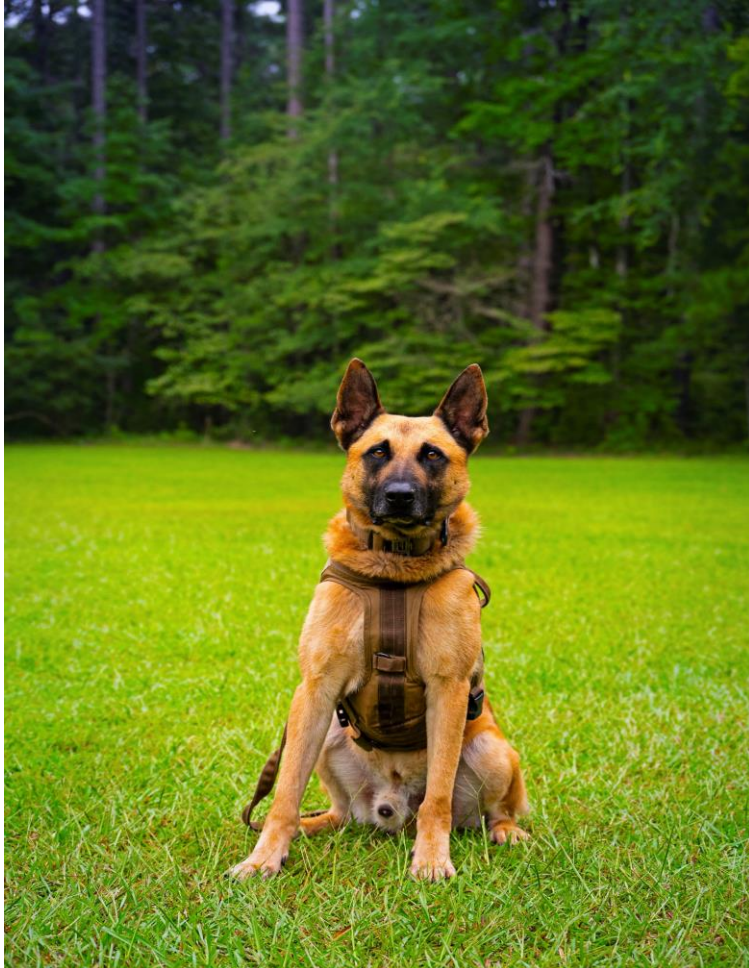


CALL VOLUME

- Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team call volume in 2025 is on pace to match the equally high call volume as years past.
- Calls have dramatically increased due to fugitive investigation specifically requesting K9 support.
- K9s have proven to be an effective tool in keeping law enforcement safe by encouraging suspects to surrender.



OVERTIME



- Fiscal year 2024-2025, the Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team accrued \$38,733.08 in overtime.
- Even on days off, team members can be called in on a moments notice for both tracking and SWAT calls.
- Bloodhound Tracking & Canine Team members work special SWAT details and crime suppressions throughout the year.

NOTABLE CALLS

- May 2021, seven-day manhunt and capture of Tyler Terry a multi-state violent criminal that included the murders of five individuals.
- May 2023, two-day manhunt and capture of Michael Burnham a federal murder fugitive.
- February 2024, three-day manhunt and capture of Charles Britt a violent fugitive wanted also for shooting at law enforcement.



GOALS



- Certify first SLED HRD K9 in South Carolina.
- Increase training evolutions of both bloodhounds and other specialized canines when fully staffed.
- Conduct more BAT training courses for assistance on calls.
- Continue to foster relationships with other agencies to build associations and cooperation.
- Develop continuous improvement methods to increase effectiveness of the SLED Tracking Team.

SLED TRACKING & CANINE TEAM MOTTOS



ISAIAH 6.8

“Here am I, send me”

ROMANS 13.4

“If thou do that which is evil, be afraid”





CONCLUSION

CONCLUSION AND QUESTIONS



SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS (SWAT) & WMD TEAM



House Oversight Committee

Captain Aaron Rawl

Tactical Operations

Lieutenant Michael Wheeler

SWAT

SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS & WMD TEAM (SWAT & WMD TEAM)



Unit Personnel

Supervisors:

- Captain Aaron Rawl (18 years LE service)
- Lieutenant Michael Wheeler (27 years LE service)

Agent:

- Senior Special Agent Martin "Seth" Jarrell – WMD Coordinator (16 years LE service)

UNIT MISSION



- The SLED Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team is a specialized team whose members are recruited, trained, and equipped to respond and resolve critical incidents that are generally outside the capabilities of standard law enforcement and first responders. The mission of the SLED SWAT Team is to SAVE LIVES and increase the likelihood of safely and peacefully resolving critical incidents. Within the SLED SWAT Team are smaller specialized units: Entry Team, Precision Long Rifle, Containment, Negotiations, Less Lethal, and EMT. Operations that the SWAT Team performs range from but are not limited to: Security/Protective Details, High Risk Warrant Services, Barricaded Subjects, Hostage Rescues, and a variety of other critical incidents. The SLED SWAT Team's focus is to respond quickly, utilize tactical solutions, and mitigate casualties through specialized training, equipment, and tactics to greater serve the public of South Carolina and support all local, state, and federal agencies upon request.

PERSONNEL

54 Agents assigned to SWAT in a collateral duty capacity and 26 support personnel that range from vehicle driver, negotiators, behavioral science agents, etc.

- **Maintaining specialties in:**
 - Entry
 - Precision Rifle
 - Crisis Negotiations
 - Containment
 - Less Lethal
 - Medical
 - Aerial Overwatch
 - Air Rescue
 - WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction)
 - Rappelling
 - Breaching
 - K9/Apprehension
 - EOD/Bomb





SWAT SELECTION AND TRAINING

Selection

- Application with Supervisors approval
- Physical Fitness Qualification
- Stress Course
- Firearms Qualification
- Background Review
- Interview
- Basic SWAT School
- Prospect Year / Mentor
 - Teammate Evaluations
 - Mid-Year Review
 - Commander's Board
- All standards are the same for male and female

Training

- 16 hours per month (Two Days)
 - SWAT Team
- 8 hours per month (Additional to the 16 hours)
 - Precision Rifle
 - Entry Team
- Quarterly training (Additional to the 16 hours)
 - Negotiators
 - Less Lethal
 - Aerial Overwatch
 - Air Rescue
- Monthly Training for EMTs
 - With the support of Richland County EMS
- 40-hour SWAT In-Service (yearly)

OPERATIONS



WMD/CBRNe

Hostage Rescue

Barricaded Suspects

High-Risk Warrant Service

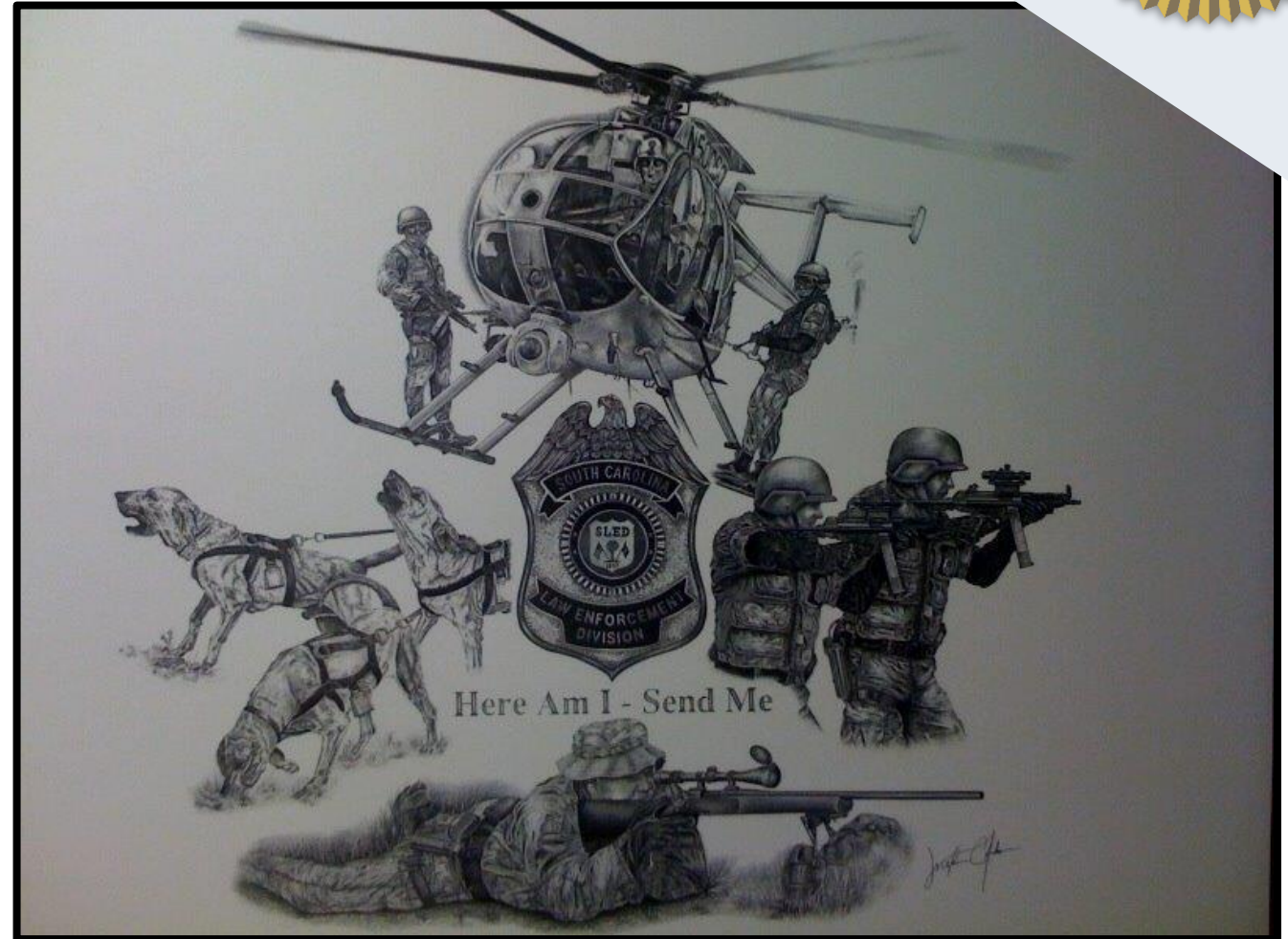
Security Details (Dignitary, POTUS, etc.)

Air Rescue

Aerial Overwatch

Tactical Assistance

Civil Disturbance/Riots





WMD (WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION)

Capable of responding statewide to any Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or Explosive (CBRNE) environment.

Team: Sixteen (16) HAZMAT Technician Level Eight (8) HAZMAT Operations Level, Twenty-six (26) HAZMAT Awareness Level operators.

WMD Coordinator in conjunction with SLED Bomb Squad responds to white powder or suspicious substance calls.



HOSTAGE RESCUE

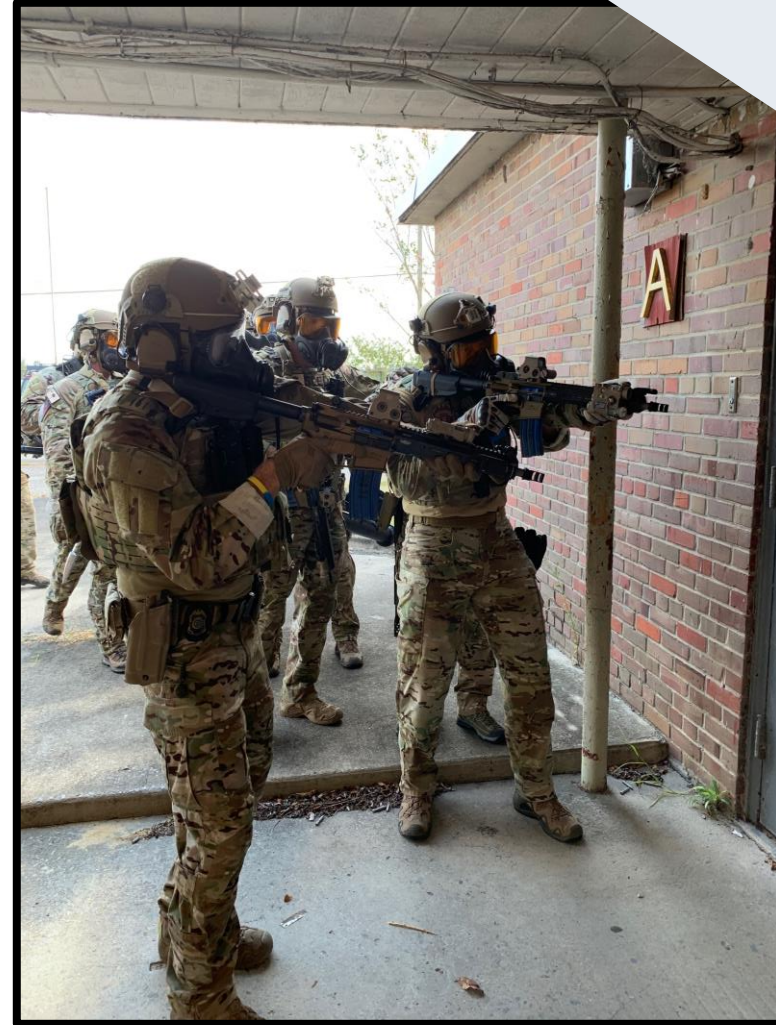


- Capable of responding to any critical incidents involving the taking of hostages or innocents where the threat of death or great bodily harm is threatened or apparent.
 - Dillon
 - Eviction with Daughter Hostage
 - Clarendon (2)
 - Mail Carrier Hostage
 - Robot Negotiations Hostage



BARRICADED SUSPECTS

- At the request of local law enforcement, the team applies the procedures and tactics suitable to the resolution of an armed and barricaded suspect(s) situation.
 - Laurens
 - Officer Involved Shots Fired in Shed
 - West Columbia
 - Hotel Domestic Dispute
 - Chesterfield
 - Officer Involved Shots Fired



HIGH-RISK WARRANT SERVICE



Capable of serving high-risk search and arrest warrants by applying the concepts involving warrant planning; intelligence gathering; target site scouting; uses of diversion and breaching; and methods of executing the warrant inclusive of breach and hold, limited penetration, and contain and call out.



SECURITY DETAILS



Preplanned operations requiring the team to be on standby to rapidly deploy to critical incidents.

Typical Operations:

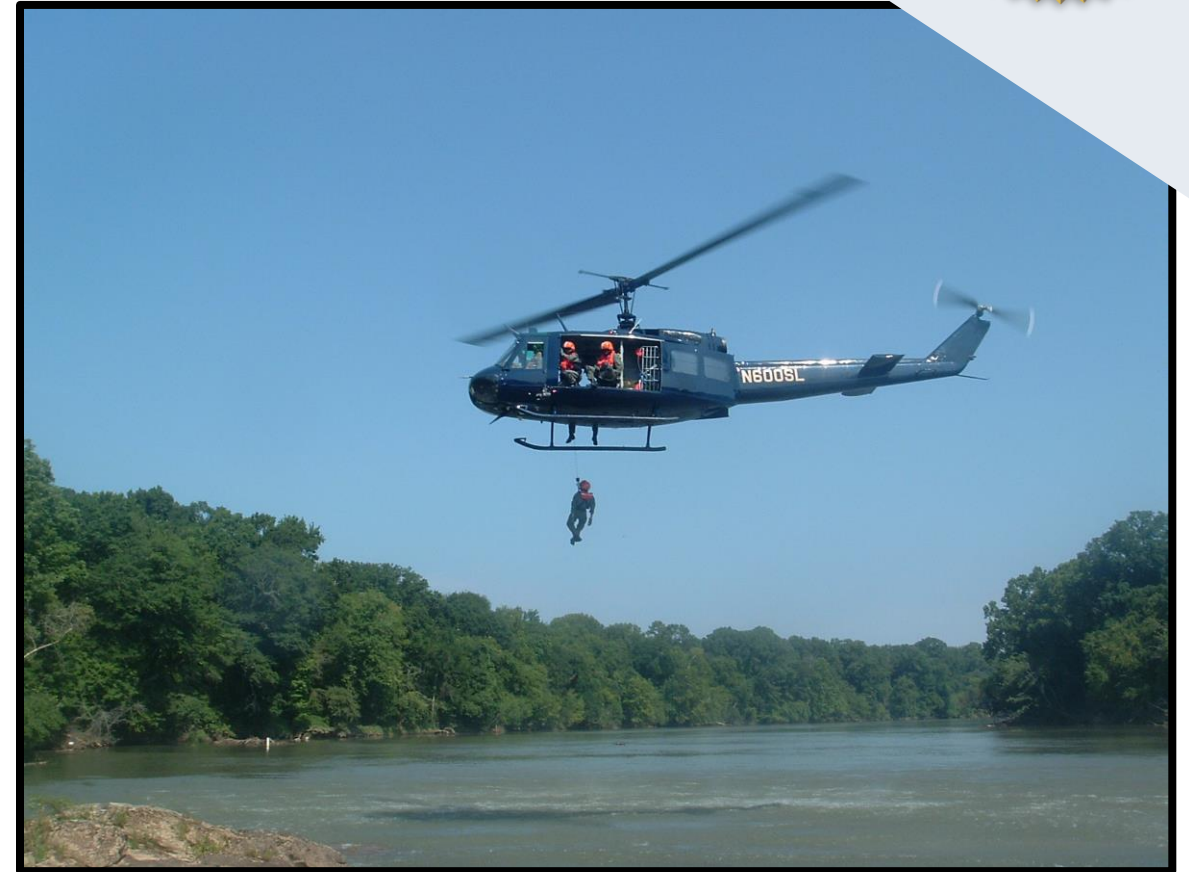
- USC Football Games
- Clemson Football Games
- Any event at the Statehouse
- Memorial Day Bike Week
- Myrtle Beach Weekend
- POTUS/VPOTUS visits
- Dept. of Energy Shipments



AIR RESCUE



In conjunction with SLED Aviation, SLED EMTs and crew chiefs possess the knowledge, skills, and abilities to affect the rescue of civilians trapped or isolated due to natural disaster where traditional rescue efforts are insufficient.



AERIAL OVERWATCH

- In conjunction with SLED Aviation, specifically trained SLED operators are deployed to provide surveillance, intelligence, reconnaissance, and interdiction from SLED aircraft during critical incidents.
 - York County
 - Implementation of Aerial Overwatch



CIVIL DISTURBANCE/PROTESTS/RIOTS



Predominantly deploying with less lethal options, the team responds to incidents of civil disturbance with local agencies and riots at correctional facilities.



FISCAL YEAR STATISTICS



<u>FY Statistics</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>2024-2025</u>
WMD Response	12	14	5	1	7
Hostage Rescue	1	1	3	2	1
Barricaded Suspect	17	13	14	6	10
High-Risk Warrants	18	37	45	35	67
Security Details	63	74	55	79	84
Aerial Overwatch	7	1	2	11	6
Tactical Assistance	2	7	16	14	11
Protest/Riot	2	4	7	2	1
Active Shooter		1			1
Total	122	152	148	150	188



CURRENT SWAT FLEET OF SPECIALIZED VEHICLES

1. Lenco Bearcat
 - New Bearcat has been purchased from 24-25 budget and is currently 10 months from arrival.
2. Armet Balkan
3. Armored Chevrolet Tahoe(s)
4. Armored Mercedes Sprinter Van
5. International SWAT Support Truck
 - A new SWAT Truck has been purchased from 24-25 budget and is currently 6 months from arrival.
6. Chevrolet Suburban Support Truck
7. Freightliner Command Post
8. PRND/RAD Deployment Vehicle
9. Polaris RAZORs (1033)

LENCO BEARCAT



- 2013, 6.7L Ford Diesel, 4-Wheel Drive
- Armor Rating:
 - Armor = Up to multiple .50 Caliber (ball) rounds (capable of stopping a .50 Caliber AP round at less than 30-degree angle).
 - Windows = Up to one .50 Caliber (ball) rounds (Window delamination affects window clarity, not armor capability)

LENCO BEARCAT (continued)



- Seats up to 10
- Armored Turret
- WMD Capable with on-board air to support SCBAs
- Primary Armored Vehicle for SWAT Calls
- **Cost: \$417,570.00** (2024-2025 budget new purchase price)

ARMET BALKAN



- 2006, 6.0L Ford Diesel, 4 Wheel Drive
- Armor Rating
- Armor = Up to 3 hits of 7.62 x 51 NATO AP
- Window = Up to 3 hits of 7.62 x 51 NATO AP
- Seats up to 10
- Armored Turret
- Primary Armor for additional SWAT Calls
- **Cost: \$187,500.00** (2006 purchase price)

ARMORED CHEVROLET TAHOE(S)



- Two Identical vehicles
- 2013, 5.3L Chevrolet Gas, 4 Wheel Drive
- Armor Rating
 - Vehicle rated up to 7.62 x 51 rifle rounds for 360 degrees around the vehicle
- Seats up to 5
- Secondary Vehicle for SWAT Calls
- **Cost: ~\$150,000.00** (purchased on DoE grant)



ARMORED MERCEDES SPRINTER VAN



- 2022, 3.0L Mercedes Benz Diesel, 2 Wheel Drive
- Armor Rating
 - Armor = Multi-hit capable of up to 7.62 x 51 NATO FMJ M80
- Windows = Same as Armor
- Seating capacity for up to 12
- Primary Vehicle for Search Warrant Operations
- Great for Low Visibility Staging
- **Cost: \$169,880.00** (Sled purchased vehicle and DOE grant paid for up-armorings)



INTERNATIONAL SWAT SUPPORT TRUCK

- 2004
- 9.3L Diesel
- 2 Wheel Drive
- Unarmored
- Responsible for transporting and charging some of the SWAT Team's larger equipment



CHEVROLET SUBURBAN SUPPORT TRUCK



- 2015
- 5.3L Chevrolet Gas
- 4 Wheel Drive
- Seating for up to 5
- Primarily operates as 'Heavy Truck' on preplanned operations. Can also operate as a mini-support truck for preplanned SWAT operations.
- **Cost: \$60,000.00**

FREIGHTLINER COMMAND POST



- 2005
- Freightliner
- Primarily deployed to large scale events for command and control.
- Conference room with computer and communication equipment.





PRND/RAD DEPLOYMENT VEHICLE

- 2023 Freightliner
- Diesel powered
- Mission Set
 - Mobile Outreach Vehicle
 - Mobile Command Post
 - Radiological/Nuclear Detection
- **Cost: ~\$550,000.00** (Purchased through a partnership with Dept. of Energy and Office of Radiological Security)



POLARIS RAZORs



- Two deployable all-terrain vehicles
- 4-Stroke SOHC Three Cylinder Turbo Diesel
- 12" Ground Clearance
- Quick Rail Cargo System
- Payload Capacity: 1,500 lbs.
- Towing Capacity: 1,500 lbs.
- **Cost: 1033 (DRMO) program**



PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER AGENCIES

Federal

- United States Secret Service
- United State Capitol Police
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Drug Enforcement Administration
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms
- Homeland Security Investigations
- Department of Energy and Office of Radiological Security
- Department of Defense
- 43rd Civil Support Team

State

- South Carolina Department of Public Safety
- South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
- South Carolina Probation, Pardon and Parole Services
- South Carolina Department of Corrections
- South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice
- South Carolina Emergency Management Division

Local

- Sheriff's Offices
- Police Departments



CONCLUSION AND QUESTIONS

SLED AVIATION



House Oversight Committee

Captain Aaron Rawl

Tactical Operations

Lieutenant Brandon Moss-Chief Pilot

Aviation

SLED AVIATION UNIT



The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division Aviation Unit provides **24-hour a day aviation** assets to all public safety agencies in the state of South Carolina. The Aviation Unit has provided assistance throughout the state in; missing persons, fugitive searches, narcotics operations, surveillance, personnel and asset transport, tactical operations/SWAT support, hoist and lift operations, natural disaster response, Bambi bucket operations (aerial water delivery), executive/presidential details, national security operations, port security and transport operations.



AVIATION PERSONNEL AND OPERATIONS

SLED Aviation Unit Personnel (June 2025):

- Lieutenant Brandon Moss – 21 years of law enforcement
- Six full-time pilots
 - Chad Barnett – 21 years of law enforcement
 - Michael Dillon – 28 years of law enforcement
 - Peter Birochak – 2 year of law enforcement
 - Cory DeArmitt – 7 years of law enforcement
 - Russell Heintz – 9 years of law enforcement
 - Lewis Stoertz – 12 years of law enforcement
- One full-time 40-hour temporary pilot
 - David Mattox – 43 years of law enforcement
- One part-time pilot
 - John Bishop (capped at \$10k) – 35 years of law enforcement



AIRCRAFT OPERATED BY SLED

- **One Bell 407** (N500SC)
- Manufactured in 2009
- Seating for two pilots and four passengers.
- Equipped with Forward Looking Infrared camera (FLIR), search light and moving map system.
- Flight endurance of approximately 3 hours and 30 minutes.





AIRCRAFT OPERATED BY SLED

- **Two MD 500E** (N502SL and N504SL)
- Manufactured in 1987 (N502SL) and 2014 (N504SL)
- Seating for two pilots and two passengers.
- Equipped with Forward Looking Infrared camera (FLIR), search light and moving map system.
- Flight endurance of approximately 2 hours.





AIRCRAFT OPERATED BY SLED

- One Bell 412EPX
- Manufactured in 2023
- Seating for two pilots and thirteen passengers.
- Equipped with Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) camera, search light, moving map system, hoist and cargo hook.
- Flight endurance of approximately 3 hours.
- Can be utilized to assist with rescue missions and firefighting.

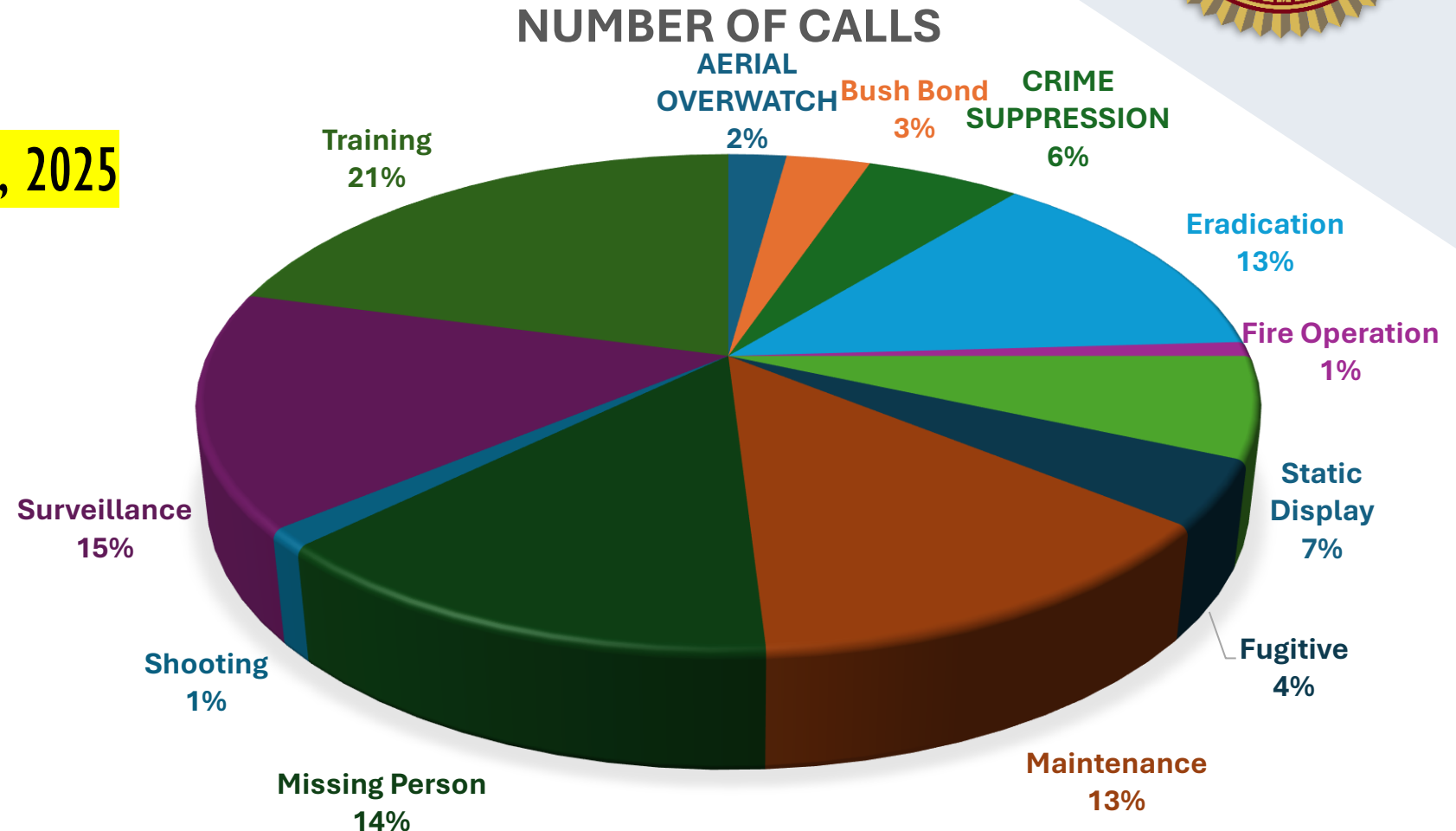


MISSION REQUESTS AND FLIGHT HOURS — FISCAL 24/25



July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025

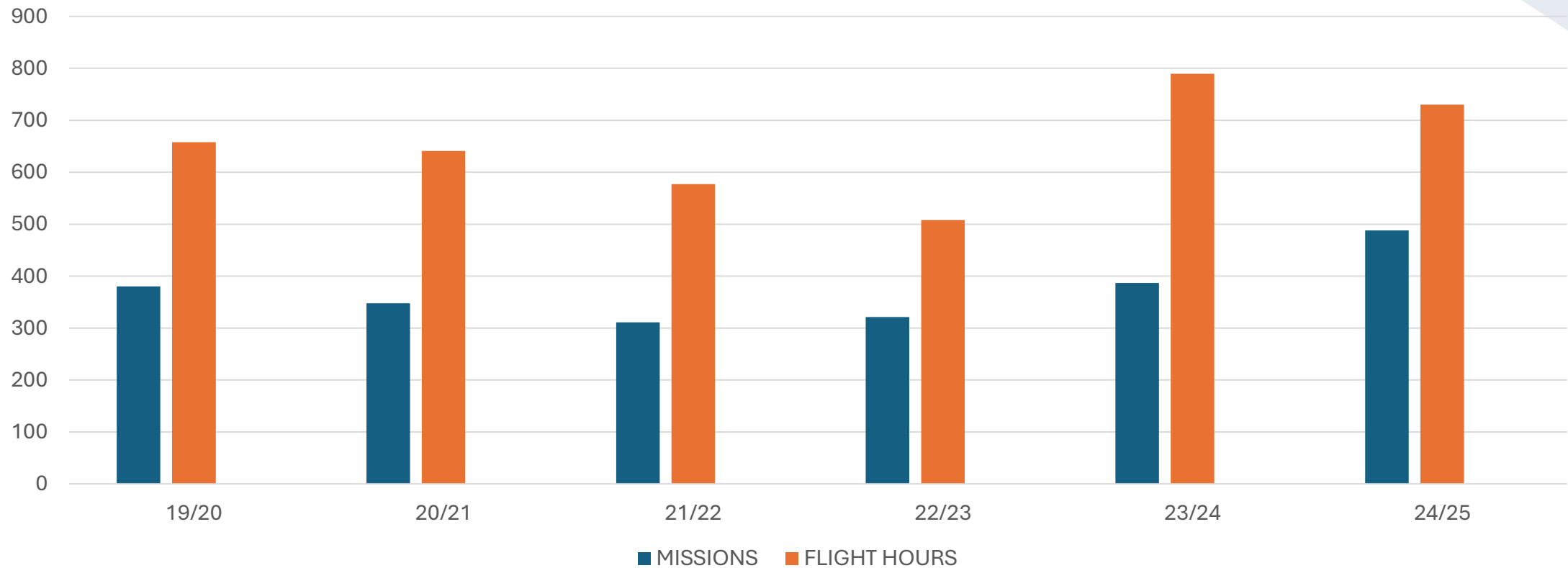
- 488 missions
- 730 flight hours
- 55 arrests



MISSION REQUESTS AND FLIGHT HOURS 2020-2025 FISCAL YEARS



MISSION REQUESTS AND FLIGHT HOURS



*2020-2022 had a reduction in mission requests and flight hours during the COVID-19 pandemic.



AVIATION HELICOPTER COSTS

- SLED500 (Bell 407) - ~\$1,173.00/hour
 - Engine Overhaul - \$270,022.43
 - General Maintenance - \$39,479.04
- SLED502 (MD 500) - ~\$729.00/hour
 - General Maintenance - \$34,600.35
- SLED504 (MD 500) - ~\$729.00/hour
 - General Maintenance - \$96,550.00
- SLED600 (Bell 412) - ~\$3,483.00/hour
 - Annual Inspection - \$63,450.10
 - Pratt & Whitney CAMP - \$80,822.06
 - Bell CAP - \$84,128.80
 - General Maintenance - \$58,185.02
- Insurance: \$485,068.00/year for all air frames

MISSION REQUESTS AND FLIGHT HOURS



- In recent years, the Aviation Unit has expanded its mission capabilities, as well as the complexity of the aircraft that are being operated.
- In 2023, the Aviation Unit increased flight hours by 66% and mission requests by 19.6% over calendar year 2022. This trend has continued through the current date.
- In 2023, the Aviation Unit partnered with the Columbia Police Department and Richland County Sheriff's office to launch a successful patrol flight program.
- The Aviation Unit has partnered with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and the South Carolina Department of Forestry to assist in aerial water delivery.

TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS



- SLED Pilots are trained to hold a minimum of a FAA commercial pilots license and instrument rating.
- SLED currently has two FAA Certified Flight Instructors on staff.
- SLED Pilots attend Bell and MD Helicopters factory training.
- SLED Pilots are trained to utilize night vision goggles for low light flight conditions.

PILOT OVERTIME FOR FY 2024/2025



- \$17,798.49
- 334.8 HOURS
TOTAL OT TIME



YORK COUNTY



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



DOG FIGHTING



CHESTERFIELD COUNTY



RICHLAND COUNTY AND CITY OF COLUMBIA



RICHLAND COUNTY AND CITY OF COLUMBIA



AREAS FOR GROWTH



- Replace aging MD Helicopters with Bell 407's.
- Increase pilot pay to assist with pilot retention.
- Continue to expand capabilities.
- Acquisition of new/existing hangar and office space to house all personnel and airframes or construct a new hangar and office space.
- Utilize existing resources available within the state.



CONCLUSION AND QUESTIONS

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UNIT



House Legislative Oversight Committee

Captain Brandon Landrum

Lieutenant Kathryn Powell

PROTECTIVE SERVICES/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UNIT (PSEM UNIT)



Supervisors:

- Captain Brandon Landrum (20 years LE service) – SWAT Support
- Lieutenant Kathryn Powell (11 years LE service) – CDU Member

Agents:

- Senior Special Agent Charles Hollmon (31 years LE service) – SWAT Member, Negotiator Team Leader
- Senior Special Agent Kenny Williamson (21 years LE service)
- Senior Special Agent Duston Phillips (12 years LE service)
- Senior Special Agent Ricky Grubbs (41 years LE service) – Full-time temporary agent

Administrative Coordinator:

- Tammy Rawl (34 years) – Incident Tactical Dispatcher

UNIT MISSION



Provide support to federal, state, and local agencies by planning, coordinating, and/or executing responses for planned special events, emergencies, disasters, and critical incidents. In addition, the Protective Services/Emergency Management Unit also plans for and provides security for dignitaries, juries, and other VIP's.

Coordinate, support, plan, and respond to the South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) for all hazard planning regarding critical incidents as the Emergency Support Function 13 (ESF-13) lead agency.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES



The Chief of SLED may approve the use of security resources for dignitaries, officials of government entities, "Very Important Persons" (VIP), or other persons for which a significant threat is perceived. Responsibilities for VIP security may include, but are not limited to, the following (CALEA 46.2.6):

- a) Establishment and inspection of travel and alternate routes as necessary
- b) Timeline of events
- c) Advance inspections of sites and facilities
- d) Limited access and egress as necessary during the event
- e) Identification of emergency first-aid capabilities, ambulance services, and medical facilities

PROTECTIVE SERVICES



- f) Identification of fire department facilities
- g) Intelligence gathering on individuals or groups hostile to the VIP
- h) Notification to local hospital(s) and Level 1 Trauma Centers
- i) Consideration of equipment requirements, to include vehicles, body armor for VIP's, special weapons
- j) Notification and coordination with other assisting agencies

As part of a dignitary visit, the PSEM Unit is also responsible for the coordination of operations both within SLED and with outside agencies, to include air support, communications (radios, telephones, etc.), and tactical team support.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES



Dignitary Protection Details:

The PSEM Unit is responsible for coordinating and overseeing dignitary protection details for two current US Congressional Delegates while in South Carolina.

- Two Senior Special Agents (SS/A) in the PSEM Unit are responsible for the day-to-day operations and scheduling within each detail.
- Each detail is comprised of approximately 15 agents who are assigned a primary job duty at SLED and also work the dignitary protection details as a collateral duty.
- PSEM provides training to all agents on the two details with United States Secret Service (USSS) and SLED's Executive Protection Unit.
- All agents of the PSEM Unit have attended a dignitary protection school.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Dignitary Protection Assistance:

The PSEM Unit plans for, assists with, and oversees dignitary visits within the state, including, but not limited to:

POTUS

VPOTUS

FPOTUS

FLOTUS

Senator John Thune

Governor Ron DeSantis

NAACP President

Secretary of Commerce

Secretary of Transportation

Small Business Administration

Secretary of Homeland Security

Presidential Candidates

President of Dominican Republic

Secretary of Labor

Secretary of Transportation

House Minority Leader Hakeem Jefferies

Former Speaker Kevin McCarthy

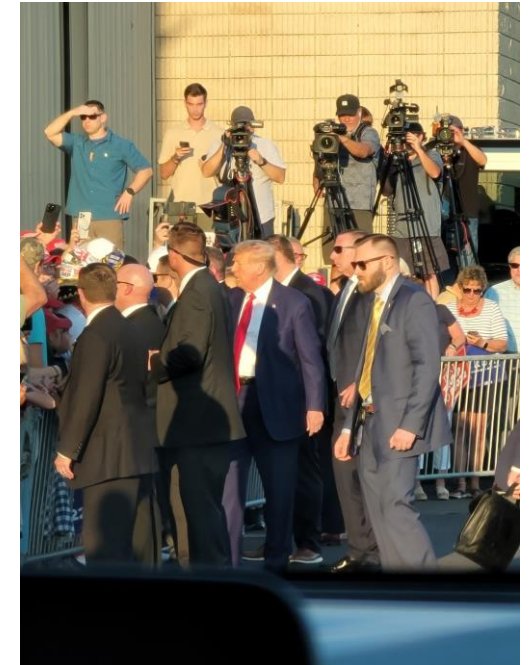
Former UN Ambassador Nikki Haley

Secretary of Housing & Urban Development

Secretary of Energy

Secretary of Treasury

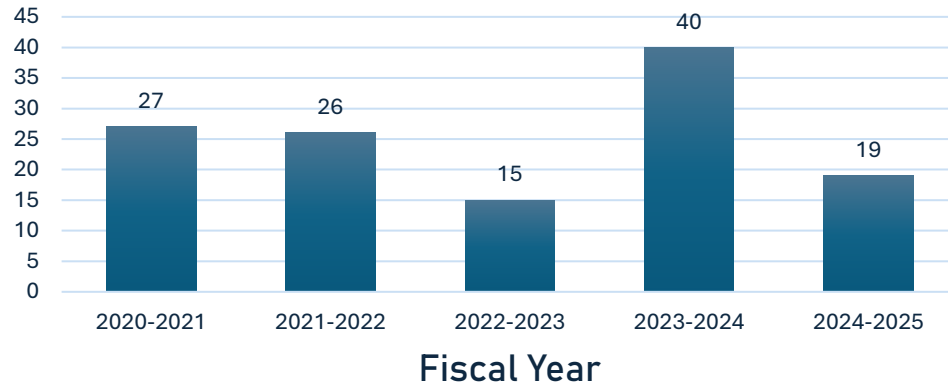
Secretary of Agriculture



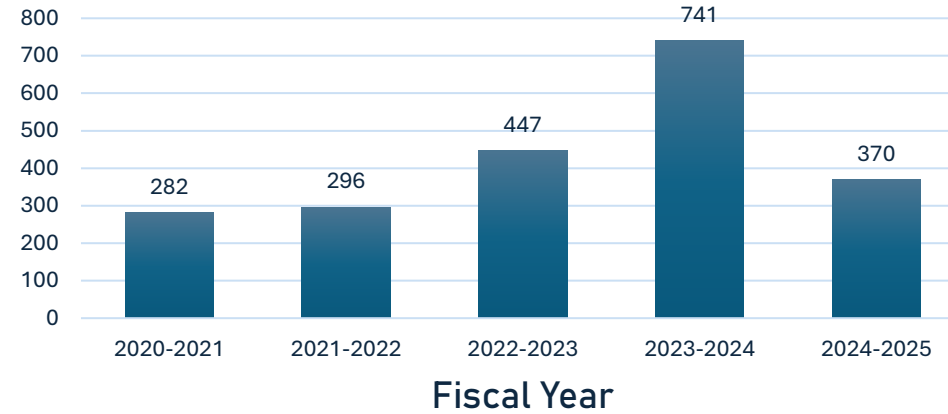
PROTECTIVE SERVICES STATISTICS



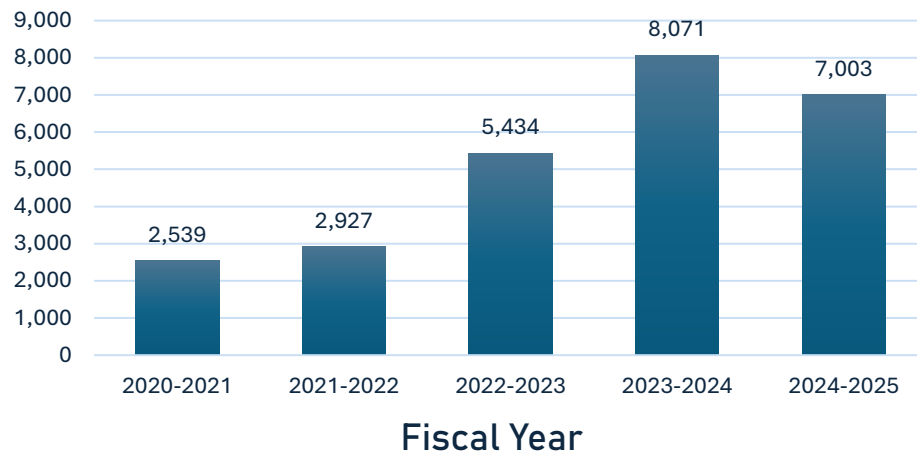
Requests



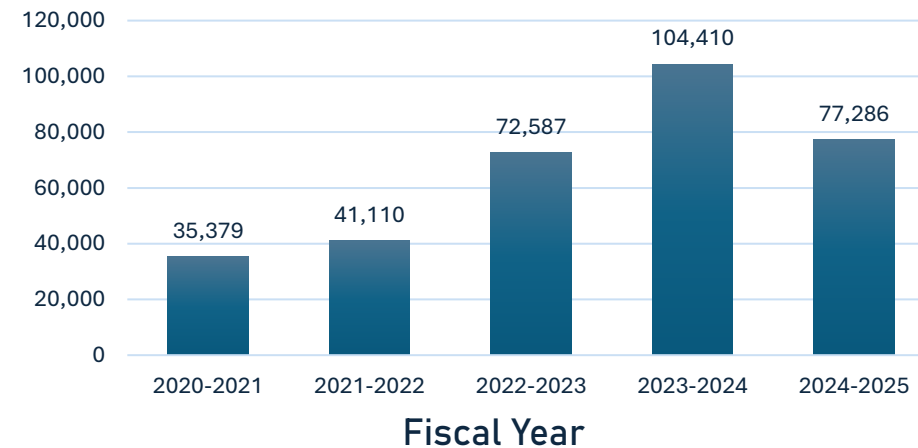
Personnel



Hours



Mileage



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



- In accordance with the Legislative Act 199 of 1979, Section 21, the South Carolina Emergency Operations Plan (SCEOP), SLED is the coordinating agency for state law enforcement in man-made and natural disasters as it pertains to general law enforcement issues.
- The SCEOP covers major hazards including hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, severe winter and summer storms, flooding, major urban/industrial fires, explosions, transportation spills of oils and toxic chemicals, forest fires, nuclear facility incidents, dam failures, terrorism, and war.
- By statutory authority, SC Code of Laws Sections 23-3-15 and 54-17- 20 as amended provides for the Governor's designation of SLED as the lead state agency in the Counterterrorism effort. These statutes also provide for the Chief of SLED to be the state's representative to the United States Department of Homeland Security.
- The SCEOP and associated annexes as approved by the Governor provides that SLED is the lead state agency for general law enforcement and security for all natural or man-made disasters under Emergency Support Function 13 (ESF-13).
- This document also provides that the Division is the lead state agency with regards to coordinating response to civil disturbances in Appendix 7; however, the SC Department of Public Safety provides the front-line civil disturbance teams.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



SLED's responsibilities:

- **Coordinate** state level law enforcement (i.e., enforcement of criminal laws and Executive Orders) and law enforcement protective measures for essential facilities, materials, and officials.
- **Act as liaison** with other law enforcement agencies to coordinate responses to local needs.
- **Advise and assist** EMD in the coordination of public safety operations with other emergency activities.
- **Monitor and report** to EMD the disaster assistance actions of all state law enforcement agencies.
- **Direct** the deployment of resources during civil unrest.
- **Provide for the coordination** and communication with the Department of Homeland Security when applicable.
- **Staff** ESF-13 at the SEOC during an activation.
- **Assist** the Department of Energy with escorting Foreign Spent Nuclear Fuel Shipments (FSNFS) through the state to Savannah River Site (SRS).
- Responsible for maintaining several statewide plans as they pertain to SLED's response.
- Participate in all exercises and tabletops throughout the state (dams, nuclear plants, plans, etc.)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



- **Plans:**

Hurricane Base Plan

Earthquake Plan

Terrorism Operations Plan

FBI Integrated Response Plan

Continuity of Operations Plan

Medical Counter Measures Plan

SC Repatriation Plan

Winter Storm Plan

Election Plan

Civil Disturbance Plan

SC Ports Response Plan

Sequestered Jury Plan

Steris Plan

Ebola Plan

- **Dam Plans:**

Saluda, Fairfield, Santee, Pinnopolis, Wateree, Steven's Creek, Parr

- **Fixed Nuclear Site Plans:**

Oconee, Catawba, HB Robinson, VC Summer, Vogtle, Savannah River Site

- **Power Company Plans:**

Santee Cooper, Dominion, Duke Energy



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REQUESTS



Types:

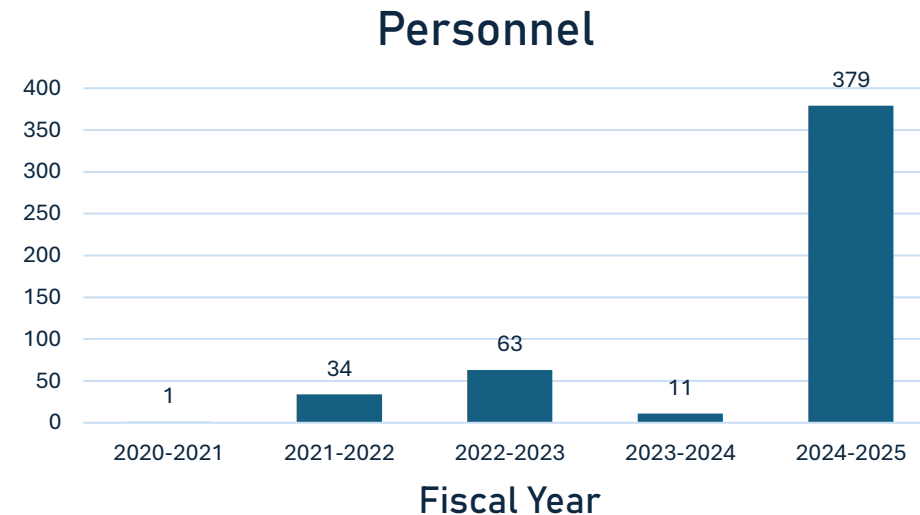
- Natural Disasters
- Special Events
- Sporting Events
- Department of Energy (DOE) Escorts
- CrimeSuppressions/Saturations
- Law Enforcement Support
- Protests
- Incidents



NATURAL DISASTERS



- **2020** – Hurricane Isaias
- **2022** – Hurricane Ian
- **2023** – Hurricane Idalia, Bamberg County Tornadoes
- **2024** – Tropical Storm Debby, Orangeburg Floods, Hurricane Helene
- **2025** – Winter Storm Enzo



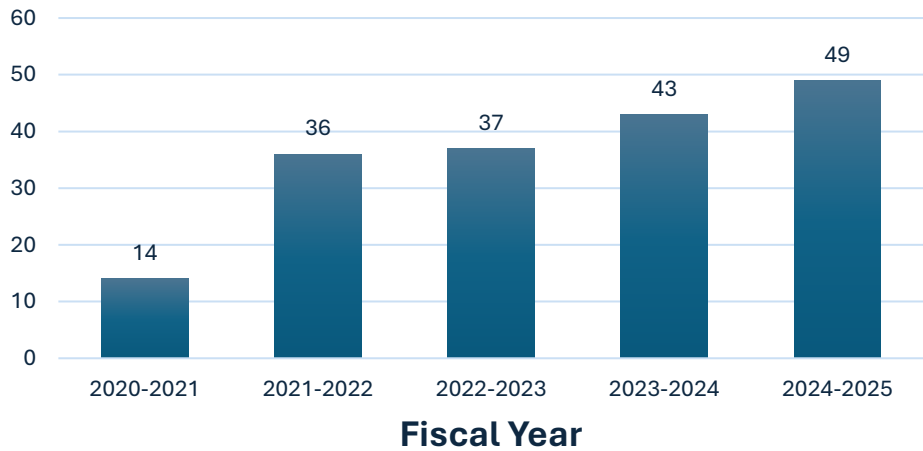
SPECIAL EVENTS



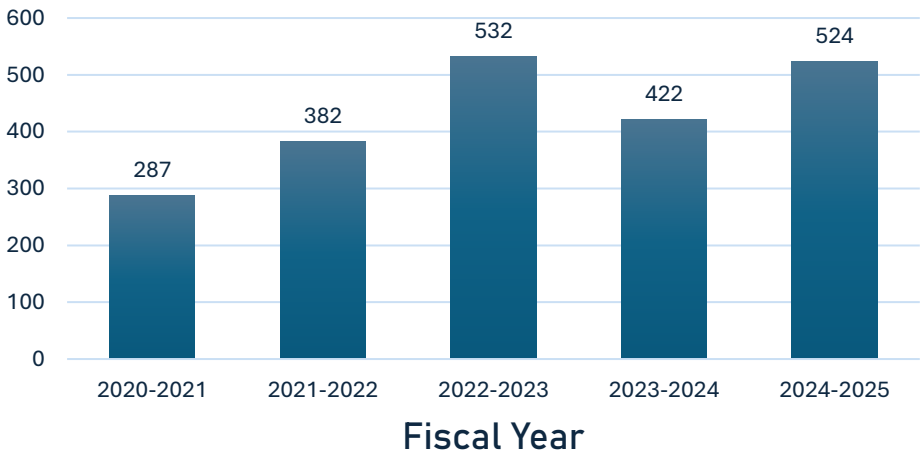
- National Governor’s Association Conference
- Republican Lieutenant Governor’s Association Conference
- South Carolina Circuit Court Judges Conference
- South Carolina Judicial Branch Seminar
- South Carolina Mental Health Summit

- Southern Legislative Conference
- Governor’s Inauguration
- Republican Governor’s Association Conference
- South Carolina Bar Convention
- Medal of Honor Conference

Requests



Personnel



ANNUAL LARGE-SCALE SPECIAL EVENTS



Cooper River Bridge Run (Charleston)

MLK March to the Dome (Columbia)

Memorial Day Weekend Bike Fest (Myrtle Beach)

PGA Golf Tournaments (Myrtle Beach, Hilton Head, Ridgeland)

Carolina Country Music Festival (Myrtle Beach)

Field and Stream Music Festival (Winnsboro)

Carolina Cup (Camden)

NASCAR Races (Darlington)

College Football Games (Benedict, Clemson,
Coastal Carolina, South Carolina, and SC State)

State of the State (Columbia)

Governor's Open House (Columbia)

Governor's Carolighting (Columbia)



SPECIAL EVENTS PLANNING



Camden Burials
Honor Ceremony



Southern
Legislative
Conference
Youth Activities

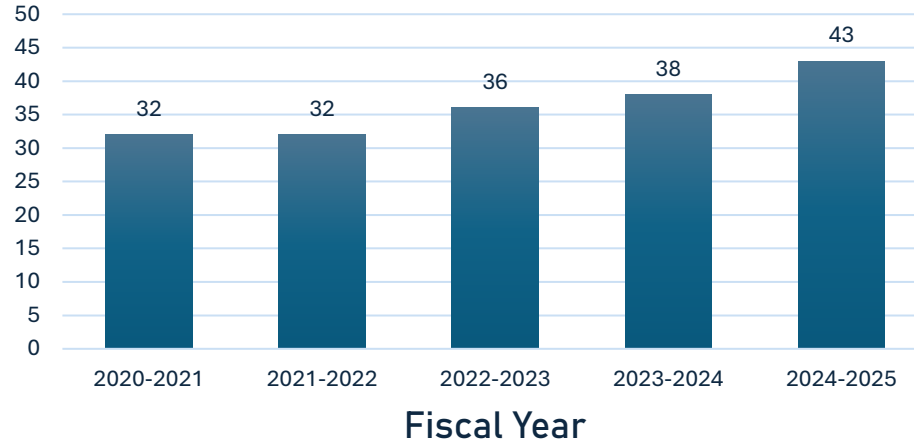


Southern Legislative
Conference
Command Post

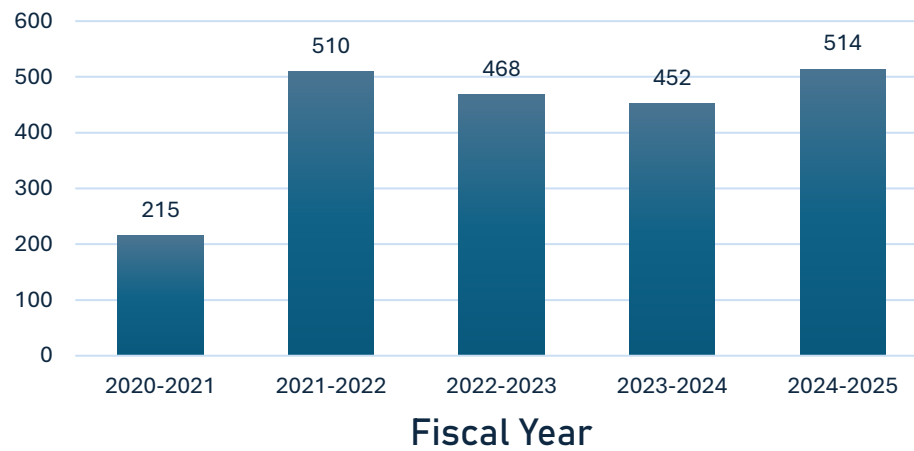
SPORTING EVENTS



Requests



Personnel

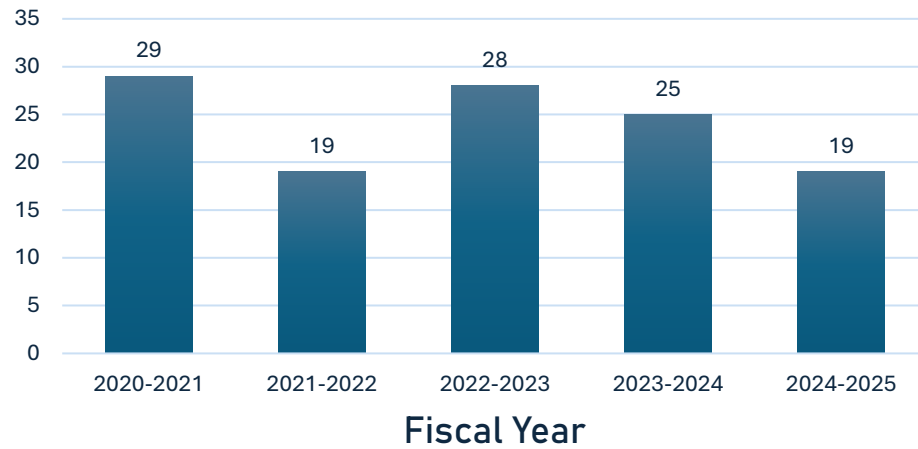


DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE) ESCORTS

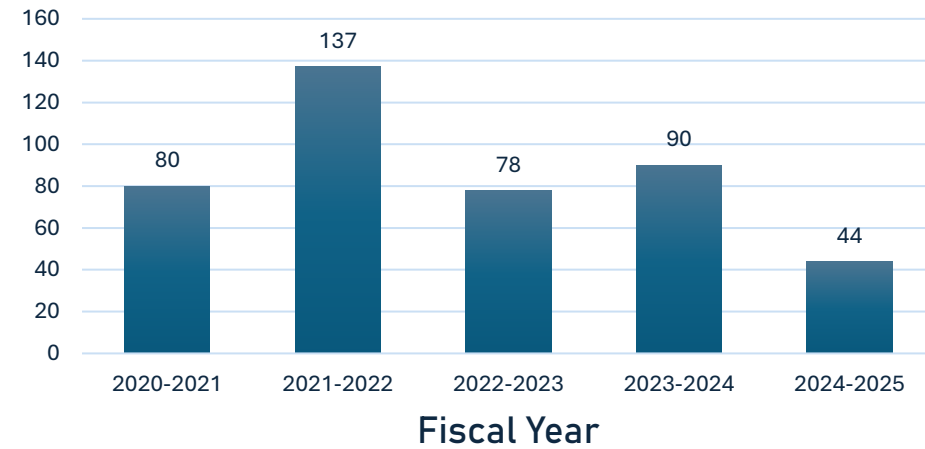


As outlined by Proviso Part 1B Section 62.9 – D100 – State Law Enforcement Division, (SLED: Hazardous Materials Security Detail), SLED is authorized to be reimbursed for security related law enforcement services provided to entities authorized to transport sensitive materials within the borders of South Carolina.

Requests



Personnel



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE) ESCORTS



- In the fall of 2020, DOE completed the campaign to repatriate 161 kilograms of spent nuclear fuel from Chalk River Laboratories in Ontario, Canada, to the Savannah River Site. This campaign began in 2017 and involved 115 separate truck shipments. During this time, SLED provided safe and secure escorts for these shipments without incident to the shipments.
- In the spring of 2022 and winter of 2023, SLED completed the campaign to repatriate spent nuclear fuel from Japan to the Savannah River Site by train.
- The PSEM Unit has presented at both the National Transportation Stakeholders Forum (NTSF) and the Transportation Security Unified Stakeholders Group (TSUSG) conferences.
- DOE provides a 5-year grant to assist with equipment, supplies, and training to conduct these escorts.



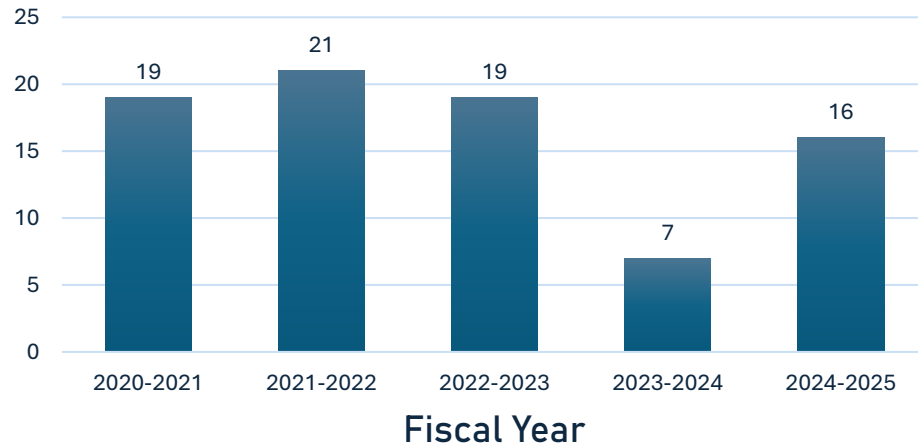
CRIME SUPPRESSIONS/SATURATIONS



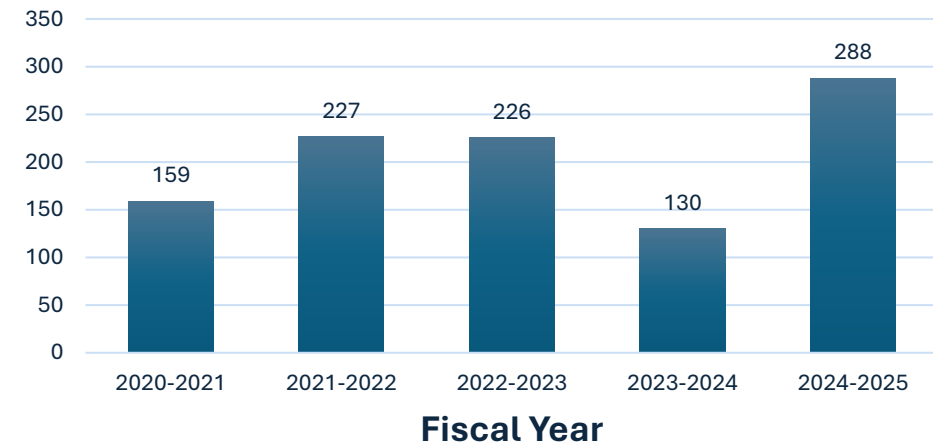
Counties:

- Abbeville, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Berkeley, Chester, Colleton, Darlington, Dillon, Fairfield, Georgetown, Hampton, Horry, Jasper, Lancaster, Marion, Marlboro, Newberry, Orangeburg, Sumter, Union

Requests



Personnel



CRIME SUPPRESSIONS/SATURATIONS



According to Sumter PD, below is a snapshot of their crime statistics taken from May 2024 and May 2025. Major crimes significantly decreased during the planned crime suppressions from June 2024 to June 2025:

Juvenile stats

MAJOR CRIME BREAK DOWN TOTALS (YEAR TO DATE 2024/2025)			
	May-24	May-25	% Change
Murder & Nonnegligent Manslaughter	1	0	-100.00%
Sexual Assault	1	0	-100.00%
Aggravated Assault	5	4	-20.00%
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	4	4	0.00%
Theft From Motor Vehicle	16	2	-87.50%
Motor Vehicle Theft	14	2	-85.71%
General Larceny	9	6	-33.33%
Weapon Law Violations	8	4	-50.00%
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	8	4	-50.00%
Robbery	1	4	300.00%
Overall Totals	67	30	-55.22%

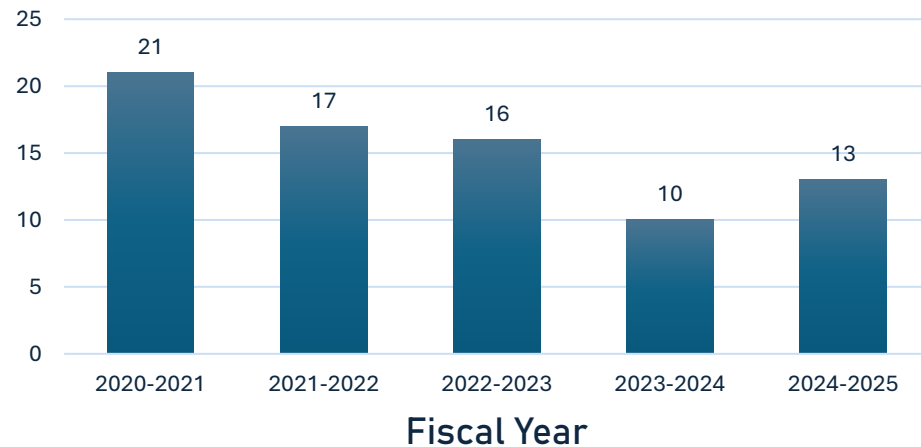
MAJOR CRIME BREAK DOWN TOTALS (YEAR TO DATE 2024/2025)			
	May-24	May-25	% Change
Murder & Nonnegligent Manslaughter	6	3	-50.00%
Sexual Assault	1	3	200.00%
Aggravated Assault	102	72	-29.41%
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	59	50	-15.25%
Theft From Motor Vehicle	146	51	-65.07%
Motor Vehicle Theft	89	26	-70.79%
General Larceny	94	61	-35.11%
Weapon Law Violations	28	19	-32.14%
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	137	64	-53.28%
Robbery	11	24	118.18%
Overall Totals	673	373	-44.58%

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT

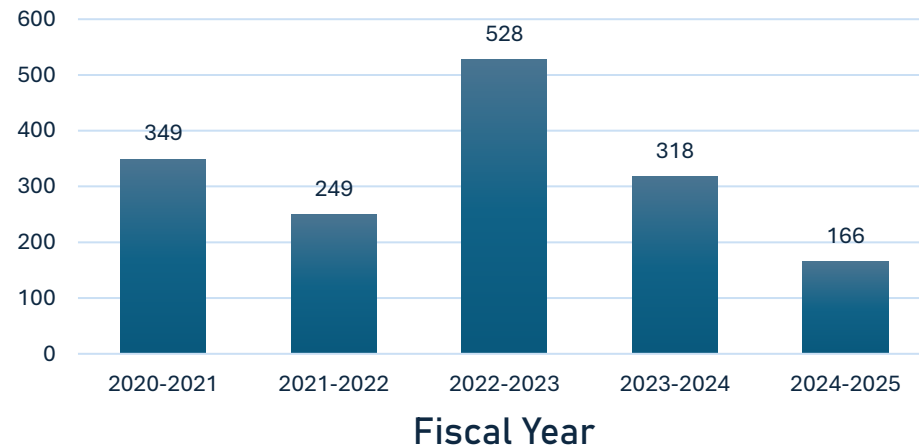


- Provided law enforcement coverage and answer calls for service in the following jurisdictions:
 - Allendale City, Chester County, Chester City, Estill, Blackville, Department of Juvenile Justice
- Provided election security during ballot recount (Dorchester County)
- Assisted with courtroom security, prisoner transports, and inmate security at hospitals

Requests



Personnel

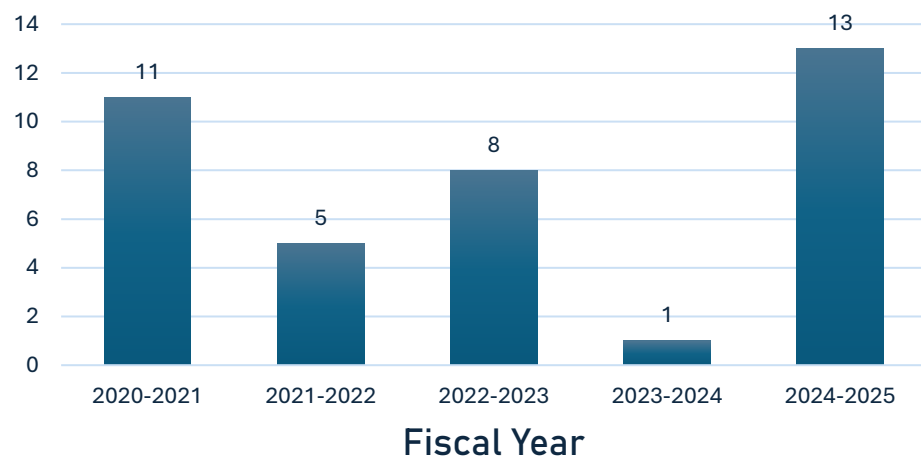


PROTESTS

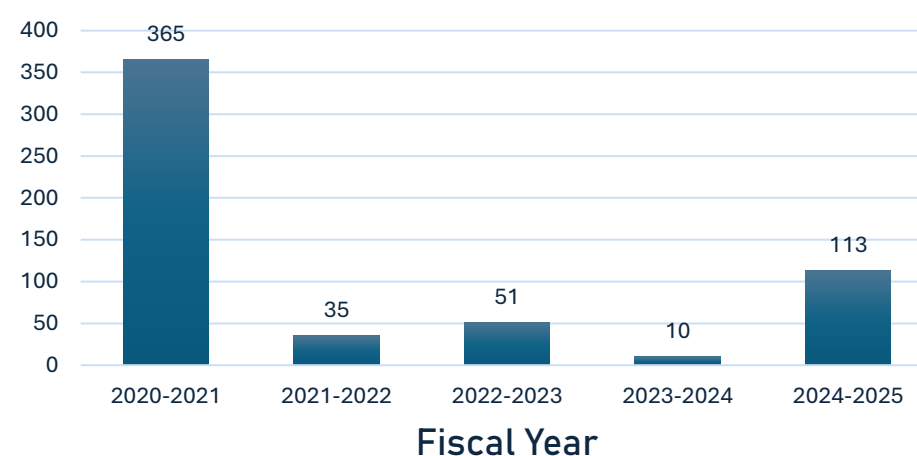


- 2020 – State House Protests, Breonna Taylor Protest
- 2021 – Sutherland Protest in Charleston, Back the Blue at Clemson, SCOTUS Ruling on Roe v. Wade
- 2022 – State House Details for House/Senate Abortion Legislation
- 2023 – Gaza Ceasefire Protest at State House
- 2024 – Longshoremen’s Union, Carolina People’s Red Line Tour
- 2025 – Stand Up For Life, Stop Deportation Against Immigrants, National Day of Protest, No Kings

Requests



Personnel



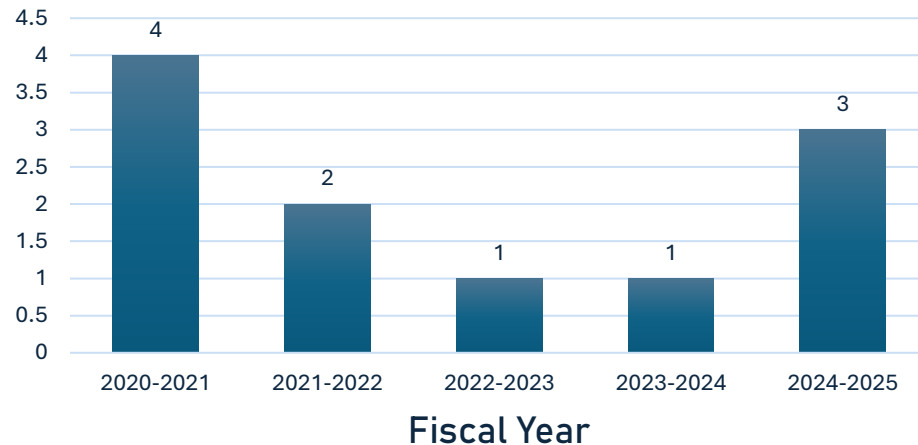
INCIDENTS



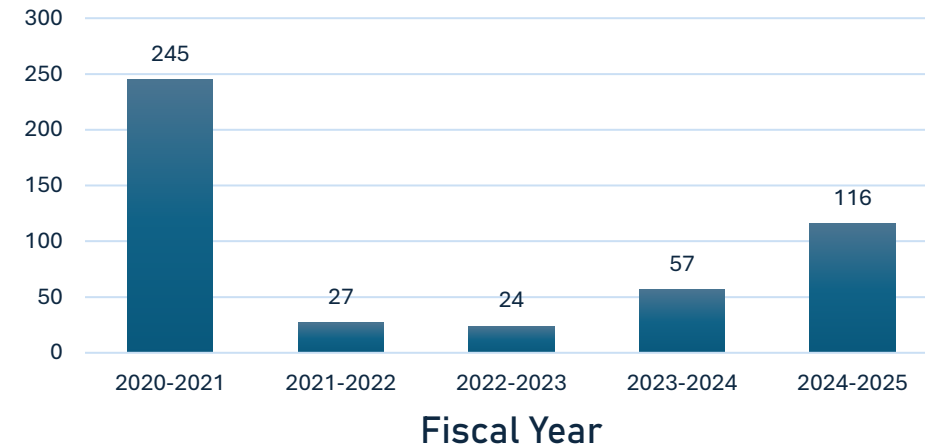
Multi-agency response:

- 2020 – Covid-19 vaccine escorts, Tyler Terry Manhunt (Chester County)
- 2021 – Columbiana Mall Shooting
- 2022 – Michael Burham Manhunt (Berkeley County)
- 2023 – Ernest Burbage III Manhunt (Charleston County)
- 2024 – Alston Modin Manhunt (Lee County)
- 2025 – Missing Hiker at Table Rock, Upstate Wildfires

Requests



Personnel



INCIDENTS



Tyler Terry Manhunt
Chester County
May 2021



Table Rock Missing Hiker
Pickens County
March 2025



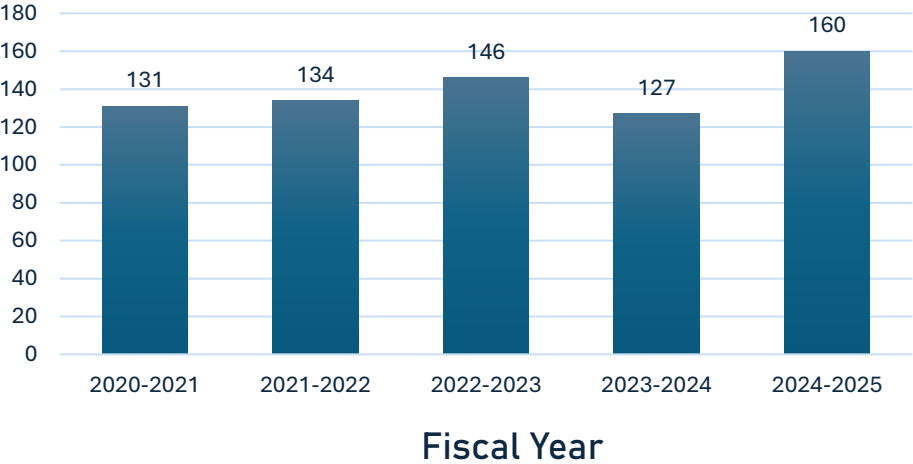
Upstate Wildfires
Pickens County
March 2025



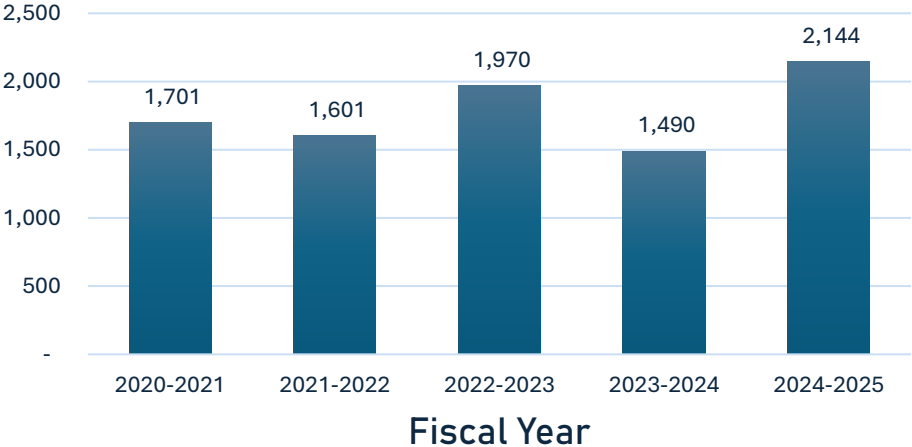
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REQUESTS



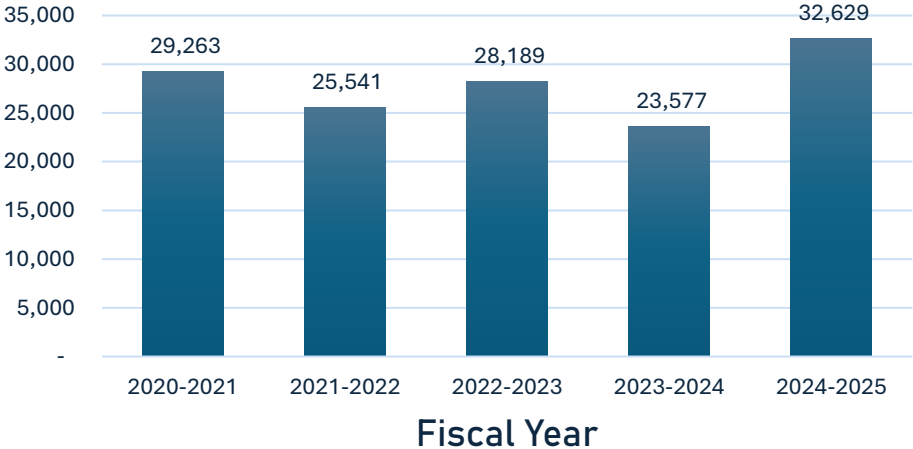
Requests



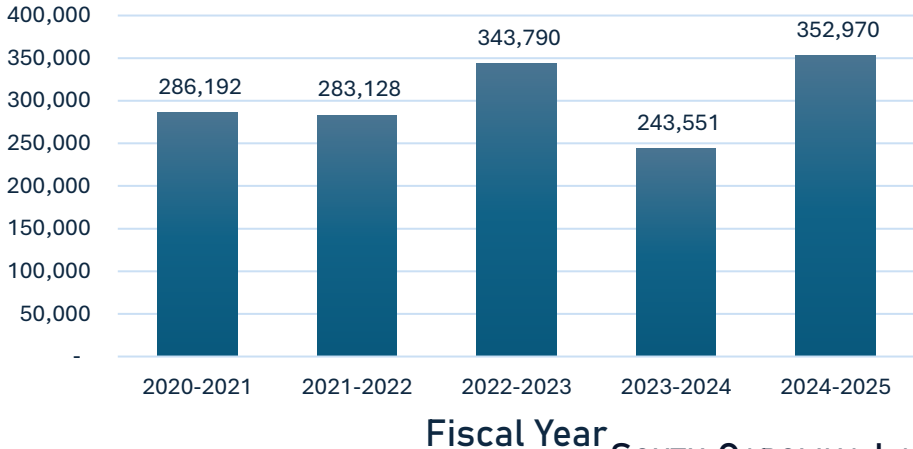
Personnel



Hours



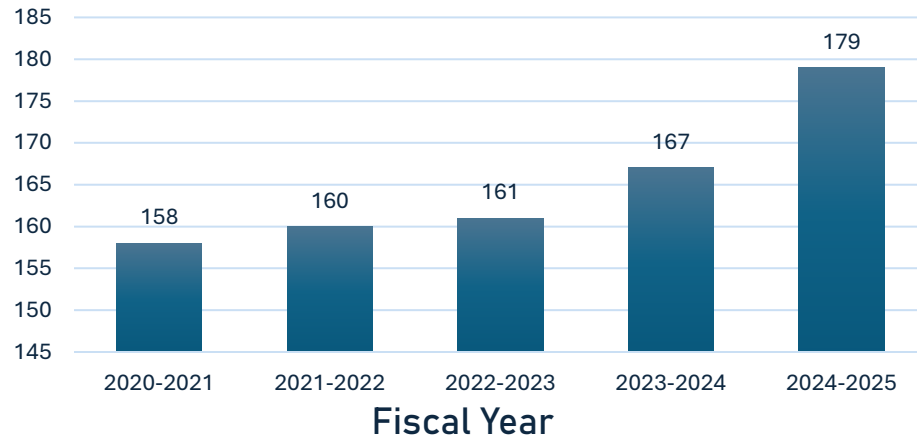
Mileage



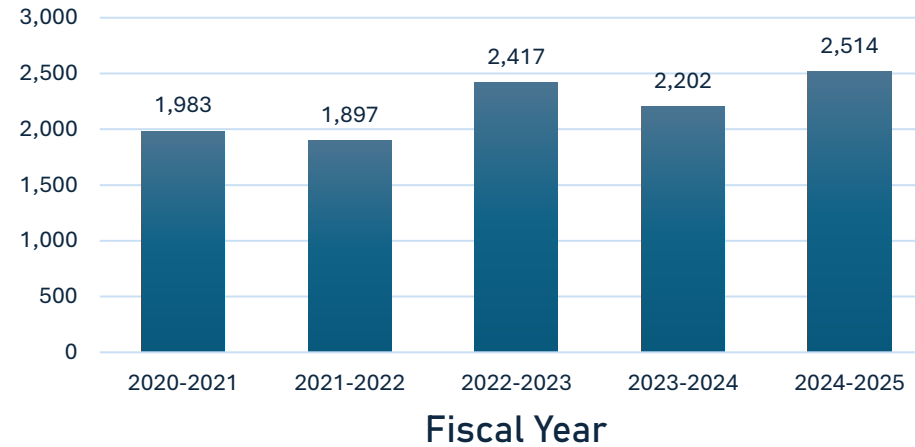
OVERALL FIVE YEAR STATS



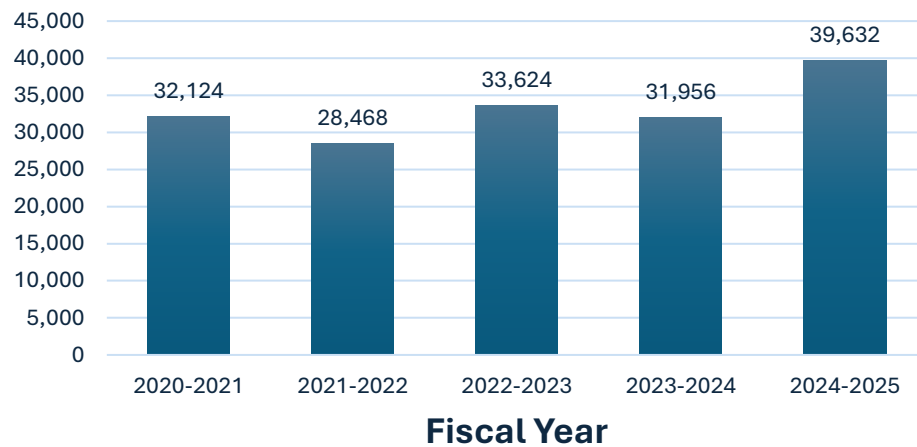
Requests



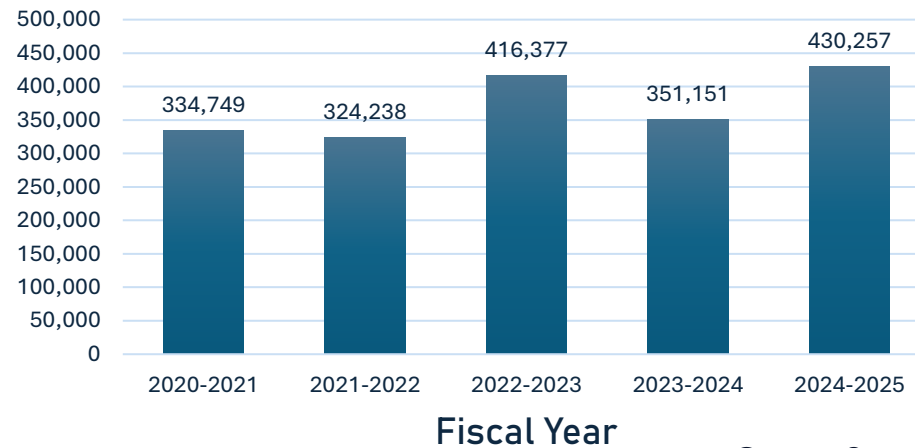
Personnel



Hours



Mileage



PARTNERSHIPS



Federal

- United States Secret Service, United States Capitol Police, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Energy, US Marshals Service, Diplomatic Security Services

State

- South Carolina Department of Public Safety, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, South Carolina Probation, Parole and Pardon Services, South Carolina Department of Corrections, Department of Juvenile Justice, South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy, South Carolina Emergency Management Division, South Carolina National Guard, State Election Commission, Department of Transportation, Department of Commerce, Office of Regulatory Services, Department of Environmental Services, Department of Public Health, Clemson University Livestock Poultry Health, Universities and Colleges

Local

- Sheriff's Offices, Police Departments, K-12 Schools



CHALLENGES



- **Personnel:**

- As local law enforcement agencies continue to struggle staffing shortages, the number of requests for SLED to provide an array of assistance will continue to increase.

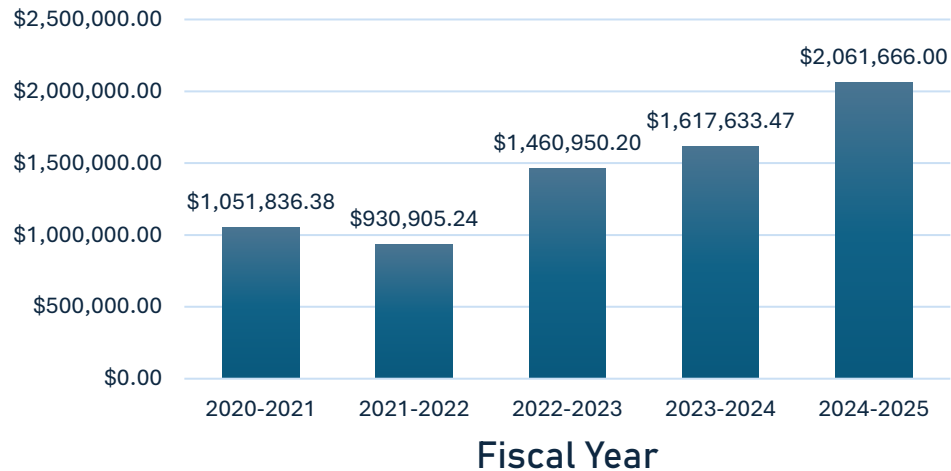
- **Funding:**

- Additional funding due to increased resource requests
- Funding for specialized training within the PSEM unit

OVERALL COSTS FOR DETAILS

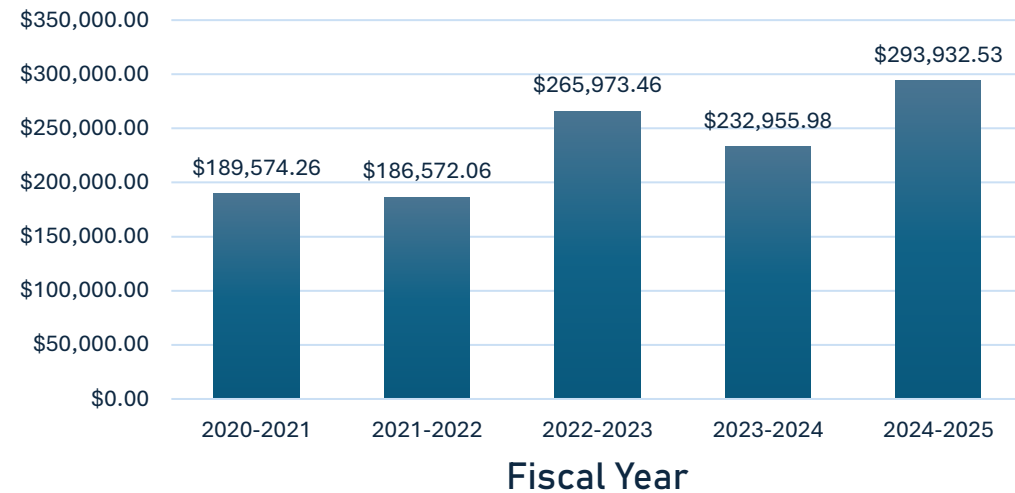


Estimated Five Year Salary Costs



*Five-year salary costs are estimated based on a Senior Special Agents hourly rate each fiscal year.

Five Year Mileage Costs



*Five-year mileage costs are based on the federal mileage rate per year.

QUESTIONS?

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