



# The Nebraska Sheriff

A Publication of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association



## IN THIS ISSUE:

Rural Law Enforcement Turn to Police Dogs

PAGE 1

New Nebraska Sheriffs

PAGE 10

Governor Nixes Proposal

PAGE 16

Safe Driving Keeps Memories Focused

PAGE 20

Suspect in Officer-Involved Shooting

PAGE 22

Letter of Commendation

PAGE 26

## RURAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TURN TO POLICE DOGS FOR CRIME DETERRENCE

By Blaney Dreifurst

Rural law enforcement agencies are increasingly turning to police dogs to help them deter crime. While Nebraska law enforcement agencies are not required to report whether or not they have police dogs, the Nebraska State Patrol keeps an unofficial list based on word of mouth, said Sgt. Matt Workman. According to this list, Nebraska has 32 police dogs that are used in rural law enforcement. In addition, the Nebraska State Patrol has 11 dogs it uses across the state. **Continued on page 6...**



Saunders County Sheriff Chris Lichtenberg gives a talk to youngsters in the Police Club in Ceresco, Neb. Police Club is sponsored by Saunders County Youth Services and puts a positive light on the interaction between youths and area law enforcement. **More on page 6...**




NE Sheriffs' Association  
521 First St.  
Miltord, NE 68405

PRRST STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
ANCMS

# START HEARING



An exclusive hearing benefit for  
**Nebraska Sheriffs' Association**  
Members and their families

-  **Up to 48% off** on hearing aids for you and your family
-  **Today's latest technology**, including rechargeable hearing aids
-  **Risk-free 60-day trial**  
...and more!

To get more information, call us at **(844) 515-1613** or visit [starhearing.com/partners/nebraskasheriffs](http://starhearing.com/partners/nebraskasheriffs)



# PHANTOM

The world's first custom, Bluetooth® compatible and rechargeable hearing aid and protection device.



**Bluetooth**  
Stream calls, music or other audio wirelessly from your phone.



**Rechargeable**  
One, overnight charge ensures they're powered all day long.



**Hearing Protection**  
Automatic protection from loud sounds and gun shots.



**Hearing Enhancement**  
Hear conversations, game and environmental sounds with ease.



**Custom Fit**  
Custom-molded to your ear for a comfortable, personalized fit.

**Visit [SoundGear.com](http://SoundGear.com) or call (844) 515-1613 to schedule a custom fitting with a hearing professional near you!**

# IN THIS ISSUE

Rural Law Enforcement Turn to Police Dogs..	1
2023 Board of Directors.....	4
New Nebraska Sheriffs .....	10
Governor Nixes Proposal.....	16
Safe Driving Keeps Memories Focused .....	20
Suspect in Officer-Involved Shooting.....	22
They're Going for the Dollar Signs.....	24
Letter of Commendation.....	26
Troopers Make 94 DUI Arrests .....	28
Operation Lifesaver Anniversary .....	35

## The **Nebraska**Sheriff

Official publication of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association

Published 2x yearly.  
All rights reserved. Copyright © 2023

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association, established in 1894, is the oldest organization of its kind in the nation.

### **Mission Statement**

To provide continuing education to Sheriffs' Offices, youth, and the public in general.

### **Nebraska Sheriffs' Association**

2022-2023 President  
Ed Wemhoff, Platte County

### **NSA Office & The Nebraska Sheriff Magazine**

521 First Street | P.O. Box 10  
Milford, Nebraska 68405  
Executive Director: Taylor Moore  
taylor@youraam.com  
Editor: Kylie Schildt  
kylie@youraam.com

Contributors' names are listed with their articles and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association or imply their endorsement.

Articles may be reproduced from the Nebraska Sheriff magazine as long as proper credit is given to the original author and the Nebraska Sheriff magazine.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or suggestions regarding the magazine.

[www.nebraskasheriffassociation.com](http://www.nebraskasheriffassociation.com)



**younes**  
HOSPITALITY

**NEBRASKA'S FINEST  
LODGING & EVENT VENUES**

**YOUNES  
CAMPUS**

KEARNEY  
NEBRASKA

**CONFERENCE CENTERS**

- Younes Conference Center North
- Younes Conference Center South
- Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center

**YOUNES CAMPUS**

Surrounded by over 800 comfortable hotel rooms, several mouthwatering restaurants and 2 waterparks.

info@younes.com      www.younes.com

# COUNTIES FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

Adams County Sheriffs' Office.....	5
Arthur County Sheriffs' Office.....	5
Banner County Sheriffs' Office.....	5
Boone County Sheriffs' Office.....	5
Box Butte County Sheriffs' Office.....	7
Burt County Sheriffs' Office.....	7
Butler County Sheriffs' Office.....	7
Cedar County Sheriffs' Office.....	7
Chase County Sheriffs' Office.....	9
Colfax County Sheriffs' Office.....	9
Cuming County Sheriffs' Office.....	9
Custer County Sheriffs' Office.....	9
Dakota County Sheriffs' Office.....	11
Dawson County Sheriffs' Office.....	11
Dixon County Sheriffs' Office.....	11
Franklin County Sheriffs' Office.....	11
Frontier County Sheriff's Office.....	13
Gage County Sheriffs' Office.....	13
Garden County Sheriffs' Office.....	13
Garfield County Sheriffs' Office.....	13
Greeley County Sheriffs' Office.....	15
Hamilton County Sheriffs' Office.....	15
Harlan County Sheriffs' Office.....	15
Howard County Sheriffs' Office.....	15
Johnson County Sheriffs' Office.....	17
Kearney County Sheriffs' Office.....	17
Knox County Sheriffs' Office.....	17
Loup County Sheriffs' Office.....	17
Merrick County Sheriffs' Office.....	19
Nance County Sheriffs' Office.....	19
Nemaha County Sheriffs' Office.....	19
Nuckolls County Sheriffs' Office.....	19
Otoe County Sheriffs' Office.....	21
Pawnee County Sheriffs' Office.....	21
Phelps County Sheriffs' Office.....	21
Pierce County Sheriffs' Office.....	21
Platte County Sheriffs' Office.....	23
Polk County Sheriffs' Office.....	23
Richardson County Sheriffs' Office.....	23
Saunders County Sheriffs' Office.....	23
Seward County Sheriffs' Office.....	25
Sherman County Sheriffs' Office.....	25
Sioux County Sheriffs' Office.....	25
Stanton County Sheriffs' Office.....	25
Thurston County Sheriffs' Office.....	27
Valley County Sheriffs' Office.....	27
Washington County Sheriffs' Office.....	27
Wayne County Sheriffs' Office.....	27
Webster County Sheriffs' Office.....	31
Wheeler County Sheriffs' Office.....	31

## NEBRASKA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### NORTHEAST DISTRICT

President

Sheriff Ed Wemhoff • Platte County

402.564.9077 • ewemhoff@plattecounty.ne.gov

Rep:

Deputy Lonnie Schultz • Cuming County

402.372.6019 • cumingcountysheriff@gmail.com

### PANHANDLE DISTRICT

1st Vice President

Sheriff Milo Cardenas • Morrill County

308.262.0408 • mcsheriff1@morrillcountysheriff.com

Rep:

Chief Deputy Shawn Hebbert • Keith County

308.458.2396 • gc992@nebnet.net

### SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

2nd Vice President

Sheriff Paul Vrbka • York County

402.362.4905 • pvrbka@yorkcountyne.com

Rep:

Lieutenant Jeff Lickei • Cass County

402.296.9370 • jeffreyl@co.cass.ne.us

### SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

3rd President

Sheriff Gene Samuelson • Phelps County

308.991.3607 • gene@phelpscountysoc.com

Rep:

Chief Deputy Roland Kramer • Lincoln County

308.535.9506 • kramerrl@co.lincoln.ne.us

### NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

4th Vice President

Sheriff Casey Hurlburt • Valley County

308.872.6418 • vcسد947@yahoo.com

Rep:

Deputy Dave Scheideler • Valley County

308.728.3906 • davidwscheideler@gmail.com

### SECRETARY/TREASURER

Deputy Gary Norseen • Dawson County

308.324.3011 • gnorseen@hotmail.com



**Rick Scheer**  
Sales Engineer  
Cell: 402-306-5370

DDC & Pneumatic HVAC Controls • VFD's • Detention Electronics  
Access Control • CCTV • Infant Security • Patient Wandering  
Systems Integration • IT Installation/Support

(402) 333-9800  
Fax (402) 333-9881  
rickscheer@control-masters.com  
www.control-masters.com  
13326 "C" St. • OMAHA, NE 68144-3602



## ADAMS COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**John Rust**  
500 W 4th Street,  
Ste: 126  
Hastings, NE 68901  
Phone: 402-463-5671  
rust@adamscounty.org



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*

## ARTHUR COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Calvin Turner**  
PO Box 207  
Arthur, NE 69121  
Phone: 308-764-9011  
sheriff.turner991@gmail.com



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*

## BANNER COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**K. Zane Hopkins**  
PO Box 43  
Harrisburg, NE 69345  
Phone: 308-436-5271  
sheriff@bannercountynegov.org



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*

## BOONE COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Denny Johnson**  
217 S 5th Street  
Albion, NE 68620  
Phone: 402-395-2144  
bcsheriff@boonecountyne.gov



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



*Empowering Customers to Succeed*



333 Nebraska St, Murdock, NE 68407

**402.867.2141**

<http://corngrowersbank.com>

## Dinkel Implement Co.

*"We can do the job for you!"  
Your source for new and used tractors,  
combines, round balers, forage harvesters,  
skid steers and windrowers.*

**3615 W Norfolk Ave - Norfolk, NE**  
**402.371.5092 | 800.627.9916**  
[www.dinkels.net](http://www.dinkels.net)



**Kim & Maria Eichner**  
1210 Ogallala Beach Rd  
Ogallala, NE 69153

388-284-4852 • 800-286-4852 • FAX 308-284-2610

[www.eichners.net](http://www.eichners.net) • [maria@eichners.net](mailto:maria@eichners.net)

Outdoor Power Equipment • Mercury • Yamaha & Kawasaki  
ATV - UTV - PWC • Crownline • See-Do  
Can-Am • Bennington Pontoon



**Gordy Stitt**

1140 10th Ave, Sidney, NE 69162  
308-254-2055 - 1-855-254-9500  
[director@gehrigstittchapel.com](mailto:director@gehrigstittchapel.com)  
[www.gehrigstittchapel.com](http://www.gehrigstittchapel.com)

See pages 13-27 for county businesses that are supporters of their local sheriff's office and the NSA!

**Continued from page 1...** The purpose of a police dog is to deter crime. There are several skills dogs can be trained on, however, drug detection and apprehension are the most sought out by Nebraska law enforcement, according to Santiago Velasquez, the Columbus Police Department's dog handler. Dogs can be trained in both drug detection and apprehension (known as dual purpose dogs) or simply just in drug detection (single purpose). Rural law enforcement has felt the need for the dogs due to an increase in violent offenses and drug investigations in these communities, Velasquez said.

"Every community has some sort of drug problem," he said.

During his five years working with his dog, Eros, the duo has been assigned to 138 drug investigations. Drugs not only impact the user but also the community as a whole, he said.

"Addiction can lead people to do crazy things that they normally wouldn't; this often results in wrong doings against innocent people of our community," Velasquez said.

Statewide in 2015, the Nebraska State Patrol's police service dog division has been used in the arrest of 245 criminals and seizure of 945 pounds of illegal narcotics. These drugs were estimated to have a street worth of \$6.8 million. Danial Parker, a new dog handler in the Merrick County Sheriff Office, said he wanted to work with the department's single-purpose dog, Shadow, to help combat drug crimes.

"I was working a lot of drug evictions during traffic stops, so I thought it would be helpful to myself and the community to have a dog for detection," Parker said.

When there is a traffic stop, an officer needs probable cause in order to search the suspect's vehicle if the officer suspects possession of illegal drugs. With Shadow, Parker said he is able to establish probable cause by having her sniff around the outside of the vehicle. Parker and Shadow are unique because Shadow is a veteran and Parker is a beginner dog handler. Shadow, a Dutch shepherd, joined Merrick County in February 2018. Parker has been a dog handler for only six months.

Dual-purpose dogs are used as a tool to arrest suspects that are not complying with law enforcement. Dual purpose dogs have direct contact with suspects. Some of these encounters might end with the suspect being bitten by the dog. A huge part of the dogs' value to the law enforcement is the fact that they are a deterrence, according to Velasquez.

"The one thing that most humans have is that fear of animals that could probably hurt you," he said.

According to Velasquez, of the 80 times he has been asked to use Eros to apprehend a suspect, only 10% resulted in the dog actually being deployed. Most often people will comply when an officer starts giving verbal warning announcing the dog's presence, he said. Eros, however, has 38 successful apprehensions that were considered high risk, he said. Out of all of these apprehensions, six resulted in Eros biting the suspect. It is a part of protocol to provide medical care to a person who is bit by a police dog. Velasquez said there have been multiple instances where a suspect has been bitten. However, none of the bites resulted in serious injury. Overall, police dog units increase officer safety and give law enforcement another option to come to a non-deadly resolution in dangerous situations, Velasquez said. Dual purpose dogs are tasked with more physical challenges compared to single purpose dogs.



Grady Gardner holds the collar of his dog, Kane, for weekly K-9 training at the Grand Island Police Department on Thursday April 28, 2023. Gardner and Kane are a part of the Hastings Police Department and the duo are just one of many across the rural Nebraska. Photo by Blaney Dreifurst/NNS

Location	Number of Dogs	Population (2021)
Alliance Police Department	1	7,971
Butler County's Sheriff's Department	1	8,444
Colfax County Sheriff's Department	1	10,498
Columbus Police Department	1	24,123
Crete Police Department	1	7,179
Dawson County Police Department	1	23,898
Deuel County Police Department	1	1,865
Franklin County Sheriff's Department	1	2,903
Garden County Sheriff's Department	1	1,847
Gering Police Department	1	8,435
Grand Island Police Department	1	52,335
Greeley County Sheriff's Department	1	2,169
Hall County Sheriff's Department	2	61,979
Hastings Police Department	1	25,037
Imperial Police Department	1	2,022
Kearney Police Department	2	33,959
Lincoln County Sheriff's Department	2	34,113
Merrick County Sheriff's Department	1	7,665
Nebraska City Police Department	1	7,202
Nemaha County Sheriff's Department	1	7,064
Norfolk Police Department	1	24,967
North Platte Police Department	1	22,978
Richardson County Sheriff's Department	1	7,759
Saline County Sheriff's Department	1	14,192
Seward County Sheriff's Department	3	17,603
Sherman County Sheriff's Department	1	2,964
Valentine Police Department	1	2,612

The Nebraska State Patrol's unofficial list of rural law enforcement agencies with K-9 units includes 26 agencies. Graphic by Blaney Dreifurst/NNS

Continued on page 8...

Elwood, NE  
308-785-2002  
Toll Free  
800-439-2003



Custom Processing  
Retail Meat  
Deer & Wild Game  
Family owned!

**STEAK MASTER**

Full time USDA inspector on site.

You've Tried the Rest. Now Try the BEST!  
[www.steakmasterinc.com](http://www.steakmasterinc.com)



IF IT  
ROLLS  
FLOATS  
OR FLIES  
WE'LL  
TOW IT!

**24-7 Emergency Service!**  
3405 North Hwy 281, Grand Island, NE  
**308.384.1116**  
[www.kramerswrecker.com](http://www.kramerswrecker.com)

# Lutt Trucking

803 Providence Rd  
Wayne, NE 68787

Rod Lutt: 402-375-1809

## FEDERAL SURPLUS PROPERTY

*Surplus Makes Sense*

**BRAD FRANSEN**  
MANAGER/LESO STATE COORDINATOR  
(402) 471-2677  
FAX: (402) 471-2769  
E-MAIL: [brad.fransen@nebraska.gov](mailto:brad.fransen@nebraska.gov)

2700 West Van Dorn  
PO Box 94661  
Lincoln, NE 68509  
[www.nebraska.gov/app-fsp](http://www.nebraska.gov/app-fsp)



## TONNIGES CHEVROLET

(402) 747-4461 • 800-827-0280  
Box 487, Osceola, NE 68651

## BOX BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Tammy Mowry**  
512 Niobrara Ave  
Alliance, NE 69301  
Phone: 308-762-6464  
[bbcoso@telecomwest.net](mailto:bbcoso@telecomwest.net)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*

## BURT COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Eric Nick**  
111 N 13th Street, Ste. #1  
Tekamah, NE 68061  
Phone: 402-374-2900  
[sheriff@burtcountyne.gov](mailto:sheriff@burtcountyne.gov)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*

## BUTLER COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Tom Dion**  
451 N 5th Street  
David City, NE 68632  
Phone: 402-367-7400  
[tdion925@butlercountyne.gov](mailto:tdion925@butlercountyne.gov)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*

## CEDAR COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Larry Koranda**  
101 S Broadway Ave  
Hartington, NE 68739  
Phone: 402-254-6884  
[sheriff@hartel.net](mailto:sheriff@hartel.net)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*

See pages 13-27 for county businesses that are supporters of their local sheriff's office and the NSA!

Continued from page 6...

For this reason, law enforcement agencies are shying away from German shepherds and opting for smaller breeds, such as the Belgian malinois, which are just as intelligent. The Belgian malinois weigh 50 to 70 pounds compared to a German shepherd at 100 pounds.

The decrease in size also provides a speed advantage and better agility qualities for a Belgian malinois. Size also plays an aspect in wear and tear the job and training has on the dog.

Bourke Bowen, the Grand Island Police Department's K-9 handler for the last six years, said he has had more than 350 deployments with Cochise, in the last five years.

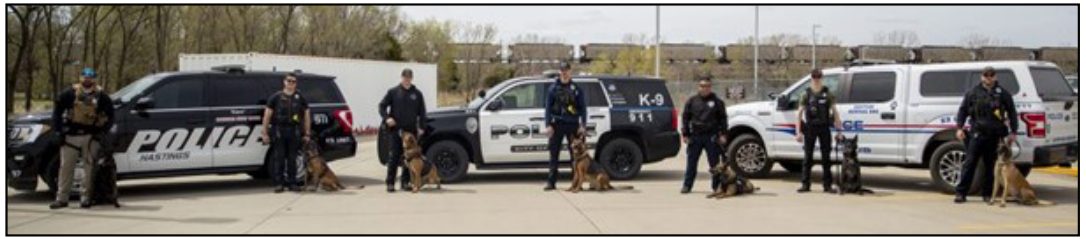
The nine-year-old dog recently had a titanium tooth implant because its original tooth was damaged from the years of training, Bowen said. Police dogs aren't cheap. According to Velasquez, a dual purpose dog costs around \$10,000 — and that doesn't include feeding, health maintenance and other equipment that is necessary. Most dogs wear vests and the handler's vehicle usually requires special technology. For example, Velasquez' F150 pickup is equipped with a full kennel, heat sensors and alarms, fan, automatic windows and doors. These additions can cost an additional \$10,000.

When Columbus police were considering purchasing a dog, the city council wanted to first determine community support by seeing how many people would donate for the purchase. The police department reached its donation goal in just two months, Velasquez said. After seeing the community support, the city agreed to pick up the rest of the expenses for the police dog unit.

"It's important to keep up with training because the most difficult part of the job is trying to communicate the expectations they are supposed to meet daily," said Zach Schwarz, a dog handler from the Kearney Police Department.

The dogs actually enjoy the training, Velasquez said. The dogs' tails are constantly wagging during training because toys and treats are used to enforce their good work.

"It's awesome to see how motivated they are, how willing they are to do the next task," Velasquez said.



Officers from rural law enforcement agencies meet weekly to train with department police dogs. At a recent training in Grand Island are, from left to right, Cody Hunt from Sherman County; Grady Gardner from Hastings Police Department; Bourke Bowen from Grand Island Police Department; Jon Alstrom from Kearney Police Department; Santiago Velasquez from Columbus Police Department; Danial Parker from Merrick County. Photo by: Blaney Dreifurst/NNS



Bourke Bowen holds open Cochise's mouth to showcase the titanium cap the dog received due to a damaged tooth. Cochise's right canine tooth is also damaged. Photo by Blaney Dreifurst/NNS



Columbus Police Department Officer Santiago Velasquez with his dog, on Thursday April 28, 2023, in Grand Island, Nebraska. Photo by Blaney Dreifurst/NNS

Proud to be 1 of the few offering

## THREE VALUABLE PROTECTION SERVICES

to law-enforcement families:

- 1. CARE PROGRAM**  
Fully-managed ID-theft recovery program for all of our members.
- 2. OFFICERPRIVACY**  
A partnership to remove and monitor your private information on the internet.
- 3. LINE OF DUTY DEATH LOAN PROTECTION**  
Available to members who are active, full-time Sworn Peace Officers who obtain a NEW qualifying loan.

OFFERED AT LOW OR NO COST!



Learn more about how we can serve & protect your law-enforcement family.

www.opfcu.net • 1-402-391-4040





## Northeast Nebraska Insurance Agency

Serving Nebraska, Iowa,  
and South Dakota

113 West 3rd St, Wayne, NE  
**402.375.2696**

Offices in Carroll, Coleridge,  
Laurel, Pender, Ponca, Wakefield,  
South Sioux City, and Hornick, IA



[northeastnebraskainsurance.com](http://northeastnebraskainsurance.com)



### PONY EXPRESS CHEVROLET BUICK

420 S. Lake Avenue  
Gothenburg, Nebraska



Sales: 308-537-3671  
Toll Free: 800-422-0361

[www.PonyExpressChevy.com](http://www.PonyExpressChevy.com)

### PONY EXPRESS FORD

445 S. Brown Avenue  
Minden, Nebraska



Sales: 308-832-1640  
Toll Free: 800-652-0011

[www.PonyExpressFord.com](http://www.PonyExpressFord.com)



# UTILITY

SOLUTIONS THROUGH TECHNOLOGY™

**KAREN JEFFERSON**  
BUSINESS MANAGER

[kjefferson@utility.com](mailto:kjefferson@utility.com) | (720) 693-3574 | [Utility.com](http://Utility.com)

[www.nebraskasheriffs.com](http://www.nebraskasheriffs.com)

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association website has all the county sheriffs' contact information, links to dates of special training offered to law enforcement in Nebraska, links to county websites, and much, much more.

There are also special businesses that help to sponsor this website with their ads. It pays to be a member.

## CHASE COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Kevin Mueller**

921 Broadway  
Imperial, NE 69033  
Phone: 308-882-4748  
[g72@chasecountysheriff.org](mailto:g72@chasecountysheriff.org)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## COLFAX COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Shawn Messerlie**

411 E 11th Street  
Schuyler, NE 68661  
Phone: 402-352-8526  
[smesserlie@colfaxne.com](mailto:smesserlie@colfaxne.com)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## CUMING COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Bradley Boyum**

200 S Lincoln Street #203  
West Point, NE 68788  
Phone: 402-372-6019  
[sheriff@cumingcounty.ne.gov](mailto:sheriff@cumingcounty.ne.gov)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## CUSTER COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Daniel Osmond**

116 S 11th Ave  
Broken Bow, NE 68822  
Phone: 308-872-6418  
[dosmond@custercountyne.gov](mailto:dosmond@custercountyne.gov)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



See pages 13-27 for county businesses that are supporters of their local sheriff's office and the NSA!

# NEW NEBRASKA SHERIFFS CAN CALL ON OLD HANDS WHILE PUTTING THEIR BRAND ON THE JOB

By: Kevin Cole Aug 21, 2023

Citizens in 23 of Nebraska's 93 counties woke up Jan. 1 to find there was a new sheriff in town. That is one of the largest turnovers of that elected position in recent memory. When the dust had settled from the November 2022 elections, there were new sheriffs in Banner, Brown, Cass, Colfax, Dawson, Dixon, Dodge, Douglas, Dundy, Fillmore, Franklin, Frontier, Gosper, Greeley, Hamilton, Jefferson, Johnson, Kimball, Red Willow, Rock, Saunders, Thurston and Wheeler.

They all took an oath to ensure that local, state and federal laws are followed. He or she performs a role similar to that of a police chief in a municipal department, managing a department in charge of protecting people and property while also providing security at the county courthouse.

Platte County Sheriff Ed Wemhoff, 48, is president of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association, an honor that rotates. He said the monthly NSA meetings were a big help to him when he first became sheriff nine years ago.

"Every election cycle there's some new faces," Wemhoff said. "It seems like this time (the number) is higher than probably we've ever seen. Our meetings were a huge benefit to me as new sheriff."

Just being able to talk over common problems or ask questions of a colleague even after the meetings are over was a big help to me, Wemhoff said.

"Once, I was speaking with a longtime sheriff, and he had some of the same questions about something that had come up as I did," he said. "To me, that was very reassuring. I wasn't the only one looking for answers."

Wemhoff said he thought that he had a pretty good handle on the job of sheriff before winning his first election.

"But until you sit in the seat, you have no idea what's going on," Wemhoff said. "Sheriffs have many more obligations than most citizens ever know. Courthouse security duties, county board meetings and just about any other county operation need their attention. Honestly, you are just so involved with every aspect of county operations that it's difficult to explain."

Dustin Weitzel, 48, spent 24 years as a deputy in Dodge County and took over from Steve Hespen, who retired before his term was up.

*Continued on page 12...*



Douglas County Sheriff Aaron Hanson outside the Douglas County Courthouse in Omaha last week. "Crimes being investigated by the Douglas County Sheriff's Office are becoming more and more chilling and complex and violent," Hanson said. Photo by Blaney Dreifurst/NNS

An advertisement for HD ARMS LLC. The background is a dark, textured surface with a pattern of white stars and stripes, reminiscent of the American flag. On the right side, there is a black silhouette of a person wearing a tactical vest and holding a rifle. The text is overlaid on this background.

**HD ARMS  
LLC**

**311 ROAD D HENDERSON, NE 68371**

**WEAPONS, AMMO,  
BODY ARMOR & MORE**

**CHAD ROWE**  
CIVIL SERVICE & LAW  
ENFORCEMENT SALES

**PHONE: 402-580-3664**  
**EMAIL: CHAD@HDARMS.NET**

**Thank you for making us the choice of Nebraska's most demanding Law Enforcement Officers.**



**JONES Automotive**  
COMFORT, SAFETY & CONVENIENCE SINCE 1950

[jonesauto.com](http://jonesauto.com)

402-345-8383

**DAKOTA COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE**

**Christopher Kleinberg**  
1601 Broadway Street  
Dakota City, NE 68731  
Phone: 402-987-2174  
CKleinberg@dakotacosheriff.com



*Proud member of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



**DAWSON COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE**

**Mark Montgomery**  
709 N Grant Street  
Lexington, NE 68850  
Phone: 308-324-3011  
mark.montgomery@cityofcozad.com



*Proud member of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



**DIXON COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE**

**Tom Decker**  
PO Box 900  
Ponca, NE 68770  
Phone: 402-755-5608  
TDecker@dixoncountysheriff.org



*Proud member of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



**FRANKLIN COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE**

**Byron Detlefsen**  
405 15th Avenue  
Franklin, NE 68939  
Phone: 308-425-6231  
sheriff@franklinonebraska.org



*Proud member of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



The Nebraska Sheriff  
A Publication of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association

Place an Advertisement in our Next Magazine!

**Next Issue Coming March 2024!**

*For more details contact the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association office!*

**THE NEBRASKA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION** keeps diligent watch over the Unicameral for legislative actions that will affect counties in the state and that are of special interest to law enforcement.

See pages 13-27 for county businesses that are supporters of their local sheriff's office and the NSA!

**Continued from page 10...** Bob Reynolds, who was the interim sheriff, stayed on as chief deputy with 37 years experience.

"The seven months have flown by, and the transition has been very good largely because of my relationships with Sheriff Hespen and Bob Reynolds," Weitzel said. "We haven't touched anything. We have a really good group of people to work with here."

Weitzel said he misses patrolling the roads. The Fremont native thought he might still have time to patrol, but that hasn't been the case.

"The amount of paperwork a sheriff has to do is an eye-opener," he said. "I'm putting in more time than when I was on the road, but I do enjoy getting out and meeting the public at (community events)."

In neighboring Saunders County, Sheriff Chris Lichtenberg, 47, relies on his 22 years in law enforcement and community service. He rose to sergeant in the Saunders County Sheriff's Office and is a former chairman of the Cedar Bluffs Village Board.

"As far as surprises, there have been several things that we have encountered in the past seven months that are out of the norm for our office," Lichtenberg said. "They included a cruiser wreck where the deputy was injured and the cruiser burned up, a judge's order to collect over a quarter of a million dollars' worth of collectible coins and deliver them to a plaintiff, and flooding in office spaces in our building."

Lichtenberg said getting out to meet the public is a perk of office that he enjoys. He said the Saunders County Fair and other events are a great chance to talk about services his office provides.

"I do want to be as accessible to all the citizens in the county as I can," he said. "I have an 'open-door policy' and want everyone to know that they can come in to talk to me or that they can call me with concerns or questions about our office."

One of the tougher jobs in Saunders County is the "constant battle" to recruit and maintain employees, Lichtenberg said.

"Unfortunately, we have been in the same boat as many (law enforcement) agencies being short-staffed," he said. "With our county being a top growing county in Nebraska, our department will have to grow along with that to ensure everyone is safe and protected and to handle the increased call volumes that we are seeing."

Aaron Hanson, 49, took over as Douglas County Sheriff following Tim Dunning, who served 26 years, and two interim sheriffs. A 26-year veteran of the Omaha Police Department, Hanson is responsible for helping to protect the state's most populous county with over 586,000 residents.

"Our road patrols cover 90,000 people in the unincorporated parts of the county," Hanson said. "If that were a municipality, it would be the third-biggest city in the state of Nebraska."

Hanson said one of the things he learned right away was that the deputies and staff at the Douglas County Sheriff's Office "were the best-kept secret" in the Omaha area. He called the high caliber of deputies and civilians a pleasant surprise.

"I learned these people have an uncanny ability of making do with less," he said. "It's always healthy to have fresh eyes and new blood, but Dunning and (interim sheriff Tom) Wheeler left the office in good shape."

A large concern, Hanson said, is the number of homicides that have occurred outside Omaha's city limits of late, including five this year and eight in the past 12 months. Those are big numbers for an office that doesn't have a homicide unit. **Continued on page 14...**



*Platte County Sheriff Ed Wemhoff is president of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association. He said the monthly NSA meetings were a big help to him when he first became sheriff nine years ago.*

## ANTELOPE

*Jonny Dodge*  
Chrysler • Jeep

New & Used Cars and Trucks • Heavy Truck Service  
Body Shop • Paintless Dent & Window Chip Repair

DODGE

CHRYSLER

**NELIGH**  
402-887-4182 • Toll Free 800-510-1303  
Hwy 275 W  
www.jonnydodge.com

Jeep  
RAM

# The Hair Shoppe

224 2nd St. Orchard, NE 68764  
402-893-2124

## BOONE

  
**LEVANDER**  
FUNERAL HOMES

Albion | Cedar Rapids | Elgin | Newman Grove | Spalding | St. Edward

## BROWN

WAYLON ALLEN  
402.387.1606

AUTO COLLISION REPAIR  
TOWING AND RECOVERY  
GLASS REPLACEMENT  
WINDOW TINTING

**PRECISION  
AUTOBODY**

306 E DAWES ST  
AINSWORTH, NE 69210  
PRECISIONAUTOBODY402@YAHOO.COM

C: 307.660.4606  
F: 402.387.1598

## FRONTIER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**Adam Cooper**  
308 Center Ave  
Curtis, NE 69025  
Phone: 308-367-4411  
acooper@frontiercounty.ne.gov



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## GAGE COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Millard Gustafson**  
612 Lincoln Street  
Beatrice, NE 68310  
Phone: 402-4886-7300  
m\_gusty@yahoo.com



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## GARDEN COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Randy Ross**  
611 Main Street  
Oshkosh, NE 69154  
Phone: 308-772-3540  
rross@gardencountysheriff.org



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## GARFIELD COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Korey Johnson**  
250 S 8th Avenue  
Burwell, NE 68823  
Phone: 308-346-5150  
sheriff@garfieldcountyne.org



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



See pages 13-27 for county businesses that are supporters of their local sheriff's office and the NSA!

*Continued from page 12...* "Crimes being investigated by the Douglas County Sheriff's Office are becoming more and more chilling and complex and violent," Hanson said. "We have split our detective unit in two to cover personal and property crimes. This is vital because our main objective is to provide security for the public."

On the other end of the spectrum, Wheeler County Sheriff Dale King provides protection for one of the state's smallest counties by population. He and one deputy patrol 576 square miles with approximately 785 residents in north-central Nebraska. It's a far cry, King said, from when he worked as a detective in the Fremont, Colorado, Sheriff's Office with a population near 50,000.

"It's like night and day," King said. "We probably saw as much activity in two weeks in Colorado as my five years (in Nebraska law enforcement)."

The population of Wheeler County swells with summer residents at Lake Ericson, King said. He or his deputy also have to provide security at the Wheeler County Courthouse.

"If I need help with anything, the surrounding sheriffs are right there," he said. "Aaron Hanson from Douglas County hunts around here, and he has dropped by to say if there's anything he can do to just let him know, and I really appreciate that."

Wemhoff, of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association, said Pierce County Sheriff Rick Eberhardt, 69, is a go-to guy for anyone who needs law enforcement advice. Eberhardt, Nebraska's longest serving sheriff at 39 years, said the state's 23 new sheriffs are the most he can recall.

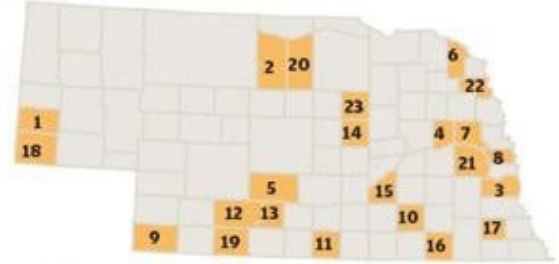
"It shows the changing of the guard," Eberhardt said. "There's so much change since I began. Technology is changing fast and it's scary because sometimes you can be overwhelmed. I tell (newer sheriffs) to surround yourself with good people that are competent and have good people skills."

Everyday that he leaves for the office, Eberhardt said he tells himself, "God, please help me to help because everyone you deal with out there is somebody's child. Everybody needs help."

The most important bit of advice for any law enforcement officer is leave the stress of the job at the office, he said. "One of the hardest things for sheriffs is that any day you can go from zero to 99 (mph) so fast," Eberhardt said. "Don't take it out on your wife or girlfriend or the kids. Make sure they know how important they are to you every day."

## New sheriffs across Nebraska

The 23 Nebraska sheriffs who took office this year are thought to be the most in recent memory. They hail from the state's most populous county, Douglas, and one with among the fewest residents, Wheeler. Big or small, they all took an oath to ensure that all local, state and federal laws are followed.



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <b>Banner</b><br>K. Zane Hopkins    | 13. <b>Gosper</b><br>Jesse Naputi        |
| 2. <b>Brown</b><br>Brent Deibler       | 14. <b>Greeley</b><br>Paul Deaver        |
| 3. <b>Cass</b><br>Robert Sorenson      | 15. <b>Hamilton</b><br>Jeromy McCoy      |
| 4. <b>Colfax</b><br>Shawn Messerlie    | 16. <b>Jefferson</b><br>Nicholas Georgi  |
| 5. <b>Dawson</b><br>Mark Montgomery    | 17. <b>Johnson</b><br>Bryon Klauenberg   |
| 6. <b>Dixon</b><br>Thomas Decker       | 18. <b>Kimball</b><br>David Hottell      |
| 7. <b>Dodge</b><br>Dustin Weitzel      | 19. <b>Red Willow</b><br>Kevin Darling   |
| 8. <b>Douglas</b><br>Aaron Hanson      | 20. <b>Rock</b><br>Ben Shelbourn         |
| 9. <b>Dundy</b><br>Clinton "CJ" Smith  | 21. <b>Saunders</b><br>Chris Lichtenberg |
| 10. <b>Fillmore</b><br>Steve Roemmeich | 22. <b>Thurston</b><br>Russell Briggs    |
| 11. <b>Franklin</b><br>Byron Detlefsen | 23. <b>Wheeler</b><br>Dale King          |
| 12. <b>Frontier</b><br>Adam Cooper     |  |

Source: Nebraska Sheriffs Association  
©Mapcreator.io | OSM.org, Lee Enterprises graphic



This is a reminder that the Nebraska Sheriff's Association is a part of the Western States Sheriff's Association. The WSSA has provided us with a lot of useful information.

WSSA is a very strong voice for Sheriffs at the national level and offer their assistance at the local level as well.

For more information visit <https://westernsheriffs.org>

## BUFFALO

### CARL WHITNEY SAND AND GRAVEL, INC.

715 2nd AVE SOUTH • KEARNEY, NE 68847

**308-237-2526/PHONE/FAX**

"Punk" Whitney

Cell: 308-293-1831 • Home: 308-237-7796

Danny

Cell: 308-440-5561 • Home: 308-236-9609

## CEDAR



### Hefner Oil & Feed Co.

402-283-4201

PO BOX 36, Coleridge

## CHEYENNE



### Western Drug Company

SIDNEY

806 Illinois St - 308.254.2032

CHAPPELL

650 2nd St - 308.874.2200

## CUSTER

### NANSEL'S BEST SERVICE

102 S. Carroll - P.O. Box 277  
Arnold, NE 69120

**Brad Nansel**

**308-848-2200**

- Oil Changes
- Minor Repairs
- Hydraulic Hose Machine
- 24 Hr. Pumps
- Tire Repairs
- New Tires
- Make New Battery Cables
- Ice, Pop, Snacks

**Open Monday thru Saturday**

7:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M.  
Closed Sundays

**Sinclair**

**Sinclair**

## GREELEY COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Paul Deaver**

101 S Kildare St  
Greeley, NE 68842  
Phone: 308-428-2395  
paul.deaver@leo.gov



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Jeromy McCoy**

715 12th St  
Aurora, NE 68818  
Phone: 402-694-6937  
countysheriff@hamilton.net



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## HARLAN COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Chris Becker**

706 2nd St  
Alma, NE 68920  
Phone: 308-928-2147  
sheriff@harlancountyne.com



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## HOWARD COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Thomas Busch**

612 Indian St # 13  
St. Paul, NE 68873  
Phone: 308-754-5433  
tbusch@howardcountysos.org



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



See pages 13-27 for county businesses that are supporters of their local sheriff's office and the NSA!

# GOVERNOR NIXES PROPOSAL TO RELAX POLICE TRAINEE STANDARDS FOR MARIJUANA, DRUG USE

*Proposal part of effort to increase applicants for law enforcement positions*

BY: PAUL HAMMEL - AUGUST 12, 2023 5:00 AM

LINCOLN — Gov. Jim Pillen has rejected a proposed relaxation in drug-use standards to qualify for training as a Nebraska law enforcement officer, saying it could be viewed as a “watering down” of the standards.

A panel of state law enforcement officials had recommended the change as part of a broader effort to qualify more applicants for the necessary state training to work in law enforcement.

Currently, a recruit cannot have used marijuana for 24 months, or used a narcotic or other “dangerous drug” for five years prior to being admitted to the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island.

The Police Standards Advisory Council had proposed to lower the standards to 12 months for marijuana and three years for narcotics.



Gov. Jim Pillen speaks at a press conference Wednesday in Kearney during an annual ag and economic development summit. (Paul Hammel/Nebraska Examiner)

## NOT 'PRUDENT'

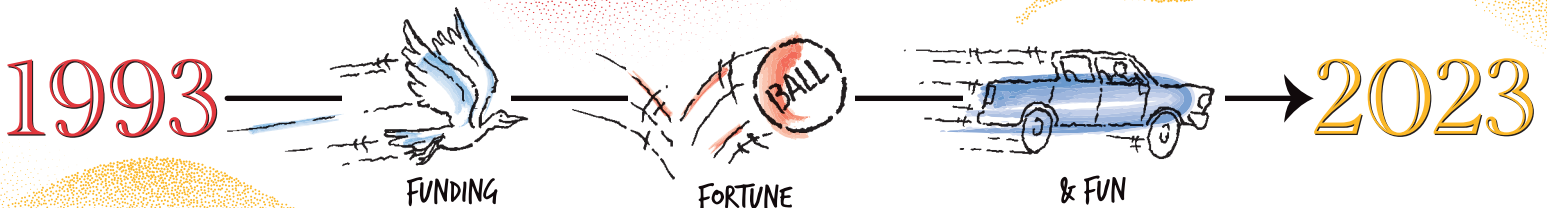
Pillen, in a July 18 letter rejecting the proposed rule change, said he didn't think it was “prudent” to adopt such a change without data that shows “a significant number” of applicants are being rejected due to the current drug-use standards.

“It is therefore imperative that we have the necessary data before making a policy change that could be perceived as watering down the standards to become a law enforcement officer in the State of Nebraska,” Pillen wrote. He urged the Police Standards Advisory Council to collect the data and, if they wish, resubmit their proposed rule change. On Wednesday, the police council will meet to decide what to do next.

## DATA BEING SOUGHT

Brian Jackson, the president of the council and an assistant chief with the Lincoln Police Department, said that he and others on the council are seeking numbers on how many potential recruits have been disqualified due to the current drug standards. Jackson said it was impossible to know how many potential applicants didn't apply after learning of the drug-use standards, but he knows that some applicants have been disqualified, after applying, due to the current requirements.

*Continued on page 18...*



[nelottery.com](http://nelottery.com)

Must be 19.  
Free problem gambling help for Nebraskans  
at [problemgambling.nebraska.gov](http://problemgambling.nebraska.gov).





## DOUGLAS

### RICHARD BOONE

Vice President

Phone (402) 339-2888

Fax (402) 339-8661

Cell (402) 290-3579

rich@boonebrothers.com

www.boonebrothers.com

8909 Washington Street  
Omaha, NE 68127



**BOONE BROTHERS**  
COMMERCIAL ROOFING



YOUR TRUSTED AUTO PARTNER SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1975  
**WOODHOUSE**

## FILLMORE



402.629.4251

888.629.4251 toll free

www.fmbmilligan.com



YOUR  
AGRICULTURAL  
BANKER

## FRONTIER



**PIONEER.**

**Lorn Dizmang**

Independent Sales Representative

419 S Market St., Moorefield, NE 69039

## JOHNSON COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Byron Klauenberg**

222 S 4th Street

Tecumseh, NE 68450

Phone: 402-335-3307

bklauenberg@johnsoncountysos-ne.gov



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## KEARNEY COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Scott White**

246 North Colorado Ave

Minden, NE 68959

Phone: 308-832-2805

swhitekcs@gmail.com



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## KNOX COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Don Henery**

206 Main Street

Center, NE 68724

Phone: 402-358-0912

dhenery@gpcom.net



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## LOUP COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Dustin Spanel**

PO Box 69

Taylor, NE 68879

Phone: 308-942-3435

sheriff@nctc.net



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*

See pages 13-27 for county businesses that are supporters of their local sheriff's office and the NSA!

Continued from page 16... "There have been people who have been disqualified due to drug standards but there have been people who have been disqualified for other reasons," he said.

"Not every idea is a good idea," Jackson added.

He said multiple reasons exist for why fewer men and women are seeking to become law enforcement officers. The proposed changes in training center entry requirements come as police agencies across Nebraska, and across the nation, struggle to attract new recruits, despite recent salary increases at some.

Negative publicity about police work, inspired in large part by police custody deaths such as the suffocation death of George Floyd during a police stop in Minneapolis, has been blamed for much of it.



With Nebraska law enforcement agencies struggling to attract recruits, a state council had proposed relaxing drug- and marijuana-use standards. (Paul Hammel/Nebraska Examiner)

Meanwhile, laws concerning marijuana use are relaxing across the country, with 23 states, including nearby Colorado and Minnesota, allowing recreational use of pot as of June 1, Reuters reported.

### RECRUITING HAS IMPROVED FROM 'WORST EVER'

In February, the superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol described the volume of new trooper candidates as "the worst it's ever been." The situation has improved somewhat since then — in February, the Patrol reported 69 vacant posts for state troopers out of an authorized force of 482 uniform officers. Just recently, the vacant post figure had dropped to around 60. Staffing has also improved at the Lincoln Police Department, which hiked its starting pay to \$64,000 — the highest in the state.

Lincoln television station KOLN/KGIN reported last month that Lincoln police were short 27 officers, or about 7% of the force, compared to 40 vacancies in June of 2022.



## “ Dedicated to the youth of Nebraska.

Committed to Nebraska Youth for over 125 years! In its mission statement, The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association has included "dedicated to the youth of Nebraska." Over the years, association members have consistently worked to educate children and teens on the dangers of distracted driving and drug and alcohol abuse.

**Anderson Ford of Lincoln is proud to support  
the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association**



**ANDERSON**  
EXPERIENCE BETTER

Two Locations in Lincoln  
2500 Wildcat Dr • 3201 Yankee Hill Rd  
AndersonofLincoln.com



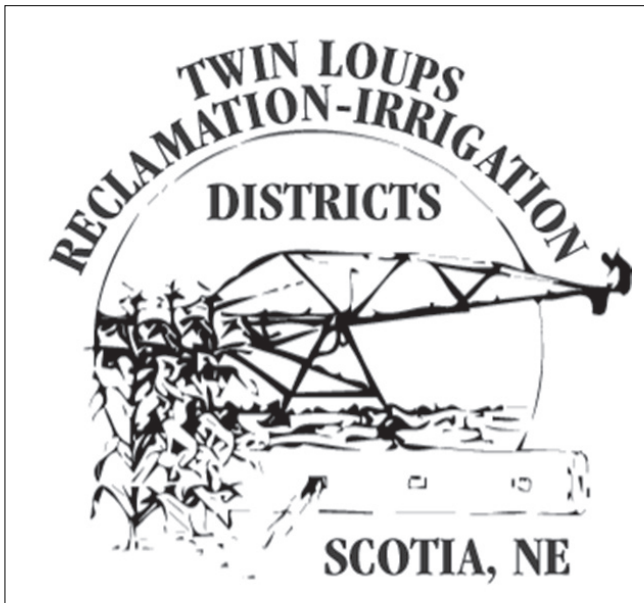
The proposed rule changes rejected by the governor included several other changes, though Pillen only mentioned the drug-use standards as problematic. The changes were a mixture of new requirements passed by the State Legislature to increase the professionalism of law enforcement officers, and attempts to attract more applicants.

The other changes include: allowing graduates of home schools to qualify for admittance for law enforcement training; requiring new recruits to undergo psychological testing to determining their fitness for the job; and disqualifying someone who was convicted of threatening violence, and not just using it.

**MINIMUM STANDARDS**

- The Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Board sets minimum standards to become a law enforcement officer for agencies across the state.
- Law enforcement agencies, such as those in Omaha, Lincoln and Sarpy County, which have their own training academies, can establish higher standards.

**GREELEY**



**HITCHCOCK**

**The Culbertson Bank**  
 SINCE 1886 Member FDIC  
 318 Taylor St, Culbertson  
 (308) 278-2141

**MERRICK COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE**

**John Westman**  
 1821 16th Avenue  
 Central City, NE 68826  
 Phone: 308-946-2345  
 jwestman@merrickcountysheriff.org



*Proud member of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*

**NANCE COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE**

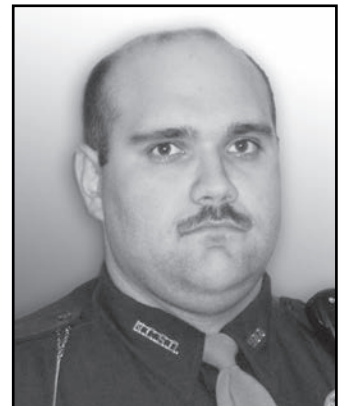
**Ben Bakewell**  
 209 Esther Street  
 Fullerton, NE 68638  
 Phone: 308-536-2452  
 sheriff@nancecountyne.org



*Proud member of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*

**NEMAHA COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE**

**Brent Lottman**  
 1805 N Street  
 Auburn, NE 68305  
 Phone: 402-274-3139  
 blottman@nemahasheriff.com



*Proud member of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*

**NUCKOLLS COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE**

**Brad Baker**  
 150 S. Main Street  
 Nelson, NE 68961  
 Phone: 402-225-2831  
 ncsheriffbaker@gmail.com



*Proud member of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*

See pages 13-27 for county businesses that are supporters of their local sheriff's office and the NSA!

# SAFE DRIVING KEEPS MEMORIES FOCUSED ON AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENT

August 31, 2023

LINCOLN — An unforgettable experience combined with safe roadways made the perfect combination for Volleyball Day in Nebraska. Troopers partnered with local agencies to help keep the record-breaking crowd safe as they traveled to and from Memorial Stadium Wednesday.



"Nebraskans showed up in record-breaking numbers yesterday and put on a show for the whole world to see," said Colonel John Bolduc, Superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol. "Thanks to safe driving by the vast majority of fans, Volleyball Day in Nebraska will be remembered for the incredible experience inside the stadium and not for a tragedy on the road."

Troopers performed high-visibility patrols on roadways in and around Lincoln as part of this operation, which was made possible thanks in part to grant funding from the Nebraska Department of Transportation – Highway Safety Office. Troopers also patrolled from the air in the NSP helicopter to assist with traffic flow.

Wednesday evening into Thursday morning, troopers made four arrests for driving under the influence of alcohol in the Lincoln area. NSP reminds everyone to always have a sober driver.

**We appreciate working with all Law Enforcement Partners to reduce Nebraska's traffic related injuries and fatalities.**



**Helping  
the world  
*thrive***

490 County Rd 9 Schuyler, NE 68661

## HOLT



Patrick Cole, owner  
North HWY 281 | PO Box 56  
O'Neill, NE  
402.336.1888

## Torpins Rodeo Food Market

*Shurfine Foods*

MEMBER AFFILIATED FOODS  
506 E DOUGLAS ST, ONEILL, NE  
402-366-1550

## JOHNSON

*Sinners* Paint & Body Shop  
LLOYD SINNER



120 S Tecumseh, Wauneta  
308.394.5695 | 308.394.5692 FAX

## KEITH

Serving the area since 1885



*Keith County*  
**NEWS**

P.O. Box 359 116 West A Street Ogallala, NE 69153 (308) 284-4046

## OTOE COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Colin Caudill**

1021 Central Avenue #1  
Nebraska City, NE 68410  
Phone: 402-873-9560  
ccaudill@otoecountyne.gov



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## PAWNEE COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Braden Lang**

PO Box 267  
Pawnee, NE 68420  
Phone: 402-852-2969  
954pcso@gmail.com



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*

## PHELPS COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Gene Samuelson**

715 5th Avenue #20  
Holdrege, NE 68949  
Phone: 308-991-3607  
gene@phelpscountyso.com



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



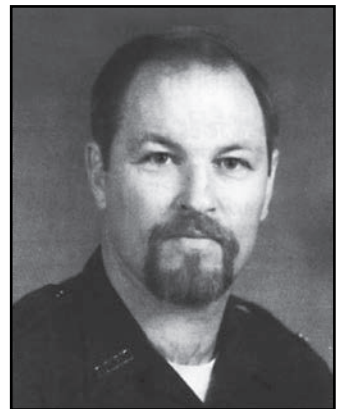
## PIERCE COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Rick Eberhardt**

111 W Court Street #7  
Pierce, NE 68767  
Phone: 402-329-6346  
piercecountyso@ptcnet.net



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



See pages 13-27 for county businesses that are supporters of their local sheriff's office and the NSA!

# SUSPECT IN LINCOLN OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING FIRED FIRST, ACCORDING TO AUTHORITIES

May 2, 2023 9:34 am - By Matt Chibe, Gatini Tinsley

LINCOLN, Neb. (KLKN) –The Lancaster County Sheriff's Office said the suspect in Monday's officer-involved shooting fired his weapon first. Authorities identified him as 35-year-old Chace Abney and said he has a long criminal history. He had outstanding warrants from Arizona, New York and California.

"Abney has Lincoln ties and was in Lincoln for about one week," Sheriff Terry Wagner said. "The pistol he had was reported stolen yesterday in Norfolk."

Authorities said they were conducting surveillance on a motel room at Southwest 27th and West O Streets when multiple task force members moved across the street. Abney followed them in a Chevrolet Impala, and they ordered him to get out of the car. That's when Abney is accused of firing a round at law enforcement with a 9 mm pistol. They returned fire, and Abney was taken to the hospital with multiple gunshot wounds after receiving first aid. He's still in critical condition at this time.

Officers said they will not yet be releasing the names of the officers involved for safety reasons. Police said they have recovered shell casings from Abney's stolen gun but said the bullets were not recovered.

A lot of questions are still left unanswered, primarily why Abney allegedly followed police to the parking lot in the first place. Authorities still have a lot of interviews to do, and they're also looking for additional witnesses. There is no body camera or dashcam video of the shooting. If you have footage from the area or any information, you're asked to contact local law enforcement.

The officers involved in the shooting are currently on administrative leave while the investigation continues.

Nebraska's Preferred

**CALL RECORDING,  
DICTATION, &  
INTERVIEW ROOM  
RECORDING  
SPECIALISTS**

How can we support your mission?

**WahlTek**  
A Northland Company



**Next-Gen 911 & Call Recording**



**Digital Dictation & Speech Recognition**



**Interview Room Recording**

Learn about the future of call and video recording technology at the 2023 NSA/POAN Conference!

**Providing Mission-Critical Recording Technology**  
When every second counts, you can count on WahlTek.

1501 42nd Street, Suite 370 • West Des Moines, IA 50266  
E: Marketing@WahlTek.com • W: WahlTek.com



**515.309.3935**  
CALL US TO FIND OUT MORE

## LINCOLN



### FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES

AERIE NO. 2839

620 N. Chestnut  
North Platte



## MADISON



General Contractor • Commercial Rural  
Buildings • Agriculture

**SCOTT A. MILLER**

(402) 675-3735 • FAX (402) 675-5625

[bcbuid@conpoint.com](mailto:bcbuid@conpoint.com)

200 W. O'NEILL • BOX A • BATTLE CREEK, NE 68715

## NE - IA Builders, Inc.

Specializing in Metal Buildings  
and Structural Steel Erection

Rodney J. Wiebelhaus • Kevin B. Becker

**Office 402-379-2430**

P.O. Box 495 Norfolk, NE 68702-0495

## PLATTE COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Edward Wemhoff**

2610 14th Street  
Columbus, NE 68601  
Phone: 402-564-9077  
[ewemhoff@plattecounty.ne.gov](mailto:ewemhoff@plattecounty.ne.gov)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## POLK COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Dwaine Ladwig**

251 N Main Street  
Osceola, NE 68651  
Phone: 402-747-2241  
[dladwig@polkcountyne.gov](mailto:dladwig@polkcountyne.gov)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## RICHARDSON COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Richard Hardesty**

65086 706 Trail  
Falls City, NE 68355  
Phone: 402-245-2479  
[r.hardesty@richardsoncountyne.us](mailto:r.hardesty@richardsoncountyne.us)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## SAUNDERS COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Chris Lichtenberg**

387 N Chestnut Street #3  
Wahoo, NE 68066  
Phone: 402-443-8143  
[lichtenberg@saunderscounty.ne.gov](mailto:lichtenberg@saunderscounty.ne.gov)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



See pages 13-27 for county businesses that are  
supporters of their local sheriff's office and the NSA!

# 'THEY'RE GOING FOR DOLLAR SIGNS': SMALLER NEBRASKA AGENCIES STRUGGLE TO ATTRACT LAW ENFORCEMENT

*Smaller Nebraska agencies that are short one or two people can be put them 30-50% understaffed.*

BENNINGTON, Neb. — Running radar is part of the chief's job in small-town Nebraska. "It's not a lot of action," said Bennington police chief Drew Hilscher. He describes the booming community in northwest Douglas County in one word: "Growing, growing, growing," he said. But that's the opposite of his police department. Fifteen-plus-hour days are not unusual. "Tired and worn out," he said. "Energy drinks get you by, but that's not healthy for you."

Inside the Bennington Police Station, you'll find rows of uniforms ready to be worn. Chief Hilscher runs a staff of 11 people — that includes part-time and full-time positions. Of the five full-time officers, one is injured, and another position is open. That leaves him down about 40% of his staff.

"You don't have a lot of people interested in law enforcement anymore," he said. "People who are in law enforcement — they're going for dollar signs."

KETV polled every law enforcement agency in Douglas, Sarpy, and Pottawattamie counties about filled and open positions and starting pay for non-lateral transfers. Bennington is at the bottom of the list for pay.

"We need to be more competitive with pay — especially since we're so close to Omaha," Chief Hilscher said. "But also, we have to pick the right candidate." If Omaha's proposed budget goes through, it would start at more than \$70,000 a year, going from 11th to 1st on the list.

"They pay better, they have better benefits, you've got better health insurance," said Nebraska FOP president Jim Maguire when asked about larger agencies. "A big one — better pension system."

Maguire and the Nebraska FOP know smaller agencies need help. Waterloo Police are in a similar boat. Chief Tim Donahue said they're budgeted for five full-time staff members but currently have three. He said they've been trying to fill the positions for five months.

"We're trying to come up with some solution to assist — not just Omaha or Lincoln — but all agencies," Maguire said. On July 1, LB 1241 went into effect. It's a state-funded bonus structure designed to help agencies with fewer than 75 officers or deputies. If they've had at least one year of service since July 1, 2022, and are in good standing, they received a \$1,500 bonus. In another two years, they'd get an additional \$2,500. Two years after that, or five total, would get an additional \$3,000. Law enforcement agents who continue to work for departments of fewer than 75 people could net \$7,000 in bonuses by the time LB 1241 sunsets in July 2028.

"We need to stabilize the workforce and get people interested in doing this," Maguire said. "We're hoping with these money incentives that some will stick around because it is a true crisis." It's a competitive crisis to find the best, pay the best, and keep the best. Despite the pay difficulties, which Chief Hilscher said he's pushing city leaders to change, there are benefits to small-town police work.

"It's a slower pace," Hilscher said. "There's a bit of a learning curve, but the plus to that is you can take your time." He said you can investigate a case from start to finish, something that's not possible in bigger cities. He's on a first-name basis with most of the community, and his personal cell phone is always on. Even with the staffing crisis, agencies across Nebraska know the application and selection process needs to remain stringent.

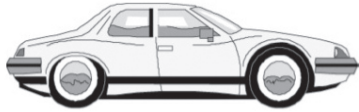
"If you hire the wrong person, you can have even more issues down the road," Maguire said. But if you're the right person, applications are open at agencies across the Omaha metro.

- 1. Pottawattamie Co. Sheriff's Office: \$67,000/year**
- 2. Douglas Co. Sheriff's Office: \$65,000/year**
- 3. Sarpy Co. Sheriff's Office: \$64,450/year**
- 4. Nebraska State Patrol: \$62,400/year**
- 5. Papillion police: \$62,100/year**
- 6. Council Bluffs Police: \$60,600/year**
- 7. La Vista police: \$60,100/year**
- 8. Ralston police: \$59,800/year**
- 9. Bellevue police: \$59,240/year**
- 10. Waterloo police: \$54,080**
- 11. Omaha police: \$51,875**
- \* (could rise to \$71,000 under proposed budget)**
- 12. Bennington police: \$49,920**

*\*Boys Town, Carter Lake, and Valley Police didn't respond to KETV's request*



## PIERCE



### RICK'S AUTO REPAIR

COMPLETE CAR CARE

402-329-4650 • 1-800-355-6227

N. Hwy 13, Pierce

## SAUNDERS



### Wahoo STATE BANK

164 E 5TH STREET PO BOX 188 WAHOO, NE 68066  
402-443-3207 FAX: 402-443-5214

WWW.WAHOOSTATEBANK.COM

## SEWARD



402-643-3644

734 Seward St, Seward, NE 68434

## SHERMAN



PO Box 385, St. Paul, Nebraska 68873  
www.bankwithcitizens.com  
(308) 754-4426

Other Locations:

Citizens Bank & Trust Co.  
650 P Street, Loup City, NE  
(308) 745-0573

Citizens Bank & Trust Co.  
1634 16th Street, Central City, NE  
(308) 946-3018

## SEWARD COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Mike Vance**  
261 South 8th Street  
Seward, NE 68434  
Phone: 402-643-2359  
mvance@co.seward.ne.us



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## SHERMAN COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Michael Jepsen**  
630 O Street  
Loup City, NE 68853  
Phone: 308-745-1511  
shermancoso@sherman.nacone.org



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## SIOUX COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Chad McCumbers**  
409 Main Street  
Harrison, NE 69346  
Phone: 308-668-2418  
siouxsheriff@outlook.com



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## STANTON COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Michael Unger**  
804 Ivy Street  
Stanton, NE 68779  
Phone: 402-439-2212  
msunger@stanton.net



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



See pages 13-27 for county businesses that are supporters of their local sheriff's office and the NSA!

# LETTER OF COMMENDATION - YORK COUNTY

Sheriff Paul M. Vrbka, York County Sheriff

On January 30th, 2023, York County Emergency Communications (YCEC) received a call regarding a female who had been shot in York, NE. It was believed that a male suspect may still be on the premises and was armed. Deputy Sheriff Jordan Dickson of the York County Sheriffs Office was one of the first law enforcement officers to arrive on scene to the incident. Deputy Dickson began to give commands over his public address system for the suspect to exit the residence and also alerted nearby citizens to stay clear of the area as they began to inadvertently walk towards the scene. After receiving no response, Deputy Dickson along with three other law enforcement officers entered the residence and located a deceased female inside. Deputy Dickson assisted in clearing the residence and ultimately the suspect was not located inside.



A short time later, (YCEC) received another call indicating the suspect was at a residence in the 400 block of N. Iowa Ave in York, NE. Deputy Dickson was the first law enforcement officer on scene and immediately began giving commands to the suspect so he could be taken into custody. Deputy Dickson again ensured that an innocent bystander was not in harms way and gave commands to that individual to vacate the area. The suspect was then taken into custody without incident.

Deputy Dickson stayed with the suspect until he could be interviewed by other law enforcement personnel. During this time, Deputy Dickson's body worn camera captured numerous statements spontaneously uttered by the suspect which implicated him in the alleged murder.

I would like to commend Deputy Dickson on his response to this incident. During this incident, Deputy Dickson exemplified many of the qualities that one looks for in a law enforcement officer. He was quick to respond, decisive in action, and courageous. There is no doubt that Deputy Dickson's actions ensured that his fellow law enforcement officers went home safe, and no members of the public were harmed. The York County Sheriffs Office is fortunate to have Deputy Dickson as a member of our agency.

## MIDWEST SPECIAL SERVICES, INC.

PO Box 82, Curtis, NE 69025 • 308-367-4338



"Our company has successfully provided commercial prisoner transportation for nearly 27 years. We have vans stationed across the state for faster response to your transportation needs.

We transport prisoners detained on warrants statewide and nationwide. We would like to bid on your prisoner extradition work on a case by case basis.

Let us transport your prisoners while your personnel provide law enforcement to your community!"

— Mark Roblee, President —



**MIDWEST**  
is equipped to handle  
all your enforcement  
transportation needs.

**MIDWEST**  
offers 3 levels  
of secured  
vehicles, from  
open van with security screen,  
to open seating within a  
reinforced compartment to  
secured individual seating  
compartments within the secured vehicle.



We are proud to provide safe, secure transportation to all Nebraska law enforcement agencies.

**STATEWIDE OR NATIONWIDE, WE ARE READY TO SERVE YOU.**

**Providing Dependable, Safe Passenger Transportation Since 1989**

## THOMAS

Serving the Sandhills since 1961

### Sandhill Oil Company, Inc

[www.sandhilloil.com](http://www.sandhilloil.com)

Allen & Richard Jameson

Hyannis 308-458-2237

[Hyannis@sandhilloil.com](mailto:Hyannis@sandhilloil.com)

Theford 308-645-2233

[Theford@sandhilloil.com](mailto:Theford@sandhilloil.com)

Valentine 402-376-1302

[Valentine@sandhilloil.com](mailto:Valentine@sandhilloil.com)



Tank Service

Propane

Trenching &  
Backhoe

Convenience  
Stores

Bulk Fuel &  
Farm Tire  
Delivery

## THURSTON



### Pender Veterinary Clinic

Complete Animal Health Care

**402.385.3155**

Dr. J. Beutler  
402.380.4071

Dr. K. Coleman  
308.870.1342

Dr. M. K. Sharp  
402.385.2240

## WHEELER

### McNally Law Office

James J. McNally  
Joseph McNally

Neligh and Bartlett Offices  
402.887.5022 (Neligh)

## THURSTON COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Russell Briggs**

106 5th Street

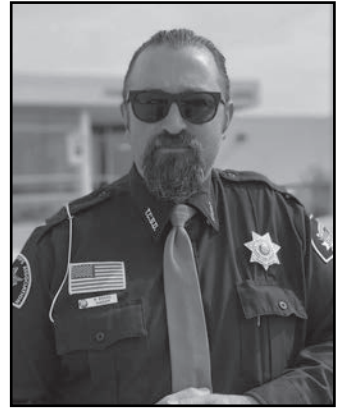
Pender, NE 68047

Phone: 402-385-6210

[tcso@thurstoncountysheriffne.gov](mailto:tcso@thurstoncountysheriffne.gov)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## VALLEY COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Casey Hurlburt**

125 S 15th Street #102

Ord, NE 68862

Phone: 308-728-3906

[vcso947@valleycountyne.gov](mailto:vcso947@valleycountyne.gov)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Michael Robinson**

1535 Colfax Street

Blair, NE 68008

Phone: 402-426-6866

[sheriffrobinson@washcosheriff.org](mailto:sheriffrobinson@washcosheriff.org)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



## WAYNE COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Jason Dwinell**

219 West 6th Street

Wayne, NE 68787

Phone: 402-375-1911

[jdwinell@waynecountyne.gov](mailto:jdwinell@waynecountyne.gov)



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*



See pages 13-27 for county businesses that are supporters of their local sheriff's office and the NSA!

# TROOPERS MAKE 94 DUI ARRESTS IN DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER

September 6, 2023

LINCOLN - Nebraska State Troopers arrested 94 impaired drivers during a three-week enforcement campaign to close-out the summer travel season. The Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign ran from August 16 through September 4.

"As we move from the summer driving season into the fall months, drivers need to remain vigilant on the roads," said Colonel John Bolduc, Superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol.

In addition to removing 94 impaired drivers from the road, troopers also issued citations for speeding (1,580), including 70 citations for speeding at or above 100 miles per hour, driving under suspension (120), no seat belt (47), improper child restraint (26), open alcohol container (31), and minor in possession (15). Troopers also performed 794 motorist assists and made 99 felony arrests. Labor Day marks the traditional end of the summer travel season. From Memorial Day Weekend to Labor Day Weekend, troopers made 393 arrests for driving under the influence. Troopers also cited 357 drivers for speeding at or above 100 miles per hour and performed over 4,000 motorist assists throughout the state.

"With summer vacations in the rear view, now is the time to stay alert for changing weather conditions and keep an eye out for farm machinery moving from field to field," said Colonel Bolduc. "When you're driving, keep your focus on the road and help keep Nebraska roads safe."

The Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign is made possible thanks in part to grant funding from the Nebraska Department of Transportation - Highway Safety Office.



**KIESLER POLICE SUPPLY HAS NEBRASKA COVERED!**  
Kiesler.com

Firearms | Ammunition | Duty Gear | Trade-Ins



Your Authorized LE Dealer for



Kiesler Police Supply is the largest authorized VISTA LE Distributor in the U.S.

State of Nebraska Catalog Pricing Available



SCAN QR CODE TO SEE PRICING  
SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY | LEAD TIMES MAY VARY | SELECT ROUNDS IN STOCK



Kiesler has remained one of GLOCK's Top LE Distributors for over a decade.



Serving those who protect and serve • service@kiesler.com | 812.288.5740

**KIESLER POLICE SUPPLY**  
www.kiesler.com



- 1" Inch Tall. Slimmest Multi-Color / Multi-Function SAE Approved Lightbar Available. 50% Slimmer than our closest competitor.
- Silicone Optical Lens with 10 Year Warranty.
- Customizable to your needs by mixing Single, Dual and Tri-Color Output Multi-Color / Multi-Function Lighthouse all in One Lightbar.

**nFORCE**



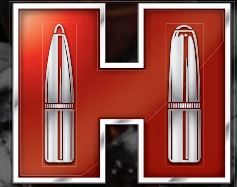
- Proven reliability over years of service. Unmatched Performance, Intensity and Durability. Aerodynamic Wing Design for Less Wind Drag.
- Up to 3 Color outputs Per Each Lighthouse allowing for combinations of Flashing Warning and Scene Light Functions all in One Solution.
- The BEST Lightbar we have ever sold.

**LIGHT and SIREN.com**

**1-800-7-STROBE**

**SERVING LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS SINCE 1992**

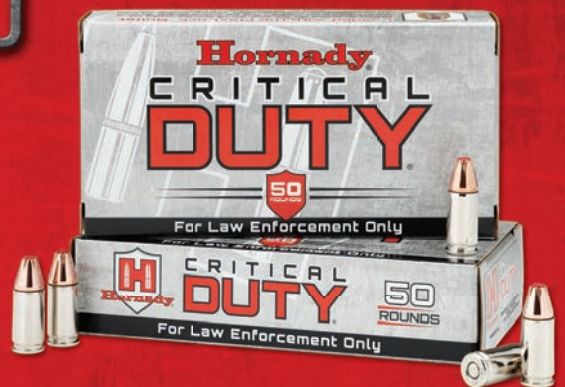
800-338-3220 | HORNADY.COM



# FBI TESTED AND SELECTED

From design to craftsmanship to testing,  
we set out to make great ammunition.  
The world's toughest critics agree.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) completed an extensive evaluation process and selected Hornady Critical Duty® as its source for 9mm +P and 40 S&W service ammunition.



# YOUNGS SERVICE, INC.

**We meet by accident but ...  
We treat you like old friends  
LOCAL and LONG DISTANCE**



*67th & Spring  
Omaha*

## WEBSTER COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Troy Schmitz**  
641 N Cedar Street  
Red Cloud, NE 68970  
Phone: 402-746-2722  
tschmitzwcsog45@yahoo.com



Ne-

*Proud member of the  
braska Sheriffs' Association.*

## WHEELER COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Dale King**  
PO Box 127  
Bartlett, NE 68622  
Phone: 308-654-3232  
Dale.King@wheelercountyne.gov



*Proud member of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association.*

See pages 13-27 for county businesses that are supporters of their local sheriff's office and the NSA!



**GOLIGHT INC**  
Revolutionary Lighting Solutions  
800.557.0098 | [www.golight.com](http://www.golight.com)



**Durable... Versatile.. Powerful... GUARANTEED!**

Being the first on scene means dealing with the unexpected. Golight can help alleviate some of that uncertainty by illuminating the situation. Having the proper lighting and directional capability is critical in maintaining the safety of both the first responders and the civilians on the scene in a nighttime event.



## The Nebraska Sheriff

A Publication of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association

Place an Advertisement  
in our Next Magazine!

**Next Issue Coming March  
2024!**

*For more details contact the Nebraska  
Sheriffs' Association office!*

# 2023 NSA/POAN CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023

- 12:00-6:00 pm Registration Open
- 1:00-2:00 pm Nebraska Crime Commission Update
- 2:00-4:00 pm Officer Shooting - Sgt. Brad Wangler
- 4:00-4:30 pm Gaming Commission
- 4:30-5:00 pm DMV
- 5:00-5:30 pm 988 Crisis Line
- 5:30-7:30 pm Annual Meetings
- 7:30-11:00 pm Hospitality Room

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2023

- 7:00 am-4:00 pm Registration Open
- 8:30-9:00 am Opening Session
- 9:00-10:00 am De-escalation & Anti Bias - Dr. Jim Davis
- 9:00 am-1:00 pm Spouses Program
  - The Rustic Patch & Lunch at Cunninghams (carpool)
- 10:00-10:45 am Break in Vendor Area
- 10:45 am-12:00 pm De-escalation & Anti Bias - Dr. Jim Davis
- 12:00-1:00 pm Lunch Provided in Vendor Area
  - Highway Safety Luncheon (Invite Only)
- 1:05 pm Afternoon Drawing in Classroom
- 1:15-2:45 pm New Legislation & Law Enforce. Updates - Corey O'Brien
- 2:45-3:30 pm Break in Vendor Area
- 3:30-5:30 pm Saunders County DV Murder Case - Corey O'Brien
- 5:30-11:00 pm President's Reception in Vendor Area
  - Casino Night starts at 6:30 pm

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2023

- 8:00-10:30 am Dare to be Great - Brian Willis
- 10:30-11:15 am Break in Vendor Area
- 11:15 am-12:30 pm Dare to be Great - Brian Willis
- 12:30-1:30 pm Lunch on Your Own
  - POAN Annual Luncheon (*POAN Members Only*)
- 1:45-3:00 pm Dare to be Great - Brian Willis
- 3:00-3:30 pm Break in Vendor Area
- 3:30-5:30 pm Dare to be Great - Brian Willis
- 6:30-8:00 pm NSA & POAN Awards Banquet
- 8:00-11:00 pm Hospitality Room - Fairfield Inn

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2023

- 8:00-10:00 am PIO - Cody Thomas
- 10:00-10:30 am Break in Hallway
- 10:30 am-12:00 pm PIO - Cody Thomas
- 12:00-12:15 pm Closing Comments & Gun Drawing





# WELCOME NEBRASKA SHERIFFS

## YOUNES CAMPUS

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SEE WHAT  
OUR CAMPUS HAS TO OFFER

 [WWW.YOUNES.COM](http://WWW.YOUNES.COM)

**younes**  
HOSPITALITY



NOW OFFERING  
**ONLINE** BACHELOR'S  
AND MASTER'S  
DEGREES IN  
**CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE**



## Affordable, Online Criminal Justice Degree Programs

### Bachelor's Degrees ([www.wsc.edu/criminal-justice-online](http://www.wsc.edu/criminal-justice-online))

- Whether you are interested in starting a career in criminal justice or getting the education you need for your next promotion, our fully online bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice lets you fit a college education into your busy schedule.
- Do you have credits from another institution? You may transfer up to 66 credit hours toward a bachelor's degree from WSC.
- Nebraska's Law Enforcement Education Waiver could cover tuition for your bachelor's degree.

### Master's Degrees ([www.wsc.edu/msom](http://www.wsc.edu/msom))

- The fully online master's degree program requires 36 credit hours.
- Rigorous, convenient, and affordable.
- Develop problem-solving and leadership skills needed for roles in government, nonprofit organizations, community advocacy, or federal agencies.

**Wayne State College delivers comprehensive online bachelor's and master's degree programs at a lower cost than area schools and well-known online colleges.**



**Get started today!**



**Wayne State College**

1111 Main St • Wayne, NE 68787  
402-372-7234 • 1-866-WSC-CATS

*Member, Nebraska State College System*

# NEBRASKA'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF OPERATION LIFESAVER

By Sgt. Winston Cavendish, S.P.D., retired

Death by rails is a gruesome way to die!! You bet your life and the lives of everyone in your vehicle when you play chicken, trying to race a train through mechanical cross arms; that's pure suicide! All it takes to save a life is (Stop-Look-Live) Remember, (Any Time is Train Time) these words can save your life.

Sadly, we in the law enforcement community deal with this senseless destruction of life on a day-to-day basis nationally, wherever rails roll through your county.

Remember the 3 E's of railroad safety.

- Education
- Engineering
- Enforcement

This is the type of training students go through in the (Nebraska Operation Lifesaver Program.) Our state is lucky to have a strong public rail safety program; it saves lives! Last year, the Operation Lifesaver program celebrated its 50th Anniversary, promoting Rail Safety state-wide. Nebraska is very fortunate to have Executive Director Deb Ashworth heading up the program. The National Operation Lifesaver Organization presented her with the high awards for Rail Safety in our country. She stated, "It would never have been possible without her hard-working volunteers," She is truly a credit to our state!

Last year, she planned the "Whistle Stop Tour" with many special railroad safety events, including during that month. The Campaign will be going to 20 counties with the highest number of fatalities and injuries in the last five years of statistics (does not include 2022.) Governor Bliley Ricketts started the program, signing a special proclamation making September 2022 "Rail Safety Week." This took place at Billy's restaurant in Omaha. Many governmental officials, volunteers, and railroad safety managers were present.

This massive program covered 20 counties in 20 days from Nebraska. It started at the Camp Creek Trade Show in Lincoln. With a large Operation Lifesaver trailer, it was a big hit with the visitors.

The team put on safety programs from Lancaster to Dawson County. The program consisted of early morning breakfasts with government officials from all the counties, State Representative, Senators, Mayors, Police and Fire Chief, and Sheriff's Emergency Measures Directors.

Highlights from the program: Special appearances at High School through kindergartens, we put on a show to reach as many children as we could.

McGruff, the National Crime Dog from Washington DC, was a hit with the Children; thanks to his handlers, Sgt. Winston Cavendish and Andrea Spiehler for all their help throughout the tour.

If one life were saved through the "Whistle Stop Tour," it would be all worth our efforts. Sheriff's interested in "Nebraska Operation Lifesaver." You can contact the Nebraska Operation Lifesaver's Executive Director, Deb Ashworth, at (402) 650-5885.

## INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING IN THE NSA MAGAZINE?

2024 ADVERTISING RATES:  
Price Per Issue

**Full Page - \$550 Color**

**Half Page - \$350 Color**

**Third Page - \$225 Color**

**Quarter Page - \$175 Color**

**Business Card - \$100 B&W**

**Listing Page - \$50 B&W**

If you advertise in both issues of the Nebraska Sheriff, you can also advertise on the NSA website for an additional yearly fee. Your ad will be featured on a slide display on the home page of the website July 1st through June 30th.

**Contact NSA at [taylor@youraam.com](mailto:taylor@youraam.com) to reserve space.**

# GENE STEFFY

## AUTO GROUP

CHRYSLER • JEEP • DODGE • RAM

2545 E. 23rd Ave. South • Fremont, NE 68025

Lonnie Dooley, Commercial Sales Representative

402-727-8550 | 800-642-7033 | lonnie@genesteffy.com

www.genesteffy.com

## YOUR LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLE SPECIALISTS

**DODGE CHARGER  
PURSUIT**



**DODGE DURANGO  
SPECIAL SERVICE**



**RAM 1500  
SPECIAL SERVICE**



**RAM PROMASTER  
SPECIAL SERVICE**





# FOOD AND COMMISSARY SOLUTIONS

THAT PROMOTE  
POSITIVE BEHAVIOR

---

WELL-PLANNED INMATE MEALS  
COMMISSARY FULFILLMENT  
INMATE BANKING & TECHNOLOGY  
ENGAGING STAFF DINING PROGRAMS  
PREMIUM GIFT OPTIONS  
VOCATIONAL TRAINING

---

You need an experienced partner to  
help keep your facility a safe place  
for officers and inmates to succeed!

**JEFF GREEN**  
Business Development Director  
605.359.6667  
[jeff.green@summitfoodservice.com](mailto:jeff.green@summitfoodservice.com)



The only hat you should be wearing...



is the one labeled **SHERIFF**

We offer a proven track record, innovative and responsive food service management, fiscal accountability, and relentless integrity.

So **YOU** can leave the chef hat to the experts!

Wendy Silver  
Chief Marketing Officer  
515.278.2798  
wsilver@nhfcmc.com



# WE GOT YOUR SIX! WHAT YOU NEED WHEN YOU NEED IT!

## GUNS

- DANIEL DEFENSE
- GLOCK
- S&W / M&P
- BARRETT
- BENELLI

## HOLSTERS

- SAFARILAND
- BLACKHAWK
- ALIENGear
- BIANCHI



## GEAR

- SUREFIRE
- TRIJICON
- MAGPUL
- SAFE LIFE DEFENSE

## AMMO

- FEDERAL
- CCI
- HORNADY
- REMINGTON
- WINCHESTER

GET 15% OFF STOREWIDE

JUST USE PROMO CODE:

**BLUELINE**

134TH & OST LINCOLN, NE  
OR

**DEGUNS.NET**



# ADVANCED

Correctional Healthcare, Inc.

provides tailored solutions onsite and via telehealth  
Accreditation - New Construction - Renovation - Staffing Analysis

## Solving Problems, Making Lives Easier.

With more than 200 years of combined correctional healthcare experience in our team, **Advanced Correctional Healthcare, Inc.** is a proud partner with fellow correctional health leaders to deliver a higher standard of care for your facility.



**AIMM, LLC** brings you DetainEMR, an **electronic** solution for **medical records** developed by correctional health care professionals.



**Freedom Behavioral Health, Inc.** provides comprehensive solutions such as addiction services, forensic evaluation, telehealth solutions, recidivism prevention, and occupational healthcare for first responders.



**USA Medical & Psychological Staffing, S.C.** provides client facilities with comprehensive medical and mental health professionals. Our experts manage the needs of the clients by offering on site coverage and telemedicine.



**Spark Training, LLC** offers clients data-driven targeted training in seat and online based on quality and safety standards, all on a national, state, and site-specific basis.



*Scan Here*

to learn more about each organization listed above

## TRAVIS WRIGHT

Program Consultant

(913) 360-0554

Travis.Wright@advancedch.com

www.advancedch.com





# We keep our finger on the pulse of technology, consistently developing new solutions.

We understand how critical communication is for your inmates and their loved ones. Our product and service offerings are built specifically to address the needs of your facility, population, and community.

## CPC PRODUCT PORTFOLIO

We design, develop, build, and support our portfolio with the highest grade of quality products using modern technologies. Learn what we can do for you.



### Phones

Our high-security phones are the most durable available. Their armored lanyard pull strength exceeds 1200 pounds, meaning less trouble tickets and equipment down-time.



### Tablets

We couple Apple's secure technology with exclusively curated content to redefine the industry standard of tablets. From certification programs to entertainment options, our content is designed to make a difference for your population.



### View Kiosk

Our video visitation solution eliminates contraband opportunities, minimizes inmate transportation, and digitizes staff-to-inmate communication. Facilities can monitor multiple video visits simultaneously.



### Chirpers

Revolutionary, real-time, phone number to phone number texting on Apple devices. Designed for corrections, Chirpers are innovative connection, investigation, and security resources.



### Commissary

Our customers ask and we deliver. We partner with Victus Commissary to bring facilities a fully integrated, comprehensive commissary system with the same customer-focused culture we embody.



### Investigator Toolbox

Investigators can streamline their investigations with actionable insight from Investigator Toolbox's robust tools such as Link Analysis, Voice Biometrics, and Covert Enrollment.



### Digital Mail Solution

Eliminating contraband from mail and processing legal mail just got easier. Powered by TextBehind, we offer an advanced alternative solution to physical mail. Friends and family can send mail and more using textbehind.com or the free Textbehind app.



### Charging Units

Ergonomic, efficient, and secure, our charging stations require zero staff involvement and allow inmates to charge, check-in, and check-out devices.



### Vending Machines

We partner with Victus Commissary to deliver, install, support, and service vending machines.

**JAIL  
ASSESSMENTS**



**91%**  
**BOND PASSAGE  
SUCCESS**



**SAFETY  
&  
SECURITY  
ANALYSIS**



**EXPANSION  
EFFICIENCY**



*Here Today ~ Building Tomorrow for 39 Years*

**Prochaska & Associates**

Planning | Architecture | Engineering | Interiors | Facility Management

info@prochaska.us

402.334.0755

www.prochaska.us