March 2022 | Clarke County Sheriff's Office

From the desk of Sheriff John Q. Williams

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Happy New Year, everyone! I am thrilled that we are back on track with a new CCSO Newsletter. We had a brief hiatus while we made some internal changes and adjustments, but we are back in action. As I enter into year two of this administration, there have been a lot of accomplishments and even more planned. We continue to focus on the safety of all those in both the Clarke County Courthouse and the Clarke County Jail.

In this edition, you will learn about a prestigious award earned in collaboration with our medical team. We highlight the joy surrounding

the 7th annual Shop With showcasing some of celebrated during ognition ceremony.

I was rewas most surprisfirst year. Honestly, a new learning opa couple things that people don't know sponsible for reviewing for raffles. I learned that

sponsible for reviewing and approving licenses for raffles. I learned that in my training, but I had no idea how often I would receive these requests. I don't think there has been a week that went by that I didn't have at least one or two to review. The other thing that happens a lot is having people from all over the country ask me about the Bulldogs before they ask anything law related. I was recently in our Nation's Capital and the majority of conversations with people I met started with how happy I must be for UGA's National Championship win! Of course I am. The Dawgs are kind of a big deal! I hope you enjoy the newsletter. See you again in a few months.

Volume 2, Issue 1



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Athens Clarke County Courthouse 325 East Washington St., Ste 125 Athens, GA 30601

Athens-Clarke County Jail 3015 Lexington Road Athens, GA 30605

Jail Medical Unit Receives Accreditation



The ACC Jail's Medical Unit received their accreditation and certification from the National Commission for Correction Health Care in January. Certification, done every two years, recognizes the mastery of national standards and the knowledge expected of leaders in the corrections health care field.

The Medical unit is staffed by 17 members including a physician, dentist, nurse practitioner, admins and other medical staff. "Often we are the only healthcare people get," Lisa Watts, RN and Health Services Admin, said of the care provided by her team.

Pictured with the Sheriff John Q. Williams (L) are Shelley Peoples, LPN, Lisa Watts, RN and Cpt.Tony Howard.

Blanket Drive

The Community Outreach Services division participated in more than ten events last quarter including a Blanket Drive for children in need.

The event was organized by Lady B, Ms. Barbara Sims, to benefit special needs children with the All God's Children organization and the Dept. of Family & Children Services.

The goal of donating 100 blankets was exceeded with 130 blankets donated by generous CCSO employees. Thank you!

Pictured from (L) to (R) are Sgt. Sharlene Questelles and Lt. William Gable The mission of the Clarke County Sheriff's Office is to serve our community through intentional engagement, access and transparency. We are dedicated to conducting ourselves in a manner respectful of the trust that has been placed upon us. We will perform the constitutional and statutory mandates of the Office of Sheriff with the highest degree of competence, skill and professionalism. We strive to actively enforce the laws of our state and to safely operate our detention facilities through progressive, innovative and humane practices aimed towards rehabilitating those in custody through non-conventional methods and returning citizens back into our community with hope and a chance for a successful future. We are dedicated to this mission and to the people we serve to ensure that Clarke County is a safe place to live, work and visit.



CCSO Staff Support



Chaplain Support Services Now Available to CCSO Staff

Father Michael Revak wears many hats. He is an Assistant Priest at St. Joseph's Church, located on Epps Bridge Pkwy in Athens, serves two parish churches, a high school and is a Chaplain for the Athens-Clarke County Police Department. But when he received the call to add another opportunity to his plate, he jumped at the chance. "The Sheriff reached out to me and invited me on board here at the Sheriff's Office as support for detention officers and deputies," said Father Michael. "Father Michael is very supportive and determined to help in any way he can," said Sheriff John Q. Williams. "It is important to have someone consistently present to help mitigate the day to day stressors in our profession. It is even better when that person has a great attitude and is approachable."

"If staff has something going on at home or work and needs someone to talk with, I want to be that person," Father Michael said. He is available, free of charge, for staff on most Fridays at 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. during staff change but can be reached via call, text or email 24|7 as needed. He is a nonjudgmental, safe place for staff to vent or talk about issues they might be experiencing at home or at work with no potential conflict of interest. "I want staff to feel comfortable reaching out whenever they need," he said.

Reaching Out to Father Michael For Support

Cell/Text 678-372-3654

Email Father.Michael@accgov.com

Feel the Love Staff Meal











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Pink Out for Breast Cancer Awareness

The Sheriff's Office held the first annual Pink Out Event to benefit the Susan G. Komen Foundation and their mission to save lives by investing in research to prevent and cure breast cancer.

Badges with pink highlights were unveiled and worn by department members through the month of October.

More than \$2,000 was raised by CCSO, Superior Court staff and the Clerk of Court.







Halloween Trunk or Treat

The Community Outreach Services division partnered with Athens-Clarke Co. Police Department, UGA Police Department and the District Attorney's Office to help kids celebrate Halloween safely even with Covid restrictions and social distancing in place.

The Trunk or Treat event was held in the front parking lot of the ACC Jail and hundreds of children participated in this fun event. Cars, with children dressed in costumes, drove through the parking lot and received bags of goodies for each person.

We are grateful to Sheila Hill and Sharon Barnett for their generous donation of candy to distribute to all participants. This allowed CCSO to bring hundreds of smiles to the children and parents who attended.









Sheriff John Q. Williams accepts the Platinum Level Sponsorship Award for the Office's participation in the Shop with a Cop event. Pictured above with ACC Police Department's Lt. Joe Geiger, (L), and Deputy Chief Jerry Saulters, (R).

Seventh Annual Shop with a Cop Event

In December, the Sheriff's Office participated in the 7th Annual Shop with a Cop event along with the Athens-Clarke Co. Police Department, University of GA Police Department and the ACC Probation Office.

The purpose of this event is to foster positive relationships between youth in our community and law enforcement.

More than 90 children, representing all 14 Athens elementary schools, received \$100 each to purchase toys, clothing and household items from Wal-Mart. In addition, five families, nominated by The Sparrow's Nest, an Athens nonprofit organization that works with families in crisis. were gifted \$500 each to shop for their wish list items.

The Classic Center hosted a wrapping party where participating agency members wrapped the gifts with the children.

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Clarke Co. Sheriff's Office

Helpful Info ...

Website:

accgov.com/Sheriff CCSO Court & Field (706)613-3250 ACC Jail (706)613-3270 Jail Visitation & Email Jailatm.com

Judicial / Civil

Civil Paper Search enigma.accgov.com/sheriff Sex Offender Registry Sheriffalerts.com Magistrate Court (706)613-3310 Municipal Court (traffic & ordinance violations) (706)613-3690 State / Misdemeanor Court (706)613-3200 Solicitor General's Office (706)613-3215 **Superior Court** (706)613-3161District Attorney's Office (706)613-3240 **ACC Probation** (706)613-3911

Employee Recognition

The following staff members were honored in January for their years of service to Athens-Clarke County;

10 Years

Darius Magby William Gable Erika Murphy

15 Years

John Johnson Karen King Lisa Geeter

20 Years

Sharon Willis Kerri Watson Benita Thomas

25 Years

Michael Wright Shirley Lowery Jessica Goings

35 Years

Craig Guntharp

The following Corporals have been promoted to the rank of Sergeant;

Ketonnia Appling Steven Harris Kelda Corn Justin Prestige

Congratulations to these CCSO employees!











