

# Public Safety Committee Meeting

## Tompkins County Sheriff's Office Monthly Report December 2023



Derek R. Osborne

Sheriff

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Jennifer K. Olin

Undersheriff

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## Office Statistics

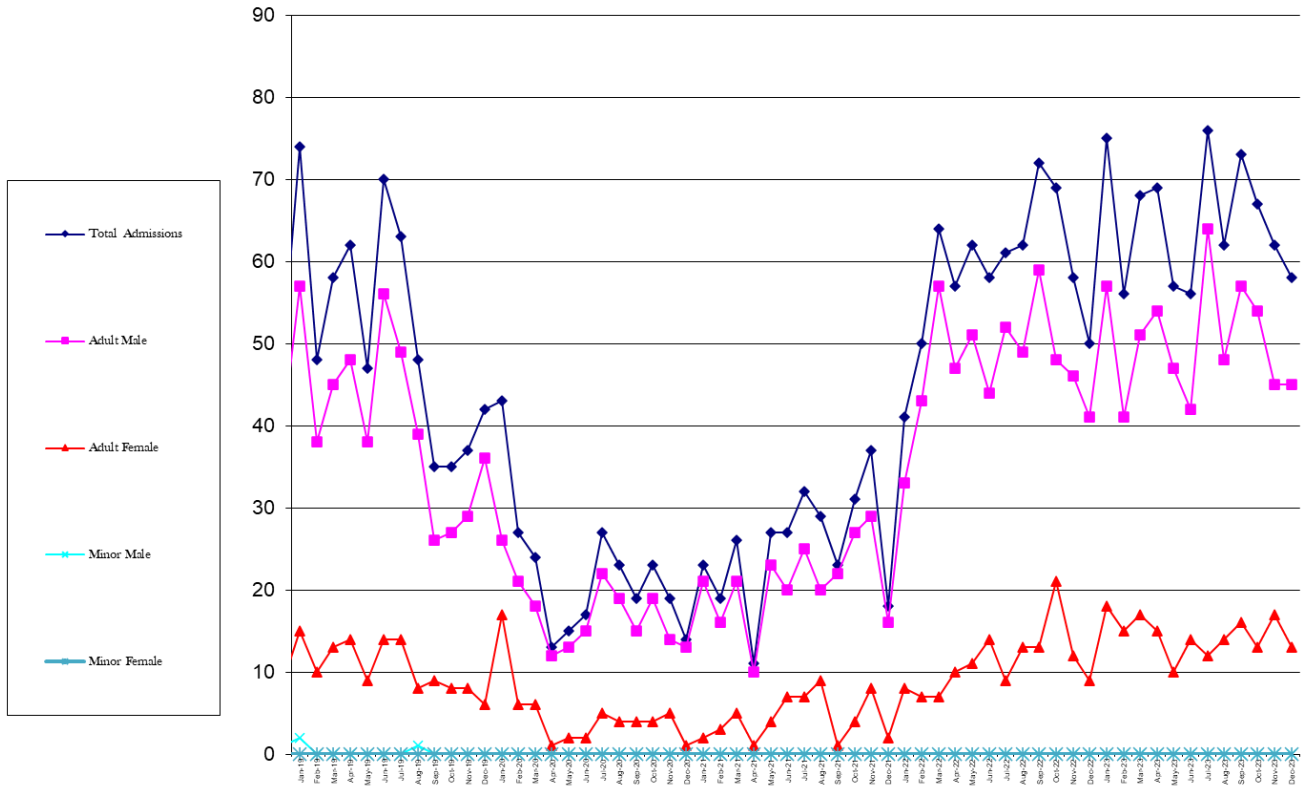
<b>Civil Division Statistics</b>	
Total Revenue Received	\$48,646
Revenue Remitted to TC Treasurer	\$7,796
Civil Actions Docketed	131
Civil Papers Requiring Service	165
Civil Papers Exempt from Fees	74
Civil Paper Service Attempts	79
Successful Civil Paper Service	129

<b>Road Patrol Division Statistics</b>	
Total Incidents	1,320
Violation Arrests	4
Misdemeanor Arrests	20
Felony Arrests	10
Active Warrant Arrests	3
DWI Arrests	6
Felony DWI Arrests	1

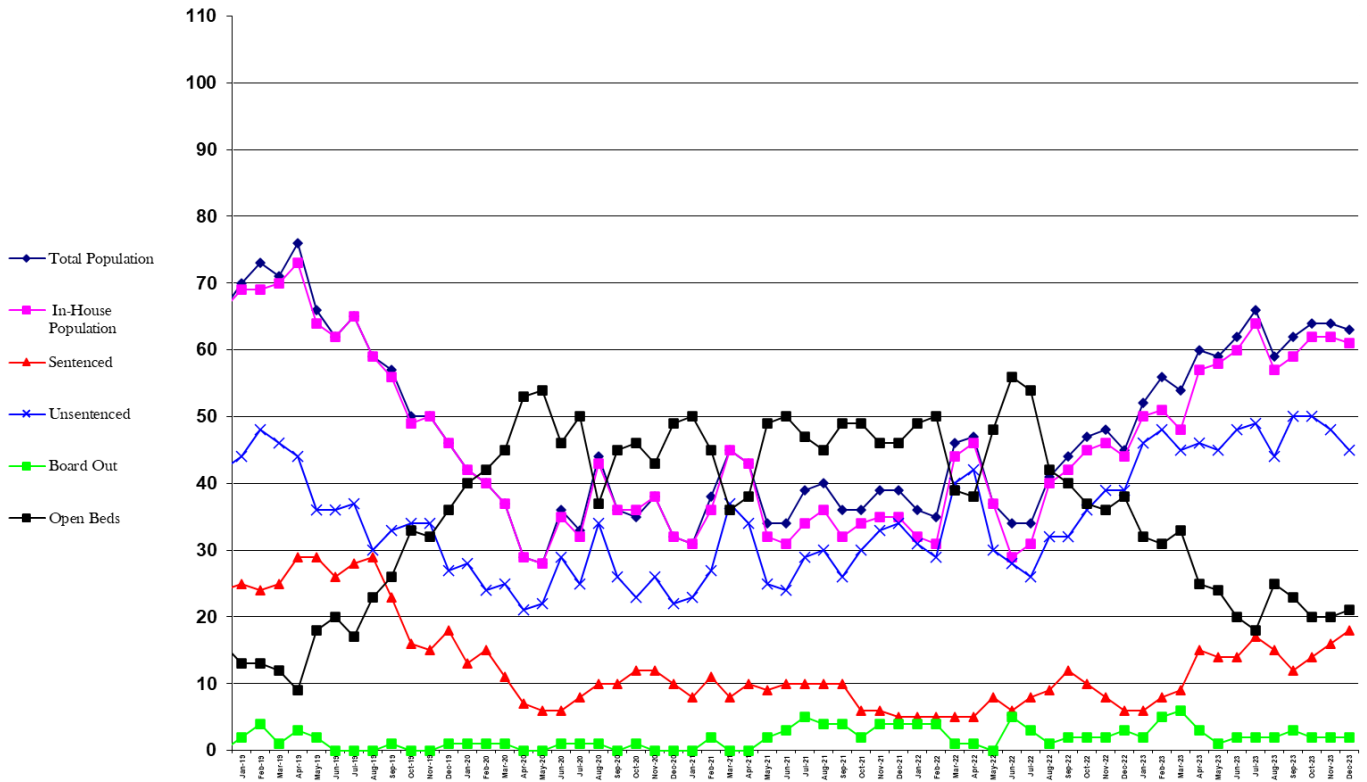
<b>Corrections Division Statistics</b>	
Total Intakes	58
Held for Felony Offenses	23
Held for Misdemeanor Offenses	28
Total Releases	57
Transports to State Prison	6
Transports to Rehab	1
Total Transports (Courts, Medical, etc.)	88
Inmate Board-out Days	65
Board-out Classification (High/Low)	3/7
Board Out Costs (exc. Mental Health)	\$5,200
Disciplinary Incidents	6
Bail Money Processed	\$9,803

# Corrections Division Population Statistics

Monthly Admission Totals

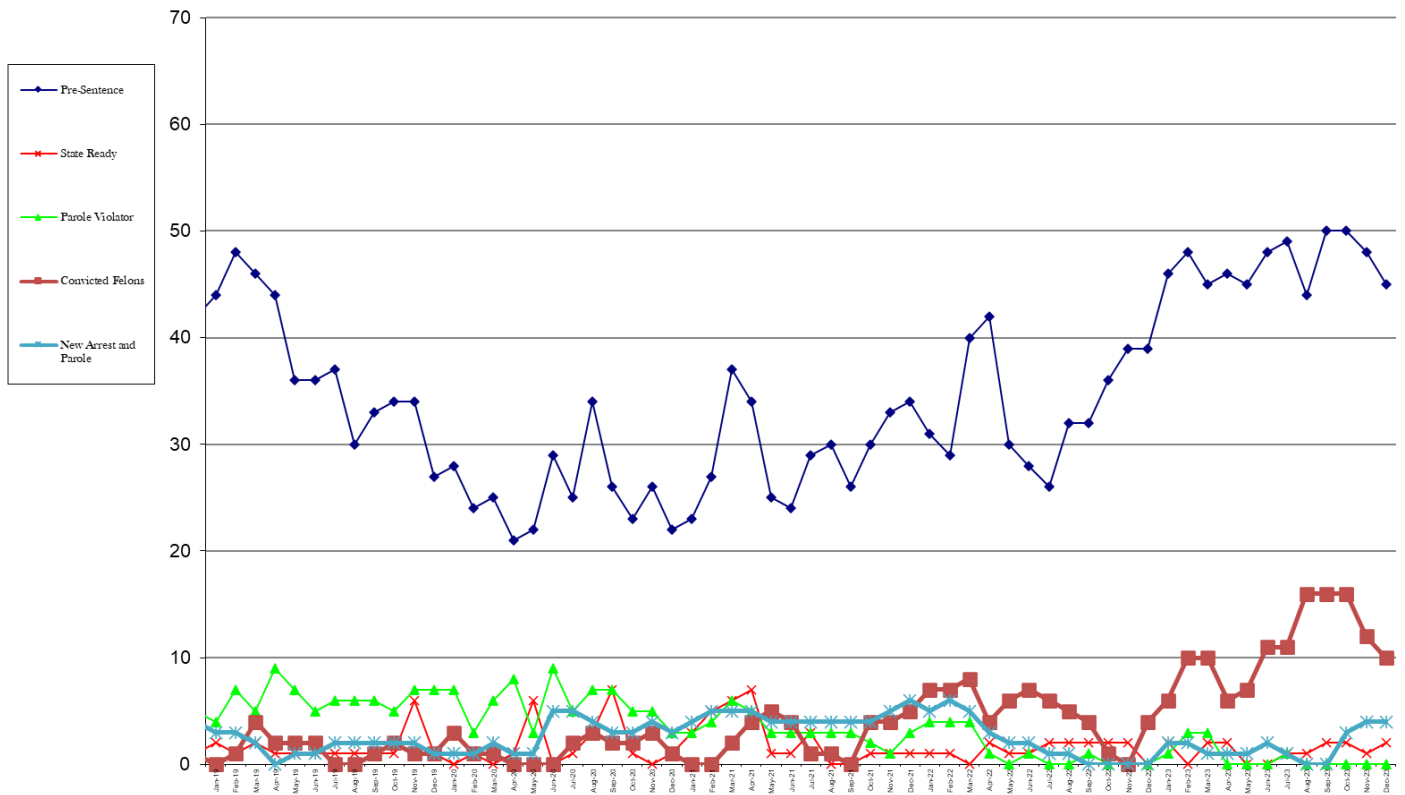


Average Jail Statistics



# Corrections Division Population Statistics

Unsentenced Inmate Breakdown (Averages)



## Training

- **December 4<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023:** Course in Corrections Supervision. *DCJS*. 2 attendees.
- **December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023:** Flock Safety Forum. *Flock Safety*. 3 attendees.
- **December 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023:** Supervisor Liability Training. *DCJS*. 14 attendees.
- **December 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023:** Taser Refresher Course. *TCSO*. All taser certified staff.



## Activities

- December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023: TCSO attended “Breakfast with Santa” at the Dryden Hotel for Cops, Kids, & Toys.



- December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023: The Enfield Fire Department and McLean Fire Department both held their annual Installation of Officers and Awards Banquet. The Sheriff and Undersheriff were honored to have attended.



- December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023: Received a Letter of Appreciation for the C.A.R.E. Team. (*see letter attached at the end of this report*)
- December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023: In the last few days before Christmas, members from the Sheriff’s Office made their annual Christmas stocking and toy deliveries to the families with children being housed in our local shelters. This year, members prepared 37 stockings and 4 large bags of toys for delivery.



## Activities Continued

- December 23<sup>rd</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023: In a combined effort to bring awareness to the dangers of impaired driving, prevent injuries and save lives, the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office and other local law enforcement officers participated in special engagement/enforcement efforts.



- December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023: Received a commendation for Deputy Kenney's professional response to an incident.

Thank you to officer Kenney

Tompkins County NY <webmaster@tompkinscountyny.gov>

Tue 12/26/2023 3:24 PM

To:sheriff <sheriff@tompkins-co.org>

Submitted on Tue, 12/26/2023 - 15:24

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Your Name**

[REDACTED]

**Your Email**

[REDACTED]

**Subject**

Thank you to officer Kenney

**Message**

Hi there,

I just wanted to extend my gratitude to officer Kenney today, who helped me with my irrational and angry mother in law by the side of the highway with patience and firm kindness. He was a credit to you all.

Merry Christmas!

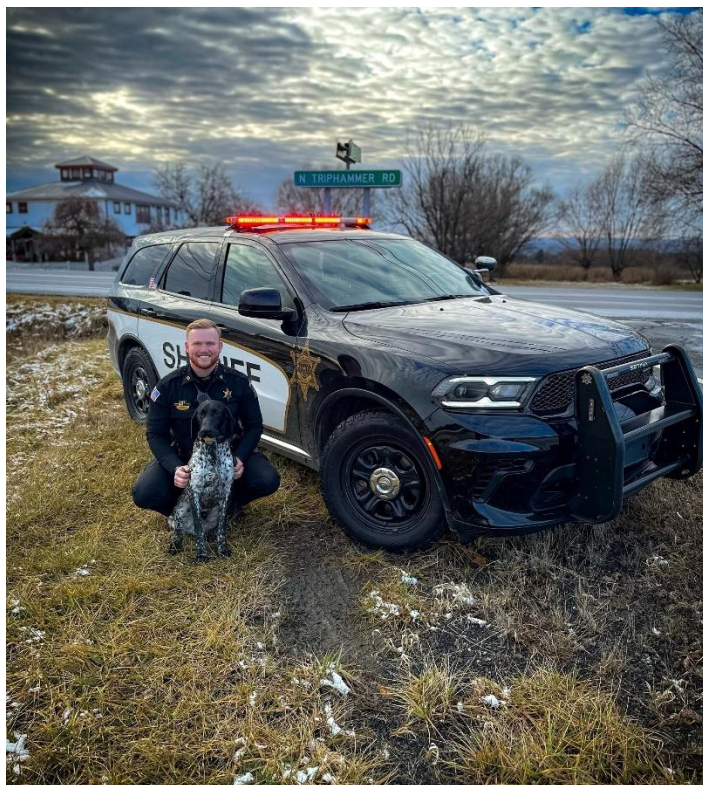


## Activities Continued

- December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023: We are pleased to introduce you to K-9 Trip, our new single purpose Narcotics Detection canine. Thank you to all the community members that participated in our poll. We had nearly 1400 votes cast with forty percent 40% choosing the name 'Trip'.

The name 'Trip' was derived from Triphammer Road, which runs from Thurston Avenue in Cornell Heights through Cayuga Heights to the Community Corners. Its extension, North Triphammer Road, continues north to State Route 34 in the Town of Lansing. The road was constructed after the bridge over Fall 88 Town of Ithaca Creek Gorge was built in 1897, opening up the land to the north of the Cornell campus for development. To this day the road serves as a main route between the university and these residential and commercial areas to the north. It was named for a triphammer, a heavy power operated hammer lifted by a cam or lever and then dropped. In the nineteenth century Levi Coon built a triphammer at the foot of the falls to tap the waterpower of Fall Creek in order to produce guns.

K-9 Trip and his handler, Deputy Kenney, will soon both begin the process of becoming single purpose certified in Narcotics Detection and will hopefully be certified by April 2024. K-9 Trip will not be crossed trained in bite or apprehension work. K-9 Trip will be trained in a passive detection alert, meaning the canine will indicate the presence of drugs by sitting in front of the detected location. With the legalization of marijuana, K-9 will not be trained to detect cannabis. Similar to K-9 Laker, K-9 Trip will be approachable and be capable of working in and around people, including children.



Please choose one name.

1,365 answers

<p><b>Myers</b> – Myers Park was named for Andrew Myers, who with his family, settled on The Point in 1792. For a time, this was a busy harbor and shipyard, but after 1913 there was little remaining commercial traffic on the lake. Today, Myers Park is 31 acres of lawns, graceful old trees and the beautiful lakeshore, with sweeping views up and down the lake.</p>	174 votes	<b>12.7%</b>
<p><b>Finch</b> - appeared on Simeon DeWitt's map and many others as Mill Street, named for the Cascadilla Mills at its eastern end. In April 1924 residents came to a Board of Public Works meeting with a unanimous petition to change the name to Finch Street. Later the residents came back and asked that the name be made Court Street, presumably for the Old County Courthouse that is located there.</p>	211 votes	<b>15.5%</b>
<p><b>Rogue</b> - Rogue's Harbor, Lansing's grand hotel, was built in 1830 by Samuel Kelsey for General D. D. Minier, and was first called the Central Exchange Hotel. It was a major stagecoach stop between Ithaca and Auburn. It was later called the Elm Grove Hotel, for the elms standing in the front, but the nickname of Rogue's Harbor remained and finally became its proper name.</p>	434 votes	<b>31.8%</b>
<p><b>Trip</b> - Triphammer Road runs from Thurston Avenue in Cornell Heights through Cayuga Heights to the Community Corners. Its extension, North Triphammer Road, continues north to State Route 34 in the Town of Lansing. The road was constructed after the bridge over Fall 88 Town of Ithaca Creek Gorge was built in 1897, opening up the land to the north of the Cornell campus for development. To this day the road serves as a main route between the university and these residential and commercial areas to the north. It was named for a triphammer, a heavy power operated hammer lifted by a cam or lever and then dropped. In the nineteenth century Levi Coon built a triphammer at the foot of the falls to tap the waterpower of Fall Creek in order to produce guns.</p>	546 votes	<b>40.0%</b>

December 20, 2023



Undersheriff Jennifer K. Olin  
Tompkins County Sheriff's Office  
779 Warren Rd  
Ithaca, NY 14850

Dear Undersheriff Olin,

This is a letter about saving a life. The life of our son.

Our son has a chance for happiness because of the ability of the officers and mental health workers who are in our community.

This letter is given to you in confidence. We will not use our son's name, although he is identified in your records. However, please share this letter with the individuals who we praise in this letter.

So that you can grasp fully the gratitude we hold, we will share some background.

While attending the University of Washington, our son developed psychosis during 2021, He was seen at the emergency room, but unfortunately, he was sent home although he clearly required hospitalization. The symptoms lessened and he managed to complete partially the fall semester. Months later while visiting his brother during February of 2022 in San Francisco he developed a psychotic break. He stepped in front of a park ranger's vehicle and required involuntary hospitalization at Langley Porter Psychiatric Hospital for 5 weeks. At that time, he began treatment with the repository injection of an antipsychotic. With this medication, he was able to finish his degree in physics.

Although the medication gave him back his mind, it was destroying his body with multiple severe side effects. Unfortunately, instead of addressing these side effects with a different medication his psychiatrist advised him that he could stop the medication after 10 months of treatment. For several months, he did well and the side effects dissipated. However, in June of 2023 the symptoms began to return with a vengeance.

His psychosis progressed rapidly. During the ensuing weeks from July through most of October, we sought help and means to get him to the hospital and care; however, because he did not realize his illness a voluntary compliance was impossible. We visited with the Tompkins County Mental Health Department. Through the assistance of Rich Shaw we learned of the resources in our community. In addition, we understood that the only way for our son to be hospitalized was



if he posed an imminent danger to himself or others. We sought counseling from NAMI representatives and psychologists, but the answers were always the same. "It is a difficult situation if he is not an imminent risk to others or himself." We described his reckless driving, his delusions, and his erratic behavior with details of his psychosis, but if danger was only a possibility and not immediately certain, we had to wait. The definition of "imminent" was horrifying. We cannot describe the fear, pain and anguish we felt watching this young man fall deeper and deeper away from reality, his loving family, girlfriend and life until he was in such bad health that the danger would be immediate.

Our son had two encounters with officers. Employees at a local bank called the sheriff's department because he was acting strangely outside the building, but because he was doing nothing wrong, they could not institute an action. On another occasion the police came to a local bar in response to our son being thrown out for intimidating another person and binge drinking (which was not what he had ever done before), but because he had done nothing illegal, they said they could do nothing to get him to the hospital. They did give us valuable advice; do what we could so that he would not be arrested for driving under the influence. The young policewoman and policeman of Ithaca were so professional and so truly wished to help us.

During the next days as he spiraled down, we knew we had to get the authorities involved. Our son was not going to comply or listen to anyone. We had called for advice several times to the police department in Ithaca. During the last call, we learned of the Care Team, and I was immediately transferred to Rachel Webb.

Rachel was just phenomenal. She asked questions that indicated that she had a deep knowledge of mental illness and that she understood our struggle and the reasons it was so hard to get help. She was the pivotal person because she knew that careful action was needed; talking was not going to work. She understood that a detailed plan was required to get our son to the hospital for treatment. She recognized how this must happen so that no one was injured.

Near the end of October, Rachel and Deputy Barber came to our home. Together they orchestrated the emergency attention that for months we had been trying to get. With the patience and training required by law enforcement, Deputy Prior, Deputy Gambas, Trooper Talerico and Trooper Lewis tried so hard to talk our son down and to persuade him to go to the hospital voluntarily. This did not happen even though they tried for about 1.5 hours. They tolerated a lot of verbal abuse from the alien of psychosis that held our normally gentle son. They understood that the voice speaking was not that of the real person. Our son was in a true mental crisis.

I have given background on what led up to our son being admitted to the hospital, because I want you to understand how lost we were as a family. To know how much pain we felt. The reasons we had such desperation. That the hopelessness we felt was literally ripping at our hearts giving way to exhaustive near unbearable crying every day and every night for months. Until Rachel Webb took my call.

Rachel saved our entire family, because she truly saved the life of our son. She implemented with Deputy Barber the needed action. Together with the trained and understanding officers, they knew how to negotiate all the barriers to getting our son to the hospital.

Our son is still hospitalized and on medication. He is once again almost himself. The team who saved him would likely not recognize the young man they met in October. Our son has his mind back. He is dreaming of joining his girlfriend of 7 years again. He is excited about his job designing electromagnetic motors and programming. His employer is understanding and look forward to his return.

Before our son was afflicted, we did not know what was meant by a mental crisis or psychosis. We can see so clearly, that it is vital for police everywhere to have training in how to handle people who are suffering from mental disease. Because these people are truly suffering. They are not bad; they are sick. These people can be helped. It is so critical to have mental health experts to pair with the police. We are so lucky to live in this community where this kind of success story is possible. I would also say that if someone calls in to the police and it is out of hours, that they be advised to call during the hours of the Care Team for help. Every community needs such a program.

Thank you Rachel Webb, Deputy Barber, Deputy Prior, Deputy Gambas, Trooper Talerico and Trooper Lewis. Our thankfulness will last a lifetime.

Each of you had a role in saving our son. We know your job is hard. But, whenever you feel tired or disheartened, please remember that on [REDACTED] Road there is a family who owes you everything.

With deepest gratitude,

[REDACTED]

The parents of a young person who needed you.  
The parents of a life you saved.