



FROM THE DESK OF.... SHERIFF SHAUN GOLDEN

MONMOUTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER

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March was a significant month at the Monmouth County Courthouse as the dedication of the west entrance/security vestibule was named the Honorable Lisa P. Thornton Memorial Hall. This momentous occasion held on March 13 was a testament to the remarkable Monmouth County Assignment Judge's outstanding contributions, exemplary leadership and enduring legacy that will continue to inspire generations to come.

Judge Thornton's passing was a tremendous loss throughout Monmouth County and beyond. Although she left us too soon, it was a privilege to be a part of the well-deserved dedication at the courthouse to celebrate her life and legacy.

The event, was attended by many who worked with, respected, admired and were inspired by the extraordinary leader, and hosted by the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners, in partnership with the Monmouth Vicinage and the Monmouth Bar Association. Judge Thornton will always be remembered for her dedication to service and the indelible mark she left behind during her tenure as Monmouth County Assignment Judge.

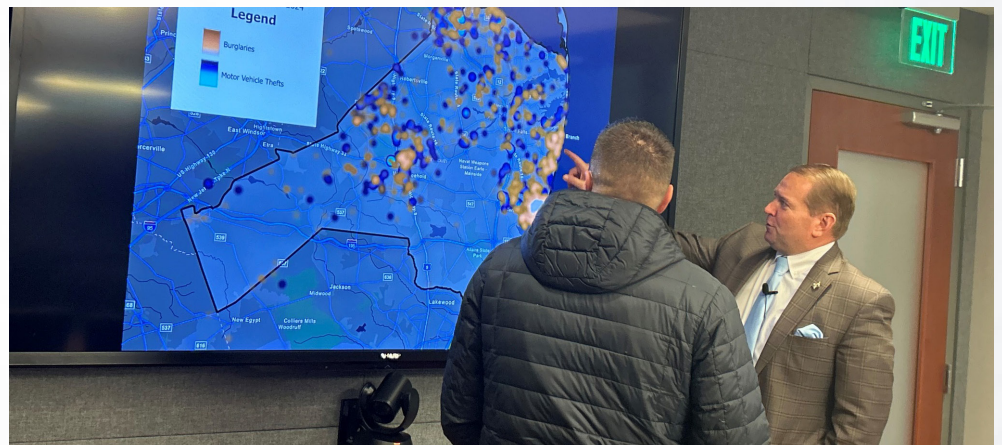
Judge Thornton was a great friend to the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office and I was honored to have been sworn in by her to a 3 year term in Jan 2023. We are all grateful for her assistance and support of the Law Enforcement Division's Court Security Unit and beyond. She was a true trailblazer, a beacon of integrity in our legal system and a mentor to many.

- SHERIFF WELCOMES BROOKDALE
- HOPE ONE
- MCSO PARTICIPATES IN READ ACROSS AMERICA
- MCSO PRESENTS DANGERS OF STRANGERS
- K-9 HARLEY SPREADS CHEER
- INMATE LABOR
- U/S FREEMAN WEARS MANY HATS AS HE PERFORMS AT MCCI WITH ATLANTIC WIND ENSEMBLE
- ST. PATRICKS DAY PARADE

SHERIFF GOLDEN SPEAKS TO NEWS 12 AS AUTO THEFTS AND HOME INVASIONS CONTINUE



Sheriff Golden spoke to News 12 New Jersey Reporter Jim Murdoch on March 20 about the ongoing crisis of auto thefts in Monmouth County that have led to home invasions. According to the latest statistics from the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office for 2024, there have been 27 high end vehicles thefts and 18 of those thefts were accompanied with entry into a home. The sheriff continues to stress that this is not a policing problem but a policy one which needs to change, beginning with bail reform.



MCSO ISSUES SCAM ALERT

The MCSO issued a warning against a telephone scam in March after residents reported that callers were stating they were from the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office, advising people that they failed to report to jury duty and were texting them links on their phones to pay the imposed fines.

Please be advised that **NO** sheriff's officer from the MCSO will call to inform individuals for failure to appear nor will they ever ask for money or claim that an arrest warrant has been issued.

Complaints to the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office can be directed to (732) 431-6400.

In regard to any SCAM, always use your best judgement. If it doesn't seem right, it's probably not.



VISIT MCSO ONLINE:



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LE PROMOTIONS

A great day for the Law Enforcement Division on March 25 as two members were sworn in as lieutenants and four as sergeants. All are veterans who have served our country.

Sheriff Golden thanks them for their service and wishes all the best of luck as they continue to provide the utmost of safety throughout Monmouth County. Their dedication, hard work and professionalism help enhance safety in our communities and builds trust with the public.

Congrats to: Lieutenant David Lasko, Lieutenant Rodger Miller, Sergeant Robert Calamunci, Sergeant Agustin Alvarado, Sergeant Heather Dutko and Sergeant Charles Wells



FALLEN HERO

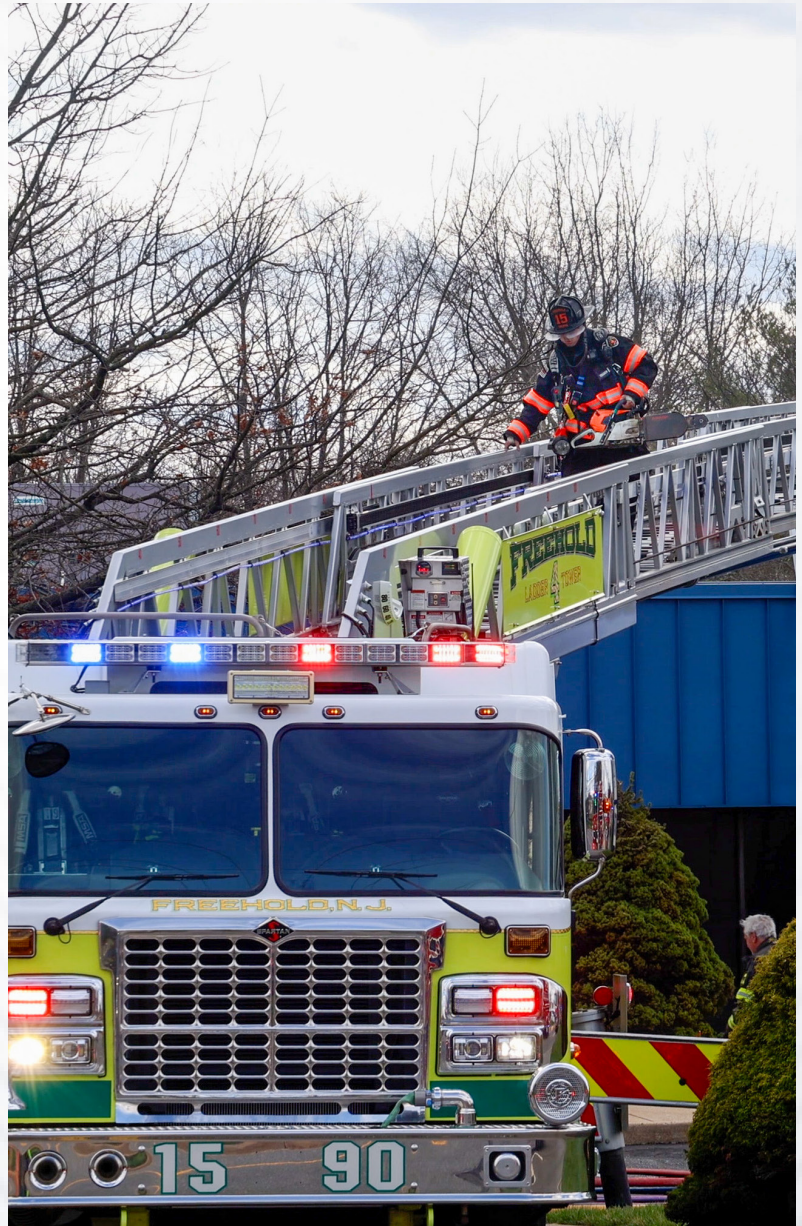
Members of the Law Enforcement Division represented the MCSO on March 30 for the funeral of fallen NYPD Officer Jonathan Diller, who was killed in the line of duty. Our thoughts remain with Officer Diller's family and the NYPD. In 2024, there have been 29 line of duty deaths. Sheriff Golden and the MCSO will never forget the sacrifices these heroes have made and what families have had to endure. We thank them for their service and salute all.



FIREFIGHTERS BATTLE FREEHOLD BLAZE

Big shoutout to the Monmouth County Fire Marshal's Office, Freehold firefighters and surrounding departments for their swift response to a fire at a medical building on West Main Street that occurred March 18. The dedication and quick action helped contain the blaze and ensure safety.

Firefighters' brave efforts and professionalism are truly commendable. Sheriff Golden thanks all our firefighters in Monmouth County, volunteer and career, for their unwavering commitment to keeping communities safe.



OEM WELCOMES NEW CERT MEMBERS

The MCSO welcomed 18 new Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members who began basic training in March.

This is the second group of volunteers participating to assist their communities in the event of a disaster or emergency. CERT members receive more than 20 hours of training in basic disaster response skills, including fire safety, search and rescue, first aid, and disaster medical operations.

During the first session, CERT members worked on team building and were presented with an introduction into disaster awareness.

The MCSO OEM CERT was established in 2023 and has 53 active members who continue to meet and train monthly.



REGISTER READY

The Register Ready program was presented to residents at the Ocean Township Senior Center on March 21. Register Ready is a partnership between the Department of Aging and MCSO/OEM. It allows residents with disabilities, or access and functional needs and their families, friends and caregivers, an opportunity to provide information to emergency response agencies so emergency responders can better plan to serve them in a disaster or other emergency. Registrants were also provided with a Ready Go Bag to utilize during a disaster.

MCSO OEM is a statewide leader in Register Ready with more participants than any other county in NJ.

For more information visit: <https://www.mcsonj.org/registerready>



STORM

It was a great day for members of the American Association of University Women - Freehold Branch on March 13, as they were presented with STORM, Seniors Taking on Readiness Measures, at the MCSO from our OEM staff.

STORM equips seniors with emergency preparedness information, assists in creating a family disaster plan, and provides them with an emergency kit. Sheriff Golden thanks this great group of ladies for their interest in planning and preparing should a weather-related event occur.



STATE OF THE COUNTY

Sheriff Golden was proud to lead the Pledge of Allegiance at Monmouth County's State of the County on March 12. During the annual address, held at the MCSO, Monmouth County Commissioner Director Tom Arnone outlined Monmouth County's accomplishments, hard work and plans for the future. The great strides and efforts the MCSO makes to ensure public safety throughout the county was highlighted. Sheriff Golden thanks the Monmouth County Board of Commissioners for their continued support of the MCSO in maintaining the public safety of our residents.



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

March was Women's History Month and Sheriff Golden and the MCSO recognized all women, particularly those in law enforcement, for their unwavering commitment to making our communities safer.

On International Women's Day, held March 8, the many women of the MCSO were commended. Their dedication to service helps make the MCSO the best that it can be through their hard work.

Here's a shoutout to women who contribute so much. You are all appreciated.



WOMENS HISTORY MONTH

MCSO PARTICIPATES IN NJ WOMEN IN LAW ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE

There was no better time to kick off the New Jersey Women in Law Enforcement Conference than during Women's History Month. Many dedicated women in law enforcement, who are committed to protecting and serving their communities, attended the two-day conference, "Growth Through Adversity", at IPlay America March 27 & 28. Women from MCSOs Law Enforcement and Corrections Divisions were proud to be a part of the conference. Speakers covered an array of topics for members of LE with many years on the job to young women beginning their careers. Thanks to the all-female honor guard made up of officers from the MCSO LE and Corrections Divisions, Howell PD, Matawan PD and West NY PD.



WOMEN IN LE PANEL DISCUSSION

Women from the MCSO's Law Enforcement Division spoke to students at Brookdale Community College during the Women in Law Enforcement panel discussion where they discussed careers in law enforcement and opportunities on March 5. Women have made tremendous strides in law enforcement and MCSO participants were happy to share their experiences and provide advice.



VETERAN SERVICE COUNCIL MEETS

The MCSO's Veteran Service Council meeting was held at Lunch Break on March 13 and guest speaker Undersheriff Ted Freeman addressed the group and acknowledged the importance of their great service and commitment. In addition, a key event that was discussed was the USS NJ (SSN-796) commissioning at Naval Weapons Station Earle on Sept. 14. Sheriff Golden thanks the council, led by Veterans Service Officer Mike Ferraro, for the exceptional work they do for Monmouth County Veterans, and appreciates Lunch Break's generosity to the council at the event.



MCSO TO HOST AUTISM FORUM AND RESOURCE FAIR

Sheriff Golden is pleased to be holding the 5th annual Autism Forum and Resource Fair, which parents and caregivers are encouraged to attend. This extremely informative forum will take place April 18, during Autism Awareness Month, and provide insightful topics of discussion on services and programs special needs individuals and family members can benefit from, as well as demonstrations. The forum promotes outreach and awareness during this important month.

It's also an opportunity for law enforcement and special needs communities to share information and ideas.

SHERIFF SHAUN GOLDEN
& THE MONMOUTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
INVITE YOU TO THE

5th Annual

AUTISM FORUM

& Resource Fair

April 18th 2024
10am-12pm

2500 Kozloski Road, Freehold NJ

Topics of Discussion

- Special Needs Registry
- Project Lifesaver Overview
- Senior Citizen Clients and Qualification Procedure
- Community Based Instruction
 - Raising an Autistic Child
- Inclusive Practices in NJ Special Education

To register to attend, please contact: Alexa Quagliato at
AQuagliato@mcsnj.org



SHERIFF WELCOMES BROOKDALE

Sheriff Golden welcomed Prof. Dave D'Amico and his Brookdale Community College criminal justice students to the MCSO on March 25 where they learned about the MCSO and toured operations. It's always important to take students, many who are aspiring leaders in law enforcement, out of the classroom so they can see and learn about law enforcement firsthand.



HOPE ONE

The MCSO's HOPE One Mobile Unit continues to make its way around Monmouth County in March offering help and HOPE and is stationed in Asbury Park, Freehold, Keansburg, Red Bank, Aberdeen, Long Branch and Brookdale Community College on various days, several times a month. Sheriff Golden is pleased to have these community partnerships, since HOPE is a vital resource and innovative approach in addressing the opioid epidemic.



MCSO PARTICIPATES IN READ ACROSS AMERICA

Read Across America Day was held March 2 and motivates children to read by promoting awareness. During that week, members of the MCSO Law Enforcement, OEM and Corrections Divisions supported that effort by reading to students from Lincroft Elementary School and the Thurgood Marshall Elementary School in Asbury Park. Sheriff Golden commends all on a great job and thanks staff at Lincroft for the invite.



MCSO PRESENTS DANGERS OF STRANGERS

Students from Shark River Hills Elementary School in Neptune were made aware of and reminded about the Dangers of Strangers. S/O Iliana Santos presented the program on March 6 and taught children what to do if a stranger tries to engage them in conversation, whether on the street, on the telephone, when home alone or on the internet. This program along with the other numerous public safety programs of the MCSO helps keep our children out of harm's way.



K-9 HARLEY SPREADS CHEER

MCSO's K-9 teams work hard throughout the year assisting in combatting crime, but they also take some time to conduct K-9 demos.

S/O Devon Mockus and K-9 Harley visited the LADACIN Network on March 20 for a demo, a meet and greet, and, put smiles on many faces.

Harley who is trained in explosive detection sure was popular.



INMATE LABOR

The MCSO Inmate Labor crew got a head start in March preparing the grounds at St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral in Freehold, for the 22nd Annual Blue Mass, which will be held Thursday, April 4. Crews were weeding, mulching, repainting safety markers, maintaining the landscape and cleaning up debris left over from the winter. They also worked at the Keyport Senior Center in March where they completed a nearly three-year plan for a total painting revitalization of the center.



U/S FREEMAN WEARS MANY HATS AS HE PERFORMS AT MCCI WITH ATLANTIC WIND ENSEMBLE

That's our own U/S Ted Freeman conducting and playing the tuba with The Atlantic Wind Ensemble, who performed at the Monmouth County Correctional Institution for minimum risk inmates on March 25. Such involvement helps connect inmates with activity and entertainment prior to reintegrating back into society.

The Atlantic Wind Ensemble is a 40-piece concert band established in 1990 by retired Manasquan High School Band Director Harry D. Eichhorn and is under the direction of Eliot Prowse and assistant conductor, U/S Freeman.



ST. PATRICKS DAY PARADE

It was a great day for a parade, the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Belmar on March 3, in which Sheriff Golden and the MCSO participated. We are always proud to take part in this celebration which brings so many people together. Special thanks to our Honor Guard, K9 teams and operators of the MCSO sheriff's vehicles and Mobile Command Unit.

