

# Suffolk County Sheriff's Office History & Overview



Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr. Suffolk County Sheriff

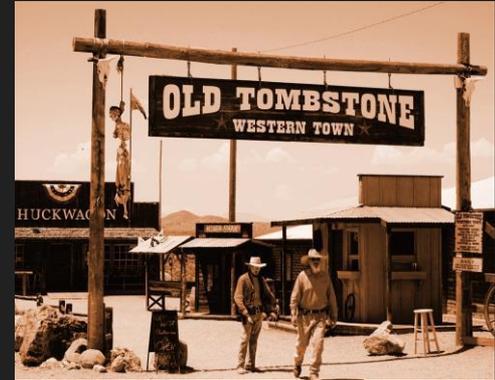
# Origin of the Sheriff

- The Office of the Sheriff is 1,000 years old.
- Oldest law enforcement position in the United States.
- Position was created in early England and crossed the Atlantic to emerge in the Colonies as well.



# Origin of the Sheriff

As Americans moved westward, they took with them the concept of county jails as keepers of the peace. This is the stereotypical image of a Sheriff, his deputies and the jailer.



# Origin of the Sheriff

*In the middle ages, in the Kingdoms:*

10 families = 1 tithing, overseen by a “Reeve”

10 tithings (or 100 families) was called a shire and was overseen by a “shire-reeve” or “Sheriff.”



# Origin of the Suffolk County Sheriff

- The Sheriff's Office began in 1683 after the abolishment of the "East Riding" as present-day Suffolk County had been called.
- The first Suffolk County Sheriff was Josiah Hobart
- The Sheriff had been an appointed position and became an elected position in 1777
- The first jail was built in 1727 in Riverhead



# Origin of the Suffolk County Sheriff

- The Yaphank Penal Farm Building (Honor Farm) was opened in 1961
- The farm provided approximately 80% of all food consumed at the Suffolk County Jail, the Children's Shelter, the County Infirmary, and the Honor Farm Annex.







Suffolk County Sheriff's Office  
Park Ranger Station



Sheriff's Park Patrol

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## Suffolk County Sheriff's Office Ambulance Squad

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## Sheriff's Fire Brigade

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# Suffolk County Sheriff's Office

- Who is the highest-ranking law enforcement official in Suffolk County?

The Sheriff

- How many Sheriff's are there in Suffolk County?

One



# Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr.

## Suffolk County Sheriff

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Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr. was elected as the 67th Sheriff in 2017 and is the county's first African American to be elected into a non-judicial countywide office. He spent 22 years as a Uniformed Member of the NYCDOC and retired as the Deputy Commissioner of Operations. As Suffolk's highest-ranking law enforcement official, he serves and protects our residents through innovative programs to reduce crime and recidivism, eradicate the drug epidemic, and work to put an end to human trafficking. Sheriff Toulon has his Doctorate in Educational Administration, a Masters in Business Administration.

Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr.



Suffolk County Sheriff

# Suffolk County Sheriff's Office Administration



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Suffolk County Sheriff

# Suffolk County Sheriff's Office

- Largest suburban Sheriff's Office in New York State
- Over 1,180 uniformed and civilian employees
- Comprised of 3 divisions with distinctive bureaus



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Suffolk County Sheriff

# Suffolk County Sheriff's Office

## Corrections

Overseen by the Warden and his Deputy Wardens.

Main responsibility is the care, custody, and control of inmates in both county correctional facilities.

Oversees approximately 790 Correction Officers

## Policing

Overseen by the Chief Deputy

Main responsibilities are enforcing civil, penal, vehicle and traffic law, the transportation of incarcerated individuals & securing court detention facilities

Oversees approximately 254 Deputy Sheriffs

## Operations

Overseen by the Chief of Staff

Main responsibilities are creating and maintaining SCSO policies & procedures, overseeing employee processing & benefits

Oversees approximately 128 civilian staff members



# Specialized Units Under the Executive Staff

- Office of Public Relations
- Community Relations
- Office of Professional Standards
- Quality Assurance & Integrity
- Medical Evaluations
- The Office of Management & Planning
- Employee Relations
- Intergovernmental Relations
- Firearms Section
- Performance / Labor Management
- Academy Bureau



# Suffolk County Sheriff's Office Policing Division



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# Transportation



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# First District Court



# County Court Detention Facility



# SPIDRE Team

Sheriff's Proactive Impaired Driving Reduction Enforcement



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# BAT Mobile

The BAT Mobile is a modified command post equipped with breath and blood testing equipment, video recording devices, computer workstations, and a secure space to hold arrestees during processing.



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# Domestic Violence Unit (DVU)

The Domestic Violence Unit (DVU) serves Orders of Protection, enforces exclusions, conducts weapon seizures, and conducts Domestic Violence Warrants.



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# Domestic Violence Unit (DVU)



# Francis Gabreski Airport

## Westhampton



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# Deputy Sheriff K-9 Section



# Pine Barrens Patrol



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# Traffic Safety Enforcement



# Marine Bureau



# Emergency Management Homeland Security



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# Sheriff's Response Team (SRT)



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# Criminal Investigations Bureau

- Handles all felony arrest processing
- Conducts all Sheriff's Office death investigations
- Investigates crimes committed in the jails
- Handles Sheriff's Office arrest warrants
- Assists in the transport of high-risk inmates throughout the state.
- Surveillance



# Task Force Assignments



- Suffolk County District Attorney's Heroin Task Force
- Suffolk County District Attorney's East End Drug Task Force
- U.S. Marshals Office
- U.S. D.E.A.'s Office
- U.S. Immigration Customs Enforcement
- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area



# Pistol Licensing Bureau

- Responsible for the investigation, issuance, and maintenance of all pistol licenses for residents of the five eastern townships (East Hampton, Riverhead, Shelter Island, Southampton & Southold.)
- Oversees approximately 5,000 pistol licensees, 14 firearm dealer licensees, and 2 gunsmith licensees
- Over 17,500 firearms are on file with the Sheriff's Office Pistol License Bureau



# Suffolk County Sheriff's Office Combined Commands



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# TRAC Team

Tactical Rifle and Containment Team



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# SCSO Academy

Suffolk County Community College, Brentwood



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# Honor Guard



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# Communications Bureau

Dispatchers dispatch & coordinate deputy units, run data & print reports for all commands & offices, and gather information for Orders of Protection throughout Suffolk County.



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# Suffolk County Sheriff's Office Corrections Division



# Corrections Division

- Fourth largest jail system in New York State.
- Oversees two county correctional facilities with a combined capacity of more than 1,800 inmates.
  - Riverhead Correctional Facility: 840 capacity
  - Yaphank Correctional Facility: 982 capacity
- Houses minimum, medium, and maximum-security inmates (both male and female).



# Correctional Facilities



## Riverhead Correctional Facility

Design capacity to house 840 incarcerated individuals with a maximum-security wing.



## Yaphank Correctional Facility

Design capacity to house 804 incarcerated individuals.

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# Specialized Corrections Units

- Internal Security Unit
- Gang Intelligence Unit
- Human Trafficking Unit (SATI)
- Emergency Services (ESU)
- K-9 Unit



# Emergency Services (ESU)



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# Corrections K-9 Unit



# Seized Homemade Weapons



# Suffolk County Sheriff's Office Rehabilitative Programs



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# START Resource Center

## *Sheriff's Transition & Reentry Team*

- Opened in February 2020
- Purpose is to counteract recidivism and help individuals successfully integrate back into their communities.
- Utilizes a holistic approach
  - Employment Assistance
  - Educational Opportunities
  - Housing & Transportation
  - Substance Abuse Treatment
  - Temporary Assistance
  - DSS Assistance
  - Identification Issues
  - Clothing & other items



# Specialized Housing Programs

- Veterans Re-entry Program
- Choose Your Path Men's Program
- Choose to Thrive Women's Program
- Sheriff's Substance Abuse Treatment Program (SATP)
  - Standardized schedule of pod specific programs
  - Educational & vocational training
  - Parenting skills training
  - Life skills training
  - Coordination with treatment courts
  - Ongoing post-release case management
  - Family reunification



# Vocational Training



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# Additional Programs

- Sheriff's Anti-Trafficking Initiative (SATI): focused on identifying victims of human trafficking & connecting them services.
- The Learning Center: supplements Eastern Suffolk BOCES high school educational services and their Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC).
- Family Reunification Project: provides supportive services to the family members of incarcerated individuals in partnership with Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare.



# Suffolk County Sheriff's Office Community & School Programs



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# YES Program

## *Youth Enlightenment Seminar*

- Educates youth about the potential consequences of poor choices and how the Suffolk County Correctional Facilities work.
- Available to all Suffolk County School Districts.
- Tours provide students a unique opportunity to see the in-depth, inner working of the Suffolk County Correctional Facilities.



# Child ID | Senior ID | PET ID Cards



- Operation Safe Child ID Cards: Amber Alert Child ID Cards for families across Suffolk County.
- Senior ID cards: Medical ID cards for seniors with their medical information.
- Pet ID cards: Pet ID cards & support in case your pet goes missing.



# GREAT Program

## *Gang Resistance Education & Training*

- School-based classroom curriculum for elementary & middle school-aged students.
- Teaches children to avoid delinquent behavior such as violence, drugs, bullying, and gangs.
- The program is currently being held in over 30 schools across Suffolk County.



# STOPPED Program

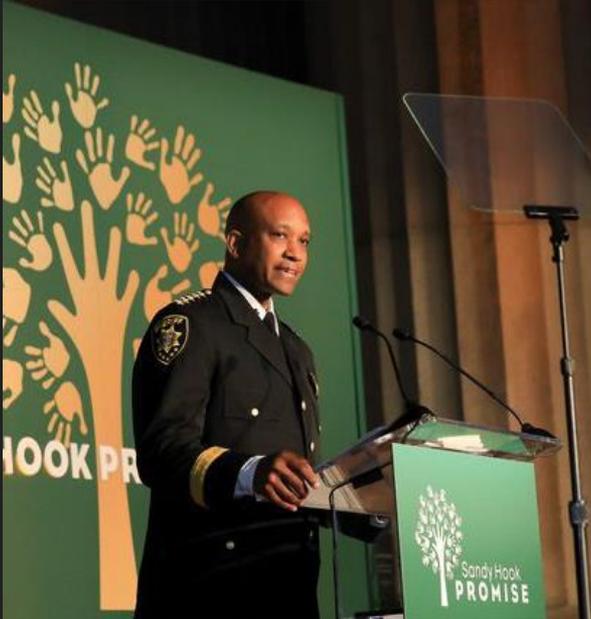
Aimed at reducing the number of young drivers involved in motor vehicle crashes. Participants hop behind the wheel of impaired simulation driving carts and drive through an obstacle course with and without DWI impairment goggles to highlight the extreme dangers of impaired driving.



# Project Lifesaver Program

- Rapid-response program that aids victims (and their families) who wander as a result of cognitive impairments or other afflictions.
- Combines technology and specially trained Sheriff's Deputies to locate individuals who have wandered.
- Client wears a watch-type wristband transmitter which emits a tracking signal that trained officers can locate with a hand-held or mobile tracking system.

# Sandy Hook Promise



- Start With Hello: teaches students to be more socially inclusive and empowered to end social isolation.
- Say Something: teaches students how to look for the warning signs, signals and threats, especially on social media, of an individual who may be at threat of harming themselves or someone else, and how to say something to a trusted adult to get help.



# College Internship Program

- 13-16 week program for college students.
- Gives students a hands-on experience of what it's like working in law enforcement.
- Allows students to interact with the various divisions within the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office.
- Interns also have an opportunity to interact with outside agencies such as the Medical Examiner's Office, Police Department, District Attorney's Office, County Legislator and more.

# Additional Community Programs

- Shed the Meds: a way to safely dispose of unwanted or expired medications and medical supplies. Drop box available at the Riverhead Correctional Facility and Yaphank Civil Bureau office.
- Test, Don't Guess: at-home drug & alcohol test kits available at the Riverhead Correctional Facility and Yaphank Civil Bureau, or your local legislator's office.
- Car Seat Safety Checks: by request only.
- Yellow Dot Program: assists citizens in the event of a traffic crash when they may not be able to communicate. Online requests only.



# School & Community Programs

- CRASE Presentation: Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events is designed to provide a model response program to civilians, providing strategies, guidance, and a proven plan for surviving an active shooter event.
- Building Vulnerability Assessments: certified Crime Prevention Specialist building assessments which helps to improve security and prevent property damage or intrusion.
- Stop the Bleed: developed to train non-medical civilians how to control life-threatening bleeding until help arrives.



# Additional School Programs

- McGruff the Crime Dog: offers 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students important safety lessons and seeks to give them the social tools to recognize bullying behavior, prevent it from occurring and handle it effectively.
- Drug & Vaping Awareness Presentations: basic education on vaping, drugs, opioids, and alcohol use as well as diagnostic steps for assessing impairment, and strategies to respond to drug & alcohol induced situations.



# Questions?

Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr.  Suffolk County Sheriff



This presentation is courtesy of  
Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr., Suffolk County Sheriff