



# **SCHUYLER COUNTY POLICE REFORM & REINVENTION COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE PLAN**

DRAFT

**DRAFT: 2/10/2021**

*This plan has been developed in accordance with NYS EO 203.*

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## INTRODUCTION:

Governor Andrew Cuomo signed Executive Order Number 203 in June of 2020. This EO instructed that all police agencies as defined by New York State law, must perform a comprehensive review of current police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices and develop a plan to address the particular needs of the communities served. This plan is intended to promote community engagement, foster trust, fairness, and legitimacy, and address any racial bias and disproportionate policing of communities of color.

Per this order, the Schuylar County Sheriff's Office began conducting a comprehensive review of its policies, procedures, training, community programs. The plan was developed after a comprehensive review of police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices through consultation with community stakeholders. This plan will enable the Schuylar County Sheriff's Office to continue its robust community-oriented policing strategies while working towards further reducing racial disparities in policing.

To assist with launching this plan, Schuylar County developed a survey that was distributed to residents in each of the 12 municipalities within the county in November 2020. Statistics from the survey were compiled in December 2020, and a public presentation was held in January 2021.

Schuylar County also began holding online meetings with stakeholders starting in December 2020 into February 2021.

A dedicated page on the Schuylar County website has been created to ensure the public input and transparency. This page can be accessed here: <https://www.schuylarcounty.us/1046/Schuylar-County-Police-Reform-Initiative>

## STAKEHOLDERS COMMITTEE:

Tim O'Hearn – County Administrator [CHAIR]

Sheriff Bill Yessman

Undersheriff Breck Spaulding

Lieutenant Todd Day

Lieutenant Matt Maloney

Joe Fazzary – District Attorney

Wesley Roe – Public Defender

JoAnn Fratarcangelo – DSS

Shawn Rosno – Community Services/Mental Health

Chris Rosno – Probation

Steven Getman – County Attorney

Kristin VanHorn – Planning

Carl Blowers – Chair, Schuylar County Legislature

Gary Gray – Schuylar County Legislature

Mark Rondinaro - Schuylar County Legislature

Peggy Scott – United Way

Tony Vickio – Spirit of Schuylar

Michael Hartney – Faith-Based Community

## SCHUYLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PROFILE:

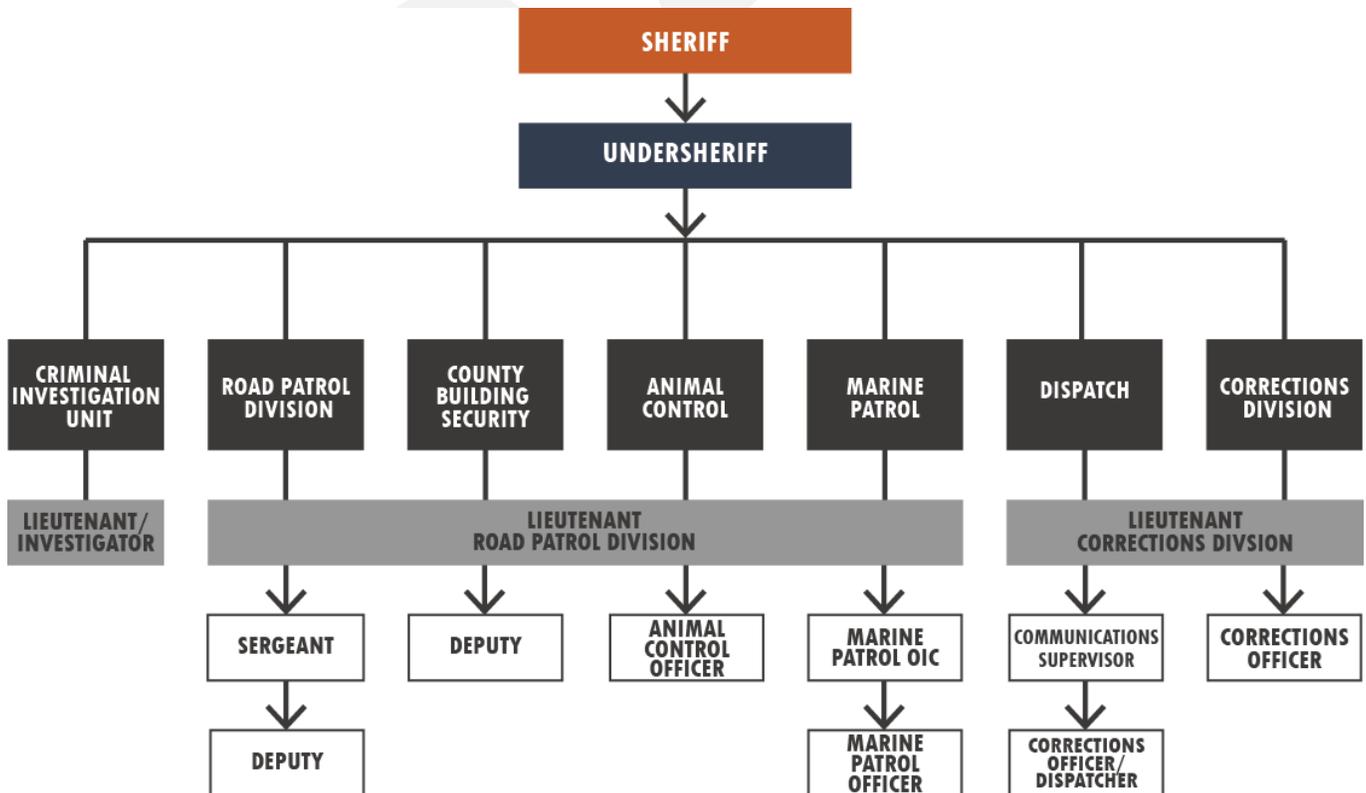
The Schuyler County Sheriff's Office serves the law enforcement needs of all citizens of the County and strives to do so in a professional manner, respecting the rights of all of our citizens without regard to race, color, nationality, creed, gender, or sexual orientation. Our policies and procedures are developed and carried out with that goal in mind, and our Deputy Sheriffs are selected, trained, and supervised with that same goal in mind.

We use our knowledge, experience, and professional judgment, combined with available information, data, analysis, and research to develop the Sheriff's Office policing strategies, policies, and procedures. Some of the relevant strategies, policies, and procedures, and related issues are outlined and reviewed within this plan.

### SERVICES PROVIDED

The Sheriff's Office provides the following services:

- Police Patrol in Schuyler County
- Criminal Investigations
- Service to the youth and elderly in the community
- Operation of the Schuyler County Corrections Facility
- County Building Security
- Civil process throughout Schuyler County
- Education and prevention programs in the schools, including the D.A.R.E. program and Boaters' Safety courses
- Animal Control Services



### **Criminal Investigation Division:**

The Criminal Investigation Division is responsible for investigating a full range of criminal activity, investigating fatal accidents, maintaining the Sheriff's Office's evidence, handling narcotics investigations.

Investigators handle cases ranging from homicides to petit larcenies and are routinely assigned to burglaries, robberies, forgeries, larcenies, welfare fraud, and suspicious deaths.

#### **Staffing**

- 1 - Lieutenant
- 2 Criminal Investigators

### **Road Patrol Division:**

The Road Patrol Division of the Sheriff's Office is the most visible of all the divisions and typically can be observed operating patrol vehicles in the New York State Sheriff's traditional red and white colors. The Sheriff's Office provides police protection 24 hours a day to the residents and visitors to Schuyler County.

Deputies handle all types of emergency and non-emergency complaints. Road Patrol investigate crimes and motor vehicle accidents and assist the Criminal Investigations Division with investigations. They also serve civil process papers and warrants. In addition to their regular duties, deputies are assigned to the K-9 Unit, D.A.R.E. program, STOP-DWI program, bicycle safety, or field training officers. All deputies are also certified in the use of Automated External Defibrillators [AED] and to administer Narcan, which they carry in the patrol vehicles. Deputies also provide police services for major events held at Watkins Glen International Racetrack.

#### **Staffing**

- 1 - Lieutenant
- 2 - Sergeants
- 11 - Full Time Deputy Sheriffs
- 9 - Part Time Deputy Sheriffs

### **Corrections Division**

The Schuyler County Jail can house 29 inmates in five cell blocks, one detention cell, and one dormitory cell. The jail has indoor and outdoor recreation facilities and a jail library. Correction Officers are tasked with maintaining the order of the correctional facility, and the safety and wellbeing of the inmates confined in the jail. The Corrections Division also staffs the County 911 Center handling all emergency and non-emergency communications with the Sheriff's Office, Schuyler Ambulance, Fire Departments, New York State Police Watkins Glen Police Department and Highway Departments in the county.

#### **Staffing**

- 1 - Lieutenant [Jail Administrator]
- 1 - Sergeant [Communications Supervisor]
- 17 - Full-time corrections officers
- 10 - Part-time corrections officers
- 2 - Registered nurses
- 3 - Part-time cooks

## SCHUYLER COUNTY CRIME STATISTICS:

### 2019 Adult Arrest and Sentences by Race/ Ethnicity

Race/ Ethnicity	Population [18+]		Arrest		Felony Arrest		Prison Sentences	
	#	% of Total	#	% of Total	#	% of Total	#	% of Total
White	13,899	96%	239	91%	71	92%	10	83%
Black	182	1%	13	5%	2	3%	0	0%
Hispanic	274	2%	8	3%	3	4%	2	17%
Asian	102	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Other/ Unknown	46	<1%	3	1%	1	1%	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,503</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>100%</b>

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND FEEDBACK:

### SURVEY:

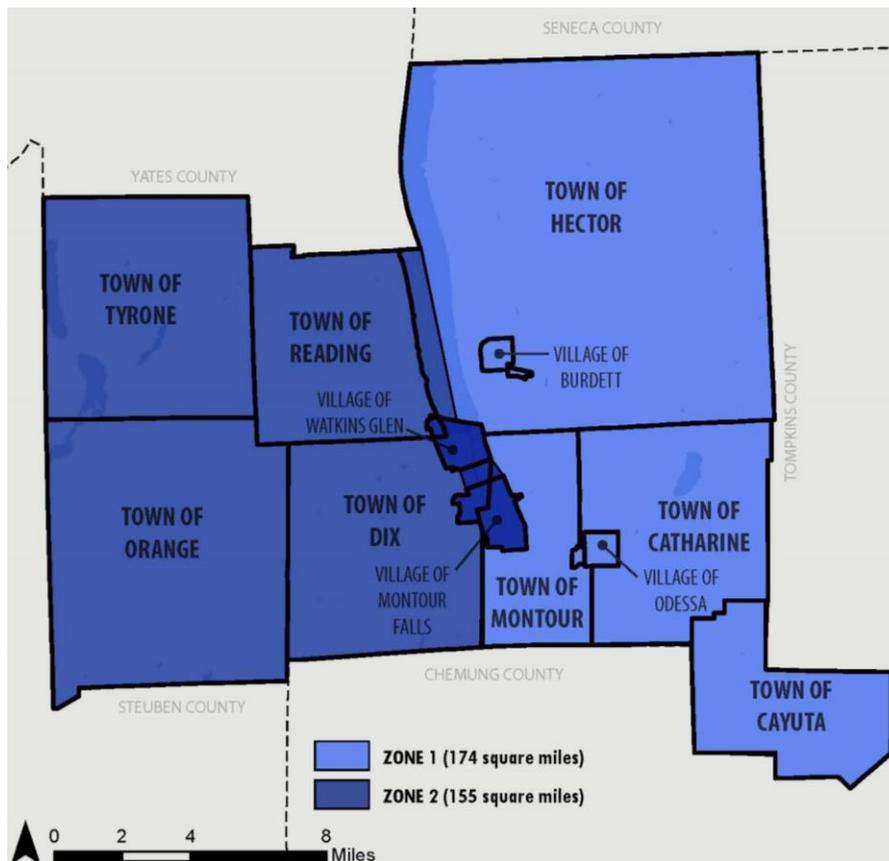
Schuyler County developed a 15 question survey that allowed residents and property owners to provide feedback on a variety of topics. The survey focused on the interaction with the Sheriff's Office, services provided, communication, community perception, and response by the Sheriff's Office to people experiencing a mental health crisis or drug/alcohol crisis. In total, 180 survey responses were received and reflected input from every municipality within Schuyler County. The results of the survey can be found in Appendix A.

### PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION:

On January 12, 2021, County Administrator O'Hearn and Sheriff Yessman conducted a public information session via Zoom. The session was advertised via local news channels, newspapers, websites, and social media to encourage participation. The presentation included a review of the survey results and a community discussion focused on getting input from the community on currently policing practices within the County. Approximately 26 community members participated in the live broadcast, a recording of the presentation was posted to the county website to allow citizens to view the presentation as convenient. A recording of this presentation can be found here: <https://www.schuylercounty.us/1046/Schuyler-County-Police-Reform-Initiative>

## SCHUYLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE POLICING STRATEGIES:

### DEPLOYMENT:



Typically, deployment involves two patrol units on each shift. One unit is assigned to patrol the area East of State Route 414. While the other unit is assigned to patrol the area West of State Route 14. Should a third or fourth patrol unit be on a shift, that unit will be assigned to the entire county as a patrol area. The Village of Montour Falls is patrolled by all units throughout the day.

Our deployment strategy is based on activity and budget constraints. When reports are received of higher criminal or vehicular offenses patrol units are deployed to provide higher visibility and enforcement to those areas.

### Recommended Actions:

1. Continue to monitor activity and evaluate staffing based on need and budget constraints.
2. The Sheriff's Office will create a weekly arrest report to be published on social media

### USE OF FORCE

Our Use of Force Policy follows NYS Accreditation Standards and Municipal Police Training Council Model and can be found on the Schuyler County website.

### Recommended Actions:

1. The Sheriff's Office will continue to review and update [as needed] our policy, procedures, and annual statistics related to the use of force at least once a year.
2. The Sheriff's Office will issue an annual use of force report. The report will include statistics on event circumstances, demographics, type of force used, and breakdown by the community. The Use of Force Report will be posted on the Schuyler County's website and available for public review.

## **PROCEDURAL JUSTICE**

The Schuyler County Sheriff's Office understands procedural justice and supports the idea that the methods for resolving disputes should be fair. Schuyler County Sheriff's Office has established long-lasting community partnerships to foster public confidence in the police and in its ability to safeguard the communities it serves.

In 2012 the Sheriff's Office was one of the first Law Enforcement Agencies in the state to equip our Deputy Sheriff's with Body Worn Cameras.

Our policies that promote procedural justice are: Rules of Conduct, Constitutional Safeguards, and Community Policing. Deputy Sheriff's also receive training in Ethics and Professionalism and Professional Communication in the Police Academy.

### **Recommended Actions:**

1. The Sheriff's Office will continue to review and update [as needed] our policy and procedures related to procedural justice at least once a year.
2. The Sheriff's Office participates in on-going training in conjunction with the District Attorney's office. The Office should continue such training efforts, including Low Income, Substance Use Disorders, Minority, LGBTQ+ communities, and training to recognize systemic racism.
3. The Sheriff's Office will review, and update existing forms used to allow the public to submit questions about police procedures and policies, or the conduct of an officer. The County will also make this form available online.
4. The Sheriff's Office will increase the transparency of call for service activity to ensure citizens have access to appropriate police data & arrest activities via a bi-annual report placed on the county website and social media sites. The Sheriff's Office will also create a new press release policy to be used when notifying the public of activity within the Office.

## **BIAS**

It is the policy of the Schuyler County Sheriff's Office that the constitutional rights of a person, regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic status, age, or cultural background shall not be violated. Members of the Schuyler County Sheriff's Office shall not violate citizen's equal protection rights.

To this end, members are prohibited from engaging in racial/bias policing in any aspect of law enforcement activity. All Deputy Sheriff's receive 8 hours of training in Cultural Diversity/Bias related incidents in the Police Academy.

### **Recommended Actions:**

1. The Sheriff's Office will continue to review and update [as needed] our policy and procedures related to bias at least once a year.
2. Require all sworn and civilian members to participate in yearly anti-bias instruction training. Immediately following the training members, must pass an exam exhibiting their understanding.
3. As outlined throughout this document, the Schuyler County Sheriff's Office will be expanding its community engagement programs. Participation in these programs will not only strengthen the

relationship between the police and community members but also serve as “hands-on” anti-bias training.

## **DE-ESCALATION**

De-escalation requires the ability to be not only a persuasive speaker but also an active and engaged listener. To be an active listener, an officer must:

- be open and unbiased,
- listen to all of what is being conveyed [verbal and non-verbal],
- interpret the meaning,
- respond appropriately free of judgment

De-escalating situations into successful interactions requires officers to assess, engage, and resolve.

- Assessment of a situation. Officers are given very limited information before responding to a call, and therefore, the initial assessment is extremely important to the outcome.
- Officers must control themselves and free their minds of anger, fear, judgment, and ego so they can respond without outside influence. In all situations, it is imperative officers respond, not react.

It is the policy of the Schuyler County Sheriff’s Office that when all the reasonably known circumstances indicate it is safe, prudent, and feasible to do so, a Deputy will attempt to slow down, reduce the intensity, or stabilize the situation so that more time, options and/or resources may become available for incident resolution. This policy follows MPTC models. De-escalation training is provided during Basic Police training.

### **Recommended Actions:**

1. The Schuyler County Sheriff’s Office will cross-reference collaboration with community stakeholders to learn about cultural differences that may inadvertently lead to escalation. Information gathered will be incorporated into future de-escalation training.
2. All use of force incidents will be reviewed internally to ensure de-escalation techniques were utilized if possible. Additionally, all use of force incidents are reported to NYS. The success of de-escalation training and practices will be gauged through the review of the use of force reports and heeding suggestions from the community.
  - In situations where de-escalation was not successful and force is necessary, the data will be collected and reported annually, as discussed in the Use of Force section of this document.

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTED DIVERSION PROGRAMS [LEADS]**

As stated in the NYS Guidance, diversion programs recognize that incarceration or the establishment of a criminal record may not be the most appropriate mechanism to address certain conduct. Instead, education and/or drug or mental health treatment may provide a better alternative for both the individual and the community. LEADS assists in avoiding unnecessary justice system involvement of people who participate in these programs.

When appropriate, the Sheriff’s Office refers people to alcohol/substance abuse counseling and mental health counseling. In some cases, we also refer people to the Department of Social Services, Youth Court, Veterans Affairs and the Community Dispute Resolution Center.

### **Recommended Actions:**

1. Schuyler County will continue to work with community stakeholders to find ways of assisting people with pathways to treatment.

## COMMUNITY BASE OUTREACH AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Addressing the particular needs of the communities through the police department promotes community engagement to foster trust, fairness, and legitimacy. Increasing the availability of police officers in the community puts a focus on growing and strengthening community relationships to provide more comprehensive services and responds to citizens in a geographic area. Community-based outreach and conflict resolution allow police agencies to provide education to the communities to increase crime awareness, advise of services offered, and enhance collaboration and trust through proactive outreach.

However, we do foster community- based outreach and non-arrest conflict resolution by:

- Encouraging our Deputies to periodically stop into businesses and schools.
- Utilizing a School Resource Officer in the Bradford Central School.
- Providing D.A.R.E. instruction in the Odessa Montour and Bradford School Districts.
- Providing speakers to community groups on topics such as active shooters and crime prevention, and drug abuse.
- During the Finger Lakes Wine Festival, we provide a public relations booth and courtesy sobriety checkpoint so that drivers can choose from changing drivers, calling for another driver, or waiting until they are sober enough to drive without threat or fear of arrest.
- The Sheriff's Office participates in Operation Safe Child Events.
- Sheriff's Deputies provide Child Safety Seat Inspections.
- The Sheriff's Office provides Alcohol Server training F.A.I.R. [Fundamentals of Alcohol Impairment Recognition] free of charge to local businesses.
- Offering a pistol permit course that is required for all persons applying for a pistol permit.

Our Agency also utilized social media to inform the public about our activity. The Sheriff's Office Facebook page is liked by 6,936 people and followed by 7,106 people.

### **Recommended Actions:**

1. The Sheriff's Office will conduct public education events on policing practices to increase the transparency of policing methods and governance by educating the public on these practices.

## PROBLEM-ORIENTED POLICING AND HOT SPOT POLICING

Problem-oriented policing and hot spot policing are similar concepts, involving identifying and analyzing specific crime problems and locations and targeting resources toward solving those problems. We employ those concepts, in effect when we look at complaint frequency regarding crimes or vehicle and traffic complaints to assign patrols.

The Sheriff's Office utilizes this strategy as necessary. An example of this strategy would be several years ago, the Sheriff's Office worked with the District Attorney and New York State Police after receiving numerous complaints on all-terrain vehicles being operated on roads at all hours and of significant activity at several residences. We deployed patrols in the area, and they stopped vehicles leaving these residences after finding probable cause for a traffic stop. Drug possession arrests and persons wanted on arrest warrants from other jurisdictions resulted. In the end, several arrests were made in a three-county area, and the suspects were later convicted and sentenced to state prison.

### **Recommended Actions:**

1. Continue to monitor activity, work with the District Attorney's Office, and evaluate additional staffing based on need and budget constraints.

## **VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND REDUCTION INTERVENTIONS**

Violence prevention refers to the reduction in the frequency of new cases of violent victimization or perpetration through direct efforts to remove or reduce underlying causes and risk factors, such as alcohol abuse, drug abuse, gang activity, illegal weapons possession, domestic conflicts, etc.

Our agency actively promoted violence prevention and reduction interventions by:

- Providing training to local businesses and organizations regarding active shooter training.
  - Conduct building assessments to possibly deter these types of crimes.
- Teaching D.A.R.E. in our schools to provide the best practices to our children on the dangers of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and to have respect for themselves and others.

### **Recommended Actions:**

1. The Sheriff's Office will strengthen community safety training programs by providing key safety training to residents or community groups and improve overall community safety. This training will help enhance their safety knowledge and support better relations.
2. The Sheriff's Office will establish & promote community programs to increase law enforcement visibility in the community. The Sheriff's Office will develop and execute programs that bring law enforcement officers and citizens together in forums or "town halls" where they can talk to one another, share thoughts, and promote interactions that support the building of positive relationships.
3. The Sheriff's Office will actively reach out to young people in the community to encourage their participation in youth education efforts and encourage them to pursue law enforcement careers.

## **MODEL POLICIES PROMULGATED BY THE MUNICIPAL POLICE TRAINING COUNCIL**

The State MPTC from time to time develops a model policy on one or another aspect of a police operation, which it offers to police agencies for consideration or adoption. Other organizations also develop model policies. Not every model policy is suited for adoption by every agency. Many agencies develop their policies and procedures by studying model policies from many sources, and by studying actual policies being successfully used by other law enforcement agencies around the country. Many of our policies and procedures are modeled after accredited law enforcement agencies in New York State, and other agencies from around the country based on best practices.

### **Recommended Actions:**

1. The Sheriff's Office will annually review policy and procedures recommended by the MPTC and update current policies as needed to ensure the highest standards.

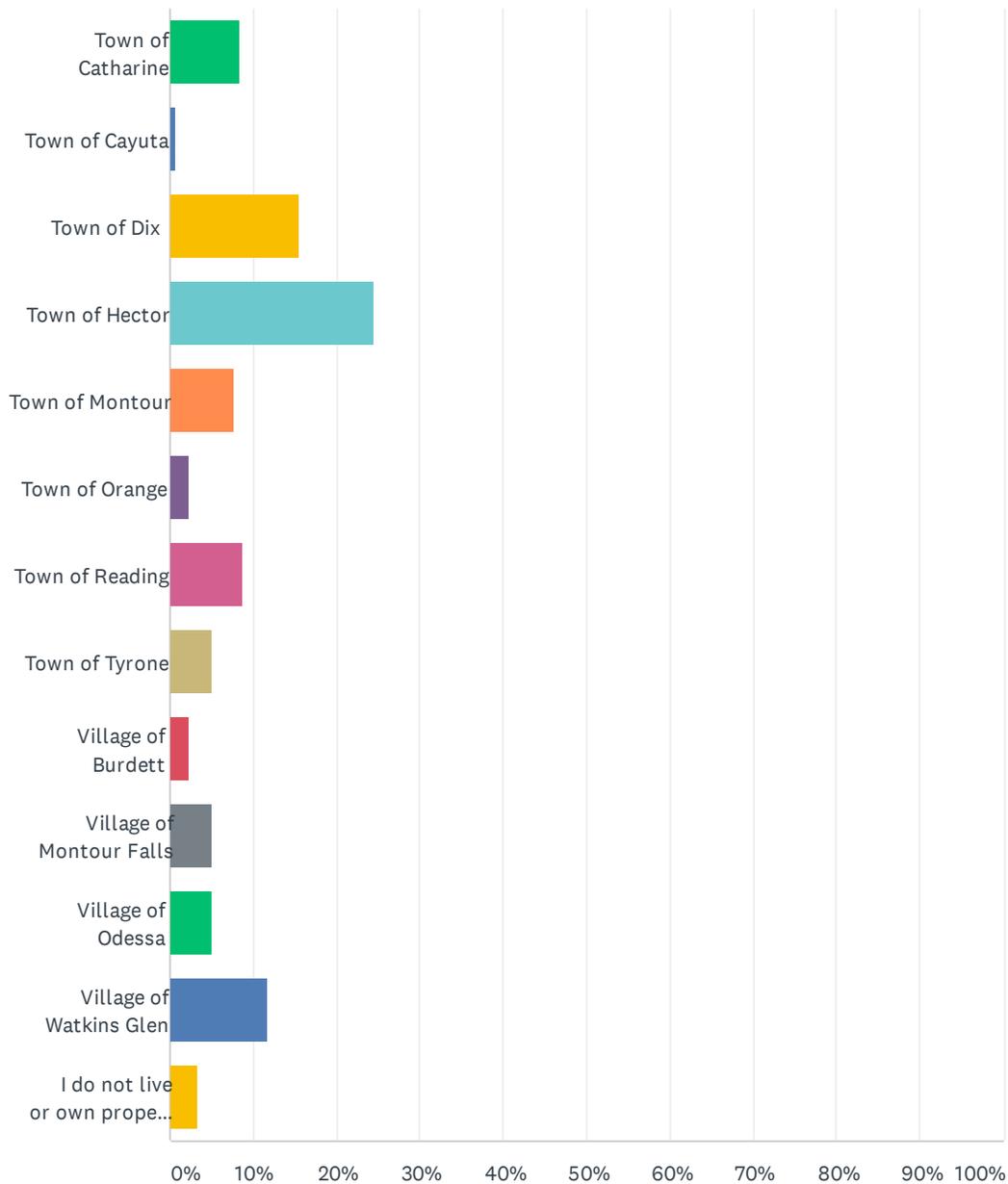
## SCHUYLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REFORM ACTION PLAN

CATEGORY	REFORM ACTION	DESCRIPTION	COMPLETION TIMELINE
Transparency & Accountability	Issue Annual Use of Force Report	Issue an annual use of force report. The report will include statistics on event circumstances, demographics, type of force used, and breakdown by the community. The Use of Force Report will be posted on the Schuyler County's website and available for public review.	Q3-2021 [Annually]  Q3 - 2021
Transparency & Accountability	Increase Transparency of Arrest Activities & Calls for service	Publish bi-annual reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Calls for service, cases and arrests, and use of force incidents</li> <li>- Arrests by sex and race.</li> <li>- Area patrols and community interactions [non-enforcement based]</li> </ul>	Q3- 2021 [Bi-Annually]
Transparency & Accountability	Update question and comment forms	Review and update existing forms that are used for public questions, comments, or officer complaints. The County will make this form available online.	Q4-2021
Equality & Social Justice	Expand Diversity & Bias Awareness Training	Require Implicit Bias Awareness Training for all Schuyler County Sheriff Deputies.  Conduct Train the Trainer sessions to develop internal skilled presenters on implicit bias awareness training to support county-wide efforts.	Q2-2022  Q4-2022
Training	Expand Procedural Justice Training	Continue to conduct on-going training in conjunction with the District Attorney's office. The Sheriff's Office should continue such training efforts, including Low Income, Substance Use Disorders, Minority, LGBTQ+ communities, and training to recognize systemic racism.	Ongoing
Training	Expand Anti-Bias Training	Require all sworn and civilian members to participate in yearly online anti-bias instruction	Ongoing
Training	Expand Use of Force Review after incidents	Use of force incidents will be reviewed to ensure de-escalation techniques were utilized if possible. Where de-escalation was not successful and force is necessary, incorporate incident into de-escalation training and practices.	Ongoing
Community Relations	Conduct Public Education on Policing Practices	Conduct education opportunities for policing practices to increase the transparency of policing methods and governance by educating the public on these practices	Q4- 2021 [Ongoing]
Community Relations	Expand outreach to youth populations	Reach out actively to young people in the community to encourage their participation in youth education efforts and encourage them to pursue law enforcement careers.	Q4-2021 [Ongoing]
Community Relations	Establish & promote community programs	Increase law enforcement visibility in the community by developing and executing programs that bring law enforcement officers and citizens together in forums or "town halls" where they talk to one another, share thoughts, and promote interactions that support the building of positive relationships.	Q4-2021 [Ongoing]

**APPENDIX 1**  
**Community Survey Results**

## Q1 Where in Schuyler County do you live or own property?

Answered: 180 Skipped: 0

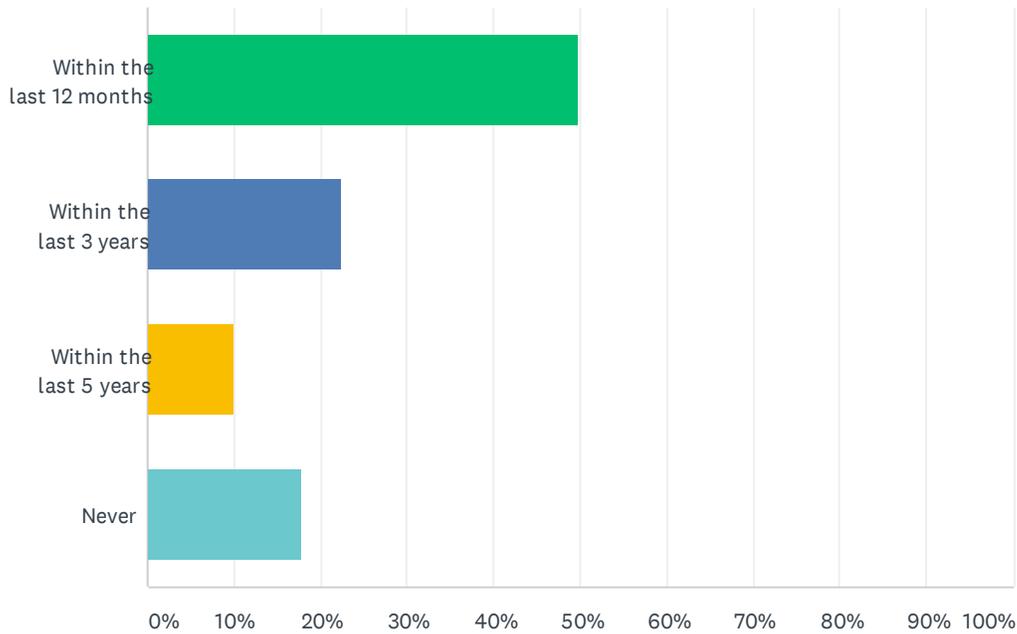


Schuyler County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Town of Catharine	8.33%	15
Town of Cayuta	0.56%	1
Town of Dix	15.56%	28
Town of Hector	24.44%	44
Town of Montour	7.78%	14
Town of Orange	2.22%	4
Town of Reading	8.89%	16
Town of Tyrone	5.00%	9
Village of Burdett	2.22%	4
Village of Montour Falls	5.00%	9
Village of Odessa	5.00%	9
Village of Watkins Glen	11.67%	21
I do not live or own property in Schuyler County	3.33%	6
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>180</b>

## Q2 When was the last time you had direct interaction with the Schuyler County Sheriff's Department?

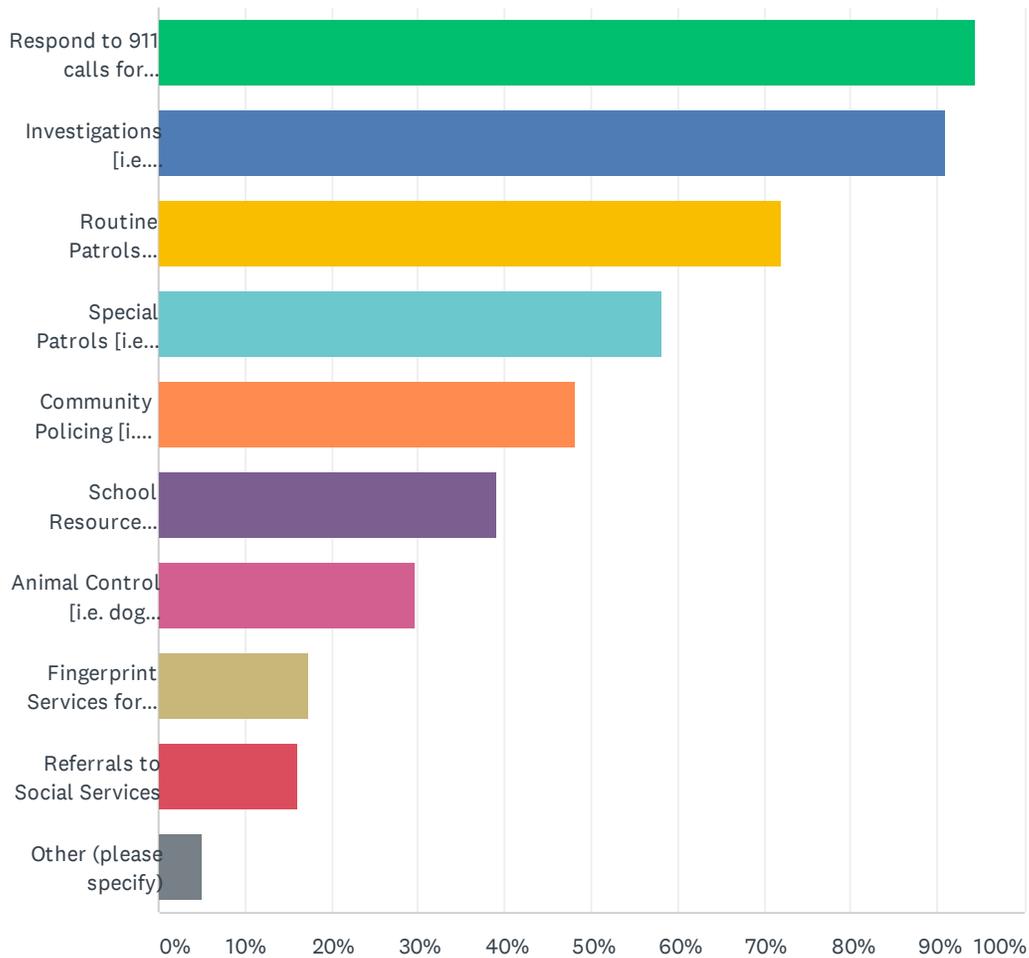
Answered: 179 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Within the last 12 months	49.72%	89
Within the last 3 years	22.35%	40
Within the last 5 years	10.06%	18
Never	17.88%	32
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>179</b>

### Q3 Please select the top 5 services that you think are most important for your police department to provide

Answered: 179 Skipped: 1



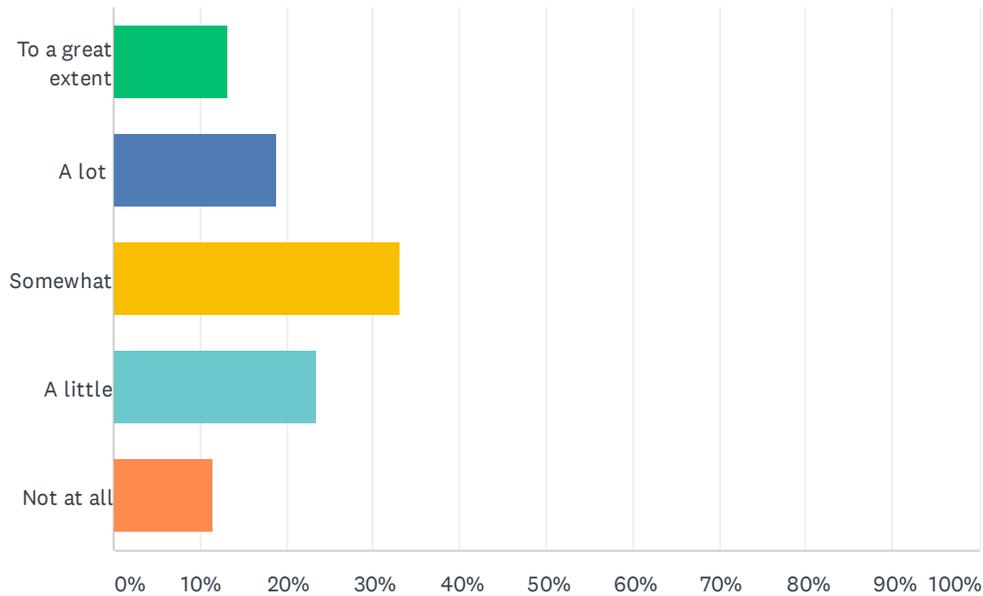
## Schuylter County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Respond to 911 calls for service	94.41%	169
Investigations [i.e. robberies, homicides, sex crimes, etc.]	91.06%	163
Routine Patrols [cruiser]	72.07%	129
Special Patrols [i.e. drunk driving, seat belt and speed enforcement]	58.10%	104
Community Policing [i.e. bicycle/walking patrols, child safety inspections, presentations to business and non-profits, etc.]	48.04%	86
School Resource Officers	39.11%	70
Animal Control [i.e. dog control, rabies response, bear management, skunk removal, etc.]	29.61%	53
Fingerprint Services for background and employment checks	17.32%	31
Referrals to Social Services	16.20%	29
Other (please specify)	5.03%	9
Total Respondents: 179		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Community Outreach such as the free hot dogs and ice cream day that was offered but taking it into different areas of the county: i.e. Monterey, Tyrone, Beaver Dams, Alpine, Mecklenburg.	11/23/2020 10:38 PM
2	Keep better track of sex offenders	11/18/2020 2:27 PM
3	Jail operations	11/18/2020 2:55 AM
4	Hospital	11/10/2020 12:25 PM
5	our sherriff's dept is forced to turn there heads the other way when it comes to complaints involving certain individuals in our town, we have been harassed and threatened on multiple occasions and it just gets blown off for what ever reason, the last time the individual threatened to blow up my house and we had a witness call the sheriff dept and the sheriff wouldn't even go talk to them. Why? What is this person doing for the legal system in Schuylter Co. ? Also why do we have to call the sheriff's office to get a state trooper it may be a separate phone number but they are dispatched by the sheriff's office. Then it amazes me the sheriff's dept doesn't follow the nys penal law when a town doesn't have an ordinance because they say it is a law enforcement issue and law enforcement will not follow the law that is in the ny state penal law	11/9/2020 8:08 PM
6	Patrol school zones	11/9/2020 3:35 PM
7	Defending the individual liberties enumerated and guaranteed under the US Constitution in the Bill of Rights against government overreach.	11/9/2020 1:22 PM
8	Narcotics	11/9/2020 12:02 PM
9	I think all of the above are important.	11/9/2020 11:03 AM

### Q4 To what extent does the Schuyler County Sheriff’s Department regularly communicate with community members [i.e. websites, e-mails, or public meetings]?

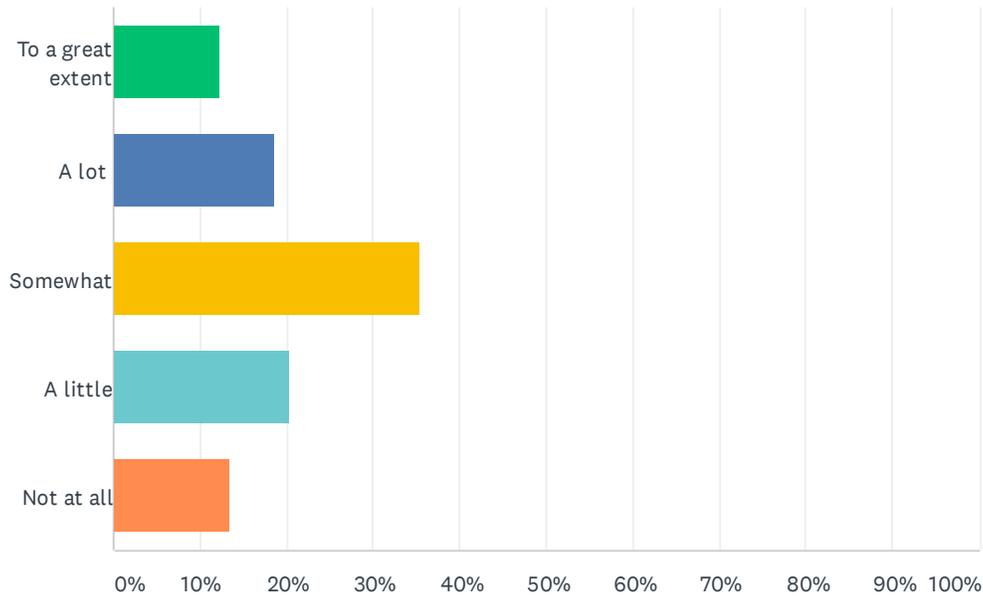
Answered: 175 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
To a great extent	13.14%	23
A lot	18.86%	33
Somewhat	33.14%	58
A little	23.43%	41
Not at all	11.43%	20
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>175</b>

### Q5 To what extent does the Schuyler County Sheriff’s Department make it easy for community members to provide input [i.e. comments, suggestions, and concerns]?

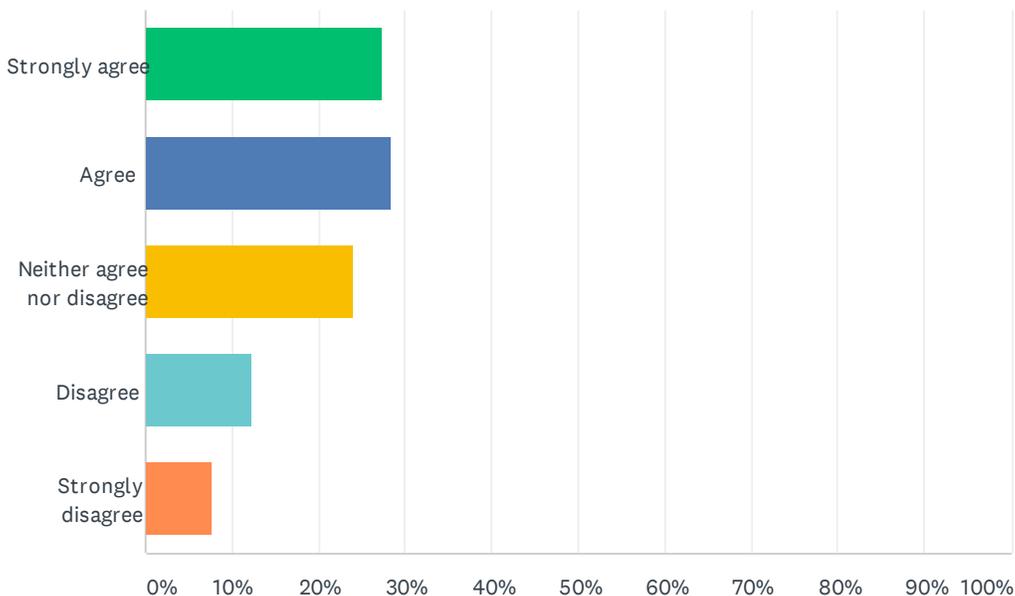
Answered: 178 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
To a great extent	12.36%	22
A lot	18.54%	33
Somewhat	35.39%	63
A little	20.22%	36
Not at all	13.48%	24
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>178</b>

Q6 How do you feel about this statement: The Schuyler County Sheriff's Department uses a system of community policing well? [Community policing" is a system where the police work closely with community members to solve problems together. The goal is for the police and the public to work together to prevent crime and solve problems in the community.]

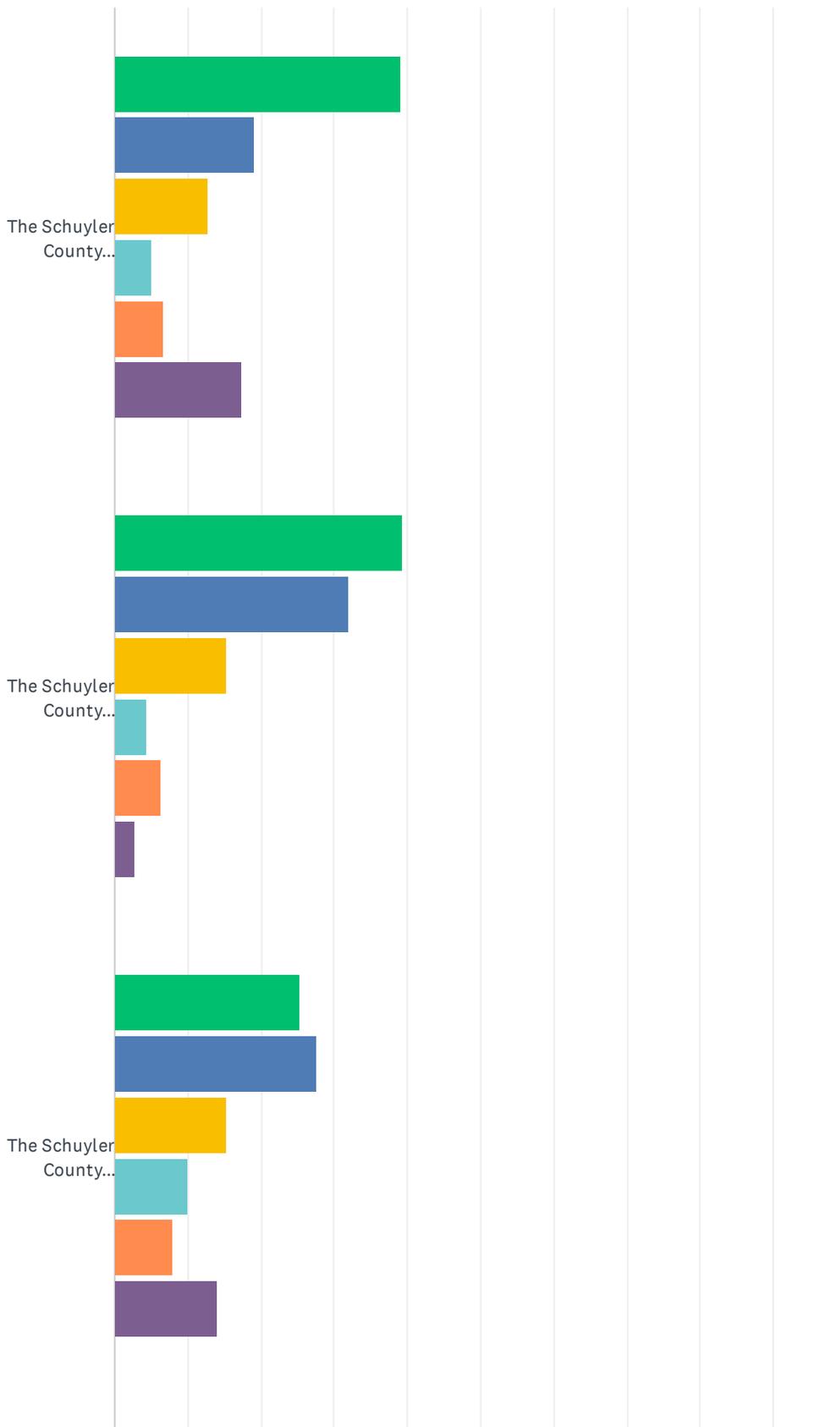
Answered: 179 Skipped: 1



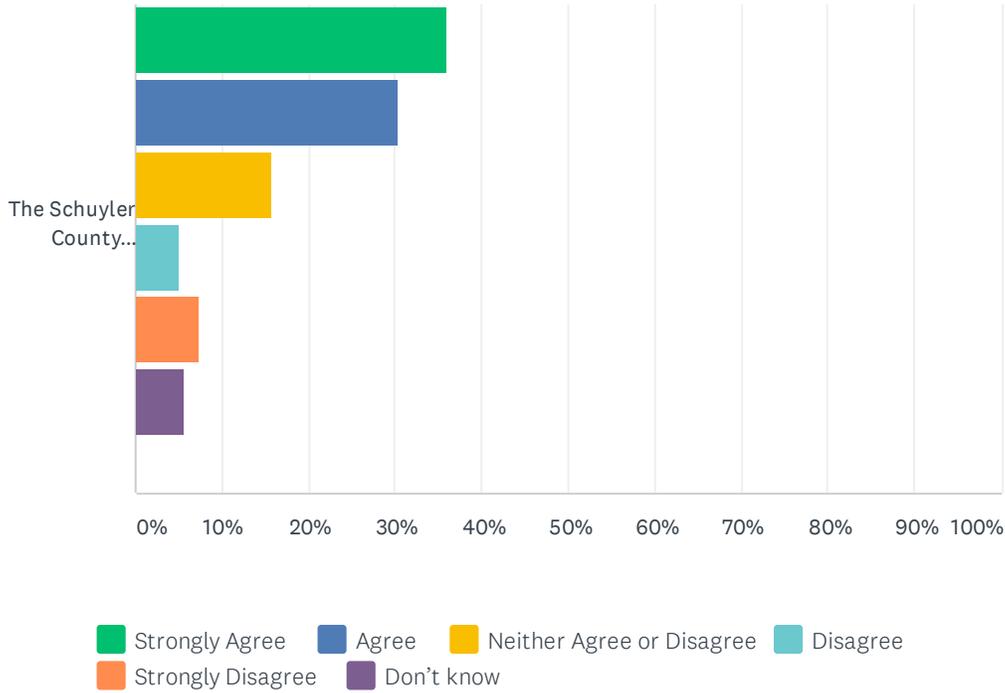
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	27.37%	49
Agree	28.49%	51
Neither agree nor disagree	24.02%	43
Disagree	12.29%	22
Strongly disagree	7.82%	14
TOTAL		179

# Q7 Indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements

Answered: 179 Skipped: 1



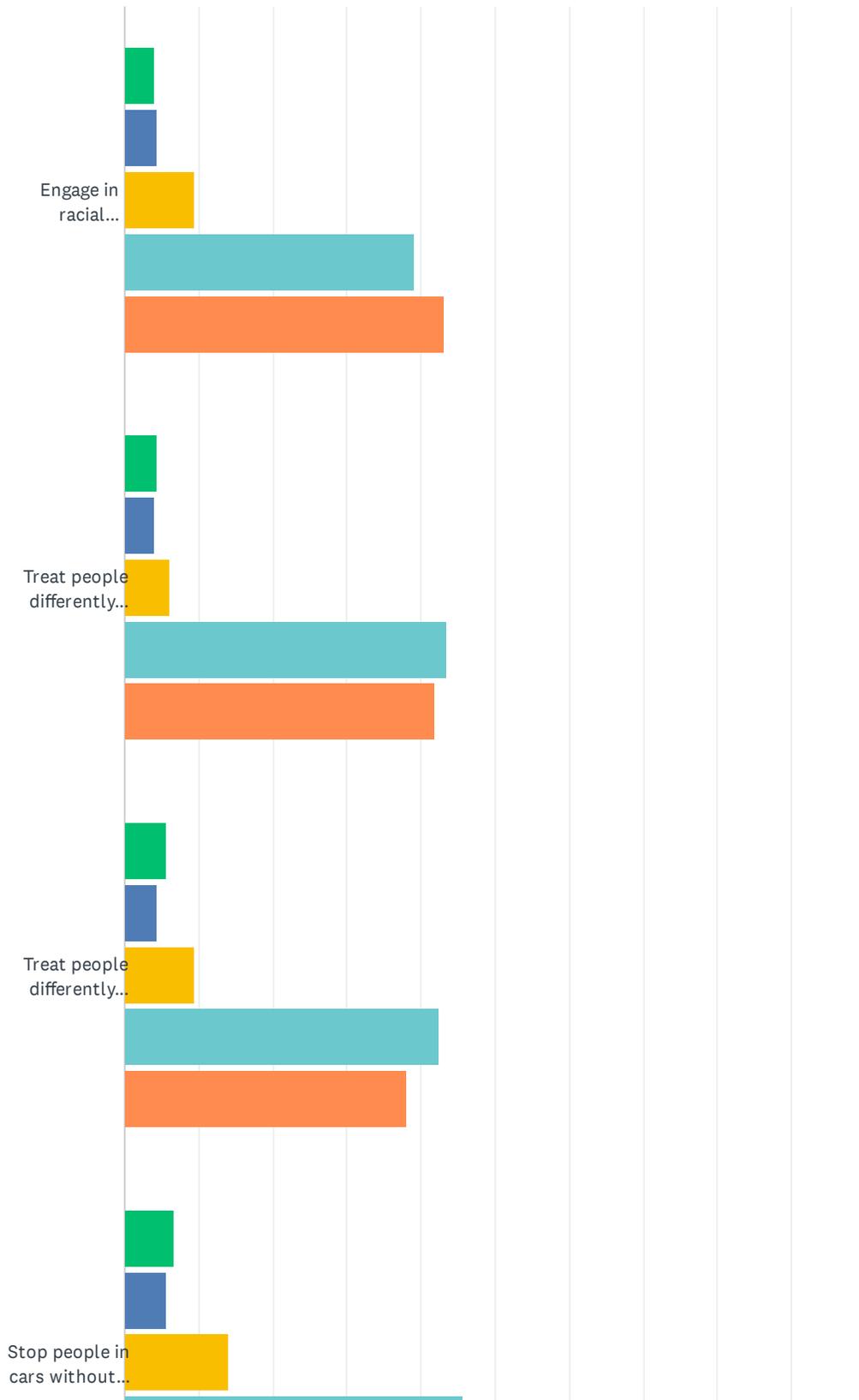
## Schuyler County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement



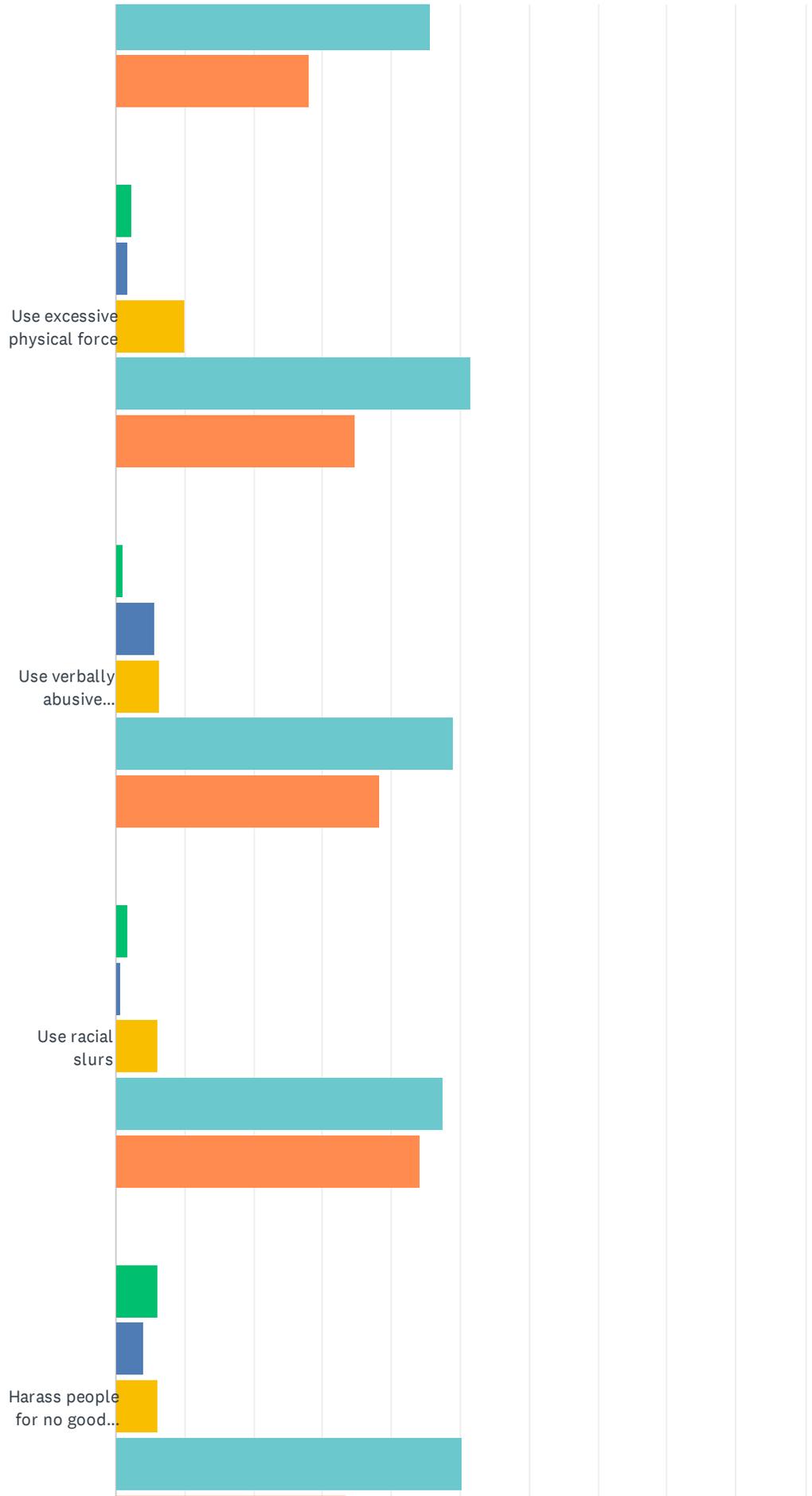
	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
The Schuyler County Sheriff's Department treats people of all races and ethnicities equally	39.11% 70	18.99% 34	12.85% 23	5.03% 9	6.70% 12	17.32% 31	179
The Schuyler County Sheriff's Department does a good job keeping people safe	39.33% 70	32.02% 57	15.17% 27	4.49% 8	6.18% 11	2.81% 5	178
The Schuyler County Sheriff's Department serves all areas of Schuyler County equally	25.28% 45	27.53% 49	15.17% 27	10.11% 18	7.87% 14	14.04% 25	178
The Schuyler County Sheriff's Department strives to have a positive impact on the community.	35.96% 64	30.34% 54	15.73% 28	5.06% 9	7.30% 13	5.62% 10	178

### Q8 For each item, please indicate how often you think Schuyler County Sheriff's Deputies do these things.

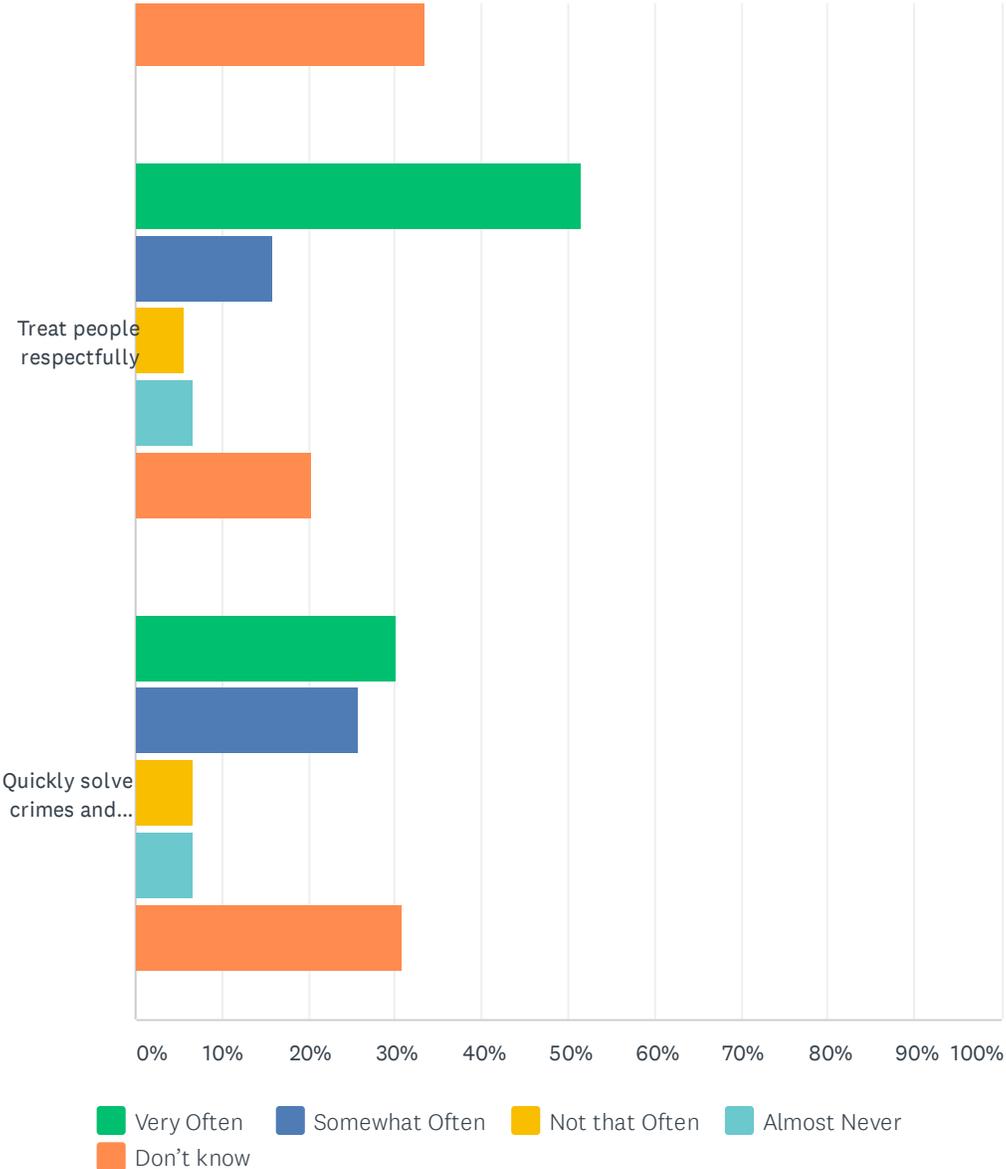
Answered: 179 Skipped: 1



# Schuyler County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement



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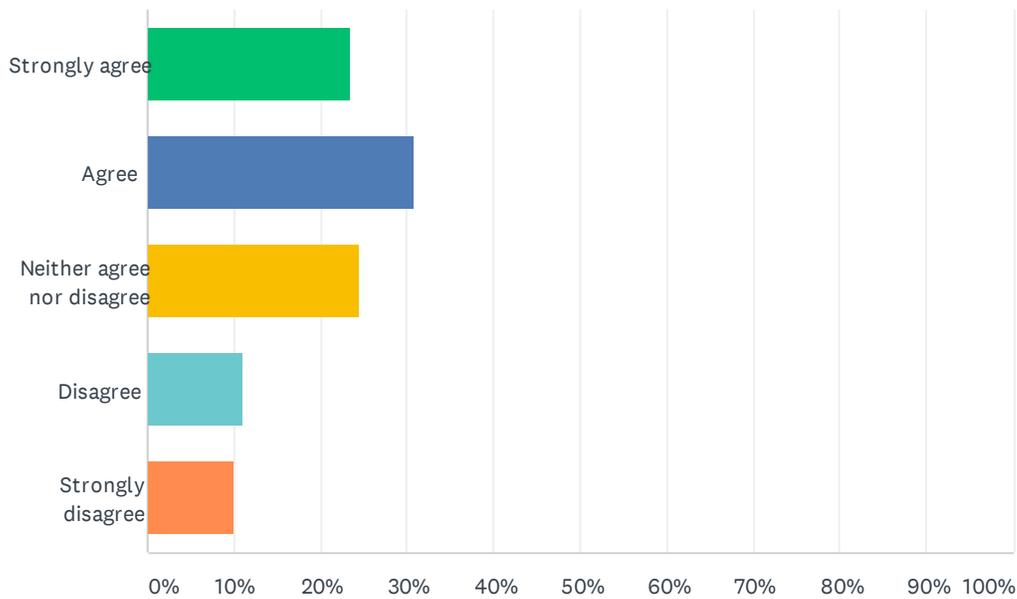


Schuyler County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

	VERY OFTEN	SOMEWHAT OFTEN	NOT THAT OFTEN	ALMOST NEVER	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
Engage in racial profiling	3.91% 7	4.47% 8	9.50% 17	39.11% 70	43.02% 77	179
Treat people differently because of their race	4.47% 8	3.91% 7	6.15% 11	43.58% 78	41.90% 75	179
Treat people differently because of their gender or gender identity	5.59% 10	4.47% 8	9.50% 17	42.46% 76	37.99% 68	179
Stop people in cars without good reason	6.74% 12	5.62% 10	14.04% 25	45.51% 81	28.09% 50	178
Use excessive physical force	2.23% 4	1.68% 3	10.06% 18	51.40% 92	34.64% 62	179
Use verbally abusive language	1.12% 2	5.62% 10	6.18% 11	48.88% 87	38.20% 68	178
Use racial slurs	1.68% 3	0.56% 1	6.15% 11	47.49% 85	44.13% 79	179
Harass people for no good reason	6.15% 11	3.91% 7	6.15% 11	50.28% 90	33.52% 60	179
Treat people respectfully	51.41% 91	15.82% 28	5.65% 10	6.78% 12	20.34% 36	177
Quickly solve crimes and arrest criminals	30.17% 54	25.70% 46	6.70% 12	6.70% 12	30.73% 55	179

### Q9 If you have a complaint against your local police department or an officer, you are confident it will be heard and reviewed objectively?

Answered: 179 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	23.46%	42
Agree	30.73%	55
Neither agree nor disagree	24.58%	44
Disagree	11.17%	20
Strongly disagree	10.06%	18
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>179</b>

**Q10 How do you feel about police being sent to respond to people in emotional distress or in a mental health crisis?**

Answered: 165 Skipped: 15

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#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Unfair, we need better mental health resources across the state. Too many cuts to these resources has left police to respond, not their job, it belongs in the medical field.	12/4/2020 8:01 PM
2	No, inadequately trained	12/2/2020 2:06 PM
3	I feel much safer knowing that the police will be present to keep not only the person in distress safe, but also other people who might be hurt if the police were not there.	12/2/2020 11:21 AM
4	They need to respond for safety of all but mental health experts should also be dispatched.	12/1/2020 2:41 PM
5	I feel they need to have adequate training in those areas as well as access to resources that aide in those areas such a DMH & DSS.	11/30/2020 4:07 PM
6	They need to protect themselves but also help those in need. They need to respond and help these because that is what they are there for and can help someone in need.	11/30/2020 3:41 PM
7	Appropriate psych services should accompany officers when interacting with mentally ill persons.	11/30/2020 12:23 PM
8	If they have proper training, it can be an opportunity to put a temporary bandaid on situations that most likely need more specialized care. I do not believe it should be thier primary focus, but with lack of resources I know it can be difficult to NOT have to respond.	11/27/2020 6:57 PM
9	Ok	11/26/2020 12:05 PM
10	seems like a social worker should also go	11/25/2020 11:06 AM
11	Whom are you going to send if not a police officer?	11/24/2020 7:58 PM
12	Uncomfortable unless they are properly knowledgeable	11/24/2020 4:40 PM
13	should have the support of mental health professionals	11/24/2020 2:30 PM
14	Yes, if no other resources available.	11/24/2020 1:57 PM
15	Definitely not a good idea	11/24/2020 1:47 PM
16	I think they need to have someone on the force who can counsel and help diffuse the situation to make it safe to transport the individual to a facility for treatment.	11/23/2020 10:38 PM
17	I'm not sure if the police are the right people to send, given that they may or may not be trained to deal with the situation or have the appropriate resources to follow up and deal with the issues.	11/23/2020 4:33 PM
18	Difficult calls, hard to deal with.	11/23/2020 4:03 PM
19	I think that the police should not necessarily be used for calls of emotional distress or mental health crisis. Our police are not currently trained for these cases and it's not necessary for a person with a weapon to show up and agitate an emotional situation. I think that if we want to re-think what our police are responsible for, then having them respond to these calls would be appropriate. But as of right now, what we use the police for, it sends the wrong message, that having an emotionally distressful moment or mental health crisis is a crime.	11/23/2020 3:30 PM
20	They are better equipped than some poor social worker. These people are often irrational and dangerous.	11/23/2020 1:54 PM
21	Not fair to the officer	11/23/2020 12:29 PM
22	Police should not be the lead in such calls. They can dispatched if there is safety concern for the person in distress or to others, but police are not mental health experts or practitioners, and should not be put into the position where they should be. A joint program should be created between county social service and metal service providers with the police department. This saves money by assigning appropriate people to the problem, and will result in better outcomes.	11/23/2020 11:43 AM
23	OK with it as long as the officers know what they are getting in to.	11/23/2020 10:54 AM
24	Our deputies are well equipped to do so.	11/23/2020 8:02 AM
25	Police are generally first on scene and are able to determine what other methods of	11/23/2020 6:58 AM

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	intervention are needed.	
26	If they are properly trained to deal with such a situation it would be good, otherwise not.	11/23/2020 6:40 AM
27	Perhaps one or two officers could be trained in this area to respond	11/22/2020 8:45 PM
28	not their job	11/22/2020 6:53 PM
29	Excellent.	11/22/2020 6:32 PM
30	problematic	11/22/2020 4:19 PM
31	Does Schuyler county care about our mental health?	11/22/2020 3:51 PM
32	are they trained?	11/22/2020 3:36 PM
33	Strongly agree that they should respond	11/22/2020 3:23 PM
34	Police can not de-escalate a situation properly. Trained mental health workers need to be on these calls	11/22/2020 3:18 PM
35	I work for Social Services and have a family member we have had to contact the police about. They are compassionate with the families and with distressed individual. I can't say enough about how appreciative my family and extended family are for their services.	11/22/2020 1:42 PM
36	Good	11/22/2020 11:33 AM
37	not trained to handle these	11/22/2020 9:51 AM
38	I have mixed feelings about this. If the officers are properly trained I guess it is ok but I think this is one area which needs to be looked at more closely. Emotional distress and mental health issues are difficult and I am not sure if any police officer is adequately trained to do this type of intervention properly.	11/22/2020 9:40 AM
39	An important component of policing, as it will offer a trusted? member of the community to objectively parse out the issue(s).	11/21/2020 8:00 PM
40	Should be first responder if they are the closest. If they need help they should be able to attempt to de-escalate and wait for a specialist if available.	11/21/2020 8:27 AM
41	It may be necessary for the police to respond to people in emotional distress to prevent them from harming themselves or others.	11/20/2020 6:39 PM
42	Strongly disagree with with this. Feel that there should be training in the area of mental health.	11/20/2020 12:40 PM
43	Police need extra training to handle these issues - they are a good 1st step. Yet we feel poo-poo'd by the local sheriff and WSPD. We call the State Police.	11/20/2020 5:15 AM
44	I feel like maybe they should be sent as back up but not as a first responder. Mental health professionals and ambulance would be best.	11/19/2020 10:52 PM
45	I feel as a first responder that it is a needed safety net	11/19/2020 9:03 PM
46	This is not the job of police. Mental health workers are trained for this and police are not.	11/19/2020 7:37 PM
47	Wouldn't have a clue how to handle it. Thankfully they usually call the State Police.	11/19/2020 4:12 PM
48	I think that somebody who is specifically trained to deal with people who are experiencing a mental health crisis should be present. I think that actions taken to get a situation under control are, many times, counterproductive when an individual is in crisis.	11/19/2020 3:20 PM
49	Part of their job, sometimes only option.	11/19/2020 1:53 PM
50	In support as long as they have the proper training to deal with this type of call.	11/19/2020 1:29 PM
51	They are trained to diffuse difficult situations.	11/19/2020 12:32 PM
52	Police officers should only be there to assist and protect medical workers	11/19/2020 12:30 PM
53	.	11/19/2020 8:45 AM
54	It would be my first choice as many friends/Family members most often cant respond to a call/request as quickly as police officers with radios, lights and sirens.	11/18/2020 8:44 PM

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55	For these types of calls, properly trained law enforcement should be part of a TEAM that includes mental health professionals.	11/18/2020 6:08 PM
56	It is not needed. A social worker can be of better help if they can have a police back up just in case.	11/18/2020 4:54 PM
57	Strongly needed	11/18/2020 3:59 PM
58	Not w/in the scope of their employment. They don't have the training.	11/18/2020 2:27 PM
59	who else can do it?	11/18/2020 11:28 AM
60	It is definitely needed	11/18/2020 9:56 AM
61	I think it would be a good thing if some of the police officers have some knowledge of mental health Crisis	11/18/2020 9:42 AM
62	Should be done	11/18/2020 8:01 AM
63	It depends on if the crisis means there is a danger to that person in the crisis or to others. If so, then they are called to protect.	11/18/2020 7:50 AM
64	I feel that cops need more education around mental health services.	11/18/2020 7:36 AM
65	The most stupid sheriffs department in the country cannot handle daily functions... They're abusive... They're not trained properly... And I can prove for fact that individuals have been shot and non-disclosure agreements have been paid out and currently they have a 14 million Dollar lawsuit against them for two false arrests ... they have a township attorney that was indicted under a grand jury and had to pay the Seneca Falls victim \$200,000... It's the most corrupt police force in New York State... They're liars cheats and racial Profilers and their anti-Semitic and I can prove it	11/18/2020 7:22 AM
66	who else do we have to send i think they do a good job with the resorces they have	11/18/2020 5:31 AM
67	I think it is extremely dangerous for police.	11/18/2020 2:55 AM
68	Good, because it could safe a life.	11/17/2020 6:27 PM
69	They are trained and must handle these call	11/17/2020 5:49 PM
70	good	11/17/2020 3:20 PM
71	I think it could be appropriate if there is a danger to that person or the community. I believe the police have the authority, training and resources to get people in emotional distress or in a mental health crisis to the proper service providers needed that can address mental health needs.	11/17/2020 2:33 PM
72	I think it's probably a mistake as officers aren't trained to provide the kind of assistance in these situations that a mental health professional could provide.	11/17/2020 1:47 PM
73	I feel good about it. I believe it is the correct thing to do and it works.	11/17/2020 1:39 PM
74	I think they have done a fantastic job responding to people in crisis. They have been respectful and incredibly responsive. I do think that they should continue responding.	11/17/2020 1:33 PM
75	If the situation warrants police presence, they should be there.	11/17/2020 1:29 PM
76	The police should not be the first line responders for mental health crises. But, it does make sense to train officers to respond effectively after hours or where there are threats to anyone's safety.	11/17/2020 1:20 PM
77	No problem	11/17/2020 1:14 PM
78	I feel they are very capable of assisting and deescalating situations that arise in many capacities.	11/17/2020 1:10 PM
79	I am okay with it.	11/16/2020 2:29 PM
80	Good idea.. They can take them to a facility to get help..	11/15/2020 11:10 AM
81	They are the best option in order to make sure someone in emotional distress or a mental health crisis does not harm others. The police force nationally as a whole may need more	11/13/2020 2:07 PM

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training in this area, but to think the police shouldn't be responding to these cases in lieu of a social worker is ludicrous and will result in deaths that could have been prevented.

82	I feel their presence is necessary in those situations due to the fact that during a mental health incident, it's unknown what will happen and things could turn violent in the blink of an eye.	11/13/2020 10:07 AM
83	I feel it is very important, however they need to be trained appropriately.	11/13/2020 9:39 AM
84	Depends on how much psychological training they have to which I have no knowledge of.	11/12/2020 10:12 PM
85	Unknown!	11/12/2020 6:40 PM
86	I feel they are highly trained and know what resources to obtain if needed.	11/12/2020 4:55 AM
87	They should not be called, need mental health workers should answer these calls. Remember Sam Argingsinger	11/11/2020 12:17 PM
88	I think, if possible, knowing the situation, that someone trained in mental health should also respond	11/11/2020 9:51 AM
89	Should partner with mental health professionals	11/11/2020 9:39 AM
90	Good if the officer is trained for that	11/11/2020 7:36 AM
91	It's absolutely necessary	11/11/2020 6:40 AM
92	Should be done by mental health professionals	11/10/2020 9:07 PM
93	I believe they should for the safety of everyone involved.	11/10/2020 1:43 PM
94	Police responding to mental health 911 calls have been extremely helpful and every case I've encountered.	11/10/2020 12:25 PM
95	They must , They keep the first responders safe	11/10/2020 9:55 AM
96	I think it's necessary but having the option of other trained professionals would be a good idea as well.	11/10/2020 8:31 AM
97	Better a professional with police back up	11/10/2020 8:04 AM
98	Without our police who would go out. They are much more able to help than harm. Maybe more training on mental problems could intense their ability to help defuse a problem.	11/10/2020 7:40 AM
99	As they responded to my mother-in-law's calls for hallucinations caused by her increasing dementia, they were extremely sensitive and helpful. I have no issue with them responding to these problems. However, there could be a mental health team that could assist the force that would alleviate some of the burden on the department.	11/10/2020 7:14 AM
100	They should	11/10/2020 7:00 AM
101	Police are not trained and generally do not have the disposition to respond appropriately as evidenced by many recent events. Responses need more focus on mental health and substance abuse help, and less on punishment.	11/10/2020 6:32 AM
102	They are not trained well for that	11/10/2020 5:28 AM
103	I feel it has to be done and from what I have heard it has been handled well	11/10/2020 4:14 AM
104	I think it's very necessary and keeps people who aren't qualified to handle a stressful and potentially dangerous situation out of harms way	11/10/2020 12:48 AM
105	No idea	11/10/2020 12:33 AM
106	They are not vetted, qualified nor trained to do that.	11/9/2020 11:51 PM
107	I think it is necessary.	11/9/2020 11:37 PM
108	Good Idea. As they might be a danger to others. with a weapon.. Many house hold items can be used as weapons. Best to have police respond.	11/9/2020 10:02 PM
109	I feel it is the correct action to be taken. It is ludicrous to send somebody into an intense situation, and they can't defend themselves.	11/9/2020 8:25 PM

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110	It has to be done to insure the safety of others near by.	11/9/2020 8:23 PM
111	The police already do this but most people don't realize it. Police need to respond to these type of incidents because unfortunately sometimes situations like these turn violent.	11/9/2020 8:08 PM
112	i don't think it is a good idea someone in that field should accompany the officer and be in charge thhe officer should just be there for protection of all parties involved	11/9/2020 8:08 PM
113	Good	11/9/2020 6:55 PM
114	Neutral	11/9/2020 6:08 PM
115	It is very important for our police department to respond to emotional and mental health crisis so they can get the right help for those in need	11/9/2020 4:47 PM
116	Fine as long as they don't shoot- they need training on how to deal with difficulty situations. Have a child with Autism who must be dealt with differently than a typical person.	11/9/2020 4:41 PM
117	Just so they have training for this.	11/9/2020 4:40 PM
118	It depends, as sending the police may make matters worse. Perhaps EMT in conjunction with police would be more advantageous	11/9/2020 4:34 PM
119	I feel that if someone else's life is endanger they should respond, otherwise the County should provide a non law enforcement response.	11/9/2020 3:59 PM
120	I think it is necessary as these situations can turn quickly.	11/9/2020 3:58 PM
121	Not sure they are trained to deal with this	11/9/2020 3:50 PM
122	They should not be put in that situation unless they have received extensive training. A mental health professional or social worker is a better responder in such a situation	11/9/2020 3:48 PM
123	Think it should be a person trained in mental health	11/9/2020 3:35 PM
124	Sounds appropriate	11/9/2020 3:28 PM
125	Confident they will do a great job to assist	11/9/2020 3:18 PM
126	Absolutely horrible. Should have social worker experts deployed. 0% chance of getting shot	11/9/2020 2:48 PM
127	absolutely In the interest of public safety	11/9/2020 2:38 PM
128	I feel that pretty much every time a police officer is sent to a call they are responding to a person with some type of emotional distress or mental health crisis. If they weren't they wouldn't be calling the police!	11/9/2020 2:30 PM
129	Until you have a mhl worker that can respond when the call comes in 24/7 and also had the about to remove a subject to the hospital against there will L.E. will need to respond.	11/9/2020 2:23 PM
130	Most qualified and equipped with the tools to solve the crisis at hand or crisis that could escalate	11/9/2020 2:22 PM
131	Police need additional ongoing training if this service is to be provided. Currently, I feel that police are absolutely not qualified to effectively and safely provide this service.	11/9/2020 2:09 PM
132	As long as they have proper training in dealing with people in mental or emotional distress I feel confident that they would be able to deal with any issues that arise.	11/9/2020 2:08 PM
133	I would hope that the officers responding have been adequately trained to deal with the situations.	11/9/2020 1:36 PM
134	Important	11/9/2020 1:29 PM
135	Good they need help	11/9/2020 1:23 PM
136	If someone has called for help then I agree. If you are referring to things like RED Flag laws I very highly disagree with this illegal (according to the US Constitution and Bill of Rights) practice.	11/9/2020 1:22 PM
137	As a former mental health administrator in Schuyler the Sheriff's Department was highly skilled, as gentle as they could be with unbalanced people and showed genuine care and concern for others wellbeing. I have nothing but good things to say about them.	11/9/2020 1:14 PM

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138	I'm not convinced that local police have enough training in this area.	11/9/2020 1:12 PM
139	Yes quick response is needed along with additional fee sponsor from appropriate county agency	11/9/2020 12:58 PM
140	I feel this is extremely important as it could prevent potential harm to themselves or others	11/9/2020 12:44 PM
141	Necessary	11/9/2020 12:41 PM
142	Somewhat prompt	11/9/2020 12:32 PM
143	I think they should.	11/9/2020 12:28 PM
144	100% in favor of	11/9/2020 12:25 PM
145	I feel strongly that people in this type of crisis deserve a fast response not only from the police department but from the mental health department too.	11/9/2020 12:20 PM
146	They should respond and be careful.	11/9/2020 12:15 PM
147	I feel this should only occur upon request of trained professionals and should be in a supportive capacity (not a lead capacity)	11/9/2020 12:14 PM
148	I think it is the right person to respond. If the person experiencing a mental breakdown becomes violent, I would rather have someone who is capable of apprehending them do it and not rely on community social workers. There needs to be increased funding to mental health services but decreasing law enforcement funding is not the answer.	11/9/2020 12:11 PM
149	They do a great job	11/9/2020 12:02 PM
150	That is a area that is important for people who need help	11/9/2020 11:57 AM
151	Police should not be sent in this instance; trained mental health care professionals should be sent.	11/9/2020 11:54 AM
152	The statement us not designed for them to be successful. Not their fault. Progress needs to be made in how we deal with emotional issues	11/9/2020 11:47 AM
153	I don't feel it's their job to deal with the individual. They need to secure a situation. It should be a Mental Health worker to de-escalate the individual, along with an Officer or Deputy to provide security for the worker and civilians nearby.	11/9/2020 11:38 AM
154	I have personally had to call the Schuyler county sheriffs office to perform welfare checks at my home. While I do think the officers always responded with the best of intentions. The process of having a police officer there and the way the reports need to be filed make it seem like the person in need is in the wrong and the person making the call is a victim. The process as it is set up doesn't make the choice to call for help as easy and inviting as it should be. I don't believe this is the intention of the department but rather a flaw in the system that needs to be addressed. I am very thankful that the department was there for us and able to assist my family when we were in need. I do think there could be improvements to the system and the success and feelings about the interaction are also very much dependent on which officer happens to respond. I think it would benefit all communities to be able to have mental health task forces with specially trained officers or partnerships with social workers who can be available to respond to calls like this. Especially in communities were a majority of calls are welfare checks of some kind.	11/9/2020 11:33 AM
155	I strongly agree that this should be a thing and happen more often	11/9/2020 11:31 AM
156	Good idea	11/9/2020 11:27 AM
157	Strongly	11/9/2020 11:24 AM
158	Unfortunately mental health crisis calls can quickly turn violent. While I support increased mental health training for everyone in public service, including police, fire and EMS, there is no safe response to these calls that does not include LE.	11/9/2020 11:22 AM
159	Schuyler County has no one else to go and if the situation is dangerous even if we had crisis response a police officer should be present/in control of the situation.	11/9/2020 11:20 AM
160	positive, it's the safest start to the situation.	11/9/2020 11:20 AM

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161	I feel they can only do what people will allow them to do. Someone who has mental health issues needs more than a visit from the police and it's not a police officer's job to ensure the person suffering seeks the treatment they need.	11/9/2020 11:14 AM
162	If the need for them to be present I agree	11/9/2020 11:12 AM
163	I am glad they are there for them	11/9/2020 11:04 AM
164	Were they not trained to deal with this situation? I think they are more equipped to deal with this.	11/9/2020 11:03 AM
165	Good, as long as they or are accompanying someone with the proper training for the situation	11/9/2020 11:02 AM

**Q11 How do you feel about police being sent to respond to people with drug or alcohol use problems or who have overdosed?**

Answered: 166 Skipped: 14

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#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	More appropriate for their involvement than question 10, but again, better resources needed.	12/4/2020 8:01 PM
2	Mixed feelings, should accompany counsellor on call	12/2/2020 2:06 PM
3	I feel it is important and part of their job, as far as I know. However, I do feel that the person causing problems due to drugs or alcohol or overdosing should be mandated to be evaluated by a chemical dependency professional before being allowed to return home.	12/2/2020 11:21 AM
4	They need to respond but I personally don't believe they should be using the Narcon. The users are doing this to themselves.	12/1/2020 2:41 PM
5	They are there to document the situation and respond to issues that may arise while the medics should be responsible for treatment .	11/30/2020 4:07 PM
6	Again they need to protect themselves while protecting those in need. I believe our department has saved many because of responding and responding quickly	11/30/2020 3:41 PM
7	Appropriate abuse personnel should be employed in addition to law enforcement.	11/30/2020 12:23 PM
8	Again, with proper training it can save lives. But with the increase in both usage and overdose, it could easily become overwhelming.	11/27/2020 6:57 PM
9	Ok	11/26/2020 12:05 PM
10	good idea if they are properly trained	11/25/2020 11:06 AM
11	This should be first responders detail	11/24/2020 7:58 PM
12	ok	11/24/2020 4:40 PM
13	...should have the support of medical and mental health professionals	11/24/2020 2:30 PM
14	Yes, if they are the only or best resource available.	11/24/2020 1:57 PM
15	Not a good idea	11/24/2020 1:47 PM
16	Having grown up in a household with drug abusers, police interactions were never constructive. They're a hammer, we were nails.	11/23/2020 4:33 PM
17	Necessary. We are with EMS and need them desperately.	11/23/2020 4:03 PM
18	I understand that police are first responders, but I feel like medical professionals are better equipped to handle situations of drug or alcohol problems.	11/23/2020 3:30 PM
19	Again, they are better equipped to deal with these people than anyone else I can think of.	11/23/2020 1:54 PM
20	Part of their job	11/23/2020 12:29 PM
21	Chemical addition is a mental health and medical issue, and cannot be solved by law enforcement. Law enforcement can be used as a short-term element for safety and to divert people into treatment, but strict law enforcement alone does nothing to solve the long-term problems.	11/23/2020 11:43 AM
22	I feel fine with this.	11/23/2020 10:54 AM
23	Our deputies have demonstrated they are more than capable to do so.	11/23/2020 8:02 AM
24	Police and medical generally respond and do a their job in a professional manner.	11/23/2020 6:58 AM
25	They can get there the fastest and with narcan and the such can make a difference.	11/23/2020 6:40 AM
26	I think they should be the ones to respond with proper training	11/22/2020 8:45 PM
27	not their job	11/22/2020 6:53 PM
28	Very confident	11/22/2020 6:32 PM
29	ok	11/22/2020 4:19 PM
30	Poorly, we are in a drug infused community... meth in particular.	11/22/2020 3:51 PM
31	are they trained?	11/22/2020 3:36 PM

## Schuylter County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

32	Think it's a good idea	11/22/2020 3:23 PM
33	Unknown	11/22/2020 3:18 PM
34	As a Social Services worker I am well aware of numerous individuals who would be dead if our Officers did not respond quickly and efficiently.	11/22/2020 1:42 PM
35	Good	11/22/2020 11:33 AM
36	no thoughts	11/22/2020 9:51 AM
37	Same as above it is a training issue and I am not sure all police are trained properly for this.	11/22/2020 9:40 AM
38	Important to follow up on the source of the drugs.	11/21/2020 8:00 PM
39	Unfortunate necessity	11/21/2020 8:27 AM
40	I'm certain that a rapid police response to an overdose greatly increases the likelihood that the victim will survive.	11/20/2020 6:39 PM
41	Feel that more and more people are just getting thrown in Jail and ending up with a criminal record rather than getting the help they need.	11/20/2020 12:40 PM
42	I feel they have the skills locally to handle these calls.	11/20/2020 5:15 AM
43	If they have Narcan and can get there first that is great.	11/19/2020 10:52 PM
44	Absolutely necessary	11/19/2020 9:03 PM
45	Mental health workers and substance abuse professionals are what is needed, not police.	11/19/2020 7:37 PM
46	They should as trained professionals caring for the community. Schuylter County can't	11/19/2020 4:12 PM
47	I feel that is appropriate because drugs and/or alcohol are involved. Drugs are illegal. Most objectionable behavior that goes along with alcohol abuse is probably some form of illegal (DUI, assault, etc..).	11/19/2020 3:20 PM
48	Again, part of their job, first line of assistance for these issues	11/19/2020 1:53 PM
49	Assumed this was part of their services	11/19/2020 1:29 PM
50	They are trained to deal w/difficult situations.	11/19/2020 12:32 PM
51	Police should only be there to protect and assist medical workers	11/19/2020 12:30 PM
52	good	11/19/2020 8:45 AM
53	perhaps first & second offenders could still be helped, A court required drug or alcohol program should be required before going back to an known drug house overdose. Help only those who are willing to help themselves.	11/18/2020 8:44 PM
54	For these types of calls, properly trained law enforcement should be part of a TEAM that includes medical professionals.	11/18/2020 6:08 PM
55	Again not needed, better for a social worker with a drug and alcohol abuse counseling background to figure out.	11/18/2020 4:54 PM
56	Necessary action should be made	11/18/2020 3:59 PM
57	Again wrong people to send.	11/18/2020 2:27 PM
58	I don't know	11/18/2020 11:32 AM
59	again, who rlse is there. But overdose is really that person's problem.	11/18/2020 11:28 AM
60	Necessary to protect society	11/18/2020 9:56 AM
61	That's why they have that job	11/18/2020 9:42 AM
62	Must be done, quickly	11/18/2020 8:01 AM
63	Same as above answer. If called, then they should be there to protect that person or others.	11/18/2020 7:50 AM
64	They need to respond and hold people accountable with their drug use. It's all around us and	11/18/2020 7:36 AM

## Schuyler County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

	they aren't doing anything about the amount coming into the county or the people using	
65	You had a police officer growing marijuana in his garage with full knowledge of the district attorney the state police arrested the individual and the crooked county could not get indictment under a grand jury because they were being dissuaded by the prosecutor	11/18/2020 7:22 AM
66	they can get there the fastest	11/18/2020 5:31 AM
67	Very dangerous for the officers.	11/18/2020 2:55 AM
68	Good, It could save a life and give that person a second chance to get help.	11/17/2020 6:27 PM
69	once again there trained for these calls	11/17/2020 5:49 PM
70	good	11/17/2020 3:20 PM
71	In response to enforce community safety, or pursue a criminal investigation, I think police should respond in these circumstances. However, these responses should only be contributing to enforcing immediate community safety. Substance abuse treatment is not a police function (nor should it be). However the responding officer would need the contacts and resources to connect the individual in need to the proper treatment provider and services so they could get the help they require. I think the Police are often first responders on the scene, and can help those in need connect to substances abuse treatment programs to get long term treatment services that police can not give.	11/17/2020 2:33 PM
72	police should respond only when there is a threat of harm to others or to the individual.	11/17/2020 1:47 PM
73	I feel good about it. I believe it is the correct thing to do and it works.	11/17/2020 1:39 PM
74	I think for safety this is a good method of response. There are safety concerns related to various substances that could be overlooked by others.	11/17/2020 1:33 PM
75	They should be present.	11/17/2020 1:29 PM
76	The police should not be the first line responders for overdoses. But, it does make sense to train officers to respond effectively after hours or where there are threats to anyone's safety.	11/17/2020 1:20 PM
77	Not sure, seems like someone else should handle that	11/17/2020 1:14 PM
78	Again I feel they are very capable of handling this type of situation.	11/17/2020 1:10 PM
79	I think they should be.	11/16/2020 2:29 PM
80	Good idea ..If they are trained to help the individual	11/15/2020 11:10 AM
81	People overdosing should not require a police response. Let the EMT's handle that issue. Don't waste police dollars on overdose calls. Criminal activity while under the influence of any drug or alcohol should warrant a police response just to ensure people are kept safe from the person under the influence and acting violent.	11/13/2020 2:07 PM
82	Police need to be present during any drug complaint because of the potential violence that could occur.	11/13/2020 10:07 AM
83	I feel it is very important, however they need to be trained appropriately.	11/13/2020 9:39 AM
84	I feel they are well trained to respond to these problems	11/12/2020 10:12 PM
85	Unknown	11/12/2020 6:40 PM
86	They are very experienced and deal with this professionally.	11/12/2020 4:55 AM
87	Again need medical people there, not cops.	11/11/2020 12:17 PM
88	If the police have been trained to respond to drug/alcohol issues/overdoses, then it's fine	11/11/2020 9:51 AM
89	Should partner with substance abuse counselor	11/11/2020 9:39 AM
90	good if they have the proper training	11/11/2020 7:36 AM
91	It's the potential beginning of an investigation, absolutely necessary	11/11/2020 6:40 AM
92	Same as previous	11/10/2020 9:07 PM

## Schuylers County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

93	I believe they should for the safety of everyone involved.	11/10/2020 1:43 PM
94	Same as above- police are often first on the scene and provide life saving intervention prior to EMS arrival and arrival to hospital.	11/10/2020 12:25 PM
95	they must secure the area	11/10/2020 9:55 AM
96	Necessary as these people can sometimes react violently.	11/10/2020 8:31 AM
97	to support EMTs or other medical first responders	11/10/2020 8:04 AM
98	If not for them who is trained and can control problems better.	11/10/2020 7:40 AM
99	I have no issue with this, but medical professionals should also respond to give the best possible outcome.	11/10/2020 7:14 AM
100	They should	11/10/2020 7:00 AM
101	Probably a good idea to have one present but the response should be primarily medical and with the goal of helping not punishing.	11/10/2020 6:32 AM
102	They are trained to use force/compliance. A different approach would be better	11/10/2020 5:28 AM
103	They must respond	11/10/2020 4:14 AM
104	Quite necessary	11/10/2020 12:48 AM
105	Should happen	11/10/2020 12:33 AM
106	Still not adequately trained.	11/9/2020 11:51 PM
107	I think they are needed for the safety of other first responders	11/9/2020 11:37 PM
108	Great Idea. Most likely trained to handle such situations better than others.	11/9/2020 10:02 PM
109	Again, there are NO unicorns and rainbows visible when these situations occur. Quit being idiots or cart YOUR asses into these scenes UNPROTECTED!! Our law enforcement officers do a great job!!! If you can do it better, get your asses out there on the front line, or shut your mouths and enjoy the protection and safety they provide!!	11/9/2020 8:25 PM
110	Again it has to be done to insure the safety of others near by.	11/9/2020 8:23 PM
111	Same as above	11/9/2020 8:08 PM
112	only to make sure the scene is safe for emergency crews or other professionals to enter	11/9/2020 8:08 PM
113	Ok	11/9/2020 6:55 PM
114	Always	11/9/2020 6:08 PM
115	It's very important	11/9/2020 4:47 PM
116	They should have reversal drugs.	11/9/2020 4:41 PM
117	Just so they are trained for this also.	11/9/2020 4:40 PM
118	See answer to question 10	11/9/2020 4:34 PM
119	If there is a clear path to rehab or sobriety than they should respond and referred accordingly. If there isn't, why would you put law enforcement into a position to have to try to solve societies issues, when the system is broken.	11/9/2020 3:59 PM
120	yes they should be to have the information on file incase it corresponds to something else they may be working on.	11/9/2020 3:58 PM
121	Not sure they are the most qualified for this	11/9/2020 3:50 PM
122	Again, only if they have received special training. A health care professional would be a better choice.	11/9/2020 3:48 PM
123	Okay	11/9/2020 3:35 PM
124	No opinion	11/9/2020 3:28 PM

## Schuylter County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

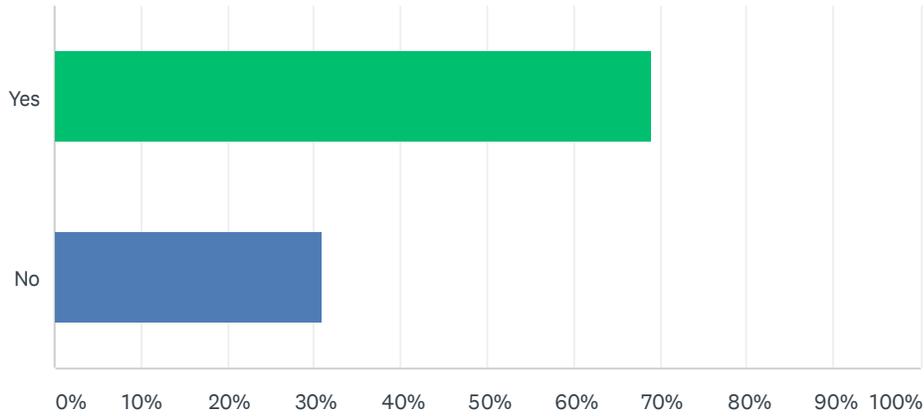
125	They are not doctors and should not have to act as one. They should be called to the location to assist but not act as a doctor.	11/9/2020 3:18 PM
126	Very frequently ends up horribly. These people need help not charges	11/9/2020 2:48 PM
127	Absolutely should	11/9/2020 2:38 PM
128	I feel it's good that the police respond to these types of incidents because they are there to protect the community, EMS personnel and also try to direct a person with such problems to available support and possible solutions to their problems	11/9/2020 2:30 PM
129	Go for it.	11/9/2020 2:29 PM
130	L.E. need to respond to secure the scene for volunteers. I think a drug counselor needs to be included for a follow up. No repercussions for drug overdoses other then medical bills they most likely won't pay	11/9/2020 2:23 PM
131	They are most needed in these situations due to possible attacks on medical personnel	11/9/2020 2:22 PM
132	Same as previous answer. If police are trained and continue to receive ongoing training in regard to handling situations with people who have addiction problems then it's appropriate. However, I do feel that this responsibility could a position on its own.	11/9/2020 2:09 PM
133	Drug and alcohol abusers should be offered services to be rehabilitated, jail time does not always fix issues.	11/9/2020 2:08 PM
134	Again I would hope they were prepared to,deal with whatever they encounter	11/9/2020 1:36 PM
135	Important	11/9/2020 1:29 PM
136	Get them help	11/9/2020 1:23 PM
137	If they are breaking the law then I highly support the officers. Illegal drugs and crimes related to them should be dealt with by law enforcement and punished appropriately.	11/9/2020 1:22 PM
138	I think they are skillful in handling difficult situations. They are trained to respond quickly and efficiently to overdoses.	11/9/2020 1:14 PM
139	I've heard on the scanner at different times that the first arriving officer does not have narcan. Narcan should be a priority for all officers and residents. Being a tourist community, we should all be trained to use it.	11/9/2020 1:12 PM
140	Yes this is good but specifically trained officers should be called in along with staff from county agencies directed to address these problems	11/9/2020 12:58 PM
141	If the ambulance isn't able to make it their faster and they can be first responders and potentially save a life then by all means let them respond!	11/9/2020 12:44 PM
142	Necessary	11/9/2020 12:41 PM
143	Somewhat prompt	11/9/2020 12:32 PM
144	I think they should, more importantly to make sure there are no children in danger.	11/9/2020 12:28 PM
145	100% in favor of	11/9/2020 12:25 PM
146	I feel strongly that the police department should be there to help direct these people in the right direction for their safety	11/9/2020 12:20 PM
147	They should respond.	11/9/2020 12:15 PM
148	I feel this should only occur upon request of trained professionals and should be in a supportive capacity (not a lead capacity).	11/9/2020 12:14 PM
149	I assume it is part of the job.	11/9/2020 12:11 PM
150	They need to arrest these people	11/9/2020 12:02 PM
151	Overdoses are a waste of taxpayer money for the department to be responding	11/9/2020 11:57 AM
152	Medical professionals would be far better to send	11/9/2020 11:54 AM
153	Do not know	11/9/2020 11:47 AM

## Schuylter County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

154	Again, The police should provide security. Mental Health should be contacted if someone is under the influence of drugs or Alcohol. If a person has Overdosed it should be a Health Care professional responsibility to administer Narcan	11/9/2020 11:38 AM
155	I do not have experience in this area thankfully, but my feelings are similar to what I wrote above. These calls are being made because people are in genuine need of help and there may not in fact be anything "criminal" about the situation. Yes, drugs are illegal but I mean in the sense that no one had bad intentions or intended harm on themselves or others yet something bad is happening and they need help. You should be able to call for help without first considering the trouble you may be in. Yes there may and in some cases should be consequences for the action but that shouldn't be the primary focus. What should be is getting people the help they need immediately with empathy compassion and respect.	11/9/2020 11:33 AM
156	If you continuously have to go to the same place and use overdoes supplies on the same individual more than once that's a problem because they will continue to do it over and over because they know you'll save them.	11/9/2020 11:31 AM
157	Very good idea	11/9/2020 11:27 AM
158	Strongly	11/9/2020 11:24 AM
159	There is simply no safe way to respond to these calls without LE. I work in EMS in a different county and would never want to respond to overdose calls without law enforcement. I have seen far too many of these sort of calls become violent towards bystanders, family and EMS.	11/9/2020 11:22 AM
160	They should respond since these can be dangerous situations.	11/9/2020 11:20 AM
161	positive, it's likely the safest start to the situation.	11/9/2020 11:20 AM
162	I feel that it's their job to respond to the call but ultimately if a person chooses to use drugs, they should endure whatever consequences they may face. It's a choice to use drugs and it's a choice not to.	11/9/2020 11:14 AM
163	I do agree that there precedent should be there for the safety of others, like elms personal	11/9/2020 11:12 AM
164	Again, I am happy they are there for those people	11/9/2020 11:04 AM
165	They are the most capable to intervene.	11/9/2020 11:03 AM
166	Very good	11/9/2020 11:02 AM

**Q12 Do you think the Schuyler County Sheriff's Office needs more education, awareness, and/or training? This could include a better understanding of people's culture, personal identity, or backgrounds; communication skills; etc.**

Answered: 174 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	68.97%	120
No	31.03%	54
TOTAL		174

**Q13 What are your ideas for enhancing community engagement between the local police/sheriff's department and the Schuyler County community?**

Answered: 148 Skipped: 32

## Schuyler County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Community meetings to discuss concerns and problems in the area.	12/4/2020 8:01 PM
2	None	12/2/2020 2:06 PM
3	I am not familiar with the exact training being done, but I think if the Sheriff shared on Facebook or in a written forum monthly or every 3 months an update on the training they have completed and offer people to write in with questions for training for themselves or ideas for community talks or private talks. I believe the more friendly communication that happens the more the police will be supported.	12/2/2020 11:21 AM
4	I am proud of our Sheriff's Dept. as is.	12/1/2020 2:41 PM
5	None. I feel they are very engaged. They are visible /accessible during the many local events such as the concerts and races. They also hold several benefits a year for local citizens that involve a large portion of our community. Our force is very well grounded and dedicated to the people they serve.	11/30/2020 4:07 PM
6	Our department already does a lot with the community.	11/30/2020 3:41 PM
7	Greater visibility of personnel, not just cruising by in the cruiser.	11/30/2020 12:23 PM
8	Create opportunities for real dialogue.	11/27/2020 6:57 PM
9	I think they're doing a fine job.	11/26/2020 12:05 PM
10	no comment	11/25/2020 11:06 AM
11	More community involvement, especially at schools	11/24/2020 7:58 PM
12	meet and greet	11/24/2020 4:40 PM
13	Its not about race here in Schuyler county (not a diverse community)...its about treating "locals" (i.e. people whose families have been a part of the county for generations or are in certain positions in the county) differently/better than those who have moved here....may have lived here for 20-30 years....but aren't "connected" or "local"	11/24/2020 2:30 PM
14	Have them drink coffee with us at Art & Nancy's, and Chef's coffee bar.	11/24/2020 1:57 PM
15	Actually arrest people for crimes rather than passing them off to an agency	11/24/2020 1:47 PM
16	Offer more educational opportunities. If community members could understand why certain protocols are in place, that could be helpful. Also, offer training in areas such as home safety, how to recognize drug activity in your neighborhood/area, and law updates regarding driving, gun use, etc. Finally, law enforcement could benefit from training by various agencies to understand when and why to refer for/to services other than the Dept. of Social Services. Topics such as dementia, how to recognize a diabetic episode or stroke vs impaired driving, elder abuse/exploitation and more could be offered by local agencies to law enforcement.	11/23/2020 10:38 PM
17	I've had no interaction with the local police or sherriff's office. On one hand, no interaction may be good, but a complete lack of interaction may be bad too. Many of the above questions are "I don't know" because I haven't had any interaction, besides a fear of interaction. That's a tough one. It's hard to gather community support, or decent engagement if there's virtually no interaction. It's also harder to drive positive interaction, when the normal interaction may be a traffic stop or other stress inducing situation.	11/23/2020 4:33 PM
18	Public relations and continued training.	11/23/2020 4:03 PM
19	So far I have heard of only a few events that the Schuyler County Sheriff's department has done. They're usually like an ice cream social or a hot dog cookout. I think that these events are fine, however, it would be nice if they had a speaker come talk to the community about new ways to police and how we can reimagine our police to not be a "force" so that people's first impression of police isn't that they're mean and evil, but helpful and caring.	11/23/2020 3:30 PM
20	I don't know! I didn't think there was an issue in the first place. Many of the officer are part of our community.	11/23/2020 1:54 PM
21	None	11/23/2020 12:29 PM
22	The sheriff's department should be part of community planning, not an independent agency	11/23/2020 11:43 AM

## Schuyler County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

that sets its own priorities. The sheriff's department must serve the community - NOT the other way around. The priorities, tasks, focus, etc. for the sheriff's department should be directed by civilian government.

23	Perhaps more PR	11/23/2020 10:54 AM
24	Sheriff Yessman is doing this NOW !!! We don't need to spend extra funds on something that is already working.	11/23/2020 8:02 AM
25	I think our county has an excellent sheriff's staff. They go above and beyond to ensure the safety for all.	11/23/2020 6:58 AM
26	None	11/23/2020 6:40 AM
27	Community engagement officer whose job would be to educate, utilize current communication tools, keeping the public informed and including them in important community decisions.	11/22/2020 8:45 PM
28	Continue as is	11/22/2020 6:32 PM
29	because we are a small county, I believe there is good engagement	11/22/2020 4:19 PM
30	Maybe not be violent to people who didn't deserve it.	11/22/2020 3:51 PM
31	have more forums with the community and let them know what is going on, what the plans are, how many officers are working at one time, let people ask questions	11/22/2020 3:36 PM
32	More meet and greets	11/22/2020 3:23 PM
33	Have them stop being 'good ole biys'	11/22/2020 3:18 PM
34	We are a small close knit community. Our police are very engaged with the community, beginning early on with our school children. The only people who have issues with our police are the people who break the law.	11/22/2020 1:42 PM
35	Keep doing what they are doing and keep their presence shown this means a lot to our younger generation	11/22/2020 11:33 AM
36	don't know	11/22/2020 9:51 AM
37	I like to see officers on bicycles and on foot patrols this type of activity allows for community interaction and is beneficial for the community to realize the officers are human like everyone else. This type of activity fosters trust between the police and the community.	11/22/2020 9:40 AM
38	Meeting with community members in a public forum twice a year to listen and record community concerns and trends regarding common issues.	11/21/2020 8:00 PM
39	Huge tourist area, feel "locals" get preference	11/21/2020 8:27 AM
40	I think the Schuyler Sheriffs Dept. is very responsive and available to community concerns. If more engagement were deemed necessary, maybe a monthly coffee hour could be scheduled.	11/20/2020 6:39 PM
41	Transparency. Especially during COVID. More FB and media posts. Better access to contact them in non-urgent situations. The dispatchers seem uncaring and rude.	11/20/2020 5:15 AM
42	Hold community meetings, ask for input, etc.	11/19/2020 10:52 PM
43	Public visibility	11/19/2020 9:03 PM
44	Get rid of Sheriff, his son and half the dept. Bring in professionals and good leadership.	11/19/2020 4:12 PM
45	Something as simple as realizing "There has not been a complaint about racial profiling in Schuyler County in (over 20 years)" probably has more to do with the fact that there are so few people of color in the county than it has to do with the behavior of the police. I value them and think they do a great job, but I also think that the members of the department are representative of the current demographic majority and mind-set. I think the demographics of the county are changing and I wish there was more awareness and acceptance of that.	11/19/2020 3:20 PM
46	made to feel as though they are interested in it.	11/19/2020 1:29 PM
47	I am really satisfied with the service we receive in Schuyler County. I am not afraid to approach the sheriff or his deputies with a question or concern.	11/19/2020 12:32 PM

## Schuyler County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

48	.	11/19/2020 12:30 PM
49	.	11/19/2020 8:45 AM
50	quarterly town hall meetings, website Q&A. in 12 years living in Schuyler i've never seen a collaboration, Perhaps sports or other recreation.	11/18/2020 8:44 PM
51	More information about their work should be released to the public through traditional media (newspapers) and online media (Odessa File, Facebook). The Sheriff's Department does good things that very few people learn about. Sometimes on Facebook now. Haven't seen some things in our local newspapers (Star-Gazette, Corning Leader, Review & Express). Occasional community meetings when law enforcement simply answers questions would be beneficial, too. Clear up misunderstandings on why complaints (especially about drugs) don't seem to be heard. This community is too small to have animosity between the public and law enforcement. More publicity about personal involvements would be good, too. Did Sheriff Yessman cook spaghetti for the United Way dinner again this year? Whenever he does, the department should publicize that - and occurrences like it and by anyone in the department. Show real people trying to do a good job in a way that benefits ALL of us.	11/18/2020 6:08 PM
52	Get rid of the corrupt sheriff and his equally corrupt police staff and restart with better trained and uncorrupt police	11/18/2020 4:54 PM
53	Better options and opportunities for open communication. (Understand with covid this makes it more difficult)	11/18/2020 3:59 PM
54	None	11/18/2020 2:27 PM
55	Community policing	11/18/2020 11:32 AM
56	Non law enforcement keep their noises out of it . Law enforcement is not political nor should it be	11/18/2020 9:56 AM
57	Have meetings with the community	11/18/2020 9:42 AM
58	Providing information about Department activity on a quarterly basis	11/18/2020 8:01 AM
59	I believe that Schuyler County is engaged in the community. I feel safe in this county. I believe law enforcement is respected here.	11/18/2020 7:50 AM
60	It should be their job to actually listen to the real problems going on in the county and not what they want to do. It's unfortunate that the friends of some cops seem to get away with everything.	11/18/2020 7:36 AM
61	Fire Andrew Yessman who has an atrocious proofing record of violating civil rights and criminal activities including having sex while on duty in a police vehicle with a drunk girl... He also shot a young boy with a taser gun and had to pay \$60,000 in settlement and made the family sign in nondisclosure under duress and Under pressure of harassment... Twice arrested in the individual who owns a winery falsely and now is in court battling a 14 million Dollar lawsuit... Daddy needs to be fired for protecting his son who is a criminal ...Who protects drug dealers and criminal activities as a mafia unit... It's the worst sheriffs department in the state for civil rights and liberties...	11/18/2020 7:22 AM
62	i think it is a good idea	11/18/2020 5:31 AM
63	Nice if they waved back more when you wave at them in their patrol cars	11/18/2020 2:55 AM
64	Perform ride alongs so the community can see first hand what the police and Sheriff's Deputies have to handle.	11/17/2020 6:27 PM
65	great idea	11/17/2020 5:49 PM
66	I believe there is always room to further educate and expand our personal and cultural awareness. I am not sure of the best way to do this, perhaps holding community forums, outreach programs and sponsored diversity trainings.	11/17/2020 2:33 PM
67	Holding something like a town hall event on an annual or semi-annual basis to get direct input from residents and community partners.	11/17/2020 1:39 PM
68	I think they do a fantastic job in every interaction I have seen.	11/17/2020 1:33 PM
69	Continue to present yourselves in a professional manner and have a presence other than in	11/17/2020 1:29 PM

## Schuylers County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

crisis situations.

70	Put Sgt. Eberhardt in charge. He does this well.	11/17/2020 1:20 PM
71	Don't know	11/17/2020 1:14 PM
72	I do not have an idea at this moment, but probably something to do with community affairs, in plain clothes, so the community has a chance to know them in a different light.	11/17/2020 1:10 PM
73	I think they are doing a good job.	11/16/2020 2:29 PM
74	Training in different areas	11/15/2020 11:10 AM
75	Establishment of a community review board. This would apply for any police officer, county legislator or administrator, sheriff or deputy. There should be a separate organization where people can complain about local leadership and law enforcement outside of those organizations.	11/13/2020 2:07 PM
76	Hold seminars and Q&A's for the average citizen to attend that show and explain the hazards of being a police officer. A ride along program would also help the public see what an officer has to deal with on a daily basis.	11/13/2020 10:07 AM
77	Maybe have more public forums for people to be able to ask questions, similar to a Town Hall meeting.	11/13/2020 9:39 AM
78	At this time of COVID it hard to say	11/12/2020 10:12 PM
79	?	11/11/2020 12:17 PM
80	have public meetings to address these issues	11/11/2020 9:51 AM
81	Better communication what is happening in the county. Letting people know if there something going on. Wellness checks , going into local businesses knowing your community as well as community knowing them.	11/11/2020 7:36 AM
82	Let the public be made more aware of what's actually taking place around them	11/11/2020 6:40 AM
83	Only what I said in #11.	11/10/2020 9:07 PM
84	Meet and greets at different community functions.	11/10/2020 1:43 PM
85	Continuing With their community events helps community involvement I think.	11/10/2020 12:25 PM
86	More patrols so the officers can interact more	11/10/2020 9:55 AM
87	Idk	11/10/2020 8:31 AM
88	Information flow from non-existent to proactive. Publish arrests as other counties do, Crime deterrence can be great in a small community when people are exposed by name. Above all, stop being a subdivision of the race track and patrol all areas of the county equally.	11/10/2020 8:04 AM
89	Maybe a class where people could see how tough it is to be a police officer along with awareness in how things can go wrong fast.	11/10/2020 7:40 AM
90	Continued outreach with community events where people can meet officers outside of an emergency situation.	11/10/2020 7:14 AM
91	Getting out of office and patrol cars to actually talk to people	11/10/2020 7:00 AM
92	Recruit a more racially and politically diverse staff. Patrol on foot or bike in the villages. Insist that an officer's political bias never affects the way anyone in the community is treated, and always act with integrity, empathy, and professionalism. Enforce laws on tourists - don't just put up dui roadblocks when there aren't any tourists around, for example. If you're going to put one up in January you should also put one up in July. Create a diverse citizen advisory board to meet periodically to discuss issues facing both the community and the police dept. Be more active on social media with updates and info. Create a monthly sheriffs newsletter to tell the community what's been going on. .	11/10/2020 6:32 AM
93	More interaction with the community. Possibly info booth manned at special events..ie. Italian Festival, Nascar, Village Christmas etc...	11/10/2020 4:14 AM
94	More open house ideas like the cookout done this summer	11/10/2020 12:48 AM

## Schuylers County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

95	Foot patrol	11/10/2020 12:33 AM
96	More transparency. Advise community (esp. in rural areas) of recognition that they are open to reform including reallocation of funding to community programs better about to safely deal with certain 911 situations. Advise community of their efforts via mail and social media campaign. Acknowledge that policing was created to protect elite whites from BIPOC.	11/9/2020 11:51 PM
97	None	11/9/2020 11:37 PM
98	Show us more on what Your K-9 does with their partner. I think many would be interested.	11/9/2020 10:02 PM
99	More communication	11/9/2020 8:43 PM
100	Leave them alone. They do a damn fine job	11/9/2020 8:25 PM
101	I feel they are doing a great job now.	11/9/2020 8:23 PM
102	Increase staffing so that more time can be spent in the community.	11/9/2020 8:08 PM
103	i don't know what it would take to change things, people are afraid to speak out because they are afraid of repercussions from the sheriff The Good Ole Boy System	11/9/2020 8:08 PM
104	Bring back community watch programs	11/9/2020 6:55 PM
105	I would have to think about this one. I do know it is very important for the community and the police department to have a good connection	11/9/2020 4:47 PM
106	Seek input from community members on issues. I'd be happy to talk about autism's	11/9/2020 4:41 PM
107	Let us know what we can do to help you keep the peace. Maybe give us a sign for window for safe place if needed.	11/9/2020 4:40 PM
108	They need to be sufficiently staffed and funded to provide services that are proactive. If they are not funded properly, you cant expect them to have time to engage the public unless they have responded to a call for service.	11/9/2020 3:59 PM
109	I love seeing Sheriff Yessman at my sons school in the morning and i think that helps kids be less afraid as well as makes him very approachable as a parent.	11/9/2020 3:58 PM
110	No idea	11/9/2020 3:50 PM
111	I have almost no experience or interaction with the sheriff's department, so I don't know what is already being done.	11/9/2020 3:48 PM
112	No idea. I rarely come in contact with the PD.	11/9/2020 3:28 PM
113	More positive community involvement	11/9/2020 2:38 PM
114	Communication as far as helping them understand what it is a police/sheriff does and the way it's done.	11/9/2020 2:30 PM
115	Waste of time.	11/9/2020 2:29 PM
116	Quarterly meetings at fire halls in every township/ village. Representatives from Sheriff's department listens to complaints and shares statistics from every township. Also have foil forms available showing citizens how to use it	11/9/2020 2:23 PM
117	Meet and greet with the community and officers	11/9/2020 2:22 PM
118	Reach out to local nonprofits and ask how they can help. Fundraise, volunteer for local nonprofits, start a big brother/big sister program to support at risk youth. Start a youth center in Montour Falls.	11/9/2020 2:09 PM
119	More newsletters/community meetings.	11/9/2020 2:08 PM
120	Coffee with cops. Seeing them out and about the community. Maybe walking around,being seen outside of their vehicles. Seldom see a Sheriffs vehicle on our road.	11/9/2020 1:36 PM
121	More info	11/9/2020 1:29 PM
122	.	11/9/2020 1:23 PM
123	The Schuylers County Sheriff's Dept. does a great job already. It is the community that should	11/9/2020 1:22 PM

## Schuylers County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

reciprocate in showing their support for these essential men and women.

124	I think continuous improvement is always a good thing as Schuylers is evolving with more minorities visiting and becoming residents. Having an open mind, being knowledgeable about other cultures and customs, and being able to adjust personal biases is increasingly important. I have no brilliant ideas about how to improve the interface between the public and law enforcement. I do believe that law enforcement is so much more than what the public sees and perhaps that is a place to start - being transparent about the committees and groups where law enforcement is represented and their engagement. I think the public has a narrow view of law enforcement made worse by the current political situation and unfortunate national events. There is a lot of quiet good work going on that helps people with mental health challenges live in the community at a time when access to long term mental health care options have dwindled. The public needs to hear about this good work.	11/9/2020 1:14 PM
125	More educational meetings about local mental health issues and drug use. Also have access to drug rehabs and mental health facilities on their website.	11/9/2020 1:12 PM
126	Joint training sessions along with training on cooperative response	11/9/2020 12:58 PM
127	Partnerships with schools, local businesses and organizations and community outreach like giveaways or being present at festivals	11/9/2020 12:44 PM
128	Get them out of their cars and on foot during community events, engaging with people directly, instead of simply writing traffic tickets.	11/9/2020 12:41 PM
129	None	11/9/2020 12:28 PM
130	How about a police blotter? I already follow the facebook page. With daily or weekly reports about what types of incidents have been responded to and the outcomes, not only would the community feel more connected to what the Sheriff's office was up to, but citizens with questions or concerns could bring them up.	11/9/2020 12:25 PM
131	I think the sheriffs department should spend a little more time within the school district on educating children, as they are our future.	11/9/2020 12:20 PM
132	Either via local media, phone (for us old folks who aren't techy), email.	11/9/2020 12:15 PM
133	I think that having a law enforcement presence in a supportive (friendly) capacity at schools and public events is important as well as intentional efforts to get to know the whole community (outreach, social media postings, opportunities for community engagement and shared decision making). I would also like to see our local offices include funding for training on LGBTQ, mental health, youth engagement and other diversity and equity topics. Ideally the county and local townships would hire a person to oversee these efforts by reallocating funds to support long term investment in this area. I would also like to see offices thoroughly review budget practices to ensure that overtime is not regularly used for scheduled shifts so that officers have sufficient down time to unwind from the stresses of their positions.	11/9/2020 12:14 PM
134	Hosting events that allow for the community to provide direct feedback.	11/9/2020 12:11 PM
135	More drug arrests	11/9/2020 12:02 PM
136	More patrols	11/9/2020 11:57 AM
137	Web site is poor and confusing. Actually seeing a patrol car in the 2 areas of all townships would help feel safer	11/9/2020 11:47 AM
138	None, they do a Fine job	11/9/2020 11:38 AM
139	I think having community police academy days would be great. Having bike rodeos or a kids fingerprinting day. Letting people know what goes on in the department how it works and what it really means to be an officer. Having transparency about the number and types of calls you are receiving monthly and what kind of resolution is reached and easy access to that data. Also transparency about community complaints, follow up and resolution.	11/9/2020 11:33 AM
140	Hold monthly meetings with the public and let them ask questions	11/9/2020 11:31 AM
141	Don't break the law	11/9/2020 11:27 AM
142	More interactive/educational events at all townships to interact with all community members instead of just in WG.	11/9/2020 11:24 AM

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143	More interaction with the community is always a good thing, such as handing out popsicles and other events.	11/9/2020 11:22 AM
144	more visibility, both in person and on line.	11/9/2020 11:20 AM
145	I feel that the law abiding community and our Sheriff's Dept. interact well together.	11/9/2020 11:14 AM
146	More community involvement, like more demonstrations of things they do at local fire department or public places	11/9/2020 11:12 AM
147	Our sheriff office does a remarkable job.	11/9/2020 11:04 AM
148	Not sure on this one.	11/9/2020 11:03 AM

**Q14 What resources do you think are needed to address systemic challenges and inequities within the criminal justice system in Schuyler County?**

Answered: 139 Skipped: 41

## Schuyler County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Better mental health resources and education on drugs and overdoses. Have had several young people with suicides in the last couple of years and overdoses in our area. Not knowledgeable enough about inequities in the criminal justice system to answer intelligently.	12/4/2020 8:01 PM
2	More diverse hiring and training	12/2/2020 2:06 PM
3	I am not qualified to answer exactly what resources are needed but I do believe that Schuyler County police make a valiant effort to do everything they are allowed to do by law to help Schuyler County be safe. I firmly know firsthand from a situation in Montour Falls that has been recurring for months that the police's hands are tied with the new laws regarding arrests and unfortunately, many residents are starting to blame police when in the beginning they understood the new laws and supported them. This type of situation is going to continue to put a rift between the police and residents and it is not the fault of the police. I continue to support and verbalize how lucky we are to have our police in our county, but I am only one voice. I feel sorry for the police and would be happy to help advocate for them if I was informed of where and how I could do that to show them my support.	12/2/2020 11:21 AM
4	I don't think repeat offenders should be released.	12/1/2020 2:41 PM
5	Our department is too short staffed and under budgeted.	11/30/2020 4:07 PM
6	None, as I said I think our department is doing a great job, and there is not a racial problem or any cultural problems.	11/30/2020 3:41 PM
7	Training	11/30/2020 12:23 PM
8	Increased understanding of the history of inequities and thier impact on people of color/LGBTQ and other historically oppressed groups.. Hearing and understanding the negative interactions residents have had with law enforcement, both within the community and outside. Even if people havent had a negative experience with YOUR office, there is still an impact on how they may interact with you.	11/27/2020 6:57 PM
9	More state funding.	11/26/2020 12:05 PM
10	no idea	11/25/2020 11:06 AM
11	more funding for police, not defunding	11/24/2020 7:58 PM
12	unsure	11/24/2020 4:40 PM
13	See above	11/24/2020 2:30 PM
14	Do not know of any systemic challenges and inequities is Sherriff's office and deputies.	11/24/2020 1:57 PM
15	Get rid of the good ol boys club	11/24/2020 1:47 PM
16	I am not well versed in the area of systemic challenges and inequities within the Sheriff's Dept. so am unable to adequately address this. I would say that trying to learn about and understand what it means to live a life of being disenfranchised could generate a whole new approach to how certain members of the community are regarded.	11/23/2020 10:38 PM
17	There's an old boys club. Friends and older folks that "know" people don't get tickets when pulled over. I can totally understand not giving your buddy a ticket, but that kind of stuff also gets around. it doesn't engender positive feelings. There's also a pretty deep systemic undercurrent of racism. When I moved to town in the late 2000s, our real estate agent was pretty explicit about how they were very successful in keeping the blacks out until only recently. I've felt the racism myself, being mistaken for a delivery driver for a local 'ethnic place'. We probably need more outreach to understand how these things are happening and the people they're affecting. This survey is a good start.	11/23/2020 4:33 PM
18	More staff, investigators and County Attorney's	11/23/2020 4:03 PM
19	I think that our community needs to have a better understanding as to what is happening in our country. Everyone thinks it couldn't happen here, and that it's a problem for another place. I think having a partnership with the Southern Tier Library to offer books for borrowing about the subject. Maybe a book club for the sheriff's office and the community. Or maybe a movie watching club...where people watch the same movie and then come together and talk about it (Movies like Just Mercy, or a documentary).	11/23/2020 3:30 PM

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20	If you don't want to do the time, then don't do the crime. If I'm expected to follow the rules/laws and would suffer the consequences of poor choices, so should everyone else. Revoke Bail Reform!	11/23/2020 1:54 PM
21	None	11/23/2020 12:29 PM
22	An independent civilian review must be performed, by those not associated with the criminal justice system (such as a civilian review panel with appropriate membership). I don't know how well these issues have been defined. Is there reporting and metrics with which this problem can be defined and assessed? This problem can't be addressed if there is no basis for understanding the problem.	11/23/2020 11:43 AM
23	I do not know	11/23/2020 10:54 AM
24	NYS should give money to Sheriff Yessman so he can hire more officers.	11/23/2020 8:02 AM
25	As always money and training to implement any change,	11/23/2020 6:58 AM
26	More equity between the Public Defender funding and the D.A. funding.	11/23/2020 6:40 AM
27	Current training with diversity and inclusion experts	11/22/2020 8:45 PM
28	Not needed	11/22/2020 6:32 PM
29	more training	11/22/2020 4:19 PM
30	More help for people needing it.	11/22/2020 3:51 PM
31	training and listen to the residents	11/22/2020 3:36 PM
32	Have no idea	11/22/2020 3:23 PM
33	More \$\$ to public defenders	11/22/2020 3:18 PM
34	I think a few more Officers would be beneficial to our Sheriff's Dept. I know quite often Officers can be overworked and understaffed.	11/22/2020 1:42 PM
35	citizen control board	11/22/2020 9:51 AM
36	I'm not sure	11/22/2020 9:40 AM
37	Continued education regarding social and cultural shifts affecting marginal and underserved communities, i.e., poor, people of color, drug activity affecting rural communities nationwide.	11/21/2020 8:00 PM
38	How about actually let the owner of the vehicle in. An accident have a say in where and who gets their service for a tow. Felt like my car was stolen and held for ransom my Wolfe's garage, even after they were told to take it to another shop at the scene.	11/21/2020 8:27 AM
39	It is important that our law enforcement receives proper funding to continue to prevent the distribution of heroine and methamphetamine in our county, and to help victims of those drugs break the cycle of addiction.	11/20/2020 6:39 PM
40	Treat everyone the same. Too many people get reduced sentences for crimes (such as child abuse). Mental health needs to play a bigger part.	11/20/2020 5:15 AM
41	I don't know.	11/19/2020 10:52 PM
42	I believe that this is a perceived inequities	11/19/2020 9:03 PM
43	Impartial oversight by justice system outside of Schuyler County. Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely...and those in a small place like Schuyler County can get too powerful and get away with injustice.	11/19/2020 7:37 PM
44	The courts are fine. The Sheriff's dept needs a good solid leader and direction.	11/19/2020 4:12 PM
45	I think there should be education. Take bail reform: I think people should understand that bail isn't intended to keep poor people in jail. The purpose is to ensure that people show up for court. Rather than gripe because people are released without bail, why not focus on making changes that allow judges more latitude to deny bail? I think people have opinions about such things, but don't know the reasoning behind such decisions. Open, honest communication is essential.	11/19/2020 3:20 PM

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46	Same attention to all of our areas and not just their areas of interest.	11/19/2020 1:29 PM
47	See my response to question #13.	11/19/2020 12:32 PM
48	Everyone needs to chill with this inequity bullshit... be respectful to the police and courts and they mirror respect back	11/19/2020 12:30 PM
49	more experience and education.	11/19/2020 8:45 AM
50	showing up for my first jury duty, calling the sheriffs department to report trees and power lines down in my road, having to deal with repeat trespassers, they never seem to give a shit and are very rude. I have even been told "WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO ABOUT IT" when a Not sure if it was a village or county DOT truck backed into my mailbox and broke it off at ground level after setting up a road closed signs. I simply asked the officer on the phone how to identify the truck as I could not see the decal on the door and could only identify the truck by its size and color. he was very rude. Every Sheriff I have encountered in 12 years living here has a huge ego and unwillingness to be kind or polite when treated politely. Compassion training should be required.. Start at the top with Yessman ! loose the power ego.	11/18/2020 8:44 PM
51	Without knowing if there ARE challenges and inequities, I would hope that trainings are effective. And conversations/trainings with professionals in education, mental health, social services, medical services.	11/18/2020 6:08 PM
52	A better checks and balances unit to keep th and all police entities from becoming corrupt.	11/18/2020 4:54 PM
53	Don't know how to answer this question	11/18/2020 3:59 PM
54	None	11/18/2020 2:27 PM
55	Outside, u biased investigations to the ongoing issues that are routinely covered up to the public by a certain few officers who believe they are exempt from policy and procedure of the law .	11/18/2020 11:32 AM
56	None	11/18/2020 9:56 AM
57	One challenge is the Bail Reform Program. I believe criminal behavior is rewarded when arrested but then let go right away.	11/18/2020 7:50 AM
58	I don't see any systemic problems in the county	11/18/2020 7:36 AM
59	A state takeover and complete reeducation an overhaul Of the whole department and a merger with the Walkens Glenn Police Department which is a redundancy in coverage and an expense to taxpayers... They need to be trained about ethnic minorities both religious and racial...	11/18/2020 7:22 AM
60	I'm not aware of any systemic issues	11/18/2020 2:55 AM
61	Getting the drugs off the street.	11/17/2020 6:27 PM
62	get rid of bail reform	11/17/2020 5:49 PM
63	Perhaps funding for more increased diversity training. I think as police interact with the community on a personal level, they may receive exposure and diversity of the community make up in that way. Mabey access to cultural diverse educational courses, college or online courses that cover this topic. Especially with our diverse tourist population in the summer months.	11/17/2020 2:33 PM
64	I do not feel that there are racial/cultural inequities within the Schuyler County Sheriff's Department or within Schuyler County at large.	11/17/2020 1:39 PM
65	N/A	11/17/2020 1:33 PM
66	The deputies & Sheriff's Office as a whole need to have confidence in the laws and judicial system. They need to know that their efforts in our communities will not be without backing. Bail reform as a whole does not protect us, the general law upstanding persons.	11/17/2020 1:29 PM
67	The County requires additional, unrestricted grant funding from the State, to provide the services necessitated by Raise the Age, Families First and bail/criminal reform initiatives. Probation requires additional funding to properly supervise and monitor probationers and individuals on pre-trial supervision. And, DSS and mental health require additional funding to provide more community engagement services. The County requires additional funding for employment counseling, support and job development services. Law enforcement requires	11/17/2020 1:20 PM

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additional officers to patrol and monitor communities, due to the increased number of individuals released pre-trial or post-conviction. Once all of that is put in place, there will be a need for at least that much money to continue the services and pay the additional employees needed to do the work.

68	Don't know	11/17/2020 1:14 PM
69	More training.... In order to keep everyone in the know of the most recent protocols and procedures, we all need to be aware of what is going on. There is nothing wrong with learning new and better ways to benefit everyone in the community.	11/17/2020 1:10 PM
70	a larger budget	11/16/2020 2:29 PM
71	Not sure	11/15/2020 11:10 AM
72	Training and funding. "Systemic racism" is not an issue in Schuyler County. Stop wasting tax payer dollars on trying to change a system that is working. If people want to get involved separately on their own time to establish and oversight board, let them. The county doesn't need to be spending already stretched dollars to fix a system that isn't broken.	11/13/2020 2:07 PM
73	How about NYS passing laws that put criminals behind bars instead of letting them back onto the street to find more victims.	11/13/2020 10:07 AM
74	Regular training done annually for anyone, not just those new to a position.	11/13/2020 9:39 AM
75	Don't know	11/12/2020 10:12 PM
76	Need better free lawyers	11/11/2020 12:17 PM
77	Bias/racial/gender training	11/11/2020 9:51 AM
78	I think we need one law enforcement in the county, I think our resources could be better spent that way. We need get more involved with people and kids to prevent drug addiction. more community involvement	11/11/2020 7:36 AM
79	I'd rather answer personally	11/11/2020 6:40 AM
80	Don't know	11/10/2020 9:07 PM
81	N/A	11/10/2020 1:43 PM
82	Continuing education for all staff.	11/10/2020 12:25 PM
83	none	11/10/2020 9:55 AM
84	None	11/10/2020 8:31 AM
85	Information flow, more officers with better education requirements for entry. We have too many wannabees with a HS or Community College education only. That engenders the High School bully a way to continue with authority. Get rid of the Watkins dept as it is all about making ticket money for the village and sets a very bad example when one sees patrol officers cruising Franklin St on duty and playing with their smart phones while driving.	11/10/2020 8:04 AM
86	Bring in small groups to have a frank discussion on what is believed to be and what is fact in our area. From all levels of our community.	11/10/2020 7:40 AM
87	Better support of the department through emergency services- mental health professionals, emergency medical professionals, etc.	11/10/2020 7:14 AM
88	Better hiring practices	11/10/2020 7:00 AM
89	More mental health and addiction resources instead of police response. You can't arrest a mental health crisis away.	11/10/2020 6:32 AM
90	I do not know	11/10/2020 4:14 AM
91	Training	11/10/2020 12:48 AM
92	What inequalities	11/10/2020 12:33 AM
93	More BIPOC in social services, teaching positions to start. Make Schuyler more safe, therefore appealing to BIPOC. Trainings SMS presentations ton community by POC. Vet	11/9/2020 11:51 PM

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	positions for implicit bias.	
94	None	11/9/2020 11:37 PM
95	No clue	11/9/2020 10:02 PM
96	I think fewer idiots with zero experience in these situations is needed	11/9/2020 8:25 PM
97	Stop reporting a person's race all together. Just call people, people and don't separate by race or gender.	11/9/2020 8:23 PM
98	None. I don't see any issues.	11/9/2020 8:08 PM
99	even if charges are filed it is then up to the DA who most of the time dismisses them because they aren't high profile enough	11/9/2020 8:08 PM
100	Not sure	11/9/2020 4:47 PM
101	Training & accountability	11/9/2020 4:41 PM
102	Have to be solved within.	11/9/2020 4:40 PM
103	I dont think the problem of inequity is with the police. I feel that it is on the part of the defense. I think if public defenders were funded better they could represent thier clients to the same level as private attorneys.	11/9/2020 3:59 PM
104	We all could use more training in any of our jobs so ongoing training is always helpful.	11/9/2020 3:58 PM
105	No idea	11/9/2020 3:50 PM
106	Education, sensitivity training and serious consequences to officers who abuse their power.	11/9/2020 3:48 PM
107	Education	11/9/2020 2:48 PM
108	Unsure	11/9/2020 2:38 PM
109	None. I believe the police/sheriffs dept and the District Attorney treat everyone equally!	11/9/2020 2:30 PM
110	This is not something that is needed.	11/9/2020 2:29 PM
111	I do not think that we have that problem in Schuyler. I think if anyone feels that they didn't get the officers full attention need to realize that Schuyler only has 2 officers for 320 plus square miles. That officer usually has multiple complaints to handle. If this is a concern I think increasing every shift from 2 officers to 3 you will allow each officer to focus more time on a complaint and complete the important follow ups.	11/9/2020 2:23 PM
112	Judges need to do everything in their power to lock up criminals due to the limitations with bail reform	11/9/2020 2:22 PM
113	A youth center within villages... a place to go for teens instead of them roaming the streets. Use this space to educate youth so they don't end up as delinquents or criminals. A connection with all demographics is key to getting support. Good luck in your new endeavors!	11/9/2020 2:09 PM
114	I honestly don't have any idea.	11/9/2020 1:36 PM
115	Money	11/9/2020 1:29 PM
116	.	11/9/2020 1:23 PM
117	These challenges don't exist and I find it offensive to suggest so. Our officers need support and criminals deserve justice to be brought upon them. If you break the law, no matter your color, you are guilty and should face justice under the law.	11/9/2020 1:22 PM
118	Let's face it, if you grew up in Schuyler County you are surrounded by white Christians. Efforts must be made to broaden the world view and break through stereotypes. Oftentimes you don't know that you hold bias or stereotypes (you don't know what you don't know). Systems need to be open and embrace change as change is the only constant. I think having someone outside of the system looking in can see things people within the system cannot see. I don't know if there are systemic difficulties within local law enforcement. I have found outside feedback to be informative and helpful and therefore think that might be a good place to start an ongoing evaluation process.	11/9/2020 1:14 PM

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119	Frequent training and retraining for law enforcement and appropriate pay to attract critical personnel.	11/9/2020 12:58 PM
120	None, I don't believe it's a problem here at all.	11/9/2020 12:41 PM
121	Training	11/9/2020 12:28 PM
122	I have almost zero knowledge of that criminal justice system.	11/9/2020 12:25 PM
123	Education	11/9/2020 12:20 PM
124	I am not qualified to know the answer.	11/9/2020 12:15 PM
125	A full time community liaison to address DEAI concepts would be excellent. This could help ensure that investment efforts don't fall apart due to lack of funding or personnel.	11/9/2020 12:14 PM
126	I think all you can really do is continue to educate.	11/9/2020 12:11 PM
127	More tactical equipment	11/9/2020 12:02 PM
128	Repealing the safe act would make a great deal of difference by keeping criminals off the streets	11/9/2020 11:57 AM
129	During covid this is difficult. But knowing your individual officers as people rather than crime fighters would help.	11/9/2020 11:47 AM
130	Really? This is a stupid question. Systemic, Inequities. Maybe the folks claiming these should take some responsibility for their lives. The Police Officers and Sheriff Deputies are doing a Fine job.	11/9/2020 11:38 AM
131	This is where the state now needs to give communities the power and support necessary to enact the plans they are making us come up with. Training, training, training in a broad spectrum of areas and just speaking with and listening to community members and what they are saying from every side.	11/9/2020 11:33 AM
132	More officers	11/9/2020 11:31 AM
133	Not a problem in Schuyler county	11/9/2020 11:27 AM
134	NYS to get rid of bail reform. Schuyler County is doing well; hard to address something that the state doesn't care about, it's officers and the law abiding citizens.	11/9/2020 11:24 AM
135	None	11/9/2020 11:22 AM
136	unsure	11/9/2020 11:20 AM
137	Get rid of bail reform so those of us who do follow the law don't get to continually suffer from the actions of those who don't.	11/9/2020 11:14 AM
138	I have never seen or heard of any problems regarding the above	11/9/2020 11:04 AM
139	More access to affordable legal aid when you don't qualify for free legal services.	11/9/2020 11:03 AM

### Q15 Do you have any additional comments?

Answered: 118 Skipped: 62

## Schuyler County Community Survey on Public Safety and Law Enforcement

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I would like to see more information on your dog officer so people know such a person exists. She was very helpful providing me with guidance for our shop. Dogs can be a problem and it bothers me that a dog off leash can't be automatically fined ( one killed my cat) and a neighbor who complained years ago was told that nothing could be done until the dog bit someone.	12/4/2020 8:01 PM
2	No	12/2/2020 2:06 PM
3	I was arrested 12 years ago by Schuyler County police and I should have been. I was treated by every one of them I came into contact with respect and dignity. However, if I were them, I probably would not have treated me very well. That arrest changed my life and whenever I discuss the circumstances with people, I always credit the police for starting the process of saving my life. I am a productive member of society now, willing to share my story with a person or persons needing to hear that they too can recover from a bad situation. I have never been able to thank any of the officers who helped me personally, so I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the police officers and law enforcement in Schuyler County for everything you do to keep us safe and help us when needed. For this individual, your impact will never be forgotten and I will continue to do what I can to support you. God Bless you All!!	12/2/2020 11:21 AM
4	n/a	12/1/2020 2:41 PM
5	The Schuyler County Sheriff's department is comprised of very dedicated, hard-working men and women. Many work hours of overtime, even part-time employees forego their social security benefits by working over their limits to help cover the shortages. In addition, our department has suffered devastating personal loses not only within the department itself but in our very close knit community as well. These fine men and women have handled these and many other situations with the utmost professionalism, grace and dignity and deserve to be treated with the respect they deserve.	11/30/2020 4:07 PM
6	I am proud to be a Schuyler County Member and Proud of the men and women in the department from dispatch to Sheriff Yessman!!! I would like to thank them for all they do, and have done!	11/30/2020 3:41 PM
7	While it's been made clear that this survey is being required, I do hope it is seen as an opportunity. There are families of color in this community who have had great interactions with a good number of officers here, but not necessarily all of them. And a majority of the negative interactions take place when they are off duty. It's a small community, so the negativity is easily "well known", but theres a feeling that noone truly cares. With all if the different cultures and people that come into our community and spend thier money here, I think having a department that is knowledgeable and goes above and beyond to make all people they come in contact with feel safe, both on and off the clock, can be nothing but it beneficial. I also think normalizing mental health care and making it a priority for all LEO'S has to be at the forefront of thier health and wellness.	11/27/2020 6:57 PM
8	I appreciate and strongly support our Sheriff and the department.	11/26/2020 12:05 PM
9	stop doing seat belt checks in the middle of the road! they can perform the same task at a red light and not interrupt normal traffic	11/25/2020 11:06 AM
10	no	11/24/2020 4:40 PM
11	As a whole we have had some good interactions with the department - basically it depended upon the officer we were dealing with. However, we have had several occassions to be treated differently and unjustly because of who we weren't.	11/24/2020 2:30 PM
12	This seems pretty strange to be doing this in our small town and county, where there is no history of tension with officers that I know of.	11/24/2020 1:57 PM
13	My personal experience with the Sheriff's Dept. has been mostly positive. Our Sheriff is approachable, helpful and invested in his work and his dept. The majority of the deputies strive to do a good job and are very responsive.	11/23/2020 10:38 PM
14	This is a good first step in reaching out, but will need followup to continue building bridges.	11/23/2020 4:33 PM
15	no	11/23/2020 4:03 PM
16	I'd better just keep them to myself!	11/23/2020 1:54 PM

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17	This mandated review from the state should be viewed as an opportunity, not a burden. Law enforcement should welcome the opportunity to improve. It should also be view by all as an opportunity to improve police/community relations and the setting of priorities. This should NOT be a perfunctory "check the box" exercise to just fulfill the state requirement and then forget about it. The issues raised here are important and a GROWING concern. Schuyler County residents and visitors are becoming increasingly diverse - racially, politically, economically, socially. Government and law enforcement must serve all.	11/23/2020 11:43 AM
18	I do not.	11/23/2020 10:54 AM
19	Schuyler County is a safe place to live. This is due to our Sheriffs department, NYSP, and our DA's office.	11/23/2020 8:02 AM
20	Hats off to our men and women of the Schuyler County Sheriff's Department. Keep up the good work for keeping EVERYONE safe!!	11/23/2020 6:58 AM
21	No	11/22/2020 8:45 PM
22	Sheriffs dept. and DA are excellent!	11/22/2020 6:32 PM
23	No.	11/22/2020 3:51 PM
24	n/a	11/22/2020 3:36 PM
25	No	11/22/2020 3:23 PM
26	No	11/22/2020 3:18 PM
27	I feel that the racial questions were misleading. We are a small rural county with a small population of African Americans and Undocumented Immigrants. I have seen the Schuyler County Sheriff's Dept. treat everyone with the utmost respect.	11/22/2020 1:42 PM
28	cops need to be less arrogant	11/22/2020 9:51 AM
29	I think that overall the Schuyler county Sheriff's Department does a good job here in the county but there is always room for improvement. I would like to see more training for these guys and gals so they will be better able do determine the best response for each unique situation.	11/22/2020 9:40 AM
30	More funding to our local police force put toward personnel and resources. Upgrade digital networks that allow insight into criminal activity commonly affecting rural communities nationwide.	11/21/2020 8:00 PM
31	Listen to the public. I had a driver I'm in an accident. The garage used seemed in kahootz with the deputy. They took my car, held it, charged for storage and moving it to the shop I originally asked it be taken to. The deputy asked my driver where it was to be taken and she told them Penn Yan, yet it ended up in Odessa. The shop charge was \$660 which includes \$45 a day for 3 days of storage just to take it to the shop in penn Yan anyway. Deputies should not let a vehicle be hauled away until they verify it is not being stolen and held for ransom. An accident is a traumatic experience as it is. Then you have to chase down your vehicle? That's a racket if you ask me.	11/21/2020 8:27 AM
32	Thank you to the diligent, professional members of our county sheriff department.	11/20/2020 6:39 PM
33	The Sheriff and Deputies are good guys - but they need additional training on transparency, community communication and approachability. A few need to drop the attitude of superiority.	11/20/2020 5:15 AM
34	We live way outside of Watkins Glen and never see a car on our road. I can't even remember the last time I saw a patrol car out here. Would be nice to know they are around.	11/19/2020 10:52 PM
35	One should not be treated like a criminal when calling the Sheriff's by their demanding a date of birth when you are reporting an incident you have nothing to do with. This has happened to me at least half a dozen times. I'm made to feel like a criminal in the way they talk to me when reporting a fight, loose animal, or anything.	11/19/2020 4:12 PM
36	I thank you for all you do	11/19/2020 3:20 PM
37	See my response to question #13.	11/19/2020 12:32 PM
38	The sheriff's department in schuyler county has earned my respect through the way they have treated me. The same cannot be said of the new York state police. I think all police across the country need more paid training time. Also I think our community has a lack of respect for our	11/19/2020 12:30 PM

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police, and that needs to change. I am a blue collar pot smoking 35 year old, if that helps define my demographic

39	.	11/19/2020 8:45 AM
40	Lets make 2021 a better year for everyone in our community. start treating people with respect, You are the first to point out "Not all Police are bad" or "Thats in NYC not in my County" well not all people who reach out to local law enforcement are bad either.. Stop and think about that..! learn the words "How May I Help You" Good Luck in 2021	11/18/2020 8:44 PM
41	This review is GOOD!	11/18/2020 6:08 PM
42	No	11/18/2020 3:59 PM
43	Find something to do. Quit harrasing people.	11/18/2020 2:27 PM
44	Look into Yessman further . He's a crook.	11/18/2020 11:32 AM
45	Leave things alone	11/18/2020 9:56 AM
46	Just know we have your back And the only ones that need to be defended Are the dam democrats	11/18/2020 9:42 AM
47	Drinking and driving is a huge issue in the department	11/18/2020 7:36 AM
48	Currently they have a 14 million Dollar lawsuit civil rights against false arrest and imprisonment that is undeniably provable through video surveillance camera... A manufactured police Report was proven to be false Andrew Yessman will be found guilty and his father the sheriff will be the most and is the most disgrace despicable person in the county... They are operating under an actual mafia disenfranchising the first and fourth amendment rights of its citizens on a regular basis...	11/18/2020 7:22 AM
49	i think that they are doing a good job with what they have to work with	11/18/2020 5:31 AM
50	I wish the Sheriff would take over the Village of Watkins Glen Police department. The sheriff department is better trained.	11/18/2020 2:55 AM
51	No	11/17/2020 6:27 PM
52	no	11/17/2020 3:20 PM
53	I think the Schuyler County Sheriffs Office is doing an outstanding job when it comes to community interactions, community policing and treating people fairly and with respect, regardless of their culture or race. I have never experienced anything to the contrary, and I have the utmost confidence in our Sheriffs Office that they treat everyone as equals within the eyes of the law.	11/17/2020 2:33 PM
54	I think the Schuyler County Sheriff's Department is comprised of caring individuals who are truly dedicated to protecting and serving their community.	11/17/2020 1:39 PM
55	no	11/17/2020 1:33 PM
56	Great job by our Sheriff's Department who has to deal with some of the toughest situations.....and without much gratitude by our communities.	11/17/2020 1:29 PM
57	This survey was a good idea. I hope that the State considers the burdens it has placed on our tiny, impoverished county. And, I hope that the State does what it has to do to allow us to ensure everyone in the County is safe and properly cared for.	11/17/2020 1:20 PM
58	No	11/17/2020 1:14 PM
59	Not at this time.	11/17/2020 1:10 PM
60	No	11/16/2020 2:29 PM
61	Keep up the good work and protection to your ability to do so..	11/15/2020 11:10 AM
62	Instead of trying to "solve" the police department, how about we work on saving businesses and combatting the govt overreach coming out of Albany. He's calling for our sheriff's to shut down private gatherings of 10 people. This is obscene and has no constitutional merits. We need our local sheriff and county leadership to stand up for our rights.	11/13/2020 2:07 PM

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63	No	11/13/2020 10:07 AM
64	No	11/12/2020 10:12 PM
65	Not at this time	11/11/2020 6:40 AM
66	No	11/10/2020 9:07 PM
67	N/A	11/10/2020 1:43 PM
68	We are in good hands	11/10/2020 9:55 AM
69	No	11/10/2020 8:31 AM
70	not at this time	11/10/2020 8:04 AM
71	Panel from farmers, business, homeless, the seniors, and school students to work on issues that are on their minds. Racial to gender issues for honest talks with a mediators. Ask the question that need to be addressed but no one wants to ask because it may hurt some feelings. Without those answers mo one moves forward we stay in the dark.	11/10/2020 7:40 AM
72	No	11/10/2020 7:14 AM
73	Nurses and aides are not allowed to use restraint or force and deal with people who have mental and emotional problems—the police should use that model. Focus should be on response and investigation	11/10/2020 5:28 AM
74	Any interactions I have had with village or the sherriff dept. Has been positive. Thanks for your service to the county!	11/10/2020 4:14 AM
75	No I think you all do a great job and am proud to live in this area	11/10/2020 12:48 AM
76	No	11/10/2020 12:33 AM
77	No	11/9/2020 11:37 PM
78	No. Our local Departments, do a Great Job.. God Bless.	11/9/2020 10:02 PM
79	GET A REAL JOB!!!!	11/9/2020 8:25 PM
80	Not at this time	11/9/2020 8:23 PM
81	I'm proud of the department. Keep up the good work.	11/9/2020 8:08 PM
82	I think that there are certain people in this town that get away with things because they are friends with certain people in the sheriff's dept so there are illegal actions being preformed that get ignored	11/9/2020 8:08 PM
83	No	11/9/2020 4:47 PM
84	No	11/9/2020 4:41 PM
85	Stay safe especially on calls with trouble in homes or on streets,	11/9/2020 4:40 PM
86	I have no problem funding additional officers, more training and updated equipment to combat the problems that we have in our county.	11/9/2020 3:59 PM
87	N/A	11/9/2020 3:50 PM
88	Many of my responses are "I don't know" because I live in a rural part of the county and have not had much interaction with the local sheriff's or police department.	11/9/2020 3:48 PM
89	No	11/9/2020 2:38 PM
90	Not at this time.	11/9/2020 2:30 PM
91	Let the cops do their jobs and shut up.	11/9/2020 2:29 PM
92	I have heard Schuyler Deputies state they need more training. Could they possibly team with other counties like Steuben that train in house?	11/9/2020 2:23 PM
93	Deputies and police should be sent to any available trainings as much as time allows for the success in proper policing / keeping up to date with new ways criminals work	11/9/2020 2:22 PM

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94	Please reach out to local nonprofits... humane societies, catholic charities, libraries. They are always looking for help. Please encourage compassion and education to not only officers but the staff as well. Don't start every encounter with suspicion.	11/9/2020 2:09 PM
95	No	11/9/2020 1:36 PM
96	No	11/9/2020 1:29 PM
97	.	11/9/2020 1:23 PM
98	I would like to see the budget increased for our law enforcement as well as their individual pay. There is simply no reason that they should perform their duty for hardly more than I get paid. Also I would like to see educational courses brought in for our officers like: <a href="https://www.understandingthethreat.com/utt-training/">https://www.understandingthethreat.com/utt-training/</a>	11/9/2020 1:22 PM
99	My interactions with the Sheriffs Department have been exemplary and on only one occasion was I ever made aware of anything less than that. On one occasion there was an event that needed attention and The Sheriff immediately addressed the situation. That response assured me that we have a healthy system locally.	11/9/2020 1:14 PM
100	No	11/9/2020 12:41 PM
101	No	11/9/2020 12:28 PM
102	I have had two interactions with SCSD. A noise complaint, in which I never even spoke to the responding Deputy, and a vandalism complaint in which the Deputy went above and beyond investigating the situation and keeping me posted. So I don't know yet whether the first case or the second is representative of the Office in whole.	11/9/2020 12:25 PM
103	Keeping sheriffs departments funded should and always be a priority in every community.	11/9/2020 12:20 PM
104	I have faith in our county sheriff's dept. They seem to do a very good job.	11/9/2020 12:15 PM
105	It would be helpful if there was publicity regarding any additional opportunities for the community to engage in discussions on these topics. I don't have any negative experiences with law enforcement however I know that there is a lot of discourse right now and I would like to see some good open discussion and decision making to help ensure our community avoids being the next national headline.	11/9/2020 12:14 PM
106	Keep up the good work!	11/9/2020 12:11 PM
107	Keep up the great work	11/9/2020 12:02 PM
108	Not at this time	11/9/2020 11:57 AM
109	No	11/9/2020 11:47 AM
110	No	11/9/2020 11:38 AM
111	Thank you! I look forward to continuing this discussion.	11/9/2020 11:33 AM
112	The Schuyler County Sheriff's Office is wonderful and does a great job serving our community! Thank you for everything you do for us and god bless.	11/9/2020 11:31 AM
113	Keep up the good work	11/9/2020 11:27 AM
114	Keep up the hard work to ensure everyone goes home	11/9/2020 11:24 AM
115	No	11/9/2020 11:22 AM
116	n/a	11/9/2020 11:20 AM
117	NYS and Cuomo suck!	11/9/2020 11:14 AM
118	As a resident of Schuyler county I am proud of our sheriffs office	11/9/2020 11:04 AM