I truly believe the Henderson County Sheriff's Office is, hands down, one of the very best law enforcement agencies around. When we pause to look at the enormous accomplishments of this agency over the past five years, it is truly a staggering feat, and one that I take immense pride in when I see how far we've come and the heart with which our personnel serve.

When I first took office, in March of 2012, it was obvious that two of the biggest issues affecting morale, job performance, and professionalism, were a lack of accountability and leadership training. The agency had no shortage of good people, but it lacked a vision for the future, and a true commitment to established values and professional leadership.

As part of our strategic plan, we developed leadership training at every supervisory level. I am proud to announce we are well underway in offering the Henderson County Sheriff's Office inaugural, in-house leadership academy for all Sergeants, followed by the Corporal leadership academy in the month of February. The blocks of instruction are taught by our own Command Team instructors with content specific to our agency, our policies and our values and vision. All the topics covered during the course ultimately point back to the
seven values that provide the foundation for what we do: Commitment, Courage, Loyalty, Honor, Wisdom, Sacrifice and Integrity.

One point that I shared with our supervisors during class was that each person sitting in that training room will one day be remembered as someone's first Sergeant. Will they be remembered as the best or the worst? Will they be remembered as having inspired hope? Were they a servant leader and a mentor who helped their team grow? It is my hope that we continue to provide our deputies, detention officers, telecommunicators and civilian staff with the tools and resources they need to be great leaders; that the leaders they become will surpass even the level of potential I see inside them.

Leadership training is one of the many strategies we have put into place to achieve our goals of utilizing our financial and human resources fairly and responsibly as we lower crime and provide high quality service to our citizens. We have worked hard to align this agency on an innovative and worthwhile course. Our aims may have seemed ambitious back in 2012, but we hit the ground running and are making great strides. The foundation we are building will set up HCSO to be a premiere agency for years to come.

I am dedicated to directing time and resources to the care and education of our employees. They are our most valuable resource, and when they are taken care of and well-equipped, we can better serve the community. This is part of the commitment I made to you as your Sheriff when I took my oath. I am proud to stand alongside the men and women of the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office as we continue on this journey together.

Sheriff Charles S. McDonald

Upcoming Events

County Holiday - Administrative Office Closed (1/15)

The administrative offices of the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office will be closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, January 15, 2018 in accordance with the county holiday.
Henderson County Tax Sale (1/17)

A civil sale will be conducted on **Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 10am** at the Henderson County Courthouse door at 200 North Grove Street in Hendersonville. Information and a list of properties being auctioned can be found on the Sheriff’s Office [Civil Sales webpage](#).

Opioid Crisis Presentation (1/18)

The League of Women Voters is hosting Major Frank Stout of the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office and Julie Huneycutt, Director of Hope Rx, to speak on opioid addiction in our area. The meeting will take place on **Thursday, January 18, 2018 from 4pm-5:30pm** at the Hendersonville Community Co-op at 60 S. Charleston Lane in Hendersonville. This presentation is free and open to the public.

Church Security Class (2/20)

There are still seats available in the Church Security class occurring on **Tuesday, February 20, 2018 from 6pm-8pm**. Please email anock@hendersoncountync.org with your name, organization, contact information and number of attendees to reserve your spot.

To view all upcoming events, visit HCSO's [News and Announcements page](#).

Hometown Heroes

Each month we would like to celebrate a few of the achievements and victories of our employees.

Lifesaving Award:

Deputies Jackie Burnette, GW Mayo and DeLane Sims were dining together one morning at the Hardee's on Four Seasons Blvd.
An employee alerted them of a medical emergency in the drive thru line. The deputies sprang into action and found a man had stopped breathing and was unresponsive. After removing the patient from the vehicle, they initiated CPR and utilized their AED. Their quick response and use of the AED was critical to saving the patient's life. The patient regained consciousness while being transported by Henderson County Emergency Services to a local hospital. The actions of Deputies Burnette, Mayo and Sims embody the Mission, Vision and Values of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office.

At 4:09am on November 6, 2017, members of David Squad responded to a suspicious person call off Brevard Road. The call resulted from a complete stranger making himself at home on the enclosed porch of the homeowner and refusing to leave. The complainant called in later to compliment, not only the caring and compassionate way our deputies responded to their needs, but also the fairness and respect shown to the suspect. Deputies Hunter, Tipton and Beaird displayed a great example of taking our agency's core values to heart while responding to a call from the community.

Certificate of Merit:

The Henderson County Sheriff's Office has received numerous phone calls and letters complimenting the contributions of Corporal Stephanie Cantwell to the community through her work as a RAD instructor. Cpl. Cantwell, in partnership with Sheriff's deputies and Hendersonville Police Department staff have taken the initiative to teach self-defense classes to teenagers in the Henderson County Public School system and citizens throughout the county. In addition to her work as a RAD instructor, Cantwell manages ongoing in-service and training for the entire agency. She has provided administrative support for the Sheriff's Leadership Academy for first line supervisors, facilitated annual
tactical training for deputies and she continues to contribute to the STAR program by making additions to lesson plans and serves as a STAR instructor. Cpl. Cantwell also plays an active part in facilitating Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) debriefings and training.

Our Volunteers in Partnership (VIP) are always going out of their way to assist the public as well as provide support to the Sheriff's Office and the people who work here. A great example of this occurred on Thanksgiving and Christmas. VIP Don Cunningham came in to assist our Detention kitchen staff with the meal preparation for the inmates on both holidays. Earlier this year, Don was presented with the 'VIP of the Year' award, and this is another example of why he is so deserving of this title.

Before the holidays, an elderly lady came into the Sheriff's Office to report a scam she fell victim to. Cpl. Terry Patterson took the report, but then took it upon himself to collect some money to help the victim. He walked around the Sheriff's Office collecting money and presented the victim with more than $100. We recognize Terry for his compassion and taking a small step that made a big difference. It also shows the hearts of our staff who spontaneously contributed to be a blessing to our neighbor who was stolen from.

Henderson County Sheriff's Office Deputies made 145 arrests between 12/4/18 and 12/31/18. Below are links to some newsworthy arrests and events from the past month.

- **Man arrested after woman covered in gasoline and burned, deputies say** (WYFF)
- **Street Crimes detectives make multiple drug arrests** (Times-News)
- **City man faces weapon charges after vehicle stop** (Times-News)
- **Four arrested after drugs found in storage unit** (Hendersonville Lightning)
- **Aggressive driving leads to felony drug arrests** (WHKP)
Over the holidays, the Henderson County Sheriff’s Office responded to a domestic incident in which an assault had occurred. The victim found herself in a situation where there was a serious concern for her safety and she felt she could not safely call 9-1-1. The 9-1-1 Center received a text from the victim that included an address and the message: 'My husband is trying to kill me. He won't let me leave. He has 2 guns.' Sheriff's Office telecommunicators were able to dispatch deputies and EMS who safely removed the victim from the situation and transported her to a local hospital for follow up. The suspect was arrested and charged with Assault on a Female.

The Henderson County Sheriff’s Office wants to remind the public that the Text to 9-1-1 option is available in the event individuals are unable to call in an emergency.

Significant benefits of this service include accessibility for members of the community who are hard of hearing, deaf, or speech-impaired. Text to 9-1-1 can also aid in situations when a crime is in progress, a caller is facing domestic abuse, or a caller's injury is making speech impossible. A good rule of thumb to follow is, "Call if you can, text if you can't."

If calling 9-1-1 is not an option: The numbers "911" should be entered in the "To" field and the message should be brief and contain the location of the emergency and the type of help needed. It should be noted, you can make a voice call to 9-1-1 using a wireless phone that does not have a service plan, but you cannot send a text message to 9-1-1 without a service contract that includes...
texting. Messages are limited to 160 characters and photo/video cannot be sent at this time, although that may change as the technology becomes available. And as always, do not text and drive.

"We take great pride in our accessibility and responsiveness at the Henderson County Sheriff's Office," said Sheriff Charles McDonald. "We are thankful this member of the public reached out to us via text so our deputies could curb a quickly escalating situation and provide her with the help she needed. We hope by sharing this incident, the public will be reminded of this lifesaving communication tool we have in our county."

[Click here](#) to watch Fox Carolina’s great coverage of this story.

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**Recent Events**

**Blessings in Boxes**

Each year, the Henderson County School Resource Deputies volunteer to help at the Storehouse's Blessings in Boxes program at Upward Christian Fellowship. They braved the cold and helped load presents into vehicles.

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**BLET Graduation**

The Henderson County Law Enforcement Honor Guard, made up of Sheriff's Office deputies and Fletcher Police officers, presented the colors at the Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) graduation held on the campus of Blue Ridge Community College.

Photo credit: BRCC Law Enforcement Training Facebook page
Sam's Club Pill Collection

Over 59 pounds of medication were collected during December’s pill collection event. School Resource Deputies used the school holiday as an opportunity to conduct a take-back event. If you have medications that need to be disposed of, visit the Sheriff’s Office lobby from 8am-5pm any weekday (excludes county holidays).

Did you know?

In addition to having an emergency kit for your home, you should also have a kit in your vehicle!

Some items you may want to include are:

- Windshield scraper and small broom
- Shovel
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Battery powered radio
- Water
- Snack food including energy bars
- Blankets or sleeping bag
- Extra hats, socks and gloves
- First aid kit with pocket knife
- Necessary medications
- Tow chain or rope
- Road salt, sand, or kitty litter for traction
- Jumper cables
- Emergency flares and reflectors
- Fluorescent distress flag and whistle to attract attention
- Cell phone charger
- Adapter to plug into lighter
Make sure your tires have good tread and your vehicle is in good working order. Always keep your gas tank at least half full.

Visit the following websites for tips on making emergency preparedness kits and winter survival.

https://readync.org/EN/Plan_GetAKit.html

https://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit

http://readywisconsin.wi.gov/winter/HowToMakeAKit.asp