

CHARLESTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Sheriff Carl Ritchie
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Charleston County Sheriff Carl Ritchie shares updates after 90 days in office

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, April 7, 2025

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. – The Charleston County Sheriff's Office is updating the public on progress and changes made within the agency since Sheriff Carl Ritchie has taken office, as they directly correlate to the safety of the community.

"To say it's been a busy 90 days since taking the oath back in January is an understatement. We have made some tremendous steps in restructuring and updating the way the Sheriff's Office operates, as well as fostering a more professional culture," said Charleston County Sheriff Carl Ritchie. "I am more confident than ever that the seven-point plan I outlined on the campaign trail will restore safety in our detention center and integrity in the Sheriff's Office."

Please read the statistics below or refer to our social media pages for more information.

Keeping Charleston County Safe:

- From January 1, 2025, to April 6, 2025, there has been a more than 12% increase in arrests. During this period in 2024, there were 566 arrests made, compared to the same period this year when 635 arrests were made.
- We have 13 School Resource Officers working to keep Charleston County schools safe. Only one direct hire SRO position remains unfilled.
- The Charleston County Sheriff's Office is partnering with the Charleston Center to host pop-up style community Narcan training based on spikes in overdoses.
- The Charleston County Sheriff's Office is also working with the Charleston Center to add Narcan distribution boxes with a focus on underserved communities based on need.
- Sheriff Ritchie met with 16 Mayors across the Sheriff's Office's jurisdiction to develop relationships and hear concerns.
- Sheriff Ritchie is also working to foster relationships with local, state, and federal agencies.

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The Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center:

- Stan Davis was hired as the Jail Administrator for the Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center. Davis is a former Consolidated Brig Official whose expertise has reduced contraband in the Detention Center.
- A second re-entry specialist has been added at the Detention Center.
- Several safety features have been either added or upgraded at the Detention Center. This includes improvements to the air filtration system with the installation of "scrubbers," which improves the air quality and reduces odor.
- To help with openings at the Detention Center, the Sheriff's Office is exploring different options for contract staffing.

Streamlining from Within:

- Sheriff Ritchie has restructured the Executive Command Staff to include Undersheriff Tyronne Simmons and four Chiefs. This includes Chief William White (Operations Bureau), Chief David Burnsed (Judicial Bureau), Chief Chris Rosier (Administrations Bureau), and Chief Josh Cheney (Investigations Bureau). This restructuring provides more accountability across the board.
- The Administrations Bureau has successfully revamped the hiring process. Now, applicants can move through the hiring process in as little as four weeks compared to the six to nine months it was taking prior.
- Applicants are now taking the National Police Officer Selection Test (POST) instead of the Nelson-Denny Reading Test (NDRT). The POST is an entry-level basic skills test that helps law enforcement agencies select the most qualified applicants by ensuring that candidates possess the basic cognitive skills necessary to successfully perform the job.
- The Sheriff's Office Human Resources Department has assigned additional personnel to perform background checks on applicants.

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