

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



**UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY**

KEEPING UTAH SAFE





Keeping Utah
Safe Through
Dedicated Public
Service And
Partnerships To Protect
Utah's Great Quality of Life

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DPS ADMINISTRATION



Jess L. Anderson was appointed as the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety (DPS) in August 2018. DPS provides statewide public safety services and employs 1,500 employees. Commissioner Anderson additionally serves as the Governor’s Homeland Security Advisor and has extensive experience in state and local law enforcement and public safety services.



Michael Rapich
Deputy Commissioner

Colonel Rapich has served the Department of Public Safety for nearly 30 years. He oversees Utah Highway Patrol, Division of Emergency Management, and the Public Safety Communications Bureau. Colonel Rapich has over 18 years of leadership experience, and is a graduate of Brigham Young University with a Masters of Public Administration, as well as a Bachelors of Criminal Justice from Columbia College.



Kristy Rigby
Deputy Commissioner

Kristy joined the Department of Public Safety in 1994. For twenty years she worked in the Highway Safety Office to develop innovative and effective programs aimed at saving lives on our roadways. While serving as Director for the Office, she was asked to accept the position of Deputy Commissioner in October 2018 and currently oversees the Highway Safety Office, Driver License Division, and Bureau of Criminal Identification.



Jimmy Higgs
Deputy Commissioner

With more than 24 years of public safety experience, Jimmy Higgs has served in various capacities, including Utah Highway Patrol Trooper, Executive Protection Detail, and Executive Officer to the Commissioner. He was appointed to Deputy Commissioner in October 2018 to oversee the State Bureau of Investigation, State Crime Lab, and Statewide Information and Analysis Center.

COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE



This annual report represents the tremendous work accomplished by the Utah Department of Public Safety during 2021. More than 1,500 dedicated public servants work toward a single goal each year, keeping Utah safe.

On any given day, we enforce laws on Utah's roads, train the next generation of law enforcement, ensure new drivers know the rules of the road and help Utahns prepare for and prevent disaster. We inspect new schools and state buildings, we help identify DNA or firearm evidence, we perform more than 100,000 background checks for concealed firearm permits.

Our investigators identify and solve personal and online threats and our dispatchers are the professionals who get people the help they need on their worst day. We dive, we fly and we rescue.

And we do it all because we love the state of Utah and its people. This report represents our work from the last year, but it also shares an idea of what we will accomplish in 2022. Enjoy!

————— Jess L. Anderson —————

FORENSIC SERVICES

Director : Amy Lightfoot



CRIME SCENE RESPONSE TEAM

The Crime Lab partners with fellow DPS division the State Bureau of Investigations to respond to violent crime scenes statewide.

They offer highly trained experts in DNA, fingerprints, firearms, bloodstain pattern interpretation, evidence collection, and computerized scene documentation. This provides assistance to urban and rural law enforcement agencies. In 2021, the crime scene response team responded to and assisted on 27 violent crime scenes.



Top Drug Submissions

METHAMPHETAMINE

HEROIN

DELTA-9 THC

COCAINE

PSILOCYN

FENTANYL

BUPRENORPHINE

ALPHA-PHP

MARIJUANA

CRIME LAB EXPANDS STATEWIDE SERVICES

On Monday, April 26th, the opening of the new southern Utah branch of the state crime lab was commemorated. The new lab provides employment opportunities in rural Utah. Additionally, it expands and enhances the forensic services provided throughout the statewide system. This includes providing controlled substance, latent print, serological, and DNA analysis.





Collaborating with the Office of the Medical Examiner, the crime lab's latent print section has assisted the Medical Examiner's Office in the identification of over 200 deceased persons, providing information to investigators and answers to families.



FORENSIC ANALYSIS

In 2021, the crime lab has issued over 5,400 forensic reports to agencies statewide.



DNA CASEWORK

The crime lab accomplished its ambitious target of completing 90% of DNA casework with a turnaround time of fewer than 30 days.



SEX ASSAULT KIT PROGRESS

Using a survivor-centered approach, Utah was the 8th state in the nation to eliminate its sexual assault kit backlog. A tracking system was also implemented to provide transparency to survivors of sexual assault.



280,013

Vehicle Stops

17,768

Crashes Investigated

3,746

DUI Citations Issued

UTAH HIGHWAY PATROL

Deputy Commissioner: Colonel Michael Rapich Superintendent: LT. Colonel Mark Zesiger

DEADLY DUST STORM

On July 25th, a sandstorm in Millard County led to 8 fatalities and various injured motorists in a series of crashes west of Kanosh. Twenty-two vehicles were involved after high winds caused a dust storm and impaired visibility on the roadway. Ten people were transported to area hospitals. Southbound traffic in the area was shut down until early Monday morning.



CRIMINAL INTERDICTION

Marijuana.....	2,132	LBS
Methamphetamine.....	272	LBS
Cocaine.....	106	LBS
Heroin.....	19	LBS
Firearms.....	68	

NEW TROOPERS

In 2021, UHP hired 32 new Troopers. The majority of which went to the following locations:

Salt Lake County.....	11
Utah County.....	6
Farmington.....	4
Weber/Morgan County.....	3

CAPITOL PATROL

The Capitol continues to be a high-profile location for demonstrations. Free speech “permitted” events totaled close to 100. These events have seen an increase in counter-protests and armed protests which heightens the potential for violence with increased incidents of individuals and groups willing to create a disturbance in order to be heard and draw attention to their cause. This has resulted in a higher likelihood of encountering emotionally charged public demonstrations, efforts to disrupt government business and operations, and a greater willingness for confrontation with law enforcement and government officials. Approximately 50 threats were investigated throughout the year, including threats to persons and buildings.

These additional security measures were put in place throughout the year:

- Elevated training in tactics and crowd control for troopers assigned to the Capitol.
- Expanded bike squad for perimeter patrols.
- X-Ray machines, bag checks, and physical screening for different threat levels.
- Stakeholder/Capitol employee training.
- Security Control Center staffing increase and improvements.

EXCESSIVE SPEEDING

In November alone 537 excessive speeding (going over 100mph) citations were issued. Excessive speeding continues to be a problem on Utah roads. In 2021, 80 people have died in speed-related crashes in Utah. That makes up almost a third of all fatal crashes in the state.



STATEWIDE INFORMATION & ANALYSIS CENTER

Director: Captain Tanner Jensen



The Utah Statewide Information and Analysis Center (SIAC) promotes a public safety partnership comprised of federal, state, local, tribal, and public and private agencies designed to collect, analyze, and disseminate intelligence to enhance the protection of Utah's citizens, communities, and critical infrastructure.



Improve Personal Growth

The SIAC seeks to strengthen a culture that promotes future growth and embraces meaningful work via three strategic efforts:

- 1) Enhance the SIAC's environment increasing employee morale.
- 2) Identify new opportunities for analysts' career growth.
- 3) Improve competitive pay and look to create remote work opportunities.



Advance Intelligence

The SIAC seeks to leverage new technologies that will provide quality and consistent external services for its law enforcement partners, and streamline and modernize Utah's public safety efforts. Over the next five years, the SIAC hopes to advance technology that will provide law enforcement platforms to better share vital information, quickly locate violent criminals, and strategically allocate resources to quickly disrupt criminal organizations' operations.



Strengthen Cyber Capability

As the state of Utah's economy continues to advance in the technology sector the SIAC seeks to strengthen Utah's cybersecurity capabilities to support a safe and secure cyber work environment. SIAC is a supporting founder of the Governor's Cybersecurity Task Force, which will analyze the cyber threat to Utah and prevent and mitigate cyber threats and attacks towards Utah's private and public sector entities.

The SIAC shares a vision like many other organizations, which is to have each employee wake up inspired, feel safe at work, and return home every night fulfilled.

The SIAC's top three immediate and long-term goals are outlined at right:



Officer Safety Event Deconfliction System

Investigative efforts, such as undercover operations, often create the potential for conflict between agencies or officers that are unknowingly working in close proximity to each other. In other cases, agencies or officers may be coordinating an event focusing on the same subject at the same time. In either case, agencies or officers may interfere with each other's cases, causing investigative efforts to be disrupted or, worse, officers to be hurt or killed. The use of an officer safety event deconfliction system allows for controlled and secure monitoring of these operations and the immediate notification of affected parties when conflicts arise. In 2021 the SIAC documented and verified 3,131 criminal investigations among Utah's law enforcement agencies to ensure investigators deconflicted their cases with other federal and local law enforcement partners.

THE CRIME GUN INTELLIGENCE CENTER

CGICs are an interagency collaboration focused on the immediate collection, management, and analysis of crime gun evidence in an effort to identify shooters, disrupt criminal activity, and prevent future violence. In 2021, the SIAC hosted 22 Crime Gun Intelligence Center meetings focused on sharing information with local and federal partners regarding violent gun crimes in the state of Utah.

CASES AGAINST STATE ECONOMY

In 2021 the SIAC participated in the Cases Against State Economy Task Force in conjunction with the Utah Attorney Generals Office. They investigated over 110 cases, making 21 arrests. They were also successful in recovering approximately \$168,600 in stolen property and returned \$102,312.74 in restitution to victims.

CRIMINAL BULLETINS AND REPORTS

The SIAC tracks and writes criminal reports spanning areas such as drug trafficking, cyber attacks, and terrorist threats and sends them to Utah law enforcement to enhance understanding and inform them of criminal threats to the public. The SIAC wrote and shared 744 intelligence products with local and federal partners for 2021.

The SIAC also provided 12 Virtual Command Briefs for high level law enforcement administrators to assist in sharing information.

DRIVER LICENSE DIVISION

Director : Chris Caras

OVERVIEW

The Driver License Division is comprised of three bureaus:

Administrative Services, Driver Services, and the Records Bureau. The Division employs 393 staff members and operates out of 29 locations across the state. Fifteen locations are full-time offices, twelve are part-time or travel locations, and one is an administrative location.



Mobile Driver License

The Division launched a pilot program for a Mobile Driver License (mDL) in June. The pilot is in the final stages and has about 2000 participants. It will be expanding to around 10,000 participants by the end of the pilot phase. Initial partners include Harmons Grocery, the DABC, and Utah Community Credit Union.

New Driver License and Identification Card

The Division began issuing a new card design in June. The new driver license and identification card have improved security features and new designated header colors. The new cards also highlight some of Utah's iconic landscape with Angels Landing being the primary background image.



CONTINUED CUSTOMER SERVICE IMPROVEMENT

Statewide the average anticipated customer wait time is three minutes and sixteen seconds. The appointment scheduler decreased the division's wait times by over five minutes in 2021.

On average, the time required to complete a customer's service is five minutes and fifty-six seconds.

Considering over 850,000 customers were served in field offices in 2021, these wait and service times are representative of DLD's ongoing commitment to providing excellent service to the residents of Utah.

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS



553,787
LICENSES
ISSUED



105,611
LEARNER
PERMITS
ISSUED



30,878
DRIVING
PRIVILEGE
CARDS ISSUED



53,321
IDENTIFICATION
CARDS
ISSUED



296,053
ADMINISTERED
KNOWLEDGE
TESTS



25,501
SKILLS TESTS
ADMINISTERED

BASIC TRAINING

In 2021, seven Special Functions Officer (SFO) courses were offered with 151 cadets attending and 123 receiving certifications. POST conducted eight Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) courses with 274 cadets and 244 receiving certifications. The total number of certifications issued for the year was 367.



POST TECHNOLOGY BUREAU

POST's Technology Bureau is responsible for the day-to-day operation and support of several computer management systems. These systems streamline the application process, aid customers in seeking help from POST, provide online training, administer basic training exams, and manage training records of each peace officer in the State. In addition to the support of online systems, the Technology Bureau provides audio-visual support to 16 classrooms and provides technical Tier I support to the POST staff.

The Technology Bureau continued supporting basic training in facilitating a closed-circuit video system to allow the class sizes to remain small due to COVID. Efforts continue to apply technology to improve and increase the capabilities of the division.

In 2021 POST acquired field-capable tablets and began the process of implementing digital capture of evaluation forms for the physical skills of the academy. By using the digital form, it provides a seamless transition to archiving cadet performance. The standardized form follows a workflow that provides a copy of the evaluation to the cadet, the supervising sergeant, and archived in the records management system.

The Technology support group continues to streamline POST processes to a totally digital workflow while working to scan past records into the records management system.

PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS & TRAINING

Director : Major Scott Stephenson

Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) provides professional law enforcement training to new cadets through the best-known methods of adult learning. Additionally, POST is committed to the in-service training of certified peace officers and strives to provide professional training in a manner consistent with the law.



IN-SERVICE TRAINING

170

courses offered with 2,978
officers/cadets attending

470

cadets/officers received training
at POST's EVO facility.

7

Dispatcher Academy courses were
offered with 114 attending and 106
graduating.

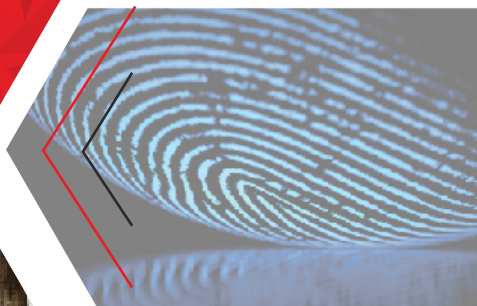
OFFICER MISCONDUCT INVESTIGATIONS



- 241 complaints received
- 109 investigations opened
- 108 investigations closed
- 20 voluntary relinquishments received from officers
- 66 cases presented to the POST Council
- 12 revocations issued
- 44 suspensions issued
- 10 letters of caution issued

BUREAU OF CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION

Director: Captain Greg Willmore

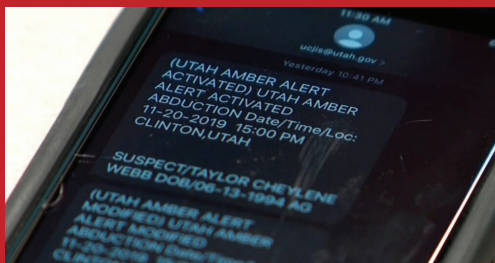


PUBLIC ALERTS ISSUED

8 AMBER ALERTS

58 SILVER ALERTS 5

ENDANGERED MISSING
ADVISORIES



FIREARM PURCHASE BACKGROUND CHECKS

The Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI) conducts background checks on individuals wishing to purchase a firearm. In 2021, BCI conducted 135,570 of these checks, which is the second highest number of checks conducted in a year.

81%

Completed
Online

142,980

Concealed
Permit

3,303

Long Gun
Checks

29

Attempted
Straw
Purchases

93

Checks
Refused for
Improper ID

EXPUNGEMENTS

At the beginning of 2021, there was an expungement backlog of around 1,200. BCI implemented changes to speed up the process such as electronic certificates and corresponding via email. These changes have significantly sped up the process. What used to take at least 4 days, now can be done in a matter of hours. Because of this, the expungement backlog has been dramatically reduced.

- 4,627 Expungement Applications
- 3,960 Applications Determined
- 13,503 Certificates Issued
- 1,608 Finalized Orders



BACKGROUND CHECKS

BCI PERFORMS EMPLOYMENT/LICENSING/VOLUNTEER
BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR QUALIFIED ENTITIES.

2021 STATISTICS

- 124,787 FINGERPRINT-BASED BACKGROUND CHECKS REQUIRED BY LEGISLATIVE STATUTE FOR EMPLOYMENT, LICENSING, AND VOLUNTEER PURPOSES.
- 11,461 NON-FINGERPRINT-BASED BACKGROUND CHECKS.
- 61,987 FINGERPRINT-BASED BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR CONCEALED FIREARM PERMIT (CFP) APPLICANTS.
- AS OF DEC, 17 2021 THERE ARE 468,606 'SUBSCRIPTIONS' IN THE FBI NGI DATABASE (RAPBACK).
- 331,453 FINGERPRINTS IN THE LOCAL DATABASE FOR AGENCIES WHO DO NOT DO FBI LEVEL BACKGROUND CHECKS. THESE FINGERPRINT APPLICANTS INCLUDE: SCHOOL EMPLOYEES, DABC EMPLOYEES AND LICENSEES, DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES LICENSEES, DEPT. OF HEALTH LICENCEES, MEDICAL CANNABIS LICENSEES, POST APPLICANTS AND UCJIS USERS, TOW TRUCK OPERATORS AND CARS SALES LICENSEES.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

- Assisted 22,655 walk-in customers with an average wait time of 3-5 minutes per customer
- Receipted 123,450 transactions for services
- Answered over 19,635 phone calls
- Performed over 19,896 personal records checks
- Processed 119,367 pieces of mail

CONCEALED FIREARM PERMITS



68,275 new concealed firearm permits were issued and 79,337 permits were renewed.



The online renewal system for concealed firearm permits processed the highest percent of renewal applications since it was initiated in 2012.



There were 121 Private Investigator licenses and 11 bail licenses issued.

FINGERPRINT DATABASE

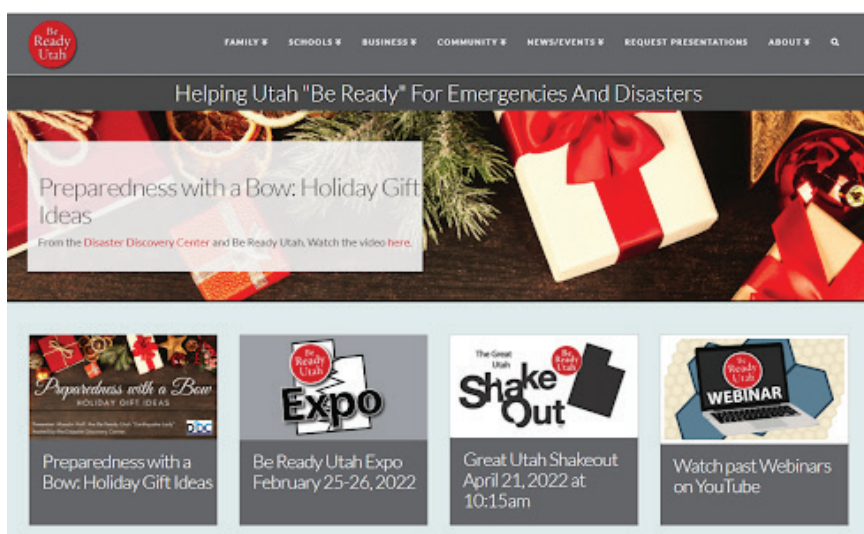
BCI maintains a computerized fingerprint database, which is used to verify all fingerprints that are submitted to BCI for criminal purposes or as part of an employment or licensing application process.

As of December 21, BCI has processed 53,977 10-print fingerprint-based arrest record transactions through the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) to the Western Identification Network (WIN) and FBI databases. These were in addition to the 121,272 10-print fingerprint-based applicant background checks through the AFIS to the WIN and FBI databases.

DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Director: Kris Hamlet

The mission of the Division of Emergency Management is to unite the emergency management community and to coordinate efforts necessary to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies, disasters, and catastrophic events.



BE READY UTAH

To mark the 15th year of Be Ready Utah, and in recognition of National Preparedness Month in September, the Be Ready Utah (BRU) team unveiled a brand new website. [Beready.utah.gov](https://beready.utah.gov) provides a modern approach to online emergency preparedness information. The new website contains an automated program where anyone can apply for Be Ready recognition. It also provides a way to request BRU presentations.

EARTHQUAKE PROGRAM

DEM's Earthquake Program released the Wasatch Front Unreinforced Masonry Risk Reduction Strategy on the one-year anniversary of the Magna Quake with five goals: 1- Keep Utah water flowing; 2-Keep our kids safe; 3-Keep our buildings safe; 4-Keep our buildings standing; 5-Keep Utah ready to respond. In spite of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Utah Safety Assessment Program held six on-site courses (masked and socially distanced) and credentialed over 200 new earthquake building evaluators. The program also re-credentialed existing evaluators through an online recertification process.

WILDFIRE

While its wildfire season turned out to be mild, Utah was called upon to support extreme firefighting efforts in California, Oregon, and Montana. Through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), DEM's Operations Section facilitated seven deployments of dozens of firefighters to support six firefighting missions. Those states were extremely grateful for the manpower and equipment Utah provided.

TRAINING & EXERCISE

- The Training & Exercise Section provided 17 courses with a total of 380 participants.

SEARCH & RESCUE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- Disbursed \$453,439 to 19 counties that participated in the 2021 SAR year.

FINANCE & MITIGATION & RECOVERY SECTIONS

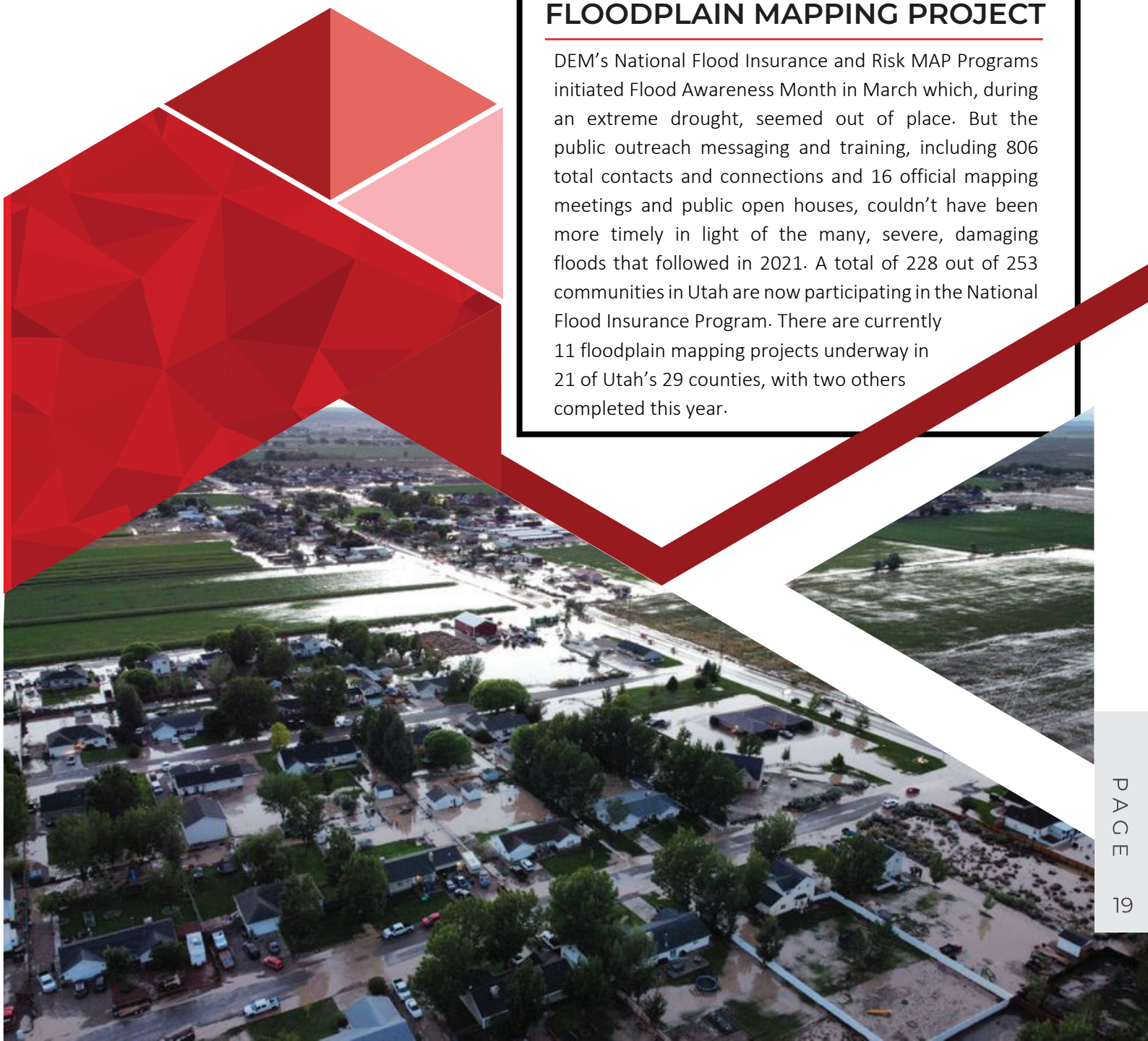
- The Finance & Mitigation & Recovery sections were able to bring over \$200,000,000 into the state through response reimbursements and grants.

PLANNING SECTION

Governor Spencer Cox promulgated the 2021-2025 State of Utah Emergency Operations Plan. The Planning Section updated the Energy Emergency Plan, and 89 Continuity of Operations Plans were submitted by state agencies in the Executive Branch and their respective divisions. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) developed a hub-site for EMAC to coordinate and centralize forms, tracking, resources, and information for deployments. GIS also developed a vaccine provider dashboard in support of the COVID-19 response to capture all places providing the COVID-19 vaccine and show gaps in vaccine accessibility.

FLOODPLAIN MAPPING PROJECT

DEM's National Flood Insurance and Risk MAP Programs initiated Flood Awareness Month in March which, during an extreme drought, seemed out of place. But the public outreach messaging and training, including 806 total contacts and connections and 16 official mapping meetings and public open houses, couldn't have been more timely in light of the many, severe, damaging floods that followed in 2021. A total of 228 out of 253 communities in Utah are now participating in the National Flood Insurance Program. There are currently 11 floodplain mapping projects underway in 21 of Utah's 29 counties, with two others completed this year.



HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE

Director: Carrie Silcox

The mission of the Highway Safety Office (HSO) is changing behavior to create a culture where roadway users take responsibility for their safety and the safety of others.

■ IMPAIRED DRIVING

In addition to the nine holiday high-visibility enforcement campaigns, Utah conducted eight DUI checkpoints and eight saturation patrols or special events statewide. These campaigns doubled last year's numbers for checkpoints and saturations. Unfortunately, the overtime shifts decreased this year due to law enforcement shortages. With fewer overtime shifts, there were fewer DUI arrests. According to the data, there were 236 arrests compared to 320 arrests last year.

The Highway Safety Office partnered with the Utah Public Health Lab over a year ago to improve DUI testing processes and efficiencies. As a result, a toxicologist position was funded to focus on DUI casework, ensuring all samples are tested for both alcohol and drug, using national standards.

DATA ANALYSIS OF DUI TEST

- 34% of results contained alcohol only
- 66% of results contained drugs
- Median BAC was .17
- Highest BAC was .42
- THC usage was more prevalent with alcohol
- The top five drugs in results were THC, Methamphetamine, Amphetamine, THC Metabolite, Morphine.



POLICE TRAFFIC SERVICES

Speed has always been a challenge in Utah and nationally.

Speeding citations over 100 mph

2021 ... 3,773

2020 ... 5,136

2021 ... 4,729

In June, the Highway Safety Office helped fund overtime shifts for 23 agencies to conduct speed enforcement.

The division created a video for social media focusing on family, friends, and the need to slow down.



SEAT BELT OBSERVATION SURVEY

In summer 2021, we learned that overall seat belt usage decreased by 2% to 88% in 2021.

Urban areas: 89%

Rural areas: 85%

Lowest usage rate by vehicle type:

Pick-up truck occupants

In 2019, Carbon County held the highest seat belt rate of 94.8% but experienced the most significant decline of all counties in 2021, with usage reporting at 72%.

The HSO is working on a seat belt project that focuses on nine rural counties and improving the usage of seat belts there, especially in the counties that showed a decline in this last survey.

HSO IN 2022

2021 ended with more fatalities (329) than Utah has experienced since 2002.

Risky driving behaviors such as aggressive driving, speed, and impaired driving continue to rise.

In 2022, the Highway Safety Office plans to:

- Improve data analysis and accessibility.
- Innovate messaging when it comes to impaired driving, speed, and seat belts.
- Emphasize education and impairment media outreach.
- Partner with non-traditional groups for outreach and messaging.

STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

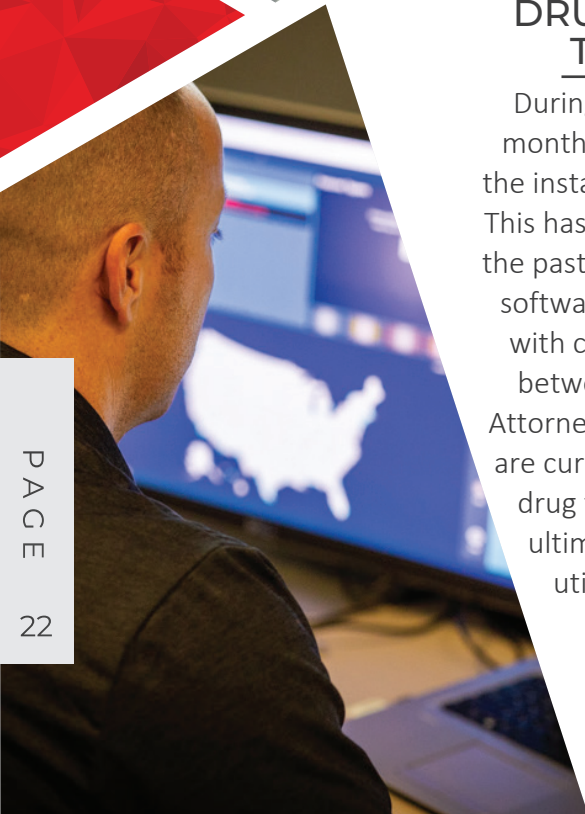
Director: Chief Tyler Kotter

The State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) is a specialized investigative agency and a resource to the Department of Public Safety, the Utah Highway Patrol, and any other law enforcement agency in the state who needs investigative assistance to handle major cases and officer involved critical incidents.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM

In 2021, The CET also began preparations to help coordinate the resettlement of 700 Afghan refugees to Utah. The team also proposed and finalized POST-certified training that can be taught to all law enforcement personnel in Utah regarding community engagement and outreach efforts.



DRUG TRAFFICKING TECHNOLOGY

During the spring and summer months of the year, SBI finalized the installation of its wiretap room. This has been an ongoing effort for the past year to purchase licensing, software, and physical hardware with considerable coordination between the Salt Lake District Attorney’s Office and DPS. Agents are currently working on multiple drug trafficking cases that will ultimately result in warrants utilizing this technology.

NARCOTICS SECTION SEIZURES

COCAINE	9.13 LBS.
HEROIN	16.04 LBS.
METH	40 LBS.
FENTANYL	779 DOSES
MARIJUANA	226 LBS.
MDMA	40 LBS.
FIREARMS	101
CURRENCY	\$228,379
ARRESTS	44

VICTIM ADVOCATES

SBI's victim advocates were an integral part of the response to the 22-car crash in Millard County. The team was recognized by Governor Cox's office for their professionalism and for the significant assistance they provided.



MAJOR CRIMES

The Major Crimes Section conducted the following significant and high-profile investigations:

- 15 Death Investigations
- 28 Major Crash Investigations
- 33 Weapons Offenses
- 6 Sex Crimes/Assaults
- 15 Assaults/Violent Crimes
- 17 Agency Assists (including public corruption cases)
- 2 Officer Involved Critical Incidents Investigations

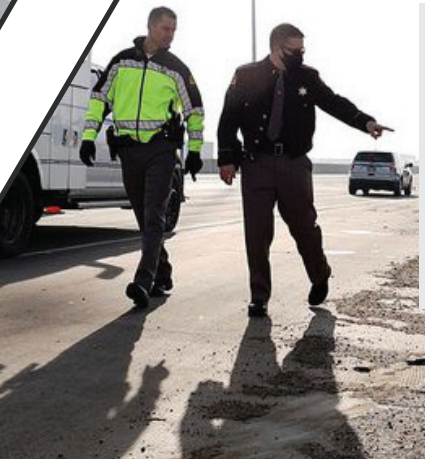
ALCOHOL ENFORCEMENT TEAM

While the Alcohol Enforcement Team (AET) has specific legislatively mandated investigative responsibilities, the agents within the Section are part of SBI's specially trained investigative team that is capable of handling and investigating anything from the most commonly reported incidents to the most intricate, significant, and infrequent types of criminal investigations.

- In 2021, the AET team conducted:
- Violent Crimes – 15 cases
 - Death Investigations – 15 cases
 - Fraud Investigations – 13 case
 - Fatal Accident/MCIT Investigations – 26 cases
 - Drug Pipeline Investigations – 87
 - Sex Crime Investigations – 6 Cases
 - Other Major Crime Investigations – 24 Cases

ROAD RAGE RELATED SHOOTINGS

Agents from our Alcohol and Major Crimes sections and the SIAC investigated numerous freeway and road rage related shooting incidents. During the summer and fall, there seemed to be an increase in the number of these incidents. Multiple investigations resulted in the identification and arrest of the shooters.



FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

State Fire Marshal: Coy Porter

The mission of the Fire Marshal's Office is to identify, develop, and promote ways and means of protecting life and property from fire-related perils through direct action and coordination of Utah fire services.



DIVISION GROWTH

2021 produced some staff changes as a result of building plan review fees that were instituted in late 2020. The Division was able to add an additional position to our plan review staff. The division was also able to hire a new individual to assume the duties of coordinating the Utah Fire incident Reporting System (UFIRS) which also includes compiling and forwarding all fire incident information to the national level at the U.S. Fire Administration.

FIRE CODE ADOPTION

With changes in legislative priorities with regard to fire code adoption, the division was given until September of 2022 to review the updated 2021 International Fire Code to present to the Legislature in its final form for consideration of adoption in the 2023 legislative session. The review will continue for the early months of 2022.



TELEWORK PRODUCTIVITY

THE FMO staff has experienced significant participation in the state's telework program. They credit an increase of overall production from all sections to the new work accommodations. In addition the team was able to address office space issues which resulted in consolidating office space into multiple shared office situations.



317

FIRES, EXPLOSIONS,
AND HAZ-MAT SPILLS
INVESTIGATED



1,771

PUBLIC, PRIVATE, AND
CHARTER SCHOOLS
INSPECTED



881

PLAN REVIEWS
PERFORMED



NEW STATE PRISON CONSTRUCTION

The FMO has been involved in the construction of the new state prison. Most of the buildings are in various stages of completion. Some are now occupied by staff and contractors. The “construction trailer village” is almost completely gone. There have been considerable issues relating to codes that have been satisfactorily completed.

COMMUNICATIONS BUREAU

Director: Captain Travis Trotta

The mission of the Communications Bureau is to provide effective communications support for public safety agencies; provide useful communications services for the public; and effectively manage the state’s public safety communications resources.



DUST STORM PILE UP

On Sunday, July 25, the dispatch team at the Richfield Communications Center began receiving 911 calls of a multi-car crash inside a dust storm on I-15 northbound. The callers were not able to provide any descriptive information on the vehicles involved or patient conditions. Some callers described the scene as completely dark and not able to see vehicles next to them or those that hit them.

The magnitude, or injuries related to the crash, initiated an immediate request for more dispatchers to respond directly to the communications center to assist in dispatching and coordinating multiple agencies and responders from multiple counties, as well as specialized resources from throughout the state.

Four adults and four children were killed, numerous others were injured physically and psychologically. There was significant property damage and the interstate was closed with all traffic being re-routed through local communities and neighboring counties for an extended period.

ATTEMPTED ABDUCTION

On February 26, a Text-to-911 was received by Layton Police Dispatch from a woman being held against her will in a semi-truck traveling on I-15. The woman was able to relay landmarks she was passing and it was determined that the semi was traveling through Weber County. Layton Police Dispatch then contacted the Weber dispatch center. UHP Troopers were then dispatched to the area. Using the RapidSOS portal, Weber Dispatch queried the woman’s phone number and was able to provide continuous updates of the phone’s location. Concurrently the Box Elder dispatch center coordinated additional units from UHP, Mantua PD, Brigham City PD, Willard PD, and Box Elder Sheriff’s Office to ensure the area was adequately saturated with officers. A UHP Trooper ultimately made the traffic stop in Brigham City, located the woman, and took the driver into custody.

COMMUNICATION STATISTICS

Radio Logs.....	4,112,985
Calls for Service Dispatched.....	592,139
Traffic Stops Assisted With.....	169,166
Emergency Medical Services Dispatched...	33,693
Text to 911 Assists.....	314





SEVEN HOUR STANDOFF

On September 13, a UHP Trooper called out a Failure to Yield on I-15 NB. After a short pursuit, the vehicle pulled into the median and the driver fled on foot. Dispatchers worked quickly to prioritize the channels and dispatch additional units to assist in the apprehension of the suspect. Several agencies assisted in the search including, SBI, DPS Aero Bureau, DPS SERT, Beaver County Sheriff & EMS, SUU Aviation, Iron County SWAT, Iron County Sheriff's Office, Cedar City Police, Life Flight Helicopter, Mercy Air Helicopter, UDOT, BLM, and DWR. Almost two hours into the search and containment efforts the suspect started shooting at the officers, which elevated the response and the risk to the officers involved. The incident lasted seven hours and required a lot of organization and coordination on the part of the DPS Cedar Communications Dispatchers.

JUAB COUNTY MANHUNT

On May 19 the Richfield Communications Center received a radio transmission from a UHP Trooper that was stopping to assist a Juab County officer with a traffic stop. Minutes later dispatch was informed that the Trooper was in pursuit of a stolen Juab County patrol car. As the pursuit exited the freeway the suspect vehicle became stuck. The suspect then began shooting at the pursuing officers. The team of dispatchers initiated actions to confirm officer safety, determine the status of injuries, and complete proper notifications.

Prioritizing officer and citizen safety, the dispatcher took appropriate actions to secure all emergency secondary effects, such as road closures, rerouting traffic, assisting agency notifications, and any other requests.

Iron County Train Derailment

On July 15th, heavy rainstorms in Iron County washed away the ground beneath large sections of train track causing a train derailment. Eight of the 96 railroad cars had explosives on them, there were several injuries and the rescue effort took over 3 hours. The 911 dispatcher stayed on the phone with the reporting injured party for the entire time.

SPECIAL UNITS



AERO BUREAU

The DPS Aero Bureau is a skilled team of pilots and Tactical Flight Officers. In 2021 the team completed 348 flight missions. This resulted in a total of 720 flight hours.

This included 139 Search & Rescue (S&R) operations. Of those S&R operations, 71 required a hoist rescue.

As frequent partner to law enforcement agencies statewide, the Aero Bureau also played a significant role in 102 arrests.

DIVE TEAM

The department's dive team leads the state in expertise and ability. Recently they purchased a new robotic technology to assist in recoveries that are beyond diving capabilities. Some of the highlights for this year are as follows:

- Recovery of lost equipment at Huntington reservoir.
- Assist Weber County Sheriff's office in the recovery of a juvenile drowning victim.
- Assist State Parks in the recovery of a pickup truck in the Colorado River.
- Assist in the recovery of a young male victim in Fish Lake.

PUBLIC PROTECTION UNIT

The DPS Public Protection Unit is the standard in the state for crowd management response. even though the team has had several deployments, there have been far fewer callouts compared to 2020. The team is made up of uniquely trained troopers and is actively training and deploying.

SPECIAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

The Special Emergency Response Team was extremely busy in 2021. The team deployed 71 times across the state for emergencies such as: 9/13- Beaver pursuit ends with shots fired at officers. Subject fled but was soon captured without incident.

5/19- Yuba manhunt ends peacefully after subject steals law enforcement vehicle and exchanges gunfire with police.

11/03- Warrant served on drug dealers' residence. Multiple pounds of illicit drugs, weapons, and paraphernalia were recovered.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

JOE BROWN
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

The financial section provides financial services and support to all divisions and bureaus in DPS. The team oversees financial transactions of a \$400 million budget.

MARGE DALTON
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

The Commissioner's Executive Assistant performs administrative support, manages correspondence, and maintains communication with key staff.

JOE DOUGHERTY
DIRECTOR OF
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

This office handles media relations, social media, speechwriting and video production for the department.

BRITTANY ELMER
FACILITIES SPECIALIST

The facilities specialist is responsible for making sure all 80+ DPS buildings and their services meet the needs of the division or bureau and its employees.

KIM GIBB
DIRECTOR OF
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

The Director coordinates meetings and events, helps draft bill language, and builds good relationships with our legislators.

KENT GODFREY
DIRECTOR OF AUDITS

For the first time, DPS has hired its own internal auditor to conduct audits on performance, as well as our fiscal responsibilities, to catch issues before they become problems.

LT. DON GOULD
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

This office preserves the integrity of DPS by responding to allegations of misconduct against the department and its employees with thorough and unbiased investigations.

SGT. GEORGE HANSEN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Executive Officer oversees the Office of Professional Standards, manages executive issues, and serves as an advisor to the Commissioner.

MELANIE MARLOWE
DIRECTOR OF QUALITY &
PROCESS IMPROVEMENT

Quality and process improvement is continuous, and must involve constant evolution to support the effectiveness of an organization.

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

VISION

Keeping Utah Safe through dedicated public service and partnerships to protect Utah's great quality of life.

PRIORITIES

- Personal Preparation
- Internal Performance
- External Service

GOALS

- Prepare employees for excellence in current assignments and future openings.
- Foster an internal culture that embraces meaningful work and inspires outstanding employee performance.
- Provide quality and consistent external services that improve public safety.

INDICATORS OF SUCCESS

- DPS employees possess leadership qualities.
- Employees are proficient and progressive.
- Performance based outcomes that highlight individual and organizational success.
- The culture and attitudes within the department create a quality work environment.
- Customers are prepared, safe, and satisfied through the services DPS provided.

IMPLEMENTATION AND FOLLOW UP

In order for the Department of Public Safety to be successful in capturing its vision, each division is responsible for employee development, internal performance, and external service. Divisions will develop goals and indicators of success and regularly evaluate and adjust to accomplish and exceed the vision set forth.

This vision goes beyond the Department and division functions and relies on each employee to fulfill his or her duty in Keeping Utah Safe.



UTAH
DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC SAFETY

ANNUAL REPORT

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