



FROM THE DESK OF.... SHERIFF SHAUN GOLDEN

# MONMOUTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MAY 2023 NEWSLETTER

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Monmouth County's annual tourism kickoff to the summer was held in Spring Lake on May 23 and I was pleased to join the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners, the Monmouth County Clerk and local officials to discuss the upcoming summer season.

Safety is the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office top priority. As the number of residents and visitors increase in Monmouth County, particularly at the shore this summer, law enforcement will be out patrolling areas on foot, by bike and in vehicles, and, looks forward to working with the public as the season gets underway.

Here at the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office, we continuously stress to not drink and drive. Before going out, designate a driver who will not consume any alcohol. If you are impaired, call an Uber, a cab, a sober friend or family member. If you don't have a ride, stay where you are. If you see someone about to get behind the wheel, or on a motorcycle after they have been drinking, offer to find them a ride or alert your nearest law enforcement agency.



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**VISIT MCSO ONLINE:**



**WWW.MCSO.NJ.ORG**

**CONTACT US**

**Cynthia Scott**

**Phone: 732-431-6400 x1113**

**Email: cscott@mcsnj.org**

For the many beachgoers, please follow the proper precautions when swimming. Over the Memorial Day weekend, a teenage boy unfortunately drowned in Monmouth County and several rescues were made due to dangerous rip currents. Please be sure that children and adults know how to swim before entering the water, only swim when lifeguards are on duty and never swim alone. Avoid rip currents, and if you get caught in one, swim parallel to the shore. Also know the weather forecast when swimming in the ocean and be aware of rough surf and signs telling you not to swim.



In addition, if you are boating out on the waterways, it's important to practice safe boating tips. The MCSO Marine 1, along with partners in law enforcement will be patrolling the shore areas throughout the season in an effort to ensure safety and respond to critical water related incidents.

Let's all enjoy the season and think safety at the shore this summer.

**RIP CURRENTS**  
**Break the Grip of the Rip!**

ESCAPE ESCAPE  
ESCAPE ESCAPE  
CURRENT RIP CURRENT CURRENT

Rip currents are powerful currents of water moving away from shore. They can sweep even the strongest swimmer out to sea.

**IF CAUGHT IN A RIP CURRENT**

- ◆ Don't fight the current
- ◆ Swim out of the current, then to shore
- ◆ If you can't escape, float or tread water
- ◆ If you need help, call or wave for assistance

**SAFETY**

- ◆ Know how to swim
- ◆ Never swim alone
- ◆ If in doubt, don't go out

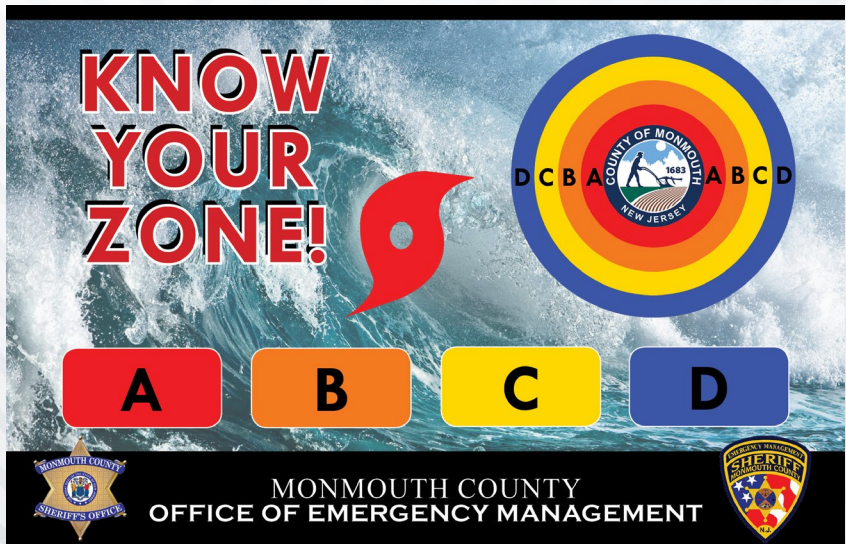
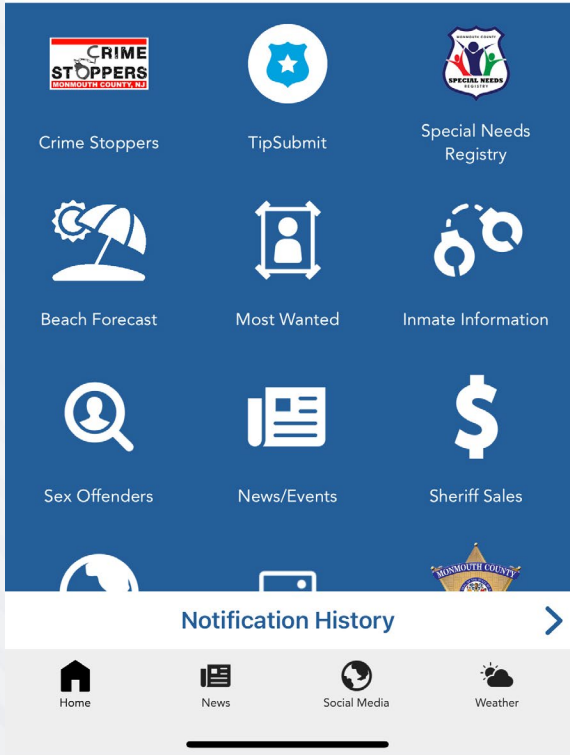
More information about rip currents can be found at the following web sites:  
www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov  
www.usfa.org

# BOATING SAFETY TIPS

- Have a checklist and follow it prior to departure.
- Operate at a safe speed, be aware of your surroundings, and stay clear of large vessels.
- Make sure there is more than one person who can handle operations of the boat.
- Be sure that all know how to swim.
- Wear a lifejacket properly.
- Do not consume alcohol prior to or while out on a vessel. It is illegal to operate a boat with a blood alcohol level of .08 or higher which could result in mandatory loss of boating and driving privileges.

# NATIONAL HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK

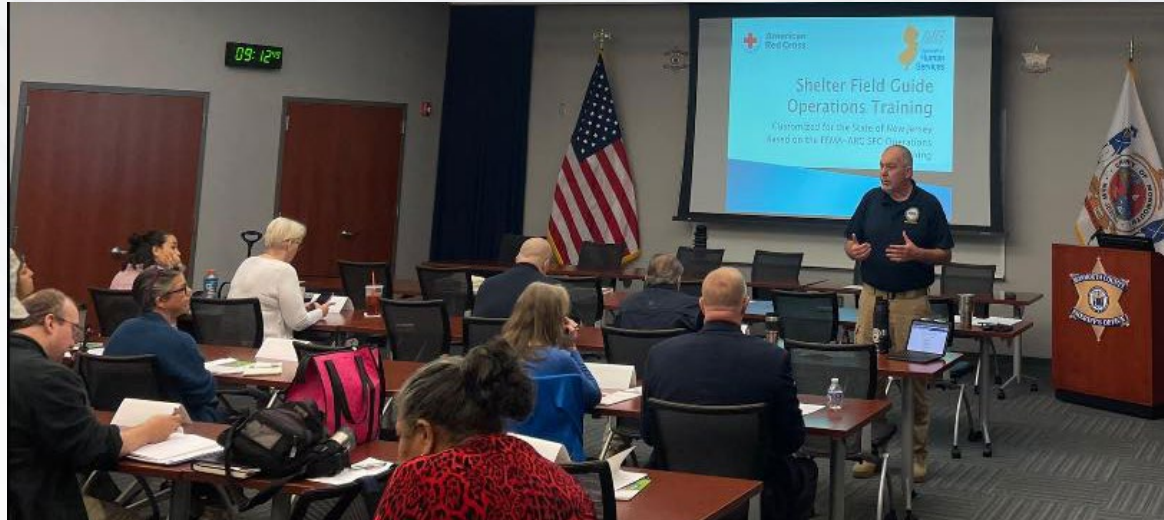
As part of Hurricane Preparedness Week held April 30 – May 6, Sheriff Golden and OEM Coordinator Scott Nielsen highlighted and featured the importance of planning, preparing and staying informed. Topics included the MCSO App, KNOW YOUR ZONE, the STORM Program, Register Ready and pet safety during a storm. This information is particularly vital as we approach Hurricane Season which begins June 1.



## NJOEM HOLDS SHELTER OPERATIONS TRAINING

With hurricane season upon us, the NJ Department of Human Services held field guide training in shelter operations at the MCSO for shelter workers and first responders on May 22. The program highlighted how to establish, prepare, open, operate and close a shelter in the event residents need to be evacuated. Sheriff Golden's team led shelter operations in Monmouth County during Superstorm Sandy and knows how important shelters are when a disaster strikes.

Much appreciation to the state for offering this guide which assists those without prior disaster experience in shelter operations.



## SHERIFF GOLDEN HOSTS HUMAN TRAFFICKING SYMPOSIUM

Sheriff Golden was proud to host the MCSO's Human Trafficking Symposium on May 8 with Congressman Chris Smith, Monmouth County Prosecutor Raymond Santiago, Suzanne Sernal - Women's Services RWJBarnabas Health, Julia Einbond - Covenant House New Jersey and Gina Cavallo - NJ Coalition Against Human Trafficking, who provided a compelling victim account.

Topics included federal laws passed to combat human trafficking, details on how healthcare professionals and anti-human trafficking advocates address and deal with one of the most under reported and largest criminal enterprises in the nation, and how law enforcement works to prevent and combat the exploitation of women, men and children.

As part of the latest outreach initiative, members of law enforcement from the MCSO are travelling to hotels, motels and shopping areas to provide resources and information in an effort to spread awareness in areas that could be venues for human trafficking.

Thanks to all of the participants who provided vital information on how we can all work together to assist and help address, protect, prosecute and prevent this criminal act.



## 9-1-1 COMMUNICATIONS CENTER TAKES OVER DISPATCH OPERATIONS IN UNION BEACH AND SHREWSBURY

Sheriff Golden was pleased to announce that the plan for the Monmouth County 9-1-1 Communications Center to take over police, fire and EMS calls for Union Beach and Shrewsbury was implemented. As a result, all dispatch for both municipalities are now run through Monmouth County.

The Monmouth County 911 Communications Center is the largest shared service in Monmouth County, and this move is a great example of enhancing public safety at a cost savings. The change will provide a high level of services in an efficient manner through our trained, dedicated team of public safety telecommunicators, who serve Monmouth County 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



## MCSO MOURNS THE LOSS OF DEDICATED PST



The MCSO and the entire public safety community mourned the loss of one of our own after the recent untimely passing of Public Safety Telecommunicator Zachery McCarthy. PST McCarthy worked at the MCSO for nine years and was also Chief of the Englishtown/Manalapan First Aid Squad. He was dedicated to emergency services and had an important role in saving lives. Sheriff Golden and the MCSO thank PST McCarthy for his years of service. Our deepest thoughts remain with his family.



## MCSO DEEPLY SADDENED OVER THE LOSS OF JUDGE THORNTON

Sheriff Golden and the MCSO's hearts were heavy with the passing of Monmouth County Assignment Judge Lisa P. Thornton.

Judge Thornton was an outstanding judicial administrator as well as an astute judge, earning the respect and admiration of all that knew her. We are grateful for all of her assistance and support of the law enforcement division's court security unit and beyond.



The sheriff had the privilege of Judge Thornton administering the Oath of Office as Sheriff on New Year's Day, 2023, an event the MCSO shall long cherish.

We will keep Judge Thornton and her family in our thoughts and prayers during this time of sorrow.



## POLICE ACADEMY GRADUATION

The graduation of 96 newly sworn law enforcement and correctional police officers from the Monmouth County Police Academy was held at Brookdale Community College on May 25. Eighteen recruits of the 104th Basic Course for Police Officers, 45 recruits from the 55th Basic Course for Class II Special Law Enforcement Officers and 33 recruits from the 40th Basic Course for County Corrections received their Police Training Commission certifications during the ceremony.

These fine men and women have demonstrated their commitment to law enforcement by persevering and successfully completing intense training. We especially commend the five sheriff's officers and 28 correctional police officers from the MCSO who graduated.

There is no higher responsibility than maintaining public safety and therefore becoming a member of law enforcement is both a great challenge and privilege. We are proud of the graduates accomplishments.



## MCSO PARTICIPATES IN UNITY TOUR WHERE MANY RODE FOR NJ FALLEN OFFICER

It was quite the morning in Belmar on May 9, where men and women in blue from New Jersey to California gathered together to kick off the Police Unity Tour to ride for those who died.

Fourteen members of the MCSO from the Law Enforcement and Corrections Divisions peddled down to DC. Sheriff Golden proudly supports this great mission each year and commends all members of law enforcement who participated for their commitment to remember our fallen officers and to raise money for National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund. The tour honors all of our fallen officers. While many throughout NJ rode for Deptford Police Officer Bobby Shisler, who died in the line of duty, countless other members of law enforcement lined up for his procession to the funeral home with very heavy hearts. Our Honor Guard represented the MCSO as all saluted Officer Shisler. He was a hero and will always be remembered for his sacrifice and service.



## MCSO COMMEMORATES NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

The MCSO commemorated National Police Week from May 14-23. We recognize and thank all our members of law enforcement, and honor and remember the brave men and women who have died in the line of duty. Sheriff Golden and the MCSO will never forget the sacrifices they made and what families have had to endure. We thank them for their service and salute all.



## MCSO HOLDS CEREMONY TO REMEMBER ITS OFFICERS

MCSO held a ceremony on May 26 in front of the Monmouth County Police Academy in memory of members of the law enforcement division who have gone before us. A wreath was placed to memorialize fifteen officers as their names were read. Sheriff Golden thanks the family members for their support and ensures them that their loved ones will not be forgotten.



## SHERIFF'S OFFICERS PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVE THREAT CHALLENGE

MCSO Sheriff's Officers participated in the Howell Township's Active Threat Response Challenge on May 24 and 25 where they competed in various team exercises that tested their ability to respond to active threat situations.

Congrats to our sheriff's team that placed 1st, a testament to the training they receive throughout the year. Way to go.





# MCSO PROMOTES AND SWEARS IN NEW OFFICERS

During the month of May Sheriff Golden was proud to promote and swear in new officers.

The MCSO congratulates Sgt. Kasey Collins and Kevin O'Neill who took the oath of office as sergeant, and, welcomes our two new Sheriff's Officers John Traynor and Ethan Vargas. Best of luck to all.



# MCSO COMMEMORATES NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WEEK



**MONMOUTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
 SHERIFF SHAUN GOLDEN  
**NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WEEK**  
 MAY 7 - 13, 2023

Sheriff Golden and the MCSO were proud to recognize the fine correctional police officers of the Monmouth County Correctional Institution, during National Correctional Officers Week, held May 7- 13. These corrections professionals are owed a tremendous debt of gratitude for their exceptional work in safeguarding lives and preserving peace in a correctional environment. There are many risks involved working as a correctional police officer that compromise safety and we thank all for their service, dedication and courage. The Monmouth County Correctional Institution is nationally accredited in corrections and correctional healthcare.



# MCSO RECOGNIZES EMS WEEK

EMS Week was held May 21-27. Sheriff Golden and MCSO commended all of our EMS providers for their exceptional work and efforts to maintain the health and safety of our residents. These everyday heroes go beyond the call of duty and we thank and salute all.



## GREAT RESPONSE BY OUR EMS COORDINATORS

The MCSO's Office of Emergency Management team, the Monmouth County OEM EMS Task Force, Deputy EMS Coordinators and the Medical Ambulance Bus assisted Matawan Police Department, fire and Bayshore EMS with the evacuation and relocation of approximately 50 residents from Spring Hills senior living facility due to an exterior fire on May 15.

Thanks to all first responders for this swift response which resulted in extinguishing the fire quickly, with no injuries and minor damage.



## MUNICIPAL COORDINATORS MEET AT MCSO

MCSO's quarterly meeting with municipal OEM coordinators throughout Monmouth County was held at the Public Safety Center where the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management conducted Preliminary Damage Assessment training on May 23. Thanks to NJOEM for the informative training program. During hurricane season it's important to plan and prepare.



## NATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS DAY

We recognized the bravest as part of International Firefighters Day, observed May 4. Sheriff Golden and the MCSO thank all of the volunteer and paid firefighters throughout Monmouth County who courageously risk their lives to protect others.

We are proud of your bravery, courage and heroic efforts.



## SHERIFF GOLDEN HOSTS VETERAN SERVICE COUNCIL

Sheriff Golden hosted the Veteran Service Council at the MCSO and provided them with an overview of operations, a K-9 demo and a tour of the public safety facilities on May 17. During the meeting, led by our Veteran's Services Officer Mike Ferraro, important information was exchanged about vets initiatives. The sheriff created the Veteran Service Council to assist, advise and share programs that enhance the lives of our veterans.



# MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

During the month of May we honor and thank all members of the Armed Forces as Military Appreciation Month is recognized. Sheriff Golden gratefully appreciates all who are serving, their families and our veterans. Thank you for your service.



## MCSO PARTICIPATES IN HONOR DAY

The MCSO participated in Honor Day sponsored by the Eagle Oaks Golf & Country Club on May 25 as part of Fleet Week to recognize and pay tribute to members of the US Military and benefit the Tunnel to Towers Foundation. The daylong event celebrated our military men and women, where they enjoyed the festivities.

The MCSO was proud to be a part of this special day to honor those who protect our country and freedom.

Thanks to the schools and non-profit organizations for supporting this great event.



## REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS ON MEMORIAL DAY

On this past Memorial Day we honored, remembered and celebrated the brave heroes who died while serving our country and sacrificed so much for our freedom. Sheriff Golden and the MCSO salute them all on this Memorial Day.

Thank you for your service.



## SHERIFF HONORED AT NJAC

It was a great afternoon at the New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC), annual conference in Atlantic City on May 4 as Sheriff Golden was presented with the County Service Award. Recipients of the award are chosen for their outstanding leadership and commitment to county government and NJAC. Sheriff Golden is honored to have received this notable award and thanks NJAC for being the best advocate to NJ counties.

Monmouth County Government County Administrator Teri O'Connor was also presented with the County Administrator Lifetime Achievement Award. Congrats on a job well done.



## SEEK 9-1-1

The Monmouth County Sheriff's Office presented SEEK 9-1-1 to elementary school students at the Thorne Middle School in Port Monmouth, Marlboro Elementary School and the St. James Elementary School in Red Bank in May. SEEK 9-1-1 is one of the most popular and extremely important youth safety programs from the MCSO.

SEEK (Sheriff's Emergency Education For Kids) teaches students the proper way to dial 9-1-1 and how to get help quickly for their own safety and for their families.



Visit the  
Monmouth County Sheriff's Office  
Heroin Opiate Prevention Education  
Mobile Unit at

**1<sup>st</sup> TUESDAY** OF EVERY MONTH  
St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
247 Carr Ave, Keansburg, NJ

**3<sup>rd</sup> TUESDAY** OF EVERY MONTH  
Brookdale Community College  
765 Newman Springs Rd. Lincroft, NJ

**3<sup>rd</sup> THURSDAY** OF EVERY MONTH  
Asbury Park Train Station  
111 Main Street, Asbury Park, NJ

**4<sup>th</sup> THURSDAY**  
OF EVERY MONTH  
St. Peter's Church  
33 Throckmorton St. Freehold, NJ



## HOPE ONE

The MCSO's HOPE One Mobile Unit continues to make its way around Monmouth County offering help and HOPE and is stationed in Asbury Park, Freehold, Keansburg and Brookdale Community College on various days the next several months. Sheriff Golden is pleased to have these community partnerships, since HOPE is a vital resource and innovative approach in addressing the opioid epidemic.

## MCSO PARTICIPATES IN SPRING LAKE FIVE

It was a beautiful day for the Spring Lake Five on May 27 and Sheriff Golden thanks our first responders who helped ensure safety at this great event. Our MCSO emergency response unit and assets including Field Comm 1, the Medical Ambulance Bus, MCSO ASAP, Sky Hawk Tower and K-9 teams were all present.



## RED NOSE DAY

The MCSO's Public Safety Telecommunicators looked a bit different on May 24 while working in the 9-1-1 Communications Center, but it was all for a good cause. They were recognizing Red Nose Day, an annual campaign to address poverty and help ensure that children are safe, healthy and educated. Proceeds from the purchase of the red noses assist in providing meals, medicine and education to underserved children in the US and around the world.



## BEST OF LUCK TO MONMOUTH U GRADUATES

Sheriff Golden and the MCSO congratulate this year's graduating class at Monmouth University and wish them the best of luck, especially Stephanie Seymour, a Homeland Security major with a minor in Geographic Information Systems. Stephanie started as an intern at the MCSO Office of Emergency Management and now works as an OEM Analyst. Best of luck.





# MONMOUTH COUNTY CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

## MCSO TOURS

Sheriff Golden is always proud to welcome and mentor students. During the month of May, college and high school students throughout Monmouth County were presented with an overview of operations, toured the Public Safety Center, the 9-1-1 Communications Center and the Monmouth County Correctional Institution. These visits provide students with a firsthand look into law enforcement and potential careers they can explore.



Monmouth County Clerk's Office  
Jennifer Collins and Interns



Colts Neck HS NJROTC



Marlboro HS Criminology Class