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From the desk of.... Sheriff Shaun Golden

MONMOUTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER

SHERIFF GOLDEN, CONGRESSMAN CHRIS SMITH & COMMISSIONERS ANNOUNCE CRITICAL UPGRADES TO EMERGENCY CENTER AT THE START OF HURRICANE SEASON

Critical and technological upgrades were made to Monmouth County's Emergency Operations Center were announced, June 2, right at the start of hurricane season, thanks to the generous federal funding secured by Congressman Chris Smith, and the strong support of the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners. As a result, our EOC is now better equipped with innovative technology to protect residents and coordinate emergency response efforts more efficiently. With forecasts predicting an active storm season, these upgrades will help us stay ahead of evolving threats and ensure we are fully prepared to serve and protect communities when it matters most.

The series of technological upgrades designed to enhance emergency response and public safety operations include the replacement of an aging multi-monitor video wall that is essential for real-time situational awareness during emergencies and large-scale incidents. Additionally, enhancements to the Monmouth County Flood Warning System will provide county and local responders with real time weather and tidal data, enabling faster and more informed decision making during severe weather events in Monmouth County. The upgrades also include the deployment of tablets equipped with advanced and instant tracking capabilities to municipal reception centers and county operated shelters, that would assist with accountability of residents, reunification, and recovery. Furthermore, the tablets will facilitate the collection of Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs) in the field, an essential function for accurately documenting damages during natural or manmade disasters. A state-of-the-art weather station has also been installed, offering timely meteorological data and integrated lightning timers to ensure safety, and, upgrades to the phone system have been implemented to provide the ability for a surge call center during emergencies or disasters.







- **CONGRATS TO GRADUATES**
- **SHERIFF GOLDEN ADDRESSES NJ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION SYMPOSIUM**
- MCSO SEEKS EMS **PROFESSIONALS**
- **INMATES GO BACK TO SCHOOL**
- **CONGRATS TO THE K-9 TEAM**
- **SHERIFF HOSTS MONMOUTH OCEAN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**
- **CONGRATS TO POSTER CONTEST WINNERS**
- **HAPPY BIRTHDAY FUZE**

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The much-needed changes to the Emergency Operation Center reinforces Monmouth County's commitment to strengthen emergency preparedness and response. With the continued partnership of leaders like Congressman Smith and the dedication of county officials, residents can be confident that Monmouth County is more ready than ever to face emergencies head-on and protect our communities in times of crisis.

HURRICANE SAFETY TIPS

Hurricane season began June 1 and ends November 30. As a leader in emergency services, it's important for the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office to stress that now is the time to take the proper precautions to ensure the safety of residents, visitors and communities.

Monmouth County residents are urged to Know Your Zone, a lifesaving evacuation plan that helps identify coastal zones (A, B, C, and D) most at risk during storms. To find your zone, visit www.MCSONJ.ORG/READY.

Furthermore the MCSO urges residents to download the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office App, available for free on Android and iOS. The app provides instant access to weather information, emergency alerts and important public safety updates.

As always, it's also important to have a family emergency kit ready with essential supplies. While we hope for an uneventful hurricane season, sharing this information with loved ones helps keep everyone safe and prepared.

Throughout the summer Sheriff Golden and OEM Coordinator will share tips on planning and preparedness.



that you could use in an emergency.





Help your neighbor



THE BEGINNING OF SUMMER SIZZLES

Summer began June 20, and it brought quite the heat wave in the days following with temperatures well into the 90s. While Sheriff Golden and the MCSO hope all enjoy this beautiful season, temps will no doubt swelter, so stay safe and healthy as we embrace more sunny days ahead.

Whether you're planning a BBQ, hitting the surf, or simply relaxing with family and friends, make sure to take precautions like staying hydrated, wearing sunscreen, and keeping an eye on your loved ones, particularly when the summer heat sizzles.







CERT IS PREPARED & AT THE READY DURING HEAT WAVE

The MCSO OEM Community Emergency Response Team is well prepared to assist with emergencies that may arise during the sizzling heat. CERT members participated in hands-on training, June 18, that focused on hot weather emergency preparations which included the deployment and operation of backup generators, emergency light towers, portable cooling units, and managing the MCSO emergency response vehicles and trailers. Preparedness is key when temperatures rise.

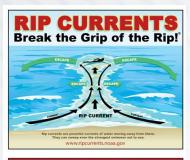




SHERIFF GOLDEN STRESSES SWIMMING SAFETY

While the heat is on, many head to the beach as temperatures soar, and school is out for the summer. Sheriff Golden cautions all to make sure you/your children know how to swim before entering the water, swim only when lifeguards are on duty, never swim alone and avoid rip currents.

Let's all enjoy the summer season safely.



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







LIFEGUARDS ARE GEARED UP FOR THE SUMMER

Speaking of lifeguards, great job to those who completed intense training from the Monmouth County Regional Lifeguard Academy and are ready to ensure the safety of beachgoers at the Jersey Shore. U/S Robert Dawson attended the graduation, June 26 at the National Guard Training Center and spoke about how important the role of a lifeguard is to keeping residents and visitors safe. The 60 graduates were commended for their commitment and dedication to this tough job. Lifeguards trained for a total of 100 hours. The towns that participated were Allenhurst, Asbury Park, Bradley Beach, Avon, Ocean Grove and Sea Girt as well as the Monmouth County Parks Service.







FIREWORKS SAFETY

Sheriff Golden wants all to celebrate their patriotism safely while marking the upcoming Fourth of July holiday weekend. The MCSO is reminding people that fireworks are dangerous and illegal, except for certain sparkling devices and novelty items, and should only be handled by professionals. It's important to know that the danger is not only limited to general Fourth of July fireworks. Even sparklers, which are exempt from the state's fireworks ban, should be kept away from small children, as they can easily cause harm.

In 2024 from June 29 - July 5, the Monmouth County 9-1-1 Communications Center received 245 calls related to fireworks.

Please take precautions as we honor America's independence.



- Light fireworks one at a time and keep your distance. Move away immediately once the fuse is lit.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby in case of an emergency.
- If the firework does not light properly, do not try to re-light it. Instead douse itwith water.
- Keep Children away from all fireworks. Never allow them to play with or ignite.



BEST OF LUCK FIREFIGHTERS

Sheriff Golden proudly celebrated the graduation of the recruits from Firefighter 1 Class 141 and Firefighter 2 Class 2026 at Brookdale Community College, June 9. Their dedication and hard work at the Monmouth County Fire Academy has paved the way for them to serve communities as skilled firefighters.

Best of luck to the next generation of first responders in keeping our communities and county safe.









MCSO RETIRES FLAGS & COMMEMORATES FLAG DAY

As we celebrated and saluted our stars and stripes on Flag Day, June 14, we were reminded of the sacrifices many made for our freedom. That's why Sheriff Golden was proud to recently retire more than 1600 flags, with dignity and respect, during the MCSO's American Flag Retirement ceremony at the Monmouth County Fire Academy.

Thanks to the Boy Scouts for properly honoring the flags during the event. To date a total of 16,957 flags have been retired.

The MCSO Flag Dropbox is located outside of the front entrance to the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office, 2500 Kozloski Road in Freehold and can be utilized seven days a week.







LE TORCH RUN

The MCSO was proud to participate in the 42nd annual Law Enforcement Torch Run held June 6, to benefit Special Olympics New Jersey. Sheriff Golden thanks all members of law enforcement for the dedication and support of a such a great cause throughout the years. MCSO Correctional Police Officers and Sheriff's Officers passed the torch through Freehold Borough, Freehold Township, joined Manalapan Township Police Department in Manalapan and ended at the ShopRite in Marlboro on Route 9. Way to go to all!



MCSO PARTICIPATES IN FIRST RESPONDERS NIGHT

The MCSO's Honor Guard was standing proud during First Responders Night at the Jersey Shore BlueClaws game, June 12. Staff from the Law Enforcement Division were honored to represent the MCSO by holding up the American Flag during the National Anthem and showcasing equipment and vehicles for all to see up close on this important night.

Sheriff Golden thanks the Jersey Shore Blue Claws for the well deserved recognition of all officers whose dedication and commitment to public safety does not go unnoticed.







200 VALOR CLUB AWARDS

It's always an honor and privilege to attend the 200 Club of Monmouth County's Annual Valor Luncheon at the Spring Lake Golf Club to recognize first responders who go above and beyond the call of duty. S/O Jason Simeone and the Monmouth County Team of the US Marshals Regional Fugitive Task Force received certificates of recognition, June 12. Through the team's hard work, approximately 215 fugitives wanted for serious crimes were apprehended in 2024.

Sheriff Golden and the MCSO commend the team on a job well done and thanks all for their service in maintaining safety and keeping criminals off the streets.



CONGRATS TO RETIREES

The MCSO said farewell to two outstanding members of the agency. Sgt. Kurt Kroeper and Supervisor of IT Paul Doty are both embarking on a well-deserved retirement.

Sgt. Kroeper retires after 31 years of dedicated service, having worked in nearly every area of the Law Enforcement Division. His heart, however, was always with the MCSO K-9 Unit. Over the years, he and his trusted K-9 partners played a vital role in apprehending suspects, locating missing individuals, and supporting the fight against illegal drugs. His legacy and impact on the K-9 Unit will not be forgotten.

Paul Doty, leaves after 24 years of service. Paul led the department with unmatched technical knowledge, helping modernize and maintain the complex systems that power the MCSO.

Both were recognized by the Board of County Commissioners. Sheriff Golden thanks Sgt. Kroeper and Paul for their exceptional service and wish them the very best in this next chapter.





MCSO PRESENTS FRAUD PROTECTION

S/O Jasmin Colon presented Fraud Protection at the Manalapan Senior Center, June 24, where she shared vital information with the senior community about how to recognize scams, protect personal information, and report suspicious activity. Programs like these help empower our residents to stay informed and safe.

Thank you to the Manalapan Senior Center for hosting this valuable event, and to S/O Colon for her dedication to public safety and education.



CONGRATS TO GRADUATES

Huge congratulations and the best of luck to the high school graduates of 2025! Sheriff Golden is proud of all and was pleased to address the students from the Academy of Law and Public Safety during their graduation ceremony, June 18. It's uplifting to see the next generation of future leaders in law enforcement move ahead. Six graduates are Special Law Enforcement Officers Class I, and 17 of them are MCSO public safety telecommunicator trainees.

To all the graduates throughout Monmouth County, keep having the commitment and compassion to learn and always strive to make a difference.





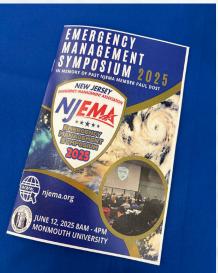


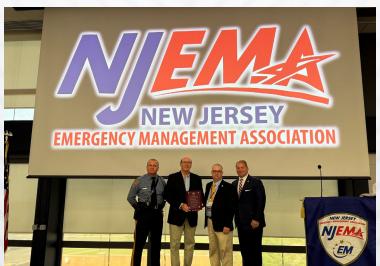


SHERIFF GOLDEN ADDRESSES NJ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION SYMPOSIUM

Sheriff Golden provided opening remarks at the New Jersey Emergency Management Association's Symposium, June 12, held at Monmouth University. The event brought together top leaders and experts in emergency preparedness from across the state to share best practices, strengthen partnerships, and reinforce our commitment to public safety.

The sheriff was proud to represent the MCSO, and join fellow professionals who work tirelessly to keep our communities safe and ready in the event of an emergency.







MCSO SEEKS EMS PROFESSIONALS

Want to be a part of the MCSO's county run Emergency Medical Services Operation, MedStar? Sheriff Golden is seeking additional skilled EMS professionals to join this dynamic team.

MedStar has highly trained full and part time EMTs who are dedicated to saving lives, by providing the highest level of care and professionalism.

The County of Monmouth is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



INMATES GO BACK TO SCHOOL

The MCSO Corrections Division continues to strive in assisting inmates with a brighter future, by having them utilize their time most productively, by going back to school. For sixteen weeks, 20 inmates from the Monmouth County Correctional Institution have been studying for their GED (high school equivalency diplomas) online through a program run by the Monmouth-Ocean Educational Services Commission. They officially became graduates of the program and received their high school diploma from the State of New Jersey during a special ceremony at MCCI on June 18.

This state-of-the-art, virtual online GED program began at the jail in 2007. The inmates study math, science, social studies, reading, and writing five days a week to prepare for the GED exam. The online program runs throughout the entire year.



CONGRATS TO K-9 TEAM

Another achievement for the MCSO's K-9 Unit and this one goes to S/O Doug Marino who graduated from the New Jersey State Police Canine Training Academy, June 6. S/O Marino is a certified Scent Detection Trainer and can now train new K-9s and recertify existing K-9 teams.

From fighting the war on drugs and protecting communities from evolving threats, to locating missing persons and assisting in suspect apprehension, our K9 teams are an essential part of keeping Monmouth County safe.



SHERIFF HOSTS MONMOUTH OCEAN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Sheriff Golden hosted members of the Monmouth-Ocean Development Council MODC at the MCSO for an informative and engaging visit, June 6, as he provided an overview of operations, highlighting the many public safety initiatives, shared services, and cutting-edge technology that help keep Monmouth County safe.

Thanks to the MODC for its continued support and interest in public safety.



CONGRATS TO POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

The Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners, Sheriff Golden, Clerk Christine Hanlon and Surrogate Maureen Raisch honored the winners of the 2025 Constitutional Officers Association of New Jersey (COANJ) 'My County' poster contest at the Board of County Commissioners meeting held on June 12.

The winners of the poster contest were Madi Campanile, first place, Shrewsbury Borough School; Emily Kochka, second place, St. Rose of Lima in Freehold; and Lara Phadke, third place, H.W. Mountz School.

All were pleased to meet and congratulate the talented winners of the annual poster contest, since they dedicate valuable time to these creative posters. The project brings out the best in Monmouth County, and is a notable example of civic engagement, as it helps students learn more about the great county we live in.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY FUZE

K-9 Fuze celebrated a birthday on June 23 as he turned 11 years old. This highly trained explosive detection/patrol dog is 11 years old and remains a valuable asset to the MCSO's K-9 Unit. S/O Ralph Irizzary and Fuze make a great team and we thank both for their service and dedication to combatting crime.

