



2025 ANNUAL REPORT



El Paso County Sheriff's Office
SHERIFF OSCAR UGARTE

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A MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF



It is my honor to present the El Paso County Sheriff's Office 2025 Annual Report. This report reflects the dedication, professionalism, and hard work of the men and women who serve our community every day.

This past year marked my first year serving as Sheriff of El Paso County. From day one, our focus has been on addressing the issues that matter most to our community—public safety, transparency, accountability, and strengthening trust between law enforcement and the residents we serve. Our deputies and detention officers have remained committed to these priorities while continuing to respond to calls for service, investigate crimes, and maintain a visible presence throughout the county. **As a result of these efforts, we saw a 14% decrease in crime within our areas of responsibility over the past year, a meaningful indicator of the progress we are making together.**

We have also placed a strong emphasis on community engagement. Whether through school visits, outreach programs, community events, or partnerships with local organizations, our goal is to ensure that the Sheriff's Office remains connected to the people we serve. Public safety is strongest when law enforcement and the community work together.

Like many agencies across the country, we continue to face challenges, including staffing shortages and increasing demands for service. Despite these challenges, our team remains focused on improving operations, strengthening training, and implementing strategies that enhance both safety and accountability.

I am incredibly proud of the work accomplished during this first year, and I remain grateful for the dedication of our deputies, detention officers, civilian staff, and the support of our community. Together, we will continue working to keep El Paso County safe while focusing on the issues that matter most to the people we serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "O. Ugarte". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Oscar Ugarte
El Paso County Sheriff

COMMAND STAFF

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office Command Staff provides strategic leadership and oversight to ensure the effective operation of our patrol, detention, investigative, and administrative divisions.



PATRICK J GAILEY

Chief - Detention



OSCAR UGARTE

Sheriff



EMMANUEL SORIA

Chief - Law Enforcement



JOE CHAIREZ

Assistant Chief - Jail Annex



DONNA ELIZONDO

Assistant Chief - DDF



JEROME WASHINGTON

Commander
CID



JOSE RUBEN SORIA

Commander
Patrol



JORGE CARDENAS

Commander
Support Services

AGENCY OVERVIEW

Our Values

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office values the trust the public has given us and will honestly and ethically carry out our responsibilities. We will adhere to the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Texas in pursuit of community service. We will investigate and respond appropriately to all allegations of impropriety.

Our Mission

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office, as part of, and empowered by the community, is committed to:

- Protect lives, property, and the rights of people;
- Maintain order;
- Enforce the law impartially;
- Provide quality police service in partnership with other members of the community

To fulfill our mission, we will strive to attain the highest degree of ethical behavior and professional conduct at all times.

Agency Snapshot

Population Served: 865,657 (2020 US Census)

County Area Covered: Approximately 1,015 square miles

Total Employees: 1,042

- Peace Officers: 286
- Detention Officers: 574
- Civilian Staff: 182

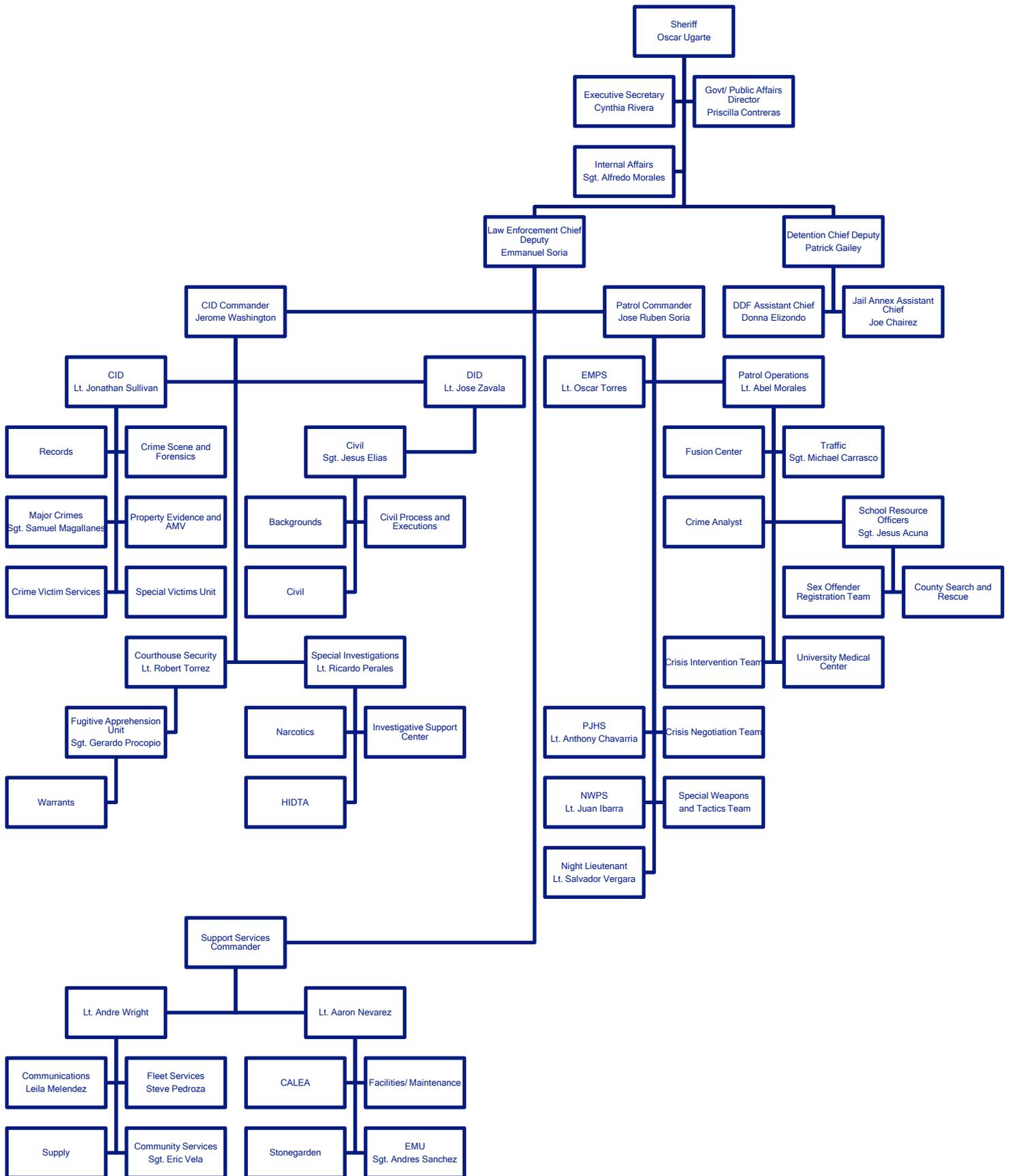


Adopted Budget for FY25 (October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025): \$154,193,275

Revised Budget for FY25 (October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025): \$180,465,609

Adopted Budget for FY26 (October 1, 2025 - September 30, 2026): \$162,539,852

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



INTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

Overview

The Internal Affairs Division ensures accountability, transparency, and professionalism within the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. The division conducts administrative investigations involving allegations of misconduct, policy violations, and other matters related to employee conduct.

Internal Affairs reviews complaints from both within the agency and from members of the public, ensuring all investigations are conducted thoroughly, fairly, and in accordance with departmental policy and applicable law. These reviews play an important role in maintaining the trust and confidence of the community we serve.

The division is staffed by 1 Sergeant, 4 Detectives, and 1 Senior Administrative Specialist who manage investigations, maintain case documentation, and ensure compliance with agency standards.

Activity

- 192 total complaints or allegations received
- 187 Internal Investigations
- 5 Citizen Complaint Investigations

Disposition for Internal Investigations	
Exonerated	1
No Further Action	0
Not Sustained	20
Pending	33
Sustained	131
Unfounded	2
Withdrawn	0
Total	187

Disposition for Citizen Complaints	
Exonerated	0
No Further Action	0
Not Sustained	2
Pending	0
Sustained	3
Unfounded	0
Withdrawn	0
Total	5

In 2025, the Internal Affairs Division reviewed 128 use-of-force incidents involving 174 officers to ensure compliance with departmental policy, state law, and professional policing standards.

Of the 128 incidents reviewed, 112 occurred within the Detention Bureau and 16 occurred within the Law Enforcement Bureau.

Across these incidents, officers used varying levels of force depending on the circumstances. These included physical force, chemical agents, impact force, expandable batons, and

conducted energy devices (Tasers). In some cases, more than one type of force was used during a single incident.

All 16 Law Enforcement Bureau use-of-force incidents were reviewed and determined to be within policy. During these incidents, eight subjects and three officers sustained minor injuries.

Within the Detention Bureau reviews, eight officers were investigated for allegations of improper tactics, resulting in one sustained finding and four cases currently pending disposition. Additionally, twelve officers were investigated for allegations of excessive use of force, all of which resulted in not sustained findings.

These reviews help ensure that all uses of force are consistent with departmental policy and reinforce the Sheriff's Office commitment to accountability, transparency, and professional standards.

Bureau	Incidents	Officers Injured	Subjects Injured	Subjects Deceased
Law Enforcement	16	3	8	0
Detention	112	33	47	0
Total	128	36	55	0

Use of Force by Incidents Per Bureau									
Bureau	Physical	Chemical Agent	Impact	Taser	Vascular Neck Restricitons	Chokehold	Firearm	Other	Total
Law Enforcement	3	0	1	9	0	0	2	0	15
Detention	89	2	1	4	0	0	0	1	97
Total	92	2	2	13	0	0	2	1	112

DETENTION BUREAU

Overview

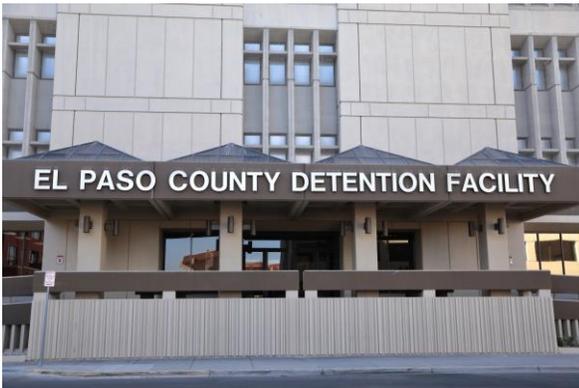
The Detention Bureau, overseen by **Chief Deputy Patrick J. Gailey**, is responsible for the operation, safety, and security of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office detention facilities. The bureau manages the custody and care of inmates while ensuring compliance with state jail standards and maintaining a secure environment for staff, inmates, and the community.

The bureau operates two facilities:

- **Downtown Detention Facility (DDF)**
- **Jail Annex Facility**

Together, these facilities provide a total detention capacity of 2,906 inmates.

The Detention Bureau is staffed by 2 Assistant Chiefs, 10 Lieutenants, 27 Sergeants, 44 Corporals, 486 Detention Officers, and 25 Trainees, who work around the clock to oversee facility operations, inmate supervision, transportation, intake and release processes, and overall facility security.



DOWNTOWN DETENTION FACILITY

Overview

Location: 601 E. Overland Ave., El Paso, TX 79901

Overseen by: Assistant Chief Donna Elizondo

The Downtown Detention Facility is a 310,440 square-foot detention facility located across from federal, state, district, county, justice of the peace, and municipal courts, allowing for efficient inmate court transportation and coordination.



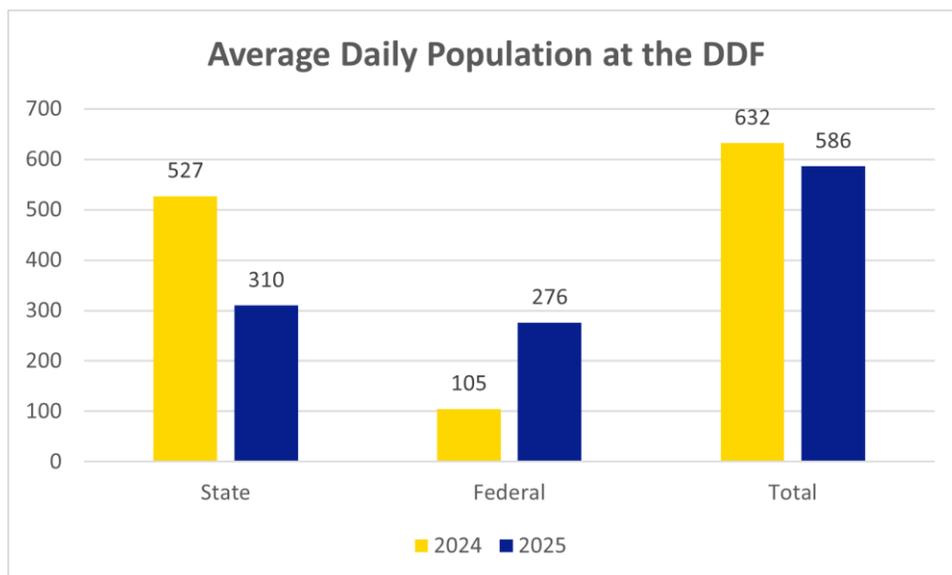
The facility has a housing capacity of 1,010 inmates, including 10 medical beds, and contains nine housing floors, one of which is designated for female housing.

DDF also houses two Jail Magistrate Courts, the Sheriff's Office Warrants Section, the Bond and Inmate Trust Section, and the Criminal Justice Coordination Section, making it a central hub for detention and court-related operations.

Housing Population

In 2025, the Detention Facilities averaged 586 inmates in custody daily, compared to 632 in 2024. These figures include inmates assigned to housing as well as individuals in custody awaiting classification.

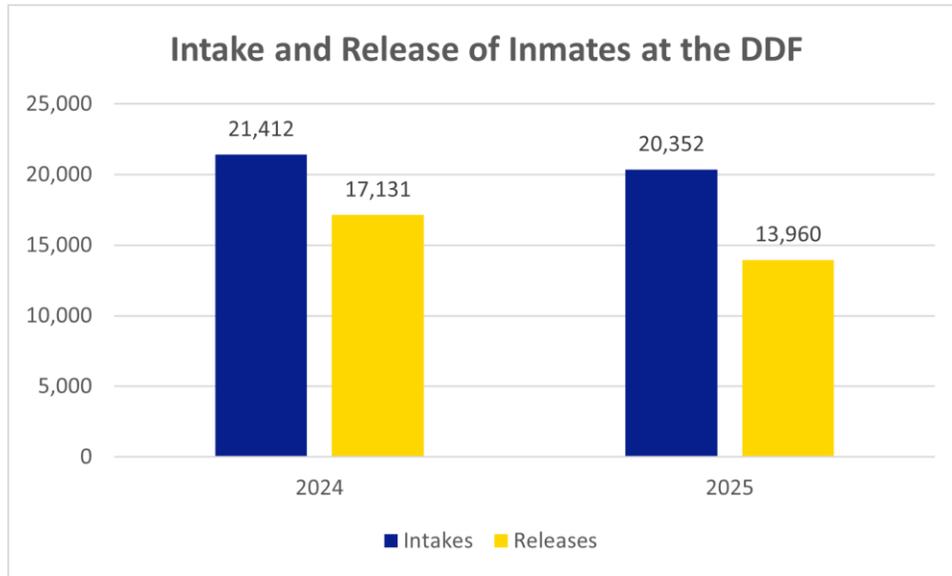
The federal inmate population averaged 276 inmates daily, while the state inmate population averaged 310 inmates classified and housed each day.



Intake and Release of Inmates

In 2025, 20,352 individuals were booked into the detention facilities, compared to 21,412 in 2024, a decrease of 1,060 intakes. These bookings included both state and federal arrests, ranging from misdemeanors to felony offenses.

During the same period, 13,960 individuals were released from custody, compared to 17,131 releases in 2024, a decrease of 3,170 releases.



In Custody Deaths

In 2025, the Downtown Detention Facility recorded 8 in-custody deaths. Of these, four were ruled suicides, three were determined to be natural causes, and one was classified as accidental.

In Custody Deaths at the DDF		
Date	Name	Manner of Death
1/23/2025	Joe Murvin	Natural
1/25/2025	Miguel Angel Montoya	Suicide
3/9/2025	Rafael Reyes	Suicide
8/1/2025	Jonathan Rizzo	Natural
8/10/2025	Matthew Jacob Cintron	Suicide
8/22/2025	Lazaro Villalobos	Natural
9/11/2025	Tara Williams	Suicide
10/22/2025	Jose Victor Garza	Accident

JAIL ANNEX

Overview

Location: 12501 E. Montana Ave., El Paso, TX 79938

Overseen by: Assistant Chief Joe Chairez

The Jail Annex Facility is a pod-style detention facility comprised of four housing units, each containing four pods. The facility has a housing capacity of 1,872 inmates, with an additional 24 beds in ward and isolation cells, for a total capacity of 1,896 inmates.

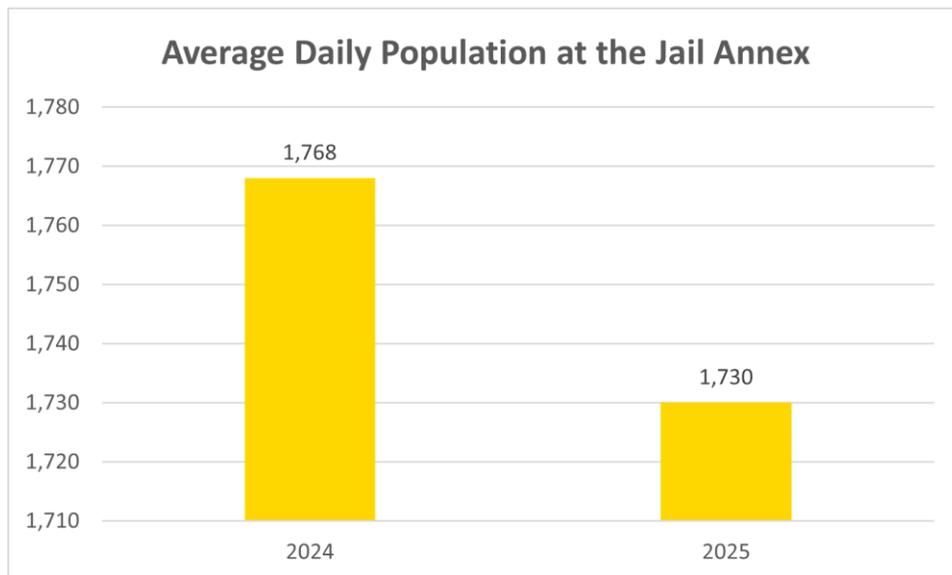


The Jail Annex plays a critical role in supporting the county's detention operations by housing a large portion of the inmate population while maintaining safe and secure custody operations.

Housing Population

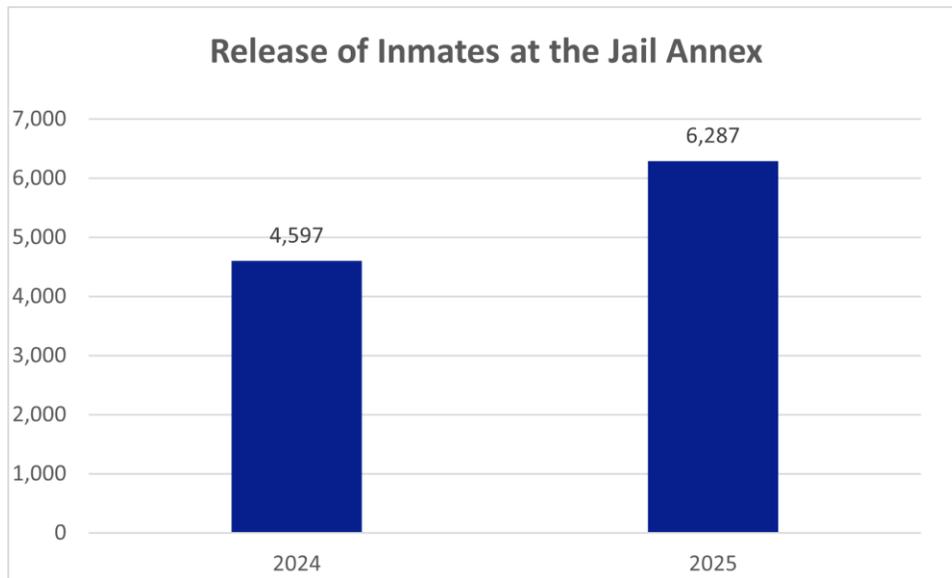
In 2025, the Jail Annex averaged approximately 1,730 inmates in custody daily, compared to 1,768 in 2024. These figures include inmates assigned to housing as well as individuals in custody awaiting classification.

The federal inmate population averaged 0 inmates in 2025, as the facility ceased housing federal inmates in May 2024.



Release of Inmates

In 2025, 6,287 inmates were released from the Jail Annex, compared to 4,597 releases in 2024, representing an increase of 1,690 releases.



In Custody Deaths

In 2025, the Jail Annex recorded 2 in-custody deaths. Both deaths were determined to be natural causes.

In Custody Deaths at the Jail Annex		
Date	Name	Manner of Death
4/28/2025	Gustavo Guevara	Natural
11/11/2025	Robert Lee Chapman	Natural

Each in-custody death is thoroughly investigated by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards (TCJS), the Texas Rangers, the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Major Crimes Unit, and the Sheriff’s Office Internal Affairs Division to ensure transparency and compliance with state law and detention standards.

As of this report, the Sheriff’s Office has not been deemed out of compliance by the State of Texas in relation to these incidents. If our Internal Affairs investigation determines that the actions or negligence of an employee contributed to a death, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken, and the individual(s) will be held accountable.

Manners of Death

- Natural:** A natural death is caused by a disease or the aging process. It is the most common classification. The key is that no outside factor played a direct role. For example, a person who dies from a sudden heart attack, complications of long-term

diabetes, or end-stage cancer has died a natural death. Their body's own internal processes led to the end of life.

- **Accident:** A death as an accident when an injury or poisoning is the cause, but there is little to no evidence that it was intentional. These are unplanned events. This category covers a wide range of situations, such as an unintentional overdose on prescription medication or illegal drugs.
- **Suicide:** A death is classified as suicide when it results from an intentional, self-inflicted act. It must be supported by positive evidence showing the person acted with the specific purpose of ending their life. That evidence can come from a note, previous attempts, or statements made to friends and family.

LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

Overview

The Law Enforcement Bureau, overseen by **Chief Deputy Emmanuel Soria**, is responsible for providing public safety services, enforcing state and local laws, and protecting the residents of El Paso County. The bureau works to prevent crime, respond to emergencies, and conduct thorough investigations while maintaining strong partnerships with the community. **Through proactive policing strategies, increased visibility, and targeted enforcement efforts, the Bureau contributed to a 14% decrease in overall crime within our areas of responsibility over the past year.**

2024 vs 2025 Year Comparison			
Offense	2024	2025	% Change
Arson	6	8	25%
Agg. Assault	228	205	-11%
Burglary	161	148	-9%
Drug Crimes	1229	1046	-17%
Homicide	8	8	NVC
Human Trafficking	0	0	NVC
Theft	687	585	-17%
Theft of Vehicle/MVT	163	164	1%
Robbery	23	26	12%
Sex Offense	105	114	8%
Total	2610	2304	-13%
Crime Rate	299	263	-14%

The Law Enforcement Bureau is organized into three divisions:

- **Patrol Division**
- **Criminal Investigations Division**
- **Support Services Division**

These divisions work together to ensure effective law enforcement operations across the county, from proactive patrol and emergency response to follow-up investigations and specialized support functions.

The Law Enforcement Bureau is staffed by 3 Commanders, 11 Lieutenants, 28 Sergeants, 194 Deputies, 43 Detectives, and 12 Trainees, who work collectively to provide professional law enforcement services and maintain the safety and security of the community

PATROL DIVISION

Overview

Overseen by: Commander Jose Ruben Soria

The Patrol Division is responsible for providing frontline law enforcement services throughout El Paso County, protecting life and property while preserving peace and order. Deputies respond to calls for service, conduct proactive patrols, enforce traffic laws, and assist the public across both incorporated and unincorporated areas of the county.



The division operates three patrol stations, and two sub-stations strategically located throughout the county to ensure timely response and effective coverage. Deputies assigned to these stations work 24 hours a day, seven days a week, serving as the Sheriff's Office's primary first responders.

The Patrol Division is staffed by 1 Commander, 5 Lieutenants, 19 Sergeants, 142 Deputies, and 11 Detectives, who work together to keep our communities safe and maintain strong partnerships with the public.

2025 Activity

In 2025, Patrol Division activity increased across several key areas, including calls for service, proactive traffic enforcement, and specialized investigations related to DWI, animal cruelty, and illegal dumping.

Activity	2024	2025
Calls for Service	137,145	153,064
Traffic Stops	40,667	45,992
Citations Issued	10,852	16,318
Warnings Issued	29,815	29,674
DWI Arrests	282	436
Animal Cruelty Investigations	19	31
Illegal Dumping Investigations	16	41
Crisis Intervention Calls	1,644	3,880
Motor Vehicle Crashes	2,383	2,678
Motor Vehicle Fatalities	10	20
Events Attended/ Hosted by Patrol Stations	162	273

Specialized Units

The division also includes several specialized functions that support patrol operations:

- School Resource Officers
- Traffic Unit
- Fusion Center
- Crime Analysis
- Sex Offender Registration & Tracking
- Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)
- Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT)
- Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)



East Montana Patrol Station

Location: 12501 Montana Ave., Building C, El Paso, TX 79938

Overseen by: Lieutenant Oscar Torres

The East Montana Patrol Station serves the far east and northern areas of El Paso County, providing law enforcement services to rapidly growing residential and commercial communities.

Deputies assigned to this station patrol areas extending from the eastern city limits of El Paso to the Hudspeth County line, north to the federal military reservation, and south to Interstate 10. Communities within this area include Montana Vista, Hueco Tank Estates, North Ascencion, Emerald Park Estates, and surrounding areas near Horizon City, which has experienced significant residential and commercial growth in recent years.

The station also supports operations in the Sparks community, where a substation provides deputies with a nearby location for report writing, prisoner processing, and administrative duties while strengthening connections with the local community.



Peter J Herrera Patrol Station

Location: 190 San Elizario Rd., Clint, TX 79836

Overseen by: Lieutenant Anthony Chavarria

The Peter J. Herrera Patrol Station serves the southeast Lower Valley area of El Paso County. Located in the Town of Clint behind the El Paso County Mission Valley Annex, the station shares a facility with Justice of the Peace Precinct 6, the Constable Precinct 6 Office, and the El Paso County Clerk's Office.

Deputies assigned to this station patrol areas extending from the eastern city limits of El Paso to the Hudspeth County line, south of Interstate 10 and north of the international border.

Communities served include El Paso Hills, Lynwood Estates, Agua Dulce Subdivision, Las Colonias Subdivision, the Town of Clint, San Elizario, Fabens, Tornillo, and Palo Alto.

The area served by the station includes several agricultural and rural communities. A Fabens substation, located inside the Fabens Senior Center, provides deputies with a nearby location for report writing, prisoner processing, and administrative duties while supporting law enforcement presence in the Lower Valley.



Northwest Patrol Station

Location: 435 E. Vinton Ave., Suite D, Vinton, TX 79821

Overseen by: Lieutenant Juan Ibarra

The Northwest Patrol Station serves the northwest region of El Paso County and is located within the El Paso County Northwest Annex in the Village of Vinton. The facility is shared with Justice of the Peace Precinct 7, the Constable Precinct 7 Office, the El Paso County Clerk's Office, Adult Probation, and the County Tax Assessor's Office.

Deputies assigned to this station patrol areas extending from the western city limits of El Paso north to the New Mexico state line.

Communities within the station's area of responsibility include the Town of Anthony, Village of Vinton, and the incorporated areas of Westway and Canutillo, as well as portions of Franklin Mountains State Park. Deputies work throughout these communities to respond to emergencies, enforce traffic laws, and maintain public safety.



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

Overview

Overseen by: Commander Jerome Washington

The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) is responsible for investigating criminal incidents and supporting law enforcement operations throughout El Paso County. Detectives and investigators assigned to CID conduct follow-up investigations, gather evidence, and work closely with local, state, and federal partners to solve crimes and hold offenders accountable.



CID is staffed by 1 Commander, 4 Lieutenants, 6 Sergeants, 29 Detectives, 38 Deputies, and 47 civilian personnel, along with several specialized civilian roles that support evidence management, records processing, crime scene analysis, civil process, and victim services. The division also works closely with state and federal task forces, including narcotics and High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) investigations, allowing investigators to pursue cases that extend beyond county jurisdiction when necessary.

Key Criminal Investigations Division Statistics

The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) maintained a strong operational tempo in 2025, investigating a total of **5,055 criminal incidents and achieving an overall clearance rate of 53%, significantly exceeding the national average of 33%.**

Investigations & Clearance

- 5,055 total cases investigated
- 2,699 cases cleared (53% clearance rate)
- Crimes Against Persons: 1,995 investigated / 1,408 cleared
- Crimes Against Property: 1,895 investigated / 524 cleared
- Crimes Against Society: 1,165 investigated / 768 cleared

Specialized Units Impact

- Major Crimes Unit: 642 cases received, 109 presented to the District Attorney
- Narcotics & Special Investigations: \$9.1 million in drugs seized, 162 search warrants executed, 250 felony charges filed
- Crime Scene Unit: 344 callouts, 2,036 pieces of evidence recovered

Victim Services

- 2,372 victims served
- 851 domestic violence victims assisted
- 148 child physical abuse victims assisted

Operational Support Units

- Records Unit: 29,599 reports processed, 20,607 criminal history checks completed
- Evidence & Property: 6,735 items collected, 3,669 items destroyed in accordance with court orders

Civil & Administrative Services

- Over \$1 million in service fees collected through citations, writs, and permits

Security Operations

- Courthouse Security: 780,928 individuals screened, 1,098 weapons confiscated
- Juvenile & Drug Court: 2,177 compliance checks conducted

Fugitive Apprehension Unit

- 4,346 individuals arrested
- 2,711 felony arrests
- 5,708 warrants executed



SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

Overview

Overseen by: Commander Jorge Cardenas

The Support Services Division is responsible for providing administrative, logistical, and operational support to all divisions within the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. The division ensures personnel have the resources, infrastructure, and support systems necessary to effectively carry out their duties while

maintaining compliance, efficiency, and organizational readiness.

The division oversees key functions including research, planning and accreditation (CALEA), facilities maintenance, emergency management and grant coordination, communications, community services and public relations, fleet services, supply, and coordination with the County Information Technology Department.

The Support Services Division is staffed by 1 Commander, 2 Lieutenants, 2 Sergeants, several Deputies, and civilian personnel who oversee specialized sections that support daily operations, enhance service delivery, and ensure the agency remains prepared to meet the evolving needs of the community.

Communications Section

- 168,434 total calls handled
- 20,949 emergency (911) calls processed
- 120,798 CAD events generated
- 97%+ of calls answered within 10 seconds

Motor Pool (Fleet Services)

- 443 vehicles and equipment maintained
- 2,692 work orders completed
- 55 vehicle accidents processed
- Continued expansion and replacement of fleet assets through grants and acquisitions



Facilities Maintenance

- 2,759 work orders received
- 2,713 work orders completed
- Major facility upgrades completed, including lighting, HVAC, and fire alarm systems
- Successful transition from County Public Works to Sheriff's Office oversight

Supply Section

- 308 purchase requisitions processed
- 313 uniform vouchers issued (Deputy and Detention combined)
- 57 equipment disposals completed
- Implemented new inventory system to improve accountability and tracking

Emergency Management Unit (EMU)

- Conducted full-scale active threat and civil unrest training exercises
- Updated critical emergency operations plans and policies
- Secured and managed grant-funded equipment for specialized units
- Expanded interagency coordination and regional preparedness efforts

Community Services Section

- Hosted and/or attended **282 community events** throughout the year
- Delivered safety education programs on topics such as active shooter response, drug awareness, and bullying prevention
- Strengthened partnerships with schools, community organizations, and residents across the county



REGION VIII TRAINING ACADEMY

Overview

Overseen by: Edgar Soto

The Region VIII Training Academy is responsible for delivering professional training and development to El Paso County Sheriff's Office personnel and law enforcement partners throughout the region. The Academy provides basic training for new recruits, in-service training for commissioned and detention personnel, and specialized courses to ensure compliance with state mandates and evolving law enforcement standards.



The Academy is comprised of a Training Director, instructors, a Range Master, and civilian staff who support classroom instruction, firearms training, administrative operations, and regional coordination.

In 2025, the Training Academy conducted **595 courses**, accounting for over **53,700 classroom contact hours** and **8,475 online training hours**, reflecting a **41.73% increase in overall training compared to the previous year**. The Academy successfully delivered two Basic Peace Officer Academies, with one class achieving a 100% first attempt pass rate on the TCOLE exam, and the second set to graduate in May 2026, along with **six Basic Detention Officer courses**.

The Academy also expanded its regional training efforts, providing courses to surrounding counties and strengthening partnerships across the Region VIII area. Additionally, the firearms training program maintained zero safety incidents while continuing to enhance training capabilities and modernize the range facility.

Through continued growth, innovation, and a commitment to excellence, the Training Academy plays a critical role in preparing personnel to effectively serve and protect the community.

CONCLUSION

In 2025, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office remained focused on addressing the crimes that matter most to our community while strengthening public safety efforts across the county. Through proactive enforcement, strategic investigations, and strong community partnerships, the agency achieved a 14% reduction in crime.

This progress reflects the dedication and professionalism of our deputies, detention officers, and civilian staff, who work tirelessly each day to protect the residents of El Paso County. It also highlights the importance of collaboration with our community and partner agencies in maintaining a safe and secure environment.

While challenges remain, the Sheriff's Office continues to adapt, improve, and implement strategies that enhance efficiency, accountability, and service delivery.

As we look ahead to 2026, we remain committed to building on this momentum, further reducing crime, and continuing to provide the highest level of service to our community.

