

VCSO 2025 Year-End Report

Valencia County Sheriff's Office

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Date: December 12, 2025

Subject: 2025 Year-End Report – Valencia County Sheriff's Office

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

The Valencia County Sheriff's Office (VCSO) presents this 2025 Year-End Report to provide the Board of Commissioners with a concise overview of operational activity, crime trends, staffing developments, investigative efforts, community engagement, and resource management throughout the year. In 2025, deputies responded to nearly 16,000 calls for service, continued addressing increases in service demand, and carried out significant enforcement actions across patrol, narcotics, and investigative divisions. The agency advanced key modernization efforts—including training technology, fleet upgrades, and the expansion of specialized capabilities—while strengthening partnerships with residents through community events and outreach.

VCSO also secured more than \$585,000 in external grant funding, enabling major equipment and training enhancements without additional cost to the county's general fund. Throughout the year, the Sheriff's Office remained focused on public safety, accountability, and effective service delivery. This report summarizes those efforts and provides commissioners with a clear picture of agency performance, accomplishments, and operational challenges encountered in 2025.

Patrol Activity Overview

During 2025, VCSO deputies responded to **15,936 calls for service**. Deputies completed **5,526 reports**, made **1,187 arrests**, and conducted **7,627 traffic stops**, contributing to improved roadway safety and enhanced enforcement presence.

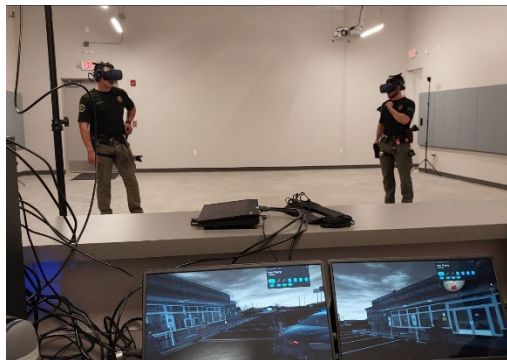
Major crime categories included:

- Burglaries: 157
- Stolen Vehicles: 150
- Larceny: 255
- Assault/Battery: 334
- Domestic Violence: 461
- Homicides: 2

Deputies also handled **465 crashes, 8 crash fatalities, 82 DWIs, and 242 mental health evaluation calls**, underscoring the broad range of responsibilities placed on patrol staff.

During the reporting period, the Sheriff's Office experienced an increase in calls and interactions involving individuals experiencing mental health challenges. In response, the agency implemented proactive strategies to improve outcomes for both the community and responding personnel. Training related to mental health awareness and response was expanded, including instruction on use-of-force considerations when interacting with individuals affected by mental health conditions.

The Sheriff's Office also strengthened partnerships with community-based service providers to offer individuals and their family's alternatives to law enforcement intervention when appropriate. These partnerships are intended to connect individuals with supportive resources and reduce the need for repeated law enforcement responses. Notably, the Sheriff's Office partnered with Bloom Haven and Southwest Family to support juveniles and NM Solutions for adults experiencing mental health issues. Through these collaborations, the agency seeks to provide families with access to appropriate services and long-term support while enhancing overall community safety.



Hiring & Staffing

In 2025, the Sheriff's Office continuing its hiring process to maintain staffing to meet increased service demands:

- **Seven (7) Deputies**
- **Three (3) Court Security Officers**
- **One (1) Civilian Records Staff Member**

Additionally the Sheriff's Office has used funding for hiring bonuses and hiring referrals to attract personnel.

Transportation Services

The Courts Division provided the following transport services for the year:

- **374 total adult transports**
- **14 total juvenile transports**

These transports ensured safe and efficient movement of individuals between detention facilities, court hearings, and medical or evaluation appointments.

Narcotics Division Activity

The Narcotics Division conducted extensive drug enforcement operations, reporting:

- **95 arrests**
- **26 search warrants served**
- **5 stolen vehicles recovered**
- **Approximately 940 grams of narcotics were seized, plus 28 grams obtained through CI operations**
- **Estimated street value: \$35,000**

These efforts significantly disrupted illegal drug activity and enhanced public safety.



Criminal Investigations Division (CID)

CID investigators handled a wide variety of major investigations, including:

- **99 assists to other agencies**
- **21 child abuse cases**
- **37 criminal sexual penetration/contact cases involving minors**
- **6 adult sexual assault cases**
- **2 homicide investigations**
- **1 human trafficking case**
- Additional cases involving arson, fraud, stalking, larceny, and missing persons

CID's efforts remain essential for addressing the county's most serious and sensitive crimes.

Property and Evidence

During 2025, the Property and Evidence Unit received **1,908** new items bringing the total count of items in the evidence room to **17,282** items. Of these items brought in during 2025, **150** were firearms and **112** were controlled substances, reflecting the significant volume of evidentiary material managed in support of criminal investigations and prosecutions.

During the reporting period, the Sheriff's Office received funding of approximately 1.4 million to construct a new evidence storage facility, with construction beginning in early 2025. The project is now largely complete, an occupancy permit has been issued, and the agency has begun transitioning operations into the new building. Full occupancy and the complete transfer of evidence are anticipated in the near term.

In addition to expanded and secure evidence storage, the new facility includes two dedicated office spaces and a training room. The additional offices address longstanding space limitations within the Sheriff's Office and improve the efficiency of daily operations. The training room is designed to accommodate advanced training needs, including permanent setup of the agency's virtual reality simulator, which previously lacked a dedicated space. This facility enhancement represents a significant investment in operational capacity, evidence integrity, and personnel training.

SORNA Compliance

At the close of 2025, Valencia County maintained **135 registered sex offenders** with **8 arrest warrants issued** for registration violations.

Importantly:

All 8 offenders with warrants for registration violations were located and arrested.

This reflects diligent tracking, monitoring, and enforcement by VCSO personnel to ensure compliance with state registration requirements and ensuring community safety.

Use of Force – Year in Review

During 2025, the Valencia County Sheriff's Office documented **26 use of force reports**. Considering deputies responded to **15,936 calls for service** during the year, use of force incidents remained **infrequent and well below one percent of total calls**, reflecting a continued emphasis on de-escalation, officer training, and proportional response.

Types of force used were overwhelmingly **low-level, control-based techniques**, consistent with policy and training standards:

All use of force incidents are **documented, reviewed, and evaluated** in accordance with agency policy to ensure accountability, policy compliance, and continuous improvement. Supervisory review and ongoing training remain central to maintaining public trust and ensuring appropriate use of force.

Overall, 2025 use of force data demonstrates that VCSO deputies exercised restraint, relied primarily on de-escalation and control techniques, and used force **only when necessary to safely resolve incidents**, reinforcing the agency's commitment to professional, constitutional policing.

Equipment, Fleet & Training Enhancements

During 2025, the Sheriff's Office continued advancing training capabilities and fleet modernization:

- Integrated a **second VR training simulator**, expanding the system to a two-officer, interactive environment used for Annual Use of Force training.
 - Conducted **Simunition force-on-force traffic stop training** for the first time.
 - Acquired **10 new patrol units**, improving reliability and operational readiness.
 - Continued work to secure a fully equipped **drone unit** with a 35-inch monitor and charging system.
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Community Engagement & Events

VCSO personnel actively participated in community-building and recruitment events including:

- CNM Career Fair
- Metro Public Safety Day
- Michael Padilla Job Fair
- Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

- Fall Festival
- **4th Annual Valencia County Public Safety Day (Firetruck Pull)** – Raised over **\$20,000** for public safety efforts

These engagements strengthen relationships, visibility, and trust throughout the county.



Grant Funding Secured in 2025

The Sheriff's Office received **\$585,500.00** in grants supporting equipment, enforcement operations, and technological advancement:

- DEAC/JAG Grant – \$33,000 (SWAT robot partial funding)
- SHSGP Grant – \$70,000 (Primary SWAT robot funding)
- District Attorney Overtime Project – \$32,506.45 (Arrest warrant operations)
- Legislation funding - \$190,000 (Furnish and equip SO training room)
- Legislation funding – \$240,000 (purchase and equip vehicles for SO)
- BJA Edward Byrne Grant \$15,000 (laptop updates)

These grants allowed substantial capability improvements with no direct financial burden on the county general fund.

Conclusion

As VCSO enters 2026, the agency remains committed to strengthening public safety through strategic staffing, expanded training capabilities, and continued modernization of equipment and technology. Priorities for the coming year include increasing patrol staffing to meet rising service demands, fully deploying enhanced training systems—including the expanded VR simulator and drone unit—and advancing investigative capacity to address complex cases involving narcotics, violent crime, and crimes against children.

The Sheriff's Office will continue to pursue grant opportunities to minimize financial impact on the county while expanding operational readiness. Ongoing community engagement and transparency will remain central to building trust and fostering partnerships with residents, businesses, and local organizations. By leveraging the progress made in 2025 and working collaboratively with county leadership, VCSO strives to deliver even higher levels of service and safety to the residents of Valencia County in the year ahead.

The 2025 operational year reflects the commitment, professionalism, and hard work of the Valencia County Sheriff's Office. Our deputies and staff demonstrated exceptional dedication in meeting rising service demands, enhancing public safety, and strengthening community partnerships. We look forward to continued progress and collaboration with the Board of Commissioners as we strive to provide the highest level of service to the residents of Valencia County.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Vigil
Sheriff
Valencia County Sheriff's Office

