

Hamlin County Sheriff's Office



2016 Annual Report

*“Serving our Communities with honesty, integrity and professionalism
with Leaders we trust and character that counts”*

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THE OVERVIEW

BY: CHIEF DEPUTY TAYT ALEXANDER

Over the course of the previous year, the staff at the Hamlin County Sheriff's Office have been working hard serving the citizens of Hamlin County. This year has been different than past years with the shift of primary law enforcement duties in different communities within the county. The City of Estelline dissolved their city police department and contracted with the sheriff's office for an average of 30 hours per week.



Hamlin County Sheriff's Office
January 2016

The City of Lake Norden formed their own full time police department which patrols and answers calls of service within the city limits. These community changes have affected the Sheriff's Office yearly statistics which shows a major decrease in calls of service for Lake Norden but a large increase for Estelline.

Overall, the sheriff's office has seen an increase in traffic violations, accidents and other calls of services. Fortunately, crime violations reported to the department in 2016 decreased by 4.6% from the previous year. A major contributing factor is the result of lower numbers in underage consumption of alcohol, which dropped by 92.6%. Other crimes such as simple assaults, thefts and trespassers have also seen some reduction in 2016, but this does not hold true for all crimes.

Many of you may have heard from local news the increase in drug violations in South Dakota. Unfortunately, this statistic holds true in Hamlin County as well. The department has seen a 391% increase in drug crime violations last year. In 2014, the agency only had 9 drug violations followed by 12 in 2015. In 2016, the number of drug violations sky rocketed to 59 total violations. These drug violations range from consumption, possession, paraphernalia and distribution. During last year, the sheriff's office searched vehicles and executed search warrants on homes and buildings recovering illegal drugs such as marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamine, hash oils and illegal prescription drugs. The raise in illegal drug violations has also caused an increase in DUI arrests within the county.

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THE OVERVIEW CONTINUE

Traffic stops and the number of violations observed by the agency also increased by 45.3% in 2016 with a total of 1,529 violations compared to 2015 with 1,052 violations. This is the largest amount of traffic violations recorded since statistics were started back in 2006. DUI arrests were one of the largest increase in numbers for the department's traffic statistics. People arrested by the sheriff's office for DUI in 2016 increased by 260% for a total of 36 arrests compared to only 10 in 2015. The number of drug related arrests were partly a contributing factor in the rise in the amount of people detained for DUI. Also, unlicensed, suspended or revoked drivers license largely increased with an 80% jump from 2015 violations. The overall total of unlicensed, suspended or revoked drivers cited by the department was 79 compared to 44 during the year before. Excessive speed (15mph over the speed limit) amplified by 49% in 2016 along with an increase in traffic accidents.

One of the smaller increases recorded by the Sheriff's Office was traffic accidents. The department responded to a 5% increase in accidents with serious accidents remaining the same. Car vs deer accidents and other non-injury accidents occurred the most with 133 car vs deer and 84 other non-injury accidents. The agency responded to one fatality accident and 12 injury accidents throughout last year.

Calls of service that cover emergency calls, 911 hang ups, citizen assist, traffic complaints, animal complaints and so much more climbed to 1,416 calls for the year. During past years, 2015 had 1,285 calls, 2014 with 1,303 calls and 2013 had only 993 calls. Traffic complaints, which is the number one complaint the agency receives, increased by 19% with a total of 267 complaints or one complaint every 32 hours.

The new year is in full swing and the Hamlin County Sheriff's Office continues its efforts to provide the best services to the citizens, communities and schools within the county. In 2016, the sheriff's office sent two officers, Deputy Jonathon Barthel and Chief Deputy Tayt Alexander to Pierre for two weeks to become D.A.R.E. Instructors. During the new school year 2016-2017, Chief Deputy Alexander and Deputy Barthel have been to all three schools teaching 5th grade students safe and reasonable choices. The staff members of the department have also taken part in various community events such as homecoming parades, community educational events, shop with a cop, caring tree program and that is just to name a few. Our continued community policing has already extended into the new year with a couple events in the works.

We encourage you to view the following pages to check out the department's statistics in depth. Please keep in mind that these are the calls of service done by the Hamlin County Sheriff's Office and do not include calls done by the Hayti or Lake Norden Police Department or state law enforcement agencies. Have a safe and great year!

TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS	BRY	CAST	EST	HAY	HAZ	NOR	POIN	RURAL	2016	2015	2014
ATV or Golf Cart Laws Violation									0	0	0
Burning Object from Vehicle								1	1	0	1
Careless Driving	1	3		1		1	1	22	29	13	10
Drag Racing									0	0	1
D.U.I.	1	3	4			1	1	26	36	10	16
Driving After Hours / License Restriction								2	2	2	2
Driving on the Wrong Side of Roadway								12	12	0	0
Driving While Revoked		1	1				2	1	5	6	7
Driving While Suspended	1	1	1		1		2	9	15	6	7
Driving Without Headlights									0	0	0
Equipment or Exhaust Violation	12	15	27	3		3	4	66	130	75	81
Exhibition Driving	2	2	2	1				3	10	7	9
Expired Plates / No Plates	4	1	5				3	14	27	18	12
Failure To Dim Lights	1		1					3	5	2	3
Failure To Yield at Intersection								1	1	2	1
Hit and Run with Death or Injury									0	0	0
Hit and Run or Failure to Report Accident			3					1	4	1	1
Illegal Passing			1					3	4	2	6
Illegal U-Turn / Illegal Turn									0	0	0
Move Over Law							4	6	10	3	9
No Driver's License / Canceled License	4	2	18	2			4	29	59	32	32
No Helmet on ATV or Motorcycle									0	1	1
No Proof of Insurance	4	7	13		1	3	5	50	83	82	77
Open Container in Motor Vehicle	1	1	3			1	1	5	12	5	8
Parking Violation	1	1						1	3	6	9
Passing School Bus's Red Lights								1	1	0	0
Reckless Driving								4	4	2	2
Seat Belt Violation	1	3	1				1	8	14	7	23
Speed - County Code (1-15mph)			4				1	52	57	52	60
Speed - County Code (Over 15mph)			4		1			46	51	33	21
Speeding - State Code (1-15mph)	19	51	61	1	5	1	92	559	789	587	661
Speeding - State Code (Over 15mph)	1	6	3		2	1	16	69	98	67	26
Stop Sign Violation	5	8	16	1			1	13	44	21	39
Substitution of Plates									0	2	0
Texting While Driving									0	0	0
Throwing Object or Load Violation		1						1	2	1	0
Traffic Control Device or Road Closure	1	1	6					1	9	6	5
Unauthorized Use of Vehicle				1				1	2	1	0
Unsafe Backing									0	0	0
Unsafe Lane Change		1	1				1	7	10	0	0
Total Amount	59	108	175	10	10	11	139	1017	1529	1052	1130
Percent	5.6%	10.3%	16.6%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	13.2%	96.7%			

Crime Violations	BRY	CAST	EST	HAY	HAZ	NOR	POIN	RURAL	2016	2015	2014
Abuse / Neglect								1	1	1	3
Aggravated Assault		1	1				1	1	4	4	2
Arson / Reckless Burning									0	1	0
Assault Against Law Enforcement									0	0	0
Assault by Bodily Fluids / Waste									0	0	0
Burglary / Attempted Burglary			3		4			2	9	3	31
Contribute to a Delinquency / Truancy									0	1	1
Disorderly Conduct / Indecent Exposure	1	3	3				1		8	34	39
Drug Crime (Other Drugs or Equipment)	4	1	2	1	2	1	2	17	30	8	5
Drug Crime (Marijuana)	6	3	2		2	1	1	14	29	4	4
Eluding / Escape		1						2	3	1	1
Embezzlement									0	0	0
Explosive / Violent Threats				1					1	0	0
Failure To Vacate							2		2	0	0
False Impersonation		1							1	3	0
False Reporting									0	1	0
Firearm / Weapon Violation	2	1						4	7	6	3
Forgery / Bad Checks									0	0	2
Fraud	2	2	5	4	1		2	5	21	22	21
Grand Theft								1	1	0	9
House of Public Nuisance / Furnishing									0	2	0
Hunting Violation									0	0	0
Interfering with 911 Service									0	1	1
Kidnapping									0	1	1
Manslaughter									0	0	0
Misprision of a Felony									0	0	0
Murder / Attempt Murder							1		1	0	0
Obstruction of Law Enforcement							1		1	2	2
Other Crimes / City Codes		1						2	3	2	10
Possession of Stolen Property									0	0	0
Rape									0	3	0
Resisting of Arrest									0	0	2
Robbery									0	0	0
Runaway			1					1	2	1	2
Sex Related Crimes / Child Porn (Not Rape)	1	1	1		2			3	8	5	1
Simple Assault	1	3	2	2	1		4		13	19	25
Stalking / Harassing Calls / Invasion	1	1	2	1	3		1	5	14	22	10
Theft / Petty Theft	10	1	6	1		1	4	11	34	36	44
Threaten to Kill Law Enforcement									0	0	0
Trespassing	1	1					2	4	8	9	9
Underage Alcohol		1						2	3	41	24
Underage Tobacco	1							9	10	4	3
Vandalism / Property Damage		5	4	1			1	16	27	18	38
Vehicular Battery									0	0	0
Violation of Court / Protection Order	1		1	1	1		2	1	7	5	4
Total Amount	31	27	33	12	16	3	25	101	248	260	297
Percent	11.9%	10.4%	12.7%	4.6%	6.2%	1.2%	9.6%	38.8%			

Crime Rates Per District	BRY	CAST	EST	HAY	HAZ	NOR	POIN	RURAL	2016
2009	20	40	0	47	3	37	18	106	271
2010	50	30	2	49	1	24	13	75	244
2011	31	42	1	5	4	39	7	65	194
2012	29	13	10	8	7	32	9	86	194
2013	25	37	8	28	6	27	13	76	220
2014	16	51	2	21	4	43	20	140	297
2015	23	28	9	45	2	25	21	107	260
2016	31	27	33	12	16	3	25	101	248
Averages	29	34	5	26	4	32	14	92	

Traffic Accidents	BRY	CAST	EST	HAY	HAZ	NOR	POIN	RURAL	2016	2015	2014
Car vs. Deer	1				1		1	130	133	126	106
Non-Injury Accident	3	3	11	3		2	5	57	84	80	62
Injury Accident		1						11	12	12	11
Fatal Accident								1	1	1	1
Total Amount	4	4	11	3	1	2	6	199	230	219	180
Percent	1.8%	1.8%	5.0%	1.4%	0.5%	0.9%	2.7%	90.9%			

Other Calls (Not Crimes)	BRY	CAST	EST	HAY	HAZ	NOR	POIN	RURAL	2016	2015	2014
911-Hang Up Calls	22	9	8	5	2	5	3	155	209	226	252
911-Emergency (Fire / Medical)	16	15	15	5	1	10	11	41	114	136	81
Animal Complaint	1	24	7	2	2	4	2	128	170	172	147
Assist Another Department	2	3	5	19	1	16	5	65	116	73	70
Bomb Threat									0	0	NA
Burglary / Fire Alarm	2	1	2			1	3	9	18	9	34
Civil Complaint / Citizen Assist	16	44	37	19	4	8	15	89	232	170	191
Death Call (Not Criminal)				1					1	2	NA
Disturbing the Peace							1		1	NA	NA
Drowning									0	0	NA
Family / Neighbor Dispute	1	5	13				2	4	25	16	9
Hazardous Materials Complaint	2		1	1			1		5	3	NA
Junk Complaints		1	1					24	26	36	NA
Field Contact	3	9	1			1	1	15	30	NA	NA
Fireworks Complaints		2		1					3	0	8
Open Door / Window	1	1	2			1	1	1	7	13	NA
Other Incidents	6	6	6	4			6	21	49	42	163
Mental Person / Mental Hold	2	1	1		1			1	6	4	NA
Missing Person		1				1			2	2	2
School Assist		9	2					4	15	2	NA
Security Check	2	19	11					6	38	13	35
Suicide Related Call	3	4		1				2	10	8	7
Suspicious Activity	6	6	7			1	1	13	34	80	53
Traffic Complaint / Vehicle in Ditch	10	18	10	1	3	1	10	214	267	225	226
Welfare Check	2	3	7	2			5	19	38	53	25
Total Amount	97	181	136	61	14	49	67	811	1416	1285	1303
Percent	7.5%	14.1%	10.6%	4.7%	1.1%	3.8%	5.2%	63.1%			

Time of Calls	2016	2015	2014
0000 – 0059	40	44	63
0100 – 0159	40	32	37
0200 – 0259	24	23	25
0300 – 0359	18	16	13
0400 – 0459	13	7	12
0500 – 0559	11	21	15
0600 – 0659	30	26	24
0700 – 0759	53	46	47
0800 – 0859	66	69	43
0900 – 0959	68	60	62
1000 – 1059	80	75	75
1100 – 1159	77	94	79
1200 – 1259	74	86	76
1300 – 1359	100	91	68
1400 – 1459	103	83	94
1500 – 1559	121	79	133
1600 – 1659	114	101	134
1700 – 1759	144	125	118
1800 – 1859	158	120	145
1900 – 1959	130	101	128
2000 – 2059	114	92	137
2100 – 2159	120	96	117
2200 – 2259	100	92	75
2300 – 2359	67	48	47
Total Amount	1865	1627	1767

2016 Day of the Week for Calls	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Total
Jan	19	18	12	6	19	30	16	120
Feb	11	18	10	17	28	30	18	132
Mar	17	10	18	11	31	15	23	125
Apr	18	15	8	15	24	24	26	130
May	25	25	24	29	19	17	20	159
Jun	19	24	25	27	20	21	29	165
Jul	45	22	19	25	23	33	46	213
Aug	21	23	21	28	31	27	31	182
Sep	25	23	20	31	47	30	21	197
Oct	26	34	21	20	19	22	30	172
Nov	17	15	18	29	23	23	21	146
Dec	19	10	21	24	19	16	15	124
Averages	262	237	217	262	303	288	296	1865