

2024

TELLURIDE MARSHAL'S DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT



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A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF

I'm pleased to present the Telluride Marshal's Department 2024 Annual Report. This report offers an overview of our department's staffing, service demands, crime and traffic trends, and the impact of special events on our operations and budget.

Overall, crime levels in Telluride remained consistent with those reported in 2023. Our festival season returned with full operations and typical attendance levels. The only notable change was the addition of private security personnel to supplement the volunteer security teams, helping us ensure public safety during large-scale events.

While recruitment and retention continue to pose challenges for law enforcement agencies across the country, we made significant progress this year by hiring two new deputies. We ended the year with just one vacant Deputy Marshal position.

We're proud of the ongoing work our team does to serve this community with professionalism, compassion, and integrity. We continue to focus on strengthening our relationship with the public and building on the strong foundation of trust, service, and partnership that defines the Telluride Marshal's Department.



Chief Josh Comte
2024 Marshal's Department Annual Report

MARSHAL'S DEPARTMENT AT A GLANCE

The Telluride Marshal’s Department closed out 2024 with just one vacant Deputy Marshal position—down from three vacancies the previous year. This marked a significant improvement in staffing, and we’re proud to have retained all our staff throughout 2024. Heading into 2025, we successfully filled the vacancy with a new recruit who is set to begin the academy in May 2025. While we anticipate one Deputy Marshal leaving to pursue another career at the start of May, we are actively recruiting to fill that upcoming vacancy.

Our Code Enforcement team also ended 2024 fully staffed with three Code Enforcement Officers. In March 2025, one officer resigned to pursue a career in another state, and we are currently recruiting to fill that position.

We also experienced some changes in our administrative team in 2024. Midway through the year, we said farewell to longtime Executive Assistant Joyce Kimball as she retired from the department. Kalli Baillargeon stepped into the Executive Assistant role, and we were able to quickly fill the resulting vacancy in the Administrative Assistant position.

Being nearly fully staffed for the first time in many years has had a meaningful, positive impact on the department. Staff members have been able to attend more trainings, take time off, and avoid excessive overtime. This balance has boosted morale, supported retention, and made the Telluride Marshal’s Department a more desirable and sustainable place to work.

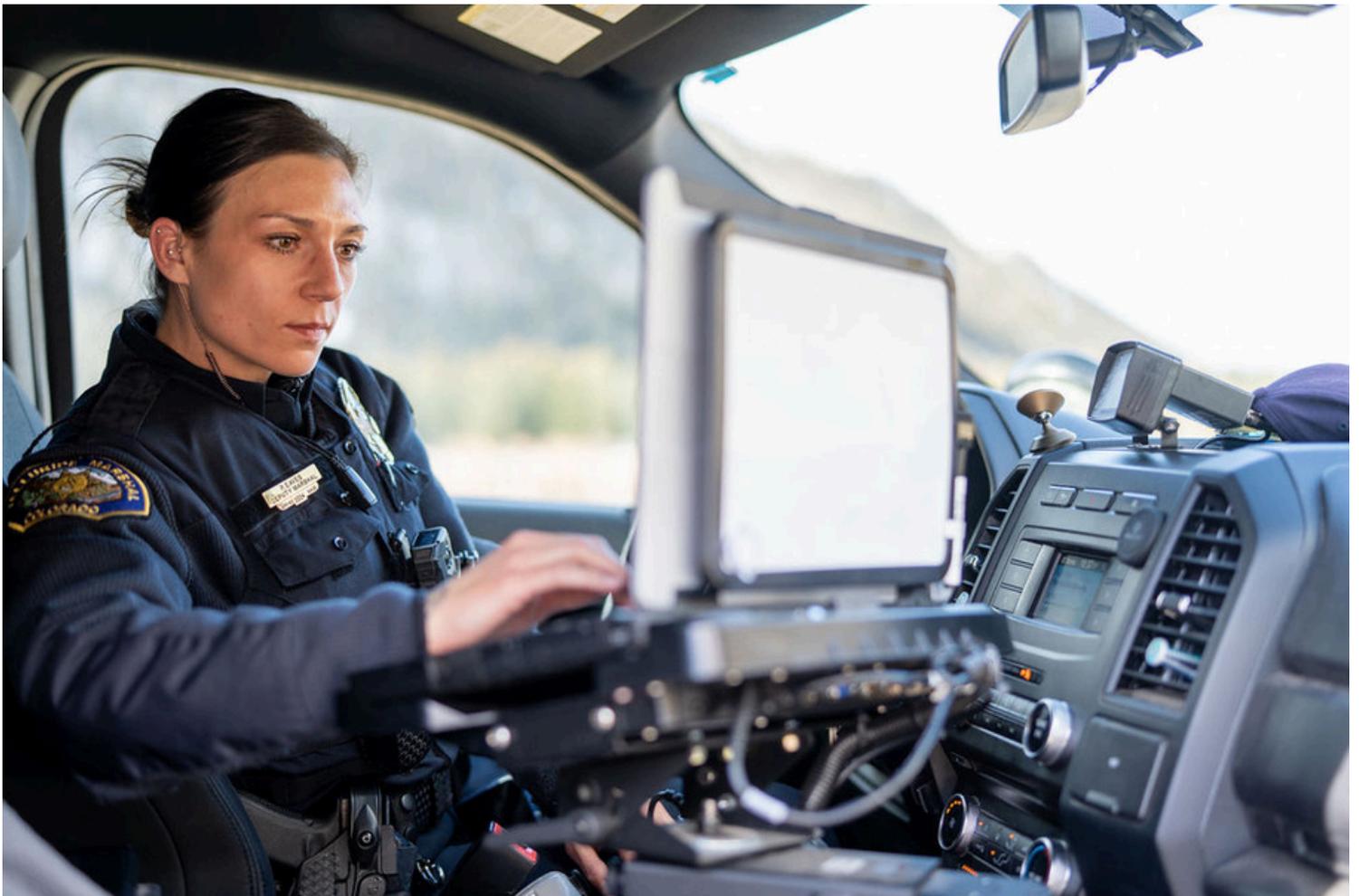
Position	Filled	Open
Chief Marshal	1	0
Patrol Sergeant	3	0
Deputy Marshal	7	1
School Resource Officer	1	0
Code Enforcement Office	3	0
Administrative	2	0
Total	17	1

RECRUITMENT UPDATE

In 2024, the Telluride Marshal's Department made significant strides toward rebuilding and maintaining a strong team. We are closer to being fully staffed than we have been in recent years, a testament to the dedication of our leadership and support teams. We anticipate one upcoming vacancy due to the resignation of a deputy. We are actively recruiting to fill this position.

Recruitment remains a top priority. We continue to work closely with the Town's Human Resources Department and Communications Team to explore new and effective ways to reach qualified candidates. This year, we expanded our recruitment efforts by utilizing social media, local newspapers, and a variety of online job posting platforms to advertise open positions.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to hiring and retaining skilled, community-oriented deputies to serve and protect Telluride.



WESTCO DISPATCH

The Telluride Marshals Department utilizes the Western Colorado Regional Dispatch (WestCo) for all our dispatching needs. WestCo, which is based in Montrose, Co, currently oversees 21 agencies to include both law enforcement and Fire Departments. Currently, Telluride Marshals Department is on a specific channel with other mountain communities to include: Mountain Village Police Department, Ouray Sheriffs Office, Ouray Police Department, and Ridgway Marshals Office.



Staffing WestCo Dispatch

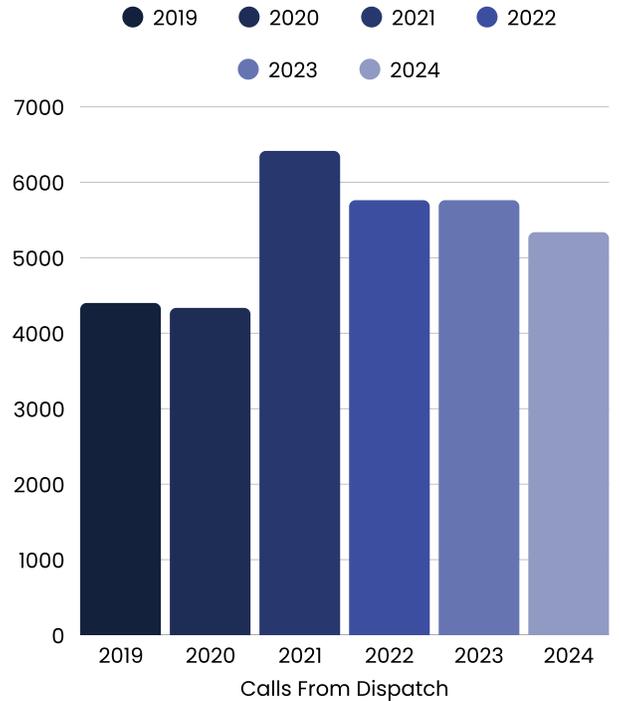
In 2024, WestCo, on average, had 22 of their 26 positions filled.



CALL VOLUME



In 2024, the Telluride Marshals Department saw a slight decrease in calls with a total of 5339 compared to 5763 in 2023. These levels are consistent with previous years and confirms that our call volume will continue to remain high and higher demands are being placed on our personnel.



2024 CRIME OVERVIEW

Crime Category	Total	Details
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Crimes Against People

8
(5-year low)

In 2024 we had a total of 8 Crimes Against People (Homicide, Forcible Rape, Assault) with all 8 being Assault. This is a 5 year low and significantly lower than our most recent high of 25 in 2022

Crimes Against Property

86

Although we saw a decrease from our 5 year high in 2023 (104 in 2023 compared to 86 in 2024) this is still the second highest year in the past 5 years. We saw a decrease in reported thefts (77 to 56) but did see an increase in Vandalisms (23 to 33). One area where we saw a significant increase was in Burglary. We had a 5 year high of 6 reported Burglaries which was a 5 year high and is twice as high as the next highest year (3 in 2022). A majority of these Burglaries were linked to one person who was identified and had appropriate charges filed.

Crimes Against Society

86

In 2024 we saw a slight increase in Crimes Against Society up to 86 from 81 in 2023. Although we had a slight increase from 2023, the 86 reported crimes is our second lowest number in 5 years.

Hit and Runs

12

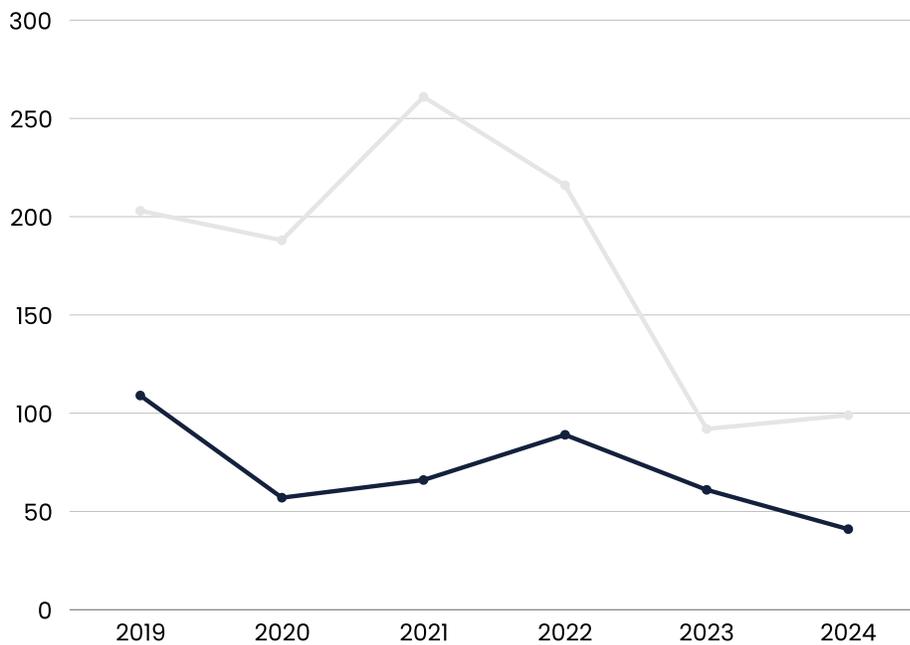
Hit and Runs have been steadily increasing in the past few years and has been an area we have been focusing our attention. In 2023 we had a record high of 33 reported Hit and Run accidents. That number reduced to 12 in 2024.



ARRESTS & CITATIONS

Here's a quick look at trends for arrests and citations

■ Citations ■ Arrests



41 Arrests in 2024

99 Citations issued in 2024

Arrests

In 2024, the Telluride Marshals Department arrested 41 individuals compared to 61 in 2023. This was a 5 year low.

Citations

In 2024 a total of 99 citations were issued, up from 92 in 2023 but down from the 4 year high of 261 in 2021.

USE OF FORCE

In 2024, there were 6 reported uses of force by the Telluride Marshals Dept. 2 of these were for pointing a department issued handgun at a suspect. The other 4 were hands on use of force in order to effect arrest.



300.1.1 Definitions

Deadly force - Force reasonably anticipated and intended to create a substantial likelihood of causing death or very serious injury.

Force - The application of physical techniques or tactics, chemical agents or weapons to another person. It is not a use of force when a person allows him/herself to be searched, escorted, handcuffed or restrained.



300.2 Policy

The use of force by law enforcement personnel is a matter of critical concern, both to the public and to the law enforcement community. Deputies are involved on a daily basis in numerous and varied interactions and, when warranted, may use reasonable force in carrying out their duties.

Deputies must have an understanding of, and true appreciation for, their authority and limitations. This is especially true with respect to overcoming resistance while engaged in the performance of law enforcement duties.

The Department recognizes and respects the value of all human life and dignity without prejudice to anyone. Vesting deputies with the authority to use reasonable force and to protect the public welfare requires monitoring, evaluation and a careful balancing of all interests.

DE-ESCALATION

At the Telluride Marshal's Department, we recognize the critical importance of de-escalation in law enforcement and are committed to providing our deputies with the training and tools they need to respond effectively and safely.

In 2024, seven of our deputies completed Crisis Intervention Training (CIT), an increase from five deputies the previous year. One additional deputy is already enrolled in a CIT class scheduled for 2025. This intensive 40-hour training equips officers with skills to recognize signs of mental health crises and teaches strategies for safely de-escalating high-stress situations.

We're also proud to have two deputies who have earned instructor certifications in ICAT (Integrating Communications, Assessment, and Tactics), another nationally recognized de-escalation training program. Every member of our department has participated in ICAT training, ensuring a department-wide commitment to thoughtful, effective communication and response.

Our goal is for every deputy in the Telluride Marshal's Department to complete CIT training, further strengthening our ability to serve the community with compassion, safety, and professionalism.





TRAINING

Training continues to be a top priority for the Telluride Marshal's Department. Over the past year, our staff participated in a wide range of training opportunities designed to enhance their skills, expand their knowledge, and better serve the Telluride community.

Members of our team traveled across the country to attend specialized training sessions and conferences, staying current on the latest best practices and bringing those insights back to share within the department. We also regularly train alongside our neighboring law enforcement agencies in a variety of disciplines, fostering strong regional partnerships and ensuring coordinated responses.

In addition to these efforts, we continue to work closely with local first responders and officials from the Telluride School District on critical Active Shooter response training. These collaborations help ensure that our team is prepared to respond effectively to emergencies and protect the safety of our schools and community.

The ongoing investment in training reflects our commitment to professionalism, preparedness, and continuous improvement.



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER



During the 2024–2025 school year, our School Resource Officer (SRO), Deputy Jimmy Moody, issued eight citations to juveniles through municipal court. Of these citations, seven were for shoplifting and one was for theft.

We value the strong, collaborative relationship we have built with the Telluride School District and appreciate their continued partnership in keeping our schools safe. In addition to providing a visible, supportive presence on campus, Deputy Moody continues to work closely with school staff on critical safety training. This includes leading and participating in lockdown drills, tabletop exercises, reunification planning and training, and coordinated law enforcement responses to active shooter scenarios.

Together, we are committed to maintaining a safe and secure learning environment for all students, staff, and families in the Telluride community.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

In 2024, Code Enforcement issued 7,264 parking citations, up from 5,783 in 2023. In addition to these citations, 220 were voided, and 911 warnings were issued.

Citation	Total	% Annual Change
Parking Citations	7,264	25.6% ^
Warnings	911	2.9% ^
Voids	211	2.9% Voided

FESTIVALS

In 2024, the Telluride Marshal's Department continued to support and provide public safety at our two major festivals in Town Park: the Telluride Bluegrass Festival and Telluride Blues & Brews. Both events were marked by positive energy, with attendees in good spirits and well-behaved throughout the festivities.

Staffing these large-scale events remains a challenge, particularly due to a reduction in available reserve officers. To address this, festival organizers were encouraged to increase their use of private security personnel. This year, both festivals successfully partnered with a private security firm to supplement staffing, allowing for a safe and well-managed event experience.

The Marshal's Department continues to maintain a visible and supportive presence at these festivals, and our team truly enjoys the opportunity to engage with attendees, foster positive community relations, and help ensure a fun and safe environment for all.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In 2024, we continued to find creative and meaningful ways to connect with the Telluride community. Through partnerships with various local organizations and community groups, we worked to strengthen relationships, build trust, and foster collaboration. These partnerships help us better understand and serve the needs of our residents while reinforcing our commitment to community policing.



TELLURIDE MARSHALS &
COMMUNITIES THAT CARE
PRESENTS

DODGEBALL

Communities That Care (CTC)

In this program, we work with CTC and High School students and have monthly meetings, centered around athletics, to provide High School Students safe alternatives on Friday nights. These have been very well attended, with upwards of 40 people attending some events. We are continuing this in 2025.

Coffee with a Cop

This is a community outreach program geared towards our Latinx and Immigrant community. This arose out of a need to establish positive relationships and dispel any rumors. These meetings are held monthly and have been well attended. These meetings have been very beneficial to all those who attend, and we are continuing these efforts into 2025.

Student Mentorship

Two staff members are acting as mentors to local High School Students who wish to pursue a career in Law Enforcement.



CAFECITO CON
UN POLICÍA



COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Ride Alongs

Provided community members opportunity to ride with Deputy Marshals. We have also had students shadow staff members for school projects.

the blue calendar



The Marshal's Calendar

In 2024, after many requests, we finally created a calendar featuring our staff recreating famous movie posters with various public service announcements attached. All proceeds went to bolster our High School Scholarship fund. These were widely successful and a calendar for 2025 was also created.

Community Outreach is a key departmental goal as we continue to find creative new ways to engage with our community and build positive relationships.



2024 AWARDS CEREMONY

In conjunction with the Mountain Village Police Department, we held our second annual awards ceremony. During this ceremony, the exceptional work of the Telluride Marshals Department staff was highlighted for those in attendance. Additionally, 3 community members were identified and awarded for their efforts in service to our community and partnership with the Telluride Marshals Dept. Award winners were as follows:

- Dep. Trago Staats - Life Saving and Chiefs Citation
- Dep. Jimmy Moody - Chiefs Commendation
- Dep. Brunner Hill - Distinguished Service Award
- Sgt. Lundy - Chiefs Commendation
- Dep. Paige Eaves - Chiefs Commendation
- Sgt. Cole Murch - Life Saving Award and Distinguished Service Award
- Dep. Jeremiah Mason - Distinguished Service Award
- Sara Kimble, Alexander Jones, John Pandolofu (Telluride School District) - Chiefs Citation



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am extremely proud of the outstanding work the men and women of the Telluride Marshal's Department demonstrate every day. Their dedication, professionalism, and commitment to service ensure the continued safety and well-being of our residents and visitors. We are truly grateful for the ongoing support we receive from the Telluride community—it motivates and empowers us to do our very best.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Telluride Town Council, Town Manager Zoe Dohnal, and the entire Telluride community for their continued trust and support of the Marshal's Department.

I would also like to personally thank Kalli Baillargeon and Charlotte Coffe for their valuable assistance in compiling the data and formatting this report. Their hard work helped bring this report together.

Thank you to the Telluride community for your continued involvement in making this incredibly special Town a safe place to live, work, and visit. We look forward to continuing our service in 2025.



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