Barron County Sheriff's Dept

2025 Annual Report

The year 2025 marked a period of meaningful transition for the Sheriff's Office. With the departure of Sheriff Chris Fitzgerald and my appointment as Sheriff, our agency navigated a significant leadership change. Despite this shift, our team remained steady, well-staffed, and committed to serving the community, even as we experienced the normal flow of personnel throughout the year.

As we close out 2025, the department is operating with two vacancies: one Recreation Officer and one Jailer. Recruitment efforts continue, and we remain confident in our ability to fill these positions with qualified candidates.

Operational Overview

Several operational trends defined the year:

Traffic and Enforcement Activity

- **OWI Arrests:** OWI arrests remained consistent with 2024, holding steady at **123**.
- **Traffic Fatalities:** Traffic-related deaths saw a dramatic improvement, dropping from **11 fatalities in 2024 to 2 in 2025**. This reduction stands as one of the most meaningful public-safety successes of the year.
- **Accidents:** Total accidents increased by **53**, rising to **317** for the year. While this upward trend is an area of concern, it will continue to be monitored closely as we evaluate contributing factors.
- **Traffic Stops:** Traffic stops increased significantly from **3,434 in 2024 to 3,947 in 2025**, reflecting enhanced visibility and proactive enforcement.
- **Citations:** Citations rose from **1,323 last year to 1,492 in 2025**, further demonstrating our commitment to roadway safety and accountability.

These numbers collectively reflect a year of active enforcement, increased presence on our roadways, and a continued dedication to protecting the public. While the rise in accidents warrants attention, the substantial reduction in fatalities underscores the positive impact of our efforts.

Major Incidents

The Sheriff's Office responded to **one major incident** in 2025: A tragic **murder–suicide** within the City of Barron. This event deeply affected the community, but the investigation was handled swiftly, thoroughly, and professionally by our team and Barron Police Department. The coordinated response demonstrated the strength, training, and resilience of our staff during difficult circumstances.

Projects and Improvements

Sallyport Construction

The sallyport construction project is progressing well. We anticipate completion by **the end of March 2025**. Once finished, this upgrade will significantly enhance:

- Staff safety
- Operational efficiency, especially with the court system
- Secure transport and processing procedures

In-Car Radio and Body Camera System

Implementation of the new integrated in-car radio and body-worn camera system is underway. Full deployment and functionality are expected by **the end of February 2026**. This system will:

- Improve officer safety
- Strengthen transparency
- Enhance evidence collection and documentation

Budget in	**2025 – 10.7 Million**	2024 – 9.9 Million	2023 – 9.3 Million
	2022 – 8.8 Million	2021 – 8.5 Million	2020 – 8.35 Million
Personnel -	**78 in 2025**	78 in 2024	78 in 2023
	76 in 2022	76 in 2021	77 in 2020

2026 goals

- Implement new radio system (portable and mobiles) and body camera system to enhance officer safety and bring Barron County Wiscomm compliant.
- Expand Training Opportunities in all divisions
- Implement Employee Wellness Checks
- Jail expansion project-under budget

Accidents

2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
317	264	279	296	291	340
2 Fatal	11 Fatal	7 Fatal	7 Fatal	9 Fatal	4 Fatal

Of the 2025 accidents handled by the Sheriff's Department; 223 were property damage, 92 were injury and 2 fatal crashes.

OWI

For 2025 – 123 people arrested for OWI including seven ATV/UTV OWI.

Monday 12	Tuesday 13	Wednesday 9	Thursday 4	Friday 19
Saturday 25	Sunday 41			

Of the 123 - 25 were female. Youngest person arrested was 16 and oldest was 73.
Time of arrests were all times of the day, from early morning until after bar closing.

OWI's in 2025 were 123; which is same as 2024. This is a crime that is 100% preventable. Never get into the driver's seat after you have been drinking. What is concerning is that 48 or **39%** of these arrests still took place between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. when more of our families are on the roadway. This is equal to the percentage from 2024 but is still not acceptable.

For 2024 – 123 people arrested for OWI including four ATV/UTV OWI.

Monday 13	Tuesday 14	Wednesday 9	Thursday 12	Friday 15
Saturday 31	Sunday 29			

Of the 123 - 22 were female. Youngest person arrested was 15 and oldest was 75.
Time of arrests were all times of the day, from early morning until after bar closing.
OWI's in 2023 were 93; increase of 30 total OWI arrests from 2023 to 2024. What is concerning is that 48 or **39%** of these arrests still took place between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. when more of our families are on the roadway. This is a decrease in the percentage from 2023 but is still not acceptable.

For 2023 – 93 people arrested for OWI including four ATV/UTV OWI.

Monday 7	Tuesday 11	Wednesday 9	Thursday 8	Friday 14
Saturday 16	Sunday 28			

Of the 93 - 27 were female. Youngest person arrested was 18 and oldest was 68.
Time of arrests were all times of the day, from early morning until after bar closing.
OWI's in 2022 were 83; increase of 10 total OWI arrests from 2022 to 2023. What is concerning is that 35 or 38% of these arrests took place between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. when more of our families are on the roadway.

For 2022 – 83 people arrested for OWI including six ATV/UTV OWI.

Monday 15	Tuesday 3	Wednesday 11	Thursday 6	Friday 12
Saturday 22	Sunday 14			

Of the 83 - 15 were female. Youngest person arrested was 16 and oldest was 72.
Time of arrests were all times of the day, from early morning until after bar closing.
OWI's in 2021 were 78; increase of 5 total OWI arrests from 2021 to 2022. What is concerning is that 49 or 59% of these arrests took place between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. when more of our families are on the roadway.

For 2021 – 78 people arrested for OWI including one Boating OWI and four ATV/UTV OWI.

Monday 7	Tuesday 11	Wednesday 8	Thursday 11	Friday 12
Saturday 18	Sunday 11			

Of the 78 - 22 were female. Youngest person arrested was 17 and oldest was 68.
Time of arrests were all times of the day, from early morning until after bar closing.
OWI's in 2020 were 85; decrease of 7 total OWI arrests from 2020 to 2021. These numbers are slightly decreased in 2021. What is concerning is that 39 or 50% of these arrests took place between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. when more of our families are on the roadway.

For 2020 – 85 people arrested for OWI including one Boating OWI and two ATV OWI.

Monday 8 Tuesday 10 Wednesday 6 Thursday 13 Friday 12

Saturday 17 Sunday 19

Of the 85 - 27 were female. Youngest person arrested was 14 and oldest was 66.

Time of arrests were all times of the day, from early morning until after bar closing.

OWI's in 2019 were 83; increase of 2 total OWI arrests from 2019 to 2020. These numbers are slightly increased in 2020. What is concerning is that 27 or almost 32.5% of these arrests took place between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. when more of our families are on the roadway.

Traffic Data

Number of traffic stops – 3947
Number of citations issued – 1492

Number of traffic stops in 2024 were 3434 and 2024 citations issued were 1323.
Number of traffic stops in 2023 were 2369 and 2022 citations issued were 1212.
Number of traffic stops in 2022 were 2058 and 2022 citations issued were 1003.
Number of traffic stops in 2021 were 1732 and 2021 citations issued were 1029.
Number of traffic stops in 2020 were 1318 and 2020 citations issued were 1142.

Recreation Deputy

Snow 2024/2025

237.5 hours billed of which 187.5 were patrol hours, 24 hours of administrative time and 26 exempt hours for training and instructing snowmobile safety courses. 29 students trained.
107 Contacts – 2 Warnings – 18 Citations
Claim Amount: $21,017.32 (reimbursement at 100% - $21,017.32)

Water 2025

219 hours billed of which 157 were patrol hours, 14 hours of administrative time and 48 exempt hours for training.
72 Contacts – 13 Warnings – 15 Citations
Claim Amount: $20,595.85 (reimbursement rate to be determined in April of 2026)

ATV 2024/2025

2,343.3 hours billed of which 2,066.2 were patrol hours, 225.5 hours of administrative time and 51.6 exempt hours for crash investigations and training.
620 Contacts – 21 Warnings – 91 Citations
Claim Amount: $143,212.95 (reimbursement at 84.95% - $121,665.20)

Trail Improvement Grants- Ongoing maintenance grants; replacement/new trail grants $1,039,158.

Snow 2023/2024

134.1 hours billed of which 66 were patrol hours, 17.5 hours of administrative time and 50.6 exempt hours for training and instructing snowmobile safety courses.
13 Contacts – 2 Warnings – 2 Citations
Claim Amount: $19,580.78 (reimbursement at 100% - $19,580.78)

Water 2024

322 hours billed of which 196 were patrol hours, 26.5 hours of administrative time and 99.5 exempt hours for crash investigations and training.
380 Contacts – 10 Warnings – 15 Citations
Claim Amount: $28,609.17 (reimbursement rate to be determined in April of 2025)

ATV 2023/2024

1322.6 hours billed of which 1,126 were patrol hours, 158.5 hours of administrative time and 38.1 exempt hours for crash investigations and training.
371 Contacts – 6 Warnings – 50 Citations
Claim Amount: $72,610.24 (reimbursement at 86.54% - $62,839.30)

Trail Improvement Grants- Ongoing maintenance grants/bridge rehab & replacement/new trail grants $1,199,123.20.

Snow 2022/2023

386.5 hours billed of which 301 were patrol hours, 62 hours of administrative time and 23.5 exempt hours for crash investigations, instructing snowmobile safety courses and training.
124 Contacts – 4 Warnings – 13 Citations
Claim Amount: $31,203.78 (reimbursement at 74.6%- $23,278.90)

Water 2023

255.5 hours billed of which 146 were patrol hours, 31.5 hours of administrative time and 78 exempt hours for crash investigations, instructing boaters safety courses and training.
202 Contacts – 2 Warnings – 15 Citations
Barron County had 2 drownings in 2023.
Claim Amount: $21,248.95 (reimbursement rate to be determined in April of 2024)

ATV 2022/2023

963 hours billed of which 813 were patrol hours, 128.5 hours of administrative time and 21.5 exempt hours for crash investigations, instructing ATV safety courses and training.
327 Contacts – 2 Warnings – 71 Citations
Claim Amount: $50,928.77 (reimbursement at 100%)

Trail Improvement Grants- Ongoing maintenance grants/bridge rehab & replacement/new trail grants $985,828.75.

Snow 2021/2022

232.5 hours billed of which 166.5 were patrol hours, 29.5 administrative time and 36 exempt hours for crash investigation and instructing Snowmobile Safety and training.
71 contacts - 6 warnings, 7 citations.
57 students completed the DNR Snowmobile Safety course instructed by sheriff's department.
Claim Amount: $15,231.95 (reimbursement at 60.37% - $9,195.34)

Water 2022

146 hours billed of which 90 were patrol hours, 15 administrative time and 41 exempt hours for training, crash/drowning investigations.
110 contacts - 1 warnings, 10 citations
Barron County had three drownings in 2022.
Claim Amount: $15,026.22 (reimbursement rate to be determined in April of 2023)

ATV 2021/2022

1024.5 hours billed of which 896.5 were patrol hours, 99.5 administrative time and 28.5 exempt hours for crash investigations and training.

562 contacts - 8 warnings, 66 citations
Claim Amount: $51,204.15 (reimbursement at 73.13% - $37,446.88)

Trail Work Grants – Ongoing maintenance grants/bridge rehab & replacement/new trail grants $1,153,024.

Total Cases

2025 – 1207 total cases (22 – ICAC (Internet Crimes Against Children); 14 Cyber tips with 6 Child Porn related & 8 Sextortion related plus 8 other non-Cyber tips)

2024 – 1319 (22 – ICAC) 2023 – 1222 (16- ICAC) 2022 – 1158 (19 – ICAC) 2021 – 1191
2020 - 1176 2019 – 1112

Vehicles

34 squads, Armored Vehicle, Drug Unit Van, SWAT Van, Mobile Command Center, Grooming Truck and Drag, 2 snowmobiles, 2 ATV/UTV and 2 Boats

Process Service

Papers Served

2025 – 888 2024 – 980 2023 – 1101 2022 – 1083 2021 - 1345 2020 - 1196

2025 Sheriff Sales – 33 scheduled (9 cancelled).
2024 Sheriff Sales – 22 scheduled (7 cancelled).
2023 Sheriff Sales – 30 scheduled (8 cancelled).
2022 Sheriff Sales – 20 scheduled (5 cancelled).
2021 Sheriff Sales – 24 scheduled (15 cancelled).
2020 Sheriff Sales – 30 scheduled (13 cancelled).

Dispatch

	2025	2024	2023
911 Calls	12,830/35.2 per day	12,510/34.3 per day	14,924/40.9 per day
CAD's	40,628/111.3 per day	38,328/105 per day	38,411/105.2 per day

	2022	2021	2020
911 Calls	13,503/37 per day	14,767/40.5 per day	13,954/38.2 per day
CAD's	38,843/106.4 per day	39,680/108.7 per day	36,330/99.5 per day

Domestic Disturbance/Violence Calls for Service

2025 – 245 County Wide/85 handled by Sheriff's Dept 2024 – 264 County Wide/97 Sheriff
2023 – 270 County Wide/76 Sheriff 2022 – 258 County Wide/73 Sheriff
2021 – 330 County Wide/76 Sheriff 2020 – 335 County Wide/103 Sheriff

Drug Cases

YEAR	Poss MDPV	Deliver MDPV	Poss Synethic THC	Deliver Synethic THC	Poss/Deliver Psilocybin	Poss/Deliver Heroin/ Fentanyl	Poss Marijuana	Poss Marijuana w/Intent to Deliver	Deliver/Manufacture Marijuana	Poss Drug Paraphernalia	Poss Meth Paraphernalia	Poss Meth	Manufacture Meth/Poss Meth Waste	Delivery of Meth	Poss Meth w/Intent to Deliver	Poss/Deliver LSD	Poss Cocaine	Delivery or Poss w/Intent to deliver - Cocaine	Poss/Deliver Prescription Meds	Maintain Drug House	TOTALS
2021	0	0	0	0	3	0	30	8	2	40	10	24	0	22	9	0	0	0	8	4	**160**
2022	0	0	0	0	0	2	10	2	0	30	6	15	0	12	9	0	0	0	0	2	**88**
2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	6	0	10	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	**26**
2024	0	0	0	0	0	3	13	0	1	24	9	16	0	10	4	0	3	2	0	1	**86**
2025	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	18	0	8	0	13	9	0	3	3	3	1	**63**
TTL	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**3**	**5**	**63**	**10**	**3**	**118**	**25**	**73**	**0**	**60**	**33**	**0**	**6**	**5**	**11**	**8**	**423**

YEAR	Vehicle Seizure	Cash Seizure	Drug Search Warrant	Cell/Wi-Fi SW	251-NBOME (Bath Salt)	Mephedrone	oxycodone case	hydrocodone case	manufacture drug para	Del Counterfeit substance	Fentynal										TOTALS
2021	0	4	20	15	0	0	0	0	0	0											**39**
2022	0	1	8	6	0	0	0	0	0	0											**15**
2023	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0											**1**
2024	0	0	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	3										**18**
2025	0	0	5	6	0	0	0	3	0	0	3										**17**
TTL	**0**	**5**	**44**	**32**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**3**	**0**	**0**	**6**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**90**

Barron County Sheriff's Dept. (Drug Arrest Summary - criminal arrests)

The drug cases generated by the patrol division are not included above.

In 2025, the sheriff's department spent $2,500 on drug buy money for the above listed cases. This funding is not tax payer dollars and is funded through court ordered forfeitures and seizures.

In November 2011, the Barron County Sheriff's Department installed a 24/7 drop box for unused/expired prescription drugs and has already been a huge success to keep the citizens safe.

Tip Line

In 2024, the City Protect website went live to all the submission of tips, camera registration and crime maps. Residents can still use our Facebook for tip and call into dispatch. Our Facebook continues to be our main source of sharing information.

Jail

Bookings in the jail

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Total	**1079**	1242	1120	1060	974	945
Male	785	940	760	780	725	728
Female	294	302	360	280	249	217

In 2025, the housing of inmates for other agencies generated approximately $326,437.

During 2025, there were 4,015 inmate worker hours. Total hours include work in the jail laundry, cleaning in the jail and jail library.

Fees Collected

	Collected – 2025	2024	2023
Daily Maintenance Fee	$ 21,452.47	$ 21,203.06	$ 21,210.23
Booking Fee	$ 1,525.11	$ 1,297.10	$ 1,606.49
Nurse Fee	$ 525.21	$807.80	$ 60.77
Tax Refund Intercept Program	$ 26,015.18	$19,370.81	$ 22,667.07

(Includes collections from inmate accounts for fees sent to WI DOR)

	Collected – 2022	2021	2020
Daily Maintenance Fee	$ 19,278.21	$ 13,371.63	$ 18,782.24
Booking Fee	$ 1,740.32	$ 1,451.13	$ 658.52
Nurse Fee	$ 213.69	$ 435.00	$ 760.47
Tax Refund Intercept Program	$ 29,791.21	$$ 20,434.99	$ 13,425.94

(Includes collections from inmate accounts for fees sent to WI DOR)

Underage Drinking Citations

2025	**24**	**(includes 1 adult permit/underage drinking)**
2024	37	(includes 1 adult permit/underage drinking)
2023	44	(includes 2 adult permit/underage drinking)
2022	32	(includes 2 adult permit/underage drinking)
2021	135	(includes 5 adult permit/underage drinking)
2020	111	(includes 23 adult permit/underage drinking)

Emergency Response Team (ERT)

2025

4 Total Call Outs
2 High Risk Arrest/Barricade Firearms
1 High Risk Search Warrants
1 Other

2024

6 Total Call Outs
4 High Risk Arrest/Barricade Firearms
1 High Risk Search Warrants
1 Other

2023

6 Total Call Outs
3 High Risk Arrest/Barricade Firearms
2 High Risk Search Warrants
1 Suicidal/Barricaded Subject

2022

3 Total Call Outs
1 High Risk Search Warrants
2 Suicidal/Barricaded Subject

2021
14 Total Call Outs
5 High Risk Search Warrant
1 Suicidal/Barricaded Subject with Firearm
8 High Risk Arrest/Barricade Firearms

2020
5 Total Call Outs
2 High Risk Search Warrants
2 Suicidal/Barricaded Persons with Firearms
1 Wooded Search (Rusk County for Missing Persons)

Team consists of 1 Commander, 12 Entry, 2 Snipers and 1 Negotiator. Members of the team are 11 Sheriff's Department personnel and 5 from Rusk County Sheriff's Department.

Grants 2025

County Law Enforcement	**$27,946**	County/Tribal Law Enforcement	**$18,541**
COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Task Force		**$5,000**	
COPS Anti-Heroine Task Force		**$10,000**	
Impaired Driving Enforcement		**$20,157.12**	
Seat Belt Enforcement		**$10,078.56**	

2024

County Law Enforcement	$26,890	County/Tribal Law Enforcement	$18,619
COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Task Force		$5,000 + $6,000	
COPS Anti-Heroine Task Force		$10,000	
Safe Ride Program	$8,000	ALERT Grant Program	$1,500

2023

County Law Enforcement	$25,661	County/Tribal Law Enforcement	$18,509
COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Task Force		$5,000	
COPS Anti-Heroine Task Force		$10,000	
Safe Ride Program	$3,586.20	ALERT Grant Program	$1,500
Safer Communities LEA Grant		$66,137.70	

2022

County Law Enforcement	$24,593	County/Tribal Law Enforcement	$18,188
COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Task Force		$0	
COPS Anti-Heroine Task Force		$5,000	
Safe Ride Program	$4,000	ICAC Cellebrite Grant	$2,440
Fatal Vision Kits Grant	$4,545		

2021

County Law Enforcement	$24,056	County/Tribal Law Enforcement	$16,805
COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Task Force		$7,500	
COPS Anti-Heroine Task Force		$1,500	
Safe Ride Program	$3,000	ICAC Cellebrite Grant	$4,300

2020

County Law Enforcement	$21,481	County/Tribal Law Enforcement	$14,904
COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Task Force		$15,000	
Safe Ride Program	Cancelled		
BC UVC Decontamination Devices Project		$58,000	

2019

County Law Enforcement	$21,287	County/Tribal Law Enforcement	$15,074
COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Task Force		$15,000	
COPS Anti-Heroine Task Force		$15,000	
Safe Ride Program	$2,500	Barron County Drug Task Force	$25,000

Despite a year of transition, the Sheriff's Office remained strong, stable, and mission-focused. Our staff demonstrated professionalism, adaptability, and dedication to public safety. The improvements in traffic fatality numbers, the successful handling of major incidents, and the progress on key infrastructure and technology projects all reflect an agency moving forward with purpose.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to serving our community with integrity, accountability, and continued vigilance.

Sheriff Jodi Kummet