



## Washington County Sheriff's Office

Law Enforcement Center  
399 Broadway  
Fort Edward, NY 12828  
(518) 746-2475

Sheriff Jeffrey J. Murphy

*"Community First"*



Thank you for agreeing to take part in the following survey regarding the operations and services provided by the Washington County Sheriff's Office. We strongly value the opinion and input of all county residents and business owners. We will use the data from this survey to assist with reviewing our current policies, practices and operations to better serve you. This survey is being offered to county residents in response to the Governor's Executive Order 203 and is part of our plan to comply with the mandate.

As an overview, the Sheriff's Office employs 127 full-time and 55 part-time personnel within several divisions including administration, road patrol, investigations, corrections, kitchen, nursing, civil, pistol permits and clerical staff. We serve a population of approximately 62,000 residents within 846 square miles of jurisdiction divided into 17 towns. In 2019, our office handled 17,519 calls for service.

In 2012, the office adopted the "Community First" motto and instituted several programs related to the community policing approach to law enforcement. In 2016, the office was the only New York State agency to receive an award from the Department of Justice U.S. Attorney General's Office acknowledging our "Community First" program.

We urge you to click on the link below for more information about our plan going forward to comply with the order. The link will assist you with answering questions in the survey and providing feedback about our office. You can also find links to our 2019 Annual Report as well as other programs and services the Sheriff's Office provides.

Please note that this survey is regarding the Washington County Sheriff's Office and not your local Village or State Police. **Please return the survey to your Town Hall or to the Sheriff's Office at the above address by Friday December 4<sup>th</sup>.**

<https://washingtoncountyny.gov/DocumentCenter/View/16061/Governors-Executive-Order-Survey-Guide>

Jeffrey J. Murphy  
Sheriff of Washington County

## **Services**

Please select the top 5 services that you think are the most important for the Sheriff's Office to provide:

- Responding to 911 Calls
- Fingerprinting Services
- Criminal Investigations (*Sex Crimes, Robberies, Homicides*)
- Referrals to Social Services
- Routine Patrols
- Community Policing
- School Resource Officers
- Special Patrols (*DWI, Seatbelt and Speed Enforcement*)
- Civil Office (*Service of Legal Process etc.*)

## **Necessity**

Sheriff's Deputies are a necessary part of our Community:

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I'm not sure

## **Law Enforcement Accreditation**

There are almost 600 law enforcement agencies in NYS. The Washington County Sheriff's Office is one of the 130 accredited agencies statewide. Being an accredited law enforcement agency is beneficial to the Sheriff's Office and the Community.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I'm not sure

## **Responsiveness**

Sheriff's Deputies in our County are responsive to the public's needs.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I'm not sure

## **Training**

As an accredited agency, our sheriff's deputies are required to receive a minimum of 21 training hours annually. Most of our deputies receive double that amount each year. Based on this information would you say deputies are well trained?

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I'm not sure

## **Accountability**

Sheriff's Deputies in our County are held accountable for their actions.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I'm not sure

## **Community Impact**

Sheriff's Deputies in our County strive to have a positive impact on our community.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I'm not sure

## **Community Policing**

The Washington County Sheriff's Office effectively uses a community policing strategy.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I'm not sure

## **Deployment**

Washington County encompasses 846 square miles broken up into 17 towns geographically. The sheriff's office currently assigns one sergeant and four deputies per shift for patrol. Deputies are assigned to posts at the start of each shift to ensure adequate patrols to respond to calls for service. Based on this information would you say resources are properly deployed?

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I'm not sure

## **Honesty**

Sheriff's Deputies in our County are fundamentally honest.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I'm not sure

## **Officer Complaints**

If you have a complaint against a Sheriff's Deputy in our County, you are confident it will be reviewed objectively.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I'm not sure

## **Corruption**

There is corruption within the Sheriff's Office.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I'm not sure

## **Bias**

Sheriff's Deputies in our County are biased in their interactions with certain groups of people

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I'm not sure

## **Body Cameras**

All uniform sergeants and deputies are issued body cameras and are required to record all interactions with the public. Body cameras are an important tool for deputies to utilize on patrol and provides for better transparency and accountability.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I'm not sure

## **Recruitment**

Eligible candidates are chosen from a Civil Service list comprised of residents from Washington and adjoining counties who have taken a written exam and completed a physical fitness test. The list is ranked by score and candidates from the top three are then interviewed, undergo a background investigation, psychological and medical testing.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I'm not sure

## **911 Dispatch**

If you have needed to call 911 for assistance, please select the type of emergency.

- Police
- Fire
- EMS/ Medical
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

## **Interaction**

When was the last time you had a direct interaction with the Washington County Sheriff's Office?

- More than 5 years ago
- Less than 5 years ago
- Never

Interaction was related to:

- Patrol / Law Enforcement
- Investigations
- Civil (Pistol Permit)
- Jail
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

## **Public Satisfaction**

On a scale from one to 10, how satisfied are with the Washington County Sheriff's Office?

*(Please circle 1 = Not at all satisfied 10 = Extremely satisfied)*

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

## **What are the top three things that you feel would improve policing in your community?**

1.

2.

3.

## **Feedback**

Please provide any additional feedback about the Sheriff's Office.

(If you would like a response please provide a name and email address.)

## **Township of Residence** (*Circle*)

Argyle

Cambridge

Dresden

Easton

Fort Ann

Fort Edward

Granville

Greenwich

Hampton

Hartford

Hebron

Jackson

Kingsbury

Putnam

Salem

White Creek

Whitehall

## **Demographics (Optional)**

### **Gender Identity**

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to say

### **Age Group**

- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65+

### **Race Identity**

- White or Caucasian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- Asian or Asian American
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Household Income**

- Under \$15,000 annually
- \$15,000- \$29,999
- \$30,000- \$49,999
- \$50,000- \$74,999
- \$75,000- \$99,999
- \$100,000- \$150,000
- Over \$150,000



