



Steven A. Hall
SHERIFF

Office of the Sheriff

St. Mary's County, Maryland

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An Internationally
Accredited Agency

February 15, 2024

TO: Sheriff Steven A. Hall, St. Mary's County, Maryland

SUBJECT: Analysis of Bias Based Profiling - 2023

The following is an analysis for Bias Based Profiling by deputy sheriffs of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office during the periods of January through December 2023. The Sheriff's Office has an administrative policy regarding Traffic Enforcement specifically covering policies prohibiting Biased Based Traffic Stops which can be found in SMCSO Policy 401.1 Bias Based Policing. In accordance with Section 25-113 of the Maryland Transportation Article, the Sheriff's Office has gathered since 2002 specific data elements on Motor Vehicle Stops for entry into Delta Plus to generate statistical reports to the State of Maryland. Data for this report was derived from the Delta Plus software maintained by the Maryland State Police.

In 2023, the Sheriff's Office reported a total of **13,617** traffic stops. Of those, **4,180** traffic stops met the criteria for captured stops. The criteria refers to traffic stops which are based on the deputies' own observations as a reason for the stop and are cleared as "X1" by the deputies. This report does not include traffic stop data originating from the following:

- Radar Enforcement
- LASER Enforcement
- License Plate Readers (LPRs)
- Motor Vehicle Accidents
- Criminal Investigations
- Suspicious Activity

The Sheriff's Office conducted a traffic enforcement initiative between August and October of 2023 called "Slow Down St. Mary's". The initiative addressed speeding, distracted driving, reckless driving, and other violations. There were seven (7) deputies and one (1) supervisor assigned to the initiative. As a result of the increased traffic enforcement there was a substantial increase in the total number of traffic stops from 9,380 in 2022 to 13,617 in 2023. There were a total of 3,393 traffic stops during this initiative.

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Listed below is the statistical data associated with the **4,180** traffic stops.

The racial breakdown of those stops is as follows:

Race	Number	Percent
American Indian/Alaskan	0	0%
Asian	50	1.0%
Black	1,560	37%
Hispanic	266	6%
Other	80	2%
White	2,223	54%
Unknown	1	0%
Total	4,180	100.00%

Gender	Number	Percent
Female	1,471	36%
Male	2,705	64%
Unknown	4	0%
Total	4,180	100.00%

Age	Number	Percent
Under 20	235	6%
20-29	1,022	24.3%
30-39	1,028	25%
40-49	759	18%
50-59	578	14%
60-69	385	9%
70-79	137	3%
80-89	24	0.5%
90-99	4	0%
Unknown	8	0.2%
Total	4,180	100.00%

County of Residence	Number	Percent
St. Mary's	3,210	77%
Other	635	15%
Unknown	335	8%
Total	4,180	100.00%

Duration of Stop	Number	Percent
0-5 Minutes	3,618	87%
6-15 Minutes	468	11%
16-30 Minutes	62	1.3%
31-45 Minutes	23	0.5%
46-60 Minutes	9	0.2%
61-75 Minutes	0	0%

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76-90 Minutes	0	0%
91-105 Minutes	0	0%
106-120 Minutes	0	0%
>120 Minutes	0	0%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	4,180	100.00%

Traffic Violation/Reason for Stop	Number	Percent
Maryland Traffic Article Section 11	40	1%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 12	0	0%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 13	526	12.6%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 14	0	0%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 15	0	0%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 16	67	1.6%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 17	7	0.2%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 18	0	0%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 19	0	0%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 20	13	0.3%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 21	1,770	42.4%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 22	1,426	34.1%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 23	35	0.8%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 24	0	0%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 25	0	0%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 26	0	0%
Maryland Traffic Article Section 27	0	0%
Other	295	7.1%
Unknown	1	0%
Total	4,180	100.00%

Citation Issued	Number	Percent
No	2,978	71.2%
Yes	1,202	28.8%
Total	4,180	100.00%

Safety Equipment Repair Order (SERO) Issued

	Number	Percent
No	3,996	95.6%
Yes	184	4.4%
Total	4,180	100.00%

Warning Issued	Number	Percent
No	1,417	34%
Yes	2,763	66%
Total	4,180	100.00%

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Search Conducted	Number	Percent
No	4,084	97.20%
Yes	96	2.3%
Total	4,180	100.00%

Reason for Search	Number	Percent
Consensual	4	4.2%
Exigent Circumstances	0	0%
Incident to Arrest	28	29.2%
K-9 Alert	14	14.6%
Other	2	2.1%
Probable Cause	48	50%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	96	100.00%

Type of Search	Number	Percent
Both Person and Property	41	42.7%
Person	7	7.3%
Property	48	50%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	96	100.00%

Result of Search	Number	Percent
Contraband Seized	47	49%
Property Seized	15	15.6%
Contraband and Property Seized	9	9.4%
Nothing Seized	25	26%
Total	96	100.00%

Out of the 4,180 traffic stops there were a total of thirty (30) arrests. The racial breakdown of those arrests is as follows:

Race of Arrested Driver	Number	Percent
American Indian/Alaskan	0	0%
Asian	0	0%
Black	14	46.7%
Hispanic	1	3.3%
Other	0	0%
White	15	50%
Total	30	100.00%

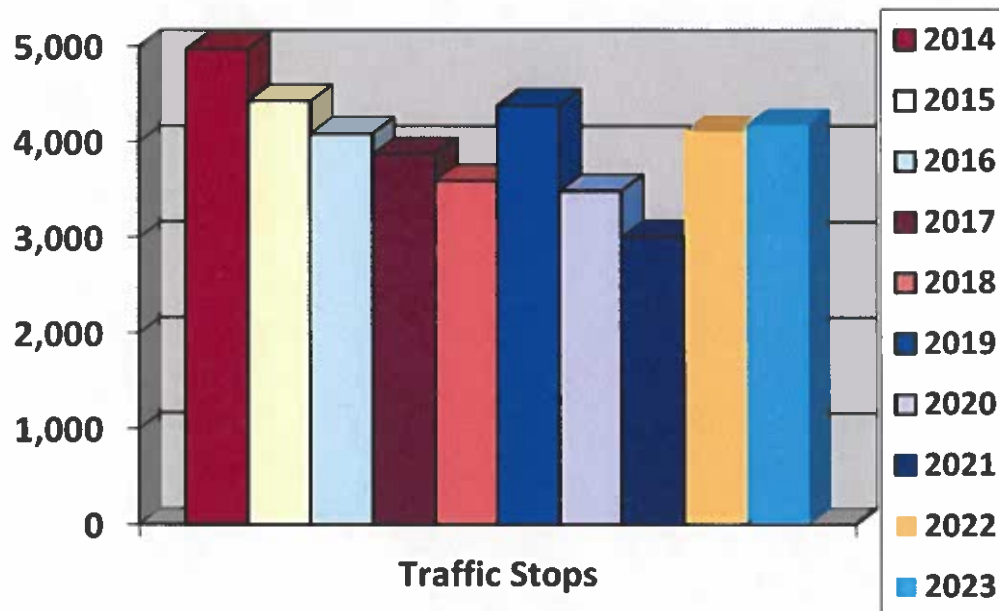
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Arrest Reason	Number	Percent
Based on Search	5	16.6%
Based on Stop	16	53.4%
Warrant	3	10%
Other	6	20%
Total	30	100.00%

Note: Body Worn Cameras (BWC) and In Car Cameras are being utilized for the above stops.

The following graph illustrates the total number of traffic stops for each year which meet the criteria to capture and report the data:




Thomas A. Hedderich
Lieutenant
Office of Professional Responsibilities

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Agree

☒ Yes () No, see indorsement.

Major:



Date

2-15-24

☒ Yes () No, see indorsement.

Sheriff:



Date

2/15/24