

Women in Law Enforcement



Corrections - Sergeant Suzanne Hazen

SGT Suzanne Hazen started her career at the Sheriff's Office in May of 1989 in the Corrections Division, working as a Corrections Deputy. In October 1992 she became a Corrections Training Officer until she was promoted to Corrections Shift Leader, holding the rank of Sergeant, in August of 1993. SGT Hazen obtained her Associate in Science degree from Vincennes University in August of 2003, and is currently seeking a Bachelor degree in Criminal Justice at Kaplan University. Between 1996 and 2003, she was a member of the Crisis Negotiation Team (C.N.T) and is currently serving on the Honor Review Board.

SGT Hazen was instrumental in the development of testing and oral boards for the Corrections Training Program and participated in the initial Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission process. SGT Hazen is currently

responsible for the Work Release Center, a 92-bed facility for county sentenced inmates. As supervisor of the Work Release Center, she also acts as a liaison with the County for Parks and Recreation, Road and Bridge, and Solid Waste Management areas assisting with inmate work squads.

SGT Hazen is an active member of the United States Navy Reserve and is a military police officer. As a member of our armed forces, she was deployed after September 11, 2001 in support of "Operation Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom."

Throughout her 18-year career SGT Hazen received many letters of commendation and, in 2005, she was awarded the Meritorious Service Award.



Administration - Mrs. Noreen Diaz

Mrs. Noreen Diaz joined the Sheriff's Office in December of 2002. She is a Recording Section Specialist in the Administration Division and uses her prior law enforcement experience to maintain certified status as a Reserve I Deputy. In addition, she also served as a female advisor in the Explorers program. In November of 2006, Mrs. Diaz became Administrative Training Officer and was instrumental in implementing SmartCop technology training. She continues to be involved with Law Enforcement Special Olympics, Spanish translations, fingerprinting and other law enforcement related activities.

Mrs. Diaz is a recipient of many letters of commendation.



Support Services - Sergeant Peggy Tennyson

SGT Peggy Tennyson started her career at the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office in October of 1992 as a Reserve I Deputy. One year later she became a full-time law enforcement deputy and, in March of 1996, she took an additional responsibility as a K-9 deputy. Deputy Tennyson trained and assisted in the founding of the North Florida Search and Rescue dog group including one of her dogs later being sent to recover American soldiers in Iraq. She obtained her Senior Deputy status in April of 1998. In December of 1998, Deputy Tennyson became an Acting Shift Leader. In October of 2000, she was assigned to the Community Oriented Policing (COPs) unit and served in this assignment for the next three (3) years. During that time, in 2001, she obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from Columbia College. She also worked as a Police Athletic League (PAL) deputy and as a detective. Deputy Tennyson was promoted to Sergeant in September of 2005 and is currently working as a Youth Resource Supervisor.

SGT Tennyson was instrumental in developing many of the SJSO policies and procedures, especially pertaining to K-9s. She is a member of the Sick Leave Pool committee. Her community activities include Tae Kwon Do, Ancient City Soccer Club, and local schools.

During SGT Tennyson's 15-year career, she received the Division Director's Award in 1998, and two Meritorious Service Awards in 2003 and 2004, as well as many letters of commendation.



Support Services - Sergeant Linda Hancock

SGT Hancock is an 18-year veteran of the Sheriff's Office. Throughout her entire career she worked in the Communications Center. She was appointed in February of 1989 as a Telecommunications Operator and became a Training Officer two years later. Ms. Hancock was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in February of 2001 and is currently a Communications Shift Leader.

SGT Hancock received a Division Director's Award in 1993 and many letters of commendation. In addition to a strong commitment to her profession, SGT Hancock continues to improve the policies and procedures in the Communications Center and remains active with recruitment efforts.