

PUBLIC SAFETY

The Public Safety function is composed of the Sheriff's Office, Emergency Services, E-911 Communications Center, and Other Public Safety activities (Lake Norman Marine Commission, Pre-Trial Services, Court Improvement Board, and Conflict Resolution Center). The Sheriff's Office includes the following activities: Law Enforcement & Administration, CVCC Officers, School Resource Officers, Records, Narcotics, Criminal Investigations, Lake Norman Area Patrol, Court Security, Newton Detention Facility, Prisoner Food Service, and the Burke-Catawba District Confinement Facility. Emergency Services consists of Emergency Services Administration, Veterans' Services, Emergency Medical Services, Fire/Rescue Division, Fire Fighting Alarms, Animal Control, and the Animal Shelter. The Emergency Services division is also responsible for Rescue Squads, Fire Service Protection Districts, and the E-911 Communications Center. The E-911 Communications Center provides emergency and administrative communications for the citizens of Catawba County by placing them in touch with public safety and related government services agencies.

The County has budgeted \$59,009,348 representing 23.7 percent of all expenditures for the fiscal year for Public Safety, including debt, capital expenses, and special revenue restricted for specific purposes such as the Emergency Telephone Surcharge and Federal Asset Forfeiture Funds. Total General Fund departmental expenses are \$31,721,186. The departments work to provide a safe, secure community and to provide emergency medical transportation to medical care facilities. The services provided are both salary and equipment intensive and increased costs generally reflect equipment replacements.

