

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SARATOGA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE RECOGNIZED FOR INNOVATIVE SECOND CHANCE PROGRAM

Sheriff & Deputy Magazine Highlights the SCSO's Program that Helps People with Substance Use Disorder in its November/December Issue

BALLSTON SPA, NY – Saratoga County officials today commended the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office for its recognition in the national magazine, Sheriff & Deputy. The Sheriff's Office Second Chance Program is featured in the magazine's November/December issue.

The "Second Chance" program was implemented in 2017, creating a new approach to address substance use disorder (SUD) and strengthening the relationship between police and people suffering from addiction. Through the program, Sheriff's deputies follow-up with every overdose call in Saratoga County to encourage survivors and their families to seek treatment and to connect them with treatment providers and support services. The program is also certified by the New York State Department of Health as an Opioid Overdose Prevention Provider, which allows deputies to train law enforcement and civilians in the use of Naloxone. In 2023, the Sheriff's Office added Certified Peer Recovery Advocates to the Second Chance Program.

To date, the "Second Chance" program has followed-up with nearly 1,000 people. Of those follow-ups, Sheriff's Deputies were able to make referrals to other resources approximately 70% of the time. The Sheriff's Office has distributed more than 2,000 Naloxone kits since the Second Chance Program's inception.

Saratoga County Board of Supervisors Phil Barrett (Clifton Park) said, "On behalf of the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors, I congratulate the Sheriff's Office for being nationally recognized for its innovative Second Chance Program. The program, led by Captain Daniel Morley, offers a compassionate and effective response to those with substance use disorder and is an important part of the County's efforts to address the opioid epidemic and substance abuse overall."

Saratoga County Sheriff Michael H. Zurlo said, "I'm extremely proud of the work our deputies do with the Second Chance Program and for their recognition in Sheriff & Deputy Magazine. Because of their hard work, compassion, and forward-thinking approach to addressing those we encounter with substance use disorder, we have not only built effective relationships with community-based treatment providers, but we are seeing lower rates of incarceration for those suffering from addiction. Importantly, the Second Chance Program is restoring hope to families affected by addiction."

(more)

Captain Daniel Morley said, "I'm extremely humbled by this recognition and would be remiss were I to not point out the outstanding partnerships we have with Saratoga County Department of Health, Healing Springs Recovery and Outreach Center, and other community organizations who are truly the unsung heroes in this battle."

The National Sheriff's Association publishes <u>Sheriff & Deputy Magazine</u> bimonthly, providing law enforcement professionals with articles focusing on best practices, procedures, and research in law enforcement, corrections, and court security among other topics to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system. Each issue highlights successful law enforcement programs, NSA activities, professional news, and legislative updates. The magazine reaches sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, police chiefs, police officers, and corrections officials on the federal, state, and local levels.

For more information about the Saratoga County Sherif's Office Second Chance Program or to arrange a Narcan Training call the Sheriff's Office at 518-885-6761 or www.saratogacountyny.gov/narcan.

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