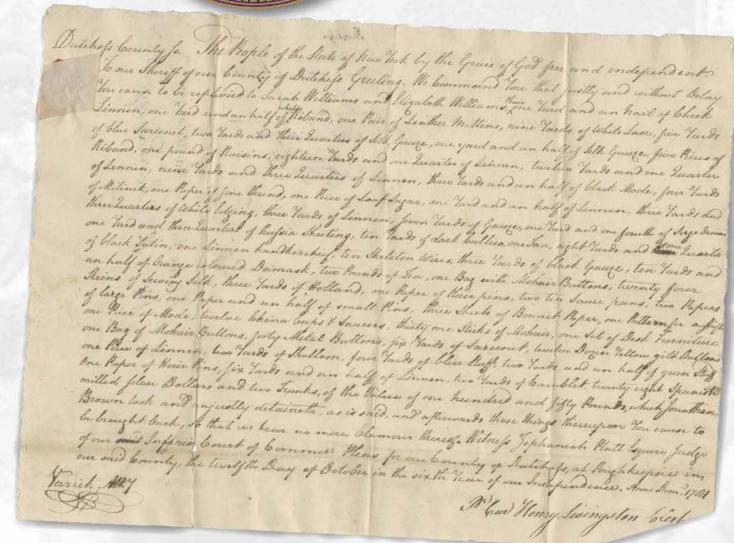




Dutchess County Sheriff's Office | Law Enforcement and Civil Divisions

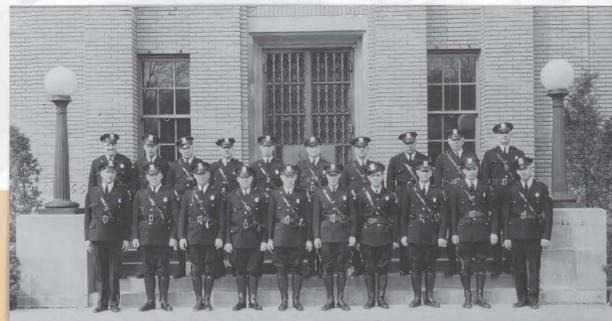
The origins of the Law Enforcement and Civil Divisions stretch back to 1717, when a single constable served all of Dutchess County. Since that time, the Sheriff and his deputies have provided a core set of services that have grown with the advent of new technologies. Early duties including arresting offenders, serving legal papers, and recovering property have expanded to include road patrol and emergency response. The governor appointed sheriffs from 1721 until 1822, when a new state constitution authorized voters to elect this official. While technology and the law have changed, the tradition of service to Dutchess County residents has remained steadfast.



WRIT OF REPLEVIN

Courtesy of the Dutchess County Clerk

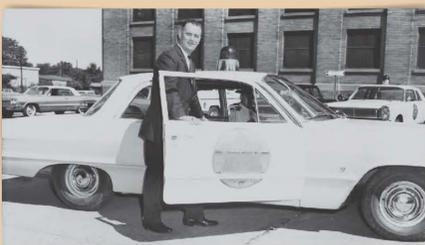
A writ of replevin directed the sheriff to recover stolen property. In the example above from 1781, Judge Zephaniah Platt ordered Sheriff Louis Dubois to seize a variety of household goods and fabric that Jonathan Brown had stolen from Sarah and Elizabeth Williams.



DEPUTIES AT THE NEW HEADQUARTERS

Courtesy of the Dutchess County Sheriff

In 1931, the deputies and guards moved into their new offices and jail on North Hamilton Street in Poughkeepsie. Pictured here on the building's front steps, the deputies wear "putts and breeches," leather leggings paired with riding breeches. The guards behind them wear trousers.



EXPANDING THE FORCE

Courtesy of the Dutchess County Sheriff

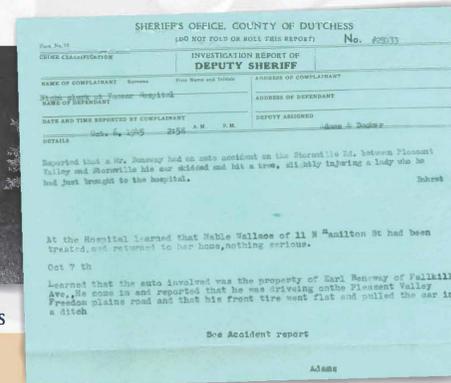
In the face of a growing need for services throughout the 1960s, Sheriff Lawrence E. "Larry" Quinlan advocated for new technology and new deputies. In 1963, he hired 50 part-time deputies and created an expanding system of sheriff's sub-stations to insure countywide coverage. On May 28, 1967, Quinlan opened a sub-station at Wilcox Park in Milan (above right). Attendees at the opening included (from left to right), Milan Supervisor Thomas J. Odak, Sheriff Quinlan, Pine Plains Supervisor John F. Battistoni, Jr., Sheriff's Corporal Henry W. Small, and Deputy Louis Imperato. Quinlan also introduced a new style of sheriff's cruiser with gold lettering and a county seal on the doors (above left). In instituting these and other innovations, Sheriff Quinlan drew on decades of service with the force, stretching back to when he first joined as a deputy in the early 1930s.



TECHNOLOGY BRINGS NEW EMERGENCIES

Courtesy of the Dutchess County Sheriff

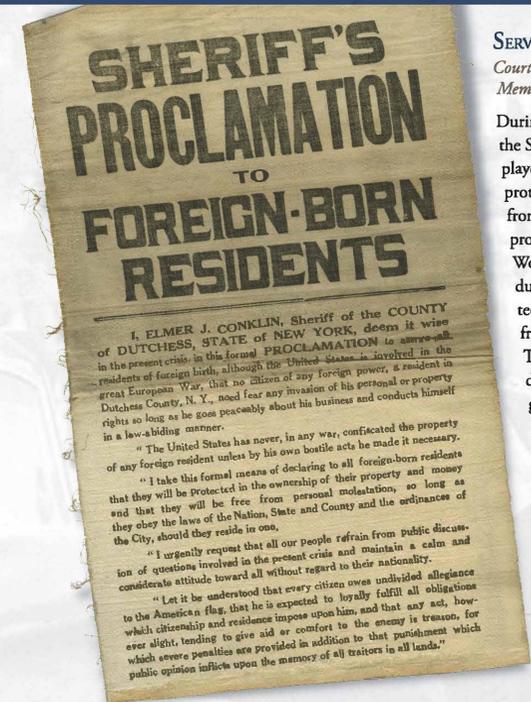
The automobile revolution in Dutchess County brought new challenges for the Sheriff's Office. A growing number of cars meant more accidents, requiring new equipment and protocols. In 1938, Sheriff Dwight Sedgewick secured an emergency truck (right). It came filled with all of the supplies needed to respond to car crashes and other catastrophes, including space to transport injured individuals to the nearest hospital. The first aid squad that operated the truck treated 38 injuries at the Dutchess County Fair in 1938. Deputies spent an increasing amount of time handling automobile crashes, including single vehicle accidents like the one above.



PROTECTING NATIONAL LEADERS

Courtesy of the Dutchess County Sheriff

As Dutchess County appeared more frequently on national campaign trails, deputies found themselves assisting and protecting national leaders, from President Franklin Delano Roosevelt to Robert F. Kennedy. Pictured here at Poughkeepsie's Riverview Field on September 12, 1964, Kennedy was campaigning to become the region's next U.S. Senator. In the bottom right corner of this photograph, Deputy Sheriff Louis Werner provides directions to Kennedy's driver.



SERVICE IN WAR
Courtesy of the Adirance Memorial Library

During both world wars, the Sheriff's Office played a vital role in protecting the home front. As seen in this proclamation from World War I, those duties included protecting immigrants from xenophobia. Twenty years later, deputy sheriffs guarded key war industries throughout Dutchess County, including the Schatz-Federal Bearing Factory in Poughkeepsie, which created ball bearings for warplanes.

A RIVERINE FORCE

Courtesy of the Dutchess County Sheriff

Search and recovery operations in the Hudson River provided another opportunity for new technology to ease deputies' duties. Initially, deputies performed such duties using a row boat and hooks. By the 1960s, scuba equipment offered a more effective way to search the Hudson River and other bodies of water. Pictured at Sylvan Lake (Town of Beekman) in 1967 (bottom), the sheriff's dive team included (from left to right) Hal Houghtaling, Bill Gillette, Bruce Anderson, and Harold Krum, standing with Sheriff Larry Quinlan. A department boat (top) provided the team with a mobile base.

