#### Orange County Corrections Department

**Orange County Jail Oversight Commission** 

**Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee** 

February 20, 2025

**Captain Clint Rashall** 





- Orange County Corrections Overview
- Recruitment
- Basic Corrections Officer Academy
- Turnover
- Recruitment and Turnover Summary
- Retention





## **Orange County Corrections Overview**

- Orange County Corrections Department (OCCD) is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest jail in Florida
- Report to Orange County Board of County Commissioners
- Average Daily Population for 2024 was 3,111
- Annual budget FY 2024-25 is \$194.9 million
- 880 Correctional Officer positions
- Correctional Officer starting hourly rate is \$23.44
- Collective Bargaining Agreement (Fraternal Order of Police 86)



| Recruitment          |                       |                        |  |  |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--|--|
| Year                 | Correctional Officers | Non-Certified Officers |  |  |
| 2022                 | 24                    | 46                     |  |  |
| 2023                 | 26                    | 63                     |  |  |
| 2024                 | 21                    | 56                     |  |  |
| TOTAL                | 71                    | 165                    |  |  |
| Avg. Hire Rate/Month | 2.0                   | 5.9                    |  |  |

- Average 24 COs and 55 NCOs per year
- For 2024, received 1,526 NCO and 565 CO applications
- As of February 2025 Hired 4 COs and 17 NCOs





- Updated the Department's Hiring Standards
  - Modified uniformed dress code policy Tattoo
  - Use of marijuana
  - Suspended Neighborhood Checks
- Streamlined hiring process
- Hire recruits as soon as possible
- Orange County implemented an employee referral bonus
- Sign-on incentives





### Recruitment

Advertising

Events







Job Opening ID: 32680 Starting pay rate \$51,015.60 per year \$1,000 Sign On incentive

**OCFL.net/Careers** 

ORANGE COUNTY
CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT

www.BestJail.com



RECRUITMENT





#### Challenges

- COVID followed immediately by the "Great Resignation"
- Competition with law enforcement and corrections
- Competition with private industry
- Wages
- Stereotype of what it is like to work inside a jail
- Staffing shortages are impacting employee morale





# **Basic Corrections Officer Academy**

#### Three classes per year with a maximum class size of 50.

| Year     | Total<br>Recruits | Pass | Fail | Incomplete | Pass Rate |
|----------|-------------------|------|------|------------|-----------|
| 2022     | 38                | 19   | 16   | 3          | 50%       |
| 2023     | 56                | 26   | 22   | 8          | 46%       |
| 2024     | 48                | 26   | 19   | 3          | 54%       |
| TOTAL    | 142               | 71   | 57   | 14         | 50%       |
| Jan 2025 | 17                | -    | 2    | 2          | -         |
| May 2025 | 27                | -    | -    | -          | -         |

50% pass rate since 2022





## **Basic Corrections Officer Academy**

#### **Academy failures**

- Academics
- Firearms

Typically, it takes 124 days from the academy start date to certification, followed by an additional seven-week Field Training and Evaluation Program (FTEP) before a recruit is ready to work independently.





#### **880 Total Correctional Officer Positions**

| Year     | Vacancy # | Vacancy % |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 2022     | 139       | 15.7%     |
| 2023     | 206       | 23.4%     |
| 2024     | 219       | 24.8%     |
| Jan 2025 | 249       | 28.3%     |
| Feb 2025 | 233       | 26.5%     |

> 27 Correctional Officers currently in DROP





#### Top reasons for turnover among correctional officers

- 1. Another Job
- 2. Retirement
- 3. Career Change
- 4. Work/Life Balance
- 5. Misconduct





# **Recruitment and Turnover Summary**

| Recruitment          |                       |                        |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Year                 | Correctional Officers | Non-Certified Officers |
| 2022                 | 24                    | 46                     |
| 2023                 | 26                    | 63                     |
| 2024                 | 21                    | 56                     |
| TOTAL                | 71                    | 165                    |
| Avg. Hire Rate/Month | 2                     | 6                      |

| Turnover                  |                       |                        |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Year                      | Correctional Officers | Non-Certified Officers |
| 2022                      | 113                   | 2                      |
| 2023                      | 60                    | 8                      |
| 2024                      | 67                    | 9                      |
| TOTAL                     | 240                   | 19                     |
| Avg. Attrition Rate/Month | 7                     | 0.5                    |





- Implemented Staff Wellness Program "We <u>CARE</u>"
  - Corrections Assistance and Resources for Employees
- Department survey
- Cross-Functional Teams
- Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team
- "Chat with the Chief" and "Express Yourself"
- Bi-annual Town Hall Meeting
- Monthly "Super Star" award
- Bi-annual special recognitions ceremony







- Weekend incentive overtime pay
- Longevity incentive for tenured employees
- Training Opportunities
- Conferences
- Addressing aging facilities
- Introducing technology to reduce contraband and provide for a secure facility
- Ongoing contract negotiations with union





# Questions?



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