FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE William Raynard

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ESSEX COUNTY SHERIFF KEVIN F. COPPINGER RELEASES FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

Sheriff Kevin F. Coppinger is pleased to release the first ever Annual Report for the Essex County Sheriff’s Department. This inaugural report is a summary of the activities and accomplishments of the Sheriff’s Department along with a detailed breakdown of the structure of the Department.

The report provides insight into innovative programs offered at the different department facilities. Some of the career training programs highlighted include: Hardscaping Program which provides an industry recognized credential issued by the New England Manufacturers Association; the C-Tech Program which provides four levels of training in network cabling/fiber optics/audio-video/telecommunication fields; Graphic Arts / Print Shop; and Barbering. These and other programs are designed to help inmates gain practical and marketable skills to help them achieve successful reentry back to their community.

Also highlighted are some of the educational programs that are offered, such as: preparation and testing for High School Equivalency Credential (HiSet); English for Speakers of Other Languages; Parenting and Life Skills; Computer Literacy; and Financial Literacy. In addition, through a unique partnership between Merrimack College and the Sheriff’s Department, inmates may participate in college credit courses. These credits are transferable to other colleges if the inmates wish to continue their college education after their release.

Another key area of change covered is the Department’s implementation of the Criminal Justice Reform Act of 2018. Work has begun on executing this legislation, including Medically Assisted Treatment for those with Opiate Use Disorders, recognition and improved services for those suffering with Mental Illness in our jails, as well as refinement of Restrictive Housing policies and procedures.

Sheriff Coppinger stated, “I am particularly proud of the work our staff has already accomplished not only in the area of improved security and safety procedures but also with the wide variety of inmate services we provide, especially in the areas of treatment, rehabilitation, and re-entry back into the communities.

The full annual report can be found on the Department website at [www.essexsheriffma.org](http://www.essexsheriffma.org) .

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