

Arthur F. Brown
Sheriff
1979-1985

Arthur Brown served the county of Ocean as sheriff during the years 1979 to 1985. In 1980 the county population had grown from 208,470 in 1970 to 346,038; an increase of 137,568 persons, with which came a great increase in problems for the sheriff and his department. The Legislative Manual of New Jersey 1981 lists the under-sheriffs of Sheriff Brown as Fred Sule from Tuckerton and George Goldt of Manchester Township. As the year 2000 approaches Ex-Sheriff Brown is still working in law enforcement for the state of New Jersey.



Sheriff Arthur Brown
Sheriff's Department Photo

From Arthur Brown (personal communication)

Arthur Brown was born in Newark. He is the father of six children, two boys and four girls. He served in the military in the South Pacific from 1942 until the end of December 1945, after which he resumed working for Western Electric in equipment testing. Mr. Brown was appointed under-sheriff in January 1960 to serve under Sheriff Roe. He was re-appointed under-sheriff by Sheriff James N. Rutter in 1962. He has served the county as jail warden and has been active in the development of the department's communications network. On January 1, 1980 Arthur Brown was

sworn in as sheriff to replace the retiring sheriff, James N. Rutter. At that time he assumed command of the 160-member Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Brown received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Stockton State College and a Masters degree in Business Administration from Rider College. He also completed criminal justice courses sponsored by the FBI, State Police and various other law enforcement agencies and educational institutions. Sheriff Brown was an instructor at the Ocean County Police Academy and assisted in the development of the National Sheriffs Association Jail Administration Training Manual.

In February of 1980 Sheriff Brown was named by New Jersey Supreme Court Justice Robert Wilentz to serve on the state's committee on the efficiency in the operation of the courts. Sheriff Brown, with 20 years experience as a law enforcement executive, was the only official named by the chief justice from the law enforcement community.

The great increase in the population of Ocean County caused the newly elected sheriff to plead for increased jail facilities. He stated that the packed Ocean County jail was a time bomb. Statistics on the jail population showed an alarming increase in just the past year, 1980. The explosion of the County population during summertime increases Sheriff Brown's law enforcement concerns. In 1982 the jail problem was continuing to grow, with "weekend" prisoners being turned away. Twenty-five people were serving weekend sentences. These were minor offenders sentenced for motor vehicle offenses and minor thefts. In February 1982 the jail population was 189 and the capacity was 128. The sheriff and his officers were scrambling to find additional housing. Sheriff Brown appointed Under-sheriff Ted Hutler as administrator of all details for the expanding jail system. In 1985, by resolution, the Ocean County freeholders took over the administration of the jail and appointed Ted Hutler as warden.

In April of 1983 Governor Kean signed legislation allocating \$4.7 million dollars to Ocean County for a new Justice Complex on Sheriff Street. The Complex houses the courts and a 200-bed jail. The old jail, constructed in 1921 was demolished. The former sheriff's house, a two-story red brick colonial building adjacent to the 1921 jail remains intact.

Sheriff Brown announced in January 1980 the death of Homer II a veteran bloodhound with the Ocean County Sheriff's Department. Officer Tim Cagney informed Sheriff Brown that Homer had succumbed to a massive abdominal tumor. Over the years the bloodhounds have served all law enforcement agencies in Ocean County and also assisted various municipal, county and state police agencies throughout New Jersey. Homer performed 11 years of distinguished service with the Department. He was buried with honors in the County bloodhound plot in Rockefeller Park, Lakewood.

Sheriff Brown stated that Homer was assigned to the Sheriff's Department Search and Rescue Unit. The first of its kind in New Jersey, the unit was conceived by Sheriff Roe and established by Sheriff's Deputy Timothy Cagney in 1961. During the early years the unit acted on a part-time basis with Officer Cagney serving as the only certified trainer/handler. In 1965 the unit was elevated to full time status

with Sheriff's Officer Carl Hooper assigned as its coordinator. Under the supervision of Lt. Hooper the unit expanded from one officer and one dog to (in 1980) two full-time officers and three dogs, with Officer Cagney remaining with the unit on a part-time basis. The unit's caseload has grown from 68 cases in 1969 to over 300 cases in 1979. The sheriff is dedicated to the forward progress of this unit.



Tim Cagney, Sheriff Brown and Homer III
New Egypt Press May 1, 1980
Tim Cagney Collection

Sheriff Arthur Brown instructed Officer Tim Cagney to find a replacement for Homer II. Cagney obtained a pup, Homer III, from the Smokrise Kennels and began training the pup the following week.

In January 1982, Sheriff Brown unveiled a Missing Persons Bureau within his Department. He urged municipalities to cooperate and report missing persons to his unit. He pledged that the bureau would investigate these reports the same as for people wanted on indictment warrants. County communications was pleading for more manpower and space.

Sheriff Brown dedicated a new communications center in October 1983. The communications program had been running out of space in its crowded facility.

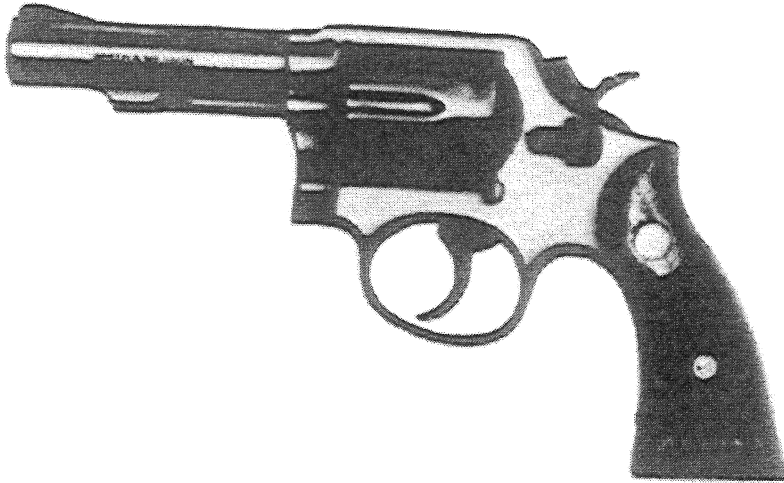
Governor Thomas Kean appointed Sheriff Arthur Brown in 1985 to the position of assistant commissioner in the Department of Corrections. Brown stepped

down from his exciting task of Ocean County sheriff. Under-sheriff George Goldt finished out Brown's unexpired term as acting sheriff until elections could be held.

During his years of service to the County of Ocean and the State of New Jersey Sheriff Brown remained an active member of the Laurelton Fire Company. Today he serves as an exempt member.

From the desk of Jack Lamping

Arthur F. Brown Sheriff 1979-1985 -- Sheriff Brown served after I (Jack Lamping) left County employment in 1978. Sheriff Brown acted to continue the excellent bloodhound program of Sheriff Rutter. Brown was succeeded in 1985 by the present Ocean County sheriff, William Lee Polhemus, of Seaside Heights.



Smith & Wesson 357 Police Revolver