

Sheriff Barry Virts
Wayne County, New York

Sheriff Barry Virts has worked in all aspects of the Wayne County Office of Sheriff. Starting as a Correction Officer in 1977 and transferring to the Road Patrol in 1978 as a Deputy Sheriff. Sheriff Virts was promoted to Sergeant in 1985, supervising the night patrols and investigated serious and fatal motor vehicle accidents as a member of the Crash Reconstruction Team. In 1988, Sheriff Virts was transferred to the Criminal Investigations Unit and was a hostage negotiator and polygraphist. In 1993, he was promoted to Lieutenant of Criminal Investigations in charge of all major felony crimes. His coordination, collaboration and assistance to local, state and federal law enforcement agencies was paramount in his assignment to a multi-jurisdiction and agency undercover drug and wiretap investigation with the New York State Police, Federal Bureau of Investigations and Drug Enforcement Agency. In 1999, Sheriff Virts was promoted to Chief Deputy as the Chief Administrative Officer of the Wayne County Jail Facility. Sheriff Virts administered a staff of over 100 correction officers, civilians and volunteers. His responsibilities included management of the jail operations, inmate control, personnel supervision, budget accountability, staff training, union contract negotiations, grievance proceedings and the coordination and collaboration with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies and departments. In 2009, Barry Virts was elected Sheriff of Wayne County and in now in his second term as the Chief Law Enforcement Officer of Wayne County.

**EDUCATION / TRAINING**

B.S. Liberal Arts, Excelsior College, Albany, NY A.A.S. Criminal Justice, Erie Community College, Williamsville, NY.

**HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

Sheriff Virts has received local honors and served on over thirteen Community & Advisory Boards including the WC Criminal Justice Council, WC Jail Advisory, Victim Resource Center, WC Diversity Task Force, WC Pretrial Youth and Adult Diversion, Council on Alcoholism & Other Addictions, WC Fire Chief’s Association, WC Housing Consortium, and more.

**PERSONAL**

Sheriff Virts and his wife Sandy have a blended family of six adult children and ten beautiful grandchildren.