

'Rockin' and Rollin'

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What happens when a warrant list goes from 15 pages to a half page in eight months? The bad guys get locked up and the good guys gain community support.

"We're rockin' and rollin'," said Deputy Matthew Green, Franklin County deputy for 16 years. "And, we have the whole community on our side now.

"Each and every day I go to work, someone stops me to say, 'Y'all are doing a great job,'" Green added.

In January 2011, newly-elected Sheriff Pat Melton found the keys to the office on his new desk. He hired a new chief deputy. He tacked up a core values and a mission statement around the department.

He started a Facebook page. And, Franklin County hasn't been the same place since.

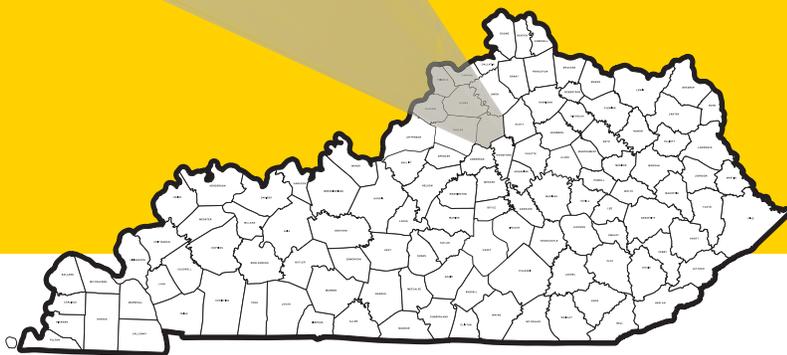
On May 25, FCSO posted their top 15 most wanted on the local cable channel and on Facebook.

Within one week, those 15 were behind bars. In three months, 32 of Franklin County's most wanted were locked up, almost entirely due to the spot FCSO has on the local cable channel and the FCSO Facebook page.

Other agencies that, in the beginning, balked at FCSO launching a Facebook page, are now starting their own.

BAD BOYS, WHATCHA GONNA DO?

Earlier this summer, deputies were tipped off to a most-wanted offender's location, and within 20 minutes, the suspect was in handcuffs. While cuffing him, >>



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