**WHAT DOES THE SHERIFF DO?**

Sheriffs are the **primary law enforcement agency** in many rural and suburban communities.

**SHERIFFS WIELD A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF UNCHECKED POWER*** TO MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT TOPICS LIKE...

(*Sheriffs are elected to 4-year terms by voters like you, and do not have direct oversight by the state.*)

1. **ARRESTS**
   Determine **what offenses** people can be arrested for, **how severe** certain penalties are, and **who and how many** people go to jail.*
   - Sheriffs can choose to send youth and other low-risk offenders to diversion programs that can often avoid a permanent criminal record.

2. **IMMIGRATIONS**
   Have wide discretion over **whether and how to cooperate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).**
   - Ex: 287(g) is a voluntary agreement with ICE that authorizes local deputies to act as immigration agents. This has become a major funnel into the nation’s deportation infrastructure.

3. **EVICTIONS**
   Serve eviction notices, enforce eviction orders — including physical removal of tenants and their belongings — and **oversee foreclosure auctions** once people are evicted from their homes.

4. **HEALTH & SAFETY IN JAILS***
   Have control over **how detainees with physical and mental health conditions receive care**, including access to medication.

*JAIL IS DIFFERENT THAN PRISON.*
Jails are temporary holding facilities for people awaiting trial or sentencing or those newly arrested — some of whom may not have been convicted or charged with a crime.

5. **SCHOOL SAFETY**
   Train, place, and oversee the School Resource Officer (SRO) program in N.C. public schools.
   - Through this partnership with local school systems, SRO programs can lead to increased juvenile arrests, contributing to the school-to-prison-to-deportation pipeline.

Make your voice heard!
Vote and have a say in who will be your county sheriff!

To learn more about local elections visit www.ncaat.org/vote