

Correctional Officer of the Year

Danica Baird

Sergeant

Wyandotte County Sheriff's Office

Kansas City, Kansas

Sponsor:  **OFFICERS
ONLY**
by Bob Barker



Sergeant Danica Baird has served with the Sheriff's Office since 2010. During her time with the department, she has worked in every position in the detention center, including her promotion to the rank of Sergeant in 2019. Sergeant Baird works as a negotiator for the Crisis Negotiation Team, which earned her a letter of appreciation from the FBI. She has developed and trained new recruits for the last eight years on inmate orientation, security procedures, and mental readiness. She has earned two Employee of the Month awards, one letter of commendation and more than a dozen letters of achievement. She also serves on the CIT board for the state of Kansas as a representative for Wyandotte County.

She developed and trained the entire detention center staff (both deputies and supervisors) in the first of its kind training, covering the processes and procedures for Booking, Releasing, Intake Movement, and Property, and continues to provide annual refresher training. In 2018, after the tragic loss of two deputies, then-Deputy Baird created a proposal to the sheriff for the development of an internal Peer Support Team. Upon its creation, she began cultivating and expanding training outlines, resources, contacts, policies, and procedures for the Peer Support Team. Since its creation, the team has expanded with the addition of several more members.

Sergeant Baird holds a passion and dedication for the job that manifests through her work and a commitment for excellence that embodies the definition of a Wyandotte County Sheriff's Officer. During her free time, she trains and competes as a powerlifter for the Wyandotte County Sheriff's Office Strength Team. In July 2019, she competed in the Kansas State Sunflower games, winning first place and was the only female to bench more than 200 lbs.