Customer Profile

Wabasha County (MN) Sheriff’s Department, Wabasha

Deputy Joe Schneider couldn’t recall the exact name of Wabasha County Sheriff’s previous computer-based scheduling program but it did have efficiencies over pen and paper. But ultimately, officers had to either transfer the results from a paper copy hanging in the squad room or snap a photo of the sheet with their phone if they wanted to take it along.

“It would map everything out for us, give us the shift-dates and whatnot, but it once (the administrator) got it all squared away, he would have to make a copy of it and hang it on our board back there,” Schneider recalled.

Requesting time off involved completing a paper form, garnering a supervisor’s signature, then awaiting the approval. Once OK’d, copies of the schedule change were made and distributed around the department so everyone could jot corrections on their copy. The old program did the job, but information lapses were common. An officer might call-off, but if the scheduling expert weren’t working that day, calendars weren’t updated.

Schneider noticed Aladtec’s display while attending the Minnesota Sheriff’s Association winter conference. The name looked familiar, but he couldn’t recall why until he got home and noticed it was the same program his girlfriend uses as an EMT with the Plainview Ambulance Service.

He shared the info with Chief Deputy Jim Warren and one day, Warren suggested they schedule a demonstration. Sheriff Rodney Bartsh signed the subscription agreement a month later. Warren, whom Schneider describes as having “100 irons in the fire”, invited the

Neighboring agencies also using Aladtec:
- Wabasha Ambulance
- Pepin (WI) Emergency Ambulance Service
- Lake City Ambulance
- Scenic Valley EMS, Cochrane, WI
- Plainview EMS, Durand (WI) Municipal Ambulance Service
- Elgin Ambulance, Elgin
- Altura Ambulance Service, Mondovi (WI)
- Red Wing Fire & Ambulance
- Edenbrook Skilled Nursing, Rochester
- Premier Security Inc., Rochester
- Zumbrota Area Ambulance
- Spring Valley Area Ambulance
- Chatfield Ambulance and Fire
- Dunn County (WI) First Responders
- Menomonie Fire Rescue
- Kasson Fire & Rescue
- Cannon Falls Ambulance Service
- City of Lanesboro - Ambulance
- Dodge Center City Ambulance
- Preston Area Ambulance

Department Info:

- **Roster**: 48 members, including FT & PT deputies, dispatchers and administrative staff.
- **Calls**: About 7,000 in 2017.
- **Service area**: Pop. 22,000, approx. 550 sq. miles, including 22 sq. miles of Lake Pepin and the upper Mississippi River and backwaters.
- **Unique challenges**: Annual spring & fall motorcycle ‘Flood Run’, Wabasha Co. Fair, large influx of seasonal residents and boaters on the Mississippi. Providing contract coverage for cities of Elgin & Mazeppa

Aladtec users since 2018
Some officers are still growing comfortable with using the camera
digital recorder in their Department-issued smartphone for
documentation. Squads are also equipped with mobile data terminals
through which deputies file reports using CIS Records Management
System.

“For right now, I think I’ve overloaded the guys pretty good with all the changes
they’re going to have, and now it gets into the summer, get thru that, but maybe this fall, we’ll be looking’ for different things to
switch over” to Aladtec, he said.

Schneider believes Aladtec is worth its annual subscription fee.
Officers “really like to be able to pull out their phones and see real-
time schedules. That’s been huge,” said Schneider. His co-worker no
longer spends a couple of hours bi-weekly, composing schedules and
distributing paper copies. Deputies no longer have to visit the squad
room to learn about open shifts and chances at overtime.

“I think it’s alleviated a lot of gaps in communication. The Chief Deputy
likes being (informed). Somebody comes with a bill for $500 for squad
maintenance, he’s like -- ‘Why didn’t anybody tell me about this?’ We’re
getting things set up so someone can just fill out a form. They don’t
have to send an e-mail and worry about who it goes to. You fill out that
form, and you’re good. Everyone has access to the information they
need to have,” said Schneider.

“It works very good, and it’s definitely worth the money.”

Schneider has grown familiar with Aladtec’s Help section, filled with
blog notes and video entries.
“I’ve watched a few of them when I was putting forms together. If I
need the information, I know right where to go for it. Most of the stuff is
pretty easy. I wouldn’t say I’m a computer guru, but I get by.”

### Dep. Joe Schneider

Deputy Joe Schneider earned his Law
Enforcement associate degree from Alexandria
(MN) Technical and Community College in
1999. He worked four years as a patrol officer
in Plainview before joining the Wabasha Co.
Sheriff’s Dept. in 2003. He worked full-time in
patrol five years, and investigations for several
years and now splits his time between patrol and
increasing administrative responsibilities with the
department.

Aladtec provides online employee scheduling and workforce management
software to 2,000-plus organizations, primarily within the Public Safety Sector.
Customers count on Aladtec constantly to help save time, improve efficiency
and enhance communications. The company is headquartered in River Falls,
WI. For information about our affordable platform or to try a free demo, please
visit: www.aladtec.com