THE UNDERSTAFFED MONTEREY COUNTY SHERIFF?S DEPARTMENT HAS DETECTIVES INVESTIGATING THE MOST VIOLENT CRIMES, AT THE EXPENSE OF LESS IMPORTANT PROPERTY CRIMS. THE DEPARTMENT HAS ABOUT 50% FEWER DETECTIVES NOW COMPARED TO THE SAME TIME LAST YEAR. WITH THE OVERLOAD THEY ARE FORCED TO CONCENTRATE MOSTLY ON THE CASES WHICH IMPACT PUBLIC SAFETY THE MOST. DETECTIVES ARE AS DEDICATED TO THE JOB AS EVER, BUT SHORT STAFFING HAS MADE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO SOLVE CRIMES AS QUICKLY AS IN THE PAST.