



CITY OF SPOKANE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 9, 2025

PRESS-RELEASE ON THE CITY OF SPOKANE

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION'S 7/30/25 TOWN HALL

The [City of Spokane Human Rights Commission \(SHRC\)](#) is hosting a Community-Town-Hall event, titled **"Courageous-Conversations: Re-imagining Public Safety in our community"** on 7/30/25 being held at the Central Library's 3rd floor from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend this important Community-Town-Hall event.

This event is about *Bridging the Divide: Understanding the Human Cost on Both Sides of the Badge on "Use-Of-Force" & "Use-Of-Force-Fatalities" in our community*, which **Spokane ranks 4th** in the nation for Officer-Involved-Fatalities. Subject-matter-experts on this topic from both police leadership & "Impacted-Families" will be featured guest-panelists at this Community-Town-Hall event.

July 30's event will be the 2nd time the SHRC has been a part of a "Courageous-Conversation" event this year, which the 1st one was in partnership with the [Spokane NAACP](#) & the [SHRC](#). That event on 5/28/25 that was titled **"Challenging the Narrative / A Courageous Conversation with Law Enforcement"**, and the link to that event is as follows: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VstkLKQi_co. Future "Courageous-Conversations" events by the [City of Spokane Human Rights Commission \(SHRC\)](#) will also be planned for later this year, which we will keep you all informed on those next dates.

The list of the panelists for the 7/30/25 **"Courageous-Conversations: Re-imagining Public Safety in our community"** event are as follows: [Spokane Police Chief Kevin Hall](#), [Spokane Police Ombuds Bart Logue](#), [Debbie Novak \(Washington Coalition for Police Accountability-WCPA\)](#), [Kurtis Robinson \(Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission-CJTC\)](#), [Jim Leighty \(WCPA\)](#), and [Cynthia Manycolors \(WCPA\)](#).

The [SHRC's](#) goals and/or purpose for this "Courageous-Conversation" event is to foster an open & honest dialogue about the Spokane Community/Police Relationship at this moment in time, with the hopes that this could start a more collaborative process between all "parties and stakeholders" together working on the vision of *"Re-imagining Public Safety in Spokane"*. The community will benefit greatly & gain a deeper understanding of the issues surrounding *Police "Use-Of-Force" and "Use-Of-Force-Fatalities"* by hearing from all impacted-stakeholders at these "Courageous-Conversation" events.

808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd. Spokane, WA 99201

<https://my.spokanecity.org/bcc/commissions/spokane-human-rights-commission/>



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Therefore, the [City of Spokane Human Rights Commission \(SHRC\)](#) is committed to “enhancing” the community-dialogue on these matters. These dialogues are focused on the fact that there is a humanity behind these very numbers & statistics on every “*Use-Of-Force-Fatality*” – as well as the impact that those fatalities have had on all our human-family in the Spokane community. **Due to the serious nature of these matters**, these are the following guidelines for all participants & audience members of the “Courageous Conversation” series events: *Listen from the Heart*, which means to listen in an open and non-judgmental way; *Speak from the Heart*, which means we speak our truth, we speak honestly and with respect; and *Utilize empathy from the Heart*, so that we are guided by compassion and not our Ego's in these “Courageous Conversations”.

Since 1995 over 75 people in Spokane have been killed at the hands of Law Enforcement, which means that for the past 30 years on average every year 2.5 community members get killed by police. That correlates to 2.5 families every year in Spokane dealing with the tragic grief of their loved one being killed by police, which then that family becomes an “**Impacted-Family**” who now has been touched by police-violence. These “**Impacted-Families**” then have to grieve publicly, while at the same time having to also publicly demand for justice for their dead family member in the courts & in the media as well. And at the same time these “**Impacted-Families**” are denied any governmental-crime-victim-advocacy-groups to help to support them while having a loved one taken by homicide, which that kind of support is given to all families of murder victims but not given to those families dealing with *Officer-Involved “Use-Of-Force-Fatalities”*.

For far too long these “**Impacted-Families**” have been left out of the conversation about what true “*Police-Reform & Police-Accountability*” looks like in our community, which the SHRC is very proud to uplift the voices of the “**Impacted-Families**” in our community by centering their voices in this “**Courageous-Conversations: Re-imagining Public Safety in our community**” event on 7/30/25 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Plus the SHRC is very honored to have the participation of the [Spokane Police Department](#) & the [Spokane Police Ombuds Office](#) in this event, as well as the SHRC is pleased to be partnering with the [Spokane Library](#) for this event – **which the event will be livestreamed & recorded**.

On behalf of the [City of Spokane Human Rights Commission](#) we wish to invite, encourage, & welcome the following to attend the 7/30/25 “**Courageous-Conversations: Re-imagining Public Safety in our community**” event: – the public, – the community of Spokane, – “**Impacted-Families**”, – the government leaders of Spokane, – the Spokane Community Organizations, – the Spokane's Media & – the Law Enforcement of Spokane. *If you fit in any of those above-mentioned categories*, please come join the SHRC for this powerful event on 7/30/25 being held at the Central Library's 3rd floor from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.



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There is the potential of a quorum of Human Rights Commission Commissioners to be present at this event. Should there be a quorum present and any business be discussed minutes of that discussion will be posted.