



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION
CHIEF OF POLICE
CRAIG N. MEIDL

Strategic Initiatives
August / September 2019 Report

Public Safety and Community Health Committee Briefing
September 9, 2019

Public Safety Building • 1100 W. Mallon Avenue • Spokane, Washington 99260-0001





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Selected Excerpts of Officer Commendation Letters

I am a social worker at Inland Northwest Behavioral Health. I wanted to give **Officer Marvin Cunningham** praise for how he treated a patient returning to jail. He was professional and kind to our patient. She was an elderly and confused. Officer Cunningham treated her with kindness and helped her take her worries away. Please thank him for his great care to our vulnerable mental health individuals in our community.

Big "Well Done" to the Spokane Police Department, Spokane Fire Department, AMR, SCRAPS and our great neighbors for their concerns for our friend the past month. Numerous calls for help and assistance were met with patience, caring, and politeness and each official readily communicated with us.

I am writing to thank and commend Spokane Police **Officer Shane Phillips**, who assisted me after I was involved in a minor hit-and-run incident downtown Spokane. Officer Phillips contacted me promptly after I made a report of the incident, and his efforts led to the arrest and detention of the woman who drove into the rear of our car while we were stopped at a traffic light. Throughout the process, Officer Phillips was very professional, timely, empathetic, and helpful.

Thank you for supporting our Spokane Public Schools Secondary Transition Program! It is the support from community partners like you that helps our students with disabilities become productive and contributing adults with meaningful lives! Our intern flourished while completing his internship with you. We appreciate all your kindness and support!

I was just out on an apprehension attempt with two Spokane Police Department Officers [**Alexis Kester and Dan Lesser**] that, even though we were not able to apprehend the client, did an exceptional job at attempting to engage with the client. They attempted multiple times to knock on the client's door until he started speaking through the door. They asked the client about any thoughts to hurt himself or if he has, thoughts of hurting others, and if he had food, water and medical needs. They also waited with me to finish speaking to the staff at the apartments, waited while I called to cancel the apprehension with AMR, and (MOST IMPORTANTLY) waited for me to LEAVE in my car from the apartments. I know there have been times where SPD have important cases in the community and need to be in a hurry to leave, but having that reassurance with an agitated client that they are waiting in case the client comes out, is caring and made me feel safe. I just want these officers to know I thoroughly appreciated the outreach today. Even though it may have seemed like just an uneventful and mundane routine outreach, the "To Serve and Protect" shined through in the seemingly minor details they did so well. They should know they are noticed and appreciated for all they do. Thank you!





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Internal Affairs Unit Update

January 1 through July 31, 2019 Commendations and Complaints

Commendations Received: **Total: 116**

Complaints Received: **Total: 66 (58 from community)**

Closed Out as Inquiries: 15 (As of July 31, 2019)

An inquiry is an initial complaint about employee conduct which, even if true, would not qualify as a personnel complaint and may be handled informally by a department supervisor and shall not be considered complaints.

Source of January 1 through July 31, 2019 Complaints

Received by the Office of Police Ombudsman	Total: 50
Received by the Spokane Police Department	Total: 16
Internally Generated by the SPD	Total: 8
Generated by the Community	Total: 58





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Use of Force Update

2019 Non-Deadly Reportable Use of Force Incidents

From January 1-July 31, 2019, there were 85 non-deadly use of force incidents, including 20 K9 contacts and 65 other (e.g., TASER, neck restraint).

2019 Deadly Use of Force Incidents

From January 1-July 31, 2019, there were three deadly force incidents.

Officer-Involved Shooting Incidents Update (through August 21, 2019)

2019

Incident 2019-20004372 (Under investigation by SPD Internal Affairs)

Incident 2019-20004372 occurred on January 7, 2019, in the 600 block of West Montgomery. The Spokane Investigative Regional Response Team's (SIRR) criminal investigation is complete. The County Prosecutor ruled the use of deadly force as justified. Internal Affairs is conducting an administrative investigation.

Incident 2019-20014197 (Under review by the SPD Administrative Review Panel)

Incident 2019-20014197 occurred on January 23, 2019, in the 3000 block of North Monroe. The Spokane Investigative Regional Response Team's (SIRR) criminal investigation is complete. The County Prosecutor ruled the use of deadly force was justified. The administrative investigation is completed. The Administrative Review Panel is reviewing the investigation.

Incident 2019-20124831 (Under Prosecutor review)

Incident 2019-20124831 occurred on July 6, 2019, in the 1400 block of West 9th. The Spokane Investigative Regional Response Team (SIRR) is investigating.





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Items of Interest

Honoring Lieutenant JD Anderson

Lt. Jon “JD” Anderson passed away on July 5, 2019, after nearly thirty years of service with Spokane Police Department. Lt. Anderson was well known for his role in Special Events. He was the Assistant Commander at Hoopfest for many years, and was heavily involved in the major special events in Spokane like Bloomsday and the Lilac Parade. He was also a Neighborhood Resource Officer, Traffic Officer, and served in the ranks from Officer to Lieutenant. He had spent the last few years at the North Precinct while still working in Special Events. His memorial service took place on July 20, 2019.



Lt. Jon (JD) Anderson

Oct. 15, 1968-July 5, 2019





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Partners in Justice Award

Sergeant Glenn Bartlett, the Sergeant of the Special Victims Unit, received the Partners in Justice Award for law enforcement from Lutheran Community Services. Each year, LCS Northwest's Victim Advocacy & Education Program awards individuals, businesses and organizations that excel at empowering victims of crime and helping them to achieve justice. Below, Sgt. Bartlett receiving his award and standing with other award winners.

From Sgt. Bartlett's nomination:

Glenn is an absolute pleasure to work with. He and his team have worked tirelessly to count, record, and track all of the backlogged kits for the entire county. In addition to this massive undertaking, Glenn has been present at many community events to show SPD's support to survivors of sexual assault. Always with a smile on his face and eager to learn and find new and innovative ways to connect survivors with care providers and law enforcement, he has been a wonderful leader of his unit and we are glad to have him on our side fighting for justice!

Sgt. Glenn Bartlett has been an excellent addition to the SPD's Special Victims Unit. While he has been in the role just about a year, he has been busy working in the community establishing relationships and bridging gaps in order to hold offenders accountable and to bring justice to crime victims. Sgt. Bartlett has been eager to work collaboratively with victim services and uses a trauma-informed and kind approach when investigating crimes and communicating with survivors. He has been active in keeping the SPD's collaboration with LCS alive and well on Start By Believing Day in April and was very active during April's Sexual Assault Awareness Month, speaking on community panels, televised podcasts and on many local media outlets covering SAAM. He regularly shows up and participates at many community meetings bringing awareness to and problem-solving how to better serve trauma survivors.





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Precinct Highlights

Downtown Precinct Update

Outreach

- Downtown Precinct is hosting a summer Youth & Police Initiative (YPI) session at Crosswalk Youth Shelter August 12-16, 2019. The Spokane Police Foundation is sponsoring this event.
- The Downtown Coffee with a Cop took place on July 30, 2019 from 11am -1pm at Thomas Hammer, 122 N Wall.



Crime Prevention

- The Downtown Precinct recently conducted CPTED surveys for the Armory Building, First Presbyterian, and several businesses near 800 W 2nd Avenue.
- The precinct is working with Code Enforcement to remove planters from North Wall Street that attract drug use in that area.
- 41% of all drug arrests have been made in the Downtown Precinct area this year.
- The Precinct is focusing on commercial burglaries and working the Targeted Crimes Unit.

North Precinct Update

Outreach

- Many North Neighborhood Resource Officers participated in the Police Activities League, at both West Central and Hillyard locations. NRO Ponto conducted outreach with the C.O.P.S. Mounted Patrol Unit at PAL.
- C.O.P.S. Mounted Patrol Unit held a community event in Green Bluff on July 13, 2019, with live music, yard games, food trucks, and of course, the MPU and their horses. North Precinct Neighborhood Resource Officer Traci Ponto was one of the MPU volunteers.
- “Night Out Against Crime” on August 6, 2019, was a big event for the North Precinct. North Side NROs, Captain Griffiths, Lieutenant Kendall, Sergeant Carroll and Crime Analyst Lamanna attended approximately 30 neighborhood parties. Crime Analyst Lamanna prepared crime statistics for the parties she visited, which were used to help describe criminal activity in their neighborhoods.





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National Night Out Against Crime



Crime Prevention- Mission Park Special Emphasis Patrol

Through a partnership with NRO Kaurin, COPS volunteer patrols, Spokane Park Rangers and Spokane Parks Maintenance, the North Precinct is working on making Mission Park a safe, clean environment for those who want to enjoy it. The team is enforcing park violations and giving exclusionary notices to those violating park rules, state and city law. So far the impact has made a difference in crime. The Gazebo (known for criminal behavior) is clean once again and the lawn furniture returned. This will be an ongoing project.



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Crime Prevention: North Spokane Bait Bike Deployment

With SPD Crime Analysis input, the North Precinct will deploy a SPD "bait bike" in vulnerable areas of North Spokane. The tactical goal is to identify and arrest potential theft predators in North Spokane. The goal is to make it known that SPD utilizes these tactics. The Precinct will work with the Public Information Office to create internal and external media releases on this operation. SPD hopes the increased awareness of the bait bike project will hinder potential future theft activity in North Spokane.

A Note of Appreciation for NRO Traci Ponto

The North Precinct received this note:

Dear Sgt. Carroll,

I am writing in regards to some great work done by our Community Resource Officer, Traci Ponto. I live in West Central across the street from Dutch Jake Park. I also live across the street from a property, that up until a few years ago was a huge problem for the neighbor. If not for Traci it would've been again. Someone broke into the basement and started to set up housekeeping. The residents contacted me. I got a hold of Traci yesterday and problem solved this morning. Two aspects helped to contribute to this outcome; 1) Traci's ability to develop a relationship w/the landlord, 2) Relationship building w/community. We were heard & action was taken. That is so very important in neighborhoods like ours. Please acknowledge her for the good work she did.

South Precinct Update

Notable arrests

- South Precinct Detective recently filed charges on three separate residential burglaries after recovering several stolen items from two pawn stores. Both suspects were already in jail on unrelated charges and admitted to the burglaries.
- South Precinct Detective Ty Snider filed charges on a person who was the bookkeeper/accountant for a nonprofit for embezzlement of over \$46,000. That case took almost two full months to work because of all the forensic accounting and multiple search warrants Detective Snider had to file at several different financial institutions.
- Detective Bob Mosman filed charges on a suspect for first degree Trafficking in Stolen Property after recovering two racing mountain bikes from a social media web site. The bikes, each valued at \$3000.00+, had been stolen several weeks prior on the south hill.
- Detective Mosman has just taken over five more cases where property was recovered and pawned at local pawn stores. These items were stolen items from residential burglaries on the south hill.
- Detective Snider has just completed an Arson investigation identifying the suspect after receiving the case from Spokane Fire Department. Charges pending.





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Outreach

- South precinct NRO's, detectives, and the Captain/Lieutenant participated in 27 different locations on August 6, 2019 for "Night Out Against Crime." This was a huge success for the south side of the city.
- The South Precinct detectives and Neighborhood Resource Officers had a strong presence at the Perry Street Fair. The South Precinct set up a booth in the family section in Grant Park and interacted with approximately 1,000 people.

Outreach Update

Youth Outreach Participation: The Police Activities League

The Police Activities League (PAL) was created in 2013 to help build trusting relationships between at-risk youth and local law enforcement. Each summer, the program is offered for six weeks in three low-income/high-crime neighborhoods. The PAL program offers fun, structured activities for youth, with opportunities to make friends and memories at their local parks: Liberty Park, A.M. Cannon Park, and Harmon Park. PAL engages youth with positive academic and athletic programs, such as flag football, basketball, running, soccer, swimming, and baseball. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) enrichment activities and lunch are provided at every session.

PAL is a collaborative program of Spokane Police Department, Spokane Police Foundation, Spokane Parks Department, Spokane Public Schools, and many other organizations working together to supply a myriad of resources in a central location. PAL brings youth under the supervision and mentorship of officers and community leaders, and encourages responsible use of our City of Spokane parks. The Spokane PAL program takes a holistic approach to crime prevention, focusing on reducing drug and gang involvement, as well as making positive decisions, through programming and mentorship. Throughout the season, youth participants focus on five core values: honesty, integrity, leadership, sportsmanship and respect. Interactions with patrol officers, detectives, and school resource officers develops healthy trusting relationships for youth who often have a negative, skeptical view of the police in their neighborhood. Spokane Police Department dedicates officers who are passionate about sports to lead the different activities and leadership training sessions.

Due to the demand for supervised recreation and mentoring for low-income youth, the PAL program has grown tremendously. The PAL program began in 2013 with 53 youth at Liberty Park, and later expanded to serve three different Spokane neighborhoods. In 2018, the PAL program served approximately 400 youth and their families. We added new partners in 2019: The Zone Project and the YMCA. A record number of youth are participating this year- 749 total.





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This year, we created a special PAL session for students and their families at the Salish School of Spokane at Shadle Park, on June 14. The Salish School operates year-round, so students are still in school during the standard PAL summer session. The Salish School PAL event includes soccer, flag football, track, and activities centered on the core values.

Below, Officer Fabian at PAL. Reserve Officer Ed Richardson helping a child- Heather Stokes Photography.



Below, K9 Officer Brandon Fabian and his K9 partner King provide K9 outreach at a PAL session.





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Here are pictures of youth that were recognized for modeling the PAL core values. This young woman is shown with Lt. Meyer, Officer, Huffman, Officer Matt, SPD Volunteer Logan Dineen, Sergeant Arredondo, Officer Butler, Officer M. Stewart, Officer Kerns, Officer DeRuwe and Sergeant M. Carr.



Captain Tom Hendren and Coach Lori from WSU smile with the youth who were recognized for showing honesty, integrity, leadership, sportsmanship and respect.





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Community Outreach Unit Summary

- Police Activities League (July and August)
- Youth to Youth Substance Use Prevention Program, Martin Luther King Center (7/8)
- Spokane Indians Baseball game with youth from outreach programs (7/9)
- Spokane Parks Foundation Pool party (7/12)
- SPD Community Appreciation Day/Open House (7/13)
- Youth to Youth, Martin Luther King Center (7/15)
- Martin Luther King Family Outreach Center swim event (7/18)
- PAL/Parks Foundation family gathering/movie night at A.M. Cannon Park (7/19)
- Eastern State Hospital patient outreach (7/19)
- Coordination of Services at Juvenile Court (7/22)
- Native Project safety event (7/23)
- PAL/Parks Foundation family gathering/movie night at Liberty Park (7/26)
- SAC School student outreach (7/26)
- K9 Visit for children at SPD Academy (7/31)
- Martin Luther King Family Outreach Center swim event (8/1)
- NATIVE Project Graduation (8/2)
- Salvation Army Backpack Distribution (8/7)
- PAL End of Season BBQ (8/8)
- Kids and Cops Car Show (8/10)
- Youth to Youth, Martin Luther King Center (8/12)
- YPI at Crosswalk Shelter (8/12-8/16)
- Safety Talk for 3-5 year old children (8/13)
- Pizza with a Policeman at Passages (8/14)
- Eastern State Hospital patient outreach (8/16)
- Unity in the Community (8/17)
- Shop with a Cop (8/21)
- Gathering at the Falls Pow Wow (8/23-8/24)
- Martin Luther King Family Outreach Center Backpack Distribution (8/24)
- SAC School student outreach (8/30)





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Photos from SPD Community Appreciation Day on July 13, 2019.





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Notable News

Spokane police sponsor team of local teens for Hoopfest

<https://www.krem.com/article/entertainment/events/hoopfest/spokane-police-sponsor-team-of-local-teens-for-hoopfest/293-182d0b91-3b80-497f-a37a-f279121e3597>

