



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION
CHIEF OF POLICE
CRAIG N. MEIDL

Strategic Initiatives
December 2019 Report

Public Safety and Community Health Committee Briefing
December 2, 2019

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





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Selected Excerpts of Officer Commendation Letters

I had the privilege of observing SPD **Officer Shane Phillips** conduct the accident investigation when our employee was rear-ended. The case involved a high-functioning special needs individual. He was very upset that he was involved in an accident while at work. He was concerned for completing today's duties as well as concerned about possibly losing his job. Officer Phillips treated him with kindness, compassion, respect, and dignity.

My daughter is a student at Whitworth and over the weekend her car was prowled on campus. Her backpack containing all her textbooks and her Apple laptop were taken. The **PACT team** was serving a search warrant and came across my daughter's belongings. I understand numerous other stolen computers were recovered as well. My daughter is so thankful not just to recover an expensive computer but to recover all the schoolwork she had on it.

I was renewing my concealed weapons license a few weeks ago and when it was my turn to go to the window where I was pleasantly greeted by "Terry" **[Records Specialist Terri Ayres]**, a very nice lady whom was respectful, courteous and made my long waiting worthwhile. She is a credit to your community.

I had the pleasure of riding with **Officer Jen Kerns** last night. I absolutely had an awesome ride-along and have even a greater appreciation for the job you and your fellow officers do each and every day to keep us safe. Officer Kerns was an excellent guide/babysitter. She explained what we (ok she) was doing throughout the shift. We definitely had a busy night. I rode along with her until almost 1 AM. I could not believe how fast the time went. She invited to come along with her again and I absolutely want to do so.

Officer [Scott] Hice came out to my friend's house to file a report. He handled this with the utmost discretion, professionalism, and empathy. I want to thank him for his exemplary service to our community and assistance with this.

Please allow this letter to serve as a commendation for **Officer Caleb Martin**. He is a cop who cares. I have been a critic of our SPD for their indifference in handling property crimes. The performance of Officer Martin has begun to change my opinion of your police force. Officer Martin is truly a remarkable man and serves the Spokane Police Department in a very proud manner. He has earned our respect and I'm glad that someone of his integrity is serving and protecting our community.





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Internal Affairs Unit Update

January 1 through October 31, 2019 Commendations and Complaints

Commendations Received: **Total: 163**

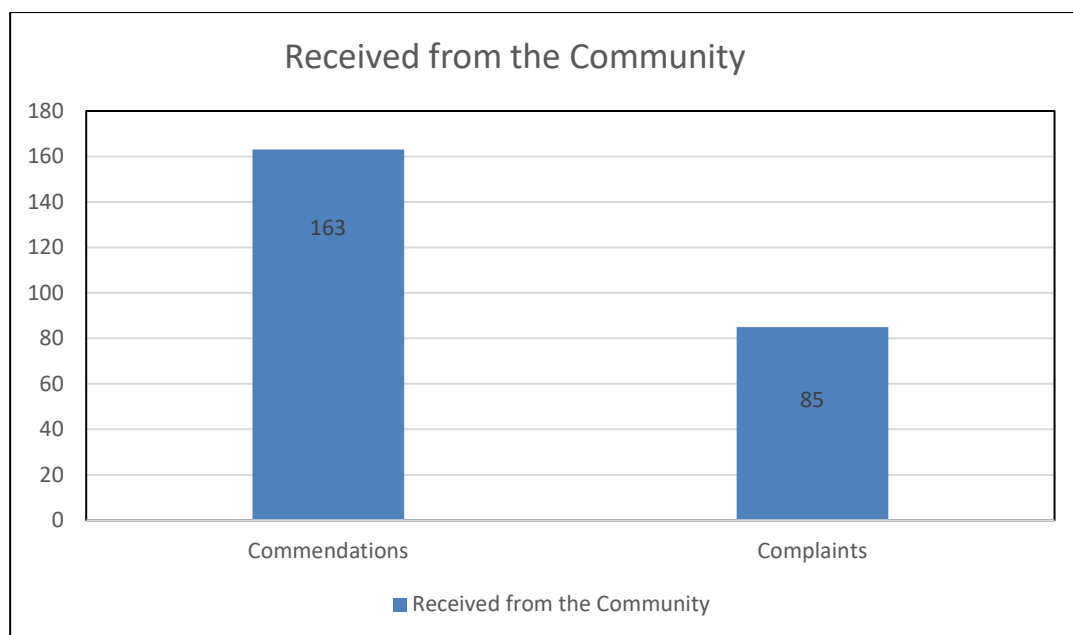
Complaints Received: **Total: 95 (85 from community)**

Closed Out as Inquiries: 31 (As of October 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 October 31, 2019 Complaints

Received by the Office of Police Ombudsman	Total: 67
Received by the Spokane Police Department	Total: 28
Internally Generated by the SPD	Total: 10
Generated by the Community	Total: 85





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Use of Force Update

2019 Non-Deadly Reportable Use of Force Incidents

From January 1-October 31, 2019, there were 106 non-deadly use of force incidents, including 24 K9 contacts and 82 other (e.g., TASER, neck restraint).

2019 Deadly Use of Force Incidents

From January 1-October 31, 2019, there were four deadly force incidents. See below.

Officer-Involved Shooting Incidents Update (through October 31, 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 (Pending Deadly Force Review Board)

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 final step is a Deadly Force Review Board (DFRB).

Incident 2019-20124831 (Under investigation by SPD Internal Affairs)

Incident 2019-20124831 occurred on July 6, 2019, in the 1400 block of West 9th. The Spokane Investigative Regional Response Team (SIRR) criminal investigation is complete. The County Prosecutor ruled the use of deadly force as justified. Internal Affairs is conducting an administrative investigation.

Incident 2019-20201879 (Under investigation by Spokane Investigative Regional Response Team)

Incident 2019-20201879 occurred on October 23, 2019, in the 3400 block of East Garnet. The Spokane Investigative Regional Response Team (SIRR) criminal investigation is ongoing.





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Items of Interest

Lifesaving Awards

Officers Nate Donaldson, Mark Zimmerman, Randy Burnworth, and Kolton McKitrick were awarded the Lifesaving Medal of Honor on November 7, 2019. The officers received the award for their immediate actions saving a human life, when they responded to a call involving a man with over 15 self-inflicted stab wounds. The officers worked quickly to stop the blood loss by applying tourniquets and held pressure with medical compression bandages until medics could arrive. The attending Emergency Department doctor stated that the injuries were so severe that when they tried to remove one tourniquet, the man immediately began to hemorrhage again and rushed into surgery. The doctor wanted the responding officers to be commended for their great work. Below, Chief Meidl with Officers McKitrick, Burnworth, and Zimmerman.



No Shave November

During the month of November, officers from SPD were scruffier than their usual clean-cut appearance. No Shave November, also known as *Movember*, is an annual event involving the growing of beards and mustaches during November to raise cancer awareness. Participating officers wear a yellow ribbon on their uniform after donating a minimum of \$75.00 to be able to grow facial hair and be excused from the department's uniform/appearance guidelines. The proceeds collected are donated to the Community Cancer Fund to help fight cancer in the Inland Northwest.



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Firearms Technical Assistance Project Launch

Spokane was one of six sites nationwide selected to participate in the Firearms Technical Assistance Project (FTAP), a project designed to help communities implement policies, protocols, and promising practices to prevent abusers from having access to firearms in domestic violence cases. Through the FTAP, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) and its partners will work with a team of local stakeholders at each site and provide intensive technical assistance (TA), training, and mentoring to each community over the next two to three years. Training and TA will be tailored to the unique needs of each site, based on an initial assessment of the sites and input from national TA providers and experts on the intersection of domestic violence and firearms. An important focus of this work will involve identifying and working with traditionally underserved and/or marginalized communities to ensure that the strategies for improving the implementation of firearms prohibitions in domestic violence cases reflect the needs and circumstances experienced by such communities.



The FTAP launch took place on November 12, 2019, with an initial meeting of representatives from victim advocacy, law enforcement, prosecutors, court personnel, and judges. The FTAP will continue over the next two to three years.

Swearing In Ceremony

On November 4, 2019, SPD welcomed four lateral police officers. Officer Karl Richardson has been working as a law enforcement officer in Madison County, Montana for the past 3 years. Kim Razey served for 18 years with the La Habra Police Department in Orange County, California. Drew Chappell is a twelve year veteran of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Scott Barker has been with the Seattle Police Department for the last six years. At right, Officer Scott Barker with Chief Meidl.

Precinct Highlights

Downtown Precinct Update

Crime Prevention

The Downtown Precinct is continuing work on a hot spot in the area of Division-Howard/I-90-Pacific with an emphasis on drugs and property crime issues.

Outreach

Officer Kyle Heuett from the Downtown Precinct is also a member of SPD's SWAT team. Below, photos of recent SWAT team outreach.





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North Precinct Update

Halloween Celebration

North Precinct officers helped with the C.O.P.S. West second annual Halloween Party. This year, they served 200 kids and their families. Below, pictures of the party.





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Outreach

- The North Precinct will be hosting a Coffee with a Cop on December 4, 2019, from 11am-1pm at the Starbucks at Safeway on Mission and Hamilton.
- The North Precinct is participating in the C.O.P.S. Northwest Drive for clothing for homeless children.

Community Safety Classes

Lieutenant Shawn Kendall held several Enhancing the Survival Mindset (ESM) classes in the community recently. The classes focus on personal safety and situational awareness. Lieutenant Kendall taught the staff of the Ronald McDonald House, the City Water Department, Spokane Public Schools Nutrition staff, students in Youth Leadership Spokane, and staff and first responders in Crisis Intervention Training.

South Precinct Update

Crime Prevention:



- Working with 7-11 corporate to assist in mitigating criminal activity at the 2nd/Division location. Implementing new cameras, fencing some of the property, and security patrols to deter drug sales, prostitution, and trespassing.
- Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) reviews completed at private schools, businesses, and non-profits to enhance safety and security.
- Working with Rite Aid and Divine's businesses who have recently been victims of late night burglaries with common methods and items stolen.

New Neighborhood Resource Officer: Kelly Mongan

Kelly is a lateral officer who previously worked with Coeur D'Alene Police Department. He earned his Bachelor's Degree from EWU. He will be a valuable asset to his southwest neighborhoods. Welcome, Kelly!

Outreach:

- Manito Place HOA Meeting-Presentation on safety and crime prevention for the members who live in the neighborhood
- Downtown Exchange Club presentation on policing in Spokane
- MLK Center Expansion-Groundbreaking ceremony for CHAS Dental Clinic
- JC Penney/Salvation Army Clothe-A-Child
- Neighborhood Council Meetings





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Outreach Update

Youth Outreach Update

The most recent Youth & Police Initiative (YPI) sessions took place in November at Ferris High School.

Officer Graig Butler arranged a job shadow for a fifth grader on November 13, 2019. The student observed new recruits at the Academy and participated in Defensive Tactics training, and then joined patrol officers at roll call briefing. Pictured below, student Isaiah and Officer Butler discuss training at the Academy.



Community Outreach Unit Summary

- Safety Talk at Lidgerwood Elementary (11/5)
- Salvation Army Clothe-a-Child (11,7-11/8)
- Youth & Police Initiative (YPI) session at Ferris High School (11/12-11/20)
- Student Job Shadow with Officer Butler (11/13)
- Shaw Whole Child Study Group (11/14)
- Eastern State Hospital Patient Outreach (11/15)
- Shop with a Cop at Walmart (11/15)





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- Career Fair (11/19)
- Pride Prep Truancy Board (11/21)
- Police Activities League Boxing (11/21)
- SAC Detention School student outreach (11/22)
- Excelsior Student Outreach (10/17)
- Coordination of Services at Juvenile Court (11/21, 11/25)
- Serve lunch at the Evergreen Club (11/28)

Montessori Middle School Tour of Public Safety Building and Courthouse



Sergeants Mike Carr and Mike Schneider conducted an outreach field trip with students from the Montessori Middle School. After they gave students a tour of the public safety campus, they gave a presentation and answered students' questions. A teacher wrote, "Thanks again for a fantastic day. Your time and talent is so appreciated. Expect a pack of great letters very soon. I had a student in tears while she wrote her letters, and asked if she could continue at home because she had so much to say and her life had changed today."

Big impact. You said the one piece of your work you'd change is how others perceive SPD, and that clearly happened with my students today."