



**SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**CHIEF OF POLICE**  
**KEVIN HALL**

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**Strategic Initiatives**  
**November 2024 Report**



**Public Safety and Community Health Committee Briefing**  
**November 2024**



**Excerpts of Commendations**  
**(Personal Identifying Information has been removed)**

Good day. I wanted to reach out and commend one of your officers and I am hoping you can get me their name **[Officer William Braten]**. The other night, an officer of the Spokane Police Department came to Morning Star Baptist Church, a scattered site shelter ran by Jewels Helping Hands. He had a woman in his car that he referred to as "Rose," and he was looking for a shelter bed for her. I happened to be there dropping stuff off as I am a co-founder of Jewels Helping Hands. This officer explained a bit of her situation, brand new to homelessness, other shelters were full, no addiction issues or visible mental issues. After chatting with this officer, I felt our Cedar location was a better fit and he agreed to follow me there to get her checked in. This officer did not have to find this young woman a bed, he could have left her on the streets. This officer did not have to follow me to Cedar, he could have just left her at Morning Star. This officer did not have to wish her well and show her the compassion and grace he did, but he did, he took the time. I would love to relay to this officer my sincere gratitude for his actions. "Rose" is checked in at Cedar. She was scared that first night, but I sent Jewels down there as soon as I got home that night and explained the situation. We have the Pastor of Morning Star Baptist working within the African American community for more support for Rose. She has made friends in the shelter. She was terrified she was going to lose her job, but by Tuesday when she had to work again, she was stable enough that she got to keep her job. In fact, after several conversations with Jewels, of Jewels Helping Hands, we have given her a part-time job at the shelter to speed up her ability to get out of homelessness. She came to us that night without hope and full of fear. Because of this officer's actions she now has hope, she now has community, she is feeling more secure and safe. I do not need to go into the statistics of females on the streets, the rates of victimization, rape, trafficking and drug use. You know that. This officer's actions should be commended as he kept this woman from becoming another statistic. While one officer cannot change the world, this one officer did change the world for this one person. Thank you.

Hello, I recently had a situation at my home where an officer was called to the house. The officer that showed up was **Officer [Brandon] Mackabee**. I don't know if this email is the proper way for me to do this, but I wanted to let Officer Mackabee's superiors know what a good officer they have in him. Even though what he had to say to me was not my desired answer, everyone at my home was impressed by how he handled himself and the situation. From the moment he arrived, he stayed calm and cool and even toned the entire time. He listened to both sides and gave us a chance to tell our full story. He did not show any favoritism to either party. He seemed very knowledgeable about the law. He was just nothing but professional and helpful the entire time. It was very refreshing to have an officer show up who actually wanted to protect AND serve. He was awesome and if I knew of a way to give him some kind of recommendation for a promotion or award I would do it in a heartbeat. Officers like Officer Mackabee are an asset to this city and I hope he stays with us for a long time.

Dear **Lieutenant [Bart] Stevens**, Thank you for attending our neighborhood meetings. Please let the officers in our SPD know that we appreciate their service and dedication and for you representing them. Your presence and sharing with our neighbors is important and welcome. We hope that when the new Chief of Police is in place, he will support the outreach of SPD to the neighborhoods. We are grateful that you represent the department to us and we wish you many blessings.



## Internal Affairs Unit Update

### January 1 through September 30, 2024, Commendations and Complaints

Commendations Received:    **Total: 142**

Complaints Received:        **Total: 77 (61 from community)**

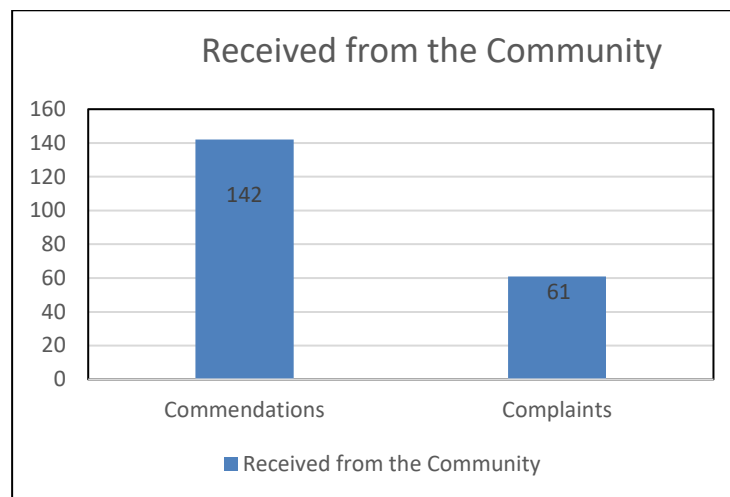
**Closed Complaints: 29** (As of September 30, 2024)

### Source of Complaints—January 1 through September 30, 2024

Received by the Office of Police Ombudsman	<b>Total: 38</b>
Received by the Spokane Police Department	<b>Total: 39</b>
Internally Generated by the SPD	<b>Total: 16</b>
Generated by the Community	<b>Total: 61</b>

SPD maintains a process that allows us to assess the actions of our employees with the ultimate objective of improving service and holding our employees accountable. Complaints sometimes reveal the need to modify a policy or procedure or reveal a need for training. In 2023, complaints to SPD decreased 12% compared to 2022. Additionally, SPD continues to receive three times the commendations as complaints. In 2023, SPD saw a 12% increase in commendations compared to 2022.

It's important to note that calls for service and arrests have increased, and yet commendations are up. The chart below shows commendations versus complaints from the community through September 2024.



## Deadly Force (Officer-Involved Shootings) Update

### 2024

From January 1 – September 30, 2024, there were five deadly force incidents.

- **Incident 2024-20019659 (Pending Prosecutor Review):** Incident 2024-20019659 took place on January 31, 2024, near Stevens and Cliff. The Spokane Independent Investigative Response (SIIR) conducted the criminal investigation. The case is with the prosecutor.
- **Incident 2024-20027093 (Pending Criminal Investigation):** Incident 2024-20027093 took place on February 12, 2024, in the 1100 block of East Wellesley. The Spokane Independent Investigative Response (SIIR) is conducting the criminal investigation.
- **Incident 2024-20027307 (Pending Prosecutor Review):** Incident 2024-20027307 took place on February 12, 2024, near Howard and Riverside. The Spokane Independent Investigative Response (SIIR) conducted the criminal investigation. The case is with the prosecutor.
- **Incident 2024-20060204 (Pending Prosecutor Review):** Incident 2024-20060204 took place on March 31, 2024, in the 1800 block of West Dean. The Spokane Independent Investigative Response (SIIR) conducted the criminal investigation. The case is with the prosecutor.
- **Incident 2024-20073072 (Pending Criminal Investigation):** Incident 2024-20073072 took place on April 18, 2024, in the 2000 block of W Longfellow. The Spokane Independent Investigative Response (SIIR) is conducting the criminal investigation.

### 2023

From January 1 – December 31, 2023, there were two deadly force incidents.

- **Incident 2023-20088146 (Pending Administrative Panel Review):** Incident 2023-20088146 took place on May 10, 2023, near 5<sup>th</sup> and Browne. The Spokane Independent Investigative Response (SIIR) conducted the criminal investigation. The prosecutor ruled the use of deadly force was justified. Internal Affairs conducted an administrative investigation. The investigation is being reviewed by the Admin Panel Review, prior to the Chief's review.
- **Incident 2023-20238146 (Pending Prosecutor Review):** Incident 2023-20238146 took place on December 3, 2023, in the 9200 block of Colton Street. The Spokane Independent Investigative Response (SIIR) conducted the criminal investigation. The case is with the prosecutor.

### 2022

From January 1- December 31, 2022, there were five deadly force incidents.

- **Incident 2022-20012711 (Closed)**
- **Incident 2022-20134271 (Pending Administrative Review Panel):** 2022-20134271 took place on August 3, 2022, near 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sheridan. SIIR completed the criminal investigation. The Prosecutor's Office ruled the use of deadly force justified. Internal Affairs conducted an administrative investigation. The investigation is being reviewed by the Admin Panel Review, prior to the Chief's review.
- **Incident 2022-20156670 (Pending Deadly Force Review Board):** 2022-20156670 took place on September 4, 2022, near 2900 E. Wabash Avenue. SIIR completed the criminal investigation. The Prosecutor's Office ruled the use of deadly force justified. SPD completed the administrative investigation.
- **Incident 2022-20184192 (Pending Prosecutor Review):** 2022-20184192 took place on October 16, 2022, near 100 S Cedar. The Spokane Independent Investigative Response (SIIR) conducted the criminal investigation. The case is with the prosecutor.



- **Incident 2022-20214924 (Closed)**

## Sector Updates

### Adam Sector (Northwest)

#### **Recent News: Officers safely detain armed subject during early morning crisis incident**

On October 7th, 2024, at 7:15am, Spokane Police responded to the area of Francis and Maple after 911 received multiple calls of a male walking around with a gun pointed to his head and under his chin. Initial information provided to 911 call takers placed the male in the area of Wellesley and Ash and because of that, local schools were advised of the issue.



Officers scoured the area, and the involved subject was located near Francis and Maple. The male was detained without issue and was armed with a loaded handgun when contacted. As officers spoke with him, it became evident he was in a state of crisis as he made bizarre/concerning statements.

Officers seized the firearm in his possession and the subject was transported to a local hospital. If you or someone you know is in need of mental health services, please contact the Regional Crisis Line at 877-266-1818.

### Baker Sector (Northeast)

#### **Recent News: Suspect arrested 3 times in 3 days for vehicle theft, vehicle prowling**

A suspect in a crime spree targeting a local business was arrested again on September 26th, his third arrest in a three-day span. Larry W. Griffin (50) was booked into the Spokane County Jail for Theft of a Motor Vehicle, Resisting Arrest and Obstructing.

The initial incident took place on September 23rd when Griffin was booked into jail for Theft of a Motor Vehicle. The vehicle was stolen from a business in the area of 6600 N Division overnight, but later recovered by employees and returned to the lot. Diligent investigative work by patrol officers led to probable cause to arrest Griffin for the vehicle theft. He was located in the area shortly after and booked into the Spokane County Jail but released the following day.

On September 25th at 1:30am, Officers were dispatched to the same business on a report of a vehicle prowling. Officers located Griffin inside a vehicle on the lot where he was detained. A check of the location found additional vehicles had been entered illegally. At the completion of the investigation, Griffin was placed under arrest for 3 counts of Vehicle Prowling and booked into jail.

The following day, officers responded to the same location reference a stolen vehicle complaint. Employees arrived for work to discover another vehicle missing. They later recovered the stolen truck a short distance away and drove it back to the lot. Employees advised that the male that had stolen a vehicle two days prior had returned to the business again, apologizing for taking the truck as well as the other vehicle on 9/23.

After interviewing the employees, probable cause was again established to arrest Griffin for Theft of a Motor Vehicle. Officers began checking the area and located Griffin a short distance away. Griffin was not cooperative when contacted and yelled at officers that they would have to shoot him.

Griffin was taken into custody for the vehicle theft without incident and transported back to the Spokane County Jail, his third arrest of the week. He is currently being held at the jail at the time of this release (9/27/2024). Griffin has extensive criminal history with prior felony convictions for 2nd Degree Robbery.

### Charlie Sector (South)

#### **Recent News: Juvenile in custody after bringing weapon on to school grounds; officers on scene within two minutes**

On October 1st, 2024, at 11:53am 911 was advised that a student at a local school had a gun on his person in the area of 400 West 5th Avenue. Staff also advised that the suspect was not cooperative and at the time of the call, they were not able to speak freely with the 911 call taker. Information was also provided to staff that the suspect had displayed the gun to another student earlier in the day.

Officers arrived on scene within two minutes of being dispatched and detained a 15-year-old male in the office. The student was taken into custody without incident and a realistic looking BB gun was removed from his waistband. The juvenile was arrested for Possessing Dangerous Weapons on School Facilities and booked into the Spokane County Juvenile Detention Center.



### David Sector (Downtown)

#### **Crisis Outreach, Response and Engagement (CORE) Pilot Plan**

Spokane Police Chief Kevin Hall, Spokane Fire Chief Julie O’Berg, and Mayor Lisa Brown have developed and will soon institute a pilot program aimed at addressing challenges in the downtown core. The “Crisis Outreach, Response and Engagement” (CORE) plan will be a 30-day, short-term pilot that includes law enforcement, alternative response and outreach to target effective engagement, crime reduction and improved outcomes for all.

As part of this plan, the Spokane Police Department will deploy additional officers to the downtown precinct to increase visibility and engagement through bike and foot patrols. These officers will assist in increased implementation of place-based policing, a data-driven policing approach that identifies areas and times with higher risk of crime.

Simultaneously, the City will increase alternative response through the expansion of co-deployment teams (first responders and behavioral health providers), including the Behavioral Health Unit, Behavioral



Response Unit, and CARES Team. Two additional BHU officers will be deployed to the downtown precinct and SPD will work closely with Spokane Fire to provide increased response to fit various needs.

The City of Spokane is additionally leveraging partnerships with i2 Strategies and Revive Reentry to navigate individuals to appropriate resources through increased outreach. Members of the Revive team will join Code Enforcement to engage in outreach, coordinate encampment resolution, and navigate individuals to treatment and housing.

**Arrest made in fatal Downtown hit/run collision**

On September 8th, 2024, investigators with the SPD Major Crimes Unit (MCU) and Violent Crimes Task Force (VCTF) took Dom D. Felix (55) into custody in regard to the fatal hit/run collision involving a pedestrian in Downtown Spokane on August 30th. The vehicle used in the crime has also been recovered. Felix was booked into the Spokane County Jail for Vehicle Hit and Run involving a Fatality and is currently an inmate. Felix has an extensive criminal history with prior felony convictions for Possession of a Controlled Substance.

Original article: On August 30th, 2024, at 11am, SPD responded to the area of 3rd and Wall in Downtown Spokane on a vehicle versus pedestrian collision. 911 was advised that the involved vehicle fled the scene. Medics responded to the location and began life saving measures for the injured pedestrian. Despite those attempts, the victim succumbed to their injuries.



**SPD Officer Demographics**

Each year, SPD updates the department demographics, and posts them on the department website: <https://my.spokanecity.org/police/officer/>

**Officer Demographics – As of September 10, 2024**

Total Commissioned Officers: 326

Sex	Personnel Numbers	Percent of Department	Percent of Spokane
Female	26	8%	51%
Male	300	92%	49%

Race/Ethnicity	Personnel Numbers	Percent of Department	Percent of Spokane
American Indian and Alaska Native, alone	6	1.8%	1.8%



Asian, alone	1	0.03%	2.7%
Black, alone	7	2.1%	2.3%
Hispanic or Latino	21	6.4%	6.3%
Multi-Ethnic* (2 or more races)	2	1.2%	5.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	1	0.03%	0.9%
Not Indicated (employee did not identify race)	4	1.2%	N/A
Other	6	1.5%	N/A
White	278	85%	84.7%

### 2020 Spokane Census

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/spokanecitywashington/PST045219>



### SPD Volunteers in the Community

Spokane Police Department Cadets and Explorers enjoyed outreach at the Spokane County Fair. Here they are on the bus ride over.



SPD Volunteers also attended the Cops, Cars, and Cruisers event, with all proceeds dedicated to supporting Special Olympics Washington – Northeast Area Programs.





## Behavioral Health Unit Update

The Spokane Police Department is part of a multi-agency Behavioral Health Unit, with Spokane County Sheriff's Office and Frontier Behavioral Health. The unit is staffed with three deputies, three SPD officers, an SPD sergeant, and three co-deployed clinicians. The unit is part of a Mental Health Field Response Team Project grant. BHU responds to Crisis, Suicidal, and Check Welfare calls with additional resources, and the unit frees up patrol officers to go to other calls.

### August 2024 Statistics:

- 497 calls.
- 75% of calls were handled without the individuals going to the hospital or jail.
- 22% were emergently detained.
- 1.6% of contacts were arrested.
- There were zero uses of force beyond handcuffing.

The unit shared an anecdotal story about an emergent detention. The BHU was alerted about an older couple with mental and physical issues, who were unable to care for themselves. Drug dealers were camping in their backyard. The couple refused help, even though their health was spiraling, and their living conditions were atrocious. With the help of AMR medics and designated crisis responders, the two people were taken into protective custody and were hospitalized until stable. They are now receiving rehabilitative care. A building official reviewed a request from Code Enforcement. The house was deemed unfit for human habitation. Work is continuing to find long-term living arrangements for the couple.

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### SPD Detective Receives U.S. Attorney's Office Award

Detective Stacey Carr recently received an award from the U.S. Attorney's Office. She was their very first award recipient for Outstanding Achievement by a Task Force Officer. The award was presented to her at their Awards Ceremony on September 20, 2024.



### SPD Officer Receives Officer of the Year Award

The El Katif Shriners hosted a 9/11 Memorial Event at their facility on September 22, 2024. Officer Ryan Snider received the Officer of the Year Award. SPD's Air Support Unit was also recognized for excellence.



### Missing endangered person quickly located with assistance from the SPD Air Support Unit

On October 5th, 2024, just before 9pm SPD responded to the area of 5600 East Upriver Drive on a report of a missing person. Officers were advised a female who suffers from night blindness was last seen in a wooded area about an hour prior. Officers were also advised that the missing female was roughly a mile and a half away from their location.

Due to the difficult terrain, members of the SPD Air Support Unit (ASU) responded to assist. With the use of a Drone, ASU quickly located the missing female. The video footage revealed that she was standing still near a tree. Officers utilized the GPS information obtained from the Drone to assist them as they navigated the dark trails.

<https://vimeo.com/1018055882/3c20b7fcf0>

Officers located the missing female holding on to a tree, waiting to be found. She was cold, but in good health. The female was then assisted down to the parking lot area where she was evaluated by medical professionals. The assistance of the SPD Air Support Unit and the technological capabilities of the Drone allowed officers to quickly locate her.

**SPD Officers and Volunteers Distribute Books**

The JOY of a new book! Thanks to a generous grant from the Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, the Spokane Police Foundation received hundreds of brand-new books, along with hundreds of pencils, crayons, coloring books, pencil sharpeners, and toothbrush kits.



Spokane Police Department partnered with Salvation Army to distribute the books and supplies to kids in foster care. SPD staff, volunteers, and chaplains participated in the event. SPD is so thankful to the Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation for the opportunity to encourage a love of reading, build home libraries for disadvantaged children, and help children expand their worlds! Books will also be distributed at other community outreach events.





*"Serving our community with Integrity, Professionalism, and Compassion"*