



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHIEF OF POLICE
KEVIN HALL

Strategic Initiatives
February 2025 Report



Public Safety and Community Health Committee Briefing

February 6, 2025



Excerpts of Commendations
(Personal Identifying Information has been removed)

Sergeant [Dale] Wells & Lieutenant [Dan] Waters, I write to express our deepest gratitude to you and your team for the level of detail and information provided in your subject police report. The report was specific, particularized as to needs for therapeutic services as well as ensures accountability. It greatly helps our community court to prepare the therapeutic programs necessary to help in the rehabilitation of our participants. I particularly found gratifying your collective efforts in assisting one of the family with “mother, stepdad and a vulnerable 5-year-old living in poor condition” found a home. That is amazing! It is also gratifying to know that the City was able to secure ten beds at the Catalyst Center, a low barrier housing with onsite supportive services that help in stabilizing our folks before the enforcement. Thank you both for all that you do. I hope our community sees the level of work that the BHU [Behavioral Health Unit] unit puts into these efforts.

Thank you to everyone – donors, sponsors, gift wrappers, and more – who showered us with the most thoughtful and loving gifts this Christmas. Your incredible attention to detail and the time you spent will be forever remembered and cherished. Here is some artwork to convey the kids’ gratitude.

Chief Hall and Assistant Chief McNab, Yesterday I received outstanding assistance from Spokane Police Department. Your officers did exactly what was needed in that situation. Earlier today I contacted your property division and retrieved the equipment. **Captain Cowles, Captain Wohl, Officer Manning, Officer Richardson, Officer Heiman, Sergeant Lesser, Property Supervisor Kevin Berry, and Property Tech Tia Girkins.** Thanks again SPD.

Detective [Tim] Schwering, Thank you, so much for attending our Neighborhood Council meeting tonight! I appreciate your time and interaction with our residents! I also greatly appreciate your work keeping our residents safe from scammers!

Sergeant [Richie] Plunkett, Thank you for taking the time to change these kiddos' lives. We appreciate you! [In reference to visit with kids in foster care programs at Salvation Army]

Please praise **Officer Mike Thomas** and send him into all the middle and high schools to educate our youth. I’m a nurse at Sacred Heart and had no idea about most of this stuff. The first hour would be particularly useful for our children to be wary of. Thank you for sending him our way. [Drug Education Presentation.]



<https://myspokane.org/police/accountability>

The Office of Professional Accountability posts a vast amount of information on the department website. For example, the department’s progress with collaborative reform, the policy manual, the strategic plan, and information about filing a complaint.

IA Complaints

Officer Involved Shootings

Use of Force

Commendations

Public Safety Briefings

Office of Professional Accountability

The mission of Office of Professional Accountability is to provide for oversight of the complaint process; to promote public awareness of and full access to that process; and to advance reforms that increase police accountability by the Spokane Police Department.

Items of Interest

- [2023 OPA FAQ Complaint Process Flyer](#) (PDF 522 KB)
- [Spokane Police Department Collaborative Reform Progress Report 2018](#) (PDF 8.3 MB)
- [Spokane Police Department 2022–2023 Strategic Plan](#) (PDF 6.0 MB)
- [SPD Policy Manual – Effective August 8, 2024](#) (PDF 3.2 MB)

Officer-Involved Shootings are of interest to the public, and SPD provides information about past shootings. The “List of Deadly Force Incidents and Fatalities, 2013-2024” document contains demographic information. The investigation protocol is also available online.



Accountability

Officer Involved Shootings



Officer Involved Shootings

The Spokane Police Department, in cooperation with the Spokane County Sheriff’s Office and the Washington State Patrol, has established the Spokane Independent Investigative Response Team (SIIR) to mobilize and coordinate external investigative resources in the case of deadly force incidents.

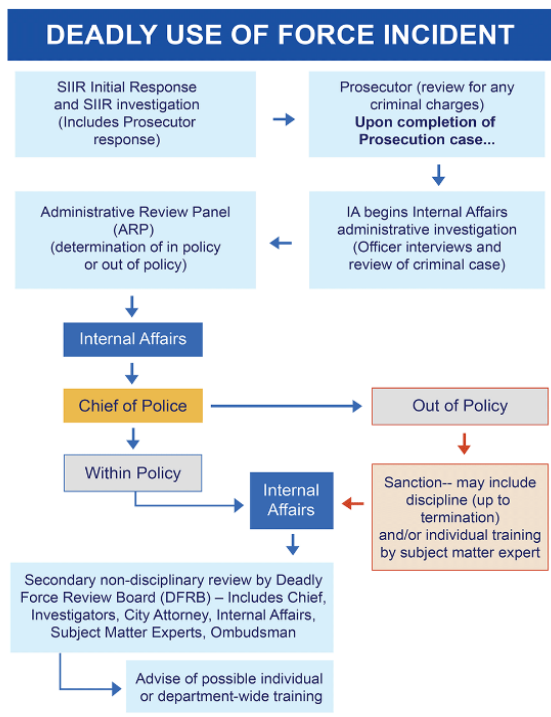
The SIIR team operates under an established [protocol to investigate officer-involved fatal incidents](#) (PDF 878 KB). The protocol defines when and how the team is activated, its responsibilities and procedures relating to the investigation, reporting and public communication. The protocol is reviewed regularly and updated accordingly.

View the [List of Deadly Force Incidents and Fatalities, 2013-2024](#) (PDF 130 KB).

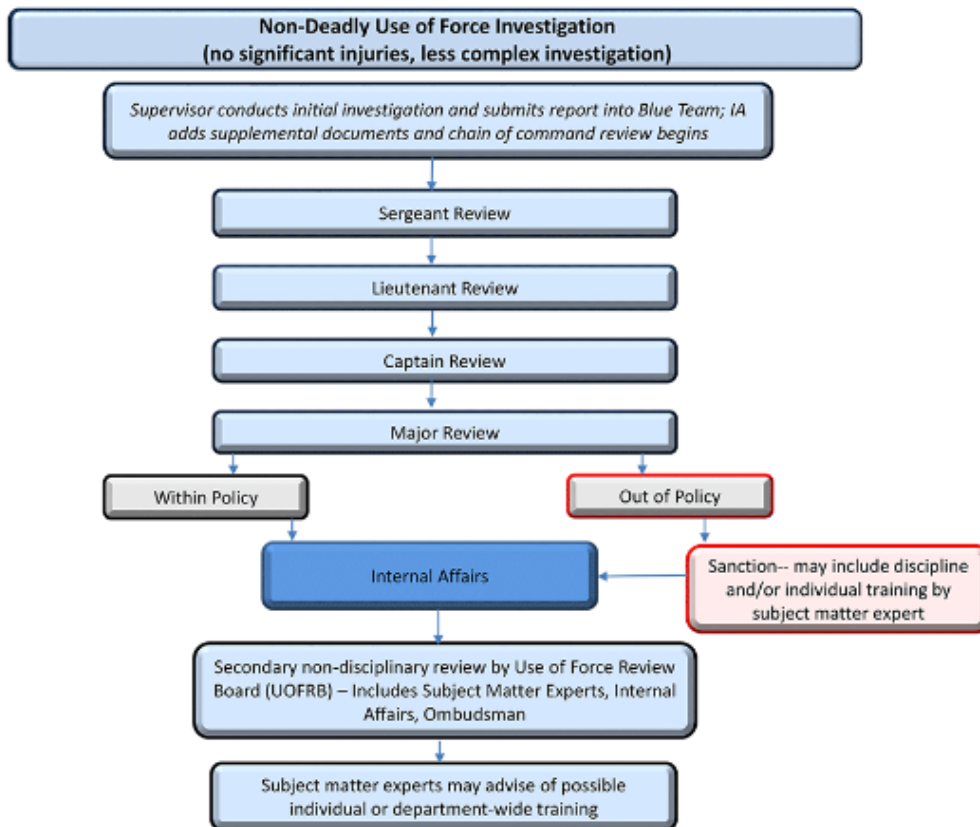
Link to List of Deadly Force Incidents document here:

<https://static.spokane.org/documents/police/accountability/2013-2024-deadly-force-incidents-and-fatalities.pdf>





The Use of Force page lists annual reports, a flow chart explaining the investigation process, and summaries of individual use of force incidents.



The Complaint page has complaint forms available in several languages and an online complaint form.

<https://my.spokanecity.org/police/accountability/complaints/>

Internal Affairs Complaints

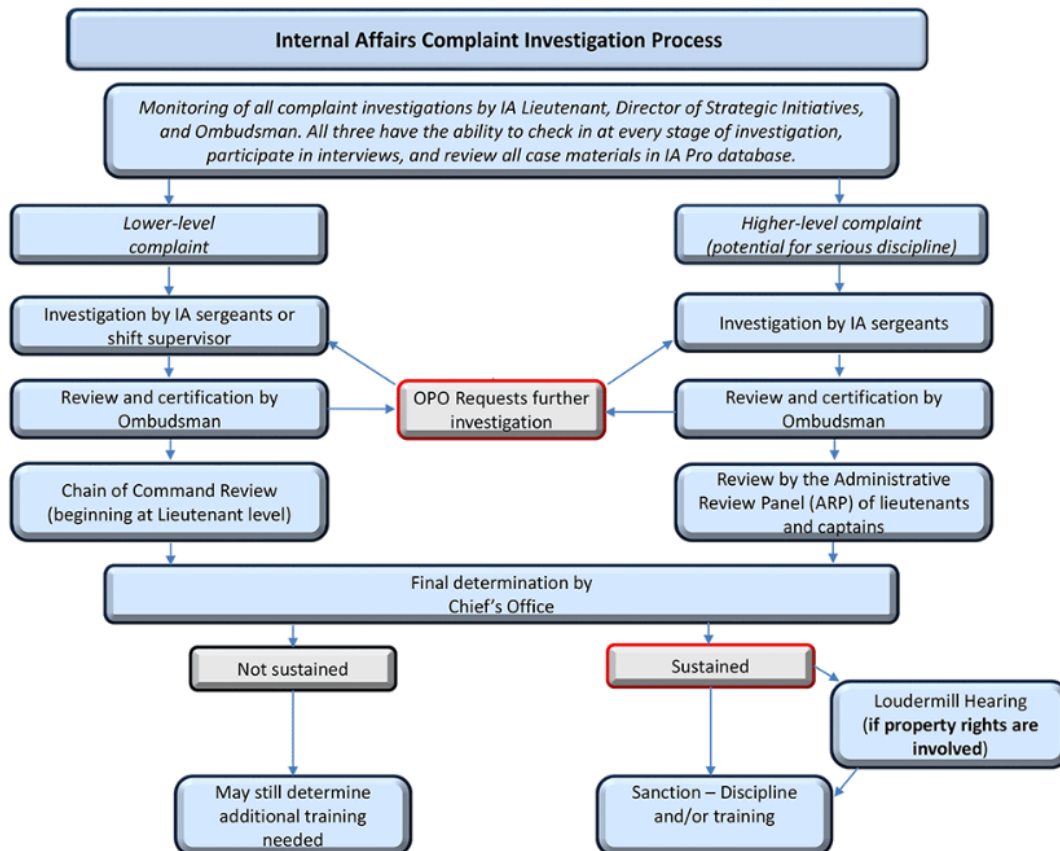
The Spokane Police Department welcomes inquiries from the community concerning the performance of our employees. Investigation of these situations often allows us to assess the actions our employees with the ultimate objective of improving service. For more information on the Personnel Complaint Procedure, please visit our website and view Policy 1020 of the current Policy Manual.

To submit a complaint, please fill out the IA Complaint Form. You will soon be contacted about your complaint by the Internal Affairs investigator

If you prefer, you can complete and submit the [online complaint form](#).

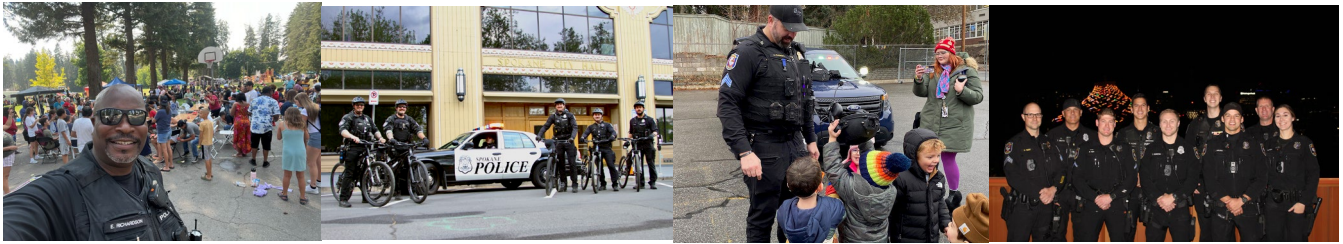
- [English](#) (PDF 245 KB)
- [French](#) (PDF 208 KB)
- [German](#) (PDF 158 KB)
- [Russian](#) (PDF 326 KB)
- [Spanish](#) (PDF 219 KB)
- [Vietnamese](#) (PDF 366 KB)

There is also a flow chart of the investigation process, and summaries of complaints.



Public Safety Briefings from 2014-2024 are also available.





Deadly Force (Officer-Involved Shootings) Update

2024

From January 1 – December 31, 2024, there were six 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.
- **Incident 2024-20267061 (Pending Criminal Investigation):** Incident 2024-20267061 took place on December 29, 2024, in the 800 block of W Cora. 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 5th 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 Administrative Investigation):** 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 prosecutor ruled the use of deadly force was justified. Internal Affairs will conduct an administrative investigation.

2022

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

- **Incident 2022-20012711 (Closed)**

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- **Incident 2022-20134271 (Pending Administrative Review Panel):** 2022-20134271 took place on August 3, 2022, near 2nd 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)**

Precinct Updates

Northwest Precinct

SPD Staff and Volunteers enjoyed connecting with the community at Coffee with a Cop on January 21, 2025, at Pitotti Coffee at 733 W. Garland.



Northwest leadership continues to visit area schools. Below, at Indian Trail Elementary School.



Northeast Precinct

Northeast leadership and officers have made significant progress with unlawful camping in the sector. In December 2024, there were 64 unlawful camping complaints in the precinct area. At the end of the month, 52 of the complaints were closed out and 12 were in progress.



Northeast continued proactive crime-control activity. Over Christmas break, the precinct conducted 50 check-ins on the Gonzaga University campus, to deter burglars and vehicle prowlers. Several arrests were made. Northeast also conducted a shoplifting special enforcement detail at Northpointe Shopping Center. As of December 2024, Northeast had handled 12 nuisance properties in the precinct.

South Precinct

South Precinct leadership is actively building new partnerships in the precinct area, with schools, hospitals, businesses, and service organizations.



Downtown Precinct

Crisis Outreach, Response and Engagement (CORE) Update – New Medical Respite Facility Available

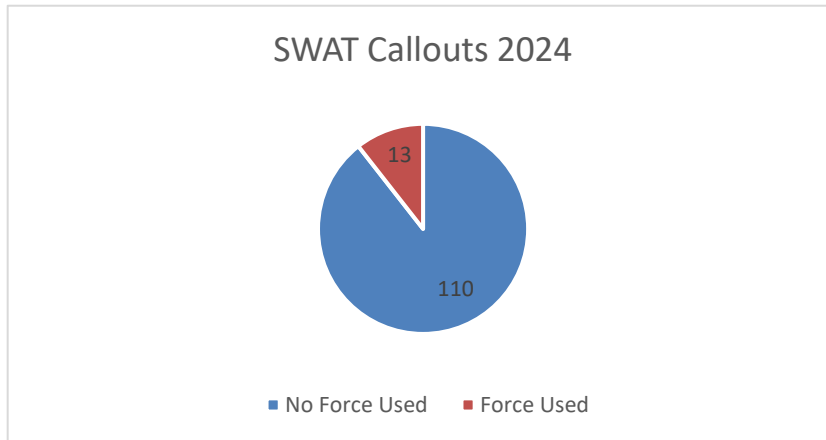
The Downtown Precinct continues to participate in the CORE program, increasing visibility and engagement through bike and foot patrols. Captain Steve Wohl reports, "We have been continuing our outreach and enforcement in the CORE area, utilizing mid-shift officers from other precincts. We are making a difference and taking a lot of guns and drugs off the streets."

Downtown Officers are working with partners to address the needs of a very active group of individuals, many of whom are dealing with behavioral health and substance use issues. SPD collaborates with multiple agencies, including Code Enforcement, Spokane Fire's Behavioral Response Unit and CARES Team, i2 Strategies and Revive Reentry to navigate individuals to appropriate resources through increased outreach.

Now there is a new resource for officers and partners to use. On January 10, 2025, the Westminster Respite Facility opened to the public. The facility offers medically supported respite and recuperative care to achieve stability for people with chronic and acute ailments. This location has 30 beds and serves members of the Spokane community experiencing homelessness. This site is an additional outreach site for the Providence Community Clinic supported by nurse practitioners, a behavioral health provider team, nurses, and clinical volunteers.

SPD SWAT Team Stats

In 2024, there were 123 SWAT callouts. SWAT is often utilized for situations involving armed barricaded subjects and high-risk arrests. Of the 123 SWAT activations, only 13 resulted in the necessity to deploy less lethal force for safe outcomes. (Force was only used in 10.5% of all SWAT callouts.)



A major contributor to these low levels of force is the routine co-deployment of our Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT) with SWAT. HNT is often integrated with SWAT so they can handle the majority of our communication and de-escalation efforts. Their expertise in negotiations is a great contributor to these peaceful outcomes. The Air Support Unit (ASU) and Explosive Disposal Unit (EDU) are also routinely deployed with SWAT. The technology they bring to these critical events allow SWAT personnel to utilize distance and communication ability without placing officers in harm's way or forcing potentially violent confrontations.

The presence of SWAT can make a huge difference in compliance. Often the arrival of SWAT to an event prompts peaceful surrender. The increased training and tools provided to our SWAT team allows them to overwhelmingly end most situations peacefully and effectively.

The SWAT team also provided several education presentations in Spokane, ranging from Active Shooter to Situational Awareness to organizations such as Partners with Families and Children, Hospice of Spokane, Waste to Energy, and Whitworth University. SWAT provided community outreach for the Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery, El Katif Shriners First Responders Event, Police Activities League, Trunk or Treat, and Spokane Humane Society.



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SPD Records Update

In 2024, the SPD Public Records Unit received 13,114 public record requests. We had six Public Record Specialists employed in 2024, with one person retiring towards the end of 2024, and one person being in training for most of 2024. That works out to approximately 2,185 requests assigned per PRD employee for 2024. This number does not include additional requests which were assigned to City Clerks, but which our PRD staff was responsible for searching for, compiling, and redacting SPD-related records.

The Criminal Records team entered 15,149 warrants in 2024 and merged 69,949 new reports (this does not include any of the supplemental reports).



Domestic Violence Records processed:

- 4,127 Returns of Service
- 2,498 Recalls and Denials
- 2,537 Reissues
- 940 Permanent Orders
- 1,831 Temporary Orders
- 2,787 No Contact Orders (including 176 Felony Sexual Assault No Contact Orders)
- 201 Restraining Orders
- 3,691 Miscellaneous documents (Notices of Hearing, Out of County Orders, Modifications, Order to Surrender Weapons, etc.)

The Records gun team started 2024 with a five-member gun team. For the last six months of 2024, the team functioned with a team of three. The team still processed over 13,000 concealed pistol licenses, and hundreds of gun restoration, gun purchase denial, and firearm dealer licenses. The team processed over 500 six-month suspensions of rights permits.

SPD Property and Evidence Facility Update

The Spokane Police Department Property Evidence Facility is responsible for maintaining the integrity of evidence and chain of custody of all property that comes into their possession in accordance with state laws, city ordinances, and departmental policies and procedures. The current property facility stores over 185,000 items classified as evidence, safekeeping, or found property collected from the Spokane Police Department, Spokane Valley Police Department, and Spokane County Sheriff's Office. From the initial placement of a property item within the facility through all the transactions thereafter leading to either release, auction, or destruction, the Evidence Unit monitors and controls the activity with an automated warehouse management system.

Even though the unit was without a full-time employee for 10 months in 2024, the unit managed to achieve a 93.08% incoming vs. outgoing rate. 31,088 evidence items were collected, and 28,937 items were removed from the facility.

In 2024, incoming vehicles and firearms reached all-time highs. As of December 2024, there were 78 vehicles in Inside Vehicle Storage (designed for 54 vehicles) and 48 vehicles in Outside Vehicle Storage

(designed for 25). Due to the high number of vehicles needing to be stored, the unit is in discussions with City Legal to explore alternatives to holding onto vehicles for 60 days after a letter is sent.

SPD Welcomes New Hires

Six new officers joined the Spokane Police Department on December 30, 2024. From left to right, Officers Tiffany Brossoit, Brandon Arnold, Kyle Gale, Samantha Weirich, Dwayne Quintanilla, and Kegan Young.



These officers are currently in the Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA). SPD operates a satellite campus of the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission here in Spokane.

Drug Education

The Spokane Police Department recently secured two separate grants through the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC) in order to help curb the number of impaired drivers on our roads. The first grant funded by the WTSC is for a full time DUI enforcement officer. The second position is funded as a newly created Impaired Driving Training Coordinator. This officer oversees impaired driving detection certifications for SPD and is assigned to our Spokane Municipal DUI Therapeutic Court. He is available to respond to Fatal and Serious Injury Collision investigations.



The Impaired Driving Training Coordinator for SPD is Officer Mike Thomas. Part of his role is providing education to community stakeholders in current drug trends with a focus on reduction in impaired driving. As a resource for our local area, Officer Thomas is available to educate current medical professionals, first responders, schools and other community member groups.

On January 10, 2025, Officer Mike Thomas presented a “Current Drug Trends” class at Sacred Heart Medical Center’s auditorium.

Please contact Sgt. Teresa Fuller at fuller@spokanepolice.org if you would like an impairment training for your group or organization.

SPD Volunteers

One of the main goals of the Spokane Police Department is to engage with the community we serve. Below, volunteers at the Martin Luther King Jr. event.



Interested in becoming a volunteer with SPD? Or learning about an internship experience? Learn more here:

- <https://my.spokanecity.org/police/volunteers/cadets/>
- <https://my.spokanecity.org/police/volunteers/explorers/>
- <https://my.spokanecity.org/police/volunteers/citizen/>
- <https://my.spokanecity.org/police/officer/internships/>



If you are interested in applying or have any questions, please contact the Volunteer Services Unit at 509.363.8283. Email your completed application as an attachment to volunteer@spokanepolice.org.

SPD is a "Community Policing In Action" Photo Contest Winner

Spokane Police Department submitted a picture from the 2024 Trunk or Treat event at the American Indian Community Center. SPD is one of the 2025 winners of the Community Policing In Action Photo Contest.

<https://cops.usdoj.gov/photocontest>



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