



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE

KEVIN HALL

Strategic Initiatives

July 2025 Report



Public Safety and Community Health Committee Briefing

July 2025

Excerpts of Commendations
(Personal Identifying Information has been removed)

Dear **Dispatchers**, I appreciate the hard work you do and know you are trying your hardest to help us. We appreciate that!

I purchased a triplex a little over a year ago, and especially recently, there has been a lot of drug activity in the area. It's been an uphill battle keeping my property free of mentally ill and drug addicted people as well as the litter, fecal waste, and used needles / pipes they leave. It's especially concerning that my tenants have their elderly parents and their young baby with them and I'm next to a daycare. I recently called Crime Check about several people doing drugs on my property and in my alleyway. I mentioned to the dispatcher my frustrations as in the past it seems like nobody comes or does anything as well as how I had installed lights and cameras which the homeless have torn down from the alleyway and vandalized. The dispatcher lady was very kind and polite and encouraged me to continue reporting. She was incredibly professional. Also, when I had hung up with her, I noticed several officers had arrived and actually arrested one of the people as well as had the rest of the group pick up their trash they had made. I know it's an uphill battle getting people the resources they need and police have a lot on their plate, but I really appreciate the service of the SPD on Saturday [**Sergeant Bryan Tafoya, Officer Chris Miller, Officer Jared Meyer.**] Thanks again for your service and helping me, my tenants, and my neighbors keep the neighborhood safe!

Hello, I had to call in today a man experiencing a mental health crisis in Kendall Yards as it seemed he had become a danger to himself and others. Your first arriving officer [**Officer David Vilchiz**] arrived quickly and helped identify and calm the man. I cannot say enough how impressed I was with the way he handled the situation. He was able to quickly deescalate and calm the man by building a rapport. In a situation that someone was clearly struggling, he took the time to treat him and see him as a human. I hope you let the officer know how he handled the situation did not go unnoticed. A big thank you to him and all who responded. His actions were a reminder of goodness in difficult times.

I don't have the number for the new police chief but wanted you all to know how much I appreciate all the effort and expertise in getting our police accountability organized. They are doing a great job with compassion, justice, and understanding of our diverse community.

I was the Assistant Public Defender assigned to the on-call "DUI phone" earlier this year when I received a call from **Officer Nathan Coleman**, who had someone in custody for a suspected DUI. Throughout the process of speaking to the accused, Ofc. Coleman was very accommodating and helpful in dealing with the person he had in his custody, while also maintaining a cordial, professional, attitude. Officer Coleman went above and beyond the call of duty.

Sergeant [Steve] Anderson, Thank you for providing a wonderful team [**K9 Unit**] on Saturday. The kids (of all ages) loved it. We flew a record 102 disabled children for Challenge Air on a wonderful weather day.



Internal Affairs Unit Update

January 1 through May 31, 2025, Commendations and Complaints

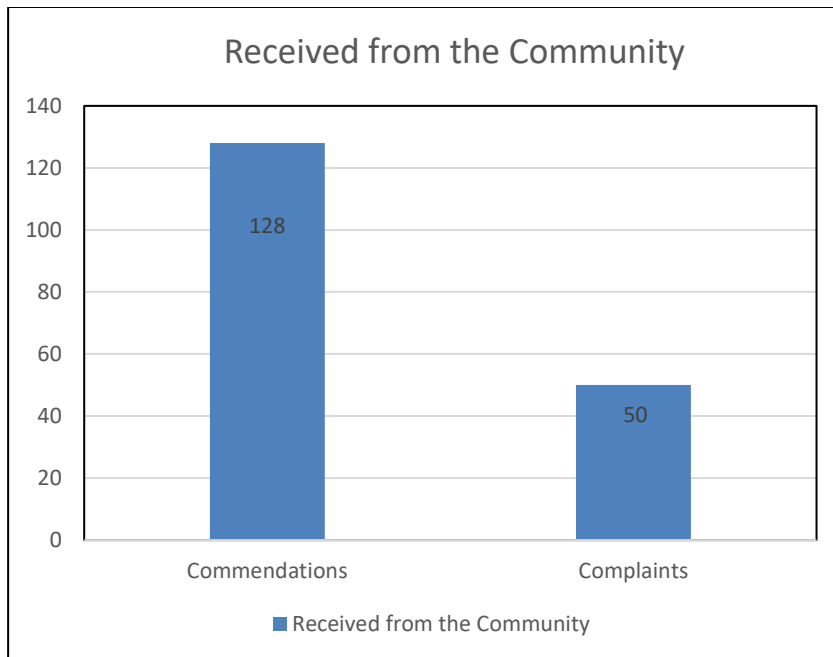
Commendations Received: **Total: 128**

Complaints Received: **Total: 59 (50 from community)**

Source of Complaints—January 1 through May 31, 2025

Received by the Office of Police Ombudsman	Total: 27
Received by the Spokane Police Department	Total: 32
Internally Generated by the SPD	Total: 9
Generated by the Community	Total: 50

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. The chart below shows commendations versus complaints from the community in May 2025.



2025

From January 1 – February 31, 2025, there were two deadly force incidents.

- **Incident 2025-20016302 (Pending Prosecutor Review):** Incident 2025-20016302 took place on January 24, 2025, in the 200 block of East Sanson. The Spokane Independent Investigative Response (SIIR) conducted the criminal investigation. The case is with the prosecutor.
- **Incident 2025-20027128 (Pending Criminal Investigation):** Incident 2025-20027128 took place on February 9, 2025, in the 3300 block of East 11th Ave. The Spokane Independent Investigative Response (SIIR) is conducting the criminal investigation.

2024

From January 1 – December 31, 2024, there were six deadly force incidents.

- **Incident 2024-20019659 (Pending Administrative Investigation):** Incident 2024-20019659 took place on January 31, 2024, near Stevens and Cliff. 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.
- **Incident 2024-20027093 (Pending Prosecutor Review):** Incident 2024-20027093 took place on February 12, 2024, in the 1100 block of East Wellesley. The Spokane Independent Investigative Response (SIIR) conducted the criminal investigation. The case is with the prosecutor.
- **Incident 2024-20027307 (Pending Administrative Investigation):** Incident 2024-20027307 took place on February 12, 2024, near Howard and Riverside. 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.
- **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 Prosecutor Review):** Incident 2024-20267061 took place on December 29, 2024, in the 800 block of W Cora. The Spokane Independent Investigative Response (SIIR) conducted the criminal investigation. The case is with the prosecutor.

2023

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

- **Incident 2023-20088146 (Closed)**
- **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.



Precinct Updates

Adam Sector (Northwest)

North Hill Special Enforcement:

The Northwest precinct just finished a Hot Spot in the North Hill area around Rowan/Wall. This Hot Spot was created in February after seeing several burglaries in the area. Graveyard patrol tams conducted more prowl checks and surveillance. The goal of the special enforcement was to generate more intelligence to attempt to confirm recent suspicions of described activity and potentially develop probable cause for charges, search warrants, etc.

Comparing January-May 2024 with January-May 2025, the following reported crimes (typically committed during graveyard hours) were reduced.

- Vehicle prowls: 45 in 2024; 26 in 2025.
- Vehicle Thefts: 31 in 2024; 16 in 2025.
- Garage/Fenced area Burglaries: 10 in 2024; 5 in 2025.
- Commercial Burglaries: 5 in 2024; 1 in 2025.

Baker Sector (Northeast)

Spokane Police conduct park emphasis including enforcement of after-hours City Park violations

Increased activity in the park and several criminal incidents recently has prompted a patrol team emphasis addressing park rule violations and other observed criminal activity in all city parks. In the past week, officers contacted subjects at Franklin Park, warned them on park rules and arrested one person on an assault warrant. The subjects were issued exclusion notices from the park, meaning they are banned from all city parks for a period of time. In another incident subjects at Cannon Park were contacted after hours, warned of park violations, and one person was arrested for a prior DV related offense. Additionally, multiple people at various Northwest parks were issued warnings for being in parks after-hour and one was arrested for a DOC warrant.

Such efforts will continue throughout the summer. While officers have the discretion to warn violators, those who have previously been warned will be cited. Last summer, in an effort to keep our City parks safe and free of property damage in the overnight hours, the City Council passed an ordinance making it a misdemeanor for people to be in a City park between the hours of 10 pm – 6 am (except for Riverfront Park which is closed from midnight – 6 am). The ordinance effectively gave police officers a tool to detain people who are trespassing in the parks or who may be committing crimes. After months of education and warnings, officers are now stepping up enforcement. The law applies to all Park property, including parking lots, and green spaces along rivers and trails.

Spokane Police partner with Park Rangers to keep our valued park spaces safe and functional. Park Rangers can be the first responders for service calls on Park property and provide helpful information to Police. Park Rangers can trespass visitors for violating Park Rules and provide general security. Again, parks are closed from 10 pm – 6 am (except Riverfront which stays open until midnight).



Outreach:



Lieutenant Bart Stevens attended the opening ceremony for the Marshallese Constitution Day opening ceremony at Rogers High School. He was seated at the head table as a guest of honor with a few other guests and got to shake the hands of literally every person in attendance as they all lined up to do so. He and the other guests were presented with Marshallese neckties (wearing in the photos), which are traditional wear for Marshallese priests and pastors. He shared with his colleagues that Spokane is the 2nd most Marshallese populated area in the entire US (2nd to Springdale, Arkansas).

Charlie Sector (South) and David Sector (Downtown)

Neighborhood Resource Officer Micah Prim has been busy with Crime Prevention, nuisance properties, and outreach. A few recent outreach visits include the Carl Maxey Center, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post, World Refugee Day, and Passages Family Support. He will also be coaching at the Thrive International soccer camp. He and

Neighborhood Resource Officer Deanna Storch taught Career and College Readiness classes at Shaw Middle School.

National Night Out

The page for Spokane city residents to register for National Night Out has been set up by the City's Web team. If you're planning a National Night Out (NNO) event in your neighborhood, please fill out our online registration form so we can schedule law enforcement, firefighters & other public officials to visit your party if requested.

<https://my.spokanecity.org/police/community-outreach/national-night-out/>



Investigations Update - Spokane City Council Votes To Prohibit Virtual Currency Kiosks

SPD has been involved in educating the public about cryptocurrency scams. Spokane Police Detective Tim Schwering has given almost 100 presentations to date on preventing victimization. Now, the Spokane City Council just took action to protect the public from these scams.

During the Legislative Session on June 16, 2025, the Spokane City Council voted unanimously on ordinance C36704 titled "Virtual Currency Kiosk Prohibition for a Safer Spokane" that eliminates virtual currency kiosks within the City of Spokane.

"This ordinance will protect vulnerable Spokane residents from scams involving virtual currency kiosks, and I am proud we are the first city in the state to move this legislation forward," stated Council Member Paul Dillon, who brought forth the ordinance with Council President Betsy Wilkerson. "These kiosks have become a preferred tool for scammers looking to defraud unsuspecting victims. I want to thank Detective Schwering for his leadership and outreach in bringing awareness to this issue."

According to the Council, Spokane has experienced an uptick in scams related to cryptocurrency kiosks, with a consistent rise in victims losing thousands of dollars. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) reported in 2023 that there were nearly \$5.6 billion in losses due to virtual currency kiosk-aided scams in the United States, with losses amounting to \$141,756,936 in Washington alone.

"Unfortunately, many in our community have fallen victim to this growing issue, with numerous individuals losing their life savings," said Spokane Police Department Detective Tim Schwering. "This is a vital first step in protecting Spokane residents."

SPD personnel have been tracking and investigating crimes related to virtual currency and kiosks. It is anticipated that the department will provide regular reports on whether the ordinance has a measurable impact on the frequency of reported crimes involving virtual currency kiosks. Through the passed ordinance, a new Chapter 10.90 is added to Title 10 of the Spokane Municipal Code, titled "Virtual Currency."

SPD in the Community

Below, SPD staff and volunteers at West Central Community Center for their First Responders Luncheon.



Below, Assistant Chief Matt Cowles, Lieutenant Sean Wheeler, Officer Jen Kerns, and Kathy Armstrong with Spokane Tribal Business Council members James Rima, Monica Tonasket, and Danny Kieffer, and Deputy Tribal Police Chief Charles Shockley.



Below, Officer Jen Kerns giving blood at the SAN Pride Blood Drive and Captain Tracie Meidl and Kathy Armstrong with Spokane Pride and SAN.



Below, Reserve Officer Ed Richardson at Neighbor Days in West Central Spokane.



Ed Richardson at Shadle Park Car Show



Spokane Police Activities League

Beginning July 1, 2025, SPD will again offer the Police Activities League, providing positive activities, drug and alcohol prevention, internet safety, and family safety plans. Throughout the season, youth participants focus on five core values: honesty, integrity, leadership, sportsmanship and respect. PAL program takes a holistic approach to crime prevention, focusing on reducing drug and gang involvement, as well as making positive decisions. PAL is a collaborative program of the Spokane Police Department, Spokane Police Foundation, Spokane Parks Department, YMCA, local community centers, and many other organizations working together to supply a myriad of resources in a central location.

This program is for youth, ages 8-15 years old. Please direct questions to SPDCommunityOutreach@spokanepolice.org.



POLICE ACTIVITIES LEAGUE

===== JULY 2025



JULY 1ST & 3RD BOWLING

Both events 12:00 pm - 3 pm

TUES / THURS Location: Lilac Lanes
1112 E Magnesium Rd



AGES
8-15 YEARS
OLD

JULY 8TH & 10TH GRAFFITI PROJECT

Both events 10:00 am - 1 pm

★ TUES / THURS LOCATION TBA ★



JULY 15TH & 17TH GAMES @ YMCA

Both events 10:00 am - 1 pm

TUES → Locations:
THURS → 15th - 930 N Monroe St
17th - 10727 N Newport Hwy



JULY 22ND & 24TH CARE PACKAGE ASSEMBLY

Both events 10:00 am - 1 pm

★ TUES / THURS LOCATION TBA ★



JULY 29TH & 31ST BBQ + ICE CREAM TRUCK

Both events 10:00 am - 1 pm

TUES → Locations:
THURS → 29th - Grant Park - 1015 S Arthur St
31st - Franklin Park - 302 W Queen Ave

TO REGISTER,
PLEASE CONTACT



SPDCommunityOutreach@spokanepolice.org

The Spokane Police Activities League (PAL) engages participating youth in positive athletic and academic programs, including drug and alcohol intervention and prevention, internet safety and family safety plans. Join us for the 2025 Season this summer!

JOIN THE SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT



INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM, & COMPASSION

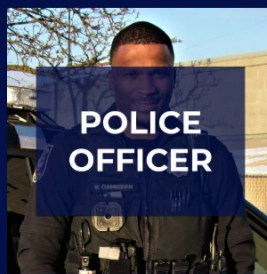
A career with the Spokane Police Department offers many advancement opportunities and diverse career paths. Every day is a fresh experience, a chance to make a difference, and an opportunity to uphold our mission. Officers value the community outreach opportunities and the ability to make an impact helping others.

We stand with our community, striving to build lasting bonds. Our mission is to serve the community with professionalism, integrity, and compassion so that with every single interaction we enhance trust, preserve safety, and model ethical policing.

CURRENT OPENINGS WITH THE SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT



View Current
Job Openings



Sign up for Job
Notifications



Get an email when jobs open.



View a List of All
City Positions



City of Spokane Jobs | my.spokanecity.org/jobs
civilservice@spokanecity.org | 509.625.6160

<https://joinspokane.org/>

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

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

