Spokane Police Department

Strategic Initiatives
August 2026 Report

Excerpts of Commendations

(Personal Identifying Information has been removed)

I wish to recommend Spokane City Police **Officers [Phillip] Chadwick, [Tuan] Nguyen, and [Christopher] Smith** for the highest possible honors for supreme service in the duty as police officers. I believe, from their contact with me, that they all are courageous, professional, helpful and compassionate to the utmost, and true role models for the very best in law enforcement officers.

On behalf of the Behind the Badge Foundation, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation for your agency's support of the recent Pacific Northwest Regional Honor Guard Training. We are especially grateful for the significant contribution of **Officer John Yen**, who provided invaluable support during the training. His professionalism, dedication, and commitment to excellence were clearly evident throughout the program. The knowledge, experience, and leadership he shared played a vital role in enhancing the skills and readiness of honor guard members from across the region.

Dear Chief Hall, I had the misfortune to be the victim of an occupied hit and run accident. Ultimately, **Sergeant Wayne Downing** came to my home to do the follow up. I was most impressed by his professionalism and the way he conducted the investigation. He provided me with the necessary information to take care of my needs. He was then able to contact the responsible parties and obtain what was needed to cite them with the appropriate charges. I continue to be impressed with the professionalism shown by your staff and by yourself.

Chief Hall & Asst Chief Cowles, I'm the neighbor who called in the fire last night on the 500 block of W Sumner Ave. I gave my statement on the scene, but wanted to take a minute to recognize the officer who responded **[Sergeant Corrigan Mohondro]**. After I called in the fire, he was on the scene almost immediately. Before the fire department could arrive, it was only me, another neighbor, and the officer. The three of us ran to the front door. The other neighbor opened the door with a spare key and called inside. Smoke was billowing out the door. We heard a response, and the officer immediately bolted inside and up the stairs into the smoke. He found the woman and pulled her out of her room and down the stairs to the first floor. I met him at the bottom of the stairs where he instructed me in assisting in carrying her outside to safety. It was truly impressive to watch someone run straight into a dangerous situation like that. His decisive action, selflessness, competence, and bravery are the reasons she's alive this morning. A few seconds / minutes longer, and she would likely have succumbed. I just wanted to make sure he gets the recognition he deserves and communicate my gratitude.

2026 Officer-Involved Shootings

From January 1 – June 30, 2026, there were two deadly force incidents.

Incident FD26-001 / 2026-20035543:

The incident took place on February 24, 2026, in the 1800 block of West Carlisle Avenue. The Spokane Independent Investigative Response team (SIIR) will conduct the investigation. The SIIR team is comprised of multiple agencies in Eastern Washington including the Spokane County Sheriff's Office, Washington State Patrol, and the Spokane Police Department.

Incident FD26-002/ 2026-20094413:

The incident took place on May 21, 2026, in the 2000 block of North Cincinnati Street. The Spokane Independent Investigative Response team (SIIR) will conduct the investigation. The SIIR team is comprised of multiple agencies in Eastern Washington including the Spokane County Sheriff's Office, Washington State Patrol, and the Spokane Police Department.

Recruiting and Hiring Update

Spokane Police Department welcomed new hires on July 20, 2026.



Above, new hires are sworn in by Chief Kevin Hall.

The most recent graduates from Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) just completed five weeks of post-Academy training and are starting Field Training.



Above, recent Academy graduates with guests from the Spokane Chapter NAACP.

SPD Officers in the Community

Officers participate in 24 hours of Hoopfest for Embrace Washington
Officers volunteered to compete against Fire employees, as a fundraiser for Embrace Washington. Embrace Washington's mission is to fulfill the unique needs of children experiencing foster care to build foundations for a brighter future.



Above, SPD officers compete against Fire employees in basketball for Embrace Washington.

Captain Dave Richards participates in a Nancy Drew Detective-Themed Birthday Party

SPD's Captain Dave Richards was invited by a young girl to be the police representative for a Nancy Drew mystery birthday party. This party was a joint birthday party for two friends who attend All Saints School. Party attendees were tasked with finding "lost kittens" based on clues.



Above left, Captain Dave Richards at "Police Headquarters." Above right, he reads the clues to the party participants.

SPD Youth Volunteers Recognized

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) awarded Explorer Knox Kolbe and Cadet Isaac MacPherson Outstanding Cadet Medals. This medal recognizes cadets who have distinguished themselves through outstanding leadership, honor, service, courage, and patriotism. Knox and Isaac are both outstanding members of our programs and leaders within each program. We are so proud of them! The awards were presented by Sue Walker and Rae Anna Victor. Below, Officer John Yen, Explorer Knox Kolbe, Cadet Isaac MacPherson, and Officer Deanna Storch.



Off

SPD Participates in High Visibility Enforcement During Hoopfest Weekend

The Spokane Police Department participated in a high visibility enforcement (HVE) event in support of the Hoopfest event taking place in Spokane. The goal of the event was to identify and address dangerous driving behavior such as DUI, speeding, and reckless driving. Participating agencies included Spokane Police Department, Spokane County Sheriff's Office, Spokane Valley Police Department, Cheney Police Department, Airway Heights Police Department, Washington State Patrol, Pend Oreille County Sheriff's Office, Whitman County Sheriff's Office, and the Yakima Police Department.

The two-day HVE (Friday and Saturday) led to 42 arrests for driving under the influence. At least half of these arrests were drug or drug combined with alcohol. Other citations/arrests:

- 133 speeding tickets
- 18 cellphones while driving tickets
- 27 no insurance tickets
- 11 driving while suspended arrests
- 13 arrests for outstanding felony and misdemeanor warrants.
- 1 arrest for attempting to elude law enforcement as well as for DUI.

The Spokane Police Department is proud to have partnered with the above-listed agencies to help ensure a safe and enjoyable Hoopfest weekend for all participants, spectators, and attendees. This HVE proved successful as there were no serious or fatal collisions reported in Spokane over Hoopfest weekend. The Spokane Police Chaplains, along with Chaplains from Spokane County Sheriff's Office and Washington State Patrol, helped with the special enforcement by providing water and snacks.



Above, law enforcement chaplains at the Hoopfest DUI enforcement event.

Spokane Police Activities League (PAL)

The Police Activities League (PAL) took place in July. PAL is an outreach program created in 2013 to help build trusting relationships between youth and local law enforcement. Each summer, the PAL program offers fun, structured activities for youth, with opportunities to make friends and memories at their local parks. The 2026 season was well-attended by youth from all over the community and by officers and volunteers.





Above left, Reserve Officer Ed Richardson presents a Kindness 911 award to the Generation Alive staff and youth volunteers. Above right, youth label packages of apple cinnamon oatmeal.

This year our PAL program included activities like roller skating at the Pattison's North Skating Center, a partnership with Generation Alive, bowling and fun at the parks!




Above left, Officer Scott Hice flexes his muscles with a participant. Above right, Officer Matt Stewart and Kathy Armstrong roller skate with kids.

The PAL program takes a holistic approach to crime prevention, focusing on reducing drug and gang involvement, as well as making positive decisions. Throughout the season, youth participants focus on five core values: honesty, integrity, leadership, sportsmanship and respect.




Above left, Officer David Vilchiz bowls with kids from West Central Community Center. Above right, Officer Jen Kerns bowls with youth from the YMCA.

PAL is a collaborative program of the Spokane Police Foundation, Spokane Parks Department, YMCA, local community centers, and many other organizations working together. Support from the Spokane Parks Foundation, Numerica Credit Union, RESCU Credit Union, and Baker Construction have been instrumental in PAL's success.




Above left, Officer Jen Kerns, Sergeant Brian Eckersley, Sergeant Kevin Reese, and SPD Volunteer Keith Campbell share a laugh. Above right, Reserve Officer Ed Richardson and Chaplain Sandy Alderson pose with kids on a roller-skating day.

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