



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHIEF OF POLICE
KEVIN HALL

Strategic Initiatives
January 2026 Report



Public Safety and Community Health Committee Briefing
January 2026



2025 Highlights

SPD Brings Back Neighborhood Resource Officers

On March 3, 2025, The Spokane Police Department reinstated a vital community program for residents of Spokane. Three SPD officers started their new positions as Neighborhood Resource Officers (NROs). SPD made the extremely difficult decision to eliminate the NRO program in 2023 to provide much needed support to the patrol division. In the fall of 2024, voters passed the Community Safety Sales Tax, championed by Mayor Brown and designed specifically to revive and strengthen the NRO program. Thanks to voter approval of the Community Safety Sales Tax, SPD is pleased to bring this valuable community resource back to the City of Spokane.

NROs work with the community to improve the quality of life in the neighborhoods in which they are assigned. These officers help bring about positive neighborhood change by collaborating with and utilizing resources from different government agencies, businesses, and community members. They also act as liaisons to their assigned areas for recruitment and community outreach efforts. NROs are based out of SPD Precinct facilities.

NROs are assigned to Northeast, Northwest, and South/Downtown. Below, NROs Scott Hice, Deanna Storch, and Micah Prim.



Patrol Accomplishments

Total Calls for Service

SPD officers responded to 97,573 calls for service in 2025. 50,373 of those calls were officer-initiated (proactive actions like prowl checks, traffic stops, etc.). 911 received 124,937 calls and Crime Check received 113,886 calls.

Safe and Accessible Spaces Ordinance

On October 28, 2025, Spokane's City Council implemented the Safe and Accessible Spaces ordinance and SPD developed a new data collection protocol to document community contacts under the ordinance. From Oct 28 through December 31, 2025, SPD engaged in the following ordinance activities:

- 1,088 documented interactions
- 682 (62.7% of interactions) offers of services
- 209 (19.2% of interactions) acceptances
- 475 citations issued
 - 288 (60.6%) in Riverside neighborhood
 - 62 calls for outreach services
 - 18 CCEW calls for SPD support

Partnership with Navigation Center

In October 2025, SPD implemented the high-utilizer program to provide coordinated wraparound services and case management to a small group of individuals who disproportionately utilize criminal justice, public health, and social services, often contributing to crime, disorder, and higher service costs in the downtown area. SPD partners with Consistent Care, Pioneer Navigators, Spokane County Jail Mental Health Services, and other public health partners to triage program participants, provide structured stabilization in jail, and offer wraparound case management and comprehensive social and behavioral health treatment.

As of December 30, 2025, 17 individuals were identified as high utilizers:

- 7 were in jail
 - 3 refusing services
 - 3 receiving treatment
 - 1 receiving social services only
- 4 were receiving treatment (not in jail)
- 6 were not in custody
 - 4 receiving treatment
 - 2 location unknown or uncooperative

*Note: These statistics are a point-in-time snapshot of participants on December 30, 2025. The numbers change regularly as participants' statuses change.

SPD is partnering with the Navigation Center. From November 1 through December 29, 2025:

- 32 individuals were transported to HNC by JHH Transport
- 16 were dropped off by SPD
- 267 navigated into shelter beds (includes inclement weather beds)
- 28 navigated into detox/treatment
- 3 utilized the Homeward Bound program and were reunited with family out of the area



SPD's Traffic Unit achieved many accomplishments in 2025. Investing in the Traffic Unit resulted in increased special enforcement details, DUI enforcement and education, and traffic school classes.

Phlebotomy Program for DUI Enforcement

After local Fire and EMS stopped performing blood specimen draws, and a contract change with jail nurses in January left SPD without assistance, SPD developed a program to train officers to perform blood draws in suspected DUI cases. SPD applied for and received a grant to fund the program. As of December 2025, SPD has 24 licensed phlebotomist officers (between SPD and Spokane County Sheriff's Office).

Grant Funding

SPD received several grants from the Washington Traffic Safety Commission, including a dedicated DUI grant. SPD received a grant to train recent Academy graduates in Impaired Driving. SPD successfully applied for and received a continuing phlebotomy grant for the program that was more than double the last year's grant.



Impaired Driving Education

In addition to the numerous presentations that Officer Mike Thomas conducts in the community, he was able to educate more people, thanks to a grant from Greater Spokane Community Safety Initiative for the "Know Your Limits" program. DUI officers visited multiple bars and restaurants with breathalyzers, educating people about how impairment can affect them and the safety of drinking responsibly. Officers asked people if they knew how impaired they were. People who volunteered guessed their blood alcohol level and then blew into a breathalyzer to find out if they were above the legal limit to drive.

Traffic school has been going strong since the unit has been back and the classes of 30 four times a month are filling up before we can schedule the next set of classes. It is a great opportunity to educate drivers who receive infractions, but it is a fun opportunity for dialogue and outreach with community members.

Photo Enforcement

Photo enforcement is being expanded with the addition of two new cameras at Mission and Greene and several more to be added over the next few months with the goal of reducing devastating right-angle (T-bone) crashes and speeding when children are getting to and from school.

Fatal Crash Prevention

The City of Spokane has started its first fatal crash review board with traffic safety partners like Providence, STA, Spokane Fire, the street department and several others on board. Every other month, we pick a handful of fatal crashes to review. Each case is looked at to determine what could be changed to keep these preventable deaths from occurring in our city.

Dialogue Team Program Continues to Grow

The Spokane Police Department Dialogue Team has continued to mature as a core component of SPD's public-order and crowd-management strategy. The team was recognized earlier in 2025 by The Spokesman-Review for their valuable interactions with community members exercising their First Amendment rights.

SPD maintains regular engagement with protest organizers and event stakeholders, who consistently express strong support for the Dialogue Team. Organizers have repeatedly identified the visible presence and proactive communication of Dialogue officers as a key factor in events remaining peaceful, orderly, and free of enforcement action. This collaborative approach has helped SPD facilitate lawful First Amendment activity while reducing conflict, arrests, and the need for force, aligning with both community expectations and best practices in modern crowd management.



In October, Gonzaga University and SPD co-hosted a weeklong training event for Dialogue Policing. The training, developed by the Columbus Police Department, is a comprehensive, evidence-based, 40-hour course designed to equip law enforcement with communication skills to facilitate interaction with community members during large-scale gatherings. Multiple agencies attended. The attending officers were introduced to the Dialogue Policing model as well as a class from the perspective of community activists. The class also focused on de-escalation techniques and science-informed crowd psychology. To ensure officers understand the material provided, they took part in training scenarios to further enhance their communication skills before completing the certification requirements at the end of the weeklong training.

SPD is currently training select Dialogue Team members to serve as in-house Dialogue instructors, with the goal of hosting regional dialogue training here in Spokane. This work is being done in direct collaboration with Columbus Dialogue. Additionally, Professor Clifford Stott, the architect of the Evidence-Based Policing dialogue model, has conducted command-level training for SPD leadership in Spokane and is scheduled to provide additional training in 2026 in coordination with Chief Hall.

Air Support Unit Pilot Program Completed

Spokane Police Department conducted a three-month pilot program for the Air Support Unit. The pilot program showed that the Air Support Unit responded to 748 calls for service and made a total of 702 flights. They were able to relieve 251 calls from patrol. Captures/Finds of individuals totaled 61.

SPD Acquires Over \$3M in Grants

Spokane Police Department acquired 19 grants in 2025. Grants total \$3,410,921.00 (some are two-year awards but received in 2025).

These grants included:

- Officer Wellness grant from the Criminal Justice Training Commission (\$30,000.00)
- Officer Wellness grant from the Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) (\$186,250.00.)
- Hiring grant from the Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) (\$1,000,000.00)
- Drug Recognition Expert Officer Overtime grant from the Washington Traffic Safety Commission (\$8,000.00)
- Dedicated DUI Enforcement grant from the Washington Traffic Safety Commission (\$158,861.06)
- Traffic Emphasis Patrol grant from the Washington Traffic Safety Commission (\$60,000.00)
- DUI Training and Outreach grant from the Washington Traffic Safety Commission (\$225,000.000)
- Phlebotomy program (DUI blood draw) grant from the Washington Traffic Safety Commission (\$69,250.00)
- Training grant (for Academy recruits) from the Washington Traffic Safety Commission, using Washington Impaired Driving Advisory Council (WIDAC) (\$3,300.00)
- Impaired Driving Awareness Community Outreach grant (“Know Your Limits”) from the Greater Spokane Substance Abuse Council (\$2,500.00)
- Traffic Safety Grant from Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) Traffic Safety for speed measuring devices (\$6,000.00)
- Behavioral Health Unit grant from Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) (\$620,000.00)
- Explosive Disposal Unit grant from the Idaho Office of Emergency Management (\$11,600.00)
- Washington Auto Theft Prevention grant (\$181,922.00)
- Registered Sex Offender Address and Residency Verification grant (in collaboration with Spokane County) (\$60,000.00)
- Department of Commerce grant for Academy building (\$750,000.00)
- Financial Fraud and Identity Theft – Spokane County (\$20,000) Still pending signatures in OnBase.
- STOP Formula Grant (violence against women) – Spokane County (\$4,750.00)
- Child Passenger Safety Grant – Bonney Lake PD – (\$13,488.00)



Additionally, the Spokane Police Foundation received grants to help SPD. These grants included:

- Bike Swap grant for officers to give bikes to youth
- Target grant for Heroes and Helpers shopping event
- Walmart grant for Shop with a Cop

Below, events funded by Spokane Police Foundation grants.



Technical Assistance Response Unit (TARU) Advances Multiple Initiatives

Over the past year, TARU played a critical role in modernizing how the Spokane Police Department supports operations, manages information, and serves the community. The team advanced several high-impact initiatives, including major technology transitions, system upgrades, and foundational work supporting the City's move toward a standalone Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). Throughout these efforts, TARU remained focused on reliability, security, and ensuring new tools align with real-world operational needs. TARU also made meaningful progress in data quality, transparency, and responsible innovation.

This included expanding public-facing data dashboards, improving internal analytics to support staffing and operational decisions, and completing complex statute and reporting integrations to improve accuracy and reduce rework. At the same time, the team strengthened governance around data use, privacy, and artificial intelligence, ensuring innovation is paired with accountability and compliance. Much of this work happens behind the scenes, but it directly supports stronger cases, better reporting, and a more sustainable technology foundation for the department.

Technical Investigations Highlights

- Testified as expert witnesses in multiple trials, assisting in convictions including homicides and violent assaults.
- Deployed four additional cellular evidence preservation devices to improve evidence integrity.
- Processed 321 digital evidence items in support of active investigations.
- Provided timely digital forensics assistance to outside agencies upon request.
- Delivered training at the Northwest Gang Investigators Association Conference.

- Provided technical training for investigations and for prosecutors.
- Hosted a Lexis Nexis basic course for investigations.

Information Technology Highlights

- Led the department's first large-scale Windows 11 migration using Intune, modernizing workstation security and device management with minimal operational disruption.
- Expanded Intune-based device management, improving standardization, faster deployments, and remote support capabilities.
- Orin served as a keynote speaker at an international United Kingdom conference, representing SPD on emerging radio frequency practices.
- Deployed *Emitr* to modernize overtime call-outs, improving reliability, response times, and supervisor visibility.
- Launched an updated roll-call digital bulletin board (Chris Seidel developed in-house).
- Made significant progress on the Axon Records implementation, including statute integration across more than 1800 state statutes and the design of offense-specific incident report fields.
- Supported early planning and evaluation for the new PSAP, including CAD disposition review, 911 phone system demos, and vendor coordination.
- Advanced multiple camera system projects.
- Launched and refined public-facing data dashboards, improving transparency and access to public safety data.
- Improved internal analytics and reporting, including early CAD and staffing analytics prototypes to support operational planning.
- Continued professional development across the team, including Devin earning a University of Washington certificate in Power BI, strengthening the department's analytics capabilities.
- Strengthened data governance, AI policy, and privacy safeguards, ensuring technology initiatives align with CJIS requirements and community expectations.

SPD Holds Leadership Training with Gonzaga University

SPD hosted its very first Executive Leadership Retreat for first line supervisors on December 12, 2025. It wasn't an easy task to bring the department Sergeants together for a day of learning and comradery. Sergeants play a key part in every operation of the department staffing: from investigations, patrol, and specialty teams. Operations do not stand still, even when key team members are pulled from the mix, but the benefits have already been felt by the agency. Gonzaga University played host and leadership guide for the day's retreat at Hemmingson Center. A key component of the training was allowing Sergeants to step away from their duties of the day and be allowed to relax, talk, and learn. This change of scenery gave these professionals and the opportunity to reflect, share stories, and reimagine their role in the department as a group.

Gonzaga's Director of Leadership Training brought a skilled team of instructors to lead the retreat. This team came prepared with a breadth of global experience in leadership, conflict resolution, and team

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building. A tailored curriculum was presented to the leaders of the department to revitalize and affirm their importance to the agency, their team, and the community. Topics included “Adaptive Leadership,” “Everyone as a Leader,” “Leadership Starts with You,” “Effective Communication,” and wrapped up with “Commitments to Actionable Leadership.” Each course and discussion was tailored to the Sergeants and the organization to further strengthen the amazing qualities of our department’s leaders.

While the commitment of bringing Sergeants from across the department and shifts was, for some, a significant sacrifice – the training was well received and worth the investment. Sergeants lauded the time dedicated solely to their position. One of the exceptional highlights of the day was the donation of lunch on site provided by the generosity of the Spokane Police Foundation. The incredible atmosphere at Gonzaga’s premier location was key. The setting allowed Sergeants to step out of the pressure of their job free the expectations of their daily grind and really focus on self-improvement and building a joint vision.

There was a great sense of accomplishment after the training that is seen in a renewed sense of ownership in the agency by our first-line supervisors. Building a strong core of excellence in leadership is a high priority for the department. Every member is a leader in SPD and an ongoing partnership with Gonzaga University’s Leadership School is developing into new opportunities for 2026.

SPD Launches Kindness 911 Program

Spokane Police Department joined the Kindness 911 program on June 17, 2025. Kindness 911 is a nonprofit support organization connecting local law enforcement agencies with those they directly serve. Through thoughtful and intentional Kindness Citations, officers bring recognition to individuals/groups for their genuine, positive impact on their community.

Reserve Officer Ed Richardson, known as “Big Ed,” was one of the first individuals to participate in the program. Within a week of the program starting, he was featured in a Spokesman-Review article, “Spokane police officers are ramping up their citations – not for crimes, but acts of kindness,” dated June 25. The article highlighted the program and his efforts to engage with people in a deeper way to build connections and pathways for people to feel safe and comfortable talking to police. The article was shared nationally by Kindness 911 and was featured by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). Officer Richardson was also recognized as one of five Kindness Cop of the Year for 2025.



Since then, SPD members have given out dozens of kindness citations. The citations are shown on the department’s Facebook page as well as Kindness 911’s Facebook page.

SPD Unveils New Public Data Dashboard That Offers Near Real-Time Information with Searchable Parameters

The Spokane Police Department is pleased to announce a new online platform that will allow community members to view and in certain cases, search for data reference crime statistics. This new program replaces the previous reporting method by creating user friendly dashboards that will update daily.

Visit the new program online here:

<https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjojNGQxN2NjNTQtZjA1Yy00YWVmLTlhYjYtMGQ4Y2NhYTQ3MDVmliwidCI6Ijk1ZmExZDZILTZhMjctNDk2ZS05MTE3LWZjMzRkOTA3NjY2MSJ9>



Public Data Hub

Spokane Police Department

Calls For Service

Shows overall trends in 911 calls, Crime Check reports, and officer-initiated activity. This dashboard highlights changes in total call volume over time, helping illustrate how Spokane Police Department resources are used across different types of calls.

Traffic and Collisions

Displays data on traffic enforcement and collisions within Spokane. View trends in traffic stops and violations, explore collision locations on a city map, and filter results by severity, contributing factors, or other details. This dashboard supports awareness of roadway safety and enforcement efforts in our community.

Reported Offenses

Displays criminal offenses reported to the Spokane Police Department, organized by FBI NIBRS categories. It reflects reports that meet federal crime-reporting standards and helps the public understand overall crime patterns in Spokane.

Chief Kevin Hall said, "The launch of our public-facing crime dashboard signifies an important step in SPD's ongoing commitment to transparency. We aim to provide our community with clear, timely, and accessible information about the public safety issues that concern them. This dashboard continues our efforts to share various data points, build trust, and collaborate with residents to keep our city safe."



Explosive Disposal Unit (EDU) Responds to 100+ Calls and Acquires a Bomb Detection Canine

In 2025, the Explosives Disposal Unit (EDU), a joint city / county team, logged over 100 responses. With a variety of calls including commercial explosives recoveries, improvised explosive devices, suspicious packages, post blast investigations, and special events / venue sweeps, EDU has consistently contributed to the safety and security of the community.

While many of the calls for service were technical assistance such as robotics and explosives breaching for the Spokane City and County SWAT teams, the majority of the calls were explosives related. A typical EDU callout involves an initial response of two bomb technicians to determine the nature of the incident and what resources would be needed to safely resolve the call, with added bomb techs if needed. Additionally, Spokane EDU serves as the regional law enforcement representative for all explosives related matters covering 21 counties in Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho. Washington State and Spokane EDU consistently rank near the top of the list with explosives related incidents and bomb squad responses in comparison with the rest of the nation.

In 2025, Spokane PD SIU established an explosives detection canine (EDC) program. The SIU detective assigned to the explosives detection canine will assist in searches for firearm related items and will assist EDU with special event / venue sweeps, post blast investigations, and explosives detection as needed. The K9 handler, Detective Austin, graduated from the EDC training course in Tuscaloosa, Alabama in December 2025.

SPD Holds Posttraumatic Growth Classes

Spokane Police Department partnered with the Boulder Crest Foundation (BCF) to offer Struggle Well Posttraumatic Growth classes to the department and to area agencies. A class in September was held for SPD's Senior staff leadership and area agencies, and a November class trained another group of SPD employees.

Struggle Well is a prevention-focused program based on the science of Posttraumatic Growth designed for first responders. Posttraumatic growth (PTG) is a positive mental health transformation that can happen after trauma and help our officers understand that struggles can become a catalyst for change. PTG offers proven practices to improve mental health, to regulate thoughts, feelings, and actions, metabolize stress, and to respond — rather than react — to life.



The program was developed in collaboration with Dr. Richard Tedeschi, the founder of PTG, and is exclusively delivered by BCF and its certified instructors. The organization maintains sole intellectual

property rights to the curriculum, training methodology, and participant resources. BCF's program has a demonstrated track record of success with law enforcement agencies, showing reported measurable outcomes in officer wellbeing, peer engagement, and cultural transformation. Since the founding of BCF, they have trained over 100,000 individuals. BCF has research showing the success of their programs.

The November class participants completed pre- and post- training surveys, and the results showed the training was successful.

- 100% of the participants reported that the class met their expectations.
- Participants rated the instructors between 4.75 and 5 on a scale from 1-5.
- Participants experienced an average of 87.3% increase of posttraumatic growth (greater appreciation of life, open to new possibilities) after the class.
- Participants rated their quality of life 24.76% higher after taking the class, using the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving Scale (CSASS).

Investigations Division is Recognized for Outstanding Work

The Investigations Division has celebrated many accomplishments this year, from external awards to many noteworthy arrests and case closures.

2025 Homicide Rate Declines Sharply

SPD detectives worked 10 homicides in 2025, a 50% reduction from 2024. In 2024, there were 20 homicides in Spokane. SPD achieves a 93-94% homicide clearance rate, which is nearly double the national average.

Cold Case from 1997 Solved

In November, the Spokane Police Department identified the suspect in the 1997 murder of Margaret Anselmo. On the morning of January 3, 1997, Margaret's body was found in an alley way near 700 E Pacific. Investigators found evidence of severe head trauma as well as indications of sexual assault. The Spokane County Medical Examiner would rule the cause of death as homicide due to blunt force trauma to the head. Detectives worked tirelessly on the case but were unable to link a suspect to her murder. As time went on, SPD detectives would receive assistance from a company specializing in Forensic Genetic Genealogy.

Brian J. Anderson of Pend Oreille County, now deceased, was identified through the utilization of Forensic Genetic Genealogy (FGG). Evidence preserved from the scene was sent to Othram in The Woodlands, TX where a profile was developed. Lynda Keenan, a local genealogist who volunteered to assist the Spokane Police Department with FGG cases, identified relatives of the profile. Detectives contacted those relatives and asked for their assistance.

Family members provided DNA and family context. They expressed concern for the plight of Anselmo's surviving family and a desire to help. Othram performed kinship analysis of their DNA as well, finding that one family member was the child of the suspect and another the half-brother. The only person that can



meet both these criteria is Brian J. Anderson. If he were alive today, the Spokane Police Department would seek 1st Degree Murder and 1st Degree Rape charges against Anderson.

Employees Recognized by Secret Service

Officer Ryan Snider and Detective Tim Schwering are graduates of the National Computer Forensics Institute. Neil Uhrig, the regional coordinator for the Secret Service partner program, lauded Snider and Schwering for their outstanding work. Officer Ryan Snider was recognized for having the highest volume of data (over 70TB) for our entire region for the 2025 fiscal year. Detective Tim Schwering authored the most reports for our entire region for the 2025 fiscal year.



Employees Recognized by Local and National Prosecutors

Spokane Police Detectives received letters of commendation from local and national prosecutors on their investigations. In a case of child rape, Prosecuting Attorney Emily K. Sullivan wrote, “The outcome would not have been possible without the high level of investigation” [from Detective Austin Toal.]

Regarding a case with multiple charges, including possession with intent to distribute large quantities of fentanyl and methamphetamine, U.S. Attorney Earl A. Hicks wrote, “I first want to thank you for the outstanding job that you and the other members of the SPD did on this case and what a pleasure it was working with your team.” Investigators included Chris McMurtrey, Brian Eckersley, Mark Brownell, Dale Harvey, Sam Chimienti, Shawn Pegram, Juan Rodriguez, Lydia Taylor, Doug Strosahl, Adam Valdez, and Nate Gobble.

Human Trafficking Case Results in Arrest and Seizure

One recent human trafficking case, in collaboration with our federal partners, resulted in the arrest of a drug dealing sex predator and a large seizure of cash and drugs. The suspect was bringing cocaine to Spokane from western Washington and dealing drugs to underage youth here. Last December, he traded cocaine for sex with several 15- and 16-year-old females from Hayden Idaho. He transported them via Uber to Spokane.

On December 4, 2025, SPD got a search warrant for the suspect’s residence, vehicle and person. On December 8, 2025, HSI Seattle assisted with serving SPD’s search warrant in Granite Falls, WA. An estimated 2,000 pounds of marijuana, a kilogram of methamphetamine, large quantities of Codeine, MDMA and other pills were located in the house. \$124,000 cash was also found in the suspect’s bedroom. SPD arrested the suspect, seized his phones and cash and HSI Seattle took custody of the drugs for federal prosecution.

The suspect, Jeremy Lennon, was booked into the Spokane County Jail on charges of Commercial Sexual Abuse of a Minor and Distribution of a controlled substance to a minor. The US Attorney’s Office is considering federal prosecution for this case. Detectives Elijah Hayward and Nate Gobble were recognized for their great work.

Spokane City Council Votes to Prohibit Virtual Currency Kiosks

In June, 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.

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.”

“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.”

Through the passed ordinance, a new Chapter 10.90 is added to Title 10 of the Spokane Municipal Code, titled “Virtual Currency.”

SPD Implements New Critical Incident Video Release Process

In October, Spokane Police Department announced an important update to its public communication process following critical incidents. Beginning with the officer-involved shooting that occurred on January 24, 2025, SPD began releasing contextualized video summaries as soon as legally permissible after such events. This effort is part of the department’s ongoing commitment to transparency, public trust, and timely communication.

The new video format provides a narrated overview of the incident, including 911 audio, radio recordings, and available body-worn camera footage when relevant. It is designed to offer important context to the public while ensuring the integrity of any ongoing investigations. All raw and unedited materials used in the video remain available through the standard public records request process, as required by RCW 42.56 (Public Records Act).



“We recognize the community’s need for answers during difficult events such as deadly uses of force,” said Chief Kevin Hall. “By sharing critical information as soon as responsibly possible, we hope to build understanding, foster trust, and reinforce our commitment to public service. This new process reflects our efforts to provide the public with timely, accurate, and respectful communication during significant events affecting our community.

From January 1 – December 31, 2025, there were two deadly force incidents. The contextualized video summaries are available at the links below.

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. <https://vimeo.com/1084741188/5111bd3a7d>

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. <https://vimeo.com/1121351762/6c9730956a>

Hiring and Retention

As of December 30, 2025, Spokane Police Department was authorized for 351 officer positions. 343 were filled, resulting in a 98% vacancy rate. There were 110 professional staff positions filled with 7 vacancies: 4 Dispatchers, 1 Records Specialist, 1 Digital Forensics, and 1 Information Technology Analyst. Three professional staff positions were eliminated in 2025.

With the help of Partners, SPD Adopts 22 Families for the Holidays

Through the Spokane Police Foundation, with help from Les Schwab Tires, RESCU, Teen & Kid Closet, and community partners, SPD adopted 22 families for the holidays, helping some of the most vulnerable kids in our community.



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In addition to all the sponsors who support the Spokane Police Foundation at the Breakfast with the Chief event, friends of officers and local teachers donated gifts for families. Christian Brothers Automotive donated auto work for one of the families. Les Schwab is a primary donor for this program, but Responders Emergency Services Credit Union (RESCU) was also involved every step of the way – shopping, wrapping, and delivering gifts, etc. Several Police Foundation board members were involved, as well as Chaplains.



Sergeant Trevor Winters and Officer Jen Kerns worked tirelessly to support families who were struggling. Families were recommended by patrol officers, school counselors, and community centers. Some of the families had been through traumatic things like house fires. Some of the children were in protective custody (not pictured). Other families were referred to us because finances were tight but there were some great things to celebrate, like Mom finishing her degree and starting a new job and families getting into better housing. Jen worked closely with families to improve their circumstances.



Thank you to Les Schwab, Stone Group of Companies, Jacquelin Maycumber, Windermere - Marie Pence, Spokane International Airport, Greater Spokane Community Safety Initiative, Associated General Contractors, Ashlee Cribb & Walt Woliver, Teen & Kid Closet, Baker Construction & Development, Washington Trust Bank, Windermere - Nadine Woodward, RESCU, First Interstate Bank, Windermere Services Mountain West, Jim & Gretchen McDevitt, Premera Blue Cross, Witherspoon Brajcich McPhee, Downtown Spokane Partnership, Greater Spokane Inc., Copper Creek Landscaping and Construction, Garco Construction, Avista, Galls, MultiCare, Rosauers and Wendle Motors.



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