

# Spokane Police Department

## Strategic Initiatives May 2026 Report



## Excerpts of Commendations

(Personal Identifying Information has been removed)

I recently had the opportunity to complete a ride along with **Officer [Ryan] Andrews** through Leadership Spokane on March 6, and I wanted to share my appreciation for the experience. During the time I spent with him, I was struck by how Officer Andrews interacted with members of the community. He approached each interaction with calm, respect, and a clear desire to help. As someone who works closely with families and community systems in Spokane, I particularly appreciated how he balanced professionalism with genuine humanity. That kind of presence matters deeply in building trust between community members and those who serve them. In a role where every interaction shapes how the community experiences public safety, Officer Andrews demonstrated the kind of professionalism and care that builds trust. He was also exceptionally generous with his time and knowledge. He welcomed my presence, thoughtfully answered my questions, and took time to explain the work as it was unfolding. His willingness to share insight into the realities of the job made the experience both meaningful and educational. Opportunities like this are incredibly valuable for community members. I left with a deeper appreciation for the complexity of the work and for the people who carry it out each day with professionalism and care. Please extend my sincere thanks to Officer Andrews. I am grateful for the opportunity to spend part of a shift with someone who represents the profession with such thoughtfulness and integrity.

I misplaced my keys and **Officers [Brandon] Matlock** and **[Brandon] Mackabee** were so wonderful and came to my aid with encouragement and participation in finding them. The use of their time and flashlight, getting down on the ground and looking under the car and running after the employee who was taking the carts back in the store, they went well above and beyond the call of duty, to save a 55-year-old woman with a lack of sleep, who apparently can't keep track of her keys. Kudos to both of them and my appreciation is beyond grateful. Thank you both.

After working a 14-hour shift at the hospital I got stuck at the top of 5 Mile hill trying to get home. I didn't get the name of the officer who helped me get moving again because I didn't want to get stuck again, but I hope he knows he made my night by helping me get going while everyone else just went around me. Thank you!!!! Spokane's finest are my heroes! I tip my hat to the work you do and the kindness you show even when it's not part of the job. Be safe and best wishes, lots of gratefulness and support from a very tired nurse.

## 2026 Officer-Involved Shootings

From January 1 – March 31, 2026, there was one deadly force incident.

### **Incident FD26-001 / 2026-20035543:**

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.

### **Information from the SIIR Press Release:**

On February 24th, 2026, at approximately 11pm, Spokane Police Officers responded to the 1800 block of West Carlisle Avenue. Information gathered in the North Spokane homicide on the 22nd at the Appletree Inn led detectives to identify a suspect reportedly staying at this location. Due to the high-risk nature of the investigation and with information the suspect was armed, specialty units were called to assist, including Spokane Police SWAT. Officers identified a male believed to be one of the suspects in the homicide at this location. Additional information was obtained by officers on scene that confirmed they had located the correct individual and that he was armed with a firearm.

Detectives applied for and were granted a search warrant and several attempts to contact the suspect were made by the Spokane Police Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT). The male suspect was uncooperative and was observed several times exiting and re-entering the location with what appeared to be a firearm in his hands. Continued attempts to contact the male were made but were unsuccessful. Rather than complying with commands, the suspect attempted to breach the police perimeter by fleeing through neighboring yards carrying what appeared to be a long gun. The suspect encountered police, and an officer involved use of deadly force occurred.

Officers began life saving measures until medics arrived and took over, but the suspect succumbed to his injuries at the scene. Thankfully, no community members or officers were injured during this event.

The Spokane Independent Investigative Response Team (SIIR) protocol is available. Click here to learn more about SIIR.

<https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/police/accountability/siir-2023-protocol.pdf>

A list of all officer-involved shootings and fatalities from 2013-2025 is available on our website. Click here to see the list.

<https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/police/accountability/2013-2025-deadly-force-incidents-and-fatalities.pdf>

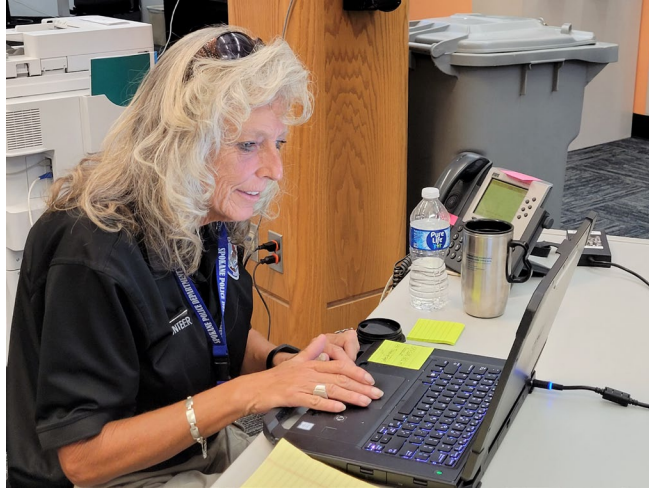
## Celebrating SPD's Volunteers

In 2025, SPD Volunteers gave 21,876 hours to the department. Using \$20.00 as a minimum wage, this equates to an impressive \$437,520.00.

SPD Volunteers range in age from 14 to 85 and have a variety of backgrounds, from students, business owners, former military, pilots and former FBI agents. With these diverse backgrounds, they all share one thing in common - a desire to help our department and serve the citizens of Spokane. The volunteers are responsible for a range of responsibilities from working the information booth and front desks at the Public Safety Building and the Gardner Building, supporting the Police Activities League program, working community events such as Bloomsday and Lilac Parade, and assisting officers on patrol. SPD also has many volunteer chaplains.



Two volunteer Reserve Officers pose with children at the St. Patrick's Day Parade.



A volunteer works on her laptop

SPD's Citizen Volunteer of the Year was retired Sergeant Ron Tilley! He drives the antique car in local parades and displays it for special events. In addition, he is also a very important member of the department's Honor Guard. Below, Ron is pictured in his Honor Guard uniform, getting his award from Chief Kevin Hall.



Chief Kevin Hall stands with Citizen Volunteer Ron Tilley

Spokane Police Department Volunteers are shown here going to an Easter Egg hunt at the Northeast Community Center.



A Reserve Officer stands with two children at an Easter Egg Hunt

## Youth Internet Safety Presentations

Detective Tim Schwering is leading a Youth Internet Safety community education campaign. Detective Schwering investigates financial fraud cases, especially cases involving cryptocurrency. Over the last two years, he delivered more than 100 outreach presentations on crypto scams in our community.

Recently, he has had to investigate crypto scams involving child sexual abuse material. After learning how prevalent this issue is, with so many victims in Spokane, Detective Schwering is trying to get the message out to parents and guardians:

- How adults are enticing kids through apps (Roblox, Snapchat, Discord, IG, etc.)

- How to prevent victimization
- And what to do if your child or someone you know is victimized (resources, etc.)

If you would like to schedule a meeting or presentation, please email Detective Schwering at [tschwering@spokanepolice.org](mailto:tschwering@spokanepolice.org).

## SPD Officers in the Community

SPD Neighborhood Resource Officer Scott Hice loved participating in the Trash Bash in the West Central neighborhood. Neighbors came together to clean up the area, and they packed away a ton of trash! Way to go!



Above, a group of people are gathered in the West Central neighborhood of Spokane, in front of a garbage dumpster full of trash. Spokane Police Officer Scott Hice is standing on the left-hand side.

Community Outreach Officer Jen Kerns has been leading an educational dance program with the support of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Educational Foundation. The purpose of the program is to provide youth opportunities to participate in fun activities while learning. Youth can participate for free, due to the sponsorship of the DEA Educational Foundation. It is a program in partnership with the Spokane Police Foundation and Inspirations Dance Studio.

Officer Jen says, “We have had such a great time being able to offer families the opportunity to dance for free. Our opportunity to speak with the youth about avoiding substances, BHI (Bullying, Harassment and Intimidation), problem solving, family safety planning, leadership, and strong decision making has been well worth it!”

Below, children in the program learn a new dance.

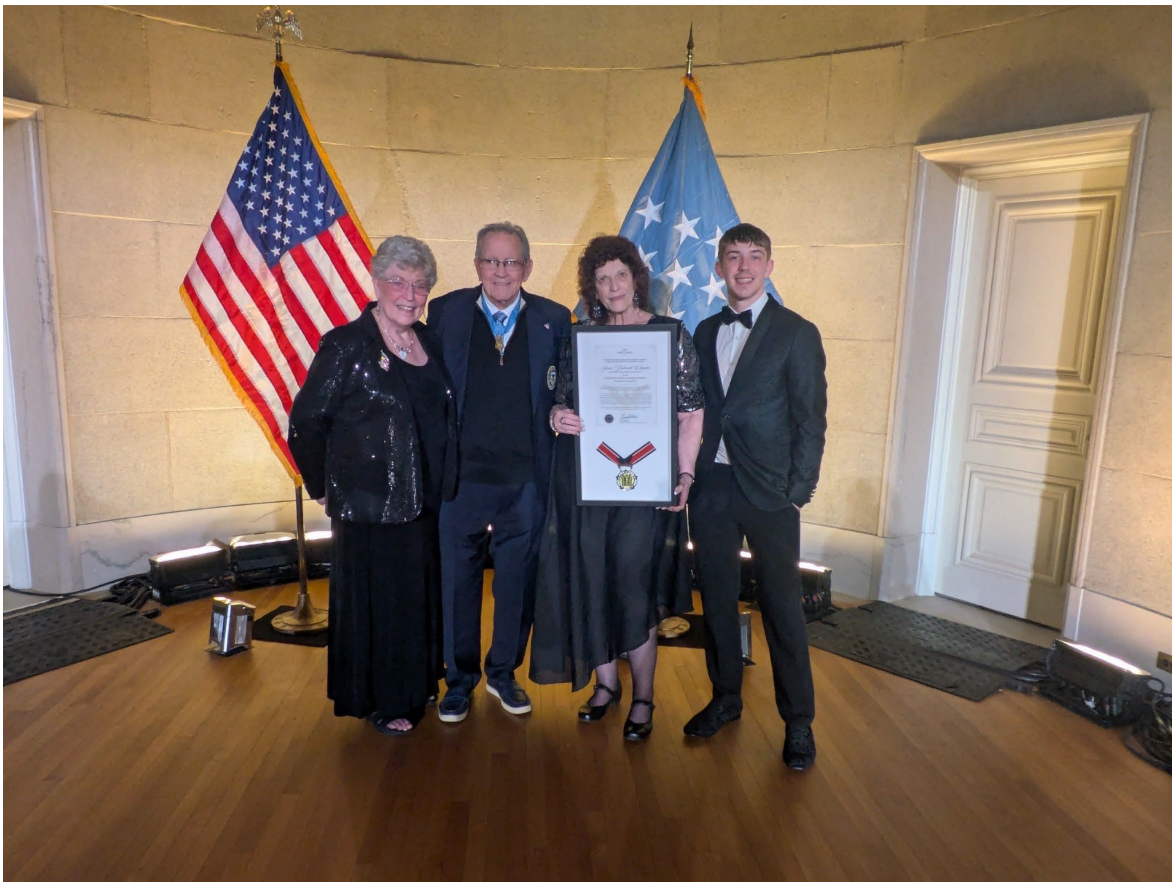


Children in the DEA Educational Foundation Dance Program

## SPD Volunteers Recognized as Citizen Honorees – Congressional Medal of Honor

SPD Citizen Volunteer Sue Walker and former SPD Volunteer Rae Anna Victor were able to travel to Washington D.C. for all-expense paid trip to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor as Citizen Honorees. Their chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Jonas Babcock Chapter, was the recipient of the 2026 Community Service Award.

Both women also volunteer for the Spokane Law Enforcement Museum and the Law Enforcement Memorial Project, in addition to the DAR. Sue and RaeAnna have been involved with SPD for over 50 years. Sue and her husband, retired SPD officer Bob Walker, are longtime volunteers. Rae Anna was one of SPD's first Reserve Officers, back in 1976. Below, Sue Walker stands with Major General Henry Brady, Rae Anna Victor, and Rae Anna's grandson Dominic Victor.



Four people stand in front of American flags

For more than 50 years, the Jonas Babcock Chapter has been dedicated to honoring America's military service members and veterans through monument preservation, historic markers, advocacy, and hands-on service locally.

This organization is involved in things like supporting the VA Homeless Veteran Program with thousands of dollars in donations, as well as creating and dedicating monuments and historical markers to Medal of Honor recipients, WWII pilots, and Tuskegee Airmen. They have honored over 600 veterans from WWII, Korea, and Vietnam through ceremonies, certificates, and commemorative pins. Their advocacy led to the naming of the Spokane VA Medical Center in honor of Medal of Honor recipients Joe Mann and Bruce Grandstaff.

Below, Rae Anna and Sue at a Spokane Police Department Awards Ceremony.



Two volunteers stand together

**“Serving our community with Integrity, Professionalism,  
and Compassion”**