



## Yakima Police Department



## 2015 Annual Report

*Honor Courage Integrity Fidelity*

# *Dedicated to Excellence*

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*We are dedicated to providing  
outstanding police services, delivering  
peace of mind, and improving the  
quality of life for those in our  
community.*

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*Sgt. Ira Cavin*

# Message from the Chief



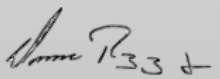
*I am* truly honored to be the police chief of the Yakima Police Department. The men and women of this department continue their tireless commitment, professionalism, and dedication to this department and community each and every day. I realize contemporary policing can be extremely challenging in today's atmosphere. However, the men and women of the Yakima Police Department accept those challenges and continually strive for improvement.

We continue to build on our philosophy that the foundation of our effectiveness begins with the strong values of community involvement and collaboration, which leads to public trust and the support we enjoy.

In 2015, we improved our public relations platform, which included, Coffee with a Cop, Roll Call Cookout, and a Youth Academy. Due to the overwhelming positive community feedback, we will enhance those positive public interaction programs in 2016.

I look forward to the challenges of 2016, and beyond. And I do so with a sense of pride and confidence in the abilities of the professional men and women of this department and with the sureness of community support.

I respectfully submit the Yakima Police Department's 2015 Annual Report for your review. I would like to thank the men and women of this department and the community for their support in 2015. We look forward to continued success, together, in 2016.

  
**Dominic Rizzi Jr.**  
Chief of Police



# City of Yakima: *About our City*



*Above: Downtown Yakima, WA*

Yakima has been the cultural, business, educational, health services, and governmental focal point of the Central Washington region since it was founded 130 years ago in 1886. Originally built along the new Northern Pacific Railway company line, Yakima has grown from its agricultural roots to become a vibrant, diverse metropolitan city.

Agriculture still drives the Yakima economy. Apples and other tree fruits, like cherries, peaches, pears, nectarines, and apricots are grown here. Mint, asparagus, hay, berries, and eggplant are also among the more than 30 varieties of fruits and vegetables that come from the Yakima Valley. Additionally, our region produces about 78% of all of the hops grown in the United States.

More than 250 manufacturing firms are also located in the Yakima area producing a variety of products including aircraft parts, wood products, plastic products, recreational vehicles, and communications technology. Tourism is the fastest growing segment of the Yakima economy. More than 70 wineries are located in the Yakima Valley and regularly draw visitors from near and far. Outdoor recreation, including water and snow skiing, fishing, boating, hiking, horseback riding, and white water rafting, also makes Yakima a favorite destination for people from throughout the Northwest and around the world.

Yakima is the largest city in Yakima County with a population of about 93,000, making it the 10th largest city in Washington State. Most of the people who founded Yakima were of European descent, although significant numbers of African-Americans and Asian-Americans homesteaded here as well. Relatively recently, the Yakima Valley has experienced a large influx of Latino immigrants. Today, the Yakima community enjoys a rich mixture of people from many cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

With its beautiful weather, central location, relatively low cost of living, and strong sense of community, Yakima is the Heart of Central Washington.

*In 2015, Yakima Police Department employed 182 people. 139 of these employees are commissioned law enforcement officers, and 43 are civilian personnel.*

# Fundamental Mission



## Mission and Focus: *Dedicated to Excellence*

The principal mission of the Yakima Police Department is the preservation of life and property, to reduce fear in the community through the prevention and detection of crime, protection of persons and property, the maintenance of order in public places, to anticipate and respond to events that threaten public order, and to preserve the rights of the citizens.

## Guiding *Principals*

- *Honor*
- *Courage*
- *Integrity*
- *Fidelity*



## Our *Values*

### *People*

Our fundamental duty is the protection of, and service to, our community.

### *Oath*

Our uncompromising vow to the citizens and ourselves to uphold liberty, equality, and justice.

### *Loyalty*

To our community, the department, the badge, and to each other.

### *Impartiality*

Serving the citizens of our community equally with fairness, dignity, and respect.

### *Commitment*

To the highest ethical standards of law enforcement and personal responsibility.

### *Excellence*

This is our standard. We will accept nothing less than exemplary conduct that honors our oath, our profession, and those that have come before us.

*Sgt. Jim Moore*



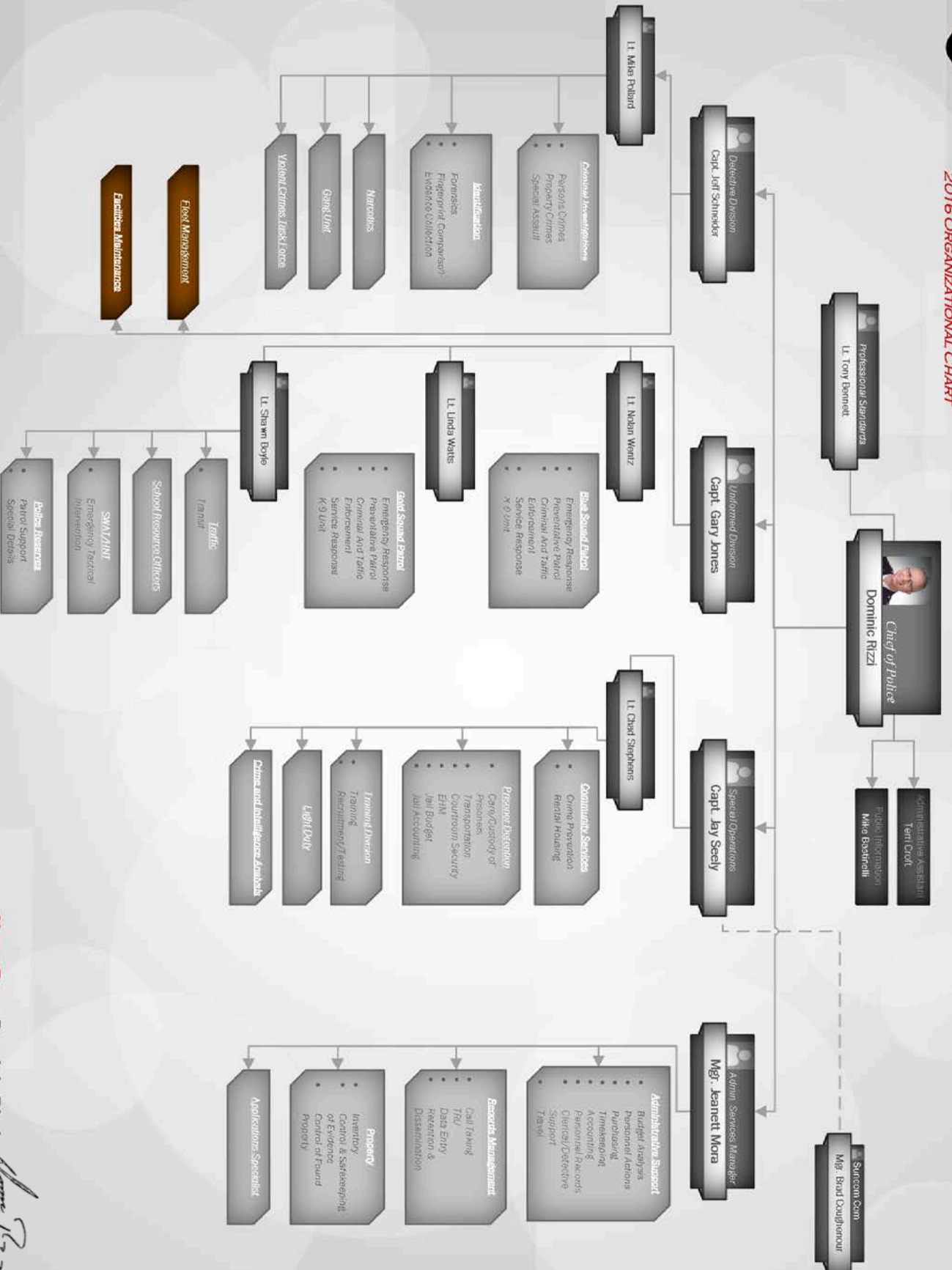


# Yakima Police Department

2016 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Updated: 5/2016

2016 Organizational Chart





# Personnel Updates



## New Employees

### **Officers:**

Shane Stevie  
Travis Shephard  
Eric Jones  
Connor Ehr  
Josh Molineux  
Creston Grant  
Bryce Hodson  
Juan Laredo  
Matthew Drumheller  
Jeremy Soptich  
Lukas Hinton  
Jacob Scott  
Ryan Avery  
Victor Magana  
Nicolaus Johnson

### **Records:**

Anthony Ivey  
Patricia Lopez  
Mike Bastinelli  
Stephanie Hubert

## Promotions

### **Sworn:**

Gary Jones (Captain)  
Jay Seely (Captain)  
Linda Watts (Lieutenant)  
Shawn Boyle (Lieutenant)  
Joe Deccio (Sergeant)  
Jim Moore (Sergeant)  
Tory Adams (Sergeant)

### **Support Staff:**

Marisol Arteaga (PSL)  
Julie Jacobs (PSL)  
Jeannett Mora (PSL)  
Kelsey Donaldson (PSL)  
Debra Stadler (PSS1)  
Hanna O'Dell (PSS2)  
Charity Johnson (CAS)  
Amber Ross (Evidence Tech)

## Retirements

Mike Kryger – Officer (37 Years of Service)  
Rod Light – Captain (28 Years of Service)  
Elaine Gonzalez- Officer (28 Years of Service)  
Mitzi Sluys – Case Spl (26 Years of Service)  
Greg Copeland- Captain (25 Years of Service)  
Lloyd George – Sergeant (25 Years of Service)





# Employee Recognition



## Officer of the Year



Ofc. Jeff Ely

Officer Jeff Ely was selected as the 2015 Yakima Police Department Officer of the Year. Officer Ely is assigned to the Patrol Division where he works "A" Squad working in various areas of the city and serves as a Field Training Officer.

In 2015, Officer Ely participated in the summer bicycle patrol, where he and his partner were extremely proactive and made over 100 arrests in the short duration of the assignment. Officer Ely consistently leads his squad in arrests, rarely receives a complaint, and commonly receives accolades for his outstanding performance. Officer Ely has a reputation as a confident, capable police officer who is well respected by his peers. In addition to his professional successes, Officer Ely is an outdoor enthusiast and enjoys spending time with his family.

Officer Ely is a professional, competent officer who portrays a positive image for the Yakima Police Department and is recognized as the 2015 Yakima Police Department Officer of the Year.

## Certificate of Excellence



Det. Erik Hampton

Detective Erik Hampton was one of three officers nominated for Officer of the Year for the Yakima Police Department. During 2015, Detective Hampton was assigned to the Violent Offender Task Force (VOTF). His assignment includes locating and arresting violent offenders in the Pacific Northwest. Detective Hampton is instrumental in planning tactical operations for the team and is well respected by the team members.

In September 2015, Detective Hampton coordinated the evacuation of an officer who had had been shot. The injured officer was evacuated and the suspect was later arrested after a lengthy SWAT callout. Officers at the scene credited Detective Hampton's actions with helping resolve this incident without any other officers being injured. In addition to his primary duty assignment, Detective Hampton serves as the Yakima SWAT Team Leader and is actively involved in the Washington State Tactical Officer's Association often teaching classes throughout the state.

Detective Hampton is being awarded the Certificate of Excellence for his excellence in police work and his willingness to accept additional duties and responsibilities.

# Employee Recognition



## Certificate of Excellence



*Det. Mike Durbin*

Detective Mike Durbin was one of three officers nominated for Officer of the Year for the Yakima Police Department. During 2015, Detective Durbin was assigned to the Special Assault Unit investigating Crimes Against Children, Domestic Violence incidents and Sexual Assaults.

Detective Durbin had an outstanding clearance arrest rate for serious crimes he was assigned. In addition to his investigator duties, Detective Durbin gave numerous community presentations, educational presentations and instructed Yakima Police in-service classes related to investigative topics. Detective Durbin is highly respected by his peers. Detective Durbin is awarded the Certificate of Excellence for his excellence in police work and willingness to accept additional duties and responsibilities.



### ***Additional Employee Awards:***

Brad Althausen – Certificate of Merit  
Philip Amici – Lifesaving Ribbon  
Mark Dole – Lifesaving Ribbon  
Jeff Ely – Certificate of Excellence  
Scott Gronewald – Certificate of Merit  
Tarin Miller – Lifesaving Ribbon  
Jeff Nelson – Lifesaving Ribbon  
Thomas Tovar – Certificate of Merit  
Garrett Walk – Certificate of Merit  
Garrett Walk – Lifesaving Ribbon  
Mark Williams – Certificate of Merit  
Mark Williams – Lifesaving Ribbon  
SWAT – Certificate of Merit  
SWAT – Certificate of Merit



### ***FBI-LEEDA Trilogy Awards***

Capt. Gary Jones	Sgt. Kelly Willard
Capt. Jay Seely	Sgt. David Cortez
Lt. Chad Stephens	Sgt. Uriel Mendoza
Lt. Linda Watts	Sgt. Chance Belton
Lt. Shawn Boyle	Sgt. Ritchie Fowler
Sgt. James Moore	





# Volunteer Program and Events



## Coffee with a Cop

**Coffee with a Cop** gives citizens an opportunity to meet with Yakima Police Officers for coffee and conversation. There is no agenda, just a chance for the public to get to know the officers that serve in Yakima neighborhoods. Our first Coffee with a Cop was held at the McDonalds at South First Street and Nob Hill Boulevard. There was a great turn out of both cops and citizens. YPD held four more CWAC events in 2015, as well as a BBQ with the Cops at The Range at Tactical Supply. The Yakima Police Department is building relationships with the community one cup at a time.



## Heroes and Helpers



On December 15<sup>th</sup>, seventeen officers from the Yakima Police Department volunteered their time to participate in the fourth annual “Heroes and Helpers” event hosted by the Yakima Target Store. “Heroes and Helpers” is a program in which uniformed officers take children shopping for Christmas. Officers from the department recommend children throughout the year for this event. The Yakima Target store donated 17 gift cards to the shoppers and let them into the store before it opened to the public. The children can spend the gift cards on themselves or family and friends. The officers assist by making gift suggestions and help keep track of the amount spent. Most of the officers reached deep into their own pockets when it came time to check out. After the children completed their shopping, officers helped with gift wrapping. Year after year, officers look forward to this program and it is one that we hope to continue for many years to come.





# Volunteer Program and Events



## Special Olympics LE Events

The Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics is the movement's largest grass-roots fundraiser and public awareness vehicle. At its most basic level the Torch Run is an actual running event, in which officers and athletes run the Flame of Hope™ to the Opening Ceremonies of local Special Olympics competitions and State and National Games.

Yakima Police Department hosts several annual LETR events. We begin our year with the **Polar Plunge** where participants jump into the ice cold water at Sarg Hubbard Park in an effort to raise funds. Next we move onto our **5K Fun Run with the Cops** and enjoy a night time run down Yakima Ave. Then onto a blazing hot roof for **Cop on Top**; officers sit on top of Fred Meyer while our community members help them meet their fundraising goals to come down. In October we join Red Robin as celebrity waiters for **Tip a Cop** and earn their "tips" for Yakima's local athletes.

Aside from raising money for our local athletes, our officers get the pleasure of participating in running the torch across Washington State to the annual Summer Games at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. After arriving at the games they form a Wall of Honor during the Ceremonies to greet the thousands of Special Olympics athletes parading into the Ceremonies.





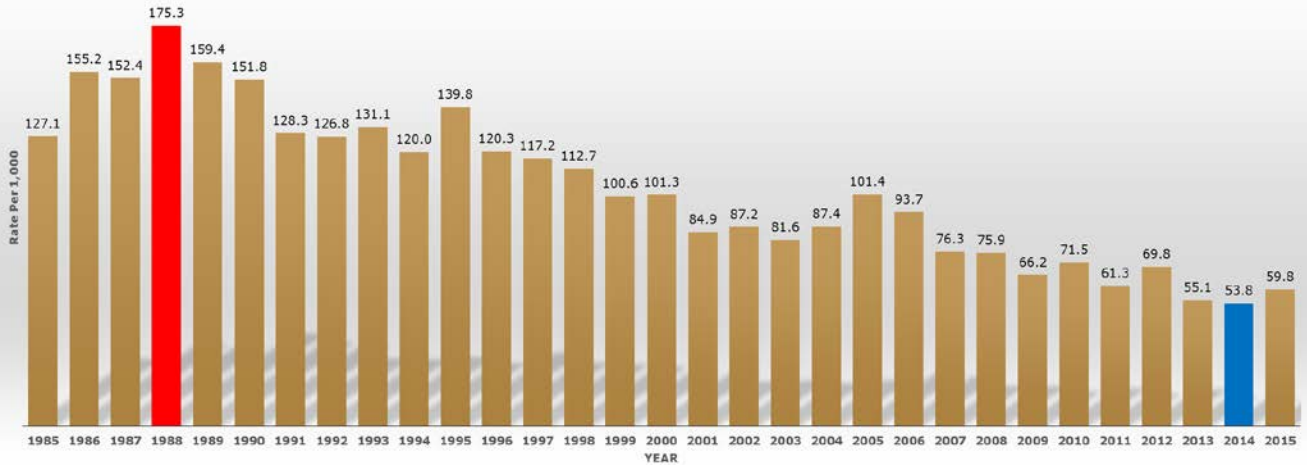
# 2015 Crime *Statistics*



## Part I Crimes\*

30 Year Trend: 1985 - 2015

**Total Part I Rate per 1,000:**



YEAR	2011		2013		2015	
POPULATION	91,630		93,270		93,270	
UCR VIOLENT CRIME	TOTAL	Per 1,000	TOTAL	PER 1,000	TOTAL	PER 1,000
HOMICIDE	6	0.07	9	0.10	7	0.08
RAPE	49	0.53	31	0.33	42	0.45
ROBBERY	156	1.70	149	1.60	127	1.36
ASSAULT	271	2.96	212	2.27	253	2.71
TOTAL	482	5.26	401	4.30	429	4.60

YEAR	2011		2013		2015	
POPULATION	91,630		93,270		93,270	
UCR PROPERTY CRIME	TOTAL	Per 1,000	TOTAL	PER 1,000	TOTAL	PER 1,000
BURGLARY	1619	17.67	1165	12.49	1272	13.64
LARCENY/THEFT	2841	31.01	2953	31.66	3147	33.74
VEHICLE THEFT	660	7.20	602	6.45	700	7.51
ARSON	17	0.19	14	0.15	25	0.27
TOTAL	5137	56.06	4734	50.76	5144	55.15
OVERALL TOTAL	5619	61.32	5135	55.06	5573	59.75



\* The Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) are official data on crime in the United States published by the FBI. This report is divided into two (2) categories, Part I and Part II index crimes. Part I index crimes are the eight most serious crimes (Burglary, Robbery, Homicide, Aggravated Assault, Sexual Assault, Auto Theft, Theft/Larceny, Arson)

# Police *Divisions*



## *Divisions*

- *Special Operations*
- *Services*
- *Professional Standards*
- *Jail*
- *Criminal Investigations*
- *Traffic*



# Special Operations Division



## Overview

The Yakima Police Department Special Operations Division is diverse and consists of Community Services, Training, Crime Analysis, and the City Jail. There is one Captain, one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, one Police Officer, two non-commissioned Community Services Officers, one non-commissioned Crime Analyst, and one Police Services Specialist I in this Division. The Jail has three Corrections Sergeants and ten Corrections Officers. The Special Operations Division fulfills a large number of duties that are essential to the overall operation of the Department.

## Community Services

Crime Free Rental Housing, Block Watch, Child Passenger Safety, and public education are all part of the Community Services Unit. There is one Officer, two non-commissioned Community Services Officers, and one Police Services Specialist I assigned to the unit. This group provides community presentations, station tours, child car seat checks, and organizes public events for the Police Department.

### Block Watch

Block Watch is a program sponsored by the Yakima Police Department to help people organize on a block-by-block basis to prevent crime in their neighborhood. Block Watch is not a patrol function, but a network of neighbors looking out for each other. A police officer patrolling your neighborhood may not recognize a stranger in your yard, but your neighbors would.

The Yakima Police Department has over 100 active Block Watches within the city limits, meaning they have completed all the steps required to form a Block Watch. A big push was made for new Block Watches in East Yakima in 2015, and 11 new blocks were added throughout the city.

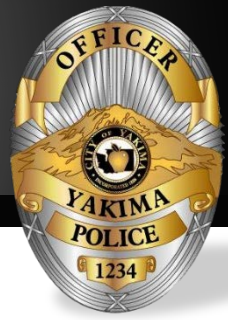
### National Night Out (NNO)

America's Night Out Against Crime takes place annually on the first Tuesday of August. This year's event took place on Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at Franklin Park. This was YPD's 30<sup>th</sup> year hosting the event. This effort promotes involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships, neighborhood camaraderie, and sends a message to criminals, letting them know that neighborhoods are organized in taking a stand against crime and drugs. Yakima celebrated with 19 individual block parties and a community party at Franklin Park sponsored by Yakima Police Department and Yakima County CrimeStoppers. Neighborhood activities include Block parties, cookouts, live music, youth events, and visits from emergency personnel and city officials. The event is in addition to a city-wide push to get Block Watches started in neighborhoods.





# Special Operations Division



## Crime and Intelligence Analysis

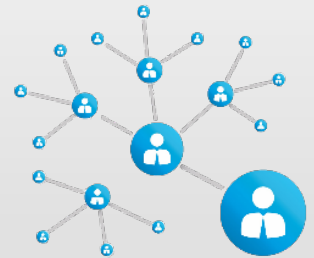
The Crime and Intelligence Unit is focused on both short and long-term data analysis to support Tactical, Strategic, and Administrative Intelligence within the Yakima Police Department. Currently, the unit is made up of a single Crime and Intelligence Analyst. The unit performs analysis on current crime series and patterns as well as providing various forms of investigative support for ongoing cases. Providing pertinent Intelligence for all levels of the Police Department is the primary goal of the unit as it allows the entire agency to focus their efforts and be more aware of what is going on within the purview of their respective jobs. Working in conjunction with Detectives, Gang Unit, and Command staff the Unit provides:

**Intelligence Analysis:** Focus on finding and analyzing criminal relationships by linking criminal organizations or events to determine who is doing what and with whom. Through the use of open-source data mining techniques and code, the unit can uncover pertinent information from Government Databases, Business records, Financial records, Social Media Websites, and various other data repositories.

**Tactical Crime Analysis:** Concerned with immediate criminal offenses to promote a quick response. The goal is to assist operational personnel in the identification and analysis of specific crime trends, series and patterns. Using Statistical Probabilities, Geographic Profiling, and weighted Statistical Measures, the Unit seeks to predict criminal activity and assist in applying appropriate police responses to the issue.

**Strategic Crime Analysis:** Involves analysis of long-term crime problems and trends. Purpose is to identify unusual crime activities in both a temporal and spatial view

**Administrative Crime Analysis:** Involves Analysis related to providing economic, geographic and law enforcement information to police management, city hall, city council, and neighborhood groups.



## Crime Free Rental Housing

The Crime Free Rental Housing program is a partnership between the Yakima Police Department, local landlords, and tenants working together to foster a safer and healthier community in rental housing. Through education and support, the Crime Free Rental Housing program addresses rental-based illegal activities and special needs with the goal of reducing calls for police service and creating a safer and more stable living environment for residents. Illegal activity on or around rental property can have a substantial negative impact to the landlord and to the surrounding neighborhood, including a decline in property values, increased property damage, and loss of rent. Benefits of the CFRH Program include a stable, more satisfied tenant, increased demand for rental property, lower maintenance and repair costs, improved property values, and improved personal safety for renters.



In 2015, the Crime Free Rental Housing program provided 6,934 incident notifications to landlords and had almost 5,100 local properties enrolled in the program.





## Overview

The Yakima Police Department Services Division is comprised of various units, to include Services, Records, Administrative, and Property & Evidence. The division consists of a Police Services Manager, Four Police Service Leads, Four Police Services Specialist II, and 11 Police Services Specialist I. The Services Division provides a variety of support services to the operational divisions of the department, as well as to the public.

## Services and Records

The Police Services Specialists assigned to the Services and Records units are the primary point of public contact for most telephone and walk-in traffic, and are responsible for taking TRU (Telephone Reporting Unit) reports, data entry, records management, and statistical reporting. In addition, they provide various customer services, including the issuance of concealed pistol licenses, performing criminal records checks, fingerprinting for professional licensing, processing warrants, and preparing reports for public disclosure.



In 2015, the Services Division took approximately 7% of reports received by the Police Department as TRU calls. In addition to taking reports, this division issued 2,004 concealed pistol permits, handled 2,780 warrants, and filed 2,086 public disclosure requests. On December 31, 2015, there were 1,693 active warrants, both misdemeanor and felony.

## RICHARD A. ZAIS, JR. CENTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE





## Administrative Services

The Administrative Unit of the Services Division is comprised of five very distinct and diverse roles within the Police Department, to include Finance, Transcription, Electronic Home Monitoring, Timekeeping, and COBAN In-Car Video Systems.

### Finance

The Finance office is staffed by one full time Police Services Specialist II and is responsible for managing the Department's petty cash, processing of department invoices, issuing department personnel City Purchasing Cards, and balancing the till for the Services Unit and the Yakima City Jail. This office is also responsible for preparing budget reports for the department.

### Transcription

The Transcription office is staffed by one full time Police Services Specialist I and is responsible for transcribing all of the more than 900 interviews conducted by the department's Officers and Detectives.

### Electronic Home Detention

The Electronic Home Detention Monitoring office is staffed by one full time Corrections Administrative Specialist and is the point of contact for defendants that are mandated by the Court to participate in Electronic Home Detention. This office also coordinates with the Court and Jail to determine a subject's requirements and eligibility for the program. Program enrollment for 2015 was 298 for EHM and 39 for alcohol monitoring.

### Time Keeping

The Timekeeping office is primarily responsible for processing the department's 187 employee time cards through the TAMS system to ensure accuracy and compliance with FLSA rules. This office works closely with the Payroll officer for the City of Yakima. In addition, the timekeeper is responsible for annual OSHA reporting and injury claims for the department.

### COBAN

The COBAN Office is responsible for processing the requests for COBAN videos and provides them using a file storage and sharing program called Box. This office is also responsible for ordering office supplies for the department, as well as transcribing Spanish interviews conducted by the department's Officers and Detectives.





## Evidence/Property Management Unit



*Property Room*

The personnel of the Property & Evidence Management Unit in the Services Division is responsible for the processing, preservation, destruction, and release of all items collected annually by the Police Department. The Unit is currently staffed by two full time employees, a Police Services Specialist I and a Police Services Lead.

Upholding the security and control of all items in the Unit's control is an essential part of the job. The personnel has been trained in proper storage techniques to ensure that the integrity of property and evidence is maintained and is currently in the process of becoming certified through the International Association of Property & Evidence. A computerized bar coding system, the BEAST, is used to maintain the detailed records necessary to preserve the "chain of custody" of the over 50,000 items of evidence, found property, and property held for safekeeping currently being stored.

Personnel are required to ensure Federal, State, and local law, as well as ordinances are met related to seizures, forfeitures, prisoner property, and lost or found property. Unless an item is contraband or must be held for investigation, every reasonable effort is made to ensure that it is returned to the rightful owner. Items which cannot be returned are disposed. Items may be auctioned online through PropertyRoom.com, donated to local charities, converted to department use when possible, or in the case of contraband and firearms, legally destroyed. In 2015 2,995 items were disposed of by one of these means.

The Unit is also responsible for conducting background checks, preparing items for evidence view and court, and completing data entry into multiple specialized systems, to include, Spillman, the BEAST, DEC, WACIC/NCIC, and E-Trace which is a program that YPD participates in through BATFE.

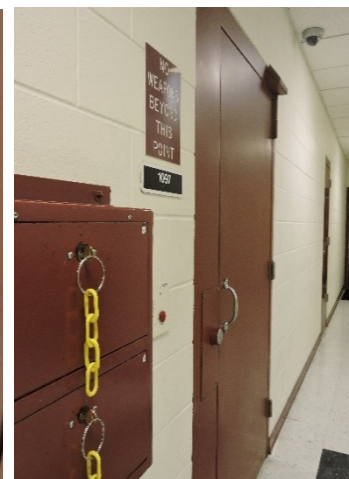
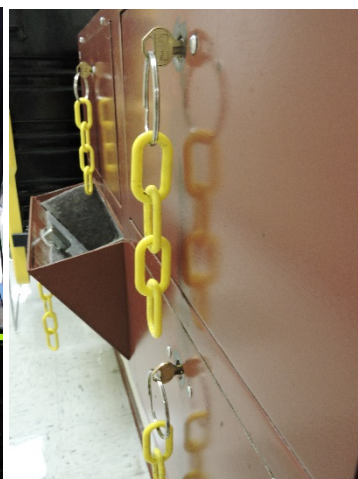




## Professional Standards Office

The Professional Standards Office investigates complaints against Yakima Police Department employees that may come from internal or external sources. Currently, the office is staffed with a single lieutenant. The Professional Standards Office's function is important for the maintenance of professional conduct and risk management. The integrity of the agency depends on the personal integrity and discipline of each employee. To a large degree, the public's image of the agency is determined by the quality of the professional standards function in responding to the allegations of misconduct by the agency or its employees. Agencies having a professional standards function consistent with these standards will have the ability to respond appropriately to allegations of misconduct. We refer to this function as the Professional Standards Office instead of Internal Affairs or Internal Investigations, because we try to instill professional conduct on an ongoing basis instead of simply investigating potential misconduct after the fact.

In 2015, the Professional Standards Office was assigned 27 internal investigations. The complaints are categorized in three ways—professional referrals, internal complaints, and citizen complaints. Two professional referrals, 21 internal complaints, and four citizen complaints were received in 2015. A majority (63%) resulted in a finding of sustained, 22% resulted in a resolution in the employee's favor, 11% remain open, and one investigation was closed.



## Yakima City Jail

The City Jail began operation in 1996, following completion of the Richard A. Zais, Jr. Center for Law and Justice. Before that, the City housed their adult male offenders at the Yakima County Jail.

Under the general supervision of the Special Operations Division Lieutenant and three Corrections Sergeants, personnel assigned to this division are responsible for the care and custody of offenders charged with and / or convicted of misdemeanor crimes occurring within the City of Yakima. Ten Corrections Officers staff this 78 bed, full-service jail facility.

Corrections Officers are directly responsible for the care and custody of incarcerated offenders. Their duties include booking and classification, movement of prisoners between jail and courts, transportation to and from alternate holding facilities, supervision of laundry and meal preparation, monitoring visitations, accounting of prisoner property and funds, and tracking prisoner time served.



# Detective Division



## Overview

The Yakima Police Department Detective Division is staffed by one Captain, one Lieutenant, five Sergeants, and 26 Investigators. There are several units within the Detective Division, including the Major Crimes Unit, the Property Crimes Unit, Special Assault Unit, the Yakima Valley Gang Task Force, the Violent Crimes Task Force, and the Drug Task Force.

## Major Crimes Unit

The Major Crimes Unit (MCU) is comprised of one Sergeant and four Investigators. MCU personnel investigate homicides, other suspicious deaths, serious assaults—including shootings and stabbings, as well as robberies, missing persons, and other major felonies committed within the city limits of Yakima.

YPD Major Crimes Unit Investigators are highly trained, seasoned investigators who have proven to be steadfast street-level investigators prior to their assignment with the MCU. These Investigators work very long and irregular hours, especially during the initial hours of a homicide or other major felony crime investigation.

## Property Crimes Unit

One Sergeant and five Investigators make up the Property Crimes Unit of the Yakima Police Department. This unit investigates crimes related to property—such as burglary, auto theft, larceny, and shoplifts from local stores. Fraud investigations—forgery, fraud, embezzlement, and identity theft—are also conducted out of this unit.

Property Crimes Investigators receive the greatest number of cases, as larceny-type crimes make up nearly 75% of all reported crime in the City. Additionally, these Investigators are called out to help on any major crime, and may have to put their own investigations on hold to assist the Major Crimes Investigators on homicides or other major felony crimes.

## Special Assault Unit

The Special Assault Unit (SAU) is comprised of one Sergeant and five Investigators. The SAU investigates all sexual assaults that occur in Yakima, as well as domestic violence cases and crimes against children.

Close partnerships with the Department of Social and Health Services, the YWCA and others allow for full wrap-around services for the victims of special assaults. Further, assignment to the SAU requires a significant amount of training in such areas as Child Forensic Interviews, Sexual Assault Interviews and Internet Based Crimes Against Children.





## *Inter-Agency Task Forces*

The Yakima Police Department has Investigators assigned to three local task forces, which also have members from other local, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. These units foster collaboration throughout the region on emerging crime issues and significantly increase available resources.

## *Yakima Valley Gang Task Force*

The Yakima Valley Gang Task Force (YVGTF) is comprised of Yakima Police Officers and Federal Officers. It is divided into one day squad and one night squad. It is staffed by two Yakima Police sergeants, six Yakima Police investigators, two Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) Agents, one Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Agent, One Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) Agent and one Department of Corrections (DOC) Investigator.

The Gang Task Force works on suppressing gang activity and organized crime which affects the Yakima Valley. The Gang Task Force works closely with other Yakima Police Patrol Officers and Detectives to investigate gang-related crimes, which include narcotics distribution, assaults, shootings, robberies and homicides. The Gang Task Force Networks with local jails, local law enforcement agencies, state prisons and probation officers. The Gang Task Force also provides educational gang training to schools, youth programs, civic organizations, and other community organizations.

## *Violent Offenders Task Force*

The Pacific Northwest Violent Offender Task Force (PNVOTF) is a joint cooperating law enforcement effort of the U.S. Marshals Service, Yakima County Sherrieff's Office, Yakima Police Department and the Washington State Department of Correction to apprehend violent offenders wanted on federal and state warrants for crimes such as murder, serious assault, sex crimes, robbery, burglary, drug distribution and gang-related offenses. This fugitive apprehension unit routinely gets warrant referrals from law enforcement agencies within Yakima, Kittitas, Klickitat, Chelan and Douglas Counties. The PNVOTF arrests approximately 350 felony suspects per year. The Yakima Police Department has one major crimes detective assigned as a task force officer to this team.

## *DEA Drug Task Force*

The Drug Task Force investigates narcotics usage and distribution and the crimes associated with those activities. There is one Sergeant and three Investigators from the Yakima Police Department on this task force. Many nuisance drug houses and drug dealers have recently found themselves the focus of investigations from members of the task force as local and federal investigators work together to rid Yakima of its drug problem.



## Overview

The Yakima Police Department Forensic Lab processed 612 items for forensic analysis in 2015. The YPD Forensic Lab processes items using chemical analysis and specialty microscopic equipment to visualize and compare evidence.

## Forensic Lab Functions

The Yakima Police Department Forensic Lab services the community of Yakima and surrounding areas with crime scene response, latent print development and analysis, and firearm and tool mark examination.

### *Crime Scene Response:*

Members assist detectives with evidence recognition, evidence collection, blood stain pattern analysis, trajectory determinations, scene documentation and scene reconstruction.

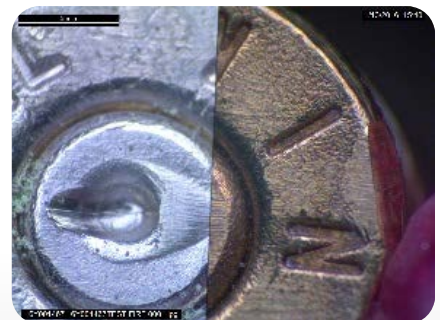
### *Latent Fingerprint Development and Identification:*

Scientists in this functional area process evidence for latent prints and compare the prints to those from known individuals. These scientists also enter prints into the Automated Biometric Identification System and search a variety of computerized databases for matches to known individuals.

### *Firearm and Tool Mark Analysis:*

Scientists in this section examine and compare firearms, ammunition components, gunshot residues for distance determinations, and tool marks. These scientists also reconstruct shooting scenes, restore obliterated serial numbers, image fired ammunition components for inclusion in the Integrated Ballistics Identification System/ National Integrated Ballistics Information Network to establish links to other criminal events.

The Yakima Police Department received 238 firearms in 2015, many of which were processed in the YPD lab for latent fingerprints and / or firearm and tool mark analysis and / or function tested and test fires entered into NIBIN.





# Patrol Division



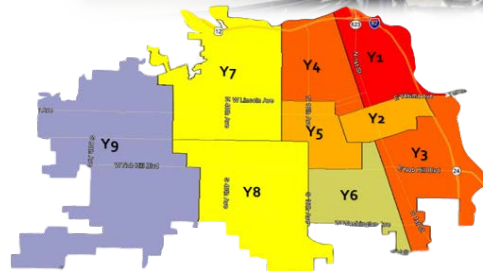
## Overview:

The Uniformed Patrol Division of the Yakima Police Department is largest and most visible division in the department. The Officers assigned to the Patrol Division provide services to the citizens of Yakima around the clock—24 hours a day, 365 days a year. These services include responding to crimes in progress, traffic collisions, missing persons, lost children, preventative patrol, preliminary criminal investigations, and other emergency and non-emergency calls for service.

The men and women of the Patrol Division are often referred to as “the face” of the Police Department, due to their visible presence in the community. With that in mind, they are committed to providing professional police services to the citizens of Yakima.

In 2015, the Patrol Division and the Community Services Division partnered up to bring Roll Call BBQ’s to the City of Yakima. We held four neighborhood roll calls in which members of the Yakima Police Department were able to meet and talk to members of individual neighborhoods on a more personal level during that squad’s muster. 2016 will see more of these events throughout the city!

The City of Yakima is divided into *nine* patrol districts and each squad has an Officer assigned to patrol a specific district. These assignments create a familiarity between the Officer, the citizens, and the businesses of the area. Many crimes have been prevented or solved through the knowledge that the district Officer has about his or her assigned area of the City.





*During the summer of 2015, Officers Jeff Ely and Mark Williams were assigned as YPD Bike Patrol Officers. In just 28 days of service, these officers made 103 arrests, averaging almost four arrests per shift. 34 of those arrests were observed misdemeanors and felonies. Even though hundreds of citizen contacts were made during this period, not one of those resulted in a citizen complaint.*





## Overview:

The primary duties of the Traffic Unit are traffic complaint enforcement, school zone enforcement, collision reduction enforcement, collision investigation, escorts, and special event traffic control. Motorcycle Officers also respond to dispatched patrol calls as backup. The goal of the Traffic Unit is to reduce the number of traffic collisions, injuries, and fatalities. They emphasize enforcement of collision causing violations and occupant safety violations. Most of the Traffic Officers have received extensive training in collision reconstruction and investigation.

Within the Traffic Unit, you will find a Motor Sergeant, five Motor Officers, the Transit Officer, and the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer.

## Commercial Vehicle Enforcement

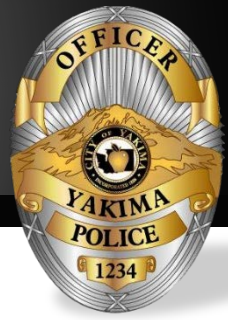
With the City investing millions of dollars in roadway improvements, the primary duties of the Commercial Vehicle Officer include educating and enforcing commercial vehicle laws and safety regulations. 407 commercial vehicle inspections were conducted by two officers in 2015, with 358 out of service violations reported. 29 drivers were cited for not having a Commercial Drivers License when required.

An area of concern for the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer is the commercial vehicles that are towing trailers with electric brakes. 90% of these did not pass inspection and were put out of service. The trailer's emergency break away device is a mandatory safety requirement, and if it is not working or attached properly to the vehicle, it is put out of service.





# Crisis Response Unit



## Overview

The Crisis Response Unit (CRU) is comprised of two specialized teams: the Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) and the Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT). The CRU was established to provide specialized support in handling critical field operations where intense negotiations and / or special tactical deployment methods beyond the capacity of field officers appear to be necessary.

## Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)

The SWAT unit is comprised of Officers from the Yakima Police Department, Deputies from the Yakima County Sheriff's Office, and Officers from the Union Gap Police Department. The unit is also staffed by two YPD Reserve Officers as the team's tactical medics—these men are practicing medical professionals in their private lives and provide their expertise on a volunteer basis. The SWAT team trains 20 hours monthly and its members must maintain rigorous standards, both physically and mentally. In addition to the monthly training, the SWAT team has four snipers who train an additional six hours.

## Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT)

The CNT is comprised of Yakima and Union Gap Police Officers as well mental health professionals from Comprehensive Mental Health. The team trains on a quarterly basis, where they hone their negotiating skills, ensure their equipment is working properly, and receive updated training regarding dealing with emotionally disturbed persons. In 2015, the CRU received 19 activations, including barricaded suspects, high risk warrant services, and crowd management details.



# School Resource/K-9 Units



## School Resource Officers

A School Resource Officer (SRO) is a law enforcement officer who is assigned to a school. The main goal of the SRO is to prevent juvenile delinquency by promoting positive relations between youth and law enforcement. The SRO position encompasses three major components which allow the SRO to achieve the goal: law enforcement, education, and counseling. These three components allow the SRO to take a proactive approach to law enforcement. SROs are not just cops on campus—they provide all law enforcement duties on their assigned campuses. They educate the students by teaching law related classes and other related subjects in classrooms. They counsel students and parents on various topics. The SRO becomes involved in the students' lives as a positive role model. The intent is that the positive experiences students have with the SRO will bridge the gap between juveniles and law enforcement, and in doing so, help prevent juvenile crimes.

The Yakima Police Department, in partnership with the Yakima School District, has seven Police Officers assigned to each school in the district. The SROs are stationed at each high school and middle school, but also have elementary schools assigned to them as well.

## K-9 Unit

Yakima Police Canines are primarily trained as a locating tool for officers. They are trained in searching and tracking suspects who flee from serious crimes, as well as finding evidence left behind by a suspect. The Yakima Police Department has three patrol canines. Officer Jim Yates and K9 Sabre, Officer Mark McKinney and K9 Dexter, and Officer Rob Walters and K9 Covah. All YPD Canines and their handlers must pass a 400 hour Basic Patrol Canine School. They must then train 16 hours a month to remain certified.



*Dexter*

Handler: Mark McKinney  
Breed: German Shepard  
Age: 8  
Service: 4



*Sabre*

Handler: Jim Yates  
Breed: German Shepard  
Age: 8  
Service: 7



*Covah*

Handler: Rob Walters  
Breed: German Shepard  
Age: 3  
Service: 1



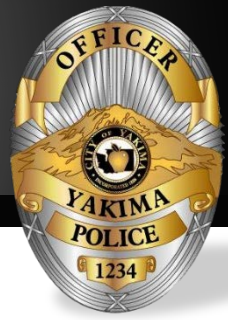
*Retired!*

*Yogi*

Handler: Tori Adams  
Breed: German Shepard  
Age: 10  
Service: 7



# Yakima Police Explorers



## Overview

The Yakima Police Explorers Post 275 is a group of young adolescents between the ages of 16 and 20, who have an interest in a law enforcement career. In 2015, the Explorer post averaged 14 members who have completed at least one week long Explorer Academy. The post completed 3,281.5 service hours in 2015 that were either done at the Yakima Police Department or within the community. The Explorers are to complete the next available Explorer Academy and once successfully completing the academy, the Explorer is required to do 10 ride along hours every month with a YPD Officer.

The Explorers have weekly meetings on Thursday evenings, which consist of law enforcement trainings, leadership classes, discuss upcoming community events, training offered, and group activities. The Explorers attend the two State Explorer Academies each year, one National Explorer Conference every other year, and other competitions and trainings that are offered here in Yakima or hosted by other police agencies. We understand that not all of our Explorers will have a career in law enforcement; however, we do want all of our Explorers to become leaders in any career they decide to go into. Explorers are taught the fundamentals of leadership, respect, responsibility, and honor.

The Explorer Post would not exist if it wasn't for the generous donation the Post receives every month from Officers, Command staff, and city employees. In 2015, there was a first time Yakima Police Explorer Scholarship awarded to any Explorer who holds the position of an Explorer Lieutenant for at least 6 months. The Explorer Lieutenant has several responsibilities and quickly learns to manage and lead a team. In 2015, the first Explorer Scholarship was awarded to Central Washington University student Francisco Cardenas. The Explorer Post also awarded a \$250 donation to Yakima Valley Technical Skill Center Law Enforcement scholarship program. Our Explorers work very hard to be visible to the department, and are assisting in anything and everything that they can without asking for anything in return.





# Contact Information



-Command *Staff*-

Keep up with us on Social Media using your Smartphone!

 **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/YakimaPoliceDepartment>

 **Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/yakimapolice>

 **YouTube:** [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsIyi7Zw5N9e8bVP8-B\\_JWA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsIyi7Zw5N9e8bVP8-B_JWA)

 **Phone:** 509-575-6200

 **Website:** <https://yakimapolice.org/>

*\*\*Information obtained in this report is subject to change. Efforts have been taken to ensure that the information contained herein is accurate, timely, and complete at the time of this publication. If additional information is needed or any questions arise, please contact the Yakima Police Department with the contact information above.*





*yakimapolice.org*





# Yakima Police Department



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