

2016 Annual Report *yakima Police Department*



Honor Courage Integrity Fidelity

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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.*

A Message from the Chief



On behalf of the men and women of the Yakima Police Department, it is my pleasure to present the 2016 Yakima Police Department Annual Report. I'm so proud of the sworn officers and civilian staff who represent the department. Due to their efforts, in a constantly changing criminal justice environment, we have enjoyed a strong partnership with our community.

As we continue with our principle mission of the preservation of life and property, reduction of fear in the community through the reduction of crime, and the protection of persons and property, we do so with our on-going commitment to transparency and community involvement.

In 2016, we accomplished our goal of enhancing our public interactions program by meeting with community groups to discuss 21st Century Policing and procedures we've implemented to ensure compliance with the standards set forth by the Department of Justice.

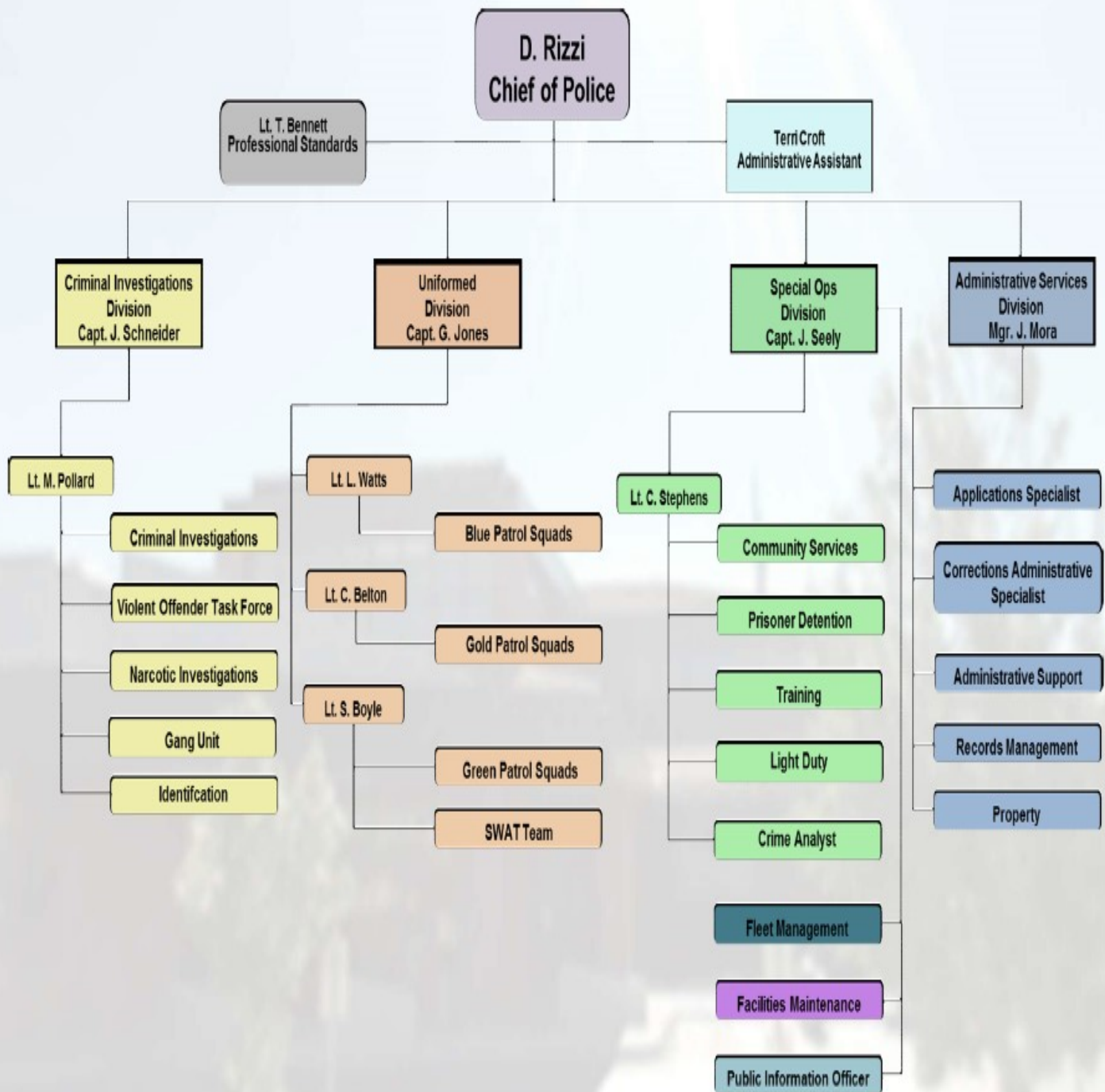
In this report, you'll also see we've continued our tradition of recognizing employee excellence through our employee awards program. I believe we have the finest police department staffed with the best trained, courageous, and dedicated personnel who deliver the highest level of professional service. During 2016, we were witness to our officers willingness to put themselves in harms way to save lives during an apartment fire at a retirement apartment complex. For their courageous acts, they received the Medal of Honor and Medal of Valor, respectively.

I am honored to lead this organization as we continue to face many challenges in 2017. We are committed to keeping Yakima a safe place to live, work, and raise a family, and we will do so with effective policing and community partnership.

Dominic Rizzi Jr.

Chief of Police

Organization Chart



Personnel Updates

PROMOTIONS

Jeannett Mora, Police Services Manager	01/01/16
Moraima Verstrate, Police Services Lead	01/18/16
Jeff Nelson, Corrections Sergeant	04/01/16
Patricia Lopez, Police Services Specialist II	06/06/16
Chance Belton, Police Lieutenant	07/01/16
Chad Janis, Police Sergeant	07/01/16
Evelyn Beltran, Police Services Specialist II	07/01/16



Sergeant Chad Janis



Officer Maria Vela (center) at his Basic Law Enforcement Academy Graduation with his uncles, Yakima PD Officer Jaime Gonzalez and Seattle PD Sgt. Ariel Vela

NEW EMPLOYEES

Jared Wilske, Police Officer	01/04/16
John Guju, Police Officer	01/04/16
Mario Vela, Police Officer	02/16/16
Julia Tobiness, Police Services Specialist I	05/09/16
Marielena Sanchez, Police Services Specialist I	05/09/16
Christopher Thorn, Lateral Police Officer	06/20/16
Casey Kim, Police Officer	07/05/16
Brian Dean, Lateral Corrections Officer	07/05/16
Ryan Treft, Corrections Officer	07/06/16
Leslie Henderson, Police Officer	07/11/16
Peter Equihua, Police Officer	07/18/16
Silvia Corona, Police Services Specialist I	08/01/16
Sarah Dexter, Lateral Police Officer	08/15/16
Jonathan Charroin, Police Officer	09/19/16
Patrick Schad, Police Officer	12/12/16

RETIREMENTS

Dennis Miner, Corrections Sergeant	02/15/16
Jessie Rangel, Police Officer	03/31/16
Anthony Patlan, Police Officer	03/31/16
Steve Morkert, Police Officer	05/31/16
Jim Castillo, Police Officer	05/31/16
Nolan Wentz, Police Lieutenant	06/30/16
Cindy Edgerly, Police Services Specialist I	06/30/16



Lieutenant Nolan Wentz and Chief Dominic Rizzi, Jr.

Thank you for your service!

Employee Recognition

OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Officer Bryan Elliott

Officer Bryan Elliott was selected as the Yakima Police Department's 2016 Officer of the Year. Officer Elliott is assigned to the Patrol Division. He is recognized as a leader and expert level patrol officer by his peers and supervisors within the division. Officer Elliott is a well-respected field training officer, responsible for training five student officers during 2016. In addition to being an outstanding police officer, Officer Elliott demonstrates a strong sense of commitment to his peers and our community. Officer Elliott, with the help of his family, constructs Lego simulation's on a handcrafted piece of wood for each member of his squad. The Lego simulation describes the birthday person's likes and interests. A small gift and card signed by the members of the squad accompany the Lego simulation. Officer Elliott presented customized water bottles to each of his squad members and members of the Command Staff. At Christmas, Officer Elliott arranged for his squad to visit a local nursing home. The officers of C-Blue met with twelve residents that did not have regular visitors. Officers brought a small gift for the residents and spent about an hour visiting with the residents. It is clear that Officer Elliott is not only an excellent officer, his involvement in the community distinguishes him as an outstanding person who represents the Yakima Police Department in a positive manner. Officer Elliott is recognized as the 2016 Yakima Police Department Officer of the Year.



Officer of the Year Brian Elliott and Chief Dominic Rizzi, Jr.

SERVICES EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Evelyn Beltran

Evelyn Beltran was selected as the Yakima Police Department's 2016 Services Employee of the Year. During Evelyn's short time with the department she has held several positions in the Services Division and has shown she is a dedicated and conscientious employee and team player. With Evelyn's background in the financial industry, she has led numerous integration programs that have helped streamline processes, allowing for improved service to the community, while still maintaining the integrity of the department's procedures. Evelyn's commitment and desire to share the knowledge she has gained throughout her time here, led her to become a certified training officer and a member of the Service's Division Training program. Evelyn is also the Coordinator for the Services Division's Recognition Committee; this committee is responsible for recognizing employees within the services division for their hard work and dedication. She is the epitome of a team player who goes above and beyond her job duties every day to help her team members succeed. She provides excellent customer service to community members, the City, and the Yakima Police Department. Evelyn Beltran is recognized as the 2016 Yakima Police Department Services Employee of the Year.



Services employee of the Year Evelyn Beltran and Chief Dominic Rizzi, Jr.

Employee Recognition

CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE

Officer Jesus Sanchez

Officer Jesus Sanchez was one of five officers nominated for Officer of the Year. During 2016, Officer Sanchez was assigned to the Patrol Division and served as a Field Training Officer. Officer Sanchez displayed an outstanding commitment to teamwork in 2016 and often worked additional duties to assist when staffing shortages existed. Officer Sanchez is well respected by his peers and citizens. Officer Sanchez is awarded the Certificate of Excellence for his excellence in police work and willingness to accept additional duties.

CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE

Detective Mike Durbin

Detective Mike Durbin was one of five officers nominated for Officer of the Year. During 2016, Detective Durbin was assigned to the Special Assault Unit investigating Crimes Against Children, Domestic Violence cases, Child Pornography cases, and Sexual Assaults. Detective Durbin had an outstanding clearance arrest rate for the serious crimes he was assigned. In addition to his investigative 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.

CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE

Officer Mark McKinney

Officer Mark McKinney was one of five officers nominated for the Officer of the Year. Officer McKinney is a K9 handler who works with his partner, Dexter. Officer McKinney and Dexter were involved in numerous apprehensions of dangerous individuals during 2016. The use of a K9 greatly improved officer safety during those incidents. Officer McKinney is a tactically sound officer who readily shares his knowledge and experience with fellow officers in order to make high risk situations safer for all involved. In addition to his patrol duties, Officer McKinney serves as a firearms instructor. Officer McKinney regularly instructs at department trainings and helps to improve officers' proficiency in the use of firearms. Officer McKinney is awarded the Certificate of Excellence for his excellence in police work and willingness to accept additional duties.

CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE

Brian Buchert

While holding the position of Police Applications Specialist, Brian Buchert has made exceptional contributions that have led to successful improvements of several software programs that aided the Yakima Police Department in developing new methods, procedures, and approaches to police work. Brian is the liaison between the department's users and multiple software vendors and ensures that system operations procedures are followed and that system integrity is maintained. His broad experience and knowledge make him an asset, not only to the Yakima Police Department, but to the City of Yakima as a whole. Brian Buchert is awarded the Certificate of Excellence for his excellence and commitment to the Yakima Police Department.

Employee Recognition

MEDAL OF HONOR

Officer Brad Althausen

MEDAL OF VALOR

Officer Phillip Amici

LIFESAVING RIBBON

Officer Miles Imbery

LIFESAVING RIBBON

Officer Ian Cole

On March 30, 2016, at approximately 0120 hours, Officer Brad Althausen was on patrol in West Valley when he observed a large amount of smoke in the area of S. 56th Avenue and Chestnut Avenue. Officer Althausen determined there was a structure fire at a retirement apartment complex. Officer Althausen immediately called for assistance and requested fire personnel respond. Officer Althausen began to evacuate the apartment complex. Officer Phillip Amici arrived shortly after Officer Althausen and also began to evacuate the complex. Officers Althausen and Amici forced entry into several units and evacuated residents over the next seven minutes. Responding officers, to include Officers Miles Imbery and Ian Cole, located Officer Amici emerging from a smoke filled courtyard. Officer Amici had lost sight of Officer Althausen. Officer Althausen was located, overcome by smoke and vomiting. He was brought out of the courtyard. Officers Althausen and Amici had trouble breathing due to smoke inhalation. Officers Cole, Imbery, Amici and Althausen, who had been overcome by the smoke, returned to the smoke-filled courtyard and evacuated the remaining residents. None of the residents lost their lives that early morning due to the heroic efforts of the officers involved. Officers Cole and Imbery are awarded the Lifesaving Ribbon. Officer Amici is awarded the Medal of Valor. Officer Althausen is awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions, which distinguished himself by gallantry and extraordinary heroism.



**Officer Brad Althausen, Officer Phillip Amici,
Chief Dominic Rizzi, Jr., and Officer Ian Cole**

ADDITIONAL EMPLOYEE AWARDS

Travis Shephard — Certificate of Merit
Ritch Fowler — Certificate of Merit
Mike Nielsen — Lifesaving Ribbon
Booker Ward — Lifesaving Ribbon
Kim Hipner — Lifesaving Ribbon

Angela Nielsen — Lifesaving Ribbon
Thomas Garza — Lifesaving Ribbon
Ryan Wisner — Lifesaving Ribbon
Ben Graves — Lifesaving Ribbon
Curtis Oja — Lifesaving Ribbon

Programs & Events



Coffee with a Cop

Coffee with a Cop gives Yakima residents 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 their neighborhoods. In 2016, we held three Coffees with a Cop events. These events have proven to be extremely popular with officers and community members. YPD also joined The Range, LLC, for the second annual **BBQ with the Cops** in September. The Yakima Police Department is building relationships with the community, one cup (or burger!) at a time.

Heroes & Helpers

On December 20th, nineteen officers from the Yakima Police Department volunteered their time to participate in the fifth 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 identify children in need throughout the year for this event. The Yakima Target store donated nineteen 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.

Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run Events

The Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics is the movement's largest grass-roots fundraiser and public awareness vehicle. Known as Guardians of the Flame, law enforcement members and Special Olympic athletes carry the “Flame of Hope” in the Opening Ceremonies of local competitions.

The Torch Run has grown over the years and now includes many fundraising platforms, which we host. 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 money for Special Olympics. Next, we host our **5K Fun Run with the Cops**, where participants enjoy a night time run through downtown Yakima. **Cop on Top** is our next event; officers sit on the roof of Fred Meyer while our community members help them meet their fundraising goals to come down. In October, we partnered with Red Robin as celebrity waiters for **Tip a Cop** in order to earn our “tips” for Yakima’s local athletes.

Programs & Events

Chief for a Day

Esteban Cruz was selected as Yakima PD's 2016 Chief for a Day. Esteban is a student at Adams Elementary. He was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, the most common childhood cancer.

We met Chief Esteban back in December 2014 at Target's Heroes and Helpers event. Chief Esteban spent the morning Christmas shopping with Sgt. Mike Henne. Esteban was nominated to be our Chief for a Day by his School Resource Officer, Officer Claudia Padilla, and was sworn in as Yakima's Chief for a Day at the May 3rd Yakima City Council meeting.

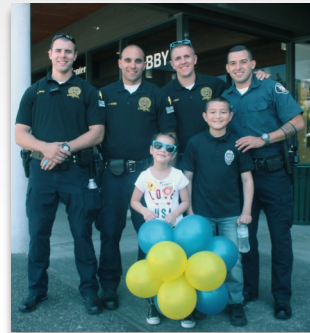
Chief for a Day is a continual fundraising effort here at the Yakima Police Department. An annual Valentine's Day fundraiser, candy sales, raffles, and a Police vs. Fire Softball game helped us raise over \$2,000 for Esteban's family.



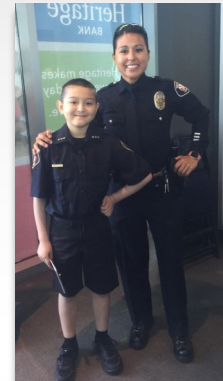
**Chief Esteban and
Capt. Jay Seely**



**Chief Esteban and
Chief Dominic Rizzi, Jr.**



**Chief Esteban, his
sister Ruby, and his
entourage of YPD re-
cruits**



**Chief Esteban and
SRO Claudia Padilla**

Police vs. Fire Softball

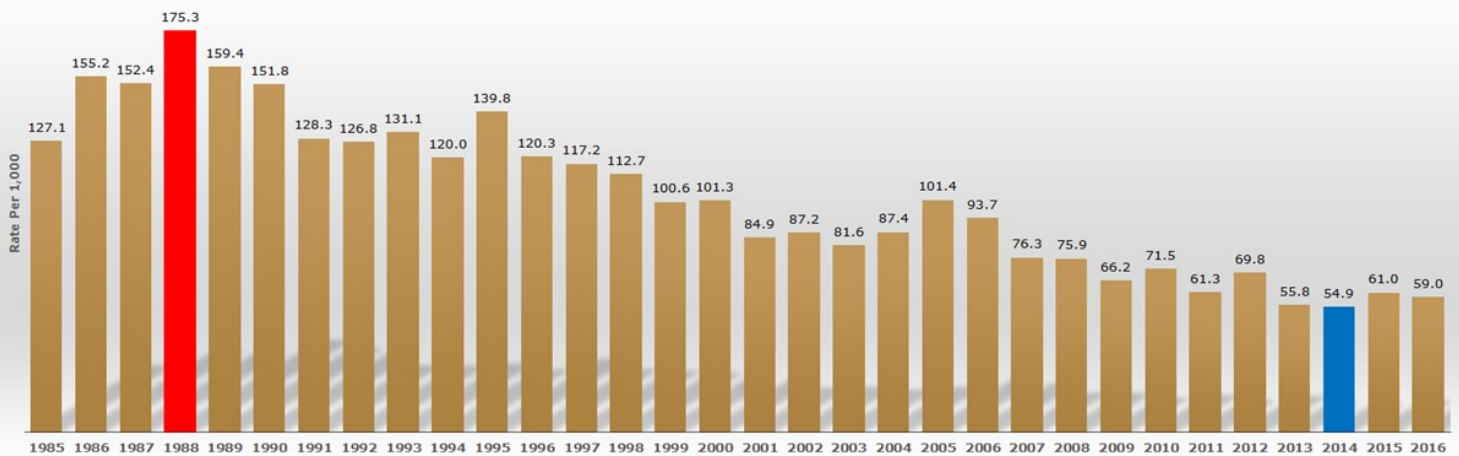
In October, Yakima PD challenged the Yakima FD to a friendly softball game. A great game was played, with fourteen firefighters and sixteen police officers suiting up and pulling out their gloves to raise money for Chief for a Day. After an exciting back and forth game, the firefighters pulled off a 15-11 win after nine innings. YPD Sgt. Mike Costello and YFD Lt. Joe Burbank were voted MVPs by their peers. Thank you to all who made this game an absolute success!



Crime Statistics

Part I Crimes 31 Year Trend: 1985 – 2016

Total Part I Rate per 1,000:



Part I Crimes		2013		2014		2015		2016	
POPULATION		92,620		93,080		93,220		93,410	
UCR VIOLENT CRIMES		TOTAL	Per 1,000	TOTAL	Per 1,000	TOTAL	Per 1,000	TOTAL	Per 1,000
HOMICIDE		9	0.09	2	0.02	7	0.08	12	0.12
RAPE		30	0.32	35	0.38	45	0.49	37	0.39
ROBBERY		144	1.55	115	1.24	127	1.37	127	1.35
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT		283	3.05	253	2.72	331	3.55	313	3.35
TOTAL		466	5.03	405	4.36	510	5.49	489	5.21
UCR PROPERTY CRIMES		TOTAL	Per 1,000	TOTAL	Per 1,000	TOTAL		TOTAL	Per 1,000
BURGLARY		1,168	12.61	1,090	11.71	1,314	14.09	1,140	12.20
LARCENY THEFT		2,918	31.50	2,841	30.53	3,134	33.61	3,200	34.25
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT		605	6.53	737	7.92	700	7.50	654	7.00
ARSON		14	0.15	38	0.41	25	0.26	28	0.29
TOTAL		4,705	50.79	4,706	50.56	5,173	55.46	5,022	53.74
OVERALL TOTAL									
PERCENT OF CHANGE			-1.66%		11.03%		-3.23%		



The Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) are official data on crime in the United States, published by the FBI. Part I index crimes are the eight most serious crimes (Burglary, Robbery, Homicide, Aggravated Assault, Sexual Assault, Auto Theft, Theft/Larceny, Arson).

Special Operations

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.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

America's Night Out Against Crime takes place annually on the first Tuesday of August. This year's event took place on Tuesday, August 2nd and was YPD's 31st year hosting the event. This effort promotes involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships, neighborhood camaraderie. National Night Out sends a message to criminals, letting them know that neighborhoods are organized in taking a stand against crime and drugs. Yakima celebrated with 27 individual block parties and a large community party at Sarg Hubbard Park, sponsored by the Yakima Police Department and US Cellular.



Special Operations

CRIME AND INTELLIGENCE ANALYSIS

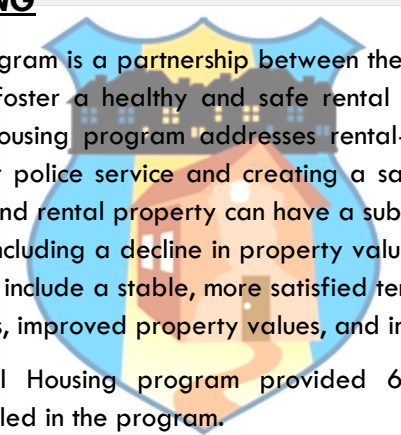
The Crime and Intelligence Unit is focused on both short and long-term data analysis to support Tactical, Strategic, and Administrative Intelligence within the Yakima Police Department. Currently, the unit is made up of a single Crime and Intelligence Analyst. The unit performs analysis on current crime 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 healthy and safe rental housing community. 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 2016, the Crime Free Rental Housing program provided 6,068 notifications to landlords and had almost 4,300 local properties enrolled in the program.



Services Division

The Yakima Police Department Services Division is comprised of various units, to include Police 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 & 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.

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 Monitoring

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 2016 was 258 for EHM and 42 for alcohol monitoring.

TimeKeeping

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 COBAN videos requests and sharing them using a file sharing and storage program called the box.

Services Division/Jail

EVIDENCE/PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

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 three full time employees, a Police Services Specialist I, a Police Services Specialist II, and a Police Services Lead.

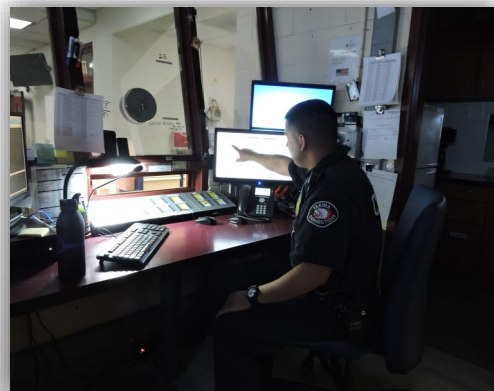
Upholding the security and control of all items in the Unit's control is an essential part of the job. Those personnel have been trained in proper storage techniques to ensure that the integrity of property and evidence is maintained and is currently in the process of becoming certified through the International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

Property personnel are required to ensure all applicable laws are adhered to 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 of. 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 2016, 2,614 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 computer systems.



Property Room



JAIL

The City Jail began operations in 1996, following the completion of the Richard A. Zais, Jr. Center for Law and Justice.

Under the general supervision of the Special Operations Division Lieutenant and three Corrections Sergeants, personnel assigned to this division are responsible for the care, custody and security 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.

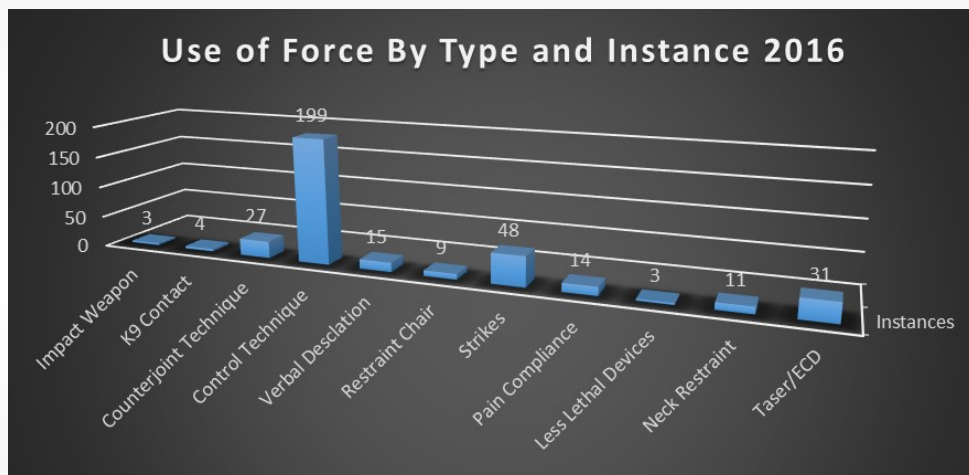
Corrections Officers are directly responsible for the care, custody and safety of incarcerated offenders. Their duties include booking and classification, movement of prisoners between jail and courts, transportation to and from alternate holding facilities, supervision of laundry and meal preparation,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

Professional Standards Office

The Professional Standards Office investigates complaints against Yakima Police Department employees. Currently, the office is staffed by one 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 perception of the agency is impacted by the quality and transparency of the professional standards investigations.

In 2016, the department adopted new software programs for the storage and tracking of internal affairs investigations. The "IAPro" and "Blue Team" programs are far more accurate and detailed than any method previously used and they provide an early warning/intervention feature. Due to these new programs, we've begun issuing control numbers to more incidents, which give the appearance of an increase in complaints. It should be understood however, that though the numbers are larger than previous years, the actual number of incidents requiring formal investigations has not increased significantly. We are now using the same numbering system for all complaints, both formal and informal. Complaints are categorized as two types: Internal Complaints and External Complaints. Internal complaints are generated within the department, while external complaints are referred from outside the department.

In 2016, the Professional Standards Office was assigned 45 internal affairs investigations. Of the 45 complaints received, 25 were external complaints and 20 were internal complaints. Twenty resulted in a finding of sustained, 18 were unfounded, four were not sustained, three were exonerated, and two remained open at the end of the year.



DISPOSITIONS

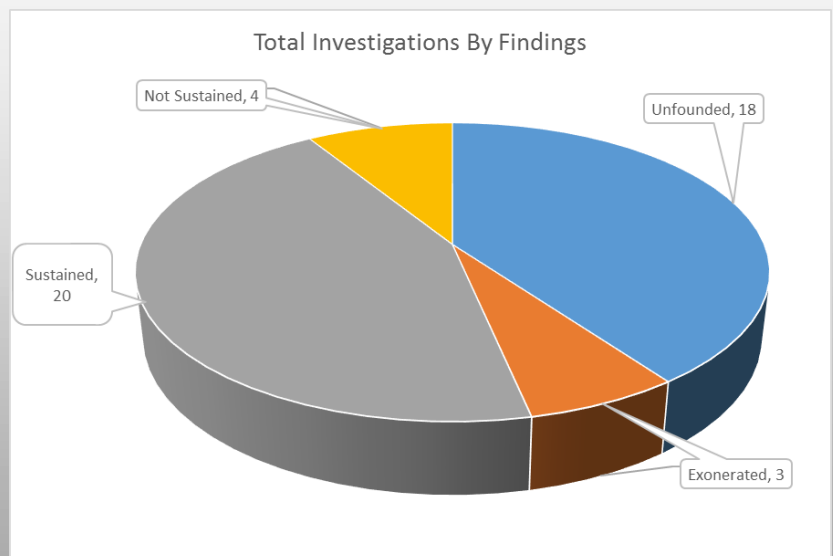
Each personnel complaint shall be classified with one of the following dispositions:

Unfounded - When the investigation discloses that the alleged acts did not occur or did not involve department members. Complaints that are determined to be frivolous will fall within the classification of unfounded.

Exonerated - When the investigation discloses that the alleged act occurred but that the act was justified, lawful, and/or proper.

Not sustained - When the investigation discloses that there is insufficient evidence to sustain the complaint or fully exonerate the member.

Sustained - When the investigation discloses sufficient evidence to establish that the act occurred and that it constituted misconduct.



Detective Division

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

MAJOR CRIMES UNIT

The Major Crime 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 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.

SPECIAL ASSAULT UNIT

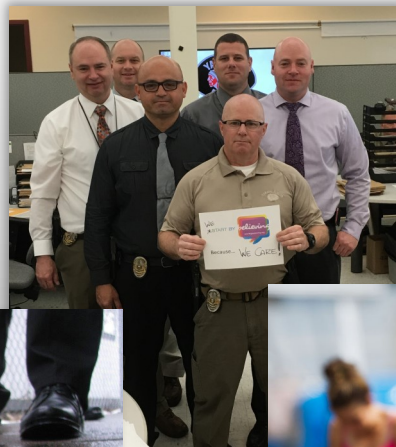
The Special Assault Unit (SAU) is comprised of one Sergeant and five Investigators. The SAU investigates all sexual assaults that occur in Yakima, as well as domestic violence cases and crimes against children.

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

PROPERTY CRIMES UNIT

One Sergeant and five Investigators comprise the Property Crimes Unit of the Yakima Police Department. This unit investigates crimes related to property such as burglaries, auto thefts, larceny, and shoplifts from local stores. Fraud investigations, forgery, embezzlement, and identity theft are also investigations 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.



Detective Division

INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCES

The Yakima Police Department has Investigators assigned to three local task forces. These task forces 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 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 Yakima Police Patrol Officers and Detectives to investigate gang-related crimes, which include narcotics distribution, assaults, shootings, robberies and homicides. 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 cooperative law enforcement effort between the U.S. Marshals Service, Yakima County Sheriff'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.



Forensics & Evidence

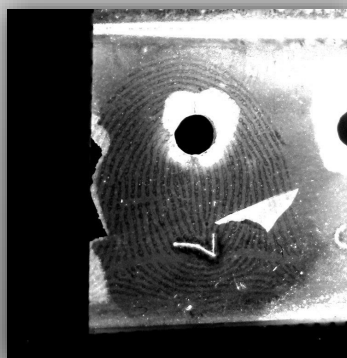
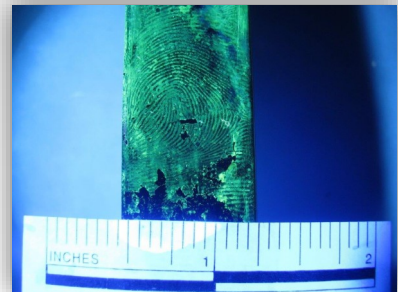
The Yakima Police Department Forensic Lab processed 652 items for forensic analysis in 2016. The YPD Forensic Lab processes items using chemical analysis and specialty microscopic equipment to visualize and compare evidence.

Forensics 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:** Members in this functional area process evidence for latent prints and compare the prints to those from known individuals. These members 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:** Members in this section examine and compare firearms, ammunition components, gunshot residues for distance determinations, and tool marks. These members 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 253 firearms in 2016, 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



The Uniformed Patrol Division of the Yakima Police Department is the largest and most visible division in the department. It is staffed by one Captain, three Lieutenants, 10 Sergeants and 75 Police Officers. The Patrol Division is responsible for handling calls for service within the city's 9 patrol districts. In 2016, the patrol division responded to approximately 56,000 calls for service. These service calls included 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.

In addition to responding to calls for service, each officer is also responsible for being aware of crime trends and criminal activity in their assigned district. Officers identify these issues through information obtained from our community members, crime analysis reports generated within the department, and their own personal observations of suspicious and criminal activity.

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 community members of Yakima.

In 2016, the Patrol Division and the Community Services Division partnered to bring Roll Call BBQ's to the City of Yakima. We held three neighborhood roll call BBQ's where 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 roll call. 2017 will see more of these events throughout the city!



Traffic Unit/K9 Unit

Traffic Unit

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.



K9 Unit

The Yakima Police Canines are primarily trained as a locating tool for officers. They are trained in searching and tracking suspects who flee from the police. Canines are usually deployed to locate suspects that have fled from serious crimes, as well as finding evidence left behind by a suspect. The Yakima Police Department has two patrol canines—Officer Mark McKinney and K9 Dexter, and Officer Rob Walters and K9 Covah. All YPD Canines and their handlers must pass a rigorous initial training program and testing to become certified. They also must continue to train monthly and test annually to maintain certification. .



Crisis Response Unit

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. In 2016, the CRU received eight activations.



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 reserve officers 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. The SWAT is considered a level II intermediate team capable of providing containment and intervention..



Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT)

The CNT is comprised of officers from the Yakima and Union Gap Police Departments, Department of Corrections, and mental health professionals from Comprehensive Mental Health. The CNT trains on a quarterly basis where they hone their negotiating skills, ensure their equipment is functioning properly, and receive updated training regarding dealing with people in crisis.

School Resource Officers

The Yakima Police School Resource Officers (SRO's) are police officers who are assigned to a middle or high school . The main goal of the SRO's is to provide security, prevent juvenile delinquency by promoting positive relations between youth and law enforcement. The SRO's position encompasses three major components which allow the SRO's to achieve the goal: law enforcement, education, and counseling. These three components allow SRO's to take a proactive approach to law enforcement. SRO's are not just police officers on campus, they provide all law enforcement duties on their assigned campuses. They educate students by teaching legal classes on campus as well as counsel students and parents on various topics. The SRO's become involved in the students' lives as a positive role model. The intent is that the positive experiences students have with SRO's will bridge the gap between juveniles and law enforcement, and in doing so, help prevent juvenile crimes and create trust in law enforcement that will last a lifetime.

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.



Yakima Police Explorers

The Yakima Police Explorer Post 275 is a community-based policing program consisting of young adolescents between the ages of 16 and 20, who have an interest in a law enforcement career. In 2016, the Explorer Post averaged 13 members who have completed the week-long Explorer Academy. The post completed 2,220.5 volunteer service hours in 2016. Those volunteer hours were either completed at the Yakima Police Department or within the community.

The Explorers meet each Thursday evening to discuss law enforcement trainings, leadership classes, upcoming community events, and group activities. Each year, the Explorers attend two State Explorer Academies, one National Explorer Conference every other year, and other competitions and trainings offered here in Yakima or hosted by other police agencies. Explorers are taught the fundamentals of leadership, respect, responsibility, and honor.

We understand that not all of our Explorers will have a career in law enforcement; however, we do expect all of our Explorers to become leaders in their communities. The Explorer Post would not exist if it wasn't for the generous donations received every month from officers, command staff, and city employees. Our Explorers work very hard to be excellent representatives of the Yakima Police Department, and pride themselves on community service.



Contact Information



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/UCslyi7Zw5N9e8bVP8-B_JWA

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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.