

Mount Vernon Police Department



*Attaining the highest quality of life and security
for all who live, work, learn, and visit
the City of Mount Vernon...*

*by working with our neighborhoods
promoting safety and reducing crime.*

**2017
Annual
Report**

MOUNT VERNON POLICE DEPARTMENT CODE OF ETHICS

As a Mount Vernon Police Officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder and to respect the Constitutional Rights of all men to liberty, equality and justice.



I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self restraint and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life. I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of the office. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided in me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty. I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions.

With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession law enforcement.



DEPARTMENT VISION

Safe and Enjoyable Community Living



DEPARTMENT MISSION

To consistently seek and find ways to affirmatively promote, preserve, and deliver a feeling of security, safety, and productive, quality services to citizens and visitors of our community.

The Department's Vision, Mission and Values, in concert with the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics, reflect the guiding philosophy of the Mount Vernon Police Department.

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INTRODUCTION

This Annual Report identifies and documents the Police Department's 2017 accomplishments and achievements. It's an inward look at our successes and strengths, as well as an outward measure of effectiveness in our ability to build positive community partnerships and citizen involvement. It includes crime statistics and identifies how Department resources are utilized. This report also provides a glimpse into future obstacles and challenges, which will be addressed through annual strategic planning.

Policing our community requires a balance between enforcement related policing tactics and enhancing the quality of life, and livability in our community through prevention and education. Accomplishing such a balance depends on our ability to focus on and find ways to resolve problematic issues as well as our ability to communicate and partner with citizens and businesses, eliciting their help and support. Crime prevention continues to be the central theme of this organization. Our ultimate goal is to make our community a better place to live, work, learn, and play.



www.mountvernonwa.gov



To the Mayor, City Council Members, and Mount Vernon Citizens:

On behalf of the professional men and women of the Mount Vernon Police Department, it is my pleasure to present the 2017 Annual Report. This report summarizes crime and statistical data, and personnel highlights for the past year. The Department experienced another amazing year of accomplishments and services to the citizens and visitors of Mount Vernon.

We are pleased to report we continue to experience a drop in most serious crime while our overall calls for service and population increased. In 2017, we experienced 331 less incidents or 9.61% decrease in Group A (variety of 46 crimes). While pleased with the reduction of criminal activities, we still have challenges to face with “human service” calls; disorderly conduct, removals, public health concerns, and welfare checks. We experienced an increase in all these categories. Other challenges include mental illness, homelessness and substance abuse. In 2017, the Department made 1,263 arrests. While we are pleased with the overall numbers, we pledge to continue to work towards the Departments Vision: *“Safe and Enjoyable Community Living”*.



The rise and fall of crime rate will always be with us. To hold that tide in check, we will continue our partnership and collaboration of police, citizens, other City departments, and the business community working together to prevent and address the fundamental causes of crime. Unfortunately, due to budget limitations, resources for prevention, intervention, and educational components dealing with social concerns are also limited leaving these complex issues to sometimes be dealt with from one single dimension; law enforcement.

I wish to personally thank Mayor Jill Boudreau and the City Council for their continued support and confidence in the Department. I’d also like to thank the men and women of the Mount Vernon Police Department and our amazing volunteers. Their hard work, innovative problem solving, and compassion for the citizens we serve are the reasons we succeed in providing outstanding public safety services year after year. Our volunteer force provided the City with 4,863 hours of service, valued at \$177,393.

As we look ahead to 2018, we pledge to the community we will continue to be good stewards of the public trust, remain fiscally efficient, and provide the very best possible service to our residents and visitors. We appreciate your continued support and understanding and look forward to an even stronger partnership between the Department and the people we serve. As I have stated over the past five years, it is truly an honor to be your Chief of Police.

Respectfully

Jerry L. Dodd
Chief of Police

THE DEPARTMENT

The Mount Vernon Police Department, when fully staffed, consists of 45 commissioned officers, two Community Service Officers, and twelve support personnel. More than 50 citizen volunteers help police the community by providing a valuable service which allows other Department staff more time to respond to calls, handle quality of life issues, and apprehend offenders.



As you review the 2017 crime figures, goals and objectives, accomplishments clearly demonstrate Department personnel have continued to achieve great success under difficult circumstances with limited resources.

To continue to expect or experience positive lasting results will require resources in the way of staffing. One can predict we will see personnel leave the agency for one reason or another. To continue to provide the service and results this City has come to expect will require an aggressive hiring process which keeps up with the loss of personnel.

A concern the Department faces involves several retirement aged officers contemplating this transition. Because of budget limitations, one position has been unfilled since the 2011 budget. In addition, the hiring process is slow due to several factors, which adds to the staffing shortage caused by the removal of this position. Now officers have to wait two to three months to attend the Basic Law Enforcement Academy in Burien. It takes approximately fourteen months to go through the hiring process to solo-status of an officer. The Department has made adjustments to maintain the level of service the City requires. We will continue to be innovative in our attempt to obtain staffing relief before others retire or moved on.

In December of 2016, the Department and community witnessed an unspeakable tragedy when Officer Mike McClaughry was shot and critically wounded while investigating a weapon offense on N. LaVenture Road. He made an amazing recovery, he was released from Harborview Hospital last February. Mike retired on November 30, 2017, with more than 33 years of loyal and dedicated service to the City and community.



ORANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Department is divided into two "bureaus." The "Operations Bureau" consists of the Patrol, Criminal Investigations, and Crime Prevention "Divisions." The "Services Bureau" consists of the Administrative, Records, and Property "Divisions." Each Division is under the command of a Lieutenant.

Current staffing includes 45 commissioned Officers, two non-commissioned Community Service Officers, one specially commissioned Animal Control Officer, one Outreach

Coordinator and nine support personnel. We enjoy having more than 50 volunteers to support our services.

SERVICE BUREAU

Administrative Services Division

Lieutenant Chris Cammock is the commander and is responsible for pre-employment, research, collective bargaining, internal affairs, training, and accreditation.



Records Division



This Division is responsible for the general maintenance and management of all Department records. One Receptionist and four full time and one part time Record Specialists are assigned to this Division. Records Manager Jennifer Messina took command of this Division in April.

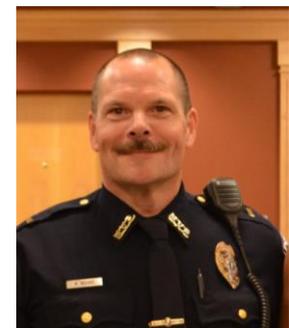
Property Division

Also under the command of Records Manager Jennifer Messina, the Property Division is responsible for the general maintenance, storage, integrity, and management of all property and evidence in the Department's possession. One Property Custodian is assigned to this Division.

OPERATIONAL BUREAU

Patrol Division

Under the command of Lieutenant Mikel Moore, Patrol Division Officers are the first responders to calls for service. The Patrol Division includes traffic enforcement, tactical response, Priority Policing Team, neighborhood resource, K-9, community outreach, and animal control. Patrol is the largest Division within the Department with 32 personnel. Additionally, the Patrol Division Lieutenant coordinates training for new recruits under the Field Training Officer (FTO) Program.



For patrolling purposes, the City is divided into two primary areas, north and south. Officers are assigned these areas and respond to investigation and calls for service within that assigned area. Additional officers work as "rovers" or perform more specialized directed patrol activities. Dividing the City into sections allows for a more productive policing effort and better utilization of resources.

Criminal Investigation Division



The Criminal Investigations Division, commanded by Lieutenant Greg Booth, investigates crimes against persons and/or property; follows up on drug/vice related activity; gathers intelligence; and provides proactive investigation.

Investigators are placed on a weekly rotational “on call” and are subject to returning to work after hours when the need arises. The Division submits criminal cases to the Prosecutor for review, charging, or declining those cases where the collected information reveals no possibility of the case being solved. The Division investigated 251 new cases in 2017, an increase of 10.57%. One Sergeant, five Investigators, and one Secretary are assigned to this Division.

Crime Prevention Division

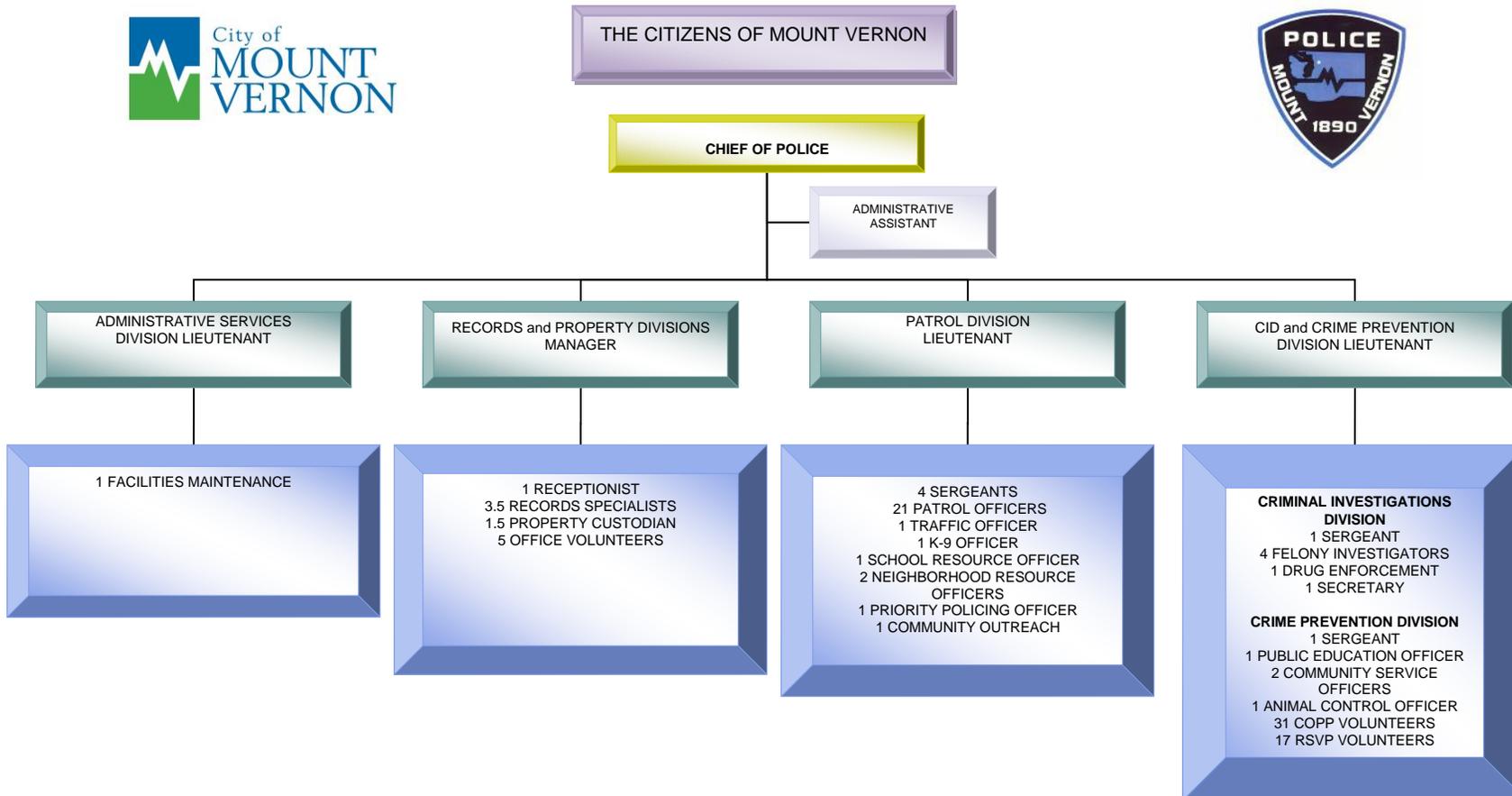
The Crime Prevention Division, also under the command of Lieutenant Greg Booth, attempts to identify and solve community problems. This Division offers security planning, public education, and community services and is responsible for the supervision of the Department’s Volunteer Programs. One Sergeant, one Public Education (TEAM) Officer (vacant), and two Community Service Officers are assigned to Crime Prevention.

With a “horizontal” command structure, decision-making is encouraged at all organizational levels in an effort to eliminate bureaucratic barriers, move the agency forward, increase efficiency, and continue to illicit community trust and support. We also strive to hire those who display strong leadership, decision-making, and communication skills, and we provide continued training to enhance these qualities.

The next two pages display staffing and functional organization charts designed to outline the various duties and responsibilities of the members of the Mount Vernon Police Department. As you review these charts, the many core responsibilities necessary to police our community, will become evident.



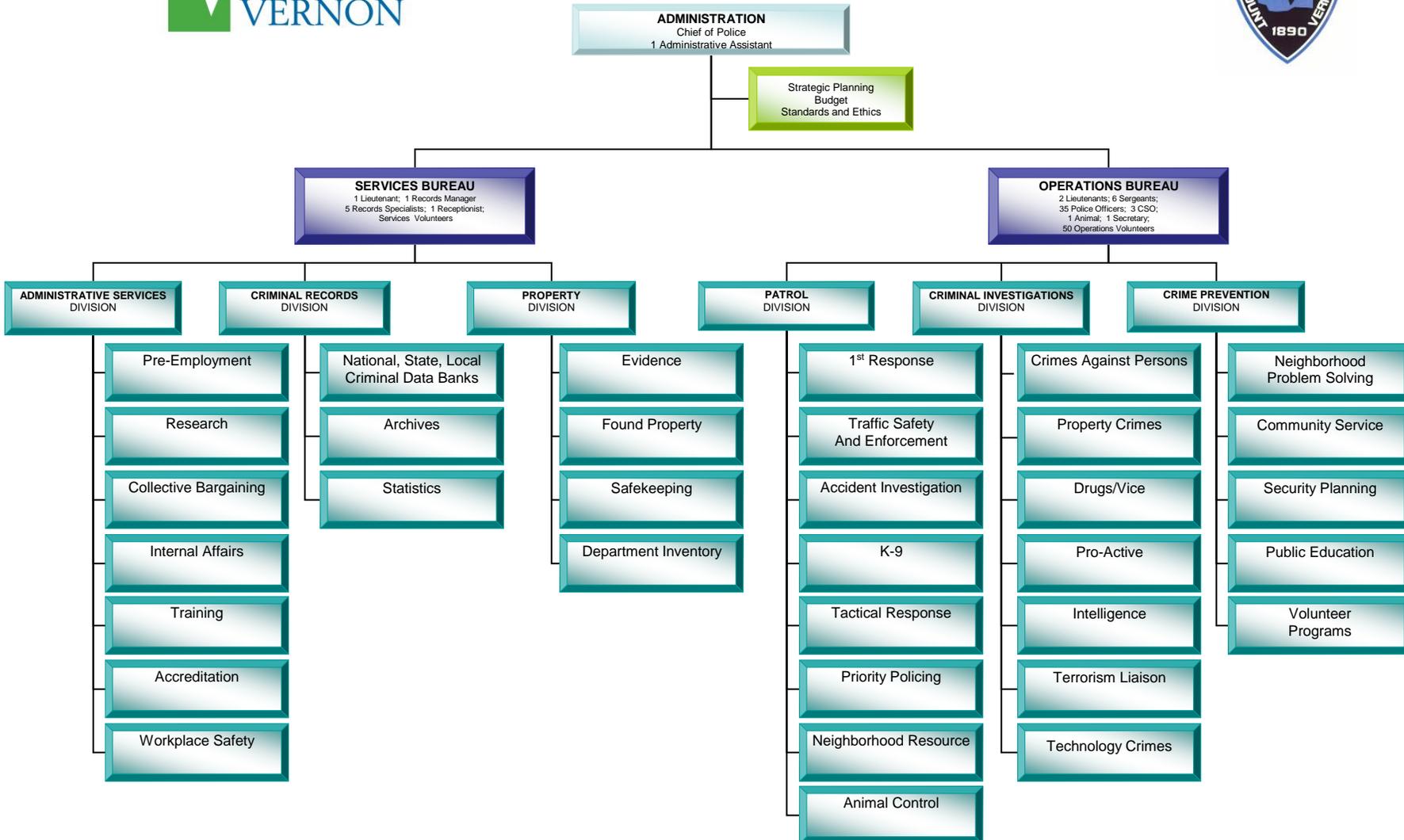
STAFFING CHART



Authorized Personnel: 45 Sworn Officers and 13.5 Civilian Staff



FUNCTIONAL CHART



PERSONNEL CHANGES

New Hire

- Officer Chris Pash was hired on January 12, 2017, and graduated from the Basic Law Enforcement Academy (Class #748) on June 14, 2018.
- Officer Ryan Strong was hired on October 10, 2017, and is attending the Basic Law Enforcement Academy (Class #763) until March 15, 2018.
- Community Outreach Erin von Fempé was hired on March 1, 2017.



Assignment Rotations

- Officers Elizabeth Paul and Chris Carlson were selected as Police Recruiters in July.
- Officers Elizabeth Paul and Chris Carlson were selected as Field Training Officers in September.
- Records Specialist April Litz was selected as a Part-time Property Custodian in September.
- Officer Jeff Dowhaniuk was selected as a Criminal Investigator in November.

Promotions

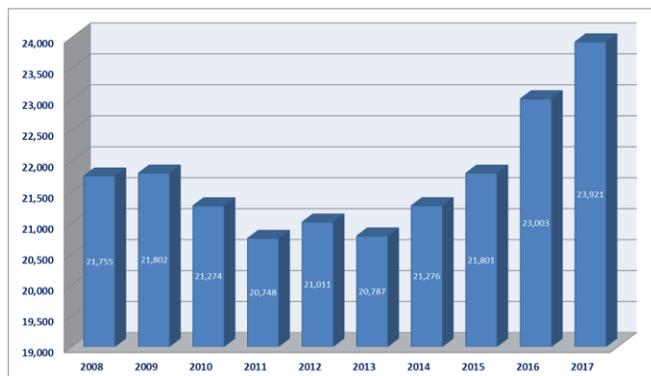
- Records Specialist Jennifer Messina was promoted to Records Manager in April.
- Officer Dave Shackleton was selected as the next Police Sergeant with a promotion date in 2018.

Retirements

- Records Specialist Sue Ann Mace retired in October with 23 years of loyal service.
- Officer Mike McClaughry retired in November with more than 33 years of dedicated service.

CALLS FOR SERVICE

A “call for service” is a request for police service in which an officer is dispatched or an incident observed by a police officer. Not every call for service generates a police report. In 2017 the Department responded to, or initiated, 23,921 calls for service, which is a 3.99% increase. These calls for service include, but are not limited to: reports of criminal activity; motor vehicle collisions; assists to other agencies; suspicious activity, alarm activation responses and other service related functions. Looking at this data from a historical prospective, the average number of calls over the last seven years is 2,172. In review of the data for 2017, there is no one



particular offense, series of incidents, or external variables that would suggest a root cause for these changes.

DEPARTMENT BUDGET

The annual base budget and capital budget for the Police Department is established by the Chief of Police and staff and approved each November by the City Council. The adopted fiscal year budget for 2017 was approved at \$9,739,818 with more than 77% of total the budget was allocated to personnel costs. Even with limited financial resources, the Department has consistently exceeded all budgetary demands and has, in all instances, proven fiscally responsible.

DEPARTMENT PRIORITIES

Established operational priorities place the highest importance on delivering quality professional services to the community through open communication and adaptability in addressing problems. Our guiding principles, values, purpose, and mission direct us in how we operate as an agency and how we conduct our community contacts. We place a great emphasis on building stronger neighborhoods, both residential and business. When neighborhoods are allowed to decay, criminals have the “upper hand.” Gone unchecked, neighborhood decay spreads like a cancer; crime increases and citizens are afraid.

Although preventing crime is our number one operational priority, we continue to employ enforcement practices where necessary with the ultimate goal of modifying behavior. When dealing with traffic related issues, our ultimate goal is to reduce accidents and injuries and to make our streets safer through behavior modification. Officers consider the seriousness of the occurrence, Department policy, and the driver’s history when responding to a traffic-related incident. Once officers have reviewed the situation, they use their discretion to determine the best outcome. Since the Department has no mandate regarding the number of citations issued, neither “quota standards” nor “revenue” play a part in an officer’s decision to warn (educate) the driver or issue a ticket (enforcement). Engineering modifications also play an important role in helping improve the safety of city streets.



The stricter, hard policing (enforcement) approach is normally utilized when addressing crimes against persons, felonies, gang-related activity, illegal drug violations, DUI’s, domestic violence, and assault related incidents because these types of crimes have an increased potential for serious outcomes.

Protecting citizens, their property, and visitors to this community are the driving force behind what we do and how it is accomplished.

We are committed to fulfilling our policing mission through the following practices;

- Employing a highly competent and qualified staff
- Providing a quick and rapid response to emergencies
- Effective policing practices to combat criminal activity
- High visibility of Department personnel and volunteers
- Building community partnerships and problem solving together
- Developing a sense of trust and understanding with the community
- Utilizing prevention practices as the central operating strategy
- Demonstrating the highest standards of professional conduct and ethics



At all levels, this Department consistently seeks to find the best possible contemporary policing strategies and practices for the community. Goals and objectives are adjusted annually in an effort to meet our Mission and Vision. Re-evaluating practices provides a greater level of success and ensures progress in our goal of creating a community that is a safe and enjoyable place to live, work, learn, and play.

CRIME

As stated early, with jail overcrowding, gangs, homelessness and the strong presence of heroin facing our community we saw an increase in several human service type of calls. Year end 2017 data showed a 9.61% decrease in Group A offenses (most serious). We had a significant decrease (26.06%) in robberies; something not experienced in a couple years. Vehicle prowls were down by 13 offenses (7.43%) from last year, burglaries increased by 13 offenses (11.86%) and simple assaults decreased by 20.11% or 36 incidents.

Motor vehicle thefts were down 7 offenses and aggravated assaults were reduced by 14 offenses or 11.36%. In addition, there were a total of 1,263 arrests made in 2017; 1,151 adults and 112 juveniles. Overall violent crime decreased by eight offenses, and we finished the year with a 9.20% decrease in violent crimes per 1000 residential population.



With the decrease in criminal activities, we are seeing an increase of 12.7% our human service calls.

CRIME PROFILE (Significant Change in Crime Reporting)

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program was conceived in 1929 by the International Association of Chiefs of Police to meet a need for reliable, uniform crime statistics for the nation. In 1930, the FBI was tasked with collecting, publishing, and archiving those statistics.

By the late 1970s, the law enforcement community saw the need for a more detailed crime reporting program that would meet the needs of law enforcement agencies in the 21st Century.

In response to this need for more flexible, in-depth data, the UCR Program formulated the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). NIBRS presents comprehensive detailed information about crime incidents to law enforcement, researchers, governmental planners, students of crime, and the general public.

To put in simple terms, National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) has improved and modernized the Uniform Crime Reporting program. The new system was approved for general use at a national UCR conference in March 1999, and for the last two years the Department has been NIBRS certified by the FBI.

The general concepts of collecting and reporting UCR data are the same as in NIBRS; however, NIBRS goes into much greater detail than the summary-based UCR system. NIBRS includes 46 Group A offenses whereas UCR only has eight offenses classified as Part I offenses. For that reason, UCR and NIBRS are not completely analytical comparable - data users should use some caution when comparing past statistical data of UCR to 2012 and 2013 NIBRS crime data.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	- % +
Murder	2	1	1	0	1	0	2	+100.00%
Rape	24	14	15	15	12	11	13	+18.18%
Robbery	34	22	31	21	25	23	17	-26.06%
Aggravated Assault	40	47	41	46	33	44	39	-11.36%
Arson	9	10	7	7	8	2	8	+300.00%
Burglary	349	318	257	224	205	194	217	+11.86%
Theft	1,376	1,172	1,294	1193	1114	1011	714	-29.38%
Vehicle Theft	75	86	130	111	91	114	107	-6.14%
Car Prowl	365	249	295	238	213	175	162	-7.43%
Violent Crime	100	94	95	89	78	87	79	-9.20%
Violent Crime per 1000	3.22	2.96	2.94	2.86	2.40	2.57	2.29	-10.89%
Calls for Service	20,748	21,011	20,787	21,276	21,801	23,001	23,921	+3.99%
MV Population	31,020	31,743	32,250	33,170	33,580	33,730	34,360	+1.87%

There is typically a strong temptation to compare the crime statistics of one jurisdiction with another in an effort to gauge police effectiveness in some relative manner. This tendency should be avoided unless there is a serious effort to consider all of the associated factors that influence those statistics. Those factors include:

- Level and accuracy of reporting
- Economic conditions locally and regionally
- Variations in composition of the population
- Population density
- Degree of urbanization
- Number of residents versus the “policed population”
- Modes of transportation and highway system
- Cultural conditions
- Family conditions (divorce, cohesiveness, etc.)
- Climate
- Effective strength of the police agency
- Administrative strength of the police agency
- Policies of other components of the criminal justice system (prosecutorial, judicial, correctional, and probationary)

Policing Challenges in Mount Vernon

With the visible presence of the homeless population in community, the City has taken a holistic approach in addressing this issue. In 2017, the Police Department hired Social Worker Erin von Femepe as a Community Outreach Coordinator to assist and develop long term relationships with the homeless, with the goal of assisting them find housing, treatment, jobs, and to reduce the impacts on the local resources. With the work of Erin and others in the community, we had a 2.04% decrease in vagrancy calls (481 in 2017 compared to 491 in 2016). Unfortunately, the Department is experiencing a continual increase in “human service” calls, i.e., disorderly conduct, removal of person, trespassing and welfare checks.



Agency Overall Strategic Challenges:

- Continue with Department policing philosophy
 - Exchange
 - Adaptability
 - Crime Prevention
 - Shared Responsibility



GROUP A OFFENSE – NIBRS REPORTING	FY2017
Arson	8
Assault - Simple	299
Assault - Aggravated	39
Burglary	207
Counterfeit/Forgery	23
Destruction of Property	601
Drug Offenses	452
Fraud Offenses	35
Homicide	2
Kidnapping/Abduction	6
Larceny/Theft - From Vehicle	162
Larceny/Theft - Shoplifting	366
Larceny/Theft - Other	247
Motor Vehicle Theft	107
Pornography	7
Prostitution	0
Robbery	17
Sex Offenses - Other	12
Sex Offenses - Rape	13
Stolen Property Offenses	20
Total Group A Offenses	3,114
Total Group A Incidents	2,838

- Maintain staffing levels that meet the needs of the community
- Adapt and maintain service to new growth areas in the City
- Expand Department deployment model which provides a semi-permanent uniformed patrol staff presence in all neighborhoods
- Proactively address traffic related concerns
- Enhance our ability to attract quality employees
- Continue with agency accreditation process
- Remain focused on Department operational priority – prevention of crime
- Propose crime impact measures that have the greatest success of addressing criminal activity
- Aggressively address neighborhood issues involving drug and gang related activity
- Continue commitment to stay current with new technological advances
- Growing cultural differences
- Develop trust and open communication with

all cultures

- Understand the different cultures in this community
- Attempt to hire staffing that reflects the makeup of the community
- Changing public attitudes
- Our challenge is to develop trust with the community and create solutions to community issues
- Continue to be prepared for unusual occurrences

Inter-Agency Strategic Challenges

- Support Skagit County in resolving the need for additional jail space
- Continue to look for ways where police agencies can share or combine resources
- Complete and implement the strategic plan for addressing gang activity county-wide
- Strive to identify a funding source to upgrade the Spillman system for all users and to update to the newest version.
- Complete and implement the strategic response for addressing homelessness and associated activities and crimes.

DEPARTMENT TRAINING

Members of the Department participated in 6,741 hours of training in 2017, which is an increase of 16% from 2016. Employees are required by the State to have specific number of training hours to maintain their certifications. We are always striving to keep pace with the changing legal environment and new investigative techniques. We also have certified Instructors within the Department that conduct in-house training. Using the Department's multipurpose room we continue to look for opportunities to host trainings for our agency and neighboring jurisdictions. By hosting classes we can reduce our expenses while still providing additional training to our officers. A few areas of training included first aid, firearms, collision investigation, Spanish, active shooter, bloodborne/airborne pathogens, search and seizure, crime scene investigations, defensive tactics, emergency driving, crisis negotiations, and hazardous materials.

OUR COMMUNITY

Our community continues to grow every year. This can be observed by driving through the City and experiencing congestion or by looking at the amount of growth. Some of our older established neighborhoods have begun to age and, with that, we see issues which require addressing. Residents often become frustrated looking for solutions. Residents have high expectations that the Police Department will deploy resources to provide the greatest likelihood of ensuring an improved quality of life and neighborhood livability.



We believe our greatest success to meet the needs of the community is based on four strategic principals; open and honest two-way communication with the community, adaptability in providing solutions to community issues and problems, crime prevention as a central theme of operation, and shared responsibility with our citizenry in policing our community. This philosophy is consistent with the direction identified by the Mayor and City Council. With limited resources due to tough economic times, it will continue to take communication and collaboration with other City departments and law enforcement agencies, community participation, and utilization of outside resources to ensure positive changes continue to occur.

In 2017, staff in the Crime Prevention Division continued to review crime data by specific neighborhood zones. A venue was established whereby every other month staff meets to review this crime data in a program called "Operations Talk". Priorities are established and strategies and tactics developed and implemented to address these various issues with the goal of solving crime, improving the quality of life in the community, and reducing duplication of services.

As you look through our many accomplishments, it will become evident the policing philosophy

this Department implements is working and has resulted in improved communication and interaction with other City departments and our community.

In a city with more than 34,000 residents, we continue to see traffic-related issues - congestion, frustrated motorists, and accidents. It is not uncommon to see a motorist speeding, running a yellow or red light, or driving in an aggressive manner. We have partnered with Public Works on engineering strategies, provided educational public service messages, addressed violations through enforcement, and conducted evaluations of our efforts to determine success or to redirect focus where necessary. This four tiered approach provides the best opportunity to make positive changes in traffic related issues. In 2016, the Mayor and Council approved the hiring of a second Traffic Officer. The Department has been actively working with other law enforcement agencies and the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission on DUI and other traffic related emphases, focusing on the reduction of accidents and injuries and the arrest of violators. The number of reportable accidents for 2017 was 503 compared to 521 reported in 2016; a reduction of 3.58%.

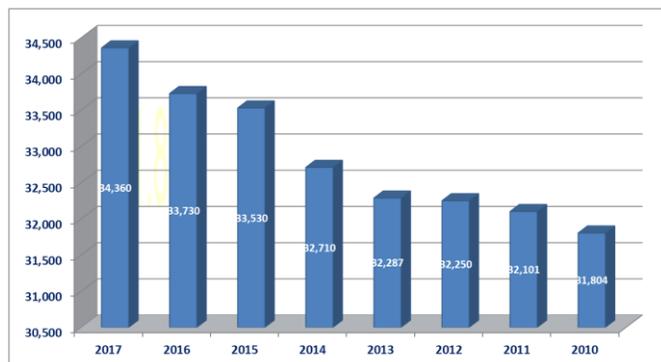


We have continued to remain focused on our approach to addressing these and other community related issues and problems. Our staff has contributed immensely to ensure overall success in the delivery of services in a professional manner. We remain goal focused, striving to meet our Department Mission.

What is driving the growth in our community?

Mount Vernon is the center for county government and many social service agencies. This community is also very attractive due to its location, which has caused a steady increase in population. In 2017, the estimated population for Mount Vernon was 34,360. Mount Vernon is a mid-way point between two major international trade centers, Seattle and Vancouver. Our recreational attractions bring many visitors to this community as well. Mount Vernon is also the host of several community events that require increasing police services.

In 2017, the growth Mount Vernon has continued to grow in recent years in residential and commercial areas of the City continued to experience a steady recovery. In 2017, there were 109 new single family homes and ten commercial buildings constructed.



The development of residential housing increases the service area for staff. The increased retail business brings a large number of visitors to the community to utilize these services. With all the attractiveness of our community means is the potential for criminal activity to occur. We see this in the form of drug activity, gang violence, traffic related concerns, theft, and other categories of crime.

We strive to employ tactics that provide the best opportunity to make an impact on criminal activity. As you review the individual organizational accomplishments of the different divisions, you will see many examples of the proactive measures employed aimed at making a positive impact on crime, which ultimately helps make the Mount Vernon community a safe and enjoyable place to live, work, learn and play.

LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE

While we have experienced great success with our community-based policing approach, we have developed a deployment model which will involve specific patrol officers being assigned to geographic areas of the City in addition to their general city-wide patrol duties.

“Neighborhood-based policing” is an extension of our community-based policing philosophy actually sectoring the City into geographic boundaries or zones where officers are responsible for specific areas which will enhance the patrol officer’s ability to develop long-term partnerships with residents to solve specific neighborhood issues and/or problems. This deployment model has provided a stronger connectivity between the community and the members of the Department.



This model, specifically developed for Mount Vernon, involved dividing the City into twelve neighborhoods (plus Kulshan Creek and Westhill neighborhoods which already have full-time Neighborhood Resource Officers). Four neighborhoods are assigned officers who worked in teams of two. The neighborhoods consist of Historic Downtown, Center Point, Digby Heights and West Mount Vernon. Additionally, the foundation was established to assign staff to the remaining unfilled zones in 2013. In 2018, Neighborhood Zone Teams will be readjusted to meet the staffing changes that occurred in patrol.

We believe neighborhood-based deployment will reduce the likelihood of issues or problems falling through the cracks, improve communication, and strengthen our already positive police/community interaction. This philosophy will require a partnership with other City departments, the business community, and citizenry to ensure success. We will continue to keep you updated on our ability to fully transition to this philosophy of policing.



2017 ORGANIZATIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

At mid-year, the Police Department held its annual strategic planning workshop to establish direction for the coming year. Prior to budget preparation, the various units and divisions of the Department formulated their annual goals and objectives for the upcoming year. The goals and

objectives that are established by divisions are designed to be congruent with the Department's Mission and Vision and subordinate to the broad goals of the agency.

While we focus on planned goals and objectives, inevitable additional objectives are discovered. Department members attempt to accomplish these as well. As the year unfolds, the majority of the goals and objectives identified are accomplished while others are either modified or transferred to the following year due to a change in operational priorities.

Annually, division managers provide a re-cap of goals and objectives. The following identifies the many accomplishments throughout the Department for Year 2017. Each contribution, whether large or small, helps make that positive difference in making this community a better place to live, learn, visit, or work. Meeting our Mission is dependent on the many contributions of the members of this Department.



PATROL DIVISION

2017 Accomplishments



INTRODUCTION

“The real measure of a police agency – the fact that separates excellence from mediocrity – is the commitment to purpose and to pursue continuous improvement with integrity” (Mount Vernon Police Department – Strategic Plan 2009-2014)

For the past 20 years, the Mount Vernon Police Department has engaged in a directed, purposeful evolution in how we both interact with and deliver services to our community. Best described as *“a desire to partner with citizens toward the common goal of a safe and enjoyable community,”* we have sought to open avenues of communication and directly involve citizens in the development and delivery of police services. It is that mission that pushes us deeper into the community, closer to the root causes of crime and disorder at the neighborhood level, and in turn allows us to directly and significantly impact citizens’ quality of life.

The Mount Vernon Police Department believes the best indicator of a community’s overall health is found within the “neighborhoods.” Neighborhoods may experience similar problems, but the causes vary and the solutions require unique strategies. It is this fundamental belief that underscores the importance of policing our community in a manner in which we target the underlying commonalities that lead to crime and disorder while understanding the inherent uniqueness of each individual neighborhood.

Four years ago, a committee comprised of staff from throughout the Department was charged with developing a deployment model allowing Patrol Officers to partner with individual neighborhoods within the larger community. Long-term partnerships would provide opportunities for officers and citizens to work toward the following goals:

- 1) *Identifying unique “neighborhood “ problems,*
- 2) *Understanding the underlying causes, and*
- 3) *Developing custom strategies to ensure lasting solutions.*

The committee developed a deployment model outlining “14” identified neighborhoods within the City, including the previously defined Kulshan Creek and West Hill Neighborhoods (see map next page). In 2016, the neighborhoods were assigned to new officers for all phases of deployment and neighborhood objectives were established to focus efforts toward the previously stated goals:

- **Historic Downtown Zone** - Officers Howard and Gless
- **Center Point Zone** - Officers Flaherty and Paul
- **Digby Heights Zone** - Officer Graham
- **West Mount Vernon Zone** - Officer McClaughry
- **Thunderbird Zone** – Officer Clark
- **Seneca Highlands Zone** – Officer Maxwell
- **Waugh Hill Zone** – Officer Espinoza
- **Centennial Ridge Zone** – Officer Litke
- **North River Commercial Zone** – Officers Dowhaniuk, Leighton and Carlson
- **Fir Hill** – Officers Vandyk and Ely
- **South Mount Vernon** – Officer Curry
- **Hillcrest Medical District** – Officers Marker and Livingston

The goal of the Department is to eventually have officers assigned to all neighborhoods throughout the City providing in-depth first-hand knowledge of the problems and issues facing our community. As our deployment expands, Neighborhood Officers will be responsible for developing and maintaining the individual goals/objectives for their assigned area.

- Patrol
 - Crime Prevention
 - Animal Control
 - Community Service Officers
 - Criminal Investigations
 - Special Operations
 - Neighborhood Resource Officers
 - School Resource Officers
 - Priority Policing
 - Records
 - Code Enforcement
 - City Work Program
 - City Attorney's Office
- Combining PPT Officer Cohen with other Officers from Special Operations they have addressed local drug and property crime issues throughout the year. These resources effectively and proactively addressed our most significant drug-related areas.

Over the course of the year, areas/residences were identified as showing activity associated with drug usage/sales. Some included:

- Safeway Parking Lot and surrounding area
- 1505 S. 6th Street
- 1420 S. 7th Street
- 1314 S. 2nd Street

ZONE TEAMS

- Zone Teams continued to be successful in the Zone Deployment for the Mount Vernon Police Department providing supervision and support.
- Each Zone Team met throughout the year to discuss and problem-solve issues occurring in their assigned zones.
 - Officers Carlson and Dowhaniuk have worked to bring greater strength to the ORC group. The information gathered from these meetings has been disseminated through the patrol division providing valuable intelligence.
 - Officer Leighton continued to be instrumental in the documentation of the transient issues within North River Commercial as well as the entire City providing valuable information for the Outreach Coordinator position.

OUTREACH COORDINATOR:

- Erin Von Fempe was hired in March of 2017 as the City of Mount Vernon's first Embedded Social Worker with the Police Department.
 - Met with 161 individuals
 - 7 intakes to inpatient substance use treatment centers
 - 2 individuals into housing
 - 5 returned to their home county or state
 - 2 accessed mental health services
 - 5 people obtained identification needed for assistance
 - 1 enrolled in Medically-Assisted-Treatment (MAT)
 - Presented to the community 16 times to include City Council, County Commissioners, Downtown Business Association, Law and Civic Organizations.
 - Set up weekly drop-in time at the Mount Vernon Public Library to provide opportunities for the homeless population.
 - Developed working relationships with Mountain Law and Public Defenders Offices to work on alternatives to incarceration.

PERSONNEL:

- 2017 offered some staffing challenges.
 - Officers Who Left
 - Espinoza – Transferred to Burlington Police Department
 - McClaughry - Retired
 - Officer On Disability Leave
 - McClaughry out for all of 2017 until retirement
 - Officer Hired
 - Strong
 - Officers Completing FTO
 - Elwell
 - Henthorn
 - Pash
 - Robinson
 - There were periods in 2017 which as many as three officers in FTO at one time. The first eight months had at least two on at a time.
 - Shortage of FTO's
 - Scheduling and logistical challenges

- Positions currently unfilled
 - Special Operations Sergeant
 - Priority Policing Officer
 - Traffic Officer

TRAINING:

- All patrol squads took part in a variety of roll call and in-service training, with topics including:
 - Equipment
 - Ram
 - Spit Mask
 - Rescue Disk / Throw bag
 - Big Easy
 - Shield
 - Topics
 - Building Searches
 - Active Threat Response
 - Crisis Negotiations
 - CPTED
 - K9 Containment
 - Vehicle Rescues
 - Field Movement
 - Search Warrants
- Active Threat response Instructor School – 24 hours
 - Officers Maxwell, Gless, Carlson, and Cohen
- EVOG Instructor School – 80 hours
 - Officer Reed
- Field Training Officer School – 40 hours
 - Officers Paul and Carlson
- CISM Training – 24 hours
 - Officer Paul
- Officer Wright and Vektor attended the week long WSPCA Conference
- First Line Supervisor School – 40 hours
 - Sergeant Young

- Mediation Training – 24 hours
 - Sergeant Thompson
 - Officers Flaherty, Litke, and Howard
 - Outreach Coordinator Von Fempe
- De-escalation for Military Veteran’s Training – 16 hours
 - Officers VanDyk and Paul
- RAD Instructor Training – 24 hours
 - Officers Reed and Paul
- EVOC: Training dates were May 11th – May 22nd at the Bayview Airport

GENERAL:

- Significant Patrol Incidents:
 - Drive-by Shooting - 1400 Block N. 30th – 17-M04581
 - Robbery - 200 Block N. Barker – 17-M00539
 - Homicide - 2300 Block Kulshan View – 17-M13857
 - Car Jacking - Anderson Road – 17-M15151
 - Arson - Pine Street – 17-M17780
 - Agency Assist - Curtis Cameron – 17-M19534
 - Skagit Bank Robbery - 17-M21441
 - Homicide - 2100 Block E. College Way – 17-M23084

POLICE TACTIC OPERATIONS:

- Deployments - 8
- Team Training Days - 12
- Individual Training
 - Chemical Munitions Instructor – Officer Cohen
 - NTOA Leadership / Liability Training for Team leaders – Sergeants Young and Martinez
 - WASTOA Training Development – Officer Shaddy and Sergeant Young
 - Active Threat Instructor Training – Officers Cohen and Maxwell
- New Equipment
 - Helmets
 - Ballistic Blanket

- Uniform Shirts

CRISIS NEGOTIATIONS TEAM:

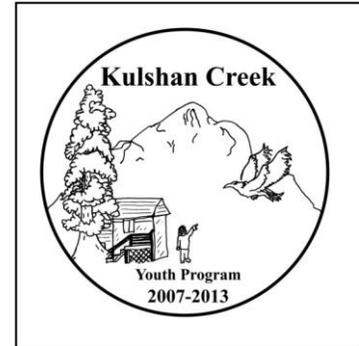
- Deployments - 6
- Team Training Days - 10
 - Scenarios, Equipment, Debriefs, Joint training w/PTO, Social Media Negotiations, Water Borne Negotiations
- Established Alert Sense call-out procedure

KULSHAN CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCE

OFFICER EDGAR SERRANO



- NRO Serrano attended and helped coordinate 10 separate field trips through Kulshan Youth Program. The attendance for the field trips varied but there was an average of 20 students.
- The Kulshan Youth Program received the prestigious Wings Across America Award in 2017
- December 1st, 2017 - Year-end Kulshan Youth Program family pot-luck celebration at La Venture Middle School
 - Two Bikes were raffled off to participants
- Field trips will continue in 2018
- Kulshan Creek Neighborhood Street Festivals June 10th, 2017 and August 10th, 2017.



- Maintenance and minor upgrades at Kulshan Creek Neighborhood Garden to sustain site.
 - A group from Boys and Girls Club cleaned out the garden space for residents to use
 - The Neighborhood Station was painted with a group of volunteers and students from the neighborhood
 - Neighborhood residents volunteered to take care of garden and flower beds around the Neighborhood Station
- Kulshan Creek neighborhood events included:
 - 10 Neighborhood Meetings with the residents

- Topics presented were Drugs Abuse/Recognition, Mount Vernon Resources and Court Procedures
- Two adult field trips to Juvenile Detention and the new Skagit County Justice Center



- Drive Safe Workshop
 - Workshop for adults to prepare themselves and pass the WA driver's exam
 - Five workshops total in 2017
- SVC Radio show Echos de la Comunidad with Miguel Angel Gaitan
 - Presented topics which varied from Bullying, Domestic Violence Prevention and Reporting, Driving Under the Influence and shared information occurring throughout the City of Mount Vernon
 - There were a total of 10 shows broadcasted live from Skagit Valley College Radio Station KSVR 91.7
 - Will continue in 2018 last Friday of every month



- Officer Serrano continued to work with partners within the neighborhood as well as outside agencies and groups.
 - February 9th, 2017 – DVSAS staff
 - Gangs

- March 24th, 2017 – Ralph’s Greenhouse
 - Community Policing
- April 5th, 2017 – Casa San Jose
 - Gangs
- June 13th, 2017 – Centennial Elementary
 - Kids play day for end of school year
- July 22nd, 2017 – MV Presbyterian Church
 - Presentation on drugs
- August 30th, 2017 – Centennial Elementary
 - Open House
- September 13th, 2017 – Casa San Jose
 - Distracted Driving Law
- September 26th, 2016 – Centennial Elementary
 - Police 101
- November 30th, 2016 – Casa San Jose
 - Gangs
 - Presented to the children as well as parents
- November 2017 - Vacant Properties around Kulshan Trail
 - Kulshan Field
 - Extreme transient activity and camps
 - Permission to Trespass Letters were sent to all property owners
- Boys and Girls Club
 - April 12th, 2017 – Boys & Girls Club
 - Presentation on Kulshan Creek
 - November 15th, 2017 – Boys & Girls Club
 - Award Ceremony
- Spring garden group
 - Met with them for an hour most Tuesdays to prepare soil, plant and harvest crops



- Officer Serrano partnered with MVHS Resource Officer
 - Developed tasks for students to complete their Culminating Projects
 - December 21st, 2017 a MVHS student helped organize a soccer tournament for students from MVHS
 - Over 25 students attended

- Winners received Kulshan Creek t-shirts



- Officer Serrano worked with PPT Officer Cohen on task specific emphasis
 - Worked special details to include Narcotics and Zone Specific details
 - Cosgrove St.
 - S. 6th St.
 - Garfield St.
 - S. 27th St.
 - S 7th St.
 - S 2nd St.
 - Attended eight gang meetings presented by Officer Cohen
 - Attended the Gang Conference in Spokane
- Officer Serrano worked with Traffic Unit Officer Shaddy in DTM's
 - Crosswalk at the Skagit Valley College
 - Speed emphasis on E. Fir St.
 - La Venture School speed emphasis
- Coordinated a number of apartment specific and Kulshan Creek Neighborhood clean-up projects.
- Manager Meetings held quarterly
 - Stats and relevant info are shared with and by managers
- Skagit Valley Mobile Manor
 - Disabled adult
 - Worked with family to reduce incidents of police contacts for him trespassing or running into traffic
 - Placement for vulnerable adult
 - People were taking advantage of him using his home as flop house

- Connected with Compass Health and APS
- Summerglen
 - Apartment used as flop house
 - Second apartment with complaints of drug dealing
 - Involved with multiple complaints in short time
 - Assault
 - Vehicle fire
 - Suspect was arrested and evicted
- Kulshan Apartments
 - Two problem apartments
 - Generated most complaints
 - Worked with offsite management to build an eviction case
- Cascade West
 - Movie Night for tenants
 - Apartment involved in domestics and drug problem complaints
 - Multiple arrests
 - Worked with management to build an eviction case
- Clean up activities at Skagit Mobile Manor, Cascade West Apartments, Summerglen Apartments, Kulshan Creek walking trail and Kulshan Creek Neighborhood Station
- Movie Night in Kulshan Creek
 - Large Screen showing outside the Kulshan Neighborhood Station





WEST HILL NEIGHBORHOOD
RESOURCE

OFFICER BRIEN REED



- Officer Reed was the mentor for 15 graduating seniors during the school year.
- Officer Reed participated in many school events
 - Sporting events both on and off duty
 - Football
 - Basketball
 - Baseball
 - Soccer
 - Participated as a judge for the talent show
 - An interviewer for mock job interviews
- Officer Reed worked with various divisions within the Police Department in order to address crime both in his neighborhood and in the city of Mount Vernon
 - MVPD Criminal Investigations, Patrol and Crime Prevention Divisions all contacted him about MVHS students as suspects and victims
 - Multiple cases were resolved during the 2017 year through this collaboration

- Officer Reed taught multiple classes throughout the 2017

- Social Media: Do's & Don'ts
- Theft
- 4th Amendment
- Domestic Violence Laws as they relate to high school aged students
- Search and seizure
- RCW's, Criminal Law and Procedure
- Use of Deadly Force



- Officer Reed attended the Annual Block Watch Meeting in December 2017 and spoke about “the state of the city of Mount Vernon and the Westhill Neighborhood.”
- Officer Reed provides the Monthly Gang Meetings with news and pictures of gang activity occurring at the Mount Vernon High School
- Officer Reed participated in Operations Talk meetings to provide updates on campus activity and collaborate with other departmental personnel on problem-solving issues of crime and quality of life throughout the community.

- Prep Academy 2016 was cancelled due to lack of manpower at MVPD. 2017 Preparatory Academy was back on with 11 students.



MIDDLE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

OFFICER JON GERONDALE



*The Middle School Resource Officer is assigned to the campuses of **LaVenture** and **Mount Baker** Middle Schools, and also oversees **Little Mountain Elementary** which shares a common campus with Mount Baker Middle School. The position serves a combined population of approximately 1,600 students and 185 staff at the three schools, as well as providing security to a combined 56 acres (20 + 36) of school property.*

CLASSROOM TEACHING AND STAFF TRAINING

- Officer Gerondale developed 75-minute alcohol awareness curriculum to teach each 8th grade Mount Baker Middle School and La Venture Middle School health classes (16 classes taught)
- Developed 75-minute search and seizure curriculum to teach 8th grade La Venture Middle School social studies classes (8 classes taught)
- Taught class with Officer Shaddy on traffic safety to 6th grade Health class at La Venture Middle School

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Worked with La Venture Middle School LEAP Club on clean up and maintenance projects to maintain Kulshan Neighborhood Garden and Kulshan Butterfly Garden
- Went with LEAP Club to Bridge Assisted Living and played Bingo with residents

SCHOOL SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

- Continued “Classroom Safety Assessments” of each classroom on campus at both Mount Baker Middle School and La Venture Middle School to check for the following: window blinds work, door magnets, green/red room number sign in exterior window, emergency flip guides in classroom, and interior door window covers.
 - 8th grade Leadership students at Mount Baker Middle School and LEAP Club students at La Venture Middle School performed safety checks for each classroom at the schools in October/November 2017
 - Officer Gerondale summarized the information from the individual classroom checklists and is working with school staff to address individual classroom deficiencies.
 - Mount Baker Leadership students also performed Classroom Safety Assessments at Little Mountain Elementary School and Jefferson Elementary School; La Venture LEAP Club students performed Classroom Safety Assessments at Centennial Elementary and Madison Elementary.
- Officer Gerondale continued education and maintenance of “Black Box” that was installed at Mount Baker Middle School as a means for students to anonymously provide information to school security and Officer Gerondale about activity



on campus.

- Officer Gerondale continued education and maintenance of similar box at La Venture Middle School as a means for students to anonymously provide information to school security and Officer Gerondale about activity on campus.
- School Safety and Security Award for both Mount Baker Middle School and La Venture Middle School to recognize students who have made a significant contribution to school safety. Plaque posted at both schools recognizing awarded students.

INVOLVEMENT WITH STUDENTS AND PARENTS

- Officer Gerondale continued hosted a table at open house events at Mount Baker Middle School and La Venture Middle School to provide students and parent information about the SRO program
- Attended school dances, cross country meets, boys and girls soccer games, girls volleyball matches, basketball games and track and field meets for Mount Baker Middle School and La Venture Middle School
- Daily individual and group contacts with students during lunch and passing periods at Mount Baker Middle School and La Venture Middle School

- Officer Gerondale continued working with La Venture Middle School Security Officer on supervising the Falcon Fitness program before school (Starting in October, meet every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 0630 hours to 0700 hours)



- Assisted school administration in school disciplinary matters that involve harassment, threats, fights, weapons, and drug/alcohol issues. Contacted parents when child involved in school discipline matters that do not lead to criminal charges
- Officer Gerondale continued created Mount Baker Middle School and La Venture Middle School “Dog Tags” which I give to students who “go above and beyond” in doing things that improve the safety and security at the middle schools. The dog tags are individually numbered and every couple of months, each student who has been awarded a dog tag is eligible for a prize raffle.

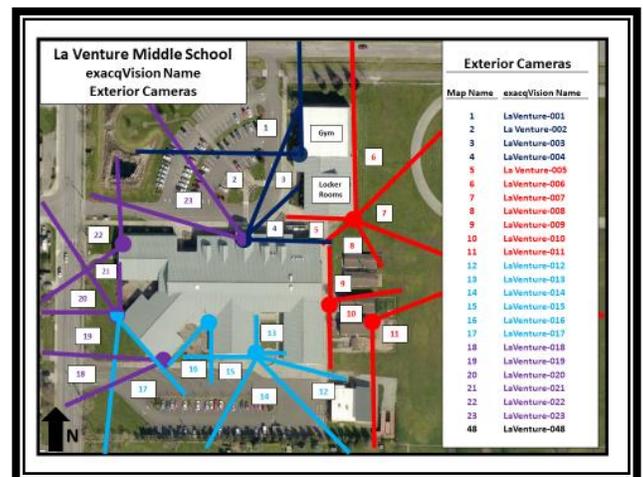
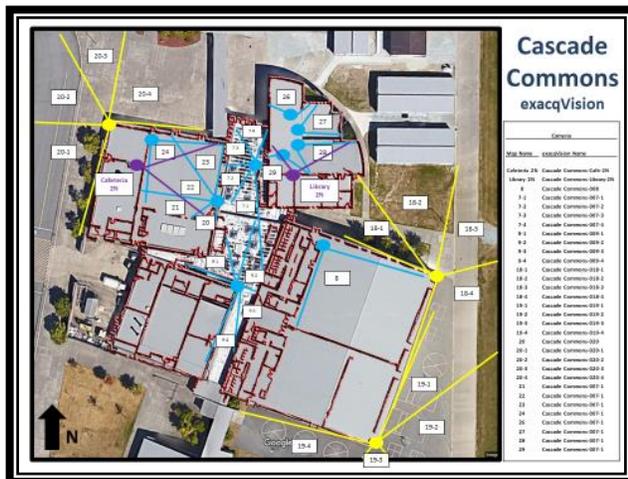
- Donated gift cards and other MVPD paraphernalia raffled off to La Venture Middle School and Mount Baker Middle School students who received dog tags every other month.
- Officer Gerondale continued lunchtime program at Mount Baker Middle School and La Venture Middle School where students compete in various activities during their lunch periods with the overall winner at each school face-off to determine an overall champion. A trophy was created where the winner's name is engraved on the trophy.

Three competitions in 2017 – Soccer goal accuracy, football toss and free throws



PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO PATROL

- Officer Gerondale assisted patrol officers in following up on investigations involving middle school students that occur when he's off-duty
- Officer Gerondale created maps of La Venture Middle School and Mount Baker Middle School documenting the various video surveillance cameras at the respective schools



TRAFFIC UNIT

OFFICER PAUL SHADDY



The safety and security of our community's roadways are a high priority for the Mount Vernon Police Department. To effectively meet the impacts of our growing population on vehicular and pedestrian safety, we focus our resources on three primary approaches.

1. **Educating** drivers and pedestrians about local and state laws, safe behaviors and roadway hazards
2. Addressing **engineering** and its impacts on roadway design that influences driver and pedestrian actions
3. **Enforcing** local and State laws

This comprehensive approach to roadway, motorist, and pedestrian safety has been very effective at reducing accidents in high traffic areas and the associated costs for injury and property damage.

Officer Shaddy remains the sole Traffic Officer. Due to staffing levels he is also working without the direct supervision of a Special Operations Sergeant. Officer Shaddy was assigned to the Traffic Unit for the entire year.

- 244 Scheduled work days
- 35 Days Vacation/Sick/Comp Time
- 43 Days School/Training/SD
- 41 Days Patrol Coverage
- 125 Days Traffic

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS STATISTICS

Note: Starting in 2013 there was a change in Spillman reporting to include each applicable offense code (HR, PI, PD, PP) for every MVA. This results in a higher count per code. Does not affect total calls, reportable collisions or Hit and Runs. Every reportable accident is either HR (hit and run), PI (personal injury), or PD (property damage), and in many cases, a combination of several. Most instances of PI only are typically vehicle vs. person.

2017: 1051 total calls to 911 for MVA related incidents. -2.50% from 2016

501 Reportable Accidents -3.8%

1 Fatality 0%

72 Hit and Run -25%

133 Personal Injury -1.48%

367 Property Damage -4.67%

12 Pedestrian -7.7%

12 Pedalcyclist 0%

16 Internet Submitted Traffic Complaints -58.9%

2016: 1078 total calls to 911 for MVA related incidents. -1.1% from 2015

521 Reportable Accidents -1.13%

1 Fatality +100%

96 Hit and Run +6.6%

135 Personal Injury +39%

385 Property Damage -2.28%

13 Pedestrian +116.66%

12 Pedalcyclist +140%

39 Internet Submitted Traffic Complaints -13.33%

2015: 1090 total calls to 911 for MVA related incidents. +5.52% from previous year
527 Reportable Accidents -4.01%
0 Fatalities
90 Hit and Run -15.38%
97 Personal Injury 0%
394 Property Damage -23.34 %
6 Pedestrian -60 %
5 Pedalcyclist -37.5%
45 Internet Submitted Traffic Complaints

2014: 1033 total calls to 911 for MVA related incidents. +12% from previous year.
549 Reportable Accidents -11%
0 Fatalities
78 Hit and Run -46%
97 Personal Injury -7%
514 Property Damage -8%
15 Pedestrian -12%
8 Pedalcyclist -33%

2013: 924¹ total calls to 911 for MVA related incidents. -6.5% from previous year²
615 Reportable Accidents -14%
0 Fatalities³
144 Hit and Run -14%
104 Personal Injury +230%
556 Property Damage +18%
17 Pedestrian
12 Pedalcyclist

¹Also includes 48 MVA's occurring within the traffic issue created by the I5 bridge collapse.

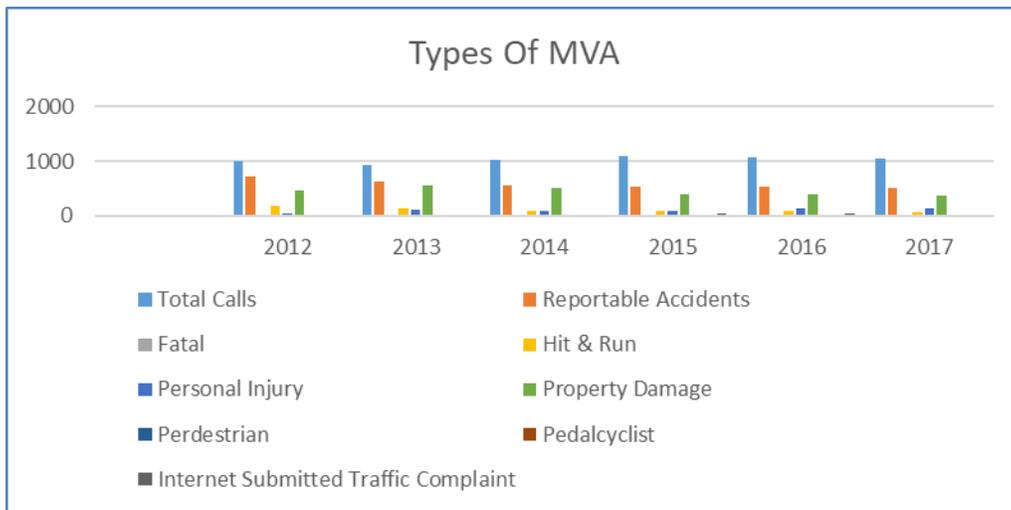
² This is the lowest total MVA reports since 1991 (877 MVA reports)

³WSP investigated a Fatality MVA at Anderson and Cedardale on 4/15/13. MVPD assisted.

2012: 988 total calls to 911 for MVA related incidents. + 3.2% from previous year
715 Reportable Accidents +6.3%
0 Fatalities

169 Hit and Run +8.3%
 45 Personal Injury -13.3%
 470 Property Damage +1.3%

6 Year Average 2012-2017		2017 Change from average
Reported Accidents	1027.3	1051 (+2.34%)
Reportable Accidents	593	501 (-15.5%)
Hit and Run	109	72 (-33.9%)
Injury	107	133 (+24.3%)
Property Damage	479	367 (-23.38%)
Fatal	.33	1 (+203%)

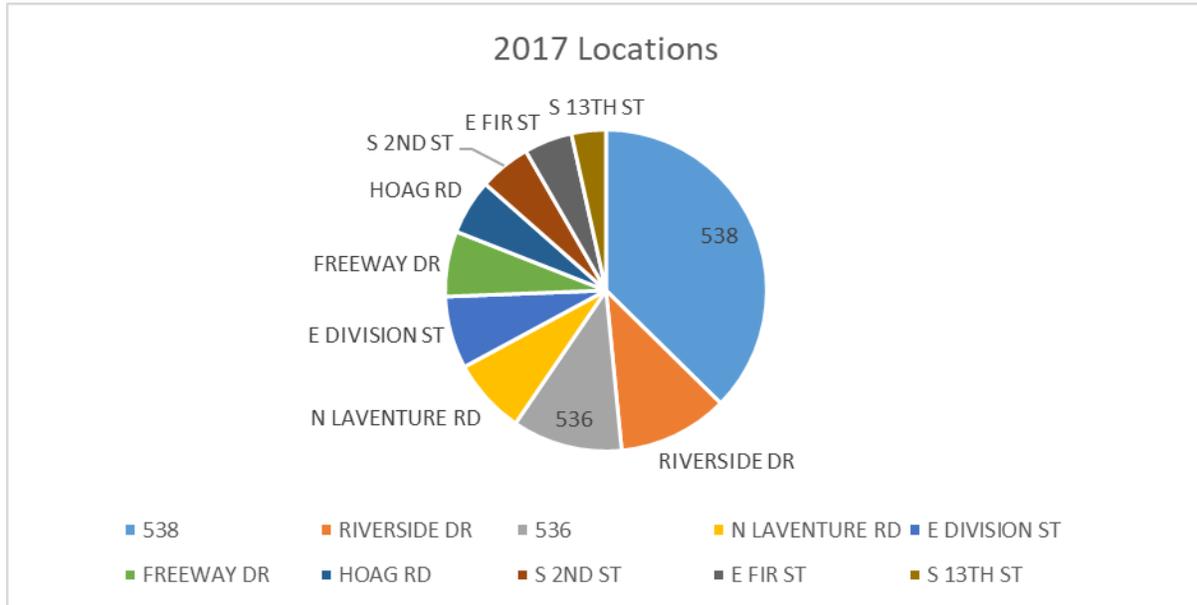


2017 COLLISION TIME AND DAY

Hour	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
00:00-00:59	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	10
01:00-01:59	2	0	2	1	0	1	0	6
02:00-02:59	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	5
03:00-03:59	2	0	0	0	3	1	3	9
04:00-04:59	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	5
05:00-05:59	3	2	0	0	0	0	2	7

06:00-06:59	4	5	4	3	2	1	0	19
07:00-07:59	6	5	6	7	5	2	0	31
08:00-08:59	6	7	10	3	10	3	4	43
09:00-09:59	8	6	9	10	8	5	2	48
10:00-10:59	9	9	6	9	12	11	5	61
11:00-11:59	6	9	13	11	22	7	5	73
12:00-12:59	14	22	12	14	16	5	10	93
13:00-13:59	15	15	15	8	8	13	8	82
14:00-14:59	13	14	13	18	32	10	11	111
15:00-15:59	14	11	7	22	17	13	4	88
16:00-16:59	14	14	19	16	16	10	5	94
17:00-17:59	13	18	20	8	11	8	10	88
18:00-18:59	6	6	6	7	8	7	5	45
19:00-19:59	7	3	2	7	9	5	5	38
20:00-20:59	6	9	3	6	2	3	1	30
21:00-21:59	3	3	4	5	4	8	0	27
22:00-22:59	4	2	2	1	8	4	1	22
23:00-23:59	3	0	0	2	2	5	3	15
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Total by Day 	162	162	155	160	198	124	89	1050

2017 Locations



Traffic Stop and Enforcement Stats

• Traffic Stop Statistics	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
• Department (no traffic)	2624	1986	2252	2323	2488
• Officer Shaddy	317	347	465	51	

Traffic Related Calls for Service

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
• DUI	234	287
• Traffic Enforcement	1064	940
• Traffic Hazard	360	364

SECTOR Stats

COLLISIONS	Ofc Shaddy	133
Department	Ofc Gless	56
• 564 Total Completed w/Sector	Ofc. Elwell	37
• 115 With Injury	Ofc Vandyk	35
• 1 Fatality	Ofc Graham	33
• 140 Total Occupants Injured	Ofc Livingston	32
	Ofc Espinoza	26
	Ofc Henthorn	25
	Ofc Ely	23
	Ofc Clark	22
	Ofc Howard	21

Ofc Robinson	21
Ofc Flaherty	19
Ofc Paul	18
Ofc Dowhaniuk	17
Ofc Carlson	16
Ofc Maxwell	10
Ofc Pash	10
Ofc Serrano	7
Ofc Cohen	2
Ofc Green	1

SECTOR Ticketing

Department	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Total Tickets	911	1070	1015	994	546
Criminal Traffic	166	112	128	122	68
Criminal Non-Traffic	357	305	184	178	150
Infraction Traffic	357	624	682	689	321
Infraction Non-Traffic	31	29	21	5	7

Top Sector Users

<p>Ofc Shaddy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 174 Total Tickets • 27 Criminal Traffic • 8 Criminal Non Traffic • 135 Infraction Traffic • 0 Infraction Non Traffic 	<p>Ofc Ely</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 205 Total Tickets • 55 Criminal Traffic • 58 Criminal Non-Traffic • 81 Infraction Traffic • 4 Infraction Non-Traffic
<p>Ofc Flaherty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 164 Total Tickets • 40 Criminal Traffic • 37 Criminal Non Traffic 	<p>Ofc Dowhaniuk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 87 Total Tickets • 16 Criminal Traffic • 27 Criminal Non-Traffic

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 81 Infraction Traffic • 0 Infraction Non-Traffic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 37 Infraction Traffic • 3 Infraction Non-Traffic
<p>Ofc Elwell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75 Total Tickets • 14 Criminal Traffic • 51 Criminal Non-Traffic • 8 Infraction Traffic • 0 Infraction Non-Traffic 	<p>Officer Clark</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 68 Total Tickets • 20 Criminal Traffic • 32 Criminal Non Traffic • 16 Infraction Traffic • 0 Infraction Non-Traffic
<p>Officer Henthorn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 65 Total Tickets • 10 Criminal Traffic • 30 Criminal Non Traffic • 17 Infraction Traffic 	<p>Officer Graham</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62 Total Tickets • 7 Criminal Traffic • 36 Criminal Non Traffic • 14 Infraction Traffic

2017 Accomplishments

- PBT's were checked and calibrated semiannually
- Radars were re-certified and we are in the fourth year of the bi-annual certification process
- SECTOR equipment is in all patrol cars and updates to the software were made as needed
- Officer Shaddy worked with local driving schools giving presentations of distracted and impaired driving
- Officer Shaddy also instructed the MVPD COPP / Citizens Academy with a traffic control presentation
- Officer Shaddy did two presentations at the Northwest Technical Academy

The current vehicles assigned to the Traffic Division are a 2013 Caprice, 2005 Honda ST1300 and 1999 Kawasaki KZ1000

- The 2018 budget was approved and a new motorcycle was granted
- A 2018 BMW R1200RTP has been purchased as of February 2018
- Delivery expected the 1st quarter of 2018

The Setcom wireless system for the motorcycle radio continued to progressively degrade during 2017

- After researching different brands and speaking with other departments it was decided to purchase a PVP Bluetooth system for the Honda ST1300.
 - The system was received and installed by the Mount Vernon City Shop

- Since installation there has been no further issues with the communications on the Honda ST1300

PRIORITY POLICING

OFFICER AARON COHEN



- PPT Officer Aaron Cohen has been in the position since 2016. Due to staffing he remains a one man “team” without a Special Operations Sergeant.
- PPT Officer Cohen worked closely with CID and Patrol on surveillance and undercover drug investigations leading to the arrest and conviction of many of our local drug sellers, some examples:
 - Conducted surveillance and contacts to assist in obtaining a search warrant for identified drug/problem residence. PTO served the search warrant and with the help of Code Enforcement all subjects were removed and the house was boarded up.
 - Observed a drug transaction occur in a business parking lot. Was able to identify the drug dealer and recover a large amount of heroin and methamphetamine.
 - Conducted surveillance on an identified problem house with the assistance of the FBI safe streets task force. Was able to observe multiple transaction from the residence and field contacts. A search warrant was execute and a large amount of narcotics and two handguns were recovered. This arrest lead to a local gang leader being federally prosecuted.
 - Conducted three controlled buys which lead to the arrest of two identified drug dealers.
 - Conducted a traffic stop on a known drug dealer/convicted felon which lead to a search warrant and recovered handgun.
 - Conducted a traffic stop on a known drug dealer and recovered a large amount of methamphetamine.
 - Received information from multiple informants about an identified drug house. Obtained a search warrant and put together an operations plan for PTO to execute the warrant on the house. Officers located a large amount of narcotics in the residence.
 - Received information about the location of wanted drug dealer. An operations plan was built and surveillance was conducted. The subject was safely taken into custody.
 - Conducted four controlled buys which lead to a search warrant and arrest of a known drug dealer

- Conducted three controlled buys which lead to a search warrant and arrest of a known drug dealer/gang member. A search warrant of the dealer's phone assist in the prosecution of the drug dealer's supplier.
- Conducted directed drug emphasis in local parking lots with the help of SCIDEU. Officers observed drug transactions occurring and were able to arrest a known gang member and recover a large amount of heroin and methamphetamine.
- Conducted a controlled buy and surveillance at an identified drug residence. Officers executed a search warrant on the residence and two vehicles. Officer recovered a large amount of heroin and methamphetamine.
- Conducted surveillance on an identified drug residence. Officers executed a search warrant on the residence and located 18 firearms and a large amount of methamphetamine and stolen property. Code Enforcement was notified and is working with the home owners.
- Conducted two controlled buys at an identified drug residence. Officers executed a search warrant on the residence and is currently working with the property owner.
- Assisted Detectives with two drug and gang involved homicides.
- Assisted Burlington Police Department with a gang involved homicide.
- PPT Officer Cohen has developed a productive working relationship with the Skagit County Sheriff's Office ProAct Unit
 - Gang and narcotic problems transcend jurisdictional boundaries
 - SCSO ProAct also seeing staffing issues
 - Joint collaboration has occurred on many cases
- PPT Officer Cohen coordinates efforts with many agencies
 - DOC warrant checks were performed quarterly
 - Consistent communication with DOC on offenders' locations and releases
 - Continuous communication with Juvenile Probation
- Due to the positive relationship with SCIDEU and the FBI (Safe Streets Task Force) Officer Cohen has had opportunities to assist with surveillance on gang and drug emphasis
 - Joint investigations have led to search warrants, arrests, and prosecution at both the state and federal level

- PPT Officer Cohen continued to lead the general Gang Meeting which had been well attended by school officials, DOC, Juvenile Probation, Prosecutor's Office and law enforcement agencies. He also worked with the Prosecutor's Office on ongoing cases.
- PPT Officer Cohen provided training in 2017 for community groups, MVPD personal, City Council, and Citizens Academy.
- PPT Officer Cohen prepared for and hosted county-wide Gang Intelligence Law Enforcement Meetings, for the purpose of sharing, developing and tracking gang activity throughout our local and regional jurisdictions.
- PPT Officer Cohen participated in Operations Talk sessions, providing valuable information and investigative intelligence regarding on-going neighborhood issues relating to gang and drug activity.
- Other responsibilities
 - Patrol Coverage - 43 full or partial days mostly Lead Officer coverage
 - PTO - 11 days
 - FTO - 5 Days
 - Narcotics emphasis - 8 days
 - Administrative days - 5 days
 - Drug or gang presentations - 7 days
 - Teaching Active Shooter response - 4 days
 - Teaching Department Use of Force recertification - 3 days
- Schools
 - Crime Scene Management - 3 days
 - Active Shooter Instructor - 3 days
 - Online Offer up Training - 1 day
 - Less Lethal Instructor - 5 days
 - Northwest Gang Investigator Conference - 5 days
 - Drug Interdiction Training - 2 days
 - Deadly Force Conflict Resolution - 1 day

K-9

OFFICER ZACH WRIGHT & K9 “Vektor”



Since 2016, the K9 Team of Officer Wright and Vektor has been crossed trained in Narcotics Detection and Generalist Patrol work.

- Deployments - 144
 - Narcotics - 52
 - Patrol - 92
- Arrests - 65
 - Narcotics - 31
 - Patrol - 34

Crimes - *Arrests/contacts made as a direct result of K9 deployment*

Assault - 3	TMVWOP - 4
Felony Warrant - 8	Theft - 1
Burglary - 2	Suicidal - 1
Escape - 1	Robbery - 5
Bank Robbery - 1	Hit and Run - 1
Felony Warrants - 8	Trespass - 2

Objective Met - 4

*These are calls where the dog did all he could be expected to do, but an arrest was not made. (Example is a track to a house but no suspect identified)

- Evidence Located - 20
- Bites - 4

K9 Narcotics Specific

- Deployments - 52
- Arrests - 31
- Search warrants obtained from K9 sniff - 16
- Permission to search obtained - 7



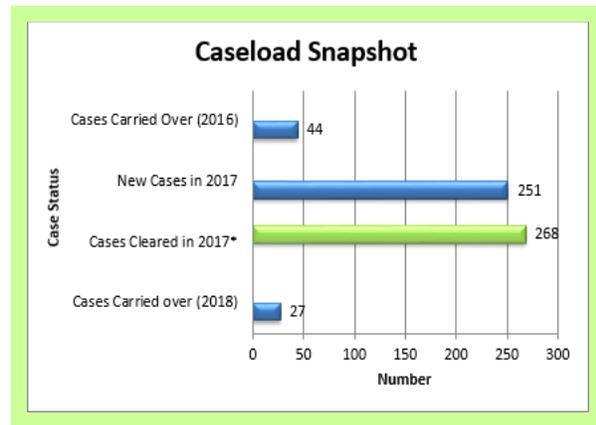
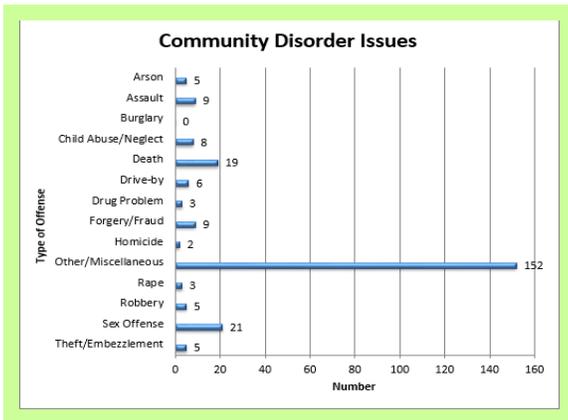


CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION 2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



GOAL #1

APPLY CONTEMPORARY INVESTIGATIVE METHODS THAT ARE MOST LIKELY TO RESOLVE CRIMINAL CASES.



* Cleared – Arrests, referrals to the prosecutor or investigation determined insufficient evidence to pursue further

Reducing crime risk is a fundamental responsibility for everyone in the organization however a criminal investigator's focus is primarily with serious crimes against people or property.

Snapshot of Results Obtained From Criminal Investigations

- **Drug-Involved Robbery Attempt & Homicide**
 - August 2017, three suspects force entry to occupied apartment in 2300 Block of Kulshan View Drive.
 - During robbery attempt, one suspect fires a handgun, striking and killing male resident.
 - Investigation involved processing initial crime scene, interviews, search warrants on several vehicles and additional locations.
 - Investigation identifies 4th suspect as overall mastermind of crime.
 - Two suspects pleaded guilty to Murder 2nd Degree and Robbery – serving 12 and 17 year sentences.
 - Two additional suspects – cases pending.
- **Tattoo Parlor Robbery Attempt & Homicide**
 - December 2017, two armed suspects enter business in 2100 Block of E. College Way.
 - One suspect is shot and killed during incident, while second suspect flees with a 3rd subject waiting outside.
 - Investigation involved processing initial crime scene, reviewing surveillance video, interviews, search warrants on multiple vehicles and locations.
 - Both remaining suspects identified and in-custody.
 - Investigation on-going.
- **Vehicular Homicide**
 - November 2017, motor vehicle collision occurs – intersection of S. 15th and E. Kincaid Streets
 - Adult male passenger in second vehicle dies from injuries at collision scene.
 - Driver of causing vehicle arrested and currently in custody for Vehicular Homicide and DUI

Snapshot of Results Obtained From Criminal Investigations – cont.

- *Arson – Historic Downtown Mount Vernon*
 - September 2017, Mount Vernon Fire and Police respond to Pine Square in Downtown Mount Vernon to investigate a structure fire in one of Mount Vernon's historic buildings.
 - Investigation reveals the fire was intentionally set near the doorway at 314 Pine Street.
 - In conjunction with fire investigators, Mount Vernon detectives process crime scene, interview witnesses, and review security video footage.
 - Suspect identified, arrested for Arson and awaiting trial.

- *Drive-by Shooting*
 - March 2017, a confrontation occurs between groups during a party at a trailer at 1400 N. 30th Street.
 - One group leaves in a vehicle and an occupant leans out of the vehicle and fires several rounds from a handgun.
 - Investigation involved processing of crime scene, witness interviews, cell phone intelligence and video.
 - Suspect identified and warrant issued for charges of Drive-by Shooting.
 - Suspect arrested – awaiting trial.

- *Fraud / Theft – Psychic Services*
 - September 2017, victim contacted detectives to report theft by a local psychic services business.
 - Investigation revealed victim had turned over a large sum of money in return for specific services.
 - The victim was told the money would be returned once the services were complete, however the psychic continued asking for additional payment.
 - The suspect was identified and it was determined she had owned similar businesses in Florida, where she was investigated for similar crimes.
 - After search warrants were served, evidence collected led to the suspect's arrest for Theft 1st.
 - The suspect is currently awaiting trial.

- *Bank Robbery – Skagit State Bank – West Division*
 - November 2017, suspect entered Skagit State Bank, approached a teller and demanded money.
 - Teller complied and suspect fled the bank.
 - Surveillance video captured entire incident and provided clear photos of suspect.
 - Multiple agencies responded and extensive search of area conducted, but suspect was not located.
 - Due to river flooding near Edgewater Park, the initial search was called off, but later that day a swift water rescue was conducted in the area of the park and the suspect was arrested.
 - He is currently incarcerated awaiting trial on Robbery charges.

- *Missing Person – Silver Alert*
 - October 2017, elderly male with dementia missing from residence
 - After interviewing family, investigators initiated a statewide "Silver Alert" through the Washington State Patrol
 - Investigators followed up on numerous possible leads
 - A week later, he was located deceased on a remote service road in rural Skagit County, next to his burned vehicle.
 - Investigation determined cause of death as a combination of exposure, smoke inhalation and underlying medical conditions.

- *Robbery*
 - January 2017, three suspects contacted a residence in West Mount Vernon to purchase marijuana.
 - During the transaction, one suspect took a bag of marijuana and another suspect produced a handgun and threatened the victim. All suspects fled on foot.
 - Investigation included crime scene processing, local area surveillance video reviews, witness interviews and suspect interviews.
 - Two suspects pled guilty to Robbery 2nd Degree and Attempted Robbery 2nd Degree, receiving sentences of 3 years and 6 months, respectively.



Operations Talk

Staff from each Division meets monthly to review activity in the 14 neighborhood zones. Investigators play a key role when activities involve felonious crimes against people, property or need other agency support that CID frequently works with.

Examples Involving CID:

- Gang Activity and Weapon Offense incident in the 800 Block Garfield Street.
- Drug house activities at Colonial Park – 2600 Block of E. Division Street.
- Drug activity – retail corridor Market Street, E. College Way and Commercial Street
 - Safeway, Peoples Bank, Petco neighborhood
- Drug activity – 600 block Cosgrove – West Mount Vernon
- Mail Theft / Fraud – 500 Block Mobile Drive – CID coordinated with USPS Inspector
- Weapon Offense – 1100 Block Railroad Avenue

GOAL #2

STRENGTHEN OUR NETWORKS AND PARTNERSHIPS THAT PROVIDE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS AN ABILITY TO SHARE INFORMATION, EXCHANGE RESOURCES AND TOOLS.

Agency Partners Connected To A Detectives Work

- Bridget Collins Child Advocacy Center – *Safe environment for interviews for child victims of sexual abuse. CID members attended fund-raiser and donated funds to center. Detective VanderGriend attended agency meetings. Sergeant Don recognized for supporting a local youth with his Eagle Scout Project.*
- Department of Social Health Services – *Child Protective Services (76 cases in 2017) & Adult Protective Services (32 cases in 2017)*
- Department of Corrections – *Registered Sex Offender notifications, follow-up assistance for DOC offenders.*
- Federal Bureau of Investigation – *Child Sexual Exploitation Task Force (CSEC) - updated MOU in 2017, attended CSEC networking program, bank robbery investigation, homicide, assisted with “Operation Cross Country” Child Sex Trafficking Sting.*
- Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force – *Training for online child exploitation investigations, assisted with one cyber-tip investigation.*
- Homeland Security
- Naval Criminal Investigative Services – *Assisted obtaining records for police officer hiring process. Assisted SMART with deputy-involved shooting investigation.*

Agency Partners Connected To A Detectives Work - cont...

- Skagit Multiple Agency Response Team
- Skagit County Juvenile Probation
- Skagit County Prosecutor's Office – *Met with case prosecutor to maintain open communication, continued involvement in Drug Court.*
- Skagit Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services
 - *Sexual Assault Response Team*
 - *Coordination and training for Department personnel on newly implemented "Lethality Assessment Program"*
 - *MVPD completed 128 LAP forms in 2017*
 - *Take Back the Night event – Skagit Valley College*
- Skagit Coalition Against Human Trafficking
- U.S. Secret Service
- U.S. Marshals – *Child Exploitation Task Force, Detective's Green & Jones – special deputation – January 2017 – assisted with arresting homicide suspect.*
- U.S. Postal Inspectors Office
- Washington State Homicide Investigators Association – *Officer involved shooting training.*
- WSP Crime Lab – *Crime Scene Response Team (CSRT) assisted with drug-related homicide and tattoo parlor homicide.*

Selection & Hiring of New MVPD Staff

56 interviews of prospective candidates to fill vacant police officer positions were completed in 2017. Detectives Shackleton, VanderGriend, Green and Sergeant Don were frequently panel members. Detective Shackleton and Detective VanderGriend also handled several employment background investigations.



GOAL #3

MONITOR CRIMINAL ACTIVITY METHODS SO AS THEY CHANGE WE ARE ABLE TO ADJUST OUR OWN INVESTIGATIVE APPROACHES.

Skagit Multiple Agency Response Team

A partnership between the local agencies to combine investigator resources when crimes or serious incidents involve a law enforcement agency member.

2017 Activities:

- Oak Harbor Police Department
 - Officer Involved Shooting – Hal Ramaley Park
 - Detective Sergeant Don and Detective Shackleton provided leadership, oversight during investigation. Detectives VanderGriend, Jones, and Green assisted with crime scene processing and witness interviews.
- Island County Sheriff's Office
 - Deputy Involved Shooting
 - Detective Sergeant Don and Detective Shackleton provided resource assistance, interviewing involved deputies.
- Team Command staff rotation:
 - Chief Criminal Deputy Tom Molitor – Team Commander
 - Lieutenant Greg Booth – Assistant Team Commander
- Oak Harbor Chief of Police and Island County Sheriff – presented formal request for agency inclusion on the SMART team.
 - Under review by SMART Executive Board

GOAL #4

REMAIN COMMITTED TO ENDEAVORS THAT HELP MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY, AGENCIES WE WORK WITH OR MVPD STAFF UNDERSTAND AND WORK MORE CLOSELY WITH OUR CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION SERVICES.

Reserve Law Enforcement & Parks Academy

Students attending the Reserve Law Enforcement or Parks Academy at Skagit Valley College received the following instruction:

- Sergeant Mike Don: *Evidence Collection, Drug Awareness, Criminal Investigations, Patrol Tactics*
- Detective Wayne Jones: *Digital Photography, Body Worn Cameras*

Mount Vernon Schools

Detective Dave Shackleton provided four days of instruction for the MVHS Introduction to Criminal Justice class.

Northwest Career Technical Academy

Detective Ben Green instructed Introduction to Criminal Justice.

Leadership Skagit

Sergeant Mike Don – Participated in a Drug Court panel.

MVPD in-service staff training

Cellebrite downloads – Detective Wayne Jones

Confidential Informants – Detective Ben Green

Use of Force, Taser Training, Range – Detectives VanderGriend & Jones

Hosted Taser Instructor School – Detective VanderGriend

GOAL #5

MAINTAIN DIVISIONAL EFFECTIVENESS AS IT RELATES TO STAFFING CAPABILITIES, PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT, AND PROVIDING QUALITY INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES.



Washington Homicide Investigators Association

WAHIA is a statewide organization comprised of experienced investigators. They teach the Basic Homicide course to new investigators and offer advanced training in Officer Involved Shooting investigations.

Sergeant Mike Don serves as association President

Detective Dave Shackleton presented a case review of the Rodgers Homicide investigation, during the Spring 2017 Conference.

Continuing Education For Investigators

- WA State Homicide Investigators Conference
- Homicide Basic
- Crime Scene Management
- REID Interviewing
- Digital Photography
- Open Source intelligence gathering
- Video Surveillance
- Human Trafficking
- Basic Investigation of Computer and Electronic Crimes
- Impression Evidence

Tracking Registered Sex Offenders

- Sex offenders register with Skagit County Sheriff's Office and Detective Dave Shackleton manages those living in Mount Vernon. He is also part of the Sex Offender Leveling Committee, which adjusts risk levels (I, II, III) for offenders.
- Monthly compliance reporting and quarterly RSO checks by officers are tracked.

Equipment in 2017

- Axon 5 / Input Ace software acquired, dedicated computer workstation & 4K monitor. Funding assistance through the STOP Grant.
- Nikon Cameras (x2)
- Bruise lenses / filters – STOP Grant

CRIME PREVENTION



2017 Divisional Accomplishments

The Mount Vernon Police Department believes that the “Prevention of Crime” is our first operational priority. Working with citizens, business owners and other resource partners, it is our goal to identify and resolve unique neighborhood problems, with the vision of reducing crime, fear, and neighborhood decay.



Crime Prevention – How we serve

Teach about crime and prevention

Connect the public to services & tools

Know-how, when, & where to use the knowledge & tools

Solve problems in partnership with community members

Building: Community Capacity

Building: Resource Networks

Building: Crime Resistance Barriers

Building: Desired Quality Of Life

GOAL #1

REDUCE CRIME RISK IN OUR COMMUNITY

Objective #1

Provide Crime Prevention follow-up services and support in identified neighborhoods

In 2017, many projects were identified and addressed by Crime Prevention Staff through Block Watch networks, Operations Talk, citizen reports, staff on-views and a variety of internal/external mechanisms. Examples include:

- Pine Square – Historic Downtown Mount Vernon
 - Hosted meeting with Downtown Business Association
 - CPTED reviews
 - Transients sleeping in doorways, litter, cleanliness, property damage
 - Partnered with MVPD Outreach Coordinator to address concerns
 - Monitored criminal activity and quality of life issues
- Skagit Transit Station
 - Met with management and staff – identified ways to better address transient population issues
 - Security review of facility
 - Trespass signage, unlawful bus conduct enforcement
- S. 3rd Street – Business Group (south of Kincaid Street)
 - Gathering Church – hosted neighborhood meeting
 - Developing area Business Watch
 - Shared business contact information – to allow better neighborhood communication
- Urban Field – North River – Commercial
 - Transient camping sites
 - Steps taken include:
 - Met with property owners, City staff
 - Developed plan to clean, clear and maintain site
 - Trespass signage
 - Met with Value Village management, and Heritage Bank
 - Steps taken to clean area and limit accessibility to Value Village drop-off items
 - Working with Vintage Apartment management – cleaning/clearing adjacent sites
- Meadows HOA
 - Met with HOA president/secretary
 - Discussed neighborhood issues of concern:
 - Abandoned vehicles, Animal issues, Parking/Speeding vehicles, Code Violations
 - Coordinated painting of curb on Lor Drive to prevent unsafe parking
 - Deployed speed measuring devices to evaluate speeding issues
- 300 Block S. 11th – Drug House
 - Communicated concerns with neighbors and condo owner
 - Tracked activity, providing directed patrol
 - Established “new” neighborhood Block Watch
- Abatement Letters issued for nuisance properties in 2017
 - 1400 Block S. 7th Street – 2nd letter to be issued in early 2018
 - 2300 Block E. Montgomery
 - 1600 Block S. 6th Street
 - 2300 Block E. College Way

Objective #2

Compile statistical reports to identify crime trends & improve responsiveness

Volunteers provided administrative support, assisting in compiling & tracking statistical data for identified problem areas – and Crime Prevention Division projects as identified:

- Monthly Spillman CAD police reports by Zones
- Assisted CID with financial records review for “Psychic” fraud case
- Service call data collected for several problem areas:
 - N. 32nd and 33rd – comparison of CAD calls between 2016/2017 – animal related calls
 - 1400 Block Woodland Drive – problem house – service call review
 - Skagit Transit Station – service call review, comparison with prior years
- Review of service calls during development of Adult Entertainment City Ordinance.
- False Alarm calls for service – tracking & forwarding to City Finance for billing
- Scanning Animal Licenses applications, information into Spillman (400+)
- COPP provided support & oversight for 2017 MVPD Coat Drive – coordinating drop-off areas, coat pickups, communication with donor businesses.



Objective #3

Provide continued support to the South 27th Street neighborhood revitalization efforts that began in 2015

- Continued improvements to S. 27th Street walking trail
 - Information board
 - Trail markers
 - Dog clean-up bags
- Neighborhood Clean-up day – October
 - Dumpster provided for neighbors
 - Crime Prevention information table
- Abandoned / Junk vehicles removed
- Block Watch Captains working toward neighborhood block party in 2018
- Worked with DOC to identify housing for DOC parolee – outside neighborhood.

Objective #4

Commit Crime Prevention resources to strategies outlined in Department plan to address homeless issues

In support of the overall Department efforts to address crime and quality of life issues related to homelessness, Crime Prevention provided focused resources in the following areas:

- Collaboration with the Gathering Church – S. 3rd Street – working toward a business watch concept
- COPP assisted MVPD Outreach Coordinator with tracking/organization of donated supplies for homeless
- “6” COPP members participate with Outreach Coordinator in a “task force” support function
- “21” COPP members attended Mental Health 1st Aid training – provided by Compass Mental Health
- Continued efforts with local businesses to minimize impact of homeless population:
 - Abra Building – 1724 Freeway Drive – site posted with trespass signage
 - Verizon Building near Peoples Bank – CPTED reviews of garden area, trespass signage
 - Carnation Building – Downtown – parking lot signage posted
 - Value Village, Goodwill, Urban Field & Vintage Lane – tracking of trespass notices, clean-up efforts, CPTED reviews

GOAL #2

ENCOURAGE THE COMMUNITY TO BE A PART OF NOT APART FROM ISSUES THAT DEGRADE QUALITY OF LIFE



Block Watch Program

- Over 100 active Block Watch Groups in 2017
- Hosted Summer 2017 BW Captains meeting:
 - Outreach Coordinator Erin von Fempfe
 - Community Action – Housing Programs

When circumstances affect individual safety and security, people want to be involved. Crime Prevention Staff look for ways to appropriately connect a community member's interests, skills and abilities with the police-related problems occurring.



GOAL #3

HELP COMMUNITY MEMBERS UNDERSTAND WHAT CAUSES CRIME TO GROW AND THEIR ROLE IN PREVENTION

Objective #1

Participate in community events to promote relevant crime prevention and deterrence strategies

- Children's Art Festival
- Historic Downtown Christmas Parade
- 4th of July Riverfest Event
- Halloween Safety – "No Tricks, Just Treats"
- Skagit County Fair – Safety Booth
- Citizens Academy
- MVSD Home School – End of Year Fair
- Farmer's Market
- Fall Coat Drive
- Shop With a Hero
- Active Shooter Response Training:
 - Blade Chevrolet, SV Hospital
- Personal Safety Training
 - Community Action, Skagit County, SPARC, NWRC
 - Food Co-op staff, MV Downtown Bus. Association
- Senior Fraud Prevention: Logan Creek, The Bridge
- Volunteer Appreciation Barbecue



Building crime resistance barriers can only occur if citizens understand how crime manifests. Providing crime prevention education is a tool we employ to broaden the "policing presence" in Mount Vernon.

Additional Services Provided

- Emergency Preparedness – Latter Day Saints Church
- Fire Safety Fair – Mount Vernon Fire Station #3
- Vintage Apartments – Personal Safety
- Bank Robbery Prevention – Savi Bank
- Site Security Reviews – SKAT Station, Rosewood School, SPARC/Headstart, Skagit County Court Complex, Mount Vernon Municipal Court, Hilltop Pharmacy, Harrison Street Apartments, Union Street Building – Pine Square, Durham Building (S. 2nd Street), Ostra/Rouw CPA (Williams Way)

GOAL #4

CHANGE COMMUNITY ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIORS ON CRIME, NEIGHBORHOOD DECAY AND DISORDER

Objective #1

Conduct at least one “pulse check” (neighborhood canvass) in North & South regions, to solicit feedback from residents/ businesses on current safety & quality of life concerns

- North Laventure Road, E. Fir Street – follow-up contacts after officer-involved shooting incident
- South 6th/7th – follow-up after several drug search warrants served on problem residences
 - Hosted neighborhood meeting at Gathering Church – response to pulse check concerns

Studies show that people will correct deteriorating conditions if they see a need for the change and are educated about the conditions. Changing behaviors and attitudes about crime and crime fears is a significant aspect of our role in the organization.

Objective #2

Host MVPD’s Annual Citizens Academy

The purpose of the Citizens Academy is to **enhance communication and understanding** between the Police Department and citizens. During 12-week program – attendees will:

- Learn about the Police Department & become familiar with the Department’s policing philosophy
- See what it’s like to be a Police Officer in Mount Vernon & learn of the inherent dangers in law enforcement



2017 Class

- 25 Community Members Graduated



C.O.P.P. (Citizens On Proactive Patrol) Program

Selected Citizens Academy graduates are given the opportunity to attend a “Volunteer Academy.” after which they complete additional field training hours. Once completed, volunteers become members of our C.O.P.P. Program to do patrols, take minor reports, provide traffic control, and help in the office.

Total Volunteers:	36
Donated Hours:	4,687
Value:	\$129,080
(\$27.54/hr. – Bureau of Labor Stats 2015)	

In 2017:

- 10 COPP Advisory Group Meetings
- 11 COPP general program training meetings
- King5 – news story, ride-along
- Medal of Honor Ceremony – Olympia, WA

New COPP duties in 2017:

- Metal Detector Team – CID support
- Weekend Dog Kennel Care
- Outreach Coordinator Assistance

Addition COPP duties under review for future implementation:

- Abandoned Vehicles
- Neighborhood Zone Teams
- Tech group

Volunteer Academy

Seven weeks of training for “four” new volunteers was completed in November 2017. Training Topics include:

- MVPD Vision, Mission, Goals & Policing Philosophy
- Radio & Patrol Procedures
- Report Writing & Paperwork Processes
- Traffic Control
- Uniforms & Equipment Orientation
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design
- Workplace Safety



Mount Vernon Police Volunteers (MVPV)

- Established new “MVPV” program – combined former R.S.V.P. and office volunteer groups
- Maintaining “RED” identifying clothing
- Updating MVPD member coats, shirts & hats
- Vacation Home Check service now staffed 5 days/week

Total Volunteers:	17
Donated Hours:	1,414
Value:	\$38,941



RECORDS and PROPERTY
DIVISIONS



2017 Accomplishments

- Hired two new Records Specialists (Casie Strand and Carrie Hoyle)
- Promoted a New Records Manager
- Filled a part-time Property Custodian position
- Researched/replaced obsolete digital storage system
- Created a new and updated Records Procedure Manual
 - 25 new operating procedures
- 151 items went to auction
 - Four vehicles auctioned
- Two drug take back days
 - 166 citizens came in
 - 307 pounds of drugs taken in
- More records purging was completed
 - Sealed juvenile records
- Protection Orders
 - 476 original entry orders processed
 - 418 additional entries made to above
- 2,333 Misdemeanor Warrants entered into system
 - Average time spent on processing each warrant is 15-20 minutes
- 5,247 Case Files created
 - Average time spent on this process is 15 minutes
- Public Disclosure Requests
 - 30,891(+) pages
 - Began using Spillman to track PDRs through dsmain screen
 - 1,202 separate requests, each taking a minimum of 15 minutes
 - Reception logs in request
 - Five-day letter sent to requestor
 - Request processed (read and review every case; juvenile involvement; determine what can/can't be released; ensure



all narratives have been approved; determine if additional follow-up is needed; compile and arrange for delivery

- Complete processing of PDR can take hours/days/months
- 299 Concealed Pistol Permits processed (new and replacement)
- Report Transcription
 - 3,965 main narratives
 - 2,409 supplemental narratives
- Reception processed 12,467 phone calls
- Compliance with NIBRS reporting
 - Error rate over 0.18% for last quarter of 2017
- Purchased a new freezer for evidence
- Purchased a new copier for secondary evidence building
- Completed Sector interface with Spillman
- Upgraded front door security
 - New auto lock button added at Reception Workstation
 - Additional camera to expand view from blocked sight
- Updated Records Specialist job description
 - Updated a FTO checklist for Records Specialist
- Increased Spillman file attach use
- Training
 - Nine classes attended by six Records/Property employees
- Continued networking with five groups (LEIRA, Spillman Network Group, WAPRO, Evidence Property Information Network, LERN)



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

2017 Accomplishments



**Police Chief Jerry Dodd, Administrative Assistant Kathryn Cherry
and
Lieutenant Chris Cammock**

I. To continue the Department's commitment to the State Accreditation Program.

1. To continue to update the accreditation files and standards. To be accomplished by December 31, 2017.

This objective is on-going. All 140 standards and files were being updated during the year

2. To establish the preparation process for the 2020 mock assessment. To be accomplished by December 31, 2017.

This objective is on-going. All 140 standards and files were being updated for the upcoming mock assessment, however the mock is scheduled for the first quarter of 2020

II. To continue to strengthen the Department's commitment to provide all employees and volunteers a safe workplace.

1. The Department Safety Committee will continue to meet quarterly. To conduct the first meeting by March 31, 2017.

This objective was completed. The Safety Committee met in March, September, October and December. Meeting minutes were posted on the safety board and forwarded to the City Human Resource Director. The Committee identified potential workplace hazards, reviewed training accomplishments, near misses and accidents

2. To have each member of the Department Safety Committee attend one L&I workshop. To be accomplished by December 31, 2017.

This objective was not completed because of staff scheduling and workshop availability

3. To actively participate with the City Safety Committee. To be accomplished by February 28, 2017.

This objective was completed. The Department Safety Officer attended and actively participated with the monthly City Safety Committee meetings. The meeting minutes were provided the Department Safety Committee members and were posted on the Department Safety Bulletin Board

4. To conduct a fire inspection of the police & court campus. To be completed



by July 31, 2017.

This objective was completed on May 24, 2018. No violations were discovered by the City Fire Marshal

5. To review and update the Accident Prevention Program. To be completed by May 31, 2016.

This objective was completed on December 31, 2018. Department Safety Committee reviewed the plan, no changes were made

6. To conduct an on-site workplace safety inspection of the police campus by the Department Safety Committee. To be completed by December 31, 2017.

This objective was not completed

7. To conduct an internal sprinkler systems check of the police & court campus. To be completed by March 31, 2017.

This objective was completed by a private contractor

III. To update the Department's policies and procedures.

1. To continue the review and update of the Department policies and procedures. To be accomplished by December 31, 2017.

This objective is on-going. Began working on ten policy chapters – moved into 2018

2. To continue to review and update the Department job descriptions. To be completed by December 31, 2017.

This objective was completed, all job descriptions forwarded to Human Resources

IV. To continue to strengthen the Department's commitment for contemporary police training.

1. To complete the NIMS compliance requirements for all supervisors. To be accomplished by August 30, 2017.

This objective was completed, all staff is in compliance

2. To provide Firearms Simulator Training to all commissioned officers. To be accomplished by November 30, 2017.

This objective was not completed, moved to 2018

3. To certify supervisors and managers with their Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission Career–Level Certifications. To be accomplished by November 30, 2017.

This objective was not completed, Lieutenant Moore and Sergeant Young will be completed in 2018

V. To continue to the Department’s commitment to attracting, recruiting and selecting of qualified candidates.

1. To conduct the fourteenth Preparatory Academy class as a long-term recruitment strategy. To be accomplished by July 31, 2017.

This objective was completed, Class #14 graduated in June with 14 students



2. To schedule and conduct two Publicsafetytesting.com entry and lateral test in the local area. To be accomplished by September 30, 2017.

This was completed, Publicsafetytesting.com conducted testing in Burlington and Mount Vernon

3. To fill two funded Police Officer vacancies. To be accomplished by September 30, 2017.

This objective was partially completed, one new officer was hired

4. To attend six career fairs. To be accomplished by December 31, 2017.

This objective was completed, Department recruiters attend six job/ career fairs, and 10 Publictesting.com testing sites



Other notable accomplishments

- Lead Officer testing was completed
- Conducted the Sergeant’s Assessment
- Completed the hiring process for Outreach Coordinator
- Coordinated of a variety of internal training classes

- Successfully negotiated two labor contracts

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