

Welcome to the Sequim Police Department!



Thanks for taking time to learn more about the Sequim Police Department and visiting our ever evolving web site!

Sequim is home to over 7,000 city residents and has a surrounding population of over 23,000 county residents who border the city and call Sequim home.

In recent years, Sequim capitalized on its national reputation as a destination retirement community. Sequim has been recognized as an outstanding place to live in by **Money Magazine, USA Today, Retirement Magazine, Newsweek, Sunset, the Seattle Times, CNN, US News & World Report, the Seattle PI and the New York Times.**

I am extremely proud to lead the men and women of the Sequim Police Department! Our small city police department has evolved as our community has grown. In 2009, the agency handled a total of **13,742 total incidents** ranging from minor to major. On average, every 38 minutes the agency responds to some type of policing incident, every day of the year.

The Department has been active in traffic safety efforts, supporting the State's **Target ZERO Program** with the Washington State Patrol (WSP). In 2009, our efforts saw collisions drop by nearly 10% to 225 crashes; a significant turnaround in what had been a rising rate of collisions.

Our **Detective Unit** has been a key component in the Department successfully closing criminal investigations at twice the national average. No small feat in a small agency.

Increased traffic, a host of new crime challenges and a never ending need for community outreach and proactive policing methods has stretched the current staffing and resources of the police department – but, the agency is properly staffed for our current crime and call load. We are very lucky to have a dedicated group of 20 citizen volunteers who assist in all areas of the Department from the front counter and records, to crime prevention, traffic control, conducting vacation house checks and assisting at crime scenes and special events.



Clallam Sheriff Bill Benedict and Sequim Chief Robert Spinks partnered to produce their 4th Annual Policing Fair in 2009

These **Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)** have been provided thousands of hours of volunteer service since their establishment in 1997.

The Department also maintains a 5-member Volunteer **Reserve Police Officer Program** that supports our patrol officers, donating nearly 1,500 hours of patrol service annually.

The year 2010 will be another year of success and challenge as we complete the expansion and **remodel of our current police facility** - a project that has been long overdue. This is the first upgrade to the facility in over 15 years.

Our next challenge will be to complete work to receive **law enforcement accreditation** through the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC.org). This will involve the agency successfully complying with 140 accreditation standards – while most have already been met, the facility remodel when completed will nearly finish off the remaining requirements that need to be met.

As you can see, and which our web site will emphasize, continuous improvement is not just a catch phrase for our Department; it is a reality in how we conduct business on a daily basis. Your police staff is comprised of very dedicated professionals – and I could not be more proud of the men and women of your policing team!

Please a few moments to review our **Annual Report**, as well as our **Strategic Plan** (both are available on-line), to see how we are trying to improve service each and every day to make our community as safe as possible.

Robert L. Spinks, MA, MS
Sequim Chief of Police