



CHIEF RICK JOHNSON

ANNUAL REPORT

EAST WENATCHEE POLICE



2020



CHIEF'S MESSAGE

In June of 2020 the East Wenatchee Police Department made a leadership change with plans to turn the page on the past and move the organization forward with best practices in all areas. We are re-establishing local relationships with partners like the Eastmont School District. As we work to re-brand EWPd, we are actively engaging the public on new media platforms to include Instagram and Facebook.

There is no doubt we are in unprecedented times and many of us are looking to our local and state leaders for direction. Leaders are scrambling for information which often doesn't exist. Like other industries, law enforcement is gearing up for change. On the national scene, some are calling for a complete overhaul of law enforcement.

I cannot overstate the amount of support EWPd and all law enforcement agencies receive in our valley. Many recognize we are being asked for perfection under less than ideal circumstances. Of course, there are vocal critics of every industry and law enforcement is far from immune. We want you to know we do not ignore the criticism and changes are made when appropriate. We recognize the national movement will bring changes here. In 2020, the EWPd made changes in policy, practice, training, tactics and more. In the last quarter of the year, with the support of City Council, we implemented body-worn cameras for all uniformed officers. This technology provides a high level of transparency for our community. We are currently the only agency in the valley utilizing body worn cameras.

Gordon Graham, a nationally known Risk Manager, often says, "The best predictor of future behavior is past behavior." Law enforcement leaders will always be in the risk management business. At EWPd, we are working to recruit the highest level of personnel possible. Your officers will prioritize community engagement, public safety and enforcement of violators; definitely a big job to accomplish in today's climate. Your support does not go unnoticed and I'm confident that in 2021 we will make significant headway in the further development of the East Wenatchee Police Department.

Chief Rick Johnson



EAST WENATCHEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

271 9TH ST NE

EAST WENATCHEE WA 98802

<https://www.eastwenatcheewa.gov/government/departments/police>

Facebook: cityofeastwenatchee

Instagram: @eastwenatcheepolice

East Wenatchee Police Department Mission Statement

There are three values each member of the department exemplifies daily in the performance of their duties.

Service

It is every member of the East Wenatchee Police Department's honor and privilege to serve the citizens, businesses and visitors of East Wenatchee. We strive to be responsive, responsible, and respectful to those we serve; committed to providing our community with the best possible police services. We understand our role in helping maintain and enhance the outstanding quality of life we enjoy in East Wenatchee.

Pride

The East Wenatchee Police Department is extremely proud of the service we deliver and of our high level of integrity. We are proud of our achievements as individuals, as a department and as partners with other departments and agencies in helping make East Wenatchee the best place to live, work, and visit.

Integrity

Each member of the East Wenatchee Police Department holds themselves and each other to the highest level of integrity. We are honest, transparent, and authentic. We pride ourselves on having and acting with strong moral principles and values. We do what's right.

PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Division is the foundation for police services in East Wenatchee. This division consists of twelve patrol officers and four sergeants divided into four equal squads. The patrol division provides the community a variety of patrol services while working 24 hours a day 365 days a year.

Patrol officers respond to emergency calls, non-emergency calls, monitor city traffic, and conduct active crime prevention patrols. The East Wenatchee Patrol Officers are committed to using problem-solving skills and community relationships to reduce crime. Likewise, they are committed to resolving neighborhood issues before they become unmanageable.

All officers in the East Wenatchee Police Department receive annual training in statewide curriculum on topics including Crisis Intervention, Patrol Tactics & De-escalation, Firearms & Use of Force and Domestic Violence Law Updates. Additionally, in 2020, East Wenatchee Police Officers continued training on Active Shooter Response, First Aid, Emergency Vehicle Operation, and Defensive Tactics.

Each year, the patrol division participates in regional community safety enforcement programs, such as Drive-Hammered/Get-Nailed and Seatbelt and Speed Enforcement. These are collaborative efforts with area Police, Sheriff's and State Patrol to reduce injuries related to traffic violations.

Although most of our usual community outreach events, like "National Night Out", were canceled in 2020, we were still able to have some Covid safe fun with local youth. East Wenatchee Police partnered with Washington Traffic Safety for two bike helmet giveaways at local elementary schools. Additionally, this winter we partnered with other local law enforcement for "Shop with a Cop" and "Santa's Stars." Combined, these two events brought a brighter holiday to over 150 deserving families.

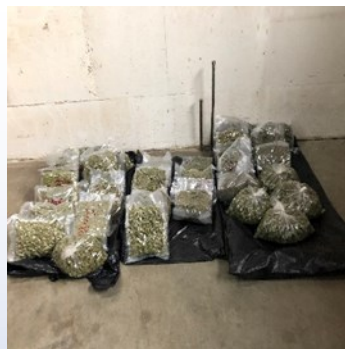


COLUMBIA RIVER DRUG TASK FORCE



The Columbia River Drug Task Force currently consists of three agencies. The host agency, Chelan County Sheriff's Office, which provides a task force commander, a sergeant, a detective, and an analyst. East Wenatchee Police Department provides one detective, and Wenatchee Police Department provides one detective. Douglas County Sheriff's Office will provide a detective when man power issues allow.

2020 was an unusual year for all law enforcement with minimizing contact with complainants, jail booking restrictions and courts with limited hearings due to COVID-19. Detectives had 40 narcotic investigations. The task force removed 35 pounds of methamphetamine, over 3 pounds of heroin, and just under a pound of cocaine from our streets. In the recent year there has been an influx of fentanyl laced pills in our area. The task force has removed over 1,500 pills from our streets. The task force seized over \$103,000 cash and property in 2020. The task force is a self-sustaining entity. These seized funds provide for the on-going investigation costs and day to day operations.



Even though marijuana has become legal in Washington State, illegal grows and sales are still a problem. Marijuana is grown locally and illegally sent out of state. The task force conducted several investigations involving illegal indoor grow operations. The task force has removed 89 plants, over 63 pounds of bulk marijuana, and a large amount of grow equipment. The task force has worked in conjunction with the Washington State Patrol Marijuana Eradication Team in an illegal sales investigation in East Wenatchee that resulted in the removal of 620 pounds of processed marijuana waiting to be mailed out of state.

The task force has assisted other agencies with investigations throughout the year. Department of Homeland Security, Interagency Narcotics Task Force, Seattle FBI, along with local agencies to name a few. A rash of vehicle prowls from heavy equipment in south Chelan County resulted in the theft of heavy-duty batteries. Detectives contacted the suspect on Facebook Messenger and arranged to purchase the batteries. Detectives posed as interested buyers and met with the suspect. After the purchase of the stolen batteries the suspect was arrested and booked into jail.



The task force encourages community involvement through tips and information. If you suspect drug activity in your neighborhood please contact your local law enforcement agency or the drug task force at (509) 664-2310.



East Wenatchee Police Department consists of 21 commissioned police officers.

EWPD is structured as follows:

- Chief of Police
- Assistant Chief
- 4 Sergeants
- 3 Detectives
- 12 patrol officers

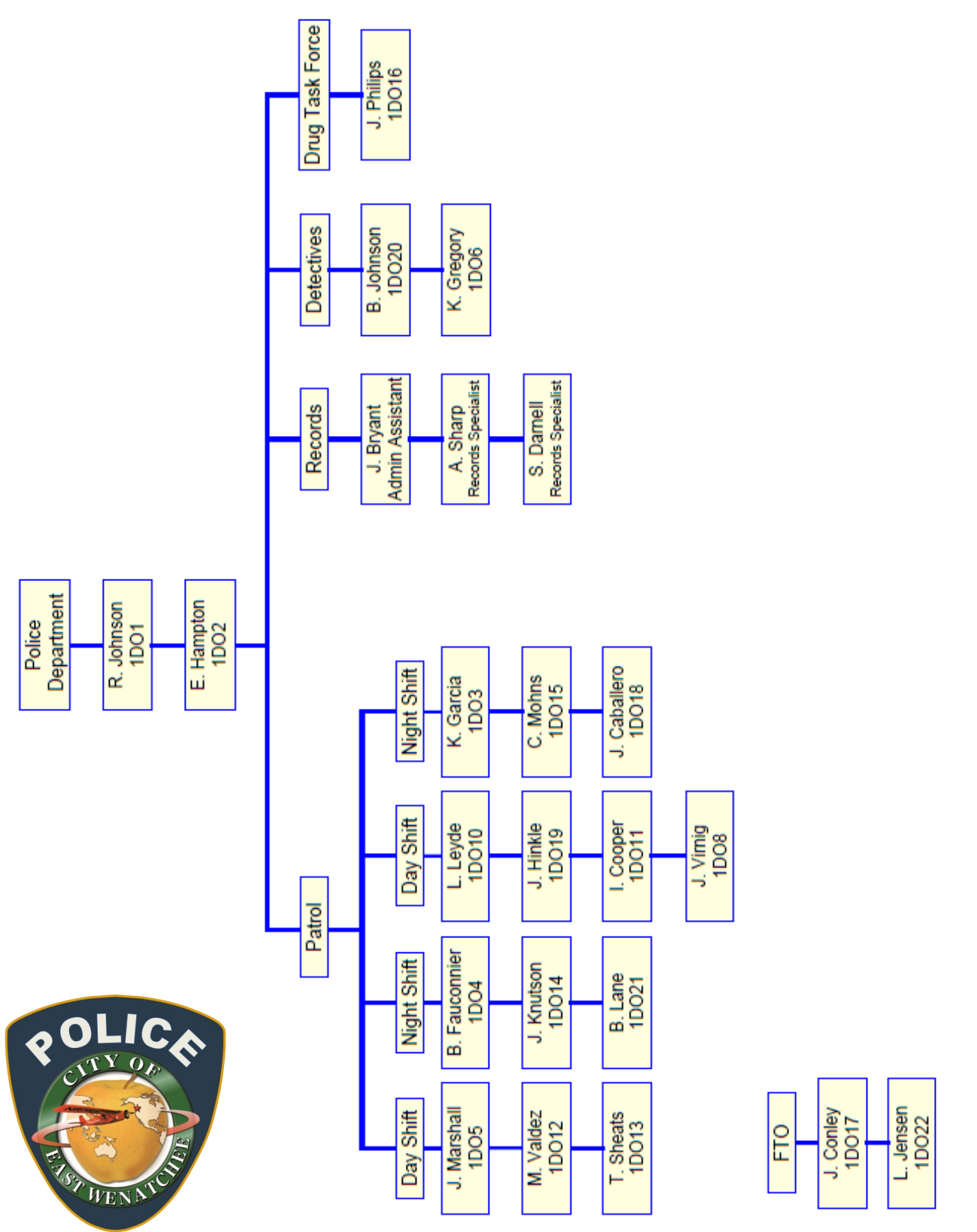
The Sergeants and officers are divided into A and B squads and work 12 hour shifts. Detectives work 10 hour shifts.

EWPD handles roughly 7,000 calls for service annually in a city with a population of approximately 15,500 people.

EWPD specialty teams are:

- SWAT
- Drug Task Force
- Detective Division

Organizational Chart



DETECTIVES



The East Wenatchee Police Detectives Unit provides thorough investigations into major crimes and child abuse. The Detective Unit normally consists of two detectives but due to a retirement at the beginning of 2020, it was composed of one detective. We are back to two full-time detectives in 2021.

One of our current Detectives has trained extensively in collecting digital forensic information from cell phones. We provide this service to local agencies such as the Columbia River Drug Task Force, Washington State Patrol, Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife and Douglas County Sheriff’s Office. In 2020, this detective completed approximately 19 requests for digital forensics of cell phones.

Notable 2020 cases include a kidnapping/unlawful imprisonment/threats-to-kill incident which took place inside the Wenatchee Valley Mall. The male suspect was identified and ultimately arrested for this incident.

A local East Wenatchee business discovered, during the years of 2018-2019, an employee had stolen approximately \$10,000 worth of deposits and caused approximately \$100,000 worth of revenue loss. After an extensive investigation, charges were filed and there is an active warrant out for the suspect’s arrest.

The East Wenatchee Police Detective Unit was contacted in mid-2019 by the Washington State Department of Financial Institution about possible financial exploitation of elderly adults by a financial institution operating in the city of East Wenatchee. The owner of the financial institution had stolen approximately \$700,000 from multiple victims living in the Wenatchee Valley. After a thorough investigation, the owner of the financial institution was arrested and booked into jail on multiple counts of theft. Other victims, including family members, are still contacting EWPD detectives with follow-up information on past wrongdoings by the suspect. The suspect is currently out on bail awaiting trial.

SWAT



The Douglas County Regional Special Response Team, SRT, consists of members from the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, East Wenatchee Police Department, Ballard Ambulance Services, Douglas County Fire Department and RiverCom Dispatch. In 2020, SRT consisted of 10 Douglas County Deputies, 2 East Wenatchee Police Officers, 2 Tactical Dispatchers, 1 Tactical Paramedic, and about 6 Fire Fighters. The team members were recruited, selected, trained, equipped, and assigned to resolve critical incidents involving major threats to public safety which would otherwise exceed the capabilities of traditional law enforcement first responders and/or investigative units.

SRT has access to advanced equipment and tactical gear. Each member is outfitted with heavy body armor and trains with it regularly. SRT also utilizes advanced pieces of equipment, for example, a forward-looking infrared or FLIR. This is a thermographic camera that senses infrared radiation or heat and turns it into an image. This enhances the team's ability to locate wanted subjects hiding both inside residences and outside rural environments, increasing the level of safety for the community and for the SRT members.

All the SRT members receive a minimum of 120 hours of ongoing training each year. The training consists of tactics and concepts in dealing with armed wanted subjects, barricaded subjects, hostage rescue, rural operations, urban operations, vehicle take downs, extractions, and active shooters.

In 2020, SRT responded to 5 SWAT calls for service. All calls were for barricaded subjects who were refusing to surrender from inside buildings; which are inherently dangerous to place our members into. On two of the calls, SRT worked with the Columbia River Drug Task Force to take several higher risk subjects into custody, and to help search for evidence of drug deliveries within our community. SRT has partnered with Chelan County Regional SWAT and Okanogan SWAT Team in training and calls for service when additional resources were needed.

2020 STATS

REPORTED OFFENSES	
ALARM	280
ASSAULT	18
BURGLARY	23
CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT	5
DISORDERLY	134
DUI	60
FORGERY/FRAUD/ID THEFT	46
KIDNAPPING	1
LITTERING	5
MALICIOUS MISCHIEF	88
NOISE	185
ROBBERY	3
SEX OFFENSES	22
THEFT	187
TRESPASS	255
VEHICLE THEFT	24
WEAPON OFFENSE	19

VIOLATIONS	
ATTEMPT TO ELUDE POLICE	5
DRIVE W/LICENSE SUSPENDED	178
HIT/RUN ATTENDED	8
HIT/RUN UNATTENDED	6
NEGLIGENT DRIVING	3
NO PROOF LIABILITY INSURANCE	178
OPERATOR LICENSE VIOLATIONS	34
PARKING VIOLATIONS	15
RECKLESS DRIVING	8
SEATBELT VIOLATIONS	6
SPEEDING	355
SPEED IN SCHOOL ZONE	6
-TRAFFIC WARNINGS-	
WARNING FOR SPEEDING	212
WARNING FOR NO INSURANCE	95

2020 STATS

ACTIVITY SUMMARY	
ADULT ARRESTS	522
CALLS FOR SERVICE	6726
DV INCIDENT	112
INJURY TRAFFIC COLLISIONS	18
JUVENILE ARRESTS	22
NON-INJURY TRAFFIC COLLISION	161
VIOLENT OFFENSES	7
WARRANT ARRESTS	311

ARRESTS	
ALCOHOL—DUI / JUVENILE AND ADULT	71
ASSAULT	3
BURGLARY	3
COURT ORDER VIOLATIONS	22
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ASSAULT	44
DRUG VIOLATIONS	51
FORGERY	5
HARASSMENT	4
MALICIOUS MISCHIEF	9
SEX OFFENSES	1
THEFT	44
TRESPASS	13

Records / Civil



Jeanie Bryant– Admin
Assistant



Andrea Sharp– Records
Specialist



Stefanie Darnell– Records
Specialist

Our Records Division is unique to other local law enforcement agencies in that it is located in the same office area as the Police Officers. The records window is located in the north hallway of City Hall, just past the Municipal Court window and is the first point of contact at the Police Department for walk-ins and business line calls. The Records Division processes Concealed Pistol Licenses, Firearm Dealer Licenses, Firearm Transfer Applications, enters warrants and protection orders issued by courts, processes all officer citations and reports, as well as enters all the data into the database and disseminates to both Municipal and Superior Courts and the related Prosecutors. The Records Division is also responsible for gathering all the information for public and non-public disclosure requests. These are just some of the duties performed by the East Wenatchee Police Records Specialists. In addition to being the Evidence Custodian, the Administrative Assistant helps the Records Division from time to time.

	2020	2019	2018	2017
Concealed Pistol Licenses Issued	392	368	432	384
Civil Process	186	228	186	206
Disseminated Records	3106	3116	3252	3120
Warrants	311	445	572	634



CHIEF RICK JOHNSON



OFFICER MIGUEL VALDEZ



OFFICER TYE SHEATS



OFFICER JON KNUTSON



OFFICER CARL MOHNS



SGT. KARSTEN GARCIA



SGT. BEN FAUCONNIER



SGT. JAMES MARSHALL



**SGT. RICK MOTT-
Resigned 12/2020**



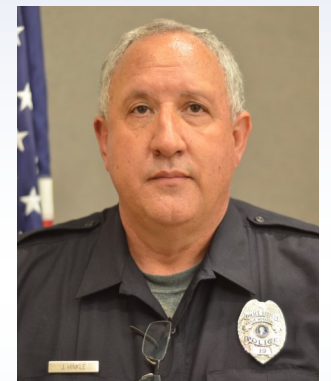
DET. JOHN PHILLIPS



**OFFICER MIKE ROBINS-
Retired 12/2020**



OFFICER JOSH CABALLERO



OFFICER JOE HINKLE



OFFICER KELLY GREGORY



OFFICER JOSH VIRNIG



OFFICER LEEON LEYDE



OFFICER ISAAC COOPER



DET. BRANDON JOHNSON



OFFICER BILL LANE



OFFICER LANDON JENSEN