Our Mission

The mission of the Ellensburg Police Department is to maintain peace and order by protecting our community through action, while serving with respect, integrity and innovation.
The Ellensburg Police Department has 29 sworn officers and an administrative staff which is comprised of a chief, operations captain, administrative captain and administrative supervisor. Their duties are to:

- Provide overall direction to the agency and its personnel
- Ensure the quality of police service delivered to residents is maintained at its highest level
- Manage the budget, personnel investigations and commendations, recruitment and selection of new personnel
- Maintain training standards, research, planning and development
- Address community concerns and issues
- Maintain relationships with the media and other law enforcement agencies
- Prepare annual reports and statistical data
- Oversee special projects and programs and
- Retain Washington State accreditation

Statistics
Ellensburg Population: 19,660
Washington State Population: 7,427,570
City Roadways: 80.07 Miles
City of Ellensburg: 7.62 Square Miles

Contact Us
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The Ellensburg Police Department will enhance public safety and improve the quality of life in Ellensburg by exemplifying Equality, Professionalism and Dedication. With the use of partnerships and innovative policing strategies, the Ellensburg Police Department will remain focused on our core responsibility, which is to aggressively fight crime.

From the Chief
In Memoriam
Awards
What’s New
Three-Tenths
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Year in Review
Training
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Serving the Standard
Patrol
Detectives
Motors
School Resource Officer
Reserves
Code Enforcement
Animal Control
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City Crime Map
Welcome to the 2018 Annual Report. This report covers the outstanding work performed by the men and women of the Ellensburg Police Department and highlights the ever-growing support we provide to the community and those who visit our wonderful city. Ellensburg is a very safe and enjoyable place to live and work and I am honored to serve as your police chief.

During 2018, we strengthened our relationships, focused on our community’s needs and built the foundation for the department’s future. Working with Central Washington University, the Ellensburg School District, community groups, HopeSource and other organizations, we expanded our partnerships in the community and focused our efforts on providing improved police services. This year also brought the city’s investment in remodeling the public safety building and creating a facility which will meet the needs for the police department in the future.

The Ellensburg Police Department family underwent many changes this year with the hiring of two new patrol officers, a code enforcement officer, records clerk and shelter aid, the promotion of three and the retirement of one.

The department also went through many changes this past year with the new administration. We introduced two new programs, NARCAN and Traffic Unit. The NARCAN program involved training and supplying the patrol cars with the drug NARCAN to assist with lifesaving efforts for those who have overdosed on opioids. The Traffic Unit program was designed to focus our efforts on traffic related issues, involving education and targeted enforcement. We also refreshed the chaplaincy and peer support programs and worked on the design of the police department building remodel.

As we ended 2018, our detectives and patrol officers collaborated with several local, state and federal law enforcement agencies for Operation Net Nanny, arresting 13 individuals for predatory sex crimes against children.

I am very proud of the men and women of the Ellensburg Police Department and look forward to their success in 2019.

Chief Ken Wade
Ellensburg Police Department
The Ellensburg Police Department and city of Ellensburg mourned the passing of former Chief Bob Richey in June following his battle with brain cancer.

Richey, 66, a longtime member of the law enforcement community and a native of Naches, started his career as a deputy in the Okanagon County Sheriff’s Office before pinning on an Ellensburg Police Department badge in 1977.

Richey became an instrumental part of the department as a much-beloved sergeant whose far reaching effects can still be felt today through several programs and technologies implemented during his tenure as chief.

As chief the department became one of fiscal responsibility and subject to technological change. Improvements included in-car video cameras and laptops for patrol cars as well as complete department accreditation.

Richey retired from the department in 2006 and later began a second career as a transportation supervisor for HopeSource.

“Richey was a huge community supporter. He volunteered for all types of different projects. He helped several other community projects so his whole life was devoted to giving to this community,” Chief Ken Wade said previously of Richey’s dedication to the city of Ellensburg.

Capt. Jim Weed also noted Richey was “committed to Ellensburg during the entirety of his career and was responsible for setting the department’s direction” and said Richey left behind a great legacy for his family.
AWARDS

Corporal Jason Brunk
Officer of the Year

Detective Ryan Shull
Chief’s Award

Officer Andrew Larson
Most Street Drug Arrests

Officer Ryan Potter
Most DUI Arrests

SQUAD OF THE YEAR

Sergeant Brett Koss
B Squad

Corporal Josh Ingraham
B Squad

Officer Andrew Hall
B Squad

Officer Joe Tirey
B Squad
Cpl. Tom Clayton retired in 2018 after 25 years in law enforcement. He was hired by the Ellensburg Police Department in June of 2001.

Jim Weed promoted from Detective Sergeant to Captain and his brother, Tim Weed, promoted from Corporal to Sergeant.

Patrol Officer Joshua Ingraham promoted to Corporal.

Officer Daniel Ashby
Patrol

Theresa Jones
Code Enforcement

Officer Jason Ramsey
Patrol

Jayde Kettner
Records
The City of Ellensburg and the Ellensburg Police Department are committed to our pledge regarding the 3/10ths of one percent Criminal Justice Sales Tax.

That commitment was to “put boots on the ground” to address crime in our community. Those funds support six additional police officers, two part-time and one half-time Animal Control officers and one half-time records clerk since its passage in 2007.
USE OF FORCE

The Ellensburg Police Department’s primary function is to uphold the law while maintaining the peace and safety for the City of Ellensburg. Sometimes that requires use of force by its officers.

The department has several policies and guidelines in place for use of force by officers. Some choices include hand-to-hand, less-than-lethal and lethal force. If force is required, department command staff evaluate and review every instance through an internal review process to be certain the correct response was used and to determine if further education and/or training is needed for that officer. The department’s policies maintain principles and values that outline performance guidelines for officers so each is aware of what is expected in a given scenario. This helps the department to attain its mission of serving the community.

The department records all incidents of force responses by officer and incident though often multiple suspects can be involved which may require more than one officer to resolve. Officers are required to complete a force response report anytime they use force or imply the use of a weapon.
2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

APRIL

Each April officers from the Ellensburg Police Department participate in Lincoln Elementary School’s Exploration Stations. The event gives youngsters the chance to get up close and personal with police department vehicles.

JUNE

June sees officers from several local law enforcement agencies participating in the Special Olympics Torch Run though Ellensburg on its way to Seattle.

MAY

In May the third grade students from Mount Stuart Elementary School visit the Ellensburg Police Department to visit and check out some of the specialized tools.

JUNE

Ellensburg Police Department officers and detectives give inspirational talks to graduating seniors from Ellensburg High School.

The department also hosts Coffee with a Cop events at various times throughout the year. The get-togethers are a great way for community members to meet and discuss issues with officers in an informal setting.
AUGUST
Cop on Top is an annual event that raises awareness and funds for Washington State Special Olympics athletes. Each year Capt. Dan Hansberry spends all day “on top” garnering support for this cause.

AUGUST
The Youth Gladiator Dash encourages an active and healthy lifestyle to area youth. Officers take part in the dash to promote physical fitness and enjoy some good clean fun.

AUGUST
Each August the Ellensburg Police Department hosts its National Night Out - or Eat with the Heat - barbecue that brings the community and officers together to get to know one another. During the event citizens can tour the department, ask questions and visit with several vendors.

OCTOBER
The annual Citizen’s Academy invites those who want to learn more about the department, its staff and procedures to do so through this interactive, instructive course.

DECEMBER
Shop with a Cop is an annual event in which area police officers and firefighters join together to spread some holiday cheer amongst selected area youngsters. They get to know one another over breakfast and then it’s off for a bit of holiday shopping and the chance to win a bicycle.
The Ellensburg Police Department uses specialized and advanced training techniques to maintain its commitment of providing the best in public safety services to the community and its visitors.

In addition to the classroom training, officers continue to use several digital training platforms as well as updates in emergency vehicle operations. The Ellensburg Police Department received 2,010 hours of instruction in 2018. Officers and command staff attended specialized training in on-line investigations, human trafficking, drug crimes, law enforcement redaction, advanced roadside impaired driving enforcement (ARIDE), basic SRO, basic SWAT, field training officer and community policing to name a few. The department also uses a variety of special training classes taught by leading experts in their fields.

Additionally, there were two new recruits attending the Basic Law Enforcement Academy in 2018. Each officer must go through 720 hours of training while attending the academy.
The Ellensburg Police Department’s Evidence Room does just what the name implies – it holds evidence. The room has two functions: To serve as the community’s lost and found and to securely hold all valuable pieces of evidence collected at crime scenes.

The Detective Sergeant is responsible for the Evidence Room. He makes sure items are correctly identified, cataloged and safely stored to maintain the chain of evidence for any future court appearances. He also must adhere to rigorous standards for the department to maintain its state accreditation.

Aside from evidence the room hosts the varied items people find around town. Cell phones, keys, wallets, debit cards, etc., are collected and kept for up to 60 days or until its owner can be found. Afterward they are destroyed along with other scheduled pieces of evidence.

### 2018: YEAR AT A GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Items</th>
<th>3,500</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Received</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destroyed</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RETURNED 256
DESTROYED 600
RECEIVED 370
TOTAL ITEMS 3,500
In recent years the Ellensburg Police Department has paired with local restaurant, bar and tavern owners to stop problems before they start.

Serving the Standard helps officers and owners approach concerns in a proactive manner by teaming up to identify and solve any alcohol-related issues. The end results create a safer, more enjoyable environment for patrons and owners alike.

Over the past eight years the program has grown to include 23 businesses. Officer Kevin Willette, the department’s liquor compliance officer, works with business owners to resolve any issues that may arise. By working together the entities have forged a productive working relationship, the keystone to making the Serving the Standard program work.
Patrol officers are the most visible and recognizable part of the Ellensburg Police Department because they are the ones the community sees the most.

Their dedication to service shows each time they respond to a call. Officer integrity and ingenuity makes them an indispensable part of Ellensburg and their commitment to safety of its citizenry is unparalleled.

The 20 officers of the Ellensburg Police Department’s Patrol Section have numerous responsibilities they must perform throughout the course of a 12-hour shift. Sometimes it can be a simple traffic stop. Other times it could be acting as a crime scene investigator or patrolling our schools and neighborhoods.

Maintaining a daily presence, officers are required to handle all assignments with professionalism and excellence that residents and visitors of Ellensburg have come to expect.
## 2018: By the Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assaults Reported</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With Firearm</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Weapon</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of An Officer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated DV</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Violence</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total DV Reports</td>
<td>377</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thefts Reported</td>
<td>527</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shoplifting</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft of Bicycle</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theft of Service</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft of Property</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Assaults by Type**

- Aggravated: 9
- Simple: 27
- With Firearm: 1
- Other Weapon: 4
- Of An Officer: 1
- Aggravated DV: 7
- Domestic Violence: 75
- Total DV Reports: 377

**Thefts by Type**

- Shoplifting: 63
- Theft of Bicycle: 3
- Theft of Service: 2
- Theft of Property: 54
VEHICLE PROWL REPORTS 136
VEHICLE PROWL ARRESTS 9
VEHICLE THEFT REPORTED 25
VEHICLE THEFT ARRESTS 2
NOISE COMPLAINT 38
DISORDERLY 75
ALCOHOL / DRUGS 251

MHP, MIP, ETC. 108
DRUG SALE/MANUFACT. 10
DRUG POSSESSION 59
ALCOHOL RELATED DUI 71
DRUG RELATED DUI 3

OBSTRUCTION 33
CRIMINAL ASSISTANCE 2
WEAPONS OFFENSES 11
The five men and women who make up the Ellensburg Police Department’s Detective’s Section are the community’s modern-day Sherlock Holmes.

A Detective Sergeant oversees the section and together they conduct all investigations for the department. Detectives work closely with the Kittitas County and City Prosecutor’s offices to adjudicate felony and misdemeanor criminal actions that occur within the city.

Aside from investigations, a Detective’s primary responsibility includes contacting witnesses, victims and suspects, searching and obtaining any evidence pertaining to a crime and compiling cases against suspects. They also attend hearings, arraignments and trials.
2018: BY THE NUMBERS

CRIMES AGAINST PEOPLE

- HOMICIDE: 1
- KIDNAPPING: 6
- HARASSMENT: 30
- VIOLATE COURT ORDER: 66
- INTERFERE W/DV REPORT: 3

SEX OFFENSES

- RAPE: 4
- ATTEMPTED RAPE: 1
- CHILD MOLESTATION: 1
- COMMUNICATE W/ MINOR: 1
- MISCONDUCT W/MINOR: 1
- EXPLOITATION: 1
- INCEST: 1
### 2018: BY THE NUMBERS

#### CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY

- **ROBBERS REPORTED**: 5
- **ROBBERY ARRESTS**: 5
- **TOTAL BURGLARIES**: 88
- **BURGLARY ARRESTS**: 19
- **STOLEN PROPERTY**: 22
- **FORGERY/COUNTERFEIT**: 4
- **FRAUD ATM/CREDIT CARD**: 2
- **CHECKS/PRESCRIPTION**: 2
- **SHOPLIFTING**: 63
- **ARSON**: 3
- **ID THEFT**: 3
- **TRESPASS**: 48
- **MALICIOUS MISCHIEF**: 26
- **WARRANTS**: 226
The Ellensburg Police Department’s Motors Section is comprised of three officers whose primary responsibility is to perform traffic enforcement and education.

Motors officers receive specialized training in motorcycle handling prior to assignment to the section. The use of motorcycles allow officers more visibility to motorists and gives them the opportunity to educate drivers as well as pedestrians. Hot topics include distracted driving, driver inattention and crosswalk enforcement. Their role also works to potentially reduce traffic collisions and fatalities.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TRAFFIC STOPS</strong></td>
<td>376</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WARNINGS</strong></td>
<td>333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INFRATIONS</strong></td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CRIMINAL CITATIONS</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HOURS ON PATROL</strong></td>
<td>359</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A decade ago the Ellensburg Police Department and the Ellensburg School District teamed up to provide a full time School Resource Officer inside Ellensburg schools.

Officer Stephanie Druktenis is the eyes and ears of the school safety system, acting as both a law enforcement officer and a law-related educator. An SRO is an on-site presence who is ready to respond to emergency situations. Reserve officers are an added preventative measure who back up Druktenis throughout the school system and at various school functions. Together they provide a sense of safety while building relationships with staff and students to help mitigate potential danger inside our schools.
Reserve officers go through a strenuous hiring process similar to that of entry level officers. This includes an oral board, thorough background investigation as well as polygraph and psychological examinations. These steps allow the department to be confident its reserves officers are qualified and have the capacity and aptitude for police work.

Reserve officers attend a Reserve Academy with more than 220 hours of instruction. Once they have graduated reserve officers receive a limited commission. As part of the department mandated annual reserve officer in-service training, reserves receive monthly training on subjects ranging from vehicle operation, case law, policy updates and defensive tactics. They also are trained throughout the year on subjects including recognizing youth that are endangered or at risk, communication skills for working with the young and report writing.
Two limited-commission officers are Ellensburg’s nuisance and parking complaint team. Together they enforce quality of life issues while making the city a safer, more comfortable place to live and visit.

The officers spend most of their time addressing parking issues in historic downtown Ellensburg. But they also oversee the residential parking zones immediately north of the city near the Central Washington University campus where on-street parking can be a scarce and valuable commodity. Their goal is to keep parking available at all times for residents and their guests.

Code Enforcement Officers also handle a variety of nuisance complaints like derelict properties, tall grass and weeds, excessive dead vegetation, illegal dumping and failure to remove snow and ice from city sidewalks. Officers can issue warnings or citations to those who interfere with the health and safety of the community.
Ellensburg Animal Control consists of one manager, two full time officers, two part-time aides and many volunteers whose tireless duty it is to care for the animals inside the shelter, 24/7.

These individuals are dedicated to the safety and well-being of the strays, neglected or abandoned animals that find their way to the Shelter. Aside from daily maintenance of the animals, staff also take in impound animals, collect license and boarding fees, release pets to their owners, perform data entry, answering phones, write reports and maintain the Shelter’s presence on social media.

Outside of the Shelter officers patrol for stray or injured animals, investigate reports of animal cruelty, handle bite quarantines, protect people from vicious animals and respond to various other animal complaints. Officers also act as advocates for animals by encouraging spaying and neutering of pets and try diligently to find animals their “forever home” through the staff and Shelter-approved rescue organizations.
When entering the Ellensburg Police Department, whether to file a report with an officer or fill out a public records request, the first thing you will see is the Records Section. As your first point of contact with the Department the Records Section will direct you to the appropriate forms, departments or officers to best assist you — whether by phone, e-mail or in person.

Every record, report, ticket or document handled by the department will make its way to Records. Records clerks are then responsible for data entry, transcription of recordings, dissemination of confidential information and gathering and reporting statistics. In addition to these tasks the Records Section also fulfills public disclosure requests, concealed pistol license applications and processes ticket payments, just to name a few.
The Ellensburg Police Department uses social media platforms as a fun and informative way to stay connected with the community.

Through Facebook and Twitter the department is able to provide useful and timely information regarding a variety of topics including public safety and police activities. This information is meant to educate and inform and to establish a better understanding of the Ellensburg Police Department's Mission through public service announcements.

Another goal is to provide a sense of transparency into the department and its functions. The department wants to have positive social networking between itself and the community it serves by opening a line of dialog and staying connected through its Facebook and Twitter pages.

**2018: YEAR AT A GLANCE**

- **NUMBER OF LIKES**: 9,534
- **FOLLOWERS**: 9,841
- **MOST POPULAR POST 1-23-18**
- **REACTIONS**: 2,680
- **POST CLICKS**: 69,772
- **PHOTO VIEWS**: 24,867

The Ellensburg Police Department uses social media platforms as a fun and informative way to stay connected with the community.

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To view crime report maps go to ci.ellensburg.wa.us and click on “view crime reports in your neighborhood” link.