

Moses Lake Police  
Department

*Annual Report*



2022



**Professionalism** – *with Character and Pride*

**Integrity** - *with Honesty and Truthfulness*

**Compassion** - *with Valor and Dedication*

**Service** – *with Competency and Teamwork*

## Chief's Message



As 2022 came to an end, it gave me time to reflect on the significant events from last year and how those events impacted our department. It was through that reflection that I realized how hard our staff worked in 2022 responding to the highest number of calls for service in our department history, while also handling some of the most difficult types of cases imaginable.

Changes in State laws and continued police reform legislation have led to increases in property crime and drug offenses throughout the state. We witnessed unprecedented property crime increases, most of which involved the theft of catalytic converters, retail theft and stolen vehicles. The State's lack of response to the Blake Decision led to a drug epidemic that has increased personal drug usage in our community, which has led

to more fentanyl related incidents and overdoses. Officers frequently respond to calls involving people actively using narcotics in public spaces, creating safety concerns for our citizens. Lastly, increases in homelessness have caused concerns for community members, especially about those living in recreational vehicles and tents throughout the city. These issues are not unique to Moses Lake, or even Grant County, as they are State-wide issues. Our officers cannot violate State law or court cases involving these quality of life issues, they require legislative action to make changes.

As previously mentioned, in 2022 officers responded to 19,982 calls for service, which is a 6.3% increase over the previous year. Besides the increase in property crime, officers and detectives also responded to a large number of violent crimes including two homicides, numerous shootings, physical and sexual assaults, and other crimes against people. As a department we are working on strategies to reduce the criminal activity across the city.

Some of the positive changes that took place in 2022 were the hiring of three new police officers; the promotion of six corporals; expanding our technology to assist detectives with major crime incidents; outfitting our officers with new equipment to meet the requirements of the police reform legislation; giving officers the training needed in an ever evolving police profession in areas of mental health response, de-escalation and less-lethal tools; and continual training on best practices and changing laws.

It is truly an honor to serve as your Police Chief alongside the dedicated and hardworking women and men of the Moses Lake Police Department. The employees who work for this department are the most dedicated and focused people I have ever had the pleasure of working with. They truly exemplify the Core Values of this department, PROFESSIONALISM, INTEGRITY, COMPASSION, SERVICE. I love this community and am proud of the relationship that our employees have with this amazing city. I am blessed to serve the citizens of Moses Lake as your Police Chief and look forward to a safe and fun 2023.

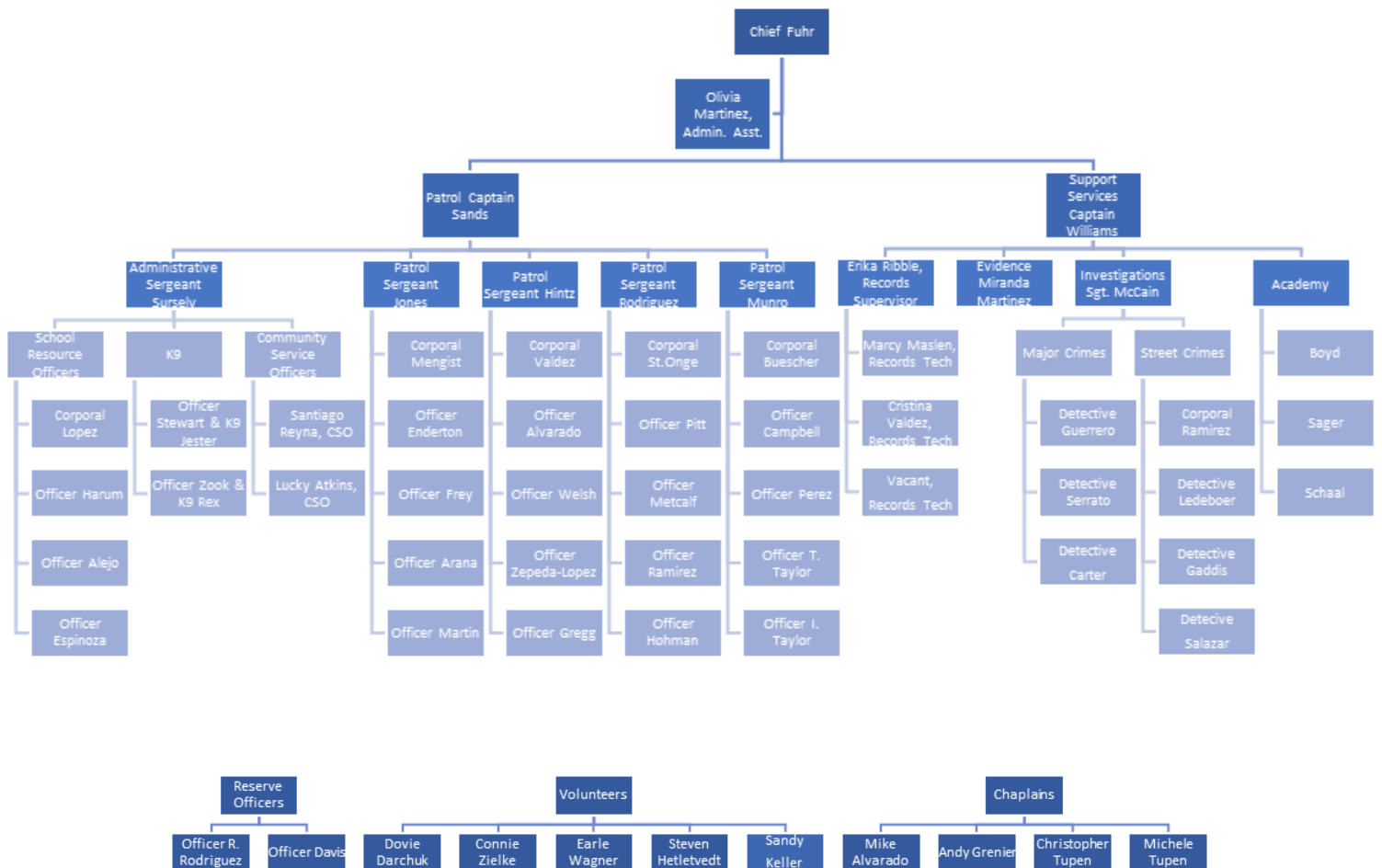
Sincerely,

*Chief Kevin Fuhr*





# Organizational Chart







Left to right: Captain Williams, Administrative Sergeant Sursely, Chief Fuhr, Captain Sands, Administrative Assistant Olivia Martinez

Professionalism, Integrity, Compassion, and Service are the Core Values that drive every decision made by members of the Moses Lake. Our employees are committed to providing the most professional and customer service centered approach when working with members of our community.

This past year we had a patrol officer and a detective retire from service. We had a third officer resign from the MLPD and lateral to a department that was closer to his family. All three positions were quickly filled with new employees that are currently in the police academy.

In 2022 we were able to:

- Successfully negotiate the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City and the Moses Lake Police Officer's Guild.
- Hire two officers to fill the newly created Traffic Officer positions.
- Hire an officer to fill the newly created Community Outreach Officer position.
- Secure City Council backing to construct a new police building, which will begin in 2023.
- Partnered with RENEW to embed a Mental Health Professional within the MLPD to assist with mental health calls.
- Participated in community outreach events during Springfest, Freedom Fest, National Night Out, Faith & Blue, and through the BlueBridge Alliance program.
- Trained officers on the new legislative changes affecting the law enforcement profession.

In 2023 we will strive to:

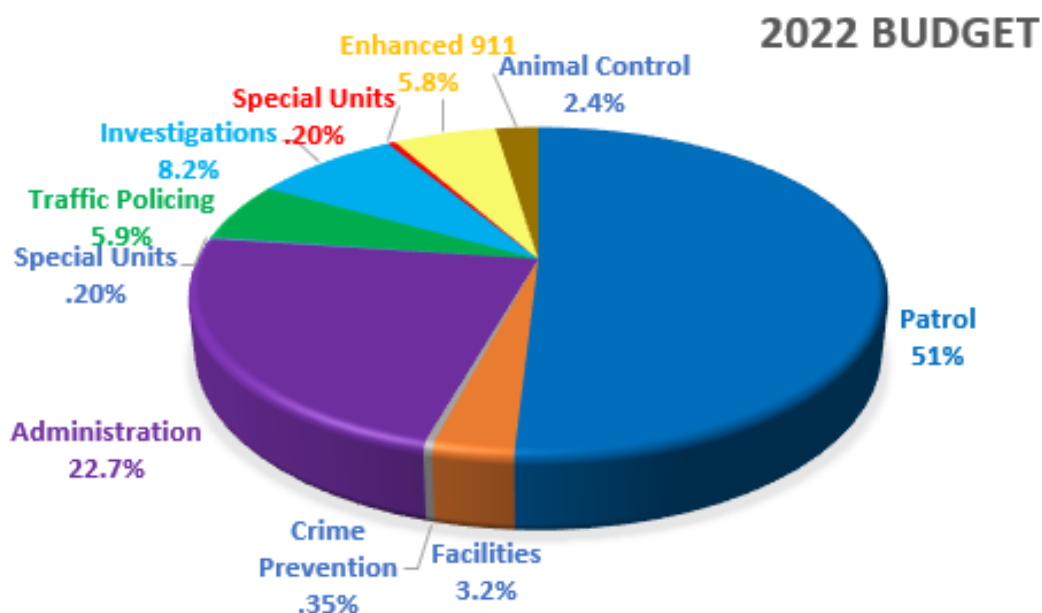
- Keep our valued employees happy and healthy. Retaining quality employees has been and will continue to be our main priority.
- Build the new police department.
- Assign the Community Outreach Officer as a co-responder in partnership with RENEW's mental health professional and Recovery Navigator specialists to build rapport with our homeless population.
- Start a Traffic Unit that will respond to and handle accident investigations, traffic complaints, traffic enforcement and education.
- Hire a new Criminal Analyst to work with Investigations on data extraction and processing of electronic evidence and statistics involving crime trends.
- Increase technology uses through Cellebrite, ZetX, and Flock Safety License Plate Readers.
- Work with Latino Civic Alliance and other youth related organizations to reduce criminal activity amongst youth.

## 2022 MLPD Budget At A Glance

Each year the Moses Lake Police Department creates a budget based on staffing levels, training and equipment needs and level of service standards. The process for creating a budget includes working with City Administration, budget meetings with the City Council, and finally a Public Hearing to approve the budget. The Police Chief is responsible for ensuring that the department adheres to its designated budget allocation.

The 2022 police department budget was \$9,816,737. The chart below represents the budget allocation for each division within the police department. The Patrol Division represents the largest portion of the budget, covering salary costs, operating supplies, equipment, and training for our four Patrol Sergeants, four Patrol Corporals, sixteen Patrol Officers, one Special Operations Sergeant, four School Resource Officers, two K9 Officers, two Traffic Officers, and one Community Outreach Officer. Next the Administration Division covers the costs of four administrators including, operating supplies, equipment, and all Information Technology, Fleet Maintenance, and Professional Services costs. The Investigations Division budget is third in line covering all the same costs as the other divisions, including overtime expenses for one Investigations Sergeant, one Investigations Corporal, three Major Crimes Detectives, and three Street Crimes Detectives. Animal Control, Traffic Policing, Crime Prevention, Special Units, Enhanced 911, and Facilities round out our budget expenses.

In 2022 the Moses Lake Police Department was fortunate to receive funding for one additional Major Crimes Detective, two additional Street Crimes Detectives, one Special Operations Sergeant, replacement patrol vehicles, and updated mobile camera systems. At the end of 2022 the department ended with 45 sworn police officers and 8 civilian employees.



## Use of Force Report

In 2022 MLPD officers used force in 48 separate incidents, against 47 individuals. A vast majority, 44 incidents, were in conjunction with the officers' regular duties while there were two force responses each during Moses Lake Tactical Response Team deployments and by officers in support of the Grant County Sheriff's Office at the Gorge concert venue.

Officers used force in about .21% of all documented contacts, both traffic stops and calls officers responded to or proactively created. This is the same rate as in 2021, .213%, although we saw about a 6.5% increase in total number of calls officers handled in 2022.

### Total Incidents: 48

Total Individuals: 47

Proactive Activity/Contact: 5

Reactive Activity (ie..during a call for service): 43

Total Calls for 2022: 19,982

Total Documented Traffic Stops: 3,137

Total Bookings into GCSO Jail: 405

### Crime:

Felony: 18

Misdemeanor: 22

Juvenile Offenses: 3

Mental Health Hold/Issue: 5

### Impairment:

Alcohol: 11

Drugs: 10

Both: 4

Force Type	Incidents
Physical Control (armbar, counter joint, level 1 defensive tactics)	36
K9 Contact	2
Strikes (personal impact)	1
Firearm Display	5
Impact Weapon	1
Impact Munitions (40mm)	2
Rammed Vehicle	2
Taser	1
Taser Display	5

*It is important to note in the force type that one incident may have more than one force type. For example, an officer may attempt a low-level use of force that does not control the subject and then require a higher level of force. Conversely the circumstances may require an officer to begin at a higher level (such as pointing in with a firearm) but transition to a lower level of force (control technique).*

There were two incidents in 2022 that could be considered deadly force incidents, ramming the subject's vehicle. In the first incident a male subject was shooting at the PUD owned and occupied Priest Rapids Dam, as well as firing off rounds while driving in the Wanapum Indian Village. As part of a TRT response one officer rammed the suspect to disable the vehicle and take the subject into custody without employing firearms. In the second incident, officers and deputies were pursuing a wanted subject who had just shot at deputies before breaking into a residence and stealing the car that was being pursued. In that case the officer could see the subject was going to be able to get away from officers (based on relative car speeds) and he employed a high speed PIT maneuver to disable the subject's vehicle and take him into custody without further incident. This subject is notorious in Grant County as being constantly wanted, violent, and will make every effort to elude arrest.

### Injuries:

There was one reported injury to an officer during a force response incident. The officer sustained a significant back injury that took the officer off the road for a significant period of time. There were five subjects sustaining minor injuries during the force applied by MLPD officers. Two subjects sustained bite injuries from K-9 contact (hip and leg), two subjects had a cut or scrape injuries to their cheeks, and one subject had a bruise near their elbow.



### Officer Factors:

In 2022 twenty-nine officers used force. A vast majority of incidents involved either multiple officers utilizing techniques or multiple officers on scene at the time force was used. There were four officers that were involved in more than five incidents with the most being eight incidents and the other three having seven each.

Of the officers that used force, sixteen are White, eleven are Hispanic, and two are Black.

### Subject Factors:

Race:

White (non-Hispanic): 24 (52.1% of subjects)

Hispanic: 20 (42.7%)

Black: 2 (4.2%)

Native American: 1 (2.2%)

Male: 40

Female: 7

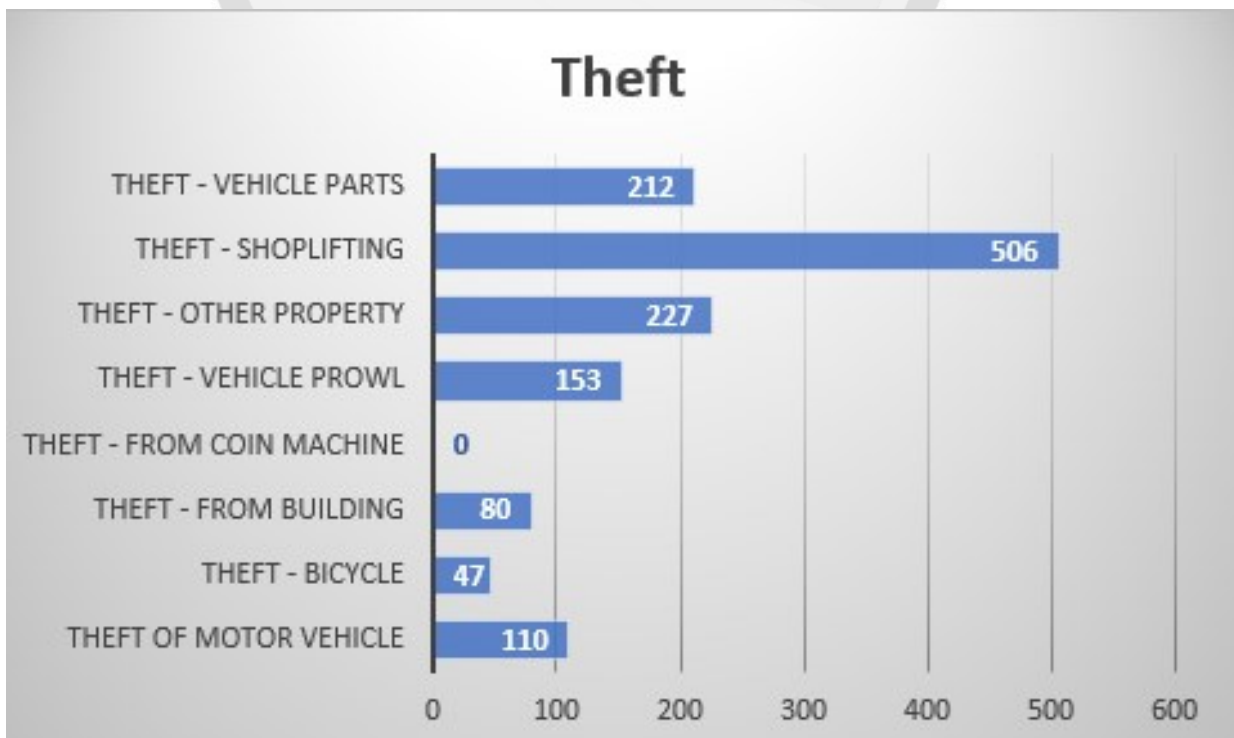
Adult: 41 (age range from 21 years of age to 61 years of age)

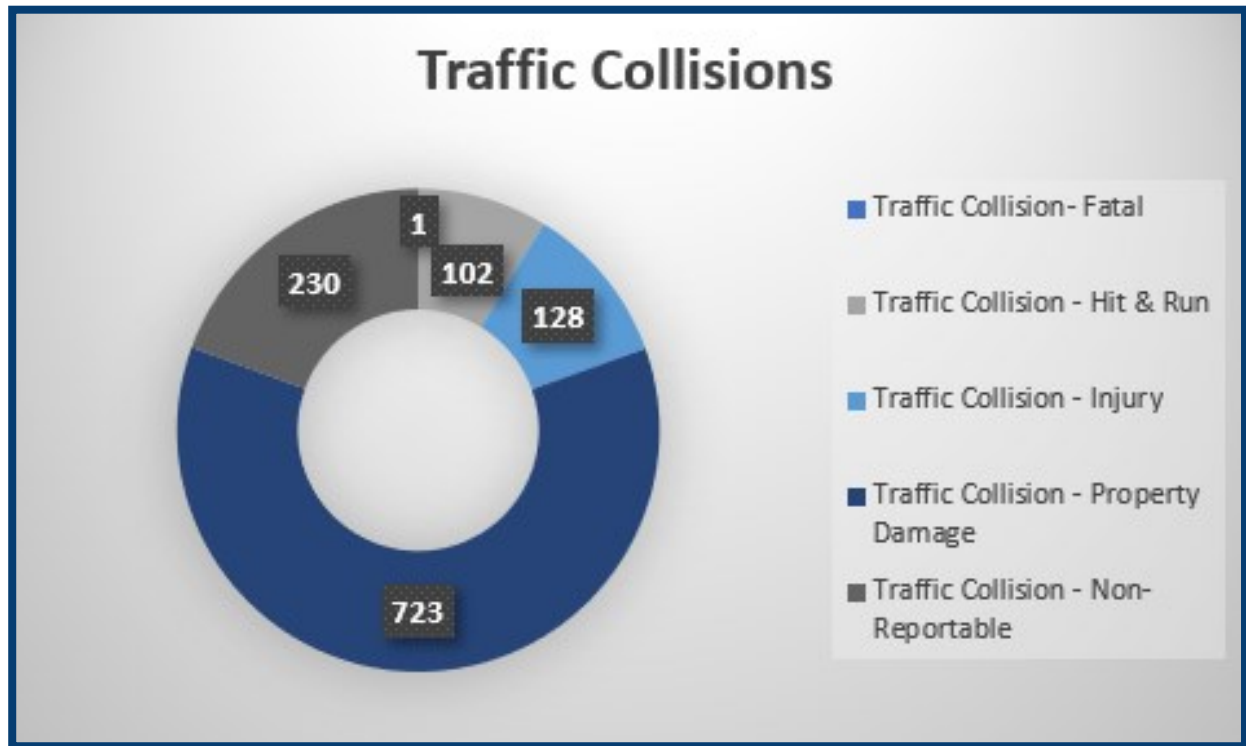
Juveniles: 6 (3 males and 3 females, youngest was 14 years old)

### IDENTIFIED ISSUES:

- While in all cases the force responses were deemed within law and policy, there were three issues identified by supervisors. The issues occurred on different shifts among three different officers. The items identified were:
  - Officer was counseled for antagonistic language
  - Officer and supervisor discussed the officer's verbal approach to a situation and waiting for more officers prior to approaching the subject.
  - Officer counseled to be aware of knee placement as it was close to the subject's neck.
- In addition to the three issues supervisors identified, the Captain review identified one additional issue that was addressed with an officer, the use of inappropriate profanity during a force incident.
- The defensive tactics cadre will deal with use of profanity and how it can affect a force response encounter during the first training of 2023 (March).
- Aside from the issues above, there were no founded complaints on officers for the use of force or their conduct during the use of force. There was only one complaint in 2022 at all regarding force, and the BWC footage quickly cleared the officer.
- The Use of Force policies in the MLPD manual were recently overhauled to comply with legislative changes and no further change is necessary based on the review of force incidents.
- There are no other obvious training issues identified by this review.
- There are no clear indicators of any problematic officer behavior.

<b>Homicide</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Aggravated Assault</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Arson</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Burglary– Residential</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Burglary– Non-residential</b>	<b>128</b>
<b>Malicious Mischief– Reportable</b>	<b>245</b>
<b>Malicious Mischief– Non-reportable</b>	<b>389</b>





<b>DUI- Alcohol &amp; Drugs</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Infraction- Moving Traffic Violations</b>	<b>775</b>
<b>Infraction- Non-Traffic Violations</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Criminal- Moving Traffic Violations</b>	<b>168</b>
<b>Criminal- Non-Traffic Violations</b>	<b>282</b>
<b>Parking Violations</b>	<b>0</b>



## Operations Division



Captain Sands

The Operations Section has always covered a majority of our uniformed personnel, with the exception of School Resource Officers, Community Service Officers, and our K-9 Officers that have bounced back and forth between Operations and Administration. In 2021 the department added an additional sergeant to supervise these uniform specialty positions as well as take over as the training officer for the agency. This position, Special Operations Sergeant, has also brought all the uniformed officers back under Operations.

## Patrol

The Patrol section is the most visible of any other unit in the Moses Lake Police Department as it is the largest and every person assigned is in uniform patrolling the streets of the city 365 days a year. There are four squads of officers with an approved strength of six officers per shift, although in 2022 one squad was down as low as four officers for a time. The squads work 12 hour shifts, four days on four days off. Along with being the most visible, Patrol is the most active as well, handling a majority of our 19,982 incidents. Additionally, patrol officers made over 3,000 traffic stops in 2022.

**"A" Squad:** 3,505 calls for service

Sergeant Adam Munro

Corporal Josh Buescher

Officer Jose Perez

Officer Todd Taylor

Officer Ian Campbell

**"B" Squad:** 3,006 calls for service

Sergeant Aaron Hintz

Corporal Rudy Valdez

Officer Caleb Welsh

Officer Greg Alvarado

Officer Yulisa Zepeda-Lopez

Officer Darrik Gregg

**"C" Squad:** 4,098 calls for service

Sergeant Brian Jones

Corporal Yonatan Mengist

Officer Joe Frey

Officer Joe Enderton

Officer Caleb Martin

Officer Renie Arana

**"D" Squad:** 4,237 calls for service

Sergeant Juan Rodriguez

Corporal Tyler St. Onge

Officer Mitch Hohman

Officer Chase Pitt

Officer Jose Ramirez

Officer Nic Metcalf

## Designated Crisis Responder

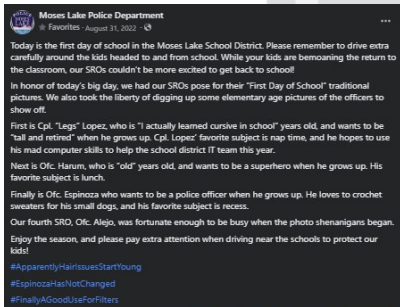
In 2022 the Moses Lake Police Department and Renew worked together to have a fully trained Designated Crisis Responder housed at the MLPD. This DCR started in late September and is predominantly assigned to work alongside law enforcement in all of Grant County. The addition of the DCR provides officers and deputies with alternatives not immediately available before, in the hope of identifying subjects experiencing crisis due to mental health or substance use disorder, getting the subjects safely stabilized, and offering help outside of the criminal justice system. While the imbedded DCR is only available part of the week, in the three months of 2022 that the program was active there were 85 contacts with subjects in significant crisis. DCR: Ricardo Gamez

## Special Operations

The Special Operations Sergeant is responsible for supervising a number of different functions within the agency, Training, School Resource Officers, Community Services Officers, and K-9 Officers. In 2022 the Special Operations Sergeant fell under the umbrella of the Operations Division.

### School Resource Officers

Moses Lake Police Department School Resource Officers (SRO) have been patrolling our schools for over 20 years. Thanks to the support we receive from the Moses Lake School District, we have four SRO's assigned to patrol our schools during the school year.



While the job of an SRO is to keep our children and school staff safe, the SRO is expected to be a resource and positive influence in their assigned buildings. In 2022 all of our SRO's completed the new certification process put in place by recent legislation as well as receiving training in Level 1 Threat Assessment.

As with other areas of the department, in 2022 we assigned a Corporal to the SRO program to assist the Special Operations Sergeant with supervision and ensuring we are providing the best possible service to the MLSD.



2022 School Resource Officers: Corporal Ray Lopez, Officer Matt Harum, Officer Juaquin Espinoza, and Officer Roland Alejo.

### Community Service Officers

The Community Services Officers are assigned to augment dayshift patrol. These two officers are responsible for animal control and parking issues as well as other Municipal Code violations, including our Traffic Camera Enforcement program. In 2022 these officers handled 1100 calls for service.



CSO Reyna



CSO Atkins



## K-9

The Moses Lake Police Department's K-9 program started in 2018 with one dog and handler. In 2019, through an outpouring of community support, the agency was able to add a second K-9 team. The addition of the second team allowed for greater K-9 coverage and we now have a team available most days of the year.

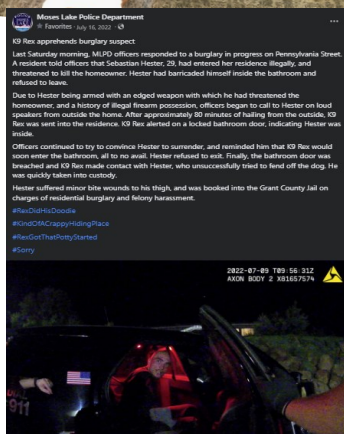
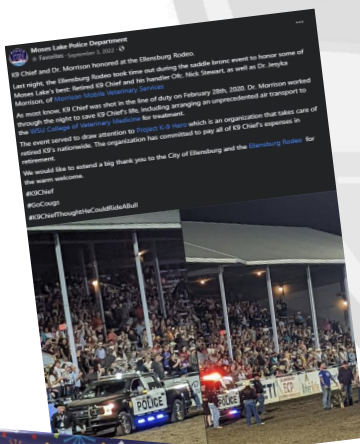
Having K-9 teams is a great responsibility requiring a significant amount of training. The State of Washington requires 16 hours of training every month. Our teams train an average of 20 hours a month with other K-9 teams from across Eastern Washington as well as our tactical team. In addition to the regular training, Officer Stewart completed the first phase of training to become a Master K-9 instructor. Officer Stewart spent ten weeks being an assistant instructor for a basic K-9 class.



Officer Zook & K9 Rex



Officer Stewart & K9 Jester





## Moses Lake Regional Tactical Response Team

The Moses Lake Police Department began the regional tactical response team in 2000. In the 22 years of existence that team has grown from six officers to seventeen officers and deputies from Quincy PD, Adams County SO, Grant County SO, and the Moses Lake PD. The team is open to all agencies in Adams and Grant Counties and in the past has had members from Ephrata PD, Othello PD, and Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. This past year was the busiest in team history with 24 deployments within Adams and Grant Counties. Some notable incidents:



- February 2022: TRT was deployed to Priest Rapids Dam for a subject firing a rifle from the Wanapum Village at the dam. The subject continued to shoot toward the dam and officers that were sent to secure the area. The TRT moved to the West side of the dam utilizing armor to keep the dam workers and officers safe. The subject was eventually taken into custody by TRT members after a short chase through the village.
- Operation Net Nanny: This was a multiple day operation involving law enforcement from across the state to develop cases against subjects looking to have sex with underage victims. The TRT was tasked to form arrest teams to take the subjects into custody as they arrived for their “date,” or at the suspect’s residence.
- Electric City: The team was activated after two Bail Bond Agents got into a shoot-out during their attempt to arrest a wanted felon. In this case negotiators were successful in resolving the issue and having the suspect surrender to TRT members.

Of the 24 deployments in 2022, twelve were for barricaded suspects and twelve were for high-risk warrant service/fugitive apprehension.

In addition to activations, each member of the team is scheduled for 230 hours of training throughout the year to meet the increasing challenges they face. This training builds on their basic training to better conduct searches, downed subject rescues, high risk vehicle stops, and other tactics team members may need to use to resolve dangerous incidents.

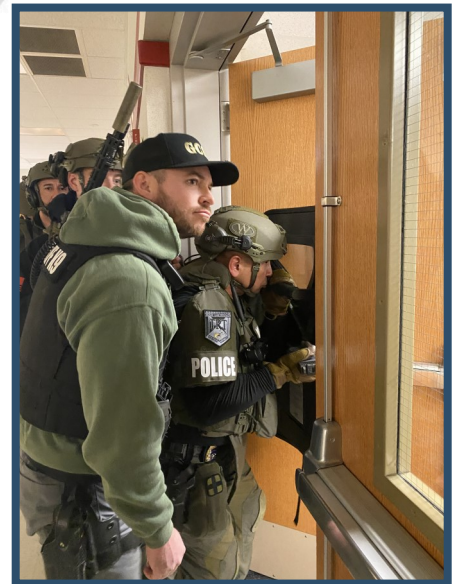




### Moses Lake Regional Tactical Response Team *continued*

#### Crisis Negotiations

In any situation where the MLRTRT deploys, the goal is to resolve the incident peacefully, without the use of force or invasive tactics. Crisis Negotiators respond with the team and communicate to the subject(s) involved to work toward that goal of a peaceful resolution. In 2022 there were seven negotiators assigned to the team from the Othello PD, Quincy PD, Grant County SO, and the Moses Lake Police Department.







Captain Williams

## Investigations

The Investigations section of the Moses Lake Police Department saw significant changes in 2022. Two of our major crimes detectives exited the unit, with Det. Aaron Hintz being promoted to Sergeant and Det. Chuck Paul retiring. They were replaced by Det. Caitlin Carter and Det. Edmund Guerrero.

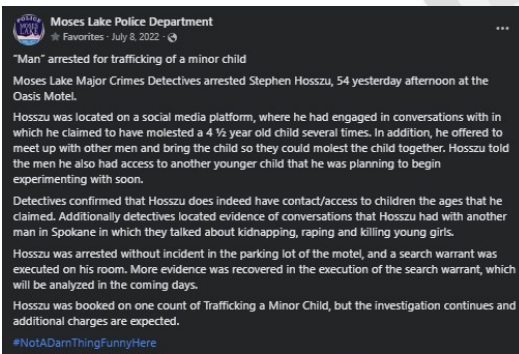
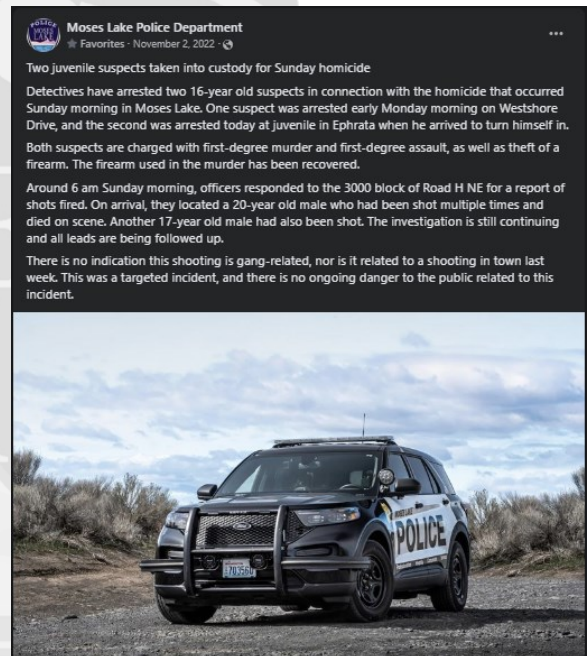
On the Street Crimes side of the house, we added a corporal position (Cpl. Omar Ramirez) and two new detectives, Det. Edgar Salazar and Det. Dean Gaddis.

## Major Crimes

Major crimes detectives investigate the most serious crimes which includes; murder, felony assaults, rape, molestation and child pornography. Det. Carter and Det. Guerrero joined Det. Serrato in major crimes, and are supervised by Sgt. McCain.

This unit is extremely busy in a normal year, but this year was exceptional. On March 4<sup>th</sup>, officers took a missing person call on a 30-year old female named Yanira Cedillos, who had apparently disappeared without a trace. Through diligent and thorough investigation, officers identified a suspect rather quickly, and arrested him for murder within a couple weeks of the disappearance.

Yanira, however, remained missing. Detectives searched



possible areas for her by foot, vehicle, boat, drone and airplane tirelessly for two months, before Yanira's body was recovered in Walla Walla County, and returned back to her family. This was tremendous work by the detectives who refused to quit.

On 10-30-2022, Officers responded to a double shooting at a trailer park in Cascade Valley, and one of the suspects had fled prior to officers' arrival. Over the next 48 hours, detectives were able to track down two suspects, and get them into custody.

While we cannot bring these victims back for the families, the diligent work of the detectives to solve these crimes and bring the suspects to justice gives the families some measure of peace.



### Street Crimes

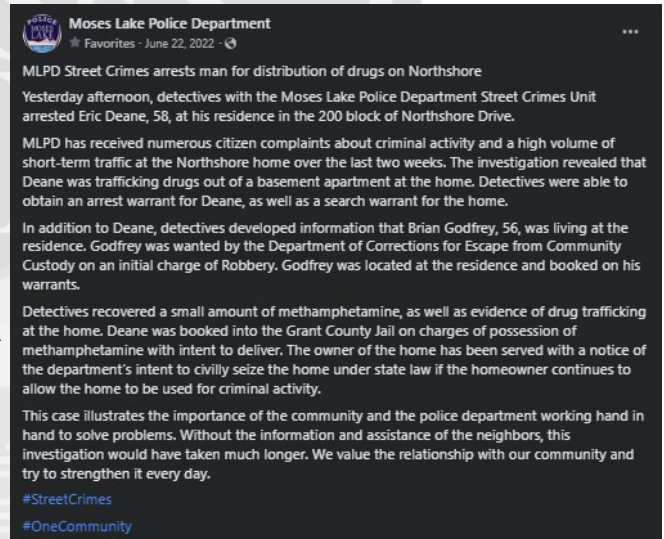
With the addition of two new detectives this year, Det. Salazar and Gaddis, Street Crimes was more self-sufficient and able to operate independently more often. The mission of the Street Crimes unit is to pro-actively seek to intervene in perpetual crimes and suppress criminal activity. To this end, the SCU has partnered with the U.S. Marshals office, the ATF, DEA, Department of Homeland Security and the FBI to bring their resources to help in Moses Lake and Grant County.

In 2022, Street Crimes worked 78 cases, writing 61 search warrants and referring 159 felony charges to the prosecutor. This resulted in 65 arrests, and 95 illegal guns being recovered. Additionally, the team recovered over 20 lbs. of fentanyl pills and 16 lbs. of methamphetamine.

Detectives indicted 10 suspects on federal charges, recovered 7 stolen vehicles, and civilly seized 14 more vehicles for being used in the trafficking of narcotics. Additionally, detectives seized over \$18,000 in cash and property as being the proceeds of illegal activity.



Left to right: Detective Ledebor, Investigations Sergeant McCain, Detective Ramirez, Detective Salazar



## Records

The priority of our records staff is to provide excellent customer service to not only our community, but to our officers and those of our partner agencies. The records staff is responsible for an amazing array of duties, including routing officer's cases to the prosecutor, answering public records requests, processing concealed pistol licenses, firearms transfers, business licensing, civil orders, animal licenses and other data entry tasks.

This office is extremely busy as well, particularly with the increase in firearms transfers and concealed pistol license applications and public records requests. Kim Blasdel left us at the end of last year when her family moved to Montana. Her replacement will be hired in 2023 to keep the office moving forward.

2022 Records Office Yearly Processing Totals	Number
<b>Concealed Pistol Licenses</b>	504
New/Renewed/Late/Replacements	489
Denials	15
<b>Pistol Transfers/FTAs</b>	1060
Denials	7
<b>Records Requests Processed</b>	1195
<b>Cases Routed to GCPA Office</b>	1573
<b>Civil Orders</b>	199
<b>City Licenses</b>	
Taxi Licenses	16
Solicitor Licenses	24
Mobile Food Vendor	28
Pawn Dealers	13
<b>Bicycle Licenses</b>	8
<b>Dog Licenses</b>	139



## Evidence Tech

Miranda Martinez has been running the evidence room for the last two years. This is a daunting project, with over 16,000 pieces of evidence to track. Miranda spends the majority of her time managing the higher risk items, such as guns, drugs and money.

Miranda also has the task of designing and organizing the new evidence room which will be in the new police building. The move will be an opportunity to set up efficient and modern storage systems for evidence, which are decades overdue in our evidence room.

### Volunteers

#### Reserves

Our reserve program consists of volunteer officers who donate their time to supplement patrol crews. This program has been in place for decades, with Reserve Officers providing tens of thousands of hours to supplement our fulltime staff. Reserve Officers assist by responding to calls for service, transporting suspects to the Grant County Jail, and during community events like Springfest and National Night Out.

We currently have two active reserve officers, Rick Rodriguez and Matt Davis. Rick works for the city as a full-time code enforcement officer and has been a reserve with the MLPD for over 20 years and Matt is head of security at Samaritan Healthcare and has been a reserve with the department for more than 10 years.

#### Chaplains

We currently have four Chaplains; Chris and Michelle Tupin, Andy Grenier and Mike Alvarado. The chaplains all have a counseling background, and ride along with officers on a regular basis. Additionally, the chaplains provide a resource to our community members and respond to death incidents to provide support to grieving families.

#### Records Volunteers

In 2022, we had five volunteers that helped us out in the office. These dedicated volunteers put in hundreds of hours to help us out, and work through a huge backlog of old cases that needed scanned and stored. Volunteers also do most of the fingerprinting that we have to do for background checks and issuing CPLs. Total records volunteer hours for 2022 was 2407.5 hours. Our volunteers in 2022 were Sandy Keller, Dovie Darchuk, Connie Zielke, Earle Wagner and Steven Heletvedt.



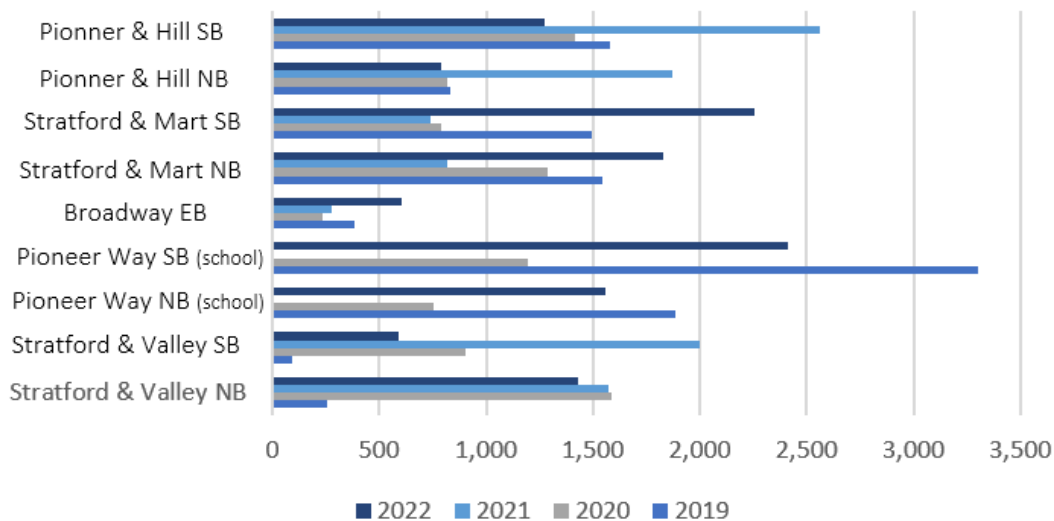
## Redflex Photo Enforcement

The City of Moses Lake currently has nine cameras located in four different intersections and one school zone. Photo enforcement is an automated technology law enforcement uses to detect and record dangerous driving behaviors. A benefit of photo enforcement is the automatic detection that requires no action by an officer at the scene. The cameras also serve as a 24/7 deterrent and are police force multipliers allowing officers to refocus their energies on high priority tasks while still ensuring the safety and security of problematic intersections. Another benefits of photo enforcement is crash prevention. The primary goal of photo enforcement is to protect the safety of the citizens who utilize the roadways.



Location	Vehicles Monitored	Citations Issued
Stratford & Valley NB	3,618,967	1429
Stratford & Valley SB	2,493,161	592
Pioneer Way NB School Zone	1,530,986	1559
Pioneer Way SB School Zone	1,502,130	2410
Broadway	3,113,146	607
Stratford & Mart NB	3,120,072	1832
Stratford & Mart SB	3,221,783	2257
Pioneer Way & Hill NB	1,977,011	789
Pioneer Way & Hill SB	1,891,846	1272

Number of Citations Issued



### Training

The Moses Lake Police Department prides itself on providing members with significant up to date education that exceeds the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission's standards for agency training. In 2022 MLPD officers and staff attended over 4000 hours of training. This training ranged from hour long updates to the 720 hours of Basic Law Enforcement Training. Specialized units, such as the Moses Lake Regional Tactical Response Team and K-9 Officers attend monthly training to maintain certifications and readiness.

### 4206 total hours

**Patrol:** 2992

Average 94 hours per patrol officer

57 weeks of total training

**Investigations:** 1372 total hours

Average per investigator: 171 hours

26.5 Weeks of total training

**Administration:** 438 total hours

Average per: 109 hours

5 Weeks of total training

**Reserves:** 48

Average 4 hours

1 week total training


## Blue Bridge

Blue Bridge is a non-profit program that is a catalyst for galvanizing community efforts by providing assistance to agencies. The Moses Lake Police Department was afforded the opportunity to pilot this new program in 2022! Blue Bridge's goal is to support compassionate acts by law enforcement officers when people need it the most, strengthening relationships between officers and their communities.

By partnering with Blue Bridge, our officers have obtained the resources to provide relief to Moses Lake citizens in distress. Such assistance can be in the form of food, shelter, transportation or any other means of support that could help relieve the immediate crisis. Our officers have used Blue Bridge funds to help local residents with everything from food to gasoline to replacing a child's bicycle that was stolen. Officers have also used the funds to transport a person to Spokane to obtain needed medical care and to give short term shelter to a mother fleeing an abusive situation, as well as to buy her children warm clothes. On a couple of occasions, funds have been used to help members of our homeless population return to locations where they have family, or other support systems.

This program is supported 100% by donations. All donations are tax-deductible, stay local and every penny donated is used to help local people. Zero percent of the donations go to administrative costs. This program has really been embraced by our officers, as it allows them to instantly help people in bad situations, and try to break the cycle of despair.



To learn more please visit [www.bluebridgealliance.org/moseslakewapd/](http://www.bluebridgealliance.org/moseslakewapd/)


**Moses Lake Police Department**  
 Favorites - September 15, 2022 -

The Moses Lake Police Department would like to thank Sun Splash Car Wash for hosting our first BlueBridge fundraiser. During the event we received \$889 in donations and Sun Splash Car Wash donated \$800 for a total of \$1689.

BlueBridge is a non-profit program that is a catalyst for galvanizing community efforts by providing assistance to agencies, and the Moses Lake Police Department has been afforded the opportunity to pilot this new program! By partnering with BlueBridge, our officers will have the resources to provide relief to Moses Lake citizens in distress. Such assistance can be in the form of food, shelter, transportation or any other means of support that could help relieve the immediate crisis.

We need your help to sustain this amazing program and help the citizens of our community! You can donate anytime directly at <https://bluebridgealliance.org/moseslakewapd/> or the QR code.


**Moses Lake Police Department**  
 Favorites - October 1, 2022 -

This is going on right now until 11 this morning! Come on down and see us!




**Moses Lake Police Department**  
 Favorites - September 20, 2022 -

Moses Lake Police Department to host Cops, Cars and Coffee

The MLPD will be hosting the first Cops, Cars and Coffee event in the Civic Center Parking lot (4th and Balsam) on Oct. 1st. This is a fundraising event to support the BlueBridge program, which allows our officers to assist when they come across people in genuine need.

There are approximately 50 cars committed to attend the car show from the Diverse Society Car Club as well as the Classic Car Club of Moses Lake. We also plan to have at least one of our K9 officers present.

The Favored Farmhouse is right around the corner for all your coffee needs and will be donating a portion of every sale to the BlueBridge program.

Unfortunately, this will be a BYOD (Bring Your Own Donut) event, as this is the first year of the event, and we let a skinny officer plan it.

Even without donuts, this is a great opportunity to come down and meet some of your local officers, see some cool cars and (of course) drink some great coffee and support a great cause.

If you are unable to attend and would like to donate or get more information about the BlueBridge program, you can scan the attached QR code to go to the MLPD BlueBridge site.

If you are interested in bringing your car to the show, or if you have any questions, please contact Officer Ian Campbell (the skinny one) at [icampbell@cityofml.com](mailto:icampbell@cityofml.com).

#ImNotSkinnyAndStillLikeDonuts  
 #CashOrDonutDonations  
 #GoodCoffeeGoodCause

## Years of Service

### **25+ Years of Service**

Jimmy Reyna, <i>CSO</i>	36 years
Dean Gaddis, <i>Detective</i>	35 years
Kevin Fuhr, <i>Chief</i>	30 years
Dave Sands, <i>Captain</i>	30 years
Joe Frey, <i>Officer</i>	27 years
Mike Williams, <i>Captain</i>	27 years
Jeff Sursely, <i>Sergeant</i>	25 years
Marcy Maslen, <i>Records Tech.</i>	25 years

### **20+ Years of Service**

Brian Jones, <i>Sergeant</i>	24 years
Ray Lopez, <i>Corporal</i>	21 years
Juan Rodriguez, <i>Sergeant</i>	20 years

### **15+ Years of Service**

Darrik Gregg, <i>Officer</i>	19 years
Kyle McCain, <i>Sergeant</i>	16 years
Aaron Hintz, <i>Sergeant</i>	16 years

### **10+ Years of Service**

Juan Serrato, <i>Detective</i>	14 years
Lucky Atkins, <i>CSO</i>	14 years
Matt Harum, <i>Officer</i>	13 years
Adam Munro, <i>Sergeant</i>	12 years
Curt Ledebor, <i>Detective</i>	12 years
Josh Buescher, <i>Corporal</i>	12 years
Nick Stewart, <i>K9 Officer</i>	10 years
Joaquin Espinoza, <i>Officer</i>	10 years
Bradley Zook, <i>K9 Officer</i>	10 years

### **5+ Years of Service**

Olivia Martinez, <i>Admin. Asst.</i>	9 years
Caleb Welsh, <i>Officer</i>	9 years
Erika Ribble, <i>Records Supervisor</i>	8 years
Tyler St. Onge, <i>Corporal</i>	7 years
Edgar Salazar, <i>Detective</i>	7 years
Omar Ramirez, <i>Detective Corporal</i>	7 years
Jose Ramirez, <i>Officer</i>	7 years
Miranda Martinez, <i>Evidence Tech</i>	6 years
Rudy Valdez, <i>Corporal</i>	5 years
Yonatan Mengist, <i>Corporal</i>	5 years

### **Under 5 Years of Service**

Edmund Guerrero, <i>Detective</i>	4 years
Todd Taylor, <i>Officer</i>	4 years
Mitch Hohman, <i>Officer</i>	4 years
Joseph Enderton, <i>Officer</i>	4 years
Jose Perez, <i>Officer</i>	4 years
Caitlin Carter, <i>Detective</i>	3 years
Chase Pitt, <i>Officer</i>	3 years
Roland Alejo, <i>Officer</i>	3 years
Caleb Martin, <i>Officer</i>	2 years
Gregorio Alvarado, <i>Officer</i>	1 year
Rene Arana, <i>Officer</i>	1 year
Ian Campbell, <i>Officer</i>	1 year
Yulisa Zepeda-Lopez, <i>Officer</i>	1 year
Nick Metcalf, <i>Officer</i>	1 year
Cristina Valdez, <i>Records Tech</i>	1 year
Cody Sager, <i>Officer</i>	new hire
Zachary Schaal, <i>Officer</i>	new hire
Hunter Boyd, <i>Officer</i>	new hire

*\*Years of Service as of  
December 31, 2022*



## Promotions



Sergeant Hintz

**Sergeant Aaron Hintz** was raised in the greater Moses Lake area where his family has farmed since the 1950's. Aaron was hired with MLPD in 2006 and during his tenure has served as a patrol officer for five years, corporal for seven years, and detective for the last four years. Aaron has also been a part of the Moses Lake Regional Tactical Response Team for fourteen years and has been a firearms instructor, active shooter instructor, and rangemaster for the Department.

**Corporal Yonatan Mengist** is another product of MLHS. After graduation, Cpl. Mengist served in the U.S. Navy Reserve for 9 years. He graduated with a criminal justice degree from Eastern Washington University, and was hired by MLPD in 2017. Cpl. Mengist will serve as a patrol shift corporal

**Corporal Tyler St. Onge** is also a native of Moses Lake, and a graduate of Moses Lake High School. Tyler has worked for MLPD full time since 2015, and for three years prior to that as a Reserve Officer. Before that, Cpl. St. Onge worked at Ziggy's for about 10 years. Cpl. St. Onge will serve as patrol corporal.



Left to right: Corporal Mengist, Corporal St. Onge, Corporal Lopez

**Corporal Ramon Lopez** is a graduate of Moses Lake High School, and has been with the Moses Lake Police Department for 21 years. Prior to that, Cpl. Lopez served in the U.S. Army and worked for the Grant County Sheriff's Office, the Connell Police Department and the Chelan County Sheriff's Office. Cpl. Lopez will continue to serve as an SRO in the Special Operations Unit.



Left to right: Corporal Buescher, Corporal Ramirez, Corporal Valdez

**Corporal Josh Buescher** is originally from the Yakima Valley and went to Washington State University where he received his B.A degree. Corporal Buescher started his career at Ephrata PD in 2010 and then lateraled to MLPD in 2016.

**Corporal Omar Ramirez** was born and raised in Moses Lake, went on to graduate from the Moses Lake High School in 2010. Served in the United States Marine Corps from 2010 to 2014. Omar was hired on with the Moses Lake Police Department in 2015 and is currently a Below 100 Instructor, a Field Training Officer, and a member of the Regional Moses Lake Tactical Response Team. Assigned to the Street Crimes Unit since 2019.

**Corporal Rudy Valdez** was born and raised in Moses Lake. Rudy graduated from Moses Lake High School and continued his education at Big Bend Community College, Central Washington University and the University of Washington. Rudy was hired as a Reserve Police Officer with MLPD in 2015 and came on full time in 2017. Rudy currently serves as a Patrol Officer, a Defensive Tactics Instructor, Patrol Tactics Instructor, a Field Training Officer and most recently has earned a spot on the Regional Tactical Response Team.

## New hires



**Officer Jose A. Ramirez** was born and raised in Moses Lake. Jose graduated from Moses Lake High School and then attended Eastern Washington University where he received a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Jose was hired as a Police Officer with the City of Ephrata in 2015 and recently lateraled to serve his hometown of Moses Lake. Jose is honored to be able to serve with the Moses Lake Police Department and is looking forward to having a positive impact on the community that he calls home.

**Officer Darrik Gregg** came to work for the Moses Lake Police Department having previously worked for two other local law enforcement agencies. Darrik brings with him a great amount of experience, training and skills that will benefit our community and department. We are honored to have such an outstanding person working with our amazing team of dedicated and caring professionals. We look forward to watching Darrik continue his career with MLPD.



**Cody Sager** is from Spokane, worked most recently as a CNC Operator and comes from a law enforcement family. His brother Josh works for the Spokane County Sheriff's Office.

**Zachery Schaal** is originally from Spokane, but lives in Moses Lake. He is a graduate of EWU and was working in the construction industry.

**Hunter Boyd** is from Moses Lake, where he was a stand-out baseball player through college and beyond. Hunter has recently been working armed security.

All three are expected to graduate from the academy in May.



## Awards

### Unit Citation Award

*Detective Ledeboer*

*Officer Frey*

*Officer Taylor*

*Corporal Mengist*

*Sergeant Munro*

*Sergeant Jones*

*Captain Sands*

*Officer Harum*

*Sergeant McCain*

*Officer Martin*

*Sergeant Hintz*



Exceptional Service Award  
*Detective Serrato*



Officer of the Year  
*Corporal Valdez*



Support Services Employee  
of the Year  
*Officer Reyna*



Volunteer of the Year  
*Earle Wagner*

### Unit Citation Award

*Officer Pitt*

*Officer Perez*

*Officer Welsh*

*Corporal Mengist*

*Sergeant Munro*





## National Night Out



## Shop with a Cop



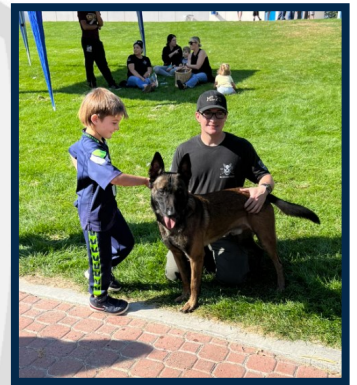


## Community

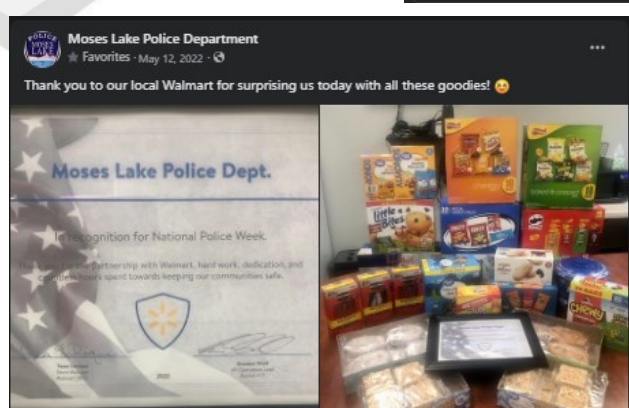
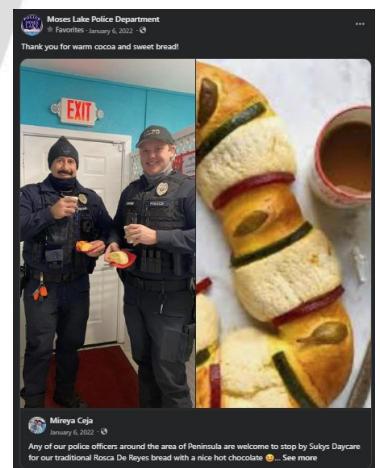
### Faith in Blue Community Event



We would like to thank our amazing community for supporting our first annual Faith & Blue BBQ.

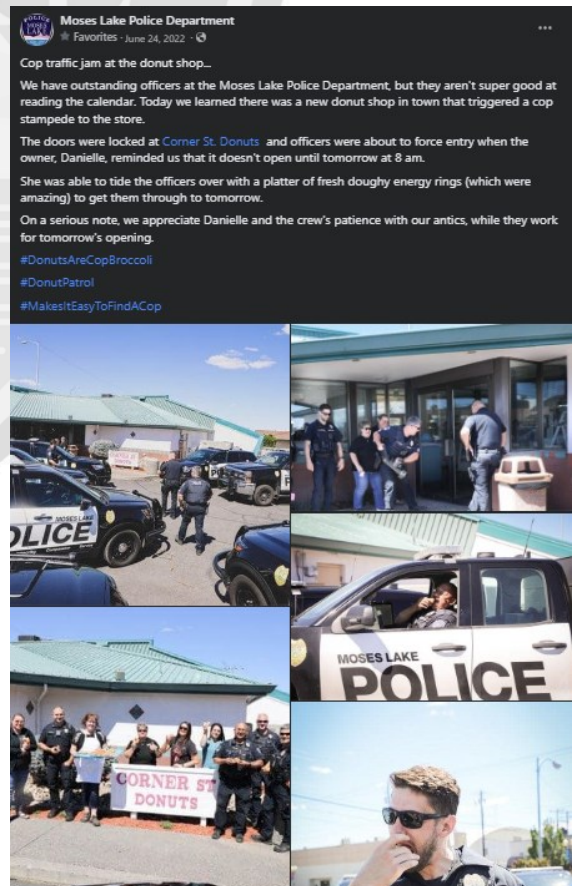


### Community Support



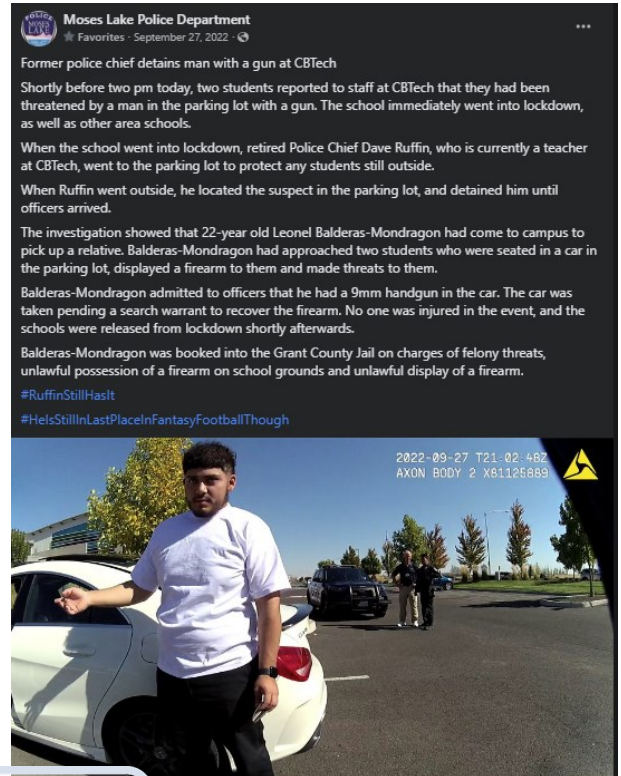


# Community

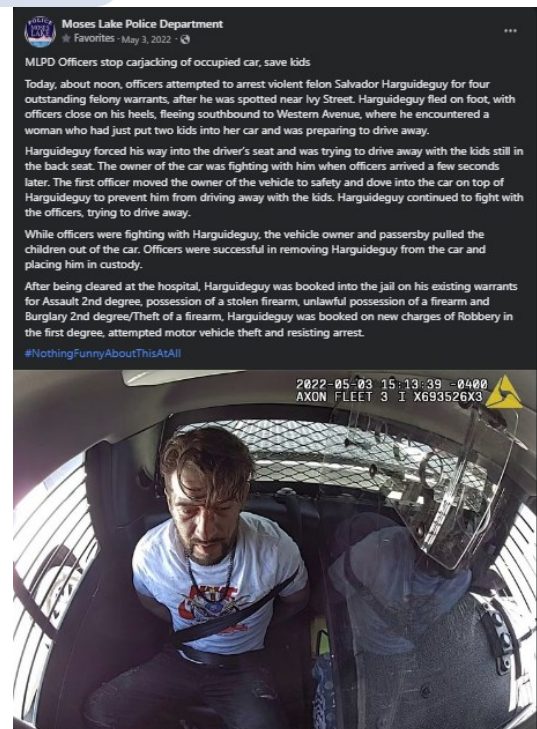
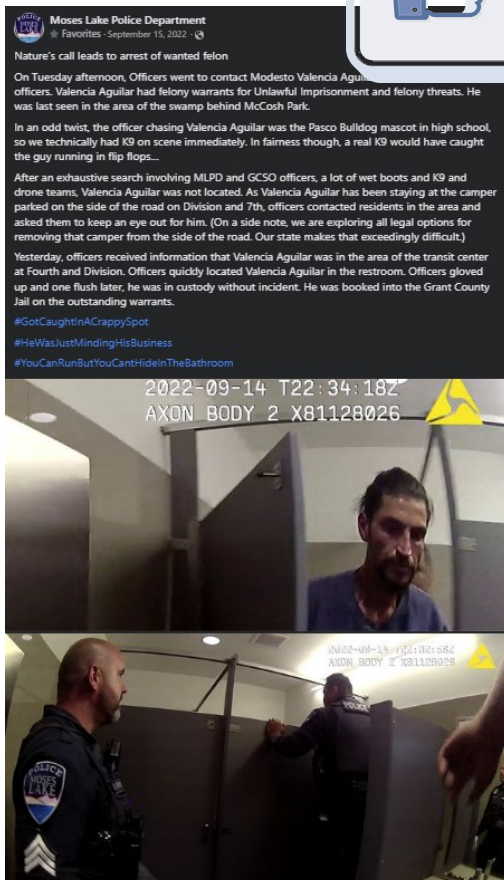




## Social Media



Like us on  
**Facebook**



## **Our Department is located at:**

**411 South Balsam St.**

**P.O. Box #1579**

**Moses Lake, WA 98837**

**Phone: (509) 764-3887**

**Fax: (509) 764-3919**

**City of Moses Lake Website**

**[www.cityofml.com](http://www.cityofml.com)**

**Crime Reports Website**

**[www.crimereports.com](http://www.crimereports.com)**