

Moses Lake Police Department

Annual Report

2019



Professionalism - Integrity - Compassion - Service

Department Photo



MOSES LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT 2019

Professionalism - with Character and Pride

Integrity - with Honesty and Truthfulness

Compassion - with Valor and Dedication

Service - with Competency and Teamwork



Message from the Chief



I am excited to present you with this 2019 Annual Report. The contents of this report detail the accomplishments and activities of your police department. The men and women of this department are committed to providing professional and compassionate service to the citizens and visitors that live, work, and play in this community.

The Moses Lake Police Department is a values based organization and we understand that without the support of our citizens, we cannot effectively or efficiently meet our goals of keeping this community safe. We strive to work closely with our partners through programs, presentations, and community events. Our goal is to build relationships between the department and the people that live, work and play in Moses Lake. This report highlights many of the community programs that we were involved in during this past year.

I am honored to work with such a dedicated, caring, and professional team of men and women whose main goal is to keep this community a great place to live and to support our citizens. I truly appreciate the kindness and caring that we receive from the community and look forward to a great 2020.

Kevin J. Fuhr

Moses Lake Police Department



Table of Contents

Department Photo	1
Message from the Chief.....	2
Administrative Section	4-5
Organizational Chart	6
Department Data and Statistics	7-8
What's New at MLPD!	9
Support Services Division	
School Resource Officers	10
Investigations	11
Records	12
Police Specialist	12
Volunteers	13
Operations Division	
Patrol Section	14
Tactical Response Team	15
Community Service Officers	16
Reserve Program	16
Awards	17-19
Years of Service	20
New Hires	21
Community Outreach and Events	22-24
Social Media	25
Contact Information	26

Administrative Section

The Moses Lake Police Department is a values based organization which is dedicated to providing professional police services to our community. Our employees live by our Core Values: Professionalism, Integrity, Compassion, and Service. To that end, members of the department will strive to serve the public with honor, dignity and respect.

The 2019 year started normally but quickly changed when the Police Chief was asked to take over as Interim City Manager and our Administrative Captain was placed as the Interim Police Chief. These administrative changes altered some of our priorities and left us unable to complete some of our goals, however, the department continued to have a very productive and successful year.



Olivia Martinez
Administrative Assistant

Our goals for 2019 included:

- Retaining our valued employees
- Assigning a second K9 Officer and then backfilling that Patrol Officer position
- Making Moses Lake a regional training facility for area law enforcement, adding more instructors and completing mandatory training in Implicit Bias, sexual harassment, blood borne pathogens and Crisis Intervention Team (CIT).
- Purchase new firearms, tactical response vehicle and uniforms
- Obtain grants to assist with personnel and equipment purchases
- Complete State accreditation
- Revise our Strategic Plan
- Educate citizens to pass 3/10% Criminal Justice Sales Tax

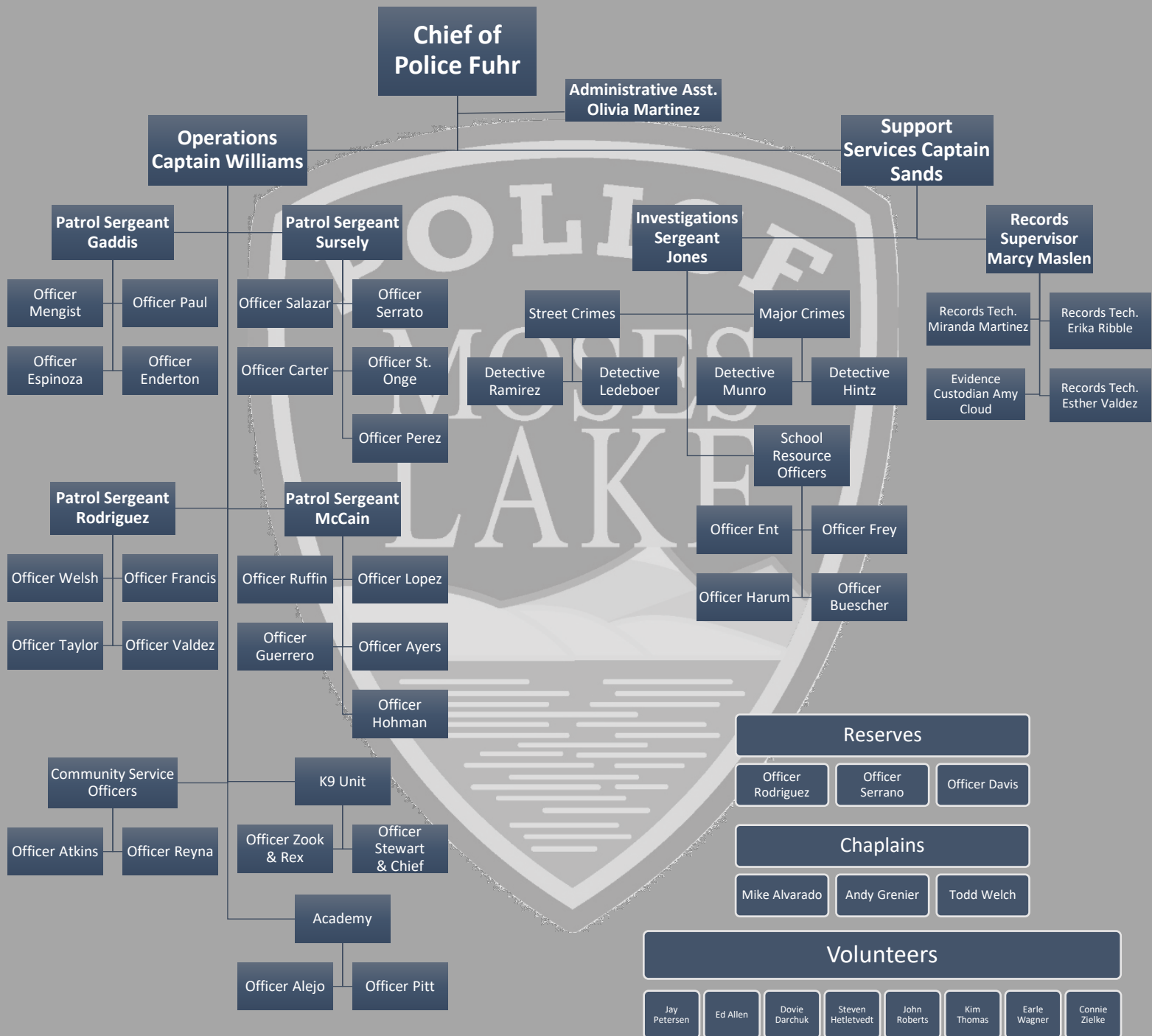
Administrative Section

We were successful in attaining almost every goal set for 2019. Unfortunately, one of our valued police officers left the area to go to work for another law enforcement agency, however that was the only member of the department that left. We were fortunate in filling the second K9 position. We hosted several trainings, including a nationally recognized speaker on Implicit Biases. We purchased all new handguns and included electronic sights to our weapons for better accuracy. We obtained a large grant from the Paul Lauzier Foundation to purchase a new Tactical Response Vehicle. Through education and partnerships with other area law enforcement agencies, we were successful in the passage of the Criminal Justice Sales Tax increase.

The two areas that we failed to complete were the State Accreditation and the 2020 Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan is a priority for 2020 and should be completed prior to year's end. The accreditation is on hold for the time being and may be something that we look to in the future.

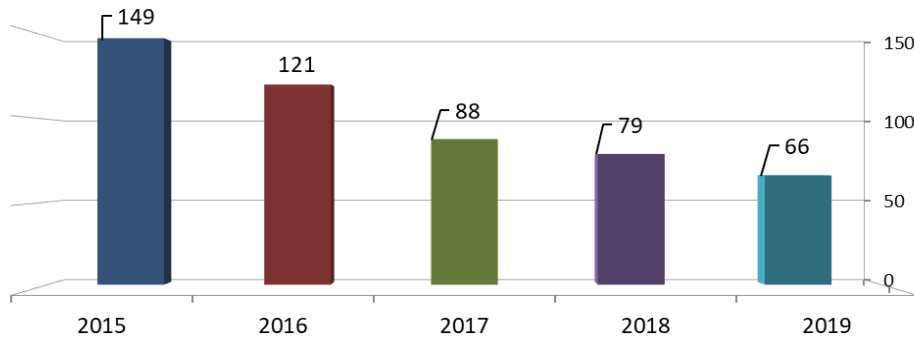
We will continue to look for ways to better serve our community, whether it be through personnel, equipment or technology. We have set goals in 2020 to assign officers to zones within the city that should increase our response time to calls. Through these efforts, we will be partnering with the Moses Lake Fire Department and various businesses to allow officers office space to complete reports within their respective zones. This model should also give officers a greater ability to patrol more often in our neighborhoods and to respond quicker to emergency situations.

Organizational Chart



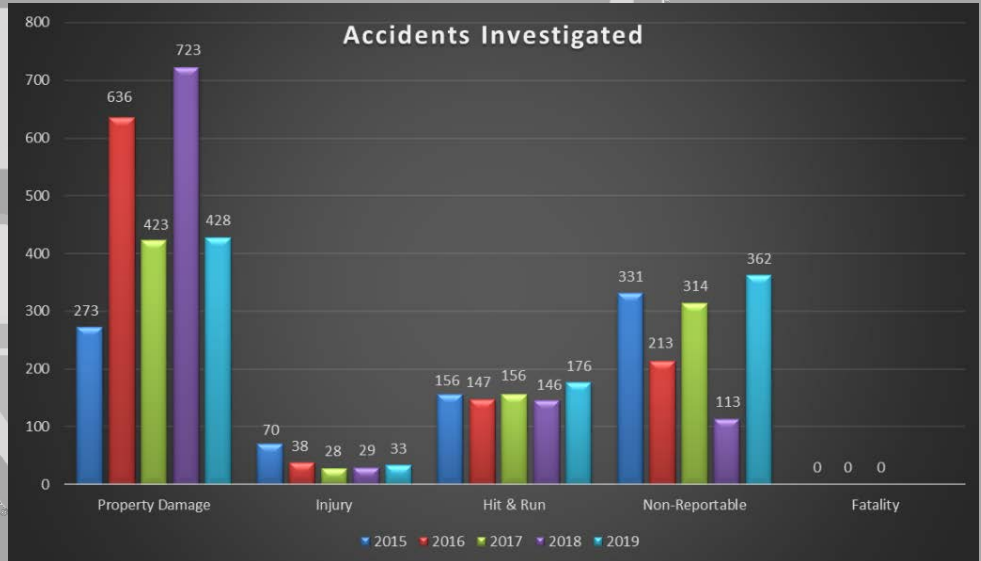
Department Data and Statistics

DUI ARREST COMPARISON



*Includes both Alcohol & Drugs

Accidents Investigated



Violent Crime Comparison

Crime Rate	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Homicide	1	1	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	60	88	100	60	64
Forcible Rape	20	11	18	12	12
Armed Robbery	4	12	14	18	11

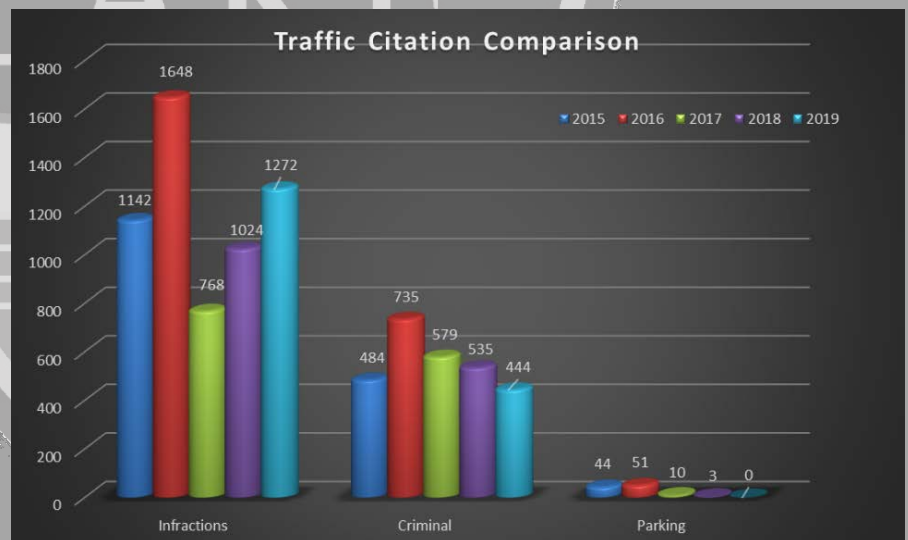
Department Data and Statistics

Crime Rate	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Arson	3	4	2	3	3
Aggravated Assault	60	88	100	60	64
Burglary	274	262	165	178	244
Larceny	1147	1010	843	817	1177
Mal Mis	495*	513*	388*	492*	487*
Murder	1	1	0	0	0
Rape	20	11	18	12	12
Robbery	29	12	19	11	10
Vehicle Theft	166	107	90	77	89

Major Crimes Comparison

*This includes reportable and non-reportable Mal. Mis. Calls.

*For 2019 there were 309 reportable Mal. Mis. and 178 non-reportable calls



2019 Traffic Camera Citations Report

Location	Stratford At Valley		Pioneer Way School Zone		Broadway At Alder	Stratford Rd At Mart Rd		Pioneer Way At Hill St	
Direction	North-bound	South-bound	North-bound	South-bound	East-bound	North-bound	South-bound	North-bound	South-bound
Citations	1575	1997	0	0	277	819	739	1872	2865
Accidents	13		3		10	22		0	

What's new at MLPD!



*Officer Stewart and
K9 Chief*

K9

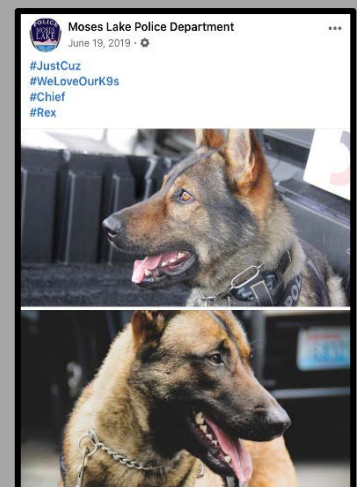
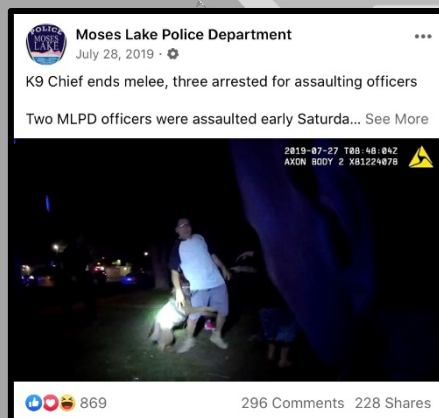
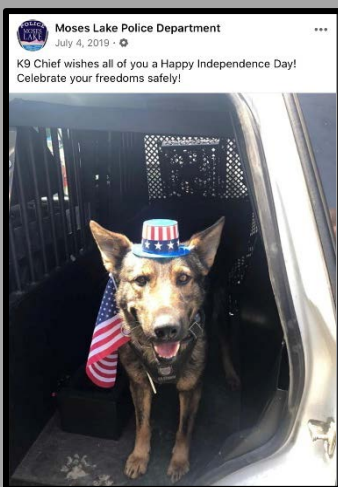
We were able to start our K9 program in early 2018 with the purchase of K9 Chief. K9 Chief was purchased almost exclusively with donations from the community, and from the start, our program has enjoyed widespread support in our city.



*Officer Zook and
K9 Rex*

In 2019, we were able to add a second dog to our K9 program mid year, with the addition of K9 Rex. The purchase of K9 Rex was made possible by a large grant from the Paul Lauzier Foundation. K9 Rex is assigned to handler Ofc. Brad Zook. The addition of K9 Rex allows us the opportunity to have seven day per week coverage with our K9's, with Ofc. Zook and K9 Rex alternating day time 12 hour shifts with Ofc. Stewart and K9 Chief.

This program continues to be outstanding for our department, not just from a patrol point of view, but from a public relations angle as well. We receive requests on a weekly basis for the dogs to provide demonstrations and to participate in community events. Moving forward, our K9 Officers will continue to be a major part of our community oriented policing approach.



Support Services Division



Dave Sands
Administrative Captain

The Support Services Division, which is comprised of Investigations and the Records section, provides both specialized and administrative support to the primary police function of the Moses Lake Police Department. While the Operations Division is the most visible division providing our primary service, Support Services generally works behind the scenes assisting officers.

School Resource Officers

In 2000 the Moses Lake Police Department and the Moses Lake School District worked together to provide one full time officer assigned to the school district as a School Resource Officer. In 2004 a second officer was added to the program and it remained a two-officer unit until the 2018-19 school year. In late 2018 the MLPD/MLSD partnership decided it was time to expand the program to a total of four officers. This increase in staffing allows for far greater coverage to the district's 15 schools.

The primary duties of a School Resource Officer have remained largely unchanged over the last 20 years; provide for the safety of students and staff, be a resource for school administration, investigate potential criminal activity, and most importantly, seek out positive non-enforcement interaction with the students. Officers Joe Frey, Scott Ent, Matt Harum, and Josh Buescher are assigned as the SROs for the Moses Lake School District's 8,674 students.



Support Services Division

Investigations

The Investigations section of the Moses Lake Police Department is separated into two groups, Major Crimes Detectives and Street Crimes Detectives. While there are times the two groups work side by side on cases and are supervised by the same sergeant, in general they have very different duties.

Major Crimes

These detectives are probably what most people think of when they hear the word “detective,” and are the ones Hollywood makes television shows about where they solve all the crimes in 40 minutes or less, depending on commercials. In reality, the incidents these detectives investigate are time intensive, and we do not have our own scientist giving us DNA results in less than a day, although that would be nice. Officers assigned as Major Crimes Detectives receive specialized training to investigate crimes such as Robbery, Rape (and other sex offenses such as pornography), Homicide, felony assault, and computer crimes.

In 2019, Sergeant Brian Jones and Detectives Adam Munro and Aaron Hintz investigated 57 sex offense allegations, which included 8 child pornography cases, and 22 robbery and assault cases. While these were not all the cases worked by these detectives, they certainly were the most time consuming. In addition to their cases these detectives are often called upon to assist other agencies investigating cases where there is some tie back to Moses Lake. In 2019 detectives assisted 20 other municipal, Washington State, and Federal law enforcement agencies such as Homeland Security, ATF, Walla Walla PD, Kennewick PD, Wenatchee PD, Seattle PD, and the US Postal Inspector, to name a few.

Street Crimes

In 2017 the Moses Lake Police Department re-instituted this proactive team of two detectives. The purpose of this team is to react to issues arising in the community that patrol officers may not have the necessary time or training to deal with on their own. These are generally on-going crimes such as gang issues, narcotics dealing, illegal weapons possession, and auto theft.

Detectives Omar Ramirez and Curt Ledeboer were very active in 2019 investigating 109 cases and 122 arrests. These cases resulted in 46 search warrants where over 70 firearms were recovered and over 187 ounces of various narcotics were seized. In addition to their own cases, Street Crimes detectives also assisted Federal law enforcement with cases in the area, which resulted in another six pounds of narcotics and 50 firearms taken off the streets of the Moses Lake area.

Support Services Division

Records

While the uniformed officer is the most publicly visible employee of the agency, if you have ever stepped foot inside the department you were most likely greeted by one of our Records personnel (Marcy Maslen, Erika Ribble, Miranda Martinez, or Esther Valdez). The Records section is the hub for the agency with most documents, reports, or statements passing through here before being stored or routed to the appropriate agency. Records personnel are responsible for processing concealed pistol licenses, firearms transfers, taxi and certain business license background checks, routing paperwork and digital media to other agencies, animal licensing, processing civil orders, data entry into the various State and Federal computer systems, transcribing statements, reporting crimes through the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS), filling public records request, and community outreach.

Records Section Statistics

Public Records Requests	1558 (over 900 work hours)
Concealed Pistol License	331
Pistol Transfers Completed	874
Transcriptions Completed	104
Civil Orders Processed	135
Animal Licenses issued	330
City Licenses Processed / Background checks (Taxi and required business)	80

Police Specialist

This position is responsible for maintaining all the evidence and outside personal property brought into the department. This is no small feat with over 2,900 new evidence items and over 600 pieces of personal property added in 2019. In late 2018, Amy Cloud took over this position from our previous Specialist. The law requires a complete audit of all evidence and property whenever there is a change, and it is a long process. Throughout 2019 over 7,000 pieces of property and evidence were destroyed, along with over 300 pounds of drugs taken in through the Drug Take Back Program drop box in our front lobby. This left us with 11,156 pieces of evidence at the end of 2019.

Support Services Division

Volunteers

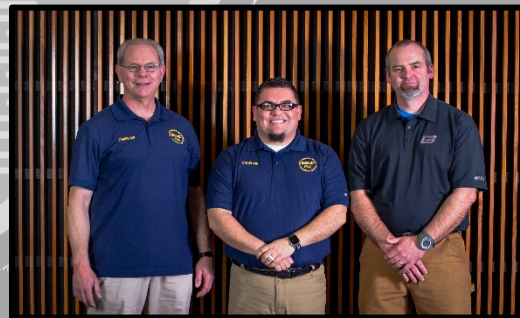
The Moses Lake Police Department is fortunate to have a substantial volunteer program. There are three separate groups of volunteers for the agency including clerical volunteers, Chaplains, and reserve officers. As the name indicates, there is no pay for these “employees.” In most cases they are looking for ways to serve this community.

Clerical Volunteers

These folks assist in the front office with filing, public contact, and public outreach programs. These are also the smiling faces you see when you come in to have your fingerprints taken for job applications or background checks. We also had a retired officer volunteer to assist the Investigations Unit get caught up on cases. This group alone donated over 700 hours to the City of Moses Lake.

Chaplains

The department currently has three volunteer chaplains. These volunteers make themselves available at all hours of the day and night to assist officers with some of the most difficult tasks we have, consoling families and loved ones who have received devastating news. Chaplains also ride along with officers on patrol and make themselves available to employees facing crisis.



The Moses Lake Police Department would like to thank our volunteers for all that they did in 2019, Chaplains Mike Alvarado, Andy Grenier, and Todd Welch, retired Officer Jay Petersen and Clerical Volunteers Ed Allen, Dovie Darchuk, Steven Hetletvedt, John Roberts, Kim Thomas, Earle Wagner, and Connie Zielke.

Operations Division



Mike Williams
Operations Captain

The Operations Section of the Moses Lake Police Department in 2019 covered all of our uniformed officers, our K9 officers and the tactical response team.

Patrol

For most of 2019, we had 22 officers assigned to uniformed patrol, divided among four shifts. Each shift works 12 hour days, four shifts on, four shifts off. This maximizes the number of officers we can have on the road at any given time.

Patrol officers are the first on scene to virtually all of the department's calls, handling over 18,000 calls in 2019. While this is a heavy load, it was actually down about two percent from 2018. Our officers did an outstanding job with clearing these cases. Officers solved over 70 percent of robbery cases, 80 percent of assault cases and 62 percent of burglary cases. These high numbers are indicative of the hard work our officers put forth on their cases, and commitment to excellence.

In other news, we said goodbye to a couple of our officers in 2019, Ofc. Dodson and Ofc. Hanson. Both left to pursue other opportunities. We were also able to add four new officers: Ofc. Jose Perez, who is originally from Yakima, and came to us from the Tonasket Police Department. Ofc. Caitlin Carter started midyear, from the Tri-Cities area. Toward the end of the year, we added two local officers, Ofc. Chase Pitt, who grew up in Ephrata and is the son of a Grant County Deputy, and Ofc. Roland Alejo, a Wenatchee native who came to us from Genie Industries. All four are progressing well and will be valuable additions to our agency.

Operations Division



Moses Lake Regional Tactical Response Team

The Moses Lake Regional TRT is currently comprised of officers from the Moses Lake Police Department, the Grant County Sheriff's Office and the Adams County Sheriff's Office. The team responds to high risk incidents throughout Grant and Adams Counties, including barricaded suspects, high risk

search warrants and high risk arrest warrants. The team trains 232 hours a year, and uses specialized tactics and equipment to mitigate the risk associated with these types of calls.

The specialized equipment and tactics the team uses often reduces or eliminates the need to use force on suspects, especially those with diminished mental capacity. One notable example of this was a deployment to Mattawa in September of 2019. In this case, a woman had a mental break and had threatened family members with a knife, before barricading herself in her apartment. The team was able to use advanced tactics and negotiation to get her into custody safely and deliver her to medical personnel for treatment.

In 2019, the team was activated 16 times. These incidents included high risk search warrants and rapid deployment incidents for the arrest of a violent suspect or suspects. Notable calls included:

On October 2nd, Moses Lake Police Department Street Crimes detectives obtained a search warrant for a property on Road L NE outside of Moses Lake for the trafficking of stolen guns. The team safely secured the property, taking a number of suspects into custody and recovering well over 100 illegal and stolen guns.

On October 19th, TRT was requested to help with the arrest of a subject who had fired several shots from a handgun near the Ephrata High School Homecoming crowd. The suspect refused to surrender until CS gas (tear gas) was introduced into the residence causing the suspect to comply. The suspect was taken into custody without incident.

The investment in the team has paid off many times over the years in the safe capture of suspects and the reduction of liability for the department.

Community Service Officers

MLPD has two CSOs, Jim Reyna and Lucky Atkins. These two officers spend most of their time on animal control and abandoned vehicle/parking complaints. The CSOs enforce the city municipal code. Additionally, Ofc. Reyna and Ofc. Atkins are tasked with reviewing and issuing all the RedFlex tickets for the agency.

The CSOs stay very busy. Last year, they handled almost 1,300 calls for service, and issued 10,144 RedFlex tickets.



Officer Atkins and Officer Reyna

Reserves

Our reserve program consists of volunteer officers who donate their time to supplement our patrol officers. We have an authorized staffing level of 15 reserves, but it has been difficult to recruit because the Grant County Reserve Academy has not been run consistently.

Two of our Reserves were hired last year as full-time officers. Both Ofc. Roland Alejo and Ofc. Chase Pitt graduated from the Reserve Academy last year and were picked up as full time employees. Both will graduate from the academy in 2020 and are expected to be long term employees of our department.

Our current reserves are: Ofc. Rick Rodriguez, Ofc. Matt Davis and Ofc. Angel Serrano. Last year, these reserves put in over 1,000 volunteer hours, and provided crucial support to patrol, particularly at large events like Spring Fest and National Night Out. Moving forward, we are actively seeking reserve candidates, and exploring other options if Grant County does not put on a Reserve Academy this year.

Exceptional Service Award

This award is given to an employee who has performed their duties in an exceptional manner such as members who put in more effort and time on their assignments than would normally be expected and resulted in a measurable, positive solution.

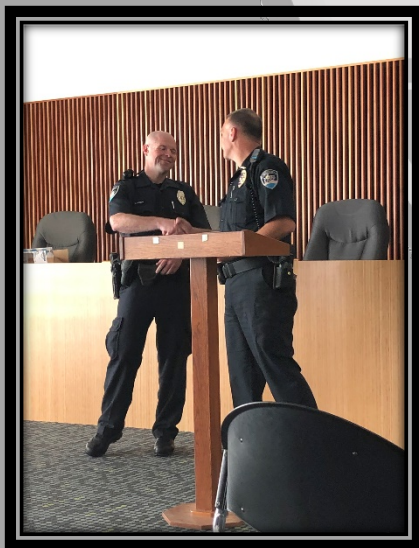
Our 2019 Recipients:



Detective Munro



Sergeant Jones & Sergeant McCain



Officer Dodson



Detective Hintz

Unit Citation Award

Awarded to department members for outstanding service, which was a result of a team effort rather than individual performance resulting in measurable, positive solution.

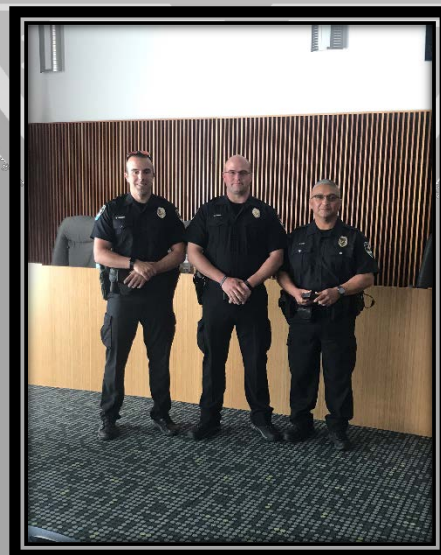
Our 2019 Recipients:



Left to Right: Officer Francis, Office Harum, Officer Ruffin, Officer Stewart, Detective Munro, Detective Ledeboer and Officer Ayers.

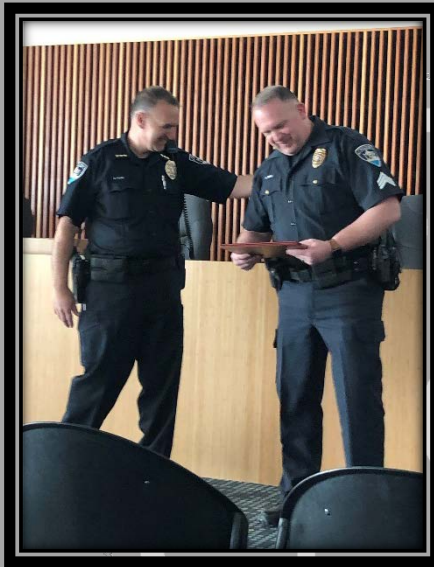


Left to Right: Officer Salazar, Officer Paul and Sergeant Gaddis. *Not Pictured:* Officer Zook and Officer Mengist



Left to Right: Detective Ledeboer, Officer Harum and Officer Lopez

MLPD Employees of the Year



Operations
Employee of the Year
Sergeant Jones



Support Services
Employee of the Year
Miranda Martinez

Not Pictured: **Volunteer of the Year** Matt Davis

20 Years of Reserve Officer Service Recognition



Reserve Officer Rick Rodriguez

Years of Service

25+ Years of Service

Jimmy Reyna, <i>CSO</i>	33 years
Dean Gaddis, <i>Sergeant</i>	32 years
Kevin Fuhr, <i>Chief</i>	27 years
Dave Sands, <i>Captain</i>	27 years

20+ Years of Service

Joe Frey, <i>Officer</i>	24 years
Mike Williams, <i>Captain</i>	24 years
Jeff Sursely, <i>Sergeant</i>	22 years
Marcy Maslen, <i>Records Sup.</i>	22 years
Brian Jones, <i>Sergeant</i>	21 years

15+ Years of Service

Ray Lopez, <i>Detective</i>	18 years
Juan Rodriguez, <i>Sergeant</i>	17 years

10+ Years of Service

Kyle McCain, <i>Sergeant</i>	14 years
Aaron Hintz, <i>Detective</i>	13 years
Richard Francis, <i>Officer</i>	13 years
Chuck Paul, <i>Officer</i>	12 years
Scott Ent, <i>Officer</i>	11 years
Juan Serrato, <i>Officer</i>	11 years
Lucky Atkins, <i>CSO</i>	11 years
Matt Harum, <i>Officer</i>	10 years

5+ Years of Service

Adam Munro, <i>Detective</i>	9 years
Curt Ledeboer, <i>Detective</i>	9 years
Josh Buescher, <i>Officer</i>	9 years
Nick Stewart, <i>K9 Officer</i>	7 years
Joaquin Espinoza, <i>Officer</i>	7 years
Bradley Zook, <i>K9 Officer</i>	7 years
Olivia Martinez, <i>Admin. Asst.</i>	6 years
Caleb Welsh, <i>Officer</i>	6 years
Travis Ruffin, <i>Officer</i>	5 years
Erika Ribble, <i>Records Tech</i>	5 years

Under 5 Years of Service

Tyler St. Onge, <i>Officer</i>	4 years
Edgar Salazar, <i>Officer</i>	4 years
Omar Ramirez, <i>Detective</i>	4 years
Amy Cloud, <i>Evidence Cust.</i>	3 years
Miranda Martinez, <i>Records Tech.</i>	3 years
Rudy Valdez, <i>Officer</i>	2 years
Yonatan Mengist, <i>Officer</i>	2 years
Colton Ayers, <i>Officer</i>	2 years
Edmund Guerrero, <i>Officer</i>	1 year
Todd Taylor, <i>Officer</i>	1 year
Mitch Hohman, <i>Officer</i>	1 year
Joseph Enderton, <i>Officer</i>	1 year
Caitlin Carter, <i>Officer</i>	8 months
Jose Perez, <i>Officer</i>	7 months
Esther Valdez, <i>Records Tech.</i>	7 months
Chase Pitt, <i>Officer</i>	New Hire
Roland Alejo, <i>Officer</i>	New Hire

**Years of Service as of
December 31, 2019*

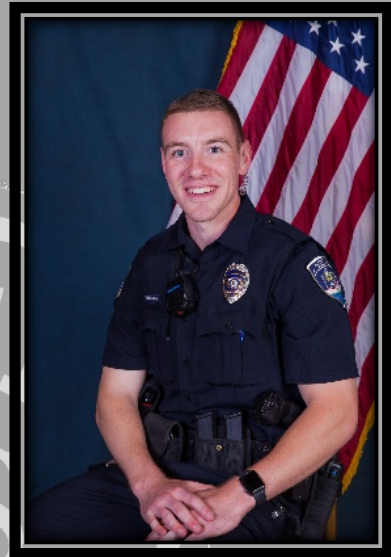
New Hires



Officer Guerrero
2018



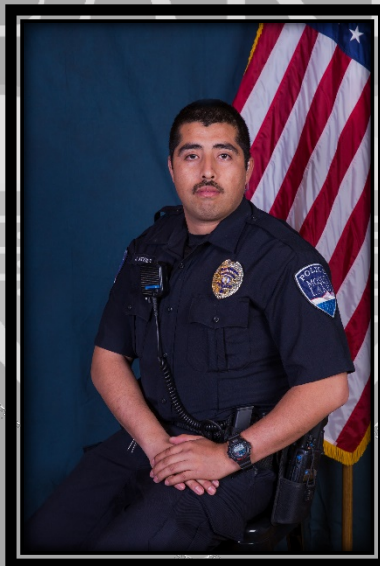
Officer Taylor
2018



Officer Hohman
2018



Officer Enderton
2018



Officer Perez
2019



Esther Valdez
2019

Not pictured: Officer Carter (2019), Officer Pitt (2019) and Officer Alejo (2019)

Community Outreach & Events

Citizen Academy

In 2019, the Moses Lake Police Department partnered with the Grant County Sheriff's Office, Quincy Police Department and Ephrata Police Department to host the 3rd annual Citizen Academy. The Citizen Academy is held at Big Bend Community College over a 7 week period and covers a variety of topics from drugs and firearms to neighborhood watch programs and civil procedures. This year's academy class consisted of 18 students representing the cities of Moses Lake, Ephrata, Quincy, Soap Lake and residents of unincorporated Grant County. Students gave very positive feedback and have set the stage to continue future academies to help educate and demonstrate to the public many different aspects of law enforcement.



National Night Out

2019 was our 10th annual National Night Out event. This event is a community building campaign that promotes police and community partnerships and keeping neighborhoods safe. National Night Out enhances the relationship between citizens and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community.



Community Outreach & Events

Peninsula Elementary Bike Rodeo

For years, Peninsula Elementary has invited MLPD to participate in their bike rodeo. At this event, students were given the opportunity to register their bikes with MLPD, were taught about bike safety and then proceeded to ride their bikes safely to school.



Chief for a Day

Chief for a Day is about celebrating the lives of children who struggle daily with a diagnosed condition. The hope is to provide these children with a day of fun they will never forget!

Citizen Ride-a-Long Program

The Ride-a-Long Program continues to be a very popular way for citizens to learn about law enforcement and to get to know their local police officers. In 2019, 49 citizens took advantage of the program and rode with officers. The goal of this program is for citizens to have the opportunity to build a rapport with the officers that serve this community and to see what officers face on a day to day basis in this community.

Community Outreach and Events

SIDNE

The SIDNE vehicle is an electric cart that allows drivers to experience the effects of impaired driving in a controlled environment. SIDNE simulates loss of control, loss of braking, and delayed response time. This year the SIDNE was held at a few different events throughout the community like National Night Out, City of Moses Lake Wellness, Big Bend Community College, Western Polymer and more.



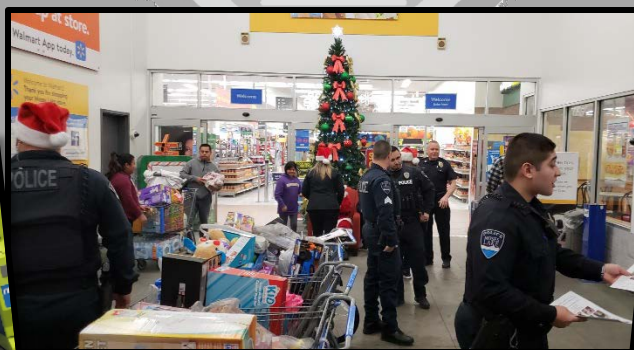
Car Seat Check Up Event



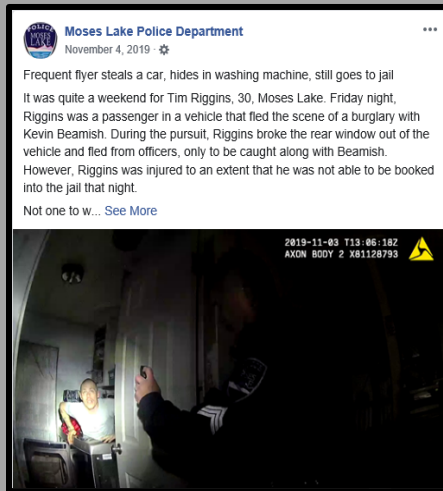
In 2019, MLPD hosted a Car Seat Checkup Event to help educate families on how to properly install and use their child/children's safety seat(s). At this event, 27 child seats were checked, 14 adults and 23 children were present, and 7 seats were distributed.

Toy Drive

In 2019 we partnered with Toys for Tots and hosted our second annual Toy Drive. MLPD spent the evening at our Moses Lake Walmart collecting toys for the less fortunate to distribute to local families throughout our community. Another HUGE success!



Social Media



#KindaLikeOscarTheGrouch



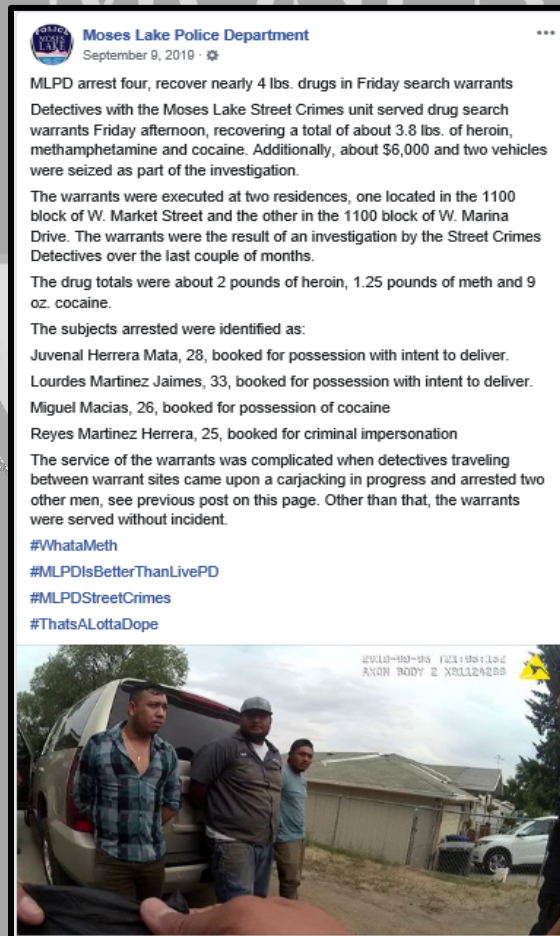
#ThinkHeWasHeadedForTheMushroom



#IDontThinkYouAreVeryGoodAt
ThisCriminalStuff



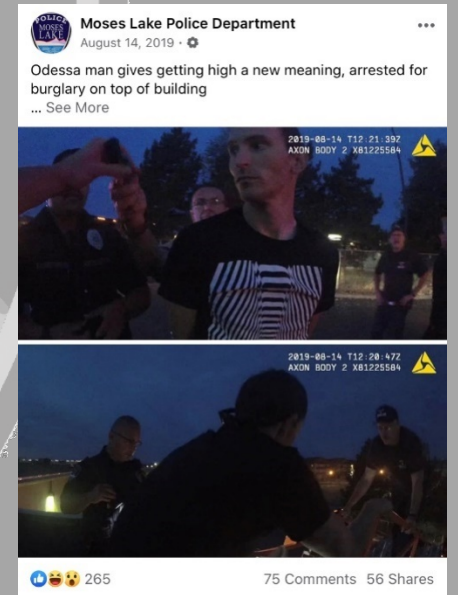
#SlowLearner #BOGO
#DidYaThinkWeOnlyLoadHimWithOneBite



#WhataMeth
#MLPDisBetterThanLivePD



#YouArentSupposedToHaveThat



#FlyingHighAgain
#GotTheFireFightersHomeInTimeForBreakfast



#WereBAAAACK
#SomeoneDidntGetTheMessage

Contact Information

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

Crime Reports Website

www.crimereports.com

Emergency 911

Non- Emergency MACC Dispatch (509) 762-1160