

# SKAGIT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



2016



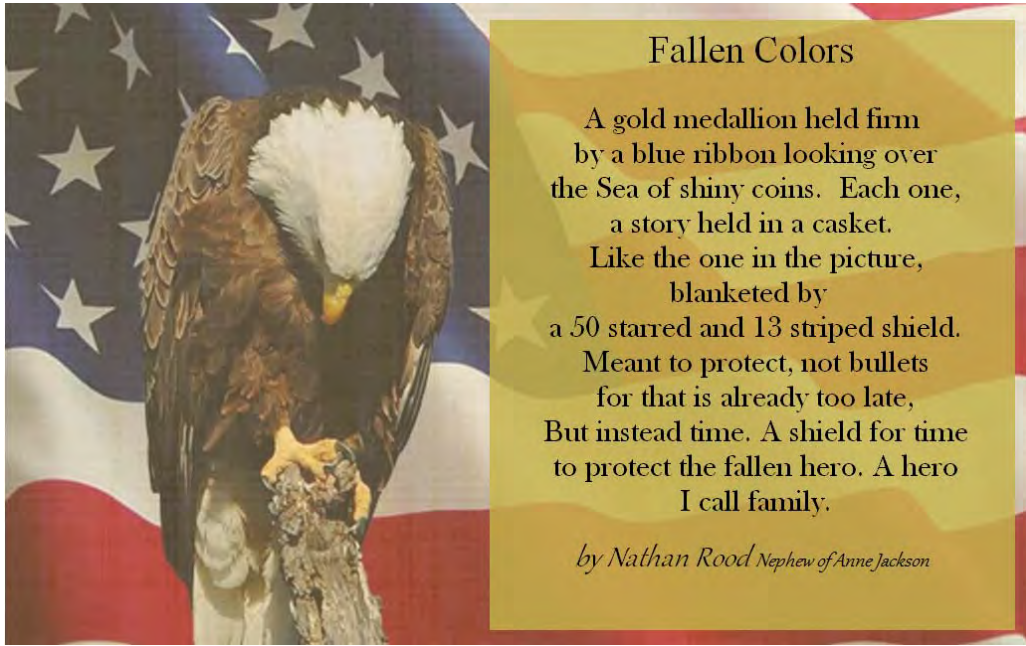
ANNUAL  
REPORT



Sheriff Will Reichardt  
600 S Third Street  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273







### Fallen Colors

A gold medallion held firm  
 by a blue ribbon looking over  
 the Sea of shiny coins. Each one,  
 a story held in a casket.  
 Like the one in the picture,  
 blanketed by  
 a 50 starred and 13 striped shield.  
 Meant to protect, not bullets  
 for that is already too late,  
 But instead time. A shield for time  
 to protect the fallen hero. A hero  
 I call family.

*by Nathan Rood Nephew of Anne Jackson*



## In Memoriam

### Deputy Alan Hultgren

**Age:** 30

**Tour:** 5 years

**Badge #** U24

**Military veteran**

**End of Watch** August 7, 1981



Deputy Sheriff Alan Hultgren was killed when his patrol car was struck head-on by a drunk driver. He was responding to an accident with injuries when the incident occurred.

Deputy Hultgren had served with the Skagit County Sheriff's Office for five years.

### Deputy Anne Jackson

**Age:** 40

**Tour:** 6 years

**Badge #** U76

**End of Watch** September 2, 2008



**Washington State Medal of Honor Recipient**  
**2009** Posthumous Award

On September 2nd, 2008 Deputy Jackson responded to a resident's call for service in Alger's Silver Creek Neighborhood. She arrived unaware a suspect was waiting in a position of ambush. Deputy Jackson engaged the individual however his tactical advantage was insurmountable and she was killed in the line of duty.

Deputy Jackson had served with the Skagit County Sheriff's Office for over six years.





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# Skagit County Sheriff's Office

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## **Mission Statement**

*"The Skagit County Sheriff's Office is committed to the safety of the citizens we serve, visitors to our community and our employees. Professionalism, enthusiasm and integrity shall be our guiding principles in accomplishing this mission. "*

## **Vision**

*"Safety through courage and professionalism."*

# Message from the Sheriff



## Sheriff Will Reichardt

I am honored to serve the citizens of Skagit County as your sheriff. I am exceptionally proud of the dedicated men and women of the Sheriff's Office who strive each day to provide professional and efficient law enforcement services to the residents and visitors to our county.

The Sheriff's Office is committed to being the best law enforcement agency possible and our members take pride in their duties and serve with enthusiasm and courage each and every day. We are an Office that strives to deliver excellent customer service, problem solving and conflict resolution. I believe it is important to remember, while we embrace technology and all of the efficiency that it brings, we are always mindful that we are ultimately in the "people business." Ensuring the rights of victims and their families is as important as apprehending and holding accountable the individuals who committed the crime.

We face many challenges in the years to come. The lack of jail space for years now has been a significant problem. All too often deputies have been forced to release offenders who should be taken into custody due to a lack of room in the jail. This has not been just a "law enforcement problem"- this has been a community problem. This past year we have made signifi-

cant progress to in resolving this overcrowding issue. Since breaking ground on the new jail facility in the fall of 2015, construction has been on time and under budget. The jail transition team has been working diligently on the myriad of details, both big and small, to insure the new facility is ready. As we look to the future opening of our new jail, I am confident the Sheriff's Office and our community partners are well positioned and committed to meeting these new challenges.

Please review our website ([www.skagitcounty.net](http://www.skagitcounty.net)) and learn about the many ways our staff contributes to the safety of our community. One important facet is how integrated our employees are through their involvement in the community, both on and off duty. The men and women of the Sheriff's Office are your neighbors, church members, service club colleagues and coaches of various youth sports programs. They participate on boards of professional organizations and charitable non-profits. They provide their time, commitment and expertise to improve the quality of life we all enjoy here in Skagit County.

Thank you for taking the opportunity to learn more about the contributions of our organization. We welcome and appreciate your suggestions and support in our quest to make our county an even better place to live.

# History of the Sheriff's Office

After many years of exploration, discovery, and mapping of the Puget Sound region by both English and Spanish explorers, in 1859 the first non-indigenous settler in Skagit County sunk roots in what is now Marches Point. During the following years Fidalgo Island became increasingly populated and soon homesteads began to spring up on what is now the Skagit Flats. By 1874 the first steamship was making regular runs up the Skagit River to present day Mount Vernon. In 1883 early pioneer leaders in Skagit County successfully petitioned Washington State Governor William Newell to recognize Skagit as its own "County" and on November 24, 1883 the southern portion of Whatcom County officially was recognized as "Skagit County." The Town of La Conner was named the county seat and the first Sheriff of Skagit County, James O'Loughlin, was appointed in early 1884. The Sheriff's Office was located in the same building that today is used as our La Conner Detachment office.

Between 1884 and 1920, ten different men held the office of Sheriff. Many of these men had no law enforcement experience but they did have good reputations and held the confidence of the electorate. By 1901 most Skagit County settlements were serviced by the railroad and deputies would often make 2 to 3 day trips to a town to respond to one complaint. Eventually roads became more



**Sheriff Charles Harmon, Circa.1904 , in what is now the La Conner detachment office**

prevalent with the advent of the automobile and that became the more common response vehicle.

The first Sheriff's Office building in Mount Vernon was located at First and Pine Street, with the courthouse and jail immediately behind it. The jail had barred windows but had open access to the street and prisoners could converse with people as they passed by. The prisoners also had an outdoor "jail yard" where they could get some fresh air and



**Sheriff Charles Stevenson and his "posse", working on a robbery in the Sedro-Woolley area. Circa. 1915**



there was also a pen where the bloodhounds were kept. In approximately 1910 it became popular to put prisoners to “work” and a State run rock quarry near Deception Pass became one location



**Sheriff C.R. “Tip” Conn (Middle back row) and his deputies. Circa 1926**

where prisoners spent time making big rocks into small rocks. The current location of Chuckanut Drive also was largely laid by inmate labor.

In 1916 Skagit County became a “dry” county when it came to legal alcohol and in 1920 with the passage of the 18<sup>th</sup> amendment and the Volstead Act the Sheriff’s deputies began responding to moonshine stills and bootleg calls on a regular basis. By the 1930’s and the Great Depression deputies were experiencing fraud, burglary and homicide calls much like the rest of America. In 1938 Sheriff Pat



**Sheriff Harold Hinshaw (far left) circa 1949. Young deputy Boynton in front in leather jacket.**



**Sheriff Pat McCarthy (center front row) circa. 1938 The woman pictured was the jail “matron” and the gentlemen to her left was her husband, Thomas McCauley, the “jailer” Not a very big staff in those days .**

McCarthy had the fore-sight to determine that it was no longer a good idea to allow prisoners to be left unattended overnight and successfully petitioned the Board of Commissioners to pay for 24 x 7 coverage in the jail. A nighttime “jailer” was hired and was paid \$100 per month with room and board.

In 1966 Sheriff John Boynton was elected and held the office for 5 con-

secutive terms (20 years) becoming the longest running Sheriff in Skagit County history. Among his notable achievements was beginning construction of the current jail and Sheriff's Office on South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.



**Sheriff JB Goff (plain clothes) Deputies are showing off their brand new uniforms circa.1958 John Boynton is center of the deputy row.**

Today the Sheriff's Office is on the precipice of moving into a new 400 bed jail, slated to open in the summer of 2017. Over the years the Skagit County Sheriff's Office has grown to approximately 120 employees.

**Sheriff Gary Frazier (center): Photo of SCSO Employees March 1986. Six of those shown below were still in law enforcement in Skagit County in 2016, including our current Sheriff, Will Reichardt. 1986 was the last year bow ties were worn with the uniform.**



**ELECTED      SHERIFF**

1884	James O'Loughlin
1886	L.L. Andrews
1888	E.D. Davis
1892	James O'Loughlin
1894	W.E. Perkinson
1896	J.P. Millett
1898	Edwin Wells
1902	C.A. Risbell (died in office)
1904	W.A. McKenna (appointed)
1904	Charles Harmon
11/3/1904	Charles W. Stevenson
11/5/1912	Ed Wells
11/7/1916	Charles W. Stevenson
11/7/1920	George B. Reay
11/7/1922	C. R. "Tip" Conn
11/4/1930	Charles W. Fleming
11/6/1934	Pat McCarthy
11/3/1942	Walter Welch
11/5/1946	Harold H. Hinshaw
11/4/1958	J.B. Goff
11/8/1966	John Boynton (retired in office)
3/1/1986	Gary Frazier (appointed)
11/4/1986	Gary Frazier
11/7/1994	Ed Goodman
11/4/2002	Rick Grimstead
11/8/2010	Will Reichardt

# Introduction

The Skagit County Sheriff's Office is the largest law enforcement agency in Skagit County. We are responsible for a population of approximately 118,000. The unincorporated population is 49,720 and is spread out over a geographical area measuring approximately 1,735 square miles with over 850 miles of county roads.

We are committed to the safety of the citizens we serve by providing the most professional, well trained employees possible and supplying them with the tools needed to carry out almost any task.

The Sheriff's Office is comprised of 4 major divisions



## SHERIFF'S OFFICE BUDGET SUMMARY

2016 BUDGET EXPENSES	\$8,929,986
2016 ACTUAL EXPENSES	\$8,641,677
2016 BUDGETED REVENUE	\$1,244,383
2016 ACTUAL REVENUE	\$1,548,919

## 2016 BUDGETED POSITIONS

Sheriff (Elected)	1
Undersheriff (appointed)	1
Chief Criminal Deputy (appointed)	1
Chief Field Services (appointed)	1
Chief of Corrections (appointed)	1
Chief of Admin Services (appointed)	1
Corrections Lieutenant	1
Patrol Sergeants	7
Detective Sergeant	1
Corrections Sergeants	7
Patrol Deputies	39
Detectives	6
Animal Control Officer	1
Corrections Deputies	46
Accountant	2
RSO Coordinator	1
Civil Assistant	2
Evidence Technician	1
Support Services Technician	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>119</b>

# Investigations Division



## Chief Tom Molitor

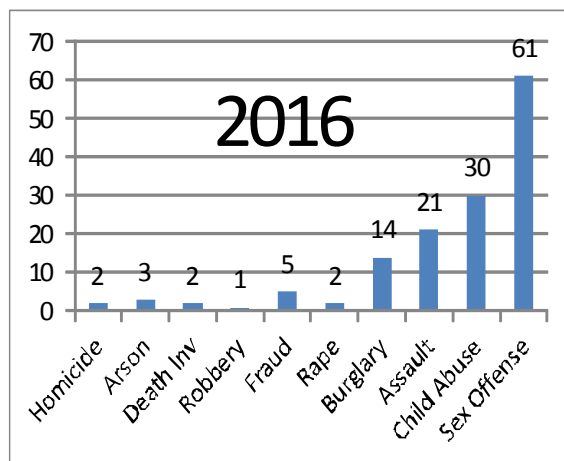
The Investigations Division is headed by Chief Criminal Deputy Tom Molitor. The Chief Criminal Deputy acts as the office public information officer, conducts most internal investigations, and oversees the evidence unit. Additionally, he supervises SCIDEU, the Skagit County Inter-local Drug Enforcement Unit. The day-to-day review of detective reports and assignment of resources is the responsibility of the Detective Sergeant. The Detective Sergeant, Sergeant Jennifer Sheahan–Lee, also supervises the Registered Sex Offender Coordinator and the Evidence Technician.

The goal of the Investigation Division is to provide the highest quality criminal investigative support to the Skagit County Sheriff’s Office by conducting timely and thorough criminal investigations. Detectives recognize their responsibilities to the community they serve and are committed to investigating all criminal allegations in an ethical and impartial manner with sensitivity toward the needs of victims and witnesses.

The Investigations Division is responsible for the most complex criminal investigations. Detectives are promoted from the ranks of the Patrol Division. Our Detectives are highly trained and receive many hours of specialized training each

year. They have significant experience in conducting major crimes investigations, conducting interviews and conducting specialized and complex investigations. The detectives work to identify and apprehend violators responsible for crimes against persons and property, as well as financial and computer crimes. The detectives also recover stolen property and collect evidence relating to criminal violations.

Detectives investigate reports of both physical and sexual abuse involving children. Investigations of this nature involve a cooperative effort between the Investigations Division and other agencies



such as Child Protective Services Department of Social and Health Services. Specialized training and procedures are also utilized that have been specifically designed to achieve the most productive child interviews in coordination with specialists in child forensic interviews.

**Detectives work various major crimes including:**

- Homicides and serious physical assaults
- Death investigations
- Child abuse, elder abuse and sexual assaults
- Kidnapping and robbery
- Missing persons and child abductions
- Burglaries and other major property crimes
- Complex financial fraud investigations
- Cybercrimes and computer and other electronic forensic examinations
- Investigation of cases involving public confidence and maintaining criminal intelligence
- Other significant and complex cases, which constitute higher liability concerns

On major cases, a lead investigator is assigned, and the other detectives in the unit assist as a team to maximize investigative resources and experience. Detectives are on-call 24 hours a day to assist the patrol division with investigative issues and to respond in the event of a major crime within Skagit County. The evidence unit and the registered sex offender coordinator are a vital part of the investigations team, as well.

Detectives were responsible for

a number of assignments in 2016 that included original investigations, charges and convictions. Of the 164 cases assigned in 2016, the detective unit was responsible for clearing 39 by arrest.

Detectives worked with multiple agencies throughout the year in order to accomplish the mission of the Investigations Division: Prosecutor's Office, Coroner's Office, Washington State Patrol, Mount Vernon PD, Burlington PD, Sedro Woolley PD, Anacortes PD, Whatcom County SO, Snohomish County SO, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Social Security Administration, ATF, and FBI.

In 2016 the detectives of the Skagit County Sheriff's Office continued to participate on the Skagit County Multi-Agency Response Team (SMART). The mission of this team is to provide investigative resources when an officer involved shooting results in serious injury or death or in cases where a significant criminal act is alleged toward the officer or when a significant criminal event occurs that has or is likely to exhaust the venue agen-



cy's investigative resources. SMART is commanded by administrative staff from the Mount Vernon Police Department and the Skagit County Sheriff's Office. Lead Investigative Supervisors are comprised of detective sergeants from the Mount Vernon Police Department and the Washington State Patrol. The entire group of SMART personnel bring a diverse amount of experience and skills to this team.



## REGISTERED SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM

Registered Sex Offender (RSO) coordinator, Laurie Jarolimek, continues to manage registration and address verification for over 336 sex and kidnapping offenders located in Skagit County while keeping up with ever changing laws governing mandates of these offenders. Coordinator Jarolimek works with all the local agencies to ensure that registered sex offenders in Skagit County are contacted and are in compliance with their registration requirements.

### Location of Sex Offenders

#### Living in Skagit County:

SWINOMISH	9
ANACORTES	16
SEDRO WOOLLEY	28
BURLINGTON	26
MOUNT VERNON	75
COUNTY	182
	<b>336</b>

# S.C.I.D.E.U. Skagit County Inter-local Drug Enforcement Unit



## Chief Tom Molitor

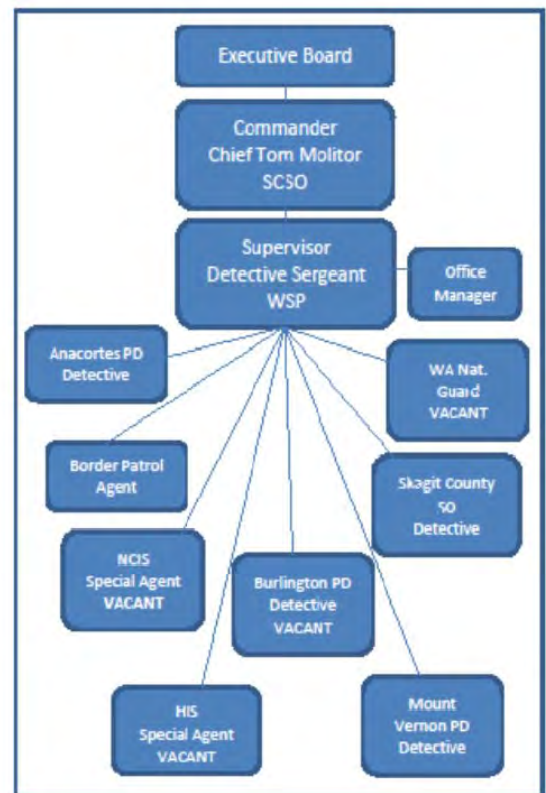
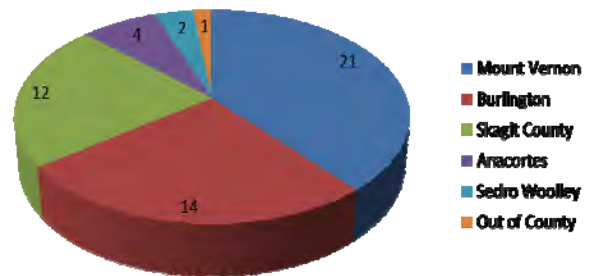
The Skagit County Inter-local Drug Enforcement Unit (SCIDEU) is a multi-agency task force commanded by the Skagit County Sheriff's Office, and comprised of law enforcement personnel from the Skagit County Sheriff's Office, the

Anacortes Police Department, the Mount Vernon Police Department, the Washington State Patrol and the United States Border Patrol.

In addition to the core agencies, the Skagit County Inter-local Drug Enforcement Unit conducts complex joint investigations with surrounding county and city jurisdictional agencies as well as state and federal agencies to include the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

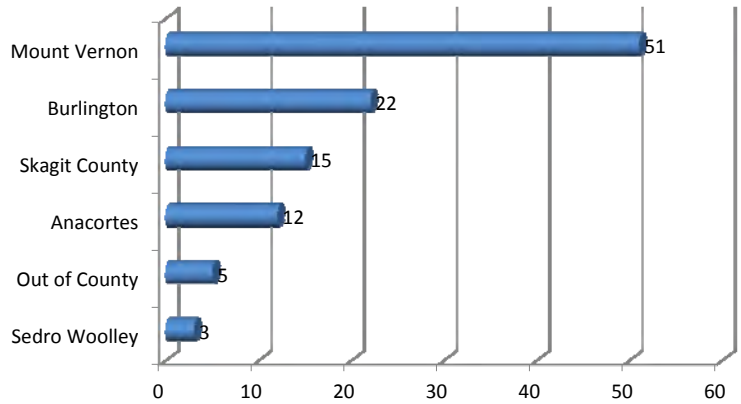
The Skagit County Inter-local Drug Enforcement Unit achieves these goals through undercover surveillance, undercover buys, and with in-depth investigations based on intelligence information gained from the community. The Skagit County Inter-local Drug Enforcement Unit could not be effective without the help provided by the community.

## Case Location 2016



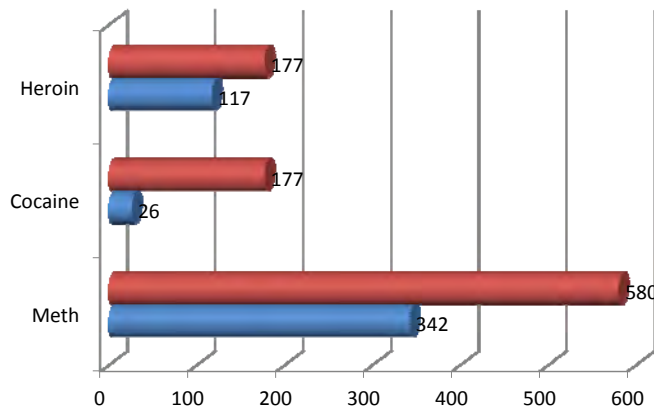


## 2016 Event Locations



Event = Transaction or Search Warrant

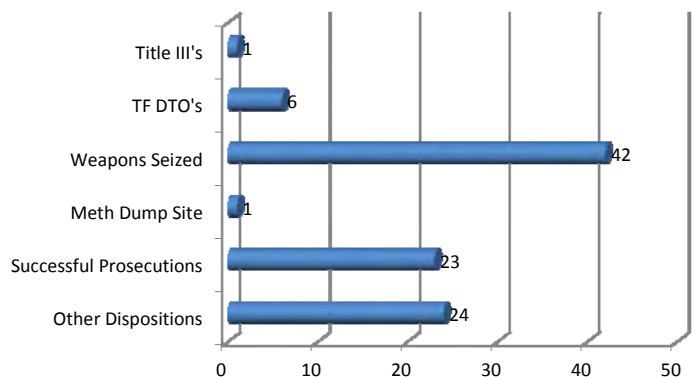
## Drug Types Seized



Ounces



## 2016 Case Info



**MISSION** — The Skagit County Inter-local Drug Enforcement Unit (SCIDEU) is created to disrupt, dismantle, and effectively prosecute criminal organizations such as gangs, drug traffickers and other high to mid-level criminal elements anywhere within Skagit County. SCIDEU will also work closely with other agencies and units in surrounding counties with similar responsibilities in an effort to support enforcement activities.



# Patrol Division



## Chief Chad Clark

Chad Clark is the patrol division's Chief of Patrol Operations. Annually the Skagit County Sheriff's Office responds to approximately 19,000 calls for service. The types of calls vary from crimes against persons, property crimes, traffic related issues, civil disputes and animal problems.

To accomplish the goals of actively handling calls for service and providing proactive patrolling, deputies are organized in a squad system. There are 4 primary patrol squads that consist of 5 deputies and a sergeant. They rotate from day shift to night shift every two months. Each deputy is assigned to specific zones to help stay organized and provide the most efficient coverage throughout the county.

In 2016 the patrol squads worked a hybrid shift that allowed an overlap of all 4 squads every other Thursday. This overlap provides coverage to the county and allows for quality training for each deputy. Deputies receive training with firearms, emergency vehicle operations, active shooter and de-escalation tactics, use of force and legal updates. In 2016, the Skagit County Sheriff's Office, and other local law enforcement agencies, in partnership with the Skagit Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services,

implemented a program to assist victims of domestic violence. The purpose of the program is to identify those victims who might be in greater danger of further harm and to provide additional assistance in the form of direct advocacy-based counseling, legal advocacy, support groups, emergency shelter services, referrals to community resources, prevention, and outreach efforts throughout the county.

The Patrol Division is also comprised of the Traffic Enforcement Unit, High Risk Team, Marine Division, K-9 Team, Search and Rescue and Animal Control. In addition the Skagit County Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement services for the towns of La Conner and Concrete.

The patrol division of the Skagit County Sheriff's Office takes pride in their dedication and commitment to serve all citizens of and visitors to Skagit County.



# Traffic Unit



**Sergeant Chris Baldwin**

The Traffic Unit consists of one sergeant and five deputies, whose regular duties include traffic enforcement and collision investigation, covering over 850 miles of Skagit County roads. Their primary mission is to reduce collisions that result in injuries and property damage to the citizens of Skagit County and the people who visit our community.

The Traffic Unit leads the traffic safety effort in the county and is committed to the Target Zero effort. They are responsible for all emphasis patrols during high traffic volume events, such as Tulip Festival, Big Lake Fireworks, and Oyster Run. The Traffic Sergeant is responsible for other county wide emphasis patrols funded by the Washington Traffic Safety Commission such as “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over”, “Distracted Driving”, and “Click it or Ticket” campaigns.



This Unit works collaboratively with Skagit County Public Works on education, enforcement, and engineering issues. They also assist public works with enforcement while the chip seal process is occurring on county roads. This is an important step in reducing speeds which keep people safe and reduce damage to private property and the road surface.

The Traffic Unit has three Harley Davidson Road King police Motorcycles that are used for enforcement and community events. The Skagit County Sheriff’s Office Motor Unit assists the United States Secret Service and other Motor Units in the Puget Sound region with escorting dignitaries during their visits.

The following chart shows the Traffic Unit’s statistics over the last five years.



<b>TRAFFIC STATISTICS</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Traffic Related Calls for Service	3133	3508	3290	3546	3461
Traffic Stops	12175	15816	13607	13685	11767
Criminal Traffic	1181	1203	1011	1094	834
Criminal Non-Traffic	566	478	406	588	491
Traffic Infractions	4486	6054	5709	5086	3849
Collisions Reportable	284	286	254	462	405
Collisions Non-Reportable	285	248	244	367	496
DUI	162	130	139	103	103
Written Warnings-Traffic	17	49	5	36	5

# La Conner Detachment



## Sergeant Kelly Howell

Situated on the delta near the mouth of the Skagit River, along the Swinomish Channel, La Conner was founded in 1867 and is Skagit County's oldest community. The town was first settled by non-natives just after the

Civil War, and named after the town founder's wife, Louisa A. Conner. At the turn of the century the population was over 1000 residents. La Conner was briefly the county seat before Mount Vernon and had the first courthouse north of Seattle. In the late 1800's, the town briefly dis-incorporated, apparently to avoid anti-temperance Laws enacted by the city council which would have closed the saloons.

Today, La Conner is a thriving tourist destination with a full time population of approximately 800 persons. This popular tourist location hosts many large events such as the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival, Smelt Derby, Daffodil Festival, bicycle, running and kayak events, art festivals etc. La Conner is a destination location as the town's population grows exponentially for many tourist events.

The Town of La Conner has recently completed the "Boardwalk Project", which creates a boardwalk between the waterfront businesses and the Swinomish Channel. The Swinomish Channel is a vital seaport access

to the Town. The narrow 12 foot deep channel is a popular waterway for boaters from all over the Northwest and Canada.

Since May of 2001, the Sheriff's Office has been retained to provide police services to the citizens of La Con-



ner. The La Conner Detachment is a division of the Skagit County Sheriff's Office.

In 2016, the Detachment consisted of a Sergeant and two full time deputies assigned to patrol the city limits. La Conner still retains a higher ratio of officers per capita than most small cities in the state. Law enforcement services to

the Town are supplemented by the Sheriff's Office general patrol division, providing 24 hour police protection to the community.

The La Conner Detachment Deputies conduct foot patrol and bicycle patrol of the downtown area, in addition to routine patrol duties. Deputies assigned to the detachment are also trained in the operation of the Sheriff's Office 33' Safe Boat, moored at the La Conner Marina. The boat

Tulip Festival Parade, July 4<sup>th</sup> Independence Day Parade, the Halloween Parade, Turkey Trot, and Christmas Tree Lighting, which included a lighted boat parade.

The La Conner Deputies can routinely be found patrolling the school zones before and after classes start and throughout the day. Additionally, the La Conner Detachment has been working with the school to improve safe travels to and from school and attending high profile events, such as their home football games. The close relationship between the school district and the detachment is beneficial to both parties.

2017 will bring changes to the La Conner Detachment due to a renegotiated contract that provides a different level of service. Change is an opportunity for growth and the La Conner Detachment looks forward to maintaining their relationship with all of the stakeholders in the La Conner community.

**Calls for service per year:**

2016	608	2009	669
2015	760	2008	701
2014	606	2007	624
2013	588	2006	611
2012	641	2005	763
2011	606	2004	722
2010	669	2003	752
		<b>Total</b>	<b>9,320</b>

is strategically located for a quicker response to water related emergency situations and for enforcement along the Swinomish Channel. The La Conner Detachment works with local search and rescue groups on training, equipment and response issues.

The 2.5 positions in the La Conner Detachment account for an average of approximately 670 calls for service annually. The most frequent calls for service continue to typically be alarm calls, alcohol violations, civil cases and citizen assists.

The La Conner Detachment was involved in several community functions and school activities, including Sound Rowers, the Smelt Derby, Daffodil Festival,



# East Detachment



## Sergeant Chris Kading

The Sheriff's Office established the East Detachment in 1996. This detachment has been the primary law enforcement agency in eastern Skagit County for over 20 years. Currently, one Sergeant and six deputies

provide coverage for the large geographical area east of Sedro Woolley. The East Detachment provides law enforcement services to the towns of Lyman, Hamilton, Concrete, Rockport, and Marblemount. The East Detachment Sergeant also supervises the Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue (SAR) program.

In 2004, the Sheriff's Office began contracting with the Town of Concrete to provide law enforcement services. Since then, the East Detachment office has been located in the Concrete Town Hall building on Main Street. Deputies provide small town police services including business checks, foot patrols and school security services.

In 2016 the East Detachment handled 3784 complaints, 688 of which were within the Town limits of Concrete.

East Detachment deputies routinely patrol the unincorporated areas of eastern Skagit County. These deputies work cooperatively with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and US Forest Service

to provide law enforcement service to the vast stretches of wilderness areas east of Sedro Woolley.

The East Detachment is a unique unit within the Sheriff's Office. This detachment is responsible for all elements of law enforcement. Deputies assigned here work



independently, and may often work with state and federal agencies. Some of the calls deputies respond to include assaults, traffic enforcement, forest patrol and animal complaints, along with conducting felony level criminal investigations.

Many deputies attend Community Block Watch programs and work cooperatively with citizens groups to curtail crime

in their neighborhoods. The Concrete Resource Center receives frequent visits from deputies, and deputies assist them with client services when available. One community outreach program, "Coffee with a Cop" allows citizens and deputies to chat in a very informal yet productive manner on a monthly basis.

In 2016 East Detachment deputies worked with United General Hospital and other partners on underage "Party Intervention Patrols", which focus on underage youth drinking in the eastern portion of the county. This program will continue in 2017 and is directed at first time offenders, to keep them out of the criminal justice system. Deputies also partnered up with a local bakery in Concrete to provide warm jackets and clothing to persons in need that deputies may encounter. This has been a great success and is spreading to the downriver

deputies as well.

All East Detachment deputies are qualified as Search and Rescue (SAR) deputies. They work in some of the most remote areas of Skagit County, and are assigned four-wheel drive vehicles.

Each deputy is assigned to an individual SAR group and is the liaison



between volunteers and the SCSO. The East Detachment deputies are committed to maintaining a high level of service to the citizens and visitors to Eastern Skagit County.



# Pro-Act Team



## Sergeant Greg Adams

In January of this year the Sheriff's Office created a Proactive Police Team. The team consists of two deputies which are assigned full time, and a part time supervisor.

The team was established to be a proactive police response to community problems, both criminal and civil. One of the primary tenets is to solve crime before it is reported. The team does this through techniques and operations not normally utilized by patrol units or detectives.

By using crime analysis, citizen informants and community involvement, the team attempts to predict future crime trends and then develop creative ways to find solutions to them before they become a community problem.

This year the team attended over 60 hours of training to include, Confidential Informants, Human Trafficking, Drugs, Social Media, Risk Assessment, Operational Plan-

ning, and Legal update for Narcotics Investigations.

In 2016 the team saw great success. The team made numerous felony arrests for drugs, stolen property, burglaries, stolen cars, retail thefts, theft of an ATM, vehicle prowls and many



misdemeanor crimes. Five known drug houses were shut down, a retail theft and car prowl ring was stopped, thousands of dollars of property was recovered and returned to the owners, and many community problems were solved. The team also developed a large cache of information on other crimes that will keep them busy far into 2017.



# K-9 Unit

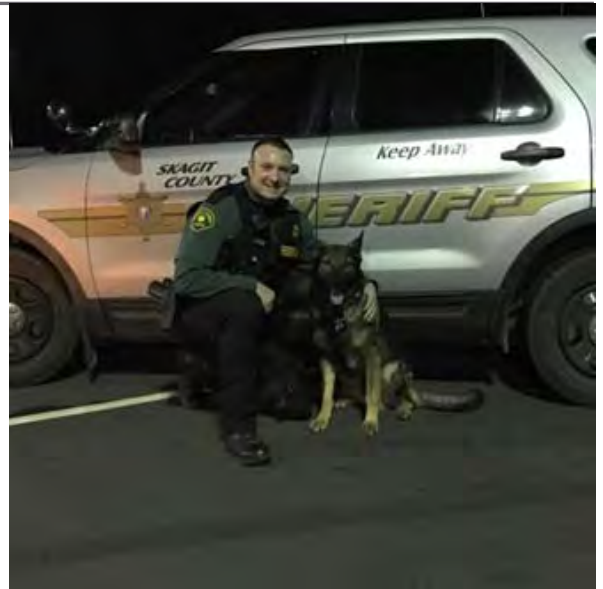


## Sergeant Annette Lindquist

In 2016 Deputy Moses and K-9 ESPO responded to 424 calls for service which included 32 K-9 specific deployments. There were 8 captures with no K-9 use of force. Several deployments did not count as captures,

however, it should be noted that arrests were made based on the outcome of the track at a later time. The K-9 team conducted 7 public demonstrations from service clubs to school groups. Deputy Moses and K-9 ESPO are available for use by not only the Sheriff's Office but any city in Skagit County that may request an assist.

Goals for 2017 include training with new deputies as well as squads on deployment guidelines, containment, cover and office policy. K-9 ESPO does well at training and will be an asset to the Sheriff's Office for many years to come. Deputy Moses and K-9 ESPO are part of the High Risk Team and a member of the Field Training Unit.





# Marine Patrol Unit



## Sergeant Tobin Meyer

The Skagit County Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol Unit is supervised by Sergeant Tobin Meyer who has been a member of the Marine Patrol Unit since 2006 and was appointed unit supervisor in early 2014.

Sergeant Meyer is committed to maintaining the high standards and expectations placed on the Marine Patrol Unit when it comes to safety and professionalism.

2016 brought a continued focus on building in-county swift water technical rescue capabilities. The year also brought a continued focus on the marine units ability to safely and proficiently respond to rescues, tactical, and fire/ems support capabilities on Skagit County waterways.

Several Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol Deputies attended technical swift water rescue training, gaining the knowledge and capability to safely self-rescue and conduct rescue



operations in swift water like the Skagit River and during flooding events. This training was done in conjunction with the Sheriff's Office volunteer search and rescue unit East County Water Rescue and included training that taught marine patrol deputies to safely swim in class 2+ rapids, negotiate hazards, plan and execute technical rope rescues, and conduct in-water contact rescues.

Marine Patrol Unit Deputies from the Skagit County Sheriff's Office also attended the first ever North Puget Sound on water active shooter training in conjunction with the Washington State Ferry System. This training included patrol vessels and officers from multiple Federal, State and Local law enforcement agencies from the North Puget Sound Region and taught



enforcement officers to safely and tactically come along-side an underway ferry, board, and de-board tactical officers. This high stress realistic training challenged our marine patrol deputy's operating capabilities and added valuable knowledge to their tool chest.

The Marine Patrol Unit was also the recipient of an \$80,000 2016 Port Security



Grant to replace motors on its primary salt water response platform after an engine failure and ongoing mechanical issues with the original engines aboard this vessel. The new engines are intended for this vessel and the marine unit expects to get a decade of service out of the new motors.

2016 also brought several Search and Rescue missions, boat fires and several EMS assists.

In March of 2016 the Skagit County Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol Unit assisted the United States Coast Guard with a large week long protest event at the Anacortes refinery terminals.

The Marine Patrol Unit assisted with maintaining the peace and safety of kayak based protestors, conducted several rescues of protestors during the event, and ensured the safety of all involved that resulted in no serious injuries.

## 2016 Accomplishments

In 2016 the Skagit County Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol Unit accomplished 230 patrol hours on Skagit County waterways and participated in 23 Hours of community outreach and education. Within those hours marine patrol deputies conducted:

**500 Visual Safety Spot Inspections**

**164 Written Safety Inspections**

**Noted 23 Safety Violations**

**23 Hours on Search and Rescue Cases**

**Assisted or Rescued 8 vessels**

**Assisted or Rescued 6 People**

**Conducted 2 Boating Accident Investigations**



# Search and Rescue Unit



## Sergeant Chris Kading

Skagit County's Search and Rescue program is once again considered one of the top SAR groups in the State of Washington. With several thousand training hours this year, Skagit SAR remains one of the best

trained and most capable SAR units in the state.

All SAR volunteers are assigned a Washington State DEM Emergency Worker Card number and are available to assist other jurisdictions at their request. SAR volunteers conduct Search and Rescue missions for Skagit County, but also assist other units across Washington. SAR continues to have strong working relationships with local Skagit County Fire Departments, both full-time and volunteer. Skagit SAR also works cooperatively the Washington State Parks Department, and federal assets including the US Navy at Whidbey Island, the US Coast Guard from Port Angeles, WA and Homeland Security.

Sergeant Chris Kading is the SAR Coordinator based out of the East Detachment Office in Concrete. Sergeant Kading is assisted by Sergeant Tobin Meyer, the Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol Unit supervisor. Sergeant Meyer oversees all the marine based SAR units. Currently, there are six deputies assigned to the East Detachment, and they

all hold collateral duties as SAR deputies. Several patrol deputies have previously served in SAR and are important to the overall mission. SAR deputies are responsible for the coordination of training and the supervision of actual SAR missions. Each deputy is currently assigned a SAR unit, acting as liaison between the SCSO and SAR volunteers.

The Skagit County Search and Rescue Council provides guidance, and acts as a liaison between all SAR groups and the Sheriff's Office. In 2016 the Skagit



County Search and Rescue Council was tasked with implementing a new training regimen to ensure across the board accountability for training. Each group specializes in a certain discipline, but work cooperatively during missions.

Skagit County Search and Rescue has 10 groups consisting of over 100 active members.

Water-based assets include: Skagit Bay Search and Rescue, Skagit Technical Water Rescue, and the East

## County Water Rescue-“River Dogs”.

Land based units include GSAR, the Ground SAR unit, Skagit Mount Rescue Unit, Four Rivers 4wheel drive group, Skagit ATV, and the ARES/RACES amateur radio group.

Skagit County SAR works closely with the US Navy based at NAS Whidbey Island. Whidbey aircrews have proven invaluable in assisting with patient extrication from remote locations. US Navy aircrews also assist the SCSO Marine Patrol Unit and work cooperatively with SAR deputies. Skagit County SAR also relies on SnoHawk, and the Helicopter Rescue Team from Snohomish County. Airborne SAR assets are extremely important tools in the vast rugged terrain of Skagit County.

In 2016 SAR continued implementation of the Washington State SARVAC (Search And Rescue Volunteer Advisory Council) standards, and updated training to further improve group performance. SAR continues to work with local Fire Departments by implementing the Unified Command Model. Together we can provide excellent extrication, treatment and packaging of patients in the field.

### **Statistics**

In 2016 the Skagit County Sheriff’s Office Search and Rescue Program saw a slight increase in actual missions, with an increase in hours spent on scene. In 2016 SAR conducted 43 calls resulting in over 500 volunteer hours spent on scene. In 2016 Skagit SAR continued training, and completed over 9,000 training hours.

## **Looking into 2017**

The Sheriff’s Office SAR program continues to increase staffing with a volunteer base of over 50 new candidates.



This increase in staffing results in greater turnouts on missions, and an overall boost in search personnel that are available. SAR has also increased its reach with the addition of the East County Water Rescue. ECWR is staffed by volunteer boat operators who staff a river boat based out of the town of Concrete. These volunteers are familiar with ever changing river conditions. ECWR is the only water based rescue unit east of Mount Vernon, and will greatly assist the upriver community.

In 2017 the Sheriff’s Office Search and Rescue will strive to continue to be one of the leading teams in the State of Washington.

# Animal Control Unit



## Animal Control Officer Emily Diaz

The Skagit County Sheriff's Office Animal Control Officer responds to calls for service regarding animal complaints. These range from reports of animal cruelty, welfare checks, dangerous dogs, nuisance problems, injured animals,

traffic hazards, abandoned animals, barking dogs, illegal kennels, cockfighting, and neglect. The Sheriff's Office, on average, responds to more than one thousand animal complaints each year.

The Animal Control Officer investigates, applies for and executes search warrants, and completes all charging documents related to animal cases. Animal Control is also responsible for finding appropriate placement for the animals seized. Animal Control also maintains and oversees foster homes for livestock that are seized when directly related to Sheriff's Office cases. Animal Control also oversees the appropriate permanent placement of these animals.

Animal Control is responsible for declaring aggressive dogs in Skagit County as Potentially Dangerous and Dangerous. Animal Control monitors these dogs to make sure the owners are in compliance with the laws.



Type of Call	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Animal Problem - Total Calls for Service	1554	1648	1529	1522	1408
Lost or Found Animals	317	542	323	321	286
Traffic Hazard (Animal Related)	174	275	279	307	197
Collisions (Traffic Hazards resulting in Collisions)	44	33	53	85	64
Animal Cruelty or Neglect Calls for Service	167	191	180	259	226

# High Risk Team



## Sergeant Chris Baldwin

The Skagit County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) High Risk Team (HRT) is a multi-jurisdictional team which is commanded by the Sheriff's Office. HRT is comprised of SCSO Deputies and Officers from the Burlington and Sedro-Woolley Police Departments. HRT is certified in Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) through the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission. HRT is a member of the Washington State Tactical Officers Association and the National Tactical Officers Association.

HRT utilizes highly trained and skilled members to help keep the citizens of Skagit County safe. HRT trains every month and utilizes specialized equipment to handle situations that rise above patrol division capabilities. HRT's training includes active

shooter, high risk warrant service, hostage rescue, building searches, barricaded subjects, linear bus entries, and boat interdiction techniques, among other specialized tactics. HRT is also responsible for training much of patrol in many of the above tactics.

In 2016 HRT obtained a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) Maxx-Pro rescue vehicle through the federal surplus grant program. The MRAP will be used for search and rescue and tactical operations. The MRAP is capable of transporting the team into hostile situations where gun fire may be occurring. The team utilizes many pieces of specialized equipment that includes, but is not limited to, an AVATAR III tactical robot, eye ball remote cameras, cell phone disrupter, night vision, thermal imager, and gas/less lethal munitions.

HRT responded to the Cascade

Mall shootings in September 2016. The suspect entered the Macy's department store with a rifle and killed five people. HRT responded and assisted in searching the mall for the suspect. HRT also conducted mall evacuations and other missions throughout the evening.



Additionally, HRT responded to an officer involved shooting in December 2016. A Mount Vernon Police Officer was shot and three suspects barricaded themselves inside of a residence. HRT in conjunction with several tactical teams from other jurisdictions and the Crisis Negotiation Team responded to the scene. The suspects continued to fire rounds from inside the residence towards the police. HRT used the MRAP tactical vehicle to contact eleven homes and evacuate sixteen residents from the danger area to safety. The Crisis Negotiation Team spoke with the suspects and provided valuable information throughout the incident. HRT used the MRAP to provide containment on the suspect's residence. Negotiations broke down and gas was deployed into the residence. The suspects surrendered and were taken into custody.

HRT assisted the Skagit County Inter-local Drug Enforcement Unit (SCIDEU) and various federal agencies in serving several high risk drug related search warrants in 2016, resulting in the removal of drugs and the arrest of numerous dealers in Skagit County.

HRT is responsible for tactical opera-

tions in the Skagit County Jail. HRT responded to the jail several times this year for inmates that barricaded themselves in



the jail and threatened violence. HRT was able to safely secure the inmates in restraints and move them to isolation cells.

HRT is responsible for the eradication of illegal marijuana growing operations in the county. HRT partners with SCIDEU, DEA and the National Guard in flying over the county to spot illegal marijuana growing operations. HRT has several ATV's that it utilizes in patrolling forest lands for marijuana eradication.

HRT Team members work regular patrol shifts and are distributed evenly among the various patrol squads and the investigations unit. Team members are often called to high risk calls while on normal patrol. Team members utilize their HRT training and experience to resolve these calls before the full team responds.

HRT is subject to call out 24 hours a day 7 days a week. HRT is state certified and is the most highly trained unit in the Sheriff's Office.



# Administrative Services Division



## Chief Jackie Brunson

The Administrative Services Division is supervised by Chief Jackie Brunson. There are eleven fulltime positions in the division; two Accountants, two Civil Assistants, and seven Support Services Technicians.

The Accountant processes all accounts payable and accounts receivables, semi-monthly payroll, and general ledger entries. She also does most of the purchasing for the entire department, including the jail. In addition, she manages the inventory and assists in the budget preparation process. The jail accountant is primarily responsible for all of the jail billings for housing and medical.

The Civil Assistants carry out the Sheriff's statutory responsibility for the service of civil process and execution of writs. Judicial process documents originate from the courts, governmental agencies, and private attorneys in Washington. Examples of documents include subpoenas, writs of restitution, writs of habeas corpus and orders of protection. In 2016, the Civil Assistants processed 135 writs of restitution, a 17% decrease from 2015. Additionally, they processed 105 other miscellaneous writs. They also processed 853 protection orders, subpoenas, and other miscellaneous papers. This was a slight increase from 2015.

The data entry unit processed 12,898 case reports which is a 3% increase from 2015. Our warrant entry unit entered 5,983 warrants (3.4% increase) and 1,950 orders (15.5% increase). The warrant entry unit is also responsible for entering all stolen guns, stolen vehicles and missing persons in WACIC/NCIC and they also provide criminal history information to detectives and patrol deputies.

2,753 referrals and supplemental reports were prepared and sent to the Skagit County Prosecutor's Office. This is a 3% decrease from 2015. There were



2,074 public records requests processed for dissemination. It is notable that we only received \$441.60 in revenue for those public records requests, the maximum allowed by law.

Statistics from our Traffic Records show a 4% decrease in the number of traffic citations written. In 2016, 4,890 infractions were written and entered.

In 2016, we issued 2,264 concealed weapons permits which are a





whopping 49% increase from 2015. Pistol transfers increased by 5.7%. In 2016 we processed 1,918 gun transfer checks. Overall, we are seeing a pattern of increased pistol transfer requests after mass shootings and I believe that the huge increase we saw this year was due to a local mass shooting.

In 2016, 4,424 old case files were purged in accordance with Washington State Retention Schedule. This is an ongoing project that we are receiving assistance on from the Registered Sex Offender Coordinator in her spare time.

In 2016 we were fortunate to receive 516 hours of volunteer labor. 143 were attributable to our Chaplain, 59.50 hours were worked in investigations and evidence, and the remaining 313.25 hours were clerical assistance we received in Records. The records volunteers were assigned tasks such as filing, data entry, and archiving old records. Our volunteers are comprised of citizens, retired former employees and college students earning work experience credit.



# Corrections Division



## Chief Charlie Wend

The Skagit County Sheriff's Office is responsible for holding pretrial defendants, detaining convicted offenders waiting for transport to the Department of Corrections, and for incarcerating inmates sentenced to serve less than one year, or more than one year in the case of consecutive sentences. While inmates are in the custody of the Sheriff's Office, the Sheriff is responsible for their supervision, safety, health and well-being. Additionally, jail staff is responsible to ensure that inmates appear in court when needed and that inmates are transported to other jurisdictions when necessary. Jail staff is also responsible for security in the Superior Court and District Court courtrooms.

The Skagit County Jail is located on

the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Larry E. Moller Public Safety Building at 600 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, in Mount Vernon, Washington. The jail was built in 1984 and was designed to hold 83 inmates, 11 females and 72 males. Since 1989, the number of beds has been increased by converting most individual cells to two-person cells and converting recreation areas to inmate housing, bringing the total number of beds in the jail to 180 today – 144 male beds and 36 female beds.

During 2016, significant strides continued to be made to move the County forward in its quest to replace the current Skagit County Jail. Construction of the new "Skagit County Community Justice Center" (SCCJC), located at 201 Suzanne Lane in Mount Vernon, commenced in November of 2015, and by January of 2016 construction was in full



swing. The firm responsible for the new facility, Lydig Construction, in conjunction with the design firm DLR, established weekly meetings between the architects, contractors, and Skagit County. This group monitored the workflow of the project throughout 2016, insuring that the project stayed on track and that design/construction issues were collaboratively resolved.

Working toward the new jail's opening; two sergeants were assigned to the newly formed Skagit County Sheriff's Office 'Jail Transitions Team.' These two sergeants began to work on numerous issues related to the new jail which includes design review, staff hiring and background investigations, and operational issues such as the development of revised inmate handbooks, post orders,

to the numbers necessary for operations in the new jail. In 2016, 15 deputies were added to the Division, yet in the same period the Division lost 10 staff to retirements and resignations. An additional 12 positions are slated to come on line in 2017, in addition to the vacancies existing at the end of 2016.



The ultimate goal never-the-less is to be fully staffed to the staffing model for the new facility upon the opening of the new jail in 2017.



policies, etc. The transition team is expanding to meet the demand of being operationally ready at opening of the new facility

Staffing of the jail continued to be a challenge in 2016, both in managing the current jail, as well as working to expand

The new jail will accommodate 400 inmates upon opening, and the "core" functions of administration, medical, food service, and laundry are designed to, with minimal additions, accommodate the eventual build-out to 800 inmates. The selected design will allow for placing the additional 400 cell living unit onto the jail with minimal disruption to the on-going functions of the jail. The new jail will have over 100,000 square feet of space, compared to the 29,000 square feet of the current facility. A deputy will have walked the length of 7 football fields upon the completion of just one of the 24 required population checks/counts in the new SCCJC.

The significant increase in both facility population and in the physical size of the

new SCCJC became increasingly apparent during 2016. As the new building began to take form, the importance of sufficient staffing became increasingly apparent, and significant planning began to occur in 2016 to ensure core operations were in line with staffing projections. Efforts to recruit staff were in full swing during 2016, with jail staff participating in numerous job fairs and reaching out to potential deputies at law enforcement testing centers throughout the State.

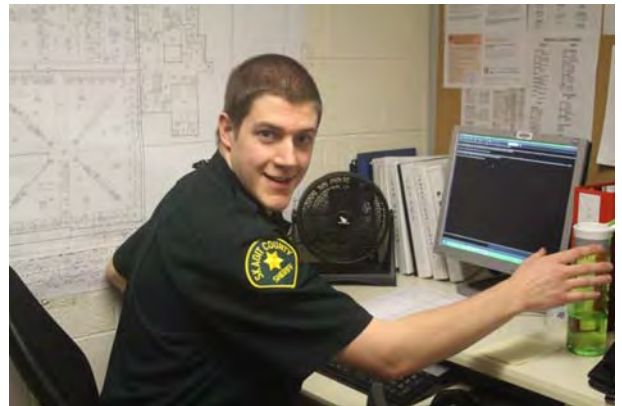
The Corrections Division continued to expand medical staff hours during 2016. There are now nurses regularly available in the jail from 6am to 10 pm and they provide assistance with “Fit for Jails”, medication passes, and extended clinic hours. The most significant add during 2016 was the development of a Health Care Manager position. This manager will provide supervisory oversight of nursing staff and will be responsible for the development of necessary



medical policies and procedures into 2017 and beyond. Also in 2016 the jail contracted with Sunrise Services to provide mental health counseling to inmates. Further, a psychiatrically trained ARNP began to pro-

vide prescriptive services to inmates with mental health disorders. This was a major step forward for behavioral health services in the jail.

In 2016, the average daily prisoner population was 214 inmates. In 2016 inmates were housed out of county in the Snohomish County Jail, Whatcom County Jail, Island County Jail, or Western State Hospital. The trend over the last ten years continues to be one of housing more prison-



ers per day than the design capacity of the jail. The total number of prisoners booked into the jail in 2016 was 3,812. This booking number reflects a slight decrease from previous years when the jail imposed booking restrictions due to overcrowding. During this report period, booking restrictions limited bookings to felony violations, DUI charges, Domestic Violence charges, and some local misdemeanor warrants only. The Sheriff’s Office contracts with multiple jurisdictions in Skagit County to provide inmate housing. These include: Anacortes, Burlington, Mount Vernon, Sedro-Woolley, Swinomish, Upper Skagit, Concrete and La Conner.

Jail operations have been seriously impacted by overcrowding. Designed for a significantly smaller volume of prisoners, operations which include managing the confined population, managing bookings and

releases, and managing prisoner transport all have been negatively impacted by overcrowding. During 2013 and extending into and through 2016, there were multiple instances where the jail was compelled to stop accepting prisoners for up to four hours and more at a time due to a backlog of bookings or because deputies had to contend with incidents occurring in the intake and release area of the jail.



The budgeted expenditures for the Corrections Division in 2016 were \$45,496,577 and the actual expenditures were \$44,536,604. The budgeted revenues for 2016 were \$12,931,264, while the actual 2016 revenue was \$13,815,879. This 2016 budget includes the capital expenses related to the new Justice Center

In 2016, Skagit County prisoners required literally thousands of court appearances, medical appointments, and mental health or chemical dependency evaluations or appointments. All of these interactions necessitated deputy involvement including transport and supervision of the inmates.

May of 2016 became significant for the Corrections Division when a large group of protestors gathered at a local oil refinery for a weekend of environmental protest. In collaboration with other agencies, but particularly the State Department of Corrections, staff of the Division participated in the month long planning process and in the eventual execution of the arrest of numerous protestors. Jail corrections staff assisted in the processing of this large number of detained protestors.

In closing, our mission is to provide the residents of Skagit County with a jail which follows current high professional standards, allowing inmate's a quality human existence while awaiting trial or serving a sentence deemed appropriate by our court system.



# Jail Alternatives



## Sergeant Ron Coakley

The varied duties of the personnel in the Alternatives Section include Inmate Work and Treatment Programs, Courthouse Security, Trial Security Planning, Therapeutic Court Liaison, Fugitive Extradition and monetary obligation collections.

The Alternatives Section encompasses numerous diverse programs, including inmates that are employed and continue to work during their sentence, those who do community service, jail internal operations work and even substance treatment.

Staffing for this section in 2016 consisted of 1 Sergeant, 1 Court Deputy, 2 Program Deputies, 1 RSAT Deputy and 1 civilian Court Coordinator.

The Alternatives staff deals with defendants from immediately after their conviction until their sentence has been completed. Each defendant undergoes an initial screening to determine appropriate sentence resolution, followed by a specific program-oriented interview, booking, and supervision while completing the sentence and release from control. Alternatives inmates are tested for alcohol and drug use prior to commencement and randomly during their sentence. All Alternatives inmates are “booked in” and are carried on the Skagit County Jail Roster. Alternatives staff processed 2038 court commitments, con-

ducted 285 interviews and 421 bookings in 2016.<sup>1</sup>

The Alternatives staff also maintains the turn-in schedule of those defendants who must serve straight jail time and is responsible for court notification if the defendant fails to report for their sentence. 109 referrals were submitted for failure to comply with commits, 88 failure to comply cases were resolved, resulting in defendants spending an additional 166 jail days more than their original sentences.

**The Court Coordinator (CC)** position was instituted to impact and reduce the jail population in both the short and long-term outlook. The CC determines if in-custody defendants have cases pending in Skagit County, other than the immediate ones they are held on. The CC informs the legal community about the status of these defendants, with the anticipation that this information will result in resolution of all of the defendants’ pending criminal cases.

In the short term, consolidation and resolution of cases means that defendants spend less time in jail, with the resultant decrease in costs. In the long term, the effect of this program is felt even more. The vast majority of these defendants are sent to prison, and leaving here with pending cases may result in warrants being issued for non-appearance. Prison inmates

1. Total bookings for the Skagit County Jail in 2016 were 3812.

with outstanding warrants often are not allowed to participate in certain beneficial programs, including treatment for addiction and mental illness, as well as vocational programs. Studies have shown that programming in prison results in less recidivism, therefore less jail population. Since inception, the CC has made a significant impact in reducing the number of inmates having to return to the community to deal with cases that would have been left pending. The CC has also taken on several projects for the jail, assisting with RSAT and Alternatives data collection and analysis, and a study of felony sentence compliance. The Court Coordinator worked with 364 inmates with a total of 712 criminal cases.<sup>2</sup>

**Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program (RSAT)** is a comprehensive Intensive Outpatient Treatment Program, run inside the jail, with a goal of reducing offender recidivism. In 2012, a competitive process was used to determine which RSAT program in Washington would continue to receive the federal funding. Skagit County was selected to continue receiving this money, based upon the spectacular results that Skagit County has had with the RSAT Program. Defense attorneys, prosecutors and treatment professionals all come together to provide treatment opportunities for inmates. 130 inmates participated in the RSAT program, 44 completed the program. 29 applications for outside treatment were completed.<sup>3</sup>

2. The CC was out on long term leave from 11-14-16 through the end of the year.

3. Due to changes in the RCW, this practice was discontinued in July 2016.

### **Electronic Home Monitoring (EHM)**

Inmates live at a private residence and wear an electronic anklet that records when they leave and return to the premises. These inmates are allowed to go to their job, treatment appointments, self-help meetings (AA, NA, etc.) and some other limited destinations. All instances of leaving the premises must be approved by Alternatives Staff. These inmates pay a daily fee to participate in this program. We also utilize the Transdermal Alcohol Detection (TAD) program, which is a continuous alcohol detection system in conjunction with the EHM system, sampling alcohol intake from the perspiration of the offender. 139 defendants participated on EHM, serving 5310 days.

### **Alternative Interview Bookings (AIB)**

Some defendants are allowed by the sentencing Judge to serve their sentence in a program administered by agencies other than the Skagit County Jail. These defendants must meet the same screening criteria as Alternatives inmates, to ensure that the basic participation criteria are met, as well as generating the appropriate tracking paperwork so the proper information is submitted to the Courts and State. Legislative changes in July 2015 dramatically affected this program, resulting in a significant decrease. 7 defendants were authorized to participate in other agency programs.

**One Day Offender Program** Minimum security inmates spend their required hours in custody at a location other than the jail. During this time they may receive an alcohol/drug evaluation, attend Alcohol Information School, attend the DUI Victim Impact Panel or complete Community Ser-

vice work. These inmates pay a fee to participate in this program. 95 defendants participated in the ODO, serving 123 days in 2016.

**Work Release** Inmates live in the jail and are released daily to continue to work at their job in the community. These inmates pay a daily fee to participate in the program. 65 inmates (57 male, 8 female) participated on Work Release, serving 3242 days.

**In 2016, 306 defendants/inmates served a total of 8675 days on Jail Alternatives.**

**Out of Custody Worker Alternatives (not housed in the jail):**

1. **Litter Crew** – Joint program with Skagit County Public Works, Sheriff, Health De-



partment, Washington Department of Corrections, Washington Department of Ecology. 74 defendants participated on the Litter Crew, serving 7356 hours.

2. **Community Service Workers** at: City of Mt Vernon, City of Sedro Woolley; Town of Lyman; Washington State University Extension Office; Skagit County Departments (Facilities, Sheriff's Office, Law Library, Prosecutor's Office, Parks, Records) 75 defendants participated in CSW, serving 3536 hours.

**In-Custody Worker Programs**

**(housed in jail):**

1. **Skagit Transit** – Contractual compensation agreement to provide workers 6 nights a week. 21 inmates participated on Skagit Transit Crews, serving 8502 hours.
2. **Inmate Workers** – Kitchen, laundry and cleanup workers for interior jail operations. Inmates participating in inmate worker duties served 50,000 hours in 2016.

**In 2016, defendants/inmates worked 69,394 hours on Jail Programs.**

**Trial Security**

The Alternatives Sergeant is responsible for the planning and staffing of court proceedings which may pose security risks. This includes trials which are high profile, proceedings having an in-custody defendant or defendants, domestic issues or any other heightened security matters.

**Courthouse Security**

Security for the courthouse complex is provided in two ways; visitor screening by contract security personnel and uniformed deputies patrolling the complex. Whatcom Security Agency provides personnel who run 2 checkpoints, one each in the Superior Courthouse and the Public Safety Building. The WSA personnel also provide security checkpoint control for after-hours activities in the courthouse complex, including DUI and Domestic Violence Victim Impact Panels and Small Claims Court.

The Court Deputy patrols 3 buildings, maintaining a uniformed presence in the corridors, outside premises and the 6



courtrooms and 3 hearing rooms. The Deputy's primary responsibility is maintaining security and order within the courtrooms. The Deputy also assists with security of inmates being transported to hearings, fingerprints defendants upon conviction, performs DNA sample collections and arrests defendants with outstanding warrants or when ordered by a Judge. The Court Deputy is responsible for preparing and disseminating the weekly Superior Court criminal in-custody calendar. This includes coordinating the transport to court of juveniles charged in adult court but held in Juvenile Detention. The Court Deputy made 176 arrests, fingerprinted 524 defendants and conducted 240 DNA sample collections in 2016.

Along with the courts, the campus houses the Clerk's Office, District Court Probation, Office of Assigned Counsel, Family Law Facilitator, Law Library and Public Defender. In 2016, 170508 visitors entered the two courthouses through the security checkpoints and 58<sup>4</sup> after-hours events requiring security were held. 770<sup>5</sup> prohibited items were abandoned at the checkpoints.

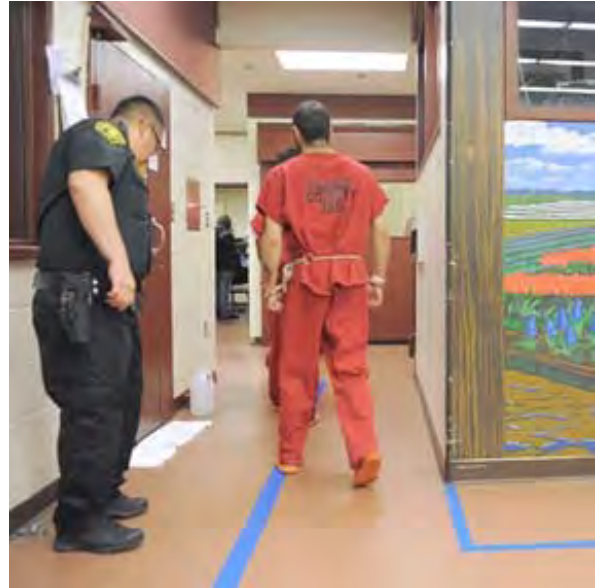
### **Therapeutic Court Liaison**

The Alternatives Sergeant is the Sheriff's representative on the Skagit County Drug Court & Mental Health Court teams. These innovative programs combine supervision and treatment for offenders whose criminal actions are a result of their mental illness or dependence on drugs. Once an

4. DUI & DV panels, Small Claims court, late jury or hearings

5. Prohibited items include knives, scissors, etc. These items are destroyed by the SCSO Evidence technician.

offender is admitted to a Therapeutic Court, they begin a two year treatment plan. Clients make monthly restitution payments



and in order to graduate are required to attain certain treatment and life goals, including education, continuing sobriety, treatment and employment. Successful completion of the program results in the charges being dismissed.

The teams consist of a Superior Court Judge (or Commissioner), Court Coordinator, treatment professionals (Skagit Recovery Center, Compass Health), legal professionals (Prosecutor, Public Defender) and law enforcement (Mount Vernon Police Department and Sheriff's Office). As the liaison, the Alternatives Sergeant is responsible for ensuring good communication between Courts, Jail and Sheriff's Office. Other duties include security for the courts, arranging transport for any in-custody clients, taking sanctioned clients into custody and reporting on client's behavior while in custody. 120 in-custody clients were transported to Therapeutic Courts and 74 taken into custody for transport to the Jail.

### **Fugitive Extradition**

The Alternatives Sergeant is the Sheriff's representative to the Northwest Cooperative Shuttle Prisoner Transport System and also arranges extradition and transport of fugitives to and from Skagit County from around the state and country. 34 fugitive extraditions were arranged in 2016.

### **Monetary Obligation Collections**

In 2013, efforts were increased to collect on debts owed to the Sheriff's Office and Jail. The Alternatives Sergeant and SO Accountant instituted several processes to notify people of their debts and encourage them to pay. These debts include a \$125 court ordered restitution for each DUI processed by the Sheriff's Office. Prior to this year, no effort was made to collect on these unpaid obligations

### **Alternatives Section Goals for 2017**

1. Increased substance testing of Alternative participants, particularly Work Detail and Home Monitoring clients
2. Continued expansion of the One Day Offender Program
3. Continued expansion of the Transdermal Alcohol Detection program for sentenced inmates & pre-trial defendants
4. Expansion of all inmate programs vis a vis new jail agreement, with emphasis on worker programs
5. Continue and increase successful efforts of Case Coordinator
6. Jail Team succession and addition to staffing.



# Year in Review 2016

**JANUARY**—The Skagit County Sheriff's Office Proactive Patrol Team resumes after being inactivated for several years, due to budget cuts. The team, comprised of two deputies and a part time supervisor, is overseen by the patrol division. The purpose of proactive patrol is to relentlessly pursue and defeat criminals causing the most harm within Skagit County by using crime analysis methods for early detection of crime trends; including gathering gang intelligence information and identifying neighborhood problems and assist with the neighborhood watch program. The proactive patrol unit will work lower level drug interdiction and assist the inter-local drug task force. The team will also work with other law enforcement agencies, community groups and local businesses to employ problem oriented policing strategies, to include businesses that are critical infrastructure within Skagit County.

**JANUARY**—The Skagit County Sheriff's Office High Risk Team was established in 1996, beginning as a seven person team. The team focused on training to be able to respond to critical incidents beyond the capabilities of initial first responders. Some of the original members still serve on the team in leadership roles. Over the past twenty years the unit has developed into a multi-agency SWAT team, comprised of SCSSO Deputies and Officers from the Burlington and Sedro-Woolley Police Departments. HRT is certified in Special Weapons

and Tactics (SWAT) tactics through the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission. HRT is a member of the Washington State Tactical Officers Association and the National Tactical Officers Association.



**JANUARY**—The progress to move to the new Skagit County Community Justice Center in 2017 continues. The construction of the new facility, that began in 2015 remains on track. The Transition Team has developed a time line to match the construction portion of the project and to prepare the staff and all users for the eventual move to the new jail.

**FEBRUARY**—The Sheriff’s Office has partnered with Nextdoor ([www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com)), a private social network for neighborhoods. Since launching, our Nextdoor community has grown to over 1600 households from approximately 38 neighborhoods. Nextdoor is the best way to stay in the know about what’s going on in your neighborhood.

**MARCH/APRIL**—The Skagit County Sheriff’s Office preps annually for the Tulip Festival. The Skagit Valley Tulip Festival is the largest tulip festival in Washington State. It is held annually in the spring and the valley receives several hundred thousand visitors each year. The Sheriff’s Office coordinates with other local law enforcement agencies, municipalities, area fire departments and several other county resources to help provide a safe environment for visitors and locals.

**APRIL**—The new Skagit County Corrections Response Team (CRT) was activated for call out. The primary task of the CRT is to provide a strategic and tactical response to situations within the Skagit County Jail and respond with a reasonable and effective level of force to deescalate the situation. This team of deputies will perform security for high risk court hearings, trials, high risk transports, other special events and situations such as cell extractions, inmate riots and incidents that require additional training and equipment.

**APRIL**—The Skagit County Multi-agency Response Team (SMART), conducted

an investigative operation to gage the current level of internet child exploitation activity occurring within Skagit County. This is a follow up operation to one conducted in 2014. The hope was that there would be no activity or arrests; however the team arrested two subjects as part of this operation. The arrest numbers are down from the previous operation. This could be attributed to all the publicity of these types of operations in our region.

**MAY**—In May the Skagit County Sheriff’s Office coordinated with several local, state and federal agencies to prepare for an organized protest of the Shell and Tesoro Refineries on Marches Point. The protest was a three day event that coincided with other protests worldwide.



The teamwork and commitment by all agencies involved, provided a safe and secure environment that allowed for the demonstrators to peacefully protest and gave the community confidence in law enforcement’s ability to respond to large scale events.

**JUNE**—The Skagit County Sheriff’s Office has partnered with local FBI agents to assist in the Federal “Safe Streets

Program” in an effort to identify dangerous subjects with the goal of taking them into custody. The task force coordinates law enforcement resources to locate and apprehend the worst of the community's violent offenders.

**JULY**—Big Lake Fireworks is an annual event to help raise funds for the Big Lake Fire Department. The fireworks spectacular draws large crowds each year. The Skagit County Sheriff's Office assigns several deputies to patrol the area that include traffic and boat patrol.

**SEPTEMBER**—The Oyster Run is a motorcycle rally held annually each September since 1981 in Anacortes, Washington. It is the largest rally in the Pacific Northwest with attendance estimated in the tens of thousands. This is another example of the teamwork by local and state agencies to provide a law enforcement presence to monitor traffic problems and other potential issues that might arise from this event.

**SEPTEMBER**—Tragedy struck Skagit County on Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, when an armed subject entered the Cascade Mall and killed five people. Several law enforcement agencies from within Skagit County

and outer jurisdictions responded to this active shooter crisis. Initial first responders from the Sheriff's Office entered the mall to assist Burlington police officers, while others set up a perimeter and coordinated incoming resources. The Skagit County Sheriffs' Office High Risk Team responded and assisted in searching the mall for the suspect. HRT also conducted mall evacuations and other missions throughout the evening. Skagit County Sheriff's Office Detectives, as part of SMART, conducted the crime scene investigation and subsequent follow up that led to the identification and capture of the suspect.



**OCTOBER**—The HRT obtained a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) MaxxPro rescue vehicle through the federal surplus grant program. The MRAP will be used for search and rescue and tactical operations. The MRAP is capable of transporting the team into hostile situations where gun fire may be occurring.

**NOVEMBER**—The DEA Bellingham Office; and the Skagit County Inter-Agency Drug Task Force, along with numerous other state and local partners executed numerous search and arrest warrants in Skagit County and the surrounding area on November 2nd. The investigation was



led by: the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in conjunction with the FBI, Whatcom Gang & Drug Task Force and Skagit County Inter-Agency Drug Task Force. Steve Hummel, Resident Agent in Charge Bellingham Resident Office wrote “It was truly a cooperative effort and I am very thankful for all the assistance your departments provided, both during the



months long investigative phase, as well as on the take down day.”

**NOVEMBER**—The E-Warrant Project moves forward. The Skagit County Sheriff’s Office is working with other county partners to move to a paperless warrant system. The goal is to streamline the process and to make all warrants accessible electronically. The team has been moving this project forward and went live with the plan in November.

**NOVEMBER**—Several agencies within Skagit County have been working together to build a model response to an active shooter incident. In November many first responders received training at the Skagit Valley College. The training was a success. The project continues with more training scheduled in 2017.

**DECEMBER**—On December 15<sup>th</sup> the Skagit County Sheriff’s Office responded into the City of Mount Vernon to assist the Mount Vernon Police Department after a Mount Vernon police officer was shot. Several law enforcement agencies assisted with perimeters, traffic control, negotiations and tactical operations. The Sheriff’s Office Tactical Team, HRT in conjunction with several tactical teams from other jurisdictions and the Crisis Negotiation Team responded to the scene. The suspects continued to fire rounds from inside the residence towards the police. HRT used the MRAP tactical vehicle to contact several homes and evacuated residents from the danger area to safety. The Crisis Negotiation Team spoke with the suspects and provided valuable information throughout the incident. HRT used the MRAP to provide containment on the suspect’s residence. Negotiations broke down and gas was deployed into the residence. The three suspects surrendered and were taken into custody. Detectives from the Sheriff’s Office, as part of SMART, assisted with the crime scene and further follow up investigation.

**DECEMBER**—As part of our long term commitment to the towns of La Conner and Concrete, the Sheriff’s Office and these communities agreed to another three year partnership. We value our relationship and are honored to continue to serve the citizens and visitors to La-Conner and Concrete.

# Awards



## **2016 Anne Jackson**

**Award--Robert & Becky Gates:** When we think of Deputy Anne Jackson

we remember her for her teamwork, commitment, thoughtfulness, charity, selflessness, humanity, and humor. This award is to serve as a reminder to us of the powerful impact, we as individuals can have on those around us. We are honored to bestow upon Robert and Becky Gates the Anne Jackson Award for their dedicated service, unwavering support and heartfelt contributions that have provided opportunities and inspiration to many.

**2016 Life Saving Award--Deputy Steiner & Deputy Caulk:** During the early morning hours of March 15th, 2016, Deputy Martin Steiner and Deputy Craig Caulk responded to a report of a roll over vehicle accident near the off ramp of I-5 northbound near Exit # 224. Both Deputy Steiner and Deputy Caulk entered into the cold water to free the occupant of the almost completely submerged overturned vehicle, assisting fire personnel to eventually free the victim.

**2016 Sheriff's Award--Sergeant Baldwin:** In the fall of 2015 Sergeant Chris Baldwin began the arduous task of completing a grant to acquire an MRAP for the Skagit County Sheriff's Office. Because of his efforts our agency was one of only a few agencies who were able to complete the paperwork and submit it on time, virtually ensuring the

SCSO would be in a position to obtain one of these armored vehicles.

**2016 Sheriff's Award--Sergeant Coakley:** Sergeant Coakley worked extremely hard to overcome and figure out multiple issues with the new Syntrex-Spillman System. Many of the things that he had to deal with, figure out and fix have made the workload of our staff easier. Sergeant Coakley streamlined the process and made it more efficient while ultimately creating procedures to limit mistakes and have more quality control than with our previous system. In addition, Sergeant Coakley led, trained and guided our employees through this new system and he has continued to prepare them for the future.

**2016 Sheriff's Award--Sergeant Meyer:** In the spring of 2016 Sergeant Meyer began the long and difficult grant process, through the Port Security Grant Program, to acquire three boat motors to replace the failing motors we were relying on. In addition, Sergeant Meyer was able to utilize the old motors to cover the matching funds required of the grant.

# Employee Recognition



## RETIREMENT

Randy Parker	33 yrs
Mark Sonnabend	30 yrs
Don Marlow	30yrs
Keith Brown	29 yrs



## PROMOTIONS

Sgt. C.J. Andersen

Sgt. Lecia Kelley

### New Employees 2016

<b>Patrol</b>		J49	MILLS, CORY
U80	STRUIKSMA, JOSHUA	J50	HARLAN, LELAND
U81	GUTIERREZ, JOE	J51	SMITH, TYRONE
U82	TWEIT, JESSY	J52	MONROE, KYLE
<b>Corrections</b>		J53	HOYSON, BRIAN
J45	WHITENER, KYLIE	J54	BRENNER, AUSTIN
J46	ROSE, TREVOR	J55	LACK, PAUL
J47	JOHNSON, BRADLEY	J56	SYTSMA, MICHAEL
J48	VANDUSEN, JACKSON	J57	KWANT, MARTIN

## 2016 Years of Service

### January:

Kevin Sigman	25
John Hamlin	15
Keith Dillaman	15
Charlie Wend	5

### February:

Mark Sonnabend	30
Ron Vater	25
Wade Wilhonen	15
Eric Moore	10

### March:

Von LaQuet	25
Chris Kading	25

### April:

Ben Hagglund	15
Jason Moses	10

### May:

Chad Clark	25
Steve Dills	20

### June:

Jackie Brunson	20
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### August:

Lecia Kelly	20
Julie Zorn	15

### September:

Don Marlow	30
JoHannah Deterding	10
CJ Andersen	5

### October:

Brian Morgan	15
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### December:

Tom Molitor	20
Jim Shuler	15

## Benevolent Association Donations

		IF Prison project	300.00
Brigid Collins children's fund	200.00	Employee welcome bags	400.00
Skagit Domestic Violence- SDVSAS	250.00	Housekeeping for ill employee	500.00
Community action coat drive	250.00	East Christmas families	1000.00
Officer McClaughry fund	500.00	Erik Valenzuela Scholarship	1000.00
Youthnet Skagit Leadership	500.00	Deputy Anne Jackson Scholarship	1500.00



# Community Involvement



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Polar Plunge

Tip a Cop

Coat Drive: MVPD

Coats for those in need: Initial Upriver Project

Shop with a Hero

East Detachment Annual Christmas Family Project

Community Vigil-Cascade Mall

Lunch with a Deputy-Squad Project

Guns and Hoses Golf Tournament

Drug Take Back

Veteran's Day Parade

Shell Refinery Day

Neighborhood Watch

Leadership Skagit

Special Olympics Torch Run





# STRATEGIC PLAN

**GOALS 2017-2021**

**GOAL 1:  
PREVENT AND  
REDUCE CRIME IN  
SKAGIT COUNTY BY  
EXPANDING THE  
"PROBLEM  
ORIENTED  
POLICING" MODEL**

STRATEGY 1:  
PRO-ACTIVE  
PATROL

STRATEGY 2:  
VIOLENCE  
PREVENTION

STRATEGY 3:  
EXPANSION OF THE  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
WATCH PROGRAM

STRATEGY 4:  
UTILIZE CRIME  
ANALYSIS

STRATEGY 5:  
DEVELOP  
PARTNERSHIPS  
WITH COMMUNITY  
AGENCIES AND  
LOCAL BUSINESS

**GOAL 2:  
PREVENT  
FATALITIES AND  
INJURIES FROM  
TRAFFIC  
COLLISIONS**

STRATEGY 1:  
FOCUSED  
ENFORCEMENT

STRATEGY 2:  
FOCUSED MEDIA  
INITIATIVES

STRATEGY 3:  
FUNDING  
RESOURCES

STRATEGY 4:  
COMMUNITY  
INVOLVEMENT

**GOAL 3:  
PROTECT SKAGIT  
COUNTY CRITICAL  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
FROM DOMESTIC  
AND FOREIGN  
THREATS**

STRATEGY 1:  
SECURE CRITICAL  
INFRASTRUCTURE

STRATEGY 2:  
ESTABLISH A JOINT  
TRAINING  
PROGRAM IN  
COLLABORATION  
WITH IDENTIFIED  
HIGH RISK  
TARGETS

STRATEGY 3:  
UTILIZE  
INTELLIGENCE  
INFORMATION TO  
HELP REDUCE THE  
RISK TO CRITICAL  
INFRASTRUCTURE

**GOAL 4:  
DEFINE, DEVELOP  
AND IMPLEMENT  
THE KEY  
ELEMENTS FOR  
EFFECTIVE JAIL  
OPERATIONS.**

STRATEGY 1:  
DEVELOP A MODEL  
STAFFING PLAN

STRATEGY 2:  
MAINTAIN A WELL-  
TRAINED STAFF

STRATEGY 3:  
MAINTAIN  
WRITTEN  
DIRECTIVES

STRATEGY 4:  
DEVELOP AN  
INMATE  
CLASSIFICATION  
PROCESS

STRATEGY 5:  
MAINTAIN AN  
EFFECTIVE  
SUPERVISION OF  
INMATES

STRATEGY 6:  
DEVELOP/  
MAINTAIN  
ADEQUATE LEVEL  
INMATE SERVICES /  
PROGRAMS

STRATEGY 7:  
CONSISTENT/FAIR  
TREATMENT OF  
INMATES

STRATEGY 8:  
MAINTAIN  
ADEQUATE BED-  
SPACE

STRATEGY 9:  
COMPLY WITH  
STANDARDS,  
REGULATIONS AND  
CODES

STRATEGY 10:  
KEEP A SAFE,  
CLEAN AND WELL-  
MAINTAINED  
PHYSICAL  
ENVIRONMENT

**GOAL 5:  
DEVELOP A  
WORKFORCE THAT  
IS EQUIPPED WITH  
THE TECHNOLOGY,  
TOOLS AND  
TRAINING TO  
SERVE SKAGIT  
COUNTY  
EFFICIENTLY AND  
EFFECTIVELY.**

STRATEGY 1:  
VALUES

STRATEGY 2:  
RECRUITING AND  
SELECTION

STRATEGY 3:  
DIVERSITY AND  
INCLUSION

STRATEGY 4:  
TRAINING AND  
EDUCATION

STRATEGY 5:  
DATA DRIVEN  
OPERATIONAL AND  
MANAGERIAL  
SYSTEMS

**GOAL 6:  
ASSESSMENT OF  
THE SHERIFF'S  
OFFICE  
PERFORMANCE  
OBJECTIVES**

STRATEGY 1:  
REVIEW OF GOALS  
AND OBJECTIVES

STRATEGY 2:  
ACQUIRE AND  
ANALYZE  
FEEDBACK

STRATEGY 3:  
EFFICIENCY OF  
SERVICES  
THROUGH  
INNOVATION

**MISSION:**

*The Skagit County Sheriff's Office  
is committed to the safety of the  
citizens we serve,  
visitors to our community and our employees.  
Professionalism, enthusiasm and integrity  
shall be our guiding principles  
in accomplishing this mission*

**VISION:**

*Safety through Courage  
and Professionalism*

