Community Partnership Connection



Sharing Our 2012 Accomplishments













Over the past several years, our community has faced some of the most difficult economic hardships of our time. During that time, the Washoe County Sheriff's Office has reduced its budget by over \$22 million even as the citizens of Washoe County continually rate public safety as their top priority.

In facing the impacts of these reductions and the challenges they evoke, the men and women of this Office have made every possible effort to maintain the safety of the public and preserve the quality of life in our community.

Page two features a few highlights from 2012. Although these are not all of our accomplishments, they are good examples of the many ways in which Sheriff's Office staff have dedicated themselves to preserving public safety in Washoe County during a very challenging year.

As we face the challenges of the coming year, the Sheriff's Office remains committed to doing all we can, in partnership with our community, to fulfill our mission of providing a safe and secure community using the highest quality law enforcement, detention, and support services possible within the resources entrusted to us.

For a detailed list, you can go to: www.washoesheriff.com.

Below are just a few highlights of the many accomplishments achieved by the dedicated members of the Washoe County Sheriff's Office during 2012:

- A grant funded, In-Car Video System Program was implemented. The system increases the safety of Patrol Deputies and citizens, reduces agency liability and is useful in evaluating policies, procedures and training.
- In an effort to streamline required annual training, online courses were developed resulting in more efficient and direct delivery of information to personnel.
- The Community Relations Section instituted strategic initiatives directed to benefit residents through improved community outreach and awareness while also enhancing internal communications for Sheriff's Office employees.
- Forensic Science Division employed new methods of electronically recording information that resulted in a significant reduction in the amount of time required to process Breath Alcohol Analysis reports.
- The Convicted Offender DNA Analysis was kept up to date in part by the receipt of a grant which supports the DNA program.
- Forensic Science Division Firearms Technicians made significant increases in reducing the amount of firearms analysis backlogged cases.
- WCSO applied for 31 grants in 2012 with a success rate of over 80% resulting in \$1,877,018 in funding allocated to various public safety programs.
- Washoe County Regional Animal Services received more than \$237,000 in donations and grants. These
 funds will be utilized to enhance animal care and customer satisfaction in Washoe County.
- The Washoe County Sheriff's Office Traffic Unit was awarded "Squad of the Year" by the Nevada Office of Traffic Safety.
- The Washoe County Sheriff's Office assisted the Reno Fire Department and the Truckee Meadows Fire
 Protection District during disastrous fires involving evacuations, increased security patrols and a death
 investigation.
- WCSO provided support during numerous 2012 Presidential Election events.
- The Regional Fugitive Investigation Strike Team, in cooperation with United States Marshal's Office, was successful in appending numerous fugitives including dangerous homicide suspects and violent offenders.
- Regional Aviation Enforcement (RAVEN), in partnership with local and federal fire agencies, provided initial strike assistance in combating regional fires during numerous events. RAVEN also responded to hundreds of regional events by providing aerial support to numerous law enforcement agencies throughout the region.
- Search and Rescue volunteers responded to various events throughout Northern Nevada and California providing vital support and assisting citizens in need of help.
- The Washoe County Sheriff's Office Canine Program provided enhanced response capabilities during critical events which occurred throughout the region. This program, as a component of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area initiative, successfully apprehended numerous suspected drug traffickers and seized large quantities of illegal drugs.
- The Detention Bureau implemented Detention Canine Teams enhancing inmate and officer safety within the Detention facility. These Canine Teams were made possible with the assistance of grants provided through the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the Helen Close Charitable Foundation.
- Two detention housing units were remodeled. The expansion included additional cells and an inmate shower area. This project increased inmate and officer safety conditions related to disruptive or problematic inmates.
- The Washoe County Sheriff's Office implemented the Forensic Mental Health Team. In cooperation with State of Nevada mental health specialists, this program assists inmates in our Mental Health unit with discharge, aftercare, and reduces recidivism.

Regional Animal Services Receives Holiday Food Donation from RKC



Photo: Mitch Schneider from the Nevada Humane Society's G.I. Dog Program (left) helps Washoe County Regional Animal Services Field Supervisor Bobby Smith and Reno Kennel Club President Matthew Davis unload bags of dog food at Regional Animal Services on December 27.

The Reno Kennel Club donated two pallets of dog food to Washoe County Regional Animal Services, the Nevada Humane Society's G.I. Dog Program and the SPCA of Northern Nevada in a generous effort to help these organizations care for dogs that are separated from their families or looking for new homes this holiday season.

The Reno Kennel Club's donation is funded by proceeds from the Club's annual all-breed dog show which was held in August at the Grand Sierra Resort. In addition to donating approximately \$1600 worth of food for local animal shelters, Reno Kennel Club members had pledged to donate \$500 in support of the Shakespeare Animal Fund.

"As an all-breed organization that values the health and welfare of our furry friends, the Reno Kennel Club is happy to help support those dogs who are still looking for their forever home," Reno Kennel Club President Matthew Davis said. "The Reno Kennel Club membership strongly supports the health and welfare of all dogs in our community."

Sheriff's Office Receives \$35,000 Award From FBI to Help Fight Cyber Crimes and On-line Exploitation of Children

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office has received a \$35,000 award from the Federal Bureau of Investigation to cover overtime costs related to enhance the ability of Sheriff's Office detectives to timely investigate the on-line exploitation of children. Children are often targets for exploitation by individuals using online services because of the anonymous nature of the Internet and the large number of people who use it. Online child predators contact children on the Internet in a number of ways including e-mail messages, instant messaging, electronic bulletin boards, social networking sites and public chat rooms.

Please take a few minutes to review the following simple online safety tips.



Internet safety tips for children:

- Keep social networking site profiles set to "private."
- Do not give out personal details such as address or school information.
- Turn off your webcam after using it so it cannot be backed.
- Do not send anyone inappropriate photos of yourself or anyone else.

Internet safety tips for parents:

- Discuss the dangers of the internet with your child and set ground rules to follow.
- Review safety/parental controls on your computer, search engine, email, and instant messaging.
- Monitor your child's online activity and the sites they visit.
- Keep the computer or laptop in a common area, not in your child's bedroom.

Washoe County Sheriff's Office-Community Relations

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Dedicated Service in Partnership with our Community

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Christmas on the Corridor



Santa gets a high-five during the Washoe County Sheriff's Office/Reno Sparks Corridor Business Association's annual "Christmas on the Corridor" gift-giving caravan on Saturday, December 22.

The Sheriff's Office and Reno Sparks Corridor Business Association wish to thank the nearly 150 individuals, organizations and businesses that participated in the 2012 "Christmas on the Corridor" charity event.

Businesses and organizations included the Atlantis Casino Resorts Spa, Boomtown Casino Hotel, Calvary Chapel of Reno and Sparks, Club Cal Neva, Costco, the Washoe County Library System's Crochet Connection, Eldorado Family Donation Committee, Fleischmann Planetarium, Girl Scout Troop 18, Gold Dust West Casino, Hobey's Casino Restaurant, Intercept LLC, Klickets Knitting Group, L & M Designed Interiors, National Automobile Museum, Port of Subs, R.E.C.O.N. - G6, Reno Rodeo Foundation, Scheels, Sierra Nevada Library staff, Terry Lee Wells Nevada Discovery Museum, the Walmart Distribution Center on USA Parkway and the Walmart store on Damonte Ranch Parkway, Westergard Elementary School staff, and Western Village Inn and Casino. Over 120 community volunteers participated through their donations of items and/or time to help with the collection, wrapping and distribution of gifts to hundreds of children and seniors living in the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Street corridors on the Saturday before Christmas.

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office, Reno Sparks Corridor Business Association, and their partners both public and private endeavor to bring Christmas to many children who would otherwise go without. They also sponsor families throughout the year providing food, clothing, everyday essentials and school supplies.