



# Yakima Police Department



## 2014 Annual Report



The City of Yakima



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# Message from the Chief

*Chief Dominic Rizzi Jr.*



As Chief of the Yakima Police Department, I am continually impressed with the values and professionalism of our employees. In addition, I realize the importance of keeping our community engaged and informed, even at the most difficult times we face. Police work in general faced several challenges in 2014, all of which made every department in the country take stock in their perception and levels of trust with all members of our communities. We come out of 2014 wiser and stronger, ready to take on 2015 with renewed vigor.

In 2014, we stayed focused on our commitment to Department growth and succession planning. Perhaps the greatest changes took place in 2014 when we were faced with the retirements of most of our Command Staff. This void was filled through promotion, which gave opportunities to those qualified to fill higher rank. These promotions will continue throughout 2015 before leveling off in the immediate years to come.

The goal of our Department continues to be focused on our citizens and the ability we have to improve their quality of life by providing safe streets and neighborhoods. We take this responsibility very seriously and will be expanding our community services in 2015. These services and events will expand to: "Coffee with a Cop," "Roll Call Cookout", and even a Youth Academy to teach our youth what our job is all about.

I submit this 2014 Annual Report not as merely statistical information, but as a look into the inner-workings of our Department. I would like to thank those who have stepped up to make our community better, and look forward to working with our community closer in the years to come.

**Dominic Rizzi Jr.**  
**Chief of Police**



# City of Yakima: Demographics

## Overview

Yakima was officially incorporated in 1886. The City covers 27 square miles, with a population of 93,101. Yakima is the 9th largest city out of 613 cities in the State of Washington. Our City is the Seat of Yakima County.

The Yakima Valley leads the Nation in apple and hop production. Our County has one of the most diverse agricultural cropping systems in the State, with more than 30 varieties of fruits and vegetables grown here. From May through October, you find an array of fresh fruits and vegetables at our Downtown Farmers Market.

More than 70 wineries are located in the Yakima Valley and regularly draw visitors here to sample and buy our internationally renowned varietals.

Aside from agriculture, which our economy has always revolved around, Yakima has over 250 manufacturing plants. A variety of these companies support Washington State's aerospace industry. They make things such as flight landing gear or interiors for aircraft.

In 2014, Yakima Police Department employed 186 people. 147 of these employees are commissioned law enforcement officers, and 42 are civilian personnel.





# Fundamental Mission

## Mission Statement

The principal mission of the Yakima Police Department is the preservation of life and property, to reduce fear in the community through the prevention and detection of crime, protection of persons and property, the maintenance of order in public places, to anticipate and respond to events that threaten public order, and to preserve the rights of the citizens.



## Our Values

- People
- Oath
- Loyalty
- Impartiality
- Commitment
- Excellence

**Our fundamental duty is the protection of, and service to, our community.**

**Our uncompromising vow to the citizens and ourselves to uphold liberty, equality, and justice.**

**To our community, the department, the badge, and to each other.**

**Serving the citizens of our community equally with fairness, dignity, and respect.**

**To the highest ethical standards of law enforcement and personal responsibility.**

**This is our standard. We will accept nothing less than exemplary conduct that honors our oath, our profession, and those that have come before us.**

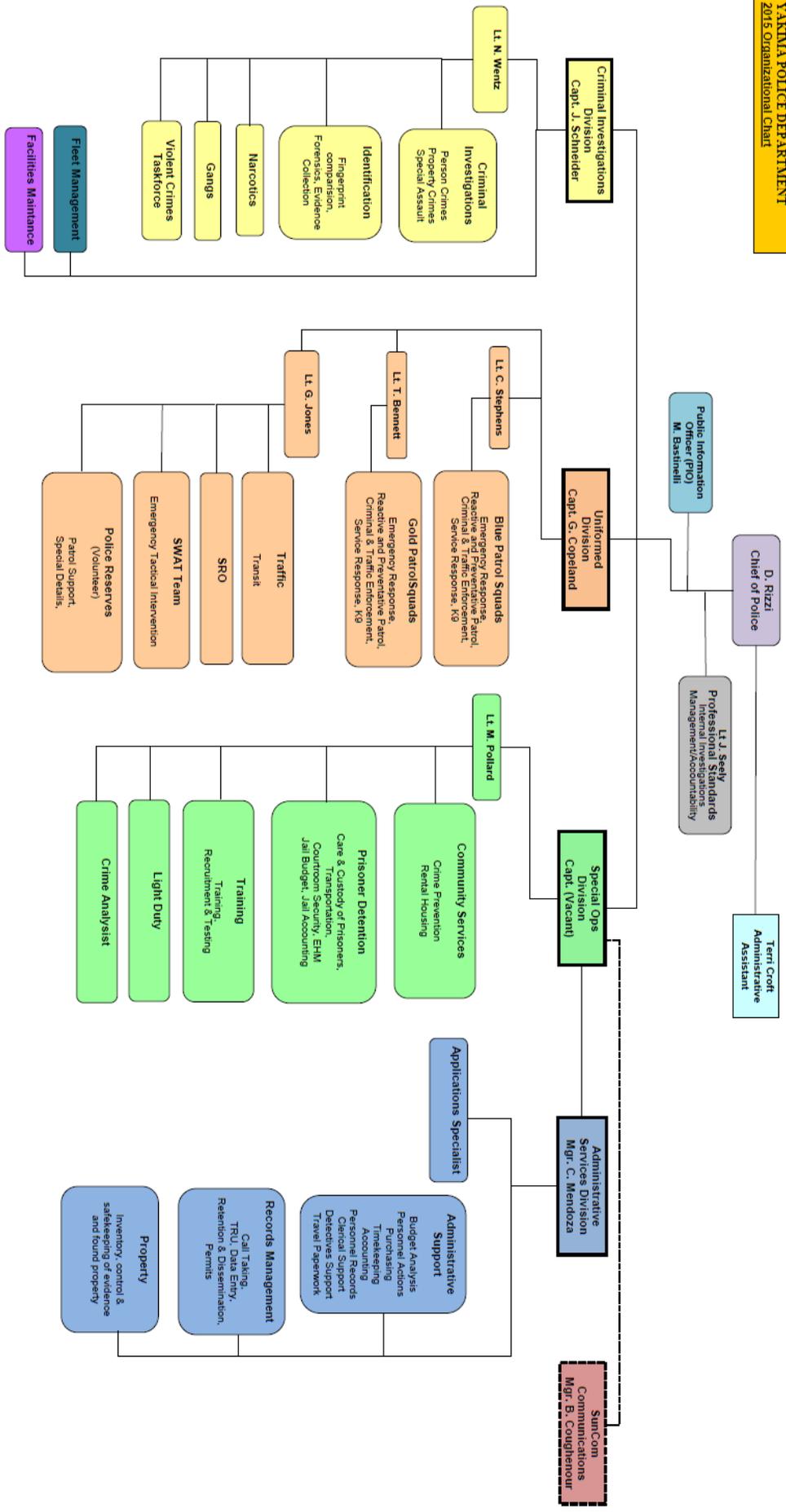


# Yakima Police Department

## Organizational Chart - 2014



**YAKIMA POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
2015 Organizational Chart





# Employee Changes: 2014

## Promotions

-  Sergeant Jay Seely promoted to Lieutenant – January 1, 2014
-  Officer Ryan Wisner promoted to Sergeant – January 1, 2014
-  Officer Ritch Fowler promoted to Sergeant - January 1, 2014
-  Sergeant Chad Stephens promoted to Lieutenant – April 1, 2014
-  Officer Randy Baker promoted to Sergeant – April 1, 2014
-  Connie Mendoza promoted to PS Manager- June 16, 2014
-  Brian Buchert promoted to Police Application Specialist-July 1, 2014
-  Sergeant Tony Bennett promoted to Lieutenant - September 1, 2014
-  Officer Ira Cavin Promoted to Sergeant- September 1, 2014
-  Marisol Arteaga promoted to PSSII- October 13, 2014



Promotions:  
Lieutenant Tony Bennett (Top);  
Sgt. Randy Baker (Right)

## New Employees

-  Lucas Boneck, Police Officer – March 1, 2014
-  Scott Wright, Police Officer – April 15, 2014
-  Laura Gocha, Police Services Specialist II – May 12, 2014
-  Ian Cole, Police Officer – May 23, 2014
-  Hallie Meyers, Police Officer – May 23, 2014
-  Evelyn Barron, Police Services Specialist I – August 1, 2014
-  Alma Santiago, Police Services Specialist I – August 1, 2014
-  Joseph Brown, Crime & Intelligence Analyst – September 1, 2014
-  Louis Torrico, Parking Enforcement Officer – September 1, 2014
-  Andrew Giles, Police Officer – November 17, 2014
-  Eric Nissen, Corrections Officer – November 17, 2014
-  Kyle Strand, Police Officer – December 8, 2014



Promotions:  
Sgt. Ira Cavin (Top);  
Lieutenant Chad Stephens  
(Right)





# Employee Changes: 2014

## Retirements



Chris O'Neal, Police Services Supervisor – 39 Years of Service



Sherry Murphy, Police Services Supervisor – 34 Years of Service



Mike Merryman, Lieutenant – 28 Years of Service



Wayne Haubrich, Police Officer – 28 Years of Service



Bill Almon, Reserve Police Officer – 26 Years of Service



Doug Robinson, Police Officer – 26 Years of Service



Tom Foley, Police Lieutenant – 25 Years of Service



Irv Benson, Reserve Police Officer – 16 Years of Service



Retirements:  
Lieutenant Tom Foley



Retirements:  
Officer Wayne Haubrich



# Employee Awards

## Officer of the Year Award



The Yakima Police Department has announced that Detective Chad Janis is the 2014 Officer of the Year. Detective Janis is assigned to the Special Assault Unit, which investigates sexual assaults, domestic violence and crimes against children. In addition to his investigative assignment, Detective Janis has served on the SWAT team since 2007. He is involved in several community groups that work closely with victims of sexual abuse.

During the course of an investigation in December of 2014, Detective Janis became aware of a group of women and their children living in a group home that had nothing for Christmas. He organized his co-workers to purchase food and gifts for the families. The outpouring of his co-workers was so great, it took several cars to deliver the food and holiday gifts.

Detective Janis is the first recipient of the Officer of the Year award. This is a change in how officers have been recognized in the past, where officers from each squad were selected by their peers. Detective Janis was honored by the International Footprint Association Yakima Chapter at the Elks Club in Selah and the Yakima Police Department held an awards ceremony to honor Detective Janis.



# Employee Awards

## SWAT Team- Certificate of Merit



On May 5, 2013, the Yakima SWAT team was requested by the FBI and the Yakima County Sheriff's Office to help resolve an active kidnapping case. A fourteen year-old developmentally disabled young man had been kidnapped in the lower Yakima Valley by multiple suspects and was being held for ransom. The FBI was able to pinpoint the location where the suspects were holding the victim, and asked the SWAT team to effect the rescue of the hostage. Yakima SWAT was able to quickly deploy a sniper team and to assemble a hostage rescue team near the location of the suspects. When it was confirmed the victim was with the suspects, the rescue team moved in without hesitation and rescued the hostage with no injuries to the hostage, officers, or suspects. SWAT officers acted with a very high degree of professionalism and were able to coordinate and conduct this difficult and dangerous operation with great skill. Because of the efforts of the Yakima SWAT team, the young victim was immediately reunited with his family.

## Officer Matt Lee- Lifesaving Award



On October 5, 2013, Officer Lee responded to a report of an overdose victim in the 3400 block of Castlevale. Officer Lee quickly assessed the victim's condition and determined the victim had no pulse. He immediately initiated CPR and was able to re-establish a pulse. Officer Lee continued with the victim until medics arrived and took over. Because of Officer Lee's actions, the victim was alive when transported to the hospital. Officer Lee did not hesitate to take action and is to be commended for his efforts.



# Public Information/Events

## Public Information Officer

The Yakima Police Departments Public Information Officer is responsible for the presentation of information to the public and the print and electronic media as a representative of the Yakima Police Department. A major part of the PIO's ongoing job is to establish a good working relationship with the media and the public and to maintain those relationships by answering queries promptly, arranging interviews when requested and being a familiar and involved presence at community events. In the past, the PIO of the Yakima Police Department was a member of the departments command staff but now the PIO is a civilian with a background in the media. Our PIO Mike Bastinelli, has worked the local media in radio for 25 years prior to joining the department in the summer of 2014. In addition to working with the media to disseminate information, the PIO helps to co-ordinate community events like Coffee with a Cop. The PIO is also responsible for communicating with the public via social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter.

**Coffee with a Cop** gives citizens an opportunity to meet with Yakima Police Officers for coffee and conversation. There is no agenda, just a chance for the public to get to know the officers that serve in Yakima neighborhoods. Coffee with a Cop is held every other month at venues across the city. The Yakima Police Department is building relationships with the community one cup at a time.



## Other Events

### Turkey Bowl



Polar Plunge for Special Olympics

Gang Unit Soccer at Garfield Elementary





# Heroes & Helpers



## heroes & helpers

On December 18<sup>th</sup>, fifteen officers from the Yakima Police Department volunteered their time to participate in the third annual "Heroes and Helpers" event hosted by the Yakima Target Store. "Heroes and Helpers" is a program in which uniformed officers take children shopping for Christmas. Officers from the department recommend children throughout the year for this event. Most of these are children that on-duty officers had contact with at some point, maybe as crime victims or witnesses. The Yakima Target store, YPD Management, the YPPA, and the Community Services Division donated 15 gift cards and holiday dinners to the shoppers. The children can spend the gift cards on themselves or family and friends. The officers partner up with a child and accompany them throughout the store. They assist by making gift suggestions and help keep track of the amount spent. After the children completed their shopping, officers helped with gift wrapping.





# 2014 Crime Statistics

## Overview

Below is a brief summary of Crime Statistics for the City of Yakima. This summary is a brief view of Part I Crimes reported to the department in 2014. For a complete and detailed view of Crime, Calls for Service, Accidents, and Arrest Statistics, please refer to "**Crime Analysis Annual Report: 2014.**" This report contains in depth temporal and spatial analysis of the above incidents for the year 2014. Copies of this document will be provided along with this report.

See also: "**2014 NIBRS Analysis Report**"

For additional details, please contact the *Crime and Intelligence Unit* at

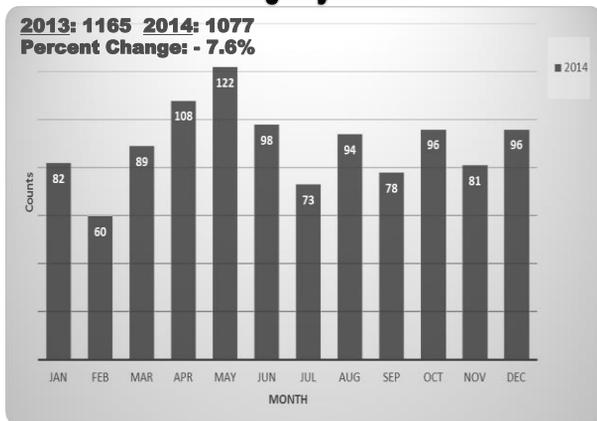
[joseph.brown@yakimawa.gov](mailto:joseph.brown@yakimawa.gov)

## Part I Crimes

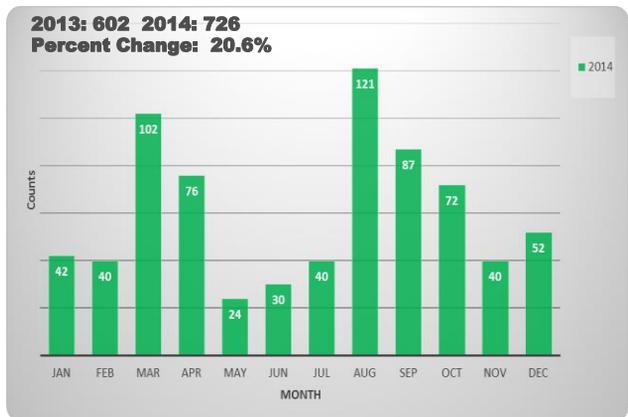
Crime	2012	2013	2014	13-14 % Change	12-14% Change
ROBBERY	156	149	115	-22.80%	-26.30%
ARSON	11	14	39	178.60%	254.50%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	267	212	197	-7.10%	-26.20%
BURGLARY / BREAKING AND ENTERING	1580	1165	1077	-7.60%	-31.80%
HOMICIDE OFFENSES	6	9	2	-77.80%	-66.70%
LARCENY/THEFT OFFENSES	3202	2953	2830	-4.20%	-11.60%
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	1139	602	726	20.60%	-36.30%
FORCIBLE RAPE	54	31	31	0.00%	-42.59%
Grand Total	6415	5135	5017	-2.30%	-21.79%

## Charts

### Burglary



### MV Theft

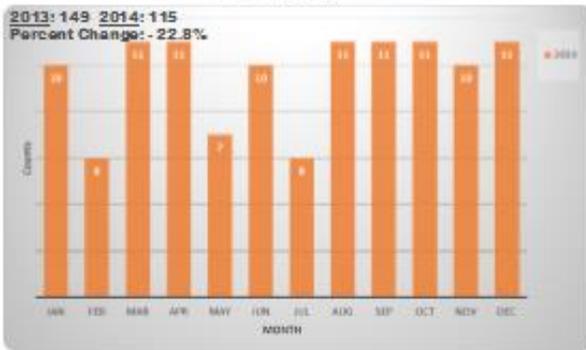




# 2014 Crime Statistics

## Charts (continued)

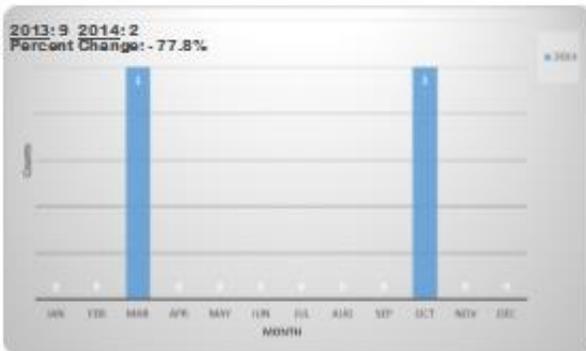
### Robbery



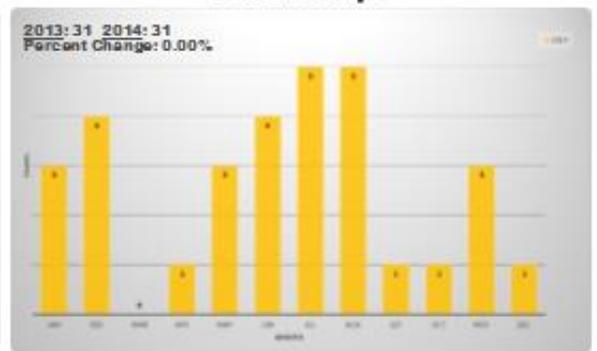
### Aggravated Assault



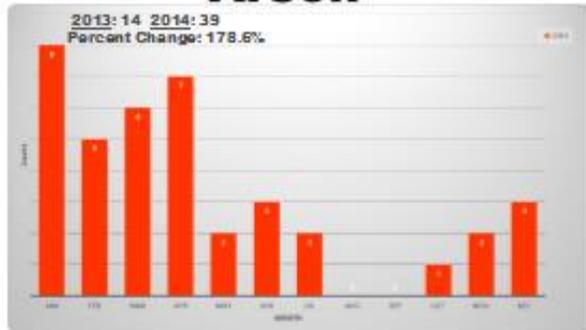
### Homicide



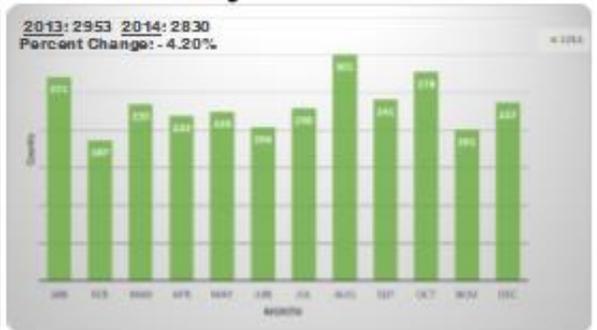
### Forcible Rape



### Arson



### Larceny/Theft Offenses



**\*\*NOTE\*\***

This report only includes Part I Crimes as they are reported to the Yakima Police Department. For Part II Crime and additional Crime Analysis, please refer to "Crime Analysis Annual Report: 2014"



# Special Operations Division

## Overview

The Yakima Police Department Special Operations Division is diverse and consists of Community Services, Training, Police Services, Crime Analysis, and the City Jail. There is one Captain, one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, one Police Officer, two non-commissioned Community Services Officers, one non-commissioned Crime Analyst, and one Police Services Specialist I in this Division. The Jail has three Corrections Sergeants and ten Correction Officers. The Police Services Division has a civilian supervisor and fifteen civilian employees. The Special Operations Division fulfills a large number of duties that are essential to the overall operation of the Department.

## Community Services

Crime Free Rental Housing, Block Watch, and public education are all part of the Community Services Unit. There is one Officer, two non-commissioned Community Services Officers, and one Police Services Specialist I assigned to the unit. This group provides community presentations, station tours, and organizes public events for the Police Department.

## Crime Free Rental Housing



The Crime Free Rental Housing program is a partnership between the Yakima Police Department, local landlords, and tenants working together to foster a safer and healthier community in rental housing.

Through education and support, the Crime Free Rental Housing program addresses rental-based illegal activities and special needs with the goal of reducing calls for police service and creating a safer and more stable living environment for residents. Illegal activity on or around

rental property can have a substantial negative impact to the landlord and to the surrounding neighborhood, including a decline in property values, increased property damage, and loss of rent. Benefits of the CFRH Program include a stable, more satisfied tenant, increased demand for rental property, lower maintenance and repair costs, improved property values, and improved personal safety for renters.

In 2014, the Crime Free Rental Housing program provided 6,750 incident notifications to landlords and had almost 4,000 local properties enrolled in the program.

## Block Watch

Block Watch is a program sponsored by the Yakima Police Department to help people organize on a block-by-block basis to prevent crime in their neighborhood. Block Watch is not a patrol function, but a network of neighbors looking out for each other. A police officer patrolling your neighborhood may not recognize a stranger in your yard, but your neighbors would.

The Yakima Police Department has 120 active Block Watches, meaning they have completed all the steps required to form a Block Watch, with 10 new blocks added in 2014.



# Special Operations Division

## Services Unit

The Yakima Police Department Services Unit is comprised of Records, Property & Evidence, and Services. The unit consists of a Police Services Manager, Four Police Service Leads, Four Police Services Specialist II, and 11 Police Services Specialist I. The Services Unit provides a variety of support services to the operational divisions of the department, as well as to the public.

The Police Services Specialists assigned to the Services and Records units are the primary point of public contact for most telephone and walk-in traffic, and are responsible for taking TRU (Telephone Reporting Unit) reports, data entry, records management, and statistical reporting. In addition, they provide various customer services, including the issuance of concealed pistol licenses, performing criminal records checks, fingerprinting for professional licensing, processing warrants, and preparing reports for public disclosure.



Staff

In 2014, the Services Division took approximately 17% of reports received by the Police Department as TRU calls. In addition to taking reports, this division issued 1,217 concealed pistol permits, handled 2,738 warrants, filled 1,310 public disclosure requests, and responded to 3,679 requests for verification letters and copies of 1,399 collision reports. There are 687 active warrants, both misdemeanor and felony.





# Special Operations Division

## Evidence/Property Management Unit

The personnel of the evidence / property management unit in the Services Division process, catalogue, store, and dispose of several thousand articles of evidence and found property collected annually by the Police Department. Many of the items are eventually returned to their owners, but a large percentage must be maintained indefinitely for future retrieval and presentation in criminal prosecutions. In 2014, more than 16,300 pieces of property were processed through this unit, with 8,488 pieces being disposed of (auctioned, donated, claimed, or destroyed).

The property personnel store and track all items of evidentiary value and link cases together when appropriate. The property personnel must have specific specialized training and knowledge of multiple computer databases to run efficiently. The property personnel diligently enter all firearms into both the YPD evidence management system (BEAST), the law enforcement database Spillman, WACIC/NCIC, and e-Trace, which is a program that YPD participates in through Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE). E-Trace allows for firearms, when recovered, to be entered and the purchasing information to be tracked and / or specific information about the crimes involved with the firearms history to be tracked. This type of entry is vital to the tracking of "straw purchases" with firearms that we commonly see within gang communities.



Staff



Property Vault

In addition to tracking firearms purchases and the evidence that comes into the YPD property vault, property personnel are responsible for returning items to victims and / or persons as required by the courts. They also prepare items for case detectives to go to court, destroy items when the statute of limitations are up, auction items that can be sold to generate funds, and donate to charitable foundations when appropriate. Background checks are conducted by the property personnel when appropriate and for the return of all firearms.



# Professional Standards/Jail

## Professional Standards Office

The Professional Standards Office investigates complaints against Yakima Police Department employees, that may come from internal or external sources. Currently, the office consists of a single Lieutenant. The Professional Standards Office's function is important for the maintenance of professional conduct. The integrity of the agency depends on the personal integrity and discipline of each employee. To a large degree, the public image of the agency is determined by the quality of the professional standards function in responding to the allegations of misconduct by the agency or its employees. Agencies having a professional standards function consistent with these standards will have the ability to respond appropriately to allegations of misconduct. We refer to this function as the Professional Standards Office instead of Internal Affairs or Internal Investigations, because we try and instill professional conduct on an ongoing basis instead of simply investigating potential misconduct after the fact.

In 2014, the Professional Standards Office was assigned 33 internal investigations. The complaints are categorized in three ways—professional referrals, internal complaints, and citizen complaints. Five professional referrals, nine internal complaints, and 16 citizen complaints were received in 2014. A majority (56%) resulted in a resolution in the employee's favor and 28% resulted in discipline to the employee. Two employees were terminated as a result of their investigation and 10% of the complaints remained open at the end of 2014.

## Yakima City Jail

The City Jail began operation in 1996, following completion of the City's new Police Station/Legal Center. For the preceding twenty years, the City contracted with the County Jail for housing of all its adult male offenders.

Under the general supervision of the Services Division Lieutenant and three Corrections Sergeants, personnel assigned to this division are responsible for the care and custody of offenders charged with and / or convicted of misdemeanor crimes occurring within the City of Yakima. Ten Corrections Officers staff this 78 bed, full-service jail facility.

Corrections Officers are directly responsible for the care and custody of incarcerated offenders. Their duties include booking and classification, movement of prisoners between jail and courts, transportation to and from alternate holding facilities, supervision of laundry and meal preparation, monitoring visitations, accounting of prisoner property and funds, and tracking prisoner time served.





# Special Operations Division

## Crime and Intelligence Analysis

The Crime and Intelligence Unit is focused on both short and long-term data analysis to support Tactical, Strategic, and Administrative Intelligence within the Yakima Police Department. Currently, the unit is made up of a single Crime and Intelligence Analyst. The unit performs analysis on current crime series and patterns as well as providing various forms of investigative support for ongoing cases. Providing pertinent Intelligence for all levels of the Police Department is the primary goal of the unit as it allows the entire agency to focus their efforts and be more aware of what is going on within the purview of their respective jobs. Working in conjunction with Detectives, Gang Unit, and Command staff the Unit provides:

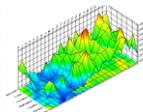
### Types of Analysis

**Tactical Crime Analysis:** Concerned with immediate criminal offenses to promote a quick response. The goal is to assist operational personnel in the identification and analysis of specific crime trends, series and patterns. Using Statistical Probabilities, Geographic Profiling, and weighted Statistical Measures, the Unit seeks to predict criminal activity and assist in applying appropriate police responses to the issue.

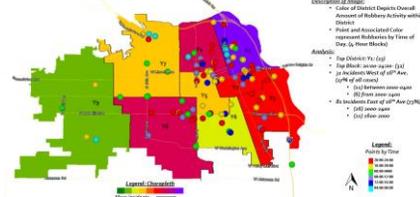
**Strategic Crime Analysis:** Involves analysis of long-term crime problems and trends. Purpose is to identify unusual crime activities in both a temporal and spatial view. Main focus is to support Problem Oriented Policing approaches to reoccurring crime/deviance issues located within the City of Yakima.

**Administrative Crime Analysis:** Involves Analysis related to providing economic, geographic and law enforcement information to police management, city hall, city council, and neighborhood groups.

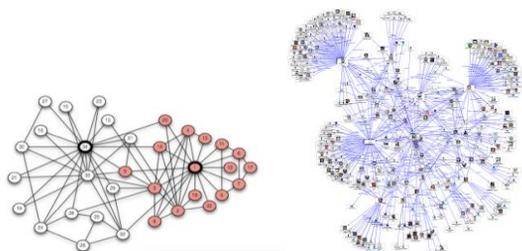
**Intelligence analysis:** Focus on finding and analyzing criminal relationships by linking criminal organizations or events to determine who is doing what and with whom. Through the use of open-source data mining techniques and code, the unit can uncover pertinent information from Government Databases, Business records, Financial records, Social Media Websites, and various other data repositories.



UCR120: Choropleth by District: Points by Block of Time:



**Analysis Key Points:**  
**Definition of Issues:**  
 • Color of District Points Overall  
 • Amount of Robbery Activity within District  
 • Point and Associated Color represent Robberies by Time of Day (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24)  
**Analysis:**  
 • Hot Spots (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24)  
 • Top Block within Layer (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24)  
 • All Robberies within Layer (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24)  
 • All Robberies within Layer (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24)  
 • All Robberies within Layer (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24)  
 • All Robberies within Layer (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24)  
**Legend:**  
 • Point by Time  
 • District  
 • Layer  
 • Block  
 • Time  
 • Color





# Special Operations Division

## "National Night Out"

National Night Out, America's Night Out Against Crime, takes place annually on the first Tuesday of August. This year's kick off event took place on Monday, August 4th at Franklin Park. This was YPD's 29th year hosting the event. This effort promotes involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships, neighborhood camaraderie, and sends a message to criminals, letting them know that neighborhoods are organized in taking a stand against crime and drugs. Yakima celebrated with 17 individual block parties and a community party at Franklin Park sponsored by Yakima Police Department. Activities include Block parties, cookouts, live music, youth events, and visits from emergency personnel and city officials. The event is in addition to a city-wide push to get residents involved in Block Watch.





# Criminal Investigation Division

## Overview

The Yakima Police Department Detective Division is staffed by one Captain, one Lieutenant, five Sergeants, and 26 Investigators. There are several units within the Detective Division, including the Major Crimes Unit, the Property Crimes Unit, Special Assault Unit, Gang Unit, the Violent Crimes Task Force, and the Drug Task Force.

## Major Crimes Unit

The Major Crimes Unit (MCU) is comprised of one Sergeant and four Investigators. MCU personnel investigate homicides, other suspicious deaths, serious assaults—including shootings and stabbings, as well as robberies, missing persons, and other major felonies committed within the city limits of Yakima.

YPD Major Crimes Unit Investigators are highly trained, seasoned investigators who have proven to be steadfast street-level investigators prior to their assignment with the MCU. These Investigators work very long and irregular hours, especially during the initial hours of a homicide or other major felony crime investigation.



## Gang Unit

The Gang Unit is staffed by two Sergeants and eight Investigators. This unit investigates gang-affiliated crimes and works closely with the Major Crimes Unit to investigate gang-related homicides and assaults. The Officers in the Gang Unit are part Patrol Officer, part Investigator.



# Criminal Investigation Division

## Property Crimes Unit

One Sergeant and five Investigators make up the Property Crimes Unit of the Yakima Police Department. This unit investigates crimes related to property—such as burglary, auto theft, larceny, and shoplifts from local stores. Fraud investigations—forgery, fraud, embezzlement, and identity theft—are also conducted out of this unit.

Property Crimes Investigators receive the greatest number of cases, as larceny-type crimes make up nearly 75% of all reported crime in the City. Additionally, these Investigators are called out to help on any major crime, and may have to put their own investigations on hold to assist the Major Crimes Investigators on homicides or other major felony crimes.



## Violent Crimes Task Force & Drug Task Force

The Yakima Police Department has Investigators assigned to these local task forces, which also have members from other local, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.

The Violent Crimes Task Force—VCTF—works to locate and arrest violent criminals and fugitives. The Yakima Police Department has two Investigators on this team.

The Drug Task Force investigates narcotics usage and distribution and the crimes associated with those activities. There is one Sergeant and three Investigators from the Yakima Police Department on this task force. Many nuisance drug houses and drug dealers have recently found themselves the focus of investigations from members of the task force as local and federal investigators work together to rid Yakima of its drug problem.



# Special Assault Unit

## Overview

The Special Assault Unit (SAU) is comprised of one Sergeant and Five Investigators. The SAU investigates all sexual assaults that occur in Yakima, as well as domestic violence cases and crimes against children.

Close partnerships with the Department of Social and Health Services, the YWCA and others allow for full wrap-around services for the victims of special assaults. Further, assignment to the SAU requires a significant amount of training in such areas as Child Forensic Interviews, Sexual Assault Interviews and Internet Based Crimes Against Children.

The tracking of sex offenders also takes place out of the Special Assault Unit where level I, II, and III sex offenders is a full-time job.



The Unit

## “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes”

The Special Assault Unit, along with other officers from the Yakima Police Department, participated in the Walk a Mile In Her Shoes campaign. This is an International Men's March to Stop Rape, Sexual Assault & Gender Violence. The Walk a Mile In Her Shoes event is a playful opportunity for men to raise awareness in the community about the serious causes, effects and remediation to men's sexualized violence against women.





# Forensics & Evidence

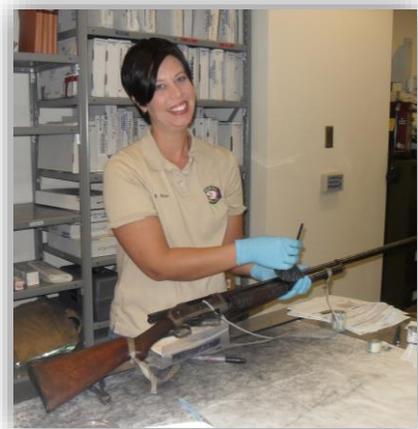
## Overview

The primary responsibilities of the Yakima Police Department's Evidence Technicians are to respond to all major crime scenes and process them for physical evidence and document crime scenes with photography and mapping techniques. Evidence Technicians analyze collected physical evidence further in the Yakima Police Department Forensic Laboratory, utilizing chemicals or additional forensic light source equipment and microscopes to develop latent fingerprint evidence and / or examine firearms and tool mark evidence.



## Forensic Lab

There are currently two full time Evidence Specialists: the Forensic Lab Supervisor and an Assistant Evidence Technician. The Forensic Lab Supervisor specializes in latent fingerprints and firearms / tool mark analysis and the Assistant Evidence Technician specializes in latent fingerprints and crime scenes.



The Forensic Lab Supervisor function tests all firearms collected and tagged into the YPD property vault and assists surrounding agencies with the test firing of evidence firearms for entry into the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) system. The Forensic Lab Supervisor is certified in the entry of firearms evidence into the NIBIN systems maintained at the WSP Crime Lab in conjunction with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE). The local BATFE utilizes the YPD Forensic Lab to test fire all BATFE confiscated firearms for federal case prosecution and / or to process them for latent fingerprint and DNA evidence. The Forensic Lab Supervisor is also qualified to process firearms for GSR (distance determinations), crime scene reconstruction/ firearms trajectory analysis, and serial number restorations.



In 2014, our Evidence Technicians handled over 1,100 items for ballistic testing, DNA testing, and fingerprinting. Evidence Techs can put an image of a fingerprint into a computer system, which can then be compared to arrest records nationwide.



# Patrol Division

## Overview

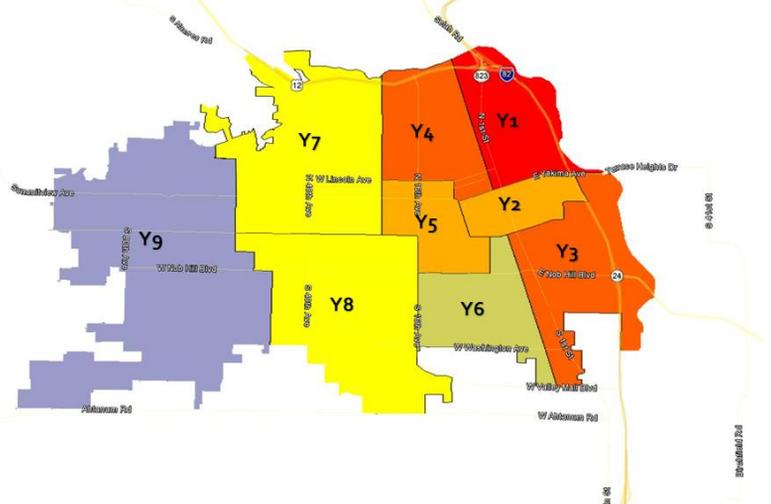
The Uniformed Patrol Division of the Yakima Police Department is largest and most visible division in the department. The Officers assigned to the Patrol Division provide services to the citizens of Yakima round the clock—24 hours a day, 365 days a year. These services include responding to crimes in progress, traffic collisions, missing persons, lost children, preventative patrol, preliminary criminal investigations, and other emergency and non-emergency calls for service.

There are several units within the Patrol Division. Each specializes in a specific area of law enforcement—Traffic, Crisis Response, School Resource Officers, and Patrol K-9.

## Districts

The City of Yakima is divided into nine patrol districts and each squad has an Officer assigned to patrol a specific district. These assignments create a familiarity between the Officer, the citizens, and the businesses of the area. Many crimes have been prevented or solved through the knowledge that the district Officer has about his or her assigned area of the City.

## District Layout



The men and women of the Patrol Division are often referred to as “the face” of the Police Department, due to their visible presence in the community. With that in mind, they are committed to providing professional police services to the citizens of Yakima.





# Crisis Response Unit

## Overview

The Crisis Response Unit (CRU) is comprised of two specialized teams: the Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) and the Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT). The CRU was established to provide specialized support in handling critical field operations where intense negotiations and / or special tactical deployment methods beyond the capacity of field officers appear to be necessary.

## Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)

The SWAT unit is comprised of Officers from the Yakima Police Department, Deputies from the Yakima County Sherriff's Office, and Officers from the Union Gap Police Department. The unit is also staffed by two YPD Reserve Officers as the team's tactical medics—these men are practicing medical professionals in their private lives and provide their expertise on a volunteer basis.

The SWAT team trains 20 hours monthly and its members must maintain rigorous standards, both physically and mentally. In addition to the monthly training, the SWAT team has four snipers who train an additional six hours.



## Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT)



The CNT is comprised of Yakima and Union Gap Police Officers as well mental health professionals from Comprehensive Mental Health. The team trains on a quarterly basis, where they hone their negotiating skills, ensure their equipment is working properly, and receive updated training regarding dealing with emotionally disturbed persons. In 2014, the CRU received 12 activations. Of those, 2 were search warrants, 5 were for barricaded subjects, 1 was for crowd management, 1 was a high risk arrest, and 3 were hostage rescues.



# Traffic Unit

## Overview

The primary duties of the Traffic Unit are traffic complaint enforcement, school zone enforcement, collision reduction enforcement, collision investigation, escorts, and special event traffic control. Motorcycle Officers also respond to dispatched patrol calls as backup.



The goal of the Traffic Unit is to reduce the number of traffic collisions, injuries, and fatalities. The emphasize enforcement of collision causing violations and occupant safety violations. Most of the Traffic Officers have received extensive training in collision reconstruction and investigation.

Within the Traffic Unit, you will find a Motor Sergeant, five Motor Officers, the Transit Officer, and the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer.

## Accident/Collision by type

Year	Fatality	Incapacitating	Minor Injury	Non-Incapacitating	Property Damage (blank)	Grand Total
2012	0	14	447	119	1254	8 1842
2013	0	26	426	104	1185	4 1745
2014	1	0	398	11	1315	93 1818
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>1271</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>3754</b>	<b>105 5405</b>

## Commercial Vehicle Enforcement



2014 was the first full year for Yakima Police Department's Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Program. With the City investing millions of dollars in roadway improvements, the primary duties of these two Officers include educating and enforcing commercial vehicle laws and safety regulations. 251 total inspections were conducted in 2014, with 58 resulting in either the vehicle or the driver being placed out of service until the violations were corrected. One area of particular focus is in overweight vehicles. 63 vehicles were stopped and cited for being overweight in 2014. Seven drivers were cited for not having a Commercial Drivers License when required.



# School Resource/ K-9

## School Resource Officers

A School Resource Officer (SRO) is a law enforcement officer who is assigned to a school. The main goal of the SRO is to prevent juvenile delinquency by promoting positive relations between youth and law enforcement. The SRO position encompasses three major components which allow the SRO to achieve the goal: law enforcement, education, and counseling. These three components allow the SRO to take a proactive approach to law enforcement. SROs are not just cops on campus—they provide all law enforcement duties on their assigned campuses. They educate the students by teaching law related classes and other related subjects in classrooms. They counsel students and parents on various topics. The SRO becomes involved in the students' lives as a positive role model. The intent is that the positive experiences students have with the SRO will bridge the gap between juveniles and law enforcement, and in doing so, help prevent juvenile crimes.

The Yakima Police Department, in partnership with the Yakima School District, has a Police Sergeant and seven Police Officers assigned to each school in the district. The SROs are stationed at each high school and middle school, but also have elementary schools assigned to them as well.

## K-9 Officers

Yakima Police Canines are primarily trained as a locating tool for officers. They are trained in searching and tracking suspects who flee from serious crimes, as well as finding evidence left behind by a suspect. All YPD Canines and their handlers must pass a 400 hour Basic Patrol Canine School. They must then train 16 hours a month to remain certified.

## In Memoriam



After spending 8 years with YPD and 6 years in retirement, K9 Lektor was put to sleep July 28th, 2014, three months shy of his 16th birthday. Lektor was one of Yakima's first canine officers.



Retired K9 Brutus died at the age of 9 in August 2014. Brutus was wildly successful in his 7 year career with YPD and helped to apprehend hundreds of suspects.



Officer Rob Walters' K9 partner Havoc was struck and killed by a vehicle on September 14, 2014. Havoc spent just 16 months with the Yakima Police Department, but showed a lot of potential. Havoc will be missed.



# YPD Explorers

## Overview

The Yakima Police Explorers Post 275 is a group of young adolescents between the ages of 16 and 20, who have an interest in a law enforcement career. In 2014, the Explorer post averaged 12 members who have completed at least one week long Explorer Academy. The post completed 3,682 service hours in 2014 that were either done at the Yakima Police Department or within the community. The Explorers are to complete the next available Explorer Academy and once successfully completing the academy, the Explorer is required to do 10 ride along hours every month with a YPD Officer.

The Explorers have weekly meetings on Thursday evenings, which consist of law enforcement trainings, leadership classes, discuss upcoming community events, training offered, and group activities. The Explorers attend the two State Explorer Academies each year, one National Explorer Conference every other year, and other competitions and trainings that are offered here in Yakima or hosted by other police agencies.

We understand that not all of our Explorers will have a career in law enforcement; however, we do want all of our Explorers to become leaders in any career they decide to go into. Explorers are taught the fundamentals of leadership, respect, responsibility, and honor.

The Explorer Post would not exist if it wasn't for the generous donation the Post receives every month from Officers, Command staff, and city employees. In 2015, there will be a first time Yakima Police Explorer Scholarship awarded to any Explorer who holds the position of an Explorer Lieutenant for at least 6 months. The Explorer Lieutenant has several responsibilities and quickly learns to manage and lead a team.

Our Explorers work very hard to be visible to the department, and are assisting in anything and everything that they can without asking for anything in return. The hard work the Explorers have done has been shown in our YPD monthly newsletter.





# Acknowledgments

## Overview:

Information obtained in this report is subject to change. Efforts have been taken to ensure that the information contained herein is accurate, timely, and complete at the time of this publication. If additional information is needed or any questions arise, please contact the Yakima Police Department with the contact information below:

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The City of Yakima



# Yakima Police Department



**The City of Yakima**

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