Grand Junction Police Department
2016 Annual Report

Vision
Excellence in Policing

Values
Integrity, Teamwork, Respect

Mission
To enforce the law, safeguard our community, and enhance its quality of life through the prevention, investigation, and reduction of crime.
With 2016 in the rearview mirror, it might be safe to say that many in our community are not sad to see it go. Although largely symbolic, the turn of the calendar to a new year often seems like a fresh start, rife with hope and possibilities of what’s to come.

Last year was a difficult one, to say the least. Beginning with the tragic and senseless loss of Mesa County Sheriff’s Deputy Derek Geer, 2016 felt like a particularly tumultuous year for law enforcement, not only locally, but nationwide. Our agency crime statistics for 2016 reflected a large increase in violent crime in our community over 2015, which confirmed what we already knew—that it was a very busy year, and a particularly dangerous one for police officers.

The support for law enforcement in our community however, has been remarkable. In July, after the horrifying murders of five police officers in Dallas, our department was flooded with emails, phone calls, social media messages, and in-person visits expressing condolences and support for our officers. It’s no secret that the climate under which law enforcement serves in some parts of the country remains strained. In the Grand Valley however, the consistent support we receive from our community only serves to further our commitment to the compassionate, professional service we strive to provide.

There were many opportunities to celebrate the great work of our employees last year. We completed a successful investigation that led to over 30 arrest warrants for suspects involved in a complex drug operation in our area. We participated in a national operation to prevent human trafficking of children that led to six arrests. We were proud to receive national recognition for the innovative work of our Grand Junction Regional Communication Center. And we enjoyed many opportunities to engage with our community at more routine events such as our Coffee with the Cop meetings throughout the year. With your ongoing support, we remain steadfast in our commitment to trust, transparency, and accountability to the citizens we serve.

The following pages provide a snapshot of 2016 at the Grand Junction Police Department, including some crime statistics, photos, and highlights of community events we were able to participate in last year. As always, if you have any questions or comments about this annual report, or anything about our agency, we encourage you to reach out to me or any one of our dedicated employees.

With sincere thanks,

John Camper
Crime Statistics

*Beginning in 2016, our homicide statistics are based upon the manner and cause of death, as determined by the Mesa County Coroner’s Office, to include officer involved shootings. These statistics do not reflect the justification of the homicide, or the findings of any criminal investigation.

A more detailed analysis of our annual Reported Crime and Traffic Report can be found by visiting our website at www.gjcity.org, or clicking here.
In 2016...

- ...we disposed of over 500 lbs. of unwanted, unused, and expired prescription medications during our two Drug Take Back events, sponsored by the DEA.
- ...our Records division responded to more than 3,000 open records requests.
- ...18 graduates successfully completed the Citizen’s Public Safety Academy.
- ...telecommunicators with the Grand Junction Regional Communication Center helped deliver three babies who couldn’t wait for the hospital to come into the world!
- ...our Property division received an average of over 1,600 items of property and evidence each month.
- ...our Community Resource Unit initiated four homeless camp clean-ups, at a total cost of over $6,000.
- ...our volunteers donated over 4,000 hours of labor to our agency.
2016 Community Outreach

We participated in the annual "Guns vs Hoses" Broomball tournament in June, to benefit the Community Food Bank.

During National Night Out in August, officers promoted crime prevention through engagement and familiarity among neighbors.

Another highly successful year for Shop with a Cop, a beloved program geared toward reaching underprivileged youth in our community for over 20 years.

New in 2016, Lunch with a Cop provided a monthly opportunity for positive, proactive engagement with students at local elementary schools.

Our SWAT team stuffed the Bearcat with donated toys for Toys for Tots, making the holiday season brighter for boys and girls in our community.

These intrepid racers represented the GJPD in the annual Men in Heels event, to raise money for the Latimer House and promote awareness of domestic violence issues.