

2022

ANNUAL REPORT



GRAND JUNCTION POLICE DEPARTMENT



About GJPD

Founded

1909

Sworn Personnel

130

Civilian Personnel

106

Jurisdiction Size

38.61 sq. miles

Jurisdiction Population

65,000

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A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF SMITH



Dear Community Members and Friends,

It is my pleasure to present the Grand Junction Police Department's 2022 Annual Report. In this report, you will find interesting information about our department and learn about the people who serve and protect this community. I have been a part of this community for over 25 years, myself, and this is my home. Your safety is the top priority for the Grand Junction Police Department.

The demands on police personnel continue to be more challenging, and that has created a nationwide shortage of police officers. Although we may not be completely immune from this trend, we continue to have high standards in the personnel we hire. Our focus on recruiting and retaining top-notch employees will always remain one of our top priorities.

In 2022, we created a team of people, including a Recruiting Coordinator, two Civilian Investigators, and group of employees who work to find qualified candidates. While we still have room to grow, we continue to see an increase in interested candidates which reflects the support we have from the community and the healthy culture the men and women of our department have created. In 2023, we hope to buck the national trends and continue to grow and expand our service to the community.

Traffic issues are a priority for 2023. In 2022, saw an increase in injury crashes in our city. As the City of Grand Junction grows, so does the number of vehicles on the roadways, which can make traffic enforcement challenging. Our Traffic Unit does a phenomenal job of investigating crashes, often solving hit and run cases that occur within the city, but it takes time and manpower. We will continue to work on traffic-related issues and increase our presence in the high-volume traffic corridors. In addition to increased enforcement, we believe public education, increased visibility, and even technology can be leveraged to enhance public safety.

Violent crime and property crimes have a continual affect on the quality of life for our citizens and although we saw a slight decrease in total reported crime in 2022, that does not mean our job is done. Your safety remains our top priority and we will continue to improve and adapt in the coming years as new challenges arise.

I am honored to serve as your Chief of Police. I know the men and women who serve at the Grand Junction Police Department are some of the finest in the profession. Regardless of title and rank, their passion and dedication are second to none. We are grateful to work for a supportive community and we will continue to work hard to retain the trust you have placed in us.

Stay safe, friends.

Sincerely,

Matt Smith - Chief of Police





Mission

We are committed to enhancing community safety, reducing fear of crime, and elevating the quality of life through partnerships and innovative policing initiatives.

Vision

Policing with honor and distinction.

Core Values

Professionalism
Integrity
Compassion
Service



Command Structure



Greg Caton
City Manager



Matt Smith
Chief of Police



Gary Marak
Deputy Chief of Operations



Bill Baker
Deputy Chief of Services



Sean Hasty
Investigations
Commander



Steve Moore
Patrol
Commander



Doug Norcross
Patrol
Commander



Suzette
Freidenberger
Patrol
Commander



Cory Tomps
Patrol
Commander



Robert Fisher
Patrol
Commander



Jennifer Kirkland
911 Center
Manager

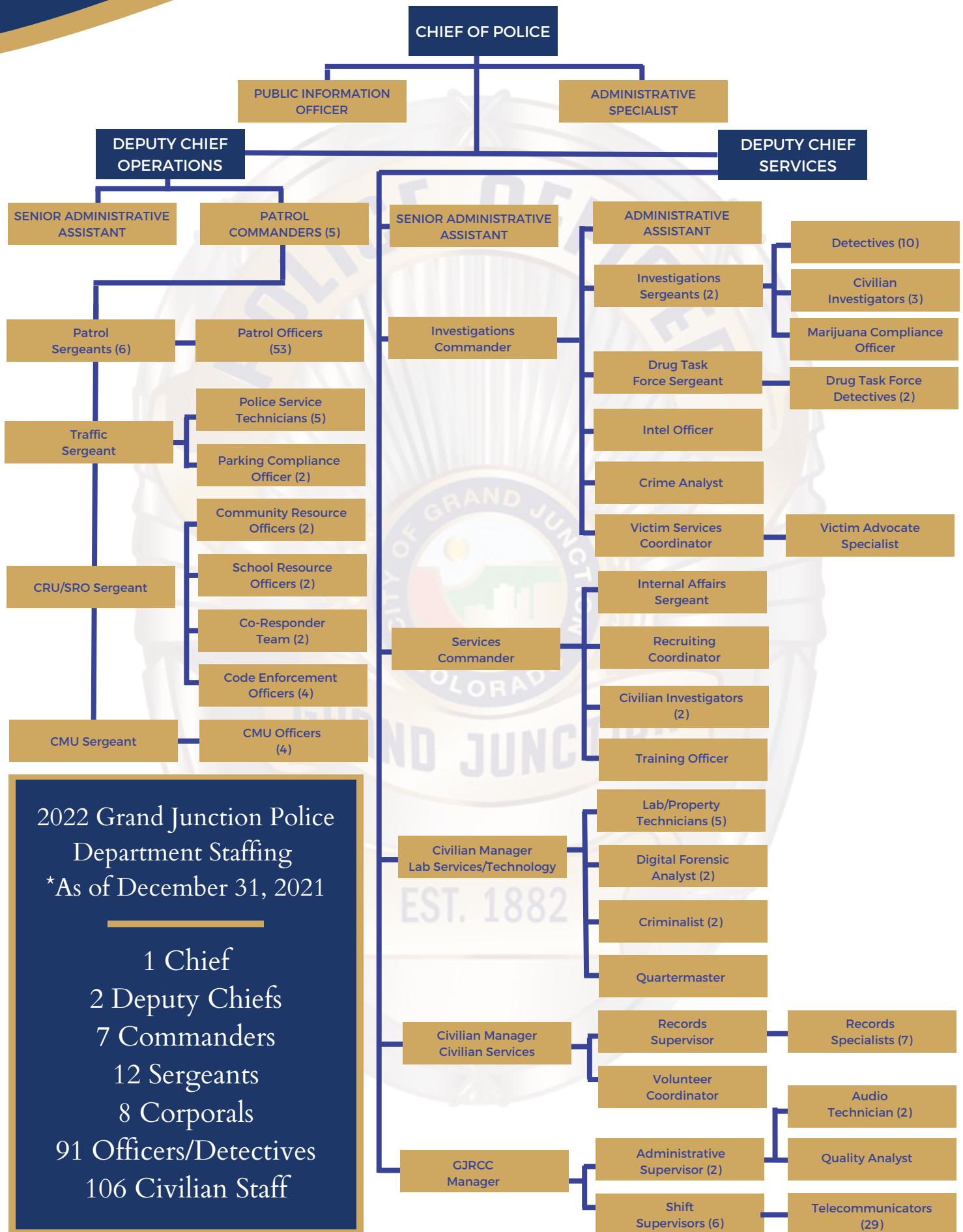


Trent Rundquist
Civilian Manager
Lab Services/Technology



Amber Peck
Civilian Manager
Civilian Services

Agency Organization



STATISTICS AT A GLANCE



2022 BUDGET
39.5 MILLION



PERSONNEL
130 SWORN
106 CIVILIAN



TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE
(GJPD ONLY)
59,879

BUSIEST MONTH
of the year
AUGUST



OPEN RECORDS
REQUESTS
4,958



PROPERTY &
EVIDENCE
COLLECTED
19,872



CRIME OVERVIEW

OFFENSES	2021	2022	%
HOMICIDE	5	3	-40%
RAPE	87	70	-19.54%
ROBBERY	63	49	-22.22%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	219	201	-8.22%
BURGLARY	485	454	-6.39%
THEFT	1,713	1,493	-12.84%
AUTO THEFT	338	235	-30.47%
TRAFFIC CITATIONS	2,465	2,776	12.62%
TRAFFIC CRASHES INVESTIGATED	1,491	1,564	4.90%
TOTAL ARRESTS	5,270	5,154	-6.37%
TOTAL ALL REPORTED CRIME	12,724	11,927	-6.26%

Crime rates remain a focal point here at the Grand Junction Police Department. We continue to prioritize community partnerships and innovative policing techniques to help us combat crime in the community.



PATROL

The Patrol Division is the largest division of the Grand Junction Police Department. The Patrol Division is responsible for all types of emergency and non-emergency



calls for service. The Patrol Division is divided into six teams who provide 24-hour service to the community. Each team is made up of a Sergeant, Corporal, and seven to ten sworn officers. A Patrol Commander oversees each Patrol Team. Every new GJPD POST certified officer goes through an extensive Field Training Program to learn the skills a Grand Junction Police Officer must possess to serve the community, along with year-round training. Patrol officers respond to dispatched calls for service, initiate calls for service, do follow-up investigations, and report writing. GJPD officers not only work their regular shifts but also get subpoenaed to testify in court, serve in collateral duties such as SWAT or the Bomb Squad, serve the department as instructors for numerous training cadres, participate in community events, and more.

59,879
CALLS FOR SERVICE



SWAT



The Special Weapons and Tactics team or SWAT team is committed to the safe resolution of all high-risk situations, and approaches each situation in a controlled manner, with an emphasis on a negotiated resolution. This team is made up of 16 officers who participate in intense and rigorous bi-weekly training.

TRAFFIC

The GJPD Traffic Unit is comprised of two Motor Officers and one Sergeant. While every officer is trained in DUI and Standardized Field Sobriety Testing, the Traffic Unit specializes



in traffic investigations. The Traffic Unit makes great efforts to thoroughly investigate crashes, often solving hit and run crashes, and crashes involving serious bodily injury. There was an increase in crashes which occurred in Grand Junction in 2022 and one of the goals of the Grand Junction Police Department is to focus on decreasing these numbers with increased presence, education through social media, and to supplement manpower with technology. The GJPD has plans for red-light cameras to be installed in high-traffic or high-crash intersections in 2023.

1,564 TOTAL TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

increased 4.90% from 2021

2,776 TOTAL CITATIONS ISSUED

increased 12.62% from 2021



COMMUNITY RESOURCE UNIT



5th St. Bridge before cleanup



5th St. Bridge after cleanup

The Community Resource Unit or CRU offers a variety of services to the community, including Active Threat presentations, Anti-Robbery training, Neighborhood Watch, and organizing the National Night Out event each year. CRU also provides assistance and connects the local unhoused population with resources such as housing or substance abuse treatment. CRU, along with City departments, and Square U Away assist in cleaning up waste and debris in public areas in the city, which can cause environmental damage, harm local wildlife, and pose threats to the community. CRU also works closely with Crime Stoppers and assisted in processing 516 Crime Stoppers tips this year. Since Crime Stoppers began in 1986, it has contributed to 5,054 arrests and over 22,000 tips received.

**23.09 tons/50,905 LBs
of debris collected in 2022**

**24
Active Shooter Trainings**



K-9



K-9 Vamos

In 2022, the Grand Junction Police Department's K-9 Unit had three K-9 teams. A K-9 team consists of one Patrol Officer Handler and one K-9. A K-9's capabilities vary from dog to dog. K-9s are trained in a variety of disciplines, including detection work for narcotics, patrol tactics, and person searches. In 2022, K-9 Nero retired after six years of service and K-9 Merlin retired after four years of service. K-9 Vamos is the current GJPD K-9 on active duty.



K-9 Nero with Handler Officer Hawkins



K-9 Merlin with Handler Officer Gonzalez

GJPD K-9 Nero was retired in April of 2022. K-9 Nero was certified in Narcotics, Tracking, and Patrol. He had 630 narcotic detections and 34 building searches in his six-year service to the GJPD. K-9 Merlin served the GJPD for four years and was retired in October of 2022, and was also certified in Narcotics Detection, Tracking, and Patrol. Merlin's largest find was 20 pounds of methamphetamine. Both good boys. Both loved by employees and community members.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

The GJPD has four officers assigned to the School Resource Unit. Our SROs are present in every elementary, middle, and high school. The officers foster positive relationships with students, parents, and school personnel. SROs handle calls on campus, provide safety education, and fill in on Patrol when needed. They also participate in school activities throughout the year and community events such as Shop with a Cop and the Safety Fair.



COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY UNIT



The GJPD has four officers and one Sergeant assigned to the CMU campus. This unit provides support for crime prevention and safety of students and staff, answering to calls for service on campus and in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Pizza with Patrol and Coffee with a CMU Cop are just some of the outreach events this unit provides.



CO-RESPONDERS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN MENTAL HEALTH

The Grand Junction Police Department has had a Co-Responder Program for the past 5 years. This grant-funded program pairs a law enforcement officer with a master's level clinician who ride together and respond to active calls for service that involve behavioral health crisis. This specialized unit has been successful in diverting officers from complex mental health calls back to the streets so they can answer in-progress calls for service.

Historically, this program partnered with our local community mental health center, Mind Springs, to provide and employ the mental health professionals. In 2022, the City of Grand Junction and City Council agreed to not only employ the clinicians through the city, but to also make the Co-Responder Unit a permanently funded program within the Grand Junction Police Department. This wonderful news ensures this valuable program can continue providing crisis response services in our community.

With this shift, the police department has partnered with Hilltop Community Resources to provide clinical oversight to the clinicians, adding their expertise and knowledge to the program. The GJPD is currently working to expand the Co-Responder program, with the goal of adding three clinicians and two officers to the team. Addressing the mental health needs in our community remains a priority for the GJPD and the Co-Responder Program will continue doing just that.

1,070

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CALLS IN 2022

45 MINUTES

AVERAGE TIME SPENT PER CALL



PARKING COMPLIANCE



The GJPD Parking Compliance Unit, recognizable by their bright yellow shirts, provide a vital role in deterring crimes and ensuring compliance by interacting with the community and answering questions citizens may have for them. They also participate in many downtown events.

6,151 parking tickets issued in 2022

CODE COMPLIANCE

The Grand Junction Police Department has four civilian Code Compliance officers who work to ensure the residents of Grand Junction comply with the ordinances and regulations set forth by the City to protect the community and address issues that may be detrimental to the health, safety, economy, and general welfare of residents. If there is a code violation, Code Compliance officers work first with property owners to gain voluntary compliance before pursuing legal action.

Most violations reported to this division for investigation include, but are not limited to:

- *Animals*
- *Fences*
- *Junk/trash/weeds*
- *Outdoor storage and unlicensed/inoperable vehicles*
- *Sidewalks with snow/debris*
- *Storage of trailers/campers*
- *Wood stoves*
- *Yard sales*

1,079
CASES OPENED

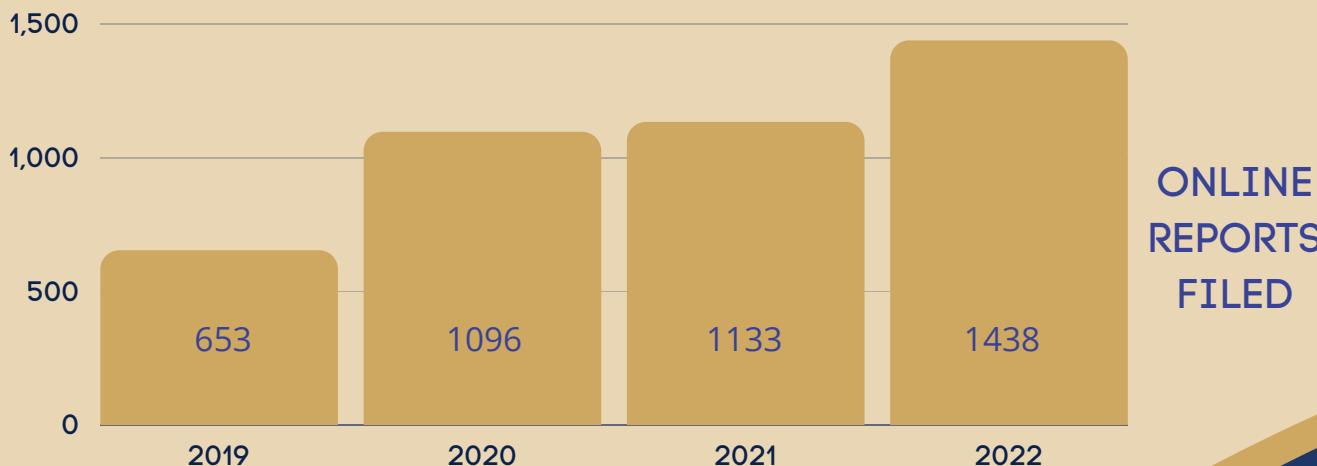
1,039
CASES CLOSED





POLICE SERVICE TECHNICIANS

Like the Code Compliance Unit, the Grand Junction Police Department's Police Service Technicians (PST) Unit is staffed with civilian personnel. The department's five PSTs handle a large volume of calls for service, often freeing up Patrol officers to handle in-progress and high-priority emergent calls. PSTs handle reports such as cold thefts, traffic incidents, fraud cases, VIN inspections, and other non-emergent calls for service. PSTs also conduct follow-up on online reports that citizens submit to the Grand Junction Police Department.



The GJPD implemented online reporting in 2019. Since then, online reports have more than doubled. Many non-emergent incidents can be filed online.



INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Investigations Unit of the Grand Junction Police Department consists of two primary divisions: Persons Crime Division and Property Crimes Division. The Persons Crime Division consists of one Sergeant, four Detectives, and one Civilian Investigator. Persons Crimes personnel focus on crimes such as sex assaults, child abuse, harassment/stalking, and kidnapping. The Property Crimes Division consists of one Sergeant, five Detectives, and three Civilian Investigators. The Property Crimes personnel focus on crimes such as burglaries, thefts, auto thefts, and fraud/forgery. Investigation Detectives start their careers in Patrol and are then assigned to Investigations based upon their knowledge, experience, and investigative ability.

The Investigations Unit also houses the department's Intel Team, which currently consists of one sworn Intel Officer and one civilian Crime Analyst. This team actively works to provide intel information to investigators and Patrol officers. This team is heavily focused on studying patterns and trends in criminal behavior, crime mapping, and directly contributes to the identification of suspects. The Intel Team works with the Grand Junction Police Department's Advance Real Time Information Center (ARTIC). The goal of the ARTIC project, in conjunction with the City of Grand Junction and other organizations, is to keep the community safer. This program assists in critical incidents, city infrastructure, and traffic, including a bait bike operation which resulted 14 arrests in 2022.



Case Closed

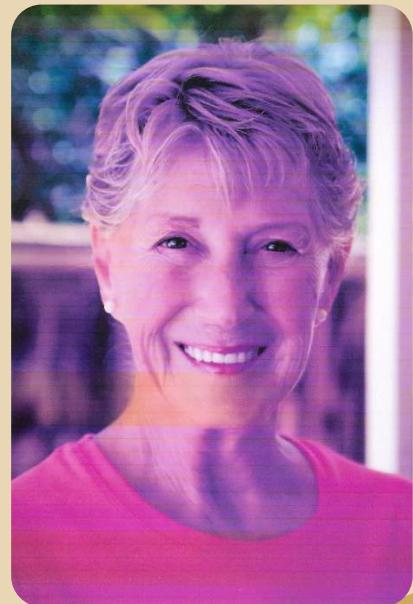
GJPD Detectives Solve Homicide of Sylvia Frens

On May 29, 2018, Sylvia Frens, 82 of Grand Junction, was reported missing by concerned family members. Initial investigation found evidence that Sylvia's son, Richard VanderVelde, who was living with Sylvia at the time of her disappearance, had been using her debit card between February and June of 2018. A search warrant was conducted at Sylvia's residence where detectives located several items of evidentiary value.

On June 5, 2018, VanderVelde was contacted on a traffic stop in Colombia, Missouri. After falsifying his identity, he was taken into custody on traffic violations. GJPD detectives were contacted and traveled to Missouri to speak to VanderVelde about Sylvia's disappearance. During the interview, VanderVelde claimed Sylvia left with a friend to California in April of 2018, but did not disclose any further information about where Sylvia went or when she planned to return. The interview did not produce any fresh leads.

Throughout the course of investigation, Sylvia was not discovered to have established residency or legal identification in any other states. Detectives determined that based upon the totality of evidence obtained throughout the investigation, the evidence led to the inevitable conclusion that Sylvia Frens was deceased and the investigation would continue for over three years.

In March of 2022, detectives reached out to the current occupants of Sylvia's old residence for permission to search the property once again. Human remains were located on the property and DNA testing confirmed them to be that of Sylvia Frens. An autopsy concluded injuries consistent with blunt force trauma to the head and the manner of death was ruled a homicide. Richard VanderVelde, 54, was arrested and charged in the murder of his mother.



DRUG TASK FORCE

The Western Colorado Drug Task Force (WCDTF) was formed in 1998 and is comprised of law enforcement personnel from the Grand Junction Police Department, Mesa County Sheriff's Office, and other state and federal partners. The Grand Junction Police Department has two detectives and one sergeant assigned to the WCDTF who not only assist in locating and arresting dangerous and wanted criminals, but also serve as a resource for other law enforcement personnel on complex crimes. WCDTF often works months on cases to apprehend criminals involved in drug trade and seize drugs and firearms in Western Colorado.

Detectives on the Western Colorado Drug Task Force work closely with local and federal law enforcement agencies, as cases often overlap, and prosecution of these cases can last for years. WCDTF detectives also speak to different groups and educate community members on the dangers of drugs.



Rainbow Fentanyl

In September of 2022, the Grand Junction Police Department and Western Colorado Drug Task Force advised the community of the existence of colorful "rainbow fentanyl" pills being distributed in Mesa County. "Rainbow Fentanyl" is a method used by drug cartels to attract children and teens to this highly addictive and potentially deadly drug. The Mesa County Coroner's Office confirmed 12 deaths related to illicit fentanyl year to date in September 2022. There is a rising trend in fentanyl deaths in Mesa County since 2019 when three related deaths were reported.

DRUG TASK FORCE

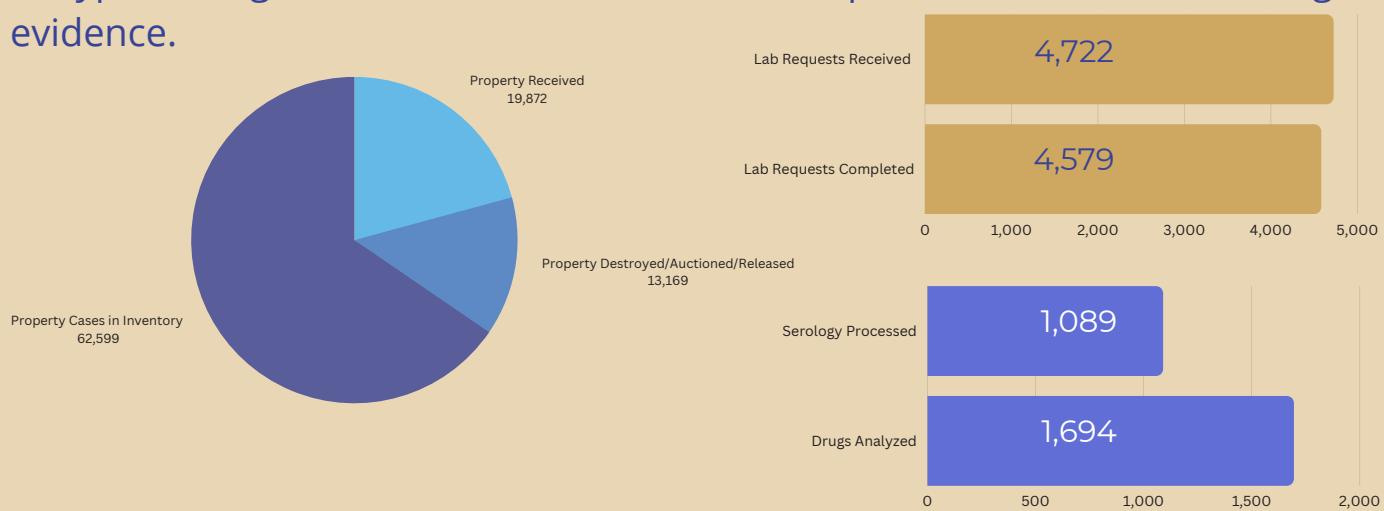
By the Numbers

TYPE OF DRUG	TOTAL SEIZED 2021	TOTAL SEIZED 2022
COCAINE	141.72 GM	55,774.54 GM
FENTANYL	41.25 GM	8,300.73 GM
HEROIN	5,520.21 GM	1,940.24 GM
MARIJUANA BULK	233,245.05 GM	12,700.58 GM
METHAMPHETAMINE	113,219.99 GM	95,371.44 GM

GUNS SEIZED	2021	2022
TOTAL	46	60

Property and Evidence

The Property and Evidence Unit is responsible for managing, processing, and storing items collected or seized during police investigations and operations. This unit is collaterally trained as Forensic Investigators and is responsible for processing complex crime scenes, homicides, and other crime scenes which require specialized forensic techniques. In addition to maintaining all items of evidence submitted to the GJPD, the Evidence Technicians are responsible for keeping track of all body-worn cameras, as well as over 225,000 items of digital evidence. Evidence submission rates have increased by 150% in the past 20 years. The GJPD also has the longest-tenured chemists stationed at the Colorado Bureau of Investigations, which includes Denver, Pueblo, and Northern Lab offices. GJPD chemists process approximately 1800 pieces of evidence a year. Digital Forensic Analysts round out this unit by processing all types of digital evidence. In 2022, this team processed over 39TB of digital evidence.



Leaders in Forensics

The GJPD has years of combined experience in many disciplines and it's an honor to share that knowledge with other policing professionals, while continuing to grow ourselves.

Digital Forensic Analyst, Jordan Huslig, and Civilian Manager-Lab Services, Trent Rundquist, gave a presentation at the 2022 International Association of Chiefs of Police Technology Conference. The GJPD has found unique ways to expand technology in the field and laboratory to better serve the department, community, and other agencies around the area. Their presentation included discussions on obtaining/keeping up with the latest technology and collaborative efforts with other law enforcement agencies. The GJPD Digital Forensics Unit is one of the best in the state.



Stephen Brumbaugh, one of GJPD's Criminalists who partners with the Colorado Bureau of Investigations in their Drug Chemistry Laboratory, was asked to present at the 2022 Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists conference in Henderson, Nevada. A presentation on the basic chemical isolation techniques to aid in the analysis and the identification of controlled substances in seized drug evidence was presented to an audience of 60+ forensic drug chemists from around the country.



RECORDS DEPARTMENT

The Records Department is the heart of the department, staffed by Records Specialists who are master certified in Colorado Certified Records Network and specially trained in the Colorado Open Records Act laws that apply to the release of records. The Records Specialists are responsible for data records and case management of approximately 20,000 case reports each year.

**4,958
Open Records Requests**



VICTIM SERVICES

The Grand Junction Police Department's Victim Services Unit consists of one Victim Services Coordinator, one Victim Services Specialist, and 33 Victim Advocate Volunteers. They are the extended compassionate arms of the GJPD. The Victim Advocates are available every hour, 365 days per year, to provide crisis intervention when officers request their presence at a scene. Victim Services personnel and volunteers receive comprehensive training and are equipped to assist victims of trauma, domestic violence, sexual assault, robberies, or unattended deaths.

Megan Weaver



**489
VAP Victims Served
17,418
VAP Volunteer Hours**

Raigan Holgate



The Colorado Victim Rights Amendment guarantees crime victims the right to be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect, and the right to be present and heard at all critical stages in the criminal justice system. The GJPD Victim Services is available to any victim needing support, information, or resources during the ongoing investigations of their cases or judicial system procedures.



VOLUNTEERS

The Volunteer Unit, led by the GJPD Volunteer Coordinator, serves the community in more ways than many people realize. Our volunteers are vital to the GJPD. They assist officers in training scenarios, GJPD community events, daily operations, and everything in between. These men and women have a heart to serve and we're grateful to have them on the team.



Longtime volunteer, Peggy Cooley, retired from the GJPD Volunteer Unit in 2022. Peggy served as a volunteer for almost 14 years.

Peggy Cooley Retirement

2,519
Total Volunteer Hours



PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Training is an essential part of the Grand Junction Police Department's commitment to serving the community and keeping it safe. GJPD officers continue to train on skills they learned during the police academy. The GJPD does various department-wide trainings that take place throughout the year, all sworn personnel go through in-service training each January and February. The hours of training in the various disciplines goes towards maintaining the officer's POST certification. Trainings include new legislation, policies and procedures, and tactical scenarios.

This unit is also in charge of hiring and retention efforts which remain challenging in all areas of the country. The GJPD Recruiting Coordinator and two Civilian Investigators work diligently to hire new GJPD personnel. The GJPD is fortunate to have a supportive community who values the services the GJPD provides.



ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS



Hannah



Capri

The Administrative Staff of the Grand Junction Police Department are unsung heroes. The Senior Administrative Specialist serves the Chief of Police. Two Senior Administrative Assistants serve the Operations Division and Services Division, while the Investigations Unit has a dedicated Administrative Assistant. From scheduling, record keeping, Neighborhood Watch brochures, Crime Stoppers information, and more, this team works diligently to organize and assist the almost 200 employees of the Grand Junction Police Department.



Tara



Maria



GRAND JUNCTION REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

The Grand Junction Regional Communication Center (GJRCC) was formed in 1979 with the combining of dispatch service for the Grand Junction Police Department, Fruita Police Department, Palisade Police Department, Grand Junction Fire Department, DeBeque Marshal, Collbran Marshal and valley-wide fire departments, later adding service to the Mesa County Sheriff's Office. Today, the GJRCC service area covers approximately 3,300 square miles within Western Colorado, 23 agencies, and 157,000 residents.

The "first" First Responders

The Grand Junction Regional Communications Center telecommunicators provide an essential service to the community. Our dispatchers are available 24/7 to handle calls for service to the 23 public safety agencies they dispatch for and respond to major incidents and special events in the field with their Incident Dispatch Team (IDT). In 2022, the IDT responded to 32 call outs, supporting local agencies on fires, SWAT operations, and special events such as County Jam.

The GJRCC uses the Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS), developed by the International Academy of Emergency Medical Dispatch, for all medical calls. The GJRCC maintains a team of highly qualified incident dispatchers. Every telecommunicator and supervisor must be certified in both CPR and MPDS, and must complete 24 hours of medical continuing education every two years to align with the recertification requirements. In total, our dispatchers performed EMD on approximately 18,000 medical calls, gave CPR instructions resulting in a life saved to five people, and helped deliver one baby. In 2022, the GJRCC was also instrumental in helping a regional anti-auto-theft task force successfully reduce car thefts in Western Colorado. This team truly makes a difference in our community.

In 2022, the GJRCC managed over 293,000 inbound and outbound telephone calls, more than 167 text messages, and an estimated 145,000 dispatched incidents for 11 law enforcement agencies and 12 fire/EMS agencies. The GJRCC service area covers approximately 3,300 square miles within Western Colorado and 157,000 residents.



The Phoenix Award is designed to provide recognition for the work first responders do when handling life-threatening situations.



2022 Phoenix Award Recipients: Holly, Melissa, Christine, Jesie, and Melita (2)



Angel
ECS of the Year



Jeff
CTO of the Year



Kasie
Trainee of the Year



Mary G.
Supervisor of the Year

In the fall of 2022, Cindy Casteel was selected as NICE's PSAP's Finest Line Supervisor of the Year. This prestigious recognition is competitive across the nation and is awarded to a supervisor demonstrating excellence in the profession. Among many other reasons, Cindy was selected because "Cindy's care and compassion for our team shines in every action. She is the epitome of a servant leader, always watches out for the individual as well as the benefit of the team and center and demonstrates caring and compassion in her interactions with everyone she meets. She is the go-to person in our center whenever anyone has any type of question at all, due to her extensive knowledge of agency history and policy and procedure. She leads by example and is constantly thinking about how she can help the team and the center."



Cindy exemplifies our values of Professionalism, Integrity, Compassion, and Service every day.



911 DISPATCH

**144,792
TOTAL INCIDENTS DISPATCHED**

INCIDENTS BY RADIO CONSOLE

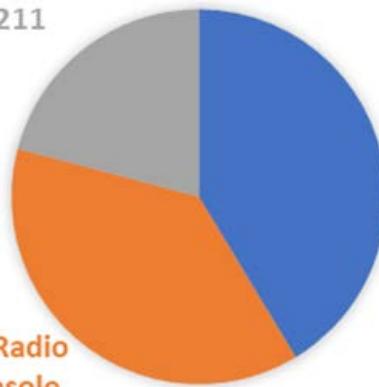
Fire Radio

Console

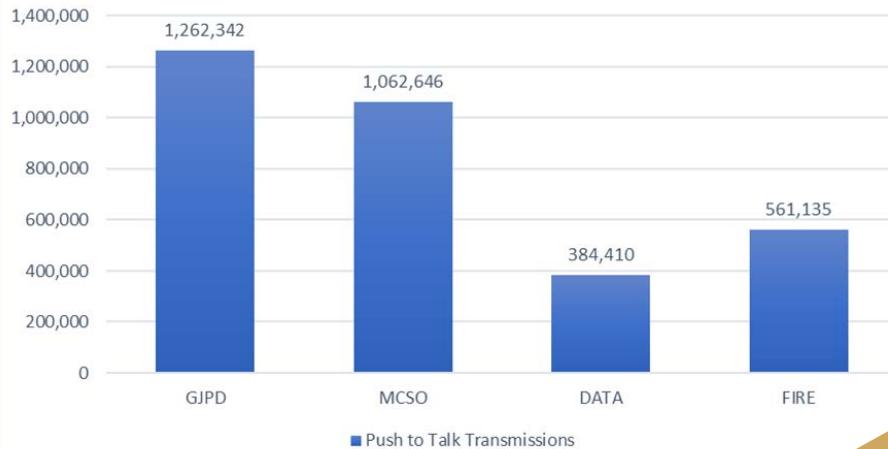
30,211

SO Radio
Console
54,702

GJPD Radio
Console
59,879



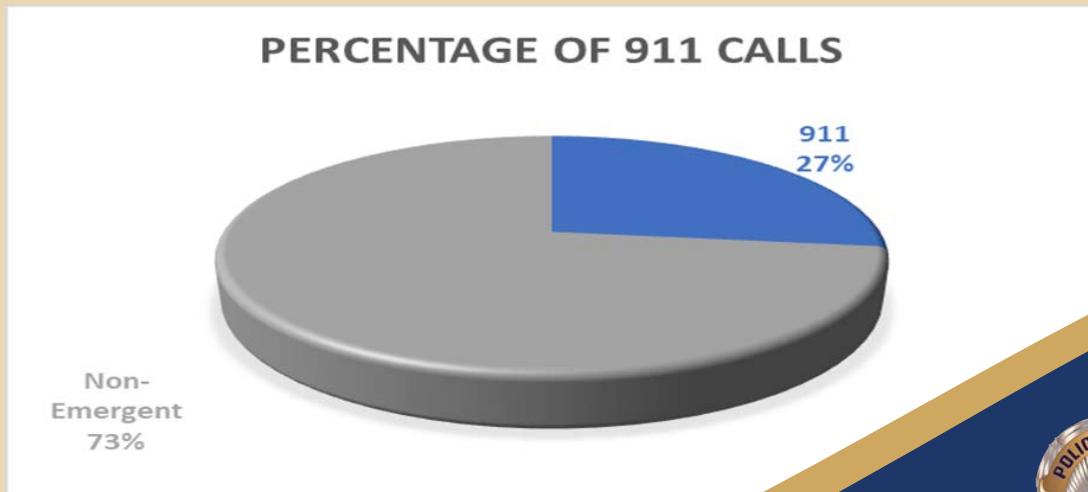
2022 Push to Talk Transmissions



By The Numbers

**293,000
TOTAL TELEPHONE CALLS HANDLED**

2022 Law Enforcement Incidents		2022 Fire / EMS Incidents	
Collbran Marshal's Office	318	Clifton Fire Protection District	4,349
Colorado National Monument	841	De Beque Fire Protection District	262
De Beque Marshal's Office	864	East Orchard Mesa Fire Department	74
Fruita Police Department	8,695	Gateway-Unaweep Fire District	100
Grand Junction Police Department	59,879	Glade Park Fire Department	56
Mesa County Sheriff's Office	40,176	Grand Junction Regional Airport	58
Criminal Justice Services	62	Grand Junction Fire Department	20,594
Mesa County Valley School District 51	77	Lower Valley Fire Department	2,679
Palisade Police Department	3,654	Mesa County Fire Authority	405
VA Police Department	7	Mesa County Fire Marshal	99
Department of Human Services Security	8	Palisade Fire Protection District	1,116
Total 2022 Law Enforcement Incidents	114,581	Plateau Valley Fire Protection District	349
Dispatched		St. Mary's Care Flight Transport	70
		Total 2022 Fire / EMS Incidents Dispatched	30,211
		Total 2022 Incidents Dispatched	144,792



Meet our Quartermaster,

Pam Babeon has worked for the GJPD since December 2007. 15 years! She serves as Quartermaster/Purchaser. Pam purchases and tracks all issued uniforms and duty gear, and maintains an inventory system that includes the associated locations of all such items. She issues all uniforms and duty gear to civilians and sworn personnel. She also maintains the annual uniform budget, annual inspections, and ensures the status of equipment is operable. She wears MANY hats! She also serves as a member of the department's Peer Support team and is beloved by many in the department.



our Intern,



Samantha Meakins is a student at Colorado Mesa University in addition to her position with the Grand Junction Police Department. Samantha studies Criminal Justice and Spanish. She has assisted various parts of the department with projects and during the week she helps CRU, Property and Evidence, Investigations, Volunteer Services, and Victim Services Coordinators. Samantha has been invaluable by creating newsletters, helping with community events, packaging evidence, assisting in search warrants, and reviewing cellphone data for Investigations. She enjoys the opportunity to know and be exposed to different positions and the importance of these positions to help the department be successful. We look forward to Samantha serving as a GJPD PST in 2023.



our Volunteer Coordinator,

Paula Labbitt is the Grand Junction Police Department's Volunteer Coordinator. Before coming to this position, Paula worked as a Parks Patrol Officer, Police Officer, and Parking Enforcement Officer, giving top-notch customer service before taking on the Volunteer Coordinator position. Paula's experience has served her and the department well as she oversees dozens of volunteers who provide services for the Grand Junction Police Department and Grand Junction Fire Department. Paula has a servant's heart, volunteering herself for the Girl Scouts of Colorado, Colorado Pet Pantry and the Theater Project. She is a wife, mother, and has a small menagerie of animals to care for at home.



and our HR Analyst!



Baylee Gregor, recently promoted from Human Resources Analyst to HR Supervisor for the City of Grand Junction, has spent many hours during her time as an HR Analyst at the GJPD, helping support those who serve and support our community. She collaborates with Command Staff and hiring managers to ensure hiring processes find the best employees to serve our community. Baylee has helped hire over 25 new Police Officer Recruits, a Digital Forensic Analyst, and numerous other positions within the GJPD. She is also involved in promotional processes for the GJPD. She has been an invaluable team member for the GJPD and we look forward to her continued support in her new role.



Did you know...

...animals are not allowed downtown during special events like Farmer's Market? Per GJ Municipal Code 6.04.130

Animals at downtown events.

No animal owner, or any person who harbors an animal, shall permit his animal to be at, in or within the permitted area of any special event(s) in downtown Grand Junction unless prior written permission is granted by the City or the DDA allowing the animal(s) to be present. Permits are issued by the City or the Downtown Development Authority.

...you may ride your bicycle on the sidewalks unless it is otherwise posted, or unless it interferes with pedestrian traffic. When riding on the streets, you are required to follow the same laws as a vehicle.



Did you know...

...seized marijuana or drug paraphernalia will not be released back to you?

Since Marijuana and drug paraphernalia are still illegal under federal law, the Evidence and Property Unit will not release marijuana or drug paraphernalia without a federal court order.

...you can place an initial fraud alert on your three credit reports if a thief uses your information? Call one of the below credit companies and that company must tell the other two.

Equifax 1-800-525-6285

Experian 1-888-397-3742

Transunion 1-800-680-7289

Order your credit report. Identity theft victims can get the reports for free.

You may also fill out a Fraud Report and speak with an officer.



PROMOTIONS



Gary Marak
Deputy Chief



Robert Fisher
Commander



Cory Tomps
Commander



Colter Church
Sergeant



David Godwin
Sergeant



Taylor Schreiner
Sergeant



Dustin Bovee
Corporal



Matt Koch
Corporal



Logan Martin
Corporal



Trent Rundquist
Civilian Manager



Amber Peck
Civilian Manager

AWARDS



Justin Trejo
Life-Saving Award

Every year, the Grand Junction Police Department recognizes employees who have gone above and beyond the call for service.



RETIREES



Cody Kennedy
Detective
17 Years of Service



Martin Donohue
Traffic Officer
23 Years of Service



Eric Wood
Officer
17 Years of Service



David Arcady
Commander
22 Years of Service



Derek Rosales
Sergeant
25 Years of Service



Jim Creasy
Sergeant
30 Years of Service

*Thank you for your service to the GJPD
and the City of Grand Junction.*



MEDIA RELATIONS

The Grand Junction Police Department's Media Relations Unit has a Public Information Officer (PIO) who also handles community outreach events. The PIO is responsible for communication to the media, public, and within the GJPD. The PIO serves as the primary contact for media and public inquiries, both on and off scene, and the coordinator of interviews given to the media. The PIO works closely with School Resource Officers and CRU, and is responsible for educational and outreach events with the community, the department's social media, the annual report, website, and projects and initiatives throughout the department. The PIO shares the stories of the Grand Junction Police Department, highlighting personnel and the work the men and women of the GJPD do to serve the community.

#GJPD Social Media #servingGJ



34,706 FOLLOWERS
1,029,700 Page Reach
Up 94.2% from 2021



4,897 FOLLOWERS
13,352 Page Reach
Up 10.8% from 2021



5,195 FOLLOWERS

Connect with us!

38 @grandjunctionpolice department



The Grand Junction Police Department strives to build strong relationships with the community it serves, developing trust and maintaining public safety. From events like National Night Out, Citizens Police Academy, Shop with a Cop, Coffee with a Cop, Cesar Chavez Day, Toys for Tots, and more, GJPD employees enjoy the opportunity to build relationships and engage with the community it serves and protects.



Year in Review 2022



Grand Junction Regional Communication Center received the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) Agency Training Program Certification in January, 2022.



Officers arrested two adult males for Murder in the First Degree for the shooting which occurred on the 700 block of Horizon Drive.

The Grand Junction Police Department recognized National Police Week in May of 2022.



For nearly four years, GJPD detectives worked diligently on solving the murder of Sylvia Frens. In March of 2022, her remains were found on the property in which she last resided. Her son, 54 year old Richard VanderVelde, was arrested and charged with her murder.

Officer Isaac Gallegos, a beloved friend and colleague suffered a medical emergency and GJPD employees and community members came together to assist in his road to recovery.



Chief Doug Shoemaker handed over the reins to Interim Chief Matt Smith, as he left the GJPD to become the Chief of Police in Denton, Texas.



We enjoyed meeting so many new friends, building new relationships, and of course, reconnecting with familiar faces during the National Night Event.

Five-year-old, Noah, donated \$500 earned from his lemonade stand to the GJPD's Shop with a Cop event.



Grand Junction Police Department responded to an adult male struck by a train on the 2300 block of River Road. The male had trespassed onto railroad property and tried to cross the tracks on his bicycle when he was struck by an oncoming train. The male died on scene.



GJPD Fall Citizens Police Academy successfully graduates 25 community members after a 10 week program learning about the workings of the Grand Junction Police Department.



Detectives with the Grand Junction Police Department made an arrest in a sex assault case which occurred at St. Mary's Hospital.



2022 Shop with a Cop event was a success, reaching 50 local fifth graders!



Why I wear the badge...



Officer Archuleta



Officer Siegle

"I serve because I want to be there for someone on their worst day. It's humbling to know the community looks to you for help when everyone else is running the other direction. It's an honor to serve my community."

"My dad was a Police Officer, so I was inspired at a very young age to be an officer because I looked up to my dad. Once I got a little bit older, I felt I had more experience to give back. That's when I got into law enforcement. I like having the opportunity to get out and talk to people and work with the community on a daily basis. I feel like sometimes there's a measurable impact and also a suggested impact. There is great fulfilment working with people and helping to making this city a better place. And as my kids get older, it's become a bigger factor for me to help make this place a positive community to raise my own kids."



Why I wear the badge...



Officer Rowe

"I serve for so much more than just upholding the law. As Police, we wear so many different hats: one moment we're arresting someone for a crime, the next we are holding someone's hand through the most traumatic time of their lives. This is the most challenging yet rewarding profession in which I'm grateful to be a part of. I serve to be a supportive member of this community, a role model, a helping hand, and a protector. I know I can't save the world, but at the end of the day I hope I made a difference to at least one person."



Officer McBride

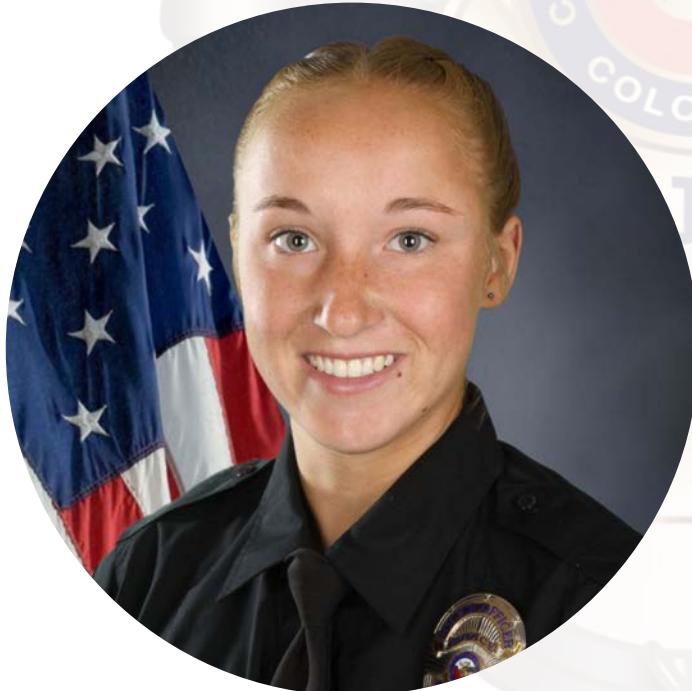
"This city and the people in it have given me so much during my life. I choose to wear the badge to give back as much as I can. I love going to work everyday and owe it all to the people living in our great city."



Why I wear the badge...



Detective Raber



Officer Dennis

"I serve to be a part of something bigger than myself. I enjoy the comradery this department has to offer and its strong sense of service to the community. I want to provide the greatest amount of service and security I can to everyone I encounter on a daily basis; to risk my life for someone who needs my help...that's why I wear this badge."

"I serve for a purpose much greater than myself. I serve to be a voice for those who can't always speak for themselves, to be someone's hand to hold on the worst day of their lives, and to fight battles and carry burdens for those who don't want to do it alone. I serve to protect the people and places we love. While I know I can't change the world, I hope to make the smallest difference for even one person."



Why I wear the badge...



Detective Wood



Corporal Czajkowski

"As cliché as it may sound, I had a desire to get into law enforcement to serve a purpose larger than myself, and help others in my community. Throughout my career, I have always been proud of my ability to connect with and help people, often on some of their worst days. This career is demanding, but has rewarded me with a sense of fulfillment and purpose that is not always easy to find. I have also been honored to work with some of the most courageous, intelligent, and humble people I've ever met, and have the privilege of calling them my brothers and sisters. Even after a decade in this profession, I steadfastly believe law enforcement officers work to better the communities in which they serve, and help those who can't always help themselves. I consider myself lucky to be a member of this profession and this agency."

"I serve to make a positive impact on the community, no matter how small the interaction. I believe the best way one can make a difference in the community is to get up and make the difference a reality."





GRAND JUNCTION POLICE DEPARTMENT
555 Ute Avenue, Grand Junction CO 81501
Non-Emergency Dispatch 970-242-6707

www.gjcity.org

