

BIRCHWOOD, MN

OCT. 2022

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



BIRCHWOOD STORAGE HALL

WCSO Fleet: What's the Scoop?

Last year, Washington County deputies drove a collective 1,931,533 miles along our county's highways, residential streets, avenues, alleyways, and interstates. That's like driving around the circumference of the earth – over **80 times**. But with over 200 different vehicles, our fleet is comprised of more than just marked squad cars.

The Washington County Sheriff's Office fleet consists of cars, trucks, vans, SUV's, boats, ATV's, snowmobiles, trailers, drones, robots, armored SWAT vehicles, and a mobile command motorhome. This fleet is spread throughout Washington County to help service the unique needs of each of the cities and townships we serve. We employ a full-time squad equipment installer who is responsible for purchasing and installing our vehicle lights,

sirens, computer equipment, prisoner transport cages, firearm locks, and cargo management solutions. When a check engine light goes on or a squad car starts making a funny sound, we call upon our partnership with Washington County Public Works to maintain our vast fleet in-house. County technicians help to save on costs and limits the time vehicles are out of service, and very rarely is there a problem our in-house staff can't solve.

Since 2021, our fleet has been expanding to accommodate our take-home squad car program. A deputy's squad car becomes their "office on wheels", equipped to handle anything their day-to-day routine throws their way. Deputies who live within close proximity to the county are eligible for a take-home car, which allows for quicker response times, longer vehicle life, and better care of the equipment. With the cost of buying and equipping a marked squad car at over \$65,000, managing a fleet this size is no small task. We have a dedicated sergeant who oversees purchasing, maintenance, tracking of mileage and fuel usage, body shop and IT repairs, and training of deputies in Emergency Vehicle Operations.



Your Stats
at a glance

Incidents

12

Citations

0

Traffic Stops

0

Welcome new deputies!



We have been lucky to add some great new deputies to the Washington County Sheriff's Office! From L-R, Deputy Clayton Evens, Deputy Aaron Kessler, Sheriff Starry with Deputy Dylan Xiong, Deputy Michael Anlauf, and Deputy Frank Hintz, Deputy Garrett Zakrzewski, and Deputy Jacob Anderson. All are currently assigned to the patrol division.



Halloween fun! Our records division always has fun dressing up in "themed" Halloween costumes. This year's theme was Disney!



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

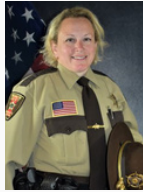
Onward & Upward

Promotions, retirements, and appointments

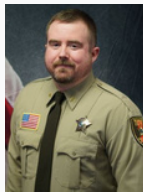
In addition to new faces, the Washington County Sheriff's Office has also seen a great deal of exciting promotions and personnel movement over the past few months.



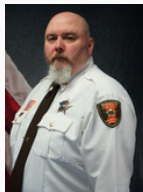
Paul Stenglein was promoted to Deputy Sheriff Sergeant on October 3rd. Paul started with Washington County SO in 2005 as a patrol deputy, and has since served as DEA adjunct, narcotics detective, and K9 patrol officer.



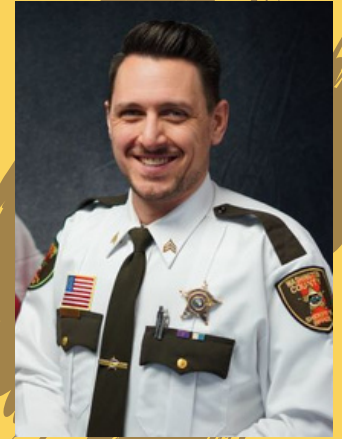
Rebecca Engel Braatz has been assigned as Corporal in Court security. Throughout her 21 year career, Rebecca has served as a deputy in the patrol and civil units, a School Resource Officer, and a SWAT Crisis Negotiator.



Kelly Strasburg was promoted to Correctional Sergeant on September 23rd. Kelly started as a correctional officer in 2017, and has recently been serving as a corporal.



Correctional Sergeant **Frank Capra** retired after 29+ years with WCSO. Hired in 1993, Sgt. Capra has been a Sergeant for 20 years and held many specialty positions. He is known for his cool and calm leadership. We wish him the best in his retirement!



Matt Wieland
SPECIAL SERVICES
SERGEANT

Sergeant Matt Wieland joined the Washington County Sheriff's Office as a deputy in July of 2001, but he was no stranger to WCSO having volunteered as an Explorer in his teen years and later a Reserve Deputy.

Following his first summer in Water, Parks & Trails, Sergeant Wieland moved to the patrol division where he spent three years serving in the Lake Elmo contract. He was later a K9 handler to K9 "Agent" and continued to be active with the Explorers as an advisor.

In 2010, Matt was promoted to Sergeant and has held supervisory roles in patrol, administration, and special services. He currently manages fleet, civil process, evidence, and forfeiture. Matt is active in our Peer Support and Wellness programs.

Sergeant Wieland has been a Washington County resident his entire life, growing up in the Stillwater area where he lives today with his wife, 3 boys, and 2 dogs.

2022 Employee Recognition

Washington County recently hosted the 2022 Employee Recognition event at the Lake Elmo Inn and Event Center, where employees who have served the county for 20, 25, 30, 35, and 45 years were recognized by the County Board.

16 Washington County Sheriff's Office Employees were recognized at the event, totaling over 300 combined years of service to Washington County! We are thankful to all of our outstanding employees.



Carol Anderson, 20 years - Mike Bonn, 25 years - Pam Bradshaw, 20 years - Donavon Bump, 25 years - Melissa Clum, 25 years - Jason Dahms, 20 years - Danelle Erickson, 25 years - Jennifer Givand, 20 years - Keith Land, 25 years - Amy Larsen, 25 years - Mike Morrissey, 20 years - Chris O'Brien, 25 years - Sara Peulen, 25 years - Greg Reiter, 25 years - Cortney Scheele, 20 years - Mike Tellez, 25 years

MN Wild honors Washington County Sheriff's Office Sergeant Legut

On November 3rd, Sergeant Joel Legut was proudly recognized as the Minnesota Wild's "Community Hero of the Game". Sergeant Legut, who currently leads our Security Operations, has had a longstanding a significant career with the Washington County Sheriff's Office -- beginning in his youth as an Explorer.

Sergeant Legut was chosen to receive this distinguished honor for his dedication to public safety, his advocacy for employee wellness, his leadership, and his compassion for his fellow officers and the community he serves. As one community member writes, "If you know this man in any capacity you know that this is well deserved. There isn't a bad thing that could be said about him."

Well deserved, Joel! We are proud to have you as part of our team.

