



BIRCHWOOD

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | MARCH 2024



SPRING CITIZEN'S ACADEMY

We're excited and honored to be hosting another edition of our annual Citizen's Academy, where we open our doors to applicants from a broad range of communities for a glimpse of what goes on behind the scenes of the Washington County Sheriff's Office. The people participating in the Spring 2024 Citizen's Academy, set to begin in April, will be able to observe first-hand the daily responsibilities of our dedicated staff on patrol, in the jail, investigations, 911 emergency communications response center, SWAT, and much more. If you're interested in information about a future Citizen's Academy or have any questions about the program, please [email Laura Perkins](#), our Public Information Officer.

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS

16

LOCAL AREA CHECKS

8

WC24009759

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

2XX CEDAR STREET

Just before 3:30pm on Feb. 23, a deputy arrived at a possible trespassing in progress at a home that has been occupied by squatters and recently had a gas leak that caused neighbors to be evacuated. The caller said two men were on site in a truck bearing a California license plate. Upon arrival, the deputy saw the truck and made contact with two men in the home. They said they had been hired to board up the windows broken by the fire department during the gas leak. They showed the deputy a work order, and they had they plywood and the tools to board up the windows. The deputy asked if they had any way to secure the doors on the home and they did not, but said they would be back possibly the next day to secure the doors. The deputy reported the findings to the original caller and asked that they call again if any other people or vehicles were observed at the house.



MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF



On Wednesday, Feb. 28, more than 80 members of the Washington County Sheriff's Office joined public safety agencies from across the country to memorialize the lives of Officer Matthew Ruge, Officer Paul Elmstrand, and Firefighter/Paramedic Adam Finseth, the three brave men who were killed while responding to a domestic disturbance in Burnsville on Feb. 18. For the outpouring of emotion and support from these communities, we are grateful beyond words. Here at WCSO, these tragedies remind us that we are bound together by a shared commitment to service. Together, we have mourned. Together, we said goodbye. And together, we will heal, even as we remember those we have lost and the impact they left on our hearts and in our communities near and far.

In service,

Sheriff Dan Starry