



YEAR IN REVIEW BY CHIEF FERREIRA

In 2017, the City of Granite Falls continued its partnership with the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office, contracting for police services. The city continues to undergo unprecedented residential growth and has approved as many as 500 residential units consisting of high occupancy condominiums, apartments and single-family homes. The city has also entered into an agreement with an architectural firm to design, develop and construct a new City Hall and to add a gymnasium to the current Boys and Girls Club in town.

On the commercial front, FSX, a manufacturer of commercial diesel particulate filter cleaners and test benches officially opened their expansion facility located on Stanley Street. Several other new businesses have opened in town as well including "Hanky Pies" which offers coffee, pastries and space for meetings.

Over the last year, the city has seen growth in community involvement in city and police organized community events. The National Night Out, Railroad Days and Show -N- Shone events saw substantial growth in community involvement and participation.

Additionally, the Mountain Loop continues to be a leading destination for those looking for outdoor and back country activities.

Community Involvement Activities:

- Partnered with the Snohomish County Drug and Gang Task Force on various Nuisance Team property checks both in Incorporated and Unincorporated Granite Falls. It is my belief that crime and criminals know no geographical boundaries and commit crimes of opportunity wherever they may find themselves. By focusing on these properties, I feel we will improve the quality of life for neighbors and deter criminal activity (IE drug activity, burglaries, squatting, etc.).
- Established Neighborhood Watch Programs in conjunction with several neighborhoods including those in Incorporated and Unincorporated Granite Falls. Again fostering these relationships only strengthens our crime fighting strategy. By harnessing the intelligence gathered and provided by neighbors, the neighborhood is empowered to assist us with crime prevention in their neighborhoods.
- Monthly community meetings under the "Coffee with the Chief" program which breeds cooperation between law enforcement and the community. One-on-one conversations with the Chief and assigned Deputies to foster trust and lower the veil of the "Us vs Them" misconception.

Community Engagement Opportunities:

- Active participation of Granite Falls Contract Chief and Deputies, North Precinct Deputies and partner groups (IE Search and Rescue and Sheriff's Office K9) in local National Night Event. Granite Falls Police manned a booth which included opportunities to interact with assigned police personnel, completion of child safety IDs and demonstrations.
- Active participation in the "Alden's Army 5K Run" fundraising event for the Hemispherectomy Foundation, a non-profit organization focused on helping families with financial support who have undergone or are in the process of undergoing a Hemispherectomy and similar brain surgeries. Alden underwent a Hemispherectomy over 12 years ago and is a thriving eighth grader at Granite Falls Middle School.
- Active participation and security planning for the Granite Falls Railroad Days celebration. Members of the police department provided parade planning, road closure and security throughout the three day event held annually. The associated parade was led by members of the police department and included Sheriff's Office K9, Motors and Explorers Units. Police presence was increased for the other events based on a survey of businesses from past events.

Crime Fighting/Community Policing Strategies Employed:

The crime fighting strategy employed in 2017 by the Granite Falls Police Department was a combination of several components. They included those listed above and also the following:

- On-going partnership with the Snohomish County Jail for booking of arrestees, including for less serious misdemeanor offenses perpetrated by repeat offenders.
- On-going partnership with the Yakima County Department of Corrections for housing long-term arrests to mitigate costs to the City.
- As noted above, took on a more active partnership with Snohomish County Drug and Gang Task Force Nuisance Team to address problem properties.
- As noted above, assisted various communities in establishing and managing Neighborhood Watch Programs in troubled neighborhoods.
- Conducted several coordinated operations with the Forest Patrol Unit, US Forest Service and Washington Fish and Wildlife to address trailhead crime and illegal hunting activities.
- On-going dedication to the "Broken Windows" concept of policing where law enforcement enforces low-level crimes that cause quality of life issues for community members.
- Issuance of mobile AEDs in all assigned Granite Falls Contract Deputy vehicles as well as a stationary AED for police station. This was made possible by a grant researched, written and submitted to the "Pilchuck Foundation" which is a local non-profit that assists Granite Falls First Responders with purchasing equipment not allowed for in their budgets.

Highlighted Investigation (SO17-175085):

The non-profit organization "Parks Apparel" was conducting a photo shoot at the Big Four Ice Caves and had their business vehicle prowled. Thousands of dollars in electronic equipment (IE cameras, other photo equipment, drones and laptops) along with outdoor clothing and equipment was taken with no suspects.

Employing excellent investigative techniques, Deputy Charboneau identified subjects, interviewed them and identified all of those involved. Additionally, in short order he was able to locate the missing items and return them to the employees in a very short period of time. They later sent a note of thanks that read in part, "We want to start off saying thank you so much and how appreciative we are of all of your effort and hard work on this case. We know you went above and beyond and we are incredibly grateful. Your kindness, drive, and dedication to your job have not gone unnoticed. Not only did you find our electronics and other important equipment but you found the unspoken memories like the photos inside those electronics that hold a great deal of meaning to us. Those items affect our careers in such impactful and immediate way that we didn't know what we were going to do without them. Thank you so much, we are eternally grateful."

In closing, I would be remiss if I did not take the time to thank City Manager Brent Kirk, the Granite Falls Council and the community without whose support our successes would not have been possible.

Thanks,

Sergeant Christopher Ferreira

Snohomish County Sheriff's Office

Chief of Police, Granite Falls Contract