

# Community Partnership Connection



## Dispatch Trainee Positions Now Available with the Washoe County Sheriff's Office

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office is looking for dynamic, community-minded individuals who are able to communicate calmly and effectively during a crisis situation to apply for Communications Specialist Trainee positions now available in the Sheriff's Emergency Services Dispatch Center.

This is the entry level for the Communications Specialist series. Trainees perform most of the duties of a Communications Specialist such as receiving emergency service calls from the public, screening those calls for appropriate emergency response and helping to coordinate that response.

"Communications Specialists are the backbone of our region's emergency response system," Undersheriff Tim Kuzanek said. "On a daily basis, they work to save lives while helping to protect the safety of emergency responders in the field."

Applicants must be good communicators. They must also be able to interact well with members of the public, particularly in highly stressful, emotional situations, and to coordinate multiple responding agencies. Applicants must be willing to work flexible hours, including weekends and holidays.

"The hard work performed every day by the Communications Specialists in our dispatch center is rewarded through a high level of job satisfaction and the knowledge that they are an integral part of providing quality emergency response to Washoe County residents," Undersheriff Kuzanek said.

Applications are being accepted through February 3rd. For additional information and a link to an online application, go to: [washoecounty.us/humanresources](http://washoecounty.us/humanresources). Persons with questions may contact Human Resources Analyst Julie Paholke at (775) 328-6383 or [jpaholke@washoecounty.us](mailto:jpaholke@washoecounty.us).



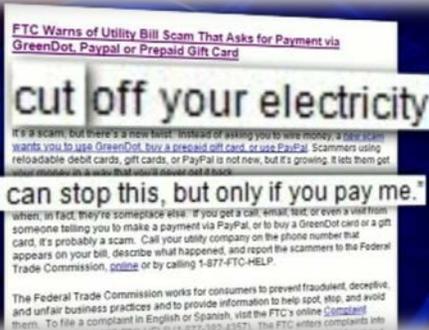
# Warning: Fraud Scams Target Utility Customers



The Sheriff's Office Front Desk and Detectives Division frequently receive calls from utility customers concerned about persons identifying themselves as local utility employees and threatening to disconnect power or water if a credit card payment or cash transfer is not made over the phone immediately.

Both NV Energy and the Truckee Meadows Water Authority have recently sent out consumer alerts to customers that these types of calls for payment are scams. Customers who receive these calls should refuse payment, take down the phone number and report the call to local law enforcement immediately.

NV Energy **does not** call customers to solicit payments.



If a customer is at risk of having their power disconnected because of nonpayment, they will receive both a 10-day and a 48-hour notice via U.S. Mail.

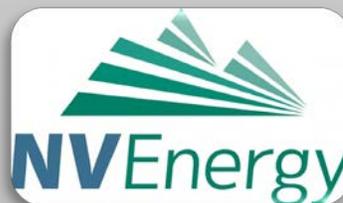
Anyone with questions about their bills or payments is asked to call NV Energy's Customer Service Department in Reno at 775-834-4444, toll free from other parts of northern Nevada at 800-962-0399, or in Las Vegas at 702-402-5555.

NV Energy further advises that they require field employees and contractors to wear identification badges at all times. Anyone claiming to be a NV Energy employee or contractor will be happy to present a badge and employee number when contacting customers in the field. Employees are never authorized to receive payment in the field.

While TMWA occasionally calls customers who are delinquent on their bills, payments are not solicited over the phone. The only methods of paying your water bill are listed at [www.tmwa.com](http://www.tmwa.com). The only phone number to pay over the phone is TMWA's main line 834-8080, option #1.

In addition, TMWA requires employees to wear identification badges at all times. Anyone claiming to be a TMWA employee is required to present a badge and employee number when contacting customers in the field.

If you feel you are being targeted by a scam, contact Washoe County Detectives at (775) 328-3320.



## Sheriff's Office Wins Truckee Meadows Tomorrow's "Take it Personally" Award



L to R: Assistant Sheriff Anthony Miranda with SO Community Relations Section: Bob Harmon, Tami Cummings, and Josh Andreasen; Alegra Demerjian, with the Abbi Agency and Mark Estee, Owner of Campo's Restaurant. You can go to [www.truckeemeadowstomorrow.org](http://www.truckeemeadowstomorrow.org) to view the videos.



Truckee Meadows Tomorrow (TMT) is a community-based, non-profit organization whose mission is to enhance our community's ability to improve our quality of life through partnership and collaboration. TMT recently held a regional contest asking for entries for their "Take it Personally" contest, asking entrants to provide them with a short-form video (25 seconds or less) highlighting how their organization has positively impacted the quality of life in the Truckee Meadows. We are proud to announce that the Sheriff's Office Community Relations Section won for our *Internet Crimes against Children* entry alongside *Immunize Nevada* and *Campo's*.



### Live Safely with AlertID

AlertID is a safe way to receive trusted public safety alerts and share information with neighbors. AlertID's secure network provides a safe place for you to share important information with your family, friends, neighbors and public safety officials. In less than a minute, you can create public and private groups and securely share messages, pictures, videos and more. For more information, go to [www.alertid.com](http://www.alertid.com).

## Washoe County Sheriff's Office- Community Relations

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Find us on the **Web** at  
[washoesheriff.com](http://washoesheriff.com)

Follow us on **Twitter** at  
[@washoesheriff](https://twitter.com/washoesheriff)



***Dedicated Service in  
Partnership with our  
Community***



Washoe County Residents can now report crime from their iPhone or Android devices by installing the new WCSO app available for free from the Apple Store or Google Playstore.

## Metal Thefts Surfacing Again in Reno-Sparks

Metal theft prevention is part of the Washoe County Sheriff's Office ongoing commitment to public safety and security.

Metal thieves commonly target remote or unoccupied locations. Residents are asked to stay alert and report suspicious activity to law enforcement. Look, listen and let someone know.

**Tips to help protect against metal theft from the Staying Safe page on [WashoeSheriff.com](http://WashoeSheriff.com):**

- Secure foundation openings in the crawl space of your house with a good hasp and padlock.
- If possible, build a small chain link fence or cage enclosures around the outside portions of your commercial fixtures, heating and cooling systems.
- Don't store scrap metal outside or within view.
- Contact local law enforcement if you see any suspicious activity.
- Check your business and residential properties regularly.
- Keep a close eye on your irrigation systems and on vacant homes and businesses in your neighborhood.

## MAKE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PART OF YOUR NEW YEARS' RESOLUTION!

"Winging it" isn't a **disaster preparedness plan**. If you're interested in learning how to be prepared for emergencies or disasters, such as wildfires, floods, earthquakes or severe weather, why not enroll in our **FREE Community Emergency Response Team** training?

We're accepting enrollments for our upcoming April academy.

This is a series of free classes that provide valuable information on emergency preparedness and disaster response.

For more information or to enroll please contact Shirlee Rhodes, Program Manager, at [srhodes@washoecounty.us](mailto:srhodes@washoecounty.us) or call **775-325-6528**.