

Community Partnership Connection



Look and Like: Washoe County Sheriff's Office now on Facebook

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office recently activated a Facebook page as part of ongoing efforts to engage the community in our public safety efforts.

Here's what you can expect from the Sheriff's Office on Facebook:

- Timely information about public safety trends
- Opportunities to ask questions, share ideas and increase engagement with the Sheriff's Office
- Learn more about your Sheriff's Office programs, services and partnerships
- Updates about ongoing calls or cases that impact the community (scams, ID theft/fraud prevention, wanted persons, cold cases, etc.)
- Tips to help keep you, your family and your neighborhood safer
- Information about upcoming community events such as the annual WCSO Community Picnic and K9 Run
- Sheriff's Office current events and history
- Volunteer programs and events



The Pew Research Center released an update on social media earlier this year showing that the number of residents who use social media continues to increase among all age groups. According to the study, Facebook remains the dominant social networking platform with a majority of users engaging with the site at least once a day. "Facebook gives us a unique opportunity to interact with the community," Undersheriff Tim Kuzanek said. "We have always worked under the philosophy that public awareness and public engagement are important to public safety. Increasing the Sheriff's Office outreach on Facebook allows us to reach new audiences, resulting in a more informed, and safer, Washoe County."

We would like to invite you to **like/follow our Facebook page** at <https://www.facebook.com/washoesheriff>.

In addition to Facebook, residents may learn more about services provided by the Sheriff's Office and receive public safety information by:

- Installing the free WCSO app from the appropriate app store for your device
- Following the Sheriff's Office on Twitter at: @washoesheriff
- Visiting the "Staying Safe" page on the Sheriff's Office website, Washoesheriff.com
- Signing up friends and family for the Community Partnership Connection eNewsletter at WashoeSheriff.com

A Safe Halloween is a Happy Halloween!

Going trick-or-treating?

S

Swords, knives, and similar costume accessories should be short, soft, and flexible.

A

Avoid trick-or-treating alone. Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.

F

Fasten reflective tape to costumes and bags to help drivers see you.

E

Examine all treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating them. Limit the amount of treats you eat.



“Trick or Treat!”...the anthem shouted with delight by many children on Halloween night. It’s the time of year for costumes, sweets, tricks and treats. But ghosts, vampires and monsters aren’t the only things to be wary of this Halloween. Accidents and unfortunate mishaps increase dramatically on All Hallows Eve. In addition to those listed at the left; to keep it fun and avoid potential hazards and dangers - follow these precautions to keep children safe while out trick-or-treating.

- Accompany children to the door of every house they approach.
- Stay outside. Do not enter a home or apartment without adult supervision.
- Children should not approach any vehicle, occupied or not.
- Obey all traffic and pedestrian regulations. Always walk; never run across streets or lawns.
- Do not go onto property’s that are marked “Keep Out”, “No Trespassing”, and “No Solicitors Allowed”.
- Never eat any candy until an adult checks it. Dispose of anything that seems to have been tampered with, has been opened, or isn’t wrapped.
- Children should immediately report to their parents and/or law enforcement if they see or experience anything suspicious. Instruct children to shout for help and make a scene if anyone tries to grab them or force them into involuntary situations.
- A great alternative to trick or treating is for parents to attend community trick or treat events or organize at-home parties. (Source: www.washoesheriff.com)

H

Hold a flashlight while trick-or-treating to help you see and others see you. Always WALK and don’t run from house to house.

A

Always test make-up in a small area first. Remove it before bedtime to prevent possible skin and eye irritation.

L

Look both ways before crossing the street. Use established crosswalks wherever possible.

L

Lower your risk for serious eye injury by not wearing decorative contact lenses.

O

Only walk on sidewalks whenever possible, or on the far edge of the road facing traffic to stay safe.

W

Wear well-fitting masks, costumes, and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips, and falls.

E

Eat only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats made by strangers.

E

Enter homes only if you’re with a trusted adult. Only visit well-lit houses. Don’t stop at dark houses. Never accept rides from strangers.

N

Never walk near lit candles or luminaries. Be sure to wear flame-resistant costumes. (Source: www.cdc.gov/family/halloween)

Tough Guys Wear **Pink!** Honoring National Breast Cancer Awareness Month



October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Several members of the WCSO are wearing buttons and wristbands to show their support of both the women and men fighting the disease and to honor and remember those who have lost the fight.

Photo far left: Deputy Lars Christensen shows his support by wearing a “tough guys wear pink” NBCA wristband.

Donations Needed for Christmas on the Corridor: The Sheriff’s Office is asking for the public’s help in making Christmas a little brighter for children and seniors by donating to the 18th annual *Christmas on the Corridor*. For more information, please contact Brooke Howard at (775) **785-4244**.



SCAM ALERT: The **Ebola Virus** has been on the minds and hearts of people throughout the country. Urgent appeals for aid by phone, mail, or e-mail, on websites, or even in person, may not be legitimate. Unfortunately, authentic charities face competition from **fraudsters**. To help avoid being a victim, follow these tips:

If you’re asked to make a charitable donation, consider:

- Donate to charities you know and trust.
- Be alert for charities that seem to have sprung up overnight in connection with current events. “Look alike” websites resembling legitimate charitable organizations and international aid efforts are popping up.
- Ask if a caller is a paid fundraiser, who they work for, and what percentage of your donation goes to the charity and to the fundraiser. If you don’t get a clear answer consider donating to a different organization.
- Don’t give out financial information — including your credit card or bank account number — unless you know the charity is reputable.
- Never click on links or open attachments in emails unless you know who sent it and what it is. Opening attachments, even in emails that seem to be from friends or family, can install **malware** on your computer.
- Verify the origins of any email or text messages soliciting donations for Ebola aid efforts.
- Don’t assume that charity messages posted on social media are legitimate or have been vetted. Research the charitable organization yourself.
- When texting to donate, first confirm the number with the source. Never send cash: you can’t be sure the organization will receive your donation, and you won’t have a record for tax purposes.

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Community Relations**

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Find us on the Web at
washoesheriff.com

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



*Dedicated Service in
Partnership with our
Community*

Follow us on...

WCSO Apple or Android App



A Special Birthday Surprise...

Lt. Jeff Clark was able to make a quick stop at Depoali Middle School to surprise 8th grade student Arthur Mastne, known by his family and friends as "the world's biggest law enforcement fan."

Lt. Clark took a moment to stop for a picture and wish him a happy birthday.

Arthur's Mom Kristin said "what a great thing to do. He (Arthur) will be talking about this for weeks."

Later, Arthur called the Sheriff's Office to thank Lt. Clark again. "He was really cool to me," he said. "It was really special; out of his heart."

Who knows, maybe Arthur will decide to be a Deputy someday!

FAQ of the Month!

Q: Do you ever use student interns or volunteers in the crime lab?

Our Forensic Science Division (FSD) is able to offer forensic science internships on an extremely limited basis. Applicants must be enrolled in a science based program leading to a Bachelor of Science degree or higher, be able to commit to at least 10 weeks of full-time work and be willing to accept extensive or sole involvement in one project.

Interns will be required to submit to a background check, comply with all policies, procedures and directives of Washoe County and the Forensic Science Division, and maintain in strict confidence all information to which they become privileged.

Interested applicants can email contact information as well as a curriculum vitae regarding course work and laboratory skills to lsmyth-roam@washoecounty.us.