

Community Partnership Connection



Data Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety

In 2009, the Washoe County Sheriff's Office was selected as one of seven organizations nationally to participate as a pilot site for an innovative, intelligence-led police model called DDACTS. Data Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS) is designed to identify high crime and vehicle accident areas through data analysis. Captains then have the information they need to fight targeted crime and reduce accidents by using highly visible traffic enforcement coupled with other creative, non-traditional methods.

DDACTS effectiveness is further enhanced because of its partnership between the Washoe County Sheriff's Office, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Bureau of Justice Assistance and the National Institute of Justice.

"It has long been recognized that crime tends to cluster at certain times and locations, forming crime "hot-spots," said Sergeant Eric Spratley, who directs the Sheriff's Office Research and Development Unit. "The Sheriff's Office collects regional data that quickly identifies and targets these areas and sets up necessary resources."

Washoe County's "hot-spot" neighborhoods have seen an increase in law enforcement presence and a notable decrease in crime.



Since launching DDACTS, the Sheriff's Office experienced a 43 percent decline in vehicle burglaries, 17 percent increase in DUI arrests, 15 percent decrease in residential burglaries and 32 percent decrease in accidents in the targeted areas where historical crime patterns repeat themselves.

The long-term goal of this operational model is to extend those successes towards violent crimes against people, property crimes in all areas, and quality of life issues such as illegal dumping and graffiti.

Crisis Call Center Provides Victim Advocate for Sheriff's Office



The Washoe County Sheriff's Office has greatly increased its ability to support victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking with the addition of a new, grant-funded Victim Advocate from the Crisis Call Center working directly out of the Sheriff's Detective Division.

"Connecting victims with an advocate as soon as possible after the crime lessens the possibility of further victimization and lets the victim know that they are supported," Victim Advocate Sally Walker said.

Walker's position within the Sheriff's Detective Division is funded for two years by a federal STOP Violence Grant administered through the Nevada Attorney's General Office. The Crisis Call Center applied for the grant as part of its ongoing partnership with the Sheriff's Office because of the importance of providing immediate advocate support for victims. Walker is asking the community for donations to help with the operation of the victim's room and to help sustain victims during the turbulent transition period that follows crimes of this nature.



The Sheriff's Office is asking for community donations, such as diapers, formula, pajamas, jackets and more to assist victims and help with the operation of the victim's rooms. If interested in donating, call 325-6454.

As Summer Party Season Approaches - SO Warns Young Adults to Protect Themselves from Sexual Assault

Sexual assaults committed against young adults increase dramatically now through July in northern Nevada. Why? A vast majority of alcohol and drug related sexual assaults occur during graduation time and warm summer months when parties are prevalent. Young women 16-19 are four times more likely to be victims of rape, attempted rape, or sexual assault especially when alcohol or drugs are involved.

The Sheriff's Office wants parents and young adults to be aware of potentially dangerous situations to reduce the risk of sexual assault. Young adults respond to an assault in different ways. "Many people believe common myths about sexual assault such as 'If the woman was flirting then it's not really sexual assault' or 'It's not rape unless the young woman is seriously injured'" said Undersheriff Todd Vinger. "However, if they do not consent - it's a crime, regardless of the circumstances." "It's not the victim's fault," agrees Detective Captain David Nikoley "even when they don't make the safest choices. Lack of consent can be expressed by simply saying 'no!'"

The Sheriff's Office discourages underage drinking, supports Safe and Sober graduation celebrations and recommends the following:

- Don't let alcohol or other drugs cloud your judgment. Alcohol decreases awareness, so people are less likely to guard themselves against aggressive or coercive behavior.
- Acknowledge and understand that consent to sexual activity can be withdrawn at any time. Without putting yourself in danger, leave if you feel uncomfortable. Most importantly, if you do not consent, **verbalize it. Say "No!" and get up and go.**
- Avoid going into secluded areas. Be conscious of exits or other escape routes.
- Have a code word with friends or family so that if you don't feel comfortable, you can call them and communicate your discomfort without the person you are with knowing.
- If you see a friend heading into a dangerous situation at a party, encourage them to leave or stay by their side.
- Always keep an eye on every beverage you drink. Once you lose sight of your drink, don't consume it anymore - get a new one.
- Trust your instincts. If a situation or place makes you feel uncomfortable or uneasy, leave.
- Be aware of your surroundings. Knowing where you are and who is around you may help you find a way to get out of a bad situation.
- Make sure your cell phone is with you and charged and that you have money.



Spotlight on...

Detention Response Team (DRT) and Regional Aviation Enforcement Unit (RAVEN)

The **Detention Response Team (DRT)** was formed in 1988 in order to provide a specially trained team capable of quelling disturbances in the jail, extricating combative inmates and providing transportation for high security inmates. The Team is reputed to be one of the nation's most elite teams dedicated to detention security and emergency response.

The primary missions of **RAVEN** are to respond to calls of crimes in progress, search and rescue missions, counter drug surveillance, and other emergencies such as fire and flood. Aviation, particularly the use of helicopters, has proven to be an asset to modern law enforcement by providing a unique measure of safety to the citizens of a community and the officers on the street that cannot be provided using any other means.

Washoe County Sheriff's Office was able to obtain the helicopters through the Federal Excess Property Program. The agency currently has two OH-58's (Bell Jet Rangers) and one HH-1H (Bell Huey) acquired and refurbished using drug forfeiture money, rather than taxpayer dollars.

Detention Response Team trains with RAVEN



Our Detention Response Team conducted basic helicopter operations training with the RAVEN helicopter. Instructors covered helicopter safety procedures, emergency actions, helicopter loading and unloading procedures and helicopter airborne operations. This training was designed to help DRT and RAVEN prepare for helicopter prisoner transport, riot control, and personnel shuttle, in addition to other support operations.



Keep Your Children and Teens Safe Online

Many of today's children and teens are totally immersed with texting, Facebook, Twitter, Myspace and other social networking sites. While social networking may appear harmless to many of these young people, it can open the door to child predators and other dangers.

As part of efforts to keep kids safe on the internet, the Sheriff's Office supports National Internet Safety Month during June. Washoe County Sheriff Michael Haley encourages parents to educate themselves about the potential dangers of social networking and to make sure that they are aware of what their children are doing online.

A Pew Research Center and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children survey of 10 to 17-year-olds showed that 34 percent of them had posted their real names, telephone numbers, home addresses or the names of their schools online for anyone to see.

"Allowing kids to go online without supervision or ground rules is like allowing them to explore a major metropolitan area by themselves." Deputy Avina said. "The Internet, like a city, offers entertainment and educational resources, but also presents the risk of coming across websites containing adult or violent images, false information or worst, coming into contact with sexual predators. Kids need help navigating this world." Go to www.cybertipline.com for more information or to report a crime.

Internet safety tips for children:

Keep social networking site profiles set to "private."

Do not give out personal details such as address or school information.

Turn off your webcam after using it so it cannot be hacked.

Do not send anyone inappropriate photos of yourself or anyone else.

Internet safety tips for parents:

Discuss the dangers of the internet with your child and set ground rules to follow.

Review safety/parental controls on your computer, search engine, email, and instant messaging.

Monitor your child's online activity and the sites they visit.

Keep the computer or laptop in a common area, not in your child's bedroom.

**Washoe County Sheriff's
Office-Community Relations**

911 E. Parr Boulevard
Reno Nevada 89512
775.785.6228
775.785.6244

E-mail:
sheriffcommunityrelations@washoecounty.us

Find us on the Web:
www.washoesherriff.com



*Dedicated Service in
Partnership with our
Community*



The Sheriff's Office is now on **Twitter!**
To get the latest news, follow us at:
<http://twitter.com/washoesherriff>

National Jail Leadership Command Academy Graduates

Lt's Frank Schumann and Adam Hopkins were among the 36 jail professionals from across the country that comprised the 6th graduating class of the National Jail Leadership Command Academy (NJLCA), in Huntsville, Texas.

The goal of NJLCA is to assist in succession preparation and development of leadership skills for successful transitioning into senior leadership positions within jails.

Alertid Offers Free Online Child Health and ID Kits

AlertID provides your children with protection and assistance in case they are ever lost or injured, even if you're not there. The kits are available online at www.alertid.com and include:

Instant Family Alerts



Enables First Responders to immediately contact family members and friends via text, email and more.

Simple to Use



AlertID has created a patent pending system to help protect children.

Online Health and ID Kit



AlertID allows you to enter critical identifying information (Child Safety Kit) on their secured system with the most updated information/photos.

Available Anywhere



AlertID is available anytime and anywhere in the world.

Prevent Serious Delays



In case of an emergency, you can give access to your child's information to your school, hospital, law enforcement or even your babysitter.

Safe and Secure



Your family's information is secure and available only to the right people at the right time.