

Important Message from the Washington County Sheriff and Weiser Chief of Police

Due to the anticipated amount of increasing calls for service during the August 21st Solar Eclipse Event, we are implementing a response plan in order to give our patrol deputies/officers some time to do “proactive police work.” This plan will give your deputies/officers some time to go out and find crime, rather than wait for you to be a victim of crime. While crime reporting is necessary and we expect to have crimes reported to us, we are often several steps behind the criminals when some crimes are reported days after they happen or no evidence is left at the scene to catch a criminal. This plan will not prevent all crime in Washington County, however we are expecting it to give your deputies/officers some extra time and our community some enhanced services.

Emailing these reports are taking the place of a deputy/officer responding to take a report. The outcome is not going to change, as we will address each report received as we have in the past. The only thing we are changing is how we get that information to those that will investigate or follow up on your calls. We expect the self service options to be an addition to the service we already do provide. **Email address is reports@co.washington.id.us**

Beginning Thursday, August 17th and continuing through Tuesday morning, August 22nd, this plan will be in effect and your calls will be handled as indicated above. If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please contact us at 208-414-2121.

Alternate methods of reporting to the Washington County Sheriff’s Office and Weiser City Police during high call volume are as follows:

Minor and Walk-in Accident Reports – These will include fender benders and non-injury accidents. Generally these reports are taken/needed for insurance purposes only. We will need the location of the accident and a brief description of what has occurred. Please have all drivers involved take photos of the following: Each occupant’s driver’s license card, drivers insurance card, vehicle registration, all vehicle license plates, every side of each vehicle involved, the surrounding area near the vehicles. If driver or occupant does not have a license or ID card, please include their full name, date of birth and contact information.

Thefts from vehicles (not in progress) will be handled call load permitting. Normally these are “cold” calls and many times, we do reporting for insurance purposes. If you have serial numbers on items stolen, the case may be referred to our detectives. This also pertains to cases of Identity Theft.

Patrol Deputies/Officers will not be responding to “cold” reckless driving complaints. “Cold” means it is no longer in progress and the reckless driver is no longer in your sight. We will send deputies/officers to look for the car in the area last seen, call load permitting.

Deputies/Officers will not respond to requests for the disciplining of children when requested from parents. Unless there has been a crime committed or there is a disturbance/potential crime in progress, we are not dispatching officers.

Patrol Deputies/Officers will not be responding to Code Enforcement violations (weeds, water, etc), unless it is an immediate hazard. We will have a resource list of phone numbers posted for contact with code enforcement and other resources for you on our county website.

Patrol Deputies/Officers will not respond to incidents determined to be civil in nature. Municipal deputies have no jurisdiction in matters that are not criminal. (ie. Landlord/tenant disputes, car or property repossessions, contract issues and anything not a crime as defined by Idaho Code)

Standbys for deputies/officers will require a court document with specific instruction for deputies/officers to intercede. A patrol supervisor will be able to contact you if requested and when time permits.

Patrol Deputies/Officers will not be responding to VIN inspections. You will need to request inspections via email.

Patrol Deputies/Officers will not be responding to abandoned vehicles that are not causing a traffic hazard. You can call dispatch at 208-414-2121 to notify them of a vehicle that needs towed. They will investigate this and attend to it accordingly.

We are asking that if you wish to file a report, you can email the info in to the WCSO or WPD and we will follow up as time allows. Email address is reports@co.washington.id.us

If you do not have access to the internet, a mail in form can be sent to you or a form is available for pick up at the Washington County Sheriff's Office and Weiser City Police Dept. for your convenience.

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