

INFORMATION ITEM #4

WSU System, Law Enforcement and Campus Safety Update (Vicky Murray/Gary Jenkins)

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

SUBJECT: WSU System, Law Enforcement and Campus Safety Update

SUBMITTED BY: Leslie Brunelli, Executive Vice President, Finance & Administration/CFO

Washington State University (WSU) is authorized by statute to establish and maintain a police force consisting of sworn peace officers with the same general authority as sheriffs and law enforcement personnel throughout Washington. The Pullman and Vancouver campuses have established police departments, while the other campuses have public safety departments responsible for the security, safety, and property of students, faculty, staff, and the public.

Oversight of public safety and law enforcement at each campus is the responsibility of the Chancellors or their designated representative. Additionally, a systemwide Public Safety Council, chaired by the WSU Pullman Chief of Police, develops policies and best practices, shares resources, coordinates intercampus mutual aid, addresses system security concerns, and promotes equity in policing.

The Threat Assessment Team at WSU is a systemwide, multidisciplinary team that evaluates perceived threats to the community and property. The team collaborates with university departments, law enforcement, mental health agencies, and other parties to assess situations and recommend appropriate interventions to the Chancellor of the affected campus.

The systemwide Clery Committee, chaired by the WSU Pullman Chief of Police, coordinates systemwide efforts to ensure compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act), as well as relevant Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) amendments. The obligations under the Clery Act impact and involve multiple departments, campuses, and extension facilities.

WSU Emergency Management collaborates with public safety personnel across all campuses to enhance preparation, planning, event support, and other after-action assessments. All campuses utilize the Everbridge emergency mass notification system, except Everett which relies on Everett Community College's Rave system, and each campus has varying degrees of video security camera coverage.

The WSU Pullman Police Department operates around the clock, staffed by 18 commissioned officers, including a Chief and Assistant Chief plus four support staff members. The department

operates a student cadet program offering opportunities for 30-35 students annually. The department, with an annual budget of about \$3.7 million, works to ensure the safety and security of the campus community while positively influencing student development through proactive policing, community engagement, and professional excellence.

Officers on the Pullman campus are very engaged with our students and meet regularly with student groups, including ASWSU, GPSA, international and multicultural student organizations. The officers regularly engage with students at special events, such as Coffee with a Cop, Resident Hall Donuts with a Cop, PB&J Club, Special Olympics and a pancake breakfast with the Children’s Center students and their parents.

Pullman campus police officers received a total of 2,720 hours of training in 2023, averaging over 150 hours per officer. They participate in comprehensive training activities, such as active shooter response, including coordination with regional law enforcement and fire/paramedics.

Across the Pullman campus, WSU Police maintain over 50 Blue Light Phones, with calls going directly to the regional 911 center to dispatch emergency responders. Additionally, the campus has about 300 security cameras, and with the award of a recent federal grant, more will be installed over the coming year.

The department has received multiple external grants of \$3.3 million over the past two years:

Funding Source	Program	Grant Start	Years	Awarded
CJTC 2023	Officer Wellness Program	11/01/22	1	\$ 47,852
DOJ COPS CPD	LE Agencies Seeking Accreditation	10/01/23	2	\$ 133,178
WATPA 2024-1	LPR Cameras	05/01/24	1	\$ 46,000
CJTC 2024	Officer Wellness Program	07/01/24	1	\$ 38,704
WASPC BWC	BWC Video Storage	07/01/24	1	\$ 35,613
COPS TEP	Security Cameras & Door Access Controls	03/09/24	2	\$ 3,000,000

The department also received a supplemental budget allocation this year to acquire the OpenGate Weapons Detection System, recently deployed at the October 19th football game. This advanced system utilizes metal detection and weapon signature technology, enhancing safety without compromising the fan experience. The system is highly portable and has the capacity to process up to 2,500 individuals per hour, a significant improvement over traditional metal detection methods.

WSU is committed to fostering a safe and secure environment for its campus community, continuously enhancing its resources and practices to address safety concerns proactively. The integration of advanced technology and community engagement reflects WSU's dedication to excellence in campus safety and policing.

ATTACHMENT: Presentation – WSU System Law Enforcement & Public Safety