

VAIL
POLICE
DEPARTMENT

YEAR IN REVIEW
2016



Dwight Henninger

Vail Police Chief

In the fall of 2016, the Vail Police Department celebrated its 50th year of service. I am supremely proud of the men and women of this Department who work hard to prevent, deter and detect crime in all its forms and make a meaningful, positive impact in our community.

We push ourselves daily to preserve lessons learned from our operations. Legacies of successful premier events in Vail include partner collaborations and a reputation for investing time and energy to do things well. Contingency plans for critical incidents have been developed and refined; citizen empowerment to recognize and report suspicious occurrences and criminal activities is rising; regional training for public safety personnel on emergency response and recovery continues; and finally, relationships with numerous sister agencies at all levels of government is steadily growing each year.

We addressed over 37,000 calls for service in 2016 while continuing our remarkable strides to reduce drug crime. In 2015 and 2016, 91 felony drug traffickers were taken off the streets, interrupting the movement of drugs through our community.

However, crimes associated with alcohol misuse are increasing. Assaults and domestic violence have both increased by 19% over the five-year average and property crime rose by 5% since 2015.

Our Vail Traffic and Road Safety Program, which includes highly visible patrolling, collaboration with the Colorado Department of Transportation, aggressive chain law enforcement, a DUI task force, and messaging to educate the motoring public on responsible driving helped to keep the number of traffic crashes (442) at the five-year average despite above-average winter precipitation.

We coordinated public safety for over 100 headliner events, including Burton U.S. Open, Triple Bypass bicycle race, International Dance Festival, and GoPro Mountain Games, which averages an attendance of 55,000 people. Of the 34 special events funded by the Town, attendance is conservatively estimated at over 320,000.

The Eagle County Law Enforcement Immigrant Advisory Initiative is helping to reverse the immigrant community's skeptical perceptions of law enforcement in the county. The rate at which immigrants report crime has risen from 10.6% in 2010 to 18.2% in 2016. The rate they have been victimized by crime has measurably decreased by 2%.

This year-in-review outlines steps taken to earn our community's trust every day, protecting

people's welfare and the well-being of our employees. An abbreviated version of the 2016-2020 Vail PD Strategic Plan is contained within, and provides written intent and accountability measures to guide performance and tackle the challenging issues we face as a community and nation. These include community trust of police, greater cyber security threats, an epidemic of opioid use, the continued threat of illicit drugs, and an alarming rise in suicide rates. Colorado ranks 7th in the nation for suicides, and it is the second highest cause of death among those aged 17-24.

Going forward, we will continue to work with national and global law enforcement entities to accomplish a critical body of work — to eliminate unacceptable displays of racial and lifestyle intolerance and to stop violence, injustice, security threats, instability and the erosion of trust between police and the public. Initial considerations for what needs to be done are developing in Critical Issues Forums held across the country by the International Association of Chiefs of Police and as proposed in the *President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing Report*.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or any one of the dedicated men and women at the Vail Police Department. We welcome your comments, concerns or questions, with the goal of working together and determining the most effective ways to serve you and the broader community of Vail.

Here's to a great year!

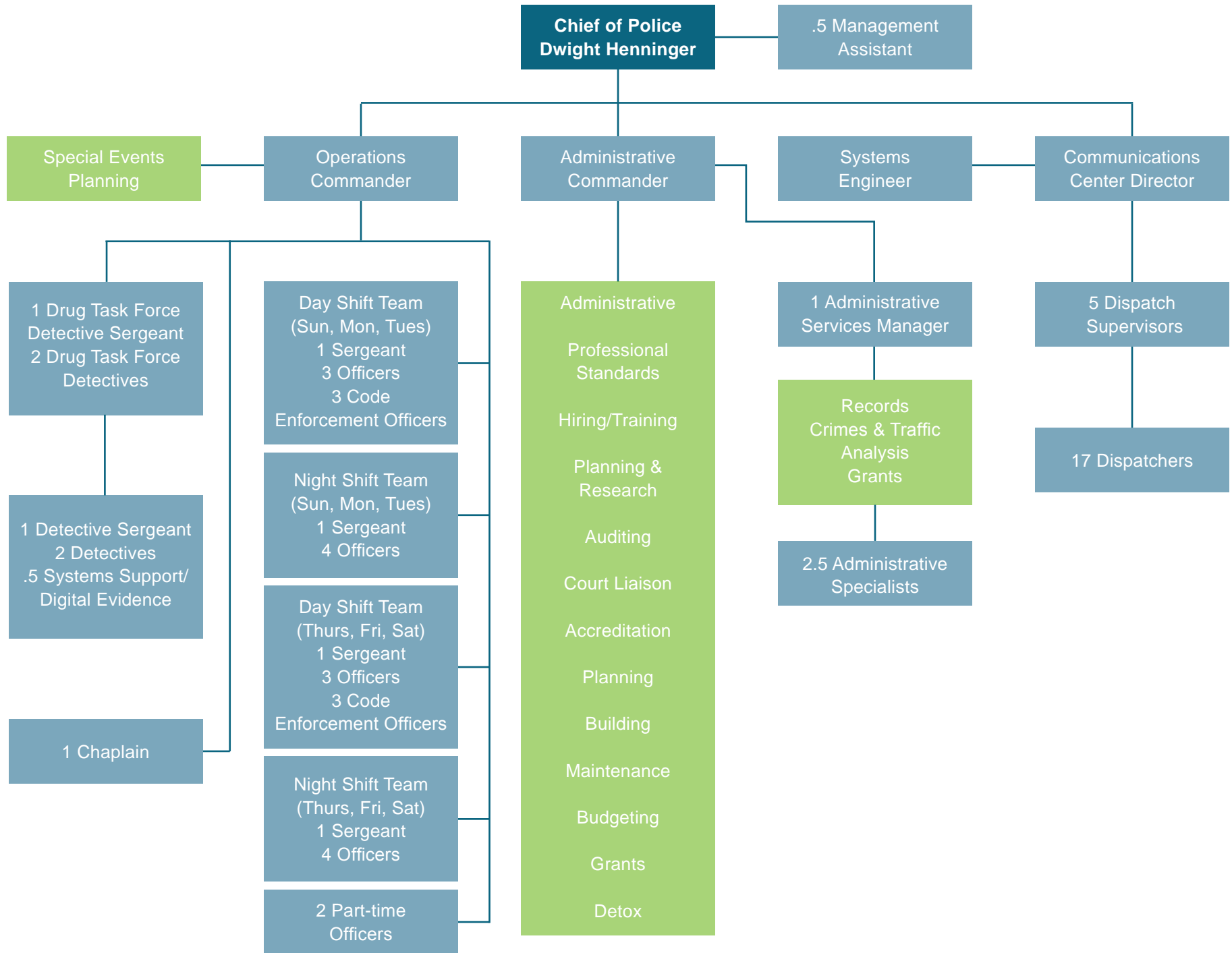
Dwight



Celebrating 50 years of service!



ORGANIZATION



VISION

To be the model resort police department in the country.

MISSION

To provide our community safety and security through high-quality police service.

VALUES

Partnerships

I will actively collaborate with my colleagues and my community.

Ownership

I will take responsibility for what needs to be done and hold myself and others accountable.

Leadership

I will guide myself and others in doing the right thing.

Integrity

I will never betray my office or, above all, the public trust.

Character

I will always conduct myself according to the highest ethical standards.

Excellence

I will strive to do the best job possible.



Police Administration

Vail Police Chief Dwight Henninger leads Administrative, Operations and Communications Divisions. He coordinates community relations, strategic planning, fiscal management, technological developments, organizational efficiencies and problem-solving approaches.

Chief Henninger announced his candidacy in 2016 for 4th Vice President of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). The election will be on October 23, 2017 at the IACP Annual Conference in Philadelphia. The individual elected to this position will serve as the 2021 IACP President.

DWIGHT 4 IACP
DWIGHT4IACP.COM

VOTE DWIGHT HENNINGER
 IACP 4TH VICE PRESIDENT, PHILADELPHIA 2017

EXPERIENCE
 LAW ENFORCEMENT - 34 YRS
 IACP COMMITTEES - 6

DEDICATION
 IACP BOARD MEMBER - 4 YRS
 IACP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 9 YRS

LEADERSHIP
 VAIL POLICE CHIEF - 15 YRS
 COLORADO CHIEFS ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

ENDORSEMENTS
 COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE
 LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL EXECUTIVES
 IACP PAST PRESIDENTS & RET. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dwight

Please visit DWIGHT4IACP.COM for a full list of endorsements.

Sworn Personnel

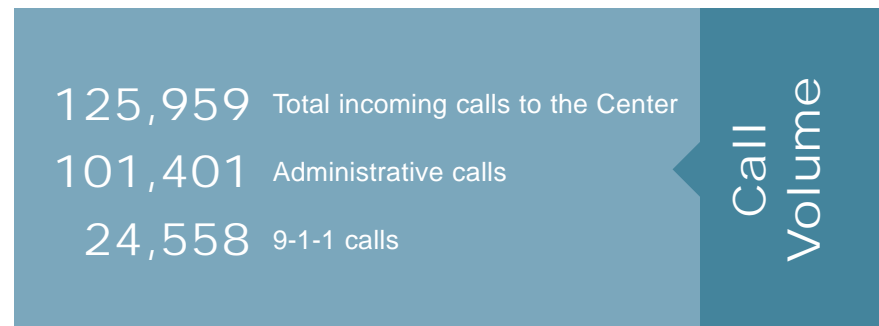
Commander Craig Bettis leads a field branch of patrol, investigations and code enforcement officers. They perform a variety of duties including calls for service, education and enforcement of criminal codes, investigations, crime scene collection, arrests, traffic accident investigation, traffic enforcement, road safety, proactive and preventative patrol, public order measures, and general community and interagency activities.

Communications Center

The Vail Public Safety Communications Center, led by Director Marc Wentworth, is part of the Vail Police Department and is funded through a consortium of the Eagle County 911 Authority and 12 user agencies. The 911 Authority contributes the largest share of funds. Remaining funds are allocated to user agencies based upon the percentage of the total number of calls for service averaged over the past three years. In 2016 the Town of Vail's share was 34%.



The state-of-the-art facility is staffed by top-notch dispatchers who hold certifications in Emergency Medical Dispatching.



Non-Sworn Personnel

Commander Daric Harvey leads the Administrative Division and Volunteer Team and is responsible for the following functions: Professional Standards, Accreditation, Budgeting, Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention, Mental Health Issues, Demand Reduction, Grants, Planning and Research, Auditing, Training, Hiring, Recruiting, Reserve Program, Building Maintenance and Administration, Citizen's Police Academy and the Community Emergency Response Team.

Internal Affairs

Complaints are generated through our internal audits or by citizens. At the conclusion of any professional standards investigation, the disposition will be one of the following findings: 1) [sustained](#) when misconduct occurred, 2) [not sustained](#) when an allegation is unsubstantiated, 3) [unfounded](#) when the allegation is false or did not involve the employee named, 4) [exonerated](#) when the employee acted lawfully and properly, or within policy.

In 2016, there were three complaints against sworn officers and civilians and three professional standards cases. One complaint was for excessive use of force, one for conduct unbecoming, and one for racial profiling/rudeness. Investigation of excessive use of force revealed that the complaint was unfounded; of conduct unbecoming, the officer was exonerated; and, the racial profiling/rudeness complaint was not sustained.

Use of Force

Use of force reports are written when a firearm is drawn in the presence of a member of the public, when a firearm is discharged, or when any weapon other than a firearm is used by a police officer on a person. Use of force reports went from 17 in 2015 to 18 in 2016. Of the 18 use of force reports, 10 were for firearms displayed, but not used; one was for a physical take down; and seven were for a physical hold.

Based upon periodic review of the Vail Police Use of Force Policy, we are confident it reflects our moral and professional obligations and that we are maintaining objectivity and integrity when examining use of force incidents.



The Vail Police Department joins agencies around the country in raising awareness of officers seriously injured in the line of duty. Officers and their families should not feel alone while they endure great physical, emotional and financial obstacles. Over 13,000 law enforcement officers are injured annually in the United States.



“Criminal justice ethics have become justifiably of increasing interest to the public. To better inform the community on the Vail Police Department’s guidelines for the legitimate use of force, usage of body cameras, and investigations of police misconduct and criminal behavior, our policies are posted to our website.”

Chief Henninger

Vail Police Department Strategic Planning

The strategies of the 2016-2020 Vail Police Strategic Plan are organized around the six pillars of successful policing practices as outlined in the **President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing Report**. Those six pillars are: Building Trust and Legitimacy; Policy and Oversight; Technology and Social Media; Community Policing and Crime Reduction; Officer Training and Education; and Officer Safety and Wellness.

To accomplish our goals, Pillar Champions work with lead members to engage constructively with the community, our partners and the department in formulating solutions to problems and carrying out strategic plans.



Eagle County Law Enforcement Immigrant Advisory Initiative

Vail Police response to trust issues and how we can contribute to healthy local and national outcomes are top priorities of the department. The Eagle County Law Enforcement Immigrant Advisory Committee has created a strategic initiative to foster strong affiliations between police and the immigrant community.

A robust and inclusive initiative has never been more important in light of fluctuations in immigrant confidence in law enforcement that have been influenced by national rhetoric. In response to heightened fear of federal immigration laws, local law enforcement in Eagle County are circulating reassuring messages to immigrants to ensure they feel a strong sense of belonging to the places they live, work, and attend school.

www.facebook.com/inmigrantesypolicia





STRATEGIC PILLARS

Building Trust & Legitimacy

Community Outreach
Relationship Building
Emergency Preparedness
Readiness & Response
Procedural Justice
Fair & Impartial Policing

- Build relationships with the community on-duty and off-duty.
- Attain emergency preparedness excellence.
- Increase Colorado Northwest Incident Management Team participation.
- Increase communications between the public and police.
- Operationalize body-worn cameras.
- Extend use of Intelligence-Led Policing practices.

Policy & Oversight

Internal Policy Oversight
Live the Mission, Vision,
Values
Ideas & Issues Committee
Streamlined Work Processes
Citizen Review Committee
Independent Evaluation of
Organizational Structure
After-Action Reports

- Align policies and procedures with recommendations in the *President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing Report*.
- Create an Internal Policy Oversight Committee.
- Recognize notable performance in annual employee appraisals.
- Create an Ideas & Issues Committee.
- Review operational work processes for relevancies, redundancies and efficiencies.
- Consider creating a Civilian Review Committee.
- Conduct an independent evaluation of the current organizational structure to determine if department needs are met.
- Standardize an After Action Report template.

Technology & Social Media

Outreach Expansion
Social Media Presence
Proactive Use of Technology
Project Implementations

- Increase social media presence and update webpages regularly.
- Examine use of social media monitoring tools.
- Add interactive features to **www.vailgov.com/police**.
- Vet new technology and provide information on technologies selected to the community.
- Conduct cost/benefits analysis of emerging technologies.
- Create strong project implementation plans.



STRATEGIC PILLARS

Community Policing & Crime Reduction

Positive Impact Programs
Crime Reduction Programs
Citizen's Police Academy
Volunteers in Police Services
Community Emergency Response Teams

- Apprehend felony drug traffickers.
- Increase messaging on crime prevention and quality of life issues.
- Channel resources to victims of crime.
- Develop Positive Impact Programs with schools, civic organizations, mental health professionals, victim assistance advocates and public safety partners.
- Reinstitute the Citizen's Police Academy and the Community Emergency Response Team.
- Promote the Volunteers in Police Service Program.

Training & Education

Division Coordination
Cost/Benefits Thresholds
In-Service Training
Professional Development
Succession Planning
Leadership Development
Mentoring Program
Hiring & Onboarding
Change Management

- Sustain succession planning and leadership development opportunities.
- Implement a Change Management Strategy.
- Identify a Training Coordinator to advocate for employees' professional growth while ensuring staffing levels are not compromised during training-related absences.
- Grow the department's mentoring program.
- Improve recruitment, hiring and onboarding practices.
- Improve communication between leaders and police academy students.
- Facilitate outside agency exchange programs.

Employee Wellness & Safety

Health Initiative
Physical & Mental Health
Wage & Benefits Review
Cost-of-Living Issues
Housing Opportunities
On-Duty Volunteering
Spatial Needs at Work

- Enroll civilian employees in the Sigma Law Enforcement Health Program.
- Work with Human Resources to examine wage/benefits and cost of living challenges.
- Explore options to offset costs of living for employees.
- Examine technologies and trends that support employee safety.
- Provide Crisis Intervention Training to employees.
- Explore peer-to-peer counseling opportunities.
- Conduct a site survey of the department's facility and forecast a 5-year plan to accommodate employee and equipment needs.



Community Service Surveys

Community surveys are conducted by the Town Communications Office every other year and through an ongoing Vail Police Customer Service Survey. The latter is posted to Vail PD webpages and is randomly emailed to arrestees, crime victims, field contacts, witnesses and to individuals involved in traffic stops and collisions.

Satisfaction Results

Vail citizens and guests have viewed Vail Police favorably over the last five years. Results from both surveys give the department an 89% approval rating for overall safety and security.

The majority of individuals come into contact with an officer through a traffic incident or a parking problem. In that category (traffic and parking), the PD received its lowest satisfaction rating — 63% approval, a decline from 70% in 2014.

All feedback, both positive and negative, helps us evaluate and improve our service.



Building Trust & Legitimacy

Share the reasons and decision making behind our practices and governing policies with our employees and our community. Strengthen partnerships with stakeholders and the community.

- The Chief, command staff, officers and civilians reinforce affiliations with partners and the community at neighborhood picnics, immigrant community forums, a mobile Mexican Consulate event, a food drive, a coat drive, Shop with a Cop and more.
- A total of 83 individuals have graduated from the Spanish Citizen's Police Academy.
- Body-worn cameras are worn by all on-duty patrol officers.
- 4 disaster preparedness drills and readiness trainings were conducted in 2016.
- The number of department personnel participating on the Colorado Northwest Incident Management Team is steadily increasing.
- The Working Group of the All Hazards Incident Management Team, of which the Chief is a member, submitted a proposal to the Colorado Department of Homeland Security to build the capacity of Type 2 (mid-level) incident management teams so they may serve in an interim capacity at a large wildlife or other significant event pending the arrival of a national team.

Policy & Oversight

Engage with the community to ensure our policies remain aligned with needs and expectations.

- A member of each division and unit of the department is represented on the Internal Policy Oversight Committee.
- A new evidence tracking system was rolled out. Total time spent by officers processing evidence has been reduced by 75%.
- Time saved in streamlined work processes has enabled officers to spend more time on foot and vehicle patrol.
- An After Action Report (AAR) template was revamped.
- AARs were written on each emergency management drill and studied to ensure exercises accurately reflect capabilities and deficiencies.





Technology & Social Media

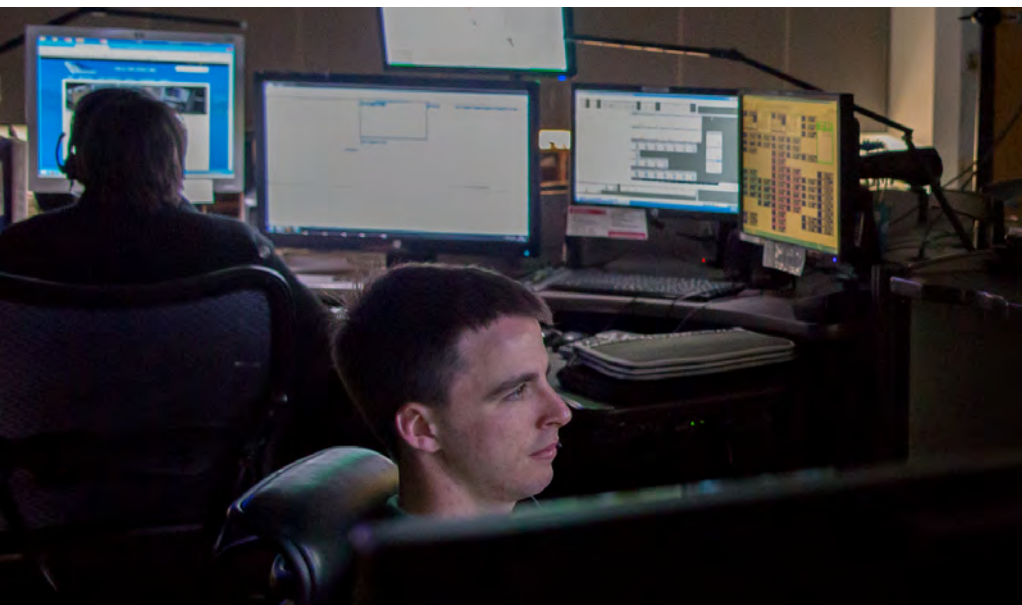
Establish methods for two-way communications between the department and who we serve. Be proactive in adoption and implementation of new technologies.

- Twitter and Facebook accounts grew by 25%.
- Instagram account was created.
- Detailed information on crime and disorder incidences at www.vailgov.com/police.
- Media releases help alert residents to crime trends.
- Crime mapping tool (www.raidsonline.com) helps residents know types of calls and police activity in their neighborhood.
- Informational brochure was distributed for the Eagle County Law Enforcement Immigrant Advisory Initiative outlining collaborative approaches to engage community-wide participation in planning and problem-solving.
- A project charter for vetting, planning, implementing, operating, monitoring and evaluating technology projects is under review. Once finalized, it will serve as a single point of reference for all technology-based projects.

Community Policing & Crime Reduction

Strengthen our relationship with the community. Prevent, deter and detect crime.

- The award-winning Gore Range Narcotics Interdiction Team (GRANITE) has received professional recognition for abating drug trafficking activity.
- An outcome of the Eagle County Law Enforcement Immigrant Advisory Initiative is the increase in crime reporting by the Hispanic community, as compared to the total service population, from 10.6% in 2010 to 18.2% in 2016. Hispanics arrested decreased by 7% and the percentage of Hispanics victimized has decreased by 2% from 2010 to 2016.
- Training of new Drug Recognition Experts (DREs) continues. DREs determine impairment and drug categories by which an individual is impaired.
- Hours of directed patrol spent on in-town roads and the interstate increased by 15%.





Training & Education

Provide relevant training to employees. Provide employees opportunities to participate in exchange programs. Develop a change management strategy to address succession.

- Each supervisor as well as VPD aspiring leaders received Leadership in Police Organizations training. LPO training is sponsored by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.
- LPO Graduates are helping the VPD be a place where people want to stay and contribute their best.
- Two in-service trainings were conducted. Topics included baseline skills and investigative skills. We learned about cultures and subcultures of the community we serve.
- Crisis Intervention Training was provided to 95% of department employees.
- Dispatchers hold certifications in Emergency Medical Dispatch.

Employee Wellness & Safety

Support employees' physical, mental and emotional health and wellness.

- The number of employees participating in the Sigma Law Enforcement Health Initiative grew to encompass 100% of the department staff and a small pilot group of town employees.
- Numerous successes are being achieved by participants of the Sigma Law Enforcement Health Initiative, including many who have reported weight loss and one employee who has gotten himself off cholesterol-lowering drugs through dietary alterations.
- A mentor program is being revitalized. Expectations of the mentor and mentee are being defined.

Sigma Law Enforcement Health Initiative

The Sigma Law Enforcement Health Initiative is a wellness program launched by police Commander Craig Bettis and exercise physiologist Dr. Ben Stone, founders of Sigma, a health consultancy company. Used by many police departments throughout Colorado, Sigma's Tactical Health program serves as a conduit of information for emergency response personnel subjected to extreme occupational demands with the aim of improving health status via physical, nutritional, and medical means. Testing for police is 50% funded through police budgets and 50% funded by Colorado Intergovernmental Risk Sharing Agency.

This initiative aids in the early detection of metabolic diseases, such as high cholesterol and hypertension which, when undiagnosed or untreated, can lead to catastrophic life threatening issues such as heart attacks and strokes. By nature of the job, law enforcement professionals are subject to extreme physical and high stress demands. Irregular shift work, poor nutritional habits, physical strains, emotional exhaustion and, for some, long

periods of sedentary work take a toll, and rates of absenteeism, workmen's compensation claims and physical health problems are high.

The Sigma program provides metabolic and nutritional strategies and counseling to instill in participants proactive health solutions. Positive results so far include weight reductions of as much as 40 pounds, cessation of alcohol consumption and tobacco use, and reduction in reliance on stimulants such as energy shots and caffeinated beverages. Officers report more energy, greater situational awareness and general improvement in on-duty performance.

Long-term goals of this forward-thinking program include the creation of state-wide health standards for all Colorado law enforcement members. The program has also been expanded to include civilian employees as a pilot program to the Town of Vail and other municipalities throughout the state, with similar success.



SIGMA

Stark Facts

Average age of heart attack patient

Law Enforcement 49 years

Civilian 65 years

Heart attacks under the age of 45

Law Enforcement 45%

Civilian 7%

Average life expectancy

Law Enforcement 57 years

Civilian 79 years

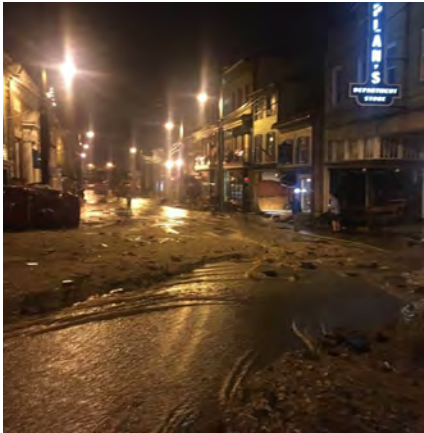


“This could easily be the most innovative law enforcement health improvement program in the risk management industry in decades. Additionally, it can be used by any organization to better its employees, regardless of job classification.”

Statement from the Colorado Intergovernmental Risk Sharing Agency (CIRSA)

Program Highlights

Our flagship programs, some of which are featured in this report, represent partnerships that help make our initiatives sustainable and replicable.



1-in-1,000 Event

A Vail Police Officer, and member of the Colorado Northwest Incident Management Team, was deployed to assist with recovery efforts during the devastating August flood in Ellicott City, Maryland. Due to its massive scale, it was called a “1-in-1,000 event.”

Assisting in the response and recovery of actual disasters, and participating regularly in role-playing scenarios locally and around the state, lead to ongoing improvements of emergency planning, policy, training, capacity building and towards mitigation of risks.



See Something/Say Something

The Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab (CELL) and the Vail PD provide Community Awareness Training for citizens to recognize and report suspicious activity. The training complements the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s [If You See Something, Say Something](#) Campaign. Since 2015, 10 trainings were conducted for over 2,000 citizens.



Shop with a COP

After raising donations of \$8,000, 56 kids were paired with officers, staff and troopers from the Vail, Avon and Eagle PDs and the Colorado State Patrol for an excursion to Wal-Mart.

Annual Food Drive

54,000 lbs of food and \$6,200 in cash and check donations were collected and donated to the Salvation Army and the United Methodist Church for their food banks. The food drive makes a marked difference in the lives of so many in the community.



Eagle County Law Enforcement Immigrant Advisory Initiative

The essence of the initiative lies in our strategies for ethnic and race equality and community cohesion. We embrace each other’s different perspectives, experiences and cultures, and we recognize the value of each person’s contributions to the community.

Outreach work includes a Volunteer Interpreter Program, open forums, victim assistance, a mobile consulate visit, frequently asked questions brochure and a Spanish Citizen’s Police Academy.

VAIL WILDLAND FIRE COMMUNITY EVACUATION EXERCISE

NAME: (optional): _____

ADDRESS: _____

How were you notified to evacuate? LAW FIRE ECALERT REVERSE 9-1-1 Other

Were evacuation instructions clear? Yes No Would you have evacuated? Yes No

How quickly? Immediately 15-30 mins 30-60 mins

Where would you have evacuated to? Public Shelter Hotel Other

Would you have required assistance to evacuate? Yes No

Details:

Do you have a FAMILY emergency plan? Yes No A PET emergency plan? Yes No

Do you plan to test your plan(s) today? Yes No

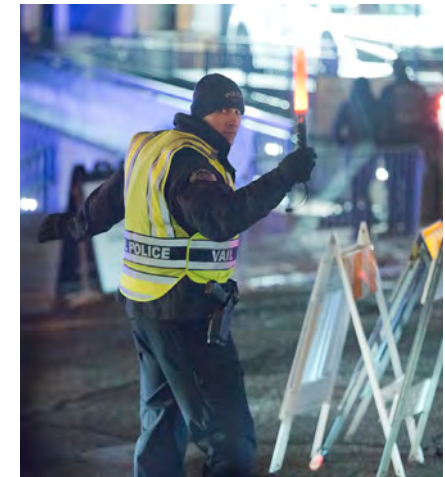
How would you prefer to receive emergency planning information?

In-person meeting Community meeting Website Twitter Facebook Printed brochure Email

IF THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN A REAL EMERGENCY, where would you look for continued public information?

Radio Television ECAlert Phone Info Line Website Twitter Facebook

For additional information on emergency preparedness, visit www.vailgov.com/evac



Community Evacuation Exercise

An October wildland fire simulation helped to educate citizens, guests and workers on how to respond during an evacuation and allowed emergency responders to put the town's emergency evacuation plan into practice. Vail Fire Department led the exercise while Vail Police conducted door-to-door checks.



Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Vail's Community Emergency Response Team members provided CERT training to the Town of Gypsum Public Works Department staff.

Explorer Program

Sworn staff from Vail, Avon and Eagle PDs and from the Eagle County Sheriff's Office provide an overview of the law enforcement profession to young adults between the ages of 14 and 21. The program is aimed at prompting critical thinking skills and building character. A former explorer was hired in 2016 for a Vail Police Code Enforcement Officer position.

Youth Coalition

A commander serves on the Eagle County Youth Coalition board that helps to spread a positive social norms campaign.

Explore www.eagleyouth.org and read about the positive impacts the coalition is making on the lives of youth in Eagle County.

Operation Sticker Shock

Vail Police Officers and high school students visit local liquor retailers and post stickers on alcohol to remind adults of the penalties for providing alcohol to minors. The Vail Police seek to make an impact on underage alcohol consumption by changing the behavior of adults who are tempted to purchase alcohol for minors and who allow minors to consume alcohol in their homes.

Agency Exchange Programs

Six officers worked with Park City PD to reinforce their workforce capacity during their busiest stretch of the year — the Sundance Film Festival. (Utah law gives law enforcement officers from outside the state full police powers.)

Because both police agencies have similar histories of policing major events and addressing parking, traffic and crowd issues, the Park City PD sent six officers to Vail in March 2016 to assist law enforcement during a major snowboarding competition — the Burton U.S. Open.



Tread Safely

The Tread Safely campaign cautions motorists on the need for good tire treads and encourages safe winter driving behavior to improve Interstate 70 travel.

Vail Police conducted free tire checks in October and November, did a TV interview, and conducted a public education campaign on social media.

Agencies participating in this multi-agency collaboration include the Vail PD, Avon PD, Summit County Sheriff's Office, Colorado State patrol, and the Colorado Department of Transportation.



Gore Range DUI Task Force

Neighboring law enforcement agencies and Vail Police conduct regular saturation patrols to remove impaired drivers from the road. In 2016, 62 motorists were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs.



Continuous Education

Road safety is ultimately everyone's responsibility so the Vail PD continually fosters a shared sense of responsibility. **Share the Road** is one initiative that helps to shape the mindset of motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians to use roads safely.



Collaborative Interstate Initiatives

Vail Police work with Colorado State Patrol and the Colorado Department of Transportation to improve the safety of chain-up areas and traffic incident management on Interstate 70.



Directed Patrol

Officers on directed I-70 and in-town street patrol enforce speed compliance by truckers and motorists, use of chains and the legislative measure requiring mufflers for any truck with an engine brake.



Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)

Volunteer hours in 2016 totaled 1,080 hours which represents a value of \$25,445. According to the Independent Sector, the dollar value of a volunteer's time in 2016 is \$23.56/hour.



Prescription Take Back

This national campaign strives to help safely and responsibly dispose people's unwanted, unused and expired items. The goal is to tackle high rates of prescription abuse, overdoses and accidental poisonings.





Training Highlights

The Department puts particular training emphasis on mental health crisis intervention, fair & impartial policing, employee well-being, emergency preparedness, leadership and other focus areas affecting public and officer safety, community welfare and the operations of the Vail PD.

Crisis Intervention Training

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) programs train law enforcement to manage the risk of encounters with individuals with untreated mental illness. Learning verbal/non-verbal tactics and other intervention strategies to de-escalate the physical and emotional energy infused in a person in crisis helps to reduce violent incidents and injuries.

In October, close to 95% of department staff participated in role-play scenarios with actors and mental health professionals to recognize mental disorders, to understand how to interpret behavioral signs, and to determine what actions or words calm someone and what triggers a nervous reaction.

Emergency Preparedness

Emergency preparedness training for department staff and town residents is provided by the Vail Police and Fire Departments and the Northwest Incident Management Team, of which Chief Henninger is a Coordinator. Members have expertise in law enforcement, tactical operations, hazardous materials response, fire suppression, public health, emergency medical matters, and communications.

Leadership | Succession Planning

Preparing staff to be leaders of tomorrow begins with on-the-job experiences and includes giving additional responsibilities to staff members for the positions in which they already serve. Cultivating leadership development also includes effective hiring and on-boarding



practices to identify new and developing leaders of the organization.

Training to strengthen leadership capacity at the Vail PD includes attendance at the International Association of Chiefs of Police Leadership in Police Organizations course. To date, 21 staff members have attended the LPO course.

Fair & Impartial Policing

Fair and Impartial Policing is the rule of law. It requires police to re-think our own understanding of bias and consider how to account for bad police conduct. Understanding the psychological and sociological factors that influence police decisions helps to shed light on our implicit biases.

There was only one citizen complaint of Vail bias-based policing reported in 2016. Investigation revealed the officer did not violate agency policy or the law.

Two sergeants have been trained to provide [Fair & Impartial Policing Training](#) to department employees in 2017.



Crime & Disorder

Drug and alcohol related crime, thefts, frauds and domestic violence were top policing priorities reported by Vail citizens and visitors in 2016. The Vail Police continue to address these issues through proactive measures, education, investigation and intelligence-led policing.

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence in Vail in 2016 was 32% higher than in 2015 and 19% higher than the five-year average. Every effort is made to prepare strong cases for prosecution, channel resources and assistance to victims, and provide information on obtaining restraining orders. If a child saw the abuse, officers will work with the Department of Human Services, victims advocates and schools to monitor their well-being and behavior caused by their trauma.

Impaired Driving

Of 62 impaired driving offenses, one case involved marijuana in combination with a prescription drug and a second case involved only prescription drugs. Seminars given to bar merchants regarding the overservice of alcohol and regular saturation patrols, where officers search for and arrest impaired drivers, have made a significant impact. Likewise, strong anti-drug messages contribute to lower local incidences of marijuana-impaired driving.

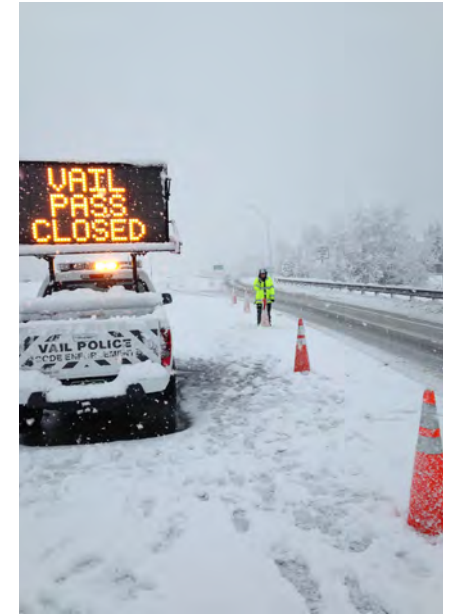
In comparison, the percentage of motorists who tested positive for marijuana in Colorado rose from 7.9% to 13.5% in 2009 after commercialization of medical marijuana and to 18.2% in 2013 after legalization. By 2015, 24.7% of motorists who were tested were positive for marijuana. [Source: National Highway Transportation Safety and Colorado Department of Transportation.]

Fraud

Incidents of fraud have increased over the five-year average. Increases are attributed to credit card frauds and swindles. One common scenario includes residents receiving a call from an unknown person posing as an officer or deputy stating that a warrant will be issued if the resident does not purchase a money card. Another scenario includes Craigslist rental scams.

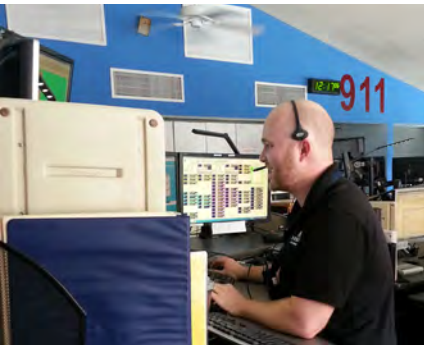
Reported Crime and Activity

	5-year range	2015	2016	5-year avg	% change from avg	Notes on 2016 data
Calls for Service	34,502-37,734	37,072	34,502	35,874	-4	
Total Arrests	666-896	797	666	757	-17	
Persons Crime						
Homicide	-	2	0	0	-	Both cases in 2015 were attempted
Sex Offenses	8-16	9	10	10	-	1 incident included forced fondling of a child
Robbery	1-5	2	0	2	-	No incidences in 2016
Assault	47-73	57	73	59	+19	Half arrests written into county court; minor into municipal
Menacing	5-14	5	14	9	+38	3 road rage with guns, 1 with ax, 2 death threats
Kidnapping/False Imprisonment	2-6	2	3	3	-	2 were domestic violence; 1 involved neighbor with a gun
Threats/Intimidation	1-3	2	1	2	-	A 13-year old girl was cyber bullied
Stalking	0-6	3	6	3	+50	4 domestic cases & 1 involving threats to police & 9-1-1 Ctr
Human Trafficking/Smuggling	0-2	0	0	0	-	No incidents since 2014
Domestic Violence	36-53	36	53	43	+19	Most incidents involved use of alcohol and/or drugs
Child Neglect/Abuse	2-6	3	6	4	+33	4 involved domestic violence with child present; 3 arrests
Property Crime						
Arson	0-2	0	1	0	-	Occurred at Interstate 70 construction site
Burglary	20-33	20	33	26	+21	Included 8 forced entry cases
Theft	275-317	282	279	292	-5	12 shoplifting
Auto Theft	5-11	9	10	9	-	2 cars were left running unattended (1 car for 2 hours)
Criminal Extortion	1-2	1	2	1	-	Included a phone extortion by caller claiming to be IRS
Fraud	76-93	93	91	85	+7	Increase due to bait advertising schemes on Craigslist
Forgery	5-15	5	15	8	+47	Increase attributed to rental scams
Trespassing	43-61	43	61	55	+11	6 were residential; 18 were vehicular
Vandalism	102-122	102	114	114	-	Most occurred in parking lots



Reported Crime and Activity

	5-year range	2015	2016	5-year avg	% change from avg	Notes on 2016 data
Crimes Against Society						
Drug Offenses	55-126	105	126	123	-	Included 58 felony arrests by drug task force.
Impaired Driving	50-84	57	62	65	-	1 driver impaired by Rx; 1 impaired by cannabis & Rx
Weapon Violations	1-5	2	5	3	-	Illegal discharges and possessions
Liquor Law Violations	24-87	52	41	51	-24	Included underaged drinking; youngest was 15 years old
Indecent Exposure	0-3	0	1	2	-	Occurred at a hotel spa
Prostitution	0-6	1	0	1	-	None in 2016
Prowler	3-7	7	7	5	-	2 cases of intoxicated persons trying to gain entry to bldg
Obstructing Officer/Resisting Arrest	15-33	15	24	23	-	Typically resulted from contact for another purpose
Quality of Life Issues						
Disorderly Conduct	55-113	62	55	71	-29	Many cases involved alcohol overuse
Public Drunkenness	33-145	51	33	71	-115	Custodial holds to prevent dangers to themselves or others
Harassment	46-88	46	88	70	+21	Most involved neighbor or roommate complaints
Noise Complaints	196-253	231	196	229	-17	Majority are loud party noise complaints
Animal Complaints	197-319	305	319	267	+16	Barking dogs and dogs at large
Code Violations	361-576	361	446	465	-4	Educational efforts precede enforcement actions
Suspicious Activity	534-704	704	606	625	-3	An informed community helps to report suspicious activity
Civil Standbys	107-166	107	153	132	+14	Roommate disputes, joint custody exchanges, evictions
Welfare Checks	47-67	56	67	56	+16	Slightly higher than 5-year average
Missing/Overdue Persons	64-88	64	67	72	-7	Most were of separated family members; some dementia
Runaways	0-6	0	0	2	-	No runaways since 2014
Suicidal Calls	27-39	39	33	34	-	Rapid responses by officers prevented tragic outcomes
Death Investigations	3-7	6	3	5	-	From natural causes
Bear Calls	5-123	17	60	45	+25	At an all-time low in 2015. Bear sightings on the rise
Moose Calls	n/a	75	77	n/a	-	Sightings of mountain lions are also rising
High Water Checks	0-66	3	7	20	-185	Lower than 5-year average
Bar Checks	236-470	470	383	331	+14	Officers look for underaged persons & over-served patrons
Business/Residential Checks	213-607	607	525	397	+24	Exterior property checked when vacant for extended period





Traffic Management & Road Safety Measures

- Encourage reporting of unsafe driving behaviors
- Promote pedestrian and bicycle road sharing
- Traffic Incident Management Plan strategies
- Interstate 70 Education & Enforcement
- Collaboration with Colorado State Patrol, Colorado Department of Transportation and neighboring agencies
- Chain law inspections
- Safe tire tread inspections
- Radar trailer
- Speed awareness mannequin
- Neighborhood speed management
- Variable message signs
- Click-It or Ticket It
- Gore Range DUI Task Force
- Loading and delivery regulation enforcement
- Commercial Vehicle Passenger Transportation Ordinance
- Identifying data essential to traffic analysis
- POLICEintel – a law enforcement info sharing tool with traffic and crime bulletins

Traffic Education, Enforcement & Response

	5-yr range	2015	2016	5-yr avg	% change from avg
Motor Vehicle Accidents	393-477	449	442	441	-
Hit & Run Collisions	66-85	85	82	79	-
Traffic Activity					
Road Debris	153-182	154	153	164	-7
Traffic Complaints	342-486	415	486	328	+32
Traffic Stops	2,397-3,356	3,356	2,397	2,629	-10
Traffic Control	303-548	548	528	372	+29
Chain Law	33-63	51	63	49	+14
Parking Issues					
Parking Problems	2,529-3,349	3,021	3,349	3,065	+8
Parking Tickets	2,453-3,246	2,845	3,246	2,772	+14
Abandoned Vehicles	55-87	55	79	78	-



Traffic Enforcement

Creating and maintaining a safe road environment involves cooperation and partnerships across diverse government agencies. Continued efforts target a reduction in traffic collisions, fatalities, injuries, congestion and an unrestrained flow of interstate commerce.

A comprehensive **2014-2016 Traffic Crashes in Vail** report is available at <http://vailgov.com/roadsafety>.

Chain Law

The Vail Police Department works with the Colorado State Patrol and Colorado Department of Transportation to improve the safety of chain-up areas and traffic incident management on Interstate 70. As reported by CDOT, incidents on the Interstate 70 Mountain Corridor involving commercial vehicles account for 57% of the total winter road closures in this mountain corridor. In October, Officers and Troopers conducted an inspection of 253 commercial motor vehicles for possession of chains. Of those 253 vehicles, only 6 did not have chains and the drivers were written a citation. A long history of our road safety campaign highlighting Colorado's chain law is successfully influencing truckers' driving behavior.

Interstate 70 Education & Enforcement

	2015	2016
Total patrol time on the interstate (hours)	946	798
Citations issued for speeding	377	497
Custodial or summonsed arrests	109	161
Warnings issued	693	437
Accidents on the interstate	140	99
Interstate accidents as % of total accidents	29%	22%
Commercial vehicle warnings	38	21
Commercial vehicle citations	27	11

Interstate Traffic Volume

The Colorado Department of Transportation reports the Friday average daily traffic volume on the Interstate 70 Mountain Corridor has risen from 37,007 vehicles in 2010 to 42,357 in 2015.



Threatening Calls to Police

The Vail Public Safety Communications Center received five phone calls from a male making threatening statements against law enforcement and communications personnel. In the five calls made to the Center between June 7 and June 10, he said, “Give them (officers) advance notice because they’re about to lose their lives. And so are you (dispatchers) as soon as I find out where you are.”

During another incident, the same male made a purchase at a Vail eatery on June 16, then called about 45 minutes later threatening to kill the staff for allegedly putting laxatives in his food. The 41-year old male was arrested and charged with stalking, menacing, obstructing governmental operations, harassment by phone, and inciting destruction of life or property.

Prolific Burglaries

Investigators worked for several months to link open cases with property recovered from Colorado State Patrol’s arrest of an Avon resident for prolific burglaries. The inventory of evidence seized from the arrest reached hundreds of individual pieces of property. Every effort was made to identify the owners of recovered stolen property. The 38-year old male is charged with possession of burglary tools, authorized possession of a controlled substance in an unauthorized container, and three traffic infractions by the Colorado State Patrol. By the Vail Police Department, he is charged with theft \$5,000 to \$20,000. He is also charged with second degree burglary, theft \$2,000 to \$5,000 and second degree criminal trespass by the Eagle County Sheriff’s Office.

Busted

A vehicle identified by a Drug Enforcement Agent as a “known drug trafficking vehicle” was observed and stopped for a weaving violation. An overwhelming odor of raw marijuana plant material emanated from the vehicle when the driver rolled her window down halfway to speak to the officer. After receiving a moving violation warning, the officer asked for and received consent to search the vehicle. Based upon the strong marijuana odor, eight sealed packages observed in the void space and presence of an after-market hidden compartment, the Honda was towed to the police impound lot. The Vail PD seized eight kilos of marijuana, a revolver and 30 grams of cocaine. The driver was charged with felony drug charges, obstruction and assault.

Tagging, you lose!

A Town bus driver reported seeing graffiti in numerous locations and believed the graffiti to be one hour old. While canvassing the area for suspects, an officer observed a male with spray cans near him. Upon noticing the male’s fingers and hands were covered with numerous colors of paint, he had probable cause and arrested the suspect for felony criminal mischief. A backup officer advised he made contact with a second subject hiding on scene who also had paint on his hands. That party was also placed under arrest for felony criminal mischief. Vandalized property included concrete walls, concrete underpass pillars, construction signs, a retaining wall, skate park, sidewalk and steps. Estimate to repair the damage was over \$6,500.

On the Trail

A Vail merchant reported credit card fraud by suspects captured on surveillance video. After talking with the merchant and learning the suspects were carrying umbrellas similar to those lent out by the Four Seasons in Vail, Vail Police left the store and headed to the hotel. While speaking to the assistant manager, Vail Police observed a man and a woman loading luggage into a car and recognized them as the suspects viewed in the security video. After telling the males they were seen on

video making a purchase with a fraudulent credit card, the two individuals were placed under arrest. The male, 27, was charged with theft and criminal impersonation. The second offender, a female, 30, was charged with theft, forgery, identify theft, computer crime, and organized crime. Total loss incurred for fraudulent use of credit cards was \$34,978.

Results of a credit card magnetic stripe search warrant revealed the rest of the story. One offender was tied to account take overs where he acquired account holder info. Then, posing as the legitimate account holder, he’d order a replacement credit card from the issuing organization and use a forged ID to retrieve the cards from a DHL location abroad. American Express has since opened their own fraud case in regards to this male.

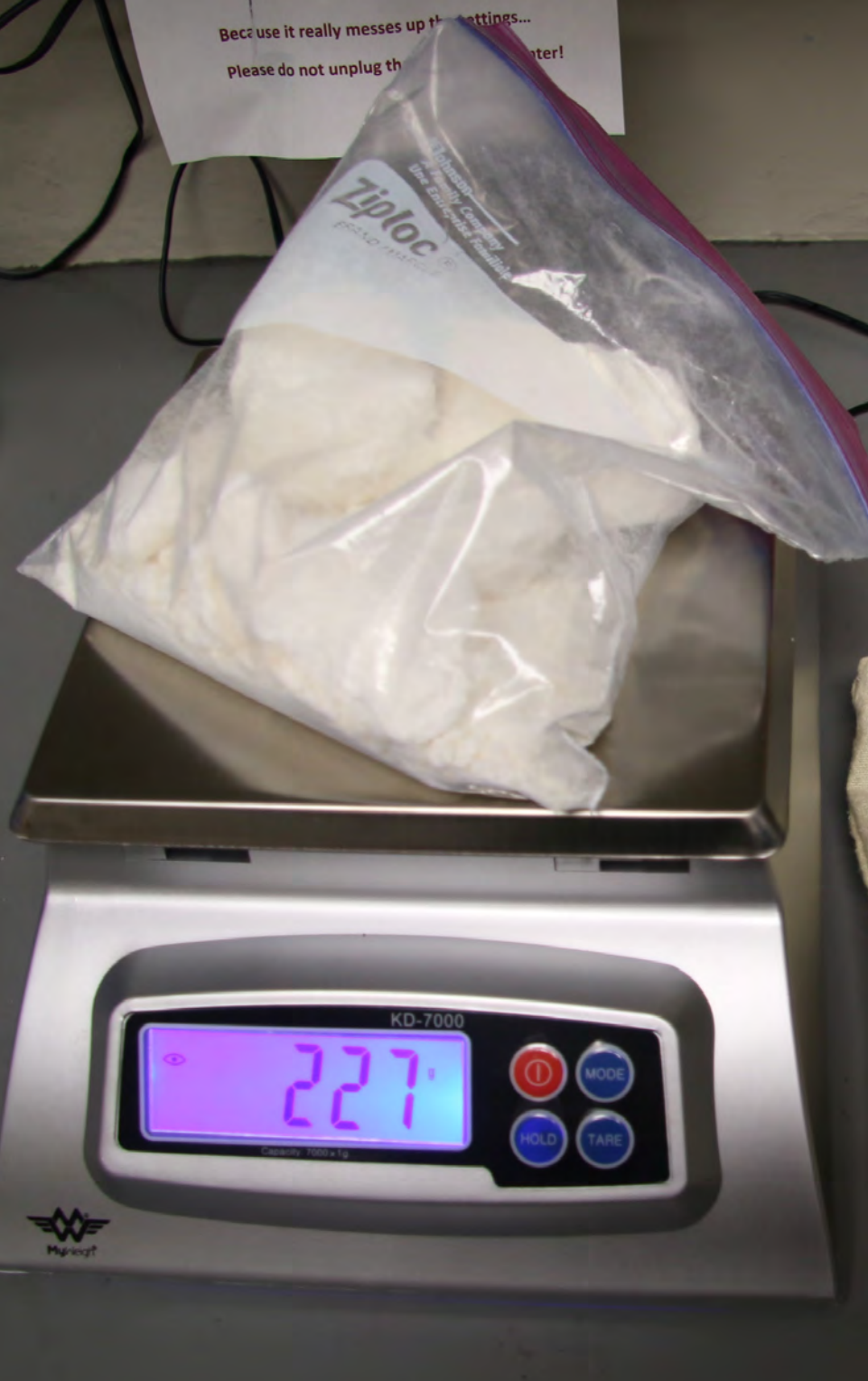
On the Take

Vail Resorts reported a former employee had added unauthorized items to existing purchase orders. The employee purchased a massage chair, massage table, notebook computers, washer and dryer, refrigerator, cameras, TV, portable generator, tires, gift cards and more. Investigators served a search warrant at his residence and discovered property valued at over \$23,000. The total value of items the suspect stole from Vail Resorts over a period of two and a half years reaches in excess of \$43,000.

The 47-year old male resident was charged with felony theft, unauthorized use of a financial transaction device and computer crime.

Paired Up

Police recovered stolen property and assisted in the arrest of two men, aged 50 and 28, accused of fraudulently using multiple credit cards to purchase electronics and other high-end items from stores extending from the Denver Front Range to Vail. The suspects are charged with felony theft, fraud, computer crimes and violation of the Organized Crime Act. Bond was set at \$100,000 for each defendant.



Drug Task Force

The Gore Range Narcotics Interdiction Team was formed in 2015 to make a local impact on felony level drug crimes in Eagle County. GRANITE is a multi-agency drug task force comprised of officers from the Vail Police Department and the Eagle County Sheriff's Office.

Activity and Seizures

\$2 million	total value of drugs seized
61	arrests
63	cleared warrants
1,107	grams cocaine local street value - \$110,600
69,371	grams marijuana local street value - \$2,066,130
310	grams marijuana concentrate (hash oil) local street value - \$15,480
5.4	grams MDMA (Ecstasy) local street value - \$54
227	grams of methamphetamine local street value - \$10,000
30	prescription pills
700	doses LSD (Lysergic Acid Dimethylamine) local street value - \$7,000
96,000	in US currency (bulk cash smuggling and drug proceeds)
11	illegal guns seized



Top Award for Top Achievements

During the 2016 Colorado Drug Investigators Association Annual Conference, GRANITE was presented the President's Award for Drug Task Force of the Year. This honor recognizes the team's local impact in reducing the availability of illicit controlled substances in our community, seizure of drug proceeds, creation of youth drug prevention programs, and proactive enforcement and arrest of felony drug distributors.

NARCAN Program

Vail PD initiated their Narcan program which provides officers with the life-saving antidote for opiate overdoses. They were trained by members of the Avon PD who had already started the program. In an age with an up and coming opiate epidemic throughout the U.S., this program will support the department's mission in providing safety and security to our community.

Cocaine Seizure

In March, GRANITE launched a large-scale investigation into a cocaine drug trafficking organization with impact throughout the Eagle County area. A controlled purchase of cocaine led to an arrest of Grayson Garner, 28, of Florissant, and seizure of 158.89 grams (5.6 ounces) of cocaine.

Garner's arrest led to investigations of co-conspirators involved in the drug trafficking organization. GRANITE identified a significant level source of cocaine with local ties, Alan Humberto Hernandez Lopez, 26, of Aurora.

After a controlled purchase of cocaine, Hernandez Lopez was arrested in October, in Vail. Also arrested, for conspiracy and cocaine distribution, was Andrew Quach, 26, of Aurora. Additional investigation led to the November arrest in Jefferson County of Justine Colton, 25, of Denver for conspiracy and cocaine distribution.

This investigation led to the seizure of a total of 1,190 grams of cocaine with an estimated street value of \$119,000.00 — the largest seizure for a local drug task force to date. The case was worked in conjunction with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Hernandez and Quach have been indicted on federal charges and are awaiting their court proceedings.

Cocaine & Gun Seizure

In April, GRANITE began an investigation of cocaine sales in the Town of Eagle after receiving reports of distribution activity in bars. GRANITE identified two individuals selling cocaine, Luis Carlos Razo, 21, and Joe David Bazan, 24.

Bazan and Razo were involved in three controlled purchases of cocaine. Arrest warrants were issued and GRANITE served a search warrant on their residence which produced more evidence of cocaine distribution. Bazan was released on bond. Soon after, GRANITE investigators observed an advertisement posted by Bazan to sell a hand gun. As a previously convicted felon, Bazan was in possession of this gun illegally, thus GRANITE detectives were able to seize this weapon prior to it being sold illegally. Bazan was sentenced to seven years community corrections.



Telecommunicator Of The Year

Vail Public Safety Dispatcher **Amber Droegemeier** has been named Colorado's Telecommunicator of the Year by the Colorado National Emergency Number Association and Association of Public-Safety Communications Officers.



Rotary Public Safety Leadership Award

Vail Public Safety Operations Support Supervisor **Jennifer Kirkland** was nominated for this award by Chief Henninger.



Service

Vail Police Officer **Lee Demarest** was recently deployed to the Middle East as a reserve officer with the National Guard. We are immensely proud of Officer Demarest. Everyone at the department, his wife and three young children await his safe return.

Lifesaver Awards

Vail Public Safety Dispatch Supervisor **Tina Mojzer** for providing instruction to a couple giving birth on the side of I-70. Baby was breach and its life compromised. Mojzer's instructions aided the child's birth and she was credited at the hospital for saving the baby's life.

Dispatcher **Michelle Aranda** for CPR instructions.

Dispatcher **Fernando Almanza** for CPR instructions to a caller who was with a young man suffering a secondary drowning.

Dispatcher **Chris Ciaffone** for CPR instructions to two individuals on a male, 75, who was unconscious and unresponsive. The victim was transported and revived in the ER.

Dispatcher **Kelly Klein** for providing CPR instructions to a reporting parting for an unresponsive female for eight minutes prior to ambulance arrival. Subject was revived.

Service Commendations

Dispatchers **Beth Dobransky, Krysta Gardner, Troy Kirk and Chris Ciaffone** for response coordination on a suicidal party with a handgun.

Dispatcher **James Hubbard** for extra effort and efficiency in a Mobile Communications Unit deployment to a fire.

Dispatcher **Kelly Klein** for instructions during the birth on I-70 of a baby.

Officers **Chad Henninger and Matt Moir** who, at a disturbance in progress, discovered an active fire. They evacuated the building with no one injured at great risk to themselves.

Make a Difference

Organizations highlighted here are currently doing good, and we'd like to help them do more of it! Please consider visiting these or similar sites to learn what each one of us can do individually and collectively to stop violence, abuse and impaired driving.

HELP CREATE A BETTER WORLD.

stopbullying.gov

According to the U.S. Department of Justice and the Journal of Pediatrics, 160,000 kids miss school each day for fear of being bullied. Bullying can be physical, verbal, social or cyber-based.

Key to preventing long-lasting effects for the victims is immediate and early intervention. Learn what you can do to prevent bullying or to report a bully.

stopbullying.gov

nonotoriety.com

Nonotoriety.com was founded by families of the Aurora Theater shooting and is based in Bailey, Colorado.

Mass shooters emulate each other. They feed off the fear of the public and the notoriety of their predecessors. So challenge the media to elevate the names of the victims and restrict the number of times they show the photo or mention the name of a shooter.



futureswithoutviolence.org

This non-profit organization has developed innovative programs and educational material addressing domestic violence, child abuse, bullying, digital abuse and sexual assault. Futures Without Violence has won awards time and time again for their policy work, educational campaigns, and techniques to engage individuals and professional groups in their programs.

Their website is a supersite of tools to help stop violence and abuse.



Formerly Family Violence Prevention Fund

www.madd.org

There is no shortage of grim statistics and social clues on the dangers of impaired driving.

Driving under the influence is a deliberate and violent act and continues despite awareness campaigns on the number of lives lost in accidents involving alcohol and drugs.

Please visit this site to learn what purposeful actions you can take to effect permanent change in eradicating drunk and drugged driving.



PHOTO CREDITS

PHOTOGRAPHERS

(LISTED ALPHABETICALLY)

Rex Keep

Cover, page 5, page 20 (top left), page 22, page 26 (top right),
page 28, page 33 (center)

www.rexkeepphoto.com

Dominique Taylor

Page 1, page 4, page 12 (lower right), page 14, page 20 (top and bottom right), page 24 (bottom left), page 26 (bottom right), page 29

www.dominiquetaylor.com

Charles Townsend

Page 10

www.charlestownsendphotography.com



75 Frontage Rd W • Vail, Colorado 81657
970.479.2210 • 970.479.2216 fax
www.vailpolice.com • vailpolice@vailgov.com
twitter.com/vailgov • facebook.com/VailPD