

APRIL CITIZENS AUXILIARY ADVISORY SHERIFF'S MEETINGS

Meetings opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Sheriff reported on the 2 weeklong West Point Leadership Class which is taught by Sheriff Spurling and Under Sheriff Travis. The course consists of 622 pages of material, 22 case studies. Washington State Patrol is the first agency to receive the training class in the US. Individual cost for class is \$3,000.00 and 280 officers have already gone through the class throughout the US.

The shooting at Little Creek was an extremely violent gang related ambush. With the help of a casino officer the 5 adults and 1 juvenile were pursued and caught.

The new Command Vehicle has received the approval from the MC Commissioners for \$50,000.00 to get the vehicle set up for operation. Initiative for officer pursuit goes into effect on June 6th. Historically pursuit occurs in the hours of darkness. The Sheriff insists that the safety of the community comes first before pursuit is allowed by MC Officers. The 2023 Bi-Annual, 36-page report for MC Sheriff's Office is now available for review on their website. I copied the report and found it extremely interesting and informative and encourage all to review.

Recently lost 3 officers to the State Patrol. Another officer was released because of using their badge to make bad decisions. The Pioneer School Officer Program faded, but is being resumed. Block Watch Programs are strongly encouraged to be generated. Previously there was a \$150.00 charge to process SQUATTER removal, but Sheriff Spurling stopped that fee. A meeting attendee asked if body cameras are still being used. Answer is yes. A warning: a lot of "Title Fraud" is happening. Auditor is in process to stop ballots going to "deceased" voters. A support system has been created for officers to address the increased stress with traumatic situations that they face daily. The average age of current officers is 53 and 27 have less than 5 years of duty.

State Patrol Officer, Jason Roe, reported that he has lost 4 troopers and is down to 7 troopers of which 3 work Mason County. He hopes to be up to 9 troopers soon.

Sheriff Spurling says, be ever aware of your surroundings, be observant and if you see something say something.