



UW POLICE DEPARTMENT

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Division of Student Life

Working Together to Create a Safe Campus Community

The University of Washington Police Department is committed to working closely with the community to maintain a safe environment for the students, faculty and staff who make this University a world-class institution. The UWPD embraces Community Policing, making use of community partnerships and problem-solving techniques to address safety concerns.

**Collaboration.
It's the Washington Way.**

Our Story

The University of Washington Police Department (UWPD) serves and protects 68,000+ students, staff, faculty and visitors 24 hours per day, 365 days per year.

As a department covering a small jurisdiction, we offer the best of small town policing by emphasizing education and problem-solving over enforcement when appropriate. Our officers take pride in knowing community members by name.

As a department in the midst of a thriving cosmopolitan environment, we offer the technology and training of an urban police agency. Our patrol vehicles are equipped with Mobile Data Computers and video cameras, and our officers are equipped with modern tools of the trade. Surrounding agencies call upon us because we have the specialized training and equipment that they lack. All our sworn officers have successfully completed training at the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission Academy (or equivalent), and many hold associate, bachelor and even master degrees in public service-related fields. Our officers are highly trained in many facets of law enforcement, including crime prevention, first aid, criminal investigation and crisis intervention.

As a campus police agency, we have developed customized resources and training for the particular challenges of a university campus, including a residence hall patrol unit, active shooter officer training and a Rape Aggression Defense program for the community, which is specifically designed for women on university campuses.

Because our service call load is lower than that of many municipal agencies, officers do not run from call to call. This allows them to provide high quality customer service to citizens and victims. Officers choose to work here because they know they will have more opportunities to practice proactive policing, more opportunities to exercise their creativity in problem solving and more opportunities to collaborate with other law enforcement partners and university departments.

By developing relationships, we build community. By collaborating with our community, we solve problems. By solving problems, we make our campus safer for everyone.

Our Commitment

Access – The University of Washington Police Department works to create a safe and secure environment in which students, staff and faculty can follow their intellectual, creative and academic pursuits.

Engagement – The UWPD is committed to collaborating with the community to maintain a safe environment for the students, faculty and staff who make this university great. The UWPD can't do our work alone. We rely on you, the community, to partner with us.

Diversity – The UWPD actively seeks a work environment rich in diverse backgrounds and ideas. In our hiring practices, we strive to reflect the diversity of our community in order to better collaborate with, connect with and understand those we serve.

Care – We take pride in our excellent customer service, rigorous follow up on cases and quick response time to calls as well as our array of crime prevention services and programs. We approach each encounter with members of our community, whether it be a social contact, crime prevention talk, traffic stop or arrest, as another opportunity to highlight our commitment to service and accountability.

Student Learning – The UWPD fosters the next generation of leaders by providing learning opportunities within our department (such as our intern program). We also provide the security necessary for students to engage in their academic pursuits, be it providing security at a controversial lecture, escorting students to a night class or dedicating police officers to the unique needs and concerns of students living in the residence halls.

Quick Facts

Nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

On-staff Crime Victim Advocate: Our advocate helps victims and their families, and witnesses through the process of physical, emotional and financial recovery.

Husky NightWalk: a uniformed security guard service that provides escorts at night, performed 5000 escorts in 2010.

100% recovery rate for stolen vehicles in 2010.

50% solve rate for robberies in 2009 and 2010 (more than twice the national average).

The UWPD staffed more than **200 events** in 2010. Our collaboration with events coordinators in the HUB, the Athletic Department, the College of Arts and Sciences and other UW departments helps us keep lectures, dignitary visits, athletic events and recitals and concerts safe for students, faculty and staff to enjoy.

UWPD officers participate in a variety of community outreach programs throughout the year, engaging in service to a cause larger than ourselves. One example is the **Polar Plunge for Special Olympics**. Our department brought the Polar Plunge to Seattle, and the event now hosts over 300 participants annually.

35% of our police officers identify with a racial minority. This reflects both the diversity of the city of Seattle (at 35%) and the UW student population (at 32%). In addition, our percentage of female officers is double that of the national average for small agencies.

Collaborating with local law enforcement, the UWPD provides nighttime patrols in Seattle Police Department jurisdiction north of campus. This area is commonly known as Greek Row.

The UWPD offers **internships** for UW students and runs a **Cadet Program** for students interested in law enforcement.

As part of our crime prevention efforts, the UWPD provides many services, such as:

- Bike and electronics registration
- Facebook page and Web site, offering crime prevention tips and other information for the public
- Crisis/Emergency Alert email signup: www.alert.org
- Parent and Student Orientation talks
- Personal safety and theft prevention presentations

Efficiencies

The UWPD functions in a fiscally responsible manner. We seek to streamline and automate processes whenever possible without compromising our high standards for customer service by:

- Using our Web site, Facebook and UW Alert emails to communicate quickly with our community.
- Integrating telecommunications systems to coordinate rapidly with Seattle Fire and Seattle Police in the event of an emergency.
- Putting some officers out on bicycles rather than using vehicles to decrease our response time, save money on vehicles and make officers more accessible to the community.
- Sharing knowledge and resources with the city, other UW departments and members of the community to prevent and deter crime.
- Responsible fiscal management. Coming in under budget and seeking external sources of funding to support our priorities, such as additional staffing in the communications center, police station cameras, and domestic violence training.
- Changing our organizational structure to combine similar functions into more efficient units.

Challenges & Opportunities

One of our ongoing goals is to further our collaboration with the community by developing a volunteer program. We strive to increase community awareness of the programs and services that we offer.

We continue to adjust to the personnel reduction in the Detective Unit.

Most crimes on campus would be prevented if victims used crime prevention procedures, such as securing unattended belongings. Our challenge is to get the message out about these techniques to a population that changes yearly.

Additional budget cuts will negatively affect the breadth of services that we can provide and the depth of our investigations. Reduction in staffing could reduce our property recovery rate, decrease our rate for solving cases and limit our ability to implement a community policing model. Additional budget cuts will also hamper our ability to prepare for and mitigate future crime effects of Sound Transit opening, increased student enrollment, as well as the increase in jurisdictional size.



Collaboration. It's the Washington Way.