



Spokane County Sheriff Chaplaincy

# November 2025 Newsletter

## Lead Chaplain

Robert Kinnune

## Assistant Lead Chaplain

Ryan Stemkoski

## Senior Chaplains

Jake Burkholder

Rochelle Renninger

Garry Losey

## Chaplains

Joe Fruci

Jaylynn Lawrence

Steve Beck

TJ Gaia \*

Anthony Rogers \*

Cade Clarke \*

JR Stanley \*

Cliff Foster \*

## Support Team

Yvonne Losey

Renee Townsley

Marilyn Van Tassel

\* Currently Probationary  
staff in training

## Support Your Chaplains

Because of generous supporters like you we're able to care for our law enforcement family and community.

How you can give:

- On Our Website

- Venmo

- By Check

- Payroll Deductions

- Visit us at our

Chaplain Office in the

DEM Building



## Sheriff Chaplain's Corner

### YEAR-END REFLECTIONS

Many years ago, when I entered military service, I underwent a series of rigorous training and exercises to prepare for my duty assignment. With boot camp, trade school, and formal schooling, I spent almost 2 years of preparation before being deployed to my first duty station.

Despite all that training, when I got out there, it was different. The training wheels were off, the instructors were gone, the mentors were gone, my training buddies were gone - I was there alone. I realized that all that knowledge had not been tested by the real world. I awakened to what it meant to be the proverbial newbie.

My knowledge was missing experience. This combination of knowledge and experience is known as wisdom. Wisdom is defined as knowledge combined with the expertise to apply that knowledge effectively. Knowledge, by itself, reveals just how much we don't know about our profession. Experience teaches us how to utilize what we do know and the limits of that knowledge.

One of the most famous people in the Bible is King Solomon. He was known throughout the ancient world for his wisdom and wealth. But even he found out firsthand how scary it can be to be the newbie. When his father died, the young man was crowned king, and instantly all authority rested on him. As the newly appointed king, he now realized the whole nation and government rested on his shoulders. He was the proverbial newbie, so he cried out to God for help.

**2 Chronicles 1:9-10** *"... O LORD God ... for thou hast made me King over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude. Give me now wisdom and knowledge ..." (KJV translation)*

In response, God granted him the wisdom in abundance, and he had a highly successful career. After 20 years on the job, he became one of the wealthiest and most powerful kings in the ancient world. The writer of the New Testament, James, reflected on this event and wrote to his readers that God gives liberally to those who ask for true wisdom.

**James 1:5** *"...If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally ... and it shall be given him..."* (KJV translation)

As this year comes to a close, we all share one thing in common. Regardless of our tradecraft, our walk in life, or our faith journey, we are all more experienced today than we were a year ago. We are all more knowledgeable and have a greater understanding than we did a year ago. Therefore, we can take comfort in knowing that we are wiser and safer today than we were a year ago.

As we approach the end of this calendar year, let us take a moment to reflect on our victories and successes from this year. In like manner, take a moment to acknowledge and learn from our shortcomings for the explicit purpose of becoming better at what we do. By taking this moment of reflection, and thus learning, we can confidently declare that this was a successful year, and we can take joy in it. May God bless us with many more successful years to come.

- Chaplain Cliff Foster

**Prayer:** Our Father, who governs the heavens and earth, we praise thy name, and we bow before you this day to pray. We call upon this biblical promise that you will grant liberally to those who will humbly ask for wisdom, so we stop and call on thee to ask for wisdom. Give us grace and wisdom to successfully perform the duties set before us and fight the righteous fight. Amen.

## Support the Chaplaincy with Payroll Deductions

Are you a Spokane County employee? Did you know you can support the chaplaincy and our mission? Learn more and sign-up online:

<https://scsochaplains.org/payroll-deduction/>



## Welcome Chaplain Cliff Foster!

Before relocating to Spokane, Chaplain Cliff served in the United States Navy, where he served as the Religious Lay-leader aboard USS Florida and USS Michigan. Upon leaving the military, he served as the interim Pastor in Roy, Washington. After this, he then served as the Associate Pastor in Poulsbo, Washington.

In the Fall of 2011, he accepted the invitation to serve as senior pastor here in Spokane, WA. Chaplain Cliff holds a certification for Christian religious counseling, and he has served in various ministry & charity programs. In August 2025, Chaplain Cliff graduated from the First Responders Chaplain Academy and went on to join the Spokane County Sheriff's Office Chaplaincy.



Chaplain Cliff is a father of four children, of whom three have married and have kids of their own: for a total of seven grandchildren. Most of his family works for and/or supports Spokane's low-income housing authority. The family owns acreage in the Nine-Mile area where they have been working to build a four generation multi-generational farm over the last few years. The family loves the great outdoors and enjoys ATV trail riding.







## 2026 Chaplain Calendars Available Now!

Our 2026 Chaplain calendar is ready, and we are excited to share it with you. It is packed with photos from the past year of ministry, including some great shots of our chaplain team, Sheriff Nowels, our deputies, and many of the incredible people who make this department what it is. You will also find plenty of glamour shots of Hank, our team's emotional support dog, because he insisted on being the real star of the year. A big thank you goes to Yvonne Losey for the time and heart she put into creating this calendar. If you would like one, just let us know. We would be glad to send a copy your direction.

Email [info@scsochaplains.org](mailto:info@scsochaplains.org) to request a calendar!



## Adult & Teen Challenge

A number of our team members were in attendance at the Adult and Teen Challenge Gala, and it was a truly meaningful and encouraging evening. The room was filled with powerful stories of redemption, honesty, and hope, and it was impossible to miss the courage of the men and women who shared their journeys. Those in attendance also had the privilege of hearing a powerful message from Sheriff Nowels as he spoke about his daughter and her recovery journey.

Learn more about [Adult & Teen Challenge](#)

## Talk to a Chaplain

Whether you're an officer, county employee, community member, or just need someone to talk to, our chaplain team is here for you.

- 24x7 Support Spiritual
- Guidance & Referrals
- Pastoral Counseling
- Conversation
- Crisis Intervention
- Weddings & Funerals

## Supporters of the Month



Thank you to David Short & the team at Findlay Spokane Toyota for your support!

Website: [findlaytoyotaspokane.com](http://findlaytoyotaspokane.com)