



# Spokane County Sheriff Chaplaincy January 2026 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

Anthony Rogers \*

Cade Clarke \*

JR Stanley \*

Cliff Foster \*

## Reserve Chaplains

TJ Gaia

Kyle Knutsen \*

## 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

By Chaplain JR Stanley

*"The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe."*

— Proverbs 18:10

In Scripture and biblical tradition, a tower is a place of watchfulness, refuge, and strength. Light represents revelation, guidance, and hope in the darkness. Together, Migdal Ohr, which translates to "Tower of Light," paints a powerful image of God's servants standing firm in difficult places, bearing illumination where shadows are closing in.



As Sheriff Chaplains, we are often placed at the crossroads of pain and duty, justice and mercy, life and loss. We walk beside the first responders we serve into scenes where others leave. We listen when words are hard to find. We stand steady when chaos threatens to overwhelm.

We are not called to remove the darkness — only to carry the Light into it.

A tower does not chase the storm. It stands.

A light does not argue with the night. It shines.

A tower is visible from afar. Even when silent, it testifies to safety. In the same way, our presence — uniformed or not, speaking or simply standing — becomes a signal that speaks to weary officers, broken families, and frightened souls: **"You are not alone."**

Migdal Ohr reminds us that our strength does not come from having all the answers, but from being anchored in the Lord, who is the answer — our very tower of strength. When our feet are planted in Him, our lives and our service become a refuge others instinctively run toward.

Regarding the New Year ahead, it will bring moments of grief, moral tension, fatigue, and unseen victories. You may feel unseen, underappreciated, or emotionally spent.

Remember this:

Towers are built stone by stone — faithfulness in small moments matters.

Light travels farther than sound — your quiet faith reaches farther than you know.

A tower remains standing because of its foundation — not its height.

Remain rooted in Christ. Let Him refill what service pours out. Let His light shine through your compassion, your listening ear, your calm presence, and your prayers offered quietly behind the scenes.

**Prayer:** Lord, you are our strong tower and our unending light. As we enter this new year, strengthen every chaplain who serves in places of pain and pressure. When the nights are long, be their light. When the burden is heavy, be their refuge. Make them towers of hope — steady, faithful, and filled with Your presence. May those they serve glimpse Your mercy through them. In Jesus' name, 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 JR Stanley

JR Stanley (V506) is a follower of Jesus Christ and has served as a Spokane County Sheriff's Chaplain since August 2025. He and his wife, Suzanne, reside in Spokane. He is a graduate of Gonzaga University, where he earned a Master's degree in Organizational Leadership (MOL). After a successful career spanning a variety of sales and marketing roles with Fortune 500 and Fortune 200 companies, he has enjoyed retirement for the past three years.

JR is also the Program Coordinator for the Stephen Ministry at his church. It was through this ministry and the leadership of Chaplains Robert Kinnune (V500) & Garry Losey (V507), that a partnership developed that led to a calling into the Chaplaincy.

His approach to service is grounded in Galatians 6:2—*“Carry one another’s burdens; in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ”*—which guides his commitment to compassionate care and service to others.



## Adult & Teen Challenge PacWest – Open House

By Avery Jones, Development Coordinator

Thank you, SCSO Chaplains, so much for taking the time to join us for our recent open house at the Spokane Men's Campus. We are truly grateful for the SCSO Chaplains presence and for the meaningful partnership we are building together.



thankful for the opportunity to share a meal and strengthen relationships. We look forward to continuing this partnership and seeing how we can support one another in the important work ahead.



## Inaugural First Responder Appreciation Day

By Chaplain Cliff Foster

On December 19, 2025, VFW Post 51 conducted its inaugural first responder appreciation day. The VFW organized the event to honor those who protect and serve our community. The celebration featured live entertainment, a silent auction, and good food. The SCSO Chaplains attended the event to lend our support in honoring first responders.



## 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

### Franz Bakery

Thank you to Franz Bakery who donates 100% of the baked goods for our Holidays & Heroes family! We so appreciate your support!



# Where's the Chaplain?



**Chaplain Jaylynn** (right) presenting the chaplain coin to Lori Flood (left) at the food donations collection site for Holiday & Heroes.



**Chaplain Anthony** (left) and his wife (right) shopping with two Holiday & Heroes children.



**Chaplain JR** (right) presenting the chaplain coin to Gwen (left) at her retirement ceremony.



**Chaplain JR, Chaplain Jake, Chaplain Anthony, Undersheriff Richy, Chaplain Cliff, Chaplain Support Marilyn & Chaplain Hank** (left to Right) at the Fallen Officer Wreath Laying Ceremony