

## Ouray County Sheriff's Community Advisory Committee Quarterly Report – January – March 2023

This twenty member Committee was formed in January 2022. We met monthly the first year, although the meeting was cancelled a few times. In 2023, the Committee is meeting bi-monthly (six times). At the March meeting, Sheriff Perry asked Committee members to share information within our respective neighborhoods.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Volunteer Opportunity – Sheriff's Posse

The Ouray County Sheriff's Office is recruiting volunteers for the Sheriff's Posse. Duties include: accident/traffic control, assisting animal control, assisting Dispatch and/or front office, assisting in the Courthouse, crime scene security, crowd and traffic control for Special Events, assisting with County Emergencies, direct patrol/security checks (including vacation home watch programs), fire evacuation, Fire Watch Program, Ranch Watch Program, Neighborhood Watch Program, and Ouray Mountain Rescue.

For more information or an application, contact Sheriff Perry at 970-325-7272 or email at [jperry@ourayco.gov](mailto:jperry@ourayco.gov). Applications are also available on the Ouray County website, in the Sheriff's Department section, and via the Posse Directors at [ocsposse@gmail.com](mailto:ocsposse@gmail.com).

All applicants will go through an official background investigation, and once approved, will receive extensive training. There is an expectation for members to attend monthly meetings. There will be a mounted horse division for response to backcountry emergencies. Interested residents do not need prior law enforcement experience. Posse members will not carry weapons.

The Posse is a 501(c)3 organization. As part of the Ranch Watch Program, and for funding to support the Posse, No Trespassing Signs are being sold. There are two sizes, 8X10" for \$10.00 and 24X30" for \$50.00. The larger signs say, "Ouray is a Ranch Watch Program County."



Order signs via [ocsposse@gmail.com](mailto:ocsposse@gmail.com).

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Volunteer Opportunity – Emergency Management – Citizen’s Incident Command Team**

Under the direction of Glenn Boyd, Ouray County Emergency Manager, this Team will respond to disasters until professional responders from outside of the County arrive. Volunteers are needed to train and serve in the areas of Safety Officer, Operations, Logistics, and Planning. For more information or to apply contact Glenn Boyd at [gboyd@ourayco.gov](mailto:gboyd@ourayco.gov).

## **Other news related to the Sheriff’s Office or the Advisory Committee:**

### **Changes in personnel/duties**

Luis Perez, former patrol Deputy, is now a full-time, dedicated Traffic Safety Deputy. He will be patrolling on all County roads, scheduled at various times of the day/week. So, slow down, or be prepared to receive a traffic ticket!

Shelby Kozey has been hired to fill the full-time patrol Deputy position vacated by Luis Perez. Shelby most recently has been an officer on the Montrose force. She began sixteen weeks of training on March 31, 2023.

### **Evacuation/Traffic Study**

This study will take place in 2023, with education to Ouray County residents following the formal report. Currently, there is information on the County website, Emergency Management Department page on Emergency Preparedness Kits. These include checklists for a “72 hour” clothing, etc. kit for evacuation, food, water, pets, etc.

The Emergency Management Department page is also where you click on the link to sign-up for Emergency Notification Systems.

### **Ouray County Support and Advocacy Program**

This program will focus on a Domestic Violence and Education Campaign. The Campaign will be the focus of the May Community Advisory Committee Meeting. More info will be shared in the next neighborhood report.

### **Waste tire dumps**

Illegal waste tire dumps are scattered throughout the County. There is money available via the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment to remove these tires. Every time we purchase new tires, a special fee is collected to fund this program. There is no fine or fee to a resident wishing to get rid of a pile of tires that were “inherited” upon purchasing property. Tires are especially dangerous during a wildfire, potentially burning for months, spewing black smoke. They are also detrimental left on the ground, leaching petroleum-based residue that eventually reaches our underground water supply.

Ouray County will be eligible in 2024 to host a repeat of the event held in 2021 to collect up to 10 tires from residents at no charge. We collected 1,000 tires during the one-day 2021 event held at the 4-H Center.

**The Sheriff is interested in hearing from any and all Ouray County residents with feedback or complaints. Feel free to contact him by phone (970 325-7272 or email at [jperry@ourayco.gov](mailto:jperry@ourayco.gov).**