

Sheriff Brett Myers

“I am pleased to endorse the Chaplaincy Program as a vital service offered by the Whitman County Sheriff’s Office.

Working hand in hand with law enforcement, the Chaplaincy can provide support to the citizens of Whitman County that might otherwise not be offered.

The services provided by the Chaplaincy are vital to many of the situations that affect our citizens and communities. The Chaplaincy is truly a service and gives additional meaning to the phrase, ‘To Protect and Serve.’ ”

Will You Become a Partner?

You are invited to share in this vital ministry in order to meet the needs of hurting individuals and families in Whitman County. The Chaplaincy is dependent upon generous people who care about or have been helped by this ministry. Will you prayerfully consider how you can support this work? All donations are tax-deductible.

If you would like to help fill out the form below and mail it to:

Whitman County Chaplain

P.O. Box 66

Colfax, WA. 99111

Yes, I want to help with a donation.

Yes, please send me the free Chaplain’s Newsletter.

No, I do not wish to receive the newsletter.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ **Zip Code** _____

I am giving a Memorial Gift in memory of:



Chaplaincy Program

“Offering a Helping Hand in Time of Need”



Member - International Conference of Police Chaplains

**Chaplain Ron McMurray
B.A., MA.**

ICPC Master’s Level Chaplain

509-397-6266 ext 444

The Sheriff's Chaplain

The Whitman County Chaplain is an employee of the Sheriff's Office. The Chaplaincy program is run by seven Board members from various community churches.

Today more and more police agencies are realizing the importance of having a Chaplain on their staff to assist with the needs of their officers and trauma victims who are faced with emotional, moral or spiritual questions.

What is a Chaplain?

A Chaplain is an ordained minister in good standing with their denomination or fellowship. Our Chaplain is also a reserve deputy for the County. In addition, he pastors a church in the County.

Chaplains may pastor churches, work in hospitals, fire stations, police departments, on sports teams, at universities, in companies or anywhere they are needed.

Most Chaplains are volunteers but some are full-time paid employees. In Washington State, Police Chaplains are not allowed to receive public funds through a government paycheck so the Chaplain must raise his income

through donations from businesses, churches, organizations and individuals.

Job Description

The purpose of the Chaplain is to provide assistance, comfort, and encouragement to victims and their families in their time of grief and loss.

In stress-filled environments, such as in emergency services, the Chaplain will assist the care providers during traumatic incidents and help them with their reactions to the trauma. The purpose is to lessen the stress buildup and prevent continuing trauma to the care providers. The Chaplain is a member of the Whitman County Critical Stress Incident Debriefing team.

The Chaplain seeks to alleviate stress build up by active listening, seeking to understand, using humor, and offering words of support, encouragement and spiritual comfort.

When disaster strikes, the Chaplain may be called to the scene such as to a home, the hospital, death scene, collision, or to the funeral home. Death notifications are made to families of deceased loved ones

in a respectful and professional manner.

The Chaplain also responds to suicides, domestic violence, crimes against women and children, and traffic collisions. He ministers in the jail by counseling inmates in hopes of encouraging them with Biblical promises.

Respect for Different Faiths

The Chaplain does **NOT** seek to replace a person's pastor, minister or spiritual leader. All faiths are respected and victims are referred to their spiritual leaders.

The Chaplain fills pulpits for pastors when needed and makes public presentations at the County Fair, organizations and churches.

Traveler's Fund

The Chaplain assists the Colfax Churches with dispensing funds for hotel rooms, meals, gasoline, and bus tickets for transients. The local churches donate to this fund. This takes the pressure off busy pastors who will send a transient person or a victim of a crime to the Sheriff's Office for assistance.