

Fort Jones Police Department Monthly Report

February 2021

This year has begun as and continues to be a busy year with calls for service and reports taken. As you will read below our officers are remaining active and vigilant with their proactive approach to law enforcement. This has shown to be very important to our little town as we have made great strides in protecting our history while keeping our valley safe for all. For example, a recent homicide took place in Yreka with the suspect being one that attempted to hang out in Fort Jones for unknown reasons. Officers contacted him twice resulting in two arrests where he fought with us but was taken into custody safely. If it wasn't for our officers taking a proactive approach in contacting individuals this homicide could have very well happened in Fort Jones. Thank you again for your support and teamwork as we continue to provide law enforcement services to the town of Fort Jones.

Traffic- Officers have continued to remain very proactive in traffic education and enforcement. In the past month we have seen a decline in collisions and tickets due to the compliance of our drivers. This is a good sign as it shows the education and initial warning to drivers is working. We will remain diligent in our approach to traffic enforcement and hopefully continue to see the decline of infractions.

Schools- As the schools continue to offer in school learning as well as distance learning we at the police department are supporting them in whatever way we can to bring some normalcy to our youth. We expect to see things open up to a more regular schedule as sports are beginning to make a comeback as well. It's been interesting times but through the partnership we have maintained with our school system we have been able to accomplish many things other areas have not.

Animal Control- The month of February has been very active when it comes to dog issues in and around town. While the problems have been focused down to a couple homes, we have had to utilize the Etna kennels on numerous occasions due to the dogs being deemed vicious after biting a child and killing several ducks. Mercedes and I have spoken on several occasions regarding getting the Ft. Jones Kennels up and running so we can use them for any Ft. Jones related animal control issue. Once these Kennels are usable Ft. Jones would then be able to utilize fines and fees to help maintain and improve the kennel area. These fines would also be helpful in upfitting officers with PPE and animal related equipment. In each of these incidents the PD is required to follow state and county health guidelines. This is a process we are accustomed to but it will make our job much easier if we no longer have to transport animals to Etna.

Reports/Cases- As mentioned above the beginning of 2021 has been very busy for the pd and code enforcement. At this time, we have pulled over 30 written cases and made numerous arrests. Kudos to our officers for putting in long hours to making sure calls are

being handled and issues concluded.

Calls for Service- As with the written reports we have had many calls for service including mutual aid requests and responding to EMS/Fire calls. We continue to assist other department in any way we can to help first responders to any crisis.

Ordinance Enforcement- Code enforcement has also been very busy as you can see from Kelly's report. We have served several inspection warrants on homes in town and will continue to send violations to the DA. This is a long process so thank you for your patients as we are now starting to see a lot of progress around town.

PAL- After ending two very successful seasons of soccer and football we are now holding a basket ball season starting on March 6th. We will be utilizing the Quartz Valley Indian Reservation Gym and holding practices every Saturday from 8 to 12. We hope to continue offering programs to our youth during this pandemic and get back to normal as time goes on. We are also able to continue our mentoring program bringing an outlet to our youth while providing tutoring for school activities.

Training- Our department continues are advance officer and mandated training both online and in person as training are beginning to open. We strive to be the best trained department around and continue to offer our officers any training they may be interested in.

Patrol Hours- Since I wasn't able to get in my monthly report last month the following numbers are for the months of January and February. In those months the Town of Fort Jones received the equivalent to more than 1200 hours of police services by 5 fulltime officers and 2 parttime officers. Countless security checks and calls for service were performed during these hours including several sleepless nights. I again want to thank our officers for being committed to their community and without complaint. I feel so grateful to have such wonderful officers willing to give back so much to their community. We are all safer and better because of it. Several more search warrants were conducted this past month on top of our officer's regular duties. Our partnership with NSMIT again provided many additional officers and hours to accomplish these larger details and tasks.