



VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT
2024 QUARTER FOUR AWARDS CEREMONY

February 4, 2025

3 p.m.

Mannahouse Church

14311 SE Mill Plain Blvd

VALOR. PROFESSIONALISM. DUTY.

VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Vision

To reflect the rich diversity of Vancouver and make it the safest city for everyone to live, work and play.

Mission Statement

We partner with the community to preserve life, protect property and enhance livability through equitable law enforcement and effective use of resources.

We Value

Ethics. Doing the right thing; maintaining self-discipline, credibility and moral behavior.

Respect. Treating all people with compassion, respect and fairness; honoring diversity of thought, experiences and opinions.

Honesty. Upholding the principles of honesty and transparency.

Communication. Communicating with openness, active listening, fostering an environment of inclusion, trust and empowerment.

Collaboration. Actively seeking collaboration with each other and the community to achieve mutually desired outcomes.

VPD EXECUTIVE TEAM

- ◆ **Chief** Troy Price
- ◆ **Deputy Chief** Erica Nilsen
- ◆ **Assistant Chief** Darren McShea
- ◆ **Assistant Chief** Pat Moore
- ◆ **Commander** Sean Dumas
- ◆ **Commander** Blaise Geddry
- ◆ **Commander** Michael Whitney
- ◆ **Commander** Chad Williams
- ◆ **Assistant City Attorney** Taylor Hallvik
- ◆ **Human Resources Business Partner** Rob Prociak
- ◆ **Executive Assistant** Heather Abbott
- ◆ **Records Manager** Olga Dacy
- ◆ **Business Services Manager** Daphine Harris
- ◆ **Public Affairs Manager** Kim Kapp
- ◆ **Administrative Assistant** Teri Kenning

MEET OUR NEW PROFESSIONAL STAFF



Angela Abendroth
Police Records Specialist
Joined VPD December 2, 2024



Hanna Baker
Police Records Specialist
Joined VPD November 18, 2024



Justin Woods
Police Records Specialist
Joined VPD November 18, 2024

MEET OUR NEW POLICE OFFICERS



Officer Ian Burkard

Joined VPD April 22, 2024

Graduated from Basic Law Enforcement Academy: October 29, 2024

Informal Swearing In: October 31, 2024



Officer Danielle Cardoso

Joined VPD May 20, 2024

Graduated from Basic Law Enforcement Academy: October 29, 2024

Informal Swearing In: October 31, 2024



Officer Carl Falls

Joined VPD May 20, 2024

Graduated from Basic Law Enforcement Academy: October 29, 2024

Informal Swearing In: October 31, 2024



Officer Court Hammond

Joined VPD July 1, 2024

Graduated from Basic Law Enforcement Academy: October 29, 2024

Informal Swearing In: October 31, 2024



Officer Timothy Hurley

Joined VPD April 22, 2024

Graduated from Basic Law Enforcement Academy: October 29, 2024

Informal Swearing In: October 31, 2024

MEET OUR NEW POLICE OFFICERS



Officer Ala Tulenkun

Joined VPD December 16, 2024

Previous Agency: Federal Way Police Department

Informal Swearing In: December 17, 2024



Officer Jessica Whitney

Joined VPD MAY 20, 2024

Graduated from Basic Law Enforcement

Academy: October 29, 2024

Informal Swearing In: October 31, 2024

PROMOTIONS



Nate Russell

Promoted to Lead Records Specialist - November 18, 2024



Trent Harris

Promoted to Sergeant - October 16, 2024



Spencer Harris

Promoted to Lieutenant - December 16, 2024



Blaise Geddry

Promoted to Commander - December 16, 2024



Pat Moore

Promoted to Assistant Chief - December 16, 2024

PROMOTIONS



Erica Nilsen

Promoted to Deputy Chief - December 16, 2024

AWARDS AND MEDALS

Silver Star



Medal of Valor



Medal of Distinction



Purple Heart



Lifesaving



Department Citation



Career Service



Meritorious Service



Special Service



Team Commendation



MEDAL OF DISTINCTION

A Medal of Distinction is awarded for outstanding performance beyond the ordinary course of duty during hazardous situations. The officer must demonstrate alertness, perseverance, or timely judgment in the performance of a difficult task that results in the protection of life, the recovery of stolen property, the prevention or solving of a major crime, or the apprehension of an armed or dangerous person. The action of the officer must be truly exemplary, as opposed to competent and professional.



Detective Sandra Aldridge
Medal of Distinction

On December 11, 2023 Vancouver Police officers responded to a domestic violence incident where they saw a male strangling a female through the window. Officers made exigent entry and arrested the male. The case was assigned to Detective Aldridge from the VPD Domestic Violence unit for follow-up investigation. Detective Aldridge re-interviewed the victim, collected written statement, wrote multiple search warrants including social media and medical records, obtained valuable evidence and listened to hundreds of hours of jail calls, which resulted in additional charges.

Detective Aldridge testified in court for several hours and spent hours preparing evidence for the prosecution. Detective Aldridge's work was praised by the prosecutors, and the victim's mother thanked Detective Aldridge for the work on the case in the year leading up to the trial. Detective Aldridge maintained communication with the victim's family and with a key witness. Detective Aldridge also coordinated efforts with DOC, as the suspect was on probation at the time of the incident.

Detective Aldridge's work heavily contributed to the suspect being found guilty on all charged counts, including Attempted Murder I, Attempted Murder II, Felony Harassment, and No Contact Order Violations. The suspect was sentenced at the end of 2024 to 30 years in prison.

MEDAL OF DISTINCTION



Officer Andrea Bauman
Medal of Distinction

On September 27, 2024, Officer Bauman responded to a call as part of the Southwest Washington Crisis Negotiations Team to assist the Clark County Sheriff's Office. Officer Bauman was assigned as the negotiator located in the SWAT Armored vehicle. During the incident, a heavily-armed subject began firing at the vehicle - causing substantial damage. Throughout the tense encounter, Officer Bauman maintained composure and continued to make attempts to deescalate the situation by using the armored vehicle's Public Announcement System to negotiate with the suspect.

One of the deputies that was present during this incident stated Officer Bauman was able to stay calm, continued to do her job through that stress, and that this situation was not something a typical patrol officer has to go through. Officer Bauman maintained composure, patience and provided multiple PA announcements to surrounding residences to shelter in place. Her communication was clear and calm despite the dangerous incident in which multiple high-caliber weapons were fired at the armor - causing substantial failure to the windshield she was seated next to.

TEAM COMMENDATION

A Team Commendation is presented to a group of officers, civilian personnel and/or citizens whose collective efforts significantly impact the overall service delivery for the Vancouver Police Department.



Sergeant Erik Jennings
Team Commendation



Officer Ken Hess
Team Commendation



Officer Elena Miron
Team Commendation



Officer Colin Smith
Team Commendation



Officer Alex Rich
Team Commendation

On October 29, 2024, Vancouver Police responded to a robbery at a Key Bank branch. Call details indicated a male was in the lobby armed with a revolver. Investigation revealed the suspect entered the bank with the intent of stealing money and pointed the firearm at an employee. Due to the set up in that bank branch, the suspect was not able to get any money and two employees were able to secure themselves inside a safe room. The suspect did take several articles from the bank before fleeing on foot. He was located and challenged by police in a nearby parking lot where he was taken into custody. The firearm was recovered in the backpack he was wearing at the time of his arrest, along with Key Bank property. The suspect had a history of multiple robberies out of Oregon.

TEAM COMMENDATION



After an incendiary device was deployed by a subject at a ballot box leading up to the elections, NOW volunteers organized and dedicated themselves to proactive observation patrols of the many ballot box locations throughout the city. Beginning on October 16, 2024, through the election on November 5, 21 volunteers worked in support of the VPD Special Investigations Unit, providing watch over the ballot boxes. After completing several patrols during normal working hours, these volunteers then requested permission to schedule additional patrols for after hours from midnight to 7 a.m., sacrificing their time and personal lives to patrol the ballot boxes. Their dedication and tenacity resulted in a total of 43 patrol hours, checking the ballot boxes 114 times. As a result of their efforts, no other incidents occurred at ballot boxes in the City of Vancouver, providing for secure and free voting.

For their efforts Carmen Adkins, Larry Alexander, Carolyn Bailey, Georgie Buckler, David Cotteleer, Bobby Forbes, Jim Funkhouser, Patti Gronewald, Lillian Hashimoto, Julie Jordan, Tom Kent, Jan Kent, Joan Lamy, Carol Liberato, Tony Miller, Carole Mizumori, Brenda Palmer, Sina Robello, Alan Roth, Carrie Schienle, and Jan Verrinder are being presented the Team Commendation.

LIFESAVING AWARD

The Lifesaving Award is given to an officer or citizen who is directly responsible for the saving of a human life. Documentation and supporting evidence, which may include statements of witnesses, physicians, or supervisors, must be included to substantiate the award. This award is also appropriate in those circumstances where the action of an officer prolonged human life to the extent of the victim being released to the care of medical authorities, even though the victim may have expired at a later time.



Officer Katherine Grose
Lifesaving Award

On December 2, 2024, a Vancouver resident and her family were at home having dinner when her 3½-year-old daughter began choking on her food, was wheezing and obviously taking in very little air. The mother of the little girl immediately ran her daughter across the street and pounded on the door of her neighbor and was yelling for help. The woman knew that her neighbor was a Vancouver Police Officer. At the time, Officer Katherine Grose was off duty and was inside her home putting up the Christmas tree.

Officer Grose noticed her neighbor outside and rushed out to the front yard where the woman told Officer Grose that her daughter was choking. Officer Grose immediately began completing the Heimlich maneuver to dislodge the blockage. She provided multiple thrusts, forcing some of the material to dislodge, and the child was then able to breathe. Officer Grose continued with care by immediately dialing 911 for medical to respond. They evaluated the child and determined she could be monitored at home.

For her actions that day, Officer Katherine Grose is being presented the Lifesaving award.

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Vancouver Police Department



@VancouverPDUSA

