

Officers cont'd from pg 1

duct ranging from propositioning citizens to consensual but prohibited on-duty intercourse. That number fails to reflect the breadth of the problem, however, because it measures only officers who faced an official process called decertification and not all states have such a system

records show.

While Coyne was still with the Mesa County Sheriff's Office, another woman accused him of subjecting her to a strip search and groping her. The complaint came after Grand Junction had completed its background check, and Mesa County officials — who

“Another woman accused him of subjecting her to a strip search and groping her

or provided records.

In states that do revoke law enforcement licenses, the process can take years.

And while there is a national index of decertified officers, contributing to it is voluntary and experts say the database, which is not open to the public, is missing thousands of names.

Some officers are permitted to quietly resign and never even face decertification.

Others are able to keep working because departments may not be required to report all misdeeds to a state police standards commission, or they neglect to.

Agencies also may not check references when hiring, or fail to share past problems with new employers.

In 2010, a woman sued the Grand Junction Police Department in Colorado, insisting the department erred in hiring officer Glenn Coyne and then failed to supervise him. Coyne was fired, and killed himself days after he was arrested on suspicion of raping the woman in September 2009.

That was sexual assault accusation No. 3, court

declined comment — did not investigate or inform Coyne's new employer, according to court records.

A second complaint came in 2008 when a woman accused Coyne of sexual assault.

Grand Junction officials placed the officer on probation and cut his pay and, even though the district attorney declined to prosecute, Coyne was still on probation when the third accusation was lodged.

While the courts found no deliberate indifference by police in employing Coyne, one ruling said the “handling of Officer Coyne could and should have been better.”

Grand Junction Police Chief John Camper said a subsequent evaluation of hiring procedures found them to be sound, but added that “it's safe to say that we're more thorough than ever.”

Prospective officers must sign a form allowing the department to review previous personnel records, and it's considered a red flag if employers don't respond.

Read the full story at **TheSkanner.com**



Wellness Village

Chef Curtis Aikens (left), Alicia Jackson and Gloria Little chat during the African American Health Coalition's 20th Annual Wellness Village. The event took pace from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 17 and

included healthy cooking demonstrations, immunizations, massage, health screenings and other wellness activities.

Cancer cont'd from pg 1

Dr. Nathalie Johnson, the medical director of Legacy Cancer Institute, said most African American health interventions focus on hypertension and many Black women may not know how deadly breast cancer is.

“Breast cancer is currently the leading cause of death for African American and Latino women from age 45 to 60,” Johnson said.

Johnson has a close understanding of breast cancer — from both her professional work and her personal life.

Her mother had breast cancer at age 39 and Johnson herself was diagnosed with an aggressive form of the cancer in 2013.

There are numerous health disparities between Black women and White women with breast cancer.

Black women are more likely to be diagnosed at a younger age. Johnson said it is common to see African American women who

have breast cancer in their late 30s.

According the American Cancer Society, Black women are nearly twice as likely to have triple-negative breast cancers.

These types of cancers do not

“It is common to see African American women who have breast cancer in their late 30s

respond well to hormone therapy. Women treated for triple-negative cancers need to have more aggressive treatments such as surgery, radiation therapy and chemotherapy.

Johnson said there is research being done on Black women both here in the United States and in Sub-Saharan Africa and the triple-negative breast cancer, but researchers don't have the answers yet.

“That's our toughest breast can-

cer. We haven't figured it out completely,” she said.

This type of cancer is also more likely to metastasize and spread to other parts of the body and has higher rates of recurrence.

These health care disparities

lead to higher mortality rates for Black Women.

Even when White women had higher cancer rates, Black women were still more likely to die from breast cancer. By 2012, breast cancer death rates were 42 percent higher for Black women compared to White women.

Poverty can also play a role, research shows.

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Waco cont'd from pg 1

my girlfriend. The thing is, the roles have kind of been switched. When she first came [to Portland] it was like I had the connections, and she was initially able to get plugged into everything. Now, on the flip side, she's going back to Cali, I'm going to live with her and it's like her opportunities are mine too.

I have a lot of different opportunities waiting for me out there, and I want to use my different resources to bring what I get back to the town. So I'll still be able to help the scene, it's just from a different vantage point.

TSN: You've really been pushing the #DontShootPDX movement, and that's been part of how your clout has grown. Will you continue community activism in Cali?

GW: I've always had that mindset that I went into Don't Shoot PDX with, just wanting to help my community, wanting to affect people, wanting to effect some type of change, leave some type of

imprint on the world and just lend my opinion and help facilitate that any way I can. I've always had that, even before I got into [activism].

So when I got into that, it was like, 'All

“So when I got into [activism], it was like, 'All right, [it's time to] walk my talk,' the physical action of it

right, [it's time to] walk my talk,' the physical action of it. So I take that in my music.

My music is my protest. Just the same as me being in the streets, or going to classrooms and talking to kids about the prison industrial complex, or simply typing out my thoughts and facilitating dialogue on social media — I've always tried to do that.

I'm always going be supportive of the local movement. Teressa Raiford [lead

organizer for Don't Shoot Portland], she was my connection to getting involved, and she's been at it non-stop. If anyone I meet wanted to know what's been going on she would be the person I'd forward them to.

TSN: You're one album deep; a lot of people are behind you. How's that feel now that you're leaving?

GW: *NorthBound* was originally supposed to be an EP. And then the idea just kept formulating into an album. From something that small to turn into what it's turned into, to have people around the country, and really around the world inboxing me about it, it's no feeling to really describe that.

But I have to utilize the influence that I've gained from my music and from being a community leader into the next project, titled *Human*.



Glenn Waco