

Policy from A9

ended in deadly force if not for officers' decisions to de-escalate.

In one case in 2016, a suicidal subject was reported underneath an I-5 overpass. The man had cut himself with glass and told arriving officers to shoot him.

He then approached the officers, pulling a black object out of his back pocket.

Fortunately, the object was quickly determined by officers to be a phone despite the ambiguity.

"It takes tremendous restraint to be able to do that," said Shepherd.

Another case involved a road rage incident on I-5 where a subject had stopped his car and was brandishing a gun on the highway. When officers arrived, the subject was commanded to drop the gun, but he raised it to officers instead.

One officer attempted to fire, but his gun malfunctioned and did not discharge. As the officer quickly cleared the chamber and loaded another round, the subject, seeing he had narrowly escaped death, threw his gun away and was apprehended.

Another incident occurred in the middle of the night when a bicyclist was stopped by an officer for lacking proper equipment. When the rider was found to have a warrant out for his arrest, he suddenly reached into his pocket and a wrestling match between the subject and officer ensued.

An attempt to use a Taser gun failed when it did not penetrate the subject's thick clothing and the subject at one point in the fight pointed a gun at the officer's face.

The officer managed to point the subject's arm away and the gun fired without harming anyone.

The brawl ended up with the subject on the ground, but biting into the officer's hand and no amount of force seemed to make the subject to let go. Though the officer's free hand had access to a firearm, the officer chose to rip his hand away and physically overwhelm the subject instead, avoiding a lethal solution.

Information sessions for community members on Oregon's Police Training and Certification Standards

The Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) serves two important roles in our state's criminal justice system. The first, establishing minimum state standards for training and certification of more than 41,000 public and private safety professionals. The second, providing a comprehensive basic training program for all newly hired law enforcement professionals, and supporting professional development by offering advanced and leadership training opportunities.

DPSST accomplishes its work in partnership with the 24-member Board on Public Safety Standards and Training (BPSST or Board) which is made-up of various public safety stakeholders including a citizen member.

The tragic death of George Floyd due to the actions of Minneapolis police officers has led to lots of discussions, both in Oregon and around the nation, regarding police training and accountability. The actions of the Minneapolis police officers are inexcusable. While DPSST has always actively engaged with stakeholders, it was of the utmost importance for us to pause our work as we mourned the death of Mr. Floyd and to listen to the questions and concerns being raised about policing in our state and nation.

Many of the questions within our

state have been regarding the training and accountability of Oregon law enforcement officers.

To address these questions, to share information and to answer questions, DPSST will hold three virtual sessions later this month specifically for local community leaders. One session will address Oregon's criminal justice professional standards system.

Another will focus specifically on police use of force training in Oregon. Another will address the basic police training program offered at DPSST to all newly hired city, county, state, tribal and university law enforcement professionals.

Participants will have the ability to ask questions of DPSST staff during each of these sessions.

Below is information on each of these; each session will be recorded so that it is available for review by those unable to attend.

Community Sessions:

- *Professional Standards*
Date and Time: 6/29/20 at 10 a.m.
- *Basic Police Training*
Date and Time: 6/25/20 at 9 a.m.
- *Police Use-of-Force Training*
Date and Time: 6/22/20 at 11 a.m.

To register for any of these sessions, visit <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORDPSST/bulletins/290c843>

Such a situation took place about five years ago when former Cottage Grove police officer Phillip Beach was caught stealing methamphetamine from the department's evidence locker.

After being tipped off by an evidence property clerk, CGPD placed two hidden cameras in the evidence locker and recorded Beach removing the drug.

The case was passed along to the state police and, last August, Beach pleaded guilty to the theft.

A full audit of the department followed as well as tightening down training and procedure regarding handling evidence.

Such situations are the exception rather than the rule, however.

"Fortunately, internal matters don't result too often in criminal cases," said Gagner.

In fact, Gagner said most cases are brought up internally to address possible policy violations based on reviews police reports.

And from the citizenry so far this year, Gagner recalled one formal citizen complaint about a rude officer.

In comparing Cottage Grove's incidents to the tumult rocking the national discourse on law enforcement, Gagner

sees a disconnect.

"Those problems aren't a problem here," he said. "But the solutions are being applied nationwide."

However, he added, "I think it's healthy to take issues that happen anywhere and apply them to our policy and see where we stand."

Ultimately, Gagner said he takes officer misconduct seriously and prioritizes applying department policy without bias.

"I'm completely objective in all the investigations I do," he said. "If it looks bad for the department or if it looks good for the department — it doesn't matter to me. I'm interested in getting at the truth because I want officers to conduct themselves as professionals."

Though the CGPD's track record mirrors national concerns about law enforcement very little, Shepherd and Gagner are receptive to discussions about new models and new tactics to increase efficiency and safety.

One of those models has roots right here in Lane County.

(Part 2 will focus on current challenges and potential changes for local law enforcement.)

Worship Directory

COTTAGE GROVE:
6th & Gibbs Church of Christ
195 N. 6th St. • 541-942-3822
10:00am
Christian Education: Pre-K through 5th
Tim Baker, Senior Minister
www.6thandgibbs.com

Calvary Baptist Church
77873 S 6th St • 541-942-4290
Pastor: Riley Hendricks
Sunday School: 9:45am
Worship: 11:00am
The Journey: Sunday 5:00pm
Praying Thru Life: Wednesday 6:00pm

Church of Christ
420 Monroe St • 541-942-8565
Sunday Service: 10:30am

Cottage Grove Bible Church
1200 East Quincy Avenue
541-942-4771
Pastor: Bob Singer
Worship 11am
Sunday School: 9:45am
AWANA age 3-8th Grade,
Wednesdays Sept-May, 6:30pm
www.cgbible.org

Cottage Grove Faith Center
33761 Row River Rd.
541-942-4851
Lead Pastor: Kevin Pruett
www.cg4.tv
Full Children's Ministry available
Services: 9:00am & 10:45am

Delight Valley
Church of Christ
33087 Saginaw Rd. East
541-942-7711 • Pastor: Bob Friend
Two Services:
9am - Classic in the Chapel
10:30am - Contemporary in the Auditorium

First Baptist Church
301 S. 6th st • 541-942-8242
Pastor: David Chhantle
Sunday School 9:30am
Worship Service 10:30am
Youth Wednesday 6:30pm
cgfirstbaptist.com

First Presbyterian Church
3rd and Adams St
541-942-4479
Rev.: Karen Hill
Worship: 10:00am
Sunday School: 10:00am
fpcgrove.com

Hope Fellowship
United Pentecostal Church
100 S. Gateway Blvd.
541-942-2061
Pastor: Dave Bragg
Worship: 11:00am Sunday
Bible Study: 7:00pm Wednesday
www.hopefellowshipuppc.com
"FINDING HOPE IN YOUR LIFE"

Hope In The Grove Baptist Church
77820 Mosby Creek Rd
Pastor: Wayne Husk
Worship: Sunday 10:00am
Evening Bible Study: Wednesday 6:30pm
541.649.1043

Living Faith Assembly
467 S. 10th St. • 541-942-2612
Worship Services Sundays: 9a & 11a
Youth Worship Sundays: 11a (all ages welcome)
Mondays: 5:30p (6th-12th grades)

Non-Denominational Church of Christ
1041 Pennoyer Ave
541-942-8928
Preacher: Tony Martin
Sunday Bible Study: 10:00am
Sunday Worship: 10:50am & 5:30pm
www.pennoyeravecoc.com

Old Time Gospel Fellowship
103 S. 5th St. • 541-942-4999
Pastor: Jim Edwards
Sunday Service: 10:00am
Join in Traditional Christian Worship

Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Philip Benizi Catholic Churches
1025. N. 19th St.
541-942-3420
Father John J. Boyle
Holy Mass:
Saturday Vigil – 5:30 PM
Sunday – 10:30 PM

For weekday and Holy Day of Obligation schedule see website OLPHCG.net
Confession: 4 PM to 5 PM
Saturdays or by appointment
St. Philip Benizi, Creswell
552 Holbrook Lane
Sunday 8:30 AM

St. Andrews Episcopal Church
1301 W. Main • 541-767-9050
Rev. Lawrence Crumb
"Church with the flags."
Worship: Sunday 10:30am
All Welcome

Seventh-day Adventist Church
820 South 10th Street
541-942-5213
Pastor: Kevin Miller
Bible Study: Saturday, 9:15 am
Worship Service: Saturday, 10:40
Mid-week Service: Wednesday, 1:00

Trinity Lutheran Church
6th & Quincy • 541-942-2373
Pastor: James L. Markus
Sunday School & Adult Education 9:15am
Sunday Worship 10:30 am
Comm. Kitchen Free Meal Tue & Thur 5:00pm TLC Groups
tlccg.com

United Methodist Church
334 Washington 541-942-3033
New Pastor Craig Pestl-Strobel
Worship 10:30am
umcgrove.org

"VICTORY" Country Church
913 S. 6th Street • 541-942-5913
Pastor: Barbara Dockery
Worship Service: 10:00am
Message: "WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES"

CRESWELL:
Creswell Presbyterian Church
75 S 4th S • 541-895-3419
Rev. Seth Wheeler
Adult Sunday School 9:15am
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am
website www.creswellpres.org

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