



Public Safety Committee Minutes

July 28, 2025

Mayor Primmer called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Councilor Barron and Duron were excused. Staff in attendance included: City Manager Byron Smith, Chief Jason Edmiston, Communications Manager Amanda Hartsteen, Court Administrator Jillian Viles, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong.

Introductions & HPD Personnel Update

Hermiston's Police Department (HPD) Chief Jason Edmiston introduced members of HPD who were in the audience and gave personnel updates to include:

- Retirements
 - Sergeant Bryan Maess on May 31st, Sergeant Leonard Stokoe on July 1st, and Captain Travis Eynon on July 1st
- Promotions
 - An internal sergeant selection process was held and resulted in the promotions of Riley Studebaker, Shelly Studebaker, Jarrod Flatau, and Doug Gill.

2nd Quarter (2025) Activity Report

Chief Edmiston reviewed the 2nd Quarter Activity Report (attached). Information was provided to include: Total crime is down 23% from last year and down 5% from the previous 10-year average, downward statistics include rape and larceny. Although the homicide statistics are up, it is worth mentioning that no deaths actually occurred because of these incidents; this statistic includes attempted murder charges, however they are required to be reported as homicides. Officer-initiated activity is up 89% and traffic stops are up 113% from last year. Total arrests are up 3% and total citations are up 63% from last year and 30% from the 10-year average. Chief Edmiston stated calls for service are down 5% from last year but still up 12% from the 10-year average and believes calls for service may be down as there is a significant increase in proactive officer-initiated activity.

Hospital Contract Update

HPD started the Good Shepherd Health Care System (hospital) contract on 07/02/2025 and have been able to fulfill nearly every hour (24/7) since conception. Lieutenant Chris Martin is lead in maintaining communication with hospital staff.

Past/Upcoming Events

- Umatilla County Fair Parade – August 2nd
- National Night Out – August 5th
- Umatilla County Fair – August 6th – 9th

Municipal Court Updates

Court Administrator Viles presented Municipal Court updates (attached) to include current and previous violation offenses filed, as well as current and previous average number of days from when cases are filed to adjudicated. Staff continue to be very busy as they have processed over 3,000 traffic offenses this year, which continues to increase year-to-year.



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Court Administrator Viles stated after over 12 years with the Municipal Court Department, Jennifer Herrera has been hired to the Finance Department and spoke regarding the expertise she brought to the Municipal Court and her gratitude that she will continue to work for the City.

Public Comment

None given.

Questions, Comments, Concerns

Mayor Primmer asked for updates regarding transient related calls for service and the overall decrease in calls for service.

Chief Edmiston stated transient activity continues to decline and hopes this is due to the outreach services provided by PATH through Stepping Stones Alliance, but HPD will continue to monitor this. The apprehension with a decline in calls for service is that the PD just wants to make sure the public continues to trust in their PD, but does believe the decline is due to proactive policing instead of reactive policing.

Adjournment

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 6:39pm.

HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



Mission Statement

Without fear or favor and in partnership with our diverse community, we will create and maintain a safe environment with the reduction of crime through problem-oriented and community-based policing strategies. The quality of life for those we serve takes precedent over our individual needs.

2nd QUARTER ACTIVITY REPORT

2025

<u>Incident Type</u>	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Avg	Normal Range	2025	% Change Avg-'25	% Change '24-'25
Homicide	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	1	0	1	0-2	6	500%	600%
Rape	1	1	5	3	4	5	3	2	8	4	0-2	2	-50%	-75%
Robbery	0	1	5	4	5	4	4	3	2	3	2-4	3	0%	50%
Aggravated Assault	13	16	20	12	8	7	19	18	10	14	9-19	15	7%	50%
Burglary	24	25	51	39	26	36	22	22	11	28	20-36	13	-54%	18%
Larceny	230	167	228	226	148	171	263	313	322	230	158-302	235	2%	-27%
Auto Theft	17	23	21	22	17	14	25	25	13	20	14-25	13	-35%	0%
Arson	0	1	0	1	4	2	0	3	5	2	0-3	0	-100%	-100%
TOTAL	285	235	331	307	214	241	336	387	371	301	231-370	287	-5%	-23%
TOTAL VIOLENT	14	19	31	19	19	18	26	24	20	21	18-24	26	24%	30%
TOTAL PROPERTY	271	216	300	288	195	223	310	363	351	280	212-347	261	-7%	-26%

POPULATION	17345	17520	17730	17985	18200	18775	19354	19696	19973
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20322

Hermiston Police Department 2016-2025 Crime Stats

January through June 10-year Trends

Hermiston Police Department 2016-2025 Patrol Stats - January through June

Incident Type	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Avg	Normal Range	2025	% Change Avg-'25	% Change '24-'25
Total Incidents	11521	10412	11326	11067	10686	10704	10864	11332	10730	10960	10718-11203	14099	29%	31%
Calls for Service	5063	5124	5620	5809	5076	5400	5728	6273	6616	5634	5073-6196	6306	12%	-5%
Officer Initiated Activity	6458	5288	5706	5258	5610	5304	5136	5059	4114	5326	4824-5828	7793	46%	89%
Traffic Stops	3363	2211	2249	2484	2825	2126	2553	2299	2081	2466	2187-2744	4428	80%	113%
Case Investigations	1579	1496	1648	1678	1118	1235	1438	1655	1518	1485	1292-1678	1386	-7%	-9%
Total Arrests	728	622	608	674	385	389	531	665	643	583	463-702	662	14%	3%
Misdemeanor Arrests	561	437	437	495	249	284	405	507	515	432	322-542	543	26%	5%
Felony Arrests	167	185	171	179	136	105	126	158	128	151	133-168	119	-21%	-7%
Total Citations	3315	2738	2909	3158	2589	1776	2335	2506	2060	2598	2299-2898	3365	30%	63%

POPULATION	17345	17520	17730	17985	18200	18775	19354	19696	19973
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20322

HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES –SECOND QUARTER 2025 REPORT
CAPTAIN ROBERT GUERRERO

Assigned Staff

(1) Captain, (1) Lieutenant (Investigations), (1) Communications Manager, (3) Police Records Specialists (4) Detectives, (3) School Resource Officers (SRO's)

Personnel Issues/Activities

With Captain Travis Eynon's pending retirement, Lieutenant Robert Guerrero has been identified for promotion on July 1, 2025. Sergeant Freddy Sotelo has been selected to replace Lieutenant Guerrero as the next Investigations lieutenant with a tentative start date in early August 2025.

Detectives Riley Studebaker and Shelly Studebaker have been selected for promotion to Patrol Sergeant. Detective Riley Studebaker was transferred into this new role in mid-May, and Detective Shelly Studebaker is slated to transfer in August. This will leave two detective positions to be filled, for which the process is underway.

The Records Section is now operating with two in-house personnel and one working from home while recovering from a major medical procedure.

Division Summation for Administrative Services Division

(Investigations) As always, our detectives have been extremely busy throughout the second quarter and have responded to assist patrol officers with several investigations. They are also continuing to run the Regional Intel Meetings, which are attended by multiple local, state and federal agencies for the sharing of information and coordination of investigative assistance.

During the second quarter of 2025, Detectives conducted assists on five (5) different occasions for agencies throughout the region and statewide. These assists required several hours and involved investigations of child sexual/physical abuse, domestic assault, and fraud. While cases such as these may have occurred outside the service boundaries of the Hermiston Police Department, the agencies requesting assistance rely upon the professional and thorough work of our Detectives, to ensure their cases can be adequately addressed and prosecuted.

In April, detectives, alongside patrol officers, investigated a case of an assault with a machete. During the investigation, it was learned the assault suspect had also stolen property from a second victim. The two-week investigation led to the arrest for charges including Robbery I, Attempted Murder II and Assault I. The case is now pending trial.

In June, Detectives responded with patrol to a report of domestic assault. Upon arrival, the suspect fled the scene on foot and after a short foot pursuit was taken into custody by patrol officers and detectives. Once the suspect was in custody, detectives worked alongside patrol to coordinate suspect and victim interviews, scene processing, and evidence collection. This case was a superb example of how investigations and patrol work cohesively, to ensure quality service and top-level work product. The case is now pending trial.

HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES –SECOND QUARTER 2025 REPORT
CAPTAIN ROBERT GUERRERO

(Investigations Continued) This unit sets the investigative bar very high within our region. They are extremely trusted, respected, and requested for their professionalism and expertise (not only by our personnel, but also by numerous partnering agencies), whenever assistance is needed.

(Records) Most of the categories that are lower can be directly attributed to our massive remodel project that has significantly reduced access to records by the public. Statistics are relatively stable, either slightly higher or lower when compared to this same quarter last year. All tasks keep our entire records unit extremely busy, and they're steadily clearing the backlog of lower priority work that occurred while dealing with a reduced workforce. There is rarely a slow moment throughout the day for this unit; their hard work is highly valued and appreciated.

(School Resource Officers (SROs)) remain very busy and engaged within their assigned schools. During the second quarter, our SROs handled 266 separate incidents, which resulted in 36 case reports generated and 5 citations issued for different offenses. They also participated in multiple school lockdown safety drills, school events, and assisted patrol officers with multiple incidents. We are committed (in partnership with the Hermiston School District) to sending our SROs to the National School Resource Officer (NASRO) conference every year we can do so. We do this to ensure they stay current in the operating trends of being an SRO, as well as to receive any updated legal developments specific to working with youth in a school setting.

HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES –SECOND QUARTER 2025 REPORT
CAPTAIN ROBERT GUERRERO

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES – RECORDS– SECOND QUARTER OF 2025

- 273 RIMS CAD incidents. This includes phone calls made directly to our records personnel and lobby walk-ins.
 - 2024 2nd Quarter = 440
 - **(yearly total 566 incident entries)**

- 1661 requests for information.
 - Open Records Requests = 305
 - Other Agency Requests = 1161
 - Local Background Checks = 195
 - 2024 2nd Quarter = 2028
 - **(yearly total 3464 requests)**

- 278 case reports electronically sent for prosecution.
 - Umatilla County District Attorney's Office = 180
 - Umatilla County Juvenile Department = 28
 - Hermiston City Prosecutor's Office = 70
 - 2024 2nd Quarter = 325
 - **(yearly total 449 reports sent for prosecution)**

- 129 case reports sent to various agency partners.
 - 2024 2nd Quarter = 157
 - **(yearly total 250 cases sent)**

- 2 non-criminal fingerprinting appointments
 - 2024 2nd Quarter = 69
 - **(yearly total 15 appointments)**

- 9 registered sex offenders.
 - 2024 2nd Quarter = 25
 - **(yearly total 19 registrations)**

- 205 subpoena notices for officers to appear in court.
 - 2024 2nd Quarter = 160
 - **(yearly total 428 subpoena entries)**

- 53 Hermiston Municipal Court warrants entered.
 - 2024 2nd Quarter = 173
 - **(yearly total 179 warrants entered)**

- 1416 citations entered.
 - 2024 2nd Quarter = 1162
 - **(yearly total 3343 entered citations)**

HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

OPERATIONS –SECOND QUARTER 2025 REPORT

Captain Scott Clark

Assigned Staff

(1) Captain, (4) Sergeants-Patrol Supervisors, (4) Corporals-Patrol Leads, (17) Patrol Officers

Captain Clark's second quarter 2025 Summation:

After battling an extended non-work related medical issue since late 2024, Sergeant Bryan Maess officially retired from the Hermiston Police Department on May 31st but tragically passed away from those medical issues on June 1st, 2025.

After 40+ combined years with the Hermiston Police Department, Captain Travis Eynon and Sergeant Leonard Stokoe both fully retired from law enforcement at the end of this second quarter. The noble service and sacrifices given by these three men is more appreciated than they could ever know. Their daily presence will be greatly missed.

Corporal Jarrod Flatau and Officer Doug Gill were promoted to patrol sergeants on June 1st, and both attended and successfully completed the month-long School of Police Supervision at the Institute for Law Enforcement Administration in Plano, Texas on June 25th. Sergeant Gill was nominated for a professionalism award by his fellow classmates.

Detective Riley Studebaker was promoted to patrol sergeant on May 16th. He and Detective Shelly Studebaker (who will be promoted to patrol sergeant later this summer) will also attend the above mentioned School of Police Supervision in October.

Current openings within the patrol division will hopefully be filled within the coming months and (again) bring our patrol operations to fully staffed numbers. Our patrol personnel have been extremely busy during this second quarter, and it's exciting to see the outstanding work product they are able to produce when shifts are at or near full staffing levels. Our department members continue to maintain fantastic attitudes and are out on the streets working hard to remain an active and positive presence within the community.

In comparison with second quarter 2024, our measured performance numbers saw increases in all categories. Total Incidents are up 97.1% (+2567 more); Officer Initiated Activity is up 144.1% (+1823 more); Traffic Stops are up nearly 116.3% (+908 more); Cases are up over 56% (+237 more); and Charges/Citations are up nearly 89% (+629 more).

We have an exceptional group of diverse professionals working here at the Hermiston Police Department. The integrity, dedication, and resilience of those who serve here, magnifies each member's commitment of providing the best possible service to all community partners.

Special Events:

During this year's second quarter, Operations Division assisted with the following events:

- HHS Graduate Celebration Walk, which consisted of 14 personnel providing support.

Directed Patrol Requests:

A total of (20) directed patrols (in multiple locations for various reasons), were issued during this second quarter. **Year Total: 32**

**HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
OPERATIONS –SECOND QUARTER 2025 REPORT
Captain Scott Clark**

05/06/2025	05/20/2025	925 NW 3 rd Street	Fear of retaliation
05/07/2025	05/21/2025	220 SW 11 th Street	Transient Activity
05/09/2025	05/23/2025	SW 7 th Street/W Division Avenue	TCD Violations
05/15/2025	05/29/2025	768 W. Tamarack Avenue	Drug Activity
05/19/2025	06/02/2025	957 E. Penny Avenue	Traffic Violations
05/19/2025	06/02/2025	994 E. Penny Avenue	Construction Site Theft
05/24/2025	06/07/2025	W. Oak Avenue/SW 7 th Street	Speeding Vehicles
05/24/2025	06/07/2025	890 S. Hwy 395	Alarm System Down
05/25/2025	06/08/2025	611 E. Autumn Avenue	Transient Activity
05/27/2025	06/10/2025	495 E. Main Street	Transient Activity
05/29/2025	06/29/2025	1000 S. Hwy 395	Traffic Violations
05/30/2025	06/30/2025	220/230 SW 11 th Street	Transient Activity
06/01/2025	06/15/2025	1589 E. Hurlburt Avenue	Fear of retaliation
06/14/2025	06/29/2025	890 S. Hwy 395	Alarm System Down
06/16/2025	07/01/2025	770 E. View Drive	Speeding Vehicles
06/17/2025	07/02/2025	975 SE Columbia Drive	Transient Activity
06/23/2025	07/07/2025	977 E. Gladys Avenue	Speeding Vehicles
06/24/2025	07/08/2025	900 Block W. Ridgeway Avenue	Speeding Vehicles
06/27/2025	07/11/2025	745 E. Highland Avenue	Fear of retaliation
06/28/2025	07/12/2025	Victory Square Park, Funland, Skate Park	Restroom Vandalism

Vacation House Checks:

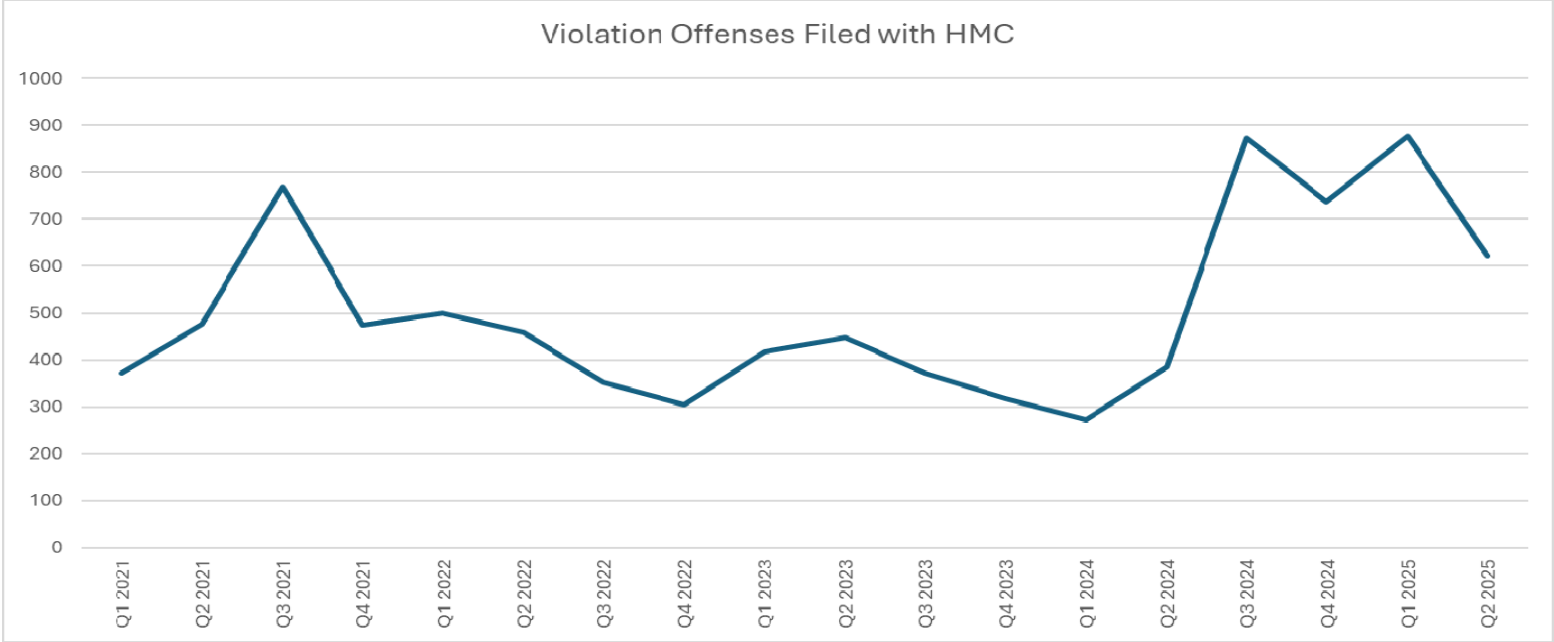
A total of (3) vacation house check was requested during this second quarter. **Year Total: 4**



Hermiston Municipal Court

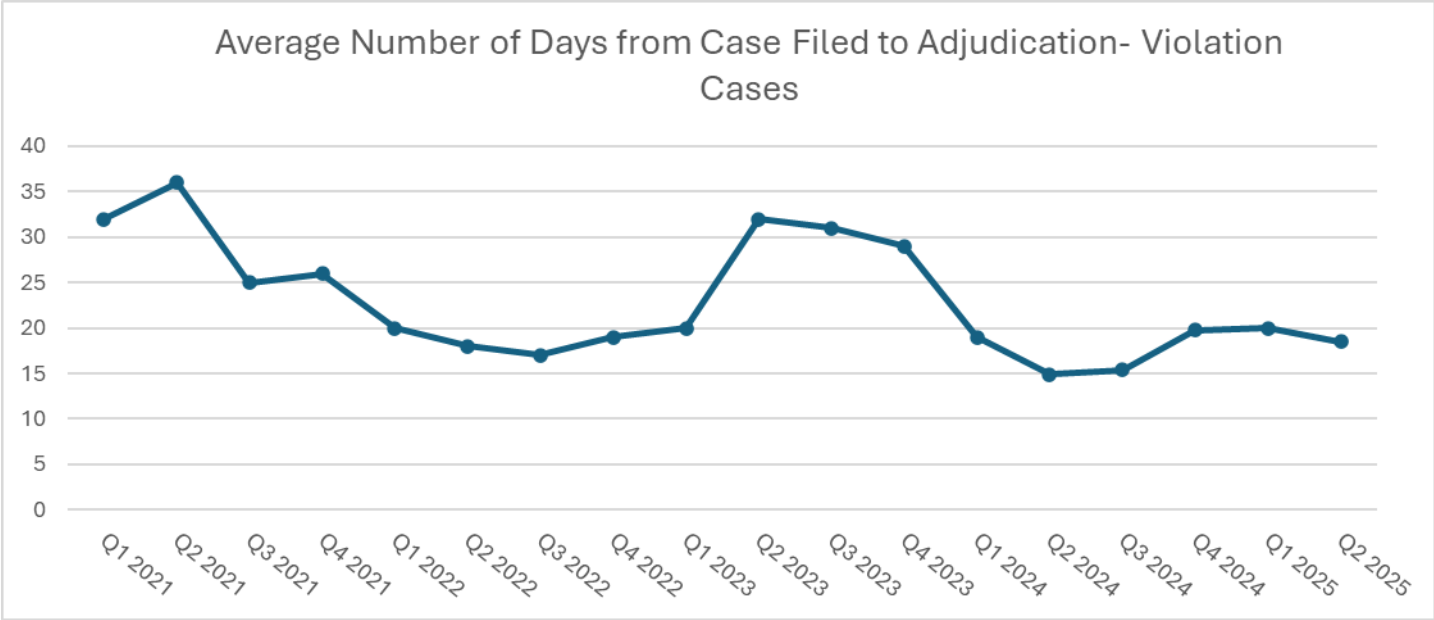
Quarterly Report

July 28th, 2025



Annual Number of Violation Offenses Filed in Municipal Court

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 (through Q2)
Offenses	2092	1615	1554	2267	1498



Average Length of Time from Filing to Adjudication- Violation Cases	
2021	30 Days
2022	18 Days
2023	28 Days
2024	17 Days
2025 (Q1 & Q2)	19 Days