Real Time Crime Center

Semi-Annual Report

July 1st, 2024 to December 31st, 2024

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the second half of 2024, the Spokane County Sheriff's Office Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) transitioned from a developmental phase to full operational status, significantly enhancing public safety through advanced technology integration and data-driven support for law enforcement. Key achievements included the completion of the RTCC facility, onboarding of additional analysts, deployment of new field assets, and the successful application of technologies like license plate reader cameras and video management and analytic systems.

Notable Developments

- **Facility Completion**: The state-of-the-art RTCC facility, operational since August 2024, combines multiple advanced technologies into a single, centralized command center. This integration has significantly enhanced operational efficiency and streamlined workflows.

- **Operational Growth**: The RTCC expanded its service hours, enhanced its training programs, and implemented a robust activity tracking system, which improved reporting accuracy and efficiency.

- **Field Asset Deployment**: Camera on Wheels (COWs), Radar ALPR Trailers (RATs), and other field assets were built and deployed strategically, contributing to crime prevention and increased community engagement.

Key Performance Highlights

- **Public Safety Impact**: The RTCC played a critical role in 140 success stories in the second half of 2024, including 89 arrests/charges, 54 stolen vehicle recoveries, and 2 missing persons located.

- **Analyst Contributions**: Analysts supported 324 cases, with a wide variety of services provided.

- **Community Collaboration**: Partnerships with neighboring agencies and businesses led to an expanded camera network with the addition of 408 new live video feeds, strengthening multi-agency cooperation.

- **Grant Utilization**: Strategic use of grants enabled technological advancements, including new ALPR resources.

Challenges

The RTCC's biggest ongoing challenge is sustaining operations due to the expiration of ARPA funding at the end of 2026. Without sustainability funding, the RTCC faces potential disruptions in its programs and services, impacting its ability to provide critical support to law enforcement agencies and maintain its advanced technology infrastructure.

PART 1: ABOUT THE REAL TIME CRIME CENTER

Mission

The Spokane County Sheriff's Office Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) is dedicated to ensuring the safety and security of our community. By harnessing cutting-edge technology and providing rapid, actionable intelligence to deputies and officers, the RTCC significantly increases the chances of suspect apprehension and successful case resolution. As an integral part of the Sheriff's Office Regional Intelligence Group 9, we are committed to the proactive prevention, identification, resolution, and reduction of violent crimes, fostering a safer community for all.

History

The Spokane County Sheriff's Office RTCC took root in 2022 with a substantial $3,997,000 grant from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Guided by the Regional Intelligence Group 9 (RIG9) Lieutenant, the RTCC's early stages were marked by the creation of a robust technology portfolio. This comprehensive initiative equipped the RTCC with cutting-edge resources designed to boost its operational effectiveness. Key investments included Flock ALPR cameras, mobile camera platforms, a new video management system, additional cameras, the BriefCam video analytics platform, and the Peregrine data analysis platform.

Construction of the RTCC facility began in March 2024 and was completed by August 2024. The team welcomed its first analyst in April 2024, with two additional analysts joining upon the facility's completion. A dedicated project manager was brought on board to oversee administrative tasks, budgeting, and construction. To ensure seamless operation of the technology infrastructure, an IT manager was hired, while an investigative analyst, already involved in the project, was appointed as the Interim RTCC supervisor.

Concept of Operation

The Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) operates by delivering immediate, actionable intelligence to law enforcement agencies, significantly enhancing public safety and the effectiveness of their response. At its core, the RTCC leverages advanced technology and data analytics to monitor, analyze, and share critical information in real-time. The RTCC integrates a variety of data sources, including safety cameras, license plate readers, social media, and public safety databases, to create a comprehensive situational awareness picture. This integration allows officers to respond to incidents with greater precision and efficiency.

In practice, the RTCC continuously monitors incoming data feeds, such as radio communications, phone calls, and computer-aided dispatch (CAD) systems, to identify patterns, potential threats, and opportunities to asset law enforcement in the field. Analysts within the center scrutinize this data to provide timely intelligence, such as suspect descriptions, vehicle locations, and relevant historical data, to deputies in the field. By doing so, the RTCC enhances the prevention and resolution of crimes, improves officer and citizen safety, and supports proactive policing strategies.

Moreover, the integration of cutting-edge technology and dedicated personnel enables the RTCC to serve as a central hub for coordinated law enforcement efforts across jurisdictional boundaries. This centralized approach ensures that critical information is disseminated quickly and accurately, contributing to a safer community. The RTCC's ability to analyze and synthesize vast amounts of data in real-time positions it as a vital asset in the ongoing efforts to protect and serve the public effectively.

Privacy

The Spokane County Sheriff's Office is committed to respecting the privacy of its community members. The Real-Time Crime Center (RTCC) utilizes video monitoring, recordings, and other gathered information exclusively to improve public safety. This data is used to provide public safety officers with real-time critical intelligence, enhancing their situational awareness and reducing the likelihood of using force on citizens. All operations are conducted professionally and ethically, adhering to accepted legal standards regarding privacy. Importantly, the RTCC does not employ facial recognition technology.

Goals for 2025

In 2025, the RTCC is dedicated to advancing its mission and enhancing its effectiveness by focusing on several strategic goals. These objectives are designed to foster communication, streamline operations, and harness the power of technology, all while building trust within the Sheriff's Office and with external stakeholders:

Goal 1 **Foster Communication and Trust**: Build strong communication channels and trust within the Sheriff's Office, with surrounding agencies, and with the public to enhance cooperation and transparency.

Goal 2 **Enhance Individual Analyst Efficiency**: Promote a culture of continuous learning through a blend of formal training, self-education, task repetition, and encouraging analysts to step outside their comfort zones.

Goal 3 **Boost Overall RTCC Efficiency**: Streamline workflows and improve efficiency by automating routine tasks and alerts, while leveraging the full potential of available technology resources.

Goal 4 **Standardize Documentation**: Ensure thorough documentation and peer review of all standard operating procedures and quick reference guides for inclusion in the Unit Training Manual, to maintain consistency and quality.

Goal 5 **Secure Technology Grants**: Vigorously pursue technology grants and other funding opportunities to expand our camera network and underlying infrastructure.
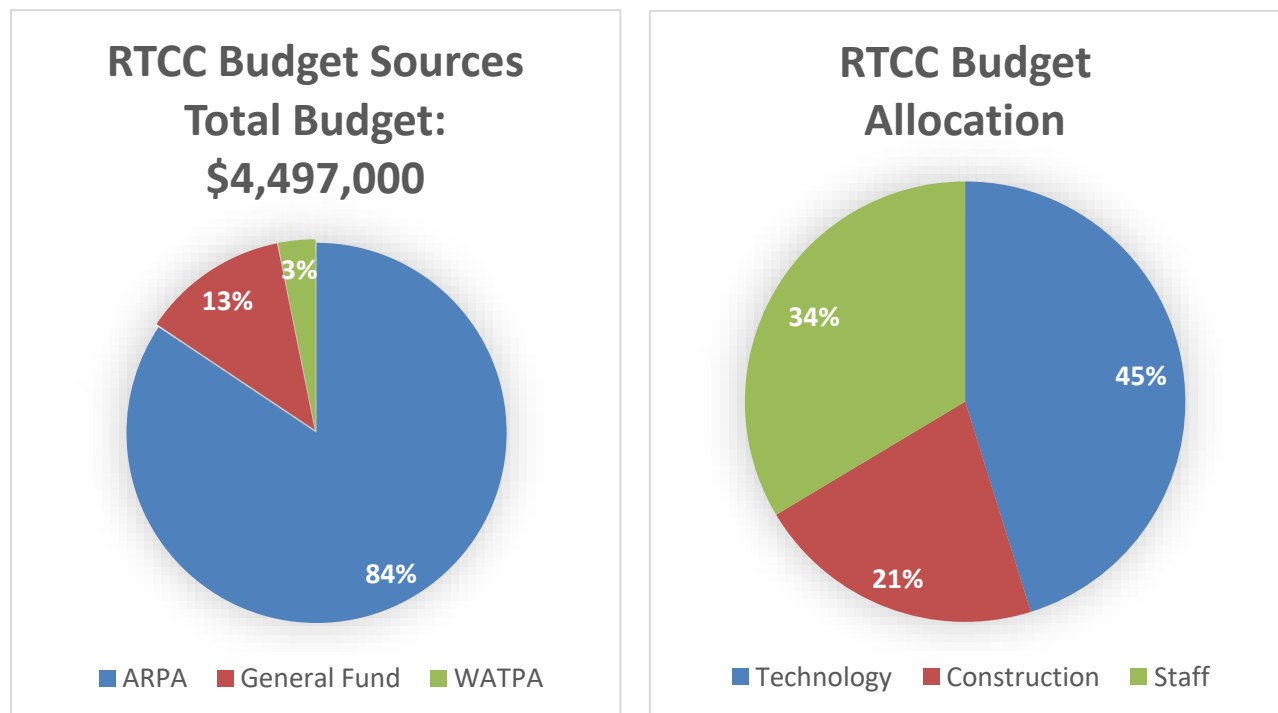
PART 2: RTCC DEVELOPMENT

Construction

The most notable milestone during this reporting period was the successful completion of the construction and technology integration of the Real Time Crime Center (RTCC). The newly finished RTCC space boasts a state-of-the-art video wall, six analyst workstations equipped with dispatch-type consoles, multiple interactive displays, a conference area, a workshop/storage area, a secure IT infrastructure area, and dedicated offices for the supervisor, IT manager, and Lieutenant. Additionally, a designated area has been set aside for future drone first responder pilot activities, positioning the RTCC for continued innovation and technological advancement.

Construction of the RTCC began in March 2024 and was substantially completed by August 2024, allowing the RTCC staff to fully occupy the new facility. The total construction costs amounted to $848,645, with $498,645 funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and $350,000 sourced from the County General Fund. This successful completion not only marks a significant achievement in infrastructure development but also lays the foundation for enhanced operational capabilities and improved public safety outcomes.

Budget

The RTCC project is primarily funded through an ARPA grant in the amount of $3,997,000. The terms of the ARPA grant required all funds to be spent or encumbered by December 31, 2024. Encumbered funds for employee salaries and ongoing expenses must be fully expended by December 31, 2026.

RTCC Budget Sources
Total Budget: $4,497,000 — ARPA 84%, General Fund 13%, WATPA 3%

RTCC Budget Allocation — Technology 45%, Construction 21%, Staff 34%

In addition to ARPA funds, $350,000 from the county General Fund was used for construction costs for the RTCC and approximately $240,000 of the Sheriff's Office baseline budget was used to fund two years of salary and benefits for the RTCC Supervisor.

In August 2024, the RTCC was awarded a grant in the amount of $150,000 by the Washington Auto Theft Prevention Authority (WATPA). This grant has been used to purchase a two-year contract for 10 Axon Fleet 3 mobile ALPR cameras which were deployed in Spokane Valley and will also be used to purchase a two-year contract for 8 Flock Long Range ALPR cameras to be installed near state highways in unincorporated Spokane County.

The RTCC remains committed to seeking further grant opportunities to expand its technology footprint, ensuring continued growth and enhanced capabilities.

Staffing

The RTCC project is supported by a dedicated and experienced team. Lieutenant Justin Elliott, serving as the RIG9 commander, leads the RTCC project. Under his guidance, the project has made significant strides in its development.

Eric Green, Spokane County Project Manager, oversaw the RTCC project until November 2024. He was responsible for managing construction, budgeting, and overall progress, ensuring the project stayed on track and within budget.

Dustin Baunsgard joined the RTCC as an Investigative Analyst on a temporary assignment and was appointed as Interim RTCC Supervisor in June 2024. With an extensive background in law enforcement intelligence, dispatch, and investigative technology, Dustin has helped to bridge the gap between the technological and operational components of the project.

Brad Cushman, hired as the RTCC Technology Manager, is a Spokane County Information Technology Department employee fully funded by the RTCC budget. Brad's expertise in managing all technology-related aspects of the RTCC ensures the seamless integration and operation of advanced systems.

The team also includes Tactical Analysts Katie Johnston, Amanda Vandenberg, and David Heglin, who joined the RTCC in April, July, and October 2024, respectively. Their specialized skills in analyzing and interpreting critical data are vital to the RTCC's operations. Katie, Amanda, and David bring diverse public safety backgrounds, equipping them with the necessary expertise for their roles. Their dedication to proactive policing and sharp analytical minds make them exceptionally well-suited for the RTCC.

Collectively, the interim supervisor and tactical analysts bring a combined 78 years of public safety service experience, predominantly rooted in dispatch and law enforcement intelligence. This experience is essential for the RTCC's mission, as the role of Tactical Analyst requires a unique skill set that is challenging to find. Recruitment for these positions has been particularly difficult, partly due to the pay scale, which is only slightly higher than that of a Spokane Regional Emergency Communications (SREC) dispatcher.

Although the pay was adjusted to reflect the specialized skills required, it is likely to face future challenges following an impending 10% pay raise for SREC dispatchers in 2025.

Additionally, the Tactical Analyst positions are grant-funded project roles, with funding secured only through the end of 2026. The uncertainty surrounding the continuation of these positions beyond the grant period further complicated recruitment efforts. While there is an intention to transition these roles to the general fund post-2026, this requires approval from the Board of County Commissioners and is not guaranteed at this time.

Information Technology Milestones

During this reporting period, the RTCC has achieved significant progress by completing numerous key projects and technological upgrades:

BOSS ALPR Replacement Project. In coordination with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), outdated BOSS ALPR cameras at two critical locations were replaced with modern Axis cameras. These aging BOSS cameras were largely non-functional and had been the last in the county to rely on the archaic Neology software platform. The new cameras are now integrated into the County's existing Flock Safety ALPR network and are also capable of live-streaming video when needed. The two upgraded locations are:

> **Highway 2 & Hayford Rd.** This intersection, located within Airway Heights city limits, is a significant chokepoint on a major state route in the west plains. An MOU with WSDOT allowed SCSO to place ALPR cameras at this intersection before WSDOT's moratorium on new installations for ALPR equipment. The upgraded cameras now capture southbound, eastbound, and westbound traffic, while Airway Heights Police Department's existing camera captures northbound traffic.

> **Interstate 90 & Barker Rd.** Similar to Highway 2 and Hayford, an existing MOU with WSDOT facilitated the placement of ALPR cameras at this high-traffic interstate location. The previous cameras captured only westbound traffic, but with this upgrade, eastbound traffic is now covered as well. The two cameras at this location have pan, tilt, and zoom capabilities to enhance situational awareness.

RTCC Completion. Integrating all the advanced technology into a single, centralized room marked a significant milestone for the RTCC. This consolidation of operations has markedly improved overall efficiency and streamlined workflows.

Camera on Wheels (COW). Construction of two COWs was completed during the reporting period, adding to the two built earlier in the year. One of the new COWs is branded for the Spokane Valley Police Department and is dedicated for use in Spokane Valley. It is anticipated two additional COWs will be built in the next reporting period, with one bearing the brand of the Sheriff's Office and the other bearing the brand of the Spokane Valley Police Department.

ONVIF Bridge Server Build. The new ONVIF bridge server was configured to stream Milestone camera feeds into FlockOS. This advancement now allows patrol deputies to view these feeds without the need to log into another system, greatly streamlining the process and improving accessibility for patrol operations.

BriefCam Integration with Milestone. The integration of BriefCam with Milestone allows for immediate review of camera footage without the need for separate downloading and uploading processes. This integration leverages BriefCam's analytics within Milestone, significantly enhancing our footage review capabilities.

Flock Sentinel Program. As part of the Spokane County Sentinel program, Flock Safety installed numerous gateways at private businesses across the county. This initiative enables the RTCC to access both live and recorded video from businesses willing to share their feeds. Currently, the RTCC has access to 114 video feeds from private businesses.

Government Agency Partnerships. The RTCC has also formed partnerships with several government entities, providing live access to their video feeds. These entities include the City of Deer Park, the City of Liberty Lake, and the East Valley School District. Through these partnerships, a total of 294 camera feeds were added, significantly expanding the RTCC's camera network.

School Camera Network Improvements: The RTCC has partnerships with nine school districts in Spokane County to access school cameras during critical incidents. While direct access to these cameras is a good first step, the RTCC has been working hard to improve its response to school incidents by enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the integration with these cameras. To this end, an incident response application was built to map camera positions and to provide a better visual layout of camera locations. Additionally, the RTCC is working with school districts to implement a standardized naming convention for cameras across all schools. This initiative aims to eliminate confusion and ensure clear communication during emergencies, ultimately enhancing the overall safety and security of students and staff.

Spokane County Solid Waste System Camera Project. The RTCC assisted in procuring and installing new cameras, along with a new Milestone Video Management System (VMS), at the county's two solid waste facilities. This upgrade, which represents a major leap in both camera quality and system functionality over the outdated Ocularis VMS, allows for seamless access to these cameras via the RTCC's existing VMS. This project exemplifies the RTCC's commitment to supporting county agencies in upgrading their VMS to Milestone, whenever feasible.

Expansion of Camera Infrastructure. The RTCC continued building its camera infrastructure by adding multiple cameras to the Milestone VMS, including City of Spokane Valley traffic cameras and camera trailers.

Peregrine Build. Significant time and effort during the reporting period was dedicated to integrating Peregrine into existing systems. Most integrations were completed, and Peregrine is expected to be fully rolled out to the entire agency in early 2025.

PART 3: RTCC OPERATIONS

Tactical Analyst Staffing and Schedule

Operations in the RTCC commenced in April 2024, initially with one analyst positioned in a temporary space within the Public Safety Building. The primary focus during this period was training, developing systems and practices, and educating patrol officers about the intended capabilities and functions of the RTCC.

Following the move into the newly constructed center, efforts shifted towards optimizing operations for maximum efficiency. This included mastering the available technology and training the second and third analysts who joined the team.

From September 2024, the RTCC began offering more consistent service during dayshift hours. Analysts were scheduled on dayshift until the end of December to facilitate comprehensive training and foster team cohesiveness. By December's end, Tactical Analysts were fully prepared to work independently.

In January 2025, Tactical Analysts transitioned to a 28-day rotating shift schedule, with two rotations on dayshift and one on swing shift. This schedule maximizes coverage hours while providing a six-hour weekly overlap for training, team meetings, and moving field assets. The RTCC service hours, effective January 2025, are:

- Monday and Tuesday: 0700 to 1700
- Wednesday through Friday: 0700 to midnight
- Saturday: 1400 to midnight

Due to staffing limitations, the RTCC does not have minimum staffing requirements. Consequently, when analysts are on leave, attending training, or otherwise occupied, the center will not be operational. With additional staffing, it is anticipated that operational hours can be extended, incorporating redundancy to ensure continuous operation.

Training

The RTCC is committed to providing the highest quality training to its staff. All personnel received individualized instruction in a variety of law enforcement information systems and tools, as well as the workflows and operational practices specific to the RTCC. Since the Tactical Analyst position was newly established, initial training was largely informal in the absence of a manual or roadmap for new employees.

To address this, the RTCC is developing a comprehensive Tactical Analyst training manual. This manual will include standard operating procedures, best practices, and a framework for training new analysts. Additionally, tactical analysts are creating quick reference guides for repetitive tasks, which will be incorporated into the manual. The completion of this manual will enable new analysts and other sheriff's office personnel, such as light-duty deputies, to quickly become effective in the RTCC.

A certification, or sign-off program, is being developed to ensure individuals achieve a basic

level of competence before working unsupervised in the RTCC. Efforts are also underway to bring back a Real Time Crime Center Analyst Course previously held at the Regional Training Center.

During the reporting period, RTCC staff received training from various sources:

- All staff attended Milestone XProtect training
- All analysts attended multiple patrol roll calls
- All analysts participated in report writing training at the post-academy
- All analysts attended New World Mobile training at the post-academy
- All analysts completed Flock certification training
- All analysts attended Lucidus training
- Two analysts received WSP ACCESS training
- One analyst attended the 2024 Snapchat Law Enforcement Summit
- IT manager and RTCC supervisor attended training on the operation and management of the video wall
- Lieutenant Elliott, Sergeant Karnitz, Interim Supervisor Baunsgard, Tactical Analyst Johnston, and Tactical Analyst Vandenberg attended the National Real Time Crime Center Association Conference in Scottsdale, AZ, where they toured three RTCCs and visited the offices of Axis Communications and Axon Enterprise

The RTCC also provided the following training during this period:

- Training on the fire dashboard and the entry of data into the system from the field was presented in multiple forums, including roll calls and a quarterly leadership meeting
- The RTCC supervisor conducted Flock training and certification programs for four post-academy classes
- A SCOPE volunteer was trained on the deployment of all RTCC field assets.
- The RTCC supervisor helped organize the first ever regional drug intelligence symposium and presented a class on law enforcement information systems

Field Assets

The RTCC staff play a crucial role not only in staffing the center but also in managing an increasing number of field assets. This management requires analysts to leave the center to deploy various camera assets, providing a more flexible ALPR network and enhanced visibility with CCTV cameras.

Deploying these assets offers significant benefits but also comes with the challenge of time consumption, often resulting in the RTCC being left unmanned. Despite this, the RTCC efficiently manages and/or utilizes the following field assets:

FOX (Flock Flex Camera): Five Flock Flex portable, battery-powered ALPR cameras. These cameras can be moved frequently and strategically placed in response to threats or dynamically changing situations, offering real-time adaptability in various scenarios.

RAT (Radar ALPR Trailer): Six mobile radar trailers and reader boards used for traffic calming and control. These trailers are equipped with ALPR cameras and can be strategically placed to address emerging needs, making them versatile tools for both traffic management and crime deterrence.

GIRAFFE (Ground-based Investigative Real-time Aerial Field Feedback Equipment): These trailers, equipped with an extendable mast and multiple cameras, provide video coverage of problem areas and special events from a high vantage point. While these are not RTCC-managed assets, the RTCC monitors the video feeds from these trailers and occasionally borrows them for special events. Spokane Valley PD owns and manages two of these trailers, and the International Fair and Expo Center owns and manages one.

COW (Camera on Wheels): Perhaps the most public-facing component of the Real-Time Crime Center, the COWs are retired patrol cars equipped with a mast and multiple cameras. Designed and built by RTCC and Sheriff's garage staff, these vehicles provide maximum flexibility for live video and ALPR coverage throughout the county.

The COWs have a significant deterrent effect, often deployed in problem areas and high-crime zones. When in place, the impact is immediate, with associated crimes and activities in the immediate area dropping to nearly zero.

The COWs have garnered substantial media attention, with multiple news articles and television stories focusing on their effectiveness. This visibility has not only highlighted the innovative approaches of the RTCC but also increased public awareness and support for the center's initiatives.

As the public-facing component of the RTCC, the COWs have been used for community engagement at public events such as National Night Out, Trunk or Treat, and Shop with a Cop. These events have provided opportunities for the RTCC to connect with the community, showcasing the center's capabilities and fostering positive relationships with residents.

Community feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with comments such as:

> "This is POSITIVE feedback. The impact of that car parked here was immediate, significant, and sustained. I am so impressed with the impact that immediately had and continues to have. Whoever came up with that idea deserves a commendation and a raise. We appreciate all the deputies we have had the pleasure to meet, and the positive impact they've always had and continue to have around us and our ability to conduct business safely here at [Business Name]."

> "In regards to the sheriff's camera car being stationed in our parking lot, we have definitely seen changes. We have noticed fewer problems coming from the alleyway, fewer transients on the lot bothering the drive-thru, and less rubbish in the alley. We went from calling code enforcement every week to pick up large amounts of rubbish to not having to call them at all while the car has been here. The transients have also stopped 'camping' in the alley, reducing the nuisance for the flow of traffic."

Field Asset Challenges and Considerations

One disadvantage of the COWs is that relocating them requires two staff members, which often leaves the center unstaffed. This is expected to become more of an issue in 2025, as staff members begin working opposing schedules and two new COWs get added to the fleet. Despite this, the benefits of deploying these assets far outweigh the challenges, as they provide critical support to the RTCC's mission of enhancing public safety and reducing crime.

In July, RTCC began getting assistance from a dedicated SCOPE volunteer who assists in the movement of RTCC field assets. Without this assistance, RTCC staff would struggle significantly to keep up with the demands and attention these assets require.

The field assets managed by the RTCC are vital tools in the ongoing efforts to maintain safety and security in the community. Through strategic deployment and effective management, these assets have made a significant impact, demonstrating the value and importance of the RTCC's work.

Operational Outputs

Analyst Activity and Success Tracking

The RTCC has developed an internal software application to effectively track analyst activity, center outputs, and success stories. This system relies on input from Tactical Analysts as they perform their duties, supervisor review and follow-up to determine if an activity resulted in a success story, and feedback from the field to ensure the impact of RTCC operations is accurately documented and shared. Once the activity is entered into the system and reviewed, the weekly activity reporting process becomes automated. Launched in September 2024, this system has been fully integrated into the analysts' daily workflow. Prior to this launch, recordkeeping of analyst activity was inconsistent, resulting in incomplete data for the earlier part of the reporting period.

RTCC activity is categorized into four key areas:

1. **Analyst Touch:** This occurs when an RTCC analyst takes a substantive step to conduct research or provide assistance, but ultimately no value is added to the incident. Examples include unsuccessful attempts to identify a suspect vehicle or attempting to locate an incident on camera that occurred out of view.

2. **Analyst Assist:** In this case, an RTCC analyst substantively contributes information or value to law enforcement, regardless of the outcome of the incident. Examples include identifying a suspect vehicle or providing an evidence.com link to a crime victim.

3. **Analyst Success:** This occurs when an RTCC analyst substantively contributes information or value to law enforcement, resulting in a positive outcome measured by one of the RTCC's success metrics.

4. **System Success:** A system success occurs when RTCC-managed technology results in a positive outcome, as measured by one of the RTCC's success metrics.

These categories help provide a comprehensive overview of the RTCC's operations, capturing both individual and system-wide contributions to law enforcement success.

The RTCC measures the success of its activities and systems based on specific outcomes. Originally developed when success stories primarily involved the use of ALPR cameras, these categories will be revised in 2025 to better reflect success metrics related to both systems and analyst activities. The following outcomes are considered indicators of success:

- **Person Arrested or Charged:** A person is arrested or charged with a crime as a direct result of RTCC analyst involvement or the use of an RTCC-managed system.

- **Stolen Vehicle Recovered:** A stolen vehicle is recovered due to RTCC analyst involvement or the use of an RTCC-managed system.

- **Stolen Plate Recovered:** A stolen license plate is recovered owing to RTCC analyst involvement or the use of an RTCC-managed system.

- **Suspect Vehicle Located:** A suspect vehicle is located as a result of the efforts of RTCC analysts or the use of an RTCC-managed system.

- **Suspect Vehicle Identified:** Identification of a suspect vehicle is achieved through RTCC analyst involvement or the use of an RTCC-managed system.

- **Missing Person Located:** A missing person is found due to RTCC analyst involvement or the use of an RTCC-managed system.

- **Dangerous Situation Averted:** A dangerous situation, such as a high-risk traffic stop, is avoided thanks to the intervention of RTCC analysts or the use of an RTCC-managed system. This is often seen when an ALPR hit on a stolen license plate results in the owner being advised to remove the conflicted plate to prevent a high-risk stop.

- **Evaded / Did Not Pursue:** Instances where an ALPR alert leads law enforcement to a stolen or otherwise wanted vehicle, but the vehicle eludes capture and is not pursued due to legal restrictions. In such cases, the ALPR system is deemed successful, even though pursuit limitations prevent the apprehension of the suspect.

Success Stories

In 2024, the RTCC showcased its effectiveness through a combination of capable analysts and advanced systems. The success achieved in the first half of the year was particularly remarkable, given that only one analyst was onboard, yet they were able to contribute significantly with 23 success stories. This was bolstered by the reliability of the systems in place, such as the Flock license plate reader network, which accounted for an impressive 94 success stories during the same period.

RTCC Success Stories	2024 First Half	2024 Second Half	2024 Total
Analyst Success Stories	23	46	69
System Success Stories	94	94	188
Total Success Stories	**117**	**140**	**257**

The second half of the year saw a notable increase in analyst activity with the hiring of two additional analysts. This marked a substantial uptick in productivity, resulting in 46 analyst success stories, doubling the success from the first half. The systems maintained their consistent performance, contributing another 94 success stories. This balance between human expertise and advanced technology resulted in a total of 257 success stories for the year, with analysts contributing 69 successes and systems providing 188 successes.

Success Outputs

The RTCC's combination of human expertise and advanced technology resulted in significant positive impacts on public safety. During the first half of the year, even with a single analyst, the RTCC managed to achieve impressive outcomes, including the arrest or charging of 90 individuals and the recovery of 41 stolen vehicles. This period also saw the recovery of 10 stolen license plates, the identification of 24 suspect vehicles, and the location of 23 suspect vehicles. Notably, the RTCC also played a critical role in locating 7 missing persons and averting 5 potentially dangerous situations.

RTCC Success Outputs	2024 First Half	2024 Second Half	2024 Total
Persons Arrested/Charged	90	89	179
Stolen Vehicles Recovered	41	54	95
Stolen License Plates Recovered	10	8	18
Suspect Vehicles Located	23	18	41
Suspect Vehicles Identified	24	18	42
Missing Persons Located	7	2	9
Dangerous Situations Averted	5	20	25

The addition of two more analysts in the second half of 2024 further amplified the RTCC's effectiveness. This led to the arrest or charging of 89 individuals and the recovery of 54 stolen vehicles. Additionally, 8 stolen license plates were recovered, 18 suspect vehicles were located, and another 18 suspect vehicles were identified. During this period, the RTCC also contributed to locating 2 missing persons and averting 20 dangerous situations, demonstrating a capability to handle critical incidents while simultaneously training new analysts.

Overall, for the entire year, the RTCC was responsible for 179 arrests or charges, the recovery of 95 stolen vehicles, and 18 stolen license plates. Additionally, 9 missing persons were found and 25 dangerous situations were averted.

Analyst Activity
In 2024, the RTCC analysts focused heavily on training, establishing standard operating procedures, and building trust with law enforcement partners. The first half of the year saw significant contributions from a single analyst, who, despite the lack of a comprehensive reporting system, managed to achieve and document multiple successes and assists, impacting at least 43 cases.

The second half of the year marked a notable increase in productivity with the addition of two more analysts and the rollout of a new analyst tracking system. This system enhanced the reporting and documentation of activities, resulting in 324 cases impacted in the latter half of the year, to include 46 analyst success stories and 209 assists.

RTCC Analyst Activity	2024 First Half	2024 Second Half	2024 Total
Analyst Success	23	46	69
Analyst Assist	20	209	229
Analyst Touch	0	69	69
Total Cases Impacted	43	324	367
Asset Moves	n/a	199	199
Staff Hours Moving Assets	n/a	269	269
Tours Given	n/a	28	28
Tour Visitors	n/a	147	147

The RTCC devoted considerable time and effort to managing its fleet of mobile assets. In the second half of 2024, RTCC staff relocated these assets 199 times, dedicating at least 269 hours to this critical task. This activity was not tracked in the first half of 2024.

Following the move to the new facility, the RTCC has hosted numerous tours for law enforcement agencies, community groups, county commissioners, city councils, stakeholders, and other key figures. A total of 28 tours have been conducted, engaging 147 visitors. These tours have showcased the RTCC's capabilities and strengthened community relations.

In 2024, the RTCC played a role in a total of 418 incidents. Of these incidents, approximately half were classified as analyst assists. In these cases, RTCC analysts provided valuable support, although their assistance did not directly lead to a measurable success, or the final outcome of the incident remained unknown.

In about one third of the incidents, either analyst assistance or RTCC-managed information systems contributed to a successful outcome. This highlights the effectiveness of the RTCC's integrated approach, combining human expertise with advanced technology to achieve positive results.

**RTCC Incident Involvement
(Total incidents: 418)**

- Analyst Success 11%
- System Success 22%
- Analyst Assist 50%
- Analyst Touch 17%
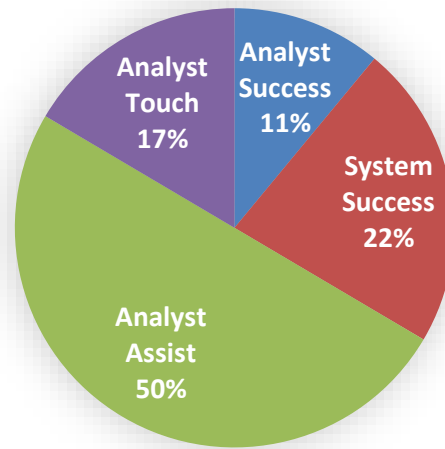
Focus on Violent Crime

The RTCC project was substantially funded through an ARPA grant to address community violence intervention. The RTCC plays a crucial role in combating violent crime, leveraging advanced technology systems and the expertise of its tactical analysts. By providing timely and accurate information, the RTCC enhances law enforcement's ability to apprehend violent offenders and hold them accountable. This multifaceted approach is evidenced by the wide range of arrest offenses and charges filed as a result of RTCC contributions.

In 2024, the RTCC's efforts led to arrests and/or charges being filed for the following offenses (*asterisk indicates violent or weapons related offense*):

Arrest Offenses / Charges Filed	2024 First Half	2024 Second Half	2024 Total
* Assault 1D	2	4	6
* Assault 2D	2	3	5
* Assault 2D Domestic Violence	1	0	1
* Assault 2D Domestic Violence (Warrant)	0	1	1
* Assault 2D Strangulation DV	1	1	2
* Assault 3D	0	1	1
* Assault 3D (Warrant)	1	0	1
* Assault 3rd Degree (Colorado Warrant)	1	0	1
* Assault 4 DV w/Prior Convictions (Felony)	0	1	1
* Assault 4D	1	0	1
* Assault 4D (Warrant)	1	2	3
* Assault 4D Domestic Violence	1	3	4
* Assault 4D Domestic Violence (Warrant)	1	1	2
* Assault and Battery DV (Tribal)	1	0	1

*	Assault of a Child 2D (Warrant)	2	0	2
*	Assault of a Child 3D (Warrant)	1	0	1
	Attempting to Elude a Police Vehicle	7	4	11
	Attempting to Elude a Police Vehicle (Warrant)	3	0	3
	Burglary 1D	2	2	4
	Burglary 2D	3	2	5
	Burglary 2D (Warrant)	2	3	5
	Burglary Residential	0	1	1
*	Carrying a Concealed Pistol Without a Permit (Warrant)	0	1	1
	Child Pornography Probation Violation (Federal Warrant)	1	0	1
	Criminal Trespass (Tribal)	1	0	1
	Criminal Trespass 1D (Warrant)	0	1	1
*	Dangerous Weapons	1	0	1
	Delivery of a Controlled Substance (Idaho Warrant)	0	1	1
*	Domestic Violence (Colorado Warrant)	1	0	1
*	Drive by Shooting	2	2	4
	Driving Ability Impared (Colorado Warrant)	1	0	1
	Driving Motor Vehicle With an Expired License	0	1	1
	Driving Under the Influence	1	1	2
	Driving While License Revoked 1D (Warrant)	1	0	1
	Driving While License Suspended 1D	1	0	1
	Driving While License Suspended 2D (Warrant)	1	0	1
	Driving While License Suspended 3D	2	2	4
	Driving While License Suspended 3D (Warrant)	1	1	2
	Driving Without an Ignition Interlock Device	0	1	1
	Eluding (Idaho Warrant)	0	1	1
	Escape From Community Custody (Warrant)	3	4	7
	Failure to Initially Register Vehicle	0	1	1
	Failure to Register as a Sex or Kidnapping Offender (Warrant)	2	1	3
	Failure to Yield the Right of Way	0	2	2
	Felony Theft (Montana Warrant)	0	1	1
	Fugitive From Justice (Warrant)	1	0	1
	Grand Theft of a Check (Idaho Warrant)	1	0	1
	Harassment	2	1	3
	Harassment (Warrant)	0	1	1
	Hit and Run Attended	0	1	1
	Hit and Run Injury	1	1	2
	Hit and Run Property Damage	1	5	6
	Identity Theft 2D	5	5	10
	Identity Theft 2D (Warrant)	2	0	2

	Identity Theft 3D (Warrant)	1	0	1
*	Interfering with the Reporting of Domestic Violence	1	2	3
	Intimidating a Public Servant	0	1	1
	Making False Statements to a Public Servant	3	1	4
	Making or Having Burglary Tools	1	0	1
	Making or Possessing Motor Vehicle Theft Tools	1	2	3
	Malicious Mischief 1D	0	1	1
	Malicious Mischief 1D (Warrant)	1	0	1
	Malicious Mischief 2D	1	3	4
	Malicious Mischief 3D	4	1	5
	Motor Vehicle Theft (Colorado Warrant)	1	0	1
*	Murder 2D	3	0	3
	No Valid Operator License	0	2	2
	Obstructing a Law Enforcement Officer	0	2	2
	Obstructing a Law Enforcement Officer (Warrant)	0	1	1
	Operating a Motor Vehicle Without Insurance	1	2	3
	Parole Violation (Idaho Warrant)	0	1	1
	Pet animals—Taking, concealing, injuring, killing, etc.	0	1	1
	Physical Control (Warrant)	0	1	1
	Possession of a Controlled Substance	12	7	19
	Possession of a Controlled Substance (Idaho Warrant)	1	0	1
	Possession of a Controlled Substance (Warrant)	1	2	3
	Possession of a Controlled Substance With Intent to Deliver	1	3	4
	Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle	21	20	41
	Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle (Warrant)	1	1	2
	Possession of Drug Paraphernelia (Idaho Warrant)	1	0	1
	Possession of Stolen Property 1D	1	0	1
	Possession of Stolen Property 1D (Warrant)	1	0	1
	Possession of Stolen Property 2D	3	1	4
	Possession of Stolen Property 3D	5	1	6
*	Protection Order Violation	0	2	2
*	Protection Order Violation Domestic Violence	0	8	8
*	Protection Order Violation Domestic Violence (Warrant)	0	1	1
	Reckless Driving	2	1	3
	Reckless Endangerment	1	0	1
	Rendering Criminal Assistance 1D	1	0	1
	Residential Burglary	7	7	14

	Residential Burglary (Warrant)	0	2	2
	Resisting Arrest	0	1	1
*	Robbery 1D	6	1	7
*	Robbery 1D (Warrant)	1	0	1
*	Robbery 1D Carjacking	1	1	2
*	Robbery 2D	3	0	3
*	Stalking DV	2	0	2
	Taking Motor Vehicle Without Permission 2D	3	0	3
	Tampering with Physical Evidence	1	0	1
	Theft 1D	2	4	6
	Theft 1D (Warrant)	1	0	1
	Theft 2D	16	6	22
	Theft 2D (Warrant)	2	1	3
	Theft 3D	8	1	9
	Theft 3D (Warrant)	2	7	9
	Theft From a Vulnerable Adult 1D	2	0	2
	Theft of a Firearm from a Building	4	0	4
	Theft of a Motor Vehicle	5	9	14
	Theft of Rental Property over $5,000	1	0	1
	Trafficking in Stolen Property 1D	6	3	9
	Trafficking in Stolen Property 2D	1	0	1
	Trespass 1D (Warrant)	1	0	1
	Trespass 2D (Warrant)	1	0	1
	Trip Permit Violation (Warrant)	1	0	1
	Unauthorized Use of Property (Tribal)	1	0	1
	Unlawful Dumping of Solid Waste	1	0	1
*	Unlawful Imprisonment	1	1	2
*	Unlawful Possession of a Firearm 1D	2	0	2
*	Unlawful Possession of a Firearm 2D	2	2	4
*	US Probation Violation: Weapons Possession (Warrant)	0	2	2
	Use, Sale, or Possession of Drug Paraphernalia (Tribal)	1	0	1
	Vehicle Prowling 1D (Warrant)	2	0	2
	Vehicle Prowling 2D	4	2	6
*	Vehicular Assault	0	1	1
	Violation of a Court Order (Warrant)	1	0	1

Multijurisdictional Approach

The RTCC is committed to inter-agency cooperation, extending its resources beyond jurisdictional lines. Offering its services to any law enforcement agency, the RTCC's collaborative approach facilitates seamless coordination and effective resource utilization, fostering stronger bonds between neighboring law enforcement entities.

During the first half of the year, significant collaborative efforts were seen with nearly all neighboring law enforcement agencies, showcasing a high level of engagement and cooperation that continued through the second half. In total, the RTCC collaborated with the Airway Heights Police Department 77 times, Spokane Police Department 76 times, Kalispel Tribal Police Department 41 times, Liberty Lake Police Department 14 times, and Cheney Police Department 12 times.

Other Agency Support	2024 First Half	2024 Second Half	2024 Total
Airway Heights PD	35	42	77
Cheney PD	6	6	12
Kalispel Tribal PD	17	24	41
Kootenai County SO	0	2	2
Liberty Lake PD	4	10	14
Spokane PD	32	44	76
US Marshals Service	0	6	6
Washington State Patrol	2	4	6
Other Agencies	3	10	13

By fostering an environment of mutual support and shared resources, the RTCC has not only reinforced its role as a vital hub for information and technology but also helped build a safer community through enhanced cooperation among diverse law enforcement agencies.

Community Oriented Policing
The RTCC plays an active role in community-oriented policing, fostering strong connections with local businesses and citizens. By deploying COWs and other resources in strategic locations, the RTCC provides a proactive solution to enhance security and deter criminal activities. This strategic deterrence not only enhances safety but also provides businesses and citizens with significant relief from nuisance and associated criminal behaviors. The team regularly engages with business owners, understanding their unique concerns and collaborating on tailored strategies to improve safety. The Spokane Sentinel Program further strengthens this partnership by enabling businesses to proactively share live video feeds from their security camera network with the RTCC, increasing safety and improving the efficiency of the Sheriff's Office response to incidents.

Beyond technology, the RTCC is dedicated to building trust and positive relationships through active participation in community events. Participation in programs like Shop with a Cop, Trunk or Treat, and National Night Out allow RTCC staff to interact with citizens in a friendly, non-enforcement capacity, showcasing their commitment to the well-being of Spokane residents. Through these initiatives, the RTCC demonstrates its unwavering dedication to creating a safer, more cohesive community.

PART 4: SELECTED SUCCESS STORIES

The following highlights are just a few of the 140 total success stories during the latter half of 2024:

July 15, 2024 – Flock ALPR alert results in the arrest of a domestic violence suspect who restrained and assaulted a victim for over 5 hours.
On July 12, 2024, deputies were dispatched to a report of domestic violence. Upon arrival, deputies learned the victim was home with her boyfriend and at approximately 3am the boyfriend found text messages on the victim's phone and began assaulting the victim while she was sleeping in her bed. The boyfriend used his hands, feet, and mouth to cause injuries to the victim's forehead, shins, legs, and arms and also pulled the victim's hair, causing a large clump of hair to detach from her head. The victim was unable to call 911, as the boyfriend refused to give the victim her phone and when she tried to get away, he would physically keep her on the bed. Approximately 5 hours later, the boyfriend left the residence, and the victim called 911. Deputies developed probable cause to arrest the boyfriend on multiple charges. A vehicle was identified for the suspect and was added to the Flock ALPR hotlist. On July 15, 2024, a SREC dispatcher advised law enforcement the vehicle had been detected by an SCSO ALPR camera. Deputies responded, located the vehicle, and conducted a high risk stop. The suspect was taken into custody and was transported to the Spokane County Jail where he was booked on charges of Unlawful Imprisonment, Assault 4th, and Interfering with Reporting of Domestic Violence.

August 1, 2024 – ALPR data from an SCSO Camera on Wheels (COW) deployed in Deer Park, cross-jurisdictional data sharing, and RTCC analyst research results in the arrest of a suspect in multiple drive-by shootings.
In July 2024, Spokane Police detectives were attempting to locate a suspect who was a suspect in an estimated ten drive-by shootings in the City of Spokane. Detectives had identified a vehicle for the suspect, but were not able to locate the vehicle and there were no Flock ALPR hits for the vehicle. Later in July, RTCC deployed a COW in Deer Park and the on-board ALPR camera was configured to capture plates of vehicles traveling on Main Street. Shortly after it was deployed, the COW began to capture the license plate of the suspect's vehicle multiple times a day. Once it was learned the vehicle had been detected by the COW, RTCC staff reviewed historical video recordings and was able to confirm the suspect as a part-time driver of the vehicle, along with an unidentified female. Additionally, data showed the vehicle coming and going from a nearby residential area. Through additional research, it was determined the suspect had a relative with a listed address in that residential area. Through surveillance, Spokane Police detectives were able to confirm the suspect was living at the residence. On August 1, 2024, Spokane Police SWAT executed a search warrant on the residence and the suspect was safely taken into custody. The suspect was transported to the Spokane County Jail and booked for Drive-By Shooting and Hit and Run Property Damage, with additional charges to be filed at a later date. The vehicle was seized as evidence.

August 3, 2024 – ALPR data used to locate a missing and endangered elderly man and reunite him with his family.
On August 3, 2024, a citizen called 911 to report that her husband, who suffers from dementia, had gone missing overnight. The man had left in their car, and she was

concerned he would be unable to return safely without assistance. An SCSO Sergeant queried the Flock ALPR system and learned the vehicle had been detected overnight in Airway Heights, Reardon, and Omak. Based on the ALPR hit in Omak, the Sergeant called Border Patrol and learned the missing subject was being held at the Oroville border crossing because he attempted to cross the border but was confused and unable to provide any contact information for family members. Border Patrol agreed to hold the man until family members could respond to retrieve him and his vehicle.

August 8, 2024 – RTCC analyst locates evidence of a domestic violence assault resulting in charges being filed for Assault 4 w/Prior DV Convictions.
While reviewing ALPR images on another incident, an RTCC analyst located 600+ Flock images of what appeared to be an aggressive fight that occurred in the middle of the street. With further research, the analyst determined that patrol units responded but cleared the incident as an argument with no arrests or follow-up. The analyst sent the images to a detective for review and, based on the images, the detective filed felony charges against the suspect for Assault 4 DV w/Prior Convictions.

October 28, 2024 – RTCC analyst accessed school cameras and conducted follow-up research for a call of a student with a rifle threatening to shoot other students due to bullying. The incident was later determined to be a swatting call.
Following a report of a student at a local high school with a gun threatening to shoot other students, RTCC analysts immediately accessed school cameras and searched for any threats. After no threats were located and the school was cleared, RTCC analysts followed up on an IP address that was used to send the threat through the Department of Veteran's Affairs crisis line. It was later learned the Veteran's Affairs crisis line receives several similar threats per day. Further investigation revealed the IP address is a proxy out of London, UK and was tied to 8 other similar threats across the country on the same day. RTCC followed up with a Special Agent in the Veteran's Affairs Office of Inspector General to see why the crisis line failed to disclose other similar threats when they first advised law enforcement. While not technically a success, this incident demonstrates RTCC's readiness to respond quickly to school threats.

September 6, 2024 – RTCC ALPR trailer captures video of a hit and run collision at the Spokane Interstate Fair that caused damage to Spokane County Property.
In September of 2024, RTCC analysts deployed multiple mobile assets to the Spokane County Fairgrounds to provide increased security and situational awareness during the Spokane International Fair. On September 6, 2024, RTCC analysts were advised of damage to Spokane County property at the fairgrounds. Using the camera on a Radar ALPR Trailer (RAT), an RTCC analyst was able to observe the collision and obtain the license plate of the suspect vehicle. Deputies conducted a follow-up investigation and cited the registered owner of the vehicle for Hit and Run Unattended Property.