



Sugar Mountain Police Department

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Chief Casey Turbyfill

REPORT TO VILLAGE COUNCIL

February 14, 2025

As all of you are aware the past month has been busy, and call volume is up this being normal for the time of year. The Police Department is operating well. I have an applicant for the Police Officer opening; I am working with the applicant to get them caught up on in-service training and the certification process. I am hopeful once all the steps are completed that the applicant can be re-certified, and fill our open position. I want to thank officers for working extra shifts during the weekends and holidays, to provide adequate staff for busy times. As we head into Presidents Day Holiday weekend I have scheduled extra staff to assist with the influx of traffic on Village Streets. The entire department continues to improve in efforts to provide the best public safety service for all, and we thank you for the opportunity to serve.

The Flock Safety Cameras have proven to be a great asset to the Village's public safety. With the use of the Flock Safety Camera, the Sugar Mountain Police Department has solved two hit-and-run incidents involving property damage, and will recoup nearly \$14,000 in damages to Village property. These two incidents would have otherwise been nearly impossible to solve, resulting in the loss of damages to the property.

On 1/25/2025 Officer Buchanan found that a Village-owned decorative lamp post and guard rail had been damaged at the Grouse Moor entrance. This damage consists of over \$7,000 in damage to Village property. Officers conducted an investigation and with the assistance of the Flock Safety Cameras, identified a suspect vehicle. An accident report was completed, and the Village Manager is working through the insurance claim process to recoup the full amount of damages from the vehicle owner's insurance company.

On 1/30/2025 Officer Clark while patrolling observed a male subject in the parking area of the Scotchman Store. Officer Clark found that the male subject had an active order for arrest for failure to appear in court. During the investigation, a search of the male suspect's vehicle was conducted. Drug paraphernalia and 1.64 grams of methamphetamine were located in the vehicle during the search. The male suspect was arrested and charged with possessing drug paraphernalia, possessing methamphetamine, and the order for arrest for failing to appear in court. The male subject was transported to the Avery County Magistrates Office and received a \$12,500 bond. I applaud Officer Clark for the arrest, and her continued efforts to keep our community safe.

On 02/01/2025 Chief Turbyfill found that a Village-owned decorative lamp post had been damaged at Linksider Lane. This damage consists of around \$6,000 in damage to Village Property. Chief Turbyfill found that a vehicle the previous night had left the roadway and torn down the Village-owned decorative lamp post, leaving the scene and failing to report the crash. During the investigation, a vehicle part was located at the crash scene, and a suspect vehicle make and model were identified from the found parts. Chief Turbyfill and Officer Brown canvassed the area in an attempt to locate the suspect vehicle. Later that afternoon with the use of the Flock Safety Camera, and diligent investigating Officer Brown located the suspect vehicle at Sugar Ski and Country Club. The vehicle damages were consistent with the evidence at the crash scene. The owner/driver of the vehicle was identified and issued a citation for leaving the scene of an accident with property damage. Chief Turbyfill completed an accident report, and the Village Manager is working through the insurance claim process to recoup the full amount of damages from the vehicle owner's insurance company.

I have attached our monthly activity log.

Business Checks: 466, Residence Checks: 393, Patrol Miles: 3,597

Respectfully,



Chief Casey Turbyfill