



WHITMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

P.O. BOX 470 COLFAX, WA 99111 PHONE (509) 397-6266 FAX (509) 397-2099

BRETT J. MYERS, SHERIFF

MEDIA RELEASE

January 1, 2026

COLFAX, WA– The Whitman County Sheriff's Office announces the upcoming retirement of Undersheriff Chris Chapman, a dedicated public servant whose 33-year tenure has been a true example of leadership and commitment to the safety and security of Whitman County residents.

Undersheriff Chapman joined the Sheriff's Office in 1993 as a Reserve Deputy, transitioning to full-time status in March 1995. Over the decades, he has worn many hats, including roles as Supervisor, Investigator, SWAT Team Leader and Boating Safety Officer. Progressing through the ranks from Deputy to Sergeant, Chapman assumed the position of Undersheriff in 2020, where he played a pivotal role in guiding the office through complex challenges while continuing to foster a culture of excellence and service.

"Chris Chapman's career is a testament to selflessness, duty and unwavering integrity," said Sheriff Brett Myers. "His commitment to serving others has strengthened our team and set the bar high for others to follow." We are grateful for his contributions and wish him and his family all the best in his well-deserved retirement." Undersheriff Chapman will retire at the end of February 2026.

Stepping into the role of Undersheriff will be Sergeant Keith Cooper, a seasoned leader with a long history at the Sheriff's Office. Sgt. Cooper began his career with the Sheriff's Office in 2000 as a Reserve Deputy. Cooper holds the distinction of being the first deputy hired full-time by Sheriff Myers upon his assuming the Office of Sheriff in 2003. With 25 years of hands-on experience, including a strong background in investigations, K-9, and SWAT, Sgt. Cooper is uniquely positioned to ensure a seamless transition and continued strong leadership within the Sheriff's Office.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brett J. Myers".

Brett J. Myers
Sheriff WCSO