

It's an honor to hear from you and I thank you for reaching out. I am often asked to address topics that the Sheriff does not directly control. The re-entry facility is one, for example. For any such questions, remember that my answers are just opinions, and they may only be helpful if the appropriate community leaders find them of value. With that said, I'm happy to answer your questions.

BACKGROUND: I'd like to start by saying that I meet all the qualifications required to be Sheriff in the State of Idaho. I began boating here in 1993, when I was 15 years old. As a fisherman, I learned Idaho boating laws, and how I needed to conduct myself to keep a respectful distance from private property, other boaters, and water users. I see our Sheriff Deputies on our waterways and I know about the numerous serious safety issues, rescues, life threatening, and life saving circumstances they face every day. I have extensively researched and studied our law enforcement system, our employees, our leadership, and our Sheriff's Office for two decades. I have substantial knowledge on how the processes work, including what limitations there are. Ultimately, I believe my strongest qualifications are actually virtues, which are hard to find these days: Honesty, strength, compassion, diligence, and respect for our laws. I'm not sure these are virtues one is born with; but I assure you I have them, and I am confident they will benefit everyone in this community.

PERSONNEL: I agree with the Sheriff's assessment on this point. To find and hire qualified candidates, I will first assess the current leadership at KCSO, and make changes as necessary. When that step is complete, I'll begin recruiting locally for additional deputies. I'm open to all of the ideas you presented. There are expenses to be considered with some of these options, which may be reasonable. Having a strong, well-trained volunteer force can play an important role in any endeavor.

USER CONFLICTS: I know this issue well and understand how sensitive it can be. There are a few immediate solutions to this problem. The first is to identify a problem area through complaints made to the Sheriff's Office. Once verifying that the complaints are of actual violations of the law, we will investigate those complaints. We will more strictly enforce said laws in those areas. To promote understanding between these groups, deputies will be trained to initiate and moderate conversations on the topics during safety checks, which are already a part of their routines. "No wake" zones and the use of scheduling of allowed activities could be enhanced, along with potentially larger designated "control" areas. Another initiative can be executed in collaboration with your group. Preemptively setting the right tone with the public by posting thoughtful signage "campaign" would help produce results and better relations.

EDUCATION: I've seen recklessness on the water, and understand it can be a serious problem. If the danger to the public is high enough to warrant action, then appropriate action needs to be taken to safeguard the public. I'm not in favor of imposing special training requirements. It's the operator's responsibility to know about operational safety. It's the Sheriff's job to enforce the maritime laws. I don't believe taxpayers should have the burden of this kind of licensing program. I would like to ensure we provide an updated informational pamphlet with the registration of each craft. This material includes all the laws, responsibilities, and rules of etiquette. Creating awareness via the use of signage, public dialogues, and Deputy safety check dialogues are proactive and effective.

INCREASE IN BOATER FEES: As stated, I am not in support of mandating a program. I also do not support an increase in fees or taxes for anything for Idaho residents. I *do* support fees for out of

state users. Those fees would be collected the same way they are now. I'd like to see the out of state fees used in place of our own current taxes and fees. Nothing against our neighbors, but let's let them help us out more. The funds raised should also be used to fund much or all the budget for the Marine Department, *and* Search and Rescue. With the right funding, the Sheriff can have a healthy presence on our waterways.

RE-ENTRY FACILITY: The purpose of making a person have a trial and sending them to jail or prison is to rehabilitate them. I think we all want to help people where we can. I believe that our faith in the system succeeding is low, and that's what spurs the resistance to the facility. These are not county prisoners. They are *state* prisoners. With that being said, I'm against the facility going into our area because of the rate of *recidivism* for people that come out of our *state* facilities.

TRAFFIC ISSUES: Speeding and dangerous parking are easily patrolled. If a ticket must be issued, then so be it. I do prefer for deputies to warn speeders and attempt to contact owners of improperly parked vehicles to be moved. I prefer education and communication rather than penalties and force. Again, good community awareness and thoughtful signage is helpful.

EXCESSIVE WAKES: I do believe excessive or illegal wakes can be determined by sight, and yes I would allow deputies to do so. Keep in mind that one of my strongest campaign points is to provide better training and much closer supervision of our deputies. We can all exercise common sense. We can easily tell the difference between 10 feet and 100 ft. Although the law is 200 feet, if the violation can't be documented and explained easily to a jury, then the officer shouldn't be citing people for this violation. The marine department has used adequate measuring devices to determine distance. I'll make sure we have the right equipment to assist deputies. I'm not aware of any problems with how existing regulations are being enforced. If there are, then a complaint needs to be filed for KCSO internal affairs to investigate. My Sheriff's Office will place heavy emphasis on listening to the community and reviewing and responding to all complaints - even those about our protocols and employees. We are here to serve *you*.

Thank you again for your engagement. Please share my contact information and extend my invitation to your commission and your community members to call or email directly with any questions.