



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

WALLA WALLA COUNTY

240 West Alder Street, First Floor
Walla Walla, WA 99362-0220

Sheriff's Office (509) 524 - 5400
Fax (509) 524 - 5480
Dispatch (509) 527 - 3265
Burbank Dispatch (509) 545 - 8441
Toll Free (866) 527 - 3268
Email: sheriff@co.walla-walla.wa.us

John A. Turner
Sheriff

Gerrod A. Martin *Chief Criminal Deputy*
Shanda J. Zessin, *Chief Civil Deputy*

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GANG SHOOTING IN WALLA WALLA COUNTY

On Tuesday evening July 26, 2016 at approximately 7:05PM WWSO deputies responded to a call of a shooting victim at Paddock Elevators located at Paddock and Harvey Shaw Roads in Walla Walla County. A male phoned dispatch and reported that he had been shot. Due to his medical condition, the male was not able to fully answer all of the dispatcher's questions, thus deputies responded to the location initially with limited information.

Upon arrival, deputies located a lone 20 year old male who had been shot multiple times. No one else was at scene upon the deputies' arrival. The male victim's condition appeared very serious and deputies immediately began administering first aid utilizing their issued trauma kits. Medics arrived shortly thereafter. The victim was flown to St. Mary's Medical Center and then to Harborview Medical Center.

Initial investigation has revealed that this shooting was gang related. Further details of this investigation are being withheld to preserve the integrity of the investigation. WWSO Detective Sergeant Mike Good is the lead investigator on this case. The crime scene was processed by members of the WWSO and the Washington State Patrol crime scene team.

Paddock Elevators was a county location of concern shared by Sheriff John Turner recently when he requested the Board of County Commissioners fund a two detective unit to focus on criminal gang and drug activity in Walla Walla County. Currently the Sheriff's Office has no specialized resources devoted to the prevention, intervention, suppression, and investigation of gang and drug related crimes due to a lack of funding. To date, no attempts to fund such a specialized team has been taken by the Board of County Commissioners. Below are the photos used in Sheriff Turner's presentation of gang graffiti at Paddock Elevators.

