



## Partnerships to Leverage External Resources

The Boulder Police Department (BPD) has longstanding relationships with our federal law enforcement partners. For example, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) provided technical assistance and personnel for the 2013 Bolder Boulder 10K following the bombing of the Boston Marathon the month before. Their assistance has continued and has helped keep one of Boulder's premier events safe.

BPD has formal and informal working relationships with the FBI, the United States Marshals Service, the Drug Enforcement Agency, the United States Secret Service, the United States Postal Inspection Service, and the Department of Homeland Security. These arrangements allow for sharing of information and provide added resources and personnel. Often, those who commit crimes in Boulder flee the jurisdiction, and in some cases attempt to leave the country. Federal agencies such as the FBI and US Marshals have units dedicated to locating and arresting dangerous fugitives.

Domestic terrorism, especially threats from political extremists, has increased across the county and Boulder is not immune.

Local-Federal partnerships through the taskforce model provide:

- <u>Increased knowledge through training.</u> Federal agencies provide training in many areas
  including behavior analysis, interview and interrogation, advanced intelligence techniques,
  counterterrorism, human trafficking, child exploitation, narcotics trafficking and national
  security issues.
- <u>Increased transparency and situational awareness.</u> Members of local/federal taskforces have access to regular team meetings and situational awareness of patterns and threats in other areas.
- <u>Increased timeliness of access to sensitive information.</u> A Task Force Officer embedded within BPD has direct access to intelligence information without first going through FBI channels.
- <u>Increased resources.</u> Federal partners bring in additional resources. For example, human resources, such as a linguist; material resources; specialized equipment; and laboratory assistance.
- Formalized partnerships give timely high-level access to sensitive information. Both the
  United States Attorney for the District of Colorado and Boulder County District Attorney have
  recognized the importance of federal partnerships in quickly responding to incidents in Boulder
  such as the King Soopers mass shooting. Two other significant threats to the community were
  interrupted by joint Boulder Police and FBI investigations:
  - Matthew Harris, a potentially violent suspect from California, who had sent an email to approximately 35 individuals, directing them to a google drive containing an 803-page "manifesto" titled "death sentences" was arrested at his apartment on the Hill near the

- University of Colorado on February 2, 2022.
- o A 2019 joint BPD and FBI investigation led to the arrest and conviction of alleged white supremacist Wesley Gilreath on charges of possessing tens of thousands of images and videos of child pornography. Gilreath had also posted "hunting guides" online targeting Jews, Muslims, and other groups. During a search of Gilreath's South Boulder apartment, investigators found handwritten notes bearing the names and addresses of 15 Mosques, Synagogues, religious and other locations, all within 35 miles of his apartment. Gilreath had attempted to purchase a firearm in May 2019 but was denied during the background check. He was sentenced to 15 ½ years in federal prison.





As a medium-sized agency, BPD does not have departmental resources to match the resources gained by partnering with the FBI and other federal agencies as illustrated by the Ashley Mead case:

Boulder resident Ashley Mead and her young daughter were reported missing on Feb. 14, 2017.
 Sadly, Ashley was found deceased in Okmulgee, OK. Adam Densmore, the father of Ashley's child, was arrested in Oklahoma and the child was found with him, unharmed. The investigation spanned five states with evidence recovered from three states. This case highlighted the benefit of local, state and federal cooperation. Because of the department's relationship with the local FBI office, federal assets were quickly available to process the out-of-state crime scenes, preserving valuable evidence. The FBI also assisted with laboratory processing and secure evidence transfer. Adam Dinsmore was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life plus twelve years in prison for killing Ashley Mead.

Boulder's status as a sanctuary city remains in effect regardless of any federal partnership agreements. The focus of these relationships has, and always will be, on addressing serious and violent crime, not immigration status or activities protected under the first amendment.