



# Newsletter

# Nelson Police Department

Chief Jim "The Priest" Koury

## Introduction

Welcome back to the newsletter.

It has been a busy couple of months and I apologize for not sending out the newsletter sooner. Having said that, this one will be a little long to cover everything.

## Fireworks Law Change

During the last legislative session The GA Assembly passed a new law regarding fireworks. This change allows for basically all types of fireworks possession and use but, the part that will effect most residents are the time limits that fireworks may be set off. The law states that fireworks may be discharged between the hours of 10 am and midnight except for New Year's Eve and The Fourth of July which allows them to be discharged until 2 am.

## Reserve and Auxiliary News

The unit has continued to grow and has been not only active for regular patrols but has responded to missing persons calls assisting surrounding agencies.

The unit now has 17 certified police officers and 15 uncertified auxiliary members.

Included in this group are firearms instructors, CPR/first aid instructors, K-9 trainer, horse trainer, nurses, combat medics and several other specialties.

In the very near future we will have a certified drug/tracking K-9 and a mounted horse unit to assist with missing person calls and man hunts.

The unit consistently volunteers 200 hours or more each month patrolling the city and responding to calls for service.



Congratulations to Officers Jordan Hopson and Chris Zimmermann for completing basic training at GPSTC Cherokee becoming certified police officers.

I would also like to welcome Scott McElroy and Leo Schrader to the unit. "Mac" is a firearms instructor and law enforcement officer with 15 years experience in addition to several combat deployments to the middle east. Leo is a master dive instructor with 10 years of law enforcement experience as well as a private security consultant.

## Nelson PD on Facebook

If you have not done so, be sure to go by the Nelson Police Department Facebook page and click on like to get weather warnings, agency news and updates.

## Training

The minimum required training by the state for police officers is 20 hours a year, 1 hour of classroom on deadly force and weapon qualification once a year.

I am proud to report that all certified officers have exceeded the state requirements by several hours and that it is the policy of the agency to require officers to qualify with their firearms twice a year during the day and once in low light conditions.

A small look into what training has been going on, during the last several months all officers received training on use of force, hand cuffing, search and seizure, and legal updates. Additionally, several officers have completed training in the use of NARCAN to help in case of an overdose, CPR/AED certification and LIDAR speed detection.

I also assisted teaching hand to hand combat for the state police academy located in Cherokee County, as well as expandable baton certification for the Pickens County Sheriff's office.

## Public Safety Day

Nelson Police Department will be hosting it's yearly public safety day August 15<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 2pm at the city park. There will be representatives from several local law enforcement agencies, fire departments and marshals' offices. The American Red Cross will be there with the disaster relief display and the local lodge will be offering bar-b-que. Along with residents being able to interact with members of the public safety community, equipment and vehicles will be on display and there will be a bounce house for the kids. There will also be a child safety seat and the fire safety house set up by the fire department.

We had a great turn out last year and look forward to seeing you all there.

## Nelson 5K Fun Run

This year's annual 5K fun run will be held on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Nelson Reserve Unit Annual 5K**  
**September 12, 2015**  
**Onsite Registration begins at 7:30, Race begins at 9am**



Onsite Registration: \$25 race day @ Nelson City Hall, 1985 Kennesaw Ave Nelson 30151  
Pre Registration: \$20  
Contact Captain Stacey Koury at [stacey.koury@nelsongeorgia.com](mailto:stacey.koury@nelsongeorgia.com)

We once again have some great items in the goodie bags for those who are registered and we will be accepting "ghost runner" which are people who would like to contribute but not actually run in the race. Ghost runner will receive goodie bags as well so be sure to contact Stacey or I to register, or just drop by city hall and fill out the registration form there. You can also go to [www.active.com](http://www.active.com) and register at that web site.

## Congratulations

Reserve Corporal Poulos recently competed in a statewide completion for law enforcement officers sponsored by the G.B.I. The event tested officer knowledge in areas of criminal law, tactics and crime scene processing. Corporal Poulos placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state

at this event competing against other officers from all over the state.

Reserve Officer Reihl was the first reserve officer accepted into the unit and I am proud to announce that on July 7<sup>th</sup> he will be added as a paid officer for the Nelson Police Department.

## **New Police Department**

In May the city council approved the transfer of the small building at the old marble headquarters to be turned over to the police department for use as the new police headquarters.

This building has been owned by the city for many years and has been empty until now.

The new building is 2000 square feet which is a huge improvement from the 40 square foot office we have been using in city hall.

We have been able to get this project up and running with a ton of help from several businesses and individuals.

All of the sheet rock, doors, locks, doorknobs flooring and molding were donated completely free of charge and the siding, electrical, plumbing and HVAC work has been done at a deep discount.

The labor has been done by reserve officers, inmate workers from Pickens County and me, with an expected opening date around the end of July.

Well that is all I have for now. If you have any questions or comments don't hesitate to give me a call or drop me an email.

Chief Jim "The Priest" Koury