



# OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

## LATAH COUNTY, IDAHO

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### Wayne Rausch

Sheriff

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### Media Release

To: All Media Outlets  
From: Det. Jennifer McFarland  
Public Information Officer  
Date: August 9, 2006  
RE: Fuel Costs Mean Changes in Services

Fuel costs are on the rise once again and gas prices are forecasted to increase substantially with the closure of the Alaskan oil field. As of the end of this month, the Sheriff's Office will have expended our budget for fuel for the 2006 fiscal year (ending in October). We project that we will have gone \$15,000 over our fuel budget before the 2007 budget is approved. In order to try to keep that expense down, we are regrettably forced to reduce some of our services we offer.

Deputies will once again be operating as two-officer units and we have changed shift hours to reduce the number of Sheriff's Office vehicles on the road after 3:00 am. Many calls that had previously merited in-person response will now be handled over the telephone. Since fewer patrol units will be on the road, you can expect delayed responses to calls for services. Unfortunately, this might also impact response times to emergency calls.

Although we hope that this reduction is temporary, it has already been projected that our request for an increased fuel budget (which accounts for gas prices to fluctuate but remain near the \$3.00/gallon mark) will be approved at much less than we have requested based on our needs. We hope to return to full service as soon as possible, but as with all businesses, agencies, and households, we are beholden to whatever budget we are given and must adjust accordingly.

Despite the reductions in service, we will continue to provide the best and most professional service as our resources allow.