



# MINES

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

CODE 4 CHRONICLES



The latest news from Colorado School of Mines Department of Public Safety.

## Chiefly Speaking

Spring 2021



### Dear Mines Community:

Congratulations, Orediggers! You have done spectacular work this semester and persevered through many challenges and the numerous sacrifices asked of you to protect your fellow students and community members in order to keep our campus open for in-person learning and living. I am so honored by your efforts and accomplishments, and it speaks volumes of your commitment that we were able to remain open all semester while many other college campuses enforced campus-wide quarantines and even fully closed.

I want to especially congratulate our graduates who have completed our internationally-respected academic degree programs, those who have volunteered in the many community-centered groups, and those who have participated in our nationally-ranked sports teams. You amaze me every day with your passion for enriching yourselves as people while still pursuing educational excellence.

For those moving into new careers or advanced studies, I wish you the best of luck. To those returning in the summer and fall, we are very excited to have you back, and we look forward to a greater sense of normalcy. Enjoy your break, and we will see you soon. Go Orediggers!

Dustin Olson

Chief of Police

Director of Public Safety



## Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Colorado School of Mines Police Department to make the Mines campus the safest campus in Colorado.

Department members strive to provide progressive, professional and courteous police services in partnership with the Colorado School of Mines community and the residents of the City of Golden.

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## Say Hello to our long-time Mines PD officer, Officer Krayenhagen!

**Where did you grow up? How long have you been in law enforcement and where have you worked?**

Aw geez, I grew up on a small town farm in Iowa. How long have I been doing this? I need a calculator. I've been an officer for 38 years in federal and municipal. I worked with the Department of Energy in Rocky Flats.

**What attracted you to Mines? What is your favorite part of working at Mines?**

I've been here 14 years, and I like the small town atmosphere. I love this job because there are few restrictions, and I can choose what I want to do. It's a small but beautiful campus where you can see a lot of wildlife and nature.

**What do you like to do on your days off/What are your favorite hobbies?**

Move snow! I used to enjoy fishing and camping, but the older I get, the different my hobbies are. Now, I mostly do work around the house and a lot of woodworking.

**Favorite movie?**

Probably "Dancing with Wolves"



**Favorite local restaurant?**

My patio grill! I don't have a favorite restaurant; I like to grill everything myself. I make food better at home.

**What is your favorite donut?**

I don't have a favorite, they're all good. A donut is a donut- you can't have a favorite one.

**Is there something interesting or unique about you that you'd like to share?**

I have two daughters and they followed in my footsteps to be involved in law enforcement.

## Heading Outdoors

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As summer approaches and students, faculty, and staff begin trading in long hours of work to spend time outdoors, there are a few things you should remember to keep in mind.

**1) Be aware of your surroundings, especially wildlife**

It is rattlesnake season, so here is some important information to keep in mind:

- Rattlesnakes tend to be about on warm, sunny days.
- While snake bites are incredibly rare, be on guard.
- If you encounter a rattlesnake, move away from the area and do not make any sudden or threatening movements.
- If bitten, stay where you are, call for help, and wait for a first responder. It is dangerous to walk if bitten because activity will increase your heart rate and allow for greater circulation of the venom.
- While not as common, be on the lookout for mountain lions as well. Here are some suggestions, in case you do come across one:
  - Stay calm: Slowly start backing away.
  - Do not run: A lion will instinctively start to chase you if you start to run.
  - Do not crouch or bend over: If you crouch, you are more likely to like prey.
  - Appear larger than you are: Wave your arms and speak loudly, if a mountain lion starts to approach you

**2) Be Prepared Outdoors**

- As we all know, weather in Colorado can change in an instant. Here are some tips to ensure you are not caught unaware:
- Dress in layers: It is always better to overdress than underdress. Make sure you wear light layers if hiking or camping to ensure you are prepared for any changes.
- Head out early: If you are planning on hiking, make sure you head out early in the morning, so you are not stuck hiking in the peak sun.
- Plan ahead: If you want to do any outdoor activities, do your research and ensure you have everything you need.

### 3) Take care of yourself

- Drink lots of water: Make sure you keep hydrated as you spend time outdoors.
- Wear sunscreen: Even if it is not sunny outside, your skin can still get damaged. Be proactive and apply sunscreen before heading out!
- And most importantly, have fun! It is summer which means you all get a well-deserved break. Enjoy yourself and spend time with friends and family.

## Protect and Serve

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Sometimes it seems like not a lot happens on campus, and people wonder what our officers are doing besides driving around, and yes, I know you're thinking it, giving out tickets.

Our mission is not to ruin fun or create revenue (our budget doesn't come from tickets). We are here first to create a safe environment for you to teach and learn. Here is an example of a case that took a lot of time and careful attention, but our officers are dedicated to investigating serious crimes, even across multiple Front Range cities in this case, to remove dangerous people from our community.

On August 2, 2019, at about 5 p.m., a student from another university who was home for the summer parked her car in the dirt lot on Lookout Mountain Rd., just past the big stone pillars. (This is Mines property but is open to the public during daylight hours.) After "hiding" her purse partially under the front window had been broken out and her purse stolen. She called her bank to cancel her credit cards, but they had already been used at the Loaf 'n' Jug, Conoco, Kohl's, and Home Depot in Golden and the Victoria's Secret in Lakewood - for a total of about \$2,000 - in less than an hour!

Fortunately, she didn't have to pay for the fraudulent charges, but the stores and their insurers did, likely passing the costs along to consumers in the form of higher prices. Next time someone says, "Property crimes don't hurt anyone," or "The stores have insurance," please ask them to think again.

Through extensive investigation and cooperation with other law enforcement agencies, Mines Police identified and charged the suspects, who had been casing and breaking into cars at parks, trailheads, and hospitals along the Front Range from Fort Collins to Parker. Their crimes included criminal trespass, auto theft, credit card fraud, and identity theft with numerous individual and retail victims.

Because the suspects have extensive criminal records, which also include drug offenses, they pled guilty to some of their crimes, in return for other charges being dismissed and are now in prison.

The CSU student actually got her (empty) purse back but had to spend time getting a new driver's license, school ID, and credit cards, as well as checking her credit history, attending court proceedings, and spending money to replace her car window. Always lock your car, and don't leave anything valuable in the passenger compartment – even if you think it's "hidden."

Thank you, Officer Bryann Lynch and the entire Mines Police Department, for your commitment to this case and to the safety of our community. It is immensely appreciated.

## Protecting Your Information

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Sharing intimate materials such as photographs or videos may not necessarily remain private due to the technology that we have today. After a picture is taken and sent, there is no guarantee that it will only be seen relationship with the recipient or for other reasons.



In more extreme cases, this material may also be used to coerce or blackmail the sender into meeting the demands of the receiver. Oftentimes, the receiver can request access to bank accounts, green dot cards, gift cards, money, and more to delete the photos. If the demands are not met, then they can threaten to send the material to friends, family, or even employers. In addition to this, they may not dispose of the photos and can continue asking for more money to keep the material private. If this happens, do not send money or any other items to them. It is better to be embarrassed than to lose thousands of dollars. Disable your account before they can get the contact information for your friends and family and do not reply to any of their messages. In the future, only use reputable dating sites and do not send intimate material. All in all, prevent these outcomes by refraining from sharing this type of material.

In addition to this, phishing scams have been on the rise. Scammers will send emails with job offers that ask for additional information or requirements to start. There are no reputable companies that will send you a job offer and then ask you to provide money to start. Do not reply to these emails and forward them to ITS to protect other students. You can also file a report with the Mines Police Department at any time. Watch out for these types of scams and spread the word to protect your fellow students.