

Thank you for checking out this Sheriff patrolling St Paul Facebook/Youtube thing. I am totally opposed to it. At minimum, there are many questions to be settled. At worst, this activity will lead to St Paul people getting hurt from the Sheriff chasing a vehicle.

1. Territory: The Sheriff has his own contract cities that are his paid contractual responsibility to patrol and yet he patrols St Paul instead. He should not patrol St Paul unless invited for a specific event. He claims he patrols St Paul because of a better streaming connection and yet online he has frequently complained of a lack of connection, here in Frogtown. I think he wants to feed into biases of where crime is. Please do ask Sheriff Fletcher, “Why are I you patrolling St Paul, which is St Paul Police's territory when you have contract cities that you have contractually promised to patrol?” If the Sheriff is not trying to make St Paul look bad, then why is he handing out “Twinkies”, a food put down?
2. Official or not official: Please do ask if the Sheriff is patrolling officially or unofficially. He has to answer officially, otherwise he cannot be using his lights, his authority as Sheriff to stop or using any government property. However he tries to say he volunteers his time after doing 12 hours doing Sheriff work. It is almost universal to ban any dangerous work after putting in more than 12 hours of work.
3. Distracted driving: In addition to dangerous overtime, the Sheriff is sometimes driving alone. He speaks to his audience while driving, listening to the police radio and also “patrolling”. Sometimes he eats as well. This is distracted driving. One night he drove right past a person lying in the road. He could have easily driven over that person. He didn't stop when another car stopped. He didn't stop and render aid or protection even when the call came over the radio, even though he clearly was the closest vehicle.
4. Violate St Paul policing rules: If the Sheriff were to actual patrol St Paul officially, it has to be under St Paul rules and direction. We as a city have deemed it to be too dangerous to have high speed chases except under special circumstances. The Sheriff almost accidentally drove over someone under normal speed, so what risks are we at when the Sheriff is in a high speed chase? Other St Paul rules are violated. Normally domestic fight calls are handled by at least two officers so the fighting sides can be dealt with separately. The Sheriff went in alone, getting physically injured and resulting in escalating the charges and the risk.
5. Tax increases: Every increase in property taxes is blamed on the city, even when the county and the Sheriff are causing the budget increases. Clearly the Sheriff is not spending his time managing his resources to stay in budget. How much does this patrol directly or indirectly add to the property tax burden? There is a Sheriff station in St Paul that sits mostly unused, costing money.
6. Campaigning: The Sheriff asks for support and speaks on the broadcast as if he is campaigning. It totally does not sound professional. So shouldn't this whole “patrolling” event be run under campaign rules? Who gets the money earned from Youtube videos? What if we get more off duty officers patrolling St Paul who happen to be running for Sheriff next year?

Grace Kelly nicknamed Kelly

St Paul resident