



SHERIFF KOOTENAI COUNTY



SHERIFF **BEN WOLFINGER**

UNDERSHERIFF **DAN MATTOS**

Media Release

For Immediate Release
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Jail Population Hit Record High

This weekend the Kootenai County Jail reached record levels of persons in custody. As of 5:00 a.m. on Sunday, February 4th, the Kootenai County Jail had 459 persons in custody, of which approximately 75 percent were felony bookings and 25 percent misdemeanors. The Kootenai County Jail is presently designed to house 327 inmates, with an expansion underway that will raise the number of available beds by 125. Additionally, the expansion will leave unfinished space that will allow for another 108 beds if completed.

Present construction is slated to be completed in the fall of 2018, and will increase the total beds available to 452, with the overall potential of having 560 beds available if the unfinished "shelled in" portion is completed. If present numbers of bookings remain consistent, the Kootenai County Jail, with the current expansion plans, will be full the day the jail is opened. The only other options will be to complete the remaining 108 beds that remain unfinished and/or continue to house inmates in other jails in Idaho and Washington.

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Office, in conjunction with the County Human Resources Department, are aggressively recruiting to hire detention deputies to staff the expansion. Those interested in a career as a detention deputy should contact the Recruitment Team at KCSOrecruit@kcgov.us

For Sheriff Ben Wolfinger
by Captain Kim Edmondson