



# SHERIFF

WASHINGTON COUNTY

## Media Release

### Sheriff's Office Donates Robot to Glencoe High School Students

January 9, 2017 – The Sheriff's Office Remotely Operated Vehicle Team donated a decommissioned tactical robot to the Glencoe High School robotics team.

In 2006, the Sheriff's Office used grant funds to acquire its first robot- a Mini Andros II by Remotec. It was outfitted with three cameras, two-way communications, and a robotic arm. At the time, use of such technology by local law enforcement was a relatively new and innovative concept.

In 2008, the Sheriff's Office formed the Remotely Operated Vehicle Team (ROVT), which still operates today. Comprised of patrol and jail staff, the team oversees the operation and maintenance of the agency's robots, which has since grown to a total of three.



For nearly a decade, the Mini Andros II was deployed on dozens of tactical callouts around Washington County. The robot proved invaluable assisting deputies with entering dangerous areas, opening doors, removing weapons, and other tasks that would otherwise put human lives at risk. The ROVT also showcased the robot at countless community safety fairs.

Over the years, robotics technology has drastically improved and replacement parts for the Mini Andros II have become scarce. Last year, ROVT members began looking into decommissioning options and reached out to coaches from Glencoe High School's robotics team, named "Team Shockwave." The two groups had met the year prior at a robotics convention. Earlier this evening, members from the ROVT donated the Mini Andros II to Team Shockwave, who will use its parts for future projects.

"The Mini Andros II has been an essential part of our operation throughout its many years of service," said ROVT Sergeant Mark Trost. "This unit has in part saved lives during various missions during its lifecycle. Our team is excited to see that it can continue to be of value to our community and as an educational tool for local students."

Sheriff's Public Information Officer: Deputy Jeff Talbot

PIO Phone: 503-209-5613

**"Conserving the peace through values driven service"**  
**Sheriff Pat Garrett**