

Colorado Springs Chapter, CO Article for Officer Review Magazine

TITLE: COS MOWW Recognizes our First Responders

The Colorado Springs (COS), Colorado Chapter of MOWW was honored to recognize our local First Responders at our monthly Companions Luncheon on Saturday, 21 February 2026. We were honored to have Commander Rafael Chanza, Deputy Chief of the Colorado Springs Police Department (CSPD) as our featured speaker. His presentation was very informative, addressing crime trends, the immigrant issue, cooperation with other law enforcement agencies and providing recommendations on how we can support our local police force. Commander Chanza, an Army veteran, indicated that the CSPD will pursue illegal immigrants that commit crimes and will share information with state and federal agencies to apprehend them. He also noted that major crime in Colorado Springs has decreased by 50%, largely due to an increase in staffing and additional police academy classes training high quality law enforcement officers. In the past, Colorado had the highest level of auto thefts in the country with teenagers stealing KIAs then using them for smash and grab crimes. Additionally, we learned how to access the latest crime statistics and other useful information at the CSPD website. Commander Chanza offered his appreciation for the Colorado Springs community, which is very supportive of the police, and lauded the public's willingness to report crimes. We are fortunate to have dedicated First Responders like Commander Chanza and the CSPD professionals who keep us safe each day and exemplify the MOWW motto that *It is Nobler to Serve than to be Served*.



COL Steve Shambach provides a MOWW Certificate to Commander Rafael Chanza, Deputy Chief of the Colorado Springs Police Department.