



Blotter/right to be forgotten policy

Starting March 1, 2026, the Wyoming Tribune Eagle will no longer be producing a Police Blotter, which was previously published three times a week in print and online.

The Police Blotter is a prime example of how even document-supported crime and public safety reporting can sometimes be misleading. The blotter is a list of local arrests written based on booking sheets provided on weekdays by the Laramie County Sheriff's Office. The documents include arrests from LCSO, the Cheyenne Police Department, the Wyoming Highway Patrol and the Pine Bluffs Police Department.

In spite of efforts to verify all information, these booking sheets are not comprehensive documents and often leave out key details of the case.

The Wyoming Tribune Eagle has at times received booking sheets with misspelled names, inaccurate arrest times and locations, and, in a handful of cases, inaccurate charges. Though small discrepancies like these are often amended through the court process, publishing the blotter based on booking sheets means that minor inaccuracies enter the public record before those corrections are made.

Beyond those inaccuracies, charges against an individual can be altered or dismissed as a case progresses, again making the blotter an inaccurate depiction of local crime.

These blotters are also not followed up with a compiled list of arraignments, trial results or sentencing, and thus do not fairly indicate whether or not the subject was convicted of the crime they were arrested for.

Publishing that information before an individual has undergone the legal process can cause undue harm, leading to lifelong consequences, such as impacting employment or social status.

In the past, the WTE has offered to remove individuals from the blotter should they provide documentation that the charges were dismissed, but this does not stop the initial impact of publishing the arrest information.

In order to limit those harms and offer more relevant content, the WTE will no longer be publishing a blotter. While reporters will still receive and review booking sheets, keeping track of and reporting those charged with serious crimes, reporters will no longer dedicate their limited time to compiling a list of arrests.

This will also free up reporters' time to focus more on newsworthy trends and high-profile cases.

Previously published blotters from our website will remain published; however, staff will remove links to the blotter from the WTE home page.

For blotters published prior to March 1, 2026, the WTE option to remove individuals from the blotter should documentation that proves the charges were dismissed remains.

This does not mean that the WTE reporters will neglect their role in holding the criminal justice system and those who enter it accountable. Rather, it means that we are committed to reporting that encourages a fair and just system for all, starting with our own role in it.