My name is Jason Acheson, and I am the Chief of Police for the St. Ignatius Police Department. I was born in Wadena Minnesota, but raised in the Flathead Valley of Montana. I graduated from Columbia Falls High School in 1996 and immediately knew I wanted to pursue a career in law enforcement. After earning my A.A.S. Degree in Criminal Justice in 2000, I began my career as a Reserve Police Officer for Columbia Falls and was later hired full-time in 2001. My passion for the field led me to the Montana Law Enforcement Academy in 2002, where I began accumulating over 1,400 hours of additional training and certification in law enforcement practices, all while honing my skills across multiple departments in Montana.

Throughout my career, I have served in various capacities, including with the Whitefish Police Department and the Ronan Police Department. My commitment to service led me to join the Montana Army National Guard in 2011 at the age of 34, where I served as a 19Kilo (M1 Abrams Tank Crewman) with the 1-163rd in Great Falls and Helena. In 2017, I transitioned to Florida, working with the Florida Department of Corrections and private security before returning to Montana in 2020. There, I worked with the Hot Springs Police Department while also studying to become an EMT with Hot Springs Ambulance, further deepening my understanding of community safety and emergency services.

In 2022, I returned to the Mission Valley—a place I’ve always loved—to serve as Chief of Police for St. Ignatius. Since then, I have been focused on rebuilding and modernizing the department, enhancing its image, and creating stronger connections with the community through community-oriented policing. My vision as Chief is to influence positive changes within the department and the broader law enforcement culture. Outside of work, I enjoy fishing, riding motorcycles, watching movies, and occasionally enjoying a Sunday afternoon cigar. I enjoy learning about U.S. American History and the wealth of knowledge it brings. It’s an honor to serve the people of St. Ignatius, and I’m humbled to continue my career in public service, always striving to make a difference for the community we serve.