

WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SHERIFFS & POLICE CHIEFS

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Serving the Law Enforcement Community and the Citizens of Washington

August 28, 2018



From Your Executive Director:

You may have seen by now that the WA Supreme Court has ruled (in a divided ruling) that I-940 should go to the ballot by itself. This was our least favored outcome, but I do want to share with you the [press release](#) we are sending out along with the involved law enforcement labor groups, as well as a set of “talking points”. Of course, your views and communication in your community on this issue are up to you individually, but I wanted to share our association’s messages and invite you to use them as you wish.

Here are the main messages regarding where we go from here:

- We remain committed to the policies enacted by the Washington Legislature to strengthen and clarify I-940.
- We are disappointed only I-940 is going to the voters without the critical and necessary improvements made in EHB 3003.
- We respectfully recommend a vote against the ballot measure and allow the legislature to re-enact the improved total package of reforms in 2019.
- **We encourage everyone to focus on our agreements, not our divisions.**
- These issues are too critical to our community and our profession.
- WASPC remains committed to working with the coalition of De-Escalate Washington, families, community groups and tribes to ensure the policies of EHB 3003 are passed again in the 2019 legislative session.

It is important to point out that while De-Escalate will advocate for passage of I-940, and we are recommending a “no” vote, we are all committed to the clarified language of HB 3003. I encourage us to focus on our agreements and good policy, and bringing the community together for increased trust. Conflict and disagreement are always more interesting to social media. **It is very notable that, as highlighted in the our press release, the De-Escalate press release this morning specifically pointed out that we have all committed to each other to work for the strengthened language of 3003.**

So- we have opposing views on the initiative, because of the starting points of the process, but the same goals- the policy of 3003. It is a nuanced message but an important one—

Thanks for everyone’s continued work on this important issue!

Work hard- Have Fun- Stay Safe

Steve

Steven D. Strachan, Executive Director

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