



Washington Association of
**SHERIFFS &
POLICE CHIEFS**

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Greetings from Your Executive Director:

For the past several weeks, I have spoken with several Sheriffs and Chiefs about an emerging issue involving **Public Disclosure Requests (PDRs) to the Washington State Patrol Crime Lab involving DNA tests**. WSP has apparently been advised by their legal counsel that once certain time limits have expired, the information from these cases, possibly including investigative information that had been sent to the WSP, must be released publicly. This has created significant concern, particularly in regard to cold cases and investigations that may be affected by the information in those cases.

WSP has let these departments know about the potential release, in order to make sure they provide legal objection or intervention if necessary. Chief Batiste and his team have worked to provide more information as this moves forward, which he has agreed to allow us to provide [here](#). There is contact info at WSP on the attachment if you or your legal counsel have questions.

Next, if you attended the Chelan conference, we showed the draft videos for our **upcoming "Wear the Badge Washington" campaign**, which we will kick off with a press event the morning of January 29, in conjunction with Law and Justice Day in Olympia. Following our morning session and legislative update, I hope that many of you who attend are willing to be present for a short press conference where we will introduce and kick off the campaign.

WASPC's Public Trust Committee, co-chaired by Bellevue Chief Steve Mylett and Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, have led this effort for us to start to "play offense" in terms of raising the understanding of what law enforcement really does, and the people who do the job. The campaign will focus on social media and short videos to show real law enforcement officers talking about why they chose this profession, what they really do, and the difference between the media image and the very real positive change that make each day. The campaign will also work to increase awareness of law enforcement as a potential profession, particularly for non-traditional candidates. Here is a [one-page](#) "overview" of the effort.

The campaign does not start until the kick-off January 29th, so please don't start sending out links until after that time-also, we are actively looking for departments with video capability to contribute videos, and if you are interested, please contact our Communications consultant, Barbara Smith at barbaras@waspc.org.

This effort is not intended to replace your recruiting program, but rather to supplement it, and we will also be forwarding your social media messages onto this platform found [here](#) is the beta website (again not public yet but take a look) and if you have not seen them already, the preliminary videos are loaded under "Watch our Stories".

Questions? Let me know- and again, we hope you can attend **Law and Justice Day (9:00 AM on January 29th in the Columbia Room at the Capitol)**. Remember, too, we will have shuttles from our offices starting a little after 7:30 AM.

The Capitol public affairs network, TVW, recently produced a segment about the **24/7 Sobriety Program**, which is part of WASPC- here is a link to the [video](#) if you are interested.

Next, just a reminder that the solicitation for **Arrest and Jail Alternatives Grants** has gone out- the information is below. This grant program is in addition to the earlier Mental Health Field Response grants that have already been received and awarded. Also, note that there is a separate grant program for this type of need that is being administered by the Health Care Authority. The information for that grant program is at the bottom. If you have questions or want to discuss which to apply for, please feel free to contact Steven Briggs here at WASPC at (360) 486-2389 or Email: sbriggs@waspc.org

The Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) is pleased to announce the release of the [Request for Proposals \(RFP\) for the Arrest and Jail Alternatives Program](#).

In accordance with the directive provided by the legislature under Second Substitute House Bill 1767 from the 2019 Legislative Session, WASPC was directed to create a grant program for Arrest and Jail Alternatives in our state. The purpose of funded programs will be:

- To reduce arrests, time spent in custody, and/or recidivism for clients served by the program;
- To increase access to and utilization of nonemergency community behavioral health services;
- To reduce utilization of emergency services;
- To increase resilience, stability, and well-being for clients served; and
- To reduce costs for the justice system compared to processing cases as usual through the justice system.

The legislature has appropriated one million dollars per year for this program. WASPC's RFP is being intentionally released alongside a solicitation from the Healthcare Authority (HCA) under Senate Bill 5380, in hopes that communities may seek to leverage funding from both sources to create stronger programs and increase positive outcomes for their service populations. With this in mind, WASPC and HCA will be using the same application to award timeline:

Event	Date
RFP Solicitation Released	December 19, 2019
Applicant Inquiries Due	January 6, 2020 (3:00 PM PST)
Inquiry Written Answers Issued	January 13, 2020 (Responses to be posted here on or before 3:00 PM PST)
Response Due Date	January 30, 2020 (3:00 PM PST)
Evaluation Period	February 6-20, 2020
Interviews	February 24-27, 2020
Announcement of Awardees	March 5, 2020

Negotiate Contract March 10-17, 2020
Contract Effective March 18, 2020

All questions and inquiries regarding this RFP should be directed to Steven Briggs using the information below. Additional information on the Arrest and Jail Alternatives Program can be found on the [WASPC website](#).

Steven Briggs, NCA | Programs Coordinator
WA Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs
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Here is the link for HB1767 RFA managed by WASPC: <https://waspc.memberclicks.net/arrest-and-jail-alternatives-law-enforcement-grant-program>

Also, to access the RFA for SSB5380 managed by the Health Care Authority, you must use WEBS to access the RFA - I provided the link [here](#) to show you the location (the grant is at the bottom of the page).

We are told that local Behavioral Health organizations are more accustomed to this process being conducted by the HCA- so they may be a good resource.

Again, we are here to help, please let us know what we can do to assist you---

Finally, we have all noticed that anytime there is a sensational video that may highlight something that casts law enforcement in a negative light, the media is quick to put it out there. The story [here](#) is a great example of body cam footage that is certainly graphic and sensational, but shows the **amazing discretion and extreme danger faced by these officers**, as well as how these split second decisions must be made. After 34 years in law enforcement, I continue to be amazed at the valor and herculean efforts law enforcement demonstrates while in extreme danger.

Have a good week-

Work Hard- Have Fun- Stay Safe

Steven D. Strachan, Executive Director
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