



Executive Director Steve Strachan serves the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs following a 31-year career in law enforcement. Steve started as a part-time jailer with the Carver County (MN) Sheriff's Office, then began as a full-time police officer with the Lakeville (MN) Police Department, where he served as a Patrol Officer, DARE Officer, Detective, School Resource Officer, SWAT Operator and Commander, Sergeant, and as Chief of Police.

He served as a member of the City Council of Farmington, MN for six years, and in 2002 was elected to the Minnesota State House of Representatives, where he served on the Judiciary Committee and was chief author of the bill that lowered the state's blood alcohol limit to .08.

In 2006, Steve began as Chief of Police in Kent, WA, and became chief deputy at the King County Sheriff's Office in 2010. Steve was named Sheriff by the King County Council when Sheriff Sue Rahr became director of the Criminal Justice Training Commission. In 2013, Steve became chief of police in Bremerton, Washington, until his appointment as WASPC's executive director in 2018.

Steve has a bachelor's degree in Sociology from the University of Minnesota, and a master's degree in Public Administration from Minnesota State University. Steve is a graduate of the Senior Management Institute for Police (SMIP) through the Police Executive Research Forum.

Steve is a leader in policy and community dialogue regarding the intersection of behavioral health with the law and justice system. He works to reduce involvement in the criminal justice system and provide alternatives to arrest. Since 2014, Steve has served as a member of the board of Kitsap Mental Health Services.

Steve is a past board member and legislative chair for WASPC, and is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the National Sheriffs Association. He was appointed to statewide policy boards by Minnesota Governors Ventura and Pawlenty, as well as Washington State Governors Gregoire and Inslee. Steve has served as a member of the board of the Washington State Clemency and Pardons Board and the Auto Theft Prevention Authority.