



Washington Association of  
**SHERIFFS &  
POLICE CHIEFS**

3060 Willamette Drive NE  
Lacey, WA 98516  
360-486-2380 (Phone)  
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www.waspc.org

**President**

Sheriff Rick Scott  
Grays Harbor County

**President-Elect**

Chief Steve Crown  
City of Wenatchee

**Vice President**

Sheriff Tom Jones  
Grant County

**Past President**

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Chief Rafael Padilla  
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Sheriff James Raymond  
Franklin County

Don Voiret, SAC  
FBI—Seattle

Chief Samuel White  
Lower Elwha Police  
Department

Steven D. Strachan  
Executive Director

**WASPC GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING BREAKFAST**  
10:00 – 11:30 AM | WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2021  
**AGENDA**

**Call to Order**

- Presidential Remarks – President Rick Scott
- Approval of Minutes from May 26, 2021 Meeting – President Rick Scott **(Approval Needed)**

**Resolutions**

- Proposed Law Enforcement Torch Run: 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Resolution - #2021-02 **(Approval Needed)**
- Proposed Support of the Teens in the Driver Seat Program Resolution - #2021-03 **(Approval Needed)**

**Committee Reports (Approval Required)**

- Boating Safety (C. Myers)
- Corrections (Scott, Harris, Jackson)
- Finance & Personnel (Vance)
- Grants (Howie, Raymond)
- Homeland Security/Intelligence (Knezovich, Thomas)
- Indian Country Law Enforcement (Lasnier, Salisbury)
- Law Enforcement Education & Training (Hyer, Fisher)
- Legislative (Nole, J. Snaza, Meidl, Scairpon)
- Membership (Spoor, Alexander)
- Professional Services (Jones, Myers)
- Public Trust (Murray, Elfo)
- Small Agency (Helm, Berthon-Koch)
- Traffic Safety (Cobb, Hyer)
- University Policing (Berthon-Koch)
- Wellness & Resilience (Behrbaum, Burnett)

**Liaison Reports (no approval needed)**

- Explorers (Captain Dave Richards) (written report)
- LE Torch Run (Chief Erik Scairpon)
- LEIRA (Kirsty Jones)
- SONAR Committee (Sheriff Brad Manke)

**Business**

- Wellness Grants—Chief Scott Behrbaum, Steve Strachan, Jamie Weimer
- Single Point Firearm Update—Kateri Candee | WSP
- Strategic Intentions 2021-22 **(Approval Needed)**
- WASPC 2022 Legislative Reform Agenda **(Approval Needed)**

**Executive Director Updates – Steve Strachan**

**Adjourn**

*Serving the Law Enforcement Community and the Citizens of Washington*



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## WASPC GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

10:00 to 11:30 AM

Great Hall | Three Rivers Convention Center | Kennewick, WA

President-Elect Rick Scott opened the meeting at 10:25 AM. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted it was great to see everyone in person again.

He introduced FirstNet Built with AT&T as this year's spring scholarship sponsor. Our scholarship winners this time include Tony Ryan, Operations Commander from the Enumclaw Police Department, and Chief Daniel Christensen from the Omak Police Department.

### Approval of the 11/18/2020 GBM Meeting Minutes

**Motion: Sheriff John Snaza moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Sheriff Tom Jones seconded. The motion carried.**

### Executive Board Elections

The open positions and the candidates who have expressed an interest on the Executive Board for election are as follows:

#### Vice President (Sheriff)

- Sheriff Tom Jones, Grant County

#### Chief at-Large

- Chief Darrell Lowe, Redmond PD

#### Sheriff at-Large

- Sheriff James Raymond, Franklin County SO

#### Active (Non-Municipal Chief or Sheriff)

- Chief Sam White, Lower Elwha Police Department

WASPC's membership has been solicited for any additional interested candidates prior to today's election. There were none.

President-Elect Rick Scott opened the nominations from the floor. He asked the question three (3) times: Are there any nominations from the floor?

Hearing none, it was moved by Sheriff James Raymond to close the nominations. It was seconded by Sheriff John Snaza. The motion carried to close the nominations.

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President-Elect Scott said not hearing any nominations from the floor, he would entertain a motion from the floor for approval of the ballot by acclamation as presented here today.

**Motion: Chief Mike Lasnier moved to approve the ballot as presented here today by acclamation. Sheriff Mark Crider seconded. The motion carried to approve the ballots as presented today by acclamation.**

President-Elect Scott congratulated all of the new and re-elected Board members and thanked them for their willingness to serve.

## Resolutions

*Honoring Fight Crime: Invest in Kids 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary* – The WASPC Resolutions Committee reviewed the proposed resolution and made a recommendation that the resolution be brought forward for an affirmative vote by WASPC's membership. Chief Ken Thomas from Des Moines PD and Sheriff Gary Simpson from Kitsap County served as this year's Resolutions Committee.

**Motion: Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich moved to approve the resolution. Chief Ken Thomas seconded. The motion carried.**

## Committee Reports

**Boating Safety** – Sheriff Clay Myers is the Chair of the committee. The committee did meet on Tuesday, May 25 and discussed three initiatives they are currently working on.

In conjunction with collecting data on motorized vessels, the committee has three specific projects:

- Evaluating pre-attendance requirements with respect to vessel operations.
- Reducing deaths related to Non-Motorized vessels; Education, local ordinances or legislative. We have stood up a task force specific to this item.
- Review and modification to the funding matrix for the Federal Financial Assistance Grant Program.

**Corrections** – Chief Cherie Harris and Chief Patti Jackson are two of the committee's co-chairs. The committee did meet on Tuesday, May 25 and heard presentations from the following:

1. Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder in Jails (20 Mins)

Mandy Owens, PhD  
University of Washington

2. JBRS & Vine (10 Mins)

Jamie Weimer, Projects & Programs Manager  
WASPC

3. CJTC Corrections Academy Update (20 Mins)

Tim Fasnacht, Assistant Commander  
WA CJTC Basic Training Division

4. NW Shuttle Guidelines Update (20 Mins)

Jeff Young, Deputy  
Clark County Sheriff's Office

5. Legislative Updates (20 Mins)  
John McGrath, Jail Services Liaison  
WASPC

6. MCO's (20 Mins)

NW Shuttle Guidelines - The committee voted to exclude Over-the-Counter (OTC) medications from our state guidelines.

**Finance & Personnel Committee** – Chief Brett Vance chairs the committee. The committee did meet on Monday, May 24, 2021.

**2020 Audit Status**

2020 Audit field work has been completed. The auditors will be issuing the audited financial statements following the presentation to the Treasurer and Finance Committee on June 2. The report in your packets include the 2020 final audited figures.

**Statement of Financial Position**

- Cash on hand continues to be adequate.
- 2020 figures for prepaid expenses, accounts receivable and payable balances are presented in accrual format.
- 2020 deferred revenues include annual service fees that span 2020 & 2021. Contracts for the VINE system, Sex Offender Website, CopLink – NIBRS repository, & Jail Booking and Reporting System. Also included is the internet crimes against children task force funding for the city of Seattle.

**Grants Committee** – Sheriff James Raymond is Co-Chair of this committee. The committee met on Monday, May 24 and approved the following:

- The WASPC Grants committee received a grant request from Ferndale Police Department to assist them with accreditation and their purchase of a PowerDMS application. The finance committee along with the grants committee recommended the approval of a \$1265 grant to Ferndale.

**Homeland Security/Intelligence Committee** – Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich and Chief Ken Thomas are the Co-Chairs of the committee. The committee met on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 and reported the following:

- The WAGang database is being closed and will be rolled into the WSIN RISSIntel program. Agencies who have data in the WAGang system can either choose to have their information rolled over into the RISSIntel system, or request to have it sent back.

**Indian Country LE Committee** – Chief Mike Lasnier and Sheriff Casey Salisbury are the Co-Chairs of the committee. The committee met on Monday, May 24, 2021 and reported that about a dozen members participated in the meeting. There are no major issues for the tribes at this time.

**LE Education & Training Committee** – Sheriff Drew Hyer and Chief Peter Fisher are Co-Chairs of the committee. The committee met on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 and reported on:

- WASPC leadership program – Getting a program stood up at the command level up to the executive level. The committee voted to approve and will be moving forward to prepare future law enforcement staff for leadership positions.

**Legislative Committee** – No further report beyond Thursday legislative update session.

**Membership Committee** – The committee did not meet.

**Model Policy Committee** – No meeting held at this conference. Chief Jamey Kiblinger of Black Diamond Police Department is stepping down as Chair of this committee due to other work demands. If there are any Chiefs or Sheriffs interested in co-chairing this committee, please contact Steve Strachan.

**Professional Services Committee** – The committee did meet on Tuesday, May 25, 2021, and reported on the following:

- **Accreditation Standards and New Laws** – Mike Painter reported that an Accreditation standards work group has begun the process of developing or editing (existing) accreditation standards in response to new laws that will go into effect in late July, 2021. The work group will tackle new standards once the legislation is finalized by the state code reviser with a goal of recommendations to the professional services committee at the fall conference. Drafts will be posted on the WASPC website accreditation forum prior to the fall conference.
- **Change to effective date of any new or updated standard** – Mike explained the need to move the effective date of changes to any new or updated standards from July 1 to January 1 of the next year. Absent an emergency, changes to standards would be advanced at the spring conference, approved at the fall conference and would go into effect on January 1 after the fall conference. Motion made, seconded and unanimously approved.
- **Professional Services update**- Mike provided committee members with an update on professional services delivered to agencies around Washington since the start of the New Year. The next virtual training session for accreditation managers will be offered in October, 2021.
- **Jail Certification** – John McGrath has assembled a work group to structure a second tier of jail standards that would ultimately be called jail certification. The certification program would potentially have fewer standards than the full accreditation program and would start jails on the road to accreditation through an introductory program. The details of the program are still being worked out and have been potentially frustrated by a legislative work group tasked with addressing jail standards and reporting back to the legislature. John is continuing to strategically move forward with the WASPC jail standards work group and will report back at the fall conference.

**Public Trust Committee** – Chief Steve Mylett and Sheriff Bill Elfo are Co-Chairs of this committee. The committee did meet on Tuesday, May 25, 2021. The committee is looking at developing a library of best practices and programs from around the country that members can access. Chief Mylett asked the membership if they have successful programs being used in their organizations, please share that information and it can be added to the library. The Chief commented that it's time to get back into engagement with our communities.

**Technology Committee** – The committee did not meet.

**Traffic Safety Committee** – The committee did meet on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 and reported the

following:

- The Washington State Patrol - Impaired Driving Section delivered a presentation on the Ignition Interlock Program and highlighted some concerning data related to failed compliance by individuals enrolled in the court order program, circumvention tactics, and other violations. This information was presented by Lieutenant Clark Jones and Sergeant Villanti.
- Participants were given legislative updates regarding the law changes from the 2020-21 Legislative Session.
- Washington State Traffic Safety Program Manager, Edica Esqueda provide an update on the WASPC / Traffic Safety Commission Subcommittee. Representative from Yakima PD, Kennewick PD, WSP, Mercer Island PD, Redmond PD, Auburn PD, Region 16 Target Zero Manager, DuPont PD, and a former law enforcement officer with tribal experience made up the subcommittee. These individuals divided into two teams. Team 1 was tasked with defining attributes of law enforcement agencies that are highly engaged and effective in traffic safety. Team 2 was tasked with providing examples of police led non-enforcement strategies that lead to sustainable behavior changes regarding traffic safety. The result of the subcommittee is ongoing and will be formally delivered later this year.
- Kim Goodman provide information that the WASPC Traffic Safety Equipment Grant program has approximately \$25,000 available to agencies. A supplemental process will be published soon.
- Lastly, Union Gap Police Chief Greg Cobb and Garfield County Sheriff Drew Hyer have agreed to be our new Co-Chairs for the WASPC Traffic Safety Committee. Lewis County Sheriff Rob Snaza and Wenatchee Chief Steve Crown wish our new co-chairs continued success in this important committee!

**Wellness & Resilience Committee** –Sheriff Brian Burnett is Co-Chair of this committee. The committee met on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 and reported the following:

- Some early confusion on the committee reporting so meeting didn't start until approximately 10:30
- James McMahan gave Legislative and Committee update
- Committee indicated interest in the program and grant process
- Lots of good discussion and interest on the topics to include the following:
  - Post Trauma vs. Accumulative
  - Peer support / What covers and what doesn't cover confidentiality
  - One agency of 76 commissioned staff has 7 affected by PTSD / L & I. Voicing concerns over local attorneys head hunting for officers to file L&I claims
  - Before vs. After
  - Mandatory assistance referrals
  - Return to work evaluations after critical incidents
  - Officer Wellness Checks
    - Mandatory meeting for attendance
    - But participation within the mandatory meetings is voluntary and completely at the discretion of employee
  - One agency working 10/40 shifts (5 on 4 off) is authorizing last 30 minutes of shift to be used for wellness / team building and such
  - Training Pass downs to detective staff working violent and sex crimes
  - Restorative Rest
    - Use of 30 min lunch break to turn off radio and take a nap (night shift only)
  - Wellness / Resilience coach / trainer to add to training

- Detectives / Major Crimes / Sex Crimes holding monthly and 1/4 wellness checks
- Small agency access to programs
- Not just commissioned but civilian staff to be trained and have availability to wellness and resilience as they are being affected
- Monroe PD Chief Jeff Jolley interested in helping with this committee

**Motion: Sheriff John Snaza moved to approve the committee reports as presented. Sheriff Tom Jones seconded. The motion carried.**

**Liaison Reports** (no approval required)

- Explorers – A report will be provided at the Wednesday luncheon by the President of the WLEEA Board on their activities during 2020.
- LE Torch Run – No report
- LEIRA (written report only) – In 2020, LEIRA had a total of 284 members in 2020, including a full slate of Executive Board members and 26 lifetime members (former Presidents).

Executive Board meetings were held in January, June, and November. In June, the difficult decision was made to postpone the 2021 biennial conference scheduled for fall 2021 due to COVID. A General Meeting was also held in November and included the election of a full slate of Executive Board members for 2021.

While a variety of trainings were planned for 2020, many were cancelled due to COVID. LEIRA's model was to offer regional trainings in person around the state. When COVID hit, we did not have a platform for hosting online trainings and were prohibited from hosting in person trainings and thus had to cancel said events. Five regional trainings focused on public records and property/evidence were cancelled. Two trainings were successfully held online in the fourth quarter:

- All Things Juvenile in December with 105 participants
- NIBRS/Crime Statistics in October with 87 participants

We also launched MemberClicks for membership, event, and website management. This allowed the Executive Board to have extended access to back office functions and allowed for greater and easier communication with members.

In recognition that many of our members faced unexpected budget cuts and other implications of COVID, the Executive Board approved extending all 2020 memberships through December 31, 2021.

- SONAR Committee – Sheriff Brad Manke stepped down as Chair of the committee due to other workload demands. Jamie Weimer and Terrina Peterson from WASPC have been appointed to represent WASPC on this committee.
  - The committee will host a summer meeting July 13 in Wenatchee at the Confluence Center. There will be a morning meeting and afternoon training.
  - As the SOPB has been meeting to work through the current assignment, to review juvenile sex offender registration, treatment, impacts of registration and sex offense convictions, racial disproportionality as it relates to sex offense convictions and registration and then make recommendations to the legislature on all topics.

- As Terrina and Jamie work to preserve the law enforcement voice as it relates to this assignment, we want to check in with our members to determine if some of our historical stances are still accurate. We expect some of the work for this SOPB assignment may fuel similar discussions regarding adult registration, notification and verification. .
- We are asking that chiefs and sheriffs go back to your agencies and meet with your RSO staff to understand their role in sex offender registration, notification and verification. What pain points do they have? Do you share the same beliefs? We serve chiefs and sheriffs and want to make sure the feedback we receive from coordinators matches your direction. We will be hosting a discussion with Chiefs and Sheriffs along with RSO coordinators later this summer to get feedback in the following areas:
  - 1-What is the value of the Sex Offender Registry in your community?
  - 2-Risk Level Classifications. Currently responsibility of registering agency. Do you all want to keep that responsibility?
  - 3-What is the value of Address Verification Funds in your community. How can WASPC strengthen our grant agreements to demonstrate the value and keep the funding for address verification?
  - Regarding the current SOPB assignment, some of the early recommendations we are hoping to further discuss are simplifying the relief of duty to register for juveniles and addressing public disclosure inconsistencies as previously recommend by the SOPB.

### Executive Director Report – Steve Strachan

- FBI Special Agent in Charge for the Seattle office, Don Voiret, has advised that the FBI is hoping to start the Academy again in October, but the more likely start-up date will be January 2022..
- Steve has been discussing with James McMahan about coming up with a uniform form for capturing data relative to unfunded mandates as a result of legislative changes. James continues to work with other stakeholders to develop the form. In addition, we are working on an alternative form for some options for diversion as a result of the Blake decision. For now, many agencies already have those resources available, but not all.
- The statewide school mapping program ends June 30, 2021. If any member agencies are still involved in school mapping through WASPC, please talk with David Corr at WASPC at [dcorr@waspc.org](mailto:dcorr@waspc.org).
- Futures Committee – WASPC once had a committee called Futurist that was forward looking. The committee was retired, but there is some discussion about wanting to resurrect it and have it chaired by future WASPC leaders. If any Chiefs or Sheriff or someone on your command staffs might be interested in this idea, please let Steve know.
- Congratulations to all of the new and re-elected Executive Board members. Steve thanked them and appreciates their willingness to serve.
- Steve thanked the Kennewick Police Department for all of their assistance with our conference this week.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:06 AM.

Respectfully submitted,



Deb Gregory  
Executive Assistant  
WASPC

DRAFT



## Washington Law Enforcement Exploring Advisors

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**President**  
Mike Ellis

**Vice President**  
Andy Mehl

**Secretary**  
Deanna Storch

**Treasurer**  
Ken Henson

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Washington Associations of Sheriff's and Police Chief's  
3060 Willamette Dr NE, Suite 200  
Lacey, WA 98516

Members of WASPC, Chiefs, and Sheriff's,

This letter shall serve as the 2021 WLEEA Winter update.

While WLEEA is still holding together, we are beginning to feel the continued side effects of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the political decisions in relation to policing within Washington State. WLEEA is a youth program that many WASPC agencies continue to participate in, with the recent legislation changes and continued political movement we have seen a slow but steady decline in the participation of youth from within our communities and their involvement in the explorer program.

In addition, with the COVID-19 policies in place around the state participation and ability to continue to run an explorer program within many agencies has suffered.

Traditionally WLEEA has held 2 academies per year, one during august and one during December. Unfortunately, our last academy was December of 2019. We are in the planning stages of holding our first academy since the beginning of COVID-19 this winter, December of 2021. We have received authorization from Governor Inslee's office, the WA Department of Health, the Yakima County DOH and finally the YTC/JBLM command staff. We are working on final approval from WASPC to proceed forward. I know that several explorers are excited to have the opportunity to return once more.

With that being said we are hoping to be able to move forward with our 2021 WLEEA winter academy as financially WLEEA is beginning to suffer. Our academies are our sole form of funding and without the last 3 we have unfortunately depleted our savings account. We have requested the assistance of WASPC, and I am continuing to look for other funding options through donations.

In conclusion, WLEEA is still working together as a strong organization supporting youth within our law enforcement agencies and we greatly appreciate the continued support of WASPC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Mike Ellis", written over a white background.

Mike Ellis

WLEEA President



### **Law Enforcement Torch Run: 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary #2021-02**

**WHEREAS**, in November 1993, the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) passed a resolution supporting Washington Special Olympics; and

**WHEREAS**, WASPC Strategic plans include maintaining a liaison relationship with the Law Enforcement Torch Run as a partner agency; and

**WHEREAS**, the Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) began in Kansas in 1981 and “What started in 1981...as a flicker of hope for Special Olympics has now become a roaring flame of stability for Special Olympics athletes worldwide.”; and

**WHEREAS**, through the partnership of LETR and Special Olympics, our participation provides opportunities for athletes to empower and transform themselves, their communities, and the world; and

**WHEREAS**, LETR is changing the future for people with intellectual disabilities and lighting the way for acceptance and inclusion; and

**WHEREAS**, Special Olympics Washington is proud of the dedicated law enforcement personnel from all over the state committed to raising thousands of dollars for our athletes and increasing public awareness of the program. Nearly 2,000 law enforcement personnel are involved in Washington State LETR efforts and raise over half a million dollars annually for local programs; and

**WHEREAS**, part of the WASPC strategic intentions plan prioritizes principles for community trust to include perceptions of law enforcement. WASPC believes building public trust in law enforcement is essential to public safety in 21st century policing; and

**WHEREAS**, Washington’s law enforcement officers desire opportunities to connect positively with the community through outside service opportunities that benefit the areas they live and work in,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs pledge our continued support and dedication to rekindling the flame of hope through participation in the Law Enforcement Torch Run in Washington State. We encourage our members to dedicate their staff to spread awareness and raise money to benefit Special Olympics Athletes in Washington State and fan the flame of hope in this, the fortieth year of the torch run and long into the future.

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## **Support of the Teens in the Driver Seat Program Resolution #2021-03**



**WHEREAS**, the members of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs are assembled for the annual Fall Conference at the Skamania Lodge, in Stevenson, Washington, November, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the Traffic Safety Committee recognizes the importance of supporting programs and projects that work to reduce the incidence and severity of traffic crashes involving young drivers; and

**WHEREAS**, between 2017 and 2019 young drivers represented approximately 13 percent of Washington's licensed drivers but accounted for roughly 29 percent of all traffic fatalities and 31 percent of all serious injuries which equated to 472 fatalities and 2,099 serious injuries involving drivers aged 16-25; and

**WHEREAS**, research has shown that positive approaches to changing behavior have been effective at decreasing the incidence of teen driver involved crashes where it has been employed; and

**WHEREAS**, The Teens in the Driver Seat Program, has been shown to be an effective positive strategy to improve the driving habits of teen drivers that participate; and

**WHEREAS**, the Washington Traffic Safety Commission, at the suggestion of WASPC's Traffic Safety Subcommittee's recommendation is working to implement the program across Washington State; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of WASPC could be contribute to the success of the program through their support and endorsement within their communities;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the membership of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs support the implementation of the Teens in the Driver Seat Program in high schools and communities across Washington State to improve the safety of all road users.

# 2021-2022 Strategic Intentions

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## Executive Summary

*This document serves to provide a long-term overview of what we do and where we are going.*

### Mission Statement

*The mission of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs is to lead collaboration among law enforcement executives to enhance public safety.*

### Identity Statement

*The Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs advances its mission by serving law enforcement executives, primarily in the State of Washington, by providing sustainable programs, projects and services.*

### Values

The Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs value:

- A mission-driven association
- Honesty and integrity
- Diversity
- Accountability and responsibility to our members and our communities
- Quality services to our members
- Membership involvement
- Public/private partnerships
- Competent, professional staff
- Progressive innovation

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## Organizational

*The association was founded in 1963 and consists of executive and top management personnel from law enforcement agencies statewide. Our membership includes sheriffs, police chiefs, the Washington State Patrol, the Washington Department of Corrections, and representatives of a number of federal agencies. WASPC is governed by its executive board.*

*WASPC is the only association of its kind in the nation combining representatives from local, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement into a single body, working toward a common goal.*

*WASPC's function is to provide specific materials and services to all law enforcement agencies in the state, members and non-members alike.*

*The 1975 legislature made WASPC a legal entity designating the association as "combination of units of local government." (RCW 36.28A.010)*

### Principles for Community Trust

WASPC advocates for public safety improvements that make everyone safer, including law enforcement.

- Perceptions of Law Enforcement: Law enforcement remains one of the most respected professions in Washington. Retaining and improving public trust is top priority for WASPC. We take seriously concerns about police interactions with the community and continuously work to improve our policies, training, culture and transparency. There is a lack of understanding that the men and women who swear an oath to uphold public safety are required to face violent and chaotic situations. We accept that responsibility while we also ask individuals to take responsibility for their own actions, for policy makers and elected officials to bring our communities together and for all of us to work together for common solutions.
- Rule of Law: WASPC strongly urges elected policy makers to create laws that are clear, supported, and can be consistently enforced. Disagreements or different applications of laws based on political expediency or policy makers' unwillingness to make difficult decisions leads to reduced trust in the rule of law and is harmful to public safety and public trust.
- Deadly Force: WASPC has worked with advocates and community groups to remove "malice" from the legal standard, to come together and build trust. We will continue to work to improve training, focus on de-escalation, and provide transparency. We also expect

~~2021-2022 STRATEGIC INTENTIONS – PRESENTED TO WASPC EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR APPROVAL ON 10/7/2021~~  
~~APPROVED BY WASPC MEMBERSHIP ON~~

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the community to take responsibility for supporting law enforcement in the split-second decisions required, and to reinforce that reducing officer-involved deadly force incidents will be enhanced by not attacking or fighting with law enforcement. De-escalation is for everyone. We strongly support the following "Tips for Safety" from the Washington State American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU):

**STAY CALM AND STAY PUT.** Don't run or suddenly move.

**KEEP YOUR HANDS** where the officer can see them and free of any objects if possible.

**NEVER TOUCH** any police officer.

**FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS.** You can always make a complaint later if you feel your rights were violated.

- Criminal Justice Reform: WASPC acknowledges that implicit and institutional bias and discrimination exist in all aspects of society: criminal justice, education, housing, health care, finance, and more. We will work in concert with policy makers and others to make systemic improvements to understand, reduce and control the implicit and institutional biases and barriers that inhibit every person's success. Reform in the criminal justice system should be based on public safety outcomes and should not ignore concern for law enforcement, victims of crime, and justice. Assisting offenders with re-entry and reducing recidivism is good for public safety. Achievement of these goals are worth our state's investment of time, money, and resources.
- Behavioral Health: WASPC strongly urges our policy makers to fund and support a robust, "wrap-around" system for those with serious and untreated mental and behavioral health problems. This system is underfunded, understaffed and does not have the capacity to effectively replace criminal justice responses at this time, and the system should be in place before removing law enforcement responses. WASPC does not believe that further placement into the community and overall reductions of institutions for those with most serious illnesses is good policy. Placing people with serious health issues out onto the street is not compassionate and can result in increased calls for service, and potential violent interactions with the public and law enforcement. WASPC believes there is a positive role for incentivized treatment through potential criminal sanctions.
- Homelessness: WASPC supports a comprehensive approach to homelessness. There are many complex dynamics that contribute to the issue. Criminal transients and those who willingly commit crimes should be prosecuted within the law. They are not in the same category as homeless persons, including those with behavioral health problems and addictions, who need and will accept help. We urge

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policy makers to delineate between these two groups and solutions should recognize their differences.

- Basic Law Enforcement Training: Washington should fully fund the basic law enforcement academy. The surcharge on traffic tickets, which formerly funded all basic training, was redirected by the legislature into the general fund many years ago and led to long delays between when officers are hired and can be properly trained. Funding of basic training is a state responsibility.
- Public Safety Funding: Public safety is a core function of government and should be funded that way. The criminal justice system should not be reliant on revenue from citations, arrest warrants, or special funds related to sales of marijuana or gambling.
- Marijuana: WASPC acknowledges that the voters of our state made a specific decision to decriminalize marijuana. We urge policy makers to support necessary enforcement to reduce “gray market” sales, illicit juvenile consumption, and impacts on neighborhoods from illicit grows and organized crime. Regulation of marijuana should be based on public safety, not cannabis sales revenue.

## Membership

WASPC membership includes Active, Associate, Affiliate and Life categories. Applications are reviewed by the WASPC Membership Committee and WASPC Executive Board, with final approval made by the WASPC Executive Board.

Members may represent the association by chairing a WASPC committee, as a WASPC representative on a task force or work groups, and/or as an elected member of the WASPC Executive Board.

### WASPC intends to:

- Contact newly appointed/elected chiefs, sheriffs, and agency heads upon their appointment to encourage their participation in WASPC
- Encourage new members to participate in LEMAP, accreditation and professional development opportunities
- Invite all new members to attend a new member orientation, provided at WASPC conferences

## Committees

Committees are the mechanism by which the members come together in smaller groups to conduct the business of the Association. Committees are

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formed by the WASPC Executive Board. Any member can serve on any committee by simply requesting inclusion.

The WASPC Executive Assistant will communicate with the WASPC Committee Chairs to collect and disseminate meeting agendas, reports, and other committee information updates. The Vice President serves as the Board Liaison with partner committees as needed. The Vice President of the Association serves as a member of the WASPC Finance and Personnel Committee.

**WASPC intends to:**

- Maintain the following standing committees:

Boating Safety;  
Corrections;  
Financial and Personnel;  
Grants;  
Homeland Security/Intelligence;  
Indian Country Law Enforcement;  
Law Enforcement Training;  
Legislative;  
Membership;  
Model Policy;  
Past Presidents;  
Professional Services;  
Public Trust;  
Small Agency;  
Technology;  
Traffic Safety;  
University Policing;  
Wellness & Resiliency

- Require each committee to maintain a charter outlining the committee's purpose, membership, chairperson(s) and duties, to be reviewed and approved annually by the Executive Board.
- Encourage members to join committees.
- Encourage all committees to meet at least semi-annually.
- Assign a WASPC staff member to serve as a staff liaison/convener for each committee.
- Annually conduct a review of all committees. The review will be conducted at the annual Board Retreat. Inactive committees may be removed. New chairs/co-chairs for the committee may be appointed by the President.
- Create Ad-Hoc committees and taskforces that are single-issue driven. Taskforces and Ad-Hoc committees are created by the President and shall continue only during the term of that President.

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## Partnerships

WASPC is recognized in statute as a 'combination of units of local government.' As such, WASPC relies on partnerships and positive working relationships to provide services to our members.

### WASPC intends to:

- Maintain partnerships with the following organizations:

Association of Washington Cities;  
Health Care Authority (HCA);  
Washington Association of County Officials;  
Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys;  
Washington Council of Police and Sheriffs;  
Washington Fraternal Order of Police (FOP);  
Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission;  
Washington State Department of Corrections; Washington State  
Sheriffs' Association;  
Washington State University (Criminal Justice Institute and Division of  
Governmental Studies and Services);  
Washington Traffic Safety Commission; and  
federal partners.

- Maintain a partnership with the Washington Chapter of the FBI—NAA.

- Maintain liaison relationships with the following groups:

Explorers;  
Legal Advisors;  
Law Enforcement Torch Run;  
LEIRA;  
NIBRS;  
Sex Offender Notification and Registration; and  
WA Crime Prevention Association

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## Programmatic/Operational

The Association offers various programs, projects and services which support WASPC's mission to enhance collaboration among law enforcement executives.

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### Conferences

Conferences are a key service that WASPC provides its members. The conferences provide for training, networking, contact with vendors and the conduct of Association business. Conferences are held semi-annually in various locations around the state.

#### WASPC intends to:

- Continue "Critical Issues Forums" for panels on topics of interest to our members
- Provide time at conferences for awards and recognition
- Control presentations and agendas to avoid redundancy
- Provide scholarship opportunities for members at each conference
- Continue to facilitate relationships and opportunities among conference attendees to engage in networking
- Invite retirees/life members to conferences
- Sponsor a tradeshow at each Spring Conference
- Provide sponsorship opportunities for exhibitors at each conference
- Implement virtual conference platform when necessary due to emergency or global pandemic

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### Executive Training

Implement an executive development training program.

#### WASPC intends to:

- Develop, in collaboration with Washington risk management organizations and others, chief/sheriff and command level development training, and provide support for our members to access training to increase professionalism and reduce risk
- Evaluate a structured mentorship initiative to support training and ongoing success for executives

- ~~Evaluate and implement a~~ virtual training platform to offer ~~a~~ suite of executive development courses for WASPC members

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## Management Support Services

Accreditation provides for the professionalism of the law enforcement industry by providing a review process for agencies. In 1976 the Association was directed by the Washington State Legislature to develop standards and goals for Washington State Law Enforcement. The Association has maintained an operational accreditation program since that time.

The LEMAP program provides law enforcement administrators an opportunity to have a critical review of their organization through the eyes of peer professionals. The resulting report should serve as a guide to identify areas in need of strengthening and highlight positive or innovative programs existing within the agency. A LEMAP assessment also provides interested agencies with a roadmap of information that will greatly assist them should they decide to pursue WASPC accreditation.

Peer review and outside audits are central to agency performance and continuous improvement.

### WASPC intends to:

- Encourage the use of the Loaned Executive Management Assistance (LEMAP) program to members
- Remove cost as an impediment to LEMAPs and Accreditation, to encourage our members' use of these resources, through grants and partnerships with risk management pools
- Continue to inform members of the benefits of the WASPC Accreditation program
- Encourage implementation of preferred practices, model policies and procedures to further the professionalism of law enforcement and corrections
- Ensure management services programs are available to all members
- ~~Provide executive search services as requested~~
- ~~Develop pricing structure for Accreditation annual subscription fees.~~

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## Legislation

WASPC serves as the centralized point for the monitoring and influencing of law enforcement related legislation both at the state and federal level. The most effective lobbying effort utilizes the efforts of WASPC's members;

~~2021-2022 STRATEGIC INTENTIONS – PRESENTED TO WASPC EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR APPROVAL ON 10/7/2021~~  
~~APPROVED BY WASPC MEMBERSHIP ON~~

however, it is recognized that there must be a coordinated effort that is accomplished by staff, both full-time and contract.

**WASPC intends to:**

- Conduct regional visits to Legislative Leadership in home districts
- Maintain active liaison with partner associations (WACO, WAPA, AWC, WSAC, WACOPS, FOP, CJTC, and LEAD Bureau)
- Continue the creation of an annual Legislative Agenda
- Utilize "Big Themes" that includes communications, policy and legislative outcomes
- Continue an educational lobbying presence
- Provide real-time legislative information to all members
- Improve legislator's knowledge of the programs and services WASPC provides on behalf of the State of Washington

## Communications

Provide communications and outreach support for WASPC itself and as a resource for our members.

**WASPC intends to:**

- Regularly send Executive Director newsletters to members with pertinent and timely information
- Contract with a communications partner to provide member services and community outreach support. The communications partner will support management of the WASPC social media accounts and the Wear the Badge program. The communications partner will collaborate with the WASPC Executive Director to facilitate media inquiries, press releases, etc.

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Possible to pull conference, social media, external informational opportunities at partner agency events/conference, etc.

## Research and Planning

WASPC recognizes that there are many issues facing law enforcement executives in their respective communities. In addition to those issues that are readily apparent, there are other emerging issues that will present themselves in the future. WASPC will research these issues with its strategic partners to provide a forum for in-depth discussions and work to provide its members a response framework.

**WASPC intends to:**

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- Schedule presentations from subject matter experts on current and emerging issues
- Continue to work with the State Department of Corrections to review changes to the current corrections system in the state.
- Develop best practice methodologies in the areas of diversion, jail operations and re-entry that serve as model policies and/or allow for cost savings on the part of cities, counties, tribal jails, the state and federal bureau of prisons. This should also include collaboration in the area of jail medical expense and jail pharmaceuticals.
- Continue to work with universities and institutions of higher learning to conduct research into contemporary law enforcement public safety issues.

## State Funded Programs

WASPC provides law enforcement programs funded by the Washington State Legislature. The programs and enterprises are often the result of legislative mandates and WASPC's unique status as a 'combination of units of local government.' As directed by the Washington State Legislature and in support of the Association mission statement during the 2021-2023 biennium:

### WASPC intends to:

- Responsibly operate the following programs:

24/7 Sobriety Monitoring;  
 Arrest and Jail Alternatives Grants;  
 Automated Victim Information and Notification System (VINE);  
 Firearm Purchase Denial Reporting;  
Helmet Safety Grants;  
Internet Crimes Against Children Grants;  
 Jail Booking and Reporting System (JBRS);  
Jail Standards Workgroup;  
Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Grant Pilots;  
 Mental Health Field Response Team Grants;  
 Missing Persons Website;  
 National Incident Based Reporting (NIBRS);  
Protective Order Notification;  
 Sex Offender Address Verification Grants;  
 Sex Offender Case File Imaging;  
 Sex Offender Website;  
Sexual Assault Kit Investigation Grants; and  
 Washington Auto Theft Prevention Authority (WATPA)

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Protective Order Notification;

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## Correctional Options Services

WASPC engages in business enterprises that are expected to be consistent with the overall mission of the Association and are to generate revenue to support that mission.

The Correctional Options Services department was established by WASPC in 1991. WASPC Correctional Options Services offers electronic monitoring equipment (EHM) and services for alternatives to incarceration.

### WASPC intends to:

- Provide excellent customer service in all areas of operations.
- Maintain the average daily population (ADP) in the Correctional Options Services Program.

## Infrastructure

WASPC's membership, programs, and services are supported by the WASPC staff. WASPC values competent and professional staff. Additionally, WASPC recognizes the importance of investment in infrastructure to further our mission and values.

### WASPC intends to:

- Annually review capital and operating reserve guiding principles.
- Maintain a website with up-to-date information about the organization and the programs and services WASPC provides.
- Hire employees who demonstrate honesty and integrity.
- Review the employee salary schedule at least every three years.
- Maintain a full functioning IT department to support WASPC members and staff.

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# SHERIFFS & POLICE CHIEFS

## Improve Washington's Law Enforcement Public Policy Reforms

Washington's law enforcement leaders are committed to work with policy makers, community groups, and other stakeholders to address unintended consequences, conflicting provisions and ambiguities in police reform laws adopted by the 2021 state legislature. Sheriffs and Police Chiefs were among the first to propose [significant reforms](#) to improve the public service of law enforcement. We continue to support reforms that align with our [Principles for Community Trust](#).

Comments, statements of good intentions, and interpretations by advocates, legislators, or others have no legal effect on what the law says or how law enforcement agencies must abide by it. Interpretations of elements of the new laws are made by local legal counsel. The law must be followed and can only be changed by an act of the legislature or the courts.

WASPC's focus is not to change or reverse the positive goals of reform, but to establish clear and concise answers to the problems facing the implementation of the laws, and to better balance public safety with reform. Good policing and reform are not mutually exclusive; in fact they rely on each other. We need to get the balance right.

### Examples

| Improvement/Clarification   | Why it is necessary   |
|---|---|
| <i>Tactics</i>  |   |
| Allow pursuits when there is reasonable suspicion the driver has committed an offense where the public safety risks of failing to apprehend them are greater than the safety risks of the pursuit   | The new law significantly limits law enforcement's ability to apprehend individuals who victimize others, leaving offenders at large in the community to commit more crimes. Some offenders have brazenly told officers that they know they cannot be pursued if they flee in a vehicle and drive recklessly, leading to more dangerous conditions for those on or near public roadways   |
| Define the terms "firearms and ammunition of .50 caliber or greater" and "machine guns" and replace the term "military equipment" with "prohibited equipment."  | The prohibition of many less-lethal weapons used as an alternative to the use of deadly force needs correction, and has clearly produced an unintended outcome.   |
| Remove the requirement that tactical decisions to dispel a riot be made exclusively by a mayor, county commissioner, or governor.   | The delegation of authority to those without training and experience in police tactics is not in the interest of public safety.   |
| <i>Use of Force</i>   |   |
| Clarify that officers may use physical force that is objectively reasonable under the circumstances when necessary to prevent a person from fleeing a lawful detention, carry out an involuntary detention, assist in placing a youth in family-initiated treatment, take a child into protective custody, carry out a law or court order to take a person into custody, and when acting in good faith. | The new law fails to acknowledge the many circumstances where officers are relied upon to act in the interests of justice and public safety. The limitations in this statute were the sole factor in preventing officers, for example, from pursuing a fleeing homicide suspect, assisting in the involuntary detention of persons for medical treatment, carrying out court orders to extract a child from a dangerous home, among others. |

# Improve Washington's Law Enforcement Public Policy Reforms

| Improvement/Clarification   | Why it is necessary   |
|---|---|
| <i>Decertification</i>  |   |
| Correct the definition of “reserve officer” and require limited authority peace officers (e.g., school security) to undergo a fingerprint-based background check rather than the full background, psychological tests, and Basic Law Enforcement Academy requirements of commissioned officers. | School employees who are not law enforcement officers are now required to undergo a law enforcement pre-employment background investigation, polygraph test, and psychological assessment. Additionally, this statute now requires civilian school employees to attend the Basic Law Enforcement Academy, further delaying access to this required training for those who are commissioned law enforcement officers.  |
| Allow a law enforcement agency to terminate the employment of a peace officer who has had their certification suspended for more than 90 days.  | The new law prohibits a law enforcement agency from terminating a peace officer's employment based solely on the fact that the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) has suspended the officer's certification. There is no limit on how long the CJTC can suspend an officer's certification, therefore a law enforcement agency is required to pay suspended officers to not perform the functions of a law enforcement officer for an extended period of time. |
| Protect officers from decertification if the CJTC finds that the officer acted in good faith and in the interests of public safety.   | For example, a peace officer who becomes the subject of litigation after using a less lethal weapon as an alternative to the use of deadly force that results in a broken nose would be decertified for life – even if the use of force was otherwise lawful.   |
| <i>Duty to Intervene</i>  |   |
| Correct the definitions of “excessive force” and “wrongdoing” to mean force that is clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable under the circumstances.  | The new law requires officers to intervene against officers of another agency based solely on the policy of the witnessing officer's agency – even if the officer's use of force is both consistent with the law and their own agency policy and training.  |
| <i>Emergency Clause and Retroactive Application</i>   |   |
| Make the new changes effective immediately upon passage and retroactive to July 25, 2021  | Making the changes immediate and retroactive will help preserve public peace and safety.  |

This is a summary of necessary corrections to the reform laws, for more detail please contact James McMahan, Policy Director at [james@waspc.org](mailto:james@waspc.org)