December 7, 2018

Greetings from Your Executive Director:

First a few (very) quick updates on I-940. It goes into effect this week, basically, and I am sure you are getting questions from your folks about what that means until we can (hopefully) get the amended version passed after the first of the year in the new session. Bottom line- the 940 deadly force standard is law, but there is general recognition that the law will likely change, and any decisions made by prosecutors would likely need to be mindful of that fact. That is not a legal opinion and carries no weight, it is just my observation of a very unusual situation.

Having said that, we are seeing very good signs as far as ensuring that the legislature passes the new (old 3003) version very promptly after they get back into session. This week we were part of a press conference in which the De-Escalate backers along with WASPC, WACOPS and FOP all reaffirmed our joint commitment to the clarifying language. Importantly, the press conference included key legislators and a commitment from both the House and Senate, from both parties, to support the changes. So- looking good but we will continue to work on it. We know this is important to you and your department members.

I have, again, attached the “talking points” for the changes so you have them if asked about it, if you wish to use them.

Here are two stories about the effort from this past week:

https://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/editorials/promises-made-promises-kept-on-i-940/?utm_source=referral&utm_medium=mobile-app&utm_campaign=ios

https://www.inlander.com/spokane/whats-next-for-initiative-940/Content?oid=15374674

Also this week, the Mass Shootings Work Group issued their complete report to the legislature, all 200+ pages of which are attached here. The first few pages are the executive summary. Basically, the work group recommends increased funding for School Resource Officers, better threat assessment systems in schools, clarification of Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOS) as it pertains to juveniles, and better mental health resources. Kudos to WASPC’s two representatives on the Work Group, Chelan County Sheriff Brian Burnett and Oak Harbor Chief Kevin Dreske. Sheriff Burnett appeared this past week on TVW’s “Inside Olympia” to talk about the report:

https://t.co/0c4Wgukky3
Here is a good story about Bellingham PD’s efforts to work with the deaf community:


Finally, you may have seen this in the GTWO this past week:

Chief Rafael Padilla of the Kent Police Department has shared with WASPC that the Kent Police Family mourns the passing of former Kent Chief of Police, Ed Crawford. He served as Kent’s Chief from 1991-2006, after retiring from an exceptional career with the Washington State Patrol. Chief Crawford pioneered efforts to modernize the Kent Police Department that included, achieving National Accreditation, enhancing our Community Education Unit and having a regional presence in key areas such as Federal Task Forces, the Criminal Justice Training Commission, FBI National Academy and International Association of Chiefs of Police. The legacy of his leadership lives on today in many of the outstanding community based programs and services the department currently provides. It also lives on through the men and women who are better people and better leaders because of his teaching, coaching and mentoring. In the history of our department, Chief Crawford stands as a giant amongst many great chiefs who served the Kent Community with duty, honor, pride and compassion. Information on a memorial service will be provided at a later date.

Ed had a lengthy and distinguished career with WSP before becoming Kent Chief. I was privileged to be the person who succeeded Ed as Chief at KPD, and it was always very apparent that he had developed a strong culture and organization. In addition, he was always exceptionally gracious and helpful, always willing to take a call and offer advice and assistance. He epitomized professionalism and service, and he will be missed!

In case you missed it, this is my favorite story to come out of the funeral services and remembrances for President Bush:

George H.W. Bush sat outside near a flower garden in Kennebunkport, Maine, in 2013, holding a 2-year-old child. The pair wore matching blue polo shirts and khaki pants — and sported the same hairstyle. Bush had learned that the boy, the son of an agent on his Secret Service detail, had leukemia. The toddler had lost his hair, and to show their support, members of the detail were planning to shave their heads.

So Bush did, too.
You can see the affection and respect the Secret Service detail had for the President in the way they signed off from 40 years of providing protection for him this morning:

“Timberwolf’s Detail concluded at 0600 hours on December 7, 2018 with no incidents to report at the George Bush Presidential Library—College Station, Texas. Godspeed former President George H.W. Bush—you will be missed by all of us.”

Have a good weekend-

Work Hard- Have Fun- Stay Safe

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