



Washington Association of
**SHERIFFS &
POLICE CHIEFS**

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May 27, 2020

Greetings from Your Executive Director:

First this week, we sent out a GTWO earlier today for the **June 23 virtual general business meeting**, which will effectively take the place of the business portions of our spring conference (which would have been held last week). Our Policy Director, James, will also present his full legislative update following that virtual meeting. In addition, there was information on board elections in conjunction with that e-mail.

Next, I know that we continue to highlight the divisive outrage-driven media atmosphere, which seeks to make everyone pick a side and demonize the others. It's good to see an article like [this](#) (which **addresses the issues in a much more balanced tone.**)

There is a very powerful sentence in the article: "Science has been dragged into partisan politics and the culture wars, and special interests cherry-pick the data to advance their arguments." Substitute the word "science" for a variety of different topics and the sentence remains true: law enforcement, poverty, race, public policy, criminal justice reform...

I would recommend you read the article, it is one of the better overall summaries of the current situation I have read anywhere.

I received a valuable communication this week from Cowlitz County Undersheriff Darren Ullmann. Following the tragic loss of Deputy Justin DeRosier last year, the department has **amended and improved their policy on LODD (Line of Duty Deaths) and the notification form** that can be so critical when the unthinkable happens. The Undersheriff sent their revised [notification form](#) and their [LODD](#) Policy for all of us to use if you wish. Behind the Badge has been involved in the development of these forms, and if you have additional questions, Brian Johnston at BTB invites your feedback at brian@behindthebadgefoundation.org. Many thanks to Sheriff Thurman, Undersheriff Ullmann and BTB for their ongoing work and attention to this vital issue.

Next, those of our Sheriffs and Chiefs who have **responsibilities for court security** are working through the COVID environment. Here is a [link](#) to a document courtesy of the TSA on what they are doing for hand washing, in case it is of any value to you and your staff.

Finally, as we observed **Memorial Day earlier this week**, I wanted to pass along a tremendous [video](#) from Kennewick PD Officer Greiber, and many thanks to Chief Ken Hohenberg for sending this to us. It is a great message from an officer who epitomizes law enforcement and service.

Sheriff Simpson also sent along this [photo](#) of former Yakima County Sheriff Brian Winter's gravesite- that's Marine Lt Col Winter, by the way, and a great reminder for all of us as we observe Memorial Day. Grateful thanks to all of you who have served-

Stay Safe- Steve

Steven D. Strachan, Executive Director
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