



Washington Association of  
**SHERIFFS &  
POLICE CHIEFS**

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February 3, 2021

Greetings from your Executive Director:

We all have plenty on our plates right now, so I will highlight in bold the topic of these updates so you can scan and check out what you wish--

Please join us for the webinar Thursday, **Feb. 4, "Managing Politically Volatile Incidents - Learning from Each Other"** from 10:00 am -11:30 am. Our presenters will be Spokane Chief (and WASPC President) Craig Meidl and Fife Chief Pete Fisher. Here is the [link](#) to register.

In terms of a response to demonstrations and actions that continue to place law enforcement in the middle, here is a statement I shared with a reporter related to these issues, including the recent hotel occupation in Olympia, which followed a similar incident in Fife: "Our Chiefs and Sheriffs have long supported better behavioral health and community supports so that law enforcement is not the only resource that will show up 24/7 for every problem, but **groups forcing potentially dangerous and violent confrontations with property owners, employees and law enforcement is unacceptable, always.** Whatever your political view, we should all agree on that—period."

We sent a GTWO for **two more virtual Legislative updates** for members as follows:

- Friday, February 5 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. This will discuss the non-reform bills (the bills not covered in the 1/25 webinar) and other proposals. To register, please click on this [link](#).
- Tuesday, February 16 from 10:00 AM to Noon. This will be an update on the status of our [Top 10 bills](#) (reform bills we discussed on 1/25) and will be held right after legislative "cut-off" date when committees have to report out. To register, please click on this [link](#).

Many of you have been reaching out to your local legislators, both individually as Sheriffs and Chiefs and also as regional groups, to share your concerns with some proposals that may have negative effects on your communities and agencies. Here are a couple of excellent examples of these communications- [this](#) was sent by Puyallup Chief Scott Engle and [this letter](#) was sent by the San Juan, Skagit and Whatcom Executives group. **Demonstrating and providing examples of the potential problems of some of these bills is very valuable and I cannot say enough how much we appreciate the work!** I have also attached the [Top Ten Bills](#) link the most current version of critical bills we are tracking.

We received news this week of the **passing of two former WASPC leaders**- -

*Sunnyside Chief Escalera sent news that "it is with great sadness we announce the passing of Retired Sunnyside Police Chief Edwin Radder who succumbed to complications from Parkinson's disease and Dementia". Chief Radder began his law enforcement career in 1974 as a military policeman assigned to the 545<sup>th</sup> Military Police, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division of the United States Army. Upon honorable discharge, Chief Radder joined the Sunnyside Police Department in July 1978 where he was assigned to patrol. Throughout his tenure he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant, Detective Sergeant and Captain. In*

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*September 1999 he was appointed Acting Chief of the Sunnyside Police Department and was later appointed Chief in April 2000. Chief Radder retired from public service in March 2012, spending much of his retired years in the Yakima Valley. Chief Radder is survived by his Daughter Michelle Radder of Sunnyside WA. and two sons Philip Radder of Ferndale WA. and Marcus Radder of Lynden WA.*

*Funeral services are scheduled Friday, February 5, 2021 at Smiths Funeral Home (528 S 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Sunnyside WA 98944). Public viewing will commence at 10:00 A.M. and funeral services shall immediately follow commencing at 12:00 P.M. with graveside services at 1:00 P.M.*

*Also, WASPC has received sad news that one our Life members, **Tom Lawson**, passed away on January 8, 2021 in Clancy, MT, where he had retired with his wife Virginia. He was Chief of the Burlington Northern Railroad Police for 11 years retiring in 1995. He was active in WASPC and became a member in February 1988. He chaired the Washington Law Enforcement Executive Forum, an organization consisting of the largest Washington law enforcement agencies and largest businesses. For many years, the Forum functioned as a committee of WASPC which focused on relationships between public law enforcement and private security, both proprietary and contract, in Washington State. Tom taught us that our colleagues in Railroad Policing are sworn officers under federal law. He saw that Burlington Northern was a strong supporter of WASPC and its legislative initiatives. Tom died from complications of COVID-19. He is survived by his wife and adult children. The family requests remembrances be made to the Washington State Patrol Memorial Fund.*

Finally, here is an excellent [article](#) from the Walla Walla newspaper about their **Arrest and Jail Alternatives (AJA) program**. Kudos to Walla Walla County Sheriff Crider, Walla Walla Chief Bieber and College Place Chief Tomaras.

**Thanks -Stay Safe!**

**- Steve**