



Washington Association of
**SHERIFFS &
POLICE CHIEFS**

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Greetings from your Executive Director:

As we work our way through another challenging week, I appreciate the feedback and discussions I have had with several of our members in the last several days. As always, in the interest of not adding to your pile of e-mails, I will keep this week's update brief:

First, here is a [link](#) to a news story about the rally held in Olympia this past weekend. The article cites comments made by a state representative. Almost any interpretation of his **comments would suggest violence against law enforcement**. I have attached a [letter](#), signed by WASPC President John Snaza, myself and James McMahan, our Policy Director, asking the representative to clarify whether his statement advocates violence against LE. The letter was sent Monday afternoon and we have not received a response as yet. I will advise if we do. Earlier today, the House Minority Leader did call Sheriff Snaza and expressed his concern about the comments.

Last week I sent you the information on the case filed in the **State Supreme Court about the DOC and requesting more releases from the state prison system**. We have submitted the amicus brief opposing the release, and I just wanted to make you aware that the hearing has been scheduled for Thursday, April 23, at 9:00 AM. My understanding is that it will be livestreamed on TVW. We will keep you advised of the status and will continue to be actively opposed to additional releases, sending a clear message that we need to balance inmate health with public safety and respect for victims.

Finally this week, I have tragic and very personal news for many of our members. This morning Sheriff Brad Manke sent us the following message:

It's with great sadness I pass along that Lincoln County Sergeant Mike Stauffer passed away suddenly yesterday afternoon from an apparent heart attack while off duty. Mike has worked for Lincoln County for two decades and besides being a Sergeant, he was a close friend of Sheriff Magers. Unfortunately, Sheriff Magers and another deputy were first on scene and performed CPR but it was too late.

Many of you may have known Mike as he was a Sergeant at Arms for many years for WASPC conferences as well. Mike had an easy smile, a great sense of humor and was quick to laugh.

Mike was a great friend of all of us at WASPC and will be greatly missed. All of us have his family and Sheriff Magers and his team in our thoughts and prayers.

Stay Safe!

Steve

Steven D. Strachan, Executive Director
Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs