



**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**  
GoTo Webinar  
August 16, 2021 | 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM

**CALL TO ORDER**

President-Elect Rick Scott opened the meeting at 1:07 PM. There was a quorum present. The following Board members participated:

President-Elect, Sheriff Rick Scott, Grays Harbor County Sheriff's Office	Chief John Batiste, WSP
Vice President Steve Crown, , Chief, Wenatchee PD	Sheriff Tom Jones, Grant County Sheriff's Office
Chief Sam White, Lower Elwha Police Department	Treasurer, Chief Brett Vance, Montesano PD
Chief Rafael Padilla, Kent PD	Sheriff Kevin Morris, Douglas County
Chief Cherie Harris, Kirkland PD	FBI SAC Don Voiret
Sheriff Mitzi Johanknecht, King County Sheriff's Office	Sheriff James Raymond, Franklin County Sheriff's Office
SAC Don Voiret, FBI	

The following WASPC staff were in attendance:

- Steve Strachan
- Kim Goodman
- James McMahan
- John McGrath
- Jamie Weimer
- Deb Gregory
- Barbara Smith

President Rick Scott opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending this special meeting of the Executive Board. After discussions with Steve and other members of the Board, he wanted to bring the Board members together to provide an opportunity to share thoughts and concerns on the recent legislative changes. He then turned the meeting over to Steve Strachan, WASPC Executive Director.

Steve recapped activities that have been going on as a result of the newly enacted legislative changes. He discussed where WASPC has been since the changes went into effect, and some of the dynamics of the various groups WASPC works with. The intent of today's meeting is to get the Board's feedback on several issues and discuss a path forward in preparation for either a special legislative session or the regular session that begins in January.

The prime sponsors of the bills are conceding that changes need to be made so that law enforcement and mental health workers can do their jobs to protect public safety. Other groups are calling out issues. Legal Advisers have commented that it isn't about misinterpretation at all. It isn't just the technical issues. Overall impacts on policing are huge.

On Friday, August 13, 2021, WASPC was advised by Representatives Roger Goodman and Jesse Johnson that they did, in fact, finally send our questions to the Attorney General's Office. WASPC received a verbal confirmation that the AG's Office had received the questions but we don't have an official confirmation in writing that they've been received. As soon as we do, we will send that information out to the membership.

The AG's Office has advised that they know this is very important and will be working to get the answers out as quickly as possible. They will send responses out as they complete each question rather than waiting months to respond to all six and then providing a single response.

Steve noted that yes, the answers will be helpful, but they won't be definitive. Only law is definitive, but the responses should provide some additional resources to member agencies' legal advisers.

The fact that WASPC was out in front asking those questions aggressively, and getting a clear and definitive public admission from the Representatives that yes, these needed to be fixed and the author (Representative Johnson) sending the questions to the AG himself is significant. These are critical questions.

James McMahan then summarized the six questions. WASPC initially began with 19 questions which was an unusually large number to ask. We were asked to narrow the list down to just two or three and we said no. We did agree to a total of six of the most critical.

Obviously, our ideal solution is to have a special legislative session where these issues are then fixed statutorily. We need to be prepared whether there is one or not.

Sheriff Jim Raymond expressed his concerns with CJTC's training curriculum and the certification forms that were sent out several weeks ago. Until there is clarity, he won't have his deputies take the training or sign the form.

The Board then moved to a discussion of the certification forms that must be signed by each peace officer. Sheriff Raymond advised that he is aware that both labor unions, WACOPS and FOP have advised their members not to sign the form. After CJTC's initial transmittal went out, it became apparent that the messaging and the content of the forms weren't quite ready to send out as it has caused a lot of concern and push back from labor union representatives as well as Chiefs and Sheriffs.

James McMahan then shared the 8/13/2021 WASPC GTWO to members clarifying CJTC's original message. WASPC also suggested some key amendments to the wording on the forms. It is important to note that the additional wording "*and that such a review will only be conducted for investigatory purposes related to conduct that could result in a decertification action.*" only

applies if it relates to a decertification action.

Sheriff Raymond believes because it was originally sent out to every peace officer in the state, he doesn't believe the revised form language will correct the damage that has already been done. He believes there needs to be a meeting between CJTC, WASPC, WACOPS and FOP to sit down and come to an agreed upon resolution that everyone can live with going forward. Steve Strachan believes this is a good idea and asked other Board members their thoughts on this.

Steve suggested if the Board is in agreement with this idea, either he or James will reach out to their counterparts at WACOPS and FOP to have a collective meeting with CJTC to get to a place where members are comfortable with the curriculum and the form language. Chief Steve Crown also believes this would be a good opportunity to remind CJTC that we are their members. Chief Crown expressed concerns that relationships are important and communication from CJTC is key during this time of transition.

**Recommendation:**

1. Steve Strachan or designee will reach out to WACOPS and FOP to see they would be willing to meet with CJTC to vet resolutions to this issue.
2. Based on the initial contact, if the Board would prefer a letter to this same effect, WASPC can certainly prepare such a letter.

The Board had consensus on this plan.

The discussion then moved into concepts related to what possible changes may be made or proposed for either a special session, if there is one, or the next session.

Steve Strachan thanked everyone for their time at the meeting. It was a very important discussion and is helpful as we continue to work on these very critical issues to law enforcement.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Gregory  
Executive Assistant  
WASPC