



**WESTERN STATES HOSTAGE NEGOTIATORS' ASSOCIATION**

January 2, 2021

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

On this, the first day of 2021, I would like to convey to you the enthusiasm with which your WSHNA leadership enters the new year. We are looking forward to an outstanding Seminar and Competition in Boise. We are excited to hear of some who have achieved a well-earned retirement for years of public service and who will spend 2021 reconnecting with old hobbies and discovering new opportunities. We are encouraged as new members are assigned to negotiation teams around the region.

Looking back to the year whose number shall never be uttered, we saw many of you shine in some dark times. You pushed forward, you responded to the calls for help, you found new levels of appreciation for your life outside of public service. WSHNA helped you maintain training by supporting smaller in-person training events through our training lunch program, through scholarships, and through partnerships with trainers who provided more than 100 hours of free online training opportunities in multiple subject areas.

We plan to build on the successes of the past year and find new ways to help you develop the important skills you bring to any crisis. WSHNA is honored to partner with you as you volunteer to enter the chaos of crisis and bring calm, order, and deliberate strategy in your pursuit of a peaceful resolution. What you do is vitally important to many whose lives have momentarily spun out of control. At the same time, we remind ourselves that despite our training and honorable intentions, often we are not in control of the outcomes of the incidents to which we respond.

As you enter 2021, we encourage you to pursue excellence in your personal and professional lives. Let us partner with you in this. May this new year bring you a greater appreciation for the interpersonal connections with family, friends, colleagues. One more new year's suggestion: Find something you used to love doing which has landed on the back burner. Make it a priority, make YOU a priority. As much as others need your skill and service, your mental and emotional health is of greatest importance. You are valued and appreciated, and we look forward to seeing you at a future training, hearing from you, and supporting you in your pursuit of excellence.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Troy D. King". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light gray rectangular background.

Troy D. King  
WSHNA President

**WSHNA is on Facebook or [www.wshna.com](http://www.wshna.com)  
2416 46<sup>th</sup> AVE SE – PUYALLUP, WASHINGTON 98374-4181**

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