



Member National Council of Negotiation Associations

WESTERN STATES HOSTAGE NEGOTIATORS' ASSOCIATION

November 25, 2020

Hello All,

June was the last time I shared thoughts with all of you as a group. Since that time, much has gone on in our country, in our lives, in our agencies. Your WSHNA Board has been working throughout this time to meet training needs as they have arisen. It has been remarkable to see how professionals of your caliber continue to push on despite all that you are dealing with, both personally and professionally. Some of you have retired. Others have changed agencies. Despite the changes, we have seen more than a few of you plugging yourselves into online training and COVID-adaptive in-person training, and this includes retirees and those starting fresh at new agencies. We have even seen a few agencies conduct scenario training using an online environment! You continue to lead, and it is noticed and appreciated.

In the past six months we have seen more teams than ever take advantage of WSHNA-provided support for team training, such as using our meals-for-training program and free WSHNA seats in online courses. As in any critical incident, negotiators do not shrink in the face of adversity, we lean into it. As you continue to lean into growing and maintaining high training standards, please know that WSHNA has your back and is actively working to keep training support options available to you.

Not the least of these options is the 2021 WSHNA Seminar and Competition in Boise. Behind the scenes, The Idaho Department of Correction, partnered with your Board, has been working tirelessly to adjust to the changing landscape. They have secured a large training venue which can easily seat several hundred people in a socially distant manner. We are enthusiastically moving full steam ahead as we prepare for a challenging competition and a great line up of training blocks, incident debriefs, and social networking options. We are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Boise. However, if you are not able to make it, please do not forget to renew your membership so that we can continue to make all of the WSHNA support options available to you and your team.

As always, your Board is available to be a resource for you. Let us know how we can help. We care about this important work and we care about you.

President, WSHNA

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