



Western States Sheriffs Association

President's Letter February 26



President's Message of Appreciation

It's that time of year that your WSSA Executive Team and Conference Committee are adding the final polish to this year's annual conference. I can say with much confidence - your leadership team and committee members are filled with great excitement to what we all expect will be another quality event for you and your families.

I am so impressed with our speaker line-up, training classes, vendors, and yes, the social networking that our conference brings to sheriffs and those that share our public safety mission. The beautiful scenery and attractions of Reno, Nevada and Lake Tahoe provides a plethora of opportunities to explore, visit, shop, and yes, for those risk takers, a little gambling.

As I look back on 2025, I have had the opportunities to meet so many of my fellow sheriffs as we unite for common challenges, or just to share a cop story.

Sheriffs are truly special people that represent their offices and communities with Pride, Passion, and Purpose. The trusted voice of our profession.

It has been my distinct honor and privilege to serve as your president. My comfort to serve is based on the legacy of this position and support by your executive team and you! The confidence and trust you have placed in me is one I will embrace for a lifetime.

A special applause to your Executive Director/Retired Sheriff, Dave Brown. Dave is the operational backbone to this organization and cares about each one of you. I have learned much from this man, he's a man of high character, honesty, and values that any organization would love to have on their team – proud to have him on our team.

To my hometown Sheriffs from Arizona – Thank YOU. Your guidance, support, and friendship continue to make me proud to call you my AZ Brothers.

To America's Sheriffs' Alliance and their leadership teams, it has been my

pleasure to serve alongside each one of you as we represent the sheriffs of tomorrow highlighted by the protection of our office. To the men and women of the Cochise County Sheriff's Office, I couldn't ask for a better group of A+ professionals to work alongside. Proud to call Cochise County my home with credit to you all. And, behind every good sheriff, is a family of balance, support, and endless love. To my family, you are my internal strength and serve as my navigators for success!

Finally, I want to extend my congratulations to incoming president, Tracy Glover, Kane County, Utah. I will be there as Past-President Sheriff Gary Bettencourt and others were there for me to assist Tracy as he navigates this seat of distinguished honor.

WSSA's past-presidents are the unsung heroes to our organization. Their experiences, leadership, and wisdom illustrate why they are legacy sheriffs that shall never be forgotten! On behalf of your WSSA Executive Team, Welcome to Reno Everyone—now let's have some western states fun!

Sheriff Mark J. Dannels
Cochise County, AZ.