



# WASHINGTON STATE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

3060 Willamette Drive NE - Lacey, WA 98516

Phone (360) 486-2380 Fax (360) 486-2381 [www.washeriffs.org](http://www.washeriffs.org)

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October 22, 2014

Sheriff John Bishop (Ret.), Executive Director  
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

Sheriff Gary Bettencourt, President  
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

Gentlemen,

As you are well aware, King County Washington Sheriff John Urquhart has come out in an advertisement in support of Oregon measure 91. It is imperative that the membership of the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association know and understand that the position taken by Sheriff Urquhart does not represent the Washington State Sheriffs' Association as a whole.

We are aware that all 36 Sheriffs in the State of Oregon are united in opposition to measure 91. We recognize that it is an enormous accomplishment when an entire Sheriffs' association can come together on an issue and especially one that has the potential to change the social landscape of the State of Oregon.

Although Washington State passed initiative 502 legalizing recreational marijuana, we as a State are in the early stages of retail sales at this point. There has been no additional money funneled to law enforcement to address the concerns voiced throughout the campaign to pass initiative 502. Because we are only 4 months into retail sales in some communities, it is premature to think that we have any relevant or measurable impact data on marijuana use. We have seen the first year reports from the State of Colorado and most Sheriffs who have reviewed it should find it to be alarming and of great concern for what may come to Washington State.

The Washington State Sheriffs' Association has been, and continues to be, a supporter of Sheriffs across the country who face issues that can potentially impact all of us. As a border state, we certainly are aware and informed of your association's efforts to oppose measure 91 and whether we agree or disagree as individuals, we as an association stand in awe of the unification of the Oregon Sheriffs and the support you have received throughout the state.

I speak for the Sheriffs of Washington State when I wish you success in your continued efforts during these last few days of the campaign. Please know however that regardless of the outcome of measure 91, the Washington State Sheriffs' Association remains committed to assist you in all matters relevant to public safety. If there are resource needs that can be met by the Sheriffs of the State of Washington, please do not hesitate to contact me or your border Sheriff directly.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Gene Dana  
Kittitas County Sheriff's Office, WA  
President, Washington State Sheriffs' Association

(Sent without signature to avoid delay)

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