

WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SHERIFFS & POLICE CHIEFS

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Serving the Law Enforcement Community and the Citizens of Washington



October 11, 2018

Members:

You may have heard that the State Supreme Court this morning ruled the death penalty unconstitutional. WASPC as an organization has opposed the elimination of the death penalty, and I testified that way last session and the bill did not pass. Below is a quote from WASPC for you to use as you wish-- as always, your opinion in your position as Sheriff or Chief can be whatever you choose, this is offered only for your information. I have also attached the [talking points](#) we have used in the past to express our opposition.

WHILE WE ARE DISAPPOINTED IN THE COURT'S RULING, EVERY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SWEARS AN OATH TO SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE LAND. THE STATE SUPREME COURT HAS CLEARLY RULED THAT THE DEATH PENALTY VIOLATES OUR STATE'S CONSTITUTION AND WHILE THIS IS AN OUTCOME WITH WHICH WE HAVE DISAGREED, IT IS ONE WE RESPECT AND UPHOLD. IF THERE IS A MECHANISM BY WHICH THE DEATH PENALTY COULD BE APPLIED CONSTITUTIONALLY, WE WOULD HOPE TO BE PART OF THAT DISCUSSION.

Questions? Just let me know- Steve

Steven D. Strachan, Executive Director

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