



WESTERN STATES HOSTAGE NEGOTIATORS' ASSOCIATION

Training Crisis Negotiators Since 1986

Editor's Note: Change in Board of Directors

On October 9, 2026, President Joe Miller resigned as President for personal reasons. The Executive Board made the following changes. Vice President Andi O'Brien will assume the office of President and fulfill that term until April 2028. The new President appointed Representative Lisa Cain to complete the term of Vice President until April 2027. Lisa will continue to fulfill the duties of district #2 until the elections in Salem, April 2027.

Good luck Joe in your future endeavors.

President's Message

October 2026

Dear WSHNA Members,

I am honored to serve as President of the Western States Hostage Negotiators' Association (WSHNA). I look forward to continuing to work alongside our experienced members while welcoming and getting to know our newer members. Together, we have exciting opportunities ahead as we continue to strengthen our association and advance the field of crisis negotiations.

I have been involved with WSHNA since 2011. Throughout my career, I have worked behind the scenes to support our association by helping organize seminars, contributing to negotiation guidelines through the National Council of Negotiators' Associations, and serving on the Board for Advocacy Standards of Excellence (BASE) through the National Tactical Officers Association. These contributions have complemented my 26-year career in law enforcement, during which I served on my agency's negotiation team and progressed through the roles of negotiator, team leader, team coordinator, and ultimately commander before retiring this year.

As your new president, my vision is to foster greater collaboration, advocate for the profession of crisis negotiations, and recognize the individuals who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make our field successful. The progress of crisis negotiations would not be possible without the dedication and contributions of every WSHNA member. Our district



WSHNA is on Facebook, X, LinkedIn & www.wshna.com
2027 Training Seminar & HNT Challenge - April 25 to April 28, 2027
Salem Convention Center & Holman Riverfront Park Hotel by Hilton
Hosted by Marion County Sheriff's Office

representatives and Executive Board members need your involvement, ideas, and communication more than ever.

I encourage each of you to reach out to your district representative after significant missions, involvement in training experiences, and all of your important professional milestones. I strongly believe in recognizing the hard work and dedication demonstrated within our agencies, in the field, and through our continued pursuit of excellence. Share your experiences and accomplishments with us and give us the opportunity to recognize your efforts. Visit our website to identify your district representative and share your stories, training experiences, and professional achievements. We want to help highlight your successes through our website, email distribution list, and social media channels.

WSHNA spans the western states, representing members across thousands of miles and numerous jurisdictions. No matter where you serve, our association is here to support you. Let us help you overcome the challenges of sharing your accomplishments, promoting effective practices, and bringing greater visibility to the important work you do.

I encourage every member to become involved and contribute to the future of our association. By working together, we can shape WSHNA to better represent our diverse regions, highlight the value of crisis negotiations, and ensure our members' voices and accomplishments are recognized.

Thank you for the opportunity to lead WSHNA into its next chapter. I am always available by phone or email and welcome your ideas, questions, and involvement. I look forward to what we will accomplish together as we continue advancing the profession of crisis negotiations.

Negotiate On!
President Andi O'Brien
(775) 530-3951
OBnegotiator@gmail.com