

Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association, Inc.

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Dear WCPA Member:

September 3, 2003

In my first address to you in the August newsletter I wrote about Consolidation and the Concealed Carrying of Weapons that we would face as an Association which may be controversial within our own ranks. Consolidation will be worked on by a committee chaired by past President Hans Lux. Today I want to turn our attention toward the issue of Concealed Carry.

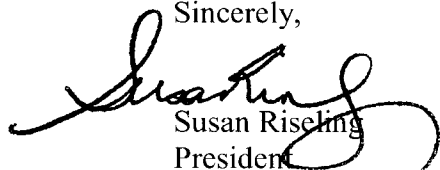
The Association opposes the Concealed Carrying of Weapons by non law enforcement personnel. Our colleagues in the Law Enforcement Coalition also oppose it except for the Troopers Association who have taken a "no position" stance. We believe these Bills will make bad public policy, and as written will endanger safety.

The issue of the ability to Carry Concealed Weapons in the State of Wisconsin will go to public hearing on September 9, 2003 at the State Capitol. On the Association's behalf I will be testifying against the Bills. As things stand today, the Assembly Bill and its Senate companion have a chance of passing both houses unless we act quickly and decisively. Therefore the Association needs your help.

Attached to this letter are talking points that you may want to familiarize yourself with on the subject. I would ask that you write the editor of your local paper educating your communities about the risk of Concealed Carry. Call your local state representative and explain the impact on your community. Reach out to your State Senator and make your voice known. Even if you believe in some form of Concealed Carry, this particular legislation is poorly crafted, conflicts with common sense and has little safeguards for the men and women we place in uniform and order into harms way each day. This legislation places in the hands of any Sheriff the requirement to grant permits. Therefore a local Chief has no say in the matter, but you will surely feel the consequences.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at (608) 262-4527. Or you can also contact our Legislative Chairs Chief Doug Pettit of Oregon (608) 835-6250 or Chief Joe Coughlin of Chippewa Falls (715) 723-4424. I ask that you act today. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Susan Riseling
President

Attachment