

# The Standard 2018





## President's Message

**Chief Greg Peterson, Grand Chute Police Department** 

#### Greetings everyone;

If you've read the President's Message in the past, you know I have often used this platform to promote our goal of advancing policing excellence and professionalism throughout the State of Wisconsin. It is, after all, the fundamental reason the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group came into existence, so why not spread word? But, surprisingly, when I started assembling ideas to include in this message, what I first found myself looking for, rather than examples of excellence and professionalism, was a number. How many agencies, I wondered, were members of WILEAG?

My quest for that number took me to the WILEAG website. Was I glad it did! If you log onto <a href="https://www.wileag.info">www.wileag.info</a>, you'll find a tab labeled "PROGRAMS." Hover over the dropdown menu and you'll find tabs that take you to pages revealing all of the agencies involved in the full Accreditation and Core Standards Verification Programs. I clicked on both tabs and subsequently experienced what I've decided was an epiphany moment.

Instead of a numbered list of department names, I gazed at a panoply of law enforcement patches in all variety of shapes, colors, sizes, and designs. Many bore a unique characteristic of the community served by the officers wearing the patch; such as a lighthouse, riverboat, waterfall, or rock escarpment. Some conveyed a sense of community history, including the year the community was established. Still others contained an organizational maxim, such as "Protect and Serve," "Serving with Pride," or "Pride, Integrity, Ethics." There were some similarities, to be sure. For example, 19 included an outline of the State of Wisconsin or the State Seal; 17 depicted water in various forms, standing, flowing, or falling; and 14 contained eagles, either perched or in flight. Of course, all included either the term "Police" or "Sheriff."

Similarities notwithstanding, out of 70 law enforcement patches on the WILEAG website, no two were exactly alike. Each was distinctive, representing a distinct organization serving a distinct community. These organizations range in size from five officers to more than 1,800

officers, and serve communities ranging in size from approximately 1,000 residents to nearly 600,000 residents. Yet, each has something exceptional in common, a thread not readily apparent in their distinctive shoulder patches, but inexorably linking them just the same. Each represents an agency that has made a commitment to the community it serves that, through law enforcement accreditation, professionalism and excellence will guide their efforts. No number can compare to the value of that commitment!

Speaking of professionalism and excellence, both were on full display during the recent Wisconsin Police Leadership Foundation Mid-Winter Conference, where WILEAG once again presented its annual awards during the President's Banquet. This was, by far, our largest number of award recipients, with 21 agencies being recognized for Accreditation or Core Standards Verification. Additionally, several achievement awards were presented; including the Innovative Program Award to the Janesville PD for their Mental Health Awareness Flag Program, the Lexipol Accreditation Manager Award to Captain Troy Hellenbrand of the Middleton PD, the CVMIC Core CEO Leadership Award to Chief Dennis Nasci of the West Milwaukee PD, the WPLF Accredited Agency Leadership Award to Chief Ann Wellens of the South Milwaukee PD, and the WILEAG President's Team Leader/Assessor Award to Captain Lara Vendola-Messer of the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office. Congratulations to all of our award recipients!

Often this message also includes mention of the comings and goings of people who have been instrumental to the success of WILEAG and advancement of law enforcement accreditation in Wisconsin. Such is the case once again, as we say goodbye and good luck to Chiefs Lisa Otterbacher, from the Whitewater PD, and Ann Wellens, from the South Milwaukee PD. Both are retiring from law enforcement.

Lisa served as the accreditation manager for the Whitewater PD from 2000-2011, when she was appointed as chief of police. During that time she also served as an assessor and instructor for WILEAG and was active in WiPAC, the Wisconsin Police Accreditation Coalition, where she rose to the position of president. She became an at-large member of the WILEAG Governing Board in 2012. Lisa has had a passion for accreditation since she was first introduced to the concept, and during her years of service to the program, she shared that passion with many.

Ann had been involved with accreditation since the inception of WILEAG, and served as accreditation manager in South Milwaukee after her promotion to lieutenant in 1998. Through her efforts, South Milwaukee became one of the first agencies in the state to be accredited by WILEAG. In 2005, Ann was appointed chief of police, after which she continued to take an active role in accreditation, serving as both an assessor and team leader. She also served as the longstanding proxy for Governing Board member Tami Mayzik, City Administrator for South Milwaukee. Under Ann's leadership, the South Milwaukee PD became a model for other agencies seeking accreditation.

Of course, departures are often followed by arrivals. In this case, that involves the appointment of a new at-large member to the Governing Board, Shorewood chief Pete Nimmer. Pete is an accreditation veteran, having served on the executive board of the Wisconsin Police Accreditation Coalition for several years and as an assessor and team leader for WILEAG. Pete

is also the current president of the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association. No doubt, his background and experience will make him a valuable addition to the Governing Board.

Finally, it's a pleasure to announce a new WILEAG "Gold Sponsor." At our January 22 board meeting, WILEAG elected to enter into a partnership with Deer Creek Technologies, a document management software company developed by Cedarburg chief Tom Frank and his partner, Grant Jones. In addition to his role with Deer Creek Technologies, Chief Frank has led his department through the accreditation process and has served as both an assessor and team leader for WILEAG. Through this partnership, we hope to capitalize on Tom's unique blend of experience in accreditation leadership and document management to improve communications with accreditation managers and assessors, and expand the availability of online resources and training. This is an exciting venture that we hope will enhance the pursuit of our goal to promote policing excellence in Wisconsin . . . and hopefully add to the array of law enforcement patches on our website.

To learn more about Deer Creek Technologies, visit their website, <a href="https://deercreektech.com/">https://deercreektech.com/</a>.

#### **Calendar of Events**

#### **Board Meetings**

June 18, 2018
August 20, 2018
October 1, 2018
November 9, 2018
December 10, 2018

### **Featured Board Member**



**Chief Russ Jack Waukesha Police Department** 

Russell Jack currently serves as an At-large member of the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group (WILEAG) Board. He began his career at the Waukesha Police Department as a patrol officer in 1990. He has held the ranks of sergeant, lieutenant, captain. In October of 2009, he was promoted to chief of police.

Russ holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Wisconsin. He is a graduate of the 217<sup>th</sup> session of the FBI National Academy.

He was very active in Tactical Unit operations during his career, retiring from the team as Tactical Unit Commander. He held many positions on the unit including sniper, less lethal munitions operator, and team leader. He has instructed for over 23 years in a variety of topics including DAAT, Firearms, Tactical Response, Vehicle Contacts, Professional Communication, Ethics, Wellness, Suicide Prevention, and others.

In his personal life he has served in a variety of volunteer roles at his church including usher, board of elders and as a member of the safety committee. When not working or volunteering, Russ is an avid hunter. He enjoys his time in the woods to relax and unwind, as well as occasionally harvest a turkey, deer, bear or elk.

#### Russ' thoughts on Accreditation:

The Waukesha Police Department sought WILEAG Accreditation for many years prior to me being appointed Chief of Police in October 2009. We made it one of our top priorities to become accredited because we saw the benefits of the program, and by early 2011 we accomplished our goal. It was the through the tireless and unwavering efforts of our department personnel that our goal became a reality. We remain an accredited agency today because of the dedication and commitment of everyone at the department.

The benefits of accreditation are enormous. It is crucial to have an independent body ensure that our department is adhering to the laws, regulations, standards and best practices of law enforcement. Accreditation is a long, demanding and arduous process, but in the end it proves that our department is performing within law enforcement professional standards.

We have secured credibility with the NAACP, the Police and Fire Commission, the Common Council and citizens who live, work and recreate in Waukesha because we are an accredited agency. They understand what accreditation means and they know and trust that our department is professional. The minimal financial costs and the hours of labor are well worth the trust and respect received for being accredited.

I encourage every agency to accept the challenge of accreditation through WILEAG. With this great challenge comes great reward!



# **2017-2018** Highlights



Congratulations to all the agencies and the awards winners who were recognized in 2018 for their accomplishments.

#### **Core Standards Verification Program Recipients:**

- ✓ Fox Point PD
- ✓ Oregon PD
- ✓ West Milwaukee PD
- ✓ Williams Bay PD

#### **Accreditation Awards - First Time Agencies:**

- ✓ Lake Delton PD
- ✓ Menasha PD
- ✓ Pleasant Prairie PD
- ✓ Walworth County Sheriff's Office

#### **Accreditation Awards - Re-Accredited Agencies:**

- ✓ Bayside PD
- ✓ Evansville PD
- ✓ Janesville PD
- ✓ La Crosse PD
- ✓ Menomonee Falls PD
- ✓ Middleton PD
- ✓ Milton PD
- ✓ Muskego PD
- ✓ Oshkosh PD
- ✓ South Milwaukee PD
- ✓ Reedsburg PD
- ✓ Waukesha County Sheriff's Department
- ✓ Waukesha PD

#### Awards:

- ✓ Innovative Program Award-Janesville PD Mental Health Awareness Flag
- ✓ Lexipol Accreditation Manager Award Captain Troy Hellenbrand Middleton PD
- ✓ CVMIC CORE CEO Leadership Award Chief Dennis Nasci West Milwaukee PD
- ✓ WPLF Accredited Agency CEO Leadership Award Chief Ann Wellens South Milwaukee PD
- ✓ President's Award Team Leader/Assessor Award Captain Lara Vendola-Messer Winnebago Co. Sheriff's Office



**Photo from 2018 WCPA Conference** 

#### **Wisconsin Police Accreditation Coalition**

W75 N444 Wauwatosa Road Cedarburg, WI 53012 (262) 375-76200 www.wi-pac.org



The Wisconsin Police Accreditation Coalition (WI-PAC) has a membership of over 45 agencies involved in the accreditation process. Our purpose is to enhance the quality of Wisconsin law enforcement service through promoting and supporting the concept of police accreditation. Through information sharing, network development and collaborative trainings, we assist our member agencies in achieving their goal of becoming Wileag accredited.

#### WI-PAC Benefits include:

- Resource for agencies involved in accreditation
- Guidance in file construction and Standards interpretation
- Network for communication and support
- Provide training and mentoring in achieving accreditation
- Provide sample policies and directives
- Assist with mock assessments
- Serve as a conduit to the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group

WI-PAC membership is open to any law enforcement agency interested in the process of obtaining or maintaining WILEAG Accreditation status or the Core Standards Verification Program.

With the new 5<sup>th</sup> Edition Standards and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Core Standards, WI-PAC can be an excellent resource in interpreting the changes and providing sample policies and proofs of compliance.

The annual membership fee is \$50.00. WI-PAC meetings are held four times a year at the Middleton Police Department. Our next meeting is August 2, 2017. Meetings start at 10am and are usually done by noon.

We encourage you to attend a meeting and see how we can help you in your efforts towards accreditation. For further information please contact a member of the Executive Board or visit our website at <a href="https://www.wi-pac.org">www.wi-pac.org</a>.

President
 Vice-President
 Secretary
 Treasurer
 Captain Mark Ferguson, Glendale Police Department
 Lt. Kevin Konrad, Oshkosh Police Department
 Capt. Lara Vendola-Messer, Winnebago County Sheriff
 Chief Tom Frank, Cedarburg Police Department

We hope you consider joining us and look forward to seeing you at one of our meetings.



## **Executive Director**

Robert J. Rosch

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

I would like to take the opportunity in this newsletter to recognize our great sponsors. Without their support, WILEAG would not be as strong of an organization as it is.

Our **GOLD** sponsors are: Wisconsin Police Leadership Foundation (WPLF), Lexipol, Inc., Cities and Villages Mutual Insurance Co (CVMIC), and Deer Creek Technologies.

Our **BRONZE** sponsors are: Custom Service Information (CSI, Inc)

One special recognition that WILEAG made during the 2017 WCPA Summer Conference was to give a special award to Gordan Graham of Lexipol for their continual support as a GOLD sponsor for WILEAG.

Board Vice-President Chief Anna Ruzinski presented Gordon with the award:



During 2018, a number of agencies are up for either their first accreditation on-site, reaccreditation, or Core Verification review. Let's all wish the best for each of these agencies.

#### **ACCREDITATION AGENCIES**

January 10 Oshkosh PD (CALEA)-Completed & Appro
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March 6-8 Cottage Grove PD-Completed & Approval Pending

April 10 UW-Madison PD (CALEA)-Completed & Approval Pending

May 15-17 Brown Deer PD

September 18-20 Hartford PD

September 24-28 Milwaukee PD

October 16-18 Pewaukee PD

October 23-25 Town of Beloit PD

November 6-8 Hartland PD

November 13-15 Whitewater PD

December 4-6 Neenah PD

December 11-13 Winnebago Co. Sheriff

#### **CORE AGENCIES**

Darlington PD, Kiel PD, Phillips PD, St. Francis PD

My contact information is listed below and I hope to meet you soon!

Robert J. Rosch
Executive Director
Chief of Police-Retired
FBI National Academy-192<sup>nd</sup>
P.O. Box 528
Hartland, WI 53029
262-468-1008
Executive.director@wileag.info



#### WILEAG GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

Greg Peterson, *President*Chief of Police, Grand Chute PD
Wisconsin Chief's of Police Association

Anna Ruzinski, *Vice President* Chief of Police, Menomonee Falls PD Wisconsin Police Executive Group

Todd Christopherson, *Secretary*Chief Deputy, Winnebago County Sheriff
Badger Sheriff's Association

VACANT Wisconsin District Attorney's Association

James Palmer, Attorney
Executive Director
WI Professional Police Association

Tamara Mayzik
City Administrator, South Milwaukee
WI City Managers Association

Russ Jack Chief of Police, Waukesha PD WI-FBI National Academy Association

Rick Bayer Loss Control Manager Cities & Villages Mutual Insurance Co.

Rick Cole Criminal Justice Program Milwaukee Area Technical College Stephanie Pedersen Wisconsin Department of Justice Division of Law Enforcement Services

Dr. Stan Stojkovic Dean, Helen Bader School of Social Welfare University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Dennis Nasci Chief of Police, West Milwaukee PD FCCTV (WCPA)

Jennifer Dunn Director, Victim/Witness Assistance Waukesha County At Large: Victim/Witness

> Peter Nimmer Chief of Police Shorewood PD At Large: Law Enforcement

Mark Ferguson Captain of Police Glendale PD WI – Police Accreditation Program

Michael Jungbluth
Chief of Police (Retired)
Lakeside Engineers
At-Large: Non-Law Enforcement



GROUP
Bayside
Beloit (Town)
Brown Deer
Cedarburg
Cottage Grove
Cudahy
Evansville
Fond du Lac
Glendale
Grand Chute
Hartford
Hartland
Janesville
La Crosse
Lake Delton
Menasha
Menomonee Falls
Middleton
Milton
Milwaukee (City)
Muskego
Neenah
New Berlin
Oshkosh
Pewaukee
Platteville
Pleasant Prairie
Port Washington
Reedsburg
South Milwaukee
UW-Madison
Walworth Co Sheriff
Watertown
Waukesha PD
Waukesha Co Sheriff
Wausau
West Allis
Whitefish Bay
Whitewater
Winnebago Co Sheriff



Verification Program
Campbell
Chilton
Darlington
East Troy (Village)
Elkhart Lake
Fox Point
Holmen
Jackson
Jefferson
Kiel
Lancaster
Marquette U
Minocqua
Mukwonago (Village)
Oregon
Phillips
Plymouth
Prairie du Chien
Saint Francis
Shawano
Sheboygan Falls
Sparta
Vilas Co. Sheriff
Waushara Co. Sheriff
West Milwaukee
Weyauwega
Williams Bay
Wrightstown