



WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Conserving the Peace Through Values Driven Service
Sheriff Pat Garrett

PRESS RELEASE

Washington County Negotiation Team Wins Regional Competition

May 9, 2017 – The Washington County Crisis Negotiation Unit was awarded first place at the Pacific Northwest Crisis Negotiation Competition. This is the third consecutive year the team has taken first place.

On May 7, 2017, the Washington County Crisis Negotiation Unit participated in the 4th annual Pacific Northwest Crisis Negotiation Competition, organized by the Western States Hostage Negotiators' Association. Eleven negotiation teams from five different states competed in a challenging full day scenario in which every aspect of crisis negotiation was utilized and tested.



When the competition completed, the Washington County Crisis Negotiation Unit was awarded first place. This is the third consecutive year the team has taken first place at this highly challenging competition. The Crisis Negotiation Unit tied for first place in both the 2015 and 2016 competitions.

Formed in 1981, the [Washington County Crisis Negotiation Unit](#) (CNU) is an interagency team whose primary goal is to create peaceful resolutions to often extremely volatile situations. The unit's cornerstones are empathy, knowledge, and compassion. The team is comprised of members from the Sheriff's Office, Beaverton Police, Hillsboro Police, Tigard Police, the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), mental health consultants, and a certified psychologist.



The [Western States Hostage Negotiators' Association](#) (WSHNA) was founded in 1986 with the mission of developing negotiation teams to the highest degree of proficiency in the performance of their professional duties. The association is represented by enforcement and corrections crisis negotiators from seven states and British Columbia.

The competition was hosted by the Portland Police Bureau.