

January 12, 2023

Washington State Leaders:

Please consider the strong endorsement for a regional police training center for southwest Washington by the 100 business leaders who comprise Identity Clark County.

Distributing law enforcement training capacity to multiple regions across the state will make it easier for more people to complete training close to where they live and eventually will work, strengthening the connection to family and community during this critical time of career preparation. Further, a training center in southwest Washington opens the door to welcoming more recruits from across the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area, the second largest metropolitan area in the Pacific Northwest with about 2.6 million people.

In addition to our support for dedicating state capital and operating funds for this purpose, we stand ready to help local leaders identify a suitable site near the I-5 corridor. Furthermore, we also strongly encourage our local law enforcement leaders to initiate training immediately in temporary space until a modern training facility can be built.

Fully staffing our next generation of law enforcement is of extreme importance to public safety which repeatedly scores at the very top of virtually every citizen poll.

We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Ron Arp, President Identity Clark County