

# THE BRIEFING



**March 2024**

- **Upcoming dates to remember**  
March 28, 2024 - Monthly Insider Briefing  
WPD Chief Joe Sullivan
- **April 25, 2024 - Monthly Insider Briefing**  
Kate Brubacher, U.S. Attorney, District of KS
- **May 23, 2024 - Monthly Insider Briefing**  
Mayor of Wichita, Lily Wu
- **June 9, 2024 - Support Law Enforcement "It's A Big Dill"**  
Chicken N Pickle
- **June 25-27 Law Camp at O.J. Watson Park**
- **June 27, 2024 - Monthly Insider Briefing**

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## **Membership Milestones**

**Bill Anderson, Anderson Energy - 10 years**

**Dr. John Gagnon, John D Gagnon DDS PA - 10 Years**

**Wade Graber, Emprise Bank - 5 years**

**Maverick Woodbridge, P&E Company - 10 years**

**WICHITA METRO CRIME COMMISSION, INC**  
**MONTHLY INSIDER BRIEFING**  
**THURSDAY, March 28, 2024**  
**11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.**



**Chief Joe Sullivan,  
Wichita Police Department**

Police Chief Joe Sullivan joined the Wichita Police Department in late 2022 and since then has immersed himself in the Wichita community. When he arrived at the Crime Commission's Trunk or Treat event with League 42 last October, we told him we were surprised he was there. His response: "Well of course I'm here. My people are here."

Prior to joining WPD, Chief Joe Sullivan held the rank of deputy commissioner and commanded a force of 4,698 sworn and professional staff in the Philadelphia Police Department. A veteran of more than 30 years with the Philadelphia Police Department his wide-ranging responsibilities included leading the Violent Crime Reduction (VCR) anti-gun strategies, overseeing community relations, serving as the department's liaison to the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), the Jewish Federation, the LGBTQ community, and the Resilience Project, the Mayor's task force assembled to respond to the opioid crisis.

Prior to his promotion to deputy commissioner, he commanded the department's homeland security bureau, where Sullivan served as the incident commander at all major incidents involving homeland security and/or requiring tactical intervention and performed as the department's subject matter expert at all major demonstrations and protests. Sullivan also oversaw the training bureau, and the narcotics division, and held numerous commands and supervisory positions within patrol and SWAT.

Sullivan holds a B.A. from Penn State University in the Administration of Justice, an M.A. in Public Safety from St. Joseph's University and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy. In Philadelphia he also served as the Department's representative to the Mayor's World Meeting of Families Executive Planning Committee, which required him to travel to Rome to work closely with Papal Security in the formation of the security plans utilized for the visit of the Pope to Philadelphia. Sullivan represented the City of Philadelphia and the police department in executing all tactical operations and overseeing all demonstrations during the Democratic National Convention and was designated as the incident commander for the footprint of the NFL Draft.

**Please contact the office with your confirmation or regrets at 316-267-1235 or email [Julie@wichitacrimecommission.org](mailto:Julie@wichitacrimecommission.org) by Tuesday, March 26, 2024, so we can make the necessary luncheon arrangements with the Scotch.**

**Meal Options**

**Meatloaf with mashed potatoes and chef's vegetable**

**or**

**Salad with a protein**

**(Scotch & Sirloin chooses the protein)**

**Please let me know if you would like a salad.**

## 70<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER A HUGE SUCCESS

Thanks to the generosity and support of our members on March 7<sup>th</sup> the Wichita Metro Crime Commission hosted nearly 200 law enforcement and criminal justice professionals from around the state at our 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Dinner. With over 300 in attendance, it was a great evening celebrating extraordinary bravery and accomplishments by our award winners. Those honored were:



**Willard Garvey Crime Prevention Officer of the Year**  
Wichita Police Department Officer Jerod Metcalf



**William Garvey Citizen Activist of the Year**  
Dr. William Polite, Jr.  
Wichita Public Schools Executive Director of Equity and Accountability



**Hero Award**  
Sponsored by Operation 2 Save Lives (O2SL)  
Sedgwick County Sheriff's Deputy Clinton Harris  
Sedgwick County Sheriff's Deputy Nathan Kingery



**Humanitarian Award**

Sponsored in Honor of Thornton E. Anderson  
Wichita Police Department Community Service Officer Nicholas P. Bushell



**Excellence in Community Engagement Award**

Sponsored by VitalCore  
Wichita Police Department Officer Chad Ditch  
Wichita Police Department Officer Jorge Avendano



**Law Enforcement Officer of the Year**

Sponsored by Bob & Donna Aldrich, Jenco, LLC  
Detective Adam Van Der Molen – Wichita Police Department



### **Criminal Justice Professional of the Year Award**

Sponsored by Gary Decker, Wealth Alliance Advisory Group, LLC  
Chief Attorney Robert R. Short, Sedgwick County District Attorney's Office



Raymond "Jeff" Geoffroy is the 2023 Twelve Apostles of Justice award recipient, and it is a honor well deserved. Jeff has spent countless hours over many years supporting the WMCC. His leadership has certainly been instrumental in the Crime Commission's growth in membership, budget and community involvement.

Congratulations to all our winners. Also many thanks to Lisa Hambelton and Mel Hambelton Ford for being our presenting sponsor again this year. To our award sponsors and table sponsors – thank you for your support! It is because of your generosity we can host this memorable event.

And last, but certainly not least, thank you to the many volunteers who helped haul, set-up and tear down for the dinner. Couldn't do it without you!



## **COP TALK**

**April 16 7:00 a.m.**

**Jimmie's Diner**

**3111 N. Rock Road**

**Sedgwick County District Attorney Marc Bennett**

**District Attorney Marc Bennett is the chief law enforcement officer in Sedgwick County. Here is your opportunity to talk with Marc and Chief Attorneys from the DA's office and hear about the day-to-day challenges they face.**

**Breakfast will be "dutch". RSVP to [sharon@wichitacrimecommission.org](mailto:sharon@wichitacrimecommission.org) or 316-267-1235/316-207-5732**

## **ROUND TABLE WITH SENATOR MARSHALL**

The Wichita Metro Crime Commission was honored to host a Round Table with Senator Roger Marshall on Monday, March 18. Youth issues in Sedgwick County was the topic and sitting around the table were Chief Sullivan and other WPD officers, Sheriff Easter, County Commission Chair Ryan Baty, USD 259 and WSU representatives, and a host of other organization who work with youth in our community. It was a very enlightening discussion and Senator Marshall complimented the group by saying, "This is the best round table I have ever held. Your mission to serve youth in your community is inspiring".

## **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Once again, a big THANK YOU to the WMCC members. Your participation March 7 for our Annual Awards Dinner was second to none! Whether it was buying tickets for law enforcement, purchasing a table, being an underwriter or volunteering to set up and break down, we couldn't have done it without all of you.

As you saw above, our Round Table discussion with Senator Roger Marshall was amazing. Thank you to Jennifer Baysinger for her efforts in coordinating this event. Senator Marshall called it "the best Round Table we've done". He appreciated how Wichitans are working together to make it a better place.

I also want to welcome new members who have joined since our Awards Dinner and from the Crime Stoppers committee. We appreciate all the Crime Stoppers committee members have done to make Wichita a safer place and we look forward to your participation in the Crime Commission.

Thank you all!

Steve Cohlma

President

WMCC Board of Directors