



Inspector Arnold Byron (Ret.)
U.S. Customs
Burlington, WA

Arnold J. "Jim" Byron worked as a U.S. Customs Inspector at Ports of Entry in Minnesota and Washington State from 1967 until he retired. For over 30 years he searched people, vehicle, and cargo for illegal contraband. When he uncovered smuggling attempts, he was responsible for seizing the vehicles and commodities, as well as assessing fines, administering penalties, and making arrests.

After spending decades seeing the large quantities of drugs and other illegal contraband entering the country, Byron became convinced that a drug-free America is not only impossible, it is disingenuous. He explains that regulating drugs like heroin, cocaine, and marijuana does not mean that the government endorses their use, even if it allows such use to occur. He believes that all dangerous substances should be controlled and regulated.

Byron is a volunteer with the King County Bar Association Drug Policy Project in Seattle, Washington.

The Law Enforcement Action Partnership is a nonprofit organization composed of police, prosecutors, judges, and other criminal justice professionals who use their expertise to advance drug policy and criminal justice solutions that improve public safety. With 150 speakers across the United States, LEAP representatives reach millions of Americans each year through educational programs and media interviews..

For event bookings, contact <u>Speakers@LawEnforcementAction.org</u>
For media, contact Media@LawEnforcementAction.org

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