



# LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION PARTNERSHIP

ADVANCING JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY SOLUTIONS

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## **Sheriff Sue Rahr (Ret.)** **King County Sheriff's Office, Washington** **Seattle, WA**

Sue Rahr began her law enforcement career in 1979 as a patrol officer in the King County Sheriff's Office. She served in Precincts Two and Three, where she worked undercover narcotics assignments for 5 years. After being promoted to sergeant, she supervised Precinct Four as well as the Burglary/Larceny, Proactive, Criminal Warrants, and Special Assault Units. After 6 years, she was promoted to Operations Captain at Precinct Three and later served as the commander of the Internal Investigations, Special Investigations, and Gang Units.

Rahr became a major in 1997 and then Police Chief of the Shoreline Police Department shortly thereafter in 1998. She then served as the Chief of the King County Sheriff's Office Field Operations Division for 4 years before being appointed Sheriff. She was later elected

Sheriff in 2005 and was re-elected in 2009.

Rahr's tenure as Sheriff was marked by a focus in de-escalation tactics, a notable example being the implementation of the L.E.E.D. Program (listen, explain, equity and dignity), which stresses the importance of providing officers with verbal communication training.

In 2012, Rahr left the King County Sheriff's Office to become the Executive Director of the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission. Her leadership saw the L.E.E.D program instituted as a central component of training curriculum, allowing her to re-configure the role of police officers from "warriors" to "guardians" of the community. She would later be named to President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing, which was created in the aftermath of a series of officer involved shootings.

Rahr has served as President of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, Commissioner on the Washington State Forensics Investigation Council, and as an executive board member of the National Sheriffs' Association. She holds a B.A. in Criminal Justice from Washington State University and is a graduate of the National Sheriffs' Institute and the F.B.I. National Executive Institute.

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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 [Speakers@LawEnforcementAction.org](mailto:Speakers@LawEnforcementAction.org)

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Formerly known as Law Enforcement Against Prohibition