



NEO

NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS CONFERENCE

Networking | Education | Opportunity

Olympia Hotel December 5th – 8th

PRESENTED BY



Washington Association
of COUNTY OFFICIALS



WSAC WASHINGTON
STATE ASSOCIATION
of **COUNTIES**



WACO Priorities / Service Areas -



LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

Proactively support legislation that benefits Washington residents and our members



EDUCATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Enhance the capacity and effectiveness of our members



OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

Increase coordination among our members and **raise awareness** of the needs of Washington's counties

Legislative Advocacy



- Team with over 60 years of combined experience in the legislature
- Year-round experienced legislative committee of affiliate members
- 3 successful proposals in 2022
- 35 WACO Priority Bills Successfully passed since 2015



Legislative Advocacy



- Bill Tracking
- Policy white papers
- Talking points
- Legislative one-sheets
- Affiliate legislative branding

SB 1005	Appleton	Regarding foreclosure and distraint sales of manufactured/mobile or park model homes	Support	Yes - WACO
SB 1181	Lekanoff	Providing property tax relief for senior citizens and qualifying veterans.	Support With Concerns	Yes - WACO
SB 1222	Walen	Providing coroners with additional subpoena duces tecum authority.	Support	Yes - WACO
HB 1281	Walsh	Concerning state reimbursement of election costs.	Support	Yes - WACO
HB 1320	Wylie	Concerning property tax exemptions for service-connected disabled veterans and senior citizens.	Support	Yes - WACO
SB 1432	Pollet		Support	Yes - WACO
HB 1550	Jenkins	Concerning vital statistics.	Support	Yes - WACO
HB 1750	Mosbrucker	Filling vacancies in county sheriff offices.	Support	Yes - WACO
HB 1789	Fey	Making adjustments to the service and filing fees for vehicle subagents and county auditors.	Support	Yes - WACO



Washington Association
of COUNTY OFFICIALS

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HB 1550 / SB 5332
CORONER VITAL STATISTICS
FEE

The Death Investigation Fund pays for both basic County Coroner training, and costs associated with death investigations. Basic training for Coroners is outdated and no longer meets national accreditation standards; and



WACME

WHO ARE WE?

Washington Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (WACME) is the professional organization of county coroners/medical examiners and their deputies in Washington State.

WHAT DO WE DO?

Lead and Advocate for best practices and excellence in death investigations.

Facilitate the exchange of information pertaining to the duties, methods and official practices of members.

Provide for the essential and continued education in all matters relating to coroners / medical examiners.

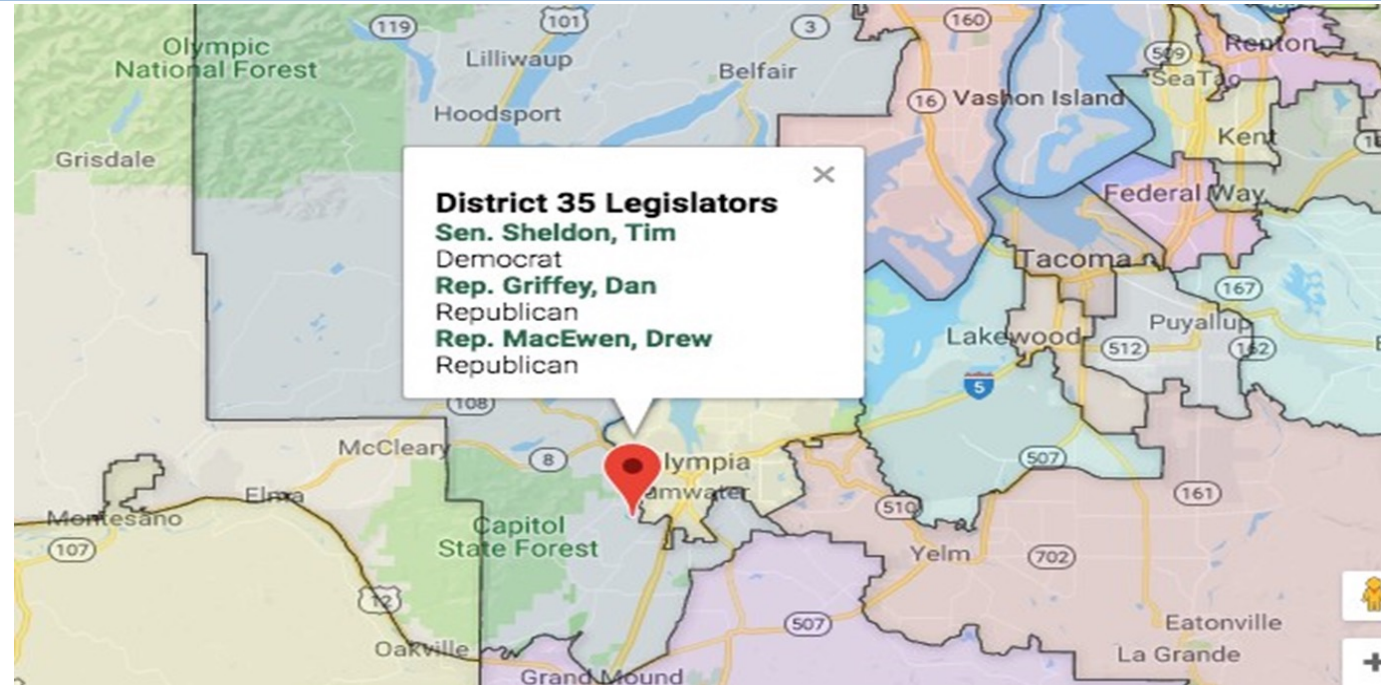
Create education opportunities for our members and the public, focusing on the safety and welfare of Washington State residents and visitors.

Promote communication with the law enforcement and the medical communities and with other individuals and agencies involved in death investigations.

Legislative Relations



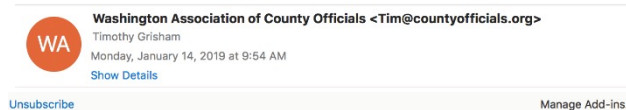
We can help you to know
your legislators – you are
serving the same citizens!



Communications / Courthouse Journal



- CHJ - Emailed with analytic tracking by newsletter service
- CHJ - Trackable open rate significantly higher than industry standard
- Views: 3204 (average per month) Users: 2029 (average per month)



The 2019 Legislative Session Begins

Today marks the beginning of the 2019 Legislative Session. The session is what many call a "long session". In odd numbered years the legislature meets for 105 days to discuss policies and to adopt the biennial budgets. "Short sessions" last 60 days and run on even numbered years. Of course the astute observer of the state's legislative sessions over the past number of years may consider each session long, as many have been extended in special sessions.

You Are Here: [Home](#) > [Blog](#)



Courthouse Journal

The Courthouse Journal is the official newsletter of the Washington Association of County Officials. An archive of the past year's newsletters is available in [our archive](#).

Feb
27

State Auditors Office Schedule 6 Webinar

Posted on February 27, 2019 at 8:22 AM by Timothy Grisham

WACO is proud and excited to host a Schedule 6 webinar presented by Niles Kostick from the State Auditor's Office. The webinar will be April 16 from 9-11am.

[Continue Reading...](#)

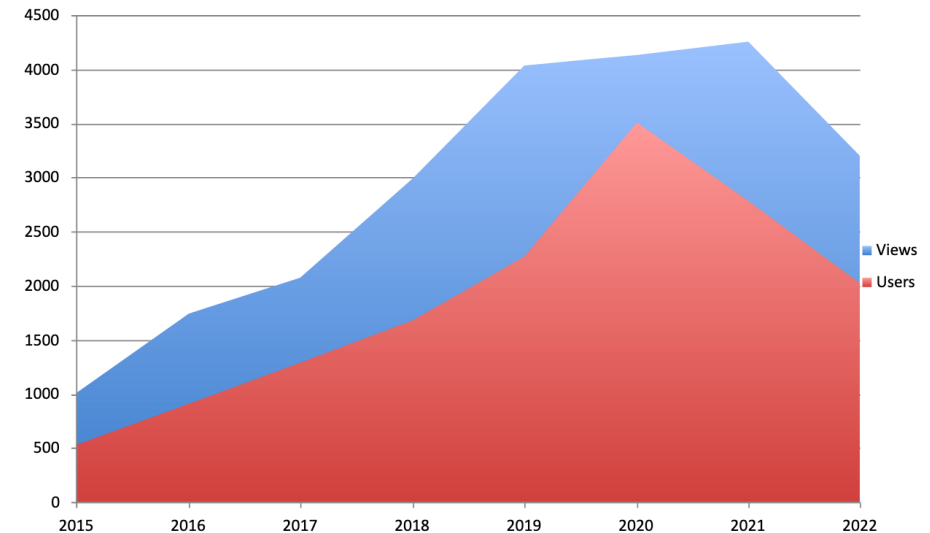
Feb
19

Keith Willnauer to Retire

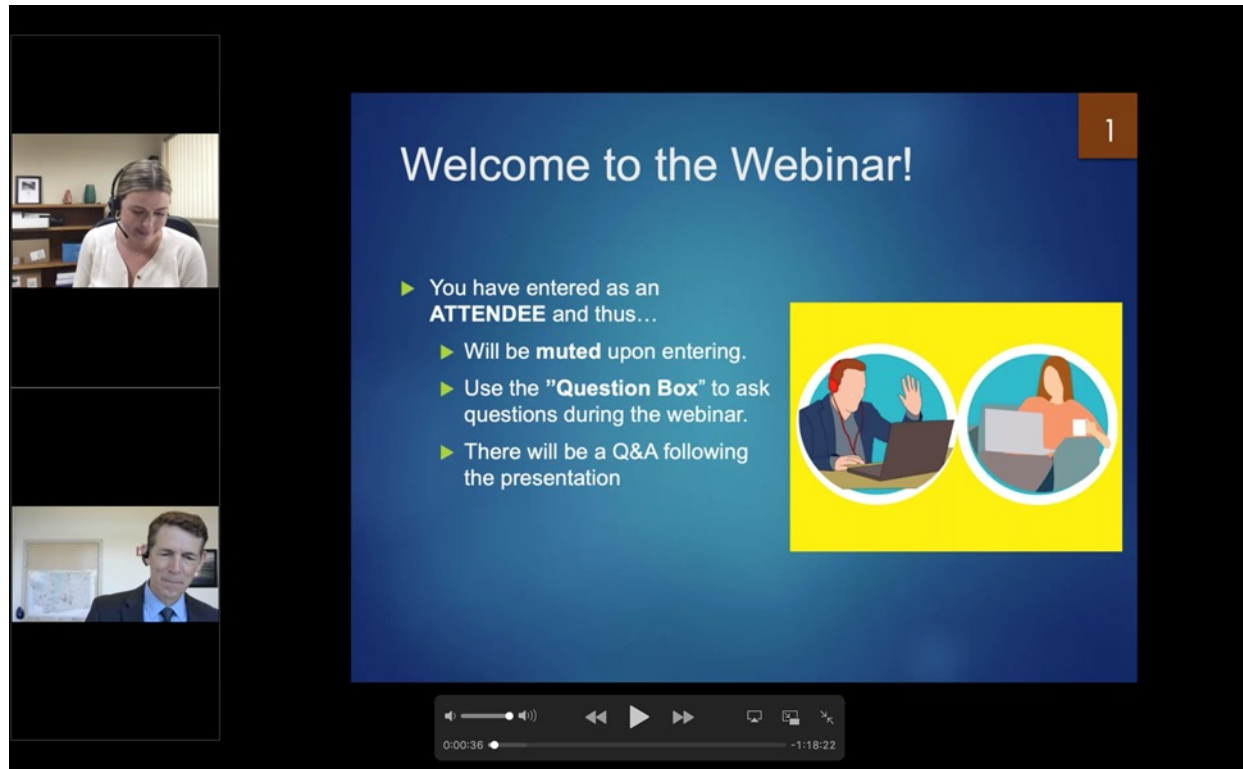
Posted on February 19, 2019 at 1:58 PM by Timothy Grisham

Whatcom County Assessor, Keith Willnauer, will not be seeking a ninth term as Assessor.

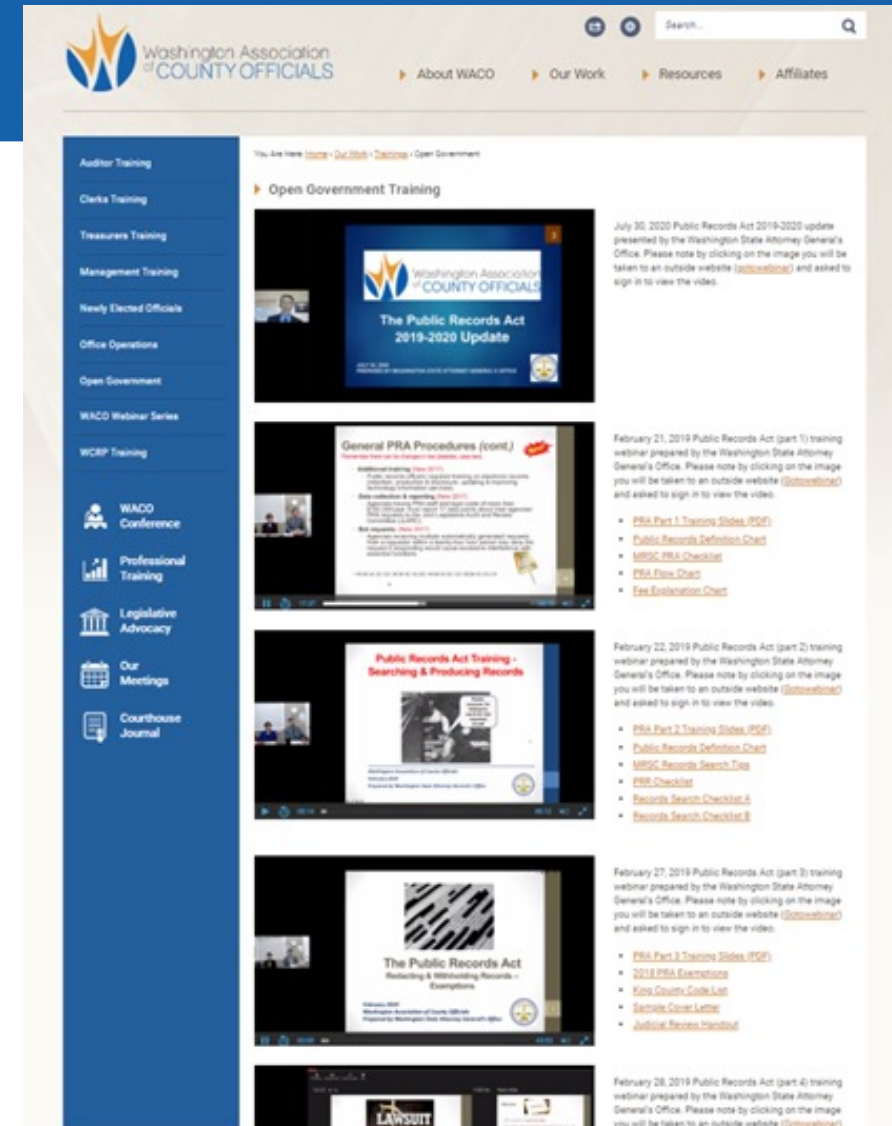
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Education – The “Hub”



Online/In-Person/Hybrid



Outreach

Every second Wednesday of the month.
12:00PM – 1:00PM

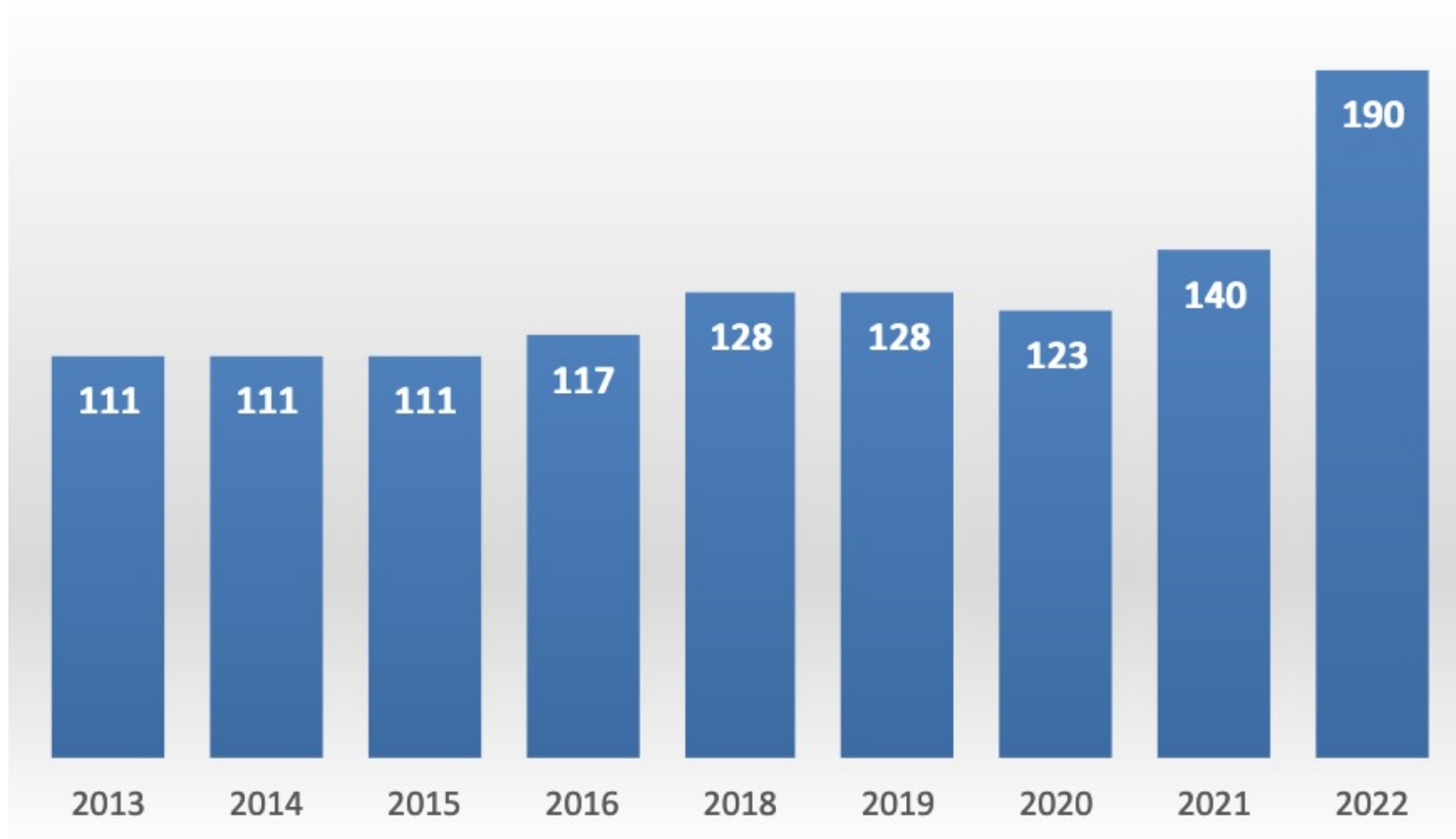


Washington Association
of **COUNTY OFFICIALS**



- State Pension Systems
- Ethics for Public Officials
- Cyber Security Awareness
- Recruiting and Retaining Personnel
- Washington State Auditor's Office on Common Audit Issues, and new Challenges Posed by the Blake Decision
- Covid-19 Workplace Guidelines
- The Importance of Personal Liability Insurance
- Engaging the Hybrid Workforce Across Generations

Conference Attendance



2022 Conference

211 Total Attendees

190 In-Person

Note: 2017 was a joint conference with WSAC. 2021-2022 totals are for "in person"



STRATEGIC PLAN 2023–2027

DRAFT 8-16-22

The Washington Association of County Officials (WACO) serves our members consisting of independently elected assessors, auditors, clerks, coroners and medical examiners, prosecuting attorneys, sheriffs, treasurers, and comparable appointed officials in charter counties, as well as our partner organizations listed below.

Vision

We envision that:

- **The people of Washington state** are well-served by their county governments.
- **The Legislature** has a clear understanding of the role and function of county government, each affiliate's authority and relies on WACO as a knowledgeable and trusted partner.
- **Our seven affiliate organizations** are well-supported and high-functioning.
- **Our members** are well-supported to execute their responsibilities with excellence.
- **WACO** is vibrant and sustainable, with engaged members and well-resourced staff.

Mission

WACO advocates for and supports the county officials of our affiliate organizations.

The Value WACO Provides

WACO serves as a united voice and forum for our members and their affiliate organizations, providing the most value where policy interests intersect.

Services



Partners

WACO supports the following affiliate organizations:

- Washington Association of County Assessors (WSACA)
- Washington Association of County Auditors (WSACA)
- Washington State Association of County Clerks (WSACC)
- Washington Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (WACME)
- Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys (WAPA)
- Washington State Sheriffs' Association (WSSA)
- Washington State Association of County Treasurers (WSACT)

Service Strategies



LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY
Proactively support legislation that benefits Washington residents and our members.

Ongoing Services

- Share practical, expert information with legislators to guide them in crafting effective legislation.
- Provide technical assistance for members, affiliate organizations, legislators, legislative staff, and stakeholders.
- Advocate for WACO priority bills, as well as bills and future policies with impact on our members.

Impact Strategy

1. Anticipate future policy issues with significant impact across affiliate organizations and proactively engage with data, analysis, evaluation of fiscal impacts, and advocacy.



EDUCATION & CAPACITY BUILDING
Enhance the capacity and effectiveness of our members.

Ongoing Services

- Deliver Annual Conference education sessions and Newly Elected Officials Training.
- Host live and virtual training events and serve as a hub of educational resources.
- Provide technical services to record trainings and other events.

Impact Strategy

2. Provide enhanced training and targeted services to support the roles and responsibilities of our members.



OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Increase coordination among our members and raise awareness of the needs of Washington's counties.

Ongoing Services

- Organize and convene WACO's Annual Conference.
- Produce materials describing the role of counties and elected county officials.
- Support Trustees at Large and Affiliate Representatives in outreach and engagement with WACO members.
- Host dialogue and work groups on current topical issues of concern to affiliate organizations.

Impact Strategies

3. Expand à la carte support service offerings to meet identified needs of WACO affiliate organizations.
4. Increase coordination with peer organizations and affiliate leadership.
5. Create accessible and inclusive opportunities for members to build relationships, coordinate, and learn from one another.
6. Raise awareness of county needs and WACO's role and value.

Organizational Supports & Enhancement Strategies

WACO will also work to strengthen its organizational capacity. The Enhancement Strategies below describe efforts to strengthen WACO's systems, staff, and financial sustainability.

Customer Service Orientation & Systems

- A. Strengthen WACO's customer service orientation and methods for capturing insights into customer needs.
- B. Establish systems to serve members and affiliate organizations strategically, based on their needs and interests.

WACO's Capacity & Expertise

- C. Retain and develop highly skilled staff to meet member needs.

Financial Sustainability

- D. Establish a sustainable funding plan aligned with WACO's changing service delivery model.

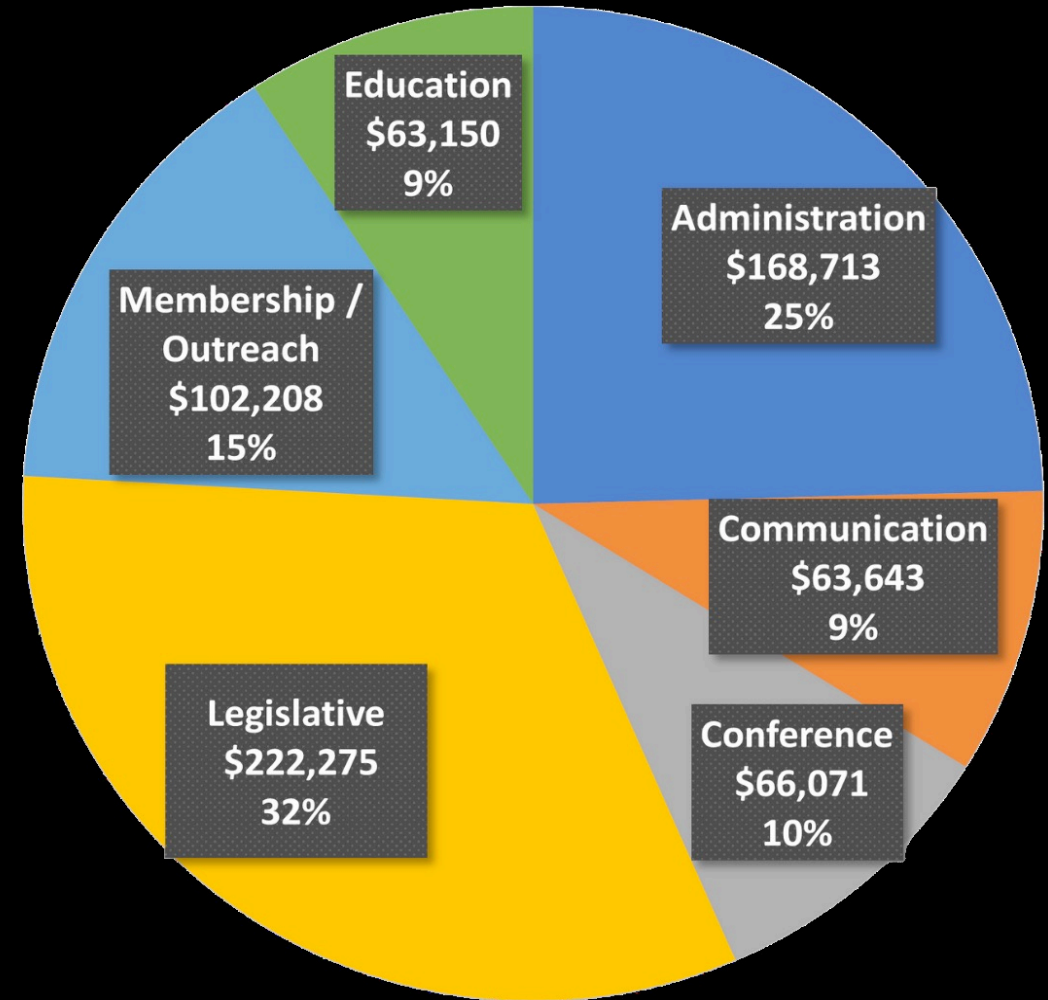
WACO STRATEGIC PLAN 2023–2027 DRAFT 8-16-22



Financial Prudence and Integrity



- Clean Audits
- Commitment to keeping dues low
- Lean staffing
- Expenditures aligned with priorities



Supporting New Members – The Year Ahead!



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MORE INFO

www.countyofficials.org



NEO 2022 - *CORE AND COHORT*

- Core curriculum on WACO website
- Cross-affiliate and affiliate-specific training
 - Certification of completion for RCW requirements
- Clear connection between conference trainings and ongoing, available resources
- Cadre of veteran elected officials as mentors
- Quarterly cohort virtual check-ins



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Class of 2018 -

