

Aaron Wells

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The Redmond Police Department was the first agency to give me an opportunity to serve the community as an officer over 18 years ago. Prior to that I was an educator, pastor, and football coach. Over the years my various employment opportunities have taught me how adherence to concepts like accountability, service, adaptability, mentorship, consistent expectations and values can drive change in an organization. In my short time as Undersheriff of the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office, my observation is that the office is primed for change. A change from being in the media for scandal or negative press to highlighting the amazing service everyone at our office is committed to.

Over my career, I have taken advantage of several assignments to build myself into the leader I am today. I was a patrol officer for three years during which time I obtained my DRE Certification (2013-2017). Any officer can tell you the dedication and work it takes to become and maintain a DRE certification. Those experiences taught me much about watching behavior and asking questions that uncover the truth of an interaction. From that point I became a criminal detective and a member of the part-time Street Crimes Unit. I was also member of the Central Oregon Emergency Response Team (CERT) from 2012-2019 prior to and during my appointment to Sergeant. I then served as a Patrol, Detective and SCU supervisor for seven years until I was promoted to Investigations Lieutenant where I served for two years prior to being promoted to Captain at the Redmond Police Department. I served as the sole Captain and then the Administrative Captain until I came to work at the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office as Undersheriff. I have also attended management level training that has honed the rough edges of my leadership style. Specifically Oregon Executive Leadership Institute annual training, DPSST's Basic Management Training (OLM), Police Executive Research Forum Senior Management Institute for Police and various other reading materials on leaderships. All these experiences and training have taught me how to lead, listen, be humble and bring co-workers together to accomplish a goal.

As a Captain and then Undersheriff I have completed various tasks that would help me in assuming the role of interim Sheriff. Specifically I have negotiated union contracts, presided over the discipline process for several internal investigations, mentored captains and lieutenants, worked with City and Deschutes County leadership to address goals in both areas of responsibility. I have also spent time addressing the issue of homelessness in Deschutes County at the City and County level. Finally, I have built and maintained good relationships with the Deschutes County DA and the Chief's and Sheriff's in the Tri-County region.

The team at the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office deserves a leader who will be lead with transparency, is well respected in the region and has integrity. I humbly believe I am that leader. I appreciate your consideration for this position and I would be pleased to provide any further information on my candidacy you may desire. I can be reached via my email

[REDACTED] or my cell phone [REDACTED]

Thank you,

Aaron Wells