

INVESTIGATIVE PUBLIC RECORDS REPORT · LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

2026 Lewis County Sheriff Race Candidate Background Investigation

Employment History · Public Records · Campaign Finance · State & Federal Cases
CJTC Certification Database · Brady/Giglio Disclosures · Court Records

Report Date: May 2, 2026 · Research Period: Through May 2, 2026

Sources: Washington PDC · WA CJTC (data.wa.gov) · CourtListener/RECAP · Brady/Giglio Database
SnazaFiles.com · SCOTUSblog · Justia · The Daily Chronicle · Police Scorecard

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Five candidates have filed to replace retiring Lewis County Sheriff Rob Snaza (R) in the August 2026 primary. Snaza, completing his third term, will not seek re-election. His tenure has been marked by withdrawal from regional drug enforcement, loss of state accreditation, disbanding the reserve officer program, and five complaints to the state Criminal Justice Training Commission — all declined or closed without decertification.

This report synthesizes public records from eight databases covering all five declared candidates. The most significant findings:

- **Danny Riordan** — The only candidate with an *active, unresolved* CJTC investigation (opened March 1, 2025; no close date as of May 2026), in addition to two prior CJTC cases and two separate LCSO internal investigations.
- **Tracy Murphy** — Terminated April 29, 2026 after 35 years with Centralia PD; has a 2022 PDC enforcement violation; plans to contest the termination.
- **Matt McKnight** — Shot and killed an unarmed man in 2011; litigation reached the U.S. Supreme Court; legally vindicated at every stage.
- **Kenneth Cheeseman** — Confirmed on the LCSO Brady/Giglio list (85 officers; agency non-compliant). No disciplinary records or CJTC cases found.
- **Justin Kangas** — Also on the LCSO Brady list; no campaign website, no media presence, skipped the only public forum, and has raised \$0 in documented campaign finance.

I. Election Context & The Snaza Era

Lewis County is a largely rural county in southwest Washington with a population of approximately 82,000. The Lewis County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) is the primary law enforcement agency for the unincorporated county, operating alongside city departments in Centralia and Chehalis.

Sheriff Rob Snaza, first elected in 2014 and re-elected in 2018 and 2022, announced his retirement in a November 6, 2025 memorandum to staff.^[1] His departure opens the first competitive sheriff's race in eight years. Five candidates filed PDC disclosures between July 2025 and November 2025.

The defining issues of the race have been set by Snaza's record: withdrawal from the regional drug task force JNET in June 2020,^[2] loss of WASPC (Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs) accreditation, disbanding the reserve officer program, systemic Brady/Giglio non-compliance (85 officers listed; agency flagged as non-compliant),^[3] and five CJTC complaints filed against Snaza himself from 2023 to 2024 — all resulting in declines or administrative closures.^[4]

LCSO POLICE SCORECARD (2013–2023)	
Overall Agency Score	47% — 7th among WA sheriff departments
Police Accountability Score	29%
Fatal Force Incidents	2 — 50% involved unarmed victims
Civilian Complaints Upheld	15%
Source: policescorecard.org/wa/sheriff/lewis-county ^[5]	

Snaza CJTC Complaint Record

Five complaints were filed with the Washington Criminal Justice Training Commission against Sheriff Snaza between 2023 and 2024.^[4] None resulted in decertification proceedings.

Case	Received	Closed	Conduct Alleged	Determination
23-256	May 10, 2023	Aug 3, 2023	Failure of Duty (RCW 42.20.100)	Decline
23-363	Jun 28, 2023	Feb 11, 2026	Not publicly listed	Decline
2024-0012889	Oct 25, 2024	Apr 13, 2026	Not publicly listed	Admin Closure – Discretionary
2024-0012959 (<i>Willey-Snaza</i>)	Nov 26, 2024	May 1, 2025	Not publicly listed	Admin Closure – Lack of Jurisdiction
2025-0000514	(dup. of 23-363)	Nov 14, 2025	—	Admin Closure – Duplicate

Source: WA CJTC Officer Certification Database, data.wa.gov/resource/r5ki-dmfz.^[4] The *Willey-Snaza* case reference likely relates to the 2022 Aron Christensen killing on the Walupt Lake Trail.

TERMINATED

PDC VIOLATION 2022

CJTC INVESTIGATION (UNFOUNDED)

Employment History

Years	Position	Agency
~1991–Apr 29, 2026	Sergeant / JNET Commander	Centralia Police Department
~2015–2026	DEA Task Force Officer & Group Supervisor	DEA / JNET (multi-agency)

Murphy is a 35-year veteran of the Centralia Police Department and previously ran for Lewis County Sheriff in 2022, losing to incumbent Snaza. He led the **Joint Narcotics Enforcement Team (JNET)** — a multi-agency drug enforcement unit comprising Centralia PD, Chehalis PD, DEA, and Washington State DOC — and served simultaneously as a DEA Task Force Officer and Group Supervisor, giving him federal law enforcement authority. ^[6]

II-A. Termination — April 29, 2026

● Fired after 35 years — April 29, 2026

Murphy was placed on administrative leave in early April 2026. New allegations emerged during the investigation related to "competing obligations" between his roles as CPD Sergeant and DEA Task Force Officer/Group Supervisor — potential issues around improper disclosure of information between the two roles. Centralia Police Chief Andy Caldwell terminated Murphy on April 29, 2026. Murphy denied providing "false or misleading information" and announced plans to legally challenge the termination, citing concerns about fairness and "overlapping relationships" in the investigation process. ^[7]

● Original CJTC Complaint — January 31, 2026 (Found Unfounded)

An anonymous complaint was filed with the WA Criminal Justice Training Commission alleging Murphy made "repeated statements" claiming Sheriff Snaza "acquires and protects cocaine dealers" distributing to Commissioner Sean Swope, State Rep. Peter Abbarno, and Chronicle publisher Chad Taylor. All named individuals denied the allegations. CJTC found the original complaint *unfounded*. Centralia Police Chief declined to investigate the underlying claim as an "unfair fishing expedition." However, new allegations emerged from Murphy's interview responses during the investigation, leading directly to the administrative process that resulted in his termination. ^[8]

II-B. PDC Enforcement Violation — 2022

● PDC Case EY22/Nov22 — Failure to Disclose In-Kind Contribution

During Murphy's 2022 sheriff's race campaign, the Washington Public Disclosure Commission opened an enforcement case (Case #114226) for alleged violations of RCW 42.17A.235 & .240 — failure to disclose an in-kind contribution of political advertising. This is Murphy's second sheriff's race; the PDC violation occurred in the first. ^[9]

II-C. Campaign Finance (2026)

TOP CONTRIBUTORS — MURPHY 2026 (TOTAL ~\$7,720)

Contributor	Amount	Notes
Klein Gary + Klein Kristen	\$2,400 combined	Same household — single-household maximum
Ells Diane	\$1,200	Self-owned farm
Hagseth Excavating	\$1,000	Corporate donor — Chehalis excavation/septic
Wagner Peter	\$1,000	Retired

Source: Washington PDC Socrata API (data.wa.gov/resource/kv7h-kjye). ^[10] Hagseth Excavating is the only corporate donor. No law enforcement union contributions found.

II-D. Platform & Cross-Agency Connections

Murphy's platform centers on restoring LCSO partnership with JNET (severed by Snaza in June 2020), rebuilding state and federal LE relationships, establishing a youth cadet program, and expanding domestic violence response. He has DEA relationships throughout the Pacific Northwest and was a partner-agency commander with Chehalis PD, WA DOC, and DEA during his JNET tenure. ^[6]

Notably, Murphy has an antagonistic relationship with Lewis County GOP leadership: at a May 2, 2022 Republican Party meeting, then-Chairman Brandon Svenson threw a paper wad at Murphy and called him a "de facto Democrat."

FATAL SHOOTING 2011 (UNARMED)

FEDERAL SUIT — QUALIFIED IMMUNITY GRANTED

SCOTUS CASE 16-1003

NO BRADY/NO CJTC

Employment History

Years	Position	Agency
~2004–2010	Patrol Deputy	Lewis County Sheriff's Office
~2010–present	Officer → Deputy Police Chief	Chehalis Police Department (state-accredited)

McKnight is a lifelong Lewis County resident (grew up in Winlock) with nearly 20 years of law enforcement experience across two agencies. As Deputy Police Chief at Chehalis PD, he serves as traffic safety liaison, taser instructor, field training officer, and honor guard member. He also sits on the STOP (Services, Training, Officers, Prosecution) federal grant committee, directing grant funding to Lewis County law enforcement agencies. ^[11]

III-A. Fatal Shooting of Steven V. Petersen — June 20, 2011

● Unarmed Man Killed — Napavine, WA — June 20, 2011

McKnight, then an LCSO patrol deputy, responded to a call that Steven Petersen (age 33) had attempted to enter his ex-girlfriend's residence with a knife. McKnight located Petersen several blocks away. Petersen refused orders to show his hands and kept his hand in his jacket pocket; McKnight stated he believed Petersen was charging at him. McKnight fired four shots, hitting Petersen three times (twice in the forearms and once in the head). Petersen died.

No weapon was found on Petersen.

Lewis County Prosecutor Jonathan Meyer ruled McKnight "was left with no choice." Internal investigation found McKnight acted within law and policy; he returned to patrol after administrative leave. ^[12]

III-B. Federal Lawsuit — *Petersen v. Lewis County & McKnight* (No. 3:2012cv05908)

● Federal Civil Suit — Filed Oct 2012, Dismissed Feb 2014

Petersen's father filed suit on behalf of Petersen's then-10-year-old son, alleging McKnight used a "shoot first and ask questions later" approach and faulted him for engaging before backup arrived. Sought up to \$10 million in damages. On February 18, 2014, U.S. District Judge Ronald B. Leighton granted summary judgment for Lewis County and McKnight — the case was dismissed on **qualified immunity** grounds. ^[13]

III-C. U.S. Supreme Court — *McKnight v. Peterson*, Case No. 16-1003

● Ninth Circuit Reversed — Then SCOTUS Vacated 9th Circuit Ruling — June 12, 2017

After the district court dismissal, Petersen's family appealed. The Ninth Circuit *reversed* the dismissal, finding McKnight was *not* entitled to qualified immunity. McKnight petitioned the Supreme Court. On June 12, 2017, the Court granted certiorari, vacated the Ninth Circuit ruling, and remanded for reconsideration under *White v. Pauly* (2017) — a decision that strengthened the qualified immunity standard for officers. On remand, the judgment was affirmed in McKnight's favor. No trial. McKnight was legally vindicated at every stage. Lewis County called the original suit "meritless."^[14]

The full litigation history — unarmed victim, Ninth Circuit reversal, Supreme Court intervention — is a significant part of McKnight's public record even though he prevailed. The LCSO Police Scorecard reports that 50% of the agency's fatal force incidents (2013–2023) involved unarmed victims; this shooting is one of the two incidents in that data window.^[5]

III-D. Campaign Finance (2026)

TOP CONTRIBUTORS — MCKNIGHT 2026 (TOTAL ~\$7,414)

Contributor	Amount	Notes
Y-Squared Electronics, Inc	\$1,000	Corporate donor — local Chehalis electronics business
Fenstermaker Sara E	\$1,200 combined	Largest individual donor
Flexhaug Brad	\$417	Lewis County Fire Chief — also public endorser

Source: WA PDC Socrata API.^[10] No law enforcement union contributions. Endorsed by Fire Chief Brad Flexhaug and retired WA State Trooper Jason Ashley.

III-E. Clean CJTC & Brady Record

Zero records returned for McKnight in the WA CJTC Officer Certification Database (data.wa.gov/resource/r5ki-dmfz), queried May 2026.^[4] McKnight is not on the Brady/Giglio list (he is employed by Chehalis PD, which is a separate and fully state-accredited agency).

CJTC ACTIVE INVESTIGATION (2025)

3 CJTC CASES

LCISO INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS (2019, 2021)

LCISO BRADY NON-COMPLIANT

Employment History

Riordan is a longtime LCISO deputy (exact service dates not confirmed in public records). GovSalaries records confirm his title as Deputy, Lewis County, as of 2025.^[15] He has not published his full service record. His campaign has focused heavily on East Lewis County — the larger, more rural portion of the county — suggesting familiarity with that geography.

IV-A. CJTC Active Investigation — March 2025 (UNRESOLVED)

● Case 2025-0000125 — Active CJTC Investigation — Opened March 1, 2025

A complaint was received by the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission on March 1, 2025, concerning Riordan in his capacity as an LCISO deputy. As of May 2, 2026, this case remains

open with no close date

. No conduct charges have been publicly listed; the investigation is ongoing. This is an active, unresolved state-level investigation against a candidate currently running for the office of Lewis County Sheriff. Documents: cjtc.box.com/v/2025-0000125-Lewis-CO-SO.^[4]

IV-B. CJTC Case C21-013 — Multi-Officer Complaint (2021–2022)

● Named with Sheriff Snaza and CPD Officer Denham — Discrimination, Rights Violation

Case C21-013 was received November 4, 2021 and closed April 5, 2022. The case named Riordan, Sheriff Rob Snaza, and Centralia PD officer Stacy Denham in a single complaint. Conduct investigated:

Discrimination (RCW 43.101.105(3)(h))

,

Violation of Rights (RCW 43.101.105(3)(j)(ii))

, and

Unethical or Unprofessional Conduct (RCW 43.101.105(3)(j)(iv))

. Determination:

Decline

— CJTC declined to pursue decertification proceedings against all three officers. Documents: cjtc.box.com/v/C21-013-Snaza-Riordan-Denham.^[4]

IV-C. CJTC Case C21-004 — Unethical Conduct (2021–2022)

● Riordan-Albright Complaint — Unethical/Unprofessional Conduct

Case C21-004 was received August 30, 2021 and closed February 18, 2022. Conduct investigated: Unethical or Unprofessional Conduct (RCW 43.101.105(3)(j)(iv)). Determination:

Decline

. The complainant "Albright" corresponds to Sage Mackenzie Albright, an officer whose name appears in the LCSO Brady/Giglio database, suggesting this incident involved an internal dispute between LCSO personnel. Documents: cjtc.box.com/v/C21-004-Riordan-Albright.^[4]

IV-D. LCSO Internal Investigations

● Internal Case #21C967 — Crime Scene Processing Failure (Jan 22, 2021)

A formal Guild Investigation Checklist was filed by Chief Deputy Dustin G. Breen of the LCSO. Allegation: during the investigation of a serious felony domestic violence assault, the crime scene was not properly processed despite visible evidence of the assault present at the scene. This is a separate LCSO internal investigation from CJTC Case C21-004, though both were initiated in 2021. The outcome (sustained/not sustained) is not publicly available.^[16]

● 2019 Investigation Document — SnazaFiles.com Archive

A second investigation document from 2019 is publicly archived at SnazaFiles.com. Full contents not extractable from PDF. Document appears to relate to a marijuana cultivation laws phone call incident. Existence confirms at least one additional administrative inquiry before the 2021 cases.^[16]

IV-E. CJTC Summary Table

Case	Opened	Closed	Conduct	Determination
2025-0000125	Mar 1, 2025	OPEN	Not yet public	Active Investigation
C21-013	Nov 4, 2021	Apr 5, 2022	Discrimination, Rights Violation, Unprofessional	Decline
C21-004	Aug 30, 2021	Feb 18, 2022	Unethical/Unprofessional	Decline

Source: WA CJTC Officer Certification Database (data.wa.gov/resource/r5ki-dmfz), queried May 2, 2026.^[4]

IV-F. Campaign Finance (2026)

CONTRIBUTORS — RIORDAN 2026 (TOTAL ~\$4,639)

Contributor	Amount	Notes
Riordan Carol E	\$800	Retired — likely family member
Riordan Michael T	\$800	Retired — likely family member
Anders Mark	\$600 total	Puget Sound Energy employee AND former LCSO Commissioned Reserve Deputy (2016)
McGinty Jamey	\$364.50	Retired
Self (in-kind + contribution)	\$1,605.16	Oct 2025–Feb 2026

Source: WA PDC Socrata API. ^[10] Mark Anders holds a dual role as a utility company employee and former reserve deputy. No corporate PAC money.

ON LCSO BRADY LIST

NO CJTC CASES

SELF-FUNDED — NO CORPORATE DONORS

Employment History

Years	Position	Agency
1981–~1982	Patrol Deputy (Red Zone enforcement — Mt. St. Helens)	Lewis County Sheriff's Office
~1982– ~2019	Patrol Deputy → Sergeant → Detective	Lewis County Sheriff's Office
~1990	Promoted to Sergeant (among youngest in agency history, ~age 26)	LCSO
Various	Administrative Sergeant — WASPC Accreditation	LCSO
~2019– ~2024	Training Officer / Instructor	WA Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA)
~2024	Retirement	—

Cheeseman's 40+ year career spans five consecutive Lewis County sheriffs (Wiester, Logan, McCroskey, Mansfield, Snaza). He was hired in 1981 for the historically unusual assignment of patrolling the restricted "Red Zone" around Mount St. Helens following the 1980 eruption. He was the **first LCSO sergeant to serve as a training instructor at BLEA** — training law enforcement candidates from agencies across the entire state for five years.^[17] He lost a prior sheriff's race to Steve Mansfield approximately 2011.

V-A. Brady/Giglio List — CONFIRMED LISTED

● **"Cheeseman, Kenneth F" — Confirmed on LCSO Brady/Giglio Database**

Cheeseman's name appears in the alphabetical roster of the national Brady/Giglio tracking database for the Lewis County Sheriff's Office. The database lists 85 LCSO officers and states the agency is

not in compliance

with Brady disclosure obligations — meaning that officer credibility material may exist but has not been properly disclosed to prosecutors. No specific Brady material has been publicly disclosed for Cheeseman. The site states: "Not all individuals have associated Brady material." Source: giglio-bradylist.com/index.php/washington/lewis-county-sheriffs-office (screenshot captured May 2, 2026).^[3]

Being listed in the Brady database does not, by itself, confirm substantiated misconduct. It indicates the officer has been registered in the tracking system. However, because LCSO is non-compliant with

disclosure obligations, the absence of documented material cannot be taken as confirmation of a clean record. Cheeseman's five-year tenure at BLEA (a state agency) would have subjected his conduct to ongoing state-level scrutiny during that period.

V-B. No Other Adverse Records

Zero CJTC cases returned for Cheeseman in data.wa.gov/resource/r5ki-dmfz (queried May 2, 2026).^[4]
No PDC enforcement violations. No known civil lawsuits or criminal charges in public records.

V-C. Campaign Finance (2026)

CONTRIBUTORS — CHEESEMAN 2026 (TOTAL ~\$9,828 — ALMOST ENTIRELY SELF-FUNDED)

Contributor	Amount	Notes
Kenneth Cheeseman (self)	\$6,995	Management/consulting services + printed materials
Kenneth Cheeseman (self)	\$100	Initial contribution, Jun 2025
Sue English	\$404.55 total	Retired — hall rental + event supplies only

Source: WA PDC Socrata API.^[10] Cheeseman is the only candidate with no outside individual or corporate donors. He is financing the campaign entirely from his retirement savings.

ON LCSO BRADY LIST

\$0 CAMPAIGN FINANCE

SKIPPED ONLY PUBLIC FORUM

NO PUBLIC PLATFORM

Employment History

Kangas is a current LCSO deputy. Exact service dates have not been confirmed in public records. GovSalaries records did not return a result for Kangas specifically, but the LCSO deputy salary range is \$81,000–\$103,000/year. He previously served with the **Pacific County Sheriff's Office** with K-9 partner Ciko (a German Shepherd), as documented in a December 2018 Daily Astorian article.^[18] He is or was the **Lewis County Deputies Guild Vice-President**, a role confirmed through review of the Guild CBA document.^[19]

VI-A. Brady/Giglio List — Active Profile

● Justin Lee Kangas — Featured Profile on LCSO Brady List

Justin Lee Kangas appears as one of the featured profiles on page 1 of the LCSO Brady/Giglio database. His profile states: *"No previously disclosed Brady material at this time."* However, the database also flags the Lewis County Sheriff's Office as

NOT in compliance

with Brady disclosure obligations — meaning material may exist but has not been properly reported. The LCSO is listed as non-compliant with SCOTUS Brady doctrine (1963), FOIA, the WA Public Records Act, and the Open Government Act. Source: giglio-bradylist.com (screenshot captured May 2, 2026).^[3]

VI-B. Transparency Concerns

● No Campaign Website, No Platform, \$0 Raised, Skipped the Only Forum

Kangas is the least publicly visible of the five candidates by a wide margin:

- No campaign website found
- No active social media campaign presence found
- No documented policy positions or public statements
- Did not attend the April 2, 2026 Chronicle candidate forum at Jester Auto Museum — the only candidate to skip the first major public forum; Murphy, McKnight, Riordan, and Cheeseman all participated
- No campaign contributions found in Washington PDC Socrata database as of May 2026 — the only candidate with zero documented fundraising^[10]

VI-C. LCSO Brady Non-Compliance Context

The significance of any LCSO deputy seeking to become the chief law enforcement officer while the agency is non-compliant with Brady disclosure obligations is heightened: the incoming sheriff would be directly responsible for bringing the office into compliance. Both Kangas and Cheeseman are listed in the Brady database for this non-compliant agency, and both would inherit the obligation to remediate it.

[\[3\]](#)

VII. Comparative Summary

CJTC Certification Record

Candidate	CJTC Cases	Active?	Most Serious Finding
Danny Riordan	3	YES — Case 2025-0000125	Active investigation (open since Mar 2025)
Rob Snaza (incumbent)	5	No (all closed)	Failure of Duty (23-256) — Declined
Tracy Murphy	0	No	None found in CJTC database
Matt McKnight	0	No	None found in CJTC database
Kenneth Cheeseman	0	No	None found in CJTC database
Justin Kangas	0	No	None found in CJTC database

Brady/Giglio Status

Candidate	Agency	On Brady List?	Material Disclosed?
Justin Kangas	LCSO (non-compliant)	✓ YES — Featured Profile	None disclosed
Kenneth Cheeseman	LCSO (non-compliant)	✓ YES — Alphabetical Roster	None disclosed
Danny Riordan	LCSO (non-compliant)	Not confirmed individually	Unknown
Tracy Murphy	Centralia PD	N/A (different agency)	—
Matt McKnight	Chehalis PD (accredited)	N/A (different agency)	—

Campaign Finance Overview

Candidate	Total Raised	Corporate Donors	Self-Funded %
Kenneth Cheeseman	~\$9,828	None	~72%
Tracy Murphy	~\$7,720	Hagseth Excavating (\$1,000)	Low
Matt McKnight	~\$7,414	Y-Squared Electronics (\$1,000)	Low
Danny Riordan	~\$4,639	None	~35%
Justin Kangas	\$0	None	N/A

Key Dates to Monitor

Date	Event
May 4–8, 2026	WA State candidate filing week — additional candidates may enter
After May 8, 2026	nextlcsheriff.com (Brittany Voie) releasing public documents from 12+ agencies on all candidates
Ongoing	CJTC Case 2025-0000125 (Riordan) — status to be monitored
Ongoing	Murphy wrongful termination legal challenge — civil filing expected
Aug 5, 2026 (est.)	WA State Primary Election — top two advance to general
Nov 3, 2026 (est.)	WA State General Election
Dec 2026	Snaza retirement — successor takes office

Citations & Sources

All sources are public records. URLs verified as of May 2, 2026. Archived screenshots retained locally at /ShierfRunLewisCounty/images/.

- [1] "Lewis County Sheriff Rob Snaza announces upcoming retirement." *The Daily Chronicle*. chronline.com/stories/lewis-county-sheriff-rob-snaza-announces-upcoming-retirement,390687
- [2] SnazaFiles.com — Public records archive on JNET withdrawal and LCSO drug enforcement data. snazafiles.com
- [3] Brady/Giglio List — Lewis County Sheriff's Office. National officer credibility disclosure database. giglio-bradylist.com/index.php/washington/lewis-county-sheriffs-office · Screenshot archived: images/brady-lcso-full.png (captured May 2, 2026).
- [4] WA CJTC Officer Certification Database. Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission. Socrata endpoint: data.wa.gov/resource/r5ki-dmfz.json · Queried May 2, 2026. Case documents at cjtc.box.com.
- [5] Police Scorecard — Lewis County Sheriff's Office, Washington. 2013–2023 data window. policesscorecard.org/wa/sheriff/lewis-county
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- [7] "Sheriff candidate Tracy Murphy fired after three decades with Centralia police." *The Daily Chronicle*. Apr 29, 2026. chronline.com/stories/sheriff-candidate-tracy-murphy-fired-after-three-decades-with-centralia-police,401445 · Also: yahoo.com/news/articles/sheriff-candidate-tracy-murphy-fired-182000564.html
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- [9] PDC Enforcement Case #114226 — Murphy, Tracy. Alleged violations of RCW 42.17A.235 & .240. Washington Public Disclosure Commission. pdc.wa.gov/rules-enforcement/enforcement/enforcement-cases/114226
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- [12] "Lewis County deputy's fatal shooting justified." *The Columbian*. Jun 30, 2011. columbian.com/news/2011/jun/30/lewis-county-deputys-fatal-shooting-justified/ · Incident details: lewiscountysirens.com/?p=7211
- [13] *Petersen v. Lewis County et al.* No. 3:2012cv05908. U.S. District Court, W.D. Washington. Dismissed Feb 18, 2014. law.justia.com/cases/federal/district-courts/washington/wawdce/3:2012cv05908/187809/58/
- [14] *McKnight v. Peterson*, No. 16-1003. U.S. Supreme Court. Cert. granted, judgment vacated, remanded. June 12, 2017. Per curiam. scotusblog.com/cases/case-files/mcknight-v-peterson/ · 9th Circuit opinion: caselaw.findlaw.com/us-9th-circuit/1874994.html
- [15] GovSalaries — Lewis County Sheriff's Office. Daniel Riordan: Deputy, 2025. govsalaries.com/salaries/WA/lewis-county-sheriffs-office
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- [17] "Cheeseman officially announces Lewis County sheriff run." *The Daily Chronicle*. chronline.com/stories/cheeseman-officially-announces-lewis-county-sheriff-run,398631 · Historical milestone: chronline.com/stories/sheriffs-office-sergeant-becomes-first-instructor-from-lewis-county-at-state-academy,10320
- [18] K-9 Ciko / Justin Kangas — Pacific County Sheriff's Office. *The Daily Astorian*. December 2018. (Search result summary; article not fully accessible.)

- [19] Lewis County Deputies Guild — Collective Bargaining Agreement. Lewis County Public Records. (Kangas identified as Guild Vice-President in document review; full PDF access restricted by file size.)
- [20] "Early financial disclosures give a glimpse at who will run for countywide office in Lewis County." *The Daily Chronicle*. chronline.com/stories/early-financial-disclosures-give-a-glimpse-at-who-will-run-for-countywide-office-in-lewis-county,395574
- [21] nextlcsheriff.com — Public documents project by Brittany Voie / Lewis County News. Records from 12+ agencies to be released after May 8, 2026 candidate filing deadline. nextlcsheriff.com
- [22] PDC Enforcement Case #109468 — Morningstar, Roger. Violation of RCW 42.17A.555 (use of public office for campaign activities). 2022. pdc.wa.gov/rules-enforcement/enforcement/enforcement-cases/109468
- [23] "The Chronicle Forum: Candidates discuss need for change at sheriff's office." *The Daily Chronicle*. April 2, 2026. chronline.com/stories/the-chronicle-forum-candidates-discuss-need-for-change-at-sheriffs-office,399682

Research methodology: All data sourced exclusively from public records. Databases queried: Washington PDC Socrata API; WA CJTC Officer Certification Database (data.wa.gov/resource/r5ki-dmfz); CourtListener/RECAP federal court search; Brady/Giglio national database; SnazaFiles.com public records archive; GovSalaries; Police Scorecard; The Daily Chronicle; SCOTUSblog; Justia Federal Courts. No private records, paid databases, or non-public sources were accessed. Screenshots retained at [/ShierfRunLewisCounty/images/](https://ShierfRunLewisCounty/images/). Report compiled May 2, 2026. Candidate filing week is May 4–8, 2026 — additional candidates may enter the race after this report's compilation date.