



Deputy Chief David J. Karnitz

On April 16, 2009, Chief John R. Batiste promoted Assistant Chief David J. Karnitz to the position of Deputy Chief of the Washington State Patrol.

The Washington State Patrol is a statewide general-authority law enforcement agency employing over 2,300 (1,150 sworn and 1,150 professional support staff) personnel with a biennial budget of \$369 million. Deputy Chief Karnitz oversees the day-to-day management of the agency's five bureaus; Field Operations; Fire Protection; Forensic Laboratory Services; Investigative Services; and Technical Services.

Deputy Chief David J. Karnitz was born in Spokane, Washington, and graduated from Immanuel Lutheran High School in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. He attended Immanuel Lutheran College, where he earned his Associate in Arts degree.

- Deputy Chief Karnitz began his career with Washington State Patrol on March 5, 1979, as a Trooper Cadet assigned to Communications in Yakima.
- He graduated with the 58th Trooper Cadet Class and was commissioned on June 30, 1980, assigned to Colfax.
- On March 4, 1985, he transferred to Hoquiam, and on June 23, 1986, he transferred to the Training Division and taught firearms and driving. He was also appointed to the WSP SWAT Team that year.
- On April 17, 1987, he promoted to RCW Sergeant, assigned to Okanogan.
- On May 12, 1992, he promoted to the rank of RCW Lieutenant, assigned to Tacoma. The next year, he attended the University of Louisville, Southern Police Institute and was awarded the Director's Award for Academic Excellence for graduating at the top of his class.
- He promoted on July 2, 1996, to the rank of Captain, assigned to Yakima.
- Twice he has been recognized with the WSP Chief's Award for Professional Excellence.
- On April 18, 2005, he was appointed to Assistant Chief of the Investigative Services Bureau, and then transferred to the Technical Services Bureau on January 1, 2008.

His memberships include the Homeland Security Coordination Group; the Cabinet Agency Deputies; and the Agency's representative for the Governor's Priorities of Government Group.