



## West Virginia Chief's of Police Association

**President:**Chief William Roper  
**Past President:**Chief Kevin Gessler  
**Vice President:**Chief Raymond Fridley  
**Secretary:**Chief James Hylton  
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**Chaplain:**Charles Sadler  
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### Board Members:

**Chief Tim Stover**  
**Chief Phil Scott**  
**Chief Karen Shoemaker**  
**Chief Joseph Crawford**  
**Lt. Keith Rowan**

Greetings Members & Executive Board,

I am submitting this report to our members concerning the meeting at Congresswoman Capito's Office held on Tuesday morning August 31, 2010 at 9:15am. This meeting was scheduled over a month ago concerning the federal collective bargaining legislation. Chief Roper, Chief Shoemaker, Chief Fridley, and Chief Crawford met with Congresswoman Capito's Legislative Director Aaron Sporck. We were *disappointed* that Congresswoman Capito was unable to make our meeting. We advised Mr. Sporck that we did not support or oppose this piece of legislation; however we shared our concerns with Mr. Sporck. One concern was if this bill passes would there be any financial support from the federal government where binding arbitration would be mandated, which could lead to budget constraints and layoffs. Another issue is binding arbitration; there are no arbitrators in the State of WV which means you have someone, not from WV, making these decisions binding. Another issue is if this bill passes, how many employees does it take for this to take effect? Does the total number of employees have to be emergency responders; police, fire, ems, or is this bill talking about all government employees of that City or County? Chief Roper asked what were the pros and cons of this bill. Mr. Sporck stated that this would be left up to each state to draft their own legislation that would conform to the federal legislation. He stated that there was a lot of bi-partisan support for this bill when it stood alone, but the reason that it was taken out of the appropriations bill was that they needed to get it passed due to the War. Mr. Sporck stated that he did not think that this bill would make it out before the end of the year. The meeting lasted approximately 30 minutes. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Chief Roper and his family during this time, Chief Roper's nephew passed away just days prior to this meeting.

