



Hennepin County **Sheriff's Deputies Association**

Al Saastamoinen, President

Dave O'Donnell, Vice President

2016 President's Message

Hello members,

2015 was a very busy year for your Association's Board and our membership as a whole. 2016 looks to be another busy year as well. We are in the midst of contract negotiations and the County is up to their old games and negotiation tactics. As of mid-January 2016, they have not matched the offer that they made, and eventually settled on, with the Detention Deputies. We will almost certainly be going to mediation and possibly arbitration. Please check the HCSDA website for further updates on the contract.

We are reaching out to Sheriff's Administration with the representatives from the Supervisors Association, Detention Deputies, and Detention Supervisors Unions. Sheriff Stanek has agreed to meet with the unions as a group on a regular basis. We are hopeful that we can all work together to improve several aspects of the Sheriff's Office. To include making Hennepin County a more desirable place to work for new recruits and improve conditions for better retention of staff.

As president of this Association, I will continue to proudly serve the members of this Association with the assistance from our board members. Several of our board members have now been around long enough that they have had the opportunity to attend several training seminars and conferences. This has provided crucial information on how to handle Grievances, Loudermill hearings, Mediation, and Arbitration procedures. The experience gained by working together as an actively participating board, has helped them to serve the membership with a better understanding of the varying employment issues that arise throughout the years. We will continue to work to improve the lines of communication with our membership through the use of our website, Facebook page, and Talk Group.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my board members who work very hard on behalf of our membership. I would also like to thank all of our members for their continued support and commitment to the Association, as well as to the communities they represent and protect every day in Hennepin County.

Thank you all for your support and your service,

Al Saastamoinen
HCSDA President