



Jon Tunheim Prosecuting Attorney



Originally from South Dakota, Jon Tunheim earned his Bachelor Degree in Physics at South Dakota State University and soon moved to Washington to attend law school at the University of Puget Sound School of Law. While in law school, he joined the Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's Office as a legal intern in 1988. He was admitted to the practice of law in 1990, and immediately appointed as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, serving the office in that capacity until elected Prosecuting Attorney in 2010. As a trial prosecutor, he focused on cases involving sexual assault, domestic violence and crimes against children and was a leader in the effort to create Monarch Children's Justice and Advocacy Center, an organization providing coordinated services to child victims of abuse and neglect.

Jon is a past president of the Washington Government Lawyers Bar Association and a past president of the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys (WAPA). He currently serves on the Washington State Sentencing Guidelines Commission, the board of the Washington Association of County Officials (WACO), and is the current President of the Washington State Association of Drug Court Professionals (WSADCP).

A graduate of Leadership Thurston County (Class of 2002), he now serves on its Board of Regents. He is the past president of the United Way of Thurston County, and previously served on the boards of several community non-profit organizations. For his community work, Jon was recognized as a "Local Hero" by the Washington State Bar Association and in 2012 was named "Lawyer of the Year" by the Thurston County Bar Association. Most recently, he was recognized as the "Elected Official of the Year" by the Foster Parents Association of Washington State.

Since being elected Prosecuting Attorney, Jon has become intensely interested in the positive psychology construct of Hope Theory and how hope can be leveraged to promote personal and organizational effectiveness. As a self-proclaimed "Hope Theorist", Jon is convinced that hope is critical to building and leading effective organizations. Jon is a frequent presenter of hope theory and offers a workshop to county employees to provide a framework to better understand individual and collective hope and its positive influence on people and communities.

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