

February 10, 2026

Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police
Executive Director Kenny Winslow
426 S. Fifth Street
Springfield, Illinois 62701

Director Winslow,

I respectfully submit this letter of intent to declare my candidacy for Third Vice President of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police.

I have served in law enforcement for more than two decades, beginning my career in 1999 and progressing through patrol, investigations, command staff, and executive leadership roles. I have served as Deputy Chief and in other senior leadership assignments. In parallel, I completed a 22-year career in the U.S. Army Reserve, retiring as a Sergeant Major, an experience that reinforced the importance of leadership continuity, mentorship, accountability, and deliberate succession planning.

At this point in my career, I am seeking to serve the Association at a working level, focused not only on representation, but on helping chiefs navigate the real and immediate challenges of leadership. Across Illinois, chiefs are managing staffing shortages, leadership transitions, wellness concerns, legislative pressures, and rising expectations, often simultaneously. ILACP is uniquely positioned to support chiefs through these demands, and I believe the Association's greatest strength lies in its ability to prepare leaders for what comes next, not only to reflect on what has been accomplished.

I bring a forward-looking, execution-driven perspective grounded in the active leadership of a modern police organization. My experience with workforce planning, succession management, officer wellness initiatives, and organizational change reflects challenges that many chiefs are facing now and will continue to face in the years ahead. I am committed to ensuring ILACP remains inclusive, accessible, and relevant to chiefs from agencies of all sizes and regions.

My interest in this position is rooted in service to Illinois chiefs and to an Association that plays a vital role in our profession. If elected, I will bring energy, reliability, and a strong work ethic to the Board in support of ILACP's mission and its members.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jeremy M. Gaughan
Chief of Police