



## NACOLE Candidate Election Questionnaire

Name: **Bart W. Logue**

Position Sought: **Member-At-Large**

Geographic Location: **Pacific Northwest Region**

Current Employment: **Police Ombuds, Office of the Police Ombuds, City of Spokane, Washington**

### **1. How long have you been involved with NACOLE, and how did you initially become involved?**

I have been a member of NACOLE since 2016 when I began my work in civilian oversight of law enforcement. NACOLE provided the foundation I needed as I began this work and faced challenges that inevitably came up. NACOLE stood in the gap for my office as we faced political challenges and egregious pushback from the police department we oversee. However, it is the members of NACOLE that have provided wisdom, guidance, and moral support that have lifted me up and allowed me to maintain and reenergize my focus on the importance of oversight and police reform and its impact on individuals and communities.

### **2. Which NACOLE Committees have you served on? Have you had other involvement in NACOLE as a volunteer?**

I have served on several NACOLE committees: the Strategic Planning Committee (2019-2021), the Member Development and Support Committee (2021-2022), the Policy Development Committee (2021), the Elections and Bylaws Committee (2024) and the Internal Operations Committee (2022-present). I have served as the Chair or Co-Chair of the Elections and Bylaws Committee, the Member Development and Support Committee, and the Internal Operations Committee (current). I have also served as the Secretary for the NACOLE Board (2024-present).

As a volunteer, I have served as a peer-to-peer mentor. I also took on a significant project to serve on a team to provide a NACOLE Peer Evaluation to the Office of the Independent Monitor for New Orleans, Louisiana. When the charter team-members became unavailable, I was called upon to finalize the conduct of the review, provide recommendations, and write the detailed review and recommendations for NACOLE with the assistance of Luvimae Omana.

### **3. Please share highlights of your background/experience in law enforcement oversight.**

In 2017, Spokane experienced seven officer-involved shootings, which reinforced the urgency of reforming the Use of Force policy. I led efforts that added core principles—sanctity of life, mandatory de-escalation, and tactical considerations such as time, cover, and distance—that continue to shape policy and practice.

From the start, I also recognized the structural obstacles that hampered oversight. Collective bargaining and indifferent city officials repeatedly created barriers, and our enabling legislation was inconsistent with the city charter. I set a goal to endure until these deficiencies could be corrected so that the next Ombuds would not face the same limitations. As part of this effort, I revived the practice of issuing Closing Reports. A previous attempt to write one had been struck down through a grievance, but I strategically published a report (C19-040) during debate over a new police contract. That report contained 23 recommendations, and the Chief implemented or partially implemented 21 of them. Since contract changes in 2021 explicitly permitted Closing Reports, my office has published 17 more, with 83 policy and training recommendations to the police department. These reports now provide a lasting framework for transparency and policy improvement.

Accountability has been central to my work. I have certified hundreds of Internal Affairs investigations, often returning cases for additional review when standards were not met and declining certification when necessary. Under my leadership, the percentage of community complaints that received a Chain of Command review more than doubled, ensuring community voices directly informed accountability decisions. By combining this internal review with public-facing reports, I created a dual system that both scrutinizes police conduct and informs the public.

I have also worked to strengthen the OPO as an institution. I secured staffing increases from 1.5 to 4 full-time employees, established a Deputy Ombuds position with full oversight authority, and obtained funding to create an interactive online Use of Force dashboard. These changes have made the office stronger, more resilient, and better equipped to meet its mandates. At the same time, I have prioritized community trust, attending hundreds of meetings each year and rebranding OPO and OPOC publications to make oversight more accessible.

My efforts extend beyond Spokane. I have had the privilege to serve on the NACOLE Board of Directors for three years and the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission, where I help shape oversight at the state and national levels. I have authored model policies and have presented at state and national conferences, including a Harvard workgroup on accountability and decertification. I have also advised jurisdictions across the country on establishing or improving oversight systems.

I have diligently worked to redefine Spokane's approach to accountability by strengthening policies, building institutional capacity, and cultivating community trust, while also helping to shape the broader field of civilian oversight nationwide.

#### **4. Why do you want to serve on NACOLE's Board? What makes NACOLE's mission important to you?**

##### **Why I want to serve on NACOLE's Board**

I have been a member of NACOLE since 2016, and the organization has been foundational to my growth and endurance as an oversight professional. When I first began my work in Spokane, NACOLE provided me the expertise, mentorship, and moral support that helped me navigate political challenges and aggressive push back from the department I was tasked with overseeing. Those early experiences made it clear to me that oversight is as much about endurance and community as it is about independence and accountability. Serving on the NACOLE Board is my way of giving back to the organization that stood by me and strengthened my office when it mattered the most. I want to contribute by ensuring that new and emerging practitioners, as well as established practitioners, have access to the same support, expertise, and encouragement that has sustained me.

My earliest work in Spokane, including reforming the Use of Force policy, taught me how oversight can truly impact systems and potentially save lives. Beyond my local work, NACOLE has provided me with opportunities to expand the impact of oversight nationally. I have served as NACOLE's Secretary, contributed to multiple committees, and supported the organization's growth through initiatives such as peer-to-peer mentorship. I have also had the honor of serving as a peer evaluator for New Orleans' Office of Independent Police Monitor, work that embodies NACOLE's commitment to strengthening oversight across jurisdictions through shared knowledge and accountability. Each of these experiences has deepened my appreciation for NACOLE's mission and my desire to help guide its future.

##### **Why NACOLE's mission matters to me**

For me, NACOLE's mission is about ensuring that oversight practitioners, no matter how small or under-resourced their offices may be, are never alone in the work. I know firsthand what it means to face institutional resistance, structural limitations in legislation, and political indifference. In Spokane, I revived and institutionalized the practice of issuing Closing Reports, despite years of opposition, because I believed the community deserved transparency and meaningful recommendations. Those reports, and the high rate of adoption of their recommendations, became tools for accountability and reform. NACOLE's mission to professionalize oversight and elevate practitioners ensures that others can achieve similar breakthroughs.

Just as importantly, NACOLE represents a community of professionals committed to advancing justice, equity, and accountability across the country. It is a space where hard lessons and victories are shared, where innovation is encouraged, and where practitioners at all stages of their careers can learn from one another. Having benefited enormously from that community, I am committed to strengthening it for the next generation. Continuing to serve on the Board would allow me to continue advancing oversight both locally and nationally, while helping to ensure that NACOLE remains the leading voice in civilian oversight of law enforcement.

## **5. What skills/qualities do you expect to contribute as a Board member?**

I bring a unique combination of military leadership, diplomatic service, and civilian oversight expertise that equips me to serve NACOLE with professionalism, vision, and resilience. I served in the United States Marine Corps for nearly 26 years as a military police officer and foreign area officer, with my final assignment as an accredited diplomat to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Throughout my career, I had countless opportunities to lead or contribute to teams tasked with complex missions in high-stakes environments. This experience sharpened my skills in civilian oversight, law enforcement, diplomacy, crisis management, and organizational development; skills that have enhanced every aspect of my work as an oversight professional.

As Spokane's Police Ombudsman since 2016, I have monitored and certified more than 700 internal investigations, authored 17 Closing Reports with 83 recommendations, and driven significant reforms such as Spokane's progressive Use of Force policy. My work has required persistence in overcoming structural and political obstacles, creativity in implementing new practices, and dedication to building trust between law enforcement and the community.

I also bring proven leadership at both local and state levels. I have served as Chair of the Board for Leadership Spokane and previously chaired a local nonprofit board. In 2022, Governor Inslee appointed me to the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission, where I bring community perspectives to law enforcement training and accountability discussions.

At the national level, I have worked hard to contribute to NACOLE in my first term on the Board. President Finnell asked me to serve as Secretary of the Board for the past two years, recognizing my commitment and diligence. In addition, I have served on NACOLE's Strategic Planning, Policy Development, Membership Support & Advocacy, and Internal Operations Committees. I also helped draft the investigative framework for NACOLE's peer review program, first used in the evaluation of the New Orleans Office of Independent Police Monitor.

For any board work, the qualities I share are commitment, availability, and follow-through. If re-elected, I am fully prepared to continue dedicating the time and energy required to strengthen NACOLE and to support its members. I am tremendously motivated to keep serving on the Board, surrounded by preeminent professionals who care deeply about advancing oversight and accountability.

I say yes. Yes to giving back to NACOLE, yes to supporting its members, and yes to advancing oversight at every level. My commitment is unwavering, and I welcome the opportunity to continue serving with integrity, persistence, and vision.

## **6. What goals do you have for your service on the NACOLE Board, what would you most like to accomplish as a Board member?**

I want to serve on the NACOLE board to give back to NACOLE and its members the very best way I can while surrounding myself with the very best of oversight professionals to work to expand NACOLE's impact as a leading voice on issues of police/community relations, police accountability, and best practices in policing. There are several themes which can contribute to this:

**Give Back to NACOLE and Its Members:** Contribute my time, experience, and energy to support the organization that sustained me, while working alongside the best oversight professionals in the field.

**Expand NACOLE's Impact:** Strengthen NACOLE's role as a leading voice in police/community relations, accountability, and best practices in policing.

**Protect Oversight from Attack:** Ensure NACOLE stands firm against efforts to undermine oversight, while proving the value of our work through transparency, strong foundations, and measurable contributions to reform.

**Solidify NACOLE's Foundation:** Build on the work of the Internal Operations Committee to professionalize NACOLE's operations and governance so the organization can meet the needs of a growing membership.

**Grow Organizational Capacity:** Advocate for the expansion of NACOLE staff, including the addition of a full-time position dedicated to marketing, communications, and events. This growth will enhance member services, expand NACOLE's reach, and allow the organization to produce more high-quality resources for practitioners.

**Elevate Professional Standards:** Advance training, solidify standards, and continue refining the Certified Practitioner of Oversight credentialing process to professionalize the field.

**Strengthen Peer-to-Peer Support:** Expand mentorship and peer support programs so that members can learn from one another and fully access the wealth of expertise already within NACOLE's membership.

**Revisit Lessons Learned:** Lead an effort to reexamine oversight experiences nationwide and produce Effective Practices, Part II, ensuring NACOLE remains the authority on evolving oversight strategies.

**Increase National Influence:** Elevate NACOLE's voice in legislative and policy discussions, ensuring reforms are informed by the expertise and lived experience of its members.