

## **Candidate for First Vice President**

### **John W. Wright**

Communications Systems Analyst, City of Riverside, California

My name is John Wright, APCO 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, and I am running for the office of 1st Vice President of APCO International for the 2013-2014 term. As an APCO Senior Member, Chapter Life Member, and Association Life Member with nearly 25 years of service to the Association, and with the encouragement and full support of my Chapter (Southern California), I am running for the office this year. If elected, I feel that I will continue to be a great asset to the Association and its members in this critical leadership role.

I have recently retired from the City of Riverside Police Department after 39 years of public service. I am currently an active volunteer with the department, allowing me to continue working on several communications projects, including relocation of our 9-1-1 Center and implementation of a regional interoperability radio system which I initiated before my retirement. My retirement has allowed me to serve the APCO membership full time as your 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, and again as your 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President if elected.

As your 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, I continue to be very active in my participation and service to APCO. At the chapter level I had served the Southern California (CPRA) Chapter as its Treasurer for three terms and have served two terms as Chapter President, Director, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Operations Committee Chair. Regionally, I served as an APCO AFC Local Frequency Advisor, a member of the Region 5 700 MHz and 800 MHz Regional Planning Committees, and as a member of the National Regional Planning Council (NPRC). I had served as a member of the CPRA Annual Telecommunicators Awards Committee for the past 24 years. I am the proud recipient of the APCO Technician of the Year award as well as the CPRA Communications Center Supervisor of the Year award and a member of the Radio Club of America.

At the APCO International level, I sit as APCO's representative on the board of the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC), member of the Communications Mobile Alerting System (CMAS) board, and as a member of the COML Working Group. I have served as Vice-Chair of the APCO Spectrum Management Committee and Chair the APCO Technician Certification/Testing Review Sub-Committee for the APCO Institute. I have participated in multiple APCO activities, including serving two terms as Chair of the APCO Telecommunications Management Committee, member of the APCO 9-1-1 Emerging Technologies Committee and member of the APCO Communications Center Practices Task Force. I have worked on several APCO Projects, served on four APCO Regional Conferences as Program Chair, Finance Chair, and General Arrangements Chair and originally served as Chair of the 2013 APCO International Conference & Exposition before being elected to the APCO Executive Committee.

As a Middle Manager for a city with a population of more than 300,000, I believe I have the proven management and leadership skills, necessary education—a Degree in Business Management—and hands-on experience required to support the operations and leadership of our Association. I have managed a \$4.5 million to \$5 million annual budget for the communications division, directly managed

more than 75 employees and support/service personnel, worked as project manager on several local and regional interoperability projects, and participated in contract negotiations. I have successfully acquired UASI and COPS grant funds for multiple projects, including a \$1.1 million regional interoperability project. Having worked 11 years for the Riverside Fire Department as a Fire Dispatcher and then as a Firefighter, before working 28 years for the Riverside Police Department, gives me the unique insight into the critical and significantly different operations of the fire service and law enforcement. Having worked as a combined Police/Fire 9-1-1 PSAP Advanced EMD-certified Dispatcher, PSAP Shift Supervisor, PSAP Training Supervisor, PSAP Administrative Supervisor, and interim Communications Division Manager gives me the operational experience to fully understand the support, equipment and specialized training needed by our professional telecommunicators and our 9-1-1 Centers. My college technical training, military communications training (Vietnam War Veteran), and experience as a Communications Systems Analyst gives me the necessary skills to properly participate in, and provide leadership on, the current and future complex technical issues the Association supports, and must continue to be a leader in, both nationally and worldwide.

My vision for the future of our Association is that APCO will continue to expand the role of the APCO Institute to provide additional courses with technical certifications, continuing education, and training for telecommunicators, RF technicians and IT professionals who manage public safety radio and data systems. Develop targeted management courses for first line and middle managers, and become the nationally recognized certification body for these fields. APCO should continue work in the APCO Project series with an eye to the future, providing national and international leadership on critical issues and driving development of new technologies for public safety. APCO must continue to be a leader in the establishment of nationally adopted standards for the development, deployment, training, and operation of Next Generation 9-1-1. APCO will continue to be forward thinking through evaluation and promotion of Public Safety Applications, exploring new emerging technologies, and participating in the deployment of the National Public Safety Broadband Network. APCO should continue to be the leader in providing quality engineering and FCC licensing services through the AFC, and importantly, APCO must continue to expand its influence and presence in Washington, D.C., while exploring our common interests and expanding our global influence through new partnerships with Mexico and Latin America. APCO International must continue be the recognized leader in public safety communications worldwide.

I, therefore, am asking for your support to allow me to continue to serve you as APCO's 1st Vice President.

Thank you for your continued support and your dedication to Public Safety Communications.

*John W. Wright*

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, APCO International