

Chief Lonnie J. Westphal

1995-2003

The fifth Chief of the Colorado State Patrol was Chief Lonnie J. Westphal. Chief Westphal was born on October 11, 1947 in Cherokee, Iowa. He graduated from High School in Sutherland, Iowa in 1965.

In 1969, he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Colorado State University. In 1970, he served his country in the U.S. Navy as a Romanian Linguist at the National Security Agency. In 1983, he achieved his Masters degree in Public Administration from the University of Denver.

Chief Westphal joined the Colorado State Patrol on June 30, 1974. He was assigned as a Trooper in Elizabeth, Colorado. He then transferred to the Castle Rock Troop Office in 1977. In 1978, he promoted to Sergeant at Colorado State Patrol Headquarters. He promoted to Lieutenant of the Operational Development Section in 1981. In 1983 he promoted to Captain of the Staff Support Services Branch. In 1991 he promoted to Region II Major, and promoted to Lieutenant Colonel of Region I in 1992. Chief Westphal was appointed to the position of Chief of the Colorado State Patrol on October 1, 1995.

During his career with the Colorado State Patrol, Chief Westphal achieved numerous accomplishments. He graduated from the National Executive Institute of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in September of 1988. He also graduated from the John F. Kennedy School of Government for Senior Executives at Harvard University in July of 1999.

Chief Westphal is a former board member for the State Patrol Protective Association; former member of the board of officers for the Colorado Council of Law Enforcement Associations; former member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, elected 4th Vice-President of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, former board member of the National Commission Against Drunk Driving; and former International Chair of the Police Traffic Services Committee of the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators.

Chief Westphal retired in 2003.