



Stephen Sinclair Biography

Stephen Sinclair serves as Secretary of the Washington State Department of Corrections. He was appointed by Governor Jay Inslee on April 25, 2017.

After serving in the United States Army, he began his nearly 30 year career at our agency as a correctional officer and gained progressively greater responsibilities as investigator, sergeant, associate superintendent, superintendent, and assistant secretary.

As superintendent of the Washington State Penitentiary, Sinclair created and pioneered the [Sustainability in Prisons Project](#), which employs incarcerated individuals in jobs that reduce the cost of facility operations, provides meaningful vocational work and skills training while reducing idleness, and allows them the opportunity to give back to the community. The lab employs more than 120 people and is a national model of innovation that reduces recidivism.

Sinclair has a Master of Public Administration from the University of Washington. He is a member of the American Correctional Association and the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation. Sinclair is a 2009 recipient of the Governor's Award for Leadership in Management.