

BIO
John “Scott” Blonien
Assistant Secretary
Department of Corrections

Scott graduated from Northern Arizona University in 1977 receiving a degree in Political Science/Corrections. He received his Juris Doctorate from Gonzaga in 1980, and was hired as a criminal prosecutor by the Klickitat County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office that same year.

In 1987, Scott moved to the Washington State Attorney General’s Office, and was assigned to the Corrections Division where he among other things represented the state in Civil Rights matters, and advised the Department of Corrections on all legal issues including the Death Penalty.

In 1993, Scott was designated a Senior Assistant Attorney General and was appointed as Chief of the Corrections Division and in 1997 he was asked to head the newly formed Criminal Justice Division (CJD). The CJD encompassed every criminal justice function that the Office of Attorney General was responsible for. The CJD consisted of a Sentencing/Habeas Corpus Unit, the Civil Rights/Corrections Unit, the Medicaid Fraud/ Resident Abuse Unit, Sexually Violent Predator Unit, Prosecution Unit, and Criminal Investigations Unit. Scott supervised the CJD’s three locations, its employees consisting of attorneys, paralegals, investigators, professional staff, and it’s over \$20 million biennial budget.

In March of 2008, Scott came to the Department of Corrections and was named as its Assistant Secretary for Government, Community Relations and Regulatory Compliance. The Department’s Public Disclosure, Hearings, Records, ACA, Policy, and Communications Units are within Scott’s area of responsibility.