



Richard O. Hankey
4th ACJS President
1966-1967

Richard O. Hankey was born in Illinois in 1915. His family moved to Los Angeles, California when he was young, and Hankey, interested in the study of policing, enrolled first in the local junior college and later in the Criminology program at the University of California at Berkeley. He took classes in the mid-1930s from August Vollmer, and like so many others, Hankey became enamored with the well-respected police chief and Criminology professor. He remained in the program, earning both his baccalaureate degree in criminology and a master's degree through the public administration program.

Upon graduation and following the advice of Vollmer, he took a position with the Berkeley Police Department in 1939. With the onset of World War II, he decided not to enlist and remained with the Berkeley Police Department, rising to the rank of Sergeant. In 1944, however, he changed his mind, influenced by O.W. Wilson who was serving in the European Theater and needed more men with policing experience, Hankey enlisted in the U.S. Army. After training, he was assigned to Germany during the reconstruction and he assisted in the reorganization and development of the German police, working for Colonel O.W. Wilson.

Hankey returned to the United States in 1948, and secured a position teaching policing at Visalia College (later renamed the College of the Sequoias). While at Visalia, Hankey became a proponent of in-service training of police officers at the college level and began traveling the state discussing the in-service program. He also became active in the Society for the Advancement of Criminology (later the American Society of Criminology), and for his work he was elected President of the organization in 1956. According to Frank Morn, he was the only person from a junior college to ever hold that position.

Hankey remained at Visalia until 1957, when he took a posting at Los Angeles State College of Applied Arts & Science (later California State University, Los Angeles). There, he worked with the Los Angeles Police Department, helping them create an in-service training program for their police officers, one that became quite renown in the policing field.

In 1963, when the policing members of ASC broke away and created the IAPP, Richard O. Hankey was one of the early members to help create the new organization. As he continued to advocate the fundamentals of police training at the college level, and was a noted speaker, he was elected the fourth president of the International Association of Police Professors (IAPP) and served as president from 1966 to 1967. During his tenure as president he continued to advocate for police in-service training at the college level.

After his tenure as president, he continued his work in Los Angeles until 1971, when he moved to Albany, Oregon, taking a similar teaching position at Linn Benton Community College. He continued to join a number of varying associations, eventually becoming the president of all of them, including the Oregon Association of Criminal Justice Education in 1974. This left one colleague to remark, "Does Dick belong to anything he is not president of?"

Hankey continued to teach at Linn Benton until his unexpected death on January 1, 1980. His personal papers are today housed in the manuscript college at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City.