



Sign in to masslive.com »  
Not a member? Register Now »

Site Search Search Local Business Listings

Search by keyword, town name, Web ID and more...

- Home
- News
- Weather
- Sports
- Entertainment
- Interact
- Jobs
- Autos
- Real Estate
- News
- Politics
- Crime
- Business
- Obituaries
- State News
- AP News
- Opinion
- Videos
- Real Estate



## MASSACHUSETTS LOCAL NEWS

Breaking news from Western Massachusetts

Sponsored By:



[Agawam »](#)

### President Barack Obama taps John Gibbons of Agawam for U.S. marshal for Massachusetts

By [Dan Ring](#)  
November 04, 2009, 9:29PM

NEWS »

With *The Republican*.

Browse by month:

Select a date

GO ►

FEATURED TOWNS »

.

[Agawam](#)

- [Amherst](#)
- [Belchertown](#)
- [Berkshires](#)
- [Chicopee](#)
- [Deerfield](#)
- [E. Longmeadow](#)
- [Easthampton](#)
- [Franklin County](#)
- [Granby](#)
- [Greenfield](#)
- [Hadley](#)
- [Hampden](#)
- [Holyoke](#)
- [Longmeadow](#)
- [Ludlow](#)



John Gibbons

BOSTON - President Barack Obama on Wednesday nominated State Police Lt. John Gibbons, of Agawam, as the next U.S. marshal for Massachusetts.

Gibbons, who grew up in Newark, N.J., the son of a police officer and came to Western Massachusetts on a college football scholarship, would become the first black U.S. marshal for Massachusetts, according to research provided by the office of the late U.S. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy.

Obama last month also nominated Carmen M. Ortiz of Milton as U.S. attorney in Massachusetts. She is set to become the first woman and first Hispanic U.S. attorney in the state.

In a short interview on Wednesday night, Gibbons said he was excited and felt good.

"I'm honored and humbled by the nomination," said Gibbons.

In a press release, Obama announced that he is nominating Gibbons and Robert Heun, a retired police chief in Alaska, as the marshal for Alaska.

"John Gibbons and Robert Heun have dedicated their careers to protecting the public and I am honored to nominate them to continue their selfless work as U.S. marshals," Obama said in a statement.

- [Monson](#)
- [Northampton](#)
- [Palmer](#)
- [South Hadley](#)
- [Southampton](#)
- [Southwick](#)
- [Springfield](#)
- [Ware](#)
- [W. Springfield](#)
- [Westfield](#)
- [Wilbraham](#)

In late July, Kennedy and U.S. Sen. John F. Kerry recommended Gibbons for the marshal's position. Kennedy died in August of brain cancer.

**EDITORIAL**

- **[He's the right man for the right job](#)**

Gibbons, 53, is currently a detective lieutenant in command of a unit working under Northwestern District Attorney Elizabeth B. Scheibel.

Obama sent the nomination to the Senate. The full Senate must confirm the nomination.

Gibbons, a scholarship football star at American International College in Springfield in the 1970s, started his police career as a trooper in Northampton.

He has served as a trooper, detective and commander for the state police the past 30 years in Western Massachusetts.

The marshal is in charge of security at federal courts in Boston, Springfield and Worcester. The marshal's office provides protection for judges and witnesses, investigates fugitives and helps manage and transport inmates.

Gibbons has served as a state police detective under district attorneys in Hampden and the Northwestern district. He also was commander of former Attorney General Thomas F. Reilly's state police unit in Springfield.

Kennedy and Kerry, both Democrats, recommended Gibbons after blocking confirmation of former President George W. Bush's nomination of Reed V. Hillman of Sturbridge in June 2007. Hillman was the Republican nominee for lieutenant governor in 2006 and a former GOP legislator from Sturbridge.

**BlackBerry® Bold™ 9700**

Precision & Elegance Of Design In The New BlackBerry Smartphone.  
[www.BlackBerry.com/Bold9700](http://www.BlackBerry.com/Bold9700)

**Mom Makes \$63/Hr Online**

Stay at home Mom makes \$7,100 a month! Read her story: Special Report  
[www.WallStreetGazetteNews.com](http://www.WallStreetGazetteNews.com)

**The "Smokeless" Cigarette**

No Tar, No Tobacco, No Secondhand Smoke! A MUST READ!  
[E-CigaretteInfo.Net](http://E-CigaretteInfo.Net)

**AP NEWS »**

- [Danvers blast company sues National Grid](#) 11/25/2009, 7:54 a.m. EST
- [Mass. man pleads guilty to hitting cop with hammer](#) 11/25/2009, 7:46 a.m. EST
- [Man shot in RI park now facing federal charge](#) 11/25/2009, 6:36 a.m. EST
- [Judge to rule on murderer seeking hair removal](#) 11/25/2009, 6:13 a.m. EST
- [Mass. assault suspect held without bail](#) 11/25/2009, 5:27 a.m. EST
- [Capuano combines street smarts, Ivy League degree](#) 11/25/2009, 3:00 a.m. EST

**[MORE AP NEWS »](#)**

**LINKS »**

**Special Sections:**

- [14-day Archive](#)
- [WMass Blogs](#)
- [Business news](#)
- [Columnists](#)
- [Editorials](#)
- [MA Engagements](#)
- [MA Graduations](#)
- [Letters to the Editor](#)
- [Western MA Living](#)
- [MA Obituaries](#)
- [Politics](#)
- [Religion news](#)

**Recommend (0)**

[Print this](#)

[Email this](#)

[Share this:](#)

**Previous story: [Members of Assumption of Blessed Mary Church in Chicopee appeals closure plans by Roman Catholic Diocese of Springfield](#)**

**Next story: [Amherst Town Meeting approves resolution to support resettlement of Guantanamo Bay detainees to Western Massachusetts](#)**

**Comments (7 total)**

[RSS](#)

[Post a comment](#)

**Oldest comments are shown first. [Show newest comments first](#)**