

Carmen Best



Chief Best has served with the Seattle Police Department for 26 years. Most recently, she served as Deputy Chief, overseeing the Patrol Operations, Investigations, and Special Operations Bureaus, as well as the Community Outreach section.

Chief Best has completed the Senior Management Institute for Police, the FBI National Academy, and the Criminal Justice Executive Leadership Academy. In 2015, she received the "Newsmaker of the Year" award from the Seattle Black Press. In 2016, Chief Best completed the Major Cities Chiefs Association Police Executive Leadership Institute. She will receive her Master's in Criminal Justice Leadership from Northeastern University later this year (2018).

Chief Best is a member of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), the National Latino Police Officers Association (NLPOA), the Law Enforcement Immigration Task Force (LEITF) and the Human and Civil Rights Committee (HCRC) for the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). She is also on the Trustee Board for Lakeside School, the Visit Seattle Advisory Board and the National Law Enforcement Exploring Committee. Additionally, Chief Best serves as the Leadership Council Chair for the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) Seattle, and is on the St. Jude Advisory Council for Seattle.

Chief Best is married and has two adult daughters.