

Daniel P. Linskey



Dan Linskey, as the Superintendent in Chief, holds the second highest position in the Boston Police Department and the highest uniformed rank, reporting to the Police Commissioner. As such, he oversees police services including all field services response, investigations, training, intelligence, administration and technology. He previously served as the Superintendent, Chief of the Bureau of Field Services, where he was responsible for leading the uniformed branch of the department including, all special events in the city, demonstrations, 11 police districts, special operations (swat, motorcycle unit, environmental safety, hazardous materials, bomb squad, harbor patrol), homeland security, crime watch, school police, and the youth violence strike force.

For some years before Linskey assumed command of the Bureau of Field Services, it was not uncommon for the Bureau's Chief to be demoted for failure to prevent calamitous property damage and personal injury in street celebrations that followed high-profile Boston professional sporting events. During 2007, Linskey's first year heading the Bureau of Field Services, the New England Patriots played in the Super Bowl, the Red Sox won the World Series, and the Celtics won the national basketball championship. There were crowd challenges, but compared to previous unrest, the Department's plans worked well, with minimal arrests, minimal damage to property, few injured officers, and crowds handled with very little force, resulting in few injuries to the public.

Linskey has a knack for being in the wrong place at the right time. He has on sighted numerous robberies, shootings, and other incidents bringing them to a successful conclusion. An excellent example occurred when a Gorilla escaped from the city zoo and was roaming through the neighborhood. Linskey was the first officer on scene, he commandeered a tranquilizer gun, leading a three hour hunt for the animal, capturing him and returning him unharmed to the zoo.

For the early part of his career, Linskey supervised and led operations in the drug area, where he was admired for picking and motivating teams and minimizing the common territorial squabbles across enforcement agencies at different levels of government. During a six year stint as a drug squad supervisor his team executed over 500 search warrants, recovered 350 firearms, and arrested over 3,000 suspects for narcotics violations. Remarkably all of that work was accomplished without a single internal affairs complaint.

After 15 years conducting drug enforcement, he was asked by the Mayor of Boston to take over the management and upgrading of the Boston Municipal Police Department, a small agency responsible for protecting all City of Boston parks, buildings and facilities. Reluctant initially to leave the comfort zone of his highly touted anti-drug work, Linskey was persuaded by the Mayor that if he wanted to develop as a police leader he needed to accept this position and the administrative and management experience it would bring. While remaining a lieutenant detective in the Boston PD, Linskey functioned as commander of the Municipal agency. From his first day in the assignment, there were rumors—which ultimately proved well founded—that the City wanted to merge the Municipal Department into the Boston Police Department. But there was strenuous, publicly expressed resistance by the union and officers of the larger agency,

who insisted such a merger would lower the professionalism of the Boston PD. Linskey succeeded in navigating the political minefields, making a persuasive case that maintaining two separate agencies was expensive, inefficient and ineffective. He worked with labor and management to develop an acceptable plan for identifying Municipal PD officers who were qualified to join the Boston department and for providing the advanced training they needed to function as full service police officers. The merger turned out to add much appreciated personnel to the Boston Police Department and saved the City about \$6 million per year. Prior to the merger, he took a variety of initiatives to reduce cost, improve professionalism and strengthen police-community relations for the Municipal Police Department. For example, he instituted a policy by which dispatchers called back citizens who requested police service if police hadn't responded in 15 minutes, giving the caller an update on when the police would arrive. And following the police response, dispatchers contacted the callers to ask whether the incident had been handled well. People loved the feedback, and the agency got a lot of goodwill. Other accomplishments over his career included spearheading the first-ever lateral transfers into the Boston PD, which required delicate negotiations with the union; working with the union to come up with one standard Boston PD uniform, which was both a morale booster and a professionalizing influence; and helping to reduce payroll abuses of the Boston PD's storied "detail system," in which officers have off-duty jobs at construction sites, including very small street projects.

Linskey earned a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Curry College in Milton, Massachusetts. When he began his police career, he graduated from the Boston Police Academy and won the Hogan Award for academic excellence. He is a three time recipient of the Boston Police Department Medal of Honor, has twice received the American Legion Medal of Honor, and is a recipient of the State's highest law enforcement award, the George Hanna Medal of Valor.