



Women in Police Leadership Tell Their Stories Part 3 Biographies

Chief Jennifer Evans

Chief Jennifer Evans was appointed chief on October 12, 2012. She began her career with Peel Regional Police as a Cadet in 1983. Since that time she has been assigned to all areas of the organization including the Uniform branch, Youth Bureau and the Criminal Investigations Bureau.

In 2008, Chief Evans was promoted to Deputy Chief of Police. As Deputy Chief, in October 2010, she was seconded to conduct a review of the Missing Women Investigations in lower mainland British Columbia. She reviewed thousands of documents and conducted numerous interviews with police officers involved in the initial investigation of Robert Pickton prior to his arrest in February 2002. In January 2012, she testified at the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry regarding her report. Chief Evans' knowledge and experience is recognized both provincially and nationally.

In May of 2013, Chief Evans was appointed to the Order of Merit of the Police Forces by the Governor General of Canada at a ceremony at Rideau Hall in Ottawa and in the past has served as the president of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP). She currently serves as the Canadian Regional Representative on the Major Cities Chiefs Association Board of Directors.

Chief Carmen Best

Chief Best was appointed Interim Chief of the Seattle Police Department on January 1, 2018.

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

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 is the Leadership Council Chair for the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) Seattle. Chief Best is married and has two adult daughters.

Shelagh Dorn, PhD

Shelagh Dorn joined the Greenville, South Carolina Police Department as Director of Strategic Planning & Analysis in 2015, where she handles information technology, crime and intelligence, research, and planning. She began her criminal justice career in 1991 with the Brunswick (Maine) Police, where she became Deputy Marine Warden and reserve police officer in 1994. From 2003 through 2011, as senior supervising criminal intelligence analyst at the New York State Intelligence Center (NYSIC), she managed intelligence analysis and research at the state fusion center. Since 2011, she has been a research fellow at the John F. Finn Institute for Public Safety, a not-for-profit in Albany, NY. As their Assistant Director of Technical Assistance and Training from 2013-2015 she coordinated a dozen grant-funded crime analysts in five cities in upstate New York.

Shelagh graduated from Cornell University, and earned her Master's and PhD in Criminal Justice at the University at Albany-SUNY. She has served on the Board for the International Association of Law Enforcement Intelligence Analysts (IALEIA) for ten years; and since 2015 has been President of IALEIA. Shelagh's areas of research interest include: policing and best practices; strategic planning and analysis; homeland security, crime, and intelligence analysis; qualitative analysis and survey research; victimology; trauma-informed policing interventions; policing mental health and addictions; and criminal justice partnerships and collaboration.

Sheriff Lupe Valdez (Retired)

In 2004, Lupe Valdez was elected Sheriff in Dallas County. She was ultimately elected to four terms as Sheriff of Dallas County and served from 2005-2017. She was the only Latina Sheriff in the United States and one of very few LGBTQ Americans serving in public office.

While Sheriff, Valdez worked diligently to address deep structural problems that had developed over the preceding 20 years. The county jail was understaffed, overpopulated, and unsanitary. With her team and the leadership of the County Commissioners, she succeeded in tackling many of the challenges that had plagued the Department such as improving the quality of care for mentally ill inmates, changing culture, and striving to ensure any individual touched by the criminal justice system was treated with respect and dignity.

Prior to becoming Sheriff, Lupe worked to protect the lives and property of American citizens at home and abroad as a captain in the U.S. Army and as a federal agent in the General Services Administration, Department of Agriculture, the US Customs Service and a Senior Agent in the Department of Homeland Security.

She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Southern Nazarene University and a Master's Degree in Criminology from UT-Arlington.