

THE PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON 21ST CENTURY POLICING

Cincinnati Police Chief Jeffrey Blackwell

After an extensive national search, Jeffery Blackwell was selected as the fourteenth Police Chief of the Cincinnati Police Department, having taken the oath of office on September 30, 2013. He is only the second external hire for police chief in the agency's history. During his first year in Cincinnati he has focused on forging new relationships with federal, state, and local organizations as well implementing new initiatives to fight crime and improve the quality of life for all Cincinnatians. He has worked to maximize collaboration throughout the entire city, with particular emphasis on marginalized areas. Some of these efforts include; developing a new full-time gang unit, reconstituting the Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV), which is a nationally recognized "focused deterrence model", developing many youth and other community-centric programs, as well as initiating a lateral entry recruit class of 20 and a 60-member recruit class, which are the first classes in 6 years.

Chief Blackwell was instrumental in holding an inaugural series of Town Hall Meetings in each of the five police districts to hear from citizens and to provide district-wide policing updates. The meetings were extremely successful with nearly one thousand citizens attending the meetings. Additionally, Blackwell has participated in over 150 speaking engagements in 2014.

As Police Chief he has worked diligently to achieve efficiencies by looking for innovations and technical advancements such as online police reporting, enhanced cruiser graphics, body cameras, and standup T-3 electric vehicles which enable the department to work more efficiently and with greater access to people. He has stressed the importance of building authentic relationships with community members through collaboration and engagement.

Also through his leadership, the Cincinnati Police Department has implemented a robust youth engagement platform with a host of character building activities. Blackwell has placed a great amount of focus on the youth of Cincinnati by building relationships and trust as well as improving human connectivity to further reduce crime. He has worked to meet people, both young and old alike, where they are, and to be authentic, transparent, and accessible. These efforts resulted in historic reductions in violent crime and property crime for 2014.

Before joining the Cincinnati Police Department as Chief Blackwell served with distinction as a 26-year veteran of the Columbus Police Department. While at the Columbus Police Department, Blackwell became only the 3rd African-American to rise to the rank of Deputy Chief in the agency's 200 year history. He has worked in Patrol, Traffic, Street Crime Enforcement, Internal Affairs, Cold-Case Homicide, and many other assignments during his 28 year career. Blackwell graduated from the Certified Law Enforcement Executive (CLEE) program in 2011, is a 2008 graduate of the Police Executive Leadership College (PELC), attended the Southern Police Institute-Internal Affairs School (SPI), as well as the Senior Management Institute for Policing (SMIP), graduated from the Columbus Police Academy (OPATA certified), and holds a B.A. in Business Administration from Mt. Vernon Nazarene University.

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Additionally, Blackwell is a member of

- Major Cities Chiefs Association-MCCA
- International Association of Chiefs of Police-IACP
- National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives-NOBLE
- National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice -NABCJ
- Police Executive Research Forum-PERF
- Fight Crime Invest in Kids-FCIK
- Co-Chair Cincinnati Immigration Task Force-Safety

Blackwell is an active Board Member of

- Boys Hope Girls Hope-Cincinnati (BHGH)
- YMCA-Cincinnati
- Downtown Cincinnati Incorporated-(DCI)