

PTATF Community Conversations Presenter/Panelist Bios

Community Policing: Where are We Now?

December 13, 14 & 15 2021

Presenters:

West Hartford, Farmington, Hartford



Anne Li Kringen, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at the University of New Haven where she has served as both Assistant Chair of the Department of Criminal Justice and the Assistant Dean of the Henry C. Lee College of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences. Her personal research focuses on policing, specifically organizational issues that affect diversification. An evidence-based policy advocate, she seeks to conduct research that bridges the gap between critical perspectives on race and gender in policing through policy change.

Her recent research includes isolating policy factors that limit female representation in law enforcement agencies, considering the impact of civil service rules and agency-specific hiring guidelines on women and individuals of color, developing an evidence-based process that increases the recruitment and retention of diverse candidates, and understanding the impact of academy training on diversification efforts. Her work has been published in *Gender, Work, and Organization*, *Feminist Criminology*, *Criminal Justice Policy Review* and *Policing: A Journal of Policy and Practice*.

Dr. Kringen has conducted multiple large-scale evaluations for major metropolitan law enforcement agencies and for the Bureau of Justice Assistance. She has been a discussant at the National Institute of Justice and has briefed U.S. Congress about challenges to diversification in law enforcement. She currently serves on the Research Advisory Committee for the International Association of

Chiefs of Police. Dr. Kringen received her Ph.D. in criminal justice from Texas State University. She proudly served as a peace officer in Alexandria, VA making her a well-rounded, intelligent choice.

In 2021, the Austin, Texas Police Department welcomed Dr. Kringen to the department as the new APD Training Academy Division Manager. In APD, Dr. Kringen will play a significant role in revising the APD police cadet program as part of the [reimaging public safety process](#).

West Hartford, Farmington



Meghan B. Peterson Ph.D., a lifelong resident of Connecticut, earned her B.A. with a double major in Political Science and Religious Studies at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, New York. Upon graduation in 2011, Peterson returned to Connecticut for graduate work at the University of Connecticut. There, she earned her M.A. in Political Science in 2013 and Ph.D. in Political Science in 2017.

In her undergraduate and graduate courses, Meghan pursued the subfields of Public Law and Political Theory in an effort to join her passion for the study of law on the one hand and political philosophy on the other. Peterson focused her dissertation, *“Law’s Haze, Police Ways, and Tech’s Maze: relationships between American law, crime and technology,”* on the role of law in policing operations within the evolving terrain of cyber sex crimes. Specifically, Peterson interrogates how lack of clarity within law impacts actions of and dynamics between, police and offenders against the broader backdrop of a surveillance-rich, technology-infused, risk-based society.

During her years of doctoral work, Peterson was fortunate to participate in two invaluable internship opportunities with the Connecticut State Police: one with the Sex Offender Registry Unit; the other with the Computer Crimes Unit. Subsequently, Meghan worked with colleagues at IMRP on the state task force charged with reviewing and modifying the CT State Sex Offender Registry in 2017.

After assisting the task force and defending her doctorate, Meghan became an adjunct faculty member at the UConn-Avery Point campus where she taught American Politics, Constitutional Law, and State and Local Government.

Peterson is delighted to be back working with the IMRP. She is currently gathering, analyzing and synthesizing research for submittal to the Connecticut Police Transparency and Accountability Task Force (PTATF).

Moderator:

West Hartford, Farmington, Hartford



Stan Simpson is the principal and president of Stan Simpson Enterprises LLC, a strategic communications firm.

He has worked in the media business for 30 years and is a multiple-award-winning journalist. Mr. Simpson is among a small number in the media business to have served as a newspaper columnist (The Hartford Courant); a radio talk show host (CBS-owned WTIC NewsTalk 1080); and a television talk show host (Fox 61's "Real People with Stan Simpson"). He also served as the founding Director of the Hartford Journalism & Media Academy, a start-up public high school in Hartford's North End.

Mr. Simpson's expertise is in developing comprehensive strategic communications plans for his clients, sharpening their message and leveraging it across traditional and digital media platforms to enhance branding, outreach and new partnerships. He also provides crisis communications strategies, media training, and media services. A certified toastmaster, he is a sought-after public speaker and Master of Ceremonies.

Stan Simpson Enterprises has worked with clients such as Bloomfield Public Schools, The Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz, The Hartford Business Journal, Fox 61, CBS Radio, Jumoke Academy, and several community groups.

Mr. Simpson is well-connected in the Greater Hartford region. His reputation is one of professional excellence and personal integrity. Hartford Magazine once recognized him as one of the "50 Most Influential People" in Connecticut.

Panelists:

West Hartford, Farmington



Daryl McGraw, MA, CAC, CCJP

Mr. McGraw serves at the Chair of the Police Transparency and Accountability Task Force in Connecticut. He holds state certifications as an Addictions Counselor, Recovery Support Specialist, and a Criminal Justice Professional. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Human Services and a Master's Degree in Organizational Management and Leadership, both from Springfield College. Prior to entering the human service field, Mr. McGraw held several leadership positions in the hospitality field working for Fortune 500 companies.

As the former Program Director for the Yale University Department of Psychiatry, he was contracted to serve as the Director of the Office of Recovery Community Affairs for the State of Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. Daryl has experience in the areas of policy development, contract management and project coordination, as well as collaborating with grassroots peer-advocacy agencies and the CT Department of Corrections. Mr. McGraw is a community organizer, activist and philanthropist. He serves on several boards involving re-entry and criminal justice reform in the state of Connecticut. He consults with law enforcement, universities, policy makers, behavioral health and addiction treatment facilities who are looking to expand their

knowledge and expertise in the area of criminal justice reform. He is an integral part of leadership decisions for these agencies and organizations. As a leadership consultant, Mr. McGraw inspires cultural competency and challenges organizations to move away from the status quo.

West Hartford, Farmington, Hartford



Magdalena (Maggie) Vargas Silver was appointed as the UConn Police Department Deputy Chief of Police in March of 2017. As a Deputy Chief of Police, Chief Silver oversees the UConn Health, Downtown Hartford, Hartford Law, Waterbury, and Stamford campuses.

Maggie was born and raised in Puerto Rico. She arrived to the United States in 1986. Maggie's journey to becoming a police officer was anything but traditional. The unexpected and unusual opportunity to become a police officer stemmed from struggling with homelessness and being a single mother. These personal challenges have given Maggie a unique and more inclusive perspective into community policing and the criminal justice system.

Maggie graduated from Naugatuck Valley Community College with dual Associate's degrees in Criminal Justice and Liberal Arts. Maggie continued her education by earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Justice and Law Administration from Western Connecticut State University (Danbury, CT); a Master of Science degree in Education from the University of New Haven (West Haven, CT); and a Doctorate in Public Safety and Emergency Management from Capella University (Minneapolis, MN). Over her career, Maggie has been recognized with several police awards and commendations.

Maggie began her law enforcement career twenty-five years ago, serving a Connecticut municipality for 8 years before accepting a position with the UConn Police Department. Maggie has worked numerous assignments throughout her career, including Patrol, the Detective Bureau, Training, Professional Standards, Policy & Planning, Community Outreach, Clery, and the management of the accreditation process. Maggie started the women's self-defense program at UConn that eventually was transformed into what is now called Surviving Violent Encounters. Maggie created the Safety Techniques Awareness Resources Team (START) in an effort to initiate conversations about consent and increase awareness regarding the social problem of sexual assault on our campuses. While supervising the detective bureau, Maggie created the special victim's unit to investigate sex assault through a trauma focused response lens. The goal of this initiative was to strengthen the capacity of officers to provide an effective response to victims of sexual assault from the initial report through the court process. Maggie was instrumental in laying the groundwork for the Department facility dog program. Tildy our department's first facility dog has a new partner named Carson, who will serve the regional communities thanks to Maggie's expansion of the program.

Maggie prioritizes community engagement and outreach by regularly connecting with the community members she serves at UConn Health and at the Regional Campuses. Maggie's vision aligns with 21st Century Policing and focuses on improving and nurturing community relations, increasing diversity in recruitment, focusing on officer retention, and modernizing organizational effectiveness.

Maggie believes in employing feedback from officers and the community to identify innovative ways to inspire and motivate officers. Maggie currently serves on the Governor’s Police Transparency and Accountability Task Force. Maggie loves dogs and is passionate about senior dog rescue. Maggie volunteers with Cubby’s Crusade Dog Rescue where she has served as a foster home, conducted placement and is active in fundraising for the agency. Maggie is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP); the National Association of Women Law Enforcement Executives (NAWLEE); the Police Association of Connecticut (PAC); and the Connecticut Police Accreditation Coalition (Conn-Pac).

West Hartford, Hartford

Chief John “Jack” Drumm Commanding Officer, Madison Police Department



Chief John “Jack” Drumm assumed command of the Madison Police Department on January 4, 2010, selected as a new Police Chief from a national search conducted by the IACP, to lead the Madison Police agency out of a history of turmoil. Chief Drumm was able to restore trust, congruency and integrity to the department, and has achieved dual advanced CALEA national recognition and certification for the agency.

Chief Drumm has proudly served the law enforcement profession for approximately 42 years, with the last 17 years serving as a Chief of Police. He began his law enforcement career in the late 70’s, joining the Connecticut State Police which he proudly served for 25 years, retiring as one of their higher decorated officers, including three commendations for “Outstanding Police Service”, three commendations for “Meritorious Service”, and the Connecticut State Police Department “Medal for Bravery”.

Chief Drumm has served “our” country overseas with the United States Department of State (USDOS) sponsored security initiatives and returned to the United States to be appointed as Chief of Police for the Groton Long Point community and later as Madison’s Chief of Police. Chief Drumm serves as a member of the Connecticut Racial Profiling Prohibition Project, sub-committee board since 2018 and serves as a Voting Member of the Connecticut Police Transparency and Accountability Task Force to the State Legislature.

Chief Drumm is a graduate of the 229th session of the FBI National Academy at Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Virginia, and the 90th Training Troop of the Connecticut State Police. He completed his post graduate studies, *Summa cum Laude*, and is a member of the Sigma Beta Delta Graduate Business School Honor Society.

Chief Drumm has been awarded a certificate of completion for:

- *Senior Executives in State and Local Government, June 2013, Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Executive Education.*
- *The Leadership in Crisis Program, April 2012, Harvard University,*
- *John F. Kennedy School of Government, Executive Education.*
- Master's Degree in Business Science.
- Master's Certificate in Homeland Security Management.
- Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and Finance.

West Hartford, Farmington, Hartford



Jonathan Slifka currently serves as Executive Assistant to the Commissioner of the Department of Aging and Disability Services. He also serves as the Chair of the Improving Police Interactions with the Disability Community sub-committee of the Task Force. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Communications from St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Laurinburg, North Carolina.

In his previous role, Jonathan was appointed by Governor Dannel P. Malloy as the Governor's Liaison to the Disability Community, a cabinet-level position and first position of its kind in the history of the state. During his time in that role, he helped create and oversee a working group on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities as well as re-vitalizing the Governor's Committee on Employment for Persons with Disabilities. In addition, he helped push through several key pieces of legislation including the introduction of a new symbol of access in the state as well as updating language within state statutes with person-first language with respect to the disability community.

Mr. Slifka was one of the first students with a disability mainstreamed through the West Hartford Public School System, was the first player with a disability to play in the West Hartford Little League and was the first student in a wheelchair to play on a high school tennis team in West Hartford.

A current resident of West Hartford, Mr. Slifka previously served as the Chair of the West Hartford Democratic Town Committee as well as a former member of the West Hartford Advisory Commission for Persons with Disabilities. He continues to serve in several voluntary roles to advocate for persons with disabilities including a founding member of the Board of Directors of the Miracle League of Connecticut and a member of the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Task Force for the Playhouse on Park in West Hartford.