

## Chief of Police James E. Craig Biography



Chief of Police James E. Craig began his career in law enforcement with the Detroit Police Department in January 1977 and was assigned to the 10<sup>th</sup> Precinct. Forced to relocate due to department layoffs, Chief Craig began working for the Los Angeles (California) Police Department (LAPD) in January 1981. Chief Craig, after holding several high profile patrol and investigative positions, ascended the ranks of the LAPD, achieving promotions to the rank of Sergeant I, II, III; Lieutenant I, II, and Captain I, II, III. During his tenure as a command officer of the LAPD, Chief Craig was responsible for overseeing many of the most violent areas in Los Angeles and was able to achieve tremendous reductions in crime through the implementation of innovative strategy and building strong community partnerships.

After a 28 year career with LAPD, Chief Craig was appointed to the position of Chief of Police for the Portland (Maine) Police Department on May 4, 2009. During his tenure as Chief of Police, Chief Craig commanded a department of 215 sworn and civilian employees. Chief Craig was credited with reducing violent crime by 10% by utilizing a comprehensive *CompStat* process which focused on command accountability and problem solving. Chief Craig was also able to enhance the department's community policing efforts through the development of a *Chief's Community Advisory Board*. This board redefined community partnership and was integral in improving the relationship between the police department and the city's residents.

On August 4, 2011, Chief Craig was selected as the 13<sup>th</sup> Chief of Police for the Cincinnati (Ohio) Police Department. Chief Craig was the first African-American and person outside of Cincinnati to hold the position of Chief of Police for Cincinnati. He was responsible for leading a department of 1,500 sworn and civilian personnel. Chief Craig immediately facilitated significant organizational structural change with an emphasis on improving the department's service delivery model and overall effectiveness. Under Chief Craig's leadership, the morale of the rank and file was greatly improved, which equated to an increase in the officers' overall productivity and performance. Chief Craig prioritized the need for the officers to proactively address neighborhood quality of life issues and overall crime in the community.

On July 1, 2013, Chief Craig was appointed as the 42<sup>nd</sup> Chief of Police for the Detroit Police Department (Michigan), bringing Chief Craig's law enforcement career full circle. Chief Craig will be leading a department of 2,800 sworn and civilian personnel. Chief Craig has said that his top priorities are to abate and reduce violent crime and to increase the morale of the rank and file. Chief Craig will be conducting a comprehensive analysis of the department from "top to bottom" and rapidly begin to effectuate changes with the goal of making the DPD a gold

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standard in policing throughout the country.

Chief Craig has earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management from West Coast University and a Master of Management degree in Public Administration from University of Phoenix. He has also started coursework in a Doctoral program at the University of Phoenix. Chief Craig is also a graduate of the esteemed Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy.