



Law, Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee

“Police-Community Relations” (CLE)

Thursday, December 10, 2015, 8:30 – 10:15 am

Speaker Biographies

Senator Ellen Roberts
Senate President Pro Tem
Senate District 6
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Senator Ellen Roberts represents Colorado’s 6th Senate District, in Durango, Colorado and surrounding counties in southwestern Colorado. She was elected last year by her caucus to be Senate President Pro Tem, and she also serves as chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee and as vice chair of the Agriculture, Natural Resources and Energy Committee. In the interim, she has chaired the Water Resources Review Committee and served on the Profiling-Initiated Contacts by Law Enforcement Interim Committee. Previous to her election to the Colorado Senate in 2010, she served two terms in the Colorado House. In 2007, Senator Roberts worked with teens in her district to write legislation creating the Colorado Youth Advisory Council to bring the youth voice to policymaking in the Capitol. She’s been a member of the Legislative Legal Services Committee since entering office, has served on the House Finance Committee and was appointed in 2009 to serve on the special task force on economic recovery. Senator Roberts has worked internationally in legislative strengthening programs in Algeria, South Africa and Mozambique. She has served on the Executive Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), and as co-chair of NCSL’s Budgets and Revenue Committee. She is currently a member of this NCSL committee. Senator Roberts practiced law for more than 20 years, and also worked in several national parks and at Winter Park ski resort. She received her bachelor’s degree in environmental policy from Cornell University, and earned a law degree from the University of Colorado’s School of Law.



NCSL "Police-Community Relations" (CLE), Thursday, December 10, 2015, 8:30 – 10:15 am

Senator Catherine E. Pugh
Senate Majority Leader
Senate District 40
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Senator Pugh has represented Maryland's Senate District 30 since 2007, and is the Senate Majority Leader after having served as deputy majority leader and deputy majority whip. She is a member of the Finance Committee and chair of the Transportation subcommittee and Health subcommittee. She currently is the Senate chair of the Maryland General Assembly's Public Safety and Policing Work Group. She chairs the Special Committee on Substance Abuse and is a member of the Executive Nominations Committee, the Joint Oversight Committee on the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, the Maryland Economic Development and Business Climate Commission, the Legislative Policy Committee, the Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive and Legislative Review, and the Joint Committee on Behavioral Health and Opioid Use Disorders. She is a member of NCSL's Legislative Effectiveness Committee and the Communications, Financial Services and Interstate Commerce Committee. She is the current president of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators. She served a term in the Maryland House of Delegates, representing District 40, and for five years as a member of the Baltimore City Council. She is president and CEO of Pugh and Company, a public relations consulting firm. She earned a bachelor's degree and MBA from Morgan State University.

Laurie Robinson
Clarence J. Robinson Professor of Criminology, Law and Society
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Laurie Robinson serves as the Clarence J. Robinson Professor of Criminology, Law and Society and has been involved in national criminal justice policy for more than three decades. In 2014, she was named by President Obama as co-chair of the White House Task Force on 21st Century Policing, charged with developing recommendations on ways to build greater trust between law enforcement and citizens. In 2014, she also was appointed to a congressionally created body, the Colson Task Force on Federal Corrections, which is charged with examining crowding in the federal prison system. Ms. Robinson twice served as a Senate-confirmed, Presidentially-appointed Assistant Attorney General for the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, the research, statistics and criminal justice assistance arm of DOJ. She is the longest-serving head of the agency in its 45-year history, and her tenure marked by focus on science and evidence in the field of criminal justice. Between her Office of Justice Programs appointments, Ms. Robinson directed the University of Pennsylvania's master's in criminology program and served as a distinguished senior scholar in Penn's Jerry Lee Center of Criminology. She also has held director positions with the American Bar Association. Ms. Robinson serves as co-chair of the International Association of Chiefs of Police Research Advisory Committee and on the Vera Institute of Justice Board of Trustees. She holds a bachelor's degree from Brown University.



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Chief J. Thomas Manger
Chief of Police, Montgomery County Police Department
45 W. Watkins Mill Rd.
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
240-773-5700

Chief J. Thomas Manger was sworn in as Montgomery County Police Chief on January 30, 2004. The Montgomery County Department of Police (MCP) is one of the largest police departments in the State of Maryland, with more than 1,300 sworn and 550 civilian members serving 1 million residents in the greater Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area. Chief Manger began his law enforcement career in 1977 with the Fairfax County (Virginia) Police Department. He rose through the ranks to become Chief of Police in 1998. During his tenure in Fairfax County, Chief Manger received numerous awards including the Silver Medal of Valor. Chief Manger is credited with reorganizing and expanding the Fairfax County Police Department's community policing efforts. Chief Manger is currently the elected president of the Major Cities Chiefs Association, which represents the largest cities in the United States, Canada and the UK serving 82.5 million people. He also serves as the vice president on the board of directors for the Police Executive Research Forum. A Maryland native, he graduated from the University of Maryland and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, the National Executive Institute, the Police Executive Leadership School at the University of Richmond, and the Senior Executive Institute at the University of Virginia. In 2006, Chief Manger completed the John F. Kennedy School's Program for State and Local government at Harvard University.