



James M. Sheppard

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James lives in the North Winton Village Neighborhood in the City of Rochester. He has three grown children and 2 grandchildren. He enjoys motorcycling, weight lifting, and just enjoying living in the City of Rochester. Professional attributes include: excellent leadership, emergency management, communications, and youth & community engagement skills, and offering over 35 years of public safety expertise.

Skills & Abilities

MANAGEMENT

- During my professional career I have had the opportunity to lead and manage law enforcement, school safety, and public integrity organizations. Relative to the Rochester Police Department, this experience was progressive; initially managing small groups of staff assigned to specific tasks, and subsequently rising through every level of the organization, until eventually serving as Chief Executive Officer (Chief of Police). As the inaugural Director of School Safety and Security, I was instrumental in the establishment of the department: initiated school safety audits consistent with NYS SAVE legislation and national best practices; developed annual training program for school safety officers relative to leadership, communications, youth engagement.

LEADERSHIP

- During my tenure with the Rochester Police Department I progressively rose through each management level in the organization, from Police Officer, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, Commander, Deputy Chief, and Chief. Each position required a demonstrated ability to influence others to accomplish various initiatives and tasks; as well as an ability to establish and maintain a team environment grounded in communication, coordination, collaboration and cooperation.

COMMUNICATION

- Numerous opportunities with media, and before various groups as a trainer, coach and keynote speaker; small and large group presentations on a variety of subjects, ranging from community engagement, youth development, crime prevention, team building, professional and personal skills development.

TRAINER/COACH

- As a trainer for Dale Carnegie Training of Rochester, I trained and coached a variety of professionals from various vocations (Banking, Construction, Education); as well as college and high school young adults in the Dale Carnegie principles pertaining to Self Confidence, People Skills, Communication, Leadership, Stress Management and Team Building.

Experience

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR | ST. JOHN FISHER COLLEGE | JAN 2019- CURRENT

Criminology/Criminal Justice Program instructor, teaching a level 200 course in Contemporary Policing.

MONROE COUNTY LEGISLATOR | MONROE COUNTY | JAN 2016- DEC 2019

- Elected official representing the 23rd LD of the Monroe County Legislature, which encompasses SE Rochester and an adjacent portion of the Town of Brighton. Presently serving as the Ranking Minority Member on the Public Safety Committee.

VP YOUTH DEVELOPMENT | DALE CARNEGIE TRAINING OF ROCHESTER | DEC 2014-MAR 2018

- Certified Trainer
- Delivered programing/training specifically created and tailored to school students/young adults

PROGRAM COORDINATOR | CENTER FOR YOUTH - NEW BEGININGS PROGRAM | APR 2014-DEC 2014

- Assisted young men to navigate towards academic achievement and H.S. graduation. Included mentoring, role modeling, counseling, accountability, and communication with family to keep them on track.

POLICE CHIEF | CITY OF ROCHESTER | NOV 2010-DEC 2013

- 30 plus years of police experience; serving in numerous assignments while rising through the ranks (Officer, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, Commander, Deputy Chief, and Chief): Patrol, Training, Narcotics, Internal Affairs, Neighborhood Empowerment Team (Community Engagement), and Emergency Task Force (SWAT).

DIRECTOR- OFFICE OF PUBLIC INTEGRITY | CITY OF ROCHESTER | MAR 2010-NOV 2010

- Assisted the City of Rochester maintain public trust in government through audits, integrity investigations and ethics training.

DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY | ROCHESTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT | FEB 2008-MAR 2010

- Coordinated, supervised and trained school safety personnel; assist district administration and school staff establish and maintain safe school environments.

Education

BACHELOR OF ARTS | 1999 | EMPIRE STATE COLLEGE

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS | 1976 | CANTON AGRICULTURAL & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

- Major: Criminal Justice/Community Service

CERTIFIED INSPECTOR GENERAL | ASSOCIATION OF INSPECTORS GENERAL | 2010

- 2010 AIG Summer Certification Training, Chicago, IL

FBI EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE | 2012 | FBI HEADQUARTERS, QUANTICO, VA

- An innovative program designed for executive level law enforcement leaders that focuses on emerging challenges.

FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY, 188TH SESSION | 1998 | FBI HEADQUARTERS, QUANTICO, VA

- Professional course of study for U.S. and international law enforcement managers. Serves to improve the administration of justice to raise law enforcement standards, knowledge, and cooperation worldwide.