

DENNIS JEFFREY, MBA

CANDIDATE FOR ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AT FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

Chief of Police at The Ohio State University • 25+-Year Career with Columbus Division of Police

Certified Law Enforcement Executive • Police Executive Leadership College • Veteran

HIGH-IMPACT DIVISION AND TEAM LEADER with deep-rooted relationships spanning The Ohio State University Police Division and Columbus Division of Police, stemming from high-profile leadership roles with both esteemed organizations.

FUEL UNPRECEDENTED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT through targeted outreach programs, collaborating with numerous campus organizations and off-campus stakeholders to promote public safety, mitigate threats, and build coalitions.

CHAMPION DIVISION-WIDE ACCOUNTABILITY for carrying out the mission of the University, including putting **SERVICE** to others as the #1 priority, driving **INNOVATION** through creative inquiry, promoting **RESPECT** for all, acting with unwavering **INTEGRITY**, and embracing **DIVERSITY** of culture and thought.

- ★ High-EQ Leadership & Command
- ★ Budget Planning & Management
- ★ Law Enforcement Best Practices
- ★ Visioning & Strategic Planning
- ★ Relationship & Team Building
- ★ ICS & NIMS Protocols
- ★ Partnership Building
- ★ Clery Act & CALEA
- ★ Secret Clearance

"He is well respected in the community and continues to work towards having a positive relationship with all the directors within the Department of Public Safety. He has the potential and character to lead others and would be an asset and a great leader for the Police Division. As the Chief of Police, I understand the importance of perseverance, hard work, dedication, and building a cohesive team. Therefore, I have no hesitation in recommending Dennis for this wonderful opportunity to further his law enforcement career and to lead The Ohio State University Police Division."

— Former Chief of Police, Kimberly Spears-McNatt

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY POLICE DIVISION

Columbus, OH • 2024-

Present

Chief of Police

Provide strategic leadership and oversight for all law enforcement operations, ensuring a safe, secure, and inclusive environment that supports the academic mission of the university. Direct comprehensive policing services, crime prevention initiatives, criminal investigations, community engagement efforts across a massive campus to include two hospitals. Work in collaboration with university leadership, board of trustees, students, faculty, staff, local law enforcement partners, and community stakeholders to create an environment of trust and safety.

- ⇒ **ASSISTED IN THE RESEARCH AND IMPLEMENTATION** of a Real Time Crime Center to enhance analytical capabilities to better respond and prevent crimes and threats to campus.
- ⇒ **CREATED PLANS AND SERVED AS THE INCIDENT COMMANDER** for multiple large scale events to include football games, stadium concerts, and commencements.
- ⇒ **WORKED WITH ARCHITECTS AND UNIVERSITY PLANNERS TO CREATE** a remodel plan for the public safety building that will dramatically improve day to day operations.
- ⇒ **CONTINUED TO DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS AND WORK** with local, state, and federal partners to promote safety and security on campus and within the off-campus residential communities.
- ⇒ **WORKED TO ESTABLISH A OSUPD SUBSTATION** In the city jurisdiction to better assist the city police in providing services and support to students living off campus.
- ⇒ **PREPARED AND MANAGED A BUDGET** that provides fiscal responsibility while providing the critical needs to sustain police operations .

Play a key role in establishing the division's strategic plans and priorities governing training, accreditation, investigations, event management, and homeland security. Develop innovative services and collaborative programs, aligning with community agencies and partners to promote public order and safety for Ohio State's students, staff, visitors, and facilities. Lead readiness planning for large-scale events, including athletic events, concerts, community-wide gatherings, protests, and more. Assist with budget development.

"His demeanor creates an environment that encourages open lines of communication...fosters an environment of mutual respect...open to new projects and recommendations from the staff he supervises...I can rely on him to communicate and share information that may have a significant impact on the Police Division or the University."

— Excerpts from Performance Review

- ⇒ **RECOGNIZED AS THE 'GO-TO' PERSON TO COLLABORATE WITH THE COLUMBUS POLICE DIVISION**, living by the University Police Credo—Communication, Cooperation, and Collaboration—while forging mutually beneficial results. Expand community outreach and engagement, participating in numerous on- and off-campus events, yielding deep respect for the Division.
- ⇒ **EXPANDED THE JOINT PATROL PROGRAM**, a mutual aid agreement between The Ohio State University Police Division and the Columbus Division of Police, allowing officers to have jurisdiction off university property in select circumstances and reinforcing a longstanding collaborative relationship to investigate crimes, mitigate threats, and support students in need.
- ⇒ **CHAMPIONED EFFORTS TO EARN CALEA ACCREDITATION ON FIRST ATTEMPT**, taking over the project mid-process, but playing an integral role in securing teamwide buy-in for best practices, reaching the gold standard for a public safety agency.
- ⇒ **SOURCED, VETTED, AND LED THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A DRONE INTELLIGENCE AND DETECTION MONITORING SYSTEM** critical to protecting student privacy, event safety, and security risks posed by unmanned aircraft systems (UAS).
- ⇒ **COMMITTED TO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**, engaging in numerous division-wide police training and external programs involving media training from University Communications, Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management, Digital Accessibility, Managing Critical Incidents, and Risk Assessment for Intimate Partners related to Marsy's Law and crime victim rights.
- ⇒ **IMPLEMENTED A CASE REVIEW PROCESS** to support detectives throughout the investigation lifecycle, providing targeted guidance to improve solve rates and close files. Collaborate with the R&D team to identify other continuous process and performance improvement opportunities, creating innovative solutions impacting such areas as training and case submissions.

COLUMBUS DIVISION OF POLICE
1995-2022

Columbus, OH •

Major Crimes Bureau Commander, 2022; Patrol Commander, 2020-2022

Promoted to lead more than 200 team members in developing and implementing crime and violence reduction strategies and programs across Zone 4—including the University District—and requiring close collaboration with OSU Public Safety and Student Life. Monitored department expenses to optimize resource allocation, mitigating cost overruns and advancing program impact. Transitioned to the Major Crimes Bureau during last few months of career and championed innovative violence reduction programs.

"Commander Jeffrey has performed at or above all expectations for this evaluation. He made himself available to both his staff and to the public as he worked to solve the issues facing Zone 4 and the Division. He performed admirably during the summer protests and riots, becoming a go-to leader for me during this crisis."

— Excerpts from Performance Review

- ⇒ **CO-FOUNDED THE RE-ROUTE PROGRAM PROVIDING MICRO-INTERVENTIONS FOR COLUMBUS' MOST VULNERABLE**, at-risk youth, building partnerships with Columbus Department of Health's CARE Coalition and Columbus Parks & Recreation

Department based on the cornerstones of youth intervention, family engagement, parental support, and community outreach.

- ⇒ **BUILT DEEP RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY POLICE DIVISION AND CAMPUS STAKEHOLDERS**—vital following an on-campus homicide—gaining an understanding of the Clery Act and the heightened transparency required in reporting safety policies and campus crime statistics, and working with Student Life and Student Conduct to co-coordinate plans.
- ⇒ **CULTIVATED A SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIC ALLIANCE WITH THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT**, expanding on and off-campus collaboration, working jointly to address issues, identify root causes, and promote shared resources.
- ⇒ **CREATED A NEW HOMICIDE TEAM CONCEPT TO IMPROVE MORALE AND SOLVE RATES**, transforming the operating environment to provide officers with a greater work-life balance, improving productivity, and addressing rising homicide rates.
- ⇒ **EVANGELIZED COMMUNITY-DRIVEN RELATIONSHIP BUILDING**, opening first-time dialogues with diverse organizations, nurturing partnerships and alliances, and reconnecting officers to the humanity critical to the science of policing.

Mental Health Lieutenant, 2017-2020

Appointed as the first dedicated Lieutenant in the Mental Health domain after working tirelessly to expand programs across the city, so much so that a new position was carved out with the sole focus of forging cross-agency collaboration to promote mental health awareness, outreach, and response. Expanded Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training—named CIT Champion of the Year—providing officers with unprecedented access to resources and tools to improve community response, particularly to citizens in mental health crisis. Managed the department's Naloxone Program, promoting opioid overdose education and citywide Naloxone distribution.

"Lt. Jeffrey has managed a very complex role...by himself, since he was named to the position...he has done a phenomenal job and has represented the division very professionally...I do not believe our Mobile Crisis Response and Crisis Intervention Team programs would be what they are today without his leadership and connections with other organizations."

— Officer of the Month Nomination

- ⇒ **FOSTERED A COMMUNITYWIDE CULTURE OF COLLABORATION AND PROBLEM SOLVING**, addressing mental health and substance abuse challenges through joint work with local agencies (ADAMH Board of Franklin County and Netcare Access) and health systems (The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Nationwide Children's Hospital, and Maryhaven).
- ⇒ **CREATED AND LED THE FIRST MOBILE CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM**, championing a grassroots initiative to pair a Columbus Police Officer with a Mental Health Clinician when responding to citizens in need. Leveraged data to drive program decision-making, building a 10-member team that dramatically reduced the use of force and involuntary hospital admissions.
- ⇒ **DEVELOPED THE RIGHT RESPONSE UNIT OFFERING TARGETED TRIAGE AND RESPONSES**, working with the Columbus Division of Fire and Columbus Public Health to pilot a program providing instant access to mental health resources for citizens in crisis. Improved service levels and enabled reallocation of Fire and Police resources when clinical intervention was most appropriate.
- ⇒ **ACCELERATED ACCESS TO TREATMENT AND ULTIMATELY RECOVERY**, through coordination of the law enforcement aspects of the Rapid Response Emergency Addiction and Crisis Team. Worked with diverse public service agencies to provide immediate access to treatment programs and resources for those experiencing substance abuse disorders and drug overdoses.
- ⇒ **CO-DEVELOPED THE POLICE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM** to support the ability of citizens to engage in peaceful protests, creating a system to identify, isolate, and remove the select few individuals engaged in violent behaviors during such events.
- ⇒ **CREATED A SAFE SPACE FOR COLLEAGUES IN CRISIS** as a member of the Peer Assistance Team, additionally supporting workplace culture and desired behaviors as a member of the Employee Action Review System Committee, coaching and mentoring team members to thwart undesired disciplinary actions, proactively intervening to correct performance issues.

Patrol Lieutenant, 2012-2017

Led 60+ police officers and supervisors in the execution of daily patrol and investigative functions throughout Zone 4, a high-profile area of the city necessitating close collaboration and relationship-building with The Ohio State University Police Division.

Planned and facilitated community meetings aimed at driving continuous improvement of safety programs and responses to crime.

- ⇒ **DEPLOYED \$250K GRANT TO EQUIP PATROL OFFICERS WITH AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS**, greatly improving the ability of officers to treat citizens in cardiac arrest. Overcame initial resistance through education and training, securing sweeping buy-in for new medical tools to become an extension of policing duties and supportive of Fire and EMT teams.

Sergeant, 2001-2012; **Police Officer**, 1995-2001

Responded to calls, completed accurate and unbiased documentation, and fostered cross-functional collaboration. Promoted to supervise responses and provide leadership and mentorship to patrol officers, facilitating ongoing training and development.

MILITARY SERVICE

UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE

Columbus, OH, & Washington, DC • 2003-2016

Special Agent, Criminal Investigation Division

- ⇒ **PERFORMED THREAT ASSESSMENTS TO MITIGATE VULNERABILITIES** in preparation for Department of Defense personnel movements, serving as a dignitary protection agent for the Secretary of Defense at the Pentagon and during international trips.
- ⇒ **DESIGNED AND FACILITATED UNITWIDE TRAINING TO DRIVE READINESS**, serving as the unit's Physical Fitness Instructor.

EDUCATION

FRANKLIN UNIVERSITY

Columbus, OH • 2003

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Columbus, OH • 1993

Bachelor of Arts (BA), Political Science, English Minor

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy

Pending Session Date

Police Executive Leadership College (PELC)

2018

Certified Law Enforcement Executive (CLEE)

2017

SELECT COMMUNITY WORK

CITY OF COLUMBUS & FRANKLIN COUNTY, CONTINUUM OF CARE

Columbus, OH • 2018-2022

Law Enforcement Representative

- ⇒ **CONTRIBUTED TO OVERSEEING U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT-FUNDED PROGRAMS**, reviewing and voting on housing and shelter funding proposals, coordinating framework for action, and promoting cross-partner collaboration.

COLUMBUS CARE COALITION

Columbus, OH • 2017-2022

Law Enforcement Representative

- ⇒ **SERVED AS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THIS GROUP** established to address community trauma, building the infrastructure to engage, support, and educate Columbus residents, community organizations, and city programs on trauma response.

AFFILIATIONS

- International Association of Law Enforcement Administrators • Crisis Intervention Team International
- Central Ohio Chief's Association