

# **Governor's Task Force on Independent Investigations of Police Use of Force Advisory Group Bios**

## **Monica Alexander**

### **Advanced Training Division Manager, Criminal Justice Training Commission**

Monica began her career with the Washington State Patrol (WSP) in 1996 as a trooper cadet. She was commissioned as a WSP trooper in 1998 before becoming captain

As captain and legislative liaison, her involvement included: Wage increase legislation for the Washington state Troopers Association and Washington State Lieutenants and Captains Association, Sexual Assault Kit funding, Sexual Assault Kit Tracking system, Toxicology lab funding and the Missing Native American Women research and report.

Monica holds her bachelor's degree from Evergreen State College.

After 23 years of service, Monica retired in 2019 from the WSP. She currently serves as the Advanced Training Division manager at the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission.

## **Jim Bloss**

### **National Alliance on Mental Health – Washington state**

After retiring from the military, public and private sectors, Jim Bloss became a full-time community volunteer and political activist for causes close to his heart. Jim has been associated with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) for nearly 20 years – most of those years serving in various capacities at the NAMI Snohomish County Affiliate where he is now the immediate past president. Jim is currently a member of NAMI Washington's Public Policy Committee and is an appointed specialist on law, justice and corrections-related issues. Jim is a past vice-president on NAMI Washington. Currently, Jim is a Volunteer and Sponsor of NAMI involvements at the Department of Corrections' Monroe Correctional Complex.

Jim is also a member of the Military Officers Assn. of America, Seattle Chapter and Seattle University's Criminal Justice Advisory Council, representing NAMI Washington. He also sits in and audits meetings of the newly formed Washington State Reentry Council, representing NAMI Washington. Jim is an elected Democratic Precinct Committee officer (PCO) for Monroe 4 precinct, and received NAMI Washington's Jim Adams Lifetime Achievement Award.

## **Frank Cuthbertson**

### **Judge, Retired**

Judge Frank Cuthbertson retired in March of this year after nearly 20 years serving as a Pierce County Superior Court judge.

Cuthbertson has served as a Juvenile Court presiding judge and was instrumental in implementing the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative and significantly reducing disproportionate confinement of minority youth. Cuthbertson also served as vice-chair of the Governors Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice.

As presiding judge of Superior Court, he helped create Pierce County's Pre-Trial Services Program and Pierce County's Felony Mental Health Court Program.

Cuthbertson was named the Washington State Trial Judge of the Year in 2010 by the American Board of Trial Advocates. In 2019, he was honored by the Washington Chapter of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) for his efforts to decriminalize mental illness.

Cuthbertson is a graduate of Duke University and the Seattle University School of Law.

### **Toshiko Hasegawa**

#### **Executive Director, Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs**

In October 2018, Toshiko Hasegawa was appointed by Gov. Jay Inslee as executive director of the Washington State Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, where she collaborates with 12 appointed commissioners representing diverse communities from across the state. She also represented the Commission on the I-940 implementation work, providing input on policies relating to police training and independent investigations, and conducted outreach for community input statewide.

Hasegawa was previously appointed by Inslee to represent CAPAA upon the Joint Legislative Task Force on Deadly Force, and as communications manager and King County's Office of Law Enforcement Oversight, she helped improve police accountability structures and advocate for systemic change. She also worked at U.S. Investigations Services; a private entity retained by U.S. OPM to conduct independent investigations into federal law enforcement agencies

As president of Seattle JACL, the flagship chapter of the nation's oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization, she participated as an appointed member of the Seattle's Community Advisory Committee for the police chief search that resulted in the appointment of Kathleen O'Toole. She supported the establishment of the Community Police Commission under Mayor Mike McGinn and advocated before the Seattle City Council to ensure APA representation upon the Seattle CPC.

Hasegawa is a 4<sup>th</sup>-generation Seattleite and lifelong resident of the Beacon Hill neighborhood in Seattle. She holds a M.A. in Criminal Justice with a specialization in Investigative Criminology from Seattle University.

### **Rob Huss**

#### **Assistant Chief, Washington State Patrol**

A 30-year veteran of the Washington State Patrol (WSP), Assistant Chief Rob Huss heads the Investigative Services Bureau (ISB). This bureau encompasses six divisions: Criminal Investigations, Criminal Records, Investigative Assistance, Homeland Security, Office of Professional Standards, and Special Operations, and is comprised of around 380 staff - commissioned officers (varied rank/structure) and civil service personnel.

Throughout his career, Rob has served in varied assignments, including: field training officer for trooper cadets, detective in the Internal Affairs Section, Field Operations Bureau sergeant in Chehalis, WSP Academy supervisor and certified facilitator of International Association of Chiefs of Police Leadership in Police Organizations program, lieutenant in the Internal Affairs Section, captain leading the Office of Government and Media Relations and as the District 6 commander in Wenatchee - Field Operations Bureau. On June 16, 2019, Chief John R. Batiste appointed Rob to assistant chief of the ISB.

Rob currently serves on many state and regional committees and executive boards. He represents the WSP on the Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies, the Northwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Executive Board, the Western States Information Network Executive Board and the Executive Cabinet of Deputy Directors.

### **John Hutchings**

#### **Chair, Thurston County Commission, Washington State Association of Counties**

John “Hutch” Hutchings is chair of the Board of County Commissioners. He is currently serving the fourth year of his first term as commissioner for District #1.

During his tenure, Hutchings has worked with legislators on bills that focus on various county issues: homelessness, mental health treatment, annexations, and state funding. He currently serves as Chair of the Thurston-Mason Behavioral Health Organization, and sits on the Economic Development Council, Regional Housing Council, Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) and the WSAC Legislative Steering Committee.

Hutchings has dedicated much of his life to civil service. His successful 35-year career in law enforcement included 27 years with the Olympia Police Department, three years as chief of police in Tenino, with his career beginning as a police officer in 1980 in the City of Orange, California.

Hutchings earned his master’s degree in Organizational Leadership/Development from Chapman University. He was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship and spent three months conducting a multi-national research project, in England, Scotland and Wales. The focus of his study was on the effectiveness of critical incident debriefings on police officers.

His son, Michael (retired US Army Sergeant disabled) returned home from Iraq in 2011, after surviving an IED blast. Michael and Hutchings present to criminal justice personnel on law enforcement encounters with combat veterans in crisis. Those with a traumatic brain injury and/or PTSD demand specific understanding and de-escalation.

### **Deborah Jacobs**

#### **Director, Office of Law Enforcement Oversight**

In a career dedicated to economic and social justice, Deborah Jacobs has also held executive leadership positions for the ACLU, the Ms. Foundation for Women and the King County Office of Law Enforcement Oversight.

Over 20-years with the ACLU, Jacobs addressed a wide array of policing issues including internal affairs policies, bias-based policing, sexual harassment, local enforcement of federal immigration laws, civilian review, certification and training. Under Jacobs’ leadership, the ACLU of New Jersey developed a successful petition for DOJ intervention in the Newark Police Department. In her role as director of oversight over the King County Sheriff’s Office, Jacobs pushed for reforms to the handling and review of officer-involved shootings, as well as many other policies and practices to enhance public safety and reduce bias-based policing.

### **María Sigüenza**

#### **Executive Director, Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs**

María Sigüenza was born in México and immigrated with her mother as a young child to the state of Washington. She was raised in Burlington, located in the Skagit Valley. Sigüenza began her career in non-profit and public service in 2008 as a Spanish-English medical interpreter. She has worked in Skagit Valley Hospital, Sea Mar Community Health Centers, Health Care Authority, Department of Social and Health Services, and the Department of Licensing providing expertise in program management, policy changes, community engagement, language access, equity, diversity and inclusion.

Sigüenza earned a degree in humanities and social sciences from Western Washington University. She was appointed by Gov. Inslee as executive director at the Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs in August 2018.

**Sharon Swanson**

**Government Relations Advocate, Association of Washington Cities**

Prior to joining AWC in November 2018 Sharon Swanson served as a deputy prosecuting attorney in Benton County and for nine years with Senate Committee Services as a nonpartisan staff attorney in the Washington State Senate. Most recently, Swanson served as the legislative director for the Department of Social & Health Services. She covers public safety, behavioral health, liability and marijuana issues for AWC.

**Yasmin Trudeau**

**Legislative Director, Office of the Attorney General**

Yasmin Trudeau serves as the legislative director at the Washington State Office of the Attorney General. She is a licensed attorney and a proud graduate of Seattle University School of Law. Prior to her current role, she worked as staff counsel to the Washington State Senate Democratic Caucus, where she worked on Capital Budget, Trade, Economic Development, Agriculture and Water. She is also the former legislative aide to Washington State Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal during her time in the state Legislature.

During law school, Trudeau was a legal extern with the Honorable Justice Mary Yu, during her final months in King County Superior Court, a law clerk with the U.S. Attorney's Office and a policy fellow at the Polaris Project, an organization that takes a comprehensive approach to human trafficking, based in Washington D.C.