



KEYNOTE ADDRESS  
PAUL BUTLER

# COMMUNITY SUMMIT ON POLICING

Wednesday,  
May 10, 2023

5:30 p.m.

**St. Stephens Episcopal Cathedral**  
**221 S. Front Street, Harrisburg**

This event is a collaboration between:







## COMMUNITY SUMMIT ON POLICING

### PAUL BUTLER

Georgetown University School of Law Professor & Author of  
*Chokehold: Policing Black Men*



Paul Butler is the Albert Brick Professor in Law at Georgetown University Law Center, and a legal analyst on MSNBC. He is a contributing opinion writer for The Washington Post. During the 2017-18 academic year he was the Bennett Boskey Visiting Professor at Harvard Law School. He holds an honorary Doctor of Law Degree from City University of New York.

Professor Butler is one of the nation's most frequently consulted scholars on issues of race and criminal justice. His work has been profiled on 60 Minutes, Nightline, and The ABC, CBS and NBC Evening News. He lectures regularly at colleges, law schools, and community organizations throughout the United States and around the world. He served on the District of Columbia Code Revision Commission as an appointee of the D.C. City Council.

Professor Butler's scholarship has been published in many leading scholarly journals, including the Georgetown Law Journal, Yale Law Journal, Harvard Law Review, Stanford Law Review, and the UCLA Law Review. He was named the Professor of the Year award three times by the GW graduating class. At Georgetown he received the 2021-22 Frank F. Flagel Teaching Award, the law school's top teaching honor.

Professor Butler was elected to the American Law Institute in 2003. Professor Butler's book "Let's Get Free: A Hip-Hop Theory of Justice" received the Harry Chapin Media award. His book "Chokehold: Policing Black Men" was published in July 2017. The Washington Post named it one of the 50 best non-fiction books of 2017. Chokehold was also named one of the best books of the year by Kirkus Reviews and the Atlanta Journal Constitution. The New York Times described Chokehold as the best book on criminal justice reform since The New Jim Crow. It was a finalist for the 2018 NAACP Image Award for best non-fiction.

Professor Butler served as a federal prosecutor with the U.S. Department of Justice, where his specialty was public corruption. His prosecutions included a United States Senator, three FBI agents, and several other law enforcement officials.

Professor Butler is a graduate of Yale University, cum laude, and Harvard Law School, cum laude.



## COMMUNITY SUMMIT ON POLICING

### JOYCE DAVIS

Outreach & Opinion Editor, Pennlive



Joyce M. Davis is Outreach & Opinion Editor for PennLive and The Patriot-News. She is an author and veteran journalist who has lived and worked around the globe, including as a correspondent and editor for National Public Radio, Knight Ridder Newspapers in Washington, and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, based in Prague. She is founding President/CEO of the World Affairs Council of Harrisburg and a member of the board of directors of the Pennsylvania Council of Churches. She also is Lay Leader for the Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church and serves as its Advocacy Coordinator for Pennsylvania.





## COMMUNITY SUMMIT ON POLICING

# CHAD DION LASSITER, MSW

PHRC Executive Director



Chad Dion Lassiter is a National Expert in the field of American Race Relations. Mr. Lassiter has worked on race, peace, and poverty-related issues in The United States of America, Africa, Canada, Haiti, Israel, and Norway, and is called upon frequently by media outlets to provide commentary on race relations and potential solutions.

He is the current Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, where over his four years in this position, he has continued to push the Commonwealth forward in the spaces of DEI Training, Unconscious Bias Training, Anti-Racism Training and has developed and launched a 'No Hate in Our State Townhall' to

address the surge of White Nationalism in Pennsylvania, a 'Social Justice Lecture Series' providing an outlet for the communities in the State to discuss imperative issues and serves as a Racial Reduction Response team for those communities impacted by hatred. He oversees a staff of 87 with three Regional Offices that comprise the 67 Counties in Pennsylvania and manages an annual budget of \$11 million dollars.

He has also developed programs under his appointment, such as a 'Global Social Justice Initiative,' 'Black and Jewish Beloved Community Dialogue,' and the 'College Race Dialogue Initiative.' Mr. Lassiter received his Master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Social Work, where he was the A. Phillip Randolph Award winner in 2001 and was the recipient of the prestigious University of Pennsylvania's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Involvement Award in 2008.

Mr. Lassiter is a co-founder and current president of the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy & Practice's Black Men at Penn, the first Ivy League Black male group of social workers. Since 2003 this transcendent group has sought to recruit Black males into the profession, as well as, provide Anti-Racism and violence prevention training to urban and suburban schools around the country and diversity and inclusion training for corporate entities and penal systems.

Mr. Lassiter has been recognized by the Philadelphia Tribune as "The Most Influential African American Leader from 2010-2022," as "Who's Who among African-Americans" 17th edition in 2004 with such notables as Colin Powell and Michael Jordan.

On November 18th, 2019, Mr. Lassiter was inducted into the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy and Practice Alumni Hall of Fame. On October 26, 2021, Mr. Lassiter was chosen as National Association of Social Workers, Pennsylvania Chapter Social Worker of the Year for 2021. Mr. Lassiter has also been recognized by City & State's 2022 Pennsylvania Fifty Over 50; City & State's 2022 Pennsylvania Impact 50 and City and State's Pennsylvania Power of Diversity: Black 100.



## COMMUNITY SUMMIT ON POLICING

### JENNIFER W. GETTLE

Chief Deputy District Attorney, Dauphin County



Jennifer W. Gettle currently serves as a Chief Deputy District Attorney for the Dauphin County District Attorney's Office. In Dauphin County, her primary caseload includes child abuse and sexual assault offenses, in addition to other crimes of violence. Prior to joining Dauphin County in 2006, Ms. Gettle was the First Assistant District Attorney for the Lebanon County District Attorney's Office where she served until December of 2005. Ms. Gettle began her career in the District Attorney's Office in 1995 as a Victim Advocate for the Child Abuse Response Team. In 1996, she was appointed as an Assistant District Attorney with the child abuse unit. In 1999, she was appointed First Assistant handling major

felony cases including numerous homicide cases. While in Lebanon County, Ms. Gettle was cross-designated as a Special Assistant United States Attorney for the Middle District of Pennsylvania in conjunction with Project Safe Neighborhoods.

Ms. Gettle has taught for PBI, PDAA, the Pennsylvania DUI Association and the criminal justice program at HACC. In 2017, Ms. Gettle was the recipient of the Governor's Victim Service Pathfinder Award.

Ms. Gettle received her undergraduate degree in 1992 from the Pennsylvania State University and her law degree in 1996 from the Widener University School of Law.



## COMMUNITY SUMMIT ON POLICING

### DAVID M. SPLAIN

Chief of Police, Nether Providence Township



Chief David Splain is a 1981 graduate of Nether Providence High School and a 47-year resident of Nether Providence Township. He is a 1981 graduate of Nether Providence High School, a 1984 graduate of the Delaware County Police Academy, a 1985 graduate from Widener University with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology, and a 1992 graduate of Saint Joseph's University with a Master's Degree in Public Safety.

Chief Splain began his law enforcement career in 1985, working as a Police Officer with the North Wildwood Police Department in the summers of 1985 and 1986. He was hired by the Darby Borough Police Department, where he worked as a part-time officer from 1986-1988, before being hired full-time with the Yeadon Police Department.

Chief Splain worked as a Patrolman from 1988-1998, when he was promoted to Patrol Sergeant. He worked as a Patrol Sergeant until 2000, when he was promoted to Detective Sergeant, a position he held until he retired in June 2013. In June 2013, Chief Splain was hired as the Chief of Police of the Nether Providence Police Department.

Chief Splain has served on the Executive Board of the Pennsylvania Police Chiefs Association since 2018 and is currently the organization's President. He has also served on the Executive Board of the Police Chiefs Association of Southeastern Pennsylvania since 2016, serving as the President in 2020, and is currently the Association's Secretary. He also served on the Executive Board of the Delaware County Police Chiefs Association from 2015-2022, serving as the President in 2020 before transitioning off of the Executive Board. He is also a member of the International Police Chiefs Association.

In addition, Chief Splain also serves on the Executive Boards of the Delaware County Victim Assistance Center and the Joseph Barrett High School All-Star Baseball Scholarship Committee.

Chief Splain has officiated high school baseball and football for 20 years. He serves as the President of the Delaware County PIAA Baseball Umpires Association and is an Executive Board member of the PIAA Football Officials Chester Chapter. Chief Splain is a proud parent of three children, David Splain Jr., Victoria Splain, and Matthew Splain. Matthew is currently serving in the United States Army.

Thank  
you!

## Upcoming PHRC Events

**MAY 31** PHRC Fair Housing Empower Hour: Accessibility & Fair Housing  
**12 PM** *Virtual*

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**JUNE 21** Housing Equality Conference  
*Weitzman National Jewish American Museum*

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**JUNE 28** PHRC Fair Housing Empower Hour: Fair Housing Fundamentals  
**12 PM** *Virtual*

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**JULY 20** disABILITY Conference  
*Harrisburg Hilton, One North Second Street, Harrisburg*

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PHRC EVENTS

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