

Member Biographies

Serious and Deadly Force Investigation Taskforce

Serious and Deadly Force Investigation Taskforce Members

Jim Graddon, Co-Chair
Formerly with King County Sheriff's Office

André Taylor, Co-Chair
Not This Time

- James Bible, James Bible Law Group
- Emma Catague, Community Police Commission, Filipino Community Center
- Gregg Caylor, Seattle Police Department
- Leslie Cushman, I-940 Campaign
- Lisa Daugaard, Community Police Commission, Public Defender Association
- Josh Johnson, City Attorney's Office
- Mark Larson, King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Jim Maher, Council on American-Islamic Relations Washington
- Michelle Merriweather, Urban League
- Andrew Myerberg, Office of Police Accountability
- Sweetwater Nannauck, Idle No More
- Designee to be determined, SafeFutures Youth Center

Serious and Deadly Force Investigation Taskforce Staff

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Observers

- Hassan Aden, Monitoring Team
- Anne Bettesworth, Office of Police Accountability
- Michelle Chen, City Attorney's Office
- Greg Doss, City Council Central Office
- Christina Fogg, U.S. Department of Justice



Jim Graddon (*Co-Chair*) was born and raised in the Burien area of south King County, one of 8 children. His mother was a full time Registered Nurse and father was a career law enforcement officer with the King County Sheriff's Office. Jim began his career in policing in 1973 with Seattle as a police cadet and then dispatcher. He was hired by the King County Sheriff's Office in February of 1978 as a deputy serving the White Center, Burien and Skyway communities among others. During his career he had many assignments including supervising the Major Crimes Unit for 6 years and serving as the last Green River Homicides Investigation commander. For several years prior to retiring from the KCSO in 2013 Jim served as the Sheriff's Southwest Precinct Major and as the Chief of Police for the City of SeaTac. In those roles he had the wonderful opportunity to work with remarkable individuals and organizations in introducing the LEAD (Law

Enforcement Assisted Diversion) program in Seattle and King County.

After retiring, Jim served as an inaugural member and first co-chair of King County's Office of Law Enforcement Oversight Citizen Advisory Committee from 2014 to 2016.

Jim and his wife Linda celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary last year. He is a volunteer museum educator and monitor at the LeMay America's Car Museum in Tacoma. He is also a multi-year member of the scholarship selection committee for Southwest Youth and Family Services / New Futures in West Seattle.

Contact information: ljgraddon@comcast.net,



André Taylor (*Co-Chair*) is a university lecturer, public speaker, and life coach sharing his story of perseverance and redemption. In 2005, Mr. Taylor published the book "The Road to Paradise" and has since been invited to speak on the Montel Williams Show and on the Trinity Broadcasting Network. Andre' continues to speak at prisons and teach at transitional treatment centers around the country.

André's brother Che Taylor was killed by the Seattle Police Department in February 2016. Following, Andre started the nonprofit "Not This Time," to assure that police killings would end. Not This Time is a coalition of Native Tribes, Black Churches, Latino organizations, API organizations, and people with disabilities groups to push for police accountability through policy change. It has garnered the support of U.S. Senator Patty Murray, U.S. Congressman Adam Smith, King County Sheriff Mitzi Johanknecht as well as Seattle's Community Police Commission and the King County Office of Law Enforcement Oversight, and many others as it works to create a more just use-of-force laws in Washington.

André was instrumental in bringing together De-Escalate Washington, which has now qualified Initiative 940 to update the use of deadly force law in Washington and require more training for law enforcement on first aid, mental health, and de-escalation tactics. This campaign is one of the strongest people of colored coalition Washington has ever seen, turning in over 360,000 signatures to the state and raising over \$1.4 million to qualify.

André was born in Seattle and has split is time between the Northwest and Los Angeles throughout his life. He has been married to Dove Taylor for 18 years and has six children.

Contact information: andreltaylor@yahoo.com



James Bible has been protecting the rights of those that have been accused of crimes for well over a decade. He began his career as a defense attorney with The Defender Association in Seattle Washington. The Defender Association is a law firm that represents indigent people that have been accused of a crime. During his tenure with The Defender Association, Mr. Bible represented well over 1,000 clients. He has handled all types of criminal cases from misdemeanors all the way up to Murder 1. In 2007, Mr. Bible made the decision to open up his own law office.

Since 2007, Mr. Bible's law practice has been focused principally upon criminal defense and personal injury cases. He is known as a tough litigator who will work tirelessly to help his clients achieve the best outcome possible. Mr. Bible's efforts have been recognized on the local, state and national level.

Contact information: james@biblelawgroup.com



Emma Catague, a domestic violence survivor, is a dedicated advocate in ending violence against women and children. She has 30 years of experience in community and labor organizing, advocating for human rights, immigration issues, bilingual education, youth development, employment rights, and working for social change. She is a founding mother of the Asian Pacific Islander Women and Family Safety Center (APIWFSC), and former Community Organizer and Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Anti-Human Trafficking Advocate for API Chaya.

Emma is a member of the Community Police Commission.

Contact information: emma.catague@seattle.gov

No Photo Provided

Gregg Caylor is a Captain in the Seattle Police Department and has been with the Department for 28 years. His current assignment is in the Force Investigations Team. His previous assignments include:

- 2016-2018 Commander Office of Professional Accountability
- 2014-2016 Force Review Board Section Commander
- 2013-2014 Human Resources Commander
- 2009-2013 Commander Major Crimes Task Force
- 2007-2009 Human Resources Commander
- 2005-2007 Watch Commander Patrol
- 2004-2005 Detective Sergeant Internal Investigations
- 2003-2004 Sergeant Community Police Team
- 2001-2003 Anti-Crime Team Sergeant
- 2000-2001 Sergeant Patrol
- 1997-2000 Night Narcotics Pro Act
- 1994-1997 East Precinct Anti-Crime Team
- 1993-1994 East Precinct Community Police Team
- 1990-1993 Patrol

Contact information: Gregg.Caylor@seattle.gov



Leslie Cushman is an attorney and community organizer. In 2015, in the aftermath of a police shooting, Leslie and six other community leaders founded the Olympia Coalition to Reform Deadly Force Laws. Partnering with the Black Alliance of Thurston County, the Olympia Coalition joined a grassroots network to bring forward state legislation addressing the use of deadly force. This work ultimately evolved into the De-Escalate Washington Campaign and Initiative 940. Leslie is the citizen sponsor of I-940 and serves on the De-Escalate Washington Co-chair Committee. Leslie currently works part time for the Puyallup Tribe of Indians economic enterprise. Before coming to the Puyallup Tribe she spent 14 years in leadership at the State Department of Revenue, worked at the State Legislature for 15 years, as well as worked at Seattle City Light, WSDOT, and Dirty Dave's. Leslie graduated with honors from Washington State

University, earned her law degree from Seattle University, and has a Master in Environmental Studies from The Evergreen State College.

Contact information: leslie.cushman.olympia@gmail.com



Lisa Daugaard is Director at the Public Defender Association (PDA). Since 2001, under Lisa's leadership, the Racial Disparity Project at PDA has focused on racial disparity in Seattle drug arrests, and since 2005, they have worked to develop LEAD, a pre-arrest diversion alternative to traditional arrest and prosecution for low-level drug and prostitution suspects. Prior to becoming a public defender in 1996, Lisa directed the Urban Justice Center Organizing Project and was Legal Director of the Coalition for the Homeless, both in New York City, and was a fellow at the ACLU National Legal Department.

Lisa is a member of the Community Police Commission.

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Josh Johnson represents the City and Seattle Police Department officers as a member of the City Attorney's Office's Police Action Team. He also works alongside the City Attorney as counsel for the City in *United States v. City of Seattle*, the suit that led to the ongoing Consent Decree addressing SPD's use-of-force policies. Before taking his current role, he advised the predecessor to Seattle's Office of Police Accountability, and represented the City in a wide range of litigation. Before joining the City Attorney's Office, he worked for ten years as a law clerk for Judge James Robart and Judge Richard Jones in Seattle's federal district court. Josh earned his law degree at Stanford University.

Contact information: Josh.Johnson@seattle.gov

No Photo Provided

Mark Larson received his JD in 1985 and has served as a King County Deputy Prosecutor throughout his career. In 1993, he was named Chief Deputy of the Criminal Division, which employs over 160 lawyers. Mark is a frequent lecturer/speaker on a wide variety of criminal justice issues. He has a long-standing interest in eyewitness identification, and helped author the National Institute of Justice's *Eyewitness Evidence: a Guide for Law Enforcement* (1998). More recently, he co-authored *Eyewitness Identification: An Update on What Chiefs Need to Know*, published in *The Police Chief* (2013). Mark also authored *The Exoneration of Brandon Olebar* in the Marshall Project (Feb. 2015). For fun, Mark is an avid motorcycle enthusiast.

Contact information: Mark.Larson@kingcounty.gov



Jim Maher is a Civil Rights Team member at CAIR-Washington State, a chapter of America's largest Muslim civil liberties and advocacy organization.

After spending many years in the investment field, Jim realized that his real passion was working with the law. Rather than attempt to complete law school, Jim decided to train as a paralegal and obtained his paralegal certificate from Highline Community College in 2012. After completing that program, Jim has served with a variety of non-profit legal organizations. This included two years at the Eastside Legal Assistance Program in Bellevue and one year as a Dependency CASA at the King County Superior Court in Kent. Jim joined the Civil Rights Staff of CAIR Washington in 2015 and is extremely proud to be able to assist members of the Muslim community get the rights that they are entitled to.

Jim is married to Donna who is an instructor at Renton Technical College and has one daughter Susannah who is finishing her bachelor's degree in Environmental Science at Western Washington University in Bellingham.

Contact information: crteam@wa.cair.com



Michelle Y. Merriweather joined the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle team in August of 2015 as the Vice President. Her passion is combining her extensive sales, fund development, event planning and marketing background to better the communities in which she serves. Prior to changing her career to follow her passion in advocating for African Americans and under-served communities she had a successful career in sales and marketing with major organizations such as Starbucks, Heinz, and Coca Cola. In February 2018, Michelle became the 13th President of the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle. Michelle is an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated and a graduate of Xavier University of Louisiana with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing.

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Andrew Myerberg, a civilian lawyer, was sworn in by Mayor Tim Burgess November 21, 2017, to serve as the first OPA Director under the new police accountability legislation adopted in May of 2017. Andrew leads the work of OPA by overseeing the intake, classification, and investigation of complaints, certifying investigative findings, suggesting revisions and clarifications to Seattle Police Department policies, and making recommendations on discipline to the Chief of Police.

Andrew comes to OPA from the Seattle City Attorney's Office, where he was the lead attorney for the City of Seattle in the Consent Decree over the Seattle Police Department and provided legal advice to City departments on criminal justice and law enforcement issues. Andrew also previously served as legal counsel to the Community Police Commission.

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Sweetwater Nannauck (Tlingit, Haida, Tsimshian), is an Idle No More activist that advocates for the protection of the fragile environment of the Northwest Coast, for tribal sovereignty rights, and the traditional way of life of Native people. She conducts Idle No More 'Decolonizing Our Activism' workshops in a respectful way that is both healing and empowering.

November 10, 2017 is the 5th anniversary of Idle No More. Since then Idle No More Washington has had over 80 events and nonviolent direct actions that address local and global issues. She went to Washington, DC to lobby to protect the Arctic, she was involved in the 'Shell No' actions in Seattle and Anchorage when President Obama was there. Sweetwater was featured in the annual Seattle Weekly 'Best of Seattle' (2015) 'Best Activism Idea'.

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