

City of Eugene – Police Chief Finalist Bios



Mike Lester has 28 years of experience in municipal policing, including seven years in executive command positions. He currently serves as the Assistant Police Chief for the City of Vancouver, Washington, a position he has held since 2012. Previously, he was Vancouver Police Department's Special Operations Division Commander, and West Precinct Commander. Lester also served as Detective Sergeant for the Clark-Skamania Drug Task Force. Lester earned a bachelor's degree in Business Management from California Coast University. He is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Clark County Law Enforcement Council, and the Washington Association of Police Chiefs and Sheriffs.



Bruce Marquis has 40 years of law enforcement experience, including over 15 years as Police Chief for the Cities of Norfolk, Virginia and Hartford, Connecticut, and the Houston, Texas Independent School District. He currently is the Training Programs Consultations Manager for the U.S. Department of State, Diplomatic Security, Anti-terrorism Assistance Program (ATA), where he also served as the Law Enforcement Subject Matter Expert for the ATA & International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Division. Previously Marquis served as a Special Agent for the FBI, and Security Manager for the 1984 LA Olympics organizing committee. Marquis earned a doctorate in Higher Education Administration from Texas Southern University, and master's degrees in Criminal Justice Management and Business Administration from Sam Houston State and Pepperdine Universities respectively. He is a graduate of the National FBI Academy and Harvard's JFK School of Government Executive Sessions in Policing and Public Policy, and Strategic Management of Regulatory and Enforcement Agencies.



Chris Skinner has 27 years of police experience and currently serves as the Chief of Police for the Richland, Washington, Police Department, a position he has held since 2011. He previously served for over three years as the Deputy Chief of Police for Hillsboro, Oregon, where he also served as Police Commander and Police Lieutenant. Skinner also worked for the Benton County Sheriff's Office in Corvallis, Oregon. Skinner earned a master's degree in Business Administration from George Fox University and a bachelor's degree in Law Enforcement and Psychology from Western Oregon University. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, and served as co-chair of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs statewide Public Trust and Technology Committees. He was appointed to the State of Washington Task Force Against Trafficking of Persons.