

CJAG 2024

ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

Keynote
Speaker

MICHAEL J. PERSLEY



Michael J. Persley ascended to the position of Chief on May 23, 2015, taking on the crucial role of Chief Law Enforcement Officer for the City of Albany. With a career spanning 30 years within the Albany Police Department, he has held many significant roles. Notably, he has served as the Gang Unit Commander, East District Police Commander, and Assistant Commander of the Albany-Dougherty Metro SWAT Team, where his responsibilities ranged from entry team member to negotiations commander.

Chief Persley's educational background is impressive, boasting a Master's Degree in Administration/Justice and Security from the University of Phoenix, a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Troy University, and an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice from Darton College. Additionally, he has amassed over 2800 hours of basic and advanced police training, and he is a graduate of esteemed programs such as the IACP Leadership in Police Organization and the Northwestern School of Police Staff and Command.

Active in various professional associations, Chief Persley contributes his expertise as a District Representative for the Georgia Association Chiefs of Police and as a Board of Directors member for the International Association Chiefs of Police. Moreover, he extends his commitment to the community by serving on several boards and committees, including Stop the Violence and the Dougherty County Rotary Club.

Beyond his exemplary service in law enforcement, Chief Persley brings with him a distinguished military career. Retired from the Georgia Army National Guard after 22 years of dedicated service, he held the rank of Captain upon retirement. He deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iraq, and Afghanistan throughout his military tenure, exemplifying his unwavering dedication to his country and community.