

THE WINSTON-SALEM POLICE DEPARTMENT SALUTES THESE AFRICAN-AMERICAN TRAILBLAZERS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

FREDERICK DOUGLASS

First Black United States Marshall

Frederick Douglass, best known as a leading abolitionist and anti-slavery orator, was appointed by President Rutherford B. Hayes to serve as United States Marshal for Washington D.C. in 1877.



LUCIOUS AMERISON

First Black Sheriff Elected in the South after Reconstruction

Following passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, Lucious Amerison was elected sheriff of Macon County, Ala. in 1966. He won the respect of all citizens for his commitment to enforce the law fairly and equally regardless of color and would serve for 20 years.

ERIC HOLDER

First Black U.S. Attorney General

After previously serving as a Superior Court judge, U.S. attorney for Washington D.C. and deputy attorney general under President Bill Clinton, Eric Holder was appointed in 2009 by President Barack Obama to serve as the nation's top law enforcement officer.



BENJAMIN WARD

First Black Commissioner of the New York Police Department

Benjamin Ward joined the New York Police Department in 1951. He served as a uniformed officer for 15 years before joining the executive ranks of the department. In 1984, Mayor Edward Koch appointed him police commissioner, making Ward the first African American to lead the nation's largest police department.

PATRICIA NORRIS

First Black Police Chief in Winston-Salem

Patricia Norris joined the Winston-Salem Police Department in 1977. During her career, she served as a patrol officer, detective, sergeant, lieutenant, captain, and assistant chief before being named chief in February 2004. She retired in 2008.



Winston-Salem
Police Chief

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