



Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

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SHEILA POLK
Yavapai County Attorney

Vice Chairperson
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Safford Police Department

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Navajo County Sheriff

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Law Enforcement Leader

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Arizona Criminal Justice Commission Announces New Leadership

Yavapai County Attorney Sheila Polk Elected as New Chairperson, Safford Police Chief Joe Brugman Elected Vice-Chairperson

Phoenix, AZ, Friday, January 26, 2018 – Today, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) announced that Yavapai County Attorney Sheila Polk was elected as the Commission's new Chairperson and Safford Police Chief Joe Brugman was elected as Vice-Chairperson at the Commission's January meeting. Both will serve a two year term in their respective positions.

"County Attorney Polk and Chief Brugman bring an immense amount of criminal justice experience and knowledge to their leadership positions at the Commission," said Andrew T. LeFevre, Executive Director of the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission. "I look forward to working with them to support ACJC's mission to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of Arizona's criminal justice system."

Sheila Polk became the first woman to be elected to the position of Yavapai County Attorney in November of 2000, and is currently serving her fifth term in the position. She was appointed by Governor Jan Brewer to serve on ACJC in May of 2012 and was previously Vice-Chair of ACJC. She is Chair of the Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council and past president of the Arizona County Attorneys and Sheriffs Association.

Ms. Polk, County Attorney for Yavapai County, is a native Arizonan who received her Bachelor's Degree and Law Degree from Arizona State University. After clerking for Arizona Supreme Court Justice Jack Hays, Ms. Polk served in the Arizona Attorney General's Office for eleven years before moving to Yavapai County in 1994. There, she joined the Yavapai County Attorney's Office where she specialized in the prosecution of felony crimes, including elder abuse, domestic violence, sexual offenses and repeat felony offenders.

"I am honored to serve as Chair of ACJC and have great respect for all the members of the organization," said Sheila Polk, Yavapai County Attorney. "I am deeply committed to our mission of improving public safety through the coordination of all criminal justice agencies throughout Arizona."

Chief Joe Brugman was appointed as the Police Chief for the City of Safford on June 2, 2014, after serving as the Chief of Police for the City of Coolidge. Chief Brugman previously served the City of Chandler for 25 years, leaving as a Commander. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience including patrol, criminal investigations, undercover operations, internal investigations, communications, and community relations.

Chief Brugman has an associate's degree from Central Arizona College, a Bachelor's Degree from Arizona State University and a Master's Degree from Northern Arizona University. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, the Southern Police Institute, the Arizona Leadership Program and the Rural Executive Management Institute. He was appointed to the Commission by Governor Jan Brewer in January 2013.

Our mission is to continuously address, improve, sustain and enhance public safety in the State of Arizona through the coordination, cohesiveness, and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System

"It is an honor to be selected as Vice-Chair of ACJC," said Joe Brugman, Chief of the Safford Police Department. "I look forward to working with the Commission to enhance public safety throughout Arizona."

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Created in 1982, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission is a statutorily authorized entity mandated to carry out various coordinating, monitoring and reporting functions regarding the administration and management of criminal justice programs in Arizona. The ACJC serves as a resource and service organization for Arizona's criminal justice community on a myriad of issues ranging from drugs, gangs and victim assistance to criminal history, and crime laboratory enhancements.