

## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

### **Christie DeGrendele**

Christie DeGrendele is the Executive Director of the YWCA Sweetwater County, Wyoming, a position in which she has served for over 25 years. Under her direction, the YWCA operates a domestic violence and sexual assault shelter, 24 hour crisis line, and several other services. The YWCA also operates Early Care and Learning Centers for children from birth to 12 years and a Big Brothers Big Sisters Program.

As a nonprofit administrator, Ms. DeGrendele is experienced in board governance, program administration, management and supervision, fund development, and prevention services. She is a member of the YWCA USA Board, Wyoming Workforce Development Council, and the Rock Springs Area Community Foundation.

Ms. DeGrendele received her bachelors of science from the University of Wyoming.

### **James D. Fox**

James Fox is the Chief of Police for Newport News, Virginia. As Chief, Mr. Fox has restructured the strategic management plan and has implemented intelligence-led policing, which has helped in reducing crime over the last five years. Chief Fox established the city's police training academy, and cybercrime and intelligence units. During his tenure, the Newport News Police Department has received millions of dollars in grants, which has helped the department become a model agency with regard to technology.

Chief Fox began his career in law enforcement over 40 years ago, first serving as a police dispatcher, then as police officer and sergeant with the Virginia Commonwealth University Police. He later was hired by Henrico County Police in 1973, where he worked in all areas of the agency before becoming Assistant Chief in 1991. Mr. Fox has taught courses at Virginia Commonwealth University and J. Sergeant Reynolds Community College. He currently serves as a team leader for the National Commission of Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc., where he has assessed a number of major agencies in the United States and foreign countries. He also serves on the International Association of Chiefs of Police Board Executive Committee.

Chief Fox holds a bachelor's of science and master's degrees from the Virginia Commonwealth University. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and the Senior Executive Management Institute at the Kennedy School of Leadership at Harvard University. Chief Fox also completed the Police Executive Leadership School at the University of Richmond.