



LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERS

To Reduce Crime & Incarceration

Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime & Incarceration Welcomes Three Current Members to the Executive Board

December 9, 2021

Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime & Incarceration (LEL) is honored to welcome to the [Executive Board](#)—which spearheads the coalition under Executive Director Ronal Serpas—Chief Carmen Best (Ret.), Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian, and County Attorney John J. Choi, each of whom have honored LEL’s mission as national leaders in their respective fields.



Chief Carmen Best (Ret.)

Best served as Chief of Seattle Police Department in Washington. After rising through the ranks from officer to chief, Best became the first Black woman to hold this role. While chief, Best increased diversity within the force, prioritized community engagement, strived for greater equity in traffic enforcement, and more. Since retiring, Best has published her book *Black in Blue*, advocated for driver’s license suspension reform, and now shares her law enforcement expertise as an NBC/MSNBC analyst.



Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian

Koutoujian is the Sheriff of Middlesex County, Massachusetts. Among numerous innovative initiatives, Koutoujian implemented a medication-assisted treatment program and specialty units for young adults and veterans under his care. He is currently leading the creation of the Middlesex County Restoration Center and completing his term as President of Major County Sheriffs of America. Previously, Koutoujian also served as a prosecutor, state legislator, and president of the Massachusetts Sheriffs’ Association.



County Attorney John J. Choi

Choi is the County Attorney for Ramsey County, Minnesota and the first Korean-American chief prosecutor in the nation. Since taking office, Choi has been a bold and innovative leader by diverting specified juvenile cases to an external review panel, no longer prosecuting felony cases rooted in low-level traffic stops to reduce racially biased stops, successfully advocating for state drug law reforms, establishing a veterans court, and more. Prior to this role, Choi served as Saint Paul City Attorney.