

Chief Diane Hobley-Burney was appointed Chief of Police for the City of Fort Pierce Police Department on June 1, 2015. Hobley-Burney was hired after a very competitive national search. She brings 27 years of law enforcement experience from the Tampa Police Department, where she earned the distinction of a highly respected leader in that community. Nearly 400 citizens attended the swearing in ceremony to demonstrate their support of her appointment, including 50 residents of Tampa that traveled approximately 300 miles roundtrip. They held banners with the caption "I am a Fan of Chief Diane," to show appreciation for a leader who made a difference in their community.

Chief Hobley-Burney's fighting crime experience is extensive. She was a Commander over a very diverse district, which included the beautiful Downtown Tampa, Channelside, Ybor City, and East Tampa. Her career was just as colorful; she worked her way through the ranks. Hobley-Burney's career took her on a rewarding journey throughout the department, including as a Field Training and School Resource Officer, Detective in Domestic Violence, Crime Prevention Corporal, Patrol Sergeant and Lieutenant, and a Captain over Personnel and Training, Evidence Control, Records, the Reserve Force, and Patrol.

Her efforts to stop the cycle of violence in domestic abuse inspired her to become a domestic violence trainer and hold the position of Domestic Violence Coordinator. She also managed the Federal Weed and Seed Program that created anti-drug programs, revitalized neighborhoods and helped disadvantaged children in East Tampa.

Her innovation created specialty call signs for officers during special operations that identified them of their roll and assigned area. This out-of-the-box thinking in using call sign identifiers are still being used in some assignments today.

She believes community oriented policing is the key to building and growing relationships with the citizens of Fort Pierce. She strives each day to assure that the mission of the Fort Pierce Police Department [To Reduce Crime and Enrich the Quality of Life through a Collaborative Partnership with all Citizens] is always fulfilled. With great passion she states, "It is an honor to be a resident of the beautiful City of Fort Pierce and oversee police services in the community that I consider home."

Chief Hobley-Burney has led a number of successful crime reduction initiatives since being in Fort Pierce. The most notable is what is proudly entitled the "Front Porch Roll Call Program." A Roll Call is where road patrol squads receive briefings of crime patterns and other significant information. To bridge the community and officers, Chief Hobley-Burney implemented briefings be taken from behind the walls of the police station to the front porch of homes, businesses, or neighborhoods. The impact was so successful that the Fort Pierce Police Department received the Business of the Year Award by the St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce in September 2015 for this community building initiative.

Chief Hobley-Burney earned her Master of Science in Criminal Justice with a concentration in Criminal Incident Management from Saint Leo University, where she also obtained a Bachelor of Science in Sociology. She is also a graduate of the Senior

Management Institute for Police in the course study in Executive Strategic Management, sponsored by the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF).