



Officer Karen Hawkes (Ret.) Massachusetts State Police Rowley, MA

Karen Hawkes served as a Massachusetts state trooper for 13 years. As a contraband officer, Hawkes' primary responsibilities included processing narcotics evidence and preparing it to be analyzed.

Hawkes is a mother and has volunteered as a Girl Scout troop leader and Sunday school teacher. She is particularly concerned about the drug war's impact on children and families.

Karen believes that medical treatment is better option than incarceration and that children are most happy and healthy when their families are not broken apart by the criminal justice system. She feels it is unnecessary to put police officers' lives in danger because of ill-conceived drug laws. "I am proud to have served as a state trooper," she says. "Drug laws put law enforcers at risk for violence - shootings, stabbings, and being stuck with hypodermic needles. Children whose parents are police officers need their parents too."

Hawkes earned a B.S.B.A in Finance, cum laude, from Northeastern University and a Master's in Criminal Justice Administration from Western New England College.

For event bookings, contact <u>Speakers@LawEnforcementAction.org</u> For media, contact <u>Media@LawEnforcementAction.org</u>

The Law Enforcement Action Partnership is a nonprofit organization composed of police, prosecutors, judges, and other criminal justice professionals who use their expertise to advance drug policy and criminal justice solutions that improve public safety. With 150 speakers across the United States, LEAP representatives reach millions of Americans each year through educational programs and media interviews..