

Deputy Commissioner Kevin Bethel (Ret.) Philadelphia Police Department Philadelphia, PA

Kevin Bethel began his law enforcement career as a patrol officer with the Philadelphia Police Department in 1986. Over the course of his 39-year career, Bethel served with the Patrol Bureau, Special Investigative Bureau, Narcotics Strike Force, Narcotics Field Unit, Narcotics Intelligence Investigative Unit, Internal Affairs Division, and was the Commanding Officer of the 17th Police District. He was later appointed to the position of Deputy Commissioner, where he commanded patrol operations for the City of Philadelphia. This included

oversight of 21 Patrol Districts, Neighborhood Services Unit, Philadelphia School District Police, Police Athletic League, and the Community Relations Unit.

Bethel left policing in 2015 and has since worked in the juvenile justice field. His accomplishments include creating a diversion program for the Philadelphia School system that saw school arrests drop by 54% in a single year. He currently serves on the Disproportionate Minority Contact Subcommittee of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, and is a member of the Philadelphia Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative. He is a faculty member for the International Association of Chiefs of Police Juvenile Justice Leadership Institute and a regular lecturer on school diversion and ethnic disparities at Georgetown University. He holds a B.S. in Criminal Justice from Chestnut Hill College and an M.A. in Public Safety from St. John's University.

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