

Inge Fryklund Assistant State's Attorney (Fmr.) Cook County State's Attorney's Office, Illinois Bend, OR Executive Board Member

Inge Fryklund was a prosecutor in Chicago where she served as Supervisor of the Criminal Appeals Division in the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. In this capacity, she was in charge of all criminal appeals out of Cook County and argued (and won) a case in the US Supreme Court. She was also involved in setting up the night bond court and prosecuted domestic violence cases.

More recently, she spent five years in Afghanistan working with the legal system and advising national, provincial, and municipal governments, as well as the US Army and Marine Corps. Throughout her time there, she observed the detrimental effects of US drug policy on the Afghan people and their legal and governance institutions

In Afghanistan, Fryklund saw many of the same patterns of drug-trafficking and violent conflict over territory present in Chicago. The local poppy farmers, just like youths in Chicago, were living perilously close to starvation and relied on the drug trade to make a living. American drug policy called for the eradication of the poppy fields, leading to destitution for some farmers and corruption from government officials who either participate in the drug trade or demand bribes to look the other way. Governmental corruption helps drive the insurgency, leading to more destabilization of the country and more US soldiers and Marines dying.

Currently semi-retired and working as a consultant, Fryklund lives in Bend, Oregon. She is a law school graduate of the University of Chicago and earned a PhD in Human Factors from the University of Michigan.

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 200 speakers across the United States, LEAP representatives reach millions of Americans each year through educational programs and media interviews...

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