Drennon Lindsey Interim Deputy Chief of Police

Drennon Lindsey initially began her career with the Oakland Unified School District at Elmhurst Middle School in 1995. She worked as a middle school teacher teaching subjects related to math and science for two years. While there she was also involved in additional assignments such as the School Activities Director, Student Council Leader and a part of the Science Club.

In 1998 she joined the Oakland Police Department as a police officer. Drennon has worked in a multitude of assignments to include patrol, community policing, medical unit office, backgrounds and recruiting, the criminal investigation division and a department instructor. Drennon was promoted to Sergeant in 2003. As a sergeant she worked as a Patrol Field Supervisor, Criminal Investigation Division Supervisor and a Criminal Investigator in Theft, Robbery, Felony Assault and Gangs. Drennon was promoted to Lieutenant in 2009.

As a Lieutenant she worked as a Watch Commander for the Bureau of Field Operations, Criminal Investigation Division Section Commander for Robbery, Felony Assault, Major Crimes Section, and Homicide Section. During her assignment in the Criminal Investigation Division, she was instrumental in the formation of the Major Crimes Section in which she wrote and revised policies related to criminal investigations against civilians and employees. She was also the lead trainer for many newly assigned investigators for that division. Drennon was promoted to Captain in 2014.

As a Captain she was assigned to the Bureau of Field Operations as an Area Commander in charge of West Oakland. Her duties included overseeing several different sections within the Division such as patrol, foot patrol, community resource section, crime reduction teams, special investigation unit, and civilians assigned to support duties such as technicians and police service technicians. She has been a captain of for five years holding assignments as the Personnel and Training Division which her duties include managing background and recruiting, personnel assessment unit, payroll, personnel, training of new police officers, in service training coordination and special projects related to technical operations and has served as an Area Commander for three different areas. Drennon was appointed to Interim Deputy Chief in October 2019.

As the Interim Deputy Chief she was assigned to the Bureau of Investigations in charge of the Criminal Investigation Division, Crime Analysis Unit, Special Investigative Task Forces, and an accredited Crime Laboratory. Her duties include overseeing all criminal investigations such as homicide, officer involved shootings, robbery, human trafficking, crimes against children, domestic violence, burglary, and other crimes; critical analysis of crime trends and patterns; collaboration with local and federal partners in high profile investigations; and all other investigations. She is also responsible for several high level projects which includes the Racial Disparity Study, Pipeline Program between OPD and Merritt College, and a Special Hiring and Recruitment Committee focused on racial diversity and inclusion.

Drennon holds a Bachelor Degree in Biology California State University, Hayward and a Master's Degree in Industrial Organization Psychology from Golden Gate University. She is currently a third year doctoral candidate for Leadership Education at St. Mary's College in Moraga California. She is also a graduate of the IACP Modesto Leadership Institute, POST Management School and the Senior Management Institute for Policing. Drennon is a member of the Oakland Black Officers Association (OBOA), a member of N.O.B.L.E. and IACP. She was born in Richmond but has been working within the city of Oakland since she was sixteen years old. Drennon has been working with the community of Oakland since she first became a member of the OBOA in 1998 and has cultivated many different relationships with the community and raised in Oakland and other Community Based Organizations to help young people make better decisions with their lives.