

Jason Lando
Commander
Pittsburgh Bureau of Police (PA)

Now in his 21st year of service with the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, Jason has served at the rank of Commander since 2014. In his capacity leading one of Pittsburgh's busiest and most diverse districts, Jason and his team implemented several initiatives geared toward uniting police officers and community members, increasing trust in law enforcement, and reducing violent and quality-of-life crimes. One program, Youth Connections, recently won approval by the Pittsburgh Public Schools Board for city-wide implementation. Youth Connections pairs at-risk teens with police officers in a small-group setting and includes listening sessions, one-on-one discussions, and role-reversal scenarios, all designed to help police officers and young people break down the barriers that commonly exist between the two.

In 2015, Jason and several fellow officers were selected to design and implement a Procedural Justice training program for the Bureau of Police, as part of Pittsburgh's role as one of six partner cities in the National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice. Jason and his team led a 3-year training program for over 1,000 police officers that covered topics including procedural justice, de-escalation, and implicit bias. In 2017, the team designed a community-facing version of the training, spending nights and weekends providing classes for the public in churches and community centers across Allegheny County.

In addition to his commitment to community outreach, Jason is a proponent of intelligence-led policing to ensure his officers and detectives are focusing their enforcement efforts on the small percentage of individuals responsible for criminal activity in the community. As Commander of the city's Narcotics & Vice Unit since July 2019, Jason currently oversees teams of detectives tasked with investigating community complaints of drug trafficking, illegal firearms, nuisance bars, and human trafficking.

Prior to being promoted to Commander in December 2014, Jason worked a variety of assignments to include patrol, undercover narcotics, as a member of the SWAT team, and as a Crisis Negotiator. He also served as a Sergeant, then Lieutenant in several police stations across the City of Pittsburgh.

Jason holds a bachelor's degree in Emergency Medicine from the University of Pittsburgh and previously worked as both a ground and flight paramedic prior to becoming a police officer. In 2017, Jason earned his master's degree in Legal Studies from California University of Pennsylvania. When he is not working, Jason volunteers as a Big Brother to 12-year-old Jayden, as part of Big Brothers Big Sisters Bigs in Blue program. Jason also serves on the Board of Directors of the Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation as well as a local Emergency Medical Service.