

Rick Mendez

Rick Mendez is a seasoned law enforcement leader with over 20 years of experience currently serving as the Chief of Police for Lancaster City. With a career dedicated to public safety and community engagement, Rick has held numerous leadership positions within the Lancaster City Bureau of Police, including Captain of the Patrol Division, Lieutenant in both the Violent Crime Unit and Patrol Division, and Sergeant.

Throughout his career, Rick has demonstrated a strong commitment to fostering positive relationships between law enforcement and the community. His leadership extends to critical areas of law enforcement, including K9 and Special Emergency Response Teams, and he has been recognized with multiple awards for distinguished service and leadership.

In addition to operational expertise, Rick has conducted numerous internal affairs investigations and has overseen the Professional Standards Office ensuring accountability and ethical conduct within the department. He has also played a key role in personnel decisions, serving as a background investigator and a decision-maker in the hiring process. This experience has provided him with a deep understanding of the importance of selecting the right individuals for law enforcement positions and ensuring they align with the values and mission of the department.

Currently serving as a commissioner with the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission (MPOETC), Rick contributes to the development of training standards and best practices for law enforcement across the state.

With extensive training in leadership, crisis management, and public safety, Rick brings a wealth of practical experience and a commitment to high standards of professionalism to the classroom. His deep understanding of the complexities within law enforcement, internal affairs, personnel management, and community-centered policing make him an invaluable resource for anyone seeking insight into internal affairs, police leadership, and the broader law enforcement profession.