Biographies: Baltimore Independent Review Board (IRB) Members

Chair: James "CHIPS" Stewart

CHIPS Stewart is a nationally recognized expert on the criminal justice system, including use of force analysis, capabilities evaluation, and technological applications such as body-worn cameras. Throughout a long career examining law enforcement tactics and strategy, Stewart has helped many police departments develop and implement violence-reduction strategies involving gangs and drug dealers. He is currently a Senior Advisor to the Department of Justice's Smart Policing Initiative, which provides technical assistance and training to 35 local law enforcement agencies, from Baltimore to Los Angeles. He has also helped lead efforts by the DOJ's Community Oriented Policing Services Office to resolve use of force incidents.

Prior to joining CNA, Stewart served as Commander of the Oakland Police Department's Criminal Investigations Division and as a White House Fellow during his time as a Special Assistant to the United States Attorney General. From 1982 to 1990, he was the presidentially appointed Director of the National Institute of Justice, the longest-serving director of the DOJ's research branch. Under his leadership, the institute developed soft body armor that has saved the lives of more than 4,000 police officers. He has also worked one-on-one with several police departments to provide analysis on violent crime and neighborhood partnerships.

Stewart holds an MPA from California State University and a BA from the University of Oregon. He also earned a graduate certificate in police organizational management from the FBI National Academy.

Co-Chair: James "Chip" Coldren, Ph.D

Dr. James Coldren is the Managing Director for Justice Programs at CNA. In this capacity, he oversees all program research activities. He is the principal investigator for a national study of the effects of equipment modalities on correctional officer safety and recently completed a randomized experiment with body-worn cameras in the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. He is also the national technical assistance project director for the Bureau of Justice Assistance's Strategies for Policing Innovation Initiative (formerly the Smart Policing Initiative), Public Safety Partnership (formerly the Violence Reduction Network), and Body-Worn Camera Training and Technical Assistance Program.

Prior to joining CNA, Dr. Coldren was a professor of criminal justice and leadership at Governors State University in Illinois, where he created a new MA program in criminal justice and a new online doctorate program in interdisciplinary leadership. He also served as the Interim Assistant Provost for Academic Affairs and as the director of the university's Office of Sponsored Programs and Research. In addition, Dr. Coldren served for over four years as President of the John Howard Association for Prison Reform, a century-old nonprofit organization dedicated to monitoring and improving the conditions of confinement in prisons, jails, and juvenile detention centers, as well as creating fair, humane, and effective sentencing and correctional policies.

Gary T. Childs

Gary Childs is a Licensed Private Detective and Consultant at Dunlawin Investigations and Consultants, LLC. Gary has over 43 years of law enforcement experience; he spent over 21 years with the Baltimore County Police Department and retired in March 2018. Most recently, Gary served as a detective in the Homicide Unit. He was responsible for the investigation and trial preparation of crime against persons—murders, contract murders, suicides, child deaths and police-involved shootings. In his time as a detective, he has been the primary investigator on or assisted in over 237 of these investigations. Gary has also served as a precinct detective and a patrol officer for the Baltimore County Police Department. Prior to joining the department, he served as a criminal investigator at the Carroll County's State's Attorney's Office, where he investigated child physical and sexual abuse cases and assisted local law enforcement agencies and the Maryland State Police in the investigation of various crimes. Gary also spent over 22 years with the Baltimore City Police Department. While there, he served as a detective and sergeant in the Homicide Unit, where he supervised a squad of five detectives and was responsible for the investigation and trial preparation of all crimes against persons—murders, contract murders, all serious shootings, stabbings, beatings, suicides, kidnappings, extortions, and all police-involved shootings. In his time with the Homicide Unit, he supervised, investigated, or assisted in the investigation of over 600 homicides. While at the Baltimore City Police Department, Gary also served on the Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force, Narcotic Unit, Crimes Against Property Unit, and patrol. Gary also served with the Maryland Army National Guard for over 24 years. He holds an MS and a BA from the University of Baltimore, Maryland.

Rick Fuentes

Mr. Fuentes is a 39-year veteran of the New Jersey State Police. He served as colonel and then superintendent of the organization from 2003 to 2017. A gubernatorial appointee confirmed by the legislature, he has served four governors, both Democrats and Republicans. He also served as the State Director of the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management. Mr. Fuentes holds a PhD in criminal justice from John Jay College, City University of New York, and published a doctoral dissertation on the managerial style of Colombian cocaine cartels. During his tenure as superintendent, he sat on two advisory boards to the United States Attorney General—the Global Intelligence Working Group and the Criminal Intelligence Coordinating Council. He was also a seated member of the Director of National Intelligence's Law Enforcement Advisory Board. As superintendent, Mr. Fuentes held a Top Secret Sensitive Compartmented Information security clearance issued by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Peter Modafferi

Chief Modafferi has been a detective with the Rockland County District Attorney's Office for over 40 years, and spent the last 25 as Chief of Detectives. Chief Modafferi is a graduate of the FBI National Academy (133rd session). He holds a Bachelor of Arts from Siena College, a Master of Arts in criminal justice, and has concluded the course work in the doctoral program from the City University of New York. In 1992 Chief Modafferi was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship for Graduate Study in the United Kingdom and is the recipient of numerous awards and commendations, including Rockland County Police Officer of the Year 1984. Chief Modafferi has also published articles and lectured at various universities and law enforcement academies on topics including managing criminal investigations, multi-agency investigations, intelligence-led policing, wrongful convictions, and other evolving issues in criminal

justice. Since 1990, Chief Modafferi has chaired the International Association of Chiefs of Police Police Investigative Operations Committee. He is a member of the Criminal Intelligence Coordinating Council, served as a regional expert for the Office of National Drug Control Policy Technology Transfer Program, and consulted with the Foreign Terrorism Tracking Task Force, which was established in October 2001.

In addition to serving on various local community boards, Chief Modafferi serves on numerous professional committees and working groups, including the Justice Intelligence Coordinating Council, the DOJ Identity Crimes Task Force, the Global Intelligence Working Group, the Law Enforcement Executive Forum, and the Information Technology Study Group.

Charlie Scheeler

Charlie Scheeler serves as Senior Counsel at DLA Piper and has enjoyed a varied practice during his 34-year career. Charlie's experience includes over 25 jury trials, as well as scores of bench trials and arbitrations. He has an active corporate governance, sports, crisis management, monitorships, and internal investigations practice. His representative engagements include arguing and winning reversal of the largest monetary damages case (over $1.5 billion) in the history of the Maryland Court of Appeals, serving as the monitor of Penn State University relating to the University's compliance with an NCAA and Big Ten Conference Athletics Integrity Agreement, and serving as lead prosecutor of the Boardley/Burrows narcotics/RICO organization (which provided the inspiration for the Bell/Barksdale organization portrayed in the HBO series "The Wire"). Prior to joining the firm, Charlie was federal prosecutor in the US Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland from 1984 to 1989. There, he prosecuted racketeering, narcotics, and money laundering and fraud cases. Charlie holds a JD from Harvard Law School and a BS from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Marvin Syndor

Marvin has over 35 years of experience in law enforcement. For 25 years, Marvin served as a detective in the Baltimore City Police Department Homicide Unit, where he investigated over 500homicides as the primary or secondary lead. He has also investigated police-involved shootings, suicides, questionable death cases, and threats against public officials. Marvin has also served as an expert in narcotic packaging and identification in United States Federal Court and as an expert in identification of gunshot wounds in Maryland State Courts. Prior to serving as a detective, Marvin was assigned to the department's DEA task force. Marvin holds a BA from Morgan State University.