

Chief Joseph M. Daughtry Sr.

Law Enforcement Executive | Community Leader | Public Safety Advocate

Chief Joseph M. Daughtry Sr. is one of Mississippi's most respected public safety leaders, bringing nearly 30 years of law enforcement experience marked by steady leadership, measurable public safety outcomes, and strong community trust. He is known for leading with calm authority in challenging environments while delivering results through disciplined strategy, accountability, and collaboration.

Raised in New Orleans by a determined single mother, Chief Daughtry learned early the values of resilience, accountability, and faith. Those principles continue to shape his leadership style: measured under pressure, people-centered in approach, and grounded in purpose.

As Chief of Police in Columbus, Mississippi, Chief Daughtry led his department through a historic period of public safety improvement. Under his leadership, the city experienced a full calendar year without a homicide—an achievement that had not occurred in more than two decades. This milestone followed two consecutive years in which homicides were reduced from double digits to single digits, reflecting a sustained, strategic approach to violent crime reduction rather than a short-term fluctuation. These outcomes were achieved through focused enforcement, officer accountability, and strengthened community partnerships.

Throughout his career, Chief Daughtry has served in a broad range of law enforcement roles, consistently emphasizing organizational reform, operational effectiveness, and transparency. His leadership approach balances crime reduction with professionalism, constitutional policing, and community engagement.

He is the former President of the Mississippi Association of Chiefs of Police and currently serves as Vice President of the Greater Mississippi Chapter of NOBLE, the National Organization for Black Law Enforcement Executives. In these roles, he has helped shape leadership standards, influence statewide policy discussions, and promote best practices in modern policing across Mississippi.

Chief Daughtry holds a Master's Degree in Theology, which informs his ethical framework and commitment to servant leadership. He is a proud member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Mu Sigma Chapter, and a Prince Hall Mason affiliated with Wiley Spence Lodge No. 704. Through these organizations, he embraces a lifelong commitment to service, accountability, and uplifting the communities he serves.

A devoted husband, father, and grandfather, Chief Daughtry is the father of two sons and a daughter and the grandfather of four. Family remains his foundation and a constant reminder that public safety decisions have real consequences for real people. Outside of work, he and his wife enjoy traveling together, valuing time for reflection, renewal, and perspective.

A proud New Orleanian, Chief Daughtry remains deeply connected to his roots and culture and

is an enthusiastic supporter of the New Orleans Saints, Jackson State University, and LSU.

Chief Daughtry views policing not simply as a profession, but as a calling. His career reflects a proven ability to lead complex organizations, reduce violent crime, strengthen trust, and deliver sustainable public safety outcomes while upholding integrity, accountability, and respect. As a finalist for Chief of Police in Jackson, Mississippi, he brings experience, strategic vision, and a servant's heart prepared to meet the city's public safety challenges with discipline and purpose.