

POLICE CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT BOARD
MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS
(updated 11/30/2020)

Ankita Bharadwaj

I'm Ankita Bharadwaj. I come from India where I went to a catholic convent school and was raised by parents of two separate faith- Jainism and Hinduism. I got my first law degree (B.A L.L.B (Hons)) from Jamia Millia Islamia which is a Islamic university. I learnt 75 courses there in 5 years including Political Science, Sociology, Criminology along with laws like Torts, Criminal Laws, Family Laws, International Laws and Interpretation of Statutes to name a few. I put my education to use for nearly 2 years while also getting my second law degree in India, Masters of Law. I was selected to clerk for National Green Tribunal in India for its then Chairperson and I interned at National Commission for Women in New Delhi. After this I came to the US for my third law degree in in Kenyan Muslim Divorce Laws. I focused on aftermath of colonization in previous colonies and what havoc they create on political, economic and social fabric on those nations, including women rights. My thesis focuses on why white feminists should not see themselves as a beacon of light or as saviors for women and the oppressed of the previously colonized nations. Besides this, I have spent last 5 years (since coming to the US) volunteering time for various non profits like YGB, VDLF, NASCO and others. I have been an active participant in the community by showing up for council meetings and testifying and by participating in protests through all these years. I am strongly rooted in my belief that everyone is deserving of equal rights and opportunity. The ways and means to get them may differ for us, but we are, as a community all looking forward to a day when everyone is truly equal and feels equal and not just on paper or because some politician said that they believe so.

I am gender fluid and I accept any and all pronouns except masculine pronouns. I want to be the Chair of the COB as I firmly believe I can bring my legal knowledge along with my lived experiences, to the position. I do not crumble easily under stressful situations and I have, in the past as a lawyer and an academic, illustrated that I can work with deadlines and be self motivated to get the job done consistently. I believe in the goal of community liberation and I firmly believe that I can work with a big group of change bringers without losing sight of the goal we are trying to achieve here. If I am made Chair, I look forward to helping the Board with accountability and transparency process along with coordination and consistency. Please consider this the official confirmation of my interest to be the Chair of COB, Madison.

Keetra Burnette

My name is Keetra Burnette and my preferred pronouns are she/her/hers. I am the married mother of two, adult children and grandmother of two children under the age of 5. My grandchildren are truly my joy! My highschool sweetheart-turned-husband Troy and I moved to Madison over 26 years ago to pursue degrees at UW-Madison, where I obtained my Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism. Now empty-nesters, we are homeowners who reside on the East side of Madison.

I am employed by United Way of Dane County as their Director of Stakeholder Engagement. In this role, I am charged with building new and strengthening United Way's existing relationships with communities of color and people who lead organizations that primarily serve people of color. My role with United Way also includes my serving as the organization's staff liaison to the Dane County Law Enforcement and Leaders of Color Collaboration (LELCC), which is co-led by the Dane County NAACP and United Way. My work with the LELCC has positioned me to develop and maintain positive working relationships with different leaders of communities of color and leaders of law enforcement agencies across Dane County. I look forward to opportunities to leverage my professional relationships with members of the LELCC to benefit the work of our Civilian Oversight Board, as needed and of course appropriate.

Anthony Cooper

Anthony Cooper is married and father to 2 young adult men. I have worked at Nehemiah Center for Urban Leadership Development since 2013 and currently serve as Vice President of Strategic Partnerships & Reentry Services. I am also the CEO of Focused Interruption since 2016. I was formerly incarcerated in 1999 and have worked since that time to improve myself and my community. I hope to bring a different perspective to the Madison Police Civilian Oversight Board not only as a formerly incarcerated black man, but also as the father of 2 black men and someone who is working in the community to keep young black men from following my path to incarceration and help those returning from incarceration to find their way as productive members of the community. My focus since incarceration is to live my life in a way that shows incarceration doesn't need to define you, that it is possible to change your relationships in a meaningful way.

Ananda Deacon

Hi, my name is Ananda Deacon (she/hers). I am a current student at UW-Madison double majoring in Political Science and Spanish with a certificate in Afro-American studies. On campus I enjoy leading the ACLU Student Alliance and doing what I can here and there to prepare to be a civil rights attorney. I was nominated for the board by Freedom, Inc. due to my mutual aid and civic engagement work with them, and I encourage you all to support the work they do in any way you can! When I am not doing student or activist things, I enjoy playing and teaching the piano, drawing, and reading fantasy novels.

Keith Findley (1st Alternate)

Keith Findley (he/him/his) is a professor at the UW Law School, where he teaches Evidence, Wrongful Convictions, Criminal Procedure, and Law & Forensic Science. In 1998, he co-founded the Wisconsin Innocence Project, and he served as co-director of the project until the spring of 2017. For five years, from 2009 to November 2014, he served as president of the Innocence Network, an affiliation of nearly 70 innocence organizations throughout the world. In 2018, he co-created a new non-profit, the [Center for Integrity in Forensic Sciences](#), dedicated to improving the reliability and safety of criminal prosecutions through strengthening forensic sciences. Recently, he served as

co-chair of the Madison Police Department Policy and Procedure Review Ad Hoc Committee, which was created to address a wide range of policing issues in Madison, including police use of force and racial justice issues. He currently co-chairs at the City's Police Body Worn Camera Feasibility Review Committee.

Joshua Hargrove, Esq.

I am Joshua Hargrove, Senior Associate at a Criminal Defense Law firm. Since my tenure in undergrad at UW Madison, I have been dedicated to concerns regarding our communities' representation of those most marginalized. I have carried that passion throughout law school, practicing in northern and southern Wisconsin and especially as a former Assistant District Attorney in Dane County. I am humbled to be serving on the board and tackling issues that are central to the integrity of our relations with police and the community at large. I anticipate working with you all.

Jacquelyn Hunt

Shadayra Kilfoy-Flores

My name is Shadayra Kilfoy-Flores, my preferred pronouns are she/her/hers. I am an Indigenous Chicana, mother of two Black Chicano children and a lifelong Madisonian. I am well informed on the strongest civilian oversight mechanisms in this country and aim to see Madison surpass those cities in the area of civilian oversight. I have spent most of my teen and adult life working towards equity, justice and healthy communities for all residents of Madison and I have done so in the capacity of both volunteer and paid employee. I draw upon this lived experience and my identity to serve as a deeply informed and fair community leader and if selected as board chair, I will serve uncompromised by politics and profession and I will do so with excellence.

As a teenager, I volunteered as a tutor and mentor at Madison East High School and Briarpatch. I also served on the Multicultural Teen Council, The Dane County Youth Board, and I attended the Encampment for Citizenship, in CA.

I was honored with the Hispanic Youth of the Year for the state of Wisconsin UMOS award, was a Dane County Proclamation Honoree as well as the very first Centro Hispano Scholarship recipient.

As an adult, I worked as a program facilitator at Briarpatch and Centro Hispano, attended the Grassroots Leadership Collage training as a developing leader and coach and I attended Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio.

I currently serve on the Leadership Council of the Neighborhood Organizing Institute, am a core member of the Community Response Team and was recently elected to the Marquette Neighborhood Association board.

My experience with the Madison Police Department is extensive.

I have lifelong friends who are Madison Police Officers whom I trust and lifelong friends that are terrified of being harmed by the Madison Police Department whom I also trust.

I have called upon the police in need of help and, as a community leader, they have called upon me in need of my help.

As a young person, I experienced arrest and incarceration and, as an adult, I am certified as a participant in restorative justice circles for Dane County.

As someone who youth and parents look to for leadership and advocacy, I serve as a facilitator for ad hoc, community-based, restorative justice processes between residents who are experiencing injustice with one another. I am called upon to fill this role because I am someone who is trusted as a community bridge, a witness and guide towards justice.

I have been a complainant before the Madison Police and Fire Commission and am deeply familiar with the entire process from start to finish.

I am trained by the ACLU as a legal observer and am also trained as a medic for those wishing to exercise their first amendment rights.

For the better part of the last decade, the Community Response Team has researched policing across the country with a special focus on the the Madison Police Department policies, procedures, state and department training and culture. We have served as lead organizers and facilitators for community and police meetings in response to officer-involved fatalities. We have assisted multiple members of the public in navigating the police and criminal justice system. Our members have been on ride alongs, they have attended the Civilian Police Training, they have served on county and city task forces including the Madison Police Department Policy and Review Ad Hoc Committee. Over the last four years, our focus has been almost entirely on the Ad Hoc Committee process and recommendations. I contributed hours of statements to the Ad Hoc report and have read it from start to finish. It's safe to say that I and my colleagues on the Community Response Team are some of the most informed civilians on MPD policy, procedure, training, culture, and most importantly, the investigative process.

I believe our board chair should should have extensive experience with the City of Madison, be a member that was nominated by a community organization, have extensive knowledge of Madison policing policy and procedure. I believe that I am that person and therefore submit my name in the hopes you feel that way too.

Rachel Kincade

My name is Rachel Kincade. I am the President of MOSES - Madison Organizing in Strength, Equality, and Solidarity which is focused on dismantling mass incarceration and mass supervision, and to eradicate the racial disparities in our community that contribute to them. I hold many positions within the organization including a state-wide coalition addressing the conditions of confinement within the Wisconsin prison system. I

have 17 years of experience working with youth impacted by homelessness in our neighboring State of Minnesota. I have had the experience of dealing with police during my struggle with deep depression, and working with police and the courts with the young people I served.

Isadore Knox, Jr.

My name is Isadore Knox, Jr. I am a African American originally from Milwaukee, WI. and been a resident of Madison since 1983. I have been married for 38 years and we have raised 5 children in South Madison. I retired from the State of WI. and Dane County in 2018 after 36+ years of public service. My career has been mainly in Equal Employment Opportunity and Security and Public Safety in a management perspective. I have also been elected to the Madison Common Council, representing South Madison for one term and have served on many City and County boards or commissions as members or staff. I currently serve on the board of 2 nonprofits. The South Metropolitan Planning Council and the Southside Raiders Football & Cheerleading, Inc. and have served on many community committees.

I would be interested in chairing this board. I believe my background and experience in government relations will be valuable. I also think my experience facilitating the Dane County Disparities in the Criminal Justice System as the director of the DC's OEO; resulting in over 80 recommendations for criminal justice reform, well prepares me for this task.

Maia Pearson

My name is Maia Pearson. I was born and raised in South Madison and I am currently raising my 3 children here as well. I graduated from UW-Madison with my degree in International Relations and a certificate in East Asian Studies. I grew up in an activist family and carry that same energy in my community. I work as the Wisconsin Director of Rise, a student-led non-profit organization focused on closing the economic and racial gaps in postsecondary education through student advocacy.

Yesenia Villalpando-Torres

Hello everyone! My name is Yesenia Villalpando-Torres and I am really excited to be part of the Civilian Oversight Board with you all. I am originally from Mexico City and immigrated to Madison at the age of 5. Home is the south side of Madison where many of my family and friends continue to reside. Since immigrating here, I've learned how to navigate multiple systems as an undocumented woman. I have done advocacy work around immigrant rights on a local and national level. As a DACA recipient I have gained some privileges that many of our community members continue to fight for- such as having access to a work permit. As a result of this privilege, I am currently a Social Worker where I serve immigrant communities in Dane County. During this pandemic, I have been finding new ways to practice self-care. I look forward to meeting you all and am eager to see what positive changes we can bring to our community as a collective.

Sheray Wallace (2nd Alternate)

