

2018 Recipient of the Dr. Lois-Higgins Grote Heritage Award
ANGIE HOLT



**IAWP Heritage Award 2018
Angie Holt
Georgia State Department of Public Safety (retired)
IAWP Board of Trustees**

Citation: The Heritage Award is the highest honor bestowed by the International Association of Women Police upon an individual member to recognize substantial and significant contributions to women police and the International Association of Women Police over a period of years and especially during milestones of the organization. The honor is meant to ensure the recording, recognition, and appreciation for outstanding and dedicated service to IAWP. The IAWP's Heritage recognition is the highest tribute given by the IAWP.

Organizations are comprised of those who imagine a future, and of those who implement their dreams. Angelynn Miller Holt is an implementer of dreams, and as such, has been a backbone of IAWP for 34 years.

When Angie attended her first Conference in Dearborn, Michigan, in 1984, she could not have imagined the impact she would have on this group for generations. It was the catalyst for her becoming an IAWP Life Member as she was awed by the spirit and camaraderie of the attendees. She immediately knew the benefits of this networking and training would become a lifetime passion for her.

While the Florida delegation introduced her to Conference life when in Dearborn, Angie began her hallmark of meeting as many delegates as possible. This habit of meeting others, making newcomers feel welcome, cementing relationships with long-standing members, and learning from all has continued to this day.

After Atlanta received approval to hold the 1988 Conference, Angie realized Georgia had no Affiliate status with the IAWP. She charged forward to form the Georgia Women in Law Enforcement (GWLE), serving as its first President. Under Angie's leadership, her compassion for training and networking opportunities moved others to join in GWLE's mission. With a vision to have as many law enforcement agencies represented and involved, membership soared to two hundred plus in its initial year through the hearty support of police chiefs, sheriffs, and law enforcement leaders throughout the State of Georgia.

But, the task of ensuring GWLE becoming an official IAWP Affiliate was not enough for Angie. Moved by Atlanta's theme, "Rise to the Challenge", Angie utilized her training and organizational skills to plan the entire training program for the 1988 Conference. Those attending the conference were provided exceptional speakers and trainers from varied aspects of the criminal justice community, and rewarded with mandatory training credits required by departments. The training curriculum that Angie assembled included something for every level of officer in attendance. She still receives compliments from participants who describe how they came to truly understand, and fully appreciate, the true necessity of continued training.

Angie's expertise in organizing law enforcement training was also tapped by the late Gwen Elliott for the 1994 Pittsburgh IAWP Conference.

On an international scale, Angie served as a member of the 1996 Olympic Training Committee that developed the training curricula for all law enforcement who participated in the Olympics. This included various trainings for those law enforcement in Georgia, those detached to Georgia during pre-planning, and those who arrived only days before the Games began. Ensuring all those working to secure the venues, the athletes, and the public were on an equal knowledge field was not intimidating to Angie. She believed that appropriate lesson plans and teaching skills were tantamount to successful learning, and she is a testimony to both.

Angie's resume reflects the importance of the training she has promoted throughout her career as she holds Associate, Bachelor, and Master's degrees, and has attended thousands of hours of various law enforcement related training. Additionally, Angie has been influential in the lives of many current, and future, police officers as an instructor in a wide-variety of law enforcement subject matters in numerous arenas around the world, including time spent as an Adjunct Professor at the university level.

Over the past three plus decades, there are very few, if any, lapses in Angie's involvement with the IAWP, in one way or another. Whether it has been volunteering her time to serve on a committee, giving her energy for a special project, or her faithful attendance of 20 conferences {Dearborn, New York City, Atlanta, San Antonio, Miami, Vancouver, Pittsburgh, Milwaukee, Dallas, Philadelphia, Toronto, Denver, Seattle, Minneapolis, Lexington, St. Johns, Winnipeg, Cardiff, Barcelona, Calgary}, or many Early Board meetings (literally around the world dating to Bramshill, England, in 1993, and including Atlanta, Birmingham, Las Vegas, Trinidad, UAE, Walnut Creek), her loyalty to the IAWP is second to none. Due to her consistent work ethic and tenacity displayed time and time again, she was

appointed by IAWP President Kathy Burke to Chair the IAWP Elections Committee to ensure a fair Board of Directors election which was to take place on-site in San Antonio, Texas, in 1991, which included on-site counting of the ballots.

Angie went on to serve as Executive Director 1991 – 1994 with President Gale Buckner. Angie was so humbled by this appointment, her dedication and devotion to the IAWP simply seemed to grow with each passing day. She did not envision this position to merely be a figurehead. Instead, Angie embodied the role, by becoming an extension of President Buckner's right hand, a sound advisor, and an exuberant cheerleader. She worked diligently not only in the public eye, but also behind the scenes to promote and triumph an aggressive agenda to enhance the IAWP's visibility in Washington, D.C., and to provide a solid foundation for its future. A close working relationship with the U.S. Attorney General's office solidified IAWP being an invitee to criminal justice events where other law enforcement groups were a mainstay.

At the completion of her extended stint as Executive Director, Angie immediately transitioned to the Board of Trustees joining IAWP legends Felicia Shpritzer, Babe Barkdoll, Carolen Bailey, Mary Walmsley, Carol Ann Halliday, and Kathy Burke from whom she learned much more about the IAWP, and its historical foundation.

She became the Chair of the Board of Trustees in 2012. Whether she held Board of Trustee meetings via teleconference, or at conference sites, she had a knack for drawing out the best from the Board of Trustee's varied past experiences to provide the Board of Directors with sound advice.

And, in true Angie fashion, in 2017, she coordinated a conclave of the Board of Trustees in Savannah, Georgia. While the business meeting brought over 230 years of law enforcement experience to the table, along with decades of past IAWP service, the gathering was much more. Under Angie's silent, but guiding presence, this get-together provided the best opportunity to date for 7 of the Board of Trustee members through camaraderie and socializing to blend and fold in any differences we may have ever experienced. Angie ever so gently guided our outside interaction that we were inspired to share our lives with each other: our highs, lows, health, families, tears, and laughter.

In between all this service to the IAWP, Angie has dedicated her life to 45 years of public service. Her illustrious career began with the Georgia State Patrol to which she returned as a consultant overseeing internal affairs, grant/policy development, and conference planning. This after serving 20+ years as a Special Agent in Charge with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. She also served for a brief time as a Child Protective Service member.

While a 'working Agent' with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. Angie was a key player on the Special Prosecutions Task Force, focusing on public corruption. Due to her investigative talents, she was responsible for the arrests of a District Attorney and a Sheriff who had violated their oath of office, and abused the public trust with their criminal behavior.

Not one to sit idle upon retirement, Angie formed her own company, and has acted as a consultant with the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, the Georgia Board of Pardons and Parole, and the Georgia Department of Public Safety.

According to Angie, "My involvement in IAWP has truly been a positive influence, both on my career and in my personal life. The experiences with other women in law enforcement have empowered me, taught me the value of mentoring (receive AND giving), and helped to establish a very strong support system upon which I have relied on for the past 3 decades. IAWP helped me appreciate leadership qualities in others, and to develop a few of my own. Most importantly, the relationships have endured through the ages of rough seas, tragedy, triumphs, and great gains. I shall treasure the women I have come to know along the way, and I encourage each member to do the same."

It is with great honor that we recognize Angie Miller Holt for her substantial and significant contributions to promoting the exceptional networking and training available through the International Association of Women Police. Truly, we are privileged to have had her participation in the IAWP for so many years as she has been a catalyst in promoting its accolades to countless numbers around the world to ensure the IAWP remains strong and continues to grow.

Congratulations, Angie!!!