



**NYPD Chief of Housing  
James Secreto**

James Anthony Secreto is a 1975 graduate of Power Memorial Academy. He was born and raised in Brooklyn's Albany Houses, a New York City Housing Authority development, located in the heart of Crown Heights. James received his early education in the Catholic school system. He attended St. Matthew's Roman Catholic Elementary School in Crown Heights for grades one through five, and was selected to join the inaugural class of the Robert F. Kennedy Incentive Program, for which he attended grades six through eight. Jimmy, as he is affectionately known, received an academic scholarship from the Brooklyn Catholic Interracial Council to attend Power Memorial Academy.

As a child, Jimmy was an avid Little League baseball player and later excelled in track and field at Power Memorial. He was a member of the school's track team, the Panthers, each of his four years, and was a member of the 1975 Outdoor City and State championship team. He was also a member of the Power Memorial Marching Band as a freshman.

James joined the NYPD in November 1979, and began his career on patrol in the 25<sup>th</sup> Precinct. He was promoted to Sergeant in December 1984 and steadily rose through the ranks. On November 3, 2014, James was promoted to Chief of Housing, his current position. Chief Secreto is responsible for managing the security of the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) which is the largest public housing organization in North America, housing over 400,000 tenants.

During his 35-year career tenure with the NYPD, James has spearheaded numerous food and clothing drives; an annual holiday toy drive he started in 1999, and continues today; a Thanksgiving community outreach initiative in which turkeys are distributed to families; and an annual Queens Breast Cancer Awareness Walk, which has successfully raised over \$100,000 since its inception in 2010.

James has been honored by many civic and community based organizations, as well as several NYPD fraternal organizations. In 2009, the New York State Shields honored him as *Man of the Year*, and in 2014, the Tri-State Law Enforcement Foundation honored James as *Person of the Year*. These acknowledgements are a testament to his dedication, compassion and commitment to the city he loves.

James has proven to be a devoted and excellent leader who continues to foster positive relationships throughout the many diverse neighborhoods the NYPD serves, and is committed to keeping NYCHA residents safe. Under his leadership, NYCHA has seen significant reduction in crime, notably, a 9.9 percent reduction in overall crime in the city's most violent developments.

Chief Secreto holds both a Master of Public Administration degree and Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from John Jay College. He is also a 1999 graduate of the Police Management Institute at Columbia University.

Chief Secreto has been married to his wife, Yvonne, for 35 years, and they are the proud parents of three children: Kiesha, Shamiika and Chanel; and eight grandchildren: Allure, a 2015 graduate of Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School and freshman at Schenectady County Community College; Ajile, a freshman at Duke University; and Sanaa, Sasha, Dawson, Myles, Mason and Cameron.

Chief James Anthony Secreto credits Power Memorial with imparting vital life skills and moral values in his life. The indelible experience of the prestigious institution continues to impact his daily life. He cherishes his association with the institution, and is proud of the committed tradition of service.