



OHIO ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE, INC.

Advisory Services

Chief (ret.) James Whitley, Jr. Assessor

James Whitley Jr., is currently Director of Corporate Security, FirstEnergy Corp. FirstEnergy is a diversified regional retail energy and related services holding company headquartered in Akron, Ohio. FirstEnergy provides electricity, natural gas and engineering services, and an array of mechanical and electrical services.

Mr. Whitley is responsible for directing and guiding the development and execution of company-wide physical, as well as cyber security strategies, business plans and policies, and consultative services throughout the corporate structure. He is responsible for formulating and directing the development of all security policies to protect Company personnel, property, information or other assets from loss, damage, or injury and all related investigative functions. Also, he is responsible for reducing losses, minimizing risks, and coordinating business continuity plans as well as serving as a resource to Senior Management on all security matters.

From 1994 to 2003 Whitley was Chief of Cleveland Metroparks Police, the law enforcement agency of Cleveland Metroparks. The department is made up of approximately 80 state-certified law enforcement officers and a 15-member civilian support staff. The department maintains law and order for Cleveland Metroparks Zoo and the Park District's 14 reservations, which cover 20,000 acres of land in five northeast Ohio counties. The department includes an equestrian mounted unit, K-9 unit, bicycle unit, Detective Bureau, dive unit, and traffic unit.

Mr. Whitley was born in Cleveland and graduated from John Hay High School. He then joined the Air Force, and spent four years as a military police sergeant in the United Kingdom. He was responsible for police investigations, and flight line security associated with air base ground defense.

After receiving an honorable discharge, Mr. Whitley returned states-side and joined the Cleveland Heights Police Department. In 12 years with the department, he climbed the ranks from officer to sergeant, and eventually to commander. He became the first African-American ranking officer in the city's history. Mr. Whitley has twice been recognized by the Ohio House of Representatives for personal and professional achievement.

Mr. Whitley holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from the University of Maryland. He graduated in May 2001 with a Masters of Business Administration from Baldwin Wallace College in Berea, Ohio. He is also a certified police academy commander, instructor at Cuyahoga Community College, diversity consultant, and police assessor with the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police.

His professional memberships include the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Cuyahoga County Chiefs of Police Association. Mr. Whitley successfully completed the Advisory Services Consultant Training conducted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

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"OACP recommends that biographical information regarding Assessment Team members be provided by the Client to the candidates in advance of the date of the Assessment Center to offer them an opportunity to identify any potential conflicts of interest. It is also recommended that the bios be provided to candidates as far in advance as possible, but at least 14 days prior to the Assessment Center."