

## Ronnell Higgins

Ronnell Higgins graduated from Lyman Hall High School in 1989. Growing up in New Haven as the son of a 26-year veteran of the New Haven Police Department, Ronnell attended Lyman Hall as a matter of choice, not as a matter of the luck of his address. Ronnell began his career in public safety as a State of CT correction officer in Bridgeport in 1994, quickly distinguishing himself as CERT officer of the year and moving to the position of police officer at Yale University in 1997. He progressed through the ranks at Yale ultimately leading the department as the Police Chief in 2011 and taking on the concurrent position of Director of Public Safety in 2015. Ronnell's Yale experience culminated with his promotion to serve as the Associate Vice President for Public Safety and Community Involvement overseeing more than 180 staff and a \$32 million operating budget. Under Higgins' Leadership, the Yale Police Department gained national recognition as a model for community excellence. His stellar career continued to progress as Mr. Ronnell Higgins left Yale and was sworn in as the Commissioner of the CT Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection in November 2023. Commissioner Higgins has garnered multiple awards throughout his career, among them being named by Security Magazine as one of the Most Influential People in Security and being named as one of the Most Influential Blacks in CT by the NAACP, receiving a Community Service Award from the National Association of Black Law Enforcement Officers, and receiving a Public Safety Award from the New Haven Board of Alders. Ronnell is respected as a principled and trusted advisor whose guidance is sought out throughout the law enforcement community.