

Florence L. Finkle

For more than 30 years, Florence L. Finkle has worked to hold law enforcement officers accountable for committing crimes and/or violating internal departmental policies, and improving law enforcement practices and accountability systems. Ms. Finkle prosecuted corrupt police officers, helped build and reform the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board, improved the New York City Department of Correction's internal investigations and operational audits, served as a member of the court-appointed Seattle police monitoring team, furnished technical assistance regarding accountability and oversight to the District of Columbia Police Reform Commission, and worked as Boulder, Colorado's interim independent police monitor.

Ms. Finkle began her career in 1987, as an assistant district attorney at the New York County District Attorney's office. As a member of its Official Corruption Unit, she helped build the case against police officers assigned to the 30th Precinct, an investigation that led to the conviction of 30 officers on various charges of corruption. Following three separate jury trials, Ms. Finkle obtained convictions of officers who committed perjury to cover up their illegal searches and seizures.

From 1996 to 2007, Ms. Finkle led the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board ("NYC CCRB"), the largest civilian police oversight agency in the United States, first as its deputy executive director for investigations and then as the NYC CCRB's executive director. Over the course of 11 years, Ms. Finke spearheaded the drive to professionalize the NYC CCRB's operations. The NYC CCRB improved the quality and timeliness of its investigations, increased investigator productivity, expanded its mediation and community outreach programs, and promulgated policy recommendations resulting in changes in police practices.

Ms. Finkle served as deputy commissioner for integrity and policy at the New York City Department of Correction, from 2010 to 2014, where she managed the department's Investigation Division, Policy Compliance Unit, and Policies and Procedures Unit. She improved the quality of the department's internal investigations by establishing a vertical investigative process, creating a training program for investigators, and instituting demanding standards for gathering, documenting, and analyzing evidence. Ms. Finkle's investigations led to indictments of 23 correction officers. In addition, she developed and conducted the department's first-ever peer-review security audits and issued reports requiring that jails implement action plans to rectify deficiencies.

Since 2018, Ms. Finkle has worked as a consultant in a variety of law enforcement accountability roles. From 2018 to 2020, Ms. Finkle worked for the court-appointed Seattle Police Monitor and managed a team of experts that reviewed the Seattle Office of Police Accountability's administrative disciplinary investigations. Mr. Finkle drafted the report describing the assessment's methodology, findings, and recommendations for improving the quality and timeliness of investigations. During 2020-2021, Ms. Finkle worked as a consultant for Impact Justice, which staffed the District of Columbia Police Reform Commission. For the commission's report, "Decentering the Police to Improve Public Safety," she formulated the

recommendations for and drafted the section on improving police accountability. Ms. Finkle currently works with the OIR Group and served for 11 months, until August 2023, as Boulder, Colorado's interim independent police monitor. In 2024, she reviewed and assessed Santa Cruz County Sheriff Department's internal investigations and uses of force.

Ms. Finkle, who attended her first NACOLE annual conference in 1997, has served as a NACOLE board member since 2017, chaired NACOLE's Training, Education, and Standards Committee for five years, and from 2023-2024 co-chaired NACOLE's Annual Conference Committee. Ms. Finkle has served as NACOLE's vice president since 2023, and currently chairs NACOLE's Finance Committee.

Ms. Finkle graduated summa cum laude in 1984 from Tufts University and obtained her law degree from New York University School of Law in 1987.