



On November 17, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom appointed Amanda L. Ray as the 16th Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol (CHP); the first woman to lead the Department of more than 11,000 members. Prior to her appointment to Commissioner, she served as the Deputy Commissioner and was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the CHP.

Commissioner Ray is a 30-year veteran of the CHP and has earned numerous awards and commendations in her personal life and during her professional career with the Department. Commissioner Ray has been a pioneer for women in law enforcement as the first African American female in the CHP's 91-year history to hold the position of Deputy Commissioner for the nation's largest state police agency.

Commissioner Ray served an integral role as the Department's first female to be assigned as the Special Response Team Tactical Commander during Super Bowl 50 held at Levi Stadium in Santa Clara, CA. Her vast field experience has allowed her to effectively serve as incident commander during a variety of other high-profile events including the Department's response to COVID-19, civil unrest, and wildfires.

In 2020, Commissioner Ray was selected to attend the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Executive Institute executive training program where she enhanced her knowledge in national and international political, economic, and social trends affecting law enforcement.

As a leader in law enforcement, Commissioner Ray holds firm to the values set forth by the CHP's Public Trust Initiative to serve and safeguard our communities with compassion and understanding. Throughout her career, Commissioner Ray has actively engaged with the communities she serves, seeking every opportunity to participate in outreach events, and active involvement in departmental programs to provide the highest level of Safety, Service, and Security to the people of California.

Commissioner Ray holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from the University of California, Berkeley and she is the first female in the history of the CHP to hold the rank of Commissioner.