

Dr. Stephany Powell Bio

Dr. Stephany Powell joined the National Center on Sexual Exploitation as the former Vice President and Director of Law Enforcement Training and Survivor Services. In this role she was responsible for providing training and education to law enforcement agencies across the country. Her expertise in sexual exploitation, labor trafficking, sex trafficking and child abuse was gained over the course of a 30-year career with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) as a Sergeant in charge of a Vice unit.

Following her retirement from the LAPD, Dr. Powell became the unparalleled choice to lead Journey Out, an LA-based nonprofit, assisting victims of human trafficking in finding their way out of violence and abuse, and trauma due to sexual exploitation or forced prostitution. Under her leadership, Journey Out grew in both size and scope and today serves more than 360 people a year as they take the first steps to freedom.

Dr. Powell's passion and expertise in this field has translated into new policies for the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) and the national massage school industry. She has led education and awareness workshops to various audiences of law enforcement, prosecutors, and communities, and students throughout the country and internationally. Dr. Powell is certified by the California Police Officer Standards and Training (POST) to teach advanced law enforcement training courses.

In 2019 she had the distinct privilege of training the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service on human trafficking awareness, prevention, and prosecution. She currently trains and consults international law enforcement on undercover operations, crime identification, victimology preservation of evidence and court readiness. Dr. Powell has spoken before the California Congressional Legislative committee in the State Capitol and addressed the Texas Legislative Black Caucus in Austin, Texas. As a result of her education practices and police service, two flags have been flown in her honor, one over the United States Capitol and the other in Dover, in recognition of her contributions.

Since 2013 she has educated more than 12,000 law enforcement, first responders, community leaders, school administrators and many others across the country. Dr. Powell is a powerful and in-demand speaker and a recognized expert on human trafficking in all its forms.

Dr. Powell is an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Behavioral Science at Los Angeles Trade Technical College as well as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Southern California (USC). Dr. Powell's expertise on race and law enforcement, has been showcased in documentaries, local newspapers, and magazines. She has most recently been highlighted in the PBS documentary "And Still I Rise" by Dr. Henry Louis Gates. Dr. Powell has also been featured on HLN Chris Cuomo for her expertise in Human Trafficking. She recently authored a human trafficking workbook for teens, *My Choice, My Body, My Rules*, available on Amazon her workbook is currently being used on a national and international level. She is the contributing author for the textbook *Teaching Beautiful Brilliant Black Girls, Girl Trafficking Misunderstood: Understanding the Commercially Sexually Exploited African American Girl*, available through Corwin Press and Amazon.

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