

# The Coolest Head of Public Safety

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As most of you are aware, Lake State has a new Director of Public Safety. Ms. Priscilla Stevens, whose dream as a child was to be a police officer or an opera singer, is a charismatic and passionate person, which is something the Public Safety Department could certainly use. A unique and fun person, she has many goals and ideas to improve both the Public Safety Department as well as the Lake State campus.

Ms. Stevens was born in Indiana, but actually considers herself to be from Arkansas. She went to John Brown University, which, at the time, had only about eight hundred students. She is excited to work at a university in Michigan, because she says that Michigan is just a great place to be and a very comfortable, inviting place. Her family also has a summer home about three hours south of Sault Ste. Marie.

Ms. Stevens is a very cool person to talk to because she has very interesting stories. She has worked as a police officer, studied music in Austria, and sung operas in Chicago. She enjoys boating and water activities as well as hanging out with her dog, Jesse. She loves to be outside and really enjoyed site-seeing with Dr. Ken Peress in the Soo on her visit to Lake State.

When asked why she chose Lake State, Ms. Stevens's voice reverberated with an unmatched enthusiasm. She is excited to be working at a campus with residence halls where students are involved in actual campus life outside of academics. She also really likes how the campus seems very student-oriented with students calling a lot of shots in clubs and organizations.

As far as working in Lake State's Public Safety Department goes, Ms. Stevens is beyond ecstatic. To her, "working in Public Safety is a calling, not a job." She likes how Public Safety has actual students as officers, and that the students are proud to be on Public Safety. She would like to get to know the students and staff in Public Safety better; Ms. Stevens even sent a questionnaire to Public Safety for each member to gather bios on each one.

Ms. Stevens also wants to start a sort of Public Safety Forum to be comprised of students, faculty, and staff. The forum would come up with ideas and improvements to benefit the campus and Public Safety. She also has plans to help with current Public Safety funding issues; one idea is to raise money to provide student officers with their uniforms instead of making them buy them out-of-pocket.

It looks like Ms. Stevens will prove to be a valuable asset to both Lake State as a whole, and the Public Safety Department. She did have one message for the student body, however, "It's going to be very important for us to work as a team, hand-in-hand, to improve the environment and campus. I'm really looking forward to starting this dialogue with faculty and students."