Chester County Sheriff Fredda L. Maddox

In 2020, Fredda L. Maddox became the first African American woman elected and sworn in as Chester County Sheriff. The law enforcement veteran and former attorney in domestic violence and family law has a lifelong record of serving the community, protecting people and protecting rights.

Maddox was the first African American woman to serve as a Pennsylvania State Trooper in Chester County. She was a Narcotics Agent for the Bureau of Narcotics in the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office and a Special Agent in the Bureau of Criminal Investigations. She earned a Master of Criminal Justice from West Chester University and completed training at the Pennsylvania State Police Academy and FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

While working full time in law enforcement, Maddox earned a law degree from Widener University School of Law. She was a practicing attorney for 20 years, representing clients of domestic violence, child abuse and those needing help with family law. For more than a decade, she served as a court-appointed guardian ad litem.

Holding to her campaign promise of working to restore trust between law enforcement and culturally diverse groups, during her first two years of office Maddox began a bridge-building program with officers and African American teens that led to de-escalation training together. She also initiated a scholarship for Municipal Police Academy/PA Act 120 certification toward diversifying Chester County's law enforcement. With the onset of the pandemic, Maddox led the Chester County Sheriff's Office through new protocols for health safety in county-owned facilities and protection for the county-operated COVID-testing sites. She also updated office services to the public with acceptance of certain fees by credit card and the ability to schedule some online appointments, in addition to performing the normal duties of the office. Maddox has also spoken at countless programs about human trafficking, fraud prevention, inclusion and safety/protection.