

## Foster Announces Guest for 2020 State of the Union Address

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### Foster Announces Guest for 2020 State of the Union Address

**Washington, DC** – Today, Congressman Bill Foster (D-IL) announced his guest for the State of the Union address: Kristen Ziman, Chief of Police of the Aurora Police Department.

“I’m proud to be joined for this year’s State of the Union address by Chief Ziman of the Aurora Police Department,” **Foster said**. “Chief Ziman has spent her entire career in service to her fellow citizens and has dedicated her work to the safety and well-being of the people of Aurora. As police chief, she’s been a steadfast leader, especially in times of crisis – never more so than last February, when she led the law enforcement response to the horrific mass shooting at the Henry Pratt plant in Aurora that left five employees dead and six Aurora police officers injured. It is beyond time for Congress to enact commonsense gun violence legislation to prevent these types of tragedies from wrecking communities, and we owe a debt of gratitude to the police officers and first responders who rush into harm’s way to protect innocent people. Chief Ziman represents the selflessness of the police officers and first-responders we rely on to keep our community safe, and I am proud to have her as my guest.”

“I am honored to join Congressman Bill Foster and represent the men and women of the Aurora Police Department at the State of the Union address,” **Ziman said**. “We are committed to serving our community and making Aurora among the best places to live in the State of Illinois. Our department is indebted to its workforce and will always remember the five innocent victims killed during the mass shooting on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019. I am honored to take their memory and the stories of the men

and women of the Aurora Police Department to the nation's capital for the State of the Union address.”

Chief Ziman was born and raised in Aurora. She is a graduate of West Aurora High School. She earned her associate's degree from Waubensee Community College in 1994. She also holds a bachelor's degree from Aurora University and a master's degree from Boston University. She earned a 2<sup>nd</sup> master's degree in Homeland Security and Defense from the Naval Postgraduate School.

In 1991, Ziman began her career with the Aurora Police Department as a police cadet and became a sworn officer in 1994 working in patrol, field training, community policing, and investigations as a domestic violence detective. She was promoted to sergeant in 2003, lieutenant in 2008, commander in 2010, and Aurora Chief of Police in 2016.

The State of the Union address will occur on February 4, 2020.

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