

RELEASE IN FULL

### **Kathleen M. O'Toole**

Kathleen M. O'Toole currently serves as Chief Inspector of the Garda Síochána Inspectorate, an oversight body responsible for bringing reform, best practice and accountability to the 15,000 member Irish national police service. O'Toole was recruited by the Irish Government for this role as the result of her service on the Independent Commission on Policing in Northern Ireland (The Patten Commission).

The Patten Commission was established in 1998 as part of the Good Friday Agreement in Northern Ireland. The eight-member group created a new framework for policing and security as an integral step in the Peace Process.

O'Toole remains actively involved in Northern Ireland. She was recently tapped by the Security Minister there to serve on a four-person commission established to develop prison reforms. In addition, she maintains close links to the North through her cross-community volunteer and philanthropic work.

As the result of her intimate knowledge and extensive network of contacts in Northern Ireland, O'Toole has frequently been tapped to brief and advise U.S. Government officials on issues there.

O'Toole is a practicing attorney with diverse career experience in government and the private sector. She began her career in 1979 as a patrol officer in the Boston Police Department and rose through the ranks of local and state law enforcement in Massachusetts. Prior to her appointment as Chief Inspector of the Garda Síochána, she served as Boston Police Commissioner, overseeing three thousand sworn and civilian personnel. She also served as Massachusetts Secretary of Public Safety, overseeing twenty agencies and more than 10,000 employees.

O'Toole has worked on other high-profile projects. For example, she was a consultant to the United States Department of Justice Civil Rights Division on police profiling cases. She also chaired the Boston Fire Department Review Commission, a group established to address serious allegations of mismanagement and bias.

Kathleen O'Toole founded O'Toole Associates LLC, an international consulting firm with offices in Dublin, Ireland and Boston, Massachusetts. The firm provides a variety of services to government and industry clients in Ireland, Northern Ireland and the United States.

O'Toole earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Boston College, a juris doctor from New England School of Law and was admitted to the bar as a practicing attorney in 1982. She is now enrolled in the PhD program at the Business School of Trinity College, Dublin. She is married to Dan O'Toole and has one daughter, Meghan.