Commissioner of Police Mrs. Erla Harewood-Christopher is the first female to substantively hold the highest office in the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) since it was established in 1592.

Commissioner Harewood-Christopher has over 41 years. She began her policing career in 1982 and quickly elevated through the ranks where she has been executive officer since 2016.

During her tenure, she performed duties in different Sections, Branches Divison and Units in the TTPS. One of her most memorable and satisfying tenure was during her posting as the Senior Superintendent in charge of the Human Resource Branch, where she was instrumental in coordinating the computerizing of the records of all sworn and unsworn staff. She was also in charge of the supplemental police - Special Reserve Police (SRP) and was the first female Adjutant SRP.

As the Executive member holding the office of Deputy Commissioner ‘Administration’ in 2016, she was charged with the management of the promotion of all Second Division Officers and Chairman of the Promotion Advisory Board - a post she held on more than one occasion.

Mrs. Harewood-Christopher has received many commendations for outstanding performance, devotion and dedication to duty and good initiative displayed.

She attended several local, regional, and international training including the Drug Law Enforcement Policy at Regional Drug Law Enforcement Training Centre in Jamaica, Senior Management Training at Administrative Staff College, England, Hostage Negotiations at FBI Quantico, US, Investigative Tactics, Techniques, Crime Prevention Training Executive Policy and Anti-Corruption, model law.

She holds a Master’s Degree in strategic leadership and management (University of the West Indies) Master’s Degree in Applied Criminology and Police Management (University of Cambridge), a Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Sector Management (UWI), an Associate Degree in Information Technology (COSTATT).

Commissioner Harewood-Christopher is currently the Head of Women Affairs Bureau of the TTPS and fully supports the Trinidad and Tobago Association of Women Police (TTAWP). The female COP initiates and mobilizes greater participation throughout the rank and file of female officers to enhance their holistic development.

As a member of the Caribbean Association of Women Police (CAWP), she was part of the planning committee in the successful hosting of its first training conference at the Cascadia Hotel, Trinidad in 2005. She is also a member of the International Association of Women Police (IAWP) and attended its international training conferences.

Mrs Harewood-Christopher has been instrumental in the formal establishment of the Women in Service and Protection (WISAP) in Trinidad and Tobago – an association to include female officers from armed and unarmed agencies of law enforcement. She is the president of WISAP.