

Ms. Arlene Duncan began her military career in the United States Marine Corps, where she served with commitment and pride for eight years. Following her military service, she transitioned into law enforcement as a Federal Police Officer, further honing her leadership skills and dedication to public safety. Her experiences in both the military and law enforcement have fueled her passion for advocating for fellow veterans, particularly women of color.

In 2023, she took a significant step to empower women veterans by founding the Chicago Chapter of the National Association of Black Military Women. Through this organization, she has worked tirelessly to create a supportive community that addresses the unique challenges faced by Black women veterans. This chapter has provided resources, mentorship, and a platform for women to share their stories, fostering an environment of solidarity and strength.

Recently, the Chicago Chapter successfully hosted the 23 Biennial Convention, September 2024 here in Chicago, Illinois. In addition to her advocacy work, Ms. Duncan holds a master's degree in criminal justice with a specialization in Homeland Security. This academic background complements her professional experience and equips her with a comprehensive understanding of the complexities of security and justice - an essential aspect of serving our nation and protecting our communities.

Currently she proudly serves on the POW Advisory Board to the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs. In this role, she contributes to discussions and recommendations that directly impact policies affecting our veterans, ensuring that their voices are heard at the highest level of government. Through her military service, law enforcement career, leadership in the National Association of Black Military Women, contributions to veteran policy, Arlene Duncan strives to pave the way for future generations of women veterans. She is committed to fostering a culture of inclusivity, empowerment, and support for all those who have served and are still serving.

Arlene is a proud mother of three adult children, and two dogs. Her affiliations are a 9-year member of the American Legion, lifetime member of the Women Marines Association, Kappa Epsilon Military Sorority.