Dolores Stafford ’87 to Speak at Mansfield Commencement

MANSFIELD, PA—Dolores Stafford, president and CEO of D. Stafford & Associates and a 1987 Mansfield graduate, will be the speaker at Mansfield University's 153rd Commencement on Saturday, May 5, at 11 a.m. at Decker Gymnasium.

“Dolores Stafford is a leader, a trailblazer, and a Mansfield success story,” MU Interim President Scott Barton said in making the announcement. “Her story of service, dedication, and advocacy is one we want our newest graduates to hear. We are honored to welcome Dolores back to campus to speak at Commencement.”

D. Stafford & Associates is a professional services firm focusing on safety and security related issues on college campuses, specializing in Clery Act and Title IX compliance issues. Stafford also serves as the Executive Director of the National Association of Clery Compliance Officers and Professionals (NACCOP), a professional association for campus administrators who are responsible for managing Clery Act compliance. Stafford is the owner of both companies.

She served as the chief of police at The George Washington (GW) University in Washington, D.C., from 1992-2010 and has 26 years of experience in the law enforcement and security industries. Stafford spent a total of 23 years in campus law enforcement at GW, Butler University, and Bucknell University.

Stafford has 20 years of experience overseeing a sexual assault crisis response team that she implemented and managed at both GW and Butler. She has experience in developing operating procedures and protocols in Behavioral Threat Assessment and led a response team for more than five years at GW.

As one of the nation’s few women police chiefs, Stafford won numerous accolades for her 26 years of service in the law enforcement field. She served as the 45th president of the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators in 2003-2004, and she was the first woman to ever hold that office. She won the “Breaking the Glass Ceiling” award in 2002 in honor of her ongoing contributions to improving the law enforcement profession. In 2004, Stafford was honored by the European Association for Campus Security for her expertise and achievements in campus security. In 2006, the Campus Safety Magazine developed a Campus Safety Director of the Year Award and in March 2007, Stafford was named the first winner of this prestigious award. In June 2008, Stafford was presented with the Distinguished Young Alumni Award by Mansfield University.

As a nationally recognized expert in the Clery Act and Title IX, Stafford has assisted several hundred institutions in achieving and maintaining their compliance with federal laws. She has conducted independent audits, reviews, and/or training for a variety of institutions of higher education.