

## Office of **Representative Hannah E. Kane** Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## For Immediate Release

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## Westborough Police Chief Honored for Service to Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative

Dorchester, MA – On Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, the Massachusetts Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative hosted an awards breakfast recognizing the occasion of the statewide initiative's tenth anniversary and honoring individuals whose work in the juvenile justice field has contributed to JDAI's success.

JDAI is a public safety partnership focusing on improving outcomes for justice-involved youth. JDAI's mission is to ensure that "the right youth is in the right place for the right reasons" through strategies that engage public, private, and community-based stakeholders.

Westborough Police Chief Alan Gordon was among the honorees recognized for his service to JDAI as a representative of the Massachusetts Association of Chiefs of Police. Chief Gordon provided an invaluable voice on behalf of public safety officials across the state on the need for system-wide supports for at-risk youth. He was honored with a Special Recognition award for his leadership, perspective, and commitment to a more efficient juvenile justice system.

"Helping at-risk youth reflect on their behavior choices and supporting opportunities for better decision-making leads to fewer youth involved in our juvenile justice system," said Rep. Hannah Kane, (R-Shrewsbury). "JDAI recognizing Chief Gordon's commitment to supporting these efforts while representing public safety officials across the state is a fitting honor and the town of Westborough should be extremely proud of Chief Gordon's service."

"Chief Gordon's service to the town of Westborough and to the whole Commonwealth has gone above and beyond the call of duty again and again," said Rep. Carolyn Dykema, (D-Holliston). "JDAI's recognition of his work to support justice-involved and at risk youth as a public safety advocate is a well-deserved honor."

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Rep. Hannah Kane has served in the Massachusetts House of Representative since 2015 and represents the residents of the 11th Worcester District which includes Shrewsbury and Westborough.