The following interview is conducted as part of Georgia Institute of Technology's Everyday Georgia Interview Project. Today is April 2nd 2018. Uh, the interview is taking place at Atlanta Public Safety Headquarters. The interviewer is Alyson Powell. The interviewees are Major John Quigley of the Strategy and Special Projects Division of the Atlanta Police Department. And um, what is your title? Lieutenant? Lieutenant Jacqueline Gwinn-Villaroel. Okay. All right. So my first question, if you all can each tell me, um, about your education and your career experiences.

John Quigley: Okay. I'm a graduate of the United States Military Academy and I was in the army for 15 years and in 1992 I got out of Fort Benning, Georgia and came up. The Atlanta police was hiring for the Olympics, trying to get to 2000 officers and I became one of those. And so now I've been here, this is my, in my 26th year. I started out just like all the officers do as a patrol officer and a move from, you know, from that into public affairs. I was working in public affairs for 10 years, made sergeant follow us there and then went back to the zone, answered 911 calls and supervised, uh, you know, officers in zone five in the Downtown area and then uh, became a lieutenant and ended up working in zone four as a watch commander and uh, spent a year and a half doing that. Then I went to the community oriented policing section, worked with the officers in that unit and then I was promoted to captain and came here to strategy and special projects. So I've been the executive officer for Strategy and Special Projects Division for the past three years.

J. Gwinn-Villaroel: Yes, I'm native, proud to be a native Atlantan. Raised in the Atlanta public school system. Have a Bachelors in Criminal Justice. Came to the Atlanta Police Department. Been here for 21 years. Proud to say that. Started out in zone three, um, as a beat officer, um, came through the ranks, um, made detective, um, have a lasting career so far and made sergeant um, in 2010. And so I was a sergeant in zone four, left there, I was fortunate to land, um, then moved to the Atlanta Police Academy, served there for a couple of years and then had the opportunity to go to the Personnel Human Resource Division. Um, then I was fortunate to leave there and then was asked to come to, um, to now, where I am now, ah well I made Lieutenant, fortunately, promoted and went to zone six. I'm there for zone six as a day watch commander and now I'm in the Tactical Crime Analysis Unit where we're actually more of the putting crime statistics data under special projects.

Alyson Powell Key: Okay. Can you each talk more about just kind of your role now, like go more into depth about what you do now?

John Quigley: Strategy and special projects division. You know, we have a number of different areas that we're responsible for. We oversee the Atlanta Police Leadership Institute: accreditation, staff inspections, crime analysis, where Jackie works, and capital improvements. But one of the areas that I'm most involved in is the coordination of technology acquisition. And so I ended up working with the Atlanta information management folks along with our officers and the police
J. Gwinn-Villaroel: Foundation and try to bring in new technology that can help us for crime fighting and, uh, to be more efficient in our operations.

J. Gwinn-Villaroel: For the crime analysis unit, actually foreseeing and overseeing the crime data for the city of Atlanta Police Department. Um, making sure that all of our crime statistics are accurate and making sure that our data is actually sorted through and filtered through to make sure that we're providing the public with the exact and accurate data as possible. Accuracy is what we come and making sure that everyday data is clean and accurate as possible and making sure that all of our resources are allocated properly. Making sure that our officers are getting what they need or to make sure that we actually deterring crime and making sure that we're moving the crime exactly where it needs to be in order to make sure that our officers are getting what they need and make sure our commanders are in that, actually know exactly where they need to place officers to help our citizens on a day to day basis.

Alyson Powell Key: Thank you. Um, can you talk about any, um, uh, like a significant person or event which influenced who you are today either career wise or even outside of your career?

John Quigley: Hmm. Repeat the question. Really, it was a, it was a decision that I, I made when I was 10 years old that helped me get into the path that I would end up being on here. When I was, I had just moved out. I lived in or grew up in Massachusetts. I just moved from the north side of Boston to the south side of Boston to a town called Norwood. And for my birthday, my dad, me if I wanted to learn how to skate, and from that I became a hockey player and from becoming a hockey player and playing in high school on a very good team. I had the opportunity to go United States military academy. During the time I was growing up, I always had an interest in law enforcement. But uh, and that's when I thought I was going to go into the FBI. That's something that I talked to an FBI agent in high school and uh, and was to go to the work study program at Northeastern University and hopefully work with the FBI office in Boston as an intern, but having the opportunity to go to United States Military Academy, I took that path and I ended up playing hockey there and then spending 15 years in the army. It was one of the army downsized after the first Gulf War, when they said we had a peace dividend and we didn't need as large and army that, you know, they paid some of us to get out and Atlanta police was hiring at that time for the Olympics. And it just worked out that, hey, it was easy for me to move from Fort Benning to Atlanta. And ultimately, uh, you know, pursue my career in law enforcement that I thought I was going to do through the federal agencies, but, you know, at that time, back in 1992, it was frozen in their hiring. And I just felt that for my family, staying in one location would be a more stable environment for my children. Uh, you know, and I will be able to stay in one place, but really I can't say so much that there was a person as much as it was a, a decision that I made at 10 years old that put me on a path that gave me opportunities that allowed me to go in the directions that I've been able to go.

J. Gwinn-Villaroel: Okay. Ask the question again.
Alyson Powell Key: Can you please describe a significant person or event which influenced who you are today?

J. Gwinn-Villaroel: Um, it's not so much a significant person or event. I believe what reshaped my "who I am today" is the fact that I grew up in Atlanta and I have a passion for my environment. I'm a product of Atlanta. And so again, I'm proud of Atlanta. I have that passion to make sure that I gave back to Atlanta and that has shaped me, and who I am, and that's why I became a law enforcement official. And, and I've always had the desire to go into law enforcement. And so that's who I am, and I want it to make sure I gave back. And so I've instilled that into the officers who I have overseen throughout the course of my career to make sure that I'm not telling them to do something that I have not done or, um, and that I'm not passionate about because I, I came from this environment and so my family still is here and so I say, I have roots here, so please, please understand that I want you to, to treat the citizens of Atlanta because I am passionate about where I grew up from. So I am on that.

Alyson Powell Key: Thank you. Can you please describe how you initially became involved with Georgia Tech?

John Quigley: Initially I got involved with Georgia Tech and then I have twin sons and they both went to Georgia Tech and I'm still paying Georgia Tech. So that's how I initially became connected to Georgia Tech, but in this particular project, uh, uh, Sargent Frank Ruben had reached out to Georgia Tech and asked them if they could help with a project to really to read reports and to be able to tell which reports were connected in some way and uh, being the technology coordinator and strategy and special projects, right. Frank or Sergeant Rubin came to me and asked for my support in trying to move this along and to coordinate and set up the meetings that took place between the Atlanta police and Georgia Tech. So in that role, you know, I participated, uh, you know, since nearly the beginning of a project. But, you know how I want to say that this is really, um, you know, a perfect partnership, you know, actually the ideal partnership of, uh, the academic institution at Georgia Tech, the Police Foundation and the Atlanta Police Department, that's really, you know, brought about the success here. Of course, very talented students, brilliant students or professors to be able to come up with the algorithm, said, do the work on our behalf. But ultimately, you know, a great project with a different agencies coming together to help each other, you know, in their interest.

J. Gwinn-Villaroel: I am supportive of anything is going to help move this department forward and that's going to help the citizens to embrace the gap from what we need in order to move the department forward and to help the citizens to feel safer. And so with, with having this collaboration with Georgia Tech is just pivotal for the APD. And so I'm in full support and with me onboarding and making sure that this is continuing, it's just, it's just phenomenal. So that's my role. Keeping it moving.

Alyson Powell Key: Okay. Um, can you talk about how this partnership with Georgia tech will affect your work or if it's affected your work already?
John Quigley: Well, what has done know Georgia Tech, obviously we realized that it's a gold mine of talent and, uh, and that type of thing, but it's opened up opportunities because we've been able to meet with one professor and that one professor is helping us with this machine learning, but she now has, has also offered her assistance with beat redesign. So, uh, it's possible that Georgia Tech will be involved in our examining the beats and how we should deploy the officers and taken a look at that on behalf of city council and the chief of police have also been in contact with another professor that works in the computer science area that, that, uh, that is interested in doing video analytics. And so, you know, again, uh, Georgia Tech is, is there and is trying to create opportunities to partner with us and through the foundation, we've been able to, to help each other.

J. Gwinn-Villaroel: Just to piggyback off of that with major quickly, we're already in talks of with that and um, we've already got meetings already scheduled, we're moving forward, with that on the schedule. So we're actually moving ahead with that. So we're excited about that.

John Quigley: One of the other, this isn’t necessarily Georgia tech, but your students created a company called Flock Security and they do cameras for our community and they've actually done an awesome camera setup in a, in an area up in Buckhead, and the cameras, you know, have analytics with it so that they can tell us what type of vehicle has gone through, what the tag is, run the tag and all kinds of great things. Again, it's students that came together to create their own company that is now working with us to integrate their platform into the video integration center 'cause, uh, you know, generally we use GENETEC is our video management system and now we have to get the Flock Security cameras to be able to be ingested into that video management system. So, uh, again, you know, with students that are cutting edge technology, helping us to move forward and, and, and make our community safer, you know, basically.

Alyson Powell Key: Are there any other experiences or any other details that you'd like to share in regards to this program or the partnership that you have?

J. Gwinn-Villaroel: We're excited. We're excited. For Georgia Tech and we understand that research is pivotal, pivotal to, um, the ongoing movement of law enforcement. We understand that. We embrace that and we welcome it and we, um, we're just, um, we, we embrace it. And we're just so excited. Our chief of police, um, in her command staff and executive staff, um, is rallying behind, um, such innovation that the Atlanta Police Department is moving forward with. And so we welcome, we welcome the technology and the brain power that's coming behind. I'm such an organization in technology as um, Georgia Tech.

Alyson Powell Key: Okay.

John Quigley: Have reached out to, uh, you know, to Chief Conley, uh, you know, for assistance with social media monitoring, which he had a platform over there that the students were using and trying to see whether or not some of that
technology was beneficial. Work with Georgia Tech Research Institute and gone out there to their facility in Marietta, uh, on their drone technology and then trying to work with them. I have another idea that I want to bring to uh, to your, your folks there to see whether or not the students would be interested in pursuing it. And one of the idea really is to create a internet based software that can access, uh, you know, the different video management systems. Ultimately, right now you have to pay money, and a good amount of money, to be able to integrate cameras, you know, with their software. But if somebody could come up with an internet based software that would allow you to view video in its normal state, you know, whatever platform that may be, that would be a, you know, to me it would be long term beneficial for the income of Georgia Tech and could be helpful to law enforcement that'll ultimately ends up accessing, you know, a multitude of video management systems. Not everybody has the same thing, you know, people purchase their own system and put it out on their private property and ultimately, you know, you want to be able to share when you can share that type of thing when it's in your interest. We're delighted to have, you know, Georgia Tech in our boundary and uh, you know, everything that they touch turns to gold to, to see the developmental the Spring Street corridor and all the things that the Georgia Tech has done to make their campus one of the nicest campuses in the southeast United States. So we're just delighted that you're here.

Alyson Powell Key: Alright. Thank you for participating in the Everyday Georgia Interview Project and sharing your story with us.

J. Gwinn-Villaroel: Thank you.