

Collecting Law Enforcement Community Engagement Data



Image courtesy of <https://www.pexels.com/search/questionaire/>

Law Enforcement Community Surveys Training Module 9

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Developing a Technique or Tool to Collect Law Enforcement Community Engagement Activity

DOUBT

Set Expectations
Invoke Commitment
Measure Progress
Provide Feedback
Link to Consequences & Rewards
Evaluate Effectiveness

Set Expectations

Develop definition of what Community Engagement is in Law Enforcement.

- Set expectations to all levels of your organization that community engagement is an expectation not an additional obligation.
- Develop a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on what is community engagement & what is not community engagement.
- Provide easy to use data collection tool – Multiple methods can be leverage (surveys, call types, non-offense reports, or specialize data collection tools).
- Provide training on data collection.

Invite Commitment

Law Enforcement needs to commit to exceeding expectations on community engagement.

- Inform Law Enforcement personnel how expectations are set.
- Provide Law Enforcement personnel with how expectations of community engagement benefit them.
 - Potential link to reward systems & evaluations.
- Provide Law Enforcement personnel with how expectations move their organization forward
 - City, neighborhood, and community feedback.

Measure Progress

Expectations can only be measured when they are quantified. Depending on method of community engagement data collection will indicate what information is collected.

- Who – Law Enforcement (Name, Unit)
- When – Date & Time (Shift)
- Where – Location (XY, Lat/Long, Address, District)
- What – Type of engagement (activity description)
- How many – Law Enforcement (# personnel in attendance)
- Who – Community members (organization, group, etc.)
- Why – purpose of the engagement
- How many – Community Members (# of community members in attendance)

Provide Feedback

Communicate Activity Internally & Externally

- Provide Internal Reports – Frequent basis (Monthly or Quarterly)
 - Precinct/District level analysis at event level
 - Unit level analysis at the event level
 - Shift level analysis at the event level
 - Individual level analysis at the event level
- Provide External Reports – Frequent basis (Monthly or Quarterly)
 - Neighborhood level analysis at event level
 - Law Enforcement Coverage zone analysis at event level

Link to Consequences & Rewards

Indicate Rewards and/or Consequences

- Provide consequence and/or rewards at the responsibility unit level for expectations
 - Utilizing or not utilizing data collection method
 - Meeting or not meeting responsibility unit expectations
 - Meeting or not meeting responsibility shift expectations
 - Meeting or not meeting individual expectations

Community Engagement Data



DO THIS

- Community engagement should be part of the organization's culture.
- Community engagement should be an expectation of everyone within the organization.
- Community engagement data collection should be an expectation.
- Community engagement data should inform action.
- Community engagement data should be shared internally & externally.



NOT THAT

- Community engagement is not a unit or a person.
- Community engagement is not a check box.
- Community engagement is not additional responsibility.
- Community engagement data is not just for an annual report.
- Community engagement is not a break for "Real Police Work."

Do Not Re-invent the Wheel



- Agencies do collect community engagement data reach out learn from each other.
- Communicate the importance of collecting community engagement data with the vendors so more vendors make it easier to integrate data into established processes.
- Collaborate with additional stakeholders' information that is important to you is important to them. Community members, academia, law enforcement partners, etc..

Thank you

