

ETHICS TRAINING FOR SENIOR LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERS: A FAILED UNDERTAKING OR A NEW OPPORTUNITY

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ABSTRACT

Given the expanding range of responsibilities included within police officers' role and the complex ethical dilemmas they face, it is essential that they be men and women of strong ethical competence. Also, providing effective ethics training to those serving as police officers is important, particularly to senior leaders, as they create the cultural environment in which subordinates perform their duties. Current ethics training for the new officers is minimal, and almost non-existent for senior leaders in police departments throughout the United States. This substantial lack of ethics training, its implications on policing as well as potential solutions are addressed in this article.

Keywords: ethics training; law enforcement; senior law enforcement leaders; ethical reflection