

Public Survey for the 21st Century Policing Project

Sheriffs' Offices provide law enforcement services in every county in the State of Minnesota, including patrol and investigations, operating county jails, security for courts and other public functions, execution of civil process, and other legal and public safety services. Sheriffs' Office personnel work in partnership with local and state law enforcement and other agency partners to protect and serve the public. Like all law enforcement agencies, sheriffs' offices also depend on strong public trust and ongoing public relationships for their continued effectiveness.

The Minnesota Sheriffs' Association supports every sheriff and sheriff's office in the state. In that capacity, we are leading an effort to assure that Minnesota law enforcement continues to provide excellent service for, and with, the public. In 2015 we have undertaken an initiative to develop and articulate a vision for Minnesota Law Enforcement in this century. We are seeking broad public input in meetings, discussions, and through this online survey. Your views, like those of your fellow Minnesotans, are critical for informing this vision. Thank you for helping Minnesota law enforcement deliver excellent service now and in the future.

Demographic Questions

We are only accepting views from individuals who are willing to identify themselves; anonymous feedback lacks the credibility necessary for this effort. We will only use this information to validate survey data, and to send you a copy of our final report if you request it, below. We will not share your name, address, or email address with anyone outside of the team working on this survey.

First Name:

Last Name:

Home Address:

City:

State: MN

ZIP:

County:

Email Address:

Please email me an electronic version of the finished report. (*Circle one*): Yes No

Gender: (*Circle one*)

Male

Female

Decline to State

Age: (*Circle one*)

18-29

30-44

45-59

60+

Survey Questions

(Online version available at www.mnsheriffs.org.)

We want to know what you think about the current state of law enforcement in your community. Your comments are especially valuable. *Please circle the best answer and/or write in your comment(s).*

1. How satisfied are you with current law enforcement in your community:

Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
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Why or why not?

2. I feel safe from crime in my neighborhood.

5. Strongly agree	4. Agree	3. Neutral	2. Disagree	1. Strongly Disagree
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Why or why not?

3. I feel safe from crime in Minnesota.

5. Strongly agree	4. Agree	3. Neutral	2. Disagree	1. Strongly Disagree
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Why or why not?

4. I believe that when I call, law enforcement officers will respond promptly and competently.

5. Strongly agree	4. Agree	3. Neutral	2. Disagree	1. Strongly Disagree
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Why or why not?

5. I believe that I will be treated fairly and respectfully by law enforcement personnel.

5. Strongly agree	4. Agree	3. Neutral	2. Disagree	1. Strongly Disagree
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Why or why not?

6. I believe that I will be treated with courtesy and compassion by law enforcement personnel.

5. Strongly agree	4. Agree	3. Neutral	2. Disagree	1. Strongly Disagree
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Why or why not?

7. I believe that law enforcement is effective at preventing crime in my community.

5. Strongly agree	4. Agree	3. Neutral	2. Disagree	1. Strongly Disagree
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Why or why not?

8. I believe that law enforcement cooperates with the public to address public concerns.

5. Strongly agree 4. Agree 3. Neutral 2. Disagree 1. Strongly Disagree

Why or why not?

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9. Please rank the following law enforcement task in order of importance (1 being the most important to you):

- a. Maintaining public order (quiet streets, reduced graffiti, etc.)
- b. Apprehending violent criminals
- c. Apprehending non-violent criminals
- d. Responding to major incidents (crime, terrorism, natural disasters)
- e. Traffic safety and law enforcement
- f. Preventing crime in partnership with communities (for example, by working with at-risk youth, organizing neighborhood watches, building relationships in communities)
- g. Teaching personal safety

10. Please rank the following traits of law enforcement officers in order of importance (1 being the most important to you):

- a. Courtesy
- b. Clear communications
- c. Friendliness
- d. Respectfulness
- e. Physical courage
- f. Physical fitness
- g. Creativity
- h. Desire to be of service

11. What do you see as the key strengths of law enforcement agencies in your area?

12. What do you see as key weaknesses or areas for improvement?

13. What changes would you recommend for law enforcement in the next decade?

14. What actions are you willing to take to support law enforcement efforts and to promote the changes you recommend?

15. Other comments:

Please return the completed survey to: MSA Vision Project, Ethical Leaders in Action, P.O. Box 14714, Minneapolis, MN 55104

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