



Code of Ethics, Values and Professional Conduct For Law Enforcement Planners

I. Responsibilities to the Public

- a. Advocate the identification and clarification of community values, needs, interests and goals within the scope of the planning process.
- b. Communicate clearly and fully to decision makers the results and implications of information affecting the public or in the public interest.
- c. Advocate providing the full, clear and accurate disclosure of all relevant information on issues affecting the public or in the public's interest.
- d. Inform all parties and give public disclosure, and provide professional recommendations, in situations where the public may be adversely affected.
- e. Advocate providing opportunities for meaningful participation in the planning process to all interested parties, including disadvantaged or underrepresented groups or individuals.
- f. Promote collaborative partnerships between the agency and the community it serves to promote public trust, safety and welfare of all citizens.
- g. Advocate for the inclusion of the community-oriented and problem-solving principles in law enforcement planning.
- h. Attempt to responsibly balance the often conflicting and competing values, needs and interests in the society, in order to best serve the entire community.
- i. Respect the rights of all persons, including the avoidance of all discrimination against or harassment of individuals or groups.
- j. Respect the public's rights of privacy, confidentiality and access to public information as required by law.

II. Responsibilities to Planner's Agency

- a. Respect the agency's right or need for confidentiality.
- b. Inform one's agency of any conflict between the agency's values, needs or interests versus the public's values, needs or interests.
- c. Inform one's agency of any potential adversity to the values, needs or interests of the agency or the public.
- d. Propose methods and solutions that are practical and cost effective, in order to provide for the most efficient use of public resources.
- e. Ensure that strategic planning goals and objectives support the vision, values and mission of both the agency and the community it serves.

III. Responsibilities to Law Enforcement Planning

- a. Participate in professional law enforcement and planning associations at the local, state/provincial and national levels (such as IALEP), contributing time and effort toward their goals and mission.
- b. Advocate for professional, research-based planning in law enforcement agencies, including periodic review and evaluation of programs, policies and services to assess their effectiveness in providing services to the community.

IV. Responsibilities to Colleagues

- a. Contribute to the professional education, training and development of other law enforcement planners, including students, interns and beginning planners.
- b. Share information and the results of research and development (e.g., innovations, ideas, results, concerns), including responding to requests, submitting information to repositories and directories, participating at meetings and publishing articles.
- c. Give credit to others' work and ideas (i.e., cite references and sources) and avoid taking false credit.
- d. Support and encourage others as we all work together to achieve the agency and community vision. Value everyone's contribution and strengths.
- e. Believe that everyone has value and we show consideration for all customers and fellow employees.
- f. Seize the opportunity to do the right thing in carrying out our commitments and obligations.

V. Personal Responsibilities to Professionalism

- a. Strive to perform at the highest level of one's proficiency and competency to achieve the highest level of quality.
- b. Seek training and education throughout one's career; maintain knowledge of current trends and practices in law enforcement planning.
- c. Learn, understand and embrace emerging technologies to improve services to the community.
- d. Accurately represent one's professional qualifications and abilities.
- e. Exercise fair, honest, conscientious, independent and impartial judgement in presenting data, methods, results and recommendations.
- f. Disclose confidential information only when required by law, or to prevent a violation of a law, or to prevent substantial harm or injury.
- g. Sign or approve only those documents that one has personally prepared or checked.
- h. Perform work with integrity, transparency, accountability and professionalism.
- i. Perform work within the range of one's professional competence.
- j. Disclose all personal interests, broadly defined, that may be construed to be in conflict with the goals of any law enforcement planning project.
- k. Refuse any favor that may be construed to have a bearing on a law enforcement planning project.
- l. Abstain from using confidential information for one's personal gain or advantage.
- m. Support the development of policies and strategies that reinforce the importance of community engagement.

VI. Responsibility to Use Professional Research Methods

- a. Use accepted empirical research and evaluation methods.
- b. Strive to achieve basic research goals and criteria: objectivity, impartiality, accuracy, validity and reliability.
- c. Ensure that research and evaluation methods are legal, ethical and reflect community values.
- d. Seek feedback, review and evaluation of research design and methods by peers and colleagues.

- e. Prepare research and planning reports that provide sufficient information to evaluate the usefulness and quality of the study:
 - i. Clearly identify the goals of the research project.
 - ii. Describe the project's research methods, sources of information, and any premises and assumptions made.
 - iii. Ensure that all reports and documents produced are in a format that is as clear, concise and straightforward as possible within the need to present and discuss technical data and research methods.
 - iv. Research, when not of a confidential nature, should be made publically available to ensure transparency and accountability.

This amended Code of Ethics, Values and Professional Conduct was presented to the IALEP Membership at the 2015 Training Conference in Arlington, Texas, and it was adopted by the Executive Board on October 9, 2015. The original Code of Ethics was presented to the IALEP Membership at the 1996 Training Conference and adopted by the Executive Board on October 10, 1996.

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