

Public Information Officer Community of Practice

National Public Safety Partnership

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) established the National Public Safety Partnership (PSP) to provide an innovative framework to enhance federal support of state, local, and tribal law enforcement and prosecution authorities in increasing public safety. PSP serves as a DOJ-wide program that enables participating sites to consult with and receive expedited, coordinated training and technical assistance (TTA) and an array of resources from DOJ to enhance local public safety strategies. This model enables DOJ to provide jurisdictions of different sizes and diverse needs with data-driven, evidence-based strategies tailored to the unique local needs of participating cities to build their capacities to address violent crime challenges and increase community engagement.

Communities of Practice

To network and discuss promising practices in reducing violence, PSP promotes Communities of Practice (CoPs) to address shared challenges, needs, and lessons learned in PSP sites and in the broader criminal justice community through on-site and virtual learning and networking opportunities. PSP has established CoPs for public information officers, crime analysts, law enforcement leaders, technologists, and prosecutors.

Public Information Officer Community of Practice

The role of a Public Information Officer (PIO) is complex and multifaceted and requires the ability to respond or adapt at a moment's notice. PIOs often must operate in a 24/7 capacity, interact with many types of audiences, and have in-depth knowledge of law enforcement policies and procedures, open records laws, and investigations. PIOs play a vital role in helping police departments connect with their communities, so they also must understand how to leverage social media and build productive working relationships with local media. This complexity is why the PSP program established the Public Information Officer Community of Practice (PIOCoP) group in 2020. The PIOCoP provides opportunities to discuss emerging trends and issues and share lessons learned and best practices about the critical role and responsibilities of a PIO. The PIOCoP facilitates learning and networking opportunities among PSP site PIOs about community engagement strategies, messaging, and media relations.

Contact Information

For more information on the PIOCoP, please contact the Director of PSP and Senior Policy Advisor, Kristie Brackens, at kristie.brackens@usdoj.gov or the PSP Support Team at info@pspartnership.org.



Communities of Practice

are all about groups of people with common interests sharing, interacting, and learning.

For More Information

About PSP:

<https://www.nationalpublicsafetypartnership.org/>

About CoPs:

<https://www.nationalpublicsafetypartnership.org/Communities-of-Practice>