



IOWA LAW ENFORCEMENT VISION FOR EQUALITY TASK FORCE

In June of 2020, the Iowa Police Chiefs Association and the Iowa-Nebraska NAACP partnered to form the Law Enforcement Vision for Equality Task Force. The task force is comprised of law enforcement leaders, minority associations, and advocacy groups. The task force was created to seek common ground, to propose necessary change, and to strengthen existing relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve. The task force is co-chaired by Iowa City NAACP President Kevin Sanders and Oelwein Police Chief Jeremy Logan – past president of the Iowa Police Chiefs Association.

Since the formation of the task force, the group met throughout the state and virtually on five occasions. The main purpose of the task force is to foster open communication between various groups in an effort to improve law enforcement procedures and relationships with diverse stakeholders. Discussions have focused on:

- Building trusting relationships through open and honest communication
- Sharing ideas and concerns from our respective communities
- Seeking common sense legislation that encourages accountability
- Advocating for stronger protections for victims of hate crimes
- Ensuring accountability for both law enforcement and community members, and
- Ensuring that law enforcement training is consistent throughout the State of Iowa

While only in its infancy stages, members of the task force have already witnessed growth and early successes. Examples include:

- Active engagement regarding law enforcement accountability measures in Johnson County.
- The task force collaborated with the NAACP for a coordinated response and investigation by all stakeholders during a potential racially charged incident in an Iowa community.
- Task force members offered their expertise at the Iowa Summit on Justice and Disparities, while also taking part in a workshop to learn about innovative information in relation to Criminal Justice.

Additionally, task force members are in the process of developing a mechanism to provide guidance to local communities on how to form localized groups similar to this state-wide task force. The goal is to build localized partnerships and trusting relationships to help communities work through potential issues.

Members of the task force remain committed to growing together to influence positive resolutions to long-term concerns.

Task Force Members

Kevin Sanders
Chief Jeremy Logan
Ike Rayford
Chief Tim Carmody
Monique Scarlett
Chief Rex Mueller
Chief Daniel Banks
Sheriff Tony Thompson
Sheriff Jason Sandholt
Comm. Stephen Bayens
Lt. Ryan Doty
Officer Ashley Lopez

President, Iowa City NAACP, Co-Chair, State Criminal Justice Committee
Oelwein Police Department
President, Sioux City NAACP
Council Bluffs Police Chief-ILEA Council Member
Unity in the Community Founder
Sioux City Police Department
Hudson Police Department
Black Hawk County Sheriff
Marion County Sheriff
Iowa Department of Public Safety Commissioner
Des Moines Police Department
Clear Lake Police Department