

CHECKLIST FOR BUILDING STRONGER POLICE/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Here is an abbreviated and updated checklist from an ICMA developed *Community Oriented Public Safety Workbook*:

- Is the department's commitment to community policing reflected in its mission statement?
- Is the department's commitment to community policing reflected in its recruitment, selection, and promotion guidelines?
- Is top command implementing community policing as a total philosophical and organizational commitment and not as a set of tactics to be applied to specific problems?
- Has top command structured a means of promoting and monitoring coordination among all divisions and units?
- Have all levels of the organization, including civilians, received training on a sustained basis?
- Is the community involved in determining where and when officers are assigned to a neighborhood and in priority setting?
- Have officers been delegated sufficient authority to initiate innovations and community projects with a minimum of red tape?
- Have community officers actively enlisted the support, participation, or cooperation of the media, citizens, community leaders and groups, other government agencies and officials, nonprofit agencies, the private sector, or private security companies?
- Do community officers initiate proactive short- and long-term efforts to reduce crime, drugs, fear of crime, and social and physical disorder, including neighborhood decay?
- Do community officers target at risk populations for special attention?
- Do community officers know and follow the legal and ethical constraints on their behavior?
- Are community officers free from political pressure?
- Has the department implemented a comprehensive strategy to educate police, citizens, civic officials, community agencies, and the media about the police/community relations initiatives?