

Resolution of Shared Principles

Whereas, the NAACP “advocates for smarter, results based criminal justice policies to keep our communities safe, including....an end to racial disparities at all levels of the system”; and

Whereas, the NAACP’s principal objective “is to ensure that political, educational, social and economic rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination”; and

Whereas, the ACLU was founded to “ensure the promise of the Bill of Rights and to expand its reach to people historically denied its privileges....and to defend and preserve individual rights and liberties’; and

Whereas, there are multiple other advocacy organizations interested in protecting the rights, liberties and equalities for different classes and groups of peoples; and

Whereas, the Indiana Association of Chiefs of Police declare in their mission statement that the association “endeavors to promote professionalism...and to enhance public awareness of law enforcement and public safety issues”; and

Whereas, all organizations acknowledge that there are historical precedents and reasons for discontent between police and the communities they may serve; and

Whereas, all parties have a mutual passion for defending and protecting the civil rights of all citizens and in keeping our communities, residents and visitors safe; and

Whereas, since 2018, the Indiana Association of Chiefs of Police, in association with civil rights groups, has endeavored to work towards and enhance the common grounds in law enforcement and citizen relations,

Now be it heretofore resolved that we affirm the following principles regarding the relationship between Indiana law enforcement and the communities and people they serve:

1. We value the life of all residents of and visitors to our community.
2. We believe there is mutual benefit to all citizens being treated with dignity and respect.
3. We hold that discrimination toward any person, for any reason, is abhorrent and not conducive to positive relationships.
4. IACP strives to meet the recommendations presented in the report of the President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing.

5. IACP adopts the mission of the Indiana Law Enforcement Summit (2014 and 2017) that “we are committed to the concept of professional service to our communities that will provide protection to the lives, property and personal liberties of the citizens of Indiana, while recognizing the diversity of culture and language. We will strive for the practice of fair and impartial enforcement of the law for the benefit of Indiana’s populace. We will develop partnerships within our communities to their needs.”
6. We believe there is mutual benefit in law enforcement and their leadership and community action groups working together to hold all citizens accountable to gain a better understanding and knowledge of the law and the lawful actions and goals of law enforcement, while also developing positive relationships between citizens and law enforcement at all levels.
7. We believe in the pursuit of professional accreditation for all law enforcement agencies to bring best practice policies and accountability for law enforcement conduct and in law enforcement actions.