

Discussion Questions for Reimagine Policing

1. How do we want to share this information with the community?
 - a. Maybe city council members might be interested in what other cities - or even their own department is doing.
 - b. What about the cities we didn't interview?
 - c. The general public?
 - d. Other elected officials? District Attorneys?
 - i. Potential discussion, tour, Q&A with current District Attorney that covers actions in Jefferson County?
 - ii. Potential candidate questions for the Jefferson County Sheriff's position (up for election in 2022)?
2. Based on the interviews, departments were concerned about unfunded mandates and requirements. How should we raise the issues of unfunded mandates with state officials or state legislators?
3. Discuss what, if any, common threads are evident in the three different jurisdictions we researched?
4. Was there any information that surprised you from the presentation? Could it change the way you think of policing?
5. How do these issues affect our lives and our community?
6. What kinds of action would we want to take based on this presentation?
 - a. More study?
 - b. What positions do we currently have?
 - c. Do the current positions support what action we think is necessary?
7. **Concurrence or adoption of Justice Position?**

As noted in the EMM, the current LWV positions at the national, state, and local levels do not expressly discuss community law enforcement, including policing practices. California has a position and there is a push to have it adopted as a LWVUS concurrence at convention. The California position in full is at: <https://lwvc.org/our-work/positions/position-criminal-justice>. While the LWV-California's Criminal Justice position is broad, it includes specifics relating to policing practices, in the section on "Policing Practices - constitutional policies and procedures established by law enforcement with input from the communities they serve." The positions outlined include:

- Ensure that crime prevention and promotion of public safety are the primary roles of state and local law enforcement agencies.
- Build public trust and positive community relationships through police engagement with community members.
- Encourage community participation in the development of policing policy.

- Provide police accountability via independent citizen oversight of law enforcement and publicly available data on officer conduct.
- Disseminate information to the public about policing policies, recruitment, procedures for complaint/commendation, and the rights and responsibilities of citizens and officers in interactions with each other.
- Provide sufficient psychological services and counseling to meet stress-related needs of police personnel.
- Staff police departments to reflect the diversity of the communities they serve, and establish recruitment efforts that reflect this principle.
- Train police to identify individuals with mental health conditions, disabilities, or substance abuse/addiction, so that officers will request support from appropriate medical and mental health professionals, with the goal of diverting those individuals into treatment instead of jail.
- Require all officers to render first aid to people who have been injured as a result of police action.
- Conduct comprehensive background checks, to include such history as PTSD, domestic violence, sex offenses and affiliations with domestic terrorist groups, for all applicants to law enforcement positions.
- Establish de-escalation (the use of time, distance, communications, and available resources whenever it is safe to do so) and anti-bias training, and ensure that all staff are provided with this training.
- Authorize minimal use of force during police encounters with the public, and consider deadly force only when necessary to prevent imminent death or serious bodily injury.
 - a. Should we advocate to LWVCO to support the request that the LWVUS adopt LWVCA's Position on Criminal Justice by concurrence at National Convention?
 - b. If the LWVUS does not concur, is there interest in pursuing concurrence (or updating our own positions) through LWVJeffco and, if so, would we need to adopt more specific justice positions to support this path?