



**For Immediate release:**

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**MN Chiefs of Police Association hosts statewide conference focused on improving community relations, maintaining officer morale and exploring the aftermath of the Baton Rouge officer killings**

*Highlights also include innovative ways to keep officers mentally, spiritually, and physically fit and maintain better police-media relations*

**St. Cloud, MN** – The Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) is excited to welcome an all-star lineup of national and local presenters to its annual Executive Training Institute (ETI) and Public Safety Expo, themed: *Partners, Problem Solvers, Protectors: Leading in Turbulent Times*.

**(Open to media Monday, April 24 - Tuesday, April 25. [Click here for a schedule of events](#))**

Among this year's speakers includes Baton Rouge Police Chief Carl Dabadie. He worked diligently last July to maintain calm when two of his officers and a sheriff's deputy were killed in an ambush attack. The tragedy followed days of protests after a fatal officer-involved shooting. Former national news correspondent Jeff Ansell and cable news commentator Jason Riley will talk about ways police can foster more positive interactions with the media. The great debate about whether officers should view body camera footage following a use-of-deadly-force incident will play out live between two national experts on the topic.

"Minnesota law enforcement leaders – nearly 400 are expected to attend – want to hear what the profession's top minds have to say about such turbulent topics," says Andy Skoogman, MCPA's Executive Director. "This speaker lineup will provide Minnesota's police chiefs and supervisors with the necessary tools to address heightened scrutiny and community demands."

In addition to high profile keynote speakers, the conference's breakout sessions include, helping small agencies implement body cameras, fostering effective community relations before the critical incident, and a 21<sup>st</sup> Century approach to mass protests.

The conference also features two awards ceremonies, one saluting officers and citizens who went above and beyond the call of duty (**Monday, April 24, 7pm**), the other will recognize innovative solutions to maintaining officer mind, body and spiritual fitness and maximizing social media's resources in a small agency (**Monday, April 24, 12:15pm**).

*To obtain media credentials or for more information, please contact MCPA Communication's Director Joe Sheeran 651-368-2951 or [joe@mnchiefs.org](mailto:joe@mnchiefs.org). Please note: The Wetterling investigation panels are closed to the media.*