



MINNESOTA CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION

DEDICATED TO THE IDEALS OF PROFESSIONAL POLICING

2017 Legislative Agenda

Dedicated to the ideals of professional policing, the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) 2017 Legislative Agenda was developed over a period of several months with input from the state's police chiefs, law enforcement leaders and stakeholder groups. Members of the organization's Legislative Committee, which is made up of public safety professionals at the municipal and state levels, discussed, vetted and prioritized the agenda.

The MCPA Board of Directors approved the final agenda on November 17, 2016.

21st Century Policing Platform– The MCPA supports the state finding ways to implement the recommendations put forward by the President's Task Force Report on 21st Century Policing and upholding our association's mission of bringing the highest quality of police services and leadership to the people of Minnesota.

We will work to pass policies that help retain or regain public trust in law enforcement including:

- Increasing annual POST Board training reimbursement allocation to local agencies and expanding the Peace Officer Training Fund
- Mandating annual Continuing Education requirements for police officers in the areas of recognizing and valuing diversity and cultural differences, conflict management and mediation, crisis intervention and mental illness crises
- Reporting use-of-force data as part of the FBI's data collection initiative
- Collecting pre-service and in-service data on the race and ethnic makeup of police officer applicants and police officers to measure what extent law enforcement agencies reflect the communities they serve and provide a way to measure industry efforts to attract more diverse candidates
- Funding a "Pathway to Policing Fund" that would reimburse municipal and county law enforcement agencies that hire and compensate "second career" individuals while they are completing their licensure requirements

Police Officer impersonation - The MCPA supports legislation that would revise MN Statute 609.475, more clearly defining what is to impersonate a police officer, enhancing the penalties for impersonating a police officer from a misdemeanor to a gross misdemeanor and requiring uniformity in security guard uniforms and vehicles.

Allowing Lights and Sirens on certain types of vehicle escorts - The MCPA supports a change to MN Statute 169.17 to allow law enforcement personnel driving emergency vehicles to use an audible signal by siren and emergency lighting to escort other vehicles for the following events: Military homecoming escorts; Community parades or events; Military or public safety funerals; Participants in major events with an attendance of over 20,000 while leaving or arriving the event

Gun Violence Protective Orders (GVPOS) – The MCPA supports allowing law enforcement, qualified health care practitioners, family members and intimate partners who believe an individual's dangerous behavior has a substantial likelihood to lead to violence to request an order from a civil court authorizing law enforcement to temporarily remove any guns in the individual's possession and to prohibit new gun purchases for the duration of the order.

Revisions to Permit to Purchase Firearms Statutes - The MCPA supports aligning the Permits to Purchase Firearms statutes (MN Stat. 624.7131; 624.7132) with the Permit to Carry (MN Stat. 624.714) statute in terms of a fee structure, the time required for conducting background checks (from 7 to 30 days) and adding the language limiting liability of the law enforcement agency for a permit to purchase holder's actions with a firearm.

Criminal Background Checks – The MCPA supports preventing individuals who are not legally able to purchase a gun from doing so without background checks at gun shows, online or in private transactions.

Hand-held cellphone use while driving The MCPA supports legislation that prohibits drivers, with a public safety exception, from using hand-held cell phones while driving to reduce the number of distracted driving crashes.

Statewide licensing of massage therapists– The MCPA supports providing consistency in licensing and centralized oversight of massage therapists in Minnesota to aid local law enforcement in the fight against sexual exploitation, sex trafficking and prostitution.

Permit to Purchase disqualifier - The MCPA supports legislation that would add a conviction for conspiracy to commit a crime of violence as a disqualifier for an individual seeking a permit to purchase a firearm.

Revising MN Chapter 152 to assign weights to marijuana derivatives – The MCPA supports assigning weights to marijuana derivatives such as wax or Butane Hash Oil to assist law enforcement in curtailing dealer activity.

National Criminal Justice Commission The MCPA advocates for Federal legislation to establish and fund a National Criminal Justice Commission to conduct a criminal justice system comprehensive study. The IACP also supports this concept.

Enhance penalties for repeat shoplifting offenders – The MCPA supports increasing the charge or severity for repeat shoplifters to include conspiracy charges or felony level sentences.

Note: The MCPA Legislative Committee recommended and the MCPA Board approved forming a working group to study the issue of data collection. The working group would explore what data should be collected and how best to collect the data with the interests of all agencies, urban and rural, large and small, in mind. The working group will provide the MCPA Board with its recommendations.