

## Abstract

Cultural competency training develops sensitivity to issues of social, geographic, economic, and language diversity and related challenges faced by historically marginalized populations. Effective law enforcement can build positive relationships with community members more easily, which leads to a community that will appreciate and better understand officers' actions while interacting with them. Law enforcement personnel and departments that find ways to improve community affairs tend to reduce civil confusion and potential conflicts. Officers trained to work with and gain understanding of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and gender groups will result in better community and police relations. The purpose of this paper is to show that police officers trained in cultural competency are better prepared, more confident and better equipped to meet the needs of the community, as well as their own personal and professional goals throughout their law enforcement career.

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