Decentralization: Pros and Cons

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The St. Johns County Sheriff's Office is researching the possibility of implementing decentralization. This paper studies the benefits and the obstacles for the organization. A survey was sent out to nine sheriffs' offices and one police department within the State of Florida that are, currently decentralized. The surveys and the research showed important data to reflect what agencies experienced who have decentralized. Areas of concern were identified along with some benefits of decentralization of an organization. Possible solutions to some of the problems associated with decentralization are also discussed.