

The Future of Minority Law Enforcement Executives in the State of Florida

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The advantages gained by blacks, females, and Hispanics in the 1970's were lost in the 1980s and 1990s in law enforcement in Florida. The number of minority law enforcement executives in the state has dwindled. In addition, although the number of minorities in all ranks of law enforcement is higher, the percentages are lower when compared to the population.

Statistical data obtained through research and surveys show that minorities are losing ground when it comes to achieving executive positions in law enforcement in the state. There is a clear and identifiable profile that distinguishes the typical minority law enforcement executive.

Not only are there obstacles to promoting minorities to executive levels, there are still serious difficulties in recruiting, hiring and retaining. Those obstacles include hostility from within agencies that remain dominated by white males and a sociological aversion to law enforcement by minorities.