

## **Police and Media Relations: How to Bridge the Gap**

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Police and Media Relations has been a concern for both the police and media for decades. How to bridge that gap has puzzled brilliant minds in both professions. For law enforcement, the policy has always been to give as little information as possible. The media is believed to be the enemy who is always looking to destroy the credibility of officers. The media feels that law enforcement is always hiding information. Media feel that they are the ears of the public and it is their duty to "tell it like it is". The following document will discuss police and media relations from both sides. Practices of some law enforcement agencies and media outlets will be reviewed. The results of studies on the subject will be discussed. Finally, existing problems will be discussed and an amicable median will be established.