Organizing for Decision Making at the Lowest Level

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The primary theme of management experts in the 1990's appears to be that decision making should be made at the lowest possible organizational level. The question is, how do you accomplish this dramatic feat in the framework of traditional law enforcement agencies? This paper explores: 1) what structural changes will be needed in criminal justice organizations to insure that decisions are made at the lowest level; 2) what cost savings are obtained by eliminating management positions; and 3) whether top and middle criminal justice managers are ready for the changes which must take place to facilitate decision making at the lowest level.