

## **Sexual Harassment in Florida Law Enforcement: Panacea or Pandora's Box?**

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The major purpose of this project was to determine the existence and/or extent of sexual harassment in Florida law enforcement agencies. A survey was sent to each of the 3,790 female police officers listed by the Florida Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission as actively employed by a Florida law enforcement agency as of February 18, 1993. The survey found that sexual harassment is a common experience among women in law enforcement. The results parallel studies in both the public and private sectors. In addition, this study found a widespread perception that ending sexual harassment is a price females must pay if they desire careers in law enforcement. Other issues identified include the lack of understanding of the subject by Florida law enforcement professionals and the adverse effect of sexual harassment on the work environment. The study calls for law enforcement agencies to take action to eliminate sexual harassment and promote a more positive work environment.