

St. Anthony Police Receive Training on Fair and Impartial Policing by Jon Mangseth, Police Chief

As part of our on-going work with the Collaborative Reform Initiative, the Office of Community Orientated Policing Services (COPS Office) recently supported the implementation of Fair and Impartial Policing (FIP) training for the St. Anthony Police Department. On September 5th and 7th, 2017, all POST licensed St. Anthony Officers, and our Community Service Officer (CSO), successfully completed Fair & Impartial Policing training.

The Fair & Impartial Policing training program applies the modern science of bias to policing. Implicit bias refers to the attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding, actions, and decisions in an unconscious manner. It is based on the premise that all people, even well-intentioned people, have biases. It trains officers on the effects of implicit bias and gives them the information and skills they need to reduce and manage their biases. The curricula addressed not just racial/ethnic bias, but biases based on other factors such as gender, sexual orientation, religion, socio-economic status and age.

This training enhanced city wide Anti-Bias Awareness training our officers attended in the fall of 2016. It built upon a wide variety of training our officers have already completed in areas related to ethics, human relations and leadership.

The St. Anthony Police Department remains committed to working with the Department of Justice in regards to implementing targeted technical assistance based on the goals and objectives originally identified at the start of the Collaborative Reform Initiative for Technical Assistance. We greatly appreciate the technical assistance this collaboration has provided. We look forward to advancing training in the area of Procedural Justice, later this year. In addition, as part of a grant, two of our Police Officers will receive additional Fair and Impartial Policing and become department instructors for this training.