

Little Rock Black Police Officer Association

2011-2012

Goals and Objections

Once again, I would like to extend my gratitude and appreciation for voting me the 2011-2012 President of the Black Police Officer Association (BPOA). The BPOA's founding fathers established our organization on the grounds of providing a working environment of equality for minority officers. The organization has become a beacon for wisdom, advice and direction for officers faced with administrative obstacles. To best serve the community we are sworn to protect, we must maintain an open line of communication with the citizens of Little Rock. In doing so, we can continue to move the organization forward in a positive direction through community service, educational volunteerism and officer assistance.

First, we must continue our community service in relation to minority recruiting, neighborhood clean-ups and food drives. We must commit to recruiting minorities in the community by holding or participating in career orientations, job fairs and motivational lectures to encourage career aspirations and awareness. Next, we should continue our contributions through donated gifts and time to the Police Live-in Camp. With the acquisition of a lodge at 2521 South Arch Street, we can participate in neighborhood clean-ups, particularly the area surrounding our lodge. By adopting a street in that area, we can schedule periodic clean-ups and use these opportunities to report any Code violations (ex: burnouts, sign replacements and/or trash collection). Also, we should continue the Christmas basket donations in the public schools and possibly expand this venture to coordinate efforts with local food drive charity groups.

Secondly, educational volunteerism is the key to establishing awareness and insight to young adults and adolescents. As an organization, we should continue to adopt a public school and volunteer our time in reading programs (ex: Reading Day). These programs provide an avenue to educate students on emergency awareness by use of "911" and "311" system. We can also continue to participate in back-to-school supply drives, stuffing backpacks and the "Shop with a Cop" program. On the high school level, we can volunteer at the local public schools to

participate during Career Day presentations. These presentations shall include law enforcement career orientation along with actively recruiting minorities within the inner city schools.

Third, as an organization we need to rededicate ourselves to assist our members with leadership development and administrative discipline defense. We must encourage our members to take advantage of promotional opportunities by providing study groups, assessment center instruction and conference workshops. Administrative discipline defense shall consist of assisting members with letter writing articulation and providing companionship. We will continue to provide legal counsel for work related critical incidents or civil prosecution. Support will also be provided during Administrative hearings, under the expectation that the officer involved has provided full disclosure of the predicament.

Therefore, I am very enthusiastic and optimistic for this year. I look forward to helping our organization move in a positive direction. We must continue our community service through minority recruiting in the public schools and in the community. Also, we should commit to adopting the neighborhood surrounding our lodge by participating in clean-up programs and food drives. Next, our educational volunteerism is very important to encourage the youth of today. By reading, lecturing and supplying our students the tools they need to succeed, we can bring career awareness of law enforcement to our public schools. Lastly, we must rededicate ourselves to assisting our members in developing leadership skills and providing the career advice while working at the Little Rock Police Department. Together through prayer, faith and dedication we can succeed.

Thank you for your support.

Troy Ellison

President of the BPOA