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Social Media Survey

Social media is becoming increasingly intertwined in our day to day lives. Law enforcement is no exception. This carries certain risks (and rewards) for both officers and their departments. Missteps with the use of social media can result in embarrassment to the officer, civil and criminal liability and as well as compromise criminal cases. These risks must be mitigated by both officers and their departments. The question is how best to address the issues without suppressing the benefits social media has to offer.

The information below shows results of a social media survey by law enforcement professionals. It is anticipated that the information gained will be combined with other research and shared with law enforcement through articles and classes.

For more information about this research, contact Rob Stuart at the following e-mail address: [Rob Stuart E-mail](#).

Social Networking Survey

Results

Published: 7/9/2011

SURVEY OVERVIEW

INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED TO RESPONDENTS

RESPONDENT METRICS

SURVEY RESULTS

SECTION - SOCIAL NETWORKING

1. Which category best describes your position in law enforcement?
2. Does your agency have a policy regarding what it's employees can post on social media sites such as Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn, Twitter?
3. Does your agency provide training on what is appropriate and inappropriate for employees to post on social media sites?
4. Do you have an account with any social media service?
5. If you have a social media profile or account, does it in any way identify you with your job in law enforcement?

Survey Overview

Instructions Provided To Respondents

ICJE requests your assistance in completing a short (only 5 questions) survey on your use of social networking (i.e. Facebook, MySpace). The information gathered will assist us in better understanding the ways in which law enforcement uses social media. The information will ultimately be shared with law enforcement professionals through articles and classes.

No personal identifying information is requested or obtained through this survey.

Thanks for taking time to assist us with the survey. Answer questions as they relate to you. For most answers, check the boxes most applicable to you or fill in the blanks.

Respondent Metrics

Respondents: 70

First Response: 5/18/2011 06:15 AM

Last Response: 5/31/2011 11:20 PM

Survey Results

The following is a tabular depiction of the responses to each survey question. Additional comments provided by respondents, if any, are included after each table.

Section - Social Networking

1. Which category best describes your position in law enforcement?

45.7%	32	Line officer, deputy or investigator
38.6%	27	Supervisor or middle management
12.9%	9	Assistant Chief or Chief
2.9%	2	Civilian, non-sworn

2. Does your agency have a policy regarding what it's employees can post on social media sites such as Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn, Twitter?

51.4%	36	No
38.6%	27	Yes
10.0%	7	I don't know

3. Does your agency provide training on what is appropriate and inappropriate for employees to post on social media sites?

85.7%	60	No
14.3%	10	Yes

4. Do you have an account with any social media service?

78.6%	55	Yes
21.4%	15	No

5. If you have a social media profile or account, does it in any way identify you with your job in law enforcement?

41.4%	29	No
38.6%	27	Yes
20.0%	14	N/A (I have no profile or account)

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