

2026 PLECET NATIONAL CONFERENCE

PROFESSIONALIZING LAW ENFORCEMENT-COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TRAINING

MAY 27-31, 2026 | DALLAS, TX



www.plecetconference2026.org

About MovementForward, Inc.

MovementForward, Inc. (MFI) is a modern social change organization based in Atlanta, Georgia.

MFI's mission is to carry forward the vision of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "Beloved Community" by providing innovative and solution-focused advocacy that supports justice, peace, and equality across the United States and around the world.

Headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, MFI is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization recognized for its excellence with a Platinum Seal of Transparency from Guidestar. The organization's bridge-building work focuses on three core initiatives in public safety and community-police relations: **National Faith & Blue Weekend (Faith & Blue)**, the **Law Enforcement-Community Engagement Network (LECEN)**, and the **Professionalizing Law Enforcement-Community Engagement Training (PLECET) National Conference**.



The Professionalizing Law Enforcement-Community Engagement Training (PLECET) National Conference

The **Professionalizing Law Enforcement-Community Engagement Training (PLECET) National Conference** is a specialized training, networking, and professional development summit designed for sworn and civilian personnel assigned to community engagement roles within law enforcement agencies nationwide.

This conference is truly one of a kind—there are no other national, regional, or local conventions offering this essential training, despite approximately 20,000 law enforcement professionals being tasked with dedicated community engagement responsibilities.

Effective law enforcement requires strategic community engagement to build trust, foster cooperation, and strengthen relationships with the communities they serve. The PLECET National Conference equips law enforcement professionals with the tools, strategies, and best practices needed to enhance community engagement efforts in their jurisdictions.

PLECET 2026 will occur over five days and include:

- Attendees from all 50 states, assigned to community engagement roles, in every type of law enforcement agency in the U.S.
- Top law enforcement officials from the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, including the FBI, ATF, USMS, DEA, and USSS
- Senior government officials and law enforcement leaders
- Seven conference-wide sessions for all attendees with prominent leaders in the field
- Eight custom training tracks providing best practices on law enforcement-community engagement
- A citywide service project where attendees will work alongside residents to improve the external environment, which has demonstrated impact on public safety
- High-impact networking opportunities
- A special networking party where officers and sponsors socialize and build rapport
- Ongoing communication for all attendees throughout the conference, and more!

STATISTICS

2025 (Actual)	2026 (Expected)
ATTENDEES	
1,500+	2,000+
STATES	
50	50
AGENCY PARTICIPATION	
1,000	1,250+
TRAINERS	
85	100
SPEAKERS	
30	40
HOURS OF TRAINING	
67	75
DIRECT SERVICE PROJECTS	
8	12

The Challenge

Research shows – and both community members and law enforcement professionals agree – that enhanced and expanded training for public safety personnel is essential to reducing crime, building trust, and fostering successful community collaboration.

There is growing consensus that strong community-law enforcement partnerships are increasingly critical for public safety. While improved academy and in-service training on topics such as de-escalation, mental health, human trafficking, and opioid overdoses is being implemented nationwide, there remains a lack of training and professional development opportunities for those in community engagement roles within law enforcement.

Many agencies have promising community engagement program concepts but desire more expertise, organizational capacity, standardized practices, and resources necessary for effective implementation. Additionally, many agencies have not received formal training on best practices for engaging with community members, promoting outreach programs and events, or sustaining ongoing activities.

Some agencies have successfully organized impactful events but now want the knowledge to turn these efforts into long-term strategic partnerships that reduce crime and build lasting trust. These are just a few of the community engagement training gaps that will be addressed at the **2026 PLECET National Conference**.





The Solution

During the 2026 PLECET National Conference, public safety community engagement practitioners will learn about best and promising community outreach practices and resources that will help them excel in their roles. Participants will also have an opportunity to formally and informally network with other law enforcement professionals working in similar roles across the nation, which will provide immediate and sustained professional development opportunities.

The conference will utilize a standard seminar, workshop, caucus, and plenary structure with planned opportunities for networking. After an opening plenary session with prominent national leaders, each participant will complete eight specialized training courses. The training will include sessions with an instructionally designed curriculum constructed to equip community engagement officers with best-in-class competencies to maximize their potential impact in local communities. The conference will include a televised national town hall meeting focused on effectively utilizing community engagement to reduce crime. Local, state, federal, tribal, and campus law enforcement agencies throughout the United States will attend the conference.

Based upon tenets of Intergroup Contact Theory, the PLECET Conference further “professionalizes” the critical and highly specialized community engagement sector of the law enforcement profession. Designed for law enforcement personnel with community engagement and outreach responsibilities, the conference attendees will also include agency heads, researchers, municipal staff and officials, nonprofit representatives, communications professionals, and technologists.



“Thanks for an amazing conference. I’ve been going to police training for 33 years and this was hands down the best conference I’ve attended.”

Chief Rich Lockhart
Lawrence Police
Department
(Kansas)

Schedule

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2026

2:00pm	Registration Opens
6:00pm–7:00pm	State and Regional Networking Conclave
7:00pm–9:00pm	Welcome Reception

DAY 2: THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026

7:00am–8:00am	Registration/Info. Desk Open
8:00am–8:50am	Opening Ceremony and General Plenary
9:00am–10:15am	Training Sessions
10:30am–11:45am	Training Sessions
12:00pm–1:20pm	Panel Discussion and Luncheon
1:20pm–1:45pm	Break
1:45pm–3:00pm	Training Sessions
3:15pm–4:30pm	Training Sessions
7:00pm–8:30pm	National Townhall Meeting

DAY 3: FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2026

7:00am–3:00pm	Registration/Info. Desk Open
8:00am–8:50am	General Plenary
9:00am–10:15am	Training Sessions
10:30am–11:45am	Training Sessions
12:00pm–1:20pm	Panel Discussion and Luncheon
1:20pm–1:45pm	Break
1:45pm–3:00pm	Training Sessions
3:15pm–4:30pm	Training Sessions
7:00pm–10:00pm	Colleague Connection – Partying with a Purpose

DAY 4: SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2026

9:00am–10:00am	The 2026 Torch Awards Ceremony
10:15am–11:15am	Breakout Workshops with Community Engagement Organizations
11:30am–12:30pm	Breakout Workshops with National Law Enforcement Organizations
2:00pm–4:00pm	Community Service Projects throughout the DFW area (Buses depart at 1:30pm)
5:00pm–8:00pm	Attendee-Organized Small Group Meetups and Fireside Chats

DAY 5: SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2026

9:00am–10:15am	Regional and State Caucuses
10:30am–11:30am	Closing Ceremony and Conferral of Training Certificates
11:30am	2026 PLECET Conference Officially Ends

PLECET Conference Photos

Meetings & Interaction



Service Projects



2026 PLECET NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Professionalizing Law Enforcement-Community Engagement Training

Watch Official Video



Scan the QR code or visit: plecetconference2026.org

Contact



"A Modern Collaborative for Human & Civil Rights"

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