

The Police Chief

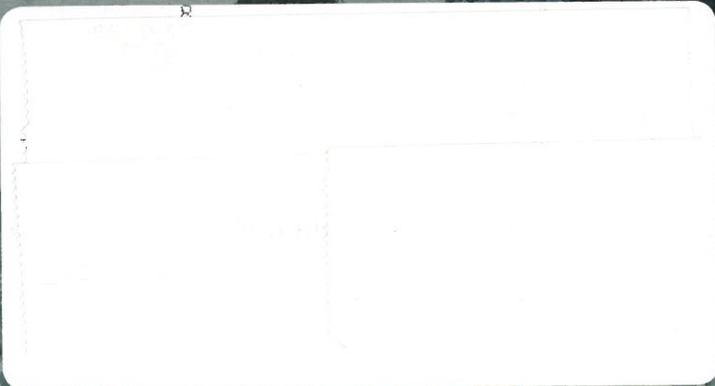
THE PROFESSIONAL VOICE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

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Serving the leaders of today,
developing the leaders of tomorrow.

The IACP's 40 Under 40 Award was developed to recognize 40 law enforcement professionals under the age of 40 from around the world who demonstrate leadership and exemplify commitment to their profession. The dedicated law enforcement professionals selected for IACP's inaugural 40 Under 40 award are current and up-and-coming leaders. They are digital strategists, chiefs, assistant chiefs, special investigators, managers, commissioners, superintendents, and captains, and they represent all types of law enforcement agencies, including state, local, university, military, and federal. These extraordinary leaders are driven by their commitment to the improvement of their agencies and the personnel they work with. Regardless of rank, these law enforcement professionals have dedicated their careers to raising the bar for their communities and for those who serve their communities. These role models improve themselves by focusing outwardly on advancing those around them. They make sacrifices to ensure that their agencies and their peers are serving at their very best. Despite the numerous awards and accolades many of these individuals have already received, all of the 40 Under 40 awardees emphasized that they were only one part of a team that was responsible for those accomplishments.

The 40 Under 40 award winners know that, in order to truly improve the world that they live in and serve, they have to strive to improve their departments and those whom they work alongside. They understand that, especially in the law enforcement field, collaboration is vital for improved services. Each winner was chosen for his or her demonstration of strong values and commitment to the law enforcement field. The winners began a career in law enforcement to protect people, especially those who cannot protect themselves. They emit positivity, genuine concern, and compassion, despite the many traumatic experiences that all law enforcement personnel face. They lead by example by providing training for others, serving as role models, providing mentorship, developing more effective methodologies for their departments, and taking advantage of every opportunity to build up those around them. The awardees have capitalized on their successes to improve their communities through community service, philanthropic programs, outreach, and education. They go beyond their roles in the law enforcement field to improve their communities in an effort to make it a better place for their loved ones, the public, and future generations.

The IACP is proud to recognize the following law enforcement professionals through the 40 Under 40 award.



BRANDON PERKINS

Chief
Tyrone Police
Department, Georgia
Age: 39

CHIEF BRANDON PERKINS grew up surrounded by law enforcement because his father, a former police officer, had many friends in the profession. Because of this, Chief Perkins grew up knowing what it means to wear the uniform and the badge. As the chief of the Tyrone Police Department since 2007, he maintains that level of dedication and service he grew up seeing as a child. He is constantly looking for ways to make the department, his officers, and the community better. As a result, Tyrone, Georgia, has ranked in the top eight safest cities in Georgia for three years straight and has experienced a 50 percent reduction in violent crime rates. In 2015, Chief Perkins founded the nonprofit American Armor Foundation, Inc., which assists smaller law enforcement agencies across the United States afford body armor for officers. Chief Perkins strives to make well-informed decisions that have a positive impact on the community every day. He is driven by the feeling of accomplishment that accompanies the implementation of a successful process that gets positive results.

Those around him describe Chief Perkins as passionate and highly skilled in areas such as community policing, public relations, organizational leadership, staff training, and policy development. He knows what it takes to lead a successful police department and works hard each day to make that a reality in his own community.

“Every decision that I make has the potential to impact thousands of citizens each day, and I refuse to take that lightly.”



JUSTIN PLETCHER

Sergeant
Columbia Heights
Police Department,
Minnesota
Age: 36

SERGEANT JUSTIN PLETCHER's decision to pursue law enforcement was influenced by his desire to help people and impact the lives of others. He joined the U.S. Army while in college and joined the Columbia Heights Police Department in 2010.

During the past six years, Sergeant Pletcher has met with congressmen, U.S. attorneys, elected officials, and community members in efforts to promote the City of Peace Park Recreation Center. Sergeant Pletcher plays an integral part on the project team that is working to construct a building that will house police services and allow for an increased sense of safety and security, as well as community-oriented recreational events and social services. Sergeant Pletcher supports officers under his supervision and encourages them to become better officers by getting more involved with community-based initiatives and constantly encourages them to think of the “bigger picture.”

Sergeant Pletcher researched, coordinated, and implemented the program to have Columbia Heights named a Heart Safe community. The Heart Safe designation recognizes a community's efforts to prepare its staff and citizens to recognize when someone suffers a sudden cardiac arrest and how to better respond.

“I believe in justice and protecting others from harm, helping them find the security needed to succeed on their own. I love being a cop—I always knew I would—but I never imagined I would be an instrument of change to the degree that I have been afforded thus far in my career.”