



*Harper College Police Department
Chief of Police John R. Lawson, M.S.
Overview 2021-Current*



TOP 25 in the **NATION**

Overview 2021-Current

- Sworn in on January 11, 2021, 4th Chief of Harper College Police Department
- Staffing
- Staffing Study of Police Operations
- Started the process toward Accreditation
- Signed and implemented the NAACP and the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police “10 Shared Principles”



TOP 25 in the **NATION**



**Adoption of Shared Principles by
Harper College Police Department**

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2018, the NAACP Illinois State Conference and the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police agreed to 10 Shared Principles designed to build trust between law enforcement and communities of color, and

WHEREAS, the two statewide associations vowed "by mutual affirmation to work together and stand together in our communities and at the state level to implement these values and principles, and to replace mistrust with mutual trust wherever, whenever, and however we can."

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Harper College, Illinois, Police Department adopts these same Ten Shared Principles as their own, and thereby adds its name to the historic agreement between the Illinois NAACP and the ILACP. These are the Ten Shared Principles:

1. We value the life of every person and consider life to be the highest value.
2. All persons should be treated with dignity and respect. This is another foundational value.
3. We reject discrimination toward any person that is based on race, ethnicity, religion, color, nationality, immigrant status, sexual orientation, gender, disability, or familial status.
4. We endorse the six pillars in the report of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing. The first pillar is to build and rebuild trust through procedural justice, transparency, accountability, and honest recognition of past and present obstacles.
5. We endorse the four pillars of procedural justice, which are fairness, voice (i.e., an opportunity for citizens and police to believe they are heard), transparency, and impartiality.
6. We endorse the values inherent in community policing, which includes community partnerships involving law enforcement, engagement of police officers with residents outside of interaction specific to enforcement of laws, and problem-solving that is collaborative, not one-sided.
7. We believe that developing strong ongoing relationships between law enforcement and communities of color at the leadership level and street level will be the keys to diminishing and eliminating racial tension.
8. We believe that law enforcement and community leaders have a mutual responsibility to encourage all citizens to gain a better understanding and knowledge of the law to assist them in their interactions with law enforcement officers.
9. We support diversity in police departments and in the law enforcement profession. Law enforcement and communities have a mutual responsibility and should work together to make a concerted effort to recruit diverse police departments.
10. We believe de-escalation training should be required to ensure the safety of community members and officers. We endorse using de-escalation tactics to reduce the potential for confrontations that endanger law enforcement officers and community members; and the principle that human life should be taken only as a last resort.

1/13/21

Date

John R. Lawson, Chief of Police



SEMIFINALIST

2023

TOP 25 in the NATION



The First 24 Months Department Functions

- PATROL:



- INVESTIGATIONS:



TOP 25 in the **NATION**

The First 24 Months

Reallocated 2021 funds

(NOT NEW MONEY)

- Hired an Emergency Communications Supervisor
- Hired two Certified Emergency Communications Center Telecommunicators
- Promoted one CSO to Telecommunicator from within
- Hired the first Administrative Assistant who also is the college CLERY Compliance Officer



TOP 25 in the **NATION**

The First 24 Months

Other Immediate Actions

- Equipment Purchases
 - Vehicles
 - Ballistic and Riot Shields
 - Ballistic Vests
 - Computer-Aided Dispatch system
- Intergovernmental IGA's
 - Village of Palatine
 - Palatine Park District
 - Northwest Central Dispatch Center



TOP 25 in the **NATION**

The First 24 Months

Other Immediate Actions

Joined Several Multi-Jurisdictional Task Forces

Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS)



**ASPEN
PRIZE**

FOR COMMUNITY
COLLEGE EXCELLENCE

aspen institute

SEMIFINALIST

2023

TOP 25 in the **NATION**

 Harper College®

The First 24 Months Other Immediate Actions

Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS)



TOP 25 in the **NATION**

The First 24 Months Other Immediate Actions

MAJOR CASE ASSISTANCE TEAM

M.C.A.T



SEMIFINALIST

2023

TOP 25 in the **NATION**

The First 24 Months Training

- 2021 - Appointed a department training coordinator
 - Department Total Training for 2021: **803.75 Hours**
 - Department Total Training for 2022: **1705 Hours**



TOP 25 in the **NATION**



The First 24 Months Training & Certifications

- All HCPD Patrol Officers are now Certified in “Crisis Intervention” by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board (ILETSB)
- One Officer is now Trained and Certified as a Use of Force Instructor by ILETSB
- One Officer is now Trained and Certified as a Range and Taser Instructor by ILETSB
- Two Officers are now Trained and Certified as Evidence Custodians
- Three Telecommunicators are Certified or recertified



TOP 25 in the **NATION**

Community Outreach Programs

Coffee with the Chief – Every Semester

Trunk or Treat Program

National Night Out
(Wheeling and Barrington)

Faith & Blue

Harper Hullabaloo & Fall Fest

Toys for Tots

Shop with a Cop



TOP 25 in the **NATION**



The Future

- The Purchase of 2 new Police Squad SUV's
- The Purchase of Body Worn Cameras (BWC)
 - Comply with the new Safe-T Act
 - Delivery April or May 2023
 - Draft policy to meet state law and accreditation standards
 - Communicate to the campus community
- The Purchase of Tasers



TOP 25 in the **NATION**

The Future

- Increase community programs on campus when staffing allows
- Develop an IGA with the Village of Palatine and the City of Prospect Heights to incorporate their local ordinances
- High Standards
- Continue to work towards ILEAP Tier 2 and National Accreditation.



TOP 25 in the **NATION**



ANY QUESTIONS

Before I introduce our special quest



TOP 25 in the **NATION**

1st Vice President

Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police

*Dr. Laura King, Chief of Police McHenry
County Conservation District Police*



TOP 25 in the **NATION**