

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

Albuquerque Police Department



Michael J. Geier, Chief of Police

June 24, 2019

Re: Police Training Institute
Connecting Youth & Communities with Law Enforcement

To Whom It May Concern:

The Albuquerque Police Department recently participated in an innovative training program put on by Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, Police Training Institute (PTI). The program, Connecting Youth & Communities with Law Enforcement (CYCLE) is a unique opportunity to provide high level learning for our officers while engaging community youth in positive engagement with police.

The PTI team does so much more than just teach a class to law enforcement. They started out by visiting our community to learn about not only the police department, but also community groups and importantly community youth. The team met with youth and conducted listening sessions where youth had an opportunity to talk about their experiences and perceptions of law enforcement in a safe and respectful way. The team developed relationships with community groups in our city and worked closely with community leaders to get ready to deliver their program. After meeting with our command staff, PTI team members met with our trainers and then participated in ride-alongs with our officers. The team really worked to learn about our community before delivering the CYCLE training.

The PTI team, along with our agency hosted a Town Hall meeting where we welcomed community members and community youth to come together and talk about police and community relations. Our Town Hall was a great success and we have received nothing but positive feedback from the community.

The training was exceptional, "some of the best training we have ever attended" our officers reported. For two days, PTI trainers shared high-level topics and had meaningful conversations that help bridge the gap between police and community youth. The one-day youth engagement, where our community youth learned about being leaders in the community and tools to help them be successful ends with lunch, followed by role-play scenarios with our officers.

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This is an innovative program, so much so that I decided to send my officers to the Train the Trainer course, so they could train our entire agency. I encourage other law enforcement executives to consider partnering with Fight Crime: Invest in Kids and the Police Training Institute.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael J. Geier". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Michael" and last name "Geier" clearly legible.

Michael J. Geier
Chief of Police

MJG/rjl