

6 WAYS

TO EXCEL IN PUBLIC SAFETY LEADERSHIP



EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE (EQ)

Leadership is all about people and people are emotional. Not in some touchy-feely superficial way but real human interaction. Great leaders recognize and control their own emotions, understand, and influence the emotions of others.

Effective leaders strive to improve themselves and serve others.



CERTAINTY

There is little certainty in Public Safety. In fact, uncertainty seems to be rule of thumb. Good leaders recognize they can limit their sphere of concern while working on their circle of influence. Providing organizational clarity around key areas will guide the organization and provide stability.

Clarity creates accountability.



STATUS

Many leaders let the title of Chief of Police or Sheriff go to their head. They think the jobs all about them and seek the limelight. One way to stop this is to focus on measurable results for the organization and the community.

True leaders base their success on measurable results.



ARTIFICIAL HARMONY

Conflict avoidant leaders do their agency a disservice and do damage to their own careers. Strong leaders seek out and encourage healthy debate around ideas (and not around personalities). They seek out diverse opinions and facilitate healthy discussions around key issues.

Good conflict leads to organizational clarity.



POPULARITY

Leaders who want to be popular rarely have the respect of their team and the rest of the organization. Excellent leaders hold themselves and their executive teams accountable for bad behavior and unmet standards.

Accountability ensures results will happen.



SUPERIORITY COMPLEX

Chiefs and Sheriffs are just like everyone else; they are human. And humans make mistakes. Good leaders admit their mistakes and try to improve. Being vulnerable is admitting what people already know about the leader and that builds trust.

Trust lays the groundwork for healthy conflict.

