

Chief Michael T. Force
Lake Saint Louis Police Department



Michael T. Force, Chief of Police for the City of Lake Saint Louis since March 16, 1992, is a successful law enforcement executive with over 35 years of professional experience. During his tenure there, he has also served as the City's Traffic Engineer, Safety Officer, and as liaison with the municipality's liability carrier. In his over 25 years of service to Lake Saint Louis, he has instituted various programs including Drug Abuse Resistance Training (D.A.R.E.), a Police Explorer Program, and a Citizens' Police Academy. Another contribution to the concept of community policing was the establishment of the Safe Community Partnerships Program wherein trained citizen-

volunteers assist the agency in a variety of ways including, but not limited to, assisting with traffic management and crowd control at community events, observing and reporting traffic law violators, and hosting an annual Community Safety Fair. Perhaps his most innovative endeavor is the implementation of the Reality Check Program for his Police Department and his Community. In 2013 he became the first Police Chief in Missouri to partner with Larry Lawton and the Reality Check Program, a program designed to help young adults make better choices. Per an independent study, this program has a 90% success rate in keeping younger people out of the criminal justice system and further displays Chief Force's sincere compassion and dedication of service to people.

Prior to his employment with the City of Lake Saint Louis, Chief Force served our nation for 22 years in the United States Marine Corps; 12 years as an enlisted Marine, attaining the rank of Gunnery Sergeant in the Infantry and 10 years as a Military Police Officer, retiring at the rank of Captain.

Chief Force holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Oklahoma and a Master of Business Administration in Human Resources Management from Lindenwood University. He is also a graduate of the 152nd Session of the FBI National Academy.

His numerous professional affiliations include an active lifetime membership in the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), where he has served for over 30 years on the Police Image & Ethics Committee. He also served on the governing body of the IACP representing cities of 50,000 and less. During his tenure he was a founding member of that organization's Task Force on Underage Drinking.

Chief Force is also very active in the Missouri Police Chiefs Association (MPCA), having served in numerous capacities, including as President in 2004. He currently serves as the Regional Vice President of that organization. While serving as President of the Missouri Police Chief's Association, Chief Force secured a new MPCA headquarters for the enhancement of training. He supported and promoted an annuity bill for municipal and county law enforcement officers. He was instrumental in passing Missouri's Identity Theft bill to enhance penalties upon those who victimize Missouri residents. He was successful in efforts to secure and distribute personal protection equipment to be utilized by municipal and county law enforcement officers in times of critical mass disaster incidents. He established the first Missouri Police Command College and created a Missouri state-based law enforcement agency certification process.

Dedicated to the highest standards for training of law enforcement personnel, Chief Force is a past president and currently serves on the Board of Director for the Eastern Missouri Law Enforcement Training Academy.

Chief Force serves on the Board of Directors of the St. Charles County Regional Drug Task Force and served on the Board of the predecessor organization, the St. Charles County MEG Unit.

In 1995, he was recommended by St. Charles County Executive Joe Ortwerth, and subsequently appointed by the Missouri Emergency Response Commission to serve on the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for St. Charles County to assist with the restructuring of that group. He served the St. Charles County LEPC in various capacities for over five years.

In 2005, Chief Force was appointed by Governor Matt Blunt to serve as the chair for Missouri's Peace Officers Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) Commission, and chaired that commission for 5 year. This body is the advisory board to the Department of Public Safety's P.O.S.T. Program, the regulatory agency responsible for the licensure of peace officers, reserve peace officers, training instructors, curriculum, and training centers.

On numerous occasions Chief Force has been called upon to assist in the selection process for police chiefs and other ranking officers in various municipalities in the state of Missouri.

While serving on the Board of Directors of the Missouri Intergovernmental Risk Management Association, Chief Force provided insight into liability factors involved in law enforcement that influenced the development of guidelines responsive to those unique risk management challenges.

Chief Force has been the recipient of numerous awards and commendations, including the Inspector General Commendation for Contributions to Law Enforcement and the Navy Commendation medal for increasing efficiency of law enforcement training and operational support provided to 23 world-wide police installations. Chief Force was also honored by the former Governor of Minnesota, Arne Carlson, for his dedication to the U.S. Marine Corps "Toys for Tots" program as well as for his encouragement and interaction with troops from Minnesota who served overseas during Operation Desert Storm.

In what Chief Force views as one of his most humbling awards, the men and women of the Lake Saint Louis Police Department presented him the Meritorious Conduct Medal for outstanding leadership, professionalism, integrity and devotion to duty in the face of adversity in 1997. He was named the Missouri Police Chiefs Association's Outstanding Chief of the Year for 2005 and D.A.R.E. America's Hero of the Month (January 2006). The Missouri House of Representatives passed a resolution honoring Chief Force for his dedication and leadership in law enforcement. Chief Force has also received other community relations awards from the Lake Saint Louis Ambassador's Club and from the Wentzville R-IV School District for his contributions to the betterment of the community and numerous other civic organizations.