



MEBANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

116 West Center Street
Mebane, N.C. 27302
Desk: (919)563-9031
Fax: (919)563-9649

Sergeant D.A. Rosencrans
Accreditation Manager

Email: trosencrans@mebanepd.com

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TO: The Honorable Lacy Clay
2428 Rayburn House Office Building
United States Congress
Washington, D.C. 20510

FM: Dorothea Rosencrans, Sergeant
Mebane Police Department
Mebane, North Carolina

RE: RITE Academy and Police/Community Relations Training

Dear Congressman Clay,

I would like to provide a statement regarding the important and relevant training included in the RITE Academy Racial Intelligence Training and Engagement course. Community relationships are the backbone of effective police services. Clearly, those relationships have been eroded and much like roadways which allow progress, once they have been damaged it is at times difficult to rebuild them to previous conditions. Rite Academy has developed a program which advocates the rebuilding of community and police relationships through officer wellness, de-escalation communication, self-awareness, and emotional and social intelligence training.

I have participated in the student and instructor portion of the material and I have found that both personally and professionally, the program teaches skills which enable officers in all career positions to better engage when dealing with the community. This training is unique because it provides physical tools which can easily be included in daily life to remind students of their emotional and social intelligence and how it relates to every single interaction with co-workers and the public.

In 28 years of law enforcement participation of Community Oriented Policing and many different training courses, this training is one of the most useful and timely programs I have participated in. Face to face communication is a mainstay for policing, however, technology enables people to avoid that contact creating a void in learned communication face to face skills. The material presented by RITE academy fills the void and encourages officers to become aware of interpersonal communications and life factors that affect all people equally. I believe that it should be considered as a useful, current and applicable training option for all law enforcement personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothea A. Rosencrans
Accreditation Manager
Mebane Police Department