



Skaneateles Police Department Is Selected to be Inaugural Member of the Nation's First-Ever Law Enforcement-Community Engagement Network

Skaneateles Police Department is proud to announce that it is one of a small group of agencies selected to participate in the first cohort of the Law Enforcement Community-Engagement Network (LECEN).

The LECEN is a first-of-its-kind resource to support public safety professionals in the highly specialized community engagement sector. It provides them with access to best practices, peer support, industry expertise, and current research.

The network is convened by <u>MovementForward, Inc.</u>, a modern, inclusive social change organization working to protect, promote, and advance the civil and human rights of all people.

"It is a great honor for our agency to be recognized by a national organization for our efforts in community relations. I am proud to be selected as a member of the cohort where we can share ideas and learn from others," said Scott Heggelke, chief of police.

The 2023 trial cohort will set the stage for the full launch of the full network in the second half of 2023. Its members will offer feedback, organize events in their local communities, and receive support through webinars, networking, and training. Cohort members were invite-only and provide a cross-section of agency size and types, geographies, demographics, census sizes, experiences, and more.

"For the past several years, we've seen significant strains on the relationship between law enforcement and communities," said Rev. Markel Hutchins, president & CEO of MovementForward, Inc. "The members of this cohort are exemplary in engaging their residents and will provide key insight into the building and professionalizing of the field of community engagement."

About MovementForward, Inc.

MovementForward, Inc. is a modern, inclusive social change organization working to protect, promote and advance the civil and human rights of all people. It organizes activities focused on reconciliation and bridge building including <u>National Faith & Blue Weekend</u> and the <u>Professionalizing Law Enforcement</u> <u>Training Conference</u>.

Visit MovementForward, Inc at <u>www.movementforward.org</u> or follow us on Twitter at <u>@MovementFWD</u>.