

# Innovative CPA Programs and Experiences Across America

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# CPA Literature Review





CPA ideas, partners,  
venues, and new  
approaches

# CPA Designs

- Differs by audience, topics, and the expertise of police instructors.
- Evolution of classes, topics, and how topics are presented.
- Look forward, not back: Participants in the future.
- Changes in venues and delivery methods.

# Business CPAs

- Participants have a nexus to commerce.
- Examples: retail, finance, restaurants, parking structures, and office buildings.
- Some chambers of commerce sponsor the sessions.
- Cover topics germane to businesses.





# College and University CPAs

Topics and venues

Out of 861  
universities, 4.6%  
answered that  
they hosted CPAs



# College and University CPAs

- What is the dominant narrative about police in universities?
- 30:1 ratio of professors support the critical theories.

## College and University CPAs

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- Police Chief James Loftus: *"The success of the program hinges on the individual and collective curiosity of the participants. Our hope is that their curiosity will spawn a greater understanding of policing in general..."*
- Faculty and students have limited knowledge about public safety.
- CPA as a balanced counterweight.





# Racial and Ethnic CPAs



Responding to critiques of not reaching marginalized communities.

Creating CPAs tailored to these specific needs and concerns.

# Examples

- Denver (Colorado) area agency: Russian immigrant population CPA (Law Enforcement News, 2002, as cited in Breen & Johnson, 2007).
- Mundelein (Illinois) Police Department hosted its first Latino CPA after years of providing general and senior-specific CPAs (2014).
- Memphis (Tennessee) Police Department was hosting Latin America Citizen's Police Academies (Lee 2016b).
- Seminole (Florida) Police Department CPA for tribal members throughout Florida (Gonzalez, 2010).

# FBI Citizens Academy

- 1993: The inaugural FBI Citizens Academy was hosted by the Phoenix (Arizona) field office.
- Developing stronger community ties after a long history of institutional secrecy.
- Modeled after local agency programming and sought to build understanding, trust, and advocacy by influential community members.
- Spread to nearly all 56 field offices with topics developed by local FBI offices.



# FBI Citizens Academy

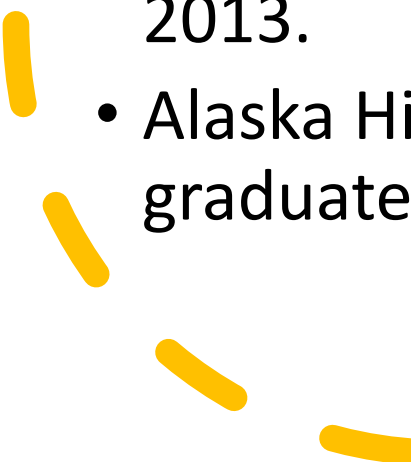
Cohorts of 25 to 40 typically meet between six and ten times for three hours per session, with a minimum requirement of 18 hours.

Participants referred by an employee or former class graduate.

Graduates are encouraged to join the alumni association for an ongoing relationship with the FBI field office and liaising with their community at large.



# Other Federal and State CPAs

- Other federal and state law enforcement agencies have also created their unique brand of CPAs.
  - Customs and Border Protection field offices.
  - Homeland Security Investigations field offices.
  - Tennessee Highway Patrol hosted its first Citizens Trooper Academy in 2013.
  - Alaska Highway Patrol hosted its first 12-week course with 29 graduates.
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# Niche CPAs

In April 2013, the First Judicial District Attorney's Officer of Colorado created a 10-week CPA for Gilpin and Jefferson Counties community members.

Partnering with faith-based organizations by housing CPAs at churches and having clergy participate so that they develop relationships with police, are able to explain police issues to congregants, and can address crime together.



# Niche CPAs

Fire departments, media,  
judges, local governments,  
and senior citizens.

Randolph (Massachusetts)  
Police Department: six-  
week *Senior Police  
Academy* program held at  
three senior centers with a  
total of 80 participants.

# Alternative CPAs Purposes

- Rockwall (Texas) PD shifted some of their CPA priorities to homeland security and issues disaster preparedness.
- Winning hearts and minds.
- Federal funding: Volunteers in Police Service, IACP national directory including CPAs, Neighborhood Watch, and Community Emergency Response Teams.



# Attracting LE-Adjacent Professionals and Non-Traditional Participants

- Cincinnati (Ohio) PD: drug counselors, social workers, and teachers receive continuous education credit for CPA participation.
- Conducted their CPAs at churches and other non-police venues to be more inclusive of communities traditionally fearful of police.
- Seek participation from “opinion leaders,” including minority and media members.



Questions and Discussion





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