

Team Name: Data Rangers

Persona name: Chief of State Police Jim Hopper



Location: Gretna NE

Educational background: B.A. in Criminology

Technology background:

15 years experience using a Dell in policing duties on the streets. Uses various crime reporting and monitoring tools at the police station. No Mac experience - owns a kindle, owns an iPhone 5s, used mostly for calling, texting, and taking crime photos. Significant experience using wireless communication technology, radios, and walkie talkies.

Socioeconomic background:

Jim was born outside of Rapid City South Dakota on a ranch to a middle class family. He attended University of Nebraska Kearney studying criminology on a law enforcement scholarship. After graduating, Jim started working as a police officer in Gretna and Sarpy County, where he has worked for 22 years, eventually being promoted to Chief of Nebraska Police.

Profession/job:

Police Chief - 7 years

Assistant Chief - 5 years

Officer - 10 years

Skills:

- Suspect interrogation
- Managing police resources
 - Assigning and dispatching police
 - Inventorying of police equipment/guns
- Emergency Decision Making
- Researches cutting edge law enforcement technologies
- Monitoring statewide crime trends
 - Tracking firearm sales
- Playing guitar

Values:

Jim Hopper is a dedicated lawman and father. He cares deeply about the residents of NE, and feels responsible to provide compassionate, lawful, and competent officers to the citizens of the state. At the same time, Jim feels a large obligation to his officers - wanting to ensure they have sufficient equipment, training, and backup when on scene. Given that human energy is a finite resource, Jim wants to deploy his officers as effectively as possible. Jim usually leverages data when making decisions, consults involved parties, and does not procrastinate in making decisions.

Interests:

In his free time, Jim enjoys shooting at the gun range, and then winding down by going to Trader Joe's for some free range, non-GMO, organic beef - as he can really taste the antibiotics when buying from other grocery stores. Additionally, taking his 2 sons fishing or camping is a monthly event at least. Jim is a devout Methodist, and will even bring recorded sermons on camping trips so his family never has to miss a service. When Jim isn't camping, he will host Sunday afternoon football BBQs at his 2 acre home, about a 20 min drive from Gretna. He also coaches his 16 year old son's high school wrestling team, and attends piano recitals given by his 12 year old son.

Concerns:

Recently Jim is feeling the squeeze from lower than expected crop prices, and has been forced like so many other state departments to stretch every dollar that he can. He is worried that the lack of overtime and extra officer resources will be demotivating to his officers, and that it could negatively impact their work. He is also unsure of how deploying police impacts crime - all of his policing strategies are more based in years of experience than statistical analysis.

Challenges:

Tracking crime across the state is difficult, as reporting can vary by department. Jim wants to see the whole picture before the new fiscal year - so he can make more informed arguments for funding to the state board. He also has officers who ask to move, maybe retiring, and needs to decide where to focus hiring efforts. This can only be done with an accurate picture of where, in what amount, and what types of crimes are occurring.

Wants & needs:

Jim wants to know how police staffing rates impact crime levels in different counties - how the unemployment rate within a county impacts crime levels, and how the population level of a country impacts different types of crimes. He needs this information to better plan how to deploy police resources throughout the state of NE.

Aims & goals:

Jim's goal is to reduce the overall crime rate, and make the residents of NE, both urban and rural, confident in their police force. By better understanding how police deployment impacts crime throughout the state, Jim can deploy police resources in the most efficient way. By understanding how population levels and unemployment rates within a county impact crime levels, the NE police will be better able to anticipate spikes in the relevant types of crime when there is an economic downturn.

Topic knowledge:

Being the Chief of Police, Jim Hopper has considerable in-depth information on what types of problems police departments are encountering throughout the state. It is difficult to find aggregated information for the entire state however. Jim also has 25 years of anecdotal knowledge about the state of NE, having lived here his whole life and worked in police. This combined with statistical data, can give him and other senior police leaders a considerable wealth of information to synthesize.

Preferred information sources:

Jim Hopper primarily watched Fox news, and reads internal police department reports on crime levels. He has a subscription to the Omaha World Herald, which he reads almost everyday. He audits 911 calls, and crime reports from counties throughout the state to get a general idea of what crimes are occurring throughout the year.

Social media use (optional):

Jim has a twitter which he uses frequently, posting about his camping/fishing trips and keeping up with other officers in Nebraska. He created a secret account on Facebook to monitor his 2 son's posts.

Criminal background (optional):

Political preferences (optional):

Jim voted for Obama and is an active member of the Democratic party.

Income (optional):

Jim makes \$101,100 per year, and his wife works as a middle school teacher.