**White Paper**

# Name

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**White Paper**

**Introduction**

The use of technology in law enforcement has become prevalent in the modern day. The future policing will be technology-based. Importantly, technology is enhancing police work, leading to police effectiveness in crime control. Broadly, technology brings technical efficiency. In light of this, police have become technically efficient after embracing technology. Following this, police have been able to monitor offenders and identify their residences. While the technology has contributed to outcome effectiveness, it has adversely impacted police relationships with the community. The community members are concerned that police are invading their privacy using technology. The County Sheriff’s Department has purchased cell phone and GPS trackers to enhance its policing work. The technologies should be used to improve police relationships with the community, hence ensuring effective and efficient policing.

**Working Theory**

Retributive justice theory is a theoretical framework that justifies the punishment of people who violate the law as the appropriate way to ensure justice. Once it has been established that a particular person is guilty, an appropriate sentence is imposed on him or her (Hermann, 2017). According to this theory, punishment has a deterrent effect when applied correctly. In this regard, a punishment must be matched with the severity of the offence committed. Less severe punishments should be used to punish offenders of less serious crimes (Husak, 2022). The theory condemns excessive and lenient punishments, believing they do not produce effective crime deterrence. Retributive theory applies in my paper because it suggests crime control through deterrence methods (Hermann, 2017). Crime control is the subject of the paper. That is the aim of governments or police departments deploying technology in law enforcement. According to the theory, crime will not be effectively deterred if excessive sanctions are used against the law violators. In relation to this, when the government uses surveillance technology to control crime to the extent of infringing on people’s privacy rights, crime is not effectively controlled.

**Analysis**

**Spect analysis**

**Social**

The complaints by the society's members on the use of technology by the County Sheriff’s Department are due to the society’s view of liberty. America is a free society where people live free from government interference (Lum et al., 2016). With the police department using technology in a way that undermines this freedom, disharmony develops between police and members of society. Privacy expectation is not only a legal expectation but also a social expectation. Americans believe that their privacy should be respected. In light of this, they are apprehensive about police practices that threaten their privacy. The community members are using technology as the department is doing. They want the police to use technology in a mutually beneficial and respectful way. For example, they want technology to be used for communication.

The erosion of privacy can also impact on how people behave in society. Since the public is aware of the fact that their data is being collected by law enforcement, they are less likely to take full advantage of the freedom of speech and other rights that the constitution guarantees them. People who believe they are being watched will generally modify their behavior to match the expectations of those who are watching them. Excessive surveillance will therefore limit the extent to which people can take advantage of the freedoms they are entitled to. Additionally, excessive surveillance can also be used as a means of social control. Law enforcement and government agencies can collect information that can be used to promote certain social ideals while discouraging others. While the data collected can be used to improve public safety, there is always the chance that it can be used to control how the public perceives certain issues.

**Political**

The issue at hand also has a political dimension. Community leaders want to protect the interests of people that they perceive are threatened by the police's usage of technology. While the leaders want to protect the citizen’s interests, they have political interests. They advance these interests in the protests they organize, challenging the department or government (Faqir, 2014). These leaders feel that the government is using resources inappropriately. Technology is an expensive investment. Hence, the expenditure coming from the police use of technology is high. The leaders oppose the way the government intends to appropriate the funds. Doing this makes the public perceive them as defenders of their interests and rights. This perception influences them to elect those individuals into positions of leadership when elections are due.

The use of cell phones and GPS trackers to keep track of the public can also give the government too much power that can be misused.

**720 Degree analysis**

**Social**

Community members are primary stakeholders in policing. They have significant information about crime and offenders. Effective crime control requires strong collaboration between police and community members (Hutt et al., 2021). Mutual respect must prevail for this relationship to be sustainable. When respect is not there, mistrust develops. Community members start perceiving police officers as enemies (Slobogin & Brayne, 2023). This makes crime control difficult because members' crime reporting will reduce. Also, members of the public will conceal vital information they have on crime. To cultivate a good relationship, the police department needs to explain the value of the technology to the community. It needs to tell them how the technology is designed to meet public interest and not harm them. For example, the cellphone technology the department has embraced will make the department more responsive to the community’s policing needs. When a member of the society makes distress calls, police officers will be dispatched immediately (Stover, 2018). Following this, many criminal activities will be intercepted by police. Consequently, the community’s safety will improve. Lack of this understanding is causing tension between the community and the department. It can be addressed through a police-community engagement dialogue.

**Political**

Police departments envision becoming effective and efficient in their crime control role. Modifying the operational structures and procedures is the only way to achieve this. Technology provides the best opportunities for increasing effectiveness and efficiency. The cell phones that the department has adopted are for enhancing communication between police and members of society, as well as among the police (Stover, 2018). Effective communication will increase police effectiveness since there will be great coordination. On the other hand, the GPS tracker that the department has purchased will increase the accuracy of patrols. The department will be able to know the locations of the patrol police (Stover, 2018). It will also be able to know the location of suspects. The technology will make policing efficient.

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