



LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION PARTNERSHIP

ADVANCING JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY SOLUTIONS



Chief Jeff Smythe (Ret.) **Burlington Police Department, North Carolina** **Burlington, NC**

Jeff Smythe began his law enforcement career in 1986 as an officer for the Arizona State University Police Department. He worked patrol and then in undercover narcotics along with the Drug Enforcement Agency (D.E.A.). In 1989, he transferred to the Scottsdale Police Department where he worked patrol assignments, served on a D.E.A. Taskforce, and supervised the Bicycle Patrol and High Enforcement Arrest Team over 19 years. In 2008, he became Chief of the Show Low Police Department in Arizona. His accomplishments included implementing an officer wellness program, getting the department accredited, and

creating the Below 100 program, which is designed to reduce police line-of-duty deaths to fewer than 100 a year.

In 2013, Smythe became Chief of the Burlington Police Department in North Carolina. Under his leadership, the department adopted fitness and communication programs to help improve officer wellness and team cohesion. His other main priorities include expanded de-escalation training and community-driven policing initiatives. Smythe retired as Chief in 2021.

Smythe holds a B.A. in justice studies from Arizona State University, a M.Ed from Northern Arizona University. He's a graduate of both the F.B.I. National Academy and the School of Police Staff and Command at Northwestern University.

The Law Enforcement Action Partnership is a nonprofit organization composed of police, prosecutors, judges, and other criminal justice professionals who use their expertise to advance drug policy and criminal justice solutions that improve public safety. With 200 speakers across the United States, LEAP representatives reach millions of Americans each year through educational programs and media interviews..

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