

NLC NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES
RISC RISK INFORMATION SHARING CONSORTIUM

ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY & MITIGATING RISK THROUGH EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE

Gabrielle Gibson, John Wilkerson

October 26 | 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Enhancing Public Safety

&

Mitigating Risk through Evidence-Based Practices

Brie Gibson
Legislative and Litigation Counsel

John Wilkerson
General Counsel and Legislative Director

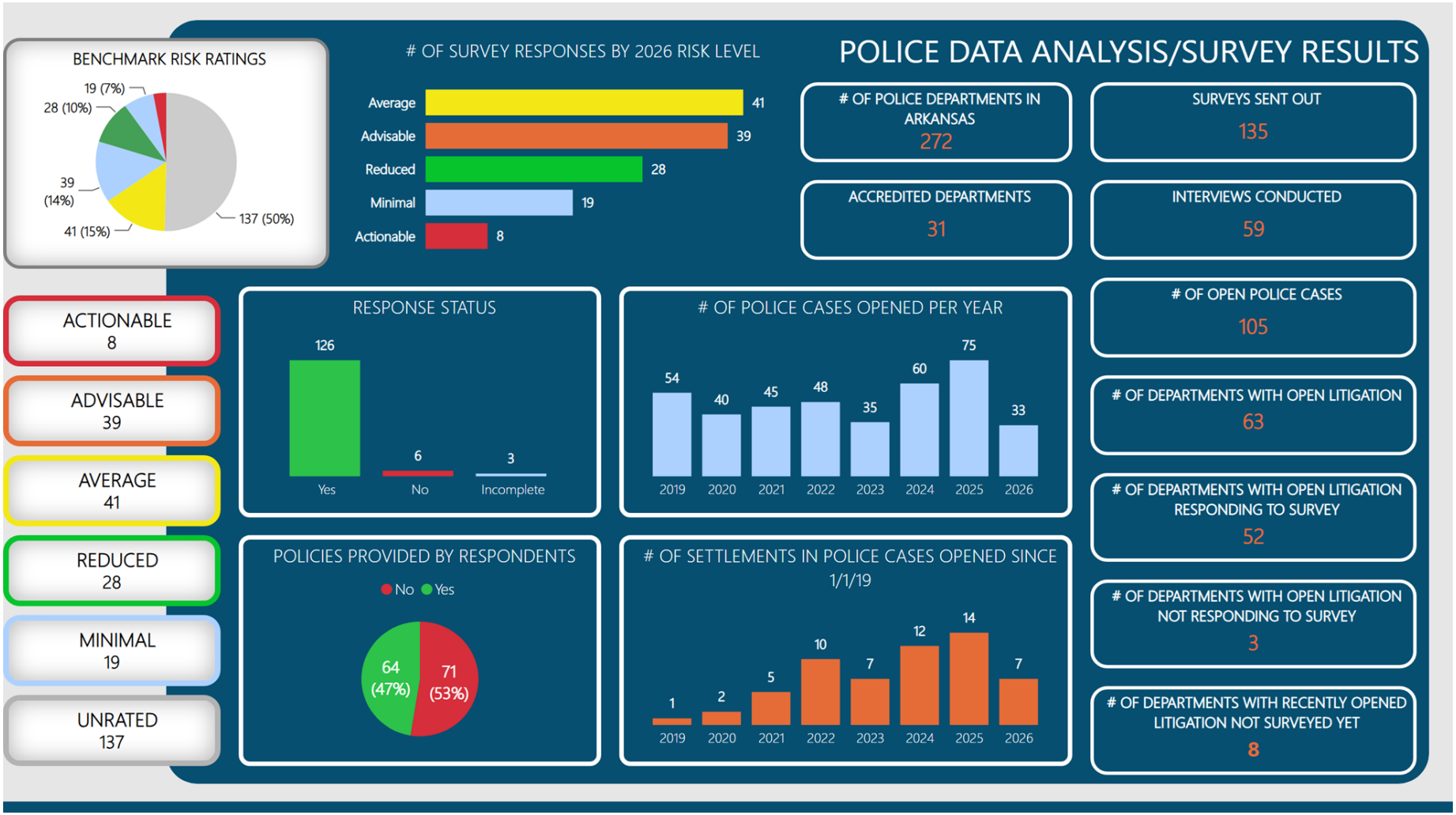
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$35,000,000 Reasons

Pete Edwards v. City of Osceola, AR, et al.

Piper Partridge, et al. v. City of Benton, AR, et al.

Benchmark iMPACT



Evidence-Based Practices (EBPs)

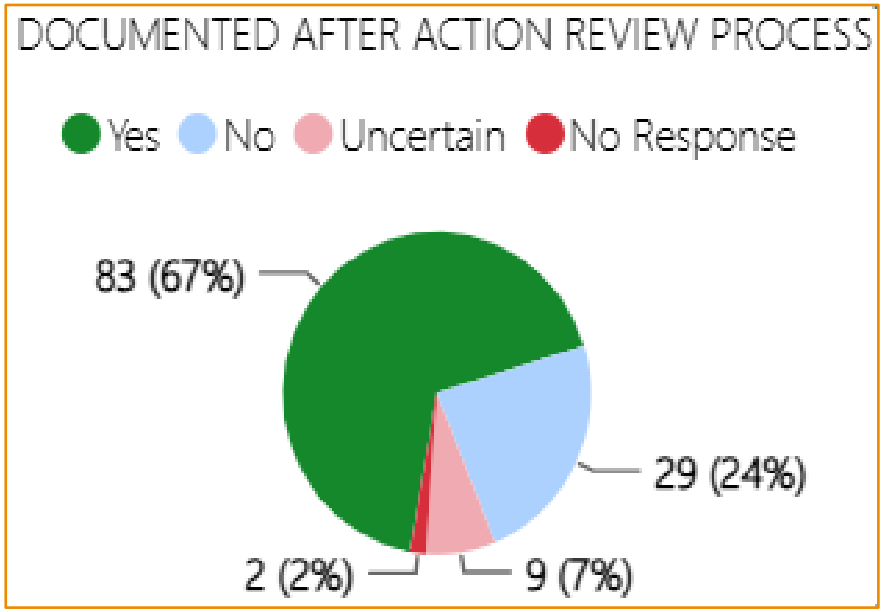
EBPs are the policies, programs, training, and operations that show strong statistical connection to reduced officer injuries, increased officer retention, and reduced incidents leading to liability claims.

Evidence-Based Practice	Practice Area	Current Adoption Status	EBP Recommendations Made
After-Action Reviews	Operations	86	16
Leadership Development	Training	78	10
Wellness Program	Wellness	43	48
Check up Neck up	Wellness	--	10
Peer Support	Wellness	39	11
Mental Illness Response Policy	Policies	88	28
Restrictive Pursuit Policy	Policies	--	3
Certified Evidence Technician	Operations	55	18
Property Room Audits	Operations	89	17
>50% Dept. CIT Trained	Training	30	11
Total		**508**	**172**

Top 3 Evidence Based Practices

Evidence-Based Practice	Action
After-Action Reviews	Training Webinar: After Action Reviews – A Chief's Primer
Leadership Development	Work with state and counties to develop Arkansas Law Enforcement Command College curriculum and provide financial assistance
Wellness Program	Benchmark Wellness Program

After-Action Reviews



- **Developed webinar training**
- **Approved for CLEST credit**
- **Advertised through AML platforms, ACAA network, and CLEST**
- **32 attendees**

Leadership Development: Arkansas Command College

11-weeks at ATU

- Week 1: 40 hours in-person
- Weeks 2-5: 40 hours virtual
- Week 6: 40 hours in-person
- Weeks 7-10: 40 hours virtual
- Week 11: 40 hours in-person

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Command College Curriculum – *Leadership & Legacy Principles*

- Recruiting – Hiring - Background Checks
- Retention Models
- Performance evaluations - Early Warning Systems - Exit Interviews
- Human resources and discipline
- Officer wellness, peer-support programs, burnout, family impact
- Legal Liability, Constitutional Law, and 8th Circuit Law
- Critical Incident / Civil Unrest Command & Communications
- Mission, vision, and values alignment
- Media Relations & Reputation Management Strategies
- Community Partnerships

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Officer Wellness Program

Wellness | A Case for Organizational Performance

ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ARKANSAS CHIEFS

Delivered by Benchmark Analytics® through the iMPACT Program

A two-stage, results-driven Wellness Program designed for municipal police chiefs, command staff, and wellness champions. You will gain a clear, evidence-based understanding of why officer wellness is central to organizational performance, risk reduction, and long-term operational success. Each agency will leave with a focused, practical roadmap to elevate wellness, strengthen culture, and improve outcomes across the department.

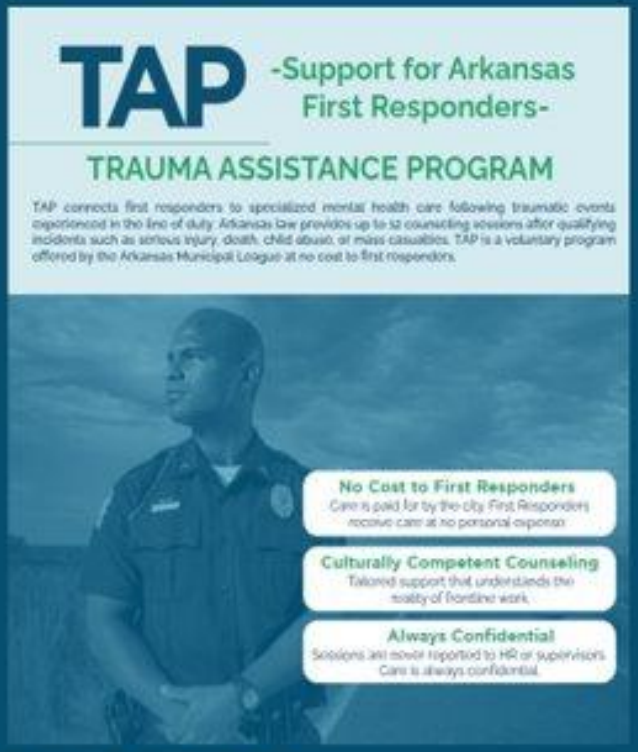
Wellness Program Schedule

WEBINAR - A standalone introduction to the in-person sessions		
Date	Time	Place
Oct 5, 2026	**10:00 AM** (1 hour)	**Virtual**
IN-PERSON SESSION - Lunch provided		
Date	Time	Place
Oct 7, 2026	**10:00 AM** (4 hours)	**Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, AR**
Oct 8, 2026	**10:00 AM** (4 hours)	**ALETA, East Camden, AR**

3rd best EPB

2nd highest need

Officer Wellness Program: Act 537 of 2023



Contact: Katie Bodenhamer
Director and Legal Counsel, Municipal Health
kbodenhamer@arml.org
501.978.6126

OFFICER WELLNESS PROGRAM

- Poor mental and physical health can impact officer performance and affect community relationships
- Benefits of a Wellness Program:
  - Reduce officer stress and trauma
  - Reduce the stigma of seeking help
  - Create an environment of support
- **Top performing agencies have:**
  - Formal wellness programs
  - Often provide meaningful financial rewards for achievement
  - Foster employee-driven support and choice

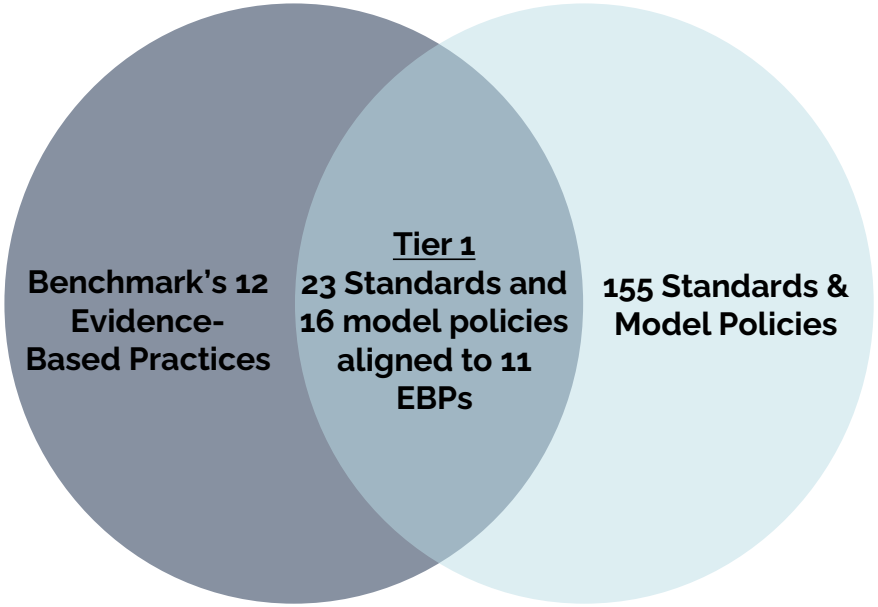
ALEAP Accreditation

Evidence-Based Practice	Action
Mental Illness Response Policy	**Partner w/ ALEAP** ***Arkansas Chiefs' Association Accreditation Program***
Restrictive Pursuit Policy	
Certified Evidence Technician	
Property Room Audits	
>50% Dept. CIT Trained	

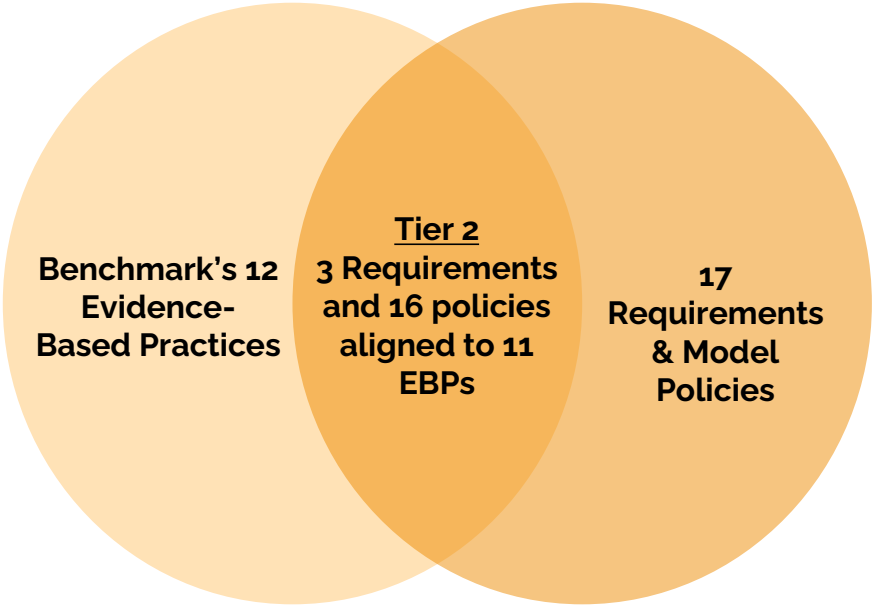
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The Venn Diagram of EBPs and ALEAP

ALEAP Tier 1



ALEAP Tier 2



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ALEAP (Tier 1)
443 Proofs of Compliance for 173 Standards

- Model Policies
- Annual Reports (Professional Standards – Training - Use of force – etc.)
- Bias Based Policing
- Accidents and Injuries
- Response to Resistance – Pursuit Policy
- Property/Evidence Room Inspection & Inventory
- Onsite Review
- And so much more!

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ALEAP (Tier 2)
A little less

- Same Model Policies
- Same Annual Report
- Same Annual Analyses
- No Standards proofs
- Onsite Review - less detailed than Tier 1
- No FTO requirement

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MLDP & ALEAP Partnership

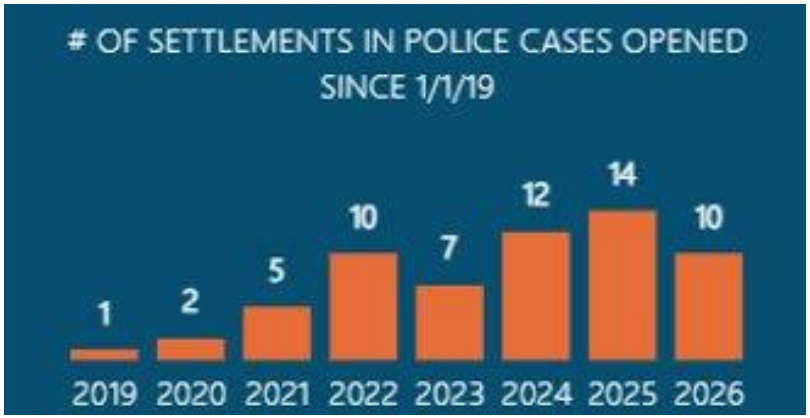
MLDP will incentivize accreditation by offering reimbursement of Tier 1 or Tier 2 accreditation fees to any qualifying agency.

Qualification Requirements:

- Same Model Policies
- MLDP Member
- Must fully participate in Benchmark iMPACT Program
  - Complete initial and follow-up surveys
  - Participate in interviews
- City Council must review & vote to approve policies

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To Be or Not to Be . . . Accredited





ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
ARKANSAS ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE
A.L.E.A.P.

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Partnership Timeline

Accreditation Program Launch

Departments that complete or renew accreditation may apply for reimbursement.

1 Jan. 2027

Accreditation Program Deadline

Reduced coverage for any case involving an incident during which the department was not accredited.

1 Jan. 2029

Accreditation Program ROI

Anticipated timeframe MLDP should see impact of accreditation.

Should have majority of members accredited.

1 Jan. 2031

What's the Return on Investment?

Expect reduced number of lawsuits and officer injuries

Expect decreased settlement and judgment amounts

Expect increased officer training and better policies.

Expect increased risk mitigation for Workers Comp and Vehicle/Property Programs

Where Do We Go From Here?

Analyze	Continue to analyze data to identify training needs and track ROI.
Integrate	Review and integrate ALEAP data.
Develop	Develop training targeted to departments.
Provide	Provide regional training events to allow officers from different agencies to work together to address regional issues.