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com·mu·ni·ca·tion

/kə,myōōnə'kāSH(ə)n/

1. The imparting or exchanging of information or news.
2. The means of sending or receiving information, such as telephone lines or computers.

Communication is a huge challenge for all police organizations. It can be a struggle, whether it's getting information to the public during an emergency, your message down to the troops, or getting feedback on your latest policy changes.

At the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police (MACP), we have the same issues in communicating with our members. We have three main lines of communication: the Michigan Police Chiefs magazine; our two conferences and, most importantly; our listservs.

As part of the MACP's 2018-2020 strategic planning, we surveyed our membership on what services they wanted from the Association. High on the list was moving to the next generation listserv with more capabilities than the current listserv can provide. After much research, we have selected Higher Logic as our next listserv provider and are looking to transition all of our listservs by the fall of 2020. Those of you who are members of the International Association of Chiefs of Police may recognize Higher Logic, as it is also their recently implemented communication software. There are many reasons why we chose Higher Logic as our new communication platform, but one of the most important being its extensive integration with our Association's management software, YourMembership.

There are several benefits of this integration for our members. You will no longer have to request access to the various listservs, or "communities" as they will now be called. Based upon your membership type, you will automatically be enrolled. Another change is the Higher Logic design closely resembles our website and access will be via an automatic link on our homepage. Higher Logic sign-in will also be automatic if you are signed into the MACP website.

Here is a quick overview of some of the new features you can expect:

- **Enhanced discussion capabilities.** You will now receive emails that are more structured and easier to read than a traditional listserv.
- **Member Directory search.** You can search members by name, location, department and more within Higher Logic.
- **Centralized subscription management.** You can manage your subscriptions to all discussions in one central location and can choose to receive daily digests, real-time email, or no notification for each community to which you belong.
- **Resource sharing.** All attachments posted to discussions are archived in a dedicated Resource Library. You can also add documents to share anytime you want with no file size limitations.
- **Improved search capabilities.** You will have the ability to easily search archived discussions and attachments by key word.
- **Additional Communities.** We will have the ability to easily add new community groups such as Committees, Retired Members and more.

We would be remiss without expressing our appreciation to Eastern Michigan University for hosting our current listserv for over the past 20 years. We also express our gratitude to the Eastern Michigan Department of Public Safety for dedicating staff to maintain the listservs; particularly Jeff Nesmith, Doug Wing and John McAuliffe. They have served as the primary administrators of the listservs since their inception and have always provided us with excellent service.

As we begin this transition, it is vital that you are able to sign into our Members Only section and that your profile information is accurate and up to date. If you have not previously signed into our website, or have forgotten your login username or password, please contact the MACP office and we will be glad to provide assistance. 🍀