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**NYSAC EO 203 Article**

1 message

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Attached is an article from the New York State Association of Counties I thought you might find helpful. It contains pretty much what we already know but it lays out the process for EO 203 in one place and on one page.

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Check out the official Town of Conesville Website at:  
<http://www4.schohariecounty-ny.gov/government/town-of-conesville/>

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# Executive Order No. 203

## Next Steps: New York State Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative



By Patrick Cummings, NYSAC Counsel

**O**n June 12, 2020, Governor Cuomo signed Executive Order No. 203 in response to tragic deaths involving police interactions. The Executive Order states that it was created in part due to "...the police-involved death of George Floyd in Minnesota, protests have taken place daily throughout the nation and in communities across New York State in response to police-involved deaths and racially-biased law enforcement to demand change, action, and accountability." Ultimately, the purpose of EO 203 is to create changes in local law enforcement policies and strategies to mitigate police-involved deaths and racially biased law enforcement. The following is a breakdown of the steps required by EO 203 to achieve these goals.

Executive Order 203 has four steps that must be followed by all New York local governments that have policing entities:

**REVIEW** - EO 203 calls on any local government policing entity, to perform a review of current "police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices." This can be an internal review, or this process can involve input or help from outside entities. The main purpose is come out of this step with the complete understanding of what the current police policies and procedures are, and how exactly are they are being implemented by the department and in the community; what is working and why, what is not and why. One tool to help this compressive review can be by the 117-page guidelines put out by Governor's Office found at [on.ny.gov/2G7BCvt](https://on.ny.gov/2G7BCvt).

**PLAN DEVELOPMENT**- After or in coordination of such review, the Chief Executive of any local government with a local police agency must convene the head of the local police agency, and stakeholders in the community to develop such plan. The stakeholders (defined below) must be consulted with and allowed to make recommendations when creating such plan. This step is for community, police, and all criminal justice stakeholders to have a seat at the table to provide input. Ultimately it will be the Chief Executive that puts together and presents the reform plan to the local legislature; however, this will be done with input of the groups listed above and input can take many forms including taking suggested plan language.

**ADOPTION OR RATIFICATION OF PLAN**- Such plan must be offered for public comment to all citizens in the locality, and after consideration of such comments, the local legislative body in such political subdivision, which shall ratify or adopt such plan by local law or resolution. The local legislature body may reject a plan as written and this would restart Step 2; however, a plan must be ratified no later than April 1, 2021.



**SUBMIT PLAN TO DOB**- Such local government shall transmit a certification to the Director of the Division of the Budget to affirm that such process has been complied with and such local law or resolution has been adopted.

### Who are Stakeholders:

Stakeholders include, but are not limited to, membership and leadership of the local police force; members of the community, with emphasis in areas with high numbers of police/community interactions; interested non-profit and faith-based community groups; the local office of the district attorney; the local public defender; and local elected officials.

### What Police Entities are Subject to EO 203

Executive Order 203 applies only to local governments that have a police agency operating with police officers. For most counties, employees with police powers are typically within the Sheriff's Department. However, it is important to review the police power list defined under 1.20 of the Criminal Procedure Law to see if your county has any other employees that would be subject to this process, plan review and adoption.

The last several years have seen a dizzying pace of change in the field of law enforcement. From Raise the Age and Bail Reform legislation, to the decriminalization and potential legalization of recreational cannabis, the law enforcement landscape in New York State is evolving rapidly. As we navigate these changes, NYSAC will continue to provide our members with analysis of these laws and guidance tailored to your needs as a county leader.

