

INFORMED CONSENT FORM

Study Title: Religiosity Effects on Peace Officer Perceptions of Seriousness of Police Misconduct
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You are invited to be part of a research study. The researcher is a doctoral learner at Capella University in the School of Public Service Leadership. The information in this form is provided to help you decide if you want to participate. The form describes what you will do during the study and the risks and benefits of the study.

WHAT IS THIS STUDY ABOUT? The researcher wants to find out if (and to what extent) religiosity (spirituality) affects a peace officer's perception of seriousness of various types of police misconduct (both unethical and illegal).

WHY AM I BEING ASKED TO BE IN THE STUDY? You are invited to be in the study because you are:

- **At least 21 years of age, AND**
- **Are an honorably retired peace officer or actively-licensed peace officer; OR,**
- **Are a Texas peace officer as defined by §2.12 Texas Code of Criminal Procedure; OR,**
- **Are a graduate of the FBI National Academy; AND,**
- **Are not under an internal affairs investigation (either administrative or criminal), a criminal investigation, indictment, or other official proceeding for misconduct.**

If you do not meet the description above, you are not able to be in the study. About 90 responses is the minimum required for statistical purposes, but up to 27,000 peace officers are being asked to be in the study.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE The researcher is employed at the Harris County Precinct One Constable's Office, but is not receiving funds to conduct this study. The researcher will not be paid for conducting the study.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN DURING THIS STUDY? If you decide to be in this study, you will do the following things:

- You will NOT be required to give any personal information about yourself, such as name, agency, or email address;
- You will be required to acknowledge your reading and understanding of this consent form prior to accessing any portion of the survey;
- You will complete a survey which contains questions about your perception of various types of police misconduct, your religiosity (spirituality), age, sex, race, years in law enforcement, and marital status.

The survey should take about 15 minutes to complete.

WILL BEING IN THIS STUDY HELP ME? Being in this study will not help you. Information from this study might help researchers help others in the future.

ARE THERE RISKS TO ME IF I AM IN THIS STUDY? No study is completely risk-free. However, we don't anticipate that you will be harmed or distressed during this study. You may stop being in the study at any time if you become uncomfortable. You should be aware, however, that there is a small possibility that responses could be viewed by unauthorized parties (e.g. computer hackers because your responses are being entered and stored on a web server)

WILL I GET PAID? You will not receive any compensation from the researcher for being in the study.

WHO WILL USE AND SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT MY BEING IN THIS STUDY? Any information you provide in this study that could identify you such as your name, age, or other personal information will be kept confidential. **This survey is completely anonymous and voluntary.** In any written reports or publications, no one will be able to identify you as no personal identifiers are being asked or collected at any time while taking the survey.

The researcher will keep the information you provide in a password protected computer and/or a locked file cabinet at his personal residence and only the researcher, researcher's supervisor, and dissertation committee will have access to the study data. Additionally, Capella University's IRB, the Research Compliance Committee (RCC), or its designees may review your research records.

Even if you leave the study early, the researcher may still be able to use your data. Partial responses will still be utilized in the various statistical analyses as every answer is helpful in the study.

WHO CAN I TALK TO ABOUT THIS STUDY? You can ask questions about the study at any time. You can call the researcher at any time if you have any concerns or complaints. You should contact the researcher if you have questions about the study procedures, study costs (if any), study payment (if any), or if you get hurt or sick during the study.

Capella University's Institutional Review Board (IRB) has been established to protect the rights and welfare of human research participants. Contact us at 1-888-227-3552, extension 4716, or irb@capella.edu if you have questions or concerns about this research study. You may contact the IRB without giving us your name. We may need to reveal information you provide in order to follow up if you report a problem or concern.

DO YOU WANT TO BE IN THIS STUDY? By clicking the link below you agree to the following statement:

I have read this form, and I have been able to ask questions about this study. I voluntarily agree to be in this study. I agree to allow the use and sharing of my study-related records as described above.

I have not given up any of my legal rights as a research participant. I will print a copy of this consent information for my records.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TyksinskiDoctoralResearchStudy>