

ILACP Vice Presidential Candidate Questionnaire

- **Name and job title?** Michael Kuruvilla, Chief of Police, Village of Brookfield
- **How long have you been in law enforcement? How long have you served as a Chief of Police?** I have served in law enforcement for approximately 19.5 years and have been the Chief of Police for the Village of Brookfield for 4.5 years.
- **What position are you running for and why?** I am respectfully seeking consideration for the anticipated vacancy of Vice President At-Large (Region 3) with the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police. Over the past several years, I have become increasingly engaged with ILACP and deeply appreciative of the Association's leadership, professionalism, and commitment to advancing policing standards across Illinois. I believe this role presents a meaningful opportunity to serve the broader profession, contribute to statewide initiatives, and encourage stronger engagement among Chiefs who may not yet feel fully connected to the Association.
- **How have you benefited from being an ILACP member?** My experience as an ILACP member has been both professionally enriching and personally motivating. The Association's training conferences, committee work, and regional meetings have provided me with invaluable exposure to progressive leadership practices, evolving legal frameworks, and innovative approaches to contemporary policing challenges. I have been particularly impressed by ILACP's willingness to thoughtfully and professionally engage difficult topics facing our profession, including community trust, officer wellness, and evidence-based reform initiatives. These experiences have helped shape my leadership philosophy and have directly influenced the policies, practices, and strategic direction of my own department.
- **If elected, what would be your top 3 priorities for ILACP?**
 1. I would prioritize increasing meaningful participation from Chiefs across all regions, particularly those who may feel disconnected, overwhelmed, or uncertain about how to engage with ILACP. I believe there is an opportunity to better bridge the gap between the Association's work and the day-to-day realities faced by smaller and mid-sized agencies.
 2. Many Chiefs, myself included, often feel underprepared when navigating complex legislative matters. I would advocate for clearer communication, practical training resources, and structured opportunities for Chiefs to build confidence and competency in this critical area.
 3. As my department prepares for Tier 1 ILEAP accreditation and I pursue Chiefs Certification, I have developed a strong appreciation for how these programs elevate professionalism statewide. I would seek to expand awareness and support for these initiatives and share best practices to make them more accessible.
- **What do you see as the biggest challenge facing the ILACP?** One of the greatest challenges is achieving consistent and meaningful engagement from departments across the state. While the Association offers exceptional resources, many Chiefs remain hesitant to fully participate, particularly regarding legislative advocacy. In my own experience, the complexity of these issues

can feel daunting and may discourage involvement. I believe many leaders disengage not out of apathy, but because they feel ill-equipped. Addressing this barrier through education, mentorship, and improved communication will be essential to sustaining ILACP's long-term effectiveness.

- ***What unique perspective or contribution would you bring to the board that sets you apart?*** I bring a sincere, pragmatic, and service-oriented approach to leadership. I do not seek personal recognition; rather, my focus is on strengthening the collective voice and impact of the Association. My background in social work, combined with nearly two decades in law enforcement, has shaped a leadership style rooted in collaboration, humility, and evidence-based decision-making. I am deeply proud of ILACP and want to help cultivate greater commitment and participation among Chiefs who may not yet realize the value of active involvement.
- ***Anything else you'd like members to know about you?*** I have prioritized aligning my department with statewide standards and best practices. The Brookfield Police Department intends to apply for Tier 1 ILEAP accreditation in 2026, and I expect to complete my Chiefs Certification in early 2026, having already passed both the written examination and in-person oral assessment. I will reach 20 years of service and five years as Chief in July 2026.

My professional background includes bachelor's and master's degrees in social work, graduation from Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command, the FBI National Command Course, and recognition as an IACP 40 Under 40 award recipient. I have also had the privilege to serve as President of the West Suburban Chiefs of Police Association and currently serve on several boards, including the Cook County Child Advocacy Center, Community Memorial Foundation, Ascension Behavioral Health, and IRMA's Police Chiefs Steering Committee. These experiences continue to reinforce my commitment to servant leadership and to advancing the profession through collaboration and integrity.