**Candidate Questionnaire**

**Name and title?**

Kirk Brueggeman, Director of Public Safety / Chief of Police for the City of O’Fallon

**How long have you been in law enforcement?**

I began my career as a police officer with the City of O’Fallon in 1999 after graduating from Southern Illinois University.  I have been serving as Chief since November 2021.

**What position are you running for?**

3rd Vice President

**How have you benefited from being an ILACP member?**

Through legislative meetings, annual conferences, weekly updates, and my involvement at Vice President at Large, I have gained a better understanding of important issues occurring in Illinois, and how those issues impact the officers in my department.  I have been fortunate to build relationships throughout the state with fellow police leaders, whom I connect with to exchange ideas.  The ILACP has made major strides by connecting with many police departments throughout the entire state.  This strong voice of ILACP allows all departments, big or small to be represented in Springfield and beyond.

**If elected, what would be your top 3 priorities?**

1. Staying on top of legislation is our top priority. We need active and engaged police leaders to interact with and build relationships with our legislators throughout the state. By fostering these connections, we can work together to create meaningful legislation which benefits our communities. These same relationships will enable us to stop legislation which makes our communities unsafe.

2. I want to work to increase membership and the engagement of our members throughout the state.  It is necessary for our police leaders to be involved in representing their communities and voicing their concerns.  This can only be accomplished by motivating and welcoming leaders from unrepresented departments into our organization. By engaging and providing our young leaders the opportunity to serve, we can increase our reach and strengthen our standing throughout the state.

3. Work with the Board of Officers and Director Winslow to ensure our association remains a strong and influential voice in policing. We have the responsibility to tell our story and show our great state what professional policing looks like and how it can positively impact our communities.

All of these priorities will focus on keeping our profession strong and sustainable which will in turn attract a new era of public servants to this distinguished and noble service. We all became police officers because we cared about our community and wanted to make a difference. Those values haven’t changed and there are still many people out there that feel the same way. It is up to us to give them a path to get there.

**What do you see as the biggest challenge facing the ILACP?**

The biggest challenge is to continue to find ways to work with our local and state legislators to draft laws which are both meaningful and effective.  As professional law enforcement leaders, we must work together and hold ourselves accountable.  We must be diligent in educating our legislators and advocating the needs of our profession.  This can only be accomplished if we have the engagement of our police leaders throughout the state. It takes all of us working together towards a common goal and ILACP offers that opportunity.

**Things to Know**

O’Fallon is a growing community of 32,000 about 15 miles outside of St. Louis. As Director of Public Safety/ Chief of Police, I lead a Police Department with 50 Sworn Officers, a consolidated Communications Center, A full time EMS division with 21 paramedics, and a Volunteer Fire Department.

I have been married to my wife, Maura (Teacher) for 25 years and have three children, Max 23, Kira 20, and Reese 17. I am a St. Louis Cardinals fan; I love to visit National Parks and enjoy hiking all over the state on weekends. I am a regular platelet donor with the Red Cross, and I also attempt to play the guitar.