### The Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas

# THE ASSESSMENT CENTER FOR PROMOTION OF POLICE OFFICERS: CAN IT BE IMPROVED

A POLICY RESEARCH PROJECT
Submitted in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Professional Designation
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#### ABSTRACT

The use of an assessment center for promotion is not really a new issue. The idea of testing for a specific behavior, attitudes and skills is routinely used by private industry. Law enforcement as a group, consistently remains behind the learning curve in such areas.

Assessment centers use a simulation approach. Their advantage is the powerful learning experience they provide for both participants and assessors alike. The process is expensive and time consuming. It is important that all who are to be assessed, be trained in the process. Having an outside assessment team handle the process offers a great deal to the organization. There is very little question about fairness if operated by the standards set up for assessment centers. Criterion is established prior to the assessment process. The dimensions assessed are clear and measurable. Each employee has an opportunity to ask questions about his/her performance after the assessment.

The assessment center will never be used by every agency. By far the majority of 122 agencies who responded to a survey used in this study indicated that assessment centers are too expensive to operate for the number of promotions they make. The administration must take responsibility by making the final decision from among two or more finalist. All indications are, however, that the assessment center process is far superior to traditional methods of personnel selection for promotions.

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#### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this research paper is to evaluate the assessment center as a tool for selection of personnel in promotions. A weak policy in this area will ultimately create disillusionment, division and distrust. Organizations pay a high price for grievances filed when accused of bias decisions in the promotional process. Police administrators across the nation emphasize that employees are more demanding in terms of opportunities for career advancement. What was once accepted as the "system" is no longer satisfactory (Buracker 12). This research examines the role of the assessment center in identifying candidates most likely to succeed when promoted to positions of authority. There is clearly a difference between using an "Assessment Center" and in use of the assessment center process or methodology. An assessment center is not a place, but a method (Michelson 25)

At issue here is how to assure the selection of the most qualified candidate and is the use of an assessment center the most reliable tool? In researching this issue, a survey of Texas police agencies reveals that less than ten percent of police organizations utilizes the pure "Assessment Center" to conduct assessments. Approximately five percent of all agencies who reported using an assessment center process, no longer use this process. Many reorganized their program to reflect the qualities of the assessment center methodology and conducted their own assessments. Most often in-house promotions are based solely on interviews and written test. The use of the "good"

ole' boy" system has proven to be not only an ethical dilemma but often racist and sexist, if not unlawful. Are assessment centers a panacea or a costly, complicated ploy to circumvent fairness?

The intended audience includes supervisors and department heads of municipal police agencies, county Sheriff and Constable departments, college and university police and school district police. Primarily, departments from very small to those of two-hundred-fifty sworn officers.

Books, articles and professional journals, internet material and research conducted for this and other projects is cited in this paper. A survey mailed out to 234 Texas police agencies resulted in 122 responses from all segments of the law enforcement society for comparison and contrast.

The intended outcome of this Policy Research Paper will evaluate the assessment center process and to make recommendations on the potential for revised or improved procedures by the Houston School District Police Department. The process must be fair, ethical and professional.

### HISTORICAL, LEGAL OR THEORETICAL CONTEXT

The German command experimented with assessment centers prior to World War I in screening candidates for use on intelligence assignments. The German assessment usually lasted two or three days and the assessors consisted of a minimum of two officers, a medical physician, and a psychologist. Written assessment reports on each candidate were forwarded to the high command for review. The Germans based their measurements on a holistic or

total character and were the first to use multiple assessors in measuring responses or characteristics (Guidelines 1).

The British developed the War Office Selection Boards to meet the need of identifying good British officers during the Second World War. They too patterned their assessment after that of the Germans and developed group exercises, physical and psychological testing, interviews, leaderless group exercises and others.

The United States contributed to the study of assessment centers when, during World War II, assessment centers were used by the Office of Strategic Services, (OSS), forerunner of the CIA, to select spies (Guidelines 1). The OSS surmised that there had to be a relationship between testing and job performance (Thornton 39). An American Telephone and Telegraph (AT&T), study in 1956 caused private industry to enter the field. The study firmly established work-simulated testing as the ultimate gauge for accurately predicting a person's performance in an actual work situation (Coleman 5).

Litigation concerns demand that the administration promptly address those issues previously considered a matter of "administrative decision." Such cost must be measured beyond financial boundaries. It is measured in man hours locating and researching lost data subpoenaed by attorneys. Most of all it is measured by reduced productivity and low morale among staff

In today's "sue-prone" society, a police organization can more effectively defend promotions based on an objective standardized assessment process (Coleman 7). The United States Supreme Court in Washington v. Davis stated:

"It appears beyond doubt that there is no single method of appropriately validating employment tests for relationship to job performance." (Wilmes 26)

This issue relates to the concept of "adverse impact," set out in the Uniform Guidelines from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Organizations are expected to provide documented evidence validating the fairness in both hiring and promotion situations. In 1976 Berry v. City of Omaha, the first assessment center was challenged in court. The suit was based upon questions raised about assessor competency and the general administration of the program. The standards of Ethical Consideration for Assessment Centers (Task Force, 1975; revised 1978) were established as a result of this case. This document set forth minimum professional standards for assessment centers. The guidelines were updated and expanded in 1979 and again in 1989 by the Seventeenth International Congress on the Assessment Center Method. The 1989 revision, however, renamed the document as the Guidelines and Ethical Considerations for Assessment Center Operations (Guidelines). The Guidelines define an assessment center as follows: An Assessment Center consists of a standardized evaluation of behavior based on multiple inputs. Multiple trained observers and techniques are used. Judgments about behavior are pooled in a meeting among the assessors or by a statistical integration process. In an integration discussion, comprehensive accounts of behavior, and often ratings of it, are pooled. The discussion result in evaluations of the performance of the assesses on the dimensions or other variables that the assessment center is designed to measure. Statistical

combination methods should be validated in accord with professionally accepted guidelines (Guidelines 2).

The overwhelming majority of police exams test primarily for cognitive abilities. This translates into an officer eligibility list rich in "book-smart" candidates, but lacking in an adequate number of qualified "street-smart" applicants. Likewise, it produces "book-smart" candidates who, with little "street-smart" knowledge will be promoted and for the same reason. It is this disparity that must be overcome in the promotional process by use of better assessment of candidates for promotion (Laser 157).

#### DISCUSSION OF RELEVANT ISSUES

In its truest form, the "Assessment Center," is restricted to a very narrow format that must meet specific criteria. Special training is mandated by those operating an "Assessment Center." Assessment Centers are conducted by outside contractors or consultants. Organizations may operate an assessment process patterned after the "Assessment Center" model for the purpose of promoting supervisors. These too are costly considering the need for constant renewal of material and require considerable coordination and significant training for both the assessors and the assesses.

Alternatives to the assessment center process include traditional methods of hiring by interviews, resumes, recommendations and committees. These traditional methods have proven not to have the validity of the assessment center, and lack case law to support them in the event assesses contest the fairness, testing methods, assessor competence, content or evaluation

procedures used in the process. Regardless of the process used, it is vital that the process be fair and up-front. Some of the issues important to the person being assessed are:

- To develop a training program, informing officers what to expect in an assessment center;
- To make an announcement within an appropriate time frame that notifies all eligible parties of the examination; and
- · To review scores with all participate following the process.

Departments have struggled for years with the issue of promoting from with-in as opposed to filing position from outside the organization. In this situation, the issue is to determine who is the best suited for an advertised position. In some instances a person may be hired from the outside. There are re-occurring discussions about what it will take for police officers, as a group, to be accepted by the public as professionals. All agree that pay is an issue but one likely to be dependent on professionalism first. Some suggest that criteria be standardized for police positions of Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, etc. This would allow organizations to recruit individuals known to be certified in a designated position. Dr. Dorthy H. Bracey, Ph.D., from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, discussed this issue during a lecture to members of the Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute in Denton, Texas. She noted that it allows for a direct transfer between organizations with rank in tact, much as a registered nurse, an airline pilot or an attorney who changes organizations. It would not eliminate the possibility of departments appointing from with-in the organization. It would, however, remove the right to promote any person who did not possess the appropriate certificate of training in the rank to which one was being promoted. Only the Texas Commission would be in a position to implement such a system and it would take a number of years to be fully operable. Clearly this would impact promotions in-house if an officer could only be assigned a rank through a state mandated certification process beforehand. No doubt unions, local governments and especially the civil service commissions play a major role in such undertakings. Professional policing in the new millennium will need such drastic changes.

The cost of assessing one's ability to perform is clearly high depending on perspective. The law enforcement community is among the last to accept responsibility that it, like the corporate world must accept changing technology and life styles. Private corporations have for many years routinely accepted human resource departments as partners and understood that they are equipped to do a better job of matching employees with duties. They consider the cost a saving in the long run. Law enforcement agencies hold onto a belief that only the police can effectively manage police officers, but it is the drain of litigation cost that is changing this perspective.

#### REVIEW OF LITERATURE OR PRACTICE

A review of literature indicates that the assessment center process is used in the private sector and esteemed by such law enforcement agencies as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, but police agencies continue using the traditional interview process for promotions (Buracker13). Police Officer

experience is often the major consideration for assignment to a management position(Earle). In 1974, W.J. Bopp concluded that promotions up the police latter remain largely based on the "good ole boy" system, the "longevity" system, and the "good police officer-good supervisor" system (Boop). This may not totally characterize law enforcement today, but there is a perception that too often appears true: to "screw up" bad enough assures of a promotion to where one can do the least amount of damage.

Walter S. Booth, Ph.D., writes in Law and Order magazine that, "research has shown that assessment centers are better predictors of supervisory and managerial success, as well as leadership, decision making, interpersonal skills, and common sense than written test or interviews (Booth 87).

Agencies listed in a survey conducted for this research in appendix 2 represent categories of law enforcement agencies across the State. One-hundred-twenty-two agencies responded. A consideration not taken into account in this survey is the influence of civil service, primarily in large cities and county agencies. Clearly, according to the survey, promotions to Lieutenant and Captain represent by far the greatest use of the assessment center process. Approximately one forth of all agencies responding to the survey reported using an assessment center process in making promotional decisions with near ten percent of those who responded bringing in an outside paid consultant. Twenty-two percent of all agencies reported the use of some form of assessment center. Departments that number over one-hundred-fifty members reported only 9.76% participation in an assessment center process. The exercises used most

frequently in assessments were: the Group Discussion, the In-Basket Exercise, a Written Problem, the Interview Simulation and the Oral Presentation.

The Houston ISD Police Department has, over the past four years began using the assessment center process. All assessors are trained in the assessment process, though all are not professional consultants. No member of the HISD police department serves as an assessor for an in-house promotion. Exercises used routinely in HISD promotions have been: the leaderless group, the written problem and the oral presentation. All written exercises are graded by an outside professional for grammar, punctuation and content. Participants are not, however, given formal training about how the system works or what to expect prior to being evaluated by assessors. Little or no feed back is provided to officers after being assessed.

The number of promotions in any given year is potentially small even with a department of one-hundred-eighty-five sworn police officers such as HISD. Ranking officers tend to remain longer before moving to other departments except in the case of Chief and Assistant Chief who are in demand. Civil service and department policies throughout Texas frequently restrict the transfer of ranking officers too equal or higher positions in other departments. This limits the opportunity by officers within the department to move up the command latter.

High on the list of reasons for not using the assessment center process is the required planing, coordination and training that must take place prior to conducting assessments. Few municipalities will option for their use as many do not consider human resource management to be at the top of their priority budgets. This is said with the profound feeling that most departments are simply not ready, nor willing to put into selection systems, the money necessary for an individually constructed, administered, documented and validated Assessment Center (Ellis 3). No doubt, an in-house assessment process is much less costly in the short term. The cost of a reputable contractor to handle assessment is dependent on the number of persons assessed, the level of position being filled and if the location is affected by travel or lodging.

#### CONCLUSIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of this research is to determine the validity of the assessment center as a tool in identifying the most qualified candidate for promotions within a police organization. A secondary, yet equally important goal is to determine the feasibility for use of the assessment center for the Houston ISD Police Department. If the answer is yes, which route is most cost effective yet conforms to established criteria, the paid consultant or the in-house assessment center?

The promotional process is disruptive by nature for police agencies. The assessment center is however, structured to overcome these weaknesses of traditional selection methods such as written test and interviews. This process is designed to select candidates who excel in pre-determined fields or "dimensions" of expertise.

A selection of the best candidate would appear at first glimpse to be a rather simple task. The solution is often not so tangible in the police organizational structure. Beyond the issue of individual fairness of the

assessment, the organization is at risk of unnecessary litigation and internal turmoil if the process is fundamentally flawed or perceived to be bias.

In conclusion, use of a private assessment center contractor, or one of the assessment center process (philosophy) using skilled assessors to measure all the necessary dimensions, far exceed other promotional processes for reliability. Use of respected outside assessors increases credibility to the assessment process. The time expended and financial cost, compared to traditional methods of evaluation is among the most commonly cited reasons to reject the assessment process. Additional complaints are that outsiders have no knowledge of past individual histories or circumstances in my department. Perceived or real, the lack of control by departmental leadership often further limits the use of the assessment center process within law enforcement organizations.

The use of the assessment center process is recommended for use within the Houston Independent School District Police Department. The administration must create the right climate by setting substantially high qualifications, thus reducing the number of assessments not only to numbers but to the most likely choices. Recommended suggestions for use in the early process of elimination are:

- use of an officer's annual performance evaluation;
- use of personnel file with complaints or accolades;
- · education and recent specialized training;
- physical agility test;

- writing skills test;
- seniority (tenure) and/or ranking with the Texas Commission; and,
- pre-test over material related to the function of the position.

Following the guidelines set for promotions, and after the above listed criterion is met, the assessment center evaluates the remaining candidates. Promotions to the rank of Sergeant would be promoted by an assessment center process operated in-house while using outside assessors. For promotions to Lieutenant and above, it is recommended that a consultant and professional assessors be hired. In each case an officer must participate in training prior to the assessment center. Each applicant is to be debriefed with reference to his/her skills by the same assessors who earlier conducted the assessment center.

In the promotion process for Sergeant, a recommendation is made directly to the Chief in writing following the assessment. Except in rare incidents, it is expected that the decision of the committee will be final. In consideration of positions of Lieutenant and above the committee will deliver, in writing, names of the top two contenders to the Chief of Police. They are to clearly indicate the final score of each candidate along with a recommendation of the committee. The Chief of Police will make the final selection. It is expected that the Chief of Police will approve in advance, any position of this rank, adding credibility to both that of the position and the department.

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## AGENCIES INCLUDED IN ASSESSMENT CENTER SURVEY 1 of 7 **GRADUATE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE 1998**

DEPT. NAME	DEPT. TYPE	RETURNED	CITY
1. Alvin Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y □ N	Alvin
2. Angleton Police Dept.	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y □ N	Angleton
3. Athens Police Dept	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y □N	Athens
4. Austin College Police Dept.	College/Univ. Dept.	⊠Y □ N	Sherman
5. Austin Police Dept.	Municipal P.D.	⊠ Y □ N	Austin
6. Bandera Co. Sheriffs Dept.	Sherff Dept	⊠Y □N	Bandera
7. Baylor University Police Dept.	College/Univ. Dept.	⊠Y □N	Waco
8. Baytown Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠ Y □ N	Baytown
9. Beaumont Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠ Y □ N	Beaumont
10. Bellaire Police Department	Municipal P.D.		Bellaire
11. Blinn Junior College P.D.	College/Univ. Dept.		Brenham
12. Brazos Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept	⊠ Y □ N	Bryan
13. Bryan Police Department	Municipal P.D.		Bryan
14. Chambers Co. Constable Pct. 6	Constable Dept	⊠ Y □ N	Baytown
15. College of the Mainland P.D.	College/Univ. Dept.		Texas City
16. Conroe Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y □ N	Conroe
17. Dallas Co. Constable Pct. 1	Constable Dept.	⊠ Y □ N	Dallas
18. Dallas Co. Constable Pct. 2	Constable Dept	⊠ Y □ N	Irxing
19. Dallas Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept		Dallas
20. Dallas I.S.D. Police Department	ISD Police Dept.	🛮 Y 🗆 N	Dallas
21. Dallas Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠ Y □ N	Dallas
22. Deer Park Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y □N	Deer Park
23. Dickinson Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠ Y □ N	Dickinson
24. Edgewood I.S.D. PD	ISD Police Dept.	⊠ Y □ N	San Antonio
25. El Paso Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept	⊠ Y □ N	El Paso
26. Farmers Branch Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y □N	Farmers Branch
27. Fort Bend Co. Constable Pct. 1	Constable Dept.		Richmond
28. Fort Bend Co. Constable Pct. 4	Constable Dept.		Sugarland
29. Fort Worth Police Department	Municipal P.D.		Fort Worth
30. Friendswood Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊻ Y □ N	Friendswood
31. Galena Park Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠ Y □ N	Galena Park
32. Galveston Co. Constable Pct. 1	Constable Dept		Galveston
33. Galveston Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept	⊠ Y □ N	Galveston
34. Grand Prairie Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y □N	Grand Prairie

## AGENCIES INCLUDED IN ASSESSMENT CENTER SURVEY 2 of 7 **GRADUATE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE 1998**

DEPT. NAME	DEPT. TYPE	RETURNED	CITY
35. Gregg County Constable Pct 1	Constable Dept.	X Y 🗆 N	Longview
36. Harris County Constable Pct. 4	Constable Dept.	⊠Y □ N	Spring
37. Harris Co. Sheriffs Dept.	Sherff Dept.	⊠Y □ N	Houston
38. Houston Community College P.D.	College/Univ. Dept.	⊠Y □ N	Houston
39. Humble Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y □ N	Humble
40. Huntsville Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y □ N	Huntsville
41. Jacksonville Police Department	Municipal P.D.	🛮 Y 🗆 N	Jacksonville
42. Jersey Village Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y □ N	Houston
43. La Marque Police Department	Municipal P.D.		La Marque
44. La Porte Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y □ N	La Porte
45. League City Police Department	Municipal P.D.		League City
46. Lubbock Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept	🛮 Y 🗖 N	Lubbock
47. Lubbock I.S.D. Police Dept.	ISD Police Dept.	⊠ Y □ N	Lubbock
48. Lubbock Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠ Y □ N	Lubbock
19. Matagorda County Pct. 3	Constable Dept	⊠ Y □ N	Palacios
50. Midland Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y □ N	Midland
51. Missouri City Police Department	Municipal P.D.	🛮 Y 🗆 N	Missouri City
52. Morris Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept	⊠ Y □ N	Daingerfield
53. Nacogdoches County Pct 2	Constable Dept.	🛛 Y 🗖 N	Nacogdoches
54. Nacogdoches I.S.D. Police Dept.	ISD Police Dept	🛮 Y 🗆 N	Nacogdoches.
55. Odessa College Police Dept	College/Univ. Dept.	⊠ Y □ N	Odessa
56. Pasadena Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠ Y □ N	Pasadena
7. Praire View A&M Police Dept.	College/Univ. Dept.	⊠ Y □ N	Praire View
58. Richland College Police Dept.	College/Univ. Dept.	⊠ Y □ N	Dallas
59. Richmond Police Department	Municipal P.D.	N	Richmond
60. Rockport Police Department	Municipal P.D.		Rockport
1. Roman Forest Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠ Y □ N	New Caney
52. Sam Houston State Police Dept.	College/Univ. Dept.		Huntsville
33. San Angelo I S.D. Police Dept	ISD Police Dept	🛚 Y 🗆 N	San Angelo
64. San Angelo Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y □ N	San Angelo
55. San Marcos Police Department	Municipal P.D.		San Marcos
66. Sugarland Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠ Y □ N	Sugarland
77. Tarrent Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept	⊠ Y □ N	Fort Worth
68. T.S.U. Police Department	College/Univ. Dept.	⊠Y □ N	Houston

# AGENCIES INCLUDED IN ASSESSMENT CENTER SURVEY GRADUATE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE 1998

70. U of H Police Department Col 71. U of H Police Department Col 72. Wolker Co. Sheriffe Department She	ellege/Univ. Dept. ⊠ Y  ellege/Univ. Dept. ⊠ Y  erff Dept. ⊠ Y  unicipal P.D. ⊠ Y	□ N	Tomball Houston Houston
71. U of H Police Department Col	erff Dept. ⊠ Y	□N	Houston
para manggi nggi sang silikatang nya nya nya nagara	erff Dept. ⊠ Y unicipal P.D. ⊠ Y		
72 Walker Co Shariffa Department Sha	unicipal P.D. ⊠ Y	$\square$ N	
72. Walker Co. Sheulis Department She			Huntsville
73. Webster Police Department Mui		$\square$ N	Webster
74. West University Place Police Dept. Mur	ınicipal.P.D. ⊠ Y	$\square$ N	Houston
75. Whitehouse Police Department Mur	unicipal P.D. 🛮 🛮 Y	$\square$ N	Whitehouse
76. Wichita Co. Sheriffs Department She	erff Dept. ⊠ Y	$\square$ N	Wichita Falls
77. Aldine LS.D. P. D. ISD	D Police Dept. 🛮 🛮 Y	$\square$ N	Houston
78. Alvin J.S.D. P. D. ISD	D Police Dept.	$\square$ N	Alvin
79. Amarillo College Police Dept. Col	llege/Univ. Dept. ⊠ Y	$\square$ N	Amarillo
80. Brenham Police Dept. Mu	unicipal P.D. 🛮 🛮 Y	$\square$ N	Brenham
81. Center I.S. D. P. D. ISD	D Police Dept. ■ Y	$\square$ N	Center
82. Conroe I.S. D. P.D. ISD	D Police Dept.	$\square$ N	Conroe
83. Corpus Christi I.S.D. P. D. ISD	D Police Dept. ■ Y	$\square$ N	Corpus Christi
84. Crockett Co. Sheriff's Dept. She	erff Dept. ⊠ Y	$\square$ N	Ozona
85. Denison Police Dept. Mul	unicipal P.D. 🛮 🛮 Y	$\square$ N	Dension
86. Dept. of Public Safety Mu	unicipal P.D. 🛮 🛮 Y	$\square$ N	Austin
87. Ector Co. I.S.D. P.D. ISD	D Police Dept. ⊠ Y	$\square$ N	Odessa
88. El Paso I S.D. Police Department ISD	D Police Dept. ■ Y	$\square$ N	El Paso
89. El Paso Police Department Mur	ınicipal P.D. 🛮 🛮 🗙 Y	$\square$ N	ELPaso
90. Fort Bend I.S.D. Police Department ISD	D Police Dept. ■ Y	$\square$ N	Stafford
91. Galveston J.S.D. Police Department ISD	D Police Dept. ■ Y	$\square$ N	Galveston
92. Harlandale J.S.D. Police Dept. ISD	D Police Dept.	$\square$ N	San Antonio
93. Irving Police Department Mur	unicipal P.D. 🛮 🛮 Y	$\square$ N	Irving
94. Jacinto City Police Department Mun	unicipal P.D.	$\square$ N	Jacinto City
95. Katy I.S.D. Police Department ISD	D Police Dept. 🔀 Y	$\square$ N	Katy
96. Katy Police Department Mu	unicipal P.D.	$\square$ N	Katy
97. Killeen I.S.D. Police Department ISD	D Police Dept. 🛮 🛮 Y	$\square$ N	Killeen
98. Longview Police Department Mu	unicipal P.D. 🛮 🗷 Y	$\square$ N	Longview
99. Lufkin Police Department Mui	inicipal P.D. 🛮 🛮 Y	$\square$ N	Lufkin
100. McAllen I.S.D. Police Department ISD	D Police Dept.    ▼ Y	$\square$ N	McAllen
101. Midland College Police Dept. Col	ollege/Univ. Dept. ⊠ Y	$\square$ N	Midland
102. Montgomery Co. Sheriffs Dept. She	erff Dept. 🔀 Y	$\square$ N	Conroe

# AGENCIES INCLUDED IN ASSESSMENT CENTER SURVEY GRADUATE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE 1998

DEP	T. NAME	DEPT. TYPE	RET	JRNED	CITY
103.	New Caney I.S.D. Police Dept.	JSD Police Dept.	⊠ Y	□N	New Caney
104.	N. Texas State University P.D.	College/Univ. Dept.	⊠Y	$\square$ N	Denton
105.	Northside I.S.D. Police Department	ISD Police Dept	⊠ Y	$\square$ N	San Antonio
106.	Odessa Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠ Y	$\square$ N	Odessa
107.	Palestine Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y	$\square$ N	Palestine
108.	Pampa Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y	$\square$ N	Pampa
109.	Panola College Campus Police	College/Univ. Dept.	⊠Y	$\square$ N	Carthage
110.	Port Arthur Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y	$\square$ N	Port Arthur
111.	Rice University Police Department	College/Univ_Dept	⊠Y	$\square$ N	Houston
112.	Robstown Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y	$\square$ N	Robstown
113.	Rosenberg Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y	$\square$ N	Rosenberg
114.	Round Rock Police Department	Municipal P.D.	⊠Y	$\square$ N	Round Rock
115.	San Antonio I.S.D. Police Dept.	ISD Police Dept.	⊠Y	$\square$ N	San Antonio
116.	Texarkana I.S.D. Police Dept.	ISD Police Dept	⊠Y	$\square$ N	Texarkana
117.	Texas A & M Univ. Police Dept.	College/Univ. Dept.	⊠Y	$\square$ N	College Station
118.	Texas City I.S.D. Police Dept	ISD Police Dept.	⊠Y	$\square$ N	Texas City
119.	Trinity Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept	⊠Y	$\square$ N	Groveton
120.	Kingwood College Police Dept.	College/Univ. Dept.	⊠Y	$\square$ N	Kingwood
121.	Klien ISD Police Department	ISD Police Dept.	⊠Y	$\square$ N	Klein
122.	Houston ISD Police Department	ISD Police Dept	⊠ Y	$\square$ N	Houston
123.	Alvin Comm. College Police Dept.	College/Univ. Dept.	ПΥ	⊠ N	Alvin
124.	Angelina Co. Sheriffs Dept.	Sherff Dept	ПΥ	⊠ N	Lufkin
125.	Angelton I.S.D. Police Dept.	ISD Police Dept.	ΠY	⊠ N	Angleton
126.	Austin Co. Sheriff's Dept.	Sherff Dept	ПΥ	⊠ N	Austin
127.	Austin Community College	College/Univ. Dept.	ПΥ	⊠ N	Austin
128.	Austin I.S.D. P.D.	ISD Police Dept	ПΥ	⊠N	Austin
129.	Bexar Co. Constable Pct.3	Constable Dept	ПΥ	⊠ N	San Antonio
130.	Bexar Co. Constable Pct.5	Constable Dept.	ПΥ	⊠ N	San Antonio
131.	Brazoria Co. Constable Pct. 1	Constable Dept.	ПΥ	⊠N	Freeport
132.	Brazoria Co. Sheriff's Department	Sherff Dept	ПΥ	⊠N	Angleton
133.	Brazos Co. Constable Pct. 3	Constable Dept.	ПΥ	⊠N	Bryan
134.	Brazos Co. Constable Pct. 5	Constable Dept.	ПΥ	⊠ N	Bryan
135.	Dayton Police Department	Municipal P.D.	ПΥ	⊠ N	Dayton
136.	Denton Co. Constable Pct. 4	Constable Dept.	ПΥ	⊠N	Roanoke

## AGENCIES INCLUDED IN ASSESSMENT CENTER SURVEY 5 of 7 **GRADUATE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE 1998**

DEPT. NAME	DEPT. TYPE	RETURNED	CITY
137. Ector Co. Constable Pct. 1	Constable Dept	□Y ⊠ N	Odessa
138. Ector Co. Constable Pct. 2	Constable Dept	□Y ⊠ N	Odessa
139. Ellis Co. Constable Pct. 4	Constable Dept	□Y ⊠ N	Waxahachie
140. Fort Bend Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept.	□ Y 🛮 N	Richmond
141. Freeport Police Department	Municipal P.D.	□ Y 🛮 N	Freeport
142. Galveston Co. Constable Pct. 4	Constable Dept	□ Y 🔯 N	Santa Fe
143. Galveston Co. Constable Pct. 9	Constable Dept.	□ Y 🔯 N	Port Boliver
144. Garland Police Department	Municipal P.D.	□ Y 🔯 N	Garland
145. Giddings Police Department	Municipal P.D.	□ Y 🛮 N	Giddings
146. Harris County Pct. 1	Constable Dept	□Y ⊠ N	Houston
147. Harris County Pct. 2	Constable Dept	□ Y 🛮 N	Pasadena
148. Harris County Pct. 3	Constable Dept.	□ Y ⊠ N	Baytown
149. Harris County Pct. 5	Constable Dept	□ Y 🔞 N	Houston
150. Harris County Pct. 6	Constable Dept.	□ Y 🛮 N	Houston
151. Harris County Pct. 7	Constable Dept	□ Y 🛮 N	Houston
152. Harris County Pct. 8	Constable Dept.	□ Y 🛮 N	Pasadena
153. Haskell C.I.S.D. Police Dept.	ISD Police Dept	□ Y 🛮 N	Haskell
154. Haskell Police Department	Municipal P.D.	□ Y 🛛 N	Haskell
155. Jefferson Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept.	□ Y 🛮 N	Beaumont
156. Keene Police Department	Municipal P.D.	□ Y 💌 N	Keene
157. Killgore College Police Dept.	College/Univ. Dept.	□ Y 🛮 N	Kilgore
158. Killeen Police Department	Municipal P.D.	□ Y 🛛 N	Killeen
159. La Porte I.S.D. Police Dept.	ISD Police Dept	□ Y 🛮 N	La Porte
160. Lamar University Police Dept	College/Univ. Dept.	□ Y 🛮 N	Beaumont
161. Liberty County Pct 5	Constable Dept	□ Y 🛛 N	Cleveland
162. Lubbock County Pct. 3	Constable Dept	□ Y 🛮 N	Idalou
163. Metro Transit Police Department	Municipal P.D.	□ Y 🛛 N	Houston
164. North Forest I.S.D. Police Dept.	ISD Police Dept	□ Y 🛮 N	Houston
165. No. Harris Montgomery College P.D.	College/Univ. Dept.	□ Y 🛛 N	Houston
166. Nueces County Pct. 5	Constable Dept	□ Y 🛛 N	Robstown
167. Oak Ridge North Police Dept.	Municipal P.D.	□ Y 🛮 N	Conroe
168. Orange County Pct. 3	Constable Dept	□ Y 🛮 N	Orange
169. Patton Village Police Department	Municipal P.D.	□ Y ⊠ N	Splendora
170. Pearland Police Department	Municipal P.D.	□ Y 🛛 N	Pearland

# AGENCIES INCLUDED IN ASSESSMENT CENTER SURVEY GRADUATE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE 1998

DEPT. NAME	DEPT. TYPE	RETURNED	CITY
171. Praire View Police Department	Municipal P.D.	□ Y ⊠ N	Praire View
172. San Jacinto College Police Dept.	College/Univ. Dept.	□ Y ⊠ N	Houston
173. Smith County Pct 1	Constable Dept.	□ Y 💌 N	Tyler
174. Smith County Pct. 2	Constable Dept.	□ Y ⊠ N	Tyler
175. South Houston Police Department	Municipal P.D.	□ Y ⊠ N	South Houston
176. Southside Place Police Dept.	Municipal P.D.	□ Y 🛮 N	Houston
177. Tarrent Co. Jr. College Police Dept.	College/Univ. Dept.	□ Y 🛮 N	Fort Worth
178. Taylor Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept	□ Y 🛮 N	Abilene
179. T.W.U. Police Department	College/Univ. Dept.	□ Y 🔞 N	Denton
180. Travis Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept.	□ Y 🛛 N	Austin
181. TSTC Campus Police Department	ISD Police Dept	□ Y 🛮 N	Amarillo
182. T.C.U. Campus Police Department	College/Univ. Dept.	□ Y 🛮 N	Fort Worth
183. Tyler Jr. College Police Dept.	College/Univ. Dept.	□ Y 🛮 N	Tyler
184. Abilene Christian Univ. P.D.	College/Univ. Dept.	□ Y 🛮 N	Abilene
185. Aransas Co. I.S.D. P. D.	ISD Police Dept.	□ Y 🛮 N	Rockport
186. Athens I.S.D. P.D.	ISD Police Dept	□ Y 🙀 N	Athens
187. Bay City I.S.D. P.D.	ISD Police Dept	□ Y 🛛 N	Bay City
188. Baylor Co. Sheriff's Dept.	Sherff Dept	□ Y 🛛 N	Seymour
189. Brown Co. Sheriff's Dept.	Sherff Dept	□ Y 🛮 N	Brownwood
190. Childress Co. Sheriff's Dept.	Sherff Dept	□ Y 🔯 N	Childress
191. Clear Lake Shores Police Dept.	Municipal P.D.	□ Y 🛮 N	Clear Lake
192. Cleburne Police Dept.	Municipal P.D.	□ Y 🛮 N	Cleburne
193. College Station Police Dept.	College/Univ. Dept.	□ Y 🛮 N	College Station
194. Collingsworth co. Sheriff Dept.	Sherff Dept	□Y ⊠ N	Wellington
195. Corrigan Police Dept.	Municipal P.D.	□ Y ⊠ N	Corrigan
196. Corsicana I.S.D. P. D.	ISD Police Dept	□ Y 🛮 N	Corsicana
197. Dayton I.S.D. P. D.	ISD Police Dept	□ Y 🔯 N	Dayton
198. Eastfield College Police Dept.	College/Univ. Dept.	□ Y 🛮 N	Mesquite
199. Fayette Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept	□ Y 🛮 N	La Grange
200. Gainsville I.S.D. Police Department	ISD Police Dept	□ Y ⊠ N	Gainsville
201. Gray Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept	□Y ⊠N	Pampa
202. Grimes Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept	□Y ⊠ N	Anderson
203. Hedwig Village Police Department	Municipal P.D.	□ Y ⊠ N	Houston
204. Humble I.S.D. Police Department	ISD Police Dept	□ Y 🙀 N	Humble

## AGENCIES INCLUDED IN ASSESSMENT CENTER SURVEY 7 of 7 **GRADUATE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE 1998**

DEP	T. NAME	DEPT. TYPE	RETU	JRNED	CITY
205.	Huntsville J.S.D. Police Department	ISD Police Dept.	_ Y	⊠N	Huntsville
206.	Incarnate Word College Police Dept	College/Univ. Dept.	. 🗆 Y	⊠N	San Antonio
207.	Johnson Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept	_ Y	⊠ N	Cleburne
208.	Kilgore Police Department	Municipal P.D.	. □ Y	⊠N	Kilgore
209.	Leon Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept	_ Y	⊠N	Centerville
210.	Lubbock Christian College P.D.	College/Univ. Dept.	. 🗆 Y	⊠N	Lubbock
211.	Matagorda Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept	_ N	⊠N	Bay City
212.	Pasadena I.S.D. Police Department	ISD Police Dept.	. □ Y	⊠N	Pasadena
213.	Polk Co. Sheriffs Department	Sherff Dept	Y	⊠N	Livingston
214.	San Antonio Police Department	Municipal P.D.	. 🗆 Y	⊠N	San Antonio
215.	Seabrook Police Department	Municipal P.D.	_ □ Y	⊠N	Seabrook
216.	Sealy I.S.D. Police Department	ISD Police Dept	. 🗆 Y	⊠N	Sealy
217.	Sherman Police Department	Municipal P.D.	ΠY	⊠N	Sherman
218.	Snyder Police Department	Municipal P.D.	. 🗆 Y	⊠N	Snyder
219.	Socorra I.S.D. Police Department	ISD Police Dept	ПΥ	⊠N	El Paso
220.	S. San Antonio J.S.D. Police Dept.	ISD Police Dept	. □ Y	⊠N	San.Antonio
221.	Southside I.S.D. Police Dept.	ISD Police Dept	ΠY	⊠N	San Antonio
222.	Spring Branch I.S.D. Police Dept.	ISD Police Dept	. 🗆 Y	⊠N	Houston
223.	Spring I.S.D. Police Department	ISD Police Dept	ПΥ	⊠N	Houston
224.	Stephen F. Austin Univ. Police Dept.	College/Univ. Dept.	. □ Y	⊠N	Nacgdoches
225.	TSTI Dept. of Public Safety	College/Univ. Dept.	_ N	⊠N	Sweetwater
226.	Texarkana Comm. College P.D.	College/Univ. Dept.	. □ Y	⊠N	Texarkana
227.	Univ. Texas Pan American P.D.	College/Univ. Dept.	ΠY	⊠N	Edinburg
228.	Tx.A.&.M.International Univ. P.D.	College/Univ. Dept.	. 🗆 Y	⊠N	Laredo
229.	Tyler Park Police Department	Municipal P.D.	_ Y	⊠ N	Tyler
230.	Tyler Police Department	Municipal P.D.	. 🗆 Y	⊠N	Tyler
231.	Waco J.S.D. Police Department	ISD Police Dept	ΠY	⊠N	Waço
232.	Waco Police Department	Municipal P.D.	. 🗆 Y	⊠N	Waco
233.	Wichita Falls Police Department	Municipal P.D.	ПΥ	⊠N	Wichita Falls
234.	Wylie Police Department	Municipal P.D.	. 🗆 Y	⊠N	Wylie

### POLICE SURVEY RETURNS FOR ASSESSMENT CENTER

(1) Agency Amiliation												
Municipal police agency	53	43.4%										
County (Sheriff or Constable)	25	20.5%										
College / University	19	15.6%										
School Dist. Police Dept.	25	20.5%										
TOTAL NO. OF RESPONSES	122											
			Gre	oup	Mui	nicipal	Co	unty	Co	llege	1	SD
			To	otal	P	olice	G	ov.	Univ	ersity	Po	olice
(2) Agency size (Sworn Personnel)												
0 - 25			55	45.1%	12	22.6%	12	48.0%	14	73.7%	17	68.0%
26 - 50			30	24.6%	17	32.1%	3	12.0%	4	21.1%	6	24.0%
51 - 100			11	9.0%	8	15.1%	1	4.0%	1	5.3%	1	4.0%
101 - 150			5	4.1%	5	9.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
151 - 200			4	3.3%	3	5.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	4.0%
More Than 200 Officers			17	13.9%	8	15.1%	9	36.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TOTAL OF RESPONSES			122	_	53		25		19	_	25	_
(2) Form of Covernment												
(3) Form of Government			24	19.7%	0	0.00/	24	00.00/	0	0.00/		0.00/
Dept. Head Elected			98	80.3%	0 53	0.0%		96.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Dept. Head Appointed		_		00.3%	53	100.0%	1	4.0%	19	100.0%	25	100.0%
TOTAL OF RESPONSES			122									
(4) The "Assessment Center" is use	d in my age	ncy for pron			ollowi		s:					
Chief of Police			9	7.4%	6	11.3%	0	0.0%	3	15.8%	0	0.0%
Asst. Chief of Police			4	3.3%	2	3.8%	1	4.0%	0	0.0%	1	4.0%
Captain			13	10.7%	9	17.0%	2	8.0%	0	0.0%	2	8.0%
Lieutenant			26	21.3%	19	35.8%	2	8.0%	3	15.8%	2	8.0%
Sergeant			27	22.1%	17	32.1%	4	16.0%	3	15.8%	3	12.0%
Corporal			11	9.0%	5	9.4%	4	16.0%	1	5.3%	1	4.0%
None of the above			88	72.1%	31	58.5%	21	84.0%	14	73.7%	22	88.0%
TOTALS MORE THAN 100% DUE TO MU	LTIPLE RESI	PONSES IN S	OME	CATAGO	RIES							

(1) Agency Affilliation

# POLICE SURVEY RETURNS FOR ASSESSMENT CENTER

(5) The Assessment Center Process in my agency is:	(5) The Assess	ment Center	Process in	my agency is
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(5) The Assessment Center Process in my agency i	Gro	oup	Muni		Cou		Colle	-	IS	
	То	tal	Pol		Go		Unive		Poli	
Used for promotion but not for hiring.	27	22.1%	20	37.7%	2	8.0%	3	15.8%	2	8.0%
Used for hiring but not for promotion.	1	0.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	4.0%
Used for both hiring and promotions.	4	3.3%	1	1.9%	2	8.0%	1	5.3%	0	0.0%
The Assessment Center not used in my department.	90	73.8%	32	60.4%	21	84.0%	15	78.9%	22	88.0%
TOTAL OF RESPONSES	122		53		25		19		25	
(6) PROMOTION BASED ON:										
Interviews only	13	11%	1	1.9%	2	8.0%	4	21.1%	6	24.0%
Written exam only	12	10%	12	22.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Written exam and interviews	19	16%	11	20.8%	5	20.0%	1	5.3%	2	8.0%
Ass. Ctr. Methodology	15	12%	11	20.8%	1	4.0%	1	5.3%	2	8.0%
Decision made by Chief etc.	27	22%	4	7.5%	9	36.0%	5	26.3%	9	36.0%
Chief decides from pool selected	47	39%	21	39.6%	10	40.0%	9	47.4%	7	28.0%
Other: Please specify	11	9%	6	11.3%	1	4.0%	1	5.3%	3	12.0%
TOTALS MORE THAN 100% DUE TO MULTIPLE RESPONSES I	N SOME	CATAGO	DRIES							
(7) YES or NO RESPONSES YES NO	YES	NO	NO. YES	% YES	NO. YES	% YES	NO. YES	% YES	NO. YES	% YES
Agency uses Assessment Ctr. 12 110	9.8%	90.2%	10	18.9%	0	0.0%	2	11%	0	0.0%
Uses A.C. Methodology 20 102	16.4%	83.6%	11	20.8%	4	16.0%	2	11%	3	12.0%
Dept. trains assessors 15 107	12.3%	87.7%	11	20.8%	2	8.0%	0	0%	2	8.0%
A.C. not used but planning to: 16 106	13.1%	86.9%	6	11.3%	2	8.0%	2	11%	6	24.0%
Dept. DOES NOT use Ctr. 89 33	73.0%	27.0%	30	56.6%	21	84.0%	15	79%	23	92.0%
Dept. DOES NOT use Ctr. 89 33			4.5	00 00/	0	0.0%	1	5%	1	4.0%
Dept. DOES NOT use Ctr. 69 33 Dept. Trains Officers in Ctr. 17 105	13.9%	86.1%	15	28.3%	U	0.070	1			
Dopt. Do 20 110 1 000 0111	13.9% 4.1%	86.1% 95.9%	3	5.7%	1	4.0%	0	0%	1	4.0%

# POLICE SURVEY RETURNS FOR ASSESSMENT CENTER

(8) SELECT WHICH BEST FITS		roup otal		icipal lice		unty ov.		lege ersity		SD lice
Unreliable results	1	0.8%	1	1.9%	0	0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Too costly to operate	4	3.3%	3	5.7%	0	0%	0	0.0%	1	4.0%
Too costly to maintain integrity	2	1.6%	2	3.8%	0	0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Unpopular with officers and staff	4	3.3%	3	5.7%	1	4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Removes adm. decision making	9	7.4%	4	7.5%	1	4%	3	15.8%	1	4.0%
Too few promotions to use	83	68.0%	29	54.7%	20	80%	15	78.9%	19	76.0%
N/A	19	15.6%	11	20.8%	3	12%	1	5.3%	4	16.0%
TOTAL OF RESPONSES	122		53		25		19		25	_
(9) EXERCISES USED BY ASSESSMENT CENTERS										
Group Discussion	25	20.5%	20	37.7%	2	8.0%	2	10.5%	3	12.0%
In-Basket exercise	22	18.0%	19	35.8%	2	8.0%	2	10.5%	0	0.0%
The written problem	22	18.0%	19	35.8%	1	4.0%	2	10.5%	2	8.0%
Interview simulation	27	22.1%	19	35.8%	3	12.0%	3	15.8%	4	16.0%
Background Interview	13	10.7%	5	9.4%	4	16.0%	2	10.5%	3	12.0%
Oral Presentation	29	23.8%	22	41.5%	2	8.0%	4	21.1%	2	8.0%
Training Exercise	6	4.9%	2	3.8%	1	4.0%	2	10.5%	1	4.0%
Testing Center	7	5.7%	5	9.4%	1	4.0%	1	5.3%	0	0.0%
Fact finding exercise	16	13.1%	11	20.8%	3	12.0%	1	5.3%	2	8.0%
Situation analysis/cooperation	18	14.8%	12	22.6%	4	16.0%	1	5.3%	2	8.0%
None Applicable N/A	80	65.6%	12	22.6%	19	76.0%	14	73.7%	21	84.0%
Other:	6	4.9%	5	9.4%	1	4.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

TOTALS MORE THAN 100% DUE TO MULTIPLE RESPONSES IN SOME CATAGORIES

#### ASSESSMENT CENTERS FOR PROMOTION

#### Agency affiliation (Please choose one)

- O Municipal Police Agency
- O County Law Enforcement (Sheriff or Constable)
- O College / University Police Department
- O School District Police Department

### Agency size (Sworn Personnel)

- O 0 25 Police Officers
- O 26 50 Police Officers
- O 51 100 Police Officers
- O 101 150 Police Officers
- O 151 200 Police Officers
- O More than 200 Police Officers

#### Form of Government

- My Department Head / Chief of Police / Sheriff or Constable is elected by the voters.
- My Department Head / Chief / Sheriff or Constable is appointed by the Mayor / City Manager / Superintendent of Schools / President of College or University.

# The Assessment Center is used in my agency for promotion to the following positions:

- Chief of Police
- O Assistant Chief of Police
- O Captain
- O Lieutenant
- Sergeant
- O Corporal
- O None

### The Assessment Center Process in my agency is:

- Used for promotion but not hiring
- O Used for hiring but not promotion
- O Used for both hiring and promotions
- O Not used by my department

# The Promotion Process in my agency is based on: (mark those which best fit)

- Interviews only
- O Written exam only
- O Written Examination and Interview Combination
- Assessment Center or Assessment Center Methodology
- Decision is made by ranking official, Chief of Police, Constable, Sheriff, School Superintendent, President of College or University
- One or more of the above is used, with the ranking official determining the final selection from the top finishers according to the process
- O Other (Please Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

#### (YES or NO)

- O My agency is currently using the Assessment Center as prescribed in the <u>Guidelines & Ethical Considerations for Assessment Center</u> <u>Operations</u> and meet all the essential criteria listed as an "Assessment Center." This process, in it's truest form, is usually operated by a contracted firm from the outside and is very costly.
- O My agency uses the "Assessment Center Methodology" for promotional purposes but alters it to conform to departmental needs. This is the "do it yourself format," usually operated by management with or without outside assessors but following closely the "Assessment Center Philosophy."
- O My department has sent one or more persons to the <u>assessor</u> training course to aid in supporting and/or administering the promotion process within the department.
- O My department has never used the Assessment Center process but is studying its use for future promotional considerations.
- O My department "DOES NOT" use the Assessment Center in any form for the promotion of police officers.
- O My department assists officers in understanding and improving on the assessment style exams by conducting training and orientation classes for officers and staff in the art of assessment center objectives and handling prior to promotional exams.
- O My agency has used the Assessment Center in the past but no longer uses this method for promoting qualified candidates.

### REASONS FOR MY AGENCY NOT USING OR DISCONTINUING THE USE OF THE "ASSESSMENT CENTER" METHODOLOGY FOR PROMOTIONS IS:

Choose	Too costly and time consuming for results derived Too costly to maintain integrity and change after each promotion Unpopular with the rank and file within the organization Removes or restricts local control and decision making
Exercis	es routinely used in the Assessment Center for my agency are:
0000	The written problem Interview simulation Background interview Oral Presentation Training exercise Testing center Fact finding and decision making exercise Situation analysis/cooperation discussion
Please	print clearly (name and data of person completing survey)
	Name:  Rank or position:  Department:
	Department.

Address:

Zip:

City, State:



### HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE DEPARTMENT

2922 PLUM CREEK HOUSTON, TEXAS 77087 TEL (713) 641-7428 • FAX (713) 641-7432

ROD PAIGE Superintendent of Schools

> JOHN B. BLACKBURN Assistant Chief

BRUCE P. MARQUIS Chief of Police

November 13, 1998

#### Law Enforcement Official:

Please allow me a few minutes of your time to explain the attached questionnaire. I am currently enrolled in the Graduate Management Institute (GMI) associated with Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. I have chosen for my research topic, the use of "Assessment Centers" for the purpose of "promotions" within small to medium sized police agencies. The information requested should in no way infringe on the policies of your department and will take only minutes to complete. A self-addressed stamped envelope is included for your convenience in returning this survey.

Following its completion, I will return the result of my findings to those who participated in the study. My goal is to have a return of approximately 100 responses from agencies of between twenty-five and 200 sworn personnel. Responses from departments of more than 200 sworn officers will be counted as one group.

I would like to thank you in advance for your participation in this endeavor. If you are interested in this topic for you own research or for your own department, try the Internet address: www.pass-prep.com/overview/introduction.htm. If you have questions regarding my request, I can be reached by calling the Houston ISD Police Department at (713) 641-7428. My pager is (713) 708-9581 for those in the Houston area.

Sincerely, Leffery S. McMillin

Jeff McMillin, Captain

Special Operations Division

JM/ew:gradmgmt.doc