



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Minnesota State Archives

## MINNESOTA POLICE RECRUITMENT SYSTEM

### An Inventory of Its Records

#### OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

<b>Agency:</b>	Minnesota Police Recruitment System.
<b>Series Title:</b>	Records,
<b>Dates:</b>	1980-1999.
<b>Abstract:</b>	Records of the MPRS and its predecessor, the Suburban Police Recruitment System, organizations to recruit and evaluate candidates for entry-level enforcement positions in its member agencies.
<b>Quantity:</b>	0.4 cu. ft. (partial box).
<b>Location:</b>	127.K.8.1B

#### ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF THE MINNESOTA POLICE RECRUITMENT SYSTEM

The Minnesota Police Recruitment System (MPRS) was created by a "joint powers" agreement under Minnesota Statute section 471.59 in 1983. The MPRS sprang from a parent organization, the Suburban Police Recruitment System (SPRS), established in 1980 to serve only the Minneapolis/St. Paul suburban area. Because of an increasing interest by constituents in greater Minnesota, the service was expanded to cover the entire state. In 1996, there were 26 members of the MPRS statewide.

The purpose of the MPRS was to recruit candidates for entry-level positions in its member agencies. Membership in the MPRS provided agencies with an opportunity to have a greater, more diverse pool of candidates than they may otherwise have been able to recruit through traditional means. Additionally, MPRS assisted agencies in evaluating law enforcement candidates through both written examination and physical agility testing. That testing was administered by moderators four times per year. It was necessary for a candidate to successfully complete both the written examination and the physical ability tests in order to be placed on an eligibility roster.

The MPRS was governed by a Board of Directors consisting of two persons from each member agency, a director and an alternate. In order to handle the day-to-day operations of MPRS, a nine-member Executive Committee was chosen from among the Board members. This

committee worked in conjunction with the Executive Director, a consultant hired to provide the ongoing administration of MPRS policies and procedures.

Due to an increase in operating costs and a decrease in interest by member agencies, the MPRS ceased recruitment and testing efforts on December 31, 1996. In 1998, the Executive Committee conducted a survey of MPRS members to determine if there was renewed interest in joint recruiting and testing. Nearly half the members polled expressed no interest in resuming activities. During the next two years, the Executive Committee investigated and brought about plans to dissolve the MPRS. The Board of Directors voted for dissolution in the spring of 2000.

## SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE RECORDS

Administrative and financial records of the MPRS and its predecessor, the Suburban Police Recruitment System, both designed to recruit and evaluate candidates for entry-level enforcement positions in its member agencies. Included are contracts, joint power agreements, meeting minutes, policies and procedures materials, newsletters, and audits.

## INDEX TERMS

*This collection is indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons or places should search the catalog using these headings.*

### Topics:

Police--Minnesota--Examinations.

Police--Rating of--Minnesota.

Police--Recruiting--Minnesota.

Public safety.

Places:

### Organizations:

Suburban Police Recruitment System (Minn.).

## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

### Preferred Citation:

*[Indicate the cited classification number and description here].* Minnesota Police Recruitment System. Records. Minnesota Historical Society. State Archives.

*See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.*

### Accession Information:

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## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

*Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note both the location and box numbers shown below.*

### Location

127.K.8.1B

Contracts between Suburban Police Recruitment System (SPRS) and Minnesota Valley Council of Governments, 1981-1982. 1 folder.  
Joint Powers Agreement between MPRS and the cities of Circle Pines and Lexington, November 1992 1 folder.  
Meeting minutes of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors, 1980-1999. 2 folders.  
Policies and procedures of SPRS/MPRS, undated. 1 folder.  
Includes initial SPRS operating policies and procedures, background information on MPRS services and operations, and recruitment and evaluation materials.  
Quarterly newsletters of the MPRS, 1980-1996. 2 folders.  
Year-end audits of the MPRS, 1980-1996. 2 folders.