

# BEYOND CITY LIMITS

## Race, Residency and the Champaign Police Department

### RACE & RESIDENCY BY THE NUMBERS

In 2010, the Champaign Police Department employed a total of 121 police officers.

More than 90% of Champaign police officers are white. Only six African Americans and two Latino/a officers serve on the force.

Three-quarters of Champaign police officers live beyond Champaign city limits in predominantly white towns and bedroom communities.

### WHY POLICE LIVE BEYOND CITY LIMITS

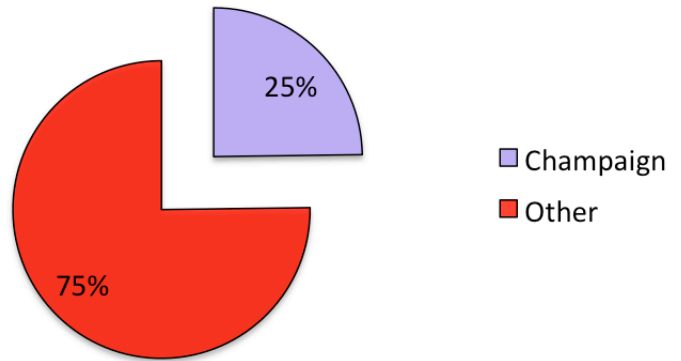
Until 1970, the City of Champaign required that all police officers reside within the city limits.

However, in the aftermath of the fierce school integration battles of the late 1960s, the predominantly white police force and their families lobbied to change this policy. It seems that while many white police officers were willing to perform their law enforcement duties in a racially diverse community they were not willing to live and participate in it as equals.

The Champaign city council voted to expand the existing residency perimeter twice in 1970 and, eventually, handed decision-making power to the police department and the police union. Today, there are no restrictions on the residency of Champaign police officers.

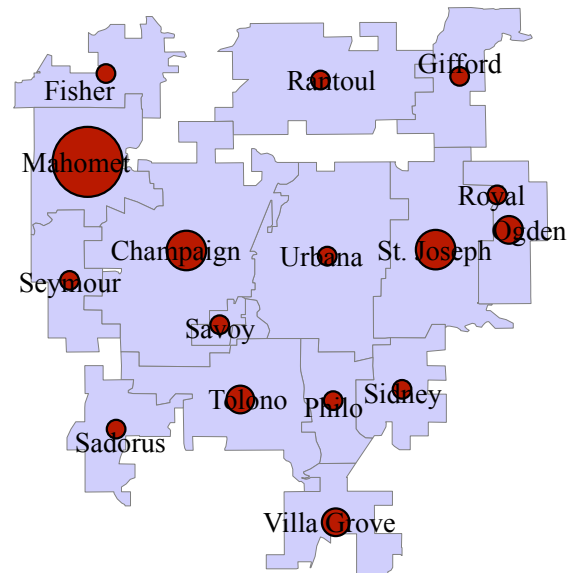
### THE IMPACT OF RACE & RESIDENCY

The city should reinstate the residency requirement because it will ensure that officers are invested in the local community, that our financial investment in police salaries is returned through tax revenue, and that skilled employment opportunities are opened up to local people. In addition, reinstating the residency requirement will help change the culture of the Champaign Police Department and improve our chances of recruiting a racially diverse workforce.



Champaign Police Officers (Place of Residence)

### Mapping Residential Patterns in Champaign County



### Champaign Police Officers (Number by Town)

