

Questions sent to NCSU (PROJ 014292) and responses received back from NCSU

1) The Project kept referring to Latinos. Was this by design or is this project meant to expand its reach to all Hispanics?

Our understanding is that "Latinos" is the better term to capture which communities we want to focus on. The term Latino captures all the cultures listed below except Spain. Whereas the term Hispanic is an older term and would exclude a lot of other Central and South American immigrant cultures that we want to reach.



2) The Project made reference to Latinos are 50% more likely to experience police aggression or force. This seemed a bit strong in wording and a bit biased. Did this information come from a particular source? (Remember David, that a Committee comprised of Law Enforcement persons are the ones that will review this grant for funding consideration)

Thanks for this feedback. That statistic about police use of force is correct. It comes from the first nationwide police-community interaction survey but is from an older source. We think your guidance is spot on. So, let's change the presentation a bit. This is the original:

- **School Safety.** Research on SROs in NC schools suggests that the simple presence of police officers on campus does not reduce disciplinary acts and violence. Improved relationships between officers and minority students holds great promise in making schools safer.
- **Disparate Justice.** National data shows that Latinos are 50% more likely to experience police aggression or force compared to whites.

- **Officer Safety.** In 2018, NC police officers conducted 102,272 traffic stops involving a Latino driver. Last year, a Mooresville police officer was shot during a routine traffic stop by a Latino driver with no prior violent criminal history.

Let's merge bullet points 2 & 3 into this:

- **Officer Safety.** In 2018, NC police officers conducted 102,272 traffic stops involving a Latino driver. Last year, a Mooresville police officer was shot during a routine traffic stop by a Latino driver with no prior violent criminal history. National data also show that police-Latino interactions are more likely to result in a threat or actual use of force.

3) What is the overall goal of this project and who is the beneficiary? Is the intent of this project to help train law enforcement around the state and if so, what is the mechanism to get this training to the officers in the field?

I thought we addressed this in the narrative, but apparently it is unclear enough, so thanks for the clarification questions. Here are the answers to these questions.

Goal = to enhance understanding and trust between law enforcement and the Latino community in NC.

Beneficiary = law enforcement and the Latino community in NC

Intent = yes, primarily to train law enforcement in NC about the perspective and challenges of the Latino community and additionally to help the Latino community integrate better into NC

Mechanism = utilizing the training programs already in place with our partners in NC Dept. of Justice's Criminal Justice Standards Division and UNC's Go Global Latino Initiative who are already training law enforcement officers and the Latino community across the state on a regular basis. The tools we develop would be done in conjunction with their input and then utilized in their ongoing training workshops and classes. The main part of the grant is to develop the VR based curriculum and tools and another smaller part is to help these partners get started in setting up their own VR capable classrooms and/or mobile classrooms.