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Billi Patzius, associate professor of criminal justice at Lindenwood University, has been featured in an Ask the Experts segment by the website wallethub.com.

In the article, Patzius responds to questions regarding the future of law enforcement, such as what the law officers of the future will need to know to do their jobs effectively and how law enforcement officers can improve their relationships with the people of the community they serve.

While Patzius said police face a tough time renewing bonds with the population, she is confident departments across the country are doing the things they need to do to create a bright future.

"I'm going to be an optimist and say the long-term outlook is promising for the law enforcement field," Patzius told Wallethub. "Reform efforts should do just that—reform—and with increased accountability we will see increased responsibility. It is also important that we recognize the efforts police agencies are making to improve their practice, and I think larger police agencies are being more selective in their recruitment process."

The interview with Patzius is part of a larger article about the best and worst places to be a law enforcement officer. On the list, Missouri ranks 44th with a score of 41.72 compared to neighboring Illinois which ranks fourth with a score of 58.04.

The rankings are based on several factors, which include median pay for officers, violent crime rates, and the percentage of cases solved.