

City of Ypsilanti Police Department



General Order: 3-10
Title: Bias Based Profiling Prohibited

Date Issued: **Effective Date:**
Rescinds: Order of 04-06-15

.01 Purpose:

To make an affirmative and unequivocal statement that any type of biased based profiling in law enforcement is unacceptable. To provide personnel with guidelines to prevent such occurrences, and to protect our officers from unwarranted accusations when they act within the dictates of the law and policy.

.02 Policy:

It is the policy of the Ypsilanti Police Department to be a pro-active force within the community and to aggressively investigate crimes, suspicious circumstances and persons and enforce the provisions of the Motor Vehicle Code. This mission will be carried out in a manner that respects the dignity of all persons and yet sends a strong deterrent message to actual and potential lawbreakers that if they break the law, they are likely to encounter the police. Citizens will only be stopped or detained when there exists reasonable suspicion to believe that they have committed, are committing or are about to commit, an infraction of the law. The Ypsilanti Police Department recognizes each individual's Constitutional Rights and will safeguard those rights while taking enforcement/police action.

.03 Bias-based Profiling Defined:

The detention, interdiction, or other disparate treatment of any person, solely on the basis of their race, color, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, physical handicap, religion, economic status, age, immigration status or other belief system.

.04 Prevention and Training:

The Department shall provide training in officer safety, cultural diversity and laws governing search and seizure.

Training programs will emphasize the need to respect the rights of all citizens to be free from unreasonable governmental intrusion or police action. The Department shall provide this training minimally every three years. This training shall be documented by the Training Coordinator.

.05 Data Collection:

The practice of placing the race, gender and physical description of a violator on the bottom of traffic citations shall continue. In cases where formal enforcement is not taken the same information, as well as, the subject's name shall be recorded on the officer's daily log.

The data shall be used to review performance standards and investigate allegations of bias profiling only. There shall not be any study or formal compiling of the data into a comprehensive report.

.06 Complaints:

Any person may file a complaint with the Department if they feel that they have been stopped or searched based on bias-based profiling. No person shall be discouraged, intimidated or coerced from filing such a complaint, or be discriminated against because of having filed such a complaint.

Complaints of this nature shall be handled in the same manner as any other complaint made against an officer.

In the event that it is discovered by complaint or supervisory observation that this order has been violated and substantiate through investigation immediate corrective action will be taken. This may be in the form of more advanced training or disciplinary action up to and including discharge depending on the severity of the infraction.

.07 Supervisory Responsibility:

Supervisors shall ensure that officers follow the policies and procedures outlined in this order. Supervisors shall periodically remind officers under their command of the provisions of this order and of the legal aspects of illegal profiling practices. It should be clearly conveyed and totally understood that this type of behavior will not be tolerated by any member of the Ypsilanti Police Department.

By Order of,

Anthony DeGiusti
Chief of Police

