

8-200 PREVENTION AND AVOIDANCE OF RACIAL PROFILING AND BIASED POLICING 081822

It is the policy of the UMD Police Department to reaffirm our commitment to impartial policing and to reinforce procedures that serve to assure the public we are providing service and enforcing laws in a fair and equitable manner to all.

8-201 Definition

Racial profiling has the meaning given to it in Minn. Stat. 626.8471, Subd. 2. which states: "Racial profiling" means any action initiated by law enforcement that relies upon the race, ethnicity, or national origin of an individual rather than:

- (1) the behavior of that individual; or
- (2) information that leads law enforcement to a particular individual who has been identified as being engaged in or having been engaged in criminal activity.

Racial profiling includes use of racial or ethnic stereotypes as factors in selecting whom to stop and search. Racial profiling does not include law enforcement's use of race or ethnicity to determine whether a person matches a specific description of a particular subject.

8-202 Procedures

Policing impartially, not racial profiling, is standard procedure for this agency, meaning:

- investigative detentions, pedestrian and vehicle stops, arrests, searches and property seizures by peace officers will be based on a standard of reasonable suspicion or probable cause in accordance with the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution and peace officers must be able to articulate specific facts, circumstances, and conclusions that support reasonable suspicion or probable cause for investigative detentions, pedestrian and vehicle stops, arrests, nonconsensual searches, and property seizures;
- except as provided in point three (below), peace officers shall not consider race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, and religion in establishing either reasonable suspicion or probable cause; and
- peace officers may consider the descriptors in point two (above) based on information that links specific, suspected, unlawful, or suspicious activity to a particular individual or group of individuals and this information may be used in the same manner officers use specific information regarding age, height, weight, or other physical characteristics about specific suspects.

To prevent the perception of biased law enforcement peace officers shall:

- be respectful and professional;
- introduce or identify themselves to the citizen and state the reason for the contact as soon as practical unless providing this information will compromise officer or public safety;
- ensure the detention is no longer than necessary to take appropriate action for the known or suspected offense;
- attempt to answer any relevant questions the citizen may have regarding the citizen/officer contact including relevant referrals to other agencies when appropriate;
- provide their name and badge number when requested, preferably in writing or on a business card; and
- explain and/or apologize if it is determined the reasonable suspicion was unfounded (e.g. after an investigatory stop).

Supervisors shall ensure all personnel in their command are familiar with the content of this policy and comply with it.

8-203 Duty to Report

Every member of this department shall perform their duties in a fair and objective manner and are responsible for promptly reporting any suspected or known instances of bias-based policing to a supervisor. Members should, when reasonable to do so, intervene to prevent any biased-based actions by another member.

8-204 Violations

Alleged violations of this policy must be reported to POST in accordance with the reporting requirements in Minn. Stat. 626.8457.