

Abington Township Police Department Policy and Procedure Manual

Chapter:	Law Enforcement Role and Authority	General Order:	1.2.9
Section:	Limits of Authority	Original Date:	050104
Title:	Bias Based Profiling	Re-Issue Date:	020818
Issued By:	Patrick Molloy, Chief of Police	Reevaluation Date:	122021
Signature:	<i>Patrick Molloy</i>	Expiration Date:	Indefinite
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Distribution:	All Members	Total Pages:	3
CALEA Standard References:	1.2.9		
Pennsylvania Accreditation References:	1.8.3		

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this general order is to provide members with guidelines on Bias Based Profiling.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Abington Township Police Department that members shall not use bias based profiling practices. The use of bias based profiling may lead to allegations of violations of the constitutional rights of the citizens we serve, undermines the legitimate law enforcement efforts, and leads to claims of civil rights violations. Additionally, bias based profiling alienates citizens, fosters distrust of law enforcement by the community, invites media scrutiny, legislative action, and judicial intervention.

III. DEFINITION

Bias based profiling is the selection of individuals based solely on a common trait of a group. This includes, but is not limited to, race, ethnic background, gender, sexual orientation, religion, economic status, age, cultural group or any other identifiable groups.

IV. PROCEDURE

A. Bias Based Profiling

1. The Abington Township Police Department does not condone the use of bias based profiling in its enforcement programs, including traffic contacts, field contacts and in asset seizure and forfeiture efforts. All members shall focus

attention on a persons conduct or other specific suspect information. The selection of individuals based solely on a common trait of a group, such as but not limited to, race, ethnic background, gender, sexual orientation, religion, economic status, age or culture, shall be prohibited.

B. Bias Based Profiling Training

1. All sworn members will receive initial training in bias based profiling as well as periodic training at least once every three years. The training will address bias based profiling issues including legal aspects.

C. Corrective Measures

1. All allegations of bias based profiling will be investigated. Any substantial allegations of bias based profiling shall result in corrective action. The corrective action may include disciplinary action and training.

D. Statistical Information

1. To obtain statistical information on the drivers that receive traffic citations the following information will be identified:
 - a. Race of driver
 - b. Reason for the traffic stop
2. This information will be documented on the Incident Report Form, Master Names, and Identifiers.
3. Race of driver identified as:
 - a. B - Black
 - b. W - White
 - c. A - Other
 - d. I - American Indian
4. Reason for the traffic stop
 - a. Officers will describe the reason for initiating the motor vehicle stop. When the initial reason for the stop is the violation described in the motor vehicle section violated, the statement "Above Violation" will be sufficient.

b. Examples:

- (1) Above Violation
- (2) Speeding
- (3) Suspicious Activity

E. Administrative Review

1. The Chief of Police, or his designee, shall conduct a documented annual administrative review of departmental practices to include citizen concerns, analysis of statistical information, and analysis of bias based profiling complaints.