



Vero Beach Police Department Memorandum

WEE

To: Chief David E. Currey

From: Lt. Matthew Monaco

Subject: Annual administrative bias-based profiling review

Date: 07/27/16

Cancellation Date: 10/27/16

In accordance with the Commission for Florida Accreditation Version 5.0 standard 2.06M and Vero Beach Police Department general order #79.25 Traffic Stops and Profiling, an annual review concerning bias based profiling for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 has been conducted.

CFA V5 Standard 2.06M requires that the agency have a written directive that prohibits bias-based profiling in accordance with Florida Statute and includes the following provisions:

- A. Training agency enforcement personnel in bias based profiling issues including legal aspects; in accordance with CJSTC guidelines.
- B. Corrective measures if bias based profiling occurs.
- C. Definitions to include bias based profiling and reasonable suspicion.
- D. Community education and awareness efforts.
- E. A documented annual administrative review of agency practices involving bias-based profiling, to include areas of forfeitures, traffic stops, and seizures.
- F. Handling of complaints from the public.

The results of this assessment are as follows:

- A review of training records verified that (12) officers completed FDLE's Discriminatory Profiling and Professional Traffic Stops in 2015 which covers legal aspects in accordance with CJSTC guidelines. This training is part of the mandatory retraining required every four years by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission.
- A review of General Order 79 Traffic Stops and Profiling verified that it contains language prohibiting bias based profiling in accordance with F.S.S 166.0493 and language regarding corrective measures to be implemented if bias based profiling occurs. The review also confirmed that general order 79 defines bias based profiling and reasonable suspicion. No incidents of bias based profiling were reported during 2015.





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- A statement prohibiting bias based profiling which models the Florida Police Chiefs Association Policy is posted in the lobby of The Vero Beach Police Department and on the website to notify and educate members of the community. This statement includes an explanation on how to report concerns regarding bias based profiling. In addition, a copy of this administrative review will be posted on the Departments website.

Statistical Data

Department Stats	N	White	Percent	Black	Percent	Other	Percent
Total Arrests	744	619	83.1%	121	16.2%	4	.5%

Department Statistics	#	White	%	Black	%	Hispanic	%	Other	%
Use of Force	14	11	78.57%	2	14.28%	1	7.14%	0	0%
Forfeiture & Seizures	3	2	66.66%	1	33.33%	0	0%	0	0%
Subject of Search Warrants	17	15	88.23%	2	11.76%	0	0%	0	0%
Traffic Citations	2469	2090	84.65%	340	13.77%	37	1.5%	2	.08%
Traffic Warnings	1284	1072	83.48%	202	15.73%	10	.78%	0	0%

*The data displayed above was gathered from multiple sources. Arrest and traffic data were gathered from Logisys, the department's RMS system. Use of Force and Forfeiture data were collected from the Professional Standards Division and search warrant information was gathered from the Special Investigations Unit.

Comparison to Population Statistics

The statistics compiled above were compared to the population of Vero Beach, Indian River County and cities to the north and south of Vero Beach since Vero Beach is the county seat. Due to the transient traffic that passes through Vero Beach, Ft. Pierce was also included in the population statistics due to its proximity to the city. Statistics were gathered from the 2010 U.S. Census using the following sites: (www.usacityfacts.com & www.factfinder.census.gov)





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Population Statistic	White	Black	Hispanic
United States	72.4%	12.6%	16.3%
State of Florida	75.0%	16.0%	22.5%
Indian River County	84.3%	9.0%	11.2%
Vero Beach	87.5%	4.8%	10.7%
Sebastian	90.5%	5.3%	7%
Ft. Pierce	45.3%	40.9%	21.6%
Fellsmere	55.2%	5.4%	81.1%

The following information can be garnered through a comparison of the Vero Beach Police Department statistics and the population statistics. The percentage of white demographic in all categories except forfeitures and subject of search warrants is similar but slightly lower than their percentage of the population. The percentage of Hispanic in all categories was lower than their percentage of the population. The percentage for black in all categories was higher than their percentage of the population. The small data set for forfeitures makes it difficult to come to any conclusion for this statistic as it relates to bias based profiling; however, a thorough review of these forfeitures did not reveal any form of bias based profiling.

Conclusion:

While statistics for the black demographic are higher than their population statistics for Vero Beach in all categories this disparity is minimized when compared to the population of Indian River County and surrounding cities. Based on a review of the use of force, search warrants, forfeitures and traffic data this analysis concluded that the Vero Beach Police Department is in compliance with accreditation standards and with state legislation prohibiting bias based profiling. This was accomplished by a review of specific use of force cases, forfeitures and search warrants as well as the continued practice as outlined in general order 79.23 which states: Commanders/Supervisors shall review profiling complaints, periodically review a sampling of in-car video tapes of stops, reports filed on stops by officers, and respond at random to back up officers on vehicle stops, and shall take appropriate action whenever it appears that this policy is being violated, being particularly alert to any pattern or practice of possible discriminatory treatment by individual officers or squads.

