

RENO POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER

This directive is for internal use only and does not enlarge this department's, governmental entity's and/or any of this department's employees' civil or criminal liability in any way. It is not to be construed as the creation of a specific standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to any complaint, demand for settlement, or any other form of grievance or litigation. Violations of this directive, if substantiated, can only form the basis for intra-departmental administrative sanctions.

Chief of Police: Jason Soto /s/		
Approving Deputy Chief: Tom Robinson /s/		
General Order No. T-450-17	Issued: September 16, 2004	Revised: April 14, 2022
General Order Title: IMPARTIAL POLICING		

I. POLICY

Some members of our community can be fearful of police contact and may be reluctant to report crime because of negative perceptions of law enforcement. The Reno Police Department values positive relationships with every segment of our community.

The Reno Police Department acknowledges that some calls for service may be motivated by bias against a particular race, color, religion, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, economic status and/or citizenship status. The Reno Police Department recognizes that individuals who are the focus of a call for service may be the victim of such profiling. Officers must respect and assist any individual they believe has been targeted by a racially-based and/or biased-based call for service.

It is the policy of the Reno Police Department to treat everyone in accordance with our Core Values, regardless of one's actual or perceived citizenship status. This does not preclude employees from investigating suspicious or criminal behavior as allowed by local, state and federal laws.

The Reno Police Department does not condone racial and/or biased-based profiling of any group and prohibits any policy, procedure, or practice that constitutes racial profiling and/or biased-based profiling, or any activity that results in racial and/or biased-based profiling of any person for the purposes of providing services or conducting stops or investigations.

Investigative detentions, traffic stops, arrests, searches and property seizures by officers will be based on a standard of reasonable suspicion or probable cause in accordance with the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and will never be based solely on one's race, color, religion, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, economic status or citizenship.

II. DEFINITIONS

Bias-Based Profiling – Reliance by a peace officer upon the race, color, religion, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, economic status and/ or citizenship of a person, and that is the only factor the peace officer considers when deciding to initiate any type

of action.

Racial Profiling – (see NRS 289.820) Means reliance by a peace officer upon the race, ethnicity, or national origin of a person as a factor in initiating action when the race, ethnicity, or national origin of a person is not part of a specific description of a specific suspect for a specific crime.

III. PROCEDURES

A. Responsibilities of Every Employee – Employees responsibilities include but aren't limited to the following:

1. Ensuring that all departmental documents and communication are race neutral and exclude race when race isn't necessary to describe an individual or have any other pertinence. This includes, but isn't limited to report narratives, watch log entries, news releases, e-mails, Attempt to Locate Bulletins, information that is posted on the department's social media accounts and all other interdepartmental documents, including those in digital format.
2. When departmental forms ask for identifying information such as race, gender, ethnicity, etc., this information will be obtained from a government issued form of identification (indicating what type of identification is presented) or that such information has been specifically provided by the subject (witness, victim, reporting party, etc.). Employees will not make any conclusions or speculate regarding identifying information, except when required by law.

B. Officer's Responsibilities – Officers responsibilities include but aren't limited to the following:

1. Except as provided below, officers shall not rely exclusively on race, color, religion, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, economic status and/ or citizenship when establishing either reasonable suspicion or probable cause. Similarly, except as provided below, officers shall not consider race, color, religion, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, economic status and/or citizenship in deciding whether to request consent to search or to initiate non-consensual encounters that do not rise to the level of arrest.
2. Not relying solely on race, color, religion, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, economic status and/or citizenship as the basis for probable cause or reasonable suspicion. Officers may consider the reported race or ethnicity of a specific suspect or suspects based on trustworthy, relevant information that links a person or persons of a specific race/ethnicity to an unlawful incident(s).
3. Except as provided above, not making law enforcement decisions motivated by race, color, religion, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, economic status and/or citizenship.
4. Not contacting or stopping a person merely on suspicion that the person is present in the United States illegally.
5. Not making inquiries into the citizenship status of an individual that has requested police services.
6. Following the same procedures when contacting or stopping any person whether the contact occurs with consent, reasonable suspicion or probable cause.
7. If, after a person is legally contacted and the officer reasonably suspects that person is an unauthorized immigrant, the officer may request an ICE agent to respond while the

officer completes the original stop. The subject shall not be detained longer than necessary to conduct any investigation necessary to complete the stop/contact.

- a) If ICE cannot respond within the time necessary for the officer to complete the contact with the subject, the officer shall fill out a field interview card (or citation if appropriate) prior to releasing the subject.
 - b) If the subject is taken into custody for charges unrelated to immigration status, no further action is required. ICE currently runs daily checks of all persons that are booked into the Washoe County Jail.
8. Cooperating and assisting ICE with its investigations, in an officer safety capacity, when requested. When ICE requests assistance with immigration operations, approval must be received from the Chief of Police.
 9. If during a wants and warrants check, an officer receives an NCIC "hit" on an immigration-related federal warrant, they will need to contact the ICE 24-hour hotline (1-800-sectorX).
 - a) The on-duty agent will determine if they want to take the person into custody or not based on the warrant.
 - b) If they do want to take the person into custody, we will assist them by transporting the subject to the Washoe County Jail. The ICE agent will fax a "request for detention" form to the booking clerk.
 - c) The transporting officer will need to complete an "In-Transit Prisoner" form at intake.
 - d) Although a Probable Cause form is not required, a report detailing the circumstances of the incident will be completed in the Department's Report Management System.
 10. Evaluating whether or not a call for service is racially-based or biased-based and take steps to avoid unnecessary encounters.

C. Supervisor's Responsibilities – Supervisors responsibilities include but aren't limited to the following:

1. Ensuring that all department reports, documents and communication that they complete or that are completed by their subordinates are race neutral.
2. Monitoring calls-for-service, secret witness tips, service requests or other requests for police response, to evaluate whether or not they may be motivated by bias against a particular race, color, religion, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, economic status and/or citizenship status particularly when the complainant refuses to identify themselves and/or fails to offer facts that would warrant police involvement, and ensure steps are taken to avoid unnecessary encounters.