

SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY

Effective Date:

February 3, 2020

Policy Number:

09-011

Policy Subject:

Biased Based Profiling

Reevaluation Date:

February 3, 2021

No. Pages:

2

PLEAC Standard(s):

1.8.3

I. POLICY

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

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide employees with guidelines on bias based profiling.

III. DEFINITIONS

Bias Based Policing – Also known as “racial profiling or bias based profiling” is any traffic stop, field contact, vehicle search, asset seizure/forfeiture, or enforcement action based solely on a common trait of a group. Common traits include, but are not limited to, race, ethnic background, gender, sexual orientation, religion, economic status, age, cultural group, or any other identifiable groups.

IV. PROCEDURES

A. Bias Based Profiling

The Scranton Police Department does not condone the use of bias based profiling in its enforcement actions. All members shall focus attention on a

person's conduct or other specific 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

All sworn members will receive in-house training in bias based profiling at least once every 3 years. The training will address bias based profiling issues including legal respects.

C. Corrective Measures

All allegations of bias based profiling will be investigated via the Department's internal investigation system upon receipt of a written complaint. Any substantiated allegations of bias based profiling shall result in corrective action. The corrective action may include disciplinary action and training.

D. Administrative Review

The Chief of Police or his/her designee shall conduct an annual administrative review of departmental practices to include citizen concerns and analysis of any bias based profiling complaints.

By Order Of:

Chief Carl R. Graziano
Superintendent of Police
Scranton Police Department