



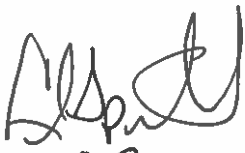
HUNTERSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT


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Cleveland L. Spruill
Chief of Police

Memorandum

DATE: March 29, 2018

TO: CLEVELAND SPRUILL
CHIEF OF POLICE 

Through: MAJOR BARRY GRAHAM
ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAU COMMANDER 

FROM: CAPTAIN SCOTT SHARP 
PATROL OPERATIONS BUREAU COMMANDER

SUBJECT: BIAS BASED POLICING REVIEW

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide documentation of the finding of the Biased Based Policing review for calendar year 2017. The Huntersville Police Department is charged with ensuring it's employees' actions do not violate the constitutional rights of any person, regardless of race, color, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, physical handicap, religion or other belief system.

DATA COLLECTION:

The Huntersville Police Department participates in the traffic stop reporting process established by the North Carolina General Assembly. The North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation provides data on the race, sex, ethnicity, and age of persons stopped, arrested, cited, or warned by Huntersville Police officers. This report is compiled from traffic stop reports submitted by this agency in accordance with NCGS 114-10. Additionally, the Huntersville Police Department records management system is examined for arrests, and citations issued during 2017.

BENCHMARK:

The demographics for the Town of Huntersville and Mecklenburg County are used as a benchmark from which to look for indications of biased based policing. This is based on the percentages of ethnic and racial diversity in the populations of the Town of Huntersville and Mecklenburg County. The 2010 Census Data, and their 2014 projections, is used to get the population and the racial breakdown of Huntersville and Mecklenburg County.

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Mecklenburg County (2010 Census) 2016 Projections (1,053,545)
Town of Huntersville (57,145- 2016 estimate from NC Budget and Management)
http://www.osbm.state.nc.us/ncosbm/facts_and_figures/socioeconomic_data/population_estimates.shtm

Demographics:	Caucasian	African American	Asian	Native American	Hispanic	Male	Female
Mecklenburg County	617,407	348,266	57,197	9,803	148,410	514,130	539,415
Percentage	58.0	33.1	5.4	0.9	14.1	48.8	51.2
Town of Huntersville	43,144	6,286	1,543	285	3,194	28,465	28,580
Percentage	75.5	11.0	2.7	0.4	6.0	49.9	50.1

TRAFFIC STOP DATA NC SBI

Year	Caucasian	African American	Asian	Native American	Hispanic	Male	Female
2017	5,210	2,433	92	1	630	4,683	3,195
Percentage	66	31	1.2	0.01	8	59.5	40.5
2016	4,891	1,906	118	2	567	4,343	2,675
Percentage	70	27	1.7	0.03	8	62	38
2015	4,846	1,732	88	3	493	3,986	2,785
Percentage	71.6	25.6	1.3	0.04	7.2	58.9	41.1
2014	2,820	920	45	1	275	2,327	1,497
Percentage	74	24	1.2	0.01	7	61	39

TRAFFIC STOP DATA RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Year	Caucasian	African American	Asian	Native American	Hispanic	Male	Female
2017	5,211	2,434	92	1	630	4,685	3,195
Percentage	66	31	1.2	0.01	8	59.5	40.5
2016	4,891	1,906	118	2	567	4,343	2,675
Percentage	70	27	1.7	0.03	8	62	38
2015	4,356	1,732	88	3	493	3,988	2,786
Percentage	64.3	25.5	1.3	0.04	7.2	58.9	41.1
2014	2,821	920	45	1	275	2,328	1,497
Percentage	74	24	1.2	0.01	7	61	39

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The historical traffic stops compared to percentages of race and sex do not indicate a problem within the department. The differences between the percentages of a race residing in town and the percentages of a race being stopped can be attributed to the high volume of vehicular traffic traveling the major thoroughfares (Statesville Road and Old Statesville Road) through Huntersville to and from Charlotte, Mooresville, Concord, Lincolnton, out-of-state persons traveling Interstate 77 (a major north/south route), and/or commuters traveling Sam Furr Road (NC Hwy. 73) that links Interstate 77 with Interstate 85. The Huntersville Police Department records indicate the percentages of persons of minority race or ethnicity remain substantially similar from 2014 through 2017.

2014 to 2017 ENFORCEMENT/CITATION COMPARISON

Year	Caucasian	African American	Hispanic	Total
2017	2,006/65%	960/31%	285/9%	3,078
2016	1,584/ 68%	658/ 28%	269/ 12%	2,334
2015	3,012/ 63%	1,033/ 22%	493/ 10%	4,758
2014	2,922/ 63%	796/ 17%	218/ 5%	4,612

**** This data reflects enforcement/citation for Caucasians, African American's, and Hispanic's only.**

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS:

Biased Based Policing Complaints

Complaints from:	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Traffic contacts	0	0	2	0	1	0
Field contacts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Asset Forfeiture	0	0	0	0	0	0

In 2017, there were no citizen complaints or allegations of the Huntersville Police Department engaging in bias-based profiling.

TRAINING:

The department receives annual training in cultural and minority diversity, including 2017. The Department conducts an annual review of the Biased Based Policing Directive (4.16). In 2018 the State of North Carolina has mandated that officers attend Equality in Policing as part of their annual in-service training. Also, supervisory review and monitoring of official records and videos of contacts with citizens stopped by the police officers should provide an early warning of developing patterns indicating bias based policing or racial profiling.

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CONCLUSION:

In 2017, there is no evidence of organizational, or individual, bias based policing within the Huntersville Police Department. The demographic model is a goal because it is intended to represent the community composition. This model does not represent the composition of the motoring public, nor does it necessarily represent the composition of the population receiving police services. However, it does provide a benchmark to gauge police practices. In our case, the disparities are reasonable.

This document is an annual review of the practices of the Huntersville Police Department. This review looks at the variety of citizen stops, as well as citizen complaints. While I have not included all statistical data into a comprehensive analysis on this document, I have examined the data for relevant disparities and then examined what organizational bias may be present. I did not find an organizational bias against any group or class in our community, but statistical data has been climbing. We should continue our efforts to increase awareness and discourage biased based policing, and continue to monitor the data in the coming years.

cc: Rachel Laurenson

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