

# Medina Police Department

Subject: <b>Impartial Policing</b>		Policy Number: <b>1080</b>	<b>Impartial Policing 1080</b>
Reference: <b>POST Mandated Policy</b>		Pages: <b>2</b>	
Personnel: <b>Sworn and Non-Sworn Personnel</b>			
Issue Date: <b>10-01-1997</b>	Revised Date: <b>11-16-2020</b>	Review Date: <b>As Needed</b>	

## **1080.1 – INTRODUCTION**

This policy is a requirement of the Minnesota Peace and Police Officers Standards and Training Board. It was enacted by State law during the 2001 Legislative session.

## **1080.2 – PURPOSE**

This policy is intended to reaffirm our department's commitment to impartial/unbiased policing and to reinforce procedures that serve to assure the public that we are providing service and enforcing laws in a fair and equitable manner to all.

## **1080.3 – DEFINITIONS**

Racial profiling has the meaning given to it in Minn. Stat. 626.8471, Subd. 2. which states: "Racial profiling" means any action initiated by law enforcement that relies upon the race, ethnicity, or national origin of an individual rather than:

1. the behavior of that individual; or
2. information that leads law enforcement to a particular individual who has been identified as being engaged in or having been engaged in criminal activity.  
Racial profiling includes use of racial or ethnic stereotypes as factors in selecting whom to stop and search. Racial profiling does not include law enforcement's use of race or ethnicity to determine whether a person matches a specific description of a particular subject.

## **1080.4 – POLICY**

A. Policing impartially, not racial profiling is standard procedure for this agency meaning:

1. Investigative detention, pedestrian and vehicle 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 United States Constitution. Officers must be able to articulate specific facts, circumstances, and conclusions that support reasonable suspicion or probable cause for investigative detentions, pedestrian and vehicle stops, arrests, nonconsensual searches, and property seizures.

2. Except as provided in paragraph (3), officers shall not consider race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, and religion in establishing the reasonable suspicion or probable cause.
3. Officers may take into account the description in paragraph (2) of a specific suspect(s) based on information that links specific, suspected, unlawful, or suspicious activity to a particular individual or group of individuals. This information may be used in the same manner officers use specific information regarding age, height, weight, etc., about specific suspects.

#### B. Preventing Perception of Biased Policing – Procedural Guidelines

In an effort to prevent the perception of biased law enforcement, officers shall utilize the following guidelines:

1. Be respectful and professional.
2. Introduce or identify yourself to the citizens and state the reason for the contact as soon as practical, unless providing this information will compromise officer of public safety.
3. Ensure that the detention is no longer than necessary to take appropriate action for the known or suspected offense.
4. Attempt to answer any relevant questions the citizen may have regarding the citizen/officer contact, including relevant referrals to other agencies when appropriate.
5. Provide your name and badge number when requested, preferably in writing or on a business card.
6. Explain and/or apologize if you determine that the reasonable suspicion was unfounded. (i.e. after an investigatory stop)

#### **1080.5 – SUPERVISION AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

Supervisors shall ensure that all personnel in their command are familiar with the content of this policy and are operating in compliance.