

The Argyle Police Department Annual Contact Report (2009)



(I) Introduction

Opening Statement

February 9, 2010

Argyle Town Council
Argyle, Texas 76226

Dear Distinguished Members of the Council,

The Texas legislature, in an attempt to address the issue of racial profiling in policing, passed in 2001 the Texas Racial Profiling Law (S.B. 1074). Since becoming effective, the Argyle Police Department, in accordance with the law, has collected citation-based contact data for the purpose of identifying and addressing (if necessary) concerns regarding racial profiling practices by police officers.

In this particular report, you will find sections that contain information on citation-based contact data along with documentation which aims at supporting the fact that the Argyle Police Department has complied with The Texas Racial Profiling Law. You will find, in section 1, the table of contents in addition to the Texas Law on Racial Profiling. Also, in this section, you will have the opportunity to become acquainted with the list of requirements relevant to the Racial Profiling Law as interpreted by TCLEOSE (Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education).

In sections 2 and 3, you will have an opportunity to review documentation which demonstrates compliance of the Argyle Police Department with the Texas Racial Profiling Law. Specifically, documents relevant to the implementation of an institutional policy banning racial profiling, the implementation of a racial profiling complaint process (including the manner in which it has been disclosed to the public) and the training administered to all law enforcement personnel, are included.

This report also contains statistical data relevant to public contacts, made during the course of traffic stops, between 1/1/03 and 12/31/09.

The data and supporting documentation presented in this report support the notion that the Argyle Police Department is committed to the identification and resolution (if necessary) of all issues relevant to racial profiling according to the state law.

Sincerely,

William T. Tackett
Chief of Police

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Texas Racial Profiling Law Requirements

Guidelines for Compiling and Reporting Data under Senate Bill 1074

Background

Senate Bill 1074 of the 77th Legislature established requirements in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure (TCCP) for law enforcement agencies. The Commission developed this document to assist agencies in complying with the statutory requirements.

The guidelines are written in the form of standards using a style developed from accreditation organizations including the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The standards provide a description of *what* must be accomplished by an agency but allows wide latitude in determining *how* the agency will achieve compliance with each applicable standard.

Each standard is composed of two parts: the standard statement and the commentary. The *standard statement* is a declarative sentence that places a clear-cut requirement, or multiple requirements, on an agency. The commentary supports the standard statement but is not binding. The commentary can serve as a prompt, as guidance to clarify the intent of the standard, or as an example of one possible way to comply with the standard.

Standard 1

Each law enforcement agency has a detailed written directive that:

- clearly defines acts that constitute racial profiling;
- strictly prohibits peace officers employed by the agency from engaging in racial profiling;
- implements a process by which an individual may file a complaint with the agency if the individual believes a peace officer employed by the agency has engaged in racial profiling with respect to the individual filing the complaint;
- provides for public education relating to the complaint process;
- requires appropriate corrective action to be taken against a peace officer employed by the agency who, after investigation, is shown to have engaged in racial profiling in violation of the agency's written racial profiling policy; and
- requires the collection of certain types of data for subsequent reporting.

Commentary

Article 2.131 of the TCCP prohibits officers from engaging in racial profiling, and article 2.132 of the TCCP now requires a written policy that contains the elements listed in this standard. The article also specifically defines a law enforcement agency as it applies to this statute as an "agency of the state, or of a county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state, that employs peace officers who make traffic stops in the routine performance of the officers' official duties."

The article further defines race or ethnicity as being of "a particular descent, including Caucasian, African, Hispanic, Asian, or Native American." The statute does not limit the required policies to just these ethnic groups.

This written policy is to be adopted and implemented no later than January 1, 2002.

Standard 2

Each peace officer who stops a motor vehicle for an alleged violation of a law or ordinance regulating traffic, or who stops a pedestrian for any suspected offense reports to the employing law enforcement agency information relating to the stop, to include:

- a physical description of each person detained, including gender and the person's race or ethnicity, as stated by the person, or, if the person does not state a race or ethnicity, as determined by the officer's best judgment;
- the traffic law or ordinance alleged to have been violated or the suspected offense;
- whether the officer conducted a search as a result of the stop and, if so, whether the person stopped consented to the search;
- whether any contraband was discovered in the course of the search, and the type of contraband discovered;
- whether probable cause to search existed, and the facts supporting the existence of that probable cause;
- whether the officer made an arrest as a result of the stop or the search, including a statement of the offense charged;
- the street address or approximate location of the stop; and
- whether the officer issued a warning or citation as a result of the stop, including a description of the warning or a statement of the violation charged.

Commentary

The information required by 2.133 TCCP is used to complete the agency reporting requirements found in Article 2.134. A peace officer and an agency may be exempted from this requirement under Article 2.135 TCCP Exemption for Agencies Using Video and Audio Equipment. An agency may be exempt from this reporting requirement by applying for the funds from the Department of Public Safety for video and audio equipment and the State does not supply those funds. Section 2.135 (a)(2) states, "the governing body of the county or municipality served by the law enforcement agency, in conjunction with the law enforcement agency, certifies to the Department of Public Safety, not later than the date specified by rule by the department, that the law enforcement agency needs funds or video and audio equipment for the purpose of installing video and audio equipment as described by Subsection (a) (1) (A) and the agency does not receive from the state funds for video and audio equipment sufficient, as determined by the department, for the agency to accomplish that purpose."

Standard 3

The agency compiles the information collected under 2.132 and 2.133 and analyzes the information identified in 2.133.

Commentary

Senate Bill 1074 from the 77th Session of the Texas Legislature created requirements for law enforcement agencies to gather specific information and to report it to each county or municipality served. New sections of law were added to the Code of Criminal Procedure regarding the reporting of traffic and pedestrian stops. Detained is defined as when a person stopped is not free to leave.

Article 2.134 TCCP requires the agency to compile and provide and analysis of the information collected by peace officer employed by the agency. The report is provided to the governing body of the municipality or county no later than March 1 of each year and covers the previous calendar year.

There is data collection and reporting required based on Article 2.132 CCP (tier one) and Article 2.133 CCP (tier two).

The minimum requirements for “tier one” data for traffic stops in which a citation results are:

- 1) the race or ethnicity of individual detained (race and ethnicity as defined by the bill means of “a particular descent, including Caucasian, African, Hispanic, Asian, or Native American”);
- 2) whether a search was conducted, and if there was a search, whether it was a consent search or a probable cause search; and
- 3) whether there was a custody arrest.

The minimum requirements for reporting on “tier two” reports include traffic and pedestrian stops. Tier two data include:

- 1) the detained person’s gender and race or ethnicity;
- 2) the type of law violation suspected, e.g., hazardous traffic, non-hazardous traffic, or other criminal investigation (the Texas Department of Public Safety publishes a categorization of traffic offenses into hazardous or non-hazardous);
- 3) whether a search was conducted, and if so whether it was based on consent or probable cause;
- 4) facts supporting probable cause;
- 5) the type, if any, of contraband that was collected;
- 6) disposition of the stop, e.g., arrest, ticket, warning, or release;
- 7) location of stop; and
- 8) statement of the charge, e.g., felony, misdemeanor, or traffic.

Tier one reports are made to the governing body of each county or municipality served by the agency an annual report of information if the agency is an agency of a county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state. Tier one and two reports are reported to the county or municipality not later than March 1 for the previous calendar year beginning March 1, 2003. Tier two reports include a comparative analysis between the race and ethnicity of persons detained to see if a differential pattern of treatment can be discerned based on the disposition of stops including searches resulting from the stops. The reports also include information relating to each complaint filed with the agency alleging that a peace officer employed by the agency has engaged in racial profiling. An agency may be exempt from the tier two reporting requirement by applying for the funds from the Department of Public Safety for video and audio equipment and the State does not supply those funds [See 2.135 (a)(2) TCCP].

Reports should include both raw numbers and percentages for each group. Caution should be exercised in interpreting the data involving percentages because of statistical distortions caused by very small numbers in any particular category, for example, if only one American Indian is stopped and searched, that stop would not provide an accurate comparison with 200 stops among Caucasians with 100 searches. In the first case, a 100% search rate would be skewed data when compared to a 50% rate for Caucasians.

Standard 4

If a law enforcement agency has video and audio capabilities in motor vehicles regularly used for traffic stops, or audio capabilities on motorcycles regularly used to make traffic stops, the agency:

- adopts standards for reviewing and retaining audio and video documentation; and
- promptly provides a copy of the recording to a peace officer who is the subject of a complaint on written request by the officer.

Commentary

The agency should have a specific review and retention policy. Article 2.132 TCCP specifically requires that the peace officer be promptly provided with a copy of the audio or video recordings if the officer is the subject of a complaint and the officer makes a written request.

Standard 5

Agencies that do not currently have video or audio equipment must examine the feasibility of installing such equipment.

Commentary

None

Standard 6

Agencies that have video and audio recording capabilities are exempt from the reporting requirements of Article 2.134 TCCP and officers are exempt from the reporting requirements of Article 2.133 TCCP provided that:

- the equipment was in place and used during the proceeding calendar year; and
- video and audio documentation is retained for at least 90 days.

Commentary

The audio and video equipment and policy must have been in place during the previous calendar year. Audio and video documentation must be kept for at least 90 days or longer if a complaint has been filed. The documentation must be retained until the complaint is resolved. Peace officers are not exempt from the requirements under Article 2.132 TCCP.

Standard 7

Agencies have citation forms or other electronic media that comply with Section 543.202 of the Transportation Code.

Commentary

Senate Bill 1074 changed Section 543.202 of the Transportation Code requiring citations to include:

- race or ethnicity, and
- whether a search of the vehicle was conducted and whether consent for the search was obtained.

The Texas Law on Racial Profiling

AN ACT

relating to the prevention of racial profiling by certain peace officers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 2, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended by adding Articles 2.131 through 2.138 to read as follows:

Art. 2.131. RACIAL PROFILING PROHIBITED. A peace officer may not engage in racial profiling.

Art. 2.132. LAW ENFORCEMENT POLICY ON RACIAL PROFILING. (a) In this article:

(1) "Law enforcement agency" means an agency of the state, or of a county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state, that employs peace officers who make traffic stops in the routine performance of the officers' official duties.

(2) "Race or ethnicity" means of a particular descent, including Caucasian, African, Hispanic, Asian, or Native American descent.

(b) Each law enforcement agency in this state shall adopt a detailed written policy on racial profiling. The policy must:

(1) clearly define acts constituting racial profiling;

(2) strictly prohibit peace officers employed by the agency from engaging in racial profiling;

(3) implement a process by which an individual may file a complaint with the agency if the individual believes that a peace officer employed by the agency has engaged in racial profiling with respect to the individual;

(4) provide public education relating to the agency's complaint process;

(5) require appropriate corrective action to be taken against a peace officer employed by the agency who, after an investigation, is shown to have engaged in racial profiling in violation of the agency's policy adopted under this article;

(6) require collection of information relating to traffic stops in which a citation is issued and to arrests resulting from those traffic stops, including information relating to:

(A) the race or ethnicity of the individual detained; and

(B) whether a search was conducted and, if so, whether the person detained consented to the search; and

(7) require the agency to submit to the governing body of each county or municipality served by the agency an annual report of the information collected under Subdivision (6) if the agency is an agency of a county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state.

(c) The data collected as a result of the reporting requirements of this article shall not constitute prima facie evidence of racial profiling.

(d) On adoption of a policy under Subsection (b), a law enforcement agency shall examine the feasibility of installing video camera and transmitter-activated equipment in each agency law enforcement motor vehicle regularly used to make traffic stops and transmitter-activated equipment in each agency law enforcement motorcycle regularly used to make traffic stops. If a law enforcement agency installs video or audio equipment as provided by this subsection, the policy

adopted by the agency under Subsection (b) must include standards for reviewing video and audio documentation.

(e) A report required under Subsection (b)(7) may not include identifying information about a peace officer who makes a traffic stop or about an individual who is stopped or arrested by a peace officer. This subsection does not affect the collection of information as required by a policy under Subsection (b)(6).

(f) On the commencement of an investigation by a law enforcement agency of a complaint described by Subsection (b)(3) in which a video or audio recording of the occurrence on which the complaint is based was made, the agency shall promptly provide a copy of the recording to the peace officer who is the subject of the complaint on written request by the officer.

Art. 2.133. REPORTS REQUIRED FOR TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIAN STOPS. (a) In this article:

(1) "Race or ethnicity" has the meaning assigned by Article 2.132(a).

(2) "Pedestrian stop" means an interaction between a peace officer and an individual who is being detained for the purpose of a criminal investigation in which the individual is not under arrest.

(b) A peace officer who stops a motor vehicle for an alleged violation of a law or ordinance regulating traffic or who stops a pedestrian for any suspected offense shall report to the law enforcement agency that employs the officer information relating to the stop, including:

(1) a physical description of each person detained as a result of the stop, including:

(A) the person's gender; and

(B) the person's race or ethnicity, as stated by the person or, if the person does not state the person's race or ethnicity, as determined by the officer to the best of the officer's ability;

(2) the traffic law or ordinance alleged to have been violated or the suspected offense;

(3) whether the officer conducted a search as a result of the stop and, if so, whether the person detained consented to the search;

(4) whether any contraband was discovered in the course of the search and the type of contraband discovered;

(5) whether probable cause to search existed and the facts supporting the existence of that probable cause;

(6) whether the officer made an arrest as a result of the stop or the search, including a statement of the offense charged;

(7) the street address or approximate location of the stop; and

(8) whether the officer issued a warning or a citation as a result of the stop, including a description of the warning or a statement of the violation charged.

Art. 2.134. COMPILATION AND ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION COLLECTED. (a) In this article, "pedestrian stop" means an interaction between a peace officer and an individual who is being detained for the purpose of a criminal investigation in which the individual is not under arrest.

(b) A law enforcement agency shall compile and analyze the information contained in each report received by the agency under Article 2.133. Not later than March 1 of each year, each local law enforcement agency shall submit a report containing the information compiled during the previous calendar year to the governing

body of each county or municipality served by the agency in a manner approved by the agency.

(c) A report required under Subsection (b) must include:

(1) a comparative analysis of the information compiled under Article 2.133 to:

(A) determine the prevalence of racial profiling by peace officers employed by the agency; and

(B) examine the disposition of traffic and pedestrian stops made by officers employed by the agency, including searches resulting from the stops; and

(2) information relating to each complaint filed with the agency alleging that a peace officer employed by the agency has engaged in racial profiling.

(d) A report required under Subsection (b) may not include identifying information about a peace officer who makes a traffic or pedestrian stop or about an individual who is stopped or arrested by a peace officer. This subsection does not affect the reporting of information required under Article 2.133(b)(1).

(e) The Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education shall develop guidelines for compiling and reporting information as required by this article.

(f) The data collected as a result of the reporting requirements of this article shall not constitute prima facie evidence of racial profiling.

Art. 2.135. EXEMPTION FOR AGENCIES USING VIDEO AND AUDIO EQUIPMENT. (a) A peace officer is exempt from the reporting requirement under Article 2.133 and a law enforcement agency is exempt from the compilation, analysis, and reporting requirements under Article 2.134 if:

(1) during the calendar year preceding the date that a report under Article 2.134 is required to be submitted:

(A) each law enforcement motor vehicle regularly used by an officer employed by the agency to make traffic and pedestrian stops is equipped with video camera and transmitter-activated equipment and each law enforcement motorcycle regularly used to make traffic and pedestrian stops is equipped with transmitter-activated equipment; and

(B) each traffic and pedestrian stop made by an officer employed by the agency that is capable of being recorded by video and audio or audio equipment, as appropriate, is recorded by using the equipment; or

(2) the governing body of the county or municipality served by the law enforcement agency, in conjunction with the law enforcement agency, certifies to the Department of Public Safety, not later than the date specified by rule by the department, that the law enforcement agency needs funds or video and audio equipment for the purpose of installing video and audio equipment as described by Subsection (a)(1)(A) and the agency does not receive from the state funds or video and audio equipment sufficient, as determined by the department, for the agency to accomplish that purpose.

(b) Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, a law enforcement agency that is exempt from the requirements under Article 2.134 shall retain the video and audio or audio documentation of each traffic and pedestrian stop for at least 90 days after the date of the stop. If a complaint is filed with the law enforcement agency alleging that a peace officer employed by the agency has engaged in racial profiling with respect to a traffic or pedestrian stop, the agency shall retain the video and audio or audio record of the stop until final disposition of the complaint.

(c) This article does not affect the collection or reporting requirements under Article 2.132.

Art. 2.136. LIABILITY. A peace officer is not liable for damages arising from an act relating to the collection or reporting of information as required by Article 2.133 or under a policy adopted under Article 2.132.

Art. 2.137. PROVISION OF FUNDING OR EQUIPMENT.

(a) The Department of Public Safety shall adopt rules for providing funds or video and audio equipment to law enforcement agencies for the purpose of installing video and audio equipment as described by Article 2.135(a)(1)(A), including specifying criteria to prioritize funding or equipment provided to law enforcement agencies. The criteria may include consideration of tax effort, financial hardship, available revenue, and budget surpluses. The criteria must give priority to:

(1) law enforcement agencies that employ peace officers whose primary duty is traffic enforcement;

(2) smaller jurisdictions; and

(3) municipal and county law enforcement agencies.

(b) The Department of Public Safety shall collaborate with an institution of higher education to identify law enforcement agencies that need funds or video and audio equipment for the purpose of installing video and audio equipment as described by Article 2.135(a)(1)(A). The collaboration may include the use of a survey to assist in developing criteria to prioritize funding or equipment provided to law enforcement agencies.

(c) To receive funds or video and audio equipment from the state for the purpose of installing video and audio equipment as described by Article 2.135(a)(1)(A), the governing body of a county or municipality, in conjunction with the law enforcement agency serving the county or municipality, shall certify to the

Department of Public Safety that the law enforcement agency needs funds or video and audio equipment for that purpose.

(d) On receipt of funds or video and audio equipment from the state for the purpose of installing video and audio equipment as described by Article 2.135(a)(1)(A), the governing body of a county or municipality, in conjunction with the law enforcement agency serving the county or municipality, shall certify to the Department of Public Safety that the law enforcement agency has installed video and audio equipment as described by Article 2.135(a)(1)(A) and is using the equipment as required by Article 2.135(a)(1).

Art. 2.138. RULES. The Department of Public Safety may adopt rules to implement Articles 2.131-2.137.

SECTION 2. Chapter 3, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended by adding Article 3.05 to read as follows:

Art. 3.05. RACIAL PROFILING. In this code, "racial profiling" means a law enforcement-initiated action based on an individual's race, ethnicity, or national origin rather than on the individual's behavior or on information identifying the individual as having engaged in criminal activity.

SECTION 3. Section 96.641, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (j) to read as follows:

(j) As part of the initial training and continuing education for police chiefs required under this section, the institute shall establish a program on racial profiling. The program must include an examination of the best practices for:

(1) monitoring peace officers' compliance with laws and internal agency policies relating to racial profiling;

(2) implementing laws and internal agency policies relating to preventing racial profiling; and

(3) analyzing and reporting collected information.

SECTION 4. Section 1701.253, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(e) As part of the minimum curriculum requirements, the commission shall establish a statewide comprehensive education and training program on racial profiling for officers licensed under this chapter. An officer shall complete a program established under this subsection not later than the second anniversary of the date the officer is licensed under this chapter or the date the officer applies for an intermediate proficiency certificate, whichever date is earlier.

SECTION 5. Section 1701.402, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) As a requirement for an intermediate proficiency certificate, an officer must complete an education and training program on racial profiling established by the commission under Section 1701.253(e).

SECTION 6. Section 543.202, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 543.202. FORM OF RECORD. (a) In this section, "race or ethnicity" means of a particular descent, including Caucasian, African, Hispanic, Asian, or Native American descent.

(b) The record must be made on a form or by a data processing method acceptable to the department and must include:

- (1) the name, address, physical description, including race or ethnicity, date of birth, and driver's license number of the person charged;
- (2) the registration number of the vehicle involved;
- (3) whether the vehicle was a commercial motor vehicle as defined by Chapter 522 or was involved in transporting hazardous materials;

(4) the person's social security number, if the person was operating a commercial motor vehicle or was the holder of a commercial driver's license or commercial driver learner's permit;

(5) the date and nature of the offense, including whether the offense was a serious traffic violation as defined by Chapter 522;

(6) whether a search of the vehicle was conducted and whether consent for the search was obtained;

(7) the plea, the judgment, and whether bail was forfeited;

(8) [~~7~~] the date of conviction; and

(9) [~~8~~] the amount of the fine or forfeiture.

SECTION 7. Not later than January 1, 2002, a law enforcement agency shall adopt and implement a policy and begin collecting information under the policy as required by Article 2.132, Code of Criminal Procedure, as added by this Act. A local law enforcement agency shall first submit information to the governing body of each county or municipality served by the agency as required by Article 2.132, Code of Criminal Procedure, as added by this Act, on March 1, 2003. The first submission of information shall consist of information compiled by the agency during the period beginning January 1, 2002, and ending December 31, 2002.

SECTION 8. A local law enforcement agency shall first submit information to the governing body of each county or municipality served by the agency as required by Article 2.134, Code of Criminal Procedure, as added by this Act, on March 1, 2004. The first submission of information shall consist of information compiled by the agency during the period beginning January 1, 2003, and ending December 31, 2003.

SECTION 9. Not later than January 1, 2002:

(1) the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education shall establish an education and training program on racial profiling as required by Subsection (e), Section 1701.253, Occupations Code, as added by this Act; and

(2) the Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas shall establish a program on racial profiling as required by Subsection (j), Section 96.641, Education Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 10. A person who on the effective date of this Act holds an intermediate proficiency certificate issued by the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education or has held a peace officer license issued by the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education for at least two years shall complete an education and training program on racial profiling established under Subsection (e), Section 1701.253, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, not later than September 1, 2003.

SECTION 11. An individual appointed or elected as a police chief before the effective date of this Act shall complete a program on racial profiling established under Subsection (j), Section 96.641, Education Code, as added by this Act, not later than September 1, 2003.

SECTION 12. This Act takes effect September 1, 2001.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1074 passed the Senate on April 4, 2001, by the following vote: Yeas 28, Nays 2; May 21, 2001, Senate refused to concur in House amendments and requested appointment of Conference Committee; May 22, 2001, House granted request of the Senate; May 24, 2001, Senate adopted Conference Committee Report by a viva-voce vote.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1074 passed the House, with amendments, on May 15, 2001, by a non-record vote; May 22, 2001, House granted request of the Senate for appointment of Conference Committee; May 24, 2001, House adopted Conference Committee Report by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor

(II) Responding to the Law

Institutional Policy on Racial Profiling

CHAPTER 36

RACIAL PROFILING/MOBILE VIDEO SYSTEMS

SECTION 1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to reaffirm the Argyle Police Department's commitment to unbiased policing in all its encounters between officer and any person; to reinforce procedures that serve to ensure public confidence and mutual trust through the provision of services in a fair and equitable fashion; and to protect our officers from unwarranted accusations of misconduct when they act within the dictates of departmental policy and the law.

SECTION 2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to police in a proactive manner and, to aggressively investigate suspected violations of the law. Officers shall actively enforce state and federal laws in a responsible and professional manner, without regard to race, ethnicity or national origin. Officers are strictly prohibited from engaging in racial profiling as defined in this policy. This policy shall be applicable to all persons, whether drivers, passengers or pedestrians.

This policy shall not preclude officers from offering assistance, such as upon observing a substance leaking from a vehicle, a flat tire, or someone who appears to be ill, lost or confused. Nor does this policy prohibit stopping someone suspected of a crime based upon observed actions and/or information received about the person.

The providing of police services requires numerous contacts between police officers and citizens, some which are made under adverse conditions. In order to protect the department, its officers and the citizens we serve, it is imperative that an accurate record of citizen/officer interactions be maintained when possible. Mobile Video Systems have demonstrated to be of value in the prosecution of both criminal and traffic related offenses. It has shown additional value in timely resolutions of citizen complaints and officer training.

It is the policy of the Argyle Police Department to record all citizen contacts, when possible, using video and audio equipment. For this purpose, a Mobile Video System (MVS) has been installed in all marked patrol vehicles.

SECTION 3 DEFINITIONS

Racial Profiling - a law enforcement-initiated actions based on an individual's race, ethnicity, or national origin rather than on the individual's behavior or on information identifying the individual as having engaged in criminal activity.

Racial profiling pertains to persons who are viewed as suspects or potential suspects of criminal behavior. The term is not relevant as it pertains to witnesses, complainants or other citizen contacts.

The prohibition against racial profiling does not preclude the use of race, ethnicity or national origin as factors in a detention decision. Race, ethnicity or national origin may be legitimate factors in a detention decision when used as a part of an actual description of a specific suspect for whom an officer is searching. Detaining an individual and conducting an inquiry into that person's activities simply because of that individual's race, ethnicity or national origin is racial profiling. Examples of racial profiling include but are not limited to the following:

1. Citing a driver who is speeding in a stream of traffic where most other drivers are speeding because of the cited driver's race, ethnicity or national origin.
2. Detaining the driver of a vehicle based on the determination that a person of that race, ethnicity or national origin is unlikely to own or possess that specific make or model of vehicle.
3. Detaining an individual based upon the determination that a person of that race, ethnicity or national origin does not belong in a specific part of town or a specific place.

Race or Ethnicity - Of a particular decent, including Caucasian, African, Hispanic, Asian, or Native American.

Pedestrian Stop - An interaction between a peace officer and an individual who is being detained for the purpose of a criminal investigation in which the individual is not under arrest.

Traffic Stop - An interaction between a peace officer and an individual who has been stopped in a motor vehicle or bicycle for an alleged violation of a law or ordinance regulating traffic.

SECTION 4 TRAINING

Officers are responsible to adhere to all Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE) training or the Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas (LEMIT) requirement as mandated by law.

SECTION 5 COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION

Complaints against an officer will be handled as addressed in Chapter 2, Disciplinary Actions, of this manual.

If a racial profiling complaint is sustained against an officer, it will result in appropriate corrective and/or disciplinary actions, up to and including termination.

SECTION 6 PUBLIC EDUCATION

This department will inform the public of its policy against racial profiling and the complaint process. Methods that may be utilized to inform the public are the news media, radio, service or civic presentations, the Internet, as well as Town Council meetings.

SECTION 7 CITATION DATA COLLECTION & REPORTING

An officer is required to collect information relating to traffic stops in which a citation is issued. On the citation officers must include:

1. The violators race or ethnicity;
2. Whether a search was conducted;
3. Was the search consensual; and
4. Arrest for this cited violation or any other violation.

By March 1st of each year, the department shall submit a report to the Town Council that includes the information gathered by the citations. The report will include:

1. A breakdown of citations by race or ethnicity;
2. Number of citations that resulted in a search;
3. Number of searches that were consensual; and
4. Number of citations that resulted in custodial arrest for this cited violation or any other violation.

SECTION 8 USE OF VIDEO AND AUDIO EQUIPMENT

A. Program Objectives

This agency has adopted the use of in-car audio/video recordings, in order to accomplish several objectives including:

1. Accurate documentation of events, actions, conditions and statements made during arrest and critical incidents so as to enhance officer reports, collection of evidence and testimony in court, and;
 2. The enhancement of this agency's ability to review probable cause for arrest, arrest procedures, officer and suspect

interaction, and evidence for investigative purposes, as well as for officer evaluation and training.

3. Provide this department and its officers some protection from frivolous or fabricated misconduct complaints.

Each motor vehicle regularly used by this department to make traffic and pedestrian stops is equipped with a video camera and transmitter-activated equipment; and

Each traffic, citizen contact and pedestrian stop made by an officer of this department that is capable of being recorded by video and audio, or audio, as appropriate, is recorded.

This department shall retain the video of each traffic and pedestrian stop for at least ninety (90) days after the date of the stop. If a complaint is filed with this department alleging officer misconduct or that one of our officers has engaged in racial profiling with respect to a traffic or pedestrian stop, this department shall retain the video of the stop until final disposition of the complaint.

Supervisors will ensure officers of this department are recording their traffic and pedestrian stops. A recording of each officer will be reviewed at least once every ninety (90) days.

If the equipment used to record traffic or pedestrian stops is malfunctioning or otherwise not operable, the officer making the stop will record and report the appropriate information as required by law.

SECTION 9 MOBILE VIDEO SYSTEMS PROCEDURES

Officers shall adhere to the following procedures when utilizing the MVS equipment:

1. MVS equipment installed in vehicles is the responsibility of the officer assigned to that vehicle and will be maintained according to manufacturer's recommendations.
2. Prior to each shift, officers shall determine whether their MVS equipment is working satisfactorily and shall bring any problems at this or other times to the attention of their immediate supervisor as soon as possible.
3. Officers shall not erase, or in any manner alter MVS settings. Video will only be erased by a supervisor, after the retention period has expired.
4. Officers are encouraged to inform their supervisor of any video sequences that may be of value for training purposes.

SECTION 11 TAPES FOR EVIDENCE

1. Whenever an officer has captured anything on tape that is or may become evidence in a criminal case, the tape will be submitted as evidence. Since MVS are digital, this is most likely to occur as a result of a Driving While Intoxicated arrest and the video of the intoxilyzer room.
 2. The proper offense and evidence forms will be completed. The tape will be processed by transferring it to DVD and the original secured in an evidence locker.

SECTION 12 VIDEO FOR DOCUMENTATION

1. Anytime an officer believes an incident needs to be kept for the officer's protection or the protection of the department, the officer will notify his/her supervisor of the following:
 - (a) Date and time;
 - (b) Report or citation number;
 - (c) Officer's name; and
 - (d) Reason for hold.

Complaint Process: Informing the Public and Addressing Allegations of Racial Profiling Practices

Informing the Public on the Process of Filing a Racial Profiling Complaint with the Argyle Police Department

Since January 1, 2002, the Argyle Police Department, in accordance to The Texas Racial Profiling law, launched an educational campaign aimed at informing the public on issues relevant to the complaint process. The police department made available, in print and on the website, information relevant to filing a complaint on a racial profiling violation by an Argyle police officer.

The Argyle Police Department included language, in its current complaint process, pertaining to the manner in which citizens can file a complaint as a consequence of a racial profiling incident. It is believed that through these efforts, the community has been properly informed of the new policies and the complaint processes relevant to racial profiling.

Racial Profiling Training

Racial Profiling Training

Since 2002, all Argyle police officers were instructed, as specified in S.B. 1074, to adhere to all Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE) training and the Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas (LEMIT) requirements. To date, all sworn officers of the Argyle Police Department have completed the TCLEOSE basic training. The main outline used to train the officers of Argyle Police Department has been included in this report.

It is important to recognize that the Chief of the Argyle Police Department has also met the training requirements, as specified by the Texas Racial Profiling Law, in the completion of the LEMIT program on racial profiling. The satisfactory completion of the racial profiling training by the sworn personnel of the Argyle Police Department fulfills the training requirement as specified in the Education Code (96.641) of the Texas Racial Profiling Law.

Racial Profiling
Course Number 3256
Texas Commission on Law Enforcement
September 2001

Racial Profiling 3256

Instructor's Note:

You may wish to teach this course in conjunction with Asset Forfeiture 3255 because of the related subject matter and applicability of the courses. If this course is taught in conjunction with Asset Forfeiture, you may report it under Combined Profiling and Forfeiture 3257 to reduce data entry.

Abstract

This instructor guide is designed to meet the educational requirement for racial profiling established by legislative mandate: 77R-SB1074.

Target Population: Licensed law enforcement personnel in Texas

Prerequisites: Experience as a law enforcement officer

Length of Course: A suggested instructional time of 4 hours

Material Requirements: Overhead projector, chalkboard and/or flip charts, video tape player, handouts, practical exercises, and demonstrations

Instructor Qualifications: Instructors should be very knowledgeable about traffic stop procedures and law enforcement issues

Evaluation Process and Procedures

An examination should be given. The instructor may decide upon the nature and content of the examination. It must, however, sufficiently demonstrate the mastery of the subject content by the student.

Reference Materials

Reference materials are located at the end of the course. An electronic copy of this instructor guide may be downloaded from our web site at <http://www.tcleose.state.tx.us>.

Racial Profiling 3256

1.0 RACIAL PROFILING AND THE LAW

1.1 UNIT GOAL: The student will be able to identify the legal aspects of racial profiling.

1.1.1 LEARNING OBJECTIVE: The student will be able to identify the legislative requirements placed upon peace officers and law enforcement agencies regarding racial profiling.

Racial Profiling Requirements:

Racial profiling CCP 3.05

Racial profiling prohibited CCP 2.131

Law enforcement policy on racial profiling CCP 2.132

Reports required for traffic and pedestrian stops CCP 2.133

Liability CCP 2.136

Racial profiling education for police chiefs Education Code 96.641

Training program Occupations Code 1701.253

Training required for intermediate certificate Occupations Code 1701.402

Definition of "race or ethnicity" for form Transportation Code 543.202

A. Written departmental policies

1. Definition of what constitutes racial profiling
2. Prohibition of racial profiling
3. Complaint process
4. Public education
5. Corrective action
6. Collection of traffic-stop statistics
7. Annual reports

B. Not prima facie evidence

C. Feasibility of use of video equipment

D. Data does not identify officer

E. Copy of complaint-related video evidence to officer in question

F. Vehicle stop report

1. Physical description of detainees: gender, race or ethnicity
2. Alleged violation
3. Consent to search
4. Contraband
5. Facts supporting probable cause
6. Arrest
7. Warning or citation issued

G. Compilation and analysis of data

H. Exemption from reporting – audio/video equipment

I. Officer non-liability

J. Funding

K. Required training in racial profiling

1. Police chiefs

2. All holders of intermediate certificates and/or two-year-old licenses as of 09/01/2001 (training to be completed no later than 09/01/2003) – see legislation 77R-SB1074

1.1.2 LEARNING OBJECTIVE: The student will become familiar with Supreme Court decisions and other court decisions involving appropriate actions in traffic stops.

A. Whren v. United States, 517 U.S. 806, 116 S.Ct. 1769 (1996)

1. Motor vehicle search exemption

2. Traffic violation acceptable as pretext for further investigation

3. Selective enforcement can be challenged

B. Terry v. Ohio, 392 U.S. 1, 88 S.Ct. 1868 (1968)

1. Stop & Frisk doctrine

2. Stopping and briefly detaining a person

3. Frisk and pat down

C. Other cases

1. Pennsylvania v. Mimms, 434 U.S. 106, 98 S.Ct. 330 (1977)

2. Maryland v. Wilson, 117 S.Ct. 882 (1997)

3. Graham v. State, 119 MdApp 444, 705 A.2d 82 (1998)

4. Pryor v. State, 122 Md.App. 671 (1997) cert. denied 352 Md. 312, 721 A.2d 990 (1998)

5. Ferris v. State, 355 Md. 356, 735 A.2d 491 (1999)

6. New York v. Belton, 453 U.S. 454 (1981)

2.0 RACIAL PROFILING AND THE COMMUNITY

2.1 UNIT GOAL: The student will be able to identify logical and social arguments against racial profiling.

2.1.1 LEARNING OBJECTIVE: The student will be able to identify logical and social arguments against racial profiling.

A. There are appropriate reasons for unusual traffic stops (suspicious behavior, the officer's intuition, MOs, etc.), but police work must stop short of cultural stereotyping and racism

B. Racial profiling would result in criminal arrests, but only because it would target all members of a race randomly – the minor benefits would be far outweighed by the distrust and anger towards law enforcement by minorities and the public as a whole

C. Racial profiling is self-fulfilling bad logic: if you believed that minorities committed more crimes, then you might look for more minority criminals, and find them in disproportionate numbers

D. Inappropriate traffic stops generate suspicion and antagonism towards officers and make future stops more volatile – a racially-based stop today can throw suspicion on tomorrow's legitimate stop

E. By focusing on race, you would not only be harassing innocent citizens, but overlooking criminals of all races and backgrounds – it is a waste of law enforcement resources

3.0 RACIAL PROFILING VERSUS REASONABLE SUSPICION

3.1 UNIT GOAL: The student will be able to identify the elements of both inappropriate and appropriate traffic stops.

3.1.1 LEARNING OBJECTIVE: The student will be able to identify elements of a racially motivated traffic stop.

A. Most race-based complaints come from vehicle stops, often since race is used as an inappropriate substitute for drug courier profile elements

B. "DWB" – "Driving While Black" – a nickname for the public perception that a Black person may be stopped solely because of their race (especially with the suspicion that they are a drug courier), often extended to other minority groups or activities as well ("Driving While Brown," "Flying While Black," etc.)

C. A typical traffic stop resulting from racial profiling

1. The vehicle is stopped on the basis of a minor or contrived traffic violation which is used as a pretext for closer inspection of the vehicle, driver, and passengers

2. The driver and passengers are questioned about things that do not relate to the traffic violation

3. The driver and passengers are ordered out of the vehicle
4. The officers visually check all observable parts of the vehicle
5. The officers proceed on the assumption that drug courier work is involved by detaining the driver and passengers by the roadside
6. The driver is asked to consent to a vehicle search – if the driver refuses, the officers use other procedures (waiting on a canine unit, criminal record checks, license-plate checks, etc.), and intimidate the driver (with the threat of detaining him/her, obtaining a warrant, etc.)

3.1.2 LEARNING OBJECTIVE: The student will be able to identify elements of a traffic stop which would constitute reasonable suspicion of drug courier activity.

- A. Drug courier profile (adapted from a profile developed by the DEA)
1. Driver is nervous or anxious beyond the ordinary anxiety and cultural communication styles
 2. Signs of long-term driving (driver is unshaven, has empty food containers, etc.)
 3. Vehicle is rented
 4. Driver is a young male, 20-35
 5. No visible luggage, even though driver is traveling
 6. Driver was over-reckless or over-cautious in driving and responding to signals
 7. Use of air fresheners
- B. Drug courier activity indicators by themselves are usually not sufficient to justify a stop

3.1.3 LEARNING OBJECTIVE: The student will be able to identify elements of a traffic stop which could constitute reasonable suspicion of criminal activity.

- A. Thinking about the totality of circumstances in a vehicle stop
- B. Vehicle exterior
1. Non-standard repainting (esp. on a new vehicle)
 2. Signs of hidden cargo (heavy weight in trunk, windows do not roll down, etc.)
 3. Unusual license plate suggesting a switch (dirty plate, bugs on back plate, etc.)
 4. Unusual circumstances (pulling a camper at night, kids' bikes with no kids, etc.)
- C. Pre-stop indicators
1. Not consistent with traffic flow
 2. Driver is overly cautious, or driver/passengers repeatedly look at police car
 3. Driver begins using a car- or cell-phone when signaled to stop
 4. Unusual pull-over behavior (ignores signals, hesitates, pulls onto new street, moves objects in car, etc.)

D. Vehicle interior

1. Rear seat or interior panels have been opened, there are tools or spare tire, etc.
2. Inconsistent items (anti-theft club with a rental, unexpected luggage, etc.)

Resources

Proactive Field Stops Training Unit – Instructor's Guide, Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions, 2001. (See Appendix A.)

Web address for legislation 77R-SB1074:

<http://tlo2.tlc.state.tx.us/tlo/77r/billtext/SB01074F.htm>

Report on Complaints

Report on Racial Profiling Complaints

The following table contains data regarding officers that have been the subject of a complaint, during the time period of 1/1/09---12/31/09, based on allegations related to possible violations of the Texas Racial Profiling Law. The final disposition of the case is also included.

A check above indicates that the Argyle Police Department has not received any complaints, as outlined in the law, on any members of its police force, for having violated the Texas Racial Profiling Law during the time period of 1/1/09 ---- 12/31/09.

Complaints Filed for Possible Violations of The Texas Racial Profiling Law.

Complaint No.	Alleged Violation			Disposition of the Case
None	None			None

Additional Comments:

Tables Illustrating Traffic Contact

Tier 1 Data

(I) Tier 1 Data

Traffic-Related Contact Information (1/1/09—12/31/09)

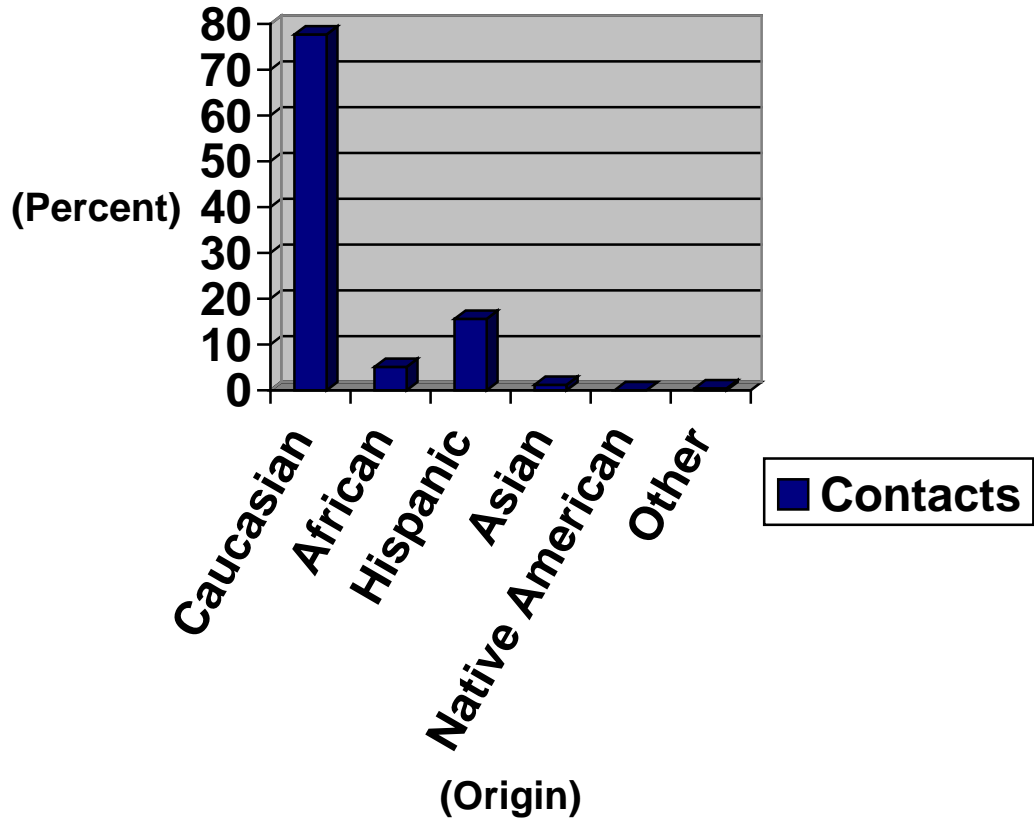
Race/Ethnicity*	Contacts		Searches		Consensual Searches		PC Searches		Custody Arrests	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Caucasian	2278	77.7	19	79.2	8	66.7	11	91.7	10	71.4
African	148	5.1	1	4.2	1	8.3	0	0	1	7.1
Hispanic	457	15.6	4	16.7	3	25	1	8.3	2	14.3
Asian	36	1.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7.1
Native American	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	11	.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2930		24		12		12		14	

“N” represents “number” of traffic-related contacts

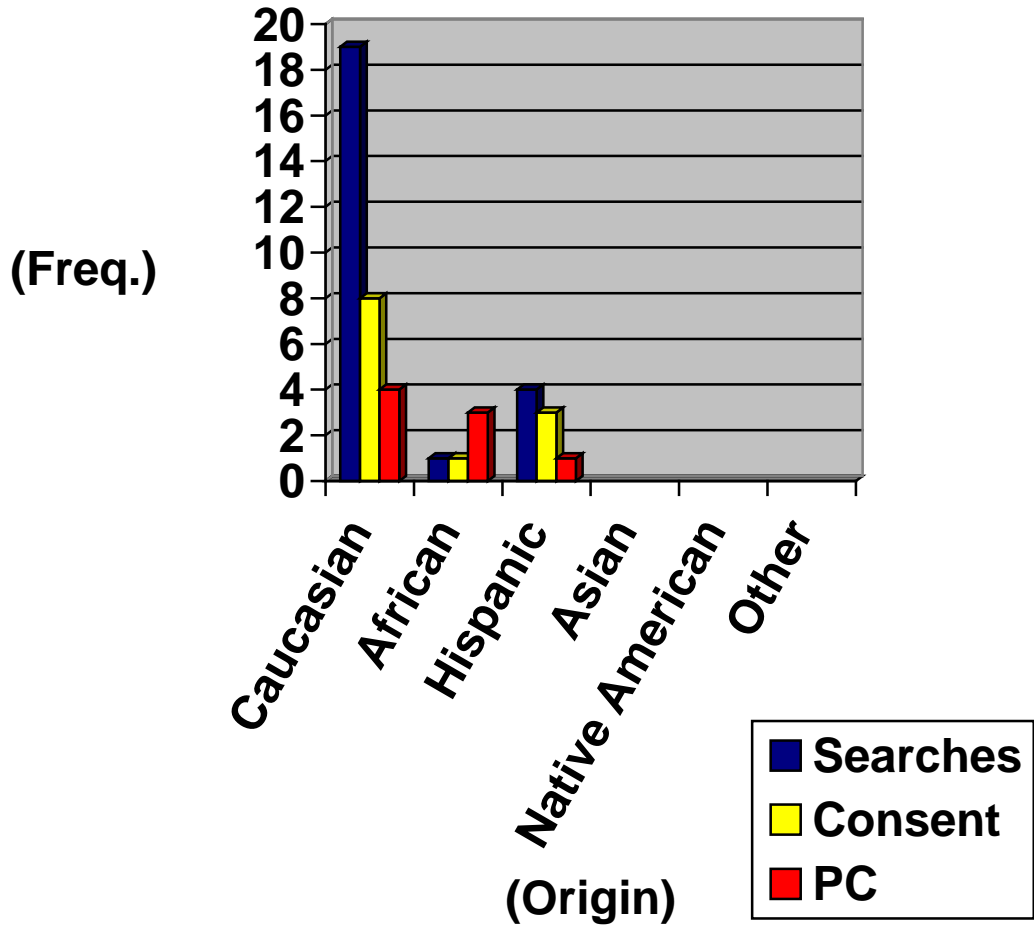
* Race/Ethnicity is defined by Senate Bill 1074 as being of a “particular descent, including Caucasian, African, Hispanic, Asian, or Native American”.

**Figure has been rounded

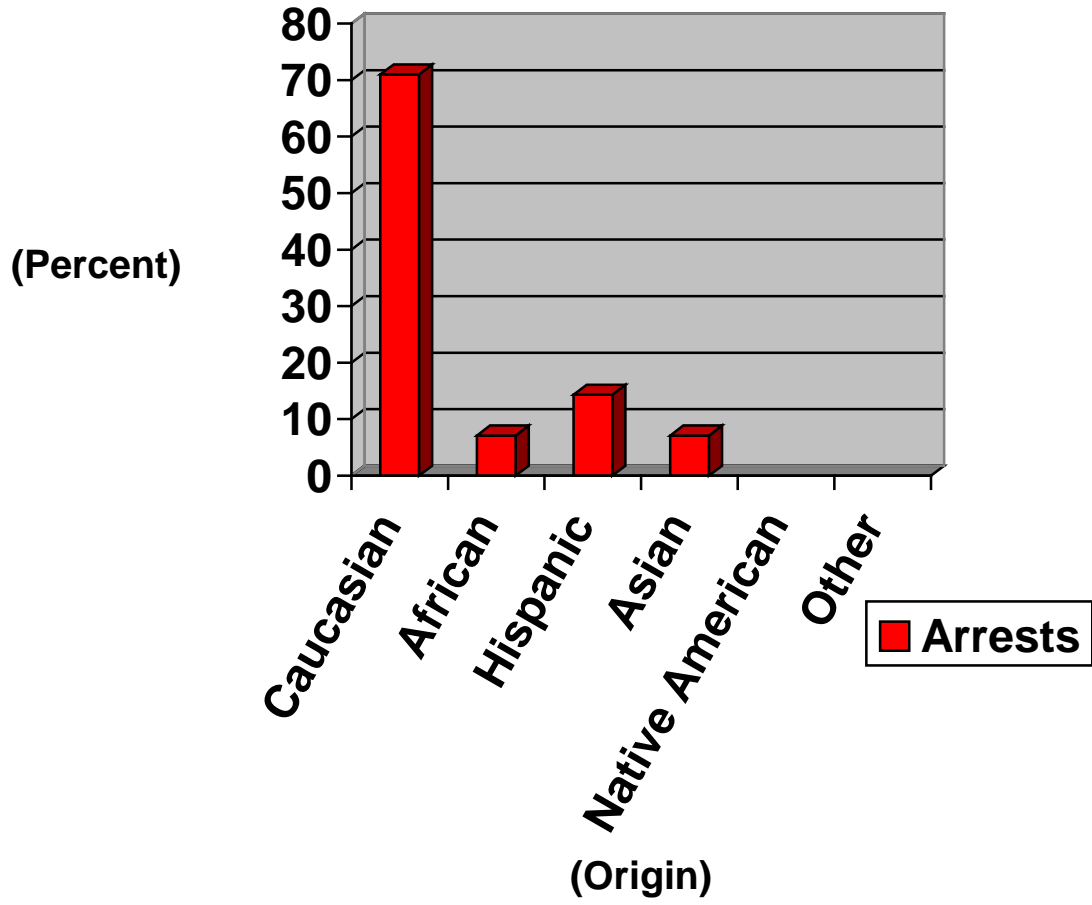
Tier 1 Data (Contacts)



Tier 1 Data (Searches)



Tier 1 Data (Arrests)



Tier 1 Data
(Seven-Year Comparative Analysis)
(2003—2009)

(III) Seven-Year Tier 1 Data Comparison

Comparison of Seven-Year Traffic-Related Contact Information (1/1/03---12/31/09)

Race/Ethnicity*	Traffic-Related Contacts (in percentages)							
		(03)	(04)	(05)	(06)	(07)	(08)	(09)
Caucasian		77	77.3	74.8	77.4	71.9	74	77.7
African		6	5.3	6.6	5.3	6	5.8	5.1
Hispanic		15	15.8	16	16.5	20.1	17.8	14.3
Asian		>1	.7	1.5	.5	1.6	2.1	1.2
Native American		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other		1.5	.8	1.2	.3	.4	.3	.4
Total								

* Race/Ethnicity is defined by Texas Senate Bill 1074 as being of a “particular descent, including Caucasian, African, Hispanic, Asian, or Native American”.

** Figure has been rounded.

**Comparison of Seven-Year Traffic-Related Search Information
(1/1/03---12/31/09)**

Race/Ethnicity*	Search-Related Contacts (in percentages)							
		(03)	(04)	(05)	(06)	(07)	(08)	(09)
Caucasian		79	69	39	18	16	17	79
African		4	7	7	0	1	0	4.2
Hispanic		23	12	9	0	2	4	16.7
Asian								0
Native American								0
Other								0
Total								

* Race/Ethnicity is defined by Texas Senate Bill 1074 as being of a “particular descent, including Caucasian, African, Hispanic, Asian, or Native American”.

** Figure has been rounded.

**Comparison of Seven-Year Traffic-Related Arrest Information
(1/1/03---12/31/09)**

Race/Ethnicity*	Traffic-Related Contacts							
		(03)	(04)	(05)	(06)	(07)	(08)	(09)
Caucasian		49	51	42	19	15	10	10
African		3	3	2	0	1	0	1
Hispanic		23	9	8	0	5	2	2
Asian		0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Native American		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		75	63	52	19	21	12	14

* Race/Ethnicity is defined by Texas Senate Bill 1074 as being of a “particular descent, including Caucasian, African, Hispanic, Asian, or Native American”.

** Figure has been rounded.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

Analysis

According to the Texas Racial Profiling Law all police departments in the state are required to collect data when a traffic-related citation is issued or an arrest is made. In addition, the law requires that agencies report this information to their local governing authority once a year by March 1. The purpose in collecting and presenting this information is to determine if a particular police officer is engaging in the practice of profiling minority motorists. Despite the fact most agree that it is good practice for police departments to be accountable to their community, it is very difficult to determine, from the review of aggregate data, if police departments are engaging in racial profiling. That is, it is challenging to detect specific “individual” racist behavior from the study and analysis of aggregate-level “institutional” data on traffic-related contacts.

It should be noted that the Argyle Police Department, in response to the requirements of The Texas Racial Profiling Law (S.B. 1074), reported and analyzed its 2009 traffic contact data. Thus, two different types of analyses were conducted. The first of these involved a careful evaluation of the 2009 traffic-stop data. This particular analysis measured, as required by the Texas Racial Profiling Law, the number and percentage of Caucasians, African Americans, Hispanics, Asians, Native Americans, and individuals belonging to the “other” category, that came in contact with the police and were issued a traffic-related citation or arrested in 2009. In addition, the analysis included information relevant to the number and percentage of searches (table 1) while indicating the type of search (i.e., consensual or probable cause) conducted. Finally, the data analysis highlighted the number and percentage of individuals who, after they were issued a citation, were subsequently arrested.

Finally, analysis was conducted while using the 2003--2009 traffic contact data. Specifically, all traffic-related contacts made in 2009 were compared to similar figures reported from 2003 to 2008. When considering this analysis, it was determined that comparing eight years of traffic contact data may highlight possible areas of consistency with regards to traffic-related contacts. In other words, the seven-year comparison has the potential of revealing indicators that a trend of police-initiated contacts with regards to members of a specific minority group, is in fact, developing. The overall analysis of data indicates that the Argyle Police Department is very consistent in the percentages of drivers stopped from year to year in any given category, regardless of the amount of traffic contacts.

Tier 1 (2009) Traffic-Related Contact Analysis

The Tier 1 data collected in 2009 showed that the Argyle Police Department does not currently experience a problem regarding racial profiling practices. This is supported by the fact that it has not received any complaints from community members, or any other citizen regarding officer misconduct association with racial profiling practices.

Seven-Year Comparison

The seven-year comparison (03-09) showed similarities with respect to the traffic-related contacts. As evident in table 3, the percentage of drivers does not significantly vary from year to year regardless of the amount of traffic contacts.

(III) Summary

Checklist

Checklist

The following requirements **were** met by the Argyle Police Department in accordance with Senate Bill 1074:

- Clearly defined act or actions that constitute racial profiling
- Statement indicating prohibition of any peace officer employed by the Argyle Police Department from engaging in racial profiling
- Implement a process by which an individual may file a complaint regarding racial profiling violations
- Provide public education related to the complaint process
- Implement disciplinary guidelines for officer found in violation of the Texas Racial Profiling Law
- Collect data (Tier 1) that includes information on
 - a) Race and ethnicity of individual detained
 - b) Whether a search was conducted
 - c) If there was a search, whether it was a consent search or a probable cause search
 - d) Whether a custody arrest took place
- Produce an annual report on police contacts (Tier 1) and present this to local governing body by March 1, 2010.
- Adopt a policy, if video/audio equipment is installed, on standards for reviewing video and audio documentation

Contact Information

Contact Information

For additional questions regarding the information presented in this report, please contact:

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Argyle Police Department
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Argyle, Texas 76226

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