



Auburndale Police Department

Office of the Chief of Police

Statement on Biased Policing

It is the policy of the Auburndale Police Department to enforce the law in a fair and impartial manner, recognizing both the statutory and judicial limitations of police authority while protecting the rights of all persons. To this end, enforcement action including, but not limited to, vehicle stops, the stop and frisk of individuals, arrests, searches and seizures, the application of protective action, and the initiation of forfeiture proceedings must be based solely on law, departmental policy, and articulable facts.

“Biased policing” is the selection of an individual for some sort of enforcement action based solely upon specified characteristics found within a particular group. This includes, but is not limited to race, ethnic background, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, socioeconomic status, age, disability, cultural group, or any other legally protected characteristics.

Enforcement members will receive initial and ongoing training related to this topic. These training programs will emphasize the need to respect the rights of all citizens. Examples of this training include, but are not limited to traffic stops, search issues, asset seizure and forfeiture, interview techniques, cultural diversity, discrimination, and interpersonal communication skills.

In order to conduct a temporary detention stop, enforcement members must have reasonable suspicion, supported by specific articulated facts, that the person stopped as a result of their activity or location has been, is, or is about to commit a crime/violation, or is currently presenting a threat to the safety of themselves or others.

The Auburndale Police Department prohibits the use of biased policing practices. Members found in violation of this mandate will be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, termination.

Professional Standards will be responsible for an annual administrative review and summary of the department’s biased policing complaints for the year, including the outcome and findings of those investigations. This will also include a review of agency practices and citizen concerns.

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