



GENERAL ORDER

Loudoun County Sheriff's Office

Chapter: Operations	Section: 401.2	
Subject: Operational Functions	Topic: Non-Biased Policing	
Accreditation: A.02.06	Revised:	Reaffirmed:
Enacted: 07/30/2015	Last Review: 09/08/2020	Review: 11/01/2020

I. PURPOSE

It is the policy of the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office to treat citizens and visitors in a fair, unbiased, and professional manner regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

II. POLICY

The purpose of this General Order is to provide written procedures in order to avoid practices that undermine the public trust, such as racial profiling or biased policing.

III. DEFINITIONS

Biased Policing: The unlawful practice of singling out or treating any person or persons differently due to their race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

IV. PROCEDURE

- A. All law enforcement-initiated actions by deputies, which include investigative detentions, traffic stops, arrests, searches and seizures of persons and/or property, will be based on a standard of reasonable suspicion or probable cause as required by the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and statutory authority, as well as case law interpreting the same.
- B. Deputies must be able to articulate specific facts, circumstances and conclusions that support probable cause or reasonable suspicion for arrests, traffic stops, or investigative detentions.
- C. Deputies shall not consider race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation in establishing either reasonable suspicion, probable cause, or as a basis for requesting consent to search.
- D. Deputies may take into account the reported race, ethnicity or national origin of a specific suspect or suspects in the same way they would use specific information regarding age, height, weight, etc. about specific suspects.
- E. All complaints of biased policing shall be thoroughly investigated through the agency's Internal Affairs Unit.

V. TRAINING

All sworn deputies shall receive initial and on-going training in proactive enforcement tactics, to include cultural diversity, courtesy, and interpersonal communications skills through the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Academy, Loudoun County Department of Human Resources, outside agency seminars, roll call training, and memorandums.