

A Commitment to Bias-Free Policing

It is the policy of the City of Doral Police Department to provide police services that are fair, unbiased, judicious, and respectful of the dignity of all persons. The Department's legitimate objective to protect the public by enforcing the law shall be reached through enforcement actions that safeguard the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. In order to accomplish this, the City of Doral Police Department prohibits bias-based profiling by its members.

A fundamental right guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States is equal protection under the law. Along with this right to equal protection is the fundamental right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures by government agents as guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment. Citizens are free to walk and drive our streets, highways, and other public places without police interference so long as they obey the law. They are also entitled to be free from crime, and from the acts of criminals, and to drive and walk our public ways safe from the actions of reckless and careless drivers.

Our Department is charged with protecting these rights for all, regardless of race, color, ethnicity, background, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, economic status, age, culture, physical handicap, religion or other belief system, or any physical or personal characteristic.

Police action which is biased is illegal and violates the equal protection clause and the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution. It also alienates citizens, fosters distrust of police, and undermines legitimate law enforcement efforts.

The nature of law enforcement requires our members to be observant, to identify unusual occurrences and law violations, and to act upon them. Proactive enforcement keeps our citizens free from crime and our streets safe to drive upon.

Criminal profiling is a legitimate tool in the fight against crime. Criminal profiling is an investigative method in which an officer, through observation of activities and environment, identifies suspicious behavior by individuals and develops a legal basis, consistent with the Fourth Amendment, to stop them for questioning. However, illegal profiling refers to a decision by an officer to stop, detain, interdict, or search an individual based on the race, color, ethnicity, background, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, economic status, age, culture, physical handicap, religion or other belief system, or any physical or personal characteristic. This Department prohibits illegal profiling as a law enforcement tactic and will not tolerate or condone its use by any of our members.

It is the City of Doral Police Department's philosophy to assist our members in accomplishing this mission in a way that respects the dignity of all persons and yet sends a strong message to actual and potential lawbreakers: if they break the law, their behavior will not be tolerated and they will likely encounter the police. We are committed to the core value of providing bias-free policing.

onald W. De Lucca