



# STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** March 26th, 2024

**TITLE:**

Receive Annual Racial Profiling Report from the Bastrop Police Department.

**AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTED BY:**

Vicky Steffanic, Chief of Police

**BACKGROUND/HISTORY:**

The City of Bastrop Police Department has contracted with Dr. Alex del Carman Ph.D. of Del Carmen Consulting to assist in the preparation of the department's annual racial profiling report.

The Texas Legislature, with the intent of addressing the issue of racial profiling in policing, enacted in 2001, the Texas Racial Profiling Law. During the past year, the city of Bastrop Police Department, in accordance with the law, has collected and reported traffic and motor vehicle-related contact data for the purpose of identifying and addressing (if necessary) areas of concern regarding racial profiling practices. In the 2009 Texas legislative session, the Racial Profiling Law was modified, and additional requirements were implemented. Moreover, in 2017, the Sandra Bland Act was passed and signed into law (along with HB 3051 which introduced new racial and ethnic designations). The Sandra Bland Law requires that law enforcement agencies in the state collect additional data and provide a more detailed analysis. All these requirements have been met by the city of Bastrop Police Department and are included in this report.

This report includes statistical data relevant to contacts (as defined by the law) which were made during motor vehicle stops that took place between 1/1/23 and 12/31/23.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

In accordance with Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 2.134 "Compilation and Analysis of Information Collected", the chief administrator of a local law enforcement agency shall submit a Racial Profiling Report to the State by March 1<sup>st</sup>, of each year. The same report shall be submitted to municipal governing body for the incident-based data compiled during the previous year no later than March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The presentation may occur after March 1<sup>st</sup>.

The city of Bastrop Police Department Policy & Procedure Manual, Section 2.2 “Bias Based Policing” also requires that a Racial Profiling Report is reported to the City Council annually.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- PowerPoint Presentation
- 2023 Bastrop Police Department Racial Profiling Report (Del Carmen Consulting), to include a copy of our department’s current policy.

