

DALTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

	<i>Effective Date</i> April 24, 2001	<i>Number</i> GO01-2.25
<i>Subject</i> Biased Policing		
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<i>Distribution</i> All Personnel	<i>Re-evaluation Date</i> August 2024 December 2025	<i>No. Pages</i> 2

I. **Policy**

It is the policy of the Dalton Police Department to ensure that biased-based policing or discrimination is not practiced by any member of the Department. This type of bias or discrimination is legally, morally, and ethically wrong. All members of the Department shall treat all persons in an equitable, fair, and legal manner during all contacts.

II. **Definition**

Biased Policing – The ~~application of police authority~~ selection of individual(s) for enforcement action based on a common trait of a group, without actionable intelligence to support consideration of that trait. This includes, but is not limited to, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, gender, gender identity / expression, sexual orientation, immigration status, disability, housing status, occupation, or language fluency.

III. **Procedure**

- A. Officers shall not engage in biased policing or any type of illegal discrimination practice during all encounters, including, but not limited to:
 - 1. Traffic contacts
 - 2. Field contacts
 - 3. Searches
 - 4. Asset seizure and forfeiture efforts
- B. Officers may consider traits that are commonly shared within a group when making contact with a person only when they possess reliable information that is likely to lead to the detection of an individual who is suspected of a specific crime or a pattern of incidents in a particular area.
- C. Officers that participate in biased policing or discrimination practices are subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination. All corrective measures shall be handled in accordance with policy GO88-2.14, Rules of Conduct. Officers who

participate in these types of activities may also face civil and criminal liability. Biased policing and any form of discrimination cannot and shall not be tolerated.

- D. The Department shall provide initial training **prior to assignment** and annual training on biased policing and discrimination practices, including the legal aspects, to all sworn employees.
- E. The Support Services Division Commander shall complete a documented annual administrative review of **Department practices activities with potential for bias to include but not limited to traffic and field contacts, asset forfeiture efforts, including** community **concerns complaints** and any corrective measures taken in regards to biased policing, and submit his / her findings to the Chief of Police.

This policy supersedes any previous policies issued.

BY ORDER OF

CHIEF OF POLICE

RESTRICTED LAW ENFORCEMENT DATA

The data contained in this manual is confidential for internal department use only and shall not be divulged outside the department without the written approval of the Chief of Police.