

Texas Lutheran University

Police Department

Racial Profiling Report

2011

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Presented to

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Vice President for Finance and Police Services

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The Texas Lutheran University Police Department in accordance with the Texas Racial Profiling Law (S.B. No. 1074) has been collecting police contact data for the purpose of identifying and responding (if necessary) to concerns regarding racial profiling practices. The law also requires that the Police Department submit to the University an annual report of the information collected. The purpose of this annual report is to provide statistical data and analysis of all traffic and pedestrian stop data covering the period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011. To accomplish this, this report will focus upon the following topics:

- How traffic and pedestrian stop data was collected
- An overview of the racial/ethnic data collected
- An analysis of what the Department believes the statistics mean, as well as what the Department learned from the data
- Problems identified when analyzing the data
- Recommendation addressing issues of concern

#### **How traffic and pedestrian stop data was collected**

The Texas Racial Profiling Law mandated collection of information relating to traffic and pedestrian stops in which a citation is issued or an arrest resulting from those stops. The following data must be collected:

- Gender
- Race or Ethnicity
- Race or Ethnicity known prior to the stop
- Reason for the stop
- Was a search conducted
- Reason for search
- Contraband discovered
- Description of Contraband
- Arrest(s) results of the stop or search
- What the arrest is based on
- Approximate location of the stop
- Was a Citation or written warning issued as a result of the stop

## Racial Profiling Report 2011

Tier 2

Data

### Contacts By Gender

44 Female 34%

85 Male 66%

### Contacts by Race or Ethnicity

22 African Americans 17%

71 Caucasian 55%

36 Hispanic 28%

### Race or Ethnicity known prior to stop:

12 Yes 9%

117 No 91%

### Reason for stop:

10 Violation of law other than Traffic 8%

76 Moving Traffic Violation 59%

43 Vehicle Traffic Violation (Equipment etc.) 33%

### Search conducted:

8 Yes 6%

121 No 94%

### Reason for Search:

1 Consent 12%

3 Contraband/evidence in plain sight 38%

1 Probable cause or reasonable suspicion 12%

3 Inventory search performed as result of towing 38%

### Contraband discovered:

4 Yes 50%

4 No 50%

**Description of contraband**

- 3 Illegal drugs/drug paraphernalia 75%
- 1 Weapon (stolen handgun) 25%

**Arrest results of stops and searches:**

- 7 Yes 5%
- 122 No 95%

**Arrest based on:**

- 3 Violation of the Penal Code 43%
- 1 Violation of Traffic Laws 14%
- 3 Outstanding Warrants 43%

**Street Address or approximate location of the stop:**

- 129 City Street 100%

**Written warning or a citation as a result of the stop:**

- 129 Yes 100%

**Overview of the racial/ethnicity data collected**

The information listed above was collected from all traffic and pedestrian stops conducted between 01/01/2011 and 12/31/2011 where a citation was issued or an arrest was made. Assignment of race and or ethnicity to a category is either as stated by the person stopped or determined by the officer to the best of his or her ability. A consensual search is determined by a request from the officer to conduct a search. The person stopped is under no obligation to consent to the search. If the person does not consent to a search, then the officer must have probable cause to obtain a search warrant from a magistrate. The data collected clearly shows that Texas Lutheran University Police Department does not place traffic enforcement or pedestrian stops as our top priority in providing protection to our students, faculty and staff. Total stops for the year were 129. This averages out to 10.75 traffic stops a month. The data clearly shows that 94 percent of our contacts did not involve any form of search of the person or their vehicle. The data also indicates that of the 8 contacts which did lead to a search 1 was a consensual search granted by the person stopped, 3 were due to the officers observing the contraband lying in plain sight during the stop and the remaining 3 were inventories of impounded vehicles

As stated earlier we made 129 contacts during 2011. The racial breakdown of these stops is as follows:

Caucasians 55%

Hispanics 28%

African 17%

We feel these numbers clearly show no single minority was singled out and that our officers clearly do not practice any form of racial profiling.

I feel the most important information we gain from this report is that we did not have a single complaint filed against any of our officers for racial profiling or any other reason during 2011.

### **Department Analysis of the data and lessoned learned**

Agencies across the state are still determining the best and most accurate means of capturing, reporting, and comparing data to achieve meaningful analysis. The data presented in this report contains valuable information regarding police contacts with the public between 01/01/2011 and 12/31/2011. Texas Lutheran University Police Department has six full time officers who are supported by additional part time officers. Our data clearly shows that traffic enforcement and pedestrian stops are not a major part of department's mission. Our mission is to be highly visible on campus and to practice sound crime prevention measures which have worked well in keeping our campus safe. Analysis also shows that we made less than 11 traffic stops a month and as stated earlier no complaints were filed against any officer for racial profiling

Only 6 percent of our contacts resulted in the search of the vehicle or person. Of the searches conducted 1 was completed after the person gave consent to the search, 3 were conducted after the officer observed the contraband in plain sight and had probable cause to conduct the search and the final 3 were inventory searches of vehicles that had been towed from the campus.

### **Recommendations Addressing issues and Concerns**

Beyond the collection of data, Texas Lutheran University Police Department will continue to provide our officers Racial Profiling and Cultural Diversity training. We have now installed video equipment in our patrol vehicles to capture video of all traffic and pedestrian stops conducted by our officers. We will investigate any complaint on racial profiling and report the findings of the investigation to the complainant and the University. All officers of the Texas Lutheran University understand that no form of racial profiling will be tolerated by the Department or the University.