

As public servants it is our duty to safeguard individual rights, maintain order and prevent crime. Employing a positive community oriented policing service will forge a relationship of cooperation with the citizens we took an oath to “protect and serve.”

We will strive to maintain a cooperative relationship with the community so that we may all lessen the impact of crime and increase a mutual respect and trust. A cooperative relationship with surrounding law enforcement agencies as well as departments within the City of Dalhart aids in the partnership our community demands of its law enforcement professionals.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Contact the Dalhart Police Department

Monday through Friday 8AM to 5PM

(806) 244-5546



DALHART POLICE DEPARTMENT

MISSION

The **MISSION** of the Dalhart Police Department is to “Protect and Serve” –

To **Protect** the residents and all who visit and travel through our city so that they may have a sense of safety and security.

To **Serve** with a high standard of ethics, professionalism and respect to anyone in need of the services we offer.

CORE VALUES

Respect – We will treat ALL people with fairness and dignity. We recognize that in order to earn respect we must demonstrate professionalism in all that we do.

Courage – Empathy and concern will be shown to everyone we come in contact with. We will readily display that we will always strive to do what is morally, ethically and legally right.

Vigilance – A diligent and unwavering approach to the reduction of crime will remain the goal of our law enforcement professionals. We will remain both a proactive and reactive force so that all people may enjoy an expected level of safety and security.

DALHART POLICE DEPARTMENT

RACIAL PROFILING COMPLAINT PROCEDURES



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806-244-5546

About Racial Profiling

Definitions

Racial profiling: A law enforcement-initiated

action based solely on an individual's race, ethnicity, or national origin rather than on the individual's behavior or on information identifying the individual as having engaged in criminal activity. The term is not relevant as it pertains to witnesses, complainants, persons needing assistance, or other citizen contacts.

The prohibition against racial profiling does not preclude the use of race, ethnicity, or national origin as factors in a detention decision by a police officer. Race, ethnicity, or national origin may be legitimate factors in such a decision when used as part of a description of a suspect or witness for whom a police officer is searching.

Reasonable suspicion: Also known as articulable suspicion. Suspicion that is more than a mere hunch, but is based on a set of articulable facts and circumstances that would warrant a person of reasonable caution in believing that an infraction of the law has been committed, is about to be committed, or is in the process of being committed, by the person or persons under suspicion. This can be based on the observations of a police officer combined with his or her training and experience, and/or reliable information received from credible outside sources.

Criminal Profiling: An investigative method in which an officer, through observation of activities and environment, identifies suspicious people and develops a legal basis to stop them for questioning.

DALHART POLICE DEPARTMENT'S

RACIAL PROFILING POLICY

We are committed to a respect for constitutional rights in the performance of our duties. Our success is based on the respect we give to our communities, and the respect members of the community observe toward law enforcement. To this end, we shall exercise our sworn duties, responsibilities, and obligations in a manner that does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, gender, national origin, ethnicity, age, or religion. All people carry biases: in law enforcement, however, the failure to control our biases can lead to illegal arrests, searches, and detentions, thus thwarting the mission of our department. Most importantly, actions guided by bias destroy the trust and respect essential for our mission to succeed. We live and work in communities very diverse in population: respect for diversity and equitable enforcement of the law are essential to our mission.

All enforcement actions, particularly stops of individuals (for traffic and other purposes), investigative detentions, arrests, searches and seizures of persons or property, shall be based on the standards of reasonable suspicion or probable cause as required by the Fourth Amendment to the U. S. Constitution and statutory authority. In all enforcement decisions, officers shall be able to articulate specific facts, circumstances, and conclusions which support probable cause or reasonable suspicion for arrests, searches, seizures, and stops of individuals. Officers shall not stop, detain, arrest, search, or attempt to search anyone based solely upon the person's race, sex, sexual orientation, gender, national origin, ethnicity, age, or religion. Officers shall base all such actions on a reasonable suspicion that the person or an occupant of a vehicle committed an offense.

Prohibition

Police Officers of the City of Dalhart are strictly prohibited from engaging in racial profiling.

Complaint Process

Any person who believes that a police officer employed by the Dalhart Police Department has engaged in racial profiling with respect to that person may file a complaint with the Department, and no person shall be discouraged, intimidated, or coerced from filing such a complaint, or be discriminated against because they have filed such a complaint.

How do I file a complaint?

A person wishing to file a complaint should first contact a supervisor at the Dalhart Police Department. The supervisor will give you a Dalhart Police Department Personnel Complaint Form. If you are unable to come to the Dalhart Police Department, a form will be mailed to you.

Complaints of misconduct must be filed within thirty days of the occurrence.

You are required to submit a complaint form with your signature. A notarized form is preferred but not required.

An investigation of the complaint will be conducted as thoroughly as possible.

Please see other side for more information

"Our citizens are our most important resource"