



Poulsbo Police Department

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Dan Schoonmaker, Chief of Police

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chief Dan Schoonmaker
FROM: Deputy Chief Matt Brown
SUBJECT: 2018 Biased-based Policing Analysis
— Traffic Infractions/Criminal Citations —
DATE: January 17th, 2019

The most frequent way police agencies have attempted to learn whether bias-based policing is systematically occurring is through the analysis of discretionary traffic stops. The Poulsbo Police Department tracks infractions through the electronic capture of SECTOR data. The infractions contain discoverable demographic information.

I have reviewed the Criminal Traffic Citations and Traffic Infractions in the table below. While every column is not exactly represented per the percentage of the population, I see no patterns of racial profiling or bias. If the officer could not distinguish the race of the individual the designation of unknown was placed in the race box. Demographic statistics for the City of Poulsbo are listed at the end of table. This information was retrieved from the United States Census Bureau and is considered a best estimate for 2017, the most recent year listed.¹

	Traffic Infraction ²		Criminal Traffic ³		Totals		
Race or Ethnicity	# by Race	% by Race	# by Race	% by race	# by Race	% by Race	Poulsbo Demographics
Caucasian - alone	593	81.5%	91	81.9%	684	81.5%	76.8%
African American	22	3.0%	5	4.5%	27	3.2%	1.0%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	11	1.5%	7	6.3%	18	2.1%	0.3%
Asian	22	3.0%	1	0.9%	23	2.7%	4.1%
Hispanic	40	5.5%	2	1.8%	42	5.0%	12.3%
Unknown/Other	40	5.5%	5	4.5%	45	5.7%	5.5%
TOTAL	728		111		839		

Notes/Trends

- Infraction/Citation data from SECTOR – provided by WSP
- Demographic data is based upon US Census Bureau estimates for 2017

¹ US Census Bureau - <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/poulsbocitywashington/PST045217#PST045217>

² Examples – speeding, moving violations, seatbelt/cell phone violations.

³ Examples - DUI, Driving While License Suspended, Reckless Driving.



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Analysis – Bias-Based Policing

The Poulsbo Police Department prohibits race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation, economic status, age, cultural group, disability or affiliation with any other similarly identifiable group from being used as the basis for providing differing levels of law enforcement service or the enforcement of the law.⁴

In addition to examining discretionary stop data, the Poulsbo Police Department also tracks and investigates all citizen complaints of bias and/or racial profiling. In 2018, there were no complaints of this nature.

The Poulsbo Police Department also tracks uses of force by race. In 2018, we had a total of 20 uses of force. It is important to note that during two of the incidents, force was used on two suspects. This leads to the discrepancy between 20 incidents with 22 suspects.

The following table outlines those statistics:

Use of Force by Race		Use Percentages	Poulsbo Demographics
Caucasian - alone	20	86.9%	76.8%
African American	1	4.3%	1.0%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0	0	0.3%
Asian	1	4.3%	4.1%
Hispanic	0	0	12.3%
Unknown/Other	1	4.3%	5.5%
Total	22		

In my review I have found no evidence of bias-based policing. The demographics of this city, the listed statistical data, and the lack of specific complaints supports this conclusion.

Reviewed by Dan Schoonmaker, Chief

1/23/19

Date

⁴ Poulsbo Police Department Policy – Chapter 401 (Bias-Based Policing)