



(Revised 02/2020-Legal)

# Informal Report

CITY OF WACO

<b>Council Date:</b> 02/18/2020	<b>Originating Department:</b> Police	<b>Presentation By:</b> Ryan Holt	<b>Reference #:</b> IR-2020-086
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**Item:**  
Informal Report - Waco Police Department's 2019 Racial Profiling Report.

**Background:**

Beginning in January 2002, the State of Texas mandated that law enforcement agencies were to adopt a detailed written policy on racial profiling and collect certain data on citations, searches, and arrests resulting from traffic stops by Texas Racial Profiling Law. A detailed annual report summarizing the statistical information collected is required to be submitted to the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE), a regulatory State agency that establishes and enforces standards to ensure that the people of Texas are served by highly trained and ethical law enforcement personnel. This report is due on March 1st each year.

In 2009, the Racial Profiling Law was modified and additional requirements were implemented. The State of Texas passed Senate Bill 1849, which took effect in September of 2017, known as the Sandra Bland Act, which required all police departments throughout the state to collect greater in-depth racial profiling data on all traffic stops, regardless of disposition. The Police Department has engaged the renowned expert Dr. Alex del Carmen of Del Carmen Consulting, LLC, to audit our reportable data, and to ensure proper reporting and compliance as required by the State.

Officers use on-line databases maintained by the Texas Crime Information Center (TCIC), and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), to run various inquiries during traffic stops. In the past, NCIC and TCIC ethnicity tables mandated that Hispanic individuals were entered into the system under any one of the race codes which most closely represents their ethnicity. Our department developed a citation and data entry protocol, which allows the collection of ethnicity statistics without compromising the TCIC and NCIC rules. Crime Analysts compile the data collected throughout the year and submit detailed statistical information to Dr. del Carmen. His annual report for 2019 is attached.

The 2019 traffic contact data collected reveals that of 14,060 traffic stops, 45% of individuals issued citations were Caucasians, 25% were African Americans, 29% were Hispanic, 0.7% were Asian, 0.02% were Native Americans and 0.28% were categorized as Other. The officers did not have prior knowledge of the racial ethnicity of the individual in 13,742 of the total traffic stops. There was one alleged racial profiling complaint filed with the department in 2019, but the investigation resulted in an "unfounded" finding.

The findings presented in the attached report is a method we use to monitor our traffic contacts, to insure compliance with department policy and state law prohibiting racial profiling. Our overall percentage of citations remains about the same in the past two years. This data indicates our officers are conducting their traffic contacts in a fair and consistent manner, in compliance with department policy, TCOLE standards, and State law.

**Attachments:**

Waco PD 2019 Racial Profiling Report - 1.22.2020 w-spreadsheet (PDF)

**Fiscal Impact:**

None

**Project Schedule:**

The 2019 Racial Profiling Report will be submitted to TCOLE prior to the March 1, 2020 due date.