February 26, 2018

Please find attached the 2017 ethnicity-based traffic-stop report from the University Police Department. This report is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Texas Racial Profiling Law and Section 2.132(b)(6) of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure. As the law requires, it is provided annually to the members of the Board of Regents as well as the President and other members of the University administration.

During the March Board meeting I will briefly review the report during the Academic and Student Affairs committee meeting. If you have any questions prior to that time I will be glad to visit with you.

Sincerely,

Steve Westbrook, Ed.D.
Vice President for University Affairs
March 1, 2018

Since January 1, 2017, the Stephen F. Austin State University Department of Public Safety, in accordance with the Texas Racial Profiling Law (Senate Bill 1074) and 2.132(b)(6) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, has been collecting police data for the purpose of identifying and responding (if necessary) to concerns regarding racial profiling practices. It is my hope, that the findings provided in this report will serve as evidence that the Stephen F. Austin State University Department of Public Safety continues to strive towards the goal of maintaining strong and positive relations with the community.

The final components of this report will provide data relevant to the public contacts made during the period of January 1, 2017 thru December 31, 2017 where citations were issued or an arrest was made from a traffic stop. This information has been analyzed and compared to the Stephen F. Austin State University demographic data on students, faculty/staff, and employees housed on the University campus. The analysis of the data and any recommendations for future areas of research are also included. It is my sincere hope that the channels of communication between community leaders and the Stephen F. Austin State University Department of Public Safety continue to strengthen as we move forward to meet the challenges of the future.

Sincerely,

Marc Cossich
Executive Director/
Chief of Police

www.sfasu.edu
Analysis

The data presented in this report contains valuable information regarding police contacts where citations were issued and/or arrests were made with the public between the dates of January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017. Despite its value, the raw data does not present much information relevant to the racial profiling trends.

Thus, it is felt that further data is warranted. As such, data was obtained through the Stephen F. Austin State University Institutional Research Department, SFASU Housing, Human Resources, and Aramark Dining Service. This data best represents the population that the SFASU Police Department has regular contact with on a daily basis and is used for the contact analysis in this report. The census data was viewed as not being relevant to the “special” population of the SFASU community.

The ethnic breakdown of this data is as follows:
Total SFA Student Enrollment for Fall 2017, Faculty and Staff, and Aramark Dining - Caucasian: 8604, African America: 2354, Hispanic: 2425, Asian: 190, Native America: 67, and Other: 686 (Either not specified or claimed more than one ethnic group);
Total SFA On-Campus Housing for Fall 2017 - Caucasian: 2321, African America: 1054, Hispanic: 981, Asian: 54, Native American: 17, and Other: 229 (Either not specified or claimed more than one ethnic group).

When comparing the members of the community who came in contact with the Stephen F. Austin State University Police Department of Public Safety during 2017 with those who, according to SFASU community population were associated with the University during that time, the data showed close correlation between population demographic percentages and the police contact percentages.

None of the percentages varied enough to indicate a problem with racial profiling by police officers. The exact number of the police contacts that resulted in a citation issued and/or an arrest made is provided in the attached sheets. However, the exact number of the community population is not completely exact due to the influx of non-university community members being on the campus for various reasons throughout the work day, weekends, and particularly after 5pm.

In examining the number of citations and arrests made from public contact, 80.32% of them occurred after 5pm and 41.80% of them are non-SFA affiliates. After 5pm each weekday and on the weekends is when we have primarily On-Campus Housing students and an influx of non-student population to the campus.

Throughout the calendar year of January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017, the University Police Department did not receive any complainants against any officer for racial profiling.
Racial Profiling Report | Tier one

Agency Name: Stephen F. Austin State University Police Department

Reporting Date: 02/22/2018

TCOLE Agency Number: 347005

Chief Administrator: Marc Cossich

Agency Contact Information:

Phone: 936-468-2608
Email: updemail@sfasu.edu
Mailing Address: 232 East College St. Nacogdoches Texas 75962

This Agency claims partial racial profiling report exemption because:

Our vehicles that conduct motor vehicle stops are equipped with video and audio equipment and we maintain videos for 90 days.

Certification to This Report 2132 (Tier I), Partial Exemption

Article 2132(b) CCP Law Enforcement Policy on Racial Profiling

Stephen F. Austin State University Police Department has adopted a detailed written policy on racial profiling. Our policy:

1.) clearly defines acts constituting racial profiling.

2.) strictly prohibits peace officers employed by the Stephen F. Austin State University Police Department from engaging in racial profiling.

3.) implements a process by which an individual may file a complaint with the Stephen F. Austin State University Police Department if the individual believes that a peace officer employed by the Stephen F. Austin State University Police Department has engaged in racial profiling with respect to the individual;

4.) provides public education relating to the agency’s complaint process;

5.) requires appropriate corrective action to be taken against a peace officer employed by the Stephen F. Austin State University Police Department who, after an investigation, is shown to have engaged in racial profiling in violation of the Stephen F. Austin State University Police Department’s policy adopted under this article;
6. require collection of information relating to motor vehicle stops in which a citation is issued and to arrests made as a result of those stops, including information relating to:

a. the race or ethnicity of the individual detained;

b. whether a search was conducted and, if so, whether the individual detained consented to the search; and

c. whether the peace officer knew the race or ethnicity of the individual detained before detaining that individual; and

7. require the chief administrator of the agency, regardless of whether the administrator is elected, employed, or appointed, to submit an annual report of the information collected under Subdivision(6) to:

a. the Commission on Law Enforcement; and

b. the governing body of each county or municipality served by the agency, if the agency is an agency of a county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state.

Executed by: Marc Cossich

Chief Administrator

Stephen F. Austin State University Police Department

Date: 02/22/2018
Total stops: 65

Number of motor vehicle stops
Citation only: 51
Arrest only: 14
Both: 0

Race or ethnicity
African: 24
Asian: 1
Caucasian: 28
Hispanic: 12
Middle eastern: 0
Native american: 0

Was race known ethnicity known prior to stop?
Yes: 2
No: 63

Was a search conducted
Yes: 17
No: 48

Was search consented?
Yes: 3
No: 14
The Texas Commission on Law Enforcement