

2019 Biased-Based Policing Analysis





GCRTA Transit Police Department

This report is a review and analysis of biased-based policing involving members of the GCRTA Transit Police Department during 2019.

2019 Annual Biased-Based Policing Analysis

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Acting Chief Michael Gettings,

Analysis Summary

The GCRTA Transit Police Biased-Based Profiling Policy was signed on March 21st, 2018 and reviewed in the first quarter of 2020. The policy prohibits any bias-based profiling in traffic enforcement, searches, seizures, and field contacts; as well as calling for annual training for all officers, an annual review, and corrective actions in accordance with current policy should an investigation reveal acts that violate this policy. There are no recommended changes or additions to the policy at this time.

We received no complaints or accusations of biased-based profiling against any Transit Police employee in 2019. During the fall of 2019, the GCRTA Transit Police conducted our annual in-service training; this included 4 hours of Community-Police Relations, focusing on Implicit Bias, Procedural Justice, and Blue Courage, which is an approved course provided by the State of Ohio as well as 2 hours of Crisis De-escalation with a focus on mental illness.

The GCRTA Transit Police operate in diverse communities and the demographics of our ridership reflects this.



GCRTA Transit Police Department

GCRTA On-Board Demographics	RTA System	
	Number	%
Race		
Black or African American	118,899	74.7%
White	33,470	21.0%
Hispanic or Latino	3,643	2.3%
Asian	1,437	0.9%
American Indian or Alaska Native	511	0.3%
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	382	0.2%
Other	725	0.5%
Total	159,066	100%

While this does not tell the whole story, it does provide a glimpse into the diversity of the community that Transit Police officers interact with on a daily basis. Our primary area of concern when it comes to traffic related activity is the “Transit Zone” on and around Euclid Avenue near Public Square and on Clifton Boulevard where the GCRTA has BRT or Bus Rapid Transit lines. In both areas, GCRTA has bus only lanes where traffic enforcement is crucial to the efficient flow of GCRTA vehicles, avoiding accidents, and enhancing our service to the public. When we look at traffic citations and the fact that these specially designated zones are our primary area of enforcement, it is important to take into account the diversity of those areas.

City Of Cleveland Demographics (US Census)	
Race	
Black or African American	48.80%
White	33.80%
Hispanic or Latino	11.90%
Asian	2.60%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.50%
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	0.10%
Other	4.40%

Traffic Stop Demographics	Male	Female	Unknown	Total	%
Black or African American	27	18	0	45	54%
White	13	11	0	24	29%
Hispanic or Latino	1	0	0	1	1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	0	0	1	1%
Unknown/No Entry	6	5	1	12	14%
Total	48	34	1	83	



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The number of traffic citations issued closely mirrors the demographics of both our ridership and the Census data from the City of Cleveland. We are currently identifying more efficient ways to track demographic information by streamlining the reporting procedures for patrol, requiring issuing officers to enter the information during the CAD/RMS reporting process, and ensuring supervisors are confirming this information is included prior to the approval of the report.

Respectfully,

Sgt. George Schreiner #915