

Community Engagement in Policy Creation - Chicago Police Department

INTERACTIONS WITH RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

The Chicago Police Department (CPD) recognizes the need for a comprehensive community engagement process that offers the community a meaningful opportunity to provide input into CPD policies. Please use the following information to guide your feedback and discussions on the CPD policy related to Interactions with Religious Communities.

BACKGROUND

The City of Chicago Consent Decree requires that CPD will “develop and implement a policy guiding officers’ interactions with members of religious communities. The policy will include, but not be limited to, instruction on interacting and searching individuals with garments or coverings of religious significance” (¶160). In development of the policy on Interactions with Religious Communities, CPD has researched applicable laws, operational practices from other agencies, and other published research and analyses, including recommendations from the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP).

Current CPD Policy (available publicly at <http://directives.chicagopolice.org>)

- G02-01 “Human Rights and Human Resources”
- G02-04 “Prohibition Regarding Racial Profiling and Other Bias Based Policing”

CPD is committed to observing, upholding and enforcing all laws relating to individual rights. Department members will respect and protect each person's human rights and comply with all laws relating to human rights.

CPD officers will treat all persons with the courtesy and dignity which is inherently due every person as a human being. Department members will act, speak and conduct themselves in a professional manner, recognizing their obligation to safeguard life and property, and maintain a courteous, professional attitude in all contacts with the public.

CPD expressly prohibits "racial profiling or other bias based policing."

CPD is committed to working with the communities of the City to serve and protect; to safeguard lives and property; to guarantee all persons fair and equal treatment under the law; and to ensure that all persons may enjoy their fundamental rights as human beings.

POLICY ENGAGEMENT TOPICS

- Procedures that create mutual understanding, prevent discrimination and conflict, and ensure the respectful treatment of individuals from all diverse religious communities.
- Field interactions with individuals of diverse religious beliefs, including pat-downs and searches of individuals wearing garments or coverings of religious significance.
- Training of CPD officers and supervisors on the needs and expectations of diverse religious communities.
- Encouraging positive relationships with the religious communities, to develop methods and strategies for establishing and strengthening partnerships.
- Reporting and investigation of crimes and treatment of victims from diverse religious communities.
- Arrest processing, interrogations, and holding facility considerations of individuals from diverse religious communities.

CPD anticipates gathering and utilizing the feedback provided via the community engagement process to develop a comprehensive policy that is inclusive of and reflects the needs and expectations of both the community and CPD. CPD's policy development process will also include the public posting of proposed policies for comments on CPD's website prior to implementation.