

# PORT HURON POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURAL ORDER

		ORDER NO: 01-10
SUBJECT: Non-Discrimination		
EFFECTIVE DATE: Sept. 30, 1992	DISTRIBUTION: A	REVIEWED: 12/16/19 REVISED:
Requirements:		
ISSUED BY: Chief Joseph A. Platzer		Forms:

## I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this order is to establish a departmental policy statement on civil rights. This issue is also addressed in department rules and regulations and other directives. The policy statement is intended to reaffirm the department's determination to observe, uphold, and equally enforce all laws pertaining to the individual rights of persons without regard to race, color, ethnicity, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

## II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Port Huron Police Department to ensure that rights guaranteed by the federal and state constitutions and federal and state statutes and local ordinances are protected for all citizens. Therefore members shall not, by word, deed, or gesture conduct themselves or persuade or attempt to persuade other persons to conduct themselves in any manner that is discriminatory towards any person because of age, ancestry, citizenship, color of skin, creed, criminal record, ethnic origin, family status, gender, mental or physical disability, place of origin, political or religious affiliation, race, or sexual orientation.

All acts of violence or threats involving civil rights are viewed as serious crimes. Investigations into such incidents will be given prompt attention. Such acts generate fear and concern among victims and the public. They have the potential of recurring, escalating, and causing counter-violence.

When such rights are infringed upon by violence, threats, or other harassment, the department will use its resources in accordance with the law and existing policy and procedures to identify the perpetrators and, where possible, arrest and prosecute them.

## III. INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS

- A. All individuals are guaranteed protection against unlawful arrest and unreasonable search or seizure under the federal and state constitutions.
- B. Port Huron Police personnel will be scrupulous in adhering to an individual's

constitutional rights during criminal investigations.

- C. Implicit in uniform enforcement of the law is the element of evenhandedness in its application. The amount of subject control used, the method(s) employed to secure compliance with the law, to conduct searches, or to make arrests is governed by the particular situation. Similar circumstances require similar treatment in all areas of the city and for all groups and individuals.
- D. Members of the department come into contact with persons of diverse ethnic and sociological backgrounds. Obviously, all persons within the city, whether transient or resident, and regardless of background, have in common the need for the protection which is afforded by fair and impartial law enforcement.

IV. ENFORCEMENT

In order to respond to varying law enforcement needs in the different parts of the city, the department must have flexibility in deployment and methods of enforcement; however enforcement policies should be formulated on a city-wide basis, and applied uniformly in all areas.

V. PERSONS ARRESTED

All citizens of this country, in keeping with our democratic processes are guaranteed certain basic constitutional safeguards.

The public has the right to expect efficient, fair, and impartial law enforcement. Therefore, any allegations of or acts of misconduct by department personnel will be thoroughly investigated and properly adjudicated to assure the maintenance of these qualities.

VI. RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of each member of the Port Huron Police Department to familiarize himself/herself with the laws, ordinances and departmental directives pertaining to the constitutional and legal rights of individuals and groups to ensure his/her recognition/understanding and compliance.

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