

MARICOPA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Bureau of Internal Oversight

Audits and Inspections Unit



Post Stop Ethnicity Inspection May 2019

Inspection Report# BI2019-0077

Background:

The Audits and Inspections Unit (AIU) of the Sheriff's Office Bureau of Internal Oversight (BIO) will conduct monthly inspections of the Post Stop Perceived Ethnicity of drivers and passengers listed on the Vehicle Stop Contact Forms (VSCF) within the TraCS database. The purpose for the inspection is to ensure compliance with Office policies and to promote proper supervision. This inspection will include three sections: 1) Drivers with Hispanic surnames identified as "White"; 2) Hispanic surname drivers with Passenger Post Stop Perceived Ethnicity listed as "Unknown-Vision Obscured"; 3) Hispanic drivers with Passenger Post Stop Perceived Ethnicity Identified. A total of 30 traffic stops, 10 for each of the inspected sections, are selected each month for review. To achieve accurate inspection results the inspector will utilize data obtained from the TraCS system, Body-Worn Camera video (www.Evidence.com), and a list of Hispanic surnames created by the Criminal Intelligence Division. These entries will be uniformly inspected utilizing a matrix developed by the Bureau of Internal Oversight.

Matrix Procedures:

A random samples, containing ten traffic stops for each inspected section from the month of May 2019, were generated using the research randomizing program www.Randomizer.org. The Vehicle Stop Contact Forms (VSCF) and Body-Worn Camera were retrieved and viewed directly from the TraCS and Evidence.com databases. The Traffic Stop Data was provided to the AIU by the Traffic Stop Analysis (TSA) Unit in an Excel spreadsheet. These entries were uniformly inspected utilizing the Post Stop Perceived Ethnicity Inspection Matrix.

Criteria:

- MCSO Policy EB-1, Traffic Enforcement, Violator Contracts, and Citation Issuance
- MCSO Policy EB-2, Traffic Stop Data Collection
- MCSO Policy GJ-35, Body-Worn Camera
- MCSO Policy CP-2, Code of Conduct
- MCSO Policy CP-5, Truthfulness
- MCSO Policy CP-8, Preventing Racial and Other Bias Based Profiling

Conditions:

Collectively there were a total of 1,933 traffic stops made during the month of May 2019, of which 249 traffic stops met inspection criteria. Out of 249 traffic stops the MCSO reviewed a total random sample of 30 traffic stops, 10 stops per each inspected section. These traffic stops included: 1) 10 stops for Hispanic surname drivers identified as "White" (64); 2) 10 stops for Hispanic surname drivers with Passenger Post Stop Perceived Ethnicity listed as "Unknown-Vision Obscured" (14); 3) 10 stops for Hispanic drivers with Passenger Post Stop Perceived Ethnicity Identified (171). In all inspections, a "reasonable person" standard was utilized by inspectors.

Results:

- 100% or 30 traffic stops had no deficiencies

Matrix Inspection Elements	Not In Compliance	In Compliance
Drivers with Hispanic surnames identified as "white" on VSCF: Deputy's perception is consistent with inspector (review of BWC)	0	10
Hispanic surname drivers with passengers listed as "Unknown-Vision Obscured": Deputy's perception is consistent with inspector (review of BWC)	0	10
Hispanic drivers with Passenger Post Stop Ethnicity Identified: Deputy's perception is consistent with inspector (review of BWC)	0	10
TOTAL	0	30

Overall Compliance for May 2019:

Compliance Rate by Individual Section	Compliance Rate
Drivers with Hispanic surnames marked "White"	100%
Hispanic surname drivers with passengers listed as "Unknown-Vision Obscured"	100%
Hispanic drivers with Passenger Post Stop Ethnicity Identified	100%
Overall Compliance for May Post Stop Ethnicity Inspection	100%

The inspection resulted in **100%** overall compliance with the inspection requirements.

This is a new inspection and no historical comparison of compliance is available.

Recommendations:

Supervisors should continue to discuss the importance of accurate pre-stop and post-stop ethnicity selections by deputies and should be diligent in reviewing traffic stop data to ensure that deputies are adhering to Policy. Supervisors should also refer to the Hispanic Surname Briefing section of the 2017 SRELE course (which can be located on the U-Drive under the Training folder, titled, “Hispanic Surname Briefing”) and provide periodic refreshers to deputies regarding the importance of using their training, professional and life experiences to make an accurate selection of a person’s perceived ethnicity.

Any deficiency found in the MCSO Contact Form needs to be corrected. The data from the MCSO Contact Forms are utilized in the EIS process of completing the statistical analysis of traffic stops. These analyses occur monthly, quarterly and annually, and having accurate information on the Contact Forms will reduce erroneous data in the analysis. Therefore, any errors found by the supervisor during their reviews and discussions should be corrected. Any errors found from an inspection should be corrected. An example from above would be as follows: if a Deputy did not input the names of the driver and passenger contacted during a traffic stop, he would go back to the Contact Form and add the data.

NOTE: Deputies need to be aware of their Body-Worn camera angles while recording traffic stops.

Action Required:

With the resulting **100%** compliance, *Inspection BI2019-0077* does not require a BIO Action Form.

Date Inspection Started: 06/25/2019
 Date Completed: 06/31/2019
 Timeframe Inspected: May 1 – 31, 2019
 Assigned Inspector(s): Kateryna Ellis B4299, LEIAC

I have reviewed this inspection report.

Lt. D. Reaulo S1678

7/29/2019

Lt. Dominick Reaulo S1678
 Commander, Audits & Inspections Unit
 Bureau of Internal Oversight

Date