Bloomington Police are equally responsible for enforcing the law and protecting individual rights. It's our duty and we take it seriously. Accordingly, we are a charter member of the Minority and Police Partnership (MAPP) of McLean County.

Minority Recruiting

One way to prevent racial profiling and discriminatory practices is through a diverse workforce. Even though we seek the most qualified candidates regardless of race or ethnicity, we actively recruit minorities and women and encourage them to apply. If you are interested in a law enforcement career with the Bloomington Police, contact us at (309) 434-2355, 434-2534, or online at police@cityblm.org.

For more information online, go to:

www.cityblm.org
(City of Bloomington / Police Department)
www.ilstu.edu/depts/police/mapp/mapp.htm
(MAPP)
www.dot.state.il.us
(Illinois Department of Transportation)

The city of Bloomington is an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer.

Bloomington, Illinois Police Department (revised 2009)

Bloomington Police Department
305 S. East Street
Bloomington, IL 61701

RACIAL PROFILING DATA COLLECTION

Bloomington Police Department
305 S. East Street
Bloomington, Illinois 61701

Public Affairs Unit
(309) 434-2355
(309) 434-2534
police@cityblm.org

RACIAL PROFILING STATEMENT

The Bloomington Police Department, as a professional law enforcement organization, does not practice racial profiling, enforces a policy against racial profiling by its officers, and is unalterably opposed to racial profiling. We have responded to racial profiling concerns by understanding the issues, implementing appropriate policy against racial profiling and discriminatory practices, training our officers accordingly, and providing proper supervision.

SUMMARY OF ILLINOIS' DATA COLLECTION LAW

Illinois' data collection law established a multi-year statewide study of traffic stops to collect data to identify racial bias. The Illinois Department of Transportation is responsible for collecting and compiling the data.

From January 1, 2004 until December 31, 2014, when a state or local law enforcement officer stops a motorist for a violation of the Illinois Vehicle Code, whether he or she issues a uniform traffic citation or warning or not, he or she shall record at least the following:

- The name, address, gender, and the officer's subjective determination of the race of the person stopped
- The alleged traffic violation or reason that led to the stop of the motorist
- The make and year of the vehicle stopped
- The date and time of the traffic stop
- The location of the traffic stop
- Whether or not a search contemporaneous to the stop was conducted of the vehicle, driver, passenger, or passengers; and if so, whether it was with consent or by other means
- The name and badge number of the issuing officer

BLOOMINGTON POLICE DATA COLLECTION

Consistent with, and in addition to, data collection mandated by State law, the Bloomington Police Department will collect the following information:

- Passenger race and gender data
- Specific offense
- Exact location (address) of the traffic stop
- Vehicle registration number
- Parole or probation status of the driver
- Expanded racial categories

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT RACIAL PROFILING DATA COLLECTION

Q. What is racial profiling?
A. Profiling is defined as the detention, interdiction, or other disparate treatment of any individual on the basis of racial, ethnic, age, gender, or sexual orientation of that individual.

Q. What is data collection?
A. The collection of traffic stop information used to identify racial profiling.

Q. Will data collection increase the time it takes to complete a traffic stop?
A. Yes. It will take between five to ten minutes longer for the officer to complete the data collection form.

Q. Why does the Bloomington Police Department collect more data than state law mandates?
A. As allowed by the law, we collect additional data to enhance anticipated future statistical analysis. More and richer data increases the opportunity for deeper analysis, resulting in more reliable conclusions.

Q. What is done with the collected data?
A. By March 1st of 2005-2015, each law enforcement agency will submit collected data to the Illinois Department of Transportation for compilation and analysis.

Q. Who will analyze the compiled data?
A. The Illinois Department of Transportation or an outside entity contracted by them.

Q. What is done with the results?
A. No later than July 1st of 2005-2015, the Illinois Department of Transportation will submit a report of its findings to the Governor, General Assembly, and each law enforcement agency.

Q. Can a citizen refuse to have data collected?
A. No.

Q. Why is the officer's visual observation used to determine the driver's race / minority status?
A. If an officer is profiling based on race, that officer is deciding to stop the driver based upon the officer's perception of that driver's race. If the officer questions the driver about his race, the driver may become confrontational or think his rights are being violated.

Q. What stops are counted on the data collection form?
A. The Illinois Department of Transportation counts only those stops made for alleged motor vehicle statute or ordinance violations.

Q. What do I do if I think I am a victim of racial profiling by Bloomington Police?
A. Pick up a copy of the Bloomington Police Department's Citizen Complaint Form at the police facility at 305 S. East Street in downtown Bloomington (or at the City Clerk's office at City Hall or at the Bloomington Public Library).

Q. What impact will data collection have on my community?
A. We aren't sure. Some areas report a rise in crime, but each community is different. If properly analyzed, the results may help determine if profiling is or is not occurring.

Q. What can I do to help identify and prevent racial profiling?
A. Be patient, cooperate with law enforcement when stopped for a traffic violation, and support statistically reliable data analysis. Report suspected racial profiling and encourage recruitment of minority police officers. Most importantly, obey traffic laws and drive safely.

Q. Who do I contact if I have questions about data collection or racial profiling?
A. The Bloomington Police Department, Office of Public Affairs, off the second floor lobby of the police facility at 305 S. East Street
[(309) 434-2355 or 434-2534] or online at
police@cityblm.org