

MEMORANDUM

To: Steve Lentz, Mayor
Board of Trustees

Cc: John Lobaito, Village Administrator
Police Department

From: Eric J. Guenther, Chief of Police ✓

Date: May 23, 2018

Re: Release of Racial Profiling Statistics

On January 1, 2004, it became mandatory for all police departments in Illinois to record specific data pertaining to race from every traffic stop (commonly referred to as the racial profiling law). The law requires this data to be transmitted to the Illinois Department of Transportation for collection and analysis. The Illinois Department of Transportation publishes their annual report every summer. Because of the limited scope of data required to be collected, this report could generate many questions.

The report generated from traffic stop data submitted to the Illinois Department of Transportation and analyzed by University of Illinois at Chicago is being compared to city and county census data identifying the racial makeup of our community. The 2010 census indicates the Village of Mundelein has a reported 42.3% minority population. The obvious flaw in using this type of census data is there is no statistical correlation when comparing the ratio of minority drivers stopped versus non-minority drivers. Mundelein roads are populated by vehicles driven from all over northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin.

To better understand these reports and get a clearer representation of the racial makeup of drivers on our roads, it was necessary to develop additional internal benchmarks. For example, we have captured the racial background of all at-fault drivers involved in crashes occurring in Mundelein. Since Mundelein residents are not the only drivers involved in crashes occurring in Mundelein, we get a better picture of who is using our roads.

In 2017, there were 1,059 crashes reported to our department. Most crashes occur because of specific driving behaviors; therefore, an assumption can be made those same drivers will continue to exhibit the same unsafe driving habits causing them to be stopped by a police officer.

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The following is the racial makeup of all at-fault drivers:

RACE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
White	580	54.77%
African American	45	4.25%
Hispanic	239	22.57%
Asian	28	2.64%
Middle Eastern	25	2.36%
Unknown *	142	13.41%
TOTAL AT FAULT DRIVERS	1,059	

*The law does not allow police officers to ask an individual his or her race. According to the law, police officers must make an “educated guess” concerning the driver’s racial background. Unknown is selected when race is not easily identifiable or in the case of a hit-and-run crash.

In addition to the benchmarks mentioned above, we have also looked at the racial makeup of traffic crash data for “not at-fault drivers” and all drivers involved in crashes.

In 2017, the Mundelein Police Department initiated 11,174 vehicle traffic stops. White drivers were stopped 6,353 times representing 56.86% of all traffic stops. Non-white drivers were stopped 4,821 times representing 43.14% of all traffic stops. Comparing the 2010 census data of 42.3% minority residents to 43.14% minority drivers actually stopped; there is no statistical disparity.

IDOT also requests data on consent searches. Out of the 11,174 traffic stops, the Mundelein Police Department requested permission to conduct a consent search 207 times or 1.85% of the total traffic stops. Permission to search was granted on 182 or 1.63% of the total stops and consent searches were actually performed 165 times or 1.48% of the total traffic stops.

Consent Searches:

	STOPS	CONSENT REQUEST	CONSENT GRANTED	SEARCH PERFORMED	CONTRABAND FOUND
White Drivers	6,353	90 or 1.42%	79 or 87.78%	72 or 91.14%	32 or 44.44%
Non-White Drivers	4,821	117 or 2.43%	103 or 88.03%	93 or 90.29%	28 or 30.11%

Six other types of searches are performed: reasonable suspicion, probable cause, incident to arrest, custodial arrest, drug-dog alerts, and inventory.

The State of Illinois does not have a category for the Middle Eastern minority group and has directed departments to include with White statistics. The following is a complete breakdown by race:

RACE	2016		2017	
	STOPS	% OF All	STOPS	% OF All
White	5,700	58.41%	6,353	56.86%
TOTAL WHITE	5,700	58.41%	6,353	56.86%
African American	508	5.21%	695	6.22%
American Indian	19	0.19%	6	0.05%
Hispanic	2,952	30.25%	3,647	32.64%
Asian	554	5.68%	457	4.09%
Native Hawaiian	25	0.26%	16	0.14%
TOTAL NON-WHITE	4,058	41.58%	4,821	43.14%
TOTAL ALL	9,758	100%	11,174	100%

The 2010 census data shows a minority population of 42.3%, which closely mirrors the above traffic stop percentages.

After reviewing the above statistics utilizing the IDOT benchmark, our internal benchmarks and comparing 2016 data with 2017 data, it is clear that there is no evidence of racial profiling by the Mundelein Police Department. As stated in the attached public statement and letter which was sent to all residents in 2001 regarding the topic of racial profiling:

*The members of the Mundelein Police Department reject racial profiling as a law enforcement tactic, and **we will not encourage, tolerate, or condone its use by any of our members.** We are committed to sound practices of **bias-free policing** based on reasonable suspicion, probable cause, and use of good discretion. Our purpose is to create the safest atmosphere for our customers (citizens of the community), promote and foster a positive working relationship with the community, and treat all individuals with dignity and respect. We are partners with the community that we serve and will act as a guardian of the people's rights.*

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require additional information.