



# Department Policies

SECTION TITLE	SECTION NUMBER	REVISION
<b>Police Operations</b>	<b>POL 4000</b>	<b>8</b>

## **POL 4000 Police operations**

### **POL 4001 Duty**

In furtherance of the Department's Mission, it is the duty of the Police Department and the Members of the Force, at all times of the day and night, to protect life and property, prevent crime, detect and arrest offenders, preserve the public peace, and enforce all laws and ordinances over which the Police Department has jurisdiction.

### **POL 4005 Cooperation Between Members**

In order to fulfill our vision for the Department and its members, all Members of the Department need to cooperate with each other. When a Member obtains information which may be of value to a unit other than his own, he will report the facts to his Commanding Officer, who will transmit the information to the Command affected.

## **POL 4100 Enforcement**

### **POL 4101 Foreign Nationals [See Glossary] and Undocumented Persons**

Regardless of a person's legal status, all persons in Nassau County are required to abide by the local, state and federal laws currently in effect. **The Nassau County Police Department will not inquire into any person's immigration status unless they are arrested for a crime. This includes the immigration status of crime victims, witnesses, and anyone who calls the police seeking assistance.**

### **POL 4103 Racial Profiling**

The Police Department does not condone racial profiling and Members of the Department will not engage in racial profiling. It is inconsistent with effective policing and equal protection of the law for all persons. Racial profiling undermines the efforts of law enforcement by causing a loss of respect for the law and a loss of credibility for the Department, particularly within the communities that need professional policing the most. Even the perception of racial profiling creates a distrust that discourages participation in the criminal justice system.

**Racial profiling occurs when a police officer relies on race or ethnicity as the primary basis for law enforcement action such as a traffic stop, pedestrian stop or request for a consent search. However, when an officer has information which links specific criminal activity to an individual whose race, ethnicity or other identifying characteristic is known, that information may and should be appropriately used to identify and locate the individual.**

Discretion is at the core of a police officer's job and it permits innovative, flexible problem solving. However, it also provides opportunities for conscious and unconscious bias and prejudice that could affect decision-making. A Fourth Amendment basis to stop does not legitimize stops which are initiated essentially because of race or ethnicity. Such stops can cause deep cynicism about fairness and the legitimacy of law enforcement and the judicial system.

## **POL 4200 Use of Force**

### **Use of Force - Mission Statement**

It is the policy of the Nassau County Police Department to care for the people and communities we serve, to respect human dignity, to protect the rights of all people and to be committed to fairness and respect in our interaction with the people we serve.

The use of force by members of law enforcement is a matter of utmost concern both to the public and the law enforcement community. Therefore, when faced with a situation where the use of force is reasonable and necessary [See Glossary], the guiding values of members of the Nassau County Police Department shall be those principles set forth above, as well as the paramount objective of reverence for the sanctity of human life.