



**POLICE DEPARTMENT COUNTY OF SUFFOLK**  
 ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY  
**DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVE**  
 PDCS-2008-1

**ORDER NUMBER 17-41**

TYPE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER	AUTHORITY TIMOTHY D. SINI POLICE COMMISSIONER	SIGNATURE		
SUBJECT/TOPIC/TITLE POLICE MISSION				
DISTRIBUTION ALL MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT	SECTION CREATED 06/01/92	DATE EFFECTIVE 08/17/17	DATE AMENDED 08/17/17	

**RULES AND PROCEDURES**

**CHAPTER 1: TITLE: ORGANIZATION AND PHILOSOPHY OF THE DEPARTMENT**

**SECTION 1: TITLE: POLICE MISSION**

**I. PURPOSE**

To describe the organization's mission and to identify the goals of the organization.

**II. POLICY**

A. The mission of the Suffolk County Police Department is to provide and maintain a safe environment for every person in Suffolk County regardless of that person's residency or immigration status. If individuals believe that they cannot come forward to report a crime or that they cannot freely cooperate with law enforcement because of their immigration status, the mission of the Police Department and the safety of all residents are compromised.

B. The Department recognizes that the ability of the police to perform their task is dependent upon public approval of their existence, actions, behavior, and on the ability of the police to secure and maintain public respect.

C. Every member of the Service acknowledges his or her obligation to treat all persons with dignity and respect; to provide professional services by rendering aid to those in need; to provide an environment free from fear, bringing to justice those who violate the law, and protect all persons and property in accordance with legal and ethical standards.

D. Every member of the Service acknowledges his or her obligation to treat all victims and witnesses with courtesy, sensitivity, compassion and dignity.

1. Victims and witnesses shall be provided a safe, friendly and supportive environment while interacting with members of the Department.

2. The Department shall permit victims and witnesses to enlist the assistance of any advocate of their choice during any stage of their interaction with the Department, including the initiation of contact.

a. The Department recognizes that some individuals may be reluctant to contact the police directly, and is committed to receiving non-party/third party complaints and acting upon them to the extent permissible by law.

b. The Department acknowledges the preeminent rights of the victim throughout the criminal justice process and reserves discretion to advise victims/witnesses if their chosen advocate engages in conduct which subordinates those rights or threatens to compromise the integrity of the investigative process.

E. The Department core values and guiding principles are:

1. Vision - Provide professional police services to all, and prohibit all acts of Biased-Based Policing.

2. Mission - To serve and protect, while enforcing the law with impartiality, respect, and compassion.

3. Goal - Protect the lives and property of all people we serve.

4. Guiding Principles - The following guiding principles assist us in maintaining our focus on our mission and vision:

a. Integrity - The Suffolk County Police Department pledges the highest standards of ethical behavior by all its members.

b. Professionalism - Suffolk County Police Department members will act professionally when interacting with each other and members of the public.

c. Respect - Members of the Department will treat everyone with dignity and respect.

d. Knowledge - Members of the Department will be provided with continuous training throughout their careers. They will be supported in the pursuit of knowledge.

e. Standards for performance - The following Standards for Performance are referred to as the "Five E's" and should be embraced by all Department members.

(1) *Energy* (Vigor - Work Ethic)

(2) *Enthusiasm* (Lively Interest & Passion for the police profession)

(3) *Efficiency* (Acting Effectively - Working Smart)

(4) *Effectiveness* (Producing Results)

(5) *Ethics* (Doing the Right Thing)

### **III. DEFINITIONS**

A. Bias-based Policing - is synonymous with "discriminatory policing" and means selective enforcement or non-enforcement of the law, including the selecting or rejecting of particular policing tactics or strategies, based upon an individual's race, ethnicity, national origin, age, gender, religion, disability, English language proficiency, income, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Biased-based policing does not mean using any trustworthy information, relevant to the locality and timeframe, to identify a person of a particular race, ethnicity, national origin, age, gender, religion, disability, English language proficiency, income, sexual orientation, or gender identity in a reliable and recent suspect-specific description.

### **IV. REFERENCES**

N/A

**V. RULES AND REGULATIONS**

N/A

**VI. PROCEDURE**

N/A

**VII. ACCREDITATION**

A. NYSLEAP

**VIII. INDEX**

Bias-Based Policing - 1/1

Mission Statement - 1/1

Values Statement - 1/1

**END**