



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OPERATING PROCEDURES MANUAL		
CHAPTER 134	COMMUNITY-CENTERED POLICING	
	Effective: 7/29/2024	Commissioner Approval: 
	Authorities:	
	Applicability: ALL DEPARTMENTAL EMPLOYEES	
	Special Instructions:	

### 134.100 INTRODUCTION

**Introduction.** The Department of Public Safety is committed to fostering a strong, cooperative relationship with the communities they serve. This chapter outlines the policies and procedures aimed at building trust, ensuring constitutional adherence, and actively involving and communicating with our communities. By focusing on community engagement, respecting constitutional rights, and seeking community input, the DPS aims to enhance public safety, uphold civil liberties, and create a more responsive and effective law enforcement agency.

### 134.300 CONSTITUTIONAL POLICING

#### A. *Notice and Objective.*

1. This section establishes the policy and procedures for Constitutional Policing to ensure all policing activities respect and uphold the constitutional rights of individuals.
2. The objective of this policy is to ensure all policing activities respect and uphold the federal and state constitutional rights of individuals, adhering to the First, Fourth, and Fourteenth Amendments, as well as federal and state civil rights laws.

#### B. *Policy Statement.*

1. All members of the department will perform their duties in a manner that respects constitutional rights and is free from bias.
2. Strict adherence to laws regarding search and seizure, freedom of speech, and equal protection under the law will be maintained.

#### C. *Training and Development.*

DPS will conduct training on constitutional rights and legal standards applicable to law enforcement activities.

#### D. *Oversight and Accountability.*

The department will maintain an oversight and accountability system, including body cameras and regular review of police conduct.

***E. Complaint Handling.***

The department will maintain a system for handling complaints, including all constitutional violations, ensuring swift resolutions.

See OPM chapter “111 INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS AND DISCIPLINARY PROCESS”

### **134.310 COMMUNITY POLICING**

***A. Notice and Objective.***

1. This section establishes the policy and procedures for community policing to enhance trust and cooperation between the DPS and the communities they serve.
2. The objective of this policy is to strengthen trust and cooperation between the DPS and the communities they serve to enhance public safety and community well-being.

***B. Policy Statement.***

1. DPS will engage in community policing to build relationships characterized by mutual respect and trust.
2. Officers will participate in community events, attend community meetings, and establish ongoing dialogue with community leaders and residents.

***C. Training and Development.***

DPS will implement training for officers on community engagement, cultural competence, and conflict resolution.

***D. Community Engagement.***

1. Officers will participate in community events and attend community meetings.
2. The department will establish ongoing dialogue with community leaders and residents.

***E. Partnerships.***

The department will maintain partnerships with local organizations and stakeholders to coordinate efforts on community safety and outreach programs.

### **134.320 COMMUNITY INPUT AND IMPACT**

***A. Notice and Objective.***

1. This section establishes the policy and procedures for community input and impact to ensure effective communication and collaboration with the community regarding policing strategies and decisions.
2. To communicate with the community about policing strategies and decisions, particularly in areas where law enforcement activities are most concentrated.

***B. Policy Statement.***

1. The DPS will seek input from the community about policing practices and priorities.
2. Efforts will be made to understand and mitigate the community impact of policing, especially regarding the use of controlled equipment.

***C. Community Engagement.***

The department will attend forums, town halls, and advisory boards that include community members to discuss policing strategies and their impact.

***D. Communication and Feedback.***

1. The department will solicit community feedback and open channels of communication for ongoing improvement.
2. The department will inform the community and encourage public comment on new policing technologies or tactics.