## STATE OF OKLAHOMA OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT



# ANNUAL RACIAL PROFILING REPORT CALENDAR YEAR 2023

**JANUARY 31, 2024** 

GENTNER DRUMMOND
ATTORNEY GENERAL



The men and women of the law enforcement community have my profound gratitude and respect. I appreciate their professionalism and commitment to the principles of honor, duty, integrity, service, and sacrifice.

As required by Oklahoma statute, the Office of Civil Rights Enforcement ("OCRE") has compiled a report detailing citizen complaints of racial profiling. By law, complaints of racial profiling are not investigated by my office but rather are forwarded to the arresting officer's law enforcement agency. The law then directs the law enforcement agency to investigate the complaint for purposes of disciplinary action and/or criminal prosecution.

My office remains committed to working with our law enforcement partners to keep our communities safe while ensuring the rights of all Oklahomans are respected and preserved.

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Gentner Drummond

Attorney General of Oklahoma

#### OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Office of Civil Rights Enforcement is dedicated to enforcing Oklahoma's anti-discrimination laws and to educating Oklahomans regarding their rights and responsibilities under civil rights laws.

This report is submitted pursuant to Oklahoma's Racial Profiling statute, 22 O.S.Supp.2017 §§ 34.3 - 34.5. The Racial Profiling statute ("statute") requires every municipal, county, and state law enforcement agency to adopt a detailed written policy that clearly defines the elements constituting racial profiling and that prohibits racial profiling based solely on an individual's race or ethnicity *Id.* at § 34.3(E). The law enforcement agency must make the policy available for public inspection during the agency's normal business hours. *Id.* The statute prohibits municipal, county, and state law enforcement officers from engaging in racial profiling. *Id* at §34.3(B)

#### WHAT CONSTITUTES UNLAWFUL RACIAL PROFILING

"Racial profiling" includes interdicting, stopping, arresting, detaining, or engaging in any other form of disparate treatment against an individual based solely on the individual's race or ethnicity. 22 O.S.Supp.2017 §§ 34.3 - 34.4.

#### RIGHT TO FILE A RACIAL PROFILING COMPLAINT

Any person who believes he or she has been subjected to racial profiling may file a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights Enforcement ("OCRE") and may also file a complaint with the district attorney in the county where the racial profiling is believed to have occurred. 22 O.S.Supp.2017 § 34.4.

#### **COMPLAINT FORM**

The official form to be used for filing a racial profiling complaint is the *Office of Civil Rights Enforcement Racial Profiling Complaint*. (See Attachment "1") The complaint is available at the Oklahoma City and Tulsa offices of the OCRE and is also available online on the Attorney General's website: www.ok.gov/oag.

#### WHERE TO FILE A COMPLAINT

An individual or his or her representative may file a fully completed, signed, and dated complaint with the OCRE in person, by email, facsimile, or regular mail. The OCRE's contact information is as follows:

**OKLAHOMA CITY OFFICE:** 

313 N.E. 21<sup>st</sup> Street Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105 (405) 521-3921 **TULSA OFFICE:** 

15 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1000 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74119 (918) 581-2342

**EMAIL:** 

ocre.complaints@oag.ok.gov

**FACSIMILE** (405) 521-6246

#### INVESTIGATION OF THE COMPLAINT

The Attorney General is not charged with the investigation of racial profiling complaints. Rather, by law, upon receipt of a *Racial Profiling Complaint*, the OCRE must forward a copy of the complaint to the law enforcement agency that employs the law enforcement officer against whom the complaint is lodged. The law enforcement agency must investigate the complaint for purposes of disciplinary action and/or criminal prosecution. 22 O.S.Supp.2017 § 34.4. If the investigation reveals the officer was in direct violation of the agency's written policy regarding racial profiling, the agency must take appropriate action consistent with applicable laws, rules, ordinances, or policy. *Id.* at § 34.3(F).

### OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT RACIAL PROFILING COMPLAINTS RECEIVED IN CALENDAR YEAR 2023

The Office of Civil Rights Enforcement ("OCRE") received twenty-eight (28) racial profiling complaints in the 2023 calendar year. As required by law, the OCRE forwarded each complaint to the appropriate law enforcement agency for its own investigation and responsive action as warranted. All complaints were based on race. Summary information regarding the complaints is itemized in Table 1 below. Complaints received during the 2023 calendar year that failed to state a claim under Oklahoma's Racial Profiling Law, 22 O.S.Supp.2017 §§ 34.3 - 34.5, have been identified as "No Jurisdiction" in Table 1.

Additionally, Table 2 of this report includes summary information regarding the disposition of four (4) complaints from the 2022 Racial Profiling Report that were either resolved in 2023 or remain pending as of the completion of this report.

By law, the names of the complainants have been withheld.

Table 1

NO.	AGENCY	DISPOSITION
1.	Wilson Police Department	No Cause
2.	Tulsa Police Department	*No Jurisdiction
3.	Cleveland County Detention Center	*No Jurisdiction
4.	Department of Human Services ("DHS")	*No Jurisdiction
5.	Department of Corrections ("DOC")	*No Jurisdiction
6.	Department of Human Services ("DHS")	*No Jurisdiction
7.	Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office	Pending
8.	Durant Police Department	No Cause
9.	Poteau Police Department	No Cause
10.	Poteau Police Department	*No Jurisdiction
11.	Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office and Oklahoma County Courthouse	*No Jurisdiction
12.	Oklahoma City Police Department	Pending
13.	Logan County Sheriff's Office	*No Jurisdiction

14.	Ardmore Police Department	No Cause
15.	Norman Police Department	No Cause
16.	Marietta Police Department	No Cause
17.	Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse Police Department	Pending
18.	Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse Police Department	Pending
19.	Seminole Police Department	No Cause
20.	Norman Police Department	No Cause
21.	Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse Police Department	Pending
22.	Hugo Police Department	Pending
23.	Oklahoma Highway Patrol	Pending
24.	Oklahoma Highway Patrol	Pending
25.	Hobart Police Department	Pending
26.	United States Postal Service ("USPS")	*No Jurisdiction
27.	Oklahoma City Police Department – Springlake Division	Pending
28.	Oklahoma City Police Department – Springlake Division	Pending

Table 2

NO.	AGENCY	DISPOSITION
1.	Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics	Pending
5.	Oklahoma City Police Department	Pending
7.	Oklahoma City Police Department	Pending
14.	Oklahoma Highway Patrol	No Cause