



IM30

HATE CRIMES

IM30

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POLICY

1. The Delta Police Department (Department) will ensure appropriate responses to incidents motivated by hate and bias.

REASON FOR POLICY

2. To ensure the effective identification, investigation and prosecution of crimes motivated by hate and bias.

RELATED POLICIES

- CS30 – Victim Services
- IM10 – Criminal Investigations

DEFINITIONS

3. For the purposes of this Policy, the following definition will apply:

Hate Crime: a hate crime is a criminal offence committed against a person or property which is motivated by the suspect’s bias, prejudice or hate against an identifiable group based on race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual



orientation, or any other similar factor.

PROCEDURES

Identifying Hate Crimes

4. No single factor will be sufficient to clearly determine that a criminal incident is motivated solely by hate or bias toward the victim.
5. Hate crimes are different from other types of criminal offences because a person or property is victimized based on at least one identifying characteristic, such as race, ethnicity, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or disability.
6. Members should attempt to identify hate crimes by assessing various pieces of information which tend to indicate a specific hatred of the victimized person or property which may include:
 - a) statements of suspects that indicate hatred or negative bias;
 - b) the absence of any other apparent motive;
 - c) the display of any symbols, graffiti, or any comments, acts or gestures that are associated with hate groups;
 - d) whether the offence coincided with a holiday, event, or date of significance to the victim, or suspect group;
 - e) the perception of the victim, or the victim's community of the motivation behind the offence;
 - f) the perception of witnesses to the motivation behind the offence;
 - g) any historical animosity that exists between the victim's group and the suspect's group;
 - h) whether the suspect has been previously involved in similar incidents;
 - i) whether the suspect is a member of or associated to, a group or organization known for its hatred or animosity toward the victims group;



- j) whether several occurrences have occurred in the community with victim's from the same group; and
- k) whether the offence occurred at the same time, or shortly after an identified hate group was active in the community.

Investigating Hate Crimes

- 7. Hate crimes are to be investigated as outlined in the procedures in related Policy IM10 – *Criminal Investigations* with additional attention to the following areas:
 - a) assistance should be provided to the victims in accordance with the procedures for Victim Services;
 - b) all evidence at the crime scene should be protected, then seized as exhibits, including pamphlets and other literature;
 - c) photographing any graffiti or other related symbols at the scene;
 - d) the Intelligence Management Section should be informed of the incident;
 - e) the member is to indicate on PRIME that the incident is a hate crime by use of the appropriate flag on the report; and
 - f) Investigative Services will review all files with a Hate Crime flag and recommend follow-up where appropriate.

Hate Crime Prevention

- 8. The investigating member, in consultation with the Inspector, Investigative Services, should ensure that relevant organizations within the community and the media are advised of hate crime situations, where practicable.
- 9. Investigative Services shall liaise with other community organizations, where practicable, to develop strategies to prevent the repetition of hate crime offences and to counter the activities of organized hate groups.

Hate Crime Team

- 10. The Hate Crime Team operating under the auspices of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General is available to assist all police agencies in the investigation of hate motivated crime.



11. The Intelligence Management Section is responsible for notifying and forwarding reports to the Hate Crime Team of all hate motivated crimes in order to assist the Team in tracking such incidents on their provincial data base.

*Revised Dates:
21 November 2008
16 March 2012
20 September 2017