

PROVIDENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT

HEADQUARTERS

209 FOUNTAIN STREET PROVIDENCE, RI 02903

**COLONEL URBANO PRIGNANO, JR.**

CHIEF OF POLICE

July 9, 1996

GENERAL ORDER #30  
Series of 1996

To All Commanding Officers:

The purpose of this general order is to reiterate policy established in General Order #34, Series of 1995 regarding the report and tracking of "hate crimes" as promulgated by RIGL 42-28-46 in the City of Providence.

Attached hereto, is a list of bias and prejudice indicators as developed by the Rhode Island Department of Attorney General. Said factors should be considered in determining whether an incident is indicative of a "hate crime".

Commanding officers are to ensure that each member of his/her command is apprised of the listing and that a copy of each report relating to "hate crimes" is forwarded to the Detective Bureau, Investigative Division.

APPROVED:

*John J. Partington*

JOHN J. PARTINGTON  
Commissioner  
Department of Public Safety

*Urbano Prignano, Jr.*

URBANO PRIGNANO, JR.  
Colonel  
Chief of Police

## HATE CRIMES

THE OCCURRENCE OF CRIMES RELATING TO THE FOLLOWING GROUPS SHOULD BE MONITORED AND REPORTED:

Race, Religion, National Origin, Gender, Disability, and Sexual Orientation.

FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN DETERMINING WHETHER A CRIME IS A "HATE CRIME":

- (1) The offender and victim are of a different group.  
ex: black/white; homosexual/heterosexual.
- (2) Bias or prejudice in a statement made by offender (oral or written).  
ex: racial, religious, or ethnic slur; anti-female remark; anti-gay remark; comment against a disabled person.
- (3) Bias or prejudice related objects, drawings, symbols, or graffiti left at scene of crime.  
ex: swastika; cross-burning; pink paint (anti-gay).
- (4) The victim is outnumbered by members of other group in neighborhood where victim lives and incident took place.
- (5) The victim was visiting a neighborhood where hate crimes have been previously committed against his or her group.
- (6) The victim and/or community where the crime occurred perceives that the incident was motivated by bias or prejudice.
- (7) The victim was engaged in or supports rights of a protected group.
- (8) The crime coincided with a significant holiday, date or event.
- (9) The offender is a member of a hate group or was previously involved in a hate crime.
- (10) A hate group claimed responsibility or was active in the neighborhood.
- (11) There is a history of problems or animosity between the victim's group and the offender's group.