



## LINCOLN POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDERS

**NUMBER:** 1735  
**TOPIC:** HATE CRIME INVESTIGATION  
**ISSUED BY:** TERESA EWINS, CHIEF OF POLICE  
**DATE:** 1-1-2022  
**SUPERSEDES:** G.O 1735, 2019  
**REFERENCE:** N.R.S. 28-110, NRS 28-111

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### I. POLICY

The Lincoln Police Department will strive to identify and record all hate crimes. Officers shall actively encourage the reporting of hate crimes. The department will thoroughly investigate such offenses, and seek vigorous prosecution of those responsible for such crimes. For the purpose of this order, hate crimes are defined as offenses motivated by hatred of, or bias against, a victim based on their race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability.

### II. PROCEDURE

- A. Any criminal offense may be a hate crime when the victim is targeted due to the bias or hatred described in the definition. Although not an all-inclusive list, such crimes may include:
1. Homicide
  2. Assault
  3. Sexual Assault
  4. Vandalism including graffiti
  5. Arson
  6. Stalking
  7. Terroristic Threats
  8. Kidnapping
  9. False Imprisonment
  10. Criminal Mischief
  11. Criminal Trespass
- B. Officers shall classify offenses as hate crimes when it appears likely that hatred or bias was the motivation for the criminal act.
- C. Officers assigned to investigate a hate crime shall:
1. Thoroughly investigate the facts and circumstances of the offense;
  2. Identify, recover, and preserve physical and testimonial evidence;
  3. Conduct timely follow-up investigation as assigned;
  4. Identify suspects and effect arrests whenever possible.

D. A member of the Criminal Investigations Team shall be assigned to coordinate all hate crime investigations. This officer shall either conduct necessary follow-up investigation in hate crimes, or assure that such follow-up investigation is assigned.

#### E. Reporting Requirements

1. Officers investigating hate crimes shall complete the reports required for the specific type of incident, as described in General Order 1930, "Reports." Hate crime information shall be specifically documented in the report.
2. Officers shall also complete the Lincoln Police Department Hate/Bias Indication Form, which is a part of the on-line Incident Report by indicating the applicable fields on the drop down list.

#### F. Information Concerning Hate Crimes

1. The department will collect statistical information concerning hate crimes, and comply with all State and Federal guidelines concerning hate crime reporting.
2. The department shall provide public record information concerning hate crimes to the public, including the news media, but will endeavor to protect the confidences of victims of hate crimes to the extent that this can be accomplished within the law.