

# ***A Snapshot of Racial Profiling Data from the Midland-Odessa Area***

## **2004 data**

### **Midland Police Department**

#### **Getting Consent Searched by the Midland Police Department**

Consent searches take place when an officer has no legal basis (or “probable cause”) to search either an individual or his/her vehicle, but he asks that individual for permission to do so. Because consent searches are performed entirely at the discretion of the individual officer, the data that these searches produce may provide a more accurate measure of racial profiling than the data produced by non-discretion searches, which results from situations in which officers are required to perform searches.

	<b>CONSENT SEARCH RATES</b>	
	<b>Percentage of those stopped who were consent searched*</b>	<b>More likely than Anglos to be consent searched**</b>
<b>Blacks</b>	7.5%	<b>4 times</b>
<b>Latinos</b>	3.5%	<b>1.9 times</b>
<b>Anglos</b>	1.9%	

**73.8%** of MPD searches were consent searches (667 consent searches out of 904 searches). This percentage far exceeds the statewide average of consent searches conducted at traffic stops (30%).

### **Odessa Police Department**

#### **Getting Consent Searched by the Odessa Police Department**

	<b>CONSENT SEARCH RATES</b>	
	<b>Percentage of those stopped who were consent searched*</b>	<b>More likely than Anglos to be consent searched**</b>
<b>Blacks</b>	2%	<b>4.9 times</b>
<b>Latinos</b>	.7%	<b>1.8 times</b>
<b>Anglos</b>	.4%	

**72.3%** of OPD searches were consent searches (167 consent searches out of 231 searches). This percentage far exceeds the statewide average of consent searches conducted at traffic stops (30%).

\* Percentages in this column are rounded.

\*\* Rates in this column are not rounded and represent the actual consent search disparity, derived by dividing un-rounded consent search percentages.



**MIDLAND AND ODESSA COMPARISONS:**

- Anglos are 4.8 times more likely to be consent searched by Midland Police Department than by Odessa Police Department.
- Blacks are 3.8 times more likely to be consent searched by Midland Police Department than by Odessa Police Department.
- Latinos are 5 times more likely to be consent searched by Midland Police Department than by Odessa Police Department.

**Big Spring Police Department**

**Getting Consent Searched by the Big Spring Police Department**

	CONSENT SEARCH RATES	
	Percentage of those stopped who were consent searched*	More likely than Anglos to be consent searched**
<b>Blacks</b>	.31%	<b>equally as likely</b>
<b>Latinos</b>	.38%	<b>1.2 times</b>
<b>Anglos</b>	.33%	

4.7% of BSPD searches were consent searches (36 consent searches out of 760 searches).

\* \* \* \* \*

**Statewide, consent searches comprised 30% of all searches conducted at Texas traffic stops. Departments that conducted consent searches more frequently than this statewide average should provide local government officials and community members with legitimate and mitigating factors to explain their over-searching practices.**

\* Figures in this column are rounded.

\*\* Figures in this column are not rounded and represent the actual consent search disparity.