



County of Fairfax, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 15, 2008

TO: Annie Carroll
Acting Executive Director, Human Rights Commission

FROM: David M. Rohrer, Colonel
Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Police Department Bias Crime Annual Report

REF: Calendar Year 2008

There were 58 bias events reported in Fairfax County in CY08. Sixteen of these were classified as bias incidents (an event motivated by bias that does not violate criminal law) and 42 were classified as bias crimes. This represents a 19% decrease in reported bias events when compared to the 72 bias events (20 incidents and 52 crimes) reported in CY07.

Twenty-one (50%) of the reported bias crimes were classified as crimes against property, such as graffiti, and Twenty-one (50%) were classified as crimes against persons. In CY07, there were 31 (60%) reported bias crimes against property and 21 (40%) reported bias crimes against persons. This is a 32% percent decrease of bias crimes against property and the percentage of bias crimes against persons remained the same in CY07.

The 21 bias crimes against property reported in 2008 are classified as follows:

- Destruction of Property (21)

The 21 bias crimes against persons reported in 2008 are classified as follows:

- Phone Threats (6)
- Assault (5)
- Curse and Abuse (4)
- Disorderly Conduct (1)
- Abduction (1)
- Unlawful Entry (1)
- Malicious Wounding (1)
- Computer Threats (1)
- Trespassing (1)

Fairfax County Police Department
4100 Chain Bridge Road
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During CY08, although no significant bias incidents received public attention, all reported bias events were thoroughly investigated by the Fairfax County Police Department. The Department closed 6 of the reported CY08 bias crimes by arrest or exceptional means, constituting a 14% closure rate.

There were fourteen less reported bias events reported in CY08 compared to CY07. There appears to be a downward trend in reported bias events within Fairfax County in the last couple of years. However, as previously stated in prior bias crimes reports, it is difficult to ascertain trends or patterns of bias incidents and/or crimes within Fairfax County. This is due to the small number of reported bias events per year.

The Fairfax County Police Department continues to train its officers on bias crime and incidents. In CY07, Fairfax County officers received cultural diversity training. This training was mandatory and a requirement for Fairfax County officers to complete their bi-annual recertification. The Fairfax County Police Department continues to investigate all bias events thoroughly, and actively reaches out to all communities in an effort to ensure all individuals receive the same level of service regardless of their race, religious conviction, ethnic/national origin, disability, or sexual orientation.

Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact our Bias Crimes Investigations Coordinator, Second Lieutenant David R. Smith.

DMR/drs

Attachment

ATTACHMENT

2008 Fairfax County Bias Crime and Incident Reports

