

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

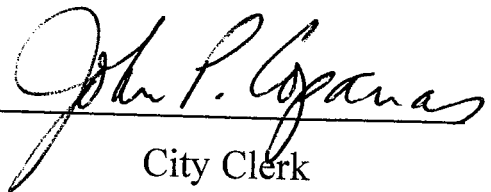
I, JOHN P. COPANAS, City Clerk of the City of Syracuse, New York do hereby certify that the attached is a true copy of an ORDINANCE:

Adopted by the Common Council on

October 13, 2020

Signed by the Mayor on

October 15, 2020

  
City Clerk

TO:

- Mayor
- Assessment Commissioner
- Aviation Commissioner
- Board of Elections
- Bureau of Accounts
- Citizen Review Board
- City Auditor
- City School District
- Code Enforcement
- Neighborhood and Business Development
- Finance Commissioner
- Corporation Counsel
- United States Congressperson
- Governor of New York State
- New York State Senate
- New York State Assembly
- New York State Senator
- Onondaga County Legislature

- Management & Budget Director
- Parks & Recreation Commissioner
- Personnel & Labor Relations Dir.
- Police Chief
- Public Works Commissioner
- Public Works/Bookkeeper
- Purchase Department
- Real Estate Division
- Research Director
- Water Department
- Zoning Administration
- United States Senator
- Department of Engineering
- Finance/Treasury
- Finance (Water Bureau)
- Fire Chief
- Grants Management Director
- Board of Education

**GENERAL ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 19, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SYRACUSE, AS AMENDED, ENTITLED POLICE DEPARTMENT, TO CREATE A NEW SECTION 19-9 TO BE ENTITLED RIGHT TO KNOW**

BE IT ORDAINED, that Chapter 19 of the Revised General Ordinances of the City of Syracuse, as amended, entitled Police Department is hereby amended to add a new Section 19-9 that shall read as follows:

**Section 19-9. Right to Know**

Declaration of Legislative Intent and Findings. WHEREAS, the Common Council finds that people of and in the City of Syracuse are unaware of their constitutional right to privacy when interacting with law enforcement officers. The Council further finds that mistrust of law enforcement officers based on real or perceived discrimination hinders law enforcement efforts and is a threat to public safety. In adopting this law, it is the intention of the Common Council to protect the peoples of and in the City of Syracuse’s constitutional rights by instituting an affirmative obligation on law enforcement officers to inform those people of their privacy rights when being searched by the police, and to create greater transparency in law enforcement practices. It is also the intention of the Common Council to increase transparency in police practices and to build trust between police officers and members of the public by providing the public with notice of the reasons behind their encounters with the police, and a written record of their interactions with the police in situations that do not result in an arrest or summons. In doing so, it is the Common Council’s intention to protect the personal privacy of all people within its

borders, to shield police officers from false claims of wrongdoing, to contribute to the efficiency and effectiveness of our criminal justice system, and to rebuild trust between the Syracuse Police Department and the residents they are sworn to serve.

Chapter 19 of the Revised General Ordinances of the City of Syracuse is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 19-9.- Right to Know

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this section the following words shall have the following meanings:

**Department.** The terms “department” shall mean the police department of the City of Syracuse.

**Law enforcement activity.** The term “law enforcement activity” means any of the following activities when conducted by an officer:

1. Noncustodial questioning of individuals;
2. Stops where an officer has an individualized, reasonable suspicion that the person stopped has committed, is committing, or is about to commit a crime and where a reasonable person would not feel free to end the encounter at will;
3. Frisks;
4. Searches of persons or property, including vehicles;
5. Roadblock or checkpoint stops,
6. Home searches;

7. Investigatory questioning of victims or witnesses to crimes; and
8. Traffic stops.

**Noncustodial questioning.** The term “noncustodial questioning” means the questioning of an individual during an investigation into criminal activity, where such individual has not been detained and is free to end the encounter at will.

**Officer.** The term “officer” means a sworn police officer of the department.

(b) Upon initiation of a law enforcement activity, an officer shall:

1. Identify himself or herself to the person who is the subject of such law enforcement activity by providing his or her name, rank and command;
2. Provide to such person an explanation of the reason for such law enforcement activity;

(c) At the conclusion of a law enforcement activity that does not result in an arrest or summons, the officer shall:

1. Offer a business card to such person provided that where such person is a minor, the officer shall offer such a business card to the minor or, if present at the scene, to a parent, legal guardian, or responsible adult;
2. Offer to provide to such person the information set forth in paragraph 1 of subdivision b on a hand-written card, when such officer does not have an adequate number of pre-

printed business cards on his or her person at the time of such law enforcement activity;  
and

3. Offer to provide to such person the information set forth in paragraph 1 of subdivision b verbally and allow sufficient time for such person to record such information when such officer does not have an adequate number of pre-printed business cards or hand-written cards on his or her person at the time of such law enforcement activity.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision c, an officer shall offer a business card to any person requesting identifying information, or provide such information verbally to such person and allow such person sufficient time for such person to record such information when such officer does not have an adequate number of pre-printed business cards or hand-written cards on his or her person at the time of such law enforcement activity.

(e) The Chief of Police, or the Commissioner of Public Safety, shall develop a plan to ensure that officers have an adequate number of business cards prior to engaging in any law enforcement activity and that such cards be replenished within 30 business days after such cards become available.

(f) Any business cards used by an officer to identify himself or herself to a person who is the subject of law enforcement activity shall be pre-printed and include, at a minimum:

1. The name, rank, shield number, and command of such officer; and

2. The address and phone number for the citizen review board and an indication that the subject of the law enforcement activity may contact the citizen review board to submit comments or complaints about the encounter.
3. The address and phone number for the department's internal affairs unit and an indication that the subject of the law enforcement activity may contact the internal affairs unit to submit a complaint about the encounter.

(g) The Chief of Police or the Commissioner of Public Safety shall develop and provide policy, rules and regulations for its officers, whether in uniform or civilian clothing, with respect to obtaining voluntary, knowing, and intelligent consent prior to the search of a person, or a person's vehicle, home or property, for a search that is based solely on a person's consent to such search, when such search is not conducted pursuant to a warrant, any other exception to the warrant requirement under applicable law, or probable cause, or when such search is not incident to a lawful arrest. Such guidance shall specify conduct for:

1. Articulating, using plain and simple language delivered in a non-threatening manner, that the person who is subject of the search is being asked to voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently consent to such search, and explaining that such search will not be conducted if such person refuses to provide consent to such search;
2. Securing such consent without threats or promises of any kind being made to such person;

3. Affirming that such person understands the information communicated pursuant to paragraph 1;
4. Refraining from conducting such search where such consent has not been obtained;  
and
5. Utilizing interpretation services when seeking consent to conduct a search of a person with limited English proficiency or such person's vehicle, home, or property, including but not limited to the use of bilingual officers and telephonic interpretation, prior to conducting such search.

(h) An officer who seeks consent to conduct a search that is subject to the policy, rules and regulations developed and provided pursuant to subdivision (g) shall:

1. Create an audio and/or video record of the information communicated pursuant to such guidance and such person's response to such information, or a written record reflecting the information communicated pursuant to such guidance to be signed by the person if such person understands the information and consents to a search unless the person refuses to sign. Any such refusal must be documented by the officer;
2. Document the time, location, and date of such search, and the apparent race/ethnicity, gender, and age of the person who was the subject of such search, and such officer's name, command, and shield number; and

3. Provide the person who is the subject of the search written instructions on how to obtain a copy of such record created pursuant to paragraph 1 of this subdivision. Upon receiving a request from such person for a copy of such record, the department shall acknowledge receipt of such request within 5 business days of receiving such request. Such acknowledgement shall include a date by which the department will provide such record or the basis for the denial of such request, provided that such date shall not be longer than 45 days from the date of receipt of such request. If the department is unable to provide such copy or denial to such person within 45 days due to extenuating circumstances, it shall provide such record or denial within 15 days of such 45 days and provide the basis of such circumstances.

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, an officer shall not be required to comply with this section where:

1. Such officer is engaged in an approved undercover activity or operation, and law enforcement activity is taken pursuant to such undercover activity or operation; or
2. An emergency exists requiring immediate action by the officer to respond to an imminent and substantial risk of physical injury to the officer or any other person or imminent and substantial damage to property, or to forestall the imminent escape of a suspect or imminent destruction of evidence.



3. During searches predicated upon entrance to a public building or facility, location, event or gathering, and where such person's entrance into any such location constitutes implied consent to be searched under an exception to the warrant requirement.

(j) Nothing in this section or in the implementation thereof shall be construed to restrict or limit any activity or proceeding regulated by the criminal procedure law or any other state law.

(k) The Chief of Police or the Commissioner of Public Safety shall develop rules and regulations to enforce compliance with this section.

(l) Commencing within 30 days of the end of the quarter beginning on January 1, 2021, and within 30 days of the end of every quarter thereafter, the department shall post on its website a report of the data collected pursuant to paragraph 2 of subdivision (h), specifically the total number of consent searches conducted during the preceding quarter disaggregated by the apparent race/ethnicity, gender, and age of the person searched; and the total number of instances where an officer sought to obtain a consent to search but did not obtain consent to search during the preceding quarter disaggregated by the apparent race/ethnicity, gender, and age of the person from whom such consent was sought.

(m) Severability. If any portion of this General Ordinance is, for any reason, declared unconstitutional or invalid, in whole or in part, by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed severable, and such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect the

validity of the remaining portions of this general ordinance, which remaining portions shall continue in full force and effect.

#### §19-10. Reporting on Investigative Encounters

(a) Definitions. As used in this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

1. Level one investigative encounter. The term “level one investigative encounter” means an officer’s request for information based on an objective credible reason to approach.

2. Level two investigative encounter. The term “level two investigative encounter” means a common law right of inquiry based on an officer’s founded suspicion that criminal activity is afoot.

3. Level three investigative encounter. The term “level three investigative encounter” means a stop and/or frisk based on an officer’s reasonable suspicion that an individual has committed, is committing or is about to commit a felony or misdemeanor.

4. Officer. The term “officer” means a peace officer or police officer as defined in the Criminal Procedure Law who is employed by the city of Syracuse.

(b) Commencing within 30 days of the quarter beginning on January 1, 2021, and within 30 days of the end of every quarter thereafter, the police chief or commissioner of public safety shall

submit to the council and the mayor and post to the department's website a report containing the following information concerning investigative encounters conducted by officers for the previous quarter:

1. The total number of level one investigative encounters based on objective credible reasons that escalated to a level two or three investigative encounter;

2. The total number of level two investigative encounters based on founded suspicion;

and

3. The total number of level three investigative encounters based on reasonable suspicion.

(c) The information required pursuant to subdivision a shall be disaggregated by precinct and further disaggregated by:

1. The apparent race/ethnicity, gender, and age of the person involved;

2. The number of persons from whom an officer requested consent to search, further disaggregated by whether consent was granted or declined;

3. The number of persons arrested or issued a criminal or civil summons;

4. The factors leading to the investigative encounter; and

5. Whether a use of force incident occurred in connection with the encounter.

(d) The information required pursuant to this section shall be stored permanently and shall be accessible from the department's website, and shall be provided in a format that permits

automated processing. Each report shall include a comparison of the current reporting period to the prior four reporting periods, where such information is available.

(e) The Chief of Police or the Commissioner of Public Safety shall develop rules and regulations to enforce compliance with this section.

(f) Severability. If any portion of this General Ordinance is, for any reason, declared unconstitutional or invalid, in whole or in part, by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed severable, and such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this general ordinance, which remaining portions shall continue in full force and effect.

and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect December 14, 2020;

and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all Sections of Chapter 19 of the Revised General Ordinances, as amended not expressly revised by this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect as written.