DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM NO. 00-7

SUBJECT: Criminal Characteristics

Determining criminal characteristics of a person or persons who might be involved in or are about to become involved in some type of crime is a legitimate tool in any police investigation. It is the responsibility of the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department to ensure that such characteristics are developed and used properly. In accordance with the Board of Police Commissioner's Resolution 99-6 entitled, "Pertaining to Criminal Characteristics", the following procedures will be followed:

1. Members of the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department, (department members), may maintain lists of criminal characteristics for any crime as long as the characteristics do not include matters relating to sex, race, national origin or other matters deemed inappropriate or discriminatory under Federal or State law.

2. Criminal characteristics shall not be used by department members as the sole basis for conducting a "Terry Stop", which said stop requires reasonable suspicion.

3. Criminal characteristics shall not be used by department members as the sole basis for making an arrest, which requires probable cause.

4. Criminal characteristics as allowed herein may be used by any officer to make a citizen contact under circumstances where the citizen is free to walk away from the officer and is not required to talk to the officer.

5. In all instances, the detention or arrest of an individual will require either reasonable suspicion or probable cause that is independent of any criminal characteristic developed by the Department.

Richard D. Easley
Chief of Police

DISTRIBUTION: All Commanders
Civilian Supervisors
All Department Elements
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