

## Summary

- The Chelsea Police Department will absolutely **not be involved** in any type of profiling or targeting of any specific ethnic group or presumed nationality class because of the implementation of the *DHS Priority Enforcement Program*.
- This federal program in no way whatsoever going to change how the Chelsea Police at the local level protect the public that we serve by always enforcing existing state laws in a fair and impartial manner.
- Local law enforcement agencies including the Chelsea Police and the Massachusetts State Police (MSP) have no authority to enforce federal immigration laws and the implementation of the Priority Enforcement Program does not vest any additional authority or power to further immigration arrests by local police.
- Finally, we as members of the Chelsea Police Department remain committed to our respective communities and will adhere to our respective individual mandates to treat all that we encounter in each and every interaction with the utmost degree of respect and dignity.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Hayes".

Chelsea Police Department

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**A Message from the Chief  
regarding the DHS Priority  
Enforcement Program**

*Commitment, Pride  
& Dedication*

Chelsea Police  
Department  
(617) 466-4810

## Description and Enforcement

The New **DHS Priority Enforcement Program** (“PEP”) replaced the now discontinued Secure Communities Program on January 5th 2015. This PEP Program is a federal program administered solely by the Department of Homeland Security - Immigration and Customs Enforcement (DHS-ICE). It is now also in effect in all of the 50 states across the country as well as Puerto Rico.

The activation and implementation of this Priority Enforcement Program in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts **does not in any way** change the way that the Chelsea Police Department conducts our current enforcement operations pursuant to existing policies, procedures or practices.

This federal program in no way whatsoever going to change how the Chelsea Police at the local level protect the public that we serve by enforcing existing state laws in a fair and impartial manner to all of our residents.

The Chelsea Police Department **will absolutely not be involved in any type of profiling or targeting of any specific ethnic group or presumed nationality class because of the implementation of the Priority Enforcement Program.**

We as members of the Chelsea Police Department as professional police officers are responsible for providing effective police services to everyone in the City of Chelsea in an **equal, fair, and just manner.** The detection of criminal behavior is of primary interest and concern in dealing with any subject suspected of violating the law.

**Race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, occupation, immigration status or any other arbitrary characteristic pertaining to any specific individual have absolutely no bearing on any decision for a Chelsea Police Officer to affect an arrest.**

Local law enforcement agencies including the Chelsea Police and the Massachusetts State Police (MSP) have no authority to enforce federal immigration laws and the implementation of the DHS Priority Enforcement Program does not vest any additional authority or power to further civil immigration arrests by local police.

The Chelsea Police Department is calling on all members of our community to have the optimum level of **faith, confidence and trust** in the CPD as we continue to work together to solve recurring neighborhood/community problems, to reduce overall crime and to reduce the fear of crime that unfortunately is so prevalent in many of the urban inner-city communities.

Victims and Witnesses of crimes as well as other members of our community who wish to partner with the police and take advantage of many of our existing programs (i.e., Community Action Teams, Neighborhood Watches, Police Athletic League, Citizens Academy, Newcomer Advocate Programs, etc.) will absolutely not be impacted in any way by this civil federal program. The PEP only sends electronic biometric fingerprints of those individuals who have been **arrested** for criminal offenses to the DHS (ICE) from the FBI via the MSP that originate

either with the Local Police Departments.

The Priority Enforcement Program has no impact on individuals who are stopped (and cited or warned) solely for Civil Motor Vehicles Infractions.

**As mentioned this federal program has no impact whatsoever on any victims or witnesses of crimes here in Chelsea.**

ICE Officials from Washington, D.C. and here in Massachusetts have assured Police Chiefs, Police Superintendents and Police Commissioners across the state over the past 12 months that they that they are absolutely committed to focusing their limited immigration enforcement resources in a manner that best promotes public safety, border ICE will be prioritizing their resources focusing on what are classified as **Level I Criminal Offenders** (e.g., offenders of serious violent crimes, drugs dealers, human traffickers, sex offenders, gang members, & suspected terrorists, etc.) and **Illegal Re-entries** (those individuals previously ordered as deported by a court of competent jurisdiction) which are of primary concern to law enforcement in optimizing public safety.

Finally, we as members of the Chelsea Police Department shall remain committed to our respective communities and will adhere to our respective individual mandates to treat all that we encounter in every interaction with the utmost level of respect and dignity.