

## Cultural Scenarios Exercise

1. A female officer at your department announces to the entire department (in person and in e-mail) that she has been gay her entire life and has been struggling with identity issues her entire life. The officer also announces that she is also going through a sex change operation to become a man. In the e-mail the officer states that the Chief fully supports her decision and expects all to embrace it. The female officer also states that she now wants to be called the male name she has picked for herself.

The Chief adds a follow-up e-mail stating that he fully supports the officer and that this officer will be using the male locker room and bathroom once the operation is complete. Several months later, the officer's operation is complete and the officer returns to work. Your Patrol Sgt. discusses the issue in briefing.

Your Sgt. tells the officers if they don't embrace the officer then they are the ones with the problem. Many officers in the department are upset at the way this was handled and don't feel comfortable in the locker room and bathroom when the newly male officer is working. The officer who has had the sex change is upset at the controversy and is calling in sick. Now what?

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2. It is early in the morning, and the well-dressed young African-American man driving his Ford Explorer on I-5 sees the blue lights of the patrol car behind him. The officer pulls behind the sport utility vehicle and the young man's heart begins to sink.

He is on his way to Seattle for a job interview. The stop, ostensibly for speeding, should not take long, he reasons, as the deputy walks cautiously toward the Explorer. But instead of simply asking for a driver's license and writing a speeding ticket, the deputy calls for backup. Another officer soon arrives, his blue lights flashing as well.

The young man is told to leave his vehicle, as the deputies announce their intention to search it. "Hey, where did you get the money for something like this?" one deputy asks mockingly while he starts the process of going through every inch of the Explorer. They say they are looking for drugs, but in the end find nothing. After ticketing the driver for speeding, the two officers casually drive off.

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3. At briefing you are told that evidence exists that a group of juvenile, Asian males in your community are stealing late model Hondas. You have been told by your Sergeant to focus your patrol and attention on identifying this group of young men. While out on patrol, you see throughout the length of your shift a series of young Asian men driving late model Hondas. Your patrol partner decides that the best way to approach identifying juveniles involved in the auto theft rings is to stop any Asian male juvenile you see driving any make and model vehicle and pressure them into providing information regarding their friends.
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4. You and several officers have arrived at a residence to look for a felony warrant subject who is the 22 years old. The warrant is for Child Molestation 1st. The husband and wife answer the door and state that their son is not home. This family is of Asian ancestry and is opposed to you checking the residence with your shoes on. One of the senior officers on scene is a SWAT Officer and tells the mother that he is not taking his shoes off because it is not tactically sound. The Officer is upset and now the husband is offended that the senior officer has been disrespectful to his wife. The officers on scene strongly believe that the suspect is on location and have been looking for him for months. Now what?
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5. You and your patrol partner have been dispatched to an assault DV case that occurred 2 hours early to a community in your jurisdiction. This particular area is a Samoan community that has strong ties to the Mormon Church. You arrive at the residence where the DV occurred and are greeted at the door by a Church Elder from the Mormon Church. The elder explains that the church has taken care of the matter and it was a big misunderstanding. You and your partner check the residence and find that the involved couple are no there. The elder politely explains that the residents are in counseling and this matter is a church matter. The elder thanks you for your response and leaves the scene.
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6. You are dispatched to the home of an Asian family to conduct an interview with the mother of a juvenile who is in custody. The mother invites you to her kitchen and offers you food and a beverage. Do you take the food and/or beverages? Is there a department policy that dictates your response? If there is no clear-cut policy that covers this type of situation.....what do you do?

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7. At approximately 0130 hours, you conduct a high risk vehicle stop on two Asian males (Mr. Pok and Mr. Nguyen). They match the description of two armed robbery suspects for an incident that happened 2 hours earlier. At gunpoint, you order the suspects out of the vehicle. The suspects comply. As part of your technique used, you order the suspects to their knees for handcuffing. Mr. Pok a Cambodian refugee falls to the ground and begs, "Please don't kill me!" Why is Mr. Pok behaving and responding like this?

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8. You are a female officer. You and you male partner have responded to a domestic violence call. You are interviewing three males who speak Spanish and very limited English. The subjects are of Mexican descent. The subjects are saying very little about the incident. You feel you are being stonewalled. What might you do to gain their cooperation?

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9. You are dispatched to a Somali home to interview an alleged rape victim. You are a male officer. After attempting to gain information you do not get a statement from the victim. There is information that the rape did indeed take place and the suspect is known to the victim. What can you do to gain cooperation?

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10. You stop a Spanish-speaking driver for a minor traffic violation. The driver indicates that he does not have a driver's license and only an ID. Using non-verbal communication you are able to issue the infraction. The driver accepts the notice of infraction and hands you a \$20.00 bill. Is this a bribe?