

To: Urbana Traffic Stop Task Force Members
Date: 12/12/14

At the November Task Force meeting Mr. Charles invited members of the committee and public to suggest items that might be added to the traffic ticket to help understand and clarify the dynamic/interaction of each stop.

Since investigatory stops are a significant part of community policing, are embedded in many traffic stop experiences, and likely to account for racial disparities in traffic stop numbers, I believe the following items or similarly framed questions should be incorporated into Urbana's standard traffic stop ticket.

I have requested blank copies of a traffic ticket and incident report to assess what type of information is currently being collected. Unfortunately I have not received a response from the city. Therefore some of the information requested in the questions below could currently be collected or not, in some other form or not. I just don't know.

Regardless, the gathering of this type of information would help both the UPD and community assess and accurately interpret the primary purpose and relational interaction between the officer and the driver at each stop.

I encourage the Task Force to seriously consider the importance of these or similar questions being added to the traffic ticket and incident report.

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Was any suspicious or criminal behavior suspected prior to the stop?

No Yes - Explain: _____

Did any questioning, searching of either the driver or car occur?

No Yes - Why and describe: _____

Was the driver either charged or arrested for reasons other than the initial traffic violation: No Yes - Explain: _____
