

MINNEAPOLIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

SPECIAL ORDER



BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

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TO: Distribution "A"			RETENTION DATE: Until Rescinded
SUBJECT: Manual Revision – MP-8806			APPROVED BY:

**Introduction:**

Effective with the issuance of this Special Order, Section 5-110 of the MPD Policy and Procedure Manual shall be added as follows:

**5-110 Prohibition on Hate Groups, Extremist Groups, and Criminal Gangs**  
(xx/xx/25)

**I. Purpose**

The presence of criminal, hate and extremist groups, poses a substantial threat to the community members of Minneapolis and directly impedes the efforts of the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) to build public trust and provide for public safety.

Active participation or membership in, or affiliation with, criminal, hate and extremist groups, and association with known members of such groups is inconsistent with the purpose of law enforcement, and interferes with the mission, vision, values, and goals of the MPD.

**II. Policy**

**A. Prohibition on Supporting or Participating in Hate or Extremist Groups or Criminal Gangs**

MPD members shall not join, support, advocate for, maintain membership, or participate in the activities of a hate or extremist group, or a criminal gang. (MN Statute section 626.8436 Subd. 1)

1. This prohibition does not apply when the conduct is sanctioned by the MPD as part of the member's official duties. (MN Statute section 626.8436 Subd. 1)

## **B. MPD Applicants**

MPD will not accept applicants with a history of membership in, support for, advocating for, participating in the activities of, or discriminatory conduct as a part of, a hate or extremist group or a criminal gang. (MN Rules section 6700.0700 and MN Rules section 6700.1600).

## **III. Definitions**

**Criminal Gang:** Any ongoing organization, association, or group of three or more persons, whether formal or informal, does all of the following:  
(MN Statute section 609.229 Subd. 1)

1. Has, as one of its primary activities, the commission of one or more of the offenses listed in MN Statute section 609.11 Subd. 9 (describing crimes with mandatory minimum sentences).
2. Has a common name or common identifying sign or symbol.
3. Includes members who individually or collectively engage in or have engaged in a pattern of criminal activity.

**Hate or Extremist Group:** A group that does any of the following:  
(MN Statute section 626.8436 Subd. 2)

1. Promotes the use of threats, force, violence, or criminal activity:
  - a. Against a local, state, or federal entity, or the officials of such an entity.
  - b. To deprive, or attempt to deprive, people of their civil rights under the Minnesota or United States Constitution.
  - c. To achieve goals that are political, religious, discriminatory, or ideological in nature.
2. Promotes seditious activities.
3. Advocates for differences in the right to vote, speak, assemble, travel, or maintain citizenship based on a person's perceived race, color, creed, religion, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, public assistance status, or any protected class as defined in Minnesota Statutes or federal law.

The above apply when demonstrated by the group's:

- Official statements or principles.  
or
- Statements of its leaders or members.  
or
- Activities.

**Supporting Participating in Hate or Extremist Groups or Criminal Gangs:** Advocacy, membership, or participation in a hate or extremist group or criminal gang is demonstrated by any of the following:

4. Dissemination of material that does any of the following:

a. Promotes the use of threats, force, violence, or criminal activity.

b. Promotes seditious activities.

c. Advocates for differences in the right to vote, speak, assemble, travel, or maintain citizenship based on a person's perceived race, color, creed, religion, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, public assistance status, or any protected class as defined in Minnesota Statutes or federal law.

5. Engagement in cyber or social media posts, chats, forums, and other forms of promotion of the group's activities.

6. Display or use of insignia, colors, tattoos, hand signs, slogans, or codes associated with the group.

7. Direct financial or in-kind contributions to the group.

8. A physical or cyber presence in the group's events.

9. Other conduct that could reasonably be considered support, advocacy, or participation in the group's activities.