



Executive Order 203

Governor Cuomo recently signed *Executive Order 203: New York State Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative*, which directs local governments with police agencies to review and revise policies and create a plan to address race-based issues and foster trust in the community in order to receive state funding in 2021. Further guidance will be provided by the Division of Budget, in consultation with the Department of Criminal Justice Services. In summary, the order states that:

- Local governments with police agencies must perform a comprehensive review of police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures and practices.
- A new plan must be developed that is meant to address the particular needs of the community, to promote community engagement to foster trust, fairness and legitimacy, and to address any racial bias and disproportionate policing of communities of color.
- The chief executive officer of the local government must convene and consult with the local police agency and local stakeholders, such as members of the police force, interested non-profit and faith based community groups, and other elected officials, with a particular emphasis on areas with high numbers of police and community interactions, to create and implement this new plan that includes any modifications, innovations, modernizations to improve police agency and community relationships and reduce racial disparities in policing.
- The plan must consider evidence-based policing strategies, including but not limited to, use of force policies, procedural justice; any studies addressing systemic racial bias or racial justice in policing; implicit bias awareness training; de-escalation training and practices; law enforcement-assisted diversion programs; restorative justice practices; community-based outreach and conflict resolution; problem-oriented policing; hot spots policing; focused deterrence; crime prevention through environmental design; violence prevention and reduction interventions; model policies and guidelines promulgated by the New York State Municipal Police Training Council; and standards promulgated by the New York State Law Enforcement Accreditation Program.
- Plans must be offered for public comment and adopted by local law or resolution by April 1, 2021.
- Local governments must transmit a certification to the Director of the Division of the Budget to affirm that they complied with this order and that such local law or resolution has been adopted. *Those who fail to do so may not be eligible for state funding.*