626.8436 HATE OR EXTREMIST GROUPS.

Subdivision 1. **Prohibition.** (a) A peace officer may not join, support, advocate for, maintain membership, or participate in the activities of:

- (1) a hate or extremist group; or
- (2) a criminal gang as defined in section 609.229, subdivision 1.
- (b) This section does not apply when the conduct is sanctioned by the law enforcement agency as part of the officer's official duties.
- Subd. 2. **Definitions.** (a) "Hate or extremist group" means a group that, as demonstrated by its official statements or principles, the statements of its leaders or members, or its activities:
 - (1) promotes the use of threats, force, violence, or criminal activity:
 - (i) against a local, state, or federal entity, or the officials of such an entity;
- (ii) to deprive, or attempt to deprive, individuals of their civil rights under the Minnesota or United States Constitution; or
 - (iii) to achieve goals that are political, religious, discriminatory, or ideological in nature;
 - (2) promotes seditious activities; or
- (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.
- (b) For the purposes of this section, advocacy, membership, or participation in a hate or extremist group or criminal gang is demonstrated by:
 - (1) dissemination of material that promotes:
 - (i) the use of threats, force, violence, or criminal activity;
 - (ii) seditious activities; or
 - (iii) the objectives described in paragraph (a), clause (3);
- (2) engagement in cyber or social media posts, chats, forums, and other forms of promotion of the group's activities;
 - (3) display or use of insignia, colors, tattoos, hand signs, slogans, or codes associated with the group;
 - (4) direct financial or in-kind contributions to the group;
 - (5) a physical or cyber presence in the group's events; or
- (6) other conduct that could reasonably be considered support, advocacy, or participation in the group's activities.

History: 2023 c 52 art 10 s 12