

# Memorandum



DATE August 10, 2018  
TO Honorable Members of the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee  
SUBJECT **Cite and Release 6-Month Update**

On Monday, August 13, 2018, you will be briefed on The Dallas Police Department's Cite and Release program. The presentation will outline goals and will include a seven month statistical overview. We will cover the locations and citations issued, and include the reasons for contact. Finally, the presentation will provide the Chief's assessment and recommended improvements for the program.

The briefing materials are attached for your review.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.



**Jon Fortune**  
Assistant City Manager

[Attachment]

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
Larry Casto, City Attorney  
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor  
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Solis, Administrative Judge  
Kimberly Bizar Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager  
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager  
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer  
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Chief of Community Services  
Raquel Favela, Chief of Economic Development & Neighborhood Services  
Theresa O'Donnell, Chief of Resilience  
Directors and Assistant Directors

# **Cite & Release Update**

**Public Safety and Criminal Justice**

**August 13, 2018**

**Lonzo Anderson, Assistant Chief  
Dallas Police Department  
City of Dallas**



# Presentation Overview

- Background/History
- Purpose
- Program Overview
- Statistical Information
- Benefits and Improvements
- Next Steps
- Additional Considerations



# Background/History

- September 1, 2007: Cite & Release act effective (TX Legislature 80(R) HB 2391 Code of Criminal Procedure 14.06.)
- December 8, 2015: Originally briefed to PSCJ Committee
- December 1, 2017: Implemented Cite & Release Program (for Marijuana only)

# Purpose

- Provide an overview of the Cite & Release Program
- Provide a 6-month statistical overview relating to enforcement of the Cite & Release Program
- Discuss the benefits and potential for program expansion and improvement

# Program Overview

- Cite & Release implemented December 1, 2017
- Goals of the program
  - Reduce jail population for non-violent offenders
  - Reduce the time officers spend on jail processing procedures
  - Improve response times by getting officers back into service more quickly

# Program Overview

- Dallas County only participating county in the City of Dallas Cite & Release Program
- Additional guidelines agreed upon with Dallas County
  - Subject required to possess a valid state issued ID
  - Must obtain thumbprint
  - Minimum 17 years of age (adults only)

# Program Overview

Arrest	Cite & Release
Detain suspect	Detain suspect
Field test drugs and get Sergeant's approval	Sergeant field tests and weighs drugs
Transport Prisoner	Verify ID and obtain thumbprint
Book-in prisoner and complete related paperwork	Issue citation and field release
Process drugs at jail	Process drugs at jail or the property room
Complete report	Complete report
Estimated time: 1 Hour 45 Minutes	Estimated time: 1 Hour

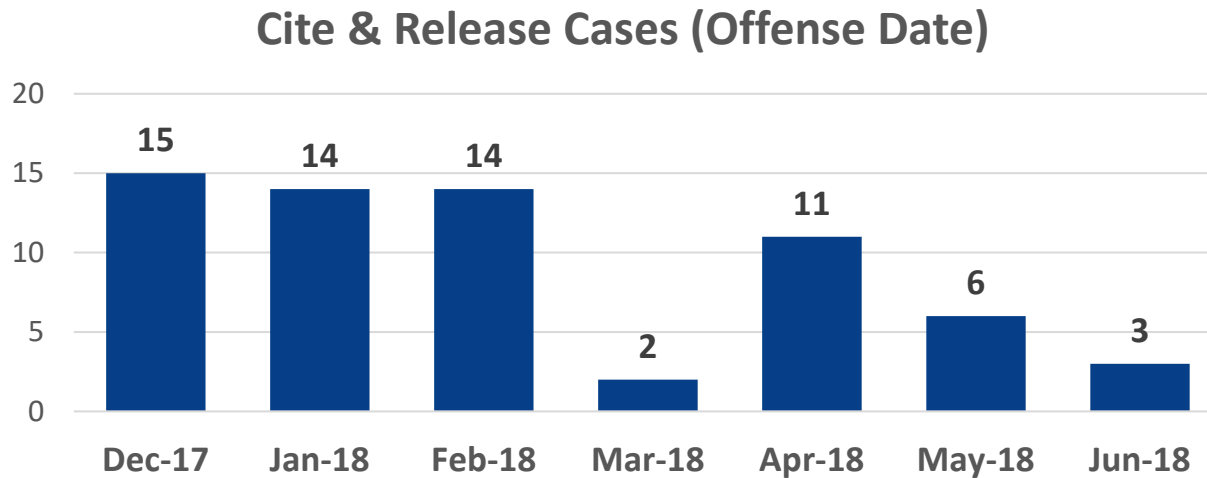
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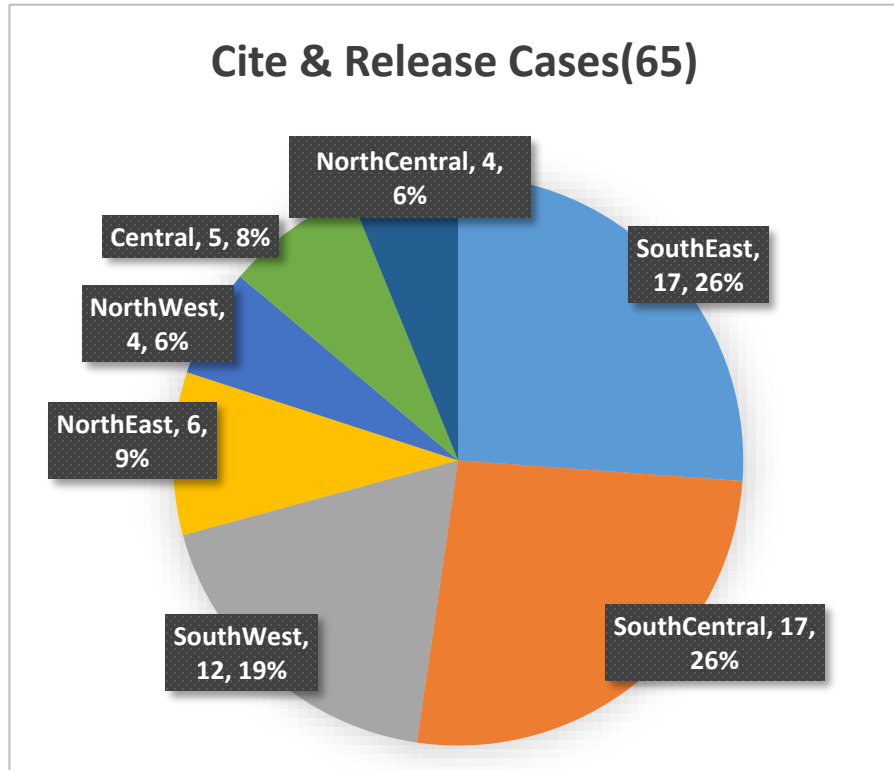
# Statistical Information (Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 – June 31<sup>st</sup> 2018)

- From December 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 thru June 31<sup>st</sup> 2018
- 65 Cite & Release cases filed with Dallas County



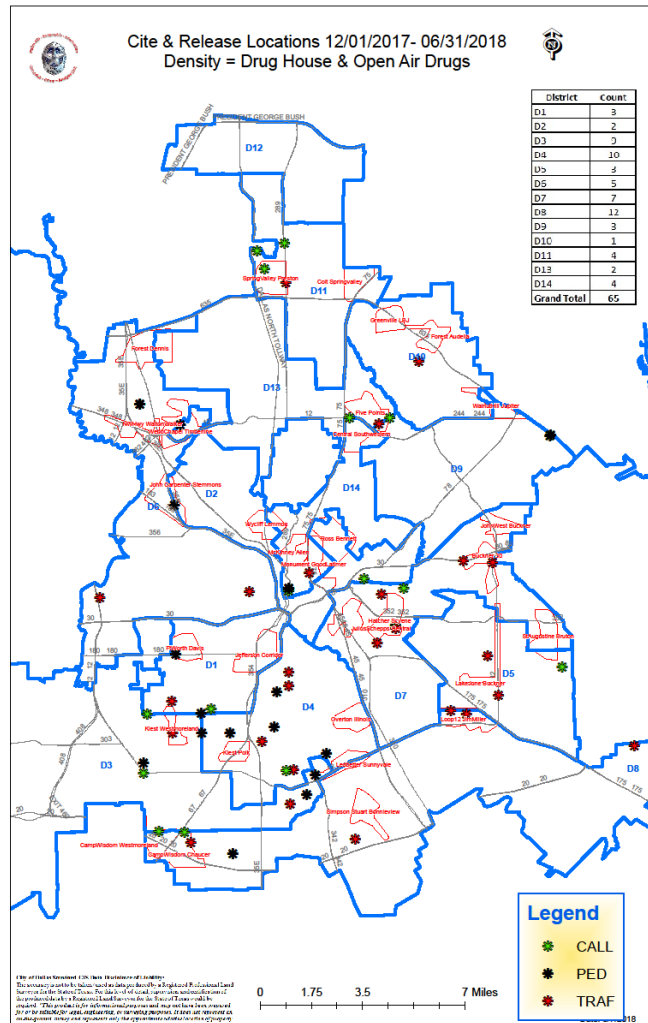
# Statistical Information (Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 – June 31<sup>st</sup> 2018)

- Divisional Breakdown



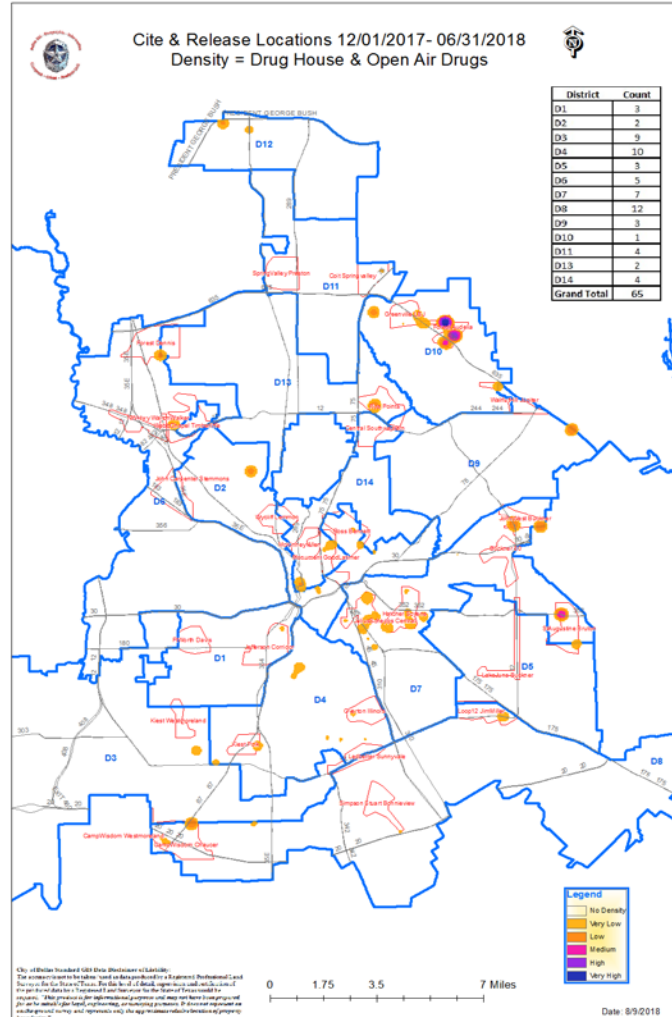
# Statistical Information (Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 – June 31<sup>st</sup> 2018)

## Citations vs TAAG locations



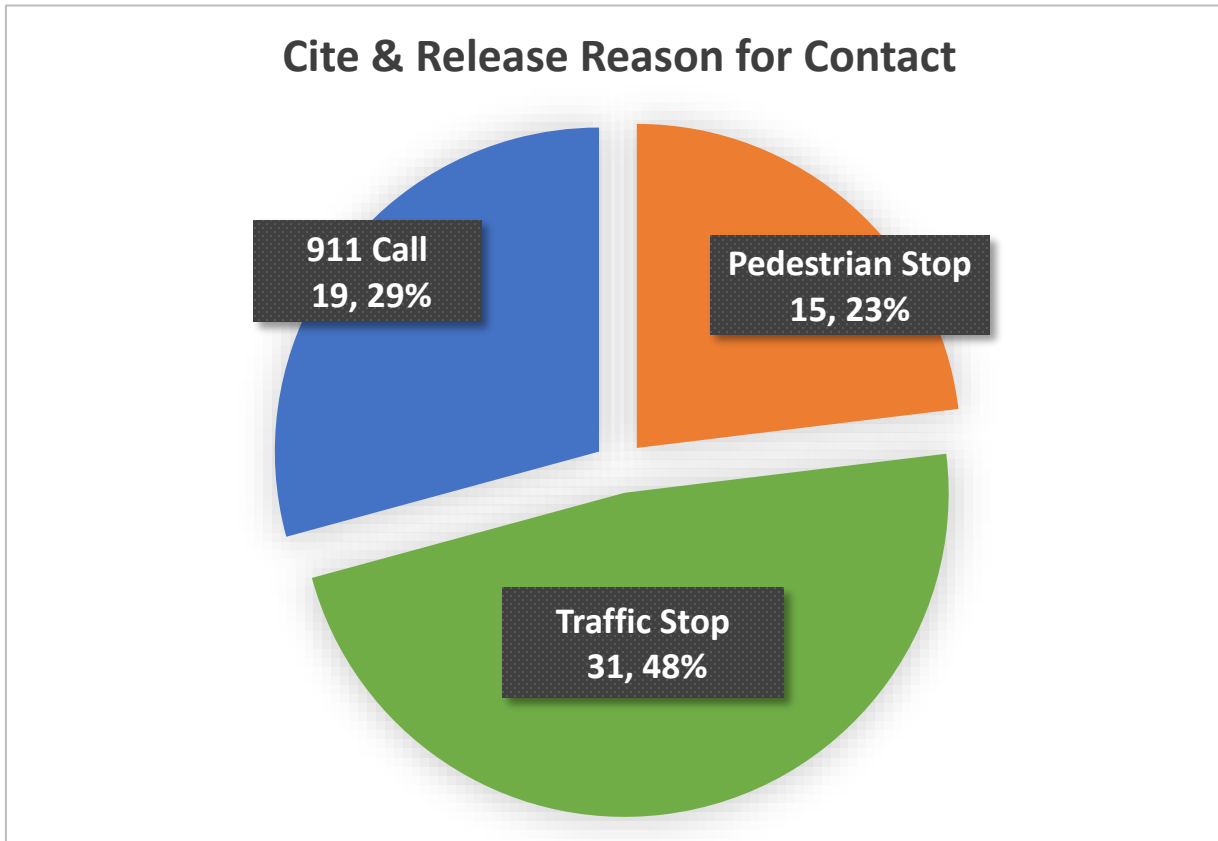
# Statistical Information (Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 – June 31<sup>st</sup> 2018)

Citations vs Drug Locations/  
Open Air Drug Use



# Statistical Information (Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 – June 31<sup>st</sup> 2018)

- Reason For Contact



Traffic Stop Reason for Contact:

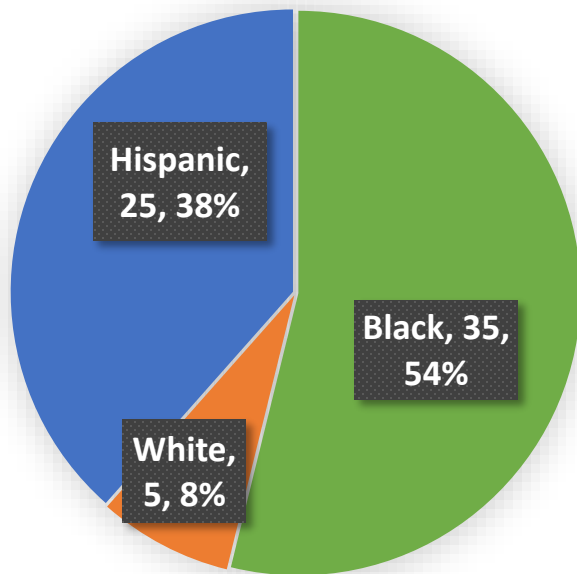
64% Hazardous Violations  
6-Fail to Signal  
4-Ran Stop Sign  
4-Ran Red Light

36% Regulatory Violations  
Mostly Expired  
Registration

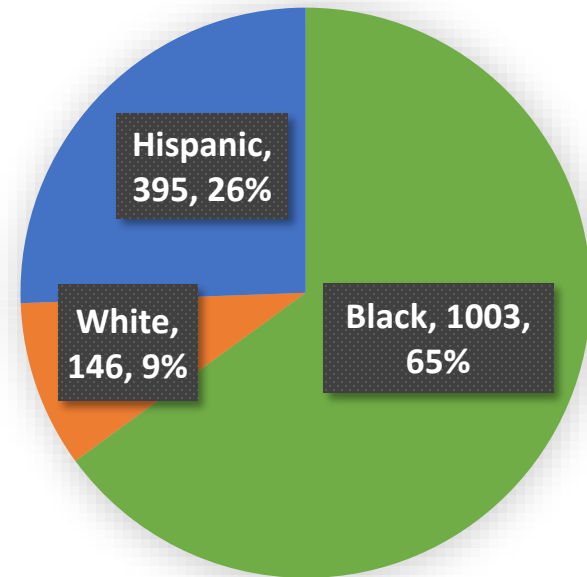
# Statistical Information (Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 – June 31<sup>st</sup> 2018)

- Suspect Race

Cite & Release Citations  
(65)



All Marijuana Possession Cases  
(1,544)



# Statistical Information (Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 – June 31<sup>st</sup> 2018)

- Of the 65 Cases:
  - 33 Suspects appeared in court
  - 22 Suspects have failed to appear on the date assigned
  - 7 Future court settings
  - 3 Warrants dropped
- 19 Cases contained additional evidence that indicated possible distribution of Marijuana (small baggies, scales, etc.)
- 20 Suspects (31%) had prior arrests for possession of Marijuana
- 46 Vehicles were released at the scene (71% of cases)

# Chief's Assessment

- Only 6% of Marijuana cases were eligible for the current Cite & Release program
- A disparity exists between population demographics and Cite & Release enforcement
- Cite and Release locations are consistent with TAAG enforcement, calls for service in narcotics locations and quality of life complaints of open air drug use



# Chief's Assessment

- Equitable enforcement is maintained by
  - Improved traffic stop data collection
  - Random audits of body worn camera video
  - Random in-car camera audits

# Program Improvements

- Improvements that have already occurred:
  - Added requirement to capture the suspect's photo or video on body worn camera system
  - Altered notification procedures (via Dallas County Courts) from mail to e-mail and telephone

# Benefits

- 100% of Cite & Release cases are eligible for the Dallas County Memo Program
  - Prevents jail time (if suspect appears for court)
  - Drug Awareness classes
  - Feedback from participant offenders indicates strong preference for Cite & Release program
- Reduced jail population for non-violent offenders
- Reduced time officers spend on jail processing procedures (Nurse line etc.)
- Vehicles not towed at owners expense
- Suspects not custodially arrested

# Next Steps

- Modify requirements to increase participation:
  - The Department is reviewing other charges that can also be added to the Cite and Release program
  - Reviewed DWLI - District Attorney's office changing current requirements for a DWLI case filing
- Re-convene with other counties to encourage participation
- Measure effectiveness of program alterations by comparing utilization rates
- Data improvements

# Additional Considerations

**MPRnews**

## Mpls. police will end sting operations targeting low-level marijuana sales

Matt Sepic - Minneapolis - Jun 7, 2018

Issues



**The New York Times**

## Mayor and Some Prosecutors Move to Curb Marijuana Arrests



**POLITICS**

**Los Angeles Times**

## Trump administration targets recreational pot, placing thousands of marijuana businesses in California at risk

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/15/nyregion/marijuana-arrests-mayor-de-blasio-reduce.html>

<http://www.latimes.com/politics/la-na-pol-pot-sessions-20180104-story.html>

<https://www.mprnews.org/story/2018/06/07/minneapolis-police-will-no-longer-arrest-people-for-small-amounts-of-marijuana>

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