



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number:

Agenda Date: 4/24/2018

In Control: Public Safety Committee

DEPARTMENT: Police

DEPARTMENT HEAD: William P. McManus, Chief of Police

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: City Wide

SUBJECT:

2018 Quarterly Crime Update

SUMMARY:

In response to an increase in violent crime in cities across the nation in 2016, the SAPD implemented the Violent Crime Task Force (VCTF) in January 2017. The VCTF is a proactive, intelligence-driven initiative comprised of local, state and Federal law enforcement agencies that strategically focuses on identifying and apprehending known criminals who are responsible for a significant share of the illegal activity that ultimately culminates in violent crimes that impact quality of life. Due in large measure to the efforts of the VCTF, San Antonio experienced a significant decrease in violent crime last year. Through the first quarter of 2018, San Antonio continues to witness a dramatic decrease in violent crime as a result of the continued efforts of the VCTF and the implementation of the FY 2018 budget initiatives designed to enhance community engagement.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

UCR Crime Data

The Uniform Crime Report (UCR), which is published by the Federal Bureau of Investigation annually, is comprised of monthly violent crime and property crime statistics reported by over 18,000 law enforcement agencies across the nation, including the San Antonio Police Department. The table below offers a comparative crime statistics for 2017 and 2018, through April 16:

Bi-Monthly UCR Status Report				
Violent Crimes	Jan - Apr 16 2017	Jan - Apr 16, 2018	# Change Inc/Dec	Percent Inc/Dec
Homicide	36	38	2	5.56%
Rape	326	267	(59)	-18.10%
Robbery	701	500	(201)	-28.67%
Aggravated Assault	2,032	1,574	(458)	-22.54%
Total Violent Crimes	3,095	2,379	(716)	-23.13%
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Simple Assaults	5,686	5,584	(102)	-1.79%
Property Crimes				
Burglary	3,490	2,373	(1,117)	-32.01%
Larceny Theft	15,776	11,960	(3,816)	-24.19%
Motor Vehicle Theft	2,111	1,719	(392)	-18.57%
Total Property Crimes	21,377	16,052	(5,325)	-24.91%
Total Part I Offenses	24,472	18,431	(6,041)	-24.69%

Overall, Part I UCR crime has decreased 25% through the first quarter of 2018 compared to last year. The significant decrease can be attributed to the VCTF as well as the Department's continued efforts to strengthen its relationship with neighborhoods through the introduction of a Community Engagement Program and the expansion of the SAFFE Program.

Violent Crime Task Force

In 2017, the VCTF was responsible for a total of 5,687 arrests, 2,339 felony warrants executed, 883 firearms recovered, 594 gang members arrested and the seizure of over 505,000 grams of drugs and over \$1.2 million. The table below provides a comparison of the results achieved by the VCTF this year through April 14:

	2017	2018	% Change
Arrests	1,229	2,620	113%
Felony Warrants	578	839	45%
Narcotics Charges	533	899	69%
Gang Members Arrested	128	194	52%
Weapons Seized	192	405	111%
Drugs Seized	78,142 g	99,489 g	27%
Currency Seized	\$310,525.00	\$395,087.00	27%

Community Engagement

Community Engagement Program

The community engagement program is designed to proactively establish contact with individuals in high crime areas in an effort to facilitate support services and to prevent criminal activity. The program works closely with the Department's Victim Advocacy Unit and other programs, such as SAFFE, to provide valuable services and coordinate community projects. In addition, the community engagement program coordinates its efforts to

compliment the activities of the Violent Crimes Task Force to ensure its services are offered in areas with significant criminal activity. To date, the program has concentrated its focus within the East, West and Central service areas, respectively. As of March 30, the results achieved are as follows:

Violence Intervention and Investigations

Performance Metric	YTD
Contacts with High-Risk Individuals	26
Offender Notifications (Mediations) with Partners	8
Investigative Assistance	10
Service Referrals	30
Number of High-Risk Individuals in Engaged in Program	10
Offenders Flagged for Enhanced Attention	16

Community Engagement

Performance Metric	YTD
Partnerships with Outside Agencies	23
Special Projects in Coordination with Community	8
Community Meetings	20

Victim Advocacy

Performance Metric	YTD
Contact Victims of Violent Crime within Target Area	18
Number of Victims Engaged in Program	4

SAFFE Program

Eight additional SAFFE officers have been assigned to the East, West and Central service areas, respectively. The following is a brief summary of the benefits that have resulted from the additional positions.

East Service Area (4 officers)

- 449 hours of directed patrol to proactively address public safety concerns
- 22 community meetings attended
- 92 crime prevention presentations
- Implementation of a weekly bike patrol initiative
- Significant increase in addressing panhandling and criminal trespassing
- Increased presence at elementary schools and community activities
- Increased interaction with neighborhood organizations and the business community

Central Service Area (3 Officers)/ West Service Area (1 Officer)

- 76 community meetings attended
- 38 crime prevention presentations
- Assignment to areas with significant quality of life concerns

- Creation and presentation of anti-bullying program at area schools
- Assistance with patrols and initiatives to address panhandling in the downtown area
- Enhanced partnership with Code Enforcement to address public safety issues
- Enhanced social media presence to strengthen communication with residents

Next Steps

The SAPD remains committed to identifying opportunities to enhance its relationship with the community and to implementing programs designed to reduce crime. As part of the FY 2019 budget process, the Department will introduce several recommendations that will further enhance customer service and dedicate critical public safety resources to programs that will increase officer availability within our communities.