

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE October 23, 2020

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **DPD Preparations for Election and Potential Protests**

The Dallas Police Department has received numerous inquiries regarding the safety of our city as we plan for Election Day and the weeks following. In response, the department has prepared a statement regarding our preparations to keep Dallas safe.

The Dallas Police Department is committed to ensuring the safety of our community during this election season. Therefore, we have plans to have adequate staff available leading up to Election Day and the days following November 3. In conjunction with our local, state, and federal partners, operational plans have been developed that address supporting election site security, maintaining the ability of individuals to access polling locations, and providing a safe environment for individuals desiring to exercise their First Amendment Rights. Additionally, the department is taking the steps necessary to maintain the continuity of Patrol operations, such as answering calls for police service and crime prevention.

Operational plans include implementing a unified command structure and activating the Emergency Operation Center (EOC). Additionally, all discretionary leave has been restricted leading up to and after the elections for sworn personnel. All sworn personnel will be required to be in uniform and maintain a constant state of equipment readiness during the election period in case the need for an immediate response emerges. For strategic reasons, the deployment of resources and manpower will not be disclosed. However, Response and Mobile Field Force Teams have been identified and are currently refining their training. Command level officers are also participating in tabletop exercises designed to explore and develop increased operational strengths. Commanders have met with election officials for an overview of Election Day Polling process and laws, and with the American Airline Center (AAC) being the largest polling site in Dallas County, a specific operational plan has been prepared which includes the downtown areas.

As we move forward, the Dallas Police Department will continue to monitor information regarding planned events, potential threats, and community concerns to ensure that our department is prepared to keep Dallas safe.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jon Fortune".

Jon Fortune
Assistant City Manager

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c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Billierae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion
Directors and Assistant Directors