

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE July 2, 2020

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – July 2, 2020**

New Updates

[Return to Work Phased Reopening](#)

Due to the number of positive cases continuing to increase since the Return to Work Briefing to the City Council on June 3rd, 2020 and following guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Dallas County. We are delaying the reopening dates of Phases Two and Three until late July or early August. We will keep reviewing the COVID-19 trends to provide potential dates.

[County Policing Work Group Description](#)

This week I along with Chief Hall participated in the initial meeting of the Dallas County New Directions for Public Safety and Positive Community Change Working Group. The Group emanated from a conversation between community leaders, clergy and civil rights activists dedicated to policing reform, as well as the Dallas Police Chief, Dallas County DA, and Dallas County Judge. After the conversation, the community leaders sent a document entitled “10 New Directions for Public Safety and Positive Community Change” to Mayor Eric Johnson and County Judge Jenkins requesting that a group be formed to allow a conversation led from the community perspective about their concerns and demands for a divestment from policing and a reinvestment in community health and safety measures.

The work group is currently comprised of six cities and seven members of the community. The committee will be co-convened by Dallas County Administrator Darryl Martin, and a member of the community chosen by the community members on the working group. It is my hope and the hope of those serving that honest and difficult dialogue will lead to meaningful and lasting change that strengthens our community.

[NCTGOC - Volkswagen Grant Program](#)

On Thursday July 9, 2020 at 6:30 p.m., the Office of Business Diversity (OBD), the Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ), and the North Central Texas Council of Government (NCTCOG) will host its first virtual information session regarding the Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program (TxVEMP) and the Texas Emissions Reduction Program (TERP).

The TxVEMP program provides funds to replace or repower a variety of vehicles used to haul waste, including garbage trucks, roll-off trucks, dump trucks, sweeper trucks, chipper trucks, and grapple trucks. The TERP program provides financial incentives to eligible

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individuals, businesses, or local governments to reduce emissions from polluting vehicles and equipment.

OBD has identified roughly 170 Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (S/M/WBEs) in the transportation industry that will be invited to attend this virtual session. Additionally, an invitation will be extended to the general public as well. OBD will follow this session up with three training sessions for a smaller cohort of businesses that participated in the initial training session. The proposed training sessions will focus on fleet management, business finances (tax implications for grant recipients), and grant application preparation. Should you have any questions or concerns please contact Zarin Gracey, Director for Business Diversity @ Zarin.gracey@dallascityhall.com.

[Residential Input on Accessory Dwelling Units \(ADUs\) Through Online Survey](#)

The Sustainable Development and Construction Department (SDC) is beginning the process to review proposed amendments to the accessory dwelling unit (ADU) regulations as requested by the Housing and Homeless Solutions Committee. ADUs are also known as granny flats, garage apartments, back houses, or mother-in-law quarters. An initial step in the process is soliciting input from residents on their thoughts on ADUs through an online survey. SDC is sending the survey link to our distribution lists as well as asking groups to post the link on their social media sites and send to their distribution lists. The link to the survey is [here](#). The survey will be open for input through July 10, 2020. Staff will be working with the Zoning Ordinance Advisory Committee (ZOAC) during the summer to discuss possible changes to allow ADUs throughout Dallas. SDC's ADU [webpage](#) will be updated throughout the process and will provide opportunities for input. For more information, please contact Director of Sustainable Development and Construction, Kris Sweckard at 214-671-9293.

[DWU Operation WaterShare](#)

Operation WaterShare is a Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) program that helps families who are temporarily unable to pay their water bills. The program is funded by customer donations and administered by the City of Dallas Office of Community Care. All the money is used to pay water bills for those experiencing temporary financial crisis, based on eligibility and funds availability. Now more than ever, many of our neighbors need that help. Customers can easily donate through their DWU online account or by mail with the utility payment. For more information, please call Water Customer Service at 214-651-1441 or visit

https://dallascityhall.com/departments/waterutilities/Pages/water_helping_others.aspx

See attached announcement (English and Spanish).

[DWU Rating from Texas Water Conservation Scorecard](#)

Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) has been rated in the top seven utilities in Texas by the 2020 Texas Water Conservation Scorecard. The scoring is based on water provider state

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reports, as well as water conservation policies and programs. More than 300 water utilities in Texas were rated. See more at www.texaswaterconservationscorecard.org



[Community Artists Program – Artist Roster Applications Open July 6 - 20](#)

The Office of Arts and Culture (OAC) will be opening applications for the Community Artist Program from July 6 – 20, 2020. This program contracts Dallas-based artists to provide performances and workshops which instruct the Dallas community about ALAANA (African, Latinx, Asian, Arab, Native American) traditions and cultural expressions. OAC held a virtual info session on Facebook on June 30 and will hold another info session Tuesday, July 14 at 6pm; recordings of each session will be available after the scheduled date. For artists and residents who wish to learn more, please visit bit.ly/OCACAP1. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Rhonda Ivery, Community Arts Manager at 214-671-8573.

[Cornyn: Dallas to Receive \\$850K Federal Grant for PPE for Firefighters](#)

The City of Dallas was awarded a \$846,260.87 federal grant to enhance operations and safety for the Fire Department in response to the coronavirus pandemic, U.S. Sen. John Cornyn announced Tuesday, June 30. The funding was appropriated by the CARES Act, which Sen. Cornyn supported in March, and comes through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG), which aims to strengthen the nation's overall level of preparedness and ability to respond to fire and related hazards. "Firefighters are on the front lines of keeping our communities safe, and they deserve every resource possible at their disposal," said Sen. Cornyn. "I applaud area leaders for their work to obtain this grant, and I'm grateful to the Trump Administration for supporting the City of Dallas." This grant will be used for personal protective equipment (PPE) and related supplies. You can read more about the FY 2020 COVID-19 Supplemental AFG program [here](#). Should you have any questions or concerns please contact Chief Artis, Director for Dallas Fire-Rescue at Dominique.artis@dallascityhall.com.

[Our Constituents Can Help Researchers by Filling Out the COVID Symptom Tracker](#)

The Office of Innovation has designed a short two-minute daily survey meant to help researchers better predict hotspots and forecasting for COVID-19. We encourage constituents to complete the on-going, anonymous survey on a daily basis. By looking at

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the results over time, researchers can assess the accuracy of past predictions as well as use current responses to forecast future regional health at the zip code level. Please share the survey [link](#) with your constituents. Please reach out to Laila Aleqresh, Chief Innovation Officer, for more information or should you have questions.

[FY 20-21 Budget Town Hall Update](#)

Budget Town Halls will be scheduled for August 13-27, 2020. The preparation memorandum and opportunities for the various virtual platforms for these meetings can be accessed [here](#). Each Council District may schedule up to three virtual town hall meetings - two WebEx and one Tele-Town Hall Meeting (TTHM). As communicated via memorandum last week, the Budget Office has planned for one TTHM per Council District. Any additional TTHM virtual meetings will be paid for out of the officeholder account.

Staff is working on the schedule for these meeting to include:

- o Councilmember location during the virtual town hall
- o WebEx or TTHM preference (and call-in/link credentials to access meeting)
- o Broadcast requests
- o Language needs

The Communications, Outreach and Marketing department will provide the social media infographics next week. For more information please contact, Carrie Prysock, Director of Mayor and City Council Office at 214-670-5682.

[Dallas Public Library expands Job Seekers Resources](#)

DPL Staff have expanded their virtual presence to assist citizens with increased job and career needs. Programs include one-on-one Zoom sessions with staff and Dallas Job Club to connect with fellow job seekers, as well as a list of companies hiring and how to stand out as an applicant. For more information contact the staff of the City Life, Education & Work Skills at 214-670-1468, Tuesday - Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

[City of Dallas Park Rangers](#)

Dallas Park Rangers are a team of dedicated men and women that support the department's mission by providing monitoring services to park visitors. Park Rangers patrol parks, trails, and recreation facilities. Some commonly addressed park violations are smoking, alcohol use, illegal vending and non-permitted athletic field use. Rangers may also issue citations for illegal parking on parks, at-large dogs and litter (dog waste). Visitors are encouraged to contact Park Rangers for low level park violations such as those listed above. Rangers operational hours are as follows:

- Summer (May-August)
 - o Monday thru Friday 7:30 am to 10:00pm
 - o Saturday & Sunday 10:00am to 10:00pm

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- Spring/Fall (March, April, September, October, November)
 - Monday thru Friday 7:30am to 8:00pm
 - Saturday & Sunday 10:00am to 8:00pm
- Winter (December-February)
 - Monday thru Friday 7:30am to 7:00pm
 - Saturday & Sunday 10:30am to 7:00pm

Rangers may be reached directly during operational hours on the Park Ranger Service line at **(214)671-7000**. Rangers may also be reached via email after operational hours at ParkRangers@Dallascityhall.com

[July 7th activities the department will be conducting next week.](#)

A commemorative video produced by the Dallas Police Department Public Information Office will be shared with members of the department and posted on the department's social media sites, on 7/7.

The Police Communications Unit will have a “moment of silence” on all police radio channels, on 7/7 at 8:58 p.m., which is the time of the first shots fired on 7/7/2016.

A private on-line conversation with the families and a wreath laying ceremony will be held at DPD Headquarters. This event will take place inside of the media conference room. This private event is not open to the public and the media is not invited to attend. Chief Hall, the Assistant Chiefs and the Assistant Directors have been invited to participate.

[Halston Apartment Fire Non-Congregate Shelter Update](#)

On Sunday, June 21 at 7:00 pm, the Dallas Fire Department responded to a three-alarm multi-Family Fire at the Halston Apartment Complex in East Dallas. Forty-nine units were affected, and one building in the complex is a total loss. The Red Cross opened a non-congregate shelter at a nearby Super 8 Motel and thirty-one apartment residents were immediately staying at the hotel. Red Cross will continue to provide support until the residents are placed in a new apartment at a sister apartment location.

During last week's City Council Meeting, Ben Strube, a resident of District 8 who is a neighbor to the apartment complex had concerns with the humanitarian response to the displaced residents. The Office of Emergency Management worked with Mr. Strube and the Red Cross to ensure displaced residents did receive the care needed.

Due to Covid-19, the Red Cross is operating non-congregate shelters at hotels to promote social distancing. Some affected residents are not staying at the hotel as they indicated they had family or friends to stay with. Any unmet needs can be directed to the Red Cross by calling 1-800-redcross and they will be happy to provide support. Should you have any further questions, please contact Rocky Vaz with the Office of Emergency Management at 214.670.4275 or rocky.vaz@dallascityhall.com.

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Look Ahead

City Council Briefings

August 5, 2020

- Dallas First Procurements
- Dallas Housing Authority Annual Update
- Small Cell Program Updates

August 11, 2020

- Budget Workshop – City Manager’s Recommended Budget

August 19, 2020

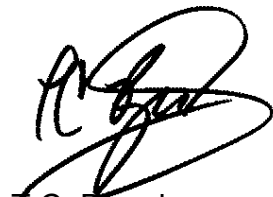
- Community Land Trust and Procedures
- A&D Study Outcome and Next Steps.
- Budget Workshop

Media Inquiries

As of June 29, 2020, the City has received media requests from various news outlets regarding the following topics:

- Rental Assistance Updates
- CBTS Federal Support ending
- COVID-19 Testing Updates
- Firefighters Pull Elderly Female From Old East Dallas Apartment Fire
- RIGHT Care Team Interviews with Fox News Channel
- Couple and Their Dog Uninjured as Fire Destroys North Dallas Home
- RIGHT Care Being Used as Model for Behavioral Health Response Reform
- RIGHT Care Gaining Notice from Publications in Baltimore and New York
- DFR Among Those Named in Lawsuit Following In-Custody Death
- DFR Rescues 6 From Lake Ray Hubbard
- DFR Reporting 46 Members Total Have Tested Positive for COVID-19
- City of Dallas and DFR Awarded Grant for PPE

Please see the attached document compiling information provided to the media outlets for the June 23, 2020 – June 29, 2020 for your reference. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff.



T.G. Broadnax
City Manager

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c: Chris Caso, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager

Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager
Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Laila Aleqresh, Chief Innovation Officer
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion
Directors and Assistant Directors



Can you help a Dallas family in need?

(Ver al dorso para español.)

Make a difference today

Operation WaterShare is a Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) program that helps families who are temporarily unable to pay their water bills. Now more than ever, many of our neighbors need that help. Since DWU began Operation WaterShare in 1993, Dallas residents and businesses have helped thousands of Dallas families with outstanding water bills.



Operation WaterShare is funded by customer donations and administered by the City of Dallas Office of Community Care at three locations: Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center, the West Dallas Multipurpose Center and Senior Services. Every penny received goes to a special, separate account. All of the money in that account is used to pay water bills for those experiencing temporary financial crisis, based on eligibility and funds availability.



Gifts are needed now more than ever

All donations, no matter how small, are welcome – giving together adds up! All gifts are 100% tax deductible. You can easily donate by mail with your utility payment or through your Dallas Water Utilities online account.

For more information on how to donate or to request assistance through Operation WaterShare, call Dallas Water Customer Service at 214-651-1441



Publication FY19-20 #61

7/2020



¿Puedes ayudar a una familia necesitada de Dallas?

Haz la diferencia hoy

Operación WaterShare es un programa de Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) que ayuda a las familias que temporalmente no pueden pagar sus facturas de agua. Ahora más que nunca, muchos de nuestros vecinos necesitan esa ayuda. Desde que DWU comenzó la Operación WaterShare en 1993, los residentes y negocios de Dallas han ayudado a miles de familias de Dallas con facturas de agua pendientes.



Operación WaterShare es financiado por donaciones de clientes y administrado por la Oficina de Atención Comunitaria de la Ciudad de Dallas en tres ubicaciones: el Centro Comunitario Martin Luther King Jr., el Centro Multipropósito West Dallas y los Servicios para Personas Mayores. Cada centavo recibido va a una cuenta especial separada. Todo el dinero en esa cuenta se usa para pagar las facturas de agua de aquellos que experimentan una crisis financiera temporal, según la elegibilidad y la disponibilidad de fondos.



Se necesitan regalos ahora más que nunca

Todas las donaciones, no importa cuán pequeñas sean, son bienvenidas: ¡todas juntas hacen mucho! Todos los regalos son 100% deducibles de impuestos. Puede donar fácilmente por correo con su pago de servicios de agua o mediante su cuenta en línea con Dallas Water Utilities.

Para obtener mayor información sobre cómo donar, o sobre cómo solicitar asistencia a través de la Operación WaterShare, llame al departamento de atención al cliente del servicio de agua de la Ciudad de Dallas al 214-651-1441.

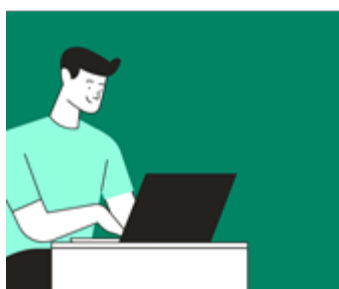




JOB SEEKER RESOURCES

Dallas Public Library

We're on Zoom!



Virtual Reference Hour: Career Edition

July 1, 2-3:30 pm

Have a question for a Job Seeker Center staff member? Need resume help or have questions about where to find job leads? Register for a Virtual Reference Desk event to speak with library staff via video conferencing on Zoom! Capacity is limited and registration is required. [Register here.](#)

Dallas Job Club

July 9, 1-2 pm

Introducing a weekly online meet up on Zoom to connect with your fellow job seekers and share support, tips, and resources. [Register here.](#)



Now Hiring



Are you looking for a job? Check out these links:

- [Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas](#)
- [Domino's Pizza](#)
- [UPS](#) (Warehouse/Logistics *and* Corporate positions)
- [Valet Living](#)
- [Varsity Tutors](#)

Check out our [Job Seekers](#) webpage for more.

How to Impress the Algorithm

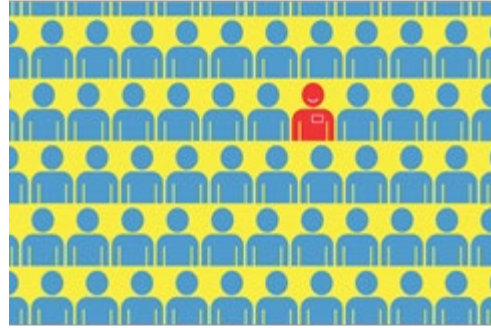
Many employers use applicant tracking systems (ATS) to post job

listings and screen job seekers.

How do you make yourself stand out to a computer?

Here's what industry experts have to say about how ATS affects your job search.

- [How to get your resume past the ATS](#)
- [What *not* to try when working with an ATS](#)
- One example of a specific ATS: [Recruiterbox](#).



Covid-19 News

Governor Abbott's latest orders

Unemployment Work Search Requirement to Resume in Texas

Starting July 6, work search is now required for anyone claiming unemployment benefits. The first report of work search is due to Texas Workforce Commission on July 19. More details about this requirement are [here](#).

Housing Help Coming to Dallas Residents

More rent and mortgage assistance for Dallas residents affected by Covid-19 is coming soon. Applications could open in July, with funds becoming available in August. City Council also approved funds for rapidly rehousing residents experiencing homelessness.

If you have any questions about this news or need help with documentation, let us know!

Call: 214-670-1468 Text: 972-379-9261 Email: government@dallaslibrary.org

Career Launchpad



Yes, library buildings are still closed, but we're still here for you! Career Launchpad now includes virtual assistance, Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am to 5:30 pm. We can assist you with your resume, connect you with job resources, and answer any other job related questions (y hablamos español).

Call us: 214-670-1468

Text us: 972-379-9261

Email us: government@dallaslibrary.org

[Learn More](#)

City Life, Education & Work Skills

Dallas Public Library
1515 Young St., 6th Floor
Dallas, Texas 75201
214-670-1468

www.dallaslibrary.org

Public Affairs & Outreach
Media Requests
June 23 – June 29

Date Submitted: 6/23/2020

Topic: DMN - COVID-19 MRAP Inquiry

Inquiry: On June 23, Obed Manuel, reporter from the Dallas Morning News asked for information regarding COVID-19 Mortgage and Rental Assistance Program (MRAP) participation numbers. I directed him to the briefing HNR gave earlier that day and advised that each application is being processed manually, which may account for a slower response time than anticipated as we must proof each application. Additionally, I advised we are partnering with local nonprofits to target the hard to reach populations within our city.

Submitted By: Nichelle Sullivan (Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization)

Media Entity: Obed Manuel (Dallas Morning News)

Date Submitted: 6/23/2020

Topic: COVID-19 Denied to Assistance Program Inquiry

Inquiry: Ken Kalthoff, NBC 5 Reporter: alleged a COVID-19 MRAP applicant, [redacted], was rejected from the program without explanation and was not contacted prior by the city. HNR informed me that Mr. Williams did not provide certain documents specifically requested by the city to verify income or provide his mortgage statement. Additionally, the applicant redacted information and did not disclose a second bank account city staff identified. Staff notified the applicant multiple times to send requested information prior to placing the file into ineligibility. If the applicant can provide the requested information, they will be placed into a case review.

Submitted By: Nichelle Sullivan (Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization)

Media Entity: Ken Kalthoff (NBC 5)

Date Submitted: 6/24/2020

Topic: CBTS federal support ending

Inquiry: Several media entities inquired about federal support ending for the CBTS sites. The City let media know the City of Dallas wants to continue with COVID-19 testing at the Community Based Testing Sites (CBTS). The federal government has notified the City the federal support will not continue past June 30, the City is currently weighing options to sustain the CBTS locations. The City also provided an update during a press conference that same day.

Submitted By: Roxana Rubio (Office of Emergency Management)

Media Entity: Jason Silverstein, CBS News (national), Dana Branham, Dallas Morning News, Rhea Mahbubani Kamal, Business Insider, Andrea Lucia, CBS 11 (local), Austin York, KRLD, Taylor Fleming, Cheddar

Date Submitted: 6/24/2020

Topic: DMN - Conf Mon removal

Inquiry: Nataly Keomoungkhoun with DMN asked about a resident's claim of the City not following proper procedure for the removal of the confederate monument in Pioneer Park in accordance with the certificate of demolition. The City provided the following statement: The City applied for and obtained a certificate of removal from the Landmark Commission in March, 2019. The Dallas City Code requires the commencement of work within 180 days of issuance of the certificate. The City commenced work preparing the worksite and entering into the contract for removal in June, 2019. Within a week, work was stopped by an injunction issued by the court of appeals that remained in effect until June 12, 2020 when the court of appeals allowed the

work to proceed. Removal has proceeded and all the statues have been safely removed. The City commenced work and the 180 day period was tolled because of the injunction.

Submitted By: Roxana Rubio (City Attorney's Office)

Media Entity: Nataly Keomoungkhoun (DMN)

Date Submitted: 6/25/2020

Topic: DMN - lawsuit comment

Inquiry: Cassandra Jaramillo with DMN and Claire Cardona with NBC 5 requested comment for a lawsuit filed against the City regarding the death of Diamond Ross. The City let DMN know the City Attorney's Office is currently reviewing the lawsuit.

Submitted By: Roxana Rubio (City Attorney's Office)

Media Entity: Cassandra Jaramillo with DMN and Claire Cardona with NBC 5

Date Submitted: 6/26/2020

Topic: TPM - Federal support extension

Inquiry: Matt Shuham with Talking Points Memo asked more details regarding the federal support extension for CBTS locations. We let him know the request was made by the mayor and the extension will apply to the Ellis Davis Field House site.

Submitted By: Roxana Rubio (Office of Emergency Management)

Media Entity: Matt Shuham (Talking Points Memo)

Date Submitted: 6/26/2020

Topic: DMN - Testing sites

Inquiry: Charlie Scudder with DMN inquired about CBTS testing capacity and asked how long it's been since capacity hasn't been reached. We explained to him capacity is reached by noon most days and the last time capacity wasn't reached before closing time was June 9.

Submitted By: Roxana Rubio (Office of Emergency Management)

Media Entity: Charlie Scudder (Dallas Morning News)

Date Submitted: 6/29/2020

Topic: Texas Tribune - Testing sites

Inquiry: Juan Pablo Garnham with the Texas Tribune asked how soon testing sites are reaching capacity and what is the criteria. We let him know on most days, testing sites are reaching capacity around noon and share criteria listed on dallascityhall.com/covid19

Submitted By: Roxana Rubio (Office of Emergency Management)

Media Entity: Juan Pablo Garnham (Texas Tribune)



CITY OF DALLAS

Dallas Fire-Rescue Department
Media Requests: June 23 - 29, 2020.

Tuesday, June 23rd: CBS 11 (Giles Hudson) - Hearing a 60-year-old female on her way to Baylor after being “overcome” at an apartment fire just now on Gaston Avenue.

City Response - At 19:51 Dallas Fire-Rescue units were dispatched in response to a 911 call for a fire at an apartment complex, located at 5203 Gaston Avenue, in Old East Dallas.

Firefighters made their way into the apartment in question and made quick work of what was left of a stove that was on fire. During the process they pulled an elderly female from inside, who'd been exposed to the smoky conditions, and transported her to a nearby hospital for evaluation.

The fire was isolated to the unit of origin, with most of the damage to the stove.

Wednesday, June 24th: (Originally made on June 18th) Fox News Channel (Hunter Davis) - I am hoping to do a story on the RIGHT Care Program and would love to talk to anyone you can connect me with who is involved in it. With a lot of talk about police reform and agencies looking into better ways of care, we are hoping to highlight a program that seems to be doing well.

Here are a few questions:

1. How long has this program been in action? What are the results you have seen from it so far?
2. Are there other programs similar to this in Texas or in another state?
3. What does the program do for a patient in crisis? Describe how this program operates from start to finish.
4. What are some ideas that you have from the program that you would like to see other police departments follow through with?

I will likely think of some more on the fly during the interview, but these are the main ones I have so far.

City Response – Granted the reporter an interview on Wednesday June 24th, at 2:00 p.m. The interviewees included Dr. Marshal Isaacs, DFR Medical Director, Dr. Kurtis

Young, Parkland Hospital and Sgt. Jennifer Wells, DPD. The story will be published at a time TBD.

Wednesday, June 24th: CBS 11 (Robbie Hoy) – Do you have any information on the fire at 6900 Brookshire Drive?

City Response - At 14:16 Dallas Fire-Rescue responded to a 911 call for a structure fire at a house, located on the 6900 block of Brookshire Drive, in North Dallas.

When firefighters arrived at the one-story residence, they observed flames coming from the roof of the structure. They were able to make it inside the home for a quick offensive attack; extinguishing the fire within the hour. Unfortunately, it wasn't before the fire left behind significant damage.

According to investigators, the fire began in a courtyard area located in the middle of the home before spreading. Though the home is occupied by a couple and their dog, there was no one at home when the fire began. Several neighbors and passersby, in addition to the alarm company's automatic notification, alerted 911 to the incident. The homeowners arrived to find smoke coming from the home, and one of them ran into the home to retrieve the dog before the arrival of firefighters.

Despite knowing the point of origin, the exact cause of the fire is undetermined. However, investigators do not believe the fire to be suspicious in nature.

Thursday, June 25th: ABC News Network (Ivan Pereria) - My name is Ivan Pereira, a reporter with ABC News Digital. We're working on a story about police response to mental health emergencies and I'd like to talk with someone today by 4 p.m. EST about the Dallas PD's RIGHT Care team. I know it's fairly new, but can someone talk about the program's status? How many people are in the team, how many situations has it responded to, and can someone talk about its current successes and future? I can be reached at 917-238-5488.

City Response – Granted him an over the phone interview which resulted in a story which was published at the following link: <https://abcnews.go.com/US/amid-calls-police-reform-training-needed-handle-mental/story?id=71386982>

Thursday, June 25th: Baltimore Afro American (Alexis Taylor) - I am currently working on a solutions-based article that focuses on how communities across the country have successfully prevented violence and trauma.

Baltimore City Council has cut \$22 million from our police department and those funds could soon be up for reallocation. I believe a team like Parkland Hospital's RIGHT Care team could be beneficial in Baltimore with proper funding.

I would like to speak with Mr. Kurtis Young about his initiatives and their impact on the community. The interview would be a 10-15 minute phone call. I would like to hold the interview by close of business Friday, but by 5pm Monday at the latest.

City Response – Granted her an over the phone interview. The story publish time and date have yet to TBD.

Thursday, June 25th: Freethink.com (Jason Stefaniak) - My name is Jason Stefaniak. I'm a Producer at [Freethink](#).

We tell stories about people and ideas that are changing the world, from [the man with the world's most advanced bionic arm](#) to [doctors performing brain surgery using sound](#).

With over 1.4 million subscribers across our web platforms, we have a large and growing audience of Millennials and young people coming of age, wanting to make a difference.

We discovered the RIGHT Care Team and we'd love to speak with you for a story we're developing about mental health first responders.

Can we schedule a short call? We'd love to tell you more about Freethink and learn more about your work.

City Response – Granted him an over the phone Google Meet chat with Dr. Marshal Isaacs on Friday, June 25th, at 1:00 p.m., for background and future story consideration time TBD.

Thursday, June 25th: NBC 5 (Claire Cardona) - Does Dallas Fire-Rescue have a statement or comment that it could provide about a civil rights lawsuit filed today in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas regarding the in-custody death of Diamond Ross on August 18, 2018, that names the department as a defendant.

City Response – Dallas Fire-Rescue will not be issuing a statement Claire.

Saturday, June 27th: NBC 5 (Joanna Molinero) and WFAA 8 (Lourdes Vasquez) - I was reaching out to you for information regarding a Water Rescue at Lake Ray Hubbard.

City Response - At 17:49 Dallas Fire-Rescue responded to a 911 call for Water Rescue after 6 people became stranded on a sinking boat in Lake Ray Hubbard.

DFR's Marine 1 and Rockwall FD were able to make it to the boat and remove all passengers (one of which had special needs) safely.

The boat was later towed back to shore.

Monday, June 29th: Sent the following Tweet Regarding the Number of DFR Members Impacted by COVID-19 –

https://twitter.com/DallasFireRes_q/status/1276868409846902784?s=09

Monday, June 29th: The following was sent out by Senator John Cornyn's Office in Reference to a Grant Recently Awarded to the City of Dallas and Dallas Fire-Rescue –

Cornyn: Dallas to Receive \$850K Federal Grant for PPE for Firefighters

The City of Dallas was awarded a \$846,260.87 federal grant to enhance operations and safety for the Fire Department in response to the coronavirus pandemic, U.S. Sen. John Cornyn announced Tuesday, June 30. The funding was appropriated by the CARES Act, which Sen. Cornyn supported in March, and comes through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG), which aims to strengthen the nation's overall level of preparedness and ability to respond to fire and related hazards. "Firefighters are on the front lines of keeping our communities safe, and they deserve every resource possible at their disposal," said Sen. Cornyn. "I applaud area leaders for their work to obtain this grant, and I'm grateful to the Trump Administration for supporting the City of Dallas." This grant will be used for personal protective equipment (PPE) and related supplies. You can read more about the FY 2020 COVID-19 Supplemental AFG program [here](#).