

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE July 10, 2020

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – July 9, 2020**

New Updates

[Return to Work Phased Reopening](#)

We continue to work on the readiness of city facilities as presented during the June 3, 2020 Return to Work Briefing to the City Council. As communicated last week, we will continue in the Phase One 25% onsite staffing capacity until the number of new positive COVID-19 cases are showing a 14-day decline. Please contact Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff, at 214.670.3302 if you have any questions.

[At Home Covid19 Testing](#)

This May, the City Council approved a \$660K contract with UrgentCare2GO to provide in-home testing in select zip codes (high positive cases) for residents that did not have transportation to go to one of our large drive thru community testing sites. After a slow start in the identified zip codes, we expanded the service to all zip codes in the City for residents that met the criteria. Since then we have seen a steady increase in the need for this service and have expended the contracted amount. We will enter into a new contract under the existing authority granted to the City Manager by the City Council within the next couple of days and continue the service. Working with Dallas County, our Health Authority, we will provide this service to select zip codes that have the highest need at this time. Please contact Rocky Vaz, Director of the Office of Emergency Management, at 214.670.4275 if you have any questions.

[Rental/Mortgage and Small Business Assistance Dashboard Release](#)

The Office of Innovation, in partnership with the offices of Economic Development, Housing, and Community Care, have developed a dashboard to share progress on the COVID-19 assistance programs approved by City Council in early summer. The dashboard, provided in both English and Spanish, provides details on applicants moving through the qualification process for each of the programs by funding source. The dashboard is updated as new information is provided. The dashboard will be live [here](#) tomorrow morning. We will also share the dashboard through the City's social media sites. Please contact Laila Alequresh, Chief Innovation Officer, for questions regarding the dashboard. Please reach out to David Noguera, Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Director and/or Courtney Pogue, Economic Development Director, for questions about program data.

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Hospital Capacity

As you know, the daily hospital capacity is being closely monitored. Previously, in anticipation of surging COVID-19 cases, the City and County were working with the US Department of Health and Human Services to establish a federal medical station to be located at the K. Bailey Hutchison Convention Center. However, at the time, there was not a sufficient number of cases to open the medical stations and it was stood down. Since then, as area hospitals have learned more about COVID and the specific needs related to treating sick individuals, the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council has determined that the most effective resource to help with surging cases is to request additional medical personnel and support for hospitals rather than at a stand-alone medical station. **Earlier this week, Parkland formally requested the State's assistance in obtaining temporary medical staffing to assist with COVID patients. The State and our Federal partners have quickly responded to this request and has deployed a Disaster Medical Assistance Team.** DMAT team members include advanced clinicians (nurse practitioners/physician assistants), medical officers, registered nurses, respiratory therapists, paramedics, pharmacists, safety specialists, logistical specialists, information technologists, communication and administrative specialists. Parkland, City of Dallas, and Dallas County continue to meet to assess the ongoing needs and coordinate federal support. Should you have any questions, please contact Rocky Vaz, Director of the Office of Emergency Management, at 214-670-4275.

DFW Airport requires face coverings

Effective July 2, 2020, to align with Dallas County and Tarrant County orders, DFW Airport will require people over the age of 2 to wear face coverings while on Airport property. More information may be found here:

<http://dfwairport.mediaroom.com/DFW-Airport-will-Require-Face-Coverings-Beginning-July-2>

Travel + Leisure Top 10 Domestic Airport!

On Wednesday, July 8, 2020 Dallas Love Field (DAL) was named in the *Travel + Leisure* Top 10 Domestic Airports for the fifth-straight year! DAL moved to number eighth in the rankings this year, after taking the tenth spot for the past three years. The readers of *Travel + Leisure* specifically mentioned the airport's helpful staff as a reason for ranking DAL so highly! [Here](#) is a link to the press release and [here](#) is a link to the World's Best Awards Top 10 Domestic Airports. Please join me in congratulating the Department of Aviation on this notable achievement. Should you have any questions, please contact Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Chief of Staff, at 214.670.3302.

Oak Cliff Municipal Center Evacuation

The Oak Cliff Municipal Center was evacuated just after 12:30pm on Wednesday, July 8, 2020 in response to a report of smoke from an electrical transformer in the basement. Dallas Fire-Rescue responded and locked down the building until approximately 3:30pm.

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Oncor responded to disconnect power to the building. Building Services engaged a contractor on an emergency basis to assist with the assessment and restoration. Both BSD and the contractor were granted access and the contractor is sourcing a temporary transformer for installation as soon as possible to be able to reopen the facility. A firm timeframe for reopening is driven by the availability of a temporary transformer suitable for the facility. At this point, we anticipate being able to have the temporary transformer sourced and installed later this evening. We are planning to reopen the Oak Cliff Municipal Center on tomorrow. The Sustainable Development and Construction Department communicated alternatives to developer/permitting customers during this temporary close. Should you have any questions or concerns please contact Errick Thompson, Director of Building Services, at Errick.thompson@dallascityhall.com.

County Policing Working Group Update

The next two Dallas County New Directions for Public Safety and Positive Community Change Working Group meetings will be open to the public. Information on how to access the meetings will be posted on the front page of the County [website](#) soon.

The primary task of the Working Group is to expand the range of first responders to public safety issues, beyond law enforcement; and to recommend funding for these responses in the coming budget year. The group is also tasked with identifying and invest in basic human needs for housing, health care, increased household income, living wage employment, recreation, and arts in our communities; and to recommend the initial investments in the coming budget year. Currently, agenda topics for the next meeting include:

1. Alternatives to Incarceration / Investments in Returning Citizens/Investments in Community-Based Violence Intervention Programs.
2. Mental Health as Crisis Point / Investments in Health, including Mental Health Services.

We will continue to keep the City Council apprised of the progress with the County Policing Working Group. Please feel to reach out to me directly if you have any questions or concerns.

Join Us for E2D (“Empowering Employees through Data”) Day!

The inaugural cohorts for the Data Academy are graduating this August and we invite Councilmembers to join us for their “graduation” on August 28th from 1-4pm. Each participant will be presenting their data capstone project in which they used the skills they gained through the Data Academy to improve their personal productivity, a program and/or department performance. Councilmembers will be able to see a sneak peek of the projects through a poster exhibit in the City Hall Main Lobby in mid-August. The event was originally scheduled for City Hall, but we have moved it to a virtual environment. An invitation to the event is forthcoming. Please contact Laila Alequresh, Chief Innovation Officer, should you have questions.

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Face Covering Initiative

The Office of Resilience is preparing reusable cloth face covering packets for distribution into the community. Included in the packets are information cards related to Census 2020, the City's COVID website and hotline, and information about the Equity and Inclusion Team in English and Spanish. Over 2,000 packets have already been distributed by Dallas Park and Recreation, DPD Community Affairs, DART Paratransit (Senior Meal Delivery), and the Stew Pot. Staff is working to deploy the packets in the high-risk zip codes identified in the Equity Impact Assessment Tool such as food pantries and distribution sites, churches, small businesses, and community organizations. The packets are available in quantities of 50, with a maximum request of 250 and can be requested using this [online form](#) or enter the following address in your web browser: <https://bit.ly/3izRc1v>. Due to limited staffing capacity, the packets will be available for pick up from City Hall. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Genesis D. Gavino, Resilience Officer.

Transition of Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center Shelter

Staff are providing an update on the operations at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center at Dallas (KBHCCD) shelter location, as well as outline plans for transition from the site. Each Monday, starting July 13, 2020, guests will be transitioned from the KBHCCD Shelter to the receiving hotel in groups of no more than 50 to have a full closure of the KBHCCD Shelter by August 31, 2020.

Once transitioned to the hotel, guests will receive support services to include testing and medical care, mental health, security and case management. Twenty-four-hour services will be provided by way of OHS Street Outreach. Guests would stay at the hotel for no more than 14 days (if negative for COVID-19) or no more than 21 days (if COVID-19 positive) prior to being transitioned to an existing overnight shelter or our Rapid Rehousing Program. The 14-day maximum stay for COVID-19 negative guests will allow for planning for successful transition to final disposition.

Approximately 60 guests from the KBHCCD have been placed on the Housing Priority List with more being added daily. These guests will be prioritized for rapid rehousing services in our Rapid Rehousing Program briefed to City Council on June 17, 2020 and approved on June 24, 2020. Additional information has been provided in the attached memorandum. Should you have any questions, please contact Kevin Oden, Interim Director of the Office of Homeless Solutions.

DAS Showcases Lifesaving Work During Pandemic

Dallas Animal Services (DAS) recently thanked the Dallas community for showing up to adopt, foster, volunteer, donate, and support DAS during the COVID-19 pandemic with [this video](#). Since March 24th, when the "Shelter At Home" order first went into effect, DAS

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has saved thousands of pets' lives with the help of our community and has continued to offer essential services throughout the pandemic.

DAS Joins Innovative Coalition

Dallas Animal Services (DAS) is excited to be joining the innovative Human Animal Support Services Coalition (HASS) as one of 13 pilot animal shelters across the country. The objective of HASS is to reimagine the organizational structure and service model of animal shelters from a centralized response-based system to a more proactive model that focuses on the well-being of both humans and animals. DAS will work alongside other HASS pilot shelters (listed below) to expand current programs to proactively help keep families together, get pets home more quickly, and assist owners who are struggling to meet the needs of their pets, all while maintaining our commitment to public safety.

DAS has already implemented many of the elements HASS advises, including a focus on return to owner (RTO) in the field. DAS has one of the highest RTO rates in the country, reuniting over 6,700 lost pets with their owners in the field last year alone. We remain steadfast in our objective to reunite lost pets with their owners.

We are excited to partner with HASS to implement innovative solutions designed to permanently address the roots of pet homelessness, overpopulation, non-compliance, and threats to public safety with the goal of ending the cycle of need.

For more information about HASS, please visit:

<https://www.humananimalsupportservices.org/elements-of-hass>

Other Tier 1 Shelters

Cabot Animal Resource Center
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Animal Care & Control
El Paso Animal Services
Fresno Humane Animal Services
Greenville County Animal Care
Humane Rescue Alliance
KC Pet Project
Los Angeles Animal Services
LifeLine Animal Project
Oakland Animal Services
Pima County Animal Care
San Diego Humane Society

Dallas Police Department referenced in National Civic League article

The police reform efforts of the Dallas Police Department City were recently referenced in a National Civic League article. Please click on the link below to read the full story.

<https://www.nationalcivicleague.org/dallas-police-reform-equity-work-showing-results/>

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Look Ahead

City Council Briefings

August 5, 2020

- Dallas First Procurements
- Availability and Disparity Study
- 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
- Budget Workshop

Media Inquiries

As of July 6, 2020, the City has received media requests from various news outlets regarding the following topics:

- Dallas county’s mask order
- WCIA grant announcement
- Carpenter Park
- DFR’s Use of Tiller Truck Gains International Attention
- DFR Confirms 46 Members to Date with Positive COVID-19 Tests
- DFR Questioned on Whether They Use Ketamine in the Sedation of Patients in Police Custody
- Despite Rising Temperatures, DFR Responses to Heat-Related Calls Remains Low
- Person Making Offensive Facebook Post Mistakenly Thought to be Member of DFR
- DFR and DPD Team Up to Monitor for Illegal Fireworks Use
- Residents Escape South Dallas House Fire
- Firefighter Suffers Minor Burn at South Dallas House Fire
- DFR and DPD Confiscate Over 800 Pounds of Fireworks
- DFR Confirms 55 Members to Date with Positive COVID-19 Tests

Please see the attached document compiling information provided to the media outlets for the June 30, 2020 – July 6, 2020 for your reference. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff.

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T.C. Broadnax
City Manager

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



Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE July 9, 2020

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Transition of Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center Shelter**

Summary:

The purpose of this memo is to update you on the operations at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center at Dallas (KBHCCD) shelter location and outline plans for transition from the site. Each Monday, starting July 13, 2020, guests will be transitioned from the KBHCCD Shelter to the Wyndham Hotel in groups of no more than 50 to have a full closure of the KBHCCD Shelter by August 31, 2020.

Once transitioned to the hotel, guests will receive support services to include testing and medical care, mental health, security and case management. Twenty-four-hour services will be provided by way of OHS Street Outreach. Guests would stay at the Wyndham for no more than 14 days (if negative for COVID-19) or no more than 21 days (if COVID-19 positive) prior to being transitioned to an existing overnight shelter or our Rapid Rehousing Program. The 14-day maximum stay for COVID-19 negative guests will allow for planning for successful transition to final disposition.

Approximately 60 guests from the KBHCCD have been placed on the Housing Priority List with more being added daily. These guests will be prioritized for rapid rehousing services in our Rapid Rehousing Program briefed to City Council on June 17, 2020 and approved on June 24, 2020.

Background:

Since March 15th, 2020, the KBHCCD has served as an overflow overnight shelter to provide additional capacity to our Homelessness Response System. The need for additional capacity was created when, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the CDC recommended shelters institute immediate social distancing and approximately 45% of the beds in our shelter network were lost virtually overnight.

Since that time, the staff of OHS and our contracted partners have provided the following services (current as of 6/25):

- 33,000 total overnight stays (3,583 unduplicated)
- 6,000-day service stays since we launched in May (service includes lunches)
- 1,105 new HMIS entries and qualification for housing programs
- 245 registrations for Stimulus checks
- 54 Veterans transferred to housing

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Current Status:

The current escalation of community spread of COVID-19, coupled with additional capacity opening up at our overnight shelters, offers the City both the need and ability to rapidly provide testing, isolation, services, and repopulation.

The KBHCCD Shelter remains the only shelter location in the network that is accepting new guests nightly and thus has the highest potential for risk of spread. Staff have taken every precaution available to us to this point and have not experienced wide spread symptoms consistent with COVID-19 spread. However, we have concerns that as cases and spread continue to grow, our set-up of congregate sheltering and services offers a higher risk of negative impacts from COVID-19 than ever before.

Additionally, this transition of guests from the KBHCCD shelter would provide the first large scale testing of a congregate shelter in our City since the outbreak began. This model could easily be replicated at other congregate shelters, as necessary, to contain any future spread and conduct contact tracing.

Finally, OHS Street Outreach Team members have been offering services at the KBHCCD Shelter from its inception. This has led to a decrease in our service delivery to encampment locations which continue to grow. One component of this plan includes a reconstitution of efforts to provide outreach, services, and resolution to our growing encampment issues that are occurring citywide.

Transition Plan:

The proposed plan for the transition of the KBHCCD Shelter will include the following components:

Utilizing Existing Contracts and Relationships for Housing:

In April, OHS successfully housed 175 guests from the Dallas Life Shelter at the Wyndham Garden North Hotel for a total of 28 days to successfully contain the spread of COVID-19 at that shelter. The staff at the Wyndham Garden North are prepared to support this new operation based on past experience, capacity, and an existing contractual arrangement with the City.

Utilizing Current Providers for Management at the Site:

OHS has had a contractual arrangement with Endeavors for shelter management since April. Endeavors staff have developed relationships with our guests and have served admirably during their deployment. We feel utilizing this experienced staff at our Hotel location is critical to the success of this transition. We have already requested a proposal from Endeavors for costs and services to accomplish this effort.

Transportation and Length of Stay at Hotel:

Beginning Monday, July 13th, OHS will transition no more than 50 guests (approximately one-quarter of our average population) to the Wyndham Garden Hotel for temporary isolation. Guests would stay at the Wyndham for no more than 14 days (if negative for COVID-19) or no more than 21 days (if COVID-19 positive) prior to being transitioned to

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an existing overnight shelter or our Rapid Rehousing Program. The 14-day maximum stay for COVID-19 negative guests will allow for planning for successful transition to final disposition.

At no point during the operation will more than 150 guests be served on site at the Wyndham Garden Hotel. If this requires additional spacing of transportation or additional weeks of operation at the Convention Center, OHS will sustain operations.

Operations at Hotel:

Once guests are transitioned to the hotel, the following services will be provided on-site for the length of the duration of this operation:

Security and EMS:

Congruent to our past operation at the hotel, the City will coordinate with the City Marshal to have 24-hour on-site security and with Dallas-Fire Rescue for on-site Fire Prevention Officers and an EMS Unit.

Mental Health:

The North Texas Behavioral Health Authority will continue to provide mental health services and connections to services by licensed social workers on-site for the duration of the operation. NTBHA has provided these services at the KBHCCD site since opening and at the Wyndham Garden North hotel during the Dallas Life operation.

Testing and Medical Care:

OHS will continue our relationship with Parkland Hospital to provide three critical services at the Wyndham Garden North in accordance with the Dallas Life Shelter Operation:

1. Parkland HOMES Staff will conduct testing of all guests within 24 hours of arrival at the site for determination of COVID-19 presence.
2. Parkland HOMES Staff will provide virtual medical visits for any chronic treatments that do not require hospitalization. HOMES Staff have also previously provided medications and prescriptions to guests at the Wyndham Garden North during the Dallas Life Operation.
3. Tests will be processed by the Dallas County Health and Human Services Laboratory with results returned to the OHS Director once completed.

OHS On-Site Services:

OHS will maintain a 24-hour presence at the hotel site throughout the duration of the operation.

Repopulation of Overnight Shelters:

OHS staff have already begun conversations with our traditional shelter partners on the process for repopulation. All four of our congregate shelters are prepared to support the plan presented by taking back guests that are COVID-19 negative OR are COVID-19 Negative after a 14 day stay in isolation.

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Immediately, we are aware of up to 150 shelter spaces ready to accept guests back into shelter. As this operation continues, we expect additional spaces to open as shelters are currently increasing overnight and day service capacity.

OHS will provide transportation using existing staff and resources for guests transitioning back into overnight shelter.

Finally, we have already identified 60 guests from the KBHCCD who are on the Housing Priority List with more being added daily. These guests will be prioritized for service in our Rapid Rehousing Program to provide additional long-term housing options outside of the shelter network.

Next Steps:

Coordination efforts are currently underway with City of Farmers Branch to intelligently implement this transition and not overwhelm our resources on site. We will continue our work with our overnight shelter partners to repopulate as appropriate. We greatly appreciate your support of this plan and the urgency to conduct this operation given the latest COVID-19 numbers in our City and County.

Please contact me or Kevin Oden, Interim OHS Director, should you have any questions or concerns surrounding this plan and we will make sure they are addressed immediately.



Nadia Chandler Hardy
Assistant City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney (Interim)
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Communications, Outreach and Marketing
Media Requests
June 30 – July 6

Date Submitted: 7/2/2020

Topic: Dallas County mask order

Inquiry: Lizbeth Lincon with NBC 5 asked about enforcement of Dallas County's mask order. We let her know violations are reported to DCHHS Environmental Health at 214-819-2112. If any cases are reported within city limits using 311, Code Compliance will investigate and remind business owners of the order.

Submitted By: Roxana Rubio

Media Entity: Lizbeth Lincon (NBC 5)

Date Submitted: 7/4/2020

Topic: Library closed

Inquiry: WFAA's Alyssa Woulfe saw MLK Library was "temporarily closed." We confirmed it was just for the Independence Day Holiday.

Submitted By: Nichelle Sullivan

Media Entity: Alyssa Woulfe (WFAA)

Date Submitted: 7/4/2020

Topic: WFAA - WCIA Grant Announcement

Inquiry: We facilitated an interview with WFAA's Eric Alvarez & Liz Cedillo about WCIA announcing it received a 500K grant to assist immigrants who don't qualify for federal COVID-19 assistance. It was part of a larger story about people of Hispanic origin being disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. The Dallas part of the story was positive, indicating the city is finding ways to help.

<https://www.wfaa.com/article/news/why-covid-19-is-disproportionately-affecting-dfws-hispanic-community/287-3e814252-8d54-4610-971a-565b538b507a>

Submitted By: Nichelle Sullivan (Welcoming Communities and Immigrant Affairs)

Media Entity: Eric Alvarez (WFAA)

Date Submitted: 7/1/2020

Topic: DMN – Carpenter Park

Inquiry: Obed Manuel with DMN called needing some clarification on the contract(s) related to Carpenter Park construction. ACM Al-Ghafry answered Obed's questions over the phone.

Submitted By: Deme Jackson (Park & Recreation)

Media Entity: Obed Manuel (DMN)



CITY OF DALLAS

Dallas Fire-Rescue Department
Media Requests: June 30 – July 6, 2020.

Tuesday, June 30th: Tokyo Video Center (Ryo Shikata) - Hello. My name is Ryo Shikata, and I am with a Japanese television production company called Tokyo Video Center.

We are currently producing a documentary program about incidents and events captured on dashcams installed in vehicles.

As part of this, we would like to show an amazing video of a large fire truck that cut across several highway lanes in a short distance. This was captured on a dashcam installed on a vehicle driving on the highway.

I believe it is a Dallas Fire Rescue ladder truck in the video.

Below is the link to the video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxCu0-RueyI>

I would appreciate it if you could watch the video, and answer my questions below.

City Response (in red) –

1. Is this a type of fire truck called the "Tiller Fire Truck", which has rear axle steering, and a second driver at the back of the truck steers the rear wheels? **Yes**
2. For example, if the front wheels and the rear wheels are both steered to the left, does it enable the fire truck to drive diagonally (almost sideways), as seen in this video? **Yes**
3. So technically, this would not be "drifting"? **No**
4. Does this rear axle steering enable the fire truck to get closer to buildings in narrow spaces? **While the steering could allow a unit to move closer to a building (if safely applicable), among a number of other applications, the intended purpose of the steering system is to allow better maneuverability for the unit. Essentially, giving our Trucks similar accessibility as our smaller Engines.**

Tuesday, June 30th: WFAA 8 (Alex Rozier) - Hey Jason, Doing a story on Dallas Police Association COVID testing and just wanted the latest numbers from the fire

department on the number of positive cases and/or the people in isolation due to possible exposure.

Do you have that available?

City Response - The numbers for DFR are as follows:

- 46 total have tested positive (25 fully recovered)
- 61 are in quarantine from on and off duty exposures
 - o 21 are positive tests
 - o 14 are awaiting their own test results
 - o 26 are awaiting one of the following:
 - Test results from exposure source
 - Resolution of symptoms
 - Fulfillment of required quarantine period

I hope this information is helpful.

Wednesday, July 1st: Reporter from Unknown Dallas-Based media outlet (Jacob Vaughn) - Hello, I'm Jacob Vaughn, a reporter based in Dallas. I've been reading a lot about Colorado resident Elijah McClain who died in police custody after being given a dose of ketamine to sedate him.

I was wondering if you could tell me if ketamine is used during certain arrests made by the Dallas Police Department. This is a practice used by some police departments in the US and I was just wondering what the case was for DPD.

Any information on this would be much appreciated. Thank you so much for taking the time.

City Response - Good morning Mr. Vaughn, The Dallas Fire-Rescue Department does not carry Ketamine on its rescue units (ambulances). Rather, we use Midazolam (Versed) for chemical sedation of patients in police custody when needed.

Wednesday, July 1st: WFAA 8 (Lourdes Vazquez) - Can you provide information on how many calls DFR has responded to from Monday to Tuesday due to the heat?

City Response - On Monday (6/29) and Tuesday (6/30), DFR only responded to 1 Environmental Emergency. If you want to throw in today, there were only been 2 more; making a total of 3.

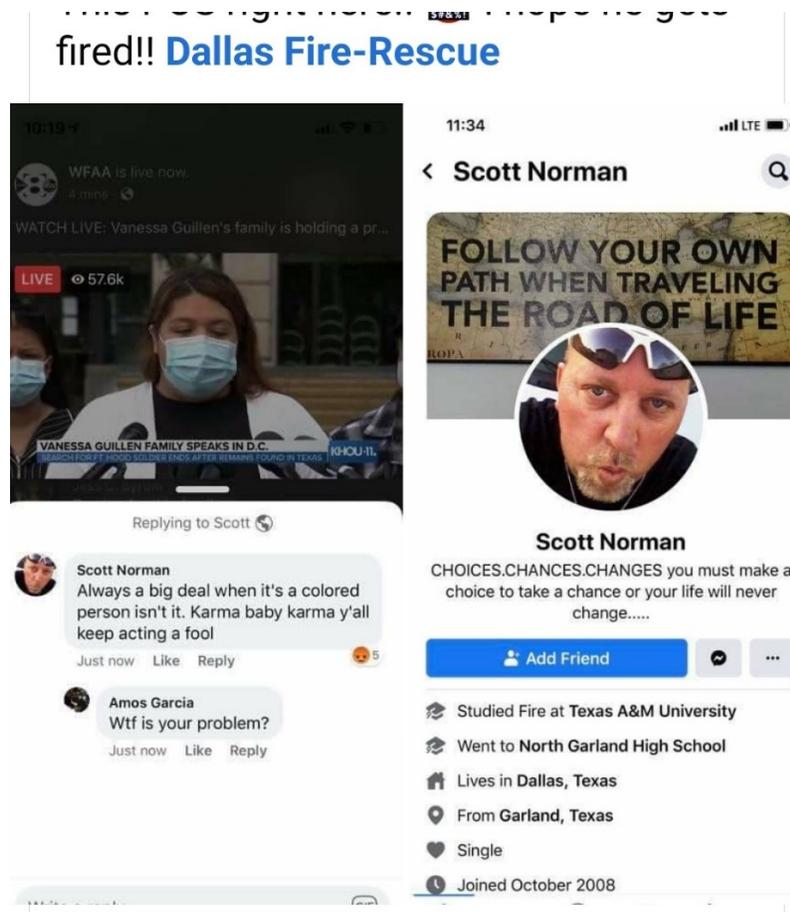
Wednesday, July 1st: Sent the following information to the local news desks (after confirmation internally and with HR) in response to a Facebook comment made by someone mistakenly thought to be a member of DFR –

Today, Dallas Fire-Rescue (DFR) has been the recipient of several email complaints (from the general public) about an offensive comment made on Facebook, by a man they believed to be a member of DFR. The comment was made during a recent Facebook live feed of a press conference, involving the family of missing Ft. Hood soldier, Vanessa Guillen, which took place in Washington D.C.

The assumption was made based upon this person having photos of himself in a DFR T-shirt, among uniforms from other departments.

Please be advised that this person is not a current or former member of DFR.

Note – Different versions of this same message was sent to the general public in response to various emails, voicemails and approximately 45 complaints from the department's FB Messenger (the post can be seen below) -



Thursday, July 2nd: Sent the following information to the local media to advise them all on DFR (and DPD) monitoring and enforcement effort for the 4th of July holiday weekend –

Dallas Fire and Police to Monitor for 4th of July Fireworks Activities

Dallas Fire-Rescue (DFR) and the Dallas Police Department (DPD) will lead efforts to monitor for fireworks related activities this 4th of July holiday weekend. Last year, the efforts of both resulted in the confiscation of over 2,500 lbs. of fireworks and the issuance of 25 citations. Additionally, Operations personnel responded to four (4) structure fires, and two (2) injuries, that were a direct result of fireworks use.

Considering our current state relative to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the cancellation of professional fireworks shows; the number of individuals purchasing fireworks, and using them within the city limits, may increase. However, with the following measures in place, we hope to curb that temptation and make it a safe holiday weekend for everyone to enjoy.

On July 3rd and 4th, teams consisting of a DPD Officer (1) and DFR Fire Inspector (1) will be assigned to each police subdivision, from 6:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m., to monitor for illegal fireworks use and respond to complaints received through dispatch; which will be staffed with a Fire Prevention Officer for the routing of such calls. During the same time, four (4) additional teams will stage at fire stations (previously identified as having increased fireworks-related calls) for extra support.

On the Fire Operations side, DFR's Emergency Response Bureau will deploy two (2) wildland boosters, on July 3rd and 4th, to patrol high risk areas in the City, from Noon thru 2:00 a.m. Additionally, Marine 1 will be placed into service, on July 3rd, 4th and 5th to provide safety for those on the water at Lake Ray Hubbard. These proactive measures are intended to help reduce the reflex time required to get resources on location to grass fires and water rescue calls respectively during the holiday weekend.

According to the National Fire Protection Agency, injuries resulting from fireworks impact thousands of people every year, with the majority being children and teenagers. The risk of fireworks injury is two and half times higher for children ages 10-14 than the general public.

FIREWORKS ARE ILLEGAL IN DALLAS

DFR wants to remind everyone that fireworks are illegal in the City of Dallas, and up to 5,000 feet outside the city limits. Anyone in possession of or using fireworks, will have the fireworks confiscated and a citation will be issued. Fines can be up to \$2,000.

Thursday, July 2nd: CBS 11 (Steve Pickett) – Requested an interview regarding the previously release information on July 4th holiday weekend enforcement efforts.

City Response – Set the reporter up with an 11:00 a.m. interview with Fire Marshal, and Deputy Chief, Christopher Martinez which aired the same day, and can be viewed at the following links: <https://cbsloc.al/2VWZJ4X>; <https://cbsloc.al/2VWZJ4X>; <https://cbsloc.al/3ir269s>

Sunday, July 5th: Fox 4 News (Gillian Hughes) - Looking for any info on a fire in the 2300 block of E Pentagon around 1:30am? Was this caused by fireworks?

City Response - On Sunday, July 5th, at 1:43 a.m., DFR units were assigned to a 911 call for a structure fire at a residence, located at 2343 East Pentagon Parkway, in South Dallas.

Firefighters arrived at the scene to find fire coming from the roof of the home. Fortunately, those who were inside at the time were able to make it out prior to the arrival of firefighters; allowing attack teams to focus their attention primarily on suppression efforts. Approximately 24 firefighters worked to extinguish the flames within the hour.

Though there were fireworks being used in the area, there were multiple ignition possibilities that could not be ruled out. Therefore, the cause of the fire is undetermined.

Sunday, July 5th: Dallas Morning News (Dana Branham) and Univision 23 (Nathalie Palacios) - I wanted to ask for details about a structure fire overnight on Concerto Lane about 4:45 a.m. — is it right that the call initially said there were children inside, but luckily no one was there? I was also curious if this one had anything to do with fireworks.

City Response - On Sunday, July 5th, at 4:36 a.m., DFR units were assigned to a 911 call for a structure fire at a home, located at 6328 Concerto Lane, in South Dallas.

First arriving units reported out with heavy fire coming from the one-story residential structure. There were multiple 911 calls that came in as a result of the fire; one of which reported that children were possibly still in the structure. Thankfully, that didn't turn out to be the case, and no one was at the home when the fire began. Suppression efforts were primarily defensive in nature, as approximately 20-25 firefighters used handlines and master streams to extinguish the fire in just under an hour.

One firefighter suffered a minor burn to his upper body during the course of operations. That member was taken to the hospital as a precaution, treated and released from the hospital later in the morning.

The fire left behind significant damage to the home; including a partial roof collapse. According to investigators, the fire appears to have begun in the back of the home; but due to the extensive damage, the exact cause is unknown. Therefore, the cause of the fire is undetermined and under investigation.

Sunday, July 5th: The following was sent to all the local news media in response to multiple requests for stats on 4th of July enforcement efforts –

Dallas Fire and Police to Monitor for Fireworks Activities

On July 3rd and 4th, teams consisting of a DPD Officer (1) and DFR Fire Inspector (1) were assigned to each police subdivision, from 6:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m., to monitor for illegal fireworks use and respond to complaints received through dispatch; which was staffed with a Fire Prevention Officer for the routing of such calls.

As a result of these efforts, fire inspectors and police officers combined to issue a total of 10 citations while confiscating 822.3 lbs. of fireworks.

Monday, July 6th: Sent the following Tweet to all the local news media regarding the number of DFR members who have tested positive, and are currently quarantined, due to COVID-19 –

<https://twitter.com/DallasFireRes/status/1280126520284061698?s=09>