

Memorandum



DATE: February 5, 2016

TO: Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee:
Adam Medrano (Chair), B. Adam McGough (Vice Chair), Sandy Greyson, Tiffinni A. Young,
Jennifer S. Gates, Philip T. Kingston

SUBJECT: **K2 & Drug Paraphernalia Shops**

On Monday, February 8, 2016, you will be briefed on K2 & Drug Paraphernalia Shops by Deputy Chief Vernon Hale of the Dallas Police Department.

The briefing materials are attached for your review.

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



Eric D. Campbell
Assistant City Manager

Attachment

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager
Warren M.S. Ernst, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager

Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
Mark McDaniel, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
Sana Syed, Public Information Officer
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council



K2 & Drug Paraphernalia Shops

Public Safety Committee

February 8, 2016



www.dallaspolice.net

David O. Brown
Chief Of Police

Purpose

- To provide a historical background of K2, identify public safety issues and inform the committee about drug paraphernalia shops

K2 Overview

What is K2?

Synthetic cannabinoids – chemical compounds that mimic the effects of Tetrahydrocannabinol, also known as THC

- A synthetic chemical compound that is sprayed on a product that can be smoked in order to simulate the effect of THC
- Sometimes used to avoid positive drug test for marijuana
- Not marijuana and may not cause same reaction as marijuana

Where it originates from?

- China is the primary source of chemical supply for K2

Side Effects of K2

- Hallucinogenic effects of marijuana (last between 30 mins and 2 hours)
- Panic attacks
- Agitation
- Tachycardia (accelerated heart rate)
- Elevated blood pressure
- Anxiety
- Numbness and tingling
- Vomiting
- Tremors and seizures
- Organ and brain damage

Common Packaging



K2 Presence & Enforcement

Presence

- Public safety responses regarding K2 have increased significantly downtown
 - Pacific / Lamar – West End transfer station
 - Small presence in East Dallas

Enforcement Activities

- Operations began first week of January 2016 in response to overdoses
- Joint effort between Narcotics, Central Patrol Division, El Centro College and District Attorney's Office
- Lab results obtained January 26th with immediate arrest roundup
- Code Seizure – Up In Smoke - 1612 South Ewing – 55 individual packets during Certificate of Occupancy inspection

K2 Arrests

January 26th – 28th

Martin Zamora - B/M

7-2-87 - F1 Delivery Controlled Substance



Charles Legans B/M

9-20-72 - F1 Delivery Controlled Substance



Dominick Harrell - B/M

6-29-84 - F1 Delivery Controlled Substance



Terry Perkins B/M

1-20-90 - F1 Delivery Controlled Substance



Drug Paraphernalia Shops

Definition

- Retail outlet specializing in paraphernalia used for consumption of cannabis and / or tobacco

Current City Regulation

- No ordinance regulating smoke / head shops
- Certificate of Occupancy – General Merchandising
- No accurate count of number of shops

Drug Paraphernalia Shops Enforcement

Available enforcement actions

- State legislation regarding Tobacco use
- State legislation regarding possession / distribution of controlled substances
- Civil actions against businesses involved in illegal activities (asset forfeiture)

Gas Pipe Investigation

- Largest K2 distribution case
 - National – Houston, New Mexico and Dallas
 - Federal investigation – distribution of K2 from smoke shops
 - Importing chemicals from China
 - Production of K2 in West Dallas
 - Conspiracy to commit money laundering

Drug Paraphernalia Shops Enforcement

Puff Puff and Pass

- Current investigation initiated in August 2015
- DEA Financial Strike Force
- Two businesses involved in selling K2
- Seized 220 kilos of synthetic cannabinoids, street value of \$55 million
 - \$419,592
 - 2011 Bentley
 - 2007 Mercedes

Addressing the Challenges

- Enact an ordinance to define and regulate drug paraphernalia shops:
 - Create an inspection component
 - Utilize convenience store code as a model
 - Establish “paraphernalia” free zones:
 - Schools
 - Within 1,000 feet of each other
 - Churches
 - Operating hours

Questions?