

Memorandum



DATE January 19, 2018

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Crime Trend Update**

I want to inform you of the Dallas Police Department's (DPD) investigation of a recent disturbing crime trend that is occurring in Dallas. During the month of December 2017, seven victims were robbed and assaulted in the Southeast Patrol Division. These offenses are being investigated as hate crimes because the victims were all using "Grindr," which is a mobile app geared towards gay and bisexual men designed to help them meet other men. The victims were all lured to a location after using the app, and were subsequently beaten and robbed. DPD began investigating these offenses and on December 12, 2017, Southeast Patrol Officers arrested a 17 year old Latin male for four of these offenses. These investigations are ongoing and it's undetermined if the suspect arrested on December 12th is also responsible for the other offenses. There are other suspects that remain at large, and detectives continue to investigate.

The following public service announcement was sent out by the DPD on multiple social media platforms.

Criminals have been using dating apps to target victims in Dallas and other cities. During the month of December 2017, seven victims were robbed and assaulted in Dallas who were lured to a location through the use of the dating app "Grindr". The Dallas Police Department would like you to consider these tips if using a dating app to meet someone:

- **When meeting in surrounding cities that may be unfamiliar to you, always research a safe meeting location and familiarize yourself with the area**
- **Always meet in a well-lit, public place**
- **Never go alone**
- **Always meet during the day**
- **Keep your cell phone close and be ready to call 911 at the first sign of trouble**
- **Never give out personal or financial information**
- **Let someone know where you'll be and who you are meeting**
- **Leave if you feel uncomfortable and call 911 to report any suspicious activity**

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Police Chief U. René Hall.

Jon Fortune
Assistant City Manager

cc: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Larry Casto, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Billierae Johnson, City Secretary (Interim)
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizor Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager

Jo M. (Jody) Puckett, Assistant City Manager (Interim)
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Chief of Community Services
Raquel Favela, Chief of Economic Development & Neighborhood Services
Theresa O'Donnell, Chief of Resilience
Directors and Assistant Directors