



**City of Dallas**

# Juvenile Curfew Renewal

**Public Safety Committee  
December 13, 2021**

Jesse S Reyes, Assistant Chief of Police  
Dallas Police Department  
City of Dallas

# Presentation Overview



- Goals
- Background / History
- Exceptions to Prosecution
- Statistics
- Recommendation
- Next Steps



# Goals



The following departmental goals will continue to be achieved by implementation of the Dallas Juvenile Curfew Ordinance:

- Change the behavior of juveniles in a positive manner
- Reduce overall crime committed by juvenile offenders, particularly during school hours
- Decrease the number of juvenile victims of violent crimes



# Background / History



- The city of Dallas began enforcement of a juvenile curfew on May 1, 1994
- Texas Local Government Code requires renewal every third year
- February 18, 2019, curfew penalties were decriminalized
- The current ordinance expires March 4, 2022



# Background / History



- Current Ordinance:
  - Less than 17 years of age
  - Curfew hours are
    - 11pm-6am Sunday-Thursday night
    - 12am-6am Friday and Saturday night (Saturday/Sunday morning)
    - 9am-2:30pm Monday-Friday (daytime school curfew)
  - Requires a warning for the first offense
  - Enforced through V-citations only
  - Penalties and services assigned through community court





# Exceptions to Prosecution (Nighttime)



- Accompanied by minor's parent / guardian
- On an errand at the direction of the minor's parent / guardian
- Engaged in, going to, or from an employment activity
- Involved in an emergency
- On the sidewalk abutting the minor's residence or neighbors' residence
- Attending, going to, or from an official school, religious, or recreational activity supervised by adults



# Exceptions to Prosecution (Daytime)



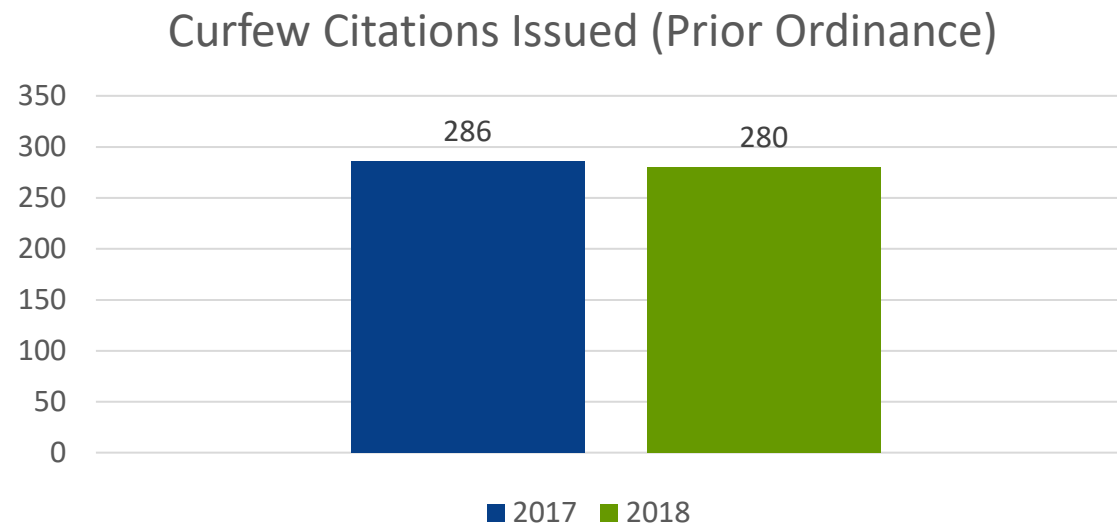
- The school in which the minor was enrolled or otherwise required to attend was not in session
- The minor was participating in a school approved work study program
- The minor was on an excused absence from school in which the minor was enrolled or otherwise required to attend and had permission from a school official, or in the case of a home-schooled minor, from the minor's parent or guardian



# Statistics

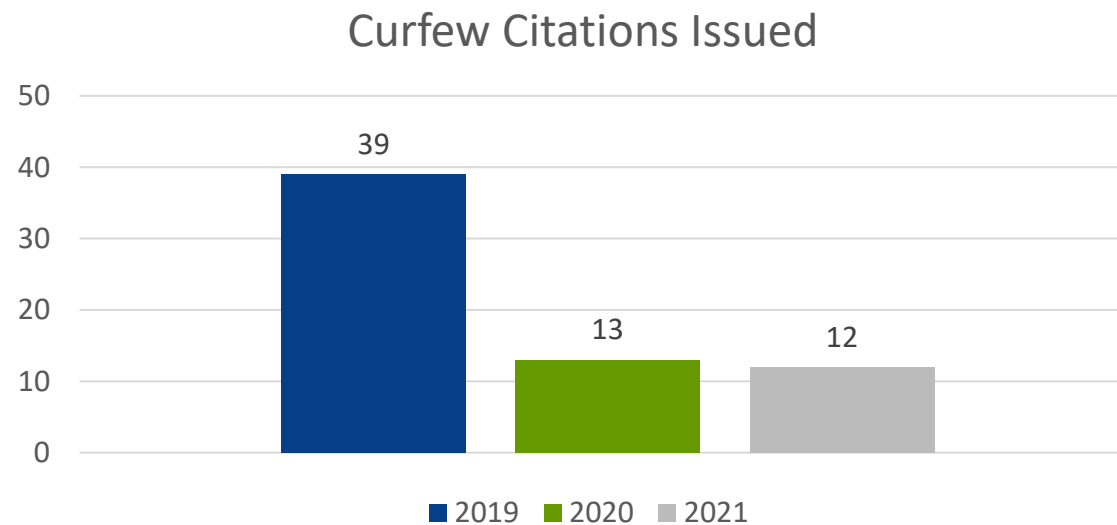


- Under the prior ordinance
  - 2017 : 280 curfew citations issued
  - 2018 : 286 curfew citations issued



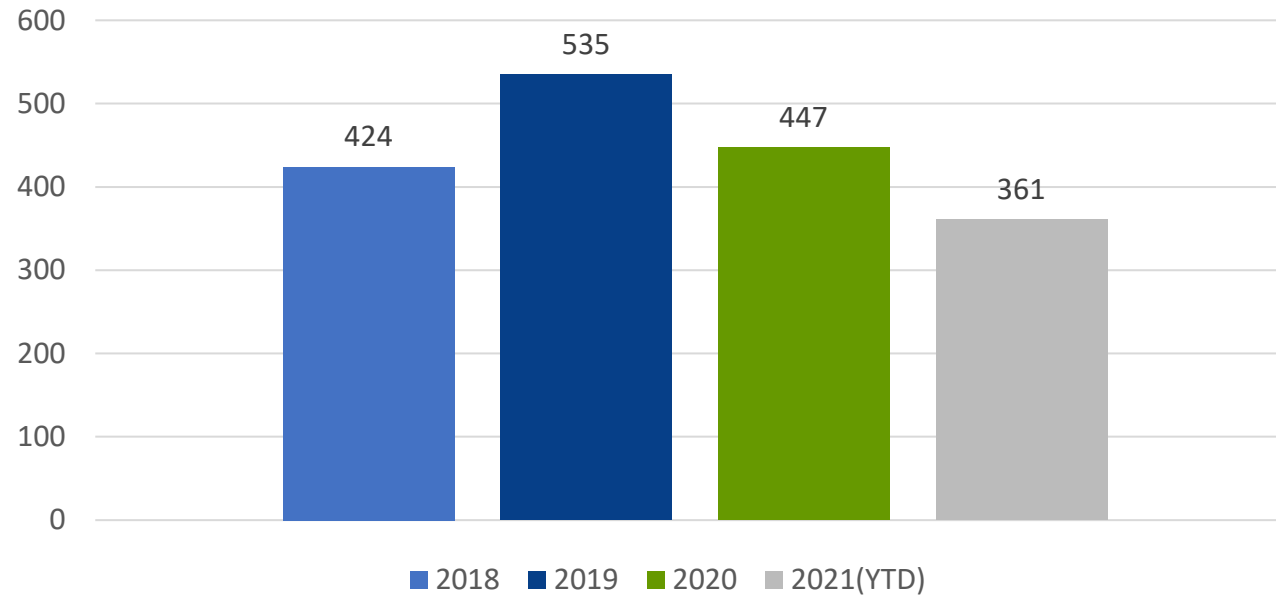


- Since last renewal February 18, 2019 – December 2021:
  - 64 curfew citations issued
  - 27 curfew warnings issued



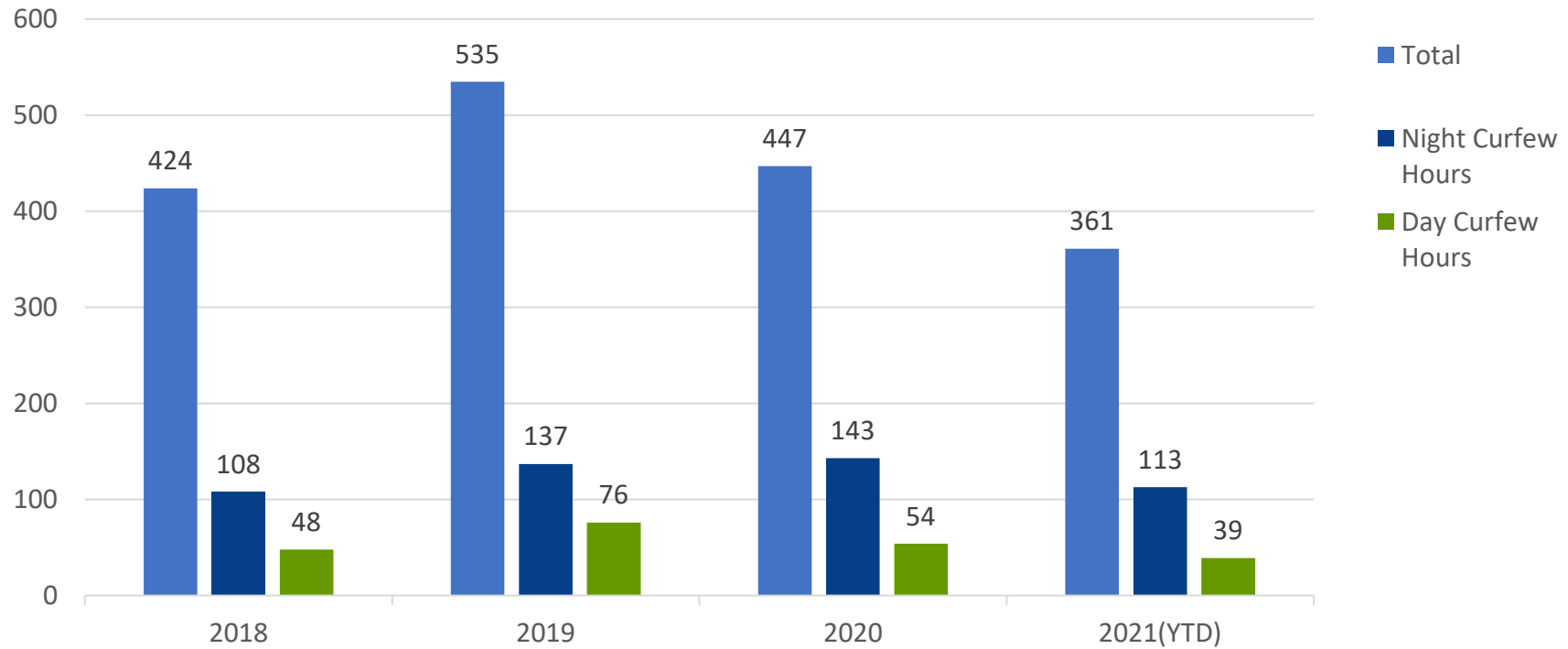


### Juvenile Victims





## Juvenile Victims



# Recommendation



- The Dallas Police Department recommends renewal of the juvenile curfew ordinance in its current form for another three years



# Next Steps



- If it is the direction of the Public Safety Committee to renew, an agenda item will be placed January 26, 2022, for Dallas City Council approval
- The Dallas Police Department will release a reminder training bulletin of the juvenile curfew process to employees







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