



The Office of the City Solicitor

FY'19

PUBLIC SAFETY & LEGAL ADMINISTRATION
COMMITTEE

4TH QUARTER REPORT

PRESENTED BY CITY SOLICITOR RAINES F. CARTER

AUGUST 27, 2019

PreTrial Diversion and Deferred Prosecution Programs FY19 Q4 Close-out

The costs to manage and negotiate cases through traditional court proceedings continue to rise. Consequently, the Office of the City Solicitor utilizes alternative prosecution means such as diversion and deferred prosecution to promote safety, improve efficiencies, and provide good customer service.

- Fee assessments increased by approx. 10.6% from previous fiscal year
- The FY19 anticipated revenue was \$5.3M
- Reported revenue collection was \$6.8M+ which is approx. 23% above the FY19 anticipated revenue
- The spike in FY19 collected revenue is partially attributed to the cyber-attack which resulted in a delay in FY18 revenue reporting

Code Enforcement Updates

We will continue to work to make "One Atlanta" a cleaner and safer city for all to enjoy, whether it's through demolitions, nuisance actions, prosecuting violators of the noise ordinance, and other code infractions.



Dilapidated houses
Council District 9

There are presently three nuisance actions pending and we are coordinating with several city agencies on evaluating additional properties.



Prosecuting Party Houses

Noise Ordinance Forum

The Solicitor's Office presented to NPU-Z to address citizens questions on code enforcement issues and noise ordinance violations in their neighborhood. Held April 3, 2019

There are 10 pending cases involving the noise ordinance and party houses. We are coordinating with the Mayor's Office to bring charges from various city agencies. Violations include zoning, building, business license and alcohol-related offenses.

Code Enforcement Events

Code Enforcement Academy

The Office of the City Solicitor partnered with the City of Atlanta Code Enforcement Commission and Councilmember Joyce Sheperd in hosting the Code Enforcement Academy. The academy consisted of a series of five sessions to help Atlanta residents learn how to report blight in their respective communities and serve as community ambassadors. The Solicitor's Office presented to the students and spoke on the prosecution aspects of code enforcement and housing cases. There were 41 graduates in the inaugural class. Held May 11, 2019



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Fight Against Blight Symposium in District 10

A composite image featuring a blighted house with overgrown vines, a portrait of Joyce Sheperd, and event information. The text includes:

Upcoming!

Fight Against Blight Educational Symposium
Saturday, September 28
9 AM to 12 P
Pittman Park Recreation Center
950 Garibaldi Street, S.W.
Hosted by Atlanta City Council member Joyce Sheperd

HAPPENING TODAY

FIGHT THE BLIGHT

ATLANTA, FULTON COUNTY

The Office of the City Solicitor hosted its Annual Fight Against Blight Educational Symposium. These events are open to the public and focus on educating our communities on identifying City of Atlanta Code violations and how to assist city departments in effectively combating blight as well as how citizens can be responsible homeowners and improve their neighborhoods. Held June 8, 2019

Ultimate Business Tune-Up

The Office of the City Solicitor, in partnership with Councilmembers Michael Julian Bond, Matt Westmoreland and Andre Dickens hosted its first business symposium to provide information to new prospective business owners on how to do business in the City of Atlanta and with current business owners to promote responsible management of commercial property assets to ensure compliance with the City of Atlanta Codes. The event was held July 30, 2019. Over 100 citizens came out to participate in the inaugural business tune-up event.

**THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SOLICITOR
& Atlanta City Councilmembers**

  

Michael Julian Bond Matt Westmoreland Andre Dickens

Present

**THE ULTIMATE
BUSINESS TUNE-UP**

 

Raines F. Carter, City Solicitor

Public Safety Events

APS Police Department Training

The Solicitor's Office supports and collaborates with the Atlanta Public Schools Police Department to improve efficiency and increase understanding of requirements to sustain prosecutions in the courtroom. This included training in ticket writing and DUI/Drug training as well. Over 150 officers attended training. Held June 26th and 27th, 2019

Public Safety Event at Old Fourth Ward Park

The Solicitor's Office makes every opportunity to connect with the public to distribute safety information to the community. Public Safety in the Park is but one of many strategies to connect with the general population to improve public relations and keep our citizens safe. With this event, we partnered with APD and other city departments and engaged with over 100 citizens on a Saturday afternoon. Held June 29, 2019

Fire Blitz in partnership with Atlanta Fire Rescue

The Solicitor's Office partnered with Atlanta Fire Rescue to target areas, often following a fire in that area to educate and make citizens aware of precautions they make take to keep themselves safe. We canvass the neighborhood and distribute fire alarms and extinguishers as well as inform of code violations around blighted housing and related code violations. Held June 3, 2019 and July 16, 2019

Pittsburgh Public Safety Block Party

The Solicitor's Office partnered with Councilmember Joyce Sheperd for a fun filled public safety block party. Other partners included, Code Enforcement, Public Works, Watershed Management, APD, AFD, Keep Atlanta Beautiful Commission, Atlanta Housing, Fulton County, Streets Alive and American Diabetes Association. Over 200 residents came out to receive information regarding their community. Held August 17, 2019

Georgia State University Campus Police Event

The GSU Police department has invited the Solicitor's Office to join them with our own ASK ME Booth on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of next week (Aug. 26, 28, 30) from 12pm to 2pm as part of campus orientation.

Community Events

Read Across America*

Peyton Forest Elementary hosts Read Across America, a national annual reading, motivation, and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading. This is accomplished with the help of community support. The Solicitor's Office supported this effort and read to several 3rd and 4th grade classes enriching the lives of over 100 children. Held March 1, 2019

Kicking It with Clark-Clark Atlanta University

The Assistant Solicitor presented before the President of Clark Atlanta University, the Chief of Public Safety and Student Government Association with an overview on current marijuana/drug laws and related safety information. Held March 26, 2019

@Promise Center Spring Break*

The Office of the City Solicitor joined forces with the Police Athletic League (PALs) and the Boys and Girls Club as each hosted over 50 students at the Promise Center for Spring Break. Activities included PALs' program "I Feel Pretty" where young girls learn about etiquette and careers in the fashion industry. The men mentored young boys and engaged in athletic activities. Held April 3rd and 5th, 2019

The Solicitor's Office Career Day

The Solicitor's Office hosted its Annual Career Day for the City of Atlanta Camp Best Friends. Over 35 students met the Solicitor and the Chief Judge of the Municipal Court and learned firsthand about the judicial system. Students also received a tour of the Solicitor Office, Municipal Court and the Atlanta Detention Center. July 23, 2019



Back 2 School Events



Back 2 School Bash The Office of the Solicitor partnered with Councilmembers Andrea Boone and Andre Dickens to host the Back 2 School Bash for at-risk K-12 students in District 10. Students and their families enjoyed food, music, and information on health care. Over 500 families attended and 1,100 bookbags distributed. Held August 10, 2019



Back to School Bookbag Bash The Office of the City Solicitor partnered with Councilmember Joyce Shepard and Maximum Impact Love Church, APD, DPW and other public entities to host the Back to School BOOK BAG BASH for at-risk K-12 students in the City of Atlanta. This year over 3,000 guests attended and over 2,000 book bags were given to families with children. Held August 3, 2019

Upcoming Events

Records Free In District 3



Misdemeanor Criminal Record Restriction
October 26, 2019

Record Restriction Summit

Got a ticket?

Council member Antonio Brown, District 3

On Saturday, October 26, 2019, the City of Atlanta, Office of the City Solicitor, in cooperation with District 3 City Council member Antonio Brown, will provide opportunities for misdemeanor criminal record restriction. This free event will take place from 10 AM until 2 PM at Atlanta Municipal Court, 150 Garrett Street, S.W.

Curative justice events, such as expungement fairs, assist thousands of Atlantans clear non-violent misdemeanor arrests from their criminal histories, thereby providing another opportunity for success. In the wake of criminal justice reform and the upsurge of harm reduction and re-entry programs, now is an opportune time to offer hope through record restriction.

- 1 Step 1**
To begin the process of record restriction, the person seeking said restriction must present a photo ID and a completed application to the solicitor's office.
- 2 Step 2**
The application must contain the charge and code, if available, the date of arrest, the disposition and date of the same.
- 3 Step 3**
Your information is delivered to a prosecutor who looks into the charge(s) and disposition. If all requirements are met and the person remains eligible for record restriction, the prosecutor approves the record restriction.

For more information, call the Office of the City Solicitor at 404-658-6618

Community Prosecution Outreach Partners Working Together For a Safer City



City of Atlanta
Office of Housing and
Community Development



ATLANTA
PUBLIC
SCHOOLS



City of Atlanta
Department of Public Works



City of Atlanta
Mayor's Office of
Constituent Services





QUESTIONS?