



City of Atlanta

OFFICE OF THE CITY SOLICITOR

FY21 – 3rd QUARTER UPDATE

Presentation to Public Safety and Legal Administration Committee

05/10/2021

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City Solicitor



Mission Statement

The mission of the Office of the City Solicitor is to persuasively represent the interests of the citizens of Atlanta in all matters brought before the Atlanta Municipal Court in a manner that is consistent with the special responsibilities of prosecutors outlined by the State Bar of Georgia.



Critical Activities

- ❖ Collaboration with Atlanta Police Department
- ❖ Record Restriction
- ❖ Street Racing
- ❖ Nuisance Properties Initiative
- ❖ Community Prosecution and Outreach



Critical Activities for 3rd Quarter

Collaboration with APD

- Expanded efforts continue in all 6 APD zone precincts by regularly staffing, training, and supporting the APD Watch Teams.
- Attorneys are assigned to zones to build relationships, support with charging decisions, PAD referrals, and preliminary screening.

Record Restriction

- Eligible records on one's official criminal history report are restricted from public view and are only accessible to law enforcement agencies for criminal justice purposes.
- Total Record Restriction requests processed from January 1, 2021 – March 31, 2021: thirty (30)
- Within one(1) year, since May 2020, processed/responded to about seventy (70) requests



Street Racing Ordinance

Local Ordinance Violation:

Sec. 150-73(a) Non-driver participation in street racing and reckless driving exhibitions.

- Organizer - Any individual who in any manner knowingly takes part in the planning, organization, coordination, facilitation, advertising or sharing of the location for any such illegal street race, or collects moneys in connection with an illegal street racing exhibition, as defined herein;
- Participant - Any individual who is knowingly present at an illegal street racing exhibition for the purpose of actively taking part in the event through conduct including riding in a race vehicle as a passenger, assisting the organizers and/or drivers in carrying out or promoting the event, or exchanging money or anything of value with any driver, car owner, or other participant in connection with the event.
- Mere Bystander - A person who is a mere bystander, passerby, or observer not aware of the illegal activity shall not be deemed a participant.



6 Most Common Street Racing Charges

- 1. Racing- O.C.G.A. § 40-6-186**
- 2. Speeding- O.C.G.A. § 40-6-181**
- 3. Super Speeder- O.C.G.A. § 40-6-181 & § 40-6-189 (classification)**
- 4. Reckless Driving- O.C.G.A. § 40-6-390**
- 5. Laying Drag- O.C.G.A. § 40-6-251**
- 6. Fleeing and Attempting to Elude- O.C.G.A. § 40-6-395**



Efforts to Combat Street Racing

The Solicitor's Office prosecutes both state charges and local ordinance violations for street racing:

- By vigorously prosecuting cases to ensure that sentences on pleas could include jail time, license suspension, community service, defensive driving and traffic violation classes.
- By working with APD to provide training tools to advise/educate officers.
- By moving the court to suspend the licenses of racers and chronic super speeders while their cases are pending.



Nuisance Properties Initiative

The Solicitor's Office has worked closely with the Administration and various City departments to form a weekly subcommittee meeting and bi-weekly committee meeting to resolve the ongoing nuisance problem properties.

Code Enforcement and the Law Department collaborated to obtain title work on 25 initial properties to file nuisance actions in Municipal Court

Successfully obtained a Temporary Injunction in Superior Court

<u>Upcoming Hearings</u>
May 12, 2021
May 19, 2021
May 26, 2021
June 9, 2021
June 16, 2021 (2 properties)



IN THE COMMUNITY

“Working Together for ONE ATLANTA”



Code Enforcement Team Details

During this quarter, following CDC guidelines and exercising safety precautions, the Code Enforcement Team performed inspections and issued warnings for commercial and private properties. The team also provided critical support to our partners in APD Code Enforcement and the Department of Zoning.

JANUARY, 2021
264 PROPERTY
INSPECTIONS
COMPLETED AND
WARNINGS ISSUED
WHERE REQUIRED

FEBRUARY, 2021
368 PROPERTY
INSPECTIONS
COMPLETED AND
WARNINGS ISSUED
WHERE REQUIRED

MARCH, 2021
388 PROPERTY
INSPECTIONS
COMPLETED AND
WARNINGS ISSUED
WHERE REQUIRED



Solicitor's Office Outreach Programs

The Young Litigators Project 2021

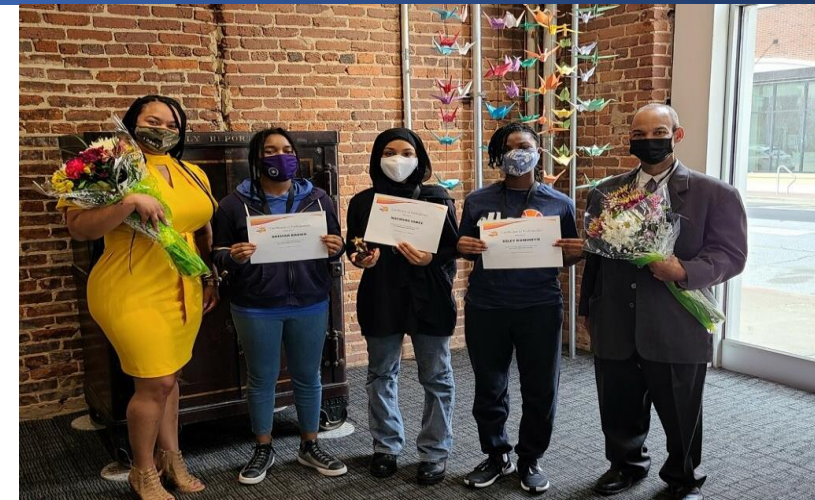
This year's project addressed the use of force allowed by police under the Constitution, the exposure of police to civil liability and the extent to which officer qualified immunity applies in the situation. Students from the Life School earned the award for "Best Overall Team", (Aneisah Brown, Kiley Dominek, and Maymuna Sabree), and "Best Speaker," (Maymuna Sabree). Deputy Solicitor Andrew Taylor served as the attorney coach for participation by the Life School.

March 5th & 25th, 2021

We partnered with Atlanta Public Schools and attended Virtual Career day events with King Middle School and T.H. Slater Elementary School.

March 25th, 2021

We partnered with Morehouse College Department of Student Conduct, Advocacy and Accountability for ***You and the Law: An open discussion between students and Law Enforcement.*** Our office was a part of the panel.



PRESENTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT CONDUCT,
ADVOCACY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Morehouse College

Moderated by Student Leaders

YOU & the Law:
An Open Discussion Between You and Law Enforcement!

LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2021
3PM-5PM
<https://morehouse.zoom.us/j/97921421334>

MOREHOUSE UNIVERSITY
Spartan College
CASE ATLANTA UNIVERSITY

*This Open Panel Discussion does not constitute legal advice, please Consult with a competent legal counsel regarding how best to address a/your specific situation. Please be advised that this Open discussion will be recorded



Community Support - Food Drives

- The office continues to provide community outreach in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic by participating in food drives that aid constituents who are experiencing food insecurities.
- In partnership with Councilmembers Andrea Boone, Dustin Hillis and Michael Bond, Jackson Memorial Baptist Church, the Atlanta Community Food Bank, and Maximum Impact, we have successfully assisted in serving over 1,500 families in the City of Atlanta by providing fresh produce, milk, water and poultry.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Working Together for ONE ATLANTA
"WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER"



Community Prosecution Outreach Partners

Working Together For a Safer City



City of Atlanta
Code Enforcement





QUESTIONS?