



City of Atlanta

OFFICE OF THE CITY SOLICITOR

FY21 – 4th Quarter Update

Presentation to Public Safety and Legal Administration Committee

11/08/2021

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City Solicitor



Office of the City Solicitor: Key Priorities

- Leverage technology to efficiently resolve cases in a fair and balanced manner through case screening, pre-trial negotiations and use of diversion and alternative prosecution programs
- Continue code enforcement initiative by identifying and tackling blight and other community concerns using civil actions, judicial in rem, condemnation and nuisance abatement
- Continue to support the Atlanta Police Academy and other law enforcement agencies through recruit and in-service training to improve ticket writing skills and courtroom presence to sustain successful prosecution
- Continue collaboration with other city departments and community groups to address specific problems in the community through assertive presence and engagement



CRITICAL ACTIVITIES

- Pre-trial Diversion Programs
- Record Restriction
- Nuisance Properties Initiative
- Community Prosecution and Outreach



PRE-TRIAL DIVERSION PROGRAM

The Solicitor's Office Pre-Trial Diversion Programs provide eligible defendants a choice to resolve cases efficiently by routing their cases away from traditional prosecution and preventing a criminal conviction and record for minor offenses. These programs promote accountability while reducing the footprint in court.

- The Solicitor's Office continued to offer Diversion Programs as an option to resolve cases during COVID.
- Approximately 90% of the cases enrolled into the program are in compliance.
- There has been a 60% increase in individuals requesting to resolve their case through diversion compared to the same period last year.
- Pre-Trial Diversion include:
 - A program for owner occupied properties for those who are disabled, elderly, or hold veteran status. The Office of the City Solicitor has entered into cooperative relations with other city departments for this initiative. For example, in collaboration with Atlanta Fire and Rescue we are able to educate participants on home maintenance, fire prevention and safety.
 - Pre-Trial Intervention Program for Traffic Offenses (**PTI-T**), is a convenient option to resolve traffic cases while reducing the footprint in court. PTI-T promotes safe driving and emphasizes accountability while allowing the public to settle cases outside of court.
 - The Pre-Trial Intervention Program for Criminal Offenses (**PTI-C**) allows criminal charges to be dismissed upon completion of program. Additionally, participants are eligible to have their charge restricted (formerly known as expunged).
 - Business License diversion program enables business owners to resolve their citations without having interruptions to their daily business operations.



RECORD RESTRICTION

- Record Restriction (formerly known as expungement) is the process that allows certain charges on an individual's official criminal record to be restricted from public view and only accessible to law enforcement agencies for criminal justice purposes.
- Record Restriction is important because it provides for better employment opportunities for citizens of Atlanta.
- Most cases that appear on an individual's criminal record are eligible for a Record Restriction upon completion of a Diversion Program.
- Online portal to complete request if arrested/charged after July 2013.
 - Total Record Restriction request processed/received this quarter:
 - July 1, 2021- September 30, 2021: 23



NUISANCE PROPERTIES INITIATIVE

- The Solicitor's Office continues to work closely with the Administration and various city departments to engage in bi-weekly committee meetings to resolve the ongoing nuisance problem properties.
- Solicitor's Office attends weekly APD meetings to obtain insight into properties that has increased crime statistics. The original nuisance properties listing has grown from 25 properties to over 39 current properties. The next nuisance hearing is set for Monday, November 22, 2021.





IN THE COMMUNITY

“Working Together for ONE ATLANTA”



Joint Law Enforcement and Prosecutor Driving Under the Influence Training

- Our Office coordinated a two-day DUI Training event with the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia to provide training for APD officers.
- The training was held October 14-15, 2021, at APD's new training facility located at the Campus of Atlanta Metropolitan State College.
- Attendees received CLE and POST credit

Training Sessions included:

- Standardized Field Sobriety Tests
- Effective Report Writing
- Courtroom Presentation
- Case Law Update
- Implied Consent
- Drugs and Standardized Field Sobriety Testing
- Signs and Symptoms of Drug Impaired Driving
- The Drug Recognition Expert Program
- Charging Decisions in DUI-Drugs Cases
- Effective Report Writing



Joint Law Enforcement and Prosecutor Driving Under the Influence Training





COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOOD DRIVES

- The office continues to provide community outreach by participating in food drives that aid constituents who are experiencing food insecurities.
- In partnership with Councilmembers Andrea Boone, Michael Bond, and Cleta Winslow we have successfully assisted in serving families in the City of Atlanta by providing much needed fresh produce, milk, water and poultry.





COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOOD DRIVES

Working Together for ONE ATLANTA

"WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER"





COMMUNITY OUTREACH

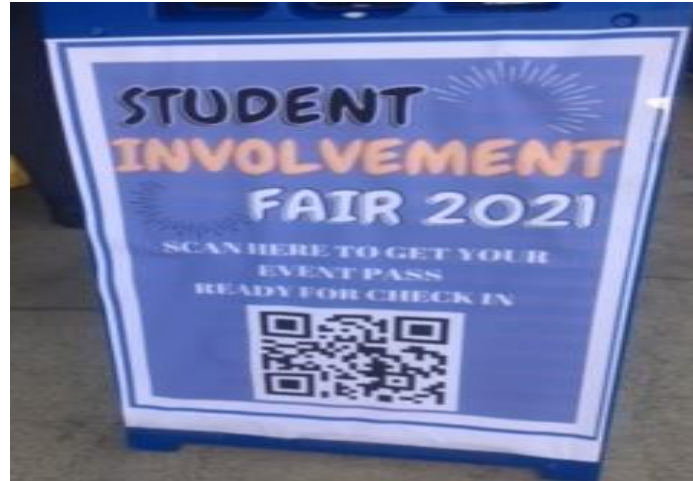
Georgia Tech Campus Safety Event- August 2021





COMMUNITY OUTREACH

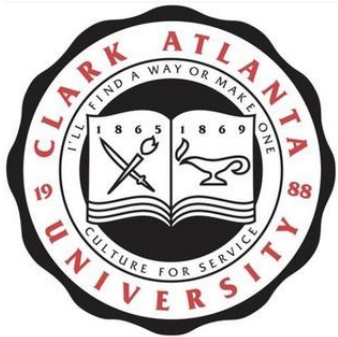
Georgia State University Student Involvement Fair- September 2021



Community Prosecution Outreach Partners Working Together For a Safer City



City of Atlanta
Code Enforcement





QUESTIONS?