

El Paso Police Department Updates

September 2021

GOAL 2 and GOAL 6



Strategic Goal Alignment

Goal 2 and Goal 6

- 2.1 Maintain standing as one of the nation's top safest cities
- 2.3 Increase public safety operational efficiency
- 6.4 Implement leading-edge practices for achieving quality and performance excellence
- 6.5 Deliver services timely and efficiently with focus on continual improvement







Table of Contents

1. Crime Prevention Ordinances

- Open Container Ordinance Amendment-1st Reading September 28th
- Convenience Stores-1st Reading November 2021

2. Entertainment Districts

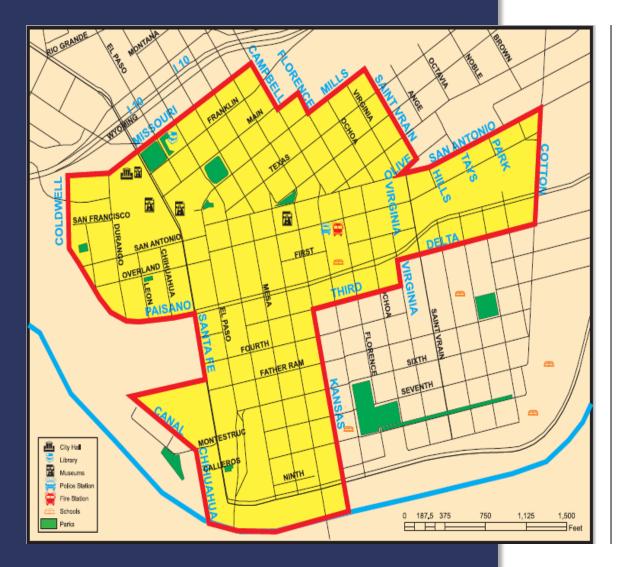
- Noise Ordinance Enforcement
- Nuisance Abatement Team



Purpose

To improve the quality of life for residents and persons experiencing homeless in and around homeless shelters by reducing nuisances related to drinking in public.

The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code (TABC) Section 109.35. Orders for prohibition on consumption. An incorporated city may enact regulations prohibiting the possession of an open container or consumption an alcoholic beverage on any public street, public alley, or public sidewalk within 1,000 feet of the property line of a homeless shelter that is not located in a central business district.



Enforcement under current ordinance Chapter 10.12, sec. 2.b.1

B. A person commits an offense if he possesses an open container of or consumes an alcoholic beverage in or on any public street, sidewalk, alley, or pedestrian way located in the El Paso Central Business District area as defined in this section.

Class C citations for open container by year	
2019	1,443
2020	1,429
First 6 months of 2021	505





Proposed Additions

- Definition of "homeless shelter" for purposes of this Section 10.12.050 of the City Code, means a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter or other facility that is designed to provide temporary living accommodations to individuals who lack a fixed regular and adequate residence.
- A person commits an offense if he possesses an open container of or consumes an alcoholic beverage in or on any public street, sidewalk, alley or pedestrian way located within 1,000 feet of the property line of a homeless shelter that is not located in the Central Business District.
- Each violation of Section 10.12.050 shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars; Class C misdemeanor.

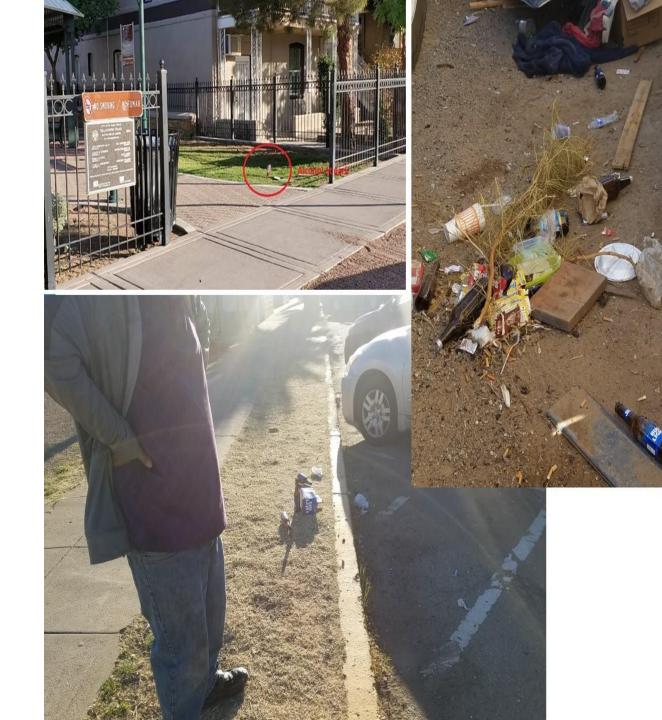


Calls for Service

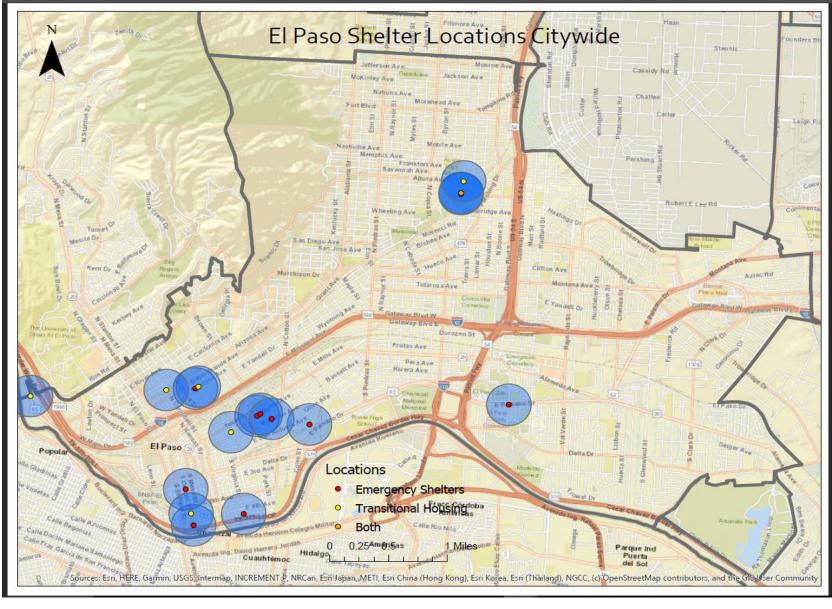
Pictures to the right were taken in the immediate area around the Opportunity Center (OC), where Central Regional Command receives numerous complaints from citizens and business owners, including managers at the OC.

Ex. Calls for Service 2019-July 2021

OC 576



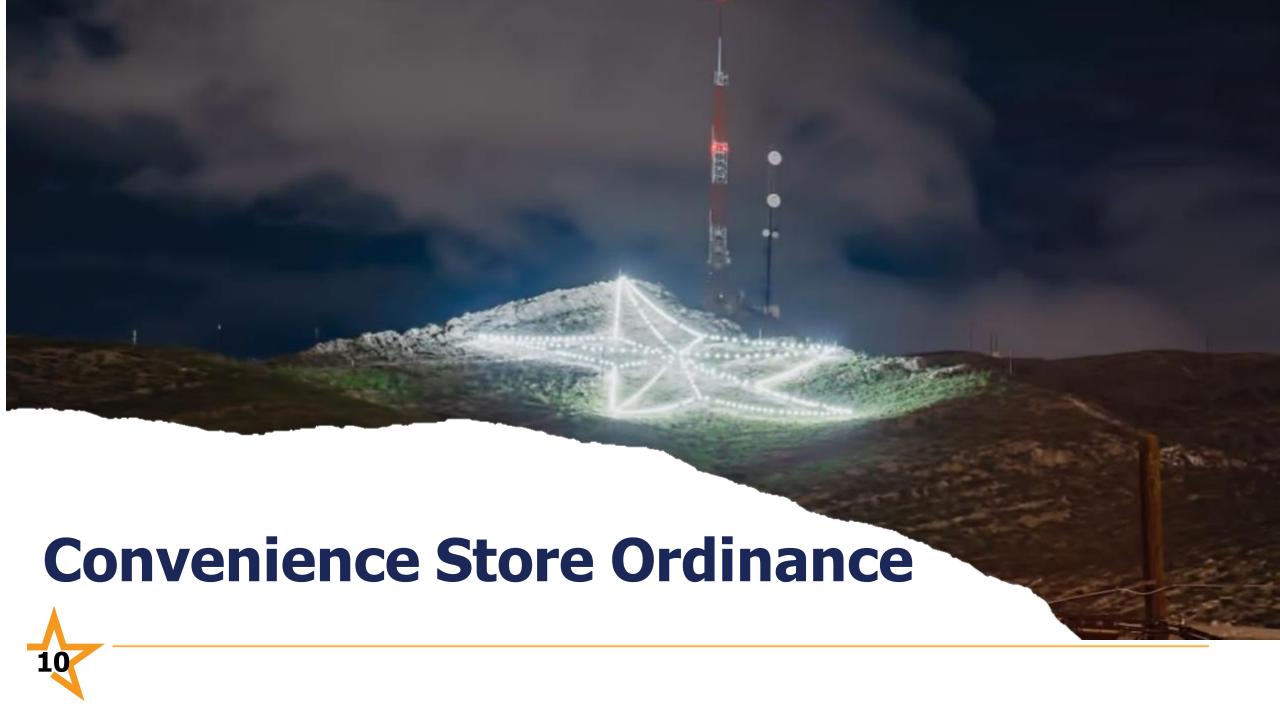




Measurements within 1,000 feet of the property line of a homeless shelter.









Purpose of Convenience Store Ordinance

The purpose of this ordinance is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of El Paso by reducing the occurrence of crime, preventing the escalation of crime and increasing the successful prosecution of crime that occurs in convenience stores within the city limits.

To this end, this Convenience Store Ordinance establishes a registration program for convenience stores and provides requirements relating to surveillance camera systems, video recording and storage systems, alarm systems, drop safes, security signs, height markers, store visibility, safety training programs, and trespass affidavits.



Theft Class C's – Texas Penal Code

A beer run is usually when an individual(s) walks into a convenience store and takes beer or an alcoholic beverage without paying for the merchandise. The offense is a Class C misdemeanor if the value of the property stolen is less than \$100

- If guilty of a Class C misdemeanor, punished by a fine not to exceed \$500
- Most beer runs fall into this category based on dollar amount of property taken





Beer run thefts in the City of El Paso for the previous 3 years – **5,777**



1,904

2018

City Wide Beer runs

1,971

2019

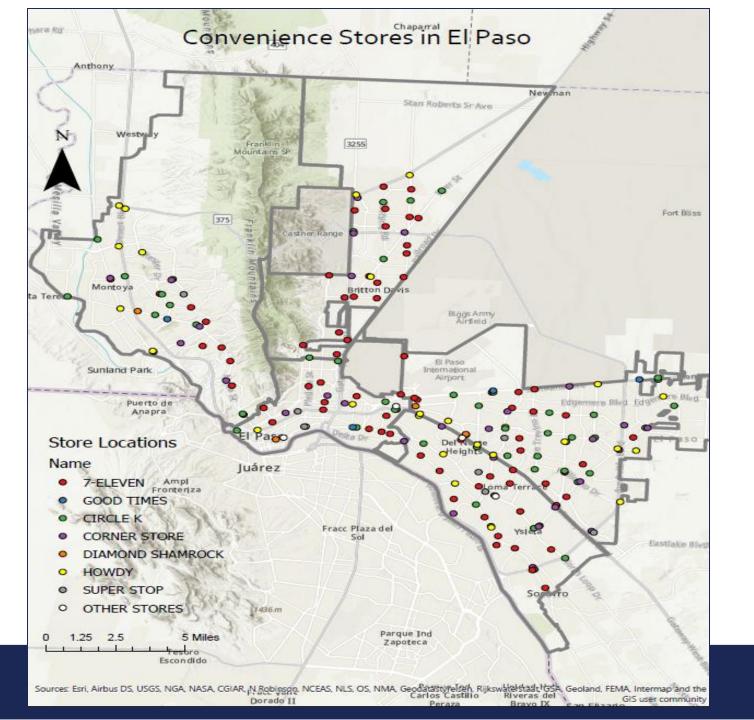
City Wide Beer runs

1,902

2020

City Wide Beer runs











Survey Highlights

- 1 hour and 49 minutes, an average cost of \$67.03 for the initial patrol investigation.
- 3 hours and 34 minutes, an average cost of *\$131.61 for the criminal investigation.

Total \$198.64

In comparison to the cost for a convenience store that will eventually be reimbursed.

- EPPD Case 21-102261
- Date/Location/Time 04-12-2021, 17:40 hours, Circle K at 3910 Dyer
- Property 1- Can of Bud Light Beer value \$2.75





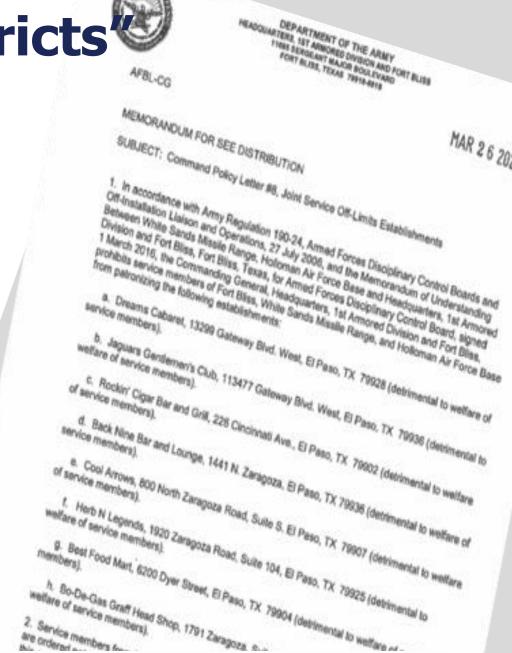
Bars/Entertainment "Districts" INTER-AGENCY COLLABORATION

FT. BLISS

Effective March 26, 2021:

- Commanding Major General, Sean Bernabe issued order informing military service members about Off-limits Establishments
- Memorandum sent to all Fort Bliss, White Sands Missile Range, and Holloman Air Force Base service members.
- Military Police are patrolling entertainment areas





Bars/Entertainment "Districts"

Nuisance Abatement Team

What is Nuisance Abatement?

- Use of civil law to address criminal conduct.
- Reduction or elimination of criminal activity on a property.
- Accountability of a business and/or property owners.

Bars/Entertainment "Districts" Nuisance Abatement Team



Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code Chapter 125 Texas Alcohol Beverage Code sec 101.01 Texas Occupation Code 455

Saturated Bar Areas Focused Investigations for Criminal Nuisance Abatement Cases

Nuisance Abatement Cases

- Focus on the BUSINESS, not the people committing the crime.
- Must have habitual, specific criminal activity, in order to file the civil lawsuit.
- CA may be able to shut down a bar once the case is submitted.
- Must prove criminal activity by a preponderance of evidence(more likely than not that the crime occurred).

The Lawsuit

- Temporary Restraining Order = Immediate Shut-down
- Temporary Injunction
- BOND
- Permanent Injunction (can close business for 1 year)



NOISE ORDINANCE MONITORING

CODE ENFORCEMENT + POLICE RESOURCES

SELF INITATED CHECKS

AVERAGE DECIBEL READING	62Db
• AUGUST	1,204
• JULY	1,211
• JUNE	1,147
• MAY	1,293
 APRIL (Operations started 4/22/21) 	44

VIOLATIONS FOUND

• APRIL	0
• MAY	120
• JUNE	0
• JULY	0
AUGUST	0



El Paso Texas Convenience Store Ordinance

Questions?





Mission

Deliver exceptional services to support a high quality of life and place for our community



Integrity, Respect, Excellence, Accountability, People



Develop a vibrant regional economy, safe and beautiful neighborhoods and exceptional recreational, cultural and educational opportunities powered by a high performing government

