



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
**REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

DATE ISSUED: September 14, 2010 REPORT NO. 10-124  
ATTENTION: Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee  
Agenda of September 22, 2010  
SUBJECT: Informational Report from the San Diego Police Department  
Regarding Juvenile Curfew Enforcement

SUMMARY

THIS IS AN INFORMATION ITEM ONLY. NO ACTION IS REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE COMMITTEE OR THE CITY COUNCIL.

BACKGROUND

The San Diego Municipal Code (sections 58.0101 and 58.0102) established a juvenile curfew ordinance for youth under the age of 18 in the City of San Diego. Curfew hours are from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. daily. Municipal Code section 58.0102 makes it unlawful for minors to be present in any public place or on the premises of any establishment within the City of San Diego during curfew hours (with exceptions).

A review of juvenile victimization revealed that almost 40% of violent crimes were occurring to youth in all communities throughout San Diego during curfew hours.

As a result the San Diego Police Department re-emphasized its commitment to enforcement of the curfew ordinance. From July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, police patrol commands conducted 46 curfew sweeps, resulting in 1238 juvenile detentions. Of the 1238 juveniles detained, 844 were sent to diversion programs. (Diversion is a court sanctioned, 4-week course for non-violent offenders. If the juvenile successfully completes the course, no indication of the detention is indicated on the juvenile record.)

STAFFING

The Police Department's curfew sweep program has become a model for law enforcement agencies nationwide because of its use of community collaboration. In addition to the police officers who detain the juveniles in the field, there are more than 30 community based and faith based organizations, Child Welfare Services, Juvenile Probation, San Diego City Schools, military personnel and the City's Gang Commission, who actively participate in the process. Volunteers are responsible for contacting parents, supervising male and female juveniles in segregated areas, setting youth up with diversion programs, and providing crisis intervention and resources to

families. On any given curfew sweep, approximately 10-12 police officers and 40-60 volunteers participating in the curfew sweep program.

### PUBLIC EDUCATION

Today's youth face a more dangerous world than we ever imagined. The result of juvenile victimization, gang proliferation, and juvenile homicides has led to an increased urgency to keep our youth off the street during curfew hours.

Public education has taken place through the community based and faith based organizations who attend monthly sweeps. These partners pass information down through their churches and organizations about the risk to our youth. School personnel who participate in the curfew sweeps also meet with parents on site, then have the opportunity to work more closely with students and families who are at risk.

### CONCLUSION

The San Diego Police Department's monthly curfew sweeps have resulted in a reduction in crime against juvenile victims. The sweeps are truly a collaborative partnership between the police, community, and schools, with a central focus of protecting juveniles in our community.

Respectfully submitted,



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Chief of Police

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