




## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Jesús Garza, City Manager

**FROM:** Joseph Chacon, Austin Police Department Chief 

**DATE:** March 30, 2023

**SUBJECT:** **Texas DPS Operations in Partnership with the Austin Police Department**

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The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) operations in the City of Austin.

This partnership is a practical way to begin addressing Austin's call volume and crime. This collaborative work with the state is expected to result in reduced response times, a decrease in traffic fatalities, faster resolution of active case work, and reduction of violent crime.

To meet Austin's core public safety needs in light of staffing challenges, Texas DPS will begin supplementing and supporting Austin Police Department (APD) services on Thursday, March 30, 2023. DPS will focus on traffic enforcement and investigations, resolve active cases by participating in investigations and follow up, and continue to partner with violent crime investigative units to reduce gun crime. Criminal Investigators and Crime Analysts from DPS will also supplement local enforcement efforts.

To help assure Austin policing values are addressed and reinforced, DPS will attend shift briefings with APD. DPS will be deployed based on need. DPS can monitor local radio channels, however, DPS activity will not be call driven. DPS will be assisting APD on-scene with emergency calls that require a high level of support.

We will report back to the Public Safety Committee on the results of this strategy beginning in April. The Mayor, as chair of the committee, has said he will ensure all Council Members will be made aware of the postings and agenda items so that all can be involved.

cc: Bruce Mills, Interim Assistant City Manager