



Eric Johnson
Mayor

December 3, 2019

T.C. Broadnax
City Manager
City of Dallas
1500 Marilla Street, 4EN
Dallas, Texas 75201

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Dear Mr. Broadnax:

I have exercised patience with respect to our city's crime fighting efforts in the months since I was elected mayor, and I believe our new City Council has, in those months, set up our police department for success in the future. We passed a budget that reflects the City Council's commitment to public safety. A new pay structure and the findings of the KPMG study should help the police department attract and retain talent and become smarter about deploying resources. I created the Task Force on Safe Communities because I believe we cannot rely solely on the police department to fight crime.

And I was publicly supportive, in the face of criticism by some elected leaders in our community, of the deployment of Texas Department of Public Safety officers on a short-term basis to bolster our summer crime initiative.

But as we approach 2020, it is my expectation that our city staff and our police department will work more aggressively and transparently toward making Dallas safer.

While I believe Dallas remains relatively safe for a major U.S. city, the level of violent crime we have seen through eleven months of 2019 is patently unacceptable. We have already far exceeded the homicide total in 2018 and Dallas is now on pace for more than 200 homicides for the first time since 2007. The number of African Americans alone who have been killed in our city in 2019 is staggering and would constitute a bad year for total homicides in many large U.S. cities. Our city has also had *hundreds* more aggravated assaults and robberies this year compared to last year, which is perhaps an even better indicator that violent crime is truly on the rise in our city.

In light of this undeniable increase in violent crime, I do not believe the City Council has received a sufficiently clear explanation of what is driving this increase or what the police department's specific plan is to reverse it. I understand that crime is complex and dynamic, and that our crime fighting strategies must evolve as new trends arise, but I have not heard anyone articulate a concrete plan to reduce violent crime in our city by a particular amount and by a time certain. This must change now.



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Accordingly, I hereby request that you instruct the police department to produce a comprehensive, written plan to reduce violent crime in Dallas by a time certain. This plan should include clear and numerical violent crime reduction goals and timelines, specific strategies for achieving these reductions, and an analysis of the trends and drivers of violent crime in our city.

I would like for this violent crime reduction plan to be completed by the end of the year, and for it to be briefed to the City Council's Public Safety Committee in January.

We cannot continue to accept the status quo or tolerate excuses when it comes to violent crime. While we all have roles to play to make our communities safer, we need our police department to lead the way when it comes to explaining the trends and drivers of violent crime in our city and to work aggressively to reduce it.

In addition, the public is entitled to a clearer presentation of violent crime data. The crime information currently posted online is too difficult to decipher. The clear and concise presentation of violent crime data is important to engaging and informing our residents as well as those considering making Dallas their home. Accordingly, please let me know when a public safety dashboard that clearly presents violent crime data in a manner substantially similar to the enclosed document can be made available online.

As always, do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Johnson", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Eric Johnson
Mayor

Encl.

Cc: Adam McGough, Chair, Committee on Public Safety

VIOLENT CRIME STATS

Homicides

Year-to-Date

Year-to-Date	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Dec. 3, 2019											

Year-End Totals

FULL YEAR	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009

Aggravated Assaults

Year-to-Date

Year-to-Date	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Dec. 3, 2019											

Year-End Totals

FULL YEAR	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009

Robberies

Year-to-Date

Year-to-Date	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Dec. 3, 2019											

Year-End Totals

FULL YEAR	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009

Sexual Assaults

Year-to-Date

Year-to-Date	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Dec. 3, 2019											

Year-End Totals

FULL YEAR	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009