



ROUND ROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT

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DATE: September 17, 2013

TO: Chief Tim Ryle
Assistant Chief Troy Evans
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FROM: Rick White
Manager, Crime Analysis and Statistics

SUBJECT: ANALYSIS OF CURFEW VIOLATIONS

Ordinance 1.27000, *Youth Curfew*, comes up for reauthorization every three years, and the Department reviews its use of the ordinance in advance of City Council considering its reauthorization. Round Rock has long had a nighttime curfew, and it is one of a number of cities in Texas which employs a daytime curfew as one among its tools for police officers to address crime and quality-of-life issues in the City. The ordinance generally affects youths under 17 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on weekdays when school is in session and in the early morning hours on Saturdays and Sundays. Violators can be cited and fined, and there are a number of defenses spelled out in Section 1.2703 of the ordinance.

I have completed a review of our use of the curfew and I offer the following general findings:

1. Property crime categories which are traditionally thought to involve a significant number of juveniles have been on a general decline in the past few years. Vehicle burglaries and the total of other burglaries are trending to end 2013 at levels last seen in 2006. Criminal mischiefs have below 2009 levels since that year but are expected to end 2013 above 2011 and 2012 levels.
2. After holding steady in 2009-10, juvenile arrests also have declined in recent years. Juvenile arrests are trending to end 2013 at 28 percent below the 988 arrests that occurred in 2012. The most frequent charges against juveniles are narcotics-related or for runaway/truancy.
3. Nighttime-curfew related citations have generally held steady, though they dropped in 2011. Currently, nighttime curfew citations are trending to end the year comparable with previous-year results.
4. Daytime curfew citations have been steadily declining from the 2008-09 school year, which saw 279 citations, to the 2012-13 school year, which resulted in 73 such citations.

It should be noted that one of the underlying causes of the declines noted above is a change in the nature of the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program. Since the last triennial review, the Department no longer provides SROs to middle schools in Round Rock. With those services being provided by another agency, the Department's numbers have naturally dropped somewhat. In addition, citations or arrests for most Class C misdemeanor offenses that occurred in previous years can be expected to decline in future years, as a result of legislative changes.

I have attached a series of PowerPoint slides with graphs that provide a greater illustration of these points. However, it appears that the reasons for which we originally sought the curfew continue to be relevant. I recommend we seek reauthorization of the ordinance.

Curfew Ordinance Review

**Round Rock
Police Department**

Youth Curfew

- Affects youths under 17 during:
 - 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on weekdays when school is in session
 - 12:01 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. on Mondays through Fridays
 - 1:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays

Youth Curfew

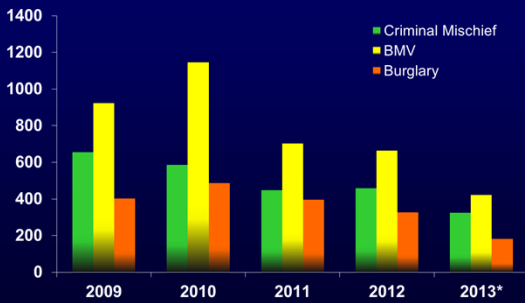
- Allows permission to be absent from school & in a public place from an authorized school official or parent/ guardians
- Other defenses include:
 - Involved in interstate travel, employment activity, an emergency
 - Exercising First Amendment rights

Other Daytime Curfew Cities

- Most area cities have a nighttime curfew
- Many cities have a daytime curfew
 - Austin
 - San Marcos
 - Hutto
 - Dallas
 - Taylor
 - Bastrop
 - Houston

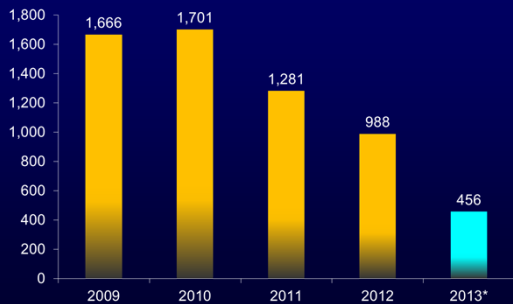
Selected Crimes in Round Rock

Source: RRPD RMS



*Data are for Jan-Aug 2013

Juvenile Arrests

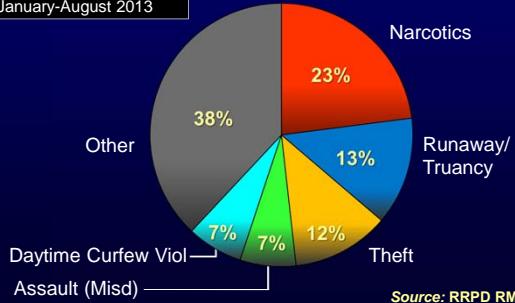


*Data are for Jan-Aug 2013

Source: RRPD RMS

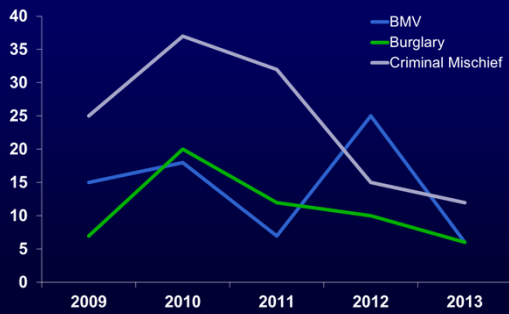
Most Frequent Juvenile Charges

Frequency for 392 Charges,
January-August 2013



Source: RRPD RMS

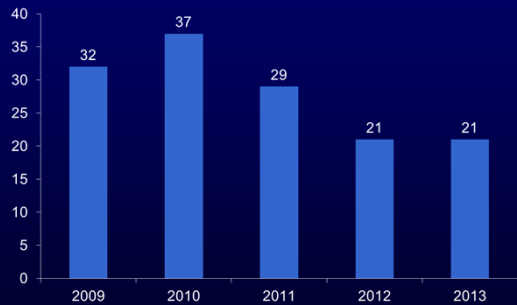
Juvenile Arrests: 3 Categories



*Year-end estimate

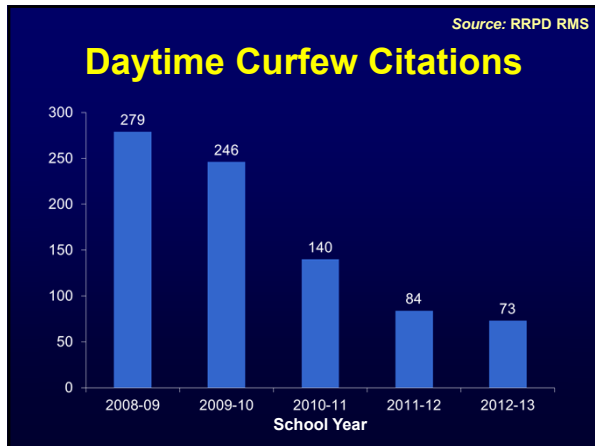
Source: RRPD RMS

Nighttime Curfew Citations



*Data are for Jan-Aug 2013

Source: RRPD RMS



Legislative Changes

- Juveniles no longer can be cited for Class C offenses occurring on school property or at school events
 - Can still be charged by arrest or a new complaint procedure
- Schools may file complaints in municipal court after following procedure
- Students may not be charged with Disruption of Class or Disruption of Transportation
