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Sexually Oriented Business (SOBs) Ordinance Update

Public Safety Committee

January 12, 2026



Presentation Overview



- This briefing provides an approval history on Sexually Oriented Businesses (SOBs)
- Investigative processes, and inter-agency partnerships supporting prevention efforts.
- Reduction of Violent Offenses.

SOB Late-hours Ordinance History

- **January 26, 2022: Approval**

The Dallas City Council unanimously approved Ordinance No. 32125 to restrict operating hours for SOBs, citing public safety and crime data.

- **May 2022: Initial Injunction**

A federal district judge issued a preliminary injunction blocking the city from enforcing the curfew after SOB operators sued, alleging First Amendment violations.

- **October 12, 2023: Injunction Overturned**

The **U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals** reversed the lower court's decision, ruling that the city had sufficient evidence to link late-night operations due to spikes in violent crime.

- **November 30, 2023: Commencement of Enforcement**

Following the appellate ruling, the Dallas Police Department (DPD) officially began enforcing the 2 a.m. curfew.

- **March 18, 2024: Supreme Court Decline**

The **U.S. Supreme Court** declined to review the case, effectively upholding the 5th Circuit's ruling in favor of the city.

- **May 21, 2024: Second Injunction Denial**

A federal judge denied a new request for a preliminary injunction from a group of strip clubs that sought to remain open as "non-sexually oriented" businesses during curfew hours.

- **June 13, 2025: Final Summary Judgment**

The U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas granted **summary judgment** to the city, formally ruling that the ordinance does not violate the First Amendment.

SID Investigative Process

- Complaints, intelligence, and crime data are used to identify locations of concern.
- SID conducts preliminary reviews and targeted surveillance.
- Administrative inspections are performed to assess regulatory compliance.
- Criminal investigations are initiated when violations or criminal activity are identified.
- All findings are documented, tracked, and reviewed for follow up enforcement and compliance monitoring.

Collaborative Efforts for SOB Inspections

- Patrol Divisions
- Dallas Code Compliance
- Dallas Fire Marshals
- Licensing & Permits
- City Attorney's Office
- State & Federal Partners

SOB Violent Crime Exact Locations

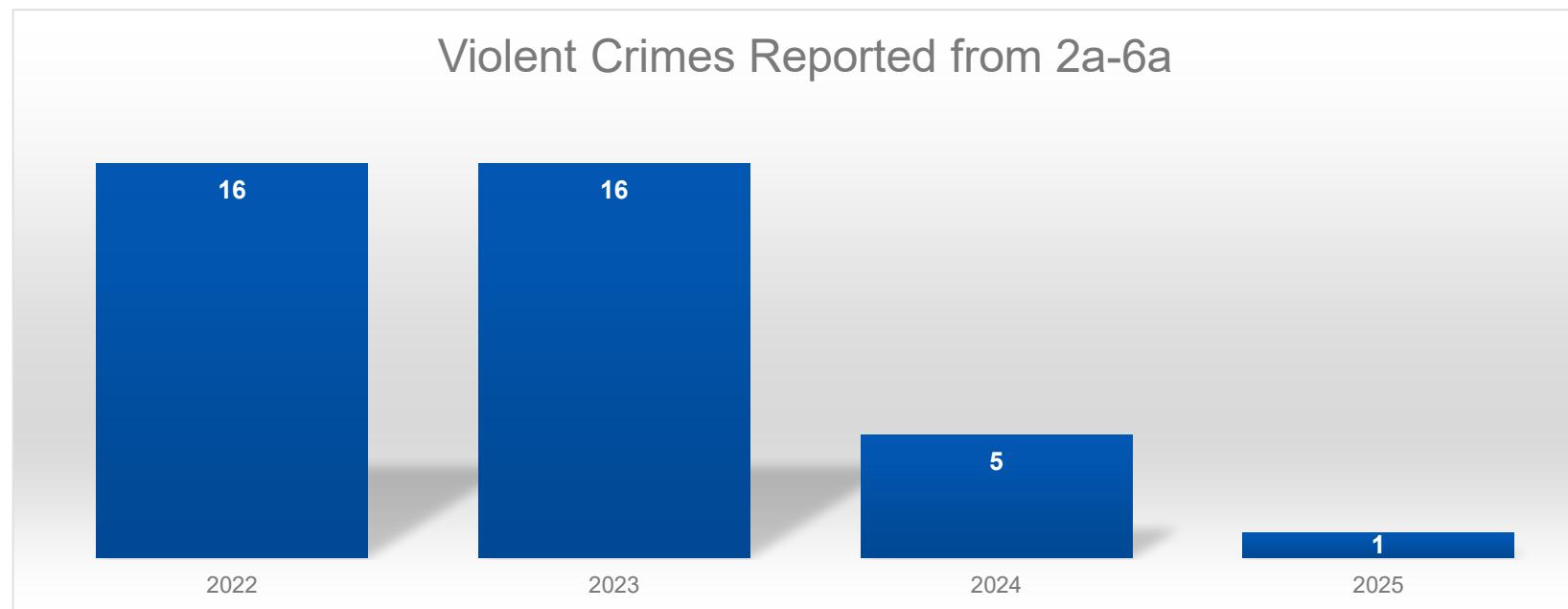
Violent Crime – 2022 to 2025 YTD Comparison

	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
10p-2a	9	17	11	7	44
2a-6a	16	16	5	1	38
6a-10a	2	3	1	0	6
10a-2p	2	4	1	1	8
2p-6p	3	0	0	2	5
6p-10p	4	1	3	2	10
Total	36	41	21	13	111

This table shows a 93.8% drop in Violent Crime, 2a-6a, from 2022 to 2025.

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Questions ?

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