

Memorandum



DATE October 8, 2021

TO Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT **Dallas Police Department Data Loss Update**

On September 30, 2021 the Department of Information and Technology Services (ITS) released its initial report on the data loss impacting the Dallas Police Department (DPD). [The City of Dallas 2021 Data Loss Events Analysis – Initial Report](#) identifies the direct, contributing, and systemic factors leading to the deletion of archive data in March 2021.

The report confirms that 20.677 Terabytes (TB) of archive data totaling 8.7 million individual data files was permanently deleted impacting electronic data collected by the DPD. The report also outlines the efforts to review other backup and archive processes and confirms that other data repositories are intact, complete, and unaffected by the data loss events. Additionally, the report confirms that the archives of the City Secretary's Office, previously feared to be impacted by the data loss, are intact, complete, and unaffected. The following table summarizes the extent of the data loss:

Location	Volume Loss	Number of Files
K Drive (DPD)	7.51 TB	4.1 million files
Fusion Server (DPD)	13.167 TB	4.6 million files
CAPERS server (DPD)	N/A	No data loss
City Secretary (CSO)	N/A	No data loss

In documenting the factors and causes of the data loss, the report identifies errors made by the employee executing the data migration, inadequate management controls within ITS for data management activities, and insufficient oversight and review processes within the department. The report provides specific, targeted recommendations to improve ITS' processes and management controls that will guard against future incidents which could result in a loss of critical data.

Finally, the report provides detailed information regarding the City's ongoing efforts and actions to remediate the impacts of the data loss and recover or restore data lost from the archives. ITS has brought in forensic data recovery tools, external expertise, and additional contracted support staff to scan and recover data from across the City of Dallas' systems to recover the deleted data, possibly stored on alternative sources. As of the date of the report, these efforts have recovered 140,353 potential files that were deleted. These recovered files are being placed into a recovery environment containing forensic copies of the affected systems which are used for our search efforts. As ITS continues this broader recovery effort, we also continue to meet with DPD and the County's District Attorney's Office on a weekly basis to prioritize case reviews and conduct targeted searches to support operational needs.

As of the date of the report, these search efforts have identified 17,474 cases and more than 17 million potential data files from alternate sources for validation and review. The following table summarizes the results of the remediation efforts as of 9/30/2021:

Type of Data	Beginning Balance based on Analysis	Processed To Date	Percent Completed
Est. Number of Cases	17,494	142	8.1%
DA Prioritized Cases	1,000	142	14.2%
Potential Data Files	17,291,140	140,353	8.12%
Storage Size	8.3TB		

As the City continues our remediation and recovery efforts, ITS will provide ongoing updates to the Public Safety Committee.


William Zielinski (Oct 8, 2021 07:27 CDT)

William Zielinski
Chief Information Officer

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