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City of Austin

AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT



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For immediate release:

June 3, 2013

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APD Issues 70 Warrants in Narcotics Sting, Operation Safe Assistance

From May 3 – May 29, 2013, the Austin Police Department conducted Operation Safe Assistance, a Narcotics sting operation focusing on high drug trafficking in the downtown area. The initiative proactively sought out drug dealers and buyers who were preying on the vulnerable population in the downtown area, many of whom seek assistance from social services. Working with partners like the Downtown Austin Alliance, Downtown Austin Neighborhood Association (DANA), the Texas Bar and Night Club Association, and social service providers such as the ARCH and other stakeholders, APD identified the primary areas of activity near 4th and Sabine Streets and the area surrounding the ARCH and Salvation Army.

As of 3 p.m. Monday, June 3, 2013, 23 of the suspects have been arrested. Here are other stats from the operation:

- Through the course of the operation, 70 warrants were issued for charges of Delivery of a Controlled Substance
- Some suspects had multiple drug charges filed against them; a total of 50 individuals were filed on
- The ranges of Offenses were from State Jail Felony to 2nd Degree Felony
- Suspects arrested in this sting will face jail time ranging from 180 days to 20 years in jail and will face fines up to \$10,000

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these individuals regularly require police services, preventing officers from working on other community problems

- In the downtown area, there has been a 40 percent reduction in violent crime and a 46 percent reduction in burglary of non-residences compared to this time period last year

These suspects had previously been charged or suspected to have been involved in:

- 75 cases of Robbery, Aggravated Robbery or Assault
- 4 Aggravated Assault on a Police Officer
- 15 had weapons charges
- 176 Burglaries, Forgeries, Auto Theft or Theft
- 5 were documented gang members

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