

San Antonio Police Department Cite and Release Program

3RD QUARTER REPORT

(JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 2026)

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026



Prepared by San Antonio Police Department
MAY 15 2026

SAPD Class A/B Misdemeanor Cite & Release Program Report

3rd Quarter Report for the Year Ending June 30, 2026

OVERVIEW

This report outlines the enforcement activity related to the SAPD enhanced Cite and Release program, which began on July 1, 2019. The period covered by this report is January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026. This program authorizes SAPD Officers to issue citations in lieu of custodial arrest in certain Class A or B misdemeanor offenses codified within Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Article 14.06 (c) and (d). The SAPD amended existing departmental policy and expanded officer discretion to support the enhanced cite and release opportunities. However, in consultation with the Bexar County District Attorney's Office, the Class A and B misdemeanor offense of Penal Code 28.08 Graffiti was excluded from the authority to cite and release. The offenses authorized for cite and release under the enhanced SAPD program are as follows:

1. Class B Possession of Marijuana (0-2 oz.)
2. Class A Possession of Marijuana (2-4 oz.)
3. Class B Possession of Substance in Penalty Group 2-A (0-2 oz.)
E.g. Synthetic cannabinoids
4. Class A Possession of Substance in Penalty Group 2-A (2-4 oz.)
E.g. Synthetic cannabinoids
5. Class B Criminal Mischief (\$100 or over and less than \$750)
E.g. damaged property, broken windows, flattened tires
6. Class B Theft from businesses (\$100 or over and less than \$750)
E.g. shoplifting, retail theft
7. Class B Theft of Service (\$100 or over and less than \$750)
E.g. non-payment of tab or check, rental fee
8. Class B Contraband in a Correctional Facility
E.g. alcohol, controlled substance, deadly weapon, tobacco products
9. Driving While License Invalid

To evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation of the enhanced Cite and Release Program and to provide the community with information on the program, the Department will produce a quarterly report providing information on the following:

1. Enforcement Activity
2. Race/Ethnicity
3. Offense Type
4. Arrest Reason
5. Officer Availability

This report will compare the results, on a quarterly basis, to the results of the fourth year of implementation of the program.

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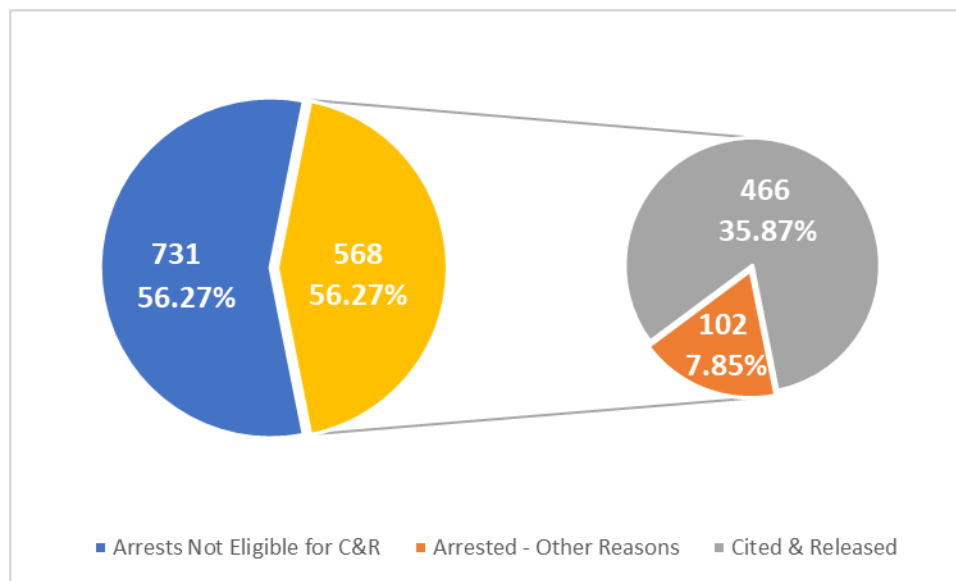
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SUMMARY

During the period of January through March, the SAPD encountered 1,299 individuals for eligible offenses, via either custodial arrest or issuing a misdemeanor citation. Of the 1,299 individuals encountered, 731 individuals (56.27%) had outstanding warrants and/or multiple arrests, making them ineligible for citation and release. 466 (35.87%) encounters were eligible for citation and release.

The table below provides a breakdown of these police encounters by race/ethnicity.

Race/ Ethnicity	Total Encounters	Arrests (not C/R eligible)	Other Arrests	Released
Hispanic	837	463	67	307
White	190	101	21	68
African American	245	155	13	77
Other Race	27	12	1	14
Total	1,299	731	102	466
% of Total	100%	56.27%	7.85%	35.87%



The table below provides detail on the 568 encounters which were eligible for cite and release, disaggregated by race and ethnicity. Release rates range from 93.33% for Other Race to 76.40% for White.

Race/ Ethnicity	C/R Eligible Encounters	Individuals Arrested	Individuals Released	Release Rate, eligible encounters
Hispanic	374	67	307	82.09%
White	89	21	68	76.40%
African American	90	13	77	85.56%
Other Race	15	1	14	93.33%
Total	568	102	466	82.04%

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1. OFFENSE TYPE

Table 1.1 identifies the enforcement activity by type of offense during the current program quarter and compares the enforcement activity with the same quarter of the prior year. Class B Theft and Possession of 0-2 ounces of Marijuana make up a total of 86.68% of offenses. During Year 7, Q3, Possession of Marijuana 0-2 oz has a lower citation release rate of 35.37% as compared to the higher release rate of 50.68% for Class B Theft.

Table 1.1 – Arrests and Release Rate by Offense type, current quarter compared to same quarter prior year

Offense Type	Year 6, Q3 Jan to Mar 2025				Year 7 Q3 Jan to Mar 2026			
	Arrest	Release	Total	Rel. %	Arrest	Release	Total	Rel. %
Contraband in Correctional Facility	2	0	2	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Criminal Mischief \$100 to <\$750	55	5	60	8.33%	74	5	79	6.33%
Driving While License Invalid	33	2	35	5.71%	25	0	25	0.00%
Class B Theft \$100 to <\$750	112	140	252	55.56%	144	148	292	50.68%
Class B Theft of Service \$100 to <\$750	3	1	4	25.00%	1	1	2	50.00%
Poss. Marijuana 0 to 2oz	479	270	749	36.05%	539	295	834	35.37%
Poss. Marijuana 2 to 4 oz	22	6	28	21.43%	28	13	41	31.71%
Poss. Sch. 2A Ctrld Subst. < 2oz	19	5	24	20.83%	22	4	26	15.38%
Poss. Sch. 2A Ctrld Subst. 2 to < 4oz	1	0	1	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	726	429	1,155	37.14%	833	466	1,299	35.87%

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2. ARREST REASON

The reason officers initiate a custodial arrest can vary widely and current SAPD policy identifies certain circumstances where a custodial arrest is required. Table 2.1 identify the reason for officers conducting a custodial arrest. During Year 7, Q3, 731 (87.76%) of 833 custodial arrests were made in instances when the arrestee had outstanding warrants or multiple charges, rendering them ineligible for citation and release because an arrest is mandatory in these cases.

Table. 2.1 – Reason for Custodial Arrest, current quarter compared to same quarter prior year

Arrest Reason	Year 5, Q3 Jan to Mar 2024		Year 6, Q3 Jan to Mar 2025	
	Total	%	Total	%
Multiple Charges	445	61.29%	471	56.54%
Warrants	223	30.72%	260	31.21%
Mandatory arrests - not eligible for C/R	668	92.01%	731	87.76%
Victim Custodial Arrest Demand / Expected	31	4.27%	64	7.68%
Medical / Self Harm	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Uncooperative Suspect	2	0.28%	6	0.72%
Unspecified	0	0.00%	5	0.60%
Insufficient ID	8	1.10%	16	1.92%
Suspect of Other Criminal Behavior	7	0.96%	2	0.24%
Not Bexar County Resident	10	1.38%	9	1.08%
Total	726	100%	833	100%

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3. OFFICER AVAILABILITY

Cite and release saves officer time because issuing a citation takes less time than completing an arrest. Table 3.1 show officer time saved according to the average amount of time an officer spends on an arrest for a particular offense. During Year 7, Q3, the officer time saved by issuing citations was 850.63 hours. The full-time equivalent (FTE) for an officer's time is estimated at 410 hrs per quarter, so the citations issued in Year 7, Q3 resulted in a time saving of 2.07 FTEs.

Table 3.1 – Reduced Officer Time On Call, current quarter compared to same quarter prior year

Offense Type	Avg. minutes for arrest	Year 6, Q3 Jan to Mar 2025		Year 7, Q3 Jan to Mar 2026	
		Releases	Hrs saved	Releases	Hrs saved
Contraband In Correctional Facility	0	0	N/A	0	0.00
Criminal Mischief \$100 to <\$750	0	5	N/A	5	0.00
Driving While License Invalid	70	2	2.33	0	0.00
Class B Theft \$100 to <\$750	117	140	273.00	148	288.60
Class B Theft of Service \$100 to <\$750	14	1	0.23	1	0.23
Poss. Marijuana 0 to 2 oz	112	270	504.00	295	550.67
Poss. Marijuana 2 to 4oz	32	6	3.20	13	6.93
Poss. Sch. 2A Ctrlld Subst. < 2oz	63	5	5.25	4	4.20
Poss. Sch. 2A Ctrlld Subst. 2 to < 4oz	0	0	N/A	0	N/A
Total			788.02		850.63
Officer FTE (hrs)	410	429	1.92 FTE	466	2.07 FTE

Disclaimer: The data is comprised of incidents reported to the San Antonio Police Department. The data is continuously being updated following investigations, classifications, and final categorizations. Therefore, results will vary depending on when the data was compiled. Due to different methods in data collection, research practices, and analysis procedures, caution should be exercised when comparing data results against other sources or previous reports.

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APPENDIX

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CITATION BOOK

**SAN ANTONIO POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITE AND RELEASE
CITATION**

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1) **ELIGIBLE OFFENSES:** ARE LISTED IN GENERAL MANUAL PROCEDURE 505.06.B.
 - a) An Officer who determines probable cause has been established for any of the eligible offenses can issue a citation if the offender does not have any of the restrictions listed in General Manual Procedure 505.05.A or .06.A.
- 2) **Report Responsibility:** When officers issue a Cite and Release Citation in lieu of custodial arrest, the officers shall:
 - a) Create an offense report;
 - b) Document the citation number in the report;
 - c) Submit the report for approval;
 - d) The report shall be submitted to the DA's Office per General Manual Procedure 505.03.B.
- 3) **The original citation** is submitted in an envelope through bin mail to: *DA's Office, Intake Division, Attn: Cite and Release.*
- 4) **Date of Appearance** should be set 10 days from the date the citation is issued.
- 5) **Return** empty ticket books to Records Unit for destruction.

IF FOUND PLEASE RETURN

**SAN ANTONIO POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITE AND RELEASE CITATION**

No. CR 0003175

ROUTING OF REPORT
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

DATE ISSUED			TIME ISSUED			DAY OF WEEK		
MONTH	DAY	YEAR						
(PRINT) LAST NAME			FIRST			MIDDLE		

RESIDENCE ADDRESS

CITY		ZIP CODE	PHONE	
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BUSINESS ADDRESS (OR SCHOOL ATTENDED)

CITY		ZIP CODE	BUSINESS PHONE	
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RACE	SEX	HAIR	EYES	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	DATE OF BIRTH
						/ /

DRIVER'S LICENSE	STATE	NUMBER	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

OTHER ID OR EMAIL ADDRESS:

VIOLATION CHARGED

BASED UPON THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN, A COMPLAINT WILL BE FILED AGAINST YOU FOR THE VIOLATION INDICATED BELOW

OFFENSE(S) NOT COMMITTED IN MY PRESENCE
 CERTIFIED ON INFORMATION AND BELIEF.

PLACE OF OFFENSE

BADGE NO.	DISTRICT OF ARREST	ASSIGNMENT NO.

SIGNATURE OF OFFICER

By signing below, I agree: 1) to report to the Bexar County District Attorney's Office at the ReEntry Center at 222 S. Comal for further instructions. I will report no sooner than the date written below and no later than 30 days after that date; and 2) to be contacted at the phone number or email address provided for purposes related to this citation, including notification of reporting.

DATE OF APPEARANCE: / / (Date should be 10 days from issue)

SIGNATURE: _____

THIS IS NOT AN ADMISSION OF GUILT
SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR MORE INSTRUCTIONS