

MUNICIPAL COURT

Briefing on Action Plan

January 11, 2022

By Presiding Judge Gail Loeb and
Director of Municipal Court, Gilbert Hernandez



Presentation Overview



- Purpose
- Background
- Violation historical counts
- Plan for addressing backlog



Purpose

- Provide City Council with a strategy to address outstanding ordinance violations



Background

- Prior to COVID-19 process
 - During the pandemic
 - As of January 3, 2022, there are 3,604 people who have a total of 10,713 city ordinance violations pending to be scheduled
 - Violations involve people who were previously scheduled to both in-person and virtual dockets and failed to appear, as well as new violations scheduled for first time
 - Since November 29, 2021, City Manager Peter Zanoni and the Chair of Municipal Court Committee, Council Member John Martinez, have met four (4) times with Judge Gail Loeb and Municipal Court staff to discuss the strategy to address the ordinance backlog
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Municipal Court – Judicial Staffing



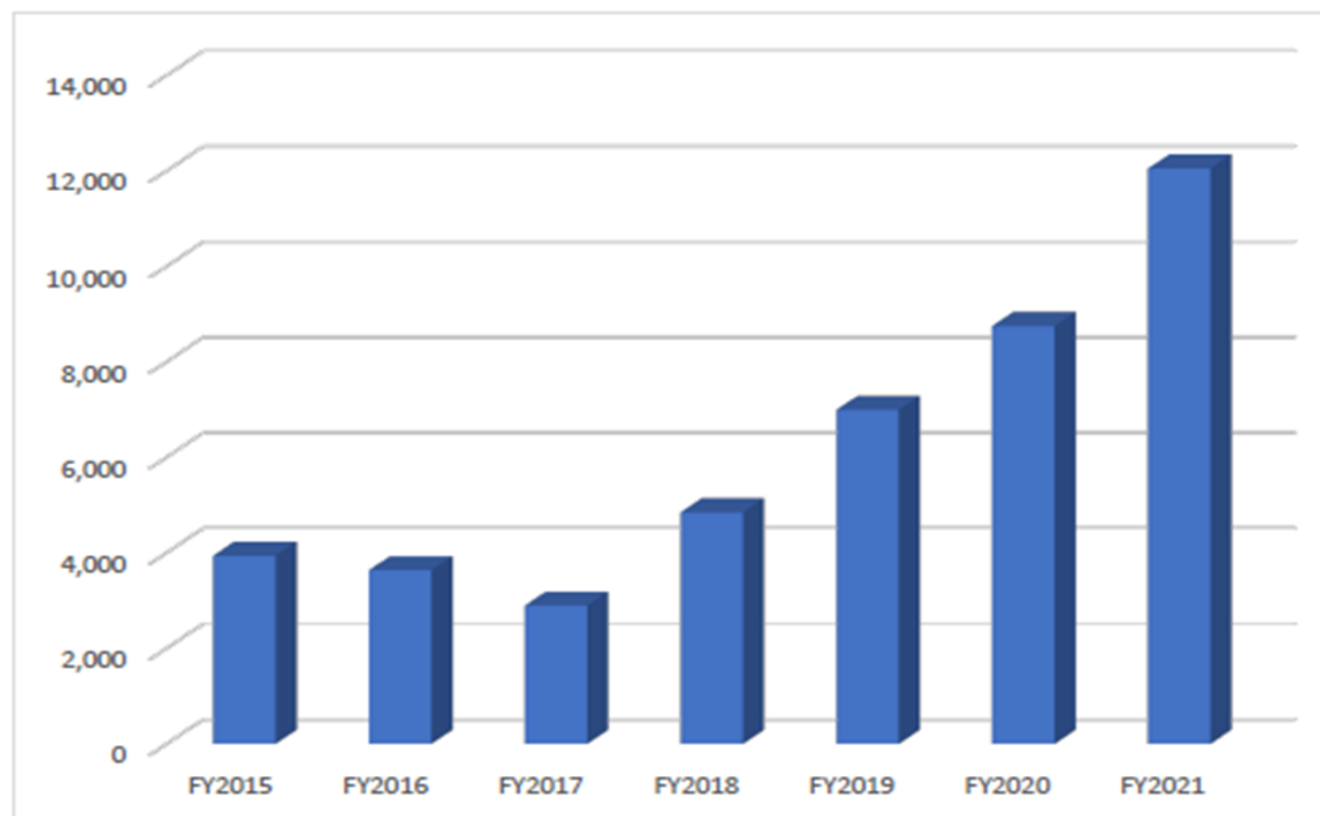
- Current Judicial Staffing
 - Six (6) full-time judges:
 - Five (5) of the six are day-time judges
 - One (1) of the six works nights
 - Seven (7) part-time judges work weekends and holidays



Increase in Number of Cases for Ordinance Violations



	TOTALS
FY2015	3,940
FY2016	3,635
FY2017	2,893
FY2018	4,844
FY2019	6,992
FY2020	8,750
FY2021	12,050

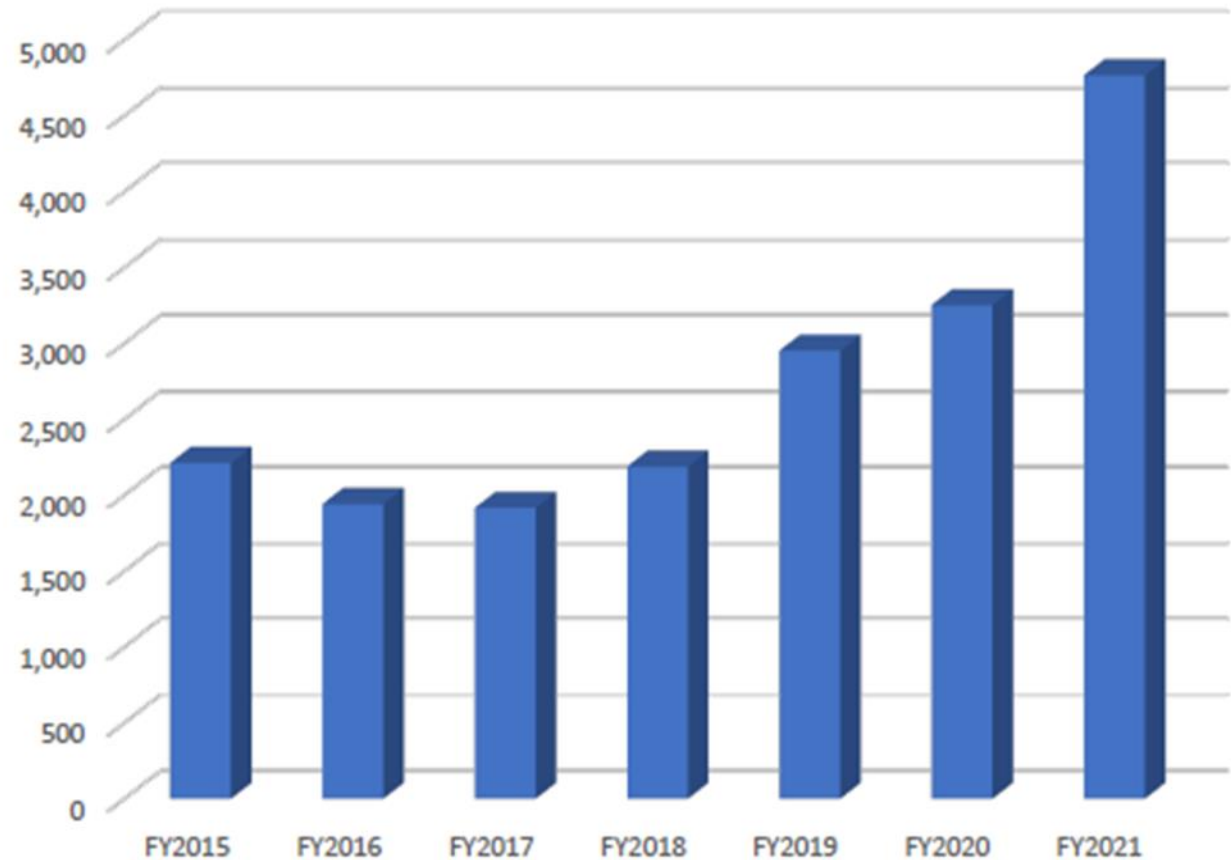




Increase in Number of People with Ordinance Violations

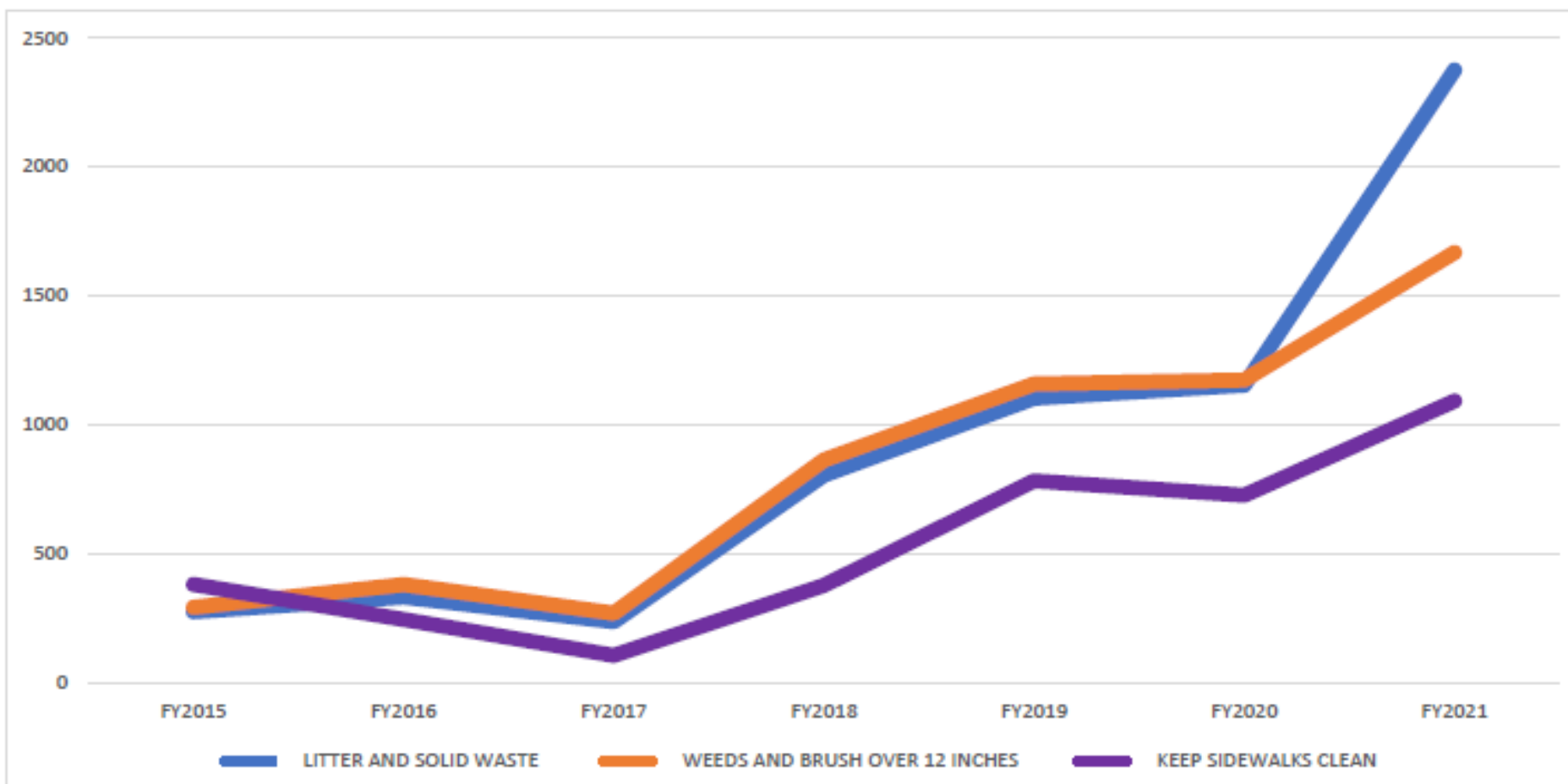


	<u>TOTAL</u>
FY2015	2,212
FY2016	1,941
FY2017	1,915
FY2018	2,188
FY2019	2,951
FY2020	3,252
FY2021	4,766



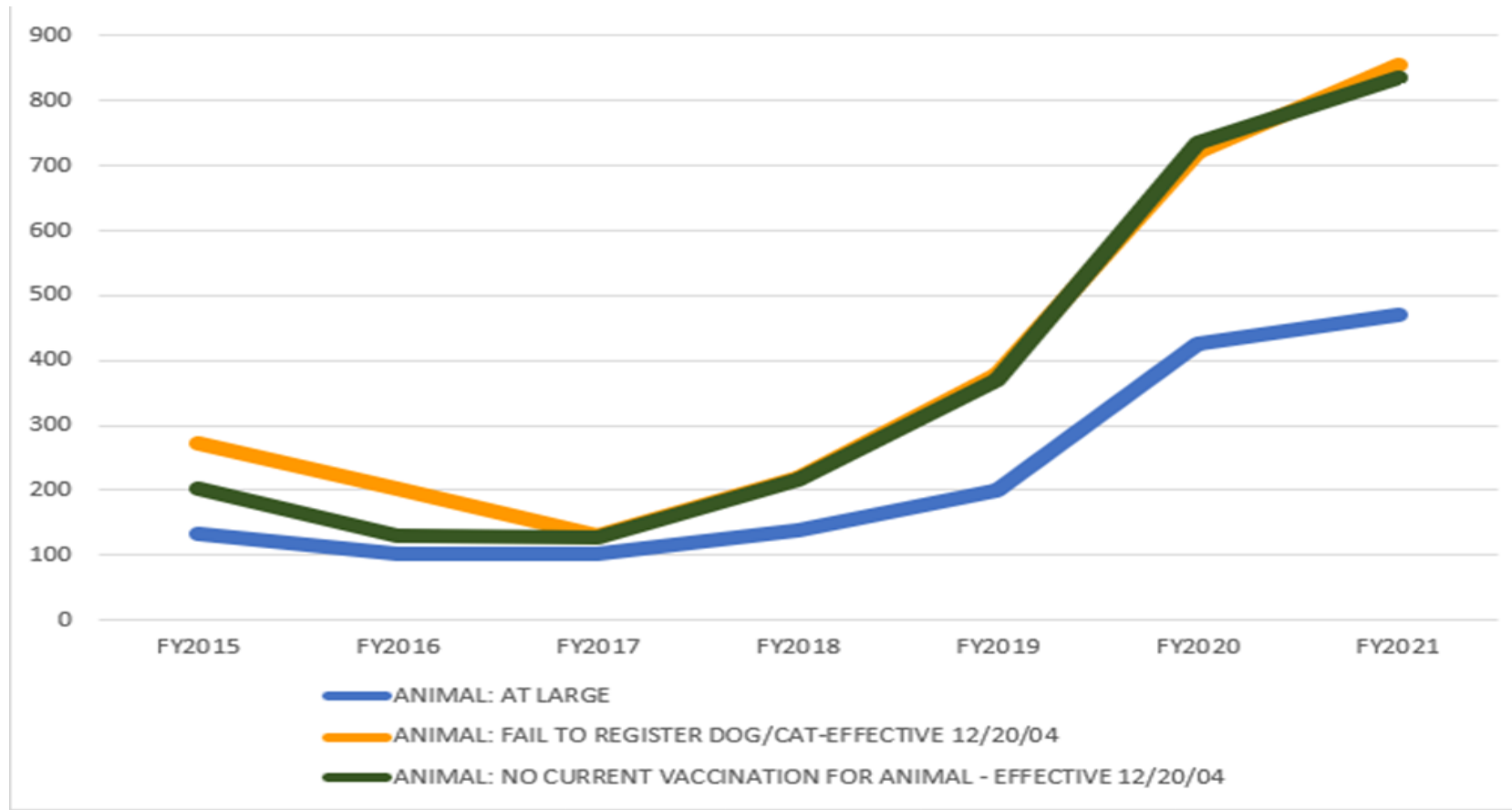


Increase in the Three Most Common Code Violations





Increase in the Three Most Common Animal Violations





Plan for Addressing Ordinance Violations



- Current pending cases to be scheduled or rescheduled as of January 4, 2022:
 - Cases to schedule: 10,713
 - Number of people: 3,604
 - Main violations involve Code Compliance and Animal Control cases. Also included are park curfew, unlawful use of utilities, fireworks in city limits, etc.



Plan for Addressing Ordinance Violations January 18 – 21, 2022



- January In-person Ordinance Pre-trials:
 - Will be held at the American Bank Center
 - January 18, 2022, through January 21, 2022
 - Total scheduled 1,680 people
 - Arrest warrants will be issued when someone fails to appear



Ordinance Dockets at American Bank Center January 18 - 21, 2022



DOCKETS SCHEDULED JANUARY 18, 2022 TO JANUARY 21, 2022

1/18/2022				1/19/2022				1/20/2022				1/21/2022				TOTAL
Court A	People	Court B	People	Court A	People	Court B	People	Court A	People	Court B	People	Court A	People	Court B	People	
8:30	35	9:00	35	8:30	35	9:00	35	8:30	35	9:00	35	8:30	35	9:00	35	
9:30	35	10:00	35	9:30	35	10:00	35	9:30	35	10:00	35	9:30	35	10:00	35	
10:30	35	11:00	35	10:30	35	11:00	35	10:30	35	11:00	35	10:30	35	11:00	35	
1:00	35	1:30	35	1:00	35	1:30	35	1:00	35	1:30	35	1:00	35	1:30	35	
2:00	35	2:30	35	2:00	35	2:30	35	2:00	35	2:30	35	2:00	35	2:30	35	
3:00	35	3:30	35	3:00	35	3:30	35	3:00	35	3:30	35	3:00	35	3:30	35	
	210		210		210		210		210		210		210		210	1680



Plan for Addressing Ordinance Violations January 25 – February 4, 2022



- January - February In-person Ordinance Pre-trials:
 - Municipal Court: January 25 and 27, 2022
 - City Hall Council Chambers: January 28, 2022
 - American Bank Center: January 31, 2022 through February 4, 2022
 - Total to be scheduled: 1,350 people
 - Arrest warrants will be issued when someone fails to appear
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Ordinance Dockets

January 25 – February 4, 2022



DOCKETS SCHEDULED JANUARY 25, 27, and 28, 2022

1/25/22		1/27/22		1/28/22		TOTAL
Court B	People	Court C	People	CITY COUNCIL	People	
9:00	30	9:00	30	8:30	35	
1:30	30			9:30	35	
				10:30	35	
	60		30	1:30	35	
				2:30	35	
				3:30	35	
					210	300

DOCKETS SCHEDULED JANUARY 31, 2022 THROUGH FEBRUARY 4, 2022

1/31/2022				2/1/2022				2/2/2022				2/3/2022				2/4/2022				TOTAL
Court A	People	Court B	People	Court A	People	Court B	People	Court A	People	Court B	People	Court A	People	Court B	People	Court A	People	Court B	People	
1:00	35	1:30	35	1:00	35	1:30	35	1:00	35	1:30	35	1:00	35	1:30	35	1:00	35	1:30	35	
2:00	35	2:30	35	2:00	35	2:30	35	2:00	35	2:30	35	2:00	35	2:30	35	2:00	35	2:30	35	
3:00	35	3:30	35	3:00	35	3:30	35	3:00	35	3:30	35	3:00	35	3:30	35	3:00	35	3:30	35	
	105		105		105		105		105		105		105		105		105		105	1050



Plan for Addressing Ordinance Violations February 7 - 11, 2022



- February In-Person Ordinance Pre-trials:
 - Will be held at the American Bank Center
February 7, 2022 through February 11, 2022
 - Total scheduled: 2,100 people
 - Arrest warrants will be issued when someone fails to appear
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Ordinance Dockets

February 7 –11, 2022



DOCKETS SCHEDULED FEBRUARY 7, 2022 THROUGH FEBRUARY 11, 2022																				
2/7/2022				2/8/2022				2/9/2022				2/10/2022				2/11/2022				TOTAL
Court A	People	Court B	People	Court A	People	Court B	People	Court A	People	Court B	People	Court A	People	Court B	People	Court A	People	Court B	People	
8:30	35	9:00	35	8:30	35	9:00	35	8:30	35	9:00	35	8:30	35	9:00	35	8:30	35	9:00	35	
9:30	35	10:00	35	9:30	35	10:00	35	9:30	35	10:00	35	9:30	35	10:00	35	9:30	35	10:00	35	
10:30	35	11:00	35	10:30	35	11:00	35	10:30	35	11:00	35	10:30	35	11:00	35	10:30	35	11:00	35	
1:00	35	1:30	35	1:00	35	1:30	35	1:00	35	1:30	35	1:00	35	1:30	35	1:00	35	1:30	35	
2:00	35	2:30	35	2:00	35	2:30	35	2:00	35	2:30	35	2:00	35	2:30	35	2:00	35	2:30	35	
3:00	35	3:30	35	3:00	35	3:30	35	3:00	35	3:30	35	3:00	35	3:30	35	3:00	35	3:30	35	
	210		210		210		210		210		210		210		210		210		210	2100



2022 Warrant Roundup



- Amnesty period from February 14 – February 25, 2022
- Warrant roundup February 26 – March 5, 2022
- Roundup will concentrate on warrants issued on ordinance violations.



Jury Trials



- Due to COVID-19 In-person Jury trials resumed October 25, 2021, at the American Bank Center
- Additional dockets held December 13, 2021 through December 17, 2021 at the American Bank Center
- Future jury dockets will be held January 10, 2022, through January 14, 2022 at the American Bank Center
- Starting in March 2022, future planned jury trials will be held on Fridays at the City Council Chambers



American Bank Center Trials and Hearings



Week of:	Type	Number of People Per Day	Number of Days	Total People
October 25, 2021	Jury	15	5	75
November 1, 2021	Jury	15	4	60
December 13, 2021	Jury	40	5	200
January 10, 2022	Jury	20	5	100
January 18, 2022	Ordinance Pre-trial	420	4	1680
January 31, 2022	Regular Pre-trial:120 Ordinance Pre-trial: 210	330	5	1650
February 7, 2022	Ordinance Pre-trial	420	5	2100
February 14, 2022	Amnesty Week			
February 21, 2022	Amnesty Week			
February 28, 2022	Warrant Round Up			



Municipal Court Building



- Municipal Court has:
 - Three (3) courtrooms
 - Five (5) City Marshals
- Municipal Court Administration has been working with City Manager Peter Zanoni and Chair of Municipal Court Committee, Council Member John Martinez, on finding space to lease that will provide more room during COVID-19 as an alternative to having trials at the Court and at the American Bank Center



Questions?
