From: Samantha Booth <sbooth@ashevillenc.gov>
Sent: 1/12/2022 1:08:15 PM
To: Honosky, Sarah <shonosky@citizentimes.com>
Cc: Bill Davis <bdavis2@ashevillenc.gov>,Mike Lamb <mlamb@ashevillenc.gov>
Subject: Re: Citizen Times RE: Encampment data

Good morning Sarah,

Hope you are doing well! Please see below regarding your inquiry.

The data in the presentation was provided by our Crime Analyst, Douglas Oeser. The time period covered extends from Jan. 1, 2020 to Jan. 9, 2022. The distinction of violent vs. property crime is based on the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.

Yes, it was mentioned in the presentation about two homicides and a suspicious death, with foul play suspected occuring in and around encampments. One of the homicides that is being referenced was the Benjamin Hoffman II case, in which we have charged the suspect. I am unable to provide additional information or verify names for the other cases, due to them both being open investigations at this time.

When it comes to defining the word " large encampment" it is not solely defined by a number but by an encampment that has health and safety issues for people in the camps as well as the surrounding areas/neighborhoods.

We did indeed speak last week about the impending APD policy changes related to homeless camp protocols. This is still being reviewed and in the process of being finalized. The 2014 policy has been rescinded. In reference to the presentation mentioning an "adjusted procedure" of 24-48 hour notice, rather than 7-days. That is correct, this change was made due to the evolving and adapting changes of conditions concerning encampments when it comes to public safety of the community. As soon as we have that finalized policy I would be more than happy to provide it to you.

Respectfully,
Samantha Booth

On Tue, Jan 11, 2022 at 4:08 PM Honosky, Sarah <SHonosky@citizentimes.com> wrote:

> Good afternoon,
>
> I'm prepping for city council tonight, and the manager's report has some crime data that I was hoping to verify with you. There's a bulleted list of "crimes occurring in and around encampments," but it doesn't give a time frame.
>
> Is that data from the last one year? The last two years?
>
> It also lists two homicides and a suspicious death, with foul play suspected. Just to make sure I'm not extrapolating, which homicides cases is this referencing? And which suspicious death?
>
> I was also curious what qualifies as a "large" encampment."
>
> I know we spoke last week about impending APD policy changes related to homeless camp protocols. This presentation references an "adjusted procedure" of 24-48 hour notice, rather than 7-days.
>
> Is this APD's policy change? If so, did it already go into effect?
>
> Thanks so much,
>
> Sarah

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