



# City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: Police

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: October 7, 2019

Re: Comparison of Columbia Police Department calls regarding firework complaints in 2018 and 2019

## Executive Summary

In response to a request by Council member Peters, staff is providing information on Columbia Police Department (CPD) responses to the volume of calls related to fireworks within the city limits from July 1<sup>st</sup> through July 7<sup>th</sup>, a comparison of calls received in 2018 and 2019, and plans moving forward.

## Discussion

The request made by Council member Peters was based on a resident inquiry on firework calls that the Columbia Police Department (CPD) received between July 1<sup>st</sup> and July 7<sup>th</sup> in 2019 and in 2018. The request included several specific questions, as well as how the City plans on informing the public of the ordinances prohibiting the use of fireworks inside the city limits. Sec 16-234 of the City Code prohibits possessing, using, burning, exploding, or otherwise setting off any firework, with the exception of sparklers, within city limits. This section also prohibits the sale of fireworks within city limits; however, fireworks may be purchased in Boone County or elsewhere.

In 2018, citizens made 215 calls to CPD regarding fireworks. Three of those calls involved the same address, and it was an intersection. In 2018, two citations were given. The total number of calls in 2019 rose to 323. There were two addresses that each received five calls, one was an intersection and the other was a private residence. In 2019, two citations were given. This data includes calls made between July 1<sup>st</sup> and July 7<sup>th</sup> in 2018 and 2019 – it does not include calls made outside of that date range.

Residents are reminded of the City's restrictions on fireworks annually through press releases and information shared on the City's various social media accounts. In 2019, a reminder was included in the June City Source newsletter which is included with utility bills from the City of Columbia. CPD officers are provided fliers to hand out to residents when they are in the neighborhoods. Local media outlets and publications also remind residents of the City's ordinance. The City will continue to look for more strategic opportunities to engage and communicate with our community.

## Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: N/A

Long-Term Impact: N/A



Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Public Safety, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Primary, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History

Date	Action
N/A	N/A

Suggested Council Action

This report is for information only.