

City of Dallas News Release

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City of Dallas will participate in statewide warrant roundup

Officers will be arresting people in Dallas who have outstanding warrants

Dallas, TX – Defendants who fail to pay their outstanding warrants could be in for a rude awakening on Feb. 16. That's when the City of Dallas will join law enforcement agencies from across Texas for the 2008 Statewide Warrant Roundup. Beginning Feb. 16, officers will arrest people with outstanding warrants pending before their respective municipal courts.

Persons with outstanding City citations can avoid arrest by appearing in person to make arrangements at the Lew Sterrett Justice Center Lobby, 111 W. Commerce, open 24 hours a day, seven days a week or by visiting 106 S. Harwood between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, in downtown Dallas (wheelchair access is at 2014 Main Street). City officials emphasize that several options are available to people who have outstanding warrants, including making full payment or a suitable arrangement for full payment; performing community service or work release; posting a cash bond; making a Magistrate Court appearance; obtaining attorney representation; or receiving credit for time served by turning yourself in at the Marshal's Office, 1600 Chestnut.

"The City of Dallas is very pleased to be a part of this effort, which is strongly supported by members of the City Council and the Council's Public Safety Committee," said Court and Detention Services Director Gloria Carter. "We really don't want to arrest people or embarrass them in public, we just want to clear up the warrants," she said. "That's why we're giving people plenty of notice that they need to take care of these warrants and act now to avoid arrest before the roundup begins Feb. 16."

The 2008 Roundup will again focus on violators with outstanding Class C misdemeanor warrants; most of which are traffic-related. More than 60,000 notices are being mailed to persons with active warrants against them. To minimize the effect on the City's jail population, persons arrested in the roundup will be housed at the City's Detention Center, at 1600 Chestnut, rather than the Lew Sterrett Justice Center.

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