



Community Meeting

January 6th 2018

10AM

City Of Frederick Annex Building

Identified Issues/Community Concerns within downtown

- ▶ Increased spice usage/ and alcohol violations
- ▶ Disorderly/harassment issues
- ▶ Loitering/trespassing in the area of certain locations
- ▶ Subjects panhandling, bothering people on the street asking for money
- ▶ Littering
- ▶ Subjects sleeping in parking decks and along the creek

Loitering “in a nutshell”

- ▶ Briefly, the loitering definition is NOT a charge/offense. It simply defines what loitering is.
- ▶ The key to the ordinance is **HINDERING FREE PASSAGE**. This does not include people lawfully (innocently) loitering in or upon any public place (i.e. parks).
- ▶ Frederick City Code 15-27.1 makes it unlawful to hinder free passage by loitering. (One must hinder free passage AND refuse a police order to disperse).



Sec. 15-27.2. - Panhandling

- ▶ (a) *Panhandling* shall mean to accost and beg from persons in a public place and shall include the conduct of begging which harasses, menaces, intimidates, impedes traffic or otherwise causes harm.
- ▶ (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to *panhandle* in a public place.
- ▶ (c) Any person who violates any of the provisions of this section shall be subject to a fine not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00), or by imprisonment not exceeding ninety (90) days, or both, Any such violation shall constitute a separate offense on each successive day continued. Violation of this section shall constitute a misdemeanor.



Trespassing

- ▶ CR 6-402 -**TRESPASS-POSTED PROPERTY**
- ▶ MISDEMEANOR
- ▶ \$500.00 - 90 DAYS
- ▶ ...did trespass and enter upon the property of _____(owner) said property being posted against trespassers in a conspicuous manner.
- ▶ NOTE: The previous requirement that the prosecution be brought by the landowner or tenant has been eliminated. The posting requirements are included as part of subsection (a)(1) of CR 6-402.
- ▶ NOTE: See CR 6-402 regarding definition of "conspicuous"-posted where they can be reasonably seen
- ▶ NOTE: subsequent violations enhanced penalties.

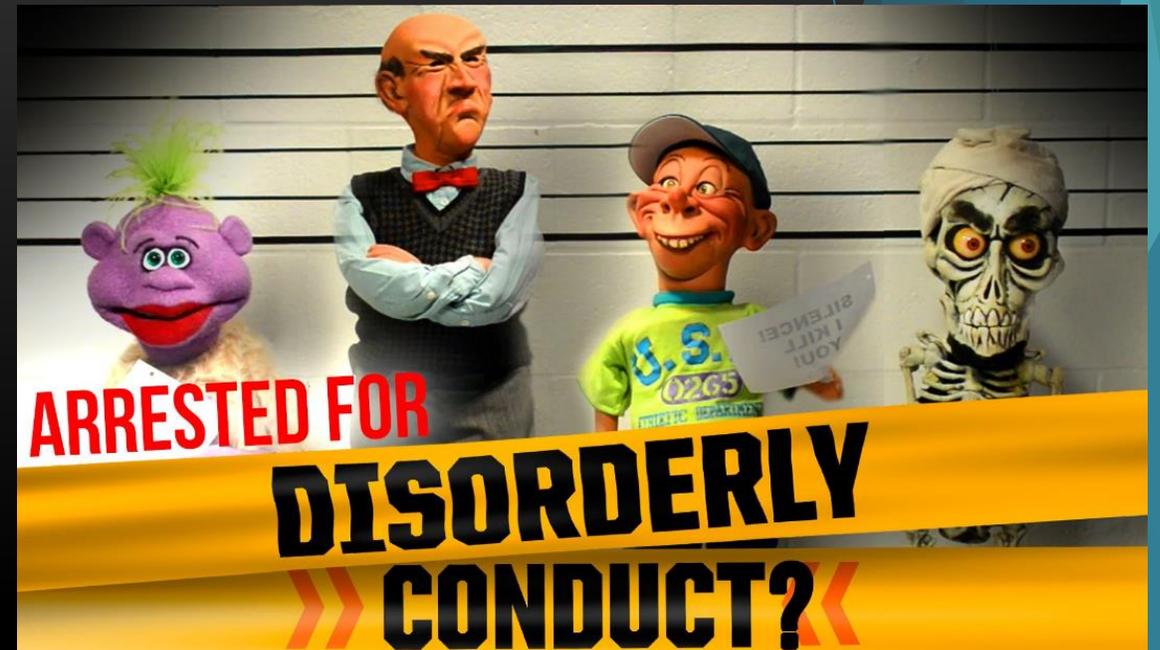
Common issue: owner/agent for the property doesn't show up in court, and the case is dropped.



Disorderly Conduct

- ▶ ****DISORDERLY CONDUCT**** CR 10-201(c)(2)
- ▶ **MISDEMEANOR**
- ▶ **\$500.00 - 60 DAYS**
- ▶ ...did willfully act in a disorderly manner to the disturbance of the public peace.

Again, a victim or witness besides the Police Officer is needed to proceed.



What has FPD done to address the issues:

- ▶ Increased the officer presence in the area, which has resulted in:
 1. DPT has handled 1,925 CFS and conducted 613 patrol checks, 639 walking patrols and 155 business liaisons, in the past 6 months. 21 warrants and 19 summons were served. DPT (with 4 Officers) also handled 7,490 reactive calls during the same time period.
 2. 40 criminal arrests, 1 MV arrest, 44 alcohol arrests, and 5 DC-28 citations issued for civil citations.
 3. DPT made 58 spice arrests since July 1
 4. DPT has handled 14 overdoses

*Numbers are accurate as of Dec 14th 2017





Spice- Synthetic Cannabinoids

What is Spice?



- ▶ Spice is not a single drug, but a range of laboratory-made chemicals that mimic the effects of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the main psychoactive component of cannabis. Research suggests that Spice and other forms of synthetic cannabis is capable of producing much more intense and prolonged effects at much lower doses than natural cannabis. This is because, while the THC in natural cannabis only partially reacts with the body, synthetic cannabis reacts far more fully.
- ▶ It is close to impossible to derive an exact definition for the Spice, mainly because Spice drug ingredients change all the time. It is a cat and mouse game between the Feds and the manufacturers, who keep on changing the ingredients as those they use become controlled.

Side Effects of using spice



Short Term Effects:

- ▶ Increased heart rate
- ▶ Hypertension
- ▶ Myocardial ischemia
- ▶ Vomiting
- ▶ Hallucinations
- ▶ Paranoia
- ▶ Severe anxiety
- ▶ Panic attacks
- ▶ Aggression
- ▶ Seizures

Long Term Effects:

- ▶ Largely unknown, but dependency is likely after prolonged use

Spice Dependence:

- ▶ Unlike marijuana, synthetic cannabinoids like Spice and K2 frequently elicit withdrawal symptoms--some quite severe. Withdrawing from Spice can be extremely uncomfortable, with symptoms including:
 - ▶ Headache
 - ▶ Diaphoresis (sweating)
 - ▶ Tremors
 - ▶ Drug cravings
 - ▶ Psychotic symptoms, such as paranoia and hallucinations
 - ▶ Mood changes / depression
 - ▶ Suicidal ideation

What has FPD done to address the issues:

- ▶ DPT has conducted Undercover(UC) operations to saturate and target specific areas
- ▶ Attended NAC 11 meetings to attempt to address the concerns of the participants, South End Coalition, friends of Mullinix, and Frederick Coalition for the homeless meetings
- ▶ Liaison with business owners
- ▶ Identified frequent offenders and made a “cheat sheet” with photos to assist with the DPT officers being able to readily identify frequent offenders
- ▶ Worked with Crime Analysis Team to create a bulletin to share information with patrol to increase enforcement action-effective method and resulted in numerous arrests.
- ▶ Work with allied agencies to identify and take action on violations-such as the liquor board with alcohol violations



Friends of
Mullinix Park

Short Term Goals-DPT

- ▶ Officers will continue to make frequent walking beats and patrol checks throughout the downtown area
- ▶ Officers will continue to liaison with business owners to hear out the concerns
- ▶ DPT will continue to be aggressive with enforcement of frequent offenses such as spice, CDS, alcohol violations, disorderly, and trespassing.
- ▶ Park marked police units in the area to give the impression there is an Officer in the area
- ▶ Utilize the Crime Analysis Team to share information throughout the department
- ▶ Plan and execute additional UC operations.



Long Term Goals

- ▶ Continue to work with Park and Rec and Department of Public Works for CPTED and technology related issues to include:
 - Removal of congregating benches
 - Installation of additional planter boxes to prevent loitering at the mouth of the creek
 - Upgrade camera surveillance on the bridge, which overlooks the creek
 - Continue to work with Parks and Rec to have the cameras installed and maintained at Mullinix Park
- ▶ Research Programs that are taking place in larger cities in which homeless persons are assigned jobs by entities such as public works or Parks and Recreation departments. This is ongoing within the unit.
- ▶ Research enforcement actions/city ordinances from larger jurisdictions to determine if we can benefit from the same, create and present a proposal to the board and Mayor if there are additional ordinances, laws, etc Frederick can benefit from.



Why isn't the offender going to jail?

The 2012 Maryland General Assembly passed legislation (Senate Bill 422/Chapter 504) mandating the issuance of a Maryland Uniform Criminal Citation DC/CR 45 (Criminal Citation) for certain criminal offenses committed by an adult, if the defendant meets certain criteria. If these specific criteria are met, the law mandates an officer who has grounds to make a warrantless arrest either issue a Criminal Citation in lieu of making an arrest, or make the arrest and issue a Criminal Citation in lieu of continued custody to await an appearance before a district court commissioner.



What is the criteria for receiving a citation in lieu of going to jail?

SB 422 requires a law enforcement officer to charge a defendant by Criminal Citation only if:

- ▶ A. the officer is satisfied with the defendant's evidence of identity;
- ▶ B. the officer reasonably believes that the defendant will comply with the Criminal Citation;
- ▶ C. the officer reasonably believes that the failure to charge on a Statement of Charges will not pose a threat to public safety;
- ▶ D. the defendant is not subject to arrest for another non-citable criminal charge arising out of the same incident; and
- ▶ E. the defendant complies with all lawful orders by the officer.

Thank you for your time and attention

Lt. Lee - Commander, Special Operations Division

Phone: 301-600-2097

Email: MLee1@FrederickMDPolice.org



Sgt Wiles – Directed Patrol Supervisor

Cell: 301-748-6273

Email: twiles@frederickmdpolice.org