

HFD Occupancy Task Force

HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

HFD Occupancy Task Force

- March 17, 2020

- A task force was created in response to complaints related to occupancy and social distancing concerns.

- Each team consists of one HFD Inspector and one HFD Arson Investigator.

HFD Occupancy Task Force

- April 1, 2020
 - Notice of Violations and/or citations began
 - 10 Citations were issued by the Houston Fire Marshal's Office.

HFD Occupancy Task Force

- May 9, 2020
 - The Houston Fire Marshal's Office instituted an "Education and Information" approach.

HFD Occupancy Task Force

- June 26, 2020
 - Governor's Order GA-28 was issued (TABC Referrals began)
 - Restaurants @50%
 - Bars @ 0%. (Take-out Only)

HFD Occupancy Task Force

The Houston Fire Marshal's Office has processed over 13,000 complaints since March 18, 2020 and is currently receiving an average of 120 complaints daily.

The HFD Occupancy Task Force has referred over 70 business to the TABC for noncompliance with the Governor's order since June 26, 2020.

HFD Occupancy Task Force

March 17 to September 31

- Total complaints: 13,459
 - Bars: 3, 021
 - TABC Referrals: 60

HFD Life Safety Bureau

Pre-Covid Complaints for 2019

Total Fire Code Complaints	732
Citations issued	107
No CofO	15
Overcrowding	6

HFD Fire Marshal's Office

Complaint Process

- Received from multiple sources
 - 311 (Citizens)
 - Harris County
 - HPD
 - HFD
 - Other city departments

HFD Fire Marshal's Office

Complaint Process

- Infor system database
 - A supervisor will send an Inspector to the location
 - Inspector will evaluate the location for potential hazards and fire code violations. Inspector will abate any hazards:
 - Clear blocked exits.
 - Return occupancy level to established limit.
 1. Hold the door.
 2. Have everyone clear the building for a recount.