Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Support Committee

# Personal Care Business Compliance Initiative Follow-Up Report

November 19, 2020 Item: d (3)



Presenters: Lt. Paul Messier, Sgt. Rick Galea



### History – Illicit Massage Businesses

#### 2017-2018

New enforcement program resulted in the closure of 107 IMB's

Council voted to remove Item #10, Personal Care Business Compliance Initiative, from the Priority list

#### 2018-2019

Program resulted in the closure of 79 IMB's & new best practices were implemented.

#### 2019-2020

Program resulted in the closure of 26 IMB's totaling **212** IMB's closures.

Residential Brothels were added to the program.



# Enforcement / Prevention and Intervention Program

Collaborative effort: Vice Unit, Code Enforcement, City Attorney

Continued to conduct covert operations

Landlord Education Program

Partnering with Community Solutions & South Bay Coalition to End Human Trafficking



## **IMB Enforcement Efforts**

### Last Reported

- 246 suspected IMBs were Identified
- 186 IMBs were closed

### September 2019 to September 2020

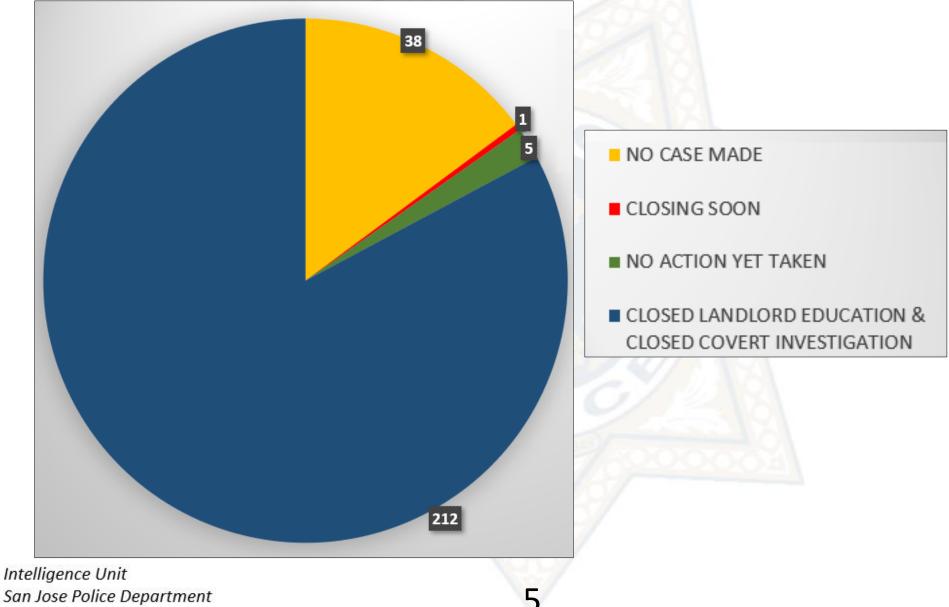
- 10 additional IMBs were identified
- 26 IMBs were closed

### **Totals**

• 256 IMBs have been identified 212 (82%) have closed from Vice related efforts.



### CURRENT OPERATING STATUS OF MASSAGE BUSINESSES



# IMB Activity From September 2019 to September 2020

**VICE UNIT** 

### <u>CODE</u> ENFORCEMENT

 6 Covert Investigations

7 Landlord
Education
Meetings

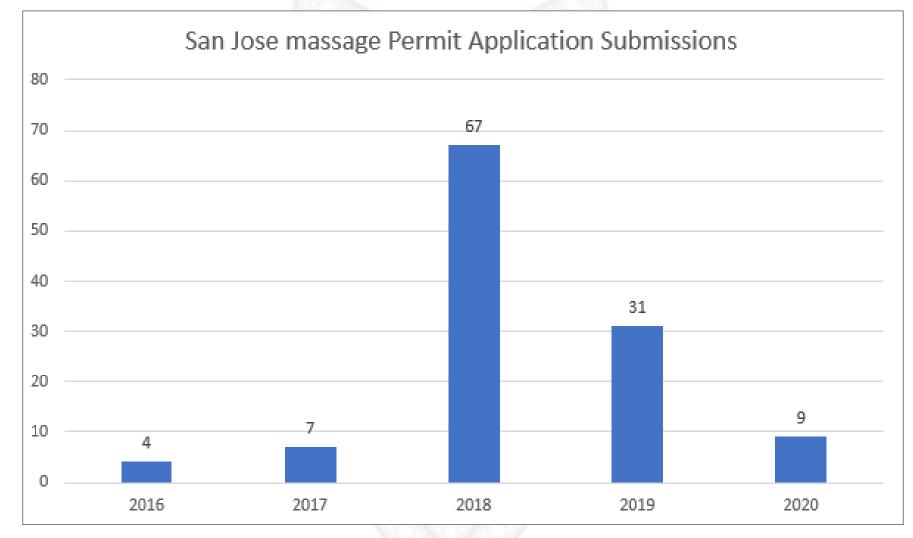
93 Inspections

12 Compliance
Orders

5 Citations



## Permit Compliance





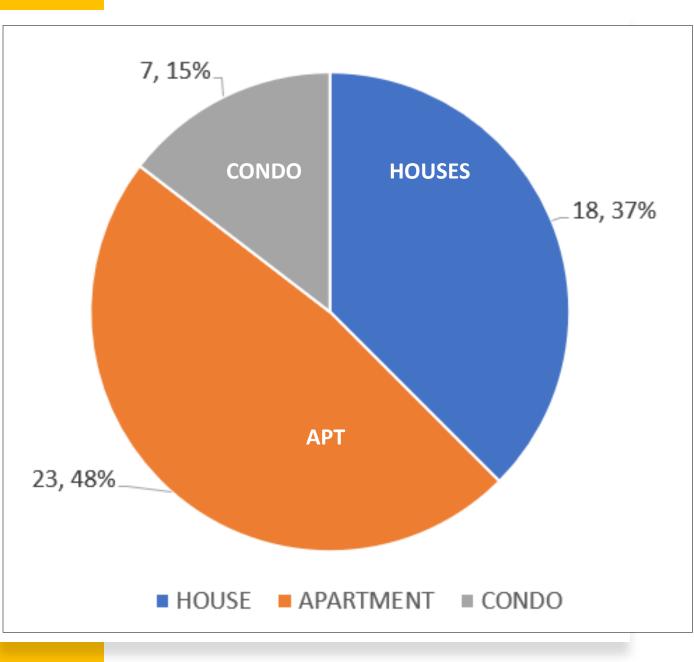
# 2 Hidden IMBs



# RESIDENTIAL BROTHELS



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# Trends: 48 Residential Brothels Identified

### Majority Operating in the Golden Triangle





# VICE/HT Residential Brothel Enforcement Efforts

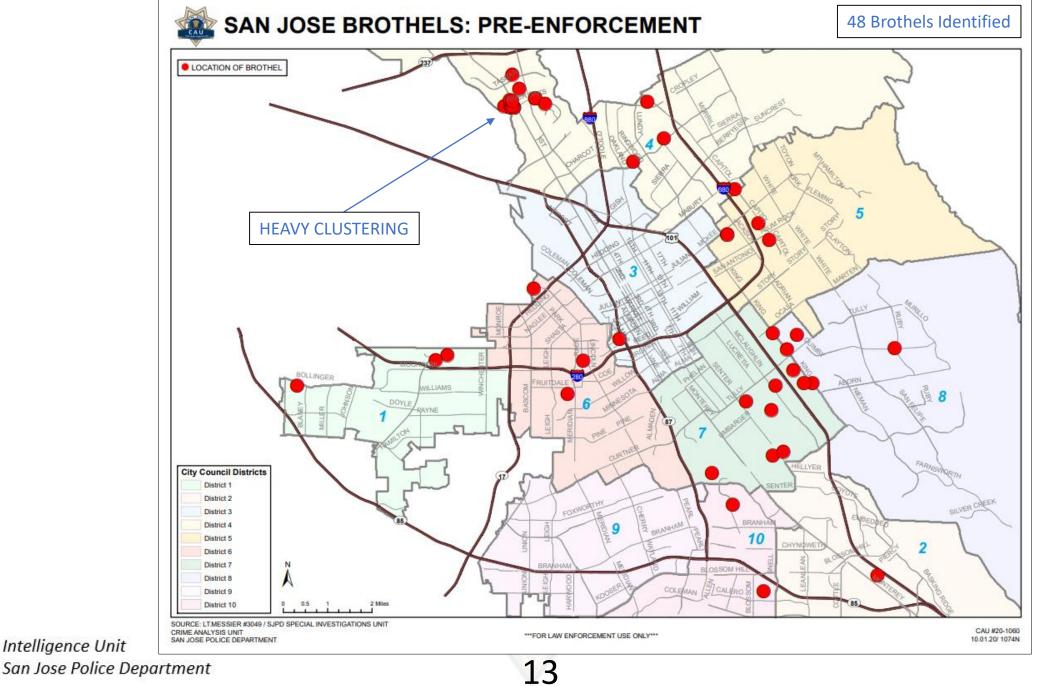
#### September 2019 to September 2020

- 48 identified
- 20 Landlord Education Meetings
- 3 search warrants served

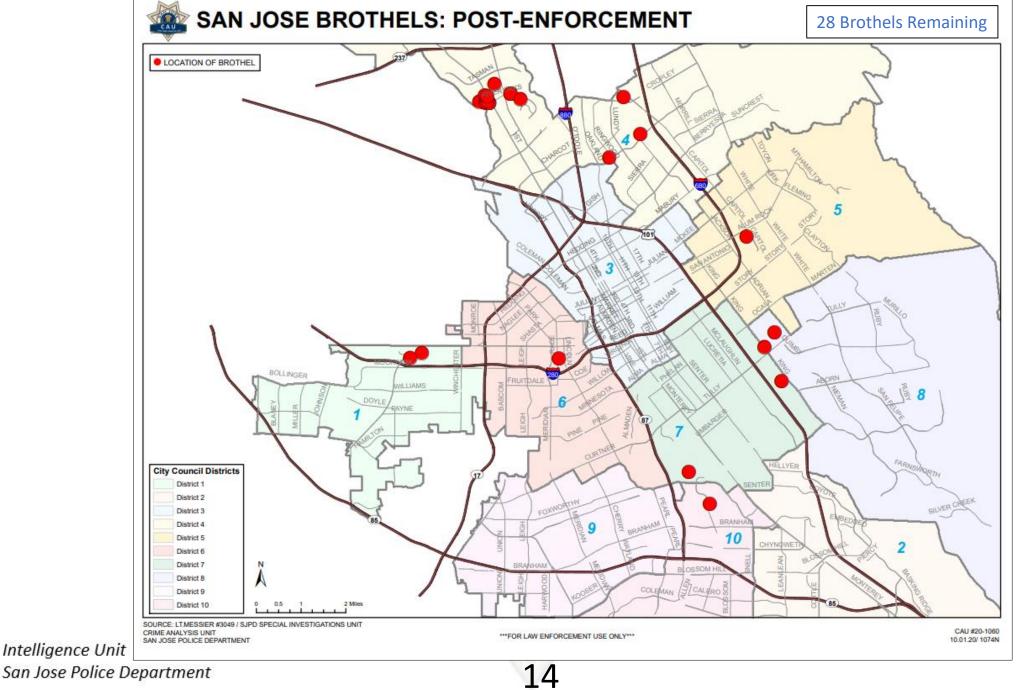
#### **Results**

- 20 were closed (17 from LEP / 3 from Search Warrants)
- 28 remain open (Most are Apartment Brothels)
- 6 HT Survivors recovered
- 4 exploiters arrested
- Seizures \$25,000, Mercedes SUV, 3 ATM machines











**Best Practices applied to Residential Brothels:** 

1) Advocates from Community Solutions are present for covert operations and search warrants

2) Brochures provided to sex workers

3) No arrests of sex workers to encourage disclosure

4) Regional Information Sharing – LEAP



## Partnership with South Bay Coalition to End Human Trafficking

- Partnered with Sharan Dhanoa, Director of Strategic Development.
- Ongoing discussion on regional approaches to address the residential Brothel issue.
  - Adding residential brothel information to LEAP for regional information sharing
  - Meeting with apartment managers & homeowner associations to educate them about HT
  - Establishing agreed upon eviction protocols



# Conclusion

- Our program continues to be successful.
- Vice will target IMBs & Residential Brothels using existing program & implemented best practices.
- Continue to collaborate with our nonprofit partners and provide resources to human trafficking survivors.

