

# ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW AS A PROPERTY OWNER

There are many responsibilities and stressors that may come with owning property whether it may be a vacant lot, a home, or a business. One of the concerns that may arise is the sudden appearance of a homeless camp or seeing homeless individuals on your property.

The city of Arlington understands that this may be a significant concern for our citizens. This brochure is outlined to assist you, as the property owner, in making informed decisions about your property when such issues arise.

The city does have processes in place to address these issues and it is our continued hope to partner with the community to be sure this is a place our community members can thrive safely.



## Contacts:

### APD H.E.A.R.T.

Homeless Engagement and Resource Team

○ Officer Elizabeth Duong

817-823-8699

○ CIS Sharlene Christiansen

817-823-4375

### Code Compliance:

817-459-6777

### Hands of Hope:

817-298-2779

### Tarrant County Homeless Coalition

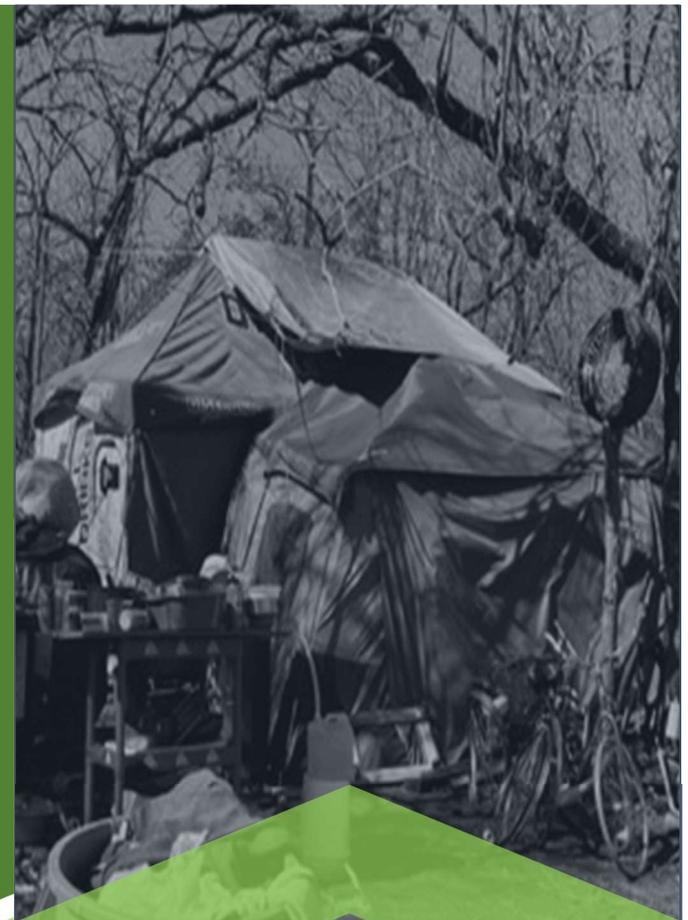
817-996-8800

### MHMR Tarrant:

817-335-3022

### Arlington Housing Authority:

817-275-3351



Homeless  
Encampment  
Informational



# POLICE

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As a property owner, you have the right to issue a Criminal Trespass Warning to anyone who is on your property.

## Criminal Trespass Warning:

- Officer must be present
- Individual to be trespassed must be present
- Owner decides when they are to leave and for how long they are to remain off the property.

After a warning is issued, officers will complete a report and add the individual into a trespass log accessible to all officers.

## Criminal Trespass:

- If an individual is found on your property following the warning, and time given to vacate has passed, the individual will be arrested for trespass.
- Prosecution may require your presence at a court date.

NOTE: Police do not take any enforcement action in regard to property clean-up.

# CODE COMPLIANCE

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After individuals at the location have vacated, code compliance or appropriate party will evaluate the area.

Property owners are responsible for keeping their property clean and will be responsible for removing any remnants of the encampment left behind.

Failure to do so may result in citations by Code Compliance - "Unclean Premise". Owners are given a certain amount of time to clean their property before being cited.

If the owner has been cited and the property has not been cleaned, Code Officers may obtain an Abatement Warrant signed by a judge. The warrant allows Code Compliance the right to clean a specified area within the property. The property owner is then billed for the cost the city incurred.

# OUTREACH

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Arlington Police Department's Behavioral Health Law Enforcement Unit houses the Homeless Engagement and Resource Team (HEART) which consists of Behavioral Health Response Officers and a Crisis Intervention Specialist.

HEART responds to complaints of encampments or unsheltered individuals within the city of Arlington. Once an encampment is identified, the HEART makes contact and collaborates with city partners to ensure systems work fluidly.

The use of local resources is essential to address the needs of our unsheltered. Partnerships allows for continued outreach contacts. Our community partners include, Hands of Hope, Mission Arlington, MHMR, Tarrant County Homeless Coalition, Arlington Housing Authority and more.

MHMR Tarrant also offers a Mental Health Diversion Center. Police may utilize this one-stop resource connection for individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis in lieu of arresting for criminal trespass. This center provides an abundance of resources including case management, shelter and mental health resources.