

**SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT  
ORDER**

**DATE/TIME:**           OCTOBER 28, 2021                   1600 HOURS

**NUMBER:**             OR 21-32

**SUBJECT:**            MISDEMEANOR CITATION PROCEDURES

**COST CENTER:**       1914131211

**SCOPE:**             ALL MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT

**DEPARTMENT PROCEDURE AFFECTED:**   N/A

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Beginning in October 2021, the San Diego City Attorney’s Office created a new pre-filing diversion pilot program for drug only offenses. Because of legislative changes and the emphasis on substance use as a public health crisis and not a criminal justice issue, the intent of the program is to provide earlier opportunities for intervention and treatment. In partnership with the San Diego County Public Defender’s Office, the program is designed to divert individuals out of the criminal justice system where appropriate.

Effective immediately, all citations written for drug offenses ONLY should be cited with an appearance date twenty-four (24) weeks out.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sergeant Lawrence Cahill at (619) 533-5587 or [lcahill@pd.sandiego.gov](mailto:lcahill@pd.sandiego.gov).

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Please read at squad conferences and give a copy to all personnel.