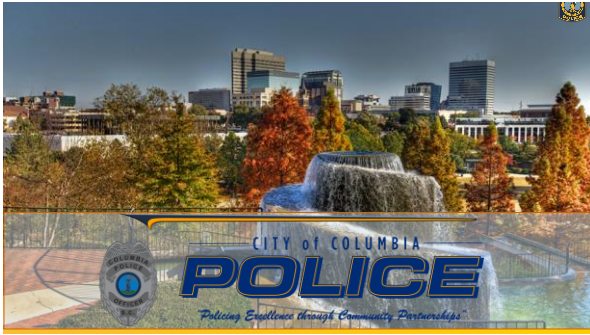


The information provided here is for informational and educational purposes and current as of the date of publication. The information is not a substitute for legal advice and does not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy position of the Municipal Association of South Carolina. Consult your attorney for advice concerning specific situations.



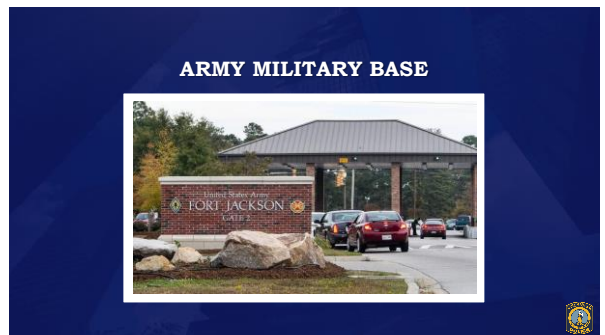
CITY OF COLUMBIA

- Population – Approximately 137,000
- Columbia Metropolitan – Approx. 750,000

COLLEGE TOWN

COLLEGE TOWN

- University of South Carolina – 35,000 students (14k out of state)
- Benedict College – 2,140 students
- Columbia College – 1,367 students
- Allen University – 850 students
- Midlands Technical College – 9,824 full time students
- Columbia International University – 792 students



FORT JACKSON

- There are approximately 3,500 active duty soldiers assigned to Fort Jackson at any given time.



COLUMBIA'S ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT

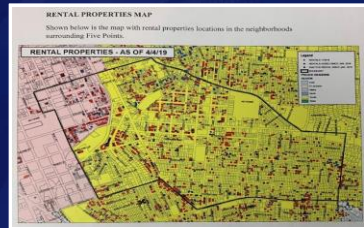


POPULATION INFLUX

- With institutions of higher education and a military base in the community, Columbia, SC has well over 160,000 people in our community at any given time. Many of these individuals enjoy the Columbia entertainment venues at regular intervals.



RENTAL PROPERTIES FIVE POINTS



THE BULL STREET DISTRICT

- Anchored in the center of the new urban South, Bull Street is a 20-year transformation of one of the largest tracts of undeveloped urban land on the East Coast into a vibrant new district in downtown Columbia, S.C. Walkable streets and a mix of residential, retail, restaurant and recreational uses. Located one mile from the State House and the University of South Carolina campus.

• <https://bullstreets.com/discover/about/>



BULL STREET



ATHLETIC EVENTS

- The University of South Carolina is a member of the Southeastern Conference that hosts countless athletic events annually in our city. These events bring hundreds of thousands of people to our city every year. Many of these people visit & enjoy our entertainment districts.



ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT

- Because of Columbia's vibrant entertainment community, the Police Department created an "Entertainment District" within the department in December 2020. Our mission is to create a safe and vibrant economically prosperous social space in our entertainment community.



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

It's about:

Public Health & Public Safety



PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

Strive to create an environment to where alcohol is sold and possessed in a responsible manner by offering alcohol education initiatives to alcohol establishments. The goal is for the business community to be successful, but will provide enforcement initiatives when warranted.



ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT

Vision

- Grow the division into a Regional format
- Provide Policing services within the entertainment areas
- Collaborate with the entertainment/business community
- Provide Alcohol Education Strategies
- Build communication conduits between other law enforcement agencies to form a stronger partnership for successes
- Enforce Alcohol laws, pursuant to the Alcohol Beverage Control Act (61-6-10)



ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT

The division is tasked with addressing other quality of life issues in our community. There are numerous "convenience stores" in our community and all are permitted to sell alcohol.

If not monitored, some of these stores can become a public nuisance and have an adverse affect on the quality of life in communities.

Our unit makes a concentrated effort to keep these businesses from allowing crime and disorder in neighborhoods.



ALCOHOL PERMIT PROCESS

- Possessing an alcohol permit in SC is a privilege and not a right
- There is a process that all must follow
- The unit conducts a thorough investigation into every application
- The applicant, business and location is vetted
- If the applicant, business or location is determined to be not in good standing in the community, the Police Department will "Protest" the application
- Final decision is with the South Carolina Department of Revenue



ACHIEVEMENTS

- Since January 2021, the unit has completed over 500 "Notice of Applications" and "Special Event" licensing requests. (AEL)
- Developed partnerships with alcohol establishments.
- Provided alcohol education initiatives/seminars to the entertainment business community.
- Participated in the removal of several bus stop structures that were used as cover for loitering/consuming in and around places that sale alcohol.
- Developed and initiated a strategic strategy to identify and concentrate on convenience stores that have failed to operate in a responsible manner and are adversely affecting the community in which it exist.



"VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT AS TO LICENSE/PERMIT CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

- June 2021-August the unit collaborated with DOR with five agreements between establishments in the Five Points entertainment area. (seventeen restrictions)
- Partnered with these five establishments to assist with their adherence to the agreements
- Enforced violations when they have occurred
- These agreements spawned other establishments to look at their business models to operating their establishments
- Agreements have been a successful tool in interdicting underage consumption



FIVE POINTS



The screenshot shows a news article with a photo of a bar scene. The headline reads: "Columbia's Five Points sees drop in alcohol-related issues after new rules imposed on bars". The article text mentions that Columbia police say the area has had fewer issues with underage drinking and related problems since new rules were implemented.



FIVE POINTS

