

PRESS RELEASE – City of Douglas responds to negative news coverage

DOUGLAS, AZ (Feb. 15, 2019) — In response to recent news coverage, the City of Douglas reaffirms its commitment to serve as a unified body for the safety and best interest of Douglas’ residents. The City would specifically like to address a recently published article by 24/7 Wall St. on *50 Worst Cities to Live In*.

“A negative article can’t define the true essence of Douglas,” said Douglas Mayor, Robert Uribe. “Those who live here or who used to live here know how special, dynamic, and rich our binational community is. Without visiting, and experiencing our city and getting to know the people of #DouglasAZ, it’s impossible to develop an opinion from afar.”

Mayor Uribe added, “I encourage the 24/7 Wall St. to visit us to experience our way of life, something you cannot gather from statistics. I am proud of our community!”

The City of Douglas disputes claims made by the online tabloid, which included negative data statistics—some of which are dated. On Wednesday, the Douglas Police Department announced that they are experiencing a multi-year downward trend on Part I Crimes.

“There is fluctuation of course, but our local experience coincides with the national trends,” DPD Chief, Kraig Fullen stated. “We also experienced a 50 percent decrease in burglaries from 2017 to 2018. Property crime (burglary, theft, auto theft) continues to lead our city in terms of crime; at the present time - downward.”

Officials highlight the City’s dynamic relationship with Mexico and the collaborative vision tied to an enhanced port of entry. While international commerce is already substantial, it will only pick up with heavy federal dollars and modernized gateway between our country and Mexico.

A 2015 NerdWallet study found Douglas to be a top city for millennial job seekers: <https://www.nerdwallet.com/blog/mortgages/home-search/cities-millennial-job-seekers-arizona/>
In addition, last year Cochise College, founded in Douglas in 1964, was recognized as the second-best community college in the nation in a WalletHub study.

“I believe that we are well positioned for millennials seeking jobs in the educational and public safety fields,” said City of Douglas Finance Director, Luis Pedroza. “Our community is family friendly, safe and welcoming. You have the ability to bike, walk or take public transportation to work, amenities in and around the area such as hiking and camping as well as sports facilities.”

Douglas has been a destination for several journalists this past year, and has garnered accredited articles in the *The New York Times: 24 Hours in America* series, CBS, and AZ PBS.

The Douglas Visitors Center welcomes an average of 100 tourists per month, most coming from other states and countries. The City of Douglas takes pride in its people, affordable living, great weather and binational culture, which continues to draw visitors from around the world.

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