Navigation Guide: The Map Pane

The Citizen Connect homepage is separated into three major categories: the Filter pane, the Map, and The Overview/Data Pane.

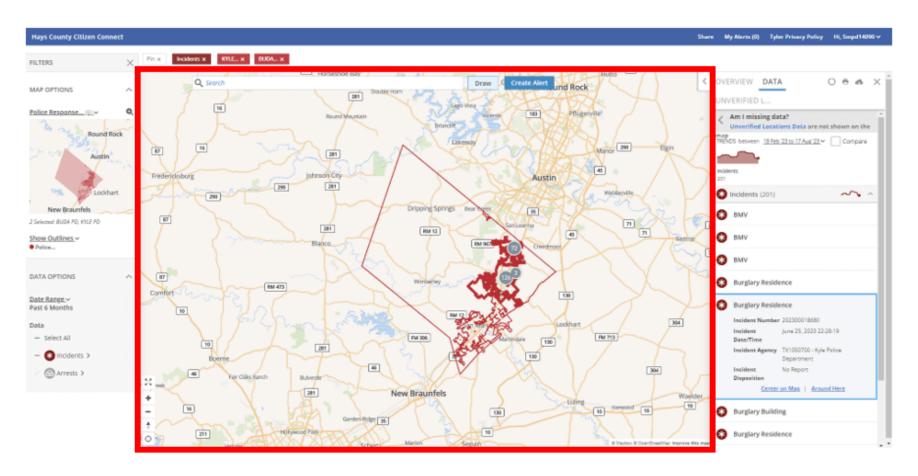
The Map Pane:

The Map pane is on the center of the home page and houses the map and map tools. It also houses the button that allows you to create an alert.

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1. Map

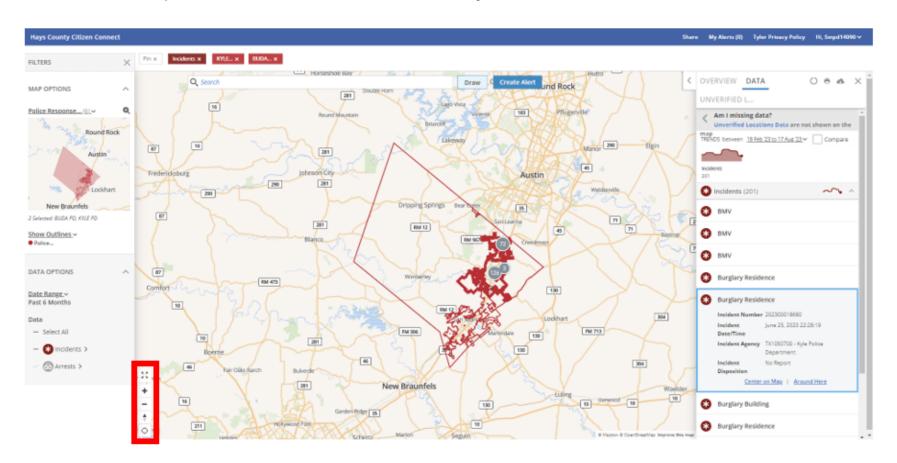
The map is where most of the data is presented. This program is map-based, meaning that all the data is based on an address of occurrence. This allows for visualization of the data. It also means that if the location of an incident or arrest is not verified, the data is not displayed. In the overview pane, you are able to download this missing data and include it in your search, but know that it will not be able to be included in the map nor is it able to be grouped by location.



2. Map Toggle Tool

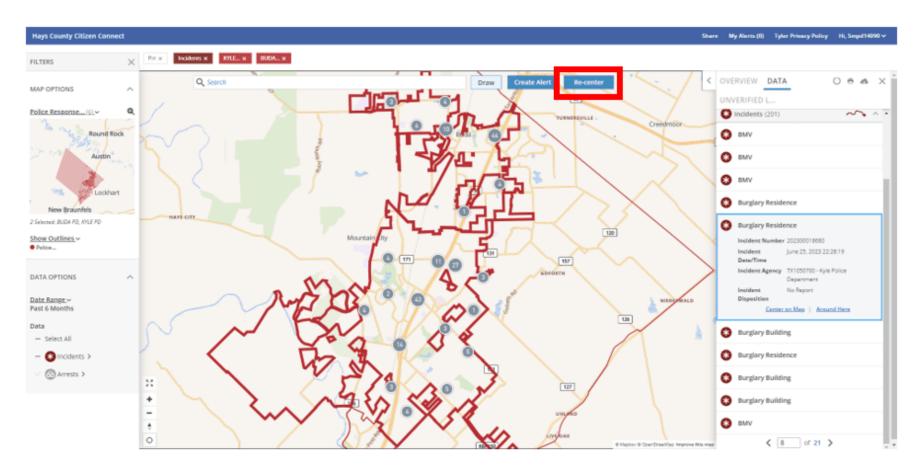
When your mouse passes through the map, a hand should show up, allowing you to click and drag or zoom in and out (if you are on a desktop computer), however, if you do not have this capability, there exists a map toggle tool on the bottom left-hand corner of the map that will allow you to open the map in full-screen, moving the center of the map, or zooming in and out.

Please note that if you are on a mobile device and having difficulty with the map or isolating incidents, try accessing Citizen Connect on a desktop as some of the tools are not mobile-friendly.



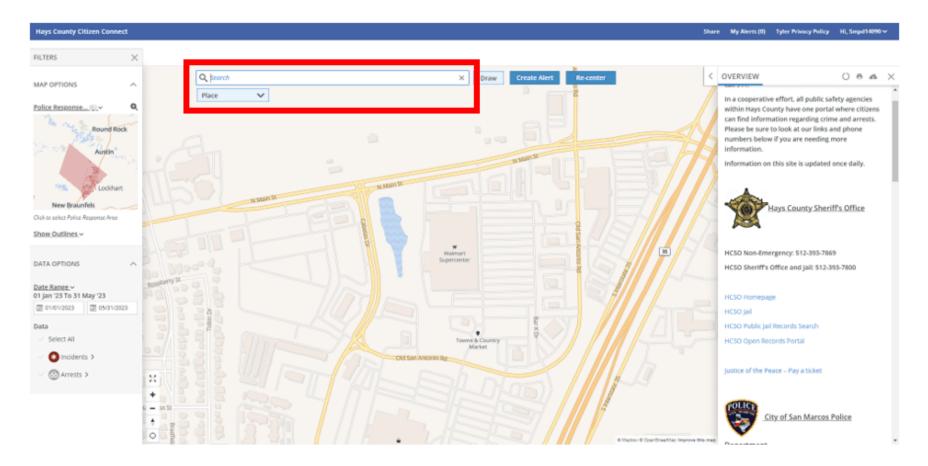
3. Re-Center

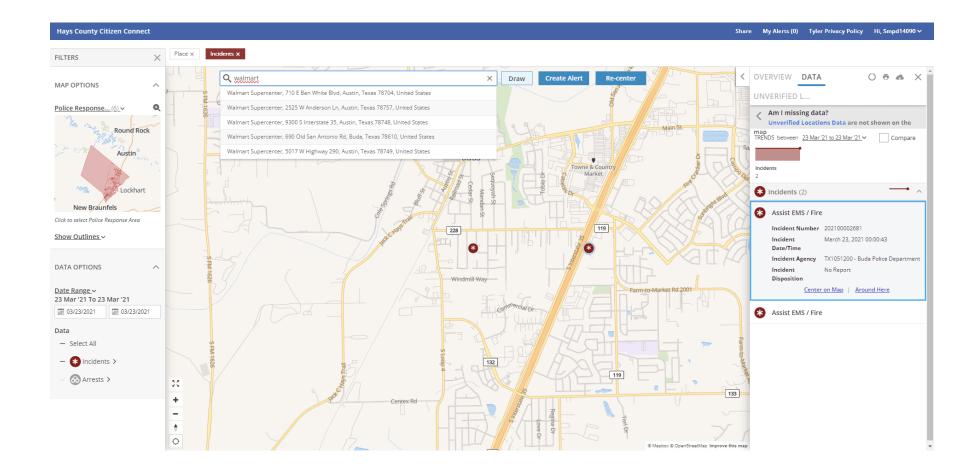
When you narrow down on the map, you may notice a "Re-center" button appear. This allows you to reset the map quickly so that you can readjust your search. It does not remove the data or any filters you have selected, but it does reset your view of the map to be centered on the entire area of Hays County and surrounding Police response areas.



4. Search Bar

Using the search bar allow your to isolate specific addresses, specific regions, or specific incident types. When you click on the search bar, a drop-down will appear underneath it. If you want to search by a specific address or location type, you will need to select place. If you want to search by a specific incident type, you will need to select pin (however, for this tool, you will need to know each department's offense codes—because of this, we recommend that you isolate by incident in the filter pane). If you want to search by police response area, you will need to select region. This tool is most helpful when trying to isolate by address work location type. For example, in the photo below, you may want to isolate Walmart locations in the Kyle and San Marcos area.

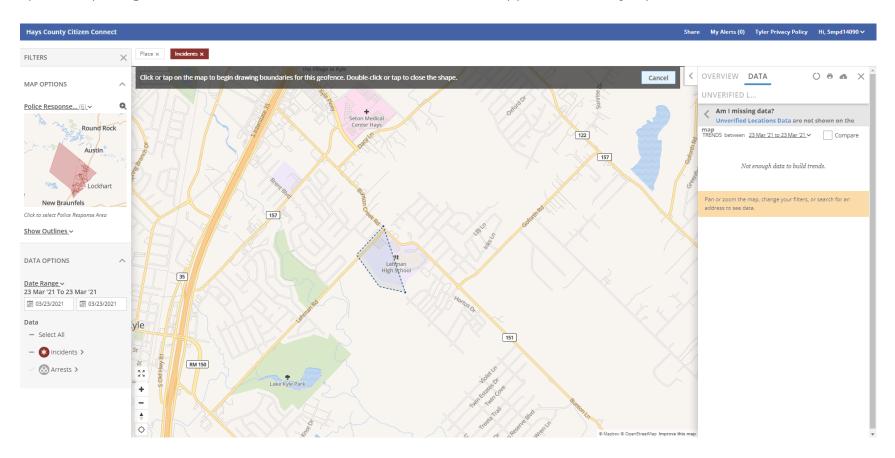




5. Draw Tool

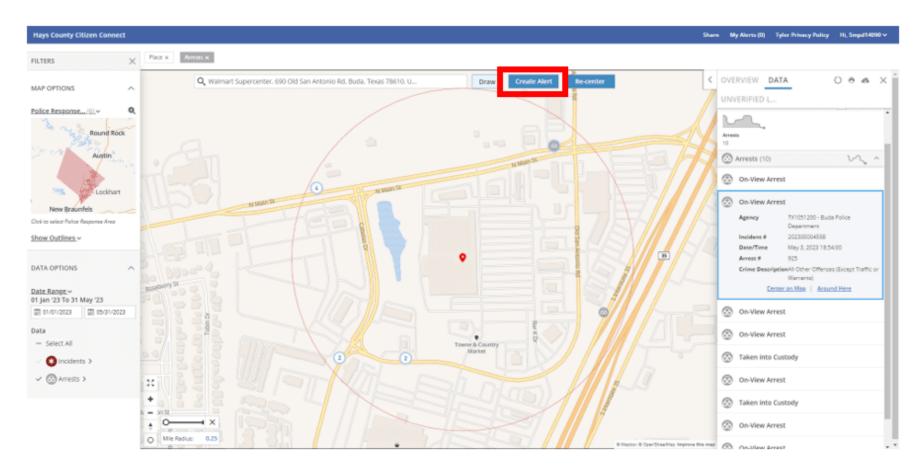
The map also has a draw tool. This allows you to isolate an area of interest that may not be identifiable by address only. For example, below is a photo of using the draw tool to isolate the area around Lehman High School in Kyle. Follow in the instructions on the top ribbon to make points in the boundary and double click when done. The boundary will turn red when made.

TIP: when doing this to identify incidents or arrests, choosing select all in the incident or arrest filter will be the most fruitful option for pulling data in such a small area. This will ensure that all applicable activity is provided.



6. Create Alert

One of the key features of Citizen Connect is the ability to create alerts. In the example below, Walmart in Buda was isolated using the Place search bar option. In the filter pane, data was isolated by date to present January-May of 2023, and all arrests selected. By doing so, all arrests in the area of the Buda Walmart that occurred from January-May of 2023 will be displayed in the map. Now, lets say, this is an area you would like to track in terms of arrest activity. By selecting create alert, you are able to receive alerts of arrests occurring in this area. The date range does not matter in this case, as the alerts you receive will be based on your chosen schedule and when data is verified and added to Citizen Connect by respective departments. Please see the other guides for helpful how-tos on setting up incident- and location-based alerts.



7. Filter Log Bar

The final piece of the Map Pane is the filter log bar at the top of the map. This will illustrate what filters are in place on the current data stream. For instance, in the map below, you can see it is isolated by place and arrest. This is because, the search is based on Walmart in Buda and arrests occurring in that area. If your filters get increasingly complicated, they will display on this bar as a tracking device so that you are able to track the filters placed on the current map.

