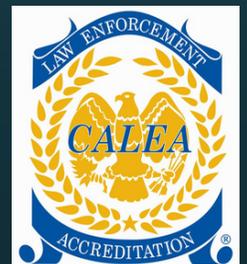




FIRST RESPONDERS TEXAS STRONG

DEER PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

GREGORY L. GRIGG
CHIEF OF POLICE



OUR DEPARTMENT

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Visit

[HTTPS://WWW.DEERPARKTX.GOV/POLICE](https://www.deerparktexas.gov/police)



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The 2020 Annual Report includes most of our employees hard at work, which is unusual since most of the world shut down over COVID-19. Assistant Chief St. Martin's section on COVID is a worthy description of the year. This marks the third major event the City has faced in three years; Hurricane Harvey, ITC, and now COVID-19.

The spring Citizen Police Academy had to be cancelled due to COVID, but some of the participants who started this class finished with us when we held our fall Class with 13 graduates. The Department stayed in contact with the community through National Night Out, Coffee with a Cop, attendance at community events, and by responding to citizen issues, in spite of COVID-19.

Despite the pandemic, Humane Department employees continued to respond to calls for service, care for the animals, keep the populations low, and came up with many schemes to entertain its many followers.

Two full-time Humane Officers, one Telecommunicator, and one part-time Shelter Attendant were hired.

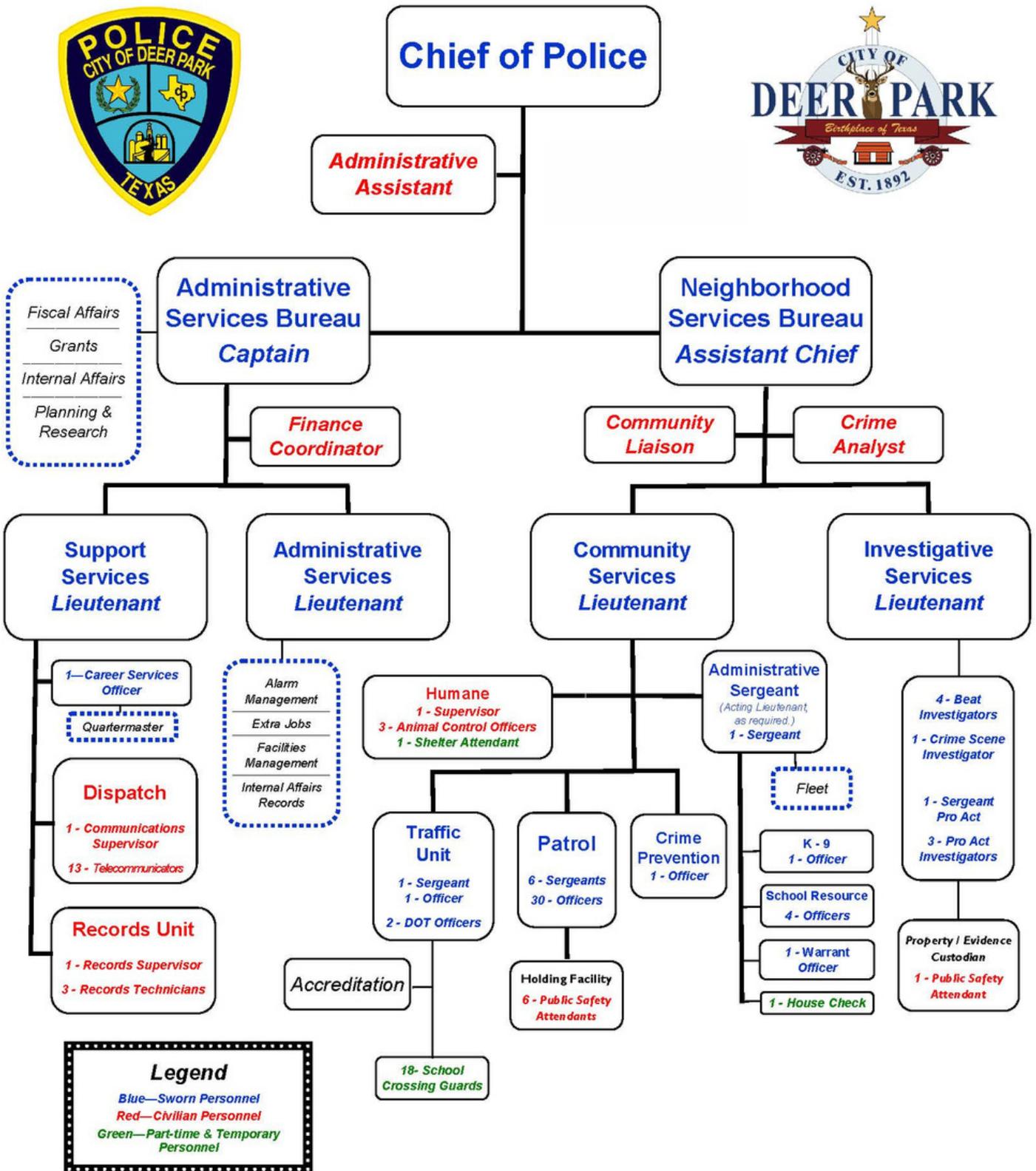
Phase 3 of the Mentoring Program continued with three police officers spending a year in the program learning the role of a first line supervisor. In eight years 27 employees have completed the program, and seven of them have promoted. I was voted to serve as the President of the Houston Area Police Chief's Association (HAPCA), and I was also selected as the President of the Deer Park Rotary Club.

We were awarded a \$54,595 STEP grant, which was used to conduct enforcement for DWI, and various moving violations, and an \$11,964 Commercial Vehicle Traffic Enforcement grant, which was used for enforcing commercial vehicle violations. No Child Passenger Check Stations were held, but 5 individual child seats were checked. We had 23 injury accidents, down from 28 last year, down from 44 in 2018, and down from 60 in 2017, for a 61.7% decrease over three years.

In 2020 the Crime Control Prevention District (CCPD) funded three additional Telecommunicators, one Pro-Act Sergeant, two Pro-Act Investigators, one Crime Prevention Officer, five fully outfitted patrol vehicles, and other much needed technology, services, and equipment. Initial work was started on a new EOC/Dispatch Center to be located at the SE corner of the current Police Department building.

The success of the Deer Park Police Department is made possible with the support of Mayor Mouton, the members of City Council, and City Manager James J. Stokes. Thank you for your trust, encouragement, and material support. I thank our volunteers who gave 3,641 hours of their time to assist us across almost all areas of the department. A big thank you to the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (CPAAA) who purchased an ice machine for the Gun Range.

COVID-19 was a worldwide pandemic that affected all of our lives. Reaction to it separated loved ones from those in nursing homes and hospitals, brought about the cancellation of worship services and an untold number of events and family gatherings, and denied us the opportunity to see so many faces for over a year, and caused the loss of many businesses. And while many still suffer under these conditions, thankfully, we have mostly returned to normal in Deer Park. The full repercussions of the emotional toil and economic impacts will not be known for years. The cost of the pandemic was high, but the fallout from the reaction to it was worse. I dedicate this Annual Report to the Mayor, City Council, and City Manager who kept a clear head during these difficult days, and resisted the pressure to bring onerous governmental power to bear on our citizens.



Legend

- Blue—Sworn Personnel
- Red—Civilian Personnel
- Green—Part-time & Temporary Personnel

DEER PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Deer Park Police Department is to provide the highest quality of police service in order to improve the quality of life for the Citizens of Deer Park.

The members of the Deer Park Police Department hold these values in the highest regard.

INTEGRITY

We are committed to holding ourselves accountable to the highest standards of professionalism and ethics.

PARTNERSHIP

We are committed to developing relationships with the community and together identifying and resolving issues affecting public safety.

DILIGENCE

We are committed to hard work and purposeful activity.

DEDICATION

We dedicate ourselves to Professional Law Enforcement.

DEER PARK POLICE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF



GREGORY L. GRIGG

Chief of Police



SHARON ST. MARTIN

Assistant Chief



WADE CONNER

Captain



WADE KEENEY

Lieutenant



JOHN YETTEVICH

Lieutenant



FRANKLIN HART

Lieutenant



CHRIS BROWN

Lieutenant

The Deer Park Police Department is proud to have been an accredited agency through the Commission for the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) since 2006.

Successfully participating in this voluntarily process demonstrates that internationally recognized standards for law enforcement have been met by our department.

In November of 2019 the Deer Park Police Department, after appearing before the CALEA board of Directors in Covington, KY, was unanimously awarded with the agency's 5th reaccreditation award. After receiving reaccreditation the Deer Park Police Department moved straight into a new 4-year CALEA Accreditation Cycle (2019-2023). In this new 4-year cycle CALEA also revised its Standards Manual from Version 5 to Version 6, to ensure agencies were maintaining the highest level of service to their communities. During the 4-year process CALEA conducts an "off-site" assessment every year through a web-based document management system called PowerDMS, to ensure compliance with all applicable standards. In the fourth year of the assessment cycle CALEA also conducts an "on-site" assessment in which a team of independent, outside CALEA-trained assessors come to the police department and through a detailed 4 day process which includes interviews, ride a-longs, public hearings, contact with outside entities, and a review of Proofs of Compliance, make a recommendation to the CALEA Board of Directors as to if the police department should or should not be reaccredited based on their findings.

In December of 2020 our agency successfully passed the "off-site" assessment for year 1 of the 2019-2023 cycle. We are currently in the 2nd year of our 4 year cycle, and will be up for reaccreditation in 2023.

Being CALEA accredited not only limits liability and risk exposure for our agency and employees, but ultimately limits liability for the city as well.

The CALEA process is overseen by Assistant Chief Sharon St. Martin, who is also a CALEA assessor. Sergeant Ian Sawtell serves as the CALEA Accreditation Manager, a position which he has held since 2016. Sergeant Meredith serves as the CALEA Co-Accreditation Manager, a position he has held since 2017.

CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION DISTRICT

The Crime Control Prevention District (CCPD) provided \$1,809,948 million in 2019. The Deer Park Police Department used this money for equipment, technology and personnel, as well as new efforts such as repairs to the existing firing range that was damaged during Hurricane Harvey. Some of it was also saved for the future construction of a new EOC/Communications Center and expanding the Records Unit. In 2020, some of these funds were used to hire PGAL, an architectural firm to produce conceptual drawings in regard to this project, renovating the old EOC and dispatch center and add more storage for property and evidence.

The CCPD will expire in year 2026 unless elected to be kept in 2025 by the citizens of Deer Park.

From previous year's Crime Control Prevention District funds, the Police Department has funded three Dispatch positions, a Crime Prevention Officer, a Pro-Act Police Sergeant as well as 2 Pro-Act Investigators, a Bicycle Unit, all of its patrol vehicles/fleet, as well as the equipment for the patrol vehicles, purchased new radios for the fleet and officers, equipped patrol with additional Tasers, and purchased ballistic vests. The monies acquired, over the first nine years, further enabled the Police Department to design and build a Deer Park Police Department Firing Range and Training Facility.

These are just a few things that have benefited the Police Department by having the Crime Control Prevention District.



Wade Conner
Captain

The Administrative Services Bureau is composed of the Communications Unit, the Records Unit, Internal Affairs, and Career Services. Fiscal affairs for the General fund, Crime Control and Prevention District, Humane department, Forfeiture account and the Law Enforcement Education budgets also fall under the responsibility of the Administrative Services Captain.

The Administrative Services Bureau is overseen by Captain Wade Conner. Presently the Communications Unit, Records Unit and Career Services are under the command of Lieutenant John Yettevich. Communications is directly supervised by Communications Supervisor Kellie Bass. The approved staffing for communications is 13 telecommunication operators. The Records Unit is directly supervised by Records Supervisor Kathy Cobb. Records is staffed with three Records Technicians.

The Communications Unit serves the City of Deer Park with 24/7 telecommunication operators to receive calls either for general assistance, or to have police or fire/ambulance dispatched to their location. The telecommunication operators also handle in addition to dispatching police and fire/ambulance, all outside radio traffic, telephone calls, 9-1-1 calls and multiple computer programs that monitor activity in the City. During 2020, telecommunication operators received and monitored approximately 38,825 calls and traffic stops for Police and approximately 3,830 calls for the Fire and EMS departments.

The Records Unit processes Public Information requests from the District Attorney's office, the general public and other police agencies. In 2020, the unit processed approximately 3,867 Public Information requests. It is also responsible for drafting letters to the Texas Attorney General's office for clarification on certain records and whether they can or should be released. During 2020, Records requested 17 rulings from the Texas Attorney General. Public Information requests have a restricted time limitation and must be handled promptly. The Records Unit further processed 54 orders of expunction.

During the year, Career Services received 2,052 applications for all positions in the Department. Of these, three new employees were hired for various positions. Those hired filled vacancies throughout the department as a result of five resignations.

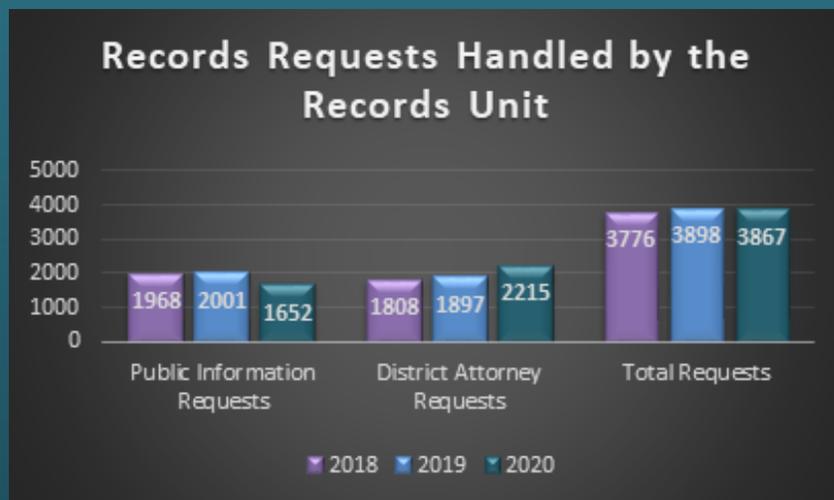
Other areas falling under the umbrella of the Administration Division are Internal Affairs, building maintenance, radio maintenance and extra job coordination. During 2020, six internal affairs investigations were assigned to various supervisors for investigation (of these six, four were sustained and two were handled as administrative inquiries). Once the investigations were completed, the records were maintained and filed by Lieutenant Keeney. Lieutenant Keeney is also the extra job coordinator. In 2020, 74 extra jobs were assigned.

The annual general budget for the Deer Park Police Department in 2019/20 fiscal year was \$10.7 million, and was monitored and accounted for by Finance Coordinator Kelly Davenport. Kelly also monitored the Crime Control and Prevention District budget of \$2.7 million, Humane budget of \$445,314, Forfeiture budget of \$12,637 and the Law Enforcement Education budget of \$10,883. Kelly is responsible for the payroll for all employees of the Department.

Four full time employees staffed the Deer Park Police Department Records Unit in 2020. Kathy Cobb, who reports to the Support Services Lieutenant, John Yettevich, supervises the Unit. Amanda Teltschik, Chandra Malone, and Nannette Kyle, Records Technicians, report to the Records Supervisor. The Unit is within the Administrative Services Bureau chain of command.

The Records Unit, as a part of its primary duties, processed requests for information from the public, outside agencies at the local, state, and federal level, and in response to subpoenas. In 2020, the Unit processed 3,867 requests for information; stemming from 39,551 event reports/calls for service, and 4,132 written offense reports.

Each request is processed by the unit in compliance with the Texas Public Information Act and other government codes, state statutes and previous open records decisions to determine release. Records employees drafted and submitted 17 legal briefs to the Office of the Attorney General in response to open records requests and completed 54 expunctions. Additionally, the Unit was responsible for maintaining records in compliance with both departmental policy and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) Retention Schedules.



Kathy Cobb
19 years of service



Amanda Teltschik
7 years of service



Chandra Malone
3 years of service



Nanette Kyle
1 year of service

The Communications Unit of the Deer Park Police Department is responsible for public safety communications for the City of Deer Park. This unit is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and handles emergency 9-1-1 and non-emergency calls for service, radio dispatching of Police, Fire and EMS units, activating citywide emergency notifications for chemical emergencies or severe weather, Animal Control calls for service and radio dispatching, after hour city services and other administrative duties as assigned. The Communications Unit falls under the Administrative Services Bureau and the Communications Supervisor answers directly to the Career Services Lieutenant.

The Deer Park Police Department is a Public Safety Answering Point in the Greater Harris County 9-1-1 district. In 2020, telecommunicators, or dispatchers, as they are often called, handled approximately 17,600 inbound and outbound 9-1-1 calls with the majority of these coming from cell phones. Greater Harris County 9-1-1 implemented new software in 2020 which automatically handles 9-1-1 abandoned or hang-up calls - those that are disconnected prior to being answered by a telecommunicator. This software has a built in callback system that automatically attempts to contact the number back to verify if there was an emergency or not. This update reduces the amount of time the telecommunicator is tasked with attempting to reach the caller to verify if there was an emergency or not.

On average in 2020, telecommunicators handled 3,400 incoming non-emergency calls which totaled approximately 75 hours of phone time per month. This does not include calls that the telecommunicator had to place and does not account for additional tasks the telecommunicator is responsible for such as 9-1-1 calls and radio traffic of self-initiated calls for service by patrol and animal control. In 2020, there were over 38,000 police calls for service, approximately 3,200 EMS calls for service and just over 570 fire calls for service.

The unit is budgeted for 13 full time telecommunicator positions and a supervisor position. Three of the positions are funded from the Crime Control and Prevention District budget. At the end of 2020, the unit was staffed with 11 telecommunicators, with one completing training in June of 2020 and one that started but did not complete training. The telecommunicators are split among three shifts with a minimum requirement of 2 on duty at all times - Days and Evenings staffed at 4 total and Nights staffed at 3 total. The Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE), the same state agency that licenses police officers, also licenses telecommunicators. Although the job requirements and training do differ, telecommunicators are required to pass a state licensing exam and maintain ongoing training hours every 2 years. Telecommunicators can also earn basic, intermediate, advanced and master proficiency certification through TCOLE, which amasses to a total of 500 hours of training and 8 years of service.

Each year the second week of April is set aside to celebrate telecommunicators nationwide during National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. The 2020 celebration had to be modified due to COVID-19 restrictions, but nonetheless the telecommunicators were honored and celebrated by numerous departments including City Council, fire and EMS, police department administration and by Greater Harris County 9-1-1. Brittany Russell received the Invisible Partner award from the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department for 2020.



Kellie Bass
Dispatch Supervisor
18 years of service



Zulma Veliz
18 years of service



Brandi Cox
16 years of service



Clayton Hall
12 years of service



Jarrett Grundman
11 years of service



Hannah Edwards
8 years of service



Britany Russell
6 years of service



Phebe Parsons
5 years of service



Desire Casteel
3 years of service



Katie Bryant
3 years of service



Sharija Cocco
2 years of service



Clayton Long
1 year of service

The Career Services Division recruits individuals who are the most qualified and have the best potential to continue the police department’s reputation of providing excellent service to the community. In 2020, Lieutenant John Yettevich and Officer Sam Jammass staffed the Career Services Division.

The Career Services Lieutenant supervises the Communications, Records and Recruiting divisions and serves as the department’s Training Coordinator and liaison to the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE). This position is also responsible for budgeting, tracking, reporting and overseeing the police department’s training and licensing requirements. The employees of the police department typically complete an excess of 10,000 hours of annual training. In 2020, the COVID pandemic was responsible for the cancellation of many training classes. Training was mostly limited to online sources and department instructors. Employees collectively completed approximately 2,700 hours of instruction.

The Career Services Lieutenant also presides over the Training Advisory Board and chairs the Awards Committee and the Family Assistance Committee. He is also a representative on Deer Park’s Safety Committee and the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).

Officer Sam Jammass is the department’s recruiting officer and one of the certified fitness specialists. The recruiting officer is responsible for actively recruiting qualified candidates, processing the numerous applications received, testing, and completing comprehensive background investigations. He is also responsible for procurement and distribution of uniforms and equipment.

Retirements:

None

Resignations:

- 2-Officers
- 1-Telecommunicators
- 1-Public Safety Attendant
- 1-Animal Control Officer

Promotions:

None

Recruiting

The Career Services Division reviewed 2,052 total applications for all positions throughout the department. The following positions were filled from those applications:

- 1-Telecommunicator
- 1-Animal Control Officer
- 1-Part-time Animal Shelter Attendant



John Yettevich
Lieutenant



Sam Jammass



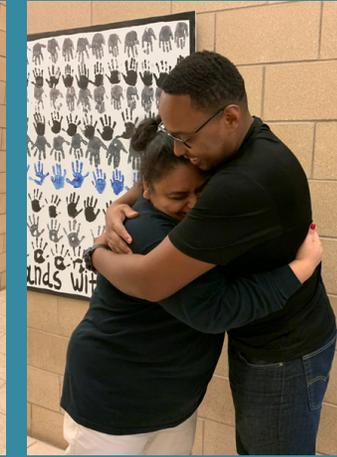
Tina Palomares & Travis Potter



Kelly Davenport & Wade Conner



Rhonda Cole



Zulma Veliz & Brandon Williams



Chad Banogon, Shawn Backus and Jared Humphrey



Doug Nettles and Jason LaPoint



Kai Zheng (L) and Lars Moe (R) with the Moe family



Al Garces and Lt. Frank Hart



Scott Baumann, wife Tawnia, and their newly adopted pup Desi



Kai Zheng, Chief Grigg, Rae Sinor, & Kelly Davenport



Jason Huff occupies Lt. Hart's desk



Celeste Saenz, Al Garces, Jeff Eaton, Madelyn Ruiz, Traci Bailey



Chief Grigg with ladies from Community 1st Health ER



Night shift officers
A. Kuchinski, Sgt. Miller, T. Trotti, D. Smiers, S. Anderson



Justin and Pam League along with members of the community came together to feed the officers and staff.



Jason Meredith, Karen Guidry from The Health Nut, Alex Thornton-Pinkard from The Ugly Crust Bakery, Jarrett Hill and Shane Guimbellot.



Justin and Pam League along with members of the community came together to feed the officers and staff.



Members of DPPD taking our Valentine's Day Photo



Officer Zheng, Lt. Brown, two Walmart employees, Detective Moore, Officer Jammas.



Members of DPPD supporting breast cancer awareness



TCO Zulma Veliz, Officer Brandon Williams, Officer Veronika Minor, Detective Aaron Gonzales



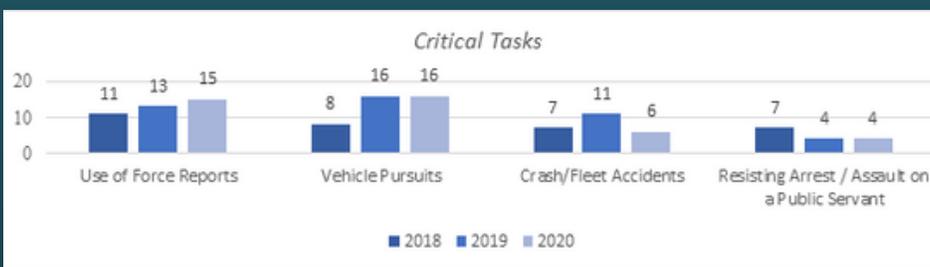
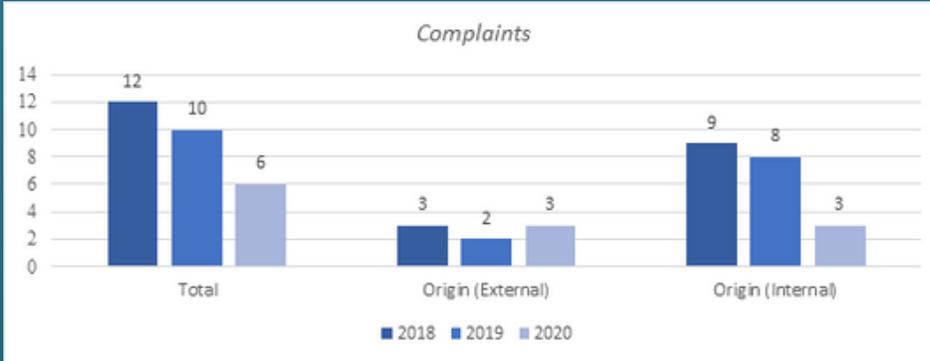
Members of DPPD staff send an encouraging message to our friend Karsyn.



Wade Keeney
Lieutenant

The Administrative Services Division is responsible for upkeep of disciplinary, grievance, complaint and contractual records; the early warning system; the false alarm reduction program; coordination of secondary employment; and, police facilities management.

Complaints and Compliments

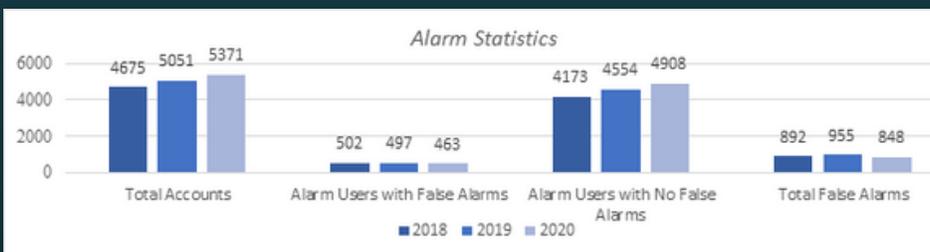


The method by which a citizen may commend or file a complaint on employees of the Deer Park Police Department (DPPD) and the manner in which commendations and complaints are handled may be read by visiting the Complaints / Compliments section of the DPPD website. The number of complaints for 2018-2020 and the disposition of those investigations are depicted below. Two racial profiling complaints, which were classified as “Unfounded” and “Administrative Inquiry”, were received in 2019.

In order to manage risk, close inspection and analysis is given to the critical tasks of law enforcement. The 2018-2020 statistics for some of those tasks are depicted left.

False Alarm Reduction Program

Unnecessary responses to false alarms result in an enormous burden in manpower and expense to Police, Fire and EMS personnel, which in turn reduces the time available for them to respond to real emergencies. In order to address this issue the City of Deer Park has a contract with Central Square Technologies, LLC (doing business as the Deer Park False Alarm Reduction Program) to provide false alarm tracking and invoicing services. Additionally, the Police Department enforces the City’s Alarm Ordinance. The alarm statistics for 2018-2020 are depicted below.



Website:
<https://www.crywolfservices.com/deerparktx/>
 Email: deerparktx@alarm-billing.com
 Phone: 855-905-0611
 Mail: Deer Park False Alarm Reduction Program
 P.O. Box 844908
 Dallas, TX 75284-4908



Sharon St. Martin
Assistant Chief of Police

Imagine if you will, a world where Cinco de Mayo falls on Taco Tuesday, only to be ruined by a virus called “Corona.” No, it’s not the Twilight Zone. It’s 2020.

2020 was the weirdest year that just, well, really wasn’t. Events and activities that were supposed to be happening and marked on the calendar were marked out in red with cancelled, postponed or TBD. After the COVID-19 pandemic stay-at-home order was put in place, calendars pretty much stayed wide open through the remainder of the year. We shut down all but essential operations for approximately two weeks, and sent everyone else home, but realized that just wasn’t working, so most everyone was called back except those considered “high-risk.” We learned how to social distance, wash our hands (better), and to communicate electronically (like millennials) via virtual platforms like Zoom, WebEx and Microsoft Teams. Coworkers walked around with glazed looks in their eyes from “Zoom Fatigue” caused by constantly staring at each other during the unending virtual meetings. You could not walk past a desk or counter in the PD without the ability to hand sanitize. We are cleaner than we have ever been! We used a matrix created by Dallas PD to determine just when those who contracted the virus or were exposed to it, could return to work. Our practices kept our in-house COVID cases to a minimum and thank God and good hygiene, none of our employees suffered lasting symptoms or anything worse than a case of the flu.

We welcomed our newest officer, Candace Bonner, in March and were able to swear her in just days before the stay-at home order went into effect. She went on to star as our beautiful vampire in the PD’s Halloween Facebook post. Citizens’ Police Academy class 41 which began at the end of February was cancelled in March after just a few short weeks.

June brought the Unity Walk which was organized by a citizen who wanted to bring awareness to the Black Lives Matter movement and police brutality. We developed an action plan in the event the walk did not remain peaceful, and/or counter protestors attended. It turned out to be a fairly small gathering with less than 50 participants and no chaos. And, due to the fact that the temperature that day went through the roof, most of the protestors dispersed as soon as they reached City Hall, and many of them accepted our offer of a ride back to their cars in an air conditioned city bus.

We were able to hold our Vacation Safety School in July with the assistance of our volunteers, and spent the week with a bevy of youngsters who were happy to be out of the house, visiting our house, and learning all there was to know about public safety operations.

Throughout the summer the police department and our high-water vehicles responded to numerous requests to attend “drive-by” birthday parties for kids in our community, even driving by for our biggest and most fun-loving fan, City Manager Jay Stokes’ surprise party.

In August, after polling Citizen Police Academy applicants, we decided to go forward with Class 42 (with many members who had planned on attending doomed Class 41) and successfully graduated them in November.

September proved to be a nail biter with the weather. On top of everything else, 2020 was one of the most prolific as it pertained to the number of named tropical storms and hurricanes that hit the Gulf coast. Many of us learned Greek as the National Hurricane Center exhausted their named list from the modern English alphabet and resorted to the Greek alphabet for only the second time in history. We collectively held our breath as Hurricane Laura took a last-minute turn to the east and spared us a direct hit on our coast. Several weeks later, Tropical Storm Beta made landfall near the southern end of the Matagorda Peninsula and hung around too long, dropping enough rain to flood most of Houston.

It was weird outside the realm of law enforcement as well, as the world became obsessed with Tiger King, Joe Exotic and Carole Baskin. Murder hornets invaded the United States; a high school student discovered a new planet that was compared to Luke Skywalker’s planet Tatooine, which orbits two stars and features double sunsets; a giant star seemingly disappeared, swallowed by a giant black hole instead of flaming out as a Champagne Supernova (que in Oasis here), and the Pentagon confirmed the authenticity of, and released three Navy videos of unidentified flying objects (UFOs). ET phone home...

All weirdness aside, the men and women of the Neighborhood Services Bureau showed up day after day and quietly performed their duties of keeping our community safe. We were all looking forward to the end of 2020 with the hopes that in 2021 we would wake up and find that Covid-19 was just a bad dream.

Sharon J. Martin



Chief St. Martin and Sgt. Hill



Chief St. Martin at the gun range



Chief St. Martin and Mayor Mouton



Chief St. Martin and Officer Jason LaPoint

The Community Services Division is the largest and most visible division within the Police Department and is commanded by Lieutenant Frank Hart. Lt. Hart has eight Sergeants that answer to him and are responsible for the first line supervision of those in the division. The Division is made up of Patrol, Crime Prevention, School Resource Officers, Warrant Division, Traffic, CALEA Accreditation, K-9, Humane, Holding Facility and the School Crossing Guards. The division also houses the Honor Guard, Bicycle Patrol, SWAT, Negotiations, Special Response Group (SRG), and Crash Reconstruction teams.

The Division is also responsible for the implementation and maintenance of a variety of community programs. These programs include: Vacation House Checks, Citizen Ride-Alongs, Neighborhood and Business Watch, Lock Box Program, Citizen Radar Program and the Are You Okay Program to name a few. These programs were designed to help foster a positive relationship with the community while attaining our goal of providing the highest quality of services to the community and building trusted relationships with those we serve.



Frank Hart
Lieutenant



Danny Rouen
Sergeant



Joe Cooper
Sergeant



Jason Meredith
Sergeant



Ian Sawtell
Sergeant



Josh Patton
Sergeant



Bryan Miller
Sergeant



Jarrett Hill
Sergeant



Ryan Coats
Sergeant

FIELD TRAINING OFFICERS

The Deer Park Police Department Field Training Officer (FTO) program is a 4 month instructional process that oversees the training of Probationary Police Officers (PPOs). The training starts with the FTOs who are a select group of officers who have shown to be reliable employees with a strong work ethic and the want to mentor and train new personnel. FTOs are tasked with training every new officer and teaching them to administer the knowledge and skills learned in the academy by showing them how to apply these principles in real situations. The FTOs utilize a coaching-based training philosophy that requires in depth documentation and training to ensure the success of the officers in training. The training consist of 4 phases, each having a minimum of 20 days of instruction. Each phase is filled with training tasks and objectives that the PPO is trained on. As the training progresses, the PPO is responsible for completing more of the workload. During the 4th Phase, the PPO assumes 100% of the officer responsibility and the FTO observes and grades the PPO. Upon successful completion of the FTO program, the PPO is released from training and assigned to a shift.

The 2020 Field Training program consisted of Field Training Officers S. Baumann, S. Guimbellot, A. Kuchinski, C. Jackson, D. Bode, C. Aurelius, S. Anderson, J. Huff, and T. Trotti and is supervised by Sergeant Jason Meredith.

The Field Training program oversaw the successful training of Officer T. Payne and Officer C. Bonner.



Jason Meredith
Sergeant



Scott Baumann



Shane Guimbellot



Anthony Kuchinski



Clint Jackson



Davide Bode



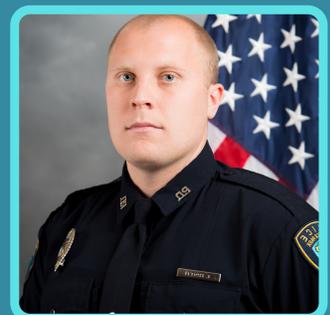
Campbell Aurelius



Scott Anderson



Jason Huff



Travis Trotti

Providing security for the Deer Park Municipal Court, serving summons, and clearing outstanding municipal warrants are the responsibilities of Officer S. M. Jackson as the Warrant Officer. Officer S. M Jackson has been assigned as the Warrant Officer since 2017, and in 2019 we added Officer C. Jackson as a back-up Warrant Officer. Officer S. Jackson has been tasked with the clearing of more than 12,000 outstanding warrants. In following best practices and staying innovative in methods to reduce warrants, Officer S. Jackson has implemented several alternatives to notify people who have outstanding warrants. This ranges from automated calls and notifications, letters sent to home addresses, and direct phone calls from officers and volunteers with the Deer Park Police Department. The ultimate goal of the Warrant Officer is not to arrest people with outstanding warrants, but to get them to take care of the warrants through the municipal court, prior to arrest.



Sean Jackson

School Resource Officers ensure the safety of our children and educators, and maintain a strong relationship between the Deer Park Police Department and the Deer Park Independent School District. Since January 2000, School Resource Officers have helped strengthen and solidify an already exemplary relationship between the police department and school district. The School Resource Officers continue to develop relationships with the students, parents, and staff to identify and resolve issues affecting public safety in our schools and community.

During the 2020 School year there were four School Resource Officers housed within the schools. SRO Jason LaPoint and SRO Tina Taylor were assigned to the South Campus. SRO Del Wilcoxson was assigned to the North campus and SRO Doug Nettles was assigned to the junior high schools and elementary schools as the roving SRO.



Jason LaPoint



Doug Nettles



Del Wilcoxson



Tina Taylor

SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS (S.W.A.T.)

The Deer Park Police Department Special Weapons and Tactics Team (S.W.A.T.) is a specialized, highly trained, motivated, and disciplined unit that is comprised of twelve (12) members. The S.W.A.T. team is under the command of Lieutenant W. F. Hart and consists of Sergeant Miller, Sergeant Hill, Sergeant Cooper, Officer Nettles, Officer S. Jackson, Officer Ward, Officer Reed, Officer Moore, Officer Bailey, Officer Moe, Officer Anderson, and Officer Banogon. S.W.A.T. members are selected based upon their mental and physical capabilities as well as their willingness to function as a team member. These officers and supervisors are primarily assigned to the various divisions of the police department, and have volunteered for the extra responsibility as S.W.A.T. Officers.

The team is called to critical incident situations including barricaded subjects, hostage situations, high risk warrant services, high water rescue situations, and any situation where a measured and coordinated response is required.

Applicants wishing to become a S.W.A.T. team member, must complete a physical fitness evaluation, technical skills evaluation, psychological evaluation, and an oral interview board before being selected for a probationary position on the team. Each S.W.A.T. member logs over 100 training hours annually. The training is comprised of various high-risk scenarios including, but not limited to, hostage rescue training, barricaded subject resolution, high risk warrant service, and dignitary protection.

Team members are subjected to annual physical fitness testing to ensure that they are fit and capable for duty. S.W.A.T. members are also tested on their ability to demonstrate weapons proficiency and decision making skills through vigorous training sessions.

In 2020, S.W.A.T. members attended Less Lethal Impact Munition training, Distraction Device training, Chemical Munition training, high water rescue and survival training, as well as numerous other advanced training courses. S.W.A.T. members also served as instructors for several active threat/active shooter training courses held for officers of the Deer Park Police Department.

S.W.A.T. members also engaged in numerous community events throughout the year including demonstrations for the Deer Park Rotary Club, the Deer Park High School Special Needs Class, Deer Park Junior High Big Red Program, and the Deer Park Police Department Citizens Police Academy. In addition to community events, S.W.A.T. instructors conducted active threat training classes for area businesses to educate the public on civilian response to active threats.



Lt. Frank Hart



Doug Nettles



Sean Jackson



Joe Cooper



Jarrett Hill



Bryan Miller



Mason Moore



Doug Bailey



Josh Reed



Curt Ward



Scott Anderson



Lars Moe



Chad Banogon 20

The Deer Park Police Department’s Crisis Negotiation team is comprised of six members. Sergeant Sawtell is the Team Commander and serves with five team members, Sergeant Meredith, Detective Thatcher, Detective Gonzales, Officer Baumann, and Officer Williams as negotiators.

The team is utilized to resolve special threat situations such as suicide attempts, barricaded suspects and hostage incidents through the process of specialized negotiation techniques. The primary goal of the Team is to bring these types of situations to a peaceful resolution, thus reducing loss of life and harm to citizens and officers.

In 2020, the city ordered a new 28’ command trailer to be used at critical incident scenes such as a crisis negotiation scene. The command trailer is currently being built and should arrive for use in 2021.

Throughout the year each team member goes through extensive continuing education, as well as monthly department training to maintain proficiency. Monthly training is usually in the form of a simulated incident and is routinely conducted in conjunction with the department’s SWAT team or with other area police negotiation teams. Most of our members attend an annual training conference that is presented by the Texas Association of Hostage Negotiators and the Federal Bureau of Investigations which focuses on recent issues relevant to negotiations and a great avenue for networking with other crisis negotiations teams throughout Texas. The team also has advisors available to them from the Houston Police Department, the FBI, and the mental health community should they be needed.



Ian Sawtell
Sergeant



Jason Meredith
Sergeant



Nicholas Thatcher



Aaron Gonzales



Scott Baumann



Brandon Williams

Due to a steady increase in calls dealing with people in mental health crisis, the Deer Park Police Department started the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) in 2017. This was done to help us provide the highest quality of police service to this segment of our community, in an attempt to improve the quality of life for the entire Community of Deer Park. This team, consisting of 4 specially trained officers, was created to respond to initial calls for service involving people in a mental health crisis. The team members also conduct follow up visits with those individuals to ensure their well-being and develop a rapport, in an effort to reduce recurring issues. Team members are subject to 24 hour call-out in case of an urgent mental health situation.

The 2020 team consisted of, Sgt. Danny Rouen, Officer Miranda Ross, and Officer Brandon Williams, and the newest member, Officer Jill Basilone. These officers were specially selected after meeting specific criteria for communication abilities, problem solving skills, as well as experience. All required a recommendation from their supervisor to show their suitability for the position. After selection, each officer attended a 40 hour specialized training class and became certified as TCOLE Mental Health Peace Officers. They have responded to numerous calls dealing with mental health issues throughout the years.

During the year, the CIT worked and partnered with local mental health facilities and mental health service providers, and the counseling staff at the Deer Park Independent School District, to ensure that they are able to diligently address the issue of mental health affecting public safety. In a dramatic decrease during 2020, a total of 60 Emergency Detention Orders (EDO's) were obtained to provide treatment for persons in mental health crisis. This was a decrease of 61.27%, down from 113 EDOs in 2019. It is extremely likely that this decrease was due to the low volume of calls overall through 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.



Danny Rouen
Sergeant



Miranda Hudson



Brandon Williams



Jillian Basilone

The Deer Park Police Department takes an aggressive approach enforcing Texas DWI Laws. Seeking out and arresting intoxicated and impaired drivers is viewed as one aspect in exercising our “duty to protect and serve.” The Deer Park Police Department recognizes that human life is precious and the danger intoxicated drivers pose to our community is great.

During 2020, the Deer Park Police Department participated in DWI Initiatives to target impaired drivers. Initiatives call for officers to work specific days and hours, targeting their efforts on intoxicated and impaired drivers in and around the City of Deer Park. The Deer Park Police Department continues to be recognized by the Houston Chapter of MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers) for its continued efforts in DWI enforcement.

The Deer Park Police Department has specific officers trained as Breath Test Operators who are called upon to administer a breath alcohol test when needed.

Intoxicated driving is not isolated to only alcohol, but ANY substance that can impair a person(s) ability to operate a vehicle safely. Because of this, the Deer Park Police Department has officers that have undergone extensive training as Drug Recognition Experts (DRE). A DRE is called upon to assist in an investigation when a driver is suspected of being impaired on any substance other than alcohol. The Deer Park Police Department has six (6) officers specifically trained as DRE’s.

During 2020, the Deer Park Police Officers removed 296 drunk and impaired drivers from Deer Park roadways.



NATIONAL DONUT DAY



David Bode, Sheila Plovovich, Sam Jammass, Kellie Bass, Kai Zheng, Tina Palomares, Travis Potter, Rhonda Cole, Shane Guimbellot, Kelly Davenport



Shane Guimbellot



Teyanda Payne



Chief Grigg



Rhonda Cole, Shane Guimbellot, Kelly Davenport



David Bode, Sheila Plovovich, Sam Jammass



Ryan McBride



Tina Palomares and Travis Potter



Joel Nitchman and K-9 Roni



Kai Zheng, Ryan McBride, Christian Lopez



Kai Zheng, Tina Palomares, Travis Potter, Rhonda Cole, Shane Guimbellot, Kelly Davenport

SPECIAL RESPONSE GROUP

The Deer Park Police Department has 11 officers trained in riot/crowd control tactics. The 40 hour training class consisted of learning and becoming proficient with the different riot control formations, completing the formations and drills in full riot gear, becoming comfortable wearing a gas mask and working alongside of HPD's mounted police unit. During the week, each officer had to go through CS gas for an exposure to familiarize themselves with the reaction chemical munitions cause. The Deer Park Police Department made a big step forward in preparing itself in the event civil unrest occurs in Deer Park or surrounding cities. In 2020, Deer Park assisted Galveston Police Department in crowd control during Mardi Gras and gained valuable experience. The SRG team was also utilized in Deer Park for an activist march. Lastly, the SRG team assisted HPD with crowd control during a protest march in Houston with approximately 80,000 participants. Due to Covid-19, the World Petroleum Congress that was scheduled to be held in Houston was postponed. This event would have been an "all hands on deck" for SRG as protestors from around the globe converged on the host city.



Joel Nitchman, Ryan Coats, Shawn Backus



J.B. White demonstrates wearing SRG gear with our CPA member

ACCIDENT RECONSTRUCTION

In 2020, The Deer Park Police Department's Accident Reconstruction team was utilized to investigate and reconstruct fatality and potential fatal traffic collisions.

The Accident Reconstruction team is composed of five team members. Sergeant Sawtell is the team Supervisor and serves with four team members, Sergeant Coats, Officer Nettles, Officer Baumann and Detective Gonzales.

All members of the team are State certified in Collision Reconstruction and Total Station Operation. Team members must successfully complete the State certified Advanced and Reconstruction Accident schools, as well as extensive continuing education. Team members attend bi-monthly department training to maintain proficiency in the tools necessary to reconstruct collisions. All members of the team are available 24/7 to respond for reconstruction.



Ian Sawtell
Sergeant



Ryan Coats
Sergeant



Doug Nettles



Scott Baumann



Aaron Gonzales

Public Safety Attendants (PSAs) are responsible for receiving, processing, and monitoring all incoming prisoners for the police department or other agencies as needed. This includes searching the prisoner, inventory of property, taking of photographs and fingerprints, and completion and filing of related reports and documents. Routine duties include preparing prisoner meals, obtaining medical attention, and maintaining proper care of prisoner property and records. PSAs perform required inspections for the holding facility for safety, supplies, security and sanitation. They assist in the arraignment of detainees with the Municipal Judge and arrange transfers to other facilities. They are also responsible for fingerprinting members of the public for job application requirements.

In 2020, 1714 adult prisoners and 36 juveniles were booked into the holding facility. Most days, the department has two PSAs working inside the holding facility. During 2020 the holding facility was staffed with five PSAs: C. Matczak, R. McBride, R. Turner, J. Ross, and E. Rios. The PSAs work hard every day and are dedicated to upholding the highest standards of the Deer Park Police Department.



Ryan McBride



Chris Matczak



Jesse Ross



Raul Turner



Enedelia Rios

The primary function of the Deer Park Police Traffic unit is to reduce the number of traffic-related calls for service, as well as reduce the number of vehicle collisions in Deer Park. This is done with the use of enforcement, public education, and engineering under the umbrella of problem solving with fellow officers and the community.

The Deer Park Police Department Traffic unit is overseen by Sergeant Sawtell, and consists of 3 traffic officers, 18 crossing guards, and 3 substitute crossing guards. The Traffic unit also relies on numerous specialized volunteers throughout the year to help with items such as handicap parking enforcement, parades, and fun runs.

In 2020, a third traffic officer was selected and added to the Traffic unit. In 2020, the Traffic unit began a transition in which all traffic officers would also become State Certified Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspectors. Two of the traffic officers will be attending the required training in January 2021 to become CMV Inspectors.

In 2020, the Deer Park Police Department utilized the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program Grant known as S.T.E.P., as an integral part of traffic enforcement efforts. This program puts extra officers on the street to focus on traffic violations in high accident locations in an effort to reduce vehicle collisions and make the roadways safer for all.

The Traffic unit deploys portable radar trailers when complaints are received regarding vehicles that are continually exceeding the speed limit in specific locations. The trailers visually display drivers' real-time speeds compared to the speed limit and are effective in reducing speeds and increasing awareness of local speed limits. The trailers also have the capability of collecting traffic count data and speed data throughout the day, which can be used to identify the most dangerous traffic times when more enforcement is needed.

The Deer Park Traffic unit continuously works proactively in the community to raise awareness on safety issues and to increase voluntary compliance with traffic laws. Public information and educational activities are an effective means of increasing compliance through education and behavioral modification for drivers. Officers of the Deer Park Traffic unit continually engage in public information and education activities throughout the year such as performing car seat inspections as part of the Safe Kids Greater Houston Coalition.



D. Bode, S. Jackson, C. Aurelius



Scott Baumann, Jason Meredith, Teyanda Payne



Kellie Bass and Tina Palomares



Chief Grigg and members of Concerns of Police Survivors at our Blue Blood Drive



Chief Grigg and the son of Officer Chad Banogon



Members of Deer Park Animal Shelter and friends after filming a video



Tina Taylor (L) and Shawn Backus (R) with students from DPHS



David Bode and Candace Bonner



Members of DPPD and Able Tool and Rental



Sergeant Josh Patton and his son

HONOR GUARD

The Honor Guard is composed of officers who are interested in representing the Police Department at high profile events. The primary purpose of the Deer Park Honor Guard is to provide proper funeral honors for fallen officers. Other duties also include paying proper respect at funerals for current or former dignitaries or public servants whose families request it, and providing proper courtesies to the flag at ceremonies and other formal events. Prospective Honor Guard officers are screened for their sincere desire to represent the department in high profile events. Furthermore, they are evaluated on their willingness and ability to learn the drill and ceremony aspects of the position, and present a positive image to the public. The Deer Park Honor Guard represents the City of Deer Park in numerous ceremonies throughout the year, and is proudly led by Officer Tina Taylor. Other members include Officer Bode, Officer Aurelius, Officer Guimbellot, Officer Baumann, Detective Bailey, Detective Moore, Detective Thatcher, and Detective Gonzales.



Honor Guard Team Members from L to R:
Officer Scott Baumann, Officer Shane Guimbellot, Officer Nicholas Thatcher,
Officer David Bode, Officer Shawn Backus, Officer Matthew Marshall,
Officer Aaron Gonzales, and Officer Tina Taylor.

PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL



Nick Thatcher, Shane Guimbellot and David Bode get ready for Peace Officers Memorial



Tina Taylor helps Matthew Marshall with his ascot



Officer Matthew Marshall and Detective Aaron Gonzales



Rhonda Cole (C) with members of the DP Honor Guard



Top left: Lt. Chris Brown, Lt. Frank Hart, Lt. John Yettevich, Lt. Wade Keeney. Bottom left Captain Wade Conner, Chief Grigg and Assistant Chief Sharon St. Martin



Members of the Deer Park Honor Guard



Captain Wade Conner and Assistant Chief Sharon St. Martin

Under the supervision of Sgt. Sawtell in 2020 the Deer Park Police Department in partnership with Deer Park Independent School district employed 18 Crossing Guards and 3 substitute guards, which are responsible for 18 locations throughout the city. Crossing Guards are part-time employees and have become an integral part of adding safety to our city.

The Crossing Guards primary goal is to walk the children across the street safely every morning and afternoon. This job may look easy to someone just passing by, but no matter what the weather, going out into traffic twice a day to cross children is not without its challenges. Many of the Crossing Guards are tenured employees who have been at their same assigned intersections for numerous years, which has allowed them to develop valuable relationships and rapport with the parents and students they encounter day to day.

Crossing Guards become very familiar with their assigned areas and with the children and adults that frequent the area. They are in a good position to report crime or disruptions.

The Crossing Guards are equipped with handheld radios, whistles, stop signs, and reflective clothing. They receive monthly departmental safety trainings on topics related to their assignments as well as CPR training.

The Crossing Guards also assist with public events such as fun runs and parades but due to the pandemic in 2020 it was necessary to cancel these events. In the future, our Crossing Guards will be ready to assist with these duties when public events are resumed.

At the end of the school year, the Deer Park Police Department hosts a Crossing Guard Appreciation Luncheon as a way to say “thank you” for all they do for the children of Deer Park. At this luncheon, Linda Dye was recognized as Crossing Guard of the Year.

In 2020, all Crossing Guards received new handheld reflective stop signs.

Also in 2020, (2) Crossing Guards and (1) substitute Crossing Guard were hired to fill vacant positions. This brought the Crossing Guards back up to full staff.



Linda Dye - 2020 Crossing Guard of the Year



2020 Annual Crossing Guard luncheon

K-9 UNIT

The primary use of the K-9 unit is to conduct drug interdiction and assist the patrol division with free-air sniffs of vehicles during traffic stops. Officer Joel Nitchman and his K-9 partner Roni, a black and grey German Short-haired Pointer work tirelessly to detect and apprehend violators of our laws.

During 2020, Officer Nitchman and Roni conducted 255 searches resulting in the seizure of approximately 100 ounces of powder cocaine, 15 grams of crack cocaine, 179 ounces of methamphetamine, 150 ounces of heroin, and 173 ounces of other illicit drugs. Numerous other criminal charges were filed by Officer Nitchman which include serious crimes such as driving while intoxicated, weapons offenses, evading arrest, theft and possession of stolen property, fraud, and identity theft. In addition to the seizures of illegal narcotics, Officer Nitchman and Roni also seized approximately \$40,711 in cash and assets gained from illicit drug sales.

Rigorous training is conducted each week to keep Roni proficient at detecting the odors of methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin and marijuana. In 2020, the Deer Park Police Department partnered with Houston K9 to assist with training by providing expert instruction and highly structured training scenarios for Roni to stay in peak condition. Officer Nitchman and Roni are also members of the National Narcotic Detector Dog Association (NNDDA). The NNDDA is a professional, nonprofit organization dedicated to the utilization and proficiency of scent detector dogs for the benefit of Law Enforcement. The purpose of the NNDDA is to provide advanced training and official certification for court purposes.



Joel Nitchman and K-9 Roni



TCO Zulma Veliz and K-9 Roni

Prevention of Crime is a cornerstone of the law enforcement profession. The main purpose of this unit is to prevent crime by engaging and educating the citizens on recent crime trends and traditional crimes. Our goal is to distribute valuable information to the public by common and nontraditional means, via social media platform, and furthermore build bonds with the citizens.

The Department's Facebook team utilizes the platform to distribute crime prevention messages, traffic laws related to Public Information and Education, and announce upcoming community engagement events. In 2020, the unit increased the interactions between the public and the police department, as evident from the amount of comments, followers and "Likes" on our page. We uploaded over 100 crime prevention related posts and plan on maintaining, if not increasing, the amount of engagements on social media.

In the past year, officers have engaged in numerous in-person events in our community. Even though there were many obstacles to overcome during 2020 limiting in-person socializing, we still managed to exceed the expectation. Officers attended events at The Waterford, Coffee with a Cop events, Rotary Club, public relation events with Chick-Fil-A, Trunk-or Treat at H.E.B., Drug Takeback in collaboration with the D.E.A. and BACODA (Bay Area Council on Drugs and Alcohol), along with increased educational engagements with students at DPISD.

During the last year, officers taught police topics at Deer Park Jr. High, via the Big Red Program, as well as engaging in community events with the FFA and presenting select topics from the curriculum of criminal justice class at the Deer Park High School. Our officers have plans to continue working after school with the criminal justice students to help them succeed in their regional competition in the spring.

In 2020, officers gathered area hotel staff for a "Lunch and Learn" on Fraud and Identity Theft. These trainings on different topics for the hotels will continue in 2021. Automobile service businesses helped the Crime Prevention Unit disperse hang tags to their customers that reminded the drivers to "Look Before You Lock," to prevent heat-related deaths/injuries of children. These hang tags were also dispersed by the DPISD to the parents of the car-rider students, for use in the student pick-up line. Fuel service stations agreed to display crime prevention messages on their gas pumps to remind customers to be aware of their surroundings and check for skimming devices. Church and Workplace Active Threat trainings are planned for local churches in the near future.

Ongoing crime prevention programs offered by the Deer Park Police Department include:

- Lockbox Program
- Are You OK Program
- Bicycle Registration Program
- Vacation Safety School
- Shepherd Program

In 2020, Lockbox Program serviced 58 participants, Are You OK Program serviced five participants, Bicycle Registration Program serviced 58 participants, Vacation Safety School serviced 45 students between the ages of 7 and 14, and Shepherd Program serviced 19 participants.

It is our anticipation in the next year to increase community engagement, in-person or online, to provide the highest quality of police service thus improving the quality of life for the community of Deer Park.

CRIME PREVENTION



The Deer Park Animal Shelter and Adoption Center started the year incredibly strong by adopting out 53 animals in January.

Like many other organizations, the Deer Park Animal Shelter and Adoption Center unfortunately had to close its doors to the public due to COVID-19 shutdown protocols in March. Since we couldn't invite the public inside, the staff stepped up to provide the animals at the shelter with additional care and attention by visiting with the animals daily. Additionally, the staff handled animal bites and stray animal calls amongst other animal control issues.

In an effort to stay in touch with our community, we regularly engaged on social media. For example, we asked our followers to share photos of their pets so our staff members could try to draw (poorly) the pets. The community responded by sending us hundreds of emails and requests for their pets to be drawn by our shelter artists, Animal Control Supervisor Al Garces and Officer Jeff Eaton.

In April, we released a short parody video entitled "Kitty King," which reached thousands of people and other animal control agencies. Fans from all over the country called to complement our video. By May, we were ready to get back to the status quo and released a video entitled "Break Free," which was a parody to a Queens song titled, "I Want to Break Free." This video also received lots of engagement and shares between citizens and fellow animal control agencies.

As COVID-19 continued to impact our community, Deer Park Animal Shelter and Adoption Center's staff did their best to keep the public involved during a time when social distancing was so important. Fun adoption promotions were created including "PUTTS for PUPS," where potential adopters were able to sink a putt to have their adoption fees waived.

The end of 2020 was capped off with the Deer Park Animal Shelter and Adoption Center's favorite video entitled "Hound Alone," which was a parody of the holiday favorite Home Alone. The video takes its viewers on a journey where two potential thieves decided to break into the wrong shelter on Christmas Eve. The video has reached over 20,000 people. It will surely be a Holiday Favorite for years to come.

2020 brought its unique set of challenges, but the adoption center was proud to have reached its goals for adoptions and community engagement. The next year will be full of new promotions and videos all with one goal in mind: Serve the Deer Park community and do right by the lost animals of Deer Park.

The adoption center is staffed by Animal Control Supervisor Al Garces, Animal Control Officers Jeff Eaton, Celeste Saenz, and Traci Bailey as well as Kennel Tech Madelyn Ruiz. Lt. Frank Hart with the Deer Park Police Department oversees the Animal Shelter and its employees.

Don't miss out on next year's cuteness, laughs, and opportunities to help the homeless animals in our community. Follow us on Facebook to see our adoptable animals and help us have an even better 2021.



Al Garces

Shelter Supervisor



Jeff Eaton

Animal Control Officer



Celeste Saenz

Animal Control Officer



Traci Bailey

Animal Control Officer



Madelyn Ruiz

Shelter Attendant/Technician

The Deer Park Police Criminal Investigation Division (CID) is composed of five parts which all work together in their mission to conduct in-depth investigations of criminal activity in our community and provide the best quality of life and security possible. These five parts include four general detectives, and four ProActive Investigators, one crime scene investigator, one Property and Evidence Custodian and one Victim Assistance Volunteer.

Criminal Investigations

The Criminal Investigators are primarily responsible for follow-up investigations which have been initiated by patrol, and cases referred by outside entities. These cases range from minor theft to murder and everything in between. The Detectives assigned to CID during 2020 were Joshua Reed, Mason Moore, Lars Moe and Aaron Gonzales. The city is divided into quadrants with a detective assigned to each one. Their job is to investigate the crimes occurring within their area and utilize both reactive and proactive approaches to dealing with trends and problems as they arise. During 2020, the Detective Unit was responsible for following up on over 991 cases of which 72% were resolved with a final conclusion.

Evidence and Property

The Deer Park Police Department's Property unit consists of one Public Safety Attendant, Eddie Salazar, who is certified as an Evidence Custodian and has extensive training in all aspects of properly managing a Police Property/Evidence Room. The Evidence Custodian's main areas of responsibility include, but are not limited to, the storage, security, destruction, proper packaging, and documentation of all incoming and outgoing evidence and property. The Evidence Custodian is also responsible for transporting items to the proper lab for analysis, preparing copies of case documents, videos, and photos as requested by the District Attorney's Office and also conducting research to determine the final disposition of cases. Evidence and property that was seized, will be destroyed, sold at auction, converted to city use, or returned to its owner, depending upon the conclusion of the case and its disposition. The Evidence Custodian oversees the safekeeping of over 24,000 pieces of property with multiple items being received and released daily.

Volunteer Victim Assistance Program

The Volunteer Victim's Assistance Program operated in its 9th year during 2020. This program's goal is to improve the services provided to crime victims and improve the communication between the Police Department and the community it serves. Community Volunteers assigned to the program are responsible for contacting crime victims and providing them information such as case status, financial and counseling assistance they may qualify for, and how to provide new information related to their cases. The program has been extremely successful and welcomed by the community. Over this last year, Volunteer Eva Weverink has communicated with several hundred victims, both through written communication and over the phone.

Pro-Act Unit

The ProAct Investigators are responsible for follow up and self-initiated investigations into narcotics, organized crime, and VICE related activities. The unit operates under the supervision of Sergeant James Tryon, with assigned Investigators Nick Thatcher, J. B. White and Doug Bailey. During 2020, the unit made multiple arrests for narcotic possession which led to the seizure of 53 grams of methamphetamine, 195 ounces of marijuana/THC extract, and 2 kilos of cocaine. The unit also recovered \$30,000 in stolen property and seized \$90,000 in cash from illegal gambling operations or proceeds from illegal drug sales. They also dismantled five identity theft rings operating in the area and completed a multi-year investigation with the DEA which resulted in the arrest of a highly valued narcotic dealer and seizure of his assets.

Crime Scene Unit

Crime Scene Investigator Veronika Minor is a licensed police officer who has specialized training and skills in processing crime scenes and handling evidence. There are three additional officers, Brandon Williams, Travis Potter and Anthony Baggett, who have been trained in crime scene processing and who serve in a “back-up” role to the Crime Scene Investigator, allowing for 24/7 response to major scenes. Processing a crime scene may include taking photographs, mapping the scene, locating patent and latent evidence such as fingerprints, footwear impressions, hair, fibers and biological matter and any additional evidence. The Crime Scene Investigator also serves in a back-up role to the Evidence Custodian and assists in those responsibilities.



Lieutenant Chris Brown



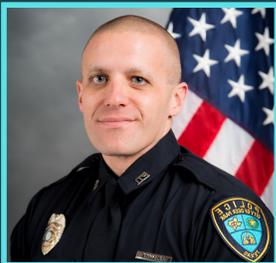
Sergeant James Tryon



Nick Thatcher



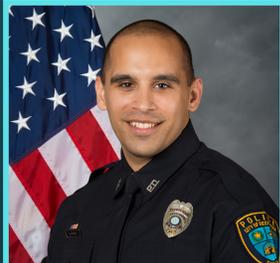
Josh Reed



Jonathan White



Mason Moore



Lars Moe



Aaron Gonzales



Doug Bailey



Veronika Minor



Eddie Salazar



Ernestina Palomares

The Deer Park Police Department Crime Analysis Unit carefully reviews all information received including crime reports, calls for service, arrest reports, and alerts from other agencies to determine if any crime series, sprees, trends, or similarities exist. If one is identified, the unit disseminates this information to patrol officers to assist them in identifying the offender, the offender’s modus operandi, or the offender’s vehicle. Identifying and analyzing crime issues are of the utmost importance to the Crime Analysis Unit. Information that is disseminated from the Unit assists the Patrol and Investigation Commanders develop strategies to address any emerging, potential, or ongoing, crime problems. The crime analysis function also encompasses statistical reporting for both internal and external users. Reports are available, by request, to the citizens of Deer Park that summarize crime, or accident data, by location.

In October, the Unit assisted in officer training, and transition, from Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) to the National Incident-Based Reporting System. This data transition will allow the Unit to view more “facets” of crime, as NIBRS collects detailed information, such as expanded victim types, relationships of victims to offenders and offenses, demographic details, the offender’s suspected use of drugs or alcohol, the involvement of gang activity, and if a technology devices were used in the commission of the crime.

In December 2020, our Crime Reports website, which allows residents to search, or set alerts, for crime(s), in an area, on an interactive map, transitioned to a new website called City Protect <https://www.cityprotect.com>

Crime analysis also supports various department functions including patrol deployment, special operations, investigations, planning and research, crime prevention, and administrative services. In 2020, the unit provided the following:

- 394 requests for statistics, and intelligence products, from within the department,
- 12 translation assistance requests (Spanish to English),
- 65 requests from the Proactive unit, and
- 23 assistance requests from neighboring law enforcement agencies



Officer Zheng, Officer Banogon and Sgt. Cooper get goodies from our community.



Officer Minor reading to elementary school kids



Sgt. Hill and Ofc. Humphrey in training



Officer Minor training with Detective Reed



Officer Marshall with Santa



Back: Ofc. Nettles, Ofc. Bonner, Ofc. LaPoint front: Kellie Bass, Chief St. Martin, Tina Palomares, Sheila Plovovich



Members of the Deer Park S.W.A.T. Team teaching CPA Class 42



Detective Doug Bailey



S. Baumann, M. Hudson, J. Hill, K. Zheng, C. Banogon, J. Basilone, S. Jackson, S. Anderson



Officer David Bode

The Citizen’s Police Academy (CPA), is a condensed version of a basic police academy, and is coordinated by Community Liaison, Sheila Plovovich. Police officers, dispatchers, and other police employees who are experts in their respective areas of law enforcement instruct the classes. The participants are local citizens who are interested in learning about the inner workings of the police department.

The CPA is held one night a week for a period of 14 weeks (42 hours). Students learn about law enforcement related issues such as patrol duties, community oriented policing, crime prevention techniques, dispatch dexterity, use of force, defensive tactics, firearm safety, crisis negotiations and SWAT team operations.

Students also participate in reverse role scenarios such as family disturbances and traffic stops. Learning also takes place through hands on activities such as patrol ride-a-longs, lifting and taking fingerprints, shooting simunitions, Fatal Vision Goggles, and much more.

In 2020, Citizen’s Police Academy Class 41 commenced in the Spring with a total of 20 participants only to be cancelled due to Covid after only four weeks. Class 41 rolled into Class 42, picking up in the fall with 13 total participants, 10 of whom were from the cancelled CPA Class 41.

Additionally, CPA graduates may join an Alumni Association (DPCPAAA), which supports the police department with volunteer services and fundraising for unfunded police purchases. The Alumni assists in coordinating new CPA classes, and hosts promotional drives to obtain applications for new students for future academies.



Citizen’s Police Academy Class 42 graduation



Chaplain Eva Weverink



Chaplain Timothy Kelley, Dispatch Supervisor Kellie Bass, CPA Alumni members Mary Ochoa and Renee Williams.

In 2020, the Deer Park Police Department Chaplain Program had its sixth full year. There were eight professional clergy members from various denominations who volunteered their services to the Department and members of the community for fellowship, and during times of crisis, sorrow, or conflict.

Pastor Rick Brown, Youth Pastor Angie Hughes, Father Reginald Samuels, Chaplain Eva Weverink, Chaplain Craig Weverink, Pastor Jason Morse, Chaplain Timothy Kelley, Pastor William Wesson all served as DPPD Chaplains during 2020.

Police Chaplains were on-call 24 hours a day to assist police personnel with a variety of situations in the field such as death notifications, child deaths, lost or missing persons, and suicides. Our Police Chaplains were also present at monthly birthday breakfasts, and the annual Peace Officer Memorial. With the COVID 19 pandemic in full swing during 2020, our Chaplains were limited on their community outreach from a departmental standpoint but were always willing to help when we needed them. During 2020 our Police Chaplains unselfishly donated many hours to the Department.

CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND VOLUNTEERS IN POLICE SERVICE (VIPS)

In 2020, the Deer Park Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association (DPCPAAA) and Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) logged a total of 3,641 hours with the Police Department. Even though 2020 brought many challenges to the Alumni Association, they were still able to provide services to the Police Department and the City of Deer Park by offering modified events such as Shred Days, Coffee with a Cop, and much more.

Additionally, their volunteer time was spent:

- Assisting in Evidence and Property
- Providing Handicap Parking Enforcement
- Performing vehicle equipment inspections
- Maintaining training certificates and educational advancements for staff
- Citizens' on Patrol program
- Working traffic control for the beginning of school and parades,
- Assisting with Vacation Safety School
- Hosted several Holiday Tamale Fundraisers to raise money for the police department
- Participating in the Volunteer Victim's Assistance program
- Performed quality control audits of our quartermaster closet
- Volunteering to help at the Animal Shelter
- Worked Deer Park High School graduation ceremonies and parade.
- Provided a drive by Cocoa with a Cop at Christmas
- Christmas package pickup
- Feeding officers and PD staff members
- Making warrant calls



PD Staff and alumni members with a group from STEPS



Alumni President Adell Boren supporting DPPD Officers

In addition, in 2020 the Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association purchased an ice machine for use at our gun range/training facility.



Alumni President Adell Boren along with Chief Grigg and Assistant Chief St. Martin present an honor flag to Universal Plant Services



SHARON ST. MARTIN



TINA TAYLOR



KAI ZHENG



MARY ANN SALAS



MELYNDA RAMIREZ



BROOKE SCHWAUSCH



TEYANDA PAYNE



VERONIKA MINOR



VICTORIA MOLINI



CANDACE BONNER



STACEY BRIDGES



EDDIE SALAZAR, PHOTOGRAPHER

WOMAN IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

Officer of the Year Officer Bill Chaffin



Chief Grigg, Officer Bill Chaffin, Assistant Chief Sharon St. Martin

Officer of the Month

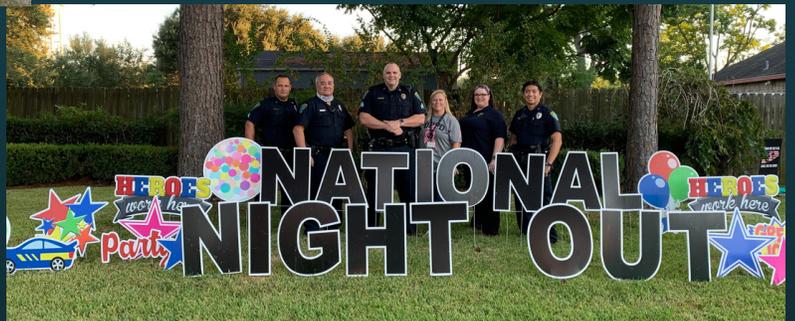
January	Officer Joel Nitchman
February	Officer Mary Ann Salas
March	Officer Brandon Williams
April	Officer William Chaffin, Jr.
May	No Nominations
June	Officer Lars Moe
July	Officer Veronika Minor
August	No Nominations
September	Officer Jason Huff
October	Officer Stacey Bridges
November	Officer Joel Nitchman
December	Officer J.B. White

Rotary Officer of the Month

January	Officer Nicholas Thatcher
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City - Employee of the Quarter 2020

3rd Quarter	Ernestina Palomares
4th Quarter	Kelly Davenport





www.facebook.com/deerparktx.police



www.facebook.com/deerparktx.animalshelter



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www.youtube.com/user/deerparktxgov
