



DEER PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

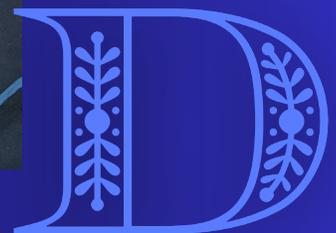
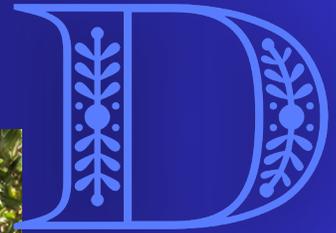
2023 ANNUAL REPORT

CHIEF GREGORY L. GRIGG

TABLE OF CONTENTS



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF.....	2
OUR DEPARTMENT.....	3-5
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES.....	6-11
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES.....	13-40
RETIREMENTS.....	41-42
PROMOTIONS.....	43
ACCOMPLISHMENTS/RECOGNITIONS.....	44-45
NEW OFFICERS.....	46
DEER PARK POLICE ASSOCIATION.....	47



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



Gregory L. Grigg
Chief of Police

The 2023 Annual Report includes significant movement in the Department with three retirements, and promotions of two Assistant Chiefs, one Lieutenant, and three Sergeants along with three Public Safety Attendants (PSAs) moving into Police Officer positions.

The Citizen Police Academy was held once this year due to a lack of applicants for the Fall class. We held our Spring Class with 12 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.

Humane Department employees responded to calls for service, cared for the animals, kept the Shelter population low, and continued to come up with many schemes to entertain its followers. The third annual Woofstock was a success again, and had over 5,000 attendees.

Eight Police Officers, two Dispatchers, three PSAs, and one Records Specialist were hired. We also hired two Crossing Guards.

Most of those eligible have been through Phase Three of the Mentoring Program so no one applied. This will be opened again in 2024. One more officer was promoted who went through the program so that in eleven years 28 employees have completed the program, and eight of them have promoted.

We were awarded a \$50,853 STEP grant, which was used to conduct enforcement for DWI, and various moving violations, and a \$12,983 Commercial Vehicle Traffic Enforcement grant, which was used for enforcing commercial vehicle violations.

In 2023 the Crime Control Prevention District (CCPD) funded three Telecommunicators, one Pro-Act Sergeant, two Pro-Act Investigators, one Crime Prevention Officer, several vehicles, and other much needed technology, services, and equipment. Construction on the new EOC/Dispatch Center got underway, but supply chain issues have pushed completion into 2024.

The big event for 2023 was the F3 Tornado that struck our City on January 24th. All City Departments and our citizens pulled together in response to the damage. Thankfully, there was no loss of life, and minimal injuries. We also had the following cities send work crews for several days to assist with cleanup: La Porte, Morgan's Point, League City, Seabrook, Baytown, Mont Belvieu, Pearland, and Friendswood. Our sincere appreciation to all of them for helping in our time of need.

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 support. I thank our volunteers who gave 1,840.53 hours of their time to assist us across almost all areas of the department. A big thank you to the CPAAA who held yet another very successful Back the Blue event at Jimmy Burke. Next year's event is already being planned.

The Police Department saw some significant retirements this year, and it brought to mind those who have gone before us, and on whose shoulders we continue to build. The standard of excellence they achieved and set for us is the reason I dedicate this Annual Report to all of the Deer Park Police Department Retirees.



Chief of Police

Administrative Assistant

**Administrative Services Bureau
Assistant Chief**

**Neighborhood Services Bureau
Assistant Chief**

- Fiscal Affairs
- Grants
- Internal Affairs
- Planning & Research

Finance & Payroll Coordinator

Community Liaison

Crime Analyst

Support Services Lieutenant

Administrative Services Lieutenant

Community Services Lieutenant

Investigative Services Lieutenant

1—Career Services Officer

Quartermaster

Dispatch

1 - Communications Supervisor
13 - Telecommunicators

Records Unit

1 - Records Supervisor
4 - Records Specialists

- Alarm Management
- Extra Jobs
- Facilities Management
- Internal Affairs Records

Humane
1 - Supervisor
3 - Animal Control Officers
1 - Shelter Attendant

School Resource
1 - Sergeant
8 - Officers

Administrative Sergeant
1 - Sergeant

4 - Beat Investigators
1 - Crime Scene Investigator

1 - Sergeant Pro Act
3 - Pro Act Investigators

Property / Evidence Custodian
1 - Public Safety Attendant

Fleet

K-9
1 - Officer

1 - Warrant Officer

1 - House Check

Traffic Unit
1 - Sergeant
1 - Officer
2 - DOT Officers

Patrol
6 - Sergeants
30 - Officers

Crime Prevention
1 - Officer

Accreditation

Holding Facility
6 - Public Safety Attendants

18- School Crossing Guards

Legend

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

MISSION STATEMENT

Mission

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 Community 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.

CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION DISTRICT

The Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD) was created in May 2011 to enhance the capability of law enforcement and to assist with crime prevention programs through the acquisition of personnel, new equipment and technology for the Police Department. In 2023, the CCPD provided the agency with \$2,356,505.11 in revenue.

Funding from the CCPD is used for three Dispatch positions, one Crime Prevention Officer, one Pro-Act Sergeant and two Pro-Act Investigators. The CCPD also funds the purchase of the department's fleet vehicles, including all of the marked patrol vehicles and unmarked support vehicles.

During 2023, the CCPD provided the majority of the funds necessary to construct the new dispatch and Emergency Operation Center, which is expected to be completed in 2024. Funding was also used to purchase replacement handheld radios for our Patrol Officers and the new Records Management and Computer Aided Dispatch System used by the Police Department.

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

CALEA ACCREDITATION

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 voluntary process demonstrates that our department has met internationally recognized standards for law enforcement.

In November of 2019, the Deer Park Police Department was unanimously awarded 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 December 2022, Chief Gregory Grigg made the decision to seek accreditation through the Texas Police Chiefs Association (Texas Best Practices). Texas Best Practices is specific to Texas and addresses the most critical aspects of law enforcement. The accreditation consists of 174 standards that were developed to ensure the appropriate protection of citizens, improve overall public safety, and ensure operational readiness.

In 2023, the department completed the first stage toward accreditation by electronically submitting proofs of compliance for each standard. Each standard was reviewed by an assessor. The last stage is an on-site review, which is scheduled to take place in February 2024. Two assessors will visit the Police Department to evaluate its operating procedures. After completing the on-site assessment, the assessors will prepare a report which will be reviewed by the accreditation committee. Final approval will be granted based on the committees review.

Being an Accredited agency not only limits liability and risk exposure for our agency and employees but ultimately limits liability for the city as well.

Sergeant Patton serves as the Accreditation Manager, a position which he has held since 2023. Sergeant Tryon serves as the Co-Accreditation Manager, a position he has held since 2023.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES



Assistant Chief
Franklin Hart

The Administrative Services Bureau is comprised of the Support Services Division, Career Services Division and the Finance Coordinator.

During 2023, the Administrative Services Bureau Captain position was reclassified to Assistant Chief. The Bureau is supervised by one Assistant Chief, Frank Hart, two Lieutenants, Wade Keeney and John Yettevich, and civilian supervisors Kellie Bass in Communications and Kathy Cobb in Records.

One of the major jobs of the Administrative Services Bureau is to build and manage the Police Department's general budget, humane budget and the Crime Control and Prevention District's annual budget. During the 2023-2024 Fiscal year, the department's general fund budget was 14.1 million, humane was \$477,935 and the Crime Control Budget was 3.4 million. The department's Finance Coordinator, Kelly Davenport, monitors and logs all of the day-to-day spending, including payroll.

Another function of the Administrative Services Bureau is to oversee construction projects within the agency. During 2023, the Police Department started a 7.1 million dollar expansion project. The expansion included a new state-of-the-art Emergency Operations Center and Dispatch Center which should be completed in 2024.



SUPPORT SERVICES

Support Services personnel recruited and processed qualified individuals that have the best potential to continue the police department's reputation of providing excellent service to the community. In 2023, Lieutenant John Yettevich and Officer Sam Jammass staffed this division.

The Support 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 collectively completed over 10,000 hours of annual training. In 2023, we conducted numerous training classes taught by our own highly skilled instructors. We also hosted outside training providers, which brings in specific subject matter experts to our outstanding training facility.

The Support 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, the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and a member of the San Jacinto College Criminal Justice Advisory Board.

Officer Sam Jammass is the department's recruiting officer and one of two 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.



John Yettevich
Lieutenant



Sam Jammass

Retirements:

Assistant Chief Sharon St. Martin
Sergeant Ian Sawtell
Officer Eddie Pereira

Promotions:

2 - Assistant Chiefs
1 - Lieutenant
3 - Sergeants

Resignations:

1 - Officer
3 - Telecommunicators
1 - Part-time Animal Shelter Attendant
3 - Public Safety Attendants (all three became Police Cadets)
2 - Crossing Guards

Recruiting:

The Career Services Division reviewed 1,319 total applications for all positions throughout the department. The following positions were filled from those total applications:

8 - Police Officers
2 - Crossing Guards
2 - Telecommunicators
1 - Records Specialist
3 - Public Safety Attendants
1 - Part-time Animal Shelter Attendant

INTERNAL AFFAIRS



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.

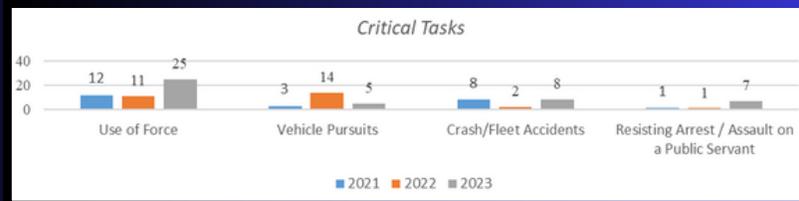
Complaints / Compliments

The method by which a citizen may commend or file a complaint and the manner in which commendations and complaints are handled may be read by visiting the Complaints / Compliments section of the Deer Park PD website. The number of complaints for 2021-2023 and the disposition of those investigations are depicted below. One racial profiling complaint, which was classified as "Administrative Inquiry", was received in 2021. No such complaints were received in 2022 or 2023.



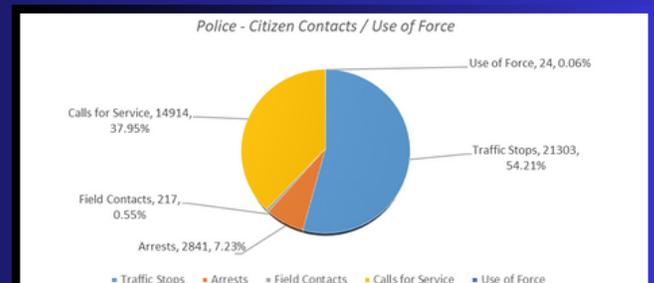
Critical Tasks

In order to manage risk, close inspection and analysis is given to the critical tasks of law enforcement. The 2021-2023 statistics for some of those tasks are depicted below.



Police - Citizen Contacts / Use of Force

An examination of some of the most frequent types of Police-Citizen Contacts in 2023 prove that a very small percentage (0.06%) of these types of interactions resulted in a use of force report.



False Alarm Reduction Program

Unnecessary responses to false alarms result in a burden to 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 2021-2023 are depicted to the right.

The contact information for the Deer Park False Alarm Reduction Program is as follows:
 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



RECORDS



Records Supervisor
Kathy Cobb



Amanda Teltschik



Nannette Kyle



Gini Kreiter

In October 2023, the Deer Park Police Department's records unit was allocated additional staffing in response to increased demands on the unit. Staffing levels in the unit increased from four to five employees and presently is comprised of one (1) Records Supervisor and four (4) Records specialists. The unit operates under the supervision of the Support Services Lieutenant within the Administrative Services Bureau.

Their primary responsibility is the dissemination of all requested police department and animal control records, which requires strict adherence to state statutes, judicial decisions, and other applicable laws and ordinances. This effort, at times, extends to a collaborative coordination with other city departments to provide requested information promptly and in compliance with statutory deadlines. The records unit, in alignment with the department mission and values, aims to provide transparency in department records and providing exceptional customer service.

Furthermore, the unit is tasked with the crucial function of maintaining, and as necessary, disposing of departmental records by strictly adhering to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) retention schedules. Additionally, the supervisor is responsible for court ordered sealings and expunctions of departmental records.

In recent years, the unit has experienced an increased demand for information from both the public and our law enforcement partners, including the Harris County District Attorney's Office. Utilizing various databases and software programs, records employees meticulously compile information to meet statutory deadlines and provide departmental information to aid in the successful prosecution of criminal cases within the Harris County Court System.

2023 Key Metrics:

- 3,848 requests for information, originating from 40,003 event reports/calls for service and 4,431 written offense reports.



DISPATCH

The Communications Unit is responsible for many duties including, but not limited to: answering non-emergency calls, answering 9-1-1 calls, dispatching police, fire and EMS units, dispatching after hours city services, providing safety and first aid instructions to callers, monitoring the location and status of public safety resources, and assisting first responders with completing public safety functions. The unit operates 24 hours a day and is overseen by the Communications Supervisor. The Communications Supervisor reports to the Administrative Services Bureau chain of command.

The unit is staffed by telecommunicators who are licensed by the same state commission as police officers. Telecommunicators are codified in statute as first responders by the State of Texas. They are often the first public safety professional to provide for the safety of citizens at the site of an emergency, in a remote capacity. They also monitor the actions and locations of other first responders to provide for their safety and to assist with their needs.

The maximum positions allotted to the unit is 13; however, positions are often open as telecommunicators are a challenge to train and retain industry wide. The position is comparable to other public safety positions in regards to scheduling, shift work, overtime, and stress, and requires the ability to multi-task at a level much higher than the average person can manage under pressure. There is a minimum of two telecommunicators on duty at any time.

In addition to having industry specific standards and training, Deer Park telecommunicators must learn about each discipline they are responsible for dispatching and monitoring. They must learn about being a police officer, paramedic, firefighter, etc., as well as understanding emergency medical dispatch functions and other dispatch specific duties. Dispatching for a smaller agency can be inherently complicated as there are multiple disciplines to learn and a need to multi-task at a level much higher than other job types. A telecommunicator answering 9-1-1 may also be responsible for talking to fire, EMS and police on different radio channels, documenting all pertinent details, providing instructions to callers and responders, all at the same time and while under pressure.

Deer Park telecommunicators have been recognized as an integral part of public safety, and a critical component of resolving significant events for years. They excitedly watched the construction of a new dispatch and emergency operations center throughout 2023. The new construction enhances the capabilities of telecommunicators to provide for the safety of the public and responders, in addition to providing a more spacious and comfortable working environment. The new center provides a larger space for dispatch to operate out of, improved public safety radio technology, modern dispatch consoles, expanded 9-1-1 capabilities, a video wall for camera monitoring, and many other improved features. The Communications Unit remains conjoined with the Emergency Operations Center to ensure access to the most up to date information during emergencies.

Chavon Withrow, Abbey Spruill and Kaitlin Bryant departed the unit, and Amy Newsom began training, in 2023.

In 2023, Deer Park telecommunicators processed almost 18,000 incoming and outgoing 9-1-1 calls, exceeding the industry standard that 90% of 9-1-1 calls be answered within 15 seconds. Often, 98% - 100% of all 9-1-1 calls were answered within the time allotted. They also assisted with approximately 40,000 non-emergency phone calls, over 40,000 police events, approximately 3,700 requests for EMS, and almost 700 fire calls.

DISPATCH



Kellie Bass
Telecommunications
Supervisor



Zulma Veliz



Brandi Cox-Britt



Clayton Hall



Jarrett Grundman



Hannah Edwards



Brittany Russell



Desiree Casteel



Katie Bryant



Clayton Long



Abbey Spruill



Melisa Muniz



Chavon Withrow



Amy Newsom



Police / Community Partnerships



Oxy



Community First ER



OxyChem at Back the Blue



Community Real Estate Crew



Alumni members at Back the Blue



American Legion



Pawelek Orthodontics



High Achievers Learning Academy



Grandview Funeral Home



Deer Park Chamber of Commerce

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES



Wade Conner
Assistant Chief of Police

In 2023, Assistant Chief Sharon St. Martin announced her retirement after 45 years of dedicated service in law enforcement. While the announcement was bittersweet, it was well deserved and created multiple promotional opportunities within the department. In April 2023, the position of Captain was reclassified to Assistant Chief of the Administrative Services Bureau. This reclassification saw Wade Conner assume the role of Assistant Chief. Upon the retirement of St. Martin, Conner was reassigned to the Neighborhood Services Bureau. In May 2023, Franklin Hart was promoted to the role of Assistant Chief of Administrative Services Bureau. The transition continued into August with the promotions of Jarrett Hill to Patrol Lieutenant and Aaron Gonzales, J. B. White, and Travis Trotti to the rank of Patrol Sergeant.

In August 2023, after nearly a year of negotiations with the Deer Park Independent School District, the School Resource Officer (SRO) program was expanded by two officers. This expansion allowed for each school within the city limits of Deer Park to be staffed with an assigned SRO. Another expansion of two officers is planned for January 2024.

With these personnel changes, the department tackled the challenge of filling vacant patrol positions. By the end of 2023, there were five officers and one Public Safety Attendant in field training, along with two cadets enrolled in the police academy.

In addition to multiple personnel changes, in January 2023, the department initiated the construction of a new Emergency Operations and Dispatch Center. Funding was allocated for the project from the Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD) and General Fund. Although the project has encountered significant supply chain interruptions, construction is expected to be completed in 2024.



Lieutenant Wade Keeney, Lieutenant John Yettevich, Assistant Chief Wade Conner, Chief Gregory Grigg, Assistant Chief Frank Hart and Lieutenant Chris Brown



Assistant Chief Frank Hart, Mayor Jerry Mouton, and Assistant Chief Wade Conner

COMMUNITY SERVICES



Jarrett Hill
Lieutenant

The Community Services Division is tasked with safeguarding life, property and preventing crime through excellent police service. We accomplish this task through a partnership with the community.

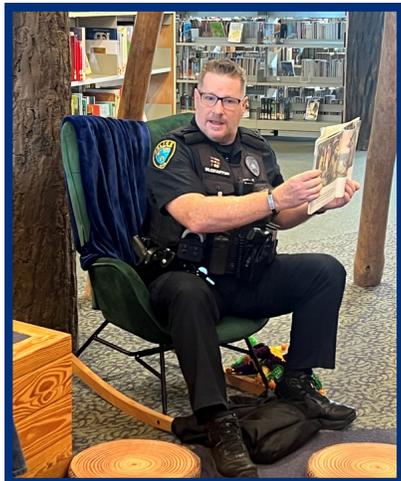
The Community Services Division houses the K-9 Officer, Warrant Officer, Holding Facility, Traffic Unit, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit, Humane, SWAT, SRG and Crash Reconstruction Team. This division also provides the Deer Park Independent School District with 11 School Resource Officers and 21 School Crossing Guards.

The Community Services Division is responsible for the development and implementation of community programs, designed to facilitate the mission of the department. These programs include: Neighborhood Watch, Business Watch, National Night Out, Are You Okay, Shepherd Program, Residential Security Inspections, Volunteer Program, Vacation House Checks, Lock- Take- Hide, Lockbox Program, Citizen Ride-Along Program, Child ID, and Child Safety Seat Installation Program.

The Division maintains the Police Department's Community Policing philosophy, and uses these proactive programs to form a partnership with the community.



Donations to Clothed by Faith



Officer Bill Chaffin at Rolling Readers



Officers Teyanda Payne and Jillian Basilone



Officers Candace Bonner and Shane Guimbellot



Officers visit a lemonade stand



Sergeant Ryan Coats at National Night Out 2023



Officer Eddie Salazar at National Night Out 2023

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



National Night Out participants held a food drive for Deer Park Interfaith Helping Hands Food Pantry



National Night Out 2023



Officers attend a NNO 2023 party.



Officer Anthony Kuchinski visiting at a NNO party.

POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



Deer Park Police Department and City Council members at NNO 2023.

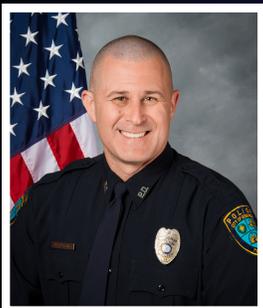
SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS



Joe Cooper
Sergeant



Doug Nettles



Jason LaPoint



Tina Taylor

Having safe and secure schools is a top priority of the Deer Park Police Department. Since 2000, the Deer Park Police Department has partnered with the Deer Park Independent School District to provide School Resource Officers (SRO's) for the protection of the campuses. School Resource Officers are assigned to specific campuses within the City of Deer Park and are responsible for the physical safety of the campus, enforcing state and local laws, providing mentorship and law-related education, and serving as liaisons between the Deer Park Independent School District and the City of Deer Park. Additionally, the officers also work diligently to create positive relationships with the students and staff at the schools.

In 2023, the Deer Park Police Department School Resource Officer Division expanded from six officers to ten officers and one sergeant. All personnel are assigned to various posts throughout the City, and all eight school campuses have full-time School Resource Officers. The School Resource Officer Division is comprised of Sergeant Joe Cooper, Officer Doug Nettles, Officer Jason LaPoint, Officer Tina Taylor, Officer Del Wilcoxson, Officer Scott Anderson, Officer Stacey Bridges, Officer Bill Chaffin, Officer Anthony Kuchinski, Officer Melynda Ramirez, and Officer Mary Ann Salas.

With school safety being the top priority, school resource officers engage in numerous continuing education classes throughout the year as participants and instructors. Deer Park Police Department school resource officers attend trainings in topics such as active threat, advanced tactical courses, mechanical breaching, firearms, defensive tactics, verbal defense and de-escalation, threat assessment, reunification planning, incident management, and school-based law enforcement courses. Within the division there are four certified ALERRT instructors, a verbal defense/de-escalation instructor, Stop the Bleed instructor, and a Defensive Tactics instructor. Additionally, all of the officers and the sergeant are certified Master Peace Officers.

School resource officers frequently give presentations on various law enforcement topics to students in forensic science classes, health science classes, JROTC, criminal justice classes and others as requested. Additionally, school resource officers also participate in clubs and programs within the schools such as Cops and Counselors, Big Red Program, The Paige Project, Rolling Readers, and others.

In 2023, criminal justice career technology students at Deer Park High School participated in various competitions throughout the year and Deer Park Police Department officers assisted in preparing those students. These students won ten top finishes at the District competition in topics such as traffic stops, finger printing, SWAT, EMT, booking, agility, and building search. Additionally, ten students qualified to compete in the State competition in early 2024.



Del Wilcoxson



Scott Anderson



Stacey Bridges



Bill Chaffin



Anthony Kuchinski



Melynda Ramirez



Mary Ann Salas

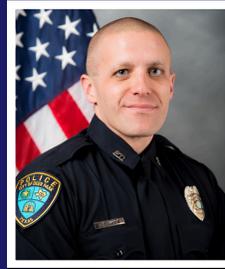
FIELD TRAINING OFFICERS



Bryan Miller
Sergeant



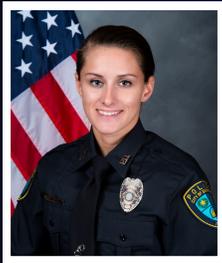
Travis Trotti



J.B. White



Teyanda Payne



Jillian Basilone



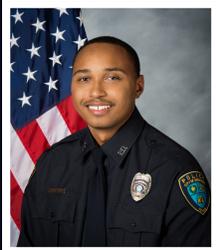
Shane Guimbellot



Scott Baumann



Mason Moore



Brandon Williams



Chad Banogon



Travis Potter



Brooke Schwausch



Scott Anderson

The Deer Park Police Department Field Training Officer (FTO) program oversees all aspects of a probationary police officer's training. The training starts with FTOs who are selected amongst their peers as being the highest quality of officers within the department. These officers are very reliable and go above and beyond when handling calls for service. FTOs are tasked with training and mentoring new officers that are hired by the department. An FTO helps to administer the knowledge and skills these officers learned in the academy, and shows them how to apply these in real life situations. The FTOs utilize a coaching based training philosophy that requires in depth documentation and training to ensure the success of the probationary officer in training. The main goal for an FTO is to get a probationary officer through all phases of training and into solo patrol, as a confident and well-prepared officer.

The 2023, Field Training Officers consisted of Officers S. Baumann, S. Guimbellot, C. Banogon, J. Basilone, S. Anderson, B. Williams, B. Schwausch, M. Moore, T. Payne, T. Potter, T. Trotti, and J.B. White and are supervised by Sergeant B. Miller.

S.W.A.T.



The Deer Park Police Department Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) is a specialized, highly trained, motivated, and disciplined unit that is comprised of ten (10) members. The SWAT Team is under the command of Lieutenant Jarrett Hill and consists of Sergeant Bryan Miller, Sergeant Joe Cooper, Sergeant Ryan Coats, Officer Josh Reed, Officer Mason Moore, Officer Doug Bailey, Officer Lars Moe, Officer Scott Anderson, and Officer Chad Banogon. Team 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 assigned to various divisions within the police department, and have volunteered for the extra responsibility as a SWAT team member. The SWAT team currently consist of over 100 years of Law Enforcement experience between all team members.

SWAT is called upon to handle situations that are far more complex and dangerous for normal patrol officers. These critical incidents involve situations like: Hostage Rescue, High Risk Warrant Services, Barricaded Suicidal Subjects, High Water Rescue, Dignitary Security, and any other situation where a measured and coordinated response is required.

Officers wishing to become a 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 team member logs over 100 hours of continuous training on an annual basis. All team members are subjected to annual physical fitness testing to ensure that they are fit and capable for duty. Team members are also tested on their ability to demonstrate weapons proficiency and decision-making skills through vigorous firearm training sessions.

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



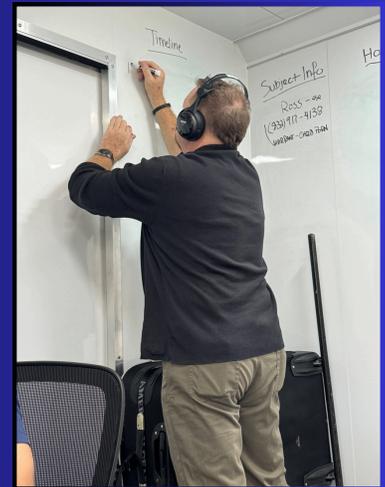
CRISIS NEGOTIATIONS

The Deer Park Police Department's Crisis Negotiation 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 situations to a peaceful resolution, thus reducing loss of life and harm to citizens and officers.

The team underwent personnel changes during 2023, after team leader Sergeant Sawtell retired after 27 years of dedicated service with the Deer Park Police Department. Sergeant Meredith was appointed team leader and two new members were added, Officers Bill Chaffin and Teyanda Payne. The team is currently made up of the following seven members; Sergeant Meredith, Detective Thatcher, Officer Baumann, Sergeant Gonzales, Officer Williams, Officer Chaffin and Officer Payne. With the exception of Officers Chaffin and Payne, all members of the team are State Certified Negotiators. Officers Chaffin and Payne will undergo training and work towards their certification in 2024. After selection, each Team member goes through extensive initial training, continuing education training, 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. During 2023, members of the team attended trainings by Texas Association of Hostage Negotiators, the Louisiana Association of Crisis Negotiators and the Federal Bureau of Investigations. The Team also has advisors available to them from the Houston Police Department, the FBI, and the mental health community should they be needed.



Officer Teyanda Payne



Officer Bill Chaffin



DWI

The Deer Park Police Department takes an aggressive approach to protecting its citizens from drunk and impaired drivers. Intoxicated drivers flooding our roadways has become an epidemic that few people are aware of. Intoxicated drivers pose an extreme risk within our community, and our officers are expected to proactively seek them out and remove them from our roadways. Impaired driving impacts thousands of families around the country, and has had a devastating impact in our own community. DWI arrests often can take hours to gather all possible evidence and process the individuals. This takes time away from our officer's family, but it is a necessary sacrifice they are willing to make. Oftentimes, our officers volunteer for more hours so that they can strictly enforce our state's DWI laws and make our city a safer place to live.

The Deer Park Police Department is consistently recognized by the Houston Chapter of MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) for the outstanding work our patrol officers do. In 2023, four patrol officers, D. Parman, B. Schwausch, T. Trotti, and J. Nitchman were personally invited to a lunch hosted by MADD and given an award for their DWI enforcement action. For 2023, the Deer Park Police Department made 328 arrests for the offense of Driving While Intoxicated.

Intoxicated drivers are not solely caused by drivers under the influence of alcohol. In fact, a wide range of substances including illegal drugs and prescription medication can cause impairment and make it unsafe to operate a motor vehicle. The Deer Park Police Department sends officers to an extensive Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) training. These officers are trained on impairment caused by all seven drug categories and are utilized in a number of DWI investigations. Currently the Deer Park Police Department has four officers that are certified DRE's, with one expected to complete the process in 2024.



Assistant Chief Wade Conner, Officer Dustin Parman, Officer Brooke Schwausch, Officer Travis Trotti, Officer Joel Nitchman and Lieutenant Jarrett Hill



Officer Dustin Parman in action

WARRANT OFFICER



Sean Jackson
Warrant Officer

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. Jackson has been tasked with the clearing of more than 14,371 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 resolve the warrant, prior to arrest. Another important task of the Warrant Officer is being the Court Bailiff and providing security for the judge, prosecutor and all courtroom participants.

SPECIAL RESPONSE GROUP

The Deer Park Police Department has 11 officers on the Special Response Group (SRG). This unit is also sometimes referred to as the Riot Control Team. To become an SRG member, you have to complete a selection process within the department and attend a 40-hour rigorous training course taught by Houston PD. This training includes hands-on experience with different riot control gear, distraction devices, and working alongside HPD's mounted patrol. During this week of training, officers are exposed to CS gas and receive training on utilizing gas masks during large events. The SRG Unit also completes bi-annual refresher training with Houston PD and other local SRG units. Deer Park SRG works with surrounding agencies when they request additional manpower for large events such as political events, Galveston Mardi Gras, and protests. This is a part time assignment and only utilized when the unit is called for special events.

HONOR GUARD

The Deer Park Police Department Honor Guard is composed of officers who volunteer their time to represent the department in high-profile events and ceremonies. Honor Guard members are selected based on their motivation, high standards of appearance and conduct, and show aptitude for ceremonial duties. Honor Guard members participate in the Peace Officer Memorial, attend funeral services for fallen officers, and present colors at the Senior Olympics and State of the City. The Deer Park Police Department Honor Guard is led by Officer Tina Taylor and includes the following members: Officer Bode, Officer Aurelius, Officer Guimbilot, Officer Baumann, Officer Backus, Officer Delamorena, Detective Thatcher, and Sergeant Gonzales.



PUBLIC SAFETY ATTENDANTS

Public Safety Attendants (PSA) are responsible for all processing and maintaining the general welfare of any detainee that is housed in the Deer Park Police Department holding facility. The booking process includes searching the prisoner, inventory of property, taking of photographs and fingerprints, and completion and filing of related reports and documents. In 2023, the holding facility was staffed with 6 PSAs: R. McBride, W. Hale, D. DuPont, L. Flanagan, and S. Barton with J. Anguiano joining us in December of 2023.

In 2023, 2,023 adult prisoners were booked into the Deer Park Police Department holding facility. That is almost 1,000 less prisoners than 2022.

In addition to the booking and releasing of prisoners, PSAs have additional responsibilities and duties. Routine duties include regular welfare checks, preparation of prisoner meals, and maintaining proper care of prisoner property and records. PSAs also perform required inspections for the holding facility for the safety, security, and facility cleanliness. PSAs assist in the arraignment of detainees with the Municipal Judge and arrange transfers to other facilities as necessary.



Ryan McBride



Wyatt Hale



Dalton DuPont



Liam Flanagan



Serenity Barton



Joel Anguiano

ACCIDENT RECONSTRUCTION

In 2023, the Deer Park Police Department's Accident Reconstruction Team was utilized to investigate and reconstruct fatality and potential fatality traffic accident collisions.

In 2023, the Accident Reconstruction Team was composed of five team members; Sergeant Coats, Sergeant Sawtell, Sergeant Gonzales, Officer Nettles, and Officer Baumann.

All members of the Team are State certified Collision Reconstructionist and Total Station Operators. To become a member of the Team officers have to compete against fellow officers, and be selected for the opportunity to become part of the Accident Reconstruction Team. After selection each Team member must successfully complete the State certified Advanced and Reconstruction Accident schools, as well as go through extensive continuing education along with bi-monthly department training to maintain proficiency in all aspects necessary to reconstruct accident collisions. All members of the Team are required to be available 24/7 to respond for reconstruction.

The Team also utilizes Investigators from the Harris County District Attorney's Office, Deer Park PD Crime Scene Investigators, Deer Park Drug Recognition Experts, as well as Deer Park PD Detectives to assist in the accident investigation. The Accident Reconstruction Team also trained on the mapping software that is used to take the points from the total station and reconstruct the scene in a computer program

During 2023, the Accident Reconstruction Team was called out to two fatality crashes, both of which resulted in charges being filed on the at fault party.

TRAFFIC UNIT

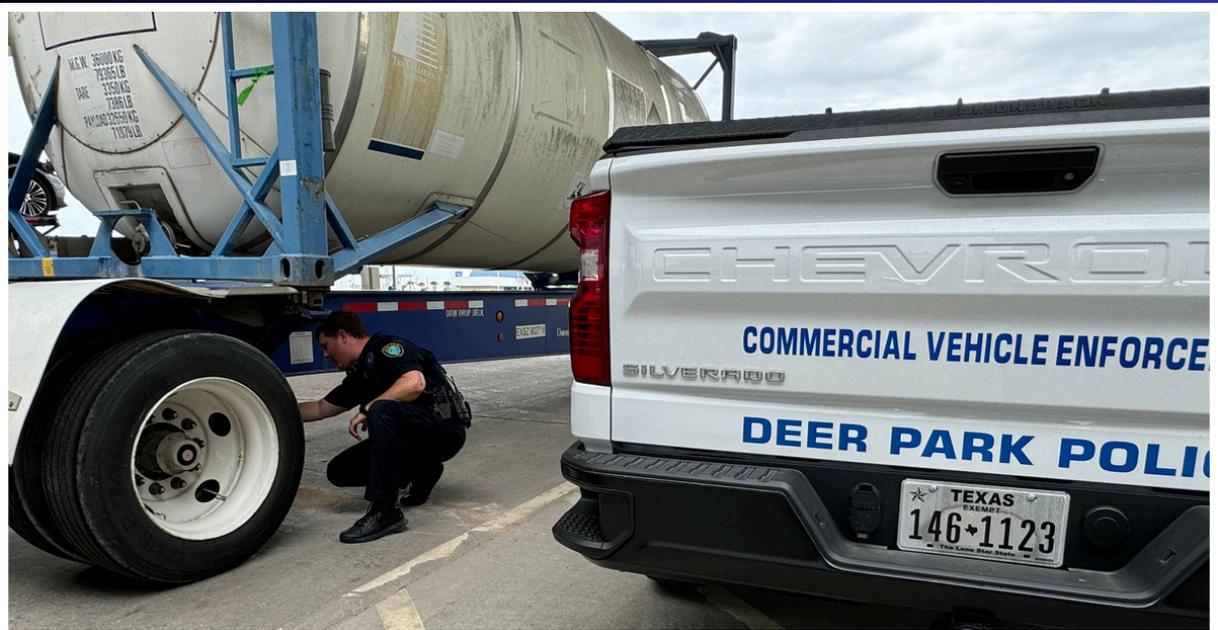
The primary function of the Deer Park Police Traffic Division is to reduce the number of traffic-related calls for service and reduce the number of vehicle collisions in Deer Park. This is done through traffic enforcement, public education, and engineering under the umbrella of problem-solving with fellow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

Sergeant Patton oversees the Deer Park Police Department Traffic Division. The Traffic Division consists of three (3) officers, D. Bode, C. Aurelius, and C. Jackson. Officers Jackson and Aurelius are certified Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) Inspectors specializing in Commercial Motor Vehicle Enforcement.

In 2023, the CMV officers attended additional commercial vehicle training. This training provides the officers with additional tools to ensure that dangerous/unsafe commercial motor vehicles are removed from the roadways. A total of 1,264 inspections were conducted by the CMV unit; 55% of drivers, trucks, and/or trailers were found to be unsafe on the roadways and placed out of service. The unit discovered approximately 5,762 violations during the calendar year. This number highlights the importance of ensuring that commercial motor vehicles are in compliance with safety regulations to prevent accidents caused by poorly maintained vehicles.

In 2023, the Deer Park Police Department utilized a Selective Traffic Enforcement Program Grant known as S.T.E.P. as an integral part of traffic enforcement efforts. This program puts additional officers throughout the city for the purpose of focusing on traffic violations in high-accident locations. This is utilized in an effort to reduce vehicle collisions and make the roadways safer throughout the City.

The Deer Park Traffic Division continuously works proactively in the community to raise awareness of safety issues and increase voluntary compliance with traffic laws. Public Information and Education activities are effective means of increasing compliance through education and behavioral modification for drivers. Officers of the Deer Park Traffic Division continually engage in PI&E activities throughout the year, such as performing child passenger car seat inspections and attending community events.



Traffic/Commercial Motor Vehicle Enforcement Officer Clint Jackson

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS

In 2023, under the supervision of Sergeant Patton, the Deer Park Police Department partnered with the Deer Park Independent School District to employ 15 Crossing Guards and 3 substitute guards. These guards are responsible for ensuring safety at 18 locations throughout the city. They are an essential part-time staff who play a vital role in ensuring the safety of the students of the Deer Park Independent School District and the community at large.

A Crossing Guard's primary responsibility is to ensure that students can safely cross the street while traveling to school every morning and afternoon. This job may seem easy at first glance, but stepping out into traffic twice a day, regardless of the weather, to help the students cross is not without its challenges. Many Crossing Guards have been at their same assigned intersections for numerous years, allowing them to establish valuable relationships, friendships, and rapport with the students they protect, as well as their parents. Crossing Guards are always alert and able to report any crime, disruptions, injuries, vehicle collisions, etc. through their handheld radios, which provides them with an immediate, direct line of communication with Deer Park Police Dispatchers. This ensures a quick response from police and/or fire personnel when necessary.

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

The Crossing Guards also assist with public events like fun runs and parades throughout the year to ensure traffic is controlled in a manner that makes the event safe for all participants.

Due to his dedication to the students, as well as his fellow employees, Crossing Guard Mike Cheney was named the American Legion Crossing Guard of the Year.



American Legion Crossing Guard of the Year Mike Cheney and American Legion Officer of the Year Travis Potter, flanked by Lieutenant Jarrett Hill (left) and Chief Gregory Grigg (right).



Crossing Guard in action



2023 Crossing Guard Luncheon



Joel Nitchman



K-9 Roni

K-9



During 2023, Officer Nitchman and K-9 Roni worked together to interdict and seize illegal narcotics and cash money derived from illegal drug sales. K-9 Roni is a black and gray German Shorthaired Pointer who works strictly as a narcotics detector dog, assisting the patrol division with free-air sniffs of vehicles during traffic stops. This year, Nitchman and K-9 Roni were tasked with assisting night and evening shift patrol. K-9 Roni was able to assist the officers in recovering illegal drugs, currency, and other evidence of crimes on numerous occasions. Nitchman and K-9 Roni also trained once a week with neighboring agencies and built partnerships with the handlers and K9s.

In 2023, Officer Nitchman and K-9 Roni were responsible for 94 searches, resulting in the following seizures: 130.89 grams of cocaine, 1.41 grams of crack cocaine, 1933.76 grams of Marijuana, 68.90 grams of methamphetamine and 1954.61 grams of other controlled substances. In addition to the above listed illegal narcotics, \$45,590.00 in cash and assets were gained from illegal drug sales were seized.

Rigorous training is conducted each week to keep K-9 Roni proficient at detecting the odors of methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin and marijuana. Officer Nitchman and K-9 Roni are members of the National Narcotic Detector Dog Association (NNDDA), a professional, nonprofit organization dedicated to the utilization and proficiency of scent detector dogs for the benefit of Law Enforcement.

BICYCLE PATROL



The Bicycle Patrol Unit is supervised by Sergeant J.B. White and consists of three state certified bicycle officers. The three officers currently assigned to the unit are Sergeant J.B. White, Officer C. Banogon, and Detective L. Moe. Each officer completed an application process and interview board within the department. Once selected, these officers attended a 40-hour training course through the International Police Mountain Bike Association (IPMBA). This course was physically challenging and consisted of 20 hours on the bicycle during day and night time hours. Officers also learned bicycle maintenance and different riding techniques. The unit is a part-time position, secondary to the officer's primary role in the Police Department.

This is the 8th year since the implementation of the Police Department's Bike Patrol Unit and our bicycle officers have worked numerous events throughout the city including: parades, football games, marathons, bike races, large city events, directed patrols, and other assignments as needed.



Sergeant J.B. White



Detective Lars Moe



Detective Lars Moe and Officer Chad Banogon



Detective Lars Moe

DEER PARK Chamber of Commerce



Paula Moorhaj Chamber President, Kellie Bass, Officer Sean Jackson, Sergeant Jason Meredith



Officer Campbell Aurelius, Assistant Chief Frank Hart and Lieutenant Jarrett Hill



Officer Sean Jackson and Officer Kai Zheng with Chamber President Paula Moorhaj



Officers Stacey Bridges, Sean Jackson and Kai Zheng



FIRST RESPONDERS LUNCHEON 2023

Back Row: Lieutenant John Yettevich, Sergeant Jason Meredith, Sergeant Ryan Coats, Lieutenant Jarrett Hill, Chief Gregory Grigg, Assistant Chief Frank Hart, Front Row: Dispatch Supervisor Kellie Bass, Community Liaison Sheila Plovovich, Officer Campbell Aurelius and Officer Sean Jackson

CRIME PREVENTION



Officer K.L. Zheng

Crime Prevention is a crucial component that supports the mission of the Deer Park Police Department. We are the glue that fuses the department together with the community, to maintain the public's trust so that patrol can carry out their jobs without disruption. The unit maintains our goal of incorporating patrol officers and detectives in our community outreach programs, to have the public acquainted with all of the officers.

Crime Prevention engaged in five (5) Coffee with a Cop's at various locations including, Chick-fil-A, Frosting Dreams and All the Things, Raising Cane's, Morada Deer Park, and the Deer Park Police Department.

The interactions on Facebook between the public and the police department started with 32,265 Facebook "Likes" in December of 2022 and grew to 34,536 in December of 2023.

We consistently uploaded weekly interactive posts on topics related to recent crime trends, Public Information & Education (PI&E), and other comical posts that seemingly gained new followers. One post in particular posted in August, went viral, reaching more than 4.4 million. The post was where we wrote "Some of our Facebook followers have mentioned that one of our officers, Officer J.B. White, looks just like actor, Jake Gyllenhaal. What do you think?" This post had the most reach, engagements, likes, comments and shares, compared to the rest of the posts in 2023.

During the school year in 2023, DPISD elementary schools continued to participate in the Rolling Readers program. Rolling Readers is an outreach program where police officers go to each elementary school and read to students grade K-3rd throughout the school year. This interaction, not only encourages reading amongst the future generations, but allows them to have positive interactions with law enforcement. The goal is to be able to read to as many students as possible, by various officers.

Throughout the year, the Crime Prevention unit joined Safe Kids Greater Houston in child safety seat check events, hosted and participated in Trunk or Treat events, participated in Show and Tell at private academies, participated in city events such as the Tree Lighting event, and many more. We continued to host quarterly Senior Safety Talks at the senior citizen venues where we educate on crime prevention and trends. Our officers also dedicated hours on end, during and after school, mentoring the Criminal Justice Club students of Deer Park High School to partake in district competitions, Klein Oak and TXPSTA (Texas Public Service Teacher Association).

The Klein Oak competition resulted in the following placements: 1st and 3rd place in Foot Pursuit, mentored by Officer K. Zheng; 1st and 3rd place in Misdemeanor Traffic Stops, mentored by Officer J. LaPoint; 2nd and 3rd place in Fingerprinting, mentored by Officer V. Minor; 3rd place in Felony Traffic Stop, mentored by Officer B. Williams; and 1st and 2nd place in S.W.A.T., mentored by Officer D. Nettles.

The TXPSTA competition resulted in the following placements: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in Misdemeanor Traffic Stops, mentored by Officer J. LaPoint; 2nd place in Fingerprinting, mentored by Officer V. Minor; 2nd place in S.W.A.T., mentored by Officer D. Nettles; and 3rd place in Building Search, mentored by Officer S. Jackson. Deer Park E.M.S. also mentored the students in placing 1st place in E.M.T. (Emergency Medical Technicians). Those students that placed in the district competition will advance to state competition, which will take place on February 24, 2024.

Our involvement with the students not only brings success in their education, but it also develops a camaraderie amongst the students and the police officers. It should be noted that several graduates of the DPHS Criminal Justice Club are currently employed with our department.

Crime Prevention unit offers many programs, as follows, with the number of participants in 2023:

- Lockbox: 77 participants
- Bicycle Registration: 36 participants
- Are You OK: six (6) participants
- Vacation Safety School: 39 students between the ages of 7 and 13
- Shepherd Program: 18 participants

We plan on thriving in the coming years with continued efforts from the entire police department.

CRIME PREVENTION



Cookies with a Cop at Frosting Dreams and All the Things with Officer Mary Salas and Officer Kai Zheng



Officer Kai Zheng and a future Deer Park Police Officer



Cookies with a Cop at Frosting Dreams and All the Things with Officer Scott Baumann, Officer Kai Zheng, and members of the Deer Park High School Criminal Justice Club.



Members from the Criminal Justice Club at Deer Park High School attend a community event at Chick-Fil-A with Community Liaison Sheila Plovanich, Officer Teyanda Payne, Officer Kai Zheng, Sergeant Danny Rouen, Officer Miranda Hudson, Dispatcher Katie Bryant and Officer Travis Potter



Officers Shane Guimbellot and Chris Matczak



Public Safety Attendant Dalton DuPont



Officers Stacey Bridges and Veronika Minor



Sergeant Aaron Gonzales and Chief Grigg



Dispatchers Amy Newsom and Brandi Britt-Cox



Officer James Hartley



Raul Turner, Rhonda Cole, Amanda Teltschik, Kelly Davenport, Tina Taylor, James Tryon, Scott Anderson, Brandon Williams, Veronika Minor, Austin Green, Ryan Coats, Garrett Ercums, Jesse Ross, Scott Baumann, Ryan McBride, Josh Patton, and Kai Zheng

NEW OFFICER TRAINING



New Officer Jesse Ross getting pepper sprayed by Sergeant Josh Patton



Officer Jesse Ross using the baton on Officer Scott Anderson after being pepper sprayed.



New Officer Garrett Ercums getting pepper sprayed by Sergeant Josh Patton



Officer Garrett Ercums applying handcuffs during training as Sergeant Josh Patton looks on.



New Officer Austin Green getting pepper sprayed by Sergeant Josh Patton



Officer Austin Green apprehending a subject during training as Sergeant Josh Patton and Officer Scott Anderson look on.



Al Garces

HUMANE



2023 went by fast at the Deer Park Animal Shelter and Adoption Center. This past year brought on new challenges but our shelter staff was ready and made the best out of every situation.

The Deer Park Animal Shelter takes a lot of pride in their marketing skills. In April, the shelter released a video claiming that BIGFOOT had been spotted in Deer Park. With the use of night vision clips and live drone footage, the shelter staff went all out on this April Fool's Day prank. Later in the year, citizens were encouraged to "come on down" to the shelter and play Adoption Plinko for a chance to have their adoption fees waived. The pets were the true winners as they found new forever homes.

September brought the 3rd Annual Woofstock event at Dow Park. Over five thousand people attended the event which was a great success with over 30 dogs finding new homes. Woofstock is an animal adoption event with live music, vendors, and fun for kids and the entire family.

The end of 2023 was a hard one for our staff as our favorite dog, Bella, and star of our videos passed away. Bella starred in many of our videos, including the "Hound Alone" videos. It was hard to say goodbye to our friend, but we are grateful for the time she was here and was a part of our team. Bella will always be a part of the shelter.

A total of 411 dogs and cats were adopted during 2023. The adoption center was proud to have reached its goals for adoptions and community engagement. The adoption center is staffed by Animal Control Supervisor Al Garces, Animal Control Officers Celeste Saenz, Madelyn Ruiz, and Jeff Eaton. Lieutenant Hill, with the Deer Park Police Department, oversees the Animal Shelter and its employees.



Celeste Saenz



Madelyn Ruiz



Jeff Eaton





Chief Grigg and "Rip" the Frenchie



2023 Wellness Program winners Officer Tina Taylor and Detective Doug Bailey



Assistant Chief Sharon St. Martin, Officer Sean Jackson and Dispatcher Hannah Edwards



Officer Scott Anderson



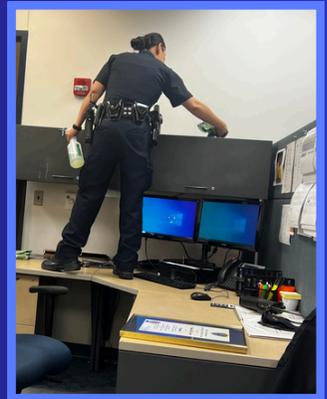
Officers, EMS and Fire personnel at DPJH



Lieutenant Jarrett Hill, Officer Travis Potter and Lieutenant Wade Keeney



Lieutenant John Yettevich and Lieutenant Chris Brown



Officer Kai Zheng



Brittany Russell, Scott Baumann, Zulma Veliz, Kai Zheng, Amanda Teltschik, Kathy Cobb, Gini Kreiter



32 Officers training



Joanna Edwards, Nannette Kyle, Rosalia Rodriguez and Caleb Hollingsworth

INVESTIGATIONS



Chris Brown
Lieutenant

The Deer Park Police Criminal Investigation Division (CID) is composed of five parts which all work together in their mission to conduct extensive investigations of criminal activity in our community and provide the best quality of life and security possible. These five parts include four beat Detectives, three ProAct Investigators, one Crime Scene Investigator, one Property and Evidence Custodian and Victim Assistance Volunteers.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS

The Criminal Investigators are primary responsible for follow-up investigations which have been initiated by patrol. These cases range from minor theft to murder and everything in between. The Detectives assigned to CID during 2023 were: Aaron Gonzales, Lars Moe, Mason Moore and Joshua Reed. 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 2023, the Detective Unit was responsible for following up on over 811 cases.

VOLUNTEER VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Volunteer Victims Assistance Program operated in its 12th year during 2023. This program operates 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 to include 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.

PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE

The Deer Park Police Department's Property Division consists of Public Safety Attendant Raul Turner who is certified as 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 getting items to the proper labs 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 21,000 pieces of property with multiple items being received and released daily.



Raul Turner

INVESTIGATIONS

CRIME SCENE UNIT

The Deer Park Police Department's Crime Scene Unit consists of a licensed police officer, V. Minor, who has specialized training and skills in processing crime scenes and handling evidence. There are also three other officers 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 crime scene, locating patent and latent evidence to include fingerprints, footwear impressions, hair, fibers and biological matter and locating additional evidence. The Crime Scene Investigator also serves in a back-up role to the Evidence Custodian and assists in those responsibilities.



Veronika Minor

PROACT INVESTIGATIONS

The ProAct Unit is a subsidiary of the Criminal Investigations Division, which is overseen by Lieutenant C. Brown. The ProAct Unit is led by Sergeant J. Meredith with two investigators, N. Thatcher and D. Bailey, who are responsible for investigating a variety of crimes, to include: narcotics, vice operations, overdoses, follow-ups, and trending crimes, such as tire thefts and catalytic converter thefts. The goal of the ProAct Unit is to utilize undercover officers and technological advancements to apprehend offenders by on-viewing the criminal offense. Some highlighted cases for ProAct during 2023; arrests of copper thieves that were linked to several thefts throughout Harris County, and apprehending a group of car thieves that were targeting GMC trucks in Pasadena, Deer Park, La Porte, and Baytown. ProAct was utilized to apprehend wanted criminals, assist with search warrants, and network with several police agencies to bring investigations to fruition. During 2023, Detective N. Thatcher and Detective D. Bailey were recognized for the arrest of a group of suspects that were caught actively stealing catalytic converters. Detective D. Bailey was also recognized for his work in solving and arresting a suspect in an aggravated assault with a firearm.



Jason Meredith
Sergeant



Nick Thatcher



Doug Bailey



Aaron Gonzales



Lars Moe



Mason Moore



Josh Reed

CRIME ANALYSIS



Ernestina Palomares

In 2023, the Unit assisted with the following requests:

- 292 requests for statistics and intelligence products,
- 19 translation assistance requests (Spanish to English),
- 58 requests from the ProAct unit, and
- 10 assistance requests from neighboring law enforcement agencies

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.

Moving forward, in 2024, the unit will assist the department in transitioning from the current software into a new software product: Motorola Solutions Premier One. We expect this transition to be complete in late 2025. On our wish list for the new software is the online portal, for the public, to view crime incidents in the city. In the past, we had two products provide this information, but unfortunately both of them were eliminated by the software provider. We will keep the public updated, with the progress of the new website, on our Facebook page, so be on the lookout.



TORNADO 2023

January 24, 2023 brought severe weather and a powerful EF-3 tornado. This tornado left behind serious destruction to the City of Deer Park but thankfully only minor injuries and no one was seriously hurt.

The night of the tornado the Deer Park Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association came together and provided dinner for all Emergency Operations Personnel and Police Officers. The majority of the city was without power with the exception of Marcos Pizza on East Boulevard. We are also thankful that in the days ahead so many came to support the City of Deer Park and the Police Department.

We were blessed with lunches, dinners, cookies, snacks and enough water to share with each department who had crews in the field. We appreciate the love and support we received from our community and everyone who came out to help repair the damage done to our beautiful city.



CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY

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 to include 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 like family disturbances and traffic stops. Learning also takes place through hands-on activities including patrol ride-alongs, lifting and taking fingerprints, shooting simunitions, Fatal Vision Goggles, and much more.

In 2023, Citizen's Police Academy Class 47 began in the Spring with a total of 12 participants. Class 48 was unable to commence due to lack of participation. We will resume hosting the CPA in the Spring of 2024.

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



CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

In 2023, the Deer Park Police Department Chaplain Program had its ninth 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 most of 2023. In November of 2023, Father Reginald Samuels resigned his position as police chaplain with us.

Police Chaplains were on-call 24 hours a day to assist police personnel with a variety of situations in the field which could include death notifications, child deaths, lost or missing persons, and suicides. Our Police Chaplains were also present at promotional ceremonies, new officer swearing ins, monthly birthday breakfasts, socials and the annual Peace Officer Memorial. During 2023 our Deer Park Police Chaplains unselfishly donated many hours to the Department.



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

In 2023, the Deer Park Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association (DPCPAAA) and Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) logged a total of 1,840.53 hours with the Police Department.

2023 brought many blessings to the Alumni Association, with a very successful Back the Blue BBQ festival and 5K Fun Run.

The Alumni Association was able to provide volunteer services to the Police Department and the City of Deer Park by accomplishing the following:

- Assisting in Evidence and Property
- Performing vehicle equipment inspections
- Community wide shred days
- Maintaining training certificates and educational advancements for staff
- Working traffic control for the beginning of school as well as parades
- Assisting with Vacation Safety School
- Participating in the Volunteer Victims Assistance Program
- Performed quality control audits of our quartermaster closet
- Volunteering to help at the Animal Shelter
- Worked Deer Park High School graduation
- Provided Cocoa with a Cop at Christmas
- Feeding officers and PD staff members

Additionally, the Alumni Association provided funds for the Deer Park Police Chaplains to purchase bibles for new officers when they are sworn in. They also provided sponsorship for the Deer Park Rotary Bubba Bingo fundraiser. In 2023, the Alumni Association approved the purchase of the newly designed Deer Park Police Department challenge coins which will be purchased in 2024. Lastly, the Alumni Association purchased decals for an F250 truck that was acquired from the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department that will be used to tow the incident command trailer.

In October of 2023, after 12 years of superior service, Alumni President Adell Boren announced she was stepping away from her roll as President. We appreciate all Adell has done for the Police Department and the Alumni Association.

We are forever grateful for the continued love and support we receive from our volunteers and our Alumni Association members.



38

Members of the Deer Park Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association attend the Volunteer Appreciation luncheon, where they were shown a demonstration of the breaching door that was purchased by the Alumni in 2022



Deer Park and La Porte Police Departments come together after Back the Blue



Deer Park Police volunteers Mike and Belva Cheney decorating our PD Christmas tree



Deer Park Rotary Club presents the Deer Park Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association with a nice donation



Deer Park City Council members TJ Haight, Sherry Garrison and Georgette Ford are BBQ judges



Back the Blue Volunteers make everything happen



Deer Park Police Volunteer luncheon



Officer John Garza



Officer Kai Zheng and the Hamburglar



Detective Doug Bailey and...



Officer Del Wilcoxson



Officers Eddie Salazar and Scott Baumann



Officers Jason LaPoint and Travis Potter



Officers Garrett Ercums, Scott Baumann and Joel Nitchman



Officer Bill Chaffin



Officer Del Wilcoxson, Lieutenant Wade Keeny, and Officer Bill Chaffin



Officer J.B. White



Assistant Chief Wade Conner and Chief Gregory Grigg



Officer Shawn Backus and Lieutenant John Yettevich



Sheila Plovanich, Assistant Chief Wade Conner and Kellie Bass

RETIREMENT – ASSISTANT CHIEF SHARON ST. MARTIN



After over 45 years of police service (38 years, 5 months and 4 days at the Deer Park Police Department), Assistant Chief Sharon St. Martin retired on April 30, 2023. St. Martin was sworn in on November 26, 1984. During her tenure, St. Martin held various roles, including Accident Investigator/Reconstructionist, Intoxilyzer Operator, Hostage Negotiator, Crime Prevention Officer, Detective and held a Master Peace Officer Certification. St. Martin was highly decorated, receiving numerous awards and accolades.

St. Martin was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in January of 1999. During her tenure at the rank of Sergeant, she supervised night shift and later transferred to the role of Detective Sergeant. During that time, she also served as the Hostage Negotiation Team Coordinator. St. Martin was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in May of 2004, where she served as the Career Services Lieutenant and Patrol Lieutenant. As a Lieutenant, St. Martin was responsible for a large number of specialized divisions and assignments, fleet management and successfully graduated from Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas (LEMIT). In January of 2008, St. Martin was promoted to the rank of Captain, where she oversaw support services of the Department. She served as a CALEA Accreditation Assessor and graduated from the FBI National Academy. At the rank of Captain, St. Martin wrote, executed and oversaw the department budget. In August of 2014, St. Martin was promoted to the rank of Assistant Chief of Police, overseeing all of the operations services of the Department. St. Martin was the first female to make the rank of Lieutenant, Captain and Assistant Chief.

We would like to express our gratitude to St. Martin for her dedicated service to this department and extend our best wishes for a joyful retirement.



Sergeant Ian Sawtell

RETIREMENT – SERGEANT IAN SAWTELL

After over 27 years of service, Sergeant Ian Sawtell retired from the Deer Park Police Department on July 14, 2023. Sawtell was sworn in on July 8, 1996. During his tenure, Sawtell held various roles, including Detective, Crime Scene Investigator/Evidence Custodian, Hostage Negotiator, Field Training Officer, Accident Investigator, TCOLE instructor, and held a Master Peace Officer Certification. Sawtell was highly decorated, receiving numerous awards and accolades, including Officer of the Year (2007 and 2009) and Supervisor of the Year (2011), where he was recognized for his outstanding service for filling in as an Acting Supervisor of the Criminal Investigations Division. In addition, Sawtell was nominated as Officer of the Month 12 different times and Rotary Officer of the Month three times. Sawtell was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on October 13, 2014. During his tenure as a supervisor, he supervised all three patrol shifts, as well as the Traffic Division, Commercial Motor Vehicle Enforcement (DOT), and the Hostage Negotiation Team. Additionally, Sawtell served as the department's CALEA Accreditation Manager, playing a pivotal role in the department's re-accreditation in 2015 and the Gold Standard Achievement in 2019. We would like to express our gratitude to Sawtell for his dedicated service to this department and extend our best wishes for a joyful retirement.



Officer Eddie Pereira

RETIREMENT – OFFICER EDDIE PEREIRA

On May 31, 2023, the department celebrated Officer E.J. Pereira's retirement after 32 years of service with the Deer Park Police Department. Officer Pereira was sworn in on January 21, 1991. During his tenure, Pereira served in several capacities, ranging from Patrolman, Detective, Organized Crime Investigator, Honor Guard, SWAT, and K-9 Handler. Pereira was renowned for his unwavering and relentless dedication to apprehending criminals throughout his entire career. Pereira spent 16 years as a K-9 handler with two dogs, Charly and Ty. Throughout his career, Pereira received several awards and accolades, including an Honorable Mention for Excellence in Law Enforcement from the 100 Club in 1993, the City of Deer Park Police Officer of the Year title three times (1995, 2010, and 2021), the American Legion Officer of the Year, (2004, 2007) the Medal of Valor, Rotary Officer of the Month, the MADD Distinguished Award (2005, 2009, 2020), and Officer of the Month 22 individual times. Additionally, Pereira served as a firearms instructor, TCOLE instructor, breath test operator, and field training officer. Officer Pereira, also known as "the mad Cuban," was a tremendous asset to this department and will be greatly missed.

PROMOTIONS ASSISTANT CHIEF



Chief Grigg and
Assistant Chief Wade Conner



Assistant Chief
Franklin Hart

PROMOTIONS – LIEUTENANT



Lieutenant Jarrett Hill with
Chief Grigg

PROMOTIONS – SERGEANT



Sergeant Aaron Gonzales
with Chief Grigg



Sergeant Travis Trotti with
Chief Grigg



Sergeant J.B. White with
Chief Grigg

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS



Sergeant J.B. White, Sergeant Aaron Gonzales, Lieutenant Jarrett Hill, Chief Gregory Grigg, Sergeant Travis Trotti



Lieutenant Hill, Officer Jillian Basilone, and Sergeant Ryan Coats



Chief Gregory Grigg, Humane Supervisor Al Garces and Mayor Jerry Mouton



Chief Gregory Grigg, Councilman Ron Martin, Sergeant Bryan Miller, City Manager Jay Stokes and Assistant City Manager Sara Robinson



Dispatchers Katie Bryant, Hannah Edwards, Dispatch Supervisor Kellie Bass and Mayor Jerry Mouton



Deer Park Police Officers with valued volunteer Margaret Robertson

OFFICER OF THE MONTH 2023

JANUARY	NO NOMINATIONS
FEBRUARY	CO-OFFICER DOUG BAILEY CO-OFFICER NICK THATCHER CO-OFFICER J.B. WHITE
MARCH	OFFICER JOSH REED
APRIL	OFFICER MARY ANN SALAS
MAY	NO NOMINATIONS
JUNE	OFFICER DUSTIN PARMAN
JULY	OFFICER AARON GONZALES
AUGUST	NO NOMINATIONS
SEPTEMBER	OFFICER CHASE ERICKSON
OCTOBER	OFFICER JILLIAN BASILONE
NOVEMBER	OFFICER DUSTIN PARMAN
DECEMBER	OFFICER DOUG BAILEY

OFFICER OF THE YEAR 2023

MARY ANN SALAS

ROTARY OFFICER OF THE MONTH 2023

JANUARY	OFFICER JOSH REED
JULY	OFFICER NICK THATCHER AND OFFICER DOUG BAILEY
NOVEMBER	OFFICER JILLIAN BASILONE

AMERICAN LEGION OFFICER OF THE YEAR 2023

OFFICER TRAVIS POTTER

AMERICAN LEGION SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD OF THE YEAR 2023

MIKE CHENEY

LIFE SAVING AWARD 2023

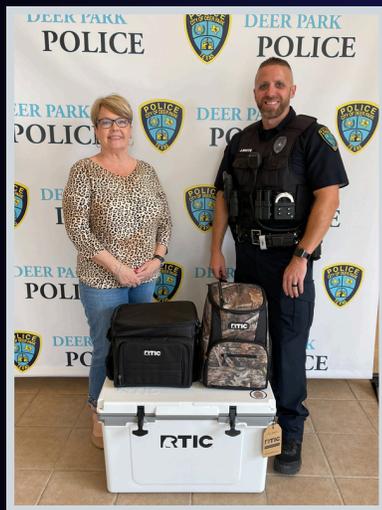
OFFICER MASON MOORE AND OFFICER JESSE ROSS

SUPERVISOR OF THE THIRD QUARTER 2023

SERGEANT BRYAN MILLER

DEER PARK POLICE ASSOCIATION

The Deer Park Police Association is a non-profit, charitable organization, compiled of sworn police officers employed with the Deer Park Police Department. The Deer Park Police Association's primary mission is to assist the Deer Park Police Department and its' officers in endeavors including hardships, education, charitable causes and civic activities. Additionally, the Association focuses on outreach to the community. In 2023, the Association hosted the 5k for the Back the Blue event, "adopted" two families in need for Christmas, and donated multiple A/C units to local families during the summer. We additionally awarded several DPISD Seniors with student scholarships and funded DPHS Criminal Justice students for a state competition. The Association provided three Officers with retirement gifts as well as congratulated our newest solo officers with a welcome gift. The Association's softball team played several other police agencies and played in the city's Gulf Coast Sports Challenge. Finally, we were able to work with our administration on implementing new policies and assisted with officer pay raises.





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