

2017

Annual Report



Belton Police Department
Prevention Focused



OUR MISSION:

The Belton Police Department is dedicated to providing excellent service through partnerships that build trust, reduce crime, create a safe environment and enhance the quality of life in our community.



“In times of great challenge, there is no greater need than for the nobility of policing to nurture and protect democracy.”

-Michael J. Nila, The Nobility of Policing.

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City of Belton

Belton is a vibrant community located at the crossroads of Interstate Highways 35 and 14. Belton is the county seat of Bell County and at the center of the Temple-Killeen-Fort Hood MSA. The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor calls Belton home. Belton has a rich heritage which began in 1850 along the banks of Nolan Creek. The famous Chisholm Trail stretched through Belton during the days of cowboys and cattle drives. Belton is a community of choice for many in the region due to great schools, abundant recreation opportunities, safe neighborhoods, a robust housing market, and an excellent quality of life. Historic Downtown Belton, the Bell County Expo, the famous annual 4th of July Parade, two lakes, live music venues, award winning barbeque restaurants, and a host of other shops and events makes Belton a destination location for many.

The City of Belton serves a growing community of nearly 22,000 residents with a full range of municipal services. The City operates under a council-manager form of local government. The Belton City Council sets policy and formulates a strategic plan and hires a professional City Manager to carry it out. The City Manager serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the City and oversees all City operations. Sam A. Listi has served as Belton's City Manager since 2001.

City Leadership



Belton City Council

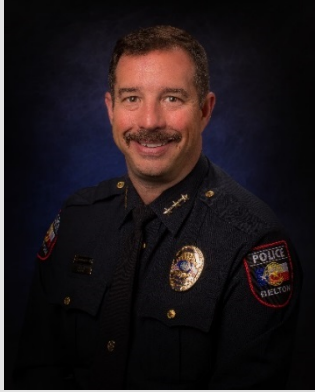
(L to R): Councilman Dan Kirkley; Councilman David Leigh; Councilman Paul Sanderford; Councilman John Holmes; Mayor Marion Grayson, Councilman Guy O'Banion; Mayor Pro Tem Craig Pearson



Sam A. Listi
City Manager



From the Chief's Desk



On behalf of the men and women of the Belton Police Department (BPD), please find enclosed our 2017 Annual Report. BPD saw many changes in 2017 with the addition of some new employees, including our new Crime Scene Technician. We said goodbye to several dedicated members of our team who retired or left to pursue other opportunities. The renovation of the police building was finally completed to give us one unified building when combined with the large new addition to the building; completed in 2016. This doubled the size of our facility. We also completed the Central Texas Regional Firearms Training Center. This state of the art training facility has a covered 10-lane pistol range, automated target system, comfortable classroom, and room for future expansion.

BPD is committed to a *Prevention Focused* model of community policing. We challenge officers to be problem-solvers and problem finders. We understand we police with the consent of you, our community. It is our job to provide a safe environment where you can enjoy the excellent quality of life that Belton offers. Officers seek to engage you to learn about your concerns as we partner with you to prevent and solve crime. Our virtual neighborhood watch program, E-Watch, and the Neighborhood Video Partner initiatives are two of the ways we work together to make a difference.

Every member of BPD is challenged to be servant leaders and to put others first. This includes our most vulnerable populations. The RU OK? Program conducts welfare checks on over 130 senior adults living alone. This initiative has saved five lives since its inception. A spin-off of RU OK?, *Silver Santa*, delivers Christmas gifts to the senior adults in the RU OK? Program. We could not provide these programs or many other services we offer without the assistance provided by the over 100 CHIPS (Citizens Helping in Police Services) volunteers. They are the heartbeat of service for BPD.

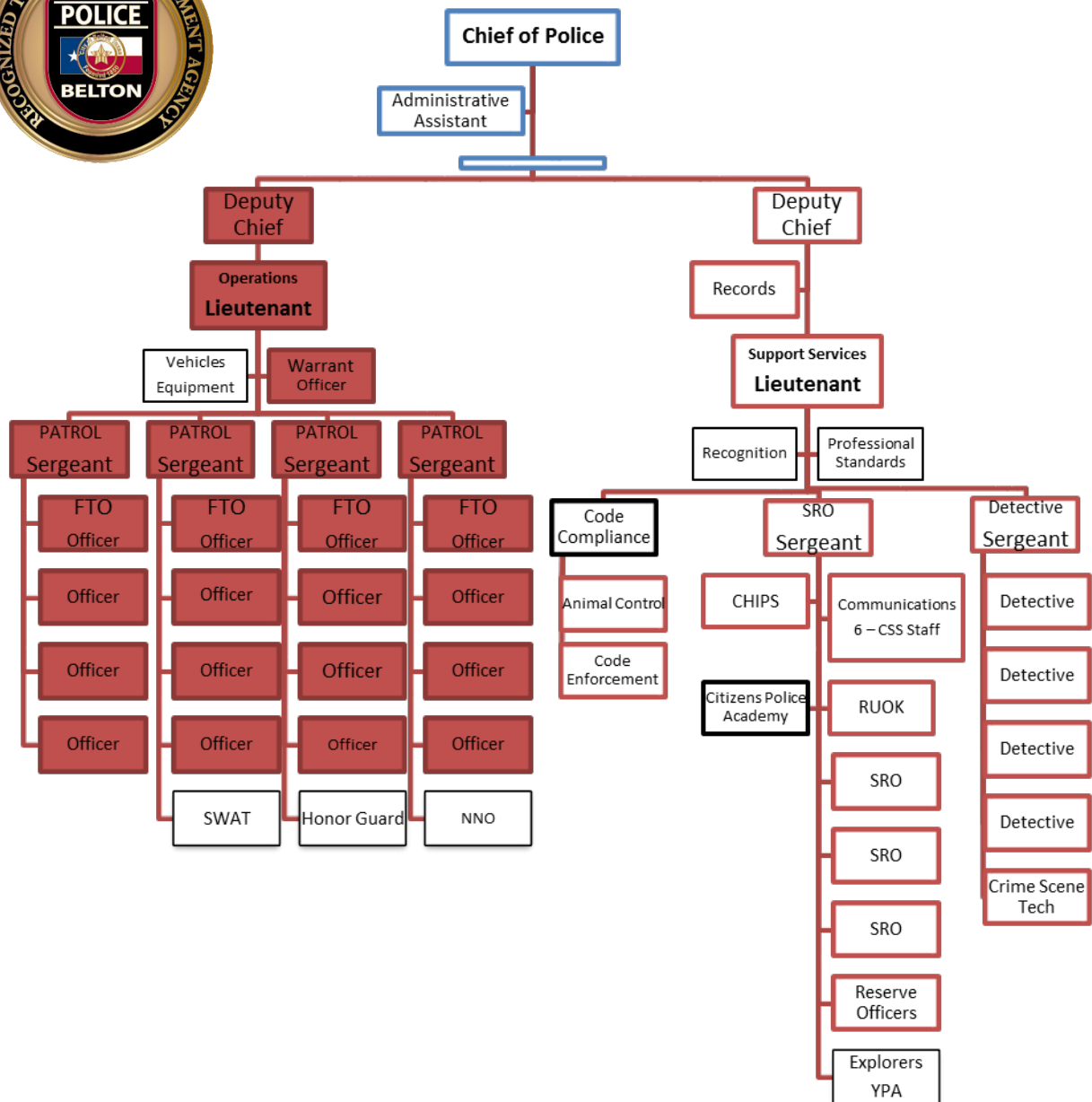
I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Belton City Council, City Manager Sam Listi, City staff, and all members of the BPD team for their support of our efforts to continuously improve the great quality of life in Belton. We are committed to providing excellent service to you and if we can ever be of any assistance, please let us know. Together we can make a difference.

Sincerely,

Gene Ellis
Chief of Police
Assistant City Manager



Organizational Chart



“Police seek and preserve public favor not by catering to the public opinion, but by constantly demonstrating absolute impartial service to the law.”

-Sir Robert Peel



Belton Police Strategic Plan 2016-2020

Vision Statement

We will remain *Prevention Focused* to keep Belton a safe and family friendly community with an excellent quality of life

Foundation

The foundation of Belton Police Department Strategic Plan is the City of Belton Strategic Plan and the City's vision and mission statements focused on quality of life in Belton.

Five Guiding Principles:

1. Prevention
2. Safety
3. Partnerships
4. Team
5. Quality of Life



Outcome Statements

- A. BPD is *Prevention Focused* through proactive community policing.
- B. BPD is dedicated to keeping our community and roadways safe.
- C. BPD maintains strong relationships with our stakeholders built on trust and transparency.
- D. BPD values all members of our team.
- E. BPD is committed to creating an environment whereby our community can enjoy an excellent quality of life.



Strategic Goals 2016-2020

Year 1	Year 2 (FY 18)	Year 3
Prevention	Prevention	Prevention
a) Prevention is the focus of all police activities. b) Minimum staffing during peak hours. c) Increase informal contacts with residents.	a) Remain prevention focused. b) Expand crime prevention education using all resources.	a) Remain prevention focused. b) Establish performance measures for informal contacts and problem finding activities.
Safety	Safety	Safety
a) Evaluate need for traffic safety team. b) Promote traffic safety using social media.	a) Develop a plan for a traffic safety team. b) Concentrate traffic enforcement in accident prone areas.	a) Implement traffic safety team. b) Improve traffic alert system.
Partnerships	Partnerships	Partnerships
a) Reach out to DPS for I-35 assistance. b) Educate staff on benefits of Family Violence Unit through AWARE. c) Host 6 Coffee with a Cop events annually.	a) Develop neighborhood video partnership. b) Expand Clergy-Police Partnership.	a) Implement a business and construction E-Watch program.
Team	Team	Team
a) Work with Finance and HR to develop a competitive pay and benefits plan. b) Succession plan for deputy chief retirement. c) Update Field Training program.	a) Add an online incident reporting portal to improve customer service. b) Address PD staffing needs. c) Lieutenants complete LCC. d) Deputy Chief to FBI Academy.	a) Train staff in specialized functions (SWAT, HNT, CRASH).
Quality of Life	Quality of Life	Quality of Life
a) Train staff on RUOK?	a) Merge Animal Control and Code Enforcement into a cross-trained Code Compliance Unit. b) Improve security on hike/bike trail system.	a) Develop a park patrol plan for peak hours. b) Add an additional FTE to assist ACO-Code Enforcement.

Operations Division



The Operations Division is under the command of Deputy Chief Larry Berg, a 20-year veteran of BPD. He is assisted by Lieutenant Daniel Aguirre and a team of patrol supervisors. Patrol is the main function of the Operations Division and the workhorse of BPD. Patrol responds to calls for police service, conducts preventive patrol, enforces traffic laws, conducts preliminary investigations into criminal activity, arrests criminal offenders, and seeks proactive interactions with citizens and groups. Currently, Patrol is divided into two teams (Red & White) made up of two 12-hour shifts each. Patrol is normally the first line of contact the public has with the police

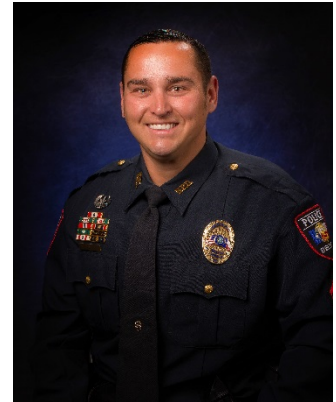
department. Patrol has an authorized staff of one lieutenant, four sergeants, and sixteen patrol officers.



Glen Bennett
Sergeant – Red Team



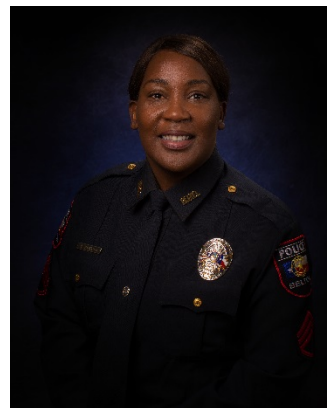
Daniel Aguirre
Patrol Lieutenant



William Hamilton
Sergeant – White Team



Richard Kusak
Sergeant – Red Team

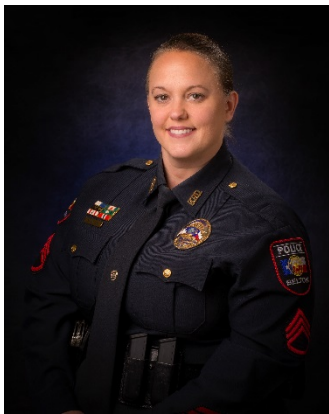


Candace Hawkins
Sergeant – White Team

Support Services Division



The Support Services Division is under the direction of Deputy Chief Jen Wesley, a 39-year veteran of BPD. Deputy Chief Wesley is assisted by Lieutenant Allen Fields and two sergeants. This division is comprised of services that support our delivery of law enforcement response to the citizens of Belton including: Criminal Investigations; School Resource Officers; Evidence Management; Police Records; Code Compliance; Communications; Personnel and Training; Reserve Officer Program; Professional Standards; RU OK? Program; CHIPS Volunteers; community outreach; and accreditation. Staffing for the Support Services Division includes: one lieutenant, two sergeants; four detectives; a crime scene technician, three school resource officers; one records clerk; six telecommunicators; two code compliance officers; and one volunteer coordinator.



Kim Hamilton
Special Ops/SRO Sergeant



Allen Fields
Support Services Lieutenant



Daniel Ontiveros
Detective Sergeant

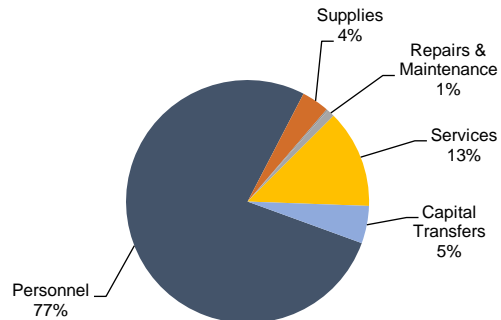
“The ability of the police to perform their duties is dependent upon public approval of police actions.”

-Sir Robert Peel

Police Budget

Administration	\$ 302,671
Operations	\$2,572,523
Support Services	\$1,071,309
Animal Control	\$ 96,010
Code Compliance	\$ 67,925
TOTAL Budget	\$4,110,438

Police Expenditures



Grants Received in 2017

Bulletproof Vests	\$2,875
Rifle Resistant Body Armor	\$ 23,440
Body Worn Cameras	\$ 44,241
Communications Equipment (radios)	\$ 29,500
Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP)	\$ 3,600
Total	\$103,656

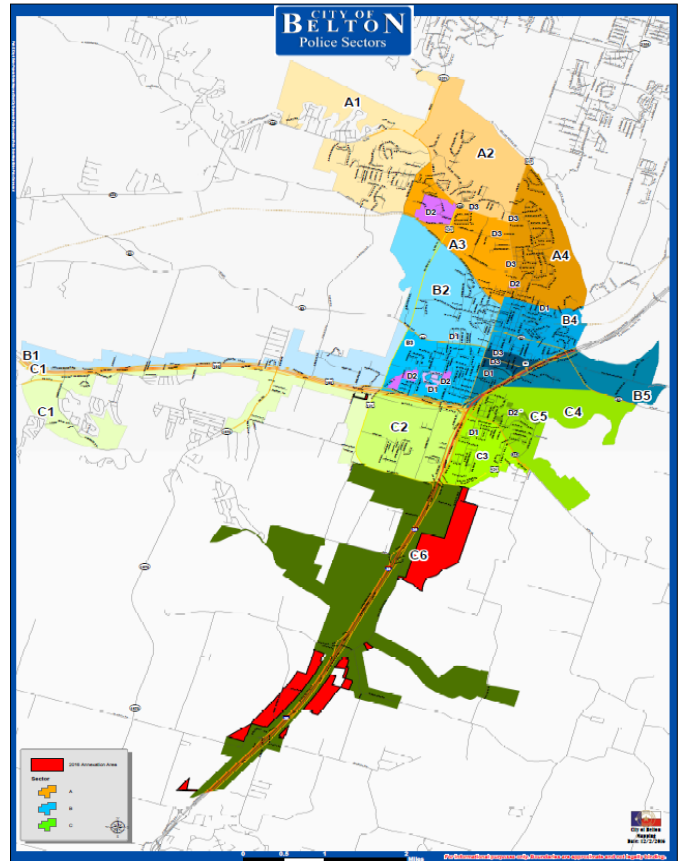
“Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence.”

-Vince Lombardi

Prevention Focused

BPD operates under a *Prevention Focused* model of Community Policing. Officers are assigned areas of responsibility, known as sectors, as part of a geographic responsibility approach. Prevention is the focus of all police operations. We proactively seek out ways to interact with the community in order to enhance the quality of life in Belton. All members of the Belton Police Department are committed to building partnerships with our citizens, businesses, community groups, and other organizations to reduce crime and solve problems that threaten the excellent quality of life we enjoy in Belton.

There are three patrol districts – North (A); Central (B); and South (C). District A has four sectors; District B has six sectors; and District C has six sectors. Each sector has an officer assigned to it.



Traffic Safety

2017 Traffic Accidents

417	Non-Injury
172	Injury
5	Fatalities
4:00 pm	Hour of Most Accidents
Friday	Day of Most Accidents

2017 Traffic Enforcement

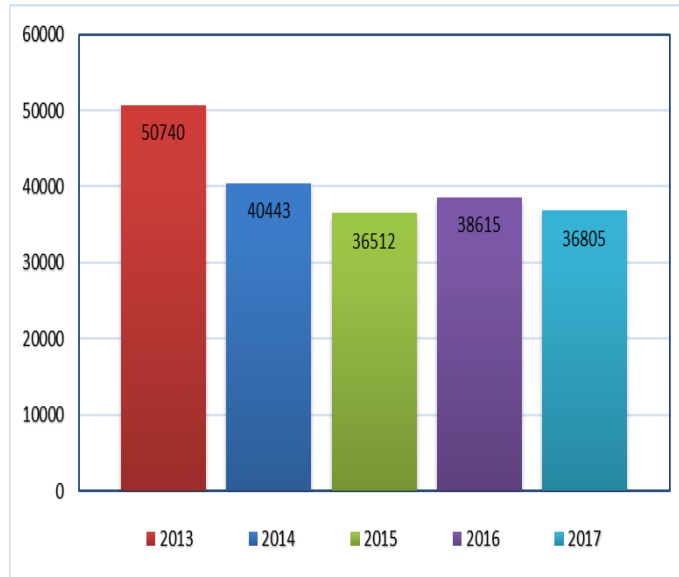
7,087	Traffic Stops
2,740	Citations
4347	Warnings
61%	Stops Resulting in Warning



2017 Police Activity

Calls for Service

Instances when an officer responds to a request for service from a citizen or initiates contact with a citizen.

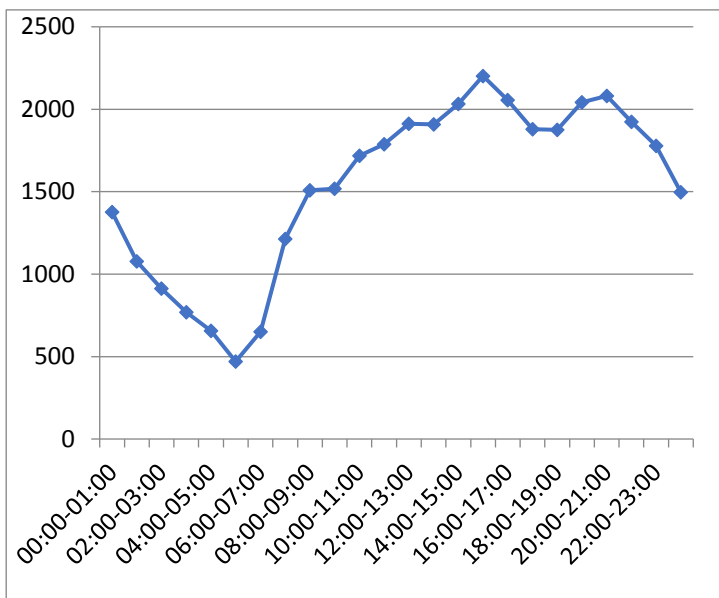


Top 10 Calls for Service – 2017

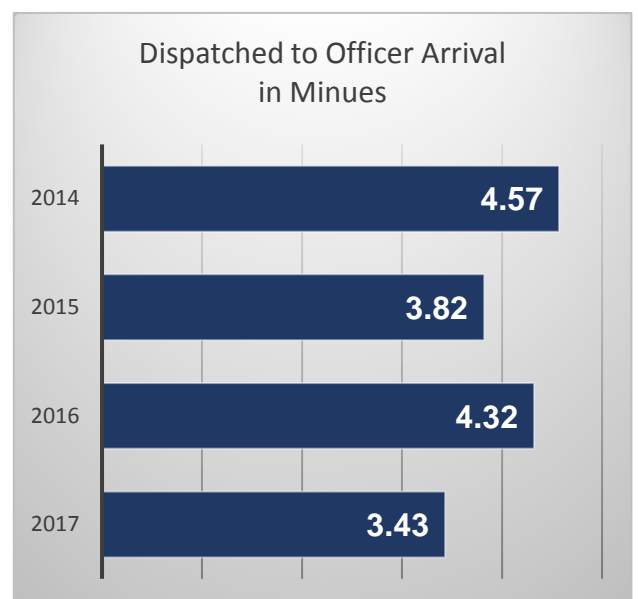
Rank Type of Call

- 1 Suspicious Circumstance
- 2 Reckless Driver
- 3 Traffic Accident
- 4 Disabled Vehicle
- 5 Welfare Check
- 6 Alarm
- 7 Assault
- 8 Animal Call
- 9 Disturbance
- 10 Theft

Calls by Hour of the Day – 2017



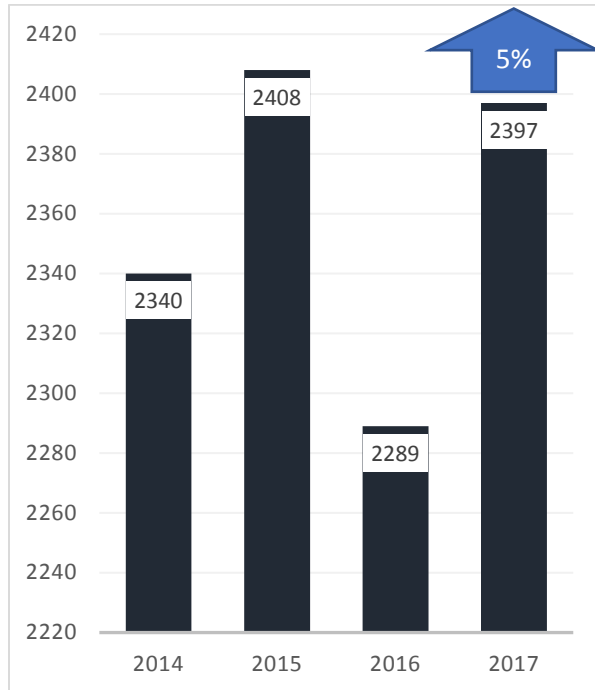
Priority 1 Response Times



Criminal Incidents and Arrests

Police Incident Reports

(All Incidents)



Arrests – 2017

1,655 Total Arrests

1,983 Total Criminal Charges

166 Felony Charges

1,817 Misdemeanor Charges

“The test of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder, not the visible evidence of police action dealing with it.”

-Sir Robert Peel

Crime	2014	2015	2016	2017
Murder	1	0	2	1
Sexual Assault	5	3	1	6
Robbery	8	3	9	10
Aggravated Assault *	17	17	16	13
Burglary – Residence	63	53	48	43
Burglary – Building	74	49	56	46
Theft / Larceny	636	511	456	464
Auto Theft-UUMV	17	7	13	5
Total	820	643	601	588

*All assaults were previously reported as Part 1 crimes rather than just assaults causing serious bodily injury. This caused an overreporting of Part 1 assaults in prior years. The correct definition has been applied to 2017 and prior years amended.

2.5%

Drop

Racial Profiling Report – 2017

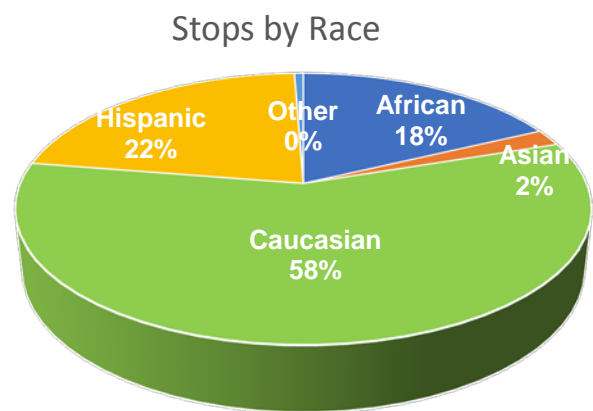
The Belton Police Department is a Tier 1 reporting agency. The following information on traffic stops, resulting in citations or arrest has been reported to the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement; pursuant to Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 2.121 - 2.138. Beginning in 2018, additional information on all traffic stops, including warnings, will be collected and reported pursuant to Senate Bill 1849, the Sandra Bland Act.

Total Stops (does not include warnings):

Citation only	2,185
Arrest only	14
Citation and Arrest	20
Total	2,219

Race or Ethnicity:

African	400
Asian	37
Caucasian	1,279
Hispanic	491
Middle Eastern	8
Native American	4



Race or Ethnicity known prior to stop?

Yes	315
No	1,904

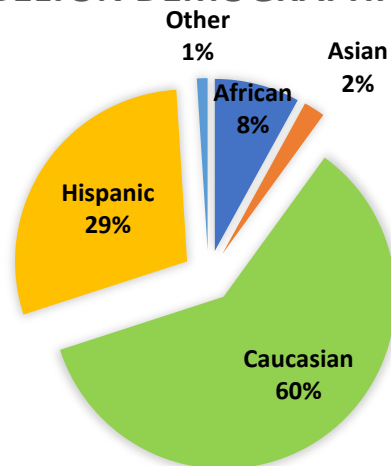
Search conducted?

Yes	128
No	2,091

Was search consented?

Yes	62
No	66

BELTON DEMOGRAPHICS



Criminal Investigations

The Criminal Investigations Division is staffed with four detectives and one detective sergeant. Detectives are responsible for the solution of crimes through follow up investigations of criminal offenses that occur in the City of Belton. One detective is assigned to the Bell County Organized Crime Unit (BCOCU) to represent Belton in this multi-jurisdictional task force.



Total Cases Assigned to Detectives	810
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Cases Cleared (arrest, exception, unfounded)	326
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Clearance Rate	40%
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Value of Stolen Property	\$402,953
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Recovered Stolen Property Value	\$47,610
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Evidence Handled (number of items)	4,595
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Code Compliance

The Code Compliance Unit handles animal calls and code enforcement matters for the City of Belton. Two full-time employees cross-trained in both of these specialties staff the Code Compliance Unit.

Total Animal Calls	2,117
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Total Code Enforcement	3,754
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Animals Handled	977
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High Grass	830
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Trash & Open Storage	1,428
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Junk Vehicles	528
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Voluntary Compliance	99%
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Citizens Helping in Police Services

(CHIPS)

The Belton Citizens Helping in Police Services (CHIPS) program was formed in 2011 as a way to expand police resources through the use of volunteers. The primary objective of the CHIPS program is deterrence through a visible presence. CHIPS volunteers supplement department resources by being extra eyes and ears while patrolling parks, shopping centers, and community events. Additionally, volunteers help with administrative tasks inside the police building. CHIPS volunteers are the backbone of the RU OK? Program.

CHIPS members volunteered 4,588 hours in 2017.



***“The time is
always right to do
what is right.”***

-Martin Luther King Jr.



Citizens Police Academy

The 8th annual Belton Citizens Police Academy class was held January through March, 2017. The mission of this program is to promote understanding through education. We do this by exposing community members to the various facets of law enforcement. This is accomplished through classroom presentations, hands-on demonstrations, role playing, and tours of public safety facilities. Over 100 community members have graduated from the Citizens Police Academy.



Building Partnerships to Make a Difference

RU OK? Program

The “RU OK?” Program was developed in 2012 as a way to check on the welfare of senior adults living alone. Our volunteers, CHIPS (Citizens Helping in Police Services), make personal contact by telephone with registered senior citizens living alone. If the CHIPS volunteer is unable to make contact, a police officer is dispatched to the residence to conduct a welfare check. For some of these elderly citizens, this is the only personal contact they have with another person all week. The RU OK? Program is credited with saving five lives of elderly Belton residents.



Silver Santa

The Silver Santa initiative brings Christmas joy to all of the RU OK? Participants by providing wrapped gifts to each of them. The gifts are delivered a week before Christmas by Belton officers and CHIPS volunteers to bring joy to senior adults living alone.



Police Explorers

A Law Enforcement Explorer Post was established in Belton in 2012. The program is intended for young adults age 14 (who have completed the 8th grade) to age 20 who have expressed an interest in the criminal justice field as a career. Our commitment is to improve relations between the Belton Police Department and the youth in the City of Belton. Explorers learn police work through specialized training, and community service. The program allows young people to serve the community, develop leadership skills, and provides support from peers and adults during the maturing process. The Belton Police Explorers earned many awards at the annual Central Texas Explorer Competition in the Summer of 2017.



Youth Police Academy

Belton School Resource Officers held the 8th annual Youth Police Academy class in June, 2017 for middle school students. The goal of the Youth Police Academy is to build rapport between police officers and youth in our community.



***“People pull hardest
for you when they
trust you.”***

-Chief Mike Gentry

Community Outreach

National Night Out



4th of July Parade – CHIPS Winning



Coffee with a Cop



UMHB-Hometown Heroes



One Community – One Day



***"The police are the public and
the public are the police."***

-Sir Robert Peel

New Members of the BPD

Administration



Debbie Smith

Code Compliance



Josh Soileau



Natalia Avina

CID



Billy Conway

Communications



Tyler Norton



Cassandra Lee



Shanise Bowman



Jerel Muniz

Patrol

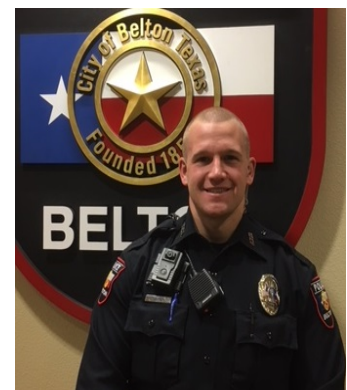
Police Cadets



Dwayne Ravizee



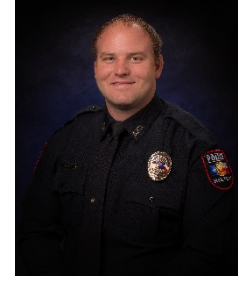
Brandon Toliver, Carlyn Yarborough, & Garrett Weikel



Brody Telfer

2017 Awards and Recognitions

Officers of the Quarter



Officer Raul Montes Officer Jason Wimbish Officer Gerardo Torres Officer Josh Gammill

Lifesaving Awards



Officer Ryan Wood Officer Rey Morillo

Les Hallbauer Award for Excellence in Public Service



Candice Griffin
CSS-Social Media Coordinator

Texas Award of Valor



Officers Raul Montes, Matt Schwindt, & Ryan Wood

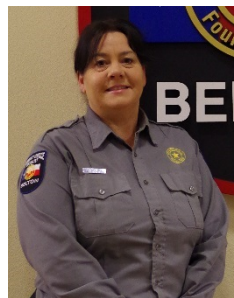
100 Club Lifetime Achievement Award



Retirements



Sergeant Doug Taylor
21 Years



CSS – Carol Karl
16 Years

Officer of the Year 2017



Officer Gerardo Torres

Recognized Texas Agency



The Belton Police Department became the first Bell County law enforcement agency to be “Recognized” (accredited) by the Texas Police Chiefs Best Practices Recognition Program. In order to maintain recognition, BPD must submit an annual report to the Texas Police Chiefs Recognition Program demonstrating that we have maintained compliance with the 166 standards of the program. Recognition standards were carefully developed by Texas law enforcement professionals to assist agencies in the efficient and effective delivery of service, the reduction of risk, and the protection of

individual’s rights. Being “Recognized” means that an agency has proven that it meets or exceeds the “Best Practices” for Texas law enforcement in areas of law enforcement operations including: use of force, protection of individual rights, pursuits, evidence management, and many other areas. Recognition status is for a four-year term and then an agency must go through an intensive re-recognition process. BPD was awarded Re-Recognition status in 2014, putting it among the elite 5% of Texas law enforcement agencies who have met these rigorous standards. We will begin our second re-recognition process in 2018.

Clergy – Police Partnership



The Belton Clergy-Police Partnership (BCPP) is a team of local pastors serving as a liaison between the police department and the community. BCPP members minister to officers and victims of crime; pray for the police department and the community; communicate community concerns directly to the Chief of Police; and provide calm during a crisis. The BPD Police Chaplain, Alton McCullum, leads the BCPP team.



