

2018

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.



“No one is compelled to choose the profession of police officer, but having chosen it, everyone is obligated to perform its duties and live up to the high standards and requirements.”

-President Calvin Coolidge

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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. 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, including The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, 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 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 Guy O'Banion; Mayor Marion Grayson; Mayor Pro Tem Craig Pearson; Councilman David Leigh; Councilman John Holmes; Councilman Wayne Carpenter



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 2018 Annual Report. BPD saw many changes in 2018 with the addition of some new employees and a goodbye to several dedicated members of our team who retired or left to pursue other opportunities.

The Belton Police Department sees our role of working with others to improve the quality of life in Belton continuously by being servant guardians of this dynamic community. Prevention is the focus of all police operations. We know we cannot be successful without a strong partnership with members of the community. We are committed to being fair, transparent, impartial, and listening to all involved. We consider it an honor to serve Belton and know the foundation of our service is trust.

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. 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 senior adults living alone. This initiative has saved five lives since its inception. We could not provide this program 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. I hope to meet as many of you as I can at a Coffee with a Cop, National Night Out, or one of the nearly 100 community events members of our team attend.

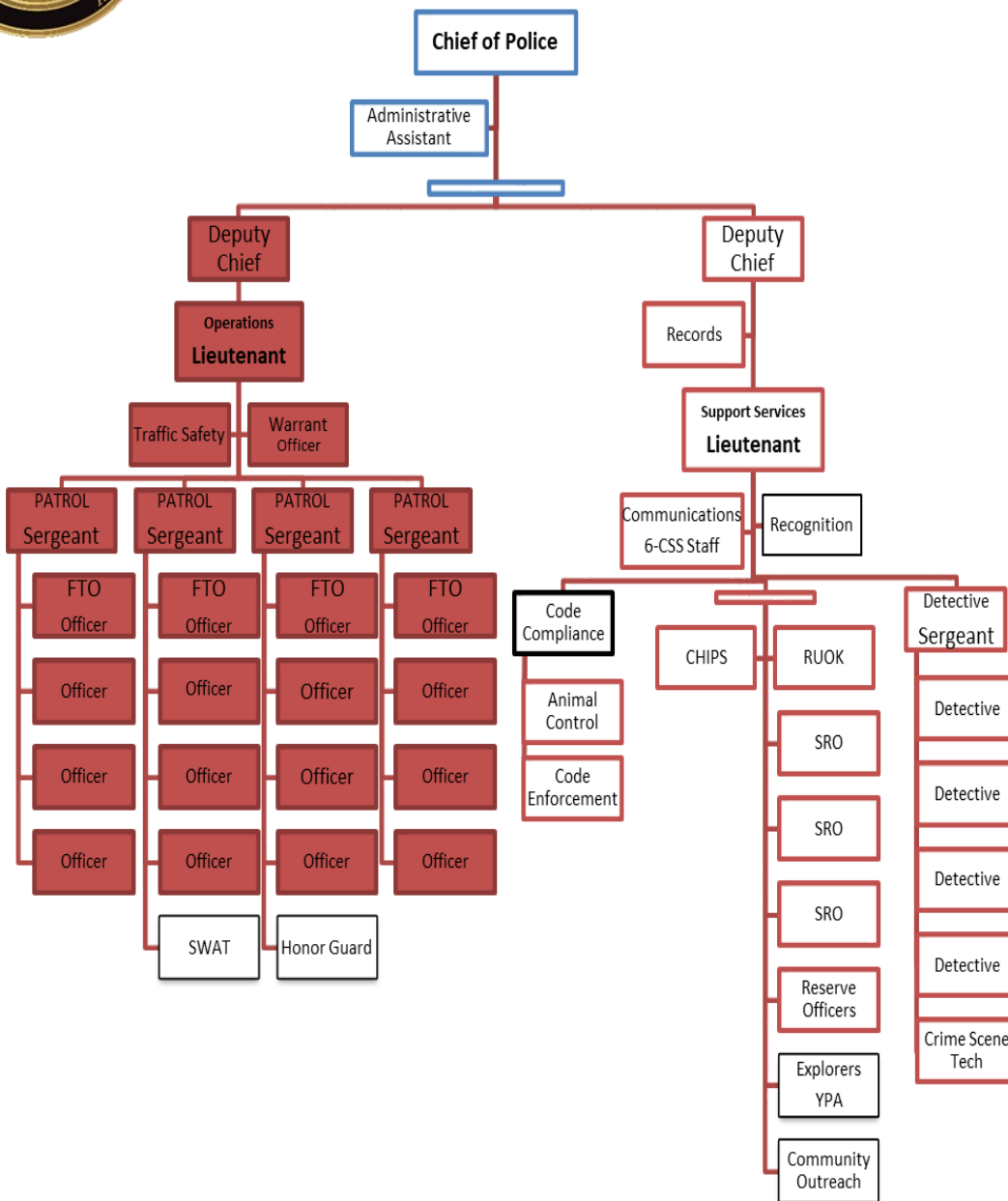
Sincerely,

Gene Ellis
Chief of Police
Assistant City Manager

*Cultivating a safe environment for our community to thrive through a
Prevention Focused model of community policing.*



Organizational Chart



"People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care."

-President Theodore Roosevelt

Belton Police Strategic Plan 2019-2023

Simplified Purpose

Protecting a great quality of life for those we serve

Strategic Intent

Cultivating a safe environment for our community to thrive through a Prevention Focused model of community policing

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.

“To begin with the end in mind means to start with a clear destination. It means to know where you’re going so that you better understand where you are now, so that the steps you take are always in the right direction.” – Stephen Covey

Strategic Goals

Short Term 2019-2020 (12-24 months)	Mid Term 2020-2021 (24-36 months)	Long Term 2021-2023 (36-60 months)
Prevention	Prevention	Prevention
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Enhance patrols of parks and trail system using CHIPS, bikes, and UTVs b) Increase foot patrols downtown during peak times c) Increase use of HEB substation and add remote video uploading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) Develop a south side substation for District C officers with remote video uploading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Create an electronic clearinghouse for intelligence data b) Review need for K9 program
Safety	Safety	Safety
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Evaluate traffic safety team. b) Develop a strategy for speed trailer placement responsive to neighborhood complaints 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Develop tactical maps for major buildings/complexes in City b) Advertise CRASE program to businesses and churches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) Research a "Safety Town" themed park d) Evaluate safety related equipment and needs e) Expand traffic safety team
Partnerships	Partnerships	Partnerships
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Expand use of CHIPS for vacation watch and park patrols. b) Re-tool YPA program c) Work with convenience store owners to make sure all stores have panic buttons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) Develop sector newsletter for each sector e) Explore ways to expand Video Partnership program f) Explore US Marshal Task Force participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> g) Develop E-Watch program for businesses h) Research creating a map to show video partner cameras
Team	Team	Team
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Implement BPD staffing proposal b) Explore modern recruitment strategies c) Work with Management, Finance, and HR on a competitive pay and benefits plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) Continue implementation of BPD staffing proposal e) Offer spouse/other orientation for new officers f) Host an annual staff family day event 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> g) Continue implementation of BPD staffing proposal h) Explore need for victim services coordinator i) Research dictation software for report writing.
Quality of Life	Quality of Life	Quality of Life
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Look for new ways to identify citizens needing RUOK? services b) Identify groups/areas currently not reached with BPD community outreach programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Work with other City departments to assist with issues affecting QoL b) Research ways to use crime analysis for predictive crime patterns by sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Review staffing needs for Code Compliance

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. Patrol is divided into two teams (A & B) 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. A traffic safety team component was added to the Operations-Patrol Division in late 2018. Officers responded to nearly 37,000 events in 2018.



Days-B Shift Delivery of Fans



Officer Brody Telfer buying lemonade



Officer Dewayne Ravizee making new friends at Movies in the Park



Sgt. Glenn Bennett and Social Media Specialist Candice Griffin ringing the bell for a good cause

"Good leaders must first become good servants."

-Robert Greenleaf

Support Services Division



The Support Services Division is under the direction of Deputy Chief Jen Wesley, a 40-year veteran of BPD. Deputy Chief Wesley is assisted by Lieutenant Allen Fields and one sergeant. 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, one sergeant; four detectives; a crime scene technician, four school

resource officers; one records clerk; six telecommunicators; two code compliance officers; and one volunteer coordinator.



School Resource Officer Gerardo Torres
reading to a group of students



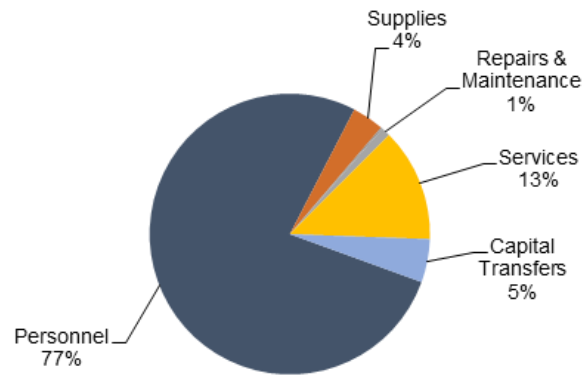
Members of the Criminal Investigation Division
Halloween 2018

***“People will forget what you said. People will forget what you did.
People will never forget how you made them feel.”
-Maya Angelo***

Police Budget

Administration	\$ 296,962
Operations	\$2,651,298
Support Services	\$1,074,107
Animal Control	\$ 97,516
Code Compliance	\$ 69,495
TOTAL Budget	\$4,189,378

Police Expenditures



Grants Received in 2018

Bulletproof Vests	\$ 753
Rifle Resistant Body Armor	\$ 23,440
RUOK? Program	\$ 24,250
Communications Equipment (radios)	\$ 29,500
Total	\$77,943

"Change is inevitable. Growth is optional."

-John Maxwell

School Resource Officers



The School Resource Officer Unit is a partnership between BPD and Belton Independent School District (BISD). Four BPD officers are assigned to the 11 BISD campuses in the City of Belton. This collaboration is funded by both BISD and the City of Belton. The goal of the SRO program is to promote a safe learning environment and deter distractions that jeopardize school safety. This is accomplished by proactive interaction with faculty and students, quick response to disruptions, investigation of

criminal activity on campuses, and presentation of prevention programs.

Two of the SROs are instructors in the Citizen Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) program. In 2018, Officers Torres and MacDonald presented the lifesaving CRASE program to a number of school, church, business, and community groups.

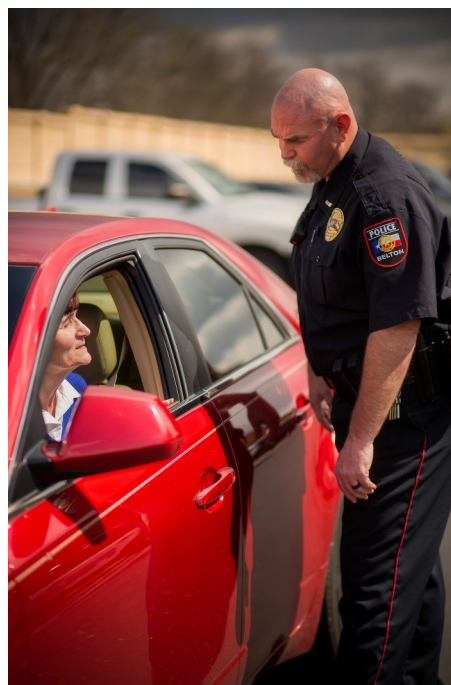
Traffic Safety

2018 Traffic Crashes

519	Non-Injury
168	Injury
3	Fatalities
3:00 pm	Hour of Most Accidents
Wednesday	Day of Most Accidents

2018 Traffic Enforcement

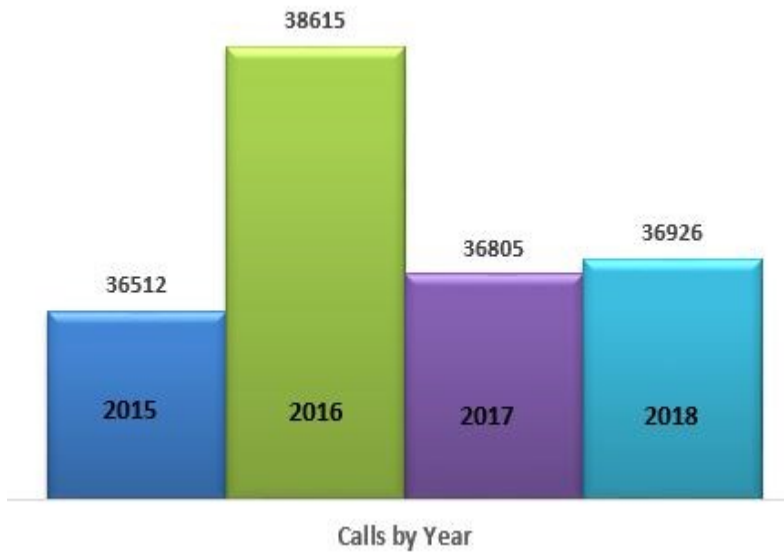
7,246	Traffic Stops
2,877	Citations
4,325	Warnings



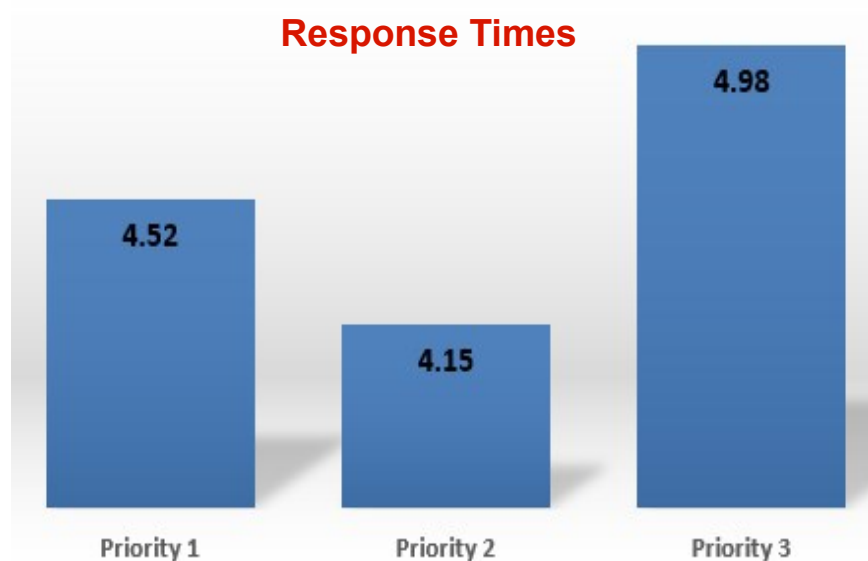
2018 Police Activity

Calls for Service

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



Rank	Type of Call
1	911 Calls
2	Suspicious Circumstances
3	Traffic Accident
4	Welfare Concern
5	Disabled Vehicle
6	Alarm Calls
7	Assaults
8	Meet with Complainant
9	Parking Violation
10	Animal Calls

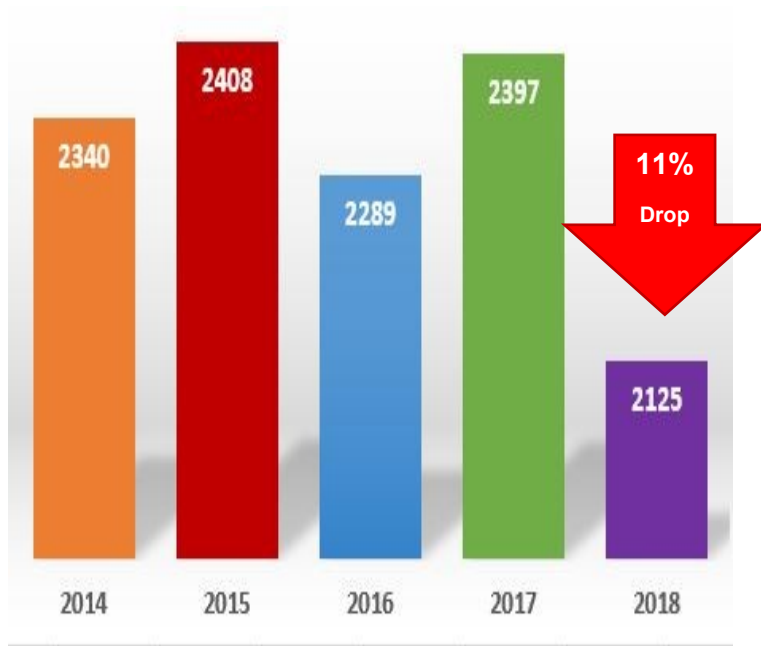


“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”

-Gandhi

Criminal Incidents and Arrests

Police Incident Reports (All Incidents)



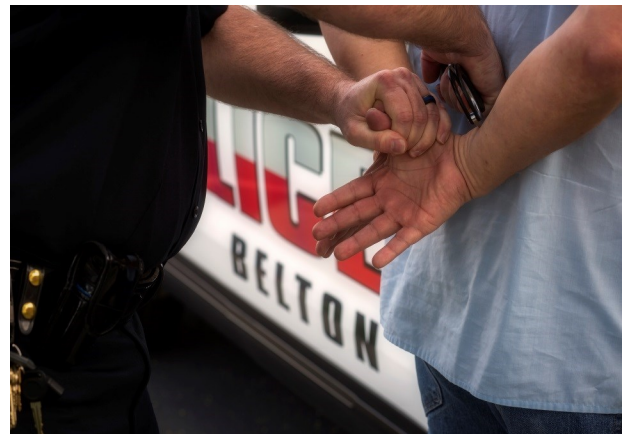
Arrests – 2018

1,458 Total Arrests

1,757 Total Criminal Charges

226 Felony Charges

1,531 Misdemeanor Charges



Crime	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Murder	1	0	2	1	0
Sexual Assault	5	3	1	6	16
Robbery	8	3	9	10	14
Aggravated Assault *	17	17	16	13	15
Burglary – Residence	63	53	48	43	34
Burglary – Building	74	49	56	46	44
Theft / Larceny	636	511	456	464	412
Auto Theft-UUMV	17	7	13	5	18
Total	820	643	601	588	558

“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

5%
Drop

Racial Profiling Report – 2018

The following information on traffic stops, 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, was collected and reported pursuant to Senate Bill 1849, the Sandra Bland Act.

Total Stops : **7,246**

Gender

Female: 3,133
Male: 4,113

Race or Ethnicity:

Black: 1,130
Asian/Pacific Islander: 112
White: 4,746
Hispanic/Latino: 1,229
Alaska/American Indian: 29

Race or Ethnicity known prior to stop?

Yes: 630
No: 6,616

Reason for stop?

Violation of law: 252
Pre existing knowledge: 72
Moving traffic violation: 5,547
Vehicle traffic violation: 1,375

Location of stop

City street: 5,406
US highway: 1,283
State highway: 324
County road: 60
Private property or other: 173

Was a search conducted?

Yes 165
No 7,081

Reason for search?

Consent: 75
Contraband: 9
Probable cause: 52
Inventory: 12
Incident to arrest: 17

Was contraband discovered?

Yes: 82
No: 83

Description of contraband

Drugs: 66
Currency: 0
Weapons: 2
Alcohol: 10
Stolen property: 1
Other: 3

Result of stop

Verbal warning: 1
Written warning: 4,324
Citation: 2,877
Warning & Arrest: 26
Citation & Arrest: 18
Arrest: 0

Arrest Total: **44**

Arrest based on

Violation of penal code: 23
Violation of traffic law: 11

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	593
Cases Cleared (arrest, exception, unfounded)	327
Clearance Rate	45%
Value of Stolen Property	\$678,336
Recovered Stolen Property Value	\$199,747
Evidence Handled (number of items)	4,542

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	2,832
Total Code Enforcement	4,498
Animals Handled	1,235
High Grass	940
Trash & Open Storage	2,150
Junk Vehicles	289
Voluntary Compliance	99%



Natalia Avina
Code Compliance



Josh Soileau
Code Compliance

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 3,770 hours in 2018.



***“Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.”
— Martin Luther King Jr.***

Citizens Police Academy

The 9th annual Belton Citizens Police Academy class was held January through March, 2018. 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 175 community members have graduated from the Citizens Police Academy program since its inception. Graduates of the Citizens Police Academy program have formed the Belton Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization committed to supporting BPD initiatives and staff. Class #10 began on January 24, 2019, with 19 community members.



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.



“Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile.”

-Albert Einstein

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. Belton Police Explorers earned many awards at the annual Central Texas Explorer Competition in the Summer of 2018. BPD Explorers can often be seen working alongside officers at parades, community events, and Belton Tiger football games.



Youth Police Academy

Belton School Resource Officers held the 9th annual Youth Police Academy class in June, 2018 for middle school students. The goal of the Youth Police Academy is to build rapport between police officers and youth in our community.



***"Success is not measured
by what you are leaving to,
but by what you are leaving
behind."***

-Chris Musgrove

Community Outreach

National Night Out



4th of July Parade – CHIPS Winning Float



Coffee with a Cop



UMHB-Hometown Heroes



One Community – One Day



New Team Members

Communications



Audra Shepard

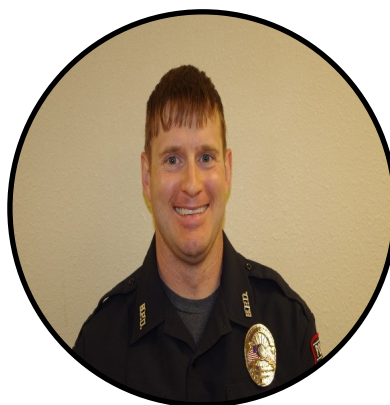
***“There’s no greater challenge
and there is no greater honor
than to be in public service.***

-Condoleezza Rice

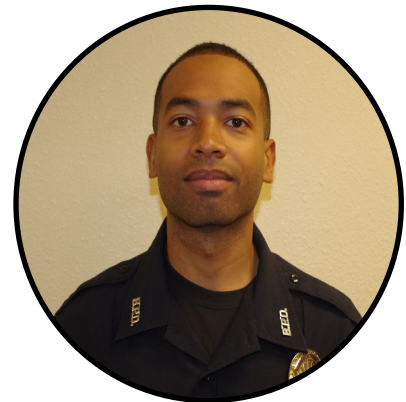
Patrol



Carlyn Yarborough



Garrett Weikel



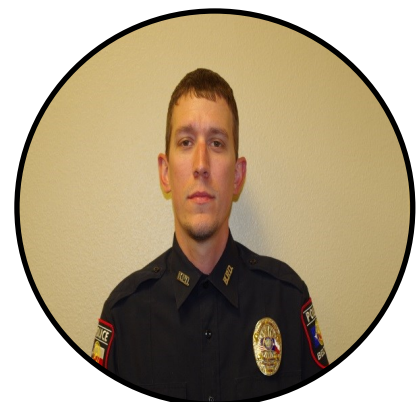
Brandon Toliver



DeWayne Ravizee



Richard Spurgeon



Joshua Tulloch

2018 Awards and Recognitions

Officers of the Quarter



Aubrey Webb
1st Quarter



Robert Gatewood
2nd Quarter

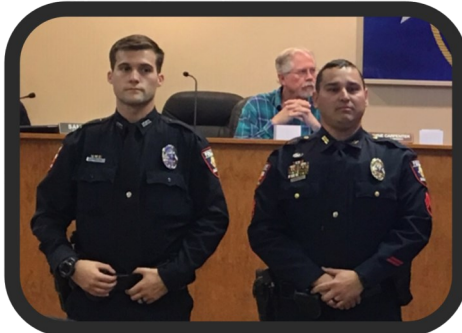


Robert Prestin
3rd Quarter



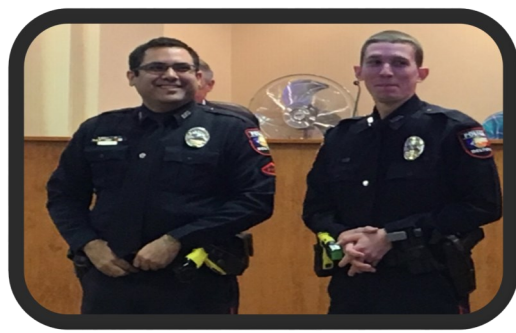
Mario Guevara
4th Quarter

Lifesaving Awards



Richard
Spurgeon

William
Hamilton



Ray
Rodriquez

Joshua
Tulloch

Officer of the Year 2018



Officer
Mario
Guevara

Civilian Employee of the Year



Natalia
Avina
Code
Compliance

Retirements



Raul Montes

100 Club Chairman's Award



Chief Gene Ellis

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. In November 2018, BPD went through our third onsite inspection as part of the Re-Recognition process. On December 7, 2018, the Texas Police Chiefs Best Practices Recognition program awarded BPD the status of being a Recognized law enforcement agency for another four-year term.

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.



