



2019

ANNUAL REPORT

BELTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

PREVENTION FOCUSED

www.belontexas.gov/police



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. ●●●



PHOTO CREDIT: TEMPLE DAILY TELEGRAM

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On behalf of the men and women of the Belton Police Department (BPD), I am pleased to present you our 2019 Annual Report. This report provides a snapshot of crime and our activities during the previous calendar year. It also includes highlights of community outreach efforts, BPD staff and volunteers, and much more. We saw many changes in 2019 as some long time members of our team retired, the addition of new team members, and the enhancement of community outreach efforts.

We see ourselves as servant guardians of this great community. We operate under a prevention focused model of community policing with servant leadership as a foundation. Belton officers and support staff are not just problem solvers. They are challenged to be problem finders to identify and prevent issues that could negatively impact the great quality of life we enjoy in Belton. We strongly believe we are successful when we have a strong community partnership built on trust, fairness, transparency, and impartiality.

We are here to serve you, so please do not ever hesitate to reach out to any member of the BPD team if you ever need any assistance. 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 efforts to maintain an outstanding quality of life in Belton. We are truly committed to providing excellent service to Belton. I look forward to seeing you in 2020 at a Coffee with a Cop, National Night Out, or other community events.

Sincerely,
Gene Ellis
Chief of Police
Assistant City Manager





The rich heritage on display every day in Belton has roots to the people who settled in the Nolan Creek basin in 1850. The famous Chisholm Trail traveled through Belton during the days of cowboys and cattle drives. Today Belton is located at the crossroads of Interstate Highways 35 and 14 and remains an important transportation corridor. As the county seat of Bell County, Belton is at the center of the Temple-Killeen-Fort Hood MSA; the 9th largest metropolitan area in Texas. It is a great place to live due to the great schools, including the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, abundant recreation opportunities, safe neighborhoods, robust housing market, and 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 barbecue restaurants, and a host of other shops and events make Belton a tourist unique destination.

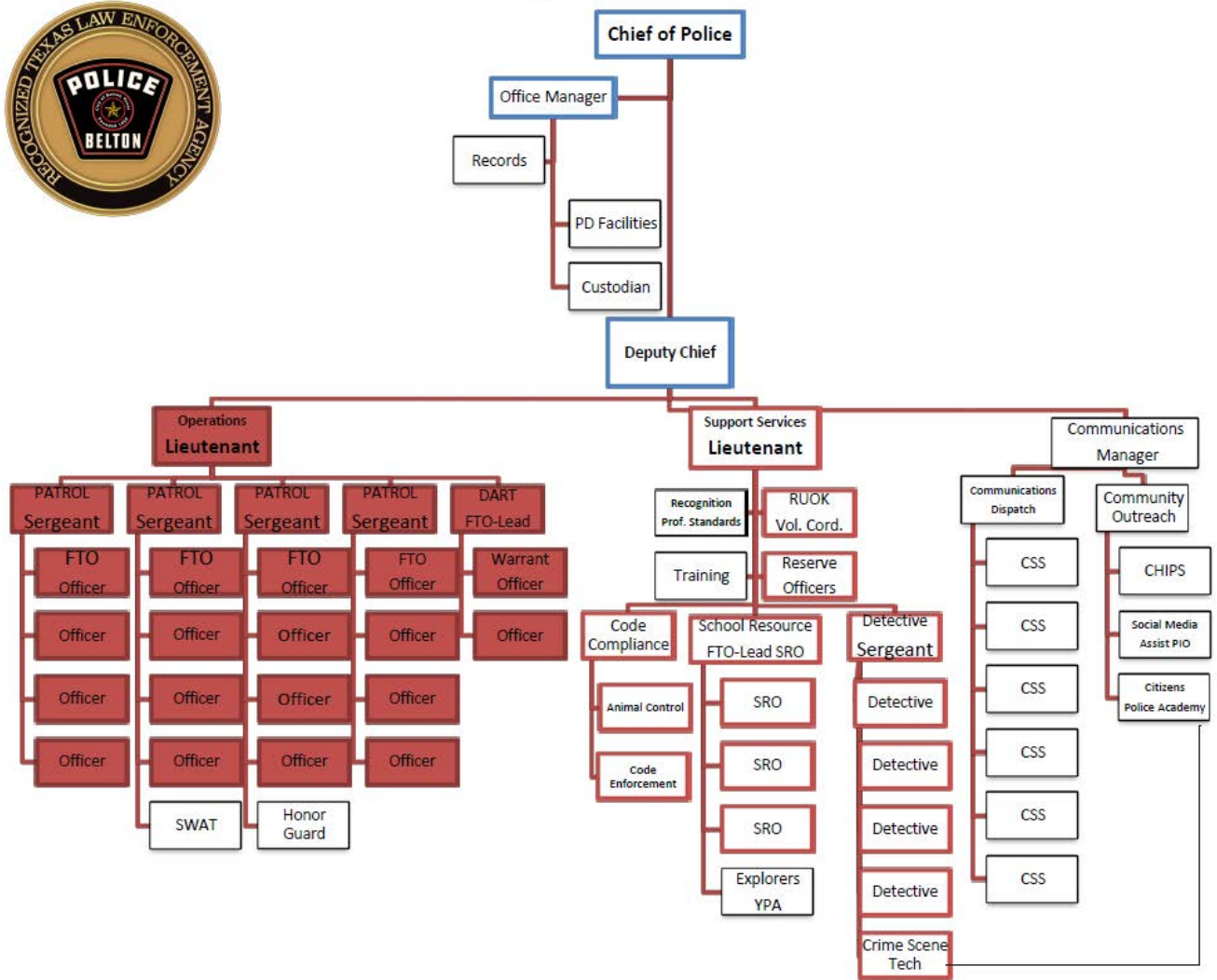
The City of Belton serves a growing community of more than 22,000 residents with a full range of municipal services. The City operates under a council-manager form of local government. The Belton City Council sets policy, formulates a strategic plan, and hires a professional City Manager to carry it 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.

Sam A. Listi
City Manager





Belton Police Department June 1, 2019



BELTON POLICE STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2024



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 the 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

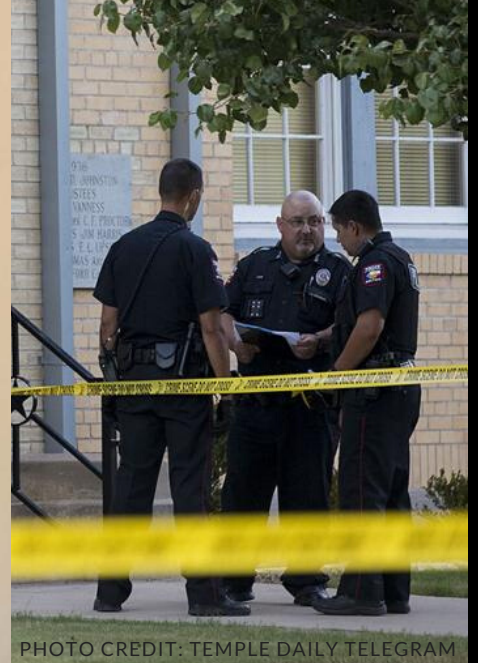
OUTCOME STATEMENTS

- 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.

OPERATIONS



Deputy Chief Larry Berg, a 23-year veteran of the Belton Police Department; oversees Operations and Support Services. Operations is under the command of Lieutenant Allen Fields, a 15-year veteran of BPD. Patrol is the main function of the Operations 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, 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. Officers responded to over 35,000 events in 2019.

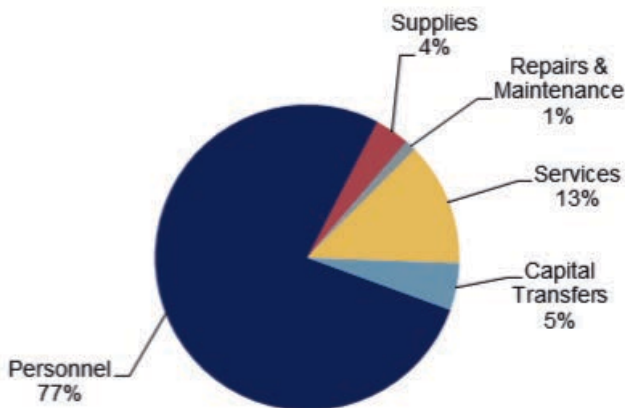


Support Services is under the command of Lieutenant Daniel Aguirre, a 10-year veteran of BPD. This division is comprised of services that support the delivery of law enforcement response to citizens of Belton including: Criminal Investigations; School Resource Officers; Evidence Management; Police Records; 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: a communications manager; a sergeant; four detectives; a crime scene technician; four school resource officers; a records clerk; six telecommunicators; two code compliance officers; and a volunteer coordinator. Lt. Aguirre reports to Deputy Chief Larry Berg.

POLICE BUDGET

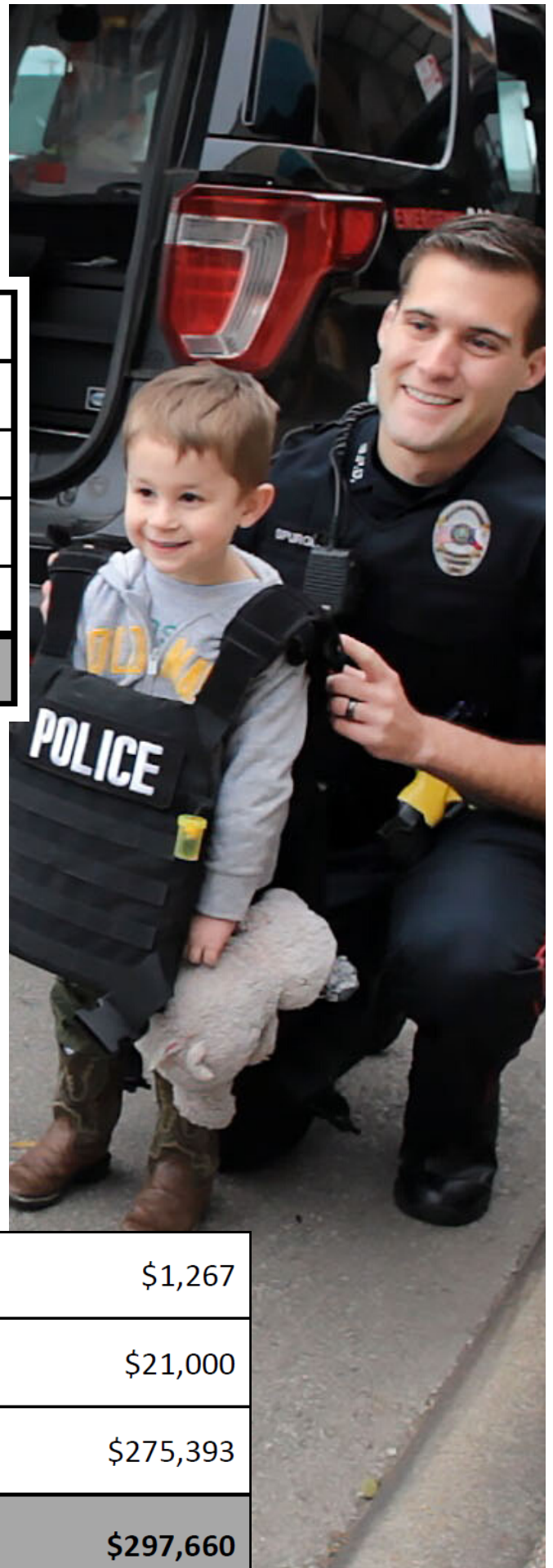
Administration	\$323,280
Operations	\$2,915,589
Support Services	\$1,104,994
Animal Control	\$99,317
Code Compliance	\$71,299
Total Budget	\$4,514,479

Police Expenditures



GRANTS & REIMBURSEMENTS 2019

Department of Justice Bulletproof Vests	\$1,267
Area Agency on Aging (RU OK Program)	\$21,000
Belton Independent School District School Resource Officers & Security	\$275,393
Total Received	\$297,660





The School Resource Officer (SRO) 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 both by 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.

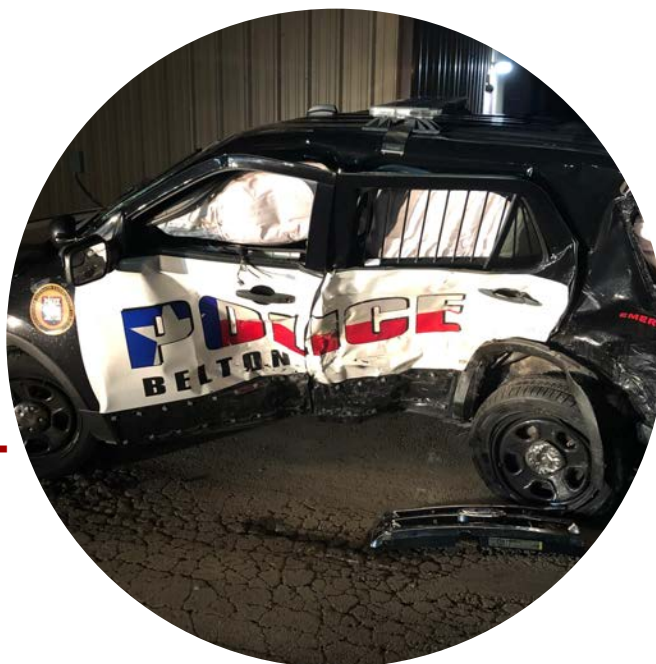
...TRAFFIC SAFETY...

2019 TRAFFIC CRASHES

502	Non-Injury
191	Injury
5	Fatalities
3:00 pm	Hour of Most Accidents
Friday	Day of Most Accidents

2019 TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

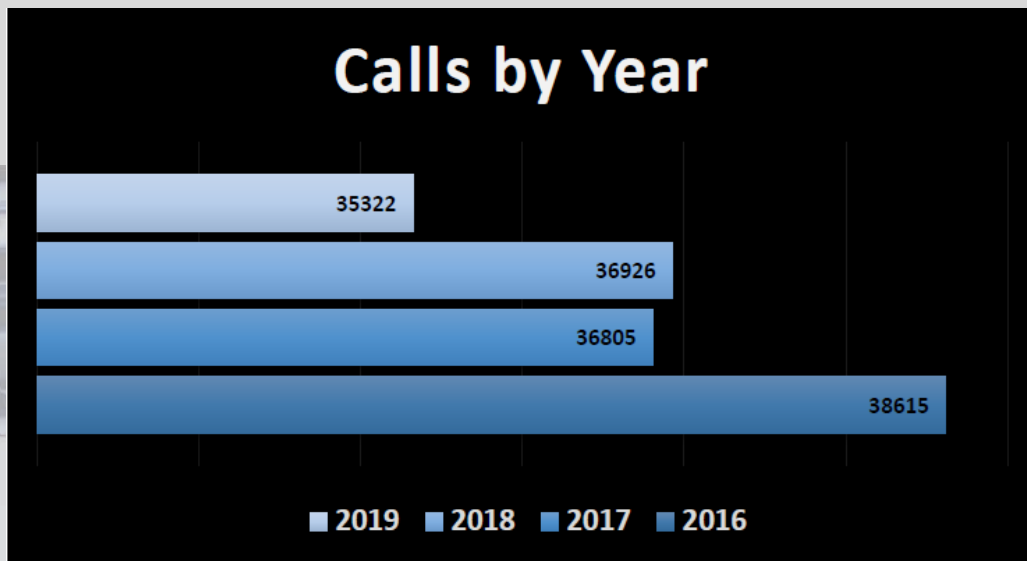
7,090	Traffic Stops
2,650	Citations
4,440	Warnings



2019 POLICE ACTIVITY

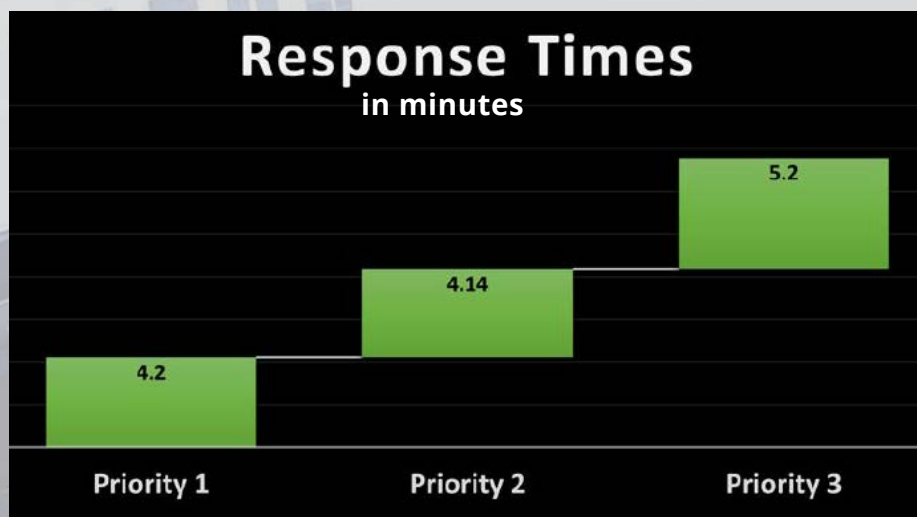
CALLS FOR SERVICE

Instances when an officer responds to a request for service from a citizen or initiates contact with a citizen.
(As recorded through the Bell County Communications Center)



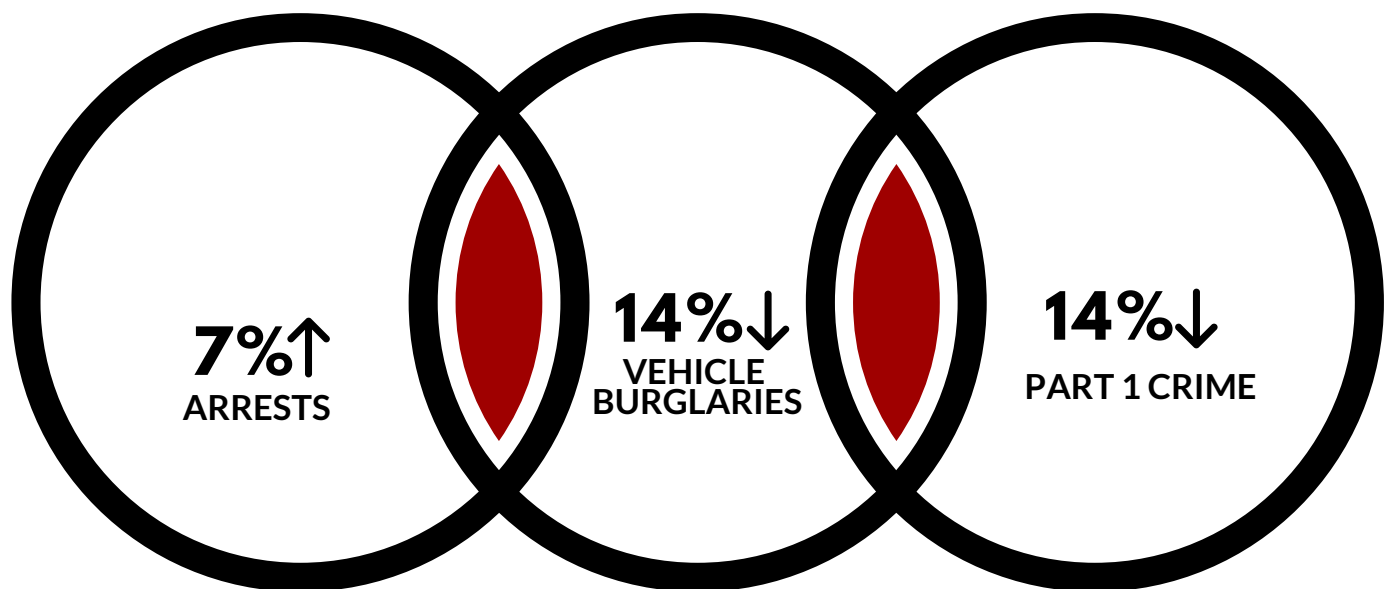
TOP 10 CALLS FOR SERVICE

1. 911 Calls
2. Suspicious Circumstances
3. Traffic Accidents
4. Reckless Drivers
5. Citizen Contact
6. Alarm Calls
7. Welfare Concerns
8. Disabled Vehicles
9. Assaults
10. Animal Calls



CRIMINAL INCIDENTS AND ARRESTS

2019 Arrests	
1,565	Total Arrests
2,055	Total Criminal Charges
284	Felony Charges
1,771	Misdemeanor Charges



PART I CRIME REPORT (UCR)

Crime	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Murder	0	2	1	0	0
Sexual Assault	3	1	6	16	22
Robbery	3	9	10	14	9
Aggravated Assault	17	16	13	15	13
Burglary/Residence	53	48	43	34	31
Burglary/Building	49	56	46	44	26
Theft/Larceny	511	456	464	412	366
Auto Theft/UUMV	7	13	5	18	9
Total	643	601	588	553	476

2019 RACIAL PROFILING REPORT

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 :	7,090		
Gender		Reason for search?	
Female:	3,190	Consent:	85
Male:	3,900	Contraband:	4
		Incident to arrest:	44
Race or Ethnicity:		Inventory:	21
Alaskan/American Indian:	35	No search:	6,835
Asian/Pacific Islander:	108	Probable cause:	101
Black:	988		
Hispanic/Latino:	1,344	Was contraband discovered?	
White:	4,615	No:	133
		Yes:	122
Race or Ethnicity known prior to stop?		Description of contraband	
No:	6,799	Alcohol:	17
Yes:	291	Currency:	1
Reason for stop?		Drugs:	84
Moving traffic violation:	5,535	Other:	18
Pre existing knowledge:	51	Stolen Property:	5
Vehicle traffic violation:	1,372		
Violation of law:	132	Result of stop	
		Citation:	2,614
Location of stop		Citation & Arrest:	36
City street:	5,626	Written Warning:	4,415
County Road:	31	Written Warning & Arrest:	25
Private property or other:	53		
State highway:	566	Arrest based on	
US highway:	814	Outstanding warrant:	13
		Violation of penal code:	23
Was a search conducted?		Violation of traffic law:	25
No:	6,835		
Yes:	255	Physical force resulting in injury	
		No:	7,090
		Yes:	0

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS



PHOTO CREDIT: TEMPLE DAILY TELEGRAM

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. The detectives also represent Belton in the multi-jurisdictional task force, the Bell County Organized Crime Unit.

Total Cases Assigned to Detectives	558
Cases Cleared (arrest, exception, unfounded)	323
Clearance Rate	58%
Value of Stolen Property	\$758,142
Recovered Stolen Property Value	\$63,093
Evidence Handled (number of items)	4,957

CODE COMPLIANCE

The Code Compliance Unit handles animal calls and code enforcement for the City of Belton. Two full-time staff members, who are cross-trained in these specialties, form the Code Compliance Unit.

Total Animal Calls	2,388
Total Code Enforcement	3,940
Animals Handled	1,050
High Grass	1,391
Trash & Open Storage	1,564
Junk Vehicles	264
Voluntary Compliance	99%



CITIZENS HELPING IN POLICE SERVICES (CHIPS)



The Belton Citizens Helping in Police Services (CHIPS) program was formed in 2011 to expand police resources through the use of volunteers. A benefit of the program is that it deters crime through visible presence. CHIPS supplement department resources by being extra eyes and ears while patrolling parks, shopping centers, and other areas where large groups gather.

In 2019, BPD participated in over 100 community outreach events. Additionally, volunteers help with administrative tasks inside the police building and at community outreach functions. CHIPS members are graduates of our Citizens Police Academy (CPA) Program. Graduates of CPA formed a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, the Belton Police Foundation, committed to supporting BPD initiatives and staff. Class #11 began on January 23, 2020.

CHIPS MEMBERS VOLUNTEERED 7,683 HOURS IN 2019

RU OK? PROGRAM & SILVER SANTA



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 seven lives to date.

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.

115 SILVER SANTA BAGS WERE DELIVERED IN 2019

POLICE EXPLORERS & YOUTH POLICE ACADEMY



A **Law Enforcement Explorer** Post was established in Belton in 2012. The program is intended for youth who have expressed an interest in the criminal justice field as a career, age 14 (who have completed the 8th grade) to age 20. 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. BPD Explorers can be seen working alongside officers at parades, community events, and Belton Tiger football games.

Belton School Resource Officers held the 10th annual **Youth Police Academy** (YPA) class in June 2019 for middle school students. The goal of YPA is to build rapport between police officers and youth in our community.

EXPLORER LIEUTENANT EZEQUIEL MORENO III RECEIVED A SCHOLARSHIP FROM THE BELTON POLICE FOUNDATION

2019 AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

OFFICERS OF THE QUARTER



Anthony Adame



Jason Wimbish



Dane Kantro



DeWayne Ravizee

LIFESAVING AWARD



Garrett Weikel

LES HALLBAUER AWARD



Deputy Chief
Larry Berg

LEADERSHIP COMMAND COLLEGE



Sergeant
William Hamilton



Lieutenant
Daniel Aguirre

TEXAS POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Chief Gene Ellis



RETIREMENT

Deputy Chief
Jen Wesley
40 Years



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



Adele Heath

CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR



Community Service Specialist
Tyler Norton

OFFICER OF THE YEAR



Sergeant
William Hamilton

BELTON POLICE

MEET THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF OUR TEAM



GISELE HOUSSEL
COMMUNICATIONS



NICHOLAS PEREZ
COMMUNICATIONS



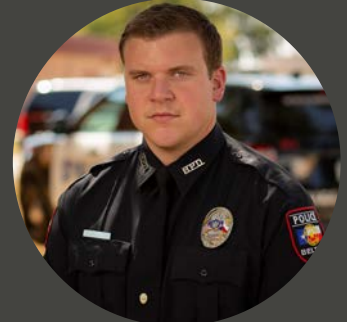
LARRY ROSS
FACILITY MAINTENANCE



DALTON MENIX-PATROL



MEGAN ADKINS-PATROL



TRAVIS LOCK-PATROL

RECOGNIZED TEXAS AGENCY



The Belton Police Department became the first Bell County law enforcement agency to be accredited as a Recognized Law Enforcement Agency by the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law Enforcement Recognition Program. The recognition program evaluates compliance with more than 160 Best Practices for Texas Law Enforcement. These best practices were developed by Texas law enforcement professionals to assist agencies to efficiently and effectively serve the public and protect individual rights. They cover all aspects of law enforcement operations including use of force, protection of citizen rights, vehicle pursuits, property and evidence management, and patrol and investigative operations. BPD was awarded Re-Recognition status in 2014 and 2018, putting it among the elite 5% of Texas law enforcement agencies.

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 McCallum, leads the BCPP team.

Belton Police Chaplain
Alton McCallum, LPC



