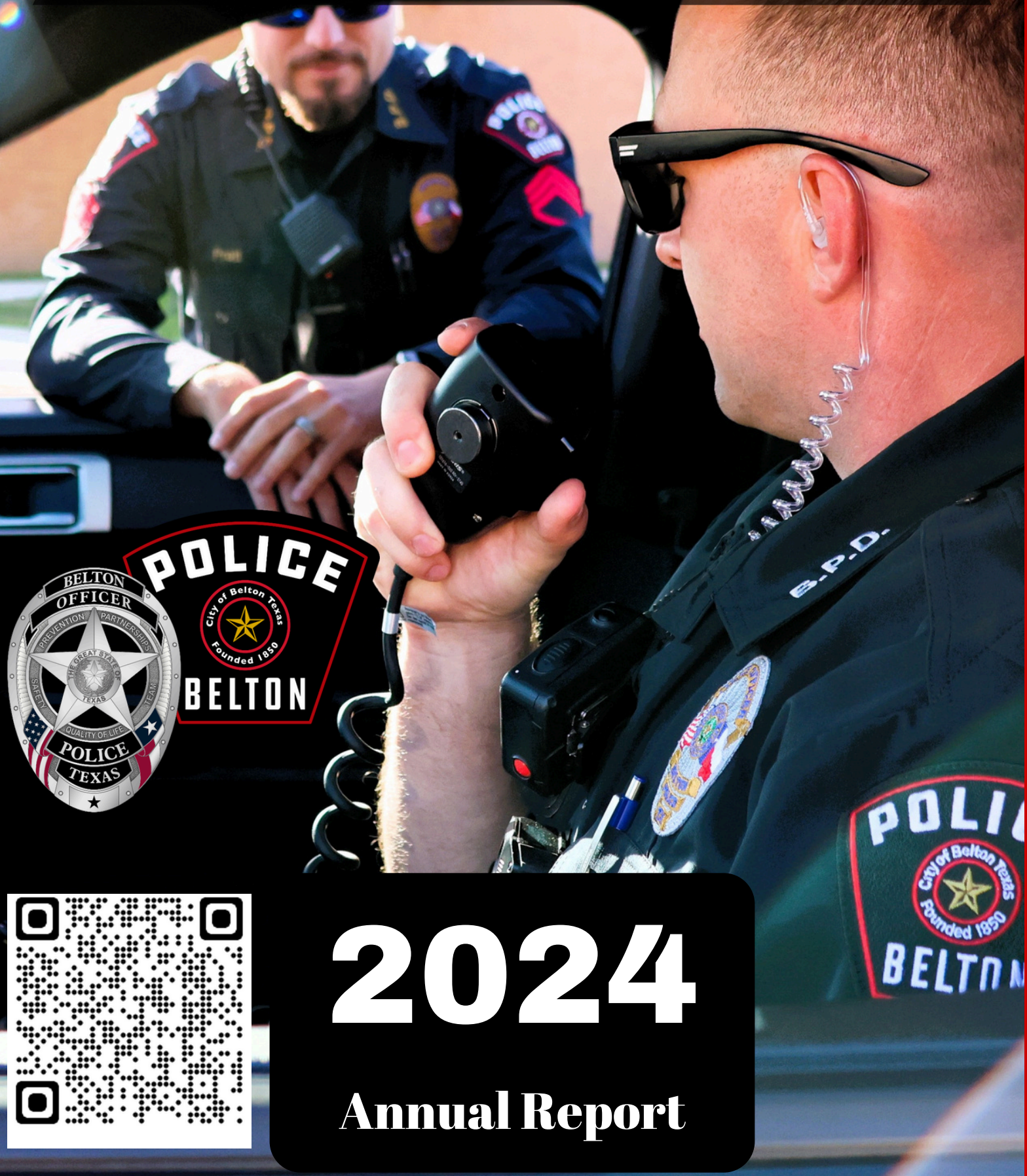


# Belton Police Department



**2024**  
**Annual Report**



## **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.**







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## MESSAGE FROM CHIEF BERG

It's been an absolute honor to serve as your Chief of Police this year in the City of Belton. I truly feel I have the best job in the world, and there are a few key reasons why. First, the unwavering support and dedication from our incredible citizens and city council make all the difference for the Belton Police Department. Second, with Belton being the county seat and at the crossroads of two major interstates, we have the unique opportunity to showcase our city to countless visitors. But above all, what I consider the greatest blessing is working alongside an amazing team of dedicated professionals. I am truly honored to work with such a group of servant guardians every day! If you follow us on social media, you'll see the daily recognition we receive for our commitment to excellence, day in and day out. We take pride in maintaining high standards, and the Belton Police Department continues to align with Best Practices and uphold accredited policies. This year, we conducted a comprehensive policy review, ensuring we stay aligned with these Best Practices while addressing the evolving needs of our community and stakeholders. We also refreshed our strategic plan, setting ambitious goals for the future. A huge highlight this year has been the success of our "RU OK? Program," which has now saved 17 lives.



This, along with our Silver Santa Program, demonstrates our deep commitment to the well-being of our elderly residents. We're proud to offer these vital programs, along with many others that benefit our community in countless ways. Our officers are frequently recognized for outstanding customer service, with multiple repeat winners of the City's Monthly Customer Service Awards—a true reflection of our focus on people and their needs. Belton continues to strive for excellence, and we're not slowing down! This annual report shines a spotlight on the many achievements and initiatives that demonstrate our dedication. Once again, I'm deeply honored to serve as your police chief, and I promise to continue leading alongside the outstanding men and women of the Belton Police Department to serve you with the utmost professionalism and care.

Thank you,  
Larry Berg  
Police Chief



## MESSAGE FROM DC AGUIRRE

As Deputy Chief of Police, I am honored to speak of this year's progress and reflect on our continued commitment to fostering a safe, vibrant community. The cornerstone of our efforts remains community policing—a philosophy that recognizes the importance of trust, transparency, and collaboration between law enforcement and the citizens we serve. This past year, we reaffirmed our dedication to building meaningful partnerships with residents, business owners, and community leaders. By revamping our presence through social media, Law Enforcement Youth Explorer Program, and the Citizen's Police Academy, we have strengthened communication and ensured that the voices of our community shape our policies and practices. These efforts not only promote trust but also empower residents to assume an active role in public safety. Recognizing that the challenges of modern policing require forward-thinking solutions, we have continued to explore strategies grounded in industry best practices and technology. Data-driven approaches to crime prevention and traffic safety have enhanced our ability to allocate resources effectively and proactively address emerging trends. Additionally, investments in tools like body-worn cameras and advanced in-car camera systems have improved accountability and operational efficiency.



Looking ahead, we remain committed to evolving with the needs of our community. This includes innovative approaches to mental health crises, such as our partnership and participation in the use of the Bell County Diversion Center. Our team will also continue to receive de-escalation training through our partnership with the Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE) Program.

In closing, I want to express my deepest gratitude to the brave men and women of our department, whose dedication and professionalism drive our mission forward every day. I also thank the community for its ongoing partnership and support. Together, we will continue to build a city where everyone feels safe, valued, and respected.

Daniel Aguirre  
Deputy Chief





## **CITY COUNCIL**

## **Sam A. Listi** **City Manager**

The men and women of the Belton Police Department are committed to upholding and elevating the quality of life in Belton. Each day they work to achieve compassionate and service-oriented law enforcement in our community. This 2024 Annual Report is a snapshot of the activities and accomplishments of the Department.

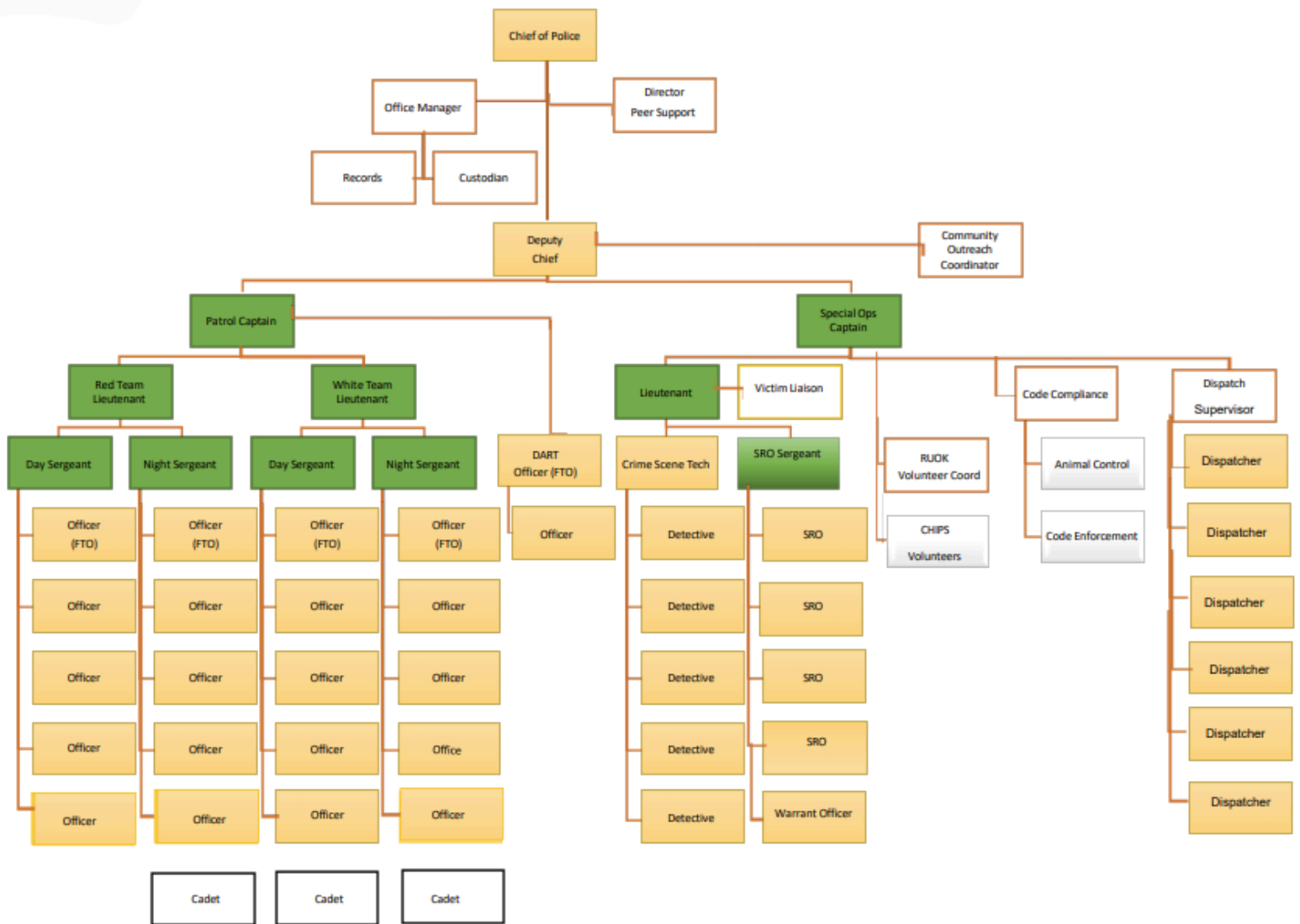
When possible, Belton police officers seek to prevent crime before it occurs. To be effective, this approach requires community outreach, developing relationships of trust, and maintaining professionalism in every facet of police work—whether on patrol, taking reports, assisting victims, or enforcing traffic laws.

I'm confident in the efforts of Belton PD to do what is needed for Belton residents, business owners, and visitors to feel safe and secure. Partnerships are critical to achieving this goal. Among the most important partnerships are the ones that Belton PD has with my office and with the Belton City Council. A police department that collaborates with public safety stakeholders and others in the community creates an environment where people look out for one another, and Belton is fortunate to operate under such favorable conditions.

As you consider the achievements detailed in this report, I invite you to consider the commitment—both in resources and dedication—that is necessary to bring about these accomplishments. I want to express my appreciation to the City Council, which sets a clear vision for public safety in the City's Strategic Plan, and to the Belton Police Department for its role over the past year in making Belton "safe and family friendly." If you need assistance, I know Belton PD will answer the call, and I'm proud to be associated with them in their important work.

Sam Listi  
City Manager







# 2025-2030

## ***SERVE AND PROTECT***

Guiding Principles:

- Prevention
- Partnerships
- Safety
- Team
- Quality of Life

## **STRATEGIC PLAN**

### ***CULTIVATE SAFE ENVIRONMENT***

Strategic Goal Highlights:

- Transition to Niche RMS with partner agencies.
- Launch Kiddo Card Program.
- Develop and implement table-top exercise with other city departments focused on realistic natural or manmade disasters.
- Develop plan to train staff during in-service on ALERRT.
- Establish a Task Force Officer/TFO position with FBI/DEA/Marshals to enhance investigations.
- Expand SWAT Team capabilities regionally.
- Work with city management for civilian compensation study.
- Re-organize Explorer Program to meet needs of department.
- Transition to RDS (Red Dot Sight) Pistol Platforms.
- Focus Code Compliance on high crime areas.







## PATROL OPERATIONS

The Patrol Operations Division is under the command of ***Captain Daniel Ontiveros***. He is assisted by two Lieutenants and four Sergeants. Patrol Operations is the main function and workhorse of Belton PD.

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, Red and White, which are made up of two 12-hour shifts each. Patrol is normally the first point of contact the public has with the police department. In 2024, officers responded to approximately **34,964** calls for service.





# SPECIAL OPERATIONS

The Special Operations Division is under the command of ***Captain Richard Spurgeon***. He is assisted by a Lieutenant, Communications Manager, and Sergeant. 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
- Accreditation

Belton PD prides itself in having strong relationships with the community.







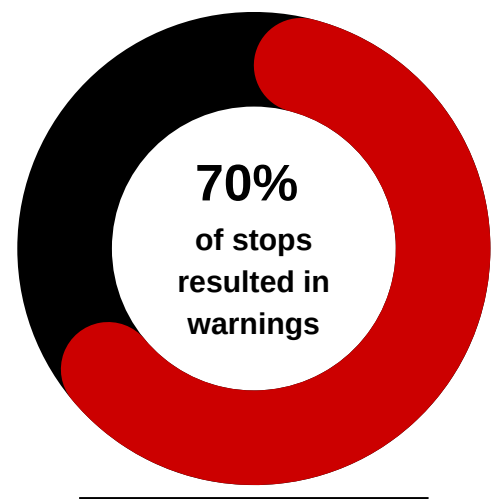
## 2024 TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

**9,776 TRAFFIC STOPS**

**2,749 CITATIONS**

**6,939 WARNINGS**

**88 ARRESTS**



## 2024 TRAFFIC CRASHES

**1,788 RESPONSES\***

**452 NON-INJURY**

**155 INJURY**

**3 FATALITIES\***

\*INCLUDES NON-REPORTABLE OR ASSISTED BY ANOTHER AGENCY





## **SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS**

The School Resource Officer (SRO) Unit is a partnership between BPD and Belton Independent School District (BISD). Five BPD Officers are assigned to 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 responses to disruptions, investigation of criminal activity on campuses, and presentations of prevention programs. SROs gave an oath to protect students at the beginning of the semester.



## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

The Criminal Investigations Division is staffed with five Detectives, a Crime Scene Technician, Crime Victim Liaison, and one Lieutenant. Detectives are responsible for solving crimes through follow-up investigations of criminal offenses that occur in the City of Belton. The Detectives also represent Belton in multi-jurisdictional partnerships.

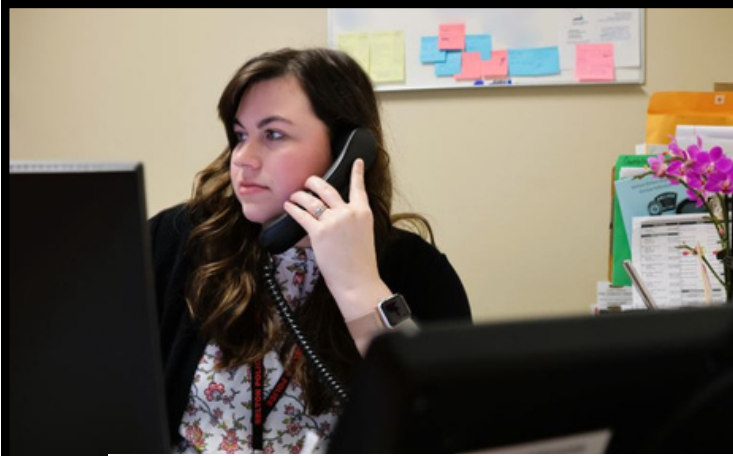


## CODE COMPLIANCE

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



# VICTIM SERVICES



Mary Deville, Crime Victim Liaison

- Take Me Home Program started in July.
- Inspired to adopt this program in March 2024 after Rogelio Arias, an elderly man who wandered away from home and was found deceased in a remote area two weeks later.
- Database created for law enforcement to quickly access information on people who are missing and need help getting home.
- Designed for individuals who may need special assistance, including those with dementia, autism, or specific mental health needs.
- 18 Take Me Home participants registered.
- Partnership with the Dementia Enrichment Center and BISD Delta Program.



- Belton PD has served 622 victims in 2024, with over 2,400 contacts made by Victim Services.
- Top three crimes for victims served (1. Domestic Violence: 91, 2. Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime: 86, 3. Adult Physical Assault: 84)
- Partnerships with Helping Hands to help provide food and clothes.
- New resource this year, 911 Phone Bank provides free cell phones for victims of crime in need.
- 7 new Victim Services volunteers in 2024, totaling 254 hours calling and assisting victims.



- In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, officers, detectives, staff, and Victim Services volunteers place 149 purple flags in front of Belton PD.
- Each flag symbolizes one of the **149 victims** affected by domestic violence in Belton this year.
- Since the start of 2024, there have been 642 calls made to 911 in Belton reporting various acts of domestic violence.
- Of those calls, 149 calls involved physical or verbal abuse, weapons, or injuries.



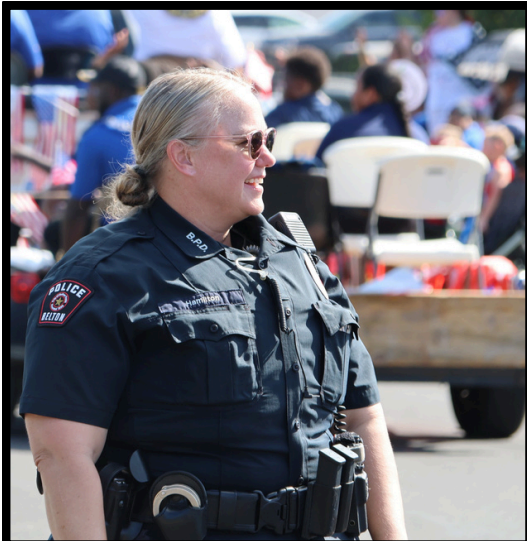
## 2024 POLICE BUDGET

ADMINISTRATION	\$677,200
PATROL	\$4,180,120
SPECIAL OPERATIONS	\$2,371,680
CODE COMPLIANCE	\$203,420
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>  \$7,432,420</b>



## 2024 GRANTS & REIMBURSEMENTS

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BULLETPROOF VESTS	\$7,200
AREA AGENCY ON AGING (RU OK PROGRAM)	\$21,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION (IN-CAR CAMERA UPGRADES)	\$38,000
VICTIMS OF CRIMES ACT CRIME VICTIM LIAISON	\$92,304
BELTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SRO & SECURITY	\$529,734
COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES GRANT	\$125,000
FEDERAL COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING GRANT	\$124,667



# 2024 POLICE ACTIVITY

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

## Top 10

### CALLS FOR SERVICE

1. Traffic Stops
2. 911 Calls
3. Traffic Accidents
4. Suspicious
5. Citizen Contact
6. Reckless Driver
7. Alarms
8. Welfare Concern
9. Disabled Vehicles
10. Meet with Complainant

### CALLS BY YEAR

**2021**

**33,450**

**2022**

**34,676**

**2023**

**34,008**

**2024**

**34,964**

## RESPONSE TIME IN MINUTES

**4.5**

PRIORITY 1

**4.13**

PRIORITY 2

**5.42**

PRIORITY 3







## CRIMINAL INCIDENTS

### 2024 ARRESTS

Total Arrests

**1,466**

Total Criminal Charges

**1,952**

Felony Charges

**258**

Misdemeanor Charges

**1,694**

**.3%**

Arrests

**.37%**

Part 1  
Index  
Crimes

**13%**

Vehicle  
Burglaries

**14.3%**

Traffic  
Stops

## MAJOR CRIME REPORT

CRIME	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
MURDER	2	2	3	0	0
SEXUAL ASSAULT	15	21	25	16	42
ROBBERY	7	4	6	3	1
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	17	14	10	13	10
BURGLARY/RESIDENCE	29	20	24	16	20
BURGLARY/BUILDING	26	34	18	38	39
THEFT/LARCENY	455	391	453	418	390
AUTO THEFT/UUMV	41	29	13	33	37
TOTAL	596	516	552	537	539

# RACIAL PROFILING

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.

**TOTAL STOPS :** 9776

## Gender

**Female:** 3706

**Male:** 6070

## RACE OR ETHNICITY:

**Alaskan/American Indian:** 34

**Asian/Pacific Islander:** 127

**Black:** 1538

**Hispanic/Latino:** 2559

**White:** 5518

## RACE OR ETHNICITY KNOWN PRIOR TO STOP:

**No:** 9264

**Yes:** 512

## REASON FOR STOP:

**Moving traffic violation:** 5052

**Pre-existing knowledge:** 107

**Vehicle traffic violation:** 4456

**Violation of traffic law:** 59

## LOCATION OF STOP:

**City street:** 9210

**County road:** 25

**Private property or other:** 119

**State highway:** 146

**US highway:** 276

## WAS A SEARCH CONDUCTED:

**No:** 9286

**Yes:** 490

## REASON FOR SEARCH:

**Consent:** 95

**Contraband in plain view:** 8

**Incident to arrest:** 100

**Inventory:** 75

**No search:** 9286

**Probable cause:** 212

## WAS CONTRABAND DISCOVERED:

**No:** 232

**Yes:** 258

## DESCRIPTION OF CONTRABAND:

**Alcohol:** 44

**Currency:** 0

**Drugs:** 148

**Other:** 45

**Stolen Property:** 8

**Weapons:** 14

## RESULT OF STOP:

**Arrest:** 88

**Citation:** 2678

**Citation & Arrest:** 71

**Verbal Warning:** 100

**Written Warning:** 6723

**Written Warning & Arrest:** 116

## ARREST BASED ON:

**Outstanding warrant:** 75

**Violation of penal code:** 141

**Violation of traffic law:** 59

## PHYSICAL FORCE USED:

**No:** 9764

**Yes:** 12

## INCIDENTS WITH INJURY: 3

## WAS ARREST DUE TO CONTRABAND FOUND:

**No:** 174

**Yes:** 58





# CHIPS, RU OK?, & BELTON POLICE FOUNDATION



The 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. Belton Police Department volunteers collectively served more than 3,500 hours in 2024. Additionally, over 100 victims were contacted and served by volunteers. Currently, 67 volunteers are part of our CHIPS Program.

CHIPS members are graduates of the Citizen's 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. The Belton Police Foundation funds essential equipment and programs for the Belton Police Department which are not included in the City budget.



CHIPS members staff the phones for the highly successful "RU OK? Program," which works to ensure safety and provide help to the elderly of Belton. The "RU OK? Program" is credited with saving 17 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. Silver Santa bags were delivered to 93 participants in 2024.





## LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORERS AND YOUTH CAMP



A Law Enforcement Explorer Post was established in Belton in 2012. The program is intended for youth (age 14-20) 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 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. New this year, the program expanded to Law Enforcement Explorers additionally receiving Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training during the summer camp. Following the spring storm, program leaders thought this certification would be a beneficial skillset for the Explorers to learn, and support the community in the process with additional CERT members ready to assist.

Belton School Resource Officers have held **12 Youth Police Camps** for middle school students. The goal of Youth Camp is to build rapport between police officers and youth in our community.

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# 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.

## ACCREDITED TEXAS AGENCY

The Belton Police Department became the first Bell County law enforcement agency to be recognized as an Accredited Law Enforcement Agency by the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law Enforcement Agency Best Practices Accreditation Program. The accreditation program evaluates compliance with 170 Texas best practice standards. These standards 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-accreditation status in 2014, 2018, and 2022 putting it among the elite 7% of Texas law enforcement agencies.





## CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY



The Citizen's Police Academy is an exciting and unique opportunity for people who live or work in Belton to get to know their Police Department. This annual academy is held once a week for nine weeks and gives the participants in depth experiences in all aspects of policing. Each week focuses on a new topic, which include:

- Patrol Operations and ride-alongs with Officers
- Use of Force with hands on demonstrations
- Criminal Investigations
- School Resource Officers
- Dispatch and jail tours
- Traffic stops and crash investigations
- Role playing experiences
- SWAT
- Building searches

Class 15 of CPA was held in 2024 and Class 16 began enrolling new members in December.





# Community Events



Coffee with a Cop



Snow Cones with a Cop



Pups on Patrol



Coffee with a Cop



National Night Out



Girl Scout Meeting



Fourth of July Parade



Cub Scout Tour



Candy Canes with a Cop



Flowers on the Water



Rucks on Main



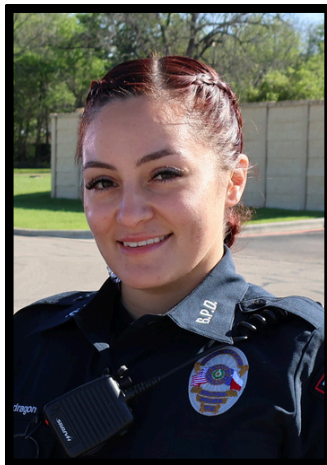
# 2024 AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

## Officer of the Quarter



1st

Chris Cano



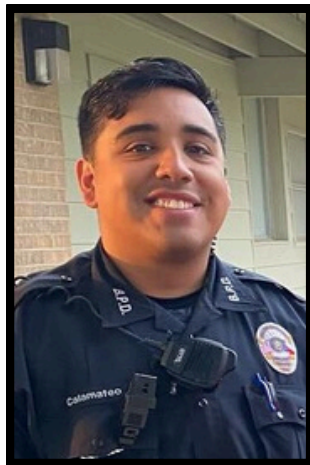
2nd

Ashley Mondragon



3rd

Joseph Gonzales



4th

Galileo Calamateo

## Officer of the Year



Megan Adkins

## Civilian Employee of the Year



Mary Deville

## Volunteer of the Year



Roxanne Sanders

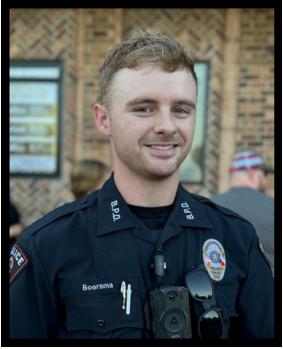
## Retirements



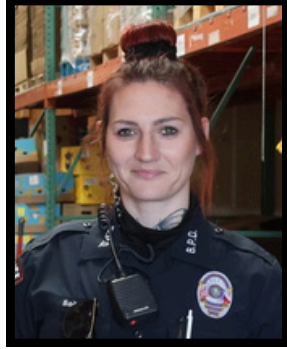
Robert Gatewood



# **NEW BELTON POLICE RECRUITS**



Joshua Boersma



Keri Bailey



Valentin Garcia



Scott Lopez



Connor McHugh



Eric Mojica



James Campbell



Taylor Blaser

# **NEW CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES**



Meredith  
Bender



Kimberly  
Thomas



Clyde  
Roberson



Nick  
McDaniel







**Belton Police Dept.**  
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**Belton, Texas 76513**  
**254.933.5840**

