



***Beeville Police
Department
Annual Report***

2023

Chief's Message

Dear Mayor, City Council, City Manager, City staff, and citizens of Beeville;

This document is annually published to provide our City Manager, elected officials, our community, and other stakeholders with information, relevant statistics, and identify strategies employed by the Police Department in enhancing community public safety and crime awareness. While not required by law or ordinance, this report is annually generated to identify our efforts in crime suppression, celebrate our successes, embrace and address our shortcomings, and remain objective and transparent to our constituents.

*The police department currently is in the midst of attaining the standards of the **Best Practice Accreditation Program** created by the Texas Police Chiefs Association Foundation accreditation program. To become an accredited police department, there are 173 standards the department must continuously meet. We are well positioned to attain this Accreditation in FY 24-25. The City Manager and Council have been very cooperative and understanding of the importance of such an attainment.*

*I am pleased to report to the Council that calendar year 2023 saw a significant decrease in many crime categories. Burglaries are down significantly to 92, a drop of 78.50%. This drop can be partly attributed to the arrest of several suspected burglars by BPD Officers and Detectives throughout the year. Please note that in 2023 BPD recovered stolen property to the value of over **\$81K**. Violent crime saw a slight increase in simple assaults.*

Sexual Assaults, Theft, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Robberies also trended down, while Fraud, narcotics sales and possession, Criminal Mischief, and Arson rose. The City experienced seven (7) Arsons reported in 2023, a 113.33% increase over 2022. Two suspects were arrested in four (4) of those cases and another fire was ultimately determined to be non-criminal causes. Two cases remain open. Illegal drug cases and search warrants have also increased, as we fight the fight against purveyors of illegal drugs and the crimes associated with such criminal activity.

Our new Report Management System, EForce, came online in February of 2023 and has become a great asset to the Department, allowing the us to collect timely and accurate crime and calls for service statistics and information, in addition to its other reporting features.

In 2023 six (6) Officers were Assaulted two of those assaults involved a deadly weapon resulting in one (1) Officer Involved Shooting causing the death of the assailant.

Kevin D. Behr, Chief of Police



Major Crime Statistics* for the City of Beeville - 2023

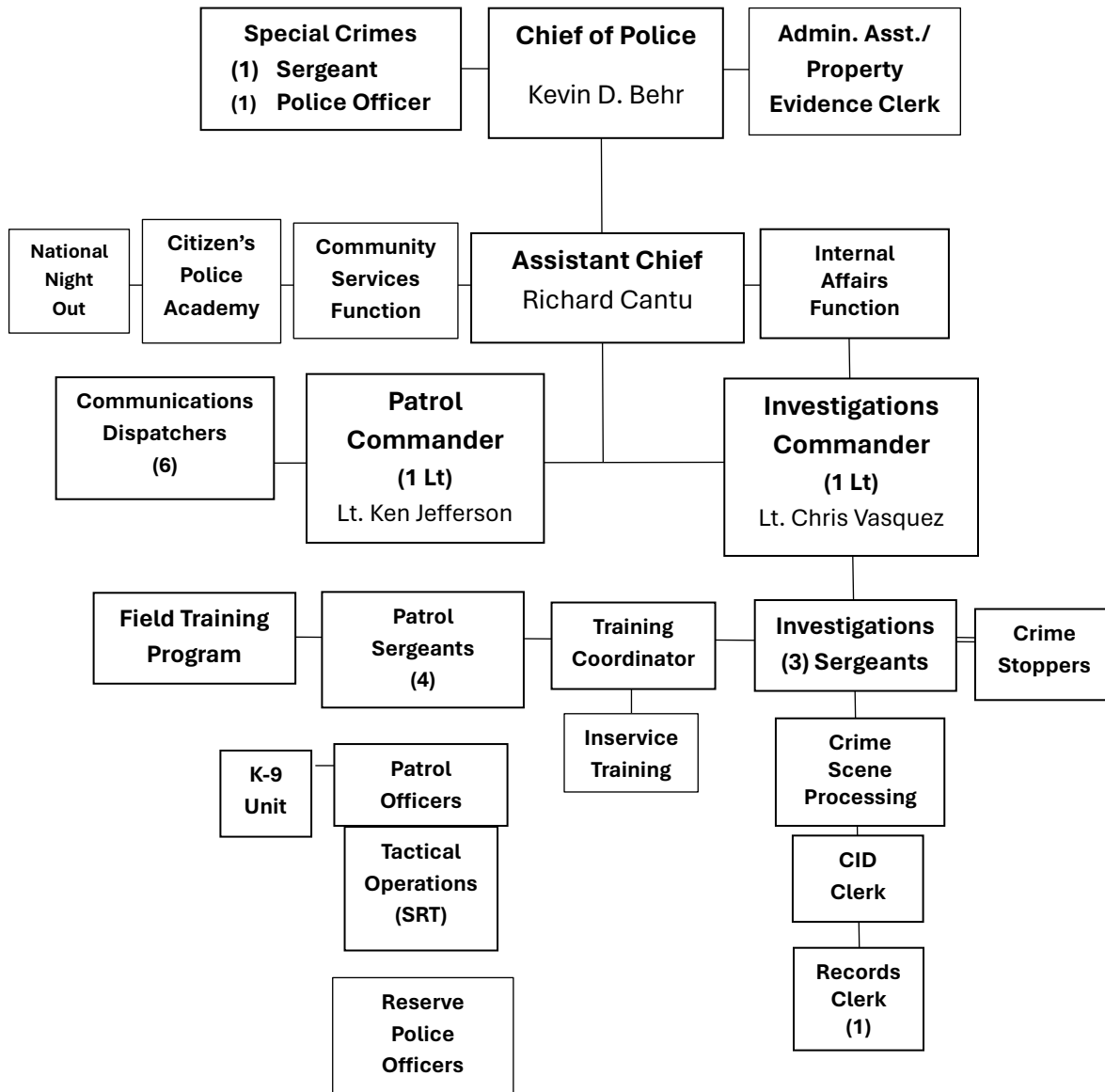
Offenses Reported	Number Reported	Percentage compared to 2022 ↑ ↓
Arson	7	↑ 133.33%
Assault		
• Aggravated	43	↓ -2.27%
• Simple	150	↑ 2.04%
Burglary (both residential and businesses)	92	↓ -78.50%
Motor Vehicle Theft	13	↓ -59.38%
Larceny (Theft)	231	↓ -8.50%
Murder	0	↓ -100%
Rape (Sexual Assault)	7	↓ -52%
Robbery	3	↓ -57.14%
Fraud	33	↑ 26.92%
Drug and Narcotics	100	↑ 26.58%
Criminal Mischief	126	↑ 9.35%
Kidnapping/Abduction	0	0
Forgery	18	↓ -20%

*Crime Statistics obtained from the Texas Department of Public Safety's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR).

OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENSES AND OTHER ENFORCEMENT DUTIES

- Traffic stops: 4871 ↑
- Driving While Intoxicated Arrests: 81 ↑
- Drug/narcotics Arrests and Search Warrants: ↑
 - 185 investigations;
 - 6 Search Warrants;
 - 143 arrests
 - resulting in seizures of illegal drugs, currency, firearms, and vehicles.
- Assaults on Peace Officers: 6 ↑
 - Aggravated Assault with weapon: 2
 - Assault on Peace Officer/no weapon: 4
 - Officers injured: 4 (*minor injuries, not hospitalized*)
 - Officer Involved Use of Deadly Force Causing Death: 1
- Mental Health Warrant – 53 ↑ MHMR Transports – 25
- Vehicle Crashes - 367 ↓ Funeral Escorts - 67
 - Crash Fatalities- 0 ↓ Total Citations – 1802 ↑
- BPD Pursuits – 2 ↓ Assistance to Other Agency: 147 ↑

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE RECEIVED BY BPD: 27827
BEEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



The City of Beeville Police Department serves a diverse population of approximately 14,000 citizens covering 6.8 square miles. In addition to our population, thousands of visitors and local, regional, national, and international vehicular traffic, both personal and commercial, travel through or around our city on any given day.

The Department strength is a total of thirty-six (36) positions.

- **Sworn personnel:** Twenty-three (23) sworn officers: eleven (11) police officers; four (4) Patrol Sergeants; (4) Detective Sergeants; a Patrol Lieutenant; a Detective Lieutenant; an Assistant Chief of Police and a Chief of Police.
- **Non-sworn personnel:** There are nine (9) civilian members; six (6) Telecommunicators, two (2) department clerks; one (1) Evidence Manager/Administrative Assistant.

Mission Statement

The Beeville Police Department is staffed by a dedicated and diverse group of professionals who are committed to working within the community to make the City of Beeville a safe and desirable place to live, work or visit. Our mission is to partner with the community to solve problems and improve public safety in a manner that is fair, impartial, transparent, and consistent.

Core Values

Integrity: The Beeville Police Department is built upon a foundation of ethical and professional conduct. We are committed to the highest level of moral principles and ethics. All members of the department will adhere to the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics, which is a part of the Beeville Police Department General Orders Manual.

Honesty: We will always be truthful and trustworthy.

Fairness: We are committed to equal application of the law to offenders and members of the public as well as the equal application of rules and regulations to all members of the department.

Courage: We are dedicated to meeting all challenges with the courage needed to accomplish our mission.

Compassion: We understand our role as community caretakers and temper our application of the law with compassion and empathy.

CODE OF ETHICS – (*IACP Code of Ethics, adopted 37 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.112*) All members of the Beeville Police Department shall abide by the Code of Ethics.

SWORN MEMBERS

1. As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve the community; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality, and justice.
2. I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all and will behave in a manner that does not bring discredit to me or to the Department. I will maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed both in my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the law and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.
3. I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, political beliefs, aspirations, animosities, or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice, or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.
4. I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of police service. I will never engage in acts of corruption or bribery, nor will I

condone such acts by other police officers. I will cooperate with all legally authorized agencies and their representatives in the pursuit of justice.

5. I know that I alone am responsible for my own standard of professional performance and will take every reasonable opportunity to enhance and improve my level of knowledge and competence. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession . . . law enforcement.

NON-SWORN MEMBERS

1. As a member of the Beeville Police Department, I regard myself as a member of an important and honorable profession.
2. I WILL perform my duties with efficiency to the best of my ability.
3. I WILL be always truthful. My conduct and performance of duties will be accomplished in an honest manner and will follow the laws; local, county, state, and country.
4. I WILL adhere to the confidentiality of the Law Enforcement profession.
5. I WILL NOT, in the performance of my duties, work for an unethical advantage or personal profit.
6. I WILL recognize at all times that I am a public safety member and that, ultimately, I am responsible to the public.
7. I WILL give the most efficient and impartial service of which I am capable at all times.
8. I WILL be courteous in all my contacts at all times.
9. I WILL regard my fellow members with equality, dignity, and respect.
10. I WILL be loyal to my fellow members, my superiors, and my agency.
11. I WILL accept responsibility for my actions.
12. I WILL strive to do only those things that will reflect honor on my fellow members, my agency, and myself.

DEPARTMENT SECTIONS

POLICE ADMINISTRATION

The leadership of the Beeville Police Department is comprised of a chief of police, and assistant chief of police. The role of the department's administration is to lead the agency, develop and implement policy, manage an annual budget, and ensure that the City of Beeville's Police Department remains a well-regarded, progressive law enforcement agency as we strive to be one of the finest in the great State of Texas.



Chief Behr and Assistant Chief Cantu
2023 Christmas Tree Giveaway

PATROL DIVISION

The BPD Patrol Division is our largest Division, with 14 uniform police officers assigned to patrol the streets of our city and respond to calls for service. The Patrol Division is the primary operational component of the Beeville Police Department and is responsible for the delivery of generalized police service to the Beeville community, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The Patrol Division is accountable for patrolling the streets in a proactive

approach, answering calls for service, taking initial reports and collecting any evidence at the time of the call.



Patrol Officers Puente and Koenig

The Patrol Division is responsible for the bulk of police services rendered by the Department. The Division mission is to prevent and suppress criminal activity, investigate complaints and offenses, apprehend offenders, ensure the safe and efficient movement of traffic, and furnish day-to-day enforcement services to the community. Typically, the patrol division will be the first responders to crimes that are reported, and the patrol officer will investigate crimes reported or discovered, make arrests, and collect information and evidence.

K9 Unit – The K-9 program exists for drug interdiction, particularly on U.S. Highway 59. Officer Thomas Dozier and his partner Uzi have seized an illicit drugs and money associated with those drugs. In addition, the K-9 program has aided numerous other agencies on the local, state, and federal level, and routinely completed sweeps of area schools.

DWI Enforcement – During 2023 the BPD has focused on Driving While Intoxicated offenses, making 81 arrests. 27% of the persons arrested were

female, 72% male. 62 arrested were Hispanic, 14 White, 3 Black, and 2 unknown. 5 were under 21, 22 were 21 to 29, 25 were 30 to 39, 8 were 50-59, and 8 were over 60 years of age. The top three reasons for arrests were made after the arresting officer observed #1 -16 observed Weaving/Fail to maintain single lane. #2 -13 persons arrested were speeding, #3 -11 persons were involved in a crash. The top three (3) times periods for the majority of DWI arrests by BPD for 2023 was 12am-1am (16); 1am to 2am (17); and 2am to 4am (7). Three (3) top days are Sunday- 27; Friday- 18; Thursday and Saturday tied with 14 each. The average blood alcohol content (BAC) of offenders was .15, almost double that of the state law minimum of .08 BAC.



The Department K9 officer Thomas Dozier and his partner Uzi.

NEW EQUIPMENT

Police Vehicles: Four new patrol units and two CID vehicles were placed on the streets in mid-2023 to replace older, unreliable units. The Department also changed the look of the patrol units. Patrol units are now white with a different, more visible marking scheme.

Bullet Resistant Vests: New bullet resistant body armor was also purchased for all officers with private donations to replace body armor that had reached its recommended use life limit.

New Pistols: The issued pistol was changed from a .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol to a 9mm semi-automatic pistol manufactured by Shadow Systems, a Texas based company. It is important to point out that these new pistols were not purchased with taxpayer money, but rather through the Department's Drug Forfeiture account, money lawfully seized and forfeited by drug dealers and other organized criminals to law enforcement to supplement the agency's ability to purchase needed items and equipment. The result observed is that officers are able shoot more accurately with this new pistol, as the aggregate shooting accuracy of the entire Department rose significantly. It is our constant goal that if BPD officers do have to engage in a deadly encounter, we respond to the threat in an expeditious, accurate, and well-trained manner.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

The Criminal Investigation Division (CID) for BPD is comprised of four (4) plainclothes Detective Sergeants and one (1) Police Officer-Investigator and is led by a Lieutenant. This Division is responsible for the investigation of;

- crimes against persons,
- domestic violence,
- property crimes,
- sexual assaults, and
- vice and narcotics offenses

Detectives are also responsible for processing crime scenes, prepares case files, evidence for the prosecuting attorney for filing of charges, conducting follow-up investigations, testifying before grand juries and in criminal trials; locates and interviews witnesses; and follows cases through court to completion. In addition, Detectives conduct sensitive investigations into allegations of official misconduct or violations of law or policy by civilian members or BPD police officers and conducts internal affairs investigations

as required. Further, Detectives maintain contact with informants in obtaining information about cases under investigation and reviews reports and intelligence from other law enforcement agencies.



CID Detective Sergeants Joshua Meakins and Baldo Salazar developing latent fingerprints.

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

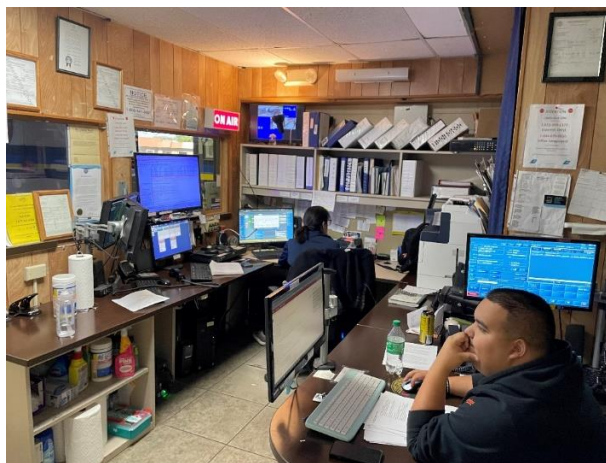
The radio is the police officer's lifeline and the most efficient and expeditious means of contacting either the telecommunicator or other officers on patrol. It serves not only as a means of receiving and transmitting assignments, but can also be used to summon assistance, broadcast alarms, and coordinate field activities. It is one of the most important tools that the officer has at their disposal. As well as other needed equipment, each patrol unit is equipped with a computer terminal that has multiple uses for the officer, to include the ability to receive and transmit relevant information between other officers and the telecommunicator.

The Department's Communications Division is charged with receiving information from the public related to crime or other situations that require police, fire and/or EMS response, and transmitting that information to the appropriate units in a timely and expeditious manner. The telecommunicator,

upon receiving a call for service, will determine the nature of the incident and obtain the necessary information required by patrol units in the field.

Information gathered is transmitted in a standardized format via both radio and computer from the dispatch terminal to the officer's in-car terminal. It is Department policy that calls for service are categorized by priority. We recognize that at times there is a delay in response to a call for service that falls to a lower priority. A report of an illegally parked vehicle versus a Robbery in Progress is an example of call prioritization. All available officers would be sent to Robbery in Progress call. Another example is a loud music complaint and a family disturbance/assault in progress. Although delay may occur to calls of lower priority, it is also our policy to respond to those calls once higher priority calls are handled.

Patrol units are supplied with information regarding the type of call for service, the location or address, including the cross streets, apartment number or floor, and any additional information the telecommunicator can obtain. Additional information may include the name and telephone number of the complainant, a description of the person requiring assistance, a description or direction of flight of suspects and / or the number of separate calls received at 911 regarding the call for service. As officers respond, it is the duty of the telecommunicator to update units as pertinent information is received.



BPD Communications Center

USE OF FORCE REPORTING

BPD collects its Use of Force statistics as a best practice and compiles Use of Force statistics and reports those figures in the Annual Report to maintain our pledge of transparency. The Department continually reviews and studies each use of force incident to determine if the appropriate level of resistance and force used by the officer(s) to overcome resistance.

BIAS BASED/RACIAL PROFILING

Bias based / racial profiling is defined as a law enforcement initiated action (ex. traffic stop, pedestrian stop, detention, search, seizure, issuance of a citation, arrest) based solely upon an individual's race, ethnicity, or national origin, or on the basis of other criteria (ex. racial or ethnic stereotypes) rather than upon the individual's behavior, activity, or other lawful reasons for the law enforcement action.

Beeville Police Officers are strictly prohibited from engaging in bias based / racial profiling. To assure the public of the Beeville Police Department's commitment to providing service and enforcing laws in a fair and equitable manner, citizens who believe they have been the subject of bias based / racial profiling may file a written complaint with any employee of the Beeville Police Department. Complaint/Complement forms are available through any supervisor, the Telecommunicator(s) on duty at the police station, or it may be accessed through the Beeville Police Department webpage at; www.beevilletx.org/departments/PoliceDepartment/PDComplaintandPolicy

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

It is our goal as a city to better engage our community in positive and meaningful ways. We believe that the more positive contact we have with our citizens, the better the relationship and support for our city, department, and its members.

Building Bridges Project

Our goal and objective for this project is to attract participation from our lower socio-economic population through positive and meaningful engagement. This initiative targets those who may not have trust in law enforcement and have traditionally avoided interaction with local police and/or with other departments within city government. A proven strategy in contemporary policing is to interact with the community at a neutral venue that provides the public with both opportunity and reasons to attend. Our belief in hosting positive engagement events is if you make it kid-friendly the parents will come.

To bring city government closer to the citizens they serve, the **Building Bridges Project** was spearheaded by the BPD with the sole purpose of creating, engaging, and maintaining the trust of the public and enhancing understanding of our goals in maintaining our community.

By hosting community-centered presentations and services offered in a festive, neutral, and fun atmosphere that centers around our children and citizens, we believe that the community will come out to meet us at our beautiful public parks. To fulfill this vision, the Department sought out partners, receiving a generous grant from the Joe Barnhart Foundation to bring our public engagement project to fruition.

It is our intention to combine with our other city departments to host this event. City entities such as our Community Engagement, Animal Control, Beeville Main Street, Developmental Services, Parks and Recreation, and Public Works will be in attendance assisting with this event.

Four events during the year

The first event will occur two weeks before the start of the school year, with the objective of providing school supplies, clear backpacks, shoes, and clothing to school age children.

The second event will be the night of National Night Out, rotating city neighborhood parks and other venues each year supporting crime prevention and public safety.

The third event at Halloween and held at a centrally located park, providing safety items such as whistles, flashlights, glowsticks, and, of course, candy, food, and other refreshments. Various games and activities will be available. Easter will be the fourth event, again rotating the hosting park annually, and providing easter egg hunts, hot dogs, candy, toys and children-centered activities and events in partnership with our other city departments.

We have great things happening at the Beeville Police Department and 2024 will be a great year!

