

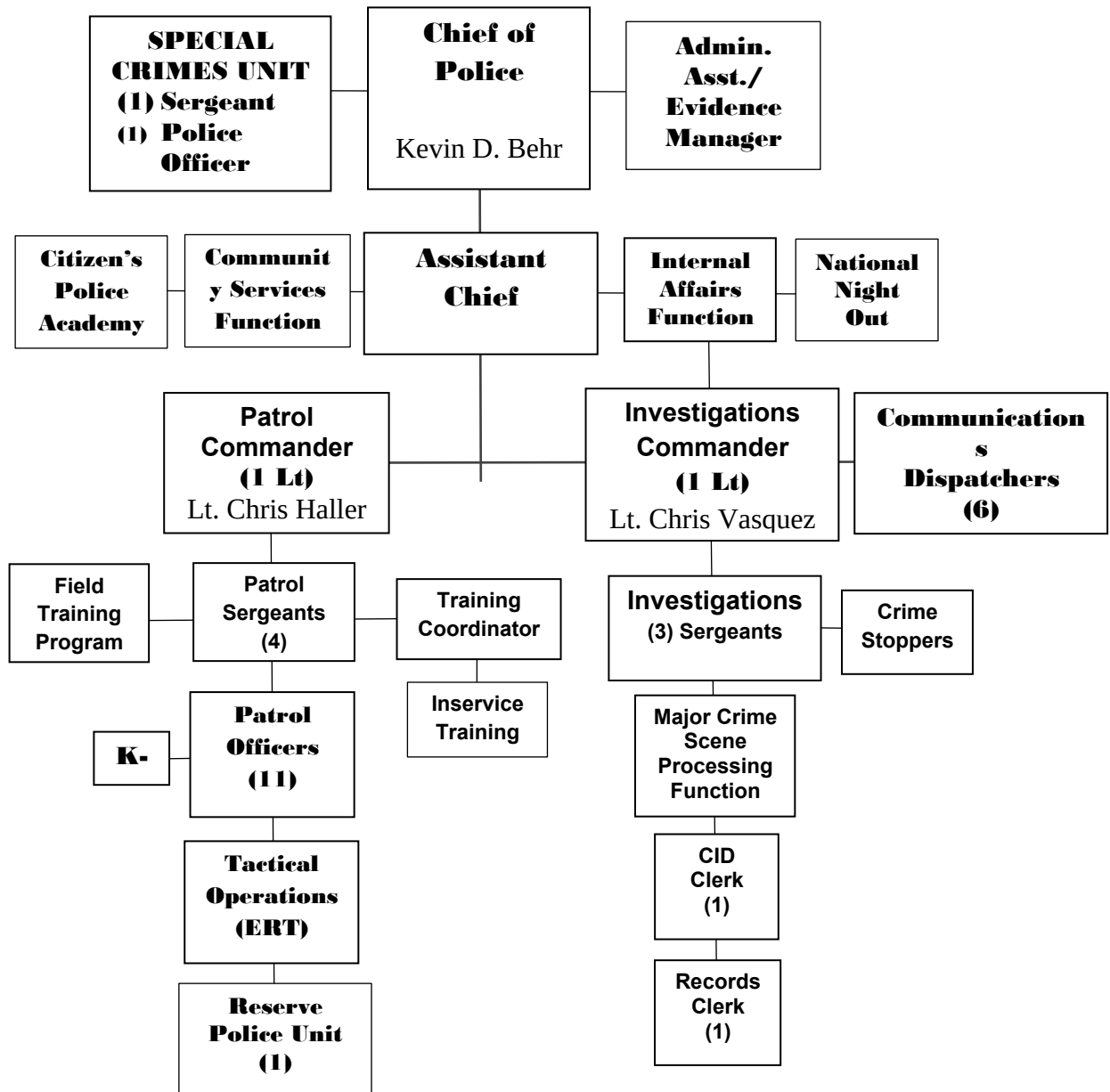
Beeville Police Department

Annual Report

2024



BEEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



The City of Beeville Police Department serves around 14,000 citizens across 6.8 square miles, 95 miles of streets and 1,398 city blocks. Thousands of visitors and various vehicles, both personal and commercial, also pass through or around the city daily.

The Department sworn strength is a total of thirty-two (32) funded positions.

- **Sworn personnel:** BPD is budgeted for Twenty-three (23*) sworn officers:
 - eleven (11) police officers;
 - four (4) Patrol Sergeants;
 - three (3) Criminal Investigations Division Detective Sergeants;
 - one (1) Special Crimes Unit Sergeant
 - one (1) Patrol Division Lieutenant;
 - one (1) Criminal Investigations Division Lieutenant;
 - one (1) Assistant Chief of Police and a
 - one (1) Chief of Police.
 - one (1) Reserve police officer

****Note: As of the end of 2024, The BPD is currently at its fully allotted police officer positions for the first time in more than twelve (12) years.***

- **Non-sworn personnel:** There are nine (9) civilian members.
 - six (6) Telecommunicators,
 - two (2) department clerks;
 - one (1) Evidence Manager/Communications Supervisor/
Administrative Assistant.

Mission Statement

The Beeville Police Department, staffed by dedicated professionals, works with the community to ensure Beeville is safe and desirable. Our mission is to improve public safety fairly, impartially, transparently, and consistently.

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.

Chief's Message

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

The annual report provides important information for the City Manager, elected officials, the community, and other stakeholders about the Beeville Police Department's activities, achievements, and challenges. It includes critical statistics and describes strategies used to enhance public safety and increase crime awareness.

Although not legally required, the public release of the BPD Annual Report demonstrates the department's commitment to transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement. It offers a detailed overview of crime prevention efforts, reports accomplishments, and identifies areas for growth and opportunities of self-improvement, emphasizing the department's dedication to serving the community.

Kevin D. Behr, J.D.
Chief of Police



CRIME STATISTICS

Overview of Crime in Beeville

In 2024, we experienced a rise in the crime rate in several areas. Burglaries increased from 92 in 2023 to 109, an 18% rise. Violent crimes such as assault, aggravated assault, kidnapping, and sexual assaults also rose. Reports of fraud, and arrests for narcotics sales and possession increased compared to 2023. Larceny reports dropped by 44%, criminal mischief (*the intentional destruction of another's property*) also dropped.

Tracking Crime

Index crimes, also known as **Part I offenses**, are a specific set of serious criminal crimes that are tracked and reported by law enforcement agencies to both the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). These crimes include:

- Homicide
- Rape
- Robbery
- Burglary
- Aggravated Assault
- Larceny over \$50
- Motor vehicle theft
- Arson

For clarity to the reader, some of the crime labels used above are not used in the Texas Penal Code (TPC). An example is that the elements of Rape in the Texas Penal Code are listed under the Sexual Assault statute, and the elements of Larceny and Motor Vehicle theft all fall under the TPC under a consolidated Theft Statute.

Early in 2024, the department launched the No Trespassing Program, allowing businesses and property owners to post signs and permit officers to arrest violators, resulting in 41 arrests for trespassing.

Efforts to combat illegal drug activity continued, leading to more drug-related cases, arrests, and search warrants. We remain committed to addressing crime linked to illegal drug use and distribution, including property crimes like thefts and burglaries.

Index crimes Offenses Reported	Number Reported 2024	Number Reported 2023	% ↑ ↓
Arson	7	7	(0%)

Assault			
• Aggravated	99	43	(+130%)
• Simple	120	50	(+140%)
Burglary (both residential and business)	109	92	(+18%)
Motor Vehicle Theft	12	13	(-7.5)
Larceny (Theft)	129	231	(-44%)
Homicide	1	0	(+100%)
Rape (Sexual Assault, Fondling, Sodomy)	9	7	(+28%)
Robbery	4	3	(+25%)
Fraud	58	33	(+76%)
Drugs and Narcotics	163	100	(+63%)
Criminal Mischief	105	126	(-17%)
Kidnapping/ False Imprisonment	3	2	(+33%)
Forgery	18	18	(0%)

OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENSES AND ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

TRAFFIC STOPS	3197	CITATIONS	966	REPORTABLE CRASHES	186
ALL ARRESTS	913	DWI/DUI ARRESTS	62	FATAL CRASHES	0
OFFENSE REPORTS TAKEN	680	DRUG ARRESTS	163	SEARCH WARRANTS EXECUTED	8
MENTAL HEALTH WARRANTS	76	MHMR TRANSPORTS	32	FUNERAL ESCORTS	53
SUICIDES	4	VEHICLE CRASHES	186	AUTO FATALITIES	0
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	65	CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT EVENTS	5	OFFICERS ASSAULTED	5
OFFICERS INJURED	1	OFFICER USE OF DEADLY FORCE	0	VEHICLE PURSUITS	8
CRIMINAL TRESPASS ARRESTS	41	WARRANT ARRESTS	261	ASSIST OTHER AGENCIES	239
BURGLARY ARRESTS	14	WEAPONS OFFENSES	16	RECOVERED STOLEN PROPERTY	\$35,994

TOTAL CALLS RECEIVED BY BPD COMMUNICATIONS:
26,461

DEPARTMENT DIVISIONS and FUNCTIONS

POLICE ADMINISTRATION

The Beeville Police Department is managed by a Chief and Assistant Chief of Police. They create policies, handle the budget, supervise the operations of various department areas, and maintain the department's reputation in Texas.



Police Chief Kevin Behr



Assistant Police Chief Richard

Cantu



CHIEF BEHR AS KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT CADET GRADUATION 2024

PATROL DIVISION

Lieutenant Christopher (Chris) Haller leads the BPD Patrol Division, which includes eleven uniformed officers and four sergeants. This division patrols Beeville's streets, ensuring citizen safety and responding to service calls 24/7. As the primary operational unit, they deliver general police services, enforce laws and ordinances, respond to calls, conduct initial investigations, make arrests, and gather evidence.

Patrol officers aim to prevent crime, investigate complaints, apprehend offenders, manage traffic safety, and enforce laws. Effective patrolling requires gaining residents' trust through community policing, which has grown since the 1980s.

Officers assigned to the Patrol Division must possess an understanding of the modern principles, methods, and procedures of the technical aspects of law enforcement, including:

- Criminal investigation
- Identification and investigative techniques
- Techniques in collection and preservation of evidence
- Rules of evidence
- Arrest procedures
- Search and seizure procedures
- Patrol techniques
- Intelligence gathering/sharing
- Knowledge of criminal and traffic law and enforcement
- Crime prevention and public relations
- Thorough and current knowledge of federal, state, and local criminal laws and the court decisions that affect their application.



**BPD officers assisting an elderly woman to her
house**



BPD Officers at the scene of a barricaded wanted felon holding a hostage



Academy Graduation for new officers Cano and Barron

K9 Unit – The K-9 program focuses on drug interdiction, mainly on U.S. Highway 59. Officer Thomas Dozier and his partner Uzi have seized illicit drugs and related money on numerous occasions and represent the point of the spear in the department’s war on drugs. The program also assists local, state, and federal agencies and regularly conducts sweeps in area schools.



K9 Demonstration at local school

DWI Enforcement – During 2024 the BPD focused on Driving While Intoxicated offenses, with 61 arrests.

- 44 Hispanic,
- 8 White,
- 3 Black
- 4 were under 21
- 24 were 21 to 29,
- 11 were 30 to 39,
- 8 were 50-59, and
- 2 were over 60 years of age.

The top three reasons for DWI arrests made after the officer observed;

#1 – Speeding (13)

#2 – Crash (12)

#3 – Weaving/fail to maintain single lane (9)

- The top three (3) times periods for the majority of DWI arrests by BPD for 2024 were 12am-1am (19); 1am to 2am (6); and 2am to 3am (4).
- Three (3) top days are Sunday- 15; Thursday and Saturday tied with 12 each,
- The average blood alcohol content (BAC) of offenders was .12, the state law minimum is .08 BAC.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

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

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

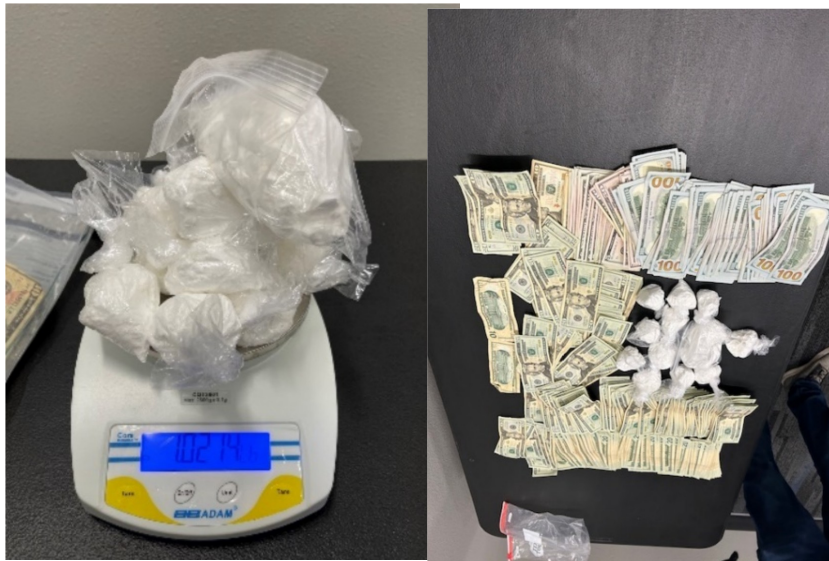
Detectives are also responsible for processing crime scenes, preparing case files and evidence for the prosecuting attorney for filing of charges, conducting follow-up

investigations, testifying before grand juries and in criminal trials; locate and interview 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 review intelligence from various sources.

SPECIAL CRIMES UNIT

Department members assigned to the Special Crimes Unit are responsible for Narcotics, Gambling, prostitution, and Organized Crime Investigations. These investigators work closely with the Bee County Sheriff's Office and state and federal law enforcement agencies to fight the war on drugs and other vice related crimes.



Some of the Illegal Drugs and currency seized through BPD Drug Investigations in 2024

The Methamphetamine seizure shown above took place at a mobile home where two children lived. BPD Special Crimes Investigators executed the search warrant before they returned from school, arrested the dealer, and confiscating the drugs and drug money. Drugs were found in areas easily accessible to the children. CPS was notified.

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

The radio and in-car computer terminals are essential tools for police officers, allowing them to stay connected with dispatchers and other officers while on the field. Radios provide real-time communication, enabling those officers to quickly receive updates, coordinate responses, and call for assistance. In-car computer terminals enhance this capability by allowing officers to access and transmit written information, further supporting efficient decision-making.

The Communications Division plays a key role in ensuring that public information is managed properly, and that dispatch is responsive to various emergency services. Telecommunicators prioritize calls based on urgency, ensuring that critical situations are handled first, while still addressing all calls in due time.

By relaying crucial details such as location, suspect descriptions, and updates to officers in the field, dispatchers ensure officers have the information they need to respond effectively and safely. This collaboration between officers and dispatchers ensures that police, fire, and EMS services can operate efficiently and effectively in all situations.



BPD Communications Center

RECORDS DIVISION

While the Beeville Police Department is comprised of a number of functional areas, such as Administration, Communications, Patrol, CID, the one that many citizens may not be aware of is the Records Section; a critical area that is staffed by 2

employees and dedicated to the review and filing of internal reports, preparation of CID records and files, management of wrecker and business and residential alarm permits. fulfilling and providing open records requests, as well as several additional tasks. The division also handles the expungement of records, non-disclosure orders, sealing of juvenile records, and both are licensed telecommunicators and serve as backup dispatchers. The division located at the BPD headquarters, located at 402 N. Washington, and is open to the public Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.



Angie Ulloa and Krystal Espinoza

NEW EQUIPMENT

- **Police Vehicles:** Three new patrol units and two CID vehicles were placed on the streets in 2024 to replace older units. 3 additional vehicles were approved by the City Council in October with delivery in March of 2025.
- **Body Cameras:** New body cameras were purchased in October for all officers with implementation in February of 2025.
- **In-car Cameras:** All Patrol vehicles will now have in-car cameras to be installed in early 2025.
- **New bullet resistant vests:** New tactical vests were purchased for all officers to replace old vests in 2024.

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 or racial profiling involves law enforcement actions based solely on race, ethnicity, or national origin rather than behavior or legal reasons. The Beeville Police Department will not tolerate and strictly prohibits bias-based or racial profiling, demonstrating its commitment to fair and impartial service. Citizens can file a written complaint if they believe they have experienced such profiling. Complaints can be submitted to any department employee to ensure proper handling and accountability.

Complaint/Complement forms are available through any supervisor, the Telecommunicator(s) on duty at the police station, or it may be accessed on the Beeville Police Department webpage at;

www.beevilletx.org/departments/PoliceDepartment/PDComplaintandPolicy

In 2024, NO COMPLAINTS of Racial Profiling were received by BPD.

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

Building Bridges Project

Goal

Our goal is to engage our community positively and meaningfully through positive interactions with citizens will strengthen relationships and support our city, department, and its members.

Objectives

The Building Bridges Project aims to engage lower socio-economic groups by promoting trust and interactions with law enforcement and other city departments. The strategy involves using neutral, family-friendly venues to encourage community participation and meaningful interactions.

Project Vision

The Beeville Police Department (BPD) launched the Building Bridges Project to enhance trust and understanding between the city government and citizens. It holds community events to facilitate interactions with city representatives, focusing on children and families to strengthen ties with the entire community.

Key Support and Partnerships

To realize this vision, in 2023 the Department secured a generous grant from the Joe Barnhart Foundation, which will ensure the success of our public engagement project. Furthermore, we collaborate with other city departments, including:

- **Animal Control**
- **Beeville Main Street**
- **Developmental Services**
- **Parks and Recreation**
- **Code Enforcement**

Our priority in 2024 is to engage children, fostering positive interactions with their parents and siblings through this engagement.

Five Building Bridges Project events held during 2024

BACK to SCHOOL

The first **Building Bridges Project** event was held a week before school started, the Department distributed school supplies, clear backpacks, shoes, and clothing to children. We served over 100 hot dogs to the kids and their families, as well as drinks, and candy.

August: Trevino Park “Back to School” Event





The second event was on the night of **National Night Out** at the Bee County Courthouse in partnership with other entities.

October 2024 National Night Out





HALLOWEEN

The third event at Halloween was held in conjunction with the Beeville Fire Department, providing safety items such as whistles, flashlights, glowsticks, safety related coloring books and, of course, candy, food, and other refreshments.



THANKSGIVING

The fourth event was conducted during the Thanksgiving Holiday, when officers delivered 10 Turkeys with all the trimmings to 10 different needy families chosen by the officers on the day before Thanksgiving.

CHRISTMAS

The Fifth event was very dear to the hearts of your officers. On December 23, BPD officers delivered many Christmas gifts to children throughout the city that would not have had any presents had we not delivered gifts of toys, shoes, and clothing to them.



BPD Officers Delivering Christmas Gifts

Without the grant awarded to the Department by the Joe Barnhart Foundation, none of the events would have occurred and we are

thankful that we were able to put smiles on many parents and children's faces.

We have great things happening at the Beeville Police Department and 2025 will be a great year!



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Department would like to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the following individuals and organizations for their continued support and confidence in us.

OUR CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

- **Mayor and Ward 1 Councilman Michael Willow II**
- **Mayor Pro-Tem and Ward 2 Councilman Benie Puente**
- **Ward 3 Councilwoman Crystal Franco**
- **Ward 4 Councilman Ray Garcia, Jr.**
- **Ward 5 Cyndi Carrasco**

OUR CITY GOVERNMENT

- **City Manager John Benson**
- **Assistant City Manager Daniel Dorgan**
- **City Secretary Gabriela (Gabby) Hernandez**
- **Finance Director Kristine Horton**
- **Human Resources Director Dena Hernandez**
- **Information Technologist Ryan Guthrie**

OUR PARTNERS IN FIGHTING CRIME

- **Bee County Sheriff's Office**
- **Bee County Constables**
- **Texas Department of Public Safety**
- **Beeville ISD Police Department**
- **Coastal Bend College Police Department**
- **Crime Stoppers**
- **County and District Attorney's Offices**

AND A SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FOR THE JOE BARNHART FOUNDATION, WHO BELIEVED IN US AND THE CITIZENS WE SERVE

But most of all, we thank the overwhelming number of Beevillians who believe in us and support our efforts to provide a safe and comfortable environment for our citizens and visitors.