

2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Highlights and Quick Review

- Ranked the 65th in the Top 100 Safest Cities in America by NeighborhoodScout and 8th in the 50 Safest Cities in Texas by SafeWise, as determined from crime data published in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's annual Uniform Crime Report.
- Developed 1-5-10 Strategic Plan to address the challenges presented by a growing community with changing service needs.
- Expanded community services and public education programs by dedicating a full-time officer to these important crime prevention efforts.
- Enhanced mobile investigation capabilities by dedicating and equipping a specialized crime scene evidence collection vehicle.
- Leveraged the Crime Stoppers Grant opportunity to purchase body worn audio / video systems for School Resource Officers and a critical incident negotiations communication system.
- Conducted a city-wide traffic compliance study and created the Traffic Enforcement and Management (T.E.A.M.) Unit to address local traffic problems and promote compliance with established laws in an effort to reduce collisions and increase traffic safety.
- Standardized vehicle graphics to create a highly visible police fleet that aids in deterring crime and presents a more professional and recognizable public presence.
- Successfully graduated the 12th Citizen Police Academy and the 1st Advanced Citizens Police Academy.
- Assisted over 400 local families and 3000 children through our annual Blue Santa program.
- Nationally recognized for participation in the 2013 National Night Out community building campaign that heightens crime prevention awareness and strengthens the police - community partnerships.
- Expanded digital citation and mobile data terminal capabilities, thereby improving data collection and increasing efficiency.
- MADD (Mother Against Drunk Driving) recognized Officer John Carnley with a Commitment Hero Award for his ongoing commitment to DWI investigation and enforcement. Likewise the organization recognized Officer Jinger Fuller with the "Mitchie Mitchell" Commitment to Youth Award, which is presented to officers who exemplify a superior commitment to prevent underage drinking through education and enforcement.
- Celebrated 35 years of service to the Leander community.



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Leander Police Department or at Leander PIO

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

The Leander Police Department strives to be a full-service public safety agency and is committed to providing a wide range of police services to our community. The basic services provided by the department today are 24-hour uniform patrol services, criminal investigations, 9-1-1 emergency communications and animal control, as well as a variety of crime prevention programs, public education opportunities and collaborative partnerships with multiple stakeholders throughout Leander.

The Leander Police Department is committed to the “partnership based policing” philosophy as the fundamental manner in which we interact with the community and deliver police services. Partnership based policing refers to the dynamic and intimate relationship between the people of a community and their police. We cannot be everywhere at once, so we rely on these essential community partnerships to identify, prioritize, and solve contemporary problems such as crime, fear of crime, disorder and neighborhood problems, with the goal of improving the quality of life for all members of the Leander community.



The structure of the department is divided into four basic areas – those of command, patrol operations, criminal investigations and support services. The command staff consists of the chief, assistant chief and three lieutenants over patrol, criminal investigations and support services. The command staff is charged with providing overall leadership and guidance to department operations, internal affairs, strategic and fiscal planning, policy initiation and oversight on general department concerns.

The Patrol Division is probably the most familiar and recognizable part of the police department, operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Patrol officers drive highly visible vehicles, which are equipped with the latest audio / video recording system, speed detection equipment, and communications / data technology allowing them to do their job more effectively and efficiently. Patrol officers are the department’s first responders who provide proactive patrols and assistance to citizens in need.

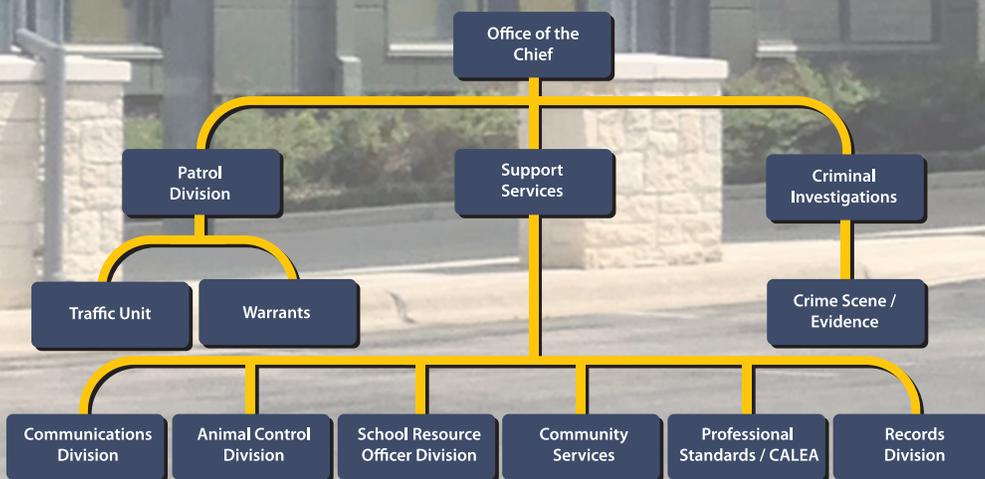


The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) conducts follow-up investigations into crimes against people and property. CID is comprised of detective sergeants, investigators, and the crime scene technician who work to discover evidence and witnesses to prepare cases for prosecution. This division is also responsible for investigating narcotics related activity, juvenile crime, sex offender registration, and maintaining criminal intelligence information.

The Support Services Division provides the most diverse department services, which include communications, community services, school resource officers, records management, animal control, CALEA accreditation, and a number of administrative services like recruiting, hiring, training, etc. Programs coordinated by Support Services include the Citizens Police Academy, Police Explorers, National Night Out and the annual Blue Santa, as well as many other crime prevention and community education programs.



BASIC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



Other Police Department Units or Services

- H.R.T. (High Risk Team)
- C.N.T. (Crisis Negotiations Team)
- Honor Guard
- Field Training Officers
- Bicycle Officers
- Recruiting / Background Inv. Team
- Collision Reconstruction Team
- Intoxilyzer Operators
- Drug Recognition Experts
- Firearms Instructor Team



2013 QUICK STATS & FACTS

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

- Murder or Negligent Homicide: 0
- Sexual Assault: 3
- Other Sex Offenses: 13
- Robbery: 4
- Assault: 204
- Burglary: 44
- Theft: 279

(As reported in the Uniform Crime Report)

GENERAL ACTIVITY

- Calls for Service: 26,242
- 9-1-1 Calls Received: 5,089
- False Alarm Calls: 719
- Suicide or Attempted Suicide: 10
- Suicidal Subject or Threat: 109
- Verbal Disturbances: 268
- Physical Disturbances: 56
- Noise Disturbances: 275
- Runaways / Missing Juvenile: 61
- Missing Persons - Adult: 6

TRAFFIC ACTIVITY

- Total Contacts: 8732
- Total Citations: 4094
- Speeding Citations: 2436
- Non-speeding Citations: 1658
- Collisions Reported: 628
- Injury / Possible Injury Collisions: 105
- Fatality Collisions: 0
- DWI Related Collisions: 10
- DWI Arrests: 71
- DUI Citations (Juveniles): 2

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY (Continued)

- Motor Vehicle Burglary: 52
- Motor Vehicle Theft: 15
- Arson Cases: 2
- Forgery / Counterfeiting: 14
- Criminal Mischief: 81
- Weapons Offenses: 11
- Narcotics Offenses: 132
- Public Intoxication: 17
- Felony Arrests (Adults): 77
- Misdemeanor (Adults): 370

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS ACTIVITY

- Cases Assigned: 249
- Cases Cleared: 163
- Cases Cleared / Warrant or Arrest: 64
- Cases Cleared / Closed: 77
- Cases Cleared / Unfounded: 11
- Cases Cleared / Inactive: 73
- CPS Reports Assigned: 253
- Evidence / Property Processed In: 946 pcs.
- Evidence / Prop. Processed Out: 713 pcs.

TOP 10 TRAFFIC COLLISION ZONES

1. Heroes Way at 183A Toll
2. Hwy. 183 at Crystal Falls
3. Hwy. 183 at Old F.M. 2243 West
4. San Gabriel Parkway at 183A Toll
5. Bagdad Road at F.M. 2243
6. Hwy. 183 at Sonny Drive
7. F.M. 2243 at 183A Toll
8. Hwy. 183 at F.M. 2243
9. Bagdad Road at Crystal Falls Parkway
10. Hwy. 183 at San Gabriel Parkway

CRIME PREVENTION QUICK TIPS

- Report suspicious vehicles and people.
- Mark your property with unique ID number.
- Register and use your security system.
- Avoid front porch deliveries when possible.
- Lock up and keep valuables out of sight.
- Improve lighting around your home.
- Park cars in garage and close the overhead door.
- Walk with a friend, not alone.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Teach your children "stranger awareness."

ANIMAL CONTROL ACTIVITY

- Calls for Service: 1906
- Case Reports: 64
- Animal Bites Cases: 62
- Animal Welfare Cases: 1
- Animal Cruelty Cases: 1
- Cats Transported to W.C.R.A.S.: 160
- Dogs Transported to W.C.R.A.S.: 149
- Cats / Dogs Registered: 318

TRAFFIC SAFETY TIPS

- Buckle-up! Use your safety restraints.
- Avoid phone use while driving and never text.
- Don't drive while impaired.
- Don't speed and follow traffic laws.
- Be aware of pedestrians, bikes, and motorcycles.
- Come to a full stop at red lights and stop signs.
- Keep your emotions in check - drive friendly.
- Keep a safe distance from the car in front of you.
- Familiarize yourself with the "Move Over" law.
- Drive smart - drive safe.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

- National Night Out - Annual Event
- Citizen's Police Academy
- Advanced Citizen's Police Academy
- Police Explorer Post #641
- Blue Santa
- Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (SALT)
- Trunk or Treat
- Public Education and Crime Prevention
- Department Tours
- Neighborhood Watch

AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- Ranked 65th Safest City in U.S. (Neighborhood Scout)
- Ranked 8th Safest City in Texas (SafeWise)
- Nationally Recognized for N.N.O. 2013 Participation
- MADD Commitment Hero Award - Ofc. John Carnley
- MADD Commitment to Youth Award - Ofc. Jinger Fuller
- Chief's Award of Excellence - Ofc. Elizabeth Conrad
- Peer Award / Officer of the Year - Ofc. Woodson Blase
- Peer Award / Employee of the Year - Jean McCarthy
- Volunteer of the Year - Hector Trevino
- Explorer of the Year - Rebecca Soto

TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

- Annual Firearms Training & Qualifications
- Interactive Video Weapons Use Simulator
- Ethics & Professionalism
- Bias Based Profiling Prevention
- Domestic Violence Response
- Identifying At Risk Diabetic Drivers
- Helping Drivers with Alzheimer's
- Legal and Legislative Updates
- Alternative Response to Aggressive Dogs
- Emergency Management - Hazardous Situations



COMMAND STAFF

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



Greg Minton
Chief of Police



I am pleased to present the Leander Police Department 2013 Annual Report to the members of our community. I am proud of the Department's performance during the past year. Although we experienced and expected increase in calls for police service, Leander remains one of the safest communities to live, work, and play. This year we were pleased to be recognized by NeighborhoodScout, as the 65th Safest City in America. We were also ranked 8th in the 50 Safest Cities in Texas by SafeWise, based on nationwide crime data published in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's annual Uniformed Crime Report.

Since becoming your Chief of Police, I have dedicated myself to promoting our core values of Integrity, Respect and Dedication. In accordance with these guiding principles, the Leander Police Department has embraced the philosophy of "Service First," which means that we will always strive to remain servants of the public that we protect. In 2013, our officers served in many different ways, including helping over 400 local families and 3000 children with our Blue Santa program.

Recruitment and retention remained a high priority for the department in 2013 and the recruiting team did a great job of hiring highly qualified individuals to fill open positions in an effort to maintain staffing levels and hiring two new officer positions added to staff in October. These two positions will be dedicated to launching our Traffic Enforcement and Management (T.E.A.M.) Unit, which was created with the purpose of improving traffic safety, reducing collisions and encouraging compliance with established traffic laws. We expect to have the T.E.A.M. Unit fully operational by the spring of 2014.

I want to express our appreciation to our City Manager, Kent Cagle, who has been steadfast in his support of public safety and we know it will remain one of his top priorities as the city continues to grow. We are also very thankful for Mayor Chris Fielder and the members of the City Council, as their continued strong support of law enforcement in this community is to be commended.

When looking forward to 2014, one of our greatest challenges will be maintaining a high level of service in a rapidly growing city with expanding service demands. We will continue to work diligently to meet the needs and expectations of our community and to provide our community with unmatched police service.

I remain proud of my Department and proud to serve in the City of Leander.

Greg Minton
Chief of Police



Jeff Hayes
Assistant Chief



Derral Partin
Lieutenant
Uniform Operations
Division



Jackson Mitchell
Lieutenant
Support Services
Division



Billy Fletcher
Lieutenant
Criminal Investigations
Division

The Leander Police Department is a nationally accredited agency through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). CALEA was created in 1979 as a credentialing authority through the joint efforts of major law enforcement executive associations throughout the United States. The purpose of CALEA was to improve the delivery of public safety services, primarily by: maintaining a body of standards, developed by public safety practitioners, covering a wide range of up-to-date public safety initiatives; establishing and administering an accreditation process; and recognizing professional excellence.

The CALEA Accreditation Program provides law enforcement agencies with an opportunity to voluntarily demonstrate their adherence to an established set of professional standards and includes an external, objective evaluation of departmental operations that may assist with the identification of potential areas needing improvement. In addition to providing an opportunity for self-improvement, accreditation can instill a greater sense of confidence among departmental employees and the citizens of Leander, as well as our city leaders and the other agencies we work with.

Ultimately, the CALEA Accreditation Program promotes the efficient use of resources and seeks to improve service delivery to our community. To achieve "accredited" status, the Leander Police Department complied with more than 500 "best practice" standards established by CALEA for the operation of police organizations. The CALEA assessment team examined all aspects of the Department's policies and procedures, management, operations, and support services. The team will reassess the Department's status every three years. Participation in the CALEA process is voluntary, yet important. Participation assures the citizens of Leander that their police department is among the best in the nation.

Additional information on CALEA and the accreditation process is available at www.calea.org