

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

As the Chief of Police for the Leander Police Department, it is with great pleasure that I present the Department's 2015 Annual Report. The purpose of this report is to provide a snapshot of information and statistics regarding police activity in our city and to create awareness of the public safety challenges and accomplishments we experienced over the last year.

Working in partnership with our community, the City of Leander was ranked #17 of "The 50 Safest Cities in Texas - 2015" by SafeWise and #73 of "The Top 100 Safest Cities in the U.S. - 2015" by NeighborhoodScout. Leander remains a safe community and we are proud to help keep it that way.

The quality of life in Leander would not be possible without the partnerships that exists between the Department and the community we serve. Considering the recent tragedies around our country and the world, safety is a growing concern for many communities. Leander remains a place where people care about one another and are willing to get involved to protect our quality of life and strengthen our community. Unfortunately, every community has some level of crime and although we are experiencing an increase in activity as our community grows, the serious crime rate in Leander remains low.

With the continuing growth in our neighborhoods and business community, there has been an increase in 9-1-1 calls and calls for police service. We will have to work diligently with the City Manager and City Council to maintain a staffing level that will meet the needs of our growing city. We will continue to work smarter and not harder, as we explore technology and other methods to deploy staffing in an efficient and effective manner.

I am proud of the men and women of the Leander Police Department. Our accomplishments would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of our sworn and civilian staff who work hard to meet the challenge of change and maintain a high level of professional service.

Ultimately, we exist to serve the City of Leander and will continue to do so knowing that SERVICE remains an honor and privilege.




Greg Minton
Chief of Police



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



Jeff Hayes
Assistant Chief



Derral Partin
Lieutenant
Uniform Operations
Division



Jackson Mitchell
Lieutenant
Support Services
Division



Billy Fletcher
Lieutenant
Criminal Investigations
Division

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Highlights and Quick Review

- LPD received a third re-accreditation by CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies).
- Leander was named the "17th Safest City in Texas" by *SafeWise* and "74th Safest City in America" by *Neighborhood Scout*.
- After receiving a 2-year \$132,237.52 Governor's Office Crime Victim Assistance Coordinator Grant, LPD hired Victim Services Coordinator Mirna Johnson and launched the Department's Victim Services Unit and Victim Services Advocate volunteer program.
- LPD successfully graduated the 14th Citizen's Police Academy and the 3rd Advanced Citizens Police Academy.
- LPD was nationally recognized for participation in the 2015 National Night Out, a campaign that heightens crime prevention awareness and strengthens police and community partnerships. Leander placed #4 in Texas, and #21 in the United States for cities with a population between 15,000-49,000.
- The new *Sunguard ONESolution* Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management System was implemented in June of 2015.
- Public Safety Information Technology Specialist position was added to assist the police and fire departments with emerging technology upgrades and maintenance.
- LPD was one of the first Central Texas agencies to launch a "body-cam" program for all patrol officers.
- The LPD social media effort reached thousands of additional people in the Leander area in 2015. Outreach such as "Chief CHAT," "Behind the Badge / Team Behind the Badge," "Leander LEO Summer Adventures" and other initiatives were well received and often covered by local print and television media.
- Members of Explorer Post #641 brought home 1st Place in the DWI Enforcement category at a state-wide competition. The 2015 Leander Police Department Explorer(s) of the Year were Captain Rebecca Soto and Sergeant David Rowe.
- The anonymous crime tip program *tip411* and the *LPDTIP* smartphone app were launched in 2015, allowing members of the community to provide anonymous crime tips easily using a smartphone, text capable phone or through the online web interface.
- In August, Chief Minton was featured on KOKE Radio's "Chief of the Week," hosted by radio personality Bob Cole.
- LPD was the first Central Texas agency to offer a safer location for final exchanges and transactions for online buyers / sellers when it became a *SAFE TRADE STATION* as member of the crime prevention program's network of agencies.
- Leander Police joined with Cedar Park and Georgetown to create a regional SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics Team).



DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

The Leander Police Department is a full-service public safety agency that is committed to providing a wide range of services to our community. Basic services currently provided by the Department include a 24-hour uniform patrol services, criminal investigations, victim services, a warrant unit, 9-1-1 emergency communications, an animal services unit and a T.E.A.M. (Traffic Enforcement and Management) Unit. The Department also offers a variety of crime prevention programs, public education opportunities and collaborative partnerships with multiple stakeholders throughout the Leander community.

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 our community.



The structure of the department is divided into four basic areas – those of command, patrol operations, criminal investigations and support. The command staff consists of the Chief, the 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 departmental 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. The warrant unit and the T.E.A.M. (Traffic Enforcement and Management) unit is part of the Patrol Division.



The criminal investigations division (CID) conducts follow-up investigations into crimes against people and property. CID is comprised of section sergeants and detectives. The crime scene specialist collects and maintains case evidence for prosecution. The victim services coordinator oversees the Victim Services Unit, including the victim services volunteers and the department's chaplain team.

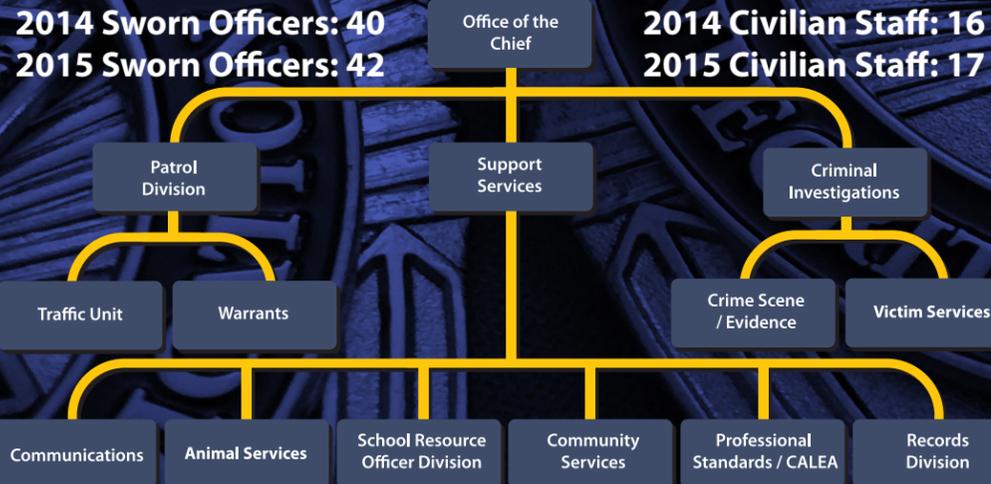
The Support Services Division provides the most diverse department services, which include communications, community services, school resource officers, records management, animal services, CALEA accreditation and a number of administrative services like recruiting, hiring, training, etc. Programs coordinated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



Police Department Units or Services

- Uniform Services (Patrol)
- Criminal Investigations
- Honor Guard Team
- Field Training Officers
- Bicycle Officers
- Recruiting Team
- Collision Reconstruction Team
- Intoxilyzer Operators
- Drug Recognition Experts
- Firearms Instructor Team
- Explorer Post Advisor
- Central Texas Regional SWAT
- Social Media & Outreach Team

BASIC DEPARTMENT STRUCTURE



2015 QUICK STATS & FACTS

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

	2014	2015
• Murder or Negligent Homicide:	0	1
• Sexual Assault:	9	13
• Robbery:	2	8
• Assault:	214	301
• Burglary:	44	49
• Larceny / Theft:	301	338
• Motor Vehicle Theft:	19	15
• Arson:	0	2

(As reported in the Uniform Crime Report)

GENERAL ACTIVITY

	2014	2015
• 9-1-1 Calls:	5,282	7,535
• Calls for Service:	27,652	32,658
• Administrative Calls:	7,270	10,218
• Outside Agency Assists:	588	958
• Suicides / Attempts:	8	16
• Mental Health Calls:	167	275
• Disturbances (All Types):	904	867
• Unattended Deaths:	20	21
• Suspicious Activity (Vehicle/Persons):	1,770	1,778
• Other Activity (Not Included Above):	22,817	22,928

TRAFFIC ACTIVITY

	2014	2015
• Total Traffic Contacts:	10,648	8,182
• Total Citations:	4,809	3,439
• Moving Violation Citations:	3,369	2,439
• Other Traffic Citations:	1,440	1,000
• Collisions Reported (CR3):	290	422
• Injury / Possible Injury Collisions:	101	144
• Fatality Collisions:	2	4
• DWI/DUI:	74	88

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY (Cont.)

	2014	2015
• Forgery / Counterfeiting:	10	15
• Criminal Mischief:	96	114
• Weapon Offenses:	8	10
• Narcotic Offenses:	131	177
• Disorderly Conduct:	12	14
• Public Intoxication:	12	20
• All Other Offenses:	145	209
• Felony Arrests (Adults):	77	90
• Misdemeanor Arrests (Adults):	293	283

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS ACTIVITY

	2014	2015
• Cases Assigned:	209	421
• Cases Cleared:	160	305
• Average Ending Case Load:	18.8	13.1
• Cleared by Warrant / Arrest:	42	34
• Cleared as Closed:	119	254
• Cleared as Unfounded:	6	11
• Held as Inactive:	56	96
• CPS Reports Assigned:	444	250

TOP 10 TRAFFIC COLLISION ZONES

1. Crystal Falls Parkway @ Hwy 183 (42)
2. 183A @ San Gabriel Parkway (36)
3. 183A @ Hwy 183 (33)
4. South Bagdad Road @ Crystal Falls (27)
5. North Bagdad Road @ Old 2243 West (27)
6. Hero Way @ Hwy 183 (23)
7. 183A @ Hero Way (23)
8. South Street @ Hwy 183 (19)
9. Sonny Drive @ Hwy 183 (17)
10. Ronald Reagan Blvd. @ RR 2243 (16)

HOME CRIME PREVENTION QUICK TIPS

- Lock all doors, windows and skylights.
- Secure your belongings in the house or garage.
- Lock your car if you leave it in the driveway.
- Make sure your porch and driveway lights work.
- Clear or trim landscaping that obscures windows.
- Exterior doors should be solid-core wood or metal.
- Have locks reviewed by a security professional.
- Make sure address numbers are highly visible.
- Participate in a Neighborhood Watch Group.
- Report suspicious activity to police.

ANIMAL SERVICES ACTIVITY

	2014	2015
• Calls for Service:	1,860	2,189
• Calls Handled by Patrol Units:	1,004	810
• Dogs Returned to Owners:	133	187
• Cats Returned to Owners:	0	2
• Dogs Transported to WCRAS*:	79	62
• Cats Transported to WCRAS*:	14	15
• Ordinance Warnings Issued:	17	5
• Ordinance Citations Issued:	21	14
• Pet Registrations / Tags	262	311

*Williamson County Regional Animal Shelter

TRAFFIC SAFETY QUICK TIPS

- Wear your seat belts - front and back seats.
- Properly secure children in child safety seats.
- Follow established traffic laws & speed limits.
- Use lights and wipers when raining.
- Give yourself time and distance to stop safely.
- Avoid distracted driving - stay alert.
- Never drive under the influence.
- Get proper rest and sleep before driving.
- Pay attention to emergency vehicles.
- Watch for road construction and workers.

AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- Nationally Recognized for N.N.O. 2015 Participation
- 17th Safest City in Texas (SafeWise.com)
- 74th Safest City in America (NeighborhoodScout.com)
- Chief's Award of Excellence - Officer Tiffany Blase
- Officer of the Year - Officer Kaily Frederick
- Employee of the Year - Telecommunications Officer Rachael Mylcraine
- Volunteer of the Year - Victim Services Advocate Kathy Bird
- Explorer(s) of the Year - Explorer Captain Rebecca Soto and Explorer Sergeant David Rowe

RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP QUICK TIPS

- Make sure your pets are registered and chipped.
- Follow the established ordinances.
- Properly socialize and train your pet.
- Make sure they get adequate exercise.
- A balanced diet is essential to good pet health.
- Like people, pets need preventative medical care.
- Plan for, and dispose of waste when in the public.
- Regularly inspect and repair your home fence.
- Have a "care plan" in place for emergencies.
- Avoid unplanned breeding through spay/neuter.

COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROGRAMS

- National Night Out (N.N.O.) - Annual Event
- Citizen's Police Academy (Basic & Advanced)
- Coffee with a Cop
- Police Explorer Post #641
- Blue Santa (In Partnership with H.C.C.B.)
- Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (SALT)
- Trunk or Treat
- Public Education and Crime Prevention
- National Prescription Drug Take-back
- Neighborhood Watch
- Social Media Outreach - Facebook, Twitter, etc.
- COPS - Citizens on Patrol Services

