

## Horizon City Police Department

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# To the Honorable Mayor Andres Renteria, the City Council, and the residents of Horizon City.

I am pleased to present the 2024 Horizon City Police Department Annual Report. This report highlights our department's mission, goals, staffing, budget, crime statistics, and community engagement efforts aimed at enhancing safety and quality of life in Horizon City.

The Horizon City Police Department is dedicated to serving with integrity, honesty, fairness, courage, and compassion. We focus on preserving life, enforcing the law, and building strong partnerships with the community to improve public safety.

The department consists of 32 officers, 18 communications specialists, and other key personnel serving a population of approximately 24,168 across 8.5 square miles. Our communications division also supports emergency dispatch services for 170,000 residents.

Horizon City Police Department has organized and participated in community events, building stronger connections with residents. Through these efforts, we conducted 112 presentations in 2024, fostering greater awareness and collaboration on crime prevention.

We are proud to serve the citizens of Horizon City and remain committed to enhancing public safety through ongoing training, community involvement, and a strategic approach to crime and traffic safety. We appreciate the support of the Mayor, City Council, and all residents of Horizon City.

Marco Vargas Chief of Police



#### Mission statement

The Horizon City Police Department is committed to providing professional services with integrity and dedication. Our mission is to preserve life, uphold the law, and collaborate with the community to enhance the quality of life in Horizon City.

#### Core Values

**Integrity:** The foundation of our department is built upon ethical and professional conduct. We are devoted to maintaining the highest moral standards and principles, and all department members will uphold the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics, which is integral to this manual.

Honesty: We are unwavering in our commitment to truthfulness and trustworthiness.

**Fairness:** We pledge to apply the law equally to both offenders and the public, and to ensure consistent application of rules and regulations within the department.

**Courage:** We embrace challenges with the courage necessary to fulfill our mission and meet the needs of our community.

**Compassion:** As community caretakers, we recognize the importance of tempering the law with compassion and empathy, ensuring a balance between enforcement and understanding.

#### Looking Ahead

As Horizon City experiences explosive growth, the Horizon City Police Department remains committed to providing exceptional service and ensuring the safety and wellbeing of the community. With the city's population rising from 5,000 in 2000 to over 24,000 today, the department plans to expand its team of officers to keep pace with this growth, enhancing its ability to respond to calls, providing community outreach, and addressing emerging challenges. A groundbreaking ceremony for a new \$10 million police headquarters and municipal court building in August 2023 marked a significant milestone in this effort. Set to open in the fall of 2025, the new facility will house the police department, municipal court, and public works under one roof, reflecting the department's ongoing commitment to enhancing safety and services for the growing population. By investing in both personnel and infrastructure, the police department is prepared to foster strong community relationships and continue its mission of proactive, efficient, and compassionate law enforcement as Horizon City thrives.

# POLICE DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

#### Overview

The Horizon City Police Department, established by state law and local ordinance, is responsible for maintaining law and order within the city. Led by the Chief of Police, appointed by the Mayor, the department includes 32 officers, 18 communication specialists, and non-sworn staff, as determined by the city manager and council. The department covers approximately 8.5 square miles, providing public safety services to about 24,168 residents. Additionally, the communications division handles emergency phone and dispatch services for the Police Department, as well as for Fire and Emergency Services across Emergency Management Districts #1 and #2, serving around 170,000 residents.

#### **Organizational Structure**

**Chief of Police:** The Chief serves as the head of the department and has full control over operations, with the responsibility to direct and lead through orders, policies, and personal leadership.

**Chain of Command:** Below the Chief, the department includes the Assistant Chief, Lieutenants, Sergeants, Corporals, and Police Officers. In the absence of higher-ranking officers, authority cascades down through the chain, ensuring continuous command and leadership.

**Departments and Units:** The department is divided into specialized units including communications, patrol, criminal investigations, and community relations, each with designated officers and responsibilities.

#### Responsibilities, Duties, and Structure

**Chief of Police:** The highest-ranking officer in the department, responsible for overseeing all operations and ensuring policies are followed.

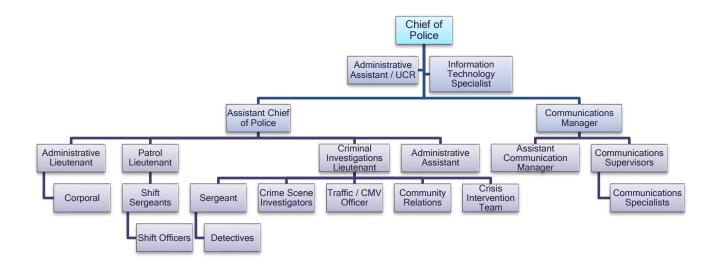
Assistant Chief: Manages specialized divisions such as patrol, criminal investigations, and administration.

**Lieutenants:** Oversee specific divisions (patrol, criminal investigations, communications) and manage personnel within those areas.

**Sergeants:** Supervise patrol officers, assign shifts, and ensure day-to-day operations run smoothly.

**Corporals / Officers:** Carry out patrol duties, enforce laws, investigate crimes, and engage with the community.

HCPD Staffing Table					
Law Enforcement Positions	Allotted	Current	Vacancy		
Chief of Police	1	1	0		
Assistant Chief	1	0	1		
Lieutenants	2	2	0		
Sergeants	5	3	2		
Corporals	2	2	0		
Detectives	4	4	0		
Officers	17	15	2		
Crime Scene Technician	2	2	0		
Civilians	2	2	0		



# **CRIME REPORT**

The Horizon City Police Department has set a goal to reduce Part 1 UCR Crimes by 10 percent. As of this year, we are pleased to report a reduction in Part 1 crimes. The decline has primarily been observed in property crimes, with an overall decrease of 4.5% compared to the previous year. In the same month last year, we recorded a decrease of 103.03%. Below, you will find a chart detailing the specific crime numbers for further insight.

Part 1 2024	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	7
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Agg. Assault	0	3	2	0	0	2	0	2	3	1	0	0	13
Burglary	0	0	2	0	1	0	12	1	1	1	0	0	18
Larceny	8	4	8	10	3	2	3	4	6	13	5	8	74
Simple Assault	12	7	13	8	6	8	8	8	8	11	6	9	104
Vehicle Theft	0	0	4	0	2	0	5	2	2	0	0	4	19
Total	25	14	29	18	12	12	29	17	21	27	11	21	236

#### Part 1 Crimes, 2024

#### Part 1 crimes 2020 to 2024

Part 1 Crimes	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	12	15	4	3	7	41
Robbery	1	3	2	1	1	8
Agg. Assault	16	17	22	14	13	82
Burglary	16	14	19	15	18	82
Larceny	82	71	84	88	74	399
Simple Assault	107	85	85	90	104	471
Vehicle Theft	4	14	33	36	19	106
Total	241	219	271	247	236	1,214

# ADMINISTRATIVE

### Budget

	Original Budget	Used Budget	Percentage Remaining
PD	\$ 2,278,599.00	\$ 2,265,279.90	0.61 %
Communications	\$ 871,341.00	\$818,914.86	6.50 %

#### Leave

Pay Codes	Police Department	Communications
OT	3,936.35	2,257.5
Comp	1,593.13	194.55
PTO	7,935.38	2,102.43
LWO	230.98	109.38
Military	104	1,200
Training	7,159	1,246.25
Funeral	96 72	
Personal	192	96
Holiday	1,206	111
Injury	0	0
Suspension	0	0

### Overtime

	Amount Appropriated FY 2023-2024	Amount Expended 2024	Balance	Percentage Remaining 2024
PD	\$ 68,712.00	\$ 120,850.70	\$ - 52,138.70	-75.88 %
Communications	\$ 44,999.00	\$ 60,293.59	\$ -15,294.59	-33.99 %

## Citizen Complaints

	2023	2024	%Change
Informal	1	0	-100%
Formal	1	2	+100%
Total	2	2	N/C

## internal Complaints

	Sustained	Not Sustained	Total
2023	12	4	17
2024	38	5	43
Total	50	9	+152.94% Increase

### Grants

Stone Garden	Border Star	Ballistic Shields	LEOSE	Total
\$ 59,000.00	\$ 95,000.00	\$100,333.42	\$2,500.76	\$ 256,834.18

### Training Hours:

	2023	2024	%Change
Police	3,756	7,159	+62.38%
Communications	1,164	1,674	+44.5%
Total	4,920	8,833	+79.53%

# **COMMUNICATIONS SECTION**

#### Overview

The Communications Division is a vital component of public safety, managing emergency and non-emergency calls for the Horizon City Police Department (HCPD) and Emergency Services Districts (ESD) #1 and #2. Led by Communications Manager Elva Ramos, the division includes 1 Communications Assistant, 3 Shift Supervisors, and 13 Communications Specialists who ensure efficient response times and operational effectiveness.

The Communications Section exceeded response time targets across all priority levels in 2024, demonstrating efficiency in emergency dispatching. The division processed a total of 50,217 calls for service, a 6% increase from the previous year, with:

- 32,574 calls handled by HCPD (a 7.33% increase)
- 6,439 calls for ESD #1 (a 34.42% increase)
- 11,204 calls for ESD #2 (an 8.96% decrease)

RESPONSE TIMES FOR 2024	Average Call to Arrival	Average Dispatch to Arrival	Actual	Target
Priority 1-3 Pending to Arrival less than or equal to 10 Minutes	00:05:54	00:03:24	100%	90%
Priority 4-6 Pending to Arrival less than or equal to 14 Minutes:	00:12:09	00:06:13	99.25%	80%
Priority 7-9 Pending to Arrival less than or equal to 20 Minutes:	00:17:04	00:07:43	86.4%	70%

HORIZON	Dispatched	Self-Initiated	Mobile Data	Total
Horizon Police	17,949	10,847	3,778	32,574

	Alarm	Assistance	Brush Fire	Car Fire	Water / Gas Leaks	Medical	MVA	Structure Fires	Inspections	TOTAL
Horizon Fire ESD 1	429	355	131	35	233	3,228	593	48	1,439	6,439

B.S.D. #B	Alarm	Assistance	Brush Fire	Car Fire	Water/Gas Leaks	Medical	MVA	Structure Fire	Inspections	Total
Clint	23	51	44	19	23	587	110	15	42	914
Fabens	62	57	71	13	29	1,016	111	13	50	1,422
Montana Vista	57	77	89	10	37	1,050	170	22	150	1,662
San Elizario	36	90	61	7	29	1,205	99	18	51	1,596
Socorro	112	178	87	29	82	2,251	448	31	248	3,466
West Valley	117	123	82	11	67	1,383	202	29	130	2,144
Total	407	576	434	89	267	7,492	1,140	128	671	11,204



#### **Employee Recognition & Promotions**

During National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week (April 14-20th), the Communications Section was honored with a Proclamation from the Town of Horizon City recognizing the dedication of its telecommunicators. Special recognition was given to Julie Nava, Ericka Gonzalez, and Mirna Sierra for their exceptional work ethic, teamwork, and professionalism. Additionally, Irlanda Huerta was promoted to Communications Assistant Manager, strengthening leadership within the division.

#### **Training & Certifications**

The division prioritized training and certification to enhance professional development:

- All communications specialists completed the 24-hour TCIC/TLETS Full Access Operator Training Course.
- Newly hired specialists successfully completed the 80-hour Basic Telecommunicator Course and state exam.
- CPR certification was obtained as a prerequisite for Emergency Medical and Fire Dispatch training.
- Shift Supervisor Anthony Dominguez and Assistant Manager Irlanda Huerta completed Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC) training, ensuring compliance with FBI Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) security policies.
- Supervisors Stephanie Cortes and Anthony Dominguez attended the DPS Basic Instructor Course, equipping them with instructional skills for training personnel.

#### Professional Development & Leadership Training

The Communications Section actively engaged in leadership and specialized training to enhance skills and preparedness:

- "Saving Lives on Both Sides of the Call" and "Morale Driven Leadership" training at the El Paso 911 District, focusing on mental health, communication, and teamwork.
- Medical Preparedness & Response for Bombing Incidents course, analyzing realworld case studies and tactical response strategies.
- De-escalation techniques course, required for compliance with the Texas Police Chief Association's Best Practices Accreditation Program.
- Texas Law Enforcement Peer Network (TLEPN) training for peer support, preparing personnel to assist colleagues with job-related stress and trauma.
- NENA Leadership in the 9-1-1 Center course, focusing on management, motivation, and mediation within emergency communications.

#### **Conferences & Community Outreach**

- Texas Public Safety Conference (Denton, TX): Communications leadership explored new technologies and strategies to enhance emergency response.
- Vision Summit Conference (Las Vegas, NV): Focused on safety, security, and crisis response improvements.
- Trails to Success JobCon (San Elizario High School): Promoted career opportunities in emergency communications and law enforcement to local students.

#### State Homeland Security Grant Program

The Horizon City Police Department was awarded five MCC7500E radio consolettes through a state grant for the fiscal year 2023. On January 17th and 18th, the Communications Division successfully transitioned to the new MCC7500E consolettes.

These upgraded devices offer a range of enhanced features, including customizable screens tailored to the department's specific needs, an integrated playback recorder accessible directly from the monitor, and improved alert capabilities—features not available on the previous consolettes.

Additionally, the Rio Grande Council of Governments was approved to serve as the fiscal agent for the submission of the fiscal year 2025 State Homeland Security Grant Program, specifically for the regional interoperable



communications application, on behalf of the entire region. As part of this grant, the

Horizon City Police Department has received funding to purchase 12 APX6500 mobile radios, with installation set to begin in early 2025.

#### Criminal Justice Information Service (CJIS) Audit

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), serving as the Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Systems Agency for the state, is tasked with conducting audits of local agencies to ensure they are compliance with the technical requirements outlined by the FBI CJIS Division's policies and regulations. On December 3, 2024, the Horizon City Police Department underwent such an audit.



The Fourth of July is the busiest holiday of the year for the Communications Division due to the increase in fire-related incidents and the high volume of calls reporting fireworks.



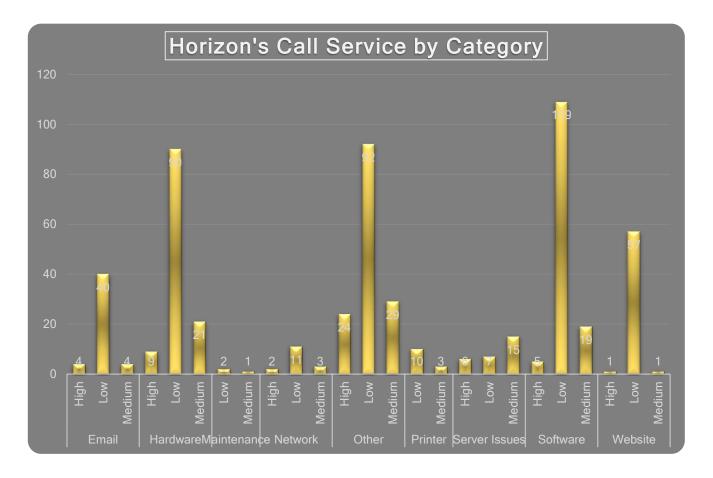
In response to this surge, staffing adjustments are made to ensure effective operations. From 19:00 to 01:00, three Communications Specialists are assigned exclusively to answer calls at the El Paso Regional Communications Center, located at 6055 Threadgill. Additionally, five Communications Specialists are scheduled to work at the Horizon City Police Department to handle dispatch for county fire and police services. During these hours, crisis radio procedures are implemented to

manage the elevated call volume. A total of 65 county fire calls and 89 police calls were received.

#### Conclusion

The Communications Division continues to uphold the highest standards of excellence in emergency response, training, and public service. Their dedication and commitment ensure the safety and well-being of Horizon City residents. We extend our gratitude to these unseen heroes for their invaluable contributions to public safety.

### IT Department



# PATROL DIVISION

#### Overview

Under the command of Lieutenant John C. Rodriguez, the Patrol Division operates 24/7 with rotating shifts. Using a data-driven approach to traffic and crime safety, our department focuses on hotspots for accidents and criminal incidents. Notable areas for safety improvement include Horizon Blvd./N. Darrington Rd. (54 accidents) and Eastlake Blvd./N. Darrington Rd. (13 accidents). Traffic fatalities increased by 25% from 3 to 4 accidents, while the overall number of accident reports decreased by 6.64%.

#### Data-Driven Approach to Traffic and Crime Safety

The department utilizes a Data-Driven Approach to Traffic and Crime Safety (DDACTS) to target high-crash and high-crime areas. The most frequent accident locations in 2024 include:

- Horizon Blvd. & N. Darrington Rd. 54 crashes
- Horizon Blvd. & N. Kenazo Ave. 15 crashes
- Eastlake Blvd. & N. Darrington Rd. 13 crashes

Location	Crashes
Horizon Blvd./N. Darrington Rd.	54
Eastlake Blvd./N. Darrington Rd.	13
Horizon Blvd./N. Kenazo Ave.	15
Eastlake Blvd./ Horizon Mesa	9
S. Darrington Rd./Pawling St.	10
Horizon Blvd./Rifton St.	6
S. Darrington Rd./S. Kenazo Ave.	12

#### **Traffic & Accident Trends**

- Traffic fatalities remained constant at four deaths in 2023 and 2024.
- Total accident reports decreased by 6.64%, from 436 in 2023 to 408 in 2024.



Traffic Fatalities	2023	2024	%Change
Accidents	3	4	+25%
Deaths	4	4	0%

#### **Traffic Enforcement**

Patrol officers conducted extensive traffic enforcement across all shifts, with supervisors leading in traffic contacts:

2024	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	YTD
Sgt. G. Rosas	85	109	59	104	149	169	98	77	149	155	75	48	1,277
Sgt. A. Diaz	99	93	56	106	90	79	82	90	87	133	153	57	1,125
Sgt. H. Sierra	112	193	173	170	241	221	101	176	128	87	89	20	1,711
Cpl. B. Avitia	37	31	32	55	95	41	59	27	70	94	89	56	686

#### **Arrests & Crime Reports**

- Misdemeanor arrests dropped by 62.11% from 249 in 2023 to 131 in 2024.
- Felony arrests declined by 53.66%, from 78 in 2023 to 45 in 2024.
- Overall criminal reports fell by 34.34%, from 1,167 in 2023 to 825 in 2024.



These figures reflect the division's strategic focus on high-risk areas, proactive policing efforts, and crime prevention initiatives that have contributed to reduced crime and accident reports in the community.

ARREST SUMMARY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD
2024 Felony Arrests	6	6	3	3	8	3	0	1	4	4	6	1	45
2024 Misdemeanor Arrests	16	14	12	25	4	3	4	9	15	20	6	3	131

Arrests	2023	2024	% Change
Misdemeanor	249	131	-62.11%
Felony	78	45	-53.66%
Total	327	176	-60.06%

# of Criminal Reports	2023	2024	%Change
	1167	825	-34.34%

# **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION**

#### Overview

The Criminal Investigations Division (CID), led by Lieutenant Kaycee Valdez, is responsible for handling a wide range of criminal cases, utilizing specialized investigative techniques to resolve incidents involving theft, fraud, assault, burglary, and more. In 2024, the division was assigned 423 cases, closing or clearing 141 of them. The division successfully managed a variety of criminal investigations, including motor vehicle theft, fraud, assault, and burglary.

The Forensics Section, under Crime Scene and Evidence Lead Bernadette Ortega, processed hundreds of items of evidence, providing crucial leads that supported ongoing investigations and contributed to the division's success.

Detective's Name	# of cases assigned	Cases Active	Cases Cleared
Kaycee Valdez	182	2	182
Abel Labrado	89	0	89
Gilbert Rodriguez	55	2	53
Jaime Crespo	5	0	5
Bruce Campbell	29	1	28
Victoria Hernandez	15	12	3
Eric Delgadillo	22	1	21
Nicholas Ortega	5	0	5
TOTAL	402	18	386

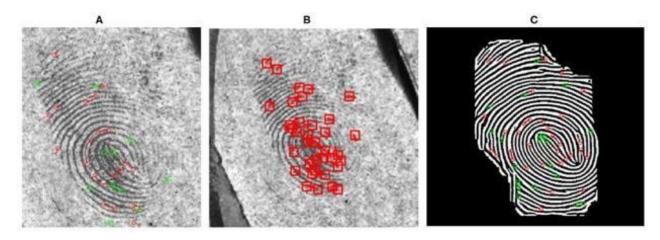
- 423 Cases were assigned to investigators throughout the year\*
- 141 Cases were closed, cleared, and prosecuted.
- 86 cases were resolved and submitted to the DA's Office for prosecution.
- 153 Cases approved by CID Supervisor generated by CID/Traffic/Warrants/Lt's.
- 29 Cases assigned to CID Detectives/Traffic.
- 4 Major cases were Closed/Cleared Special Traffic Investigations.
- 149 Cases were Inactivated due to lack of leads or prosecutorial evidence.
- 11 Cases that were Unfounded.
- 2 Cases were declined or routed to first chance program by DA's Office in lieu of prosecution.

\*Number of cases referred to CID include non-criminal and cold cases for review from years past.

#### **Forensics Section**

Bernadette Ortega is our new Crime Scene and Evidence Lead. Officer Abraham Diaz was also assigned to Crime Scene and Evidence.

- Conducted Six Month Inspection of the evidence room required by the Texas Best Practices Accreditation Standards.
- Conducted inventory of the evidence room required by the Texas Best Practices Accreditation Standards.
- 153.25 hours of training given
- 90.75 hours of in-service training
- 480 hours spent processing physical evidence
- 73.25 hours spent managing evidence
- 232 hours spent processing open records requests
- 74 walk ins for fingerprint services
- 111.65 hours responding to active crime scenes
- 40 items examined returned with prosecutable leads
- 99 items were submitted to the TX DPS Crime Lab
- 80 items were returned by TX DPS Crime Lab



#### **Commercial Vehicle Enforcement & Motorcycle Unit Traffic Enforcement**

In Horizon City, traffic enforcement goes beyond issuing tickets—it's about ensuring public safety and preventing our roads from becoming hazardous.

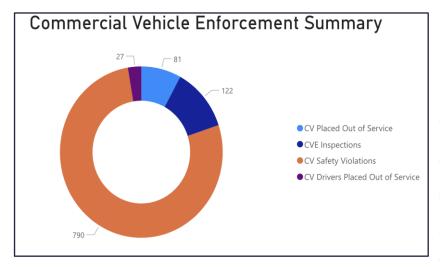
Surrounded by unincorporated areas of El Paso County, which lack proper regulation, our city sees a constant flow of tractortrailers, dump trucks, and



heavy transport vehicles passing through.

Many of these vehicles are overloaded, poorly maintained, or outright unsafe. When something goes wrong, whether it's a brake failure or an unsecured load—the consequences can be catastrophic.

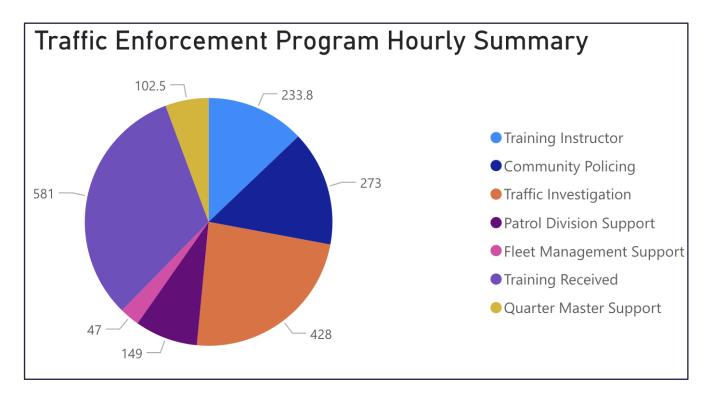
This is where our Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (CVE) team comes in. They work tirelessly to inspect, regulate, and halt dangerous vehicles before they can cause harm, ensuring our roads remain safe for everyone.



Eaually important is our Motorcycle Unit Traffic Enforcement. These officers are highly visible, fast-moving, and always vigilant, actively seeking out reckless drivers. Whether it's stopping speeders, enforcing traffic laws, or quickly responding to road hazards, their efforts accidents before prevent they happen, ensuring our streets remain safer for

everyone.

Our traffic unit does far more than just enforcement. The same officers who patrol our streets to keep them safe also serve as training instructors, engage in community policing, and investigate fatal traffic collisions. They play a key role in fleet management, ensuring our vehicles are always in top condition, and even assist the quartermaster to guarantee the department has the necessary equipment to function effectively.



#### Warrants, Bailiff and Vehicle Maintenance

Officer Abraham Diaz serves as the Court Bailiff, Warrants Officer, and the department's fleet manager. In these roles, he is responsible for overseeing the municipal court as bailiff, executing traffic and criminal warrants, and managing fleet maintenance.

Key Statistics:

- Court Summons Served: 80
- Warrants Executed: 120
- CPS Cases Reviewed: 220
- Case Preparation for City Prosecutor: 44
- HCMC Court Hearings Attended: 48

## 2023 DEPARTMENT GOALS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Decrease UCR Part I Crimes by 10%

- Achievement: 100%
- Results: Violent crimes decreased by 44%, and property crimes dropped by 35%.

2. Increase Public Awareness Through Transparency and Collaboration

- Achievement: 100%
- Efforts: Achieved this goal by reactivating our social media presence and hosting over 81 community events, fostering stronger connections with the public.

3. Enhance Staff Professional Development by Increasing Training Hours by 25%

- Achievement: 100%
- Training Hours: Over 9,000 total training hours were completed, a significant increase from 6,156 hours the previous year.
- 4. Achieve Texas Police Chief Association Yearly Accreditation
  - Achievement: 100%
  - Accreditation: Successfully earned the Texas Police Chief Association Accreditation for the 2022/2023 year.

5. Increase Collaborative Efforts with Other Law Enforcement Agencies

- Achievement: 75%
- Collaboration Efforts: Progress has been made in establishing stronger working relationships with the Texas Department of Public Safety and the El Paso Police Department.

#### Key Achievements and Initiatives

- 1. Established an Internship Program
  - Focused on the forensics field to provide hands-on experience and professional development opportunities for aspiring forensic specialists
- 2. Hosted 199 Community and Collaboration Events
  - Fostered stronger relationships with the community and key partners through numerous outreach and engagement initiatives.
- 3. Cross Deposition of 11 Officers
  - Officers were cross deputized through the 34th District Attorney's Office, enhancing collaboration with regional legal authorities.

- 4. Achieved Self-Sufficiency in Traffic Fatality Investigations
  - The department developed the expertise and resources to independently handle traffic fatality investigations without external assistance.
- 5. Established a Data Analysis Program
  - Implemented a comprehensive data analysis program to support decision-making and improve operational efficiency.
- 6. Expanded Operational Plans
  - Introduced initiatives such as warrant roundups and vehicle checkpoints to enhance law enforcement presence and public safety.
- 7. Enhanced National Night Out Program
  - Upgraded the National Night Out event has improved strengthening community engagement and crime prevention efforts.
- 8. Certified 4 Officers for Critical Incident Training
  - Provided specialized training to enhance the department's preparedness for critical incidents and high-stress situations.
- 9. Middle Management Attended the FBI National Academy
  - Key leadership underwent training at the prestigious FBI National Academy, furthering their professional development.
- 10. Promoted a Communications Specialist
  - A communications specialist was promoted to Communications Assistant Manager, recognizing their contributions and enhancing leadership within the division.
- 11. Completed a CJIS Technical Security Audit
  - Successfully passed the Criminal Justice Information Service (CJIS) technical security audit, ensuring the department's compliance and data protection standards.
- 12. Enhanced Professional Development through Training
  - Significant progress in the professional growth of police services personnel through a variety of specialized training opportunities.
- 13. Implemented Visual Data Dashboards
  - Introduced the use of visual data dashboards, enabling real-time access to statistical data for more informed decision-making.
- 14. Expanded Coffee with a Cop Program
  - Broadened the Coffee with a Cop initiative to include "Dinner with a Cop" and "Coffee with a Partner," creating additional opportunities for community engagement.

# 2024 DEPARTMENT GOALS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

#### **Patrol Operations**

- Decrease in Crime Rates: Ongoing efforts to reduce overall crime in the community through proactive patrol and enforcement strategies.
- Decrease in Traffic Accidents and Fatalities: Continued focus on traffic safety initiatives and awareness campaigns to lower accidents and fatalities.
- Grant Renewals: Successfully renewed several key grants:
  - Stonegarden Grant
  - Borderstar Grant
  - CarSeat Grant
  - STEP TXDOT Grant
- Acquired CIT Award Grant: Secured funding to add two full-time officers and clinicians, enhancing the department's response to mental health crises.
- Progress Toward CIT Certification: Ongoing efforts to ensure all officers and telecommunicators are Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) certified.
- 100% Certification of Intoxylizer Operators: Ensured that all department personnel handling Intoxylizer devices are fully certified.
- Special Traffic Investigators Certification: Continuing to obtain certifications for investigators specializing in accident reconstruction to enhance expertise in complex traffic cases.

#### **Criminal Investigations**

- Improve Clearance Rates: Focus on improving the division's clearance rates through efficient case management and enhanced investigative methods.
- Proactive Enforcement: Engage investigators in proactive enforcement actions to prevent and reduce crime.
- Improve Evidence Management Pipeline: Strengthen the evidence management process to ensure proper handling and storage of critical materials.

- Participation in Investigative Task Forces: Increased involvement in collaborative task forces to tackle complex criminal activities.
- Increase Seizures: Work to increase the number of seizures, particularly in drugrelated cases, through intelligence-driven operations.
- Maintain/Increase Arrest Rates: Continuously work to maintain and improve arrest rates, particularly for serious crimes.
- Source Forensic Grants: Actively seek forensic-related grants to support the division's work in evidence processing and crime scene analysis.
- Expansion of the Forensics Section: Expand and enhance the capabilities of the Forensics Section to improve crime scene processing and evidence analysis.

#### Communications

- Staffing Optimization: Ongoing efforts to optimize staffing levels to ensure adequate coverage and reduce response times.
- Wage Growth and Retention: Focus on increasing wages and retention strategies to maintain a skilled and motivated communications team.
- Encryption Capabilities: Strengthen encryption capabilities to safeguard communications and protect sensitive information.
- Radio Interoperability: Enhance radio interoperability with key agencies including EPCSO, TX DPS, and Socorro PD for seamless communication across jurisdictions.
- PROQA Software Implementation: Implement PROQA software for Medical, Fire, and Police departments to streamline and improve emergency response protocols.
- Enhanced Communications Coverage: Add a third Motorola Receiver Voting Site to expand and strengthen communications coverage across the region.
- Upgrade Mobile Radios: Upgrade unit mobile radios to the APX6500 model to improve security and functionality.
- Continued Leadership and Growth: Foster continuous growth and leadership within the Communications Division by providing relevant training, workshops, and development opportunities.

#### **Administration**

- High School Vocational Program: Launch the High School Vocational Program to provide students with valuable career opportunities in law enforcement and public safety.
- Joint Citizens Academy with EPCSO: Establish a joint citizens academy with the El Paso County Sheriff's Office to foster community engagement and education on law enforcement operations.
- Citizens Advisory Board: Form a Citizens Advisory Board to provide valuable feedback and strengthen the relationship between the police department and the community.
- Horizon City Police Foundation: Support the creation and growth of the Horizon City Police Foundation to enhance community support for the department and its initiatives.

# CLOSING REMARKS: THANK YOU AND LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE

In addition to our ongoing efforts, it is important to acknowledge the explosive growth that Horizon City is currently experiencing. As our community continues to expand, with new residents, businesses, and developments, the demand for public safety and city services will inevitably increase. This growth presents both exciting opportunities and unique challenges for the Horizon City Police Department.

With the rise in population, we anticipate a higher volume of calls for service, traffic incidents, and the need for increased law enforcement presence across the city. Our department is committed to adapting to these changes by enhancing our staffing, resources, and infrastructure to ensure that we can continue to provide the high level of service our community deserves.

As Horizon City grows, we will continue to focus on maintaining strong relationships with local businesses, schools, and community organizations while ensuring the safety of both current and new residents. Our dedication to staying ahead of the demands of this growth will help ensure that Horizon City remains a safe and vibrant place for everyone. We are excited for the future and look forward to the continued growth and success of our city, while meeting the evolving needs of our community.

