# EL PASO POLICE DEPARTMENT



ANNUAL REPORT 2021



Focus on Community





#### **EL PASO POLICE DEPARTMENT**











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Law Enforcement in the past year has been in the crosshairs by some who say we are racists, poorly trained, and use the law against those who are socio-economically challenged.

There is even a concerted effort from some politicians and the naive, that the harsh reality of enforcing the law is no longer necessary to guarantee the safety of our communities. Needless to say, those of us actually performing the duties of trying to safeguard our communities find this view of the world is in stark contrast to reality.

Law enforcement must stand strong against such thinking. The examples of not doing so are evident in many cities across this nation where law enforcement has forsaken their responsibility to their communities. Those of us in law enforcement have taken an oath in the performance of our duties, and we collectively must STAND by that oath. Change and challenges to law enforcement ebb and flow as it always has, and always will.

Failure to live by our Oath of Office, administered the day we are commissioned as Peace Officers, would only embolden the lawless among us, and betray those that rely on us to safeguard them.

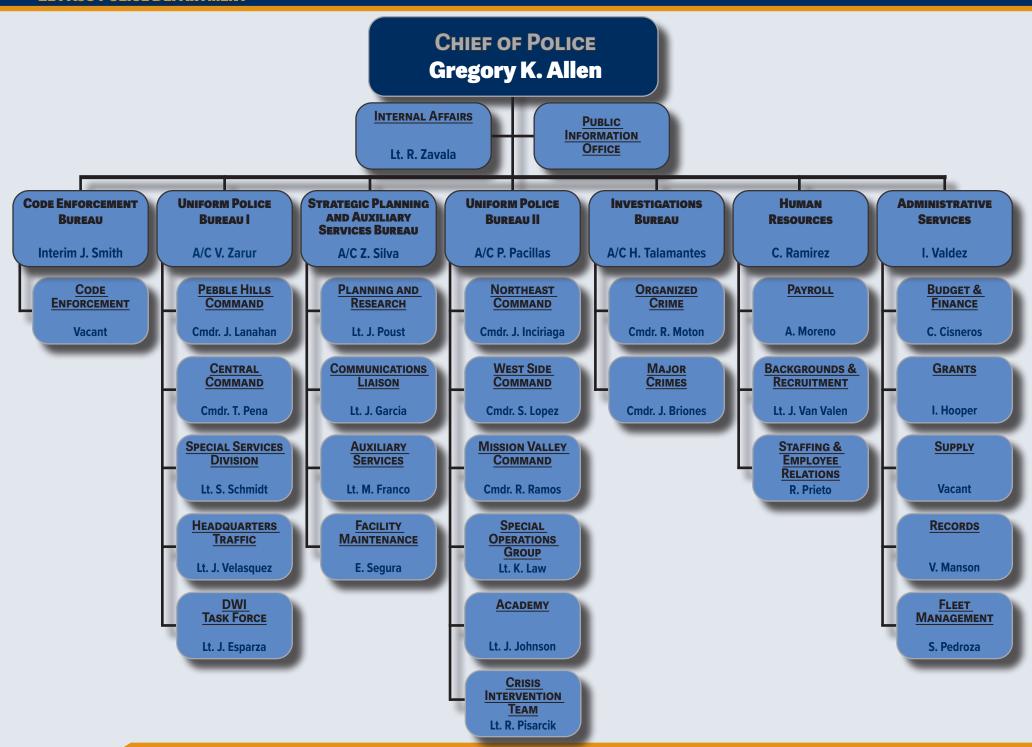
This message to the people of El Paso is simple and hopefully easy to understand. The El Paso Police Department will not abandon its' responsibility to safeguard this City and its' people for political expediency. We "Serve and Protect" to the Best of our ability!

This has been my position as Chief during my tenure, and it will remain so as long as I am Chief.

Chief of Police

Gregory K. Allen





### CHIEF OF POLICE

# **Gregory K.** Allen

# COMMAND **STAFF**





**Assistant Chief Victor Zarur** 



**Assistant Chief** 



**Peter Pacillas** 



**Human Resources Manager Carlos Ramirez** 



STRATEGIC PLANNING AND

**Assistant Chief Humberto Talamantes** 



**Administrative Manager** Isaura Valdez



**Assistant Chief Zina Silva** 



Lieutenant **Robert Zavala** 



# **DEPARTMENT DEMOGRAPHICS**

ETHNICITIES OF
SWORN OFFICERS

HISPANIC - **82.1%** 

WHITE - 14.5%

**BLACK - 2.1%** 

ASIAN - 0.8%

PACIFIC ISLANDER - 0.4%

NATIVE AMERICAN - 0.1%

Mare - 85.9% Female - 14.1%

SWORN AND CIVILIAN STAFFING OF REGIONAL COMMANDS

CENTRAL - TAS SWORN TO CIVILIANS

MISSION VALLEY - SWORN CIVILIANS

NORTHEAST - 2 CIVILIANS

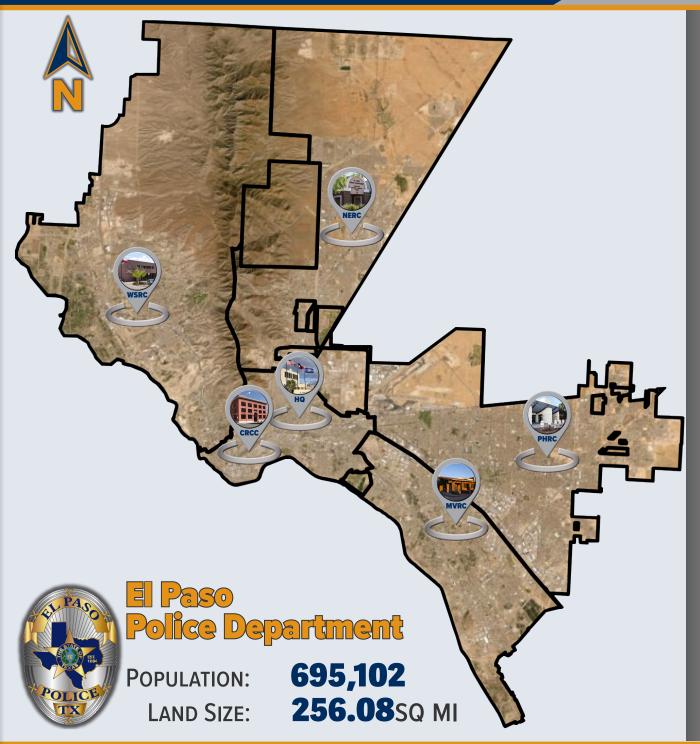
PEBBLE HILLS - TS SWORN CIVILIANS

WEST SIDE - The Sworn Sworn Civilians

SPECIALIZED UNITS - 465 SWORN 235 CIVILIANS

Sworn - 1,131 Civilian - 271







POPULATION: **92,102**LAND SIZE: **17.15** SQ MI



Mission Valley Regional

POPULATION: **102,475**LAND SIZE: **29.73**SQ MI



Northeast Regional Command

POPULATION: **128,324**LAND SIZE: **63.60**SQ MI



Pebble Hills Regional Command

POPULATION: **240,632**LAND SIZE: **54.60**SQ MI



West Side Regional Command

POPULATION: **131,830**LAND SIZE: **91.00** SQ MI

# **CRIME OFFENSE STATISTICS**

\* INDICATES A NON-REPORTED CRIME CATEGORY

2021 Part 1 UCR Crime Statistic Comparison 2020

			CRIMINAL HOMICIDE  296 FORCIBLE RAPE  ROBBERY		23			
					230			
					239			
			984 Ago	GRAVATED ASSAULT	1,591	1,591		
	1,152 BURGLARY				849	7,297		
		6,752 LARCENY-THEFT						
974 VEHICLE THEFT 432								
I NIBRS GROUP A CRIME STATISTICS	ANIMAL CRUELTY	Arson	Assault Offenses	BRIBERY	Burglary/ Breaking & Entering	Counterfeiting/ Forgery	DESTRUCTION/ DAMAGE/ VANDALISM OF	
	141	40	7,263	0	1,152	223	PROPERTY 3,781	
	Drug/ Narcotic Offenses	EMBEZZLEMENT	EXTORTION/ BLACKMAIL	FRAUD OFFENSES	GAMBLING OFFENSES	Homicide Offenses	Human Trafficking	
	2,863	103	0	2,220	0	31	0	
	KIDNAPPING/ ABDUCTION	LARCENY/THEFT OFFENSES	MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	Pornography/ Obscene Material	Prostitution Offenses	Robbery	Sex Offenses	
	103	6,752	974	135	32	233	498	
	STOLEN PROPERTY OFFENSES	WEAPON LAW VIOLATIONS	Commerce Violations	Espionage	FUGITIVE OFFENSES	Immigration Violations	Treason	
	3	424	0*	0*	0*	0*	0*	

# **USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS**

# USE OF FORCE (UOF) INCIDENTS BY REGION

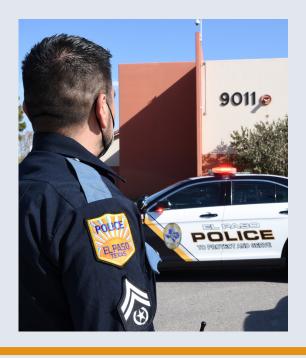
CENTRAL 370

MISSION VALLEY 270

NORTHEAST 195

PEBBLE HILLS 186

WEST SIDE 130



#### **TOTAL UOF INCIDENTS - 1,151**

# OFFICER SERVICE CALLS INVOLVING UOF

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE - 371,798
TOTAL CALLS INVOLVING UOF - 1,151

# Type of Calls for Service Involving UOF

DISPATCHED CALLS - 943 (82%)

OFFICER INITIATED - 208 (18%)

# SREAKDOWN OF FORCE BY APPLICATION

Show of Force - 110 (3%)

Firearm intentionally pointed at a person

**TYPE 1 FORCE - 2,951 (82%)** 

Includes soft empty hand, hard empty control, restraint chair, and spit sock application



**TYPE 2 FORCE - 549 (15%)** 

Includes impact weapons, chemical agents, CEW (Taser), less lethal, and K9 deployment

**TYPE 3 FORCE - 5 (0%)** 

Includes firearm discharge or other deadly force



# PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

The Public Information Office's mission is to provide information to the public in a timely manner for emergencies, traffic incidents, investigations, current events, and crime trends. This is accomplished by posting press releases through the Department's website, posting information on six social media sites to include Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Nextdoor, and YouTube. The PIO also hosts virtual meetings that the public can participate in and ask questions as well as providing information through interviews with the members of the media.

#### Social Media Platforms

FACEBOOK /ELPASOPOLICE

TWITTER /EPPOLICE

TWITTER TRAFFIC /EPPOLICETRAFFIC

**INSTAGRAM** /EPPOLICE

YOUTUBE /ELPASOPOLICEDEPARTMENT

**NEXTDOOR** /EL-PASO-POLICE-DEPARTMENT



**292** PRESS RELEASES

35 CALL-OUTS

2 VIRTUAL TOWNHALL MEETINGS HELD

**536** MEDIA NOTIFICATIONS SENT

**265,647** SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS

9,151 SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS





# **CRIME STOPPERS**



# **Sergeant Javier Sambrano**

**54** ARRESTS

1,232 TIPS RECEIVED

2,236 CALLS RECEIVED

**167** CLEARED CASES

**\$27,200.00** REWARDS

\$177,473.00 RECOVERED NARCOTICS

\$11,00.00 RECOVERED PROPERTY

Crime Stoppers II Paris
a non-profit organitionat
works togethe ith in
works togethe ith in
the media sol
crime

Crime Stoppers of El Paso, Inc. has given El Pasoans an anonymous voice in fighting crime since 1978. The mission of the non-profit organization is to carry out a community offensive against crime by working with the community, law enforcement, and the media to solve crimes. Through our program, criminal information is received anonymously, sent to our law enforcement partners, and cases are published through the media. Additionally, tipsters are rewarded monetarily if their tip results in an arrest.

Our ongoing efforts resulted in a 59% increase in cases cleared and a 46% increase in arrests for 2021. The program also gained 4,000 new followers on social media, and our website traffic increased by 13%, about half the population of the city. In addition, we were recognized by the Governor's Office as having cleared the most cases for a population of our size in 2020. This shows the effectiveness of Crime Stoppers of El Paso and how we engage with the community and foster trust.

Since inception, Crime Stoppers of El Paso has helped arrest 4,625 subjects, cleared 6,150 cases, recovered \$48,852,360 in narcotics, \$44,484,474 in recovered property, and have issued \$1,183,050 in rewards.

The program also supports the initiatives of local law enforcement agencies. We regularly work with the El Paso Police Department, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, Texas DPS, campus police, and many other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. The program also takes tips related to criminal activity occurring on school grounds. Students are able to call our tipline to anonymously report information. In turn,

they can receive a reward if their tip leads to an arrest or disciplinary action.

Every week, we compile and distribute our Most Wanted fugitive list at the request of our law enforcement partners. In 2021, we featured 346 wanted fugitives. Through tips, police fieldwork, and self-surrenders, 174 wanted suspects were arrested.

The Crime of the Week spotlights an unsolved case from one of our law enforcement partners that is distributed and publicized through local news media and our social media profiles. Our Crime of the Week has helped solve homicides, aggravated robberies, identity thefts, and much more with the help of tips submitted by the public. With the support of our local and business communities, Crime Stoppers aims to enhance and increase safety in El Paso as it continues to grow.





—of El Paso, Inc.—



EL PASO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Internal Affairs Division



The El Paso Police Department's Internal Affairs Division is comprised of one

lieutenant, three sergeants, and 14 investigators. These men and women are responsible for the maintenance of professional police conduct and ensuring the overall integrity of the Department. Internal Affairs ensures due process is afforded to all officers of the El Paso Police Department in the discipline process. We are always looking to improve in having a well-trained section and making strides in utilizing technology to enhance all investigations. In 2021, the Force Investigations Team was created, which oversees and manages all use of force incidents involving officers. Every complaint handled by our office is given due diligence so that the facts are brought to light. This ensures we uphold and maintain the integrity of the El Paso Police Department.



# NTERNAL **AFFAIRS**

Lieutenant Robert Zavala, Jr.

- **237** COMPLAINTS REPORTED BY IA
- **102** CASES INVESTIGATED BY IA
- 19 CASES SCREENED BY IA
- 1.009 USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS -**DOCUMENTED ONLY** 
  - **60** USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS INVESTIGATED BY IA
- **1,069** USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS (DOCUMENTED AND INVESTIGATED)
  - **120** CASES RESULTED IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION



# CODE ENFORCEMENT

# **Interim Manager Jimmy Smith**

**92** NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS

**319** Parking Citations

**45,744** TOTAL CODE CASES

**3** Presentations Given

36 ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS GIVEN

**6,624** TOTAL ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT INSPECTIONS CONDUCTED

**186** CASES REFERRED TO COURT

**7,252** CASES REFERRED FOR CLEAN-UP TO CLEAN EL PASO





The Code Enforcement Bureau is made up

of four teams that enforce the City's Municipal Ordinances. Each team is assigned to one of the five regional command areas. The Northeast, Central, and West Side Regional Command areas are overseen by CFOS (Code Field Operations Supervisor) D. Hernandez. The Pebble Hills and Mission Valley areas are overseen by CFOS D. Soto.

This year, Code Management participated in assisting with two Cross Functional Teams. In the High Priority Corridors team, Code Management assisted with identifying traffic corridors around El Paso in need of heavier enforcement in respect to the higher number of Code cases reported in those areas. Code Management also assisted with the newly passed Convenience Store Ordinance by helping to develop the Convenience Store inspection checklist, pricing for the application process and the registration application. Code Enforcement enforce the new ordinance as well as process the annual CSO inspections.

The Code Enforcement COVID Response Team was created in 2020 to assist other departments and agencies with to concerns related to COVID, which continued to threaten the health and safety of our community and nation in 2021.

With COVID cases declining, the COVID Response Team became the 4/10 Response Team.

The 4/10 Response Team assists with weekend and evening calls related to nuisance Code issues. The Code Enforcement Team continued assisting EPPD officers with enforcing the city's Noise Ordinance in regards to drinking establishments. Beginning in March of this year, bars whose noise level measured at 70.1 or above were found to be in violation and issued a NOV (Notice of Violation). The NOV is equivalent to a Class C citation in that the recipient must either pay the fine or appear in court to answer to the NOV before a Municipal Court judge. Currently all Code Officers work on a varied schedule on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays to ensure noise levels are within capacity and adhering to the City Ordinance.

After the passing of Code Administrator Richard
Adams in October of 2020, Interim Code
Administrator Jimmy Smith and Interim Code Manager
Amy Orona have overseen the daily operations of the
Code Enforcement Bureau, ensuring that all the needs
of the division are met.

The Code Enforcement Bureau looks to the future. As our City grows, so does the Code Enforcement Bureau. Ten new officers were hired in December to fulfill vacancies that had been pending on all four teams. A larger Code Bureau will benefit our community with a greater strength of service in numbers.



# UNIFORM POLICE BUREAU I

**Assistant Chief Victor Zarur** 



Commander
Thomas Pena
Central
Regional Command







Jaime Esparza

DWI Task Force

Lieutenant

Lieutenant Jaime Velasquez Headquarters Traffic

Lieutenant
Steven Schmidt
Special Services
Division



Commander
John Lanahan
Pebble Hills
Regional Command

The Police Officers, Code Enforcement Officers, Civilians and Volunteers are dedicated to setting the standard for a Safe and Secure City. I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks for their loyalty and hard work. Our success depends on the quality of our team members and we recognize and appreciate your contributions and achievements. Thank you all.

# PEBBLE HILLS REGIONAL COMMAND

The Pebble Hills Regional Command Center (PHRC) officially opened in 1994, and is located at 10780 Pebble Hills. PHRC has a large, diverse community that is located on the eastside portion of the city of El Paso. The Pebble Hills area has experienced phenomenal residential and business growth in recent years. The region includes the area east of Buffalo Soldier Road to the eastern city limits and north of Interstate 10.

The Pebble Hills Regional Command's staff is comprised of 175 sworn officers, six civilian employees, and five volunteers. Sworn officers are assigned in the patrol, traffic, criminal investigations, juvenile investigations, tactical unit, and community services section.

The Pebble Hills Regional Command's location affords citizens the ability to pay traffic citations, set court dates, obtain copies of police reports, and report minor traffic accidents. The center has a community room that can be reserved in advance to hold community meetings. The center also offers a variety of community programs that citizens can

become involved in which include the Citizen's Advisory Board, Public Safety Cadets, Safety Town, National Night Out, Pride Day, and Neighborhood Watch Programs. PHRC also invites the community to participate in the ride along program.

The dedicated officers and staff of the Pebble Hills Regional Command are committed to reducing crime and continue to build and maintain strong partnerships within the community in order to improve the quality of life for everyone to enjoy.







#### **CALLS FOR SERVICE**

**75,215** DISPATCHED EVENTS

19,736 OFFICER INITIATED

#### **INVESTIGATIVE AND TACTICAL UNITS**

7.142 CASES ASSIGNED

4,676 CASES CLEARED

#### **STAFFING**

**173** SWORN PERSONNEL

**6** CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

#### **POLICE AREA REPRESENTATIVES**

**266** EVENTS HELD (VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON)

**6,355** EVENT ATTENDANTS



#### Part 1 Crime Cases

9 MURDER

**357** AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

**56** ROBBERY

**208** FORCIBLE RAPE

**186** BURGLARY

1,998 LARCENY-THEFT

**258** MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

# **CENTRAL REGIONAL COMMAND**

#### **CALLS FOR SERVICE**

**64,375** DISPATCHED EVENTS

**62,375** OFFICER INITIATED

#### **INVESTIGATIVE AND TACTICAL UNITS**

**2,879** CASES ASSIGNED

937 CASES CLEARED

#### **STAFFING**

**178** SWORN PERSONNEL

17 CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

#### **POLICE AREA REPRESENTATIVES**

115 EVENTS HELD (VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON)

**3,446** EVENT ATTENDANTS



#### Part 1 Crime Cases

**10** MURDER

**267** AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

**70** ROBBERY

119 FORCIBLE RAPE

**267** BURGLARY

1,119 LARCENY-THEFT

**281** MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

2021 came to a close with the Central Regional Command (CRCC) continuing to address issues relating to the Coronavirus pandemic. CRCC's main objective was the safety of sworn and civilian staff and the community. CRCC routinely took preventative steps to combating the Coronavirus, such as fogging CRCC, the Metro Office, and the Par Office. Marked and unmarked units were regularly decontaminated for the safety of our staff and those within our community. Additionally, civilian staff who could remotely work from home were encouraged to do so, thus minimizing personnel in the station.

CRCC continued to address crime trends and focus on calls for service, deploying specialty units as necessary to mitigate the change in trends. CRCC personnel were able to handle multiple protests, special events, and parades throughout the year. CRCC shifts and sections were able to implement traffic plans to address vehicle and pedestrian collisions.

Due to changes in state law, CRCC personnel worked in partnership with community groups, other city departments, and non-governmental organizations to address an increase in calls for service in regards to homelessness and public camping.

Lastly, CRCC emphasized shift training and training days that had an increased focus on officer safety.

Central Regional Command's devoted sworn and civilian staff are committed to continuing their mission supporting the community by continuing to strengthen and improve partnerships while curtailing crime throughout the region.







#### **AIRPORT**



The ELP TSA Explosives Detection Program is a collaboration between the Transportation Security Administration, the El Paso International Airport, and the El Paso Police Department. El Paso Police Department officers are sent to Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX for their initial handler certification. Upon completion, the handlers are paired with TSA-owned canines and deployed within the El Paso International Airport. The ELP TSA Explosive Detection Canine (EDC) Unit currently has two teams, Officer M. Goroeoff with K9 Fantom and Officer A. Nevarez with K9 Brita. These teams are able to use currents in the air to detect explosive residue. Their primary duty is within the El Paso International Airport, but they can operate throughout the transportation system.

In 2021, the ELP TSA Explosive Detection Program expanded to include Passenger Screening Canines (PSC). Passenger Screening Canines are able to utilize the same skills as the Explosive Detection Canines to detect explosives, but they are specifically trained to work in and around passengers and people. This expansion has allowed the ELP TSA K9 program to add an additional layer of security by screening passengers in the real-time travel environment.

With the addition of the Passenger Screening Canines came the ELP TSA K9 Volunteer Decoy Program. The decoy program brings in community volunteers to act as passengers. The volunteers are fitted with training aids and put the PSC teams to the test in real-time, real-world training scenarios. Volunteers come from all walks of life and are all part of the El Paso community. The ELP TSA K9 Volunteer Decoy Program is a collaborative effort between the El Paso Police Department, the El Paso International Airport, and the Transportation Security Administration.

In 2021, the ELP TSA Explosive Detection Canine Unit obtained two new K9s, K9 Brita and K9 Laky.

Officer Nevarez retired his partner, K9 Mira, to the comforts of his family's home. He then transitioned to, and certified with, K9 Brita. Officer R. Looney completed the 4-month initial handler certification training and was paired with K9 Laky.

The teams responded to three large-scale callouts that met the TSA criteria for EDC searches: Community College Early College, Speaking Rock Casino, and a bomb threat requiring the search of 12 passenger aircraft on the ground.

The teams conducted VIP sweeps for numerous government officials, including the Vice President, the DHS Secretary, and various ranking senators and representatives.

The teams conducted sweeps for eight concerts at the Don Haskins Center, a professional NHL game held at the County Colosseum, the Sun Bowl Game, and the El Paso Winterfest Light Parade.

The teams also provided sweeps for funerals and honors of local law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.







#### **HOURS TRAINED**

1,446 OFFICER CANO & K9 NIK

1,757 OFFICER GOROEOFF & K9 FANTOM

**436** OFFICER LOONEY & K9 LAKY

**1,437** OFFICER NEVAREZ & K9 BRITA

1,795 SERGEANT MELENDEZ & K9 RIKI

**8,611** TOTAL HOURS TRAINED

**64** SEARCHES







# SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION

#### **Special Traffic Investigation**

3,920 CASES ASSIGNED (HIT-AND-RUN/DWI)

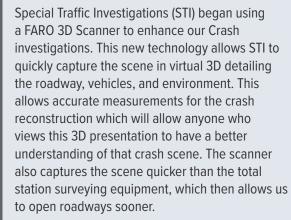
**85** FATALITIES INVESTIGATED

**75** TRAFFIC FATALITIES

**28** ALCOHOL-RELATED TRAFFIC FATALITIES

**32** SPEED-RELATED TRAFFIC FATALITIES

109 CALL-OUTS







#### **Safe Communities**

**241** MEETINGS & TRAININGS

**99** COMMUNITY EVENTS

**123** TOTAL PRESENTATIONS

**14,550** PARTICIPANTS AGED 0-18

**320** Participants Aged 19-65

**45** Participants Older than 65



The El Paso Police
Department's
Safe Communities
section focuses on
community
partnerships and
participation in
developing strategies
that respond to the
community's traffic
safety needs, with

an emphasis on building safe, resilient, and traffic smarter communities. The program's purpose is to address community concerns and to engage, educate and promote traffic safety awareness through education, prevention, and intervention. Safe Communities focuses on the education, distribution of promotional material, and campaigns that stress prevention and safety in the following areas: Driving While Intoxicated, Underage Drinking and Driving, Speeding, Distracted Driving, Pedestrian, Seatbelt and Car Seat Safety. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the program shifted to a virtual format and engaged in inclusive virtual community engagements.

The program's goal is to reduce traffic-related injuries and fatalities within the city of El Paso. Safe Communities seeks to assist and/or reduce and prevent traffic fatalities and serious injuries including pedestrians' deaths by making the public aware of local ordinances, laws, and prevention efforts that the community can participate in. Safe Communities works diligently to change and influence behaviors that contribute to fatalities and injury regarding pedestrian safety, risk of bicycle and vehicle collision, and other related and preventable traffic incidents. The purpose of Safe Communities is to create and build on safe behaviors that include the use of child restraints. seatbelts, and the understanding of local laws and requirements that could encourage the community to participate and/or change their old behaviors into new and improved safe behaviors. Safe Communities works hard with community-based resources and grants from community partners like State Farm to purchase educational material and traffic safety-related equipment, to utilize in local events that are intended to support safe behaviors thereby reducing traffic-related fatalities and injuries.

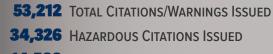
# HEADQUARTERS TRAFFIC

The Motors Unit officers successfully completed a 3-week Northwestern University Motors Instructor Course at the Florence, Texas DPS Training Facility and brought back the latest motors-related operations knowledge to impart to the rest of the unit. Motors officers led 25 funeral escorts and 24 non-funeral motorcade escorts in 2021. They conduced traffic control during 13 special events. 53,212 total citations and warnings were issued. 17 community presentations were conducted at events like School Career Days, Coffee With A Cop Events, Fort Bliss Motorcycle Safety Presentations, and TXDOT Traffic Safety Campaign Kick-offs. Motors officers instructed 139 pre-service and in-service training sessions at the Police Academy in topics such as traffic procedures, radar

recertification, taser recertification, firearms instruction, emergency vehicle operation class, high performance vehicle recertification, motors recertification, and TECC Tier 1 Patrol training.

The vision of the EPPD is to create a unified traffic division that is responsible for making the roadways safer for the citizens of El Paso through traffic enforcement, traffic

investigations, and traffic safety awareness/education. In addition, SSD's and HQ Traffic's resources will be used to aid the City of El Paso with the Vision Zero Traffic Safety Program Plan.



**14,500** Non-Hazardous Citations Issued

**38** Parking/Misc Citations Issued

**4,298** WRITTEN WARNINGS ISSUED

**13** SPECIAL EVENTS

**25** FUNERAL HONOR ESCORTS

**24** Non-Funeral Motorcade Escorts

17 TRAFFIC PRESENTATIONS

7 MULTI-AGENCY TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS





# **DWI TASK FORCE**

In 2021, our focus was in "hot spot" areas to enforce DWI violations and also to deter other crimes with high visibility enforcement. The DWI Task Force also conducted several DWI awareness trainings to the youth and adults in the community. The DWI Task Force received several regional and national awards in 2021 for reducing crashes and saving lives, along with recognition for spreading DWI awareness in the community.

**1,381** ARRESTS

2,231 CITATIONS ISSUED

**160** FELONY CASES HANDLED

1,221 MISDEMEANOR CASES HANDLED

**1,363** HAZARDOUS CITATIONS ISSUED

**868** Non-Hazardous Citations Issued

1.171 WRITTEN WARNINGS ISSUED

**24** PRESENTATIONS

# **New Initiative: High Performance Vehicle Unit**



With the growing traffic safety needs of the City of El Paso, and for increased efficiency and promotion of public safety, the Special Services Division (SSD) expanded and entered into Phase II of the EPPD Traffic Plan in 2021. A High Performance Vehicle Unit (HPVU) was implemented on October 3, 2021. The HPVU merged with Motors, and has been newly designated as

Headquarters Traffic. Five high performance Mustang vehicles were transferred from the regional commands to Headquarters Traffic, along with five operators who are certified in the High Performance Vehicle Course. The duties of the High Performance Vehicle Unit are to work traffic complaints and high collision intersections while enforcing and deterring traffic violations.

Additional duties are to handle city-wide traffic complaints, to investigate crashes, impound abandoned vehicles on state highways, assist with traffic control at special events, assist with funeral honor escorts, assist with motorcade escort operations, and to manage special events assigned by the Parade Coordinator and One Stop Shop.









# UNIFORM POLICE BUREAU II

**Assistant Chief Peter Pacillas** 







Commander Robert Ramos Mission Valley Regional Command Commander Julia Inciriaga Northeast Regional Command Commander Steven Lopez West Side **Regional Command** 







Lieutenant Robert Pisarcik Crisis Intervention Team Lieutenant Ken Law **Special Operations** Group Lieutenant Jason Johnson **Training** Academy

On behalf of the all the civilians and sworn personnel in Uniform Police Bureau II, we would like to thank our El Paso community for the privilege to serve the City of El Paso. As all El Paso Police Department personnel, we work hard every day to attain excellence. It was probably best stated by Aristotle when he said:

"Men acquire a particular quality by constantly acting a particular way... you become just by performing just actions, temperate by performing temperate actions, brave by performing brave actions."

# NORTHEAST REGIONAL COMMAND





The Northeast Regional Command is centered in the Northeast portion of El Paso. The region extends from the eastern slopes of the Franklin Mountains to the edge of Texas. Eight defined districts share close ties with Fort Bliss, Texas. From the Old Glory Memorial to the Fort Bliss Cemetery that defines the southeastern border, we proudly honor all who have served our Country and those who have given the ultimate sacrifice. The El Paso Museum of Archeology, opened in October 12, 1977, hosts the annual Franklin Mountain Poppies Fest each Spring when the California poppies are in bloom and turn the mountainside a majestic golden hue.

The Northeast Regional Command is staffed with 112 dedicated sworn peace officers that provide excellent customer service and are committed to the safety and wellbeing of the community. The command is comprised of personnel that provide investigative, traffic, and community service needs. In 2021 alone, the Northeast Regional Command's investigative team saw more than a 23% reduction in overall property crimes. The Community Services Unit successfully hosted the 7th Annual Community Fair that invites nearly 270 vendors each year and is visited by over 3,000 community members. This event is sponsored by local businesses and residents that contribute tirelessly to the success of the community.

The Northeast Regional Command is experiencing substantial growth with new subdivisions and schools being built. For this reason, the Northeast Regional Command have invited the public to join during the Citizen Advisory Meeting because input from our most valued stakeholders, the community, is welcomed! For the upcoming year, leaders frequently meet to discuss action plans to deliver the most cutting edge crime reduction tools and innovative programs to work in partnership with the community to enhance the quality of life in the City of El Paso.

#### **CALLS FOR SERVICE**

**52,729** DISPATCHED EVENTS

13,900 OFFICER INITIATED

#### **INVESTIGATIVE AND TACTICAL UNITS**

2,201 CASES ASSIGNED

1,222 CASES CLEARED

#### **STAFFING**

**112** SWORN PERSONNEL

**3** CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

#### **POLICE AREA REPRESENTATIVES**

**134** EVENTS HELD (VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON)

7,780 EVENT ATTENDANTS



#### Part 1 Crime Cases

**10** MURDER

**166** AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

**69** ROBBERY

**121** FORCIBLE RAPE

**198** BURGLARY

961 LARCENY-THEFT

**214** MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

# **WEST SIDE REGIONAL COMMAND**

#### **CALLS FOR SERVICE**

**29,252** DISPATCHED EVENTS

**16,912** OFFICER INITIATED

#### **INVESTIGATIVE AND TACTICAL UNITS**

3,693 CASES ASSIGNED

1,729 CASES CLEARED

#### **STAFFING**

114 SWORN PERSONNEL

**5** CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

#### **POLICE AREA REPRESENTATIVES**

**76** EVENTS HELD (VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON)

**6,500** EVENT ATTENDANTS



#### Part 1 Crime Cases

**4** MURDER

**102** AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

**30** ROBBERY

**56** FORCIBLE RAPE

**141** BURGLARY

1,255 LARCENY-THEFT

**226** MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

In 2021, West El Paso continued to experience an increase in population, businesses, and residential neighborhoods. The population increase and business startups directly correlated with the 8% increase in the overall crime rate for 2021.

The West Side adopted the Data Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS), a new policing strategy to reduce crime and crashes in their community. This identified hot spots where officers were needed. The implementation of proactive policing yielded positive results by reducing traffic incidents and crime.

As COVID-19 restrictions were lifted, the Cincinnati Entertainment District (CED) drew large crowds each weekend, resulting in increased crime in the area. To mitigate criminal activity and ensure code compliance and safety, the West Side Regional Command provided a high police presence during the operation period to deter and take enforcement action against criminals. There have been over 2,000 noise readings gathered in order to maintain minimal sound levels, including issuing 51 total citations.

The Community Services Unit conducted a vast variety of

beautification cleanups throughout west El Paso in 2021. The Community Services Unit received information from citizens, patrol officers, and 3-1-1 in areas that needed cleanup. A total of 13 cleanups were conducted with Code Compliance.

The West Side Regional Command spearheaded many projects that were successful and will continue being so in the future. Mental health for officers is a very important topic and the West Side Regional Command, along with the El Paso Municipal Police Officers Association, held a Wellness Benefit event at the Academy on September 24th. This event served to lay the foundation for other major events in the future to ensure officers are properly cared for when it comes to their mental health.

In late May, the Community Services Unit was contacted by the First Responders Children Foundation in New York who were willing to donate a large quantity of toys to our local community. The West Side took this opportunity to have a toy giveaway on June 26th. They were able to reach the community with approximately 2,500 toys. This event showed how the citizens and the police department work together to reach out to local families.







# MISSION VALLEY REGIONAL COMMAND

The Mission Valley Regional Command (MVRC) consists of an area which includes the Tigua Indian Reservation and the boundaries north of the Zaragoza International Bridge (Ysleta Port of Entry), and covering seven districts in the region.

The Mission Valley Regional Command (MVRC) had a successful year in 2021. Despite having the least amount of personnel compared to the other regions, MVRC still ended the year with a decrease of 4% in crime. This was accomplished by the strong work ethic and dedication









#### **CALLS FOR SERVICE**

**30,129** DISPATCHED EVENTS

15,922 OFFICER INITIATED

#### **INVESTIGATIVE AND TACTICAL UNITS**

2,031 CASES ASSIGNED

1,035 CASES CLEARED

#### **STAFFING**

**74** SWORN PERSONNEL

**6** CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

#### **POLICE AREA REPRESENTATIVES**

**32** EVENTS HELD (VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON)

**5,201** EVENT ATTENDANTS



#### Part 1 Crime Cases

**5** MURDER

**157** AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

**32** ROBBERY

**54** FORCIBLE RAPE

**130** BURGLARY

739 LARCENY-THEFT

**173** MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

# **TRAINING ACADEMY**

**3,510** Hours Taught to Civilians

**362** CIVILIANS TAUGHT

**97.768** Hours Taught to Officers

**21,407** OFFICERS TAUGHT

**22** COURSES TAUGHT FOR CIVILIANS

**1.851** Courses Taught For Officers

**107** Courses Taught For Cadets

**5** Presentations

PRE-SERVICE - Beginning with the 128th Academy Recruit Class, the El Paso Police Training Academy initiated the brand new Texas Basic Peace Officer Course (BPOC) 696. With this new course came the longest academy class on record at 10 months and one week due to it adding additional hours. The class was also longer because the academy added new and additional courses of department training. Among the newly added department courses were mental health-related trainings on Dealing with Grief, Self-Injury, Excited Delirium, Emergency Detention, the Intellectually Disabled, and Medication Induced Movement Disorder. In total, each recruit received 1,612 training hours. When it came time for the recruits to take the new Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) Licensing Exam, they had a 100% passing score. This is noteworthy because many police academies throughout Texas have had mass failure rates on the new exam.



**IN-SERVICE** – The In-service section implemented a new triennial department training program consisting of two 10-hour days of training on Implicit Bias, Duty to Intervene, Basic Criminal Investigations, and Stress Inoculation. In-service staff additionally created a new course entitled Sleep Deprivation, Disruptions, and Disorders. They collaborated with the Pre-service section to provide the recruits versions of these courses. The In-service section continued the Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC) Course, which has now been delivered to approximately 75% of the Department's sworn personnel. The TECC allows officers to provide critical care to major injuries in the field and become a life sustaining entity until trained medical personnel arrive. Lastly, In-service launched the Integrated Police/Fire Response Course, which prepares sworn officers for response to large scale critical incidents such as mass casualty events.

**ADMINISTRATION – The** Administration section continued to manage all sworn personnel in database certifications such as NEXTEST and CJIS as required by the State of Texas. The Administration section was responsible for facilitating over 157,288 training hours for 1,146 sworn officers in 2021. In addition. the Administration section coordinated 2.340 courses. which ensured 189 sworn officers received advanced peace officer certifications. The Administration section was instrumental in updating the veterans' payment benefits to reflect the changes in training hours for the State of Texas. This involved exhausting hours of preparation, a passing audit, and a successful submission to Veterans Affairs.







# **SPECIAL OPERATIONS GROUP**



Since 2000, SWAT has undertook the task of training the entire department on Active Shooter Response. From May-August 2021, SWAT provided annual Active Shooter Response Training to all departmental members from the ranks of police officer to lieutenant. Training was conducted every Tuesday and Thursday until all sworn personnel had completed their annual refresher training.

Due to COVID, gatherings and presentations were not possible until mid-year in July. From July to the close of the year SOG resumed conducting over a dozen presentations in the community. In August, SOG SWAT, Bomb, and ComSAR, in partnership with the EPMPOA and Child Advocacy Center, did an event for children highlighting the department's specialty teams. In September, another significant community event where SOG showcased its teams was the EPPD Gala held at the Academy, hosted by the EPMPOA and Commander Lopez from the WSRC.





K9 was able to complete a new handler academy which consisted of a 21-week academic and physical training curriculum which challenged both handler and dog. On Dec 20, 2021, the department gained four new K9 teams to assist with patrol and narcotics detection.

# **Special Weapons** and Tactical

**62** HIGH RISK WARRANTS SERVED

**26** BARRICADED INCIDENTS

**88** SWAT UNIT ACTIVATIONS

**21,719** TRAINING HOURS COMPLETED

# Hazardous Device Technicians

**52** CALL-OUTS

11 ITEMS DEFUSED OR RETRIEVED

**7,680** TRAINING HOURS COMPLETED

#### **K-9**

1,319 PATROL CALLS

**199** OBSERVED CALLS

3,222 VEHICLES CHECKED

**258** NARCOTICS SEARCHES

**58** Building Searches

**16** AREA SEARCHES

**2,559** TRAINING HOURS COMPLETED

# Combined Search and Rescue Team

**21** CALL-OUTS

**21** RESCUES

**2,560** TRAINING HOURS COMPLETED

#### **Dignitary Protection**

**138** OPERATIONS

**235** OPERATIONS WITH CITY HALL

**2,107** TRAINING HOURS COMPLETED

#### **Crisis Management Team**

**33** DEPLOYMENTS

**5,789** TRAINING HOURS COMPLETED

#### **Tactical Flight Officers**

**310** FLIGHTS FLOWN

**924** Hours Flown

**388** NUMBER OF EVENTS/CALLS

**722** SUSPECTS LOCATED

**59** SUSPECT ARRESTS

**388** Training Hours Completed

In 2021, the ComSAR team responded to over 20 call outs. Some incidents were difficult to maneuver in because of terrain and injuries to the patients. Most rescues were technical rescues where team members had to incorporate rope systems, and one rescue required the assistance of a helicopter. Four new members joined the ComSAR team in 2021. In November, eight ComSAR team members successfully completed the two-week Rope Technician Course at the West Valley Fire Station.



During 2021, CMT trained the entire department on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), a mental health course. ACEs introduced the concepts of early unpredictable stressors, losses, and adversities that children face as it will shape their biology in ways that predetermine their adult mental and physical health. This course also gave officers recovery methods known as the "sacred seven." ACEs was a course that took a hard look into the background of what an individual may be facing without even knowing. CMT also led trainings that incorporated Texas Troopers and school district police that involved high risk negotiations.





Dignitary Protection continued executing their protective responsibilities with 100% incident-free protection during several major special events including a Homeland Secretary Mayorka's visits, Vice President Kamala Harris' US-Mexico border visit, and Senator Ted Cruz's visit. The Dignitary Team also protected the Mayor during the August 3 and the September 11 memorials.

A new physical training assessment was developed by current team members and implemented into a two-day tryout. A Dignitary Protection tryout was held during April 28 and 29. Only the top seven candidates were selected.



The Tactical Flight officers are attached to the Texas

Department of Public Safety, Aircraft Division. DPS Aircraft
provide air support to all law enforcement agencies in Region
4, as the region is large and diverse. TFO is a vital member of
the aircrew, possessing the necessary skills to communicate
with ground units, manage scenes, and handle the camera
surveillance equipment. TFO provides a tactical insight and
coordination to the ground units to accomplish the mission. The
TFO can also provide Aerial Use of Force, assist in search and
rescue operations, drug interdiction, and prisoner transport.

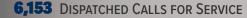
# **CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM**

The El Paso Police Crisis Intervention Team continues to strive to provide professional service to members of El Paso community that find themselves in a mental health crisis. El Paso is a melting pot of cultures and people partly because of the close proximity to the border, but also because of the large military population. Both active duty and those that have retired from the military to make El Paso their home.

In 2021, the El Paso Police Crisis Intervention Team has responded to thousands of calls for service. Year after year, the officers in the Crisis Intervention Team continue to hone their skills, always seeking to improve their response to those in a mental health crisis. Active listening and a general understanding of mental health symptoms have been key to the success

of our officers and mental health specialists out in the field.

In 2021, the Crisis Intervention Team was pleased to learn that a CIT officer, along with a DWI Task force officer, were awarded the prestigious lifesaving award for their actions, which ultimately gave someone a second chance at life. CIT officers were also recognized by the US Army's Second Armored Brigade Combat Team, First Armored Division for their work and care for the mental and physical well-being of a US Army soldier in a mental health crisis. These awards signify the great work that not only CIT, but all El Paso Police Officers do on a daily basis. The Crisis Intervention Team is committed and will always be committed to helping those in our community in mental health crisis.



**496** OBSERVED CALLS FOR SERVICE

6,649 TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE

**1,439** EMERGENCY DETENTION ORDERS PROCESSED

**436** Mental Health Reports Completed

4,035 ADULT CHECKS

**298** JUVENILE CHECKS

**60** VEHICLE CHECKS

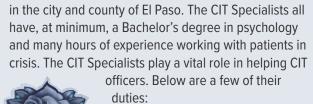




# **DEPARTMENT CONTRACTORS: PARTNERS IN SERVICE**

#### **EMERGENCE HEALTH NETWORK (EHN)**

Since the inception of the Crisis Intervention Team in 2018, CIT officers have been paired up to work with, and respond to calls for service together with, a mental health specialist. The CIT unit has 14 mental health specialist which are selected by Emergence Health Network (EHN). EHN is the local mental health authority



- Help officers de-escalate situations in the community
- Help link citizens in the community to mental health services
- EHN Mental Health Specialists are available to assist as a resource to CIT officers, and can provide mental health history about citizens encountered in the field, which can be very helpful to CIT officers in making a determination if emergency intervention is necessary.

The co-deployment model used by the El Paso Police Department has been widely accepted by the community. A big part of that is the mental health specialist being able to respond safely along with a police officer to help citizens in crisis.



#### **ALLIED UNIVERSAL – G4S**

Allied Universal (AUS) is the largest provider of armed protective services to government contracts. Their experience includes numerous major armed security programs such as Critical Infrastructure, US Department of Homeland Security (DHS), US Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE), court systems, and public buildings for city, county, state, and federal jurisdictions. AUS protective services include security, federal law enforcement, fire prevention, transit systems, fare enforcement.

The partnership with the El Paso Police Department provides Custody Officer Services. The goal is to harness their vast custody experience and couple it with the best practices from other custody facilities to ensure the most cost efficient and highest quality solution for servicing jail facilities.

The Custom Protection Officer (CPO) operating this contract must meet specific requirements. CPOs begin their careers possessing abilities and qualifications

that no other large-scale commercial program requires candidates to possess as to the amount of security education and experience. Each candidate must have achieved at least one of the following to qualify:

- Military service that included law enforcement or security duties (e.g., military police, elite military forces and combat arms) or support in a combat zone
- A minimum of eight or more years of service in any military branch
- A Bachelor's degree in law enforcement or criminal justice
- An Associate degree in law enforcement or criminal justice with current or prior active military service
- Graduate from a certified Public Safety Academy (military or civilian) or verified work experience in the law enforcement, adult corrections, or firefighter field

The main duties of the CPOs are processing and oversight of arrestees while at client premises, transportation and booking of EPPD arrestees into El

Paso County Jail facilities and other facilities as deemed necessary and requested by EPPD staff, and/or transportation services to pick up prisoners at other locations. In 2021, the AUS team Live Scanned a total of 7,772 individuals and transported 6,555 arrestees.





# INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

**Assistant Chief Humberto Talamantes** 



Commander
Juan Briones

Major Crimes
Division



Commander Reginald Moton

Organized Crime
Division

The relentless dedication and remarkable work ethic continually carried on by the EPPD team has contributed to El Paso being amongst the top safest cities in the entire nation. Despite surmounting challenges our Officers, Investigators, Supervisors, and civilian staff faced and overcame, their inspiring selfless pride and resolve to keep our community safe paid off. The numerous successes the department continues to have is attributed to our EPPD team – a team that does not know how to fail. My sincere compliments and appreciation to each and every one of you for making our department and city great place!

### **ORGANIZED CRIME DIVISION**

The El Paso Police Department's Auto Theft Task
Force specializes in investigating motor vehicle crimes
throughout the City and County of El Paso, Texas. The
task force receives grant funding from the Motor Vehicle
Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA) and remains
the only Auto Theft Task Force for the far western
part of the State of Texas. The task force investigates
the thefts of motor vehicles, fraudulent transfer of
motor vehicles, thefts of auto parts, forgery of motor
vehicle titles, vehicle insurance fraud, and recovery of
stolen vehicles. The task force serves as a liaison with
Mexican authorities and assists with the repatriation
of recovered US stolen vehicles back into the US from

Mexico. The task force has a Crime Awareness Section that is responsible for providing education and public awareness at events to the public at places like schools, colleges, civic organizations, citizen police academies, and to other law enforcement agencies. The task force's Crime Awareness Section disseminates the MVCPA's State of Texas message campaign of "If You Like it - Lock it". The task force also conducts salvage yard inspections, southbound border checks at the U.S. Ports of Entry for stolen vehicles, 68-A Form inspections of salvage vehicles, assists with vehicle arson investigations, and provides Department training on auto theft investigations.



The Special Investigations Unit (SIU) is a division of the El Paso Police Department's Organized Crime Division, and is primarily tasked with various aspects of homeland security, intelligence gathering, and related criminal investigations. Areas of responsibility for the unit include threats involving critical infrastructure and/or government facilities, acts or suspected acts of terrorism, hate crimes, school and active shooter threats, imminent threats to elected or government officials, civil disturbance or demonstrations, bomb threats, and working as the liaison to the Office of Emergency Management. The unit also investigates criminal misconduct allegations by public officials and public safety employees. SIU also participates with joint task force responsibilities with the FBI and HSI drone program and special projects. SIU oversees state homeland security grant management, city facility access control, and any other task deemed necessary by the Office of the Chief.

#### **Auto Theft Task Force**

1,410 CASES ASSIGNED

**858** CASES CLEARED

**159** ADULT ARRESTS

**13** JUVENILE DETENTIONS

193 CALL-OUTS

**764** VEHICLES RECOVERED

\$10,179,128 VALUE OF RECOVERED VEHICLES

#### **Special Investigations Unit**

**66** CASES ASSIGNED

**10** CASES CLEARED BY ARREST/WARRANT

**3** CASES CLEARED BY NON-ARREST

**5** CASES EXCEPTIONALLY CLEARED

**15** CASES UNFOUNDED

**52** CALL-OUTS

**168** HOURS MANNING THE EOC

**18** SITE ASSESSMENTS

#### **Gang Unit**

**405** CASES ASSIGNED

**225** CASES CLEARED

**32** CALL-OUTS

**442** ADULT ARRESTS

**53** WEAPONS RECOVERED

**33** SEARCH WARRANTS EXECUTED

**27** WARRANTS OUTSTANDING

#### **Narcotics**

**242** FELONY ARRESTS

**56** MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS

**308** TOTAL ARRESTS

**\$636,956** CURRENCY SEIZED

380.05 LBS MARIJUANA SEIZED

**119,970.08** G COCAINE SEIZED

**264,319.28** G METHAMPHETAMINE SEIZED

**2,179.01** G HEROIN SEIZED

11,950.56 G FENTANYL SEIZED

#### **Narcotics K9**

101.27 LBS MARIJUANA SEIZED

**154.63 LBS** COCAINE SEIZED

121,495.28 G METHAMPHETAMINE SEIZED

**73,107.28 G** THC SEIZED

\$653,302 CURRENCY SEIZED



The El Paso Police Departments Gang Unit consists of 40 Officers. The unit is divided into a marked suppression team which currently has 20 officers and two sergeants. The suppression team is a proactive unit responsible for targeting areas with an increase in gang violence. The unit primarily conducts traffic stops to identify gang members, gather intelligence, and locate weapons as well as narcotics. The suppression team has three SWAT officers as well as a SWAT sergeant. They play a very important role as it pertains to taking high-profile dangerous subjects into custody.

The Gang Unit's second team is the plain clothes investigators. There are 14 investigators and two Serious Habitual Offenders Comprehensive Action Program (SHOCAP) officers. The team also has an additional SWAT officer and SWAT sergeant. The investigators'

primary task is to investigate cases involving discharge of firearms, aggravated assault with deadly weapons, deadly conduct, unlawful carrying of weapons, and any other offenses where there is a gang nexus. The unit works closely together in various operations to address high crime areas. Since 2019, the Gang Unit has been responsible for addressing the Cincinnati Entertainment District. The unit has conducted several joint operations with Constables, DPS, FBI, and Military CID to address the ongoing criminal activity involving military gang members. The unit has also worked RICO cases with the FBI involving the Gangster Disciples. The unit has also been tasked with addressing any gang violence in the local schools. The unit overall has played a major role in reducing the amount of criminal activity amongst gang members. The unit has been successful in getting numerous weapons off the street, which has helped slow down the violent crime and kept the community safer.



In 2021, The EPPD Narcotics Unit continued to face various challenges and changes in and around their area of responsibility. The unit continued to work with its law enforcement partners. The pandemic and immigration influx affected travel and various public policies, thus posing even more challenges and changes mentioned above. These challenges were acknowledged and the unit adapted as they do in any situation in their chosen portion of law enforcement. The unit remained focused on the basis of their assignment and developed strategies to address the continued flow of narcotics, even in these indifferent times. Even through these new and unforeseen challenges, the unit continued to perform, which is commendable!



### **MAJOR CRIMES DIVISION**

The Crimes Against Children (CAC) section of the El Paso Police Department is tasked with the investigation of child abuse, child endangerment and neglect, and child sexual abuse. The victims in sexual abuse cases are under the age of 17 and the victims in abuse and neglect cases are younger than 15 years of age. The dedicated detectives of this section work toward advocating for their victims and bringing victims justice. The section is comprised of 14 detectives, two sergeants, and one lieutenant. CAC operates out of the Advocacy Center for the Children of El Paso. The center is a child friendly environment where a collaboration of agencies work toward helping victims of abuse.





The Crimes Against Persons (CAP) Unit falls under the Major Crimes Division and is composed of 17 detectives, five officers, four sergeants, and one lieutenant. CAP investigates the following cases: all criminal homicides, aggravated sexual assaults, aggravated assaults, aggravated kidnappings, aggravated robberies, sexual assaults, kidnappings, all missing persons, all death investigations, to include in-custody deaths, officer involved shootings, and any other offense designated for investigation by the Chief's Office. CAP also oversees the Cold Case Unit, Sex Offender Registration and Tracking (SORT) Unit, and assists with the Veteran's Court Program.

#### **Crimes Against Children**

- **2,176** REVIEWED CASES
  - 932 CASES ASSIGNED TO DETECTIVES
  - **83** CASES EXCEPTIONALLY CLEARED
- **220** CASES CLEARED BY ARREST OR NON-ARREST
- **230** CASES UNFOUNDED
  - 42 CALL-OUTS
  - **22** SEARCH WARRANTS ISSUED
  - **44** PHYSICAL ARRESTS
- 4.722 CPS CASES REVIEWED

#### **Crimes Against Persons**

- **41** ASSIGNED MURDER CASES
- **477** ASSIGNED AGGRAVATED ASSAULT CASES
- **278** ASSIGNED SEXUAL ASSAULT CASES
- **1,184** ASSIGNED OTHER CASES
- **1,682** VETERAN'S COURT PROGRAM HOME VISITS
- 1,976 OVERALL CASES ASSIGNED
- 1,630 OVERALL CASES CLEARED
  - 212 CALL-OUTS
- 1,025 REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS

### **Criminalistics**

1,835 CRIME SCENES PROCESSED

**27,157** CRIMINAL PACKAGES PROCESSED

**14,308** LATENT FINGERPRINTS SUBMITTED

**2,722** LATENT FINGERPRINT IDENTIFIED

**57** MAJOR CALL-OUTS

**1,628** CASES WITH LATENT EVIDENCE SUBMITTED

**4,672** LATENT FINGERPRINTS COMPARED

**4,601** FINGERPRINTS SUBMITTED TO AFIS

# Financial Crimes/ Internet Crimes Against Children

**894** CASES ASSIGNED

**765** CASES CLEARED

**18** CALL-OUTS

**46** ARRESTS

**22** ARREST WARRANTS

**502** ITEMS RECEIVED FOR FORENSIC SEARCH

**477** ITEMS FINISHED FOR FORENSIC SEARCH

5 COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

# **Animal Cruelty Investigations Unit**

**162** CASES ASSIGNED

**126** CASES CLEARED

**12** CALL-OUTS

**1** JUVENILE ARRESTS

**493** ACIU TIP LINE CALLS

**21** WARRANTS EXECUTED

WARRANTS OUTSTANDING

**3** COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

The El Paso Police Department's Criminalistics Unit is comprised of the Department's Crime Scene Unit (CSU), Photo Lab, and Latent Print Section. CSU consists of full time officers who respond to many different types of scenes to assist with the documentation, interpretation, and collection of evidence. In addition, CSU always has a Major Crime Response Team on call, which is tasked with investigating all homicides, officer-involved shootings, or any other type of serious incident that requires a substantial amount of documentation and evidence collection. CSU is comprised of 16 officers, three sergeants, and one lieutenant. CSU is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.



The Department's Photo Lab is comprised of two civilians and is in charge of storing, maintaining, and handling all legal matters with the Department's photographic and video evidence. They are also tasked with photographing any Department public event, fallen officer funeral, promotion, and EPPD Academy graduation.

Latent fingerprints are the most commonly found piece of evidence collected from crime scenes; therefore, the Department has always maintained a Latent Print Section within the Criminalistics Bureau. The Latent Print Section is capable of matching collected latent prints to individuals in our database. The Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) was added in 1989, which was one of the first in the country. AFIS now holds the known prints and criminal histories on over 570,000 individuals, with the added ability to access databases belonging to the State of Texas, the State of New Mexico, and the FBI. In 2021, the Department upgraded to the newest version of AFIS at a cost of \$1.3 million. This AFIS is now the most state of the art version of AFIS in the entire country. Because of its accuracy and reliability, the Department's Latent Print Section receives search requests from all local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies throughout El Paso. The Latent Print Section is staffed with one civilian supervisor, two civilian latent print examiners, and five full-time latent examiners.



BEFORE

The Financial Crimes Unit (FCU) is a diverse team that encompasses White Collar Crimes, Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC), Digital Forensics, the Fugitive Section, and the Animal Cruelty Investigations Unit. White Collar Crimes investigates major thefts, fraud, and embezzlement. ICAC combats child exploitation and takes proactive measures to apprehend predators. The Digital Forensic examiners support all investigative units by locating and preserving electronic evidence. Fugitive detectives track down and apprehend violent criminals. Animal Cruelty serves to protect those victims without a voice. The unit works in partnership with federal agencies as members of the US Secret Service Task Force, Homeland Security ICAC Task Force, and the US Marshal's Fugitive Task Force.





# STRATEGIC PLANNING AND AUXILIARY SERVICES BUREAU

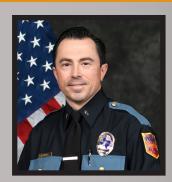
**Assistant Chief Zina Silva** 



Lieutenant Magali Franco



Lieutenant Joseph Garcia



Lieutenant Jeremiah Poust

Auxiliary Services Communications
Liaison

Planning and Research

The Strategic Planning and Auxiliary Services (SPAS) Bureau is comprised of Strategic Planning, Auxiliary Services, and Communications. These three sections provide major services internally to the entire department with items such as: Agency Web (human resource management software), policy and procedures, mobile video recording systems, hand-held and in-car radio systems, radio towers, pawn shop detail, property and evidence storage, annual reporting, and District/County Attorney case transfer office. The SPAS Bureau also provides external services such as multi-agency radio interoperability, staffing of the Emergency Operation Center (EOC), Victims Services Response Team, Volunteer Program, property auction, and U-Visas to name a few. We are dedicated and committed to providing high quality services to our agency as well as to the citizens and community we serve.

# PLANNING & RESEARCH/RISK MANAGEMENT

The Planning and Research/Risk Management section of the El Paso Police Department is responsible for research and preparation of complex and in-depth reports, audits, inspections, and projects involving department statistical information, policy, and procedures. The division is held to high standards to produce quality data, information, and resources for decision makers in order to improve the function of the organization. Planning and Research is in charge of producing reports requested by the city council, city managers, and other citywide and out-of-town entities. The section was able to accomplish 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place with the 2018-2020 Annual Reports in the International Association of Law Enforcement Planners' Annual Report Contests. Planning and Research is also responsible for tracking the performance of the Department as to how it meets or exceeds the goals set out by the Chief of Police and the City Manager's Office.

In 2021, the section focused on ensuring the accuracy and relevance of the Department's Procedures Manual. With

the coordination of many regions and units, and certifying the alignment with the Texas Penal Code, the section was able to release 204 new or updated Procedure Manual policies and 21 new or updated section operation manuals. To help guide the Department, 20 directives were also issued by the Chief's Office through this section, as well as 16 forms for departmental use. While also being the managers of the Watchguard camera system, Planning and Research was charged with answering 434 open record requests, 52 law requests, and 29 litigation requests.

Planning and Research is also responsible for the tracking of all Departmental employee movements, which includes transfers, separations, and promotions. In charge of handling promotions, Planning and Research held seven promotion ceremonies to celebrate 37 sworn members. For all personnel at the El Paso Police Department, civilian and sworn, there were a total of 397 personnel action requests that were diligently handled by this section throughout 2021.

**204** POLICIES RELEASED

**21** OPERATION MANUALS RELEASED

**20** DIRECTIVES

**16** FORMS RELEASED

**434** OPEN RECORD REQUESTS

**52** LAW REQUESTS

**29** LITIGATION REQUESTS

**7** PROMOTION CEREMONIES

**397** Personnel Action Requests

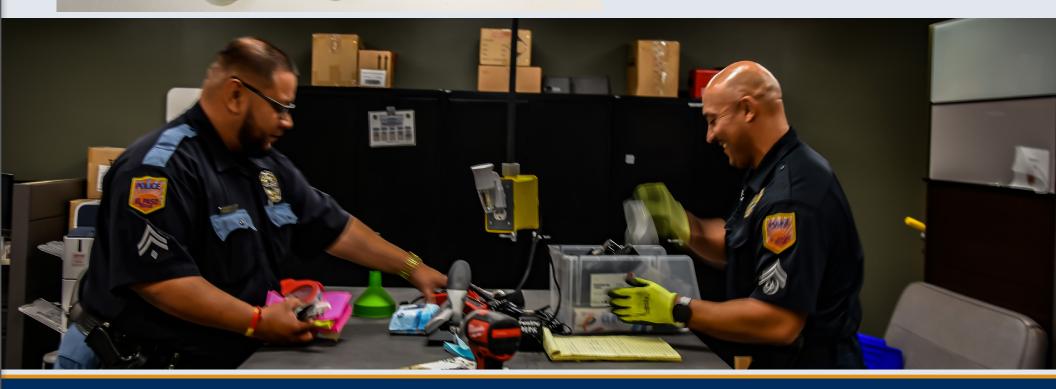




# **COMMUNICATIONS**

# COMMUNICATIONS OFFICES LIPASO LIPASO

The primary function of the El Paso
Police Department's Communication
Division is maintaining radio
communications capabilities. The
Division maintains the radios for police
officers and police vehicles. The division
also works with other local and federal
law enforcement agencies to strengthen
communication in the City of El Paso.
The Division assists with open records
requests related to communications as
well.



# **AUXILIARY SERVICES**

### **AUXILIARY 1:**

**ALARM DETAIL** – The goal of the Alarm Detail Unit is to reduce the amount of false alarm calls every year. By reducing the number of false alarms, it allows patrol officers to handle fewer calls and be available in the field. The Alarm Detail Unit will strive to reduce the amount of the repeat false alarms in 2022 by conducting more in-person follow-ups. Educating businesses and residents with alarm systems will bring a quick result and lessen the amount of calls for service. Comparing 2020 to 2021 statistics, there were 498 fewer alarm notices given to the Alarm Detail and the number of accounts fined showed an increase of \$1,100.

**HONOR GUARD** – In 2021, the El Paso Police Department Honor Guard was on track with their mission and had a noteworthy year. During the year, the Honor Guard was in charge of and led 53 ceremonial events and arranged 17 funerals. The Honor Guard organized



and executed two Line of Duty Death funerals for Detective Camerino Santiago and Lieutenant Jonathan Terrazas, the first for the El Paso Police Department. The Honor Guard also organized the 2021 Police Week events and ceremonies for surviving families of Fallen Officers. Other prominent events that the El Paso Police Department Honor Guard was a part of included the Winterfest Parade, First Responders Night at the El Paso Chihuahuas and Locomotives Sports Teams, as well as City- and State-sponsored events. The Honor Guard was fortunate to grow and added seven new members to the team to assist with the Honors that the unit provides.

JUVENILE TRANSFER – It was a productive year in the Juvenile Transfer Unit. The Juvenile Transfer officer assisted with a multi-agency runaway operation, in which several juveniles were located in the El Paso County area as well as five different states, to include California, Oklahoma, and Puerto Rico. The Juvenile Transfer officer has continued the efforts in attempting to locate the juveniles, having outstanding directives to apprehend with constant updates on the cases. Currently, 21 juveniles remain outstanding.

**PAWN SHOP –** Pawn Shop personnel continue to provide services to the investigating units and the officers and detectives of the Department. The unit was able to make contact with secondhand stores as well as the pawn shops throughout 2021, even with the issues of COVID-19 and its variants. The Pawn Shop Unit was able to process 101,687 more tickets in 2021 than in 2020. Pawn Shop personnel were also able to process 1,278 gun checks more in 2021 than in 2020.

**COURT LIAISON SECTION** – For 2021, Court Liaison worked in conjunction with Municipal Court to help schedule 140,000 cases.

### **Auxiliary Services**

**803** ALARM NOTICES RECEIVED

\$52,650 FINABLE ALARM ACCOUNTS

**5,101** MISDEMEANOR TRANSFER CASES HANDLED

3,806 FELONY TRANSFER CASES HANDLED

**92,650** CITATIONS MUNICIPAL COURT PROCESSED

140,587 MUNICIPAL COURT CASES SCHEDULED

**53** Honor Guard Events

17 FUNERALS COORDINATED

**5,944** VICTIMS ASSISTED

**81** VOLUNTEERS ON ROSTER

**130** SPECIAL EVENTS/PERMITS REQUESTED

**116** JUVENILE DIRECTIVES TO APPREHEND

**44** APPREHENSIONS



### **Pawn Shop**

**542,974** TICKETS PROCESSED

6,149 GUNS CHECKED

# **Evidence and Property Office**

### **JEWELERY CASES:**

118 INTAKE/PROCESSED

**11** CASES RETURNED TO OWNER

**GUN CASES:** 

1,059 INTAKE/PROCESSED

**275** CASES RETURNED TO OWNER

**MONEY CASES:** 

**198** INTAKE/PROCESSED

**13** CASES RETURNED TO OWNER

### **AUCTION CASES:**

**472** CASES RESEARCHED

1,854 ITEMS SENT TO AUCTION

\$6.135.28 AUCTION DOLLAR AMOUNT

### **NARCOTICS CASES:**

**3,018** CASES COLLECTED BY REGIONS

**965** CASES SUBMITTED TO LAB FOR TESTING

**36** CALL-OUTS TO COLLECT NARCOTICS

### National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN) Cases

**378** TEST FIRES

**2,303** TRIAGED

**828** NIBIN ENTRIES

83 LEADS

### **AUXILIARY 2:**

**VOLUNTEER –** The COVID-19 pandemic had the volunteer program placed on standby for most of 2021. It was restarted in August 2021. Recruitment began full force in February to prepare for a new program called Volunteers in Patrol Service (VIPS), as well as all the other programs available. The VIPS volunteers will act as community ambassadors as well as work closely with our Police Area Representative officers to prevent crime and report any suspicious activity. Disabled Parking Enforcement came back in full swing, with volunteers enforcing the handicapped parking space laws throughout the City of El Paso. The volunteer program is committed to growing the volunteer base and allowing more people to assist the Department. We are partnering with a new school, Howard Payne University, to allow students to intern in order to further their education. Community events are always recruitment opportunities to grow our volunteer base.

VICTIM SERVICES – In 2021, the Victim Services
Response Team (VSRT) began collaborating more closely
with the Center Against Sexual and Family Violence
(CASFV) by having a case manager present at their Family
Resource Center and Emergency Shelter once a week.
They are able to provide direct services to victims, and
assist with completing a Crime Victims Compensation
application. The VSRT unit has also met with all the CASFV
staff to provide them with a better understanding of
Texas laws, the limitations that law enforcement officers
encounter, and the criminal justice process. The VSRT
unit also increased participation in community events to
educate and inform the public on VSRT services.

PROPERTY OFFICE – For 2021, the El Paso Police
Department's Property Office had goals to assist the
District Attorney's Office with evidence, increase storage
space, and decrease the amount of property needing to
be processed. To accomplish these goals, the Property
Office successfully streamlined the video and property
requests for the DA's Office by creating an email group that

sends the request directly to the intake staff. To reduce the amount of stored alcohol, cases were submitted to the respective CID sections for final disposition. Once disposition was rendered, TABC was contacted and items were properly disposed of. To assist with daily operations and manage the intaking of property, a civilian supervisor was hired. This position assists with managing the intaking of property, sending out correction notices, and supervising the civilian staff. To further assist with property and increase storage, a metal shredder was recently installed to destroy property, seized handguns, and various other types of electronics and metals. Additionally, the Property Office will continue to store COVID-19 PPE supplies for distribution to the regional commands.

**NIBIN** – In 2021, the Ballistics Intelligence Unit (BIU) strived to continue its mission to support the investigative units within the El Paso Police Department. In addition to in-house support, the BIU also networked and established working relationships with the DEA and ATF offices in Las Cruces, New Mexico as well as the Socorro Police Department. During the year, the BIU assisted in over 120 active cases for those various outside agencies. The BIU processed 428 active cases within the El Paso Police Department subsequently entering 828 evidentiary casings into the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN). Of those active cases within the Department, the BIU was able to provide investigators with 83 workable investigative leads. It should be noted that within those leads, nine leads were forwarded to Crimes Against Persons (CAP) and 25 leads were forwarded to the Gang Unit. The

BIU was ranked Top 5 in the State of Texas for time to crime casing entry into NIBIN, fulfilling their core value of being a real-time intelligence and investigative asset for the Department.



# HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources Manager Carlos Ramirez



Lieutenant John Van Valen

Backgrounds & Recruitment



A. Moreno

Payroll

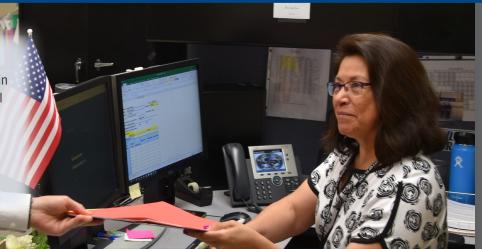


R. Prieto

Staffing & Employee Relations

### **PAYROLL**

The Payroll Staff assists all EPPD department employees in various aspects of their payroll to ensure precise and timely paychecks are calculated while adhering to collectively bargained provisions and city policies and procedures.



- 7 TERMINATIONS
- 3 RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF TERMINATION
- **59** RESIGNATIONS
- **42** RETIREMENTS
- **242** VERIFICATIONS OF EMPLOYMENT
- **65** TRAVEL REQUESTS PROCESSED
- 147 TRANSITIONAL DUTY REQUESTS
- **752** WORKERS COMP CLAIMS SUBMITTED
- **70** Positive COVID Cases
- **332** COVID QUARANTINES

# **STAFFING & EMPLOYEE RELATIONS**

It is the mission of the Human Resources Department to provide the following quality services to the employees of the City of El Paso – Police Department:

- Quality customer service
- Recruitment of qualified individuals
- Retention of valuable employees
- Maximizing the potential of our greatest asset our employees.
- Ensuring a safe and healthful working environment
- Providing resources for administering rules, policies, and procedures

These services are achieved through a teamwork philosophy that is inspired through effective organizational skills, proactive efforts, and a balance between professionalism and the ability to have fun!

Our future projects in place are to have three Police Trainee Academies along with two Lateral Classes in the upcoming months. Also, we will be administering the upcoming exams this year for our Detectives, Sergeants, and Lieutenants along with the Assessment Centers for the Sergeants and Lieutenants in early 2023.



- 28 CIVILIAN RECRUITMENTS
- 1,986 CIVILIAN APPLICATIONS RECEIVED
  - 950 CIVILIANS SCHEDULED FOR TESTING
- **344** CIVILIANS TESTED
  - **88** CIVILIAN NEW HIRE/REHIRE PROCESSING
  - **3** SWORN RECRUITMENTS
- **233** SWORN APPLICATIONS RECEIVED
- **210** SWORN SCHEDULED FOR TESTING
- **146** SWORN TESTED
  - **3** POLICE TRAINEE RECRUITMENTS
- 3,781 POLICE TRAINEE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED
- **2,659** Police Trainees Scheduled for Testing
- 1,370 POLICE TRAINEES TESTED
  - **83** POLICE TRAINEES PROCESSED
  - **36** CURRENT CIVILIAN VACANCIES
  - **165** CURRENT SWORN VACANCIES

# BACKGROUNDS & RECRUITMENT

The Backgrounds Unit consists of Investigations, Recruiting, and Polygraph Examiner Sections. The Backgrounds Section conducts investigations for non-uniformed civilian hires, outside contract workers, 911 Tele-Communications Operators, Fire Department employees working in law enforcement positions, sworn reinstatements, and police trainees. The unit conducts police trainee investigations through extensive examination of family, employment, educational, military, driving, criminal, credit/financial, and social histories. Investigators confirm personal records, documents, and histories by researching, corroborating, and verifying information contained in submitted applicant Personal History Statements. Investigations are completed in accordance with Texas CJIS, TCOLE, COEP, and the Department's HR standards.

The Polygraph Examiner Section uses computerized polygraph instruments to monitor a person's physiological responses to questions to help determine truthfulness. Polygraph tests can aid the Department's Organized Crime and Major Crimes Divisions in criminal cases and can be administered to suspects and witnesses, if required. The Polygraph Examiner Section's primary mission is to examine police trainee applicants to help determine employment suitability.

The Recruiting Section is responsible to meet the Department's hiring goals by filling open police trainee positions with talented and qualified candidates. Due to COVID-19 and social distancing requirements in 2021, numerous inperson recruiting job fairs and hiring expos were modified to go virtual. Overall, the 2021 hiring cycle shifted more

toward virtual hiring fairs and expos than in 2020. The bulk of recruiter's duties entail in-person screening of prospective applicants, administering written tests, Job Simulation Examinations. and the collection and initial screening of Personal History Statements. The El Paso Police recruiting team uses a variety of delivery methods including virtual, in-person, and traditional recruiting activities to address the police recruit employment needs within the Department.



### **129TH ACADEMY CLASS**

**09/13/21** START DATE

**07/25/22** GRADUATION

**1,444** APPLIED

**393** PASSED WRITTEN EXAM

**258** PASSED JOB SIMULATION TEST

**34** STARTED THE ACADEMY

### **130TH ACADEMY CLASS**

**07/26/22** START DATE

**06/2023** GRADUATION

**1,837** APPLIED

**293** PASSED WRITTEN EXAM

**238** PASSED JOB SIMULATION TEST

**35** PROJECTED TO START THE ACADEMY

### **RECRUITING EVENTS**

**8** VIRTUAL RECRUITING CAREER FAIRS

**45** IN-PERSON RECRUITING CAREER FAIRS

### **DRUG & ALCOHOL TESTING PROGRAM**

**479** RANDOM DRUG TESTS

**48** POST-ACCIDENT DRUG TESTS

**6** Post-Firearm Discharge Drug Test

7 OTHER CRITICAL INCIDENT DRUG TEST



# ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Administrative Services Manager Isaura Valdez







C. Cisneros

Budget & Finance

S. Pedroza Fleet Management







V. Manson Records

Vacant Supply

# GRANTS

The Grants Division provides sound financial management to promote efficient and effective use of PD grant funds. During fiscal year 2021, the El Paso Police Department received \$8.9 million in grants that helped support a wide range of law enforcement activities, including funds that helped address the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Grant Division is made up of one accountant, two project accountants, a senior accountant, a senior planner, and a grant project manager. The Grants Division is responsible for seeking grant funding, preparing grant applications, monitoring programs to ensure grant compliance, accounting for expenditures, and preparing reimbursement requests.

**\$6,184,042** IN FEDERAL GRANTS

**\$2,640,177** IN STATE GRANTS

\$80,750 IN FOUNDATION GRANTS

**\$8,904,969** TOTAL GRANTS

### RECORDS

During 2021, the Records Division continued its outstanding support to the El Paso Police Department, local and distant Law Enforcement Agencies, and the public as a whole.

Throughout the year, and despite the pandemic, records specialists and telephone report takers and our two police officers, worked safely and successfully from Department offices without telecommuting. The division guided the entire Department in completing the transition to the new automated Records Management System (OnCall RMS).

Two of the five public records counters remained open and operational; implementing credit card payments for the first time ever using the Clover automated system.

All applicants for City positions receiving an initial job offer received a background check at the Records Office, and fingerprints for CJIS clearances were electronically submitted to the State directly from our office, replacing the contracted service at the local FAST site in town.

The Telephone Reporting Unit (TRU) had an exceptional year of improved customer service

with a sustained call answer rate of 99.76% of the 39,384 calls received. In the months of October and November, we achieved a call answer rate of 100%. Both the waiting time for callers and the amount of abandoned (unanswered) calls were decreased. The specially trained TRU personnel processed information from the calls into 16,547 concise police incident reports. The completion of these reports reduced uniformed officers' need to respond to non-emergency calls, providing more officers available to respond to higher priority incidents.



**8,370** OUTSIDE AGENCY REQUESTS

**368** DISTRICT ATTORNEY REQUESTS

7,305 OPEN RECORD REQUESTS

**150** SUBPOENAS RECEIVED & PROCESSED

1 COURT APPEARANCES IN PERSON

**6** COURT APPEARANCES VIA ZOOM

477 REQUESTS FOR CRASH REPORTS
VIA US MAIL

**590** REQUESTS FOR INCIDENT REPORTS VIA US MAIL

387 REQUESTS FOR INCIDENT REPORTS
FROM THE TX ATTORNEY GENERAL
VIA US MAIL

**39,384** CALLS HANDLED BY THE TELEPHONE REPORTING UNIT

**16,547** REPORTS COMPLETED BY THE TELEPHONE REPORTING UNIT

# **New Initiative: Fire Fly Gunshot Detection System**

The El Paso Police Department, in recent years, has taken great steps in addressing crime. However, the EPPD is still lacking technological resources that would aid law enforcement in properly addressing gun crime within the city. Gun-related crime, for the most part, is usually addressed when officers are dispatched to the scene. Unfortunately, this is a reactive component of law enforcement.

In order to keep up with the ever-changing criminal landscape, law enforcement needs to approach the problem by being strategically and tactically intelligent in their responses. The El Paso Police Department has taken steps in addressing gun crime by most recently forming the Department's first National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) program that was established in 2019. In collaboration with the Ballistics Intelligence Unit (B.I.U.), a dedicated FUSION analyst has been assigned to review crime data and relay any workable audible detections to the B.I.U.

Fire Fly is a gunshot geolocation system. This system is composed of several gunshot sensors that send a notification within 30 seconds of a gunshot taking place. Fire Fly provides law enforcement agencies the capability to pinpoint the location of a suspected shooting event in real time.

The Fire Fly system requires three sensors in order to triangulate the sound and provide a location. These sensors triangulate the sound and location by latitude, longitude, and altitude. It will then send a notification to Communications and Watch officers within 30 seconds of detecting a gunshot. A 911 Communications supervisor and Watch officers will review the notification and decide if deployment of resources is necessary. If detection is located within a pre-established geofence, the proximity of accuracy can range up to 5ft. If the notification is approximately a mile away, the proximity drops to 50 yards of accuracy, which is still highly accurate. Fire Fly is expected to help improve response time and assist in locating possible evidence.

During the pilot program phase in November 2021, just 16 days into the program going live, an audio detection was received by the El Paso Fusion Center Watch section. The audio captured a car speeding and several screams followed by gun shots. The Watch alerted dispatch and a unit was dispatched to the suspected location. Officers were dispatched and upon arrival the officers observed a vehicle attempting to flee the scene. The officers called out and immediately requested the assistance of a second unit due to the nature of the call. Further investigation revealed that the subjects had in fact been discharging a 9mm weapon out in the desert and were attempting to flee the scene prior to the officers' arrival.



By utilizing a gun detection system, it provides instantaneous notifications to the officers as opposed to the usual route of the call taker answering the call, then routing the call to the appropriate dispatcher, and finally dispatching a unit. This is an innovative approach to responding to gun crime and it enables officers to recover and preserve valuable evidence. In order to properly address gun-related crime, the El Paso Police Department will be focusing on preventive, proactive, and enforcement components. Areas selected are determined based on crime data that is provided by the El Paso Fusion Center.

The Fire Fly system provides EPPD with timely information about a gunfire incident, promptly deploying resources with the goal of mitigating emerging threats involving the misuse of firearms. Additionally, several pole cameras are expected to be strategically placed within the project areas. Watch personnel will be responsible to monitor live feed & review video. In the event a gunshot is detected, we anticipate to capture critical video evidence. The implementation of this program is expected to assist in the apprehension of potential offenders and collection of critical evidence that would ultimately assist in prosecution. Fire Fly's ultimate goal is to reduce the potential for injuries, property damage, and loss of life due to the misuse of firearms.

# **New Initiative: Volunteers In Patrol**

On June 5, 2019, the EI Paso Police Department began developing a Volunteers In Patrol Service Program under the leadership of City Manager Tommy Gonzalez. The VIPS program invites residents who would like to serve their community to become ambassadors by becoming knowledgeable on many common neighborhood concerns experienced by residents. Among those concerns are neighborhood watches, abandoned vehicles, code violations, graffiti, and code watch requests. On November 2, twelve citizens began training to serve as VIPS volunteers and graduated on November 16, 2021.

The creation of this new program also resulted in developing a new patch to represent the program. The new patch consists of the El Paso Police Department shield in the center of the patch and three stars. Each star represents an important part of the program: the community, the citizen academy, and the neighborhood watch.

There are also four classifications of our VIPS volunteers: basic, intermediate, advanced, and master VIPS volunteer. The classification designation is based on the amount of training and time of service.

Volunteers are trained on the use of the police radio, how to recognize suspicious activity, how to report such issues in a timely manner, how to conduct a code watch, how to assist citizens with neighborhood watch and other quality of life concerns. The volunteers on their patrols focus on code watch requests, possible code violations, and assist answering basic questions from citizens. The goal is to continue to grow the program to eventually sustain VIPS Patrols most days of the week.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH: SPECIAL OLYMPICS

The Law Enforcement Torch Run was started in 1981 by Wichita, Kansas Police Chief Richard LaMunyon. His idea was to involve local law enforcement personnel in the community, creating a bond between police and the citizens. Chief LaMunyon chose Special Olympics as his cause. The Torch Run was quickly adopted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. The IACP is now recognized as the founding law enforcement organization for the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics.

Today the LETR is found in every U.S. state, 12 Canadian Provinces and 42 nations around the world.

Our LETR Team is comprised of volunteers from El Paso Police, El Paso Sheriffs, El Paso Constables, Socorro ISD, TX DPS, and Customs and Border Protection. Participation is not only for the purpose of raising money, but also to raise awareness and bring inclusion into our daily lives with people of different abilities. Events such as the Athlete Picnic, Christmas Social, Santa for Special Families are meant to bring

happiness and inclusion to athletes and their families. Fall or Spring Games and competitions are to show the athletes and their families we support them. Another event was the COVID vaccine point where traffic control was done by our volunteers on a private parking lot while an out of town company came to









later COVID vaccine #2. Many of the fundraisers are state and national fundraisers for Special Olympics. These include Cavenders Torch Sales, where over \$35,000 was collected

state-wide; Coffee for Champions, where over \$1,300 were collected in a few hours locally by volunteer officers; Tip A Cop raised over \$3,500 locally; and the Fire Truck Pull raised over \$4,300 locally. Some fundraisers were more of a local level, like the Hanks Floor Ball 5k fundraiser, which raised over \$5,000 directly for the team going to the World Games. During the year, LETR and Special Olympics met with schools and signed them up as part of the Unified Champions Schools program. Officers, along with Special Olympics employees, distributed over 250 sports bags to schools from EPISD, Socorro ISD and Ysleta ISD for their promise to include Special Education students into the regular Physical Education program. These sports bags included soccer balls,

footballs, basketballs and other sports equipment. Another fundraiser completed by the LETR team not related to Special Olympics or LETR was the Pink Badge campaign, where over \$14,000 was raised for the

Rio Grande Cancer Foundation.



LET ME BE BRAVE 

# **COMMUNITY OUTREACH & SUPPORT**







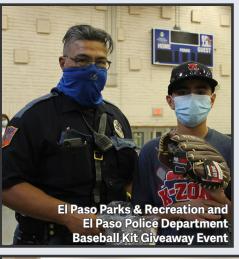
























# POLICE WEEK 2021















# AWARDS & COMMENDATIONS



#2699

### **UNIT OF THE YEAR**

**Crimes Against Persons** 

### **SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR**

Lt. R. Medina #2014

### **DETECTIVE OF THE YEAR**

Det. A. Nañez #1400

# FIELD TRAINING OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Ofc. I. Rodriguez #3030

### **OFFICER OF THE YEAR**

Ofc. R. Meraz #2212

# CIVILIAN SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR

X. Perez #C1313

### **CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR**

M. Tena-Moreno #T1173

# MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Det. B. Herrera #2667

## OFFICER OF THE MONTH

Det. B. Herrera	#2667
Ofc. V. Moreno	#3480
Ofc. D. Silva	#3359
Ofc. R. Villareal	#3117

### **CHIEF'S AWARD**

J. Botello
C. Gonzalez-Rivera
M. J. Martinez
G. Reza de Hernandez
C. Rodriguez
C. Trejo
J. Torres
PE N. Ornelas #M90
Spc. J. Ortega

### **LIFESAVING AWARD**

Ofc. M. Abshier	#3243
Ofc. J. Alvarez	#2602
Ofc. C. Carrasco	#3376
Ofc. J. Cervantes	#3381
Ofc. M. De Pina	#3185
Ofc. J. Hernandez	#3323
Ofc. J. Hernandez	#3402
Ofc. V. Hernandez	#3095
Ofc. R. Mena	#2088
Ofc. J. Montanez	#3340
Ofc. N. Nevarez	#3152
Ofc. J. Palafox	#3347
Ofc. R. Pirtle	#3348
Ofc. E. Rodriguez	#3354
Ofc. C. Sipe	#2962
Ofc. D. Torres	#2882

### **UNIT COMMENDATION**

Lt. L. Lujan

Cat C Laccamana

#1390

#2407

Sgt. S. Lacsamana	#2497
Sgt. M. Ramirez	#2100
Sgt. J. Ratliff	#1926
Ofc. A. Aguilar	#3169
Ofc. J. Bernal	#3246
Ofc. J. Bueno	#3249
Ofc. O. Ceballos	#3181
Ofc. L. Ceniceros	#3504
Ofc. A. Cervantes	#3455
Ofc. M. Figueroa-Linares	#3133
Ofc. C. Gonzalez	#3397
Ofc. R. Gonzalez	#2505
Ofc. E. Granados	#2867
Ofc. H. Gutierrez	#3511
Ofc. J. Jones	#2941
Ofc. J. Lopez	#3277
Ofc. M. Martinez	#3518
Ofc. S. Medina	#3336
Ofc. E. Mendoza	#3150
Ofc. R. Moreno	#2423
Ofc. C. Negrete	#3346
Ofc. W. Ochoa	#3283
Ofc. I. Olivas	#3070
Ofc A. Orrantia	#3223
Ofc. P. Paoli	#3155
Ofc. A. Pozas	#3349
Ofc. D. Rodriguez	#3076
Ofc. J. Ruiz	#3432
Ofc. R. Solorzano	#3032
Ofc. P. Trejo	#3234
Ofc. I. Valdez	#3361

# EMPLOYEE COMMENDATION

It M Franco

Lt. M. Franco	#2699
Lt. F. Hernandez	#1248
Sgt. A. Gandara	#2560
Sgt. E. Granados	#2867
Sgt. E. Mayorga	#2472
Sgt. S. Mejia	#2782
Det. S. Medina	#3062
Ofc. L. Acosta	#1600
Ofc. C. Aguilar	#3499
Ofc. M. Arias	#3449
Ofc. J. Bernal	#3246
Ofc. J. Brady	#3247
Ofc. J. Bueno	#3249
Ofc. W. Butzon	#1840
Ofc. C. Carrasco	#3376
Ofc. E. Carrillo	#2967
Ofc. G. Carzoli	#3377
Ofc. J. Castañeda	#1983
Ofc. E. Castillo	#3309
Ofc. O. Ceballos	#3181
Ofc. A. Chapa	#2675
Ofc. M. Delgado	#3049
Ofc. R. Elicerio	#2246
Ofc. D. Escobedo-Tarin	#3388
Ofc. J. Franco	#3093
Ofc. B. Gomez	#3315
Ofc. P. Gomez	#2561
Ofc. R. Gonzalez	#2505
Ofc. H. Gutierrez	#3511
Ofc. C. Hernandez	#1998
Ofc. C. Hernandez	#3273
Ofc. J. Holmes	#3199
Ofc. A. Jeddery	#3200
Ofc. D. Johnson	#3058
Ofc. I. Lujan	#3060

Ofc. M. Madson	#2946
Ofc. A. Maldonado	#3471
Ofc. M. Martinez	#3518
Ofc. J. Montañez	#3340
Ofc. A. Morales	#3067
Ofc. L. Olivas	#3071
Ofc. S. Ortiz	#3153
Ofc. J. Palafox	#3347
Ofc. P. Paoli	#3155
Ofc. E. Payan	#3145
Ofc. A. Perez	#3482
Ofc. O. Peterson	#3286
Ofc. A. Pozas	#3349
Ofc. M. Quezada	#2272
Ofc. A. Rico-Orrantia	#3223
Ofc. D. Rodriguez	#3076
Ofc. L. Romero	#1408
Ofc. J. Segura	#3114
Ofc. A. Ulloa	#3235
Ofc. I. Valdez	#3361
Ofc. B. Valenzuela	#3362
Ofc. H. Vazquez	#3238
	#3236
Ofc. V. Villalobos	
DO I. Pardo	PD7549

# **DIVISION COMMENDATION**

3 Lieutenants 19 Sergeants 19 Detectives 178 Officers 2 Specialists 2 Fire Marshals

37 sworn personnel received multiple Division Commendations



# **PROMOTIONS**

### **ASSISTANT CHIEF**

**HUMBERTO TALAMANTES #1594** 

### **COMMANDER**

REGINALD K. MOTON #1349 JOHN H. LANAHAN III #1032



Commander John H. Lanahan III #1032 being pinned by Retired Lieutenant John H. Lanahan #95 with Retired Sergeant Kevin W. Lanahan #1444

### **LIEUTENANT**

ALAN J. ROMANER #2817 MAGALI FRANCO #2699 EDGAR A. MACIAS #2638 LUIS LARA JR. #1916 JAIME ESPARZA #2371 SEAN P. SHELTON #2772 NAZIK ELOMARI #2306

### **SERGEANT**

MATTHEW P. KENNEDY #2419
ROBERT D. THOMAS #2776
JOHN E. GARCIA #2855
SCOTT W. GRAVES II #2836
ERNESTO SILVA JR. #2920
RAUL I. PUENTES-LOWRY #2845
JESUS M. GOMEZ #2490
JAMES C. MORALES #2952
PETER G. FONTE #3005
JACQUELINE V. AGUILERA #2886
LUCAS A. CERVANTES #2184

### **DETECTIVE**

**LUIS L. REYES #2876** ALYSSA CHAVEZ #3142 JESUS MORALES #2953 Luis C. Gonzalez #2937 RODRIGO A. BORUNDA-CARLOS #3125 CASSANDRA N. SANCHEZ #3112 ALEREDO CHAVEZ #2692 AILEEN E. BERMUDEZ #3066 BRENDA J. PORTILLO #2984 JACQUELINE M. HERNANDEZ #3143 GUSTAVO A. SIAS #3163 **OMAR QUINTEROS #2814** LATANYA A. MONTAGUE #2705 LIONEL L. LOERA JR. #2975 **ALEJANDRA L. DE MATIAS #3131** DANIEL RODRIQUEZ JR. #3076

# RETIREMENTS





### **ASSISTANT CHIEF**

PATRICK J. MALONEY

### **COMMANDER**

PATRICK S. PELLETIER

### LIEUTENANT

RAMON MENCHACA L. ELIZABETH MOLINA EDWARDO VALENCIA JR.

### **SERGEANT**

ALFONSO CARDENAS JR.
GREGORY A. FURR
PETE S. HERRERA JR.
FRANCISCO P. NUNEZ JR.
RUDY OLAGUE

### **DETECTIVE**

PATRICIA A. CASTILLO
JUAN DE LUNA
JOSE D. GOMEZ
EDUARDO GONZALEZ
ROBERT S. HANNER JR.
ALFREDO HERNANDEZ
DIANE R. MACK
JOSE A. MARTINEZ
RICHARD RODRIGUEZ

### **OFFICER**

ALBERTO H. AGUIRRE MANUEL ALVAREZ III STEPHEN M. CATALDI MIGUEL CONTRERAS CHRIS CORDOVA JR. STANLEY F. DIMM JESUS G. HERNANDEZ
JARED A. LAMB
JEFFREY C. MCKINLEY
VICTOR O. MIJARES
ALFREDO J. PEREZ
MICHAEL D. SANCHEZ
LEOVARDO TELLEZ

### **CIVILIAN**

EVANGELINA F. APPLEGATE
CHRISTEL CHAVEZ
MARIA DE LA LUZ CORTEZ
MARTHA DIAZ
ELIA P. ELIZONDO
PRISCILLA GUERRA
ISABEL HERNANDEZ
GUADALUPE G. LEFF
MARIA C. MONCADA
BEATRIZ NAJERA

ELIGIBLE FOR RETIREMENT

**4** ASSISTANT CHIEFS

**7** COMMANDERS

**28** LIEUTENANTS

**67** SERGEANTS **161** C

**59** DETECTIVES

**161** OFFICERS **50** CIVILIANS



### DETECTIVE CAMERINO SANTIAGO

COMMISSIONED: MAY 23, 1997

END OF WATCH: JANUARY 11, 2021 On behalf of the El Paso Police Department, we would like to take a moment to honor and remember Detective Camerino Santiago, who tragically passed away from complications of COVID-19 on January 11, 2021. Det. Santiago was the first El Paso Police Department officer to succumb to COVID-19 in the line of duty.

Det. Santiago was a 23 year veteran of the Department who proudly and courageously served our community. Det. Santiago was sworn into service as a Texas Peace Officer on May 23, 1997. He served as a patrol officer in Pebble Hills, the City's largest regional command, for 13 years. He was then assigned as an investigator in the Fusion Intelligence Center, where he was later promoted to the rank of detective in 2012. His final assignment was at the Internal Affairs Division.

His family and friends knew Det. Santiago by the endearing name of "Cami". Det. Santiago had a great and significant impact on the lives of his fellow officers. Det. Santiago's honesty, loyalty, and kindness earned him the respect of those who knew him, as he was ultimately revered as a father figure within the ranks. Det. Santiago's colleagues and supervisors describe his character as the epitome of a true gentlemen.

If you truly knew Det. Santiago it was apparent that his family was the most important thing in his life. Det. Santiago is survived by his courageous wife Jessica Santiago, two beautiful daughters, son in laws, and grandchildren. Det. Santiago has forever left his footprint within the City and an impact on the Department, his family, and friends. Detective Santiago will be forever missed and absolutely never forgotten. Rest easy, hero.

















Throughout our lives we interact with many individuals and leave impressions as we go. Charles "Chuck" Harmon III left many during his life. As a young man, Chuck faced many obstacles head on and took on the challenges. Chuck took every opportunity to improve and educate himself, and he grew in that knowledge. This work ethic helped him join the El Paso Police Department, where he started a career that he loved.

Chuck was with the El Paso Police Department for over 20 years. His journey began on September 1, 2000, and his first assignment was at Northeast Regional Command Patrol. Over the next few years, he would continue to wear many hats, such as Northeast Traffic Officer and Special Traffic Investigator. On August 23rd, 2015, Chuck promoted to detective and was assigned to the Financial Crimes Division as a white collar detective. He later moved into the Digital Forensics Unit. While wearing these various hats, Chuck accomplished many remarkable things, which are too numerous to list. Some of the certifications and trainings he was most proud of were during his time in Special Traffic Investigations (STI) and Digital Forensics. Chuck's work as a Traffic Accident Reconstruction Officer in STI involved several timely cases. It was shared that during his stint with STI, one of his most memorable times was on his birthday back on December 21, 2012, when he was called out to three incidents in the same day. As a Digital Forensics Investigator, he attained many certifications, several of them in the three major forensics software companies. He was a Task Force Officer with the Secret Service and had extensive training with the National Computer Forensics Institution.

Despite the accomplishments listed above, Chuck vocalized these were not his greatest achievements; his family was. Chuck often commented that all he did was for his family. This was apparent by all the personal images he carried with him and had in his office. Chuck held many photos and videos of his family outings and vacations, which he loved to share. He spoke of his times camping, barbecuing, mountain biking, and the many conversations he had with his children. If his children only knew of the stories he shared they may feel embarrassed, but it showed how much they meant to him. Chuck was a great father, husband, friend, and colleague. He will be truly missed. He may be gone, but he will never be forgotten.



OFFICER Charles Harmon

COMMISSIONED:
SEPTEMBER 9, 2000

END OF WATCH: JANUARY 11, 2021



LIEUTENANT Jonathan Terrazas

COMMISSIONED: MAY 26, 1995

END OF WATCH: SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 What constitutes a "great man"? Ralph Waldo Emerson stated, "The first thing a great person does is make us realize the insignificance of circumstance." When you meet a great man, you see that your problems, questions, and insecurities become insignificant. His absolute attention to the person that he is dedicating his time to is affected for the long term. That is who Jonathan Terrazas was, a "great man", and that is how he will affect those around him, for the long term.

I can only attest to his duty and relationship at work but judging by what I hear from others, he carried on this special trait with everything he did. Lieutenant Jonathan Terrazas was born on August 17, 1971. He was commissioned as a peace officer with the El Paso Police Department on May 26, 1995, and graduated from the 90th Academy class with ID #1773. Throughout his illustrious career, he challenged himself and took on any task that was given to him with gratitude. He was a very important part of the El Paso Police Department family and a true leader and mentor to everyone. He displayed this by being in charge of Special Operations for the Pebble Hills Regional Command and organizing the supervisors program for incoming sergeants ready to promote. But his mentorship did not end there. He always found the occasion and the time to teach others in a way that appeared flawless. In what seemed like a casual conversation or a staff meeting, he never stopped mentoring or teaching others. He carried this attention to the many tasks that were given to him with minimal problems. In less words, he made things work with ease, which for the rest of us would have been a tremendous undertaking. He did the work of four or five others, easily and without being boastful. That was just who he was, a hard worker, dependable, and very easy to talk to. His foundation, of course, was his life beyond the workplace. Lt. Terrazas was a true family man who lived for his family.

Sadly, Lt. Jonathan Terrazas passed away on September 1, 2021. What words can describe this tremendous loss? G. K. Chesterton stated, "It is only great men who take up a great space by not being there." We will feel his loss in everything he did, for a very long time. No one can replace him, at home or at work. Lt. Terrazas left behind a legacy that will be hard to imitate and for that we are deeply indebted and thankful to have known him.





THOMAS MOAD Asst. City Marshal July 11, 1883



Officer Feb 17, 1900



Officer Dec 4, 1914



Officer Feb 13, 1915



SYDNEY J. BENSON Officer June 28, 1917



JUAN N. GARCIA, JR. Special Police Agent Feb 1, 1918



Officer Feb 2, 1918



GEORGE F. DRAKE Officer Sept 22, 1918



Captain June 13, 1921



Detective April 12, 1923



**ENRIQUE RIVERA Special Officer** Nov 25, 1923



Detective July 14, 1924



Officer Oct 2, 1926



Captain Oct 4, 1927



Detective Mar 17, 1951



Officer May 16, 1953



Detective Dec 14, 1957



Officer Dec 16, 1966



Officer June 21, 1970



Officer July 24, 1970



Officer June 3, 1974



Officer

June 27, 1980



Detective Aug 29, 1985



**Detective** Oct 16, 1989



Officer Nov 12, 1991



Officer Sept 25, 2004



Officer Oct 13, 2010



Officer Oct 5, 2012



Officer Dec 16, 2012



Officer Mar 18, 2015



Officer Mar 14, 2016



Detective Jan 11, 2021



Lieutenant Sept 1, 2021

When a police officer is killed, it's not an agency that loses an officer, it's an ENTIRE NATION.



### **EL PASO POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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### **MISSION STATEMENT**

It is the mission of the El Paso Police
Department to preserve life, to provide
services with integrity and dedication, to
enforce the law, and to work in partnership
with the community to enhance the
quality of life in the City of El Paso.

