



**Horizon City Police Department  
Monthly Activity Report  
Chief of Police, Michael G. McConnell, PhD**



**April 2020**

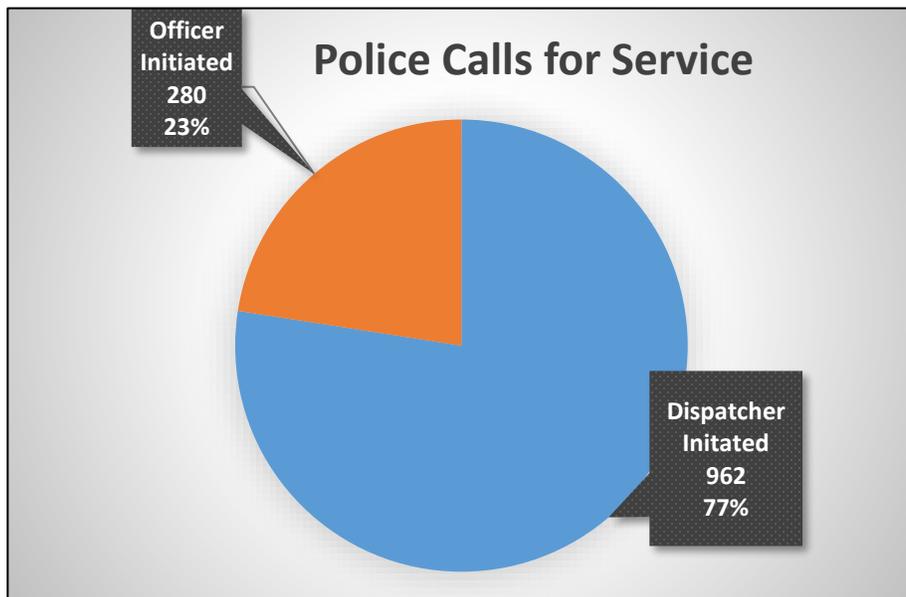
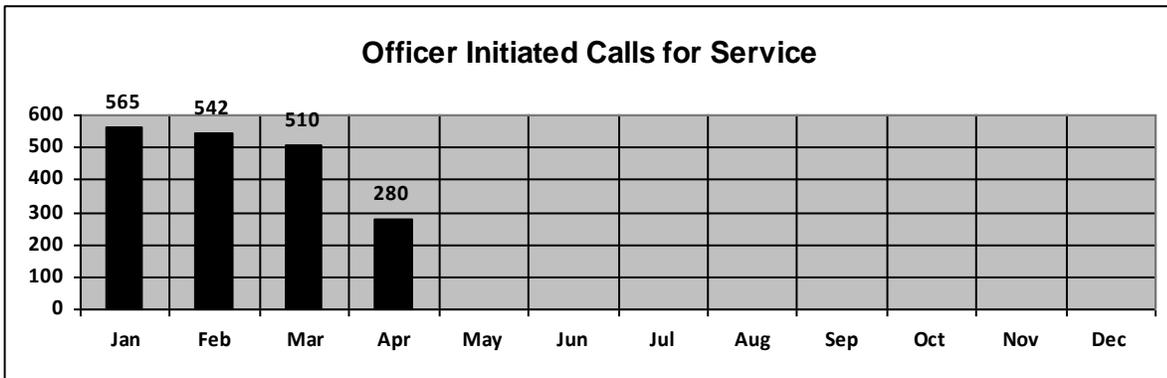
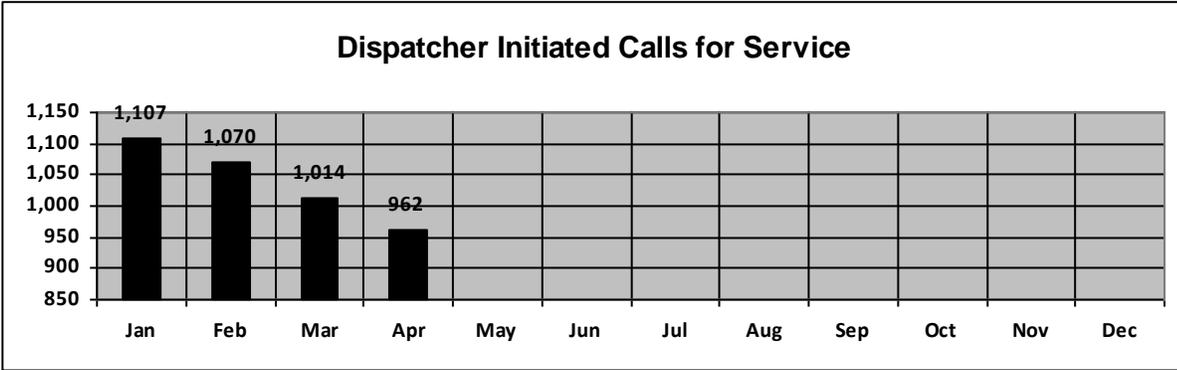
Description	Number	
	This Month	Last Month
Traffic Citations	53	195
Traffic Warnings	9	49
Parking Tickets	17	18
Investigations – Cases assigned	37	37
Investigations – Cases cleared	14	17
Investigations – Cases remaining open	24	20
Criminal & Non-Criminal Arrests	11	15
Traffic accidents	24	32
Dispatcher Initiated Calls for Service	962	Year to date –4,153
Officer Initiated Calls for Service	280	Year to date – 1,897
Total Police Calls for Service	1,242	Year to date –6,050
Fire Calls for Service Reported to Dispatch	1,044	Year to date – 4,282

**ITEMS OF INTEREST**

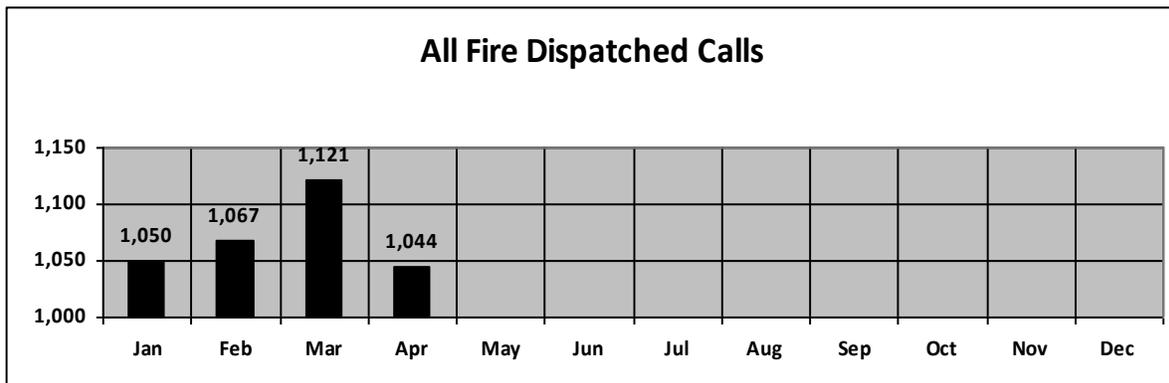
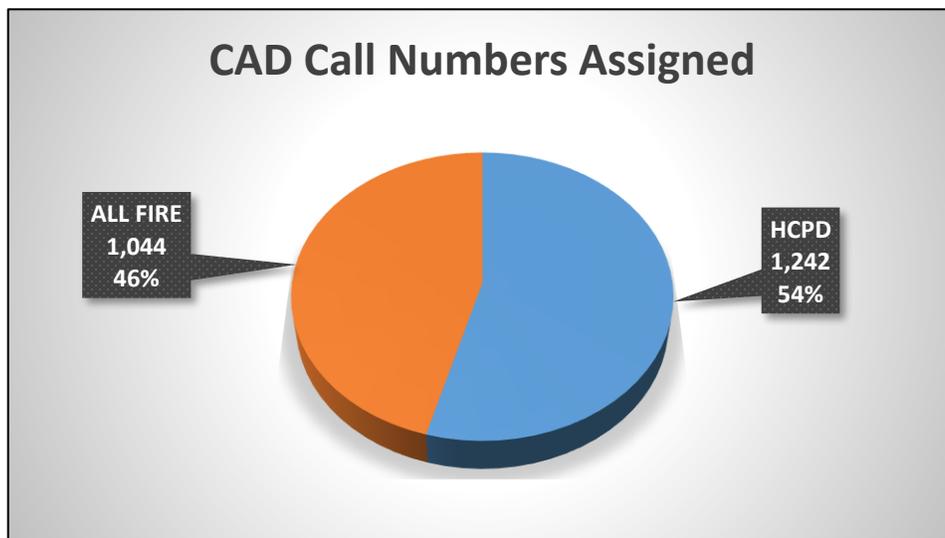
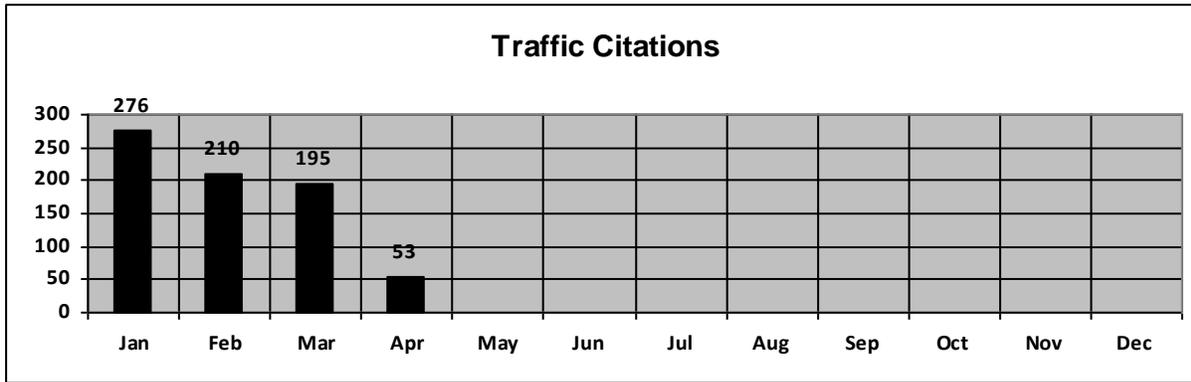
- Chief McConnell attended several building facility meetings.
- Chief McConnell attended regular briefings with the El Paso County Office of Emergency Management.

***D.A.R.E.***  
**TO RESIST DRUGS  
AND VIOLENCE**

# Monthly Report - Horizon City Police Department



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### COVID-19 ACTIVITIES

The police department has continued to operate on a modified work schedule - essentially dividing the department into two teams. Team "A" (patrol and dispatch) and those who can remotely work from home, team "B." We have found that working from home is far less effective and less efficient, but it does provide for the second team of available employees in the event of a viral outbreak. We have planned to keep team "B" working from home in the event they are needed to backfill for illnesses. Team "B" individuals come into the office on two staggered days of the week and as needed depending on workload.

So far, none of our employees have tested positive. There were two scares where the employees thought they might have the virus. Those employees were kept at home until they were released by their health care provider after testing negative. We have been tracking certain types of calls for service to determine current trends during the pandemic. The following is a chart we have been using to monitor specific metrics.

	March 10-16	March 17-23	March 24-30	March 31 -April 6	April 7 - 13	April 14-April 20	April 21-April 27	April 28-May 4
Family Violence/Domestic Calls	12	10	14	10	13	9	12	13
Traffic Accidents	12	8	5	3	6	4	9	8
Traffic stops	114	5	11	10	22	51	21	34
Gathering calls	0	0	0	21	14	21	9	12
EMS Calls	166	160	153	147	171	161	170	146
Fire Calls (Brush,Car,Structure)	10	15	17	25	18	32	27	36
Noise Disturbance	4	7	6	12	3	4	2	8
Subject Disturbance	10	8	6	24	10	7	14	5

We have responded to 77 COVID related calls, and in each case, a verbal warning was all that was necessary to become compliant with the current order in effect at the time. To comply with social distancing requirements, police officers have had fewer traffic enforcement contacts. We have also attempted to handle calls via the phone when possible to reduce social contact.

While calls for service continue, our officers respond to every call for service in real-time and with the necessary staffing to address the need. We have been able to obtain the required PPE for our employees.

### COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

*Together as One*

The Montana Vista, Horizon, Clint, Socorro, San Elizario, Fabens, and West Valley Fire Departments responded to a recycling plant on fire. A recycling plant burned for several hours before the firefighters were able to bring the fire under control.



The West Valley Fire Department responded to a motor vehicle accident in Canutillo. The reporting party advised of a vehicle inside a sinkhole with moving water/water line underneath the vehicle. Once on the scene, the fire crews were able to remove the vehicle with a wench. The El Paso Sheriff's Office deputies

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conducted traffic control due to the forced temporary closure of the area. The El Paso Water Utilities and County Road & Bridges Department also responded. No injuries were reported.

The Horizon, Socorro, and the Clint Fire Departments responded to a structure fire in Horizon. The reporting party advised the source of the fire was in the kitchen due to oil burning. The El Paso Electric and Texas Gas Company also responded and remained on the scene to perform a pressure test.

The Montana Vista Fire Department responded to reports of a bonfire in Montana Vista. Once on scene, the fire crew and El Paso Sheriff's Office deputies discovered a large fire with several dozen spectators around the bonfire. The fire was approximately 10 x10. Contact was made with the subjects, and the fire was extinguished.

The San Elizario Fire Department came across a single-vehicle rollover in San Elizario. The on-scene unit advised one subject was attempting to flee the scene and requested a deputy to respond to assist. The fire unit was able to detain the subject and asked a medical unit to the scene to evaluate the patient due to the high impact of the accident. The El Paso Electric Company was requested to the scene to assess damage to the light pole. The San Elizario Fire unit advised the pole was upright but was split in half in the collision. Fire units cleared and the scene was referred to the El Paso County Sheriff's Office.

The Montana Vista Fire Department responded to a possible brush fire in Montana Vista. Multiple callers advised of visible flames and white smoke spreading quickly in the area. The El Paso Sheriff's Office deputies were first to arrive on the scene and advised that a structure was on fire. The El Paso Electric responded because the fire was under hanging phone lines. Upon arrival, units advised of a fire inside a shed behind a grocery store. The building was fully engulfed when fire units arrived on the scene. Montana Vista Fire units cleared, and a Fire Marshal was requested to the scene for further investigation.

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Twenty three support tickets were submitted, completed and closed, including three major projects. The major projects included:

- Prepare the Cisco Meeting for Council
- Assist with the Cisco Meeting for EDC
- Printer slowness when printing
- Setup the COVID 19 page on the city's website.

In addition to the major projects above, IT staff responded to a variety of tech support requests.

## **Monthly Report - Horizon City Police Department**

### **WARRANTS DIVISION & FLEET OPERATIONS**

The warrants officer did not receive any summons from the court due to COVID 19. The warrants officer's work schedule was modified. The warrants officer worked from home the majority of the time during the pandemic. There were no arrests for outstanding traffic warrants. The warrants officer reviewed eight Child Protective Services cases. These cases were reviewed and closed, or filed with the corresponding case due to allegations of neglect. The warrants officer took two vehicles to the shop for oil changes and repairs. No bailiff duties were conducted due to all cancelled court proceedings.

### **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS/EVIDENCE**

Detectives Rodriguez and Labrado investigated cases ranging from harassment, criminal mischief, and theft of vehicles. The detectives investigated fraud and identification thefts. There was an increase of fraud cases referred over from the patrol section. Detectives presented eight cases to the District Attorney's Office for prosecution. Lieutenant Ortega signed thirty-five cases at the District Attorney's Office, which were accepted for prosecution. Lieutenant Ortega worked on grants for additional overtime pay and were submitted for approval. One grant was finalized and the city received reimbursement for expenditures. Lieutenant Ortega worked with El Paso Police Department and the El Paso Sheriff's Office to assist in providing decontamination services for the Horizon City patrol units. The units were decontaminated correctly and are being maintained during this pandemic.

### **FORENSICS UNIT**

The evidence technician conducted six open records requests for video from the officer's body cameras. The District Attorney's Office submitted ten requests for videos for cases ranging from DWI to assaults. The Texas Department of Public Safety crime laboratory was closed off during the pandemic. Blood kits and drugs were not submitted for analysis due to the closure.

The special ops section assisted several local churches in Horizon with traffic control during their food distribution.

### **CRIME PREVENTION/COMMUNITY SERVICES**

#### **Coffee With A Cop**

COVID-19 swept out the rug from under our Horizon City community as well as the whole El Paso region. Due to social distancing guidelines as well as a county-wide stay at home order, we could not hold our usual community outreach events. The department switched from an in-person Coffee With a Cop event to an online version of the activity. During these events, Sergeant Mitre initiated a live stream through the department's Facebook and spoke about several topics and addressed comments submitted by viewers in real-time.

*April 14, 2020, 8.7K Views* – Sergeant Mitre spoke about bicycle and pedestrian safety as more people are out and about due to the stay at home order. She also spoke about the law enforcement role during this pandemic, and provided further information in response to viewer comments.

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### Child Passenger Seat Inspections

Sergeant Mitre received an extension to renew her child safety seat certification due to the issuing entity closing in regards to COVID-19. No inspections were conducted during the month.

### Explorer Program

The explorer program conducted online meetings via ZOOM, an online meeting service. Virtual meetings took place on:

- April 8
- April 15
- April 29

### Citizen Police Academy on Hold

Our Citizen Police Academy started on February 26th, with 27 people from the community in attendance. The academy activities were halted in response to COVID-19. The academy activities are being reviewed on an ongoing basis to determine compatibility with current social distancing guidelines.

### Other Community Events

Community events have been postponed due to COVID-19

### DARE.

Dare instruction was postponed due to COVID-19

### Facebook Live & Other Social Media Activity

Sergeant Mitre hosted various Facebook Live sessions. The community is encouraged to submit comments and questions in real-time during these live stream sessions. These weekly sessions serve as a form to provide our community with updates and information.

*April 7, 4.5K Views* – Information about park closures and social gatherings during Easter.

*April 14, 8.7K View* – Coffee With a Cop, *ONLINE*

*April 21, 6.9K Views* – Information regarding traffic congestion during pantry giveaway at area church, information on face mask mandates.

### Movies in the Park

Due to COVID-19 uncertainties, our movie licensing partner has been unable to confirm the availability of the following. However, this will likely be the movies in the lineup, but on different dates. In addition, we are continuously evaluating how to implement social distancing if necessary.

June 6

Sonic

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June 13	Hobbs & Shaw
June 20	Toy Story 4
June 27	Pets 2
July 4	Jumanji
July 11	Overcomer
July 18	Beautiful Day
July 25	Dog's Journey
Aug 1	Lion King (Live Action Version)

### COVID-19 Contingency

Sergeant Mitre was assigned to work from home for the *stay at home* period of the pandemic management timeframe. She continues to evaluate and implement strategies for reaching out to our community and reinstate community outreach programs that comply with social distancing guidelines.

### Important Upcoming Events

*All community events have been postponed due to COVID-19.*

## TRAINING

### All Other training was canceled due to COVID-19

COVID-19 for Law Enforcement (1 hour online): Course will examine how COVID-19 spreads and how to find the most up-to-date information. They were attended by all employees from the Horizon Police Department.

**TOTAL TRAINING HOURS FOR THE MONTH: 40 hours**

Respectfully Submitted,



Mike McConnell  
Chief of Police



## Citation Offense Count By Stop Type

Number of TRAFFIC Offenses (for *ALL*)	62
Number of WARNINGS	9
Speeding (11-20 Miles Over) (3001B)	2
Littering/Illegal Dumping (3358)	1
Violate DL Restriction (3106)	1
Theft Under \$100.00 (1020)	1
Speeding (1-10 MILES OVER) (3001A)	1
Operate Unregistered Motor Vehicle (3668)	1
Expired Registration/Plates (3656)	1
Fail to Comply with Requirements on Striking Unattended Vehicle (3272)	1
Number of CITATIONS	53
Speeding (11-20 Miles Over) (3001B)	13
Fail to Maintain Financial Responsibility (3049)	7
Speeding (1-10 MILES OVER) (3001A)	5
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia (2100)	4
No Drivers License (3103)	4
Theft Under \$100.00 (1020)	4
Expired Registration/Plates (3656)	3
Fail to Stop Designated Point/ Marked Stop Line (3060)	2
Fail to Control Speed (3050)	2
Minor In Possession of Tobacco Products (0055)	1
Fail to Stop Designated Point/Has View of Approaching Traffic (3060)	1
Open Container (3323)	1
Improper Turn/Illegal Turn (3014)	1
Unsafe Backing (3316)	1
Noise Disturbance (0049A)	1
Speeding (21-25 Miles Over) (3001C)	1
Unrestrained Child 8 YOA or Younger (3031A)	1



## Citation Offense Count By Stop Type

Failed to Signal Turn/Lane Change (3096)	1
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<b>Number of PARKING Offenses (for *ALL*)</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Number of WARNINGS</b>	<b>17</b>
Parked Facing Traffic - \$53.00 (3561)	6
Parking on Front or Side Yard- \$53.00 Not a moving Violation (0093C)	4
Illegal Parking of Large Trucks/Tractor/Trailer \$53.00 (0093B)	3
Storing of Motor Vehicle - Abandoned \$139.00 (0093A)	2
Parked w/ Wheels Over 18 In From Curb/Edge of Rdwy - \$53.00 (3564)	1
Parked in Prohibited Area - \$53.00 (3553)	1
<b>Number of CITATIONS</b>	<b>2</b>
Parked in Prohibited Area - \$53.00 (3553)	2

# CNTYFD Monthly Count of Events

El Paso 911 CAD Reports

Report Date: 5/1/2020 3:38:56 AM

Report Date From: 4/1/2020 00:00:00

Report Date To: 4/30/2020 23:59:59

Municipality	Count
CLFD	63
FAFD	103
HCFD	338
MVFD	112
SCFD	197
SEFD	114
WVFD	117
<b>Total</b>	<b>1044</b>

# HCPD Monthly Count Of Calls

El Paso 911 CAD Reports

Report Date: 5/1/2020 2:00:09 AM

Report Date From: 4/1/2020 00:00:00

Report Date To: 4/30/2020 23:59:59

Count of PD Calls:	962
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Count of OV Calls:	280
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Count of MVA Events:	24
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