



HORIZON CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT



February 2024

MONTHLY REPORT

Authored by: HCPD STAFF



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Introduction

Mission:

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

Core Values:

- Integrity: The Horizon City Police Department is built upon a foundation of ethical and professional conduct. We are committed to the highest level of moral principles and ethics. All members of the department will adhere to the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics, which is a part of this manual.
- Honesty: We will be always truthful and trustworthy.
- Fairness: We are committed to equal application of the law to offenders and members of the public as well as the equal application of rules and regulations to all members of the department.
- Courage: We are dedicated to meeting all challenges with the courage needed to accomplish our mission.
- Compassion: We understand our role as community caretakers and temper our application of the law with compassion and empathy.

Goals:

- Decrease NIBRS Crimes by 10 percent.
- Increase public awareness of our department through transparency through in person and media commination.
- Assist in developing our staff professionally by increasing training hours by 25%
- Achieve Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Certification for Communications
- Increase our collaborative efforts with other Law Enforcement agencies.

Objectives:

- Provide vigorous preventative and enforcement activities
- Focus on critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Establish and maintain strong a working relationship with members of our community
- Ensure requests for service from citizens are dispatched promptly
- Ensure public safety responders are provided the necessary tactical and operational equipment and support to carry out their assigned duties
- Provide informational presentations to community members on crime related topics.

Horizon City Police Department Monthly Report

This report is designed to provide statistical information illustrating the Horizon Police Department's operations and administrative functions. The statistical information reported will provide staff with guidance for operational planning, workload assessment and statistically compare our productivity to the previous year. It serves to make necessary adjustments in policies and procedures to meet state and national standards for accreditation.

Demographics

The Horizon City Police Department is comprised of 30 officers and 20 communication specialists. The Police Department are entrusted to patrol approximately 8.5 square miles and provide public safety services for approximately 22,000 residents. Our communications Division is charged with providing emergency phone and dispatch services to the Police Department and approximately 170,000 residents for Fire and Emergency Services under Emergency Management District #1 and Emergency Management District #2.

Staffing

The Chief of Police oversees the Assistant Chief and the Communications Manager. The Assistant Chief of Police oversees the 2 Lieutenants and oversees the Detectives and other investigative personnel. The Patrol Lieutenants oversee the Patrol Sergeants. The Communications Shift Supervisors report to the Communications Manager. The Department consists of primarily Four operational divisions.

- Patrol Division overseen by 2 Lieutenants.
- Criminal Investigations Division overseen by the Assistant Chief
- Communications Division overseen by the Communications Manager
- Support and Administrative Functions overseen by the Chief of Police

Law Enforcement Positions	Allotted	Current	Vacancy
Chief of Police	1	1	0
Assistant Chief	1	1	0
Lieutenants	2	2	1
Sergeants	3	3	0
Corporals	3	3	0
Detectives	3	3	0
Officers	21	21	1
Crime Scene Technician	1	1	0
Civilians	2	2	0

Communication Positions	Allotted	Current	Vacancy
Communications Manager	1	1	0
Communications Supervisor	3	3	0
Dispatchers	14	12	2

Administrative

	Original Budget	Available Budget	Encumbrances	Requisitions	Percentage Remaining
PD	\$2,278,599.00	\$1,452,917.76	\$43,509.00	\$ 13,089.43	63.76 %
Communications	871,341.00	583,086.84	\$82,929.84	5,454.00	67.57 %

	Amount Appropriated FY 2022-2023	Amount Expended February 2024	Balance	Percentage Remaining 2024 YTD
PD	\$ 68,712.00	\$ 9,818.56	\$ 13,587.55	19.77 %
Communications	44,999.00	4,045.19	13,575.38	30.17 %

Pay Codes	Police Department	Communications
OT	367	223.5
Comp	82.14	0
PTO	597.86	192.5
LWO	0	0
Military	0	160
Training	597.5	160
Funeral	0	0
Personal	24	0
Holiday	0	0
Injury	0	0
Suspension	0	0

Sergeants	Sgt. Juan Nunez	Sgt. Guillermo Rosas	Sgt. John Rodriguez	Administrative	Total
Gas Used	140.28	114.27	307.27	257.71	819.53
Miles Driven	264	379	467	270	1380
Miles per Gallon	4.97	8.76	4.01	2.77	20.51

OPERATIONAL SUMMARY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTALS
GAS USED (GAL)	2,224	2,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,224
MILES DRIVEN	10,068	10,120	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20,188
MILES/GALLON	4.10	5.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.16

According to the Wex gasoline report there was a 10.07 % decrease in gas usage, compared to the month of January.

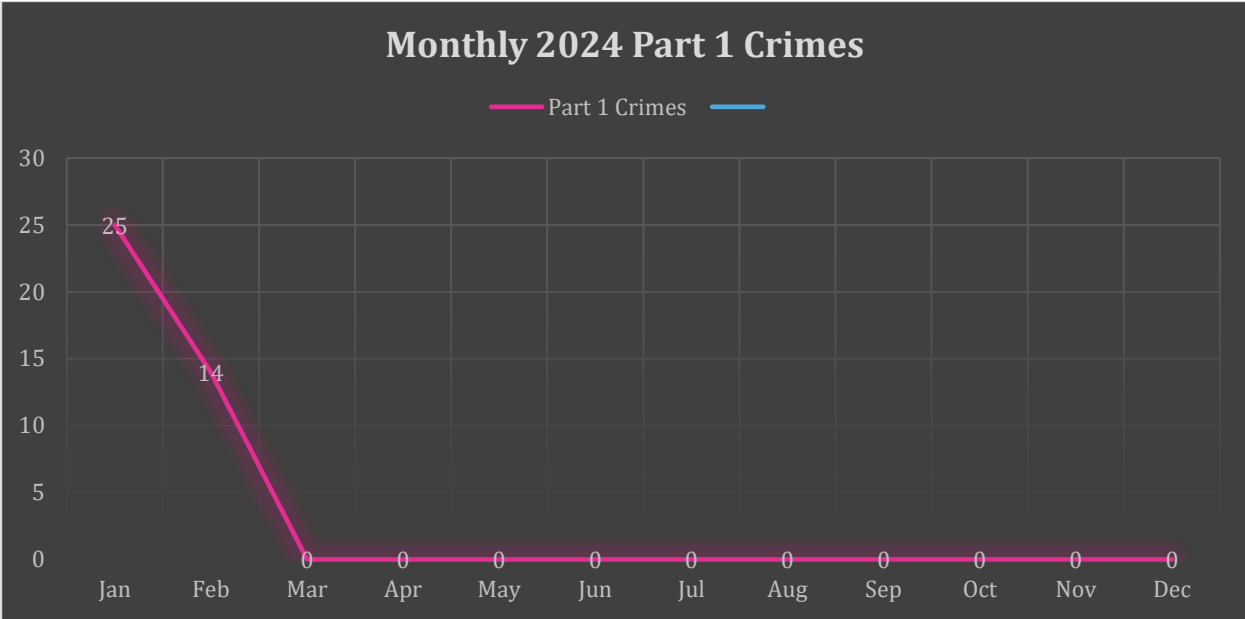
Crime Report

It is the goal of our Police Department to reduce NIBRS Crimes by 10 percent. Year to date, we are reporting a decrease in part one crimes. Our areas of decrease have been isolated to property crimes. We show a 44 % decrease overall compared to last month. Below is the chart designating our specific crime numbers. Below is the chart designating our specific crime numbers.

Part 1 Crimes	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	9	12	15	4	3	43
Robbery	1	1	3	1	1	7
Agg. Assault	7	16	17	25	14	79
Burglary	17	16	14	23	15	85
Larceny	75	82	71	92	88	408
Simple Assault	70	107	85	93	90	445
Vehicle Theft	4	7	14	33	36	94
Total	183	241	219	271	247	1161

January 2024 to February Comparison

44% Decrease



Crimes Against Persons

Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Agg. Assault	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Simple Assault	12	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19
Total	17	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27



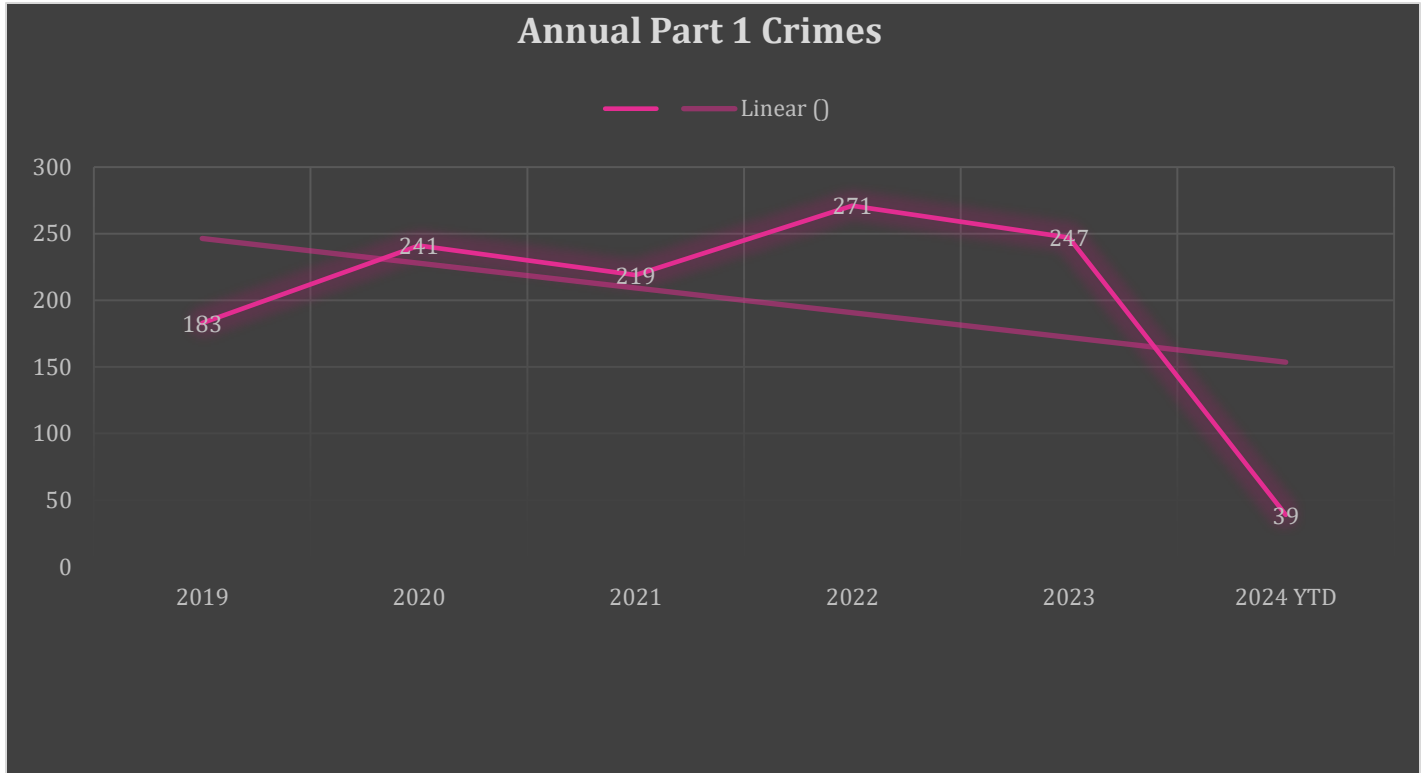
Property Crimes

Part 1 2023	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny	8	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	8	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12



Annual Part 1 Crimes

Part 1 Crimes	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	9	12	15	4	3	43
Robbery	1	1	3	1	1	7
Agg. Assault	7	16	17	25	14	79
Burglary	17	16	14	23	15	85
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Patrol Division

The Patrol Division is commanded by Lieutenant Jesus Ortega. It is comprised of 2 Lieutenants, 3 Sergeants, 3 Corporals and 12 Patrol Officers. They operate 24 hours a day 7 days a week on rotating shifts. The shifts rotate every 56 days while days off rotate every 28 days.

Data Driven Approach to Traffic and Crime Safety

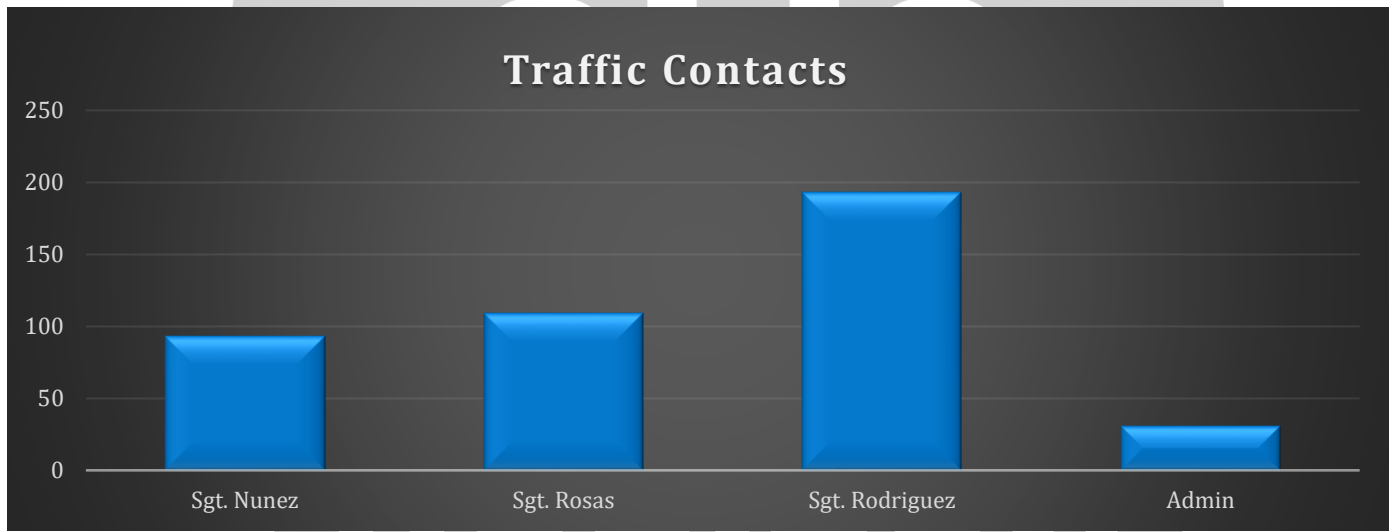
Our Data Driven Approach to Traffic and Crime Safety is our patrol strategy designed to focus on the hot spot areas for accidents and criminal incidents. Below are the hotspot locations and number of contacts charts.

Top 5 Traffic Collision Areas

Location	Crashes
TOTAL CRASHES February	25 (2 less than January)
Horizon/Darrington	4
Horizon/Rodman	4
Darrington/Roslyn	3
Eastlake/ S. Kenazo	2
Darrington/ Pawling	2

Traffic Contacts

2024	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	YTD
Sgt Juan Nunez	99	93											192
Sgt Guillermo Ro	85	109											194
Sgt John Rodrigu	112	193											305
Administrative Team	37	31											68



Calls for Service

Monthly	Sgt. Juan Nunez	Sgt. Guillermo Rosas	Sgt. John C. Rodriguez	Administrative Team	Total
Dispatched calls	283	260	256	77	876
Self-Initiated calls	161	244	252	111	768
Incident Reports	33	16	12	2	63
Crash Reports	13	1	6	5	25
Total	490	521	526	195	13856

Arrests

Arrest Breakdown	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD
2024 Felony Arrest	6	6											12
2024 Misdemeanor Arrests	16	14											30
Sgt. Nunez													
Felony Arrest	4	3											7
Misdemeanor Arrest	4	7											11
Sgt. Rosas													
Felony Arrest	0	3											3
Misdemeanor Arrest	5	3											8
Sgt. John Rodriguez													
Felony Arrest	2	0											2
Misdemeanor Arrest	7	4											11



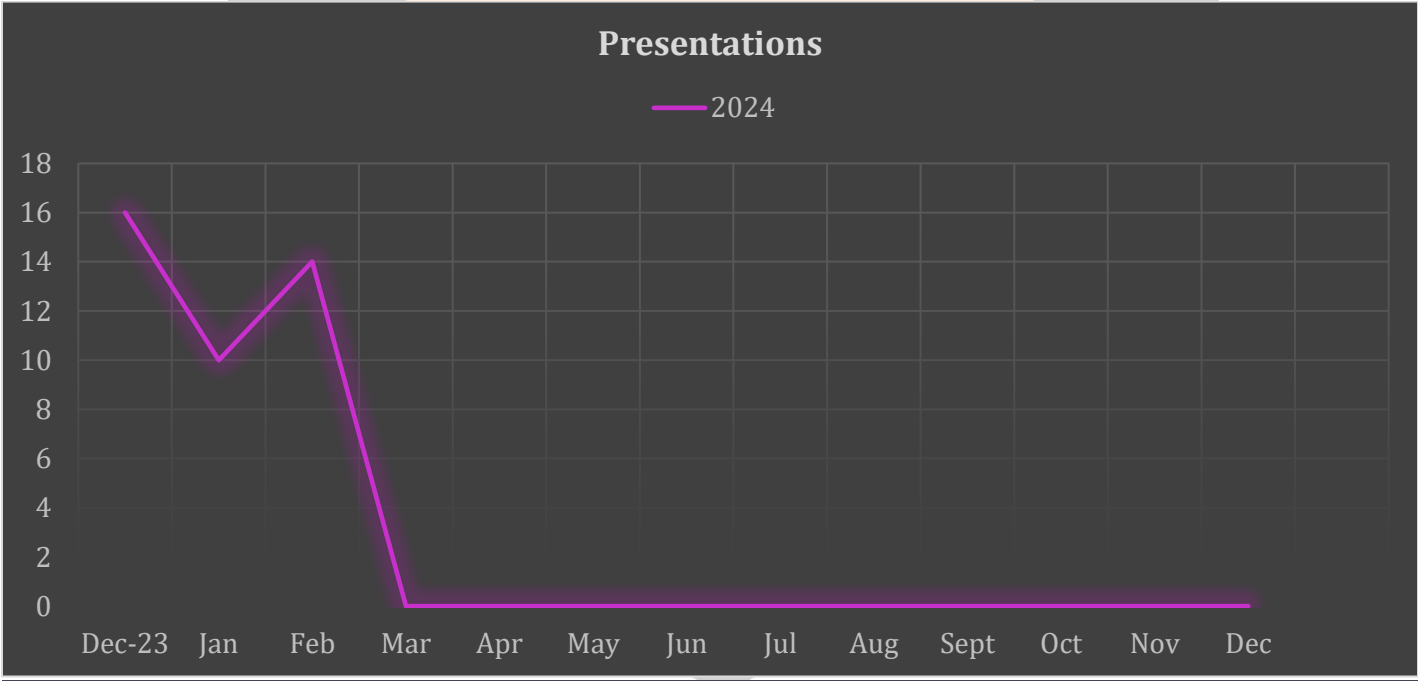
Month to Month Comparison



Community Presentations and Public Relations

Officer Heli Sierra has been helping organize community events and presentations. His training included public speaking and developing valuable crime analytic techniques which will help our agency better serve our Horizon City community by identifying patterns, suspects, and helping our patrol officers accomplish the mission of serving by creating a targeted patrol strategy.

ACTIVITY SUMMARY	Dec 2023	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD
2024 Presentation	16	10	14											



Month to Month Comparison

40 % Decrease



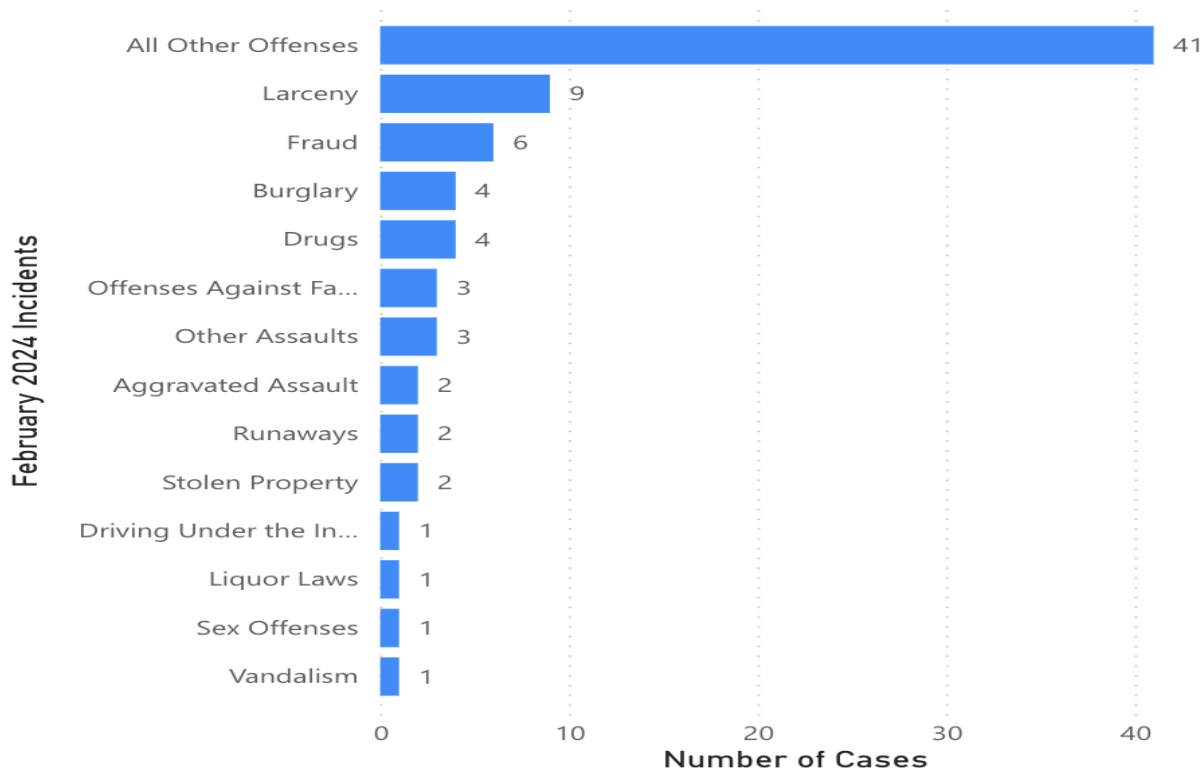
Criminal Investigations Division

Investigations

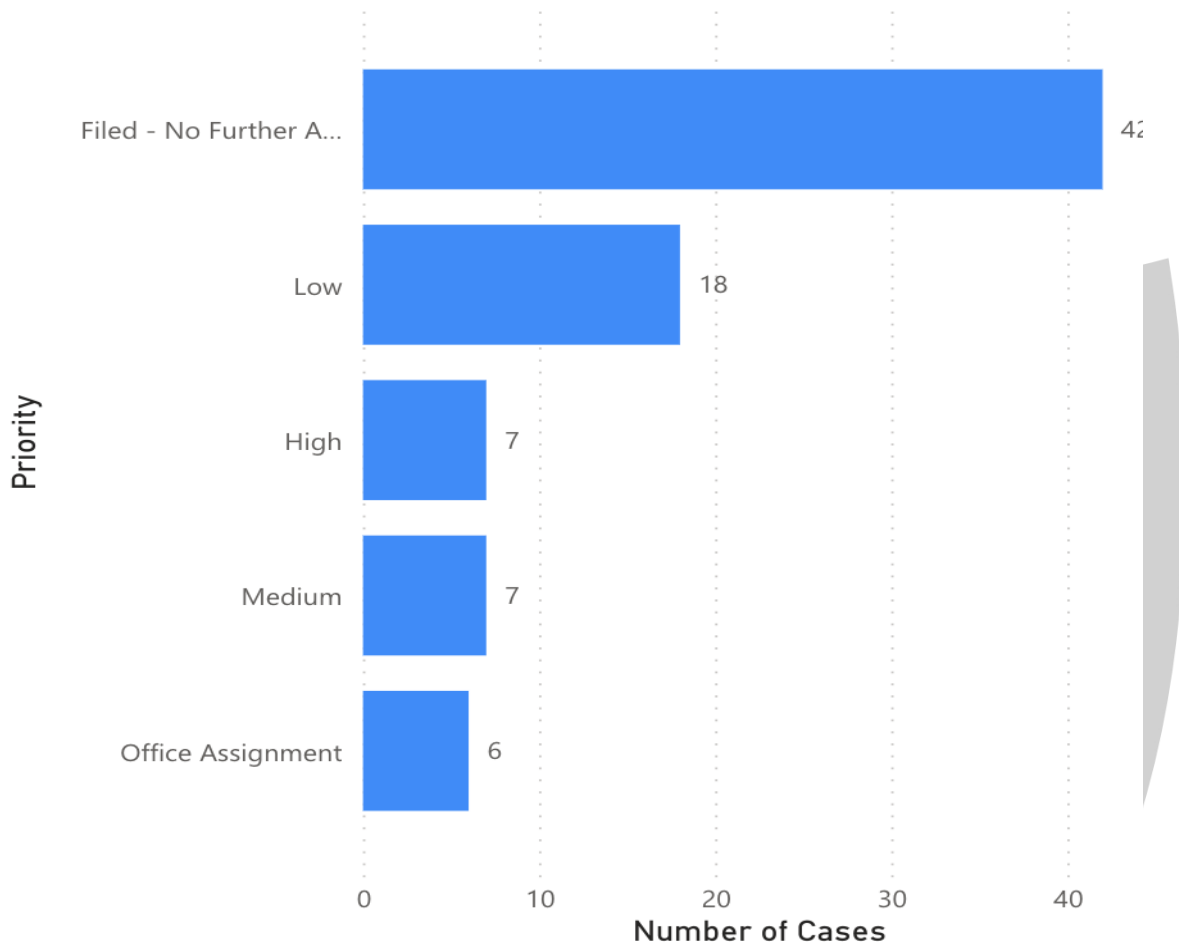
Lieutenant Kaycee Valdez oversees our Criminal Investigations Division, where a team of dedicated professionals is responsible for examining a broad array of criminal cases. This unit is comprised of three detectives who handle cases ranging from misdemeanors to more serious felony offenses.

Their job involves digging into these cases, collecting evidence, and working closely with various partners to bring investigations to a conclusion. Lieutenant Valdez and her team are committed to upholding the law and ensuring the safety of our community through their hard work and dedication.

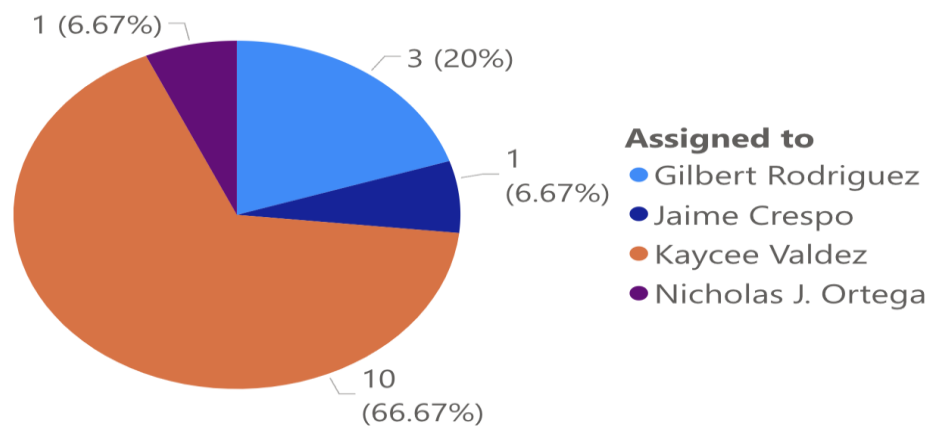
February 2024 Case Priority



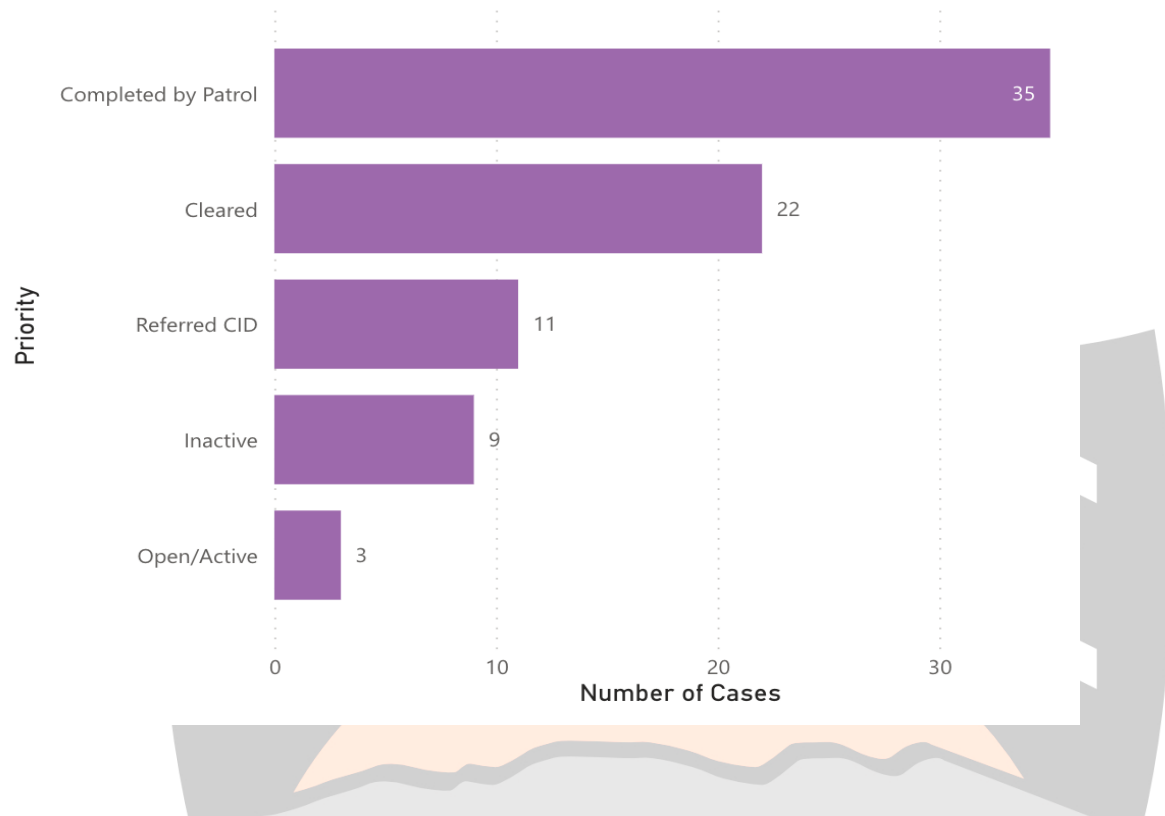
February 2024 Case Priority



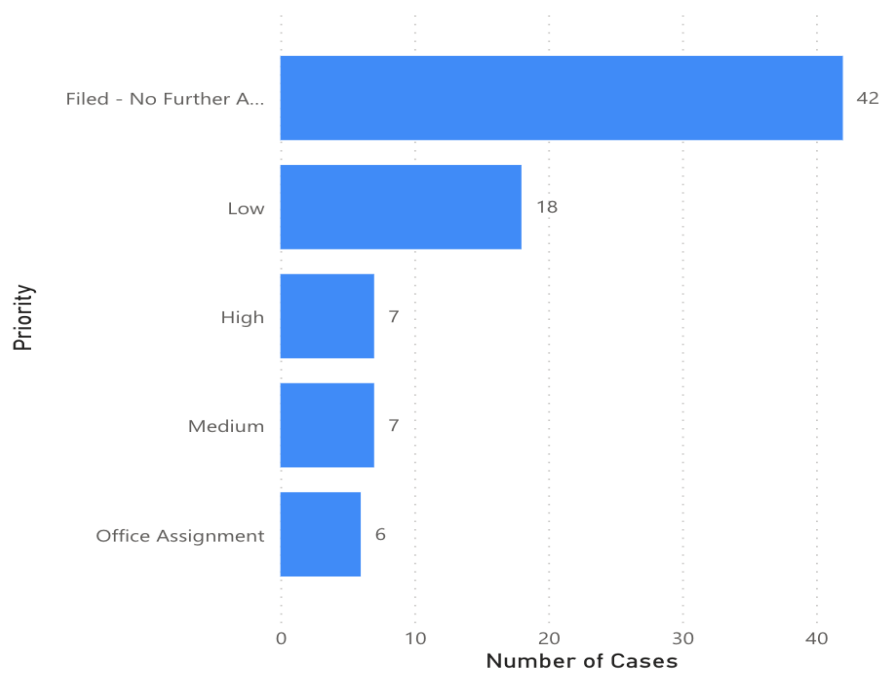
February 2024 Case Load by Investigator



February 2024 Case Resolution



February 2024 Case Priority



Notable Activities for CID, Traffic, Forensics & Warrants Section:

Detective Labrado, a highly skilled and accomplished member of our investigations team was assigned to work alongside the FBI. This experience will prepare Detective Labrado to investigate major crimes in our community upon his return.

Bruce Campbell, a tried-and-true patrol officer with over a decade of experience was selected to join the detective squad. Officer Campbell has served our agency as a Field Training Officer and will be a truly valuable addition to the investigations team.

Our specialized traffic investigations team (STI) quickly and meticulously completed the investigation of a tragic traffic accident which claimed the life of a 17-year-old boy as he walked to work. The offending driver was found to have previous convictions of Driving While Intoxicated and was charged with Intoxication Manslaughter.

Traffic Division

Officer Eric Delgadillo assumes the responsibility of enforcing commercial vehicle regulations, conducting thorough inspections to address both minor administrative discrepancies, colloquially referred to as "paper" infractions, and more significant lapses in essential safety equipment maintenance.

His contribution is instrumental in mitigating potential risks that could result in severe accidents. Officer Delgadillo's efforts contribute significantly to upholding road safety standards and ensuring compliance within the commercial transportation sector, as evidenced by his commitment to addressing and rectifying regulatory violations.

Every detailed roadside inspection can take upwards of 2 hours to complete. During the month of February, Officer Eric Delgadillo conducted 13 inspections and found 13 commercial vehicles not road worthy.

The motorcycle's nimble mobility further enables the officer to swiftly traverse the city, providing valuable assistance to fellow officers during calls for service. This enhanced responsiveness and versatility contribute significantly to our overall law enforcement capabilities and community safety efforts. The addition of a motorcycle officer has proven to be an asset in addressing dynamic situations and optimizing our resources for effective public service.

COMMERCIAL VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT		Activity Summary
Commercial Vehicles Inspected		13
Commercial Vehicle Violations		57
Commercial Vehicles Placed Out of Service		13
Citations Issued		5

Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Training (hrs.)	32
Criminal Cases Generated	0
Crash Reports Generated	1
Training Instructor Hours	24
Hours Participating in Community Events	8
MOTORCYCLE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	
Number of Traffic Contacts	35
Number of Crash Reports	2
Number of Criminal Reports	3
Hours spent specialized investigation	48

Forensics Unit

Bernadette Ortega stands out as a valuable asset to our team, taking on the role of Crime Scene and Evidence Lead with exceptional expertise. Her extensive experience positions her among the top professionals in the state, bringing a wealth of knowledge to our forensic endeavors. Working alongside her is Officer Abraham Diaz, who also plays a pivotal role in the Crime Scene and Evidence department. Together, they seamlessly combine their skills to handle forensic evidence and conduct meticulous crime scene investigations. Their collaborative efforts embody the highest standards of forensic work, ensuring the team excels in accuracy and efficiency.

Forensic Unit Responsibilities

Activity	#
Hours Spent Processing Evidence	28.5
Hours Spent Managing Evidence Room	1
Hours Processing Open Records Material	24.25
Walk Ins for Fingerprints	1
Hours responded to active crime scene.	18.5
Number of items submitted to laboratory for further analysis	17
Number of items brought back from lab.	18
Service Training Received (hours)	5.5
Training Given (hours)	3
Evidence items which returned identification/leads.	4

Warrants Division and Bailiff

Officer Abraham Diaz assumes a multifaceted role within the law enforcement department, serving as the Court Bailiff and the Warrants Officer. His contributions make him an indispensable member of our law enforcement team. As the primary point of contact for matters pertaining to the municipal court, convened biweekly, Officer Diaz ensures the seamless functioning of court proceedings.

SORT Program

Our SORT program is led by Officer Victoria Hernandez. SORT stands for "Sex Offender Registry and Tracking". The program is designed to maintain a database of individuals convicted of sex offenses, providing law enforcement with the tools to monitor and track registered sex offenders within our jurisdiction. Our program is currently under development and will empower our agency to monitor these individuals closely.

Hours Dedicated to SORT Program	22
Hours Dedicated to Community Relations Program	31.5
Hours Dedicated to Patrol Support	6

Communications Section

The Communications Section is overseen by the Communications Manager and is comprised of 3 Communications Shift Supervisors, and 14 Communications Specialists.

Response Times

	Average Call to Arrival	Average Dispatch to Arrival	Actual	Target
Priority 1-3 Pending to Arrival less than or equal to 8 Minutes	00:04:59	00:03:11	100%	90%
Priority 4-6 Pending to Arrival less than or equal to 12 Minutes:	00:10:43	00:06:03	100%	80%
Priority 7-9 Pending to Arrival less than or equal to 15 Minutes:	00:17:42	00:07:10	83.87%	70%

Horizon Police Calls for Service

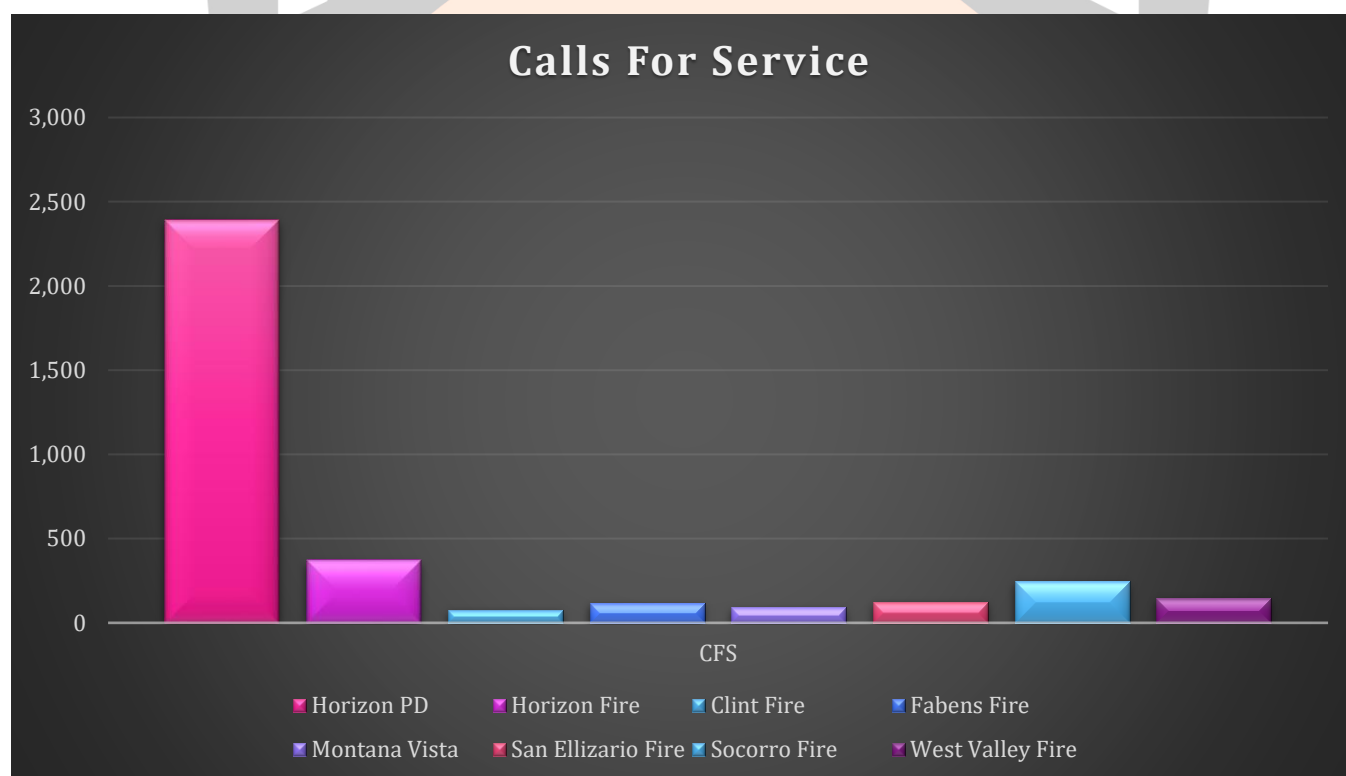
	Dispatched	Self-Initiated	Mobile Data Terminal Calls	Total
Horizon Police	1,430	719	253	2,402

ESD 1 Calls for Service

	Alarm	Assist	Brush Fire	Car Fire	Water Gas Leaks	Medical	MVA	Structure Fires	Total
Horizon Fire	30	28	8	1	19	237	42	5	370

ESD 2 Calls for Service

	Alarm	Assist	Brush Fire	Car Fire	Water/ Gas Leaks	Medical	MVA	Structure Fire	Total
Clint	5	7	3	2	2	46	6	3	74
Fabens	2	2	10	1	0	90	10	2	117
Montana Vista	0	0	4	0	2	73	10	2	91
San Elizario	2	6	4	1	0	100	7	1	121
Socorro	10	8	4	1	2	180	39	2	246
West Valley	6	11	7	0	4	95	22	2	147
Total	25	34	32	5	10	584	94	12	796



Departmental Significant and Notable Accomplishments:

The communications manager and shift supervisors attended a virtual two-hour Responding to and Investigating Hoax Bomb Threats and Swatting. The training provided attendees with a synopsis of the realities of bomb threats and swatting **hoaxes**. The trainee provided statistics and current trends seen across the country. The training discussed characteristics of **hoax** calls, law enforcement best practices for assessment and response, and the decision-making process for evacuation or sheltering in place.



Mobile Communications America to introduce themselves and inform attendees of the merging of both companies.

Adilene Rendon, Marcela Portillo, Stephanie Cortes, and Ericka Gonzalez attended the 8-hour De-Escalation Techniques Course held at the El Paso Community College Law Enforcement Training Academy. The De-escalation Techniques Course is a requirement for the Texas Law Enforcement Best Practices Recognition Program.



De-escalation
Techniques
TCOLE #1849

Elva Ramos and Irlanda Huerta attended a two-hour Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events



(CRASE) training at the Town of Horizon City Council Chambers. During the course, attendees were provided with strategies, guidance, and plans for surviving an active attack event. In addition, videos were demonstrated of past active attack events. Attendees learned the principles of what to do if an active attack event were to happen and how to increase your chance of survival by knowing: Avoid, Deny and Defend.

Gold Out Fundraiser

On Friday, February 2, 2024, officers from the Horizon City Police Department attended a fundraiser for the daughter of an El Paso Police Department officer who had been diagnosed with cancer at the age of 7. Officer Sierra received the invite from a colleague in Socorro PD and was encouraged to share it with the department. The fundraiser was held at the EPPD Pebble Hills Regional Command. HCPD donated funds to Diana and were able to order shirts from her family with all donations going toward her cancer treatment. HCPD met up with other law enforcement agencies and got to eat lunch that was also put as part of the fundraiser. Officers were at the fundraiser for approximately an hour and spoke with the pediatric non-profit organization Gold Out, who they partnered up with in the past to see how they could help out their organization once again. Those in attendance to the fundraiser were Chief M. Vargas, Motor Unit N. Ortega, Officer H. Sierra and Officer V. Hernandez.



Polar Plunge 2024

On Saturday, February 3, 2024, police officers from HCPD joined the Special Olympics in their first event of the year, The Polar Plunge. The Polar Plunge is an event in which those that take part in it, swim in the cold weather temperature or slide down a water parks icy slides in an effort to raise funds for the Special Olympics' athletes. The Polar Plunge was held at Camp



Cohen Water Park in the Northeast side of El Paso. The weather for that day was a windy, cloudy and cold 46 degrees Fahrenheit. Chief Vargas, Sargeant Nunez, Patrol Officer Trevino, Officer Sierra and Hernandez were the officers to represent their department. It

was also the department with the most representation.



PIO Training in Houston

On February 5-February 7, 2024, Officer H. Sierra and V. Hernandez assisted the Public Information Officer Course through LEMIT in The Woodlands near Houston, Texas. Officer Sierra and Hernandez have taken the roles of PIO's since 2021 and traveled to obtain adequate training that would better prepare them for interactions with the media. The course was a fast paced training that exposed all attendees to the reality of being in front of a camera and being asked the unexpected. The class was formed by both law enforcement and civilians that worked



with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. The first day consisted of watching real life videos in which there was an interaction between the public and law enforcement in both positive and negative scenarios. Once the video was viewed, PIOs were asked a series of questions regarding that interaction, and through the answers that were given, feedback was provided by both the instructors and the students of the class. The second day was a more hands on training on preparing for a press conference rather than a one-on-one interview. Students were able to prepare for an hour and come up with a press release which they'd present to multiple news media outlets. Limited time was given to the presenters to put them in the position where many times they don't have much time to come up with a press release and have to be ready to give a press conference. The press conference was given in an individual manner by all 20 PIOs and took over 4 hours to complete. On the third day, PIOs were given a review of the training material they had studied and applied the previous two days and provided them with the last project of the training. It consisted of four teams compiled of five PIOs. Every team had a different scenario that was given to them with information they had to separate between what should be released and what should be kept inside the agencies only to preserve the integrity of the investigation. Once again, The PIOs were given a time limit of two hours to work through the scenario, assign different roles amongst themselves and represent different law enforcement agencies. This exercise took most of the rest of the day but proved to be a challenge when it came to the mock questions they were asked. Students learned how to articulate an answer without providing too much information, what to avoid disclosing, and how to bridge certain questions to ensure that the questions asked are consistent with what the interview is about. This training was a great way of preparing the department's PIOs for any upcoming situations where they are needed to represent the police department and Horizon City.



MVA PIO Involvement

On Wednesday, February 7, 2024, the STI team was called out for a vehicle vs. pedestrian fatality at the intersection of Pawling and Darrington. During these types of incidents, PIOs take on the role of updating the public through multiple means of communication. They handle the police department's social media pages which in this case include Facebook and Instagram. They have to handle the news media outlets in the sense of where they can stage to film, interviews that are conducted, and information that can be provided to ensure that accurate information is received and put out for the public. Due to both PIOs being out of town for training, they had to handle the situation differently. From 1900-0000 hours, Officer Sierra and Officer



HORIZONCITY
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Hernandez handled over 20 calls and conducted dozens of calls involving the news media in a different city from the location of the incident. This differentiated from other PIO callouts were they would meet with the news crews and do a face to face interview. Both PIOs coordinated with STI, and Patrol Lieutenant J. Ortega to see the development of the investigation and were able to get a spokesperson to handle the interviews in the vicinity of the motor vehicle accident.

Press Conference

On Friday, February 8, 2024, Officer Sierra Officer Hernandez landed in El Paso from the training in Houston and met with Chief of Police M. Vargas and STI members to have an update on the incident that took place the evening before. It was decided that the best course of action was to meet with multiple news media outlets and do a press conference with all of them at the same time. Officer Sierra contacted his point of contacts within the news stations and informed them of the press conference and that it'd take place at 1400 hours. Officer Sierra was able to gather Telemundo, Univision, KTSM Channel 9, KFOX 14, ABC 7 news, and Channel 4 News for the press conference. Officer V. Hernandez and Lieutenant K. Valdez also streamed the interview live through their FB Page to allow followers and constituents to watch the press conference in real time. The press conference lasted approximately 5 minutes and was done in both Spanish and English followed by a series of questions that lasted approximately 10 to 15 minutes. The success of this conference was in part to the training that Officer Sierra and Hernandez received in Houston and in the officers' confidence in being prepared for this type of situation.



Coffee with a Cop



On Monday, February 12, 2024, HCPD held their monthly Coffee with a Cop at Amber's Coffee Bar. This monthly gathering is done so that the community can come together and engage with their local police department. Since Valentine's Day was that week, Officer Sierra put in a request for pastries so that guests could enjoy more than just free coffee and great company. During this event, there were new faces to meet, and they also asked the department about questions they had in

reference to their jurisdiction, the size of their department, the growth of the city etc. They were also met with familiar faces like Alecia Conelly that took Valentine's Day treats for everyone who attended to enjoy. The event was held from 9:00am-11:00am yet ended past 11:30am due to the engagement with some of the guests. The next Coffee with a Cop will be held March 26, 2024 at the same location to help promote the local establishment.

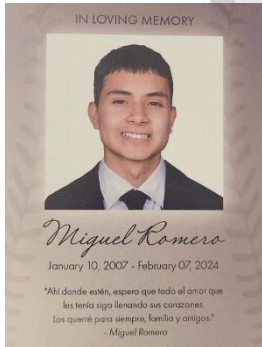


City Hall Presentation

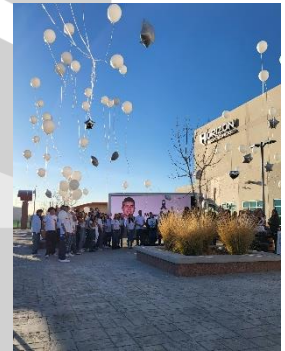
On Tuesday, February 13, 2024, Officer H. Sierra and Officer V. Hernandez attended the city hall meeting at HCPD's court room. Chief of Police M. Vargas, Assistant Chief Rico, Lieutenant Ortega, Lieutenant Valdez, Emergency Communication Manager Elva Ramos, Officer H. Sierra and Officer V. Hernandez presented the annual report for the police department. The annual report is comprised of data and information that allows the city to compare and contrast the previous year's to one another. The presentation took approximately 30 minutes and was divided by division and allowed to be presented by the designated officer or employee. Officer Sierra was able to explain to city council the increase from 87 functions with the community in 2022 to 199 in 2023. These functions were divided into 4 sections. They were divided into Community Functions, School Functions, Charity Events, and Networking Opportunities. This was the first time Officer Sierra had presented the Annual Report and was a learning opportunity as to how we can keep city employees and the community informed on how HCPD serves them.

Horizon High School Student Miguel Romero Vigil

On Tuesday, February 13, 2024, Officer V. Hernandez from the Horizon City Police Department attended and showed support to the Romero family and friends on behalf of the police department as Horizon High School students and staff organized a vigil in honor of Miguel Romero at the Horizon High



School gymnasium. Miguel Romero was a 17-year-old Horizon High School student whose life was taken on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, in a tragic car accident. Close family and friends wore white clothing as they attended the vigil. Those closest to Miguel (friends and



teachers) expressed their pain, reflected on the best memories they shared with him and honored his life by remembering him and letting those who attended the vigil know how much of a beautiful soul he had. Students were given the opportunity to write a note or a short letter to Miguel's family and

place it in a box as they gave their condolences to Miguel's family. Followed by that, family, friends, and school staff stepped outside the gym and released white and silver balloons in remembrance of Miguel. Miguel's family was reminded by school staff and friends that we are all a big family and if they ever needed any assistance, we are all here for them as a community.

Oz Glaze Potluck

On Wednesday, February 14, 2024, Officer H. Sierra and Chief M. Vargas swung by the Oz Glaze Senior Center for a surprise during their monthly potluck. They showed up with cookies and pastries for those who were present to enjoy. They were both received with great hospitality and invited to join them for their lunch. During their time there, HCPD was able to address questions that were brought up to them. Officer Sierra was able to take a few pictures with a few of the members there and strike up conversations that help reassure those that live in our area, that their police department is there to serve them. HCPD will increase their efforts this year in ensuring that those that live in Horizon City that belong to



the older age group feel included, protected and heard by being more active at the Oz Glaze Senior Center. The next time Officer Sierra meets with the Senior Center will be for a presentation in March on how they can stay safe from scams and keep our elderly from becoming victims.



Curbside Car Seat Class at Golden Eagle Park



On Saturday, February 17, 2024, officers from the Horizon City Police Department (HCPD) conducted their 8th Curbside Car Seat Class at local Golden Eagle Park during the morning hours. Officer V. Hernandez has noticed every month the number of people interested in participating in this event varies. For the month of February, over 30 parents waited for a call back to get more information about our car seat services and whether they qualified to receive a car seat at no cost. There were 11 appointments made for the month of February and a total of 6 parents showed up for their appointment along with their child. A total of 6 car seat inspections were conducted and 5 car seats were provided to families free of charge. HCPD is looking forward to conducting their 9th Curbside Car Seat Class on March 22nd to continue to ensure the safety of infants and young children during vehicular travel. HCPD also wants to bring awareness and emphasize to parents the importance of securing their child in a car seat to reduce the risk of injury or death.

Fallen Officer Jonah Hernandez Services



On Wednesday, February 21, 2024, Officer Sierra assisted the PIOs in El Paso in coordinating and managing the media for the funeral services of Las Cruces Police Department's fallen officer Jonah Hernandez. The main goal of the PIOs coming together was to help those affected by Hernandez' death mourn without the interruption of the media but at the same time allow the media to obtain enough footage for their news coverage. Officer Sierra was

designated to the funeral home where he informed the news stations of where they could shoot footage from as well as their designated parking spots and that no questions were asked to the family of Jonah Hernandez. After the funeral home, Officer Sierra assisted with the same assignment at the Church and later followed in the procession to the cemetery. This was the second time Officer Sierra assisted the PIOs from El Paso during a officer's funeral services, the first time being the funeral services of late El Paso Police Department Chief Greg Allen.



Mt. View High School Students Ride Along

On Thursday, February 22 and February 29, 2024, students from Mt. View High School took part of their first ride along with officers from the Horizon City Police Department (HCPD).

Lakesha Smith, a teacher from Mt. View High School and the one in charge of the Law Enforcement class reached out to Officers H. Sierra and V. Hernandez and expressed her interest in having her law enforcement students go on a ride along to familiarize themselves with the duties of a police officer. Students were split



into groups for each day and they all got partnered up with one HCPD officer. Each ride along lasted for approximately one hour. The ride along started by conducting a "Unit Prep" and making sure all equipment for patrol was ready to be used if necessary. Followed by that, officers showed students where our jurisdiction starts and where it ends as well as showing them the main arteries of Horizon City. Officers conducted a traffic stop to educate students on proper radio transmission and show them the process of initiating a traffic stop while others responded to service calls. HCPD looks forward in having future ride-a-longs with Mt. View High School students or any other school to educate these young individuals about the duties and responsibilities of law enforcement officers to uphold the law and maintain public safety to instill a positive sense of trust and promote a safer and supportive relationship between the community and law enforcement.

FEMA PIO Training Guide



On Tuesday and Wednesday, February 27 and 28, Public Information Officers H. Sierra and V. Hernandez attended the FEMA Public Information in All-Hazards Incident training at the El Paso Regional Communications Center. This was the second PIO training both officers attended with a



different approach. The FEMA training allowed for PIOs to learn and put their knowledge to the test on catastrophic scenarios that aren't so common but must be handled at times. The training was made up of 22 PIOs from different law enforcement agencies and school districts. Just like the training in Houston, the PIOs were formed by both law enforcement officers and civilians. The training explained the roles of the PIO, what is needed from the PIO, and how to effectively manage an emergency situation in the case of hazardous incident. Being able to work together and in an effective manner was also taught by splitting all students into groups and having them discuss different mock scenarios. During those scenarios, PIOs managed to put a message together for the public in which they can feel safe, they discussed how to properly handle the media during the incident and how to perform the necessary duties at the same time. They were taught the stages of a Crisis Communication Life Cycle and how to approach each of those stages. During the second day, The class was broken up into 4 different teams and assigned a different scenario that would fall under a Hazard Incident. They were given detailed information as to what occurred, but again, the PIOs had to decide as a group, what entity they would play and what information would be provided. Although transparency is always encouraged it must be done in a cautious manner. They had approximately an hour to read, review the incident and decide on what was going to be presented in a mock press conference. After their press conference was given, the instructors and students followed up with difficult but necessary questions for the PIOs to answer with the goal in mind of being effective under stress and being able to still perform one's duties. After the training, Officer Sierra and Hernandez were able to understand their role in a different way that although not always needed, is necessary to have the knowledge on.

Youth Core Program Weekly Meetings

On Wednesday, February 21 and Thursday, February 29, 2024, officers conducted their weekly meetings with those who are part of the Youth Core Program. On the week of February 21st,



officers took these young individuals to local Corky Park to conduct hands-on drills on how to unholster and re-holster their weapon, as well as having their weapon in a low ready or ready position as they walked for a couple of yards. During the week of



February 29, officers had police explorers practice traffic stops inside of Horizon City Municipal Court. Police explorers took on the police officer roles and the officers took the role of being a communication specialist or the driver of a vehicle committing a traffic violation. Police explorers were provided with the information necessary to provide our communication specialists of the activity being conducted, which in this case was their traffic stop. Police explorers were being assisted by the officers by educating them on the proper steps that they needed to take as they made contact with the "driver" of the vehicle. Each police explorers had the opportunity to take on this hands-on activity and received feedback on how to improve their skills. Officers are looking forward in continuing with this activity to make the explorers feel more comfortable and confident when practicing their radio transmissions and traffic stops.

Officer and Staff Recognition:

Juan Carlos Gonzalez takes the initiative in assisting his coworkers when help is needed. He is the person to go to when further assistance is needed when dealing with Spanish callers. He is unfailingly cheerful, upbeat, and positive. He is efficient and works hard. He has good attendance and is always eager to expand his knowledge. Juan Carlos is a great asset to the communications division. He never hesitates to assist coworkers when they have any questions or concerns. He goes above and beyond when assisting citizens. Thank you for your hard work and dedication!

Officer Arredondo successfully completed his COMSAR training and is now one of our new members of the COMSAR team for the department. STI had a pedestrian fatality, they conducted an awesome investigation and closed out the case by arrest of a male suspect. Officer Delgadillo instructed two Civilian Response to Active Shooter Training classes for city employees.