

# HORIZON CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT





**DECEMBER 2023** 

MONTHLY REPORT
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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:**

- ➤ <u>Integrity:</u> 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 (2)	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**

FY 2023-2024 Budget	Original Budget	Available Budget	Encumbrances	Requisitions	Percentage Remaining
PD	\$2,278,599.00	\$ 1,772,106.01	\$ 124,949.00	\$ 10,000.00	77.77 %
Communications	871,341.00	701,901.52	\$ 3,487.29	\$ 4,690.00	80.55 %

Overtime	Amount Appropriated FY 2021-2022	Amount Expended December 2023	Balance	Percentage Remaining 2023
PD	\$ 68,712.00	\$ 13,397.30	\$ 39,525.73	57.52 %
Communications	\$ 44,999.00	\$ 6,770.90	\$ 30,587.95	67.97 %



Sergeants	Sgt. Juan Nunez	Sgt. Guillermo	Sgt. John Rodriguez	Administrative	Total
Gas Used	78.97	124.32	187.7	209.58	600.57
Miles Driven	201	484	741	255	1681
Miles per Gallon	7.17	11	4	3.4	25.57

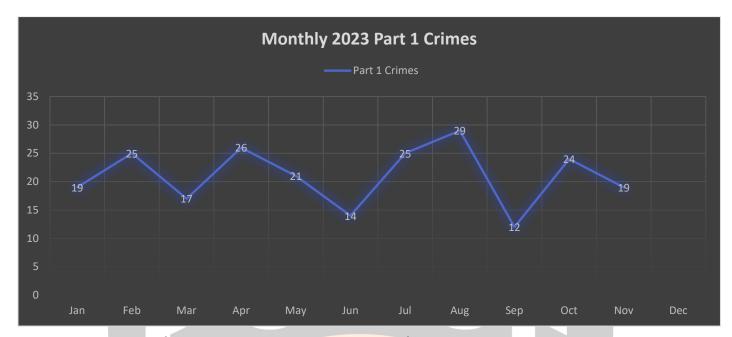
OPERATIONAL SUMMARY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	TOTALS
GAS USED (GAL)	1,643	1,520	1,685	1,587	2,134	2,245	1,908	2,013	1,744	2,123	1,366	1,425	21,393
MILES DRIVEN	8,859	7,894	8,056	6,488	9,078	10,021	18,595	7,813	8,269	8,390	10,638	8,433	104,101
MILES/GALLON	5.39	5.19	4.80	4.00	6.60	4.46	9.76	3.88	4.74	3.95	15.00	13.50	81.27

According to the Wex gasoline report there was a 25.00 % decrease in gas usage, compared to the month of December.

### **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 16 % 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 2023	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Total
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Robbery	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
Agg. Assault	3	4	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	2	0	14
Burglary	2	3	1	1	1	1	3	0	0	1	2	15
Larceny	7	7	3	12	5	4	9	12	6	7	10	82
Simple Assault	3	7	10	7	11	5	11	12	4	10	4	784
Vehicle Theft	3	4	3	3	1	4	2	5	1	4	2	32
Total	19	25	17	26	21	14	25	29	12	24	19	231



February 2023 to December 2023 Comparison



## 16 % Decrease

### **Crimes Against Persons**

Part 1 2023	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sexual Assault</b>	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
Agg. Assault	3	4	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	14
Simple Assault	3	7	10	7	11	5	11	12	4	10	4	6	90
Total	7	11	10	10	13	5	11	12	5	12	5	6	107

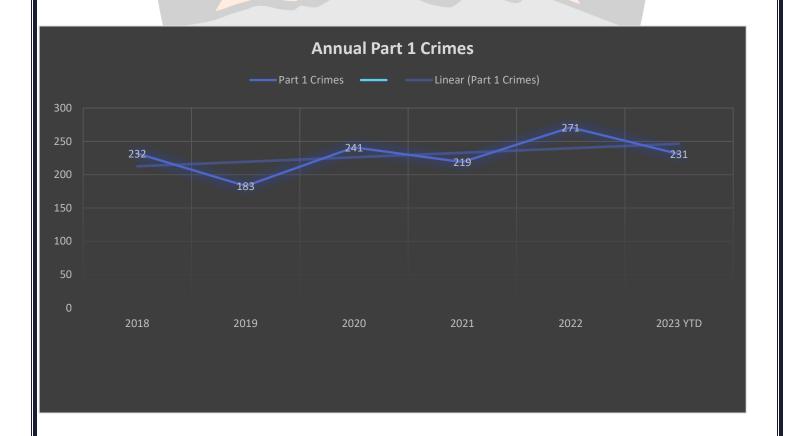


							Prope	erty C	rimes				
Ja	n	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	2	3	1	1	1	1	3	0	0	1	2	0	15
	7	7	3	12	5	4	9	12	6	7	10	6	88
	3	4	3	3	1	4	2	5	1	4	2	4	36
	12	14	7	16	8	9	14	17	7	12	14	10	140



### **Annual Part 1 Crimes**

Part 1 Crimes	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	11	9	12	15	4	51
Robbery	6	1	1	3	1	12
Agg. Assault	9	7	16	17	25	74
Burglary	26	17	16	14	23	96
Larceny	93	75	82	71	92	413
Simple Assault	81	70	107	85	93	436
Vehicle Theft	6	4	7	14	33	64
Total	232	183	241	219	271	1146



### **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.

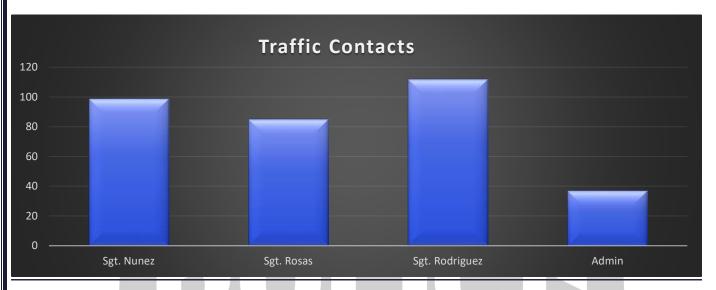
### **Top 5 Traffic Collision Areas**

Location	Crashes
Horizon/Darrington	6
Eastlake/ Horizon Heights	2
Horizon/ Crocker	2
Eastlake/ Darrington	2
Darrington/ Pawling	2

#### **Traffic Contacts**

										, ·			
2023		02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11		YTD
Sgt Juan Nunez	56	36	48	119	271	64	33	87	46	166	123	99	1148
Sgt Guillermo Rosas	130	82	63	56	80	108	150	41	130	145	245	85	1315
Sgt John Rodriguez	53	36	99	66	61	45	84	77	128	106	131	112	998
Administrative Tean	20	78	53	52	97	40	34	36	47	48	49	37	591



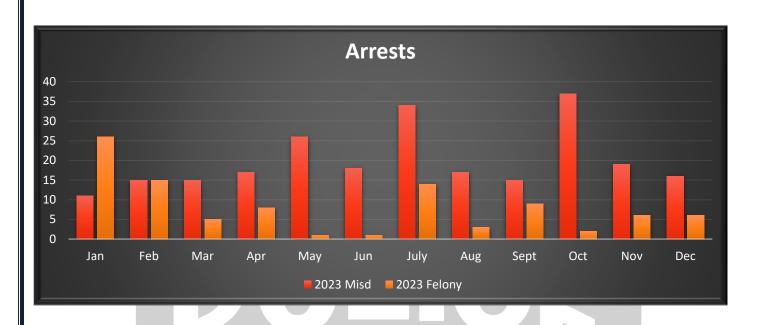


### **Calls for Service**

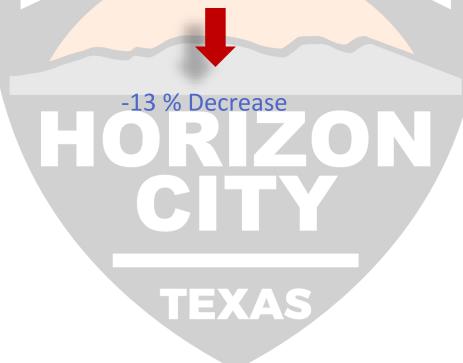
	Sgt. Juan	Sgt. Guillermo	Sgt. John C.	Administrative	Total
	Nunez	Rosas	Rodriguez	Team	
Dispatched calls	279	267	225	51	822
Self-Initiated calls	206	274	146	132	758
<b>Incident Reports</b>	15	21	24	4	64
Crash Reports	1	12	13	5	31
Total	501	574	408	192	3350

### **Arrests**

Arrest Breakdown	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	YTD
2023 Felony <mark>Arrests</mark>	11	15	5	8	1	1	14	0	9	2	6	6	78
2023 Misdemeanor Arrests	26	15	15	17	26	18	34	11	15	37	19	16	249
Sgt. Nunez													
Felony Arrest							12	2	1	0	0	4	19
Misdemeanor Arrest							22	0	3	15	4	4	48
Sgt. Rosas													
Felony Arrest							0	1	3	0	3	0	7
Misdemeanor Arrest							6	5	3	11	10	5	40
Sgt. John Rodriguez													
Felony Arrest							2	0	3	2	3	2	12
Misdemeanor Arrest							5	1	8	10	4	7	35

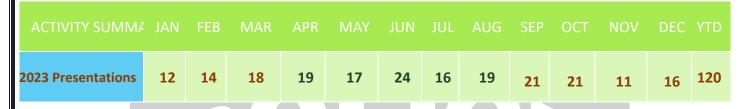


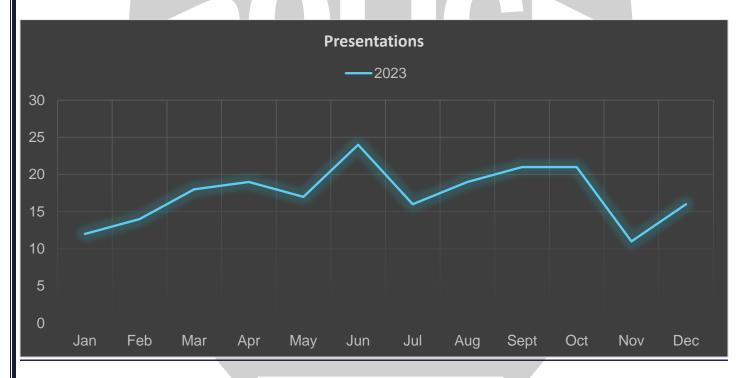
November 2023 to December 2023 Comparison



### **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.





Month to Month Comparison



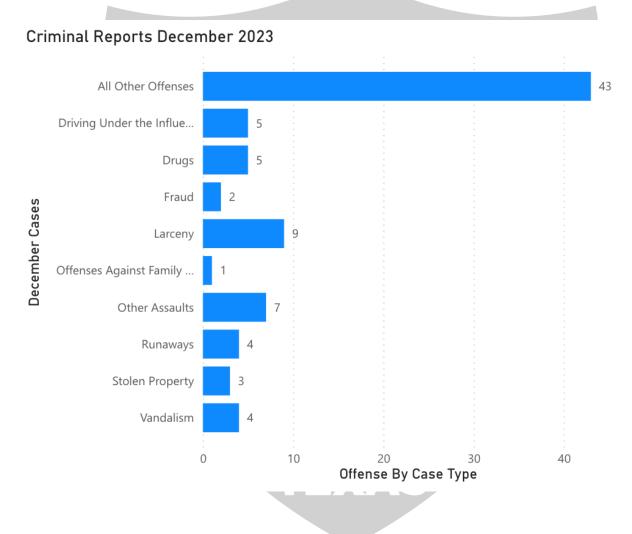
45.45 % Increase

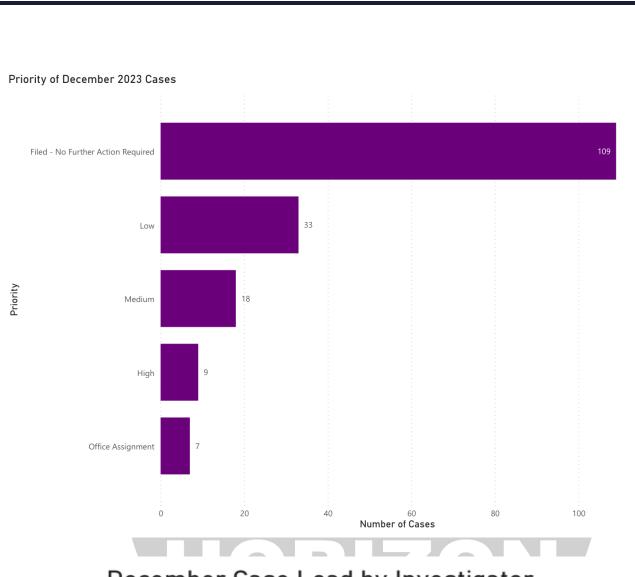
### **Criminal Investigations Division**

#### **Investigations**

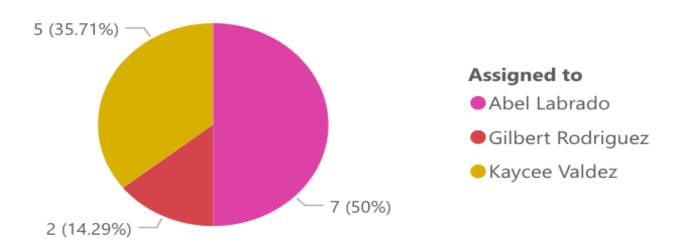
Lieutenant Kaycee Valdez oversees our Criminal Investigations Division, where a team of dedicated professionals is responsible for examining a broad array of criminal cases. This unit is comprised of three detectives who handle cases ranging from misdemeanors to more serious felony offenses.

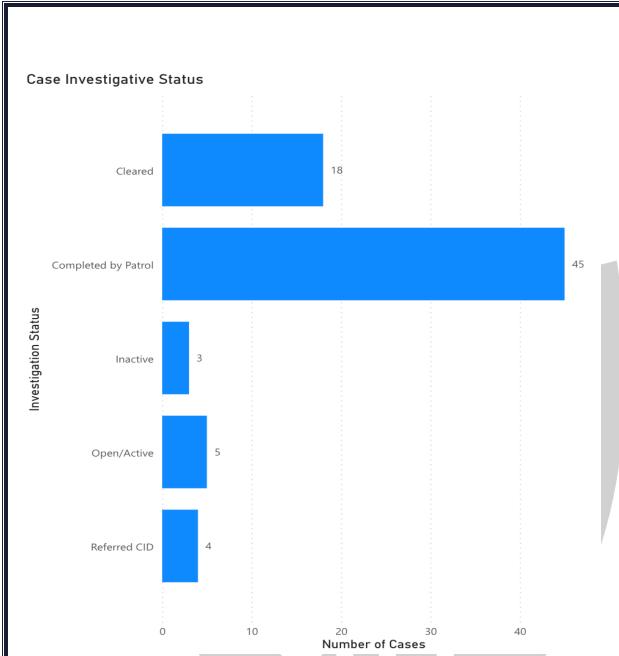
Their job involves digging into these cases, collecting evidence, and working closely with various partners to bring investigations to a conclusion. Lieutenant Valdez and her team are committed to upholding the law and ensuring the safety of our community through their hard work and dedication.





## December Case Load by Investigator





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

### Training attended in December 2023.

On November 27, 2023, Detective Rodriguez set out to complete a three-week specialized training on crisis intervention training. Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) is a specialized training program designed to educate law enforcement officers and other first responders on how to effectively handle situations involving individuals experiencing a mental health crisis. The goal of CIT is to improve the safety of all individuals involved, including the person in crisis, the responding officers, and the public. The three-week training concluded on December 15, 2023. With this specialized training, Detective Rodriguez can identify behavioral patterns and issues in individuals undergoing mental health crisis.

### **Traffic Division**

Officer Eric Delgadillo is entrusted with the responsibility of overseeing the meticulous enforcement of commercial vehicle regulations. His duties encompass the diligent inspection of commercial vehicles, where the spectrum of potential violations uncovered spans from minor administrative discrepancies, often referred to as "paper" infractions, to significantly more dangerous instances of negligence in maintaining essential vehicle safety equipment.

These critical equipment violations, if left unchecked, have the potential to culminate in catastrophic accidents, underscoring the essential role Officer Delgadillo plays in ensuring road safety and regulatory compliance within the commercial transportation sector.

Every detailed roadside inspection can take upwards of 2 hours to complete. During the month of December, Officer Eric Delgadillo conducted 7 inspections and discovered over 32 violations

COMMERCIAL VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT	Activity Summary
Commercial Vehicles Inspected	7
Commercial Vehicles Placed Out of Service	3
Citations Issued	32
Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Training (hrs.)	83
Criminal Cases Generated	2
Crash Reports Generated	2

### **Forensics Unit**

Bernadette Ortega is an outstanding asset to our team, serving as our Crime Scene and Evidence Lead. Her remarkable experience sets her among the top professionals in the state. Officer Abraham Diaz also works alongside her in the Crime Scene and Evidence department, contributing their skills to handle forensic evidence and conduct thorough crime scene investigations. Together, they uphold the highest standards of forensic work.

### **Forensic Unit Responsibilities**

Activity	#
Hours of in-service training	24.5
Hours of training given	2
Hours pieces of evidence were processed	5
Pieces of evidence were received	8
Pieces of evidence were released	0
Record requests were released	10
Latent Prints were collected at crime scenes	5
Latent Prints compared	4
Positive Latent Identifications	3
Latent Produced	0

Supplement Reports	24
I.D.'s was made	7
Walk ins for fingerprints	2
Field non-crime scene evidence related.	5
Field crime scene evidence requests	2
Walk-in Crime Scene Evidence Related	3
Redaction of Cases	5
Redaction Process hours	10
Redaction Videos Completed	2
Positive Latent Identifications	1
Photographs at Crime Scenes were taken	345

### **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.

He diligently manages the service of summonses, essential notices for individuals involved in cases with witnesses or juveniles, ensuring their accurate delivery to the intended recipients. Officer Diaz's dedicated efforts in these responsibilities underscore his commitment to enhancing community safety and maintaining the efficiency of law enforcement operations.

In addition to these duties, Officer Diaz oversees the execution of traffic warrants, the collection of bonds, and the apprehension of individuals required to appear in court. To uphold the optimal condition of our police vehicles, he routinely transports them to maintenance services. Officer Diaz's diligent work across these various responsibilities reflects his unwavering dedication to the well-being of our community and the smooth functioning of law enforcement activities.

### **Communications Section**

The Communications Section is overseen by the Communications Manager and is comprised of 3 Communications Shift Supervisors, and 13 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 10 Minutes	00:08:07	00:05:15	100%	90%
Priority 4-6 Pending to Arrival less than or equal to 34 Minutes:	00:11:10	00:06:26	100%	80%
Priority 7-9 Pending to Arrival less than or equal to 52 Minutes:	00:13:53	00:06:55	100%	70%

### **Horizon Police Calls for Service**

	Dispatched	Self-Initiated	Mobile Data Terminal Calls	Total
Horizon Police	1,499	495	320	2,314

### **ESD 1 Calls for Service**

	Alarm	Assist	Brush Fire		Water Gas Leaks	Medical	MVA	Structure Fires	Total
Horizon Fire	42	26	13	1	20	291	39	4	436

**ESD 2 Calls for Service** 

	Alarm	Assist	Brush Fire	Car Fire	Water/ Gas Leaks	Medical	MVA	Structure Fire	Total
Clint	1	1	2	1	2	56	8	1	72
Fabens	4	4	6	1	1	89	6	2	113
Montana Vista	3	6	15	1	4	78	14	5	126
San Elizario	3	4	6	1	6	96	9	2	127
Socorro	11	15	1	2	8	183	36	4	260
West Valley	8	3	4	1	13	118	17	2	166
Total	30	33	34	7	34	620	90	16	864



### **Departmental Significant and Notable Accomplishments:**

### Radio Upgrade Progress

The communications manager and shift supervisors attended the in house MCC7500 Motorola radio consolette training. During the training, the features the systems offers were demonstrated. The shift supervisors will be tasked to train their assigned shifts the new consolette system. The cutover to the new radio consolette system is projected for January 18,2024.



### Peer Network Training

Communications Specialist Irlanda Huerta, Adilene Rendon, Vincent Silva attended the Texas Law Enforcement Peer Network (TLEPN) Peer to Peer Training at the El Paso Sheriff's Office Region VII Training Academy. The TLEPN is a statewide program originally created to give Texas law enforcement officers access to trained peers to address stressors, trauma, fatigue and other needs to combat burnout and end police suicide and self-harm. The program accessible to correctional officers, first responders, and 911 communications personnel. During the training, participants trained and mentored to help fellow law enforcement to manage the stressors of life, on and off duty. Peers and in need can confidentially download a software application their smartphones to reach out for help.



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#### **Training and Certifications**



Communications Specialists Juan Carlos Gonzalez and Vincent Silva attended the two-week Basic Telecommunicator Course at the El Paso Regional Communications Center. The course is a requirement through Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) to become licensed.

#### **TAG Networking**



Chief Vargas, Assistant Chief Rico, Lieutenant Ortega, Lieutenant Valdez, Sergeant Rosas and Communications Manager Ramos had their weekly staff meeting at the Texas Anti-Gang Center to have their staff meeting. After the meeting, a tour was given of the center. The center hosts twenty-six law enforcement departments. There are currently nine Anti-Gang Centers in Texas.

### **Tree Lighting**

On Friday December 1, 2023, Community Relations Officer H. Sierra, Officer Diaz, and Lieutenant Valdez assisted the Centennial Lions Club in their annual Tree Lighting at the Desmond Corcoran Park.

The event was a 3-hour event in which officers assisted with the traffic control to ensure public safety. HCPD also interacted with the public during the performances of the schools and cheerleaders. The tree lighting has become a tradition in the city in which the Oz Glaze Senior Center opens its doors and offers free hot chocolate and pastries to the public and the lights to the tree. Floats that participate in the parade are also welcomed to display their creativity and could win a 1<sup>st</sup> place trophy after a brief float competition takes place. The lighting of the tree took place towards the end of the ceremony after children from Pete Duarte Head Start sang Christmas carols and the Cheer team's performance.



### **Christmas Parade**

On Saturday December 2, 2023, The Horizon City Police Department assisted the Centennial Lions Club Christmas Parade in providing traffic control and security for the 6-hour event. The planning was done with the assistance of Apache Barricades during the month of October and November as well as with the assistance of Public Works. El Paso County Sherrif's Office, Constable's Office from Precinct 4 and 6 also assisted HCPD with the coverage for that day. The traffic control began at 0700 hours and was kept in place until 1200 hours when the parade ended. Different assignments were provided to all officers throughout the route and all communications were handled through Channel 1. Horizon Fire Department also assisted with the parade by providing two rovers occupied by firefighters in case of an emergency. The Sheriff's Office also contributed by providing their SWAT Team to be on standby in

TEXAS

case any situation was to arise the parade. Apache Barricade was present to assist with any changes that needed to be made or any last-minute adjustments. During the parade, there were over 60 schools, clubs, businesses, and campaigns who participated in the 2.1-mile parade route. This has been the biggest turnout to date in both participants and attendees.





### **Good Will Boutique Grand Opening**

On Wednesday December 6, 2023, Community Relations Officer Sierra, and Chief Vargas joined the mayor and other city officials for the reopening of Good Will. The store would be reopened as the first of its kind in El Paso County as it would have a different look to it. The difference between the new boutique is that the main type of clothing and articles to be displayed would be of brand name and higher quality clothing. Those in attendance were welcomed with food, pastries, and coffee for them to enjoy before the start of the ceremony. During the ceremony, certificates of accomplishments were presented to the president and management members of Good Will by different city entities. After the cutting of the ribbon, CRO Sierra and Chief Vargas looked around the store and met with some of the people present. Officer Sierra was also asked for an interview by Channel 4 news about his opinion on the boutique. Officer Sierra stated it was a positive sign that Horizon City was chosen for the boutique from other surrounding areas and that he hoped more businesses would come to the city. Officer Sierra also met up with the staff from Good Will to address any concerns or questions they might have. He also informed them of the officers and business checks, where to call if they had anything to report, and other information from the department that could assist them. Officer Sierra ended up making a purchase to support the grand opening of the store as an end to the event.





### **Meeting Codes on Canvas**

On Wednesday December 6, 2023, Officer Sierra met with Taneisha, the owner of Codes on Canvas, who he had spoken a few days prior about her business and plans on having a Holiday Stem Festival for kids. A stem festival is where kids are encouraged to engage in small projects, participate in face painting, and learn about science with the involvement of a movie. Codes on Canvas is a business out of New York that helps businesses create websites for companies and is new in El Paso. Taneisha expressed how she wants to have more activities in Horizon City and keep the community engaged. Taneisha let Officer Sierra know she wanted to see how she could reach out to the community, and Officer Sierra suggested they make a video promoting the event. Officer Sierra met Ashley, the



company's public relations coordinator and they both recorded a video where details on the event were provided. They provided dates, times, activities, location, and prices for the event. Codes on Canvas also provided 15 tickets that were donated for the department to raffle for the public. Officer Sierra created a Facebook post with the video for the stem festival and let viewers know how they could obtain a free ticket as well. The raffle was conducted on



Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> and both Officer Sierra and Officer V. Hernandez did a Facebook Live to call out the winners.

### **Texas Law Enforcement Peer Network**

On Thursday December 8 and Friday December 9, 2023, Chief of Police M. Vargas, Community Relations Officer H. Sierra, Sex Offender Registry and Tracking Officer V. Hernandez and Communication Specialists A. Rendon, V. Silva, and I. Heredia attended the Peer-to-Peer training at El Paso County Sheriff's Office. Officers and dispatchers were able to gain more knowledge regarding extra but limited resources that are available for all first responders when they are in a time of need. We are at a point where some first responders seek help that's needed for them, but there are those first responders that need the help, want the help, but refuse to seek help. Going through the two-day training, Officers and dispatchers learned about the extra resource that first responders can be provided with, which is the Greenlight Balance application that can be downloaded on Iphone's and Androids. The Greenlight Balance application consists of active first responders volunteering their time to answer phone calls from other first responders that are considering or have considered TEXAS LAW ENFORCEMENT suicide but want to seek help or they simply want to have somebody to listen PEER NETWORK to them. Officers and dispatchers downloaded the Greenlight Balance CPLINE application and have control to make themselves available/unavailable to take

these type of phone calls from other first responders hoping to have a positive outcome.

### **DLC Welding Toy Donation**

On Saturday December 9, 2023, Officer Sierra met with Daniel De la Cruz for a donation from him and his company DLC.welding to help with the toy drive and winter drive the department put together. The donation was \$1000, and the purchase was going to take place at the Walmart in Horizon City. Daniel explained he is a local El Pasoan who takes pride in his city and the unity it upholds when it's needed. Although his company is out of Sunland Park, New Mexico, Daniel expressed he still wanted to help those that may not have as much. Mr. De la Cruz and Officer Sierra got together and shopped for toys and winter clothes for almost 2 hours. They picked toys that ranged in ages and that were for both boys and girls. The toys varied from, Nerf guns, puzzles, dolls, toy cars, card games amongst other

items that could entertain the children at the hospital. They also shopped for blankets, art items, puzzles, winter gloves, scarfs,

and other winter clothes. Those were going to be to the St. Giles Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. This was the second donation of particular outreach



items taken



\$1000 given to the department for this program.

### **Holiday Stem Festival**

On Sunday December 10 and 17, Officer Sierra and Officer Hernandez met with Taneisha and her staff to assist in setting up and carrying out the holiday stem festival. On the 10<sup>th</sup>, Officer Sierra inflated balloons with Sargeant Rosas and Corporal Vasquez. While they helped the staff set up, they also talked about the department and its opportunities to those that were interested. One of the people they spoke with is a military veteran who was exploring the possibility of joining law enforcement and stated he would look further into HCPD. On the 17<sup>th</sup>, Officer Sierra and Hernandez welcomes children and their families to the event and helped conduct the experiments during some of the sessions. Each session was approximately an hour and consisted of about 5 kids. Officer Sierra demonstrated the



chemical reaction between baking soda and vinegar. He let the kids do the measuring, adding the food coloring and add the vinegar to the baking soda to see the reaction.
Officers Hernandez and Hernandez helped Codes on Canvas for approximately



three hours. Taneisha spoke with Officer Sierra about being able to partner up with Horizon City Police Department in the future and bring other events during other holidays.

### **Toy Delivery at CASFV**

On Tuesday December 12, Officer Sierra, Officer Hernandez, and Lieutenant Ortega delivered over 100 toys to the Center Against Sexual and Family Violence located at 580 Giles Rd., El Paso, Texas 79915. This was done with the purpose of bringing some help to the women and children from the advocacy

center as they often suffer from situations that make the holidays hard to go through. They met with multiple members from CASF and were given a tour of their building. They were shown the areas in which they offer classes to women so they can receive their GED. They explained how the center itself lends the women clothes to go to job interviews if they don't have something professional to wear and prepare them for interviews if needed. The center also provides counseling for the victims and offers childcare services for the women to be able to attend school and/or work. Terry Chavira, the center's director expressed gratitude and let the officers in attendance know that any help throughout the year goes a long way to those that depend on the facility. Officer Sierra will look for donations in the upcoming months to bring CASFV some assistance.



### **Walmart Donation**

On Wednesday December 13, 2023, Officer Sierra met with the manager from Walmart in Dyer, Sonya Dominguez for a monetary donation for the St. Giles Winter Drive. The donation was of \$100 and was to be used at the store to buy winter items for the nursing home. During this time, Officer Sierra and Ms. Dominguez bought winter items such as slippers, pajama pants, winter gloves etc. for the residents at St. Giles. They also focused on choosing artistic items that could be easy to use for people with osteoporosis, arthritis, diminished sight and issues with memory. These items were ergonomic large crayons, large print crossword puzzles, large picture coloring books and watercolors with larger brushes for the to paint canvases. Ms. Dominguez and Officer Sierra spoke about upcoming events such as Easter in which donations are needed for the Horizon Police Department Easter Egg Hunt.



### **Summit Lunch**

On Thursday December 14, 2023, Officer Sierra and Chief Vargas met up with the CEO and manager of Summit Plastic Molding in Horizon City. CEO Ray Kalinowski and Manager Andy Pasillas were part of the group that wanted to meet up with HCPD. Other acquaintances had joined the lunch to also catch up with the business and get to know the Chief of Police. The lunch was organized at Black Bear Diner, located at 1295 Horizon Boulevard, El Paso, Texas 79927. During the lunch, Chief Vargas introduced himself and gave a description of his prior experience with the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. He also spoke about his goals with the department and where he envisions the police department in the near future. Officer Sierra gave a description of his duties and commitment to the community as well as his goals with the police department. Mr. Kalinowski spoke about the beginning of his company and the city's growth in the past 20 plus years. He stated he has seen the department grow in both numbers, functionality, and the changes he's since seen with different police chiefs throughout the years. Mr. Kalinowski stated he would buy lunch for the police department and emergency communications department within the next couple of weeks as a sign of appreciation towards their service.



### **Youth Corps Program Christmas Party**

On Thursday, December 14, 2023, Horizon City Police Department Youth Corps Program hosted their first Christmas Party at the Oz Glaze Senior Center to celebrate the holidays and a successful year of new experiences and teamwork. Every young adult that is part of the Youth Corps Program took it upon themselves to bring a dish to share with the rest of the group to enjoy. After dinner, these young adults gathered along with their family members and friends to play multiple games. Multiple members of the Youth Corps Program were also recognized for their dedication and hard work throughout their time in this program. Multiple gift cards were donated with an estimate of over \$150.00 that these corp. members were able to win and or receive. The goal for Horizon City Police Department Youth Corps Program is to continue providing first-hand experiences and insight to these young adults regarding the objectives law enforcement agencies thrive for.





### **Toy Donation for El Paso Gold Out**

On Sunday December 17, 2023, Community Relations Officer H. Sierra, Detective Labrado, Town of Horizon City Mayor A. Renteria and Sex Offender Registry and Tracking Officer V. Hernandez along with Ensor Middle School Student Council, visited Gold Out El Paso's staff and patients to deliver all community toy donations. John O. Ensor Middle School, Horizon City Walmart Supercenter and our own Horizon City Police Association assisted with this event and donated over \$1,800 of toys for this great cause. Gold Out El Paso is a pediatric oncology organization, and all toy donations were distributed to children who are currently undergoing cancer treatment and their siblings for Christmas. The goal was to hopefully spread some holiday spirit to all families and put a big smile on every single kid as they received a Christmas gift. Hundreds of toys were delivered as children and their families enjoyed family time at their Christmas Party as well as officers being treated to delicious tacos and a dessert table. Ensor Middle School Student Council staff, HCPD Officers also enjoyed taking photos with the Grinch and Cindy Lou after Christmas gifts were being given to all children that was present.





### **Sex Offender Registry and Tracking Operation**

On Monday December 18, and Tuesday, December 19, 2023, Community Relations Officer H. Sierra and Sex Offender Registry and Tracking Officer V. Hernandez from Horizon City Police Department formed part of an operation regarding Registered Sex Offenders Verification Checks throughout Horizon City. Both officers conducted all verification checks throughout Horizon City. On Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, officers began conducting verification checks on the south side of Horizon City and conducted a total of 10 follow- ups. On Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, Officers began with the north side of Horizon City and were able to conduct 12 follow ups. A total of 22 follow-ups were conducted throughout the city to which officers were able to get in contact with some of the registered sex offenders but not all. The goal is to conduct these follow ups twice a year to keep track and monitor registered sex offenders within our jurisdiction to improve the safety of our children and community as well as becoming successful in reducing recidivism.



#### **Winter Drive**

On Wednesday December 20, 2023, Officer Sierra delivered the donations the department had gathered throughout the month of November and December. This was planned by the nursing home's director at the beginning of November in an effort to get their residents some Christmas gifts. She had explained that the residents sometimes didn't have visitors for Christmas and little to nothing for Christmas. Officer Sierra agreed for the department to create a donation event where they could help out the 100 residents at St. Giles Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. This consisted of creating a Facebook post, reaching out to community partners, and businesses out of jurisdiction to make the necessary donations happen. Businesses such as Walmart from Horizon and Dyer helped as well as businesses like Arleen Beard's State Farm Insurance Agency and DLC.Welding. Socorro Police Department also assisted in gathering donations for HCPD. They also received donations from residents within the jurisdiction and overall reached over \$1000 in donations. Officer Sierra and Officer

Hernandez had also taken the time in separating the clothes and items into different categories. They were divided into men, women, neutral gender,

art, puzzles, and games so it was easier to distribute amongst residents. At the time of the donation, the residents were waiting in the cafeteria with staff and some family members. Officer Sierra and his wife were invited to hand out gifts, enjoy Champurrado, Bunuelos and tamales. Once all the items were handed out,



the staff and Officer Sierra took some pictures and finished off by presenting Officer Sierra with a gift basket as "thank you" from the staff.

### **PIO Lunch**

On Thursday December 21, 2023, Officer Sierra met with the Public Information Officers in the El Paso



County at Carlos & Mickey's Mexican
Restaurant at 1310 Magruder. The purpose of the lunch was for PIOs to see what worked throughout the year, how they can improve communications, and see how they can continue working together in the upcoming year. The PIOs present were from EPCSO, EPPD, DEA, FBI, DPS and HCPD. New PIOs were introduced to the rest of the group and added to the PIO group chat which is used for information on arising situations throughout the city. Information reference active shooter



alerts, bomb threats, barricaded subjects, US/MX border info, is communicated, and verified to ensure all agencies are aware of what's going on within the city as well as its credibility. This has helped coordinate communication with news media outlets in the past and see whether it's credibility is verified to prevent misinformation to be given. At the lunch, they discussed these topics, and what's going on within their agencies and what can be expected for upcoming dates. At the end of the lunch, they had a White Elephant Gift exchange and group picture.

### **Coffee with a Cop**

On Saturday December 30, 2023, Horizon City Police Department hosted its last Coffee with a Cop of the year at Amber's Coffee Bar located at 14026 Horizon Boulevard. The event was initially put on Facebook for its followers to decide which day they wanted it to happen on. The date chosen was Saturday Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-1:00pm. Outside agencies were also invited to join the last Coffee with a Cop. Horizon Fire Department, EPCSO, and El Paso County Commissioner Iliana Holguin were also present. Officer Sierra was able to meet with residents that were new to the area and new to Coffee with a Cop and introduce himself as well as some of the other officers in the department. Mayor Any Renteria was also present and was able to meet with those that attended to answer any questions or concerns they might have in regard to the city. Officer Sierra met with the CRO from the Sheriffs Officer and exchange information to maintain communication with the hopes that they could work together for upcoming events. Officer Sierra recorded a video with the owner of the local coffee shop and her staff wishing everyone a safe and happy new year that was later posted on the police department's Facebook page. This event aims to include the public and residents from Horizon City and its officers to strengthen their communication and show its transparency with the public. All those that attend are treated to pastries and coffee that are paid for by the police department to encourage people to attend. Approximately 20-30 people showed up during the entirety of the event at Amber's Coffee. The next Coffee with a Cop will be held the last week of January.





### Officer and Staff Recognition:

**Irlanda Huerta** was nominated again for being a hard worker, team player, and always willing to help with shift coverage, overtime and her co-workers. In addition, **Julie Nava** was also nominated for being a great asset to our team. She arrives at work on time and does not call off.

Four of our officers attended basic detective school. During this intense 5-day course, our officers refreshed on TX Criminal Code of Procedure, learned how to create search warrants, and learned advanced crime scene management. Two of the officers are currently assigned to the criminal investigative division, one officer is assigned to patrol division, and the fourth is assigned to specialized traffic enforcement. The latter mentioned two officers both serve in our department's elite specialized traffic collision investigative unit. Officer Vivian Lujan, Officer Nicholas Ortega, Detective Jaime Crespo and Lieutenant Kaycee Valdez attended this course.

On December 15, 2023, **Detective Abel Labrado** located a recreational vehicle which had been reported stolen during the earlier summer months. The RV was in the City of Socorro, TX and was returned to its rightful owner. Detectives learned that the vehicle was in the possession of a person who claimed to have received it in exchange for labor from a third party. Outstanding work by Detective Labrado.

Four officers successfully completed the CIT training. This training consisted of a three-week intense training that trained officers how to escalate people that are going through a Crisis and some of them might be experiencing some sort of medical issues. Not only is it taught training but also included hands on, officers doing scenarios simulating different types of crisis and them being able to defuse the situation. The following officers attended. Corporal Cameron Zeiger, Corporal Bryan Avitia, Detective Gilbert Rodriguez, and Officer Bruce Campbell

