

# Hedwig Village Police Department



Annual Report 2018  
Chief David A. Gott



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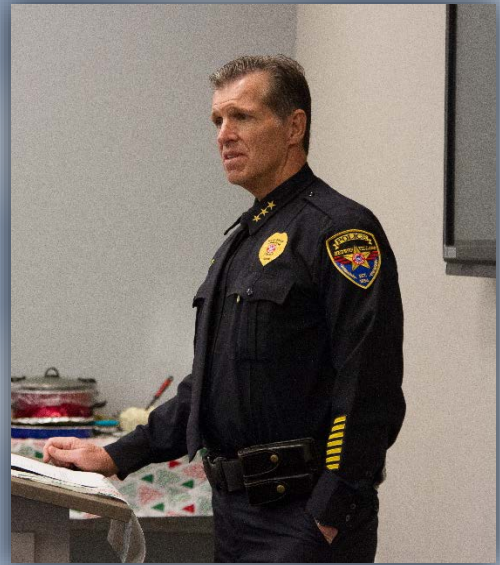
I am proud to share this 2018 Annual Report with the citizens of Hedwig Village to showcase the outstanding efforts put forth by our employees to keep this city a safe place to live, work, shop and raise a family.

2018 saw an incredible 26% decrease in crime. It's truly remarkable considering the very, very low crime rate we always have. This is a true testament to the dedication of our officers and the great community partnership we enjoy in Hedwig Village.

The police department went through an extensive audit in late 2018 by the Texas Police Chief's Association (TPCA). After the audit, the results were reviewed by the TPCA Best Practices Recognition Program Committee and by unanimous vote the department was awarded Recognized Status for the third time. This is an incredible achievement for the police department and should assure our residents that we are among the best police departments in the state of Texas.

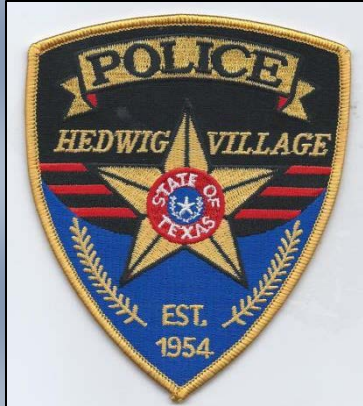
2018 also saw the retirement of 30-year Hedwig Village Senior Police Officer Keith Britt. However, Keith didn't go far as his retirement job is as a Spring Branch ISD police officer at Memorial High School. I certainly appreciate his service to the city of Hedwig Village and wish him well.

Always remember, your police department is here for you, be aware of your surroundings and never hesitate to call if anything seems wrong or out of place. In the event you want to commend the actions of a specific police department employee or have any questions or concerns you can contact me personally by calling the department at (713) 461-4797, or by e-mail at [dgott@hedwigtx.gov](mailto:dgott@hedwigtx.gov)



David A. Gott  
Chief of Police





## Mission

The department's mission statement articulates the reason for our existence as an organization. It serves as a continual reminder of the goals we strive to achieve and of the basic framework in which we operate to achieve those goals.

It is the mission of the Hedwig Village Police Department to provide a quality environment for our residents, business people and guests by preventing crime, maintaining the social order and reducing the fear of personal victimization. This mission is realized as we impartially, yet aggressively, uphold federal, state and local laws, conscientiously deliver professional police service and respect the individual rights of those we encounter.

## Values

The values of the Hedwig Village Police Department provide substance to those attitudes and beliefs that we adhere to as fundamental to policing. They are as follows.

**To Protect.** We believe we have an obligation to the citizens and business people living and working within Hedwig Village to protect life and property whenever and wherever either is threatened.

**To Serve.** We will strive to improve the quality of community life through the provision of superior and equitable services. We recognize that quality service goes beyond law enforcement and involves those legitimate service activities deemed important by the community. We understand that a reputation for quality service is

built one police-community interaction at a time and we will endeavor to ensure each interaction adds to our reputation as a service organization.

***To Model Integrity.*** We recognize that authority has been entrusted to us for the common good and believe that police officers must be people of integrity if we are to responsibly handle that authority. We define integrity as that quality which requires us to carefully evaluate each situation, make a valid legal, moral and ethical decision based upon the circumstances of that situation, and carry out the action required by that decision even when it is not convenient or popular to do so. We believe that people of integrity act in the described manner even when failure to do so would go unnoticed. We believe that police officers with integrity adhere to this philosophy in their private lives as well.

***To Demonstrate Professionalism.*** We realize the general public has certain expectations regarding the manner in which police officers conduct themselves. Our demeanor when handling various situations, an attitude of impartiality, and the level of responsibility we exhibit when exercising authority are illustrations of the areas in which the public holds expectations. In the aggregate, the expectations the public has of us and our ability to meet those expectations, defines our level of professionalism. We believe that we have a responsibility to act professionally in all of our encounters with the public and with each other as well. We hold that professionalism extends beyond our regular tour of duty and is, in reality, a way of life.

# Hedwig Village

According to local historian Thomas Roth, the Memorial Villages derived from land grants given to John Taylor and Isaac Bunker for their service during the Texas War of Independence from Mexico. Over the years, they sold parts of their land and the area was settled. In the early years, the area contained mostly farms, but there were also sawmills and lumberyards due to the area being heavily wooded.

In 1954, a group of citizens, intent on instituting zoning and resisting being annexed by Houston, incorporated the Memorial Villages and the city of Hedwig Village was born. The city is named after Hedwig Road, which was named after Hedwig Jankowski Schroeder, a landowner who emigrated from Germany.

Before the incorporation, the Harris County Sheriff's Office policed the area. After incorporating, the villages appointed one paid marshal and had several volunteers patrolling in their own cars. In 1958, Hedwig Village voted to join with other area cities to form a joint police department. As time passed, the citizens of Hedwig Village realized that in order to meet the unique policing challenges of its community, they would need to form their own police department, and, in December of 1976, the Hedwig Village Police Department was created. The original department consisted of one police chief and eight police officers. The first chief was James H. 'Jimmy' Jones, a retired Houston Police Officer.

Today, Hedwig Village is a dynamic city with approximately 2500 residents, over 500 businesses and a day-time population of around 30,000 people. The police department has become a fully functional modern department with 24 full-time employees.



Swearing in of the original chief and eight officers.



# City Government



Barry Putterman  
Council Member, Position 1



Brian T. Muecke  
Mayor



Dane Johnson  
Council Member, Position 2



Harry Folloder  
Council Member, Position 3



Matt Woodruff  
Council Member, Position 4



Shirley Rouse  
Council Member, Position 5

# City Hall Staff



Kelly Johnson  
City Administrator



Lisa Modisette  
Asst. City Secretary



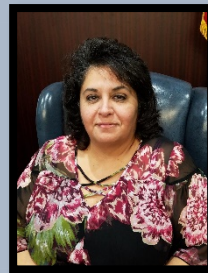
Terry Vick  
Maintenance Supervisor



Diana Ruiz  
Court Clerk



Angie Ventura  
Permit Clerk



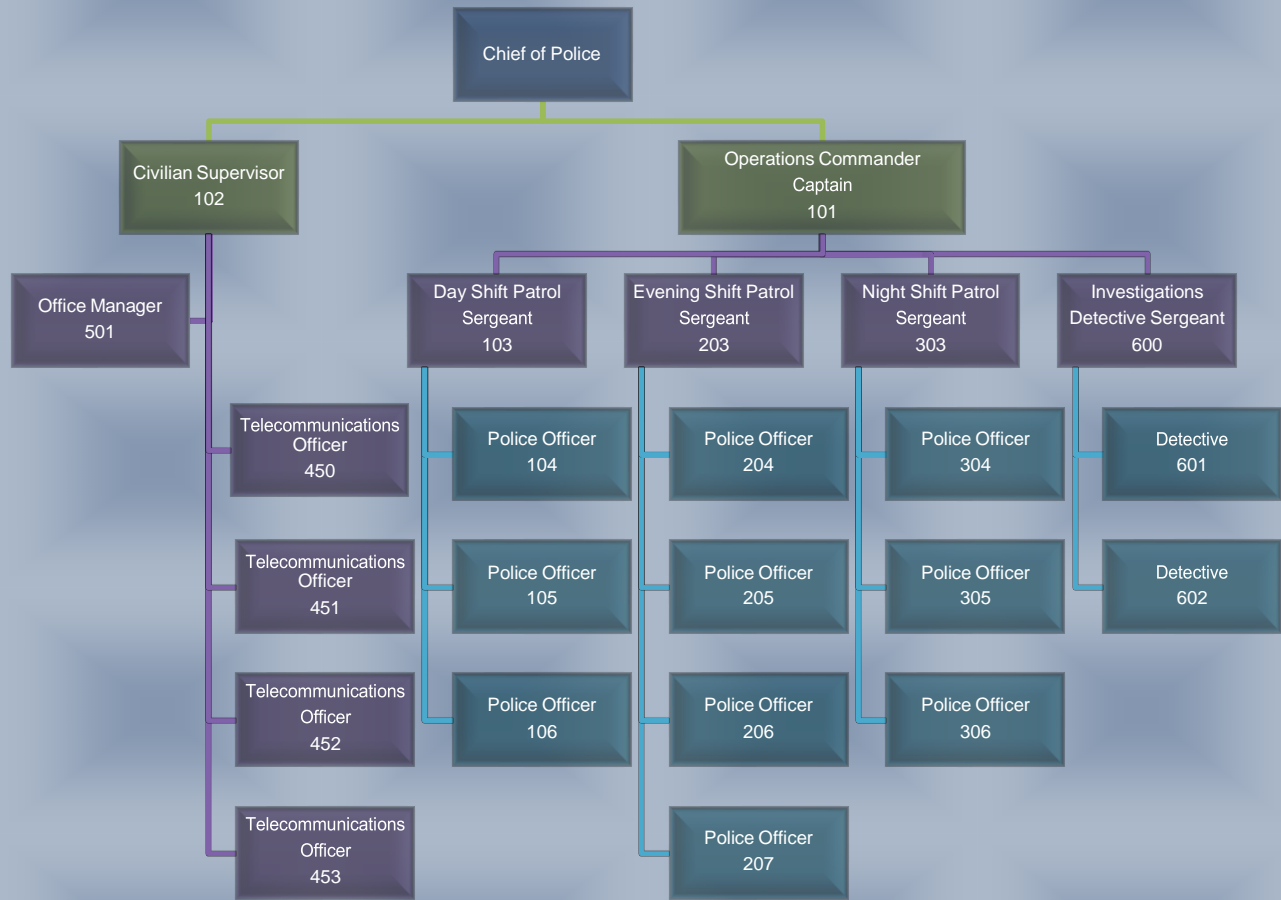
Yolanda Lopez  
Accounting Clerk



Kevin Taylor  
Building Official



# Hedwig Village Police Department Organizational Chart





Chief David A. Gott



Captain Paul Warner



Civilian Supervisor  
Amanda Winter



Sergeant  
Darryl Kessner



Sergeant  
William Wright



Sergeant  
Steve Sanford



Detective Sergeant  
Marvin Collins



Senior Officer  
Art Zambada



Senior Officer  
Darrell Owens



Senior Officer  
Steve Packard



Detective  
Terry Wu



Detective  
Shane Roye



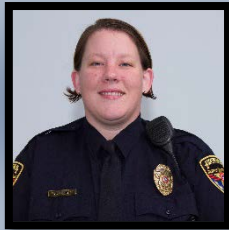
Officer  
Rey Garza



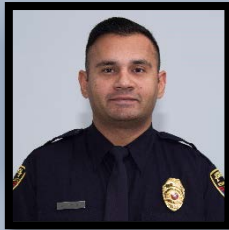
Officer  
Frank Schulgen



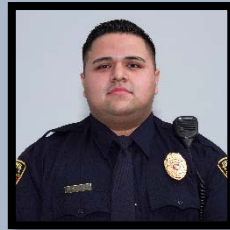
Officer  
Richard Hernandez



Officer  
Julie Buhs



Officer  
Shazad Khan



Officer  
Wences Candido



Office Manager  
Cynthia Lisella



Telecommunicator  
Karen Paredes



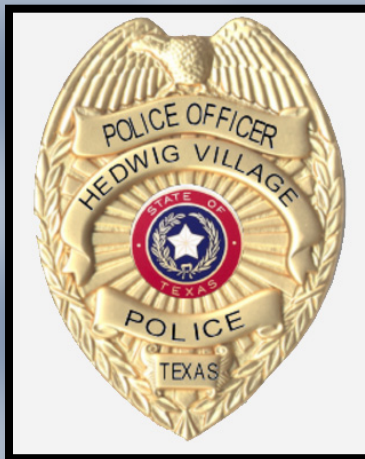
Telecommunicator  
Mark Payne



Telecommunicator  
Charles Vyles



Telecommunicator  
Cindy Holdaway







### Texas Law Enforcement Recognition Program

The Texas Law Enforcement Recognition Program is a voluntary process where police agencies in Texas prove their compliance with 166 Texas Law Enforcement Best Practices. These Best Practices were developed by Texas Law Enforcement professionals to assist agencies in the efficient and effective delivery of service, the reduction of risk and the protection of individual's rights. These Best Practices cover all aspects of law enforcement operations, including use of force, protection of citizen rights, vehicle pursuits, property and evidence management, and patrol and investigative operations.

The Hedwig Village Police Department became a recognized agency in 2010. The recognized status is good for a four-year period, so in 2014 and again in 2018, the department completed another full and rigorous examination by the Texas Police Chief's Association and was re-recognized. Being recognized is the gold standard for Texas law enforcement and should assure the citizens of Hedwig Village that its Police Department is conforming to the current state of the art in law enforcement.

More information and a complete description of the program may be viewed by going to the Texas Police Chiefs Association website at <http://www.texaspolicechiefs.org>



## Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program was conceived in 1929 by the International Association of Chiefs of Police to meet the need for reliable uniform crime statistics for the nation. The Hedwig Village Police Department reports crime numbers to UCR once each month. The below is a compilation of our UCR Part 1 crimes for the past five years.

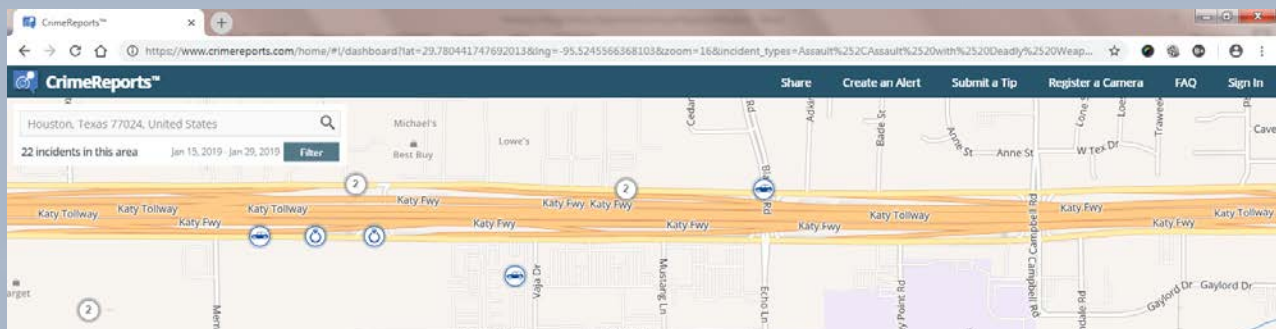
Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Murder	1	0	0	1	0
Rape	1	0	0	0	0
Robbery	8	5	3	4	1
Aggravated Assault	1	0	0	1	5
Burglary	19	23	13	7	7
Larceny	176	161	165	179	125
Auto Theft	8	8	4	6	8
Total	214	197	185	198	146

## E-Notification

E-notification is an avenue for the city and the police department to communicate valuable information to our residents. Once registered, residents will receive emails concerning crime in the city and city happenings. Your email will never be sold, given to any outside entity or used for any advertisements. It is easy to register for and easy to cancel if you no longer wish to receive the emails. Just click on 'e-notification signup' on the home page of the city web site at [www.Hedwigtx.gov](http://www.Hedwigtx.gov). As part of our continued effort to keep our residents informed and protected, the police department strongly recommends all residents sign up for e-notification.

## Crime Mapping

Your police department has partnered with crimereports.com to provide a free to use on-line crime mapping program. This helps us keep you informed about recent criminal activity in our city. By accessing the link below, users can see a visual representation of crime sorted by zip code, address, street and/or city. Over 800 law enforcement agencies nationwide, including the Houston Police Department and the Harris County Sheriff's Office, utilize this service to keep their citizens informed. To access this service go to [www.crimereports.com](http://www.crimereports.com).



## Arrests and Citations

The Hedwig Village Police Department aggressively targets, arrests and cites those who commit criminal violations in our city. Below is a compilation of our arrest and citation numbers for the past four years.

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018
Citations	4438	4025	3531	4102
Arrests	247	392	505	547

The 547 persons, 419 males and 128 females, arrested were charged with 614 separate offenses, to include:

Assault	6
Assault on a Police Officer	1
Burglary of a Motor Vehicle	1
Credit Card Abuse	2
Criminal Trespass	1
Disorderly Conduct (Urinating in Public)	1
Driving While Intoxicated	51
Drug Test Falsification Device	1
Evading Arrest in a Motor Vehicle	7
Failure to Identify (Fugitive)	9
Failure to Stop and Give Information (Motor Vehicle Crash)	2
Fictitious Driver's License	1
Fictitious License Plate	2
Forgery	3
Fraudulent Use or Possession of Identifying Information	3
Impeding Traffic	1
Interfering with Public Duties	2
Minor in Possession of Alcohol	1
No Driver's License/Invalid Driver's License	52
Outstanding Warrant	275
Possession of a Controlled Substance	61
Possession of a Controlled Substance w/Intent to Deliver	3
Possession of a Dangerous Drug	4
Possession of a Prohibited Weapon	1
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	20
Possession of Marijuana	27
Public Intoxication	29
Resisting Arrest	1
Solicitation without a Permit	1
Tampering with a Government Document/Evidence	3
Theft	17
Traffic	1
Unlawful Carrying of a Weapon	23
Violation of a Protective Order	1



## Calls for Service

This table reflects the calls for police service handled by the department. Code 1 calls assume that a serious threat to life or serious bodily injury is in progress. Code 1 calls are dispatched immediately and the response will normally be with emergency lights and siren activated. Code 2 calls assume a crime against property or a conflict between parties that could reasonably result in bodily injury to any person is in progress. A call for service may also be categorized as Code 2 if it is not in progress, but a response is urgent (i.e. burglar alarm, disturbance). Most calls are handled as a Code 3, which assumes no known emergency exists, such as a report call.

**The house watches and business checks** are outstanding programs that the department offers. The house watch is initiated by a resident, normally when the resident will be away from the home for a period of days, such as out of town on vacation. Once initiated, a police officer will physically go to the house several times each day, on all shifts, and check the perimeter of the house. Most business checks are conducted at night when the businesses are closed. This program is intended to prevent burglaries and vandalism.

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018
Code 1 Calls	27	20	37	46
Code 2 Calls	530	372	320	375
Code 3 Calls	2597	3012	3780	4658
House Watches	7981	6507	6873	5850
Business Checks	6815	5382	4617	3350
Officer Initiated	1078	771	730	532

## Criminal Investigations Unit

The Hedwig Village Police Department Criminal Investigations Unit consists of one detective-sergeant and two detectives. The detective-sergeant, Marvin Collins, supervises the unit and conducts follow-up investigations. One of the detectives, Terry Wu, conducts follow-up investigations and the other, Shane Roye, is a uniformed street detective. The unit also maintains our web site, processes evidence, conducts training and handles many other duties. The table below reflects the investigations conducted by the unit.

Year	2017	2018
Cases Assigned	745	662
Cases Cleared	438	411
Cases found to be Unfounded (offense did not occur, incorrect title)	93	92
Cases Suspended (no further workable leads)	198	150

Detective Roye proactively targets criminal activity within the city and was responsible for the following arrests:

Year	2017	2018
Felony Arrests	76	25
Misdemeanor Arrests	87	33
Referrals to the Misdemeanor Marijuana Diversion Program	27	29
Citations	287	1045

## Internal Affairs

The Internal Affairs process is meant to protect the integrity of the police department. We conduct a full and impartial investigation into every complaint against any of our employees and hold them accountable if we determine they fell short of our expectations. Each investigation will receive one of the below dispositions:

- a. *Unfounded.* The allegation is proven to be false or not factual.
- b. *Exonerated.* The incident occurred but was lawful and within departmental policy.
- c. *Not Sustained.* The investigation revealed insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegation.
- d. *Sustained.* Allegations are proved to be true based upon a preponderance of the evidence.

In 2018, we completed two formal investigations as follows:

Control number	Date of Incident	Allegation	Disposition
18-001	05/28/2018	Improper Procedure	Sustained
18-004	10/27/2018	Respect for Others	Sustained

## Vehicle Pursuits

The police department conducts an audit of all vehicle pursuits to ensure our policies are being followed and that our policies match current best practices. In 2018, our officers were involved in 6 vehicle pursuits as follows:

Offense Number	Date	Reason Initiated	Arrest Made	Charges
201800953	01/20/2018	Traffic Violation	Yes	Evading Arrest
201801622	02/02/2018	Traffic Violation	Yes	Evading Arrest, Unlawful Carrying a Weapon
201802672	02/22/2018	Forgery Suspect	Yes	Evading Arrest, Credit Card Abuse
201803443	03/11/2018	Traffic Violation	Yes	Evading Arrest
201803685	03/16/2018	Street Racers	Yes	Evading Arrest
201806132	05/15/2018	Traffic Violation	Yes	Evading Arrest

## CJIS Audit

The Texas Department of Public Safety conducted an audit of the department's Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) in 2018. This audit ensured the department was operating our criminal computer system within established guidelines.



## Houston Area Police Chief's Association



The Houston Area Police Chief's Association was formed in 1988 and represents Chiefs, Sheriffs, Command Staff and line officers of local City, County, State, Federal, College/University, Transit, Medical Center, School Districts and special law enforcement agencies from the Houston Metropolitan area.

Our Police Chief, David Gott, was honored to be selected and serve as the President of the Association for 2018.



## Open House

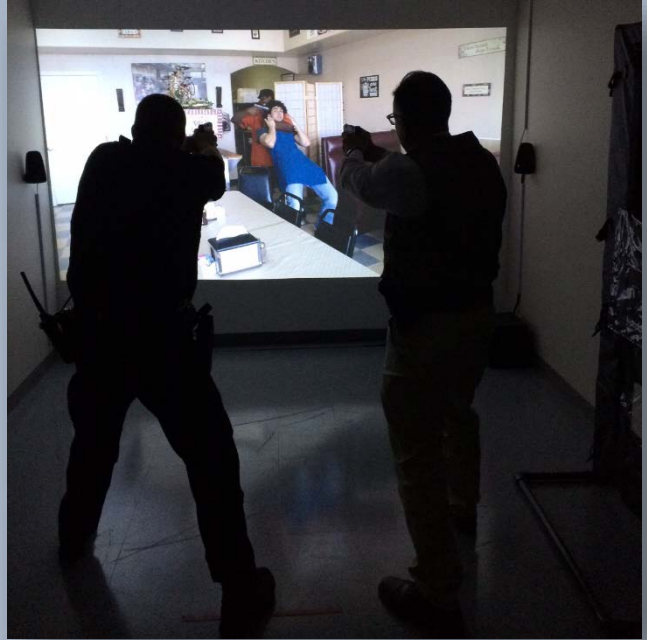
On November 13, 2018, we held our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Open House at the Police Station. It was a great success with many of our residents coming by to take a tour and visit.





## Firearm Training Simulator

Our officers must make split-second decisions when responding to life and death situations. Making those critical decisions got a little easier thanks to the new Firearm Training Simulator the department obtained in 2018. This simulator, which is operable 24-hours a day, allows our officers to train in a realistic environment. The system offers hundreds of scenarios ranging from traffic stops to active shooters in schools and churches. There are also many shoot/don't shoot drills and marksmanship courses.



We also have the ability, on a limited basis, to allow our residents to take a turn on the simulator. If you are a resident of Hedwig Village and would like to experience what it feels like to walk in the shoes of

a police officer please contact Captain Paul Warner at (713) 461-4797 for an appointment.

## Body Cameras

In our continued effort to maintain transparency and professionalism, we deployed body worn cameras in early 2018. Another benefit of these cameras has been the ability to capture the incredible job our officers do on a daily basis.



## New Officers

We welcomed two new officers in 2018. Officers Shahzad Khan and Wenceslao Candido were sworn in on November 27, 2018.



Officer Khan's wife pinned on his badge.



Officer Candido's badge was pinned on by his mother.

## Awards

On December 6, 2018, several members of the department were honored for their outstanding service as follows:

**Service awards** are given for every five years of service to honor the employee's dedication and commitment to the city of Hedwig Village. This year **Detective Terry Wu** was honored for **5 years of service**.





**Major Awards** are given to employees who distinguish themselves by going above and beyond the call of duty. This year we honored the following four employees for their outstanding contribution to the mission of the police department:



**Sergeant Steve Sanford** received the **Guardian of the Year Award**. This award emphasizes the importance of our house watch and business check programs. Sergeant Sanford led the department in the number of house watches and business checks performed and is a true guardian.

For the second year in a row, the **Crime Fighter of the Year Award** was presented to **Officer Julie Buhs**. Julie had 121 arrests and issued 693 citations and 782 warnings in 2018.

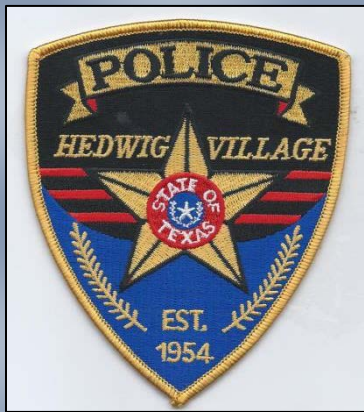


The **Telecommunicator of the Year Award** was presented to **Charles Vyles**. Charlie does an outstanding job as our day shift dispatcher. He also keeps us in compliance with the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) and, in 2018, the department passed an extensive CJIS audit.

**Civilian Supervisor Amanda Winter** was named our **Most Valuable Employee**. Amanda is responsible for our telecommunication center, budget and most of the department's administrative duties. She also has the awesome responsibility of being our project manager for the Texas Police Chief's Association Best Practices Recognition Program.







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