

Hedwig Village Police Department



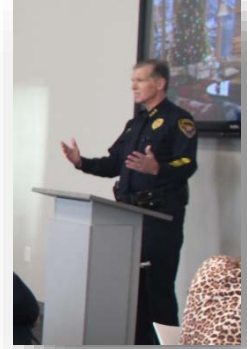
Annual Report 2022
Chief David A. Gott



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I'm proud to share this 2022 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.



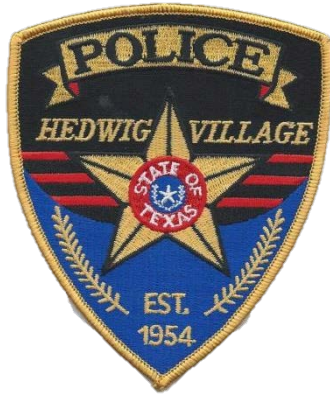
2022 was another good year for the city of Hedwig Village and the police department. Overall crime remains very low and has now decreased for 3 straight years. This is a strong indication that our strategies are working and that we have a strong community/police relationship. It takes all of us working together to keep crime at bay.

Another high light of 2022 came in late September when the Texas Police Chief's Association sent two assessors to the department. They conducted a full and rigorous review of all facets of our operation. Their report was then sent to the Texas Police Chief's Association Accreditation Committee, who voted unanimously to award Accredited status to HVPD. This means that your police department is operating in current best practices in law enforcement.

I also want to take this opportunity to personally thank each of you. I will celebrate my 10-year anniversary as your Police Chief on January 21, 2023. It has been an incredible experience and I certainly appreciate being a part of such a supportive community.

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

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.



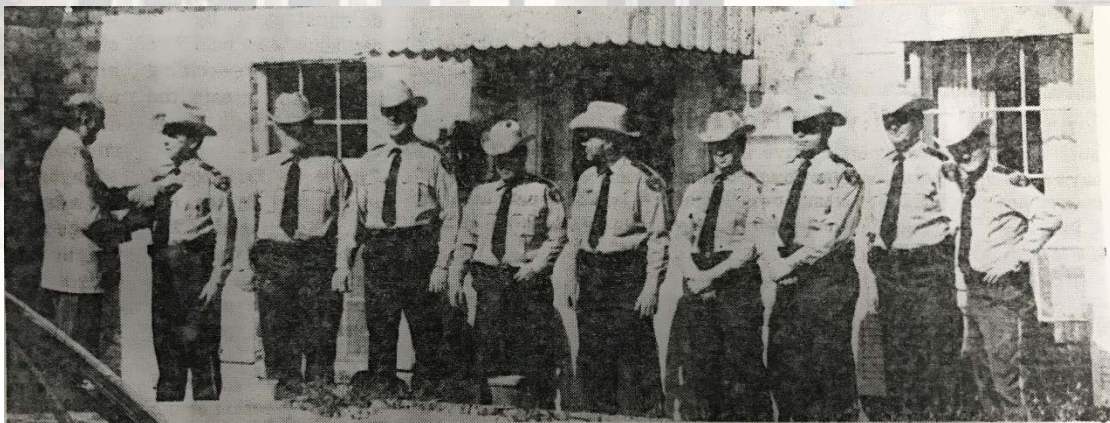
Hedwig Village

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.



New Arm Of The Law Sworn In

Hedwig Village Mayor E.P. Marx, left, pins on Police Chief Jimmy Jones's badge in ceremonies at the Town Hall. The mayor personally pinned on each new officer's badge (l-r) Ron Parker, Terry Lange, Mike Lane, Gene

Howard, Harry Wallace, James Johnson, W.L. Norman, and W.G. Rush. The new Hedwig Village Police went on duty at 7 a.m. Wednesday.

--Photo By John Gaines

Swearing in of the original chief and eight officers on Tuesday, December 28, 1976.

City Government



Clay Trozzo
Council Member
Position 3

Matt Woodruff
Mayor Pro Tem
Council Member
Position 4

Shirley Rouse
Council Member
Position 5

Tom Jinks
Mayor

Scott Davis
Council Member
Position 1

Patrick J. Breckon
Council Member
Position 2



City Hall Staff



Wendy Baimbridge
City Administrator



Lisa Modisette
City Secretary



Yolanda Lopez
Accounting/Billing Specialist



LuzDenny Fernandez
Permit Clerk

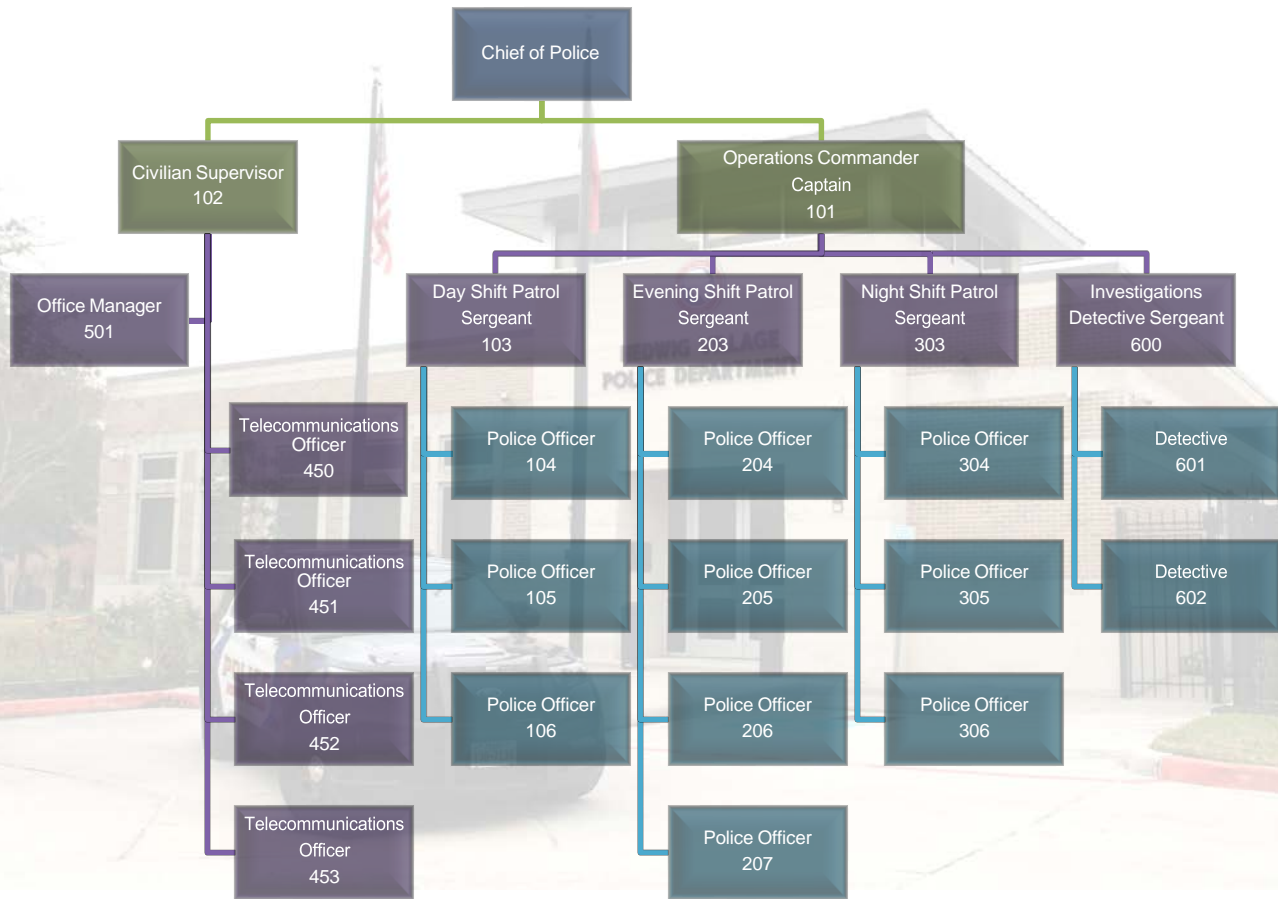


Diana Ruiz
Municipal Court Clerk



Terry Vick
Maintenance/Animal Control Officer

Hedwig Village Police Department Organizational Chart



Roll Call



Chief David A. Gott



Captain Paul Warner



Civilian Supervisor
Amanda Winter



Detective Sergeant
Marvin Collins



Sergeant
Steve Packard



Sergeant
Darrell Owens



Sergeant
Open Position-TBD



Detective
Terry Wu



Detective
Yonathan Sadikin



Police Officer
Frank Schulgen



Police Officer
Julie Buhs



Police Officer
Wenceslao Candido



Police Officer
Brandon Bloodworth



Police Officer
Zackary Doughty



Police Officer
Joseph Bissett



Police Officer
Williams Jorge



Police Officer
Usama Shahid



Police Officer
Zeshan Malik



Police Officer
Alyn Alford



Office Manager
Cynthia Lisella



Telecommunicator
Charles Vyles



Telecommunicator
Karin Paredes



Telecommunicator
Mark Payne



Telecommunicator
Brittney Hales





Texas Law Enforcement Accreditation Program

The Texas Police Chief's Association Law Enforcement Accreditation Program is a voluntary process where police agencies in Texas prove their compliance with 172 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 an accredited agency in 2010. The recognized status is good for a four-year period, so in 2022, the department completed another full and rigorous examination by the Texas Police Chief's Association and was re-accredited. Being accredited 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 Chief's Association website at <http://www.texaspolicechiefs.org>

National Incident Based Reporting System

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program transitioned the previous crime reporting system into the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). NIBRS provides a much broader picture into where and how crime is occurring. The Hedwig Village Police Department reports crime numbers to the database once each month. Below is a compilation of our NIBRS crime data for the past six years.

Classification of Offense	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1. Criminal Homicide - Total	1					
a. Murder	1					
b. Manslaughter*						
2. Forcible Rape - Total						
a. Rape						
b. Attempts to Commit Rape						
3. Robbery - Total	4	1	6	2	6	6
a. Firearm	1	1	3		1	5
b. Knife or Cutting Instrument						
c. Other Weapons	1		2		1	1
d. Strong-Arm (Hands, Fists, Feet, Etc.)	2		1	2	4	
4. Assault - Total	19	20	21	18	13	13
a. Firearm		2		1		
b. Knife or Cutting Instrument	1	1				
c. Other Weapons		1		2	1	
d. Hands, Fists, Feet, Etc.						1
e. Other Assaults - Simple*	18	16	21	15	12	12
5. Burglary - Total	9	7	6	3	9	8
a. Forcible Entry	4	4	5	3	5	6
b. Unlawful - No Force	5	2			4	1
c. Attempted Forcible Entry		1	1			1
6. Larceny - Theft - Total	179	128	195	151	126	119
7. Motor Vehicle Theft - Total	6	8	6	10	7	6
a. Autos	5	8	6	8	7	6
b. Trucks and Buses				1		
c. Other Vehicles	1			1		
8. Arson - Total						
Total	218	164	234	184	161	154

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	2019	2020	2021	2022
Citations	2931	1967	1550	2528
Warning Citations	2596	3562	1827	1761
Arrests	325	178	115	118

The 118 persons, 89 males and 29 females, arrested were charged with 126 separate offenses, to include:

Aggravated Robbery	1
Assault	8
Burglary	2
Criminal Trespass	1
Disorderly Conduct	3
Driving While Intoxicated	8
Failure to Exchange Information (Vehicle Accident)	1
Fictitious Identification	1
Fraudulent Use of Possession of Identifying Information	2
No Driver's License/Driving While License Suspended	5
Outstanding Warrants	62
Possession of a Controlled Substance	5
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	3
Public Intoxication	8
Tampering with a Government Record	1
Theft	5
Traffic Offenses	1
Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle	3
Unlawful Carrying of a Weapon (Handgun)	3

Criminal Investigations Unit

The Hedwig Village Police Department Criminal Investigations Unit consists of one detective-sergeant and two detectives. Detective Sergeant Marvin Collins supervises the unit. The unit also maintains our website, processes evidence, conducts training and handles many other duties. The table below reflects the investigations conducted by the unit.

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cases Assigned	643	507	466	431
Cases Cleared	258	149	145	138
Cases found to be Unfounded (offense did not occur, incorrect title)	149	150	162	89
Cases Suspended (no further workable leads)	227	200	141	194

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	2019	2020	2021	2022
Code 1 Calls	32	47	59	15
Code 2 Calls	285	277	412	546
Code 3 Calls	4190	3754	2810	2338
House Watches	5027	4597	114	5788
Business Checks	4158	9428	4676	6896
Officer Initiated	373	723	6564	578

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 2022, our officers were not involved in any vehicle pursuits.

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.
- e. *Information Only.* No allegations were made against any departmental employee. The investigation was conducted to determine if departmental policies and procedures were followed.

In 2022, we completed 4 formal investigations as follows:

Control number	Date of Incident	Allegation	Disposition
22-001	04/02/2022	Improper Police Procedure	Sustained
22-002	05/12/2022	Damage to Property	Information Only
22-003	02/04/2021	Lost or Stolen Dept. Property	Information Only
22-004	09/13/2022	Improper Police Procedure	Sustained

Use of Force Incidents

All Use of Force incidents are documented, carefully reviewed and forwarded up the chain of command to the chief of police. A yearly audit is conducted to ensure departmental policies are being followed and to ensure departmental policies conform to best practices. In 2022, our officers were involved in four use of force incidents as follows:

Offense Number	Date	Type of Force	Reason for Use of Force
202202663	03/02/2022	Pointed Firearm	Arrest Stolen Vehicle Suspect
202212959	08/16/2022	Pointed Firearm	Suspect Pulled out a Knife
202213190	08/19/2022	Physical Force	Suspect Resisted Detention
202217691	11/02/2022	Taser Deployed	Arrest Theft Suspect

Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR)



The ALPR cameras snap pictures of license plates of vehicles traveling through the city and check the license plates through police databases. If the plate is from a reported stolen or wanted vehicle, an alert is sent to our Communications Center for dispatch to the units in the field. The cameras also aid in follow-up investigations. The cameras are installed throughout Hedwig Village, the other Memorial Villages and Memorial City Mall. We also have access to readers in Katy, Jersey Village and many other cities. The 10 cameras in Hedwig Village resulted in the following in 2022:

Type of Alert	Number of Alerts	Vehicles Located	Arrests Made
Stolen Vehicle	18	1	1
Stolen License Plates	11	1	0
BMV Suspects	1	0	0

Community Policing

The Hedwig Village Police Department has a philosophy of Community Policing, which means that the department works with the community to maintain public safety and prevent crime. Hedwig Village Police Officers are encouraged to become familiar with the community, listen to citizens' concerns, and assist them with problem-solving. Community Policing works to enhance public safety and improve the quality of life within the community.



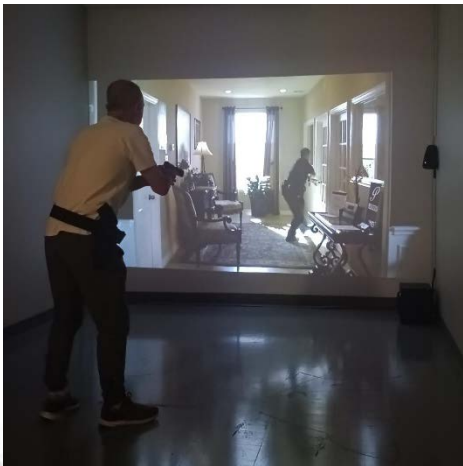
National Night Out



July 4th Parade

Open House

An open house was held at the police department on May 12, 2022. This was an opportunity for our residents to take a tour of the station, meet the officers and even step into the shoes of a police officer by taking a turn on our simulator.



Taking a turn on the Simulator



Communications Center



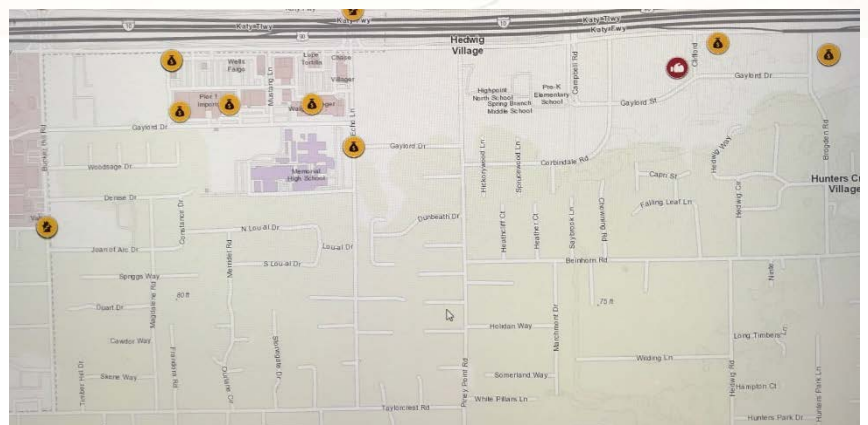
About to Start the Tour

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 website at 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 Motorola's City Protect 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, visit www.CityProtect.com.



Drug Take Back

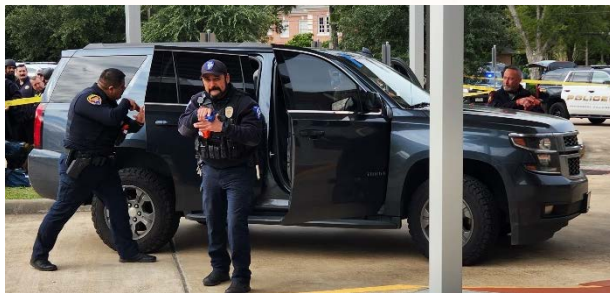
On October 22, 2022, a drug take back was held at Hedwig Village City Hall. The drug take back is designed to encourage the public to remove unneeded medications from their homes as a measure of preventing medication misuse and to help prevent opioid addiction.



Approximately 74.4 pounds of drugs were collected and transported to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration for destruction.

Active Shooter Training

Our officers, supervisors and telecommunicators participated in a large-scale Active Shooter training event on November 17, 2022. This event, coordinated by the FBI and the Houston Police Department, involved many other agencies including Spring Valley Village Police, Memorial Villages Police, the Village Fire Department and over 100 civilian roll players. It was incredible training and will help ensure our officers are prepared in the event a tragedy strikes here.



City Proclamation

Mayor Tom Jinks and the Hedwig Village City Council showed their incredible support by honoring the police department with the below proclamation during the December 8th, 2022, City Council meeting.



A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT AND HONOR OF THE HEDWIG VILLAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES

* * * * *

WHEREAS, in emergency situations in Hedwig Village, the City's public safety employees (commonly called "first responders"), carry out the critical role of protecting and ensuring public safety; *and*

WHEREAS, the Hedwig Village Police Department protect the lives and safety of people, regardless of the peril or hazard to themselves; *and*

WHEREAS, the noble profession of peace officers demand that they willingly put their lives on the line to help those in need; *and*

WHEREAS, Hedwig Village police department staff serves as the first, first responder to protect the people of Hedwig Village every day, being always available to provide a coordinated response to any emergency at any hour, under any conditions or circumstances; *and*

WHEREAS, Hedwig Village Officers protect our families and our property, detect and prevent crimes, restore the peace, uphold the law, ensure justice and make Hedwig Village a safer community; *and*

WHEREAS, the government of Hedwig Village is charged first and foremost with assuring public safety by protecting the lives, peace and property of its residents; *and*

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Mayor, City Council, and Citizens of the City of Hedwig Village, Texas, that the City does hereby recognize and support the Chief of Police and all Hedwig Village Police Department employees for their duty and dedication to the safety of our citizens; we hereby express our gratitude for their service and reaffirm our commitment to ensuring that they be properly managed, trained, equipped, and compensated.

/s/

Tom Jinks, Mayor

New Employees

We welcomed two new officers in 2022:



Officer Zeshan Malik was sworn in on February 16, 2022



Officer Alyn Alford was sworn in on December 1, 2022



Awards

On December 8th, 2022, 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 **Office Manager Cynthia Lisella** was honored for 10 years of service and **Telecommunicators Karin Paredes and Mark Payne** were honored for 5 years of service.



Cynthia Lisella



Karin Paredes



Mark Payne

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

Officer Zeshan Malik was awarded the **Guardian of the Year**. This award emphasizes the importance of our house watch and business check programs. Officer Malik led the department in the number of house watches and business checks performed and is a true guardian.



Detective Terry Wu was awarded the **Distinguished Service Award**. Detective Wu, in addition to his regular duties, completed a full overhaul of the property room. He inventoried the entire room and logged each item into the new Tyler Records Management System. This was a huge undertaking that took several months to complete.



Our **Employee of the Year for 2022** was **Civilian Supervisor Amanda Winter**. Ms. Winter does an outstanding job performing her many duties for the police department including supervising our Telecommunications Center. In addition to her regular duties, she is our Program Manager for the Texas Police Chief's Association Accreditation Program. In 2022, we underwent a complete on-site audit by two TPCA assessors. Their report was then forwarded to the Accreditation Committee who voted unanimously to award HVPD Accredited Status. This is a departmental award, but it took incredible coordination by Ms. Winter to get it done.



4-Minute Row Club

Twice a year, all classified members of the police department are required to perform a physical fitness test. The test consists of a 1000-meter row and the row must be completed in under 5 minutes. Four members of the police department, **Williams Jorge, Wenceslao Candido, Joseph Bissett and Chief Gott**, completed the row in under 4 minutes and received medals as members of the **4-Minute Club**.



Officer Williams Jorge completed the row in an incredible 3 minutes and 36 seconds and is the departmental **Row Champion**.



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