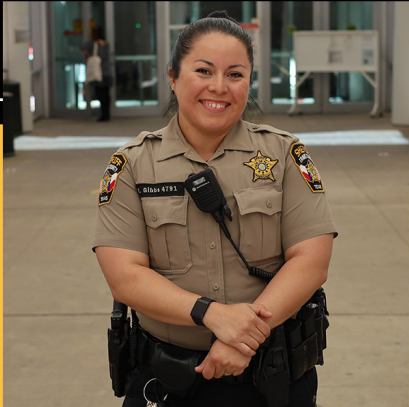




VOL 6: ISSUE 10



MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF HERNANDEZ

I'm fascinated by new technology, but I'll admit sometimes it's a bit overwhelming. Thankfully, your Travis County Sheriff's Office is well staffed with talented employees who love to explore and innovate using gadgets and software. These employees focus significant time and energy into state and federal laws, ensuring TCSO operates within those boundaries.

Just as technology makes things more convenient and cost-effective in our personal lives, it has a big impact on law enforcement as well. Using drone technology, we're able to visualize and monitor elements of critical incidents without risking the lives of deputies. This technology also allows us to generate 3D maps of traffic collisions. This process, which used to take hours, is now accomplished in half the time, allowing us to open roadways and alleviate traffic delays faster. We've also implemented 3D crime scene software that generates images so realistic, it offers the clarity of perspective. Jurors can virtually stand within a crime scene and process evidence from a first-hand point of view.

In our jails, inmates in good behavioral standing have access to electronic tablets. These tablets allow them to make phone calls, access legal documents, consume religious materials and pursue education. New software allows our officers to electronically log activities required by Texas Commission on Jail Standards. This allows us to respond to state inspectors quickly and reduces the amount of paper records we generate and store.

Administratively, we're overhauling the database that stores everything from traffic citations to case files, to jail



records. The new system will integrate information in a modern, user-friendly way that will keep us working effectively and efficiently for years to come.

Of course, I've just scratched the surface with these examples, but they go to show that we're constantly looking for ways to work cost-effectively and increase our productivity. It's our priority to offer top quality service.

All the technology in the world will never replace the need for a personal touch. We love our community and enjoy the privilege of serving. This world may be going the way of computers and gadgets, but your Sheriff's Office will never miss an opportunity to interact with you face-to-face. Whether it be Coffee with a Cop, town hall meetings, school events, parades, or chance encounters in public places, we look forward to seeing you. And as always, when you need us, we're just a phone call away.

FAMILY SUPPORT CONFERENCE



Sheriff Hernandez was honored to join the Central Texas African American Family Support Conference's Family Reunion on October 15th. The event brought together people of color in the Central Texas community to raise awareness for mental health, substance use disorders, and intellectual and developmental disabilities. Sheriff Hernandez sat on a panel discussing how best to renew and empower community members in the areas of mental health and wellness.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



In Texas, National Night Out is celebrated on the first Tuesday in October. We're so grateful to all the Travis County neighborhoods that invited us to their block parties. It was a perfect evening of good weather, good eats and great conversations with the communities we serve.

Simply knowing your neighbors is one of the most effective methods to prevent crime. If you're interested in forming a Neighborhood Watch program or learning more about how to keep your neighborhood safe, please contact the [TCSO Community Outreach Unit](#).



TRUNK-OR-TREAT



On October 29th, we hosted our 2nd Annual Trunk-or-Treat. It's a free, fun and safe way for families to enjoy Halloween trick-or-treating. Not only is it a spooktacular event for the community, but it's a much-heated competition for TCSO personnel. We award a trophy for the "Best Decorated" trunk/vehicle and this year's winner was our Transportation Unit with their amazing Jurassic Park-themed bus. We look forward to seeing all the kiddos and their great costumes next year!



WALK TO SCHOOL DAY



October 12th was National Walk to School Day, and over 50 Central Texas schools participated. We were invited to Rowe Lane Elementary School in Pflugerville. Our Motors and Community Outreach Units escorted the children to school. The event promotes that safely walking to school improves children's health, independence and confidence, and when they arrive at school, they're ready to learn.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and TCSO hosted many events to raise awareness and support survivors. We had a photo booth wall at the Domain Northside to encourage the community to share information via social media as well as a resource table for those in need of support. You can find more information or ways to help by visiting our [Victim Services web page](#).



WHITE CANE DAY



October 12th was the 20th Anniversary of White Cane Day in Austin. The milestone highlights the efforts made to educate our community about the accomplishments of the blind and visually impaired in our area. TCSO joined the [Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Texas Workforce Commission](#), and the [Austin Lighthouse Travis Association for the Blind](#) to celebrate their independence.

ABOVE & BEYOND STUDENT



This month, our Westlake High School Resource Officer Deputy Garrett Kunz awarded Ryan Trammell with a challenge coin for his efforts to go above and beyond for his school. He arrives early for school every morning to greet students and open the door for them. He looks out for anyone acting suspicious, doing his part to keep his school safe. We're proud of you, Ryan!