



VOL 6: ISSUE 9



MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF HERNANDEZ

I love our Travis County community. I moved from Llano to Austin in 1988. It doesn't feel like that long ago, but when I drive pretty much anywhere, I'm reminded that time is flying by, and things certainly have changed. Streets that used to get me to my destination in a matter of minutes are packed with cars at all hours of the day and night. Sometimes it's hard for my eyes to even find the State Capitol amongst all the tall buildings. As I talk about iconic Travis County locations of years past, more and more people have no idea what I'm referencing. I've noticed other changes too. I see more out-of-state license plates than I've ever seen in our county. I enjoy incredible food at restaurants you would have never seen around here in 1988. In every place I go, from the County Courthouse to the neighborhood grocery store, I see communities rich with diversity and good will.

Of course, as our population grows, it's not all sunshine and roses. Criminals take advantage of highly populated areas and crime tends to rise along with that growth. At TCSO, we've seen an increase in property crime, especially vehicle burglaries, robberies, and aggravated crimes. We at your Sheriff's Office will continue to do our part to patrol neighborhoods and respond to calls for assistance. But our ability to keep crime rates low in neighborhoods always works better when you're part of that effort.

Community policing is achieved when neighbors band together and watch out for each other. You know your neighborhood better than anyone. When you see suspicious activity, please report it. If you haven't seen a neighbor in a while, please check on them.

One of the very best community policing events of the year is coming up soon. October 4th is National Night Out. It's a chance to meet and greet your neighbors and build friendship and familiarity. If you're new to the area, I encourage you to participate in whatever your neighborhood is doing. We've received many requests for deputies to visit their parties. We look forward to meeting all of you and partnering together to keep this a great place to live. As our county continues record growth, we can still keep things small and friendly. It all starts on our neighborhood streets.



COMMUNITY TOWN HALL



On September 22nd, our West Command Patrol Division hosted our quarterly town hall, focusing on the Manchaca area with participants from neighborhoods such as Onion Creek Meadows, Shady Hollow and the Village of San Leana. [State Representative Vikki Goodwin](#) also joined us for the discussion. We appreciated the opportunity to address citizen concerns as well as strengthen our partnerships with these neighborhoods to create a more safe community.

If your community/HOA is interested in coordinating a town hall, please contact our [Community Outreach Unit](#).



NAMIWALKS CENTRAL TEXAS



Once again, we had a blast supporting the [National Alliance for Mental Illness Central Texas](#) (NAMI) in their annual [NAMI Walks Your Way Central Texas](#). The walk raises funds and awareness to advance NAMI's mission of improving the lives of people affected by mental illness through advocacy, education and public policy. NAMI is a vital partner with TCSO, supporting families in our community and providing specialized training for deputies and corrections officers. Team TCSO Cares raised over \$44,700 and took first place in the nation for fund raising!



CLEAT RECOGNITION



Congratulations to Senior Corrections Officer Michael Tobias who was selected by the Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas (CLEAT) to receive their 2022 Officer of the Year Award. Officer Tobias was nominated by Travis County Sheriff's Officer Association. He serves on the City Council of Kyle, TX, volunteers for his local school district and is active in his community. We're proud of you!



In January of 2020, after meeting his ex's new boyfriend at a convenience store on FM 969, Andre Ross shot the man four times in the parking lot, in front of his young son. On September 7th, Ross pled guilty and accepted a 15-year prison sentence. In Texas, Murder is a first-degree felony, punished by 5-99 years, or life in prison.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS



On September 27th, the Travis County Commissioners Court issued a proclamation designating October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Travis County. If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, you are not alone! There are ways to get out and get help. [TCSO Victim Services](#) will help you choose the way out that works best for you and caring hands and hearts will walk alongside you every step of the way.

Additionally, to kick-off Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we invite you to stop by our [DO SOMETHING campaign](#) event at the Domain Northside on October 6th from 4:00-8:00 pm to help us spread awareness. For more information on the event, please click the icon below.



FREE GUN LOCKS



On September 24th, our Community Outreach Unit provided free gun locks and resource information on gun violence prevention and secure storage practices to the community. The drive-thru event was a success - we distributed over 100 gun locks! The free gun locks are available to the community and TCSO employees at any time. Please contact our [Community Outreach Unit](#) to request.



SUPPORTING SMBS



Sheriff's Memorial Benevolent Society (SMBS) is a non-profit, non-political, 501(c)(3) charitable organization that was founded in 2002 by caring and visionary TCSO employees, led by Chief Dan Richards. The organization accepts donations from any outside source and in turn, assists TCSO employees and families in emergency situations or natural disasters. It's a small organization and on average, 98% of donations make it to those who request assistance.

SMBS has been there for members of the TCSO family during the worst of times. Most of its funding comes from TCSO employees who contribute through employee payroll deductions. The number of assistance requests has been increasing in recent years and donations are needed. Please click on the icon below to find more information and how you can show your support.



Congratulations to our recent retirees! Thank you for your dedicated service to this agency and the citizens of Travis County. We wish you the best of luck in your new adventures.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Way Priddy – 36 yrs. of service Anthony Sampson – 32 yrs. of service Alex Leo – 31 yrs. of service Jerry Kovar – 31 yrs. of service John Bartlett – 30 yrs. of service Alonzo Maldonado - 30 yrs. of service Timothy Sandelovic – 27 yrs. of service Willie Taylor – 27 yrs. of service Blakely Wallace – 27 yrs. of service William Burt – 25 yrs. of service | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tina Cable – 25 yrs. of service Bernardo Rivera – 23 yrs. of service Johnny Orange - 22 yrs. of service Cordine M'Murray - 20 yrs. of service Monica Mills - 20 yrs. of service Joe Orosco - 18 yrs. of service Denise Traylor - 17 yrs. of service Danny M'Intyre - 16 yrs. of service Tracy Parker Westbrook - 10 yrs. of service |
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