



January NEWSLETTER

VOL 4: ISSUE 1



MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF HERNANDEZ

Next month is known for Valentine's Day and celebrating our romantic relationships. That got me to thinking about the cornerstone of all healthy relationships - trust. It's the most important attribute in achieving public safety as well and it's something we seek to earn with Travis County communities each and every day.

We build trust through relationships and we foster relationships through meaningful interaction. That happens in traffic stops to neighborhood forums and everything in between. Trust is earned when we show kindness and respect to others, no matter the circumstance.

It's so important to me that when people, young and old, see the TCSO uniform, they know they can run to us for help and don't run away. In communities where trust of law enforcement is compromised, or maybe even broken, we work with local pastors, educators and prominent citizens to bridge the gap and gain a favorable introduction. From there, it's a matter of consistent interaction and selfless service.

I know that when trust between residents and law enforcement is strong, it's much harder for criminal activity to succeed. Together, we make a positive difference and keep our neighborhoods safe.



MLK CELEBRATION & MARCH



To commemorate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. we marched alongside the community from the MLK statue on the University of Texas at Austin campus to the historic campus of Huston-Tillotson University. The Sheriff's Office is committed to promoting diversity and multiculturalism, so it was with immense pride, on MLK Day, that we honored a great man and his service.



GREETING THE SCHOOL CAR LINE



On the morning of January 22nd, TCSO had the pleasure of greeting families and students in the car line at St. Gabriel's Catholic School. The weather didn't dampen the fun...Laughs and smiles all around! Though the school shared with us how much fun their campus had, we're pretty sure we actually had more fun!



SCIENCE FAIR JUDGES



TCSO detectives joined the Community Outreach Unit along with staff from our Research & Planning team to judge the annual Science Fair at Dessau Elementary School in Pflugerville. We keep coming back, year after year, because not only does the school staff treat us so well, but their students continually deliver top-notch projects. We had a blast and look forward to next year!



KITCHEN INSPECTION



Another great report was earned by our kitchen staff, this one by the Travis County Correctional Complex. Austin Public Health inspected the kitchen on January 2nd and gave the facility a score of 99%. We're so proud of the efforts of our employees and inmate workers. In two separate inspections, both the Travis County Jail and the Correctional Complex achieved that near perfect score.

AUSTIN ANIMAL CENTER



We love our furry friends! In an effort to help the [Austin Animal Center](#) find forever homes for animals in their care, our deputies are participating in a social media campaign that aims to help needy pets get a little more attention. It makes us so happy when we find out the celebrity pooch has been adopted.



AUTO THEFT TASK FORCE



On January 8th, TCSO deputies responded to reports of a vehicle fire on a rural property in Southeast Travis County. While fire crews were extinguishing the vehicle fire, deputies discovered a 2007 Big Tex utility trailer reported stolen to the Bastrop County Sheriff's Office and a 2006 Ford F-350 reported stolen to the Lee County Sheriff's Office in close proximity and on the same property. After observing dozens of vehicles and trailers on the property, they requested the Sheriff's Combined Auto Theft Task Force (SCATTF) to respond and assist in the investigation. Agents with the Task Force obtained a search warrant for the property and spent the next seven hours searching the location with the assistance of the Travis County Sheriff's Office Vice and SWAT Units.

Thieves don't limit their crimes to individual jurisdictions which is why the SCATTF is so effective. This is a grant-funded program through the State of Texas, overseen by the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority at the TxDMV. TCSO has been a recipient grantee since 1991, operating and responsible for 16 counties within central Texas.



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT



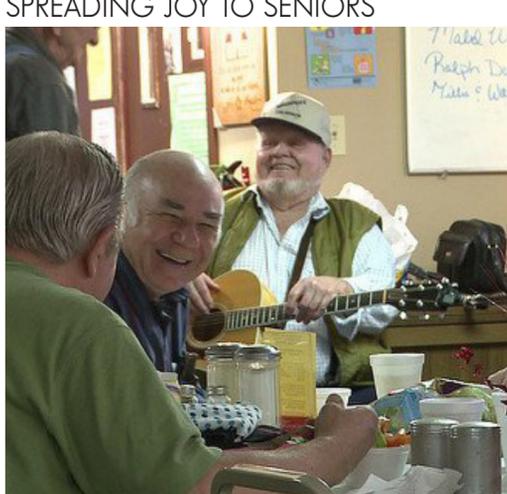
On January 24th, TCSO Victim Services Unit (VSU) hosted their annual Volunteer Appreciation Event to celebrate the time and assistance provided by their volunteers. The VSU Volunteer Program is an essential part of the unit. Without the assistance of volunteers, demands such as on-call shifts, case follow-up, training, and outreach would be difficult to manage.

Congratulations to the following award recipients honored at the event: Kathy Broussard, Jill Martin, Amber Hardaway, Sherry Dumas, Chriss Martinez, Rebecca Pruitt, Mark Doherty, Bill Stueve, Cara Hubbard, TCSO Detective Jeff Ford, David Holmes, Kim Taylor, and TCSO Reserve Deputy Terry Wilt. A special recognition went to John-Frank Taylor who has assisted VSU with preparing manuals and volunteers meetings for the past five years.

Thanks to all the TCSO staff who attended the event to honor such vital individuals to the VSU. If you're interested in volunteering for VSU, please click the icon button below.



SPREADING JOY TO SENIORS



TCSO 911 Telecommunications brightened the day of local senior citizens by delivering 67 gift bags which contained items such as toiletries, clothing, puzzles and some gently used books to add to their library. The real treat was the 15 dozen cookies!

SWAT NINJAS



Our SWAT Team makes it a priority to stay fit and ready for duty. Their weekly workout regimen is no joke, but can still be fun. We offer our thanks to [Austin Ninjas](#) for hosting one of their workouts this month.

