NEW HYBRID VEHICLES

The Travis County Sheriff’s Office is rolling out 10 new hybrid Ford Explorers to test out in their fleet. According to Ford, over the course of a year, hybrid Explorers can potentially use 1,000 fewer gallons of fuel than a traditional model. Although so far, they look just like any other vehicle in the fleet. TCSO is also replacing older vehicles for detectives with newer, more efficient models.

OPERATION OVERWATCH

In an effort to decrease the number ofrear-end collisions into TCSO vehicles, our Criminal Investigations Division, East District, began Operation Overwatch. Throughout the holidays, TCSO investigated 24 vehicular thefts, 8 misdemeanor arrests, and 3 felony arrests. Dwindling inventory and burglaries around the Christmas and New Year holidays have led to an increase in thefts.

FITNESS AWARD

Our Corrections Tactical Team (CTAC) is required to pass three fitness tests annually at 60% per test and a 70% average score. In 2020, Veronica Macias achieved the Trifecta of Fitness standard, and CTAC motto holder, the Charlie Unit scored average scores of 90% or higher as well. Good job up front for your dedication to physical fitness.

VICTIM SERVICES APPRECIATION

Earlier this month, our Victims Services Unit (VSU) held its annual meeting. The meeting addressed the design of the VSU Volunteer Program and the process for recruiting new volunteers. The meeting also addressed the key challenges and successes of the program. The VSU Volunteer Program is an essential part of the unit. Without the assistance of volunteers, demands such as phone calls and activities can become overwhelming.

WELCOME TO K-9 APEX

The Travis County Sheriff’s Office is also expanding its K-9 program with the addition of a new handler and new K-9 to the team. Apex and his handler, Senior Deputy Colton Yarborough, joins fellow K-9s JP, Shadow, Roki, Radar, and Bodie. Sergeant Brian Turner, who supervises the K9 unit, says, “The K-9 unit is an essential tool for our team in the fight against crime.”

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS

Human trafficking doesn't stop there. Traffickers force, deceive, or manipulate victims into commercial sexual exploitation and labor trafficking. Human trafficking takes place around the world and is accessible to predators globally. Applications on their phones can make them more vulnerable.

MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF HERNAN DEZ

As President of the Texas Sheriffs’ Association, I just wanted to take a moment to congratulate our sheriffs from across the state for their continued leadership and service to our counties, families, and communities as we continue to face crises on a daily basis. Together, we can bring the numbers down in our community, which will ultimately benefit and protect us all.

I think the current situation is a call to action for each and every one of us. It's not just the responsibility of the sheriff, but for all of us to work together to make our communities safer.

OPERATION OVERWATCH

New hybrid vehicles are being tested out in the fleet to decrease the number of rear-end collisions into TCSO vehicles. During Operation Overwatch, 24 vehicular thefts, 8 misdemeanor arrests, and 3 felony arrests were investigated.

FITNESS AWARD

Verification of the accomplishments of the accomplishments of the Corrections Tactical Team (CTAC) shows that Officer Veronica Macias, the Charlie Unit, and the rest of the team are working hard to maintain the highest level of fitness standards.