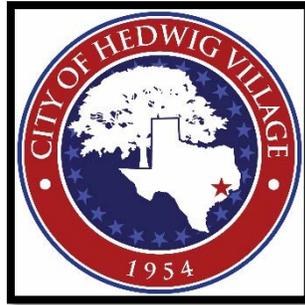


# Hedwig Village Police Department



**2023**  
**Annual Report**  
**Chief David A. Gott**



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I'm proud to share this 2023 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.

2023 was another good year in Hedwig Village. There were no major events, no hurricanes, devastating freezes, floods, etc. Crime remained relatively low. We did see an increase in thefts, mostly shoplifting, but we experienced less violent crimes than we've seen in at least the last ten years.

In 2023, we saw the retirement of long-time Hedwig Village employee, Sergeant Darrell Owens. He did an outstanding job for us over the years, and we wish him a long and healthy retirement. We also welcomed a few new employees, Dusty Davis and Jason Blaine, and promoted Terry Wu and Wences Candido to sergeant and Brandon Bloodworth to detective. All are doing great in their new positions.

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](mailto: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.



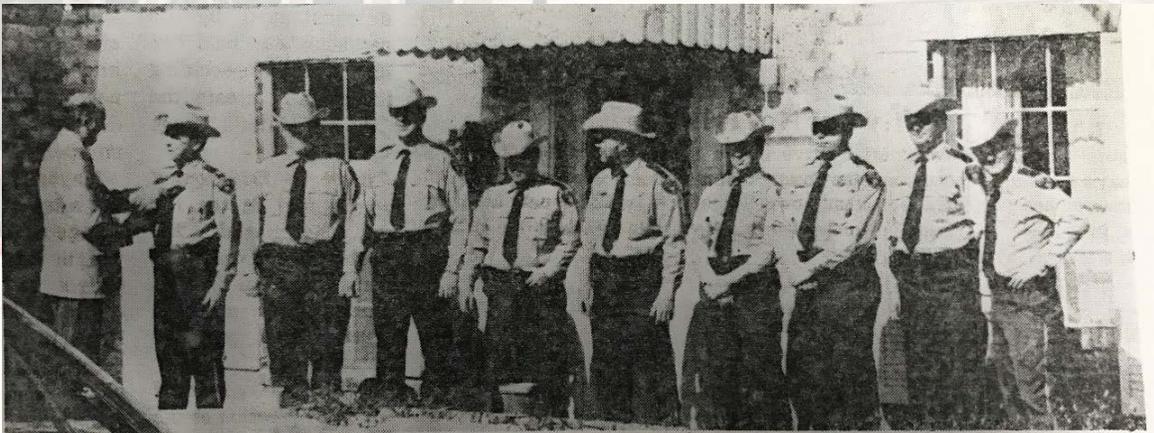
# Hedwig Village

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

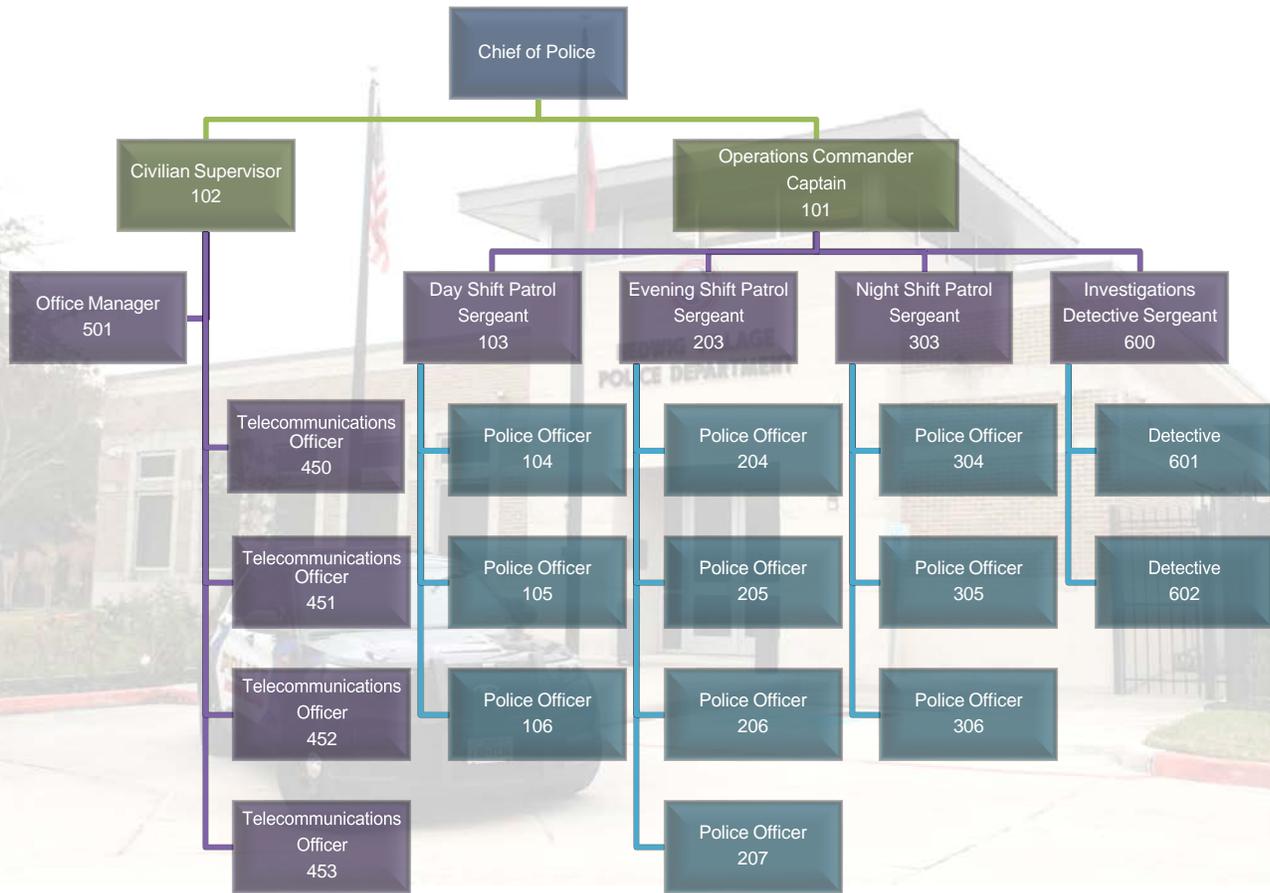


Diana Ruiz  
Municipal Court Clerk



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  
Terry Wu



Sergeant  
Wenceslao Candido



Detective  
Yonathan Sadikin



Detective  
Brandon Bloodworth



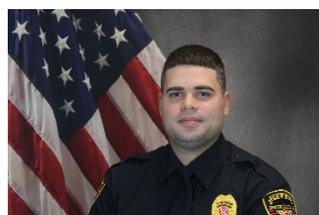
Police Officer  
Frank Schulgen



Police Officer  
Julie Buhs



Police Officer  
Joseph Bissett



Police Officer  
Williams Jorge



Police Officer  
Usama Shahid



Police Officer  
Zeshan Malik



Police Officer  
Alyn Alford



Police Officer  
Dusty Davis



Police Officer  
Jason Blaine



Office Manager  
Cynthia Lisella



Telecommunicator  
Charles Vyles



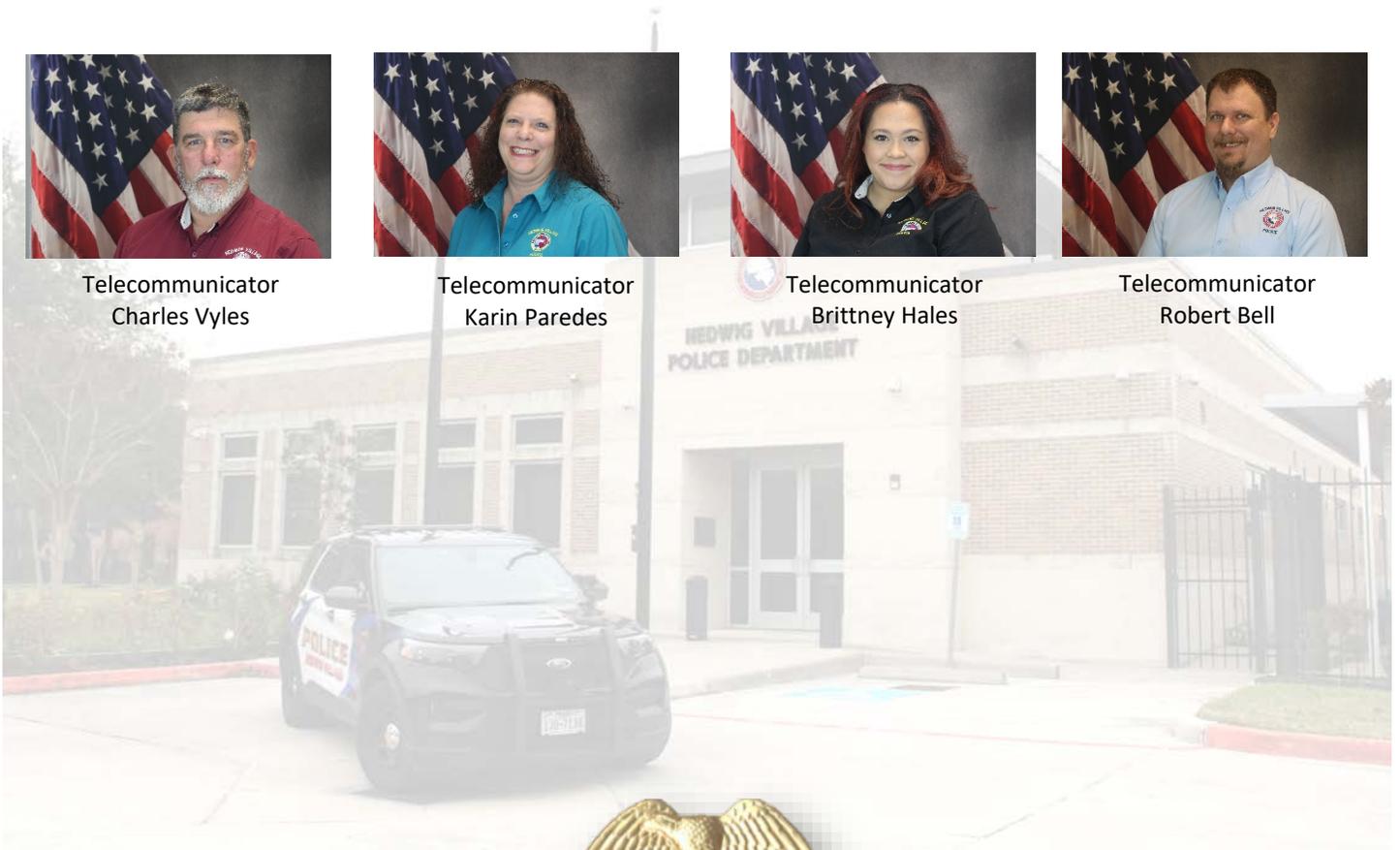
Telecommunicator  
Karin Paredes



Telecommunicator  
Brittney Hales



Telecommunicator  
Robert Bell





## **Texas Police Chief's Association 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	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
1. Criminal Homicide - Total						
a. Murder						
b. Manslaughter*						
2. Forcible Rape - Total						
a. Rape						
b. Attempts to Commit Rape						
3. Robbery - Total	1	6	2	6	6	1
a. Firearm	1	3		1	5	1
b. Knife or Cutting Instrument						
c. Other Weapons		2		1	1	
d. Strong-Arm (Hands, Fists, Feet, Etc.)		1	2	4		
4. Assault - Total	20	21	18	13	13	10
a. Firearm	2		1			
b. Knife or Cutting Instrument	1					
c. Other Weapons	1		2	1		
d. Hands, Fists, Feet, Etc.					1	
e. Other Assaults - Simple*	16	21	15	12	12	10
5. Burglary - Total	7	6	3	9	8	3
a. Forcible Entry	4	5	3	5	6	
b. Unlawful - No Force	2			4	1	3
c. Attempted Forcible Entry	1	1			1	
6. Larceny - Theft - Total	128	195	151	126	119	144
7. Motor Vehicle Theft - Total	8	6	10	7	6	11
a. Autos	8	6	8	7	6	10
b. Trucks and Buses			1			
c. Other Vehicles			1			1
8. Arson - Total						
Total	164	234	184	161	152	169

## 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	2020	2021	2022	2023
Citations	1967	1550	2528	3305
Warning Citations	3562	1827	1761	1525
Arrests	178	115	118	125

The 125 persons, 99 males and 26 females, arrested were charged with 141 separate offenses, to include:

Assault	1
Bribery	1
Burglary	2
Criminal Mischief	2
Criminal Trespass	1
Driving while Intoxicated	10
Evading Arrest	7
Failure to Identify	3
Fictitious License Plate	1
Harassment	1
No Operator's License	5
Possession of a Controlled Substance	3
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	2
Possession of Marijuana	1
Public Intoxication	4
Soliciting	1
Tampering with a Government Record	4
Theft	7
Traffic Offenses	1
Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle	1
Unlawful Carrying of a Weapon (Handgun)	4
Violation of a Protective Order	1
Warrant	72

## 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 2023, our officers were not involved in any vehicle pursuits.

## 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	2020	2021	2022	2023
Cases Assigned	507	466	431	543
Cases Cleared	149	145	138	189
Cases found to be Unfounded (offense did not occur as alleged, incorrect title, etc.)	150	162	89	154
Cases Suspended (no further workable leads)	200	141	194	187

## 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	2020	2021	2022	2023
Code 1 Calls	47	59	15	41
Code 2 Calls	277	412	546	496
Code 3 Calls	3754	2810	2338	2196
House Watches	4597	4676	5788	6797
Business Checks	9428	6137	6896	10,380
Officer Initiated	723	263	578	1107

## 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 <https://www.thecityofhedwigvillage.com/> 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.

## 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 2023, we completed 6 formal investigations as follows:

Control number	Date of Incident	Allegation	Disposition
23-001	05/04/2023	Conduct and Behavior	Sustained
23-002	06/02/2023	Improper Search	Sustained
23-003	06/30/2023	Conduct and Behavior	Sustained
23-004	07/28/2023	Conduct and Behavior	Sustained
23-005	09/28/2023	Conduct and Behavior	Sustained
23-006	10/25/2023	At-fault Vehicle Accident	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 2023, our officers were involved in three use of force incidents as follows:

Offense Number	Date	Type of Force	Reason for Use of Force
202302547	02/05/2023	Physical Force	Suspect Resisted Arrest
202304306	03/01/2023	Taser Deployed	Suspect Resisted Arrest
202310503	05/15/2023	Threat of Taser	Armed Suspect Fleeing on Foot

## 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.

## 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.



## 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](http://www.CityProtect.com)



## Drug Take Back

On October 28, 2023, 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.

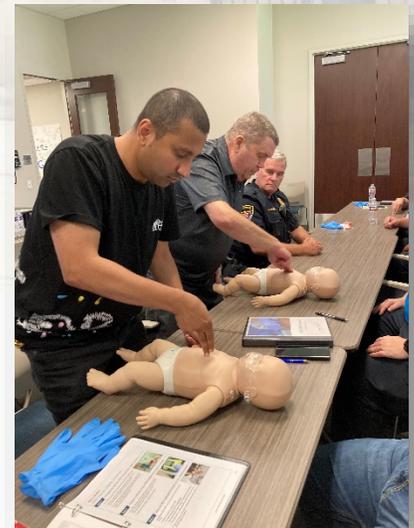
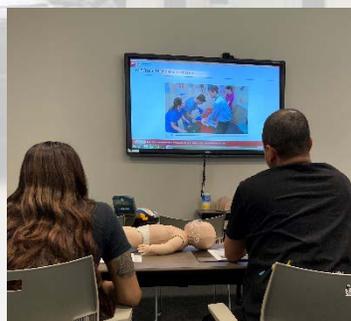


Approximately 80.3 pounds of drugs were collected and transported to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration for destruction.



## Basic Life Support Training

In our continued effort to better serve our residents, we have now certified every officer in Basic Life Support. This is in addition to all other first aid training they have already received. While we have a great ambulance service with an incredible response time, our officers are dispatched and often arrive first at medical calls for service. Completing this certification will better enable our officers to provide critical lifesaving care until paramedics arrive.



## Ballistic Resistant Shields

In 2023, we were able to secure a grant from Texas Governor Greg Abbott's office to purchase ballistic shields. These ballistic shields provide much-needed protection for our officers in the event they must respond to an active shooter type incident. The shields are readily available in each patrol vehicle for immediate deployment. These photos are of the intensive training our officers underwent.



# Promotions

In 2023, three of our employees were promoted. On January 27, 2023, Terry Wu was promoted to sergeant. On February 16, 2023, Wenceslao Candido was promoted to sergeant and Brandon Bloodworth was promoted to detective. Each of these officers participated in a promotional process and were selected for promotion based on their ability and experience.



Sergeant Wu's dad pins on his badge, while his mother looks on



Sergeant Candido with his proud parents



Detective Bloodworth and family

# New Employees

We welcomed two new officers in 2023:



Officer Dusty Davis took the oath of office on January 3, 2023



Officer Jason Blaine took the oath of office on May 15, 2023



Officer Blaine's wife pins on his badge

## We honored Sergeant Darrell Owens at his retirement party on February 16, 2023

Sergeant Darrell Owens served the city of Hedwig Village professionally and with distinction for almost 22 years. Prior to that, he served with the Bellaire Police Department, the Galveston County Sheriff's Office and the United States Army, giving him a total of 37 years of public service.



2001

During his career with HVPD, he was twice awarded as the Guardian of the Year, he received six citizen letters of commendation, two supervisor letters of commendation and two Chief of Police commendations. He was the Supervisor of the Year in 2020. Also in 2020, he received the Hostile Engagement Award and the Mayoral Commendation for Distinguished Service with Valor.

Sergeant Owens was an outstanding member of the Hedwig Village Police Department. We thank him for his service and wish him a long, healthy and happy retirement!



## Awards

On December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 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 **Sergeant Terry Wu** was honored for 10 years of service and **Sergeant Wenceslao Candido** was honored for 5 years of service.



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

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





**Brittney Hales** was named the **2023 Telecommunicator of the Year**. Ms. Hales is a great dispatcher. She is an incredibly efficient multitasker, is always willing to help officers organize their paperwork and truly cares about everyone she comes in contact with. Her job can be very stressful, but she is a calm voice and does a great job listening to callers and handling difficult radio transmissions.



**Williams Jorge** was named the **2023 Officer of the Year**. Officer Jorge does an outstanding job as an evening shift patrol officer. In addition to his regular duties, in 2023 he trained two new patrol officers, assisted with numerous Spanish speaker calls and readily helped with anything else asked of him.



**Sergeant Terry Wu** was named the **2023 Supervisor of the Year**. Sergeant Wu has shown great leadership skills. He is fair and leads by example, often taking extra calls to relieve his officers. He also regularly volunteers to handle extra departmental assignments and is relied on whenever extra help is needed.

## 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. Five members of the police department, **Chief Gott, Sergeant Wenceslao Candido, Joseph Bissett, Jason Blaine and Williams Jorge** completed the row in under 4 minutes and received medals as members of the **4-Minute Club**. **Sergeant Candido** completed the row in an incredible 3 minutes and 35 seconds and is the **2023 Row Champion**.





**Annual Report 2023  
Hedwig Village Police Department  
9000 Gaylord  
Hedwig Village, Texas 77024  
(713) 461-4797**