El Paso Police Department
2005 Annual Report

Established 1884
El Paso Police Department Mission

Our Vision

It is the vision of the El Paso Police Department to be a preferred employer of highly skilled professionals focused to provide customer-driven quality service, and to use advanced technology in accomplishing our mission.

Mission Statement

“It is the mission of the El Paso Police Department to provide services with integrity and dedication, to preserve life, to enforce the law, and to work in partnership with the community to enhance the quality of life in the City of El Paso.”
Our Values

WE RESPECT LIFE . . .
We hold the preservation of life as our sacred duty. Our value of human life sets our priorities.

WE REVERE THE TRUTH . . .
We accept nothing less than truth, honesty, and integrity in our profession.

WE ENFORCE THE LAW . . .
We recognize that our basic responsibility is to enforce the law. Our role is to resolve problems through the law, not to judge or punish.

WE SEEK COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP . . .
We view the people of our community as partners who deserve our concern, care, and attention. We are committed to reducing the fear of crime in our community, and we endeavor to do this by creating partnerships in our neighborhoods.

WE HONOR OUR POLICE POWERS . . .
We understand that our police powers are derived from the people we serve. We do not tolerate the abuse of our police authority.

WE CONDUCT OURSELVES WITH DIGNITY . . .
We recognize that our personal conduct, both on and off duty, is inseparable from the professional reputation of both the officer and the department.
Chief’s Message

As the sixth largest city in Texas and the largest city on the United States border, El Paso faces some unique challenges. I am proud to say that our Police Department has maintained El Paso’s status as the 2nd Safest City in the United States with a population of over 500,000 as noted by the Morgan Quitno Press. This is the third year El Paso has earned this ranking. This honor has been achieved through the ongoing efforts of our officers and civilian staff with the support of our El Paso community partners. My commitment to the citizens of El Paso is to continue to strive to make our city the safest place to live, conduct business and enjoy the ever-growing number of quality-of-life opportunities this dynamic area has to offer.

During a tight budget year, I want to thank the City Manager and City Council for continuing to support the Police Department and our efforts to protect the citizens of El Paso. Our officers were encouraged by a pay increase, which brought their salaries more closely in line with other Policing agencies of similar size. We graduated two classes from our joint Police/Sheriff/Fire academy with 58 new officers joining the ranks. We continue to receive support funding for two classes per year, which is critical for us to improve the percentage of available officers to meet community growth needs.

2005 witnessed the forming of many new and continuing partnerships between the El Paso Police Department, other local law enforcement agencies and community service organizations through inter-local agreements and memorandums of understandings with our partner organizations. One example is the Human Trafficking Task Force made up of the EPPD, Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Attorney’s office, the Sheriff’s Office, and the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Social organizations involved with the task force include the Salvation Army and the Diocesan Migrant and Refugee Services, which provide aid to victims in cooperation with other social service organizations.

To increase service efficiency, the department established a Collision Reporting Center at the Northeast Regional Command as a pilot program for the reporting of accidents after they happen. During the initial testing period of June 2005 to November 2005 the CRC processed 300 minor accident reports without requiring Police resources at the scene, thus allowing patrol officers to focus their response on the more serious accidents and traffic enforcement. I will continue to find efficiencies through technology and other innovative methods in 2006.

The department is currently working toward meeting the standards required to receive voluntary certification from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). CALEA is a program initiated in 1979 by four national law enforcement associations with the goals of: improving delivery of Law Enforcement service and practice constant policies; providing better management through accountability; defending against complaints and lawsuits; and increasing support from the community and government. Receiving this accreditation will ensure that the department continues to provide the highest level of service to the community and will enhance our efforts to make El Paso the safest place to live in the nation.
Regional Command Facilities
Central Regional Command Center

The Central Regional Command Center (CRCC) currently employs a force of over 195 officers and detectives. The community served by this command is a diverse mix of residents. The command’s strategic location near three international bridges presents many unique enforcement challenges. Every year, an estimated 12 million people cross the bridges by foot or car into the downtown area.

One of the primary goals of the CRCC is to curtail the number of minors crossing the U.S. border to drink alcohol in Juarez. On holidays and other high-risk evenings, members of the CRCC Citizen’s Advisory Board position themselves on the U.S. side of the international bridge and explain the dangers of underage drinking to groups of youths crossing into Mexico. Additionally, CRCC Police Area Representative Officers, along with the Citizen’s Advisory Board and members of the business and legal communities, gave several Underage Drinking Initiative presentations at local area high schools in the Central Region to explain the consequences associated with underage purchase, sale, and consumption of alcohol. In order to further educate local youth and encourage their participation in preventive measures with regard to underage drinking, Officer Juan A. Rivera headed the Underage Drinking poster contest. High school students took part in this project by creating posters that duplicated the dangers of underage drinking. Prizes were awarded to teen participants during a Recognition Ceremony held by members of the CRCC P.A.R. Unit.

The CRCC worked in partnership with the El Paso Independent School District to implement the first Criminal Justice Academy in El Paso and West Texas. In August 2005, the Sandra Day O’Connor Criminal Justice Public Service Academy was opened at Austin High School. The academy assists students in acquiring college credits while attending the academy that meet the requirements to obtain a degree in Criminal Justice. Students of the academy also volunteer for Underage Drinking Bridge Operations as well as assist in Pride Day activities by cleaning up their neighborhoods.

The CRCC promoted a number of community-based initiatives meant to strengthen the partnership between law enforcement and the public. Members of the CRCC P.A.R. unit participated in the 39th annual Safety Town Program to educate children and their parents about traffic and health safety issues such as Pedestrian Safety, Stranger Danger, Water, Electrical, Fire, Gun, and General Safety. The CRCC P.A.R. unit was also involved in the 22nd annual National Night Out held in conjunction with local Neighborhood Watch Programs. The National Night Out event was assembled at the Leon Storefront and officers from the K-9 Unit, Bike Unit, Command Post, and Fire Department displayed what they do for the public. Approximately 200 people attended.
Mission Valley Regional Command

The area policed by the Mission Valley Regional Command (MVRC) has one of the highest population growth rates in the City of El Paso. In a continuing effort to ensure the safety of its citizens, the MVRC sought to reduce Part I Offenses, which include Criminal Homicide, Sexual Assault, Robbery, Burglary, Larceny/Theft, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Manslaughter by Negligence/Simple Assault, overall by 6% for 2005. MVRC surpassed this goal with an overall reduction of 15% in 2005.

In January of 2005, an audit was done to determine “true neighborhood watches” in the Mission Valley area. Spearheaded by Officer Linda Olvera the MVRC took a proactive approach in promoting this program. As a result of Officer Olvera’s efforts, Neighborhood Watches in the region grew from 38 active groups in January 2005 to 63 participating groups in December 2005.

The School Resource Officers and Community Service Officers of MVRC aim to promote good citizenship by acting as mentors to local students while serving as role models in the community. School Resource Officers are working with local youth in order to empower them with the knowledge and skills they need to avoid unsafe situations through various initiatives such as Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.), Gang Intervention/Prevention, and Stranger Danger. Community Service Officers at MVRC are also working with area students by reestablishing the Youth Advisory Board and assisting with the Student Underage Drinking Seminar, which sought to provide students with information about the dangers associated with underage alcohol consumption.

The MVRC’s Tactical (TAC) and Criminal Investigations (CID) units have been very successful in their efforts to contribute to the overall goal of reducing crime in the region. TAC has conducted a variety of special operations such as targeting Auto Thefts in car lots located along Alameda Avenue. Officers who participated in this special operation apprehended two men for an on-view Theft of Vehicle. Since the arrest of these two individuals, the Mission Valley area has seen a 43% decline in Thefts of Vehicles. The CID unit’s new program, Frequent Offender Criminal Update System (F.O.C.U.S.), is presently monitoring several of the serious repeat offenders that commit Part I type crimes in the MVRC area. The program has been successfully utilized with regard to repeat offenders. Unit personnel are able to attend individual probation revocation hearings and speak with judges and probation officers in order to bring to light an offender's history and pending cases. As a result of this effort, individuals are now doing mandatory state jail time after having their probation revoked.
Northeast Regional Command Center

The Northeast Regional Command Center (NERC) force of about 131 officers, detectives, and civilians serves a diverse community.

The NERC is preparing for the influx of thousands of military troops arriving in El Paso during the next three years. Already, there are an additional 2,780 troops that have arrived and a projected 3,700 troops are expected to arrive by April of 2006. Accordingly, the NERC is stepping up its efforts for traffic control. With the addition of the new Speed Trailer the Traffic Section is placing the unit in various high traffic flow areas reminding the community to keep their speeds within the legal limits. The Speed Trailer is also being used to create community awareness based upon feedback from citizens regarding speed violators in certain neighborhoods. Additionally, the El Paso Police Department’s Safe Communities gave a Seat Belt Convincer to the NERC. Donated by Fort Bliss, this device is designed to recreate an accident at 10 mph, showing the force of such a small impact on a driver. The mobile device was repainted through a donation from Rudolph Chevrolet and its seat upholstered by R&R Custom. This device will be used at many future presentations for public awareness.

In June 2005 the NERC became the pilot program for the Collision Reporting Center (CRC), which allows for the public to more conveniently report minor traffic accidents instead of waiting for an officer at the scene. This program also allows dispatchers to inform involved parties to clear the roadway to avoid a potentially hazardous situation of secondary accidents. From June 2005 to November 2005 there were 300 accident reports taken at the CRC, thus freeing patrol officers from handling minor accidents while allowing them to focus their response on the more serious accidents, traffic enforcement, and proactive patrols.

The PAR Section of the NERC was involved in the coordination and hosting of this year’s Citizens Advisory Board Health and Safety Fair. The event was a success, with 40 entries from various entities from the community, such as the United Blood Services, Fire Department, EP Fitness and our own Auto Theft Program, H.E.A.T. There were several hundred citizens that participated in the daylong event.

The NERC also enhanced efforts to establish better communication with the public by increasing membership to the Neighborhood Watch Program (N.W.P.). In the past year the NERC has increased the number of N.W.P.’s from 75 to 84 active groups. In addition to this, the NERC accomplished its goal that the respective district units maintain contact with every N.W.P. Block Captain.
Pebble Hills Regional Command Center

The Pebble Hills Regional Command (PHRC) has a force of 200 officers that serve a 58 square-mile area with a population estimated at 200,000 residents.

The PHRC has taken a proactive approach in improving the quality of life enjoyed by its residents by taking part in the Great American Cleanup and Keep El Paso Beautiful programs in April of 2005. PHRC P.A.R. officers located sites to be cleaned and community groups that were willing to donate their time. Officers participated in Operation Clean Sweep, a citywide enforcement effort targeting municipal violations and quality of life issues. The operation included a round-up of those individuals with outstanding environmental warrants. Officers also conducted surveillance with Building Permits and Inspections on some of the more common illegal dumpsites in the region. Overall the operation was a success in raising community awareness about violation types.

A number of educational projects were undertaken by the PHRC this year. One such program was the El Paso Explorer Academy 2005 held at Austin High School. The El Paso Explorer Academy provided new Explorer Scouts information about the program as well as the options available for a career in law enforcement. Officers Vicente Macias, Robert Tellez, and Adrian Alvillar assisted the Combined Law Enforcement Explorer Academy by acting as primary instructors for presentations on Traffic Stops, Burglary in Progress, and Family Violence. Another important educational presentation provided by PHRC officers Sergio Garcia and Saul Medrano was the Shattered Dreams Alcohol Awareness given to El Dorado High School students. This event was geared toward educating young people of the dangers and consequences of drinking and driving and was sponsored by multiple agencies including Texas DPS, R.E. Thomason Hospital, Rio Grande Safe Communities, the El Paso Fire Department and the El Paso Police Department. Sponsors and participants staged a fatal traffic accident near the school and props were used to portray the accident scene as realistically as possible. Students were present to witness the destruction, pain and consequences of these incidents, as well as a mock trial of the dramatized drunk driver. Approximately 900 students were present at the staged accident site.

The PHRC Traffic Section has performed numerous traffic enforcement operations throughout the year in an effort to reduce accidents and traffic-related fatalities. The section focused on DWIs and enforcement of traffic laws in school zones. DWI operations were held every holiday this year and additional unannounced DWI operations were also conducted. Because of these operations PHRC DWI Units increased DWI arrest rates by 60 % from the previous year and the PHRC Traffic Section saw an increase of DWI arrests from 95 arrests in 2004 to 152 arrests in 2005. The PHRC Traffic Section also increased school zone patrols from throughout the year resulting in 15% more citations written this year than the past year.
Westside Regional Command Center

The Westside Region is experiencing a steady growth in population and the City demographic projections predict a boom in the area near the Resler extension to the city limits near the town of Vinton, Texas. The Public Service Board sold 2000 acres in this area for residential and commercial development. The sale is projected to add up to 50,000 residents in the next few years.

In August of 2005, WSRC Special Operations Officers along with the Citizens Advisory Board created the Dog Days of Summer animal fair at White Spur Park. Over 200 participants attended the fair that was designed to educate pet owners about animal regulation laws and to create a partnership between pet owners, the organizations that assist animals, and the Police Department. Officers organized pet events, such as pet/owner look-alike contests and giveaways for the occasion.

In order to further develop a partnership with residential and business communities, the WSRC participated in the eleventh annual El Paso Pride Day. In preparation for this event, station representatives participated in the internal and external materials committees. Due to inclement weather the citywide event was cancelled, but a few groups assigned to the WSRC continued the clean-up resulting in four locations being cleaned. A total of 30 people participated in this year’s event. WSRC Officers also assisted in a number of other community clean-up efforts, such as those undertaken throughout the year at Franklin Mountains State Park in collaboration with State Park Rangers and at local neighborhoods with Westside Neighborhood Watch Associations.

In keeping with their work to maintain high quality-of-life standards, WSRC Lieutenant Lem Tong developed a database to keep track of environmental enforcement cases for each Regional Command’s use. The database was tested at WSRC and implemented Department-wide in May of 2005. Lt. Tong also provided training on the database to personnel from all the Regional Command Centers.

WSRC Officers were also involved in a number of education-based programs in 2005. School Resource Officers held a series of Special Crime Scene Investigations at area schools. Local youth participated in these weeklong events that allowed them to investigate a staged crime scene. Students played the roles of officers, detectives, suspects and victims in order to solve the staged crime and WSRC Officers assisted students with various aspects of their investigation. Through this program students were able to learn more about police work and gain a deeper understanding of police investigative procedures.
In spite of being under-staffed the past several years, EPPD continues to do more with less by providing superb law enforcement services to the community. The City of El Paso has experienced significant growth during the last decade and the El Paso Police Department has worked to keep pace with this increase in population. Since it’s founding in 1884, the department has grown from one officer to over 1,100 sworn officers that protect the city today. The Federal Bureau of Investigations identifies the average law enforcement presence within communities nationwide to total 2.3 officers per 1,000 citizens. El Paso’s existing staffing level in 2005, however, is 24% less than the national average at 1.76 uniform officers per 1,000 citizens. This difference between the national average and the actual staffing level in El Paso indicates a shortage of 332 assigned, on-hand EPPD officers during 2005. Utilizing this national law enforcement staffing average as a gauge it is likely that this shortage will expand to a total of 381 assigned officers by 2014.

In order to increase the department’s number of sworn officers, the El Paso City Council approved two police training classes for 2005. The department is scheduling two training classes each year for the foreseeable future and has created a new hiring section that is focusing on boosting recruitment numbers. In April of 2005, the Police Academy graduated 28 new Officers and in October commissioned another 24. The department is also reaching out to area youth through the newly launched Sandra Day O’Connor Criminal Justice Public Service Academy at Austin High School. The Public Service Academy opened its doors in August of 2005 and is mentoring students who are interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement. Those interested in joining El Paso’s Finest should visit our website at www.eppd.org.
Assistant Police Chief Diana Kirk Nominated to the El Paso Women’s Hall of Fame

Assistant Chief of Police Diana Kirk’s nomination to the El Paso Women’s Commission Hall of Fame recognizes her 20 years of service to the El Paso Police Department and the citizens of El Paso. Assistant Chief Kirk is currently the highest-ranking female officer in the Police Department and is the department’s first female to serve in the capacity of Chief of Staff (second in command). Assistant Chief Kirk’s trailblazing law enforcement career with the EPPD began in 1985 when she was a police trainee at the academy. Her drive and dynamic leadership style quickly propelled her up the ranks from Patrol Officer to Assistant Chief of Police.

Assistant Chief Kirk is a positive role model for the women of the El Paso Police Department and to the community at large. As the principle organizer of the annual Women in Law Enforcement Conference, she ensures that the conference serves as a tool to educate participating law enforcement professionals about how to become more effective leaders within their respective departments. The conference emphasizes the need for law enforcement communities to work to increase the number of female officers in all ranks. Assistant Chief Kirk is a proven leader who will continue to encourage women who are already working in the field of law enforcement to greater achievement, and to inspire those who are looking forward to forging service careers of their own.

Assistant Police Chief Paul Cross Wins Award

El Paso Assistant Police Chief Paul Cross received an award from Senator Eliot Shapleigh for his work and involvement with the community. The award, named "Adelante Con Ganas" is given each month to one person who does extraordinary deeds. Assistant Chief Cross is very involved with the community and has taken part in many community events and organizations. He is a current member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and serves on the Board of Directors for the El Paso Chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Board of Directors for Family Services of El Paso. The "Adelante Con Ganas Award" is awarded the first week of each month by Senator Shapleigh and was presented to Assistant Chief Cross by the senator at Police Headquarters. He has served with the El Paso Police Department for over 22 years, during which time he has served in the ranks of Patrol Officer, Detective, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, Commander, Deputy Chief, and Assistant Chief.
2005 Women in Policing Conference

The El Paso Police Department hosted the 2005 National Empowering Women in Law Enforcement Conference March 6th through 9th. This three day conference was an educational and life changing event for the more than 200 attendees. The conference was designed to encourage women to continue their careers in law enforcement, foster pride, and to grow professionally as well as individually in order to meet the needs of the law enforcement profession.

Speakers gave presentations on topics ranging from the unique place of women in law enforcement to leadership training and personal enrichment. Retired Lt. Colonel for the United States Army, Consuelo Castillo Kickbusch spoke on “Women and their legacy in Law Enforcement,” and El Paso Police Department Assistant Chief Diana Kirk presented a seminar on “Achieving Success on a Promotional Exam/Assessment Center”. In addition to the many educational opportunities, this year’s conference offered a variety of evening activities that allowed attendees an occasion to experience all that El Paso and Juarez, Mexico have to offer. The “South of the Border Evening” included a fun-filled guided tour of Juarez, Mexico and dinner at the famous Ajuua restaurant. Another featured evening of entertainment was held at Cattlemen’s Restaurant, which is one of the area’s first class restaurants that also offers a working ranch with live animals, an Indian Maze, and a movie set to explore.
The El Paso Police Department continues to utilize technology to facilitate the accessibility of information to the community through its website. El Paso Police Online offers the most up-to-date information including department phone numbers, information about becoming an El Paso Police Officer, special events, Volunteer opportunities, Regional Command information, a history of the Department with numerous photos and stories of interest, fallen Officer digests, Department Divisions, statistical information, department awards, information on Neighborhood Watch programs and initiatives, and various links to other sources of information. Our Victims Services Assistance web page offers help and resources to those who have been the victims of crimes.

The Department broke new ground in the type of information that is available online for the citizens of El Paso. During 2005, DWI offenders arrest photos were placed on the EPPD official website, with arrest photos of Family Violence offenders and Prostitution arrestees also available. The photos have proven to be a source of valuable community information with an average 40,000 “hits” or visits per month. Translation of the web site into Spanish is underway and will be completed by the end of the first quarter 2006. Citizens will soon be able to access the department information in either English or “Español” depending on which language they are more comfortable with. Please take a minute and visit our web site at www.eppd.org.

“My intent in activating this page is twofold. First, family violence and DWI are community crimes that affect every citizen in some way. We, as citizens, have a right to know who among us have been arrested for these crimes. Second, it is my sincere hope that the public display of photographs will have a deterrent effect on others who are in the midst of making life-altering choices regarding their behavior towards their family or their decision to irresponsibly consume alcohol and operate a vehicle. I encourage you to become a concerned, involved citizen and make viewing of these pages a weekly event.” – Chief Richard D. Wiles
Volunteer Contributions

Volunteers contributed over 10,000 hours of their time to help the El Paso Police Department during 2005. The El Paso Police Department Volunteer Program began in 1991. Since its inception in 1991, almost 1400 people have come forward to function as volunteers, and nearly four hundred are still active today. The tasks performed by volunteers in the Department are varied and extensive. These tasks include answering phones, filing records, data entry, typing, providing information to visitors, assisting in fingerprinting, taking photographs, research, processing and performing light mechanical duties, assisting in mediation, and crisis intervention. They serve in all areas of the police department such as the Administration Support Program, the Victim Services Response Team, McGruff Program, Citizen Advisory Boards, Neighborhood Watch Programs, and Most Wanted Program.

Our volunteer program continues to evolve to meet the needs of our community as we seek to fully utilize the diverse skills and abilities of volunteers. The EPPD volunteer program provides volunteers with many rewarding opportunities and participation in the volunteer program allows citizens to become involved in police department activities. Volunteers can learn more about the community’s needs and resources while providing valuable assistance to the City’s professional staff. Volunteer opportunities are available for retirees and students, professionals and homemakers. All you have to do is be willing to participate. Work is scheduled to accommodate volunteers and daytime or evening hours are available. Volunteers must complete an application, go through a screening process and sign a confidentiality agreement.

Two volunteers, Dale Baugh and Gilbert Wright, were recognized for their outstanding commitment to service in 2005. Dale Baugh began his volunteer work in August of 2002 and contributed a total of 810 hours of service in 2005. He currently volunteers with the Sex Offender Registration and Tracking Unit (S.O.R.T.), Crime Stoppers, and the Citizens Police Academy. Baugh regularly assists with the maintaining and transferring of sex offender files, and during “Operation Predator” he was charged with running the database and assisting units in the field by providing information to them over the radio. A majority of Baugh’s service time is spent taking telephone tips coming into the Crime Stoppers Tip Line. During the Hurricane Rita Disaster, Houston area Crime Stopper telephone calls were diverted to the El Paso unit and Baugh made himself available after hours to assist with the high volume of calls. Baugh also coordinates the Citizen’s Police Academy classes by locating and reserving locations for the class, scheduling speakers, and attending each session to supply sign-in sheets and snacks.

Gilbert Wright is a retired U.S. military serviceman and has been serving as an EPPD volunteer for more than 15 years. He assists the Special Traffic Investigations unit (STI) with maintaining report files, and answering inquiries from the public on the telephone and in person. The STI unit commends him for his kind and helpful approach when dealing with the public.
The West Texas H.I.D.T.A. Stash House unit is continuing its efforts to remove illegal drugs from local neighborhoods. Large drug busts continued in 2005 with a total of over 47,000 pounds of marijuana seized throughout the year and over 170 arrests made. The department encourages all citizens to be on the lookout for the following indications of a potential stash house:

1) Rental homes with attached garages and unkept yards.
2) Little if any furniture.
3) Occupants who keep to themselves (not visible on a daily basis).
4) Occupants who do not hold a normal pattern of lifestyle.
5) Different vehicles (especially vans and pick-up trucks) entering and exiting the garage.
6) Vehicles arriving at the stash house will have different out of town license plates (Texas, New Mexico, Mexico and paper “buyer” or “dealer” plates).
7) Sudden activity in the home after days or weeks of not seeing anyone at the home.
8) Accumulation of advertisements on the front door.
9) Occupants who do not usually put their trash out for regular collection, but instead prefer to dump it at another location themselves.

These again are some of the typical indicators of a stash house, and these indicators alone do not necessarily mean that the occupants of the home are running a stash house. If you think you might have a stash house in your neighborhood, please contact the West Texas Stash House Unit at (915) 629-8600 or Crime Stoppers at (915) 566-8477(TIPS).

Photos show packages of Cocaine recovered from two separate stash houses in El Paso, Texas.
Thomas Mode, City Marshal
July 11th, 1883

Newton Stewart, Officer
February 17th, 1900

William Paschall, Officer
December 4th, 1914

Gus Chitwood, Officer
February 13th, 1915

Sidney J. Benson, Officer
June 28th, 1917

Octaviano Perea, Officer
February 2nd, 1918

George F. Drake, Officer
September 22nd, 1918

Harry Phoenix, Captain
June 13th, 1921

Frank Burns, Detective
April 12th, 1923

John J. Coleman, Detective
July 14th, 1924

Lynn McClintock, Officer
October 2nd, 1926

Ralph Marmalejo, Detective
March 17th, 1951

Warren Mitchell, Officer
May 16th, 1953

Guillermo Sanchez, Detective
December 14th, 1957

Arthur J. Lavender, Officer
December 16th, 1966

Roger Hamilton, Officer
June 21st, 1970

Guy Myers Jr., Officer
July 24th, 1970

David Bannister, Officer
June 3rd, 1974

Wayne Carreon, Officer
June 27th, 1980

Charles Heinrich, Detective
March 3rd, 1983

Normon Montion, Detective
October 16th, 1989

Ernesto Serna, Officer
November 12th, 1991

A. Andrew Barcena, Officer
September 25th, 2004

In Memoriam
### Selected Department Statistics

#### RANK/GENDER

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#### Ethnic Breakdown

- **Hispanic**: 77%
- **White**: 20%
- **Black**: 2%
- **Amer Indian**: 0%
- **Pacific Islander**: 1%

#### ETHNICITY

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2005 Crime Comparison Statistics

Overall Crime Levels

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<th>Burglary</th>
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% Increase(Decrease) Year/year

(4.1) (11.1) (12.4) (6.4) (4.7) (13.4)
El Paso Police Department

2005 Promotions

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EPPD Awards 2005

SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR
JUAN J. CASTILLO

OFFICER OF THE YEAR
MATTHEW L. JONES

COMMUNITY POLICING AWARD
JOSEPH GARCIA

LIFE SAVING AWARD
BION BELL

MEDAL OF VALOR
ADRIAN RUIZ

UNIT OF THE YEAR
CENTRAL REGIONAL COMMAND TAC
EPPD Awards 2005

CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR
ALEX RAMIREZ

SPIRIT OF UNITY
FRED GEHRER

CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR
HAROLD SOMMERS

EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR
STUART ED

CIVILIAN UNIT OF THE YEAR
FINANCIAL SERVICES

CIVILIAN UNIT OF THE YEAR
TAXI DETAIL
El Paso’s History

The history of El Paso is a vibrant blend of cultures and customs that creates the thriving and unique metropolitan area that exists today. Our region’s history spans more than 400 years blending Native American, Spanish, Mexican and the American Cowboy into one culture.

In 1581, Spanish explorers reached the Rio Grande River and viewed a pass between the two mountain ranges rising out of the desert, naming it El Paso del Norte (the Pass of the North). On April 30, 1598, the area was colonized by an expedition under Don Juan de Oñate who brought Spanish civilization to El Paso del Norte, later to be called El Paso, Texas. The territory included all land drained by the Rio Grande River.

In 1659, Fray García de San Francisco founded Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe Mission, which still stands in downtown Ciudad Juárez, the oldest structure in the El Paso area. The Pueblo revolt of 1680 sent Spanish colonists and the Tigua Indians of Northern New Mexico fleeing southward to take refuge at the Pass. By 1682, San Lorenzo, Senecú, Ysleta and Soccorro settlements were founded. The increase in trade led to the building of a presidio in 1684 at San Elizario. The trade route became one of the historic camino reales or royal highways, a name that is still used today.

Not until the end of the Mexican War in 1848 did El Paso finally become part of the United States with a military post that later became Fort Bliss, which was established one year later. El Paso became incorporated as a city in 1873, and with the arrival of the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1881, the community was assured a stable future. The El Paso Police Department was founded in 1884.

The Wild West was El Paso; the city flourished during the rambunctious era of gunfighters, cattle rustlers, saloons, famous marshals, and the Texas Rangers. Famous and infamous characters like Billy the Kid, Wyatt Earp, and Pat Garrett also roamed the dusty roads of El Paso. Then in 1911, the Mexican Revolution thundered into town and refugees streamed out of Mexico by the thousands into El Paso. The people that remained helped build the unique culture and heritage that is El Paso.

The transformation of this city since the days of the Wild West has been tremendous. Today, El Paso is a thriving community reveling in the blend of cultures with our sister city of Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, Mexico. It is a major distribution and manufacturing center and the focal point of an annual $20 billion in trade between the United States and Mexico. El Paso has retained its unique history, celebrates its present prosperity, and looks eagerly toward its promising future.