



\*\*\* EL PASO POLICE DEPARTMENT \*\*\* ESTABLISHED 1884 \*\*\*

# 2006 Annual Report



# El Paso Police Department 2006 Annual Report

## Special Points of Interest:

- Storm 2006
- Regional Command Pages
- Chief's Awards
- Training and Recruitment
- Bone Marrow Drives
- 2006 Dodge Chargers



## On the Cover:

Metro Officers Yvette M. Guerrero and Michael Licon pose with the newest addition to the Department, the 2006 Dodge Charger.

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## A Letter from the Chief of Police



**Chief Richard D. Wiles**

It is my pleasure to present you with the 2006 Annual Report for the El Paso Police Department (EPPD). The pages of this report provide a summary of some of the impressive accomplishments made by the men and women of this agency, both sworn and civilian, as they endeavor to make our city the Safest City in the nation. Many of these accomplishments were achieved with the assistance of our outstanding citizens, other law enforcement agencies, and community groups. Most importantly this report documents the techniques used by this department to serve and protect our community while unfailingly demonstrating our dedication to our Core Values of respecting life, conducting ourselves with dignity, and enforcing the law.

The Department's involvement in a number of community initiatives and partnerships is an important bridge to reach out to the citizens of this great city and assist them in realizing the highest quality of life. The year 2006 saw the formation of the El Paso Police Foundation, which seeks to improve upon public safety, civic collaborations, and employee development, and works to provide supplemental funding for various law enforcement programs sponsored by The Department. In addition to police programs, EPPD worked in partnership with community groups such as United Blood Services and the Mayor's Office to boost blood donations and ensure the continuation of a secure and ample blood supply. The department cooperated with the National Marrow Donor Program to sponsor local drives at the Regional Command Centers to increase the number of donors.

With the creation of the EPPD's Personnel Division, recruitment efforts have been extremely successful with the Department graduating two near-capacity classes and increasing sworn staffing through the Lateral Transfer Program. Furthermore, the Department demonstrated its excellence in emergency management and interoperability when the Sun City was struck by a series of record breaking summer storms. The performance of the dedicated men and women of this department before, during, and after the storms and resulting flooding provided our citizens much needed security and an accelerated return to the normal routines of daily life.

EPPD's efforts to effectively combat crime through proactive patrol, community policing initiatives, and successful investigations are enhanced by utilizing the most cutting-edge technological resources available. A new 911 Communications Call Center was opened that employs the most advanced emergency telecommunication services available for the citizens of El Paso. Red-light cameras were installed at some of the city's most dangerous intersections in order to reduce accidents and curb dangerous driving habits. Through the collaborative efforts of the Department, citizens of this great community, and other area law enforcement agencies, the City of El Paso was ranked by Morgan Quitno Press as the third safest large city in the country.

This city is a diverse collection of vibrant cultures and its citizens are the foundation of EPPD's mission to uphold the law with a sense of pride and honor. I am privileged to lead a talented group of men and women who represent all of El Paso's best qualities through their desire and commitment "To Serve and To Protect".



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## 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.

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## 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.

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# Core 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.

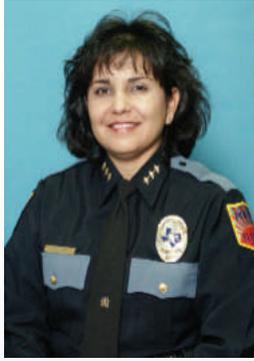
## **WE HONOR OUR POLICE POWERS...**

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.





Assistant Chief  
Chief of Staff  
Diana Kirk



Chief of Police  
Richard D. Wiles



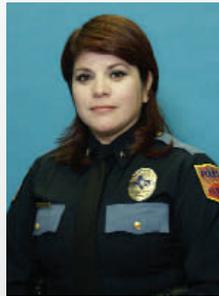
Assistant Chief  
Chief of Operations  
Paul A. Cross



Deputy Chief  
Region I  
Gregory Allen



Deputy Chief  
Region II  
Kenith Adcox



Deputy Chief  
Major Crimes  
Sylvia Aguilar



Deputy Chief  
Support Services  
Tom Whitten



Director Administrative  
Services Bureau  
Stuart Ed



Interim Commander  
Marco Spalloni  
CRCC



Commander  
Jerome Johnson  
PHRCC



Commander  
Richard Pantoja  
MVRCC



Commander  
David Garcia  
NERCC



Commander  
Eric Herrera  
WSRCC



Commander  
Eric Shelton  
Special Services



Commander  
Scott W. Graves  
Auxiliary Support



Commander  
David Norman  
Directed Investigations



Commander  
Robert Feldner  
Criminal Investigations



Lieutenant  
Patrick Maloney  
Planning & Research



Manager  
Terry Manson  
Records



Manager  
Ken Mobley  
Training



Manager  
Minnie Holguin  
Human Resources



Manager  
Mary Kozak  
Communications



Manager  
Robert Adkinson  
Financial Services

EL PASO POLICE DEPARTMENT  
Command Staff





## Central Regional Command Center

The Central Regional Command Center (CRCC) employs 190 officers and detectives who serve a 39 square mile area with an estimated population of 156,000, not including the 19.1 million people annually that cross the three International Bridges within the Central area. Due

to the population density of the Central Region, the deployment of a diverse group of officers and creative enforcement efforts are necessary to address quality-of-life issues and combat crime.

One CRCC goal was to reduce outstanding warrants. To achieve this goal, the CRCC deployed a daily warrant car from Patrol and the Investigations Unit devoted one day per month to execute internally-generated outstanding warrants. The unit also located persons wanted on warrants from other law enforcement agencies including probation and parole offices.

Another CRCC goal was to reduce gang activity in the region. The Central TAC unit identified and arrested several graffiti gangs that were terrorizing the Central area. By utilizing gang informants and moniker identification, the unit arrested several highly visible gang members leading the destruction of both public and private property. The gang injunction previously invoked against the Azteca gang continues to significantly reduce their illegal activity.

The officers' hard work and dedication were only two factors that contributed to the reduction of crime. The CRCC also prides itself on its continuing cooperation with downtown businesses, community leaders, and residents that work and live in the area. Central officers have an excellent working relationship with the Downtown Management District along with the eleven public and private high schools located within the region. The CRCC collaborates with the community in an effort to educate the young so that each child will become a productive member of society. The CRCC is involved in several youth programs such as the Underage Drinking Program. The program objectives are two-fold: 1) education of students at the junior high and high school level about the dangers of alcohol consumption, and 2) use of law enforcement to prevent and control crime associated with underage drinking. The CRCC is also a member of the Austin High School Criminal Justice Academy. This program educates and prepares high school students for employment in the criminal justice field and also allows them to accrue college credits prior to graduation.

In August, Storm 2006 caused several challenges for CRCC. For 13 days El Paso received over 15 inches of rain, nearly twice its average annual rainfall. Saipan and Ledo streets were two of three city-wide areas that suffered the most damage from the storms. The first challenge the region encountered was the reallocation of resources to monitor levees and evacuate the Chihuahita area. Central officers also assisted in opening the Civic Center to provide a safe and secure shelter for those citizens displaced by area flooding. In addition to operational challenges, E-ticketing is a new program that was piloted at the CRCC and is now being implemented department-wide. E-Ticketing uses a computerized handheld ticket that more efficiently tracks the issuance of citations. Immigration Reform protests and rallies occurred in the summer of 2006 with several thousand people holding protests in the downtown area. This posed a challenge in providing security for both the protestors and the community. Another resource introduced at the CRCC was the Segway. The Segway, a two-wheel mode of transportation, allows the Parking Enforcers to travel greater distances with more efficiency and less strain or injury. The introduction of the Segway has resulted in an increased number of parking citations.





## Mission Valley Regional Command Center

The Mission Valley Regional Command (MVRC) has over 100 officers serving an area with one of the highest population growth rates in the City of El Paso. In 2006, the MVRC focused on proactive efforts that included traffic checkpoints, an increase in DWI enforcement, and aggressive efforts to control crime trends.



MVRC sought to improve the quality of life for citizens through a variety of community-based programs. Patrol Area Representative (PAR) officers addressed quality-of-life issues on a daily basis through enforcement, complaint investigations, public presentations, and the identification of problem areas and potential solutions. Some of the major PAR programs and activities included junked vehicle ordinance enforcement initiatives; E-Force safety alerts; public presentations on crime trends/prevention; National Night Out; auto theft prevention initiatives; and school violence prevention initiatives such as the preparation of binders with contact information and maps of all area schools to assist during any critical incident. Strategies utilized by Crime Prevention officers included the Apartment Managers' Crime Prevention Initiative consisting of apartment managers meeting on a monthly basis to disseminate information and learn about crime trends as well as a push to augment Neighborhood Watch groups. The implementation of intervention strategies by School Resource Officers (SRO's) reduced the incidents of crime and fear of crime at school campuses. School presentation topics included sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, teen parenting, DARE curriculum, stranger danger, self-esteem and bullying, goal setting, and the consequences of engaging in graffiti. Other SRO programs include anger management presentations, after school programs for at-risk youth field trips to the State Jail Annex, Career Day Fairs, and the Sentinel Club, which brings the Crime Stoppers concept into the middle schools.

The MVRC took a proactive approach to its patrol and investigative component by addressing crime trends and patterns through the use of crime analysis, intelligence gathering, surveillance, apprehensions, and thorough case presentation to ensure successful convictions. Tactical (TAC) officers utilized field contacts and collaborated with Criminal Investigations Division (CID) detectives to better facilitate the apprehension of wanted subjects. Crime analysis reports were continuously used to identify and address crime trends and patterns in the Mission Valley area. TAC units adjusted their hours to conduct daytime/nighttime surveillance in high crime areas, particularly in reference to burglaries of vehicles/businesses, auto thefts, and fencing/theft operations. Detectives and TAC officers continued to work collaboratively to ensure that every case was investigated thoroughly to reach a successful conviction. Finally, a Focus File, based on the Repeat Offenders Program concept, and consisting of files of known offenders, was developed and was made accessible to all MVRC officers. In 2006, TAC and CID made 743 arrests and issued 242 citations. Compared to 2005, this represents an increase of 30.8% in arrests and an increase of 16.3% in citations.



## Northeast Regional Command Center

The Northeast Regional Command (NERC) has over 100 patrol officers and serves approximately 113,157 persons. The region encompasses the area within the boundaries of the state line south to Van Buren Avenue and Airport Road

west to the Franklin Mountains. The NERC has seen a major influx of soldiers and their families due to the increase of authorized strength at Fort Bliss resulting in a total of 9,000 new citizens to serve.

The NERC area was selected to be part of the 2006 Weed & Seed Program. The Weed & Seed Program is a program designed to grant lower socio-economic communities with a disproportionate amount of crime (based on per capita) with \$1 million in grant money. The NERC also took part in the City's goal to make El Paso a more pleasurable place to live by collaborating with the Neighborhood Revitalization Committee (NRC). A series of meetings was held to formulate a strategic plan to improve disadvantaged areas of the Northeast. The NERC assisted the NRC with the Neighborhood Cleanup program in December of 2006. The cleanup encompassed the lower Dyer area, specifically the areas of Hayes, Pollard, Van Buren, Polk and Justus, with the participation of many volunteers from different agencies such as the Center for Civic Engagement, Project Vida, the Street Department, and others. Additionally, the 2006 annual Pride Day was organized by the NERC's Citizen's Advisory Board with assistance from the NERC's Patrol Area Representative officers, successfully bolstering the community's cooperative spirit and pride for the area. The NERC also worked with the Citizen's Advisory Board to provide over 150 children at area elementary schools with Christmas gifts and new shoes.

Crime is a major issue for all regions and the NERC is no exception. Overall the NERC had reductions in seven out of eight Part I Crime categories: Murder, Sexual Assault, Robbery, Burglary and Vehicle Theft, Burglary of Vehicle, and Larceny. This reflects the dedication and sense of pride exercised by every officer at the NERC as they set out to serve and protect the citizens of our community.





## Pebble Hills Regional Command Center



The Pebble Hills Regional Command (PHRC) has a force of over 200 officers that serve a 58 square-mile area with a population estimated at 200,000 residents. In 2006, the PHRC staff focused on three major areas of concern: Auto Thefts, Traffic, and Community Policing. The PHRC has addressed these issues through the development of stronger levels of cooperation between the public and the police. In cooperation with the media, the PHRC sought to educate members of the community about safety tips and crime reporting. The staff at PHRC has endeavored to achieve the highest level of service to the community it serves and recognizes that there is much work to do in 2007. We are optimistic that the goals for the coming year will be attained with the help of the community and the continued professional work ethic of the people at the PHRC.

Although the City of El Paso is one of the safest in the United States, challenges associated with auto thefts in the area continue to remain a high priority. Weekly initiatives to address auto thefts were undertaken through the use of directed patrols, unmarked unit operations, and an increased police presence in marked units. Officers of the PHRC were tasked with making contact with one block captain in their assigned district to inform them about the number of auto thefts occurring in the region and the preventive measures that can be taken by the community. The block captains were receptive and appreciative of the information shared by the patrol officers. Patrol officers also issued Auto Theft Prevention Cards throughout the year to members of the public and cards containing crime prevention tips were placed on vehicles that were identified as high-profile targets to auto thieves. The cards were valuable tools for educating the public about measures they can take to safeguard their vehicles.

As a result of increased traffic enforcement initiatives in 2006, the PHRC has had the fewest traffic fatalities in the city. This can be attributed to red-light cameras recently installed in the region and efforts to make the public aware of traffic enforcement endeavors. Actions undertaken included monitoring major arterial roadways for hazardous violations, conducting traffic checkpoints, and utilizing the speed trailer. The PHRC also worked with area Community Action Board members to establish the School Zone Awareness Program which placed volunteers at area elementary school zones to record traffic violations. Eight volunteers were trained by the EPPD to act as observers and identify violations. The volunteers monitor traffic flow and note the vehicle registration plate of those drivers who commit traffic violations such as passing in a school zone, illegal u-turn, dropping off children in undesignated drop off sites, or parking too close to a crosswalk. The registration information noted by the volunteers is provided to the PHRC Special Operations Section and a courtesy letter is mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle. Since September 2006, 1,230 courtesy letters have been issued resulting in fewer violations in and around school zones.

Officers of the PHRC participated in a number of youth and community assistance programs in 2006 including Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) and the Spirit of Giving Tree. Officer Vicente Macias graduated 60 area students from the D.A.R.E. program. These students learn the importance of resisting the pressure to participate in illegal drug use and to become proactive, productive members of their community. To assist the less fortunate, PHRC Special Operations officers put up a Spirit of Giving Tree. With this program, PHRC officers were able to provide 188 children with Christmas presents.

Programs such as these have assisted the PHRC in maintaining its strong partnership with the community. By proactively involving citizens in safety programs, the PHRC has empowered the people living in the region to help reduce crime and has helped provide them with the quality law enforcement services they require.



## Westside Regional Command Center

In 2006, the primary objectives of the Westside Regional Command Center (WSRC) were an overall reduction in crime, improvement in patrol and traffic enforcement, focused training for sworn personnel, and the enhancement of community policing initiatives through public education efforts. These goals became even more important with the Westside's steady growth in population and demographic projections predicting a boom in the area extending from the Resler extension to the city limits. The Public Service Board sold 2,000 acres in this area for residential and commercial development, potentially adding up to 50,000 residents in the next few years.

With the increase in population and commerce from Mexico and other states, it is our goal to ensure the roadways in our region are safe for the community. The WSRC has seen an increase in the number of commercial vehicles in the area and several of these vehicles are unsafe and dangerous to public transportation. Officers responded by completing 105 Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) inspections compared to 96 in 2005, a 9% increase. Officers assigned to the WSRC increased awareness of abandoned vehicles that are an eyesore in the community and may present a danger to children who play in the area. This year 225 vehicles were tagged, a 125% increase from the 100 vehicles tagged in 2005.

Officers assigned to the WSRC completed eight hours of tactical training in the areas of active shooter, taser, handgun, and shotgun. Officers were also provided with training during shift meetings on the proper method to clear a building. In addition to each officer receiving a minimum of eight hours of tactical training, in 2007 officers will receive training in "customer service orientation." This training will benefit officers and the Department by instilling a high level of professional service to the public and reducing the amount of citizen complaints. It is our intention for officers to serve the public with empathy, be resourceful, and be willing to establish a meaningful relationship with our community.

The WSRC is determined to reduce sexual assaults and family violence related assaults by working closely with crime victims and taking a proactive approach to the crime trend by meeting with victims and potential victims with assistance from the Victim Services Response Team (VSRT). The WSRC has also increased public awareness through community presentations. The Special Operations Unit held 39 public training sessions during the first half of 2006 resulting in a 22% increase from the 32 sessions held in 2005.

In an effort to improve the quality of life for all members of the Westside area, the WSRC Special Operations officers along with the Citizen's Advisory Board created the Dog Days of Summer Animal Fair at White Spur Park. Over 400 participants attended the fair designed to educate pet owners about animal regulation laws and to create a partnership between pet owners, animal assistance organizations, and the Police Department. Officers organized pet events such as pet/owner look-alike contests, dog micro-chipping, and giveaways for the occasion.





## Storm 2006

In late July the City of El Paso was struck by a series of heavy rainstorms that created severe flooding in several areas of the borderland. On the evening of July 27<sup>th</sup>, residents of the Sun City were welcoming the late night showers and their cooling effects on the hot desert weather, but this quickly changed as the rain continued to saturate city streets and eventually turned many of them into small rivers.

By August 1<sup>st</sup>, the City of El Paso was dealing with a significant weather emergency. A state of emergency had been declared by city officials, Interstate 10 was closed from El Paso to Las Cruces, and many businesses shut down for the day. The El Paso Police Department immediately put into effect a Special Operations Center (S.O.C.) at Police Headquarters in order to begin assessing potential problem areas and to coordinate efforts to supplement support for those areas substantially affected by the heavy rains. A total of 5,376 calls for storm response were received on August 1. In order to deal with the

large volume of calls for service and have the necessary amount of personnel available, the EPPD adjusted work schedules and utilized cadets from the Academy as well as detectives and officers from specialized units to assist patrol officers. Additionally, various agencies including the Border Patrol, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Department of Public Safety, Fort Bliss, and the El Paso and Ysleta School Districts provided supplementary support services to EPPD.

The EPPD was faced with the monumental task of responding to a variety of situations resulting from the storm, including:

- Flooded roadways, deemed impassable, had to be closed to traffic;
- Sinkholes formed on several streets and motorists trapped in their vehicles had to be rescued;
- Residents and business owners were forced to abandon their properties after large amounts of mud and debris were swept into neighborhoods by rushing water resulting in increased monitoring of affected areas by police;
- Traffic had to be redirected and assistance provided to motorists as a result of traffic collisions caused by slick roads and poor driving conditions;
- Closures of the ports of entry required dozens of officers to be stationed in downtown streets close to the international bridges.

In order to prepare for necessary evacuations, the SOC also monitored neighborhoods in close proximity to the Rio Grande River after the U.S. Weather Service issued a warning that the river was approaching a level of 9.5 feet, a level very close to the levee's 11-12 foot capacity. The Upper Valley area was already experiencing massive damage from flooding and would be most affected by an overflow of river waters. On August 1<sup>st</sup>, rainfall in parts of the city exceeded the city's average annual rain totals and weather experts were referring to the weather event as a "500 Year Storm," the likes unseen by the Sun City in as many years.



Photo courtesy of the [El Paso Times](#).



Photo courtesy of the [El Paso Times](#).

## Storm 2006 Continued



On August 2<sup>nd</sup> the citizens of El Paso were given some respite from the rains, but were beginning to get a real picture of the damage done by the storm. The Westside area was hardest hit with reports of damaged residential and commercial buildings, including a collapsed shopping center, and numerous sinkholes. August 3<sup>rd</sup> would become another significant rain day, as city officials worried that the Frontera Baja dam located in Juarez, Mexico may not be able to contain its more than six million gallons of water thereby threatening to overflow into downtown El Paso neighborhoods. EPPD dispatched officers to the downtown regions most likely to be affected and went door-to-door to notify area residents to evacuate. Fifteen thousand residents were taken to area shelters, and once residents had been safely removed from the area, police officers marked all homes with red "Do Not Cross" police tape and sealed off the neighborhoods in order to prevent looting or vandalism. The Juarez dam managed to withstand the rain and residents were able to return to their homes; however, flooding from overflowing dams would continue to be a problem on August 4<sup>th</sup>. The Pershing Dam on Fort Bliss began to overflow after heavy rains on the 4<sup>th</sup> sending runoff into Central neighborhoods. The El Paso Police Department and other local law enforcement agencies began evacuating residents as floodwaters reached a level of three feet deep. Three hundred area residents were evacuated. Police officers waded through waist-deep waters to guide citizens out safely and to help evacuees carry out small children and their most important personal possessions. Police officers also returned to area homes to rescue family pets.



Photo courtesy of the [El Paso Times](#).

Citizens continue to commend EPPD on their efforts to maintain order and provide service to those in need during Storm 2006. In a letter to the Chief of Police Richard D. Wiles, Jimmy Rogers, Jr., CEO of Rogers & Belding Insurance Agency, Incorporated, stated:

"During the recent floods...our building had to be evacuated. My personal office is on the third floor of our building, and I had a front row seat to witness all of the traffic control, rescues of passengers stranded in flooded cars with water up to their windows, and many Police officers within several blocks doing their jobs.

We want to commend and thank all of your officers for their efforts. When our employees were vacating our building, your officers were there to advise them of the safest routes to return to their homes. Several of our employees commented...about how great they were.



Photo courtesy of the [El Paso Times](#).

We are long-time supporters and admirers of our Police Department, and we want to thank you for your personal leadership, and all of your officers who do such a great job.

The professionalism of the men and women of the EPPD allowed the citizens of El Paso to receive uninterrupted emergency services throughout the most trying of weather events ever experienced by the Sun City. Their dedication and hard work ensured that all of those affected were able to return to their normal routines as quickly as possible."

CITY OF EL PASO

## EPPD Community Involvement

### New Community Organization Formed to Assist Police



The newly-formed El Paso Police Foundation is a non-profit community organization formed by citizens to support the El Paso Police Department with funding to improve public safety and community collaboration. The Foundation represents a public/private partnership designed to assist the EPPD in building positive relationships within the community, improving officer proficiency and safety, and augmenting law enforcement equipment and technology in order to enhance public safety and the quality of life within the City of El Paso.

The Foundation complements existing City and Department funding, allowing the Department to support additional programs and maximize its resources. To this end, the Foundation provides support that addresses three overall areas:

#### **Public Safety Improvements**

Includes initiatives that address specific public safety needs, and improve police effectiveness and officer safety through the use of specialized equipment, evolving technology, and other innovations

- **Community Partnerships**

Includes projects that enhance the relationship between the community and the El Paso Police Department

- **Employee Development**

Includes programs designed to provide improved training and development opportunities to officers, educational assistance, and employee recognition efforts

The Foundation will provide additional support for dozens of initiatives in these critical-need areas which will allow EPPD to undertake innovative projects and improve its ability to serve the citizens of El Paso.

### Collision Reporting Made Easier for Citizens of El Paso

EPPD has simplified the process for reporting minor traffic collisions and obtaining copies of police case reports by making Public Counters and Collision Reporting Centers more readily available to the public. Members of the community can now request copies of case reports, accident reports, and criminal history records, or make open records requests at the Mission Valley, Pebble Hills, Northeast and Westside Regional Command Centers in addition to the Police Headquarters Records Counter. Collision Reporting Centers allow citizens involved in a minor traffic collision to exchange information at the site of the accident and then drive to a safe environment where they can file a police report. Collision Reporting Centers are intended to be used strictly for minor collisions, thus allowing patrol officers to be more readily available for major incidents that involve injury to a driver, cause one or more vehicles to become immobilized, or involve a driver that is intoxicated.



## New Communications Center Opened in 2006

EPPD unveiled a new, state-of-the-art 911 Call Center that will improve emergency service processes as well as create more efficiency within the department. The Communications Division previously occupied the second floor of the Headquarters building, but is now located in a modern building at the center of downtown El Paso. The building offers the most advanced communications technology available which will enable police call takers and dispatchers to quickly assess emergency situations and provide those affected with the necessary resources. The 911 Call Center is under the direction of Communications Manager Mary Kozak who has been serving the City of El Paso at the Communications Division for 30 years. Annually, over 960,000 calls for service are received with 468,617 calls resulting in the dispatching of a police unit. The Communications Center is a vital link between the citizens of our community and the officers who serve them.



Communications Manager Mary Kozak oversees day to day operations.



New 911 Communications Call Center.



Busy work stations: new 911 Communications Call Center .

## Red Light Cameras Installed

As part of a one-year pilot program, red-light cameras were installed at various intersections throughout the City of El Paso. Cameras photograph vehicles passing through an intersection at a red light and a violation notice is then mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle. EPPD began a 30-day educational period in September during which time warnings were mailed to violators to inform them of the dangers of ignoring red lights. The trial period for the newly installed cameras resulted in 916 warnings and a forty-five percent decrease in collisions at those intersections with red-light cameras. The red-light camera system will assist the department by serving as a deterrent against traffic violations and by keeping track of the worst violators.



Red Light Camera. Photo courtesy of the El Paso Times.



Posted signs advise drivers of photo enforcement.



# 2006 Dodge Chargers Ready for Patrol

In a drive toward the innovation of available resources, a pilot program was launched by EPPD to place five 2006 Dodge Chargers on patrol to assess their performance in the field. Each of the five regional command centers will receive one of the Dodge Chargers to place on patrol.

For the past ten years EPPD's traditional patrol vehicle has been the Ford Crown Victoria and the Department is now evaluating if Dodge Chargers can improve the quality of service provided by patrol officers. The Dodge Chargers are equipped with a V-6 engine and have a long list of standard features including electronic stability control with Brake Assist. Both of these standard features mean an overall improvement to the safety of officers and the public as the first stabilizes the vehicle in skidding conditions and the latter applies the brakes in the most effective manner in emergency braking situations. The 2006 Chargers are also outfitted with radar, mobile computer terminals, vehicle locaters, and other police patrol car equipment. Another favorable factor in selecting the Dodge Charger is the roomier interior.



selecting the Dodge Charger for evaluation lies in the overall cost effectiveness of the vehicles. The V-6 engines are more fuel-efficient than the current Ford Crown Victoria's V-8 engines. Additionally, a fully-equipped Charger costs about \$400 less than the Ford Crown Victoria traditionally used by the department.

EPPD's primary motivation for



To protect and serve: the 2006 Dodge Charger ready to take to El Paso city streets.



## Child Identification Cards

Among the many significant projects in which EPPD is involved includes the Child Identification Program. In October of 2006 the Department's Special Projects Unit acquired computer software and hardware components used to create special children's identification cards for parents. The Special Projects Unit trained Community Service officers at the five regions, as well as members of the El Paso Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association, in the operation of the equipment. The ID kit has since been used at 11 community safety education events with over 300 identification cards created. The identification program is provided free-of-charge to parents and no data is retained on the child. As child identification cards are created, Community Service officers provide important tips to parents about steps they can take to ensure the safety of their children. In the event that a child is ever missing, the identification cards provide law enforcement with vital information about the youngster.



Officer Linda Olvera inputs child identification information.



Child poses for photo.

## Police Explorers Compete at Annual Event

EPPD's Explorer Program has been in existence for over 50 years and is one of the oldest in the nation. The Police Explorers Program develops the leadership skills of adolescents while inspiring them to strive for personal excellence. The young men and women who volunteer in law enforcement exploring are provided a unique opportunity to learn about EPPD through career-oriented activities, national competitions, and volunteer work. This year the Mission Valley Regional Command Explorer Post 2002 competed at a national event and brought home the third place trophy in the category of white-collar crime. The members of the Police Explorers proudly serve their community and many look forward to an exciting, fulfilling career in law enforcement.



MVRCC Explorers take home Third Place Trophy in White-Collar Crime Category.



Police Explorers stand ready for competition.



MVRCC Explorer Post 2002.



## Lending a Hand to the Community: EPPD Blood and Bone Marrow Drives

Throughout 2006 EPPD has collaborated with United Blood Services, the Mayor’s Office, and the National Marrow Donor Program to sponsor donation drives. A very active program in the community is the Mayor’s Blood Drive which was formed to assist community blood centers in ensuring that a safe and sufficient blood supply exists. EPPD has joined in the effort by hosting seven blood drives at four of the five regional Command Centers and at Headquarters. The Department also sponsored eight bone marrow drives in order to increase the number of registered donors.

A very special guest offered his support at the Westside Regional Command’s blood drive. Basketball Hall of Fame inductee and former UTEP Coach Don Haskins visited the Westside Regional Command in July 2006. Haskins signed t-shirts, basketball memorabilia, and “Glory Road” keepsakes for those present at the blood drive. Blood donations at the WSRC were made by both police officers and the public. Blood drives were also held at the Police Association Hall and the Police Academy raising a total of 165 pints of blood throughout the year.

EPPD also recognizes the potentially life-saving need to register prospective bone marrow donors in order to assist patients with leukemia, lymphoma, and other blood diseases. Assistant Chief of Police Diana Kirk organized eight bone marrow drives in order to register likely donors. A total of 194 possible donors filled out a health questionnaire and submitted to having their cheek cells swabbed to test their tissue type. EPPD’s partnerships with United Blood Services, the Mayor’s Office, and the National Marrow Donor Program are all an expression of the Department’s efforts to serve the needs of this community with compassion and pride.



Commander Eric Herrera, Sgt. Woodrow Bare, Officer Ralph Mena, Detective Ana Navedo, Officer Saul Villalobos, and Officer Nancy Madrid with Don Haskins (seated at center).



Officer Martin Sanchez donates blood at the CRCC blood drive.



Sergeant Justin Monarez at NERC blood drive.



EPPD Recruit demonstrates how to swab cheek cells for tissue testing.



## United Blood Services Celebrating Community Heroes

In August, EPPD Officer Gilbert Aguirre and other law enforcement officials received the “Connected for Life—Celebrating Community Heroes” award from United Blood Services. Originally organized by Mayor John Cook and adopted by United Blood Services, Celebrating Community Heroes is a family-oriented event that offers free health screenings, blood donation opportunities, and entertainment to the community. The mission of Celebrating Community Heroes is to honor the memory of those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, as well as to honor local heroes for their outstanding service to the community. The keynote speaker for this event was Rebecca Marchand who spoke in loving memory of her spouse, Al Marchand, a flight attendant on United Airlines Flight 175. This year nine local law enforcement officers from various federal, county, state, and city agencies were recognized for their service to the community. Officer Aguirre was nominated by the Mission Valley Regional Command Center for his heroism in the line of duty during Storm 2006 when he rescued an elderly man from his vehicle after it fell into a sinkhole, placing the man in danger of being submerged by flood waters. Officer Aguirre also serves the community through his commitment as a regular blood donor. Representatives from EPPD’s Personnel Division, as well as Police Area Representatives, were present to provide information to the community about various police safety initiatives and recruiting efforts.



Officer Aguirre receives the “Connected for Life – Celebrating Community Heroes” award from Mayor John Cook.



Officer Jose Milian answers questions and imparts important safety tips to citizens.



Officer Jeff Brockhoff provides recruiting information to a Celebrating Community Heroes participant.



Mayor John Cook addresses community attendees.



## 2006 Women in Law Enforcement Conference



### Women in Law Enforcement Conference 2006

(Clockwise from top left):

- Conference committee members
- Speaker: Lt. Colonel (Retired) Consuelo Castillo Kickbush
- Honor Guard Officer Sylvia Garcia
- Vendor tables
- Speaker: Vivian B. Lord, Ph.D.





## Fourth Annual Women in Law Enforcement Conference

EPPD's Fourth Annual National Empowering Women in Law Enforcement Conference was held in April of 2006. The conference brought together over 200 peace officers from law enforcement agencies all over the country in order to

11-year-old female students from Collins Elementary and Del Norte Heights Elementary were special guests of the conference on the final day. Both are members of their school's Safety Patrol and have aspirations to one day serve as peace officers.

The success of the 2006 conference can be measured by the overwhelming positive responses from attendees. One conference attendee stated that the event was "an ideal opportunity to make great connections and grow personally", while another commented about how after attending the conference she was "inspired and felt pride" for what she does. Additionally, attendees remarked upon the hospitality of committee members and the City of El Paso's beauty and appeal.

- Review the latest management strategies unique to law enforcement;
- Cultivate leadership skills through intensive educational seminars;
- Network and build alliances within law enforcement agencies; and,
- Encourage the professional development of women with careers in law enforcement and those seeking to begin a career of service.

Attendees were provided with seven conference sessions that addressed several topics including perception management, leadership strategies, time management, the challenges faced by women as they rise up the ranks in law enforcement, and the expectations of women in high-ranking positions. Speakers came from diverse areas of law enforcement and included City of Sumter Police Chief Patty Jaye Garrett Patterson, Orange County Sheriff's Office Detective Jennifer Fulford Salvano, and Vivian B. Lord, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte. All of the attendees received a certificate of completion acknowledging their participation in these seminars.

In order to foster the growing number of women interested in law enforcement careers, EPPD sponsored five scholarships to women within the community who expressed a desire to serve as peace officers. Additionally, Dyncorp sponsored six scholarships totaling \$3,000 for women from qualifying law enforcement agencies. In order to reach out to younger generations of women, two

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*"I think this is the kind of experience that can show and teach us how to stay positive, have faith in what we do, and remain confident"*  
*-Conference Attendee*

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As a result of the tremendous positive feedback received from conference attendees, conference organizers plan to expand the 2007 Women in Law Enforcement Conference to an international level and invite peace officers from around the globe.





## Training Academy and Recruitment Efforts 2006

EPPD's effort to increase officer presence on the street and fill vacancies resulted in the formation of the Personnel Division. The primary functions of this division are to perform the recruiting and testing services necessary in the acquisition of new civilian and sworn personnel and to act as the Department's liaison with the City's Human Resource's Department. The Personnel Division has worked diligently throughout the year to promote EPPD's commitment to provide outstanding community service and attract those individuals most qualified to become contributing members to EPPD's tradition of excellence.

Personnel Division's efforts in 2006 included:

- Attendance at 9 job fairs
- Presentations at 11 conferences and special events
- Classroom presentations to criminal justice classes at five university and four college campuses
- Visits to seven law enforcement academies throughout Texas
- Recruitment displays at Texas and New Mexico universities and college campuses
- Advertisement of job opportunities in local newspapers, university newspapers, law enforcement magazines and websites, billboards and radio programs
- Assistance in sponsorship of two University of Texas at El Paso football games and the El Paso Branch NAACP Awards Banquet
- Recruitment and graduation of 65 new officers and 21 lateral officers



### Recruits Hard at Work

(Clockwise from top left):

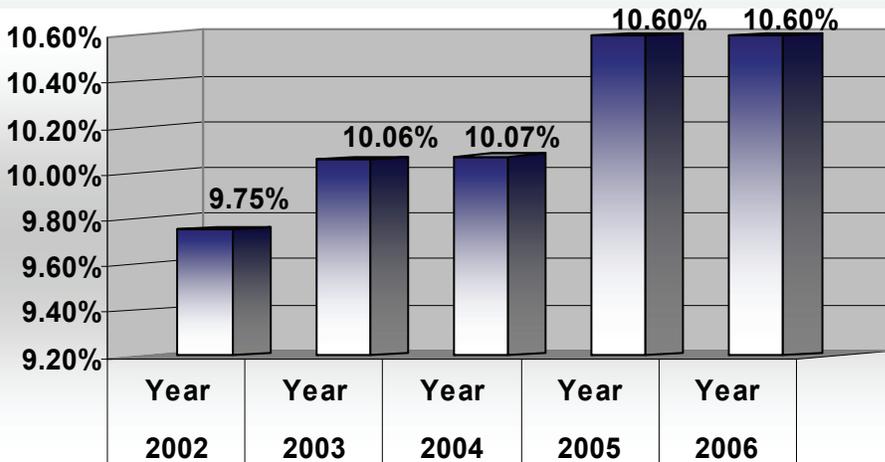
- Training run along Scenic Drive
- Concentrated effort in the classroom
- Calisthenics and drills
- Reaping the rewards—Chief Wiles pins badge on newly graduated officer



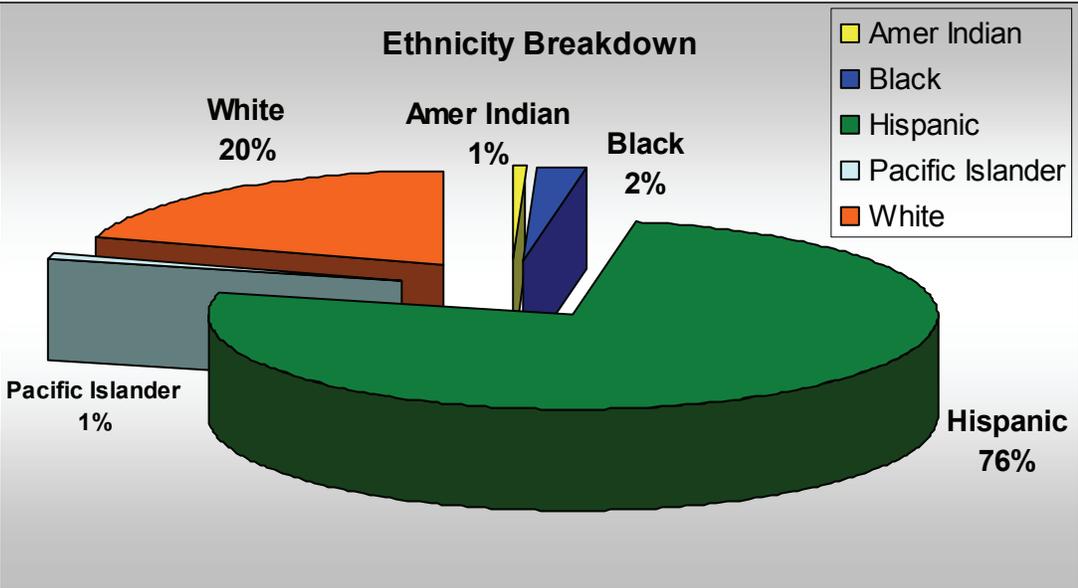


## Department Staffing Statistics

Percentage of Female Officers: 2002-2006



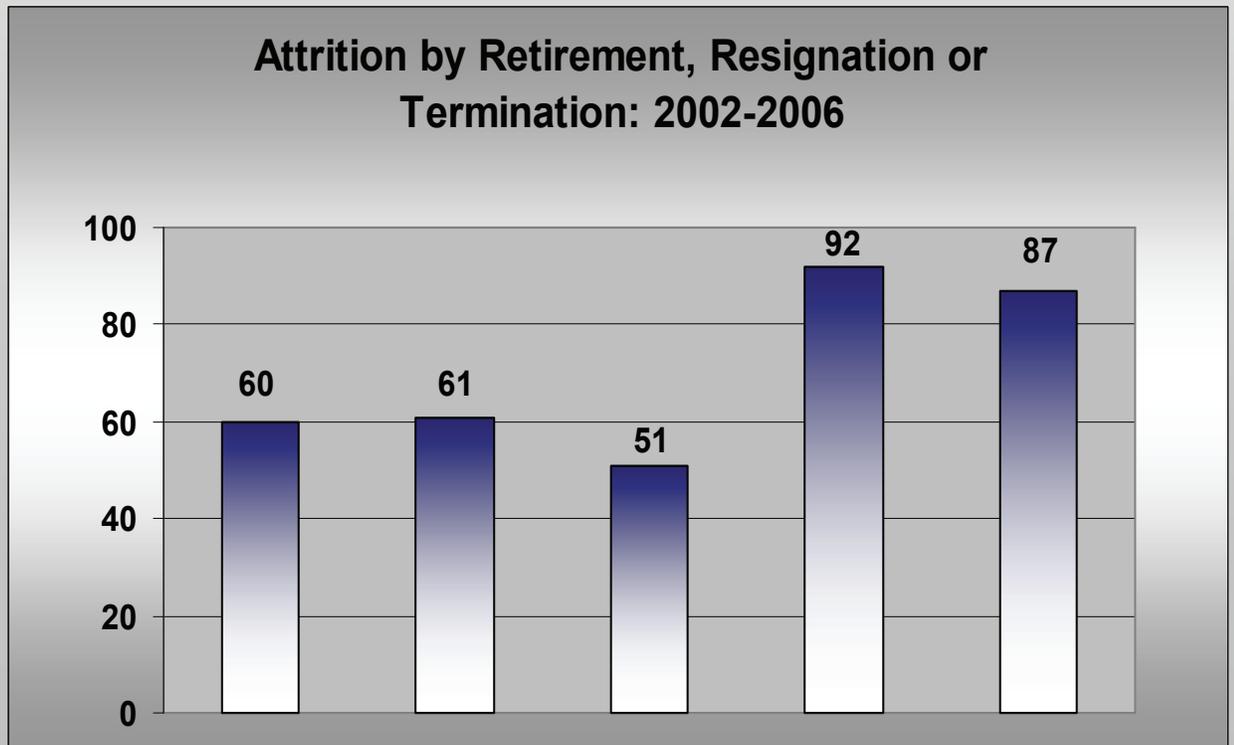
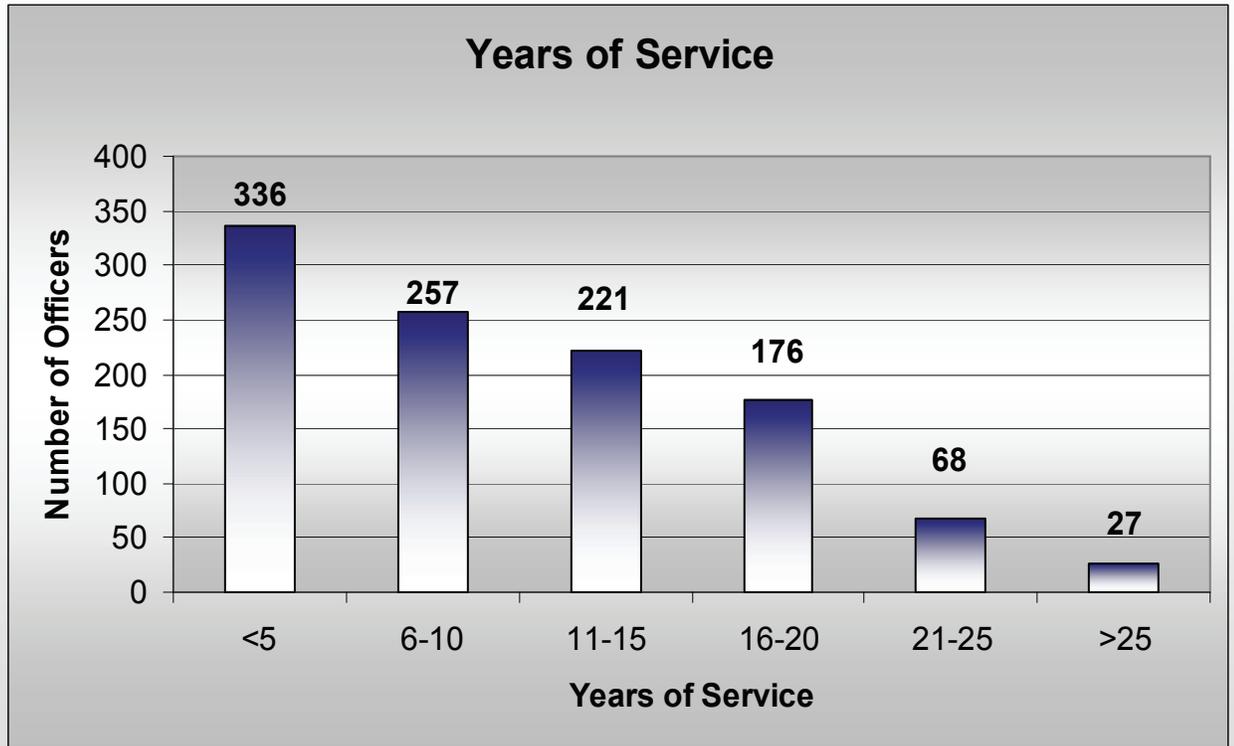
Ethnicity Breakdown



RANK/GENDER			
RANK	FEMALE	MALE	Grand Total
Chief	0	1	1
Assistant Chief	1	1	2
Deputy Chief	1	3	4
Commander	0	8	8
Lieutenant	2	34	36
Sergeant	15	107	122
Detective	28	144	172
Officer	68	672	740
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>1085</b>
<b>Percentages</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>89.4%</b>	



## Years of Service and Attrition





## 2006 Crime Comparison Statistics

PART I CRIMES	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
MURDER	20	14	21	11	14	13
MANSLAUGHTER	1	3	1	0	0	1
RAPE	203	221	219	201	286	304
ROBBERY	775	575	581	570	448	503
ASSAULTS	14,760	14,666	13,222	12,308	11,560	11,248
BURGLARY	2,553	2,221	2,185	2,304	2,127	2,212
LARCENY/THEFT	22,039	18,887	17,735	16,702	14,662	14,808
MOTOR VEH. THEFT	1,836	1,998	1,860	1,840	2,580	3,552
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42,187</b>	<b>38,585</b>	<b>35,824</b>	<b>33,936</b>	<b>31,677</b>	<b>32,641</b>
		-8.5%	-7.2%	-5.3%	-6.6%	3.0%

INDEX CRIMES	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
MURDER	20	14	21	11	14	13
RAPE	203	221	219	201	286	304
ROBBERY	775	575	581	570	448	503
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	3,388	3,082	2,681	2,460	1,854	1,606
BURGLARY	2,553	2,221	2,185	2,304	2,127	2,212
LARCENY/THEFT	22,039	18,887	17,735	16,702	14,662	14,808
MOTOR VEH. THEFT	1,836	1,998	1,860	1,840	2,580	3,552
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30,814</b>	<b>26,998</b>	<b>25,282</b>	<b>24,088</b>	<b>21,971</b>	<b>22,998</b>
		-12.4%	-6.4%	-4.7%	-8.8%	4.7%





## Chief's Awards



**Executive of the Year**  
Assistant Chief Paul Cross



**Supervisor of the Year**  
Sergeant Darwin Armitage



**Detective of the Year:**  
Detective Luis M. Jimenez



**Officer of the Year:**  
Officer Dana Ellingson



**Meritorious Service Award:**  
Commander  
Eric Shelton



**Meritorious Service Award:**  
Lieutenant  
Lem Tong



**Medal of Valor:**  
Officer Ricardo Huante



**Medal of Valor:**  
Officer Scott Wilkins



**Medal of Valor:**  
Officer James T. O'Connor



## Chief's Awards



**Community Policing  
Award:  
Marlo Tena**



**Civilian of the Year:  
Cynthia Beltran**



**Community Policing  
Award:  
Araceli Saucedo**

**Civilian Unit of the Year:**

Communications Division

**Unit of the Year:**

Alpha Unit

### Chief's Award Recipients:

Gary Herman  
DEA Agent Louis Arona  
Sylvester Garnett  
Jorge Hernandez  
Dustin Richard Novotny  
Akela Hodges  
Jose Luis Mena  
Isaac Diaz  
Francisco Espinoza  
Manny Morales  
Omar Martinez  
Russell Williams  
Tigua Police Department Officer Rick Lopez

### Medal of Valor Recipients :

Officer Lionel Gutierrez  
Officer Elizabeth C. Jimenez  
Officer Juan Antonio Rivera  
Officer Calvin Green

### Chief's Spirit of Unity Award:

Dave Scepanski  
Marge Bartoletti

### Vision Award:

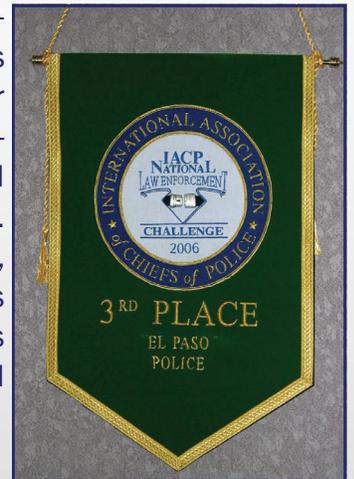
Leo DiValentino  
Jose Rodriguez



## Special Recognitions

### International Association of Chiefs of Police National Law Enforcement Challenge

EPPD received recognition from the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). The EPPD was awarded third place in the 2005 IACP National Law Enforcement Challenge Awards program which addresses programs that promote highway and community safety in a proactive manner. The EPPD was nominated in the category for police departments with over 1,000 officers. The entry submitted highlighted various departmental programs addressing traffic safety in the area of DWI enforcement, speed enforcement, and occupancy protection. Other programs submitted under the EPPD included safety fairs, Shattered Dreams educational presentations, and the numerous safety presentations conducted by the Safe Communities Program. The IACP recognized the department at an annual conference held in October of 2006 in Boston, Massachusetts.



### Morgan Quitno Press Ranks El Paso as Nation's Third Safest City

The Morgan Quitno Press identified El Paso as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Safest City in its 13th Annual Safest City Award. The 2005 statistics, released by the FBI on September 18, 2006 were used to determine the rankings and El Paso was ranked third among 32 cities with populations of 500,000 or more.



### Safest 10

- San Jose, California
- Honolulu, Hawaii
- El Paso, Texas**
- New York, New York
- Austin, Texas
- San Diego, California
- San Antonio, Texas
- Louisville, Kentucky
- Fort Worth, Texas
- Jacksonville, Florida

## El Paso Police Department: Special Recognitions



### El Paso Police Department Awarded Two National “Webber Seavey” Awards

EPPD was selected as a semifinalist in the Fifteenth Annual Webber Seavey Award for Quality in Law Enforcement. Webber Seavey Awards are given in partnership with the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). EPPD was selected as a semifinalist in the Webber Seavey Awards for their work in the Human Trafficking Task Force and for the Multi-Agency Referral System (MARS). The Human Trafficking Task Force was recognized for efforts of increased public awareness, training for members of the Department, and partnerships established between Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the United States Border Patrol. MARS is a program that works to identify and address issues of at-risk youth who without intervention, could become an immediate or long-term public safety threat. Direct and early intervention into a youth’s life will have an immediate positive impact and reduce the likelihood of participation in negative behaviors or criminal activities. The program brings together various community organizations that can assist at-risk youths to include social services, health services, at-risk behavior prevention, and intervention to those youths and their families. The IACP recognized EPPD at an award ceremony during its annual conference in October, 2006 in Boston, Massachusetts.



Webber Seavey Awards on display.

### El Paso Police Department’s Special Traffic Investigations Unit Receives National Recognition

EPPD’s Special Traffic Investigations Unit has been selected for a Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) Study as one of four national model programs by Dynamic Science Incorporated (DSI) who is contracted by the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA). The study was conducted by researching data and statistics from law enforcement departments throughout the country who have attained a high level of success in prosecuting intoxicated driving cases involving fatalities/serious crashes. Criteria used for selection of the four model departments was cooperation with other agencies such as the District Attorney and Medical Examiner; crash reconstruction/DWI training and expertise of investigators; investigation procedures; technological assets; and success with prosecution of cases. Other departments selected were from Marion County in Indiana, Bergen County in New Jersey, and Sullivan County in Tennessee. As a result of the selections, DSI staff will visit with the four departments to document how the units operate in order to prepare a “How To” model guide for other departments to utilize when starting up their own teams. The NHTSA sponsored study is called “Working To Increase DWI Conviction Rates”.



Special Traffic Investigations Lieutenant Jaime Velasquez at press release.



## 2006 Promotions

<u>Month</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>
April	Detective	Dwain L. Johnson, Jr.
April	Sergeant	Virginia Jimenez
April	Lieutenant	Humberto Talamantes
April	Commander	Eric Herrera
July	Detective	Carlos Lespron
July	Detective	Jorge L. Chavez
July	Detective	Oscar Gomez
July	Lieutenant	Miguel A. Zamora
August	Detective	Rudy Olague
August	Detective	Jeffrey D. Cotham
August	Sergeant	Christopher Hendricks
August	Lieutenant	Fernando Yanez
August	Lieutenant	James V. Lockhart, Jr.
August	Commander	David A. Garcia
August	Commander	Scott W. Graves



## 2006 Promotions

<u>Month</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>
December	Detective	Jorge Molina, Jr.
December	Detective	David Cox
December	Detective	Robert H. Calderon
December	Detective	Andrew D. Apodaca
December	Detective	Susan Barraza
December	Detective	Martha De Anda
December	Detective	Ramon Lucero
December	Detective	Fernando Corral
December	Detective	Michaela O'Quin
December	Detective	Mario Diaz
December	Sergeant	Thomas Pena
December	Sergeant	Stefan Happ
December	Sergeant	Pedro Salcido
December	Sergeant	Ricardo Medina
December	Sergeant	Andrew Salazar
December	Sergeant	Curtis Hamilton
December	Sergeant	George Rey
December	Sergeant	Patrick Natividad
December	Sergeant	Louis C. Johnson
December	Lieutenant	Eduardo Valencia



## In Memoriam



**WE KEPT OUR PLEDGE  
FORGET NOT THEIR SACRIFICE**

**Thomas Mode, July 11, 1883**

**Newton Stewart, February 17, 1900**

**William Paschall, December 4, 1914**

**Gus Chitwood, February 13, 1915**

**Sidney J. Benson, June 28, 1917**

**Juan N. Garcia, Jr., February 1, 1918**

**Octaviano Perea, February 2, 1918**

**George F. Drake, September 22, 1918**

**Harry Phoenix, June 13, 1921**

**Frank Burns, April 12, 1923**

**Enrique Rivera, November 25, 1923**

**John J. Coleman, July 14, 1924**

**Lynn McClintock, October 2, 1926**

**Schlyer C. Houston, October 4, 1927**

**Ralph Marmolejo, March 17, 1951**

**Warren Mitchell, May 16, 1953**

**Guillermo Sanchez, December 14, 1957**

**Arthur Lavender, December 16, 1966**

**Roger Hamilton, June 21, 1970**

**Guy Myers, Jr., July 24, 1970**

**David Bannister, June 3, 1974**

**Wayne Carreon, June 27, 1980**

**Charles Heinrich, May 3, 1983**

**Norman Montion, October 17, 1989**

**Ernesto Serna, November 12, 1991**

**Andrew Barcena, September 25, 2004**



# In Recognition of their Service: 2006 Retirees

## January

Detective Francisco A. Rios 21 Years  
 Officer Eduardo Robles, Jr. 28 Years  
 Officer Robert De La Rosa 20 Years

## March

Sergeant Sylvia R. Perez 20 Years  
 Officer Carolina Quintana 17 Years  
 Officer Douglas K. Lloyd 21 Years

## April

Officer Karl Eric Myers 21 Years  
 Officer Lorenzo G. Mirabal 28 Years  
 Louie Alvidrez 19 Years  
     Police Supply Supervisor  
 Sylvia L. Amador 15 Years  
     Public Safety Call Taker

## May

Officer Rudy Bonilla 22 Years

## June

Lieutenant Victor Hinojosa 21 Years  
 Detective Luis Beltran 28 Years  
 Officer Bryan Marusich 24 Years

## July

Commander Raymundo Rodriguez 21 Years  
 Commander Jose L. Ramirez 20 Years  
 Detective Allen H. Mills 22 Years  
 Detective Victor Portillo 24 Years  
 Officer Walter D. Wilson 22 Years

## August

Sergeant Andres Yslas 32 Years  
 Detective Sandra J. Rau 22 Years  
 Teresa Sandoval 22 Years  
     Police Records Specialist  
 Ana Montalvo 32 Years  
     Parking Enforcement Controller

## September

Lieutenant Eulalio Balderrama 25 Years  
 Sergeant Ricardo Elias 21 Years  
 Detective Louis E. Carreon 34 Years  
 Bertha Nieto 19 Years  
     Training Technician Instructor  
 Evangelina Hernandez 16 Years  
     Parking Enforcement Controller

## October

Lieutenant James S. Arbogast 23 Years  
 Sergeant Carlos R. Andrade 30 Years  
 Detective Antonio Hernandez, Jr. 24 Years  
 Detective Carlos G. Gonzalez 33 Years

## November

Detective Zoe Ann Gilkison 20 Years  
 Officer William Gilkison 21 Years

## December

Lieutenant Lisa Gailey 21 Years  
 Sergeant Francisco Juarez 21 Years  
 Sergeant Miriam Bogle 21 Years  
 Sergeant Wade C. Forrister 25 Years  
 Detective Miguel Villalobos 21 Years  
 Detective Jesus Pantoja 24 Years  
 Detective Josefina Bare 21 Years

# El Paso Police Department



## 2006 By the Numbers

**1,091**

Sworn Personnel

**322**

Civilian Personnel

**\$101,949,716**

Police Budget

El Paso Police Department

Headquarters

911 North Raynor

El Paso, Texas

79903

(915) 564-7000

**468,617**

Dispatched Events

Planning and Research

Section

(915) 564-7344

[www.eppd.org](http://www.eppd.org)

**5**

Regional Command Centers

**3rd**

Safest Large City