# DENISON POLICE DEPARTMENT



Annual Report

2023

108 WEST MAIN STREET DENISON, TX 75021

WWW.DENISONPDTX.COM





#### **Mission**

The Denison Police Department is committed to serving and protecting while partnering with our community to enhance public safety and quality of life within the city.

#### **Values**

#### **Service**

We strive to meet or exceed the expectations for those in need of law enforcement assistance.

#### Honesty

We adhere to the facts with fairness and straightforwardness of conduct.

Integrity

We are committed to the highest standards of ethical conduct, with strict adherence to moral values and principles.

#### **Oath of Honor**

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of Peace Officer for the City of Denison of the State of Texas, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and of this State, so help me God."



Denison, Texas is located in northeastern Grayson County on U.S. Highway 75, just 75 miles north of Dallas and 4 miles south of the Texas / Oklahoma border. State Highway 120 passes through Denison from east to west and State Highway 84 borders northern Denison, providing direct access to Lake Texoma, which is the 12th largest man-made lake in the United States.

#### **Quick Facts**

Founded: 1872

Population: 27,500

Square Miles: 29.06

**Higher Educational Institutions:** 

Grayson College



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# **Message from the Chief**

I hope this message finds you well. As your Police Chief, it is both an honor and a privilege to serve this vibrant and diverse community. On behalf of the men and women of the Denison Police Department, we are proud to share our 2023 Annual Report with you. This report should give you some insight into the goals and future direction of the Denison Police Department. The information contained within this report reflects our police department's mission and vision to "Serving and Protecting" through our continued efforts to foster community partnerships while preventing and reducing criminal activity.

I am pleased to report a significant reduction in overall crime in our city. In the year 2023, we have recorded a decrease of 24%. This accomplishment

is a testament to the dedication of our officers, the support of our community, and the effectiveness of collaborative initiatives. I want to express my sincere gratitude to each and every member of our community who has played a part in making this possible. Your partnership, cooperation, and trust in our police force have been crucial in achieving this significant milestone. Together, we are building a community of choice where safety and well-being are paramount.

While celebrating the success, it is essential to recognize that there will always be areas for improvement. Ongoing evaluations of law enforcement practices, data-driven analysis, and regular feedback mechanisms can help identify opportunities to enhance efficiency and community relations. Our commitment to ensuring the safety and security of our residents is unwavering. We understand the challenges that come with a growing community, and we are actively taking steps to address them.

Moving forward, our primary focus will be on strengthening our community policing efforts. We believe that building strong relationships between law enforcement and the community is key to creating a safer and more secure environment for all. Community policing is not just a strategy; it is a philosophy that guides our interactions and partnerships. We want to work hand-in-hand with you to identify and address the issues that matter most to our community.

We would like to thank our Mayor, City Council Members, City Management, and Partners. Your support has been instrumental in creating an environment that fosters innovation and progress. Your commitment to the betterment of Denison is evident in the policies and initiatives that contribute to our shared success.

I personally want to thank our employees and volunteers for their continued hard work and dedication to this community. When we work together, we help improve the quality of life for all that live, work, and visit Denison. Thank you for your trust and support.

Chief Mike Gudgel



follow Chief Gudgel: @ChiefGudgel



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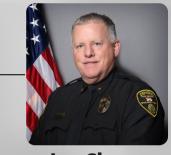


follow Chief Gudgel: @ChiefGudgel

# **Leadership Team**



Mike Gudgel
Chief of Police



**Joe Clapp**Asst. Police Chief



**Don Moree**Asst. Police Chief



Brent Rains Lieutenant



Chris Nordhoff
Lieutenant



Holly Jenkins
Lieutenant



Chris Kuhn
Lieutenant



**Travis Mullican**Sergeant



Robby Carney Sergeant



Jeremy Monroe Sergeant



Jordan Jones Sergeant



**Colby Hogenson**Sergeant



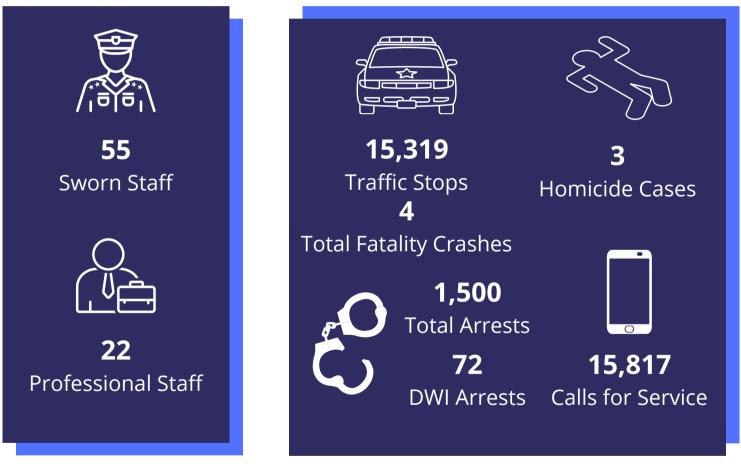
Kristijan Jakovac Sergeant

<sup>\*</sup>Due to the nature of his work, our Narcotics Unit Sergeant is not pictured



# 2023 At a Glance







# **2023 Year in Review**

## **JANUARY**



We partnered with a local non-profit,
Grayson Crisis
Center, to advocate and raise awareness for Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

### **APRIL**



We celebrated
National Public Safety
Telecommunicators
Week with our
Communications
Specialists.

### **FEBRUARY**



We recognized the accomplishments and hard work within our department at our first Awards
Banquet.

### MAY



Our Mayor and City Council officially proclaimed the week of May 15th as National Police Week.

### **MARCH**



We had the opportunity to recognize all the women who work behind the scenes at DPD for International Women's Day.

## JUNE



We partnered with our local animal shelter, Denison Animal Welfare Group, for a campaign called Furever Friday where we feature adoptable animals on our social media pages.

# JULY



We partnered with Texoma Regional Blood Center and Denison Fire Rescue for our annual Battle of the Badges blood drive.

### **AUGUST**



Our School Resource Officers headed back to school! We kickstarted the school year with safety tips.

### **SEPTEMBER**



On September 11th, we gathered, united as Grayson County, for a ceremony to honor the fallen and to reflect on the tragedy that befell our great nation 22 years ago.

### **OCTOBER**



We hosted our 4th annual National Night Out event, a community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.

### **NOVEMBER**



We had a great time meeting some of the members from the local Senior Center to participate in chair volleyball.

### DECEMBER



We discussed the dangers of impaired driving with citizens at TxDot's Holiday Safety Impaired Driving event.



# **Police Department Budget**

**Total Police Department Budget** (Includes: Police, Communications, and **Animal Services**)

\$7,994,933

Police % of City Budget

20%

City of Denison General **Fund Budget** 

\$39,895,975



Operational Expenses

\$1,040,915

Personnel Expenses

\$6,954,018

### **Cost of a New Recruit**







Equipment







# **Police Department Staffing**



Chief of Police	1
Assistant Chiefs	2
Lieutenants	4
Sergeants	7
Officers	36
Detectives	5
Communications	12
Animal Services	3
Professional Staff	7

Animal Services 3.9%

Lieutenants 5.2%

No data to display

**Total: 77** 





# Recruiting/Training

Civil Service Exams

4

Background Investigations

66



### **2023 Hiring Statistics**





Promotions

#### **Promotions**

- Stacee Reed was promoted from Dispatcher to Communications Supervisor
- Chad Allen was promoted from Communications Supervisor to Support Services Manager
- Kristijan Jakovac was promoted from Officer to Sergeant

### **Specialized Training**

- 2 Pedestrian/Automobile Collision Reconstruction
- 3 Crime Free Multi-Housing
- 2 Crime Prevention by Environmental Design
- 3 Basic Instructor
- 1 Advanced Homicide/Violent Crimes Investigation
- 1 Field Training Officer
- 2 Collision Reconstruction
- 2 ALERRT Level I Instructor
- 2 Red Dot Handgun Instructor
- 3 Civilian Response to Active Shooter Instructor
- 2 Unmanned Aircraft/Drone
- 2 Police Bicycle Certification Course
- 1 Firearms Instructor
- 2 Vehicle Contraband Training DESERT SNOW

#### **Drones:**

- DJI Mavic 2 Enterprise Visible and Thermal Imagery
- DJI Mavic 3 Enterprise Visible and Thermal Imagery
- DJI Phantom 4
- AUTEL EVO II Enterprise V3 Thermal Imagery

**Total Training Hours** 

10,535





# **Patrol Division**

The Patrol Division is comprised of over 30 officers whose primary functions include law enforcement, crime detection, traffic enforcement, collision investigations, and responding to calls for service. This is the largest division in our department. There are four patrol shifts: A1, A2, B1, and B2, each of which are 12 hour shifts.



### **Total Activity**

2022 **29,064**  2023

31,947



9% increase from 2022



# **Investigations**

The Investigations Division is comprised of The Criminal Investigations Division, The Narcotics Unit, The K9 Unit, and Property and Evidence. The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) is responsible for investigating criminal cases. CID consists of sworn and civilian personnel with extensive law enforcement backgrounds and training. Investigators may be responsible for locating and interviewing complainants, witnesses, and defendants. They thoroughly survey local crime scenes. At times, they will coordinate investigations with federal and other local law enforcement agencies and perform related duties. The Narcotics Unit is responsible for incidents surrounding narcotics, intelligence, and surveillance.

#### **Criminal Investigations**

New Cases	534
Cases filed with the D.A.	1,006
Cases Solved/Closed	1,335
Stolen Property Reported	\$1,101,763
Recovered Property	\$448,227

#### Evidence

Items Received	1,843
Items Disposed	127
Lab Submissions	302
Lab Returns	266

#### **Narcotics Unit**

New Cases	269
Joint Investigations	57
Arrests Made	177
State Dollar Amount Seized	\$19,788

#### Administrative Investigations

Complaints Investigated	1
Sustained	0
Not Sustained	1









# Narcotics/K9 Unit

### **2023 Denison PD Drug Seizures**

Marijuana Meth Heroin Cocaine Fentanyl

5,525
grams

5,748
grams

35
grams

100
grams

81
grams

### **Drugs Seized**

\$702,440

#### **K9 Unit**

The K9 Unit provides support for our officers in the field searching for evidence, narcotics, and suspects. The team is made up of one handler, Officer Tyler Buchanan, and K9 service dog Officer Echo. Officer Buchanan and Echo go through 10 hours of training each week (40 per month). The pair also goes through a recertification process yearly.

### K9 Echo 2023 Workload

NS ECHO 2025 WOLKIOGA	
Traffic Stops	381
Arrests	60
K9 Deployment	59
Money Seized	\$3,016
Meth Seized	710 gm
Marijuana Seized	12 oz
Cocaine Seized	219 gm
Heroin	3 gm
Fentanyl	14 gm
Illegally Possessed Guns Seized	3







<sup>\*</sup>K9 Echo teamed up with outside agencies for some of his drug seizures.



# **UCR Part 1 Crime Comparison**

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program generates reliable statistics for use in law enforcement. It also provides information for students of criminal justice, researchers, the media, and the public. The program has been provided crime statistics since 1930. These crimes include homicide, rape, robbery, burglary, aggravated assault, theft, and vehicle theft.

The City of Denison recorded a 24% decrease in overall crime in 2023. Denison's violent crime rate dropped 25%, and property crime numbers fell 23%.

Several factors contributed to this momentous occasion including the department's strong commitment to community policing, responsibly aggressive enforcement toward the criminal element, and dedication to building relationships with community members, business owners, and visitors.

2023 Total Crime: Down **24%** from 2022

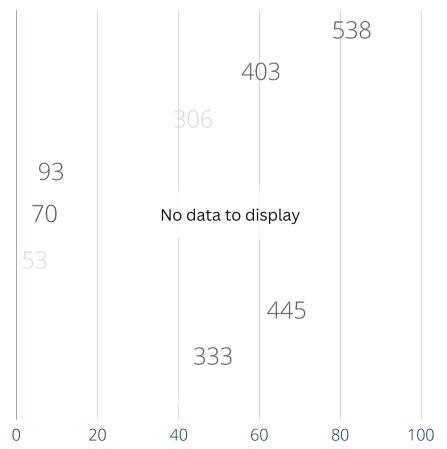
**Violent Crimes** 

**25%** 

**Property Crimes** 

**23%** 







# Records

The primary function of the Records Division includes requests for open records, processing and approval of reports including accident reports, and monthly statistical submissions to TIBRS (Texas)/NIBRS (FBI) repository system. In addition, they are also responsible for staffing the reception area of the main lobby.

#### Reports Processed and Approved

Incident Reports	1,923
Accident Reports	341





#### No data to display

Open Records Requests		
	Online	356
	Paper Form	199
	Law Enforcement Agencies	901
	Other	282
	Total	1,738
	Average Monthly Requests	145

	Front Desk Visitors	
	2023 Numbers	Monthly Average
Walk-In	2,711	225
Phone	1,531	126
Officer	791	66
Total	5,033	417

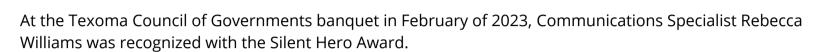
In 2023, there was a total of 2,711 visitors at the front desk. On average, 225 visitors were served per month which totals about 11 parties per day.\*

\*considering work week periods



# **Communications**

The Communications Division is a vital part of the Denison Police Department. They operate 24/7, 365 days a year. The Denison Police Department Communications Division is compromised of 12 TCOLE Licensed civilian personnel who are tasked with triaging incoming emergency and non-emergency calls and determining proper response of resources.



Text to 9-1-1/ No Class Service 0.5%

2023 Class of Service		
Wireless	8,035	
Landline	7,204	
VoIP	994	
No Class Service	25	
Text to 9-1-1	48	
TTY	0	

No data to display

#### **Other Class of Service**

Administrative 42,820
Outbound 20,981

#### 9-1-1 Calls Received & Processed

2023	16,258	
2022	16,244	
2021	16,266	

Average 9-1-1 Calls Per 45
Day 4 seconds
Average 9-1-1 Time Answered Within





# **School Resource Officers**

The School Resource Officer unit consists of two officers, one who is assigned to B. McDaniel Intermediate School and another assigned to Scott Middle School. This program was created in 2018. Officer Hunt and Officer Riddick partner with the Denison Independent School District to create a safe and secure learning environment for administration and students. These officers provide support to several youth programs as well.



# **Animal Services**

The City of Denison Animal Services Division is committed to partnering with Denison's citizens, veterinarians, and animal welfare organizations to promote responsible pet ownership, and to provide outstanding animal health and welfare and human health protection services.

2023 Statistics	
Total Calls	1,337
Animals Moved to DAWG for Adoption	462
Citations Issued	36





### **Media Relations**

The Media Relations team is responsible for the department's media relations, social media, outreach, event photography, and web page. They also focus on building relationships with the community through public relations and various programs. The Public Information Office works in cooperation with local, state, and national media to disseminate public safety information relative to major incidents or situations that are newsworthy in an effort to engage with the community.



Social Media	Jan. 1, 2023	Jan. 1, 2024	Total Increase
<b>f</b> Facebook Followers	18,608	20,629	+2,021
Instagram Followers	1,048	1,153	+105
X (Originally Twitter)	116	147	+31

### **Veterans in DPD**

The Denison Police Department is proud to have 22 veterans currently working for our department. The same leadership skills, integrity, honor, trust, and duty to serve that led our brave men and women to the military transfer to a successful career at DPD.

Sgt. R. Carney Off. C. Tate

Lt. C. Nordhoff Lt. H. Jenkins Off. C. Hunt Off. J. Dornstadter Off. J. Garber Off. N. Brossman Off. D. Brown Off. C. Elmore Off. A. Groft







Lt. C. Kuhn Sgt. J. Jones Sgt. K. Jakovac Det. S. Mackay Off. A. Albarenga Off. D. Hair Off. B. Brewer



Det. T. Unerfusser Officer D. Riddick Off. G. Shafer Off. B. Johnson



# **Annual Awards Banquet**

The Denison Police Department had the great opportunity to celebrate some of our outstanding team members. We are truly grateful for each of our officers, communications specialists, professional staff employees, and volunteers. We would not have the continued success that we do without each and every one of them!







# Individual Department Award Honors



**Police Commendations** 

Officer William Deering Officer Tyler Buchanan



**Life Saving Awards** 

Officer Kristijan Jakovac Officer Crystal Arrington

#### **Chief Awards**

**Emily Agans** Suni Kenworthy Lieutenant Christopher Nordhoff Melissa West

# 2022 Award Recipients

Volunteer of the Year



Animal Services Officer of the Year

Joseph Reinsch



Professional Staff of the Year

**Dene Brock** 



Communications Specialist of the Year

Tami Brooks



Rookie of the Year

Officer Christopher Eichler Lieutenant Holly Jenkins

Supervisor of the Year

Officer of the Year Officer Seth Turczynski







\*Due to the nature of work, the Detective of the Year is not pictured.



# National Night Out







For the second year in a row, we submitted for a NNO award. Once again, we are grateful to be competitive in building community outreach. Out of thousands of events, we are proud to say we placed 20th in the nation! We will continue to improve and expand this event, in hopes to place higher in the future.







In October 2023, the Denison Police Department had the opportunity to celebrate with our community for our fourth annual National Night Out (NNO). We saw a record-breaking turnout with over 1,000 people.

#### **What is National Night Out?**

NNO is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, and more caring places to live. We strive to enhance the relationships between neighbors and law enforcement to create a true sense of the community. This event provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together. Police departments build community engagement and nurture relationships through games, food, and activities. This last year, citizens had the opportunity to see demonstrations by Echo, our K9, and watch a helicopter landing demonstration thanks to our local AirEvac team.

#### Why is it important?

We are proud to share that in 2023, our crime rate dropped 24%. We truly believe National Night Out is helping us to continue this trend. By improving our relationship with those in our community, we know it will continue to help lessen crime in our city. We know that for us to be able to positively impact just one life is reason for us to continue this important event.

#### How do I get involved?

Be sure to stay engaged with our social media and watch for our 2024 NNO scheduled for the first Tuesday in October. You can also find details on our website. It is a completely free event so pick up your friends, family members, and kiddos to join us. We hope to see you there!



# Citizens Police Academy

The Denison Citizens Police Academy (DCPA) is designed to build understanding between citizens and the Law Enforcement Officers who serve them.



It is the goal of the department to increase police/community relationships and police awareness, as well as dispel suspicions and misconceptions of law enforcement. The classes cover different divisions within the department and are taught by officers and detectives that are directly involved in that division.

Some of the topics covered could include:

- Patrol
- K9
- Criminal Investigations Division
- Firearms
- Communications Operations
- Juvenile Law





Members of the DCPA Alumni Association (DCPAAA) strive to work alongside the Denison Police Department to help keep the citizens of our community safe. They support our officers at local events directing traffic, providing assistance as needed, or simply helping out our department by distributing water during the hot weather months. **This year alone, the DCPAAA has dedicated approximately 850 volunteer hours.** 

# Shop with a Cop

For over 20 years, the Denison Police Department has partnered with local organizations for Denison's Annual Shop with a Cop including, but not limited to, the Denison Fire Rescue, the Denison Walmart, and the Denison Rotary Club.

Since the 1990s, the Denison Shop with a Cop has been hosted by the Denison Walmart for this Christmas shopping event. We are continuously grateful to be included in such a wonderful event in our community.

Police officers and firefighters strive each and every day to make a positive impact on our local community. Shop with a Cop allows our law enforcement family to have an opportunity to build quality and lasting relationships with local children. During the event, children of all ages received a gift card to purchase items of their choice throughout the store. Officers and firefighters are assigned to a child as a chaperone and companion.

The Denison Police Department and the Denison Fire Rescue are honored to be able get to know and spend time with such incredible kids.



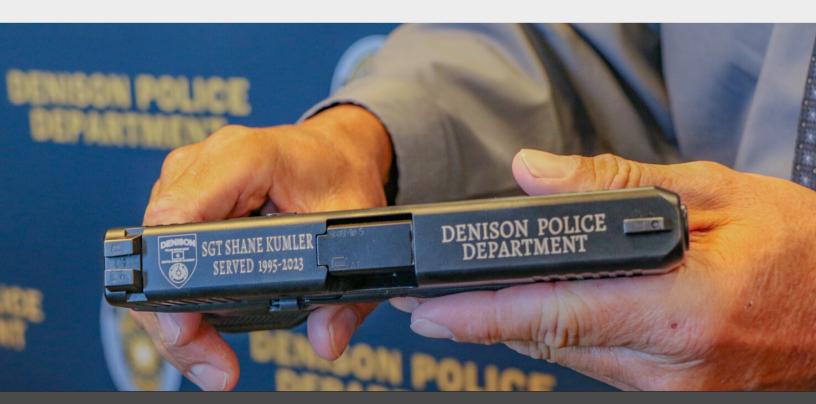


# **Retirement & Memoriam**

John B. Nelson III

Chief: J.R. Dishner Paul S. Borum Edwin E. Eubank Clyde W. Nave Jimmy A. Lovell Johnnie C. Burch	Dates of Service:  1924-1949 1929-1974 1952-1985 1966-1991 1975-2011 2011-2019	Lieutenant: Gary W. Lance Michael A. Lorensen Richard K. Starr Jeffery G. Camp Danny P. Neumann Michael B. Eppler	Dates of Service:  1973-1998  1988-2005  1978-2014  1988-1992 1997-2015  1999-2019  1990-2022
Assistant Chief: Herman R. Allen  Captain: Lewis H. Winchester	1977-2003 1937-1971	Sergeant: Michael W. Byrd William H. Hayth Jackie W. Thomas Clayton D. Pyles Brian D. Conrad Michael S. Kumler	2001-2015 1983-2016 1983-2017 1990-2019 1999-2019 1995-2005 2006-2023
Clarence C. Faeke Vincent R. Silva Lewayne Clifton Harvin C. Strandlien Henry J. Shearer Ronald W. Gallia Ricky L. Morris Jimmy W. Dancer Billy G. Shaw	1937-1971 1952-1984 1961-1989 1964-1991 1967-1979 1975-2000 1980-2005 1982-2009 1991-2012	Officer: Carroll A. Spaugh Thomas F. Fair Timothy E. Murrin Jeffrey D. Bellows Gregory A. Brown Donald E. Rhodes K9 - Ivar Stuart M. Prigge	1984-1989 1990-2012 1985-2012 1995-2015 1995-2016 1999-2010 2003-2021 2013-2021 1999-2022

1974-1978 1981-2007



# **SERVICE-HONESTY-INTEGRITY**

